

# MARKET WATCH CATTLE

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Dairy slaughter for the week ending July 18 was 52,900 head, which is a 200-head increase from the previous week's total but 200 head less than the same week last year. Year-to-date, dairy slaughter is 1.577 million head, 73,300 head greater than the same time period last year. In the July 21 Milk Production report, the USDA reported U.S. dairy herd size for June 2015 at 9.317 million head, down 7,000 head from May. Year-to-date, the U.S. dairy herd has grown by 13,000 head.

The U.S. average price for dairy cows in June was \$113 per hundredweight (cwt), down \$1 per cwt

from May but up \$7 per cwt from June 2014. The seasonal pattern calls for prices to trend sideways to lower for the next few months.

On the July 22 USDA Cold Storage report, June total beef stocks fell roughly 2 percent from May but were up more than 30 percent from the year prior. On July 24, the USDA Cattle on Feed report put July 1 inventory at 10.236 million head. This is down 3 percent from June but is up 2 percent from July 1, 2014. The report also put June feedlot placements at 1.481 million head. This is down 14 percent from May but up 1 percent from June

2014. Finally, cattle marketed in June totaled 1.747 million head, which is up 2 percent from May but down 5 percent from June 2014.

Both live cattle and feeder cattle futures have trended lower for the past month. In fact, live cattle futures have trended lower ever since they put in a short-term high on June 10 at \$154.40 per cwt on the August 2015 live cattle contract. Very good pasture conditions in most of the country have supported a rebuild of the cow herd, pressuring cattle prices lower. Additionally, the shift in beef production from second quarter to third quarter is

expected to show an increase of 365 million pounds. If so, that would be the second-highest second- to third-quarter shift in beef production on record and could keep pressure on the market.

If the expected increase in beef production from second quarter to third quarter does in fact take place, it would suggest that the seasonal "late summer" low for cattle prices could occur later than usual this year. Producers should consider having a plan in place to protect their cull prices now in case lower prices stick around longer than expected. **PD**

MARKETWATCH August 7, 2015	Top Springer	Top Average	Medium Holstein Springer	Shortbreds	Open Heifers Light	Open Heifers Heavy	Heifer Calves	Bull Calves	Breeding Bulls
<b>Empire Livestock – Burton Market</b> Vernon, NY (800) 257-1819 (sale 8/6/15)	\$1,900 NC	\$1,600 NC	\$1,400 \$200 ▼	\$1,500 \$100 ▲	\$600 \$50 ▼	\$1,100 \$100 ▼	\$200 \$200 ▼	\$350 \$300 ▼	\$1,100 \$100 ▼
<b>Mammoth Cave Dairy Auction, Inc.</b> Smiths Grove, KY (800) 563-2131 (sale 8/4/15)	\$2,000 \$175 ▼	\$1,875 \$25 ▼	\$1,525 NC	N/T	\$775 \$175 ▲	\$1,125 \$100 ▼	\$350 \$50 ▼	\$450 \$10 ▼	N/T
<b>New Holland Sales Stables</b> New Holland, PA (717) 354-4341 (sale 8/5/15)	\$2,175 \$100 ▼	\$1,900 \$75 ▼	\$1,575 \$100 ▼	\$2,050 \$175 ▲	\$850 \$250 ▼	\$1,150 \$275 ▼	N/T	N/T	\$1,475 \$125 ▼
<b>Mid-Georgia Livestock Auction</b> Jackson, GA (770) 775-7314 (sale 7/8/15)	\$2,250 \$175 ▲	\$2,100 \$375 ▲	\$1,650 \$325 ▲	\$2,025 \$25 ▲	\$925 \$450 ▼	\$1,175 \$450 ▼	\$380	\$410	N/T
<b>Central Livestock Association</b> Zumbrota, MN (877) 732-7305 (sale 7/28/15)	\$2,185 \$10 ▲	\$1,935 \$90 ▼	\$1,475 \$150 ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T
<b>Equity Co-op Livestock</b> Stratford, WI (715) 687-4101 Rocky Olsen (608) 434-4037 (sale 8/4/15)	\$2,200 \$375 ▼	\$2,100 \$150 ▼	\$1,900 \$50 ▼	\$1,7650 \$100 ▲	\$950 \$150 ▼	\$1,475 \$105 ▼	\$580 \$30 ▲	\$640 \$20 ▲	\$2,000
<b>Lake Odessa Livestock/Ravenna Auction LLC</b> Lake Odessa, MI (616) 374-8213 (sale 8/4/15)	\$2,600 \$500 ▲	\$1,750 \$150 ▼	\$1,600 \$100 ▼	\$1,500 \$100 ▲	\$500 \$400 ▼	\$900 \$500 ▼	\$500 NC	N/T	\$1,750 \$100 ▲
<b>Norwood Dairy Cattle Auction</b> Norwood, MO (417) 746-4242 (sale 7/10/15)	\$2,100 \$50 ▼	\$1,920 NC	\$1,550 \$75 ▲	\$1,725 \$140 ▼	\$825 \$50 ▲	\$1,300 \$110 ▼	\$610 \$240 ▲	\$480 \$50 ▼	N/T
<b>Pipestone Livestock Auction Market</b> Pipestone, MN (507) 825-3306 (sale 7/16/15)	\$2,475 \$75 ▲	\$2,281 \$38 ▲	\$2,229 \$74 ▲	N/T	\$232/cwt \$7/cwt ▲	\$192/cwt \$3/cwt ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T
<b>Springfield Livestock Marketing Center</b> Springfield, MO (417) 869-9500 Doug Thomas (417) 840-9316 (sale 7/28/15)	\$2,100 \$85 ▼	\$1,800 \$200 ▼	\$1,450 \$50 ▼	\$1,600 \$110 ▼	\$940 \$50 ▲	\$1,540 \$280 ▲	\$360 \$100 ▼	\$480 \$50 ▼	N/T
<b>Topeka Livestock Auction</b> Topeka, IN (206) 593-2522 (sale 8/4/15)	\$2,150 \$135 ▼	\$1,983 \$208 ▲	N/T	N/T	\$155/cwt \$80/cwt ▼	\$158/cwt \$4/cwt ▼	\$460 \$40 ▼	N/T	\$1,400 \$150 ▼
<b>Tri-State Livestock</b> Sioux Center, IA (712) 722-0681 Mike Koedam (712) 470-0198 (sale 7/15/15)	\$2,500 \$150 ▼	\$2,225 \$55 ▼	\$2,150 \$15 ▲	N/T	\$260/cwt	\$170/cwt	N/T	N/T	N/T
<b>United Producers, Inc.</b> Marion, MI (517) 294-3484 (sale 7/17/15)	\$2,800 \$200 ▼	\$2,400 \$100 ▼	\$2,000 NC	\$1,550 \$250 ▼	\$1,150 \$175 ▼	\$1,300 \$325 ▲	\$400 NC	N/T	\$1,300 \$250 ▼
<b>Brush Livestock of Colorado</b> Brush, CO (970) 842-2801 (sale 8/4/15)	\$2,700 \$25 ▼	\$2,600 NC	\$2,490 NC	\$2,125 \$165 ▲	\$1,000 NC	\$1,575 \$375 ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T
<b>Chehalis Livestock Market</b> Chehalis, WA (360) 748-3191 (sale 7/31/15)	\$2,000 \$100 ▼	\$1,640 \$355 ▼	\$1,450 \$150 ▼	\$1,200	N/T	\$147/cwt \$7/cwt ▲	\$200 NC	\$300 NC	N/T
<b>Producers Livestock</b> Jerome, ID (208) 324-4345 (sale 8/5/15)	\$2,550 \$25 ▲	\$2,480 \$20 ▲	\$2,300 \$50 ▼	N/T	\$235	\$856	N/T	N/T	N/T
<b>Smithfield Livestock Auction</b> Smithfield, UT (435) 563-3259 (sale 7/16/15)	\$2,175 \$25 ▼	\$2,000 \$190 ▼	\$1,800 \$250 ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T
<b>Toppenish Dairy Replacement Sales</b> Toppenish, WA (509) 865-2820 (sale 8/7/15)	\$2,325 \$5 ▼	\$2,110 \$90 ▼	\$1,870 \$70 ▲	\$1,800 \$150 ▼	\$260/cwt \$10/cwt ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T	\$1,750
<b>Sulphur Springs Livestock &amp; Dairy Auction</b> Sulphur Springs, TX (903) 885-7739 (sale 7/16/15)	\$2,200 \$250 ▲	\$1,800 NC	\$1,775 \$275 ▲	N/T	\$1,250 \$150 ▲	\$1,475 \$25 ▼	\$475 \$125 ▲	\$390 \$10 ▼	\$1,525
<b>Farmers Livestock Market</b> Oakdale, CA (209) 847-1033 (sale 8/6/15)	\$3,000 \$200 ▲	\$2,550 \$150 ▲	\$2,000 NC	\$1,800 \$150 ▼	\$290/cwt \$15/cwt ▲	\$225/cwt NC	\$350 \$25 ▲	\$400 \$130 ▼	\$1,500 NC

Contact Judy about being included in *Progressive Dairyman's* Market Watch! judy@progressivedairy.com • (208) 324-7513 NC = No change N/T = No test Decrease in price ▼ Increase in price ▲

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