

# Daily Market Information Report

The following information is collected from various sources and disseminated by the Ontario Cattlemen's Association.

**Friday March 3, 2006**

**\*\*Important notice regarding Ontario Railgrade pricing at the end of the report.**

## ONTARIO DIRECT TO PACKER RAILGRADE CATTLE TRADE

The following prices are on a carcass weight basis, before grade and weight discounts.

**A grade steers** 165.00-168.00

**A grade heifers** 164.00-167.00

## ONTARIO LIVE CATTLE TRADE

Today at **Brussels Livestock** :1325 stockers

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	99.50-107.50	107.50	900+	98.00-105.50	105.50
900-1000	101.50-112.00	112.00	800-900	99.00-110.50	110.50
800-900	106.00-119.25	119.25	700-800	104.00-113.00	113.00
700-800	106.00-126.50	130.00	600-700	103.00-114.50	120.00
600-700	117.00-133.50	136.50	500-600	100.00-117.75	138.00
500-600	121.00-147.00	147.00	400-500	106.00-131.00	131.00
400-500	111.00-137.00	145.50	300-400	108.00-120.00	129.00

Calves sold \$1.00 to \$2.00 higher with yearlings selling on a strong active trade.

Ontario auction sales on **Thursday** saw weighted prices for:

	Price Range	Average	Top
Large & Med. Frame Fed Steers	92.75-100.23	96.94	107.00
Large & Med. Frame Fed Heifers	86.99-100.15	93.35	102.75
Cows	20.67-36.51	28.86	53.50
Bulls	31.63-46.44	38.87	55.00

Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – March 2, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	83.00-89.00	99.75	900+	84.00-101.50	101.50
900-999	90.00-105.75	105.75	800-899	87.50-99.50	99.50
800-899	102.50-116.50	116.50	700-799	86.00-107.25	109.00
700-799	111.50-126.25	126.25	600-699	102.50-115.25	117.00
600-699	124.00-139.50	139.50	500-599	110.00-120.25	120.25
500-599	125.00-147.50	147.50	400-499	95.00-114.00	122.00
400-499	115.00-149.00	151.00	300-399	94.00-115.00	115.00

## ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Alberta direct trade on **Thursday** saw moderate trade with prices steady to \$1.00 higher than Wednesday.

<b>Steers</b>	Live	88.50-89.65	Flat rail	148.00-149.00
<b>Heifers</b>	Live	88.00-90.65	Flat rail	146.50-150.00

U.S. TRADE (U.S funds)

U.S. cash cattle trade was active in the south with prices \$1.00 lower than last week. The limited trade in the north is cleanup in nature following Thursdays big push.

**Choice and select steers and heifers:**      Live            88.00  
   Rail            141.00

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

	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Select</b>
	<b>600-900</b>	<b>600-900</b>
<b>Cutout Values:</b> (noon estimate)	150.04	139.60
<b>Change:</b> (from yesterday's close)	-1.44	-1.10
<b>Current 5 day average:</b>	153.51	142.83

CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE

Closing quotes on futures today were as follows:

<b>Live Cattle</b>		<b>Feeder Cattle</b>		<b>Corn</b>		<b>Soybeans</b>		<b>Canadian \$</b>	
\$/cwt US		\$/cwt US		\$/bu US    ¢/bu		\$/bu US    ¢/bu			
<b>Apr</b>	86.02    -0.77	<b>Mar</b>	106.32    -0.82	<b>Mar</b>	2.286    +0.2	<b>Mar</b>	5.932    +2.2	<b>Spot</b>	88.07    -0.35
<b>Jun</b>	81.70    -0.65	<b>Apr</b>	107.05    -0.45	<b>May</b>	2.394    +0.2	<b>May</b>	6.060    +2.0	<b>Mar</b>	88.09    -0.34
<b>Aug</b>	82.25    -0.32	<b>May</b>	107.92    -0.55	<b>July</b>	2.492    +0.0	<b>Jul</b>	6.172    +2.4	<b>Jun</b>	88.32    -0.34
<b>Oct</b>	85.55    -0.32	<b>Aug</b>	109.17    -0.50	<b>Sep</b>	2.562    +0.6	<b>Aug</b>	6.216    +2.2	<b>Sep</b>	88.56    -0.32

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**\*\*Important notice regarding Ontario Railgrade pricing.**

Effective Monday March 6, 2006 rail grade prices will not be reported to the Ontario Cattlemen's Association office by the major plants.

Since May 2003, we have been getting prices from only Better Beef. Since Cargill purchased the plant changes are being made. Cargill does not want to be the only plant reporting prices. Other major packing plants have declined to participate.

The OCA Board of Directors is addressing this issue to come up with an alternate plan. It is common knowledge that the prices reported each day are more of a guideline for people to see if the market is going up or down or holding steady. The information is extremely important for our database to track trends and historical stats.

Cargill would be happy to give producers a quote if they phone directly to Dan Weatherby, Head Buyer, Better Beef/Cargill at 519-823-5200.

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