

Kentucky Agri-News



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National Agricultural Statistics Service

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Featuring: **▶ Agricultural Prices** **▶ Cattle & Sheep** **▶ Chicken & Eggs** **▶ Slaughter**
▶ Cold Storage **▶ Milk Production** **▶ Catfish** **▶ Cattle on Feed**

KENTUCKY GRAIN PRICES MIXED WITH LIVESTOCK GENERALLY DOWN IN PRICE

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers were generally lower for mid-July. Exceptions were corn that held steady in price and beef cows and milk that increased in price.

Cattle prices for mid-July were mixed with steers and heifers and calves lower in price while beef cows were higher. **Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$96.00 per cwt. (hundredweight) for mid-month. This was down \$3.00 from the June price and \$6.00 from July 2007. **Beef cow** price at \$56.00 per cwt. was up \$1.00 from the June price and \$8.00 from July a year earlier. This would be a record high price for beef cows. The previous high was \$55.10 per cwt. in May 1979. **Calves** less than 500 lbs. averaged \$101.00 per cwt. This was down \$6.00 from June and \$12.00 from July 2007.

Hog prices for mid-July were lower. **Barrows and gilts** for mid-July were \$51.00 per cwt. This was down \$2.00 for the June price while up \$1.00 from July 2007. The mid-month **sow** price was \$24.00 per cwt., down \$6.00 from June and \$16.00 from the previous year.

Sheep and lamb prices for June were both lower. The **sheep** price for June was \$27.00 per cwt., down \$4.00 from May and \$1.00 from June 2007. The June **lamb** price was \$111.00 per cwt., down \$6.00 from May while up \$15.00 from June 2007.

The milk price continued strong for the month of July. The mid-July price of **all milk** was \$22.50 per cwt. This was up \$2.00 from the June price while down 80 cents from a year earlier. This would be the highest milk price in six months. The final price will vary from the projected mid-month milk price due to price changes announced by Milk Marketing Orders, actual milk fat content and quantity sold by milk classes (fluid and various manufactured products). **Milk cow** price for July was \$1,960.00 per head, an increase of \$50.00 from April and \$140.00 from July 2007. This would be the highest milk cow price on record.

Grain prices were steady to lower. The mid-July **corn** price at \$5.70 per bushel was unchanged from the June price and up \$2.01 from July 2007. The

mid-month **winter wheat** price was \$5.90 per bushel, down 9 cents from June while up 79 cents from July a year earlier. The mid-July price for **soybeans** was \$14.70 per bushel. There was no June price for soybeans published due to confidentiality rules. The July 2007 price was \$7.98 per bushel.

The Preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in July, at 161 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (1.9 percent) from June. The Crop Index is up 3 points (1.6 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received higher prices for cattle, soybeans, broilers, and sweet corn, and lower prices for eggs, wheat, tomatoes, and cucumbers. In addition to prices, the overall index is affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of wheat, grapes, hay, and tomatoes offset decreased marketings of milk, cantaloups, potatoes, and apples. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 22 points (16 percent) from July 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 157, increased 2 points (1.3 percent) from last month and increased 17 points (12 percent) from July 2007.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		JULY	JUNE	JULY	JULY
		2007	2008	2008	2008
		Entire Month		Mid-Month ^{a/}	
All Corn b/ c/	Bu.	3.69	5.70	5.70	5.61
Soybeans b/	Bu.	7.98	C	14.70	14.20
Winter Wheat b/	Bu.	5.11	5.99	5.90	7.09
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	140.00	175.00	175.00	177.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	80.00	100.00	95.00	130.00
All Hogs	Cwt.	49.60	52.10	49.90	52.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	50.00	53.00	51.00	54.10
Sows	Cwt.	40.00	30.00	24.00	20.10
All Beef Cattle d/	Cwt.	89.00	88.40	86.40	95.70
Steers & Heifers e/	Cwt.	102.00	99.00	96.00	100.00
Cows	Cwt.	48.00	55.00	56.00	56.40
Calves f/	Cwt.	113.00	107.00	101.00	115.00
Sheep	Cwt.	25.00	27.00	--	--
Lambs	Cwt.	99.00	111.00	--	--
Milk Cows g/	Ea.	1,820.00	--	1,960.00	1,990.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	23.30	20.50	22.50	19.40
Hog-Corn Ratios h/	Bu.	13.4	9.1	8.8	9.4

^{a/} Preliminary. ^{b/} Includes contract sales paid during month. ^{c/} Includes yellow and white corn. ^{d/} "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. ^{e/} 500 lbs. and over. ^{f/} Under 500 lbs. ^{g/} Published only in Jan., Apr., July & Oct. ^{h/} Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.
C-Confidential.

JULY 1 CATTLE INVENTORY DOWN SLIGHTLY

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of July 1, 2008, totaled 104.3 million head, slightly below the 104.8 million on July 1, 2007 and down 1 percent from the 105.2 million two years ago. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.4 million, was down slightly from both July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2006. **Beef cows**, at 33.2 million, were down 1 percent from July

1, 2007 and 1 percent below two years ago. **Milk cows**, at 9.25 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2007 and 1 percent above two years ago. The 2008 **calf crop** was expected to be 37.3 million, down slightly from 2007 and 1 percent below 2006. Calves born during the first half of the year were estimated at 27.1 million, down slightly from 2007 and 1 percent below 2006.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2008, and the changes from July 1, 2007, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, down 1 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 4.6 million, down 2 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 3.9 million, unchanged.
- Other heifers, 8.0 million, unchanged.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.7 million, down 1 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 28.6 million, down slightly.
- All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 11.7 million, down 5 percent.

JULY 1, 2008, ALL SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY DOWN 3 PERCENT

All **sheep and lamb** inventory in the **United States** on July 1, 2008, totaled 7.35 million head, down 3 percent from July 1, 2007, and 5 percent below July 1, 2006. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.42 million head on July 1, 2008 was down 3 percent from July 1, 2007. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 2.93 million head, were down 4 percent from last July.

The 2008 **lamb crop** in the **United States** was expected to total 3.97 million head, down 2 percent from the 2007 lamb crop of 4.05 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2008 totaled 3.48 million head or 88 percent of the yearly total. An additional 490,000 head were expected to be born during the period July through December 2008.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

	June 2007	June 2008	'08 % '07
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,380	7,366	100
Average Layers (000)	340,237	338,538	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,169	2,176	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set July 1 (000)	32,904	35,922	109
Chicks Hatched (000)	40,641	42,538	105
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set July 1 (000)	665,958	657,943	99
Chicks Hatched (000)	808,329	806,202	100

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the U.S. totaled 4.05 billion pounds in June, up 1 percent from the 4.03 billion pounds produced in June 2007. June 2007 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays. June 2008 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.26 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, down 4 percent from June 2007. The average live weight was up 11 pounds from the previous year, at 1,261 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.76 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.88 million head, up 7 percent from June 2007. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 266 pounds.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION 1/

Type	June 2007	May 2008	June 2008	Jun 08 % of	
				June 2007	May 2008
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,348.5	*2,380.2	2,262.6	96	95
Veal	11.2	11.5	11.7	105	102
Pork	1,654.1	1,815.6	1,762.1	107	97
Lamb & Mutton	13.7	15.0	13.1	96	88
Total U.S.	4,027.5	4,222.3	4,049.6	101	96
Total Kentucky	43.5	44.2	42.2	97	96

1/ Based on packer's dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter. *Revised.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, KY & U.S. JUNE 2007 & 2008 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 head		1,000 pounds		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.3	1.2	1,197	1,128	951	939
Hogs	216.5		56,734		263	
Sheep & Lambs	1.0	1.1	136	141	134	128
United States						
Cattle	3,076.5	2,955.5	3,833,514	3,716,859	1,250	1,261
Hogs	8,297.2	8,884.7	2,210,482	2,358,949	267	266
Sheep & Lambs	200.6	192.4	27,412	26,279	137	137

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

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on June 30, 2008 were greater than year earlier levels for turkey, chicken, pork, cheese and beef.

ALL U.S. WAREHOUSE STOCKS					
Commodity	June 30 2007	May 31 2008	June 30 2008	June 08 as % of	
				Jun '07	May '08
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	643,985	755,134	768,718	119	102
Turkey	448,410	522,421	562,697	125	108
Ducks	7,752	2,432	1,713	22	70
Total Frozen Poultry	1,100,147	1,279,987	1,333,128	121	104
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	430,323	413,855	431,075	100	104
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	47,214	87,428	75,409	160	86
Total Frozen Pork 1/	467,949	567,339	518,913	111	91
Total Meat 2/	919,683	1,005,889	975,312	106	97

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.

MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for June 2008 totaled 102 million pounds, down 8 percent from last month and down 3 percent from June 2007. Average number of milk cows, at 92,000 head, was unchanged from last month but up 2,000 head from last year. Milk per cow averaged 1,110 pounds, down 100 pounds from last month and down 60 pounds from last year.

Milk production in the 23 major States during June totaled 14.7

billion pounds, up 3.4 percent from June 2007. May revised production, at 15.4 billion pounds, was up 3.5 percent from May 2007. The May revision represented an increase of 14 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,737 pounds for June, 25 pounds above June 2007. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.46 million head, 158,000 head more than June 2007, and 1,000 head more than May 2008.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR JUNE, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Production 2/		2008 as % of 2007
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,811	1,848	1,845	1,850	3,341	3,419	102
IL	103	102	1,550	1,565	160	160	100
IN	167	166	1,675	1,650	280	274	98
KY	90	92	1,170	1,110	105	102	97
MO	112	110	1,240	1,240	139	136	98
OH	276	282	1,550	1,580	428	446	104
VA	100	98	1,440	1,450	144	142	99
WI	1,247	1,252	1,620	1,640	2,020	2,053	102
23 State Total	8,302	8,460	1,712	1,737	14,216	14,697	103

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

CATFISH

Commercial catfish operations in the four major producing States (Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi) had 279 million foodsize fish on hand on July 1, 2008, up 7 percent from the July 1, 2007 total of 260 million foodsize fish. The breakouts of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2008, with their respective percent change from the previous year were: large foodsize, 6.42 million fish, up 4 percent; medium foodsize, 69.6 million, up 3 percent; and small foodsize, 203 million fish, up 9 percent. The four major States also had 660 thousand broodfish on hand on July 1, 2008, down 17 percent from last year's 791 thousand broodfish.

The water surface area to be used for catfish production during July 1 through December 31, 2008, totaled 133 thousand acres, down 12 percent from a year ago. Acres used for foodsize fish totaled 110 thousand acres, down 10 percent from the same time period in 2007. Acres for broodfish decreased 31 percent to 2.51 thousand acres, and acres used

for fingerling production decreased 17 percent to 17.4 thousand acres. Acres taken out of production during the January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008 period totaled 11.4 thousand acres, while 2.91 thousand acres of the total in production were scheduled to be renovated from July 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. The total number of operations on July 1, 2008 in the four major States totaled 638, down 11 percent from last year's total of 713 operations.

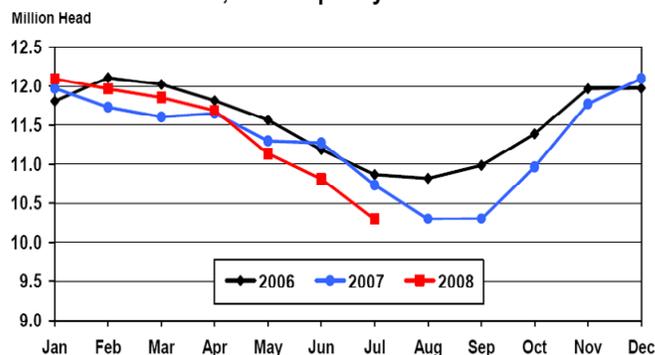
CATFISH WATER ACRES & OPERATIONS

State	Operations		Water Surface Acres	
	Jul 1 '07	Jul 1 '08	Jul 1-Dec 31 '07	Jul 1 - Dec 31 '08
AL	203	175	23,000	21,900
AR	131	116	30,400	25,300
LA	19	17	5,500	4,900
MS	360	330	92,500	80,400
Total	713	638	151,400	132,500

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 10.3 million head on July 1, 2008. The inventory was 4 percent below July 1, 2007 and 5 percent below July 1, 2006. The inventory included 6.43 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.82 million head, down 3 percent from 2007. **Placements** in feedlots during June totaled 1.51 million, 9 percent below 2007 and 22 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.45 million head. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 365,000, 600-699 pounds were 325,000, 700-799 pounds were 383,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 440,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during June totaled 1.97 million, 8 percent below 2007 and 10 percent below 2006. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of June since the series began in 1996. **Other disappearance** totaled 52,000 during June, down 17 percent from 2006 and 2005.

United States Cattle on Feed
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots



Internet Access: 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 USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>