



State of Iowa

Feedlot Summary

The Iowa feedlot closeout data for the first quarter of 1990 is contained on the backside of this bulletin. This summary represents 155 pens of finished cattle (26,858 head) marketed from Jan. 1, 1990 through Mar. 31, 1990. 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 \$43.74 per cwt during the first quarter of 1990 versus \$43.64 per cwt during the fourth quarter of 1989 for an increase of \$.10. Total cost per cwt (less interest) for the heavier weight steer category (>800 lbs.) was \$42.07 per cwt versus \$43.24 during the fourth quarter of 1989, for a decrease of \$1.17.

The average price paid by cattle feeders for a bushel of No. 2 yellow corn was \$2.25 for this last reporting period, a \$.09 per bushel decrease from the fourth quarter of 1989. This drop on corn price has probably contributed to slightly lower production costs for the first quarter of 1990 compared to those of the fourth quarter of 1989 for most classes. Seasonally poorer feed conversions tended to

offset the lower feed costs somewhat, resulting in a higher cost of a production for the 600-800 weight steer category.

Breakeven prices ranged from \$60.40 per cwt for Holstein steers to \$73.19 for the light class steers (<600 lb. in-weight). Average Iowa Southern Minnesota sales prices were \$78.12 per cwt for steers and \$77.97 for heifers for the first quarter of 1990 (from Dan O'Brien, ISU extension economist).

The next summary will be published in July, 1990 and will cover the marketing period of April through June 1990. For additional information contact Doyle Wilson or Dan Loy at 515-294-2240.

FMP Byte: Death loss in previous summaries have been exceptionally low, typically from .4 to 1.0%, depending on the class of cattle. Death loss figures were higher this quarter, particularly for the <600 lb. steer class (1.92%). Dr. Nolan Hartwig, ISU extension veterinarian, notes that problems associated with respiratory disease may have been a likely cause for this increase. While it is hoped that any upturn in feedlot death losses are a short term phenomenon, producers experiencing problems may consider reviewing their current health program with their veterinarian.

STATE OF IOWA FEEDLOT SUMMARY^{a,b,c}

Jan. 1, 1990- Mar. 31, 1990

Item	Holstein Steers	Steer starting weight, lb.			Heifer starting weight, lb.	
		<600	600-800	>800	<600	≥600
Pay wt. in, lb.	886 ± 118	567 ± 36	718 ± 54	885 ± 57	542 ± 39	746 ± 93
Pay wt. out, lb.	1349 ± 64	1077 ± 68	1163 ± 69	1285 ± 79	1010 ± 51	1109 ± 81
Ave. daily gain, lb.	2.74 ± .26	2.41 ± .19	2.82 ± .38	3.19 ± .34	2.18 ± .18	2.83 ± .35
Feed (dm)/gain	8.79 ± .93	7.29 ± .68	7.56 ± .94	7.53 ± .81	8.05 ± .67	7.75 ± .75
Ave. Percent Conc.	---	77.2 ± 5.07	82.8 ± 5.67	83.4 ± 5.07	70.6 ± 7.84	82.2 ± 5.19
Days on feed	169 ± 20	212 ± 31	159 ± 28	125 ± 22	216 ± 32	130 ± 19
Death loss, %	1.10 ± .99	1.96 ± 1.74	.80 ± 1.24	.30 ± .50	1.34 ± 1.40	.68 ± .93
Feed cost, \$/cwt ^c	46.74 ± 7.10	35.27 ± 3.26	35.83 ± 5.32	34.93 ± 4.24	37.93 ± 3.98	37.51 ± 4.16
Total cost, \$/cwt	---	49.52 ± 4.35	51.31 ± 9.60	49.16 ± 6.29	52.98 ± 4.84	52.69 ± 7.04
Total cost (less interest), \$/cwt	53.64 ± 8.07	41.98 ± 3.44	43.74 ± 8.36	42.07 ± 5.99	45.49 ± 4.83	44.99 ± 6.48
Breakeven, \$/cwt	---	73.19 ± 3.00	72.70 ± 3.57	71.77 ± 3.00	70.92 ± 2.85	71.31 ± 2.88
Number of head	714	2,267	8,014	6,905	1,485	7,473

^aSummary statistics are based upon 155 pens of cattle closed out during Jan.-Mar. 1990. 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.

^bThe State of Iowa Feedlot Summary is a service to feedlot operators and owners providing closeout data to the Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service for analysis and reporting. There also are many private industry agencies cooperating with ISU in this venture and the number has become too numerous for each to be listed.

^cAll costs are given in \$ per cwt of gain.