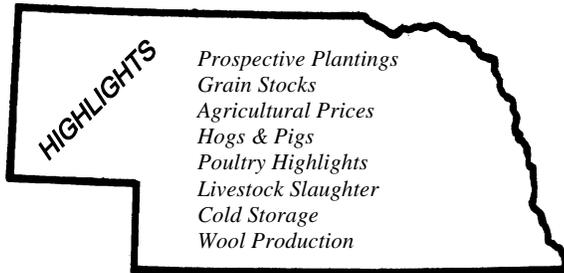


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Dear producers and other data users:

Information contained herein is the result of mail, phone and personal interview surveys conducted during the past few weeks. Special recognition and appreciation are extended to all producers and agribusinesses who provided data making these reports possible.

William G. Hamlin

State Statistician

MARCH PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

As of March 1, Nebraska corn growers expect to plant 8.3 million acres in 2001, down 2% from last year and 3% below 1999. If realized, this would be the smallest acreage planted since 1995. Soybean producers expect to plant a record high 4.85 million acres, 4% over last year. Nebraska soybean producers will have increased the amount of acreage devoted to soybeans 84% since 1992, and in eight of the last nine years. Last fall winter wheat was sown on 1.8 million acres, up 3% from a year earlier while down 5% from 1999. Sorghum growers

expect to plant 650,000 acres for all purposes, up 8% from last year and 18% more than 1999. Hay acreage for harvest, at 3.2 million acres, would be up 5% from last year. Oat planting intentions at 145,000 acres are up 12% from 2000. Oat acreage to be harvested for grain is forecast at 80,000, 78% more than last year's drought reduced harvest. Dry edible bean producers intend to plant 140,000 acres, down 15% from 2000. Sugar beet plantings of 59,000 acres would be 25% less than 2000. Sunflower planting intentions of 105,000 acres were up 17%.

PLANTED ACREAGE AND INTENTIONS COMPARATIVE DATA -- NEBRASKA AND UNITED STATES

CROP	NEBRASKA				UNITED STATES			
	1999	2000	Inten- tions 2001	2001 as % of 2000	1999	2000	Inten- tions 2001	2001 as % of 2000
	1,000 acres				1,000 acres			
	Percent				Percent			
Corn <u>1/</u>	8,600	8,500	8,300	98	77,386	79,545	76,693	96
Soybeans	4,300	4,650	4,850	104	73,730	74,496	76,657	103
Sorghum <u>1/</u>	550	600	650	108	9,288	9,195	9,368	102
Oats <u>1/</u>	135	130	145	112	4,673	4,477	4,425	99
Oats for Grain	75	45	80	178	2,453	2,324	2,204	95
Barley	5	10	5	50	5,194	5,844	5,321	91
Dry Beans	210	165	140	85	2,023.0	1,756.2	1,452.9	83
Sugar Beets	72.7	78.2	59.0	75	1,560.6	1,564.2	1,432.5	92
All Hay <u>2/</u>	3,200	3,050	3,200	105	63,220	59,854	63,771	107
All Wheat	1,900	1,750	1,800	103	62,714	62,529	60,299	96
Winter Wheat	1,900	1,750	1,800	103	43,331	43,348	41,336	95
Sunflower - Oil	49	55	65	118	2,757	2,219	2,109	95
- Non-oil	52	35	40	114	796	573	623	109
- All	101	90	105	117	3,553	2,792	2,732	98

1/ Grown for all purposes. 2/ Acres for harvest.

GRAIN STOCKS

Holdings of corn stored in all Nebraska locations on March 1, 2001, totaled 687 million bushels, slightly below a year ago and 12% below the 1999 holdings. Soybeans in all locations totaled 93.7 bushels, the highest total storage ever on March 1, topping last year's high by 3% and 1999 by 13%. Wheat stocks totaled 54.9 million bushels, down 7% from a year ago and even with 1999 levels.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2001, totaled 6.04 billion bushels, up 8% from March 1, 2000 and the highest level since 1987. Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2001, totaled 1.40 billion bushels, up 1% from March 1, 2000. All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2001, totaled 1.34 billion bushels, down 5% from a year ago.

STOCKS OF GRAIN

Grain and Position	NEBRASKA				UNITED STATES			
	March 1, 1999	March 1, 2000	March 1, 2001	2001 2000	March 1, 1999	March 1, 2000	March 1, 2001	2001 2000
	Thousand bushels				Thousand bushels			
				Pct.				Pct.
Corn								
On Farms	520,000	425,000	410,000	96	3,570,000	3,300,000	3,600,000	109
Off Farms <u>1/</u>	261,378	264,660	276,714	105	2,128,428	2,301,895	2,437,353	106
Total	781,378	689,660	686,714	100	5,698,428	5,601,895	6,037,353	108
All Wheat								
On Farms	12,000	11,000	7,200	65	471,220	424,680	389,750	92
Off Farms <u>1/</u>	42,880	48,336	47,687	99	979,191	991,841	949,824	96
Total	54,880	59,336	54,887	93	1,450,411	1,416,521	1,339,574	95
Soybeans								
On Farms	44,000	42,000	34,000	81	815,000	730,000	780,000	107
Off Farms <u>1/</u>	39,217	48,684	59,677	123	642,338	665,986	624,821	94
Total	83,217	90,684	93,677	103	1,457,338	1,395,986	1,404,821	101
Sorghum								
On Farms	11,000	9,500	7,900	83	60,900	51,700	40,100	78
Off Farms <u>1/</u>	25,836	21,846	20,313	93	161,536	173,932	125,211	72
Total	36,836	31,346	28,213	90	222,436	225,632	165,311	73
Oats								
On Farms	1,200	1,800	800	44	61,700	53,300	55,800	105
Off Farms <u>1/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	---	50,850	48,500	46,319	96
Total	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	---	112,550	101,800	102,119	100

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. 2/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	Unit	NEBRASKA			UNITED STATES				
		March 2000 <u>1/</u>	Feb. 2001 <u>1/</u>	March 15, 2001	March 2000 <u>1/</u>	Feb. 2001 <u>1/</u>	March 15, 2001	% of Parity	Parity Price*
Wheat	Bu.	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.84	\$ 2.97	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.83	\$ 2.89	30	\$ 9.69
Corn	Bu.	1.99	1.95	1.92	2.03	1.96	1.91	29	6.61
Oats	Bu.	1.48	1.54	1.50	1.28	1.27	1.25	33	3.78
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	3.23	3.42	3.35	3.21	3.48	3.42	30	11.30
Soybeans	Bu.	4.79	4.29	4.20	4.91	4.46	4.29	30	14.40
Hay, All, Baled	Ton	40.00	80.00	84.00	74.80	86.80	87.20	---	---
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	41.00	84.00	88.00	77.70	94.20	93.70	---	---
Other, Baled	Ton	36.00	69.00	74.00	68.90	71.20	71.30	---	---
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	15.10	14.70	14.40	14.50	15.20	14.80	31	48.00
Hogs	Cwt.	43.60	41.40	46.70	41.70	39.10	45.10	44	103.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	43.70	41.60	47.00	42.00	39.50	45.70	---	---
Sows	Cwt.	35.80	30.50	34.20	34.30	30.70	34.30	---	---
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	70.80	75.20	77.10	69.80	74.80	77.00	48	159.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	71.80	76.10	78.10	73.40	78.90	81.80	---	---
Cows	Cwt.	39.40	44.40	45.00	39.00	42.70	43.20	---	---
Calves	Cwt.	107.00	105.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	111.00	53	209.00
Sheep	Cwt.	41.00	40.60	NA	38.80	43.60	NA	---	72.70
Lambs	Cwt.	85.00	68.70	NA	80.20	80.10	NA	---	174.00

1/ Entire month average except hay. *Parity price based on data for March 2001. NA = Not Available

HOGS AND PIGS

Nebraska pork producers had an estimated 2.95 million hogs and pigs on hand March 1, 2001. This number was down 2% from a year earlier and was 11% below two years ago. Hogs and pigs kept for breeding were 5% below a year ago and 14% less than two years ago while market hogs were 1% below last year and 10% below March 1, 1999.

Inventory of all hogs and pigs in the United States was estimated at 58.8 million head on March 1, 2001. This was 2% above March 2000 but 1% below the December 1, 2000 inventory. Breeding hog inventory, at 6.24 million head, was up 1% from March 1, 2000 but down slightly from December 1, 2000. Market hogs were 2% above last year but 1% below last quarter.

HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY, MARCH 1; SOWS FARROWING AND PIG CROP, 2000-2001

Item	NEBRASKA			17 STATES			UNITED STATES		
	2000	2001	2001 as % of 2000	2000	2001	2001 as % of 2000	2000	2001	2001 as % of 2000
On Farms - March 1:	1,000 head			1,000 head			1,000 head		
All hogs and pigs	3,000	2,950	98	53,970	54,890	102	57,782	58,754	102
For breeding	380	360	95	5,710	5,755	101	6,190	6,244	101
Market	2,620	2,590	99	48,260	49,135	102	51,593	52,510	102
Market hogs & pigs									
by weight groups:									
Under 60 pounds	1,030	1,020	99	18,055	18,390	102	19,217	19,594	102
60-119 pounds	630	650	103	11,585	11,865	102	12,409	12,704	102
120-179 pounds	550	520	95	9,845	10,095	103	10,552	10,808	102
180 pounds and over . . .	410	400	98	8,775	8,785	100	9,414	9,405	100
Sows Farrowed:									
December 1/-February . . .	160	145	91	2,586	2,627	102	2,798	2,836	101
March-May	155	*155	100	2,666	*2,699	101	2,885	*2,907	101
June-August	160	*155	97	2,673	*2,708	101	2,889	*2,917	101
September-November	150	---	---	2,646	---	---	2,848	---	---
TOTAL	625	---	---	10,571	---	---	11,420	---	---
Pig Crop:									
December 1/-February . . .	1,400	1,283	92	22,699	23,102	102	24,522	24,896	102
March-May	1,372	---	---	23,646	---	---	25,565	---	---
June-August	1,440	---	---	23,655	---	---	25,548	---	---
September-November	1,313	---	---	23,430	---	---	25,208	---	---
TOTAL PIG CROP	5,525	---	---	93,430	---	---	100,843	---	---

1/ December preceding year. * Intentions.

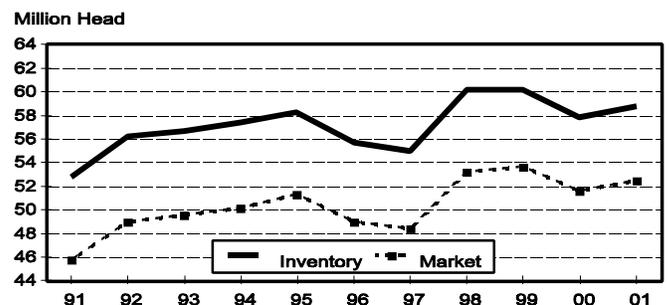
17 States: AR, CO, IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, NC, OH, OK, PA, SD, TX, WI.

MARCH 1 HOG REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- * U.S. inventory up 2% from March 2000. Expectations of private forecasters averaged 103% of the previous year with a range of 100% to 103.7%.
- * Market hogs were up 2% from a year earlier. Private forecasters' expectations ranged from 100% to 104% with an average of 103%.
- * Breeding herd was up 1% from a year earlier. Expectations of private forecasters ranged from 99.5% to 103% with an average of 101%.
- * U.S. December-February pig crop was up 2% from a year earlier. Analysts expected the pig crop to be 104% of previous year; estimates ranged from 102% to 105%.
- * March-May intentions are up 1% from actual farrowings a year earlier. June-August intentions are up 1% from the previous years actual farrowings.

- * Commercial hog slaughter during December-February at 24.3 million head was 3% below a year earlier. Live hog imports were 1.16 million head up 14% from a year earlier. Total exports decreased to 7,000 head, compared to 28,000 a year ago.

**March 1 Hog Inventory & Market Hogs
United States**



POULTRY HIGHLIGHTS - FEBRUARY

Item	2000	2001	2001 as % of 2000
	Millions		Percent
No. of Layers			
NEBRASKA	11.8	11.7	99
30 States	310.0	314.5	101
U.S.	329.8	335.5	102
Eggs Produced			
NEBRASKA	227	231	102
30 States	6,238	6,110	98
U.S.	6,648	6,519	98
Chickens, U.S.			
Hatched, February			
Egg-type	35.5	38.2	108
Broiler	701.0	670.5	96
Hatched thru February			
Egg-type	69.6	76.2	109
Broiler	1,450.3	1,404.4	97

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

February 2001 output and changes from last year and last month are shown below. February 2000 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. February 2001 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Item	Total ^{1/} (1,000)	Percent of	
		Feb. 2000	Jan. 2001
NEBRASKA			
Cattle, head	551.1	90	89
Hogs, head	524.3	106	92
Sheep & Lambs, head	^{2/}	^{2/}	^{2/}
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	518.1	91	89
UNITED STATES			
Cattle, head	2,580.0	88	86
Calves, head	78.8	83	86
Hogs, head	7,603.5	94	88
Sheep & Lambs, head	245.3	84	91
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	3,401.7	90	86

^{1/}Excludes animals slaughtered on farms. ^{2/}Data included in U.S. total to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

U.S. COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on February 28, 2001, were greater than year earlier levels for fruit and orange juice. Total red meat supplies in freezers were 6 percent below both January 2001 and February 2000. Frozen pork stocks were slightly below last month and were 10 percent below last year. Total frozen poultry supplies on February 28, 2001, were down 3 percent from last month and were 11 percent below last year's level. Stocks on February 28 for selected items and changes from last year and last month follow:

Commodity	Stocks 1,000 lbs.	Percent of	
		Feb. 2000	Jan. 2001
Total red meats	858,039	94	94
Beef	362,774	98	98
Pork	470,778	90	100
Poultry	1,041,121	89	97
Turkey	330,481	93	114
Chicken	706,241	87	90

WOOL PRODUCTION AND VALUE

STATE	SHEEP and LAMBS SHORN ^{1/}	WEIGHT PER FLEECE	PRODUCTION	PRICE PER POUND	VALUE
NEBRASKA	1,000 head	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Dollars	1,000 dollars
1998	91	7.3	660	.41	271
1999	89	7.6	675	.24	162
2000	95	7.2	685	.18	123
UNITED STATES					
1998	6,428	7.7	49,255	.60	29,415
1999	6,158	7.6	46,592	.38	17,860
2000	6,140	7.6	46,446	.33	15,377

^{1/} Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards.

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