

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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FEATURING: * MILK PRODUCTION * DAIRY PRODUCTS * ANNUAL HATCHERY
* SLAUGHTER * CATTLE ON FEED * COLD STORAGE * CHICKEN & EGGS

MARCH MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for March 2003 totaled 138 million pounds, up 15 percent from last month but down 10 percent from March 2002. Average number of milk cows, at 120,000 head, was unchanged from last month but down 3,000 head from March 2002. Milk per cow averaged 1,150 pounds, up 150 pounds from last month but down 95 pounds from last year.

Milk production in the 20 major States during March totaled

13.0 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from March 2002. February revised production, at 11.6 billion pounds, was up 1.6 percent from February 2002. The February revision represented a decrease of 8 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,664 pounds for March, 10 pounds above March 2002. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.81 million head, 67,000 head more than March 2002, and 2,000 head more than February 2003.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR MARCH, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2003 as % of 2002
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,631	1,691	1,830	1,825	2,985	3,086	103
IL	115	113	1,620	1,670	186	189	102
IN	153	145	1,495	1,565	229	227	99
KY	123	120	1,245	1,150	153	138	90
MO	138	131	1,335	1,340	184	176	96
OH	261	260	1,500	1,500	392	390	99
VA	120	118	1,450	1,370	174	162	93
WI	1,276	1,263	1,510	1,540	1,927	1,945	101
20 State Total	7,745	7,812	1,654	1,664	12,810	12,996	101

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

U. S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, FEBRUARY 2003

PRODUCT	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Percent of	
	2002	2003 <u>1/</u>	2003	Feb. 02	Jan. 03
	(000) Pounds			Percent	
BUTTER	125,352	141,440	128,465	102	91
CHEESE					
American Types <u>2/</u>	287,383	319,517	284,887	99	89
Mozzarella	221,288	232,355	218,216	99	94
All Other Types <u>3/</u>	146,279	165,891	151,537	104	91
Total	654,950	717,763	654,640	100	91
	(000) Gallons			Percent	
FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream (Hard)	71,034	67,337	70,625	99	105
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	6,348	5,719	6,149	97	108
MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream Mix	40,595	39,574	40,509	100	102
Yogurt Mix	3,734	3,364	3,617	97	108

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack. 3/ Includes Swiss, Cream and all other types. Excludes cottage cheese.

**BROILER-TYPE CHICKS: NUMBER HATCHED BY MONTH,
19 SELECTED STATES and UNITED STATES, 2002**

State	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
	<i>1,000</i>						
AL	107,409	97,410	108,391	104,539	108,937	105,143	106,051
AR	110,938	100,381	112,252	107,781	111,714	110,108	110,953
DE	12,668	11,771	13,124	12,435	13,086	12,766	12,567
FL	8,810	7,529	8,465	8,267	8,811	8,416	8,679
GA	114,106	102,973	115,035	111,694	116,924	114,422	117,389
KY	23,058	21,788	24,150	23,171	24,631	24,155	24,087
MD	34,588	31,651	35,980	33,804	35,921	35,156	35,482
MS	70,502	62,327	70,481	68,376	70,010	69,232	70,081
NC	68,237	61,281	70,696	68,429	71,984	69,044	67,027
OK	23,136	20,927	23,406	22,555	23,373	23,723	24,427
PA	13,264	11,171	13,688	13,081	13,366	13,394	13,361
SC	16,663	14,921	17,204	16,385	16,506	16,322	16,751
TX	56,335	50,822	57,159	55,612	57,878	55,577	55,363
VA	24,375	21,668	24,650	23,607	23,956	23,246	22,832
CA, TN, WV LA & MO	72,461	65,055	75,783	73,034	77,405	74,026	74,518
19 Sts <u>1/</u>	756,550	681,675	770,464	742,770	774,502	754,730	759,568
Oth Sts <u>2/</u>	20,411	21,648	20,629	22,645	24,760	21,602	22,139
US 2002	776,961	703,323	791,093	765,415	799,262	776,332	781,707
US 2001	745,939	683,255	778,760	755,455	785,704	766,534	769,448
02 as % of 01	104	103	102	101	102	101	102

State	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
AL	108,485	102,721	100,667	93,835	102,392	1,245,980
AR	109,920	104,631	103,526	96,547	107,716	1,286,467
DE	13,101	12,110	11,767	11,849	12,642	149,886
FL	8,273	7,827	8,080	7,999	7,748	98,904
GA	115,797	110,622	107,333	100,472	110,347	1,337,114
KY	24,552	23,318	22,331	20,732	23,945	279,918
MD	35,956	34,012	33,068	32,905	34,842	413,365
MS	70,527	66,572	64,973	61,013	68,360	812,454
NC	67,441	63,156	61,273	60,877	64,968	794,413
OK	24,419	23,513	19,536	20,512	22,865	272,392
PA	13,218	12,717	12,538	11,345	12,688	153,831
SC	16,662	17,008	17,015	15,550	16,287	197,274
TX	53,967	51,600	53,164	50,197	55,603	653,277
VA	22,843	22,262	21,216	20,816	22,935	274,406
CA, TN, WV LA & MO	72,263	68,794	65,525	64,869	70,860	854,593
19 Sts <u>1/</u>	757,424	720,863	702,012	669,518	734,198	8,824,274
Oth Sts <u>2/</u>	22,596	19,533	18,552	20,534	19,677	254,726
US 2002	780,020	740,396	720,564	690,052	753,875	9,079,000
US 2001	771,550	738,379	748,274	703,365	774,453	9,021,116
02 as % of 01	101	100	96	98	97	101

1/ States in the weekly hatchery estimating program. 2/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.70 billion pounds in March, up 1 percent from the 3.68 billion pounds produced in March 2002. March 2002 contained 21 weekdays and 5 Saturdays. March 2003 contained 21 weekdays and 5 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.05 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.77 million head, up 1 percent from March 2002. The average live weight was 1,234 pounds down 7 pounds from March a year ago. Pork production totaled 1.62 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.15 million head, 2 percent above March 2002. The average live weight was 268 pounds up 1 pound from March a year ago.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY ^{1/}

Type	March 2002	February 2003	March 2003	March 03 % of	
				March 2002	February 2003
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,059	1,944	2,047	99	105
Veal	15.0	15.8	16.5	110	104
Pork	1,581	1,521	1,619	102	106
Lamb & Mutton	22.2	15.0	18.2	82	121
Total U.S.	3,678	3,497	3,701	101	106
Total Kentucky	35.2	33.2	36.0	102	108

^{1/} Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. MARCH 2002 & 2003 ^{1/}

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.4	1.6	1,191	1,408	855	873
Hogs	173.9	176.4	46,236	46,926	266	266
Sheep & Lambs	0.7	0.7	96	97	146	137
United States						
Cattle	2,737.7	2,769.7	3,397,480	3,416,898	1,241	1,234
Hogs	7,986.5	8,151.7	2,132,885	2,181,773	267	268
Sheep & Lambs	324.3	264.0	44,622	36,399	138	138

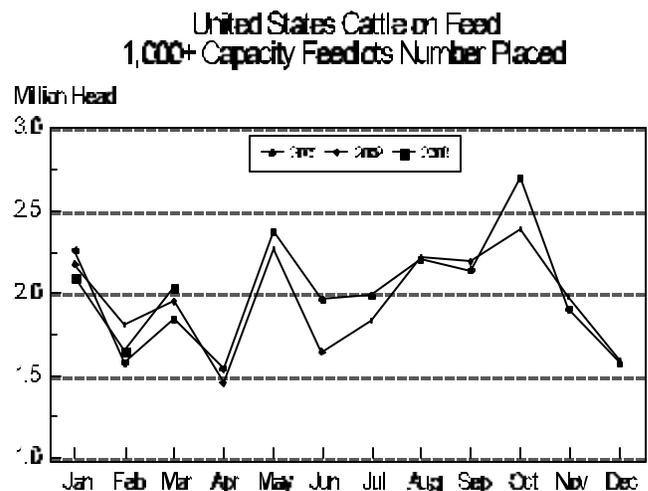
^{1/} Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.70 million head on April 1, 2003. The inventory was 8 percent below April 1, 2002 and 7 percent below April 1, 2001. The inventory included 6.72 million steers and steer calves, down 7 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.92 million head, down 9 percent from 2002.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 2.04 million, 5 percent above 2002 and 11 percent above 2001. Net placements were 1.98 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 276,000, 600-699 pounds were 390,000, 700-799 pounds were 744,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 632,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.80 million, 1 percent below 2002 and 6 percent below 2001. **Other disappearance** totaled 62,000 during March, 10 percent below 2002 and 37 percent below 2001.



COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

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

All U S. Warehouse Stocks			Mar 03 as % of		
Commodity	Mar 31 2002	Feb 28 2003	Mar 31 2003	Mar 2002	Feb 2003
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	29,307	24,854	22,710	77	91
Other Chicken	774,373	646,043	618,541	80	96
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	808,604	675,362	646,358	80	96
Turkey	457,565	468,942	532,547	116	114
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	1,272,331	1,149,439	1,184,724	93	103
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	410,492	442,136	401,086	98	91
Pork:					
Bellies	60,721	38,278	42,516	70	111
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	531,453	519,706	524,429	99	101
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	961,902	978,523	943,853	98	96

1/ Includes broilers, hens and other chickens. 2/ Includes chicken, turkey and ducks. 3/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 4/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2003	Mar. 03 % of Mar. 02
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,417	7,363	99
Average Layers (000)	337,447	337,598	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,198	2,181	99
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Apr. 1 (000)	33,221	34,344	103
Chicks Hatched (000)	36,977	36,726	99
Broiler Type			
Eggs Set Apr. 1 (000)	646,301	637,759	99
Chicks Hatched (000)	791,093	774,836	98

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>