

Kentucky Agri-News



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National Agricultural Statistics Service

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

KENTUCKY GRAIN AND LIVESTOCK PRICES CONTINUE TO BE MIXED

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers were up for grains and barrows and gilts while steady for cattle and milk. Calf, sow, sheep and lamb prices were lower.

Steers and heifers 500 lbs. and over averaged \$88.00 per cwt. (hundred pounds) at mid-December. This was unchanged from the November price while down \$16.00 from December 2005. **Beef cow** price at mid-month was \$43.00 per cwt., unchanged from November and down \$2.00 from a year earlier. **Calves** less than 500 lbs. averaged \$103.00 per cwt. for mid-December. This was down \$1.00 from a month earlier and \$18.00 from December 2005. This would be the lowest calf price in 34 months.

Barrows and gilts for mid-December increased in price while sows decreased in price. **Barrows and gilts** for mid-month were up \$1.00 from November at \$45.00 per cwt. The mid-December price was also up \$1.00 from a year earlier. **Sows** for mid-December averaged \$32.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from November and \$4.00 from a year earlier. This would be the lowest sow price in four months.

Sheep and lamb prices for November were both lower. The **sheep** price at \$36.00 per cwt. was down \$6.00 from October and \$9.00 from November 2005. The **lamb** price at \$91.00 per cwt. was down \$7.00 from October and \$11.00 from November a year earlier.

Price of **all milk** at mid-December was \$14.70 per cwt., no change in price from November while down 80 cents from December 2005. The final milk price will vary from the projected mid-month milk price due to price changes announced by the Milk Marketing Orders, actual milk fat content and quantity sold by milk classes.

Grain prices for mid-December were all up from November. The **corn** price at \$3.30 per bushel was up 15 cents from the November price and \$1.19 from December 2005. This would be the highest corn price since September 1996. **Soybean** price for

mid-December was \$6.55 per bushel, an increase of 13 cents from November and 57 cents from December 2005. This would be the highest soybean price in 17 months. **Winter wheat** mid-month price at \$4.50 per bushel was up 36 cents from November and \$1.32 above a year earlier. This would be the highest winter wheat price since May 1996.

The Preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 121 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.8 percent) from November. The Crop Index was up 6 points (4.9 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 3 points (2.6 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, corn, grapes, and broccoli. Lower prices were received for turkeys, cattle, hogs, and tomatoes. The overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of oranges, wheat, milk, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 6 points (5.2 percent) from December 2005.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US	
		DEC 2005	NOV 2006	DEC 2006	DEC 2006	DEC 2006
		Entire Month		Mid-Month ^{a/}		
All Corn ^{b/ c/}	Bu.	2.11	3.15	3.30	3.01	
Soybeans ^{b/}	Bu.	5.98	6.42	6.55	6.14	
Winter Wheat ^{b/}	Bu.	3.18	4.14	4.50	4.58	
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	120.00	120.00	120.00	112.00	
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	70.00	70.00	70.00	99.30	
All Hogs	Cwt.	43.70	43.60	44.50	43.20	
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	44.00	44.00	45.00	43.60	
Sows	Cwt.	36.00	35.00	32.00	32.80	
All Beef Cattle ^{d/}	Cwt.	89.80	77.20	77.20	83.70	
Steers & Heifers ^{e/}	Cwt.	104.00	88.00	88.00	89.20	
Cows	Cwt.	45.00	43.00	43.00	42.90	
Calves ^{f/}	Cwt.	121.00	104.00	103.00	115.00	
Sheep	Cwt.	52.00	36.00	--	--	
Lambs	Cwt.	108.00	91.00	--	--	
Milk Wholesale						
All	Cwt.	15.50	14.70	14.70	14.20	
Hog-Corn Ratios ^{g/}	Bu.	20.7	13.8	13.5	14.4	

^{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 310,000 hogs and pigs on Kentucky farms on December 1, 2006, down 16 percent from a year ago, and 11 percent below December 1, 2004. Breeding inventory, at 35,000 head, was down 12 percent from both last year and 2004. Market hog inventory, at 275,000 head, was 17 percent below December 1, 2005 and 11 percent below December 1, 2004. The 2006 Kentucky pig crop was 681,000 head, down 2 percent from the 2005 pig crop. Sows farrowing totaled 75,000 head, down 3,000 from 2005. Pigs per litter for 2006 averaged 9.08 pigs per litter. This was up .16 pigs from 2005.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2006 was 62.1 million head. This was up 1 percent from December 1, 2005, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2006. Breeding inventory, at 6.09 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 56.1 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2006 U.S. pig crop, at 26.6 million head, was up 1 percent from 2005 and up 3 percent from 2004. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.91 million head, up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.13 for the September-November 2006 period, compared to 9.03 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.90 million sows farrow during the December 2006-February 2007 quarter, up 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2006 and 2005. Intended farrowings for March-May 2007, at 2.93 million sows, are up 1 percent from 2006 and up 2 percent from 2005. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 38 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, down from 39 percent last year.

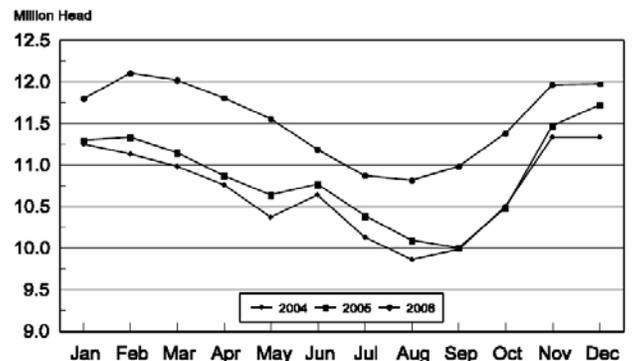
**HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS
DECEMBER 1, 2005 - 2006, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.**

State	TOTAL		BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Head	2005	Head	2005	Head	2005	(1,000 Head)								
AR	260	96	85	100	175	95	130	125	20	15	15	15	20	20
GA	245	91	38	88	207	91	97	96	51	46	40	35	39	30
IL	4,200	105	440	102	3,760	105	1,300	1,270	860	930	740	820	670	740
IN	3,300	102	330	106	2,970	101	1,060	1,090	730	740	560	590	590	550
IA	17,200	104	1,080	101	16,120	104	4,610	4,870	4,180	4,400	3,520	3,620	3,220	3,230
KS	1,840	103	170	106	1,670	102	570	560	315	310	315	325	430	475
KY	310	84	35	88	275	83	105	90	85	70	75	60	65	55
MI	1,000	104	110	110	890	103	315	300	205	220	175	170	165	200
MN	6,800	103	590	100	6,210	103	2,320	2,370	1,460	1,490	1,200	1,290	1,030	1,060
MO	2,750	102	360	104	2,390	101	1,105	1,110	480	460	450	485	320	335
NE	3,000	105	365	104	2,635	105	980	1,010	660	690	470	520	390	415
NC	9,500	97	1,010	100	8,490	97	3,450	3,410	2,130	1,940	1,720	1,710	1,490	1,430
OH	1,680	108	170	103	1,510	108	550	590	330	350	295	335	220	235
OK	2,330	98	350	97	1,980	99	920	900	320	340	240	240	530	500
PA	1,070	97	105	105	965	97	310	290	280	290	215	190	195	195
SD	1,330	89	140	85	1,190	90	450	435	325	270	290	240	260	245
WI	440	102	55	100	385	103	150	155	85	90	75	70	65	70
U.S.	62,149	101	6,088	101	56,061	101	20,055	20,334	13,524	13,603	11,293	11,544	10,567	10,580

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 12.0 million head on December 1, 2006. The inventory was 2 percent above December 1, 2005 and 6 percent above December 1, 2004. This is the highest December 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. **Placements** in feedlots during November totaled 1.89 million, 8 percent below 2005 but 8 percent above 2004. Net placements were 1.81 million. This is the second lowest placements for the month of November since the series began in 1996. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 555,000, 600-699 pounds were 565,000, 700-799 pounds were 404,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 365,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during November totaled 1.80 million, 6 percent above 2005 and 10 percent above 2004. This is the second highest fed cattle marketings for the month of November since the series began in 1996. **Other disappearance** totaled 83,000 during November, 9 percent below 2005 and 23 percent below 2004.

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



COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2006 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, beef, cheese, and pork.

All U.S. Warehouse Stocks				Nov 06 as % of	
Commodity	Nov 30 2005	Oct 31 2006	Nov 30 2006	Nov 2005	Oct 2006
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	876,573	718,964	692,766	79	96
Turkey	194,715	404,171	209,308	107	52
Ducks	2,880	5,577	5,126	178	92
Total Frozen Poultry	1,074,168	1,128,712	907,200	84	80
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	429,894	475,563	503,214	117	106
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	28,613	15,751	30,888	108	196
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	437,406	470,691	464,175	106	99
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	888,210	964,643	986,915	111	102

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.14 billion pounds in November, up 5 percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in November 2005. November 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2006 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.22 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.84 million head, up 6 percent from November 2005. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,291 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.89 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.37 million head, 3 percent above November 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 273 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was down 3 percent from November 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 223,800 head, slightly below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 3 pounds from November a year ago.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Type	Nov 2005	Oct 2006	Nov 2006	Nov. 06 as % of	
				Nov 2005	Oct 2006
Million Pounds			Percent		
Beef	2,071	2,228	2,217	107	100
Veal	12.4	14.1	14.3	115	101
Pork	1,843	1,924	1,890	103	98
Lamb & Mutton	15.8	15.6	15.3	97	98
Total U.S.	3,943	4,182	4,137	105	99
Total Kentucky	42.1	45.3	46.5	110	103

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

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. NOVEMBER 2005 & 2006 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.2	1.1	1,118	1,001	911	901
Hogs	203.6	225.9	55,445	61,164	272	271
Sheep & Lambs	1.1	0.7	145	88	136	121
United States						
Cattle	2,668.1	2,841.2	3,426,680	3,668,805	1,284	1,291
Hogs	9,133.2	9,367.6	2,483,833	2,552,774	272	273
Sheep & Lambs	224.6	223.8	31,545	30,627	140	137

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

MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for November 2006 totaled 99 million pounds, down 6 percent from November 2005 and down 1 percent from October 2006. Average number of cows, at 95,000 head, was down 7,000 head from last year but unchanged from last month. Milk per cow, at 1,045 pounds, was up 15 pounds from a year earlier, but down 5 pounds from October 2006.

totalled 13.3 billion pounds, up 2.5 percent from November 2005. October production, unrevised at 13.7 billion pounds, was up 2.1 percent from October 2005. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,616 pounds for November, 24 pounds above November 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.25 million head, 81,000 head more than November 2005, and 3,000 head more than October 2006.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during November

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR NOVEMBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2006 as % of 2005
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,770	1,781	1,725	1,755	3,053	3,126	102
IL	104	103	1,480	1,510	154	156	101
IN	157	166	1,650	1,610	259	267	103
KY	102	95	1,030	1,045	105	99	94
MO	114	115	1,280	1,250	146	144	99
OH	271	274	1,410	1,440	382	395	103
VA	105	103	1,370	1,355	144	140	97
WI	1,238	1,247	1,480	1,495	1,832	1,864	102
23-State							
Total	8,167	8,248	1,592	1,616	13,002	13,328	103

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

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Nov 2005	Nov 2006	'06 as % of '05
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,514	7,522	100
Average Layers (000)	345,874	345,696	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,172	2,176	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	34,247	34,240	100
Chicks Hatched (000)	32,285	31,748	98
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	660,019	652,019	99
Chicks Hatched (000)	747,866	729,460	98

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/>