

## Livestock Report – July 16, 2020

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**Beef Cattle Management**

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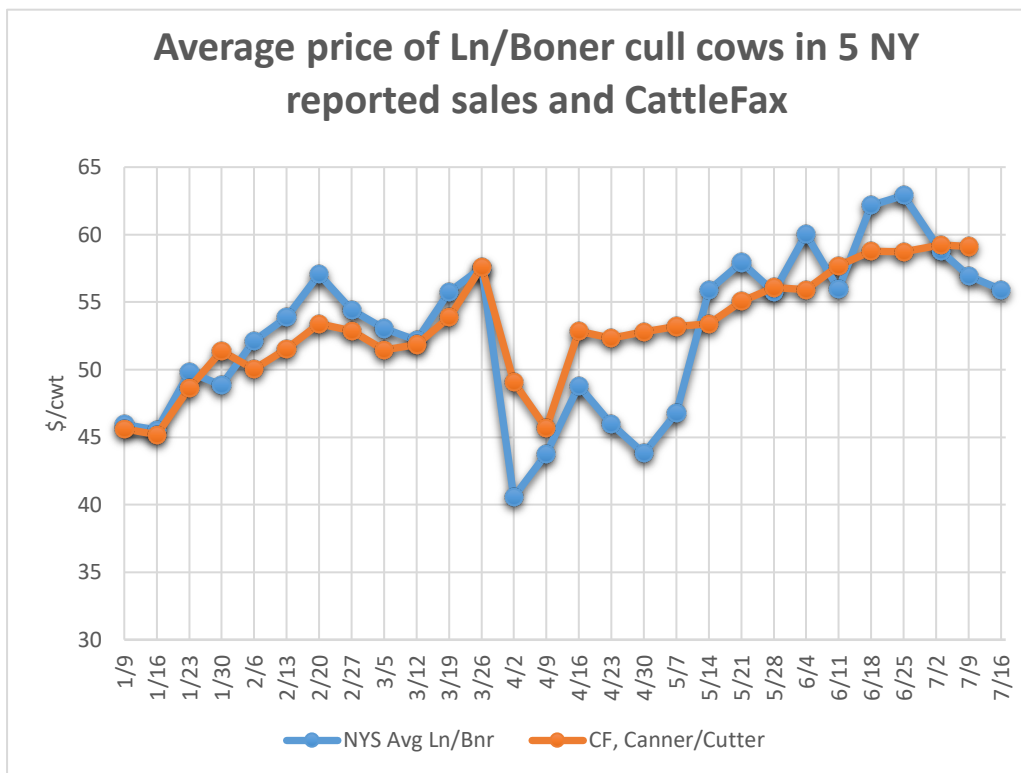
## Prices for fed steers fair well compared to the 5 Area Weekly Weighted Average, Drought continues.

**Weather update.** According to the US Drought Monitor, <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap.aspx>, 78% of the state is considered abnormally dry, 19% in moderate drought and 3% classified as drought. The table below highlights some of the impacts expected by each drought designation.

| <i>Category</i>                 | <i>Impact</i>   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>D0</b><br>(abnormally dry)   | Crop growth is stunted; planting is delayed   |
|                                 | Fire danger is elevated; spring fire season starts early  |
|                                 | Lawns brown early; gardens begin to wilt  |
|                                 | Surface water levels decline  |
| <b>D1</b><br>(moderate drought) | Irrigation use increases; hay and grain yields are lower than normal  |
|                                 | Honey production declines   |
|                                 | Wildfires and ground fires increase   |
|                                 | Trees and landscaping are stressed; fish are stressed   |
|                                 | Voluntary water conservation is requested; reservoir and lake levels are below normal capacity                        |
| <b>D2</b><br>(drought)          | Specialty crops are impacted in both yield and fruit size   |
|                                 | Producers begin feeding cattle; hay prices are high   |
|                                 | Warnings are issued on outdoor burns; air quality is poor   |
|                                 | Golf courses conserve water   |
|                                 | Trees are brittle and susceptible to insects  |
|                                 | Fish kills occur; wildlife move to farms for food   |
|                                 | Water quality is poor; groundwater is declining; irrigation ponds are dry; outdoor water restrictions are implemented |

NOAA forecasts that NY will have above normal temps through October and an equal chance of having more or less precipitation than normal. Resources on dealing with drought can be found at <http://blogs.cornell.edu/beefcattle/> under “Producer Resources”.

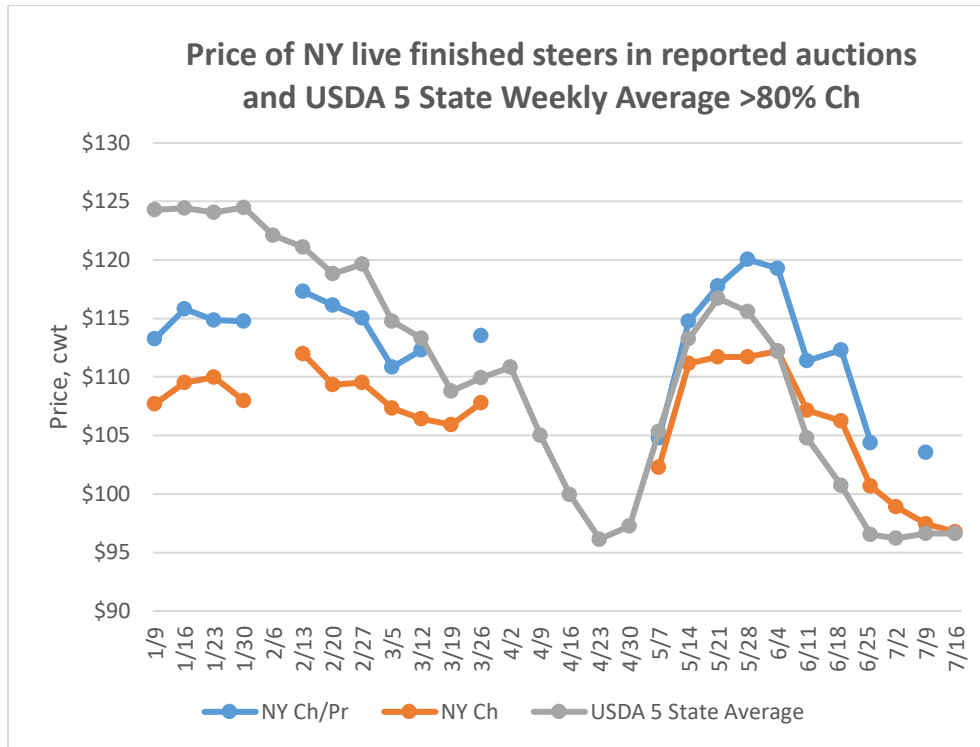
**Cull Cows.** The average price for the week ending July 17 of Lean/Boner cull cows in NY was \$55.91/cwt with a high of \$70.88 for Breaker 75-80% lean. There were no Premium White cows reported. This continues a decline that began the end of June, representing a drop of 12%. This is most likely due to the declining price of the beef cut-out.



### **Finished cattle.**

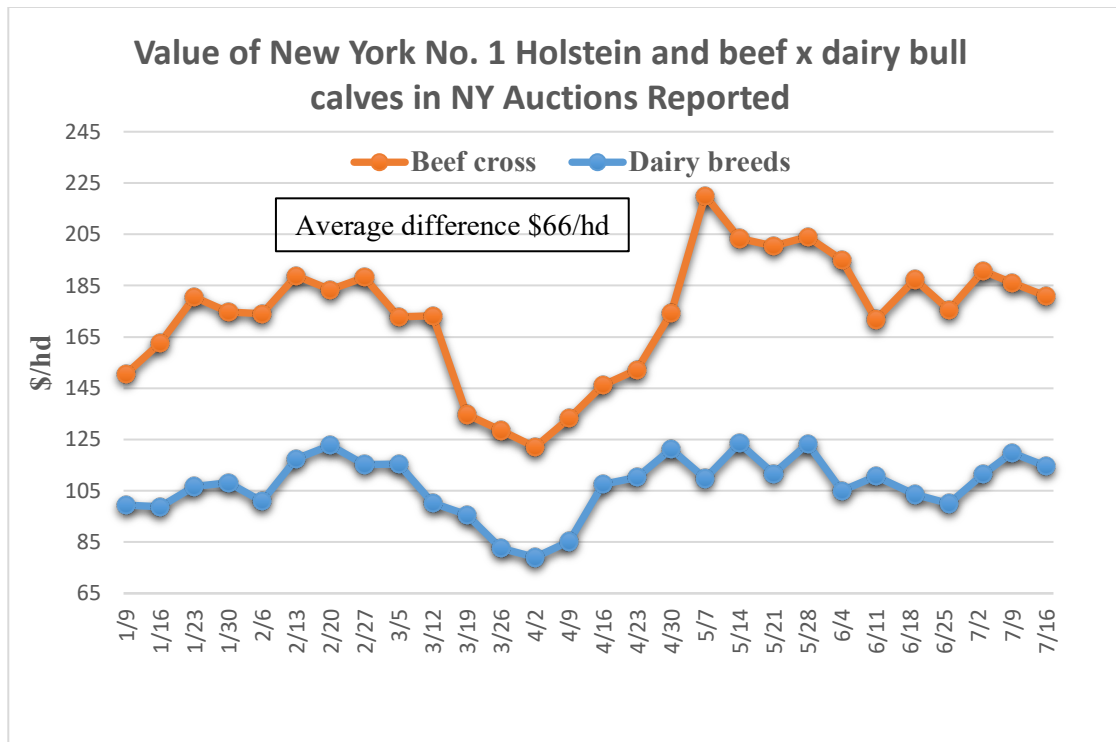
The average price for Choice steers for the week ending July 17 was \$96.76/cwt. There were no Ch/Pr steers reported. The Choice price was nearly the same as the previous week and about \$11/cwt lower from the same date last year

Compared to the USDA 5 Area Weekly Weighted Average Direct Slaughter Cattle, which includes prices from Texas/Oklahoma/New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Iowa/Minnesota feedlots, New York prices continue to track higher since the first of the year.



**Feeder cattle.** The monthly summary for feeder cattle will be published 30.

**Dairy bull calves.** The value of Holstein and beef x dairy bull calves declined about \$5/hd compared to last week. The \$66/hd premium for beef x dairy calves continues.



Additional NYS cattle auction prices can be found at: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/feeder-and-replacement-cattle-auctions#NewYork>.

*(Funds to support the NYS Market News program come from New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets project "Stocker cattle: Using underutilized grasslands to improve economic viability of the Southern Tier while providing viable careers for beginning farmers.").*