US Imported Beef Market

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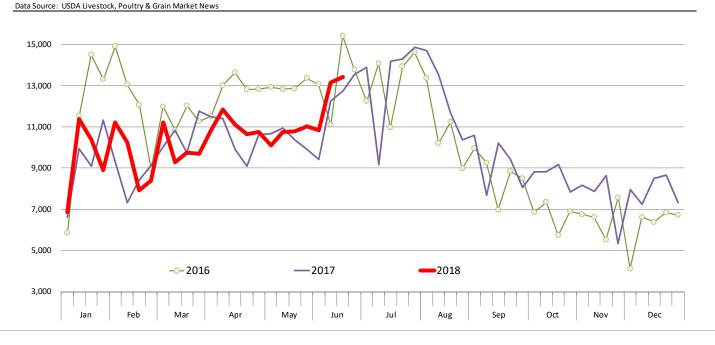
Market Highlights for the Week:

- Fed cattle slaughter last week was 532,000 head, 3.5% higher than last year and the highest in more than 5 years.
- Cattle on feed inventory on June 1 up 4.1% vs. year ago.
- More cattle will be available for slaughter in July and August, helping keep prices under year ago levels. Already the price of rounds and cuts has declined substantially compared to April and May.
- Ground beef prices have also moved lower due to increased competition from cheaper protein options, especially pork loins and chicken breasts
- Lower ground beef demand and higher supplies have caused the price of 50CL beef trimmings to decline 32% since May 1
- Beef imports from grinding beef supplying countries in the last four weeks are up 23% compared to the same period last year and 40% higher than March and early April levels.

Imported Market Activity for the Week

Imported beef prices continued to hold a weak tone for much of this week. However, some market participants we contacted during our weekly survey indicated a bit more stability by the end of the week. The increase in New Zealand slaughter during May, which is a seasonal occurrence, has translated into more product coming into the market in the last two weeks and more active trading. Demand for domestic lean cow meat continues to be quite firm, contributing to a widening spread between domestic and imported product. End users are content to stay short bought, expecting more fed cattle coming to market in the next two months and bolstering the supply of cuts that could go into the grinder. The trading of imported cuts remains particularly difficult, with prices in

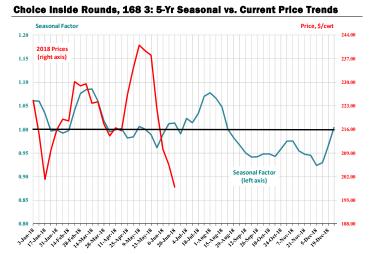
BEEF IMPORTS FROM MAJOR GRINDING BEEF EXPORTING COUNTRIES. FR/FZ BEEF ONLY. METRIC TON



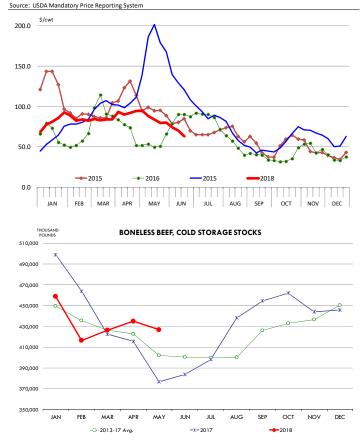
Asian markets well above US domestic bids. The price of grain fed cap off inside rounds (choice) on Friday was quoted at \$2.70 per pound compared to CIF quotes for imported in the \$2.80 area. The price of US domestic choice beef flats is now under \$2.00 per pound. The sharp decline in the price of round cuts follows big gains for these items in May, when retailers were broadly promoting cheap round steaks. Cheap other proteins have likely increased diversification in the meat case and negatively impacted round values. Seasonally the price of rounds improves in August but in the short term we expect to see continued weakness in the complex.

50CL Market: Prices for fat beef trimmings have come under pressure in the last two weeks and could drift lower further in July and early August. Prices for wholesale, retail-ready, ground beef have been quite soft recently, an indication that retail sales may be slowing down. We can speculation as to the reasons for this. After all retailers have plenty of meat feature options for after the 4th of July, with chicken breast prices moving counterseasonally lower in June and pork loin values at multiyear lows. While there was a lot of interest in featuring beef in the spring to support big grilling weakened needs, now there appears to be a shift towards value. Cattle slaughter is currently at the highest level since 2012, steer weights seasonally increase in July and August and the latest on feed numbers suggest big slaughter numbers into the fall. In this environment, we think the price risk in the beef fat trim market remains to the downside. There has been a spike in the price of pork fat trimmings but we think this is temporary, as some end users appear to have been caught short. Large hog slaughter and seasonally heavier weights will bring more pork trimmings to market by early September.

Cold storage inventories: The inventory of boneless beef in cold storage at the end of May was estimated at 426.8 million pounds, 13.3% higher than a year ago and 6.1% higher than the five year average. We do not see this number as particularly bearish in light of the big surge in beef exports during the last three months. High exports demand more beef needs to be staged in cold storage before it is shipped overseas. Overall US meat protein inventories continue to increase, however, and we do think this is generally bearish for prices into the summer. The combined inventory of beef, pork,



50CL FRESH BEEF TRIMMINGS, USDA, WT. AVG. PRICE



chicken and turkey in cold storage at the end of May was 2.5 billion pounds, 8% higher than a year ago and 10.5% higher than the five year average. The situation in the pork complex is particularly troublesome as Mexico tariff on US pork jumps to 20% on July 6. For now US pork export sales to Mexico have slowed down dramatically while US pork exports to China have come to a complete standstill. US pork production is expected to be at an all time record this fall and a slowdown in pork trade could

9,900

JAN

FEB

MAR

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force more product into domestic channels and depress meat prices more broadly.

Cattle on Feed: US feedlots placed 2.124 mil-

lion cattle on feed in May, 0.2% more than a

U.S. ALL CATTLE ON FEED: 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS

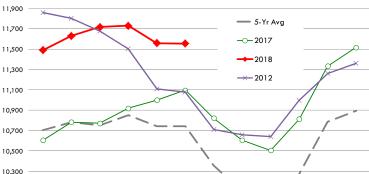
Source: USDA/NASS. Analyst Estimates from Urner Barry Number, Thousand Head Current Year as % of Year Prior Estimates Difference 2016 2017 2018 Actual 1.889 2,119 2,124 100.2 95.8 4.4 Fed Cattle Marketed in Ma 1,794 105.2 1,951 2,056 105.4 0.2 10.804 11,096 103.4 0.7 11,553 104.1

year ago. Analysts, on average, were expecting placements to be down 4.2%. It appears that Placed on Feed During Ma more light cattle went into feedlots during May. This could in part be due to drought as well as higher imports of light cattle. Feeder cattle prices in the US have been particularly strong and this has encouraged Mexican and On Feed June 1 Canadian cow-calf operators to take advantage of the strong USD and high feeder prices offered in the US market. Imports of Canadian feeder cattle in May were up almost 300% group compared to a year ago. compared to a year ago. TORIES, (

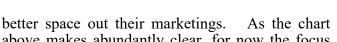
NVFN Marketings in May were up 5.4% compared to a year ago, a bit higher than the 5.2% analysts were expecting. The strong marketing INNING OF / rate has allowed feedlots to say current to this point. Fed cattle weights are only marginally higher than they were last year at the end of 10.100 May. Strong packer margins should help sustain a strong feedlot marketing pace. But this is not a given and there is plenty of uncertainty in the market going into the hot summer months. Futures were down today, likely disappointed by reports of lower cash prices paid for cattle. The price of middle meats (steak cuts) is heading lower and packers already are having problems moving end cuts (rounds, chucks).

The total supply of cattle on feed on June 1 was 11.553 million head, 4.1% higher than a year ago. Analysts polled ahead of the report, including us, expected total on feed supplies to be 3.4% higher than a year ago. The supply of cattle that have been on feed for more than 120 days is up 21.7% compared to a year ago.

Takeaway: Fed cattle slaughter is expected to be quite robust in the near term, which could pressure beef prices lower. The increase in placements of light cattle can be viewed as moderately bearish the back end of the futures curve but one should not Placements were lower in overstate the case. March and April and the increase in placements of under 600 pound calves means a relatively slow feeding cycle and the opportunity for feedlots to



MONTHLY FED CATTLE INVENTORIES, +1000 HEAD CAPACITY FEEDLOTS



JUL

JUN

MAY

AUG

SEF

NOV

OCT

DEC

above makes abundantly clear, for now the focus should remain on July and August marketings.

CME Cattle Feeder Index and US Cattle Markets

Special Live Animal Reference Price

	Current Week	Prior Week	% CHANGE VS.	Last Year	Change from
	21-Jun-18	w		WK AGO 20-Jun-17	
	142.57	140.73	1.3%	148.07	-3.7%
	22-Jun-18	15-Jun-18		23-Jun-17	
FED STEER (5-MKT AVG)	111.54	114.13	-2.3%	129.24	-13.7%
CUTTER COW CARCASS, NATIONAL, 90% LEAN, 350-400 LB. (carcass wt.)	104.50	102.50	2.0%	124.00	-15.7%
BONER COW CARCASS, NATIONAL, 85% LEAN, 400-500 LB. (carcass wt.)	105.00	107.50	-2.3%	131.00	-19.8%
BREAKER COW CARCASS, NATIONAL, 75% LEAN, 500+ (carcass wt.)	102.50	102.00	0.5%	119.00	-13.9%
CUTTER COW CARCASS CUTOUT, 5-DAY MA, USDA	176.02	176.21	-0.1%	154.79	13.7%

CME Feeder Cattle Index



TABLE 2 – IMPORTED BEEF PRICES, 7:45 DAYS, CIF

	Current	Week	Prior W	/eek	Change From Last Week	Last Y	ear	Change From Last Year
	22-Jur	n-18	15-Ju	n-18		23-Jur	n-17	
US East Coast Australian/N	Z Lean, CIF							
95 CL Bull, E. Coast	208.0	210.0	210.0	212.0	-2.0	240.0	244.0	-34.0
90 CL Blended Cow	191.0	194.0	196.0	197.0	-3.0	221.0	224.0	-30.0
90 CL Shank	195.0	198.0	199.0	200.0	-2.0	214.0	215.0	-17.0
85 CL Fores	184.0	185.0	186.0	187.0	-2.0	207.0	208.0	-23.0
85 CL Chucks		UNQ		UNQ	N/A		UNQ	N/A
95 CL Bull, W. Coast	207.0	208.0	208.0	210.0	-2.0	239.0	242.0	-34.0
Uruguay CFH 90CL, E. Coast		UNQ		UNQ	N/A		UNQ	N/A
US East Coast, Trimmings, (<u>CIF</u>							
85 CL Trimmings	183.0	184.0	185.0	189.0	-5.0	204.0	205.0	-21.0
80 CL Trimmings	175.0	177.0	178.0	179.0	-2.0	186.0	187.0	-10.0
75 CL Trimmings		UNQ		UNQ	N/A	171.0	174.0	N/A
65 CL Trimmings		UNQ		UNQ	N/A	132.0	134.0	N/A
US East Coast Australian C	<u>uts, CIF</u>							
Cap Off Steer Insides	275.0	280.0	280.0	285.0	-5.0	280.0	285.0	-5.0
Steer Insides 14/18		UNQ		UNQ	N/A		UNQ	N/A
Steer Flats		220.0		220.0	0.0		UNQ	N/A
Steer Knuckles	240.0	245.0	240.0	245.0	0.0	250.0	255.0	-10.0

TABLE 3 – IMPORTED BEEF PRICES, 7:45 DAYS, US WAREHOUSE

	Current	Week	Prior W	/eek	Change From Last Week	Last Y	ear	Change From Last Year
	22-Jur	n-18	15-Ju	n-18		23-Jui	n-17	
US East Coast Australian/N	Z Lean, FO	<u>B US Port</u>	<u>.</u>					
95 CL Bull, E. Coast	219.0	220.0	221.0	223.0	-3.0	248.0	249.0	-29.0
90 CL Blended Cow	204.0	205.0	206.0	207.0	-2.0	228.0	230.0	-25.0
90 CL Shank	209.0	210.0	210.0	211.0	-1.0	222.0	223.0	-13.0
85 CL Fores	191.0	192.0	192.0	193.0	-1.0		213.0	-21.0
85 CL Chucks		UNQ		UNQ	N/A		UNQ	N/A
95 CL Bull, W. Coast	217.0	218.0	220.0	221.0	-3.0	247.0	248.0	-30.0
Uruguay CFH 90CL, E. Coast		UNQ		UNQ	N/A		UNQ	N/A
US East Coast, Trimmings, I	<u>=OB US Por</u>	<u>t</u>						
85 CL Trimmings	190.0	191.0	191.0	192.0	-1.0	210.0	211.0	-20.0
80 CL Trimmings	183.0	184.0	183.0	184.0	0.0	192.0	193.0	-9.0
75 CL Trimmings	176.0	178.0		178.0	0.0	179.0	180.0	-2.0
65 CL Trimmings		UNQ		140.0	N/A	140.0	142.0	N/A
US East Coast Australian C	<u>uts, FOB U</u>	<u>S Port</u>						
Cap Off Steer Insides		285.0	285.0	290.0	-5.0	291.0	294.0	-9.0
Steer Insides 14/18		UNQ		UNQ	N/A		UNQ	N/A
Steer Flats		225.0		225.0	0.0		UNQ	N/A
Steer Knuckles	250.0	255.0	250.0	255.0	0.0	260.0	265.0	-10.0

TABLE 4 – US DOMESTIC BEEF AND CATTLE PRICES

	Curr We			Prior \	Veek		Change From Last Week	Last \	(ear		Change from Last Year
	22	2-Jun-1	8	15	5-Jun-1	8		23	8-Jun-1	7	
Domestic Cutouts	Low	High	Wt.A∨g	Low	High	Wt.Avg		Low	High	Wt.Avg	
Choice Cutout		217.16			221.59		-4.4		246.99		-29.8
Select Cutout		202.02			202.73		-0.7		219.88		-17.9
Domestic Lean Grinding Beef											
90 CL Boneless	215.0	225.0	220.8	219.0	226.0	221.2	0.3	228.8	235.0	231.0	10.2
85 CL Beef Trimmings	188.0	207.0	192.2	188.0	202.5	191.7	-0.5	200.0	218.5	205.3	13.1
50 CL Beef Trim	71.1	71.1	64.5	88.4	88.4	68.7	4.1	134.8	134.8	124.1	59.6
Domestic Pork Trim											
42 CL Pork Trim	45.0	70.3	61.6	37.5	61.3	48.8	-12.8	59.0	82.0	69.9	8.3
72 CL Pork Trim	74.0	100.3	85.7	60.0	97.3	77.5	-8.2	98.6	131.6	106.3	20.6
Point of Lean Values											
90 CL Domestic		245.4			245.7		-0.3		256.7		-11.3
50 CL Beef Trimming		129.0			137.3		-8.3		248.3		-119.3
42 CL Pork Trim		146.6			116.2		30.5		166.3		-19.7
72 CL Pork Trim		119.1			107.7		11.4		147.6		-28.5
<u>National Direct Fed Steer</u> price)		111.54			114.13		-2.6		129.24		-17.7

TABLE 5 – FUTURES AND SLAUGHTER INFORMATION

Futures Contracts	Current Week	Prior Week	Chang	ge From Last Week	Last Year		nge From st Year
				Week		La	st tear
	22-Jun-18	15-Jun-18			23-Jun-17		
Live Cattle Futures							
June '18	108.275	108.450	Ļ	-0.17	119.500	Ļ	-11.23
August '18	105.900	104.775	t	1.13	115.350	Ļ	-9.45
October '18	109.400	107.025	t	2.38	113.025	Ļ	-3.63
December '18	112.950	111.350	t	1.60	113.825	Ļ	-0.88
Feeder Cattle Futures							
August'18	149.200	147.975	t	1.22	144.650	t	4.55
September '18	149.825	148.275	t	1.55	144.050	t	5.77
October '18	149.475	147.850	t	1.63	142.325	t	7.15
November '18	149.125	147.700	t	1.43	142.325	t	6.80
Corn Futures							
July '18	357 1/4	361 1/4	Ţ	-4.00	368 3/4	Ļ	-11.50
September '18	366 1/2	370 3/4	Ţ	-4.25	376 3/4	Ţ	-10.25
December '18	378	382 3/4	Ţ	-4.75	386 3/4	Ļ	-8.75
March '19	387 1/2	392 1/2	Ţ	-5.00	396 1/4	Ţ	-8.75
Ch Wheat Futures							
July '18	491 1/4	499 1/2	Ļ	-8.25	464 1/2	t	26.75
September '18	504 1/4	513 1/2	Ļ	-9.25	479 1/2	t	24.75
December '18	521 1/2	534 1/4	Ļ	-12.75	502	t	19.50
March '19	538 1/2	553 3/4	Ļ	-15.25	518	t	20.50

		Change From Last						
Slaughter Information	7 Days Ending	7 Days Ending		Week	7 Days Ending	La	ıst Year	
	23-Jun-18	16-Jun-18			24-Jun-17			
Total Cattle Slaughter	664,000	654,000	t	10,000	639,000	t	25,000	
	9-Jun-18	2-Jun-18			10-Jun-17			
Total Cow Slaughter	116,613	105,027	t	11,586	111,665	t	4,948	
Dairy Cow Slaughter	55,132	48,951	† 1	6,181	52,737	Ť	2,395	
Beef Cow Slaughter	61,481	56,076	†	5,405	58,928	t	2,553	

TABLE 7 - US BEEF IMPORTS (Source: USDA/AMS)

YTD Imported Fresh/Frz Beef Passed for Entry in the US

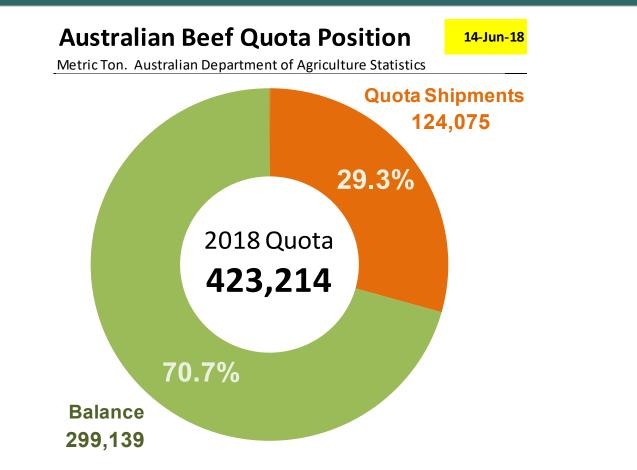
week 24	6/17/2017	6/16/2018		
Australia	95,781	97,522	1,741	1.8%
Brazil	7,162	-	(7,162)	-100.0%
Canada	111,129	120,628	9,499	8.5%
Chile	202	-	(202)	-100.0%
Costa Rica	4,118	3,850	(268)	-6.5%
France	-	-	-	
Honduras	-	944	944	
Ireland	866	1,156	290	33.5%
Japan	187	246	59	31.6%
Mexico	85,233	89,556	4,323	5.1%
Netherlands	-	-	-	
New Zealand	96,707	107,274	10,567	10.9%
Nicaragua	21,592	24,966	3,374	15.6%
Spain	-	-	-	
Uruguay	16,928	15,830	(1,098)	-6.5%
Total	440,037	461,970	21,933	5.0%

Source: AMS - USDA

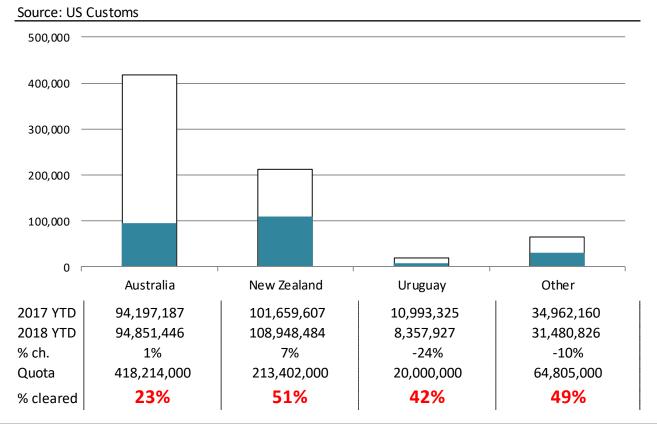
US Beef Imports. Metric Ton. Data Source: USDA/Agricultural Marketing Service

Imports as of June 16, 2018 Individual Country Volume. MT & Y/Y % Ch. Total 2016 2017 2018 160,000 520,000 140,000 **TOTAL YTD: + 4.7%** 500,000 120,000 480,000 100,000 80,000 460,000 60,000 440,000 40,000 420,000 20,000 N. Lealand Mexico Brazil Canada 400,000 lapan Ustralia Heland costa Rica Honduras chile Uruguay NicaraB Total 2% **9%** 5% 11% 16% -6% 5.0%

US IMPORTED BEEF MARKET



USA Quota Entries through Week Ending June 18



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