

**East Fluid Milk  
And Cream Review**

Madison, Wis.  
December 24, 2002

Report Supplied by USDA

Spot prices of class II cream, dollars per lb butterfat F.O.B producing plants-Northeast. 1 3400-1 4517 Delivered Equivalent: Atlanta 1 3735-1 5187 mostly 1 3735-1 3959.

PRICES OF CONDENSED SKIM, dollars per lb wet solids, F.O.B producing plants Northeast: Class II, includes monthly formula prices. 9850-1.0300; Class III - spot prices - 7000-8700.

SPOT SHIPMENTS OF GRADE A MILK: FLORIDA: This week. In - 0, Out 100; last week: In 51, Out 0; last year: In 0, Out 86. SOUTHEAST STATES: This week In 0, Out 0, last week: In 0, Out 0; last year: In 0, Out 0.

The base price for Class I milk for January 2003 is \$10.56 per cwt., up \$0.04 from December. A Class I differential specific to each pricing point (county) is added to the base price to determine the applicable Class I price. The Class II skim milk price for January is \$7.37, down \$0.32 from December.

A major snow storm is predicted for Christmas Day for parts of the Northeast. This did give a boost to milk bottling schedules in the early part of the week. Elsewhere, milk sales were typical for a holiday week and surplus milk volumes were sharply higher.

Milk production is steady to higher throughout the East. Some heavy rains in the Southeast and Middle Atlantic areas did retard gains seen the past few weeks. Florida's milk flow is increasing at the same time demand is slowing. Their need for milk dropped and handlers had to ship milk out of the state for processing. This week marks the first time since July that milk was shipped out of state. Manufacturing plants are operating at near capacity levels in most of the region. Reports indicate that milk is looking for homes in the Northeast, while some capacity, albeit limited, does exist here and there across the region. Bottled milk sales are reported as slow to good. Because of the predicted storm in the Northeast, there was another round of panic buying

at retail stores and bottlers added on to production runs on Monday and Tuesday. Bottlers do, however, expect a slow down in processing later this week.

The condensed skim market is mixed. Some loads of Class III are reportedly moving at significantly lower prices to avoid drying. Some producers temporarily altered their formulas for Class III wet solids prices to keep product moving steady to mostly lighter.

The fluid cream market is weak. Supplies are more than ample and excess volumes are increasing. More Eastern cream is moving to Midwestern butter makers, because Eastern operations are full or do not want more cream. Class II sales are slow and prices are little changed. The CME average butter prices did move about a half cent higher last week and multiples are steady to lower. Ice cream production is lighter as many operations are down for various periods of time during the holidays. Cream cheese output is about steady as some producers are taking advantage of the ample supply and lower prices. Eggnog, sour cream, bottled cream, dip production have all slowed seasonally. However, contacts expect bottled cream, sour cream, and dip production to improve after the holidays and hold through January. Churning is heavy and most Eastern producers are near capacity.

**Livestock Cooperative  
Auction Market Of North  
Jersey**

Hackettstown, N.J.

Report Supplied by Auction

December 23, 2002

Hay—Straw—Grain

AI FAIFA 41 LOTS, 3 00-3 80  
MIXED HAY 20 LOTS, 1 00-3 80  
BALE  
TIMOTHY, 31 LOTS, 2 40-3 10 BALE.  
GRASS: 81 LOTS, 90-2 30 BALE F.  
MULCH: 1 LOTS, 1 40 BALE  
OAT STRAW: 2 LOTS, 2.00  
WHEAT STRAW 8 LOTS, 1 50-2.00.  
FIREWOOD: 25 00.  
47 LOTS TOTAL

**Southern & Eastern  
Direct Feeder Pigs**

Columbia, S.C.

December 29, 2002

Report Supplied by USDA

Southern And Eastern US Direct FOB Feeder Pig Report. Weekly summary of prices FOB farm basis, week ended Dec. 29. Receipts 27,412; last week 55,122. Compared to last week, early weaned pigs steady, 40-50 pound feeder pigs steady to 2.00 per head higher. Demand good light to moderate offerings. Receipts include 20,617 head shipped to Iowa and Central US. Also receipts include an estimated 85% formulated prices.

PIGS, EARLY WEANED 10 LB BASIS, estimated 50-54% lean value: Lot size 250 head or less: 667 head, 26.00-35.25, wtd. avg. price 32.19; lot size 250-750: 2,718 head, 29.23-35.24, wtd. avg. price 32.21; lot size 750 or more: 8,842 head, 30.24-35.00, wtd. avg. price 32.12. Total Composite: 12,227 head, 26.00-35.25, wtd. avg. price 32.12.

PIGS, 40 LB BASIS, estimated 50-54% lean value: Lot size 250-750: 1,827 head, 44.00-45.29, wtd. avg. price 44.85; lot size 750 or more: 6,608 head, 45.59-46.79, wtd. avg. price 46.24. Total Composite: 8,435 head, 44.00-46.79, wtd. avg. price 45.94.

PIGS, 45 LB BASIS, estimated 50-54% lean value: Lot size 750 or more: 4,800 head, 54.32-55.97, wtd. avg. price 55.31.

PIGS, 50 LB BASIS, Estimated 50-54% lean value: Lot size 250 head or less: 600 head, 47.14, lot size 750 or more: 1,350 head, 47.40. Total Composite: 1,950 head, 47.14-47.40, wtd. avg. 47.32.

\*Prices are quoted on a per head basis "picked up" at the seller's farm in NC, SC, GA, TN, KY, AL, MS, AR, MO, TX, OK, KS, IN, OH, MI, PA, CO, UT, and WY. Prices do not include freight or bro-

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ker fees. Many lots of 40-60 weight pigs sold with a .25-40 per pound slide. Also, some lots of early weaned pigs have a 1.00 per pound sliding value adjusted from a 10 pound basis. Early weaned pigs under 19 days old.

Estimated lean value is projected to base slaughter weights with normal confinement feeding conditions. This report does not cover any trades which include profit/loss share agreements or any other form of shared or retained ownership agreements.

**Weekly Meat Production Under Federal Inspection**

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec 20 - (USDA-NASS) - Total red meat production under federal inspection for the week ending Saturday, Dec 21, was estimated at 932.0 million lbs., according to the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. This was 4.0% higher than a week ago and 4.3% lower than a year ago. Cumulative meat production for the year to date was 2.7% higher compared to the previous year.

**MEAT PRODUCTION (million pounds)**

| Week Ending (1) | Beef     | Calf/Veal | Pork (2) | Lamb/Mutton | Totals (3) |
|-----------------|----------|-----------|----------|-------------|------------|
| 21-Dec-02       | 495.1    | 3.8       | 429.0    | 4.1         | 932.0      |
| 14-Dec-02       | 487.9    | 4.1       | 399.2    | 4.7         | 895.9      |
| Change          | up 1.5%  | dn 7.3%   | up 7.5%  | dn 12.8%    | up 4.0%    |
| 22-Dec-01       | 538.3    | 3.9       | 426.8    | 4.5         | 973.5      |
| Change          | dn 8.0%  | dn 2.6%   | up 0.5%  | dn 8.9%     | dn 4.3%    |
| 2002 YTD        | 26,101.5 | 183.2     | 18,982.4 | 203.8       | 45,470.7   |
| 2001 YTD        | 25,331.5 | 184.0     | 18,548.3 | 212.2       | 44,276.0   |
| Change          | up 3.0%  | dn 0.4%   | up 2.3%  | dn 4.0%     | up 2.7%    |

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 |
|-------------|------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| 21-Dec-02   | 649,000    | 21,000         | 2,156,000  | 60,000      |
| 14-Dec-02   | 641,000    | 22,000         | 2,018,000  | 69,000      |
| Change      | up 1.2%    | dn 4.5%        | up 6.8%    | dn 13.0%    |
| 22-Dec-01   | 705,000    | 21,000         | 2,167,000  | 65,000      |
| Change      | dn 7.97%   | 0%             | dn 0.5%    | dn 7.7%     |
| 2002 YTD    | 34,363,000 | 985,000        | 96,562,000 | 3,036,000   |
| 2001 YTD    | 34,170,000 | 961,000        | 94,702,000 | 3,007,000   |
| Change      | up 0.6%    | up 2.5%        | up 2.0%    | up 1.0%     |

**AVERAGE WEIGHTS (lbs.)**

| Week Ending | LIVE     | Cattle | Calves/Vealers | Hogs | Sheep/Lamb |
|-------------|----------|--------|----------------|------|------------|
| 21-Dec-02   | Estimate | 1265   | 300            | 269  | 136        |
| 14-Dec-02   | Estimate | 1264   | 308            | 268  | 135        |
| 22-Dec-01   | Actual   | 1260   | 313            | 266  | 137        |
|             | DRESSED  |        |                |      |            |
| 21-Dec-02   | Estimate | 767    | 185            | 200  | 68         |
| 14-Dec-02   | Estimate | 765    | 189            | 199  | 68         |
| 22-Dec-01   | Actual   | 768    | 193            | 198  | 68         |

**PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SLAUGHTERED BY CLASS**

| Wk Ending | CATTLE |         |       |            | HOGS          |      |             |
|-----------|--------|---------|-------|------------|---------------|------|-------------|
|           | Steers | Heifers | Cows  | Bull/Stags | Barrows/Gilts | Sows | Boars/Stags |
| 07-Dec-02 | 45.8%  | 34.4%   | 18.2% | 1.6%       | 96.4%         | 3.4% | 0.3%        |
| 08-Dec-01 | 47.6%  | 32.3%   | 18.2% | 1.8%       | 96.6%         | 3.1% | 0.3%        |

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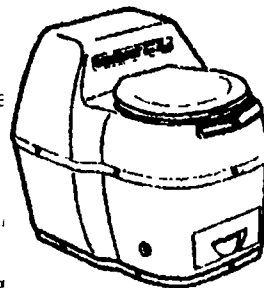
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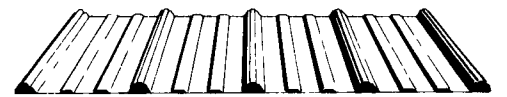
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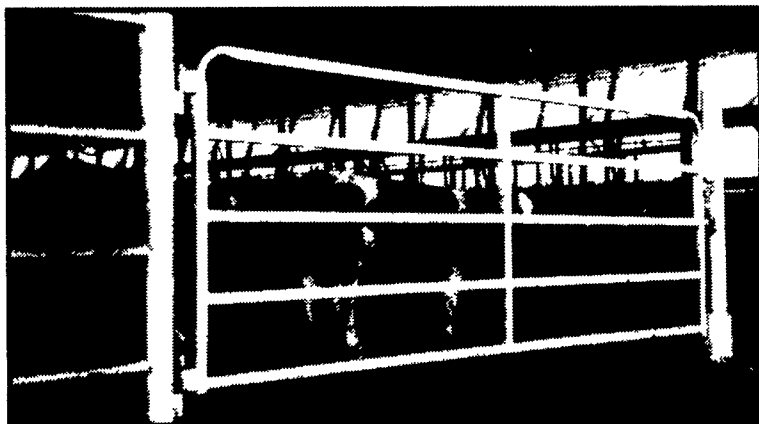
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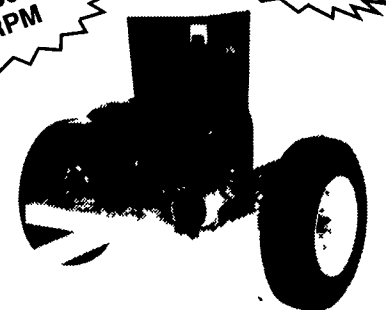
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