



Agri-News



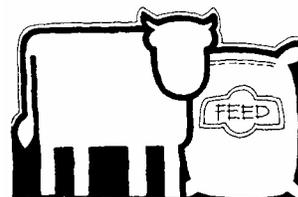
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HIGHLIGHTS

November 1 Cattle on Feed
October Farm Labor
October Layers and Egg Production
October Livestock Slaughter
October Milk Production



November 1 Cattle on Feed

Iowa: There were 850,000 cattle on feed for the slaughter market in all feedlots in Iowa on November 1, up 11 percent from October 1, 2004 but unchanged from November 1, 2003. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head had 430,000 head on feed, up 15 percent from last month and an increase of 23 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head had 420,000 head on feed, up 8 percent from last month, but down 16 percent from last year.

Placements during October totaled 225,000 head, up 83 percent from last month, but down 2 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head placed 125,000 head, an increase of 79 percent from last month and up 11 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head placed 100,000 head, up 89 percent from last month, but down 14 percent from last year.

Marketings for October were 136,000 head, down 12 percent from last month and down 15 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head marketed 68,000 head, down 1 percent from last month and down 6 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head also marketed

68,000 head, down 20 percent from last month and down 23 percent from last year. Other disappearance totaled 4,000 head.

United States: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on November 1, 2004. The inventory was 3 percent above November 1, 2003 and 5 percent above November 1, 2002.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.70 million, 3 percent below 2003 but 13 percent above 2002. This is the second lowest placements for the month of October since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 2.64 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 912,000; 600-699 pounds were 764,000; 700-799 pounds were 529,000; and 800 pounds and greater were 496,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.80 million, 3 percent below 2003 and 9 percent below 2002.

Other disappearance totaled 66,000 during October, 35 percent below 2003 and 21 percent below 2002.

All Cattle on Feed, Iowa

	Lots 1,000+ Head	Lots Less than 1,000 Head	All Lots
	----- Thousand head -----		
Cattle on Feed, October 1, 2004	375	390	765
October Placements	125	100	225
October Marketings	68	68	136
October Other Disappearance	2	2	4
Cattle on Feed, November 1, 2004	430	420	850

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements and Marketings by Month, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots¹

State	Cattle on feed November 1			Placements during October			Marketings During October			October disappearance other than slaughter ²		
	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Arizona	278	321	115	26	48	185	22	21	95	1	4	400
California	495	525	106	68	70	103	54	59	109	4	6	150
Colorado	1,050	1,090	104	270	260	96	160	185	116	10	5	50
Idaho	295	305	103	88	78	89	60	47	78	3	1	33
Iowa	350	430	123	113	125	111	72	68	94	1	2	200
Kansas	2,430	2,400	99	570	570	100	410	375	91	30	15	50
Nebraska	2,140	2,210	103	640	600	94	320	325	102	10	5	50
New Mexico	118	134	114	19	29	153	20	29	145	4	2	50
Oklahoma	350	360	103	78	87	112	74	64	86	4	3	75
S. Dakota	177	169	95	68	65	96	34	38	112	2	1	50
Texas	2,840	2,880	101	680	650	96	530	520	98	30	20	67
Washington	200	180	90	51	43	84	45	37	82	1	1	100
Other States	320	330	103	110	76	69	54	30	56	1	1	100
U.S.	11,043	11,334	103	2,781	2,701	97	1,855	1,798	97	101	66	65

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ² Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, U.S.¹ and Corn Belt II² October 10-16, 2004, with Comparisons

Farm Employment	October 12-18, 2003		July 11-17, 2004		October 10-16, 2004	
	Corn Belt II	U.S.	Corn Belt II	U.S.	Corn Belt II	U.S.
----- Thousands -----						
Hired Workers						
Expected to be Employed	26	891	24	*961	22	851
150 Days or More	16	626	15	637	16	605
149 Days or Less	10	265	9	*324	6	246
Agricultural Services						
Workers Working on Farms	NA	306	NA	*343	NA	322
Hired Farm & Service Workers	NA	1,197	NA	*1,304	NA	1,173
----- Hours per Week -----						
Hours Worked						
Hired	42.6	40.2	38.3	*39.2	38.4	40.5
----- Dollars per Hour -----						
Wage Rates for						
All Hired Workers ^{3,4}	9.30	9.05	8.70	*9.04	9.72	9.30
Type of Worker						
Field & Livestock Combined	8.87	8.47	8.35	*8.43	9.16	8.67
Field	8.62	8.42	8.08	*8.34	9.00	8.60
Livestock	9.83	8.64	8.61	*8.74	9.38	8.91

¹ Excludes Alaska. ² Consists of Iowa and Missouri. ³ Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates. ⁴ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers. * Revised.

October Layers and Egg Production

Iowa: Egg production in Iowa for October 2004 was 1,044 million eggs, up 10 percent from the same period a year ago. The total number of layers on hand during October 2004 was 46.2 million, up 15 percent from 40.1 million layers in October 2003. Eggs per 100 layers for the month of October was 2,260, down from 2,369 eggs the previous year.

included 6.56 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 62 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during October 2004 averaged 344 million, up 3 percent from a year earlier. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,221 eggs, up slightly from October 2003.

United States: U.S. egg production totaled 7.64 billion during October 2004, up 3 percent from last year. Production

All Layers and Egg Production, October 2003 and 2004¹

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All layers on hand ²		Eggs per 100 layers ²		Egg production by type					
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Total production		Table eggs ³		Hatching eggs ³	
	-----Thousands-----		-----Number-----		-----Million eggs-----							
AR	4,293	4,173	14,778	14,390	1,929	1,932	285	278	97	101	188	177
CA	19,610	20,048	20,144	20,578	2,264	2,289	456	471				
GA	11,138	11,227	20,200	20,323	2,139	2,140	432	435	259	263	173	172
IN	21,702	22,448	22,396	23,238	2,259	2,276	506	529	493	516	13	13
IA	39,322	45,434	40,094	46,197	2,369	2,260	950	1,044				
MN	10,285	10,188	10,880	10,771	2,206	2,265	240	244	232	236	8	8
NE	11,698	11,969	11,798	12,044	2,297	2,233	271	269	271	269	0	0
NC	3,416	3,355	10,576	10,826	1,995	1,977	211	214	83	83	128	131
OH	28,479	27,989	28,969	28,467	2,171	2,234	629	636				
PA	22,709	22,126	24,409	23,835	2,302	2,333	562	556	548	541	14	15
TX	14,196	14,119	18,454	18,515	2,146	2,220	396	411				
30 Sts ⁴	255,439	263,776	313,041	321,901	2,220	2,222	6,948	7,154	5,973	6,167	975	986
U.S.	272,027	279,873	335,333	344,194	2,218	2,221	7,439	7,643	6,381	6,559	1,058	1,084

¹2004 preliminary, 2003 revised. ²Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ³Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations. ⁴The 30 States are those listed as well as AL, CO, CT, FL, HI, IL, ME, MD, MI, MS, MO, NY, OK, OR, SC, SD, VA, WA, and WI.

October Livestock Slaughter

Iowa: Commercial red meat production in Iowa during October 2004 totaled 564.7 million pounds, 8 percent below October 2003. There were 2.6 million hogs slaughtered in October 2004, 7 percent below the same month last year. The average live weight of hogs slaughtered in October 2004 was 268 pounds, up 1 pound from October 2003.

down 9 percent from October 2003. The average live weight was up 36 pounds from the previous year, at 1,267 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.78 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.97 million head, 7 percent below October 2003. The average live weight was unchanged the previous year, at 267 pounds.

United States: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.92 billion pounds in October, down 6 percent from the 4.16 billion pounds produced in October 2003.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was down 9 percent from October 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 241,400 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, unchanged from October a year ago.

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head,

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States¹

Kind	October 2003	September 2004	October 2004	Oct. 2004 as % of		Jan. - Oct. ²		2004 as % of 2003
				October 2003	September 2004	2003	2004	
	----- Million pounds -----			Percent		----- Million pounds -----		Percent
Beef	2,212	2,104	2,114	96	100	22,478	20,562	91
Veal	16.3	13.0	12.4	76	96	157.5	138.4	88
Pork	1,912	1,772	1,779	93	100	16,359	16,853	103
Lamb & Mutton	17.9	16.3	16.3	91	100	165.4	160.2	97
Total Red Meat	4,158	3,905	3,921	94	100	39,159	37,714	96

¹Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter. ²Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

October Milk Production

Iowa: Milk production in Iowa in October totaled 293 million pounds, down 3.9 percent from October 2003. The average number of milk cows, 190 thousand head, was 8,000 head below October 2003. Production per cow averaged 1,540 pounds, unchanged from production levels one year ago.

United States: Milk production in the 20 major States during October totaled 12.2 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from October 2003. September revised production, at 11.9 billion pounds, was up 1.3 percent from September 2003. The

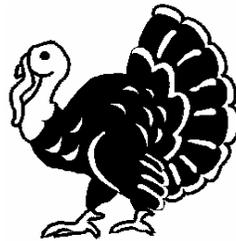
September revision represented a decrease of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,576 pounds for October, 15 pounds above October 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 26,000 head more than October 2003, but unchanged from September 2004.

October Milk Cows and Milk Production

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2003
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
California	1,698	1,740	1,720	1,770	2,921	3,080	5.4
Illinois	109	106	1,495	1,480	163	157	-3.7
Iowa	198	190	1,540	1,540	305	293	-3.9
Minnesota	465	465	1,410	1,420	656	660	0.6
Missouri	126	120	1,200	1,230	151	148	-2.0
Wisconsin	1,250	1,238	1,465	1,475	1,831	1,826	-0.3
20 State Total ³	7,743	7,769	1,561	1,576	12,083	12,245	1.3

¹Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. ²Excludes milk sucked by calves. ³The 20 states are Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



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