

MONTANA WEEKLY SUMMARY

For week ending April 6, 2019

Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News

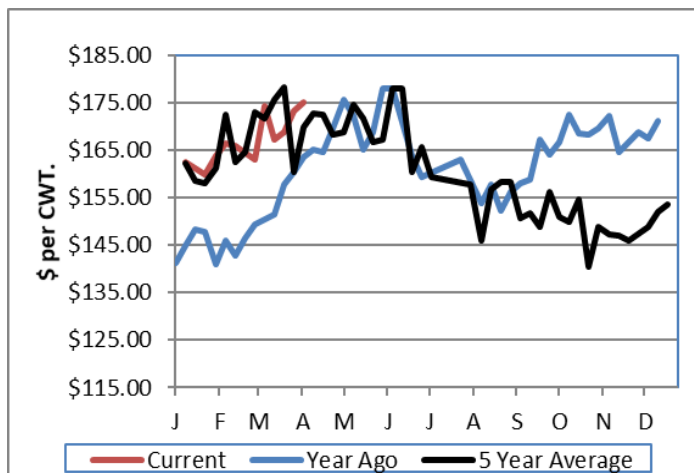
Billings.LPGMN@ams.usda.gov

CATTLE: Receipts: 3,921; Last Week 7,300; Last Year 1,061. Compared to last week: Feeder steers 500-749 lbs, and feeder heifers 500-699 lbs offered the best test this week as these cattle sold generally steady in a narrower comparison. Quality this week was mostly average overall. Cattle were offered in small packages with a very limited offering of load lots. Most cattle were in light to moderate flesh and suitable to go to grass and run as yearlings. Despite lighter offerings this week demand for feeders was mostly moderate to good. CME contract prices struggled earlier in the week, however by late week contracts found support and traded with strong gains. The April contract as of Thursdays close was 146.325, May 150.075, and August 157.20. Market activity this week was moderate to active. Weigh up cows sold on good to very good demand this week. Packers were the driving force in the market as they showed strong demand for cows for immediate harvest. Packers purchased all type of cows to send to harvest, even dipping into feeding quality cows in order to secure needs. Slaughter cows sold mixed this week, however the bulk of sales sold 6.00-10.00 higher than last week. Feeding buyers were forced to pay higher money for cows this week in order to secure offerings as packers absorbed much of the cow supply for harvest. Feeding cows sold mostly 4.00-8.00 higher. Slaughter bulls sold mostly 3.00-4.00 higher. Offerings this week consisted of 64 percent feeder cattle, 10 percent slaughter cows, 3 percent slaughter bulls, 20 percent feeding cows and bulls and cows returning to the country, balance bred cows, heifers, and pairs. http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/bl_ls754.txt

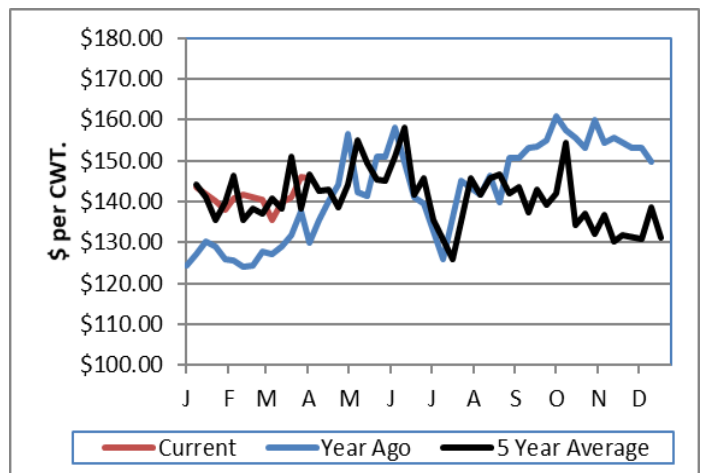
MONTANA WEEKLY FEEDER CATTLE WEIGHTED AVERAGES

Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1			Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1		
Weight Range	This Week	Year Ago	Weight Range	This Week	Year Ago
300-400 lbs.	NA	NA	300-400 lbs.	NA	NA
400-500 lbs.	188.00-196.50	NA	400-500 lbs.	159.50-171.00	NA
500-600 lbs.	173.00-200.75	NA	500-600 lbs.	150.00-164.00	150.00
600-700 lbs.	154.00-176.50	156.00-167.50	600-700 lbs.	139.50-151.75	125.00-143.00
700-800 lbs.	142.00-159.00	142.00-142.25	700-800 lbs.	130.25-136.50	123.50-125.50
800-900 lbs.	130.50-137.00	NA	800-900 lbs.	NA	NA
900-1000 lbs.	129.00	NA	900-1000 lbs.	114.00	NA

Weekly Medium and Large 1 500-700 lb. Feeder Steer Price



Weekly Medium and Large 1 700-900 lb. Feeder Steer Price

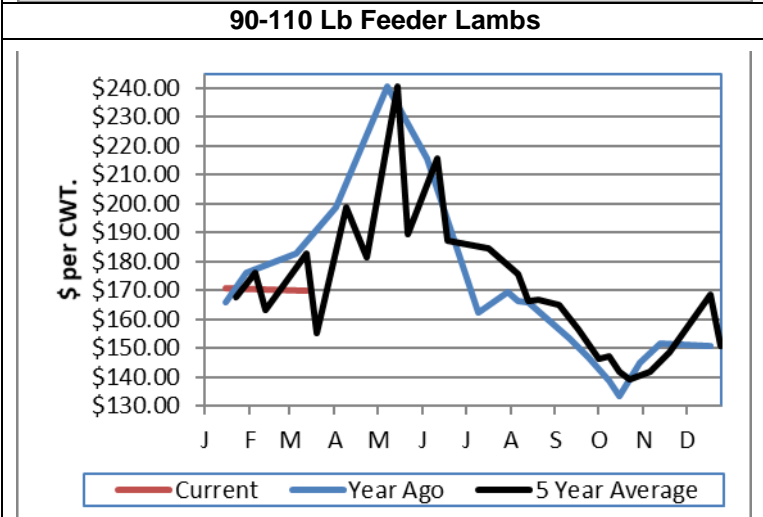
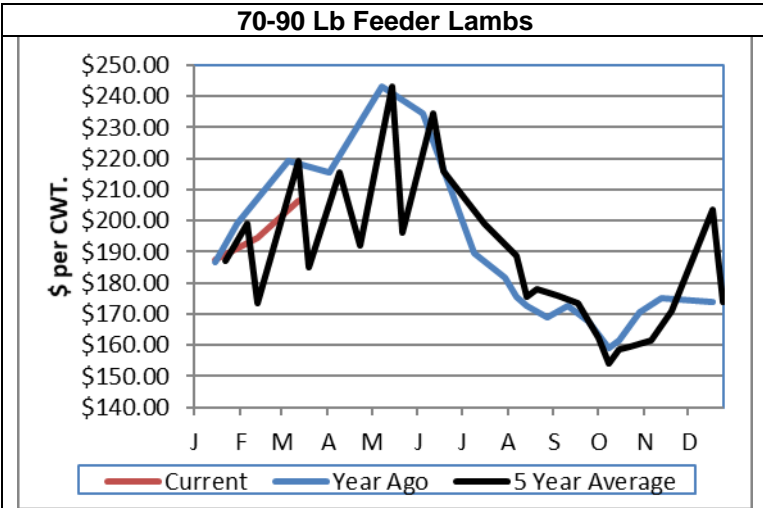


Weekly Montana Slaughter Cow and Bull Prices Average Dressing

	Percent Lean	This Week	Last Year
Breakers	75-80	58.50-63.50	65.00-67.00
Boners	80-85	58.00-62.00	66.00-72.00
Lean	85-90	52.00-61.00	62.50-72.00
Bulls	YG 1-2	74.50-83.50	85.00-92.50

Feeding bulls: 1390-1455 lbs 71.50-77.50. **Baby calves:** 115 lbs 300.00 per head. **Feeding Cows and Cows Returning to the Country:** 2 yrs old 775-1265 lbs 81.25-117.00, heifers 620-1420 lbs 93.00-128.75. 3 yrs old: 710-1435 lbs 62.00-105.00, thin 60.00. Young age: 900-1685 lbs 56.00-67.00, thin/full 55.00-59.00, rebreed quality 67.00-89.00. Middle age: 1040-1735 lbs 54.00-65.00. Aged 1075-1573 lbs 53.50-62.00, thin 52.50-54.50.

MONTANA SHEEP MONTHLY SUMMARY



SHEEP 03/11/19

Receipts: 1,138; Last Sale (Feb 11th): 3,88;1 Year Ago: 1,162. Compared to last sale (Feb 11th): Feeder lambs 70-109 lbs sold mostly 5.00-10.00 higher; lambs over 110 lbs were too lightly tested to develop an accurate market trend, however higher to sharply higher undertones were noticed. Quality this sale was average to attractive. Demand was mostly good with very good demand noticed at times. Market activity was mostly active. Slaughter ewes sold on mostly good demand for light offerings. Slaughter ewes sold mostly steady to 3.00 higher on good ewes. All other classes of ewes were too lightly tested to develop an accurate market trend, however lower undertones were noticed. Demand for blackface ewes continues to be good, as these ewes continue to offer a strong 10.00 premium to whiteface ewes. Slaughter kids sold mostly steady with last month. Most slaughter kids are destined for ethnic harvest. Demand for slaughter kids remains good to very good. Quality this week was mostly average to attractive. Sheep receipts were 24 percent slaughter ewes and bucks, 0 percent slaughter lambs, 73 percent feeder lambs, balance ewes returning to the country and breeding stock. Goat receipts were 32 percent slaughter kids, 30 percent nannies, 13 percent feeder kids, balance billies, weathers and replacement goats. Sheep comprised 80 percent of all receipts while goat comprised 20 percent. All sheep and goats sold on a per cwt basis, all breeding stock sold on a per head basis unless otherwise noted. www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/BL_LS350.txt

FEEDER LAMBS M&L 1-2		SLAUGHTER EWES	
70-80 lbs	200.00-215.00	Good (2-3)	50.00-91.00
80-90 lbs	189.00-204.00	Good (3-4)	51.00-55.50
90-100 lbs	167.50-189.00	Utility (1-2)	52.00-68.00
100-110 lbs	157.00-169.00	Cull (1)	51.00-57.00
110-120 lbs	151.00-163.00	---	---

Slaughter bucks: 200-288 lbs Average dressing 52.00-61.00, hair sheep 150 lbs 80.00.

Ewes returning to the country: Young age 174 lbs 78.00, Middle age 146 lbs 56.00.

HAY: 4/05/19 Compared to last week: Alfalfa hay sold steady. Demand for squares to ship out of the state is good, however supplies of squares are very light. Demand for hay in rounds is light to moderate and has improved slightly as neighboring states are accepting some rounds due to very tight square supplies. Some rumblings are beginning to be heard on new crop contracts. Negotiating is starting to take place, however no official sales have been found. Good moisture conditions are being seen across much of the state and warmer weather is begging to return. Run off in some locations have producers nervous as they worry about hay in the stack. Straw sold steady on limited sales. All prices are dollars per ton and FOB unless otherwise noted. **Alfalfa:** Supreme: Small squares, 200.00-250.00; Large squares, 150.00; Large rounds, 110.00. Premium: Large squares, 150.00; Large rounds, 120.00; Small squares, 200.00. Good: Large squares, 120.00-135.00; Large rounds, 110.00-120.00. Fair/Good: Large squares, 105.00-125.00; Large rounds, 85.00-115.00; Small Squares, 125.00-140.00. Utility Large rounds, 75.00-80.00; Large squares, 80.00-120.00. **Grass/Alfalfa:** Good: Small squares, 180.00. Fair: Large rounds, 80.00-100.00; Small squares, 120.00-130.00. Utility: Large squares, 70.00-90.00. **Grass:** Premium Small squares, 200.00. Good: Small squares, 185.00. Fair: Large squares, 125.00; Large rounds, 90.00; Small squares, 130.00. Utility: Large rounds, 70.00. **Timothy Grass:** Premium: Small squares, 225.00-240.00. Good: Small squares, 160.00-180.00. **Barley Straw:** Large squares, 40.00-45.00; Large rounds, 40.00-45.00. **Wheat straw:** South central Large squares, 35.00-40.00. Northern Large squares, 35.00-40.00. www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/bl_gr310.txt

GRAIN: 4/05/19 Compared to 3/29/19, Winter Wheat closed .01 to .07 cents per bushel higher; Spring Wheat closed .27 to .35 cents per bushel lower; Feed barley closed steady. www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/bl_gr110.txt

MONTANA WEEKLY GRAIN PRICES			
	12 Percent Winter Wheat	14 Percent Spring Wheat	Feed Barley/CWT
Billings Area	4.66-4.81	4.90-5.06	---
Great Falls	4.84-4.95	4.99-5.12	6.25-6.50
Northeast MT	4.24-4.63	4.48-4.88	---