



Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

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November Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.7 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during November 2011. Red meat production was 4 percent above November 2010. Cattle slaughtered in the state totaled 2,200 head, which was up 100 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 1,178 pounds, was up 3 pounds from 2010.

During November there were 1,400 hogs slaughtered in Montana, up 100 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 241 pounds, unchanged from the previous year. The number of sheep slaughtered, at 400 head, was unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from last year to 81 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.26 billion pounds in November, down 2 percent from the 4.33 billion pounds produced in November 2010.

Beef production, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, down 3 percent from November 2010. The average live weight was down 6 pounds from the previous year, at 1,293 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.8 million pounds, 5 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 73,000 head, up slightly from November 2010. The average live weight was down 14 pounds from last year, at 255 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.09 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.04 million head, up 1 percent from November 2010. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.6 million pounds, was down 12 percent from November 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 186,700 head, 15 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 4 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2011 commercial red meat production was 45.0 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

December 1, 2011 Hog Inventory

The inventory of all hogs and pigs in Montana on December 1, 2011 was 180,000 head, unchanged from a year ago, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Breeding stock was down 4 percent from 2010 at 22,000 head but market hogs were up 1 percent to 158,000 head.

There were 42,500 sows that farrowed in Montana during the December 2010 through November 2011 season, down 4 percent from a year ago. The number of pigs per litter increased to 10.28 and resulted in an annual pig crop of 437,000 head, a 1 percent decrease from last year.

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2011 was 65.9 million head. This was up 2 percent from December 1, 2010, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2011.

Breeding inventory, at 5.80 million head, was up slightly from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 60.1 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2011 pig crop, at 29.0 million head, was up 2 percent from 2010. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, up slightly from 2010. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 10.02 for the September-November period, compared to 9.89 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

United States hog producers intend to have 2.87 million sows farrow during the December 2011-February 2012 quarter, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2011, but down slightly from 2010. Intended farrowings for March-May 2012, at 2.89 million sows, are down 1 percent from 2011, and down 1 percent from 2010.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, account for 45 percent of the total United States hog inventory, unchanged from last year. (continued on back page)

Hogs & Pigs Inventory December 1, 2010-2011

	Montana			United States		
	2010	2011	'11/ '10	2010	2011	'11/ '10
	1,000 Head		Pct	1,000 Head		Pct
All Hogs & Pigs	180	180	100	64,925	65,931	102
Breeding Hogs	23	22	96	5,778	5,803	100
Market Hogs & Pigs						
Under 50 lbs	56	59	105	18,864	19,271	102
50-119 lbs	38	38	100	16,519	16,895	102
120-179 lbs	34	31	91	12,233	12,472	102
180 lbs & over	29	30	103	11,531	11,490	100
Total	157	158	101	59,147	60,128	102
Sows farrowed						
Dec-Nov 1/	44.5	42.5	96	11,626	11,555	99
Pig Crop						
Dec-Nov 1/	441	437	99	113,685	115,215	101
Pigs per Litter: (Actual number)						
Dec-Nov 1/	9.91	10.28	104	9.78	9.97	102
1/ December previous year.						

November 2011 Ag Prices Received

November full month crop prices were mainly down when compared with October 2011, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. The price for Montana's winter wheat, at \$6.76 per bushel, was down \$0.01, durum wheat was up \$2.60 to \$12.60 per bushel, and spring wheat increased \$0.03 to \$8.50 per bushel. All barley, at \$5.21 per bushel, was down \$0.33, malt barley decreased \$0.28 to \$5.31 per bushel and feed barley was down \$0.34 to \$4.66 per bushel. The all milk price for November was \$0.10 above a month ago at \$19.70 per cwt.

The mid-December price for alfalfa hay was up \$2.00 from November to \$98.00 per ton and all other hay increased \$4.00 from November to \$96.00 per ton. The mid-December grain prices were mostly lower than November with winter wheat at \$6.49 per bushel, spring wheat was \$7.69 per bushel, durum wheat was \$10.80 per bushel, all barley was \$5.18 per bushel. The mid-December all milk price was \$20.20 per cwt.

Nationally, November prices and changes from October 2011 were as follows: winter wheat was \$6.42 per bushel, down \$0.12, spring wheat was \$8.46 per bushel, up \$0.26, durum wheat was \$10.40 per bushel, up \$0.82, all barley was \$5.39 per bushel, down \$0.13, feed barley was \$4.87 per bushel, up \$0.11, malt barley was \$5.50 per bushel, down \$0.18, oats were \$3.36 per bushel, down \$0.34, steers and heifers were \$126.00 per cwt, up \$4.00, cows were \$66.00 per cwt, up \$1.00, calves were \$153.00 per cwt, up \$8.00, and all milk was \$20.40 per cwt, up \$0.50.

The U.S. mid-December prices were mixed when compared with November. Winter wheat was \$5.93 per bushel, spring wheat was \$7.63 per bushel, durum wheat was \$10.40 per bushel, oats were \$3.31 per bushel, malt barley was \$5.72 per bushel, and feed barley was \$4.48 per bushel. The alfalfa hay price was \$199.00 per ton and all other hay was \$126.00 per ton. Steer and heifer prices were \$128.00 per cwt, cows were \$69.00 per cwt, beef cattle were \$121.00 per cwt, calves were \$158.00 per cwt, and all milk was \$19.80 per cwt.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 176 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 8 points (4.3 percent) from November. The Crop Index is down 15 points (7.3 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.6 percent). Producers received lower prices for corn, soybeans, wheat, and lettuce and higher prices for eggs, broilers, cattle, and broccoli. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly movement of wheat, milk, broilers, and hay offset the decreased marketing of corn, soybeans, cattle, and grapes.

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	U N I T	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Nov 2010	Oct 2011	Nov 2011	Nov 2011	Oct 2011	Nov 2010	15-Dec-11	15-Dec-11
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	5.86	6.77	6.76	6.42	-0.01	+0.90	6.49	5.93
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.97	10.00	12.60	10.40	+2.60	+6.63	10.80	10.40
Spring Wheat	Bu	6.35	8.47	8.50	8.46	+0.03	+2.15	7.69	7.63
All Wheat	Bu	6.09	7.95	7.84	7.26	-0.11	+1.75	7.24	6.45
All Barley	Bu	3.83	5.54	5.21	5.39	-0.33	+1.38	5.18	5.50
Feed Barley	Bu	3.22	5.00	4.66	4.87	-0.34	+1.44	na	4.48
Malt Barley	Bu	3.97	5.59	5.31	5.50	-0.28	+1.34	na	5.72
Oats	Bu	na	na	na	3.36	na	na	na	3.31
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	85.00	104.00	96.00	198.00	-8.00	+11.00	98.00	199.00
All Other Hay	Ton	77.00	103.00	92.00	122.00	-11.00	+15.00	96.00	126.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	84.00	104.00	96.00	176.00	-8.00	+12.00	98.00	177.00
All Milk	Cwt	18.10	19.60	19.70	20.40	+0.10	+1.60	20.20	19.80

na-not available.