

# KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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Volume No. 24 Issue No. 1  
Released: January 3, 2005

Published twice monthly

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

## KENTUCKY CROP AND LIVESTOCK PRICES DOWN FROM NOVEMBER

Crop prices received by **Kentucky** farmers were up for winter wheat, while down for corn and soybeans. Livestock prices were down except for milk..

**Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over at mid-December averaged \$94.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from November while up \$6.00 from December 2003. **Beef cow** prices averaged \$47.00 per cwt., down \$2.00 from the previous month and unchanged from a year earlier. **Calves** under 500 pounds for mid-December averaged \$109.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from the previous month while up \$10.00 from a year earlier.

Prices received for hogs and pigs were mixed from November. **Barrows and gilts** for mid-December averaged \$50.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from November while up \$16.00 from December 2003. **Sows** at \$44.00 were up \$2.00 from the previous month and up \$16.00 from the previous year.

The price of **all milk** for mid-December was \$16.90 per cwt. This was up 10 cents from November and up \$1.50 from the previous year.

The mid-December price of **corn** was \$2.00 per bushel, down 11 cents from November and down 45 cents from December 2003. The **soybean** price for mid-December was \$5.50 per bushel, down 15 cents from the previous month and down \$1.75 from the previous year. The **winter wheat** price was \$2.80 per bushel, up 29 cents from November while down 51 cents from a year earlier.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 112, based on 1990-92=100, was 3 points below the November index. The Crop Index was down 8 points (7.1 percent) from November while the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, dairy, eggs, and cauliflower. Lower prices were received for tomatoes, oranges, corn, and cotton. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of dairy, tobacco, and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, grapes, and soybeans.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was down 2 points (1.8 percent) from December 2003. The Food Commodities Index decreased 4 points (3.3 percent) from last month to 118. The index was up 2 points (1.7 percent) from December 2003.

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

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		DEC 2003	NOV 2004	DEC 2004	DEC 2004
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn <b>b/ c/</b>	Bu.	2.45	2.11	2.00	1.99
Soybeans <b>b/</b>	Bu.	7.25	5.65	5.50	5.41
Winter Wheat <b>b/</b>	Bu.	3.31	2.51	2.80	3.29
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	110.00	100.00	100.00	92.40
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	64.00	58.00	58.00	67.10
All Hogs	Cwt.	33.80	53.50	49.80	54.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	34.00	53.00	50.00	54.90
Sows	Cwt.	28.00	42.00	44.00	46.00
All Beef Cattle <b>d/</b>	Cwt.	78.20	85.50	82.70	86.80
Steers & Heifers <b>e/</b>	Cwt.	88.00	97.00	94.00	91.90
Cows	Cwt.	47.00	49.00	47.00	48.70
Calves <b>f/</b>	Cwt.	99.00	112.00	109.00	121.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	15.40	16.80	16.90	16.50
Hog-Corn Ratios <b>g/</b>	Bu.	13.8	25.4	24.9	27.4

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/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

## DECEMBER 1 HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 350,000 hogs and pigs on Kentucky farms as of December 1, 2004, down 8 percent from a year ago. Breeding inventory at 40,000 head was 11 percent below a year ago, and market hog inventory at 310,000 head was 7 percent below December 1, 2003.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004, was 60.5 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2003, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2004. Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2003, but up slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

The September-November 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 25.6 million head, was up slightly from 2003 and up 2 percent from 2002.

Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down slightly from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.96 for the September-November period, compared to 8.93 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2004-February 2005 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2004, and 3 percent above 2003. Intended farrowings for March-May 2005, at 2.87 million sows, are down slightly from the same period in 2004, and down 1 percent from the same period in 2003.

### HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS

December 1, 2003 - 2004, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

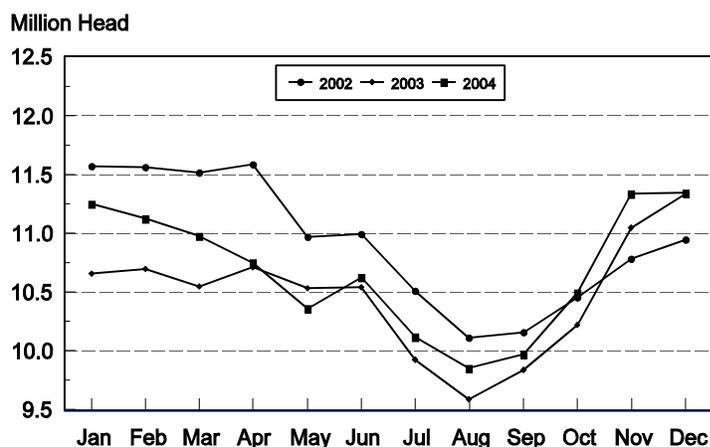
State	TOTAL		BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Head	2003	Head	2003	Head	2003	(1,000 Head)							
AR	330	106	85	100	245	109	120	130	30	40	30	35	45	40
GA	275	93	42	88	233	94	114	98	56	55	42	43	35	37
IL	4,000	100	420	102	3,580	100	1,280	1,360	860	830	770	770	680	620
IN	3,150	102	290	97	2,860	102	990	960	670	750	580	610	560	540
IA	16,100	101	1,070	101	15,030	101	4,510	4,480	4,130	4,130	3,200	3,340	3,000	3,080
KS	1,720	104	155	97	1,565	105	510	460	285	330	280	350	415	425
<b>KY</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>60</b>
MI	940	99	110	100	830	99	300	320	205	195	175	160	160	155
MN	6,500	100	600	100	5,900	100	2,210	2,250	1,420	1,420	1,250	1,250	1,020	980
MO	2,900	98	340	100	2,560	98	1,280	1,200	530	530	460	480	340	350
NE	2,85	98	355	96	2,495	99	960	970	650	650	490	470	430	405
NC	9,800	98	1,020	100	8,780	98	3,550	3,420	2,180	2,150	1,750	1,750	1,500	1,460
OH	1,450	95	155	97	1,295	95	540	535	330	310	280	270	210	180
OK	2,400	101	360	100	2,040	101	920	970	320	340	320	250	460	480
PA	1,080	97	115	96	965	97	350	280	235	275	195	225	210	185
SD	1,330	104	140	97	1,190	105	385	400	250	300	280	260	220	230
WI	430	90	50	91	380	89	165	135	95	90	85	80	80	75
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>60,501</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,969</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>54,531</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>19,778</b>	<b>19,636</b>	<b>13,238</b>	<b>13,439</b>	<b>11,109</b>	<b>11,286</b>	<b>10,311</b>	<b>10,171</b>

## 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 11.3 million head on December 1, 2004. The inventory was slightly above December 1, 2003 and 4 percent above December 1, 2002.

**Placements** in feedlots during November totaled 1.74 million, 10 percent below 2003 and 12 percent below 2002. This was the lowest placements for the month of November since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.64 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 590,000, 600-699 pounds were 557,000, 700-799 pounds were 326,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 270,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during November totaled 1.63 million, 6 percent above 2003 but 6 percent below 2002. This was the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of November since the series began in 1996. **Other disappearance** totaled 108,000 during November, 11 percent above 2003 and 20 percent above 2002.

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



## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2004, were greater than year earlier levels for chicken, beef, eggs, orange juice and cheese.

All U. S. Warehouse Stocks				Nov. 04 as % of	
Commodity	Nov. 30, 2003	Oct. 31, 2004	Nov. 30, 2004	Nov. 2003	Oct. 2004
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	569,268	801,953	768,850	135	96
Turkey	350,668	478,217	294,156	84	62
Ducks	1,831	823	580	32	70
Total Frozen Poultry	921,767	1,280,993	1,063,586	115	83
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	373,770	452,589	455,939	122	101
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	33,073	15,970	34,002	103	213
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	438,940	426,775	431,104	98	101
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	828,066	892,946	900,016	109	101

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.

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.77 billion pounds in November, up 7 percent from the 3.53 billion pounds produced in November 2003. November 2003 contained 20 weekdays (including two holidays) and 5 Saturdays. November 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 1.94 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.54 million head, up 4 percent from November 2003. The average live weight was up 35 pounds from the previous year, at 1,271 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, a new monthly record, and was up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.96 million head, 4 percent above November 2003. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 270 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 16.5 million pounds, was up 1 percent from November 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 242,100 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 2 pounds from November a year ago.

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

Type	Nov 2003	Oct 2004	Nov 2004	Nov. 04 as % of	
				Nov 2003	Oct 2004
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	1,783	2,114	1,943	109	92
Veal	15.2	12.4	13.8	91	111
Pork	1,718	1,779	1,797	105	101
Lamb & Mutton	16.3	16.3	16.5	101	101
Total U.S.	3,533	3,921	3,771	107	96
Total Kentucky	46.2	41.2	42.6	92	103

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

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. NOVEMBER 2003 & 2004 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
<b>Kentucky</b>						
Cattle	2.9	1.2	2,711	1,072	938	878
Hogs	227.8	208.7	60,065	56,122	264	269
Sheep & Lambs	0.9	0.9	111	103	121	120
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,433.5	2,541.0	3,008,512	3,228,842	1,236	1,271
Hogs	8,597.4	8,963.6	2,316,151	2,416,669	269	270
Sheep & Lambs	236.1	242.1	32,538	32,934	138	136

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

## MILK PRODUCTION

**Kentucky** milk production for November 2004 totaled 112 million pounds, down 3 percent from November 2003 and down 1 percent from October 2004. Average number of cows, at 109,000 head, was down 3,000 head from last year and unchanged from last month. Milk per cow, at 1,030 pounds, was up 5 pounds from a year earlier, but down 5 pounds from October 2004.

October revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from October 2003. The October revision represented an increase of 0.1 percent or 9 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,526 pounds for November, 9 pounds above November 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 44,000 head more than November 2003, but unchanged from October 2004.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during November totaled 11.8 billion pounds, up 1.2 percent from November 2003.

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

STATE	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Production 2/		2004 as % of 2003
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,694	1,741	1,665	1,700	2,821	2,960	105
IL	109	106	1,485	1,450	162	154	95
IN	151	154	1,620	1,560	245	240	98
<b>KY</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>97</b>
MO	125	120	1,190	1,215	149	146	98
OH	258	266	1,370	1,390	353	370	105
VA	108	103	1,260	1,340	136	138	101
WI	1,249	1,237	1,410	1,415	1,761	1,750	99
20-State							
Total	7,721	7,765	1,517	1,526	11,709	11,846	101

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

### UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Nov 2003	Nov 2004	'04 as % of '03
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,326	7,455	102
Average Layers (000)	338,283	343,477	102
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,166	2,170	100
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	32,660	35,902	110
Chicks Hatched (000)	30,241	38,421	127
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	638,154	644,675	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	707,627	730,789	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/>