



# MARYLAND AND DELAWARE AGRI-FACTS

Published Monthly by the Maryland/Delaware Agricultural Statistics Service

AF-12-07

December 11, 2007

## CONTENT

News Release  
Agricultural Prices  
January Release 2008 Highlights

### **'TIS THE SEASON TO BE COUNTED**

#### **U.S. Farmers Give the Gift that Keeps Giving By Participating in 2007 Census**

Annapolis, Maryland – The end of December is typically marked by crowds of people returning holiday gifts that don't fit or won't work, but this year farmers across the country can give themselves a gift that won't be returned and will keep on giving even after the holiday season – a voice for their industry and their community.

By filling out the 2007 Census of Agriculture farmers are investing in the future of rural America. Their responses will provide law makers, government organizations, town planners and individual farm operations with valuable information used to plan for services, facilities and other investments to benefit the industry and local communities.

Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census covers virtually every aspect of U.S. agriculture, providing a complete count of the nation's farms and the people who operate them.

The holiday season is a time of giving and receiving, but perhaps some of the best gifts are food, clothing and shelter provided to us with help from our U.S. farmers. As many of us gather around the dinner table with good food and good friends, these essentials for everyday living often are taken for granted. By participating in the 2007 Census of Agriculture, farmers can ensure the vitality of the agriculture industry by providing a strong and unified voice about their needs and concerns.

The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics across the country, right down to the county level. NASS will mail out Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online.

Participating in the Census of Agriculture is one gift producers can give themselves and their local communities this holiday season. It's a valuable investment into the future and well-being of agriculture and to the local communities here in our states.

For more information about the Census, visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov) or call toll-free (888) 4AG-STAT or (888) 424-7828. The Census is your voice, your future, and your responsibility.

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Commodity <sup>1</sup>	Unit	United States			Parity
		November 2006	October 2007	November 2007	
<i>Dollars</i>					
Wheat, Winter	BU	4.67	7.54	7.50	11.10
Corn	BU	2.88	3.29	3.49	8.24
Barley	BU	2.92	4.50	4.69	7.77
Soybeans	BU	6.08	8.36	9.48	18.20
All Hay, Baled	TON	109.00	133.00	131.00	----
Apples, Fresh	LB	0.361	0.361	0.345	0.646
All Beef Cattle	CWT	84.40	90.60	89.30	218.00
Calves	CWT	119.00	122.00	118.00	313.00
Hogs	CWT	44.90	42.10	38.50	125.00
Broilers	LB	0.400	0.430	0.450	----
Turkeys, Live	LB	0.663	0.615	0.616	1.200
Eggs, Market	DOZ	0.677	0.802	1.180	1.89

1/ Agricultural Prices are published at the end of each month throughout the year for the United States and selected states. Maryland is not in the monthly prices program; however, price information is available for Maryland commodities at the end of each production year. Throughout the year on Friday, the Maryland Field Office of USDA'S National Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Agriculture publishes the Maryland Grain and Livestock report. This report contains current commodity price quotes from local and regional markets throughout Maryland and can be viewed at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/md/rlsetoc.htm#Grain>

## JANUARY RELEASE HIGHLIGHTS

Broiler Hatchery .....	January 3, 9, 16, 23, 30
Annual Crop Production .....	January 11
Weather Crop Summary .....	January 2, 8, 15, 23, 29
Dairy Product Prices .....	January 4, 11, 18, 25
Chicken and Eggs .....	January 22
Annual Vegetables .....	January 25
Agricultural Prices .....	January 31
Cattle.....	February 1

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT BARBARA RATER, MARYLAND DIRECTOR AT  
(410) 841-5740 OR CHRIS CADWALLADER, DELAWARE DIRECTOR AT (302) 698-4537  
E – Mail: [nass-md@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-md@nass.usda.gov)**