



Weekly Market Information Report

Week ending Thursday July 21 ,2005



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

FED CATTLE SET-ASIDE AUCTION IS SUSPENDED

FEDERAL FED CATTLE SET-ASIDE AUCTION

Auction Week	# Bidders	# Participants this week	Weighted average accepted bid price	Provinces with accepted bids	Scheduled release date
July 13/05	874	108	\$1.22	AB,ON	Oct. 12/05
July 6/05	853	107	\$1.29	AB,MB,ON	Oct 5/05
June 29/05	840	93	\$1.34	AB,ON,QC,SK	Sept 28/05
June 22/05	820	77	\$1.36	AB,MB,ON,QC	Sept 21/05
June 15/05	809	70	\$1.37	AB,MB,ON,QC,SK	Sept 14/05
June 8/05	787	62	\$1.34	AB,SK.ON.QC	Sept 7/05
June 1/05	775	79	\$1.31	AB,MB,ON,QC	Aug 31/05

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 2:00p.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
A grade steers	160.00-163.00	157.00-159.00
A grade heifers	160.00-162.00	157.00-158.00

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	88.48-102.07	95.80	110.00	93.13
Medium Frame Steers +1250	84.17-98.76	93.32	102.50	91.72
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	87.54-101.85	95.28	110.00	93.00
Large Frame Heifers +1000	85.49-99.10	93.21	120.00	91.46
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	78.68-96.54	87.89	114.00	81.53
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	82.98-99.79	92.36	120.00	90.06
Cows-all weights	27.25-49.29	39.23	77.00	32.22
Bulls-all weights	35.94-52.65	44.64	90.00	43.72

STOCKERS – Large & Medium Frame

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	95.09-105.85	101.22	115.10
900-999	98.12-105.20	102.30	112.85
800-899	92.31-107.99	102.96	113.50
700-799	93.09-112.15	104.79	121.00
600-699	97.42-116.74	108.44	130.00

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500-599	104.23-129.46	118.97	135.00
400-499	110.35-132.37	123.81	142.00

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	89.02-96.96	94.27	106.00
800-899	89.19-101.19	95.95	112.00
700-799	88.31-107.35	100.34	113.00
600-699	85.45-105.47	97.88	114.50
500-599	87.84-112.95	102.02	120.50
400-499	91.29-114.85	106.04	124.00

At Talbotville Livestock: Saturday July 16, 2005

	Price Range	Top
Good & choice steers	82.00-95.00	105.25
Good & choice heifers	80.00-95.00	104.25
Cows	32.00-41.00	49.50
Bulls	35.00-48.00	

Stocker Sale: Brussel's Livestock, July 15, 2005

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	91.00-100.50	109.00	900+	89.75-97.25	106.00
900-999	94.00-102.00	106.00	800-899	90.75-102.50	112.00
800-899	95.00-109.25	112.25	700-799	95.25-110.75	110.75
700-799	104.50-116.00	120.50	600-699	87.00-104.00	111.50
600-699	101.00-115.75	122.00	500-599	94.00-116.00	120.50
500-599	117.00-132.00	132.00	400-499	104.00-119.00	123.00

Stocker Sale: Keady Livestock, July 19, 2005

STEERS	Price Range	Top			
+1000	112.00-115.10	115.10			
900-999	109.25-112.85	112.85			

Denfield Livestock – July 19, 2005

	Price Range	
Choice steers & heifers	95.00-110.00	
Good steers & heifers	85.00-95.00	
Good cows	35.00-50.00	
D1 & D2 cows	30.00-35.00	
D3 & D4 cows	25.00-30.00	
Bulls	35.00-45.00	

The market traded on a strong demand on all classes of cattle at sharply higher prices. A good offering of cows sold sharply higher. Holstein bull calves were steady.

Stocker sale: Ontario Livestock Exchange, July 20, 2005

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STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	96.50-107.25	110.75	+900	95.75-100.50	100.50
900-999	97.00-104.00	112.00	800-899	87.75-99.50	103.25

PROVINCIAL SLAUGHTER - ONTARIO

	June 2005	June 2004
Steers	5,732	5,592
Heifers	3,398	2,842
Cows	2,561	2,111
Bulls	1,065	1,088

ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Week ending **Thursday July 21, 2005**

Steers	Live	83.50-86.80	Flat rail	138.70-142.50
Heifers	Live	82.80-86.80	Flat rail	140.00-143.15

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

Week ending **July 21, 2005**

Weekly range for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	79.00-79.50
	Rail	124.00-125.00

CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUTOUT VALUE

Week ending – July 15, 2005	AAA	AA
Cutout value	1.6742	1.6023
Last week	1.7005	1.6345

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

	Choice	Select
	600-900	600-900
Current 5 day average:	130.85	125.53

AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA

	STEERS	HEIFERS
July 9, 2005	807	747
July 10, 2004	821	752

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

	Week Ending	YTD	% of Yr. Ago
	July 9, 2005		
Grand Total	78,179	1,990,555	106%
Alberta Slaughter	53,088	1,341,040	100%
Ontario Slaughter	12,659	338,877	108%

USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL

	Week Ending	Last Week	Year Ago
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	July 16, 2005		
Grand Total	652,000	555,000	637,000

BEEF EXPORTS

	United States Jan 2– July 16	Mexico Jan 1 – May 28
Total	193,037 tonnes	26,627 tonnes

BEEF IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – July 9, 2005	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Total	55,329 tonnes	41,975 tonnes	+31.8%

BEEF PRODUCTION

	Jan 1 – July 16, 2005	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	634,470 tonnes	642,016 tonnes	-1.2%
Non-fed	88,371 tonnes	71,386 tonnes	+23.8%

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			
Aug	79.25	+0.12	Aug	107.65	-0.22	Sep	2.334	-0.4	Aug	6.692	-0.2	Spot	81.99	-0.17
Oct	81.45	-0.02	Sep	105.75	-0.30	Dec	2.446	+0.0	Sep	6.732	-1.2	Sep	82.15	-0.13
Dec	83.65	-0.12	Oct	104.52	-0.15	Mar	2.516	+0.2	Nov	6.794	+0.0	Dec	82.38	-0.11
Feb	85.65	+0.15	Nov	102.32	-0.37	May	2.556	+0.2	Jan	6.832	+0.4	Mar	82.61	-0.09

Comments for the week ending July 22, 2005

Strong markets everywhere this week. Finished cattle continued the upward swing in prices. Volume of live finished steers and heifers sold through auction markets was 1,798. The average fed steer price was \$95.28 up \$2.28 and the average heifer price was \$92.36 up \$2.30 from last week's rise. Auction markets reported fed cattle sold very strong with prices \$2-3 higher.

Many people seemed surprised at the large increase in slaughter cow pricing. Our phones were busy asking why? There are a few reasons that we know of; First of all I think this confirms that there are not as many cows out there as some thought there might be. We have also heard that packers are short and need cull cows. Given the drastically low prices of cows over the last couple of years, producers did keep cows back and bred them instead of taking the large hit. The volume of cows sold through auction markets was 1,764. This week's average price was \$39.23 up \$7.01 from last week and \$18.89 higher than last year at this time. Auction markets reported cows sold on a very strong active trade with prices a lot higher. On average auctions said they were \$6.00 higher.

Replacement cattle were also strong. Total stockers sold was 2,898 up 13.6% from last week and 11% over last year at this time. Auction markets reported all replacements sold on a strong active trade with prices up to \$5 higher.

Direct to packer railgrade cattle prices were \$3.50-4.50 higher. Steers sold at \$160.00-163.00 and heifers were \$160.00-162.00.

In Alberta, cattle trade was moderately active with prices fully steady to \$1.50 lower. Steers sold at \$83.50-

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86.80 live and \$138.70-142.50 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$82.80-86.80 live and \$140.00-143.15 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was very active on Thursday with prices \$1-2 lower. Steers and heifers sold at \$79.00-79.50 live and \$124.00-125.00 dressed.

Local beef trade continues to see strong demand. Inventories are clear. Boxed beef pricing is lower.

Yesterday the Montana Governor issued a news release in Montana indicating that he would be requiring cattle going into Montana from Canada to be re-inspected for the same things that USDA is currently inspecting for – age, pregnancy, tags and brands. His statement also indicated the Governor's Office is reviewing applicable statutes regarding the interstate shipment of cattle through Montana. In an AP news story he is quoted as saying that the owners of the cattle will be required to pay for the re-inspection and that he will urge governors in Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming to take similar action.

The Federal Government is looking into the issue further.

CCA has had a call from Broadcast News on this issue so additional media coverage can be expected. We are saying that additional attempts to disrupt trade are not unexpected, and further illustrate why our recovery strategy emphasizes taking control of our own destiny through such aspects as increasing slaughter capacity in Canada. Attempts to disrupt trade such as this only encourage us to continue down the road of becoming a stronger competitor in international beef markets.

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