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Cattle on Feed

Iowa: There were 1,330,000 cattle on feed for the slaughter market in all feedlots in Iowa on February 1, 2009, up 2 percent from January 1, 2009**,** but down 2 percent from February 1, 2008**.** Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head had 520,000 head on feed, up from 4 percent from last month but down 9 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head had 810,000 head on feed, up 1 percent from last month and up 3 percent from last year.

Placements during January totaled 156,000 head, up 3 percent from both last month and last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head placed 81,000 head, up 23 percent from last month and up 13 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head placed 75,000 head. This is down 12 percent from last month and 6 percent from last year.

Marketings for January were 121,000 head, down 4 percent from last month and down 9 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head marketed 59,000 head, down 8 percent from last month and down 14 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head marketed 62,000 head, unchanged from last month but down 3 percent from last year. Other disappearance totaled 5,000 head.

United States: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on February 1, 2009. The inventory was 6 percent below February 1, 2008.

Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.86 million, 4 percent above 2008. Net placements were 1.79 million head. During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 380,000, 600-699 pounds were 505,000, 700-799 pounds were 553,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 420,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.74 million, 6 percent below 2008. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of January since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 67,000 during January, 12 percent above 2008.

All Cattle on Feed, Iowa

Item	Lots 1,000+ Head	Lots Less than 1,000 Head	All Lots
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*
Cattle on Feed, January 1, 2009	500	800	1,300
January Placements	81	75	156
January Marketings	59	62	121
January Other Disappearance	2	3	5
Cattle on Feed, February 1, 2009	520	810	1,330

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements and Marketings by Month, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots [1]

State	Cattle on Feed February 1			Placements during January			Marketings during January			January Disappearance other than Slaughter [2]		
	2008	2009	'09 as % of '08	2008	2009	'09 as % of '08	2008	2009	'09 as % of '08	2008	2009	'09 as % of '08
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*
AZ	373	349	94	35	27	77	29	35	121	1	1	100
CA	555	480	86	76	51	67	72	59	82	9	2	22
CO	1,090	1,020	94	180	200	111	185	170	92	5	10	200
ID	235	215	91	43	37	86	42	41	98	1	1	100
IA	**570**	**520**	**91**	**72**	**81**	**113**	**69**	**59**	**86**	**3**	**2**	**67**
KS	2,430	2,260	93	405	435	107	445	430	97	10	15	150
NE	2,510	2,400	96	380	400	105	390	360	92	10	10	100
NM	160	158	99	16	9	56	15	13	87	1	2	200
OK	355	330	93	54	54	100	47	57	121	2	2	100
SD	230	225	98	45	43	96	43	35	81	2	3	150
TX	2,930	2,810	96	400	440	110	420	405	96	10	15	150
WA	153	151	99	27	30	111	31	35	113	2	1	50
Oth Sts	375	370	99	54	51	94	65	38	58	4	3	75
US	11,966	11,288	94	1,787	1,858	104	1,853	1,737	94	60	67	112

[1] Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. [2] Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

January 1 Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves in Iowa as of January 1, 2009 totaled 3.95 million head, 1 percent below the 4.0 million head on January 1, 2008. Beef cows, at 925,000 head, were 4 percent below last year. Milk cows, at 215,000 were unchanged from last year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over, at 870,000 head, were down 9 percent from last year. Heifers for beef cow replacement were down 7 percent to 140,000 head; heifers for milk cow replacement at 130,000 head were up 18 percent from the previous year; and all other heifers were down 14 percent to 600,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were up 7 percent from last year at 1,390,000 head. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over were unchanged from a year ago at 70,000 head. Calves under 500 pounds on January 1 totaled 480,000 in 2009, down 2 percent from last year.

The 2008 calf crop was estimated at 1.07 million head, up 0.9 percent from the 1.06 million born in 2007. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2009 was 1,300,000 head down 4 percent from one year ago

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop, Iowa and United States, January 1, 2008-2009

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*
All Cattle and Calves	4,000	3,950	99	96,035	94,491	98
All Cows That Have Calved	1,180	1,140	97	41,692	41,005	98
Beef Cows	965	925	96	32,435	31,671	98
Milk Cows	215	215	100	9,257	9,333	101
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over						
For Beef Cow Replacement	150	140	93	5,647	5,526	98
For Milk Cow Replacement	110	130	118	4,415	4,410	100
Other Heifers	700	600	86	9,793	9,650	99
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	1,300	1,390	107	17,163	16,774	98
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	70	70	100	2,207	2,184	99
Calves Under 500 Pounds	490	480	98	15,118	14,943	99
Cattle on Feed [1]	1,350	1,300	96	14,827	13,851	93
	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007
Calf Crop	1,060	1,070	101	36,759	36,113	98

[1] Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

Sheep Inventory

All sheep and lambs inventory at 200,000 head, down 11.1 percent from last year. Total breeding stock, at 145,000 head, decreased by 10.5 percent from a year ago. Compared to last year, market sheep and lambs decreased 12.7 percent to 55,000 head, and the lamb crop decreased 6.15 percent to 183,000 head.

All Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, Iowa and United States, January, 2008-2009

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*
All Sheep and Lambs	225	200	89	5,950	5,747	97
Total Breeding Sheep	162	145	90	4,432	4,247	96
Ewes	130	120	92	3,540	3,404	96
Rams	8	7	88	195	195	100
Replacement Lambs	24	18	75	697	649	93
Total Market	63	55	87	1,519	1,500	99
	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007
Lamb Crop	195	183	94	3,895	3,710	95

ECONOMIST CORNER

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The USDA December Hogs and Pigs report indicated a reduction in hog supplies during 2008. The inventory of market hogs was lower than the year before as was the breeding herd inventory and farrowing intentions. However, since the report was released there are indications that US pork producers are ending the contraction and planning an expansion that could impact supplies as early as the fourth quarter of 2009. Pork exports in 2008 were nearly 50% higher than 2007 and well above the trend line growth of 15% per year. It is unlikely that US pork exports will increase in 2009 over 2008 and could decrease significantly. The current recession is global reducing the purchasing power in customer countries. Also, the value of the US dollar has increased relative to most currencies making US products more expensive to importing consumers. Pork not exported adds to the domestic supply and pressures prices here. The optimism of smaller meat and pork supplies and lower feed prices is quickly giving way to weaker demand and falling prices.

Fed beef supplies will decline in 2009 as feedlot inventories remain low. Cow slaughter remains near the high volumes seen last year and well above the five year average. This will continue to provide steady supply to the strong demand for ground beef. Domestic demand for fed beef is very weak with the nation's economic situation changing consumer buying habits. Demand for ground beef and low end cuts has remained strong as consumer move away from the higher priced finished beef. This weakness in demand will hinder the usual spring increase in beef prices experienced before the summer grilling season. Although some increase in fed cattle prices is expected during the spring, it may not be enough to return profitability to the cattle feeding sector. Demand for beef will continue to be heavily influenced by nation's economic situation.

USDA held its annual Agricultural Outlook Forum at the end of February. During the Forum, USDA analysts released an early preview of crop projections for the 2009 crop year. The projections are unofficial, but they do highlight current issues to monitor as the 2009 crop season progresses. For corn, USDA analysts foresee planted acreage holding at 86 million acres, the same level as 2008. Based on the yield trend from 1990 to 2008, 2009 corn yields are projected at 156.9 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from 2008. The higher yield and higher ending stocks from 2008 lead to a total corn supply of 14.17 billion bushels, just 200 million bushels under 2007 supplies. Feed demand is projected to continue falling as the livestock industry is still under contraction and ethanol co-products continue to fill part of overall feed needs. Corn demand via ethanol is projected to grow to 4.1 billion bushels. Food, seed, and other use is held steady at 1.3 billion bushels. Exports are expected to rebound slightly in 2009 to 1.85 billion bushels with a projected fall in the supply of feed wheat. Prices are projected to continue to slide, down to $3.60 per bushel.

For soybeans, USDA analysts are projecting a record year. They project a slight increase in planted area, to 77 million acres, as other crops see reduced plantings. This would be a record amount of land planted to soybeans. Much of the shift is attributed to soybeans' lower input costs. As with corn, projected yields are 3 bushels than in 2008, based on 1990-2008 trends. This puts production at 3.24 billion bushels, which would be a record. Domestic soybean crush is projected to increase to 1.675 billion bushels, mainly based on higher expectations for soybean meal exports. Soybean exports are also expected to set a record, with 1.225 billion bushels leaving the country. But the growth in production exceeds the growth in usage and ending stocks are expected to climb to 380 million bushels. The 2009 season-average price for soybeans is forecast at $8.00 per bushel.

Average Prices Received by Farmers for Farm Products

Item	Unit	IOWA Feb [1] 2008	IOWA Jan [1] 2009	IOWA Feb [2] 2009	U.S. Jan [1] 2009	U.S. Feb [2] 2009
		---------------	------------Dollars	---------------		
Corn	Bu	4.50	4.45	4.10	4.36	4.13
Oats	Bu	3.98	2.90	2.75	2.74	2.27
Soybeans	Bu	11.60	10.10	9.40	9.97	9.58
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	121.00	139.00	132.00	149.00	143.00
All Hay, baled	Ton	118.00	130.00	124.00	136.00	132.00
Hogs, all	Cwt	43.20	43.50	43.90	42.80	43.50
Sows	Cwt	23.00	42.20	41.00	43.80	43.40
Brw & Gilts	Cwt	44.00	43.50	44.00	42.80	43.50
Beef Cattle	Cwt	92.70	87.20	84.20	80.10	80.20
Cows	Cwt	52.00	46.00	47.00	42.30	44.30
Strs & Hfrs	Cwt	93.50	88.00	85.00	85.80	85.40
Calves	Cwt	112.00	101.00	102.00	106.00	105.00
Milk Cows [3]	Hd	-	1,650.00	-	1,630.00	-
Milk (whls)	Cwt	19.40	13.80	12.00	13.30	11.50
Sheep	Cwt	30.50	26.00	-	31.40	-
Lambs	Cwt	88.50	94.50	-	101.00	-
Eggs (mkt)	Doz	1.180	0.865	0.605	0.896	0.639

[1] Corn, oats, soybeans, all hogs, all cattle, all sheep, and milk are whole-month prices. All hay and eggs are mid-month prices. [2] All prices are mid-month. [3] Prices published January, April, July, and October.

Prices Received Index Summary Table

Prices Received	IOWA Feb 2008	IOWA Jan 2009	IOWA Feb [1] 2009	UNITED STATES Feb 2008	UNITED STATES Jan 2009	UNITED STATES Feb [1] 2009
	1990-92=100 [2]					
Prices rec'd	159	174	138	146	139	127
Crops	204	191	177	164	160	148
Oil Bearing	115	181	169	210	179	173
Feed Grains	199	197	182	193	188	179
Lvstk	115	156	100	131	114	109
Meat Anim	101	99	98	115	106	106
Poult & Eggs	240	176	123	155	149	141
	1910-14=100 [3]					
Prices rec'd	-	-	-	925	880	805
Crops	-	-	-	812	795	733
Oil Bearing	-	-	-	1,150	981	947
Feed Grains	-	-	-	689	672	638
Lvstk	-	-	-	1,004	878	829
Meat Anim	-	-	-	1,171	1,075	1,078
Poult & Eggs	-	-	-	434	419	395

[1] Preliminary [2] 1990-92=100 reference replaced 1997=100 in January 1995. [3] Iowa figures for 1910-14=100 base not available.

U.S. Prices Paid Index Summary

Prices Paid	Feb 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Feb 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009
	1990-92=100			1910-14=100		
Prices Paid [1]	173	177	173	1,679	1,718	1,682
Feed	176	170	169	860	832	824
Fertilizer	291	338	294	1,065	1,239	1,077
Fuels	311	202	198	2,400	1,557	1,531
Chemicals	133	146	143	822	903	884
Lvstk/Poultry	128	120	119	1,633	1,531	1,527
Ratio [2]	85	79	73	-	-	-
Parity Ratio [3]	-	-	-	41	38	35

[1] Prices paid by farmers for commodities and services, interest, taxes, and farm wage rates. [2] Received/Paid [3] Ratio of index of prices received to index of prices paid for commodities and services, interest, taxes, and farm wage rates.

Iowa Milk Production

Milk production in Iowa in January 2009 totaled 366 million pounds, up 0.8 percent from January 2008. The average number of milk cows, 215,000 head, was down from 216,000 head in January 2008. Production per cow averaged 1,700 pounds, up 20 pounds from last year.

Milk Cows and Production: By Selected States, January 2008-2009

State	Milk Cows [1]		Milk Per Cow [2]		Milk Production [2]		
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	Change from 2008
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Percent*
IL	103	102	1,615	1,610	166	164	-1.2
IN	167	167	1,710	1,695	286	283	-1.0
IA	**216**	**215**	**1,680**	**1,700**	**363**	**366**	**0.8**
KS	115	125	1,720	1,750	198	219	10.6
MI	344	354	1,910	1,875	657	664	1.1
MN	463	468	1,610	1,630	745	763	2.4
MO	110	108	1,225	1,270	135	137	1.5
OH	278	277	1,540	1,560	428	432	0.9
WI	1,250	1,255	1,635	1,645	2,044	2,064	1.0
23-State Total [3]	8,451	8,509	1,741	1,746	14,714	14,855	1.0

[1] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. [2] Excludes milk sucked by calves. [3] The 23 States are Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Egg Production

Egg production in Iowa for January 2009 was 1.22 billion eggs, up slightly from January 2008. The total number of layers on hand during January 2009 was 53.8 million, down from 54.3 million layers in January 2008. Eggs per 100 layers for the month of January was 2,275, up from 2,233 eggs the previous year.

All Layers and Egg Production, January 2008 and 2009 [1]

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 & Above		All layers on hand [2]		Eggs per 100 layers		Egg production by type					
							Total production		Table eggs [3]		Hatching eggs [3]	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	Thousands	*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Number*	*Number*	*Million eggs*	*Million eggs*	*Million eggs*	*Million eggs*	*Million eggs*	*Million eggs*
IN	23,663	23,521	24,401	24,219	2,238	2,279	546	552	533	539	13	13
IA	**53,326**	**52,819**	**54,269**	**53,753**	**2,233**	**2,275**	**1,212**	**1,223**	**1,197**	**1,208**	**15**	**15**
MN	9,769	9,621	10,243	10,127	2,343	2,311	240	234	232	225	8	9
NE	10,182	9,623	10,232	9,673	2,365	2,409	242	233	242	233	0	0
NC	5,059	5,461	12,802	12,638	2,062	2,089	264	264	123	134	141	130
OH	25,950	27,102	26,402	27,527	2,295	2,300	606	633				
29 Sts[4]	264,568	264,393	320,793	317,456	2,221	2,254	7,126	7,155	6,121	6,214	1,005	941
US	279,709	279,512	344,737	340,946	2,218	2,249	7,646	7,667	6,498	6,592	1,149	1,075

[1] 2009 preliminary, 2008 revised [2] Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size [3] Data by type of flock not shown for some states to avoid disclosing individual operations [4] The 29 states are AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IN, IL, IA, ME, MD, MN, MI, MS, MO, NE, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, SC, SD, TX, VA, WA, and WI.

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