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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during December 2006 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was down 4 percent from December 2005 and unchanged from November 2006 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 1,120,000 pounds live weight, down 3 percent from December 2005. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,054 pounds, was up 54 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 140,000 pounds live weight, down 17 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 253 pounds, was down 6 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 3.86 billion pounds in December, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in December 2005.

Beef production, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.61 million head, down 2 percent from December 2005.

The average live weight was up 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,297 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.4 million pounds, 7 percent above December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,100 head, up 13 percent from December 2005. The average live weight was 25 pounds below last year, at 346 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.79 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.88 million head, 4 percent below December 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was down 8 percent from December 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 223,700 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 7 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2006 commercial red meat production was 47.4 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was up slightly, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

December 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. December 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

CATTLE INVENTORY

West Virginia - Cattle inventory in West Virginia as of January 1, 2007 totaled 420,000 head, up 10,000 head or 2 percent from the January 1, 2006 inventory of 410,000 head. **All cows and heifers** that have calved totaled 225,000 head, up 8,000 head or 4 percent from January 1, 2006.

Comparing January 1, 2007 to January 1, 2006: **Beef cows** totaled 212,000 head, up 8,000 head; **milk cows** totaled 13,000, unchanged; **all heifers 500 pounds and over** totaled 67,000 head, unchanged; beef replacement heifers totaled 39,000 head, up 1,000 head; milk replacement heifers totaled 4,000 head, unchanged; other heifers totaled 24,000 head, down 1,000 head; **steers 500 pounds and over** totaled 40,000 head, up 2,000 head; **bulls 500 pounds and over** totaled 15,000 head, up 1,000 head; calves less than 500 pounds totaled 73,000, down 1,000 head. **Cattle on feed** for

slaughter totaled 10,000 head, up 1,000 head from 2006.

The 2006 **calf crop** totaled 200,000 head, up 5,000 head from the 2005 calf crop.

United States - All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2007, totaled 97.0 million head, slightly above the 96.7 million on January 1, 2006. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.0 million, were down slightly from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2006.

Comparing January 1, 2007, to January 1, 2006: **Beef cows** totaled 32.9 million head, down slightly; **milk cows** totaled 9.13 million, up 1 percent; **all heifers 500 pounds and over** totaled 20.1 million, up 1 percent; beef replacement heifers, 5.88 million, down slightly; milk replacement heifers, 4.31 million, up 1 percent; other heifers, 9.90 million, up 1 percent; **steers 500 pounds and over** totaled 17.2 million, up 2 percent; bulls 500 pounds and over totaled 2.22 million, down 2 percent; calves less than 500 pounds totaled 15.5 million, down slightly. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, totaled 14.3 million, up 1 percent.

The 2006 **calf crop** was estimated at 37.6 million head, down slightly from 2005. **Calves born** during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2005.

SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORY

West Virginia - All sheep and lamb inventory in West Virginia as of January 1, 2007, was 34,000 head, up 2,000 head from January 1, 2006.

Breeding sheep and lamb inventory totaled 28,000 head on January 1, 2007, up 1,000 head from 2006. Ewes, one year and older, at 23,000 head, were up 1,000 head from 2006. Rams totaled 1,000 head, unchanged from 2006. Replacement lambs totaled 4,000 head, unchanged from 2006.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2007 totaled 6,000 head, up 1,000 head from January 1, 2006. Market lambs totaled 5,000 head, unchanged from the previous year. Of these, 2,000 were under 65 pounds, 1,000 were 65 - 84 pounds, 1,000 were 85 - 105 pounds, and 1,000 were over 105 pounds.

The 2006 lamb crop totaled 29,000 head, up 1,000 head from 2005. The 2006 lambing rate was 132 per 100 ewes one year old and older on hand January 1, 2006, compared to 122 in 2005.

Shorn wool production during 2006 was 131,000 pounds, down 2 percent from 2005. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 23,000 head, unchanged from 2005. The average price paid for wool sold in 2006 was \$0.49 per

pound for a total value of \$64,000 dollars, unchanged from 2005.

Meat and other goat inventory on January 1, 2007 was estimated at 21,000 head, up 2,000 head from January 1, 2006. **Milk goat** inventory was estimated at 1,700 head, up 300 head from last year. **Angora goat** inventory was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States - All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2007, totaled 6.19 million head, down 1 percent from 2006, but still 1 percent above 2005. After two consecutive year to year increases inventory growth was hampered by extremely dry weather in the Southwestern part of the United States.

Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.62 million head on January 1, 2007, down slightly from 4.64 million head on January 1, 2006. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.71 million head, were 1 percent above last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2007, totaled 1.57 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2006. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-five percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 25 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 36 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings.

The 2006 lamb crop of 4.09 million head, was down 1 percent from 2005. The 2006 lambing rate was 112 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2006, down 3 percent from 2005.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2006 was 36.0 million pounds, down 3 percent from 2005. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.85 million head, down 4 percent from 2005. The average price paid for wool sold in 2006 was \$0.68 per pound for a total value of 24.4 million dollars, down 7 percent from 26.3 million dollars in 2005.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2007, totaled 2.93 million head, up 3 percent from 2006. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.44 million head up 3 percent from 2006. **All market goats and kids** totaled 494,000 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2007 **meat and all other goats** totaled 2.40 million head, up 5 percent from 2006. Milk goat inventory increased 2 percent to 296,000 head while angora goats were down 8 percent totaling 238,000 head. The 2006 **kid crop** totaled 1.92 million head for all goats, up 4 percent from 2005.

Mohair production in the United States during 2006 was 1.35 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 216,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.30 pounds. Mohair price was \$3.68 per pound with a value of 4.98 million dollars.

PRELIMINARY FRUIT PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Total **apple** production for 2006 was 90.0 million pounds, 3 percent more than the 2005 estimate of 87.0 million pounds. Utilized production totaled 88.0 million pounds, an increase of 5 million from 2005. Bearing acres in the State were estimated at 5,000 acres, unchanged from 2005, with an average yield per acre of 18,000 pounds, 600 pounds more than 2005. The average price per pound for apples was 8.4 cents, the same as 2005. Value of utilized production totaled \$7.36 million, up 5 percent from 2005.

Peach production totaled 5,200 tons, down 5 percent or 300 tons from 2005. Utilized production in 2006 totaled 5,000 tons, down 6 percent or 300 tons from last year. Bearing acres were estimated at 950 acres, unchanged from 2005, with an average yield of 5.47 tons per acre, a decrease of 0.32 tons. The price received per ton was estimated at 578 dollars, a decrease of 146 dollars from 2005. Value of utilized production totaled \$2.89 million - a 25 percent decrease from 2005.

United States - Total **apple** production in the U.S. during 2006 was estimated at 10.07 billion pounds, 4 percent more than 2005. Of the total production, 9.98 billion pounds were utilized, up 4 percent from the 2005 level. Bearing acres were estimated at 377,490 acres, down 2,070 acres from 2005, with an average yield per acre of 26,700 pounds, 1,100 pounds more than 2005. Growers received an average of 21.0 cents per pound, an increase of 3.5 cents from 2005. Value of utilized production totaled \$2.10 billion, an increase of 25 percent from 2005.

The U.S. total **peach** production (including California Clingstone) in 2006 was estimated at 1.01 million tons, down 15 percent from 2005. Of this production, 987 thousand tons were utilized, down 14 percent from the previous year. Bearing acres were estimated at 134,460 acres, down 5,170 acres from 2005, with an average yield of 7.51 tons per acre, a decrease of 0.97 tons. The average price received per ton for peaches was 520 dollars per ton, up 73 dollars from 2005. Value of utilized production totaled \$513.4 million, up slightly from 2005.

CROP VALUES

West Virginia - **Corn for grain** value of production totaled \$10.8 million in 2006, a 63 percent increase from 2005. The marketing year average price received per bushel for corn was \$3.45, up \$1.28 from 2005.

The value of **winter wheat** production in 2006 was \$1.2 million, a 35 percent increase from the 2005 crop. Growers received an average of \$3.40 per bushel for the 2006 crop, up 33 cents from 2005.

Soybeans value of production totaled \$4.1 million, a 24 percent increase from 2005. The average price received per bushel for soybeans was \$6.05. This was up 56 cents from the 2005 average price.

The value of **all hay** production totaled \$67.8 million in 2006, slightly less than 2005. The average price received per ton was \$65.00, \$1.50 more than the 2005 average price.

The value of **alfalfa hay** production totaled \$11.1 million in 2006, 5 percent more than 2005. The average price received per ton was \$109.00, \$1.00 more than the 2005 average price.

The value of all **other hay** production totaled \$56.6 million in 2006, 1 percent less than 2005. The average price received per ton was \$60.00, \$1.00 more than the 2005 average price.

The 2006 **total value of production of principal crops** (including fruits) was \$94.1 million, up 4 percent from the 2005 value of \$90.7 million, and up 2 percent from the 2004 value of \$92.1 million.

UNITED STATES VALUE AND MARKETING YEAR AVERAGE PRICE WITH 2005 COMPARISONS

- Corn for grain value of production - \$33.84 billion, up 52 percent; \$3.20 per bushel, up \$1.20.
- Winter wheat value of production - \$5.40 billion, up 9 percent; \$4.20 per bushel, up 88 cents.
- Soybeans value of production - \$19.69 billion, up 14 percent, \$6.20 per bushel, up 54 cents.
- All hay value of production - \$13.51 billion, up 7 percent; \$109.00 per ton, up \$10.80.
- Alfalfa hay value of production - \$7.52 billion, up 2 percent; \$113.00 per ton, up \$9.00.
- Other hay value of production - \$5.99 billion, up 14 percent; \$95.00 per ton, up \$13.60.
- All crops (including fruits, nuts and vegetables) value of production - \$122.41 billion, up 15 percent.

FARM NUMBERS, LAND IN FARMS, AND LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS

West Virginia - The **number of farms** in West Virginia totaled 21,200 in 2006, an increase of 400 farms from 2005. The total land in farms was 3.6 million acres, unchanged from 2005. The average farm size was 170 acres, down 3 acres from 2005.

The West Virginia number of farms in the \$1,000 - \$9,999 economic sales class totaled 17,500, up 300 from 2005. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 2.05 million acres, unchanged from 2005.

The **number of operations with cattle and calves** totaled 12,500 operations, unchanged from 2005. Beef cow operations totaled 10,800 operations, down 100 operations from 2005. Milk cow operations totaled 470 operations, unchanged from 2005.

The **number of operations with hogs and pigs** totaled 900 operations, up 100 from 2005.

The **number of operations with sheep and lambs** totaled 1,100 operations, up 10 percent, or 100 farms from 2005.

United States - The **number of farms** in the United States in 2006 is estimated at 2.09 million, 0.4 percent fewer than in 2005. Total land in farms, at 932.4 million acres, decreased 780 thousand acres, or 0.08 percent, from 2005. The average farm size was 446 acres during 2006, an increase of one acre from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

Compared to 2005, the number of farms in 2006 declined in 23 states, remained unchanged in 23 states and increased in four states, West Virginia (400 farms), Colorado (200 farms), Montana and South Carolina (100 farms). The largest decline in the number of farms occurred in Florida, North Carolina, and Tennessee (each losing 1,000 farms) followed by Oregon (losing 700 farms) and New York (losing 600 farms).

The **number of operations with cattle** totaled 971,400 during 2006, down 1 percent from 2005 and 2 percent below 2004. Beef cow operations in 2006 were down

1 percent from 2005 and 2 percent below 2004. Milk cow operations were 4 percent below last year and 8 percent below two years ago. Texas had the largest number of operations with all cattle with 149,000 operations and also had the largest number of operations with beef cattle with 130,000 operations. Wisconsin had the largest number of milk cow operations with 14,900 operations.

The **number of operations with hogs** totaled 65,540 during 2006, down 3 percent from 2005 and 6 percent from 2004. Places with 2,000 or more head accounted for 80 percent of the inventory. Iowa had the largest number of hog operations with 8,700 operations.

The **number of operations with sheep** totaled 69,090 during 2006, up 1 percent from 2005 and up 2 percent from 2004. Of all sheep operations that include breeding sheep, 90.8 percent were comprised of 1-99 head, 7.6 percent had 100-499 head, and the remaining 1.6 percent were operations with 500 head or more. Operations with 1-99 head account for 28.7 percent of the inventory, 100-499 head account for 24.0 percent of the inventory, and 500+ head account for 47.3 percent of the inventory. Texas had the largest number of sheep operations with 7,000 operations.

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Cattle on Feed
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Honey Production**

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