



# Weekly Market Information Report

## Week ending Thursday May 5, 2005



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

### FEDERAL FED CATTLE SET-ASIDE AUCTION

Auction Week	# Bidders	# Participants this week	Weighted average accepted bid price	Provinces with accepted bids	Scheduled release date
May 4/05	735	32	\$1.18	AB,MB,ON	Aug 03/05
April 27/05	719	31	\$1.16	AB,MB,ON,QC	July 27/05
April 20/05	704	153	\$1.14	AB,SK,MB,ON,QC	July 20/05
April 13/05	669	106	\$1.19	AB, MB, ON	July 13/05
April 6/05	646	66	\$1.25	AB, MB, ON, QC	July 6/05

To participate in the Fed Cattle Set-Aside program you must register by calling 1-888-292-5856. Auctions run every Monday at 2:00 pm to Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

### 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
<b>A grade steers</b>	149-152	N/T
<b>A grade heifers</b>	148-151	N/T

### 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	82.88-93.91	87.94	105.00	88.98
Medium Frame Steers +1250	74.39-90.74	85.01	101.00	82.74
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	81.18-93.77	87.59	105.00	88.53
Large Frame Heifers +1000	78.89-90.28	85.86	105.25	85.40
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	64.51-86.99	79.92	97.75	77.84
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	77.34-89.79	84.88	105.25	84.12
Cows-all weights	17.39-32.46	24.51	56.00	25.63
Bulls-all weights	26.35-41.89	33.06	78.00	35.92

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

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Average	Top
<b>1000+</b>	77.71-89.40	84.92	100.75
<b>900-999</b>	89.72-95.82	92.91	103.00
<b>800-899</b>	90.61-103.41	98.58	108.75
<b>700-799</b>	91.64-112.02	103.89	117.25
<b>600-699</b>	99.07-119.81	111.07	128.00
<b>500-599</b>	97.41-120.23	110.91	130.75
<b>400-499</b>	91.99-122.29	110.66	135.00

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<b>HEIFERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>900+</b>	61.00-84.18	76.15	93.50
<b>800-899</b>	75.28-94.00	87.59	102.00
<b>700-799</b>	81.97-100.31	91.40	108.00
<b>600-699</b>	82.24-106.83	96.05	115.00
<b>500-599</b>	84.38-106.38	97.22	119.00
<b>400-499</b>	81.17-104.87	94.09	118.00

**At Talbotville Livestock: Saturday April 30, 2005**

	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>Good &amp; choice steers</b>	82.00-98.00	108.00
<b>Good &amp; choice heifers</b>	80.00-96.00	106.00
<b>Cows</b>	21.00-32.00	42.50
	35.00-45.00	

**Stocker Sale: Brussel's Livestock, April 29, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>HEIFERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>1000+</b>	62.00-89.50	93.50	<b>900+</b>	64.00-93.00	93.00
<b>900-999</b>	85.50-95.00	95.00	<b>800-899</b>	65.00-89.50	97.75
<b>800-899</b>	88.00-104.00	105.00	<b>700-799</b>	79.50-98.00	101.50
<b>700-799</b>	90.00-112.00	112.00	<b>600-699</b>	85.00-103.50	109.00
<b>600-699</b>	10.00-116.00	122.75	<b>500-599</b>	85.50-111.00	119.00
<b>500-599</b>	90.00-117.00	123.00	<b>400-499</b>	87.00-111.00	111.00
<b>400-499</b>	98.00-128.00	128.00			

**Stocker Sale: Kawartha Lakes, April 30, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>HEIFERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>600-699</b>	66.00-119.00	119.00	<b>600-699</b>	51.00-87.00	87.00
<b>500-599</b>	67.00-113.00	113.00	<b>500-599</b>	69.00-102.50	102.50
<b>400-499</b>	84.00-120.00	120.00	<b>400-499</b>	81.00-100.00	100.00

**Stocker Sale: Keady Livestock, May 3, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>HEIFERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>900-999</b>	93.50-95.50	95.50			
<b>800-899</b>	93.50-108.75	108.75	<b>800-899</b>	88.00-99.50	99.50
<b>700-799</b>	99.00-117.25	117.25	<b>700-799</b>	80.00-97.50	97.50
<b>600-699</b>	108.00-124.50	124.50	<b>600-699</b>	92.00-110.00	110.00
<b>500-599</b>	114.00-126.00	126.00	<b>500-599</b>	91.00-108.50	108.50
<b>400-499</b>	103.00-126.00	128.00	<b>400-499</b>	80.00-103.00	110.00

**Stocker Sale: D. H. Hickson, May 3, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>HEIFERS</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>600-699</b>	68.50-116.50	116.50	<b>600-699</b>	59.00-85.00	85.00
<b>500-599</b>	64.50-122.50	122.50	<b>500-599</b>	59.00-96.00	96.00
<b>400-499</b>	70.00-122.00	122.00	<b>400-499</b>	64.00-86.50	86.50

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Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards, May 3, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>+1000</b>	89.00-91.25	91.25			
<b>900-999</b>	89.50-95.50	97.00	<b>+900</b>	77.25-93.50	93.50
<b>800-899</b>	95.50-106.00	106.00	<b>800-899</b>	87.00-101.00	101.50
<b>700-799</b>	95.00-110.25	113.50	<b>700-799</b>	90.00-105.00	108.00
<b>600-699</b>	109.00-118.25	124.50	<b>600-699</b>	89.00-110.00	114.50
<b>500-599</b>	115.00-125.00	125.00	<b>500-599</b>	100.00-113.50	114.00
<b>400-499</b>	114.50-125.00	125.00	<b>400-499</b>	96.00-109.00	109.00

Denfield Livestock: **May 3, 2005**

	Price Range	
<b>Choice steers</b>	90.00-95.00	
<b>Good steers</b>	84.00-90.00	
<b>Plain steers</b>	70.00-80.00	
<b>Choice exotic cross heifers</b>	90.00-95.00	
<b>Good heifers</b>	83.00-88.00	
<b>Plain heifers</b>	60.00-70.00	
<b>Good fed cows</b>	35.00-40.00	
<b>D1 &amp; D2 cows</b>	27.00-33.00	
<b>D3 &amp; D4 cows</b>	20.00-25.00	
<b>Good beef bulls</b>	32.00-40.00	
<b>Good Holstein bulls</b>	25.00-30.00	

The market traded on an even demand at steady prices on the good fed cattle with the fancy cattle very active at strong prices. A good offering of cows were in good demand at fully steady prices. Stockers were steady.

Stocker sale: **Ontario Livestock Exchange, May 4, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>+1000</b>	89.50-95.00	96.50	<b>+900</b>	82.50-90.00	93.00
<b>900-999</b>	91.00-95.75	103.00			
<b>800-899</b>	86.50-95.00	100.00			

Stocker sale: **Kawartha Lakes, May 4, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>800-899</b>	87.00-103.25	103.25	<b>700-799</b>	85.00-106.25	106.25
<b>700-799</b>	93.50-117.00	117.00	<b>600-699</b>	79.00-115.00	115.00
<b>600-699</b>	96.00-128.00	128.00	<b>500-599</b>	94.00-111.50	111.50
<b>500-599</b>	100.00-130.75	130.75	<b>400-499</b>	94.50-118.00	118.00

**Warton – 768 stockers – May 5, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>900-999</b>	85.75-89.50		<b>800-899</b>	74.00-94.75	
<b>800-899</b>	80.00-88.50		<b>700-799</b>	71.75-88.00	99.00

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<b>700-799</b>	84.00-107.50	108.75	<b>600-699</b>	77.00-105.0	106.00
<b>600-699</b>	90.00-114.25	117.00	<b>500-599</b>	75.00-103.50	106.00
<b>500-599</b>	89.00-109.00	113.00	<b>400-499</b>	83.00-105.00	

Sale prices comparable to area market conditions

Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – May 5, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>700-799</b>	91.50-114.00	114.00	<b>600-699</b>	86.00-104.00	104.00
<b>600-699</b>	88.00-115.50	116.00	<b>500-599</b>	72.00-98.00	109.00
<b>500-599</b>	90.00-115.00	126.00	<b>400-499</b>	73.50-102.00	111.00

Stocker Sale: **Tricounty Cattle Co. – May 5, 2005**

<b>STEERS</b>	Price Range	Top	<b>HEIFERS</b>	Price Range	Top
<b>900-999</b>	97.50-102.60	102.60	<b>800-899</b>	92.00-99.75	102.00
<b>800-899</b>	97.75-103.25	103.25	<b>700-799</b>	86.25-101.50	102.00
<b>700-799</b>	95.00-109.00	115.00	<b>600-699</b>	87.00-106.25	107.00
<b>600-699</b>	110.75-122.00	122.00	<b>500-599</b>	84.50-105.00	110.00
<b>500-599</b>	115.00-120.00	120.00			

**CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUTOUT VALUE**

Week ending – April 30, 2005	AAA	AA
Cutout value	1.8236	1.7521
Last week	1.7896	1.7060

**AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA**

	<b>STEERS</b>	<b>HEIFERS</b>
April 23, 2005	798	777
April 24, 2004	828	793

**FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL**

	Week Ending Apr 23, 2005	YTD	% of Yr. Ago
<b>Grand Total</b>	80,754	1,149,839	104%
<b>Alberta Slaughter</b>	56,362	778,501	99%
<b>Ontario Slaughter</b>	13,010	197,511	110%

**USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL**

	Week Ending April 30, 2005	Last Week	Year Ago
<b>Grand Total</b>	622,000	601,000	665,000

**ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE**

Week ending **Thursday May 5, 2005**

<b>Steers</b>	Live	78.00-82.30	Flat rail	130.75-136.50
<b>Heifers</b>	Live	79.65-81.50	Flat rail	135.00

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

Week ending **May 5, 2005**

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<b>Weekly range</b> for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	N/T
	Rail	\$144.00-145.00

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

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Select</b>
	<b>600-900</b>	<b>600-900</b>
<b>Current 5 day average:</b>	162.85	146.32

**BEEF EXPORTS**

	United States Jan 2– Apr 30	Mexico Jan 1 – Mar 5
<b>Total</b>	100,297 tonnes	12,759 tonnes

**BEEF IMPORTS**

	Jan 1 – Apr 23, 2005	Last Year Same Time	% Change
<b>Total</b>	31,311 tonnes	24,534 tonnes	+27.6%

**BEEF PRODUCTION**

	Jan 1 –Apr 30	Last Year Same Time	% Change
<b>Fed</b>	385,702 tonnes	385,846 tonnes	+0.0%
<b>Non-fed</b>	55,106 tonnes	45,025 tonnes	+22.4%

**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>Jun</b>	85.05	-0.37	<b>May</b>	110.22	-0.20	<b>May</b>	2.004	+0.6	<b>May</b>	6.350	+11.4	<b>Spot</b>	80.61	+0.26
<b>Aug</b>	85.40	-0.50	<b>Aug</b>	109.55	-0.30	<b>Jul</b>	2.082	+0.2	<b>Jul</b>	6.400	+11.2	<b>Jun</b>	80.63	+0.24
<b>Oct</b>	86.50	-0.10	<b>Sep</b>	108.30	-0.35	<b>Sep</b>	2.162	+0.0	<b>Aug</b>	6.376	+10.4	<b>Sep</b>	80.80	+0.24
<b>Dec</b>	87.35	-0.12	<b>Oct</b>	107.30	-0.15	<b>Dec</b>	2.260	+0.4	<b>Sep</b>	6.274	+8.0	<b>Dec</b>	80.97	+0.24

**Comments for the week ending May 5, 2005**

The fed cattle market was strong and active this week. There were 2,708 head of finished steers and heifers sold live through Ontario auction markets. That volume is double from the same period last year and 21% higher than last week. The average fed steer price was \$87.59 down \$0.94 and the average heifer price was \$84.88 up \$0.76 from last week. Auction markets reported fed cattle sold on a strong active trade with prices steady.

Slaughter cows sold fairly even. The volume of cows sold through auction markets was 1,900. This week's average price was \$24.51 down \$1.12. Auction markets reported cows sold on a good demand with prices fully steady with last week.

Good quality replacement cattle sold strong. Total stockers sold live through auction markets was 7,656 down 9% from last week and 35% lower than last year at this time. Auction markets reported calves and yearlings sold on a good demand at steady to stronger prices. The special vaccinated sale at the Ontario Stockyards saw prices mostly \$5 higher with the fleshy types under pressure.

Direct to packer railgrade cattle prices were \$7.50-8.00 higher than they were two weeks ago as steers sold at \$149-152 and heifers sold at \$148-151 dressed.

In Alberta, cattle trade was moderately active with prices steady to slightly softer. Steers sold at \$78.00-

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82.30 live and \$130.75-136.50 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$79.65-81.50 live and \$135.00 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was only evident in the north again with active trade on Wednesday. Trade in the south was not evident this week. Steers and heifers sold at \$144.00-145.00 dressed.

Local beef trade was not quite as strong, it was an effort to move meat. Hip cuts are expected to fall while middle cuts should continue to move. Prices were under pressure.