Farm Market Report

Hay Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • St. Joseph, Mo.-Portland

Hay prices are dollars per ton or dollars per bale when sold to retail outlets. Basis is current delivery FOB barn or stack, or delivered

Grade guidelines used in this report have the following relationship to Relative Feed Value (RFV), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), TDN (Total Digestible Nutrients), or Crude Protein (CP) test num-

ers:						
Grade	RFV	ADF	TDN	CP		
Supreme	185+	<27	55.9+	22+		
Premium	170-185	27-29	54.5-55.9	20-22		
Good	150-170	29-32	52.5-54.5	18-20		
Fair	130-150	32-35	50.5-52.5	16-18		
Utility	<130	36+	<50.5	<16		
WASHINGTON-OREGON HAY						
(Columbia Basin)						
(USDA Market News)						
Moses Lake, Wash.						
Nov. 20						

This week FOB Last week Last year 2,490 2,895 3,080 Compared to Nov. 13: Prem./Sup. dairy fourth and fifth cutting Alfalfa and export Alfalfa steady in a light test. Trade remains slow

	mains light. Retai	, ,		
good.	mains light. Notai	in coustore st	cady. Demand	i iciiiaiiis
3	Tons	Price		
Alfalfa Mid	d Square	Prem./Sup.	150	\$190
	Good/Prem.	500	\$150	
	Fair/Good	400	\$120-130	
Alfalfa Sm	nall Square	Premium	150	\$260-
265				
Orchard G	Grass Small Squar	re	Premium	70
\$260-275				
Timothy G	Grass Mid Square	Fair/Good	1500	\$105
Wheat Str	raw Mid Square	Good	125	\$70
	OREG	ON AREA HA	Y	
	(USDA	Market News	s)	
	Poi	rtland, Ore.		
		Nov. 20		
This week	FOB	Last week	Last year	
E72	2 550	C 127		

Many producers have decided to hold on to their hay for now, in hopes for higher prices. Snow has hit some of the hay producing

		10118	PIICE	
CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON, WASCO COUNTIES				
Alfalfa Smal	l Square	Premium	21	\$250-
260				
	Good/Prem.	19	\$240	
	Good	61	\$230-235	
Orchard Gra	ass Small Squa	re	Premium	193
\$250-270				
EASTERN (OREGON			
Alfalfa Smal	l Square	Good	100	\$190
KLAMATH E	BASIN			
Alfalfa Large	e Square	Premium	75	\$210
Small Squar	re	Premium	50	\$220
LAKE COU	YTY			
Alfalfa Smal	l Square	Good	28	\$250
Alfalfa/Orchard Mix Small Square		Premium	23	
\$265				
	Good	3	\$240	
HARNEY C	OUNTY			
No new sale	es.			
	In.	ALIO HAV		

(USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash. Last week

Last year This week FOB 1,860 3,375 8,200 Compared to Nov. 13: Supreme, Premium and Good Alfalfa steady in a light test. Fair/Good Alfalfa weak to \$20 lower in a light test. Trade slow this week with continued light demand. Exporters continue to look for covered hay with producers sorting out bottom

(USD	A Market News es Lake. Wash	,	
CAL	JFORNIA HAY		
Oat Mid Square	Good	200	\$80
	1000	\$130-140	
Fair/Good	175	\$70	
Alfalfa Mid Square	Prem./Sup.	2000	\$260

Nov. 20					
This week FOB		Last week	Last year		
5,650	8,188	8,565			
Compare	d to Nov. 13: A	Il classes traded s	teady to weak on a ve	ŋ	
nin test. De	emand was ver	y light to light.			
		Tons	Price		
REGION	1: NORTH INT	TERMOUNTAIN			

Includes the counties of Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, Lassen, and Alfalfa Supreme 450 REGION 2: Sacramento Valley

Includes the counties of Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, Yolo, El Dorado, Solano, Sacramento No new sales REGION 3: NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Includes the counties of San Joaquin, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Mono, Merced and Mariposa, Premium

Good 400 \$100 Rain Damage Alfalfa/Orchard Mix Premium REGION 4: CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY Includes the counties of Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Inyo Supreme 325 \$250-270 **REGION 5: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

ern San Bernardino. Supreme Alfalfa 150 REGION 6: SOUTHEAST CALFORNIA

Includes the counties of Kern, Northeast Los Angeles, and West-

Includes the counties of Eastern San Bernardino, Riverside, and Premium 1000 \$185

Good/Prem. 250 \$150 Fair/Good 2150 \$95-105 \$170 50 Bermuda Grass

CORN-U.S. No. 2 Yellow

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Greeley, Colo.-San Angelo,

Sheep/Wool Market Reports

Wool prices in cents per pound and foreign currency per kilogram, sheep prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals on per head basis as indicated

Greeley, Colo.

Nov. 20

NATIONAL WOOL REVIEW (USDA Market News)

Domestic wool trading on a clean basis was at a standstill this week. There were no confirmed trades. Wool is still being collected from fall shorn lambs to try to market further down the road. There is some attempting to trade small amounts of wool at this time, but many are opting to hold onto their wool as there is optimism that there will be another strong rally in the spring. There is currently some resistance due to the strong U.S. dollar. Domestic wool trading on a greasy basis was moderate this week. There were 260,000 lbs. of confirmed trades this week. All trades reported on a weighted average. Fleece States Lamb Wool: 35-40 mm 21 micron \$1.30: 35-40 mm 24 micron \$1.03.

Domestic wool tags \$.60-.70 \$.50-.60 No. 2 \$.40-.50 NATIONAL SHEEP SUMMARY

(USDA Market News) San Angelo, Texas Nov. 20 Compared to Nov. 13: Slaughter lambs were

steady to \$15 higher, instances \$20 higher Slaughter ewes were steady to \$10 higher. Feeder lambs were steady to \$10 higher. At San Angelo, Texas, 3,260 head sold in a one-day sale. Equity Electronic Auction sold 340 slaughter lambs in North Dakota. In direct trading slaughter ewes were not tested; no comparison on feeder lambs 6.800 head of negotiated sales of slaughter lambs were steady to \$2 lower. 9,700 head of formula sales under 55 lbs. were not tested; 55-65 lbs.

were steady to \$2 higher: 65-75 lbs, were \$4-6. lower; 75-85 lbs. were firm and over 85 lbs. were not well tested. 6,474 carcasses sold with 55 lbs. and down \$3.65-3.70 lower and 55 lbs. and up \$.59-1.59 lower.

SLAUGHTER LAMBS Choice and Prime 2-3: San Angelo: shorn and wooled 120-155 lbs. \$140-154.

SLAUGHTER LAMBS Choice and Prime 1: San Angelo: 40-60 lbs. \$242-262. few \$266-270; 60-70 lbs. \$226-238, few \$246-248; 70-80 lbs. \$216-221; 80-90 lbs. \$198-210; 90-105 lbs. \$170-178.

DIRECT TRADING (Lambs with 3-4 percent shrink or equivalent):

6.800 Slaughter Lambs shorn and wooled 128-160 lbs. \$134.38-165 (wtd avg \$148.49). SLAUGHTER EWES:

San Angelo: Good 2-3 (fleshy) no test: Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) \$72-78, high-yielding \$86; Utility 1-2 (thin) \$56-64; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) \$45; Cull 1 (extremely thin) \$26-40. FEEDER LAMBS Medium and Large 1-2:

San Angelo: 60 lbs. \$184; 70-80 lbs. \$182-192: 80-100 lbs. \$170-188 REPLACEMENT EWES Medium and Large

San Angelo: mixed age hair ewes 100-145 lbs. \$94-134 cwt.

NATIONAL WEEKLY LAMB CARCASS Choice and Prime 1-4:

Weight Wtd. avg. 45 lbs. Down \$434.28 45-55 lbs. \$384.02 55-65 lbs. \$340.54 65-75 lbs. \$321.93 75-85 lbs. \$313.77 \$302.34 85 lbs. and up Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal in-

spection for the week to date totaled 42 000 compared with 40,000 last week and 41,000

Grain Market Reports

Compared to Nov. 13: Prices trended generally steady compared

to week ago prices. The upcoming holidays have slowed sales

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Portland

Grains are stated in dollars per bushel or hundredweight (cwt.) except feed grains traded in dollars per ton. National grain report bids are for rail delivery unless truck indicated.

PORTLAND GRAIN (USDA Market News) Portland Nov. 20

PACIFIC NORTHWEST MARKET SUMMARY Cash wheat bids for October delivery ended the reporting week on Thursday, Nov. 19, mixed compared to Nov. 12 noon bids for

November delivery. December wheat futures ended the reporting week on Thursday, Nov. 19, mixed as follows compared to Nov. 12 closes: Chicago wheat futures were 7.25 cents lower at \$4.9075, Kansas City wheat futures were 1.25 cents lower at \$4.6250 and Minneapolis wheat futures trended 3.50 cents higher at \$5.0875. Chicago December corn futures trended 2.25 cents higher at \$3.6425 and January soybean futures closed 3 cents lower at 8.60.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat delivered to Portland in unit trains or barges during November for ordinary protein were not available, compared to \$4.98-5.50 last week for November delivery. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. There were no white club wheat premiums for this week or last week. One year ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat any protein for November delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were \$6.78-7.1775 and bids for White Club Wheat were \$9.1775-9.6275. Forward month bids for soft white wheat ordinary protein were as follows: December not available; January, February and March \$4.9225-5.35. One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: December \$6.78-7.2775, January \$6.84-7.36, February and March \$6.84-7.41.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein during November were \$6.5575-6.90, steady to 7.25 cents per bushel lower compared to \$6.63- 6.90 last week for November delivery. White club wheat premiums for guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein soft white wheat were \$1.15 to \$1.35 per bushel over soft white wheat bids compared to \$1.15 to \$1.35 Nov. 12. Forward month bids for soft white wheat guaranteed 10.5 percent proteins were as follows: December \$6.5575-6.90, January, February and March \$6.4725-6.90.

Bids for 11.5 percent protein U.S. 1 Hard Red Winter Wheat for November delivery were 1.25 cents per bushel lower compared to Nov. 12 noon bids for November delivery. On Nov. 19, bids were as follows: November \$5.6250-5.7750, December \$5.6750-5.7750, January \$5.7125-5.7625, February \$5.7425-5.7925 and March

\$5.7725- 5.8125

Bids for non-quaranteed 14.0 percent protein U.S. 1 Dark Northern Spring Wheat for Portland delivery during November were 3.50 to 8.50 cents per bushel higher than Nov. 12 noon bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. On Nov. 19, bids for non-guaranteed 14 percent protein were as follows: November \$6.1875-6.5875, December \$6.2575-6.5875 January \$6.0975-6.5275, February and March \$6.0975-6.5475. COARSE FEEDING GRAINS

Bids for U.S. 2 Yellow Corn delivered full coast Pacific Northwest BN shuttle trains for November delivery were 0.25 to 14.25 cents higher from \$4.4825-4.4925 per bushel. Forward month corn bids were as follows: December \$4.4225-4.4925, January \$4.5025-4.5325, February \$4.5125-4.5525, March \$4.5425-4.5725 and April \$4.5875-4.5975. Bids for U.S. 1 Yellow Soybeans delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for November delivery were 4.25 cents lower from \$9.60-9.63 per bushel. Forward month soybean bids were as follows: December \$9.57-9.63, January \$9.55-9.61 and February \$9.51-9.53. Bids for U.S. 2 Heavy White Oats for November delivery trended steady at \$3.8475 per bushel. PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXPORT NEWS

There were 12 grain vessels in Columbia River ports on Thursday, Nov. 19, with four docked compared to nine last Thursday with four docked. There were no new confirmed export sales this week from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) of the USDA.

CALIFORNIA GRAINS

(USDA Market News) Portland Nov. 19

Ltd.= limited; Ind.= indicated; NYE=Not fully estimated.						
	GRAIN DELIVERED					
	Mode	Destination	Price per cwt.			
	BARLEY -	U.S. No. 2 (46-lbs. per bushel)				
	FOB	Solano County	NA			
	Rail	Los Angeles	NA			
		Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	NA			
	Tulare County			NA		
	Truck	Petaluma-Santa Rosa	NA			
		Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	NA			
		Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties	NA			
		Madera County	NA			
		Kern County	NA			
		Colusa County	\$11			
		0.10	AIA			

Turlock-Tulare \$8.56 Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock Kings-Tulare-Fresno NA Single Car Units via BNSF Rail \$9.08 Chino Valley-Los Angeles Petaluma-Santa Rosa NA Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock \$8.65-8.86 Los Angeles-Chino Valley Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties \$8.86 SORGHUM-U.S. No. 2 Yellow Los Angeles-Chino Valley via BNSF Single \$10.11 Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock Truck OATS-U.S. No. 1 White Los Angeles-Chino Valley NA OATS-U.S. No. 2 White Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock Petaluma WHEAT-U.S. No. 2 or better-Hard Red Winter (Domestic Values for Flour Milling) NA Los Angeles 12 percent Protein Los Angeles 13 percent Protein Los Angeles 14 percent Protein NA Truck/Rail Los Angeles 11-12 percent Protein Los Angeles 12 percent Protein Los Angeles 13 percent Protein Los Angeles 14 percent Protein NA WHEAT-U.S. Durum Wheat

Imperial County NA Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties NA Tulare Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties \$9.50 Colusa County Truck/Rail Los Angeles-Chino Valley NA Petaluma-Santa Rosa Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock King-Tulare-Fresno Counties NA \$10.50 Fresno

Kern County NA Prices paid to California farmers, seven-day reporting period end-

Prices in dollars per cwt., bulk Inc.= including; Nom.= nominal;

ing Nov. 19: No confirmed sales

Livestock Auctions

except some replacement animals per pair or

California

SHASTA (Shasta Livestock Auction) Cottonwood, Calif. Current week Last week 1.646 2,833

Compared to Nov. 13: Slaughter cows \$4 lower Lead end of steers under 650 lbs. steady to \$10 higher. Very uneven market with most other classes \$5-15 below the Nov. 13 special sale. Off lots and singles \$30-80 below top offerings

Slaughter cows: Breakers \$73-77, \$78-81 high dress; Boning \$65-72; Cutters \$50-70. Bulls 1 and 2: \$60-90; \$100-116 high dress Feeder steers: 300-400 lbs. \$200-270; 400-450

lbs. \$180-216; 450-500 lbs. \$188-223; 550-600 lbs. \$170-193; 600-650 lbs. \$160-195.50; 650 700 lbs. \$147-173; 700-750 lbs. \$149-172; 750-800 lbs. \$135-157.50

Feeder heifers: 300-400 lbs. \$160-186; 450-500 lbs. \$150-171; 500-550 lbs. \$142-168; 550-600 lbs. \$140-166; 600-650 lbs. \$140-165; 650-700 lbs. \$140-163: 700-750 lbs. \$135-148: 750-800 lbs. \$143-147.50; 800-900 lbs. \$127-

Washington

TOPPENISH (Toppenish Livestock Auction) (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash, Nov. 20

1,800 1,600 2,150 Compared to Nov. 13 at the same market: Stocker steers less than 600 lbs. steady to firm in a light test. Feeder steers and all heifers \$9-15 lower in a light test. Trade slow with light demand

for small lots and singles. Slaughter cows \$4-5 lower. Slaughter bulls \$8-9 lower. Trade slow with light demand. Demand remains good for feeding and turnout type cows. Slaughter cows 73 percent. Slaughter bulls 5 percent, and feeders 22 percent of the supply. The feeder supply included 37 percent steers and 63 percent heifers. Near 74 percent of the run weighed over 600 lbs.
Feeder Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: 500-

600 lbs. \$184-186; 600-700 lbs. \$161-166, Calves; 700-800 lbs. \$151-160.60; 800-900 lbs. \$155. Medium and Large 2-3: 800-900 lbs. \$117.50, Brahman X. Large 1-2: 900-1000 lbs. \$145. Small and Medium 1-2: 500-600 lbs \$165-166; 600-700 lbs. \$150-154.

Feeder Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: 400-500 lbs. \$161-171: 500-600 lbs. \$160-169: 500-600 lbs. \$173, Thin Fleshed; 600-700 lbs. \$151-160, Calves; 600-700 lbs. \$157.50, Full; 700-800 lbs. \$145-147; 700-800 lbs. \$110, Full; 800-900 lbs. \$136-139; 800-900 lbs. \$122.50, Full. Medium and Large 2-3: 700-800 lbs. \$120, Heiferettes; 800-900 lbs. \$102.50, Heiferettes Large 1-2: 900-1000 lbs. \$129; 1100-1200 lbs. \$102.50-118. Large 2-3: 1200-1300 lbs. \$115-120. Small and Medium 1-2: 400-500 lbs. \$151; 600-700 lbs. \$117.50.

Slaughter Cows: Premium White: 65-70 Percent lean 1400-1600 lbs. few \$86-98 Heiferettes.

Slaughter Cows: Boning 80-85 percent lean 1600-2050 lbs. \$65-70; Boning 80-85 percent lean 1300-1600 lbs. \$73-75; Lean 85-90 percent lean 1000-1700 lbs. \$64-70; Lean 85-90 percent lean 1100-1600 lbs. \$71-75; Lean Light 90 percent lean 900-1250 lbs. \$52-59

Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1-2 1800-2200 lbs. \$84.50-91.50.

Feeder Cows: Large 2-3: 900-1000 lbs. \$74, Mid-Aged; 900-1000 lbs. \$95, Young; 1100-1200 lbs. \$85-87.50, Young; 1200-1300 lbs.

Oregon

MADRAS (Central Oregon Livestock Auction)

Nov. 16 Total head: 2,565. Steers: 300-400 lbs. \$225-240; 400-500 lbs

\$225-237.50; 500-600 lbs. \$215-236; 600-700 lbs. \$188-207; 700-800 lbs. \$158-161; 800-900 Bulls: High yield \$90-94.50; mostly \$80-85;

thinner \$74-77

Bred cows: First calf heifers NA Heifers: 200-300 lbs. \$175-200; 300-400 lbs. \$200-219; 400-500 lbs. \$190-215; 500-600 lbs. \$165-180; 600-700 lbs. \$155-169; 700-800 lbs.

\$135-145. Heiferettes: 850-1000 lbs. \$125-135. Cows: Heiferettes NA; Feeder cows \$80; high yield \$80; medium-yield \$75; low-yield \$60

(Producers Livestock Nov. 18

Total receipts: 1,785 head Comments: Steady to \$2 lower on some weight classes of calves compared to last week's sharp decline and new prices levels from the week be

Steer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$231-261: 400-500 lbs. \$187-243; 500-600 lbs. \$174-199 Heifer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$187-201; 400-500

lbs. \$163-211; 500-600 lbs. \$158-178 Yearling steers: 600-700 lbs. \$161-182; 700-

800 lbs. \$143-164; 900-1000 lbs. \$144-150 Yearling heifers: 600-700 lbs. \$142-163; 700-800 lbs. \$135-148; 900-1000 lbs. \$121-128.

Stock cows (young): \$1385-1700. Stock cows (B.M.): \$975-1285 Butcher cows: \$64-71 Thin shelly cows: \$63-69 Younger heiferettes: \$94-127

Idaho

CALDWELL (Treasure Valley Livestock)

Nov. 20 Steers (wt.): 400-500 lbs. \$99.50; 500-600 lbs. \$127.75; 600-700 lbs. \$94; 700-800 lbs. \$75. Steers (hd.): 200-300 lbs. \$145; 300-400 lbs \$175; 400-500 lbs. \$325.

Heifers (wt.): 400-500 lbs. \$114.50; 500-600 lbs. \$110; 600-700 lbs. \$101.50. Heifers (hd.): 100-200 lbs. \$70; 200-300 lbs. \$115; 300-400 lbs. \$150; 400-500 lbs. \$200; 600-700 lbs. \$225.

Bull calves (hd.): 100-200 lbs. \$35 Cows (wt.): 900-1000 lbs. \$42; 1100-1200 lbs. \$60; 1200-1300 lbs. \$59.50; 1300-1400 lbs. \$63.25; 1400-1500 lbs. \$65.25; 1500-1600 lbs. \$69.50: 1600-1700 lbs. \$68.25: 1700-1800 lbs \$70.75; 1800-1900 lbs. \$70.25; 1900-2000 lbs

Washington **EVERSON**

(Everson Livestock Auction)

Nov. 14

Total receipts: 409. Feeder steers: 300-400 lbs. \$75-178; 400-500 lbs. \$50-187: 500-600 lbs. \$72-190: 600-700 lbs. \$51-184; 700-800 lbs. \$90-178; 800-900 lbs. \$80-176; 900-1000 lbs. \$75-146

1000-1100 lbs. \$88-126; 1100-1300 lbs. \$80-

140; 1300-1500 lbs. \$84.50-123; 1500-2000 lbs. \$95-112. Feeder bulls: \$74-192 Slaughter cows: \$67.85

Slaughter heifers: 300-400 lbs. \$75-171; 400-500 lbs. \$71-174; 500-600 lbs. \$124-160; 600-700 lbs. \$51-154; 700-800 lbs. \$100-143 800-900 lbs. \$50-130; 900-1000 lbs. \$71-141 1000-1100 lbs. \$80-100; 1100-1300 lbs. \$60.50 80; 1300-1500 lbs. \$75-93

Nov. 20 Benchmark prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are 7 cents higher for Jumbo, 6 cents

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Des Moines Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in

California Egg Reports

cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms DAILY CALIFORNIA SHELL EGGS Des Moines, Iowa

higher for Extra Large, 5 cents higher for Large and unchanged for Medium and Small. The undertone is currently steady. Offerings are light to moderate for Jumbo and usually moderate on the balance of sizes. Retail demand is fairly good to good with food service movement good to very good. Supplies are light to mostly moderate. Market activity is slow to moderate. Small benchmark price \$2.31

Range Jumbo Extra large 251 Medium SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, delivered store door. Size Range Size Range Extra large 238-247 189-198 Medium

Cattle Market Reports Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Oklahoma City-Des

Moines-St. Joseph, Mo.-Moses Lake, Wash.

Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals per pair or head

Size

Range

NATIONAL SLAUGHTER CATTLE (Federal-State Market News) Oklahoma City-Des Moines

Compared to last week. Negotiated cash trade was mostly inactive on light demand in all feeding regions. Few early dressed sales in Nebraska \$3-7 lower, Boxed Beef prices Nov. 20 averaged \$197.05 and is down \$7.13 from Nov. 13. The Choice/Select spread is \$12.19. Slaughter cattle on a national basis for negotiated cash trades

through Nov. 20 totaled about 18,236 head. The previous week's total head count was 58,595 head.

and Heifers: \$195. Slaughter Cows and Bulls (Average Yielding

Prices): Slaughter cows steady to \$3 lower. Slaughter bulls \$2-7 lower. USDA's Cutter Cow cut-out value Nov. 20 was

\$173.68 up \$1.50 from Nov. 13. NATIONAL FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE (Federal-State Market News) St. Joseph, Mo.

Nov. 20

This week Last week Last vear 286,500 344,900 310,500 Compared to Nov. 13: The bulk of the steer and heifer calves traded \$5-10 lower with instances \$15 lower; then on Nov. 18 the futures rebounded many calves throughout the trade area turned steady to \$5 lower. On a light test yearlings trad ed steady to \$5 lower, instances \$10 lower for the week. Direct trade was mostly \$4-11 lower Nov 13 cattle futures ended the week with a crash and then tanked again on Nov. 16 pressuring feeder cattle markets. It seems volatility has become commonplace in the cattle complex as market behaviors look for explanations trying to find some balance if it exists. Market psychology keeps focus on bearish fundamentals with heavy slaughter weights, plentiful supplies and lower prices for competing meats, struggling outside markets and lower meat exports keeps the focus on trading the current market. The fat cattle market continues to offer little or no support for the feeder cattle and those purchasing feeder cattle to feed out continue to see break evens fall apart. Corn harvest is winding down across the coun try with 96 percent completed and should cause many farmer/feeders to enter the market to buy calves. Over the last several weeks there has been many high quality calves offered throughout the Northern and Southern Plains with many light calves suitable to head south to the wheat fields

to graze or to graze as yearlings next year. The

market remains most active for long time weaned

calves with vaccination programs along with rep-

utation strings of ranch calves coming to auctions

Boxed-beef values continue to see retail interest tied up in turkeys and ham as retail beef prices remain in choppy waters and trending lower this week. Hopefully retailers will start featuring beef after the turkeys clear out and will see improving beef retail sales and cutout values.

AUCTIONS This week Last week Last vear 286,600 264,600 WASHINGTON 4,300. 46 pct over 600 lbs. 41 pct heifers. Steers: Medium and Large 1-2 450-500 lbs. \$174.60; 500-550 lbs. \$173.48; 550-600 lbs. \$169.87; 600-650 lbs. \$171.28; 650-700 lbs. \$169.70: 700-750 lbs. \$169.19: 800-850 lbs. \$163.57. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2 450-500 lbs. \$170.36; 500-550 lbs. \$170.65; 550-600 lbs \$170.72: 600-650 lbs \$154.22: 650-700 lbs

DIRECT This week Last week Last vear 34,200 23,400 45,300 SOUTHWEST (Arizona-California-Nevada) 1800 No cattle over 600 lbs. No heifers. Holsteins: Large 3 300 lbs. \$190 Mar Del.

NORTHWEST (Washington-Oregon-Idaho) 1,800, 88 pct over 600 lbs, 40 pct heifers. Steers Medium and Large 1-2 Current FOB Price 450 500 lbs. \$220 ldaho; 600-650 lbs. \$164-166 calves Washington, Current Delivered Price 750-800 lbs. \$172-182 ldaho; 800-900 lbs. \$167 ldaho. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2 Current FOB Price 450-500 lbs. \$205 Idaho, Current Delivered Price 600-650 lbs. \$183 calves Idaho; 700-800 lbs. \$160-164 Idaho; 850 lbs. \$161 Idaho

(USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash Nov. 29

NORTHWEST DIRECT CATTLE

Last week Last year 1,750 3,600 Compared to Nov 13: feeder cattle weak to \$10

lower. Trade remains slow this week with light demand as a result of lower futures and slaughter cattle markets most of the week. The feeder supply included 60 percent steers and 40 percent heifers. Near 88 percent of the supply weighed over 600 lbs. Prices are FOB weighing point with a 1-4 percent shrink or equivalent and with a 5-12 cent slide on calves and a 3-8 cent slide on yearlings. Delivered prices include freight, commissions and other expenses. Current sales are up to 14 days delivery Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: Current FOB

Price: 450-500 lbs. \$220 Idaho; 600-650 lbs. \$164-166 calves Washington. Current Delivered Price: 750-800 lbs. \$172-182 Idaho: 800-900 lbs

Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: Current FOB Price: 450-500 lbs. \$205 Idaho. . Current Delivered Price: 600-650 lbs. \$183 calves Idaho; 700-800 lbs. \$160-164 Idaho; 850 lbs. \$161

Scientists: Feeding fish soy, not fish, more sustainable

By DIRK LAMMERS **Associated Press**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) Research supported by the soybean industry is looking to convert some farm-raised fish into vegetarians.

A South Dakota State University fisheries scientist is developing a soy protein feed that's tasty and easily digestible to eventually reduce the industry's need for using wild-caught fish as food for farm-raised fish.

Much of the tilapia, Atlantic salmon and catfish that Americans toss into their shopping carts are raised in fish farms, where companies traditionally feed them pellets containing anchovy, menhaden and herring.

The harvest of those small species has pretty much flat-lined, SDSU professor Mike Brown said, and humans' increased demand for fish has driven up the cost of creating the pellet feed.

"We've fully exploited that resource," he said, noting that the goal is to create a more sustainable — and cheaper — food source. Traditional fish feed is currently costing between \$425 per ton, Brown said.

\$1,450 and \$2,000 per ton, while soybean meal runs about But some environmentalists worry that feeding fish species an uncommon food source could produce excess waste that muddies up inland tanks or offshore waters where fish are raised.

"Nothing's free in terms of environmental impact. So you have to count the soy production system in whatever you're calculating there." Patty Lovera, assistant director of the Washington-based

sustainability group Food & Water Watch is being commercialized at the Toying with soy also has

the potential to open new marsite by Prairie AquaTech. kets to soybean farmers deal-Researchers at the Brookings facility have been working ing with stockpiles that have driven down prices, said Jerewith species including coho my Freking, executive director salmon, rainbow trout, barraof the South Dakota Soybean mundi, white leg shrimp, yel-Association. The South Dakota low perch and hybrid striped Soybean Research & Promobass to see how much of the tion Council has invested \$1.7 feed can be added to the spemillion into the ongoing work cies' diets without affecting at South Dakota State, which physiology or reducing growth.

The goal in agriculture and aquaculture is to have 100 percent of an ingredient digested, absorbed, metabolized and incorporated into muscle tissue, Brown said. Through pre-treatments and microbial fermentation, his research team has been able to increase fish's ability to digest more than 95 percent of the protein and energy, he said.

"It's pretty darn efficient," said Brown, who's been setting up small commercial validation trials as researchers work toward putting their product into the marketplace.

But if soy protein-based food results in excess waste, aquaculture could become even more damaging to the environment, said Patty Lovera, assistant director of the Washington-based sustainability group Food & Water "If it's not the food they're

built to eat, how do they tolerate it?" she asked.

It's also important to look at the entire environmental footprint — and industrial fish farms already have a pretty large one, Lovera said. Plus, she added, the equation would have to include all the factors going into crop production.

"Nothing's free in terms of environmental impact," she said, "so you have to count the soy production system in whatever you're calculating