

Dairy slaughter for the week ending Oct. 8 was 57,200 head, which is a 1,000-head increase from the previous week's total and a 1,700-head decrease from the same week last year. Year-to-date, dairy slaughter is 2.2076 million head compared to 2.2418 million head slaughtered this same week last year. In the Oct. 20 Milk Production report, the USDA reported U.S. dairy herd size for September 2016 at 9.338 million head, which is 3,000 head fewer than August. Year-to-date, the U.S. herd size has increased by 18,000 head.

The U.S. average price for dairy cows in September was \$74.50 per hundredweight, down \$6.10 hundredweight from August and

down \$29.50 hundredweight from September 2015. The seasonal pattern calls for prices to continue drifting lower into the end of the year.

In the Oct. 21 USDA Cold Storage report, September total beef stocks increased 9 percent from August and increased 4 percent from last year. On Oct. 21, the USDA Cattle on Feed report put Oct. 1 inventory at 10.266 million head. This is a 1 percent increase from the same month last year. The report also put September feedlot placements at 1.905 million head, which is down 2 percent from September 2015. Finally, cattle marketed in September totaled 1.732 million head, which is a 5 percent increase from last year.

Live cattle and feeder cattle futures have been in a strong downtrend for months. However, prices have been working higher over the past couple weeks and are distancing themselves from the October lows. The market is supported by steady cash prices, and there's continued hope for a more positive outlook for beef demand going into this strong demand time of year.

Year-end holidays tend to bring underlying support beneath the market. The question, at this point, remains whether or not the current move higher is sustainable at the end of the year. Feeder cattle futures had a similar rally during this time last year only to have the rally subside by early



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December. The futures market then fell lower throughout the month of December, wiping out the majority of the rally.

With seasonal demand picking up, both market sentiment and market price for live cattle and feeder cattle futures should improve. This could help ease the bearish pressure on prices and could keep contracts moving higher. Producers should have a plan in place to take advantage of higher prices if they present themselves. ↗

AUCTION PRICES November 7, 2016	Top Springer	Top Average	Medium Holstein Springer	Short-breds	Open Heifers Light	Open Heifers Heavy	Heifer Calves	Bull Calves	Breeding Bulls
Empire Livestock – Burton Market Vernon, NY (800) 257-1819 (sale 11/3/16)	\$1,675 \$175 ▲	\$1,350 \$50 ▲	\$1,250 \$50 ▲	\$600 \$500 ▼	\$550 \$50 ▲	\$800 NC	\$75 NC	\$48 \$8 ▲	\$900 NC
Mammoth Cave Dairy Auction, Inc. Smiths Grove, KY (800) 563-2131 (sale 11/1/16)	\$1,600 \$25 ▼	\$1,450 NC	\$1,300 NC	\$1,075 \$25 ▼	\$525 \$25 ▼	\$735 \$165 ▼	\$130 \$10 ▼	\$90 \$30 ▼	N/T
New Holland Sales Stables New Holland, PA (717) 354-4341 (sale 11/7/16)	\$1,700 \$300 ▲	\$1,600 \$400 ▲	\$1,375 \$325 ▲	\$1,275 \$100 ▼	\$550 \$275 ▼	\$1,025 \$15 ▲	N/T	N/T	\$1,400 \$75 ▲
Mid-Georgia Livestock Auction Jackson, GA (770) 775-7314 (sale 10/26/16)	N/T	N/T	\$1,100 \$100 ▲	\$1,025 \$75 ▼	\$620 \$10 ▼	\$920 \$70 ▲	\$100 NC	\$75 \$5 ▲	N/T
Central Livestock Association Zumbrota, MN (877) 732-7305 (sale 10/25/16)	\$1,535 \$85 ▲	\$800 \$400 ▼	N/T	\$1,385 \$135 ▲	\$400 \$320 ▼	\$725 \$430 ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T
Equity Co-op Livestock Stratford, WI (715) 687-4101 Perry Wolff (715) 966-4850 (sale 11/7/16)	\$1,450 NC	\$1,200 NC	\$1,175 NC	\$1,250 NC	\$720 NC	\$1,155 NC	\$265 \$5 ▲	\$118 \$3 ▲	N/T
Lake Odessa Livestock /Ravenna Auction LLC Lake Odessa, MI (616) 374-8213 (sale 10/20/16)	\$1,900 \$150 ▲	\$1,700 \$300 ▲	\$1,500 \$100 ▲	\$1,300 \$350 ▲	\$700 \$200 ▲	\$1,100 \$400 ▲	\$500 \$250 ▲	\$150	\$1,200 \$250 ▼
Norwood Dairy Cattle Auction Norwood, MO (417) 746-4242 (sale 10/14/16)	\$1,385 \$415 ▼	\$1,250 \$350 ▼	\$1,150 \$25 ▼	\$1,050 \$300 ▼	\$450 \$135 ▼	\$950 \$40 ▼	\$280 NC	\$135 \$15 ▼	N/T
Pipestone Livestock Auction Market Pipestone, MN (507) 825-3306 (sale 10/20/16)	\$1,875 \$25 ▼	\$1,748 \$67 ▼	\$1,709 \$79 ▼	N/T	\$118/cwt \$1/cwt ▼	\$142/cwt \$8/cwt ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T
Springfield Livestock Marketing Center Springfield, MO (417) 869-9500 Doug Thomas (417) 840-9316 (sale 10/26/16)	\$1,525 \$475 ▼	\$1,200 \$100 ▼	N/T	N/T	\$600 \$160 ▼	\$1,000 \$100 ▼	\$250 \$50 ▼	\$225 \$65 ▲	N/T
Topeka Livestock Auction Topeka, IN (206) 593-2522 (sale 11/2/16)	\$1,460 \$50 ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T	\$245 \$330 ▼	\$750 \$210 ▼	\$310 \$110 ▲	N/T	\$1,050 NC
Tri-State Livestock Sioux Center, IA (712) 722-0681 Mike Koedam (712) 470-0198 (sale 10/19/16)	\$1,925 \$125 ▼	\$1,819 \$36 ▼	\$1,665 \$95 ▼	N/T	\$390 \$10 ▼	\$159/cwt \$16/cwt ▲	N/T	N/T	\$1,025 NC
United Producers, Inc. Marion, MI (517) 294-3484 (sale 10/21/16)	\$2,050 \$50 ▲	\$1,700 \$100 ▼	\$1,400 \$100 ▼	\$1,100 \$300 ▼	\$450 \$50 ▼	\$950 NC	N/T	N/T	\$1,100 \$200 ▼
Brush Livestock of Colorado Brush, CO (970) 842-2801 (sale 11/3/16)	\$2,000 \$100 ▼	\$1,950 \$100 ▼	\$1,025 \$75 ▼	\$1,675 \$155 ▼	\$675	\$1,060	N/T	N/T	N/T
Chehalis Livestock Market Chehalis, WA (360) 748-3191 (sale 10/28/16)	\$1,650	N/T	\$1,200 \$100 ▼	\$875 \$25 ▼	N/T	N/T	\$75	\$20	\$1,000
Producers Livestock Jerome, ID (208) 324-4345 (sale 11/2/16)	\$1,725 \$275 ▼	\$1,680 \$20 ▼	\$1,600 \$240 ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T
Toppenish Dairy Replacement Sales Toppenish, WA (509) 865-2820 (sale 10/10/16)	\$1,825 \$25 ▼	\$1,700 NC	\$1,600 NC	\$1,610 \$40 ▼	\$185/cwt NC	\$150/cwt NC	\$15 \$100 ▼	\$25 \$65 ▼	N/T
Escalon Livestock Market Escalon, CA (209) 838-7011 (sale 11/2/16)	\$1,800 NC	\$1,500 NC	\$1,225 NC	\$1,000 NC	\$160/cwt NC	\$120/cwt NC	N/T	N/T	N/T
Sulphur Springs Livestock & Dairy Auction Sulphur Springs, TX (903) 885-7739 (sale 10/20/16)	\$1,600 \$275 ▲	\$1,225 \$125 ▲	\$1,200 \$100 ▲	\$900 \$25 ▼	\$800 \$150 ▲	\$975 \$25 ▼	\$145 \$45 ▼	\$180 \$55 ▲	\$690
Farmers Livestock Market Oakdale, CA (209) 847-1033 (sale 11/3/16)	\$1,725 \$75 ▼	\$1,500 \$50 ▼	\$1,375 \$25 ▼	N/T	\$170/cwt \$10/cwt ▼	\$140/cwt \$10/cwt ▼	\$220 \$10 ▲	\$30 \$5 ▲	\$1,100 \$100 ▼

N/T = No test NC = No change Decrease (since last sale) ▼ Increase (since last sale) ▲

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