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Cattle on Feed

Iowa: There were 1,180,000 cattle on feed for the slaughter market in all feedlots in Iowa on October 1, 2009, down 1 percent from September 1, 2009, but up 1 percent from October 1, 2008. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head had 520,000 head on feed, up 2 percent from last month and up 9 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head had 660,000 head on feed, down 4 percent from last month and down 5 percent from last year.

Placements during September totaled 219,000 head, up 49 percent from last month and up 12 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head placed 105,000 head, up 42 percent from last month and up 30 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head placed 114,000 head. This is up 56 percent from last month, but unchanged from last year.

Marketings for September were 227,000 head, up 44 percent from last month and up 39 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head marketed 94,000 head, up 29 percent from last month and up 25 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head marketed 133,000 head, up 56 percent from last month and up 51 percent from last year. Other disappearance totaled 7,000 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 10.5 million head on October 1, 2009. The inventory was 1 percent above October 1, 2008. The inventory included 6.42 million steers and steer calves, down 1 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.01 million head, up 4 percent from 2008.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.39 million, 5 percent above 2008. Net placements were 2.34 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 490,000, 600-699 pounds were 450,000, 700-799 pounds were 593,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 855,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.75 million, 4 percent below 2008. This is the third lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 47,000 during September 8 percent below 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, September 1, 2009	510	685	1,195
September Placements	105	114	219
September Marketings	94	133	227
September Other Disappearance	1	6	7
Cattle on Feed, October 1, 2009	520	660	1,180

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

State	Cattle on Feed October 1			Placements during September			Marketings during September			September 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	360	275	76	24	27	113	25	26	104	1	1	100
CA	505	465	92	55	56	102	53	44	83	2	2	100
CO	870	960	110	255	260	102	150	155	103	5	5	100
ID	195	205	105	57	53	93	41	42	102	1	1	100
IA	**475**	**520**	**109**	**81**	**105**	**130**	**75**	**94**	**125**	**1**	**1**	**100**
KS	2,160	2,220	103	485	510	105	400	330	83	15	10	67
NE	2,110	2,170	103	550	550	100	390	395	101	10	5	50
NM	173	(D)	(D)	27	(D)	(D)	20	(D)	(D)	1	(D)	(D)
OK	315	355	113	60	80	133	49	48	98	1	2	200
SD	175	195	111	56	52	93	44	41	93	2	1	50
TX	2,590	2,600	100	510	570	112	490	485	99	10	15	150
WA	157	147	94	44	35	80	24	27	113	1	1	100
Oth Sts	330	362	(X)	77	90	(X)	51	59	(X)	1	3	(X)
US	10,415	10,474	101	2,281	2,388	105	1,812	1,746	96	51	47	92

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (X) Comparison to 2008 is not applicable.
[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.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed by Class, 1000+ Capacity Feedlots by Quarter, State, and United States, 2008-2009

State	Steers & Steer Calves			Heifers & Heifer Calves			Cows & Bulls		
	October 1, 2008	July 1, 2009	October 1, 2009	October 1, 2008	July 1, 2009	October 1, 2009	October 1, 2008	July 1, 2009	October 1, 2009
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*
AZ	359	286	272	1	1	1	0	0	2
CA	455	410	410	50	50	55	0	0	0
CO	515	615	650	350	290	305	5	5	5
ID	101	105	113	89	94	91	5	1	1
IA	**345**	**365**	**365**	**130**	**155**	**155**	**0**	**0**	**0**
KS	1,225	970	1,210	920	945	1,005	15	5	5
NE	1,200	1,130	1,240	900	785	915	10	5	15
NM	77	58	(D)	96	36	(D)	0	0	(D)
OK	225	173	215	90	122	140	0	0	0
SD	82	105	100	78	80	81	15	20	14
TX	1,590	1,500	1,520	998	989	1,079	2	1	1
WA	84	80	87	72	65	59	1	1	1
Oth Sts [1]	255	195	234	74	107	126	1	3	2
US	6,513	5,992	6,416	3,848	3,719	4,012	54	41	46

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
[1] Includes unpublished New Mexico totals for October 2009

Turkeys: Number Raised, by State and United States 2008-2009

State	Number[1]		2009 as % of 2008
	2008	2009	
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Percent*
AR	31,000	28,000	90
CA	16,000	15,000	94
IN	14,500	14,500	100
IA	9,000	(D)	(D)
MN	48,000	45,500	95
MO	21,000	21,000	100
NC	40,000	37,500	94
OH	6,000	5,200	87
PA	11,500	9,000	78
SC	12,500	11,700	94
SD	4,700	4,500	96
UT	4,100	3,300	80
VA	18,000	16,400	91
WV	3,800	3,200	84
Oth Sts[2]	32,988	35,114	(X)
US	273,088	249,914	92

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(X) Comparison to 2008 is not applicable.
[1] Excludes young turkeys lost.
[2] Other States include State estimates not shown and States suppressed due to disclosure.

ECONOMIST CORNER

By Shane Ellis, Livestock Economist, and Chad Hart, Grain Marketing Specialist,
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Swine producers were bracing for the bitter taste of low hog prices in the fourth quarter. While the average hog price was in decline during September, there has been a $5/cwt improvement in lean hog prices during October putting the Iowa average hog price near $55/cwt. November and December may not end up being as bad as once expected. Expectations are that exports will improve due to a weaker dollar in the international market and the potential for a resumption of pork shipments to China. China has lifted their import restriction on pork; an embargo placed over concerns about the H1N1 virus. Domestic pork utilization continues to be strong; per capita consumption increased about half a pound in both the second and third quarter of this year with nearly the same trend in the fourth. Ultimately consumption will be up two percent for the year.

Cow calf producers marketing calves this year are well aware that calf prices are not what they used to be, with some of the lowest feeder cattle prices seen since 2003. For feedlots this has opened an opportunity for profitability. Based on futures prices, there is a potential for cattle finishing profitability next spring from March to June. As with all things the futures prices will change so cattle finishers should do the math and consider their risk management opportunities to lock in both input and output prices. With the fed cattle market being heavily influenced by the condition of the economy, uncertainty continues to hang heavy in the beef industry.

The corn harvest is behind the previous slowest year (2008), while the soybean harvest is just ahead of the pace in 1985. Hopefully, conditions will improve, allowing fields and crops to dry out and combines to roll. While the supply side has been significantly impacted by the weather, the demand side has been helped by outside influences. Corn demand via ethanol was increased again for the 2008 crop, to 3.7 billion bushels. The outlook for the 2009 crop is for 4.2 billion bushels to head to ethanol facilities. Crude oil prices have risen to the upper $70s per barrel range and this has helped ethanol margins remain positive over the past few months. Based on ethanol production during the 1st seven months of 2009, annual production will be roughly 10.8 billion gallons. Corn feed and residual demand is projected at 5.4 billion bushels, up 50 million from last month and up 169 million from last year. Corn export demand is estimated at 2.15 billion bushels, down 50 million from last month but up 292 million from last year. Continued weakness in the dollar is supporting the export outlook. USDA's latest projections show the dollar's slide continuing through the end of the calendar year. Current corn export sales pace is just ahead of last year.

For soybeans, domestic crush demand is projected at 1.69 billion bushels, held steady from last month but up 28 million from last year. Projections of increased soybean oil and meal exports are supporting the crush outlook. But the big story for soybeans continues to be export demand, especially from China. USDA increased its export estimate to 1.305 billion bushels. This would top last year's record. In fact, the early sales pace has been very strong. China has already booked over 500 million bushels of U.S. soybeans. To put that in perspective, that amount is roughly the amount of soybeans Iowa producers are projected to grow this year.

Average Prices Received by Farmers for Farm Products

Item	Unit	IOWA Oct [1] 2008	IOWA Sep [1] 2009	IOWA Oct [2] 2009	U.S. Sep [1] 2009	U.S. Oct [2] 2009
		--------------Dollars--------------				
Corn	Bu	4.47	3.23	3.55	3.25	3.54
Oats	Bu	3.33	1.86	1.90	1.81	1.80
Soybeans	Bu	10.40	9.89	9.65	9.75	9.74
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	142.00	105.00	108.00	110.00	109.00
All Hay, baled	Ton	134.00	98.00	99.00	107.00	106.00
Hogs, all	Cwt	48.90	38.20	37.60	37.70	37.20
Sows	Cwt	46.00	25.00	28.00	23.90	27.30
Brw & Gilts	Cwt	49.00	38.30	37.80	38.30	37.70
Beef Cattle	Cwt	88.20	82.30	80.30	80.60	78.90
Cows	Cwt	49.00	46.00	45.50	44.40	43.70
Strs & Hfrs	Cwt	89.00	83.00	81.00	85.50	84.00
Calves	Cwt	102.00	103.00	100.00	107.00	103.00
Milk Cows [3]	Hd	1,940.00	-	1,250.00	-	1,240.00
Milk (whls)	Cwt	18.20	13.20	14.00	12.90	13.80
Sheep	Cwt	25.00	31.50	-	29.60	-
Lambs	Cwt	98.00	93.50	-	98.40	-
Eggs (mkt)	Doz	0.830	0.530	0.600	0.568	0.635

[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

	IOWA Oct 2008	IOWA Sep 2009	IOWA Oct [1] 2009	UNITED STATES Oct 2008	UNITED STATES Sep 2009	UNITED STATES Oct [1] 2009
	1990-92=100					
Prices rec'd	154	126	130	150	126	135
Crops	194	156	163	168	143	154
Oil Bearing	187	177	173	174	158	166
Feed Grains	198	143	157	193	144	153
Lvstk	114	92	92	127	108	109
Meat Anim	107	89	88	116	103	102
Poult & Eggs	169	108	122	149	129	127
	1910-14=100 [2]					
Prices rec'd	-	-	-	955	801	856
Crops	-	-	-	830	707	762
Oil Bearing	-	-	-	952	867	909
Feed Grains	-	-	-	686	512	544
Lvstk	-	-	-	975	831	834
Meat Anim	-	-	-	1,178	1,051	1,042
Poult & Eggs	-	-	-	417	362	358

[1] Preliminary [2] Iowa figures for 1910-14=100 base not available.

U.S. Prices Paid Index Summary

	Oct 2008	Sep 2009	Oct 2009	Oct 2008	Sep 2009	Oct 2009
	1990-92=100			1910-14=100		
Prices Paid [1]	195	177	176	1,892	1,714	1,705
Feed	196	180	175	956	878	855
Fertilizer	479	261	254	1,757	956	932
Fuels	317	245	246	2,443	1,890	1,899
Chemicals	144	142	149	889	878	918
Lvstk/Poultry	118	109	109	1,514	1,396	1,392
Ratio [2]	80	72	77			
Parity Ratio [3]				38	34	37

[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

Iowa milk production totaled 350 million pounds in September 2009, unchanged from September 2008. The average number of milk cows, 215,000 head, was unchanged from September 2008. Production per cow averaged 1,630 pounds, also unchanged from September 2008.

Milk Cows and Production: By Selected States, September 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	102	102	1,425	1,480	145	151	4.1
IN	166	168	1,550	1,620	257	272	5.8
IA	**215**	**215**	**1,630**	**1,630**	**350**	**350**	
KS	117	114	1,665	1,675	195	191	-2.1
MI	352	356	1,790	1,835	630	653	3.7
MN	465	469	1,490	1,535	693	720	3.9
MO	111	105	1,100	1,110	122	117	-4.1
OH	279	278	1,450	1,520	405	423	4.4
WI	1,253	1,258	1,580	1,655	1,980	2,082	5.2
23-State Total [3]	8,510	8,342	1,650	1,672	14,041	13,949	-0.7

[1] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. [2] Excludes milk sucked by calves. [3] As of February 2009, the 23 States are Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Egg Production

Egg production in Iowa for September 2009 was 1.19 billion, up from 1.18 billion in September 2008. The total number of layers on hand during September 2009 was 53.9 million, up from 53.2 million layers in September 2008. Eggs per 100 layers for the month of September was 2,215 eggs, up from 2,208 eggs the previous year.

All Layers and Egg Production, September 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	23,093	22,249	23,791	23,000	2,215	2,261	527	520	515	506	12	14
IA	**52,270**	**52,990**	**53,214**	**53,901**	**2,208**	**2,215**	**1,175**	**1,194**	**1,159**	**1,181**	**16**	**13**
MN	9,271	9,772	9,726	10,242	2,313	2,255	225	231	217	223	8	8
NE	9,697	9,566	9,747	9,616	2,421	2,340	236	225	236	225	0	0
NC	4,840	5,587	12,020	12,617	2,013	1,997	242	252	113	130	129	122
OH	25,424	26,067	25,871	26,538	2,277	2,284	589	606				
29 Sts[4]	258,441	259,178	311,360	310,785	2,197	2,217	6,842	6,890	5,912	5,986	930	904
US	273,118	273,691	334,489	333,613	2,194	2,209	7,339	7,371	6,272	6,341	1,067	1,030

[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.