



# Weekly Market Information Report

Week ending Thursday February 24, 2005



The following information is collected from various sources and disseminated by the Ontario Cattlemen's Association.

## ONTARIO DIRECT TO PACKER RAILGRADE CATTLE TRADE

This is a summary for the week of rail grade prices on a carcass weight basis, before grade and weight discounts.

	Price Range	Last Week
A grade steers	160.00-162.00	158.00-160.00
A grade heifers	159.00-161.00	157.00-159.00

## ONTARIO LIVE CATTLE TRADE

Ontario auction sales this week saw weighted average price ranges for

### **FED CATTLE**

	Price Range	Average	Top	Last week avg.
Large Frame Steers +1250	89.52-98.15	93.78	110.25	94.43
Medium Frame Steers +1250	85.21-96.33	91.93	103.75	90.11
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	88.07-98.22	93.31	110.25	93.93
Large Frame Heifers +1000	88.41-96.14	92.61	114.00	94.08
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	82.33-95.54	88.68	110.0	86.79
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	86.74-96.60	91.81	114.00	91.70
Cows-all weights	19.44-35.37	27.76	86.00	25.88
Bulls-all weights	26.08-43.28	34.45	96.63	32.91

### **STOCKERS – Large & Medium Frame**

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	89.55-105.24	98.67	109.75
900-999	97.79-109.11	103.82	115.00
800-899	92.03-111.75	106.00	116.75
700-799	103.19-118.34	112.69	124.60
600-699	103.23-123.94	114.90	129.25
500-599	106.17-132.34	123.40	143.00
400-499	105.41-137.72	122.15	146.00

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	83.42-97.53	93.03	104.50
800-899	81.07-100.85	92.18	107.00
700-799	84.95-101.63	94.56	109.50
600-699	87.46-108.72	99.26	120.00
500-599	90.41-114.56	103.26	126.00
400-499	83.69-110.00	99.11	120.00

**At Talbotville Livestock: Saturday February 19, 2005**

Ontario Cattlemen's Association

	Price Range	Top
Good & choice steers	88.00-100.00	
Good & choice heifers	87.00-98.00	
Cows	26.00-38.00	45.00
Fed cattle sold fully steady to \$2 higher. A light offering of cows sold \$2-3 higher.		

**Stocker Sale: Brussel's Livestock, February 18, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	99.00-109.75	109.75	900+	72.00-104.00	104.00
900-999	102.50-112.00	115.00	800-899	92.75-104.75	104.75
800-899	97.50-108.75	108.75	700-799	94.00-105.75	105.75
700-799	104.00-118.75	122.50	600-699	90.00-111.00	112.50
600-699	109.00-124.50	129.25	500-599	95.00-112.75	115.50
500-599	118.00-132.50	133.00	400-499	89.00-111.00	112.50
400-499	111.00-142.00	142.00			

**Stocker Sale: Keady Livestock, February 22, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
900-999	100.25-109.00	109.00	900+	90.50-102.00	102.00
800-899	102.00-109.50	109.50	800-899	84.00-99.50	99.50
700-799	111.00-124.60	124.60	700-799	88.00-105.00	109.50
600-699	118.00-125.00	125.00	600-699	93.00-116.25	116.25
500-599	124.00-141.00	141.00	500-599	99.00-116.50	119.00
400-499	121.00-141.50	146.00	400-499	100.00-120.00	120.00
All stocker cattle sold on a good demand at fully steady prices.					

**Denfield Livestock: February 22, 2005**

	Price Range
Choice steers	95.00-100.00
Good steers	86.00-92.00
Plain steers	70.00-80.00
Choice exotic cross heifers	95.00-100.00
Good heifers	85.00-90.00
Plain heifers	60.00-70.00
Good fed cows	35.00-45.00
D1 & D2 cows	23.00-30.00
D3 & D4 cows	15.00-20.00
The market traded on a very strong demand at prices \$2-4 higher on the good fed cattle. Cows were in good demand at prices \$3-5 higher.	

**Stocker sale: Ontario Livestock Exchange, February 23, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	94.50-106.50	107.25			
900-999	99.50-111.25	114.00	+900	94.25-104.50	104.50
800-899	92.00-113.75	113.75	800-899	80.00-102.00	102.50

**Stocker Sale: Ontario Stockyards – February 24, 2005**

Ontario Cattlemen's Association

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>+1000</b>	41.00-91.00	91.00			
<b>900-999</b>	80.00-100.50	100.50	<b>+900</b>	71.00-84.00	97.00
<b>800-899</b>	86.00-114.00	115.75	<b>800-899</b>	69.50-103.75	103.75
<b>700-799</b>	100.00-117.00	117.00	<b>700-799</b>	84.00-103.75	103.75
<b>600-699</b>	101.50-126.00	126.00	<b>600-699</b>	89.00-109.00	110.00
<b>500-599</b>	100.00-130.00	143.00	<b>500-599</b>	93.00-118.50	118.50
<b>400-499</b>	98.00-140.00	142.00	<b>400-499</b>	72.00-106.50	115.00

Stocker Sale: **Tricounty Cattle – February 24, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>800-899</b>	106.50-112.00	116.75	<b>+900</b>	99.50-100.00	100.00
<b>700-799</b>	107.25-117.25	117.25	<b>800-899</b>	95.50-101.00	101.00

**CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUTOUT VALUE**

Week ending – February 18, 2005	AAA	AA
Cutout value	1.7421	1.6639
Last week	1.7731	1.7736

**AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA**

	<b>STEERS</b>	<b>HEIFERS</b>
Feb 12, 2005	837	776
Feb 14, 2004	850	809

**FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL**

	Week Ending Feb 12, 2005	YTD	% of Yr. Ago
<b>Grand Total</b>	65,689	417,507	103%
<b>Alberta Slaughter</b>	42,029	277,286	97%
<b>Ontario Slaughter</b>	12,510	73,490	110%

**USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL**

	Week Ending Feb. 19, 2005	Last Week	Year Ago
<b>Grand Total</b>	576,000	573,000	591,000

**ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE**

Week ending **Thursday February 24, 2005**

<b>Steers</b>	Live	88.50-91.70	Flat rail	150.00-151.35
<b>Heifers</b>	Live	87.40-89.55	Flat rail	149.0-152.00

**U.S. TRADE (U.S. funds)**

Week ending **February 24, 2005**

<b>Weekly range</b> for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	N/T (Active today - \$86.50-87.50)
	Rail	N/T (Active today- \$137.00)

**U.S. BOXED BEEF CUT-OUT VALUES (U.S. funds)**

Ontario Cattlemen's Association

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Select</b>
	<b>600-900</b>	<b>600-900</b>
<b>Current 5 day average:</b>	139.27	136.78

**BEEF EXPORTS**

	United States Jan 2– Feb 19	Mexico Jan 4 – Dec. 25/04
<b>Total</b>	40,259 tonnes	86,378 tonnes

**BEEF IMPORTS**

	Jan 1 – Feb 12, 2005	Last Year Same Time	% Change
<b>Total</b>	11,010 tonnes	5,798 tonnes	+32.7%

**BEEF PRODUCTION**

	Jan 1 –Feb 19	Last Year Same Time	% Change
<b>Fed</b>	150,426 tonnes	157,125 tonnes	-4.3%
<b>Non-fed</b>	23,854 tonnes	17,920 tonnes	+33.1%

**CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE**

Closing quotes on futures today were as follows:

<b>Live Cattle</b>			<b>Feeder Cattle</b>			<b>Corn</b>			<b>Soybeans</b>			<b>Canadian \$</b>		
\$/cwt US			\$/cwt US			\$/bu US		¢/bu	\$/bu US		¢/bu			
<b>Feb</b>	87.82	-0.35	<b>Mar</b>	98.40	-0.67	<b>Mar</b>	2.114	+5.6	<b>Mar</b>	5.974	+28.4	<b>Spot</b>	80.76	+0.21
<b>Apr</b>	86.10	-0.17	<b>Apr</b>	97.62	-0.52	<b>May</b>	2.214	+8.0	<b>May</b>	6.044	+30.4	<b>Mar</b>	80.65	+0.08
<b>Jun</b>	81.90	-0.05	<b>May</b>	96.92	-0.45	<b>Jul</b>	2.274	+6.6	<b>Jul</b>	6.084	+32.0	<b>Jun</b>	80.74	+0.08
<b>Aug</b>	79.02	-0.17	<b>Aug</b>	99.45	-0.37	<b>Sep</b>	2.344	+6.6	<b>Aug</b>	6.070	+29.4	<b>Sep</b>	80.88	+0.08

**Week Ending February 24, 2005**

This week's markets were not as hot as the last couple of weeks. Although the week started out strong and moved steady, the end of the week experienced lower prices. Overall volume of cattle traded was higher.

There were 1,948 head of finished steers and heifers sold live through Ontario auction markets. The average fed steer price was \$93.31 down \$0.62 and the average heifer price was \$91.81 up \$0.11 from last week. Auction markets reported fed cattle sold on a strong demand with prices \$2 higher and by Thursday prices were barely steady.

Slaughter cows continued to sell strong at higher prices. The volume of cows sold through auction markets was 1,860 holding steady with last week. This week's average price was \$27.76 up \$1.88. Auction markets reported cows sold actively on a good demand with prices \$2-5 higher.

Last week replacement cattle sold very strong with prices \$3-10 higher. Unfortunately that increase was lost this week as auction markets reported stockers sold steady the first part of the week and by Thursday prices were mostly up to \$5.00 lower. Volume sold was 4,567 up 18.9% from last week.

Another increase in direct to packer railgrade cattle prices of \$2 over last week as steers sold \$160-

162 and heifers were \$159-161.

In Alberta, cattle trade was active with prices steady to \$2 lower. Steers sold at \$88.50-91.70 live and \$150.00-151.35 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$87.40-89.55 live and \$149.00-152.00 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was barely evident again. Just like last week trade did not develop until today (Friday) with prices \$1-2 lower than last week. Steers and heifers sold at \$86.50 live and \$137.00 dressed. U.S. boxed beef cutouts are higher with moderate movement.

Local beef trade saw mediocre demand. Some inventory is still difficult to move. Canadian boxed beef cut-outs were lower.