



# California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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## U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 4 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States, for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head, totaled 10.8 million head on June 1, 2008. The inventory was 4 percent below June 1, 2007 and 3 percent below June 1, 2006. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 1.90 million, 12 percent below 2007 and slightly below 2006. Net placements were 1.82 million head. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 340 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 350 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 564 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 645 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.14 million, 3 percent above 2007 but 1 percent below 2006. Other disappearance totaled 80.0 thousand during May, 19 percent below 2007 and 30 percent below 2006.

## CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 525 thousand head on June 1, 2008, 1 percent above last month, but 5 percent below June 2007. During May, placements of 80.0 thousand head were 10 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 71.0 thousand head were 9 percent above the previous year. Other disappearance totaled 4.00 thousand head.

## CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES

State	Number On Feed May 1 1/			Placed During May		Marketed During May	
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	340	370	109	36	34	32	38
California	550	520	95	73	80	65	71
Colorado	1,020	950	93	175	150	155	170
Idaho	235	225	96	43	28	42	36
Iowa	530	530	100	54	58	63	65
Kansas	2,350	2,290	97	465	410	500	490
Nebraska	2,420	2,380	98	390	370	500	480
New Mexico	118	150	127	34	23	23	23
Oklahoma	335	305	91	71	76	65	75
South Dakota	230	220	96	34	34	45	46
Texas	2,680	2,690	100	710	560	510	550
Washington	154	155	101	29	29	33	38
Other States	335	350	104	45	47	52	58
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>11,297</b>	<b>11,135</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>2,159</b>	<b>1,899</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>2,140</b>

State	Other Disappearance During May 2/		Number On Feed June 1 1/		2008
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
	1,000 Head				Percent
Arizona	4	1	340	365	107
California	3	4	555	525	95
Colorado	20	10	1,020	920	90
Idaho	6	2	230	215	93
Iowa	1	3	520	520	100
Kansas	25	20	2,290	2,190	96
Nebraska	20	20	2,290	2,250	98
New Mexico	1	1	128	149	116
Oklahoma	1	1	340	305	90
South Dakota	4	3	215	205	95
Texas	10	10	2,870	2,690	94
Washington	1	1	149	145	97
Other States	3	4	325	335	103
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>11,272</b>	<b>10,814</b>	<b>96</b>

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 COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER**

California's production of red meat during May 2008 totaled 139 million pounds (dressed weight), 3 percent below the previous month, and 2 percent below May 2007. This figure includes slaughter in federally inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In May 2008, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,298 pounds; calves 121 pounds; and hogs 240 pounds.

**U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION AT RECORD HIGH FOR MAY**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.22 billion pounds in May, up 4 percent from the 4.08 billion pounds produced in May 2007.

Beef production, at 2.38 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.14 million head, up 3 percent from May 2007. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,251 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.5 million pounds, 7 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 71.1 thousand head, up 21 percent from May 2007. The average live weight was down 74 pounds from last year, at 275 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.82 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.06 million head, up 3 percent from May 2007. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from May 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 206 thousand head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 146 pounds, up 4 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2008 commercial red meat production was 21.0 billion pounds, up 7 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 11 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

May 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays, while May 2008 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.



**COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, MAY 2007-08 1/**

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
<b>CATTLE</b>						
California	135.1	131.5	172,042	168,167	1,294.0	1,298.0
U.S. Total	3,051.4	3,139.7	3,748,224	3,916,945	1,232.0	1,251.0
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	8.7	15.0	1,218	1,794	140	121
U.S. Total	58.9	71.1	20,466	19,379	349	275
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	218.5	206.4	30,978	29,975	142	146
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	221.4	216.2	54,141	51,916	245	240
U.S. Total	8,761.5	9,062.7	2,353,328	2,426,413	269	268
<b>RED MEAT</b>	May 2007	April 2008	May 2008	May 2008	May 08 May 07	May 08 Apr 08
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	141.9	142.7	138.6	98	97	
U.S. Total	4,075.5	4,297.0	4,222.3	104	98	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			UNITED STATES		
		May 2007	April 2008	May 15, 2008	May 2007	April 2008	May 15, 2008
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	153.00	210.00	212.00	138.00	152.00	166.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	165.00	221.00	223.00	145.00	157.00	177.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	53.10	44.10	54.10
Cows 2/	Cwt.	48.30	43.00	45.60	51.70	50.50	53.10
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	96.50	90.50	95.00	98.10	91.60	95.40
Calves 2/	Cwt.	112.00	105.00	105.00	124.00	116.00	116.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	30.00	24.00	---	30.80	28.80	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	89.00	84.00	---	97.10	99.40	---
Milk Cows 5/	Head	---	1,600.00	---	---	1,940.00	---
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	17.22	16.55	17.60	18.00	18.00	18.20

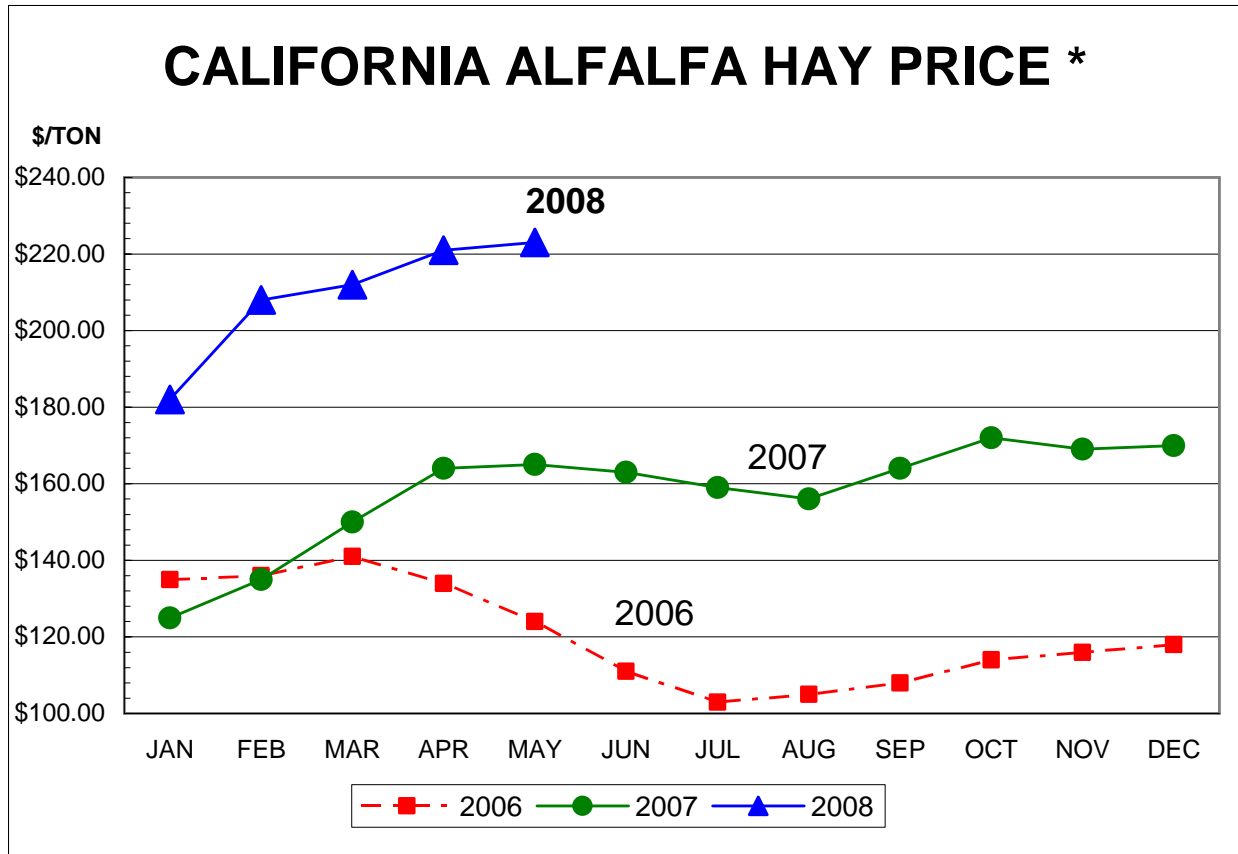
1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ California April 2008 prices are for the full month

4/ Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

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



\* Includes All Qualities

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, California Field Office