

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 2005 totaled 127 million pounds, up 15 percent from last month but down 2 percent from March 2004. Average number of milk cows, at 109,000 head, was down 1,000 head from last month and last year. Milk per cow averaged 1,165 pounds, up 165 pounds from last month but down 10 pounds from last year.

Milk production in the 23 major States during March totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from March 2004.

February revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from February 2004. However, production was up 3.1 percent on a per day basis after adjusting for the leap year. The February revision represented an increase of 30 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,704 pounds for March, 43 pounds above March 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.10 million head, 38,000 head more than March 2004, and 21,000 head more than February 2005.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR MARCH, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Production 2/		2005 as % of 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,710	1,748	1,815	1,845	3,104	3,225	104
IL	108	105	1,650	1,670	178	175	98
IN	147	154	1,820	1,700	268	262	98
KY	110	109	1,175	1,165	129	127	98
MO	123	119	1,345	1,370	165	163	99
OH	260	268	1,510	1,520	393	407	104
VA	105	105	1,465	1,495	154	157	102
WI	1,244	1,233	1,510	1,560	1,878	1,923	102
23 State Total	8,059	8,097	1,661	1,704	13,387	13,799	103

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

U. S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, FEBRUARY 2005

PRODUCT	Feb. 2004	Jan. 2005 1/	Feb. 2005	Percent of Feb. 04 Jan. 05	
	(000) Pounds			Percent	
BUTTER	105,788	128,653	113,498	107	88
CHEESE	(000) Gallons			Percent	
American Types 2/	297,241	322,188	292,386	98	91
Mozzarella	240,013	251,399	240,127	100	96
All Other Types 3/	167,034	181,097	175,603	105	97
Total	704,288	754,684	708,116	101	94
FROZEN PRODUCTS	(000) Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream (Hard)	65,823	60,440	64,100	97	106
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	4,973	4,299	4,520	91	105
MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS	(000) Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream Mix	37,903	34,919	34,704	92	99
Yogurt Mix	2,925	2,529	2,659	91	105

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, 2004**

State	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
	<i>1,000</i>						
AL	109,590	101,226	111,008	108,686	114,021	109,310	113,711
AR	113,114	105,663	113,525	111,422	116,834	113,733	115,416
DE	13,544	12,775	14,035	13,327	13,979	13,889	13,709
FL	4,940	4,669	4,939	4,758	5,021	4,873	4,987
GA	120,118	113,685	121,592	115,342	121,611	119,136	122,912
KY	24,876	22,017	26,042	24,925	26,590	26,140	26,607
LA	13,411	12,538	13,873	13,609	14,492	13,866	14,113
MD	32,079	29,362	31,379	30,715	31,999	31,496	32,708
MS	71,206	67,390	72,111	70,603	73,182	71,334	74,656
NC	64,309	60,569	67,532	66,700	68,746	66,710	67,288
OK	22,527	21,139	23,805	23,599	24,869	23,573	24,284
PA	12,642	12,003	13,039	13,104	13,668	12,629	13,747
SC	13,191	12,313	13,287	12,903	13,817	13,393	13,729
TX	52,895	50,487	54,822	54,413	56,848	54,765	56,341
VA	23,179	21,598	23,684	23,764	24,267	23,934	25,121
CA, MO, TN & WV	61,321	58,498	65,105	63,788	66,894	64,623	64,017
19 Sts ¹	752,942	705,932	769,778	751,658	786,838	763,404	783,346
Oth Sts ²	21,062	22,469	22,137	22,971	23,646	23,199	23,312
US 2004	774,004	728,401	791,915	774,629	810,484	786,603	806,658
US 2003	759,674	693,549	774,354	760,638	792,813	774,679	777,838
2004 % of 2003	102	105	102	102	102	102	104

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	113,951	107,539	106,358	100,202	108,972	1,304,574
AR	115,625	111,459	108,403	99,960	112,701	1,337,855
DE	13,652	13,227	13,144	12,820	13,993	162,094
FL	4,901	4,746	4,933	4,735	4,901	58,403
GA	123,260	117,943	115,525	110,788	121,845	1,423,757
KY	26,722	24,811	23,912	23,064	26,158	301,864
LA	14,198	13,730	13,919	13,587	14,617	165,953
MD	32,501	30,628	30,087	29,502	31,407	373,863
MS	74,516	70,087	69,188	66,989	72,519	853,781
NC	66,832	63,049	63,039	62,238	65,044	782,056
OK	24,827	23,257	22,000	22,506	24,316	280,702
PA	13,742	13,345	12,877	12,964	14,060	157,820
SC	14,339	14,361	15,450	15,958	16,922	169,663
TX	56,867	54,142	53,247	50,554	54,695	650,076
VA	25,068	23,441	22,900	22,555	23,882	283,393
CA, MO, TN & WV	64,955	62,448	63,120	60,699	65,792	761,260
19 Sts ¹	785,956	748,213	738,102	709,121	771,824	9,067,114
Oth Sts ²	24,329	21,721	18,793	21,232	21,266	266,137
US 2004	810,285	769,934	756,895	730,353	793,090	9,333,251
US 2003	784,107	739,515	735,235	707,891	780,321	9,080,614
2004 % of 2003	103	104	103	103	102	103

^{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 3.88 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in March 2004. March 2004 contained 23 weekdays and 4 Saturdays. March 2005 contained 23 weekdays and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 5 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,238 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.95 million head, 1 percent below March 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds.

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

Type	March 2004	February 2005	March 2005	March 05 % of	
				March 2004	February 2005
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,108	1,767	2,043	97	116
Veal	14.1	12.1	13.3	94	110
Pork	1,801	1,629	1,803	100	111
Lamb & Mutton	22.2	15.2	19.5	88	128
Total U.S.	3,945	3,423	3,879	98	113
Total Kentucky	42.7	38.6	39.6	93	102

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

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. MARCH 2004 & 2005 ^{1/}

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.7	1.7	1,458	1,489	874	885
Hogs	211.6	191.9	55,958	51,531	264	269
Sheep & Lambs	0.9	1.1	111	141	124	126
United States						
Cattle	2,869.3	2,723.4	3,491,935	3,371,550	1,217	1,238
Hogs	9,038.5	8,946.1	2,420,825	2,423,007	268	271
Sheep & Lambs	307.1	280.3	44,210	38,851	144	139

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

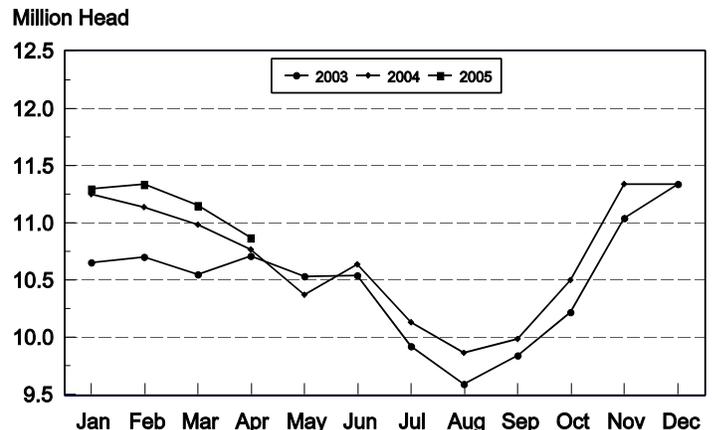
U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.9 million head on April 1, 2005. The inventory was 1 percent above April 1, 2004 and 1 percent above April 1, 2003. The inventory included 6.99 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.80 million head, down 6 percent from 2004.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.76 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 13 percent below 2003. This is the second lowest placements for the month of March since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.69 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 299,000, 600-699 pounds were 320,000, 700-799 pounds were 614,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 527,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.97 million, up slightly from 2004 and 9 percent above 2003. **Other disappearance** totaled 69,000 during March, 3 percent above 2004 and 11 percent above 2003.

**United States Cattle on Feed
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots**



COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on March 31, 2005 were greater than year earlier levels for pork, vegetables, chicken, and fruit.

All U S. Warehouse Stocks				Mar 05 as % of	
Commodity	Mar 31 2004	Feb 28 2005	Mar 31 2005	Mar 2004	Feb 2005
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	604,738	634,579	671,808	111	106
Turkey	504,561	381,934	418,532	83	110
Ducks	1,246	469	320	26	68
Total Frozen Poultry	1,110,545	1,016,982	1,090,660	98	107
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	416,772	400,285	373,636	90	93
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	50,126	75,321	81,316	162	108
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	447,346	541,023	543,400	121	100
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	879,358	956,021	932,584	106	98

1/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 2/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2005	Mar. 05 % of Mar. 04
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,547	7,726	102
Average Layers (000)	341,700	347,255	102
Eggs Per 100	2,209	2,225	101
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Apr. 1 (000)	33,311	34,086	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	37,545	39,888	106
Broiler Type			
Eggs Set Apr. 1 (000)	653,401	658,034	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	791,915	815,782	103

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/>