

FARMERS The Best In The Field

Weekly Meat Production Under Federal Inspection

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 11 - (USDA-NASS) - Total red meat production under federal inspection for the week ending Saturday, Oct. 12, was estimated at 937.1 million lbs., according to the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. This was 2.1% higher than a week ago and 2.4% higher than a year ago. Cumulative meat production for the year to date was 3.4% higher compared to the previous year.

MEAT PRODUCTION (million pounds) (excludes condemned)

Week Ending (1)	Beef	Calf/Veal	Pork (2)	Lamb/Mutton	Totals (3)
12-Oct-02	542.6	3.8	386.6	4.1	937.1
05-Oct-02	526.5	3.7	383.3	4.1	917.6
Change:	up 3.1%	up 2.7%	up 0.9%	0%	up 2.1%
13-Oct-01	509.7	3.7	398.0	4.1	915.5
Change:	up 6.5%	up 2.7%	dn 0.9%	0%	up 2.4%
2002 YTD:	20,968.4	143.4	14,937.4	162.0	36,211.2
2001 YTD:	20,204.4	146.9	14,505.5	167.8	35,024.6
Change:	up 3.8%	dn 2.4%	up 3.0%	dn 3.5%	up 3.4%

1- Previous week estimates may be revised. Year ago data are actuals.
2- Excludes lard.
3- Totals may not add due to rounding. 2002 totals are subject to revision.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER (head)

Week Ending	Cattle	Calves/Vealers	Hogs	Sheep/Lambs
12-Oct-02	703,000	21,000	2,005,000	63,000
05-Oct-02	683,000	21,000	1,987,000	63,000
Change:	up 2.9%	0%	up 0.9%	dn 0%
13-Oct-01	671,000	19,000	2,018,000	60,000
Change:	up 4.8%	up 10.5%	dn 0.6%	up 5.0%
2002 YTD:	27,630,000	777,000	76,176,000	2,413,000
2001 YTD:	27,429,000	761,000	74,365,000	2,366,000
Change:	up 0.7%	up 2.1%	up 2.4%	up 2.0%

AVERAGE WEIGHTS (lbs.)

Week Ending: LIVE:	Cattle	Calves/Vealers	Hogs	Sheep/Lamb
12-Oct-02	Estimate 1268	304	261	131
05-Oct-02	Estimate 1266	296	261	131
13-Oct-01	Actual 1250	314	267	139
DRESSED:	Cattle	Calves/Vealers	Hogs	Sheep/Lamb
12-Oct-02	Estimate 776	187	194	65
05-Sep-02	Estimate 775	182	194	65
13-Oct-01	Actual 763	193	198	69

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SLAUGHTERED BY CLASS

Wk Ending	CATTLE				HOGS		
	Steers	Heifers	Cows	Bulls/Stags	Barrows/Gilts	Sows	Boars/Stags
28-Sep-02	49.9%	31.9%	16.4%	1.7%	96.5%	3.2%	0.2%
29-Sep-01	48.0%	33.7%	16.4%	2.0%	96.6%	3.1%	0.3%

Midwest Daily Livestock Summary

Amarillo, Texas

October 16, 2002

Report Supplied By USDA

In the five area direct slaughter cattle trade, live sales in Western Cornbelt uneven, firm undertone noted, otherwise not established. Dressed sales in Northern Plains and Western Cornbelt 4.00-5.00 higher, slow and not tested in South Plains. STEERS: LIVE BASIS: over 80% Choice 63.00-65.50, wtd. avg. price 64.37; 65-80% Choice 64.00-66.00, wtd. avg. price 65.02; 35-65% Choice 64.50-65.50, wtd. avg. price 64.84; 0-35% Choice 64.00. DRESSED BASIS: over 80% Choice 100.00-103.00, wtd. avg. price 101.93; 65-80% Choice 101.00-103.00; wtd. avg. price 102.68; 35-65% Choice 102.00-103.00, wtd. avg. price 102.78. SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: LIVE BASIS: over 80% Choice 64.50-67.25, wtd. avg. price 66.15; 65-80% Choice 65.00-66.00, wtd. avg. price 65.42; 35-65% Choice 64.00-66.00, wtd. avg. price 65.20. DRESSED BASIS: over 80% Choice 101.00-104.00, wtd. avg. price 103.42; 65-80% Choice 102.00-103.50, wtd. avg. price 102.73; 35-65% Choice 103.00.

At the So. St. Paul terminal market, slaughter steers were 50-1.00 higher while heifers were steady in a thin test. Steers: Choice 2-4, 1139-1360 lbs 63.75-66.50. Heifers: Choice 2-3, 1113-1140 lbs 63.00-64.75. At Sioux Falls terminal slaughter steers and heifers trended 3.00-4.00, instances 4.50 higher. Steers: Choice 2-4, 1282-1434 lbs 64.20-66.75, load high-dressing 1388 lbs 67.10. Heifers: Choice 2-3, 1220-1359 lbs 65.60-66.50. Load Choice, end Prime 2-3 high-dressing 68.00.

Estimated daily cattle slaughter under federal inspection through Wednesday estimated at 396,000 head compared to 395,000 last week and 384,000 a year ago.

CME Futures Closes for Live Cattle: October 68.85, up 02; December 71.87, up

30; February 73.52, down 15.

Slaughter cows at South St. Paul sold steady to firm. Breakers 70-80% lean over 1100 lbs 39.00-42.00, high dressing 42.00-44.75. Boners 80-85% lean over 1050 lbs 36.00-39.50, high dressing 39.50-40.75. Lean 85-90% lean 33.00-37.00, high dressing 37.00-38.75.

Barrows and gilts at terminal markets traded steady to 1.00 higher with 220-270 lb 47-51% lean barrows and gilts going at 31.50-33.00. The National direct trade prices are based on 185 lbs hog carcass with 0.9-1.1 inch back fat and 6 inch square loin/2.0 inch depth plant delivered. National direct trade closed steady with prices ranging 34.25-47.30, weighted average price 43.92. Iowa-So. Minnesota direct trade trended .50-.75 lower with prices ranging from 34.25-47.30, with wtd. avg. price 44.16. The Western Cornbelt closed weak to .50 lower at 34.25-47.30, wtd. avg. price 44.19. The Eastern Cornbelt prices were firm to .50 higher at 34.25-45.66, wtd. avg. price 43.46.

Hog slaughter under federal inspection estimate through Wednesday estimated at 1,166,000 head compared to a week ago 1,170,000 head and a year ago actual slaughtered 1,152,000.

CME Future Closes for Lean Hogs Month Close: December 42.17, down 47; February 47.97, down 12; April 51.25, down 20.

Slaughter lambs traded steady at So. St. Paul, MN. Shorn: Choice, end Prime 125-145 lbs 75.00-77.00. Woolled: new crop: Choice, end Prime 2-3 110-125 lbs 70.00-73.00; 125-145 lbs 73.00-75.00, few 76.00. At San Angelo on Tuesday, slaughter lambs were firm to 2.00 higher. Choice 2-3 shorn and woolled 90-135 lbs 72.00-79.50.

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection Wednesday 37,000 head compared to 38,000 head a week ago and 36,000 head a year ago.

National Feeder Cattle Weekly Review

St. Joseph, Mo.

October 4, 2002

Report Supplied By USDA

NATIONAL FEEDER & STOCKER Summary for week ending Oct. 4. TOTAL RECEIPTS: 400,700; last week 341,700. Auctions: 294,200; last week 272,900. Direct: 63,500; last week 64,900. Video/Internet: 43,000; last week 3,900. This week's reported auction volume included only 31 percent over 600 lbs and 41 percent heifers.

Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers ended the week mostly steady. Early-week trading was slightly higher but took back most of the advancement by week's end, as the cash fat cattle market failed to realize the spark that many had expected. However, the short supply of yearlings continues to hold heavy feeder prices at a respectable level. Calf prices fell on both sides of steady this past week, depending on their proximity to wheat pasture. Oklahoma City livestock markets sold calves 2.00-5.00 higher with the best demand shown for lightweights which traded as much as 8.00 higher. Demand was also good in the Southeast, especially for weights under 450 lbs. Prices on ranch calves in the Northern Plains and Mountain States were weak to 2.00 lower. Mid-western farmer-feeders are not quite ready for a load of calves and wheat grazers would rather order out of the South and sacrifice quality for price. There is a steady flow of cattle trucks heading west, passing empty trucks heading east on their way back for another load. This looks to be the best year for wheat pasture in recent memory, but turn-out dates are still 2-3 weeks away. It will take at least that long to straighten out these shipped-in calves and teach them what a hot-wire is. Backgrounders will spend the rest of this month doctoring sick calves in their T-shirts during the day-time and doing chores in their goose-downs in the evenings. These drastic temperature swings, that are notorious in the Southern Plains during the fall, make preconditioning all the harder. All this is music to the ears of your local animal pharmaceutical salesman.

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