



Nebraska Agri-Facts

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

Nebraska Field Office

100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Phone: 402-437-5541 E-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

Access our reports via the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov

Mark Harris, Director



Issue 03-2006

Released February 2, 2006

Survey Results Included

- Cattle
- Milk Production
- Sheep & Lamb Highlights
- Agricultural Resource Management Survey
- Poultry Highlights
- Livestock Slaughter
- Goats
- Agricultural Prices

Dear Nebraska Farmers, Ranchers and Agribusinesses:

The following narrative and tables are from recently published reports by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board. These data are direct results of information provided by Nebraska producers and agribusinesses to the surveys conducted each month by this office.

Thank you for your response to these surveys.

Mark Harris
Director

Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves on hand January 1, 2006, in Nebraska totaled 6.55 million head, up 3 percent from 2005.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above a year ago.

All cows on hand January 1, at 1.99 million head, were 1 percent above last year. The 2005 calf crop totaled 1.8 million head, the same as last year.

All cows and heifers that calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. The 2005 calf crop was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all Nebraska feedlots on January 1 totaled a record 2.6 million head, up 5 percent from last year.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1 were 14.1 million head, up 3 percent from last year.

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop, Nebraska and United States, January 1, 2004-2006

Class	Nebraska				United States ¹					
	2004	2005	2006	2006/2005	2004	2005	2006	2006/2005		
	<i>1,000 Head</i>			<i>Percent</i>			<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	
Cattle and calves	6,250	6,350	6,550	103	94,888	95,438	97,102	102		
Cows and heifers that have calved	1,910	1,970	1,990	101	41,851	41,920	42,311	101		
Beef cows	1,848	1,909	1,930	101	32,861	32,915	33,253	101		
Milk cows	62	61	60	98	8,990	9,005	9,058	101		
Heifers 500 pounds and over	1,820	1,790	1,800	101	19,344	19,573	19,978	102		
For beef cow replacement	280	300	295	98	5,518	5,691	5,905	104		
For milk cow replacement	20	20	15	75	4,020	4,118	4,278	104		
Other heifers	1,520	1,470	1,490	101	9,806	9,763	9,795	100		
Steers 500 pounds and over	2,120	2,180	2,340	107	16,277	16,476	16,923	103		
Bulls 500 pounds and over	90	100	100	100	2,206	2,219	2,263	102		
Calves under 500 pounds	310	310	320	103	15,210	15,250	15,626	102		
	2003	2004	2005	2005/2004	2003	2004	2005	2005/2004		
Calves born	1,770	1,800	1,800	100	37,903	37,505	37,780	101		

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance,
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2004-2006**

State	January 1 Number on Feed ¹			December Placements			December Marketings			December Other Disappearance ²		
	2005	2006	<u>2006</u> 2005	2004	2005	<u>2005</u> 2004	2004	2005	<u>2005</u> 2004	2004	2005	<u>2005</u> 2004
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	331	334	101	33	35	106	30	27	90	1	2	200
California	535	550	103	72	69	96	62	60	97	5	9	180
Colorado	1,080	1,080	100	135	155	115	145	140	97	10	5	50
Idaho	295	275	93	55	48	87	62	50	81	3	3	100
Iowa	450	510	113	71	65	92	55	53	96	1	2	200
Kansas	2,410	2,500	104	490	495	101	450	435	97	20	30	150
Nebraska	2,300	2,430	106	390	350	90	380	305	80	10	15	150
New Mexico	126	143	113	14	20	143	15	13	87	2	1	50
Oklahoma	350	370	106	53	64	121	52	57	110	6	2	33
South Dakota	192	205	107	42	46	110	34	28	82	2	3	150
Texas	2,700	2,920	108	405	465	115	420	470	112	25	15	60
Washington	190	152	80	39	26	67	32	34	106	2	1	50
Other States	340	335	99	35	46	131	40	43	108	5	3	60
U.S.	11,299	11,804	104	1,834	1,884	103	1,777	1,715	97	92	91	99

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

² Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed, January 20, 2006

Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, Nebraska, 23 States and United States, 2004-2005

Item and Quarter	Nebraska		23 States		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>	
Milk cows ¹						
July-September	61	60	8,101	8,153	9,027	9,054
October-December	61	60	8,101	8,161	9,019	9,050
	<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>	
Milk production ²						
July-September	254	263	38,539	40,292	42,239	43,984
October-December	264	268	38,265	39,902	41,983	43,605

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, January 18, 2006

**Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, January 1, 2005-2006 and
Lamb Crop, Nebraska and United States, 2004-2005**

State	Total Breeding Sheep & Lambs		Total Market Sheep & Lambs		All Sheep & Lambs		Breeding Ewes 1 Year & Older Jan 1		Lambs per 100 Ewes 1+ Jan 1		Lamb Crop	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>1,000 Head</i>						<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>	
Nebraska	75	80	22	26	97	106	67	62	125	142	84	88
United States	4,533	4,639	1,602	1,591	6,135	6,230	3,610	3,573	113	115	4,096	4,125

Source: USDA NASS Sheep and Goats, January 27, 2006

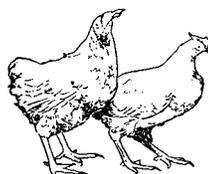
Challenging Times call For Powerful Facts

The Agricultural Resource Management Survey provided the facts policymakers used to craft the Farm Bill.

Keep your leaders informed. If you are selected for this survey, please respond to show agriculture's economic status today.



NASS
Fact Finders for Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Nebraska Field Office



Poultry

During December 2005, layers in Nebraska totaled 11.9 million birds, a decrease of 1 percent from the previous year. The total number of layers in the United States during December 2005 averaged 348 million, up 1 percent from December 2004.

Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and United States, December 2005 with Comparisons

Item	2004	2005	2005/2004
	Millions		Percent
Number of Layers			
Nebraska	12.0	11.9	99
United States	346.0	348.3	101
Table Eggs Produced			
Nebraska	272	265	97
United States	6,643	6,702	101
Chickens Hatched			
United States			
Egg-type	37.3	36.2	97
Broiler	793.1	807.8	102
Hatched thru December			
United States			
Egg-type	437.3	436.3	100
Broiler	9,333.3	9,472.9	101

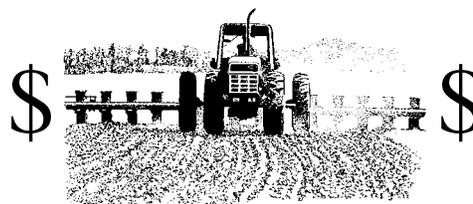
Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, January 23, 2006

What is ARMS?

Agricultural Resource Management Survey or (ARMS) is an annual study of the financial well-being of America's agricultural producers. ARMS is the only source of the key economic indicators that are used for farm programs, farm legislation, trade regulations, university research and state grants. Users include legislators, agricultural commodity associations, agribusinesses, the news media and USDA agencies.

What are Key Economic Indicators?

Key economic indicators are the income-to-expense and debt-to-asset ratios, costs of production, net income and other financial fact --not just opinions-- that describe a true picture of American agriculture's economic landscape.



Commercial Livestock Slaughter

December 2005 output and changes from last year and last month are shown below. December 2004 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays. December 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays.

Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, December 2005 with Comparisons

Item	Total ¹	Dec. 2005 percent of	
		Dec. 2004	Nov. 2005
Nebraska	<i>1,000 Head</i>		
Cattle, head	567.3	95	103
Hogs, head	639.2	102	105
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	582.5	97	101
United States			
Cattle, head	2,665.9	99	100
Calves, head	60.1	81	107
Hogs, head	9,233.3	100	101
Sheep & Lambs, head	231.0	95	103
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	3,952.7	101	100

¹ Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, January 20, 2006

**Goats: Number by Class,
Nebraska and United States, January 1, 2005- 2006**

Class	Nebraska		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Head</i>
Angora Goats	1,050	1,150	280,000	278,000
Milk Goats	3,000	2,600	285,000	288,000
Meat and Other Goats	13,000	14,000	2,150,000	2,260,000
Total Goats	17,050	17,750	2,715,000	2,826,000

Source: USDA NASS Sheep and Goats, January 27, 2006

Prices Received: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, Preliminary January 2006 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Nebraska			United States				
		Jan 2005 ¹	Dec 2005 ¹	Jan 15, 2006	Jan 2005 ¹	Dec 2005 ¹	Jan 15, 2006	% of Parity	Parity Price ²
		<i>Dollars</i>			<i>Dollars</i>				
Wheat, All	Bushel	3.26	3.43	3.55	3.43	3.54	3.48	34	10.30
Corn	Bushel	2.04	1.80	1.85	2.12	1.92	1.96	26	7.66
Oats	Bushel	1.74	1.85	1.50	1.64	1.73	1.67	39	4.25
Grain Sorghum	Cwt	2.90	2.85	3.00	2.95	2.91	3.15	26	11.90
Soybeans	Bushel	5.24	5.55	5.40	5.57	5.77	5.51	33	16.90
Hay, All, Baled	Ton	51.00	49.00	50.00	87.80	92.00	91.20		
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	51.00	49.00	50.00	94.50	97.70	95.60		
Other, Baled	Ton	49.00	46.00	46.00	73.30	78.00	79.30		
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt	23.80	16.40	16.10	27.20	18.60	17.50	32	54.10
Hogs	Cwt	54.30	45.90	43.00	53.20	44.30	41.60	36	115.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt	54.40	46.00	43.20	53.50	44.50	41.90		
Sows	Cwt	48.00	38.50	35.50	45.60	38.10	35.70		
Beef Cattle	Cwt	95.30	98.40	100.00	89.40	93.60	94.40	50	190.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	96.60	100.00	102.00	94.40	99.90	101.00		
Cows	Cwt	53.10	47.70	46.80	50.50	47.20	46.50		
Calves	Cwt	132.00	146.00	152.00	125.00	134.00	137.00	52	264.00
Sheep	Cwt	50.00	51.20		53.50	46.90			94.10
Lambs	Cwt	108.00	90.00		114.00	102.00			229.00

¹ Entire month average except hay.

² Parity price based on data for January 2006.

Source: USDA NASS Agricultural Prices, January 31, 2006

PRESORTED STANDARD
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
USDA PERMIT NO. G-38

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

USDA NASS
Nebraska Field Office
P. O. Box 81069
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-1069