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Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States 1,000+ Capacity April 1 to May 1, 2004-2005

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 head			
On Feed April 1	970	1,020	10,763	10,870
Placements During Apr.	150	120	1,600	1,660
< 600 pounds	15	20	315	340
600 - 699 Pounds	37	20	304	225
700 - 799 Pounds	61	35	566	500
800 Plus Pounds	37	45	415	595
Marketings During Apr.	170	150	1,891	1,801
Other Disap. During Apr.	10	20	97	90
On Feed May 1	940	970	10,375	10,639

CATTLE ON FEED

May 1, 2005

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 970,000 head as of May 1, 2005. The latest inventory was down 5 percent from April 1, 2005, but up 3 percent from the 940,000 on feed on May 1, 2004. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 150,000 head of fed cattle during April 2005. This was 14 percent below a revised March 2005 marketings of 175,000 head, and 12 percent below April marketings one year earlier. An estimated 120,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during April, 20 percent below a year ago and 27 percent below revised March 2005 placements of 165,000. Of the number placed in April, 17 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 17 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 29 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 38 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for April, at 20,000 head, was up 10,000 head from the previous month and May 2004.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.6 million head on May 1, 2005. The inventory was 3 percent above May 1, 2004 and 1 percent above May 1, 2003. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.66 million, 4 percent above 2004 but 11 percent below 2003. Net placements were 1.57 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 340,000, 600-699 pounds were 225,000, 700-799 pounds were 500,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 595,000. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.80 million, 5 percent below 2004 and 9 percent below 2003. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 90,000 during April, 7 percent below 2004 but 43 percent above 2003.

POTATO STOCKS

May 1, 2005

Fall potato stocks in the **San Luis Valley** of **Colorado** totaled 4.6 million cwt as of May 1, 2005, up 7 percent from the 4.3 million cwt in storage one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 20 percent of the 23.15 million cwt produced in 2004. The May 1, 2004 stocks represented 18 percent of the 23.65 million cwt produced in 2003. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for **table stock** have accounted for 69 percent of the total production during the 1999-2003 period. The remaining 31 percent of the production is utilized for seed, processing, and home use or is lost through shrinkage.

The 15 major potato States held 87.0 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2005, up 2 percent from last year and 5 percent above May 1, 2003. Potatoes in storage account for 22 percent of the 2004 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point above last year.

Disappearance of 316 million cwt from the start of harvest to May 1, is down 1 percent from last year and 2 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 29.0 million cwt, is up 5 percent from last year and 12 percent above the same date in 2003.

Processors have used 154 million cwt of 2004 crop potatoes so far this season, down 1 percent from a year ago and 4 percent below two years ago. April usage, at 17.8 million cwt, is 7 percent above last year and up 8 percent from two years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, total processing increased 3 percent from a year ago, while Washington and the rest of Oregon total

processing decreased less than 1 percent from last season. Dehydrating usage accounts for 31.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 9 percent from last year and 13 percent below the same date in 2003.

Western States held 62.9 million cwt of potatoes in storage on May 1, up 6 percent from last year but less than 1 percent below two years ago. Idaho's potato stocks are up 17 percent from last year, Colorado's potato sheds stored 7 percent more, and Washington's stocks increased 3 percent from last year. Montana's potato stocks are down 60 percent, Oregon's sheds hold 38 percent less than last year, and California's stocks decreased 29 percent from a year ago. Central States accounted for 18.6 million cwt of potato stocks on May 1, down 12 percent from last year but 19 percent above two years ago. Michigan's potato stocks are down 27 percent, North Dakota's potato sheds stored 13 percent less than last year, and Minnesota's and Wisconsin's stocks both decreased 7 percent. Eastern States stored 5.49 million cwt of potatoes on May 1, up 28 percent from last year and 29 percent above two years ago. Maine's potato sheds hold 24 percent more than last year.

HAY STOCKS

MAY 1, 2005

Hay stocks on Colorado farms and ranches as of May 1, 2005 totaled 470,000 tons, down 23 percent from stocks of 610,000 tons on hand May 1 last year. Increases in both the cattle and sheep herd size along with continued supplemental feeding of hay due to poor pasture conditions were contributing factors in the decrease.

All hay stored for the **United States** on farms May 1, 2005 totaled 27.7 million tons, up 7 percent from the previous year. Disappearance of hay from December 1, 2004 - May 1, 2005, totaled 86.6 million tons, 2 percent greater than the disappearance of 85.1 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Twenty-six of the 48 reporting states had higher hay stocks than a year ago. Many of the states reporting an increase in stocks were located in the northern Great Plains and the central Corn Belt. The increase in hay stocks from May 2004 in some areas can be attributed to higher hay production during 2004, mild winter conditions, and sufficient early season pasture growth, reducing the need for supplemental feeding. Stocks declined in the western and southeastern States. In Washington, lack of winter precipitation and minimal spring pasture growth depleted hay stocks. In California, a decrease in 2004 hay production, combined with strong consumption by dairies, reduced hay stocks by 30 percent from the previous year. In the Southeast, hay stocks are down due to lower 2004 hay production in most areas with some areas reporting poor quality as a result of wet weather during harvest.

Hay Stocks on Farms, Selected States and U. S., May 1, 2003-2005

State	2003	2004	2005
	1,000 tons		
Alabama	254	487	356
Arizona	45	55	35
Arkansas	588	600	660
California	200	306	215
Colorado	360	610	470
Connecticut	14	14	21
Delaware	4	4	5
Florida	80	52	26
Georgia	230	342	292
Idaho	635	445	535
Illinois	285	408	460
Indiana	96	253	345
Iowa	1,100	605	1,250
Kansas	1,150	1,400	1,735
Kentucky	513	1,466	1,186
Louisiana	173	115	128
Maine	39	33	39
Maryland	55	60	86
Massachusetts	21	15	17
Michigan	462	250	500
Minnesota	815	575	884
Mississippi	249	244	199
Missouri	1,083	1,462	2,166
Montana	953	790	860
Nebraska	870	1,596	1,375
Nevada	167	121	80
New Hampshire	9	11	12
New Jersey	11	40	36
New Mexico	98	115	164
New York	520	552	440
North Carolina	50	405	350
North Dakota	940	828	917
Ohio	215	556	420
Oklahoma	1,190	1,275	1,400
Oregon	340	371	362
Pennsylvania	380	570	650
Rhode Island	1	2	2
South Carolina	65	186	120
South Dakota	1,154	1,515	2,100
Tennessee	504	1,182	1,025
Texas	3,888	2,849	2,779
Utah	175	279	300
Vermont	80	86	71
Virginia	272	758	791
Washington	285	470	322
West Virginia	95	191	212
Wisconsin	1,100	920	927
Wyoming	200	478	383
United States	22,013	25,947	27,708

CROP PRODUCTION

MAY 1, 2005

Durum Wheat

Production of Durum wheat in Arizona and California is forecast at a collective 16.6 million bushels. This is down 11 percent from their 2004 total of 18.6 million. Lower acreage more than offset higher expected yields in both States. Very few disease or insect problems have been reported.

Winter Wheat

Winter wheat production in Colorado, based on conditions as of May 1, 2005, is forecast at 85.8 million bushels according to the Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service. This forecast is 87 percent above last year's production, and 11 percent above the winter wheat crop produced two years ago. Acreage for harvest, estimated at 2.45 million acres, is 750,000 acres more than a year ago and is partially responsible for this year's higher production forecast. Average yield is forecast at 35.0 bushels per acre, up 8.0 bushels per acre from last year's crop.

Conditions were favorable for fall seeding and spring growth in the State. Currently, topsoil moisture supplies are improved from last year at this time and are rated adequate in most areas. Subsoil supplies are also improved and are rated short to adequate. Most areas will need additional moisture for normal grain development. Final yield will largely be determined by the combination of moisture and temperature conditions during May and June.

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Winter Wheat: Acres harvested, yield and production, selected states and United States, 2003-2005

STATE	Acres harvested		Yield per acre		Production		
	2004	Indicated 2005	2004	Indicated 2005	2003	2004	Indicated 2005
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels		
Arkansas	620	185	53.0	48.0	28,500	32,860	8,880
California	320	265	85.0	76.0	25,010	27,200	20,140
Colorado	1,700	2,450	27.0	35.0	77,000	45,900	85,750
Delaware	47	47	58.0	58.0	1,927	2,726	2,726
Georgia	190	230	45.0	55.0	10,580	8,550	12,650
Idaho	700	730	90.0	90.0	57,600	63,000	65,700
Illinois	900	600	59.0	59.0	52,650	53,100	35,400
Indiana	440	340	62.0	65.0	29,670	27,280	22,100
Kansas	8,500	9,600	37.0	44.0	480,000	314,500	422,400
Kentucky	380	300	54.0	57.0	21,700	20,520	17,100
Maryland	145	140	59.0	64.0	5,365	8,555	8,960
Michigan	640	640	64.0	70.0	44,880	40,960	44,800
Mississippi	135	90	53.0	49.0	6,125	7,155	4,410
Missouri	930	600	52.0	52.0	53,070	48,360	31,200
Montana	1,630	2,050	41.0	41.0	67,340	66,830	84,050
Nebraska	1,650	1,700	37.0	45.0	83,720	61,050	76,500
New York	100	115	53.0	52.0	6,360	5,300	5,980
North Carolina . .	460	430	50.0	45.0	14,760	23,000	19,350
Ohio	890	810	62.0	66.0	68,000	55,180	53,460
Oklahoma	4,700	4,300	35.0	34.0	179,400	164,500	146,200
Oregon	780	840	61.0	55.0	47,940	47,580	46,200
Pennsylvania . . .	135	170	49.0	53.0	7,095	6,615	9,010
South Carolina . .	180	165	44.0	45.0	7,215	7,920	7,425
South Dakota . . .	1,250	1,400	45.0	45.0	61,490	56,250	63,000
Tennessee	280	170	49.0	48.0	13,500	13,720	8,160
Texas	3,500	3,500	31.0	30.0	96,600	108,500	105,000
Virginia	180	170	55.0	56.0	7,360	9,900	9,520
Washington	1,750	1,850	67.0	68.0	117,000	117,250	125,800
Wyoming	225	175	56.0	52.0	12,075	12,600	9,100
Other States ^{1/} . .	1,105	1,007	38.5	39.6	32,789	42,573	39,891
United States . .	34,462	35,069	43.5	45.4	1,716,721	1,499,434	1,590,862

^{1/} Other States include AL, AZ, FL, IA, LA, MN, NV, NJ, NM, ND, UT, WV, and WI. Individual state level estimates will be published in the "Small Grains 2004 Summary", September 30, 2005.

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The Texas crop condition has improved in the Panhandle since March. In Oklahoma, fall conditions were very wet but spring precipitation levels have been below normal. As of May 1, wheat jointing progress in Kansas was ahead of normal; however, heading progress was behind the 5-year average. In Colorado, growing conditions have been favorable this spring resulting in good to excellent stands in most growing areas. Crop condition in Nebraska was rated well above last year. In Montana, much needed moisture was received in April allowing the crop to get off to a good start.

Excessively wet conditions last fall resulted in dramatically reduced acreage across much of the Soft Red growing region. Wet weather continued through the winter in Arkansas, southern Missouri, and southern Illinois, hampering the crop. Producers in the eastern Corn Belt are expecting improved yields from last year, with no major problems reported. Conditions in Georgia are greatly improved over last year and growers there expect record high yields.

Idaho growers are anticipating very good yields, where the majority of the crop is rated in good to excellent condition. In Oregon, most of the winter wheat growing areas have been extremely dry. Despite recent showers, soil moisture levels remain a major concern in Washington.

MILK PRODUCTION APRIL 2005

Colorado dairy herds produced 194 million pounds of milk during April, up 12 million pounds from the same period a year earlier. The average number of cows was 103,000, up nearly 2 percent from the previous year. Production per cow averaged 1,880 pounds for April, 4 percent above the 1,800 produced a year ago.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during April totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from April 2004. March revised production, at 13.8 billion pounds, was up 2.9 percent from March 2004. The March revision represented a decrease of 0.1 percent or 20 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,679 pounds for April, 43 pounds above April 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.11 million head, 44,000 head more than April 2004, and 12,000 head more than March 2005.

Milk Cows and Milk Production, Colorado and 23 States

Item	April 2004	Mar. 2005	April 2005
Colorado			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> . . .	101	101	103
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	1,800	1,910	1,880
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	182	193	194
23 States			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> . . .	8,063	8,095	8,107
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	1,636	1,702	1,679
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	13,194	13,779	13,612

1/ Average number during year, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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.usda.gov/nass/>

- May 31 - Agricultural Prices
- June 10 - Crop Production
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- June 15 - Potato Stocks
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