

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1120
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
Phone: (502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277
E-mail: nass-ky@nass.usda.gov
and the
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Billy Ray Smith, Commissioner

Volume No. 18 Issue No. 21
Released: November 2, 1999

Published twice monthly

FEATURING: < **Agricultural Prices** < **Cold Storage** < **Slaughter**
 < **Cattle on Feed** < **Chicken & Eggs** < **Milk Production**

LIVESTOCK PRICES UP, GRAIN PRICES DOWN

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-October were up or unchanged for livestock while grain prices were down.

Steers and heifers 500 lbs. and over averaged \$74.00 per cwt. at mid-October. This was \$2.00 above last month while \$13.00 above October 1998. Prices have not been this high since April 1994. **Beef cow** prices remained the same as last month at \$33.00 per cwt. This was \$3.00 above last October and remain the lowest they have been since January 1999. **Calves** under 500 lbs. at \$81.00 per cwt. were unchanged from September but \$15.00 above the October 1998 price. Calf prices continue to be the highest they have been since May 1998.

Barrows and gilts unchanged from last month at \$31.00 per cwt. were \$3.00 above October a year ago. **Sow** prices at \$23.00 per cwt. at mid-October were \$1.00 above September and \$3.00 above October 1998.

All milk prices at mid-October were \$18.00 per cwt., \$2.20 above September and 60 cents above last October. This was the highest all milk price in 8 months. Prices for **milk cows** averaged a record high \$1,290 per head, \$110 above the previous record high of \$1,180 set in July 1999.

Prices received for **corn** at mid-October were \$1.85 per bushel, down 12 cents from last month and 27 cents from October 1998. This is the lowest corn prices have been since November 1987. **Soybean** prices at \$4.70 per bushel at mid-October were down 6 cents from September and 69 cents from October a year ago. The **winter wheat** price for mid-October averaged \$2.15 per bushel. This was 5 cents below the September price of \$2.20 and 3 cents below the October 1998 price of \$2.18 cents.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in October was 92 based on 1990-92=100, down 5 points (5.2 percent) from the September index. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affect the overall index. Lower seasonal marketings of milk, wheat, tobacco, and grapes more than offset the relatively higher marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton lint and cottonseed. These marketing changes decreased the index four points. Price decreases from September account for one point of the decline. Lower prices for broilers, corn, milk, and eggs more than offset price increases for cattle, tobacco, oranges, and cucumbers. Compared with October 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 7 points (7.1 percent) lower. Price decreases from October 1998 for soybeans, broilers, milk, and corn more than offset price increases for cattle, calves, hogs, and oranges.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		OCT	SEPT	OCT	OCT
		1998	1999	1999	1999
		Entire Month		Mid-Month ^{a/}	
All Corn ^{b/} ^{c/}	Bu.	2.12	1.97	1.85	1.66
Soybeans ^{b/}	Bu.	5.39	4.76	4.70	4.49
Winter Wheat ^{b/}	Bu.	2.18	2.20	2.15	2.33
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	111.00	120.00	120.00	76.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	72.00	78.00	78.00	64.70
All Hogs	Cwt.	27.70	30.60	30.70	34.10
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	28.00	31.00	31.00	34.60
Sows	Cwt.	20.00	22.00	23.00	24.20
All Beef Cattle ^{d/}	Cwt.	53.60	62.60	64.20	66.10
Steers & Heifers ^{e/}	Cwt.	61.00	72.00	74.00	70.10
Cows	Cwt.	30.00	33.00	33.00	34.50
Calves ^{f/}	Cwt.	66.00	81.00	81.00	92.00
Milk Cows ^{g/}	Ea.	1,090.00	-	1,290.00	1,380.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	17.40	15.80	18.00	15.50
Fluid ^{h/}	Cwt.	17.40	15.80	--	15.60
Manufactured	Cwt.	15.60	14.30	--	13.60
Hog-Corn Ratios ^{i/}	Bu.	13.1	15.5	16.6	20.5

^{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.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 1999 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, chicken, pork, and fruit. Total frozen pork stocks, at 433 million pounds, broke the previous record September high of 389 million pounds set in 1998. Likewise, September 1999 stocks of chicken, at 976 million pounds, also broke the previous record September high of 606 million pounds set in 1998. Fruit also set a new September record high. Cooler stocks of peanuts were also higher than a year earlier.

All U.S. Warehouse Stocks				Sept 99 as % of	
Commodity	Sept 30 1998	Aug 31 1999	Sept 30 1999	Sept 1998	Aug 1999
Frozen Poultry	1,000 lbs		Percent		
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	13,844	31,343	31,117	225	99
Other Chicken	584,132	803,954	935,341	160	116
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	605,698	846,337	976,336	161	115
Turkey	699,485	580,306	600,808	86	104
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	1,309,802	1,431,965	1,583,137	121	111
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	323,063	377,866	291,946	90	77
Pork:					
Bellies	9,452	34,814	18,873	200	54
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	388,851	438,077	433,485	111	99
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	738,761	840,320	747,157	101	89

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

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in September, up 3 percent from September's previous record high of 3.83 billion pounds produced in 1998. September 1998 and 1999 both contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.28 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year and just above the previous record high for September set in 1976. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.10 million head, up 4 percent from 1998. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,210 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.62 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous record high for September set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.64 million head, 1 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 255 pounds.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Class	Sept 1998	Aug 1999	Sept 1999	Sept 99 as % of	
				Sept 1998	Aug 1999
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,197	2,309	2,276	104	99
Veal	22	20	20	93	103
Pork	1,591	1,565	1,618	102	103
Lamb & Mutton	19	19	19	102	104
Total U.S.	3,828	3,912	3,934	103	101
Total Kentucky	46.7	37.3	37.3	80	100

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

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. SEPTEMBER 1998 & 1999 1/

Class	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	5.6	1.4	5,855	1,161	1,043	856
Hogs	229.3	192.2	58,107	49,230	253	256
Sheep & Lambs	0.9	1.0	117	127	126	133
United States						
Cattle	2,991.4	3,101.4	3,629,369	3,753,428	1,213	1,210
Hogs	8,600.2	8,644.3	2,175,584	2,208,006	253	255
Sheep & Lambs	306.5	307.3	38,176	39,052	125	127

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

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 10.27 million head on October 1, 1999. The inventory was 5 percent above October 1, 1998 and 3 percent above October 1, 1997. The inventory included 6.21 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.02 million head, up 6 percent from 1998.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.76 million, 4 percent above 1998 and 2 percent above 1997. Net placements were 2.70 million. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 629,000, 600-699 pounds were 557,000, 700-799 pounds were 758,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 815,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during September totaled 1.96 million, 5 percent above 1998 and 8 percent above 1997. **Other disappearance** totaled 62,000 during September, 2 percent above 1998 and 17 percent above 1997.

CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES

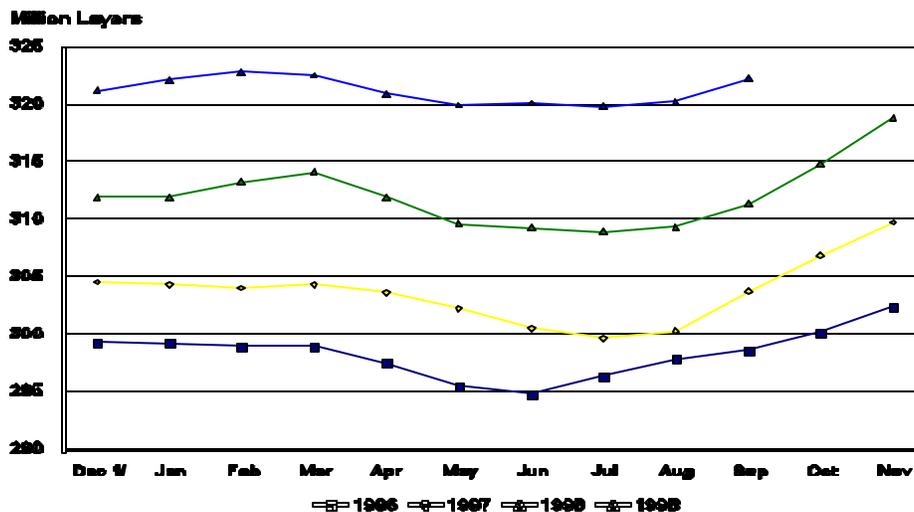
Cattle on feed October 1, 1999, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 8.78 million, up 5 percent from the previous year and 3 percent above October 1, 1997. The inventory included 5.28 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.48 million head, up 6 percent from 1998.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.35 million, 4 percent above 1998 and 3 percent above 1997.

Marketings during September totaled 1.68 million, 7 percent above 1998 and 10 percent above 1997.

Other disappearance during September was 55,000 head, 8 percent above 1998 and 31 percent above 1997.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF LAYERS U.S., 1996-99



UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Sept 1998	Sept 1999	Sept 99 as % of Sept 98
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	6,480	6,850	106
Average Layers (000)	311,278	322,245	104
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,082	2,126	102
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Oct 1 (000)	32,203	35,279	110
Chicks Hatched (000)	37,943	38,841	102
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Oct 1 (000)	583,859	586,818	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	695,281	699,664	101

U.S. MILK PRODUCTION UP 5.3 PERCENT

Kentucky milk production for September 1999 totaled 127 million pounds. This is down 1 percent from September 1998 production and down 3 percent from August 1999. The average **number of cows** on farms, at 132,000 head, was down 2,000 from a year earlier and unchanged from last month. **Milk per cow** averaged 960 pounds, up 5 pounds from September 1998 but down 30 pounds from August 1999.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during September totaled 11.2 billion pounds, up 5.3 percent from production in these same States in September 1998. August revised production, at 11.5 billion pounds was up 3.7 percent from August 1998. **Production per cow** in the 20 major States averaged 1,449 pounds for September, 63 pounds above September 1998. The **number of cows** on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 52,000 head more than September 1998, and 8,000 head more than August 1999.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR SEPTEMBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows ^{1/}		Milk Per Cow ^{2/}		Production ^{2/}		1999 as % of 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,429	1,476	1,530	1,725	2,186	2,546	117
IL	127	121	1,280	1,300	163	157	96
IN	136	135	1,260	1,275	171	172	101
KY	134	132	955	960	128	127	99
MO	168	163	1,060	1,080	178	176	99
OH	263	259	1,310	1,380	345	357	104
VA	123	121	1,155	1,250	142	151	106
WI	1,366	1,364	1,360	1,360	1,858	1,855	100
20-State							
Total	7,701	7,753	1,386	1,449	10,672	11,235	105

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



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1120
Louisville, KY 40201
502-582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277