

Kentucky Agri-News



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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

KENTUCKY GRAIN PRICES INCREASE AS LIVESTOCK PRICES DECLINE

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-October were up for grains while lower for livestock commodities.

Steers and heifers 500 lbs. and over averaged \$94.00 per cwt. (hundredweight) for mid-October. This was down \$8.00 from September and \$4.00 from October 2006. This was the lowest steer and heifer price in seven months. **Beef cow** price at mid-month was \$44.00 per cwt., down \$2.00 from September and \$1.00 from October 2006. This was the lowest beef cow price since January 2007. **Calves** weighing less than 500 pounds averaged \$102.00 per cwt. for mid-October, down \$9.00 from the previous month and \$12.00 from the previous year. Calves were at their lowest price in nine months.

Price of **barrows and gilts** for mid-October was \$40.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from the previous month and \$7.00 from October 2006. This would be the lowest barrow and gilt price since April 2006. Price of **sows** at mid-month was \$36.00 per cwt., down \$7.00 from September and \$1.00 from a year earlier.

Sheep and lamb prices were both up for September. The **sheep** price for September was \$33.00 per cwt., up \$3.00 from August while down \$13.00 from September 2006. The **lamb** price was \$93.00 per cwt. Price was up \$1.00 from August while down \$1.00 from September 2006.

The price of milk continues to be very good for farmers. The mid-October **all milk** price was \$23.60 per cwt., down 30 cents from the record high of \$23.90 per cwt. set in September 2007. Demand for milk products both home and abroad continues to support 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. **Milk cow** price for October was \$1,940 per head, an increase of \$120.00 from July and \$340.00 from October 2006. This would be the highest milk cow price on record. Milk cow prices started being kept in 1910.

Grain prices all advanced from prices set in September. The mid-October **corn** price was \$3.50

per bushel, up 17 cents from September and 87 cents from October 2006. **Soybeans** at mid-month were \$9.10 per bushel. This was up 59 cents from September and \$3.25 from October 2006. This would be the highest soybean price since June 2004. **Winter wheat** price for mid-October was \$8.00 per bushel, a new record high. This was up 97 cents from the previous month and \$3.97 from the previous year. A shortage of winter wheat world-wide has been driving up the price of wheat being sold.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 142 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.7 percent) from September. The Crop Index was up 7 points (4.9 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 7 points (5.0 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, wheat, soybeans, and tomatoes and lower prices were received for broilers, hogs, cattle, and eggs. 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 soybeans, corn, cotton, and grain sorghum offset decreased marketings of milk, wheat, grapes, and broilers. The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 27 points (23 percent) from October 2006.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY		US	
		OCT 2006	SEPT 2007	OCT 2007	OCT 2007
		Entire Month		Mid-Month ^{a/}	
All Corn ^{b/ c/}	Bu.	2.63	3.33	3.50	3.29
Soybeans ^{b/}	Bu.	5.85	8.51	9.10	8.58
Winter Wheat ^{b/}	Bu.	4.03	7.03	8.00	7.98
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	115.00	145.00	150.00	137.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	70.00	85.00	85.00	122.00
All Hogs	Cwt.	46.60	43.00	39.80	42.60
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	47.00	43.00	40.00	43.30
Sows	Cwt.	37.00	43.00	36.00	28.60
All Beef Cattle ^{d/}	Cwt.	85.30	88.60	82.00	90.80
Steers & Heifers ^{e/}	Cwt.	98.00	102.00	94.00	96.70
Cows	Cwt.	45.00	46.00	44.00	46.80
Calves ^{f/}	Cwt.	114.00	111.00	102.00	125.00
Sheep	Cwt.	42.00	33.00	--	--
Lambs	Cwt.	98.00	93.00	--	--
Milk Cows ^{g/}	Ea.	1,600.00	--	1,940.00	2,020.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	14.60	23.90	23.60	21.20
Hog-Corn Ratios ^{h/}	Bu.	17.7	12.9	11.4	12.9

^{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/} 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, 2007, were greater than year earlier levels for butter, turkey and pork.

All U.S. Warehouse Stocks				Sept 07 as % of	
Commodity	Sept 30 2006	Aug 31 2007	Sept 30 2007	Sept 2006	Aug 2007
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	710,281	624,077	630,411	89	101
Turkey	464,219	524,081	498,511	107	95
Ducks	6,341	8,095	6,496	102	80
Total Frozen Poultry	1,180,841	1,156,253	1,135,418	96	98
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	491,916	479,724	486,888	99	101
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	10,199	21,410	17,074	167	80
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	458,359	458,252	478,076	104	104
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	969,401	957,513	983,700	101	103

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 3.86 billion pounds in September, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in September 2006. September 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. September 2007 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.09 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 4 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.75 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.77 million head, down 1 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 266 pounds.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Class	Sept 2006	Aug 2007	Sept 2007	Sept 07 as % of	
				Sept 2006	Aug 2007
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,169.9	*2,450.6	2,094.9	97	85
Veal	12.1	10.3	9.4	78	91
Pork	1,753.7	1,849.9	1,746.3	100	94
Lamb & Mutton	14.3	14.7	13.6	95	92
Total U.S.	3,949.9	*4,325.6	3,864.1	98	89
Total Kentucky	42.2	45.6	44.3	105	97

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

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

Class	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.1	1.3	1,051	1,191	973	935
Hogs	212.1	218.3	55,424	57,775	262	265
Sheep & Lambs	0.8	1.1	103	134	122	125
United States						
Cattle	2,766.6	2,665.0	3,542,417	3,426,441	1,285	1,290
Hogs	8,832.7	8,774.4	2,348,584	2,334,741	266	266
Sheep & Lambs	219.1	210.6	28,320	27,045	129	129

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

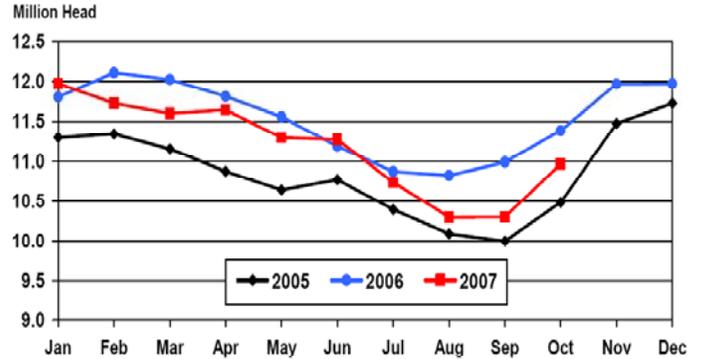
CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.0 million head on October 1, 2007. The inventory was 4 percent below October 1, 2006 but 5 percent above October 1, 2005. The inventory included 6.83 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.07 million head, down 1 percent from 2006.

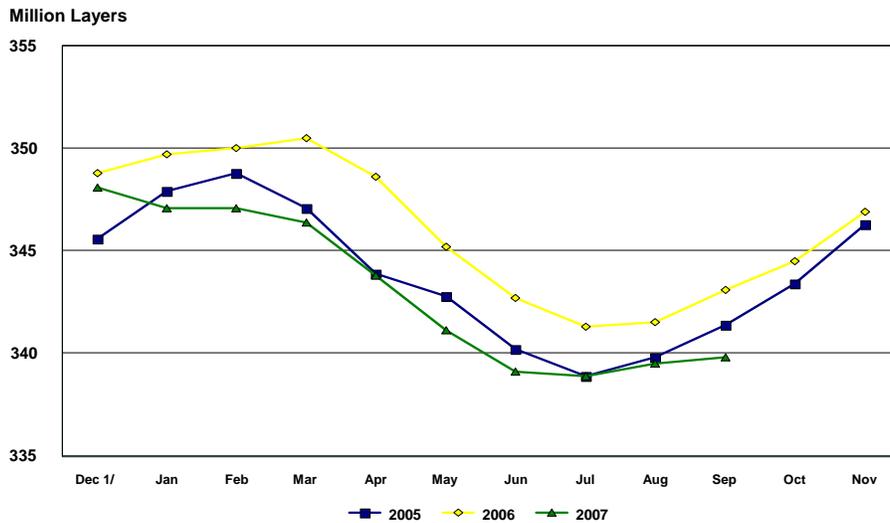
Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.43 million, 9 percent above 2006 and 3 percent above 2005. Net placements were 2.37 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 610,000, 600-699 pounds were 505,000, 700-799 pounds were 570,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 740,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during September totaled 1.71 million, 3 percent below 2006 and 6 percent below 2005. This is

the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996. **Other disappearance** totaled 54,000 during September, 21 percent below 2006 and 5 percent below 2005.

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



AVERAGE NUMBER OF LAYERS U.S., 2005-2007



UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Sept 2006	Sept 2007	Sept 07 as % of Sept 06
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,430	7,370	99
Average Layers (000)	343,147	339,841	99
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,165	2,169	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Oct 1 (000)	32,886	33,438	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	36,873	35,270	96
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Oct 1 (000)	631,225	646,974	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	772,258	784,155	102

MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for September 2007 totaled 90 million pounds. This was down 7 percent from September 2006 production and down 1 percent from August 2007. The average **number of cows** on farms, at 88,000 head, was down 8,000 head from a year earlier but unchanged from last month. **Milk per cow** averaged 1,020 pounds, up 10 pounds from September 2006 but down 15 pounds from August 2007.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during September totaled 13.7 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from September 2006. August production, unrevised at 14.3 billion pounds, was up 3.6 percent from August 2006. **Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 1,644 pounds for September, 31 pounds above September 2006. The **number of milk cows** on farms in the 23 major States was 8.34 million head, 91,000 head more than September 2006, and 12,000 head more than August 2007.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR SEPTEMBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2007 as % of 2006
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,773	1,822	1,775	1,785	3,147	3,252	103
IL	103	103	1,485	1,440	153	148	97
IN	165	166	1,595	1,635	263	271	103
KY	96	88	1,010	1,020	97	90	93
MO	115	109	1,180	1,140	136	124	91
OH	274	277	1,430	1,440	392	399	102
VA	102	100	1,320	1,365	135	137	101
WI	1,244	1,248	1,520	1,565	1,891	1,953	103
23-State							
Total	8,251	8,342	1,613	1,644	13,307	13,715	103

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

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/>