

# Dairy Cow Slaughter Above Last Year's Figures



**GLENN GRIMES AND  
RON PLAIN**

Agricultural Economists,  
University of Missouri

**C**ow slaughter through the week ending November 28 is very close to a year earlier, down 0.2 percent. However, dairy cow slaughter for this period was up 10.2 percent and the beef cow slaughter was down 7.6 percent.

Cow slaughter for the four-week period ending November 28 has shown some changes from the year to date. Total cow slaughter for these four weeks was up 2.7 percent, dairy cow slaughter was down 0.2 percent and beef cow slaughter was up by 4.6 percent.

Demand for meats at the consumer level is mixed. Pork and turkey demand for January-October was up: pork by 2.6 percent and turkey by 3.6 percent. Beef and broilers are down with beef for January-October down 2.8 percent and broilers down 3.4 percent based on the demand index.

Demand for live fed cattle and live hogs are both down for the first 10 months of 2009 compared to last year. Beef was down 8.2 percent

and live hog was at a negative five percent.

Feeder steers \$1-2 per cwt lower, feeder heifers steady to \$1.00 lower and steer and heifer calves steady to \$3.00 per cwt lower than last week at Oklahoma City this week.

The range in prices for medium and large frame Number One steers by weight groups were: 400-500 pounds \$114.50-122 per cwt, 500-600 pounds \$98-113 per cwt, 600-700 pound calves \$92-98.50 per cwt, 600-700 pound yearlings \$92-98.50 per cwt, 700-800 pounds \$91.25-95.75 per cwt, and 800-900 pounds \$90-93.75 per cwt.

Wholesale beef prices this Friday morning showed Choice beef at \$135.42 per cwt down \$1.27 per cwt from last week. Select beef at \$129.40 per cwt down \$2.01 per cwt from seven days earlier.

Live fed cattle prices weighted average through Thursday for the five-market area at \$79.17 per cwt down \$2.35 per cwt from a week earlier. Weighted average negotiated carcass prices for the five-market area through Thursday at \$127.51 per cwt down \$2.52 from seven days earlier.

Slaughter this week under Federal Inspection was estimated at 613 thousand head up 0.8 percent from a year earlier.  $\Delta$

*GLENN GRIMES AND RON PLAIN: Agricultural Economists, University of Missouri*



Link Directly To: **AMERICOT**