



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Missouri Crop & Livestock Reporter

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Season's Greetings,

The Christmas Season marks the end of another growing season for agriculture, but most of all a time to reflect and give thanks for the many blessings that have been bestowed on our industry. Late plantings, floods, above normal rainfall, more floods, an almost endless harvest season, and the most volatile commodity prices in history marked a very unusual but relatively productive season.

As I visit with producers across the state, I see excitement in their eyes and enthusiasm to enter the next year. The bins are full and marketing plans are being focused on the next growing season. As my staff continues to prepare the official USDA estimates of production and inventories that are imperative to decision making, we thank the thousands of Missouri producers that unselfishly take the time to ensure that the "facts on agriculture" are the most reliable in the world. Decisions can be made on actual facts instead of hear say or rumors in the marketplace! The 2007 Census of Agriculture, which most producers completed last winter, will be released on February 4, 2009. These results will update some of the most vital data that are used at all levels of marketing and policymaking. I would like to say thanks to all producers for their assistance in making "facts for agriculture" meaningful.

We will face many challenges next year. Planting decisions will be paramount as producers evaluate the supply and demand forecasts for major crops. As input costs compared to expected commodity prices continue to be volatile, decisions must continue to be made using current and accurate information. As the Farm Service Agency (FSA) completes the rule making to implement the new Farm Bill, you as producers use all information available to finalize your plans. That is where you as a producer play a vital role in helping ensure the decisions that are made that affect all of agriculture are made using sound science and the most accurate data available. Your continued support of the voluntary NASS surveys is needed and appreciated.

Thanks again to the many producers and agribusinesses throughout Missouri that help make the information available to agriculture the backbone of our businesses. Our corp of data collectors throughout Missouri are a valuable part of the unbiased nature of producing accurate information. We thank each of them for their professionalism.

From our staff to you, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and the Happiest of Holidays and look forward to a Prosperous and Healthy New Year!

Gene Danekas
Director

Hired Workers Down 3 Percent, Wage Rates up 3 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1,117,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 12-18, 2008, down 3 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 801,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 316,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.70 per hour during the October 2008 reference week, up 32 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.05 per hour, up 43 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.19 per hour compared with \$10.02 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.08 per hour, was up 35 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.3 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 2 percent from a year ago.

Labor and Wage Rates, Cornbelt II Region (Missouri and Iowa) October 2007, July 2008 and October 2008 ^{1/}

Item	October 7 - 13, 2007	July 6 - 12, 2008	October 12 - 18, 2008
FARM EMPLOYMENT	<i>Thousands</i>		
Hired Workers	23	28	32
HOURS WORKED PER WORKER	<i>Hours per Week</i>		
Hired Workers	41.0	35.6	37.0
FARM WAGE RATES (type of Worker)	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>		
All Hired Workers	11.25	10.25	11.50
Field Workers	10.69	10.29	10.62
Livestock Workers	10.90	9.23	11.37
Combined Field & Livestock Workers	10.80	9.90	10.25

^{1/} Excludes Agricultural Service Workers

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1063>

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October Milk Production

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}		Milk Per Cows ^{2/}		Milk Production ^{2/}	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
IL	103	102	1,490	1,490	153	152
IA	215	215	1,630	1,690	350	363
MO	109	110	1,190	1,180	130	130
23-State	8,355	8,460	1,697	1,700	14,176	14,382

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1103>

U.S. Dairy Production by Product, October 2007

Product	October 2008	Change From	
		Oct 2007	Sep 2008
	1,000 Pounds	Percent	
Butter	130,014	-0.3	7.4
Cheese			
American Types	342,099	6.5	7.9
Total	842,285	2.0	5.8
	1,000 Gallons	Percent	
Frozen Products			
Ice Cream, Hard	69,165	-1.2	-9.2
Ice Cream, Lowfat, Total	27,360	-6.5	-9.3
Ice Cream, Nonfat, Hard	1,093	16.9	-6.1
Sherbet, Hard	4,175	0.7	-11.5
Frozen Yogurt, Total	4,478	1.7	-7.0
	1,000 Pounds	Percent	
Dry Whey Products			
Dry Whey, Human	81,130	-4.2	3.6
Dry Whey, Animal	4,045	-3.3	-5.9
Dry Whey, Total	85,175	-4.2	3.1

1/ Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey and Jack.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1052>

Chicks Hatched by Commercial Hatcheries

Item	October		Jan - Oct	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000			
Broiler-Type				
19 States ^{1/}	772,988	718,221	7,759,902	7,706,642
U.S.	794,846	742,121	7,993,470	7,958,229
Egg-Type				
U.S.	36,332	39,998	374,011	394,232

1/ States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1028>

Average Prices Received by Farmers ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	Missouri			U.S.
		Nov 2007*	Oct 2008	Nov 2008 ^{2/}	Nov 2008 ^{2/}
		Dollars			
Winter Wheat	Bu	6.45	4.93	4.90	5.34
Corn	Bu	3.54	4.38	4.00	3.94
Soybeans	Bu	9.20	9.57	9.30	9.20
Sorghum	Cwt	6.10	7.07	6.50	5.63
BALED HAY ^{2/}					
All Hay	Ton	108.00	94.00	108.00	147.00
Alfalfa	Ton	150.00	170.00	170.00	163.00
Other	Ton	85.00	85.00	90.00	116.00
ALL BEEF					
Cows ^{3/}	Cwt	42.60	46.50	42.40	44.70
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	103.00	92.30	92.80	93.00
Cattle ^{4/}	Cwt	90.90	82.20	82.70	87.20
Calves	Cwt	114.00	100.00	104.00	106.00
ALL HOGS					
Sows	Cwt	23.20	43.10	31.90	35.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt	33.30	43.00	34.80	41.70
All Hogs	Cwt	32.70	43.00	34.60	41.40
Market Eggs ^{2/}	Doz	1.150	0.820	0.870	0.894
MILK					
Fluid Grade ^{5/}	Cwt	22.50	17.80		17.40
Manufacturing Grade ^{5/}	Cwt	19.70	16.70		16.90
All Milk ^{5/}	Cwt	22.40	17.80	18.40	17.40
HOG/CORN Ratio ^{6/}		9.24	9.82	8.65	10.51

1/ Prices received represent the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations of specific grades or classes.

2/ Mid-month prices.

3/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

4/ "Cows" and "Steers & Heifers" combined.

5/ Missouri October fat test %: all milk 3.71, fluid grade 3.70, mfg grade 3.84.

U.S. November fat test %: all milk 3.77, fluid grade 3.76, mfg grade 4.13.

6/ "All Hogs" divided by "Corn" prices.

* Revised.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1002>

October 2008 Egg Production

State	Number of Layers on Hand ^{1/}	Eggs per 100 for All Layers	Total Production
	1,000	Number	Million Eggs
AR	12,854	2,069	266
IA	52,897	2,331	1,233
MO	6,591	2,276	150
U.S.	334,560	2,276	7,613

1/ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1028>

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COUNT
On You!

*Thank you for participating in the 2007 Census of Agriculture!
Your response will provide a brighter future for you,
your operation, and your community.*

*For more information about the 2007 Census of Agriculture, please visit www.agcensus.usda.gov.
Census results will be published February 4, 2009.*

Look for these reports at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/index.asp>

Cattle on Feed – December 19
Livestock Slaughter – December 26
Quarterly Hogs and Pigs – December 30
Annual Crop Production – January 12

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