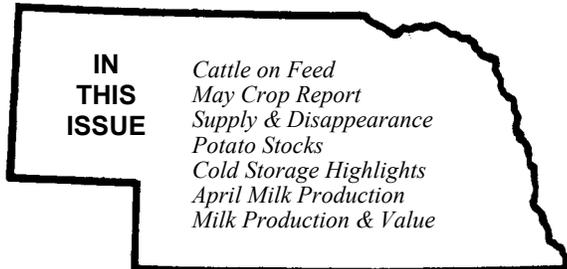


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Dear producers and other data users:

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

Nebraska Cattle on Feed Down 4 Percent

Nebraska feedlots with capacities of 1,000 or more head contained 2.08 million cattle on feed on May 1, down 4 percent from last year and 8 percent below May 1, 2001. Placements of cattle into feedlots during April totaled 320,000, up 23 percent from 2002 and 28 percent above 2001. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 420,000 head, up 11 percent from last year and 22 percent above April two years ago. Other disappearance during April totaled 10,000 compared with 10,000 during April 2002 and 5,000 during April 2001.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Down 4 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.53 million head on May 1, 2003. The inventory was 4 percent below May 1, 2002 and 6 percent below May 1, 2001. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.87 million, 29 percent above 2002 and 21 percent above 2001. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.99 million, 1 percent below 2002 but 9 percent above 2001. Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during April, 24 percent below 2002 and 29 percent below 2001.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2002-2003

STATE	May 1 Number on Feed ¹			April Placements			April Marketings			April Other Disappearance ²		
	2002	2003	<u>2003</u> 2002	2002	2003	<u>2003</u> 2002	2002	2003	<u>2003</u> 2002	2002	2003	<u>2003</u> 2002
	1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent	
Arizona	304	269	88	26	32	123	34	40	118	2	1	50
California	480	465	97	59	61	103	61	63	103	3	3	100
Colorado	1,080	1,000	93	165	200	121	190	165	87	15	5	33
Idaho	315	275	87	52	45	87	60	49	82	2	1	50
Iowa	385	360	94	40	57	143	49	60	122	1	2	200
Kansas	2,270	2,270	100	320	420	131	445	450	101	25	20	80
Nebraska	2,170	2,080	96	260	320	123	380	420	111	10	10	100
New Mexico	97	101	104	11	21	191	26	24	92	1	1	100
Oklahoma	340	330	97	49	68	139	67	75	112	2	3	150
So. Dakota	215	215	100	28	31	111	32	29	91	1	2	200
Texas	2,700	2,680	99	365	540	148	550	520	95	15	10	67
Washington	215	170	79	26	25	96	39	34	87	2	1	50
Other States	380	310	82	52	50	96	63	56	89	4	4	100
United States	10,951	10,525	96	1,453	1,870	129	1,996	1,985	99	83	63	76

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

² Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed, May 16, 2003.

2003 Wheat Production Up 29 Percent from Last Year

Based on May 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2003 winter wheat crop is forecast at 62.7 million bushels, up 29 percent from last year's crop. Average yield is forecast at 38 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from last year's yield and virtually the same as the ten year average.

Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 9 percent from last year. This would be 94 percent of

the planted acres, up from last year's 92 percent and the ten-year average of 93 percent. As of May 4, topsoil moisture supplies were rated mostly adequate in the major wheat growing areas. Disease and insect pressure to date was light.

May 1 Hay Stocks Down from Last Year

May 1 hay stocks of 900,000 tons is down 380,000 tons from last year and is the second lowest in the state since 1957.

Winter Wheat and Hay Stocks: Comparative Data, Nebraska and United States, 2001-2003

Classification	Nebraska			United States			
	2001	2002	2003 ¹	2001	2002	2003 ¹	
Winter Wheat							
Harvested for Grain ²	Percent	91.0	92.0	94.0	76.0	71.0	82.0
For harvest	1,000 Acres	1,600	1,520	1,650	31,295	29,651	36,447
Yield	Bushels	37.0	32.0	38.0	43.5	38.5	42.9
Production	1,000 Bushels	59,200	48,640	62,700	1,361,479	1,142,802	1,563,314
All Hay Farm Stocks	1,000 Tons	500	1,280	900	21,106	22,494	22,188

¹ Winter wheat forecasted May 1, 2003. ² Percent of seeded acreage.

Source: USDA NASS Crop Production, May 12, 2003.

Winter Wheat: Acreage, Yield, and Production By Nebraska Agricultural Districts 2002-2003¹

State	Planted Acres ²		Acres Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	
Northwest	730.0	770.0	653.2	710.0	25.9	34.6	16,950.5	24,563.0
North	8.7	10.0	6.4	8.5	33.5	37.0	214.5	315.0
Northeast	2.3	4.0	1.2	3.5	34.3	42.0	41.2	147.0
Central	22.0	27.0	19.5	24.0	39.9	43.0	777.8	1,032.0
East	21.0	22.0	20.7	21.0	48.3	42.0	1,000.8	882.0
Southwest	540.0	569.0	503.6	545.0	32.2	39.0	16,232.4	21,255.0
South	185.0	188.0	181.2	183.0	38.5	42.0	6,970.4	7,686.0
Southeast	141.0	160.0	134.2	155.0	48.1	44.0	6,452.4	6,820.0
Nebraska	1,650.0	1,750.0	1,520.0	1,650.0	32.0	38.0	48,640.0	62,700.0

¹ Preliminary district estimates 2003 as of May 1, 2003. ² Planted acres are for all purposes.

Winter Wheat: Area Harvested, Yield and Production, Selected States and United States, 2002-2003

State	Acres Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2002	2003 ¹	2002	2003 ¹	2002	2003 ¹
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	
Colorado	1,650	2,200	22.0	30.0	36,300	66,000
Kansas	8,100	9,700	33.0	40.0	267,300	388,000
Missouri	760	780	45.0	51.0	34,200	39,780
Montana	750	1,700	28.0	36.0	21,000	61,200
Nebraska	1,520	1,650	32.0	38.0	48,640	62,700
Oklahoma	3,500	4,700	28.0	34.0	98,000	159,800
South Dakota	625	1,440	29.0	39.0	18,125	56,160
Texas	2,700	3,700	29.0	31.0	78,300	114,700
Washington	1,750	1,800	59.0	62.0	103,250	111,600
United States	29,651	36,447	38.5	42.9	1,142,802	1,563,314

¹ Forecasted May 1, 2003.

Source: USDA NASS Crop Production, May 12, 2003.

U.S. Grains Supply and Disappearance Outlook

Crop Year	Supply				Market Year Disappearance ¹				Market Year Ending Stocks	Average Market Price
	Pro-duction	Begin-ning stocks	Im-ports	Total	Domestic		Ex-ports	Total		
					Primary Use ²	Other				
<i>Million Bushels</i>										
Corn										
2001/02	9,507	1,899	10	11,416	5,877	2,054	1,889	9,820	1,596	1.97
2002/03 ³	9,008	1,596	15	10,619	5,650	2,285	1,625	9,560	1,059	2.25-2.35
2003/04 ³	10,060	1,059	10	11,129	5,600	2,375	1,850	9,825	1,304	1.90-2.30
Soybeans										
2001/02	2,891	248	2	3,141	1,700	171	1,063	2,933	208	4.38
2002/03 ³	2,730	208	4	2,942	1,615	182	1,010	2,807	135	5.50
2003/04 ³	2,855	135	4	2,994	1,620	169	960	2,749	245	4.45-5.45
Wheat										
2001/02	1,957	876	108	2,941	926	276	961	2,164	777	2.78
2002/03 ³	1,616	777	73	2,467	935	209	875	2,019	448	3.56
2003/04 ³	2,113	448	90	2,651	930	260	950	2,140	511	3.05-3.65
Sorghum										
2001/02	515	42	0	556	210	45	241	495	61	1.94
2002/03 ³	370	61	0	431	160	45	180	385	46	2.30-2.40
2003/04 ³	553	46	0	599	225	55	250	530	69	1.65-2.05

¹ Marketing year begins: Corn, Sorghum & Soybeans, September 1; Wheat, June 1. ² Primary uses: Corn & Sorghum = Feed; Soybeans = Crushing; Wheat = Food. ³ Projection.

Source: USDA's World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates, May 12, 2003.

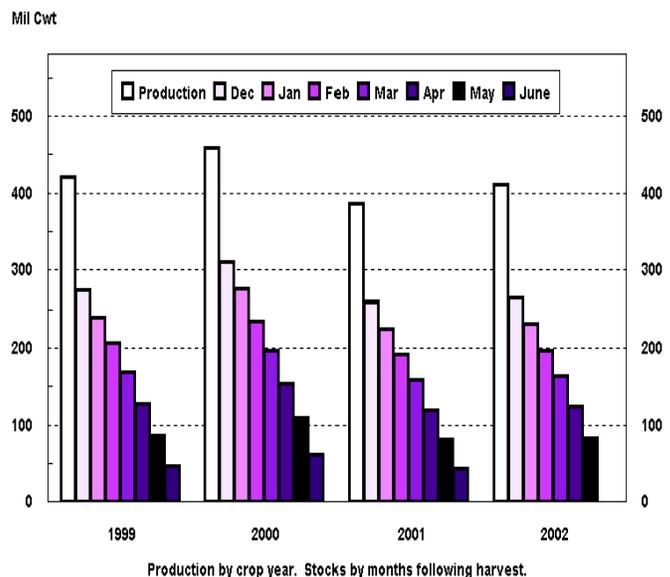
Potato Stocks

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Selected States, May 1, 2003

State	Production	Total Stocks May 1, 2003
<i>Thousand Cwt.</i>		
California	4,450	400
Colorado	27,885	5,400
Idaho	133,385	34,500
Maine	16,960	3,800
Michigan	13,878	900
Minnesota	18,700	4,500
Montana	3,224	400
Nebraska ¹	8,611	
New York ¹	5,500	
North Dakota	23,460	4,700
Ohio ¹	1,008	
Oregon	24,936	4,800
Pennsylvania ¹	2,590	
Washington	95,200	19,500
Wisconsin	31,125	2,900
Other States		1,380
Total 15 States	410,912	83,180

¹ Nebraska, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania combined into "Other States". Source: USDA NASS Potato Stocks, May 14, 2003.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Cold Storage

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on April 30, 2003, were greater than year earlier levels for cheese, butter, frozen eggs, total turkey, and orange juice. Total red meat supplies in freezers were 3 percent below March 31, 2003 and 7 percent below April 2002. Frozen pork stocks were 2 percent below last month and 9 percent below last year. Total frozen poultry supplies on April 30, 2003, were up 9 percent from last month but down 5 percent from last year's level. Total stocks of chicken were up 12 percent from last month but down 16 percent from last year's level. Stocks on April 30 for selected items and changes from last year and last month follow:

Stocks in Cold Storage: By Commodity, United States, April 2003 with Comparisons

Commodity	Stocks 1,000 lbs.	Percent of	
		April 2002	March 2003
Total red meats	925,138	93	97
Beef	388,291	96	96
Pork	519,365	91	98
Poultry	1,298,553	95	109
Turkey	573,186	111	106

Source: USDA NASS Cold Storage, May 20, 2003.

Milk Cows and Production: By Month, 20 Selected States , 2002-2003¹

Month	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
January	7,749	7,807	1,591	1,607	12,327	12,548	102
February	7,744	7,810	1,472	1,484	11,401	11,588	102
March	7,745	7,811	1,654	1,660	12,810	12,969	101
April	7,758	7,800	1,621	1,625	12,575	12,675	101
May	7,769		1,678		13,039		
June	7,782		1,587		12,348		
July	7,781		1,578		12,281		
August	7,785		1,570		12,223		
September	7,781		1,497		11,648		
October	7,789		1,539		11,991		
November	7,792		1,496		11,657		
December	7,801		1,575		12,290		
Annual	7,773		18,858		146,590		

¹ 2002 revised. ²Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.
Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, May 16, 2003.

Milk Production and Value: Nebraska and United States, 2001-2002

Year	Number of Milk Cows ¹	Production of Milk and Milkfat ²					Total Utilized on Farms	Sold to Plants & Dealers		
		Per Milk Cow		Percent of Fat in Milk	Total Production			Sold	Price per 100 lbs.	Receipts from Sales
		Milk	Milkfat		Milk	Milkfat				
	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Nebraska										
2001	72	16,194	601	3.71	1,166	43.3	12	1,154	14.60	168,484
2002	67	17,463	651	3.73	1,170	43.6	13	1,157	12.20	141,154
United States										
2001	9,114	18,159	666	3.67	165,497	6,078.7	1,212	164,284	15.04	24,709,749
2002	9,141	18,571	683	3.68	169,758	6,253.7	1,141	168,617	12.19	20,546,980

¹ Average number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.
Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, Disposition and Income 2002 Summary, April 24, 2003.

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