



Idaho Milk Production Up 5.6 Percent

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Idaho's production during December 2003 totaled 733 million pounds, a 5.6 percent increase from the same month last year and 2.2 percent more than November 2003. Production during November 2003 totaled 717 million pounds, unchanged from the preliminary estimate and 8.8 percent above November 2002. Average milk production per cow in December 2003 was 1,780 pounds, unchanged from the same month last year, but 40 pounds above November 2003. The average number of milk cows during December was 412,000 head, unchanged from the previous month, but 22,000 head more than December 2002.

Milk production in the 20 major States during December totaled 12.3 billion pounds, down 0.3 percent from December 2002. November revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds, was down 0.1 percent from November 2002. The November revision represented an increase of 13 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,589 pounds for December, 14 pounds above December 2002. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.71 million head, 93,000 head less than December 2002, but unchanged from November 2003.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, December 2002-2003

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2003 As Percent of 2002
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	150	155	1,920	1,895	288	294	102
California	1,676	1,698	1,750	1,740	2,933	2,955	101
Florida	147	140	1,325	1,320	195	185	95
IDAHO	390	412	1,780	1,780	694	733	106
Illinois	115	108	1,505	1,560	173	168	97
Indiana	146	143	1,515	1,540	221	220	100
Iowa	208	196	1,550	1,560	322	306	95
Kentucky	120	112	1,075	1,085	129	122	95
Michigan	301	299	1,675	1,735	504	519	103
Minnesota	480	465	1,485	1,500	713	698	98
Missouri	134	124	1,210	1,250	162	155	96
New Mexico	308	324	1,710	1,730	527	561	106
New York	680	657	1,490	1,485	1,103	976	96
Ohio	260	258	1,405	1,440	365	372	102
Pennsylvania	590	560	1,515	1,485	894	832	93
Texas	311	317	1,465	1,575	456	499	109
Vermont	153	146	1,470	1,500	225	219	97
Virginia	119	106	1,295	1,325	154	140	91
Washington	247	241	1,890	1,900	467	458	98
Wisconsin	1,266	1,247	1,465	1,475	1,855	1,839	99
20 STATE TOTAL	7,801	7,708	1,575	1,589	12,290	12,251	100

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

Idaho Red Meat Production Down 16 Percent

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for December 2003 totaled 42.6 million pounds, down 16 percent from last year. December production was up less than 1 percent from November's 42.4 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January-December 2003 period totaled 576 million pounds, down 8 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in December, up slightly from the 3.86 billion pounds produced in December 2002. Beef production, at 1.97 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 4 percent from December 2002. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,244 pounds.

Veal production totaled 19.0 million pounds, 6 percent above December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 97,500 head, down 1 percent from December 2002. The average live weight was 17 pounds above last year, at 322 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.87 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.35 million head, 8 percent above December 2002. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 269 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 18.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from December 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 262,000 head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 4 pounds from December a year ago. January to December 2003 commercial red meat production was 46.5 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

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

State	December 2002	November 2003	December 2003	December 2003 As Percent Of ^{2/}	
				December 2002	November 2003
	Million Pounds			Percent	
California	120.5	*109.8	123.7	103	113
Colorado	160.9	*125.3	140.6	87	112
IDAHO	50.6	42.4	42.6	84	101
Illinois	220.1	*202.2	207.2	94	102
Iowa	528.1	*567.9	606.2	115	107
Kansas	454.1	*387.4	438.6	97	113
Minnesota	202.3	191.6	209.6	104	109
Montana	1.7	1.4	1.6	96	113
Nebraska	597.4	*489.3	555.5	93	114
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	97	90
Oklahoma	86.7	*83.8	90.1	104	108
Oregon	3.4	3.1	3.3	97	107
South Dakota	73.6	80.6	98.8	134	122
Texas	369.6	*326.5	357.2	97	109
Utah	39.8	27.6	32.7	82	118
Washington	51.7	44.6	43.9	85	99
Wyoming	0.5	0.5	0.6	103	122
UNITED STATES	3,858.2	*3,524.7	3,876.0	100	110

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

Idaho Cattle on Feed Up 2 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on January 1, 2004 totaled 300,000 head, up 2 percent from the January 1, 2003 inventory. The inventory was down 3 percent from the number on hand December 1, 2003.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during December totaled 53,000 head, up 9,000 from December 2002 placements. Marketings during December totaled 60,000 head, up 13,000 from the December 2002 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 11.2 million head on January 1, 2004.

The inventory was 6 percent above January 1, 2003 but 3 percent below January 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.75 million, 10 percent above 2002 and 11 percent above 2001. Net placements were 1.66 million.

During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 503,000, 600-699 pounds were 529,000, 700-799 pounds were 448,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 268,000. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.74 million, 3 percent below 2002 and 4 percent below 2001. Other disappearance totaled 90,000 during December, 9 percent below 2002 and 3 percent below 2001.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots¹

State	January 1, 2003	December 1, 2003	January 1, 2004		
			Number	As % of 2003	As % of December
	<i>---1,000 Head---</i>		<i>---Percent---</i>		
Arizona	289	284	293	101	103
California	490	500	510	104	102
Colorado	1,020	1,060	1,040	102	98
Idaho	295	310	300	102	97
Iowa	355	370	370	104	100
Kansas	2,200	2,480	2,430	110	98
Nebraska	2,140	2,280	2,280	107	100
New Mexico	119	121	115	97	95
Oklahoma	330	350	355	108	101
South Dakota	205	200	200	98	100
Texas	2,630	2,840	2,830	108	100
Washington	185	205	195	105	95
Other States	335	330	330	99	100
United States	10,593	11,330	11,248	106	99

¹Cattle 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 December 31, 2003, totaled 869 million pounds, a decrease of 1 percent from December 31, 2002 and down 10 percent from November 30, 2003. Other frozen potatoes, at 251 million pounds, decreased 1 percent from last year and decreased 5 percent from the previous month.

United States stocks of butter on December 31, 2003, totaled 99.6 million pounds, down 37 percent from the end of the previous year and down 19 percent from the previous month. Of this 99.6 million pounds, the government owned 6.17 million pounds. Stocks of total American cheese totaled 492 million pounds, down slightly from December 31, 2002, but up 5 percent from November 30, 2003. The government owned 9.61 million pounds of the American cheese stocks

Commodity	Dec 31,	Nov. 30,	Dec 31,	2003
	2002	2003	2003	2002
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>
POTATOES:				
French Fries	877,292	968,108	869,202	99
Other Frozen	253,920	264,709	251,131	99
TOTAL	1,131,212	1,232,817	1,120,333	99
DAIRY:				
Butter	157,820	122,544	99,570	63
(Govt. Owned)	555	8,701	6,172	1,112
Natural Cheese	493,262	467,226	492,310	100
American, Total				
(Govt. Owned)	197	6,918	9,614	4,880

Idaho Fruit Production

Idaho's apple production totaled 90.0 million pounds a 10 million pound increase from last year. Peach production totaled 13.0 million pounds, unchanged from 2002. Prune and Plum production in 2003 was 2,500 tons, a 500 ton increase from last year. Sweet cherry production was 2,900 tons, up 1,200 tons from 2002.

Nationally, apple production totaled 9.01 billion pounds an increase of 6 percent from 2002. Utilized production at 8.90 billion pounds is also up 6 percent from last year. Peach

production totaled 2.52 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2002. Utilized production at 2.41 billion pounds is down 2 percent from last year as well. Sweet cherry production increased 31 percent from a year ago to 236,960 tons. Utilized production increased 32 percent from a year ago to 234,640 tons. Prune and plum production totaled 16,900 tons, up 8 percent from 2002. Utilized production totaled 15,480 tons, up 5 percent from last year.

Total Fruit Production, Selected States & U.S., 2002-2003^{1/}

State	Apples		Peaches		Prunes & Plums		Sweet Cherries	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Tons</i>		<i>Tons</i>	
California	470.0	460.0	^{2/} 796.0	^{2/} 798.0	--	--	55,500	62,000
Georgia	10.0	13.0	100.0	120.0	--	--	--	--
Idaho	80.0	90.0	13.0	13.0	2,000	2,500	1,700	2,900
Illinois	43.0	52.5	17.2	20.5	--	--	--	--
Michigan	520.0	960.0	14.0	47.0	250	3,600	2,700	13,000
New York	680.0	1,200.0	10.0	13.0	--	--	350	600
North Carolina	160.0	152.0	10.0	6.0	--	--	--	--
Oregon	202.0	125.0	7.9	4.5	8,000	5,500	31,000	38,000
Pennsylvania	370.0	440.0	60.0	73.0	--	--	355	340
South Carolina	9.0	6.0	160.0	100.0	--	--	--	--
Utah	7.0	24.0	6.5	9.0	--	--	400	2,200
Virginia	250.0	300.0	7.0	10.0	--	--	--	--
Washington	5,100.0	4,500.0	66.0	52.0	5,400	5,300	87,000	116,000
West Virginia	95.0	90.0	10.0	12.5	--	--	--	--
UNITED STATES	8,525.4	9,014.6	^{3/} 2,574.9	^{4/} 2,523.1	^{5/} 15,650	^{5/} 16,900	181,225	236,960

^{1/} Includes unharvested production and harvested production not utilized. ^{2/} Freestone only. ^{3/} Includes CA Clingstone production of 1,124.0 million pounds. ^{4/} Includes CA Clingstone production of 1,072.0 million pounds. ^{5/} Excludes California.