

**HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT**

August Livestock Slaughter  
Average Prices Received by Farmers: August 2004  
Grain Stocks: September 1, 2004  
Soybean Acreage Revisions 2003

**Louisiana Livestock Slaughter**

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during August totaled 1.0 million pounds, down 23 percent from July but unchanged from the previous year.

There were 1,000 head of **cattle** slaughtered during August, unchanged from July but 300 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 851 pounds, down 6 pounds from the previous month and 56 pounds below August 2003. Total live weight at 859,000 pounds was 2 percent below the previous month and 28 percent below the previous year.

**Calves** slaughtered during August totaled 800 head, up 200 head from July but 100 head below the previous year. Live weight averaged 482 pounds, up 3 pounds from July but 9 pounds below a year ago. Total live weight at 397,000 pounds was up 28 percent from July but 14 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during August totaled 1,500 head, unchanged from last month and the same as July 2003. Average live weight was 198 pounds, down 4 pounds from July and 14 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 296,000 pounds, down 5 percent from July and 7 percent below a year ago.

The number of sheep slaughtered during August totaled 200 head, unchanged from July but 100 head above the previous year. Live weight averaged 79 pounds, up 3 pounds from the previous month and the same as the previous year.

**United States Livestock Slaughter**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in August, down 1 percent from the 3.92 billion pounds produced in August 2003.

August 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. August 2003 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

**Beef production**, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 8 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.82 million head, down 10 percent from August 2003. The average live weight was up 27 pounds from the previous year, at 1,252 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 13.9 million pounds, 2 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,800 head, down 9 percent from August 2003. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 320 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.70 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year, and was a record monthly high. Hog kill totaled 8.72 million head, 8 percent above August 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 262 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.1 million pounds, was down 4 percent from August 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 232,600 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, unchanged from August a year ago.

**January to August 2004 commercial red meat production** was 29.9 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year; veal was down 10 percent; pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

**Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production**

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	July	August		January - August		August		January - August	
	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	----- Number, thousand head -----					----- Number, thousand head -----			
Cattle	1.0	1.3	1.0	9.7	9.0	3,138.8	2,819.3	24,246.2	22,009.5
Calves	0.6	0.9	0.8	6.3	4.9	79.6	72.8	655.8	570.9
Hogs	1.5	1.5	1.5	15.6	14.8	8,057.9	8,719.8	64,749.7	67,264.3
Sheep & Lambs	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.3	1.3	241.6	232.6	1,958.5	1,868.0
	----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----					----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----			
Cattle	877	1,187	859	8,592	7,750	3,846,377	3,529,724	29,820,116	26,999,393
Calves	310	459	397	3,196	2,403	23,432	23,293	209,160	188,768
Hogs	311	318	296	3,298	3,045	2,098,465	2,283,391	17,206,565	17,870,619
Sheep & Lambs	12	11	14	128	123	31,262	30,109	260,729	254,738
	----- Average live weight, pounds -----					----- Average live weight, pounds -----			
Cattle	857	907	851	886	861	1,225	1,252	1,230	1,227
Calves	479	491	482	507	490	294	320	319	330
Hogs	202	212	198	211	206	260	262	266	266
Sheep & Lambs	76	79	79	98	95	129	129	133	136
	----- Million pounds -----					----- Million pounds -----			
Red Meat	1.0	1.3	1.0	9.9	8.7	3,916.7	3,878.0	30,982.9	29,885.8

## Prices Received Index Down

The Preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September, at 114, based on 1990-92=100), is 6 points below the August Index. Declines occurred in both the Crop Price Index and the Livestock Price Index. The Crop Index declined 7 points from August, while the Livestock Index decreased 5 points. Producers received higher commodity prices for broccoli, wheat, grapes, oranges and peaches. Lower prices were received for broilers, soybeans, cattle, corn and lettuce. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of soybeans, peanuts, corn and apples offset decreased marketings of cattle, broilers, wheat and grapes. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 3 points from September 2003.

The Food Commodities Index declined 6 points from last month to 117. The index stands 5 points above September 2003.

## Prices Paid Index Down

The September Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates is 133 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is down 1 point from August but 5 points above September 2003. Lower prices in September for complete feeds, feed concentrates, feed grains and hay and forages more than offset higher prices for LP gas, nitrogen, fertilizers, diesel fuel and building materials.

### Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	September 2003	August 2004	September 2004 <sup>1</sup>	September 2003	August 2004	September 2004 <sup>1</sup>
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	6.09	7.30	6.29	6.06	6.83	5.77
Rice, per cwt	6.42	8.52	8.19	6.18	8.85	9.00
Upland Cotton, per pound	<u>2/</u>	.530	<u>2/</u>	.557	.537	.472 <sup>3</sup>
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	82.10	89.80	87.70
Beef Cattle, per cwt <sup>4</sup>	56.90	71.50	68.90	84.90	88.90	86.30
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	82.40	105.00	101.00	89.30	92.50	89.80
Cows, per cwt <sup>5</sup>	42.00	51.90	50.00	44.80	54.70	52.80
Calves, per cwt	95.90	123.00	122.00	109.00	131.00	129.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.370	.460	.400
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.766	.531	.544
Milk, All, per cwt <sup>6</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	14.50	15.00	15.10

<sup>1</sup> Mid-month.

<sup>2</sup> Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

<sup>4</sup> "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

<sup>5</sup> Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

<sup>6</sup> Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = Not Available.

## Louisiana Grain Stocks

Off-farm holdings of corn totaled 906,000 bushels, down 21 percent from 2003. All wheat off-farm stocks totaled 14.7 million bushels, compared to 12.1 million bushels in 2003.

## United States Grain Stocks

Old crop Corn stocks in all positions on September 1, 2004, totaled 958 billion bushels, down 12 percent from September 1, 2003. Of the total stocks, 438 million bushels are stored on farms, down 10 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 520 million bushels, are down 14 percent from the previous year. The June-August 2004 indicated disappearance is 2.01 billion bushels, compared with 1.90 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Old crop soybeans stored in all positions on September 1, 2004, totaled 112 million bushels, down 37 percent from September 1, 2003. This is the lowest ending stocks level since 1977. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 29.4 million bushels, down 49 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks are down 31 percent from September 1, 2003, to 83.1 million bushels. Indicated disappearance for June-August 2004 totaled 298 million bushels, down 30 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Based on an analysis of end-of-marketing year stock estimates, disappearance data for exports and crushings, and farm program administrative data, the 2003 soybean production is revised to 2.45 billion bushels. This is an increase of 36.1 million bushels from the previous estimate. Planted area is unchanged at 73.4 million acres, while area harvested increased 155,000 acres, to 72.5 million. The 2003 yield, at 33.9 bushels per acres, is up 0.5 bushel from the previous estimate. A table with revised acreage, yield and production estimates by state is included on page 4 of this report.

All wheat stored in all positions on September 1, 2004, totaled 1.94 billion bushels, down 5 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 796 million bushels, up 16 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 1.15 billion bushels, are down 15 percent from a year ago. The June-August 2004 indicated disappearance is 769 million bushels, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

### Louisiana and United States Grain Stocks, Sept 1, 2003-2004

Item	Louisiana <sup>1</sup>		United States	
	September 1		September 1	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	-----Thousand Bushels-----		-----Thousand Bushels-----	
<b>Corn (Old Crop)</b>				
On Farm			484,900	438,000
Off Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>1,140</u>	<u>906</u>	601,773	519,672
Total			1,086,673	957,672
<b>Sorghum (Old Crop)</b>				
On Farm			4,500	3,700
Off Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>644</u>	<u>1/</u>	38,530	29,855
Total			43,030	33,555
<b>Soybeans (Old Crop)</b>				
On Farm			58,000	29,400
Off Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>3,348</u>	<u>1/</u>	120,329	83,089
Total			178,329	112,489
<b>All Wheat</b>				
On Farm			687,320	795,600
Off Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>12,051</u>	<u>14,736</u>	1,351,652	1,146,115
Total			2,038,972	1,941,715

<sup>1</sup>Louisiana on-farm stocks and total stocks not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>2</sup>Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

# Soybeans: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield and Production by State and United States, 2003<sup>1</sup>

State	Area		Yield	Production
	Planted	Harvested		
	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	Bushels	1,000 Bushels
AL	170	160	36.0	5,760
AR	2,920	2,890	38.5	111,265
DE	180	178	36.0	6,408
FL	13	12	30.0	360
GA	190	180	33.0	5,940
IL	10,300	10,260	37.0	379,620
IN	5,450	5,370	38.0	204,060
IA	10,600	10,550	32.5	342,875
KS	2,600	2,480	23.0	57,040
KY	1,250	1,240	43.5	53,940
<b>LA</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>25,160</b>
MD	435	430	37.0	15,910
MI	2,000	1,990	27.5	54,725
MN	7,500	7,450	32.0	238,400
MS	1,440	1,430	39.0	55,770
MO	5,000	4,950	29.5	146,025
NE	4,550	4,500	40.5	182,250
NJ	90	88	34.0	2,992
NY	140	138	35.0	4,830
NC	1,450	1,400	30.0	42,000
ND	3,150	3,050	29.0	88,450
OH	4,300	4,280	38.5	164,780
OK	270	245	26.0	6,370
PA	380	375	41.0	15,375
SC	430	420	28.0	11,760
SD	4,250	4,200	27.5	115,500
TN	1,150	1,120	42.0	47,040
TX	200	185	29.0	5,365
VA	500	480	34.0	16,320
WV	16	15	41.0	615
WI	1,720	1,670	28.0	46,760
<b>US</b>	<b>73,404</b>	<b>72,476</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>2,453,665</b>

<sup>1</sup> Revised

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