

# The Cattle Range

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## Weekly Market Summary

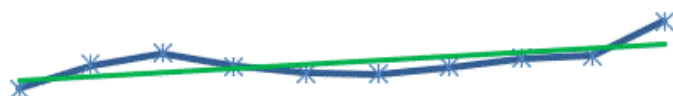
For the week ending January 2, 2026

**Abbreviated Summary this week due to limited market data available...**

**Compared to 2 weeks ago**, fed cattle trade in the Southern Plains and Northern Plains was higher. Insufficient market data available to establish prices for feeder cattle and stocker calves. Live cattle futures and feeder cattle futures were higher. The dressed beef cutouts and corn were lower.

### Cattle/Beef Market-Strength Indexes

#### 10 Day Index Trendline



Change from Previous Day: **+4.73%**  
Change from 10 Days Ago: **+9.57%**

#### 60 Day Index Trendline



Change from 60 Days Ago: **+9.86%**  
Change from 60 Day High: **0.00%**

*Indexes track the daily market values for the past 10 & 60 days. Each value is the weighted total of the Gain/(Loss) for 15 major market factors compared to the previous trading day.*

[Click Here](#) to receive the WMS on Saturday mornings or to have it sent to friends & associates.

**Fed Cattle:** In the Southern Plains and Northern Plains, trade was 2.00 higher at 232.00. In the 3 front months, Live Cattle futures were 5.20 to 6.20 higher. USDA's steer carcass weight data showed weights averaged 981 lbs. this week, compared to 988 lbs. last week and 950 lbs. a year ago.

S: This Week: 232.00 / Month Ago: 225.00 / Year Ago: 197.00 / 5 Year Avg: 168.27

N: This Week: 232.00 / Month Ago: 222.00 / Year Ago: 200.00 / 5 Year Avg: 169.96

**Feeder & Stocker Cattle:** Most auctions closed for the Christmas/New Year Holidays. Primarily due to a sharply higher trade on Friday, feeder cattle futures were 10.50 to 14.65 higher in the 3 front months.

**Joplin Regional Stockyards** in Carthage, MO held a sale on Monday, December 29th and offered a good market test.

**This Week:** 12,362

**2 Weeks Ago:** 11,705

**Last Year:** 12,516

**USDA Market News** reported that compared to the sale 2 weeks ago, feeder steers under 450 lbs. sold 45.00-65.00 higher. Weights over 450 lbs. sold 3.00-20.00 higher. Feeder heifers under 475 lbs. sold 25.00-50.00 higher. Heavier weights sold steady to 8.00 higher. Supply was heavy with very good demand. 29 lots of 100 head or more crossed the scales.

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**CME Feeder Cattle Index:** Posted daily by CME for the prior business day  
348.65... -1.40 ~ Historic High: 376.51 on 10/16/25  
This Week: 348.65 / Month Ago: 343.73 / Year Ago: 265.76 / 5 Year Avg: 218.50

[Click Here](#) to view Chris Swift's "Shootin' the Bull" Weekly Analysis...

**Boxed Beef Cutout:** The Choice cutout was 11.66 lower at 349.97 and the Select cutout was 0.90 higher at 346.92. The Choice/Select spread is 3.05, 12.56 narrower.

This Week: 349.97 / Month Ago: 361.20 / Year Ago: 325.24 / 5 Year Avg: 301.13

**Cutter Cow Cutout:** 1.06 lower at 310.79.

**Slaughter Cows:** Trade mostly steady to 1.00 lower.

**Total red meat production** under Federal inspection for the week ending Saturday, January 3rd was estimated at 913.5 million lbs. according to the USDA Marketing Service. This was 11.9 percent higher than a week ago and 3.2 percent lower than a year ago. Cumulative meat production for the year to date was 41.4 percent lower compared to the previous year.

**Corn:** March futures closed at 4.3750, 0.0625 lower.

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