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Farm Market Report

Hay Market Reports

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

Tons Price

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 customer as indicated.

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-

RFV	ADF	TDN	CP				
185+	<27	55.9+	22+				
170-185	27-29	54.5-55.9	20-22				
150-170	29-32	52.5-54.5	18-20				
130-150	32-35	50.5-52.5	16-18				
<130	36+	<50.5	<16				
OREGON AREA HAY							
(USDA Market News)							
	185+ 170-185 150-170 130-150 <130	185+ <27 170-185 27-29 150-170 29-32 130-150 32-35 <130 36+ OREGON AREA I	185+ <27 55.9+ 170.185 27.29 54.5-55.9 150.170 29.32 52.5-54.5 130-150 32-35 50.5-52.5 <130 36+ <50.5 OREGON AREA HAY				

Portland, Ore. April 1 Last year 1,906 2,180

Compared to March 25: Prices trended generally steady compared to week ago prices in a very limited test. Many producers have decided to hold on to their hay for now, in hopes for higher prices or to feed to their own animals. Many hay producers are sold

This week FOB

1.537

CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFER	RSON, WASC	O COUN	TIES
Alfalfa Large Square	Good	66	\$180
Mid Square	Good	110	\$155
Fair		60	\$130
Orchard Grass Small Square	Premium	9	\$250-260
	Good	16	\$230
EASTERN OREGON			
Alfalfa Large Square	Good	400	\$150
Alfalfa/Orchard Mix			
Small Square	Premium	10	\$195
HARNEY COUNTY			
Alfalfa Large Square	Good	100	\$125
Triticale Large Square	Good	150	\$80
KLAMATH BASIN			
Alfalfa Small Square	Prem./Sup.	25	\$180
	Good	50	\$140-180
	Fair	18	\$140
Alfalfa/Orchard Mix			
Small Square	Premium	4	\$200
	Fair	25	\$100
LAKE COUNTY			
Alfalfa Large Square	Supreme	69	\$255
Small Square	Premium	30	\$200

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		60	\$200			
	Good	25	\$150			
Alfalfa/Oat Mix Large Square	Premium	30	\$150			
	Fair/Good	30	\$100			
Timothy Grass Small Square	Premium	250	\$180			
IDAHO HAY						
(USDA Market News)						

Moses Lake, Wash. April 1 This week FOB Last week Last year 3,000 630 6,350 Compared to March 25: All grades of Alfalfa steady in a light test. Trade very slow with continued light demand. Supplies remain

heavy. Retail/feed store/horse not tested this week. Alfalfa Mid Square Good 1000 \$130 Fair/Good 2000 \$85 **CALIFORNIA HAY**

(USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash. April 1 This week FOB Last week Last year

8,890 15,495 12,726 Compared to March 25: All classes traded steady with a softer undertone. Demand light to moderate. According to the California Department of Water Resources, the average water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snowpack currently stands at 24 inch

es, about 87 percent of average Tons Price REGION 1: NORTH INTERMOUNTAIN Includes the counties of Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, Lassen, and Plumas. **REGION 2: SACRAMENTO VALLEY** Includes the counties of Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, Yolo, El Dorado, Solano, Sacra

Good/Prem. 250 \$170-200 Alfalfa/Orchard Mix Good/Prem. 50 \$180 Good/Prem. 50 \$200 **Orchard Grass** Good 125

Rice Straw REGION 3: NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY Includes the counties of San Joaquin, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Mono, Merced and Mariposa Alfalfa Supreme 100

	Fair/Good	175	\$150	
		100	\$170	
Imond Hulls	Good	600	\$50	
)at	Good	100	\$85	
		50	\$110	
EGION 4: CENTRAL SAN	JOAQUIN VALLE	Υ		
Includes the counties of Ma	adera, Fresno, Kir	ngs, Tula	re, and In	yo
	_			

Alfalfa 100 \$250 REGION 5: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Includes the counties of Kern, Northeast Los Angeles, and Western San Bernardino.

REGION 6: SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA Includes the counties of Eastern San Bernardino, Riverside, and

Alfalfa 670 \$165-175 2000 \$160 1000 \$170 Good/Prem. 250 \$160-165 200 \$155 Fair/Good 480 \$100-130

WASHINGTON-OREGON HAY (Columbia Basin) (USDA Market News)

April 1 This week FOB Last week Last year Compared to March 25: All grades of domestic and export Alfalfa steady. First reported sales of new crop this week. Trade slow to

moderate with continued light demand. Exporters are having a challenging time marketing supplies. Retail/Feedstore steady. Demand remains good. Alfalfa Mid Square Premium 1000 \$125

Alfalfa Small Square	Good/Prem.	200	\$120-130
		200	\$140-160
		180	\$185-190
	Fair/Good	60	\$130
Alfalfa Standing	Good/Prem.	2700	\$108
	Fair/Good	2700	\$108
	Utility/Fair	2700	\$108
Alfalfa/Orchard Mix			
Small Square	Premium	25	\$265
Orchard Grass Small Square	Good/Prem.	100	\$210
Timothy Grass Small Square	Good/Prem.	85	\$175

Grain Market Reports

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

PACIFIC NORTHWEST MARKET SUMMARY

Cash wheat bids for March delivery ended the reporting week on Thursday, March 31, steady to higher compared to last week's noor bids for March delivery.

May wheat futures ended the reporting week on Thursday, March 31, higher as follows compared to March 24 closes: Chicago wheat futures were 10.50 cents higher at \$4,7350. Kansas City wheat futures were \$4.50 cents higher at \$4.7625 and Minneapolis wheat futures trended 15.50 cents higher at \$5.2950. Chicago March corn futures trended 18.50 cents lower at \$3.5150 and March soybean futures closed .25 of a cent higher at \$9.1075.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat delivered to Portland in unit trains or barges during March for ordinary protein were not available this week or last week. Some exporters were not issuing bids for

There were no white club wheat premiums for this week or last

One year ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat any protein for April delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were \$6-6.5175 and bids for White Club Wheat were \$8.40-8.9175. Forward month bids for soft white wheat ordinary protein

not available

One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any were as follows: May \$6.05-6.5175 and August New Crop \$6,1250-6,35

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein during March were \$5.38-5.5350, steady to 10.50 cents per bushel higher compared to the previous week's bids for March delivery.

White club wheat premiums for guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein soft white wheat were zero to 55 cents per bushel over soft white wheat bids this week and last week.

One year ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat any protein for April delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were \$6.8175-7.18 and bids for White Club Wheat were \$8.8175-9.4175. Forward were as follows: April \$5.42- 5.5350, May \$5.44-5.5350, June \$5.54-5.6075 and August New Crop \$5.3025-5.36.

One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: May \$6,8175-7.21 June \$6,79-7.24 and August New Crop \$6.1250-6.45.

Bids for 11.5 percent protein U.S. 1 Hard Red Winter Wheat for March delivery were 4.50 to 9.50 cents per bushel higher compared to the previous week's noon bids for March delivery. Bids were as March \$5.5125-5.5625, April and May \$5.5325-5.5625, June \$5.47-5.67 and August New Crop \$5.56-5.66

Bids for non-guaranteed 14.0 percent protein U.S. 1 Dark Northern Spring Wheat for Portland delivery during March were 15.50 cents per bushel higher than last week's noon bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Bids for non-guaranteed 14 percent protein were as follows: March and April \$6.1950-6.2950, May \$6.1450-6.2950, June \$6.2775 and August New Crop \$6.22-6.32. COARSE FEEDING GRAINS

Bids for U.S. 2 Yellow Corn delivered full coast Pacific Northwest -BN shuttle trains for March delivery were 18.50 to 19.50 cents lower from \$4.2550-4.2850 per bushel. Forward month corn bids were as follows: April and May \$4,2650-4,2750. June \$4,2475-4,2575. July \$4.2475-4.2675 and August \$4.2550-4.2850.

Bids for U.S. 1 Yellow Soybeans delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for March delivery were mixed, from 1.75 cents lower to .25 of a cent higher at \$9.7575-9.8175 per bushel. Forward month soybean bids were as follows: April \$9.7575-9.8375, May \$9.8075-9.8375, June and July \$9.8275-9.9075 and October/ November \$9.9975-10.0475. Bids for U.S. 2 Heavy White Oats for March delivery trended steady at \$3.92 per bushel PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXPORT NEWS

There were 14 grain vessels in Columbia River ports on Thursday, March 31, with five docked compared to 17 last week with six 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 April 1

Prices in dollars per cwt., bulk Inc.= including; Nom.= nominal; Ltd.= limited; Ind.= indicated; NYE=Not fully estimated. **GRAIN DELIVERED**

Destination Price per cwt. BARLEY - U.S. No. 2 (46-lbs. per bushel) Rail Los Angeles Petaluma-Santa Rosa Truck

Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties \$9.50 Colusa County CORN - U.S. No. 2 Yellow \$8.15 FOB Turlock-Tulare Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock Single Car Units via BNSF \$8.60-8.63 Chino Valley-Los Angeles Petaluma-Santa Rosa Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock \$8.46 Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties \$8.46 Glenn County SORGHUM - U.S. No. 2 Yellow Los Angeles-Chino Valley via BNSF Single \$8.54-8.56 Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock OATS - U.S. No. 1 White Los Angeles-Chino Valley NA Truck · U.S. No. 2 White Truck Petaluma Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock WHEAT - U.S. No. 2 or better-Hard Red Winter

(Domestic Values for Flour Milling) Los Angeles 12 percent Protein FOB Kern County Truck/Rail Los Angeles 11-12 percent Protein Los Angeles 12 percent Protein NA WHEAT - U.S. Durum Wheat Imperial County Truck Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties \$9.30 WHEAT - Any Class for Feed FOB Tulare Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties \$9.30 Truck/Rail Los Angeles-Chino Valley Petaluma-Santa Rosa Truck Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock

King-Tulare-Fresno Counties

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

WHEAT, U.S. No 1, Hard Amber Durum for Flour Milling YELLOW CORN, U.S. No 2 or better Glenn \$8.40 Spot Del Locally

Livestock Auctions

Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.)

head as indicated California

SHASTA (Shasta Livestock Auction) Cottonwood, Calif. April 1

844 Compared to March 25: Slaughter cows, especially fed cows, \$5-9 higher. Stocker and feeder cattle steady to \$15 lower depending on weight and type. Off lots and singles \$30-50 below top

Slaughter cows: Breakers \$73-80: \$81-95 high dress; Boning \$67-72; Cutters \$50-65.

Bulls 1 and 2: \$75-89; \$90-99 high dress Feeder steers: 300-400 lbs. \$215-237.50: 450-500 lbs. \$210; 550-600 lbs. \$171-192; 650-700 lbs. \$160-162.50; 700-750 lbs. \$146-161; 750-800 lbs \$140 800-900 lbs \$136

Feeder heifers: 400-450 lbs. \$175-215; 500-550 lbs. \$150-171; 550-600 lbs. \$141-160.50; 600-650 lbs. \$137-153: 700-750 lbs. \$134-142: 750-800 lbs. \$145.50; 800-900 lbs. \$125-126. Pairs: Full mouth running age \$2000-2650. Broken mouth \$1525-1650

Calvy cows: Too few to test

Idaho

CALDWELL (Treasure Valley Livestock)

March 25 Steers (wt.): 300-400 lbs. \$126; 400-500 lbs. \$106.75: 500-600 lbs. \$115.25: 600-700 lbs.

\$88.50; 700-800 lbs. \$82; 800 lbs. and up \$86.

Steers (hd.): 100-200 lbs. \$215; 300-400 lbs. \$330; 400-500 lbs. \$385.

Heifers (wt.): 300-400 lbs. \$135: 400-500 lbs. \$160; 500-600 lbs. \$109; 600-700 lbs. \$87.50; 700-800 lbs. \$85; 800-900; 900-1000 lbs. \$88.50; 1000-1100 lbs. \$88.75: 1100-1200 lbs. \$81.25: 1200 lbs and up \$89.50.

Slaughter Cows: Premium White 65-70 percent lean 1500-1600 lbs \$76-78. Boning 80-85 percent lean 1200-2000 lbs. \$68-74; Boning 80-85 percent lean 1200-1600 lbs. \$81-83; Lean 85-90 percent lean 1200-1800 lbs \$70-75: Lean Light 90 percent lean 900-1200 lbs. \$60-64.

Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1-2 1700-2550 lbs. \$92-99.

Bred Cows (Per Head): Medium and Large 1-2: Young few 1169-1300 lbs. \$1475- 1835 6-9 mos.; Mid-Aged 1050-1200 lbs. \$1050-1135 6-9 mos. Cow/Calf Pairs (Per Pair): Medium and Large 1-2: Young to Mid-Aged 1150-1750 lbs. \$1650-

1975 few \$2050 with 75-200 lbs calves: Aged to Broken Mouth 1400-1500 lbs. \$1600-1700 with

Washington

TOPPENISH (Toppenish Livestock Auction) (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash April 1

This week Last week Last year 1,560

2,405 Compared to March 25 at the same market: Stocker steers less than 600 lbs. weak to \$3 lower. Feeder steers over 600 lbs. and all heifers steady to firm. Trade active with good demand and good buyer attendance. Slaughter cows steady. Slaughter bulls \$2-2.50 higher. Trade moderate to active with moderate demand. Slaughter cows 38 percent, slaughter bulls 5 percent, replacement cows 20 percent and feeders 37 percent of the supply. The feeder supply included 57 percent steers and 43 percent heifers. Near 46 percent of the run weighed over

Feeder Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: 400-500 lbs. \$200; 500-600 lbs. \$187-197; 500-600 lbs. \$176, Full; 500-600 lbs. \$200, Thin Fleshed; 600-700 lbs \$162 50-173 50: 600-700 lbs \$150-160, Full; 700-800 lbs. \$147; 800-900 lbs. \$151. Medium and Large 2-3: 600-700 lbs. \$144: 700-800 lbs. \$145.

Feeder Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$180; 400-500 lbs. \$176; 500-600 lbs. \$155-160: 500-600 lbs. \$173-177.50. Replacement; 600-700 lbs. \$161-165; 600-700 lbs. \$150, Full; 700-800 lbs. \$150; 700-800 lbs. \$170. Thin Fleshed. Medium and Large 2-3: 600-700 lbs. \$130-133. Large 1: 900-1000 lbs. \$116, Heiferettes. Small and Medium 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$172.50: 400-500 lbs 160.50. Small and Medium 2-3: 500-600 lbs. \$137, Brahman X. Small and Medium 3-4: 500-600 lbs. \$138.

Oregon

VALE (Producers Livestock Market)

March 30 Comments: The lighter grass calves remain steady with moderate to good demand. Heavier

yearling cattle "sluggish" to lower. Steer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$203-215; 400-500 lbs. \$172-203: 500-600 lbs. \$171-197

Heifer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$161-188.50; 400-

Yearling steers: 600-700 lbs. \$157-173; 700-800 lbs. \$132-143: 800-900 lbs. \$131-143: 900-1000 lbs. \$128-137.

500 lbs. \$161-180; 500-600 lbs. \$153-173.

Yearling heifers: 600-700 lbs. \$139-156.50; 700-800 lbs. \$129-142.50; 800-900 lbs. \$124

Stock cows (young): \$1600-1875. Stock cows (B M): \$90-1200 Butcher cows: \$71-79. Thin shelly cows: \$52-69. Butcher bulls: \$71-88.

WOODBURN Woodburn, Ore. March 29

(Woodburn Livestock Exchange)

Total receipts: 386. 10 top slaughter cows \$74: 50 top slaughte

cows \$77.90; 100 top slaughter cows \$72.63. Top certified organic cow \$80; all certified or ganic cows (avg.) \$75

All slaughter bulls: \$70-107.50. Top beef steers: 300-400 lbs. \$180-197; 400-500 lbs. \$180-193: 500-600 lbs. \$160-197: 600-700 lbs. \$140-154; 700-800 lbs. \$145-162. Top eef heifers: 300-400 lbs. \$165-193; 400-500 lbs \$160-175; 500-600 lbs. \$140-159; 600-700 lbs \$150-168; 700-800 lbs. \$120-129.

Mixed Livestock: Day-old beef calves \$175-210 head; bred cows \$900-1100 head; day-old dairy calves \$30-135 head. Hogs: Block hogs \$59-67; feeder pigs \$22.50-

137.50 head; sows \$10-36; weaner pigs \$67.50-67.50 head

Sheep: Lambs \$40-70 lbs. \$165-242, 100-150 lbs. \$140-180; thin ewes \$50-100; fleshy ewes \$60-78; ewe/lamb pairs \$75-82.

Environmentalists sue to block fences on sage grouse land

By SCOTT SONNER

servationists are suing the Bureau of Land Management to block the construction of fences in northern Nevada they say are intended to appease livestock ranchers at the risk of harming sage grouse and the drought-stricken federal rangeland.

The Western Watersheds Project filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Reno last week on the heels of a broader one it filed last month challenging the Obama administration's overall protection plan for the greater sage grouse across 10 western states.

Leaders of the Ida-

ho-based group say the 3 miles of new fence planned ing, hen-sized birds often die when they strike fences. Fence posts also provide perches for ravens that prey on grouse nests. The suit says BLM reject-

ed a similar proposal to build fences along the grazing allotment near Battle Mountain 200 miles northeast of Reno in 2014.

Pitched as an alternative to orders to remove cattle from the range, the ranchers said the fencing would keep the animals out of streams and key riparian areas. But BLM said at the time it was too costly and counterproductive to range health because fences promote growth of invasive weeds.

versal shows the sage-grouse planning process "is just a pile of paper written to avoid an Endangered Species Act listing.' "Nothing has changed on

the ground, and most of the new protections from grazing won't be implemented for years to come," he said. The BLM approved the

fencing under a settlement agreement with ranchers last June to govern the land until the agency completes a formal assessment of range conditions next year. The six permittees include

Henry Filippini Jr., whose

family has ranched in Nevada since the 1870s. Several ranchers rode across the country by horseback in 2014 to deliver a petition to the Obama administration in a protest they called the "Grass

The ranchers have paid their grazing fees for years so their situation differs from that of Cliven Bundy, a southern Nevada rancher who owes the government as much as a \$1 million for trespassing, staged an armed standoff at his ranch two years ago and now faces federal charges.

But in both cases, BLM has been criticized for backing down and at least initially declining to enforce laws to avoid confrontation.

Potato Market Reports

Compiled by North American Potato Market News and USDA Agricultural Market Service

Prices are weekly averages of daily prices. All prices are in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.). FWA is a weighted average of shipping point prices or common packs in each area. Weights differ by area. GRI is the Grower Returns Index for each individual area.

FRESH RUSSET POTATO MARKET REPORT (North American Potato Market News) (USDA Market News)

Market commentary: Idaho prices inched up slightly in spite of continued heavy movement

SHIPPING	ADEA ,					•	
FWA	Chg	GRI	Chg	70 ct	Chg	10 lb. Film	Chg
IDAHO BUF	RBANKS						
\$12.95	\$0.02	\$5.60	\$0.01	\$20	\$0	\$7.50	\$0
IDAHO NO	RKOTAHS						
\$12.88	\$0	\$5.82	\$0	\$19	\$0	\$7.50	\$0
COLUMBIA	BASIN						
\$13.15	\$0	\$5.76	\$0	\$18	\$0	\$8.50	\$0
KLAMATH E	BASIN						
\$14.93	\$0	\$6.41	\$0	\$22	\$0	\$10	\$0

Sheep/Wool Market Reports Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Greeley, Colo.-San Angelo,

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

NATIONAL WOOL REVIEW (USDA Market News) Greeley, Colo.

Domestic wool trading on a clean basis was at a standstill this week. There were no confirmed trades. Shearing is in full swing, but some strong snow storms in the mountain states did stop shearing for a couple days this week.

Wool is still being collected and samples are being sent in for testing as wool is being marketed at this time. Domestic wool trading on a greasy basis was at a standstill this week. There were no confirmed trades. Domestic wool tags

No. 2 \$.50-.60 \$.40-.50 No. 3 NATIONAL SHEEP SUMMARY (USDA Market News) San Angelo, Texas

Compared to March 25: Slaughter lambs were mostly firm to \$10 higher, instances \$20 higher. Slaughter ewes were steady to \$10 lower. No good comparison on feeder lambs. Many auctions saw reduced receipts due to the Easter

At San Angelo, Texas, 2,653 head sold. No sales in Equity Electronic Auction. In direct trading slaughter ewes and feeder lambs were not tested, 3700 head of negotiated sales of slaughter lambs were steady to \$3 lower. 11,700 head of formula sales had no trend due to confidentiality, 6.066 lamb carcasses sold with 55 lbs. and down no trend due to confidentiality; 55-65 lbs. \$24.01 lower; 65-75 lbs. \$2.40 lower; 75-85

lbs. \$.25 higher and 85 lbs. and up no trend due to confidentiality.

SLAUGHTER LAMBS Choice and Prime 2-3:

San Angelo: shorn and wooled 115-150 lbs

SLAUGHTER LAMBS Choice and Prime 1: San Angelo: 40-60 lbs. \$230-242; 60-70 lbs. \$214-230; 70-80 lbs. \$210-220; 80-90 lbs. \$194-200: 90-100 lbs \$180-196 few \$202-208 DIRECT TRADING (Lambs with 3-4 percent shrink or equivalent):

3,700 Slaughter Lambs shorn and wooled 139 181 lbs. \$120.38-150 (wtd avg \$130.79). SLAUGHTER EWES:

San Angelo: Good 2-3 (fleshy) \$69-75: Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) \$85-94, few \$96-98; Utility 1-2 (thin) \$69-80; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) \$60-62; Cull 1 (extremely thin) \$28-49. FEEDER LAMBS Medium and Large 1-2:

San Angelo: 40-60 lbs. \$220-228; 70-80 lbs \$190-198: 81 lbs. \$196: 90-100 lbs. \$166-173. REPLACEMENT EWES Medium and Large San Angelo: hair ewe lambs 60-80 lbs. \$222-

238 cwt; mixed age hair ewes 90-135 lbs. \$100-NATIONAL WEEKLY LAMB CARCASS Choice

and Prime 1-4: 45 lbs. Down 799.14 45-55 lbs. Price not reported due to confidentiality 55-65 lbs. 322.28 65-75 lbs. 284.69 75-85 lbs 275.49

85 lbs. And up

due to confidentiality Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 35.000 compared with 40,000 last week and 47,000

Price not reported

California Egg Reports 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 cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms

DAILY CALIFORNIA SHELL EGGS (USDA Market News)

April 1 Benchmark prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are 26 cents lower for Jumbo, 31 cents lower

for Extra Large, 30 cents lower for Large and 34 cents lower for Medium and Small. Trade sentiment is cautiously steady. Offerings continue moderate to mostly heavy. Retail demand is moderate to fairly good with institutional movement moderate. Supplies range light to heavy, mostly moderate. Market activity is moderate. Small benchmark price \$113 Size Range Size Range

Jumbo 156 Extra large Large 145 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 78-90 108-119 Extra large Jumbo

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

NATIONAL FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE (Federal-State Market News) St. Joseph, Mo.

April 1 This week Last week Last year 217,500 262,300 341,300 Compared to March 25: Calves and yearlings traded mostly steady to \$5 lower, with instances \$10 lower. Early week most sales were steady to

instances higher but a collapse in the cattle futures pressured the market Market softness prevailed last week with cattle futures seeing some limited downside pressure, trying to find some stability before the free-fall. The return of volatility with defensive futures and with cut-out values also imploding on March 30 with choice closing \$3.19 lower put cattle market psy-

chology in a black mood. This makes all participants in the cattle market very leery but then no one wants to be caught with empty pens or pastures if profit opportuni ties appear. These are the results of an industry yearning for profits as volatility the only rule that cattle markets have abided by since last fall with many unpredictable attitudes directing market

direction. Then on March 31 cattle futures saw a sharp reversal as the USDA Grain Report was bearish for grain (especially corn) with feeder cattle futures turning bright green with limit gains. This week saw many soft fall-born new crop calves making their way to the market and in many cases widening the price spread against the rugged

In addition to market pressure on feeder calves, many lightweight offerings in the coming weeks will be overwhelmingly made up of new crop fall born calves which are not always in high demand by feeder buyers as many are unweaned and carrying plenty of flesh.

Nevertheless, most top quality 5 weight and 6 weight steers that are longtime weaned and have good weighing conditions that are suitable for grass are still in good demand. Meat trade following the Easter Holiday has

started out on the defensive as well, after a \$10 slide backwards last week has still encountered struggling demand as sharp losses developed USDA's Grain Report on March 31, estimated corn acres at their third highest level since 1944 at 93.6 million acres. Soybean acres came in

line with expectations at 82.2 million acres. Corn acres were higher than pre-report expectations, with corn stocks for March 2016 at 7.8 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last year Soybean stocks rose 15 percent from last year at 1.53 billion bushels. Row crops will have a

long growing season in front of them with time telling how it will play out. Auction volume this week included 50 percent

weighing over 600 lbs. and 42 percent heifers. AUCTIONS This week Last week

166.400 225,300 235,500 **WASHINGTON** 3,100. 41 pct over 600 lbs. 44 pct heifers. Steers: Medium and Large 1-2 500-550 lbs. \$191.53; 550-600 lbs. \$180.96; 600-650 lbs. \$172.18; 650-700 lbs. \$166.66; 750-800 lbs. \$146.30. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2 400-450 lbs. \$178.49; 450-500 lbs. \$187.82; 500-550 lbs. \$172.49; 550-600 lbs. \$161.27.

DIRECT This week Last week Last year 34,600 23,400 70,200 (Arizona-California-Nevada) SOUTHWEST 600. No cattle over 600 lbs. No heifers. Holsteins

Large 3 275 lbs. \$160 July Del. NORTHWEST (Washington-Oregon-Idaho) 2,200. 100 pct over 600 lbs. 48 pct heifers. Steers: Medium and Large 1-2 Current FOB Price 600-700 lbs. \$149-160 Washington; 850-900 lbs \$144 Washington. Current Delivered Price: 750 lbs. \$155 Idaho; 850-900 lbs. \$145-152 Idaho. Large 1: 900 lbs. \$143 Idaho. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: Current FOB Price: 600-650 lbs. \$152 Washington; 800 lbs. \$141 Oregon. Current Delivered Price: 750 lbs. \$143 Idaho; 800-850 lbs. \$141-143 Idaho. Large 1: 900-950 lbs. \$136-136.50 Idaho. Future Delivery Delivered Price

800-850 lbs. \$140 for July Idaho NATIONAL SLAUGHTER CATTLE (USDA Market News) Oklahoma City, Okla.

April 1 Slaughter cattle traded mostly \$2-4 lower Dressed sales in Nebraska traded \$3-4 lower Cattle futures fell hard at the beginning of the veek and then traded more toward a steady leve hv week's end. Beef prices fell through the week thus packers moved bids lower. Boxed Beef prices April 1 averaged \$213.02 down \$6.61 from March 25. The Choice/Select spread is \$12.18.

Slaughter cattle on a national basis for nego

tiated cash trades through April 1 totaled about

55,582 head. The previous week's total head count was 52,362 head. Midwest Direct Markets: Live Basis: Steers and Heifers \$133-134. Dressed Basis: Steers and Heifers \$214-215. South Plains Direct Markets:

Live Basis: Steers and Heifers \$132-133. Slaughter Cows and Bulls (Average Yielding Prices): Slaughter cows and bulls steady to \$3 higher. USDA's Cutter Cow cut-out value was

\$173.54 up \$.07 from March 25 NORTHWEST DIRECT CATTLE (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash, April 1

2.150 3.450 Compared to March 25: Feeder cattle weak to \$4 lower in a light test. Trade slow to moderate Demand light to moderate. Bullish expectations were smashed on March 30 as aggressive long

liquidation toppled live and feeder futures ar

beef cut-outs absolutely imploded.

The feeder supply included 52 percent steers and 48 percent heifers. Near 100 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.

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Associated Press near key grouse habitat flies RENO, Nev. (AP) - Conin the face of BLM's own re-Ken Cole, the group's Idasearch showing the low-flyho director, says BLM's re-