

# Kentucky Agri-News



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National Agricultural Statistics Service

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                  ▶ Chicken & Eggs   ▶ Cold Storage   ▶ Milk Production

## KENTUCKY LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN PRICES MIXED

Commodity prices received by **Kentucky** farmers continue to be mixed. Crop and milk prices were down while cattle prices were steady to up and hog prices were steady to lower.

**Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$107.00 per cwt. (hundred pounds) for mid-August. This was up \$1.00 from the July price and \$3.00 from August 2005. This is the highest steer and heifer price since September 2005. **Beef cow** price for mid-month was \$47.00 per cwt., up \$1.00 from July while down \$3.00 from a year earlier. **Calves** less than 500 lbs. averaged \$124.00 per cwt. at mid-August. This was unchanged from the July price while up \$4.00 from August 2005.

**Barrows and gilts** at mid-August averaged \$50.00 per cwt., unchanged from July and the same as August 2005. Sows were down in price. The price of **sows** at mid-month was \$31.00 per cwt., down \$1.00 from July and \$6.00 from a year earlier.

Sheep and lamb prices for July were both up from the June price. The **sheep** price at \$37.00 per cwt. was up \$6.00 from June. The **lamb** price was \$95.00 per cwt. up \$10.00 from a month earlier.

Price of **all milk** for mid-August was \$13.00 per cwt. This was down 30 cents from the July price and \$3.50 from August 2005. The final monthly 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 class.

Mid-July prices for all three grain commodities were down from June prices. The mid-month price of **corn** was \$2.20 per bushel, down 23 cents from the July price and 1 cent from August a year earlier. This was the lowest corn price in eight months. The **soybean** price for mid-July was \$5.40 per bushel. This was down 39 cents from the previous month

and 92 cents from the previous year. The mid-August price was the lowest since May 2002. **Winter wheat** price for mid-August was \$3.05 per bushels, down 9 cents from a month earlier and 2 cents from a year earlier. This was the lowest winter wheat price in eleven months.

The Preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August at 120, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (2.6 percent) from July. The Crop Index was up 3 points (2.4 percent) while the Livestock Index increased 5 points (4.5 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, broilers, tomatoes, and eggs. Lower prices were received for corn, soybeans, sorghum grain, and potatoes. 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 cattle, grapes, calves, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, broilers, and cantaloupe. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 4 points (3.4 percent) from August 2005.

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

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY		US	
		AUG 2005	JULY 2006	AUG 2006	AUG 2006
		Entire Month		Mid-Month <sup>a/</sup>	
All Corn <sup>b/</sup> <sub>c/</sub>	Bu.	2.21	2.43	2.20	2.03
Soybeans <sup>b/</sup>	Bu.	6.32	5.79	5.40	5.24
Winter Wheat <sup>b/</sup>	Bu.	3.07	3.14	3.05	3.81
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	115.00	115.00	120.00	110.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	67.00	70.00	70.00	91.50
All Hogs	Cwt.	49.50	49.30	49.20	51.60
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	50.00	50.00	50.00	52.50
Sows	Cwt.	37.00	32.00	31.00	33.60
All Beef Cattle <sup>d/</sup>	Cwt.	91.00	91.60	92.60	87.70
Steers & Heifers <sup>e/</sup>	Cwt.	104.00	106.00	107.00	91.80
Cows	Cwt.	50.00	46.00	47.00	46.90
Calves <sup>f/</sup>	Cwt.	120.00	124.00	124.00	134.00
Sheep	Cwt.	--	37.00	--	--
Lambs	Cwt.	--	95.00	--	--
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	16.50	13.30	13.00	11.90
Hog-Corn Ratios <sup>g/</sup>	Bu.	22.4	20.3	22.4	25.4

<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.

## U.S. HIRED WORKERS DOWN 11 PERCENT, WAGE RATES UP 4 PERCENT

There were 1,202,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of July 9-15, 2006, down 11 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 875,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 327,000 workers.

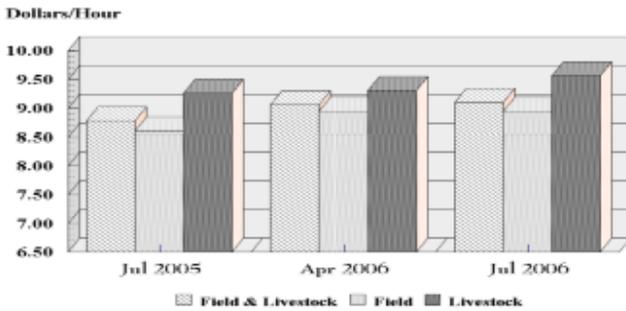
Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.74 per hour during the July 2006 reference week, up 36 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.95 per hour, up 34 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$9.56 per hour compared with \$9.26 a year

earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.10 per hour, was up 32 cents from last year.

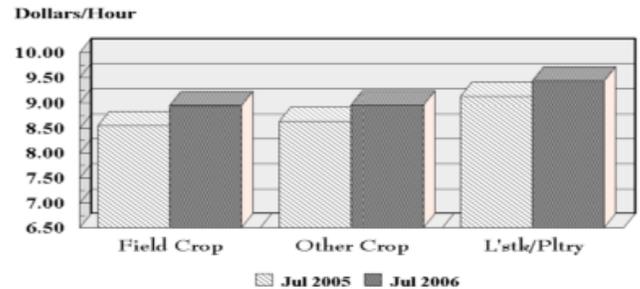
The number of hired workers in the 3-State Region including Kentucky, West Virginia, and Tennessee totaled 27,000 during the week of July 9-15, 2006.

Field workers in the region were paid \$8.64 per hour compared to \$8.46 during the same period last year. Livestock workers were paid \$9.63 per hour compared to \$8.19 last year. The wage rate for all hired workers in the 3-State Region was \$9.56.

**U.S. Wage Rates by Type of Worker**



**Wage Rate of Field & Livestock Workers By Type of Farm**



## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.78 billion pounds in July, up 5 percent from the 3.61 billion pounds produced in July 2005. July 2005 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. July 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. **Beef production**, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, up 4 percent from July 2005. The average live weight was up 18 pounds from the previous year, at 1,272 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.55 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.88 million head, 3 percent above July 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 265 pounds.

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

Type	July 2005	June 2006	July 2006	July 06 % of	
				July 2005	June 2006
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,083	2,429	2,204	106	91
Veal	12.4	13.0	12.0	96	92
Pork	1,505	1,663	1,553	103	93
Lamb & Mutton	13.4	*14.5	13.2	99	91
Total U.S.	3,614	4,120	3,782	105	92
Total Kentucky	33.8	39.1	39.3	116	100

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

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. JULY 2005 & 2006 <sup>1/</sup>

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
<b>Kentucky</b>						
Cattle	1.0	1.0	918	934	913	968
Hogs	166.3	195.0	44,426	51,489	267	264
Sheep & Lambs	1.0	0.9	153	111	148	131
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,717.5	2,834.3	3,406,482	3,604,618	1,254	1,272
Hogs	7,662.2	7,884.8	2,025,470	2,090,113	264	265
Sheep & Lambs	199.9	202.1	26,801	26,465	134	131

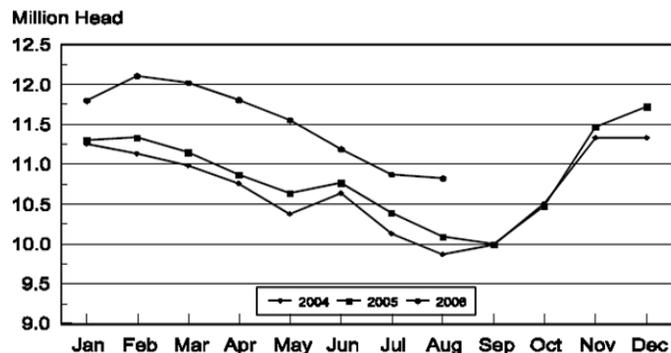
<sup>1/</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

## 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 10.8 million head on August 1, 2006. The inventory was 7 percent above August 1, 2005 and 10 percent above August 1, 2004. This is the second highest August 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

**Placements** in feedlots during July totaled 1.96 million, 17 percent above 2005 and 14 percent above 2004. Net placements were 1.91 million. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 570,000, 600-699 pounds were 403,000, 700-799 pounds were 490,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 500,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during July totaled 1.96 million, 2 percent above 2005 and 2 percent above 2004. **Other disappearance** totaled 58,000 during July, 5 percent below 2005 but unchanged from 2004.

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



## UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Item	July 2005	July 2006	July '06 as % of July '05
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,563	7,643	101
Average Layers (000)	338,573	341,047	101
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,234	2,241	100
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Aug 1 (000)	36,630	31,378	86
Chicks Hatched (000)	34,897	33,224	95
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Aug 1 (000)	664,087	660,130	99
Chicks Hatched (000)	808,382	800,132	99

## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2006 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, beef, eggs, cheese, and chicken.

Commodity	All U.S. Warehouse Stocks			July 2006 as % of	
	July 31 2005	June 30 2006	July 31 2006	July 2005	June 2006
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	722,192	781,273	753,291	104	96
Turkey	518,879	507,465	511,024	98	101
Ducks	2,523	6,126	7,510	298	123
Total Frozen Poultry	1,243,594	1,294,864	1,271,825	102	98
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	385,246	436,792	466,801	121	107
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	50,315	52,535	37,267	74	71
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	447,984	408,351	411,652	92	101
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	855,856	865,053	897,053	105	104

## MILK PRODUCTION

**Kentucky** milk production for July 2006 totaled 103 million pounds, down 9 percent from July 2005 and down 4 percent from June 2006. Average number of cows on farms, at 97,000, was down 9,000 head from a year earlier, and down 1,000 head from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,060 pounds, down 5 pounds from last year, and down 30 pounds from last month.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during July totaled 13.9 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from July

2005. June revised production, at 14 billion pounds, was up 1.9 percent from June 2005. The June revision represented an increase of 6 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,686 pounds for July, 3 pounds above July 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.26 million head, 107,000 head more than July 2005, but 11,000 head less than June 2006.

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

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>1/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2006 as %
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	of 2005
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,756	1,771	1,780	1,760	3,126	3,117	100
IL	104	103	1,580	1,600	164	165	101
IN	156	166	1,700	1,670	265	277	105
<b>KY</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1,065</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>91</b>
MO	117	115	1,360	1,270	159	146	92
OH	270	274	1,480	1,510	400	414	104
VA	105	103	1,390	1,415	146	146	100
WI	1,236	1,244	1,600	1,600	1,978	1,990	101
23 State							
Total	8,151	8,258	1,683	1,686	13,715	13,919	101

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/>