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National Agricultural Statistics Service



LIVESTOCK, DAIRY AND POULTRY

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

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TOPICS IN THIS REPORT

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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 11.7 million head on April 1, 2008. The inventory was slightly above April 1, 2007 but one percent below April 1, 2006. This is the second highest April 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.35 million steers and steer calves, down one percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.28 million head, up three percent from 2007.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.74 million, 11 percent below 2007 and five percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.67 million head. This is the second lowest placements for the month of March since the series began in 1996. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 335,000, 600-699 pounds were 330,000, 700-799 pounds were 561,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 510,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.84 million, slightly below 2007 and six percent below 2006. Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during March, 12 percent below 2007 and 30 percent below 2006.

CATTLE ON FEED: U.S. Cattle Placed on Feed, by Weight Groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, March 2007, February and March 2008

Month and Year		Less than 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
<i>1,000 head</i>						
March	2007	345	375	640	600	1,960
February	2008	330	385	553	475	1,723
March	2008	335	330	561	510	1,736

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

State	Number on feed March 1		Placed during March 1		Marketed during March		Other disappearance during March		Number on feed April 1	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
<i>1,000 head</i>										
AZ	329	377	46	30	33	31	2	2	340	374
CA	530	545	68	55	65	65	3	5	530	530
CO	1,010	1,050	160	135	140	160	10	5	1,020	1,020
ID	250	235	38	37	42	39	1	3	245	230
IA	530	560	72	59	70	68	2	1	530	550
KS	2,420	2,410	510	440	430	415	20	15	2,480	2,420
NE	2,510	2,490	350	360	370	390	10	10	2,480	2,450
NM	130	160	19	10	17	11	1	1	131	158
OK	350	350	68	50	67	58	1	2	350	340
SD	230	230	40	32	37	37	3	5	230	225
TX	2,790	2,920	520	450	495	480	15	10	2,800	2,880
WA	170	151	26	30	32	28	1	1	163	152
Oth. Sts.	350	370	43	48	45	60	3	3	345	355
U.S.	11,599	11,853	1,960	1,736	1,843	1,842	72	63	11,644	11,684

*Revised

CHICKENS AND EGGS

FLORIDA

Table egg production in Florida during March was 234 million eggs, four percent above the previous month. Total egg production was 243 million eggs compared to 235 million eggs the previous month.

UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.68 billion during March 2008, down two percent from last year. Production included 6.53 billion table eggs, and 1.15 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.08 billion were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2008 averaged 342 million, down two percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,244 eggs, up slightly from March 2007.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2008, totaled 342 million, down two percent from last year. The 342 million layers consisted of 282 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.84 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2008, averaged 72.4 eggs per 100 layers, down one percent from April 1, 2007.

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

Month	Cents per dozen	
	2007	2008
January	75.0	134.0
February	68.0	130.0
March	70.0	135.0
April	55.0	
May	65.0	
June	49.0	
July	79.0	
August	73.0	
September	97.0	
October	85.0	
November	100.0	
December	137.0	

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

	Apr 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008
Total layers on hand: Thous.	11,416	10,844	10,697	10,485
Percent of layers: Being molted	10.0	8.0	3.0	7.5
Molt completed	32.0	31.5	34.5	32.5

LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION, MARCH 2008, PRODUCTION YEAR-TO-DATE, EGG PRODUCTION FOR SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES

Selected States	Average layers on hand	Eggs per 100 layers	Egg production				Layers	
			Total	Table	Hatching	Year to date ^{1/}	Being molted	Molt Completed
	<i>Thousand</i>		<i>Millions</i>				<i>Percent</i>	
Alabama	9,545	1,928	184	30	154	726	0.5	5.0
Arkansas	13,936	1,952	272	83	189	1,078	1.5	8.0
California	19,060	2,193	418			1,635	3.0	32.0
Florida	10,697	2,272	243	234	9	976	7.5	32.5
Georgia	19,337	2,100	406	217	189	1,603	1.5	12.0
Indiana	24,415	2,306	563	551	12	2,188	2.0	33.0
Iowa	53,500	2,236	1,196	1,179	17	4,747	2.5	32.0
Maine	4,204	2,307	97			353	0.0	0.0
Maryland	2,555	2,192	56	55	1	230	3.5	16.5
Michigan	9,239	2,457	227			877	1.0	19.5
Minnesota	10,108	2,285	231	223	8	935	3.0	28.5
Mississippi	6,267	2,026	127	39	88	504	2.0	9.0
Missouri	6,903	2,361	163			627	0.0	18.0
Nebraska	9,766	2,386	233	233	0	943	1.5	7.0
New York	4,007	2,446	98			384	1.0	6.0
North Carolina	12,678	2,106	267	121	146	1,045	0.5	8.0
Ohio	26,080	2,350	613			2,399	1.5	15.0
Pennsylvania	21,766	2,435	530	511	19	2,095	2.5	11.5
South Carolina	4,598	2,088	96	74	22	378	6.5	25.5
Texas	19,118	2,249	430			1,687	3.5	23.5
Virginia	3,169	1,988	63	29	34	248	6.0	22.5
Washington	5,563	2,355	131			496	5.5	33.5
Other States	45,529	2,194	503	372	131	2,565	4.5	22.3
United States	342,040	2,244	7,675	6,526	1,149	30,247	2.5	21.4

^{1/} Production year begins February 1.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

The March hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 5,225,000, was four percent above a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 4,246,000, was three percent above a year ago.

UNITED STATES

Broiler-type chicks hatched during March 2008 totaled 833 million, up three percent from March 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 674 million on April 1, 2008, up one percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.09 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2008, down one percent from March 2007.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2008 totaled 39.5 million, up three percent from March 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 37.6 million on April 1, 2008, down two percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 245 thousand during March 2008, down 22 percent from March 2007.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION, UNITED STATES

Item	2007	2008	2008 % of 2007
	-- Thousands --		
EGG-TYPE			
Eggs in incubators: Apr 1	38,226	37,624	98
Chicks hatched during Mar	38,561	39,547	103
Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	316	245	78
7-18 months earlier ^{1/}	2,970	2,865	96
BROILER-TYPE			
Eggs in incubators: Apr 1	668,290	673,687	101
Chicks hatched during Mar	809,346	832,899	103
Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	7,135	7,090	99
7-15 months earlier ^{2/}	64,389	65,397	102

^{1/}2008 includes pullet chicks hatched Sep 2006 through Aug 2007.

^{2/}2008 includes pullet chicks hatched Dec 2006 through Aug 2007.

MILK PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 203 million pounds of milk during March 2008, down three percent from the previous March. Production per cow in March of 1,650 pounds was five percent above last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in March totaled 123,000, five percent below last year.

UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 23 major States during March totaled 15.1 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from March 2007. February revised production at 13.9 billion pounds, was up 6.2 percent from February 2007. The February revision represented an increase of 23 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,795 pounds for March, 12 pounds above March 2007.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.44 million head, 141,000 head more than March 2007, and 9,000 head more than February 2008.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND U.S.

Month and year	Milk cows	Monthly milk production	
		Per cow	Monthly Total
	<i>Thous.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Mil. Lbs.</i>
FLORIDA			
March 2007	130	1,610	209
February 2008	124	1,485	184
March 2008	123	1,650	203
23 MAJOR STATES			
March 2007	8,295	1,783	14,787
February 2008	8,427	1,654	13,942
March 2008	8,436	1,795	15,144
UNITED STATES			
March 2007	9,142	1,765	16,132
February 2008	9,252	1,637	15,145
March 2008	9,259	1,778	16,462

MILK PRODUCTION BY QUARTERS, UNITED STATES

Month	Milk cows ^{1/}		Milk per cow ^{2/}		Milk Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>Thousand</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Mil. Lbs.</i>	
Jan-Mar	9,138	9,250	5,040	5,041	46,058	47,552
Apr-Jun	9,138		5,189		47,419	
Jul-Sep	9,159		5,034		46,110	
Oct-Dec	9,198		5,003		46,015	
Annual Total	9,158		20,267		185,602	

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

^{2/} Excludes milk fed to calves.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production in Florida for March 2008 was 7.6 million pounds, nine percent above the same month last year. Commercial production of red meat in the United States for March, at 4.09 billion pounds was two percent above 2007.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER AND RED MEAT PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND UNITED STATES

Source and kind	March 2007	February 2008	March 2008	Year to date 2007	Year to date 2008
FLORIDA					
HOGS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	7	8	7	21	23
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	1,076	1,009	1,041	3,195	3,153
SHEEP AND LAMBS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.4
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	12	6	13	26	26
Red meat production (million pounds)	7.0	6.7	7.6	19.9	22.5
UNITED STATES					
CATTLE:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	2,793	2,643	2,731	8,153	8,273
Total liveweight (million pounds)	3,505	3,383	3,473	10,358	10,584
Average liveweight (pounds)	1,260	1,285	1,276	1,274	1,284
Beef production (million pounds)	2,118	2,039	2,103	6,236	6,374
CALVES:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	71	69	71	212	211
Total liveweight (million pounds)	23	19	19	67	57
Average liveweight (pounds)	321	272	273	318	271
Veal production (million pounds)	14	11	11	40	33
HOGS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	9,202	9,378	9,662	26,685	29,597
Total liveweight (million pounds)	2,485	2,535	2,617	7,204	8,027
Average liveweight (pounds)	270	271	271	270	272
Pork production (million pounds)	1,861	1,903	1,963	5,395	6,024
SHEEP AND LAMBS:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	280	212	231	700	656
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	39	30	32	98	92
Lamb and Mutton	20	15	16	49	46
Red meat production (million pounds)	4,012	3,968	4,093	11,720	12,477