

# KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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Volume No. 20 Issue No. 1  
Released: January 2, 2001

Published twice monthly

**FEATURING:**   ▶ Agricultural Prices           ▶ Hogs & Pigs           ▶ Cattle on Feed       ▶ Cold Storage  
                  ▶ Livestock Slaughter           ▶ Milk Production       ▶ Egg Production

## GRAIN AND MOST LIVESTOCK PRICES UP

Prices received at mid-December were up for all grain and livestock prices with the exception of beef cows.

**Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$85.00 per cwt. at mid-December, \$3.00 above last month and \$8.00 above December a year ago. **Beef cow** prices at \$35.00 per cwt. decreased \$2.00 from last month while remaining unchanged from December a year ago. This was the lowest beef cow price since January. **Calves** 500 lbs. and under averaged \$95.00 per cwt., \$1.00 above last month and \$8.00 above last year.

**Barrows and gilts** at mid-December averaged \$38.00 per cwt. This was \$4.00 above the price of last month and last December. The mid-month price for **sows** increased \$1.00 from the price of last month to \$30.00 per cwt. and was a \$6.00 increase over last year at this time.

The **all milk** price of \$14.60 per cwt. was 20 cents above November and averaged \$1.30 above last December. This was the highest milk price in 13 months.

The average price received for **corn** at mid-December was \$2.05 per bushel. This was one cent above last month while 17 cents below December 1999. This was the highest corn price in 6 months. **Soybean** prices averaged \$4.95 per bushel at mid-December, 40 cents above November and 33 cents above December a year ago. The soybean price was also the highest in 6 months. **Winter wheat** increased 21 cents from last month to \$2.35 per bushel at mid-December. This was 14 cents above last year. The winter wheat price was the highest in 9 months.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in December was 98 based on 1990-92=100, unchanged from the November index. Higher prices for soybeans, cattle, hogs, and eggs were offset by lower prices for broilers, lettuce, turkeys, and cauliflower. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of tobacco, wheat, milk, and broilers were offset by lower marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn.

Compared with December 1999, the All Farm Products Index was 7 points (7.7 percent) higher. Price increases from December 1999 for cotton, cattle, eggs, and hogs were partially offset by lower prices for broilers, apples, oranges, and lemons.

### AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		DEC	NOV	DEC	DEC
		1999	2000	2000	2000
		Entire Month		Mid-Month <sup>a/</sup>	
All Corn <sup>b/</sup> <sub>c/</sub>	Bu.	2.22	2.04	2.05	1.91
Soybeans <sup>b/</sup>	Bu.	4.62	4.55	4.95	4.84
Winter Wheat <sup>b/</sup>	Bu.	2.21	2.14	2.35	2.67
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	120.00	110.00	110.00	91.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	78.00	72.00	72.00	70.40
All Hogs	Cwt.	33.60	33.80	37.70	40.60
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	34.00	34.00	38.00	41.10
Sows	Cwt.	24.00	29.00	30.00	29.90
All Beef Cattle <sup>d/</sup>	Cwt.	66.90	71.20	73.00	71.20
Steers & Heifers <sup>e/</sup>	Cwt.	77.00	82.00	85.00	76.20
Cows	Cwt.	35.00	37.00	35.00	36.10
Calves <sup>f/</sup>	Cwt.	87.00	94.00	95.00	106.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	13.30	14.40	14.60	12.90
Fluid <sup>g/</sup>	Cwt.	13.30	14.50	--	13.00
Manufactured	Cwt.	9.40	9.20	--	10.80
Hog-Corn Ratios <sup>h/</sup>	Bu.	15.1	16.6	18.4	21.3

<sup>a/</sup> Preliminary. <sup>b/</sup> Includes contract sales paid during month. <sup>c/</sup> Includes yellow and white corn. <sup>d/</sup> "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. <sup>e/</sup> 500 lbs. and over. <sup>f/</sup> Under 500 lbs. <sup>g/</sup> Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. <sup>h/</sup> Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

## DECEMBER 1 HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 430,000 hogs and pigs on Kentucky farms as of December 1, 2000, down 7 percent from a year ago. Breeding inventory at 50,000 head was down 9 percent from a year ago, while market hog inventory at 380,000 head was 6 percent below December 1, 1999. There were 1,000 operations with hogs during 2000, down from 1,400 in 1999.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2000, was 59.8 million head. This was 1 percent above December 1999, but slightly below September 1, 2000. Breeding inventory, at 6.28 million head, was up 1 percent from December 1, 1999, and up slightly from September 1, 2000. Market hog inventory, at 53.6 million head, was 1 percent above last year, but slightly below last quarter.

The September-November 2000 U.S. pig crop, at 25.5 million head, was 2 percent more than 1999, but 1 percent less than 1998. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.88 million head, 1 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 46 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.88 pigs saved per litter for the September-November

period, compared to 8.78 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the December 2000-February 2001 quarter, 4 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2000, and 1 percent above 1999. Intended farrowings for March-May 2001, at 2.92 million sows, are 1 percent above the same period in 2000 but down 2 percent from 1999.

The number of hog operations with hogs totaled 85,760 during 2000, down 13 percent from last year and 25 percent below 1998. Places with 2,000 or more hogs on hand accounted for 8 percent of the operations and 72 percent of the inventory. This is the fifth time operations with inventories over 2,000 head have controlled over 50 percent of the total inventory. The number of operations with over 5,000 head of inventory at 2,095 accounted for 50.5 percent of the total inventory, up from 46.5 percent a year ago. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by these over 5,000 head operations, but raised by contractees, accounted for 30 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory down from 32 percent last year.

### HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS December 1, 1999 - 2000, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	TOTAL		BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Head	1999	Head	1999	Head	1999	(1,000 Head)							
AR	685	96	110	100	575	96	210	210	140	135	140	125	110	105
GA	380	79	55	92	325	77	160	120	110	90	80	60	70	55
IL	4,200	104	450	107	3,750	103	1,270	1,360	900	930	800	810	660	650
IN	3,400	105	380	103	3,020	105	1,090	1,140	740	750	580	600	470	530
IA	15,400	100	1,120	97	14,280	100	4,360	4,410	3,770	3,950	3,210	3,170	2,900	2,750
KS	1,570	108	160	107	1,410	108	520	495	310	310	230	235	250	370
<b>KY</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>70</b>
MI	950	97	110	92	840	98	330	320	205	200	170	170	155	150
MN	5,800	105	600	107	5,200	105	1,940	2,100	1,190	1,280	1,030	1,050	780	770
MO	2,900	92	380	93	2,520	92	1,140	1,010	770	680	520	510	310	320
NE	3,100	103	360	95	2,740	105	990	1,020	650	710	550	550	430	460
NC	9,400	99	1,000	100	8,400	99	3,350	3,400	1,950	1,900	1,750	1,700	1,450	1,400
OH	1,510	102	170	100	1,340	102	530	550	320	330	285	280	175	180
OK	2,340	104	340	110	2,000	103	820	880	310	370	270	260	550	490
PA	1,040	99	120	100	920	99	330	335	250	240	195	190	155	155
SD	1,360	108	140	117	1,220	107	370	430	290	310	270	275	210	205
WI	620	109	75	115	545	108	165	190	135	135	105	110	100	110
U.S.	59,848	101	6,275	101	53,573	101	19,241	19,566	13,107	13,333	11,073	11,051	9,687	9,624

### 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 11.9 million head on December 1, 2000. The inventory was 2 percent above December 1, 1999 and 8 percent above December 1, 1998.

**Placements in feedlots** during November totaled 2.01 million, 7 percent below 1999 and 2 percent below 1998. Net placements were 1.91 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 757,000, 600-699 pounds were 559,000, 700-799 pounds were 405,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 293,000.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during November totaled 1.83 million, 1 percent above 1999 and 7 percent above 1998. **Other disappearance** totaled 105,000 during November, 27 percent above 1999 and 35 percent above 1998.

### CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

**Cattle on feed** December 1, 2000, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.2 million, up 2 percent from the previous year and 9 percent above December 1, 1998.

**Placements** in feedlots during November totaled 1.68 million, 8 percent below 1999 and 3 percent below 1998.

**Marketings** during November totaled 1.57 million, 2 percent above 1999 and 8 percent above 1998.

**Other disappearance** during November was 89,000 head, 44 percent above 1999 and 41 percent above 1998.

1/AZ, CA, CO, IA, KS, NE, and TX.

## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2000, were greater than year earlier levels for red meat, orange juice, potatoes, and fruit. Cooler stocks of pecans and apples were also higher than a year earlier.

All U. S. Warehouse Stocks				Nov. 00 as % of	
Commodity	Nov. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 30	Nov.	Oct.
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	44,056	32,072	31,564	72	98
Other Chicken	743,066	719,920	716,578	96	100
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	795,239	760,641	756,204	95	99
Turkey	252,271	475,370	259,478	103	55
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	1,052,007	1,240,576	1,020,219	97	82
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	308,936	392,999	390,997	127	99
Pork:					
Bellies	26,170	20,593	38,712	148	188
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	422,535	443,888	453,405	107	102
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	750,456	861,920	869,570	116	101

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.

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.92 billion pounds in November, up 1 percent from the previous record high for November of 3.89 billion pounds produced in 1999. November 1999 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2000 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays (including one holiday). Beef production, at 2.17 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous record high for November set last year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.93 million head, down slightly from 1999. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,230 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.71 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous record high set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.76 million head, 2 percent below 1999. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 265 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 20 million pounds, was down 6 percent from November 1999. Sheep slaughter totaled 296 thousand head, 10 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 6 pounds from November a year ago.

### COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Type	November 1999	October 2000	November 2000	Nov. 00 as % of	
				November 1999	October 2000
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,144	2,345	2,169	101	92
Veal	19	18	18	97	99
Pork	1,707	1,715	1,712	100	100
Lamb & Mutton	22	18	20	94	109
Total U.S.	3,892	4,097	3,920	101	96
Total Kentucky	40.3	38.7	41.7	104	108

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

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. NOVEMBER 1999 & 2000 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
<b>Kentucky</b>						
Cattle	1.7	1.3	1,404	1,079	813	818
Hogs	202.0	205.8	52,961	54,852	262	267
Sheep & Lambs	0.7	0.8	85	150	131	179
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,939.9	2,930.9	3,576,181	3,606,147	1,216	1,230
Hogs	8,895.7	8,756.5	2,328,982	2,321,831	262	265
Sheep & Lambs	329.7	296.4	43,583	40,780	132	138

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

## U. S. MILK PRODUCTION UP 1.5 PERCENT

**Kentucky** milk production for November 2000 totaled 134 million pounds, up 2 percent from November 1999 but down 2 percent from October 2000. Average number of cows, at 131,000 head, was unchanged from the previous year and the previous month. Milk per cow, at 1,025 pounds during November, was up 20 pounds from a year ago, but 20 pounds lower than October 2000.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during November totaled 11.5 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from production in these same

States in November 1999. October revised production, at 11.9 billion pounds was up 2.7 percent from October 1999. The October revision represented a decrease of 0.2 percent or 29 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,463 pounds for November, 4 pounds above November 1999. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.85 million head, 95,000 head more than November 1999 and 1,000 head more than October 2000.

### MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR NOVEMBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2000 as %
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	of 1999
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,484	1,550	1,715	1,670	2,545	2,589	102
IL	121	118	1,330	1,390	161	164	102
IN	137	149	1,275	1,400	175	209	119
<b>KY</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>1,005</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>102</b>
MO	158	151	1,130	1,170	179	177	99
OH	259	264	1,370	1,420	355	375	106
VA	121	119	1,315	1,260	159	150	94
WI	1,362	1,349	1,340	1,365	1,825	1,841	101
20-State							
Total	7,756	7,851	1,459	1,463	11,315	11,486	102

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

### UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Nov 1999	Nov 2000	'00 as % of '99
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,016	7,025	100
Average Layers (000)	328,253	330,486	101
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,137	2,126	99
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	30,338	32,311	107
Chicks Hatched (000)	32,892	32,646	99
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	619,595	617,524	100
Chicks Hatched (000)	676,769	674,222	100

**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/>

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