



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
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AG UPDATE

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compared with nearly 1.67 million pounds distributed in 2006 which averaged \$2.45 per pound for fish 6 inches to 12 inches.

The total value of fish sales received by trout growers in the **United States** totaled 87.5 million dollars for 2007, an increase of 9 percent from 2006. Idaho accounted for 53 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of trout 12 inches and longer sold during 2007 totaled 59.7 million fish, up 14 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound was \$1.15, up 4 cents from 2006. The value of sales for the 2007 marketing year was 80.0 million dollars, up 10 percent from 2006. Based on the dollar value, 67 percent were sold to processors and 16 percent were sold to fee and recreational fishing establishments.

The number of 6"- 12" trout sold during 2007 totaled 4.99 million fish, a decrease of 20 percent from 2006. The average price per pound was \$2.95 during 2007, up 40 cents from the 2006 price. The total value of sales was 5.84 million dollars during 2007, a 9 percent decrease from the previous year. The major sales outlet for 6"-12" trout was to fee and recreational fishing establishments accounting for 45 percent of total sales, followed by other producers with 16 percent.

The number of 1"- 6" trout sold during 2007 totaled 9.56 million, a 10 percent increase from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$177 during 2007, unchanged from 2006. The total value of sales was 1.70 million dollars, up 10 percent from last year's total

CHICKENS AND EGGS JANUARY 2008

Colorado laying flocks produced 93 million eggs during January 2008 a slight increase from the 92 million eggs one month earlier and up from 88 million eggs produced in January last year. The number of layers during January totaled just under 3.93 million, up nearly 4 percent from 3.78 million a year earlier. The average rate of lay for January 2008, at 2,368 eggs per 100 layers, compares with 2,331 eggs per 100 layers during January 2007.

United States egg production totaled 7.66 billion during January 2008, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.52 billion table eggs, and 1.14 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2008 averaged 345 million, down 1 percent from last year. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,220 eggs, up 1 percent from January 2007.

All layers in the U.S. on February 1, 2008 totaled 345 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 345 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.7 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.84 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2008, averaged 70.8 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from February 1, 2007.

TROUT PRODUCTION - 2007

There were 12 operations in **Colorado** during 2007 which had trout sales totaling \$2.33 million and 21 operations that distributed trout valued at \$4.27 million. The total value of the trout sold and distributed during 2007 totaled \$6.60 million, down 9 percent from the comparable value of \$7.22 million a year earlier. To avoid disclosure of individual operations, the detailed information on trout sales by size of fish is not published separately. There were 1.55 million pounds of fish of all sizes distributed during 2007 which had an average value of \$2.71 per pound for fish 6 inches to 12 inches

CATTLE ON FEED - FEBRUARY 1, 2008

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in **Colorado** feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,090,000 head as of February 1, 2008. The latest inventory was 1 percent below January 1, 2008 but up 5 percent from the 1,040,000 on feed on February 1, 2007. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 185,000 head of fed cattle during January 2008. This was 37 percent above December 2007 marketings of 135,000 head but 7 percent below the marketings one year ago. An estimated 180,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during January, 16 percent above a year ago and 6 percent above December 2007 placements of 170,000. Of the number placed in January, 11 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 25 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 31 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 33 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater.

Other disappearance for January at 5,000 head, was the same as last month but 10,000 head below a year ago when eastern Colorado was inundated by severe winter storms.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.0 million head on February 1, 2008. The inventory was 2 percent above February 1, 2007 but 1 percent below February 1, 2006. This is the second highest February 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.79 million, 6 percent above 2007 but 19 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.73 million head. During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 400,000, 600-699 pounds were 467,000, 700-799 pounds were 525,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 395,000. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.86 million, 1 percent above 2007 and 3 percent above 2006. Other disappearance totaled 60,000 during January, 38 percent below 2007 and 28 percent below 2006.

Cattle on Feed, 1,000+ Feedlots, Colorado and United States, February 1, 2007-2008

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 head			
On Feed Jan. 1.	1,100	1,100	11,974	12,097
Placements During Jan.	155	180	1,690	1,787
< 600 pounds	15	20	320	400
600 - 699 Pounds	35	45	390	467
700 - 799 Pounds	55	55	545	525
800 Plus Pounds	50	60	435	395
Marketings During Jan.	200	185	1,841	1,858
Other Disap. During Jan.	15	5	97	60
On Feed Feb. 1	1,040	1,090	11,726	11,966

NUMBER OF FEEDLOTS AND ANNUAL FED CATTLE MARKETINGS - 2006-2007

There were 220 **Colorado** feedlots in operation during 2007 and they marketed 1,970,000 head of cattle for the slaughter market. Of the total, there were 88 feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head that marketed 30,000 head during 2007. There were 132 feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or more and they marketed 1,940,000 head for the slaughter market. The 13 feedlots that have a capacity of 32,000 head or greater marketed 1,220,000 head of cattle during 2007, representing 62 percent of the state's total marketing from all feedlots.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head represented 84.5 percent of all cattle and calves on feed in the United States on January 1, 2008, up from 83.9 percent on January 1, 2007. Marketings of fed cattle for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head during 2007 represented 85.9 percent all cattle marketed from feedlots in the United States, down from 86.1 percent during 2006.

Number of Feedlots and Annual Fed Cattle Marketings by Size 2006-2007

Feedlot Capacity	Colorado					
	Feedlots		Fed Cattle Marketings		Percent of Total Mrktgs. 1/	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Number		1,000 Head		Percent	
Under - 16,000	204	194	420	395	21	20
16,000 - 31,999	13	13	390	355	20	18
32,000 & over	13	13	1,150	1,220	59	62
Total	230	220	1,960	1,970	100	100
Feedlot Capacity	United States					
	Feedlots		Fed Cattle Marketings		Percent of Total Mrktgs. 1/	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Number		1,000 Head		Percent	
Under 1,000	86	85	3,640	3,700	14	14
1,000 - 3,999	1,370	1,373	2,144	2,175	8	8
4,000 - 15,999	534	525	4,486	4,509	17	17
16,000 - 31,999	135	133	4,758	4,495	18	17
32,000 & over	126	129	11,089	11,277	42	43
Total	88,165	87,160	26,117	26,156	100	100

1/ Percents may not total to 100 due to rounding.

**AGRICULTURAL PRICES
FEBRUARY 15, 2008**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 145 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from January. The Crop Index is up 1 point (0.6 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for wheat, soybeans, corn, and hogs and lower prices were received for milk, lettuce, broccoli, and tomatoes. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of milk, cattle, broilers, and eggs offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 17 points (13 percent) from February 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 145, decreased 1 point (0.7 percent) from last month but increased 17 points (13 percent) from February 2007.

The February all crops index is 159, up 0.6 percent from January and 15 percent above February 2007. Index increases for food grains, oil-bearing crops, feed grains & hay, and fruits & nuts offset the index decreases for commercial vegetables and potatoes & dry beans. The February all wheat price, at \$10.40 per bushel, is up \$2.47 from January and \$5.69 above February 2007. The corn price, at \$4.25 per bushel, is up 28 cents from last month and 81 cents above February 2007.

The all hay price, at \$133 per ton, is up \$4.00 from January and up \$20.00 from last February. Grain sorghum, at \$7.82 per cwt, is 42 cents above January and 87 cents above February last year. The soybean price, at \$11.00 per bushel, increased \$1.04 from January and is \$4.13 above February 2007. The all potato price, at \$7.14 per cwt, is down 19 cents from January and down 28 cents from last February. The all dry bean price, at \$29.50 per cwt, is up \$2.20 from the previous month and \$4.10 above February 2007.

The February **Livestock and Products Index**, at 132, is 0.8 percent above last month and up 10 percent from February 2007. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for milk, eggs, broilers, cattle, turkeys, and calves. The price for hogs is down from last year. The February hog price, at \$41.90 per cwt, is up \$4.70 from January but \$5.60 lower than a year ago. The February beef cattle price of \$87.80 per cwt is up 50 cents from last month and \$1.70 higher than February 2007. The February all milk price of \$19.30 per cwt is down \$1.20 from last month but up \$4.40 from February 2007.

Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2007		2008	
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan	Feb.
	Percent			
Prices Received	123	128	145	145
Prices Paid.....	155	156	170	172
Ratio 1/.....	79	82	85	84

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid.

Colorado prices for February 2008 were higher than a year earlier for crops and livestock items. Mid-February 2008 wheat, at \$9.40 per bushel, was \$2.01 higher than the previous month and \$4.94 above February a year ago. Corn prices increased 24 cents from January to \$4.15 per bushel and averaged 88 cents above February 2007. The mid-February potato price, at \$9.30 per cwt, was 40 cents above last month and \$1.15 per cwt above February a year ago. Dry bean prices, at \$32.20 per cwt, averaged \$1.40 per cwt above last month and were \$8.00 per cwt above February 2007. Alfalfa hay, at \$140.00 per ton, was unchanged from January and February 2007. The other hay price, at \$125.00 per ton, was also unchanged from January but \$2.00 per ton below February a year ago. The mid-February steer and heifer price increased \$1.00 per cwt from last month to \$101.00 per cwt and increased \$4.10 from the \$96.90 per cwt a year ago. Cow prices increased \$4.50 from the previous month to \$51.40 per cwt and were \$2.90 per cwt above February 2007. The mid-February calf price of \$114.00 per cwt is \$2.00 below January but was \$4.00 per cwt above a year ago.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Feb. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	4.46	7.39	9.40
Corn.....	Bu.	3.27	3.91	4.15
Barley (All).....	Bu.	2/	2/	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	8.15	8.90	9.30
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	24.20	30.80	32.20
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	140.00	140.00	140.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	127.00	125.00	125.00
Livestock & Products.....				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	95.90	98.90	100.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	96.90	100.00	101.00
Cows.....	Cwt	48.50	46.90	51.40
Calves.....	Cwt	110.00	116.00	114.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	34.00	30.00	3/
Lambs	Cwt	96.00	100.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.80	20.30	19.50
United States				
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	4.71	7.93	10.40
Corn.....	Bu.	3.44	3.97	4.25
Soybeans	Bu.	6.87	9.96	11.00
Barley (All).....	Bu.	3.09	4.34	4.06
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	3.15	4.85	4.29
Sorghum	Cwt	6.95	7.40	7.82
Potatoes	Cwt	7.42	7.33	7.14
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	25.40	27.30	29.50
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	115.00	135.00	138.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	108.00	118.00	122.00
Onions	Cwt	26.20	4.54	3.37
Livestock & Products.....				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	86.10	87.30	87.80
Steers & heifers	Cwt	91.40	93.40	93.20
Cows.....	Cwt	47.00	46.30	49.70
Calves	Cwt	114.00	117.00	118.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	37.30	31.90	3/
Lambs	Cwt	94.80	97.50	3/
Hogs	Cwt	47.50	37.20	41.90
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.90	20.50	19.30
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.470	0.480	0.500

1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms.

3/ Mid-month price not est.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER JANUARY 2008

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during January 2008 totaled 175.5 million pounds, up 19 percent from the same month last year and December 2007. Cattle slaughter during January was up 21 percent from a year earlier to 208,300 head but the average live weight was down 2 pounds to 1,311. Hog slaughter, at 800 head, unchanged from January 2007 but the average live weight decreased 12 pounds to 245.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.42 billion pounds in January, up 8 percent from the 4.09 billion pounds produced in January 2007.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.90 million head, up 4 percent from January 2007. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,291 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.3 million pounds, 21 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 71,500 head, 4 percent below January 2007. The average live weight was down 55 pounds from last year, at 269 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.16 billion pounds, 14 percent above the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.6 million head, 13 percent above January 2007. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 273 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.8 million pounds, was 2 percent below January 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 213,400 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, unchanged from January a year ago.

Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Jan. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Jan. 2008 as % of	
				Jan. 2007	Dec. 2007
	Million Pounds				
Colorado:.....	147.7	147.8	175.5	119	119
United States:.....	4,092.5	4,059.9	4,415.9	108	109
Beef	2,164.6	2,061.4	2,232.0	103	108
Veal	14.3	10.4	11.3	79	108
Pork	1,898.4	1,972.7	2,157.8	114	109
Lamb & Mutton	15.1	15.4	14.8	98	96

BEES AND HONEY PRODUCTION - 2007

The number of colonies in **Colorado** during 2007 was down 8 percent from a year earlier at 33,000. The total honey production of 1.68 million pounds for 2007 was 38 percent below the 2.70 million pounds a year earlier. The yield per colony decreased from 75 pounds per colony in 2006 to 51 pounds per colony in 2007. The total value of the 2007 honey crop was \$1.89 million, down 37 percent from \$2.97 million the previous year. The average price received for the 2007 crop was \$1.12 per pound, up from \$1.10 per pound received for the 2006 crop. December 15, 2007 honey stocks of 892,000 pounds were down 39 percent from 1,458,000 pounds a year earlier.

United States honey production in 2007 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 148 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. There were 2.44 million colonies producing honey in 2007, up 2 percent from 2006. Yield per colony averaged 60.8 pounds, down 6 percent from the 64.7 pounds in 2006. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, yields per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 52.5 million pounds on December 15, 2007, down 13 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Mar. 7 - Livestock Slaughter - Annual
- Mar. 14 - Potato Stocks
- Mar. 17 - Milk Production
- Mar. 20 - Cold Storage
- Mar. 20 - Cattle on Feed
- Mar. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Mar. 24 - Chickens and Eggs
- Mar. 28 - Agricultural Prices
- Mar. 28 - Quarterly Hogs and Pigs

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