



### Georgia Farm Gate Value 20 Year Trends – Cattle, Hay, and Poultry

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Beef (including beef stockers and retained ownership cattle), broilers, dairy, eggs (including hatching eggs) and hay are common contenders for top 10 agricultural commodities in Georgia based on the farm gate value survey. This publication discusses trends in farm gate value (FGV) and production of beef cows, broilers, dairy, table eggs, and hay since the beginning of data collection for the farm gate value report which began in 2001.

See Figure 1 for normalized, inflation-adjusted farm gate value of the major livestock commodities. The gray bars represent the 2008 recession and Covid-19 pandemic. Inflation adjustments were made using U.S. Inflation Calculator, an online inflation calculation tool which uses Consumer Price Index (CPI) data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Real farm gate values are calculated by multiplying the nominal annual FGV of commodity production by the CPI inflation factor for each year relative to 2020. Relative normalization also allows us compare acreage trends more easily, as scales of production differ. To normalize figures relative to 2020, each crop's real annual farm gate value and acreage is divided by the base year 2020. Therefore, values in 2020 equal one and all other annual values are a ratio which represents their value relative to its 2020 value.

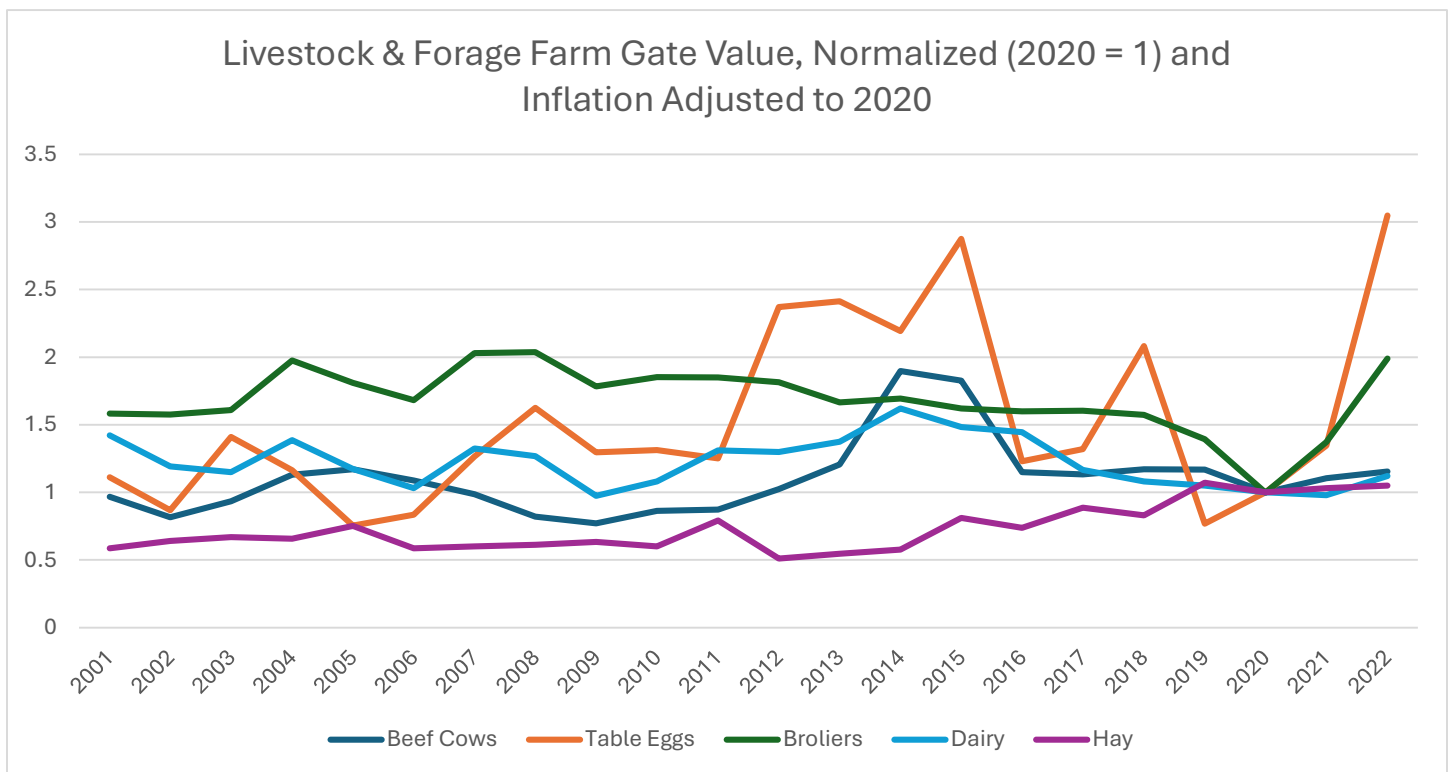


Figure 1. Normalized and inflation adjusted (to 2020) beef cows, table eggs, broilers, dairy, and hay farm gate values.

All commodities have increased in inflation-adjusted FGV since 2001, except for dairy. All commodities including dairy have increased in FGV post-pandemic. Table egg production has had the highest relative growth since 2001, and nearly tripled from 2020 to 2022. Overall, 2012-2015 was a strong period for the livestock and

Source: University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Farm Gate Value Report, calculations made by authors

forage industry in Georgia. See Figure 1 for normalized, inflation-adjusted livestock and forage values, which provides a visualization of commodity FGVs relative to their own historical production and 2020.

Beef cattle values appear to generally follow the beef cattle cycle with peaks around 2004/05 and 2014/15. Broiler values are relatively steady until 2020 with significant COVID-19 disruptions to livestock processing. Because the broiler industry is significantly more integrated than the dairy or beef cattle industries, the impact at the processor level more directly impacted broiler farm gate value. Table egg farm gate value has proven volatile in recent years due to HPAI emergence and outbreaks that have created significant supply constraints in many years. Hay values likely picked up in 2019-2022 due to relatively low beginning stocks early in this time period and lower production in the latter years of this time period. Lastly, normalized farm gate values for the dairy sector have remained relatively steady. Recently, these values have ticked higher from COVID-19 lows thanks in part to high prices in 2022.

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