

FEATURING: ▶ **Agricultural Prices** ▶ **Cold Storage** ▶ **Slaughter**
 ▶ **Cattle on Feed** ▶ **Chicken & Eggs** ▶ **Milk Production**

LIVESTOCK PRICES GENERALLY UP WHILE GRAIN PRICES MIXED

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-October continued to be mixed. Cattle and soybean prices were up from September while barrow and gilt, corn and winter wheat prices were down.

Cattle and calf prices continued to show strength. **Steers and heifers** 500 lbs and over at mid-October averaged \$91.00 per cwt., up \$2.00 from September and \$19.00 from a year earlier. Steer and heifer prices were at their highest level since monthly records started in 1953. **Beef cows** averaged \$44.00 per cwt., up \$1.00 from the September price and \$10.00 from October 2002. **Calves** under 500 pounds averaged \$99.00 per cwt for mid-October. This was up \$1.00 from September and \$19.00 from October 2002. Calf prices have increased monthly for 3 months.

Prices received for hogs were mixed. **Barrows and gilts** for mid-October averaged \$37.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from the September price while up \$8.00 from October 2002. This was the lowest barrow and gilt price in 5 months. **Sows** at \$30.00 per cwt. were unchanged from the September price while up \$10.00 from October a year earlier.

The price for **all milk** at mid-October was \$16.20 per cwt., up 60 cents from the previous month and \$3.30 from a year earlier. This was the highest milk price since November 2001. **Milk cow** price for mid-October was \$1,360 per head. This was up \$50.00 from the July price while down \$90.00 from October 2002

Prices for corn, soybeans and winter wheat were mixed with corn and winter wheat decreasing while soybeans increased. The mid-October **corn** price was \$2.15 per bushel, down 9 cents from September and 31 cents from October 2002. Corn prices have declined since May with the mid-October price the lowest since June 2002. The **soybean** price for mid-October was \$7.15 per bushel, the highest in nearly 6 years. The mid-

October price was \$1.10 higher than the September price and \$1.59 higher than a year earlier. The **winter wheat** price was \$3.25 per bushel, down 7 cents from September and 17 cents from October last year.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October is 113, based on 1990-92=100, 3 points above the September index. Lower prices for hogs, potatoes, corn, and wheat more than offset increased prices for cattle, soybeans, dairy, and lettuce. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Decreased marketings of wheat, dairy, grapes, and tobacco more than offset increased marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton, and cottonseed.

The current All Farm Products Index is 18 points (18.9 percent) above October 2002. Higher prices for broilers, soybeans, cattle, and lettuce are more than offset by lower prices for corn, wheat, potatoes, and hay.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		OCT	SEPT	OCT	OCT
		2002	2003	2003	2003
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn b/ c/	Bu.	2.46	2.24	2.15	2.02
Soybeans b/	Bu.	5.56	6.05	7.15	6.94
Winter Wheat b/	Bu.	3.42	3.32	3.25	3.14
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	100.00	110.00	115.00	88.80
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	58.00	64.00	67.00	71.40
All Hogs	Cwt.	28.60	39.60	36.70	37.70
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	29.00	40.00	37.00	38.10
Sows	Cwt.	20.00	30.00	30.00	31.10
All Beef Cattle d/	Cwt.	62.90	78.00	79.70	91.60
Steers & Heifers e/	Cwt.	72.00	89.00	91.00	97.40
Cows	Cwt.	34.00	43.00	44.00	44.70
Calves f/	Cwt.	80.00	98.00	99.00	112.00
Milk Cows g/	Ea.	1450.00	-	1360.00	1370.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	12.90	15.60	16.20	14.80
Hog-Corn Ratios h/	Bu.	11.6	17.7	17.1	18.7

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/ Published only in Jan., Apr., July & Oct. h/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 2003, were greater than year earlier levels for total cheese, frozen eggs, frozen vegetables, and potatoes.

All U.S. Warehouse Stocks				Sept 03 as % of	
Commodity	Sept 30 2002	Aug 31 2003	Sept 30 2003	Sept 2002	Aug 2003
Frozen Poultry	1,000 lbs		Percent		
Chicken	835,425	617,698	603,691	72	98
Turkey	672,382	706,502	653,508	97	92
Ducks	7,692	4,064	2,931	38	72
Total Frozen Poultry	1,515,499	1,328,264	1,260,130	83	95
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	494,907	370,992	381,439	77	103
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	9,452	17,900	10,180	108	57
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	480,227	430,239	435,891	91	101
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	997,848	817,317	834,486	84	102

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 4.01 billion pounds in September, a monthly record high, up 3 percent from the 3.87 billion pounds produced in September 2002. September 2002 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. September 2003 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds and a monthly record high, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.12 million head, up 9 percent from September 2002. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from the previous year, at 1,227 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, a monthly record high, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.55 million head, 1 percent above September 2002. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 263 pounds.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Class	Sept 2002	Aug 2003	Sept 2003	Sept 03 as % of	
				Sept 2002	Aug 2003
Million Pounds			Percent		
Beef	2,201	2,328	2,312	105	99
Veal	16.3	14.2	15.4	94	108
Pork	1,638	1,555	1,664	102	107
Lamb & Mutton	17.6	15.7	16.9	96	108
Total U.S.	3,873	3,913	4,008	103	102
Total Kentucky	38.6	36.8	42.8	111	116

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

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. SEPTEMBER 2002 & 2003 1/

Class	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds		
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.3	1.2	1,134	1,050	874	879
Hogs	196.7	215.6	50,905	56,180	259	261
Sheep & Lambs	0.8	1.2	106	135	130	114
United States						
Cattle	2,866.7	3,122.9	3,619,953	3,832,666	1,263	1,227
Hogs	8,505.5	8,554.2	2,215,539	2,245,673	260	263
Sheep & Lambs	276.3	256.3	35,374	33,594	128	131

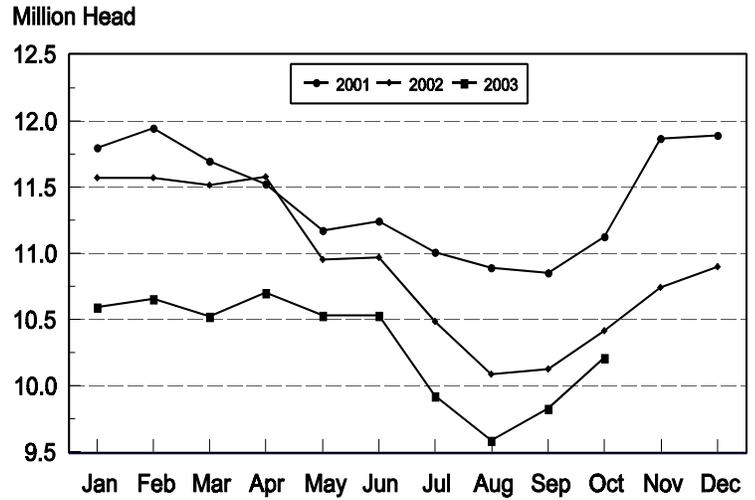
1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

CATTLE ON FEED

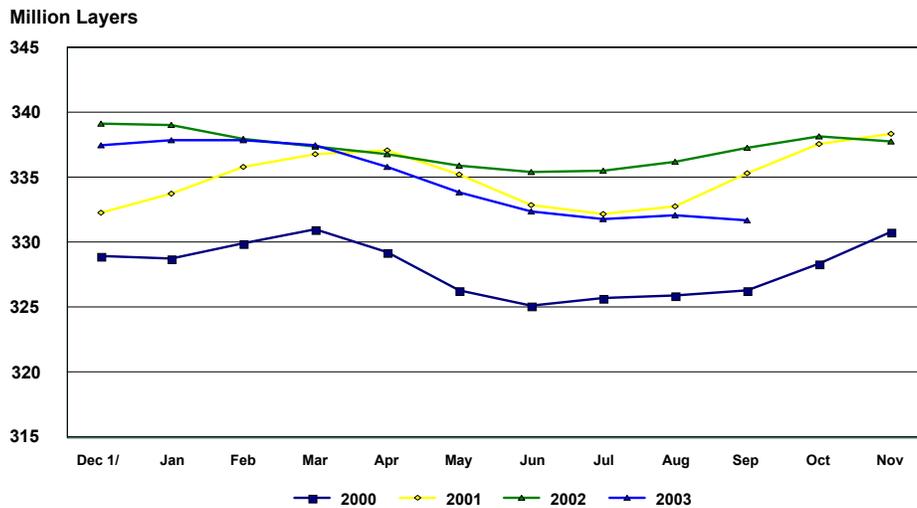
Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.2 million head on October 1, 2003. The inventory was 2 percent below October 1, 2002 and 8 percent below October 1, 2001. The inventory included 6.24 million steers and steer calves, down slightly from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.91 million head, down 4 percent from 2002.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.47 million, 13 percent above 2002 and 16 percent above 2001. Net placements were 2.41 million. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 698,000, 600-699 pounds were 545,000, 700-799 pounds were 610,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 621,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during September totaled 2.03 million, 10 percent above 2002 and 11 percent above 2001. **Other disappearance** totaled 63,000 during September, 19 percent above 2002 and 37 percent above 2001.

United States Cattle on Feed
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots



AVERAGE NUMBER OF LAYERS U.S., 2000-2003



UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Sept 2002	Sept 2003	Sept 03 as % of Sept 02
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,147	7,045	99
Average Layers (000)	337,264	331,659	98
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,119	2,127	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Oct 1 (000)	29,881	30,105	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	35,734	35,777	100
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Oct 1 (000)	590,122	600,490	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	740,396	739,191	100

MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for September 2003 totaled 107 million pounds. This was down 10 percent from September 2002 production and down 2 percent from August 2003. The average **number of cows** on farms, at 111,000 head, was down 9,000 head from a year earlier and down 1,000 head from last month. **Milk per cow** averaged 965 pounds, down 25 pounds from September 2002 and down 10 pounds from August 2003.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during September totaled 11.6 billion pounds, down 0.1

percent from September 2002. August revised production, at 12.1 billion pounds, was down 0.9 percent from August 2002. The August revision represented a decrease of 0.1 percent or 17 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. **Production per cow** in the 20 major States averaged 1,503 pounds for September, 6 pounds more from September 2002. The **number of cows** on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 38,000 head less than September 2002, and 7,000 head less than August 2003.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR SEPTEMBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2003 as %
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	of 2002
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,658	1,701	1,700	1,655	2,819	2,815	100
IL	115	108	1,365	1,400	157	151	96
IN	147	144	1,375	1,425	202	205	101
KY	120	111	990	965	119	107	90
MO	136	127	1,050	1,115	143	142	99
OH	262	259	1,360	1,380	356	357	100
VA	119	111	1,225	1,165	146	129	88
WI	1,268	1,253	1,405	1,440	1,782	1,804	101
20-State							
Total	7,781	7,743	1,497	1,503	11,648	11,641	100

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

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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