

Livestock, Dairy and Poultry

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Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on May 1, 2006. The inventory was nine percent above May 1, 2005 and 11 percent above May 1, 2004. This is the highest May 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.63 million, two percent below 2005 but two percent above 2004. Net placements were 1.54 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 385,000, 600-699 pounds were 270,000, 700-799 pounds were 444,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 530,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.79 million, down slightly from 2005 and five percent below 2004. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 87,000 during April, four percent below 2005 and ten percent below 2004.

CATTLE ON FEED: U.S. Cattle Placed on Feed, by Weight Groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, April 2005, March and April 2006

Month	Less than 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
1,000 head					
April, 2005	340	225	500	595	1,660
March, 2006	380	342	565	550	1,837
April, 2006	385	270	444	530	1,629

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED, 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, MAJOR STATES AND UNITED STATES

State	Number on feed April 1		Placed during April 1		Marketed during April		Other disappearance during April		Number on feed May 1	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
1,000 head										
AZ	326	351	31	27	24	23	3	9	330	346
CA	500	535	64	60	59	60	5	5	500	530
CO	1,020	1,070	120	140	150	140	20	10	970	1,060
ID	240	250	39	31	37	34	2	2	240	245
IA	455	500	55	64	53	66	2	3	455	495
KS	2,340	2,590	375	375	425	410	30	25	2,260	2,530
NE	2,260	2,400	320	320	380	390	10	10	2,190	2,320
NM	113	139	19	18	16	24	2	1	114	132
OK	325	360	52	48	70	66	2	2	305	340
SD	205	210	27	28	31	35	1	3	200	200
TX	2,620	2,940	500	455	480	470	10	15	2,630	2,910
WA	159	152	19	23	30	22	1	1	147	152
Oth. Sts.	310	315	39	40	46	54	3	1	300	300
U.S.	10,873	11,812	1,660	1,629	1,801	1,794	91	87	10,641	11,560



United States
Department
Of Agriculture



National
Agricultural
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CHICKENS AND EGGS

FLORIDA

Table eggs sold in mid-May 2006 averaged 27.0 cents, down 7.0 cents from mid-April. Table egg production in Florida during April was 240 million eggs, down five percent from the previous month.

UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.54 billion during April 2006, up two percent from last year. Production included 6.48 billion table eggs, and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 998 million were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The number of layers during April 2006 averaged 348 million, up one percent from last year. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,164 eggs, up slightly from April 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on May 1, 2006, totaled 347 million, up one percent from last year. The 347 million layers consisted of 289 million layers producing table-type eggs, 55.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.86 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on May 1, 2006, averaged 71.5 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from May 1, 2005.

MID-MONTH TABLE EGG PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA EGG PRODUCERS.

Month	Cents per dozen	
	2005	2006
January	40.0	60.0
February	36.0	36.0
March	33.0	59.0
April	30.0	34.0
May	27.0	27.0
June	25.0	
July	34.0	
August	29.0	
September	50.0	
October	36.0	
November	51.0	
December	60.0	

FLORIDA: Layers on hand first of month, percent molting and molted

	May 2005	Mar 2006	Apr 2006	May 2006
Total layers on hand: Thous.	10,566	11,416	11,428	10,793
Percent of layers:				
Being molted	6.0	10.0	4.0	10.0
Molt completed	23.0	32.0	37.5	35.5

LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION, APRIL 2006, PRODUCTION YEAR-TO-DATE EGG PRODUCTION FOR SELECTED STATES

Selected States	Average layers on hand <i>Thousand</i>	Eggs per 100 layers	Egg production <i>Millions</i>				Layers <i>Percent</i>	
			Total	Table	Hatching	Year to date ¹⁷	Being molted	Molt completed
Alabama	8,917	1,828	163	34	129	835	2.5	4.5
Arkansas	14,538	1,868	272	99	189	1,373	5.0	6.5
California	20,160	2,098	423			2,105	9.0	35.0
Florida	11,111	2,232	248	240	8	1,258	10.0	35.5
Georgia	19,326	2,018	390	219	171	1,972	3.0	10.5
Indiana	24,637	2,232	550	538	12	2,746	6.5	28.0
Iowa	52,425	2,209	1,158			4,584	5.5	34.5
Maine	4,033	2,157	87			452	0.0	0.0
Maryland	2,587	2,242	58	57	1	298	2.5	33.0
Michigan	8,192	2,356	193			958	6.5	17.0
Minnesota	11,113	2,205	245	237	8	1,238	3.5	33.0
Mississippi	6,494	1,971	128	39	89	646	2.0	11.0
Missouri	7,157	2,208	158			762	4.0	20.5
Nebraska	11,773	2,183	257	257	0	1,309	9.5	29.0
New York	4,042	2,301	93			484	6.5	9.0
North Carolina	11,060	1,989	220	83	137	1,086	1.0	9.0
Ohio	28,423	2,213	629			3,219	4.0	22.0
Pennsylvania	23,947	2,313	554	534	20	2,768	4.5	19.5
South Carolina	5,103	2,038	104	85	19	541	6.0	28.0
Texas	18,950	2,206	418			2,080	4.5	22.5
Virginia	3,337	2,038	68	34	34	349	8.0	12.0
Washington	4,898	2,123	104			528	18.0	45.0
Other States	46,924	2,156	517	391	126	2,545	5.0	21.7
United States	348,454	2,164	7,541	6,475	1,066	37,864	5.4	23.7

¹⁷ Production year begins December 1.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

The April hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 4,897,000 was two percent above a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on May 1, at 4,118,000 was two percent above a year ago.

Egg-type hatch during April at 735,000 chicks was eight percent below last year. Egg-type eggs in incubators on May 1 at 703,000, were nine percent above a year ago.

UNITED STATES

Broiler-type chicks hatched during April 2006 totaled 787 million, down one percent from April 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 658 million on May 1, 2006, down one percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.59 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during April 2006, down three percent from April 2005.

Egg-type chicks hatched during April 2006 totaled 34.6 million, down nine percent from April 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 37.0 million on May 1, 2006 down one percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 255,000 during April 2006, down 17 percent from April 2005.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION, UNITED STATES

Item	2005	2006	2006 % of 2005
<i>-- Thousands --</i>			
EGG-TYPE:			
Eggs in incubators: May 1	37,308	36,952	99
Chicks hatched during Apr	38,049	34,613	91
Pullets hatched during Apr for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ^{1/}	308	255	83
	3,154	2,958	94
BROILER-TYPE:			
Eggs in incubators: May 1	665,386	658,351	99
Chicks hatched during Apr	792,173	787,064	99
Pullets hatched during Apr for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ^{2/}	6,800	6,593	97
	63,574	63,776	100

^{1/}2006 includes pullet chicks hatched October 2004 through September 2005.

^{2/}2006 includes pullet chicks hatched January 2005 through September 2005.

MILK PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 211 million pounds of milk during April 2006, three percent below the previous April. Production per cow in April of 1,590 pounds was one percent above April of last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in April totaled 133,000, four percent below last year.

UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 23 major States during April totaled 14.2 billion pounds, up 3.7 percent from April 2005. March revised production, at 14.6 billion pounds, was up 5.6 percent from March 2005. The March revision represented an increase of 25 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,727 pounds for April, 37 pounds above April 2005.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.24 million head, 124,000 head more than April 2005, and 13,000 head more than March 2006.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND U.S.

Month and year	Milk Cows	Monthly milk production	
		Per cow	Monthly Total
	Thous.	Lbs.	Mil. Lbs.
FLORIDA:			
April 2005	138	1,570	217
March 2006	133	1,640	218
April 2006	133	1,590	211
23 MAJOR STATES:			
April 2005	8,117	1,690	13,717
March 2006	8,228	1,775	14,604
April 2006	8,241	1,727	14,230
UNITED STATES:			
April 2005	9,030	1,666	15,047
March 2006	9,111	1,753	15,973
April 2006	9,125	1,702	15,530

MILK PRODUCTION BY QUARTERS, UNITED STATES

Month	Milk cows ^{1/}		Milk per cow ^{2/}		Milk Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Thousand		Pounds		Mil. Lbs.	
Jan-Mar	9,002	9,094	4,816	5,008	43,350	45,546
Apr-Jun	9,041		5,069		45,831	
Jul-Sep	9,060		4,871		44,134	
Oct-Dec	9,060		4,821		43,674	
Annual						
Total	9,041		19,576		176,989	

^{1/}Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

^{2/}Excludes milk fed to calves.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat output in Florida for April 2006 was 4.9 million pounds, nine percent above the same month last year. Commercial production of red meat in the United States for April at 3.61 billion pounds, was slightly below 2005.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER AND RED MEAT PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND UNITED STATES

Source and kind	April 2005	March 2006	April 2006	Year to date 2005	Year to date 2006
FLORIDA					
HOGS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	8	8	7	28	26
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	1,091	1,053	1,021	4,019	3,617
SHEEP AND LAMBS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.9
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	15	13	32	52	59
Red meat production (million pounds)	4.5	5.3	4.9	17.6	19.7
UNITED STATES					
CATTLE:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	2,560	2,852	2,607	10,156	10,448
Total liveweight (million pounds)	3,118	3,630	3,249	12,617	13,274
Average liveweight (pounds)	1,218	1,273	1,246	1,242	1,271
Beef production (million pounds)	1,888	2,209	1,973	7,612	8,051
CALVES:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	62	59	48	260	216
Total liveweight (million pounds)	22	22	18	86	79
Average liveweight (pounds)	353	370	379	334	369
Veal production (million pounds)	13	13	11	51	48
HOGS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	8,445	9,234	7,956	33,983	34,160
Total liveweight (million pounds)	2,286	2,511	2,168	9,188	9,305
Average liveweight (pounds)	271	272	272	270	272
Pork production (million pounds)	1,703	1,871	1,613	6,841	6,935
SHEEP AND LAMBS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	221	250	24	925	925
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	31	36	34	129	131
LAMB AND MUTTON:					
	16	18	17	65	66
Red meat production (million pounds)	3,620	4,112	3,614	14,570	15,100