



Weekly Market Information Report



Week Ending Thursday January 8, 2009

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 168.00-176.00
A grade heifers 167.00-175.00

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 | 99.86-107.23 | 103.92 | 118.50 | 102.13 |
| Medium Frame Steers +1250 | 97.99-104.84 | 101.95 | 108.75 | 92.37 |
| Large & Medium Frame Steers + 1250 | 98.38-106.32 | 103.30 | 118.50 | 101.94 |
| Large Frame Heifers + 1000 | 93.69-104.67 | 100.69 | 107.50 | 103.55 |
| Medium Frame Heifers + 1000 | 91.02-104.12 | 98.76 | 109.00 | 98.34 |
| Large & Medium Frame heifers + 1000 | 91.89-104.51 | 99.81 | 109.00 | 102.23 |
| Cows- All Weights | 33.69-51.97 | 42.82 | 86.50 | 39.91 |
| Bulls- All Weights | 48.34-64.73 | 56.63 | 94.00 | 52.73 |

STOCKERS-Large and Medium Frame

| STEERS | Volume | Price Range | Average | Top | Last week Avg |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|----------------------|
| 1000+ | 189 | 101.96-107.88 | 105.81 | 108.75 | 105.40 |
| 900-999 | 123 | 102.97-108.26 | 105.79 | 111.75 | 106.51 |
| 800-899 | 95 | 96.22-106.13 | 101.86 | 110.75 | N/T |
| 700-799 | 149 | 93.01-105.24 | 100.94 | 110.25 | N/T |
| 600-699 | 154 | 84.86-108.04 | 98.53 | 116.50 | N/T |
| 500-599 | 122 | 86.67-112.87 | 103.59 | 125.00 | N/T |
| 400-499 | 67 | 86.85-121.48 | 106.10 | 129.00 | N/T |
| -399 | 60 | 42.08-92.71 | 60.56 | 147.00 | N/T |

| HEIFERS | Volume | Price Range | Average | Top | Last week Avg |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|----------------------|
| +900 | 62 | 78.37-88.17 | 84.68 | 101.00 | 94.17 |
| 800-899 | 31 | 73.40-88.66 | 84.51 | 102.50 | N/T |
| 700-799 | 95 | 92.75-102.53 | 97.19 | 109.50 | N/T |
| 600-699 | 96 | 84.35-95.79 | 90.81 | 105.50 | N/T |
| 500-599 | 128 | 90.53-103.18 | 98.67 | 108.00 | N/T |
| 400-499 | 87 | 88.94-106.28 | 99.14 | 118.00 | N/T |
| 300-399 | 37 | 87.41-101.34 | 93.36 | 136.00 | N/T |
| 299- | 14 | 51.54-84.61 | 64.04 | 95.00 | N/T |

At Talbotville Livestock: Jan 3, 2009

| | Price Range | Top |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Good & choice steers | 97.50-105.25 | No tops |
| Good & choice heifers | 96.50-105.50 | No tops |
| Export Cows | 39.00-48.00 | 56.00 |
| Good Cows | 38.00-47.00 | |
| Good heavy bulls | 50.00-67.25 | |
| Good veal calves | 95.00-102.00 | |

At Kawartha Lakes Co-op Auction Market: Jan 3, 2009

| | Price Range | Average | Top |
|----------------------|-------------|---------|-------|
| Cows | 28.00-48.50 | 39.27 | 86.50 |
| Bulls under 1600 lbs | 44.00-78.00 | 62.00 | 78.00 |
| Bulls over 1600 lbs | 40.00-64.50 | 48.09 | 79.00 |

At Denfield Livestock – Jan 6, 2009

| | Price Range | | Price Range |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Good & Choice steers | 95.00-105.00 | Good & Choice Heifers | 95.00-105.00 |
| Plain steer | 80.00-90.00 | Plain Heifers | 80.00-90.00 |
| Good fed cows | 48.00-60.00 | Good beef bulls | 50.00-55.00 |
| D1 & D2 cows | 42.00-50.00 | Good Holstein bulls | 45.00-50.00 |
| D3 & D4 cows | 30.00-40.00 | Stocker steers 400-500 | 110.00-116.00 |
| Shells | 20.00-30.00 | Stocker steers 550-650 | 100.00-110.00 |
| Good Holstein bull calves | \$75.00-\$160.00 | Stocker heifers 400-500 | 105.00-110.00 |
| Plain Holstein bull calves | \$10.00-\$60.00 | Stocker heifers 550-650 | 100.00-108.00 |

ONTARIO REPLACEMENT TRADE

Stocker Sale at: **Kawartha Lakes Co-op Auction Market, Jan 3, 2009**

| STEERS | Price Range | Avg | Top | HEIFERS | Price Range | Avg | Top |
|---------|--------------|--------|--------|---------|--------------|--------|--------|
| 700-799 | 68.50-97.75 | 94.68 | 97.75 | 600-699 | 73.00-87.50 | 79.16 | 87.50 |
| 600-699 | 56.00-100.00 | 89.15 | 100.00 | 500-599 | 97.00-100.50 | 99.09 | 100.50 |
| 500-599 | 69.50-110.50 | 100.65 | 110.50 | 400-499 | 97.00-106.00 | 104.33 | 106.00 |

Stocker sale: **Selby Livestock & Auctions Center – Jan 5, 2009**

| STEERS | Price Range | Avg | Top | HEIFERS | Price Range | Avg | Top |
|---------|--------------|-------|--------|---------|-------------|-------|-------|
| 600-699 | 88.00-101.00 | 94.25 | 101.00 | 400-499 | 80.50-90.00 | 81.69 | 90.00 |
| 500-599 | 67.00-103.00 | 95.92 | 103.00 | | | | |

Stocker sale: **D.H. Hickson Ltd – Jan 6, 2009**

| STEERS | Price Range | Avg | Top | HEIFERS | Price Range | Avg | Top |
|---------|--------------|--------|--------|---------|--------------|--------|--------|
| 700-799 | 80.00-102.00 | 90.33 | 102.00 | 600-699 | 80.00-100.00 | 90.15 | 100.00 |
| 600-699 | 68.00-109.50 | 89.59 | 109.50 | 500-599 | 75.00-102.00 | 94.52 | 102.00 |
| 500-599 | 67.00-116.00 | 95.70 | 116.00 | 400-499 | 65.00-104.00 | 92.25 | 104.00 |
| 400-499 | 70.00-129.00 | 103.66 | 129.00 | 300-399 | 88.00-107.00 | 100.66 | 107.00 |

Stocker sale: **Ontario Livestock Exchange – Jan 7, 2009**

| STEERS | Price Range | Avg | Top | HEIFERS | Price Range | Avg | Top |
|---------|---------------|--------|--------|---------|---------------|--------|--------|
| +1000 | 103.25-108.75 | 106.98 | 108.7 | 900+ | 98.00-101.00 | 99.78 | 101.00 |
| 900-999 | 105.00-110.50 | 107.99 | 111.75 | 800-899 | 76.00-102.50 | 99.00 | 102.50 |
| 800-899 | 99.00-109.50 | 105.28 | 110.75 | 700-799 | 104.75-109.50 | 106.40 | 109.50 |
| 700-799 | 103.50-110.25 | 107.70 | 110.25 | 600-699 | 95.00-105.50 | 100.60 | 105.50 |
| 600-699 | 91.00-108.50 | 101.78 | 108.50 | 500-599 | 95.00-104.50 | 102.00 | 104.50 |
| 500-599 | 68.00-106.00 | 90.70 | 106.00 | | | | |

Stocker Sale at: **Ontario Stockyards Inc, Jan 8, 2009**

| STEERS | Price Range | Avg | Top | HEIFERS | Price Range | Avg | Top |
|---------|---------------|--------|--------|---------|---------------|--------|--------|
| 800-899 | 99.25-104.00 | 100.76 | 104.00 | 900+ | 70.00-44.50 | 71.49 | 74.50 |
| 700-799 | 91.00-107.50 | 102.19 | 107.51 | 800-899 | 82.50-85.00 | 84.37 | 85.00 |
| 600-699 | 94.00-113.00 | 104.25 | 116.50 | 700-799 | 83.00-103.00 | 92.37 | 103.00 |
| 500-599 | 114.00-122.00 | 118.29 | 125.00 | 600-699 | 90.00-97.50 | 94.23 | 101.50 |
| 400-499 | 109.50-128.00 | 119.45 | 128.00 | 500-599 | 99.00-108.00 | 104.88 | 108.00 |
| 399- | 85.00-107.00 | 98.52 | 116.00 | 400-499 | 97.00-118.00 | 108.98 | 118.00 |
| | | | | 300-399 | 103.00-112.00 | 109.21 | 112.00 |

ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Week Ending **Thursday January 8, 2009**

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| Steers | Live | 82.00-86.00 | Flat rail | 141.00-143.85 |
| Heifers | Live | 83.00-86.15 | Flat rail | 141.00-143.85 |

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

Week Ending **Thursday Jan 8, 2009**

| | | |
|---|-------------|---------------|
| Weekly range for choice and select steers and heifers | Live | 84.00 |
| | Rail | 133.00-134.00 |

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

Week Ending **Thursday January 8, 2009**

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| A1, A2 Steers & Heifers | Price | 171.75-174.00 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|

CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUT-OUT VALUES

| Week Ending | AAA | AA |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| Dec 19, 2008 | 1.7526 | 1.6990 |
| Dec 12, 2008 | 1.7476 | 1.7033 |
| Dec 5, 2008 | 1.7937 | 1.7624 |

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

| | Choice | Select |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 600-900 | 600-900 |
| Current 5 day average: | 144.04 | 136.08 |

USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL

| | Week Ending | Previous Week | Year Ago |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | Jan 10, 2009 | | |
| Grand Total | 601,000 | 511,000 | 634,000 |

LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS-ONTARIO

| | Week ending Dec 20, 08 | Week ending Dec 13, 08 | Year to Date |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Total live slaughter cattle exported from Ont to the US. | 4,388 | 4,895 | 214,001 |
| Steers & Heifers | 3,743 | 4,342 | 186,033 |
| Cows | 641 | 547 | 25,865 |
| Bulls | 4 | 6 | 2,103 |

AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA

| | Steers | Heifers |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| Jan 3, 200 | 830 | 782 |
| Jan 5, 2008 | 859 | 795 |

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

| | Week Ending | YTD | % of Yr. Ago |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|
| | Dec 20, 2008 | | |
| Grand Total | 66,847 | 3,164,504 | 100% |
| Alberta Slaughter | 47,759 | 2,201,812 | 103% |
| Ontario Slaughter | 10,606 | 554,516 | 93% |

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

| | Week Ending | YTD | % of Yr. Ago |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|
| | Dec 27, 2008 | | |
| Grand Total | 35,193 | 3,199,697 | 100% |
| Alberta Slaughter | 26,006 | 2,227,817 | 103% |
| Ontario Slaughter | 5,224 | 559,740 | 93% |

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

| | Week Ending Jan 3, 2008 | YTD | % of Yr. Ago |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Grand Total | 54,187 | 3,253,884 | 102% |
| Alberta Slaughter | 41,570 | 2,269,387 | 105% |
| Ontario Slaughter | 7,098 | 566,838 | 93% |

LIVE CATTLE-CANADA

| IMPORTS | | EXPORTS | |
|----------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Jan 1 – October 31 | | Jan 1 – Dec 20 | |
| Pure bred | 883 | Slaughter steers & heifers | 632,090 |
| Non-pure bred | 40,886 | Feeder steers & heifers | 560,732 |
| | | Cows & Bulls | 196,982 |

BEEF EXPORTS

| | United States | Mexico |
|--------------|----------------|--------|
| | Jan 1– Dec 20 | |
| Total | 265,058 tonnes | N/A |

BEEF PRODUCTION

| | Jan 1 – Dec 20 | Last Year Same Time | % Change |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------|
| Fed | 902,152 tonnes | 907,135 tonnes | -0.5% |
| Non-fed | 234,870 tonnes | 227,637 tonnes | +3.2% |

BEEF IMPORTS

| | Jan 1 – Dec 13 | Last Year Same Time | % Change |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------|
| United States | 113,611 tonnes | 109,262 tonnes | +4.0% |
| Non-NAFTA | 28,510 tonnes | 58,297 tonnes | -51.1% |
| Total | 144,283 tonnes | 171,734 tonnes | -16.0% |

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 | | | |
| Feb | 83.10 -0.05 | Jan | 94.10 +0.60 | Mar | 4.106 +4.0 | Jan | 10.374 +48.4 | Spot | 84.27 -0.39 |
| Apr | 86.82 -0.12 | Mar | 92.67 +0.42 | May | 4.212 +4.0 | Mar | 10.360 +46.4 | Mar | 84.20 -0.37 |
| Jun | 85.70 +0.32 | Apr | 94.00 +0.50 | Jul | 4.314 +4.0 | May | 10.454 +45.4 | Jun | 84.26 -0.37 |
| Aug | 86.70 +0.60 | May | 95.60 +0.67 | Sep | 4.412 +3.6 | Jul | 10.562 +45.2 | Sep | 84.37 -0.40 |
| Oct | 90.07 +0.95 | Aug | 97.67 +0.67 | Dec | 4.542 +4.0 | Aug | 10.560 +42.4 | Dec | 84.38 -0.43 |
| Dec | 92.22 +1.02 | Sep | 97.90 +0.55 | Mar | 4.660 +4.0 | Sep | 10.420 +36.0 | Mar | 84.44 -0.43 |

Ontario Cattlemen's Association, 130 Malcolm Rd., Guelph, ON N1K 1B1 Phone: (519) 824-0334 Fax: (519) 824-1930 or email: mktinfo@cattle.guelph.on.ca

Upcoming Special Stocker Sales

| | | | |
|------------|----------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Jan 17, 09 | 10:00 am | Ottawa Livestock Exchange | Stockers and Yearlings |
| Jan 21, 09 | 11:00 am | Kawartha Lakes Coop Auction Mkt | Peterborough/Victoria County Cattlemen's Sale 100% Vaccinated |
| Jan 30, 09 | 11:00 am | D.H. Hickson Ltd | Quinte Cattlemen's Association 100% Vaccinated. |
| Jan 31, 09 | 11:00 am | Selby Livestock & Auctions Center | Lennox-Addington Stocker Sale Committee 100% Vaccinated. |
| Feb 14, 09 | 11:00 am | Ottawa Livestock Exchange | Stockers and Yearlings |

Changes to the OBCFPP Licenced Dealers List

Effective Immediately: Now Licenced: Abbatoir

Ralph Bos Meats Ltd. RR 5, 3742 Egremont Drive, Strathroy, On N7G 3H6

Comments for the week ending January 8, 2009

The fed cattle market was stronger in volume with mixed prices. There were 1,553 fed cattle sold through auction markets up 1,255 from last week and 777 more than last year at this time. Steers traded from \$98.38-\$106.32 averaging \$103.30 up \$1.36 from last week and \$25.22 stronger than year ago prices. Heifers however, traded from \$91.89-\$104.51 averaging \$99.81 down \$2.42 from last week but \$21.67 higher than last year at this time. Auction markets all reported a strong demand. Prices were reported as a shade higher to \$2.00 higher.

The slaughter cow market saw higher volumes with stronger prices. There were 3,385 slaughter cows sold through auction markets, up 2,224 from last week and 2,027 more than the same time last year. Cows ranged from \$33.69-\$51.97 with an average price of \$42.82, up \$2.91 from last week and \$5.04 higher than last year at this time. Auction markets reported a good demand with prices from steady to \$2.00 stronger.

There were 1,509 replacements sold through auction markets up 313% from last week and 80% more than same time last year. The few sales that ran this week reported active trading with prices stronger right across the board.

Ontario railgrade prices averaged \$2.50 higher than the previous week. Steers were reported from \$168-\$173 last Friday up to \$170-\$176 by Monday and holding steady for the remainder of the week. Heifers followed the same trend with prices \$167-\$172 last Friday to \$169-\$175 on Monday also holding steady all week.

Alberta's fed cattle market was active with prices steady to \$2.00 lower. Steers sold from \$82.00-\$86.00 live and \$141.00-\$143.85 flat rail. Heifers traded from \$83.00-\$86.15 live and \$141.00-\$143.85 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was moderate to active on Thursday thanks to two days of sharply lower cattle futures. Northern sales were \$4.00 lower at \$133.00-\$134.00 dressed while southern trade was \$2.00-\$3.00 lower at \$84.00 live. At time of reporting Friday a few sales were reported at \$133.00 dressed, otherwise the market was quiet.

Forage Variety Trials – A New Look

The Forage Variety Trial Brochure is now available for the first time at its own web site www.goforages.ca This will take you directly to the brochure and to some forage information. If you are looking for further detail about forages please visit the site www.ontarioforagecouncil.com for links to technical information. The brochure will be distributed through the farm press but you can access the information anytime by this web site.

In the past alfalfa varieties have been reported as a per cent of the yield of Saranac. Starting this year, varieties will be compared to the average of the tests they were in to determine their yield index. This change has been made to give the best comparison of yields and to keep the tests as efficient as possible. The absolute index of a particular variety may be slightly different than last year but the rankings of varieties stayed the same in comparison to their contemporaries when computer analysis was done. This system is now similar to how other species are tested. It allows for future indexing without constantly referring to a fixed variety that is no longer available to the public or for testing.