



**National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service**

Arizona Livestock

May 2006

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Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Up 5 Percent From Last Year

On May 1, 2006, Arizona had 346,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 5 percent from a year ago but down 5,000 from last month. Placements totaled 27,000 head, 4,000 head less than a year ago. During April, 23,000 head were marketed, down 1,000 head from last April.

On May 1, 2006, California had 530,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 6 percent from last year but down 5,000 from last month. Placements totaled 60,000 head, down 4,000 head from last year. During April, 60,000 head were marketed, up 1,000 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 11.6 million head on May 1, 2006. The inventory was 9 percent above May 1, 2005 and 11 percent above May 1, 2004. This is the highest May 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.63 million, 2 percent below 2005 but 2 percent above 2004. Net placements were 1.54 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 385,000, 600-699 pounds were 270,000, 700-799 pounds were 444,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 530,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.79 million, down slightly from 2005 and 5 percent below 2004. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 87,000 during April, 4 percent below 2005 and 10 percent below 2004.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Number Placed on Feed, Number Marketed, and Other Disappearance, 1000+ Capacity Feedlots, By Month, State, and United States 2005-2006

State	Number on Feed 1/					Number Placed on Feed			Number Marketed			Other Disappearance		
	May 1, 2005	April 1, 2006	May 1, 2006			During April			During April			During April 2/		
			Number	as % of 2005	as % of April	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005
	1,000 Head		Percent		Percent	1,000 Head	Percent		Percent		Percent	1,000 Head	Percent	
AZ	330	351	346	105	99	31	27	87	24	23	96	3	9	300
CA	500	535	530	106	99	64	60	94	59	60	102	5	5	100
CO	970	1,070	1,060	109	99	120	140	117	150	140	93	20	10	50
ID	240	250	245	102	98	39	31	79	37	34	92	2	2	100
IA	455	500	495	109	99	55	64	116	53	66	125	2	3	150
KS	2,260	2,590	2,530	112	98	375	375	100	425	410	96	30	25	83
NE	2,190	2,400	2,320	106	97	320	320	100	380	390	103	10	10	100
NM	114	139	132	116	95	19	18	95	16	24	150	2	1	50
OK	305	360	340	111	94	52	48	92	70	66	94	2	2	100
SD	200	210	200	100	95	27	28	104	31	35	113	1	3	300
TX	2,630	2,940	2,910	111	99	500	455	91	480	470	98	10	15	150
WA	147	152	152	103	100	19	23	121	30	22	73	1	1	100
Other Sts	300	315	300	100	95	39	40	103	46	54	117	3	1	33
US	10,641	11,812	11,560	109	98	1,660	1,629	98	1,801	1,794	100	91	87	96

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 losses, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

April Milk Production Up 3.7 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during April totaled 14.2 billion pounds, up 3.7 percent from April 2005. March revised production, at 14.6 billion pounds, was up 5.6 percent from March 2005. The March revision represented an increase of 25 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,727 pounds for April, 37 pounds above April 2005.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.24 million head, 124,000 head more than April 2005, and 13,000 head more than March 2006.

Milk Cows and Production: By State, April 2005-2006

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		Percent change from 2005
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
AZ	164	172	2,060	2,145	338	369	9.2
CA	1,747	1,788	1,825	1,850	3,188	3,308	3.8
CO	103	108	1,865	1,900	192	205	6.8
FL	138	133	1,570	1,590	217	211	-2.8
ID	443	478	1,850	1,850	820	884	7.8
IL	105	103	1,605	1,650	169	170	0.6
IN	157	164	1,780	1,715	279	281	0.7
IA	192	200	1,775	1,765	341	353	3.5
KS	111	112	1,755	1,810	195	203	4.1
KY	107	99	1,150	1,280	123	127	3.3
MI	311	317	1,830	1,855	569	588	3.3
MN	455	450	1,540	1,575	701	709	1.1
MO	119	116	1,430	1,500	170	174	2.4
NM	323	349	1,780	1,875	575	654	13.7
NY	646	649	1,565	1,590	1,011	1,032	2.1
OH	269	273	1,520	1,530	409	418	2.2
OR	121	121	1,610	1,530	195	185	-5.1
PA	563	557	1,600	1,650	901	919	2.0
TX	319	328	1,780	1,935	568	635	11.8
VT	144	143	1,570	1,560	226	223	-1.3
VA	105	103	1,485	1,535	156	158	1.3
WA	241	237	1,965	1,955	474	463	-2.3
WI	1,234	1,241	1,540	1,580	1,900	1,961	3.2
23-State Total	8,117	8,241	1,690	1,727	13,717	14,230	3.7

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

June 2.....Dairy Products
 June 16.....Milk Production
 June 23.....Cattle on Feed
 June 23.....Livestock Slaughter
 June 29.....Agricultural Prices

Red Meat Production Down from Previous Month

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.61 billion pounds in April, down slightly from the 3.62 billion pounds produced in April 2005.

Beef production, at 1.97 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.61 million head, up 2 percent from April 2005. The average live weight was up 28 pounds from the previous year, at 1,246 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.9 million pounds, 16 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 47,500 head, down 23 percent from April 2005. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 379 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.61 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.96 million head, 6 percent below April 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.0 million pounds, was up 9 percent from April 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 248,500 head, 13 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 5 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2006 commercial red meat production was 15.1 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production: By Arizona and United States 1/

Class	April 2005	March 2006	April 2006	April 2006 as % of 2/	
				April 2005	March 2006
<i>1,000 Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>		
Arizona 3/ Total Red Meat	27,500	35,400	28,700	105	81
<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>		
<u>United States</u>					
Beef	1,888	2,209	1,973	105	89
Veal	13.0	13.3	10.9	84	82
Pork	1,703	1,871	1,613	95	86
Lamb and Mutton	15.5	18.2	17.0	109	93
Total Red Meat	3,620	4,112	3,614	100	88

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

2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.

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

Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers by Region and United States, April 9-15, 2006 1/

U.S. and Region	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock Combined	
Dollars per Hour				
Northeast I	9.71	9.54	9.65	10.49
Northeast II	10.54	8.80	10.10	10.75
Appalachian I	8.84	8.34	8.70	9.48
Appalachian II	8.20	7.75	8.00	8.85
Southeast	8.49	8.68	8.55	9.19
FL	8.37	8.50	8.39	9.19
Lake	9.32	9.94	9.63	10.30
Cornbelt I	10.18	9.52	10.00	10.49
Cornbelt II	8.45	10.38	9.46	10.12
Delta	7.64	8.15	7.75	8.00
Northern Plains	9.67	8.64	9.25	9.84
Southern Plains	8.24	9.06	8.64	9.37
Mountain I	9.20	8.57	8.81	9.22
Mountain II	8.39	8.98	8.65	9.08
Mountain III 2/	8.14	9.13	8.60	9.17
Pacific	9.24	10.13	9.45	10.10
CA	8.95	10.85	9.22	10.19
HI 4/	9.79		9.93	11.96
US 3/	8.96	9.30	9.07	9.79

1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

2/ AZ and NM.

3/ Excludes AK.

4/ Insufficient data for livestock.

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May Farm Prices Received Index Increased 1 Point From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May, at 114, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.9 percent) from April. The Crop Index is up 3 points (2.4 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (1.0 percent). Producers received higher prices for lettuce, hogs, onions, and grapefruit. Lower prices were received for cattle, asparagus, tomatoes, and eggs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average

marketings of grapes, sweet corn, cantaloupe, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, milk, calves, and apples.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 5 points (4.2 percent) from May 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 115, increased 1 point (0.9 percent) from last month but decreased 7 points (5.7 percent) from May 2005.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The preliminary May Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 146 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from April but 6 points (4.3 percent) above May 2005. Lower prices in May for

feeder cattle, nitrogen fertilizers, feeder pigs, and LP gas offset higher prices for diesel fuel, gasoline, hay & forages, and feed grains.

Prices Received by Farmers: Arizona and United States, May 2005 and 2006 and April 2006

Commodity	Unit	Arizona			United States		
		May 2005 Entire Month	April 2006 Entire Month	May 2006 Mid-Month	May 2005 Entire Month	April 2006 Entire Month	May 2006 Mid-Month
Upland Cotton	¢ Lb	1/	1/	1/	39.6	48.6	47.2
Durum Wheat 2/	\$ Ton	---	---	---	122.33	113.33	118.00
Alfalfa Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	130.00	135.00	135.00	116.00	110.00	118.00
Oranges 4/	\$ Box	9.56	18.60	18.00	20.00	19.70	20.70
Grapefruit 4/	\$ Box	22.70	25.30	21.60	29.30	23.00	26.20
Cows 5/	\$ Cwt	60.60	44.40	44.10	58.30	48.50	48.00
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	109.00	103.00	106.00	96.10	89.30	85.80
Beef Cattle 6/	\$ Cwt	98.80	86.60	88.70	92.10	84.80	81.80
Calves	\$ Cwt	130.00	126.00	126.00	143.00	135.00	132.00
All Milk 7/	\$ Cwt	14.40	11.80	11.60	14.70	12.10	12.00

- 1/ Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations or insufficient sales.
 2/ Not available for Arizona.
 3/ Mid-month.
 4/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Lemons 76 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs., Tangerines 75 lbs., Grapefruit 67 lbs.
 5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
 6/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.
 7/ Preliminary; before for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index 1990-92 = 100	2005		2006	
	April	May	April	May
Prices Received	121	119	113	114
Prices Paid	140	140	146	146
Ratio 1/	86	85	77	78

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