USDA

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

ARIZONA LIVESTOCK

December 2012 --- Released January 2, 2013

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Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Down 8 Percent From December 2011

On December 1, 2012, Arizona had 267,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, an 8 percent decrease from a year ago but a 1 percent increase from last month. Placements totaled 28,000 head during November, an increase of 1,000 head from a year ago. During November, 25,000 head were marketed, a decrease of 3,000 head from last year.

On December 1, 2012, California had 490,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, 3 percent less than last year but 2 percent higher than last month. Placements totaled 65,000 head during November, 1,000 head less than last year. During November, 51,000 head were marketed, an 11 percent increase from last year.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on December 1, 2012. The inventory was 6 percent below December 1, 2011.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.92 million, 6 percent below 2011. Net placements were 1.84 million head. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 645,000, 600-699 pounds were 450,000, 700-799 pounds were 375,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 453,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.76 million, 1 percent below 2011.

Other disappearance totaled 88,000 during November, 9 percent below 2011.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Number Placed on Feed, Number Marketed, and Other Disappearance, 1000+ Capacity Feedlots, By Month, State, and United States 2011-2012

State	Number on Feed 1/					Number Placed on Feed During November			Number Marketed During November			Other Disappearance During November 2/		
	Dec 1, 2011	Nov 1, 2012	Dec 1, 2012 Number	Dec 1, 2012 as % of 2011	Dec 1, 2012 as % of Nov	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	1,000 Head			*Percent*		*1,000 Head*		*Percent*	*1,000 Head*		*Percent*	*1,000 Head*		*Percent*
AZ	290	265	267	92	101	27	28	104	28	25	89	1	1	100
CA	505	480	490	97	102	66	65	98	46	51	111	5	4	80
CO	1,160	1,030	1,020	88	99	175	150	86	145	155	107	10	5	50
ID	235	240	245	104	102	46	40	87	35	34	97	1	1	100
IA	610	590	610	100	103	143	123	86	100	100	100	3	3	100
KS	2,360	2,220	2,170	92	98	375	355	95	395	390	99	20	15	75
NE	2,560	2,480	2,530	99	102	480	465	97	375	400	107	15	15	100
OK	385	345	345	90	100	60	56	93	61	54	89	4	2	50
SD	265	220	230	87	105	70	57	81	41	45	110	4	2	50
TX	2,990	2,670	2,700	90	101	470	465	99	450	415	92	30	20	67
WA	236	248	261	111	105	54	57	106	43	43	100	1	1	100
Other Sts	459	466	460	100	99	71	62	87	55	49	89	3	19	633
US	12,055	11,254	11,328	94	101	2,037	1,923	94	1,774	1,761	99	97	88	91

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.

Red Meat Production Up 1 Percent From Last Year

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.31 billion pounds in November, up 1 percent from the 4.26 billion pounds produced in November 2011.

Beef production, at 2.21 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.78 million head, down slightly from November 2011. The average live weight was up 28 pounds from the previous year, at 1,321 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.1 million pounds, 7 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 70,500 head, down 4 percent from November 2011. The average live weight was down 11 pounds from last year, at 244 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.08 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.11 million head, up 1 percent from November 2011. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 276 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.4 million pounds, was down 2 percent from November 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 181,800 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 2 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2012 commercial red meat production was 45.4 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 5 percent.

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

Class	November 2011	October 2012	November 2012	November 2012 as % of 2/	
				November 2011	October 2012
	Million Pounds			*Percent*	
Arizona 3/					
Total Red Meat	**33.2**	**32.8**	**32.3**	**97**	**98**
United States					
Beef	2,148.8	2,343.7	2,206.6	103	94
Veal	10.8	10.3	10.1	93	98
Pork	2,086.7	2,210.7	2,078.7	100	94
Lamb and Mutton	12.6	14.2	12.4	98	88
Total Red Meat	4,258.9	4,578.6	4,307.8	101	94

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.

United States Hog Inventory Down Slightly

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2012 was 66.3 million head. This was down slightly from December 1, 2011, and down 2 percent from September 1, 2012.

Breeding inventory, at 5.82 million head, was up slightly from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 60.5 million head, was down slightly from last year, and down 2 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2012 pig crop, at 29.4 million head, was up slightly from 2011. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.90 million head, down 1 percent from 2011. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 10.15 for the September-November period, compared to 10.02 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

United States hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2012-February 2013 quarter, up slightly from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2012, and up 1 percent from 2011.

Intended farrowings for March-May 2013, at 2.93 million sows, are down 2 percent from 2012, but up slightly from 2011.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 47 percent of the total United States hog inventory, up from 45 percent last year.

Revisions

All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2011 through September 2012 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, an adjustment of less than one and one half percent was made to the June 2012 total inventory. An adjustment of less than one half of one percent was made to the September 2012 total inventory. An adjustment of more than two percent was made to the March-May 2012 pig crop.

November Milk Production up 1.1 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during November totaled 14.9 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from November 2011. October revised production at 15.2 billion pounds, was down slightly from October 2011. The October revision represented an increase of 1 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,758 pounds for November, 19 pounds above November 2011.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.47 million head, 3,000 head less than November 2011, but 8,000 head more than October 2012.

Milk Cows and Production: By State, November 2011-2012

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	Percent change from 2011
	1,000 Head		*Pounds*		*Million Pounds*		*Percent*
AZ	192	180	1,855	1,940	356	349	-2
CA	1,778	1,780	1,880	1,835	3,343	3,266	-2.3
CO	131	135	1,870	1,935	245	261	6.5
FL	120	122	1,460	1,400	175	171	-2.3
ID	579	579	1,840	1,880	1,065	1,089	2.3
IL	98	100	1,580	1,580	155	158	1.9
IN	173	173	1,670	1,730	289	299	3.5
IA	200	205	1,765	1,790	353	367	4.0
KS	123	127	1,725	1,770	212	225	6.1
MI	369	375	1,865	1,915	688	718	4.4
MN	465	465	1,520	1,590	707	739	4.5
MO	94	93	1,190	1,180	112	110	-1.8
NM	333	323	2,020	2,000	673	646	-4.0
NY	610	610	1,680	1,735	1,025	1,058	3.2
OH	269	270	1,560	1,625	420	439	4.5
OR	122	123	1,615	1,610	197	198	0.5
PA	538	533	1,580	1,600	850	853	0.4
TX	435	430	1,815	1,770	790	761	-3.7
UT	88	89	1,740	1,750	153	156	2.0
VT	134	133	1,510	1,555	202	207	2.5
VA	96	95	1,440	1,455	138	138	
WA	263	261	1,880	1,880	494	491	-0.6
WI	1,265	1,271	1,660	1,730	2,100	2,199	4.7
23-State Total	8,475	8,472	1,739	1,758	14,742	14,898	1.1

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

January 23 ....Milk Production
January 24 ....Livestock Slaughter
January 25 ....Cattle on Feed
January 31 .... Agricultural Prices
February 1..Cattle
February 1... Sheep and Goats
February 4..Dairy Products
February 19............. Farms Numbers and Livestock Operations

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December Farm Prices Received Index Declined 5 Points

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 201 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 5 points (2.4 percent) from November. The Crop Index is down 8 points (3.4 percent) and the Livestock Index remained unchanged. Producers received lower prices for milk, lettuce, turkeys, and eggs and higher prices for soybeans, broilers, cattle, and grapes. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly movement of wheat, milk, broilers, and hay offset the decreased marketing of corn, soybeans, cattle, and grapes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 22 points (12 percent) from December 2011. The Food Commodities Index, at 187, decreased 3 points (1.6 percent) from last month but increased 18 points (11 percent) from December 2011.

Prices Paid Index Down 1 Point

The December Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 217 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index is down 1 point (-0.5 percent) from November but 11 points (5.3 percent) above December 2011. Lower prices in December for concentrates, complete feeds, LP gas, and gasoline more than offset higher prices for feeder pigs, feeder cattle, nitrogen, and potash & phosphate.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index 1990-92 = 100	2011 December	2012 November	2012 December
Prices Received	179	206	201
Prices Paid	206	218	217
Ratio 1/	87	94	93

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

Prices Received by Farmers: Arizona and United States, December 2011 and 2012 and November 2012

Commodity	Unit	Dec-11 Entire Month	Nov -12 Entire Month	Dec-12 Mid-Month
		Arizona		
Upland Cotton	$ Lb	**0.941**	**0.772**	**1/**
Durum Wheat	$ Bu	**1/**	**1/**	**1/**
Alfalfa Hay 2/	$ Ton	**250.00**	**195.00**	**190.00**
All Milk 3/	$ Cwt	**19.10**	**21.00**	**20.70**
		United States		
Upland Cotton	$ Lb	0.889	0.684	0.688
Durum Wheat	$ Bu	10.30	8.16	8.45
Alfalfa Hay 2/	$ Ton	195.00	215.00	217.00
Cows 4/	$ Cwt	70.50	76.80	76.80
Steers & Heifers	$ Cwt	126.00	128.00	130.00
Beef Cattle 5/	$ Cwt	120.00	123.00	125.00
Calves	$ Cwt	157.00	161.00	162.00
All Milk 3/	$ Cwt	19.10	20.80	20.50

1/ Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations or insufficient sales.
2/ Mid-month.
3/ Preliminary; before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies
4/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
5/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.