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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

West Virginia- Commercial red meat production during February 2010 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was down 25 percent from February 2009 and down 38 percent from January 2010 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 648,000 pounds live weight, down 34 percent from February 2009. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, down 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,173 pounds, was up 43 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 85,000 pounds live weight, down 31 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 300 head, down 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 259 pounds, was up 17 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 3.74

billion pounds in February, down 2 percent from the 3.83 billion pounds produced in February 2009.

Beef production, at 1.96 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.55 million head, up 1 percent from February 2009. The average live weight was down 25 pounds from the previous year, at 1,285 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.7 million pounds, 2 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 74,000 head, down slightly from February 2009. The average live weight was down 10 pounds from last year, at 247 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.76 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.69 million head, down 3 percent from February 2009. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.3 million pounds, was down 3 percent from February 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 178,400 head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 3 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2010 commercial red meat production was 7.65 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2009. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was down 7 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

February 2009 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2010 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. *Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.*

CHICKENS AND EGGS

United States - Egg production totaled 6.90 billion during February 2010, down slightly from last year. Production included 5.92 billion

table eggs, and 983 million hatching eggs, of which 915 million were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2010 averaged 339 million, down 1 percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 2,038 eggs, up 1 percent from February 2009.

All layers in the U.S. on March 1, 2010 totaled 339 million, down slightly from last year. The 339 million layers consisted of 281 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.96 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2010, averaged 73.1 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from March 1, 2009.

Egg-type chicks hatched during February 2010 totaled 40.1 million, up 9 percent from February 2009. Eggs in incubators totaled 38.8 million on March 1, 2010, up 4 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 296 thousand during February 2010, up 16 percent from February 2009.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during February 2010 totaled 700 million, down slightly from February 2009. Eggs in incubators totaled 643 million on March 1, 2010, up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.36 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2010, up 2 percent from February 2009.

CATTLE ON FEED

United States - Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.8 million head on April 1, 2010. The inventory was 4 percent below April 1, 2009. The inventory included 6.71 million steers and steer calves, down 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.02 million head, down 3 percent from 2009.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.86 million, 3 percent above 2009. Net placements were 1.80 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 395,000, 600-699 pounds were 375,000, 700-799 pounds were

602,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 485,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.90 million, 4 percent above 2009. **Other disappearance** totaled 60,000 during March, 20 percent above 2009. This is the second lowest other disappearance for the month of March since the series began in 1996.

QUARTERLY HOGS AND PIGS

United States - Inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2010 was 64.0 million head. This was down 3 percent from March 1, 2009 and down 2 percent from December 1, 2009.

Breeding inventory, at 5.76 million head, was down 4 percent from last year and down 2 percent from the previous quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 58.2 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2009-February 2010 pig crop, at 27.9 million head, was down 2 percent from 2009 and down 2 percent from 2008. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.90 million head, down 4 percent from 2009 and down 6 percent from 2008. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.61 for the December 2009-February 2010 period, compared to 9.48 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.70 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.90 million sows farrow during the March-May 2010 quarter, down 4 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2009 and down 5 percent from 2008. Intended farrowings for June-August 2010, at 2.89 million sows, are down 2 percent from 2009 and down 6 percent from 2008.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 44 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, down from 45 percent last year.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS 'March Ag Survey Results'

West Virginia - Corn plantings in West Virginia are expected to total 49,000 acres, up 4 percent or 2,000 acres from 2009 and up 14 percent or 6,000 acres from 2008.

Winter wheat planted area is estimated at 7,000 acres, down 22 percent or 2,000 acres from 2009 and down 36 percent or 4,000 acres from 2008.

Soybeans planted acreage is expected to total 18,000 acres, down 10 percent or 2,000 acres from 2009 and down 5 percent or 1,000 acres from 2008.

All hay acreage harvested is expected to total 635,000 acres, up 2 percent or 10,000 acres from 2009 and up 5 percent or 30,000 acres from 2008.

United States With 2009 Comparisons:

Corn plantings-88.80 million acres, up 3%.
 Oat plantings-3.36 million acres, down 1%.
 Winter wheat planted-37.70 million acres, down 13%.
 All tobacco for harvest-334,020 acres, down 6%.
 Burley tobacco for harvest-97,800 acres, down 4%.
 Soybean plantings-78.10 million acres, up slightly.
 Sorghum plantings-6.36 million acres, down 4%.
 Barley plantings-3.27 million acres, down 8%.
 All hay for harvest-60.46 million acres, up 1%.

GRAIN STOCKS

United States - Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 7.69 billion bushels, up 11 percent from March 1, 2009. Of the total stocks, 4.55 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 11 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.15 billion bushels, are up 10 percent from a year ago. The December 2009 - February 2010 indicated disappearance is 3.23 billion bushels, compared with 3.12 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 1.27 billion bushels, down 2 percent from March 1, 2009. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 609 million bushels, down 7 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 661 million bushels, are up 2 percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2009 - February 2010 quarter totaled 1.07 billion bushels, up 10 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 1.35 billion bushels, up 30 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 348 million bushels, up 24 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 1.00 billion bushels, are up 32 percent from a year ago. The December 2009 - February 2010 indicated disappearance is 429 million bushels, up 12 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 55.6 million bushels, up 72 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 34.3 million bushels, are up 83 percent from March 1, 2009. Off-farm stocks totaled 21.3 million bushels, up 57 percent from a year ago. The December 2009 - February 2010 indicated disappearance of 20.1 million bushels is up 65 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 157 million bushels, up 22 percent from March 1, 2009. On-farm stocks are estimated at 67.4 million bushels, 52 percent above a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 90.0 million bushels, are 6 percent above March 2009. The December 2009 - February 2010 indicated disappearance totaled 49.0 million bushels, 12 percent above the same period a year earlier.

Oats stored in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 98.0 million bushels, 3 percent above the stocks on March 1, 2009. Of the total stocks on hand, 30.9 million bushels are stored on farms, up 2 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 67.1 million bushels, up 3 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during December 2009 - February 2010 totaled 12.6 million bushels, down 35 percent from the same period a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Milk production in West Virginia totaled 39 million pounds or 4,534,884 gallons during the January - March quarter of 2010. This was down 2 million pounds or 232,558 gallons from the same quarter last year, but is up 1 million pounds or 116,279 gallons from the October - December 2009 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 10,000 head. This was down 1,000 head from the same quarter last year, but is unchanged from the October - December 2009 quarter.

United States - Milk production in the U.S. during the January - March quarter totaled 47.3 billion pounds, down 0.1 percent or 5 million gallons from the January - March quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.09 million head, 206,000 head less than the same period last year. *Note: A conversion of 8.6 pounds per gallon was used.*

COLD STORAGE

United States - Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on March 31, 2010 were greater than year earlier levels for cheese and eggs.

Butter stocks were down 3 percent from last month and down 7 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 11 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 14 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 6 percent from last month but down 19 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on March 31, 2010 were up 3 percent from the previous month but down 13 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 2 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 11 percent from last month but down 26 percent from March 31, 2009.

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Annual Livestock Slaughter
Meat Animal Production,
Disposition and Income
Poultry Production and Value
Milk Production, Disposition
and Income

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