



AG UPDATE

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER AUGUST 2004

Red meat production in **Colorado** during August 2004 totaled 176.1 million pounds, 2 percent above the 172.3 million pounds produced during August 2003 but 1 percent below the 178.7 million pounds produced during July of this year. **Cattle** kill during August was down 1 percent from the previous year to 213,600 head and the average live weight increased 25 pounds to 1,251 pounds per head. **Hog** slaughter, at 2,700 head, was unchanged from August 2003 but the average live weight decreased 20 pounds to 232. **Accumulated production** for the first eight months of this year now totals nearly 1.34 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the 1.40 billion pounds produced during the comparable period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 3.88 billion pounds in August, down 1 percent from the 3.92 billion pounds produced in August 2003. **Beef** production, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 8 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.82 million head, down 10 percent from August 2003. The average live weight was up 27 pounds from the previous year, at 1,252 pounds. **Veal** production totaled 13.9 million pounds, 2 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,800 head, down 9 percent from August 2003. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 320 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year, and was a record monthly high. Hog kill totaled 8.72 million head, 8 percent above August 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 262 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.1 million pounds, was down 4 percent from August 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 232,600 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, unchanged from August a year ago.

January to August 2004 commercial red meat production was

29.9 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 10 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Specie	Aug 2003	July 2004	Aug 2004	January-Aug 2004	
				2003	2004
Million Pounds					
Colorado	172.3	178.7	176.1	1,396.5	1,336.8
United States . . .	3,916.7	3,708.8	3,878.0	30,987.0	29,887.0
Beef	2,328.0	2,105.0	2,151.0	17,951.0	16,344.0
Veal	14.1	13.4	13.9	125.9	113.0
Pork	1,559.0	1,576.0	1,698.0	12,779.0	13,302.0
Lamb & Mutton.	15.7	14.2	15.1	130.6	127.7

CATTLE ON FEED SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in **Colorado** feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 930,000 head as of September 1, 2004. The latest inventory was up 6 percent from August 1, 2004, and up 3 percent from the 900,000 on feed on September 1, 2003. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 150,000 head of fed cattle during August 2004. This was 27 percent below July 2004 marketings of 205,000 head and 23 percent below August marketings one year earlier. An estimated 205,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during August, up 37 percent from July 2004 placements but 15 percent below a year ago. Of the number placed in August, 15 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 20 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 32 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 34 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for August, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from the previous month and a year ago.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.97 million head on September 1, 2004. The inventory was 1 percent above September 1, 2003 but 2 percent below September 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.10 million, 12 percent below 2003 and 6 percent below 2002. This is the second lowest placements for the month of August since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 2.04 million. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 506,000, 600-699 pounds were 413,000, 700-799 pounds were 565,000, and 800 pounds and greater were

615,000. Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 1.92 million, 7 percent below 2003 and 10 percent below 2002. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of August since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 56,000 during August, 7 percent below 2003 but 30 percent above 2002.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots
August 1 to September 1, 2003-2004**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 head			
On Feed Aug. 1	860	880	9,590	9,853
Placements During Aug.	240	205	2,384	2,099
< 600 pounds	43	30	602	506
600 - 699 Pounds	55	40	529	413
700 - 799 Pounds	63	65	659	565
800 Plus Pounds	79	70	594	615
Marketings During Aug.	195	150	2,075	1,923
Other Disap. During Aug.	5	5	60	58
On Feed September 1	900	930	9,839	9,973

MILK PRODUCTION AUGUST 2004

Milk production in the 20 major States during August totaled 12.4 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from August 2003. July revised production, at 12.5 billion pounds, was up 1.0 percent from July 2003. The July revision represented an increase of 36 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,595 pounds for August, 24 pounds above August 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 5,000 head less than August 2003, but 7,000 head more than July 2004.

Milk Cows and Milk Production, 20 Major States

Item	Aug. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004
Milk Cows (1,000 head) ^{1/}	7,771	7,759	7,766
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) ^{2/}	1,571	1,616	1,595
Production (mil. lbs.) ^{2/}	12,207	12,541	12,387

^{1/} Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

^{2/} Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**CROP PRODUCTION
SEPTEMBER 1, 2004
COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

The **corn** yield forecast is now estimated at 132.0 bushels per acre, three bushels below last year's final yield. Expected yield increases in dryland acreage helped raise the average yield six bushels from the August 1 forecast. The forecast for harvested acres was unchanged at 930,000 acres, up 40,000 acres from the area harvested for grain in 2003. Corn production is forecast at 122.76 million bushels, about 2.6 million bushels or two percent more than last year's production.

The **sorghum** yield is forecast at 38.0 bushels per acre, two bushels below the August 1 forecast but 11.0 bushels higher than last year's crop. Growers are expected to harvest 200,000 acres,

placing production at 7.6 million bushels, compared to 4.3 million bushels last year.

The **summer potato** yield forecast was unchanged from July 1 at 365 cwt per acre, five cwt above last year's revised average yield. Growers are expected to harvested 6,400 acres, equal to last year's harvested area. Production is forecast at 2.34 million cwt., up slightly from last year's revised production of 2.30 million cwt.

The **sugar beet** yield is now forecast at 22.7 tons per acre, down slightly from the August 1 forecast. Production is forecast at 758,000 tons from 33,400 harvested acres, up from last year's 644,000 tons from 27,400 acres.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, up fractionally from last month and 8 percent above 2003. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 149.4 bushels per acre, up 0.5 bushel from August and 7.2 bushels above last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the largest on record. Acreage harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 73.4 million acres, unchanged from August but up 3 percent from 2003.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.84 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but 17 percent above 2003. If realized, this would be the second highest production on record. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 38.5 bushels per acre, down 0.6 bushel from August. Area for harvest is forecast at 73.7 million acres, unchanged from August but up 2 percent from the 2003 acreage.

Sorghum production is forecast at 472 million bushels, up 2 percent from last month and up 15 percent from 2003. Based on September 1 conditions, the sorghum yield is forecast at 68.3 bushels per acre, up 1.1 bushels from August and 15.6 bushels from last year. Acreage expected to be harvested for grain in the U.S. is 6.92 million acres, unchanged from August but 11 percent lower than the 2003 harvested grain acreage.

Sugarbeet production for 2004 is forecast at 28.5 million tons, 1 percent above the August forecast but 7 percent below last year's production. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.33 million acres, down fractionally from last month and 2 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 21.5 tons per acre, up 0.1 ton from August but 1.2 tons below 2003.

Production of **summer potatoes** is forecast at 18.5 million cwt in 2004, down 1 percent from both the July 1 forecast and the 2003 final estimate. Harvested area is estimated at 55,100 acres, down 6 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 336 cwt per acre, 9 cwt above the July forecast and 16 cwt above last year. The decrease in acres more than offset the increase in yield.

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Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2003-2004

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004		2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
Colorado:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	1,080	1,120	890	930	Bu.	135.0	132.0	120,150	122,760
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	270	280	160	200	Bu.	27.0	38.0	4,320	7,600
All Wheat	2,630	2,310	2,229	1,759	Bu.	35.1	<u>5/</u>	78,160	<u>5/</u>
Winter Wheat	2,600	2,300	2,200	1,750	Bu.	35.0	27.0	77,000	47,250
Spring Wheat	30	10	29	9	Bu.	40.0	<u>5/</u>	1,160	<u>5/</u>
Oats	100	75	15	20	Bu.	65.0	<u>5/</u>	975	<u>5/</u>
Barley	85	80	82	76	Bu.	109.0	110.0	8,938	8,360
Proso Millet	320	340	285	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	19.0	<u>4/</u>	5,415	<u>4/</u>
All Hay . . . . .	...	...	1,500	1,460	Tons	2.41	2.70	3,610	3,942
Alfalfa Hay . . . . .	...	...	800	730	Tons	3.20	3.50	2,560	2,555
Other Hay . . . . .	...	...	700	730	Tons	1.50	1.90	1,050	1,387
Sugar beets	28.6	35.4	27.4	33.4	Tons	23.5	22.7	644	758
Dry edible beans	80.0	75.0	73.0	67.0	Cwt.	16.00	17.50	1,168	1,173
Sunflowers, All	130	130	118	118	Lbs.	1,003	<u>6/</u>	118,330	<u>6/</u>
Sunflowers, Oil	95	90	85	80	Lbs.	1,000	<u>4/</u>	85,000	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	35	40	33	38	Lbs.	1,010	<u>4/</u>	33,330	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes	72.8	71.5	72.1	71.2	Cwt.	360	<u>7/</u>	25,956	<u>7/</u>
Summer potatoes	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	Cwt.	360	365	2,304	2,336
Fall potatoes	66.3	65.0	65.7	64.8	Cwt.	360	<u>7/</u>	23,652	<u>7/</u>
Apples . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	22,000	24,000
Peaches . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	21,000	22,000
Pears . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	2.8	2.3
Tart Cherries . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	600.0	500.0
United States:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	78,736	80,968	71,139	73,377	Bu.	142.2	149.4	10,113,887	10,960,710
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	9,420	8,099	7,798	6,916	Bu.	52.7	68.3	411,237	472,269
All Wheat <u>2/</u>	61,700	59,719	52,839	50,556	Bu.	44.2	42.0	2,336,526	2,122,894
Winter Wheat	44,945	43,450	36,541	34,825	Bu.	46.7	42.8	1,707,069	1,489,408
Spring Wheat	13,840	13,677	13,429	13,210	Bu.	39.7	41.2	532,820	544,535
Oats	4,601	4,220	2,224	1,938	Bu.	65.0	66.0	144,649	127,950
Barley	5,299	4,666	4,688	4,152	Bu.	58.9	65.7	276,087	272,824
Rye	1,368	1,330	339	343	Bu.	27.3	<u>5/</u>	9,254	<u>5/</u>
Proso Millet	730	720	620	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	18.5	<u>4/</u>	11,450	<u>4/</u>
All Hay . . . . .	...	...	63,342	61,589	Tons	2.48	2.63	157,123	161,763
Alfalfa Hay . . . . .	...	...	23,578	22,226	Tons	3.24	3.48	76,307	77,264
Other Hay . . . . .	...	...	39,764	39,363	Tons	2.03	2.15	80,816	84,499
Sugar beets	1,365.4	1,349.8	1,347.9	1,325.6	Tons	22.7	21.4	30,583	28,378
Dry edible beans	1,406.1	1,360.4	1,346.9	1,301.1	Cwt.	16.72	16.39	22,515	21,323
Sunflowers, All	2,344	1,882	2,197	1,801	Lbs.	1,213	<u>6/</u>	2,665,226	<u>6/</u>
Sunflowers, Oil	1,998	1,551	1,874	1,489	Lbs.	1,206	<u>4/</u>	2,259,666	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	346	331	323	312	Lbs.	1,256	<u>4/</u>	405,560	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes <u>3/</u>	1,272.6	1,184.3	1,248.6	1,163.6	Cwt.	367	<u>7/</u>	457,814	<u>7/</u>
Summer potatoes	63.4	58.8	58.7	55.1	Cwt.	320	336	18,766	18,487
Fall potatoes	1,106.0	1,037.8	1,090.9	1,022.8	Cwt.	376	<u>7/</u>	410,588	<u>7/</u>
Soybeans	73,404	74,809	72,321	73,655	Bu.	33.4	39.1	2,417,565	2,876,627
Apples . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	8,613,300	9,365,900
Peaches . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	2,519,000	2,598,400
Pears . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	928.10	908.00
Tart Cherries . . . . .	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	226,500	215,100

1/ Planted for all purposes; harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2005.
5/ September 30, 2004. 6/ October 12, 2004. 7/ November 12, 2004.

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Final production of 2003 fall potatoes is finalized at 411 million cwt, down 1 percent from 2002 but 4 percent above the 2001 crop. Area harvested, at 1.09 million acres, is 1 percent below the previous year but 2 percent above two years ago. The average yield was 376 cwt per acre, up 2 cwt from 2002 and 9 cwt above 2001.

Final production of potatoes from all four seasons in 2003 totaled 458 million cwt, virtually unchanged from a year earlier but 5 percent above 2001. Area harvested is estimated at 1.25 million acres, down 1 percent from 2002 but 2 percent above 2001. The yield, averaging 367 cwt per acre, increased 5 cwt from a year earlier and is 9 cwt more than 2001.

COLD STORAGE August 31, 2004

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on August 31, 2004 were greater than year earlier levels for beef, chicken, orange juice, frozen fruit, and cheese. **Butter stocks** were down 16 percent from last month and down 36 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 4 percent from last month and up 4 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 4 percent from last month, but down 10 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 35 percent from last month and down 16 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on August 31, 2004 were 1 percent lower than the previous month and 1 percent lower than a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down slightly from the previous month, but 18 percent higher than last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 2 percent from last month and down 17 percent from August 31, 2003.

R. René Picanso
 Director

Steve Anderson
 Deputy Director

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Aug 31, 2003	July 30, 2004	Aug 31, 2004
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	253,913	193,520	162,897
Cheese, total natural . .	794,215	869,602	819,037
Eggs, frozen	18,044	16,720	17,157
Poultry, total frozen . .	1,328,264	1,330,851	1,314,131
Chicken	617,698	730,290	728,071
Turkey	706,502	599,589	585,059
Fruits, frozen	993,973	1,061,577	1,054,420
Fruit Juices, frozen . . .	1,967,307	2,351,042	2,230,721
Vegetables, total frozen	1,993,439	1,670,127	1,963,283
Potatoes, total frozen . .	1,070,421	1,117,070	1,126,930
Meats, total red	817,317	814,258	848,908
Beef, total frozen . . .	370,992	427,047	447,736
Pork, total frozen . . .	430,239	373,399	387,899

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at:

<http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

- Sept. 24 - Hogs and Pigs
- Sept. 29 - Agricultural Prices
- Sept. 30 - Grain Stocks
- Sept. 30 - Small Grains Summary
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