

# KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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## FEATURING:

\* Cattle

\* Sheep

\* Dairy Products

\* Hog Outlook

## KENTUCKY CATTLE NUMBERS DOWN

The drought of 1999 reduced pasture, hay, and water supplies and forced many cattle producers to reduce their herds. Total Cattle and Calves on **Kentucky** farms January 1, 2000 numbered 2.25 million head, 7 percent below January 1999 and the smallest cattle inventory since 1962. Inventory levels were down from 1999 for all classes of cattle estimated, except cattle on full feed for slaughter, which was unchanged from a year ago.

Breeding stock inventories were reduced 3 to 7 percent from the previous year. All Cow inventory totaled 1.2 million head, 3 percent below a year ago. Beef cow inventory was set at 1.07 million head, also down 3 percent from 1999. Milk cows totaled a record low 130,000 head, 4 percent below the January 1999 level.

Bulls over 500 pounds totaled 70,000 head, 7 percent below the previous year. Heifers over 500 pounds inventory was set at 270,000 head, down 13 percent from a year ago. Beef replacement heifers totaled 145,000 head, 3 percent below January 1999. Milk replacement heifers, at 45,000 head, dropped 18 percent from the previous year, while heifers for other uses, at 80,000 head, fell 24 percent from last January. Steers over 500 pounds totaled 180,000, 20 percent below a year ago. Calves under 500 pounds dropped 7 percent to 530,000 head.

The 1999 calf crop was estimated at 1.13 million head, 3 percent below the 1998 level. Cattle on full feed for slaughter totaled 15,000 head, unchanged from the previous year.

**U.S. class** estimates on January 1, 2000 and the changes from January 1 last year and two years ago, respectively, are as follows:

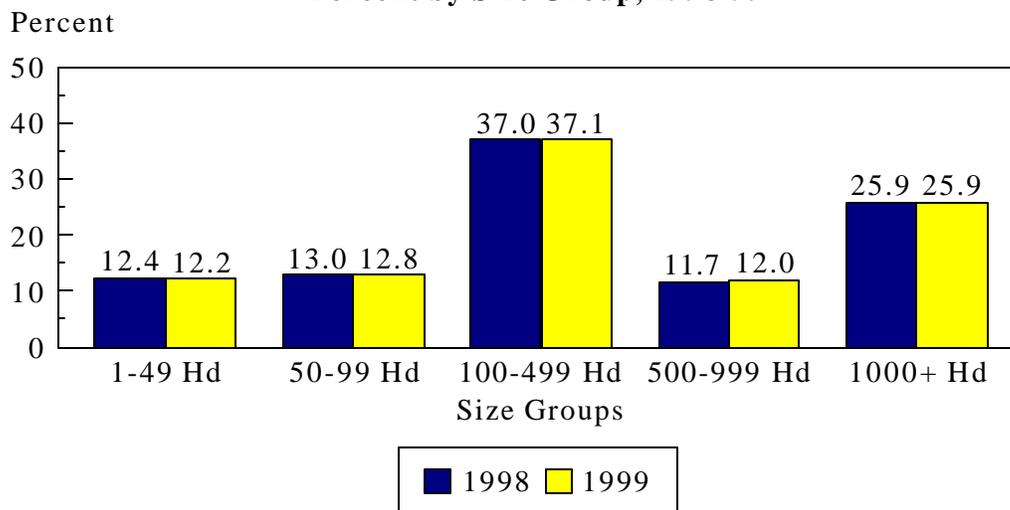
- - **All cattle**, 98.0 million, down 1 percent and down 2 percent.
- - **All cows and heifers that have calved**, 42.7 million, down slightly and down 1 percent.
- - **Beef cows**, 33.5 million, down 1 percent and down 1 percent.
- - **Milk cows**, 9.19 million, up 1 percent and down slightly.
- - **All heifers 500 pounds and over**, 19.5 million, down 1 percent and down 1 percent.
- - **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.53 million, down slightly and down 4 percent.
- - **Milk replacement heifers**, 3.95 million, down 3 percent and down 1 percent.
- - **Other heifers**, 10.0 million, down 1 percent and down slightly.
- - **Steers weighing 500 pounds and over**, 16.7 million, down 1 percent and down 3 percent.
- - **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over**, 2.29 million, up 1 percent and up 1 percent.
- - **Calves under 500 pounds**, 16.8 million, down 3 percent and down 3 percent.
- - **All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter**, 14.0 million, up 6 percent and up 3 percent.

## CATTLE AND CALVES NUMBER BY CLASS, CATTLE ON FEED, AND CALF CROP JANUARY 1, 1999 - 2000

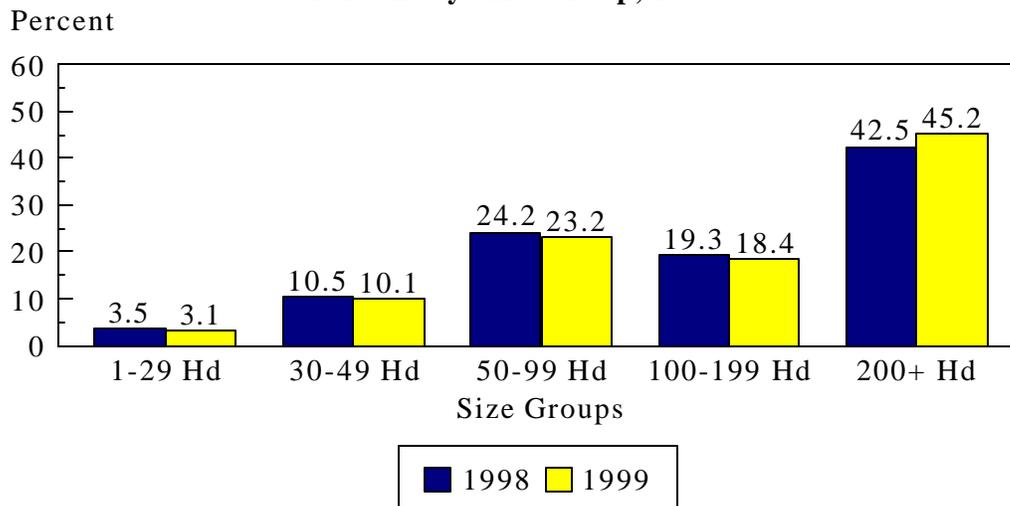
CLASS	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
	1999 <sup>1/</sup>	2000	00 % of 99	1999 <sup>1/</sup>	2000	00 % of 99
	(1,000 Head)			(1,000 Head)		
Cattle and Calves	2,420	2,250	93	99,115	98,048	99
Cows and Heifers (That have calved)	1,240	1,200	97	42,878	42,734	100
Beef Cows	1,105	1,070	97	33,745	33,546	99
Milk Cows	135	130	96	9,133	9,188	101
Heifers 500 Lbs & over	310	270	87	19,774	19,529	99
Beef Cow Replacement	150	145	97	5,535	5,530	100
Milk Cow Replacement	55	45	82	4,069	3,954	97
Other Heifers	105	80	76	10,170	10,045	99
Steers 500 Lbs & Over	225	180	80	16,891	16,652	99
Bulls 500 Lbs & Over	75	70	93	2,281	2,294	101
Calves Under 500 Lbs	570	530	93	17,290	16,840	97
Cattle on Feed <sup>2/</sup>	15	15	100	13,219	13,983	106
Calf Crop (Preceding Year)	1,160	1,130	97	38,812	38,710	100

<sup>1/</sup> Revised. <sup>2/</sup> 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. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

### U.S. CATTLE INVENTORY Percent by Size Group, 1998-99



### U.S. MILK COW INVENTORY Percent by Size Group, 1998-99



## U.S. SHEEP INVENTORY DOWN 3 PERCENT

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2000, totaled 7.03 million head, down 3 percent from 1999 and 10 percent below two years ago. Inventory has declined since 1942 when it reached a peak of 56.2 million head. Breeding sheep inventory declined to 5.16 million head on January 1, 2000, down 3 percent from 5.30 million head on January 1, 1999. Ewes one year old and older, at 4.23 million head, were 2 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2000 totaled 1.86 million head, down 3 percent from January 1, 1999. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-four percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 26

percent 85 - 105 pounds, 29 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 1999 lamb crop of 4.72 million head was down 6 percent from 1998 to a new record low. The 1999 lambing rate was 109 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 1999, compared with 110 in 1998.

The number of operations with sheep during 1999 totaled 66,800, down 3 percent from 1998 and 8 percent from 1997.

State level estimates for all sheep and lamb inventory for Kentucky are no longer published. Kentucky totals are included in the other states total for all sheep and lamb tables that display state level data.

## U.S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, DECEMBER 1999

PRODUCT	December 1998	November 1999 <sup>1/</sup>	December 1999	Percent of	
				Dec. 1998	Nov. 1999
		(000) Pounds		Percent	
<b>BUTTER</b>	106,320	90,358	107,790	101	119
<b>CHEESE</b>					
American Types <sup>2/</sup>	300,115	287,278	307,254	102	107
Mozzarella	210,868	223,354	225,186	107	101
All Other Types <sup>3/</sup>	157,506	168,922	165,795	105	98
Total	668,489	679,554	698,235	104	103
		(000) Gallons		Percent	
<b>FROZEN PRODUCTS</b>					
Ice Cream (Hard)	55,458	58,491	55,967	101	96
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	5,756	5,002	4,791	83	96
<b>MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS</b>					
Ice Cream Mix	29,922	32,774	30,346	101	93
Yogurt Mix	3,643	3,166	3,032	83	96

<sup>1/</sup> Revised. <sup>2/</sup> Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack. <sup>3/</sup> Includes Swiss, cream and all other types. Excludes cottage cheese.

## HOG OUTLOOK

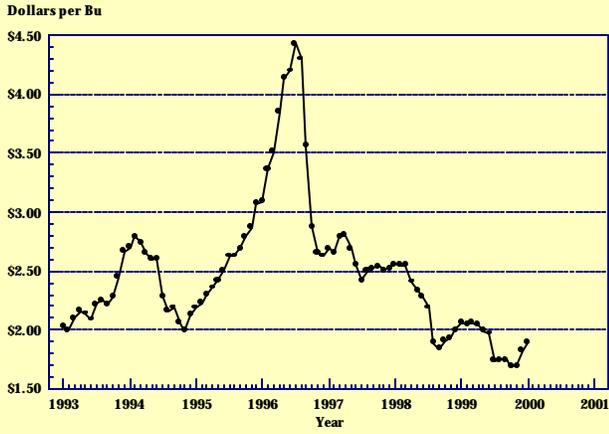
Based on the market hog inventory, pig crops, and farrowing intentions reported in December, pork production in 2000 is expected to total about 18.6 billion pounds, compared with a record 19.3 billion in 1999.

Producers reduced their herds as expected given the losses over the past 2 years. Farrowing intentions reported for December-February were down 3 percent

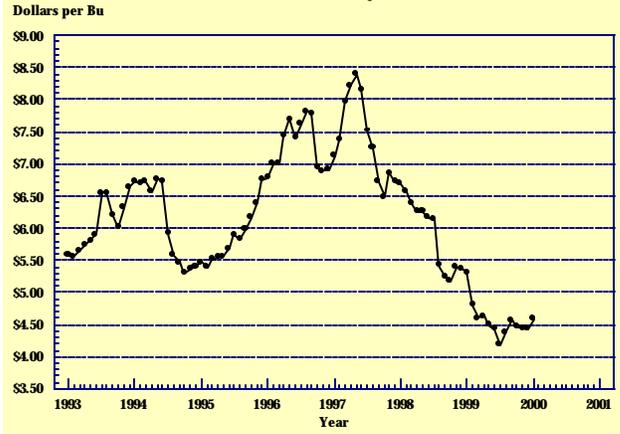
from a year ago and the same as reported in September. Intended farrowings in March-May are down 5 percent from March-May 1999.

With the smaller pig crops, pork consumption in 2000 will likely decline about 1.5 pounds from 1999. Hog prices are expected to continue to strengthen and average in the high \$30's per cwt., compared with the mid-\$30's in 1999. In second-half 2000, prices are expected to average near \$40 per cwt.

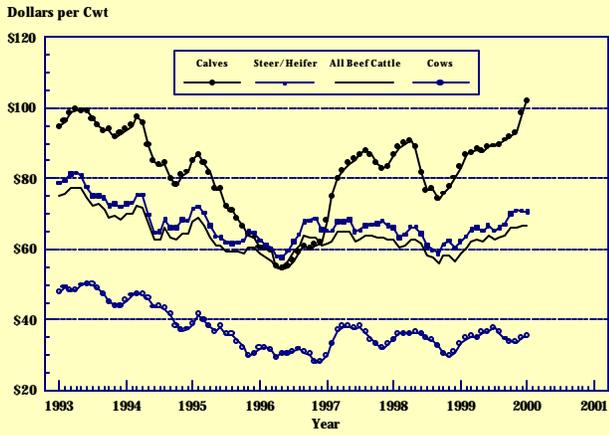
**Prices Received, Corn, US**



**Prices Received, Soybeans, US**



**Prices Received, Cattle, US**



**Prices Received, Hogs, US**



**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/>

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