

# MOUNTAIN STATE REPORTER

RELEASED: DECEMBER 2004

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 12



## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

### OCTOBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**WEST VIRGINIA— Commercial red meat production** during October 2004 totaled 1,000,000 pounds. This was up 47 percent from September 2004, but down 2 percent from October 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 1,367,000 pounds live weight, down 16 percent from October 2003. Cattle slaughter totaled 1500 head, down 400 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 891 pounds, was up 21 pounds from a year ago.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 223,000 pounds live weight, down 9 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 254 pounds, was up 5 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 3.92 billion pounds in October, down 6 percent from the 4.16 billion pounds produced in October 2003.

**Beef production**, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, down 9 percent from October 2003. The average live weight was up 36 pounds from the previous year, at 1,267 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 12.4 million pounds, 24 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 62,500 head, down 28 percent from October 2003. The average live weight was 22 pounds above last year, at 330 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.78 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.97 million head, 7 percent below October 2003. The average live weight was unchanged the previous year, at 267 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 16.3 million pounds, was down 9 percent from October 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 241,400 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, unchanged from October a year ago.

**January to October 2004 commercial red meat production** was 37.7 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 3 percent.

**October 2003** contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**October 2004** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

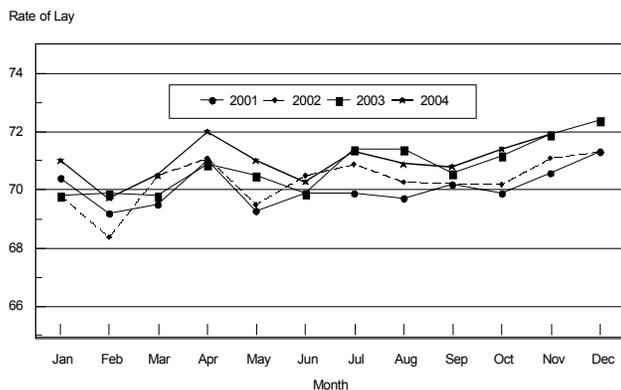
## CHICKENS & EGGS

### October Egg Production Up 3 Percent

**U.S. egg production** totaled 7.64 billion during October 2004, up 3 percent from last year. Production included 6.56 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 62 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during October 2004 averaged 344 million, up 3 percent from a year earlier. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,221 eggs, up slightly from October 2003.

**October 2004** contained 21 weekdays, 5 Saturdays and 1 holiday compared to **October 2003** contained 23 weekdays, 4 Saturdays and 1 holiday.

All Layers: 1st of Month Rate of Lay  
United States, 2001 - 2004  
Eggs Per 100 Layers



**All layers** in the U.S. on November 1, 2004, totaled 344 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 344 million layers consisted of 287 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.50 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on November 1, 2004, averaged 71.8 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from a year ago.

**Laying flocks** in the 30 major egg producing States produced 7.15 billion eggs during October 2004, up 3 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during October, at 322 million, was up 3 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 October totaled 36.0 million, up 3 percent from October 2003. Eggs in incubators totaled 37.0 million on November 1, 2004, up 27 percent from a year ago.

**Domestic placements of egg-type pullet** chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 268,000 during October 2004, down 14 percent from October 2003.

### Broiler Hatch Up 3 Percent

The October 2004 **hatch of broiler-type chicks**, at 758 million, was up 3 percent from October of the previous year. There were 608 million eggs in incubators on November 1, 2004, up 3 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.59 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during October 2004, up 4 percent from October 2003.

## COLD STORAGE

### Highlights

**Frozen food stocks** in refrigerated warehouses on October 31, 2004 were greater than year earlier levels for chicken, beef, orange juice, eggs and cheese.

Butter stocks were down 21 percent from last month and down 38 percent from a year ago.

**Total red meat supplies** in freezers were up 3 percent from last month and up 10 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 5 percent from last month, but down slightly from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 42 percent from last month, but down 24 percent from last year.

**Total frozen poultry supplies** on October 31, 2004 were 1 percent below the previous month, but 9 percent above a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 3 percent from the previous month and up 33 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 7 percent from last month and down 16 percent from October 31, 2003.

## TURKEY HATCHERY

### Eggs in Incubators on December 1 Down 2 Percent

Turkey eggs in incubators on December 1, 2004, in the United States totaled 27.7 million, 2 percent below December 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were 2 percent below the November 1, 2004 total of 28.3 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 2 percent, West North Central up 1 percent, North and South Atlantic down 10 percent, South Central up 5 percent, and West up 6 percent.

### Poults Placed During November Up Slightly From Last Year

The 22.2 million poults placed during November 2004 in the United States were up slightly from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were up 7 percent from the October 2004 total of 20.8 million. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 9 percent, West North Central up 2 percent, North and South Atlantic up 6 percent, South Central down 8 percent, and West down 2 percent.

## POULTRY SLAUGHTER

### Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 6 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during October 2004 (**ready-to-cook weight**) totaled 3.42 billion pounds, down 6 percent from the amount certified in October 2003. Updated totals for September 2004 show that 3.49 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary **total live weight of poultry** inspected during October 2004 was 4.60 billion pounds, down 6 percent from a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 3.93 billion pounds, down 5 percent from October 2003, and mature chickens at 69.9 million pounds, were down 2 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 587 million pounds, down 12 percent, and ducks totaled 14.1 million pounds, down 7 percent from last year.

**Young chickens slaughtered** during October 2004 averaged 5.38 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from October 2003. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.76 pounds per bird, down slightly from a

year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during October 2004 averaged 27.0 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from October 2003.

**Ante-mortem condemnations** during October 2004 totaled 17.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.38 percent of the live weight inspected, compared to 0.35 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 51.7 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.25 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.06 percent a year earlier.

**October 2004** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. **October 2003** contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

## MILK PRODUCTION

### October Milk Production Up 1.3 Percent

**Milk production** in the 20 major States during October totaled 12.2 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from October 2003. September revised production, at 11.9 billion pounds, was up 1.3 percent from September 2003. The September revision represented a decrease of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 20 major States averaged 1,576 pounds for October, 15 pounds above October 2003.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 26,000 head more than October 2003, but unchanged from September 2004.

## EGG PRODUCTS

### Shell Eggs Broken Down 1 Percent

**Shell eggs** broken totaled 165 million dozen during October 2004, down 1 percent from October a year ago.

**October 2004** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays, compared to 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays in **October 2003**.

During calendar year 2004, **shell eggs broken** totaled 1.60 billion dozen, up 5 percent from the 1.53 billion

dozen broken in 2003. Total edible liquid from eggs broken in 2004 was 2.06 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2003.

Data presented in this report were compiled from inspection reports of the Food Safety and Inspection Service. The best available data at time of publication were used.

**JANUARY**  
**AGRICULTURAL SURVEYS ANNOUNCEMENT**

The National Agricultural Statistics Service will be conducting the January Cattle and Sheep and Goat surveys from December 29, 2004 through January 11, 2004. Survey data is collected across the country and used to set state and national estimates for cattle, sheep and goats. Interviewers from the West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service will be collecting data on farm acreage, cattle, sheep and goat inventories. The cattle questions will cover milk and beef cow numbers including replacement heifers, steers, cattle on feed and calf crop during 2004. Sheep and goat questions will include breeding and market sheep and goats, lamb and kid crops, 2004 wool, mohair and milk production and death losses.

**NEXT ISSUE:**

**Livestock Slaughter**  
**Chicken & Eggs**  
**Hogs & Pigs**  
**Milk Production**  
**Annual Crop Production**  
**Turkeys Raised**

**DALE R. KING, DIRECTOR**

**GUS R. DOUGLASS, COMMISSIONER**

**United States Department of Agriculture**  
**National Agricultural Statistics Service**  
**and the**  
**West Virginia Department of Agriculture**  
**1900 Kanawha Boulevard East**  
**Charleston, West Virginia 25305**