Tennessee Market Highlights

UTEXTENSION INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

> May 3, 2024 Number: 18

Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

Steady

<u>Slaughter Bulls</u>

\$1 to \$3 higher

Feeder Steers

\$3 to \$7 higher

Feeder Heifers

\$1 to \$3 higher

Feeder Cattle Index: 243.37

Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Thursday of \$186.42 was up \$2.42 compared to last week and \$294.63 dressed, up \$0.18.

<u>Corn</u>

May closed at \$4.47 a bushel, down 3 cents since last Friday.

<u>Soybeans</u>

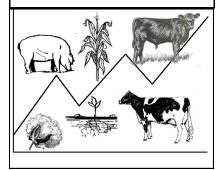
May closed at \$12.01 a bushel, up 42 cents since last Friday.

<u>Wheat</u>

May closed at \$6.06 a bushel, up 3 cents since last Friday.

<u>Cotton</u>

May closed at 77.36 cents per lb, down 2.04 cents since last Friday.



Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle traded \$2 higher compared to last week on a live basis. Prices were largely \$186 to \$187 on a live basis and \$294 to \$295 on a dressed basis.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$186.42 live, up \$2.42 compared to last week and \$294.63 dressed, up \$0.18 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$173.98 live and \$280.95 dressed.

Packers paid slightly higher prices this week to put cattle on the rail. Cattle feeders are turning around and spending any profits on replacement cattle and feed. The price of finished cattle seasonally increases this time of year, but the seasonal tendency may not be fully in play since beef prices seem to be failing to make their seasonal price increase. To some degree, it appears cattle and beef prices have hit an invisible ceiling, which is somewhat humorous given some industry watchers saying fed cattle could push over the \$200 level and much higher. There certainly is that potential and at some point, it will happen if Jesus Christ does not come back first. At this time, market participants should be cautiously optimistic.

BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$294.92 up \$2.02 from Thursday and down \$3.50 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$288.49 up \$0.51 from Thursday and up \$0.02 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$6.43 compared to \$9.95 a week ago.

As the beef market heads into May, any indication of a stronger beef market is nonexistent at this point. This does not mean the consumer will not pull out their billfolds and begin paying for beef, but there is little information coming from the domestic consumer that says they want to pay higher and higher prices to eat beef. The daily Choice beef cutout value has not exceeded \$300 since April 15th, and it has not consistently traded over \$300 in a month. The trade data continues to show support for U.S. beef, but middle meats must find support on the domestic side for wholesale beef prices to push higher. This is important from the standpoint that cattle prices will find it difficult to advance if beef prices do not push higher. The consumer has the final say in beef and cattle prices, and their decisions will influence cattle herd expansion. One question that may arise the next couple of years from the international market side is if other countries will grab U.S. market share. It could happen, but no other country is producing the same quality of beef.

OUTLOOK: Based on weekly auction market averages, steer prices were \$3 to \$7 higher compared to last week while heifer prices were \$1 to \$3 higher compared to the previous week. Slaughter cow prices were steady compared to the previous week's weighted average price while bull prices were \$1 to \$3 higher compared to the previous week. Whether good or bad, the futures market is the focus for most market participants, because of the volatility that has been present this week. The good is the cash price does not always react to daily volatility in the futures market, which means buyers and sellers experience a little more consistency at the local sale barn than what traders are experiencing on the board. The bad for buyers and sellers is that hedged positions do not always work out as originally planned. Another factor on the "bad" side is that volatility can lead to consternation in some market participants, which may spur poor decision making when the market is moving against a person. Though the word volatility tends to lend itself to being negative, another positive is volatility does offer opportunities from a trader's per-

Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

spective for speculators to jump in the market and make quick profits or losses. Similarly, it can offer hedgers an opportunity to hedge a price that may or may not be available in the future. Shifting back to the cash market, feeder cattle prices should be considered strong, but there are weight classes that appear more desirable than others. This is somewhat of a moving target in that some cattle appear to be undervalued relative to other cattle, which should offer a buying opportunity for some. On the feeder cattle front, several loads of steers and heifers were traded in Tennessee this week. Most of the 50,000-pound loads of steers weighed between 825 and 925 pounds and received prices ranging from \$232 to \$241 per hundredweight. This is a total value of \$2,000 to \$2,200 per head. Assuming the feedlot will grow these cattle to 1,400 to 1,500 pounds, it will take a price north of \$185 per hundredweight to breakeven.

ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK: When will the bred female market gain some steam? The bred female market has found some support in certain regions, but moisture and forage availability continue to hamper widespread herd rebuilding decisions. It is difficult to convince cattle producers who have

dealt with recent drought or several consecutive years of drought to retain or purchase breeding females in earnest. At the same time, cow-calf producers would like to see consistently strong calf prices for some time before they make a longer-term decision such as purchasing young breeding females. The timing of this market will hinge on all of these factors, but the expectation is for the bred female market to gain strength through the summer and fall if precipitation is adequate to produce forage and if calf prices remain strong. From the buyer standpoint, there will not be hordes of females to choose from this year as many females may their way to the feedlot the last six months of 2023. There should be more to choose from next year.

Please send questions and comments to <u>agriff14@utk.edu</u> or send a letter to Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee, P.O. Box 160, 1000 Main Entrance Dr., Spring Hill, TN 37174.

FRIDAY'S FUTURES MARKET CLOSING PRICES: Friday's closing prices were as follows: Live/fed cattle –June \$176.68 -0.13; August \$174.58 +0.63; October \$178.05 +0.68; Feeder cattle –May \$243.30 -0.30; August \$254.75 -0.48; September \$255.78 -0.20; October \$256.13 +0.05; May corn closed at \$4.47 down 5 cents from Thursday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

<u>Overview</u>

Soybeans and wheat were up; corn was mixed; and cotton was down for the week.

July corn futures broke above \$4.60 after closing up for three consecutive days to close the week. On Friday, July corn futures reached a high of \$4.68, its highest point since January 26. Flooding in parts of Brazil and

Russian attacks on Ukrainian infrastructure have facilitated the bullish response in the market. The next level of price resistance for nearby corn futures is \$4.70 with solid price support near \$4.40.

Soybean futures increased 40 cents at the end of the week due to heavy rainfall potentially causing production losses and quality deterioration in parts of Southern Brazil where harvest is still occurring. Nearby soybean prices have price support at \$11.60 and price resistance at \$12.40. US planting progress is ahead of last year and the 5-year average, however above normal precipitation is in the 30-day NOAA forecast which could restrict planting progress.

Cotton prices have continued to fall past previous levels of support and are now trading near 75 cents. The last five trading days have had high levels of price volatility with daily price changes of +0.94, -1.42, -1.66, -0.99, and +1.79 cents. A glimpse of increased demand will be needed to help pull prices higher, however this week's USDA export sales report was not supportive of higher prices with net old crop sales of only 97,400 bales. The supply side also remains bearish with good early season moisture across a large portion of the cotton belt. On April 30th USDA estimated that 8% of cotton production was in drought. Last year for the same week 38% of US cotton was in drought.

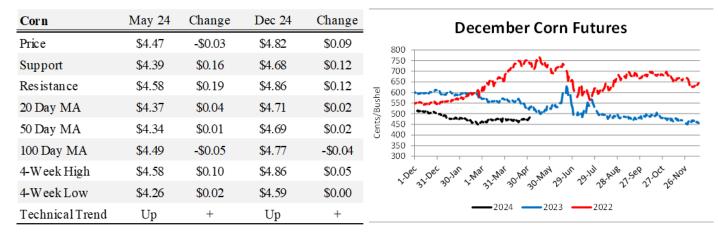
July wheat futures have pulled back into the longer-term trading range of \$6.00-\$6.60 after spending two months trading between \$5.40 and \$5.90. Concerns over Russia-Ukraine escalations and lower year-over year global stocks of wheat will provide price support. The USDA currently projects global wheat stocks 468 million bushels less than last year's ending stocks estimate.

or		Previous	Previous Current	
	USD Index	105.96	104.92	-1.04
	Crude Oil	83.55	78.07	-5.48
	DJIA	38,239	38,666	427
IU.				

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Corn

Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) strengthened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, West-Central, North-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 70 under to 15 over, with an average of 13 under the May futures at elevators and barge points. Ethanol production for the week ending April 26 was 0.987 million barrels per day, up 33,000 from the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 25.488 million barrels, down 0.245 million barrels compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for April 19-25 were net sales of 29.9 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year and 1.3 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 19% compared to last week at 54.4 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 88% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (September 1 to August 31) compared to the previous 5-year average of 95%. May 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.47, down 3 cents since last Friday. May/Jul and May/Dec future spreads were 13 and 35 cents. July 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.60, up 10 cents since last Friday. For the week July 2024 corn futures traded between \$4.43 and \$4.68.



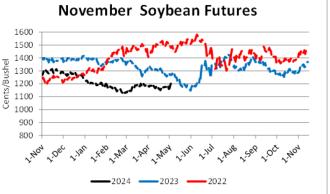
The Crop Progress report estimated corn planted at 27% compared to 12% last week, 23% last year, and a 5-year average of 22%; and corn emerged at 7% compared to 3% last week, 5% last year, and a 5-year average of 4%. In Tennessee, corn planting was estimated at 49% compared to 31% last week, 57% last year, and a 5-year average of 45%. New crop cash prices ranged from \$3.89 to \$4.61 at elevators and barge points. December 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.82, up 9 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$4.90 December 2024 Put Option costing 40 cents establishing a \$4.50 futures floor.

Soybeans

Across Tennessee the average soybean basis strengthened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, West-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points and weakened at North-Central elevators and barge points. Basis ranged from 33 under to 7 over the May futures contract, with an average basis at the end of the week of 15 under. Soybean net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 15.2 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year and 0.3 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 36% compared to last week at 9.9 million bushels – a marketing year low. Soybean export sales and commitments were 91% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (September 1 to August 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 97%. May 2024 soybean futures closed at \$12.01, up 42 cents since last Friday. May 2024 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.69 at the end of the week. May/Jul and May/Nov future spreads were 14 and 0 cents. July 2024 soybean futures closed at \$12.15, up 38 cents since last Friday. For the week May 2024 soybean futures traded between \$11.56 and \$12.15.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Soybeans	May 24	Change	Nov 24	Change
Price	\$12.01	\$0.42	\$12.01	\$0.40
Support	\$11.37	\$0.15	\$11.55	\$0.15
Resistance	\$12.26	\$0.71	\$12.06	\$0.36
20 Day MA	\$11.63	-\$0.11	\$11.71	-\$0.05
50 Day MA	\$11.71	-\$0.03	\$11.70	\$0.04
100 Day MA	\$12.11	-\$0.19	\$11.89	-\$0.11
4-Week High	\$12.02	-\$0.24	\$12.02	-\$0.14
4-Week Low	\$11.31	\$0.00	\$11.46	\$0.00
Technical Trend	Up	+	Up	+



The Crop Progress report estimated soybeans planted at 18% compared to 8% last week, 16% last year, and a 5-year average of 10%. In Tennessee, soybean planting was estimated at 28% compared to 17% last week, 21% last year, and a 5-year average of 10%. New crop cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$11.25 to \$11.76. November 2024 soybean futures closed at \$12.01, up 40 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$12.20 November 2024 Put Option which would cost 73 cents and set an \$11.47 futures floor. Nov/Dec soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.49 at the end of the week.

<u>Cotton</u>

North Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for May 2 were 71.37 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 73.38 cents/lb (31-3-35). Adjusted World Price (AWP) decreased 0.78 cents to 60.55 cents. Cotton net weekly sales reported by exporters were 97,400 bales for the 2023/24 marketing year and 34,400 bales for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 31% compared to last week at 180,000 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 98% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (August 1 to July 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 106%. May 2024 cotton futures closed at 77.36 cents, down 2.04 cents since last Friday. May/Jul and May/Dec cotton futures spreads were 0.7 cents and -1.39 cents. July 2024 cotton futures closed at 78.06 cents, down 2.84 cents since last Friday. For the week July 2024 cotton futures traded between 74.93 and 82.5 cents.

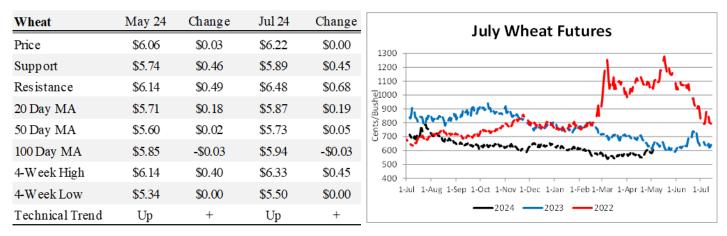
Cotton	May 24	Change	Dec 24	Change	December Cotton Futures
Price	77.36	-2.04	75.97	-1.34	
Support	76.44	0.48	73.06	-3.78	
Resistance	77.36	-4.71	77.96	-0.79	
20 Day MA	80.47	-6.02	78.45	-3.44	
50 Day MA	88.43	-2.88	81.63	-1.33	
100 Day MA	86.85	-0.21	81.04	-0.07	60
4-Week High	89.25	-5.02	84.20	-0.30	2.00° 32.00° 30.10° 1. 1. 10° 30.10° 30.10° 20.10°
4-Week Low	74.92	-2.49	74.02	-3.24	ਣ ਤੋਂ ਤੋਂ 'ਤੇ 'ਤੇ 'ਤੇ 'ਤੇ 'ਪੈ' 'ਪੈ' 'ਤੇ ਪੈ' ਪੈ
Technical Trend	Down	=	Down	=	202420232022

The Crop Progress report estimated cotton planted at 15% compared to 11% last week, 14% last year, and a 5-year average of 14%. In Tennessee, cotton planting was estimated at 5% compared to 1% last week, 4% last year, and a 5-year average of 2%. December 2024 cotton futures closed at 75.97 cents, down 1.34 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a 76 cent December 2024 Put Option costing 5.35 cents establishing a 70.65 cent futures floor.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

<u>Wheat</u>

Wheat net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales cancelations of 0.7 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year and net sales of 15 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 11% compared to last week at 18.7 million bushels. Wheat export sales were 98% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (June 1 to May 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 105%. Wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.49 to \$5.81. May 2024 wheat futures closed at \$6.06, up 3 cents since last Friday. May wheat -to-corn price ratio was 1.36. May/Jul and May/Sep future spreads were 16 and 37 cents.



The Crop Progress report indicated winter wheat condition at 49% good-to-excellent and 16% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat headed at 30% compared to 17% last week, 23% last year, and a 5-year average of 21%; spring wheat planted at 34% compared to 15% last week, 10% last year, and a 5-year average of 19%; and spring wheat emerged at 5% compared to 2% last week, 2% last year, and a 5-year average of 5%. In Tennessee, winter wheat condition was estimated at 76% good-to-excellent and 7% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat jointing at 92% compared to 86% last week, 93% last year, and a 5-year average of 92%; and winter wheat headed at 60% compared to 36% last week, 54% last year, and a 5-year average of 49%. July 2024 wheat futures closed at \$6.22, unchanged since last Friday. July 2024 wheat futures traded between \$5.93 and \$6.32 this week. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$6.25 July 2024 Put Option costing 33 cents establishing a \$5.92 futures floor. New crop wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.70 to \$5.94. September 2024 wheat futures closed at \$6.43, up 59 cents since last Friday.

Additional Information:

Links for data presented:

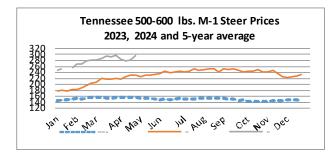
U.S. Export Sales - https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html

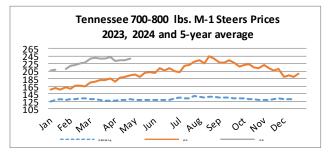
USDA FAS: Weekly Export Performance Indicator – <u>https://apps.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/esrpi.aspx</u> EIA: Weekly ethanol Plant Production - <u>https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pnp_wprode_s1_w.htm</u> EIA: Weekly Supply Estimates - <u>https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_sum_sndw_a_EPOOXE_sae_mbbl_w.htm</u> Upland Cotton Reports - <u>https://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/epasReports?area=home&subject=ecpa&topic=fta-uc</u> Tennessee Crop Progress - <u>https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Tennessee/Publications/</u> <u>Crop_Progress_&_Condition/</u>

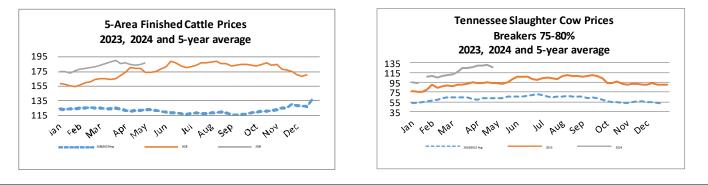
U.S. Crop Progress - <u>http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1048</u> USDA AMS: Market News - <u>https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/search-market-news</u>

If you would like further information or clarification on topics discussed in the crop comments section or would like to be added to our free email list please contact me at <u>aaron.smith@utk.edu</u>.

		Prices Paid to Farme	rs by Elevators				
Friday, April 26, 2024Thursday, May 2, 2024							
	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		
_	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average		
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans			\$/bushel				
Northwest	11.27	11.28	11.19	11.33	11.62		
North Central	11.47	11.52	11.33	11.40	11.69		
West Central							
West	11.67	11.68	11.53				
Mississippi River	11.63	11.66	11.51	11.61	11.95		
Yellow Corn							
Northwest	4.23	4.22	4.23	4.31	4.40		
North Central				3.76	3.85		
West Central							
West	4.55	4.54	4.55	4.58	4.67		
Vississippi River	4.52	4.51	4.52	4.55	4.64		
Wheat							
Northwest							
North Central	5.72	5.59	5.53	5.49	5.54		
West							
Mississippi River	5.93	5.80	5.75	5.72	5.77		
Cotton	\$/pound\$						
Memphis	76.65-78.65	77.27-79.27	74.18-76.18	72.26-74.26	71.37-73.37		







Futures Settlement Prices: Crops & Livestock

Corn: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/corn.html Soybeans: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/soybean.html Wheat: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/wheat.html Soybean Meal: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/soybean-meal.html Cotton: https://www.theice.com/products/254/Cotton-No-2-Futures/data?marketId=5352193 Live Cattle: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/live-cattle.html Feeder Cattle: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/live-cattle.html Lean Hogs: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/lean-hogs.html Class III Milk: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/dairy/class-iii-milk.html

	ennessee Reported Livestock Auctions for the w This Week			Last Week's	Year Ago	
-	Low		Weighted Average	-	•	
			\$/cwt			
Steers: Medium/Large			<i>+,</i>			
300-400 lbs	291.00	405.00	344.89	335.94	256.87	
400-500 lbs	278.00	355.00	313.34	308.07	236.66	
500-600 lbs	260.00	315.00	294.99	280.75	229.19	
600-700 lbs	227.50	295.00	264.83	260.31	213.16	
700-800 lbs	207.50	257.00	237.57	234.55	193.15	
Steers: Small Frame #	1-2					
300-400 lbs					214.93	
400-500 lbs					191.76	
500-600 lbs						
600-700 lbs						
Steers: Medium/Large	e Frame #3					
300-400 lbs	260.00	355.00	315.80	293.56	220.23	
400-500 lbs	231.00	332.00	292.51	271.76	208.87	
500-600 lbs	230.00	282.50	262.89	251.78	202.98	
600-700 lbs	215.00	252.00	238.80	233.53	198.27	
700-800 lbs				202.77		
Holstein Steers						
300-400 lbs						
500-600 lbs						
700-800 lbs						
Slaughter Cows & Bull	S					
Breakers 75-80%	110.00	142.00	126.53	130.17	92.91	
Boners 80-85%	107.00	135.00	121.23	125.87	91.82	
Lean 85-90%	90.00	125.00	109.28	110.19	80.56	
Bulls YG 1	131.00	160.00	145.86	147.33	119.38	
Heifers: Medium/Larg	e Frame #1-2					
300-400 lbs	247.50	340.00	302.93	293.22	221.71	
400-500 lbs	239.00	310.00	279.37	269.93	208.58	
500-600 lbs	219.00	282.50	257.15	247.21	194.09	
600-700 lbs	196.00	247.50	229.19	229.01	177.24	
Heifers: Small Frame #	‡1-2					
300-400 lbs	300.00	315.00	307.16	235.00	194.57	
400-500 lbs	192.50	230.00	212.30	233.53	180.42	
500-600 lbs	200.00	230.00	216.86		174.81	
600-700 lbs						
Heifers: Medium/Larg	e Frame #2-3					
300-400 lbs	215.00	317.00	275.17	266.30	200.56	
400-500 lbs	230.00	286.00	258.93	251.84	190.48	
500-600 lbs	215.00	257.50	238.28	228.35	172.61	
600-700 lbs	200.00	246.00	220.46	206.29	160.01	

Cattle Receipts

This week:6,093

Week ago:7,441

Year ago:7,867

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Warren Co. Livestock Video Auction - McMinnville, TN 4/29/24 Total Receipts: 60 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3665.pdf

Warren Co. Livestock Graded Sale - McMinnville, TN 5/1/24 Total Receipts: 1,193 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2079.pdf

Browning Livestock Market Video/Internet Auction - Lafayette, TN 5/1/24 Total Receipts: 666 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3467.pdf

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Hodge Livestock Network-May 2, 2024

1 load of steers; est. wt. 875 lbs. Range 750-925 lbs.; All Black & BWF; 80% #1s, 20% #1 ½; 70% Medium and 30% Large; Medium flesh; \$228.00

3 loads of heifers; est. wt. 850 lbs. Range 750-950 lbs.; Approx. 75% Black & BWF, 20% Char-X, 1 good White, 5 Red Herefords, and 3 or 4 with very light ear; 80% #1s, 20% #1 ½; 70% Medium and 30% Large; Medium to medium plush flesh; \$212.75

1 load of steers; est. wt. 850 lbs. Range 750-950 lbs.; Approx. 70% Black & BWF, 20% Char-X, 10% Reds; 70% #1s, 20% #1 ½ and 10% good #2s; 80% Medium and 20% Large; Light Medium to Medium; \$222.50

1 load of heifers; est. wt. 750 lbs. Range 600-800 lbs.; Approx. 70% Black & BWF, 20% Char-X, 10% Reds; 70% #1s, 20% #1½ and 10% good #2s; 80% Medium and 20% Large; Light Medium to Medium; \$212.00

Lower Middle Tennessee Cattlemen's Association -Video Board Sale-Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 5/3/24 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3340.pdf

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

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