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LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN PRICES MIXED

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-September were mixed for both livestock and grain.

Steers and heifers 500 lbs. and over averaged \$72.00 per cwt., \$1.00 above August while \$12.00 above the September price a year ago. This was the highest prices have been since May 1998.

Beef cow prices dropped at mid-month to \$33.00 per cwt. This was \$2.00 below last month, unchanged from last September and the lowest they have been since January 1999. **Calves** under 500 lbs. averaged \$80.00 per cwt. at mid-September, up \$1.00 from last month and up \$15.00 from September 1998. This is the highest calf prices have been since May 1998.

Barrows and gilts at mid-September averaged \$31.00 per cwt. This was \$4.00 below the August price but unchanged from September a year ago. Prices received for **sows** averaged \$22.00 per cwt. at mid-September. This was \$1.00 below last month while \$4.00 above the September 1998 price.

The mid-September price for **all milk** was \$2.10 above last month at \$15.60 per cwt. This was down \$1.20 from last September's price of \$16.80.

Prices received for **corn** decreased ten cents to \$1.85 per bushel at mid-September and were nine cents below the September 1998 prices. This is the third time this year prices have been below \$2.00 per bushel. **Soybean** prices increased slightly to \$4.70 per bushel at mid-September, but were 57 cents below September 1998. The **winter wheat** price averaged \$2.10 per bushel. This was six cents below August but thirteen cents above last year.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in September was 97 based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the August index. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell affect the overall index. Lower seasonal marketings of cattle, broilers, wheat, and grapes more than offset the relatively higher marketings of soybeans, peanuts, corn, and potatoes. The marketing changes would have decreased the index two points but were partially offset by the price increases. Price increases from August for milk, lettuce, tomatoes, and soybeans more than offset price decreases for hogs, grapes, potatoes, and onions. Compared with September 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 2 points (2.0 percent) lower. Price decreases from September 1998 for broilers, soybeans, milk, and cotton more than offset price increases for cattle, hogs, calves, and wheat.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		SEPT 1998	AUG 1999	SEPT 1999	SEPT 1999
		Entire Month		Mid-Month ^{a/}	
All Corn ^{b/ c/}	Bu.	1.94	1.95	1.85	1.79
Soybeans ^{b/}	Bu.	5.27	4.68	4.70	4.61
Winter Wheat ^{b/}	Bu.	1.97	2.16	2.10	2.41
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	107.00	120.00	120.00	77.30
All Other Hay,	Ton	70.00	78.00	78.00	63.70
All Hogs	Cwt.	30.50	34.50	30.60	32.30
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	31.00	35.00	31.00	32.90
Sows	Cwt.	18.00	23.00	22.00	22.00
All Beef Cattle ^{d/}	Cwt.	53.30	62.40	62.60	63.80
Steers & Heifers ^{e/}	Cwt.	60.00	71.00	72.00	66.90
Cows	Cwt.	33.00	35.00	33.00	34.90
Calves ^{f/}	Cwt.	65.00	79.00	80.00	91.20
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	16.80	13.50	15.60	15.90
Fluid ^{g/}	Cwt.	16.80	13.50	--	15.90
Manufactured	Cwt.	14.80	13.60	--	15.50
Hog-Corn Ratios ^{h/}	Bu.	15.7	17.7	16.5	18.0

^{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/} Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. ^{h/} Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

SEPTEMBER 1 HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 480,000 hogs and pigs on **Kentucky** farms as of September 1, 1999, down 8 percent from a year ago, and 2 percent below June 1999. Breeding inventory, at 65,000 head, was unchanged from both a year ago and from the June 1999 level. Market hog inventory, at 415,000 head, was 9 percent below September 1, 1998, and 2 percent below the June 1, 1999 level.

Kentucky hog producers farrowed 29,000 sows during June - August 1999, unchanged from the same period in 1998. Pigs saved per litter averaged 8.80, producing a June - August pig crop of 255,000 head, compared with 244,000 a year ago. The March - August 1999 pig crop totaled 526,000 pigs from 60,000 sows. This was 6 percent above the March - August 1998 total of 496,000 pigs from 59,000 sows. Producers intend to farrow 29,000 sows during September - November 1999, down slightly from actual farrowings during the same period in 1998. December 1999 through February 2000 farrowings are also estimated at 29,000, also down slightly from actual farrowings during the same period a year ago.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 1999, was 60.7 million head. This was 4 percent below September 1998, but slightly above June 1, 1999.

Breeding inventory, at 6.29 million head, was down 8 percent from September 1, 1998 and down 3 percent from June 1, 1999. Market hog inventory, at 54.4 million head, was 4 percent below last year, but 1 percent above last quarter.

The June - August 1999 U.S. pig crop, at 25.9 million head, was 3 percent less than 1998, but 1 percent more than 1997. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.93 million head, 4 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 45 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter rose to an average of 8.86 pigs saved per litter for the June-August period, compared to 8.72 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.80 for operations with 1 - 99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS
September 1, 1998 - 99, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	TOTAL		BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Head	1998	Head	1998	Head	1998	(1,000 Head)								
AR	720	90	110	100	610	88	230	225	180	140	150	135	130	110
GA	490	102	65	100	425	102	165	175	105	105	85	85	60	60
IL	4,200	87	430	80	3,770	87	1,540	1,390	1,050	930	930	820	790	630
IN	3,550	87	400	89	3,150	86	1,330	1,240	880	760	790	620	650	530
IA	15,500	100	1,150	89	14,350	101	4,560	4,660	4,050	3,940	3,000	3,100	2,600	2,650
KS	1,480	95	155	86	1,325	97	575	555	290	260	235	230	270	280
KY	480	92	65	100	415	91	185	170	110	100	90	80	70	65
MI	1,030	96	110	92	920	97	300	310	250	260	195	190	205	160
MN	5,500	92	590	91	4,910	92	2,110	1,960	1,380	1,180	1,060	970	800	800
MO	3,150	94	390	93	2,760	94	1,300	1,160	680	720	550	530	400	350
NE	2,950	87	360	86	2,590	87	1,300	1,070	720	600	540	520	420	400
NC	9,900	96	1,000	95	8,900	96	3,620	3,400	2,120	2,100	1,920	1,850	1,590	1,550
OH	1,590	91	190	90	1,400	91	680	580	360	350	310	290	190	180
OK	2,340	118	320	110	2,020	120	650	810	300	380	270	320	470	510
PA	1,050	95	115	100	935	95	350	330	255	240	215	200	165	165
SD	1,370	105	125	96	1,245	106	380	415	280	320	290	285	220	225
WI	600	86	75	79	525	87	240	215	140	115	120	100	105	95
17 St.	55,900	95	5,650	91	50,250	96	19,515	18,665	13,150	12,500	10,750	10,325	9,135	8,760
Oth 1/	4,836	102	641	95	4,194	103	1,674	1,608	882	924	805	824	702	839
U.S.	60,736	96	6,291	92	54,444	96	21,189	20,273	14,032	13,424	11,555	11,149	9,837	9,599

1/ Individual State estimates not available for the 33 other states.

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 9.53 million head on September 1, 1999. The inventory was 5 percent above September 1, 1998 and 4 percent above September 1, 1997.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.41 million, 17 percent above 1998 but 1 percent below 1997. Net placements were 2.36 million. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 492,000, 600-699 pounds were 480,000, 700-799 pounds were 731,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 710,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during August totaled 2.03 million, 4 percent above 1998 but slightly below 1997. **Other disappearance** totaled 55,000 during August, 6 percent above 1998 and 22 percent above 1997.

CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

Cattle on feed September 1, 1999, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 8.18 million, up 5 percent from the previous year and 4 percent above September 1, 1997.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.07 million, 17 percent above 1998 but 2 percent below 1997.

Marketings during August totaled 1.73 million, 3 percent above 1998 but 1 percent below 1997.

Other disappearance during August was 42,000 head, the same as 1998 and 1997.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION 1/

Commercial red meat production for the U.S. totaled 3.91 billion pounds in August, up 4 percent from the 3.77 billion pounds produced in August 1998 and up 1 percent from the previous record high for August set in 1995. August 1998 contained 21 weekdays and 5 Saturdays. August 1999 contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

Type	Aug 1998	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Aug. 99 % of	
				Aug 1998	Jul 1999
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,228	2,256	2,309	104	102
Veal	20	19	20	100	108
Pork	1,505	1,489	1,565	104	105
Lamb & Mutton	17	17	19	110	108
Total U.S.	3,770	3,781	3,912	104	103
Total Kentucky		34.3		94	109

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

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.15 million head, up 4 percent from 1998. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,206 pounds.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, AUGUST 1998 & 1999 1/

Pork production totaled 1.56 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous record high for August set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.41 million head, 3 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 254 pounds.

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	4.6	1.0	4,823	838	1,053	836
Hogs	198.0	194.2	49,744	49,439	251	255
Sheep & Lambs	0.9	0.8	113	104	132	129
United States						
Cattle	3,039.5	3,152.4	3,676,393	3,801,197	1,210	1,206
Hogs	8,169.2	8,406.3	2,055,380	2,132,691	252	254
Sheep & Lambs	275.5	296.3	33,872	37,504	123	127

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

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS ALL U.S. WAREHOUSE STOCKS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on August 31, 1999 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, chicken, fruit, and pork. Total frozen pork stocks, at 436 million pounds, broke the previous record August high of 393 million pounds set in 1998. Likewise, August 1999 stocks of chicken, at 850 million pounds, also broke the previous record August high of 616 million pounds set in 1996. Fruit also set a new August record high. Cooler stocks of peanuts were also higher than a year earlier.

Commodity	Aug 31	Jul 31	Aug 31	Aug 99 as % of	
	1998	1999	1999	Aug '98	Jul '99
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)		34,794	31,433	261	90
Other Chicken		894,612	807,857	148	90
Total Chicken 1/		939,768	850,357	150	90
Turkey		599,013	578,072	82	97
Total Frozen Poultry 2/	1,278,42	1,544,116	1,433,667	112	93
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef		292,302	292,219	95	100
Pork:					
Bellies		69,675	34,965	236	50
Total Frozen Pork 3/		500,012	435,899	111	87
Total Meat 4/		815,353	752,496	103	92

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.

MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for August 1999 totaled 129 million pounds, down 7 percent from August 1998, and down 1 percent from July 1999. Average number of cows, at 132,000 head, was 8,000 head below the previous year and unchanged from last month. Milk per cow, at 975 pounds during August, was down 10 pounds from a year ago, and July 1999.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during August totaled 11.5 billion pounds, up 3.6 percent from production in these same States in August 1998. July revised production, at 11.6 billion pounds was up 2.4 percent from July 1998. **Production per cow** in the 20 major States averaged 1,488 pounds for August, 45 pounds above August 1998. **The number of cows** on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 33,000 head more than August 1998 and 3,000 head more than July 1999.

SMALL GRAINS

Kentucky farmers planted 650 thousand acres to **winter wheat** in 1998 for harvest in 1999 compared to 750 thousand acres seeded in 1997. Harvested acres at 410 thousand acres were down 140 thousand acres from 1998. Yield at 60 bushels per acre was up 15 bushels from the previous year and ties the record yield set in 1994. The increase in yield is mainly due to the excellent growing conditions of the spring which resulted in a large and early harvest. Production totaled 24.6 million bushels in 1999 compared with 24.8 million bushels from a year earlier. **U.S. all wheat** production totaled 2.32 billion bushels in 1999, up less than 1 percent from the last forecast, but down 9 percent from 1998. Most of the production increase from the last forecast is due to the change in winter wheat production. Grain area is 54.3 million acres, down 8 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is 42.7 bushels per acre, down half a bushel from last year's record high.

Barley production was 640,000 bushels, up 45 percent from the 1998 crop. Yield per acre was estimated at 80 bushels per acre, up 17 bushels from the previous year. This would be the largest yield on record for the State. Acreage for grain harvest at 8,000 acres was 1,000 acres larger than last year's crop that was the smallest since 1930. **U.S. barley** production in 1999 is estimated at 284 million bushels, up 1 percent from the last forecast but down 19 percent from last year's estimate. This is the lowest production since 1953. Average yield per acre, at 59.5 bushels, is down 0.5 bushels from 1998. The area harvested for grain is estimated at 4.78 million acres, 19 percent less than a year ago. This is the lowest acreage since 1900.

SEPTEMBER 1 GRAIN STOCKS

Stocks of old **corn** in **Kentucky** totaled 9.1 million bushels. Stocks for September 1 were down 18 percent from last year. Of the total corn stocks estimated, 6.00 million bushels (66 percent of the total) were stored on-farm. Off-farm stocks accounted for 34 percent of all corn stocks and totaled 3.06 million bushels. This was down 24 percent from September 1998. Off-farm stocks include grain stored at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. Soybean and all wheat estimates are made only for off-farm stocks in Kentucky. **Soybean** off-farm stocks totaled 1,134,000 bushels on September 1, 1999 in the State. This was up 47 percent from September 1998. Kentucky off-farm stocks of **all wheat** totaled 9.77 million bushels. This was up 5 percent from last September and the largest carry-over off-farm stocks on record.

U.S. old crop **corn** stocks in all positions on September 1, 1999 totaled 1.80 billion bushels, up 37 percent from September 1, 1998. Of the total stocks, 807 million bushels were stored on farms, up 26

percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 989 million bushels, were up 48 percent from a year ago. The June - August 1999 indicated disappearance is 1.82 billion bushels, 5 percent above the disappearance of 1.73 billion bushels during the same period a year earlier. Old crop **soybeans** stored in all positions on September 1, 1999 totaled 348 million bushels, up 74 percent from September 1, 1998. On-farm stocks totaled 145 million bushels, up 72 percent from last September. Off farm stocks at 203 million bushels, are 76 percent above the previous year. **All wheat** stored in all positions September 1, 1999 totaled 2.46 billion bushels, up 3 percent from a year ago and the highest September 1 level since the 1987-88 marketing year. Farm stocks are 903 million bushels, up 2 percent from last year. More than 20 percent of the stocks on farms were standing in fields at the time of data collection; North Dakota and Montana had the majority of the unharvested production. Off-farm stocks, at 1.56 billion bushels, are up 4 percent. Wheat disappearance for the first quarter of the marketing year is 825 million bushels, down 10 percent from the same period in 1998.

KENTUCKY AND UNITED STATES STOCKS OF GRAIN SEPTEMBER 1, 1999 WITH COMPARISONS

CROP	POSITION	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
		Sept. 1 1998	June 1 1999	Sept. 1 1999	Sept. 1 1998	June 1 1999	Sept. 1 1999
(Thousand Bushels)							
Corn	On-Farm	7,000	15,000	6,000	640,000	2,257,000	807,000
(Old Crop)	Off-Farm <u>1/</u>	4,007	9,101	3,063	667,803	1,359,225 <u>5/</u>	989,367
	Total	11,007	24,101	9,063	1,307,803	3,616,225 <u>5/</u>	1,796,367
Sorghum	On-Farm	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	13,700	27,400	13,800
(Old Crop)	Off-Farm <u>1/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	35,203	88,680 <u>5/</u>	51,314
	Total	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	48,903	116,080 <u>5/</u>	65,114
Oats	On-Farm	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	110,300	40,700	97,500
	Off-Farm <u>1/</u>	256	410	<u>4/</u>	51,515 <u>5/</u>	40,678 <u>5/</u>	50,982
	Total	256	410	<u>4/</u>	161,815 <u>5/</u>	81,378 <u>5/</u>	148,482
Barley	On-Farm	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	193,500 <u>5/</u>	52,000	167,100
	Off-Farm <u>1/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	132,652 <u>5/</u>	89,653 <u>5/</u>	129,845
	Total	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	326,152 <u>5/</u>	141,653 <u>5/</u>	296,945
All Wheat	On-Farm	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	885,720	277,710	903,060
	Off-Farm <u>1/</u>	9,282	2,421	9,772	1,499,770 <u>5/</u>	668,208 <u>5/</u>	1,556,196
	Total	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	2,385,490 <u>5/</u>	945,918 <u>5/</u>	2,459,256
Soybeans	On-Farm	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	84,300	458,000 <u>5/</u>	145,000
(Old Crop)	Off-Farm <u>1/</u>	772	3,893	1,134	115,499	390,573 <u>5/</u>	202,983
	Total	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	199,799	848,573 <u>5/</u>	347,983

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. 2/ Kentucky is a minor State, not published separately. 3/ On-farm stocks estimates not made. 4/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. 5/ Revised.

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