



AG UPDATE

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**Red Meat Production
Colorado and United States**

Area and Specie	Aug	July	Aug	January-Aug	
	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006
Million Pounds					
Colorado.....	167.3	167.0	169.0	1,187.3	1,264.7
United States	4,100	3,782	4,245	29,959	31,296
Beef.....	2,319	2,204	2,442	16,315	17,423
Veal.....	13.7	12.0	14.2	104.1	100.7
Pork.....	1,752	1,553	1,774	13,416	13,647
Lamb & Mutton.	15.4	13.2	14.6	123.4	124.7

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER -- AUGUST 2006

Red meat production in **Colorado** during August 2006 totaled 169.0 million pounds, 1 percent above the 167.3 million pounds produced during August 2005 and 1 percent above the 167.0 million pounds produced during July of this year. **Cattle** kill during August was down 1 percent from the previous year to 195,100 head but the average live weight increased 21 pounds to 1,309 pounds per head. **Hog** slaughter, at 2,000 head, decreased 13 percent from August 2005 and the average live weight decreased 8 pounds to 253. **Accumulated red meat production** for the first eight months of this year now totals 1.26 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the 1.19 billion pounds produced during the comparable period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.24 billion pounds in August, up 4 percent from the 4.10 billion pounds produced in August 2005. **Beef production**, at 2.44 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.13 million head, up 5 percent from August 2005. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,275 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.2 million pounds, 4 percent above August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,700 head, up 2 percent from August 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 347 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.09 million head, 1 percent above August 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 263 pounds. **Lamb and mutton production**, at 14.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from August 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 227,000 head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 5 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2006 commercial red meat production was 31.3 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

CATTLE ON FEED -- SEPTEMBER 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 960,000 head as of September 1, 2006. The latest inventory was up 2 percent from August 1, 2006, and up 25 percent from the 770,000 on feed on September 1, 2005. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 185,000 head of fed cattle during August 2006. This represented a 3 percent increase from the July 2006 marketings, but 7 percent below August marketings one year earlier. An estimated 210,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during August, up 40 percent from July 2006 placements and 35 percent above a year ago. Of the number placed in August, 24 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 14 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 24 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 38 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for August, at 5,000 head, was down 5,000 from the previous month but unchanged from 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 11.0 million head on September 1, 2006. The inventory was 10 percent above September 1, 2005 and 10 percent above September 1, 2004. This is the highest September 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.30 million, 15 percent above 2005 and 9 percent above 2004. Net placements were 2.24 million. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 680,000, 600-699 pounds were 435,000, 700-799 pounds were 535,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 650,000. Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 2.08 million, 2 percent above 2005 and 8 percent above 2004. Other disappearance totaled 59,000 during August, 11 percent above 2005 and 5 percent above 2004.

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

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 head			
On Feed Aug. 1	820	940	10,093	10,822
Placements During Aug.	155	210	1,993	2,300
< 600 pounds	20	50	418	680
600 - 699 Pounds	25	30	385	435
700 - 799 Pounds	40	50	540	535
800 Plus Pounds	70	80	650	650
Marketings During Aug.	200	185	2,033	2,077
Other Disap. During Aug.	5	5	53	59
On Feed September 1	770	960	10,000	10,986

MILK PRODUCTION -- AUGUST 2006

Milk production in **Colorado** during the August 2006 totaled 223 million pounds, up 16 million pounds from the 207 million pounds produced during the same period a year earlier. The average number of milk cows for August of this year was 112,000 head, up 7,000 head from August 2005. Production per cow averaged 1,990 pounds for August, 1 percent above the 1,970 produced a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during August totaled 13.9 billion pounds, up 1.6 percent from August 2005. July revised production, at 13.9 billion pounds, was up 1.5 percent from July 2005. The July revision represented an increase of 6 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,680 pounds for August, 9 pounds above August 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.25 million head, 88,000 head more than August 2005, but 9,000 head less than July 2006.

**Milk Cows and Milk Production, Colorado and
23 States, August 2005-2006**

Item	Unit	2005	2006
Colorado:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	105	112
Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>	Lbs.	1,970	1,990
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. Lbs.	207	223
23 States:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	8,162	8,250
Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>	Lbs.	1,671	1,680
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. Lbs.	13,640	13,861

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

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**CROP PRODUCTION -- SEPTEMBER 1, 2006
COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

The corn yield forecast is now estimated at 152.0 bushels per acre, 4.0 bushels above last year's final yield, but 2.0 bushels below the August 1 forecast. The forecast for harvested acres was unchanged at 840,000 acres, down 110,000 acres from the area harvested for grain in 2005. Corn production is forecast at 127.7 million bushels, 9 percent less than last year's production.

The sorghum yield is forecast at 32.0 bushels per acre, 2.0 bushels above the August 1 forecast and 1.0 bushel above last year's crop. Growers are expected to harvest 120,000 acres, placing production at 3.8 million bushels, compared with 3.4 million bushels last year.

The summer potato yield forecast was unchanged from July 1 at 370 cwt. per acre, 5 cwt. below last year's average yield. Growers are expected to harvested 4,000 acres, down 900 acres from last year's harvested area. Production is forecast at 1.48 million cwt., down from last year's production of 1.84 million cwt. The sugarbeet yield is forecast at 23.0 tons per acre, unchanged from the August 1 forecast but 1.3 tons below last year's yield. Production is forecast at 881,000 tons from 38,300 harvested acres, up from last year's 833,000 tons from 34,300 acres.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 11.1 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month and fractionally above 2005. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from August and 6.8 bushels from last year. If realized, yield and production would be the second largest on record, behind 2004. Forecast yields are higher than August across the northern Great Plains and western Corn Belt as moderate to heavy precipitation during the month improved soil moisture levels and crop conditions. Expected yields across the eastern Corn Belt are unchanged from last month. Farmers expect to harvest 71.8 million acres of corn for grain, down 250,000 acres from August and down 4 percent from 2005.

Soybean production is forecast at 3.09 billion bushels, up 6 percent from the August forecast and up slightly from the 2005 crop. If realized, this would be the second highest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.8 bushels per acre, up 2.2 bushels from August but down 1.5 bushels from last year's record high yield. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher across the Corn Belt and most of the northern and central Great Plains. Near or above normal moisture in those areas during August improved crop conditions. In contrast, yields are down or unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Gulf Coast States and Atlantic Coast States, with the exception of South Carolina.

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Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2005-2006

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006		2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres		Units per acre	Units per acre	1,000 units	1,000 units
Colorado:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	1,100	1,000	950	840	Bu.	148.0	152.0	140,600	127,680
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	160	200	110	120	Bu.	31.0	32.0	3,410	3,840
All Wheat.....	2,570	2,420	2,219	2,019	Bu.	24.4	<u>5/</u>	54,035	<u>5/</u>
Winter Wheat.....	2,550	2,400	2,200	2,000	Bu.	24.0	21.0	52,800	42,000
Spring Wheat.....	20	20	19	19	Bu.	65.0	<u>5/</u>	1,235	<u>5/</u>
Oats.....	75	85	15	15	Bu.	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>
Barley.....	60	50	59	45	Bu.	130.0	125.0	7,670	5,625
Proso Millet.....	290	290	275	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	20.0	<u>4/</u>	5,500	<u>4/</u>
All Hay.....	...	...	1,550	1,540	Tons	2.64	2.35	4,085	3,619
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	800	770	Tons	3.70	3.20	2,960	2,464
Other Hay.....	...	...	750	770	Tons	1.50	1.50	1,125	1,155
Sugar beets.....	36.4	43.6	34.3	38.3	Tons	24.3	23.0	833	881
Dry edible beans.....	125.0	80.0	115.0	70.0	Cwt.	1,650	1,900	1,898	1,330
Sunflowers, All.....	215	140	205	122	Lbs.	1,279	<u>6/</u>	262,250	<u>6/</u>
Sunflowers, Oil.....	150	100	145	85	Lbs.	1,250	<u>6/</u>	181,250	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil.....	65	40	60	37	Lbs.	1,350	<u>4/</u>	81,000	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes.....	63.2	64.0	62.9	63.7	Cwt.	385	<u>7/</u>	24,748	<u>7/</u>
Summer potatoes.....	5.0	4.1	4.9	4.0	Cwt.	375	370	1,838	1,480
Fall potatoes.....	58.2	59.9	58.0	59.7	Cwt.	395	<u>7/</u>	22,910	<u>7/</u>
Apples.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	31,000	16,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	12,000	11,000
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	2.5	2.4
United States:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	81,759.0	79,366.0	75,107.0	71,841.0	Bu.	147.9	154.7	11,112,072	11,113,766
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	6,454.0	6,282.0	5,736.0	5,317.0	Bu.	68.7	57.3	393,893	304,635
All Wheat <u>2/</u>	57,229.0	57,873.0	50,119.0	47,084.0	Bu.	42.0	38.3	2,104,690	1,801,355
Winter Wheat.....	40,433	41,393	33,794	31,108	Bu.	44.4	41.2	1,499,129	1,283,134
Spring Wheat.....	14,036	14,595	13,609	14,154	Bu.	37.1	32.7	504,456	463,511
Oats.....	4,246.0	4,312.0	1,823.0	1,907.0	Bu.	63.0	56.3	114,878	107,423
Barley.....	3,875	3,496	3,269	2,990	Bu.	64.8	61.2	211,896	182,972
Rye.....	1,433	1,378	279.0	259.0	Bu.	27.0	<u>5/</u>	7,537	<u>5/</u>
Proso Millet.....	565	575	515	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	26.3	<u>4/</u>	13,545	<u>4/</u>
All Hay.....	...	...	61,649	62,697	Tons	2.44	2.27	150,590	142,326
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	22,389	22,407	Tons	3.38	3.18	75,771	71,205
Other Hay.....	...	...	39,260	40,290	Tons	1.91	1.77	74,819	71,121
Sugar beets.....	1,299.8	1,362.8	1,242.9	1,343.6	Tons	22.2	24.1	27,537	32,390
Dry edible beans.....	1,665.0	1,607.3	1,568.6	1,519.0	Cwt.	1,744	1,534	27,350	23,301
Sunflowers, All.....	2,709	1,990	2,610	1,797	Lbs.	1,540	<u>6/</u>	4,018,355	<u>6/</u>
Sunflowers, Oil.....	2,104	1,575	2,032	1,493	Lbs.	1,564	<u>4/</u>	3,177,635	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil.....	605	325	578	304	Lbs.	1,455	<u>4/</u>	840,720	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes <u>3/</u>	1,109.1	1,138.7	1,086.9	1,116.4	Cwt.	390	<u>6/</u>	423,926	<u>7/</u>
Summer potatoes.....	53.4	59.4	51.4	54.8	Cwt.	342	342	17,567	18,731
Fall potatoes.....	1,109.1	1,138.7	1,086.9	1,116.4	Cwt.	403	<u>7/</u>	382,743	<u>7/</u>
Soybeans.....	72,142	74,930	71,361	73,935	Bu.	43.3	41.8	3,086,432	3,092,970
Apples.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	9,864.9	9,619.7
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	1,184.6	1,053.8
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	825.3	835.3

1/ Planted for all purposes: harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2007
5/ September 29, 2006. 6/ October 12, 2006. 7/ November 9, 2006.

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All Cotton production is forecast at 20.3 million 480-pound bales, down slightly from last month and down 15 percent from last year's record high production. Yield is expected to average 762 pounds per acre, down 3 pounds from last month and down 69 pounds from last year. The September harvested area is expected to total 12.8 million acres, virtually unchanged from last month but down 7 percent from last year. Lower production forecasts from last month in the Southeast and California were partially offset by higher production in the Southwest and Texas.

California navel orange production for the 2006-07 season is forecast at 33.0 million boxes (1.24 million tons), down 27 percent from last season's revised production of 45.5 million boxes (1.71 million tons). This initial forecast is based on an objective measurement survey conducted in the California Central Valley between July 24 and August 18. This year's long and wet spring has contributed to the lowest fruit set since the 2001-02 season. Fruit sizes are generally small but are reported to have begun increasing in the last month.

COLD STORAGE -- AUGUST 31, 2006

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on August 31, 2006 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, beef, eggs, cheese, and chicken.

Butter stocks were down 19 percent from last month, but up 24 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 1 percent from last month, but up 4 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 2 percent from both last month and the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 63 percent from last month and down 37 percent from last year.

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

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Aug 31, 2005	July 30, 2006	Aug 31, 2006
	1,000 Pounds		
Butter	148,878	228,395	184,506
Cheese, total natural	812,927	892,645	851,119
Eggs, frozen	19,938	23,596	21,246
Poultry, total frozen	1,231,270	1,247,584	1,222,390
Chicken	705,528	727,855	714,556
Turkey	523,120	512,223	500,546
Fruits, frozen	1,060,239	1,057,400	1,048,320
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,647,184	1,271,618	1,135,279
Vegetables, total frozen	2,004,332	1,652,162	2,067,915
Potatoes, total frozen	1,121,331	996,405	967,090
Meats, total red	848,894	898,574	886,916
Beef, total frozen	410,592	466,039	464,532
Pork, total frozen	414,468	413,454	404,892

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.nass.usda.gov>

- Sept. 28 - Agricultural Prices
- Sept. 29 - Grain Stocks
- Sept. 29 - Hogs and Pigs
- Sept. 29 - Small Grains Summary
- Oct. 4 - Vegetables
- Oct. 12 - Crop Production
- Oct. 18 - Milk Production
- Oct. 20 - Cattle on Feed
- Oct. 20 - Cold Storage
- Oct. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Oct. 23 - Chickens and Eggs

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