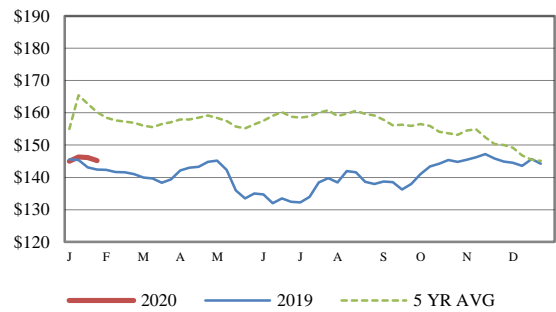


Receipts:	This Week	Last Week	Year Ago
<a href="#">SJ LS850</a>	270,900	315,100	282,200

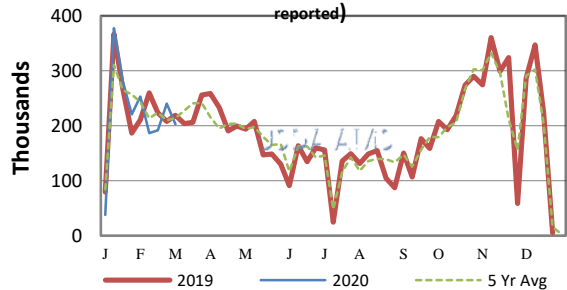
Compared to last week, steers and heifers sold 4.00 to 10.00 lower in the North and Southcentral regions, while the Southeast steers and heifers sold 2.00 to 4.00 lower. The negativity in the marketplace erased all of last week's gains in feeder cattle circles. Feeder cattle nationwide still was reported to have moderate to good demand; it's just that the demand was at lower levels. Auction receipts were curtailed somewhat this week as anecdotes of cattle producers pulling their consignments from local auction barns this week was not uncommon. Producers are not wanting to get caught in the aftermath of this week's market drop. There are willing sellers, but there are always some that have enough winter forage left over to feed the cattle until better times develop in the marketplace. The worldwide uncertainty started early this week with articles and features stating the COVID-19 virus had spread to European countries. Concern ran rampant throughout the world almost immediately. As the Dow saw a high above 29,500 just a few short weeks ago, this week's close was reported around 25,000, with quadruple digit losses a couple of days this week. U.S. cattle markets were affected immediately as beef demand is expected to be hindered in the near term. With growth and prosperity in the economy, people feel confident and are willing to spend some disposable income to eat out; beef is typically part of that experience. The weekly price drop in the CME Cattle Complex was larger than when the fire occurred in a southwestern Kansas fed cattle slaughter plant in August 2019. This week, the April Live Cattle Contract was 10.68 lower to close at 107.57, the contract low since the contract came on the board in October 2018. The June contract also hit its contract low this week. The amount of dollars that have vanished in one week's time frame has got to be staggering and economists may have a difficult time tallying it all up. Fed cattle trade occurred on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week and was mostly 5.00 lower at 115.00 live, while dressed sales were 3.00 to 5.00 lower at 185.00 to 187.00. Cattle Slaughter under FI estimated at 627K for the week, 1K less than last week and 18K more than a year ago. On the week, Choice cutout closed 0.21 higher at 205.30, while Select was 2.79 lower at 198.91; widening the Choice-Select spread to 6.39. Auction volume this week included 55 percent weighing over 600 lbs and 44 percent heifers.

[More.....](#)

**CME FEEDER CATTLE INDEX (\$/CWT)**



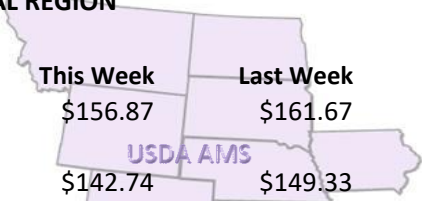
**NATIONWIDE REPORTED WEEKLY FEEDER CATTLE AUCTION RECEIPTS**  
(Receipts vary depending on the number of auctions reported)



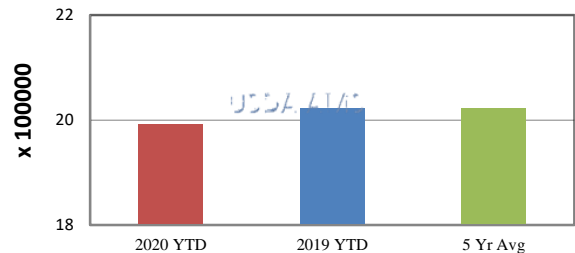
**REGIONAL WEIGHTED AVERAGE FEEDER STEER PRICES**

**NORTH CENTRAL REGION**

Steers:	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
600-700 lbs	\$156.87	\$161.67	\$160.30
700-800 lbs	\$142.74	\$149.33	\$145.75
800-900 lbs	\$134.21	\$139.29	\$138.13

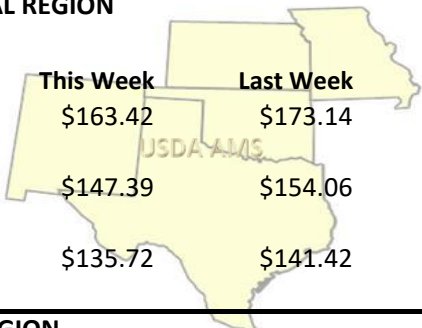


**YEAR TO DATE**

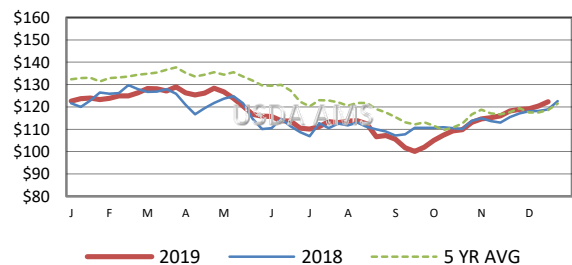


**SOUTH CENTRAL REGION**

Steers:	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
500-600 lbs	\$163.42	\$173.14	\$167.56
600-700 lbs	\$147.39	\$154.06	\$151.46
700-800 lbs	\$135.72	\$141.42	\$140.67

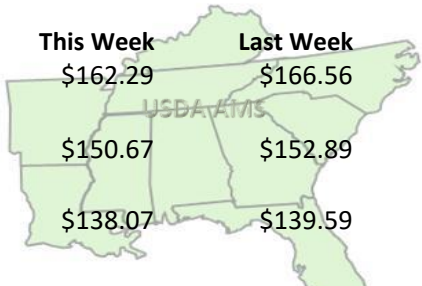


**5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE SLTR STEER PRICE (\$/CWT)**



**SOUTHEAST REGION**

Steers:	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
400-500 lbs	\$162.29	\$166.56	\$167.05
500-600 lbs	\$150.67	\$152.89	\$154.79
600-700 lbs	\$138.07	\$139.59	\$142.14



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