



ARIZONA LIVESTOCK

APRIL 2005

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Arizona Cattle on Feed up 10 Percent

On April 1, 2005, **Arizona** had 323,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up slightly from last month and up 10 percent from a year ago. Placements totaled 27,000 head, 18 percent behind the previous March. During March, 24,000 head were marketed, down 25 percent from March 2004.

On April 1, 2005, **California** had 500,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, down 3 percent from last month but up 1 percent from April 1, 2004. Placements totaled 65,000 head, 7 percent behind March 2004. During March, 70,000 head were marketed, 1 percent behind last March.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.9 million head on April 1, 2005. The inventory was 1 percent above April 1, 2004 and 1 percent above April 1, 2003. The inventory included 6.99 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year.

This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.80 million head, down 6 percent from 2004.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.76 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 13 percent below 2003. This is the second lowest placements for the month of March since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.69 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 299,000, 600-699 pounds were 320,000, 700-799 pounds were 614,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 527,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.97 million, up slightly from 2004 and 9 percent above 2003. **Other disappearance** totaled 69,000 during March, 3 percent above 2004 and 11 percent above 2003.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Number Placed on Feed, Number Marketed, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States 2004-2005

State	Number on Feed 1/					Placements During March			Marketings During March			Other Disappearance During March 2/		
	Apr 1, 2004	Mar 1, 2005	Apr 1, 2005			2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004
			Number	as % of 2004	as % of Mar									
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>			<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>			<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	
AZ	293	322	323	110	100	33	27	82	32	24	75	3	2	67
CA	495	515	500	101	97	70	65	93	71	70	99	4	10	250
CO	970	1,040	1,020	105	98	150	175	117	190	185	97	10	10	100
ID	255	250	240	94	96	39	44	113	46	53	115	3	1	33
IA	415	465	455	110	98	69	55	80	56	64	114	3	1	33
KS	2,360	2,370	2,340	99	99	460	445	97	470	460	98	20	15	75
NE	2,210	2,320	2,260	102	97	295	300	102	350	350	100	5	10	200
NM	105	125	113	108	90	16	13	81	21	23	110	2	2	100
OK	330	340	325	98	96	74	61	82	77	73	95	2	3	150
SD	205	210	205	100	98	33	31	94	36	34	94	2	2	100
TX	2,640	2,690	2,620	99	97	490	480	98	530	540	102	10	10	100
WA	185	185	159	86	86	35	22	63	34	47	138	1	1	100
Other Sts	300	320	310	103	97	46	42	91	54	50	93	2	2	100
US	10,763	11,152	10,870	101	97	1,810	1,760	97	1,967	1,973	100	67	69	103

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

2/ Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

March Milk Production Up 3.1 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during March totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from March 2004. February revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from February 2004. However, production was up 3.1 percent on a per day basis after adjusting for the leap year. The February revision represented an increase of 30 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,704 pounds for March, 43 pounds above March 2004.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.10 million head, 38,000 head more than March 2004, and 21,000 head more than February 2005.

Milk Cows and Production: By State, March 2004-2005

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		Change From 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
AZ	155	164	2,120	2,060	329	338	2.7
CA	1,710	1,748	1,815	1,845	3,104	3,225	3.9
CO	100	101	1,830	1,910	183	193	5.5
FL	138	139	1,550	1,635	214	227	6.1
ID	413	440	1,780	1,870	735	823	12.0
IL	108	105	1,650	1,670	178	175	-1.7
IN	147	154	1,820	1,700	268	262	-2.2
IA	195	187	1,730	1,770	337	331	-1.8
KS	113	110	1,680	1,755	190	193	1.6
KY	110	109	1,175	1,165	129	127	-1.6
MI	301	308	1,810	1,820	545	561	2.9
MN	465	455	1,510	1,560	702	710	1.1
MO	123	119	1,345	1,370	165	163	-1.2
NM	327	322	1,765	1,790	577	576	-0.2
NY	660	651	1,510	1,595	997	1,038	4.1
OH	260	268	1,510	1,520	393	407	3.6
OR	120	121	1,560	1,620	187	196	4.8
PA	564	560	1,570	1,600	885	896	1.2
TX	317	317	1,735	1,790	550	567	3.1
VT	145	143	1,530	1,595	222	228	2.7
VA	105	105	1,465	1,495	154	157	1.9
WA	239	238	1,945	2,030	465	483	3.9
WI	1,244	1,233	1,510	1,560	1,878	1,923	2.4
23-State Total	8,059	8,097	1,661	1,704	13,387	13,799	3.1

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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Release Dates for Upcoming National Reports

May 5 Dairy Products
 May 17 Milk Production
 May 20 Cattle on Feed
 May 20 Farm Labor
 May 20 Livestock Slaughter
 May 31 Agricultural Prices

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Pork Production at Record High for March

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in March 2004.

Beef production, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 5 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,238 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.3 million pounds, 6 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,900 head, down 11 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was 20 pounds above last year, at 328 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.95 million head, 1 percent below March 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.5 million pounds, was down 12 percent from March 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 280,300 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 5 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2005 commercial red meat production was 11.0 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 13 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 7 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production: Arizona and United States 1/

Class	March 2004	February 2005	March 2005	March 2005 as % of	
				March 2004	February 2005
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
Arizona 2/					
Total Red Meat	31.6	26.0	30.0	95	116
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
United States					
Beef	2,108	1,767	2,043	97	116
Veal	14.1	12.1	13.3	94	110
Pork	1,801	1,629	1,803	100	111
Lamb and	22.2	15.2	19.5	88	128
Total Red Meat	3,945	3,423	3,879	98	113

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Breakdown by class not available, includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter: United States, January-March 2005 1/

Species	United States 2/		
	January - March		
	Number Slaughtered	Total Live Weight 3/	Average Live Weight
	1,000 Head	Million Pounds	Pounds
Cattle 4/	2,723.4	3,371.6	1,238
Calves 4/	67.9	22.3	328
Hogs	8,946.1	2,423.0	271
Sheep and Lamb	280.3	38.9	139

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Accumulated totals and average liveweights based on unrounded data.

3/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

Arizona and United States Milk Production, Disposition, and Income

The average number of milk cows maintained by **Arizona's** dairy operations in 2004 increased 5,000 head from a year ago to 160,000 head. As of January 1, 2005, the number of milk cows totaled 165,000. Milk production per cow during 2004 was 22,788 pounds, down 1 percent from last year.

In **Arizona** milk production totaled 3.65 billion pounds in 2004, an increase of 3 percent from 2003. Value of milk produced, at \$572 million dollars, was a 34 percent increase from the 2003 value. The average return per 100 pounds of milk in 2004 was \$15.70, up \$3.70 cents from 2003.

United States milk production increased 0.2 percent in 2004 to 170.8 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 18,957 pounds, was 197 pounds above 2003. The annual average number of milk cows on farms, at 9.01 million head, was 73,000 head less than 2003. Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2004 totaled \$27.4 billion, 29 percent above 2003. Producer returns averaged \$16.13 per hundredweight, 29 percent above 2003. Marketings totaled 170 billion pounds, 0.2 percent above 2003. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers. An estimated 1.11 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 1.3 percent less than 2003. Calves were fed 87 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

Arizona and United States Cattle Production, Disposition, and Income

Cattle and Calves: Cash receipts from marketings of **Arizona** cattle and calves increased from \$750 million in 2003 to \$770 million in 2004, a 3 percent increase. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 755 million pounds in 2004, down 15 percent from 2003. The Arizona annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$101.00, an increase of \$17.70 from 2003. For calves, the annual average price per 100 pounds increased \$20.50 to \$120.00.

For the **United States**, cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves increased from \$45.1 billion in 2003 to \$47.3 in 2004, a 5 percent increase. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 53.8 billion pounds in 2004, down 5 percent from 2003. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$85.90, an increase of \$6.20 from 2003. For calves, the annual average price increased \$17.00 to \$119.00.

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April Farm Prices Received Index Up 1 Point From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 120, based on 1990-92=100, is 1 point (0.8 percent) above the March Index. The Crop Index is up 2 points (1.7 percent) while the Livestock Index is unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, asparagus, broccoli, and hay. Lower prices were received for lettuce, corn, celery, and eggs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of several commercial vegetables, cattle, strawberries,

and dairy offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, hogs, and grapefruit. This preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 5 points (4.0 percent) from April 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 124, is 1 point (0.8 percent) above last month but down 3 points (2.4 percent) from April 2004.

Prices Paid Index Up

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 140 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 1 point from March and 7 points (5.3 percent) above April 2004. Higher prices in April for

field crop seed, feeder cattle, hay & forages, and insecticides more than offset lower prices for feed grains, trucks, other machinery, and LP gas.

Prices Received By Farmers: Arizona and United States, April 2004 and 2005 and March 2005

Commodity	Unit	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		April 2004 Entire Month	March 2005 Entire Month	April 2005 Mid-Month	April 2004 Entire Month	March 2005 Entire Month	April 2005 Mid-Month
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb		48.9		60.3	41.5	42.0
Durum Wheat 2/	\$ Ton	-----	---	---	139.70	122.30	122.00
All Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	90.00	112.00	115.00	88.90	89.10	96.90
Alfalfa Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	90.00	112.00	115.00	93.00	96.40	103.00
Other Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	85.00	110.00	112.00	75.50	70.40	75.40
Grapefruit 4/	\$ Box	15.40	18.50	22.70	16.80	27.90	27.80
Oranges 4/	\$ Box	11.30	22.70	9.32	18.30	19.00	20.10
Lemons 4/	\$ Box				31.00	30.30	31.50
Tangerines 4/	\$ Box		20.70	11.40	26.80	29.10	31.80
Cows 5/	\$ Cwt	51.00	55.50	56.00	50.60	55.50	57.10
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	98.00	110.00	112.00	88.90	95.50	95.60
Beef Cattle 6/	\$ Cwt	97.50	109.00	111.00	85.00	91.30	91.60
Calves	\$ Cwt	120.00	133.00	138.00	117.00	135.00	139.00
All Milk 7/	\$ Cwt	17.30	15.10	14.80	18.10	15.60	15.40

1/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

2/ Not available for Arizona.

3/ Mid-month.

4/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Grapefruit 67 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs., Lemons 76 lbs., Tangerines 75 lbs.

5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

6/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

7/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

Index Summary Table

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	2004		2005	
	March	April	March	April
Prices Received	121	125	119	120
Prices Paid	132	133	139	140
Ratio 1/	92	94	86	86

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid by farmers.