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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during March 2008 totaled 400,000 pounds. This was down 9 percent from both March 2007 and February 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 635,000 pounds live weight, down 1 percent from March 2007. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, the same as the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,099 pounds, was up 5 pounds from a year ago.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 142,000 pounds live weight, down 15 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 263 pounds, was down 41 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 4.09 billion pounds in March, up 2 percent from the 4.01 billion pounds produced in March 2007.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled

2.73 million head, down 2 percent from March 2007. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,276 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.2 million pounds, 17 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 70,800 head, up slightly from March 2007. The average live weight was down 48 pounds from last year, at 273 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.96 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.66 million head, up 5 percent from March 2007. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.0 million pounds, was down 18 percent from March 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 230,900 head, 17 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 1 pound from March a year ago.

January to March 2008 commercial red meat production was 12.5 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was up 12 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 7 percent.

March 2007 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays. March 2008 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

MEAT ANIMAL PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME

West Virginia - The 2007 gross income from cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs was \$125.5 million, up 2 percent from the 2006 gross income of \$123.3 million. Gross income from cattle and calves was up 1 percent, hogs and pigs up 14 percent, and sheep and lambs up 15 percent from 2006.

Total 2007 cash receipts from marketings for all meat animals were \$119.0 million, up 2 percent from the cash receipts of \$116.4 million in 2006. Cattle and calves accounted for 97 percent of the total cash receipts, hogs and pigs 1 percent, and sheep and lambs 2 percent.

Production of meat animals in West Virginia during 2007 totaled 147.8 million pounds, down 3 percent from

2006. Cattle and calves production decreased 4 percent, hogs and pigs production decreased 7 percent, and sheep and lambs production increased 22 percent. The value of production of meat animals was down 5 percent to \$101.8 million compared to \$107.3 million in 2006.

Cattle and calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves increased 2 percent during 2007. Receipts totaled \$115.4 million compared with \$113.3 million in 2006. All cattle and calf marketings during 2007 reached 162.3 million pounds, up from 148.8 million pounds in 2006. The 2007 annual average price of cattle at \$64.60 per 100 pounds live weight was down \$3.80 from the 2006 price. The average price for calves at \$98.30 per 100 pounds live weight was down \$8.70 from the 2006 price.

Hogs and pigs: Cash receipts from marketings of hogs and pigs were \$1.4 million during 2007, up 17 percent from the 2006 cash receipts of \$1.2 million. Marketings of 3.1 million pounds during 2007 were 15 percent above the 2006 total marketings of 2.7 million pounds. The annual average price per 100 pounds live weight at \$43.40 increased \$1.00 from the 2006 price.

Sheep and lambs: Cash receipts from marketings of sheep and lambs in 2007 totaled \$2.2 million, up 15 percent from the 2006 cash receipts of \$1.9 million. Marketings of sheep and lambs at 2.6 million pounds were up 23 percent from the 2006 total marketings of 2.1 million pounds. The average price of sheep in 2007 was \$31.80 per 100 pounds of live weight, down \$2.60 from 2006. The average price of lambs in 2007 was \$101.00 per 100 pounds of live weight, up \$1.10 from the 2006 price.

United States - The 2007 gross income from cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs for the U.S. totaled \$65.5 billion, up 2 percent from 2006. Gross income increased for cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs. Cattle and calves increased 1 percent, hogs and pigs increased 5 percent, and sheep and lambs increased slightly.

Total 2007 cash receipts from marketings of meat animals increased 2 percent to \$65.0 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 76 percent of this total, hogs and pigs 23 percent, and sheep and lambs 1 percent. Production decreased for all cattle and calves and sheep and lambs. Production increased for hogs and pigs. Average prices were up for cattle, hogs and pigs, and lambs, while calf and sheep prices were down.

Cattle and Calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves increased 2 percent from \$49.0 billion in 2006 to \$49.7 in 2007. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 54.8 billion pounds in 2007, up slightly from 2006. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$89.90, an increase of \$2.70

from 2006. For calves, the annual average price decreased from \$133.00 to \$119.00.

Hogs and Pigs: Cash receipts from hogs and pigs totaled \$14.8 billion during 2007, up 5 percent from 2006. Marketings totaled 30.3 billion pounds in 2007, up 4 percent from 2006. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight increased from \$46.00 in 2006 to \$46.60 in 2007.

Sheep and Lambs: Cash receipts from marketings of sheep and lambs in 2007 were \$492 million, down slightly from 2006. Marketings decreased one percent to 575 million pounds. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for sheep decreased from \$35.20 in 2006 to \$31.00 in 2007. For lambs, the annual average price increased from \$95.50 to \$98.50.

POULTRY PRODUCTION AND VALUE

West Virginia - The combined value of production and value of sales from broilers, turkeys, eggs, and the value of sales from chickens in 2007, was \$234.2 million, up 12 percent from the combined value of \$209.6 million in 2006. Of the combined total, 68 percent was from broilers, 17 percent from turkeys, 14 percent from eggs and less than 1 percent from sales of other chickens.

There were 88.9 million **broilers produced** in West Virginia during 2007, down slightly from 89.7 million broilers produced in 2006. Total live weight was 355.6 million pounds, down from 358.8 million pounds in 2006. Value of production totaled \$160.0 million, up 21 percent from \$132.8 million in 2006. The average live weight equivalent price of 45.0 cents per pound was up 8.0 cents from the 2006 average live weight equivalent price of 37.0 cents per pound.

Turkeys raised in West Virginia totaled 3.5 million, down 3 percent from the 2006 total of 3.6 million. Total live weight was 99.1 million pounds, up 7 percent from 92.9 million pounds in 2006. Value of production totaled \$40.6 million, down 7 percent from the 2006 value of production of \$43.7 million. The average live weight equivalent price was 41.0 cents per pound, down 6.0 cents from the 2006 price.

Egg production in West Virginia totaled 272 million eggs during 2007, down slightly from 274 million eggs in 2006. The average price per dozen was 144.0 cents, up 3.0 cents from 2006. The total value of production was \$32.7 million, up 2 percent from \$32.2 million in 2006.

The **number of chickens sold** for slaughter (excluding broilers) totaled 1.20 million head, down 21 percent from 1.51 million head sold in 2006. The number of pounds sold was 9.5 million pounds, down 19 percent from 11.7 million pounds sold in 2006. Value of sales totaled \$804,000 thousand, down 22 percent from \$1.0 million in 2006. Prices averaged 8.5 cents per pound, compared with 8.8 cents in 2006.

United States - The combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from

chickens in 2007 was \$31.9 billion, up 24 percent from the \$25.8 billion in 2006. Of the combined total, 67 percent was from broilers, 21 percent from eggs, 12 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The value of **broilers produced** during 2007 was \$21.5 billion, up 21 percent from 2006. The total number of broilers produced in 2007 was 8.90 billion, up slightly from 2006. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2007 was 49.2 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2006. The 2007 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 43.6 cents per pound, compared with 36.3 cents in 2006.

Value of all **egg production** in 2007 was \$6.68 billion, up 51 percent from the \$4.43 billion in 2006. Egg production totaled 90.6 billion eggs, down 1 percent from the 91.3 billion eggs produced in 2006. In 2007, all eggs averaged 88.5 cents per dozen, compared with 58.2 cents in 2006.

The value of **turkeys produced** during 2007 was \$3.71 billion, up 4 percent from the \$3.57 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 2007 totaled 7.87 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 7.46 billion pounds produced in 2006. The average price received by producers during 2007 was 47.2 cents per pound, compared with 47.9 cents in 2006.

The value of **sales from chickens** (excluding broilers) in 2007 was \$50.8 million, down 6 percent from the \$53.8 million a year ago. Prices averaged 5.6 cents per pound, compared with 5.8 cents in 2006. The number of chickens sold in 2007 totaled 167 million, down 3 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

CATTLE ON FEED

United States - Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on May 1, 2008. The inventory was 1 percent below May 1, 2007 and 4 percent below May 1, 2006.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.54 million, 2 percent below 2007 and 5 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.46 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 315,000, 600-699 pounds were 278,000, 700-799 pounds were 428,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 515,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 2.01 million, 11 percent above 2007 and 13 percent above 2006. This is the highest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 75,000 during April, 24 percent below 2007 and 14 percent below 2006.

MILK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME

West Virginia - Milk production totaled 199 million pounds during 2007, down one million from 2006. The average number of milk cows during the year was 13,000 head, the same as 2006. Average milk production per cow was 15,308 pounds, down 77 pounds from 2006.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2007 totaled \$39.0 million, up 48 percent from the 2006 cash receipts. Producer returns averaged \$19.80 per hundredweight, up \$6.40 from 2006. Milk marketed by producers totaled 197 million pounds in 2007, unchanged from 2006. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers.

United States - Milk production increased 2.1 percent in 2007 to 186 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 20,267 pounds, was 316 pounds above 2006. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.16 million head, up 46,000 head from 2006.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2007 totaled \$35.4 billion, 51.4 percent higher than 2006. Producer returns averaged \$19.21 per hundredweight, 48.2 percent above 2006. Marketings totaled 184 billion pounds, 2.1 percent above 2006. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

An estimated 1.17 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 1.0 percent more than 2006. Calves were fed 87 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

MAY CROP PRODUCTION

West Virginia - On farm hay stocks, as of May 1, 2008, totaled 92,000 tons. This is 44,000 tons less than what was on hand last year at this time, and 122,000 tons below May 1 stocks on hand in 2006. The disappearance of all hay stocks on farms from December 1, 2007 - May 1, 2008, was 628,000 tons, 8 percent less than the 2006 crop disappearance of 680,000 tons for the same period.

United States - Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.78 billion bushels, up 17 percent from 2007. Expected area for harvest as grain or seed totals 40.2 million acres, up 12 percent from last year. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 44.3 bushels per acre, up 2.1 bushels from the previous year.

All on farm hay stocks on May 1, 2008 totaled 21.6 million tons, up 44 percent from the previous year.

Disappearance of hay from December 1, 2007- May 1, 2008 totaled 82.4 million tons, 1 percent more than the disappearance of 81.5 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Hay stocks increased from last year throughout the entire Great Plains, the Delta, most of the Southeast, and the Rocky Mountain States. Hay stocks increased significantly in Texas and Oklahoma where weather conditions during the 2007 growing season nearly doubled hay production and improved pasture conditions throughout the year.

Lower 2007 hay production in most States east of the Mississippi River, except in the Southeast, held May 1, 2008 hay stocks below a year ago. The largest declines occurred in Kentucky, Minnesota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin. In Kentucky and Tennessee where stocks are less than half of the previous year, production was down due to the April 2007 freeze and dry summer weather, so some producers resorted to hauling hay in from other States. Wisconsin's May 1 hay stocks are at a record low level while Tennessee recorded the lowest May 1 hay stock level since 1962.

JUNE 2008 AGRICULTURAL SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT

The National Agricultural Statistics Service will be conducting the June Agricultural Survey from May 30 through June 14. Representatives from this office will be contacting farmers by telephone and personal interview. The information gathered is confidential and will be used to set State, Regional and National estimates of crops and grain stocks. Response to the survey is voluntary and farmers selected for the survey will be notified by mail. We depend on the cooperation of the producers in our sample. A high response rate will ensure that West Virginia agriculture is fully and accurately represented in the regional and national picture.

The results of this survey will be released beginning June 30. These results will appear in the July edition of the Mountain State Reporter. **Thank you for your cooperation.**

NEXT ISSUE:

Red Meat Production
Chickens And Eggs
Poultry Slaughter

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