



Vol. 44 No. 4



# Indiana Agriculture Report

April 2024

### **Prospective Planting Report**

Indiana farmers intend to plant less corn and more soybeans compared to last year. Acres intended for corn in Indiana are 5.10 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. Indiana producers intended to plant 5.75 million acres of soybeans, up 5 percent from last year. The winter wheat

acreage seeded last fall for harvest in 2024 is estimated at 350,000 acres, down 14 percent from the crop seeded in 2022. Hay acres intended for dry hay harvest, at 550,000 acres, is up 4 percent from last year.

Acres by Crop - Indiana and United States: 2022 - 2024

| Commodity            | Indiana |       |       | United States |        |        |
|----------------------|---------|-------|-------|---------------|--------|--------|
|                      | 2022    | 2023  | 2024  | 2022          | 2023   | 2024   |
| Corn, all            |         |       |       |               |        |        |
| Planted              | 5,250   | 5,450 | 5,100 | 88,162        | 94,641 | 90,036 |
| Hay, all             |         |       |       |               |        |        |
| Harvested1,000 acres | 520     | 530   | 550   | 48,711        | 52,821 | 51,562 |
| Soybeans             |         |       |       |               |        |        |
| Planted1,000 acres   | 5,850   | 5,500 | 5,750 | 87,450        | 83,600 | 86,510 |
| Winter Wheat         |         |       |       |               |        |        |
| Planted              | 290     | 405   | 350   | 33,281        | 36,699 | 34,135 |

#### **March 1 Grain Stocks**

On March 1, 2024, Indiana corn stocks totaled 610 million bushels, 4 percent above a year earlier. About 65 percent of the corn was stored on farms. The second quarter disappearance was 291 million bushels, compared with 255 million bushels a year earlier. Soybean stocks on March 1, 2024, were 149 million bushels. That was 1 percent higher than stocks a year earlier. Farm stocks of soybeans were 85.0 million bushels.

The second quarter indicated disappearance was 98.6 million bushels, compared with 132 million bushels the same period a year ago. Wheat stocks on March 1, 2024, were 19.3 million bushels, 38 percent above a year ago. Third quarter indicated disappearance was 9.32 million bushels, compared with 4.73 million bushels last year. About 98 percent of wheat stocks were in commercial storage.

### **March Hogs and Pigs**

Indiana's total hog and pig inventory on March 1 was estimated at 4.40 million head, unchanged from a year ago. Breeding hog inventory, at 250,000 head, was unchanged from last March. Market hog inventory, at 4.15 million head, was unchanged from last year. The average pigs saved per litter for the December-February 2024 quarter was 11.30, compared to 11.25 last year.

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2024, was 74.6 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2023, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2023. Breeding inventory, at 6.02 million head, was down 2 percent from last year, but up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 68.6 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2023-February 2024 pig crop, at 33.1 million head, was up 2 percent from last year. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.88 million head, down 3 percent from previous year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 11.53 for the December 2023-February 2024 period, compared to 11.02 last year.

United States hog producers intend to have 2.92 million sows farrow during the March-May 2024 quarter, down 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period one year earlier, and down 2 percent from the same period two years earlier. Intended farrowings for June-August 2024, at 2.99 million sows, are down 2 percent from the same period one year earlier, and down 3 percent from the same period two years earlier.

### **Chickens and Eggs**

All layers in Indiana totaled 35.6 million during February, down 5 percent from a year ago. Egg production totaled 817 million eggs, down 2 percent from last year. The rate of lay during February was 2,292 eggs per 100 layers. All layers

in the U.S. totaled 376.6 million during February, down 1 percent from a year ago. There were 20.2 million turkey poults hatched in the U.S. in February, down 7 percent from the previous year.

Egg and Hatchery Production - Indiana and United States: February 2023 and 2024

| Item                                      | 2023    | 2024    | Percent<br>Change |
|---|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Indiana                                   |         |         |                   |
| All layers thousand                       |         | 35,644  | -5                |
| Eggs per hundred layersnumber             | 2,219   | 2,292   | 3                 |
| Eggs produced million                     | 832     | 817     | -2                |
| U.S.                                      |         |         |                   |
| All Layersthousand                        | 378,859 | 376,570 | -1                |
| Eggs per hundred layersnumber             | 2,167   | 2,288   | 6                 |
| Eggs produced million                     | 8,210   | 8,616   | 5                 |
| Turkey Eggs in incubators, Mar 1 thousand | 26,757  | 25,043  | -6                |
| Turkey Poults hatched, Febthousand        | 21,700  | 20,175  | -7                |

### **Honey Production**

Indiana honey production for 2023 totaled 477 thousand pounds, down 16 percent from 2022. This estimate included honey from producers with 5 or more colonies. Yields from Indiana's 9,000 honey producing colonies averaged 53 pounds in 2023, down 10 pounds from the previous year. Indiana honey price averaged \$4.34 per pound, down 40 cents per pound from last year. Value of production totaled \$2.07 million, down 23 percent from 2022. Honey stocks totaled 329 thousand pounds, up 26 percent from 2022.

Nationally, honey production in 2023 totaled 139 million pounds, up 11 percent from 2022. There were 2.51 million colonies producing honey in 2023, down 6 percent from 2022. Yield per colony averaged 55.2 pounds, up 17 percent from 2022. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per

colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 44.0 million pounds on December 15, 2023, up 90 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

United States honey prices decreased 16 percent during 2023 to \$2.52 per pound, compared to \$3.01 per pound in 2022. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2022 crop reflect honey sold in 2022 and 2023. Some 2022 crop honey was sold in 2023, which caused some revisions to the 2022 crop prices.

# **February Milk Production**

Dairy herds in Indiana produced 355 million pounds of milk during February, up 1.7 percent from a year ago. Production per cow in Indiana averaged 1,870 pounds for February, 25 pounds above February 2023. The dairy herd

was estimated at 190,000 head for February, up 1,000 head from a year earlier. The average price of milk sold in February by Indiana dairy producers was \$21.60 per cwt., \$1.10 less than the price in February 2023.

#### Milk Cows, Production, and Price - Indiana: February 2023 and 2024

| Item                     | 2023  | 2024  |  |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|--|
| Cows                     | 189   | 190   |  |
| Milk per cow             | 1,845 | 1,870 |  |
| Production mil lbs       | 349   | 355   |  |
| Milk price, alldol/cwt   | 22.70 | 21.60 |  |
| Fat testpct              | 4.13  | 4.20  |  |
| Protein <sup>1</sup> pct | 3.27  | 3.28  |  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FMO 33

### **February Agricultural Prices**

Prices received by Indiana farmers for the full month of February 2024 are listed in the table below. Some Indiana highlights were: February corn, at \$4.57 per bushel, decreased \$0.17 from January and decreased \$2.12 from last year; February soybeans, at \$12.40 per bushel, decreased \$0.80 from last month and decreased \$2.70 from last year; February wheat, at \$5.84 per bushel, decreased \$0.86 from January and decreased \$1.89 from last year; February milk, at \$21.60 per cwt., was unchanged from last month and decreased \$1.10 from last year.

Nationally, the February Prices Received Index 2011 Base (Agricultural Production), at 120.0, increased 7.1 percent from

January but decreased 5.4 percent from February 2023. At 100.3, the Crop Production Index was up 2.1 percent from last month but down 17 percent from the previous year. The Livestock Production Index, at 141.3, increased 3.5 percent from January, and 6.0 percent from February last year. Producers received higher prices during February for market eggs, cattle, lettuce, and hogs but lower prices for corn, soybeans, broilers, and wheat. In addition to prices, the volume change of commodities marketed also influences the indexes. In February, there was increased monthly movement for cattle, milk, broilers, and market eggs and decreased marketing of soybeans, corn, wheat, and tobacco.

Prices Received by Farmers<sup>1</sup>-Indiana and United States: February 2024 with Comparisons

|  |             | Indiana               |                       | United States         |                       |                       |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Commodity  | Feb<br>2023 | Jan<br>2024           | Feb<br>2024           | Feb<br>2023           | Jan<br>2024           | Feb<br>2024           |
| Corn dollars/bu Soybeans dollars/bu Wheat, winter dollars/bu | 15.10       | 6.50<br>14.40<br>7.90 | 4.57<br>12.40<br>5.84 | 6.80<br>15.10<br>8.37 | 6.63<br>14.50<br>8.33 | 4.36<br>11.90<br>5.80 |
| Milk, alldollars/cwt   | 22.70       | 23.90                 | 21.60                 | 21.60                 | 23.10                 | 20.60                 |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Entire month weighted average price.

# Thank You to our Data Providers

The USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region, Indiana Field Office and enumerator staff are pleased to provide you and the Indiana agricultural industry with current, reliable information as summarized in the following articles. This service is possible because you and other respondents provided us with timely survey responses. Thank you!