Tennessee Market Highlights



July 3, 2025 Number: 48:27

Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

Slaughter Bulls

No

Trends

Feeder Steers

Feeder Heifers

Feeder Cattle Index: 314.10

Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Wednesday of \$229.17 down \$1.26 compared to a week ago and \$369.29 dressed, up \$0.19 from last week.

Corn

September closed at \$4.20 a bushel, up 9 cents since last Friday.

Soybeans

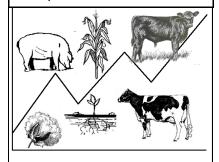
August closed at \$10.55 a bushel, up 22 cents since last Friday.

Wheat

September closed at \$5.56 a bushel, up 16 cents since last Friday.

Cotton

December closed at 68.46 cents per lb, down 0.86 cents since last Friday.



Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle traded steady to \$1 lower compared to last week. Prices in the South were mainly \$222 to \$224 while dressed prices were mainly \$368 to \$370.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Wednesday were \$229.17 live, up \$1.26 compared to a week ago and \$369.29 dressed, up \$0.19 from last week. A year ago, prices were \$191.56 live and \$308.00 dressed.

Finished cattle prices held par this week compared to last week for the most part. The bear still had the upper hand on the bull, but this week's steady to slightly lower trade does not compare with last week's large price decline for finished cattle. The one aspect of the market that has been consistent is the positive basis. For instance, the August live cattle contract has been trading between \$210 and \$214 this week, which puts it about \$10 behind this week's cash market. In reality, live cattle futures do not represent the price of finished cattle in today's market, but it does act as a proxy for directional price movement. This trend is likely to persist for the foreseeable future.

BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Thursday, the Choice cutout was \$390.77 down \$4.09 from Wednesday and down \$5.42 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$378.99 down \$1.32 from Wednesday and down \$3.27 from a week ago. The Choice Select spread was \$11.78 compared to \$13.92 a week ago.

Boxed beef prices finally took a breather following the astronomical run they have been making the past several weeks. This slight decline in wholesale beef prices is not a sign of the market falling apart, but it probably is a sign the market is succumbing to seasonal tendencies. Beef purchases this week would be to restock the meat counter following any last-minute buying by consumers for grilling purposes

for the holiday weekend. Thus, with only one more grilling holiday this summer, it will be difficult for the beef market to find support. There will certainly be people making purchases here and there for grilling purposes, but the Labor Day weekend will be the last concentrated purchasing period for beef. Since Labor Day is eight weeks down the road then it will be difficult for boxed beef prices to find much support. With the thought that boxed beef prices will decline further, the question is how much will they decline and how long will it last? The simple answer is for the market to expect softness starting now and not ending until late fall.

OUTLOOK: There are no trends this week as many of the auction markets were closed or not reported in observance of the Independence Day holiday (July 4th). Despite no available price trends, the futures market traded the first four days of the week, and in line with celebrating this great country, there were plenty of fireworks in the futures market. Using the August 2025 feeder cattle futures contract as the example, this contract closed last week at \$307.90 per hundredweight. The same contract then closed the following Monday at \$310.68 before plummeting \$4.65 per hundredweight to Tuesday's closing price. Wednesday was another day of higher prices as August feeder cattle traded \$3.00 higher to \$309.03. This is a market that is not showing a direction to either increase or decrease. The failure to establish a direction could be considered problematic, but it could also mean the market is stable. In this particular case, given the large price swings this week, the failure to establish a direction may be more of a problem than a benefit as traders do not know where to settle on feeder cattle prices. From the cattle producer standpoint, it does not matter if futures

(Continued on page 2)

Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1

price movement is presenting a problem or not. The primary observation is that feeder cattle futures are offering an opportunity to manage price risk at a high price level for those selling. There are certainly some who will claim there is little use for price risk management, but it is a tool that can be used in tandem with other market management systems to achieve profitable price levels. As the market moves into July and August, one would surmise calf prices will begin to soften slightly as demand in the heat of summer for balling calves is not the strongest. Additionally, this weakness in calf prices is expected to persist through the fall marketing time period. This seems like a negative statement towards calf prices, but prices are not expected to decline to cellar dwelling levels. Instead, prices are expected to demonstrate some seasonal tendencies the next few months.

ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK: What is going right? Most of the time, questions are asked concerning what is going wrong. For instance, when a piece of equipment breaks down, the parts house operator asks what the problem is, or how did that happen? Similarly, when a person has to call the veterinary office, the veterinarian generally asks a question to determine what the struggles are with the cattle. Similarly,

we tend to tell people about the challenges we have had the past few days or weeks. However, often do we think about everything that is going correctly? For instance, if a person is not having any pinkeye issues this time of year then that is a good thing. Some producers may think they are not having any issues, because they are doing all the "right things to avoid pinkeye while their neighbor is performing all the same management practices and still having challenges. For most people, there are more things going correctly each day than things going incorrectly. Thus, we should probably demonstrate our gratitude more than our displeasure.

Please send questions and comments to agriff14@utk.edu 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: Thursday's closing prices were as follows: Live/fed cattle –August \$214.05 +1.60; October \$210.85 +1.15; December \$211.23 +1.10; Feeder cattle –August \$309.50 +0.48; September \$309.38 +0.50; October \$307.43 +1.00; November \$304.50 +1.03; July corn closed at \$4.32 up 2 cents from Wednesday.

Please use this link for cattle and market definitions: Cattle and Beef Market Definitions Publication W801

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Overview

Cotton was down; corn, soybeans, and wheat were up for the week.

Grain and oilseed prices increased entering the July 4th weekend. Prices will continue to be sensitive to weather forecasts and the potential for positive trade deals. The 90-day tariff pause implemented by the Trump administration is scheduled to expire next week. The outcome remains unknown, but it seems likely some deals will be made with several coun-

	Previous	Current	Change
USD Index	97.05	96.82	-0.23
Crude Oil	65.35	67.18	1.83
DЛА	43,598	44,829	1,230

tries while other countries may receive extensions. Increased market access or purchases of agricultural commodities could help push grain, oilseed, and fiber prices higher.

Purchasing call options are a strategy for producers to consider if they think the futures market price will increase. For example, as of July 3, a December 70 cent cotton call option could be purchased for 2.24. If cotton prices decline or remain below 70 cents, then the call purchaser is out the premium (maximum loss). If the December cotton futures price is between 70 and 72.24 cents the purchaser will recoup part of the premium – equal to 72.24 less the December cotton future price (not accounting for transaction costs). Purchasing a call option will pay a positive return if the December futures contract, between now and expiration, is above 72.24 cents. The profit would be the December futures contract less 72.24 and any transaction costs

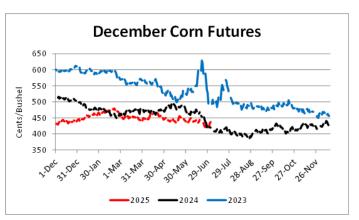
If a producer thinks that the December future contract will increase to the mid or upper 70 cent range before contract expiration, this may be a worthwhile strategy to consider. A benefit of purchasing options (unlike futures) is that the maximum loss is defined (the premium paid). Before entering any futures or options position be sure to determine all possible outcomes. For those new to futures and options trading working with a qualified professional is strongly advised.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Corn

Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) strengthened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, North-Central, West-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 5 under to 40 over, with an average of 18 over the September futures at elevators and barge points. Ethanol production for the week ending June 27 was 1.076 million barrels per day, down 5,000 compared to the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 24.117 million barrels, down 0.287 million barrels compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for June 20-26 were net sales of 21.0 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year and 37.0 million bushels for the 2025/26 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down less than 1% compared to last week at 57.7 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 100% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2024/25 marketing year (September 1 to August 31) compared to the previous 5-year average of 100%. Cash prices ranged from \$4.01 to \$4.58 at elevators and barge points. September 2025 corn futures closed at \$4.20, up 9 cents since last Friday. For the week, September 2025 corn futures traded between \$4.00 and \$4.26. Sep/Dec and Sep/Mar future spreads were 17 and 32 cents.

Corn	Sep 25	Change	Dec 25	Change
Price	\$4.20	\$0.09	\$4.37	\$0.10
Support	\$4.12	\$0.11	\$4.27	\$0.12
Resistance	\$4.30	\$0.10	\$4.46	\$0.13
20 Day MA	\$4.19	-\$0.02	\$4.35	-\$0.02
50 Day MA	\$4.27	-\$0.04	\$4.41	-\$0.02
100 Day MA	\$4.40	-\$0.02	\$4.49	-\$0.01
4-Week High	\$4.34	-\$0.03	\$4.50	\$0.00
4-Week Low	\$4.00	-\$0.02	\$4.16	-\$0.03
Technical Trend	Down	=	Down	=



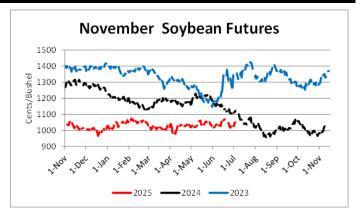
Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated corn condition at 73% good-to-excellent and 5% poor-to-very poor; and corn silking at 8% compared to 4% last week, 10% last year, and a 5-year average of 6%. In Tennessee, corn condition was estimated at 64% good-to-excellent and 12% poor-to-very poor; and corn silking at 45% compared to 29% last week, 50% last year, and a 5-year average of 34%. This week, Oct/Nov cash contracts ranged from \$3.92 to \$4.19 at elevators and barge points. December 2025 corn futures closed at \$4.37, up 10 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$4.40 December 2025 Put Option costing 24 cents establishing a \$4.16 futures floor. March 2026 corn futures closed at \$4.52, up 10 cents since last Friday.

Soybeans

Across Tennessee the average soybean basis weakened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, North-Central, West-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Average basis ranged from 45 under to even the August futures contract, with an average basis at the end of the week of 22 under. Soybean net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 17.0 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year and 8.8 million bushels for the 2025/26 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 5% compared to last week at 9.2 million bushels. Soybean export sales and commitments were 99% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2024/25 marketing year (September 1 to August 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 102%. Cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$9.84 to \$10.54. August 2025 soybean futures closed at \$10.55, up 22 cents since last Friday. For the week, August 2025 soybean futures traded between \$10.16 and \$10.64. The September soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.48 at the end of the week. September 2025 soybean futures closed at \$10.41, up 24 cents since last Friday. Aug/Sep and Aug/Nov future spreads were -14 and -6 cents.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Soybeans	Aug 25	Change	Nov 25	Change
Price	\$10.55	\$0.22	\$10.49	\$0.25
Support	\$10.43	\$0.26	\$10.36	\$0.32
Resistance	\$10.70	\$0.22	\$10.64	\$0.22
20 Day MA	\$10.50	\$0.01	\$10.39	\$0.03
50 Day MA	\$10.49	\$0.00	\$10.36	\$0.00
100 Day MA	\$10.42	-\$0.02	\$10.30	-\$0.02
4-Week High	\$10.82	\$0.00	\$10.74	\$0.00
4-Week Low	\$10.16	-\$0.06	\$10.13	\$0.00
Technical Trend	Down	=	Down	=

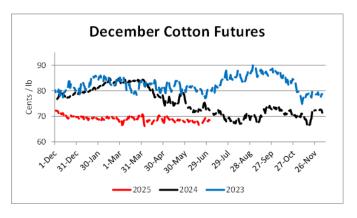


Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated soybean condition at 66% good-to-excellent and 7% poor-to-very poor; soybeans emerged at 94% compared to 90% last week, 94% last year, and a 5-year average of 95%; soybeans blooming at 17% compared to 8% last week, 18% last year, and a 5-year average of 16%; and soybeans setting pods at 3% compared to 3% last year and a 5-year average of 2%. In Tennessee, soybean condition was estimated at 55% good-to-excellent compared to 15% poor-to-very poor, soybeans emerged at 79% compared to 74% last week, 86% last year, and a 5-year average of 86%; soybeans blooming at 24% compared to 16% last week, 39% last year, and a 5-year average of 22%; and soybeans setting pods at 3% compared to 4% last year and a 5-year average of 2%. Oct/Nov cash prices at elevators and barge points were \$9.87 to \$10.36 for the week. November 2025 soybean futures closed at \$10.49, up 25 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$10.50 November 2025 Put Option which would cost 39 cents and set a \$10.11 futures floor. Nov/Dec 2025 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.40 at the end of the week.

Cotton

North Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for July 2 were 66.92 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 68.92 cents/lb (31-3-35). Upland cotton adjusted world price (AWP) increased 1.16 cents to 55.34 cents. Cotton net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 23,700 bales for the 2024/25 marketing year and 106,600 bales for the 2025/26 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 39% compared to last week at 255,800 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 109% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2024/25 marketing year (August 1 to July 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 116%.

Cotton	Dec 25	Change	Mar 26	Change
Price	68.46	-0.86	69.78	-0.82
Support	67.79	0.48	69.21	0.48
Resistance	69.31	-0.54	70.47	-0.56
20 Day MA	67.95	0.02	69.25	0.00
50 Day MA	68.38	0.00	69.68	0.02
100 Day MA	68.61	-0.02	69.80	-0.01
4-Week High	69.52	0.00	70.79	0.00
4-Week Low	66.27	0.00	67.51	0.00
Technical Trend	Up	=	Up	=



Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated cotton condition at 51% good-to-excellent and 17% poor-to-very poor; cotton planted at 95% compared to 92% last week, 97% last year, and a 5-year average of 98%; cotton squaring at 40% compared to 26% last week, 41% last year, and a 5-year average of 37%; and cotton setting bolls at 9% compared to 5% last week, 11% last year, and a 5-year average of 9%. In Tennessee, cotton condition was estimated at 44% good-to-excellent and 16% poor-to-very poor; cotton planted at 92% compared to 91% last week, 100% last year, and a 5-year average of 100%; cotton squaring at 37% compared to 19% last week, 53% last year, and a 5-year average of 41%; and cotton setting bolls at 1% compared to 1% last week, 8% last year, and a 5-year average of 6%. December 2025 cotton futures closed at 68.46 cents, down 0.86 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2025 cotton futures traded between 67.76 and 69.48 cents. Dec/Mar and Dec/May cotton futures spreads were 1.32 cents and 2.36 cents. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a 69 cent December

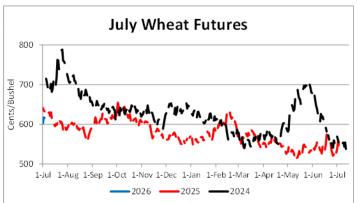
Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

2025 Put Option costing 3.11 cents establishing a 65.89 cent futures floor. March 2026 cotton futures closed at 69.78 cents, down 0.82 cents since last Friday. May 2026 cotton futures closed at 70.82 cents, down 0.68 cents since last Friday.

Wheat

Wheat net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 21.5 million bushels for the 2025/26 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 116% compared to last week at 21.3 million bushels. Wheat export sales were 32% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2025/26 marketing year (June 1 to May 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 31%. Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated winter wheat condition at 48% good-to-excellent and 20% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat harvested at 37% compared to 19% last week, 52% last year, and a 5-year average of 42%; spring wheat condition at 53% good-to-excellent and 14% poor-to-very poor; spring wheat emerged at 96% compared to 93% last week, 100% last year, and a 5-year average of 100%; and spring wheat headed at 38% compared to 17% last week, 35% last year, and a 5-year average of 37%. Wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$4.78 to \$5.31.

Wheat	Sep 25	Change	Jul 26	Change
Price	\$5.56	\$0.16	\$6.16	\$0.18
Support	\$5.48	\$0.16	\$6.10	\$0.18
Resistance	\$5.73	\$0.24	\$6.26	\$0.19
20 Day MA	\$5.56	\$0.00	\$6.14	-\$0.01
50 Day MA	\$5.51	-\$0.02	\$6.10	-\$0.02
100 Day MA	\$5.70	-\$0.02	\$6.22	-\$0.02
4-Week High	\$5.94	\$0.00	\$6.50	\$0.00
4-Week Low	\$5.34	-\$0.02	\$5.93	-\$0.03
Technical Trend	Down	=	Down	=



September 2025 wheat futures closed at \$5.56, up 16 cents since last Friday. September 2025 wheat futures traded between \$5.34 and \$5.68 this week Sep/Dec and Sep/Jul future spreads were 22 and 60 cents. The September wheat-to-corn price ratio was 1.32. December 2025 wheat futures closed at \$5.78, up 15 cents since last Friday. July 2026 wheat futures closed at \$6.16, up 18 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$6.20 July 2026 Put Option costing 56 cents establishing a \$5.64 futures floor.

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 – https://apps.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/esrpi.aspx

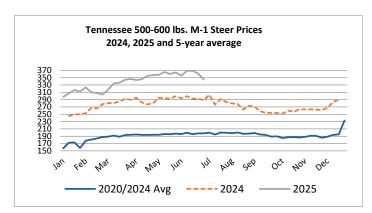
EIA: Weekly ethanol Plant Production - https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pnp wprode s1 w.htm

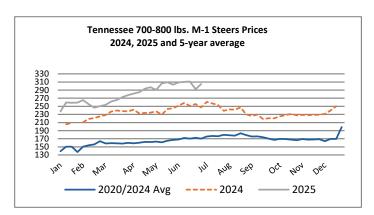
EIA: Weekly Supply Estimates - https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_sum_sndw_a_EPOOXE_sae_mbbl_w.htm
Upland Cotton Reports - https://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/epasReports?area=home&subject=ecpa&topic=fta-uc
Tennessee Crop Progress - https://www.nass.usda.gov/FSA/epasReports?area=home&subject=ecpa&topic=fta-uc
Tennessee Crop Progress & Condition/

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

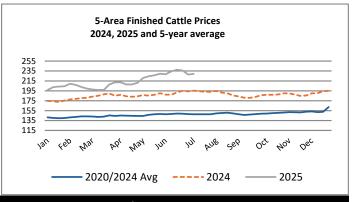
If you would like further information or clarification on topics discussed in the crop comments section or would like to be added to our free email list please contact me at aaron.smith@utk.edu.

Prices Paid to Farmers by Elevators						
Friday, June 27, 2025Thursday, July 3, 2025						
	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans			\$/bushel		-	
Northwest	9.88	9.85	9.85	10.09	10.11	
North Central	10.28	10.30	10.30	10.54	10.56	
Mississippi River	10.28					
Yellow Corn						
Northwest	4.52	4.49	4.46	4.58	4.60	
North Central	4.08	4.04	4.01	4.13	4.15	
Wheat						
Northwest	4.90	4.86	4.89	5.04	4.97	
North Central	4.65	4.78	4.89	5.04	4.97	
Mississippi River	5.09	5.08	5.17	5.31	5.24	
Cotton			\$/pound		-	
Memphis	67.55-69.55	66.43-68.43	66.43-68.43	66.92-68.92	65.81-67.81	









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/feeder-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

	Prices on Tennessee Reported Livestock Auctions for the w This Week				Year Ago
-	Low	High		Last Week's Weighted Average	_
		_	\$/cwt		
Steers: Medium/Large			γ/ οπτ		
300-400 lbs	366.00	475.00	403.03	420.72	326.47
400-500 lbs	324.00	415.00	383.71	396.05	315.12
500-600 lbs	320.00	380.00	345.63	360.87	303.12
600-700 lbs	288.00	335.00	324.15	333.28	272.83
700-800 lbs	285.00	317.50	304.73	292.33	260.94
Steers: Small Frame #					
300-400 lbs					
400-500 lbs	275.00	320.00	306.66		
500-600 lbs					
600-700 lbs					
Steers: Medium/Larg	e Frame #3				
300-400 lbs	330.00	400.00	366.95	368.16	295.11
400-500 lbs	275.00	375.00	342.48	345.92	273.48
500-600 lbs	280.00	355.00	317.27	337.72	273.31
600-700 lbs	260.00	319.00	297.84	304.60	253.92
700-800 lbs	255.00	302.00	271.30	288.04	211.36
Dairy/Beef Steers			_,_,_,		
300-400 lbs	350.00	355.00	352.62		
500-600 lbs					
700-800 lbs	285.00	285.00	285.00		
Slaughter Cows & Bul	lls				
Breakers 75-80%	150.00	177.00	165.39	161.54	147.14
Boners 80-85%	147.00	175.00	162.81	161.91	143.50
Lean 85-90%	130.00	154.00	142.87	142.63	130.73
Bulls YG 1	180.00	201.00	191.43	186.41	166.43
Heifers: Medium/Larg					
300-400 lbs	320.00	410.00	367.65	386.37	301.44
400-500 lbs	320.00	400.00	348.06	351.70	272.94
500-600 lbs	290.00	340.00	318.29	329.66	256.19
600-700 lbs	262.50	305.00	288.23	296.79	238.54
Heifers: Small Frame	#1-2				
300-400 lbs	310.00	335.00	325.09		
400-500 lbs					
500-600 lbs					
600-700 lbs					
Heifers: Medium/Larg	ge Frame #2-3				
300-400 lbs	280.00	395.00	342.47	347.79	268.30
400-500 lbs	255.00	365.00	325.31	330.80	249.39
500-600 lbs	270.00	317.50	289.41	302.65	236.83
600-700 lbs	240.00	282.50	268.18	273.19	226.25

Cattle Receipts

This week:4,936 Week ago:8,407 Year ago:6,508

Link to report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams 2063.pdf

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Lower Middle Tennessee Cattlemen's Association Video Board Sale - Columbia, TN

Weighted Average Report for 7/3/25

For complete report:

https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3340.pdf

Publications & Tools:

2025 Cow-Calf Budget D 31

2025 Stocker/Backgrounding Budget D 32

Field Crop Budgets for 2025 D 33

Tennessee Forage Budget Calculator Tool

Tennessee Forage Budget Calculator D 252-A

2025 Tennessee Baleage Budgets D 252-B

2025 Tennessee Hay Budgets D 252-C

2025 Tennessee Pasture Budgets D 252-D

Seasonal Prices for Tennessee Feeder Cattle and Cows D 39

Basis Estimates for Feeder Cattle and Fed Cattle D 34

Buy/Sell Margins Calculator

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

314 Morgan Hall • 2621 Morgan Circle • <u>arec.tennessee.edu</u>

USDA / Tennessee Department of Agriculture Market News Service https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/farms/news.html

1-800-342-8206

Real. Life. Solutions.

