

# MOUNTAIN STATE REPORTER

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## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

### May Red Meat Production

**WEST VIRGINIA**— Commercial red meat production during May 2004 totaled 300,000 pounds. This was 18 percent below April 2004, but unchanged from May 2003 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 408,000 pounds live weight, down 6 percent from May 2003. Cattle slaughter totaled 400 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,026 pounds, was up 44 pounds from a year ago.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 92,000 pounds live weight, down 23 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 400 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 245 pounds, was up 24 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 3.60 billion pounds in May, down 9 percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in May 2003.

**Beef production**, at 2.07 billion pounds, was 12 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.84 million head, down 13 percent from May 2003. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,204 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 13.8 million pounds, 13 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 64,900 head, down 15 percent from May 2003. The average live weight was 12 pounds above last year, at 355 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.50 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.58 million head, 3 percent below May 2003. The average live weight was 1 pound below the previous year, at 266 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.0 million pounds, was down 14 percent from May 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 188,500 head, 15 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 1 pound from May a year ago.

**January to May 2004 commercial red meat production** was 18.4 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

**May 2003** contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. **May 2004** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

## CHICKENS & EGGS

### May Egg Production Up 2 Percent

**U.S. egg production** totaled 7.50 billion during May 2004, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.39 billion table eggs, and 1.11 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 59.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during May 2004 average 342 million, up 2 percent from a year earlier. May egg production per 100 layers was 2,192 eggs, up 1 percent from May 2003.

May **2004** contained 21 weekdays, 5 Saturdays and 1 holiday, compared to May **2003**, which contained 22 weekdays, 5 Saturdays and 1 holiday.

**All layers** in the U.S. on June 1, 2004, totaled 343 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 343 million layers consisted of 283 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 57.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.41 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on June 1, 2004, averaged 70.3 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from a year ago.

**Laying flocks** in the 30 major egg producing States produced 7.00 billion eggs during May 2004, up 2 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during May, at 319 million, was up 2 percent from a year ago.

Individual State estimates are available for the 30 major egg producing States. These States are as follows: AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, IA, ME, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, NE, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TX, VA, WA, and WI and account for approximately 94 percent of the total U.S. egg production. Production for the other States are grouped into an "Other States" category and combined with the 30 States published individually to obtain a U.S. estimate.

### Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 3 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during May totaled 38.6 million, up 3 percent from May 2003. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.4 million on June 1, 2004, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 255,000 during May 2004, down 12 percent from May 2003.

### Broiler Hatch Up 2 Percent

The May 2004 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 810 million, was up 2 percent from May of the previous year. There were 660 million eggs in incubators on June 1, 2004, up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.5 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during May 2004, up 2 percent from May 2003.

## 2004 JUNE ACERAGE REPORT

### "June Survey Results"

#### West Virginia Crop Acreage For 2004

**WEST VIRGINIA** – **Winter wheat** planted in West Virginia for 2004 is estimated at 8,000 acres, down 33 percent, or 4,000 acres from 2003. The projected harvest for grain is 6,000 acres, down 14 percent, or 1,000 acres from 2003.

**Corn** planted is estimated at 48,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Growers expect to harvest 28,000 acres for grain, up 4 percent, or 1,000 acres from last year.

**Soybean** planted acreage is estimated at 16,000, unchanged from 2003. Harvested acreage is projected at 15,000, also the same as 2003.

**Tobacco** area for harvest is expected to total 1,300 acres, up 8 percent or 100 acres from 2003.

**All hay** harvested is forecast at 555,000 acres, up 2 percent or 10,000 acres from the year 2003. **Other hay** harvested is expected to be 520,000 acres, up 4 percent, or 20,000 acres from last year's harvest. **Alfalfa hay** harvested is expected to total 35,000 acres, down 22 percent, or 10,000 acres from last year

These estimates were based on results from the June 1, 2004, Agricultural Survey.

### United States with 2003 Comparisons

- Corn planted for all purposes - 81.0 million acres, up 3 percent from both 2002 and 2003. Biotechnology varieties as a percent of corn planted:
  - Bt - 27% of 2004 crop, 25% of 2003 crop;
  - Herbicide Resistant - 13% of 2004 crop, 11% of 2003 crop;
  - Stacked Gene - 5% of 2004 crop, 4% of 2003 crop;
  - All Biotech varieties - 45% of 2004 crop, 40% of 2003 crop.
- Corn harvested for grain - 73.4 million acres, up 3 percent.
- Winter wheat planted - 43.5 million acres, down 3 percent.
- Winter wheat harvested for grain - 34.8 million acres, down 5 percent.
- Oats planted - 4.22 million acres, down 8 percent.
- Oats harvested for grain - 1.94 million acres, down 13 percent.
- All tobacco harvested - 413,550 acres, up 1 percent.
- Burley tobacco harvested - 156,300 acres, up 3 percent.
- All hay for harvest - 61.6 million acres, down 3 percent.
- Alfalfa hay for harvest - 22.2 million acres, down 6 percent.
- Other hay for harvest - 39.4 million acres, down 1 percent.
- Soybeans planted - 74.8 million acres, up 2 percent, largest on record. Biotechnology varieties as a percent of all soybeans planted:
  - Herbicide Resistant only - 85% of 2004 crop, 81% of 2003 crop
  - All Biotech varieties - 85% of 2004 crop, 81% of 2003.
- Soybeans for harvest - 73.7 million acres, up 2 percent.

## FARM PRODUCTION EXPENDITURES

### Farm Production Expenditures Up 3.0 Percent in 2003

**U.S. farm production expenditures** totaled \$198.9 billion in 2003, up 3.0 percent from the revised 2002 total of \$193.1 billion. The largest contributors to the increase were farm improvements and construction, up 43.8 percent; feed, up 8.4 percent; trucks and autos, up 7.1 percent and other farm machinery, up 5.4 percent. These increases were partially offset by decreases in interest, down 11.4 percent; farm supplies and repairs, down 9.8 percent; and labor, down 1.4 percent. The largest two expenditure categories were feed, which accounted for 13.6 percent of the U.S. total production expenses and farm services, which accounted for 13.5 percent of the U.S. total production expenses. The farm services category includes expense items such as custom work, utilities, marketing charges, veterinary services, transportation costs, and miscellaneous business expenses.

The **average expenditures per U.S. farm** in 2003 were \$93,785, compared to \$89,722 as revised for 2002. On the average, U.S. farm operations in 2003 spent \$12,731

on feed; \$12,637 on farm services; \$9,996 on labor; \$8,959 on livestock and poultry purchases; and \$7,733 on rent. Revised estimates for 2002 indicated U.S. farms spent an average of \$11,570 on feed; \$12,452 on farm services; \$9,990 on labor; \$8,503 on livestock and poultry purchases; and \$7,527 on rent.

The **Farm Production Region** contributing most to the total 2003 U.S. farm production expenditures was the Corn Belt, with expenses of \$35.8 billion, 18.0 percent of the U.S. total. Expenditures in the Corn Belt were up 1.6 percent from the 2002 level of \$35.2 billion. In total expenditures, the Corn Belt was followed by the Pacific Region at \$32.3 billion (2002 - \$32.0 billion); Northern Plains at \$26.1 billion (2002 - \$24.2 billion); Lake States at \$19.3 billion (2002 - \$19.1 billion); and the Southern Plains at \$17.2 billion (2002 - \$14.5 billion).

The **U.S. Economic Class contributing most** to the 2003 U.S. farm production expenditures was the \$1,000,000 and Over class, with expenses of \$67.6 billion, 34.0 percent of the U.S. total. Expenditures in the \$1,000,000 and Over class were up 13.4 percent from the 2002 level of \$59.6 billion. In total expenditures, the \$1,000,000 and Over class was followed by the \$500,000 - \$999,999 class at \$32.0 billion (2002 - \$30.2 billion); \$250,000 - \$499,999 class at \$29.9 billion (2002 - \$33.1 billion).

The 2003 Farm Production Expenditures report has two significant changes from prior years: The farm improvements and construction expenditure category now includes expenses for the operator's dwelling provided the dwelling is owned by the operation. This inclusion started with the 2003 data series and provides more comprehensive information on farm improvements and construction expenses.

Detailed fuels expenditure sub-components are published for the first time for the different domains that are estimated. The sub-components of the fuels expenditure category include the following items: diesel, gas, LP gas, and other gas.

**Expenditure estimates by Type of Farm** reveal that Crop Farms, with expenses of \$102.6 billion, contributed 51.6 percent of the 2003 U.S. farm production expenditures. Expenditures for Crop Farms were up 2.7 percent from the revised 2002 level of \$99.9 billion. Livestock Farm expenses of \$96.3 billion were up 3.3 percent from the revised 2002 level of \$93.2 billion.

## JULY CROP PRODUCTION

### 2004 Peach Forecast Final 2003 Peach and Apple Production

**WEST VIRGINIA** – The 2004 **peach** crop is forecast at 12.0 million pounds, down 4 percent or a half million pounds from the 2003 crop, but up 2.0 million pounds, or 20 percent from the 2002 crop.

In 2003, **peach** production totaled 12.5 million pounds, up 2.5 million pounds from 2002. Utilized production in 2003 totaled 11.8 million pounds, an increase of 18 percent from 2002. Value of utilized production totaled \$4.4 million, an increase of 41 percent from 2002. Bearing acres were estimated at 1,100, unchanged from 2002, with an average yield of 11,400 pounds per acre. The average price received per pound was estimated at 37.0 cents. This was an increase of 6.0 cents from 2002.

Total **apple** production for 2003 was estimated at 87.0 million pounds (2.07 million 42 lb. bushels), down 8 percent from 2002. Utilized production totaled 85.0 million pounds, down 7 million pounds from 2002. Apples for fresh market totaled 16.0 million pounds, up 1 million pounds from 2002. Apples for processing accounted for 69.0 million pounds of the 2003 crop, 8 million pounds less than the 2002 crop.

The **average price received for 2003 apples** was 9.6 cents per pound, up 1.1 cents from 2002. Total value of utilized production was \$8.2 million for the crop, up \$0.4 million from the 2002 crop. Fresh market apples brought 21.5 cents per pound in 2003, 3.5 cents more than 2002. Processed apples sold for \$138 per ton, \$5 more than in 2002.

The number of **bearing acres of apples** totaled 6,000 in 2003, down 500 acres from 2002. The yield per acre was 14,500 pounds, 100 pounds less than 2002. 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 2004 forecast of U.S. **peach** production is 2.61 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2003 and 3 percent above 2002. Fourteen states forecast increases in production from last year, while 11 States expect declines and 4 States remain unchanged. The California Clingstone crop is forecast at 1.15 billion pounds, unchanged from the June 1 forecast, but 7 percent above 2003. The California Freestone crop is forecast at 780 million pounds, down 2 percent from the June 1 forecast and 6 percent below 2003. The South Carolina peach crop is forecast at 140 million pounds, unchanged from the June 1 forecast, but up 40 percent from last year. North Carolina's peach crop, forecast at 9.0 million pounds, is up 50 percent from last year, but 10 percent below two years ago. Georgia's peach crop is forecast at 110 million pounds, up 10 percent from the June 1 forecast, but unchanged from 2003.

The U.S. **peach** production in 2003 was estimated at 2.52 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Of this production, 2.41 billion pounds were utilized, down 1 percent from 2002. Value of utilized production totaled \$456.4 million, down 6 percent from 2002. The average price received for peaches was 18.9 cents per pound, down 1.1 cents from 2002.

Total **apple** production for 2003 totaled 8.61 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2002. Utilized apple production totaled 8.52 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the 2002 level. Value of utilized production totaled \$1.78 billion, up 13 percent from 2002. Price per pound averaged 20.9 cents, up 2.1 cents. A total of 5.3 billion pounds was sold for fresh market, down slightly from 2002. There were 3.2 billion pounds for processing, up 5 percent from 2002.

## MILK PRODUCTION

**WEST VIRGINIA** – Milk production in West Virginia totaled 52 million pounds during the April - June quarter of 2004. This was down 6 million pounds from the same quarter last year and 1 million pounds below the January - March 2004 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 13,000 head, down 1,000 head from the previous quarter and down 2,000 from the same quarter last year.

**UNITED STATES** – Milk production in the U.S. during the April - June quarter totaled 43.7 billion pounds, down 0.6 percent from the April - June quarter last year, but up 2.3 percent from the January - March 2004 quarter. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.00 million head, 112,000 head less than the same period last year, but up 7,000 head from last quarter.

**MINK**

**Pelt Production Down 2 Percent**

**Mink pelt production** in the United States in 2003 totaled 2.55 million pelts, down 2 percent from 2002. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing State, produced 706,000 pelts.

By **color class**, the number of pelts as a percent of the total U.S. production in 2003 follows: Black at 40.2 percent; Mahogany at 21.5 percent; Blue Iris at 16.1 percent; Demi/Wild at 6.4 percent; Sapphire at 5.8 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 10.0 percent.

**Value of Pelt Production Up 28 Percent**

Mink pelts produced during the 2003 crop year were valued at \$102 million dollars, up 28 percent from \$79.8 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2003 crop year was \$40.10, up from \$30.60 in 2002.

**Females Bred Up Slightly**

Female mink bred to produce kits in 2004 totaled 604,800, up slightly from the previous year.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2004 by color class are: Black at 45.9 percent; Mahogany at 21.0 percent; Blue Iris at 11.9 percent; Demi/Wild at 5.8 percent; Sapphire at 5.0 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 10.4 percent.

**Number of Mink Farms Down 5 Percent**

There were 307 mink farms producing pelts in 2003, down 5 percent from a year ago. Leading States were Utah with 80 farms, Wisconsin with 69 farms and Minnesota with 31.

**Fox**

There were 18 mink farms, which also raised fox in 2003, down from 20 the previous year.

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