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Idaho Milk Production Up 3.3 Percent

Idaho milk production during October 2002 totaled 694 million pounds, a 3.3 percent increase from the same month last year, and 2.4 percent more than September 2002. This is the smallest increase from the previous year since August 1993. Revised production for September 2002 totaled 678 million pounds, down 2.2 percent from the preliminary estimate, but 3.8 percent above September 2001. Average milk production per cow in October 2002 was 1,770 pounds, 50 pounds less than October 2001, but 40 pounds above September 2002. The average number of milk cows during October was 392,000 head, 23,000 head more than October 2001, but unchanged from last month.

Nationally, October milk production in the 20 major States totaled 12.0 billion pounds, up 2.3 percent from production in these same States in October 2001. September revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds, was up 2.5 percent from September 2001. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,544 pounds for October 2002, 22 pounds above October 2001. The number of milk cows on farms in the major States was 7.79 million head, 67,000 head more than October 2001, and 8,000 head more than September 2002.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, October 2001-2002

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2002 As Percent of 2001
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona 3/	140	150	1,670	1,745	234	262	112
California	1,609	1,664	1,745	1,755	2,808	2,920	104
Florida	152	147	1,120	1,130	170	166	98
IDAHO	369	392	1,820	1,770	672	694	103
Illinois	114	115	1,390	1,430	158	164	104
Indiana	154	149	1,375	1,420	212	212	100
Iowa	206	208	1,480	1,480	305	308	101
Kentucky	126	120	1,030	1,035	130	124	95
Michigan	302	300	1,600	1,650	483	495	102
Minnesota	500	480	1,395	1,390	698	667	96
Missouri	141	136	1,085	1,120	153	152	99
New Mexico	273	305	1,750	1,750	478	534	112
New York	673	676	1,470	1,500	989	1,014	103
Ohio	257	264	1,380	1,380	355	364	103
Pennsylvania	596	591	1,500	1,495	894	884	99
Texas	315	309	1,240	1,350	391	417	107
Vermont	153	153	1,450	1,425	222	218	98
Virginia	118	119	1,290	1,295	152	154	101
Washington	247	247	1,860	1,865	459	461	100
Wisconsin	1,281	1,268	1,400	1,435	1,793	1,820	102
20 STATE TOTAL	7,726	7,793	1,522	1,544	11,756	12,030	102

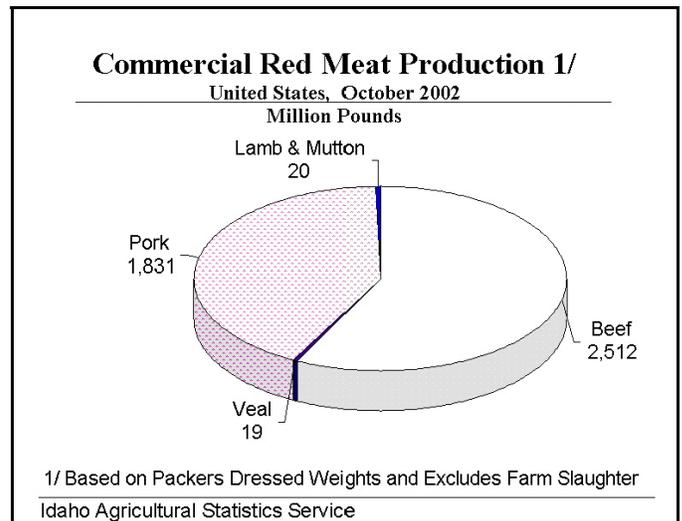
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves. 3/ Preliminary revisions for Arizona indicate milk production at 251 million pounds for October 2001. This preliminary revision is not included in the 20-State total. Annual revisions will be published in February 2003.

Idaho Red Meat Production Unchanged

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for October 2002 totaled 59.5 million pounds, virtually unchanged from last year. October production was up 16 percent from September's 51.3 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January-October 2002 period totaled 518 million pounds, down 3 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Red meat production for the United States totaled 4.38 billion pounds in October, up 3 percent from the 4.27 billion pounds produced in October 2001 and a new record high for October. Beef production, at 2.51 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year and a new record high for October. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.27 million head, up 3 percent from October 2001. The average live weight was 1,270 pounds, up 23 pounds from October a year ago. Pork production totaled 1.83 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.40 million head, 1 percent above October 2001. The average live weight was 264 pounds, down 3 pounds from October a year ago. Lamb and mutton production, at 19.6 million pounds, was down 1 percent from October 2001. Sheep slaughter totaled 300,200 head, 4 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down 6 pounds from October a year ago.

January-October red meat production was 39.4 billion pounds, 4 percent above the previous year. Accumulated beef production was 5 percent higher than last year, pork was up 3 percent, and lamb & mutton was down 2 percent.



Commercial Red Meat Production, Selected States and United States ^{1/}

State	October 2001	September 2002	October 2002	October 2002 As Percent Of ^{2/}	
				October 2001	September 2002
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
California	107.2	113.3	126.3	118	111
Colorado	191.6	182.8	197.2	103	108
IDAHO	59.3	51.3	59.5	100	116
Illinois	255.4	*217.8	260.3	102	119
Iowa	578.3	515.7	579.0	100	112
Kansas	527.5	460.3	536.9	102	117
Minnesota	207.7	188.8	213.0	103	113
Montana	1.6	1.6	1.6	101	102
Nebraska	676.7	625.1	712.1	105	114
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	93	105
Oklahoma	91.3	76.9	90.8	99	118
Oregon	4.0	3.5	3.8	95	108
South Dakota	95.9	83.3	90.5	94	109
Texas	414.0	399.5	450.2	109	113
Utah	48.9	42.7	45.3	92	106
Washington	51.3	55.2	59.6	116	108
Wyoming	0.2	0.4	0.2	103	55
UNITED STATES	4,265.1	*3,873.0	4,381.8	103	113

*Revised. 1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. 2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.

Cattle On Feed Down 11 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on November 1, 2002 totaled 295,000 head, down 11 percent from the November 1, 2001 inventory. The inventory was up 5 percent from the number on hand as of October 1, 2002.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during October totaled 77,000 head, down 2,000 head from October 2001 placements. Marketings during October totaled 61,000 head, up 3,000 head from October 2001 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled

10.7 million head on November 1, 2002. The inventory was 9 percent below both November 1, 2001 and November 1, 2000. Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.39 million, 12 percent below 2001 and 16 percent below 2000. Net placements were 2.30 million.

During October placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 809,000, 600-699 pounds were 638,000, 700-799 pounds were 521,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 420,000. Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.98 million, 4 percent above 2001 and 3 percent above 2000. Other disappearance totaled 84,000 during October, 24 percent above 2001 and 27 percent above 2000.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots^{1/}

State	November 1, 2001	October 1, 2002	November 1, 2002		
			Number	As % of 2001	As % of October
		<i>---1,000 Head---</i>		<i>---Percent---</i>	
Arizona	301	288	290	96	101
California	470	495	490	104	99
Colorado	1,170	1,030	1,060	91	103
Idaho	330	280	295	89	105
Iowa	340	315	335	99	106
Kansas	2,670	2,280	2,300	86	101
Nebraska	2,200	1,960	2,110	96	108
New Mexico	108	113	116	107	103
Oklahoma	395	330	340	86	103
South Dakota	171	150	170	99	113
Texas	3,080	2,720	2,730	89	100
Washington	258	170	185	72	109
Other States	370	285	320	86	112
United States	11,863	10,416	10,741	91	103

^{1/}Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better

Frozen Potato Stocks Down From Last Year

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on October 31, 2002, totaled 987 million pounds, an increase of 11 percent from September 30, 2002 but down 11 percent from October 30, 2001. Other frozen potatoes at 259 million pounds, increased 2 percent from September stocks, and increased 11 percent from last year.

United States stocks of butter on October 30, 2002, totaled 165 million pounds, down 21 percent from the end of the previous month, but up 63 percent from October 31, 2001. Of this 165 million pounds, the government owned 1.88 million pounds. Stocks of American cheese totaled 505 million pounds, down 2 percent from September 30, but up 9 percent from last year. The government owned 927,000 pounds, a small percentage of the total stocks.

Commodity	Oct. 31, 2001	Sep 30, 2002	Oct 31, 2002	2002 2001
		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		
POTATOES				
French Fries	1,105,469	888,591	987,434	89
Other Frozen	233,072	252,613	258,859	111
Total	1,338,541	1,141,204	1,246,293	93
DAIRY				
Butter	100,791	209,110	164,640	163
(Gov't Owned)	344	1,873	1,879	546
Natural Cheese				
American, Total	463,378	516,791	505,489	109
(Gov't Owned)	911	887	927	102

October Farm Labor

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 30,000 hired workers on farms and ranches the week of October 6-12, 2002, up 11 percent from the 27,000 workers the week of October 7-13, 2001. Hired workers worked an average of 45.1 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$8.13 per hour, up 41 cents from last year.

There were 1.19 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of October 6-12, 2002, down 5 percent from a year ago. There were 935 thousand workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on

farms and ranches made up the remaining 250 thousand workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.93 per hour during the October 2002 survey week, up 34 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.30 per hour, up 29 cents from last October. Livestock workers earned \$8.44 per hour compared with \$8.39 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.33 was up 24 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.4 hours for hired workers during the survey week compared with 41.7 hours a year ago.

