



**NATIONAL
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Red Meat Production - Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Mar. 2007	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	January-March	
				2007	2008
Million Pounds					
Colorado:	148.1	171.2	168.3	437.3	515.2
United States:	4,012.4	3,967.6	4,092.9	11,721.6	12,476.4
Beef	2118.2	2,038.9	2,102.7	6,236.8	6,373.6
Veal	13.5	11.0	11.2	39.9	33.5
Pork	1,861.0	1,902.6	1,962.9	5,395.8	6,023.4
Lamb & Mutton	19.6	15.0	16.0	49.1	45.8

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER - MARCH 2008

Commercial livestock slaughter in **Colorado** during March 2008 totaled 168.3 million pounds, 14 percent above the same month a year earlier but 2 percent below February 2008. Beef slaughter increased 18 percent from March 2007 to 199,400 head, and the average live weight of 1,284 decreased 11 pounds from a year ago. Hog slaughter decreased 22 percent to 700 head, and the average live weight decreased 2 pounds to 258. Accumulated red meat production for the first three months of 2008 totaled 515.2 million pounds, up from the 437.3 million pounds produced during the comparable period a year ago.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.09 billion pounds in March, up 2 percent from the 4.01 billion pounds produced in March 2007. Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.73 million head, down 2 percent from March 2007. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,276 pounds. Veal production totaled 11.2 million pounds, 17 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 70,800 head, up slightly from March 2007. The average live weight was down 48 pounds from last year, at 273 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.96 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.66 million head, up 5 percent from March 2007. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.0 million pounds, was down 18 percent from March 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 230,900 head, 17 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 1 pound from March a year ago.

January to March 2008 commercial red meat production was 12.5 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was up 12 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 7 percent.

MEAT ANIMALS: PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME 2007 SUMMARY

The total gross income to **Colorado** producers from beef, pork, and sheep and lambs during 2007 totaled \$3.49 billion, 2 percent below the \$3.56 billion for the previous year. Gross income from cattle and calves during 2007 decreased 2 percent from the previous year to \$3.18 billion and represented 91 percent of the total income from the three species. The gross income from hogs and pigs increased 10 percent from 2006 to \$198.7 million. Gross income from sheep and lambs decreased 5 percent to \$112.7 million. The beginning year value per head for each of the three meat animals compared with a year earlier were as follows: cattle and calves, \$1,030 (up \$60); hogs and pigs, \$74 (down \$7); and sheep and lambs, \$141 (up \$17).

Marketings of meat animals during 2007 represented 3.56 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 3.50 billion pounds marketed in 2006. Marketings of cattle and calves, at 3.07 billion pounds, represented 86 percent of the total. The 2007 marketings of hogs and pigs, at 362.6 million pounds, increased 6 percent from 342.7 million pounds in 2006. Sheep and lamb marketings, at 121.3 million pounds, decreased 4 percent from a year earlier.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

The 2007 **United States** gross income from cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs for the U.S. totaled \$65.5 billion, up 2 percent from 2006. Gross income increased for cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs. Cattle and calves increased 1 percent, hogs and pigs increased 5 percent, and sheep and lambs increased slightly.

Total 2007 cash receipts from marketings of meat animals increased 2 percent to \$65.0 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 76 percent of this total, hogs and pigs 23

percent, and sheep and lambs 1 percent. Production decreased for all cattle and calves and sheep and lambs. Production increased for hogs and pigs. Average prices were up for cattle, hogs and pigs, and lambs, while calf and sheep prices were down. Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves increased 2 percent from \$49.0 billion in 2006 to \$49.7 in 2007. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 54.8 billion pounds in 2007, up slightly from 2006. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$89.90, an increase of \$2.70 from 2006. For calves, the annual average price decreased from \$133.00 to \$119.00.

Cash receipts from hogs and pigs totaled \$14.8 billion during 2007, up 5 percent from 2006. Marketings totaled 30.3 billion pounds in 2007, up 4 percent from 2006. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight increased from \$46.00 in 2006 to \$46.60 in 2007. Cash receipts from marketings of sheep and lambs in 2007 were \$492 million, down slightly from 2006. Marketings decreased one percent to 575 million pounds. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for sheep decreased from \$35.20 in 2006 to \$31.00 in 2007. For lambs, the annual average price increased from \$95.50 to \$98.50.

POULTRY PRODUCTION & VALUE 2007 SUMMARY COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

The value of egg production in **Colorado** during 2007 totaled \$74.1 million, up 56 percent from the value of \$47.4 million in 2006. A total of 1.06 million eggs were produced during 2007, down 2 percent. The average price per dozen eggs increased from 52.6 cents in 2006 to 83.9 cents in 2007. During 2007, there were 10.1 million pounds of chicken sold at an average price of 4.2 cents per pound for a total value of sales at \$424,000. A year earlier, 9.4 million pounds of chicken were sold at an average price of 5.1 cents per pound for a total value of sales of \$482,000. A majority of the chickens sold are non-producing egg-type layers which have a low value. Colorado data for turkeys is combined with other states to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

The combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from chickens in 2007 was \$31.9 billion, up 24 percent from the \$25.8 billion in 2006. Of the combined total, 67 percent was from broilers, 21 percent from eggs, 12 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The value of broilers produced during 2007 was \$21.5 billion, up 21 percent from 2006. The total number of broilers produced in 2007 was 8.90 billion, up slightly from 2006. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2007 was 49.2 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2006. The 2007 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 43.6 cents per pound, compared with 36.3 cents in 2006. Value of all egg production in 2007 was \$6.68 billion, up 51 percent from the \$4.43 billion in 2006. Egg production totaled 90.6 billion eggs, down 1 percent from the 91.3 billion eggs produced in 2006.

The value of turkeys produced during 2007 was \$3.71 billion, up 4 percent from the \$3.57 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 2007 totaled 7.87 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 7.46 billion pounds produced in 2006. The average price received by producers during 2007 was 47.2 cents per pound, compared with 47.9 cents in 2006.

The value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 2007 was \$50.8 million, down 6 percent from the \$53.8 million a year ago. Prices averaged 5.6 cents per pound, compared with 5.8 cents in 2006. The number of chickens sold in 2007 totaled 167 million, down 3 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES APRIL 15, 2008

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 144 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2 points (1.4 percent) from March. The Crop Index is unchanged but the Livestock Index decreased 4 points (3.1 percent). Producers received lower commodity prices for eggs, strawberries, cattle, and wheat. Higher prices were received for corn, lettuce, onions, and soybeans. In addition to prices, 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 cattle, strawberries, milk, and oranges offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and cotton.

The April all crops index is 167, unchanged from March but 18 percent above April 2007. Index increases for commercial vegetables, feed grains & hay, potatoes & dry beans, and oil-bearing crops, more than offset the index decreases for fruits & nuts, food grains, and cotton. The April all wheat price, at \$10.10 per bushel, is down 50 cents from March but \$5.21 above April 2007. The corn price, at \$5.13 per bushel, is up 43 cents from last month and \$1.74 above April 2007. The all hay price, at \$152 per ton, is up \$13.00 from March and up \$28.00 from last April. Grain sorghum, at \$9.50 per cwt, is 46 cents above March and \$3.53 above April last year. The soybean price, at \$11.80 per bushel, increased 30 cents from March and is \$4.92 above April 2007. The all potato price, at \$8.75 per cwt, is up 38 cents from March and up 4 cents from last April. The all dry bean price, at \$34.10 per cwt, is up \$1.70 from the previous month and \$9.60 above April 2007.

The April livestock and products index, at 125, is 3.1 percent below last month and down 1.6 percent from April 2007. Compared with a year ago, prices are lower for cattle, hogs, broilers, and calves. Prices for milk, eggs, and turkeys are up from last year. The April hog price, at \$40.60 per cwt, is up 40 cents from March but \$6.70 lower than a year ago. The April beef cattle price of \$85.10 per cwt is down \$2.60 from last month and \$8.60 lower than April 2007. The April all milk price of \$18.00 per cwt is down 10 cents from last month but up \$1.40 from April 2007.

Prices Received and Paid Summary

United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2007		2008	
	Mar.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.
	Percent			
Prices Received.....	131	133	146	144
Prices Paid	159	160	178	181
Ratio ^{1/}	82	83	82	80

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

Compared with April 2007 all **Colorado** crop prices except other hay averaged higher while all livestock prices averaged lower except cows and milk. Mid-April 2008 wheat, at \$8.93 per bushel, was 14 cents higher than the previous month and \$4.30 above April a year ago. Corn, at \$4.80 per bushel, was 47 cents above the previous month and \$1.65 above April 2007. The mid-April potato price, at \$10.00 per cwt, was unchanged from last month but was \$2.20 above April a year ago. Dry bean prices were \$3.30 below March at \$32.10 per cwt but were \$7.50 above the April 2007 price of \$24.60 per cwt. Alfalfa hay, at \$147.00 per ton, was \$2.00 above last month and \$7.00 higher than April 2007. The other hay price, at \$130.00 per ton, was \$5.00 above but \$5.00 below April a year ago. The mid-April steer and heifer price, at \$98.20 per cwt was \$2.80 below last month as well as \$8.80 below the previous year average of \$107.00 per cwt. Cow prices decreased \$1.90 from the previous month to \$52.00 per cwt but averaged \$1.00 above April 2007. The mid-April calf price of \$114.00 per cwt averaged \$3.00 lower than the previous month and \$10.00 below the April 2007 average of \$124.00 per cwt. The April all milk price of \$18.00 was up 20 cents and \$1.30 higher than the previous year.

Average Prices Received By Farmers ^{1/}

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Apr. 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat.....	Bu.	4.63	8.79	8.93
Corn	Bu.	3.15	4.33	4.80
Potatoes	Cwt	7.80	10.00	10.00
Dry edible beans	Cwt	24.60	35.40	32.10
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	140.00	145.00	147.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	135.00	125.00	130.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	106.00	100.00	97.30
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	107.00	101.00	98.20
Cows	Cwt	51.00	53.90	52.00
Calves	Cwt	124.00	117.00	114.00
Sheep	Cwt	34.00	30.00	<u>3/</u>
Lambs	Cwt	97.00	99.00	<u>3/</u>
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	16.70	17.80	18.00
		United States		
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat.....	Bu.	4.89	10.60	10.10
Corn	Bu.	3.39	4.70	5.13
Soybeans.....	Bu.	6.88	11.50	11.80
Barley (All).....	Bu.	3.07	4.17	4.53
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	3.20	4.22	4.28
Sorghum.....	Cwt	5.97	9.04	9.50
Potatoes	Cwt	8.71	8.37	8.75
Dry edible beans	Cwt	24.50	32.40	34.10
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	127.00	143.00	157.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	115.00	128.00	140.00
Onions.....	Cwt	55.20	2.71	13.30
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	93.70	87.70	85.10
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	99.80	92.70	90.10
Cows	Cwt	49.20	51.20	49.90
Calves	Cwt	125.00	119.00	115.00
Sheep	Cwt	34.20	28.30	<u>3/</u>
Lambs	Cwt	97.10	98.00	<u>3/</u>
Hogs.....	Cwt	47.30	40.20	40.60
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	16.60	18.10	18.00
Broilers	Lb.	0.460	0.460	0.450

^{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/} Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms.

^{3/} Mid-month price not est.

MILK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME

2007 SUMMARY

The total value of milk produced in **Colorado** during 2007 totaled \$521.8 million, up 57 percent from \$331.1 million in 2006. In 2007, the 2.70 billion pounds of milk produced was 6 percent higher than the 2.55 billion pounds produced the previous year. The average price of \$19.30 per hundredweight was \$6.30 below the 2006 average of \$13.00.

Milk production in the **United States** increased 2.1 percent in 2007 to 186 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 20,267 pounds, was 316 pounds above 2006. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.16 million head, up 46,000 head from 2006.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2007 totaled \$35.4 billion, 51.4 percent higher than 2006. Producer returns averaged \$19.21 per hundredweight, 48.2 percent above 2006. Marketings totaled 184 billion pounds, 2.1 percent above 2006. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

An estimated 1.17 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 1.0 percent more than 2006. Calves were fed 87 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

DAILY PRODUCTS – ANNUAL

2007 SUMMARY

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Total cheese production, excluding cottage cheeses, was 9.70 billion pounds, 1.8 percent above 2006 production. Wisconsin was the leading State with 25.3 percent of the production.

Italian varieties, with 4.13 billion pounds were 4.1 percent above 2006 production and accounted for 42.6 percent of total cheese in 2007. Mozzarella accounted for 79.9 percent of the Italian production followed by Provolone with 7.9 percent and Ricotta with 5.9 percent. California was the leading State in Italian cheese production with 30.7 percent of the production.

American type cheese production was 3.88 billion pounds, 0.9 percent below 2006 and accounted for 40.0 percent of total cheese in 2007. California was the leading State in American type cheese production with 20.6 percent of the production.

Butter production in the United States during 2007 totaled 1.53 billion pounds, 5.8 percent above 2006. California accounted for 32.5 percent of the production, followed by Wisconsin with 24.3 percent.

Dry milk powders: 2007 U.S. production, comparisons with 2006 Nonfat dry milk, human --- 1.30 billion pounds, up 4.4 percent. Skim milk powders --- 202 million pounds, down 25.1 percent.

Whey products: (2007 U.S. production, comparisons with 2006) Dry whey, total --- 1.13 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent. Lactose, human and animal --- 756 million pounds, up 2.3 percent. Whey protein concentrate, total --- 394 million pounds, down 8.0 percent. Frozen products: (2007 U.S. production, comparisons with 2006) Ice cream, Regular (total) --- 951 million gallons, down 3.2 percent. Ice cream, Lowfat (total) --- 383 million gallons, up 1.6 percent. Sherbet (total) --- 62.7 million gallons, up 6.1 percent. Frozen Yogurt (total) --- 60.7 million gallons, down 8.0 percent.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and **United States** 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/>

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May 14 - Turkey Hatchery
May 15 - Potato Stocks
May 19 - Milk Production
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May 16 - Cattle on Feed
May 22 - Cold Storage

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