

# 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 PRICES REMAIN STRONG WITH LIVESTOCK PRICES MIXED

Grain prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-December continue to be up while cattle and hog prices were mixed.

**Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$94.00 per cwt. (hundredweight) for mid-December. This was up \$2.00 from November and \$7.00 from December 2006. **Beef cow** price was \$41.00 per cwt. at mid-month, down \$1.00 from November and December a year earlier. This would be the lowest beef cow price since June 2003. **Calves** less than 500 pounds averaged \$100.00 per cwt. for mid-December. This was down \$2.00 from November and the previous year. This would be the lowest calf price in eleven months.

Hog prices were mixed similar to cattle prices. **Barrows and gilts** for mid-December were \$38.00 per cwt., an increase of \$3.00 from November while down \$6.00 from the previous year. Even with the recent price increase barrows and gilts were at their lowest price in over three years. Price of **sows** was \$29.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from November and \$2.00 from December 2006. This would be the lowest sow price in eight months.

Sheep and lamb prices for November were mixed with sheep prices holding steady while lamb prices decreased. The **sheep** price was \$33.00 per cwt., unchanged from October while down \$3.00 from November 2006. Sheep prices have held steady at \$33.00 for three months. The November **lamb** price was \$90.00 per cwt. This was down \$5.00 from the previous month and \$1.00 from November 2006. This would be the lowest lamb price in 15 months.

Price of **all milk** remained strong. The mid-December price was \$22.90 per cwt. This was down 70 cents from the November price while \$8.20 above December 2006. The price of milk has been above \$20.00 per cwt. for the past seven months. Demand for milk products both home and aboard continues to set high milk prices. 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 were all up from a month earlier. The mid-December **corn** price was \$4.10 per bushel, an increase of 36 cents from November and 84 cents from a year earlier. The last time corn was above \$4.00 per bushel was the summer of 1996. **Soybeans** at mid-month were \$10.50 per bushel, up \$1.50 from November and \$4.01 from December 2006. This would surpass the previous record high price of \$10.40 per bushel set in June 1973. **Winter wheat** price of \$8.50 per bushel was up 90 cents from November and \$4.32 from December a year ago. Winter wheat prices continue to set record highs.

The Preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 151 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (3.4 percent) from November. The Crop Index was up 10 points (6.5 percent) but the Livestock Index was unchanged. The All Farm Index and All Crop Index are at record highs. Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, corn, soybeans, and wheat. Lower prices were received for oranges, turkeys, snap beans, and broilers. 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 wheat, milk, oranges, and broilers offset decreased marketings of soybeans, cattle, corn, and grapes. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 31 points (26 percent) from December 2006.

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

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY		US	
		DEC 2006	NOV 2007	DEC 2007	DEC 2007
		Entire Month		Mid-Month <sup>a/</sup>	
All Corn <sup>b/</sup> <sub>c/</sub>	Bu.	3.26	3.74	4.10	3.88
Soybeans <sup>b/</sup>	Bu.	6.49	9.00	10.50	10.40
Winter Wheat <sup>b/</sup>	Bu.	4.18	7.60	8.50	9.22
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	120.00	155.00	150.00	136.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	70.00	90.00	85.00	126.00
All Hogs	Cwt.	44.50	34.90	37.60	39.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	44.00	35.00	38.00	40.30
Sows	Cwt.	31.00	32.00	29.00	21.40
All Beef Cattle <sup>d/</sup>	Cwt.	76.20	80.00	81.30	89.10
Steers & Heifers <sup>e/</sup>	Cwt.	87.00	92.00	94.00	95.50
Cows	Cwt.	42.00	42.00	41.00	44.10
Calves <sup>f/</sup>	Cwt.	102.00	102.00	100.00	119.00
Sheep	Cwt.	43.00	33.00	--	--
Lambs	Cwt.	97.00	90.00	--	--
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	14.70	23.60	22.90	21.70
Hog-Corn Ratios <sup>g/</sup>	Bu.	13.7	9.3	9.2	10.2

<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> 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 on December 1, 2007, up 13 percent from a year ago, but 5 percent below December 1, 2005. Breeding inventory, at 35,000 head, unchanged from last year but down 12 percent from 2005. Market hog inventory, at 315,000 head, was 15 percent above December 1, 2006 but 5 percent below December 1, 2005. The 2007 Kentucky pig crop was 692,000 head, up 2 percent from the 2006 pig crop. Sows farrowing totaled 74,000 head, down 1,000 from 2006. Pigs per litter for 2007 averaged 9.35 pigs per litter. This was up .27 pigs from 2006.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2007 was 65.1 million head. This was up 4 percent from December 1, 2006, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2007. Breeding inventory, at 6.16 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 59.0 million head, was up 5 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2007 U.S. pig crop, at 28.0

million head, was up 4 percent from 2006 and up 7 percent from 2005. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.03 million head, up 3 percent from 2006 and up 4 percent from 2005. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.24 for the September-November 2007 period, compared to 9.11 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.30 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.98 million sows farrow during the December 2007-February 2008 quarter, up 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2007, and up 5 percent from 2006. Intended farrowings for March-May 2008, at 3.04 million sows, are up slightly from 2007 and up 4 percent from 2006.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 38 percent last year.

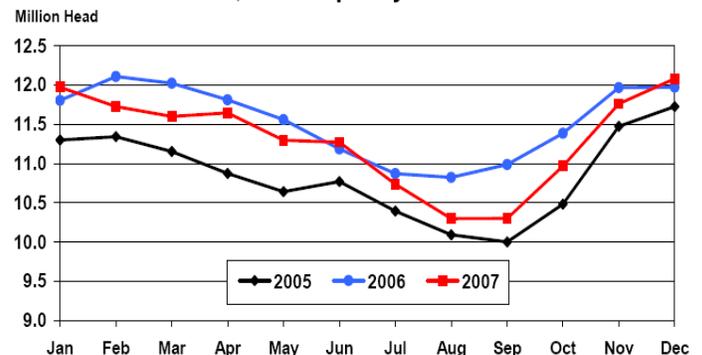
### HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS DECEMBER 1, 2006 - 2007, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	TOTAL		BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Head	2006	Head	2006	Head	2006	(1,000 Head)							
AR	285	110	85	100	200	114	125	145	15	20	15	15	20	20
GA	265	108	40	105	225	109	96	94	46	51	35	41	30	39
IL	4,150	99	440	100	3,710	99	1,270	1,320	970	920	800	770	720	700
IN	3,500	104	330	100	3,170	105	1,120	1,160	760	780	580	640	560	590
IA	18,200	105	1,100	102	17,100	105	4,910	5,300	4,470	4,700	3,540	3,700	3,300	3,400
KS	1,850	101	170	100	1,680	101	560	570	320	355	310	295	480	460
<b>KY</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>75</b>
MI	1,020	102	100	91	920	103	300	320	230	225	170	200	190	175
MN	7,200	104	600	102	6,600	105	2,420	2,590	1,540	1,590	1,250	1,250	1,100	1,170
MO	3,050	109	370	103	2,680	110	1,130	1,245	490	550	475	465	345	420
NE	3,150	103	355	97	2,795	104	1,010	1,030	720	755	530	560	425	450
NC	9,900	104	1,030	102	8,870	104	3,390	3,370	1,970	2,100	1,680	1,790	1,450	1,610
OH	1,760	104	165	97	1,595	105	590	625	370	395	305	325	255	250
OK	2,330	100	360	103	1,970	99	900	920	340	300	240	220	500	530
PA	1,130	105	100	95	1,030	106	300	325	300	295	185	210	190	200
SD	1,370	108	165	118	1,205	107	415	450	260	255	220	250	235	250
WI	430	96	50	91	380	96	155	150	100	100	70	60	70	70
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>65,110</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>6,157</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>58,953</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>20,462</b>	<b>21,364</b>	<b>13,928</b>	<b>14,459</b>	<b>11,275</b>	<b>11,737</b>	<b>10,738</b>	<b>11,394</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 12.1 million head on December 1, 2007. The inventory was 1 percent above December 1, 2006 and 3 percent above December 1, 2005. This is the highest December 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. **Placements** in feedlots during November totaled 2.12 million, 12 percent above 2006 and 3 percent above 2005. Net placements were 2.06 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 685,000, 600-699 pounds were 650,000, 700-799 pounds were 420,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 361,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during November totaled 1.74 million, 3 percent below 2006 but 2 percent above 2005. **Other disappearance** totaled 57,000 during November, 31 percent below 2006 and 37 percent below 2005.

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



## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2007 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, pork and chicken.

All U.S. Warehouse Stocks				Nov 07 as % of	
Commodity	Nov 30 2006	Oct 31 2007	Nov 30 2007	Nov 2006	Oct 2007
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	692,276	665,787	700,451	101	105
Turkey	214,526	416,941	212,756	99	51
Ducks	5,134	6,184	6,045	118	98
Total Frozen Poultry	911,936	1,088,912	919,252	101	84
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	520,325	486,604	470,333	90	97
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	30,553	20,356	34,519	113	170
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	468,476	494,751	477,436	102	97
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	1,009,877	1,001,778	966,209	96	96

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.30 billion pounds in November, up 4 percent from the 4.15 billion pounds produced in November 2006. November 2006 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2007 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, down slightly from November 2006. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,304 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.05 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.1 million head, up 7 percent from November 2006. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 272 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 16.1 million pounds, was up 5 percent from November 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 236,700 head, 6 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 1 pound from November a year ago.

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

Type	Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Nov. 07 as % of	
				Nov 2006	Oct 2007
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,226.6	*2,441.8	2,229.1	100	91
Veal	12.9	11.1	10.1	78	91
Pork	1,896.4	*2,144.8	2,045.4	108	95
Lamb & Mutton	15.4	16.4	16.1	105	99
Total U.S.	4,151.4	*4,614.0	4,300.6	104	93
Total Kentucky	45.9	55.3	51.8	113	94

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

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. NOVEMBER 2006 & 2007 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
<b>Kentucky</b>						
Cattle	1.1	1.4	980	1,319	883	925
Hogs	225.9	250.0	60,496	67,398	268	270
Sheep & Lambs	0.7	1.0	91	120	125	125
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,842.4	2,831.2	3,666,824	3,677,910	1,295	1,304
Hogs	9,364.9	10,050.7	2,542,375	2,735,130	272	272
Sheep & Lambs	224.2	236.7	30,744	32,193	137	136

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

# MILK PRODUCTION

**Kentucky** milk production for November 2007 totaled 97 million pounds, down 4 percent from November 2006 but unchanged from October 2007. Average number of cows, at 87,000 head, was down 8,000 head from last year but unchanged from last month. Milk per cow, at 1,120 pounds, was up 60 pounds from a year earlier, and up 5 pounds from October 2007.

totalled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.8 percent from November 2006. October production, unrevised at 14.2 billion pounds, was up 4.1 percent from October 2006. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,654 pounds for November, 40 pounds above November 2006. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.36 million head, 101,000 head more than November 2006, and 8,000 head more than October 2007.

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

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

STATE	Milk Cows <sup>1/</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2/</sup>		Production <sup>2/</sup>		2007 as % of 2006
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,782	1,829	1,760	1,810	3,136	3,310	106
IL	103	103	1,510	1,470	156	151	97
IN	166	166	1,610	1,650	267	274	103
<b>KY</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>96</b>
MO	115	109	1,250	1,190	144	130	90
OH	274	277	1,440	1,470	395	407	103
VA	101	100	1,365	1,400	138	140	101
WI	1,245	1,249	1,500	1,545	1,868	1,930	103
23-State							
Total	8,260	8,361	1,614	1,654	13,332	13,833	104

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

## UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Nov 2006	Nov 2007	'07 as % of '06
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,549	7,511	99
Average Layers (000)	346,936	342,905	99
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,176	2,190	101
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	33,693	35,915	107
Chicks Hatched (000)	31,554	33,986	108
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	653,931	677,805	104
Chicks Hatched (000)	729,946	761,402	104

**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/>