



Weekly Market Information Report

Week ending Thursday January 19, 2006



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	172.00-176.00	173.00-177.00
A grade heifers	172.00-176.00	173.00-177.00

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	98.14-106.28	102.66	111.50	101.18
Medium Frame Steers +1250	90.62-104.75	100.49	108.50	100.21
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	96.71-106.02	102.20	111.50	101.11
Large Frame Heifers +1000	95.00-105.25	101.07	112.25	100.67
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	87.43-104.80	96.93	110.00	96.85
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	91.80-104.00	99.55	112.25	99.85
Cows-all weights	21.28-35.75	28.29	78.00	29.63
Bulls-all weights	32.92-45.20	39.20	62.00	39.36

STOCKERS – Large & Medium Frame

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	101.84-113.92	108.33	121.75
900-999	106.98-115.50	111.58	119.50
800-899	95.75-117.37	110.56	124.50
700-799	102.23-128.25	119.61	134.75
600-699	108.44-135.07	124.01	152.50
500-599	114.47-139.76	129.40	156.25
400-499	111.35-142.33	128.72	157.00
-399	89.53-134.48	200.00	113.69

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	87.90-106.55	97.46	116.50
800-899	90.86-110.80	103.90	124.50
700-799	94.60-114.77	107.78	126.00
600-699	99.36-121.31	111.59	129.00
500-599	98.22-122.10	113.07	144.50
400-499	99.84-125.43	114.90	135.00
300-399	91.16-120.16	105.68	137.00

At Talbotville Livestock: January 14, 2006 – 584 head

	Price Range	Top
Good & choice steers	95.00-105.00	111.75
Good & choice heifers	93.00-105.00	109.00
Cows	24.00-37.00	
Bulls	35.00-47.50	

Fed steers and heifers sold steady. Cows and bulls sold strong.

Stocker Sale: Brussels Livestock, January 13, 2006

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	99.50-112.50	115.25	900+	97.50-113.50	113.50
900-999	107.00-118.50	118.50	800-899	95.00-113.75	117.00
800-899	110.50-124.50	124.50	700-799	97.00-115.25	123.50
700-799	97.00-128.75	128.75	600-699	90.00-122.00	129.00
600-699	111.00-137.50	152.50	500-599	105.00-126.00	144.50
500-599	118.00-136.25	144.00	400-499	100.00-127.00	129.00
400-499	119.00-141.00	141.00	300-399	106.00-137.00	137.00

Stocker Sale: Leo's Livestock, January 14, 2006

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	58.00-101.75	101.75	900+	80.00-105.00	105.00
900-999	75.00-111.50	111.50	800-899	81.00-107.00	107.00
800-899	97.00-120.75	121.00	700-799	101.00-116.00	116.00
700-799	118.00-134.75	134.75	600-699	108.00-121.00	121.00
600-699	125.00-137.50	137.50	500-599	103.00-119.00	120.00
500-599	121.00-137.00	137.00	400-499	100.00-118.00	119.00
400-499	120.00-136.50	138.00	300-399	81.00-110.00	117.00

Stocker sale at: Keady Livestock- January 17, 2006

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	108.25-119.75	119.75	Over 900	86.00-106.50	106.50
900-999	116.25-119.50	119.50	700-799	104.00-114.25	114.25
700-799	112.00-129.25	129.25	500-599	104.00-123.25	130.50
600-699	120.00-144.00	144.00	400-499	118.00-135.00	135.00

Light weight stocker cattle sold on strong demand at slightly higher prices while heavier short keep replacements sold steady.

Denfield Livestock – January 17, 2006

	Price Range
Choice Steers	102.00-108.00
Good Steers	95.00-100.00
Plain Steers	75.00-85.00
Choice American Type	103.00-106.00
Choice Exotic Heifers	102.00-108.00
Good Heifers	95.00-100.00
Plain Heifers	70.00-80.00
Good Fed Cows	35.00-45.00
D1 & D2 Cows	28.00-35.00
D3 & D4 Cows	20.00-25.00
Good Beef Bulls	37.00-42.00

Stocker Sale at: D. H. Hickson Ltd. January 17, 2006

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
600-699	64.00-126.50	126.50	700-799	77.00-126.00	126.00
500-599	85.00-142.00	142.00	500-599	80.00-126.50	126.50
400-499	84.00-139.00	139.00	400-499	64.00-132.00	132.00

Stocker sale: **Ontario Livestock Exchange, January 18, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	109.50-114.75	121.75	+900	91.50-107.00	116.50
900-999	111.00-117.50	119.00	800-899	90.00-110.50	110.50
700-799	109.50-129.25	129.25	600-699	105.00-118.00	118.00
500-599	118.50-135.25	135.25	400-499	130.50-133.75	133.75

Stocker Sale: **Kawartha Lakes - January 18, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
900-1000	94.00-112.50	900+	80.00-105.00
800-900	70.00-121.00	800-900	100.00-109.00
700-800	92.00-124.00	700-800	90.00-118.75
600-700	106.00-140.50	600-700	87.00-124.25
500-600	122.00-156.25	500-600	85.00-120.25
400-500	111.00-157.00	400-500	75.00-123.00
300-400	127.50-131.00		

Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – January 19, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
700-799	103.00-130.00	131.50	800-899	83.00-115.50	115.50
600-699	103.00-131.00	142.00	600-699	105.00-125.00	125.00
500-599	116.00-140.50	141.50	500-599	108.50-128.50	128.50
400-499	106.00-149.00	149.00	400-499	103.00-128.00	132.00

Stocker Sale: **Tri-county Cattle – January 19, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	109.50-113.85	113.85	+900	97.00-107.00	108.25
700-799	116.00-118.50	118.50	800-899	99.50-124.50	124.50
500-599	132.50	132.50	700-799	109.25-109.50	109.50

PROVINCIAL SLAUGHTER

	Dec 2005	Dec 2004
Steers	4,127	5,293
Heifers	3,043	2,945
Cows	2,708	2,501
Bulls	771	819

QUEBEC ELECTRONIC AUCTION MARKET (F.O.B. the feedlot)

Week Ending January 12, 2006	Price Range
A1, A2 Steers & Heifers	174.00-175.00

ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Week ending Thursday January 19, 2006			
Steers	Live	93.25-96.50	Flat rail 157.50-162.05
Heifers	Live	94.00-96.55	Flat rail 156.50-162.05

AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA

	Steers	Heifers
January 14, 2006	854	796
January 15,2005	834	765

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

	Week End	YTD	% of Yr. Ago
Jan 14/06			
Grand Total	62,029	113,809	88%
Alberta Slaughter	37,321	69,428	83%
Ontario Slaughter	13,156	24,062	100%

CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUT-OUT VALUES

	AAA	AA
Week ending January 7, 2006	1.7371	1.6678
Week ending December 31, 2005	1.7880	1.6866

USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL

	Week Ending	Jan 14, 2006	Year Ago
Jan. 21,2006			
Grand Total	606,000	606,000	595,000

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

	Choice 600-900	Select 600-900
Current 5 day average:	156.36	143.41

U.S. TRADE (U.S funds)

Week ending Thursday January 19, 2006		
Weekly range for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	94.00-95.00
	Rail	151.00-152.00

BEEF EXPORTS

	United States Jan 1 – Jan 14	Mexico Jan 1 – Nov. 26
Total	9,051 tonnes	47,998 tonnes

BEEF IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – Jan 7	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Total	960 tonnes	2,980 tonnes	-67.8%

LIVE CATTLE

	IMPORTS Jan 1 – Nov 30	EXPORTS Jan 1 – Jan 14
Pure bred	774	Slaughter steers & heifers 22,541
Non pure bred	19,481	Feeder steers & heifers 11,375

BEEF PRODUCTION

	Jan 1 –Jan 14	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	31,313 tonnes	39,511 tonnes	-20.7%
Non-fed	9,803 tonnes	6,452 tonnes	+51.9%

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						
Feb	95.77	-0.35	Jan	112.60	+0.15	Mar	2.050	+0.0	Mar	5.680	+3.0	Spot	86.73	+0.80
Apr	94.12	-0.52	Mar	111.47	-0.22	May	2.150	+0.2	May	5.776	+3.0	Mar	86.84	+0.81
Jun	87.05	-0.32	Apr	112.12	-0.20	July	2.236	+0.0	Jul	5.874	+3.4	Jun	87.06	+0.81
Aug	85.67	-0.25	May	112.50	-0.15	Sep	2.322	+0.2	Aug	5.900	+2.6	Sep	87.25	+0.80

Comments for the week ending January 19, 2006

The finished cattle market had a strong week of trade. The volume of live finished steers and heifers sold through auction markets was 1,796. The average fed steer price was \$102.20 up \$1.09 and the average heifer price was \$99.55 down \$0.30 from last week. Auction markets reported fed cattle sold on a strong active trade at steady prices.

Slaughter cows sold on a good demand. There were 2,765 head sold through auction markets. This week's average price was \$28.29 down \$1.34 from last week. Auction markets reported cows sold on a good demand with prices steady to \$3.00 higher.

Replacement cattle continued to sell strong. Total stockers sold was 6,741 up 56.2% from last week. Auction markets reported stockers sold actively on a good strong demand with prices up to \$4.00 higher. Light weight calves sold stronger than yearlings.

Direct to packer railgrade cattle prices were \$1.00 lower than last week. Steers and heifers sold at \$172.00-176.00 dressed.

In Alberta, cattle trade was moderately active with prices steady to \$2.00 higher. Steers sold at \$93.25-96.50 live and \$156.50-162.05 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$94.00-96.55 live and \$156.50-162.05 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was light to moderate with prices steady to \$3.00 higher. Steers and heifers sold at \$94.00-95.00 live and \$151.00-152.00 dressed.

Local beef trade saw strong movement on all cuts with prices holding firm.

Japan bans U.S. beef imports

Last Updated Fri, 20 Jan 2006 07:47:21 EST

[CBC News](#)

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi says his country will halt imports of U.S. beef after a shipment that reportedly contained banned material arrived from New York.

"This is a pity given that imports had just resumed," Koizumi told reporters on Friday. "I received the agriculture minister's report with his recommendation that the imports be halted and I think it is a good idea."

Japan's agriculture minister, Shoichi Nakagawa, said parts of cattle backbones, banned under the agreement, might have been included in the U.S. beef shipment.

The news comes just a month after Japan lifted a two-year ban on imports from the United States. The ban was imposed in 2003 after the first case of mad cow disease in U.S. herds was discovered. The agreement allowing U.S. beef back into the country stipulates that meat come only from cattle aged 20 months or younger. It excludes meat containing spines, brains, bone marrow and other cattle parts considered a high risk for bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

More commonly referred to as mad cow disease, BSE is a degenerative nerve disorder in cattle linked to a rare but fatal disease in people called variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob.

It was unclear if Japanese tests have confirmed the presence of backbone material in the U.S. beef. Meanwhile, the U.S. Embassy in Japan said it expects the United States will conduct an investigation into the matter.

Before the ban, Japan was the most lucrative overseas market for U.S. beef, buying about \$1.4 billion US worth in 2003.

Even with American beef back on grocery shelves, Japanese consumers remain particularly sensitive to food safety issues.