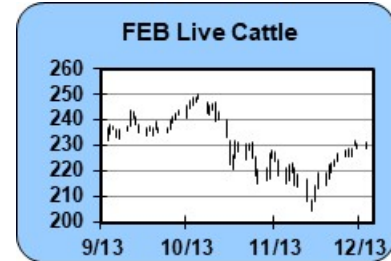


DAILY CATTLE COMMENTARY

12/16/2025

Winter weather stress easing, February holds gap support

The cattle complex closed higher yesterday, and the bulls retain the edge. COT data for the week of November 25 trimmed the managed money long to just under 93,000 contracts, the smallest net long in a little over a year. The feeder net long was trimmed slightly to 16,000. Showlist sizes this week are expected down 7853 head in Texas to 66,012, down 5933 in Kansas at 74,673 and down 9145 in Nebraska/Colorado to 56,922. Live cattle open interest yesterday was up 850 contracts and feeders down 70. Early in yesterday's session, February live cattle pulled back and nearly filled the gap from last Thursday, before rebounding later in the session. Bitter cold temperatures moving out of the Midwest and a much warmer pattern moves in through the end of the year. Very light cash cattle trade in the north yesterday at 228, on par with last week. The 5 - area, 5 - day weighted average the week remains at 228.09, unchanged from the end of last week. The USDA estimated cattle slaughter came in at 110,000 head Monday. This was down from 115,000 last week and down from 116,935 a year ago. The USDA boxed beef cutout was up \$1.20 at mid-session Monday and closed \$2.02 higher at \$359.46. This was down from \$360.90 the previous week.



The November 25th Commitments of Traders report showed Cattle Managed Money traders reduced their net long position by 4,420 contracts to a net long 92,911 contracts. CIT traders net sold 200 contracts and are now net long 92,615 contracts. Non-Commercial No CIT traders are net long 59,007 contracts after net selling 2,236 contracts. Non-Commercial & Non-Reportable traders net sold 1,690 contracts and are now net long 88,973 contracts.

U.S. beef export sales for the week ending November 20 came in at 17,100 tonnes compared with the average of the previous four weeks of 11,100 tonnes. Cumulative sales for the 2025 marketing year have reached 717,000 tonnes, down 0.9% versus last year's pace.

TODAY'S MARKET IDEAS:

February live cattle found support near Thursday's gap at 228.70 and until prices close below that level, the technical outlook remains positive. A move back above last week's high at 231.77, which is also 100-day moving average resistance, would point to a continuation of the uptrend. Next upside resistance beyond that is the late October gap at 231.77 - 233.42.

TRADE IDEAS:

No new recommendations for today.

Commitment of Traders - Futures and Options - 11/18/2025 - 11/25/2025							
	Non-Commercial		Net Position	Commercial		Non-Reportable	
	Net Position	Weekly Net Change		Weekly Net Change	Net Position	Weekly Net Change	
Livestock							
Feeder Cattle	9,784	-2,618	-4,109	+570	-5,675	+2,049	
Cattle	110,100	-2,917	-88,974	+1,690	-21,127	+1,227	

CATTLE COMPLEX TECHNICAL OUTLOOK:

Note: Data is collected using the closing values of the previous session and calculations and analysis are run at the same time. Technical commentary is based solely on statistical indicators and does not necessarily correspond to any fundamental analysis that may appear elsewhere in this report. Data sources can and do produce bad ticks that can cause computation errors. Please verify before use.

LIVE CATTLE (FEB) 12/16/2025: The cross over and close above the 60-day moving average indicates the longer-term trend has turned up. Daily stochastics have risen into overbought territory which will tend to support reversal action if it occurs. A positive signal for trend short-term was given on a close over the 9-bar moving average. The daily closing price reversal up on the daily chart is somewhat positive. Market positioning is positive with the close over the 1st swing resistance. The next upside target is 232.720. The next area of resistance is around 231.770 and 232.720, while 1st support hits today at 229.350 and below there at 227.850.

FEEDER CATTLE (JAN) 12/16/2025: Studies are showing positive momentum but are now in overbought territory, so some caution is warranted. The market's close above the 9-day moving average suggests the short-term trend remains positive. It is a slightly negative indicator that the close was under the swing pivot. The near-term upside target is at 343.406. The next area of resistance is around 341.762 and 343.406, while 1st support hits today at 338.088 and below there at 336.057.

DAILY HOGS COMMENTARY 12/16/2025

Pullback finds support on additional ASF cases in Spain

February hogs moved lower early in yesterday's session but rebounded to close well off the lows. In a move the EU says is acceptable, China announced a final ruling on their anti-dumping investigation this morning and reduced tariffs on EU pork imports to 5% - 19%, down from 16% - 62%. Spain announced several more cases of ASF in wild boars, but none has been detected in the commercial hog herd at this time, although risks remain very high. Hog open interest dropped a little over 2600 contracts, mostly in the nearby months. Bitter cold temperatures across the upper Plains and Midwest will give way to a much warmer trend heading into Christmas and New Years. Technicals remain positive and the bull camp retains the edge. The USDA estimated hog slaughter came in at 496,000 head Monday. This was up from 488,000 last week and up from 486,673 a year ago. CME Lean Hog Index as of December 11 was 82.80, up 0.23 for the day and up 0.99 versus a week ago. This is the highest since November 26. The USDA pork cutout, released after the close Monday, came in at \$99.15, up 33 cents from Friday and up from \$95.62 the previous week.



The Commitments of Traders report for the week ending November 25th showed Hogs Managed Money traders reduced their net long position by 7,795 contracts to a net long 50,193 contracts. CIT traders added 614 contracts to their already long position and are now net long 100,087. Non-Commercial No CIT traders are net long 18,991 contracts after net selling 6,514 contracts. Non-Commercial & Non-Reportable traders were net long 58,574 contracts after decreasing their long position by 8,211 contracts.

U.S. pork export sales for the week ending November 20 came in at 44,900 tonnes compared with the average of the previous four weeks of 33,000 tonnes. Cumulative sales for the 2025 marketing year have reached 1,581,100 tonnes, down 1.8% versus last year's pace.

TODAY'S MARKET IDEAS:

February hogs found buyers on yesterday morning's break to 50-day moving average support. Next resistance is the 200-day moving average at 85.40 and the mid-October gap at 86.42 - 86.70. The uptrend that began in mid-November remains intact.

TRADE IDEAS:

Speculators that bought February hogs last week at 81.00 were stopped out yesterday at 83.67.

	Non-Commercial		Commercial		Non-Reportable	
	Net Position	Weekly Net Change	Net Position	Weekly Net Change	Net Position	Weekly Net Change
Livestock						
Hogs	68,234	-6,968	-58,574	+8,210	-9,660	-1,243

PORK COMPLEX TECHNICAL OUTLOOK:

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LEAN HOGS (FEB) 12/16/2025: The major trend has turned down with the cross over back below the 60-day moving average. Studies are showing positive momentum but are now in overbought territory, so some caution is warranted. The market's short-term trend is positive on the close above the 9-day moving average. The market setup is somewhat negative with the close under the 1st swing support. The near-term upside target is at 85.870. The next area of resistance is around 84.950 and 85.870, while 1st support hits today at 82.770 and below there at 81.500.

DAILY TECHNICAL STATISTICS

	CLOSE	9 DAY RSI	14 DAY RSI	14 DAY SLOW STOCH D	14 DAY SLOW STOCH K	4 DAY M AVG	9 DAY M AVG	18 DAY M AVG	45 DAY M AVG	60 DAY M AVG
MEAT COMPLEX										
LCG26	230.550	67.13	59.72	90.31	94.06	229.89	227.36	220.89	227.17	230.21
FCF26	339.925	61.72	57.12	88.93	89.82	340.20	337.71	327.42	336.32	340.93
LHG26	83.850	64.15	58.68	84.00	86.65	83.74	82.71	81.21	82.08	83.93

Calculations based on previous session. Data collected 12/15/2025
Data sources can & do produce bad ticks. Verify before use.

DAILY SWING STATISTICS

Contract		Support 2	Support 1	Pivot	Resist 1	Resist 2
MEAT COMPLEX						
LCG26	Live Cattle	227.820	229.320	230.270	231.770	232.720
FCF26	Feeder Cattle	336.056	338.087	339.731	341.762	343.406
LHG26	Lean Hogs	81.470	82.750	83.670	84.950	85.870

Calculations based on previous session. Data collected 12/15/2025
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