

# Mountain State Reporter

RELEASED: APRIL 2007

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 4



**IN THIS ISSUE:**

**RED MEAT PRODUCTION  
CHICKENS AND EGGS  
ANNUAL HATCHERY PRODUCTION  
QUARTERLY HOGS AND PIGS  
PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS  
'March Ag Survey Results'  
GRAIN STOCKS  
MILK PRODUCTION**

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**West Virginia- Commercial red meat production** during February 2007 totaled 400,000 pounds. This was up 14 percent from February 2006 and down 28 percent from January 2007 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 624,000 pounds live weight, up 22 percent from February 2006. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,099 pounds, was up 50 pounds from a year ago.

**Commercial calf slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Commercial hog slaughter totaled** 139,000 pounds live weight, down 5 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 291 pounds, was down 11 pounds from the previous year.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**United States- Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in February, up 4 percent from the 3.49 billion pounds produced in February 2006.

**Beef production**, at 1.95 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, up 9 percent from February 2006. The average live weight was down 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,274 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 12.2 million pounds, 7 percent above February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,900 head, up 27 percent from February 2006. The average live weight was down 50 pounds from last year, at 307 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.64 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.12 million head, down slightly February 2006. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 14.4 million pounds, was down 2 percent from February 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 204,400 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, down 4 pounds from February a year ago.

**January to February 2007 commercial red meat production** was 7.7 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was up 14 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

February 2006 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2007 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**CHICKENS AND EGGS**

**United States egg production** totaled 6.91 billion during February 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 5.92 billion table eggs, and 998 million hatching eggs, of which 937 million were broiler-type and 61 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2007 averaged 347 million, down 1 percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,992 eggs, down slightly from February 2006.

**All layers** in the U.S. on March 1, 2007 totaled 347 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 347 million layers consisted of 288 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.82 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2007, averaged 71.6 eggs per 100 layers, unchanged from March 1, 2006.

**Egg-type chicks hatched** during February 2007 totaled 36.8 million, up 9 percent from February 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 38.5 million on March 1, 2007, up 5 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 166,000 during February 2007, down 15 percent from February 2006.

**Broiler-type chicks hatched** during February 2007 totaled 724 million, down 1 percent from February 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 664 million on March 1, 2007, down slightly from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.07 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2007, down 7 percent from February 2006.

**ANNUAL HATCHERY PRODUCTION**

**Broiler-type chicks hatched** during 2006 totaled 9.43 billion, down 1 percent from 2005. This is the first decrease since 1974.

Leading U.S. breeders had intended placements of 85.9 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during 2006, up 1 percent from 2005.

**Placements of broiler chicks** on feed for meat production in the 19-State weekly program totaled 8.98 billion during the 52 week period ending December 30, 2006 down 1 percent from the 52 week period ending December 31, 2005.

**Egg-type chicks hatched** during 2006 totaled 426 million, down 3 percent from 2005.

Leading U.S. breeders had intended placements of 2.87 million egg-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during 2006, up 1 percent from 2005.

**Turkey hatcheries** placed 293 million poult in the United States during 2006, up 6 percent from 2005. Net poult placements of 297 million were up 5 percent from 2005. Eggs hatched were up 6 percent from 2005 with 302 million hatched.

The **capacity of chicken hatcheries** on January 1, 2007 was 910 million eggs, up 2 percent from January 1, 2006. The **capacity of turkey hatcheries** was 38.7 million eggs on January 1, 2007, down 1 percent from January 1, 2006.

**QUARTERLY HOGS AND PIGS**

**United States inventory** of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2007 was 61.1 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2006, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2006.

**Breeding inventory**, at 6.08 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 55.0 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

**The December 2006-February 2007 pig crop**, at 26.1 million head, was up 2 percent from 2006 and up 3 percent from 2005. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.87 million head, up 1 percent from both 2006 and 2005. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.08 for the December 2006-February 2007 period, compared to 9.03 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

**U.S. hog producers** intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the March-May 2007 quarter, down slightly from the actual farrowings, but up 1 percent from 2005. Intended farrowings for June-August 2007, at 2.92 million sows, are virtually unchanged from both 2006 and 2005.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

### PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS 'March Ag Survey Results'

**West Virginia - Corn** plantings in West Virginia are expected to total 46,000 acres, up 2 percent or 1,000 acres from 2006, and up 2 percent or 1,000 acres from 2005.

**Winter wheat** planted area is estimated at 8,000 acres, the same as 2006, and up 14 percent or 1,000 acres from 2005.

**Soybeans** planted acreage is expected to total 14,000 acres, down 18 percent or 3,000 acres from 2006, and down 22 percent or 4,000 acres from 2005.

**All hay** acreage harvested is expected to total 590,000 acres, the same as 2006, and up 3 percent or 15,000 acres from 2005.

#### United States with 2006 comparisons:

Corn plantings - 90.5 million acres, up 15%.  
Oat plantings - 4.03 million acres, down 3%.  
Winter wheat planted - 44.5 million acres, up 10%.  
All tobacco for harvest - 344,170 acres, up 2%.  
Burley tobacco for harvest - 107,500 acres, up 4%.  
Soybean plantings - 67.1 million acres, down 11%.  
Sorghum plantings - 7.11 million acres, up 9%.  
Barley plantings - 3.70 million acres, up 7%.  
All hay for harvest - 63.1 million acres, up 4%.

### GRAIN STOCKS

**Corn** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 6.07 billion bushels, down 13 percent from March 1, 2006. Of the total stocks, 3.33 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 18 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.74 billion bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 2.86 billion bushels,

compared with 2.83 billion bushels during the same period last year.

**Soybeans** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 1.78 billion bushels, up 7 percent from a year ago and the largest March 1 stocks on record. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 910 million bushels, up 4 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 874 million bushels, are up 10 percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2006 - February 2007 quarter totaled 917 million bushels, up 10 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 856 million bushels, down 12 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 192 million bushels, down 25 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 663 million bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 459 million bushels, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

**Durum wheat** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 38.7 million bushels, down 41 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 17.1 million bushels, are down 57 percent from March 1, 2006. Off-farm stocks totaled 21.6 million bushels, down 16 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance of 12.6 million bushels is down 24 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**Barley** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 117 million bushels, down 30 percent from March 1, 2006. On-farm stocks are estimated at 38.3 million bushels, 44 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 78.9 million bushels, are 20 percent below March 2006. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance totaled 55.7 million bushels, 35 percent above the same period a year earlier.

**Oats** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 71.0 million bushels, 5 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2006. Of the total stocks on hand, 33.9 million bushels are stored on farms, down 20 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 37.1 million bushels, up 14 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during December 2006 - February 2007 totaled

27.9 million bushels, up 34 percent from the same period a year ago.

### MILK PRODUCTION

**West Virginia - Milk production** in West Virginia totaled 50 million pounds during the January - March quarter of 2007. This was unchanged from the October - December 2006 quarter and the same quarter last year. The number of dairy cows averaged 13,000 head, unchanged from the previous quarter and the same quarter last year.

**United States - Milk production** in the U.S. during the January - March quarter totaled 46.0 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the January - March quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.13 million head, 36,000 head more than the same period last year.

**Next Issue:**

Red Meat Production  
Poultry Production and Value  
Meat Animal Production,  
Disposition and Income  
Milk Production, Disposition,  
and Income  
May Crop Production

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