HAWAII
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
NASS

HAWAII MONTHLY LIVESTOCK REVIEW

HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
HONOLULU, HI 96814-2512

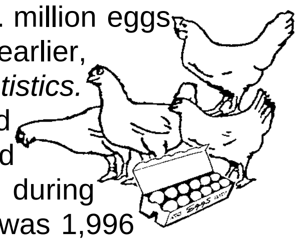
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Phone: (808) 973-9588
FAX: (808) 973-2909

FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE

FREQUENCY: Monthly RELEASED: May 19, 2005

IN THIS ISSUE

MARCH EGG PRODUCTION 4 PERCENT BELOW A YEAR AGO



Egg production during March totaled **10.1** million eggs (28,056 cases), 4 percent less than a year earlier, according to the *Hawaii Agricultural Statistics.* The average number of layers on hand during March 2005 was 506,000, compared with 504,000 a year ago and 500,000 during February 2005. The average rate of lay was 1,996 eggs per 100 layers (64.4 percent lay rate) compared with 2,083 (67.2 percent) a year ago. Cumulative production of eggs for 2005 was 29.9 million eggs, 1 percent above the same 3-month period in 2004.

U.S. EGG PRODUCTION

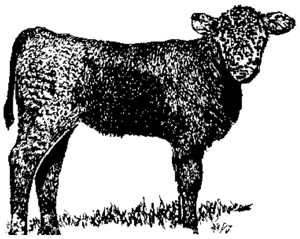
U.S. egg production totaled 7.73 billion during March 2005, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.60 billion table eggs, and 1.13 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 63 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2005 averaged 347 million, up 2 percent from a year earlier. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,225 eggs, up 1 percent from March 2004.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2005, totaled 345 million, up 1 percent from a year ago. The 345 million layers consisted of 286 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2005, averaged 71.8 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from a year ago.
February 2005 contained 28 days, while February 2004 contained 29 days due to the leap year.

Number of layers and egg production, State of Hawaii, March 2005 [1]

County	Number of layers on hand during month			Eggs per 100 layer		Total eggs produced			
								Year-to-date	
	Mar. 2004	Feb. 2005	Mar. 2005	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2005	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2005	2004	2005
	Thousands			Number		Millions			
Hawaii/Kauai/Maui	124.2	124.3	122.7	2,070	1,841	2.60	2.28	7.30	7.10
Honolulu	379.8	375.7	382.3	2,089	2,043	7.90	7.82	22.20	22.80
State	504.0	500.0	506.0	2,083	1,996	10.50	10.10	29.50	29.90

[1] State totals may not add due to rounding.



MARCH MARKETINGS 33 PERCENT BELOW YEAR AGO

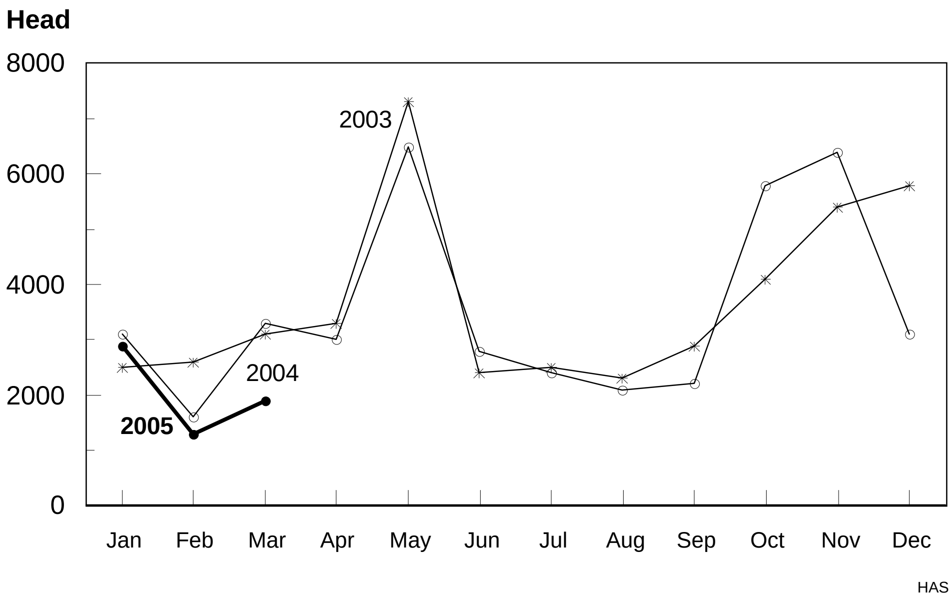
Cattle marketings during March totaled 2,800 head, compared with 4,200 head a year ago and 2,000 head during February 2005. Declines in both out-of-state shipments and local commercial slaughter accounted for the 33 percent drop in marketings. Exports during March 2005 decreased 42 percent from a year ago to 1,900 head. Cumulative marketings for the first 3 months of 2005 was 8,300 head, a decrease of 22 percent from the same period a year earlier. Year-to-date exports for 2005 was 6,100 head, a decline of 24 percent from the same 3-month period in 2004.

Cattle Marketings, State of Hawaii, March 2005

Month	Total Marketings [1]		Exports [2]							
	Number of Head [3]		Number of Head						Average Live Weight	
			Steers		Heifers		Total [3]			
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	head								pounds	
March	4,200	2,800	2,100	1,100	1,200	800	3,300	1,900	447	482
Year-to-date [4]	10,600	8,300	5,000	3,500	3,000	2,600	8,000	6,100	454	461

[1] Sum of Commercial Slaughter and Exports.
[2] Cattle and calves shipped out-of-State.
[3] Total may not add to sum due to rounding.
[4] Includes any revisions made to previous month figures.

CATTLE & CALF OUTSHIPMENTS
STATE OF HAWAII, 2003-2005



COMMERCIAL BEEF PRODUCTION 15 PERCENT BELOW A YEAR AGO

Commercial beef production (local slaughter) during March 2005 totaled 469,000 pounds, compared with 551,000 pounds a year earlier. Commercial kill for March 2005 totaled 800 head, 100 fewer than a year ago. Average live weight per head, at 1,067 pounds, was 3 percent lighter than a year ago. Cumulative beef production for the first three months of 2005 was 21 percent below the same period a year earlier.

U.S. BEEF PRODUCTION

Beef production, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 5 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,238 pounds.

PORK PRODUCTION 8 PERCENT LESS THAN A YEAR AGO

Commercial pork production during March 2005 totaled 312,000 pounds, compared with 338,000 pounds a year ago. Total hog kill of 2,000 head was 300 less than a year ago. Average live weight per head, at 206 pounds, was 5 percent heavier than a year ago. Year-to-date pork production for the first three months of 2005 was 10 percent less than the same period in 2004.

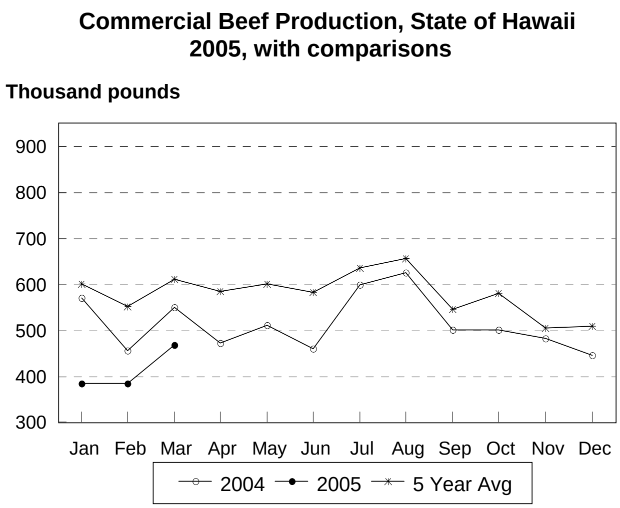
U.S. PORK PRODUCTION

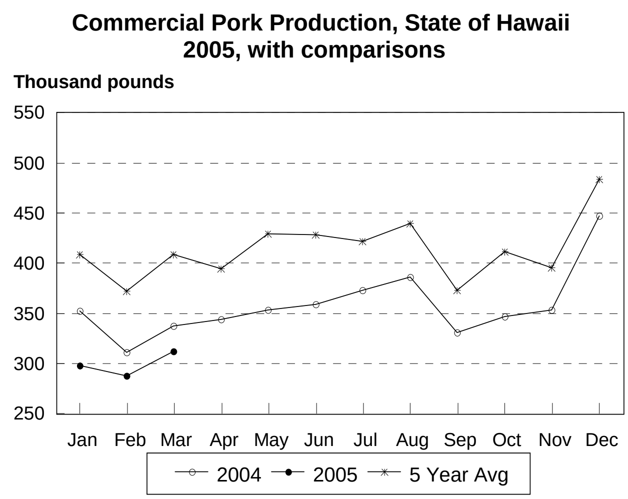
Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.95 million head, 1 percent below March 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Commercial slaughter, State of Hawaii, March 2005 [1]

Species	Number of head		Average live weight		Total live weight [2]		Total dressed weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
			- - - - - - pounds - - - - - -		- - - - - - - - - - - - 1,000 pounds - - - - - - - - - - - -			
Cattle								
March	900	800	1,101	1,067	1,004	855	551	469
Year-to-date	2,600	2,100			2,873	2,258	1,577	1,240
Hogs [3]								
March	2,300	2,000	197	206	450	416	338	312
Year-to-date	6,700	6,000			1,335	1,197	1,001	898

[1] Excludes non-inspected farm slaughter and live cattle and calves shipped out-of-state; includes custom slaughter.
[2] Estimates based on 54.9 dressing percentage for cattle; 75.0 dressing percentage for hogs.
[3] Excludes non-inspected farm slaughter; includes custom slaughter and live hog inshipments from the mainland for slaughter.





PASTURE AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION, APRIL 1, 2005

Hawaii County

Hilo and Puna: Rainfall totals for March were near normal, with the heaviest rainfall coming towards the end of the month. The damp, overcast condition at the end of the month hampered new grass growth. Most pastures were in fair to good condition, with pastures at the upper elevations of Mauna Kea in fair condition. Cattle and calves were in good condition.

Ka'u: Although rainfall totals for the month were below normal, timely precipitation near the middle and end of the month helped to keep most pastures in fair to good condition. Stock water supplies were still adequate. Cattle and calves were in good condition.

Kona: Rainfall totals for the district were below normal for the month, with the except for the rain gage at Keahole Airport which recorded twice as much rainfall as normal for the month. Most areas of Kona were warm and dry, except for a period around mid-month when a passing system provided light to moderate showers. Most pastures were in fair to good condition with a fair amount of forage available. Soil moisture levels were diminishing and stock water levels were getting low. Cattle and calves were in fair to good condition.

Kohala: Most rain gages recorded near normal rainfall totals for the month. Much of the moisture resulted from two passing storms, the first at mid-month and the second at the end of the month. Most interior areas of Kohala benefitted from the precipitation. However, much drier conditions prevailed throughout the coastal and lower elevation pastures of the district. Although most pastures were in fair to good condition with an adequate supply of forage feed on hand, many other pastures were dry and in poor condition. The infestation of the Senecio weed has spread to more grazing areas and has infested a greater portion of some pastures. Cattle and calves were in fair to good condition.

Hamakua: The sunny, warm weather which prevailed throughout much of the month combined with the ample moisture delivered by the two storms gave pasture growth a boost within the district. Forage supplies were adequate with most pastures in fair to good condition. Most stock water supplies levels were at capacity. Cattle and calves were in fair to good condition.

Honolulu County

Variable rainfall amounts fell over the island, during the month of March. Most of the rains fell over the eastern portion of the windward sector of the island, with the northern tip of the island receiving a lesser percentage of normal. Rainfall totals on the leeward side were below normal. Most pastures were rated in good to very good condition. The wet winter in combination with sunny, dry periods provided many of the grazing areas with an abundance of green forage. Cattle and calves were in good condition.

Kauai County

Drier conditions prevailed over the county during March, compared with the previous two wet months. Rainfall totals from all rain gages were below normal, with the southern portion of the island the driest. The heavy runoff type of rainfall, which occurred during the previous months combined with a dry month of March to leave most pastures in only fair to good condition. The dry weather and mostly cool temperatures during much of March slowed the prospects for new grass growth. Cattle and calves were in good condition.

Maui County

After a somewhat dry February, wetter weather returned to Maui County, especially during the latter part of the month. Nearly all rain gages recorded above normal rainfall totals, except for some southern facing areas of the county. Most windward facing pastures were in fair to good conditions with adequate forage available. Drier conditions prevailed for leeward facing pastures. Molokai pastures were in good condition. Cattle and calves were in good condition.

Rainfall Data Source: ***National Weather Service Forecast Office. NWS-NOAA.***

Disclaimer: ***Data from Hydronet state-wide network of automated rain gages. Gages are not certified and rainfall information is provided for informational purposes only.***

Cattle/Beef

Beef/Cattle Border Opening Uncertainty Continues

Supply uncertainties due to the Canadian border court injunctions and poor feeding conditions pushed first-quarter cattle prices to a new record. On December 29, 2004 USDA released the Minimal Risk rule reopening the U.S. border to Canadian cattle under 30 months of age and beef from cattle over 30 months of age effective March 7. On February 9, the Department delayed the effective date for allowing imports of meat from animals 30 months and over.

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/bse.html

When court injunctions in early March further delayed implementation of the minimal-risk rule, prices rose sharply as end users competed for a less-than-expected supply of fed and cow beef. The cattle/beef sector continues to be buffeted by uncertainties on full implementation of the rule. The market expected trade to resume March 7 with cattle under 30 months of age and beef from cattle over 30 months of age moving into the United States. The present forecasts assume the border will remain open to boneless beef from cattle under 30 months of age and beginning in the summer quarter, open to live cattle under 30 months of age for placement into feedlots and then slaughter or for immediate slaughter. Just as the unexpectedly tight supplies now have resulted in price spikes, the market will come under downward price pressure as supplies increase and end users become more comfortable with forward supply expectations. Supplies will increase fairly sharply for the first 6 to 12 months following the border's reopening, but then supplies will again become cyclically tight in both countries.

Beef Supplies Remain Tight

The market this past winter was complicated by poor weather conditions holding down feedlot gains and the court injunction. First-quarter production was down 2 percent from the low levels of a year ago and down almost 9 percent from first quarter 2003. Steer and heifer slaughter declined over 3 percent, while cow slaughter was down nearly 6 percent. Commercial slaughter weights were record high last fall, but are going to average about 3 pounds under the 2002 record of 758 pounds dressed weight during the first quarter. In both years, cow slaughter comprised 16.3 to 16.5 percent of commercial slaughter. Commercial dressed weights are up about 14 pounds from the low levels last year.

The female retention phase of the cattle cycle is holding down cow slaughter and feeder cattle supplies remain very tight with last years calf crop down nearly 1 percent from a year earlier and the lowest since 1951. With reduced cow slaughter and 3 percent more beef heifers expected to calve this year, the calf crop is expected to begin a cyclical rise, but the rise begins from decades-low levels which will continue to hold down beef supplies through at least 2007. The additional beef that enters the U.S. market when the border opens will be assimilated within a year of the border's fully opening. The United States will still be at the initial stages of herd expansion and Canadian reaction to expansion may be very guarded, at least for the first few years as producers rebuild their financial base and adjust to new trading rules. Both countries will have more feedlot and slaughter capacity than cattle, and cyclical firm adjustments due to low cattle inventories will continue as both sectors complete strongly for the available inventory.

Beef production in the second quarter is expected to rise from the low winter quarter levels as feeding conditions improve and fed cattle marketings rise. In addition, slaughter weights are expected to average well above those of a year ago, and likely above the 2002 record of 746 pounds. As the border reopens in the second half of the year, production is expected to rise 6 to 7 percent above the low year earlier levels. Most of the year-to-year increases due to the border's opening are expected to be worked through the market by mid 2006. USDA will release its 2006 forecasts in May.

Prices Continue Record Pace

While the record cattle prices are largely the result of unexpected supply tightness, beef demand remains strong and the end-user market has been foced to compete fiercely to meet forward commitments, particularly in the face of poor feeding conditions. Nebraska direct steers averaged $89.09 per cwt in the first quarter, up nearly $7 per cwt from a year earlier, and second only to the $99.38 in fourth-quarter 2003 when supply adjustments were most stressing because of the Canadian border closing in May. Beef supplies will remain very tight and prices high until feeder cattle supplies increase either from Canada or cyclical expansion in the U.S. herd. Feeder cattle imports from Mexico continue fairly large, even as the Mexican cattle inventory continues to decline, due to the very strong U.S. prices. Prices for yearling feeder cattle at Oklahoma City averaged $104.05 per cwt in the first quarter, a first quarter record but below the third quarter 2004 record.

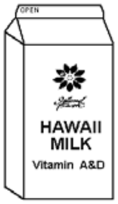
Processing beef stocks have been particularly tight with the sharply reduced cow slaughter. The market expected that, under the Minimal Risk Rule announced at the beginning of the year, imports of cow beef from Canada would increase substantially when the market reopened on March 7. However, USDA canceled that part of the minimal risk rule allowing imports of beef from cattle over 30 months of age. January and February imports were down sharply as the market anticipated larger supplies of cow beef coming in from Canada later in the quarter at lower prices than the imports, primarily from Australia, New Zealand, and Uruguay. The delay in implementation of the rule for beef from cattle over 30 months pushed domestic cow beef prices to a first quarter record $54.18 per cwt and only a couple dollars off the third quarter 2004 record. Cow beef supplies will remain very tight, and demand for imported beef will be very strong. Australia and New Zealand are exporting more product into Asia since U.S. beef has been banned due to BSE. Consequently, the U.S. processing beef market must compete with these other countries for the tight world supply.

For the year, fed cattle prices are expected to average slightly above 2004's $84.75 per cwt, with prices averaging in the upper $80s per cwt in the first half of the year and the lower $80s in the second half. Similarly, feeder cattle prices are expected to reach the second highest average to 2004's record $104.76 per cwt. Utility cow prices will remain on a record-setting pace with cyclically low cow slaughter and very tight world beef supplies with the U.S. and Canada both banned from the export market. Utility cow prices are expected to average in the mid-$50s.

World Beef Trade Bans Disrupt Markets

The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) code is a guide for international trade. The OIE will be taking up the scientifically based Minimum-Risk rule in May as the guide for international beef trade. As world markets are reopened a major realignment will occur, but the fact remains that world beef supplies will remain very tight. Although the United States and Canada eagerly await reopening of Asian markets, reclaiming these markets, even with high-quality fed beef, will not occur very rapidly with prices remaining near record levels. High-quality fed beef prices will remain relatively strong in comparison to the lower priced short-fed Australian beef. U.S. prices will remain very strong until herd expansion increases beef supplies from the current very low levels.

Full text of stories covered above can be found at:
Source: ***Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook, April 15, 2005, Economic Research Service, United States Department U.S.***
Internet web site: ***http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ldp/***



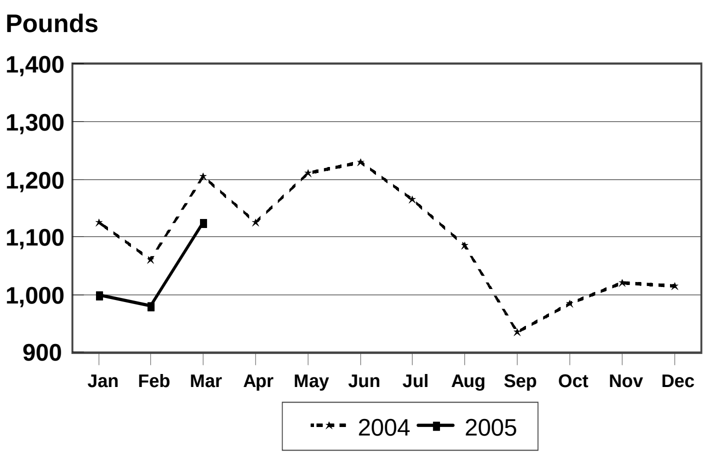
MARCH, FIRST QUARTER MILK DOWN

Hawaii's dairy cows produced 6.3 million pounds of milk in March compared with 7.7 million pounds for same month last year and 5.6 million pounds in February this year. The dairy herd of cows both dry and in milk numbered 5,600 head, down 800 from March 2004 and 100 lower than February 2005. In March, output per cows averaged 1,125 pounds, 80 pounds less than the same month last year but 145 pounds greater than the previous month. Production for the first quarter of 2005 totaled 17.7 million pounds, down 19 percent from the January-March period in 2004.

U.S. MILK PRODUCTION

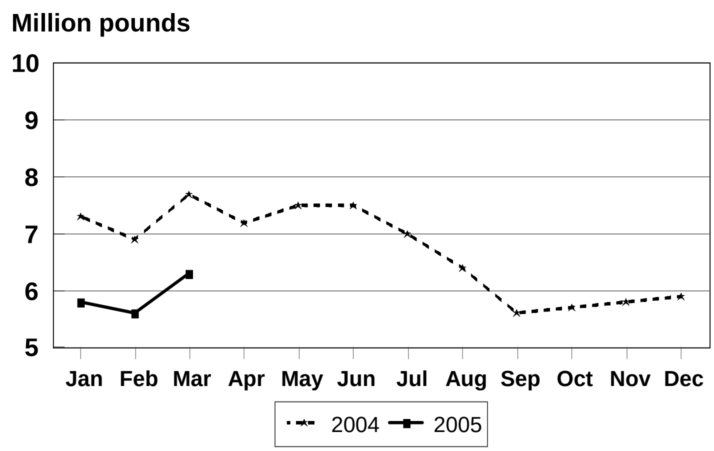
Milk production in the 23 major States during March totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from March 2004. February revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from February 2004. However, production was up 3.1 percent on a per day basis after adjusting for the leap year. The February revision represented an increase of 30 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,704 pounds for March, 43 pounds above March 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.10 million head, 38,000 head more than March 2004, and 21,000 head more than February 2005.

Milk Production Per Cow, State of Hawaii, 2004-2005



HAS

Total Milk Production, State of Hawaii, 2004-2005



HAS

Milk cows and milk production, State of Hawaii, March 2005

County	All milk cows [1,2,3]			Milk per cow [3]		Milk production [1,3]			
	Mar. 2004	Feb. 2005	Mar. 2005	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2005	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2005	Year-to-date 2004	Year-to-date 2005
	------ Number ------			--- Pounds ---		---------- 1,000 pounds ----------			
Hawaii	3,300	[4]	[4]	980	[4]	3,140	[4]	9,000	[4]
Honolulu	3,200	[4]	[4]	1,415	[4]	4,530	[4]	12,855	[4]
State	6,400	5,700	5,600	1,205	1,125	7,700	6,300	21,900	17,700

[1] State totals may not add due to rounding.
[2] Includes dry cows and cows on non-commercial dairy farms.
[3] Figures for 2005 are preliminary.
[4] Hawaii and Honolulu are combined due to disclosure beginning August 2004.

Average farm prices, State of Hawaii, March 2005

Commodity		March 2004	February 2005	March 2005
		cents per pound		
Range steers and heifers [1]	*- dressed weight*	84.0	91.0	91.0
	- (live weight equivalent)	(46.1)	(50.0)	(50.0)
Cows [1]	*- dressed weight*	53.0	51.0	50.0
	- (live weight equivalent)	(29.1)	(28.0)	(27.5)
Market hogs [1 2]	*- dressed weight*	117.0	119.5	119.0
	- (live weight equivalent)	(87.8)	(89.6)	(89.3)
		dollars per 100 pounds		
Milk [3]		24.20	26.80	27.20
		cents per dozen		
Eggs [4]		108.0	96.0	95.0

[1]Equivalent delivered slaughterhouse for sales on island of production and delivered shippers dock for off-island sales. Factors of 0.549 and 0.75 used to convert dressed weight prices to live weight equivalent for cattle and hogs, respectively.
[2] Includes roasters.
[3] Beginning 1999, monthly average price rounded to the nearest dime.
[4] Prices are for all eggs, equivalent delivered processing plant. Preliminary prices are based on processor reports from Hawaii, Kauai, Maui and adjusted Market Analysis & News Branch wholesale prices for Oahu. Final prices are based on processor reports from all islands.