Mountain State Reporter

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MAY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during May 2007 totaled 300,000 pounds. This was up 6 percent from May 2006 but down 13 percent from April 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 473,000 pounds live weight, up 7 percent from May 2006. Cattle slaughter totaled 400 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,127 pounds, was up 18 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 110,000 pounds live weight, up 8 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 229 pounds, was down 9 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 4.08 billion pounds in May, up slightly from the 4.06 billion pounds produced in May 2006.

Beef production, at 2.28 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.05 million head, up slightly from May 2006. The average live weight was down 12 pounds from the previous year, at 1,232 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.4 million pounds, 3 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 59,000 head, up 4 percent from May 2006. The average live weight was down 23 pounds from last year, at 349 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.76 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.76 million head, up 3 percent from May 2006. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.5 million pounds, was down 4 percent from May 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 218,200 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 142 pounds, unchanged from May a year ago.

January to May 2007 commercial red meat production was 19.5 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was up 9 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

May 2006 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. May 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

CHICKEN AND EGGS

U.S. egg production totaled 7.58 billion during May 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.45 billion table eggs, and 1.14 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during May 2007 averaged 341 million, down 1 percent from last year. **May egg production** per 100 layers was 2,226 eggs, up 1 percent from May 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on June 1, 2007 totaled 339 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 339 million layers consisted of 280 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 June 1, 2007, averaged 72.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from June 1, 2006.

Egg-type chicks hatched during May 2007 totaled 38.5 million, down 3 percent from May 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 40.0 million on June 1, 2007, up 10 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 192,000 during May 2007, down 20 percent from May 2006.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during May 2007 totaled 837 million, up 3 percent from May 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 681 million on June 1, 2007, up 3 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.75 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during May 2007, up 3 percent from May 2006.

CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on June 1, 2007. The inventory was 1 percent above June 1, 2006 and 5 percent above June 1, 2005. This is highest June 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during May totaled 2.16 million, 13 percent above 2006 but 3 percent below 2005. Net placements were 2.06 million. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 420,000, 600-699 pounds were 374,000, 700-799 pounds were 645,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 720,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.09 million, 3 percent below 2006 but 4 percent above 2005.

Other disappearance totaled 99,000 during May, 14 percent below 2006 but 3 percent above 2005.

SHEEP AND GOATS

Sheep - All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 2007 totaled 7.73 million head, down slightly from July 1, 2006, and 1 percent below July 1, 2005. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.61 million head on July 1, 2007 was down slightly from July 1, 2006. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 3.12 million head, were also down slightly from last July.

The breeding herd consists of 3.76 million ewes one year old and older, 185,000 rams one year old and older, and 665,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). **Market lamb** inventory at 3.06 million head was comprised of 1.81 million lambs under 65 pounds, 635,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 360,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 250,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 65,000 head.

The 2007 lamb crop in the United States is expected to total 4.12 million head, up 1 percent from the 2006 lamb crop of 4.09 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2007 totaled 3.64 million head or 88 percent of the yearly total. An additional 480,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2007.

Region 3 (CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY) accounted for 34.5 percent of all sheep and lambs. Region 2 (NM & TX) accounted for 18.4 percent, Region 1 (AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, & WA) for 16.3 percent, Region 4 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, & OK) for 15.5 percent, and Region 5 (all other States) for 15.3 percent.

All goat inventory on July 1, 2007 totaled 3.60 million head, up 4 percent from the previous July. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.69 million head, up 4 percent from July 2006. **All market goats and kids** totaled 905,000 head, up 2 percent from the previous July. On July 1, 2007 **meat and all other goats** totaled 3.00 million head, up 5 percent from July 2006. **Milk goat** inventory was also up 5 percent increasing to 335,000 head while **angora goat** numbers fell 9 percent to 260,000 head. The 2007 **kid crop** is expected to total 2.03 million head, up 6 percent from the 2006 kid crop of 1.92 million head.

NONCITRUS FRUITS AND NUTS

West Virginia - The 2007 **peach** crop is forecast at 4,000 tons, down 23 percent, or 1,200 tons from the 2006 crop, and down 1,500 tons from the 2005 crop.

In 2006, utilized production totaled 5,000 tons, a decrease of 300 tons from 2005. Value of utilized production totaled $2.9 million, a decrease of 25 percent from 2005. Bearing acres were estimated at 950, the same as 2005, with an average yield of 5.47 tons per acre. The average price received per ton was estimated at $578.00. This was a decrease of $146.00 from 2005.

Total **apple** production for 2006 was estimated at 90.0 million pounds (2.14 million, 42 lb. bushels), up 3 percent, or 3 million pounds from 2005. Utilized production totaled 88.0 million pounds, up 5 million pounds from 2005. Apples for fresh market totaled 16.0 million pounds, the same as 2005. Apples for processing accounted for 72.0 million pounds of the 2006 crop, 5 million pounds more than the 2005 crop.

The average price received for 2006 apples was 9.2 cents per pound, up 0.8 cents from 2005. Total value of utilized production was $8.1 million for the crop, up $1,048,000 from the 2005 crop. Fresh market apples brought 17.3 cents per pound in 2006, the same as 2005. Processed apples sold for $147.00 per ton, $20.00 more than in 2005.

The number of bearing acres of apples totaled 5,000 in 2006, unchanged from 2005. The yield per acre was 18,000 pounds, 600 pounds more than 2005. The yield was based on total production, which includes unharvested production and fruit harvested but not sold due to marketing conditions.

United States - The July 2007 forecast of U.S. **peach** production is 1.03 million tons, up 2 percent from 2006 but 13 percent below the 2005 crop. Nineteen of the 28 Freestone peach estimating States expect decreases in production from last year, while six States increased their production from the previous season, and three States showed no change. Freestone production, at 576,845 tons, is down 11 percent from last season.

The California Clingstone crop is forecast at 450,000 tons, equal to the June 1 forecast but 25 percent above the 2006 crop. California experienced an adequate number of chilling hours which benefited the Clingstone crop. Overall, the bloom was reported to be good on all varieties. Thinning progressed slowly due to labor shortages and heavy fruit sets. Harvest began in Kingsburg on June 14, eight days earlier than last year. Fruit sizes are reported to be small, but quality is reported to be excellent.

The U.S. **peach** production in 2006 was estimated at 1.01 million tons, down 15 percent from 2005. Of this production, 990,000 tons were utilized, down 14 percent from 2005. Value of utilized production totaled $513.4 million, up slightly from 2005. The average price received for peaches was $520.00 per ton, up $73.00 from 2005.

Total **apple** production for 2006 totaled 9.9 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2005. Utilized apple production totaled 9.8 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the 2005 level. Value of utilized production totaled $2.21 billion, up 32 percent from 2005. Price per pound averaged 22.4 cents, up 5.0 cents.

A total of 6.3 billion pounds were sold for fresh market, up 3 percent from 2005. There were 3.5 billion pounds for processing, up 1 percent from 2005.

CROP PRODUCTION

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.56 billion bushels. This is down 3 percent from last month but 20 percent above 2006. The U.S. yield is forecast at 41.6 bushels per acre, down 1.6 bushels from last month and down 0.1 bushel from last year. The area expected to be harvested for grain totals 37.6 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 29, 2007 but up 21 percent from last year.

Hard Red Winter, at 964 million bushels, is down 7 percent from a month ago. Soft Red Winter, at 364 million bushels, is up 7 percent from the last forecast. White Winter is down 1 percent from last month and now totals 235 million bushels. Of this total, 18.1 million bushels are Hard White and 216 million bushels are Soft White.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 78.7 million bushels, up 47 percent from 2006. The U.S. yield is forecast at 36.4 bushels per acre, 6.9 bushels above last year. Expected area to be harvested for grain totals 2.16 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 29, 2007 but up 19 percent from last year.

Other Spring wheat production is forecast at 498 million bushels, 8 percent above 2006. The expected area to be harvested for grain totals 12.7 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 29, 2007 but down 8 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is forecast at 39.1 bushels per acre, up 5.9 bushels from 2006. Of the total production, 471 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, up 9 percent from last year.

Oats production is forecast at 101 million bushels, 8 percent above last year's record low 93.8 million bushels. Based on conditions as of July 1, the yield is forecast at 62.6 bushels per acre, up 3.1 bushels from 2006. Expected area to be harvested as grain or seed is 1.61 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Overall, crop development has been at or ahead of normal. As of July 1, eighty-nine percent of the oat acreage was headed, 1 percentage point ahead of last year and 9 points ahead of the 5-year average. Yields are forecast to increase in States across the Great Plains, High Plains, and the upper Mississippi Valley due to favorable growing conditions. The largest increase in yield is expected in North Dakota, where the yield is forecast at

67.0 bushels per acre, up 26 bushels from last year. Lower yields are forecast in the Pacific Northwest, Ohio Valley, and New York.

COLD STORAGE

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on May 31, 2007 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, cheese and pork.

Butter stocks were up 10 percent from last month and up 3 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 5 percent from last month and down 2 percent from the previous year. Frozen pork supplies were down 7 percent from last month but up 3 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 7 percent from last month and down 3 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on May 31, 2007 were up 3 percent from the previous month but down 20 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 23 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 11 percent from last month but down 14 percent from May 31, 2006.

SECOND QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Milk production in West Virginia totaled 51 million pounds during the April - June quarter of 2007. This is up one million pounds from the January - March 2007 quarter and unchanged from 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 April - June quarter totaled 47.4 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from the April - June quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.13 million head, 2,000 head less than the same period last year.

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