



# Weekly Market Information Report

## Week ending Thursday March 3, 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	158.00-160.00	160.00-162.00
A grade heifers	158.00-159.00	159.00-161.00

### 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	86.96-98.09	92.95	120.00	93.78
Medium Frame Steers +1250	83.26-95.64	90.26	107.00	91.93
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	85.59-97.90	92.43	120.00	93.31
Large Frame Heifers +1000	86.94-97.08	92.59	108.50	92.61
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	76.13-93.54	85.49	110.00	88.68
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	86.16-98.07	91.84	110.00	91.81
Cows-all weights	17.78-33.52	26.04	74.00	27.76
Bulls-all weights	29.53-41.51	35.16	92.00	34.45

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

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	84.03-98.51	91.74	107.00
900-999	93.85-102.74	99.34	116.00
800-899	81.14-103.65	95.24	117.00
700-799	97.65-112.86	106.28	121.00
600-699	106.27-122.60	115.22	126.50
500-599	103.82-128.67	118.90	141.50
400-499	104.87-132.57	119.64	146.25

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	80.16-92.33	86.95	102.00
800-899	83.85-95.76	91.40	104.75
700-799	82.42-97.41	91.15	109.50
600-699	87.73-106.38	97.93	115.00
500-599	84.66-111.83	100.36	121.00
400-499	87.36-112.83	102.93	122.00

**At Talbotville Livestock: Saturday February 26, 2005**

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	Price Range	Top
Good & choice steers	80.00-95.00	105.25
Good & choice heifers	81.00-95.00	102.00
Cows	24.00-38.00	53.00
Bulls	30.00-45.00	

**Stocker Sale: Brussel's Livestock, February 25, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	91.50-98.25	107.00	900+	84.25-98.50	102.00
900-999	98.00-103.75	116.00	800-899	89.00-104.75	104.75
800-899	98.50-112.50	117.00	700-799	88.50-105.50	109.50
700-799	100.50-114.00	115.00	600-699	103.00-113.50	113.50
600-699	113.00-124.00	124.00	500-599	90.00-116.00	121.00
500-599	115.00-129.50	135.00	400-499	95.00-118.00	118.00
400-499	109.00-133.50	135.00			

**Stocker Sale:: Keady Livestock – March 1, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
800-900	92.00-109.00	800-900	84.50-89.25
700-800	107.50-117.50	700-800	85.00-97.00
600-700	113.50-126.50	600-700	81.00-104.00
500-600	127.00-141.50	500-600	84.00-120.50
400-500		400-500	90.00-115.00

Good quality grass type cattle sold steady while plainer types and heavier shortkeep stockers sold easier.

**Denfield Livestock: March 1, 2005**

	Price Range
Choice steers	95.00-105.00
Good steers	90.00-95.00
Plain steers	70.00-85.00
Choice exotic cross heifers	95.00-105.00
Good heifers	85.00-90.00
Plain heifers	60.00-75.00
Good fed cows	30.00-45.00
D1 & D2 cows	25.00-33.00
D3 & D4 cows	20.00-25.00

The market traded on a strong demand at fully steady prices on all classes of fed cattle. Stockers sold strong. A good offering of cows traded active at prices \$3-5 higher.

**Stocker sale: Ontario Livestock Exchange, March 2, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	87.00-101.75	105.75	+900	90.00-98.75	98.75
900-999	97.25-106.75	107.50	800-899	55.00-96.50	96.50

Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – March 3, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>800-899</b>	48.00-90.00	110.50			
<b>700-799</b>	92.00-110.50	121.00	<b>700-799</b>	77.00-94.25	94.25
<b>600-699</b>	100.00-125.00	125.00	<b>600-699</b>	75.50-99.00	103.00
<b>500-599</b>	112.00-130.50	131.00	<b>500-599</b>	90.00-107.00	110.00
<b>400-499</b>	103.00-144.00	144.00	<b>400-499</b>	96.00-115.00	115.00

**CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUTOOUT VALUE**

Week ending – February 25, 2005	AAA	AA
Cutout value	1.7171	1.6447
Last week	1.7421	1.6639

**AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA**

	STEERS	HEIFERS
Feb 19, 2005	838	769
Feb 21, 2004	848	798

**FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL**

	Week Ending Feb 19, 2005	YT485,080D	% of Yr. Ago
<b>Grand Total</b>	67,573	485,080	102%
<b>Alberta Slaughter</b>	44,523	321,809	96%
<b>Ontario Slaughter</b>	12,172	85,662	110%

**USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL**

	Week Ending Feb. 26, 2005	Last Week	Year Ago
<b>Grand Total</b>	574,000	576,000	583,000

**ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE**

Week ending **Thursday March 3, 2005**

<b>Steers</b>	Live	80.00-90.00	Flat rail	131.75-142.50
<b>Heifers</b>	Live	81.85-88.00	Flat rail	136.50-140.50

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

Week ending **March 3, 2005**

<b>Weekly range</b> for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	90.00
	Rail	142.00-144.00

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

	Choice	Select
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	<b>600-900</b>	<b>600-900</b>
<b>Current 5 day average:</b>	140.95	138.60

**BEEF EXPORTS**

	United States Jan 2– Feb 26	Mexico Jan 4 – Dec. 31/04
<b>Total</b>	45,321 tonnes	87,790 tonnes

**BEEF IMPORTS**

	Jan 1 – Feb 19, 2005	Last Year Same Time	% Change
<b>Total</b>	12,738 tonnes	7,179 tonnes	+77.4%

**BEEF PRODUCTION**

	Jan 1 –Feb 26	Last Year Same Time	% Change
<b>Fed</b>	167,236 tonnes	180,239 tonnes	-7.2%
<b>Non-fed</b>	26,620 tonnes	20,950 tonnes	+27.1%

**CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE**

Closing quotes on futures today were as follows:

Live Cattle			Feeder Cattle			Corn			Soybeans			Canadian \$		
\$/cwt US			\$/cwt US			\$/bu US		¢/bu	\$/bu US		¢/bu			
<b>Apr</b>	89.02	+0.32	<b>Mar</b>	102.67	+0.05	<b>Mar</b>	2.090	-0.4	<b>Mar</b>	6.226	+2.6	<b>Spot</b>	81.21	+0.76
<b>Jun</b>	84.40	+0.05	<b>Apr</b>	101.67	+0.17	<b>May</b>	2.170	-1.0	<b>May</b>	6.296	+2.4	<b>Mar</b>	81.25	+0.79
<b>Aug</b>	81.22	+0.00	<b>May</b>	100.42	+0.32	<b>Jul</b>	2.242	-0.6	<b>Jul</b>	6.336	+3.6	<b>Jun</b>	81.33	+0.79
<b>Oct</b>	82.37	-0.25	<b>Aug</b>	102.05	+0.17	<b>Sep</b>	2.302	-0.6	<b>Aug</b>	6.322	+3.2	<b>Sep</b>	81.49	+0.79

**Week Ending March 3, 2005**

The markets this week started off strong and of course by late afternoon on Wednesday the markets were under pressure with prices \$5-10 lower.

There were 2,144 head of finished steers and heifers sold live through Ontario auction markets. The average fed steer price was \$92.43 down \$0.88 and the average heifer price was \$81.84 up \$0.03 from last week. Auction markets reported fed cattle prior to Wednesday sold actively on a strong market and after Wednesday they were \$4 lower.

Slaughter cows continued to sell strong at slightly lower prices. The volume of cows sold through auction markets was 1,517. This week's average price was \$26.04 down \$1.72. Auction markets reported cows sold actively with prices steady.

Replacement cattle saw another strong week until Wednesday. Since then prices have been under pressure. Volume sold was 3,815 down 16.5% from last week but 9% higher than last year at

this time. Auction markets reported stockers sold actively with steady prices early in the week. Late week saw prices \$5-10 lower, although good light-weight grass types sold steady.

Direct to packer railgrade cattle prices were \$1.50-2 lower as steers sold \$158-160 and heifers were \$158-159.

In Alberta, cattle trade was very limited with prices \$5-8 lower. Steers sold at \$80.00-90.00 live and \$131.75-142.50 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$81.85-88.00 live and \$136.50-140.50 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was active with prices \$3-4 higher. Steers and heifers sold at \$90.00 live and \$142.00-144.00 dressed.

Local beef trade is holding its own although in the last few days things have been in a state of limbo. Canadian boxed beef cut-outs were lower.