

Dairy slaughter for the week ending Jan. 14 was 60,900 head, a 3,800-head increase from the previous week's total and 4,600 head less than the same week last year. Year-to-date, dairy slaughter is 118,000 head compared to 134,000 head slaughtered the same week last year. In the Jan. 24 Milk Production report, the USDA reported U.S. dairy herd size for December 2016 at 9.358 million head, 11,000 head more than November. Year-to-date, the U.S. herd size in 2016 increased by 38,000 head.

The U.S. average price for cull dairy cows in December was \$61.10 per hundredweight, down \$0.80 from

November and down \$13.70 from December 2015. The seasonal pattern calls for prices to begin the year lower, then drift higher into spring.

In the Jan. 24 USDA Cold Storage report, December total beef stocks were up 7 percent from November and increased 11 percent from last year. On Jan. 27, the USDA Cattle on Feed report put Jan. 1 inventory at 10.605 million head. This was unchanged from the same month last year. The report also put December feedlot placements at 1.795 million head, 18 percent higher than December 2015. Finally, cattle marketed in December totaled 1.787 million head, which is a 7 percent

increase from last year.

Live cattle and feeder cattle futures had a strong recovery from October through late January. Contracts had gained back a good chunk of the loss they incurred in the prior down move. However, the market quickly turned defensive at the end of January, due in part to the Jan. 27 Cattle on Feed report. The report showed feedlots were much more aggressive in placing cattle on feed during December than analysts expected. More than a half-million cattle were placed on feed in November and December. This is likely a result of the good pasture conditions and poor returns that



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limited feedlot demand for cattle in the months prior.

The strong rise in cattle placed on feed at the end of 2016 was unexpected and has created a bearish tone in the market. Prices may trend lower until demand increases or cattle numbers decrease moving forward. Producers should have a plan in place to protect these prices should market sentiment remain negative. ↘

AUCTION PRICES February 8, 2017	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 2/2/17)	\$1,300 \$300 ▼	\$1,150 \$150 ▼	\$1,000 \$50 ▼	\$1,100 \$150 ▼	\$400 NC	\$700 NC	\$70 NC	\$50 \$2 ▼	\$800 \$50 ▼
Mammoth Cave Dairy Auction, Inc. Smiths Grove, KY (800) 563-2131 (sale 2/7/17)	\$1,575 \$200 ▼	\$1,450 \$50 ▼	\$1,300 \$25 ▼	\$925 \$25 ▼	\$400 \$40 ▼	\$775 \$25 ▼	\$150 \$10 ▼	\$140 \$30 ▲	N/T
New Holland Sales Stables New Holland, PA (717) 354-4341 (sale 2/1/17)	\$1,475 \$50 ▼	\$1,450 \$50 ▲	\$1,175 \$50 ▼	\$875 \$425 ▼	\$500 \$300 ▼	\$960 \$60 ▲	N/T	N/T	\$875 \$425 ▼
Mid-Georgia Livestock Auction Jackson, GA (770) 775-7314 (sale 1/12/17)	\$1,575 \$125 ▼	\$1,175 \$325 ▼	\$700 \$400 ▼	\$1,300 \$500 ▲	\$650	\$825	\$220 \$135 ▲	\$100 \$60 ▲	N/T
Central Livestock Association Zumbrota, MN (877) 732-7305 (sale 1/24/17)	\$1,700 \$40 ▲	\$1,600 \$100 ▲	\$1,500 \$165 ▲	N/T	N/t	N/T	N/T	N/T	\$625
Equity Co-op Livestock Stratford, WI (715) 687-4101 Perry Wolff (715) 966-4850 (sale 2/8/17)	\$1,650 \$50 ▲	\$1,200 NC	\$1,150 NC	\$1,300 \$50 ▲	\$145/cwt	\$125/cwt	\$340 \$120 ▲	\$125 \$7 ▼	N/T
Lake Odessa Livestock /Ravenna Auction LLC Lake Odessa, MI (616) 374-8213 (sale 1/19/17)	\$1,750 \$50 ▼	\$1,550 \$150 ▼	\$1,300 \$300 ▼	\$1,250 \$150 ▼	\$750 \$50 ▲	\$1,000 NC	\$275 \$225 ▼	\$110 \$90 ▼	\$1,250 \$50 ▼
Norwood Dairy Cattle Auction Norwood, MO (417) 746-4242 (sale 1/13/17)	\$1,625 \$50 ▲	\$1,470 \$170 ▲	\$810 \$65 ▼	\$950 \$235 ▼	\$480 \$110 ▼	\$865 \$85 ▼	\$220 \$40 ▼	\$85 \$25 ▼	N/T
Pipestone Livestock Auction Market Pipestone, MN (507) 825-3306 (sale 1/19/17)	\$1,875 \$175 ▲	\$1,747 \$113 ▲	\$1,680 \$81 ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T
Springfield Livestock Marketing Center Springfield, MO (417) 869-9500 Doug Thomas (417) 840-9316 (sale 1/25/17)	\$1,650 \$50 ▲	\$1,325 \$25 ▼	\$975 \$25 ▼	\$1,000 \$385 ▼	\$550 \$20 ▼	\$975 \$95 ▲	\$210 \$70 ▼	\$200 \$70 ▲	N/T
Topeka Livestock Auction Topeka, IN (206) 593-2522 (sale 1/31/17)	\$1,510 \$165 ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T	\$430 \$5 ▲	\$590 \$135 ▼	\$105 \$10 ▼	N/T	\$925 \$300 ▼
Tri-State Livestock Sioux Center, IA (712) 722-0681 Mike Koedam (712) 470-0198 (sale 1/18/17)	\$1,925 \$200 ▲	\$1,795 \$180 ▲	\$1,665 \$100 ▲	N/T	\$112/cwt	\$107/cwt \$15/cwt ▼	\$235	N/T	\$1,275
United Producers, Inc. Marion, MI (517) 294-3484 (sale 12/16/16)	\$1,800 \$20 ▲	\$1,600 \$50 ▼	\$1,200 \$100 ▼	\$1,100 NC	\$450 NC	\$800 \$150 ▼	\$100	N/T	\$1,100
Brush Livestock of Colorado Brush, CO (970) 842-2801 (sale 2/2/17)	\$1,950 \$65 ▲	\$1,900 \$50 ▲	\$1,820 \$35 ▲	\$1,710	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T
Chehalis Livestock Market Chehalis, WA (360) 748-3191 (sale 2/3/17)	N/T	N/T	\$1,350 NC	\$900 \$100 ▼	\$125/cwt	\$90/cwt	N/T	N/T	\$1,100 \$100 ▼
Producers Livestock Jerome, ID (208) 324-4345 (sale 1/25/17)	\$1,700 \$25 ▲	\$1,660 \$35 ▲	\$1,560 \$60 ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T
Toppenish Dairy Replacement Sales Toppenish, WA (509) 865-2820 (sale 2/2/17)	\$1,750 \$135 ▼	\$1,700 \$150 ▼	\$1,400 \$305 ▼	\$1,300	\$190/cwt \$5/cwt ▲	\$160/cwt \$10/cwt ▲	\$100 \$50 ▲	\$40	\$1,200
Escalon Livestock Market Escalon, CA (209) 838-7011 (sale 2/1/17)	\$1,700 \$100 ▼	\$1,500 NC	\$1,275 NC	\$1,300 NC	\$180/cwt NC	\$130/cwt NC	\$65 \$15 ▲	\$30 NC	N/T
Sulphur Springs Livestock & Dairy Auction Sulphur Springs, TX (903) 885-7739 (sale 2/2/17)	\$1,525 \$100 ▼	\$1,200 NC	\$1,200 \$25 ▲	\$800 \$50 ▲	\$675 \$75 ▼	\$975 NC	\$240 \$60 ▲	\$80 \$100 ▼	\$575 \$175 ▼
Farmers Livestock Market Oakdale, CA (209) 847-1033 (sale 2/2/17)	\$1,800 \$50 ▼	\$1,500 \$50 ▼	\$1,300 NC	N/T	\$165/cwt \$5/cwt ▼	\$125/cwt \$5/cwt ▼	\$200 NC	\$50 \$15 ▼	N/T

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

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