



Weekly Market Information Report



Week ending Thursday March 31, 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.

A grade steers 164.00-166.00
A grade heifers 164.00

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	88.53-96.81	92.99	103.75	94.16
Medium Frame Steers +1250	82.90-96.96	91.16	99.75	90.87
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	87.88-97.58	92.85	103.75	93.67
Large Frame Heifers +1000	87.70-95.87	92.21	99.00	92.65
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	74.88-94.41	87.52	97.25	86.83
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	81.91-95.61	91.07	99.00	91.84
Cows-all weights	22.22-36.43	29.31	72.00	30.09
Bulls-all weights	35.53-46.61	40.59	83.00	52.70

STOCKERS – Large & Medium Frame

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	95.64-105.10	101.34	109.00
900-999	99.02-108.23	103.82	115.25
800-899	104.78-112.76	109.36	121.50
700-799	104.98-121.09	115.34	128.50
600-699	110.12-131.50	123.28	142.00
500-599	115.07-143.20	131.25	163.00
400-499	112.15-147.96	131.46	163.00
-399	94.34-162.60	123.46	255.00

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	86.69-99.19	93.47	105.35
800-899	90.74-104.97	99.98	114.75
700-799	94.96-112.06	104.89	116.75
600-699	95.96-120.01	110.28	127.00
500-599	103.29-126.27	116.34	136.00
400-499	102.21-126.06	116.44	135.00
300-399	104.38-124.55	114.80	145.00

Denfield Livestock – March 28, 2006

	Price Range
Choice Steers	95.00-100.00 top 104.25
Good Steers	90.00-95.00
Plain Steers	75.00-85.00
Choice Exotic Heifers	95.00-100.00 top 106.25
Good Heifers	88.00-94.00
Plain Heifers	70.00-80.00
Good Fed Cows	40.00-50.00
D1 & D2 Cows	30.00-35.00
D3 & D4 Cows	25.00-30.00
Shells	15.00-25.00
Good Beef Bulls	40.00-60.00
Good Holstein Bulls	35.00-40.00
Good hol bull calves	150.00-300.00

ONTARIO REPLACEMENT TRADEStockers: **Brussels Livestock, March 24, 2006.**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	86.00-106.50	106.50	900+	84.00-105.00	105.00
900-1000	99.75-114.00	115.00	800-900	95.50-107.25	107.25
800-900	102.00-115.00	121.50	700-800	92.00-113.00	113.00
700-800	99.50-119.75	128.50	600-700	95.50-127.00	127.00
600-700	112.00-129.50	135.00	500-600	108.00-133.00	136.00
500-600	119.00-145.00	145.00	400-500	104.00-120.00	129.00
400-500	122.00-151.50	151.50	300-400	105.00-128.00	128.00

Stocker sale at: **Keady Livestock- March 28, 2006- 800 head**

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
900-999	97.00-115.25	900+	75.00-86.00
800-899	111.50-115.50	800-899	95.50-107.00
700-799	114.00-126.50	700-799	97.00-112.00
600-699	109.50-142.00	600-699	108.00-125.50
500-599	130.00-150.00	500-599	111.50-129.50
400-499	115.00-152.00	400-499	109.00-130.00
Under 400	121.00-139.00	300-399	121.00-135.00

Stocker Sale at : **D. H. Hickson Ltd. March 28, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
800-899	88.00-90.00	700-799	74.00-106.00
700-799	93.00-116.00	600-699	69.00-117.00
600-699	90.00-128.50	500-599	75.00-127.50
500-599	76.00-144.00	400-499	65.00-130.50
400-499	83.00-153.50	300-399	60.00-131.50

Stocker sale: **Ontario Livestock Exchange, March 29, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	100.00-108.00	108.50	+900	97.25-99.25	103.00
900-999	100.00-107.75	112.25	800-899	96.50-114.75	114.75
800-899	107.50-115.25	115.25	700-799	104.00-109.50	109.50
600-699	119.50-130.00	130.00			

Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – March 30, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	66.04-87.50	87.50	800-899	86.50-105.00	105.00
900-999	81.00-99.00	100.50	700-799	96.50-116.75	116.75
800-899	98.50-108.00	110.00	600-699	94.00-117.50	121.75
700-799	111.50-124.75	125.50	500-599	110.00-127.50	133.00
600-699	110.00-135.75	135.75	400-499	118.00-133.50	135.00
500-599	116.00-145.50	163.00	300-399	123.00-131.00	131.00
400-499	116.50-152.00	163.00			

Stocker Sale: **Tri-county Cattle –March 30, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
1000+	102.75-106.35	900+	104.35-105.35
900-999	98.25-106.25	800-899	93.50-98.00
800-899	101.25-106.25	700-799	107.00-107.50
700-799	108.00-116.50		
500-599	120.00-130.75		

ONTARIO BRED COWS

Ontario Stockyards, March 24, 2006. 177 bred cows, 17 cow/calf pairs, 3 bulls.

	Exotic and Exotic X	British and British X
Top quality bred cows	\$900.00-\$1,325.00	\$750.00-\$950.00
Avg quality bred cows	\$650.00-\$850.00	\$550.00-\$750.00
Top quality cow/calf pairs	\$950.00-\$1,250.00	\$800.00-\$950.00
Avg quality cow/calf pairs	\$750.00-\$950.00	\$650.00-\$800.00

D.H. Hickson , March 24, 2006 118 bred cows.

	Exotic and Exotic X	British and British X
Top quality bred cows	\$900.00-\$1,370.00	
Avg quality bred cows	\$600.00-\$875.00	\$400.00-\$785.00
Top quality cow/calf pairs	\$1,000.00-\$1,250.00	
Avg quality cow/calf pairs	\$750.00-\$975.00	

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

Week Ending March 30, 2006	Price Range
A1, A2 Steers & Heifers	161.00

ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Week ending **Thursday March 30, 2006**

Steers	Live	84.25-87.00	Flat rail	140.00-144.30
Heifers	Live	84.25-87.15	Flat rail	140.00-143.75

U.S. TRADE (U.S funds)

Week ending **Thursday March 30, 2006**

Weekly range for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	84.00-84.50
	Rail	133.00-135.00

AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA

	Steers	Heifers
March 25, 2006	848	778
March 26, 2005	836	793

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

	Week End	YTD	% of
	Mar 25, 2006		Yr. Ago
Grand Total	64,146	766,234	92%
Alberta Slaughter	38,454	470,376	84%
Ontario Slaughter	14,097	158,532	108%

USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL

	Week Ending		
	April 1, 2006	Mar 25, 2006	Year Ago
Grand Total	613,000	583,000	566,000

CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUT-OUT VALUES

Week Ending	AAA	AA
March 11, 2006	1.7286	1.6525
March 4, 2006	1.7240	1.6821

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

	Choice 600-900	Select 600-900
Current 5 day average:	140.48	129.68

BEEF EXPORTS

	United States	Mexico
Total	Jan 1 – Mar 25 63,698	Jan 1 – Mar 4 5,861

BEEF IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – Mar 18	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Total	22,639	27,176	-16.7%

BEEF PRODUCTION

	Jan 1 – Mar 25	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	160,871 tonnes	208,645 tonnes	-22.9%
Non-fed	39,912 tonnes	21,234 tonnes	88.0%

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			
Apr	79.50	-1.50	Apr	101.47 -2.77	May	2.360 +8.2	May	5.714 -16.2	Spot	85.60 -0.55
Jun	74.35 -1.55	May	101.75 -2.65	July	2.472 +8.4	Jul	5.854 -15.4	Jun	85.79 -0.55	
Aug	76.30 -1.30	Aug	104.10 -2.52	Sep	2.560 +8.0	Aug	5.902 -15.4	Sep	86.02 -0.55	
Oct	79.75 -1.45	Sep	103.60 -2.50	Dec	2.680 +8.0	Sep	5.930 -15.4	Dec	86.26 -0.55	

Comments for the week ending March 31, 2006

The finished cattle market sold on a mixed demand this week. The volume of live finished steers and heifers sold through auction markets was 2,080. The average fed steer price was \$92.85 down \$0.82 and the average heifer price was \$91.07 down \$0.77 from last week. Auction markets reported fed cattle sold on a strong demand at the beginning of the week with prices reported from steady to \$2.00 - \$3.00 higher. As the week progressed the market was reported as moderate to steady mid week and \$1.00 to \$2.00 lower by the end of the week.

Slaughter cows sold on a mixed demand this week. There were 2,369 head sold through auction markets. This week's average price was \$29.31 down \$0.78 from last week and up \$2.87 from last year at this time. Auction markets reported cows sold steady at the beginning of the week with prices off \$1.00 to \$2.00 by the end of the week.

Replacement cattle sold actively this week. Total stockers sold was 4,979 down 6.9% from last week and 45% more than last year at this time. Auction markets reported stockers sold actively with calves ranging from steady to \$4.00 to \$5.00 higher and yearlings selling from barely steady to \$1.00 to \$2.00 higher.

Ontario railgrade prices reported for this week were on average \$1.00 lower than what was reported one month ago. Steers sold at \$164.00 to \$166.00 and heifers sold \$164.00. We appreciate the support of railgrade price reporting and encourage more participation.

In Alberta, cattle trade was active with prices under pressure to \$1.00 lower than last week. Steers sold at \$84.25- 87.00 live and \$140.00-144.30 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$84.25-87.15 live and \$140.00-143.75 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was active with prices down \$2.00 - \$2.50 on the live cattle and down \$3.00 - \$4.00 dressed. Steers and heifers sold 84.00-84.25 live and 133.00-135.00 dressed.

Local beef trade was somewhat sluggish with prices remaining steady. Middle cuts are moving well, however end cuts are sloppy price and movement wise.