



Keystone Ag Digest

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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IN THIS ISSUE:	Manufactured Dairy Production Cattle Inventory	Milk Production Sheep Inventory	Crop Values Farms & Land In Farms
<i>This publication may be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."</i>			

Note to Survey Respondents: Results of many surveys we conduct throughout the year are included in this report! Most survey results are **not** published individually. **Thank you** for taking the time to complete our surveys!

USDA to Survey Pennsylvania Farmers

Pennsylvania farmers will be asked to participate in a nationwide survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in early June. Information gleaned from the survey will be used to estimate 2007 crop acreage and mid-year livestock inventories. The Pennsylvania office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service is operated jointly by USDA and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Farmer cooperation is necessary to provide reliable crop and livestock information. USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board will release national and state reports based on the information in late June.

Results of this survey will provide farmers, agri-businesses, policymakers and other users of agricultural data with the information vital for planning and decision making. All information concerning individuals is CONFIDENTIAL and will be used in developing the State and national estimates.

ANNUAL POULTRY PRODUCTION

The combined value of Pennsylvania poultry production in 2006 was \$665.2 million, down 2 percent from the \$675.9 million in 2005. Egg production accounted for 35.8 percent of the total value, broiler production was 48.2 percent of the total, turkey production accounted for 15.9 percent, and the value of mature chickens sold (excluding broilers) accounted for less than 1 percent of the total value.

Total egg production for 2006 was valued at \$238.4 million, up 11 percent from \$214.2 million one year earlier. During the year, 6,687 million eggs were produced, 79 million eggs more than in 2005. Prices for all eggs sold, including hatching eggs, averaged 42.8 cents per dozen during the year, compared to 38.9 cents per dozen in 2005.

Broiler production during 2006 was valued at \$320.8 million, down 11 percent from the previous year. A total of 144.9 million broilers were produced in 2006, down 2 percent from 2005. The average price received by producers in 2006 was 41.0 cents per pound live weight, compared to 45.0 cents per pound received a year earlier.

Turkey producers raised 10.5 million poult during 2006, which was the same as the previous year. The value of turkey production in 2006, at \$105.4 million, was 4 percent above 2005. Producers received an average of 54 cents per pound live weight during the year, up 5 cents per pound from 2005.

Mature chickens sold (excluding broilers) in 2006 were valued at \$608,000, 5 percent more than the previous year. A total of 15.8 million mature chickens were sold during the year, 7 percent less than in 2005. Prices for mature chickens averaged 1.1 cents per pound live weight compared to 1.0 cents in 2005.

Nationally, the combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from chickens in 2006 was \$26.8 billion, down 5 percent from the \$28.2 billion in 2005. Of the combined total, 70 percent was from broilers, 16 percent from eggs, 13 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The value of broilers produced during 2006 was \$18.9 billion, down 10 percent from 2005. The total number of broilers produced in 2006 was 8.88 billion, up slightly from 2005. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2006 was 48.8 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2005. The 2006 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 38.6 cents per pound, compared with 43.6 cents in 2005.

Value of all egg production in 2006 was \$4.39 billion, up 8 percent from the \$4.05 billion in 2005. Egg production totaled 90.9 billion eggs, up 1 percent from the 90.0 billion eggs produced in 2005. In 2006, all eggs averaged 57.9 cents per dozen, compared with 54.0 cents in 2005.

The value of turkeys produced during 2006 was \$3.55 billion, up 12 percent from the \$3.18 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 2006 totaled 7.42 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 7.10 billion pounds produced in 2005. The average price received by producers during 2006 was 47.9 cents per pound, compared with 44.9 cents in 2005.

The value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 2006 was \$53.1 million, down 18 percent from the \$64.7 million a year ago. Prices averaged 5.8 cents per pound, compared with 6.5 cents in 2005. The number of chickens sold in 2006 totaled 172 million, down 11 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, APRIL 2007

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Apr 2006	Mar 2007	Apr 2007 ¹	Apr 2006	Mar 2007	Apr 2007 ¹
<i>Dollars</i>							
Corn.....	Bu.	2.51	3.98	3.75	2.11	3.43	3.20
Wheat, Winter ²	Bu.	-	-	-	3.74	4.67	4.91
Oats.....	Bu.	2.18	2.45	2.43	1.75	2.39	2.39
Barley ²	Bu.	-	-	-	2.65	3.10	3.29
Soybeans ²	Bu.	-	-	-	5.52	6.95	6.81
Hay, Dry All.....	Ton	138.00	140.00	139.00	105.00	117.00	124.00
Dry Alfalfa.....	Ton	177.00	159.00	159.00	108.00	120.00	128.00
Dry Other.....	Ton	131.00	137.00	136.00	94.90	108.00	113.00
Apples, Fresh Use.....	Lb.	0.230	0.214	0.237	0.193	0.284	0.284
Cows, Slaughter.....	Cwt.	50.10	47.90	47.10	48.40	47.20	48.80
Steers & Heifers.....	Cwt.	81.20	90.40	93.60	89.20	97.70	100.00
Calves.....	Cwt.	138.00	112.00	113.00	137.00	124.00	126.00
Barrows & Gilts.....	Cwt.	39.80	41.00	42.80	41.80	45.50	46.80
Sows.....	Cwt.	28.30	34.60	26.70	28.80	32.90	26.80
Sheep.....	Cwt.	42.00	44.70	-	35.20	35.60	-
Lambs.....	Cwt.	115.00	125.00	-	87.20	95.80	-
Eggs ³	Doz.	0.300	0.630	0.510	0.321	0.681	0.558
Milk, Fluid Grade.....	Cwt.	13.80	17.20	-	12.10	15.60	16.40
Manufactured Grade ⁴	Cwt.	10.80	-	-	11.40	15.10	16.00
All.....	Cwt.	13.80	17.20	18.20	12.10	15.60	16.40
Milk Cows ⁵	Head	1,800.00	-	1,700.00	1,770.00	-	1,730.00

¹ Preliminary. ² Pennsylvania price not published on monthly basis, average price is published annually. ³ Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. ⁴ PA is no longer published due to insufficient manufacturing grade milk volume. ⁵ Quarterly (Jan., Apr., Jul, Oct.).

PRICES PAID FOR FUELS AND FEED, APRIL 2006-2007

Commodity	Unit	Northeast Region ¹		United States	
		April 2006	April 2007	April 2006	April 2007
<i>Dollars</i>					
Fuels:					
Gasoline, Service Station (Unleaded).....	Gal.	2.56	2.700	2.574	2.625
Gasoline, Bulk Delivery (Unleaded).....	Gal.	2.60	2.728	2.597	2.638
Diesel, Bulk Delivery.....	Gal.	2.35	2.355	2.275	2.430
L.P. Gas, Bulk Delivery.....	Gal.	2.20	2.186	1.690	1.727
Feed:					
Alfalfa Meal.....	Cwt.	19.00	20.50	16.40	18.20
Alfalfa Pellets.....	Cwt.	19.50	20.90	16.40	18.70
Bran.....	Cwt.	15.50	16.90	16.10	17.40
Beef Cattle Concentrate, 32-36%.....	Ton	349.00	335.00	336.00	370.00
Corn Meal.....	Cwt.	11.20	14.00	10.10	12.30
Cottonseed Meal, 41%.....	Cwt.	18.40	26.60	18.20	20.00
Dairy Feed, 16%.....	Ton	207.00	239.00	210.00	249.00
18%.....	Ton	217.00	259.00	221.00	267.00
20%.....	Ton	231.00	260.00	226.00	258.00
32%.....	Ton	331.00	355.00	341.00	378.00
Hog Feed, 14-18%.....	Ton	290.00	330.00	228.00	305.00
38-42%.....	Ton	423.00	438.00	361.00	398.00
Molasses, Liquid.....	Cwt.	20.00	18.80	17.90	19.20
Poultry Feed, Broiler Grower.....	Ton	250.00	336.00	255.00	306.00
Chick Starter.....	Ton	274.00	357.00	273.00	327.00
Laying Feed.....	Ton	237.00	288.00	240.00	278.00
Turkey Grower.....	Ton	259.00	300.00	302.00	337.00
Soybean Meal, 44%.....	Cwt.	18.30	20.00	16.90	18.20
Stock Salt.....	50 Lb.	6.06	6.20	4.67	5.02
Trace Mineral Blocks.....	50 Lb.	6.90	7.25	5.68	6.15

¹ Northeast region: CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

**APRIL FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASED
1 POINT FROM LAST MONTH**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 135 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.7 percent) from March. The Crop Index is down 1 point (0.7 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.4 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for onions, milk, cattle, and tomatoes. Lower prices were received for lettuce, corn, strawberries, and eggs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of cattle, oranges, strawberries, and milk offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and hogs.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 24 points (22 percent) from April 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 137, increased 2 points (1.5 percent) from last month and 25 points (22 percent) from April 2006.

PRICES PAID INDEX UP 2 POINTS

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates is 157 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 2 points (1.3 percent) from March and 9 points (6.1 percent) above April 2006. Higher prices in April for field crop seeds, feeder cattle, diesel fuel, and gasoline more than offset lower prices for feed grains, feeder pigs, complete feeds, and feed supplements.

Fuels: The April index, at 258, is up 6.6 percent from a month earlier and 5.7 percent above April 2006. Compared with last month, prices are higher for diesel fuel, gasoline, and LP gas.

Feed: The April index, at 147, decreased 0.7 percent from March but increased 20 percent from last April. Since March, lower prices for feed grains, complete feeds, feed supplements, and feed concentrates more than offset higher prices for hay & forages.

**COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS
MARCH 31, 2007**

Apples in cold storage reported by cold storage warehouses for Pennsylvania totaled 2,937,000 bushels on March 31, 2007, compared to 3,177,000 bushels on March 31, 2006. The three varieties with the largest fresh market and processing reported stocks in bushels were: York with 945,000; Rome with 608,500; and Golden Delicious with 588,500. Total apple stocks in Pennsylvania totaled 123,354,000 pounds on March 31, 2007, compared to 133,434,000 pounds on March 31, 2006.

STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, UNITED STATES

Commodity	Mar 31, 2006	Feb 28, 2007	Mar 31, 2007
	(000) Lbs.		
Butter	195,330	185,426	193,083
Cheese, Total Natural.....	810,674	856,419	872,881
Eggs, Frozen	20,757	15,693	14,783
Poultry, Total Frozen	1,255,037	937,584	952,130
Chicken.....	869,367	620,074	594,415
Turkeys.....	377,747	312,737	352,054
Fruits, Frozen	746,981	942,383	835,576
Fruit Juices, Frozen	1,319,462	1,095,124	1,198,237
Vegetables, Total Frozen	1,711,204	1,766,620	1,541,470
Potatoes, Total Frozen	1,158,885	1,063,645	1,114,130
Meats, Total Frozen.....	959,752	961,727	959,800
Beef, Total Frozen	436,157	457,254	432,571
Pork, Total Frozen	504,978	483,200	505,649

PENNSYLVANIA APPLES IN COLD STORAGE, MARCH 2007

Variety	March 31, 2006					March 31, 2007				
	Fresh Market ¹		Processing		Total	Fresh Market ¹		Processing		Total
	Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.		Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.	
	<i>Bushels</i>									
Braeburn						0	0	0	0	0
Cortland						0	1,000	0	0	1,000
Empire						0	19,000	11,000	0	30,000
Fuji	15,000	40,000	2,000	0	57,000	16,000	20,000	50,000	0	86,000
Gala	1,000	25,000	0	0	26,000	0	1,500	1,000	0	2,500
Golden Delicious	3,000	189,000	358,000	289,000	839,000	500	168,000	295,000	125,000	588,500
Granny Smith						0	1,000	18,500	92,000	111,500
Idared						1,000	2,000	6,000	43,000	52,000
Jonagold						1,000	3,500	15,000	0	19,500
Jonathan						0	0	0	0	0
McIntosh	1,000	3,000	0	0	4,000	0	3,000	0	0	3,000
Mutsu/Crispin						500	1,000	22,000	0	23,500
Northern Spy						0	0	0	0	0
Pink Lady						1,500	1,000	0	0	2,500
Red Delicious	3,000	183,000	49,000	28,000	263,000	2,500	200,000	59,000	26,500	288,000
Rome	2,000	40,000	237,000	339,000	618,000	1,500	28,000	230,000	421,000	680,500
Rome Sport						500	2,000	49,000	0	51,500
Spartan						0	0	0	0	0
Stayman	2,000	3,000	5,000	0	10,000	500	2,000	11,500	500	14,500
Winesap						0	0	0	0	0
York	2,000	1,000	642,000	547,000	1,192,000	0	0	351,000	594,000	945,000
All Other Varieties	8,000	33,000	38,000	89,000	168,000	2,000	4,000	22,500	0	28,500
Not Segregated						500	0	5,500	3,000	9,000
All Varieties	37,000	517,000	1,331,000	1,292,000	3,177,000	28,000	457,000	1,147,000	1,305,000	2,937,000

¹ Includes total quantities on hand; graded and ungraded, packed or loose on the last day of the month specified.

MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007
Layers.....	Thous.	23,818	22,961	22,679	350,470	347,079	346,437
Eggs Per 100 Layers.....	Number	2,381	2,186	2,416	2,238	1,993	2,243
Eggs Produced.....	Million	567	502	548	7,843	6,916	7,769
Chick Hatch-Egg Type	Thous.	5,019	4,862	5,532	38,805	36,766	40,537
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type	Thous.	14,202	12,581	14,127	817,842	723,753	810,732
Poults Placed	Thous.	-	-	-	25,230	24,249	26,630

EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production in Pennsylvania during March 2007 totaled 548 million eggs, down 3 percent from the 567 million eggs produced in March 2006. The total number of layers averaged 22.7 million during March, a 5 percent drop from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,416 eggs during the month, an increase of 35 eggs from March 2006.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2007 totaled 5.53 million, up 10 percent from the 5.02 million hatched the previous March. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 14.1 million during March 2007, down 1 percent from the same month last year.

United States' egg production totaled 7.77 billion during March 2007, down 1 percent from last year's total during March. The total number of layers during March averaged 346 million, slightly down from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,243 eggs, up slightly from March 2006.

Egg-type chicks hatched in the United States during March totaled 40.5 million, up 4 percent from March 2006. Broiler-type hatch totaled 810 million, a 1 percent decrease from last year at this time. There were 26.6 million turkey poults placed in the United States during March 2007, up 6 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago.



County estimates for 2006 can now be found online for hay, forage, barley, oats, wheat, corn, soybeans and sorghum.

Check out NASS's homepage at
www.nass.usda.gov

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in **Pennsylvania** during March 2007 totaled 110.4 million pounds, up very slightly from March 2006. Beef production, at 96.3 million pounds live weight, was up 4 thousand pounds from March 2006. Total head slaughtered was 77,200, unchanged. Live weight averaged 1,256 pounds, down 3 pounds from last year. Veal production was 6.4 million pounds live weight, up 2 percent from last year. Calf slaughter of 16,700 head was up 9 percent from last year. Average live weight decreased 28 pounds to 386 pounds. Pork production was 66.6 million pounds live weight, up 2 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 263,300, down 1 percent from March 2006. Average live weight is up 5 pounds from last year, at 253 pounds. Lamb and mutton production during March 2007 was 496,000 pounds live weight, up 20 percent. The number slaughtered was 5,500, up 31 percent. Average live weight decreased 7 pounds to 91 pounds.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, MAR 2007

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod.....	Million pounds	110.4	4,011.9
Cattle.....	1,000 Head	77.2	2,792.6
	1,000 pounds live	96,282	3,504,629
Calves	1,000 Head	16.7	70.8
	1,000 pounds live	6,443	22,588
Hogs.....	1,000 Head	263.3	9,203.2
	1,000 pounds live	66,554	2,485,226
Sheep & Lambs.....	1,000 Head	5.5	278.6
	1,000 pounds live	496	39,013

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UNITED STATES**

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