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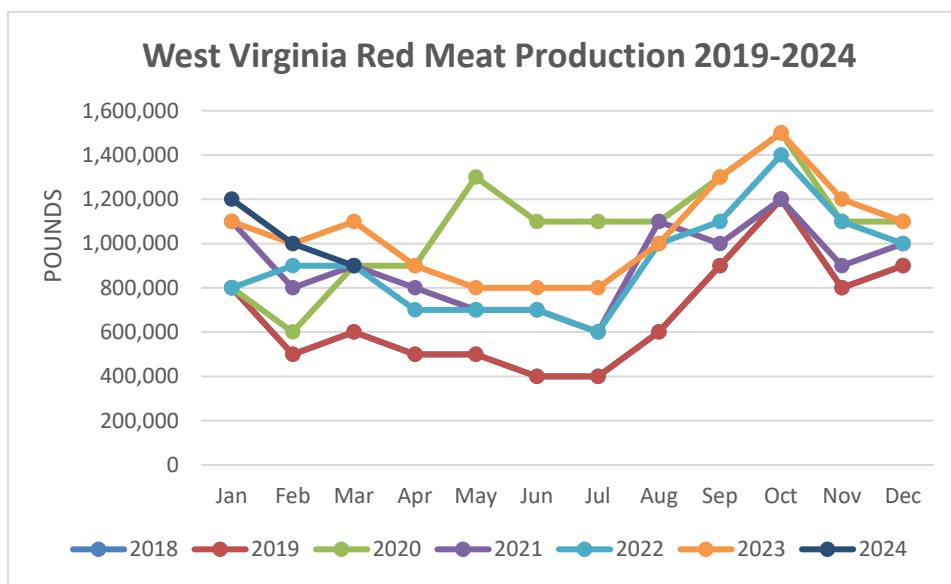
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
West Virginia Field Office  
in cooperation with  
West Virginia  
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Kent Leonhardt, Commissioner  
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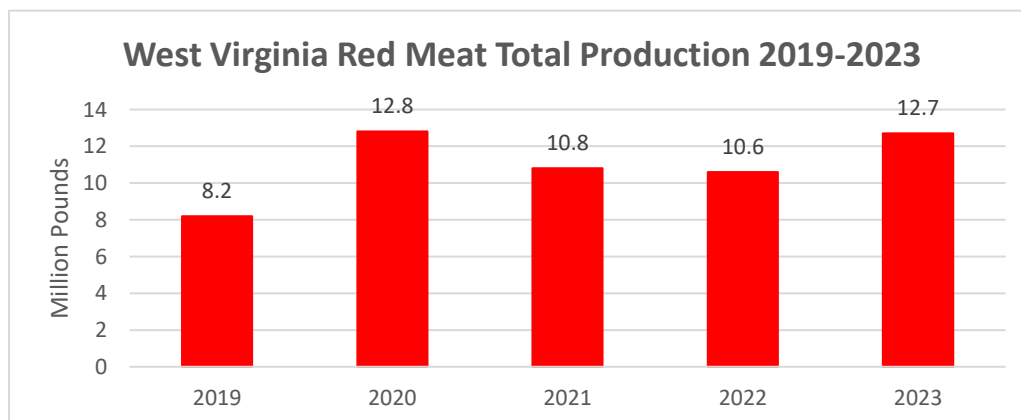
## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Commercial red meat production** in West Virginia during March 2024 totaled 900 thousand pounds. This was down 21 percent from March 2023. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter. **Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 1,229,000 pounds live weight, down 23 percent from March 2023. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, down 300 head from the previous year. **Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 184,000 pounds live weight, down 23 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, down 200 head from the previous year.



## 2023 COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

**Red meat production** in commercial plants (commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton) totaled 12.7 million pounds during 2023. This was up 20 percent from 2022 production. The number of federally and non-federally inspected slaughter plants totaled 37 on January 1, 2024, down 2 plants from the previous year.





**Commercial cattle slaughter** during 2023 totaled 16,400 head, up 19 percent from 2022. Total live weight was 18.15 million pounds, up 20 percent from 2022. The average live weight was 1,110 pounds, up 16 pounds from 2022. **Commercial calf slaughter** during 2023 totaled 100 head, unchanged from 2022. Total live weight was 26,000 pounds, down 48 percent from 2022. The average live weight was 471 pounds, down 1 pound from 2022. **Commercial hog slaughter** during 2023 totaled 9,700 head, up 29 percent from 2022. Total live weight was 2.82 million pounds, up 26 percent from 2022. The average live weight was 291 pounds, down 6 pounds from the previous year.

| West Virginia Commercial Livestock Slaughter 2019-2023 |         |                   |         |                   |
|--|---------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|
|  | Cattle  |                   | Hogs    |                   |
|  | Head    | Total Live Weight | Head    | Total Live Weight |
|  | (1,000) | (1,000 pounds)    | (1,000) | (1,000 pounds)    |
| 2019   | 10.8    | 10.7              | 7.7     | 2.2               |
| 2020   | 16.9    | 18.5              | 11      | 3.3               |
| 2021   | 14.6    | 15.9              | 6.8     | 2.1               |
| 2022   | 13.8    | 15.11             | 7.5     | 2.2               |
| 2023   | 16.4    | 18.15             | 9.7     | 2.8               |

FIRST QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION

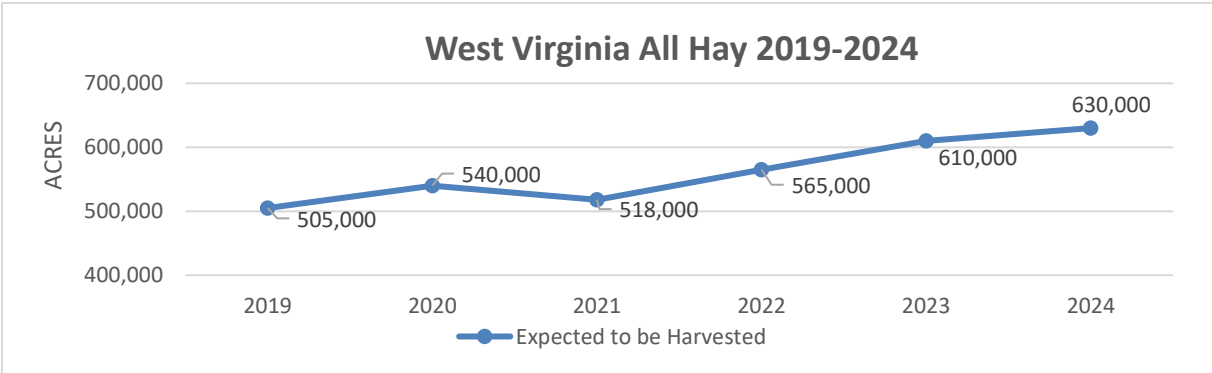
**Milk production** in West Virginia totaled 15 million pounds or 1.7 million gallons during the January - March quarter of 2024. This was down 2 million pounds from the same period in 2023, and was down 1 million pounds from the October - December 2023 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 4,000 head.

| Milk Production: January - March |                        |         |                           |       |                              |          |                |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------|---------------------------|-------|------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| State                            | Milk Cows <sup>1</sup> |         | Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup> |       | Milk Production <sup>3</sup> |          | Percent Change |
|                                  | 2023                   | 2024    | 2023                      | 2024  | 2023                         | 2024     |                |
|                                  | Thousand Head          |         | Pounds                    |       | Million Pounds               |          |                |
| Kentucky                         | 46.0                   | 43.0    | 5,326                     | 5,209 | 245.0                        | 224.0    | -9             |
| North Carolina                   | 39.0                   | 38.0    | 6,026                     | 6,026 | 235.0                        | 229.0    | -3             |
| Tennessee                        | 26.0                   | 25.0    | 4,731                     | 4,720 | 123.0                        | 118.0    | -4             |
| Virginia                         | 68.0                   | 67.0    | 5,265                     | 5,358 | 358.0                        | 359.0    | 0              |
| West Virginia                    | 4.5                    | 4.0     | 3,778                     | 3,750 | 17.0                         | 15.0     | -12            |
| United States                    | 9,418.0                | 9,333.0 | 6,035                     | 6,095 | 56,837.0                     | 56,886.0 | 0              |

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, exlcudes heifers not yet fresh. <sup>2</sup> Milk per cow is derived. <sup>3</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

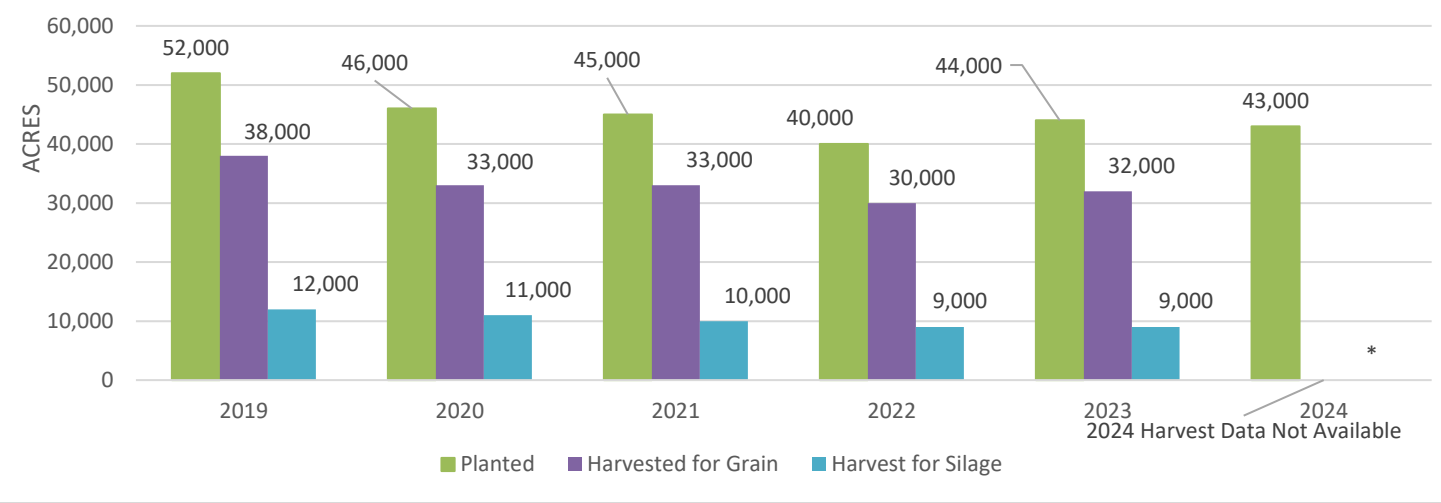
**All hay** area harvested is expected to total 630,000 acres, up 3 percent or 20,000 acres from 2023, and up 12 percent or 65,000 acres from 2022.





Corn area planted in West Virginia is expected to total 43,000 acres, down 2 percent, or 1,000 acres from 2023, but up 8 percent, or 3,000 acres from 2022.

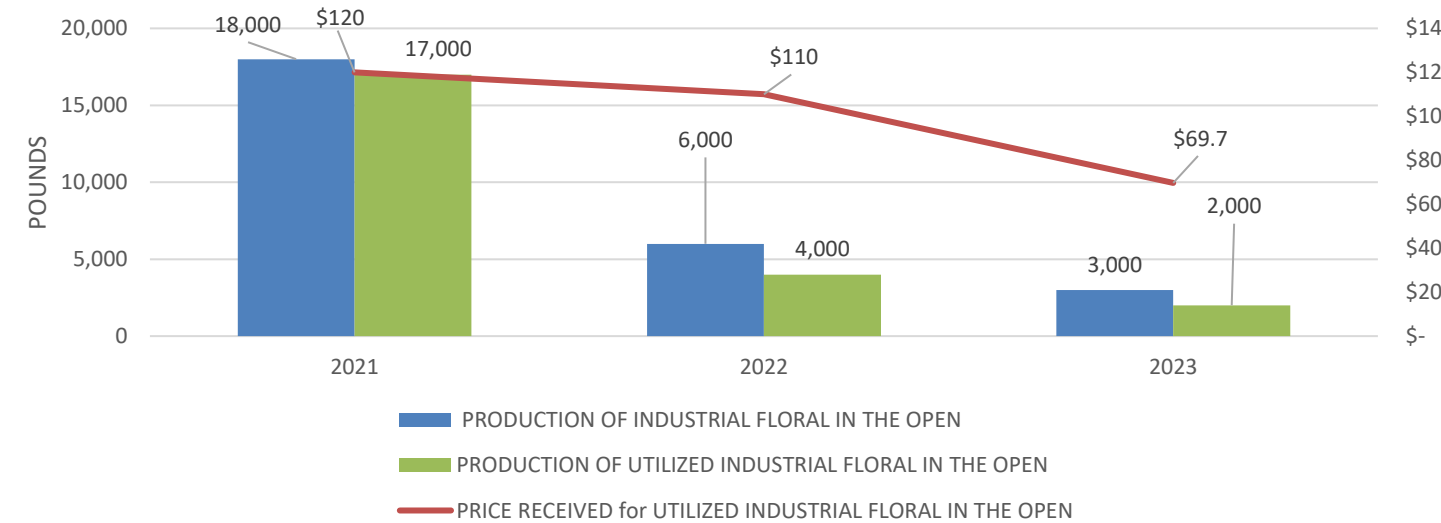
West Virginia Corn Acreage 2019-2024



HEMP PRODUCTION

**Industrial hemp in the open:** Planted area for West Virginia in 2023 for all utilizations totaled 24 acres, down 11 acres from 35 acres in 2022. Area harvested for all purposes in the open in 2023 totaled 23 acres, down 7 acres from 30 acres in 2022. **Industrial floral hemp in the open:** Median yield was 80 pounds per acre in 2023 and the median price was \$75.00. The value of utilized floral hemp production grown in the open in 2023 totaled \$139,000, down from \$440,000 in 2022. **Hemp under protection:** In 2023 hemp growers used 11,465 square feet under protection for production, up from 5,967 square feet under protection for production in 2022. Other data were withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

West Virginia Hemp Production and Price Per Pound 2021-2024





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National Agricultural Statistics Service  
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**USDA** Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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Meat Animals Production, Disposition & Income  
2023 Poultry Production & Value  
Milk Production, Disposition, & Income

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