

# KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 1120  
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120  
Phone: (502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277  
E-mail: nass-ky@nass.usda.gov  
and the  
Kentucky Department of Agriculture  
Billy Ray Smith, Commissioner  
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**FEATURING:**   ▶ Agricultural Prices   ▶ Annual Layers & Eggs   ▶ Chicken & Eggs  
                  ▶ Milk Production       ▶ Cold Storage           ▶ Apples & Peaches

## LIVESTOCK PRICES MOSTLY STEADY WHILE GRAIN PRICES DECLINE

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-January were generally up to steady from December for livestock while grain prices declined slightly.

**Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over at mid-January averaged \$74.00 per cwt., unchanged from the previous month while down \$2.00 from January 2002. **Beef cows** averaged \$33.00 per cwt., also unchanged from the previous month while down \$3.00 from a year earlier. **Calves** under 500 pounds averaged \$84.00 per cwt., up \$2.00 from December but down \$8.00 from January 2002.

The mid-month price for **barrows and gilts** was \$31.00 per cwt., up \$1.00 from December while down \$7.00 from a year earlier. **Sows** averaged \$22.00 per cwt. for mid-January. This was unchanged from a month earlier and down \$3.00 from a year earlier.

The price for **all milk** at mid-January was \$12.90 per cwt. This was unchanged from the December price while down \$1.40 from January 2002. **Milk cow** prices at mid-January was \$1,350.00 per head. This was down \$100.00 from October 2002 and \$190.00 from January 2002.

Corn, soybean and winter wheat prices were all down at mid-January from December. The **corn** price was \$2.55 per bushel, down 1 cent from December while up 41 cents from January 2002. The mid-month **soybean** price was \$5.55 per bushel, down 10 cents from the previous month while up \$1.10 from a year earlier. The **winter wheat** price for mid-January was \$3.60 per bushel. This was down 7 cents from December while up 86 cents from a year earlier.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January was 99, based on 1990-92=100, up 1 point (1.0 percent) from a revised December index. Higher prices for broilers, lettuce, cattle, and hogs more than offset lower prices for wheat, corn, turkeys, and soybeans. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Increased marketings of cattle, soybeans, corn, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of cotton, tobacco, grapes, and milk.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was 4 points (4.2 percent) above January 2002. Higher prices for soybeans, corn, cattle, and wheat more than offset lower prices for lettuce, hogs, broilers, and broccoli.

### AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		JAN	DEC	JAN	JAN
		2002	2002	2003	2003
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn <b>b/ c/</b>	Bu.	2.14	2.56	2.55	2.27
Soybeans <b>b/</b>	Bu.	4.45	5.65	5.55	5.38
Winter Wheat <b>b/</b>	Bu.	2.74	3.67	3.60	3.47
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	110.00	110.00	100.00	97.60
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	64.00	64.00	58.00	79.60
All Hogs	Cwt.	37.50	29.70	30.60	31.80
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	38.00	30.00	31.00	32.30
Sows	Cwt.	25.00	22.00	22.00	21.80
All Beef Cattle <b>d/</b>	Cwt.	66.40	64.20	64.20	72.60
Steers & Heifers <b>e/</b>	Cwt.	76.00	74.00	74.00	77.60
Cows	Cwt.	36.00	33.00	33.00	35.50
Calves <b>f/</b>	Cwt.	92.00	82.00	84.00	95.50
Milk Cows <b>g/</b>	Ea.	1,540.00	-	1,350.00	1,370.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	14.30	12.90	12.90	11.80
Hog-Corn Ratios <b>h/</b>	Bu.	17.5	11.6	12.0	14.0

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.

## ANNUAL EGG PRODUCTION

**Kentucky egg production** during the year ending November 30, 2002 was 921 million eggs, compared with 933 million during 2001. An average of 3.9 million layers were on Kentucky operations during 2002, up 4 percent from the 2001 average. Each layer produced an average of 234 eggs during 2002, compared with last year's average of 246.

**U.S. egg production** during the year ending November 30, 2002 totaled a record high 86.7 billion eggs, up 1 percent from the previous year's total of 85.7 billion eggs. Layer numbers during 2002 averaged 337 million, up 1 percent from the year earlier. The annual average production per layer on hand in 2002 was 257 eggs, up slightly from the 2001 average of 256.

### DECEMBER 2002 UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Dec. 2001	Dec. 2002	Dec. 02 % of Dec. 01
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,420	7,380	99
Average Layers (000)	339,105	337,398	99
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,188	2,187	100
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Jan 1 (000)	31,499	30,117	96
Chicks Hatched (000)	31,657	32,153	102
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Jan 1 (000)	638,208	623,171	98
Chicks Hatched (000)	769,731	753,633	98

## U. S. MILK PRODUCTION UP 1.8 PERCENT

**Kentucky** milk production for December 2002 totaled 132 million pounds, down 6 percent from a year earlier, but up 8 percent from November. Average number of cows on farms at 120,000 head, was down 5,000 from last year, and unchanged from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,100 pounds, down 30 pounds from December 2001 but up 80 pounds from November 2002.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during December totaled 12.2 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from December

2001. November revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from November 2001. The November revision represented a decrease of 0.4 percent or 43 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,567 pounds for December, 18 pounds above December 2001. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.80 million head, 47,000 head more than December 2001, and 6,000 head more than November 2002.

## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on December 31, 2002, were greater than year earlier levels for poultry, red meat, and orange juice concentrate.

All U S. Warehouse Stocks				Dec 02 as % of	
Commodity	Dec 31 2001	Nov 30 2002	Dec 31 2002	Dec 2001	Nov 2002
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	24,087	31,590	26,223	109	83
Other Chicken	687,667	763,066	740,529	108	97
Total Chicken <sup>1/</sup>	719,689	800,423	772,153	107	96
Turkey	240,524	334,339	333,866	139	100
Total Frozen Poultry <sup>2/</sup>	967,207	1,142,313	1,112,424	115	97
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	460,737	512,567	527,386	114	103
Pork:					
Bellies	44,301	18,059	28,434	64	157
Total Frozen Pork <sup>3/</sup>	464,959	463,942	468,947	101	101
Total Meat <sup>4/</sup>	946,805	997,688	1,014,693	107	102

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

## APPLES AND PEACHES

Utilized production of **commercial apples** in **Kentucky** totaled 4.00 million pounds in 2002, down 43 percent from 2001. Prices averaged a record high 31.8 cents per pound, up 2.8 cents from 2001. The value of utilized production totaled \$1.27 million, down from the \$2.03 million in 2001. The smaller Kentucky apple crop resulted from a late freeze in the Spring of 2002 that reduced or killed many apple blossoms and a dry summer that reduced apple size in many areas of the State. Producers continue to remove old trees in operating orchards while other orchard operators are planting new trees. Some old orchards continue to go out of business.

**U.S.** utilized apple production for 2002 was estimated at 8.47 billion pounds, down 8 percent from the 2001 level. Washington's utilized production increased 5 percent compared to the weather reduced 2001 crop. California, Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania decreased total utilized production from the previous year due to poor weather and less bearing acreage.

**Kentucky's** utilized **peach** production totaled 1.20 million pounds in 2002, down 33 percent from the 2001 crop. Prices averaged 54.5 cents per pound, up 5.8 cents from 2001 but below the record high 62.3 cents per pound of 1996. Value of all utilized 2002 production totaled \$654,000 compared to \$877,000 in 2001. The dry summer also effected the peach crop. Soil moisture turned dry in June and remained dry over most of the State through mid-September. Given the dry summer, farmers commented that they had a good peach crop for 2002.

**U.S.** utilized peach production in 2002 was estimated at 2.47 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year but 1 percent below 2000. The California crop, accounting for 76 percent of the U.S. utilized peach production, was up 12 percent from 2001. For California, Clingstone and Freestone peach production increased 19 percent and 3 percent, respectively, from 2001. California experienced excellent growing conditions during 2002.

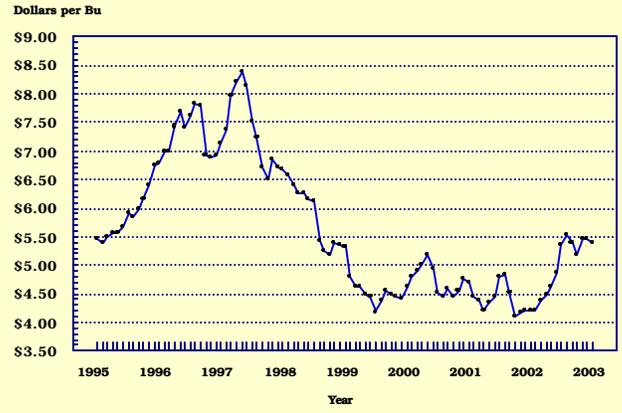
### APPLE AND PEACH UTILIZED PRODUCTION, PRICE AND VALUE, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

STATE	Utilized Production			Price Per Pound			Value of Utilized Production		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
	Million Pounds			Cents			1,000 Dollars		
<b>APPLES - COMMERCIAL CROP</b>									
Illinois	36.0	40.6	35.3	28.7	23.7	35.1	10,326	9,613	12,392
Indiana	43.8	46.0	33.0	24.5	18.5	23.5	10,734	8,521	7,757
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>2,030</b>	<b>1,272</b>
Missouri	34.0	41.0	36.0	16.9	17.1	17.8	5,736	7,017	6,396
Ohio	96.0	84.0	77.0	22.7	23.6	25.9	21,746	19,831	19,924
Tennessee	8.5	6.5	5.4	24.4	23.5	26.0	2,076	1,527	1,402
Virginia	314.0	306.0	243.0	10.3	10.6	12.1	32,228	32,541	29,300
W. Virginia	83.0	95.0	90.0	9.5	8.5	9.6	7,883	8,120	8,625
U.S.	10,322.2	9,214.4	8,474.2	12.8	15.7	19.1	1,320,781	1,448,348	1,622,135
<b>PEACHES - COMMERCIAL CROP</b>									
Illinois	20.0	17.1	16.5	41.2	42.0	47.0	8,240	7,182	7,755
Indiana	2.5	2.9	3.0	41.4	58.3	73.3	1,035	1,691	2,199
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>654</b>
Missouri	9.5	9.0	13.0	35.0	36.5	42.0	3,325	3,285	5,460
Ohio	9.1	11.0	9.1	46.8	49.0	49.6	4,259	5,390	4,514
Tennessee	2.3	3.5	3.7	54.5	48.4	47.0	1,254	1,694	1,739
Virginia	9.0	7.0	6.7	30.0	31.7	41.0	2,700	2,219	2,747
W. Virginia	7.0	10.7	10.0	25.6	30.0	31.0	1,795	3,210	3,100
U.S.	2,488.8	2,334.9	2,472.5	19.4	21.1	20.5	481,716	493,298	507,089

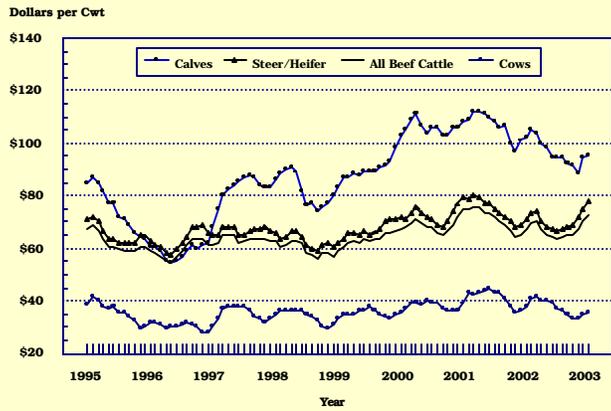
Prices Received, Corn, US



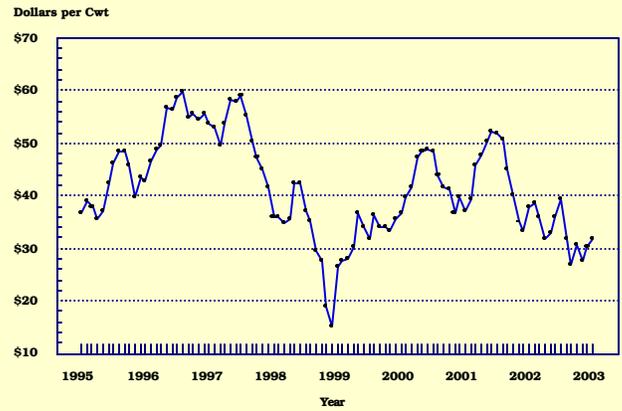
Prices Received, Soybeans, US



Prices Received, Cattle, US



Prices Received, Hogs, US



**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/>