



USDA-NASS

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HIGHLIGHTS:

June Crop Acreages
Sweet Cherry Production
Egg Production
Red Meat Production
June 1 Grain Stocks
Potato Production
Milk Production
Cattle on Feed
Quarterly Hogs & Pigs Inventory

June Crop Acreages

Small Grain Acreage:

All wheat seeded acreage in Montana is estimated to be 5.30 million acres, up slightly from last year. Spring wheat producers seeded an estimated 2.85 million acres, unchanged from last year, but up 50,000 acres from what they intended to seed on March 1, 2004. Acres intended to be harvested, at 2.7 million acres, is unchanged from the previous year. The condition of the spring wheat crop for the week ending June 27 is better than a year ago and was rated mostly good with 5% excellent, 66% good, 20% fair, 6% poor, and 3% very poor. Currently, 43% of the spring wheat crop is in the boot stage, with 9% of the crop headed which is behind last year and the 5-year average. Winter wheat acreage seeded remained unchanged from the March 1 estimate at 1.85 million acres, but up 3 percent from last year. Producers are expecting to harvest 1.55 million acres, down 50,000 acres from the previous forecast and down 170,000 acres from last year's acreage. The winter wheat crop condition is rated 6% excellent, 50% good, 33% fair, 7% poor and 4% very poor for the week ending June 27. The winter wheat crop development is about the same as last year for the boot stage and headed at 97% and 87%, respectively, but only 2% is turning compared with 19% last year and 15% for the five-year average. Durum wheat acreage, at 600,000 acres, is down 6 percent from a year ago. Acreage of durum wheat intended to be harvested is estimated at 590,000 acres, down 6 percent from last year. The small grain crops have improved with the May and June rainfall, but cooler temperatures have slowed crop development. Producers are concerned over the continued lack of soil moisture and

the possibility of extreme heat during the rest of the growing season.

Montana barley growers seeded an estimated 1.0 million acres, which is down 9% from last year's final estimate, but up 50,000 acres from the March 1, 2004 intentions. The state's barley growers intend to harvest 780,000 acres for grain this year, which is 4% below the previous year's final estimate. Planted acreage for oats, at 110,000 acres, is down 10,000 acres from the previous year and 20,000 acres less than intended plantings on March 1, 2004. Growers intend to harvest 45,000 acres of the oat crop for grain, unchanged from a year ago.

All wheat planted area for the United States is estimated at 59.9 million acres, down 3 percent from 2003. Harvested area is expected to total 50.7 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. The 2004 winter wheat planted area, at 43.5 million acres, is 3 percent below last year, but fractionally up from the previous estimate. Acreage planted to other spring wheat for 2004 is estimated at 13.7 million, down 1 percent from 2003. The Durum planted area for 2004 is estimated at 2.74 million acres, down 6 percent from last year.

U.S. barley growers seeded 4.67 million acres for 2004, down 12 percent from the 5.30 million acres seeded a year ago. Acres for harvest, at 4.15 million, are down 11 percent from the 2003 level. Acres seeded for the 2004 oats crop year totaled 4.22 million, down 8 percent from last year's planted area. Growers expect to harvest 1.94 million acres for grain, 13 percent less than the 2003 harvested acreage of 2.2 million.

Acreage for Row Crops, Hay, and Oilseeds:

Montana corn growers planted 60,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from a year ago and 10,000 acres from the March 1 intentions. Acreage intended for harvest as grain, at 15,000 acres, is down 2,000 acres from a year ago. Sugar beet producers planted an estimated 53,400 acres, up 3 percent from 2003. Producers intend to harvest 53,000 of those acres, up 3 percent from 2003. Montana's corn and sugar beet plantings were in generally good condition through late-April and early-May, but

cooler temperatures have slowed the progress of the crop and a severe mid-May freeze forced some beet growers to replant. An estimated 2.55 million acres of all hay are expected to be harvested, 100,000 acres above last year, but 50,000 acres less than the March 1, 2004 intentions. Of the total hay expected for harvest, 1.60 million acres are expected to be alfalfa hay, which is unchanged from last year's figure. Producers expect to harvest 950,000 acres of other hay, which is up 100,000 acres from a year ago. Farmers planted 18,000 acres of dry beans in 2004, up 38 percent from last year and 29 percent above their March 1, 2004 intentions. Producers are looking to harvest 17,000 acres of dry beans this season, 33 percent more than last year's. Flaxseed growers in Montana planted an estimated 16,000 acres this year, down 1,000 from last year's acreage. Producers intend to harvest 15,000 acres of flaxseed this year, down from 17,000 acres during the 2003 crop year.

U.S. corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 81.0 million acres, up 3 percent from 2003 and 2002. Growers expect to harvest 73.4 million acres for grain, up 3 percent from 2003. Farmers increased corn plantings 1.96 million acres from their March intentions. Sugar beets area planted totaled 1.34 million acres down 1 percent from the March intentions and down 2 percent from 2003. The area for harvest is estimated at 1.31 million, down 3 percent from 2003.

U.S. producers expect to harvest 61.6 million acres of all hay in 2004, 3 percent below 2003. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures are estimated at 22.2 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. All other hay is estimated at 39.4 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. U.S. dry bean growers planted 1.42 million acres for 2004, up 1 percent from last year but 26 percent below two years ago. The June planted acres estimate is 7 percent above growers plans in March. Acres to be harvested are estimated at 1.33 million, down 2 percent from last year and 24 percent below 2002. Acreage planted to flaxseed in 2004 is 629,000 acres, up 6 percent from last year's planted acreage of 595,000 acres. Area for harvest, forecast at 608,000 acres, is 4 percent above the harvested area in 2003.

Sweet Cherry Production Forecast

The Montana sweet cherry crop is forecast at 2,200 tons, 15 percent above last year but 6 percent less than 2002. Montana's cherry growing region experienced a warm, early spring and adequate precipitation which contributed to a good bloom. Some growers experienced frost damage during May resulting in bloom damage and reduced production potential. Most growers in Flathead and Lake counties have seen favorable crop conditions thus far. Growers are expecting the outcome of the crop to vary by cherry variety.

U.S. sweet cherry production is forecast at 276,550 tons, up 17 percent from 2003 and 52 percent above 2002. The Washington crop, at a record high production of 130,000 tons, is down 4 percent from the June 1 forecast but is 12 percent above 2003. Washington's cherry crop experienced unusually warm conditions during the spring, which contributed to a good bloom. Most growers are reporting crop sizes equal to or greater than a year ago. Rain in early June caused some crop loss due to splitting. Production in California is forecast at 65,000 tons, 5 percent more than last year. Adequate chilling hours and ideal weather conditions

during bloom and the growing season have contributed to this production increase. Harvest began in late April and continued through the second week of June. Fruit quality is reported to be excellent. The sweet cherry crop in Oregon is forecast at 43,000 tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 13 percent from 2003. Bing harvest began mid-June in The Dalles and the Hood River Valley. Early variety harvest began the first full week of June.

U.S. May Egg Production

U.S. egg production totaled 7.50 billion during May 2004, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.39 billion table eggs, and 1.11 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 59.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during May 2004 averaged 342 million, up 2 percent from a year earlier. May egg production per 100 layers was 2,192 eggs, up 1 percent from May 2003.

May 2004 Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.1 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat

during May 2004, down 3 percent from May 2003 and down 4 percent from April 2004. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,400 head, 100 head below a year ago. The average live weight, at 1,169 pounds, was down 20 pounds from last year. During May there were 900 hogs slaughtered, unchanged from a year ago. The average live weight, at 245 pounds, was up 9 pounds from 2003. May sheep slaughter in the state totaled 200 head, unchanged from last year. The average live weight decreased 7 pounds to 127 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.60 billion pounds in May, down 9 percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in May 2003. Beef production, at 2.07 billion pounds, was 12 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.84 million head, down 13 percent from May 2003. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,204 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.8 million pounds, 13 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 64,900 head, down 15 percent from May 2003. The average live weight was 12 pounds above last year, at 355 pounds. (continued on next page)

June 2004 Crop Acreages, Montana and U.S.

Crop	Unit	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield		Production	
		2003 (000) Acres	2004 1/ (000) Acres	2003 (000) Acres	2004 1/ (000) Acres	2003	2004 1/	2003 (000) Units	2004 1/
Winter Wheat	Bu.	1,800	1,850	1,720	1,550	37.0	3/	63,640	3/
Durum Wheat	Bu.	640	600	630	590	23.0	3/	14,490	3/
Spring Wheat	Bu.	2,850	2,850	2,700	2,700	22.0	3/	59,400	3/
All Wheat	Bu.	5,290	5,300	5,050	4,840	27.2	3/	137,530	3/
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu.	65.0	60.0	17.0	15.0	140.0	6/	2,380	6/
Oats	Bu.	120	110	45.0	45.0	44.0	3/	1,980	3/
Barley	Bu.	1,100	1,000	810	780	39.0	3/	31,590	3/
Flaxseed	Bu.	17.0	16.0	17.0	15.0	13.0	6/	221	6/
Dry Beans	Cwt.	13.0	18.0	12.8	17.0	18.2	4/	233	4/
Dry Peas	Cwt.	33.0	3/	31.0	3/	14.5	6/	450	6/
Lentils	Cwt.	30.0	3/	26.0	3/	10.5	6/	273	6/
Aus. Winter Peas	Cwt.	9.5	3/	7.0	3/	8.0	6/	56	6/
Sugar Beets	Ton	51.7	53.4	51.5	53.0	25.4	4/	1,308	4/
Fall Potatoes	Cwt.	10.7	3/	10.6	3/	315.0.	5/	3,339	5/
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	1,600	1,600	2.10	4/	3,360	4/
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	850	950	1.50	4/	1,275	4/
All Hay	Ton	--	--	2,450	2,550	1.89	4/	4,635	4/
UNITED STATES		(000) Acres	(000) Acres	(000) Acres	(000) Acres			(000) Units	
Winter Wheat	Bu.	44,945	43,450	36,541	34,825	46.7	3/	1,707,069	3/
Durum Wheat	Bu.	2,915	2,742	2,869	2,671	33.7	3/	96,637	3/
Spring Wheat	Bu.	13,840	13,677	13,429	13,210	39.7	3/	532,820	3/
All Wheat	Bu.	61,700	59,869	52,839	50,706	44.2	3/	2,336,526	3/
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu.	78,736	80,968	71,139	73,362	142.2	4/	10,113,887	4/
Oats	Bu.	4,601	4,220	2,224	1,938	65.0	3/	144,649	3/
Barley	Bu.	5,299	4,666	4,688	4,152	58.9	3/	276,087	3/
Flaxseed	Bu.	595	629	583	608	3/	6/	10,426	6/
Dry Beans	Cwt.	1,406.1	1,424.2	1,346.9	1,325.2	16.7	4/	22,515	4/
Dry Peas	Cwt.	330.0	3/	321.0	3/	15.6	6/	5,202	6/
Lentils	Cwt.	241.0	3/	226.0	3/	10.1	6/	2,442	6/
Aus. Winter Peas	Cwt.	20.7	3/	11.6	3/	12.4	6/	183	6/
Sugar Beets	Ton	1,365.4	1,340.5	1,347.9	1,310.4	22.2	4/	30,605	4/
Fall Potatoes	Cwt.	1,109.7	3/	1,094.8	3/	378	5/	411,386	5/
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	23,578	22,226	3.34	4/	76,307	4/
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	39,764	39,363	2.01	4/	80,816	4/
All Hay	Ton	--	--	63,342	61,589	2.50	4/	157,123	4/

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Planted for all purposes. 3/ Forecast available July 12, 2004. 4/ Forecast available August 12, 2004. 5/ Forecast available November 12, 2004. 6/ Forecast available January 12, 2005 -- Not published.

Red Meat Production (continued)
(Continued from page 2)

Pork production totaled 1.50 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.58 million head, 3 percent below May 2003. The average live weight was 1 pound below the previous year, at 266 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 13.0 million pounds, was down 14 percent from May 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 188,500 head, 15 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 1 pound from May a year ago

January to May 2004 commercial red meat production was 18.4 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

June 1, 2004 Grain Stocks

Stocks of all wheat in Montana on June 1, 2004 were 40.4 million bushels, down 3 percent from a year ago. All wheat stocks stored on the farm amounted to 28.0 million bushels, down 3 percent from a year ago. All wheat stored off-farm amounted 12.4 million bushels, down 2 percent from a year ago. All wheat disappearance for the March - May 2004 quarter was up 6 percent from the same quarter last year to 32.8 million bushels. This compares with 31.1 million bushels

last year.

Barley stocks in all positions on June 1, 2004 were 9.0 million bushels, up 47 percent from a year ago. Barley stored on-farm was 4.0 million bushels, down 11 percent from last year. Off-farm storage of barley jumped from 1.6 million bushels a year ago to 5.0 million bushels. Disappearance of barley for the March - May 2004 quarter was down 21 percent from the same quarter last year to 7.0 million bushels. Oats stocks in all positions were 765,000 bushels, down 22 percent from last year. This is the lowest June 1 oat stocks on record for Montana.

On-farm stocks of oats were 700,000 bushels, down 22 percent from a year ago. Oats stored off-farm were down 13 percent from last year to 65,000 bushels. .

All wheat stored in all positions in the United States on June 1, 2004 totaled 546 million bushels, up 11 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 132 million bushels, down slightly from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 414 million bushels, are up 15 percent from a year ago. The March - May 2004 indicated disappearance is 475 million bushels, up 14 percent from the same period a year earlier. Durum wheat stocks in all positions on June 1, 2004 totaled 26.5 million bushels, down 6 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 13.5 million bushels, are down 11 percent from June 1, 2003. Off-farm stocks totaled 13.0 million bushels, down slightly from a year ago. The March - May 2004 indicated

disappearance of 17.8 million bushels is down 38 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Nationally, barley stocks in all positions on June 1, 2004 totaled 120 million bushels, up 74 percent from June 1, 2003. On-farm stocks are estimated at 28.3 million bushels, 91 percent above a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 92.0 million bushels, are 69 percent above June 2003. The March - May 2004 indicated disappearance is 32.6 million bushels, 40 percent below the same period a year earlier.

U.S. oats stored in all positions on June 1, 2004 totaled 64.7 million bushels, 30 percent above June 1, 2003. Of the total stocks on hand, 27.5 million bushels are stored on farms, 33 percent more than a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 37.2 million bushels, up 27 percent from a year earlier. Indicated disappearance during March - May 2004 totaled 30.3 million bushels, down 8 percent from the same period a year ago.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on June 1, 2004 totaled 2.97 billion bushels, down slightly from June 1, 2003. Of the total stocks, 1.54 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 5 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 1.43 billion bushels, are up 5 percent from the previous year. The March - May 2004 indicated disappearance is 2.30 billion bushels, compared with 2.15 billion bushels during the same period last year.

June 1 Grain Stocks

GRAIN and POSITION	MONTANA				UNITED STATES		
	Jun. 1, 2003	Mar. 1, 2004	Jun. 1, 2004	'04/'03	Jun. 1, 2003	Mar. 1, 2004	Jun. 1, 2004
	Thousand Bushels			Percent	Thousand Bushels		
ALL WHEAT							
On Farms	29,000	50,000	28,000	97%	132,110	257,890	131,880
Off Farms 1/	12,590	23,200	12,390	98%	359,306	762,727	414,123
TOTAL	41,590	73,200	40,390	97%	491,416	1,020,617	546,003
DURUM WHEAT 2/, 3/							
On Farms 4/	--	--	--	--	15,100	24,800	13,500
Off Farms 1/, 4/	--	--	--	--	13,008	19,447	12,993
TOTAL	--	--	--	--	18,108	44,247	26,493
BARLEY							
On Farms	4,500	8,000	4,000	89%	14,860	51,700	28,320
Off Farms 1/	1,630	7,970	4,990	306%	54,480	101,186	91,991
TOTAL	6,130	15,970	8,990	147%	69,340	152,886	120,311
OATS							
On Farms	900	1,500	700	78%	20,600	45,600	27,500
Off Farms 1/	75	100	65	87%	29,233	49,414	37,232
TOTAL	975	1,600	765	78%	49,833	95,014	64,732
CORN							
On Farms	--	--	--	--	1,620,200	3,030,000	1,540,000
Off Farms 1/	--	--	--	--	1,364,718	2,241,459	1,429,685
TOTAL	--	--	--	--	2,984,918	5,271,459	2,969,685

1/ Terminals, mills, interior elevators. 2/ Included in all wheat. 3/ Not included in order to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Potato Stocks Up 3 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 47.4 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2004, up 3 percent from last year and 10 percent above 2002. Potatoes in storage account for 12 percent of the 2003 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point above last year. Disappearance of 357 million cwt of potatoes is down 1 percent from last year but 4 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 29.2 million cwt so far this season, is up 7 percent from last year and 9 percent above the same date in 2002. Processors in the 9 major States used 173 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 2 percent from a year ago but 4 percent above two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 39.1 million cwt of the total processing, down 3 percent from last year.

May Milk Production

Milk production in the 20 major States during May totaled 13.0 billion pounds, down 0.1 percent from May 2003. April revised production, at 12.6 billion pounds, was down 0.8 percent from April 2003. The April revision represented an increase of 4 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,684 pounds for May, 13 pounds above May 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major

States was 7.72 million head, 71,000 head less than May 2003, and 5,000 head less than April 2004.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 1 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.62 million head on June 1, 2004. The inventory was 1 percent above June 1, 2003 but 3 percent below June 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 2.36 million, 2 percent above 2003 and 4 percent above 2002. Net placements were 2.28 million. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 495,000, 600-699 pounds were 486,000, 700-799 pounds were 772,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 610,000. Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.03 million, 9 percent below 2003 and 7 percent below 2002. Other disappearance totaled 79,000 during May, 22 percent above 2003 and 3 percent above 2002.

U.S. Hog Inventory Up 1 Percent

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 2004 was 60.1 million head. This was 1 percent above both June 1, 2003 and March 1, 2004.

Breeding inventory, at 5.91 million head, was down 2 percent from June 1,

2003, and down slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.2 million head, was 1 percent above both last year and last quarter.

The March - May 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 25.5 million head, was down less than one-half of one percent from 2003, and down 2 percent from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.86 million head, 1 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.93 for the March - May 2004 period, compared to 8.88 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.87 million sows farrow during the June-August 2004 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2003 and 2002. Intended farrowings for September-November 2004, at 2.84 million sows, are down slightly from the same period in 2003, but up slightly from the same period in 2002.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 38 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 35 percent last year.

COMING IN NEXT REPORTER

Ag Prices Received	Lentils
Sweet Cherry Production	Austrian Winter Peas
Small Grain Production	Wheat Supply and Demand
Potato Acreage	
Dry Edible Peas	

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