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NUMBER OF HIRED EASTERN CORNBELT WORKERS DECREASES 2 PERCENT

The following information is the result of the Farm Labor Survey that was conducted in July 2003. Workers on farms in the Eastern Cornbelt States (Indiana, Illinois, Ohio) during the week of July 6-12, 2003 totaled 53,000. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.45.

There were 1,273,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 6-12, 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago. There were 953,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 320,000 workers.

Farm operators nationwide paid their hired workers an average wage of \$8.88 per hour during the July 2003 reference week, up 31 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.18 per hour, up 28 cents from last July. Livestock workers earned \$8.62 per hour compared with \$8.38 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.28 was up 26 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 40.0 hours for hired workers during the survey week unchanged from a year ago.

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HIRED WORKERS: NUMBER AND HOURS WORKED, AND WAGE RATES EASTERN CORNBELT AND UNITED STATES, JULY 2002-2003 ^{1/} _{2/}

Item	Eastern Cornbelt		United States	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Thousands			
Hired Workers on Farms	54	53	1,006	953
Expected to be Employed:				
150 Days or More	33	33	723	678
149 Days or Less	21	20	283	275
	Hours			
Hours Worked Per Week	31.7	33.2	40.0	40.0
	Dollars Per Hour			
Type of Hired Worker				
Field	8.08	8.44	7.90	8.18
Livestock	9.07	9.71	8.38	8.62
Field & Livestock	8.36	8.78	8.02	8.28
Wage Rates for All Hired Workers	9.13	9.45	8.57	8.88

^{1/} Reference weeks were July 6-12 in 2003 and July 7-13 in 2002. Excludes Agricultural Service Workers. Excludes Alaska.

^{2/} Eastern Cornbelt region consists of Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio.

JULY EGG PRODUCTION UP 1 PERCENT

Indiana's laying flocks produced 504 million eggs during July 2003, 1 percent above a year ago. The average number of layers on hand at 22.3 million, was 1 percent below last month but slightly above last year. The rate of lay at 2,262 eggs per 100 layers was slightly above last year. Indiana hatcheries produced 4.93 million egg-type chicks during July, down 4 percent from a year ago. Accumulated hatchery production for January-July 2003 was 34.4 million, down 2 percent from the same period of 2002.

billion table eggs and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2003 averaged 332 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,214 eggs, up 1 percent from July 2002. Egg-type chicks hatched during July totaled 35.6 million, up slightly from July 2002. Eggs in incubators totaled 30.7 million on August 1, 2003, down 6 percent from a year ago.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.34 billion during July 2003, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.26



EGG PRODUCTION, LAYERS, AND HATCHING NUMBERS INDIANA AND U.S., JULY 2002-2003

Item	Indiana			United States		
	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
Average Layers on Hand (thousands)	22,232	22,281	100	335,498	331,702	99
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,254	2,262	100	2,190	2,214	101
Total Eggs Produced (millions)	501	504	101	7,347	7,343	100
Table Eggs (millions)	490	493	101	6,243	6,257	100
Hatching Eggs (millions)	11	11	100	1,104	1,085	98
Egg-Type Chicks Hatched (thousands)	5,149	4,932	96	35,573	35,593	100
Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched (thousands)	1/	1/	1/	781,707	777,341	99

1/ Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

INDIANA SEVENTH IN TURKEYS RAISED

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2003 is 269 million, down 1 percent from the number raised during 2002.

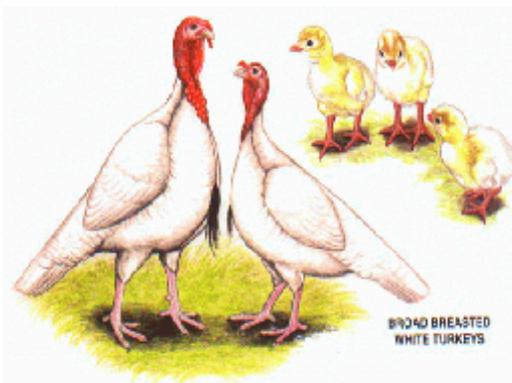
Minnesota, at 45.5 million birds, is expected to raise the largest number of any state, and shows a 3 percent increase from last year. North Carolina ranks second with 45.0 million birds, down 1 percent from 2002. Missouri is

in third place by producing 27.5 million birds, 8 percent more than a year ago. Arkansas growers expect to produce 24.0 million birds in 2003, down 19 percent from the previous year. Virginia, at 23.0 million birds is up 15 percent from 2002. California expects to raise 16.5 million turkeys, 7 percent less than a year earlier. These states are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2003.

TURKEYS: NUMBER RAISED SELECTED STATES & UNITED STATES

State	Total All Breeds		
	2002 1/	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	Thousand Birds		
Arkansas	29,500	24,000	81
California	17,700	16,500	93
Indiana	13,000	12,800	98
Minnesota	44,000	45,500	103
Missouri	25,500	27,500	108
North Carolina	45,500	45,000	99
Ohio	5,400	5,300	98
Virginia	20,000	23,000	115
United States	272,429	269,200	99

1/ Revised.



PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 2 POINTS

The August 2003 Index of Prices Received by Indiana Farmers at 94 (1991=100) was up 2 points from July's revised level and up 5 points from August 2002. The mid-month price for corn, soybeans, and all hogs decreased from last month. The mid-August price for winter wheat, all milk, and eggs increased from July.

for soybeans, winter wheat, all hogs, all milk, and eggs increased from the August 2002 level.

The Livestock Price Index of 89 was up 6 points from last month's revised index and 24 points above August 2002. The Crop Price Index of 97 was down 1 point from the revised index a month ago and 7 points below August last year.

Commodities for which the mid-month price decreased from the previous year include corn. The mid-month price

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS -- INDIANA AND UNITED STATES AUGUST 2003 WITH COMPARISONS 1/

Commodity	Unit	Indiana			United States		
		August 2002	July 2003	August 15 2003	August 2002	July 2003	August 15 2003
		<u>Dollars</u>			<u>Dollars</u>		
Corn	Bu.	2.58	2.28	2.18	2.38	2.17	2.13
Soybeans	Bu.	5.67	5.87	5.74	5.53	5.83	5.56
Winter Wheat	Bu.	3.44	3.10	3.51	3.63	2.89	3.39
Oats	Bu.	7/	7/	7/	1.67	1.47	1.42
All Hay 2/	Ton	6/	6/	6/	92.40	89.00	85.30
Alfalfa Hay 2/	Ton	6/	6/	6/	101.00	92.70	91.00
Other Hay 2/	Ton	6/	6/	6/	71.30	77.80	69.10
Apples 2/	Lb.	6/	6/	6/	.245	.200	.383
All Hogs	Cwt.	29.80	43.00	41.60	31.90	42.80	41.10
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	30.70	43.60	42.10	32.60	43.20	41.60
Sows	Cwt.	21.50	37.30	36.90	19.00	33.40	33.00
All Beef Cattle	Cwt.	6/	6/	6/	64.40	75.80	78.50
Milk Cows 3/	Head	3/	1250.00	3/	3/	1310.00	3/
All Milk	Cwt.	11.60	11.50	12.70	11.30	12.00	13.00
Fluid Milk	Cwt.	11.70	11.50	4/	11.30	12.00	13.00
Manufactured	Cwt.	9.50	11.30	4/	9.90	11.50	12.60
Eggs 5/	Doz.	.420	.500	.700	.436	.524	.669
Turkeys 2/	Lb.	6/	6/	6/	.382	.331	.322

1/ Entire month price is a revision of the previous published mid-month price for all items except when footnoted otherwise. 2/ Mid-month Price. 3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacements only. Prices published in January, April, July, and October. 4/ Only Whole-month Price published. 5/ Mid-month price for Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. 6/ Monthly estimates discontinued. 7/ Not Published.

COLD STORAGE

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2003 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, frozen eggs, total turkey, and total juice.

Total pounds of turkey in freezers increased 3 percent from last month and were 5 percent above last year.

Butter stocks were down 6 percent from June 2003 but 12 percent above a year ago.

Public cooler occupancy on July 31, 2003, was at 41 percent of capacity, down 1 point from last year. Public freezer occupancy, was at 52 percent, down 1 point from last year.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were 3 percent below June 30, 2003 and 10 percent below July 2002. Frozen pork stocks were 5 percent below last month and 8 percent below last year. Stocks of pork bellies were 26 percent below last month but 8 percent above July 2002 stocks.

Total frozen poultry supplies on July 31, 2003 were up 1 percent from last month but down 12 percent from last year's level. Total stocks of chicken were down 1 percent from last month and down 26 percent from last year's level.



INDIANA'S RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP 3 PERCENT

Indiana's commercial red meat production during July 2003 totaled 110.4 million pounds, up 3 percent from a year earlier. The total live weight of the 3,600 cattle slaughtered during July was 3.8 million pounds. The 900 calves slaughtered during July 2003 totaled 117,000 pounds. Total live weight of the 559,400 hogs killed totaled 143.0 million pounds. The 3,400 sheep slaughtered during July 2003 totaled 358,000 pounds.

Nationally, commercial red meat production during July 2003 totaled 4.05 billion pounds, a new monthly high and up 1 percent from the 4.02 billion pounds produced in July 2002. Beef production, at 2.44 billion pounds was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.29

million head, up 3 percent from 2002. The average live weight was down 23 pounds from the previous year, at 1,225 pounds. Veal production totaled 14.8 million pounds, 12 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 84,900 head, down 11 percent from July 2002. The average live weight was 3 pounds below last year, at 288 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.58 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.10 million head, slightly above July 2002. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 262 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.7 million pounds, was down 4 percent from July 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 239,200 head, 8 percent below last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, up 5 pounds from July a year ago.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER 1/

Species	Indiana				United States			
	July		Jan - Jul		July		Jan - Jul	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
Cattle								
Number of Head (000)	3.0	3.6	21.6	22.6	3,187.7	3,285.3	20,755.5	21,100.1
Average Live Weight (Lbs)	1,053	1,057	1,061	1,053	1,248	1,225	1,241	1,231
Total Live Weight (000 Lbs)	3,168	3,819	22,916	23,799	3,978,539	4,024,014	25,762,663	25,959,856
Calves								
Number of Head (000)	2.4	0.9	22.5	4.9	95.8	84.9	570.4	576.4
Average Live Weight (Lbs)	204	125	316	126	291	288	319	322
Total Live Weight (000 Lbs)	484	117	7,119	617	27,862	24,486	181,890	185,679
Hogs								
Number of Head (000)	554.3	559.4	3,972.7	3,967.9	8,068.3	8,101.9	56,496.1	56,612.1
Average Live Weight (Lbs)	251	256	260	261	260	262	266	266
Total Live Weight (000 Lbs)	139,388	143,02	1,032,53	1,033,85	2,101,546	2,125,365	15,019,978	15,086,554
Sheep								
Number of Head (000)	3.1	3.4	20.2	19.6	259.0	239.2	1,894.5	1,713.0
Average Live Weight (Lbs)	109	105	106	108	126	131	135	134
Total Live Weight (000 Lbs)	341	358	2,144	2,118	32,712	31,236	256,434	228,988

1/ Commercial red meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected plants and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

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