

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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Volume No. 19 Issue No. 15
Released: August 1, 2000

Published twice monthly

FEATURING: < AGRICULTURAL PRICES < CATTLE & SHEEP < CHICKEN & EGGS < SLAUGHTER
< COLD STORAGE < MILK PRODUCTION < CATFISH < CATTLE ON FEED

LIVESTOCK PRICES RISE, GRAIN PRICES FALL

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-July were up for livestock while down for grain commodities.

Steer and heifer prices at mid-July reached an all time record high of \$87.00 per cwt., \$2.00 above last month and \$16.00 above last July. Prices for **beef cows** remained unchanged from last month at \$41.00 per cwt. and averaged \$5.00 above a year ago. This continued to be the highest price since February 1995. **Calf** prices averaged \$100.00 per cwt. at mid-July, \$3.00 above June and \$21.00 above last year.

Barrow and gilt prices averaged \$47.00 per cwt. at mid-July after a three month price of \$46.00. July's price averaged \$18.00 above last year. Prices received for **sows** were unchanged from June at \$36.00 per cwt. while averaging \$16.00 above July a year ago.

All milk price at \$14.10 was 30 cents above last month and 80 cents above last year. This was the highest price since last November. **Milk cow** prices at mid-July averaged \$1,310 per head, \$60.00 above the April price while \$130.00 above July a year ago.

Prices received for **corn** have decreased for the past two months and averaged \$1.80 per bushel at mid-July. This was 39 cents below last month and 14 cents below last July. This was the lowest corn price in 13 years. **Soybean** prices at \$4.70 per bushel were 42 cents below last month while averaging 48 cents above July a year ago. This was the lowest price in 7 months. **Winter wheat** prices averaged \$2.10 per bushel at mid-July, 24 cents below June while 2 cents above last July. This is the lowest price received for wheat since last October.

The **U.S.** preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in July was 98 based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the June index. Lower prices for corn, wheat, soybeans, and eggs more than offset price increases for milk, cucumbers, onions, and potatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index; however, these changes were essentially offsetting in July.

Compared with July 1999, the All Farm Products Index was 3 points (3.2 percent) higher. Price increases from July 1999 for hogs, cattle, wheat, and soybeans more than offset price decreases for milk, corn, grapes, and oranges.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY		US	
		JULY 1999	JUNE 2000	JULY 2000	JULY 2000
		Entire Month		Mid-Month ^{a/}	
FARM PRICES					
All Corn ^{b/} _{c/}	Bu.	1.94	2.19	1.80	1.55
Soybeans ^{b/}	Bu.	4.22	5.12	4.70	4.48
Winter Wheat ^{b/}	Bu.	2.08	2.34	2.10	2.29
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	113.00	105.00	100.00	84.50
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	73.00	68.00	65.00	66.60
All Hogs	Cwt.	28.60	45.60	46.60	49.20
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	29.00	46.00	47.00	50.00
Sows	Cwt.	20.00	36.00	36.00	35.00
All Beef Cattle ^{d/}	Cwt.	62.60	74.40	76.00	68.00
Steers & Heifers ^{e/}	Cwt.	71.00	85.00	87.00	71.00
Cows	Cwt.	36.00	41.00	41.00	39.80
Calves ^{f/}	Cwt.	79.00	97.00	100.00	106.00
Milk Cows ^{g/}	Ea.	1,180.00	---	1,310.00	1,350.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	13.30	13.80	14.10	12.70
Fluid ^{h/}	Cwt.	13.30	13.90	--	12.80
Manufactured	Cwt.	12.10	8.90	--	10.90
Hog-Corn Ratios ^{i/}	Bu.	14.7	20.8	25.9	31.7

^{a/} Preliminary. ^{b/} Includes contract sales paid during month. ^{c/} Includes yellow and white corn. ^{d/} "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. ^{e/} 500 lbs. and over. ^{f/} Under 500 lbs. ^{g/} Published only in Jan., Apr., July & Oct. ^{h/} Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. ^{i/} Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

JULY 1 CATTLE INVENTORY DOWN 1 PERCENT

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of July 1, 2000, totaled 106.4 million head, 1 percent below the 107.0 million on July 1, 1999 and 1 percent below the 107.7 million two years ago. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 43.2 million, were slightly below the 43.3 million on July 1, 1999 and 1 percent below the 43.6 million two years ago. **Beef cows**, at 34.0

million, were down 1 percent from July 1, 1999 and 1 percent below two years ago. **Milk cows**, at 9.25 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 1999 and 1 percent above two years ago. The 2000 **calf crop** is expected to be 38.9 million, up slightly from 1999 and 1998. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 28.6 million, up slightly from both years.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2000, and the changes from July 1 last year and two years ago, respectively, are as follows:

- c All heifers 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, down 1 percent from both years.
- c Beef replacement heifers, 4.7 million, down 2 percent and down 6 percent.
- c Milk replacement heifers, 3.7 million, unchanged and up 3 percent.
- c Other heifers, 8.1 million, unchanged from both years.
- c Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.3 million, down 1 percent and down 2 percent.
- c Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, down 5 percent from both years.
- c Calves under 500 pounds, 30.3 million, down 1 percent from both years.
- c All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 12.3 million, up 7 percent and up 12 percent.

JULY 1, 2000, ALL SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY TOTALS 8.50 MILLION HEAD 2000 LAMB CROP TOTALS 4.53 MILLION HEAD

All **sheep and lamb** inventory in the **United States** on July 1, 2000, totaled 8.50 million head, 6 percent below July 1, 1999. Breeding sheep inventory declined to 5.03 million head on July 1, 2000, 6 percent below July 1999. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 3.47 million head, were 5 percent below last July.

The 2000 **Lamb Crop** in the United States is expected to total 4.53 million head, down 4 percent from the 1999 lamb crop of 4.72 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2000 totaled 4.02 million head or 89 percent of the yearly total. An additional 510,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2000.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

	June 1999	June 2000	'00 % '99
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	6,742	6,801	101
Average Layers (000)	320,441	325,110	101
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,104	2,092	99
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set July 1 (000)	30,663	30,611	100
Chicks Hatched (000)	41,474	36,575	88
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set July 1 (000)	629,384	615,421	98
Chicks Hatched (000)	744,372	748,008	100

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the U.S. totaled 3.94 billion pounds in June, up slightly from the previous record high for June set in 1999. June 1999 and 2000 both contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.37 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous record high for June set last year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.24 million head, up 1 percent from 1999. The average live weight was up 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,205 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.54 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.95 million head, 4 percent below 1999. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 262 pounds.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION 1/

Type	June 1999	May 2000	June 2000	Jun 00 % of	
				June 1999	May 2000
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,321	2,302	2,369	102	103
Veal	19	19	19	99	98
Pork	1,584	1,540	1,536	97	100
Lamb & Mutton	17	17	17	99	99
Total U.S.	3,940	3,878	3,940	100	102
Total Kentucky		34.7		96	101

1/ Based on packer's dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, KY & U.S. JUNE 1999 & 2000 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 head		1,000 pounds		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.0	0.9	805	776	788	863
Hogs	185.5	174.2	47,969	45,498	259	261
Sheep & Lambs	0.9	1.2	123	170	140	141
United States						
Cattle	3,206.8	3,236.8	3,832,344	3,901,800	1,195	1,205
Hogs	8,319.2	7,950.3	2,156,831	2,081,082	259	262
Sheep & Lambs	270.0	260.3	35,154	34,612	130	133

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

ALL U.S. WAREHOUSE STOCKS

Commodity	June 30	May 31	June 30	June 00 as % of	
	1999	2000	2000	Jun '99	May '00
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	32,428	41,071	45,913	142	112
Other Chicken	798,782	775,475	765,856	96	99
Total Chicken 1/	842,034	824,099	819,918	97	99
Turkey	556,136	476,991	503,031	90	105
Total Frozen Poultry 2/	1,403,706	1,305,783	1,328,495	95	102
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	293,123	373,523	377,876	129	101
Pork:					
Bellies	93,383	68,245	60,324	65	88
Total Frozen Pork 3/	528,554	524,778	481,224	91	92
Total Meat 4/	843,906	922,769	885,219	105	96

1/ Includes broilers, hens and other chickens. 2/ Includes chicken, turkey and ducks. 3/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, spareribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 4/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on June 30, 2000, were greater than year earlier levels for fruit, red meat and orange juice concentrate. Cooler stocks of pecans and apples were also higher than a year earlier.

MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for June 2000 totaled 136 million pounds, up 2 percent from June 1999 but down 9 percent from May 2000. Average number of cows on farms, at 132,000, was down 1,000 head from a year earlier and the previous month. Milk per cow averaged 1,030 pounds, up 30 pounds from June 1999 but down 100 pounds from the previous month.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during June totaled 12.1 billion pounds, up 2.8 percent from production in these same States in June 1999. The May revision represented a decrease of 0.2 percent or 28 million pounds from last months preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,546 pounds for June, 30 pounds above June 1999. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.81 million head, 65,000 head more than June 1999 and 10,000 head more than May 2000.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR JUNE, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Production 2/		2000 as % of 1999
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,464	1,521	1,710	1,755	2,503	2,669	107
IL	122	120	1,420	1,440	173	173	100
IN	136	148	1,340	1,420	182	210	115
KY	133	132	1,000	1,030	133	136	102
MO	159	155	1,140	1,200	181	186	103
OH	260	262	1,450	1,470	377	385	102
VA	121	120	1,240	1,265	150	152	101
WI	1,368	1,347	1,440	1,440	1,970	1,940	98
20 State Total	7,740	7,805	1,516	1,546	11,737	12,070	103

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

CATFISH

Commercial catfish operations in the four major producing States (Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi) had 288 million foodsize fish on hand on July 1, 2000, down 5 percent from the July 1, 1999 total of 302 million. The breakouts of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2000, with their respective percent change from the previous year are: large foodsize, 4.00 million, down 20 percent; medium foodsize, 52.1 million, down 8 percent; and small foodsize, 231 million, down 4 percent. The four major States also had 1.27 million broodfish on hand on July 1, 2000, up 9 percent from last year's 1.16 million. Live weight totaled 5.97 million pounds for broodfish, up 5 percent from July 1, 1999.

The water surface area to be used for catfish production during July 1 through December 31, 2000, totaled 179,200 acres, up 2 percent from a year ago. Of the total acres, 5,130 acres are to be renovated during the period from July 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000. Acres used for foodsize fish totaled

145,100 acres, up 2 percent from July 1999. Acres for broodfish were up 3 percent to 5,600 acres, while acres used for fingerling production decreased 1 percent to 24,400 acres. An additional 3,730 acres are under construction or expected to be in use by January 1, 2001. During the January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2000 period, 2,210 acres were taken out of production. The total number of operations on July 1, 2000 in the four major States was 895, down 2 percent from the year ago total of 910.

CATFISH WATER ACRES & OPERATIONS

State	Operations		Water Surface Acres	
	Jul 1 '99	Jul 1 '00	Jul 1-Dec 31 '99	Jul 1 - Dec 31 '00
AL	255	255	22,000	22,800
AR	160	160	32,000	31,000
LA	105	80	14,200	13,900
MS	390	400	108,000	111,500
Total	910	895	176,200	179,200

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.39 million head on July 1, 2000. The inventory was 9 percent above July 1, 1999 and 13 percent above July 1, 1998. The inventory included 6.22 million steers and steer calves, up 8 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.13 million head, up 9 percent from 1999.

Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.66 million, 7 percent below 1999 but 6 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.61 million. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 347,000, 600-699 pounds were 380,000, 700-799 pounds were 498,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 439,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during June totaled 2.16 million, slightly above 1999 and 6 percent above 1998. **Other disappearance** totaled 57,000 during June, 10 percent below 1999 and 21 percent below 1998.

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

Cattle on feed July 1, 2000, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 8.96 million, up 9 percent from the previous year and 14 percent above July 1, 1998. The inventory included 5.33 million steers and steer calves, up 10 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 59 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.60 million head, up 9 percent from 1999. **Placements** in feedlots during June totaled 1.41 million, 7 percent below 1999 but 8 percent above 1998. **Marketings** during June totaled 1.83 million, slightly below 1999 but 6 percent above 1998. **Other disappearance** during June was 37,000 head, 16 percent below 1999 and down 27 percent from 1998.

1/AZ, CA, CO, IA, KS, NE, and TX.

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Kentucky Agri-News (ISSN:8750-9792)(USPS0661-550) is published twice monthly by the Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service, Louisville, KY 40202-1120. Periodical postage paid at Louisville, KY and additional mailing office. Subscription fee \$10 per year except to data contributors. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service, P.O. Box 1120, Louisville, KY 40201-1120.