

MARKET WATCH CATTLE

The U.S. average price received for dairy cows in April was \$84.90 per hundredweight (cwt), up \$0.70 per cwt from a March price of \$84.20 per cwt. Price is up \$6 per cwt year-over-year and up \$19.90 per cwt from the October low of \$65. Cull cow prices have now increased for six

straight months.

Live cattle futures continue to sell off, aided by the discovery of a Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) infected dairy cow in California on April 24. Cattle futures were limit down on that day but have actually been in decline since late February.

On the April 27 close, 2012 live cattle futures averaged \$118.2 per cwt, down from \$131.8 per cwt on February 22. The BSE investigation has expanded to a second and related California dairy; however, as of this writing only one case has been confirmed.

Dairy slaughter for the week ending April 14 was 59,200 head, down 3,900 head from the week prior. This ends a run of 10 consecutive

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weeks of slaughter greater than 60,000 head. To date, the 2012 average is 61,673 head per week. Dairy slaughter is averaging 1,020 head per week more than 2011 through this time last year. Culling remains relatively strong for this time of year. **PD**

MARKETWATCH May 7, 2012	Top Springer	Top Average	Medium Holstein Springer	Shortbreds	Open Heifers Light	Open Heifers Heavy	Heifer Calves	Bull Calves	Breeding Bulls
Empire Livestock - Burton Market Vernon, NY (800) 257-1819 (sale 5/3/12)	\$1,500 \$200 ▼	\$1,250 \$50 ▼	\$1,100 \$100 ▼	\$1,000 \$100 ▼	\$350 \$50 ▲	\$750 \$50 ▲	\$125 \$25 ▲	\$130 \$5 ▲	\$800 NC
Mammoth Cave Dairy Auction, Inc. Smiths Grove, KY (800) 563-2131 (sale 5/1/12)	\$1,560 \$40 ▼	\$1,440 \$140 ▲	\$1,260 NC	\$1,100	\$370 \$30 ▲	\$670 \$130 ▼	\$140 \$10 ▲	\$120 NC	N/T
New Holland Sales Stables New Holland, PA (717) 354-4341 (sale 5/2/12)	\$1,575 \$125 ▼	\$1,500 \$50 ▼	\$1,450 \$75 ▲	\$1,250 \$25 ▲	\$750 \$25 ▲	\$1,000 NC	N/T	N/T	\$1,200 \$200 ▼
Mid-Georgia Livestock Auction Jackson, GA (770) 775-7314 (sale 4/24/12)	\$1,625 \$75 ▼	\$1,550 \$25 ▼	\$1,125 \$25 ▼	N/T	\$575 \$115 ▼	\$840 \$10 ▼	\$370 \$30 ▼	\$165 \$55 ▲	N/T
Central Livestock Association Albany, MN (800) 733-6828 (sale 4/24/12)	\$1,335 \$50 ▼	\$735 \$465 ▼	N/T	\$1,050 \$75 ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T	N/T
Equity Co-op Livestock Stratford, WI (715) 687-4101 Rocky Olsen (608) 434-4037 (sale 5/1/12)	\$1,650 \$25 ▼	\$1,550 \$50 ▲	\$1,300 \$25 ▲	\$1,100 NC	\$650 \$50 ▲	\$1,025 \$50 ▲	\$280 \$55 ▲	\$275 \$45 ▲	\$1,200 NC
Lake Odessa Livestock Lake Odessa, MI (616) 374-8213 (sale 5/1/12)	\$1,525 \$175 ▼	\$1,300 \$150 ▼	\$900 \$100 ▼	\$850 NC	\$500 \$50 ▼	\$800 NC	\$250 \$250 ▼	N/T	\$1,450 \$150 ▲
Norwood Dairy Cattle Auction Norwood, MO (417) 746-4242 (sale 4/13/12)	\$1,410 \$190 ▼	\$1,325 \$125 ▼	\$1,150 \$50 ▲	\$1,280 \$180 ▲	\$500 \$25 ▼	\$940 \$80 ▼	\$220 \$25 ▼	\$205 NC	N/T
Pipetstone Livestock Auction Market Pipetstone, MI (507) 825-3306 (sale 4/19/12)	\$1,600 \$310 ▼	\$1,516 \$137 ▼	\$1,479 \$109 ▼	N/T	\$117/cwt \$9/cwt ▼	\$98/cwt \$32/cwt ▼	N/T	N/T	\$1,100
Springfield Livestock Marketing Center Springfield, MO (417) 869-9500 Doug Thomas (417) 840-9316 (sale 4/25/12)	\$1,460 \$90 ▼	\$1,250 \$50 ▼	\$1,075 \$25 ▼	\$1,190 NC	\$400 \$60 ▼	\$910 \$60 ▲	\$290 \$30 ▲	\$200 \$10 ▲	N/T
Topeka Livestock Auction Topeka, IN (206) 593-2522 (sale 5/1/12)	\$1,575 \$100 ▲	\$1,000 \$150 ▲	N/T	N/T	\$900 NC	\$1,425 \$200 ▼	\$220 \$50 ▲	N/T	\$1,150 \$150 ▲
Tri-State Livestock Sioux Center, IA (712) 722-0681 Mike Koedam (712) 470-0198 (sale 4/18/12)	\$1,900 \$250 ▲	\$1,585 \$17 ▼	\$1,502 \$48 ▼	N/T	\$168/cwt \$18/cwt ▲	\$119/cwt	N/T	N/T	\$1,200
United Producers, Inc. Marion, MI (517) 294-3484 (sale 4/20/12)	\$1,900 \$175 ▲	\$1,600 \$50 ▼	\$1,300 NC	\$1,200 \$50 ▲	\$700 \$100 ▲	\$1,050 \$50 ▲	\$200 NC	N/T	\$1,050
Brush Livestock of Colorado Brush, CO (970) 842-2801 (sale 5/3/12)	\$2,050 \$100 ▲	\$1,900 \$125 ▲	\$1,675 \$65 ▲	\$1,210 \$35 ▲	\$390 \$110 ▼	\$920 \$90 ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T
Chehalis Livestock Market Chehalis, WA (360) 748-3191 (sale 4/27/12)	\$1,300 \$25 ▼	N/T	\$1,100 NC	N/T	\$110/cwt \$8/cwt ▼	N/T	N/T	\$85 \$5 ▼	\$1,000
Producers Livestock Jerome, ID (208) 324-4345 (sale 5/2/12)	\$1,470 \$110 ▼	\$1,360 \$121 ▼	\$1,240 \$149 ▼	N/T	\$495 \$135 ▲	\$452 \$143 ▼	N/T	N/T	N/T
Smithfield Livestock Auction Smithfield, UT (435) 563-3259 (sale 5/3/12)	\$1,320 \$165 ▼	\$1,275 \$25 ▼	N/T	\$1,150 NC	\$97/cwt NC	\$105/cwt \$6/cwt ▲	N/T	N/T	N/T
Toppenish Dairy Replacement Sales Toppenish, WA (509) 865-2820 (sale 4/6/12)	\$1,450 \$200 ▼	\$1,300 \$150 ▼	\$1,150 \$150 ▼	\$1,100 NC	\$145/cwt NC	\$115/cwt NC	\$100 NC	\$120 NC	N/T
A & M Livestock Auction, Inc. Hanford, CA (559) 582-0358 (sale 4/11/12)	\$1,600 \$100 ▲	\$1,400 NC	\$1,150 \$150 ▼	\$1,050	\$150/cwt	\$90/cwt	\$120	\$160	\$1,050
Sulphur Springs Livestock and Dairy Auction Sulphur Springs, TX (903) 885-7739 (sale 4/26/12)	\$1,400 \$225 ▼	\$1,100 \$50 ▼	\$1,100 \$50 ▼	N/T	\$710 \$60 ▲	\$950 \$30 ▼	\$250 \$50 ▼	\$270 \$20 ▲	\$1,085
Escalon Livestock Market, Inc. Escalon, CA (209) 838-7011 (sale 4/25/12)	\$1,500 \$50 ▲	\$1,200 \$50 ▼	\$1,150 NC	N/T	\$90/cwt NC	\$115/cwt NC	N/T	N/T	\$900 NC

Contact Judy about being included in *Progressive Dairyman's* Market Watch! judy@progressivedairy.com • (208) 324-7513 NC = No change N/T = No test Decrease in price ▼ Increase in price ▲

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