

The Hightower Report

Futures Analysis & Forecasting

USDA CATTLE ON FEED
October 25, 2024

Summary

Cattle on Feed supply as of September 30th was 100% of last year versus the average trade estimate of 99.7%, with a range of 99.1% to 100.1%. Placements for the month of September were 98.1% versus trade expectations of 95.9% and a range of 94.2% to 99%. Marketings for September were 102% of last year, compared with the average estimate of 101.7% and a range of 98.1% to 103.4%.

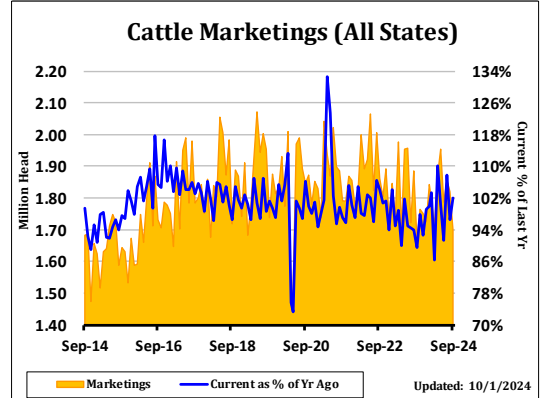
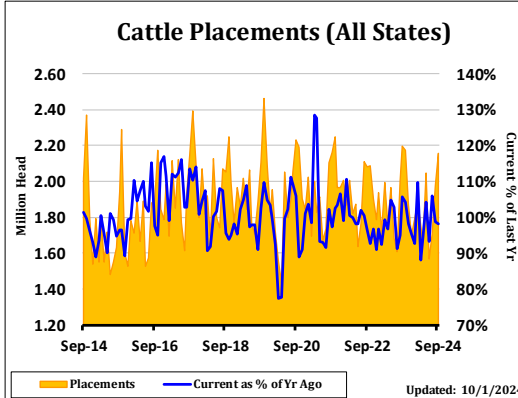
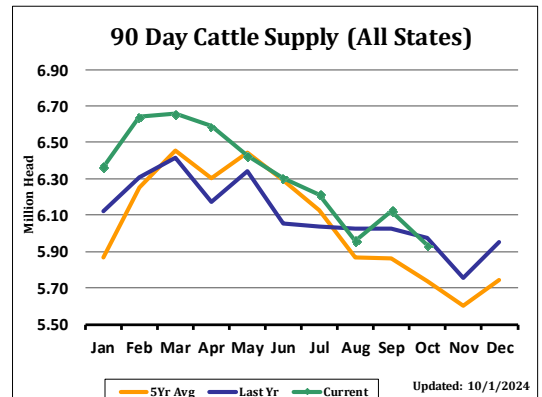
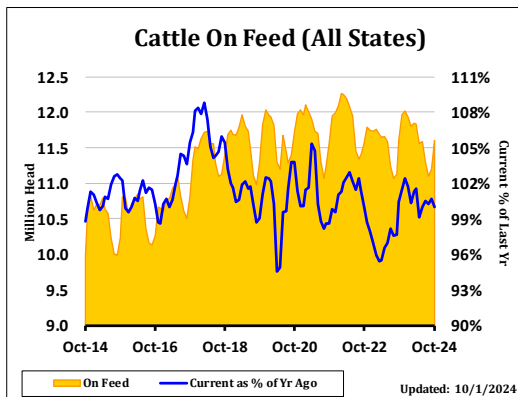
On feed and marketings were on expectations and considered neutral. Placements were the important number in the report. September last year showed inordinately high numbers of cattle placed. Today's placements at 98% are 4% below the 5-year average for this month. But after the strong recent rally, the placement number could add some minor bearish pressure for cattle futures on Monday. US Plains pasture conditions have been very tough, fostering ideas additional cattle have and will be moved to feedlots. However, rain chances will be improving according to the latest 6-14 day outlook calling for above normal precipitation for the south central Plains. Until cash breaks, futures prices are likely to remain elevated. If the ongoing rally continues early next week, a test of the contract highs at 191.62 on December live cattle is possible. Key support is 187.25.

Report Summary

	Actual
	% Last Yr.
On Feed Sep 1	100.6%
Placements During Sep	98.1%
Marketings During Sep	102.0%
On Feed Oct 1	100.0%

Recent History

Date	On Feed		Placements		Marketings		On Feed 90 Days or Longer
	Million Head	% of Prev. Yr.	Million Head	% of Prev. Yr.	Million Head	% of Prev. Yr.	
Apr-24	11.826	101.5%	1.656	94.2%	1.872	110.1%	6.587
May-24	11.554	99.1%	2.046	104.3%	1.955	100.2%	6.425
Jun-24	11.583	99.9%	1.564	93.2%	1.786	91.3%	6.304
Jul-24	11.304	100.5%	1.702	105.8%	1.855	107.7%	6.213
Aug-24	11.095	100.3%	1.976	98.7%	1.819	96.5%	5.958
Sep-24	11.198	100.6%	2.156	98.1%	1.698	102.0%	6.123
Oct-24	11.600	100.0%					5.932



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