



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

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# AG UPDATE

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## Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States

Area And Specie	July	June	July	January-July	
	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006
<b>Million Pounds</b>					
<b>Colorado.....</b>	158.5	178.2	167.0	1,020.0	1,095.7
<b>United States</b>	3,614	4,120	3,782	25,859	27,051
Beef.....	2,083	2,429	2,204	13,996	14,981
Veal.....	12.4	13.0	12.0	90.5	86.5
Pork.....	1,505	1,663	1,553	11,664	11,873
Lamb & Mutton.	13.4	14.5	13.2	108.1	110.1

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER -- JULY 2006

Red meat production in **Colorado** during July 2006 totaled 167.0 million pounds, up 5 percent from the 158.5 million pounds produced during July 2005 but 6 percent below the 178.2 million pounds produced during June of this year. Cattle kill during July was up 3 percent from the previous year to 195,300 head and the average live weight increased 34 pounds to 1,300 pounds per head. Hog slaughter, at 900 head, was down 100 head from July 2005 and the average live weight decreased 4 pounds to 254. **Accumulated production** for the first seven months of this year now totals 1.10 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the 1.02 billion pounds produced during July of last year.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.78 billion pounds in July, up 5 percent from the 3.61 billion pounds produced in July 2005. **Beef production**, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, up 4 percent from July 2005. The average live weight was up 18 pounds from the previous year, at 1,272 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 12.0 million pounds, 4 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57,900 head, down 1 percent from July 2005. The average live weight was 10 pounds below last year, at 340 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.55 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.88 million head, 3 percent above July 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 265 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.2 million pounds, was down 1 percent from July 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 202,100 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down 3 pounds from July a year ago.

**January to July 2006 commercial red meat production** was 27.1 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

## CATTLE ON FEED -- AUGUST 1, 2006

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 940,000 head as of August 1, 2006. The latest inventory was down 4 percent from a July 1, 2006 inventory of 980,000, but up 15 percent from the 820,000 on feed on August 1, 2005. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 180,000 head of fed cattle during July 2006. This was down 10 percent from July 2005 marketing, and down 14 percent from the revised June 2006 marketings. An estimated 150,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during July, down 12 percent from June 2006 placements, but 20 percent above a year ago. Of the number placed in July, 27 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 20 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 27 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 27 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for July, at 10,000 head, was up 50 percent from a year ago, but unchanged from last month.

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 August 1, 2006. The inventory was 7 percent above August 1, 2005 and 10 percent above August 1, 2004. This is the second highest August 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.96 million, 17 percent above 2005 and 14 percent above 2004. Net placements were 1.91 million. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 570,000, 600-699 pounds were 403,000, 700-799 pounds were 490,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 500,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.96 million, 2 percent above 2005 and 2 percent above 2004. Other disappearance totaled 58,000 during July, 5 percent below 2005 but unchanged from 2004.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States  
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots  
July 1 to August 1, 2005-2006**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<b>1,000 head</b>			
On Feed July 1	900	980	10,394	10,872
Placements During July	125	150	1,678	1,963
< 600 pounds	20	40	400	570
600 - 699 Pounds	20	30	338	403
700 - 799 Pounds	45	40	465	490
800 Plus Pounds	40	40	475	500
Marketings During July	200	180	1,918	1,955
Other Disap. During July	5	10	61	58
On Feed August 1	820	940	10,093	10,822

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION  
-- JULY 2006**

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 93 million eggs during July 2006 compared with 90 million during the previous month and 91 million in July 2005. The total number of all layers averaged 3.70 million during July this year, down nearly 1 percent from 3.72 million in June of this year and 1 percent below the 3.73 million layers for July 2005. The number of eggs per 100 layers was 2,511 in July 2006 up 5 percent from July 2005 and 4 percent above June 2006.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.64 billion during July 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.56 billion table eggs, and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2006 averaged 341 million, up 1 percent from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,241 eggs, up slightly from July 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on August 1, 2006, totaled 341 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 341 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.76 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on August 1, 2006, averaged 71.7 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from August 1, 2005.

**MUSHROOMS -- 2005-2006**

**All Mushroom Sales Down 1 Percent, Value Down 3 Percent**

Sales of the 2005-06 U.S. mushroom crop are 843 million pounds, down 1 percent from both the 2004-05 and 2003-04 seasons. Value of sales for the 2005-06 U.S. mushroom crop is \$881 million, down 3 percent from the previous season and 4 percent below the 2003-04 season. The number of growers,

at 305, is up 9 from last season. The average price is \$1.05 per pound, down 2 cents from 2004-05.

Sales reported by growers of Agaricus mushrooms for fresh market are 701 million pounds, up 1 percent from last season. Sales of Agaricus mushrooms for processing are 129 million pounds, 9 percent below last season. Value of sales for all Agaricus mushrooms totaled 841 million dollars, down 2 percent from the previous season and 4 percent below 2003-04.

**Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms Combined:  
Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, Price Per lb., and  
Value of Sales, July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006**

Year	Growers <u>1/</u>	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales	Price Per Pound <u>2/</u>	Value of Sales
	Number	1,000 Lbs.	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
2003-04.....	278	854,514	1.080	918,914
2004-05.....	296	853,154	1.070	908,733
2005-06.....	305	843,359	1.050	881,429

1/ Number of growers counted once if growing both Agaricus and specialty mushrooms.

2/ Average price received at the point of first sale, weighted by each method of sale.

Agaricus mushroom sales totaled 830 million pounds, down 1 percent from both the 2004-05 and 2003-04 seasons. Pennsylvania accounted for 59 percent of the total volume of sales and second ranked California contributed 14 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop was estimated at \$841 million, down 2 percent from the 2004-05 season. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 117 million pounds, up 17 percent from last season and 21 percent higher than the 2003-04 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 14 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold.

The number of Agaricus growers in the U.S. totaled 119, up 1 from last season but down 6 from two seasons ago. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 66 percent of U.S. Agaricus production, or 548 million pounds. The growing area is 27.7 million square feet, down 4 percent from the previous season and 11 percent below 2003-04. Total fillings are 140 million square feet, down 2 percent from last season and 4 percent below 2003-04. Yields averaged 5.92 pounds per square foot, up 1 percent from last season. Producers received an average return of \$5.99 per square foot, down 4 cents from last season and 1 cent below the 2003-04 season.

**AGRICULTURAL PRICES  
-- AUGUST 15, 2006**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 120 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (2.6 percent) from July. The Crop Index is

up 3 points (2.4 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 5 points (4.5 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, broilers, tomatoes, and eggs. Lower prices were received for corn, soybeans, sorghum grain, and potatoes. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of cattle, grapes, calves, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, broilers, and canteloupe. Preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 4 points (3.4 percent) from August 2005.

**All Crops:** The August index is 126, up 2.4 percent from July and 9.6 percent above August 2005. The August all wheat price, at \$3.88 per bushel, is down 1 cent from July but 64 cents above August 2005. The corn price, at \$2.03 per bushel, is down 11 cents from last month but 8 cents above August 2005. The all hay price, at \$106 per ton, is \$1.00 below July but up \$6.30 from last August. The soybean price, at \$5.24 per bushel, decreased 37 cents from July and is 91 cents below August 2005. The all potato price, at \$9.03 per cwt, is down \$1.99 from July but up \$2.01 from last August. The all dry bean price, at \$20.30 per cwt, is down \$1.40 from the previous month and \$1.10 below August 2005.

The August **Livestock and Products Index**, at 115, is 4.5 percent above last month but down 1.7 percent from August 2005. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for cattle, hogs, eggs, turkeys, and calves but lower for milk and broilers. The August hog price, at \$51.60 per cwt, is up \$1.40 from July and 60 cents higher than a year ago. The August beef cattle price of \$87.70 per cwt is up \$1.60 from last month and \$3.30 higher than August 2005. The August all milk price of \$11.90 per cwt is up 10 cents from last month but down \$2.90 from August 2005.

**Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States**

Index	2005		2006	
	July	August	July	August
1990-92 = 100				
	Percent			
Prices Received .....	116	116	117	120
Prices Paid .....	141	141	148	148
Ratio 1/ .....	82	82	79	81

1/Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

**Colorado** commodity prices for Mid-August averaged lower than the previous month except for dry edible beans. Beef cattle remained the same as previous month. Wheat, at \$4.14 per bushel decreased from the previous month but was \$1.18 above a year ago. Corn decreased 14 cents from July to \$2.30 per bushel but was 8 cents higher than August 2005. Dry beans averaged \$20.50 per cwt for mid-August, down 50 cents from July and \$4.50 below August 2005. Alfalfa hay prices, at \$133.00, were down \$2.00 from last month but \$28.00 above August 2005. Other hay decreased \$5.00 from last month but were \$20.00 above a year ago. Steers and Heifers,

at \$112.00 per cwt, were unchanged from July and averaged \$5.00 above August 2005. Cows decreased 70 cents from July to \$47.40 per cwt and were \$4.00 below a year ago. Calves, at \$141.00 per cwt, were down \$3.00 from July of this year and \$6.00 below August 2005.

**Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/**

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		August 2005	July 2006	August 2006
<b>Crops</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	2.96	4.32	4.14
Corn .....	Bu.	2.22	2.44	2.30
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2.74	2/	2/
Potatoes .....	Cwt	7.15	9.15	8.70
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	25.00	20.00	20.50
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	105.00	135.00	133.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	105.00	130.00	125.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products.....</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	107.00	111.00	111.00
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	107.00	112.00	112.00
Cows .....	Cwt	51.40	46.70	47.40
Calves.....	Cwt	135.00	144.00	141.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	41.70	32.00	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	111.00	97.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.70	11.90	11.50
<b>United States</b>				
<b>Crops</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	3.24	3.89	3.88
Corn .....	Bu.	1.95	2.14	2.03
Soybeans .....	Bu.	6.15	5.61	5.24
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2.50	2.70	2.69
Barley (Feed) .....	Bu.	1.77	2.04	2.07
Sorghum.....	Cwt	3.69	4.62	4.11
Potatoes.....	Cwt	7.02	11.02	9.03
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	21.40	21.70	20.30
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	108.00	113.00	110.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	77.00	89.30	91.50
Onions.....	Cwt	11.10	20.30	17.30
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	84.40	86.10	87.70
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	87.70	90.40	91.80
Cows .....	Cwt	51.40	46.60	46.90
Calves.....	Cwt	133.00	136.00	134.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	43.00	27.40	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	109.00	93.10	3/
Hogs.....	Cwt	51.00	50.20	51.60
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.80	11.80	11.90
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.440	0.400	0.420

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 discontinued.

**TURKEYS RAISED**  
**-- 2006**

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2006 is 265 million, up 3 percent from the number raised during 2005. The following six States are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2006: Minnesota, at 45.0 million birds, is expected to raise the largest number of any state, showing a 1 percent increase from last year. North Carolina ranks second with 37.0 million birds, up 3 percent from 2005. Arkansas is in third place by producing 30.0 million birds, 3 percent more than a year ago. Virginia, at 22.5 million birds is up 7 percent from 2005. Missouri growers expect to produce 21.5 million birds in 2006, up 5 percent from the previous year. California expects to raise 16.0 million turkeys, 7 percent more than a year earlier.

**COLD STORAGE**  
**-- JULY 31, 2006**

**Frozen food stocks** in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2006 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, beef, eggs, cheese, and chicken. Butter stocks were down 1 percent from last month, but up 30 percent from a year ago.

**Total red meat supplies** in freezers were up 4 percent from last month and up 5 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 1 percent from last month, but down 8 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 29 percent from last month and down 26 percent from last year.

**Total frozen poultry supplies** on July 31, 2006 were down 2 percent from the previous month, but up 2 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 4 percent from the previous month, but up 4 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 1 percent from last month, but down 2 percent from July 31, 2005.

**Stocks in Storage, United States**

Commodity	July 31, 2005	June 30, 2006	July 31, 2006
	<b>1,000 Pounds</b>		
Butter .....	176,666	230,376	229,118
Cheese, total natural.....	837,181	863,521	887,384
Eggs, frozen .....	19,611	22,062	23,611
Poultry, total frozen .....	1,243,594	1,294,864	1,271,825
Chicken.....	722,192	781,273	753,291
Turkey.....	518,879	507,465	511,024
Fruits, frozen.....	1,045,598	849,117	1,060,862
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,770,050	1,387,099	1,271,092
Vegetables, total frozen	1,702,806	1,413,886	1,645,559
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,154,878	1,108,110	996,662
Meats, total red .....	885,856	865,053	897,053
Beef, total frozen.....	385,246	436,792	466,801
Pork, total frozen.....	447,984	408,351	411,652

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

**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 Internet at:

<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Sept. 12 - Crop Production
- Sept. 18 - Milk Production
- Sept. 21 - Cold Storage
- Sept. 21 - Potatoes
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- Sept. 29 - Small Grains Summary

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