



# AG UPDATE

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**MILK PRODUCTION  
SEPTEMBER 2007**

**COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

Colorado dairy herds produced 228 million pounds of milk during September 2007, up 14 million pounds from last September's production, but down 7 million pounds from August's production. The average number of cows, at 120,000, increased 1,000 head from last month, and up from 112,000 cows from the previous year. The average milk per cow for the month of September in Colorado was 1,900 pounds per cow, down from 1,975 pounds per cow in August and 10 pounds per cow lower than 2006. Colorado is second in the nation in milk production per cow.

Milk production in the 23 major States during September totaled 13.7 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from September 2006. August production, unrevised at 14.3 billion pounds, was up 3.6 percent from August 2006. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,644 pounds for September, 31 pounds above September 2006. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.34 million head, 91,000 head more than September 2006, and 12,000 head more than August 2007.

Milk production in the U.S. during the July - September quarter totaled 46.1 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 44,000 head more than the same period last year.

**Colorado and U. S. Milk Production, September, 2006-07**

Item	Unit	2006	2007
<b>Colorado:</b>			
Milk Cows 1/.....	1,000 head	112	120
Production per cow 2/.....	Pounds	1,910	1,900
Production 2/.....	Mil. lbs.	214	228
<b>23 State Total:</b>			
Milk Cows 1/.....	1,000 head	8,251	8,342
Production per cow 2/.....	Pounds	1,613	1,644
Production 2/.....	Mil. lbs.	13,307	13,715

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**ONIONS**

Colorado growers now expect to produce 2.89 million cwt of summer storage onions this year, down 24 percent from the 3.80 million cwt produced in 2006. This year's harvested area of 7,700 acres is down 19 percent from 9,500 acres harvested last year. The 2007 crop average yield per acre is forecast at 375 cwt, down 25 cwt from last year's crop.

Summer storage onion production for the United States is forecast at 54.1 million hundredweight (cwt), up 5 percent from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 105,680 acres, down 4 percent from 2006. The yield, at 512 cwt per acre, is up 46 cwt from last year. Planting of California's storage onion crop was on schedule despite some delays due to rainfall.

**Onions for Fresh Market 2006-2007 Crops**

Crop	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2006	for 2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
Spring.....	34,600	31,300	322	348	11,128	10,880
Summer:						
Non-Storage .....	19,900	19,900	531	546	10,562	10,863
Storage						
CA 1/.....	31,800	29,700	425	430	13,515	12,771
CO .....	9,500	7,700	400	375	3,800	2,888
ID .....	9,400	9,200	540	720	5,076	6,624
MI.....	2,600	2,500	250	270	650	675
NY.....	12,800	11,400	330	350	4,224	3,990
OR-Malheur .....	11,700	11,900	520	700	6,084	8,330
OR-Other.....	8,400	8,500	550	530	4,620	4,505
WA.....	20,000	21,000	600	610	12,000	12,810
WI .....	1,900	1,700	300	340	570	578
Oth Sts 2/ .....	2,180	2,080	378	449	825	934
Total.....	110,280	105,680	466	512	51,364	54,105
Summer.....	130,180	125,580	476	517	61,926	64,968
U.S. ....	164,780	156,880	443	483	73,054	75,848

1/ Primarily for dehydrated and other processing.

2/ OH and UT.

**CROP PRODUCTION  
OCTOBER 1, 2007**

**COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

Colorado's corn for grain production is forecast at 157.50 million bushels, up 17 percent from last year's crop of 134.16 million bushels and unchanged from the September 1 forecast. Average yield is forecast at 150.0 bushels per acre, down 6 bushels from last year. Area intended for grain was unchanged

from September 1, at 1.05 million acres. **Sorghum** for grain production for 2007 is now expected to total 6.60 million bushels, down 440,000 from the September 1 forecast but 95 percent above last year's crop. Average yield, at 44.0 bushels per acre, is unchanged from the September 1 forecast but 18 bushels above last year's results. The area expected to be harvested for grain is down 10,000 acres from the September forecast to 150,000 acres, however, this is up 15 percent from the 130,000 acres harvested in 2006. **Sugarbeet** production is forecast at 744,000 tons, also unchanged from September but down 16 percent from the previous year's crop. Yields are expected to average 25.4 tons per acre compared with 23.4 tons per acre last year. The area for harvest is expected to total 29,300 acres, down from 38,000 acres harvested last year. The initial forecast of **all sunflower** production was placed at 144.30 million pounds, up 33 percent from the 2006 crop of 108.60 million pounds. The average expected yield of 1,336 pounds per acre is 168 pounds above last year. Estimated harvested acreage, at 108,000 acres, is up 16 percent from 93,000 acres harvested a year ago. **Alfalfa hay** production is forecast at 3.2 million tons, up 8 percent from last year. **All other hay** production is forecast at 1.5 million tons, up 5 percent from last year's production. Expected **dry bean** production, at 720,000 hundredweight, is down 37 percent from last year. The average expected yield of 1,600 pounds per acre is 300 pounds below the 2006 yield. Area planted was reduced 5,000 acres from the June 1 forecast to 50,000 acres based on Farm Service Agency (FSA) administrative information and area for harvest is now expected to total 45,000 acres, 15,000 acres below last year.

#### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn** production is forecast at 13.3 billion bushels, up slightly from last month and 26 percent above 2006. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre, down 1.1 bushels from September but 5.6 bushels above last year. If realized, this would be the second highest yield on record, behind the 160.4 bushel yield in 2004. Production would be the largest on record as growers expect to harvest the most corn acres for grain since 1933. Forecast yields are higher than last year across the Great Plains, central Corn Belt and Delta where adequate rainfall during much of the season provided favorable growing conditions. Expected yields across the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys, Northeast, and mid-Atlantic States are down from last year as drought conditions during much of the growing season reduced soil moisture levels and stressed the crop. Area harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 86.1 million acres, up 1 percent from September and 22 percent higher than last year.

**Soybean** production is forecast at 2.60 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the September forecast and down 19 percent from last year's record high. Updates to planted acreage were made in several States based on administrative data. Planted area was updated to 63.7 million acres, a decrease of less than 1 percent from the June forecast and down 16 percent from 2006. Area for harvest is forecast at 62.8 million acres, down less than 1 percent from September

and down 16 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.4 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month but down 1.3 bushels from last year. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower in Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and most of the Atlantic Coast States. Hot, dry conditions continued to cause most of the decline, especially in Delaware, Illinois, Kentucky, Virginia, and the Carolinas, all down at least 2 bushels from last month. Yields increased from the September 1 forecast in Iowa, Ohio, New York, the Dakotas, and most of the Gulf Coast States.

**Sorghum** production is forecast at 501 million bushels, up 1 percent from last month and up 81 percent from last year. Based on administrative information, acreage updates were made in several States. Planted area was updated to 7.70 million acres, down less than 1 percent from June but up 18 percent from 2006. Area for harvest as grain is forecast at 6.70 million acres, up 4,000 acres from last month and up 36 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, the yield is forecast at 74.8 bushels per acre, up 0.9 bushel from September and up 18.6 bushels from last year. If realized, this would be the highest yield on record.

The first **sunflower** production forecast for 2007 is 2.89 billion pounds, up 35 percent from 2006 but down 28 percent from 2005. Area planted, at 2.08 million acres, is up 11 percent from the June estimate and up 6 percent from last year. Sunflower growers expect to harvest 1.97 million acres, up 12 percent from June and up 11 percent from the 2006 acreage. The October yield forecast, at 1,468 pounds, is 257 pounds more than last year. As of October 1, higher yields are expected in five of the seven major sunflower-producing States, with only Minnesota and Nebraska farmers expecting lower yields compared with last year. Conditions were generally good across most of the Great Plains, as adequate topsoil moisture during the growing season contributed to improved yields. In North Dakota, the yield is forecast at 1,462 pounds per acre, up 166 pounds from the 2006 yield.

**Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures** production of dry hay is forecast at 72.3 million tons, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 1 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.37 tons per acre, up 0.11 ton from August and up 0.02 ton from 2006. Harvested area is forecast at 21.5 million acres, unchanged from August but slightly above the previous year's acreage. **Other Hay** production is forecast at 75.6 million tons, up slightly from the August forecast and up 8 percent from 2006. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 1.87 tons, the same as the August forecast but up 0.09 ton from last year. Harvested area, at 40.3 million acres, is unchanged from August but up 2 percent from the previous year.

**Dry edible bean** production is forecast at 25.3 million cwt for 2007, up 6 percent from the August forecast and 4 percent above last year. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.46 million

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### Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2006-2007

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007		2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
<b>Colorado:</b>									
All Corn <u>1/</u> .....	1,000	1,200	860	1,050	Bu.	156.0	150.0	134,160	157,500
All Sorghum <u>1/</u> .....	280	210	130	150	Bu.	26.0	44.0	3,380	6,600
All Wheat .....	2,170	2,520	1,919	2,369	Bu.	21.6	40.3	41,515	95,520
Winter Wheat .....	2,150	2,500	1,900	2,350	Bu.	21.0	40.0	39,900	94,000
Spring Wheat.....	20	20	19	19	Bu.	85	80	1,615	1,520
Oats .....	85	75	10	10	Bu.	70	80	700	800
Barley .....	47	60	42	58	Bu.	115.0	125.0	4,830	7,250
Proso Millet.....	290	250	255	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	21	<u>4/</u>	5,355	<u>4/</u>
All Hay .....	...	...	1,530	1,550	Tons	2.87	3.03	4,389	4,700
Alfalfa Hay .....	...	...	780	800	Tons	3.80	4.00	2,964	3,200
Other Hay .....	...	...	750	750	Tons	1.90	2.00	1,425	1,500
Sugarbeets .....	42.1	32.0	38.0	29.3	Tons	23.4	25.4	899	744
Dry edible beans.....	70.0	50.0	60.0	45.0	Cwt.	1,900	1,600	1,140	720
Sunflowers, All.....	100	120	93	108	Lbs.	1,168	1,336	108,600	144,300
Sunflowers, Oil .....	80	105	75	95	Lbs.	1,100	<u>6/</u>	82,500	<u>6/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil .....	20	15	18	13	Lbs.	1,450	<u>6/</u>	26,100	<u>6/</u>
All potatoes .....	63.6	62.2	63.3	61.8	Cwt.	379	<u>6/</u>	23,982	<u>6/</u>
Summer potatoes .....	3.7	3.0	3.6	2.8	Cwt.	360	360	1,296	1,008
Fall potatoes .....	59.9	59.2	59.7	59.0	Cwt.	380	<u>6/</u>	22,686	<u>6/</u>
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	15,000	15,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	14.0	13.0
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	2.3	1.9
<b>United States:</b>									
All Corn <u>1/</u> .....	78,327.0	93,616.0	70,648.0	86,071.0	Bu.	149.1	154.7	10,534,868	13,318,102
All Sorghum <u>1/</u> .....	6,522.0	7,704.0	4,937.0	6,702.0	Bu.	56.2	74.8	277,538	501,457
All Wheat <u>2/</u> .....	57,344.0	60,433.0	46,810.0	51,011.0	Bu.	38.7	40.5	1,812,036	2,066,722
Winter Wheat .....	40,575.0	44,987.0	37,117.0	35,952.0	Bu.	41.7	42.2	1,298,081	1,515,989
Spring Wheat.....	14,899.0	13,297.0	13,878.0	12,947.0	Bu.	33.2	37.0	460,480	479,047
Oats .....	4,168.0	3,760.0	1,566.0	1,505.0	Bu.	59.8	60.9	93,638	91,599
Barley .....	3,452.0	4,020.0	2,951.0	3,508.0	Bu.	61.1	60.4	180,165	211,825
Rye .....	1,396.0	1,376.0	274.0	289.0	Bu.	26.3	27.4	7,193	7,914
Proso Millet.....	580.0	610.0	475.0	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	21.5	<u>4/</u>	10,195	<u>4/</u>
All Hay .....	...	...	60,807.0	61,789.0	Tons	2.33	2.39	141,666	147,964
Alfalfa Hay .....	...	...	21,384.0	21,451.0	Tons	3.35	3.37	71,666	72,347
Other Hay .....	...	...	39,423.0	40,338.0	Tons	1.78	1.87	70,000	75,617
Sugarbeets .....	1,366.2	1,266.0	1,303.6	1,241.4	Tons	26.1	24.5	34,064	30,382
Dry edible beans.....	1,629.8	1,527.3	1,537.6	1,462.5	Cwt.	1,577	1,727	24,247	25,264
Sunflowers, All.....	1,950.0	2,075.0	1,770.0	1,970.0	Lbs.	1,211	1,468	2,143,613	2,891,985
Sunflowers, Oil .....	1,658.0	1,761.0	1,514.0	1,679.0	Lbs.	1,181	<u>4/</u>	1,787,966	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil .....	292.0	314.0	256.0	291.0	Lbs.	1,389	<u>4/</u>	355,647	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes <u>3/</u> .....	1,140.1	1,147.5	1,121.9	1,128.4	Cwt.	393	<u>6/</u>	441,348	<u>6/</u>
Summer potatoes .....	58.0	53.8	53.9	50.3	Cwt.	337	328	18,166	16,504
Fall potatoes .....	993.7	1,009.2	983.0	996.2	Cwt.	406	<u>6/</u>	398,921	<u>6/</u>
Soybeans .....	75,522.0	63,669.0	74,602.0	62,818.0	Bu.	42.7	41.4	3,188,247	2,598,046
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	9,931.7	9,254.7
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	1,010.1	1,026.9
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	842.0	878.1

1/ Planted for all purposes; harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2008.

5/ September 28, 2007. 6/ November 9, 2007.

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acres, 2 percent above the August forecast but 5 percent below last year. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,727 pounds per acre, an increase of 78 pounds from the August forecast and 150 pounds above last year. Planted area is estimated at 1.53 million acres, an increase of 1 percent from the August forecast but 6 percent below 2006.

**Sugarbeet** production is forecast at 30.4 million tons, 1 percent above the September forecast but 11 percent below last year's production of 34.1 million tons. Growers expect to harvest 1.24 million acres, unchanged from September but down 5 percent from last year. The yield is forecast at 24.5 tons per acre, up 0.3 ton from last month but down 1.6 tons from the 2006 record high yield. Yields are at or below last year's level in Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, and North Dakota.

### **TURKEY HATCHERY SEPTEMBER 2007**

Turkey eggs in incubators on October 1, 2007 in the United States totaled 30.2 million, up slightly from October 1, 2006. Eggs in incubators were down 2 percent from the September 1, 2007 total of 30.9 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 12 percent, West North Central up 7 percent, North and South Atlantic up slightly, and South Central and West down 2 percent.

Turkey poults hatched during September 2007 in the United States totaled 24.3 million, up 1 percent from September 2006. Poults hatched were down 10 percent from the August 2007 total of 26.9 million poults. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 8 percent, West North Central up 1 percent, North and South Atlantic up 7 percent, and South Central and West down 5 percent.

### **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>

- Oct. 19 - Cattle on Feed
- Oct. 22 - Chickens and Eggs
- Oct. 22 - Cold Storage
- Oct. 26 - Livestock Slaughter
- Oct. 31 - Agricultural Prices
- Nov. 9 - Crop Production
- Nov. 16 - Cattle On Feed
- Nov. 16 - Milk Production
- Nov. 23 - Livestock Slaughter

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