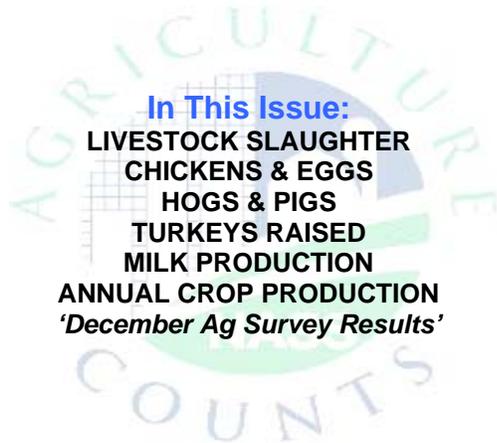


Mountain State Reporter

RELEASED: JANUARY 2007

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 1



LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during November 2006 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was down 23 percent from November 2005 and down 25 percent from October 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 1,065,000 pounds live weight, down 20 percent from November 2005. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,000 head, down 400 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,087 pounds, was up 145 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 171,000 pounds live weight, down 42 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, down 500 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 269 pounds, was down 8 pounds from the previous year.

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

United States- Commercial red meat production totaled 4.14 billion pounds in November, up 5

percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in November 2005.

Beef production, at 2.22 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.84 million head, up 6 percent from November 2005. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,291 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.3 million pounds, 15 percent above November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,800 head, up 18 percent from November 2005. The average live weight was 14 pounds below last year, at 351 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.89 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.37 million head, 3 percent above November 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 273 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was down 3 percent from November 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 223,800 head, slightly below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 3 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2006 commercial red meat production was 43.5 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down slightly, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

November 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2006 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

CHICKENS & EGGS

U.S. egg production totaled 7.52 billion during November 2006, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.49 billion table eggs, and 1.03 billion hatching eggs, of which 969 million were broiler-type and 64 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 2006 averaged 346 million, down slightly from last year.

November egg production per 100 layers was 2,176 eggs, up slightly from November 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on December 1, 2006 totaled 347 million, down slightly from last year. The 347 million layers consisted of 290 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.1 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.82 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on December 1, 2006, averaged 72.9 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from December 1, 2005.

Egg-type chicks hatched during November 2006 totaled 31.7 million, down 2 percent from November 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.2 million on December 1, 2006, down slightly from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 206,000 during November 2006, up 14 percent from November 2005.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during November 2006 totaled 729 million, down 2 percent from November 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 652 million on December 1, 2006, down 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.45 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during November 2006, up 2 percent from November 2005.

HOGS & PIGS

West Virginia - Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2006, was 11,000 head, up 38 percent from December 1, 2005. Of the 11,000 head, 2,000 were for breeding; unchanged from 2005. The breakdown of the remaining 9,000 market hogs and pigs was as follows: 2,000 head were under 60 pounds; 2,000 were from 60-119 pounds; 2,000 were from 120-179 pounds; and 3,000 were 180 pounds and over.

Annual pig crop totaled 15,400 head, 5 percent above the 2005 pig crop. Sows farrowing from December 2005 through November 2006 totaled 2,200 head, up 5 percent from the previous year. Pigs per litter averaged 7.00 pigs, the same as 2005.

United States - Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2006 was 62.1 million head. This was up 1 percent from December 1, 2005, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2006.

Breeding inventory, at 6.09 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and up slightly from the previous quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 56.1 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2006 pig crop, at 26.6 million head, was up 1 percent from 2005 and up 3 percent from 2004. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.91 million head, up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.13 for the September-November 2006 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 2.90 million sows farrow during the December 2006-February 2007 quarter, up 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2006 and 2005. Intended farrowings for March-May 2007, at 2.93 million sows, are up 1 percent from 2006 and up 2 percent from 2005.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 38 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, down from 39 percent last year.

Revisions - All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2005 through September 2006 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, a small adjustment of less than one-half of one percent was made to the June 2006 inventory and September 2006 inventory, along with an adjustment of slightly larger than one-half of one percent to the March-May 2006 pig crop.

TURKEYS RAISED

West Virginia - Turkeys raised in West Virginia during 2006 totaled 3.6 million birds, up 33 percent from 2005. Growers' intentions for 2007 are to raise 3.5 million birds, a decrease of 3 percent.

United States - Turkeys raised in the United States during 2006 totaled 262 million birds, up 4 percent from the 252 million raised in 2005.

Minnesota ranked first in the number raised with 45.0 million, followed by North Carolina with 37.5

million, Arkansas with 30.0 million, Virginia with 21.5 million, Missouri with 20.0 million, California with 15.8 million, and Indiana with 13.8 million. These States accounted for 70 percent of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2006.

Turkey growers in 23 States intend to increase the number of birds raised by 4 percent in 2007. These States produced over 99% of the turkeys raised in 2006. Intentions for the top seven producing States, compared with 2006, are as follows: Minnesota up 2 percent, North Carolina up 5 percent, Arkansas unchanged, Virginia up 2 percent, Missouri unchanged, California up 6 percent, and Indiana up 15 percent.

The number of turkeys actually raised in 2007 may vary from growers' intentions shown in this report depending on feed costs, supply of hatching eggs, cost of poults, and prices growers receive for turkeys during the next few months.

MILK PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Milk production in West Virginia totaled 50 million pounds during the October - December quarter of 2006. This was up 1 million pounds from the same quarter last year and from the July - September 2006 quarter. 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 United States during the October - December quarter totaled 44.6 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.12 million head, 56,000 head more than the same period last year.

ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION 'December Ag Survey Results'

West Virginia - Wheat planted acres totaled 8,000 in 2006, up 1,000 acres from 2005. Area harvested for grain totaled 6,000 acres, up 1,000 from 2005. The average yield for 2006 was estimated to be 61.0 bushels per acre. This was up 1 bushel from 2005. Production was estimated at 366,000 bushels, up 22 percent or 66,000 bushels from 2005.

Winter wheat seedings for the 2007 crop are estimated at 8,000 acres, unchanged from 2006.

All hay harvested area in 2006 totaled 590,000 acres, up 15,000 from 2005. The average yield in 2006 was 1.77 tons per acre compared to 1.86 tons per acre in 2005.

Production totaled 1.046 million tons, down from 1.070 million tons in 2005. **December On Farm Hay Stocks** were 816,000 tons, down 168,000 tons from 2005.

Alfalfa hay area harvested totaled 35,000 acres in 2006, the same as 2005. Yields in 2006 averaged 2.9 tons per acre, up 0.1 of a ton from 2005. Production totaled 102,000 tons, up 4,000 from 2005. New seedings of alfalfa in 2006 are estimated at 4,000 acres, down 3,000 acres from 2005 seedings.

All other hay area harvested totaled 555,000 acres in 2006, up 15,000 acres from 2005. Yields averaged 1.7 tons per acre, down 0.1 of a ton from 2005. Production totaled 944,000 tons, down 28,000 tons from 2005.

Area planted to **corn** for all purposes in 2006 totaled 45,000 acres, the same as 2005. Harvested area for **grain** totaled 26,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from 2005. The average yield of 120.0 bushels per acre was up 11 bushels from 2005. Production was 3.1 million bushels, up 2 percent from 2005.

Corn for silage area harvested was 18,000 acres in 2006, up 2,000 acres from 2005. Yields averaged 17.0 tons per acre which was 1.5 tons above the 2005 yield. Silage production was estimated at 306,000 tons, up 23 percent from 2005.

Area planted to **soybeans** totaled 17,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2005. Area harvested for beans totaled 16,000 acres, also down 1,000 acres from 2005. The yield for soybeans in 2006 averaged 42.0 bushels per acre, up 7 bushels from 2005. Production was estimated at 672,000 bushels, up 13 percent from 2005.

The total area planted to **principal crops** in West Virginia totaled 660,000 acres in 2006, up 15,000 acres from 2005. Area harvested totaled 656,000 acres, up 15,000 acres from 2005. Principal crops include acres planted to corn, soybeans, wheat, and acres harvested for hay.

United States with previous year comparisons

--All wheat production - 1.81 billion bushels, down 14%.

--Winter wheat production - 1.3 billion bushels, down 13%.

--2007 winter wheat seedings - 44.1 million acres, up 9% from 2006.

--2006 alfalfa seedings - 3.18 million acres, down 3% from 2005.

--Alfalfa hay production - 71.7 million tons, down 6%.

--All other hay production - 70.0 million tons, down 7%.

--All hay production -141.7 million tons, down 6 %.

--Corn planted for all purposes area - 78.3 million acres, down 4%.

--Corn for grain harvested area - 70.6 million acres, down 6%.

--Corn for grain production - 10.5 billion bushels, down 5%.

--Corn for grain yield – 149.1 bushels per acre, up 1.2 bushels.

--Corn for silage harvested area – 6.5 million acres, up 9%.

--Corn for silage production - 104.8 million tons, down 2%.

--Corn for silage yield – 16.2 tons per acre, down 1.8 tons.

--Soybeans production - 3.19 billion bushels, up 4%. (Largest U.S. soybean crop in history.)

--All tobacco production – 727.0 million pounds, up 13%.

--Oats production - 93.8 million bushels, down 18%.

--Area planted to principal crops - 315.8 million acres, down 1%.

--Area harvested for principal crops - 294.7 million acres, down 3%.

United States stocks totals as of December 1, 2006

--Hay stocks on-farm - 96.4 million tons, down 8%.

--Corn stocks on-farm - 5.63 billion bushels, down 11%.

--Corn stocks off-farm - 3.30 billion bushels, down 5%.

--All wheat stocks on-farm – 403.3 million bushels, down 21%.

--All wheat stocks off-farm – 911.4 million bushels, down 1%.

--Soybean stocks on-farm - 1.46 billion bushels, up 9%.

--Soybean stocks off-farm - 1.24 billion bushels, up 7%.

--Oats stocks on-farm - 53.0 million bushels, down 12%.

--Oats stocks off-farm - 43.2 million bushels, up 21%.

Next Issue:

**Livestock Slaughter
January Cattle
January Sheep & Goats
Preliminary Fruit Production
Crop Values
Farms & Land in Farms**

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