



AG UPDATE

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Contents of This Issue

- ▶Livestock Slaughter
 - ▶Cattle on Feed
- ▶Milk Production - August 2005
- ▶Crop Production
- ▶Cold Storage

Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Specie	Aug 2004	July 2005	Aug 2005	January-Aug	
				2004	2005
	Million Pounds				
Colorado.....	176.1	158.5	167.3	1,336.8	1,187.3
United States	3,880	3,616	4,099	29,890	29,964
Beef.....	2,151	2,085	2,319	16,346	16,322
Veal.....	14.0	12.4	13.7	112.8	104.1
Pork.....	1,699	1,505	1,751	13,304	13,414
Lamb & Mutton.	15.2	13.5	15.4	128.0	123.5

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER AUGUST 2005

Red meat production in **Colorado** during August 2005 totaled 167.3 million pounds, 5 percent below the 176.1 million pounds produced during August 2004 but 6 percent above the 158.5 million pounds produced during July of this year. **Cattle** kill during August was down 8 percent from the previous year to 196,300 head but the average live weight increased 37 pounds to 1,288 pounds per head. **Hog** slaughter, at 2,300 head, decreased 15 percent from August 2004 but the average live weight increased 30 pounds to 261. **Accumulated production** for the first eight months of this year now totals nearly 1.19 billion pounds, down 11 percent from the 1.34 billion pounds produced during the comparable period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.10 billion pounds in August, up 6 percent from the 3.88 billion pounds produced in August 2004. **Beef production**, at 2.32 billion pounds, was 8 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.99 million head, up 6 percent from August 2004. The average live weight was up 15 pounds from the previous year, at 1,267 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.7 million pounds, 2 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 65,600 head, down 10 percent from August 2004. The average live weight was 25 pounds above last year, at 347 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.75 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.98 million head, 3 percent above August 2004. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 263 pounds. **Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.4 million pounds, was up 1 percent from August 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 229,300 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, up 4 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2005 commercial red meat production was 30.0 billion pounds, up slightly from 2004. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 8 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

CATTLE ON FEED SEPTEMBER 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 770,000 head as of September 1, 2005. The latest inventory was down 6 percent from August 1, 2005, and down 17 percent from the 930,000 on feed on September 1, 2004. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 200,000 head of fed cattle during August 2005. This represented no change from the July 2005 marketings, but was 33 percent above August marketings one year earlier. An estimated 155,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during August, up 24 percent from July 2005 placements but 24 percent below a year ago. Of the number placed in August, 13 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 16 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 26 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 45 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for August, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from the previous month and a year ago.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.0 million head on September 1, 2005. The inventory was slightly above September 1, 2004 and 2 percent above September 1, 2003. Placements in feedlots during August totaled 1.99 million, 5 percent below 2004 and 16 percent below 2003. This is the lowest placements for the month of August since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.94 million. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 418,000, 600-699 pounds were 385,000, 700-799 pounds were 540,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 650,000. Marketings of fed cattle during

August totaled 2.03 million, 6 percent above 2004 but 2 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 53,000 during August, 5 percent below 2004 and 12 percent below 2003.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots
August 1 to September 1, 2004-2005**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 head			
On Feed Aug. 1	880	820	9,868	10,092
Placements During Aug.	205	155	2,102	1,993
< 600 pounds	30	20	506	418
600 - 699 Pounds	40	25	416	385
700 - 799 Pounds	65	40	565	540
800 Plus Pounds	70	70	615	650
Marketings During Aug.	150	200	1,926	2,032
Other Disap. During Aug.	5	5	56	53
On Feed September 1	930	770	9,988	10,000

MILK PRODUCTION AUGUST 2005

Milk production in **Colorado** during the August 2005 totaled 207 million pounds, up 18 million pounds from the 189 million pounds produced during the same period a year earlier. The average number of milk cows for August of this year was 105,000 head, up 2,000 head from August 2004. Production per cow averaged 1,970 pounds for August, 7 percent above the 1,835 produced a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during August totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 4.6 percent from August 2004. July revised production, at 13.7 billion pounds, was up 4.2 percent from July 2004. The July revision represented a decrease of 6 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,665 pounds for August, 64 pounds above August 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.15 million head, 52,000 head more than August 2004, and 9,000 head more than July 2005.

Milk Cows and Milk Production, 23 States

Item	Unit	2004	2005
Colorado:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	103	105
Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>	Lbs.	1,835	1,970
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. Lbs.	189	207
United States:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	8,102	8,154
Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>	Lbs.	1601	1665
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. Lbs.	12,970	13,573

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**CROP PRODUCTION
SEPTEMBER 1, 2005
COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

The corn yield forecast is now estimated at 130.0 bushels per acre, five bushels below last year's final yield. Expected yield decreases in dryland acreage helped lower the average yield seven bushels from the August 1 forecast. The forecast for harvested acres was unchanged at 940,000 acres, down 100,000 acres from the area harvested for grain in 2004. Corn production is forecast at 122.2 million bushels, about 18.2 million bushels or 13 percent less than last year's production.

The sorghum yield is forecast at 27.0 bushels per acre, two bushels below the August 1 forecast and three bushels below last year's crop. Growers are expected to harvest 160,000 acres, placing production at 4.3 million bushels, compared with 5.4 million bushels last year.

The summer potato yield forecast was unchanged from July 1 at 365 cwt per acre, 15 cwt above last year's revised average yield. Growers are expected to harvested 4,800 acres, down 900 acres from last year's harvested area. Production is forecast at 1.75 million cwt., down from last year's revised production of 2.00 million cwt.

The sugarbeet yield is now forecast at 22.5 tons per acre, 2.4 tons above the August 1 forecast but 2.5 tons below last year's yield. Production is forecast at 774,000 tons from 34,400 harvested acres, down from last year's 838,000 tons from 33,500 acres.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 10.6 billion bushels, up 3 percent from last month but 10 percent below 2004. If realized, this would be the second largest crop on record. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 143.2 bushels per acre, up 4.0 bushels from August but 17.2 bushels below the record high last year. Farmers expect to harvest 74.3 million acres of corn for grain, down 50,000 acres from August but up 1 percent from 2004.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.86 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the August forecast but down 9 percent from the record crop of 2004. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 39.6 bushels per acre, up 0.9 bushel from August. Adequate moisture across most of the Corn Belt and the Great Plains by the end of the month was a relief for many dry areas, including most of the drought-stricken areas of Illinois and Missouri.

(Continued on page 4)

Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2004-2005

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2004	2005	2004	2005		2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
Colorado:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	1,200	1,100	1,040	940	Bu.	135.0	130.0	140,400	122,200
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	280	200	180	160	Bu.	30.0	27.0	5,400	4,320
All Wheat.....	2,315	2,670	1,714	2,419	Bu.	27.4	<u>5/</u>	46,880	<u>5/</u>
Winter Wheat.....	2,300	2,650	1,700	2,400	Bu.	27.0	24.0	45,900	57,600
Spring Wheat.....	15	20	14	19	Bu.	70.0	<u>5/</u>	980	<u>5/</u>
Oats.....	75	75	20	25	Bu.	55.0	<u>5/</u>	1,100	<u>5/</u>
Barley.....	80	60	77	58	Bu.	118.0	120.0	9,086	6,960
Proso Millet.....	370	320	330	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	24.0	<u>4/</u>	7,920	<u>4/</u>
All Hay.....	...	...	1,520	1,470	Tons	2.41	2.46	3,666	3,611
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	770	740	Tons	3.30	3.40	2,541	2,516
Other Hay.....	...	...	750	730	Tons	1.50	1.50	1,125	1,095
Sugar beets.....	36.0	35.0	33.5	34.4	Tons	25.0	22.5	838	774
Dry edible beans.....	75.0	130.0	67.0	116.0	Cwt.	15.50	16.50	1,039	1,914
Sunflowers, All.....	135	180	123	168	Lbs.	1,193	<u>6/</u>	146,700	<u>6/</u>
Sunflowers, Oil.....	90	130	80	120	Lbs.	1,350	<u>4/</u>	108,000	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil.....	45	50	43	48	Lbs.	900	<u>4/</u>	38,700	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes.....	70.8	63.1	70.0	62.8	Cwt.	360	<u>7/</u>	25,786	<u>7/</u>
Summer potatoes.....	5.8	4.9	5.7	4.8	Cwt.	350	365	1,995	1,752
Fall potatoes.....	65.0	58.2	64.3	58.0	Cwt.	370	<u>7/</u>	23,791	<u>7/</u>
Apples.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	28,000	28,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	13.0	12.0
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	2.6	2.8
Tart Cherries.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	200	<u>8/</u>
United States:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	80,930	81,592	73,632	74,318	Bu.	160.4	143.2	11,807,217	10,638,661
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	7,486	7,013	6,517	6,030	Bu.	69.8	66.0	454,899	397,721
All Wheat <u>2/</u>	59,674	58,080	49,999	50,361	Bu.	43.2	43.0	2,158,245	2,167,178
Winter Wheat.....	43,350	41,408	34,462	34,271	Bu.	43.5	44.4	1,499,434	1,520,848
Spring Wheat.....	13,763	14,099	13,174	13,637	Bu.	43.2	40.6	568,918	553,375
Oats.....	4,085	4,342	1,792	1,976	Bu.	64.7	64.7	115,935	127,819
Barley.....	4,527	3,970	4,021	3,471	Bu.	69.4	68.2	279,253	236,729
Rye.....	1,380	1,440	320.0	323.0	Bu.	26.9	<u>5/</u>	8,615	<u>5/</u>
Proso Millet.....	710	590	595	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	25.3	<u>4/</u>	15,065	<u>4/</u>
All Hay.....	...	...	61,916	61,723	Tons	2.55	2.43	157,774	149,917
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	21,707	22,118	Tons	3.47	3.34	75,383	73,849
Other Hay.....	...	...	40,209	39,605	Tons	2.05	1.92	82,391	76,068
Sugar beets.....	1,345.9	1,284.6	1,306.9	1,242.8	Tons	22.9	21.3	29,956	26,639
Dry edible beans.....	1,354.3	1,668.8	1,219.3	1,530.8	Cwt.	1,460	1,687	17,799	25,829
Sunflowers, All.....	1,873	2,714	1,711	2,584	Lbs.	1,197	<u>6/</u>	2,047,863	<u>6/</u>
Sunflowers, Oil.....	1,533	2,176	1,424	2,076	Lbs.	1,237	<u>4/</u>	1,761,628	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil.....	340	538	287	508	Lbs.	997	<u>4/</u>	286,235	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes <u>3/</u>	1,193.4	1,106.4	1,166.9	1,088.2	Cwt.	391	<u>7/</u>	456,041	<u>7/</u>
Summer potatoes.....	58.4	50.3	53.9	48.3	Cwt.	340	334	18,307	16,123
Fall potatoes.....	1,039.7	970.4	1,022.8	955.7	Cwt.	401	<u>7/</u>	410,023	<u>7/</u>
Soybeans.....	75,208	73,103	73,958	72,184	Bu.	42.5	39.6	3,140,996	2,856,449
Apples.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	10,419.9	9,837.1
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	1,307.1	1,233.9
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	890.3	853.0
Tart Cherries.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	213,000	244,200

1/ Planted for all purposes: harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2006
5/ September 30, 2005. 6/ October 12, 2005. 7/ November 10, 2005. 8/ Discontinued in 2005.

(Continued from page 2)

Production of summer potatoes is forecast at 16.1 million cwt in 2005, down 1 percent from the July 1 forecast and 12 percent below the 2004 final estimate. If realized, this would be a record low production since the series began in 1949, six percent below the previous record low set in 1980. Harvested area is estimated at 48,300 acres, 800 acres below the July estimate and down 10 percent from last year, the previous record low. The average yield is forecast at 334 cwt per acre, 3 cwt above the July forecast but 6 cwt below last year.

Production of 2004 fall potatoes is finalized at 410 million cwt, virtually unchanged from 2003 but 1 percent below the 2002 crop. Area harvested, at 1.02 million acres, is 6 percent below the previous year and down 8 percent from two years ago. The average yield was 401 cwt per acre, up 25 cwt from 2003 and 27 cwt above 2002.

Sugarbeet production for 2005 is forecast at 26.3 million tons, 1 percent below the August forecast and 12 percent below last year's production. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.24 million acres, down 5,000 acres from last month and 5 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 21.2 tons per acre, down 0.1 ton from August and 1.7 tons below 2004.

Sorghum production is forecast at 398 million bushels, up 5 percent from last month but down 13 percent from last year. Based on September 1 conditions, the sorghum yield forecast is 66.0 bushels per acre, up 2.9 bushels from August but own 3.8 bushels from last year. Area for harvest as grain is forecast at 6.03 million acres, unchanged from August but 7 percent below last year.

COLD STORAGE August 31, 2005

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on August 31, 2005 were greater than year earlier levels for pork, frozen fruit, and eggs. Butter stocks were down 15 percent from last month, and down 7 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down slightly from last month, but up 2 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 7 percent from last month, but up 9 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 56 percent from last month, but up 45 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on August 31, 2005 were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 8 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 3 percent from the previous month and down 5 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 1 percent from last month, but down 13 percent from August 31, 2004.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Aug 31, 2004	July 30, 2005	Aug 31, 2005
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	161,025	176,670	150,259
Cheese, total natural	811,521	828,412	797,308
Eggs, frozen	17,267	19,698	19,906
Poultry, total frozen	1,326,940	1,238,012	1,216,939
Chicken	725,786	715,239	691,319
Turkey	600,185	522,222	524,982
Fruits, frozen	1,059,966	1,055,978	1,079,362
Fruit Juices, frozen	2,120,231	1,770,005	1,651,511
Vegetables, total frozen	1,996,980	1,697,993	1,996,572
Potatoes, total frozen	1,127,031	1,151,397	1,122,715
Meats, total red	841,899	857,479	855,852
Beef, total frozen	445,994	385,753	414,335
Pork, total frozen	382,108	449,100	417,657

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 Worldwide Web at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

- Sept. 30 - Hogs and Pigs
- Sept. 29 - Agricultural Prices
- Sept. 30 - Grain Stocks
- Sept. 30 - Small Grains Summary
- Oct. 4 - Vegetables
- Oct. 12 - Crop Production
- Oct. 17 - Milk Production
- Oct. 21 - Cattle On Feed
- Oct. 21 - Cold Storage
- Oct. 21 - Chickens and Eggs
- Oct. 21 - Livestock Slaughter

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