

### National Slaughter Cattle Weekly Review

Oklahoma City, Okla.  
December 27, 2002  
Report Supplied By USDA  
National Slaughter Cattle Summary - Week Ending Dec. 27, 2002: Slaughter cattle trade not established in the south. Limited sales in the North on a dressed basis were steady with last week. Snow in much of the trade area hampering gains in the feedlots and most feeders not interested in doing business. Packers faced with 2 holiday shortened weeks which could deplete inventories.

USDA's boxed beef cut-out values Friday averaged 119.07 down 1.50 from last Friday.

Sales of slaughter cattle on a national basis for negotiated cash trades totaled a very minimal 26,950 through 10:00 a.m. Friday. Last week's full count was 115,500.

Midwest Direct Markets: Live Basis: Steers and Heifers 35-80 percent Choice, 900-1400 lbs not established.

Dressed Basis: Steers and Heifers 35-80 percent Choice, 550-950 lbs. few 114.00-115.00.

High Plains Direct Markets: Live Basis: Steers and Heifers 35-65 percent Choice, 900-1400 lbs not established.

Slaughter Cows and Bulls (Average Yielding): Slaughter cow and bull market not tested as most auction barns closed for the holidays.

USDA's Cutter cow carcass cut-out value closed Thursday at 82.45 up .91 from last Friday.

### Dairy Products Prices Highlights

Washington, D. C.  
December 27, 2002

Report Supplied By NASS/USDA  
DAIRY PRODUCTS PRICES HIGHLIGHTS:

CHEDDAR CHEESE prices received for US 40 pound Blocks averaged \$1.12 per pound for the week ending December 21. The price per pound increased 0.4 cents from the previous week. The price for US 500 pound Barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.11 per pound, up 0.4 cents from the previous week.

BUTTER prices received for 25 kilogram and 68 pound boxes meeting USDA Grade AA standards averaged \$1.09 per pound for the week ending December 21. The U.S. price per pound decreased 0.6 cents from the previous week.

NONFAT DRY MILK prices received for bag, tote and tanker sales meeting USDA Extra Grade or USPH Grade A standards averaged 84.3 cents per pound for the week ending December 21. The U.S. price per pound decreased 2.3 cents from the previous week.

DRY WHEY prices received for bag, tote and tanker sales meeting USDA Extra Grade standards averaged 18.3 cents per pound for the week ending December 21. The U.S. price per pound decreased 1.6 cents from the previous week.

### East Coast and North Central Veal Report

Des Moines, Iowa  
December 31, 2002  
Supplied By USDA  
CARLOT VEAL CARCASS REPORT: Northeast and North Central Basis: Compared to trading last week: Northeast special fed veal in Monday's trading steady to weak on moderate offerings and a light to moderate demand; untested Tuesday. North Central untested Monday; Tuesday, steady to 3.00 lower on light to moderate offerings and a light demand. Market undertone trending weak at the close of 2002.

VEAL CARCASS, SPECIAL FED, HOT BASIS, FOB PRODUCTION POINTS: Northeast 935 head; hide-off, 215-275 lb; 195-200.00. North Central 440 head; hide-on 240-300 lb 170-175.00; hide-off 215-275 lb 190.00.

CONTRACT INFORMATION: Hot Basis, Hide-Off: (As of Dec. 31, 2002): Contract calves slaughtered this week: 200.00-210.00, mostly 205.00-209.00. Packers base market 190.00-200.00. Future contracts offered: Firm Bottom 183.00 and 185.00, Firm Top 200.00, 203.00 and 205.00. Firm Bottom, Open Top 180.00.

North Central - OH, IN, IL, MI & WI.  
Northeast - MA, MD, PA, NY, NJ, DE, CT & VT.

WEEKLY DISTRIBUTIVE, LESS THAN CARLOT, EAST COAST AREA VEAL CUTS TRADE, SPECIAL FED: Market for Tuesday, Dec. 31 - Compared to last week: Distributive special fed veal cuts are trading mostly steady on holiday market activity. Movement is slow to moderate on light to moderate offerings and demand.

Prices per CWT: Carcass, hide off 200-250 lb 225-245.00; Foresaddles 85-110 lb 170-180.00; Koshers Foresaddles 90-110 lb 195-205.00; Hindsaddles 85-115 lb 285-300.00; Loins, regular 17-25 lb 275-305.00; Loins, 4x4 trmd 12-18 lb 425-475.00; Hotel Racks, 8 rib 15-21 lb 440-450.00, 7 rib 14-20 lb 455-480.00, 6 rib 13-17 lb 495-525.00; Chuck, square cut 36-47 lb 85-110.00; Shoulder, full 14-20 lb 125-160.00;

Legs, double 70-90 lb 275-310.00, TBS 3-piece 24-32 lb 575-650.00, BHS heel-out 27-35 lb 350-445.00; Top Round, trmd, cap-off 8-10 lb 700-800.00; Breast 10-12 lb 65-80.00; Necks, bone-in 24-28 lb 110-130.00; Stew Meat, regular 200-225.00; Boneless Trimmings 75-80% lean 59-62.00; Heavy Nature Green Hides, per piece 37-42.00.

### National Sheep Summary

San Angelo, Texas  
December 31, 2002

Report Supplied By USDA

At midwest market centers all classes steady. No sale at Goldthwaite, TX or Greenville, IL this week due to the holiday.

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice and Prime 2-3 90-150 lbs: Midwest: shorn 81.00-84.25; wooled 110-125 lbs 76.00-82.75, 125-145 lbs 79.00-85.25. Virginia: wooled no test. Greenville: wooled no test. Goldthwaite: no sale.

SLAUGHTER EWES: Midwest: Utility and Good 1-3 35.00-46.00; Cull 1 25.00-36.00. Greenville: Utility and Good 1-3 no test. Virginia: no test. Goldthwaite: Good 2-3 no test.

FEEDER LAMBS: Medium and Large 1-2: Midwest: set 40 lbs 119.00; 60-80 lbs 90.00-101.00; 80-100 lbs 82.00-90.00. Virginia: no test. Greenville: no test. Goldthwaite: no test.

REPLACEMENT EWES: Medium and Large 1-2: Goldthwaite: no test.

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 11,000 compared with 10,000 last week and 9,000 for the same week last year.



### Weekly Meat Production Under Federal Inspection

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 27 - (USDA-NASS) - Total red meat production under federal inspection for the week ending Saturday, Dec. 28, was estimated at 721.2 million lbs., according to the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. This was 22.8% lower than a week ago and 2.5% higher 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)
28-Dec-02	400.6	3.0	314.5	3.1	721.2
21-Dec-02	495.1	3.8	431.3	4.1	934.3
Change:	dn 19.1%	dn 21.1%	dn 27.1%	dn 24.4%	dn 22.8%
29-Dec-01	395.2	2.9	302.4	3.1	703.6
Change:	up 1.4%	up 3.4%	up 4.0%	0%	up 2.5%
2002 YTD:	26,506.9	186.4	19,301.5	206.8	46,201.6
2001 YTD:	25,726.7	186.9	18,850.7	215.3	44,979.6
Change:	up 3.0%	dn 0.3%	up 2.4%	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
28-Dec-02	525,000	16,000	1,580,000	45,000
21-Dec-02	649,000	21,000	2,168,000	60,000
Change:	dn 19.1%	dn 23.8%	dn 27.1%	dn 25.0%
29-Dec-01	513,000	16,000	1,528,000	45,000
Change:	dn 2.3%	0%	up 3.4%	0%
2002 YTD:	34,888,000	1,001,000	98,154,000	3,081,000
2001 YTD:	34,683,000	977,000	96,230,000	3,052,000
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
28-Dec-02	Estimate 1267	305	269	137
21-Dec-02	Estimate 1265	302	269	136
29-Dec-01	Actual 1266	302	266	139
DRESSED:				
28-Dec-02	Estimate 767	187	200	69
21-Dec-02	Estimate 767	185	200	68
29-Dec-01	Actual 774	184	199	69

#### PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SLAUGHTERED BY CLASS

Wk. Ending	CATTLE				HOGS		
	Steers	Heifers	Cows	Bulls/Stags	Barrows/Gilts	Sows	Boars/Stags
14-Dec-02	46.9%	32.1%	19.2%	1.7%	96.5%	3.3%	0.3%
15-Dec-01	50.0%	31.8%	16.5%	1.6%	96.6%	3.1%	0.3%

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