



Weekly Market Information Report



Week ending Thursday January 5, 2006

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.

	Price Range	Last Week
A grade steers	173.00-178.00	170.00-174.00
A grade heifers	173.00-178.00	170.00-174.00

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	95.87-107.76	102.85	115.00	106.33
Medium Frame Steers +1250	85.49-105.03	99.55	108.25	103.50
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	94.28-107.12	102.39	115.00	106.14
Large Frame Heifers +1000	91.84-106.08	101.03	110.00	105.13
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	80.93-105.18	96.91	109.75	101.10
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	90.47-106.85	100.27	110.00	104.66
Cows-all weights	23.78-38.34	31.11	70.00	32.99
Bulls-all weights	35.95-56.45	46.70	96.50	44.30

STOCKERS – Large & Medium Frame

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	107.10-120.30	113.81	121.75
900-999	115.59-119.87	118.35	123.00
800-899	106.88-117.46	112.56	127.75
700-799	102.97-121.94	116.06	129.75
600-699	102.15-128.91	119.33	136.00
500-599	110.76-134.89	123.45	139.00
400-499	101.19-135.53	120.25	149.00
-399	104.64-147.47	126.76	280.00

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	84.99-108.39	99.68	115.00
800-899	92.13-108.11	99.40	115.50
700-799	92.50-112.06	105.22	117.75
600-699	90.50-114.54	105.99	127.00
500-599	99.80-119.95	112.17	124.50
400-499	95.40-117.79	109.25	124.00
300-399	90.82-117.74	103.15	133.00

At Talbotville Livestock: Saturday December 31, 2005

	Price Range	Top
Good & choice steers	97.00-109.00	115.00
Good & choice heifers	95.00-106.50	110.00
Cows	28.00-37.50	55.50
Bulls	20.00-31.00	

Stocker sale: **Ontario Livestock Exchange, January 4, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	100.50-120.00	121.00	600-699	77.00-119.00	119.00
900-999	118.00-123.00	123.00	500-599	110.50-120.00	120.00
500-599	117.75-136.00	136.75			

Stocker Sale: **Ontario Stockyards – January 5, 2006**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
700-799	111.00-125.50	125.50			
600-699	110.25-133.00	136.00	600-699	101.50-114.50	115.00
500-599	114.00-135.00	136.00	500-599	103.50-118.50	118.50
400-499	107.50-139.00	149.00	400-499	96.00-119.00	124.00

ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Week ending **Thursday January 5, 2006**

Steers	Live	93.00-96.65	Flat rail	159.00-160.85
Heifers	Live	95.10-96.95	Flat rail	159.00-160.50

AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA

	Steers	Heifers
December 24, 2005	854	780
December 25, 2004	835	774
December 31, 2005	851	788
January 1, 2005	835	768

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

	Week End	YTD	% of
	Dec.24/05		Yr. Ago
Grand Total	60,585	3,610,519	100%
Alberta Slaughter	39,973	2,384,202	94%
Ontario Slaughter	11,236	647,868	104%

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

	Week End	YTD	% of
	Dec. 31/05		Yr. Ago
Grand Total	49,635	3,660,154	100%
Alberta Slaughter	34,003	2,418,205	94%
Ontario Slaughter	7,887	655,755	104%

USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL

	Week Ending	Week Ending	Week Ending	Year Ago
	Jan. 7, 2006	Dec. 31, 2005	Dec. 24, 2005	
Grand Total	529,000	522,000	605,000	577,000

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

	Choice	Select
	600-900	600-900
Current 5 day average:	156.81	141.72

U.S. TRADE (U.S funds)

Week ending **Thursday January 5, 2006**

Weekly range for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	93.00
	Rail	149.00-150.00

BEEF EXPORTS

	United States	Mexico
	Jan 2– Dec. 24	Jan 1 – Nov. 5
Total	335,787 tonnes	45,901 tonnes

BEEF EXPORTS

	United States	Mexico
	Jan 2– Dec. 31	Jan 1 – Nov. 12
Total	339,623 tonnes	46,776 tonnes

BEEF IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – Dec 17	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Total	101,779 tonnes	80,920 tonnes	+25.8

BEEF IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – Dec 24	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Total	102,195 tonnes	82,896 tonnes	+23.3

LIVE CATTLE

IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – Oct. 31
Pure bred	738
Non pure bred	18,561

EXPORTS

	Jan 1 – Dec 24
Slaughter steers & heifers	303,091
Feeder steers & heifers	206,020

IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – Oct. 31
Pure bred	738
Non pure bred	18,561

EXPORTS

	Jan 1 – Dec 31
Slaughter steers & heifers	310,241
Feeder steers & heifers	208,046

BEEF PRODUCTION

	Jan 1 – Dec 24	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	1,108,216 tonnes	1,172,721 tonnes	-5.5%
Non-fed	182,527 tonnes	135,334 tonnes	+34.9%

BEEF PRODUCTION

	Jan 1 – Dec 31	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	1,122,459 tonnes	1,189,573 tonnes	-5.6%
Non-fed	186,544 tonnes	137,114 tonnes	+36.1%

CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE

Closing quotes on futures today were as follows:

<u>Live Cattle</u>			<u>Feeder Cattle</u>			<u>Corn</u>			<u>Soybeans</u>			<u>Canadian \$</u>		
\$/cwt US			\$/cwt US			\$/bu US ¢/bu			\$/bu US ¢/bu					
Feb	96.05	-0.22	Jan	114.50	+0.17	Mar	2.142	-1.2	Jan	6.004	-7.4	Spot	85.73	-0.30
Apr	94.55	+0.00	Mar	113.97	+0.02	May	2.234	-1.2	Mar	6.110	-7.4	Mar	85.88	-0.30
Jun	87.40	-0.12	Apr	114.27	+0.12	July	2.316	-1.0	May	6.210	-6.4	Jun	86.10	-0.29
Aug	86.27	+0.20	May	113.95	+0.22	Sep	2.386	-0.4	Jul	6.294	-6.4	Sep	86.29	-0.28

Comments for the week ending January 5, 2006

The finished cattle market was under some pressure this week. The volume of live finished steers and heifers sold through auction markets was 1,944. That volume is double of what traded in the same period last year. The average fed steer price was \$102.39 down \$3.75 and the average heifer price was \$100.27 down \$4.39 from last week. Auction markets reported fed cattle sold barely steady to \$2 lower. The yearly average for finished steers was \$90.84 up \$13.64 from 2004, up \$6.15 from 2003 and down \$12.33 from 2002.

Slaughter cows sold on a good demand. There were 2,604 head sold through auction markets. This week's average price was \$31.11 down \$1.88 from last week but \$5.42 higher than two weeks ago. Auction markets reported cows sold strong with prices \$2 higher. The average price for 2005 was \$27.01 up \$8.20 from 2004, down \$11.74 from 2003 and down \$30.67 from 2002.

Replacement cattle sold strong. Total stockers sold was 2,771 down 8% from last year at this time. Auction markets reported stockers sold actively on a good demand at fully steady prices.

Direct to packer railgrade cattle prices were \$3.50 higher. Steers and heifers sold at \$173.00-178.00 dressed.

In Alberta, cattle trade was only moderate with steady prices. Steers sold at \$93.00-96.65 live and \$159.00-160.85 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$95.10-96.95 live and \$159.00-160.50 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was light with prices \$1 lower. Steers and heifers sold at \$93.00-96.00 live and \$150.00 dressed.