



## Weekly Market Information Report for the week ending Thursday March 12, 2020

The following information is collected from various sources and disseminated by Beef Farmers of Ontario.

### ONTARIO DIRECT TO PACKER RAILGRADE CATTLE TRADE

Prices are on a carcass weight basis before grade and weight discounts. Weekly Range:

A Grade Steers No Trade

A Grade Heifers No Trade

### ONTARIO LIVE CATTLE TRADE

Ontario auction sales this week saw weighted average price ranges for:

FED CATTLE	Volume	Price Range	Average	Top	Last Week Avg
Large Frame Steers +1250	146	133.64-145.53	140.86	151.75	142.30
Medium Frame Steers +1250	82	123.77-140.87	135.14	147.75	144.38
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	228	122.48-142.51	135.87	151.75	143.58
Large Frame Heifers +1000	111	134.16-150.20	142.37	160.50	138.63
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	179	130.37-143.84	137.72	168.50	137.72
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	290	128.30-145.92	138.97	168.50	138.76
Fed steers, Dairy & Dairy Cross +1250	74	102.45-116.96	111.15	123.50	109.91
Fed heifers, Dairy & Dairy Cross +1000	92	76.52-115.43	96.76	125.49	97.53
Cows - All Weights	2,708	55.86-81.32	67.85	111.00	66.38
Bulls - All Weights	95	89.12-110.12	99.42	140.00	98.93

### STOCKERS - Large and Medium Frame

STEERS	Volume	Price Range	Average	Top	Last Week Avg
1000+	580	154.97-174.70	165.57	180.00	171.66
900-999	374	160.44-176.14	170.11	181.50	174.29
800-899	321	169.15-187.55	179.54	195.00	180.70
700-799	407	164.21-200.74	186.82	212.50	188.10
600-699	380	183.72-224.36	206.05	233.00	211.63
500-599	313	194.09-238.22	219.44	253.50	216.56
400-499	229	181.83-237.34	213.38	273.00	222.86
-399	58	192.33-229.30	213.67	320.00	213.63
HEIFERS	Volume	Price Range	Average	Top	Last Week Avg
+900	328	137.01-162.10	150.06	172.75	150.58
800-899	202	146.49-165.64	157.99	175.00	162.62
700-799	363	146.86-176.70	163.83	185.00	166.26
600-699	320	148.43-185.87	169.98	202.50	182.61
500-599	337	157.63-194.73	174.98	224.00	187.57
400-499	230	152.42-199.27	175.60	230.00	183.22
300-399	58	143.95-182.53	164.56	245.00	179.13
-299	13	124.31-137.77	131.23	196.00	116.38

At Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn, March 7, 2020 – 182 cows, 15 bulls, 13 veal, 5 fed cattle

	Price Range	Avg.	Top
Cows	58.50-87.00	68.09	97.50
Bulls over 1600 lbs	93.00-119.00	107.00	119.00

**Denfield Livestock Exchange Inc., March 10, 2020: 175 Fed Cattle, 15 Veal, 1 Bull, 91 Cows, 6 stockers**

	Price Range	Average	Top
Large & Medium Frame Fed Steers +1250 lbs	132.00-151.25	144.72	151.75
Large & Medium Frame Fed Heifers +1000 lbs	140.00-147.75	144.05	168.50
Cows	55.00-79.50	68.71	95.50
Veal over 600 lbs	114.00-132.00	124.79	153.00

**At Aylmer Stockyards Inc.: March 11, 2020- 40 veal, 312 Cows, 59 fed cattle, 46 stockers, 2 bulls**

	Price Range	Average	Top
Fed Heifers, Dairy & Dairy Cross	57.99-125.49	95.29	125.49
Cows	45.50-90.00	69.99	103.00
Veal over 600 lbs	85.99-148.99	121.79	148.99

**ONTARIO STOCKER & FEEDER TRADE****Stocker sale at Brussels Livestock: March 6, 2020 – 1,328 Stockers**

Steers	Price Range	Average	Top	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	149.00-173.00	164.86	173.00	900+	144.50-170.00	157.59	172.75
900-999	156.00-172.50	164.29	177.00	800-899	148.00-171.00	162.48	171.00
800-899	170.00-186.50	178.99	186.50	700-799	155.00-185.00	175.18	185.00
700-799	175.00-207.25	195.42	207.25	600-699	156.00-181.00	167.22	190.00
600-699	187.00-224.00	204.93	225.00	500-599	163.00-203.50	181.32	207.00
500-599	192.00-242.00	224.63	242.00	400-499	142.00-213.00	177.32	230.00
400-499	180.00-223.00	206.56	259.00				

**Stocker sale at: Community Livestock Exchange: March 10, 2020 – 122 Stockers**

Steers	Price Range	Average	Top	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Top
700-799	110.00-189.99	149.10	189.99	600-699	107.49-183.00	166.59	183.00
600-699	102.00-176.00	162.50	176.00	500-599	120.99-175.00	151.60	175.00
500-599	150.00-235.99	188.70	235.99	400-499	127.49-200.00	164.99	200.00
400-499	189.99-235.00	217.30	235.00				

**Stocker sale at: Keady Livestock Market: March 10, 2020 – 875 Stockers**

Steers	Price Range	Average	Top	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	165.00-169.00	167.85	169.50	900+	125.00-156.50	150.71	156.50
900-999	164.00-177.75	173.52	177.75	800-899	157.00-172.25	166.40	175.00
800-899	184.00-195.00	190.03	195.00	700-799	152.50-176.00	161.70	177.00
700-799	184.00-212.50	198.56	212.50	600-699	160.00-196.00	173.10	196.00
600-699	201.00-227.00	220.40	227.00	500-599	167.00-195.00	183.95	224.00
500-599	222.00-253.50	240.16	253.50	400-499	183.00-209.00	197.66	217.50
400-499	210.00-273.00	241.48	273.00	300-399	172.50-200.00	186.00	217.50

**Stocker sale at: Renfrew Pontiac Livestock: March 10, 2020 – 223 Stockers**

Steers	Price Range	Average	Top	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Top
700-799	165.99-200.49	184.40	200.49	700-799	148.99-176.00	163.79	176.00
600-699	165.99-225.00	193.19	225.00	600-699	137.50-193.99	171.19	193.99
500-599	179.00-237.99	201.10	237.99	500-599	135.00-200.00	159.69	200.00
400-499	176.00-233.00	211.20	233.00	400-499	138.99-212.00	170.19	212.00
399-	229.99-241.00	235.49	241.00				

Stocker sale at **Ontario Livestock Exchange, March 11, 2020- 583** stockers

<b>Steers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>Heifers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>1000+</b>	158.00-180.00	168.74	180.00	<b>900+</b>	163.00- 19 head		
<b>900-999</b>	168.50-181.50	177.47	181.50	<b>800-899</b>			
<b>800-899</b>	175.00-189.00	183.23	189.00				

Stocker sale at **Ontario Livestock Exchange: March 12, 2020 – 239** Stockers

<b>Steers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>Heifers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>800-899</b>	127.50-162.50	139.77	162.50	<b>900+</b>	87.50-121.00	104.35	125.00
<b>700-799</b>	149.00-188.00	172.50	188.00	<b>800-899</b>	121.00-135.00	129.22	135.00
<b>600-699</b>	202.50-216.00	205.88	216.00	<b>700-799</b>	140.00-151.00	146.81	154.00
<b>500-599</b>	180.000-220.00	204.00	220.00	<b>600-699</b>	130.00-162.00	147.17	162.00
<b>400-499</b>	212.50-235.00	227.73	235.00	<b>500-599</b>	122.50-177.50	153.50	177.50
<b>399-</b>	190.00-220.00	205.56	245.00	<b>400-499</b>	125.00-185.00	170.83	185.00

Stocker sale at **Ontario Stockyards Inc: March 12, 2020 – 1,028** Stockers

<b>Steers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>Heifers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>1000+</b>	92.50-120.00	104.75	145.00	<b>900+</b>	85.15-110.00	91.19	130.00
<b>900-999</b>	110.00-155.00	135.49	155.00	<b>800-899</b>	77.50-112.50	89.39	147.00
<b>800-899</b>	145.00-184.00	170.56	184.00	<b>700-799</b>	117.50-173.00	149.85	173.00
<b>700-799</b>	147.50-196.00	182.26	196.00	<b>600-699</b>	160.00-189.00	176.66	202.50
<b>600-699</b>	191.00-233.00	212.79	233.00	<b>500-599</b>	164.00-197.00	177.01	208.00
<b>500-599</b>	197.50-233.00	218.83	237.00	<b>400-499</b>	160.00-191.00	174.78	215.00
<b>400-499</b>	180.00-239.00	213.13	245.00	<b>300-399</b>	137.50-165.00	152.07	182.50
<b>399-</b>	202.50-230.00	220.27	245.00				

Stocker sale at **Ottawa Livestock Exchange: March 12, 2020 – 79** Stockers

<b>Steers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>	<b>Heifers</b>	<b>Price Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Top</b>
<b>700-799</b>	150.00-176.00	157.63	186.00	<b>600-699</b>	118.00-154.00	145.83	154.00
<b>600-699</b>	118.00-180.00	155.25	184.00	<b>500-599</b>	140.00-188.00	172.89	188.00
<b>500-599</b>	125.00-214.00	169.57	236.00				
<b>400-499</b>	135.00-234.00	193.38	234.00				
<b>399-</b>	120.00-230.00	186.67	230.00				

**LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS-ONTARIO**

	<b>Week ending Feb 22, 2020</b>	<b>Week ending Feb 15, 2020</b>	<b>Year to Date 2020</b>
<b>Total live slaughter cattle exported from Ontario to the U.S.</b>	<b>3,106</b>	<b>2,994</b>	<b>26,078</b>
<b>Steers &amp; Heifers &amp; Cows</b>	307	2,787	23,789
<b>Bulls</b>	3,413	207	2,289

**FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN PROCESSING**

	<b>Week Ending March 7, 2020</b>	<b># of hd change from week ago</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>% Change (Week Ago)</b>	<b>% Change (Year Ago)</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	61,303	+395	566,653	+1%	+0%
<b>Western Slaughter</b>	48,569	+189	442,624	+0%	+2%
<b>Eastern Slaughter</b>	12,735	+206	124,029	+2%	-7%

**AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA**

	<b>Steers</b>	<b>Heifers</b>
<b>March 7, 2020</b>	914	854
<b>February 29, 2020</b>	905	843
<b>March 9, 2019</b>	916	857

**USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE PROCESSING VOLUME**

	<b>Week Ending March 14, 2020</b>	<b>Previous Week</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	630,000	647,000	608,000

**ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE**

For the week ending March 12, 2020

<b>Steers</b>	Live <b>FOB</b>	N/T	Rail <b>FOB</b>	233.50-240.50
<b>Heifers</b>	Live <b>FOB</b>	N/T	Rail <b>FOB</b>	233.50-240.00

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

For the week ending March 12, 2020

<b>Choice and Select Steers and Heifers:</b>	Live	105.00-111.00- weekly range
	Rail	168.00-177.00- weekly range

**QUEBEC ELECTRONIC AUCTION MARKET (F.O.B. THE FEEDLOT)**

	<b>Price</b>	<b>Change from Last Week</b>
For the week ending March 12, 2020	241.00	+0.00

**CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUT-OUT VALUES**

<b>Week Ending</b>	<b>AAA</b>	<b>AA</b>
February 21, 2020	2.7337	2.6792
February 14, 2020	2.7692	2.6792
February 7, 2020	2.7906	2.6625

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

	<b>Choice 600-900</b>	<b>Select 600-900</b>
<b>Current Five Day Average:</b>	207.02	199.59

**BEEF EXPORTS – CANADA**

	<b>United States</b>	<b>Change from last year YTD</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Change from last year YTD</b>
	<i>Jan 1- Jan 31/20</i>		<i>Jan 1- Jan 31/20</i>	
<b>Total</b>	23,574 tonnes	-2% or -546 tonnes	1,452 tonnes	+14% or +177 tonnes
	<b>Japan</b>	<b>Change from last year YTD</b>	<b>China</b>	<b>Change from last year YTD</b>
	<i>Jan 1- Jan 31/20</i>		<i>Jan 1- Jan 31/20</i>	
<b>Total</b>	4,175 tonnes	+59% or +1,552 tonnes	818 tonnes	-41% or -567 tonnes

**LIVE CATTLE – CANADA**

<b>IMPORTS</b>	<b>Import % change from 2019 YTD</b>	<b>EXPORTS</b>	<b>Export % change from 2019 YTD</b>
<i>Jan 1- Jan 31/20</i>		<i>Jan 1- Mar 1/20</i>	
Pure bred	103	Slaughter steers & heifers & cows	89,518
	-29%		+12%
Non-pure bred	25,361	Feeder cattle & calves	17,873
	+20%		-46%
		Bulls	5,551
			+16%

### BEEF PRODUCTION – CANADA

	Jan 1 – Mar 7/20	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	183,737 tonnes	181,844 tonnes	+1%
Non-fed	36,532 tonnes	41,077 tonnes	-11%

### BEEF IMPORTS – CANADA

	Jan 1 – Mar 7/20	Last Year Same Time	% Change
United States	22,250 tonnes	19,944 tonnes	+12%
Non-CUSMA	4,285 tonnes	10,379 tonnes	-59%
EU-28 (beef/veal total)	2,638 tonnes	1,058 tonnes	+149%
Total	30,590 tonnes	32,406 tonnes	-6%

### CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE

Closing quotes on futures today were as follows:

Live Cattle		Feeder Cattle		Corn		Soybeans		Canadian \$	
Apr	95.57 -4.50	Mar	113.00 -5.82	Mar	3.706 +1.0	May	8.486 -10.6	Spot	71.80 -0.39
Jun	89.75 -4.50	Apr	112.60 -6.42	May	3.656 +0.0	Jul	8.560 -9.6	Mar	71.77 -0.44
Aug	89.17 -4.50	May	114.47 -6.27	Jul	3.684 -0.2	Aug	8.594 -8.6	Jun	71.80 -0.41
Oct	93.80 -4.50	Aug	121.17 -6.75	Sep	3.676 +0.2	Sep	8.604 -8.4	Sep	71.83 -0.40
Dec	98.70 -4.50	Sep	122.27 -6.75	Dec	3.730 +1.2	Nov	8.644 -8.4	Dec	71.84 -0.40
Feb	101.97 -4.32	Oct	122.92 -6.75	Mar	3.826 +1.0	Jan	8.676 -8.0	Mar	71.86 -0.36

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### UPCOMING SPRING SPECIAL SALES

Mar 20 5:00 pm	Keady Livestock Market	Bred Cow & Heifer Sale
Mar 21 11:00 am	Denfield Livestock Exchange	Stocker & Bred Cow, Cow/Calf Pair Sale
Mar 24 10:00 am	Keady Livestock Market	Regular Schedule Resumes
Mar 24 11:00 am	Ontario Stockyards Inc	Special Spring All Vaccinated Stocker Sale
Mar 25 10:00 am	Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn	Special Stocker Sale
Mar 25 2:00 pm	Vankleek Hill Livestock Exchange	Stocker Sale
Apr 1 1:00 pm	Ontario Livestock Exchange	All Vaccinated Stocker Sale- Every Wednesday
Apr 4 11:00 am	Denfield Livestock Exchange	Stocker & Bred Cow, Cow/Calf Pair Sale
Apr 4 2:00 pm	Keady Livestock Market	Saunders Charolais Bull Sale

### Comments for the week ending March 12, 2020

518 fed steers and heifers sold through auction markets this week up 50 from last week and 226 more than the same week last year. Fed steers traded from \$122.48-\$142.51 averaging \$135.87 down \$7.71 from last week but \$3.90 stronger than year ago prices. Fed heifers traded from \$128.30-\$145.92 with a weekly weighted average price of \$138.97 up \$0.21 from last week and \$13.51 higher than year ago prices. Auction markets reported trade as active with prices steady to easier to start. As the week progressed, trade was easier with quality considered and ended the week down \$2.00-\$3.00 cwt.

The Ontario railgrade market was very quiet this week with no sales or bids reported. Packers are reported to be bought out for at least three weeks.

The Canadian Boxed Beef Report by Kevin Grier in overview of last week states: "Coronavirus continues to depress economic, commodity and beef market actively. Prices in Canada and the U.S. for beef however remained firm and market conditions continue to be very orderly. The cutout had few if any weak spots last week." Kevin reports Canadian buyer activity as: "This is a slow time of year with little to drive business. The exceptional weakness in the futures has buyers sitting back and waiting. No one sees a reason to get product around them yet. Stores are placing orders but not up to normal for this time of year."

2,708 fed/cull cows were sold through Ontario auction markets this week, up 89 from last week and 109 more than the same week last year. Cows traded from \$55.86-\$81.32 averaging \$67.85 up \$1.47 from last week and \$6.67 stronger than year ago prices. Auction markets reported trade starting out the week as active at strong to higher prices. By Tuesday, trade was steady to \$2.00-\$4.00 cwt lower, but as the week progressed trade was active at steady to higher prices, and ended the week steady.

4,513 stocker and feeder cattle sold through auction markets this week, up 550 from last week but 171 less than last year at this time. Auction markets reported calves as steady while yearlings were barely steady on active trade the previous Friday. As the week progressed, grass type cattle were selling actively at steady prices while heavier short keep types were under pressure. By Wednesday the heavier cattle were steady and the market ended the week with prices steady to easier on all classes. Actual average prices this week saw steers 400-500 lbs down \$9.48 from last week on average, 500-600 lbs up \$2.88, 600-700 lbs down \$5.58, 700-800 lbs down \$1.25, 800-900 lbs down \$1.16, 900-1000 lbs down \$4.19 and steers 1000 lbs and over averaged \$6.09 below last week's weighted average prices. Heifers from 300-400 lbs were down \$14.57 from last week, 400-500 lbs down \$7.62, 500-600 lbs down \$12.59, 600-700 lbs down \$12.63, 700-800 lbs down \$2.43, 800-900 lbs down \$4.63 and heifers 900 lbs and over averaged \$0.52 lower than last week's weighted average prices.

The Quebec electronic market this week sold at \$241.00 dressed, with no change from last week.

Alberta direct trade on Wednesday saw a very light test with prices down \$2.00-\$5.00 cwt notes Canfax, from \$242.00-\$243.00 delivered. Thursday trade was reported by Canfax from \$237.00-\$240.00 delivered on a dressed basis down \$5.00-\$10.00 from last week. This morning a few deals continued in Alberta from \$235.00-\$240.00 delivered which is steady to another \$2.00 below Thursday's easier trade. On a picked up basis, Canfax reported sales from \$233.50-\$240.50 with steers averaging \$235.90 down \$9.63 and heifers \$235.70 with no trade last week to compare too.

The US cash cattle trade for the week ending March 6th, was under pressure with prices declining. The USDA Mandatory Price report listed live sales from \$110.00-\$115.00, with steers at \$113.17 on average, down \$1.68, while heifers averaged \$112.83 down \$1.91 from the previous week. On the rail prices ranged from \$178.00-\$182.00 dressed, with steers averaging \$180.80 down \$3.98, while heifers averaged \$180.56 down \$4.19 from the previous week on average.

This week trade developed as early as Monday with a light trade reported at \$110.00 live, down \$3.00 from last week while dressed trade was sitting at \$175.00-\$177.00 cwt down \$4.00-\$6.00 from last week. A couple of deals on Tuesday were steady to Monday but trade was few and far between. Wednesday at the Fed Cattle Exchange online auction there were 460 head on offer, in 3 lots with delivery in 1-9 days on two southern lots and 1-17 days on one northern lot. All three lots sold at asking prices of \$110.00 live, down \$3.00 from last week on average. On the cash market, trade on Wednesday was moderate in all feeding states, with live sales reported from \$108.00-\$111.00 averaging \$110.00 down \$3.00 from last week. On the rail trade ranged from \$170.00-\$176.00 dressed, averaging \$174.00-\$175.00 down \$5.00-\$6.00 cwt from last week. Thursday, a couple of deals were reported from \$170.00-\$172.00 dressed and at \$105.00 live, down \$5.00 from early week trade, but volumes were extremely light. Asking prices on the remaining cattle are sitting at \$110.00 live in the south and \$177.00 dressed in the north, but it appears that the bulk of trade for this week has concluded. Cattle futures on Thursday closed limit lower on most contracts in both the live cattle and feeder cattle categories, allowing the limits to expand today to 4.50 for live cattle and 6.75 for feeder cattle. At time of reporting both the live cattle and feeder cattle contracts are sharply lower or locked down the new limit.