Farm Market Report

Hay Market Reports

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

Last year

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 numbers: 185+ <27 55.9+ 22+ Supreme 170-185 54.5-55.9 27-29 20-22 Premium Good 52.5-54.5 130-150 32-35 50.5-52.5 16-18 Utility <50.5 <130 36+ <16 WASHINGTON-OREGON HAY (Columbia Basin) (USDA Market News)

April 29 Last week

Compared to April 22: All grades of domestic and export Alfalfa weak in a light test. Premium second cutting Timothy for export weak to \$25 lower in a light test.

This week FOB

Trade remains slow and buyers remain cautious. Some new crop was reported being put in the bale this week in the southern basin Sources expect new crop trading to begin next week. Demand remains light to moderate. Retail/Feedstore weak. Demand remains

	9000.		Tons	Price			
	Alfalfa Mid Square	Supreme	400	\$150			
		Good	1550	\$123-125			
		Fair/Good	2250	\$110-130			
	Alfalfa Small Square	Good	250	\$160			
			600	\$140			
		Fair/Good	60	\$130			
	Timothy Grass Mid Square	Good/Prem.	1000	\$125			
	Timothy Grass Small Square	Good/Prem.	600	\$120			
	OREGON AREA HAY						
	(USDA Market News)						
	Portland, Ore.						
April 29							
	This week FOB Last	week FOB Last week		Last year			
	544 407		2,077				
	Compared to April 20: Driggs transfed 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 out for the year. All prices are in dollars per ton and FOB unless otherwise

CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON, WASCO COUNTIES Orchard Grass Small Square Premium 31 EASTERN OREGON Premium 15 \$165 Square KLAMATH BASIN

\$160-180 Alfalfa Small Square Wheat Small Square Fair 27 \$100 LAKE COUNTY Alfalfa Large Square Supreme 33 \$250 Small Square Premium 60 \$200 \$175 Good 90

HARNEY COUNTY: No new sales confirmed. **IDAHO HAY** (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash

April 29 This week FOB 800 1,600 Compared to April 22: All grades of Alfalfa steady to weak in a light

test. Trade slow with light demand. Supplies remain heavy. Retail, feed store/horse not tested this week. All prices are dollars per ton and FOB the farm or ranch unless otherwise stated

Alfalfa Mid Square Supreme 450 \$115-125 100 \$90-100 Good Fair/Good \$80 CALIFORNIA HAY (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash April 29 This week FOB Last week Last year

Compared to April 22: All classes traded steady with a softer undertone. Demand light According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, in Northern California, 1-3 inches of precipitation fell along the northern Sierra, which translates into well above normal, but normals are lower this time of year and the amounts are small compared to the multi-year deficits, so no

change was made to the depiction in California and Nevada. REGION 1: NORTHERN INTERMOUNTAIN

Includes the counties of Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, Lassen, and Plumas. No new sales confirmed.

REGION 2: SACRAMENTO VALLEY Includes the counties of Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter

Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, Yolo, El Dorado, Solano, Sacramento Good/Prem. 300 \$150 250 Fair/Good \$110

REGION 3: NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY olumne, Mono, Merced and Mariposa.

Includes the counties of San Joaquin, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tu-Supreme 50 \$200 75 \$180 Premium Good/Prem 150 \$145 Fair/Good \$90 Utility 425 \$70 Orchard Grass 25 \$220 Premium \$150

REGION 4: CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY Includes the counties of Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tular

Alfalfa Supreme Prem./Sup. \$185 350 Wheat Standing Good \$20-25 Triticale Standing Good REGION 5: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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

REGION 6: SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA

Forage Mix-Four Way

Colusa County

Solano County

Turlock-Tulare

Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock

CORN - U.S. No. 2 Yellow

FOB

Includes the counties of Eastern San Bernardino, Riverside, and

Alfalfa 2770 \$160-165 \$160-171 2020 Good 2035 \$150 Fair 454 \$115 **Orchard Grass** 100 Bermuda Grass Premium 500 \$150 Klein Grass 2000 \$120 Premium

\$8.64

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 April 28

PACIFIC NORTHWEST MARKET SUMMARY

Cash wheat bids for April delivery ended the reporting week on Thursday April 28, lower compared to April 21 noon bids for April

May wheat futures ended the reporting week on Thursday, April 28, lower as follows compared to April 21 closes: Chicago wheat futures were 20.25 cents lower at \$4.7550, Kansas City wheat futures were 27.50 cents lower at \$4.61 and Minneapolis wheat futures trended 13.50 cents lower at \$5.30. Chicago May corn futures trended 2.50 cents higher at \$3.87 and May soybean futures closed .75 of a cent lower at \$10.18.

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

There were no white club wheat premiums

One year-ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat any protein for April delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were \$5.85-6.0625 and bids for White Club Wheat were \$6.95-8.0625. Forward-month bids for soft white wheat ordinary protein were as

follows: May \$5.2550-5.40, June and July \$5.38-5.4050 and August New Crop \$5.44-5.4525. One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any

protein were as follows: May \$5.85-6.0625, June \$5.85- 6.0425, July \$5.7625-5.85 and August New Crop \$5.8575-5.95.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein during April were not available. White club wheat premiums for guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein soft white wheat were zero 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 \$6.2125-6.4125 and bids for White Club Wheat were \$8.2125-8.4125.

Forward month bids for soft white wheat guaranteed 10.5 percent proteins were as follows: May \$5.4050-5.75. June \$5.5550-5.77 July \$5.5550-5.56 and August New Crop \$5.4525-5.66. One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any

protein were as follows: May \$6.2125-6.4125, June not available July \$5.74-5.7625 and August New Crop \$5.78-6.05 Bids for 11.5 percent protein U.S. 1 Hard Red Winter Wheat for April delivery were 24 to 27 cents per bushel lower compared to April 21 noon bids for April delivery.

Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. This week, bids were as follows: April \$5.4650-5.4950, May \$5.4650-5.5450, June \$5.4450-5.5950, July \$5.4450-5.5950 and August New Crop \$5.4525-5.6525.

Bids for non-guaranteed 14.0 percent protein U.S. 1 Dark Northern Spring Wheat for Portland delivery during April were 12.25 to 16.25 cents per bushel lower than April 21 noon bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. This week, bids for non-guaranteed 14 percent protein were as follows: April \$6.2125-6.3725, May \$6.2125-6.4225, June \$6.2725-6.4225, July \$6.2225-6.4225 and August New Crop \$6,2550-6 4050

COARSE FEEDING GRAINS

Bids for U.S. 2 Yellow Corn delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for April delivery were 1.50 to 3.50 cents higher from \$4.64-4.67 per bushel. Forward month corn bids were as follows: May \$4.63-4.67, June \$4.6625-4.7025, July \$4.6525-4.7025, August/September \$4.5650-4.6850 and October/November \$4.6250-4.7450. Bids for U.S. 1 Yellow Soybeans delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for April delivery were .75 of a cent lower at \$10.78-10.83 per bushel. Forward month soybean bids were as follows: May \$10.78-10.88, June \$10.9250-10.9550. July \$10.9250-10.9950 and October/November \$10.8350-10.8650 Bids for U.S. 2 Heavy White Oats for April delivery trended steady at \$3.92 per bushel.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXPORT NEWS

There were nine grain vessels in Columbia River ports on Thursday, April 28, with four docked compared to 10 last week with four docked. There were no new confirmed export sales from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) of the USDA.

CALIFORNIA GRAINS

(USDA Market News) Portland April 28

Prices in dollars per cwt., bulk Inc.= including; Nom.= nominal; I td = limited: Ind = indicated: NYF=Not fully esting

	Ltd illilited, ilid ilidicated, ivi L-ivot fully estilliated.				
GRAIN DELIVERED					
	Mode	Destination	Price per cv		
	BARLEY -	U.S. No. 2 (46-lbs. per bushel)			
	FOB	Solano County	NA		
	Rail	Los Angeles	NA		
		Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	NA		
		Colusa County	NA		
	Truck	Petaluma-Santa Rosa	\$10.55		
		Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	\$10.65		
		Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties	\$9-9.10		
		Madera County	NA		
		Kern County	NA		
		Glenn County	NA		

	Kings-Tulare-Fresno	NA
Rail	Single Car Units via BNSF	
	Chino Valley-Los Angeles	\$9.23
Truck	Petaluma-Santa Rosa	NA
	Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	\$8.95
	Los Angeles-Chino Valley	NA
	Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties	\$8.95
	Glenn County	NA
SORGHUN		
Rail	Los Angeles-Chino Valley	
	via BNSF Single	\$9.14
Truck	Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	NA
OATS - U.S	S. No. 1 White	
Truck	Los Angeles-Chino Valley	NA
OATS - U.S	S. No. 2 White	
Truck	Petaluma	\$11.25
	Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	NA
Rail	Petaluma	NA
WHEAT - U	J.S. No. 2 or better-Hard Red Winter	
	(Domestic Values for Flour Milling)	
	Los Angeles 12 percent Protein	NA
	Los Angeles 13 percent Protein	NA
	Los Angeles 14 percent Protein	NA
Truck/Rail	Los Angeles 11-12 percent Protein	
	Los Angeles 12 percent Protein	NA
	Los Angeles 13 percent Protein	NA
	Los Angeles 14 percent Protein	NA
	J.S. Durum Wheat	
Truck	Imperial County	NA
	Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties	NA
	ny Class for Feed	
FOB	Tulare	NA
	Kings-Tulare-Fresno Counties	\$9.35
	Colusa County	NA
Truck/Rail	Los Angeles-Chino Valley	NA
Truck	Petaluma-Santa Rosa	NA
	Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock	\$9.50
	King-Tulare-Fresno Counties	NA
	Fresno	NA
	Margad County	NIA

Merced County Kern County Prices paid to California farmers, seven-day reporting period ending April 21: No new sales.

Livestock Auctions

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

California

SHASTA (Shasta Livestock Auction) April 29

Current week Last week

Compared to April 22: Slaughter market \$5 lower. Another tough week in the futures resulting in calves and yearlings mostly \$5 lower. Off lots and singles \$25-50 lower.

Slaughter cows: Breakers \$67-74; \$75-78 high dress; Boning \$59-66; Cutters \$45-60. Bulls 1 and 2: \$65-89; \$90-94 high dress

Feeder steers: 300-400 lbs. \$190-197; 400-450 lbs. \$189; 500-550 lbs. \$160-178; 550-600 lbs. \$160-168; 600-650 lbs. \$154-164; 650-700 lbs \$140-157; 700-750 lbs. \$130-142; 750-800 lbs. \$126-134: 800-900 lbs. \$115-123

Feeder heifers: 300-400 lbs. \$170-180: 400-450 lbs. \$157-175; 600-650 lbs. \$130-149; 650700 lbs. \$120-137; 700-750 lbs. \$120-125; 800-900 lbs. \$108-116.75. Pairs: Few older pairs \$1450-1710.

Calvy cows: No test Washington

TOPPENISH ish Livestock Auction) (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash.

Last week Last year 1,400 2,525 2,020 Compared to April 22 at the same market Stocker and feeder cattle weak to \$6 lower in a light test. Trade active with moderate demand Slaughter cows \$1-2 higher. Slaughter bulls \$2-3 lower. Trade active with good demand. Slaughter cows 66 percent, slaughter bulls 5 percent, and

heifers. Near 61 percent of the run weighed over 600 lbs. Replacement cows pretested for age, pregnancy, and bands Feeder Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: 500-

feeders 29 percent of the supply. The feeder

supply included 49 percent steers and 51 percent

600 lbs. \$140-145; 500-600 lbs. \$172-187.50, Thin Fleshed; 600-700 lbs. \$135; 700-800 lbs. \$132-137.50; 800-900 lbs. \$131. Medium and Large 2-3: 600-700 lbs. \$110-115; 700-800 lbs. \$110.

Feeder Heifers: Medium and Large 400-500 lbs. \$138; 400-500 lbs. \$156, Thin Fleshed; 500-600 lbs. \$135-140.50; 600-700 lbs. \$130.50-140. Medium and Large 2-3: 600-700 lbs. \$106.50; 700-800 lbs. \$100. Large 1-2: 1000-1100 lbs. \$99.75, Full; 1000-1100 lbs. \$110, \$106, Full.

Feeder Cows: Large 1-2: 1000-1100 lbs. \$87. Young; 1200-1300 lbs. \$83.50, Young. Slaughter Cows:

Boning 80-85 percent lean 1100-2000 lbs. \$71-75; Lean 85-90 percent lean 1000-1900 lbs. \$69-74; Lean Light 90 percent lean 1000-1300 lbs. \$57-61. Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1-2 1700-2400

lbs. \$86-93. Bred Cows (Per Head): Few Young (3-4 yrs.

old) 1089 lbs. 1400 6-9 mos.; Few Young to Mid-Aged(3-11 yrs. old) 1150-1400 lbs. 1200-1350 3-6 mos. bred; Broken Mouth 1200 lbs. 900 6-9

Oregon

VALE (Producers Livestock Market)

April 27 Total receipts: 886 head. Comments: \$8-12 cwt. Lower on most classes of feeder cattle, yearlings and also the lighter

Steer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$159-174; 400-500 lbs. \$157-176; 500-600 lbs. \$153-181 Heifer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$147-165; 400-500 lbs. \$136-164; 500-600 lbs. \$128-144.

Yearling steers: 600-700 lbs. \$143-152; 700-800 lbs. \$135-145; 800-900 lbs. \$126-132; 900-1000 lbs. \$111-117.

Yearling heifers: 600-700 lbs. \$120-129; 700-800 lbs. \$116-127; 800-900 lbs. \$111-117. Light Holstein steers, 600 lbs. and under: NA

Stock cows (young): NA. Stock cows (B.M.): \$975-1275 Butcher cows: \$63-71. Thin shelly cows: \$47-61

France threatens to torpedo U.S.-Europe trade deal

PARIS (AP) — France is

Signs of trouble are dogging the creation of a Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, a U.S.-EU free trade zone encompassing half the world economy.

said Tuesday that France "will never accept" challenges to its farming and culture in exchange for better access to U.S. markets.

'That's why at this stage, France says no," the Socialist leader said at a conference on left-wing politics.

Earlier Tuesday, French Trade Minister Matthias Fekl told Europe-1 radio that negotiations "are totally blocked" and that a halt to talks "is the most probable option." He insisted on better farming and environmental protections, adding that "in its current state, France cannot

"Europe is giving a lot ... but receiving very little in return," he said.

European officials appear to be toughening their rhetoric after Greenpeace leaked large amounts of confidential negotiating documents that suggest the EU is coming under U.S. pressure to weaken consumer protections in key sectors.

The EU chief negotiator said several Greenpeace conclusions were "false" while U.S.

Trade representative spokesman Trevor Kincaid said the interpretations were misleading and sometimes wrong.

Still, EU negotiator Ignacio Garcia Bercero said Monday that major disagreements remain between the two sides following the 13th round of talks last week. The U.S. election campaign is complicating negotiations, making it increasingly unlikely that President Barack Obama can achieve a deal before leaving office.

International Paper to buy 7 pulp mills from Weyerhaeuser

NEW YORK (AP) — International Paper said it is paying \$2.2 billion to buy seven mills from Weyerhaeuser that make pulp used in diapers, tissues and other consumer products.

The deal is expected to close before the end of the

International Paper said Monday the mills employ

gia and Mississippi have two mills each. The others are in North Carolina, Canada and Poland.

The company will get a

the deal, bringing its total cost for the mills down to \$1.9 billion.

\$300 million tax benefit for

Weyerhaeuser Co., based in Federal Way, Washington, is shedding its pulp businesses to focus on selling lumber and other wood products. It plans to use most of the sale proceeds to pay down debt. Earlier this year, Weyerhaeuser bought Plum Creek Timber for \$8.44 billion, creating the world's biggest timberland and forest products companies. Weyerhaeuser said last year that it planned strategic alternatives for its cellulose fibers business, which includes pulp. It is still reviewing what to do with its liquid packaging board facility, newsprint and publishing papers businesses.

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) May 30

Market commentary: Russet table potato prices have been flat for several weeks, but they are showing signs that the could start to move higher. SHIPPING AREA

FWA	Chg	GRI	Chg	70 ct	Chg	10 lb. Film	Chg
IDAHO BURBANKS							
\$12.95	\$0.02	\$5.60	\$0.01	\$20	\$0	\$7.50	0
COLUMBIA E	BASIN						
\$13.37	\$0	\$5.89	\$0	\$19	\$0	\$8.50	\$0
KLAMATH BASIN							
\$14.67	\$0	\$6.24	\$0	\$22	\$0	\$9.50	\$0

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

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

(USDA Market News) Greeley, Colo. April 29

Domestic wool trading on a clean basis was very active this week. There were 1 017 198 lbs. of confirmed trades. Much of the wool being traded has seen prices falling between the 80-85 percent of Australia range, with paint free lots receiving a two- to five-cent premium per pound.

Higher vegetable matter and shorter length wools are falling to ranges of 70-75 percent of Australia.

Shearing is ongoing, and for the most part conditions have been good with the occasional storm slowing the process for only one to two days at a time. Wool is still being collected and samples are being sent in for testing as wool is being marketed

Domestic wool trading on a greasy basis was at a standstill this week. There were no confirmed trades to quote.

Domestic wool tags \$.60-.70 No. 1 \$.50-.60 No. 2 \$.40-.50 NATIONAL SHEEP SUMMARY (USDA Market News) San Angelo, Texas April 29 Compared to last week: Slaughter lambs were

steady to as much as \$20 lower, except light lambs at New Holland, Pa., \$10-20 higher, Slaughter ewes were steady to \$10 higher. Feeder lambs were \$5-10 lower.

At San Angelo, Texas, 6,077 head sold, No. sales in Equity Electronic Auction. In direct trading slaughter ewes were steady and feeder lambs were \$10 lower than last test, 2,700 head of negotiated sales of slaughter lambs were steady. 11,600

head of formula sales of 85-95 lbs. dressed lambs

were \$2-4 lower other weights had no trend due to

confidentiality. 4,517 lamb carcasses sold with 65 lbs. and down no trend due to confidentiality; 65-75 lbs. \$1.66 higher; 75-85 lbs. \$.06 higher and 85 lbs. and up no trend due to confidentiality.

SLAUGHTER LAMBS Choice and Prime 2-3: San Angelo: Shorn and wooled 105-145 lbs

SLAUGHTER LAMBS Choice and Prime 1: San Angelo: 40-60 lbs. \$224-242, few \$246; 60-70 lbs. \$206-226, few \$230; 70-80 lbs. \$190-200, few 202-205; 80-90 lbs. \$180-190; 90-110 lbs.

DIRECT TRADING (Lambs with 3-4 percent shrink or equivalent): 2,700 Slaughter Lambs shorn and wooled 127 185 lbs. \$117.08-150 (wtd avg \$132.12).

Idaho: 600 Slaughter Ewes Utility and Good 1-3 \$41-43; Cull and Utility 1-2 \$25. SLAUGHTER EWES: San Angelo: Good 2-3 (fleshy) \$65-76; Utility

and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) \$80-92; Utility 1-2 (thin) \$70-80; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) \$60-68; Cull 1 (extremely thin) \$35-50. FEEDER LAMBS Medium and Large 1-2: San Angelo: 49 lbs. \$222: 60-70 lbs. \$190-210:

70-80 lbs. \$179-190; 80-90 lbs. \$168-179; 90-100 lbs. \$164-174. REPLACEMENT EWES Medium and Large 1-2: San Angelo: Baby tooth hair ewes \$214 per head; solid mouth hair ewes \$178-190 per head; mixed age hair ewes 100-150 lbs. \$106-134 cwt. NATIONAL WEEKLY LAMB CARCASS Choice

and Prime 1-4: Weight Wtd. avg. Price not reported due to 45 lbs. Down confidentiality 45-55 lbs. Price not reported due to confidentiality 55-65 lbs. \$327.72 65-75 lbs. \$284.93 75-85 lbs. \$274.80 85 lbs. and up Price not reported due to

confidentiality Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 39,000 compared with 36,000 last week and 38,000 last year.

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) Des Moines, Iowa April 29 Benchmark prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are 7 cents higher for Jumbo, Extra Large,

and Large and 8 cents higher for Medium and Small. The undertone is steady. Demand is moderate on moderate offerings. Warehouse buying interest has slowed and is reported as usually slow to moderate. Supplies are light to mostly moderate. Market activity is slow. Small benchmark price 85 cents. Size Range Size Range

Extra large 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 Extra large

43-52

Cattle Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Oklahoma City-Des

except some replacement animals per pair or head as indicated

66-75

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

April 29 This week Last week Last year 261,600 201,100 302,700 Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers continued mostly \$5-10 lower throughout the week. The only bright spot was April 27, when things looked to be turning around with a couple auctions showing some strength, despite the

CME board closing slightly lower after trending higher April 25 and April 26. The mid-week weakness in the futures was the spark that ignited the fire, confirming that early week gains would be short-lived, as April 28 the board opened lower and finished sharply lower.

The April 22 Cattle on Feed Report had April 1 inventory .5 percent higher than last year at 10.85 million head; placements at 104.6 percent and marketings at 107.1 percent. Inventory was slightly lower than expected, with placements lighter than expected and marketing were higher than expectations.

The report was more bullish than expected, but was not enough for the bearish outlook. A combination of decreased imports and the fed cattle futures decline appeared to play a role in placement during the month of March, as profit outlooks for late summer and fall looks bleak USDA's Cold Storage report showed total beef

in storage down from last year and just slightly under the 5-year average, which can be viewed as a positive moving into grilling season. However, even the few supportive signs than can be gleaned from those two reports are cer-

tainly not enough to change the current market's bearish position. Protein sources are plentiful and beef demand is modest at best. Fed cattle trade was pretty much wrapped up by late afternoon April 21 with

live sales at \$124, \$3 lower than the previous

week's trade and northern dressed sales at \$196

\$4 lower than last week and losing 20 in just two weeks. Some packers appear to be bought up through May and asking for extended delivery With the last two week's estimated weekly cattle harvest numbers coming in as the two biggest weeks so far this year, packer margins are favorable.

thunderstorms early in the trading period. This should change early next week and allow planting to resume. Despite the temporarily slowed planting progress, we should still be able to maintain our near

A large portion of the field work in the Corn

Belt has been slowed as a result of widespread

record planting pace. The early start to corn planting likely brought some additional acres into production. At the same time, we are hearing reports that the rally in soybeans has encouraged some production of that crop. Auction volume this week included 52 percent weighing over 600 lbs. and

40 percent heifers AUCTIONS This week Last week Last vear 165,700 164,700 180,200 WASHINGTON 2,200. 66 pct over 600 lbs. 46 nct heifers. Steers: Medium and Large 1-2 550-600 lbs. \$142.90; 650-700 lbs. \$144.12. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2 450-600 lbs. \$147.35; 550-600 lbs. \$139.71; 600-650 lbs. \$136.73; 650 700 lbs. \$134.10.

DIRECT This week Last week Last vear 35,500 66,400 (Arizona-California-Nevada) SOUTHWEST 1.100. No cattle over 600 lbs. 48 pct heifers Holsteins: Large 3 Large 3: 325 lbs. \$140-142

480 lbs. Current Del \$134. NORTHWEST (Washington-Oregon-Idaho) 600. 100 pct over 600 lbs. 41 pct heifers. Steers: Medium and Large 1-2 Current Delivered Price 850 lbs. \$142 Idaho. Large 1 900-950 lbs. \$131

> (USDA Market News) Oklahoma City, Okla,

April 29 Slaughter cattle traded \$2-3 lower on a live basis. Dressed sales in Nebraska sold mostly \$2-4 lower.

supplies. This in a time when packers should be looking to meet kill needs for the up coming Memorial Day holiday. Boxed Beef prices April 29 averaged \$206.86 down \$8.64 from April 21. The Choice/Select spread is \$9.18. Slaughter cattle on a national

total head count was 96,432 head.

Heifers mostly \$196. South Plains Direct Markets: Live Basis: Steen and Heifers few \$124.

Slaughter Cows and Bulls (Average Yielding Prices): Slaughter cows and bulls steady to \$2 lower, except Oklahoma steady to \$2 higher. Cutter Cow Carcass Cut-Out Value April 21 was \$175.08 up \$1.21 from April 21.

> (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash April 29

550 Compared to April 21: Feeder cattle weak in a light test. Trade slow this week as bearish cattle futures have succeeded in leading the feedlot trade significantly lower. Area feedlots are waiting until next week when a significant number

and 41 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 vearlings

Delivered prices include freight, commissions and other expenses. Current sales are up to 14 days delivery.

ered Price: 850 lbs. \$142 ldaho. Large 1: 900-950 lbs. \$131 Idaho.

ered Price: 850 lbs. \$132 Idaho. Replacement Heifers (Per Head): Medium

threatening to reject a huge free trade deal between the U.S. and the European Union, saying it's too friendly to U.S. business and probably doomed.

President Francois Hollande

about 1,900 people. Geor-

Based in Memphis, Tennessee, International Paper makes paper and packaging and said the deal will expand its product offering to businesses.

Moines-St. Joseph, Mo.-Moses Lake, Wash. Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.)

September Del. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2

Idaho. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2 Current Delivered Price 850 lbs \$132 Idaho NATIONAL SLAUGHTER CATTLE

The whole cattle complex took a dive this week Beef prices moved sharply lower as demand has been light to moderate on moderate to heavy

basis for negotiated cash trades through April 29 totaled about 101,200 head. The previous week's

Midwest Direct Markets: Live Basis: Steers and Heifers: \$123-124.50. Dressed Basis: Steers and

NORTHWEST DIRECT CATTLE

This week Last week Last year 1 300

of cattle will be offered for sale. Demand light to moderate. The feeder supply included 59 percent steers

Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: Current Deliv-

Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: Current Deliv-

and Large 1-2: Current FOB Price: 800-850 lbs.