

Five-Area Weekly Average Direct Slaughter Cattle

St. Joseph, Mo., April 8, 2002 - USDA Market News Service
Sales in Texas/Oklahoma; Kansas; Nebraska;
Colorado; and Iowa/Minnesota Feedlots for
Week Ending Sunday, April 7, 2002

Confirmed Sales: 160,821; Week Ago. 157,485; Year Ago N.A.

LIVE BASIS SALES:

SLAUGHTER STEERS

	Head Count	Weight Range	Price Range	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
Over 80% Choice	2,724	1050-1582	70 00-74 25	1,341	72 87
65-80% Choice	4,408	796-1600	70 00-74 00	1,284	72 18
35-65% Choice	37,167	830-1550	68 00-73 50	1,236	71 87
1-35% Choice	3,039	850-1425	70 00-73 00	1,223	71 03

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS

Over 80% Choice	1,429	840-1550	68 65-74 15	1,197	72 47
65-80% Choice	3,700	825-1500	70.00-74.00	1,188	72.24
35-65% Choice	29,189	810-1400	68 00-73 75	1,116	71.84
1-35% Choice	903	1000-1300	71 00-71 00	1,124	71 00

DRESSED BASIS SALES:

SLAUGHTER STEERS

Over 80% Choice	1,941	500-1086	111 00-119 00	852	114 90
65-80% Choice	18,298	533-1074	112.00-118.00	837	116 52
35-65% Choice	14,488	500-1080	110 00-117 00	804	114 46
1-35% Choice	160	632-1032	114 00-114 00	832	114 00

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS

Over 80% Choice	1,786	500-1050	114.00-118.00	786	115.47
65-80% Choice	10,837	482-1044	113 00-118.00	768	116 27
35-65% Choice	7,877	488-1400	112 00-118.00	744	115.80
1-35% Choice					

Weekly Accumulated Weighted Averages (Beef Breeds):

	Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
Live Steer	47,338	1245.4	71.91
Live Heifer	35,221	1127.0	71.88
Dressed Steer	34,887	824.2	115.57
Dressed Heif	20,500	760.3	116.02

Week Ago Weighted Averages

Live Steer	50,082	1,240.1	70.26
Live Heife	37,704	1,140.1	70.30
Dressed Steer	30,414	829.4	112.38
Dressed Heifer	19,562	776.2	112.52

Format: This Week 148,400, Last Week 140,100, Last Year 186,100.

Compared to last week; feeder steers and heifers sold steady to 3.00 higher with the exception of direct trade in the Southern Plains which sold steady to 2.00 lower on very light receipts and light demand late in the week.

A variety of factors influenced markets this week with a highly volatile Futures market mostly to blame. Active trading in early auction sales were spurred on by Monday's limit up of April Live Futures, then teetering midweek, with sales holding up.

A mixture of cattle were seen in salebarns this week with an increased supply of plainer fleshy cattle and new crop, unweaned, balling calves than a week ago. Demand for grass cattle, especially older short yearlings, showing continued interest. Most major cattle grazing areas, specifically Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas, are in dire need of rain. Buyers have their fingers crossed as chances of 'sky juice' forecasted for Friday and Saturday. Heavy rains across eastern parts of the US lowered auction receipts this week, however greener pastures are boosting demand for calves and stockers.

Direct feeder cattle trade continues slow, with light to moderate demand for yearlings as several large strings are yet to come off of winter wheat graze outs. These strings will be headed to the salebarns in the next two to three weeks as these cattle are not contracted. Thursday's limit down of both live and feeder futures along with Friday's lower prices have all sides scratching their heads looking for something or someone to blame. A lot of finger pointing going on, with most cattle producers looking towards the packer.

Packers coming into the week

short bought, looking to increase inventory, but at the sellers expense. Compared to Wednesday, cattle traded 1.00-2.00 lower Thursday at mostly 71.00-72.00 live in the Southern Plains and 2.00-3.00 lower at mostly 114.00- 115.00 dressed in the Northern Plains. Feedlots have the ace in their sleeves, as they are holding out today, knowing the packers need carcasses. This week's reported volume included 55% over 600 lbs and 48% heifers.

NOTE: Comments only on the cattle market are printed here. The full report with prices is available online at www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS850.txt

Winchester Weekly Feeder Cattle

Richmond, Va.

April 9, 2002

Report Supplied by USDA

WEEKLY AUCTION at Winchester, Apr. 8: FEEDER CATTLE: 957 head. Prices Based on In Weights.

FEEDER STEERS: 340 head. Med. and Lge. 1: 300-400 lb 100-110.00; 400-500 lb 92-100.00; 500-600 lb 83.50-93.00; 600-700 lb 79.50-88.00. Small 1: 400-500 lb 74.00. Med. and Lge. 2: 300-400 lb 86-96.00; 400-500 lb 82-92.00; 500-600 lb 79-86.25; 600-700 lb 69-80.00.

FEEDER HEIFERS: 421 head. Med. and Lge. 1: 200-300 lb 84.50-90.00; 300-400 lb 83-92.00; 400-500 lb 75-84.00; 500-600 lb 75-81.50; 600-700 lb 65-74.25; 700-800 lb 63.50-68.00. Small 1: 300-400 lb 72.00; 400-500 lb 64-68.00. Med. and Lge. 2: 300-400 lb 75-81.25; 400-500 lb 70.50-79.00; 500-600 lb 66.50-75.00; 600-700 lb 61-67.00.

National Feeder Cattle Weekly Summary

St. Joseph, Mo.

April 5, 2002

Report Supplied By USDA

NATIONAL FEEDER CATTLE SUMMARY for week ending Apr. 5.

This report reflects a newly expanded format. Receipts from the

previous format will be available for one year for comparison purposes.

RECEIPTS: Auctions: This Week 255,500, Last Week 202,800. Direct: This Week 43,800, Last Week 46,100. Video/Internet: This Week 3,000, Last Week 3,000. TOTAL: 302,300, Last Week 281,900. Old



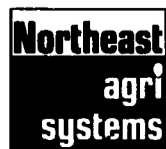
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PENNFIELD DAIRY FEEDS

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#75023 - 20% FLAKE \$182.59

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#75062 - 38% PELLETS \$258.24

Prices are week of 04/15/02 and include 4 ton volume, mid week/early order, 4% cash discount paid 10 days. Prices are delivered to the farm within 75 miles from Mt Joy, PA.

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Pasture Perfect® Dealer of the Week: Lil' Ponderosa Enterprises

Reaching into the Summer Drought with Perennials

This week Ampac Seed Company and Rohrer Seeds salute Bob Boyce, founder and owner of Lil' Ponderosa Enterprises of Carlisle, PA. "We began our business with the objective of proving that the family farm can survive," says Bob Boyce. "We wanted to be good stewards of the land and raise plants and animals that contribute to good health. We soon recognized that we needed to find suppliers that were knowledgeable, reliable, and in it for the long haul. Rohrer Seeds has met this need and is now an integral part of our farming operation."



Bob Boyce Lil' Ponderosa Enterprises

Everyone remembers the drought. The ability to graze and hay into the summer and recover from drought depends upon the species and variety you plant. Bob Boyce, grazing consultant for the Carlisle area recommends these combinations for hay and Managed Intensive Grazing:

- Duo Festulolium
 - Improved Orchardgrass
 - Wintercrown Alfalfa
 - Starfire Red Clover
- or:
- Bronson Tall Fescue
 - Wintercrown Alfalfa
 - Starfire Red Clover

Lil' Ponderosa also offers Gallagher Fencing supplies, Vermeer haying equipment, TICO irrigation systems, poly feed bunks and watering troughs

Lil' Ponderosa Enterprises

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