



Weekly Market Information Report

Week ending Thursday April 7, 2005



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

FEDERAL FED CATTLE SET-ASIDE AUCTION

Auction Week	# Bidders	# Participants this week	Weighted average accepted bid price	Provinces with accepted bids	Scheduled release date
April 6/05	646	66	\$1.25	AB, MB, ON, QC	July 6/05
March 30/05	622	53	\$1.29	AB,SK,MB,ON,QC	June 29/05
March 23/05	597	70	\$1.28	AB,MB,ON,QC	June 22/05
March 16/05	561	75	\$1.28	AB,SK,MB,ON,QC	June 15/05

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.

	Price Range	Last Week
A grade steers	152.00-154.00	149.00-153.00
A grade heifers	151.00-153.00	149.00-151.00

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	83.32-94.90	88.73	104.50	90.83
Medium Frame Steers +1250	74.61-92.79	85.86	104.00	88.22
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	82.62-96.09	88.78	104.50	90.10
Large Frame Heifers +1000	81.29-91.66	86.87	102.00	89.13
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	72.68-89.84	82.71	95.75	80.97
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	79.54-91.60	86.26	102.00	87.31
Cows-all weights	18.04-33.47	25.76	70.00	26.44
Bulls-all weights	28.70-44.61	34.97	80.00	32.51

STOCKERS – Large & Medium Frame

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	74.97-94.70	86.97	104.00
900-999	87.43-99.85	94.83	105.00
800-899	95.39-108.28	104.42	114.50
700-799	92.24-112.04	104.91	120.0
600-699	99.29-121.51	113.08	125.00
500-599	104.77-127.41	119.08	134.50
400-499	100.59-124.48	113.12	139.00

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	73.40-91.53	85.52	99.50

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800-899	81.01-97.38	91.04	105.00
700-799	75.15-97.43	88.14	114.00
600-699	79.92-104.55	94.62	116.00
500-599	84.17-107.03	96.64	121.50
400-499	85.75-107.23	98.81	120.00

At Talbotville Livestock: Saturday April 2, 2005

	Price Range	Top
Good & choice steers	78.00-96.00	106.75
Good & choice heifers	77.00-95.00	105.25
Cows	24.00-37.00	42.50
Bulls	30.00-49.00	

Stocker Sale: Brussel's Livestock, April 1, 2005

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	51.50-99.25	104.00	900+	71.50-97.25	99.50
900-999	96.25-98.00	104.00	800-899	92.00-105.00	105.00
800-899	96.00-111.50	113.50	700-799	77.00-103.50	103.50
700-799	91.75-107.50	116.50	600-699	86.50-103.00	110.50
600-699	107.50-124.00	124.00	500-599	88.00-107.00	114.50
500-599	119.00-134.50	134.50	400-499	107.00-116.00	120.00
400-499	118.00-136.00	139.00			

Stocker Sale: Keady Livestock, April 5, 2005

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
900-999	91.75-102.50	+900	88.50-98.35
800-899	104.75-106.00	700-799	80.50-93.00
700-799	97.00-114.75	600-699	98.00-110.75
600-699	115.00-123.75	500-599	100.00-113.00
500-599	106.00-124.50	400-499	95.00-114.00

Stocker Sale: D. H. Hickson, April 5, 2005

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
700-799	56.50-106.50	600-699	51.00-93.00
600-699	57.50-124.50	500-599	65.00-110.50
500-599	79.00-131.50	400-499	75.00-110.50

Denfield Livestock: April 5, 2005

	Price Range
Choice steers	95.00-100.00
Good steers	85.00-90.00
Plain steers	70.00-75.00
Choice exotic cross heifers	95.00-100.00
Good heifers	85.00-90.00
Plain heifers	60.00-70.00
Good fed cows	33.00-45.00
D1 & D2 cows	25.00-33.00

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D3 & D4 cows	20.00-25.00	
Good beef bulls	35.00-55.00	
Good Holstein bulls	27.00-34.00	
The market traded at fully steady prices on a good offering of fed cattle. Cows and stockers sold steady.		

Stocker sale: **Ontario Livestock Exchange, April 6, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	85.00-94.25	99.50	+900	79.75-95.00	95.00
900-999	89.50-99.75	105.00	800-899	88.00-95.00	95.00

Stocker sale: **Kawartha Lakes – WOODVILLE, April 6, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	69.00-96.50	96.50	800-899	53.00-92.00	92.00
900-999	65.00-104.60	104.60	700-799	63.00-99.00	99.00
800-899	81.00-109.00	109.00	600-699	65.00-108.00	108.00
700-799	73.00-113.00	113.00	500-599	70.00-113.00	113.00
600-699	69.00-118.00	118.00			
500-599	97.00-130.00	130.00			

Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – April 7, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	49.00-88.00	88.00	+900	54.00-84.50	93.00
900-999	79.75-99.75	99.75	800-899	57.50-91.50	91.50
800-899	85.00-106.25	106.25	700-799	81.00-97.50	97.50
700-799	102.50-116.00	116.00	600-699	84.50-106.00	107.00
600-699	106.00-123.50	123.50	500-599	89.00-111.00	111.00
500-599	112.00-132.50	132.50	400-499	83.00-111.00	111.00
400-499	109.00-129.00	129.00			

Stocker Sale: **Tricounty Cattle Co. – April 7, 2005**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	99.50-100.00	100.00	+900	85.50-93.75	93.75
900-999	93.00-100.85	100.85	800-899	89.00-96.25	96.25
800-899	104.00-114.50	114.50	700-799	86.00-96.00	99.25
700-799	104.00-118.50	120.00	600-699	86.00-101.50	101.50

ONTARIO BRED COWS

Bred Cow Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – April 1, 2005**

	Exotic and Exotic X	British and British X
Top quality bred cows	\$800 – 960	\$550 – 750
Avg quality bred cows	\$550 – 700	\$350 - 600
Top quality cow/calf pairs	\$750 – 900	
Avg quality cow/calf pairs	\$500 – 700	
Top quality cows sold on a good demand		

Bred Cow Sale: **Denfield Livestock – April 2, 2005**

	Exotic and Exotic X	British and British X
Top quality bred cows	\$800 – 900	\$600 – 700
Avg quality bred cows	\$300 – 400	\$250 – 400
Top quality cow/calf pairs	\$800 – 1,000	\$650 – 800
Avg quality cow/calf pairs	\$600 - 780	\$500 - 600

CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUTOUT VALUE

Week ending – April 1, 2005	AAA	AA
Cutout value	1.7963	1.7358
Last week	1.8074	1.7513

AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA

	STEERS	HEIFERS
Mar 26, 2005	836	793
Mar 27, 2004	841	800

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

	Week Ending Mar 26, 2005	YTD	% of Yr. Ago
Grand Total	61,429	837,823	101%
Alberta Slaughter	41,917	562,102	95%
Ontario Slaughter	9,694	146,403	107%

USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL

	Week Ending April 2, 2005	Last Week	Year Ago
Grand Total	566,000	572,000	573,000

ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Week ending **Thursday April 7, 2005**

Steers	Live	80.45-85.75	Flat rail	136.20-140.00
Heifers	Live	81.00-85.75	Flat rail	137.15-143.00

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

Week ending **April 7, 2005**

Weekly range for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	N/T
	Rail	\$144.00-146.00

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

	Choice	Select
	600-900	600-900
Current 5 day average:	153.98	141.82

BEEF EXPORTS

	United States Jan 2– Apr 2	Mexico Jan 4 – Feb 5
Total	78,801 tonnes	6,708 tonnes

BEEF IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – Mar 19, 2005	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Total	23,921 tonnes	14,385 tonnes	+66.3%

BEEF PRODUCTION

	Jan 1 –Apr 2	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	286,893 tonnes	298,578 tonnes	-3.9%
Non-fed	41,737 tonnes	34,539 tonnes	+20.8%

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	88.27	+0.50	Apr	108.42	+0.55	May	2.040	-1.4	May	6.120	-11.4	Spot	81.50	-0.25
Jun	83.72	+0.30	May	104.80	+0.87	Jul	2.124	-1.4	Jul	6.194	-12.2	Jun	81.52	-0.31
Aug	83.02	+0.17	Aug	106.92	+0.65	Sep	2.196	-1.4	Aug	6.190	-10.4	Sep	81.69	-0.30
Oct	84.32	+0.52	Sep	105.80	+0.70	Dec	2.294	-1.0	Sep	6.094	-10.2	Dec	81.88	-0.29

Week Ending April 7, 2005

Cattle markets in Ontario were fairly active with prices mostly steady with pressure evident on finished cattle.

The fed cattle market was under some pressure with prices barely steady to slightly lower. There were 2,698 head of finished steers and heifers sold live through Ontario auction markets. The average fed steer price was \$88.78 down \$1.32 and the average heifer price was \$86.26 down \$1.05. Live finished cattle prices are \$13.00 higher this year than they were last year at this time. Auction markets reported fed cattle sold barely steady to \$1-2 lower.

Slaughter cows held steady this week. The volume of cows sold through auction markets was 1,963. This week's average price was \$25.76 down \$0.68. Auction markets reported cows sold on a steady market.

Replacement cattle continued to sell strong. Total stockers sold live through auction markets was 5,114. Auction markets reported stockers sold actively with prices steady to \$3 higher.

Direct to packer railgrade cattle prices saw another \$2 increase as steers sold \$152-154 and heifers were \$151-153.

In Alberta, cattle trade was moderately active with prices \$2-3 lower than last week's increase. Steers sold at \$80.45-85.75 live and \$136.20-140.00 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$81.00-85.75 live and \$137.15-143.00 flat rail.

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U.S. cash cattle trade was moderate mostly in the north again this week with prices about \$7 lower as steers and heifers traded at \$144.00-146.00 dressed.

Local beef trade is a bit sluggish with end cuts not moving very well. Prices are lower.

