



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 2007 was \$864.0 million, up 32.7 percent from the \$651.1 million in 2006. Egg production accounted for 45.0 percent of the total value, broiler production was 43.3 percent of the total, turkey production accounted for 11.6 percent, and the value of mature chickens sold (excluding broilers) accounted for less than 1 percent of the total value.

Total egg production for 2007 was valued at \$389.1 million, up 63.3 percent from \$238.4 million one year earlier. During the year, 6,392 million eggs were produced, 295 million eggs less than in 2006. Prices for all eggs sold, including hatching eggs, averaged 73.1 cents per dozen during the year, compared to 42.8 cents per dozen in 2006.

Broiler production during 2007 was valued at \$374.2 million, up 22 percent from the previous year. A total of 151.2 million broilers were produced in 2007, down 1.5 percent from 2006. The average price received by producers in 2007 was 45.0 cents per pound live weight, compared to 37.0 cents per pound received a year earlier.

Turkey producers raised 11.0 million poult during 2007, up 5 percent from the previous year. The value of turkey production in 2007, at \$100.1 million, was 5 percent lower than 2006. Producers received an average of 50 cents per pound live weight during the year, down 4 cents per pound from 2006.

Mature chickens sold (excluding broilers) in 2007 were valued at \$568,000, 7 percent less than the previous year. A total of 14.7 million mature chickens were sold during the year, 7 percent less than in 2006. Prices for mature chickens averaged 1.1 cents per pound live weight, unchanged from 2006.

Nationally, the combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from chickens in 2007 was \$31.9 billion, up 24 percent from the \$25.8 billion in 2006. Of the combined total, 67 percent was from broilers, 21 percent from eggs, 12 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The value of broilers produced during 2007 was \$21.5 billion, up 21 percent from 2006. The total number of broilers produced in 2007 was 8.90 billion, up slightly from 2006. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2007 was 49.2 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2006. The 2007 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 43.6 cents per pound, compared with 36.3 cents in 2006.

Value of all egg production in 2007 was \$6.68 billion, up 51 percent from the \$4.43 billion in 2006. Egg production totaled 90.6 billion eggs, down 1 percent from the 91.3 billion eggs produced in 2006. In 2007, all eggs averaged 88.5 cents per dozen, compared with 58.2 cents in 2006.

The value of turkeys produced during 2007 was \$3.71 billion, up 4 percent from the \$3.57 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 2007 totaled 7.87 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 7.46 billion pounds produced in 2006. The average price received by producers during 2007 was 47.2 cents per pound, compared with 47.9 cents in 2006.

The value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 2007 was \$50.8 million, down 6 percent from the \$53.8 million a year ago. Prices averaged 5.6 cents per pound, compared with 5.8 cents in 2006. The number of chickens sold in 2007 totaled 167 million, down 3 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, APRIL 2008

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2008 ¹	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2008 ¹
<i>Dollars</i>							
Corn.....	Bu.	3.97	5.28	5.84	3.39	4.70	5.13
Wheat, Winter ²	Bu.	-	-	-	4.87	10.00	9.26
Oats.....	Bu.	2.56	3.73	4.00	2.46	3.44	3.59
Barley ²	Bu.	-	-	-	3.07	4.17	4.53
Soybeans ²	Bu.	-	-	-	6.88	11.50	11.80
Hay, Dry All	Ton	139.00	205.00	204.00	124.00	139.00	152.00
Dry Alfalfa	Ton	159.00	230.00	230.00	127.00	143.00	157.00
Dry Other	Ton	136.00	200.00	200.00	115.00	128.00	140.00
Apples, Fresh Use.....	Lb.	0.277	0.304	-	0.281	0.344	0.335
Cows, Slaughter	Cwt.	47.90	51.90	51.10	49.20	51.20	49.90
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	92.80	86.30	83.90	99.80	92.70	90.10
Calves	Cwt.	115.00	114.00	111.00	125.00	119.00	115.00
Barrows & Gilts.....	Cwt.	43.30	34.00	35.60	48.10	41.00	41.70
Sows.....	Cwt.	27.40	23.70	18.50	27.90	22.30	17.10
Sheep.....	Cwt.	39.40	44.40	-	34.20	28.30	-
Lambs.....	Cwt.	126.00	123.00	-	97.10	98.00	-
Eggs ³	Doz.	0.510	1.220	0.830	0.561	1.300	0.884
Milk, Fluid Grade	Cwt.	18.00	19.10	-	16.60	18.00	18.00
Manufactured Grade ⁴ ...	Cwt.	-	-	-	15.90	18.30	17.60
All	Cwt.	18.00	19.10	19.10	16.60	18.10	18.00
Milk Cows ⁵	Head	1,700.00	-	2,000.00	1,730.00	-	1,940.00

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.). ⁶ Apples insufficient sales to establish a price.

PRICES PAID FOR FUELS AND FEED, APRIL 2006-2007

Commodity	Unit	Northeast Region ¹		United States	
		April 2007	April 2008	April 2007	April 2008
<i>Dollars</i>					
Fuels:					
Gasoline, Service Station (Unleaded).....	Gal.	2.700	3.272	2.625	3.277
Gasoline, Bulk Delivery (Unleaded).....	Gal.	2.728	3.282	2.638	3.331
Diesel, Bulk Delivery	Gal.	2.355	3.773	2.430	3.619
L.P. Gas, Bulk Delivery	Gal.	2.186	2.621	1.727	2.281
Feed:					
Alfalfa Meal	Cwt.	20.50	24.30	18.20	21.10
Alfalfa Pellets	Cwt.	20.90	25.30	18.70	21.30
Bran	Cwt.	16.90	19.30	17.40	19.10
Beef Cattle Concentrate, 32-36%.....	Ton	335.00	451.00	370.00	433.00
Corn Meal	Cwt.	14.00	15.70	12.30	13.70
Cottonseed Meal, 41%	Cwt.	26.60	20.00	20.00	23.00
Dairy Feed, 16%	Ton	239.00	300.00	249.00	313.00
18%.....	Ton	259.00	312.00	267.00	324.00
20%.....	Ton	260.00	326.00	258.00	320.00
32%.....	Ton	355.00	405.00	378.00	469.00
Hog Feed, 14-18%.....	Ton	330.00	376.00	305.00	345.00
38-42%	Ton	438.00	566.00	398.00	490.00
Molasses, Liquid	Cwt.	18.80	18.70	19.20	17.50
Poultry Feed, Broiler Grower	Ton	336.00	505.00	306.00	387.00
Chick Starter	Ton	357.00	512.00	327.00	416.00
Laying Feed	Ton	288.00	332.00	278.00	371.00
Turkey Grower	Ton	300.00	490.00	337.00	434.00
Soybean Meal, 44%.....	Cwt.	20.00	26.90	18.20	23.40
Stock Salt.....	50 Lb.	6.20	6.86	5.02	5.45
Trace Mineral Blocks	50 Lb.	7.25	7.90	6.15	6.60

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

**APRIL FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX
DECLINES 2 POINTS FROM MARCH**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 144 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2 points (1.4 percent) from March. The Crop Index is unchanged but the Livestock Index decreased 4 points (3.1 percent). Producers received lower commodity prices for eggs, strawberries, cattle, and wheat. Higher prices were received for corn, lettuce, onions, and soybeans. 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 marketings of cattle, strawberries, milk, and oranges offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and cotton.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (8.3 percent) from April 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 140, decreased 5 points (3.4 percent) from last month but increased 5 points (3.7 percent) from April 2007.

PRICES PAID INDEX UP 3 POINTS

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 181 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 3 points (1.7 percent) from March and 21 points (13 percent) above April 2007. Higher prices in April for field crop seeds, diesel fuel, feed grains, and hay & forages more than offset lower prices for feeder pigs, feeder cattle, feed supplements, and complete feeds.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS, MARCH 31, 2008

Apples in cold storage reported by cold storage warehouses for Pennsylvania totaled 2,294,000 bushels on March 31, 2008, compared to 2,937,000 bushels on March 31, 2007. The three largest varieties in storage on March 31, 2008 were: Golden Delicious, 784,000 bushels; Rome Sport, 434,000 bushels; and All Other Varieties, 426,000 bushels. **Total apple stocks** in Pennsylvania totaled 96,348,000 pounds on March 31, 2008, compared to 123,354,000 pounds on March 31, 2007.

STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, UNITED STATES

Commodity	Mar 31, 2007	Feb 29, 2008	Mar 31, 2008
	<i>(000) Lbs.</i>		
Butter	193,104	210,422	226,430
Cheese, Total Natural	892,932	800,992	822,871
Eggs, Frozen	14,632	16,732	15,502
Poultry, Total Frozen	953,310	1,182,753	1,224,075
Chicken	600,866	760,831	789,372
Turkeys	346,784	416,694	430,506
Fruits, Frozen	853,647	1,068,889	932,126
Fruit Juices, Frozen	1,197,366	1,363,547	1,441,329
Vegetables, Total Frozen	1,533,934	1,769,625	1,568,637
Potatoes, Total Frozen	1,116,226	1,117,491	1,086,431
Meats, Total Frozen	943,521	1,054,106	1,103,897
Beef, Total Frozen	427,188	424,124	424,068
Pork, Total Frozen	494,761	605,718	657,106

PENNSYLVANIA APPLES IN COLD STORAGE (BUSHELS), MARCH 2008

Variety	March 31, 2007					March 31, 2008				
	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	0	0	0	0	0
Cortland	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	0	0	0
Empire	0	19,000	11,000	0	30,000	0	14,000	0	0	14,000
Fuji	16,000	20,000	50,000	0	86,000	0	12,500	0	56,000	68,500
Gala	0	1,500	1,000	0	2,500	500	500	0	0	1,000
Golden Delicious	500	168,000	295,000	125,000	588,500	0	192,500	102,000	489,500	784,000
Granny Smith	0	1,000	18,500	92,000	111,500	8500	0	0	151,000	159,500
Idared	1,000	2,000	6,000	43,000	52,000	0	0	0	44,000	44,000
Jonagold	1,000	3,500	15,000	0	19,500	2000	2,500	500	0	5,000
Jonathan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McIntosh	0	3,000	0	0	3,000	0	1,000	0	0	1,000
Mutsu/Crispin	500	1,000	22,000	0	23,500	500	1,000	0	0	1,500
Northern Spy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pink Lady	1,500	1,000	0	0	2,500	6500	0	0	0	6,500
Red Delicious	2,500	200,000	59,000	26,500	288,000	2000	126,000	500	500	129,000
Rome	1,500	28,000	230,000	421,000	680,500	0	14,000	125,000	51,500	190,500
Rome Sport	500	2,000	49,000	0	51,500	0	1,000	93,500	339,500	434,000
Spartan	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,000	3,000	0	6,000
Stayman	500	2,000	11,500	500	14,500	500	1,500	0	0	2,000
Winesap	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,000	0	2,000
York	0	0	351,000	594,000	945,000	0	500	0	0	500
All Other Varieties	2,000	4,000	22,500	0	28,500	0	6,000	119,000	301,000	426,000
Not Segregated	500	0	5,500	3,000	9,000	0	1,000	14,000	4,000	19,000
All Varieties	28,000	457,000	1,147,000	1,305,000	2,937,000	20,500	377,000	459,500	1,437,000	2,294,000

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



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MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008
Layers.....	Thous.	22,679	21,835	21,766	348,201	343,129	342,040
Eggs Per 100 Layers.....	Number	2,416	2,276	2,435	2,242	2,073	2,244
Eggs Produced.....	Million	548	497	530	7,806	7,113	7,675
Chick Hatch-Egg Type	Thous.	5,560	5,596	4,698	38,561	37,549	39,547
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type	Thous.	14,142	14,544	15,110	809,346	771,197	832,899
Poult Placed	Thous.	-	-	-	26,433	25,011	26,221

EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production in Pennsylvania during March 2008 totaled 530 million eggs, down 3 percent from the 548 million eggs produced in March 2007. The total number of layers averaged 21.8 million during March, a 4 percent drop from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,435 eggs during the month, an increase of 19 eggs from March 2007.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2008 totaled 4.7 million, down 16 percent from the 5.6 million hatched the previous March. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 15.1 million during March 2008, up 7 percent from the same month last year.

United States' egg production totaled 7.68 billion during March 2008, down 2 percent from last year's 7.81 billion during March. The total number of layers during March averaged 342 million, down 2 percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,244 eggs, an increase of 2 eggs from March 2007.

Egg-type chicks hatched in the United States during March totaled 39.5 million, up 3 percent from March 2007. Broiler-type hatch totaled 833 million, a 3 percent increase from last year at this time. There were 26.8 million turkey poult placed in the United States during March 2008, up slightly from March 2007.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in Pennsylvania during March 2008 totaled 105.2 million pounds, down 5 percent from March 2007. Beef production, at 97.6 million pounds live weight, was up 1,289 pounds from March 2007. Total head slaughtered was 77,000, down 200 head from 2007. Live weight averaged 1,278 pounds, up 22 pounds from last year. Veal production was 5.3 million pounds live weight, down 17 percent from last year. Calf slaughter of 13,400 head was down 20 percent from last year. Average live weight increased 13 pounds to 399 pounds. Pork production was 60.6 million pounds live weight, down 9 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 235,500, down 11 percent from March 2007. Average live weight is up 5 pounds from last year, at 258 pounds. Lamb and mutton production during March 2008 was 486,000 pounds live weight, down 2 percent. The number slaughtered was 5,700, up 4 percent. Average live weight decreased 6 pounds to 85 pounds.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, MAR 2008

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod	Million pounds	105.2	4,092.9
Cattle	1,000 Head	77.0	2,730.9
	1,000 pounds live	97,569	3,473,012
Calves	1,000 Head	13.4	70.8
	1,000 pounds live	5,329	19,075
Hogs	1,000 Head	235.5	9,661.6
	1,000 pounds live	60,645	2,616,784
Sheep & Lambs....	1,000 Head	5.7	230.9
	1,000 pounds live	486	32,122

County estimates for 2007 can now be found online for barley, oats, wheat, corn, soybeans and sorghum.

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