

# Mountain State Reporter

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### MAY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**West Virginia - Commercial red meat production** during May 2008 totaled 300,000 pounds. This was up 5 percent from May 2007 but down 23 percent from April 2008 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 504,000 pounds live weight, up 7 percent from May 2007. Cattle slaughter totaled 500 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,121 pounds, was down 6 pounds from a year ago.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 129,000 pounds live weight, up 17 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 246 pounds, was up 17 pounds from the previous year.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** totaled 18,000 pounds live weight, slaughter totaled 100 head, and the average live weight was 135 pounds. Comparison data from the previous year were not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**United States- Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.22 billion pounds in

May, up 4 percent from the 4.08 billion pounds produced in May 2007.

**Beef production**, at 2.38 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.14 million head, up 3 percent from May 2007. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,251 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 11.5 million pounds, 7 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 71,100 head, up 21 percent from May 2007. The average live weight was down 74 pounds from last year, at 275 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.82 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.06 million head, up 3 percent from May 2007. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 268 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from May 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 206,400 head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 146 pounds, up 4 pounds from May a year ago.

**January to May 2008 commercial red meat production** was 21.0 billion pounds, up 7 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 11 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

May 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. May 2008 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

### CHICKEN AND EGGS

**United States- Egg production** totaled 7.57 billion during May 2008, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.43 billion table eggs, and 1.15 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.08 billion were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during May 2008 averaged 340 million, down 1 percent from last year. **May egg production** per 100 layers was 2,226 eggs, unchanged from May 2007.

**All layers** in the U.S. on June 1, 2008 totaled 340 million, down slightly from last year. The 340 million layers consisted of 280 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.79 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on June 1, 2008, averaged 71.7 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from June 1, 2007.

**Egg-type chicks** hatched during May 2008 totaled 42.7 million, up 12 percent from May 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 37.6 million on June 1, 2008, down 2 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 233 thousand during May 2008, up 22 percent from May 2007.

**Broiler-type chicks** hatched during May 2008 totaled 824 million, down 1 percent from May 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 674 million on June 1, 2008, down 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.96 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during May 2008, down 1 percent from May 2007.

## SECOND QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION

**West Virginia - Milk production** in West Virginia totaled 46 million pounds during the April - June quarter of 2008. This is unchanged from the January - March 2008 quarter and down five million pounds from the same quarter last year. The number of dairy cows averaged 12,000 head, unchanged from the previous quarter and down 1,000 head from the same quarter last year.

**United States - Milk production** in the U.S. during the April - June quarter totaled 48.7 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from the April - June quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.27 million head, 136,000 head more than the same period last year.

## SHEEP AND GOATS

**United States - All sheep and lamb inventory** in the United States on July 1, 2008 totaled 7.35 million head, down 3 percent from July 1, 2007, and 5 percent below July 1, 2006. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.42 million head on July 1, 2008 was down 3 percent from July 1, 2007. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 2.93 million head, were down 4 percent from last July.

**The breeding herd** consists of 3.62 million ewes one year old and older, 180,000 rams one year old and older, and 620,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). **Market lamb** inventory at 2.86 million head was comprised of 1.67 million lambs under 65 pounds, 595,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 340,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 250,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 75,000 head.

**The 2008 lamb crop** in the United States is expected to total 3.97 million head, down 2 percent from the 2007 lamb crop of 4.05 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2008 totaled 3.48 million head or 88 percent of the yearly total. An additional 490,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2008.

**All goat inventory** on July 1, 2008 totaled 3.73 million head, up 4 percent from the previous July number. **Breeding goat inventory** totaled 2.81 million head, up 4 percent from July 2007. **All market goats and kids** totaled 925,000 head, up 2 percent from the previous July. On July 1, 2008 meat and all other goats totaled 3.15 million head, up 5 percent from July 2007. **Milk goat** inventory was up 4 percent increasing to 350,000 head while **angora goat** numbers fell 12 percent to 230,000 head. The 2008 **kid crop** is expected to total 2.03 million head, up 5 percent from the 2007 kid crop of 1.94 million head.

## NONCITRUS FRUITS AND NUTS

**West Virginia - The 2008 peach** crop is forecast at 5,600 tons, up 33 percent, or 1,400 tons from the 2007 crop, and up 400 tons from the 2006 crop.

In 2007, utilized production totaled 4,000 tons, a decrease of 1,000 tons from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled \$3.4 million, an increase of 19 percent from 2006. Bearing acres were estimated at 950, the same as 2006, with an average yield of 4.42 tons per acre. The average price received per ton was estimated at \$858.00. This was an increase of \$280.00 from 2006.

Total **apple** production for 2007 was estimated at 80.0 million pounds (1.90 million, 42 lb. bushels), down 11 percent, or 10 million pounds from 2006. Utilized production totaled 77.0 million pounds, down 11 million pounds from 2006. Apples for fresh market totaled 14.0 million pounds, down 2.0 million pounds from 2006. Apples for processing accounted for 63.0 million pounds of the 2007 crop, 9 million pounds less than the 2006 crop.

The average price received for 2007 apples was 9.6 cents per pound, up 0.4 cents from 2006. Total value of utilized production was \$7.4 million for the

crop, down \$652,000 from the 2006 crop. Fresh market apples brought 18.7 cents per pound in 2007, up 1.4 cents from 2006. Processed apples sold for \$152.00 per ton, \$5.00 more than in 2006.

The average price received for 2007 apples was 9.6 cents per pound, up 0.4 cents from 2006. Total value of utilized production was \$7.4 million for the crop, down \$652,000 from the 2006 crop. Fresh market apples brought 18.7 cents per pound in 2007, up 1.4 cents from 2006. Processed apples sold for \$152.00 per ton, \$5.00 more than in 2006.

The number of bearing acres of apples totaled 5,000 in 2007, unchanged from 2006. The yield per acre was 16,000 pounds, 2,000 pounds less than 2006. 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 2008 forecast of U.S. **peach** production is 1.10 million tons, down 3 percent from 2007 but 9 percent above the 2006 crop. Nineteen of the 28 Freestone peach estimating States expect increases in production from last year, while eight States decreased their production from the previous season, and one State showed no change. Freestone production, at 717,150 tons, is up 15 percent from last season.

The California Clingstone crop is forecast at 380,000 tons, equal to the June 1 forecast but 24 percent below the 2007 crop. California experienced an adequate number of chilling hours, thus benefitting the Clingstone crop. Weather during the bloom period was also favorable, however, unusually cold temperatures on April 19 and 20 resulted in significant frost damage. The largest impact was reported in the northern growing areas, with some growers reporting 100 percent damage. There were also a large number of growers reporting losses in the Modesto area. However, fruit in the southern growing areas was not affected. The 2008 peach harvest began in Kingsburg on June 18, four days later than last year. Quality was reported to be very good.

The U.S. **peach** production in 2007 was estimated at 1.13 million tons, up 12 percent from 2006. Of this production, 1.12 million tons were utilized, up 13 percent from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled \$504.6 million, down 2 percent from 2006. The average price received for peaches was \$452.00 per ton, down \$68.00 from 2006.

Total **apple** production for 2007 totaled 9.11 billion pounds, down 8 percent from 2006. Utilized apple production totaled 9.07 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the 2006 level. Value of utilized production totaled \$2.58 billion, up 15 percent from 2006. Price per pound averaged 28.4 cents, up 5.5 cents. A total of 6.1 billion pounds were sold for fresh market, down 4 percent from 2006. There

were 2.98 billion pounds for processing, down 13 percent from 2006.

## CROP PRODUCTION

**United States - Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.86 billion bushels. This is up 3 percent from last month and 23 percent above 2007. The U.S. yield is forecast at 46.3 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel from last month and 4.1 bushels from last year. The area expected to be harvested for grain totals 40.3 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2008 but up 12 percent from last year.

Hard Red Winter, at 1.04 billion bushels, is up 1 percent from a month ago. Soft Red Winter, at 607 million bushels, is up 6 percent from the last forecast. White Winter is up 1 percent from last month and now totals 218 million bushels. Of this total, 23.3 million bushels are Hard White and 194 million bushels are Soft White.

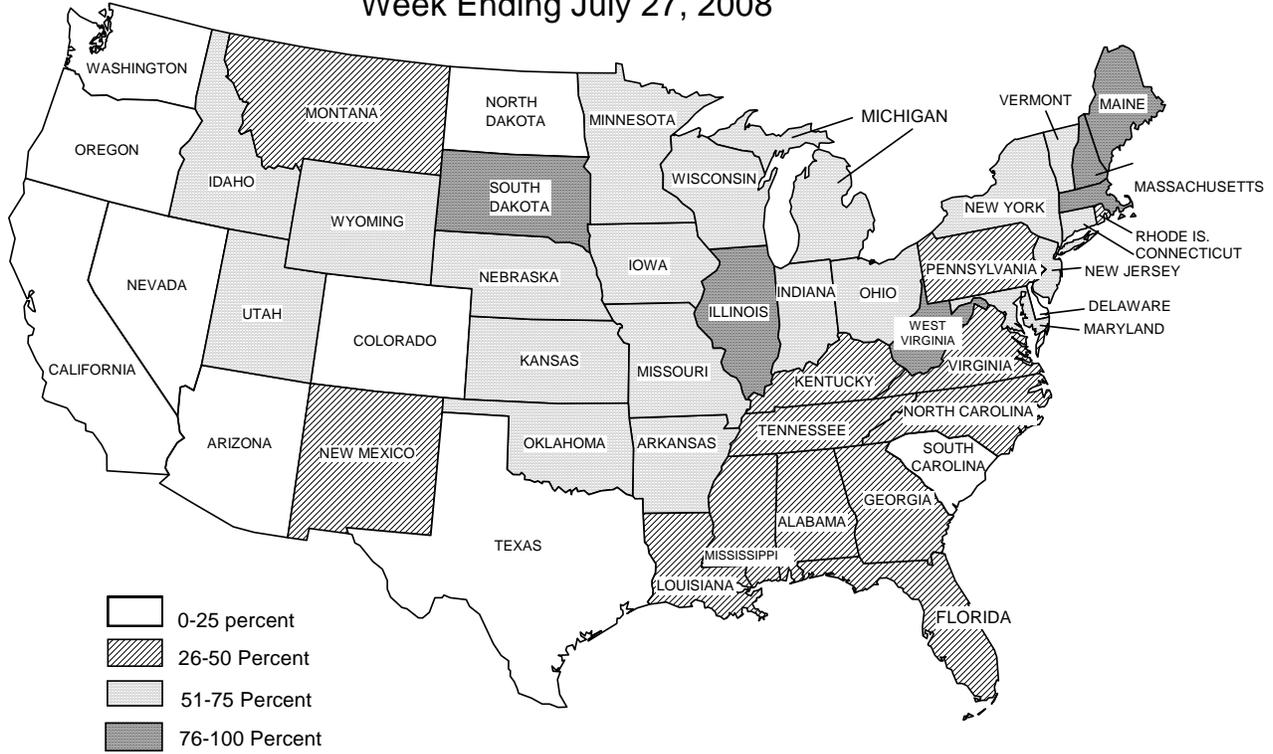
**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 89.9 million bushels, up 25 percent from 2007. The U.S. yield is forecast at 34.8 bushels per acre, 0.9 bushel above last year. Expected area to be harvested for grain totals 2.58 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2008 but up 22 percent from last year.

**Other Spring wheat** production is forecast at 507 million bushels, 6 percent above 2007. The expected area to be harvested for grain totals 13.8 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2008 but up 6 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is forecast at 36.8 bushels per acre, down 0.2 bushel from 2007. Of the total production, 471 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, up 5 percent from last year.

**Oats** production is forecast at 92.9 million bushels, 1 percent above last year's record low 91.6 million bushels. If realized, this will be the second lowest production on record. Based on conditions as of July 1, the yield is forecast at 64.4 bushels per acre, up 3.5 bushels from 2007. Growers expect to harvest 1.44 million acres for grain or seed, down 4 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the smallest harvested area on record.

**Barley** production for 2008 is forecast at 218 million bushels, 3 percent above 2007. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the U.S. is forecast at 59.8 bushels per acre, down less than 1 bushel from last year. Expected area to be harvested for grain or seed, at 3.64 million acres, is up 4 percent from 2007. In North Dakota, Montana, and Idaho, the top 3 barley-producing States, yields declined by 2, 1, and 2 bushels per acre, respectively.

### Pasture and Range Condition, Percent Rating Good or Better Week Ending July 27, 2008



**NEXT ISSUE:**

- Red Meat Production
- Chicken and Eggs
- Cattle
- Crop Production
- Agricultural Land Values

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