



ARIZONA LIVESTOCK

MAY 2005

Released June 1, 2005, by the Arizona Agricultural Statistics Service and University of Arizona, College of Agriculture, 230 N First Avenue, Suite 303, Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1706, (602) 280-8850, Fax: (602) 280-8897, www.nass.usda.gov/az/.

Arizona Cattle on Feed Up 11 Percent

On May 1, 2005, **Arizona** had 328,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 11 percent from a year ago. Placements totaled 31,000 head, The same as April a year ago. During April, 24,000 head were marketed, 3,000 head less than the previous April.

On May 1, 2005, **California** had 500,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, the same as May 1, 2004. Placements totaled 64,000 head, down 11,000 head from April 2004. During April, 59,000 head were marketed, a decrease of 8,000 head from last April.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.6 million head on May 1, 2005. The inventory was 3 percent above May 1, 2004 and 1 percent above May 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.66 million, 4 percent above 2004 but 11 percent below 2003. Net placements were 1.57 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 340,000, 600-699 pounds were 225,000, 700-799 pounds were 500,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 595,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.80 million, 5 percent below 2004 and 9 percent below 2003. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 90,000 during April, 7 percent below 2004 but 43 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			Marketings			Other Disappearance		
	May 1, 2004	Apr 1, 2005	May 1, 2005			During April			During April			During April 2/		
			Number	as % of	as % of	2004	2005	2005 as % of	2004	2005	2005 as % of	2004	2005	2005 as % of
	1,000 Head		Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		
AZ	295	323	328	111	102	31	31	100	27	24	89	2	2	100
CA	500	500	500	100	100	75	64	85	67	59	88	3	5	167
CO	940	1,020	970	103	95	150	120	80	170	150	88	10	20	200
ID	250	240	240	96	100	45	39	87	47	37	79	3	2	67
IA	415	455	455	110	100	57	55	96	53	53	100	4	2	50
KS	2,240	2,340	2,260	101	97	355	375	106	440	425	97	35	30	86
NE	2,200	2,260	2,190	104	97	320	320	100	420	380	90	10	10	100
NM	105	113	114	109	101	14	19	136	11	16	145	3	2	67
OK	310	325	305	98	94	51	52	102	68	70	103	3	2	67
SD	200	205	200	100	98	26	27	104	28	31	111	3	1	33
TX	2,560	2,620	2,630	103	100	415	500	120	480	480	100	15	10	67
WA	175	159	147	84	92	26	19	73	35	30	86	1	1	100
Other Sts	285	310	300	105	97	35	39	111	45	46	102	5	3	60
US	10,375	10,870	10,639	103	98	1,600	1,660	104	1,891	1,801	95	97	90	93

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.

April Milk Production Up 3.2 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during April totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from April 2004. March revised production, at 13.8 billion pounds, was up 2.9 percent from March 2004. The March revision represented a decrease of 0.1 percent or 20 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,679 pounds for April, 43 pounds above April 2004.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.11 million head, 44,000 head more than April 2004, and 12,000 head more than March 2005.

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

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		Change From 2004 Percent
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		
AZ	155	164	2,090	2,050	324	336	3.7
CA	1,716	1,751	1,790	1,820	3,072	3,187	3.7
CO	101	103	1,800	1,880	182	194	6.6
FL	138	138	1,515	1,600	209	221	5.7
ID	414	443	1,770	1,850	733	820	11.9
IL	108	105	1,580	1,605	171	169	-1.2
IN	149	155	1,750	1,690	261	262	0.4
IA	195	187	1,700	1,740	332	325	-2.1
KS	113	111	1,675	1,755	189	195	3.2
KY	109	107	1,155	1,150	126	123	-2.4
MI	301	309	1,745	1,800	525	556	5.9
MN	465	455	1,480	1,520	688	692	0.6
MO	124	119	1,370	1,350	170	161	-5.3
NM	327	323	1,730	1,780	566	575	1.6
NY	658	646	1,500	1,545	987	998	1.1
OH	261	269	1,500	1,500	392	404	3.1
OR	120	121	1,590	1,540	191	186	-2.6
PA	561	563	1,550	1,590	870	895	2.9
TX	317	319	1,705	1,780	540	568	5.2
VT	145	143	1,485	1,580	215	226	5.1
VA	105	105	1,450	1,485	152	156	2.6
WA	239	238	1,905	1,975	455	470	3.3
WI	1,242	1,233	1,485	1,535	1,844	1,893	2.7
23-State Total	8,063	8,107	1,636	1,679	13,194	13,612	3.2

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

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Published Monthly

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Release Dates for Upcoming National Reports

June 3 Dairy Products
 June 16 Milk Production
 June 17 Cattle on Feed
 June 24 Livestock Slaughter
 June 29 Agricultural Prices

Director: Steven Manheimer

Deputy Director: David DeWalt

Agricultural Statisticians:

- Maria Bautista
- Clare Jervis
- Dianne Matta
- Curt Stock
- Tenopra Sheppard

Red Meat Production Down From Previous Month

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in April, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in April 2004.

Beef production, at 1.89 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, down 5 percent from April 2004. The average live weight was up 20 pounds from the previous year, at 1,220 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.0 million pounds, 7 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 61,600 head, down 13 percent from April 2004. The average live weight was 23 pounds above last year, at 353 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.44 million head, 2 percent below April 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.5 million pounds, was down 11 percent from April 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 220,800 head, 14 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 5 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2005 commercial red meat production was 14.6 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was down slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 8 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production: Arizona and United States 1/

Class	April 2004	March 2005	April 2005	April 2005 as % of	
				April 2004	March 2005
<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>		
Arizona 2/					
Total Red Meat	29.0	30.0	27.5	95	91
<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>		
United States					
Beef	1,956	2,043	1,890	97	93
Veal	13.9	13.3	13.0	93	98
Pork	1,725	1,803	1,704	99	94
Lamb and	17.5	19.5	15.5	89	80
Total Red Meat	3,713	3,879	3,622	98	93

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-April 2005 1/

Species	United States 2/		
	January - April		
	Number	Total	Average
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Cattle 3/	10,152.5	7,617.0	1,243
Calves 3/	259.1	51.7	334
Hogs	33,972.9	6,840.0	270
Sheep and Lamb	924.6	64.6	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.

Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers by Region and United States, April 10-16, 2005 1/

U.S. and Region	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock Combined	
Dollars per Hour				
Northeast I	9.01	8.51	8.83	9.47
Northeast II	9.24	8.62	9.05	9.65
Appalachian I	8.38	8.85	8.50	9.07
Appalachian II	8.38	7.69	8.08	8.59
Southeast	8.41	8.30	8.38	8.83
FL	8.20	9.90	8.37	9.31
Lake	8.99	10.05	9.45	9.95
Cornbelt I	8.84	9.17	8.91	9.51
Cornbelt II	8.85	9.27	9.06	9.38
Delta	7.37	7.18	7.34	7.64
Northern Plains	9.33	9.69	9.46	9.70
Southern Plains	8.13	9.15	8.53	9.28
Mountain I	7.89	8.49	8.23	8.43
Mountain II	7.70	8.41	8.02	8.50
Mountain III 2/	7.95	9.40	8.51	9.18
Pacific	8.87	10.78	9.23	9.95
CA	8.59	10.34	8.82	9.48
US 3/	8.55	9.23	8.73	9.34

1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

2/ AZ and NM.

3/ Excludes AK.

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May Farm Prices Unchanged From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May, at 122, based on 1990-92=100, is unchanged from April. The Crop and Livestock Indices are unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for hogs, strawberries, hay, and potatoes. Lower prices were received for lettuce, broccoli, asparagus, and dairy. The overall index is also affected by the 3-year average

seasonal change in the mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of cantaloup, sweet corn, grapes, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, dairy, calves, and asparagus. Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 7 points (5.4 percent) from May 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 126, is unchanged from last month but 5 points (3.8 percent) below May 2004.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The May Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 139 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from April but 4 points (3.0 percent) above May 2004.

Lower prices in May for feeder pigs, diesel fuel, feed grains, and gasoline offset higher prices for hay and forages, nitrogen fertilizers, complete feeds, and feeder cattle.

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

Commodity	Unit	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		May 2004	April 2005	May 2005	May 2004	April 2005	May 2005
		Entire Month	Entire Month	Mid-Month	Entire Month	Entire Month	Mid-Month
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb				59.7	43.1	42.2
Durum Wheat 2/	\$ Ton	---	---	---	140.30	121.00	119.00
All Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	111.00	115.00	130.00	101.00	96.90	107.00
Alfalfa Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	112.00	115.00	130.00	109.00	103.00	116.00
Other Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	87.00	112.00	125.00	78.30	75.40	76.10
Grapefruit 4/	\$ Box	17.10	22.70	24.10	18.10	27.80	28.40
Oranges 4/	\$ Box		9.32	10.50	18.60	20.10	19.50
Cows 5/	\$ Cwt	51.10	56.50	60.10	52.50	57.10	58.70
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	100.00	114.00	112.00	92.60	98.30	96.90
Beef Cattle 6/	\$ Cwt	99.50	113.00	111.00	88.50	94.00	92.90
Calves	\$ Cwt	113.00	137.00	135.00	121.00	140.00	141.00
All Milk 7/	\$ Cwt	19.50	14.70	14.40	19.30	15.20	14.90

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	
	April	May	April	May
Prices Received	125	129	122	122
Prices Paid	133	135	139	139
Ratio 1/	94	96	88	88

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