



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Utah Agriculture

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'TIS THE SEASON TO BE COUNTED

U.S. Farmers Give the Gift that Keeps Giving By Participating in 2007 Census

Salt Lake City, Utah – The end of December is typically marked by crowds of people returning holiday gifts that don't fit or won't work, but this year farmers across the country and in Utah can give themselves a gift that won't be returned and will keep on giving even after the holiday season – a voice for their industry and their community.

By filling out the 2007 Census of Agriculture farmers are investing in the future of rural America. Their responses will provide law makers, government organizations, town planners and individual farm operations with valuable information used to plan for services, facilities and other investments to benefit the industry and local communities.

Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census covers virtually every aspect of U.S. agriculture, providing a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them.

"The holiday season is a time of giving and receiving, but perhaps some of the best gifts are food, clothing and shelter provided to us with help from our U.S. farmers," said Rick Kestle, Director of the NASS Utah Field Office. "As many of us gather around the dinner table with good food and good friends, these essentials for everyday living often are taken for granted. By participating in the 2007 Census of Agriculture, farmers can ensure the vitality of the agriculture industry by providing a strong and unified voice about their needs and concerns."

The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics across the country and in Utah, right down to the county level. NASS will mail out Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online.

"Participating in the Census of Agriculture is one gift Utah producers can give themselves and their local communities this holiday season" added Kestle. "It's a valuable investment into the future and well-being of agriculture and to the local communities here in Utah."

For more information about the Census, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov or call toll-free (888) 4AG-STAT or (888) 424-7828. The Census is your voice, your future, and your responsibility.

Agricultural Prices

UTAH: Mid-November 2007 prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers for baled alfalfa hay was up \$135.00 per ton, \$3.00 from last from last month and up \$36.00 per ton from last year. Other hay, at \$120.00 per ton, was up \$10.00 from October 2007, and was \$48.00 higher than November 2006. Barley was down 55 cents from October, but was up \$2.31 from November 2006. The average price of all milk purchased in October 2007 from Utah farmers was \$21.10 per hundred wt. (Cwt) down 1.4 percent from September 2007, and up 58.6 percent from October 2006.

UNITED STATES: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 143 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 2 points (1.4 percent) from October. The Crop Index is up 2 points (1.4 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.3 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for soybeans, eggs, corn, and broilers and lower prices were received for lettuce, hogs, cattle, and broccoli. 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 milk, cattle, cotton, and cottonseed offset decreased marketings of soybeans, peanuts, potatoes, and lettuce. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 24 points (20 percent) from November 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 147, increased 2 points (1.4 percent) from last month and increased 27 points (23 percent) from November 2006.

Average Prices Received by Farmers ¹

Commodity	Utah						United States					
	Barley ²		Alfalfa Hay ³ Baled		Other Hay ³ Baled		Barley ²		Alfalfa Hay Baled ³		Other Hay Baled ³	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	2.34	3.65	95.00	105.00	80.00	79.00	2.42	3.03	96.40	112.00	84.30	104.00
February	2.11	3.91	100.00	107.00	85.00	81.00	2.55	3.09	98.40	115.00	88.60	107.00
March	2.17	3.70	96.00	113.00	85.00	87.00	2.70	3.11	100.00	121.00	90.10	115.00
April	2.29	3.18	106.00	113.00	90.00	85.00	2.65	3.07	108.00	127.00	94.90	115.00
May	2.20	3.72	98.00	120.00	75.00	90.00	2.97	3.12	114.00	145.00	101.00	115.00
June	(⁴)	(⁴)	101.00	121.00	81.00	92.00	2.77	3.30	112.00	137.00	95.80	111.00
July	2.36	3.38	101.00	123.00	81.00	105.00	2.71	3.45	111.00	137.00	94.90	113.00
August	2.39	3.39	101.00	130.00	76.00	118.00	2.70	3.54	109.00	137.00	96.20	118.00
September	2.58	4.71	97.00	132.00	72.00	114.00	2.53	4.04	111.00	135.00	99.50	124.00
October	2.95	5.58	99.00	132.00	72.00	110.00	2.76	4.50	113.00	137.00	101.00	122.00
November	2.72	5.03	99.00	135.00	72.00	120.00	2.92	4.69	110.00	135.00	106.00	123.00
December	3.40		101.00		75.00		2.93		111.00		107.00	

¹ November 2007 is mid-month. ² Dollars per bushel. ³ Dollars per ton. ⁴ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

Commodity ¹	Utah		United States	
	All Milk		All Milk	
Month	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	14.00	14.50	14.50	14.50
February	13.70	14.80	13.50	14.90
March	12.70	15.60	12.60	15.60
April	11.60	16.00	12.10	16.60
May	11.50	17.80	11.90	18.00
June	11.40	20.10	11.90	20.20
July	11.40	21.20	11.80	21.70
August	11.50	21.00	12.00	21.60
September	13.10	21.40	12.90	21.70
October	13.30	21.10	13.50	21.40
November	13.80		13.90	21.60 ²
December	14.10		14.10	

¹ Dollars per hundred wt.(CWT) ² preliminary

Farm Labor

MOUNTAIN REGION II: (includes Utah, Nevada, and Colorado): During the week of October 7 -13, 2007 there were 13,000 workers hired by farm operators in the region. All hired workers (excluding Agricultural Service Workers) were paid an average wage of \$10.66 per hour, up 81 cents from July 2007 and 33 cents higher than the national average. Field workers received \$9.80 per hour on average, up 55 cents from July 2007. Livestock workers received \$10.69 per hour, up 84 cents from July 2007.

UNITED STATES: There were 1,122,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 7-13, 2007, up 3 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 806,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 316,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.33 per hour during the October 2007 reference week, up 37 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.62 per hour, up 36 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$9.98 per hour compared with \$9.42 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.72 per hour, was up 42 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 42.1 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up fractionally from a year ago.

Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region and United States, October 7-13 2007¹

U.S. and Region	Hired							
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less		Field	Livestock	Field & Lvstk Combined	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	Hours per Week	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour
Mountain I ²	22	16	6	50.7	8.31	9.10	8.56	9.00
Mountain II ³	13	11	2	43.7	9.80	10.69	10.05	10.66
Mountain III ⁴	22	21	1	46.1	8.26	9.91	8.85	9.21
US	806	590	216	42.1	9.62	9.98	9.72	10.33

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Mountain I - Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. ³ Mountain II - Colorado, Nevada and Utah. ⁴ Mountain III - Arizona and New Mexico.

Manufactured Dairy Products

UTAH: **Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) in September 2007, at 9.4 million pounds, was 10.3 percent above September 2006, and 1.8 percent below August 2007. **Hard ice cream** production at 1.9 million gallons, was 2.3 percent above September 2006, and was 15.7 percent below August 2007.

UNITED STATES: **Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) was 778 million pounds, 1.4 percent below September 2006 and 2.3 percent below August 2007. **Italian type cheese** production totaled 330 million pounds, 0.9 percent above September 2006 but 1.0 percent below August 2007. **American type cheese** production totaled 303 million pounds, 5.3 percent below September 2006 and 2.9 percent below August 2007. **Butter** production was 112 million pounds, 7.3 percent above September 2006 and 2.0 percent above August 2007. **Hard Ice Cream** production at 70.9 million gallons was down 5.4 percent from September 2006, and down 14.3 percent from August 2007.

Manufactured Dairy Production – September 2006-2007 with Comparisons

Product	Utah			United States		
	September 2006	August ¹ 2007	September 2007	September 2006	August ¹ 2007	September 2007
	1,000 Pounds					
Total Cheese	8,552	9,606	9,431	788,604	795,618	777,501
	1,000 Gallons					
Hard ice cream	1,933	2,345	1,978	74,979	82,797	70,928

¹ Revised.

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Livestock Slaughter

UTAH: Commercial red meat production totaled 49.4 million pounds in October 2007, up 6.9 percent from the same month of the previous year. **Cattle slaughter** in Utah for October 2007 totaled 60.3 head, 5.4 percent above a year earlier. The average live weight was 1,311 pounds, up 12 pounds from October 2006. **Hog slaughter** totaled 6,400 head up 45.4 percent from the previous year. The average live weight was 179 pounds, down 27 pounds from the previous year. **Sheep and lamb slaughter** during October 2007 totaled 3,200 head, up slightly from the previous year. Average live weight, at 133 pounds, was up 2 pounds from the previous year.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.61 billion pounds in October, up 10 percent from the 4.20 billion pounds produced in October 2006. **Beef production**, at 2.44 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.10 million head, up 8 percent from October 2006. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,300 pounds. **Veal production** totaled 11.1 million pounds, 16 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 65,200 head, up 3 percent from October 2006. The average live weight was down 59 pounds from last year, at 288 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 2.14 billion pounds, up 11 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.7 million head, up 11 percent from October 2006. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 270 pounds. **Lamb and mutton production**, at 16.4 million pounds, was up 5 percent from October 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 248,000 head, 5 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 1 pound from October a year ago. **January to October 2007 commercial red meat production** was 40.3 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent

from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter				
October 2006-2007¹				
Item	Utah		United States	
	October		October	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
<i>Production (Millions Pounds)</i>				
<i>Red Meat</i>	46.2	49.4	4,197.2	4,613.5
<i>Number Slaughtered (Thousand Head)</i>				
<i>Cattle</i>	57.2	60.3	2,858.1	3,099.6
<i>Calves</i>	1	1	63.6	65.2
<i>Hogs</i>	4.4	6.4	9,632.0	10,654.4
<i>Sheep & Lambs</i>	3.1	3.2	237.3	248.0
<i>Average Live Weight (Pounds)</i>				
<i>Cattle</i>	1,299	1,311	1,291	1,300
<i>Calves</i>	1	1	347	288
<i>Hogs</i>	206	179	269	270
<i>Sheep & Lambs . . .</i>	131	133	131	132