



Weekly Market Information Report



Week ending Thursday May 25, 2006

The following information is collected from various sources and disseminated by the Ontario Cattlemen's Association.

ONTARIO DIRECT TO PACKER RAILGRADE CATTLE TRADE

This is a summary for the week of rail grade prices on a carcass weight basis, before grade and weight discounts.

A grade steers 159.00-160.00

A grade heifers Not reported

ONTARIO LIVE CATTLE TRADE

Ontario auction sales this week saw weighted average price ranges for

FED CATTLE

	Price Range	Average	Top	Last week avg.
Large Frame Steers +1250	92.15-99.33	95.85	112.00	94.44
Medium Frame Steers +1250	85.10-99.91	95.57	110.50	90.80
Large & Medium Frame Steers +1250	91.79-100.45	96.22	112.00	93.93
Large Frame Heifers +1000	87.08-99.30	94.45	106.00	92.48
Medium Frame Heifers +1000	79.40-97.16	88.75	108.00	85.36
Large & Medium Frame Heifers +1000	84.69-98.78	93.33	108.00	91.44
Cows-all weights	22.45-38.70	30.54	72.50	31.67
Bulls-all weights	38.44-50.85	45.10	75.00	47.04

STOCKERS – Large & Medium Frame

STEERS	Price Range	Average	Top
1000+	95.95-101.48	98.97	103.50
900-999	100.81-107.71	104.46	110.50
800-899	100.74-112.35	106.59	120.50
700-799	103.57-123.38	114.51	130.00
600-699	112.53-133.42	123.95	144.00
500-599	113.38-137.30	126.85	146.50
400-499	113.93-141.03	128.53	158.00
-399	106.19-171.48	135.54	289.00

HEIFERS	Price Range	Average	Top
900+	89.56-98.08	94.51	114.50
800-899	93.38-103.75	98.98	108.50
700-799	93.36-109.15	102.39	117.50
600-699	98.45-118.13	109.90	126.00
500-599	104.28-123.47	115.88	134.00
400-499	105.40-128.19	120.13	136.00
300-399	105.29-123.38	114.84	143.00

At Talbotville Livestock: May 20, 2006- 282 head.

	Price Range	Top
Good & choice steers	85.00-96.00	98.75
Good & choice heifers	84.00-96.00	98.75
Cows	27.00-35.00	52.00
Bulls	40.00-47.00	

Denfield Livestock – May 23, 2006

	Price Range
Choice Steers	95.00-100.00 top 105.00
Good Steers	90.00-95.00
Plain Steers	75.00-85.00
Choice Exotic Cross Heifers	95.00-100.00
Good Heifers	88.00-94.00
Plain Heifers	70.00-80.00
Good Fed Cows	40.00-50.00
D1 & D2 Cows	30.00-35.00
D3 & D4 Cows	20.00-25.00
Shells	10.00-15.00
Good Beef Bulls	38.00-50.00
Good Holstein Bulls	30.00-35.00
Good Holstein Bull Calves	175.00-300.00

ONTARIO REPLACEMENT TRADEStocker sale at: **Brussels Livestock, May 19, 2006 - 1,519 stockers**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	93.75-103.50	103.50	900+	94.75-101.50	114.50
900-1000	101.00-108.50	108.50	800-900	96.00-105.75	108.50
800-900	100.00-111.00	114.50	700-800	97.00-111.00	117.50
700-800	105.50-125.25	125.25	600-700	103.50-119.00	123.50
600-700	115.50-135.00	135.00	500-600	113.50-126.00	131.50
500-600	120.00-139.00	146.50	400-500	125.00-134.00	134.00
400-500	124.50-147.00	158.00	300-400	121.00-133.50	133.50

Stocker sale at: **Keady Livestock- May 23, 2006 – 971 stockers**

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
1000+	103.50	900+	95.50-101.50
900-999	106.00-109.00	800-899	98.00-105.50
800-899	112.00-120.50	700-799	99.00-111.50
700-799	110.00-130.00	600-699	112.00-126.00
600-699	125.00-144.00	500-599	110.00-134.00
500-599	120.00-146.00	400-499	108.00-135.00
400-499	129.00-155.50	300-399	86.00-132.00
Under 400	117.00-144.00		

All classes of stocker cattle sold actively on continued strong demand at fully steady prices.

Stocker Sale at : **D. H. Hickson Ltd. May 23, 2006 - 179 stockers**

STEERS	Price Range	HEIFERS	Price Range
700-799	86.50-111.00	700-799	69.00-111.00
600-699	79.00-130.00	600-699	73.00-117.00
500-599	106.00-139.00	500-599	93.00-125.00
400-499	113.00-152.50	400-499	78.00-129.00
399 & less	87.00-131.00		

Stocker sale at: **Ontario Livestock Exchange, May 24, 2006- 570 stockers.**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
+1000	97.50-103.50	103.50	+900	92.00-99.50	104.00
900-999	99.75-107.50	110.50	800-899	98.00-103.50	103.50
800-899	86.00-112.00	112.50	700-799	95.00-112.50	112.50
700-799	94.00-114.00	114.00			
600-699	108.00-115.00	115.00			

Stocker Sale at: **Ontario Stockyards – May 25, 2006- 412 stockers**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	67.00-99.00	99.00	900+	82.00-100.50	100.50
900-999	89.50-94.00	99.50	800-899	89.50-100.50	101.00
800-899	92.00-115.00	115.00	700-799	100.25-111.50	113.50
700-799	104.50-121.50	127.00	600-699	100.50-116.50	122.00
600-699	108.00-126.50	130.50	500-599	102.00-125.00	128.00
500-599	106.00-136.00	136.00	400-499	99.00-127.00	127.00
400-499	115.00-139.00	144.00	300-399	110.00-124.00	124.00
399-	127.00-134.00	140.00			

Stocker Sale at: **Tri-county Cattle –May 25, 2006- 338 stockers**

STEERS	Price Range	Top	HEIFERS	Price Range	Top
1000+	98.25-98.50	98.50	900+	98.00-99.25	99.25
900-999	101.00-109.85	109.85	800-899	95.00-104.25	104.25
800-899	105.00-110.00	120.00	700-799	99.00-105.25	112.00
700-799	95.00-118.50	118.50	600-699	97.00-120.50	120.50
500-599	80.00-119.50	119.50	500-599	117.00-119.50	119.50
400-499	111.00-137.00	137.00	400-499	109.00-127.50	127.50
			300-399	119.00-122.50	143.00

QUEBEC ELECTRONIC AUCTION MARKET (F.O.B. the feedlot)

Week Ending May 25, 2006	Price Range
A1, A2 Steers & Heifers	160.75-161.75

ALBERTA DIRECT TRADE

Week ending **Thursday May 25, 2006**

Steers Live	84.40-86.10	Flat rail	140.00-142.50
Heifers Live	84.00-86.50	Flat rail	140.00-141.50

U.S. TRADE (U.S funds)

Week ending **Thursday May 25, 2006**

Weekly range for choice and select steers and heifers:	Live	79.50-81.50
	Rail	126.00-128.50

CANADIAN BOXED BEEF CUT-OUT VALUES

Week Ending	AAA	AA
May 13, 2006	1.6977	1.6182
May 6, 2006	1.6813	1.6130

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

	Choice 600-900	Select 600-900
Current 5 day average:	145.80	125.39

AVERAGE CARCASS WEIGHTS – CANADA

	Steers	Heifers
May 20, 2006	803	737
May 21, 2005	801	753

FEDERALLY INSPECTED CANADIAN KILL

	Week End May 20, 2006	YTD	% of Yr. Ago
Grand Total	69,093	1,288,402	88%
Alberta Slaughter	43,219	793,705	80%
Ontario Slaughter	14,010	265,707	105%

USDA ESTIMATED CATTLE KILL

	Week Ending May 27, 2006	May 20, 2006	Year Ago
Grand Total	695,000	698,000	657,000

BEEF EXPORTS

	United States Jan 1 – May 20	Mexico Jan 1 – Apr 29
Total	105,114 tonnes	11,188 tonnes

BEEF IMPORTS

	Jan 1 – May 13	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Total	44,075 tonnes	43,826 tonnes	+0.6%

BEEF PRODUCTION

	Jan 1 – May 20	Last Year Same Time	% Change
Fed	364,455 tonnes	461,387 tonnes	-21.0%
Non-fed	95,391 tonnes	64,160 tonnes	+48.7%

CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE

Closing quotes on futures today were as follows:

Live Cattle		Feeder Cattle		Corn		Soybeans		Canadian \$	
	\$/cwt US		\$/cwt US		\$/bu US ¢/bu		\$/bu US ¢/bu		
Jun	79.40 +0.97	Aug	108.75 +0.57	July	2.540 +0.6	Jul	5.824 -1.6	Spot	90.33 -0.09
Aug	79.85 +0.65	Sep	108.30 +0.55	Sep	2.650 +0.6	Aug	5.890 -1.4	Jun	90.33 -0.12
Oct	83.62 +0.90	Oct	107.32 +0.52	Dec	2.790 +1.0	Sep	5.960 -0.2	Sep	90.56 -0.12
Dec	85.55 +0.32	Nov	106.40 +0.50	Mar	2.894 +1.2	Nov	5.080 -0.6	Dec	90.80 +0.95

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Comments for the week ending May 25, 2006

The finished cattle market saw some improvement this week. The volume of live finished steers and heifers sold through auction markets was 1,235, down 290 head from last week. The average fed steer price was \$96.22 up \$2.29 and the average heifer price was \$93.33 up \$1.89 from last week. Auction markets reported that fed cattle sold on a strong demand with prices \$2.00 to \$3.00 higher.

There were 1,998 head of slaughter cows sold through auction markets this week. The average price was \$30.54 down \$1.13 from last week and up \$5.91 from last year at this time. Auction markets reported cows sold on a moderate demand with prices steady to under pressure at \$2.00 lower.

Replacement cattle saw active trade this week with lower volume which is typical for this time of year. Total stockers sold was 4,633 down 45.5% from last week and 9% less than last year at this time. Auction markets reported that all replacement cattle sold on a strong active trade with prices fully steady to last week.

Ontario railgrade prices, reported by producers, were \$159.00-\$160.00 for steers which has remained fully steady for the past 2 weeks.

In Alberta, cattle trade was active with prices \$1.00 higher than last week. Steers sold at \$84.40-86.10 live and \$140.00-142.50 flat rail. Heifers sold at \$84.00-86.50 live and \$140.00-141.50 flat rail.

U.S. cash cattle trade was active in the north on Thursday with prices \$2.00 higher than last week from \$79.50-\$80.50 live and \$126.00-127.00 dressed. Early Friday business in the south saw prices of \$80.00-81.50 live and \$128.50 dressed, \$1.50-\$2.00 higher than last week.

Local beef trade reported a busy week due to the holiday Monday. It is reported that all cuts are moving well with middle cuts selling strong and all other cuts showing improvement in sales. Inventory is light and prices are remaining steady.