



# State of Iowa

## Feedlot Summary

The Iowa feedlot closeout data for the second quarter of 1989 is contained on the backside of this bulletin. This summary represents 178 pens of finished cattle (35,827 head) marketed from Apr. 1, 1989 through June 30, 1989. The data were collected from cattle feeders using computerized record keeping and monitoring programs in the day-to-day management of their feeding operations. This summary is prepared as a service to the cattle feeders participating in these programs.

Total cost per cwt (less interest) for the 600-800 lb. starting weight steer category averaged \$46.58 per cwt during the second quarter of 1989 versus \$47.08 per cwt during the first quarter of 1989, for a modest decrease. Total cost per cwt (less interest) for the heavier weight steer category (>800 lbs.) was \$46.46 per cwt versus \$52.35 during the first quarter of 1989, for a \$5.89 decrease. Improvement in feed conversion (7.95 vs. 8.45) explains much of this cost drop.

The average price paid by cattle feeders for a bushel of No. 2 yellow corn was \$2.52 for this last reporting period, a \$.02 per bushel decrease from the first quarter of 1989. This stable price in corn has kept the production costs for the second quarter of 1989 very much in line with those of the first quarter.

Cattle performance during the second quarter of 1989 varied some compared to the first quarter of 1989 (2.65 vs. 2.71 lb. per day) overall in all classes. Steers in the weight category of 600-800 lb. averaged 2.74 pounds per day, the heavier weight steers (starting weight >800 lbs.) averaged 2.89 lbs. per day, and steer calves (<600 lb.) gained 2.67 lb. per day.

Breakeven prices ranged from \$70.56 per cwt for light heifers (<600 lb. in-weight) to \$72.70 for the middle class steers (600-800 lb. in-weight). Average Iowa Southern Minnesota sales prices were \$75.54 per cwt for steers and \$74.13 for heifers for the second quarter of 1989 (from Dan O'Brien, ISU extension economist).

The next summary will be published in October, 1989 and will cover the marketing period of July through Sept. 1989. For additional information, contact Doyle Wilson or Dan Loy at 515-294-2240.

**FMP BYTE.** Comments in the last summary related to the need to be thorough in keeping track of nonfeed variable and fixed costs. This quarter's average for nonfeed fixed costs was \$.30±.12/head/day; the average nonfeed fixed cost was \$.06±.05/head/day. So for a 130-day feeding program, nonfeed production costs are currently running at \$46.80 per head on-the-average.

As most of you should know, version 2.0 of ISU's Feedlot Monitoring Program has been released. Sales for this new version have been very brisk. A couple of startup problems have been identified, but are easily corrected. (1) Lot (pen) description data calls for purchase price in total dollars, not dollars/cwt., and (2) Lot names cannot have periods (.). The lot name must be alpha-numeric characters (eight or fewer). Both of these changes must be made on existing lots and new lots you set up. To correct the purchase price, just update the lot header data. To remove periods in lot names, use the program option to rename a lot.

STATE OF IOWA FEEDLOT SUMMARY<sup>a,b</sup>

Apr. 1, 1989 - Jun. 30, 1989

Item	Holstein Steers	Steer starting weight, lb.			Heifer starting weight, lb.	
		<600	600-800	>800	<600	≥600
Pay wt. in, lb.	872 ± 121	548 ± 46	689 ± 56	877 ± 67	516 ± 48	730 ± 74
Pay wt. out, lb.	1339 ± 63	1133 ± 62	1175 ± 62	1250 ± 76	1016 ± 67	1045 ± 74
Ave. daily gain, lb.	2.78 ± .24	2.67 ± .25	2.74 ± .29	2.89 ± .26	2.34 ± .22	2.47 ± .35
Feed (dm)/gain	8.68 ± 1.02	7.09 ± .65	7.60 ± .79	7.95 ± .63	7.56 ± .75	8.24 ± .74
Days on feed	167 ± 28	221 ± 27	178 ± 25	130 ± 43	214 ± 27	128 ± 22
Death loss, %	.86 ± .62	1.34 ± 1.29	.77 ± .81	.89 ± .1.20	1.32 ± .1.66	.56 ± .48
Feed cost, \$/cwt <sup>c</sup>	48.10 ± 7.45	36.93 ± 4.45	38.17 ± 5.45	39.76 ± 7.97	39.91 ± 5.08	42.97 ± 4.76
Total cost, \$/cwt	58.14 ± 9.35	51.27 ± 5.49	53.29 ± 6.15	53.32 ± 6.58	54.60 ± 7.53	57.24 ± 6.49
Total cost (less interest), \$/cwt	51.31 ± 8.65	44.28 ± 5.11	46.58 ± 6.85	46.46 ± 9.06	49.78 ± 7.88	50.21 ± 7.46
Breakeven, \$/cwt	----	71.89 ± 2.52	72.70 ± 2.64	72.17 ± 1.66	70.56 ± 4.17	71.94 ± 3.66
Number of head	1,619	9,521	10,390	1,644	5,093	7,560

<sup>a</sup>Summary statistics are based upon 178 pens of cattle closed out during Apr.-Jun. 1989. Each average includes a ± standard deviation. Approximately sixty-eight percent of all the information summarized lies within the range given by the standard deviation for each item.

<sup>b</sup>Statistical analysis conducted by Doyle E. Wilson and Dan Loy, Livestock Specialists, Iowa State Univ., Cooperative Extension Service; source of 1989 closeout data included: Evan Vermeer (Land O'Lakes), Jan Gustoff (Iowa Cattlemen's Assoc.), Dr. Bruce Van Zee (Riverside Animal Hospital), the following Cooperative Extension Service Livestock Specialists: Darrell Busby, Dennis DeWitt, Karl Griffith, Ron Irvin, and many cattle feeders with microcomputer feedlot monitoring programs.

<sup>c</sup>All costs are given in \$ per cwt of gain.