



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 1 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on April 1, 2007. The inventory was 1 percent below April 1, 2006, but 7 percent above April 1, 2005. This is the second highest April 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.43 million steers and steer calves, down 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.14 million head, up 4 percent from 2006. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.97 million, 7 percent above 2006 and 12 percent above 2005. Net placements were 1.89 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 350 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 375 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 640 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 600 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.85 million, 6 percent below both 2006 and 2005. Other disappearance totaled 72.0 thousand during March, 20 percent below 2006, but 6 percent above 2005.

CATTLE ON FEED IN CALIFORNIA

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 530 thousand head on April 1, 2007, unchanged from last month, but 1 percent below April 2006. During March, placements of 68.0 thousand were 15 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 65.0 thousand head were 4 percent below March of 2006. Other disappearance totaled 3.00 thousand head.

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

State	Number On Feed March 1 a/			Placed During March		Marketed During March	
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2006	2007	2006	2007
1,000 Head							
Arizona	351	329	94	30	46	28	33
California	550	530	96	59	68	68	65
Colorado	1,090	1,010	93	155	165	165	145
Idaho	255	250	98	42	38	45	42
Iowa	520	530	102	55	72	73	70
Kansas	2,610	2,420	93	480	510	470	430
Nebraska	2,450	2,510	102	335	350	370	370
New Mexico	143	130	91	21	19	23	17
Oklahoma	365	350	96	68	68	72	67
South Dakota	210	230	110	36	40	35	37
Texas	3,010	2,790	93	485	520	540	495
Washington	154	170	110	26	26	27	32
Other States	315	350	111	45	43	42	45
UNITED STATES	12,023	11,599	96	1,837	1,965	1,958	1,848
State	Other Disappearance During March b/			Number On Feed April 1 a/		2007/2006	
	2006	2007		2006	2007	Percent	
1,000 Head							
Arizona	2	2		351	340	97	
California	6	3		535	530	99	
Colorado	10	10		1,070	1,020	95	
Idaho	2	1		250	245	98	
Iowa	2	2		500	530	106	
Kansas	30	20		2,590	2,480	96	
Nebraska	15	10		2,400	2,480	103	
New Mexico	2	1		139	131	94	
Oklahoma	1	1		360	350	97	
South Dakota	1	3		210	230	110	
Texas	15	15		2,940	2,800	95	
Washington	1	1		152	163	107	
Other States	3	3		315	345	110	
UNITED STATES	90	72		11,812	11,644	99	

a/ 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.

b/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 3.55 billion pounds of milk in March 2007. This was 13 percent above February 2007 and 3 percent above March 2006.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,975 pounds, 220 pounds more than in February 2007 and 50 pounds more than a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk Receipts 5/		UNITED STATES 1/ 2/					
	Milk Cows 3/		Milk Per Cow 4/		Milk Production 4/		2006	2007	Milk Cows 3/		Milk Per Cow 4/		Milk Production 4/	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007			2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,776	1,791	1,825	1,880	3,241	3,367	3,240	3,364	8,198	8,280	1,711	1,724	14,027	14,276
Feb.	1,779	1,793	1,710	1,755	3,042	3,147	3,037	3,145	8,206	8,277	1,586	1,582	13,018	13,098
Mar.	1,781	1,796	1,925	1,975	3,428	3,547	3,423		8,224	8,282	1,775	1,782	14,599	14,760
Apr.	1,784		1,855		3,309		3,308		8,240		1,726		14,222	
May	1,785		1,895		3,383		3,381		8,257		1,782		14,712	
June	1,786		1,795		3,206		3,204		8,269		1,697		14,033	
July	1,774		1,760		3,122		3,118		8,258		1,688		13,937	
Aug.	1,770		1,860		3,292		3,290		8,255		1,676		13,838	
Sept.	1,773		1,775		3,147		3,142		8,251		1,613		13,307	
Oct.	1,778		1,815		3,227		3,222		8,255		1,652		13,637	
Nov.	1,782		1,760		3,136		3,133		8,260		1,614		13,332	
Dec.	1,787		1,845		3,297		3,296		8,276		1,690		13,983	

1/ Data was revised for 2006 and 2007.

2/ Twenty-three-state total.

3/ Includes dry cows, but excludes heifers not yet fresh.

4/ Excludes milk suckled by calves.

5/ Milk receipts are from the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling branches. Excludes on-farm usage.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		March 2006	February 2007	March 15, 2007	March 2006	February 2007	March 15, 2007
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Tons	136.00	127.00	143.00	97.50	114.00	117.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Tons	141.00	135.00	150.00	100.00	117.00	120.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	42.80	47.30	45.40
Cows 2/	Cwt.	47.80	42.00	43.40	49.50	47.00	46.90
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	89.30	90.50	95.50	92.80	91.50	97.20
Calves 2/	Cwt.	124.00	104.00	110.00	139.00	117.00	123.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	40.00	41.00	---	40.10	36.50	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	78.50	88.50	---	92.10	95.40	---
Milk Cows 5/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Whsle. 2/	Cwt.	11.02	13.73	14.40	12.60	14.90	15.50

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's March 2007 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.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 1 PERCENT

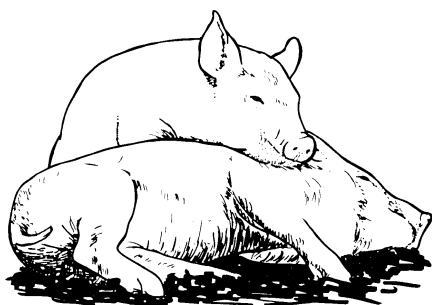
U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2007 was 61.1 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2006, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2006.

Breeding inventory, at 6.08 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.0 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2006-February 2007 pig crop, at 26.1 million head, was up 2 percent from 2006 and up 3 percent from 2005. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.87 million head, up 1 percent from both 2006 and 2005. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.08 for the December 2006-February 2007 period, compared to 9.03 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5.00 thousand hogs and pigs.

U.S. HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, MARCH 1, 2005-07

Item	2005	2006	2007	2007	2007
	1,000 Head			Percent	
March 1 Inventory					
All Hogs and Pigs	59,699	60,326	61,103	102	101
Kept for Breeding	5,941	6,025	6,081	102	101
Market	53,757	54,301	55,022	102	101
Market Hogs and Pigs By Weight Groups					
Under 60 Pounds	19,667	19,988	20,265	103	101
60-119 Pounds	13,087	13,006	13,086	100	101
120-179 Pounds	11,360	11,434	11,423	101	100
180 Pounds and Over	9,644	9,874	10,248	106	104



CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during March 2007 totaled 142 million pounds (dressed weight), 8 percent above the previous month, but fractionally below March 2006. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In March 2007, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,340 pounds; calves 135 pounds; and hogs 244 pounds.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.01 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 4.11 billion pounds produced in March 2006.

Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, down 2 percent from March 2006. The average live weight was down 10 pounds from the previous year to 1,259 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.5 million pounds, 7 percent above March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 70.8 thousand head, up 20 percent from March 2006. The average live weight, at 321 pounds, was down 38 pounds from last year.

Pork production totaled 1.86 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.20 million head, down slightly from March 2006. The average live weight was 270 pounds, down 1 pound from the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.6 million pounds, was up 7 percent from March 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 279 thousand head, 12 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, down 5 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2007 commercial red meat production was 11.7 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up 11 percent, pork was up 1 percent, but lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

March 2006 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and four Saturdays, while March 2007 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and five Saturdays.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, MARCH 2006-07 ^{1/}

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	130.1	134.5	174,384	176,988	1,369	1,340
U.S.	2,854.0	2,792.6	3,607,680	3,504,629	1,269	1,259
CALVES						
California	7.1	10.7	1,167	1,433	166	135
U.S.	59.1	70.8	21,078	22,588	359	321
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S.	249.8	278.6	36,178	39,013	145	140
HOGS						
California	231.3	219.7	56,620	53,440	246	244
U.S.	9,235.8	9,203.2	2,504,377	2,485,226	271	270
RED MEAT	March 2006	February 2007	March 2007	Mar. 07 Mar. 06	Mar. 07 Feb. 07	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	142.4	131.7	142.1	100	108	
U.S.	4,112.1	3,615.6	4,011.9	98	111	

^{1/} Farm slaughter excluded.