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Idaho Milk Production Up 1.2 Percent

Idaho milk production during July 2004 totaled 776 million pounds, a 1.2 percent increase from the same month last year, and up 16 million pounds from June 2004. Revised production for June 2004 totaled 760 million pounds, down 8 million pounds from the preliminary estimate but 1.5 percent above June 2003. Average milk production per cow in July 2004 was 1,840 pounds, 40 pounds less than July 2003 but 40 pounds above June 2004. The average number of milk cows during July was 422,000 head, unchanged from June 2004, but 14,000 head more than July 2003.

Milk production in the 20 major States during July totaled 12.5 billion pounds, up 0.7 percent from July 2003. June revised production, at 12.4 billion pounds, was down 0.1 percent from June 2003. The June revision represented an increase of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,613 pounds for July, 16 pounds above July 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 27,000 head less than July 2003, but 11,000 head more than June 2004.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, July 2003-2004

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2004 As Percent of 2003
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	155	158	1,750	1,820	271	288	106
California	1,690	1,728	1,755	1,780	2,966	3,076	104
Florida	141	139	1,215	1,340	171	186	109
IDAHO	408	422	1,880	1,840	767	776	101
Illinois	110	107	1,490	1,520	164	163	99
Indiana	148	150	1,625	1,640	241	246	102
Iowa	201	192	1,580	1,570	318	301	95
Kentucky	115	111	1,005	1,055	116	117	101
Michigan	304	301	1,830	1,785	556	537	97
Minnesota	475	465	1,455	1,470	691	684	99
Missouri	129	122	1,150	1,240	148	151	102
New Mexico	316	330	1,795	1,770	567	584	103
New York	673	656	1,515	1,495	1,020	981	96
Ohio	260	266	1,450	1,460	377	388	103
Pennsylvania	574	559	1,500	1,510	861	844	98
Texas	320	320	1,395	1,540	446	493	111
Vermont	148	145	1,505	1,525	223	221	99
Virginia	114	102	1,210	1,340	138	137	99
Washington	244	240	1,965	1,940	479	466	97
Wisconsin	1,255	1,240	1,515	1,505	1,901	1,866	98
20 STATE TOTAL	7,780	7,753	1,597	1,613	12,421	12,505	101

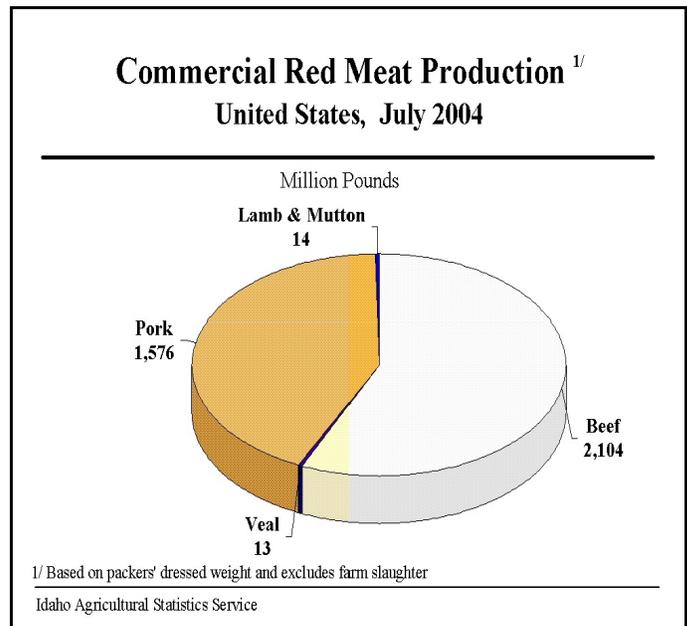
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Idaho Red Meat Production Down 28 Percent

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for July 2004 totaled 36.3 million pounds, down 28 percent from last year. July production was down 10 percent from June's 40.2 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January-July 2004 period totaled 267 million pounds, down 23 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.71 billion pounds in July, down 8 percent from the 4.05 billion pounds produced in July 2003. Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 14 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, down 15 percent from July 2003. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,239 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.4 million pounds, 9 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 69,000 head, down 19 percent from July 2003. The average live weight was 36 pounds above last year, at 325 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.58 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.09 million head, slightly below July 2003. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 262 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 14.2 million pounds, was down 10 percent from July 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 220,800 head, 8 percent below last year. The average live weight was 128 pounds, down 3 pounds from July a year ago.

January to July 2004 commercial red meat production was 26.0 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.



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

State	July 2003	June 2004	July 2004	July 2004 As Percent Of ^{2/}	
				July 2003	June 2004
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
California	122.3	122.7	115.3	94	94
Colorado	195.6	194.2	178.7	91	92
IDAHO	50.2	40.2	36.3	72	90
Illinois	209.2	221.3	209.3	100	95
Iowa	496.7	535.0	523.7	105	98
Kansas	544.7	516.7	486.5	89	94
Minnesota	190.2	197.0	185.0	97	94
Montana	1.6	1.3	1.3	83	99
Nebraska	659.5	596.1	561.7	85	94
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	121	98
Oklahoma	79.8	91.6	80.0	100	87
Oregon	3.9	3.6	3.3	86	94
South Dakota	81.3	72.0	74.5	92	103
Texas	468.6	414.9	399.8	85	96
Utah	39.9	38.5	34.2	86	89
Washington	51.9	47.3	42.5	82	90
Wyoming	0.6	0.5	0.5	92	98
UNITED STATES	4,050.1	*3928.1	3,707.6	92	94

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

Idaho Cattle on Feed Down 2 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on August 1, 2004 totaled 235,000 head, down 2 percent from the August 1, 2003 inventory. The inventory was down 2 percent from the number on hand July 1, 2004. Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during July totaled 43,000 head, down 13,000 head from July 2003 placements. Marketings during July totaled 47,000 head, down 23,000 from July 2003 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.85 million head on August 1, 2004. The inventory was 3 percent

above August 1, 2003 but 3 percent below August 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.72 million, 14 percent below 2003 and 7 percent below 2002. Net placements were 1.66 million. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 440,000, 600-699 pounds were 325,000, 700-799 pounds were 499,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 456,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.93 million, 15 percent below 2003 and 12 percent below 2002. Other disappearance totaled 58,000 during July, 3 percent below 2003 but 29 percent above 2002.

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

State	August 1, 2003	July 1, 2004	August 1, 2004		
			Number	As % of 2003	As % of July
		<i>---1,000 Head---</i>		<i>---Percent---</i>	
Arizona	271	295	294	108	100
California	485	520	520	107	100
Colorado	860	940	880	102	94
Idaho	240	240	235	98	98
Iowa	295	390	380	129	97
Kansas	2,180	2,090	2,120	97	101
Nebraska	1,570	1,850	1,750	111	95
New Mexico	116	124	127	109	102
Oklahoma	335	315	315	94	100
South Dakota	148	173	157	106	91
Texas	2,690	2,760	2,670	99	97
Washington	170	150	150	88	100
Other States	230	270	255	111	94
United States	9,590	10,117	9,853	103	97

^{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

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on July 31, 2004, totaled 859 million pounds, a 1 percent decrease from June 30, 2004, and slightly below July 31, 2003. Other frozen potatoes, at 258 million pounds, decreased 2 percent from last month, and decreased 5 percent from last year.

United States stocks of butter on July 31, 2004, totaled 187 million pounds, down slightly from the end of the previous month, and down 34 percent from last year. Of this 187 million pounds, the government owned 136,000 pounds. Stocks of American cheese totaled 622 million pounds, up 5 percent from June 30, 2004 and up 13 percent from July 31, 2003. Of this 622 million pounds, the government owned 7.08 million pounds.

Commodity	July 31, 2003	June 30, 2004	July 31, 2004	2004
				2003
		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
POTATOES:				
French Fries	859,504	864,111	859,102	100
Other Frozen	270,935	263,341	257,907	95
Total	1,130,439	1,127,452	1,117,009	99
DAIRY				
Butter, Total	283,879	187,183	187,116	66
(Gov't Owned)	11,183	155	136	1
Natural Cheese				
American, Total	552,455	590,292	621,530	113
(Gov't Owned)	6,141	8,658	7,076	115

Farm Labor in July

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 34,000 hired workers on farms and ranches during the week of July 11-17, 2004, up 10 percent from the 31,000 workers the week of July 6-12, 2003. Hired workers worked an average of 47.8 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$8.23 per hour, up 60 cents from last year.

There were 1,293,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 11-17, 2004, up 2 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 953,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 340,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.10 per hour during the July 2004 reference week, up 22 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.42 per hour, up 25 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$8.75 per hour compared with \$8.57 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.50 per hour, was up 24 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 39.3 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 1 percent from a year ago.

