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Featuring: ▶ **County Estimates** ▶ **Cold Storage** ▶ **Dairy Products** ▶ **Slaughter**
▶ **Cattle on Feed** ▶ **Milk Production** ▶ **Chicken & Eggs**

UNION, HENDERSON AND DAVIESS LEAD STATE IN CORN PRODUCTION

Union was the top producing corn county in **Kentucky** for the 2007 crop season. During 2007, Union County produced 14,820,000 bushels of corn from 95,000 acres harvested for grain with a yield of 156 bushels per acre. Henderson County was second in production with 12,774,300 bushels followed by Daviess County with 11,994,800 bushels. Other counties with six million bushels of production or more included Graves, Christian, McLean, Hickman, Webster and Logan. The highest yielding county was Butler with 173 bushels per acre. Corn for grain production was estimated at 175.4 million bushels, a 16 percent increase from the 2006 crop and the largest corn crop on record. Production was up due to the increase in harvested for grain acreage. Corn generally yielded

well even with the dry summer. Yield varied from the best ever to very poor depending on rainfall received and the timing of the rain received. Rainfall varied greatly county by county. Yield for Kentucky was estimated at 129 bushels per acre, down 17 bushels from last year's crop. This was the lowest yield in five years. Acreage harvested for grain at 1.36 million acres was the largest harvested acreage since 1983. It was up 320,000 acres from the 2006 crop. Corn production for the **Nation** was estimated at 13.1 billion bushels, up 24 percent from 2006. Production was a record high as yield was the second highest on record and producers harvested the most corn for grain acreage since 1933.

DAVIESS, HENDERSON AND UNION TOP SOYBEAN PRODUCING COUNTIES

Daviess County was the leading soybean production county in **Kentucky** with 2,553,600 bushels of soybeans. Production came from 67,200 acres harvested with a yield of 38 bushels per acre. Henderson County was second in production with 2,344,600 bushels followed by Union County with 1,613,200 bushels. McLean and Graves Counties were the only other counties with production of one million plus bushels. Butler County was the highest yielding county with 43 bushels per acre. Soybean production was down 53 percent from the 2006 crop and the smallest in eight years. The smaller crop was brought about by a decrease in yield per acre and smaller harvested acreage. Yields were down significantly

from the 2006 crop and varied greatly depending on how much and when the rainfall was received. Double crop soybeans, following the wheat harvest in early summer, suffered due to lack of rainfall during the growing season. Many acres of double crop beans were harvested as hay and/or silage or simply abandoned. Yield was estimated at 26 bushels per acre, down 18 bushels from last year's record tying high yield of 44 bushels per acre. Acreage harvested as beans was estimated at 1.08 million acres, down 290,000 acres from the previous high year and the smallest harvested acreage in 19 years. **U.S.** soybean production totaled 2.59 billion bushels, down 19 percent from the record high production of 2006.

CHRISTIAN, LOGAN AND HICKMAN WERE THE TOP THREE WHEAT COUNTIES

Christian County produced 1,679,400 bushels of winter wheat and was the leading wheat producing county in **Kentucky** during the 2007 crop season. Yield for the county averaged 54 bushels per acre with production harvested from 31,100 acres. Logan County was second in production with 906,500 bushels while Hickman County was third with 800,400 bushels. Oldham County was the top yielding county with 67 bushels per acre. The 2007 winter wheat crop was disappointing for many Kentucky farmers. A crop that looked so promising in late March and early April turned to disaster in mid-April. After experiencing unseasonable warm

temperatures in March and early April with much of the crop in the growth stage, freezing temperatures in mid-April left much of the crop unfit for harvest as grain. Farmers only harvested 250,000 acres for grain, 70,000 fewer acres than in 2006. Yield was estimated at 49 bushels per acre, down 22 bushels from last year's record high yield of 71 bushels per acre. Some of the damaged winter wheat not burned down with herbicides and replanted to corn or soybeans paid good dividends at harvest for the farmer given the high price of wheat at harvest time. **U.S.** winter wheat production was estimated at 1.52 billion bushels, up 17 percent from the 2006 crop.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on February 29, 2008 were greater than year earlier levels for turkey, pork, chicken and butter.

Commodity	All U. S. Warehouse Stocks			Feb 08 as % of	
	Feb 28, 2007	Jan 31, 2008	Feb 29, 2008	Feb 2007	Jan 2008
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	621,956	773,005	753,151	121	97
Turkey	312,878	327,590	411,474	132	126
Ducks	4,773	5,088	5,228	110	103
Total Frozen Poultry	939,607	1,105,683	1,169,853	125	106
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	458,900	445,131	418,254	91	94
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	46,643	70,647	79,382	170	112
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	483,200	570,348	603,244	125	106
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	963,373	1,037,245	1,046,367	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.

U.S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, JANUARY 2008

PRODUCT	January 2007	December 2007 <u>1/</u>	January 2008	Percent of	
				Jan. 2007	Dec. 2007
(000) Pounds					
BUTTER	151,030	140,732	170,183	113	121
(000) Gallons					
CHEESE				Percent	
American Types <u>2/</u>	343,095	334,511	333,676	97	100
Mozzarella	279,383	285,942	279,334	100	98
All Other Types <u>3/</u>	203,491	223,251	197,009	97	88
Total	825,969	843,704	810,019	98	96
(000) Gallons					
FROZEN PRODUCTS				Percent	
Ice Cream (Hard)	64,840	52,505	62,848	97	120
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	4,589	3,399	3,561	78	105
(000) Gallons					
MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS				Percent	
Ice Cream Mix	36,443	28,127	34,364	94	122
Yogurt Mix	2,781	2,060	2,158	78	105

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack. 3/ Includes Swiss, cream and all other types. Excludes cottage cheese.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION IN 2007

Red meat production for the United States totaled 48.8 billion pounds in 2007, 2 percent higher than the previous year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 48.7 billion pounds. On farm production totaled 135 million pounds.

Beef production totaled 26.5 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Veal production totaled 146 million pounds, down 6 percent from last year. Pork production, at 22.0 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Lamb and mutton production totaled 188 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2006.

Commercial cattle slaughter during 2007 totaled 34.3 million head, up 2 percent from 2006, with federal inspection comprising 98.4 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,273 pounds, down 2 pounds from a year ago. Steers comprised 51.3 percent of the total federally inspected cattle slaughter, heifers 30.3 percent, dairy cows 7.4 percent, other cows 9.4 percent, and bulls 1.6 percent.

Commercial calf slaughter totaled 758,100 head, 7 percent higher than a year ago with 98.2 percent under federal inspection. The average live weight was 305 pounds, down 40 pounds from a year earlier.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 109.2 million head, 4 percent higher than 2006 with 99.1 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 269 pounds. Barrows and gilts comprised 96.5 percent of the total federally inspected hog slaughter.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 2.69 million head, was down slightly from the previous year with 93.9 percent comprised by federal inspection. The average live weight was down 1 pound from 2006 to 136 pounds. Lambs and yearlings comprised 95.4 percent of the total federally inspected sheep slaughter.

Red meat production in Kentucky during 2007 totaled 563.0 million pounds, up 13 percent from the 2006 level. Commercial beef slaughter totaled 16.1 million pounds live weight, 9 percent above the 2006 level. Commercial pork slaughter, at 733 million pounds live weight was 12 percent above the previous year. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 1.47 million pounds live weight, was 3 percent above the 2006 total. During 2007, animals were slaughtered at 48 plants in Kentucky, of which 20 were under federal inspection.

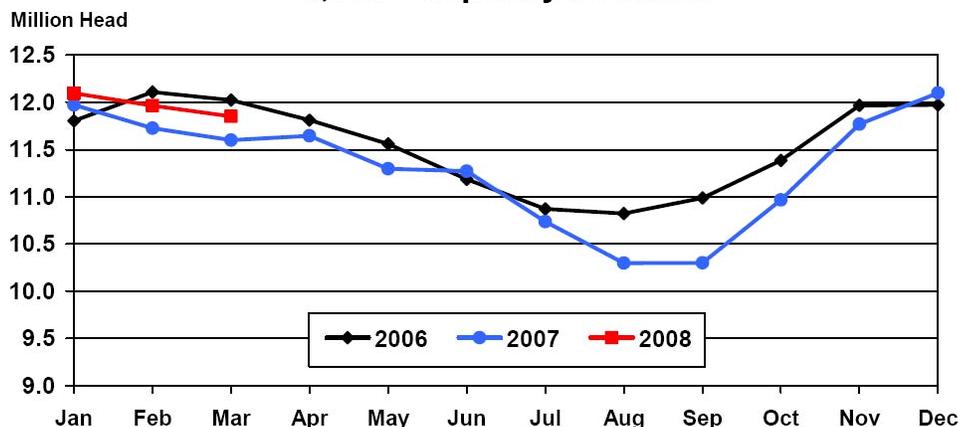
U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

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 March 1, 2008. The inventory was 2 percent above March 1, 2007 but 1 percent below March 1, 2006. This is the second highest March 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.72 million, 4 percent above 2007 and 9 percent above 2006. Net

placements were 1.66 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 330,000, 600-699 pounds were 385,000, 700-799 pounds were 533,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 475,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during February totaled 1.78 million, 4 percent above 2007 and 11 percent above 2006. **Other disappearance** totaled 60,000 during February, 20 percent below 2007 and 18 percent below 2006.

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



MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for February 2008 totaled 101 million pounds, down 1 percent from a year earlier and 6 percent from last month. Average number of cows on farms, at 91,000, was down 2,000 head from a year earlier, and unchanged from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,110 pounds, up 10 pounds from last year, but down 70 pounds from last month.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during February totaled 13.9 billion pounds, up 6.0 percent from

February 2007. January revised production, at 14.7 billion pounds, was up 2.7 percent from January 2007. The January revision represented an increase of 40 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,653 pounds for February, 69 pounds above February 2007. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.42 million head, 136,000 head more than February 2007, and 9,000 head more than January 2008.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Feb. 2007	Feb. 2008	Feb. 08 % of Feb. 07
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	6,951	7,125	103
Average Layers (000)	348,843	343,366	98
Eggs Per 100 Layers	1,993	2,075	104
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Mar. 1 (000)	38,468	36,531	95
Chicks Hatched (000)	36,766	37,549	102
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Mar. 1 (000)	663,815	679,081	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	723,753	777,197	107

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/>