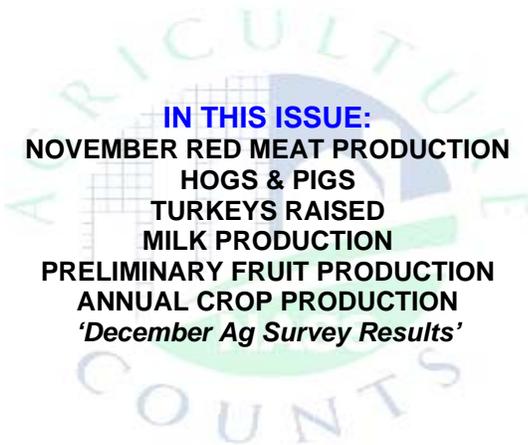


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NOVEMBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during November 2007 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was up 16 percent from November 2006 and down 23 percent from October 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 1,298,000 pounds live weight, up 22 percent from November 2006. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,300 head, up 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,019 pounds, was down 63 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 204,000 pounds live weight, up 19 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, up 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 223 pounds, was down 46 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 4.30 billion pounds in

November, up 4 percent from the 4.15 billion pounds produced in November 2006.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, down slightly from November 2006. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,304 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.1 million pounds, 22 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,900 head, down 12 percent from November 2006. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from last year, at 291 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.05 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.1 million head, up 7 percent from November 2006. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.1 million pounds, was up 5 percent from November 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 236,700 head, 6 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 1 pound from November a year ago.

January to November 2007 commercial red meat production was 44.6 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

November 2006 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2007 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

HOGS & PIGS

West Virginia - Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2007, was 9,000 head, down 18 percent from December 1, 2006. Of the 9,000 head, 2,000 were for breeding; unchanged from 2006.

The breakdown of the remaining 7,000 market hogs and pigs was as follows: 1,000 head were under 60 pounds; 2,000 were from 60-119 pounds; 2,000 were from 120-179 pounds; and 2,000 were 180 pounds and over.

Annual pig crop totaled 14,400 head, 6 percent below the 2006 pig crop. Sows farrowing from December 2006 through November 2007 totaled 1,900 head, down 14 percent from the previous year. Pigs per litter averaged 7.58 pigs, up 8 percent from the 2006 average which was 7.00 pigs per litter.

United States - Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2007 was 65.1 million head. This was up 4 percent from December 1, 2006, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2007.

Breeding inventory, at 6.16 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 59.0 million head, was up 5 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2007 pig crop, at 28.0 million head, was up 4 percent from 2006 and up 7 percent from 2005. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.03 million head, up 3 percent from 2006 and up 4 percent from 2005. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.24 for the September-November 2007 period, compared to 9.11 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.30 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.98 million sows farrow during the December 2007-February 2008 quarter, up 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2007, and up 5 percent from 2006. Intended farrowings for March-May 2008, at 3.04 million sows, are up slightly from 2007 and up 4 percent from 2006.

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, up from 38 percent last year.

Revisions - All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2006 through September 2007 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data.

Based on the findings of this review, adjustments of less than two percent were made to the June 2007 and September 2007 total inventory. An adjust-

ment of less than three percent was made to the March-May 2007 pig crop while an adjustment of slightly more than one-half of one percent was made to the June-August 2007 pig crop.

TURKEYS RAISED

West Virginia - Turkeys raised in West Virginia during 2007 totaled 3.5 million birds, down 3 percent from 2006. Growers' intentions for 2008 are to raise 3.6 million birds, an increase of 3 percent.

United States - Turkeys raised in the United States during 2007 totaled 272 million birds, up 4 percent from the 262 million raised in 2006.

Minnesota ranked first in the number raised with 48.0 million, followed by North Carolina with 39.0 million, Arkansas with 31.0 million, Virginia with 22.0 million, Missouri with 20.0 million, California with 16.0 million, and Indiana with 15.3 million. These States accounted for 70 percent of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2007.

Turkey growers in 23 States intend to increase the number of birds raised by 2 percent in 2008. These States produced over 99 percent of the turkeys raised in 2007. Intentions for the top seven producing States, compared with 2007, are as follows: Minnesota up 2 percent, North Carolina unchanged, Arkansas up 3 percent, Virginia up 2 percent, Missouri up 5 percent, California up 4 percent, and Indiana up 6 percent.

The number of turkeys actually raised in 2008 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 49 million pounds during the October - December quarter of 2007. This was down 1 million pounds from the same quarter last year and unchanged from the July - September 2007 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 U.S. during the October - December quarter totaled 46.0 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.20 million head, 80,000 head more than the same period last year.

PRELIMINARY FRUIT PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Total **apple production** for 2007 was 80.0 million pounds, 11 percent less than the 2006 estimate of 90.0 million pounds. Utilized production totaled 77.0 million pounds, a decrease of 11 million from 2006. Bearing acres in the State were estimated at 5,000 acres, unchanged from 2006, with an average yield per acre of 16,000 pounds, 2,000 pounds less than 2006. The average price per pound for apples was 9.6 cents, up 0.4 cents from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 7.39 million dollars, down 8 percent from 2006.

Peach production totaled 4,200 tons, down 19 percent or 1,000 tons from 2006. Utilized production in 2007 totaled 4,000 tons, down 20 percent or 1,000 tons from last year. Bearing acres were estimated at 950 acres, unchanged from 2006, with an average yield of 4.42 tons per acre, a decrease of 1.05 tons. The price received per ton was estimated at 858 dollars, an increase of 280 dollars from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 3.43 million dollars - a 19 percent increase from 2006.

United States - Total **apple production** in the U.S. during 2007 was estimated at 9.34 billion pounds, 5 percent less than 2006. Of the total production, 9.30 billion pounds were utilized, down 5 percent from the 2006 level. Bearing acres were estimated at 363,440 acres, down 6,550 acres from 2006, with an average yield per acre of 25,700 pounds, 900 pounds less than 2006. Growers received an average of 25.8 cents per pound, an increase of 2.9 cents from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 2.40 billion dollars, an increase of 7 percent from 2006.

The U.S. total **peach production** (including California Clingstone) in 2007 was estimated at 1.11 million tons, up 10 percent from 2006. Of this production, 1.10 million tons were utilized, up 12 percent from the previous year. Bearing acres were estimated at 134,140 acres, down 720 acres from 2006, with an average yield of 8.30 tons per acre, an increase of 0.81 tons. The average price received per ton for peaches was 453 dollars per ton, down 67 dollars from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 498.6 million dollars, down 3 percent from 2006.

ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION 'December Ag Survey Results'

West Virginia - **Wheat** planted acres totaled 8,000 in 2007, unchanged from 2006. Area harvested for grain totaled 6,000 acres, unchanged from 2006. The average yield for 2007 was estimated to be

58.0 bushels per acre. This was down 3 bushels from 2006. Production was estimated at 348,000 bushels, down 5 percent or 18,000 bushels from 2006.

Winter wheat seedings for the 2008 crop are estimated at 12,000 acres, up 50 percent from 2007.

All hay harvested area in 2007 totaled 600,000 acres, up 10,000 from 2006. The average yield in 2007 was 1.54 tons per acre compared to 1.77 tons per acre in 2006. Production totaled 923 thousand tons, down from 1.046 million tons in 2006. **December On Farm Hay Stocks** were 720,000 tons, down 96,000 tons from 2006.

Alfalfa hay area harvested totaled 25,000 acres in 2007, down 10,000 acres from 2006. Yields in 2007 averaged 2.4 tons per acre, down 0.5 of a ton from 2006. Production totaled 60,000 tons, down 42,000 tons from 2006. New seedings of alfalfa in 2007 are estimated at 4,000 acres, unchanged from 2006.

All other hay area harvested totaled 575,000 acres in 2007, up 20,000 acres from 2006. Yields averaged 1.5 tons per acre, down 0.2 of a ton from 2006. Production totaled 863,000 tons, down 81,000 tons from 2006.

Area planted to **corn** for all purposes in 2007 totaled 46,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from 2006. Harvested area **for grain** totaled 27,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from 2006. The average yield of 111.0 bushels per acre was down 9 bushels from 2006. Production was 3.0 million bushels, down 4 percent from 2006.

Corn for silage area harvested was 18,000 acres in 2007, unchanged from 2006. Yields averaged 14.5 tons per acre which was 2.5 tons below the 2006 yield. Silage production was estimated at 261,000 tons, down 15 percent from 2006.

Area planted to **soybeans** totaled 15,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from 2006. Area harvested for beans totaled 14,000 acres, also down 2,000 acres from 2006. The yield for soybeans in 2007 averaged 33.0 bushels per acre, down 9 bushels from 2006. Production was estimated at 462,000 bushels, down 31 percent from 2006.

The total area planted to **principal crops** in West Virginia totaled 669,000 acres in 2007, up 9,000 acres from 2006. Area harvested totaled 665,000 acres, up 9,000 acres from 2006. Principal crops include acres planted to corn, soybeans, wheat, and acres harvested for hay.

United States with previous year comparisons

- All wheat production - 2.07 billion bushels, up 14%.
- Winter wheat production - 1.52 billion bushels, up 17%.
- 2008 winter wheat seedings - 46.6 million acres, up 4% from 2007.
- 2007 alfalfa seedings - 2.83 million acres, down 11% from 2006.
- Alfalfa hay production - 72.6 million tons, up slightly.
- All other hay production - 77.7 million tons, up 11%.
- All hay production - 150 million tons, up 6%.
- Corn planted for all purposes area - 93.6 million acres, up 19%.
- Corn for grain harvested area - 86.5 million acres, up 22%.
- Corn for grain production - 13.1 billion bushels, up 24%.
- Corn for grain yield - 151.1 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels.
- Corn for silage harvested area - 6.1 million acres, down 6%.
- Corn for silage production - 106.3 million tons, up 1%.
- Corn for silage yield - 17.5 tons per acre, up 1.3 tons.
- Soybeans production - 2.59 billion bushels, down 19%.
- All tobacco production - 778.6 million pounds, up 7%.
- Oats production - 91.6 million bushels, down 2%.
- Area planted to principal crops - 320.0 million acres, up 1%.
- Area harvested for principal crops - 303.8 million acres, up 3%.

**United States stocks totals
as of December 1, 2007**

- Hay stocks on-farm - 104.0 million tons, up 8%.
- Corn stocks on-farm - 6.53 billion bushels, up 16%.
- Corn stocks off-farm - 3.74 billion bushels, up 13%.
- All wheat stocks on-farm - 290 million bushels, down 28%.
- All wheat stocks off-farm - 838 million bushels, down 8%.
- Soybean stocks on-farm - 1.10 billion bushels, down 25%.
- Soybean stocks off-farm - 1.23 billion bushels, down 1%.
- Oats stocks on-farm - 43.1 million bushels, down 19%.
- Oats stocks off-farm - 51.4 million bushels, up 12%.

NEXT ISSUE:

**Red Meat Production
January Cattle
January Sheep & Goats
Crop Values
Farms & Land in Farms**

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