

# KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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**FEATURING:**    ▶ **Agricultural Prices**    ▶ **Corn & Soybean Chemical Usage**    ▶ **Cold Storage**  
▶ **Farm Labor**    ▶ **Milk Production**    ▶ **Cattle on Feed**    ▶ **Egg Production**    ▶ **Slaughter**

## PRICES MIXED FOR GRAIN AND LIVESTOCK

Mid-May prices received by **Kentucky** farmers were mixed for grain and livestock.

**Steers and heifers** at mid-May averaged \$84.00 per cwt. This was \$1.00 below the nine month high reached in April. The price received for **beef cows** averaged \$44.00 per cwt. This was \$3.00 above last year and equaled last month's price as the highest since June 1994. **Calves** under 500 lbs. received a price of \$99.00 per cwt., unchanged from last May while averaging \$3.00 less than last month and the lowest in three months.

Prices received for **barrows and gilts** at mid-month averaged \$46.00 per cwt. and were \$2.00 above last month while unchanged from last year. The mid-May price equaled the high price of last July. **Sow** prices at mid-May averaged \$40.00 per cwt., the same as last month while \$1.00 below the high of last May.

The **all milk** mid-May price received averaged \$16.20 per cwt. This was 50 cents above last month and \$2.60 above last year. This was the highest milk price in 18 months.

**Corn** prices continued to decrease at mid-May to \$1.95 per bushel. This was 40 cents below a year ago and the lowest price in 7 months. **Soybean** prices increased 7 cents to \$4.45 per bushel after a 4 month decline. This was 95 cents below last year. Prices received for **winter wheat** averaged \$2.40 per bushel, an increase of 25 cents from last month and 8 cents from last year.

The Preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in May was 108 based on 1990-92=100, up 2 points (1.9 percent) from the April Index. Higher prices for milk, hogs, tomatoes, and broilers were partially offset by lower prices for strawberries, cattle, eggs, and corn. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of cantaloups, broilers, grapes, and peaches were partially offset by lower marketings of cattle, milk, asparagus, cotton, and hogs.

Compared with May 2000, the All Farm Products Index was 8 points (8.0 percent) higher. Price increases from May 2000 for milk, broilers, cantaloups, and cattle were partially offset by lower prices for corn, soybeans, broccoli, and lettuce.

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

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US	
		MAY 2000	APR 2001	MAY 2001	MAY 2001	
		Entire Month		Mid-Month <u>a/</u>		
All Corn <u>b/</u> <u>c/</u>	Bu.	2.35	2.08	1.95	1.78	
Soybeans <u>b/</u>	Bu.	5.40	4.38	4.45	4.33	
Winter Wheat <u>b/</u>	Bu.	2.32	2.15	2.40	2.94	
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	112.00	110.00	100.00	113.00	
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	73.00	64.00	58.00	76.60	
All Hogs	Cwt.	45.80	43.80	45.80	51.40	
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	46.00	44.00	46.00	52.10	
Sows	Cwt.	41.00	40.00	40.00	39.60	
All Beef Cattle <u>d/</u>	Cwt.	74.40	75.20	74.40	72.70	
Steers & Heifers <u>e/</u>	Cwt.	85.00	85.00	84.00	76.20	
Cows	Cwt.	41.00	44.00	44.00	43.40	
Calves <u>f/</u>	Cwt.	99.00	102.00	99.00	112.00	
Milk Wholesale						
All	Cwt.	13.60	15.70	16.20	15.40	
Fluid <u>g/</u>	Cwt.	13.60	15.70	--	15.40	
Manufactured	Cwt.	8.80	10.80	--	13.90	
Hog-Corn Ratios <u>h/</u>	Bu.	19.5	21.1	23.5	28.9	

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/Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. h/Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

## 2000 AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL USE FOR KENTUCKY

The agricultural chemical use estimates in this report refer to on-farm use of chemicals on corn and soybeans for the 2000 crop year. Farm and ranch operators were enumerated late in the growing season or after the farm operator had indicated that planned applications were completed.

### CORN: AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS, KENTUCKY, 2000 <sup>1/</sup>

Agricultural Chemical	Area Applied	Applications	Rate per Application	Rate per Crop Year	Total Applied
	Percent				
Herbicides:					
2, 4-D	11	1.0	0.45	0.45	64
Acetochlor	3	1.0	1.23	1.23	44
Alachlor	4	1.0	1.98	1.98	106
Atrazine	75	1.1	1.15	1.35	1,341
Glyphosate	7	1.0	0.74	0.74	72
Imazapyr	15	1.0	0.002	0.002	*
Imazethapyr	15	1.0	0.006	0.006	1
Metolachlor	26	1.0	1.36	1.36	467
Paraquat	25	1.0	0.51	0.51	166
Primisulfuron	4	1.0	0.03	0.03	2
Simazine	8	1.0	1.25	1.25	133

<sup>1/</sup>Planted acres in 2000 for Kentucky were 1.33 million acres. \*Total applied is less than 1,000 lbs.

### SOYBEANS: AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS, KENTUCKY, 2000 <sup>1/</sup>

Agricultural Chemical	Area Applied	Applications	Rate per Application	Rate per Crop Year	Total Applied
	Percent				
Herbicides:					
Chlorimuron-ethyl	28	1.0	0.05	0.05	17
Fenoxaprop-P-ethyl	33	1.0	0.09	0.09	37
Fluazifop-P-butyl	33	1.0	0.03	0.03	13
Fomesafen	16	1.0	0.28	0.28	54
Glyphosate	40	1.1	0.70	0.80	381
Imazaquin	3	1.0	0.11	0.11	4
Pendimethalin	11	1.0	0.64	0.64	85
Sulfosate	14	1.0	0.98	1.06	180

<sup>1/</sup>Planted acres in 2000 for Kentucky were 1.20 million acres.

## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on April 30, 2001, were greater than year earlier levels for fruit, orange juice and potatoes.

Commodity	All U.S. Warehouse Stocks			April 2001 as % of	
	April 30 2000	March 31 2001	April 30 2001	April 2000	March 2001
Frozen Poultry	1,000 lbs			Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	35,024	15,585	13,532	39	87
Other Chicken	811,977	620,881	633,913	78	102
Total Chicken <sup>1/</sup>	855,763	642,952	654,789	77	102
Turkey	416,866	355,403	395,104	95	111
Total Frozen Poultry <sup>2/</sup>	1,276,931	1,003,238	1,056,051	83	105
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	396,128	332,598	319,974	81	96
Pork:					
Bellies	63,461	45,440	43,777	69	96
Total Frozen Pork <sup>3/</sup>	532,063	431,881	441,218	83	102
Total Meat <sup>4/</sup>	951,312	787,519	786,517	83	100

<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.

## APRIL ALL HIRED WAGE RATE HIGHER

There were 1.02 million hired workers on the **Nation's** farms and ranches the week of April 8-14, 2001, down 4 percent from a year ago. There were 804,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 215,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 8.9 percent of the April hired workforce compared with 8.5 percent in April 2000.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.31 per hour during the April 2001 survey week, up 22 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$7.61 per hour, up 7 cents from last April.

Livestock workers earned \$8.01 per hour compared with \$7.58 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate was up 16 cents from last year.

The number of hired workers in the **3-State Region including Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia** totaled 27,000 during the week of April 8-14, 2001. This compares to 21,000 hired workers for the same time period a year ago. Wage rates for these workers averaged \$7.31 per hour, up 21 cents per hour from 2000. Field workers earned an average \$6.85 per hour compared to \$6.54 per hour last year. Livestock workers were paid an average of \$7.36 per hour, up 46 cents per hour from a year ago.

## APRIL MILK PRODUCTION

**Kentucky** milk production for April 2001 totaled 150 million pounds, down 10 percent from April 2000 but unchanged from March 2001. Average number of milk cows on farms at 128,000 head, was down 5,000 head from a year earlier but up 1,000 head from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,170 pounds, up 5 pounds from April 2000, but down 10 pounds from last month.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during April totaled 12.2 billion pounds, down 1.9 percent from April 2000.

March revised production, at 12.4 billion pounds, was down 2.3 percent from March 2000. The March revision represented a decrease of 2 million pounds, virtually unchanged from last months preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,572 pounds for April, 21 pounds below April 2000. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 45,000 head less than April 2000, and 12,000 head less than March 2001.

## 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 11.17 million head on May 1, 2001. The inventory was 2 percent above May 1, 2000 and 11 percent above May 1, 1999. **Placements** in feedlots during April totaled 1.55 million, 9 percent below 2000 and 8 percent below 1999. Net placements were 1.46 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 334,000, 600-699 pounds were 384,000, 700-799 pounds were 494,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 339,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during April totaled 1.82 million, 3 percent below 2000 and 7 percent below 1999. **Other disappearance** totaled 89,000 during April, 1 percent below 2000 and 14 percent below 1999.

## CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

**Cattle on feed** May 1, 2001, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.56 million, up 2 percent from the previous year and 11 percent above May 1, 1999. **Placements** in feedlots during April totaled 1.32 million, 10 percent below 2000 and 8 percent below 1999. **Marketings** during April totaled 1.55 million, 3 percent below 2000 and 8 percent below 1999. **Other disappearance** during April was 74,000 head, 4 percent above 2000 but 5 percent below 1999.

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

## UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Item	April 2000	April 2001	April '01 as % of April '00
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,013	7,093	101
Average Layers (000)	329,223	336,859	102
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,130	2,106	99
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set May 1 (000)	36,562	37,009	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	36,649	41,691	114
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set May 1 (000)	639,310	635,189	99
Chicks Hatched (000)	746,830	745,304	100

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 3.51 billion pounds in April, up 1 percent from the 3.46 billion pounds produced in April 2000. April 2000 contained 20 weekdays and 5 Saturdays. April 2001 contained 21 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 1.94 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.71 million head, down 2 percent from April 2000. The average live weight was down 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,186 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.53 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.83 million head, 8 percent above April 2000. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 265 pounds.

### COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: U. S. & KENTUCKY <sup>1/</sup>

Type	April 2000	March 2001	April 2001	April 01 % of	
				April 2000	March 2001
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,027	*2,096	1,939	96	93
Veal	17	16	15	91	93
Pork	1,398	1,626	1,532	110	94
Lamb & Mutton	23	23	20	86	87
Total U.S.	3,465	*3,761	3,507	101	93
Total Kentucky	31.9	35.3	32.0	100	91

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

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. APRIL 2000 & 2001 <sup>1/</sup>

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
<b>Kentucky</b>						
Cattle	1.1	1.1	908	982	835	877
Hogs	158.4	157.3	41,787	41,979	264	267
Sheep & Lambs	0.7	0.6	92	99	125	154
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,783.4	2,714.3	3,344,879	3,218,254	1,202	1,186
Hogs	7,227.4	7,831.9	1,897,915	2,072,103	263	265
Sheep & Lambs	345.3	290.4	47,124	40,602	136	140

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

**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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