

# WEEKLY MARKET INFORMATION REPORT - FOR THE WEEK ENDING

# **THURSDAY APRIL 18, 2024**

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:

A Grade Steers A Grade Heifers 400.00 399.00-400.00

# **ONTARIO LIVE CATTLE TRADE**

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

Ontario auction sales this	s week saw weighted	a average pri	-			
FED CATTLE		Volume	Price Range	Average	Тор	Last Week Avg
Large Frame Steers +12		115	233.33-245.97	241.18	271.00	240.55
Medium Frame Steers +	-1250	180	227.38-241.62	236.82	256.00	238.29
Large & Medium Frame	Steers +1250	295	232.02-244.66	239.48	271.00	239.91
Large Frame Heifers +1	000	96	233.02-245.52	238.73	253.00	237.84
Medium Frame Heifers	+1000	179	223.68-240.88	234.06	260.00	237.57
Large & Medium Frame	Heifers +1000	275	228.12-243.49	236.18	260.00	237.95
Fed steers, Dairy & Dair	ry Cross +1250	82	196.83-217.94	209.58	242.00	207.79
Fed heifers, Dairy & Dai	iry Cross +1000	102	162.21-203.40	183.63	235.00	190.77
Cows - All Weights		2,161	121.87-168.44	142.36	214.99	145.89
Bulls - All Weights		118	153.76-198.66	176.33	230.00	180.92
STOCKERS - Large and N	Aedium Frame					
STEERS	Volume	Price Range		Average	Тор	Last Week Avg
1000+	790	284.8	31-302.87	294.50	309.00	294.25
900-999	495	296.3	32-316.70	307.92	329.00	308.31
800-899	501	296.6	296.63-333.69		354.00	337.30
700-799	560	322.8	322.85-375.77		399.00	362.72
600-699	620	349.9	93-408.62	382.17	450.00	371.46
500-599	422	342.5	56-443.34	400.76	507.50	399.64
400-499	196	381.8	32-467.63	435.46	510.00	424.84
-399	78	354.1	L5-487.44	428.70	1090.00	370.46
STOCKERS - Large and N						
HEIFERS	Volume		e Range	Average	Тор	Last Week Avg
+900	282		.8-277.67	259.29	295.00	268.25
800-899	266		31-301.60	281.79	314.00	294.06
700-799	449		0-326.08	306.16	359.00	306.23
600-699	652		0-357.50	336.99	400.00	322.87
500-599	414		64-389.06	350.68	426.00	360.98
400-499	198		23-400.00	364.00	515.00	363.32
300-399	68		59-383.20	360.60	435.00	360.88
-299	22	400.6	8-414.32	407.27	830.00	320.51

#### At Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn: April 13, 2024-143 cows, 17 bulls, 53 veal, 9 fed cattle, 36 stockers

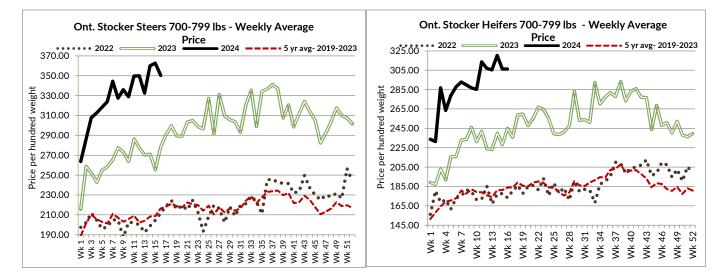
	Price Range	Avg.	Тор
Cows	128.00-185.00	145.31	202.50
Bulls 1600 lbs & under	184.00-227.00	189.78	227.00
Bulls 1600 lbs plus	192.00-230.00	200.67	230.00
Veal Calves 600 lbs plus	200.00-225.00	207.62	225.00
Veal Calves 125 lbs & under	400.00-800.00	611.88	1000.00

#### At Denfield Livestock Exchange Inc.: April 16, 2024 – 235 Fed Cattle, 7 Stockers, 64 Cows, 14 Veal, 6Bulls

	Price Range	Average	Тор
Large & Medium Frame Fed Steers +1250 lbs	238.50-248.50	243.71	271.00
Large & Medium Frame Fed Heifers +1000 lbs	239.00-248.00	244.13	260.00
Cows	114.00-170.00	145.60	190.00
Veal 600 lbs and over	210.00-216.00	213.38	261.00

#### At Aylmer Stockyards Inc.: April 17, 2024 - 20 Veal, 220 Cows, 41 Fed cattle, 25 Stockers, 3 Bulls

	Price Range	Average	Тор
Fed Steers, dairy & dairy cross 1250+ lbs	184.00-204.99	195.39	204.99
Fed Heifers, dairy & dairy cross 1000+ lbs	144.99-210.00	193.50	210.00
Cows	113.99-196.99	143.59	214.99
Veal calves 600 lbs +	167.99-254.99	208.99	254.99



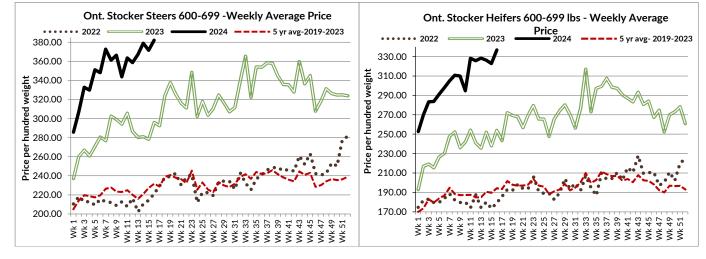
### **ONTARIO STOCKER & FEEDER TRADE**

#### Stocker sale at Brussels Livestock: April 12, 2024 – 1,728 Stockers

Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
1000+	276.00-296.50	287.27	298.00	900+	251.00-284.00	268.96	290.00
900-999	283.00-324.00	307.83	325.00	800-899	264.00-302.00	280.07	308.00
800-899	297.00-339.00	322.90	339.00	700-799	276.00-319.00	303.29	348.00
700-799	339.00-379.50	355.19	379.50	600-699	309.00-356.00	337.16	400.00
600-699	365.00-412.00	385.86	412.00	500-599	330.00-397.00	362.00	399.00
500-599	380.00-436.00	409.12	447.00	400-499	335.00-400.00	383.90	441.00
400-499	410.00-485.00	454.07	485.00	300-399	427.00-435.00	423.33	435.00
399-	429.00-505.00	480.17	505.00	299-	275.00-315.00	300.00	315.00

### Stocker sale at Community Livestock Exchange: April 16, 2024: 125 Stockers

Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
600-699	200.00-370.00	288.89	370.00	500-599	250.00-391.00	315.49	391.00
500-599	232.50-395.99	305.90	395.99	400-499	285.00-389.99	349.80	389.99
400-499	264.99-450.00	397.69	450.00				



Stocker sale at Keady Livestock Market: April 16, 2024- 549 Stockers

Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
1000+	267.50-302.00	288.42	302.00	900+	252.50-295.00	271.32	295.00
900-999	301.00-303.00	302.00	303.00	800-899	261.00-314.00	299.21	314.00
800-899	324.00-336.00	329.45	336.00	700-799	321.00-359.00	344.45	359.00
700-799	300.00-395.00	351.73	395.00	600-699	307.50-362.00	338.35	362.00
600-699	395.00-425.00	411.22	450.00	500-599	347.50-408.00	387.90	408.00
500-599	457.00-507.50	474.25	507.50	400-499	375.00-417.50	392.00	417.50
400-499	470.00-500.00	484.69	505.00	300-399	380.00-435.00	412.22	435.00
399-	450.00-475.00	459.00	475.00				

Stocker sale at Renfrew Pontiac Livestock: April 16, 2024: 165 Stockers

Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
800-899	214.99-341.00	312.29	341.00	900+	139.99-239.99	192.90	239.99
700-799	275.00-325.00	301.69	325.00	800-899	250.00-289.99	276.90	289.99
600-699	275.00-393.99	365.30	393.99	700-799	185.00-322.50	281.80	322.50
500-599	229.99-454.99	388.79	454.99	600-699	204.99-335.00	311.29	335.00
400-499	329.99-450.00	400.10	450.00	500-599	322.50-360.00	337.30	360.00
399-				400-499	229.99-395.00	344.79	395.00

#### Stocker sale at Ontario Livestock Exchange: April 17, 2024 - 565 Stockers

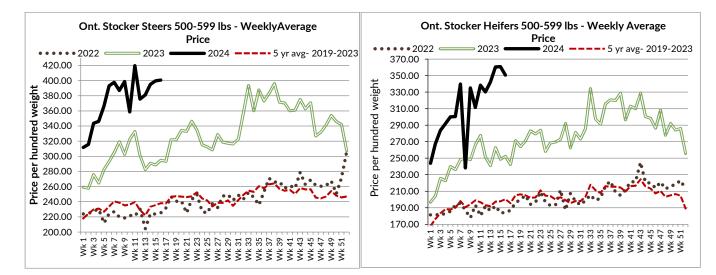
Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
1000+	292.00-309.00	299.95	309.00	900+	250.00-287.00	278.78	287.00
900-999	315.00-329.00	321.47	329.00				

Stocker sale at Ontario Livestock Exchange: April 18, 2024 - 458 Stockers

Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
1000+	230.00-260.00	245.59	280.00	900+	220.00-260.00	243.67	260.00
900-999	260.00-287.50	272.02	305.00	800-899	190.00-300.00	257.50	300.00
800-899	225.00-320.00	275.44	320.00	700-799	200.00-305.00	258.24	305.00
700-799	270.00-330.00	299.27	335.00	600-699	255.00-330.00	291.03	330.00
600-699	280.00-347.50	315.86	365.00	500-599	240.00-360.00	309.14	360.00
500-599	235.00-400.00	339.21	410.00	400-499	285.00-340.00	315.88	400.00
400-499	300.00-455.00	408.75	455.00	300-399	310.00-340.00	327.14	340.00
399-	180.00-445.00	330.00	445.00				

### Stocker sale at Ontario Stockyards Inc: April 18, 2024: 443 Stockers

Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
900-999	283.00-311.00	300.78	311.00	700-799	304.00-341.00	321.93	341.00
800-899	287.50-354.00	320.94	354.00	600-699	312.50-361.69	357.79	370.00
700-799	397.50-388.00	339.82	394.00	500-599	295.00-392.00	349.27	392.00
600-699	365.00-425.00	393.16	435.00	400-499	350.00-425.00	377.30	425.00
500-599	405.00-507.50	444.95	507.50	300-399	330.00-372.50	348.00	372.50
400-499	430.00-510.00	473.21	510.00				
399-	370.00-470.00	417.50	470.00				



#### ONTARIO STOCKER & FEEDER TRADE SPECIAL SPRING SALES Stocker sale at Maple Hill Auctions Limited: April 15, 2024: 430 Stockers

Stocker sale at Maple Thir Adetoris Enrited. April 15, 2024. 400 Stockers							
Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
1000+	294.00-305.00	302.08	305.00	900+	239.00-249.00	245.67	249.00
900-999	303.00-310.00	306.75	310.00	700-799	255.00-295.00	276.33	295.00
800-899	300.00-326.00	313.09	331.00	600-699	297.00-312.00	307.59	312.00
700-799	335.00-352.00	345.93	352.00				

### Stocker sale at Ontario Stockyards Inc: April 16, 2024- 1,011 Stockers

Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
1000+	287.50-308.00	305.00	308.00	900+	179.00-262.50	221.75	262.50
900-999	287.50-310.00	302.58	324.00	800-899	287.50-312.50	299.11	312.50
800-899	325.00-341.00	334.43	349.50	700-799	289.00-332.00	312.68	343.00
700-799	347.00-385.00	367.01	399.00	600-699	307.50-372.00	343.82	372.00
600-699	380.00-430.00	410.52	430.00	500-599	315.00-377.50	345.26	384.00
500-599	390.00-440.00	423.09	470.00	400-499	330.00-392.50	354.16	392.50
400-499	420.00-455.00	441.02	460.00	300-399	260.00-365.00	321.61	365.00
399-	410.00-440.00	428.33	440.00				

All Vaccinated Stocker Sale - Top quality calves sold fully steady with second cut calves and yearlings selling just steady.

#### Stocker sale at Kawartha Lakes Community Sales Barn: April 17, 2024 - 383 stockers.

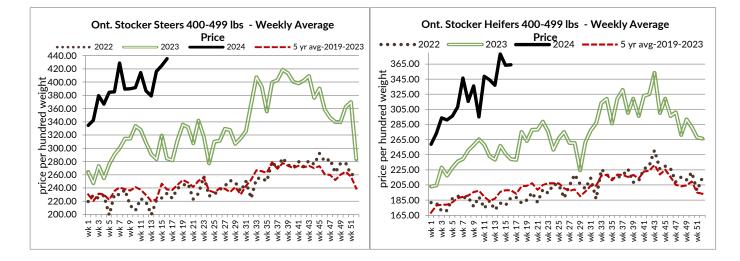
Steers	Price Range	Average	Тор	Heifers	Price Range	Average	Тор
800-899	261.00-315.00	279.36	315.00	700-799	295.00-340.00	313.38	340.00
700-799	310.00-393.00	370.81	393.00	600-699	310.00-390.00	349.23	390.00
600-699	307.50-431.00	386.92	431.00	500-599	32.00-426.00	359.29	426.00
500-599	330.00-473.00	413.37	473.00	400-499	360.00-446.00	399.54	446.00
400-499	380.00-478.50	438.10	478.50	300-399	375.00-405.00	398.03	405.00
399-	395.00-450.00	436.36	450.00				

Stockers sold actively at higher prices.

# **ONTARIO BRED COW SALES**

#### Denfield Livestock Exchange, April 13, 2024 - 68 Bred cows, 19 cow/calf pairs

	Exotic and Exotic X	British and British X
Top quality bred cows	\$3250-\$3750	\$3200-\$3650
Avg quality bred cows	\$2600-\$3000	\$2500-\$3200
Top quality bred heifers		\$3450-\$3750
Top quality cow/calf pairs	\$5000-\$5400	\$4000-\$4500
Avg quality cow/calf pairs	\$3800-\$4000	\$3500-\$4000
(prices are per head and per pair)		



	WEEKI	Y LIVE CATTLE EXPORT		4	Versite Dete	
Total live slaughter cattl		Week ending Mar 30, 2024 2,716	Week ending N 2,76	Year to Date 35,341		
through Ontario ports to Steers & Heifers & Cows		2,686	2,70	33,725		
Bulls		30	51		1,616	
ONTA		ALLY INSPECTED PROCI	ESSING-Canfa			
	Week Ending	# of hd change from	YTD	% Change	% Change	
	Apr 13, 2024	week ago		(Week Ago)		
Grand Total	10,228	-168	153,198	-1.6%	-7%	
CANAI	DIAN- FEDEF	ALLY INSPECTED PROC	ESSING-Canfa	ax/CBGA		
	Week End	ng # of hd change from	YTD	% Change	% Change	
	Apr 13, 20			(Week Ago)	(Year Ago)	
Grand Total	54,538	-4,522	897,993	-8%	-3%	
Western Processing	42,517	-4,640	720,552	-10%	-2%	
Eastern Processing	12,021	+118	177,441	+1%	-6%	
A	VERAGE CAR	CASS WEIGHTS – CANA	DA-Canfax/C	BGA		
		Steers	I	Heifers		
Apr 13, 2024		955		862		
Apr 6, 2024		954		872		
Apr 15, 2023		907		845		
۵۱		CASS WEIGHTS – ONTA	RIO-Confoy/C	BGA		
		Steers		Heifers		
Apr 13, 2024		992		856		
Apr 6, 2024		990		881		
Apr 15, 2023		970		861		
	USDA ESTIN	ATED CATTLE PROCES	SING VOLUM	E		
		Week Ending	Previous Wee		r Ago	

	vveek Ending	Previous vveek	year Ago
	Apr 20, 2024		
Grand Total	N/A	603,000	N/A

	C	QUEBEC E	LECTRONIC AU		<b>1ARKET (F.C</b> Price		FEEDLOT) Change from		
For the week ending April 18, 2024					403.00	,	+0.0		
ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE									
Albe	erta's direct	trade: for th	e week ending April	18, 2024					
Steers Live- FOB N/T					Rail- FOB	422.00-	429.75		
Hei	fers	Live- FC	DB N/T		Rail- FOB	422.00-	430.50		
				•	l.S. funds)				
The U			or the week ending A						
	Choice and	d Select Stee	ers and Heifers:		Live Rail	182.00-1 292.00-2			
					Nali	272.00-2	75.00		
		U.	S. BOXED BEEF			U.S. fund			
					hoice		Select		
					0-900		600-900		
	Current F	ive Day Ave	rage	2	98.42		291.93		
			BEEF EXPO	RTS – CA	ANADA (AA	FC)			
	United Sta		Change from last		Mexico	·	Change from	last year YTD	
<b>T</b> ( )	Jan 1- Feb				Jan 1- Feb 2				
Total	65,468 to	nnes	+9% or +5,205 to		6,371 tonne		+2% or +97		
	Japan Jan 1- Feb		Change from last		South Korea Jan 1- Feb 2	9/2024	-	last year YTD	
Total	8,553 ton	nes	-7% or -648 tonr	nes	2,780 tonne	es	-9% or -260	tonnes	
	Viet Nam Jan 1- Feb	29/2024	Change from last year YTD		<b>Total Beef E</b> Jan 1- Feb 2		Change from last year YTD		
Total	1,814 ton		-26% or -640 to	nnes			+5% or +4,0	5% or +4,088 tonnes	
					NADA (AAF	$\mathbf{C}$			
IMPOR	RTS		Import % change	EXPORT	•	C)		Export %	
			from 2023 YTD		0			change from	
								2023 YTD	
	Feb 29/202				1ar 30/24				
Pure b		524	-29%		ing steers, heif			+12%	
Non-p	ure bred	43,850	-17%		cattle & calves		33,721	+7%	
				Bulls			4,766	-29%	
			<b>BEEF PRODU</b>	CTION -	CANADA (A	AAFC)			
			Jan 1 – Apr 6			Same Tim	e	% Change	
Fed			296,976 to			3 tonnes		+2%	
1No	on-fed		49,627 tor	nnes	50,51	3 tonnes		-2%	
BEEF IMPORTS – CANADA (AAFC)									
			Jan 1 – Apr 6		•	Same Time	2 9	% Change	
Unite	ed States		23,489 tor	nes	24,672 tonnes		-5%		
Urug			<b>6,188 ton</b>			tonnes		+27%	
Aust			6,522 ton		2,802 tonnes			+134%	
	Zealand		2,449 ton			tonnes		-35%	
Mexi			4,610 ton			tonnes		+58%	
	CUSMA	1 1 1 1	20,074 tor			6 tonnes	+54%		
	27 (beef/vea	ai total)	3,428 ton			2,768 tonnes		+24%	
Tota	I		49,888 tor	ines	44,65	l tonnes		+12%	

# CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE

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Closing quotes on futures <i>today</i> were as follows:								
Live Cattle Fe			Feeder	Cattle		Corn		
Apr	181.47	+0.30	Apr	241.32	-0.27	May	4.334	+6.6
Jun	175.67	+0.30	May	242.00	-0.55	Jul	4.430	+6.6
Aug	173.55	+0.02	Aug	253.50	-0.80	Sep	4.512	+6.2
Oct	176.75	+0.02	Sep	254.42	-0.87	Dec	4.662	+6.2
Dec	180.97	+0.05	Oct	254.92	-0.77	Mar	4.790	+6.0
Feb	184.35	+0.00	Nov	254.45	-0.62	May	4.866	+6.0
Soybear	ns		Soft Re	d Winter Whe	eat	Canadia	an \$	
Soybear	ns US \$/bu		Soft Re	d Winter Whe US \$/bu	eat	Canadia	an \$	
Soybear May		+16.2	Soft Ree May		eat +13.4	Canadia Spot	an \$ 72.71	+0.11
·	US \$/bu	+16.2 +16.6		US \$/bu			·	+0.11 +0.14
May	<b>US \$/bu</b> 11.504		May	<b>US \$/bu</b> 5.502	+13.4	Spot	72.71	
May Jul	<b>US \$/bu</b> 11.504 11.656	+16.6	May Jul	<b>US \$/bu</b> 5.502 5.666	+13.4 +13.6	Spot Jun	72.71 72.80	+0.14
May Jul Aug	<b>US \$/bu</b> 11.504 11.656 11.666	+16.6 +15.4	May Jul Sep	<b>US \$/bu</b> 5.502 5.666 5.840	+13.4 +13.6 +13.6	Spot Jun Sep	72.71 72.80 72.89	+0.14 +0.10
May Jul Aug Sep	<b>US \$/bu</b> 11.504 11.656 11.666 11.556	+16.6 +15.4 +14.0	May Jul Sep Dec	US \$/bu 5.502 5.666 5.840 6.086	+13.4 +13.6 +13.6 +13.6	Spot Jun Sep Dec	72.71 72.80 72.89 73.03	+0.14 +0.10 +0.11

Beef Farmers of Ontario I Phone: 519.824.0334 I Fax: 519.824.9101 I Email: markets@ontariobeef.com

## **ONTARIO STOCKER & FEEDER SPECIAL FALL SALES**

Apr 20	11:00 am	Denfield Livestock Exchange	Vaccinated Calf & Yearling Sale
Apr 24	12:00 pm	Aylmer Stockyards Inc	Special Spring Stocker Sale
Apr 24	1:00 pm	Vankleek Hill Livestock Exchange	Special Spring Stocker Sale
Apr 26	10:00 am	Keady Livestock Market	Northern Select Stocker Sale
Apr 27	8:00 am	Rainy River Cattlemen's – Stratton	Special Spring Stocker Sale/Cows/Bulls
May 1	10:00 am	Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn	Peterborough/Victoria Counties Stocker Sale
May 2	10:00 am	Wiarton-Grey Bruce Livestock Co-op	Special Spring Stocker Sale
May 3	9:00 am	Keady Livestock Market	Special Grass Yearling Sale
May 3	11:00 am	Community Livestock Exchange	Quinte Cattlemen's Special Stocker Sale
May 4	10:00 am	Thessalon- Algoma Livestock Co-op	Special Spring Stocker Sale
May 4	11:00 am	Denfield Livestock Exchange	Vaccinated Calf & Yearling Sale
May 7	11:00 am	Ontario Stockyards Inc	All Vaccinated Stocker Sale
May 15	10:00 am	Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn	Special Spring Stocker Sale

### Comments for the week ending April 18, 2024

Slightly larger receipts of fed steers and heifers sold through auction markets this week at 570 head, up 21 from the previous week and 34 more that the same time last year. Fed steers sold from \$232.02-\$244.66 cwt averaging \$239.48 down \$0.43 cwt from the previous week's trade but \$17.72 above year ago prices. Fed heifers sold in a wide trading range from \$228.12-\$243.49 averaging \$236.18 cwt down \$1.77 from the week before but \$19.18 higher than year ago prices. Auction markets reported trade as steady and firm, to \$1.00-\$2.00 cwt easier.

The Ontario railgrade market has been light this week with sales reported at \$400.00 cwt dressed for steers and \$399.00-\$400.00 cwt for heifers, most at \$400.00 all with delivery the week of May 6<sup>th</sup>. Some U.S. packer interest was also noted at a slight premium to the Ontario packers. Prices have been trading in a sideways trend for ten consecutive weeks. This week's average price is \$25.00 cwt stronger than last year at this time. Last year the price traded at \$375.00 cwt dressed for five consecutive weeks starting the week ending April 20, 2023 until the week ending May 18<sup>th</sup> when the market started to move higher and topped the week of June 15<sup>th</sup> at \$414.50 cwt on average. In fact, the railgrade market spring high has occurred in the month of June in the last three out of five years.

Larger volumes of cull cows sold through auction markets this week at 2,161 head which is the largest volume recorded since the week ending February 1, 2024. This week's volume is up 247 head from the previous week but 32 fewer than last year at this time. Cows sold from \$121.87-\$168.44 cwt averaging \$142.36 down \$3.53 cwt from last week but \$27.89 higher than year ago prices. Auction markets reported trade as active at higher prices to start. By Tuesday reports were mixed with prices barely steady to steady with one market noting sales \$2.00-\$5.00 cwt stronger and another noting beef cows steady while dairy breeds were lower. By mid-week prices were fully steady to stronger and ended the week holding at fully steady prices. This week's weighted average beef cow price. Larger volumes of 1,803 dairy cows sold up 215 head from the previous week with a weekly weighted average price of \$140.13 down \$3.80 cwt on average.

Larger receipts of 6,013 stocker and feeder cattle sold through Ontario auction markets this week up 900 head from the week before however 1,616 fewer than the same week last year. Auction markets reported calves as selling steady to fully steady to start the week. As the week progressed, top quality calves sold fully steady to higher and second cut calves slightly easier. By mid-week calves were selling higher and ended the week on good demand at firm to stronger prices with quality considered and light steers bringing further premiums. Yearlings were reported as \$5.00-\$10.00 cwt lower to start. As the week progressed trade was steady and by mid-week trade was noted as active at stronger prices. Yearlings ended the week selling on good demand at firm prices. Actual average prices collected this week saw steers from 400-500 lbs trading \$10.62 cwt higher than last week on average, 500-600 lbs up \$1.12, 600-700 lbs up \$10.71, 700-800 lbs down \$12.49, 800-900 lbs were \$19.17 easier, steers 900-1000 lbs down \$0.39 and steers 1000 lbs plus averaged \$0.25 cwt stronger than last week's weighted average prices. Heifers from 300-400 lbs were down \$0.28 cwt from last week on average, 400-500 lbs up \$0.68, 500-600 lbs down \$10.30, 600-700 lbs up \$14.12, 700-800 lbs down \$0.07, 800-900 lbs down \$12.27 and heifers 900 lbs and over averaged \$8.96 cwt lower than the previous week's weighted average prices.

The Quebec electronic market this week sold at \$403.00 cwt dressed on a picked-up basis, which is fully steady to the previous week's trade.

Alberta direct trade continued to trend higher again this week with light trade on Wednesday reported by Canfax from \$425.00-\$432.00 cwt delivered on a dressed basis, up \$9.00-\$13.00 cwt from the previous week's sales. Thursday's trade ranged from \$430.00-\$432.00 cwt delivered with the overall average price for the week up \$10.00-\$11.00 cwt. A small offering this week along with tighter available supplies overall has provided support for this week's market. Multiple packers were noted as actively looking for cattle this week. Canfax reports: "Most of the cattle that traded would be picked up in 1-2 weeks. There were also a few fed calves marketed this week. These fed calves would not be picked up until late May/early June."

The U.S. cash cattle trade for the week ending April 12th was light to moderate with sales in the south from \$181.00-\$185.00 live, mainly \$182.00 cwt down \$2.00 from the previous week on average. Business in the north ranged from \$183.00-\$189.00 live, mainly \$184.00-\$185.00 down \$2.00 from the week before with dressed deals ranging from \$288.00-\$301.00 cwt, most from \$293.00-\$294.00 down \$3.00-\$4.00. Overall average prices for the week, reported by the USDA Mandatory Price Report saw live steers average \$183.21 down \$1.89 cwt while live heifers averaged \$183.19 down \$2.13. On the rail steers averaged \$293.09 cwt down \$3.78 with heifers averaging \$293.16 dressed down \$3.37 cwt from last week's weighted average prices.

The U.S. cash cattle trade this week has been quiet with no real trade to speak of other than a couple of deals in the north from \$292.00-\$294.00 dressed which is steady, but not enough to establish a market. Thursday, the market remained at a standstill. Packer's bids Thursday of \$180.00 live in the south and \$290.00-\$291.00 dressed in the north were passed by sellers with asking prices reported at \$184.00-\$185.00 live in the south and \$295.00 plus dressed in the north. Today a light trade has surfaced in all feeding states with business in the north at \$183.00 live down \$1.00-\$2.00 cwt and \$292.00-\$293.00 dressed, steady to \$1.00 below last week's northern trade. In the south light trade is at \$182.00 cwt live which is fully steady to last week's southern trade. The Cattle on Feed Report released at 3:00 pm reported on feed volumes on April 1st up 1% over last year. Placements in March were down 12% from last March while marketings were 14% below 2023.