



**NATIONAL  
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Released: June 24, 2008

Vol. 28 No. 12

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# AG UPDATE

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California's, Idaho's, Oregon's, and Washington's potato stocks were up 3, 17, 83, and 133 percent from June 1, 2007, respectively, while Colorado's stocks were down 27 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin's potato stocks were down 6 percent from last year; North Dakota's stocks were 19 percent above 2007; and potato stocks in Nebraska were down 54 percent from the previous season. Minnesota's stocks increased 25 percent from the same date in 2007. Maine's potato stocks were 35 percent lower than last year.

## POTATO STOCKS JUNE 2008

Fall potato stocks in the San Luis Valley of Colorado totaled 2.7 million cwt as of June 1, 2008, down 27 percent from the 3.7 million cwt in storage as of June 1, 2007. The latest stocks represented 13 percent of the 20.98 million cwt produced in 2007. The June 1, 2007 stocks represented 16 percent of the 22.69 million cwt produced in 2006. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for table stock have averaged 69 percent of the production for the 2002-2006 period. The remaining 31 percent of production is used for seed, processing, feed and home use or is lost through cullage and shrinkage

The 13 major potato States held 58.7 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2008, up 32 percent from a year ago and 41 percent above June 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 15 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from last year.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to June 1 was at 341 million cwt, 1 percent below last year but up 3 percent from 2006. Shrink and loss, at 24.6 million cwt, was down 4 percent from the same period in 2007 but up 4 percent from 2006. Processors have used 176 million cwt of the 2007 potato crop so far this season, down 3 percent from last year's season-to-date usage but up 5 percent from 2 years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon total processing decreased 1 percent from a year ago and Maine's total processing was 4 percent below 2007. Washington and the rest of Oregon total processing was 4 percent lower than last season. Dehydrating usage accounted for 37.5 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year but 10 percent above the same period in 2006.

## MILK PRODUCTION MAY 2008

Colorado dairy herds produced 253 million pounds of milk during May, up 22 million pounds from May 2007. The average number of cows was 127,000, up 9 percent from the previous year. Production per cow averaged 1,990 pounds for May, and remained unchanged from a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during May totaled 15.4 billion pounds, up 3.4 percent from May 2007. April revised production at 14.8 billion pounds, was up 2.6 percent from April 2007. The April revision represented an increase of 6 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,816 pounds for May, 25 pounds above May 2007. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.46 million head, 162,000 head more than May 2007, and 12,000 head more than April 2008.

**Milk Cows and Milk Production, 23 States**

Item	May 2007	April 2008	May 2008
<b>Colorado</b>			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <sup>1/</sup> ....	116	127	127
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <sup>2/</sup> .....	1,990	1,910	1,990
Production (mil. lbs.) <sup>2/</sup> .....	231	243	253
<b>23 States Total:</b>			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <sup>1/</sup> ....	8,298	8,448	8,460
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <sup>2/</sup> .....	1,791	1,757	1,816
Production (mil. lbs.) <sup>2/</sup> .....	14,860	14,839	15,361

<sup>1/</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2/</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## CATTLE ON FEED

JUNE 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 920,000 head as of June 1, 2008. The latest inventory is down 3 percent from the May 1, 2008 inventory, and down 10 percent from the 1,020,000 on feed on June 1, 2007. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 170,000 head of fed cattle during May 2008. This was up 3 percent from April 2008 marketings and 10 percent above May marketings one year earlier. An estimated 150,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during May, up 30 percent from April 2008 placements but down 14 percent from a year ago. Of the number placed in May, 17 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 20 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 30 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 33 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for May was estimated at 10,000 head, down 10,000 head from April and from May 2007.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.8 million head on June 1, 2008. The inventory was 4 percent below June 1, 2007 and 3 percent below June 1, 2006. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 1.90 million, 12 percent below 2007 and slightly below 2006. Net placements were 1.82 million head. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 340,000, 600-699 pounds were 350,000, 700-799 pounds were 564,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 645,000. Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.14 million, 3 percent above 2007 but 1 percent below 2006. Other disappearance totaled 80,000 during May, 19 percent below 2007 and 30 percent below 2006.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States  
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, May 1 to June 1, 2007-2008**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<b>1,000 head</b>			
On Feed May 1	1,020	950	11,297	11,135
Placements During May	175	150	2,159	1,899
< 600 pounds	25	25	420	340
600 - 699 Pounds	30	30	374	350
700 - 799 Pounds	50	45	645	564
800 Plus Pounds	70	50	720	645
Marketings During May	155	170	2,085	2,140
Other Disap. During May	20	10	99	80
On Feed June 1	1,020	920	11,272	10,814

## CHICKENS AND EGGS

MAY 2008

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 89 million eggs during May 2008 the same as during May 2007 and down 2 million from the produced 91 million during April 2008. During May of this year, the average number of layers was 3.71 million compared with 3.78 million last year and 3.89 last month. The average number of eggs produced per 100 layers was 2,402 this May compared with 2,356 a year earlier and 2,337 in April of this year.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.57 billion during May 2008, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.43 billion table eggs, and 1.15 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.08 billion were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during May 2008 averaged 340 million, down 1 percent from last year. May egg production per 100 layers was 2,226 eggs, unchanged from May 2007.

All layers in the U.S. on June 1, 2008 totaled 340 million, down slightly from last year. The 340 million layers consisted of 280 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.79 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on June 1, 2008, averaged 71.7 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from June 1, 2007.

## WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION

June 2008

Winter wheat production in **Colorado** is forecast at 63.0 million bushels, down 6 percent from the May 1 forecast and 33 percent below the 94.0 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 2.10 million acres, is unchanged from May 1, but 250,000 acres less than the 2.35 million acres harvested in 2007. As of June 1, the average yield is forecast at 30.0 bushels per acre, 10 bushels per acre below last year's average. A lack of moisture in May along with moderate temperatures reduced yield potential and delayed crop development. Currently, wheat is in mostly fair to poor condition compared with a year ago at mostly good condition.

Production for the **United States** is forecast at 1.82 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the May 1 forecast and up 20 percent from 2007. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 45.3 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel from the previous forecast and up 3.1 bushels from last year. Grain area totals 40.2 million acres, unchanged from last month. As of June 1, heading had reached 75 percent in the 18 major States, 9 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Progress was behind normal due primarily to below normal temperatures throughout the growing season. Harvest was underway in the southern-most portions of the growing area. Forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey in the 6 Hard Red Winter States (Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas) are below last year's level in Colorado, Montana, Oklahoma, and Texas but above in Kansas and Nebraska.

Condition ratings declined during May in Colorado and Nebraska while the other States showed improved conditions. Harvest was just getting started in Oklahoma and Texas. A lack of moisture during May reduced yield potential in Colorado. Oklahoma benefited from a cooler than normal spring with adequate rainfall.

**Winter Wheat: Acres harvested, yield and production, selected states and United States, 2006-2008**

STATE	Acres harvested		Yield per acre		Production		
	2007	Indicated 2008	2007	Indicated 2008	2006	2007	Indicated 2008
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels		
Arkansas .....	700	840	41.0	56.0	18,605	28,700	47,040
California .....	240	320	80.0	75.0	14,500	19,200	24,000
<b>Colorado .....</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>39,900</b>	<b>94,000</b>	<b>63,000</b>
Delaware .....	55	78	68.0	70.0	3,015	3,740	5,460
Georgia .....	230	350	40.0	55.0	5,880	9,200	19,250
Idaho .....	710	840	73.0	73.0	54,670	51,830	61,320
Illinois .....	890	1,160	57.0	68.0	60,970	50,730	78,880
Indiana .....	370	530	57.0	67.0	31,740	21,090	35,510
Kansas .....	8,600	9,400	33.0	38.0	291,200	283,800	357,200
Kentucky .....	250	450	49.0	69.0	22,720	12,250	31,050
Maryland .....	170	215	68.0	66.0	8,500	11,560	14,190
Michigan .....	540	710	65.0	69.0	47,450	35,100	48,990
Mississippi .....	330	425	56.0	57.0	4,307	18,480	24,225
Missouri .....	880	1,120	43.0	54.0	49,140	37,840	60,480
Montana .....	2,190	2,600	38.0	35.0	82,560	83,220	91,000
Nebraska .....	1,960	1,850	43.0	43.0	61,200	84,280	79,550
New York .....	85	120	52.0	55.0	5,795	4,420	6,600
North Carolina .....	500	700	40.0	53.0	24,780	20,000	37,100
Ohio .....	730	1,000	63.0	67.0	65,280	45,990	67,000
Oklahoma .....	3,500	4,500	28.0	35.0	81,600	98,000	157,500
Oregon .....	735	760	55.0	60.0	38,690	40,425	45,600
Pennsylvania .....	155	190	58.0	58.0	8,850	8,990	11,020
South Carolina .....	135	170	31.0	54.0	6,150	4,185	9,180
South Dakota .....	1,980	1,750	48.0	47.0	41,400	95,040	82,250
Tennessee .....	260	490	41.0	60.0	12,160	10,660	29,400
Texas .....	3,800	3,400	37.0	30.0	33,600	140,600	102,000
Virginia .....	205	250	64.0	66.0	10,540	13,120	16,500
Washington .....	1,690	1,720	64.0	63.0	118,800	108,160	108,360
Wisconsin .....	270	300	69.0	68.0	17,940	18,630	20,400
Other States <sup>1/</sup> .....	1,442	1,824	43.5	45.7	36,139	62,749	83,309
<b>United States.....</b>	<b>35,952</b>	<b>40,162</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>1,298,081</b>	<b>1,515,989</b>	<b>1,817,364</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Other States include AL, AZ, FL, IA, LA, MN, NJ, NV, NM, ND, UT, WV, and WY. Individual state level estimates will be published in the "Small Grains 2008 Summary", September 28, 2008.

## COLD STORAGE

**MAY 31, 2008**

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on May 31, 2008 were greater than year earlier levels for turkey, chicken, pork and beef. Butter stocks were up 5 percent from last month but down 3 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 8 percent from the previous month but up 10 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 13 percent from the previous month but up 15 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 13 percent from last month but up 52 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on May 31, 2008 were up 2 percent from the previous month and up 25 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up slightly from the previous month and up 23 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 5 percent from last month and up 30 percent from May 31, 2007.

### Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	May 31, 2007	Apr. 30, 2008	May 31, 2008
<b>1,000 Pounds</b>			
Butter.....	270,203	251,533	263,041
Cheese, total natural.....	898,904	855,863	887,469
Eggs, frozen.....	15,165	16,034	12,244
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,017,787	1,247,505	1,273,327
Chicken.....	612,267	752,875	754,535
Turkey.....	397,984	491,283	516,401
Fruits, frozen.....	866,772	866,161	842,494
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,324,969	1,579,302	1,801,959
Vegetables, total frozen....	1,183,811	1,438,084	1,336,182
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,070,691	1,135,035	1,063,590
Meats, total red.....	925,698	1,106,649	1,020,428
Beef, total frozen.....	411,480	429,950	427,450
Pork, total frozen.....	491,950	652,585	567,556

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Food stocks are excluded for places where entire inventories are turned over more than once a month.

### LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER -MAY 2008

Red meat production in **Colorado** during May 2008 totaled 197.3 million pounds, up 25 percent from the 158.1 million pounds produced during May 2007 and 10 percent above April 2008. The accumulated production for the first five months of this year now totals 889.8 million pounds, up 22 percent from the 729.1 million pounds produced during the comparable period last year. Cattle kill during May increased 24 percent from the previous year to 242,400 head. The average live weight of 1,248 pounds was 28 pounds above the average for May 2007. Hog slaughter decreased 14 percent to 600 head and the average live weight remained unchanged at 253 pounds, from a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.22 billion pounds in May, up 4 percent from the 4.08 billion pounds produced in May 2007. Beef production, at 2.38 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.14 million head, up 3 percent from May 2007. Veal production totaled 11.5 million pounds, 7 percent below May a year ago. Pork production totaled 1.82 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.06 million head, up 3 percent from May 2007. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from May 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 206,400 head, 6 percent below last year. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 11 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

### Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States <sup>1/</sup>

Area and Specie	May 2007	Apr. 2008	May 2008	January-May	
<b>Million Pounds</b>					
<b>Colorado</b> .....	158.1	179.9	197.3	729.1	889.8
<b>United States</b> .....	4,075.5	4,297.0	4,222.3	19,550.6	20,993.4
Beef.....	2,285.1	2,254.5	2,380.3	10,537.0	11,006.0
Veal.....	12.3	11.9	11.5	64.1	57.0
Pork.....	1,762.6	2,015.3	1,815.6	8,869.9	9,854.3
Lamb & Mutton.....	15.5	15.3	15.0	79.6	76.1

<sup>1/</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

### 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>

- June 27 - Agricultural Prices
- June 27 - Quarterly Hogs and Pigs
- June 30 - Acreage
- June 30 - Grain Stocks
- July 8 - Fruit Crops - Annual
- July 10 - Vegetables
- July 11 - Crop Production
- July 18 - Milk Production
- Aug. 7 - Farm Production Expenditures

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