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New Jersey's FARM FACTS

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New Jersey Cattle Inventory Down 4,000 Head

- All cattle and calves in New Jersey as of January 1, 2007, totaled 38,000 head, down 4,000 head from January 1, 2006. The January 1, 2007 total cattle & calves inventory estimate is the lowest on record. The highest inventory of cattle and calves was 264,000 head on hand January 1, 1880.
- All cows and heifers that have calved, at 19,000, were 2,000 head lower than January 1, 2006. Beef cows, at 8,500, were 1,000 head lower than last year. Milk cows, at 10,500 head, down 1,000 head from last year.
- Beef replacement and other heifers were estimated at 2,000 head. Beef cow replacement and other heifers were unchanged from January 1, 2006. Milk replacement totaled 5,000 head, down 1,000 head from January 1, 2006.
- Steers over 500 pounds, at 2,000 head, down 1,000 head from January 1, 2006. Bulls over 500 pounds, at 1,000 head, were unchanged from last year. Calves under 500 pounds, at 7,000 head, were also unchanged from January 1, 2006.

All Cattle and Calves

	New Jersey		United States	
	January 1, 2006	January 1, 2007	January 1, 2006	January 1, 2007
<i>Number of Head (000)</i>				
All cattle and calves	42.0	38.0	96,701.5	97,002.9
Cows and heifers that have calved:				
Beef cows	9.5	8.5	32,993.5	32,894.2
Milk cows	11.5	10.5	9,062.9	9,129.0
Heifers:				
Beef cow replacement	2.0	2.0	5,903.5	5,877.4
Milk cow replacement	6.0	5.0	4,275.0	4,309.9
Other	2.0	2.0	9,805.4	9,898.8
Steers, bulls, and calves:				
Steers, 500 pounds and over	3.0	2.0	16,933.1	17,222.0
Bulls, 500 pounds and over	1.0	1.0	2,262.8	2,215.4
Calves under 500 pounds	7.0	7.0	15,465.3	15,456.2

New Jersey Quarterly Milk Production: The October-December 2006 Quarterly Milk Production for New Jersey was 41 million pounds, down 10.9 percent from the October-December period last year.

The average number of milk cows during the October-December 2006 quarter was 11,000 head, down 1,000 head from the October-December 2005 quarter.

United States Quarterly Milk Production: Milk production in the U.S. during the October-December 2005 quarter totaled 44.6 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from the October-December quarter last year.

The average number of milk cows in the United States during the October-December 2005 quarter was 9.12 million head, up 56,000 head from the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Production: Preliminary October-December, 2005-2006

State	October-December Milk Cows 1/		October-December Milk Production 2/		Change From 2004
	2005	2006	2005	2006	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
New Jersey	12	11	46	41	-10.9
United States	9,060	9,116	43,674	44,639	2.2

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

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

2006 Fruit Summary

The five major fruit and berry crops grown in New Jersey are apples, blueberries, cranberries, peaches and strawberries. The mild winter and ideal spring weather conditions provided a good start for this year's fruit and berry crop. Sufficient soil moisture and above average spring temperatures were beneficial for fruit development. Frequent rain during late spring and early summer, dry conditions during late summer and early fall, all had different impacts on this year's fruit crops. As the season concluded, blueberries and strawberries had higher production, cranberries and peaches had lower production, while apple production remained unchanged.

Total production of the five fruit and berry crops during 2006 amounted to 215.1 million pounds, up 0.2 percent from 2005's production of 214.7 million pounds. Value of utilized production of these crops totaled \$153.6 million, a 27 percent increase from the 2005 total of \$120.6 million. All fruit crops have contributed to the increase in value, except cranberries.

It was the third consecutive favorable growing season for New Jersey peach growers. Fruit set was good to excellent, while June drop was adequate because of the sufficient moisture. Frequent thunder storms caused some fruit loss around the state. Harvest of the early season varieties started ahead of schedule. Both quality and prices were above average. Production of the late season crop was much lower than anticipated due to extreme dry conditions in late summer and early fall. As the season concluded, New Jersey peach growers still experienced one of the best marketing seasons in recent years. Peach utilized production totaled 34,000 tons, up 0.9 percent from 2005. Season average price, at \$1,050 per ton (52.5 cents per pound), was \$134.00 higher than last year's price. Value of utilized production was \$35.7 million in 2006, 16 percent more than 2005.

It was a normal growing season for apple growers in New Jersey. Localized thunder storms damaged some apple crops during the summer months. Late season dry conditions also caused some apple sizing problems. In general, apple quality and prices were good. Fresh slice apples were a new trend for processed apples. Total apple production, at 45 million pounds, was the same as last year. The season average price, at 31.0 cents per pound, was 0.3 cents less than in 2005. Value of utilized production was \$13.9 million in 2006 compared with \$13.8 million in 2005.

The blueberry crop's bloom and set of fruit were reported to be average to heavy. Blueberry production totaled 52 million pounds, an increase of 16 percent from last year. The season average price, at \$1.61 per pound, was the highest price ever recorded in the state. The value of utilized production for the 2006 blueberry crop was \$83.7 million, an increase of 51 percent from 2005.

Cranberry total production was 485,000 barrels, down 9 percent from the 533,000 barrels produced in 2005. The season average price was \$35.50 per barrel, up \$1.50 from last year. The value of production for the 2006 cranberry crop was \$17.0 million, down 6 percent from 2005. The cranberry crop's bloom, set of fruit, and fruit size was reported to be average to heavy.

There were 16,000 hundredweight of strawberries produced in New Jersey in 2006, 14 percent higher than in 2005. The season average price of \$200.00 per hundredweight is \$30.00 higher than a year ago. The higher production level and higher season average price brought the value of production to \$3.20 million, compared to \$2.38 million in 2005. Compared with the other four fruit crops, the importance of strawberries is gradually diminishing. Most strawberries were sold through direct marketing.

New Jersey Fruit and Berry Production, Utilization, and Value, 2004 - 2006

Crop And Year	Production 1/		Utilized Production		Season Average Price Per Unit	Value of Utilized Production
	Total	Utilized	Fresh 2/	Processed		
Apples	<i>-- million lbs --</i>				<i>cents per lb</i>	\$1,000
2004	40	38	28	10	15.1	5,740
2005	45	44	33	11	31.3	13,779
2006	45	45	3/	3/	31.0	13,949
Blueberries	<i>-- million lbs --</i>				\$ per lb	\$1,000
2004	39	39	33	6	1.17	45,630
2005	45	45	33	12	1.23	55,470
2006	52	52	40	12	1.61	83,720
Cranberries 4/	<i>-- thousand barrels --</i>				\$ per barrel 5/	\$1,000
2004	402	394	---	394	31.20	12,293
2005	533	533	---	533	34.00	18,122
2006	485	480	---	480	35.50	17,040
Peaches	<i>-- tons --</i>				\$ per ton	\$1,000
2004	32,500	30,500	30,500	6/	760.00	23,180
2005	35,000	33,700	33,700	6/	916.00	30,869
2006	34,000	34,000	34,000	6/	1,050.00	35,700
Strawberries 7/	<i>-- thousand cwt --</i>				\$ per cwt	\$1,000
2004	12	12	12	---	162.00	1,944
2005	14	14	14	---	170.00	2,380
2006	16	16	16	---	200.00	3,200

1/ Difference between total production and that having utilized value is economic abandonment and/or excess cullage of mature fruit.

for cranberries, differences also include the quantity set aside under the Cranberry Marketing Order in 2001.

2/ Includes quantities used in farm household or given away.

3/ Not available until July 6, 2007.

4/ Small quantities of fresh cranberries are included in processed to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

5/ Weighted average of co-op and independent sales. Co-op prices represent pool proceeds less returns for processing non-cranberry products, capital stock dividends, capital stock retains, and other retains.

6/ Included in fresh utilization.

7/ No longer in the Federal Estimating Program.

2006 Vegetable Growing Season

2006 Vegetable Season: A mild winter, favorable weather in early spring, thunder storms followed by dry conditions in early summer, and late fall wet weather, all had varying effects on the vegetable crops this growing season. Planting and harvesting were on schedule, but the planting intentions were lower than usual because of concerns about rising fuel and labor costs. Yield and quality were generally good for spring vegetables. Summer planting was lower than last year. Early summer high temperatures and adequate moisture were beneficial to summer crops, but frequent thunder storms caused some acreage loss. The tomato crop was hurt the most, and yield was almost at disaster level. Fall planting was lower than usual because of unstable weather conditions in late summer. As the season concluded, production of asparagus, cabbage, collards, cucumbers, bell peppers, pumpkins, spinach, and sweet corn were higher, while eggplant, escarole and endive, kale, lettuce, snap beans, summer squash, winter squash, and tomatoes had lower production. Total value of production of all principal fresh market vegetables and processing vegetables showed a 12 percent and 11 percent increase, respectively.

New Jersey Vegetables Annual Summary, 2005 and 2006

Crop	Acres Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production		Season Average Price		Value of Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Vegetables for Fresh Market	-- acres --		-- cwt --		-- 1,000 cwt --		-- \$ per cwt --		-- \$ 1,000 --	
Asparagus 1/	1,100	1,000	30	40	33	40	100.00	95.00	3,300	3,800
Cabbage	1,500	1,400	260	290	390	406	17.80	14.80	6,942	6,009
Collards1/	700	650	135	160	95	104	22.20	24.80	2,109	2,579
Cucumbers	3,200	3,300	150	175	480	578	20.20	23.10	9,696	13,352
Eggplant 1/	800	900	260	230	208	207	18.90	22.80	3,931	4,720
Escarole & Endive 1/	500	500	190	170	95	85	21.50	23.80	2,043	2,023
Kale 1/	400	350	225	180	86	63	22.00	24.30	1,892	1,531
Lettuce, Head	500	400	190	90	95	36	35.00	20.00	3,325	720
Lettuce, Other 1/	1,100	1,100	205	190	226	209	16.00	19.00	3,616	3,971
Peppers, Bell	3,200	3,200	260	295	832	944	24.70	29.50	20,550	27,848
Pumpkins 1/	1,600	1,400	88	135	141	189	16.50	21.40	2,327	4,045
Snap Beans	2,900	2,800	40	25	116	70	47.00	48.50	5,452	3,395
Spinach	1,900	1,700	105	175	200	298	30.90	33.70	6,180	10,043
Squash, Summer 1/	2,100	1,900	95	100	200	190	29.50	32.60	5,900	6,194
Squash, Winter 1/	900	700	88	85	80	60	25.30	23.50	2,024	1,410
Sweet Corn	7,100	7,000	80	110	568	770	21.50	24.70	12,212	19,019
Tomatoes	3,000	2,900	200	180	600	522	41.50	37.60	24,900	19,627
Total	32,500	31,200	137	153	4,445	4,771	26.20	27.30	116,399	130,286
Vegetables for Processing	-- acres --		--tons --		-- tons --		-- \$ per ton --		-- \$ 1,000 --	
Total 2/	8,250	7,500	7.41	7.46	61,150	55,970	125.50	151.70	7,673	8,489

1/ Not in the Federal Estimating Program, state estimate only.

2/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations. Processing vegetables include carrots, cucumbers, green peas, lima beans, snap beans, spinach, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Carrots, cucumbers, and lima beans are not in the Federal Estimating Program, and are state estimates only.

**January Farm Prices Received Index
Up 2.5 percent From Last Month**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 124, based on 1990-92=100, is 2.5 percent above the December Index. The Crop Index is up 3.1 percent and the Livestock Index also increased by 2.7 percent. Producers received higher commodity prices for corn, oranges, broilers and eggs. Lower prices were received for cattle, calves, tomatoes and grapefruit. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of broilers, cotton, soybeans and rice offset decreased marketings of cattle, eggs, oranges and tobacco.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 9.7 percent from January 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 123, is 0.8 percent above last month and 4.2 percent above January 2006.

Prices Paid Index Up 1.3 Percent

The January Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 152 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 1.3 percent from December and 2.7 percent above January 2006. Higher prices in January for complete feeds, other services, feed supplements and feed grains more than offset lower prices for feeder cattle, diesel fuel, LP gas and cash rent.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Jan 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007
-- Dollars --			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.42	2.95	3.13
Corn, per bushel	2.00	3.01	3.23
Hay, all, baled, per ton ^{1/}	93.10	108.00	112.00
Soybeans, per bushel	5.87	6.18	6.42
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per cwt ^{2/}	0.217	0.261	0.287
Strawberries	142.00	189.00	109.00
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	36.50	14.40	29.40
Lettuce, per cwt	10.50	22.40	18.40
Tomatoes, per cwt	79.20	24.80	26.70
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	95.10	83.60	85.00
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	102.00	89.30	90.30
Cows, per cwt ^{3/}	47.30	42.20	43.80
Calves, per cwt	141.00	115.00	115.00
Broilers, live, per lb ^{4/}	0.380	0.400	0.430
Eggs, all, per dozen ^{1/}	0.610	0.807	0.915
Milk, all, per cwt ^{5/ 6/}	14.50	14.10	14.40

^{1/} Mid-month price.

^{2/} Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, and NY (apples only), and WA (apples, peaches, and pears). Prices as sold for other states.

^{3/} Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

^{4/} Equivalent liveweight returns to producers for most states. Includes growers and contractors.

^{5/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{6/} January 2007 fat test percent: all milk 3.76, fluid milk 3.76, and mfg grade 4.06.



To obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the New Jersey Field Office at www.nass.usda.gov/nj/ or call 1-800-328-0179.

