



California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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The inventory was 3 percent above January 1, 2011. The inventory included 7.28 million steers and steer calves, up 1 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.50 million head, up 6 percent from 2011.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 510 thousand head on January 1, 2012, 1 percent above last month, and 9 percent above January 2011. During December, placements of 61.0 thousand head were unchanged from the previous year. Marketings of 52.0 thousand head were 9 percent lower than December 2010. Other disappearance totaled 4.0 thousand head.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.68 million, 6 percent below 2010. Net placements were 1.59 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 550 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 390 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 365 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 378 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.80 million, 2 percent below 2010.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the U.S. for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.9 million head on January 1, 2012.

Other disappearance totaled 91.0 thousand during December, 40 percent above 2010.

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	Number On Feed December 1 1/			Placed During December		Marketed During December	
	2010	2011	2011/2010	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	249	290	116	36	26	26	36
California	470	505	107	61	61	57	52
Colorado	1,090	1,160	106	160	170	165	170
Idaho	235	235	100	42	36	35	40
Iowa	630	610	97	93	77	80	63
Kansas	2,360	2,360	100	410	350	480	445
Nebraska	2,460	2,560	104	380	380	400	380
Oklahoma	380	385	101	55	45	58	52
South Dakota	255	265	104	45	37	39	37
Texas	2,840	3,000	106	420	400	400	430
Washington	214	236	110	36	44	39	45
Other States	437	459	105	51	57	51	46
U.S.	11,620	12,065	104	1,789	1,683	1,830	1,796

State	Other Disappearance During December 2/		Number On Feed January 1 1/		
	2010	2011	2011		2011/2010
	1,000 Head		Percent		
Arizona	1	1	258	279	108
California	4	4	470	510	109
Colorado	5	10	1,080	1,150	106
Idaho	2	1	240	230	96
Iowa	3	4	640	620	97
Kansas	10	15	2,280	2,250	99
Nebraska	10	10	2,430	2,550	105
Oklahoma	2	3	375	375	100
South Dakota	1	5	260	260	100
Texas	20	30	2,840	2,940	104
Washington	2	3	209	232	111
Other States	5	5	432	465	108
U.S.	65	91	11,514	11,861	103

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

2/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 3.37 billion pounds of milk in December 2011. This was 1 percent above November 2011 and 3 percent above December 2010.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,930 pounds, 50 pounds more than in November 2011, and 65 pounds more than a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND U.S.

Month	California						Total Milk Receipts 4/		U.S. 1/					
	Milk Cows 2/		Milk Per Cow 3/		Milk Production 3/		2010	2011	Milk Cows 2/		Milk Per Cow 3/		Milk Production 3/	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011			2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,760	1,752	1,915	1,935	3,370	3,390	3,369	3,388	8,319	8,404	1,784	1,810	14,839	15,213
Feb.	1,760	1,755	1,755	1,800	3,089	3,159	3,087	3,159	8,323	8,405	1,642	1,664	13,670	13,987
Mar.	1,758	1,764	1,980	2,035	3,481	3,590	3,479	3,588	8,329	8,426	1,848	1,870	15,389	15,757
Apr.	1,755	1,769	1,955	1,990	3,431	3,520	3,431	3,515	8,337	8,435	1,825	1,834	15,213	15,471
May	1,755	1,772	2,020	2,075	3,545	3,677	3,541	3,675	8,347	8,451	1,893	1,901	15,804	16,063
June	1,754	1,774	1,935	1,980	3,394	3,513	3,391	3,508	8,356	8,460	1,817	1,819	15,186	15,389
July	1,753	1,776	1,940	1,990	3,401	3,534	3,397	3,532	8,375	8,468	1,829	1,819	15,316	15,400
Aug.	1,753	1,777	1,940	1,970	3,401	3,501	3,401	3,498	8,369	8,471	1,792	1,812	14,998	15,347
Sept.	1,752	1,778	1,880	1,865	3,294	3,316	3,291	3,311	8,371	8,473	1,730	1,741	14,481	14,750
Oct. 5/	1,752	1,778	1,910	1,925	3,346	3,423	3,342	3,423	8,372	8,481	1,767	1,788	14,796	15,162
Nov. 5/	1,751	1,778	1,865	1,880	3,266	3,343	3,265	3,338	8,373	8,474	1,722	1,739	14,421	14,739
Dec.	1,749	1,779	1,925	1,965	3,367	3,496	3,361		8,387	8,486	1,791	1,818	15,025	15,425

1/ Twenty-three state total.

2/ Includes dry cows, but excludes heifers not yet fresh.

3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

4/ Milk receipts are from the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on farm usage.

5/ Revised 2011.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	California			U.S.		
		December 2010	November 2011	Dec. 15, 2011	December 2010	November 2011	Dec. 15, 2011
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	140.00	228.00	238.00	111.00	176.00	177.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	147.00	239.00	240.00	121.00	198.00	199.00
Hogs 2/ 4/ 5/	Cwt.	---	---	---	52.30	64.40	64.00
Cows 2/ 6/ 7/	Cwt.	---	---	---	55.10	66.00	69.00
Steers and Heifers 2/ 7/	Cwt.	56.20	---	---	104.00	126.00	128.00
Calves 2/ 7/	Cwt.	105.00	---	---	130.00	153.00	158.00
Sheep 2/ 7/ 8/	Cwt.	129.00	---	---	---	---	---
Lambs 2/ 7/ 8/	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Milk Cows 9/	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	14.86	18.41	17.20	16.70	20.40	19.80

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ California's December 2011 prices are for the full month.

4/ Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

5/ State prices for hogs discontinued beginning December 2010.

6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

7/ State prices for cows, calves, steers & heifers, sheep, and lambs discontinued beginning January 2011.

8/ U.S. Sheep and Lamb prices are no longer being published beginning with the November 2011 Agricultural Prices release.

9/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July, and October.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during December 2011 totaled 146.8 million pounds (dressed weight), down slightly from the previous month, and 6 percent lower than last December. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In December 2011, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,285 pounds, calves 104 pounds, sheep & lambs 142 pounds, and hogs 241 pounds.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, DECEMBER 2010-11 1/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	153.5	144.6	195,332	184,054	1,296	1,285
U.S. Total	2,915.9	2,754.8	3,789,353	3,563,845	1,305	1,297
CALVES						
California	16.2	16.3	1,697	1,694	107	104
U.S. Total	77.7	72.9	19,702	18,226	261	253
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	20.8	23.4	2,932	3,313	141	142
U.S. Total	216.0	180.7	29,815	25,088	138	139
HOGS						
California	247.6	228.1	59,743	54,950	241	241
U.S. Total	9,921.8	9,943.6	2,747,978	2,762,662	277	278

RED MEAT	December 2010	November 2011	December 2011	Dec 11 Dec 10	Dec 11 Nov 11
	Million Pounds			Percent	
California	156.0	147.5	146.8	94	100
U.S. Total	4,352.8	4,259.7	4,216.4	97	99

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

ANOTHER RECORD MONTHLY HIGH FOR PORK PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the U.S. totaled 4.22 billion pounds in December, down 3 percent from the 4.35 billion pounds produced in December 2010.

Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, down 6 percent from December 2010. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,297 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.7 million pounds, 8 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72.9 thousand head, down 6 percent from December 2010. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from last year, at 253 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.07 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.94 million head, up slightly from December 2010. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was down 16 percent from December 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 180.7 thousand head, 16 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, up 1 pound from December a year ago.

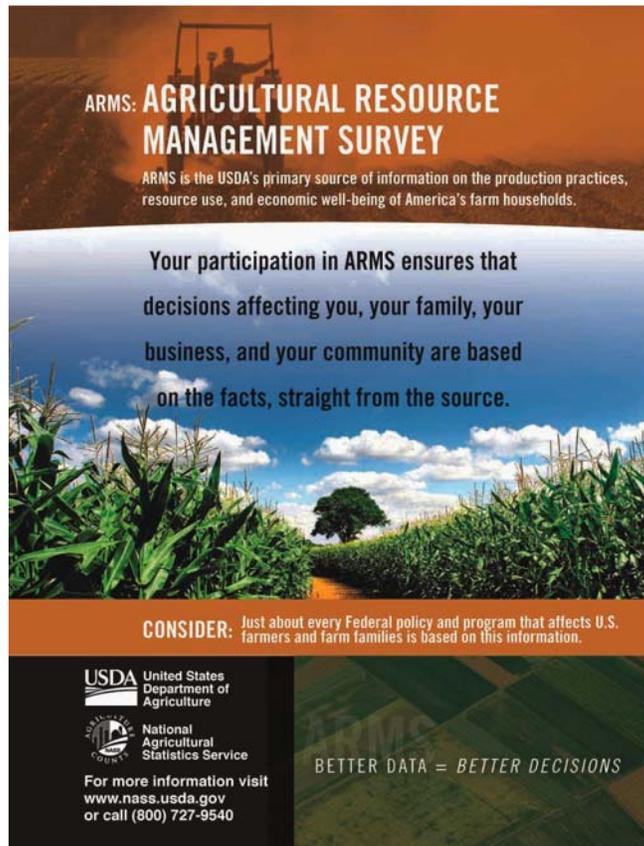
January to December 2011 commercial red meat production was 49.2 billion pounds, up slightly from 2010. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

December 2010 contained 23 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays. December 2011 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. HOG INVENTORY DEC. 1, 2010-11 AND ANNUAL FARROWINGS DEC.-NOV. 2010-11 1/

Inventory by Type	CALIFORNIA			U.S.		
	2010	2011	2011/2010	2010	2011	2011/2010
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
Total Breeding and Market	105	105	100	64,925	65,931	102
Breeding	8	6	75	5,778	5,803	100
Market	97	99	102	59,147	60,128	102
Market By Weight:						
Under 50 Lbs.	32	26	81	18,864	19,271	102
50-119 Lbs.	26	26	100	16,519	16,895	102
120-179 Lbs.	16	22	138	12,233	12,472	102
180+ Lbs.	23	25	109	11,531	11,490	100
Total Pig Crop	122	99	81	113,685	115,215	101
Sows Farrowing	16	11	69	11,626	11,555	99
	Head		Percent	Head		Percent
Pigs Per Litter	7.6	9.0	118	9.8	10.0	102

1/ December of preceding year for farrowings. May not add due to rounding.



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