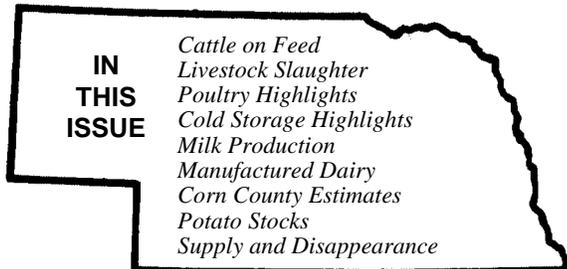


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Dear producers and other data users:

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.

Mark Harris
Director

Nebraska Cattle on Feed Up 1 Percent

Nebraska feedlots with capacities of 1,000 or more head contained 2.21 million cattle on feed on April 1, up 1 percent from last year but 4 percent below April 1, 2002. Placements of cattle into feedlots during March totaled 295,000, down 8 percent from 2003 and 5 percent below March 2002. Fed cattle marketings for the month of March totaled 350,000, up 13 percent from last year and 17 percent above March two years ago. Other disappearance during March totaled 5,000 compared with 10,000 during March 2003 and 10,000 during March 2002.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up Slightly

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.75 million head on April 1, 2004. The inventory was slightly above last year but 7 percent below April 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.80 million, 11 percent below 2003 and 8 percent below 2002. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.97 million, 9 percent above 2003 and 8 percent above 2002. Other disappearance totaled 67,000 during March, 8 percent above 2003 but 3 percent below 2002.

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

State	April 1 Number on Feed ¹			March Placements			March Marketings			March Other Disappearance ²		
	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003	2003	2004	<u>2004</u> 2003
	1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent	
Arizona	278	293	105	31	33	106	29	32	110	3	3	100
California	475	495	104	62	70	113	58	71	122	4	4	100
Colorado	970	970	100	160	150	94	175	190	109	5	10	200
Idaho	280	255	91	58	39	67	57	46	81	1	3	300
Iowa	375	415	111	56	69	123	60	56	93	1	3	300
Kansas	2,320	2,360	102	510	460	90	410	470	115	20	20	100
Nebraska	2,190	2,210	101	320	295	92	310	350	113	10	5	50
New Mexico	105	105	100	16	16	100	22	21	95	1	2	200
Oklahoma	340	330	97	94	74	79	71	77	108	3	2	67
So. Dakota	210	205	98	39	33	85	43	36	84	1	2	200
Texas	2,670	2,640	99	600	490	82	480	530	110	10	10	100
Washington	180	170	94	31	29	94	30	33	110	1	1	100
Other States	320	300	94	55	46	84	58	54	93	2	2	100
United States	10,713	10,748	100	2,032	1,804	89	1,803	1,966	109	62	67	108

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, April 16, 2004.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

March 2004 number slaughtered and changes from last year and last month are shown below. March 2003 contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays. March 2004 contained 23 weekdays and four Saturdays.

Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, March 2004 with Comparisons

Item	Total ¹	Mar 2004 Percent of	
		Mar 2003	Feb 2004
Nebraska	<i>1,000 Head</i>		
Cattle, head	576.1	99	118
Hogs, head	579.8	103	113
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	555.3	99	115
United States			
Cattle, head	2,871.2	104	118
Calves, head	76.9	90	108
Hogs, head	9,038.7	111	115
Sheep & Lambs, head	306.8	117	144
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	3,946.2	106	116

¹ Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, April 23, 2004.

Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and United States, March 2004 with Comparisons

Item	2003	2004	2004/2003
	<i>Millions</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Number of Layers			
Nebraska	11.7	11.8	101
30 States	317.2	317.9	100
United States	339.9	340.8	100
Eggs Produced			
Nebraska	261	274	105
30 States	6,926	7,028	101
United States	7,424	7,530	101
Chickens Hatched, March			
United States			
Egg-type	36.8	37.5	102
Broiler	774.4	791.1	102

Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, April 23, 2004.

Stocks in Cold Storage: By Commodity, United States, March 2004 with Comparisons

Commodity	Stocks	March 2004 Percent of	
		Mar 2003	Feb 2004
	<i>1,000 Lbs.</i>		
Total red meats	888,748	93	95
Beef	418,839	104	96
Pork	454,701	86	94
Poultry	1,113,649	93	110
Turkey	515,027	94	109
Chicken	597,376	93	110

Source: USDA NASS Cold Storage, April 21, 2004.

Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, Nebraska, 20 States and United States, 2003-2004

Item and Quarter	Nebraska		20 States		United States	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>	
Milk Cows ¹						
January-March	66	61	7,810	7,715	9,144	8,991
	<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>	
Milk Production ²						
January-March	297	271	37,258	37,054	43,069	42,688

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, April 16, 2004.

Manufactured Dairy Products: Production of Selected Products by Region and United States, 2002-2003

Commodity	West North Central Region		United States	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	
Butter	113,998	101,860	1,355,147	1,242,358
Yogurt	83,403	103,354	2,310,582	2,387,510
Nonfat Dry Milk	75,320	67,313	1,595,939	1,589,041
Total Cheese ¹	1,215,918	1,078,940	8,597,976	8,547,267
American Type Cheese	813,313	811,180	3,690,978	3,669,509
Cheddar Cheese	685,714	680,131	2,822,099	2,749,342
Frozen Products	<i>1,000 Gallons</i>		<i>1,000 Gallons</i>	
Ice Cream, Regular, Total	165,026	160,636	1,004,992	1,015,049
Ice Cream, Regular, Hard	140,465	142,265	872,488	886,966
Ice Cream, Lowfat, Total	46,622	55,087	338,538	352,934
Ice Cream, Lowfat Hard	16,028	21,652	102,664	103,273
Sherbet, Total	15,156	15,183	56,998	56,188

¹ Excluding cottage cheese.

Source: USDA NASS Dairy Products 2003 Summary, April 2004.

**Corn: Acreage, Yield and Production
by County and District, Nebraska, 2003¹**

County and District	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested for Grain	Yield per Harvested Acre	Production	County and District	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested for Grain	Yield per Harvested Acre	Production
	<i>Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>			<i>Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	
Banner	7,500	6,300	86.4	544,600	Butler	141,000	138,600	120.1	16,642,800
Box Butte	52,000	47,500	156.8	7,447,000	Cass	121,000	120,000	95.8	11,492,000
Cheyenne	16,500	12,000	128.0	1,536,000	Colfax	105,000	100,400	132.2	13,272,000
Dawes	3,000	1,200	129.2	155,000	Dodge	138,000	135,200	119.1	16,104,700
Deuel	16,500	14,800	141.2	2,090,000	Douglas	29,000	28,500	121.3	3,455,900
Garden	18,500	16,800	151.3	2,542,100	Hamilton	200,000	197,800	176.4	34,891,200
Kimball	17,500	15,000	97.1	1,456,000	Lancaster	126,000	124,400	91.9	11,426,300
Morrill	57,000	53,500	168.4	9,008,000	Merrick	125,000	122,600	167.2	20,504,400
Scotts Bluff	72,000	69,300	143.2	9,925,600	Nance	72,000	63,200	124.2	7,847,000
Sheridan	30,000	22,300	148.3	3,306,100	Platte	189,000	184,200	145.0	26,703,600
Sioux	14,500	12,800	142.0	1,817,600	Polk	129,000	126,500	150.7	19,058,000
Other Counties					Sarpy	38,000	37,700	106.4	4,011,200
NORTHWEST	305,000	271,500	146.7	39,828,000	Saunders	173,000	171,600	120.4	20,666,900
Arthur	1,400	1,200	150.0	180,000	Seward	131,000	127,900	141.5	18,102,300
Blaine	1,400	1,000	132.7	132,700	Washington	83,000	81,800	118.6	9,702,400
Boyd	28,000	20,700	58.3	1,207,100	York	205,000	202,400	172.8	34,972,800
Brown	40,000	37,700	177.3	6,684,000	Other Counties				
Cherry	14,000	11,900	182.2	2,168,500	EAST	2,005,000	1,962,800	137.0	268,853,500
Garfield	11,000	9,600	132.6	1,273,200	Chase	138,000	128,200	180.9	23,192,600
Grant					Dundy	79,000	63,800	175.0	11,162,800
Holt	160,000	154,000	180.0	27,712,800	Frontier	64,000	55,700	121.9	6,789,300
Hooker					Hayes	52,000	41,300	150.9	6,230,900
Keya Paha	8,200	6,800	102.4	696,400	Hitchcock	41,000	26,400	126.9	3,349,600
Logan	20,000	19,100	128.8	2,460,300	Keith	87,000	82,600	140.7	11,618,800
Loup	6,900	6,100	132.9	810,700	Lincoln	191,000	179,600	166.4	29,888,400
McPherson	1,800	1,000	82.0	82,000	Perkins	172,000	158,700	142.0	22,538,000
Rock	24,000	22,600	175.4	3,963,000	Red Willow	56,000	45,500	110.6	5,032,300
Thomas					Other Counties				
Wheeler	33,000	31,200	164.3	5,126,400	SOUTHWEST	880,000	781,800	153.2	119,802,700
Other Counties	300	200	130.0	26,000	Adams	164,000	161,800	171.6	27,763,000
NORTH	350,000	323,100	162.6	52,523,100	Franklin	64,000	61,900	171.5	10,618,300
Antelope	170,000	164,600	163.7	26,951,600	Furnas	74,000	64,600	104.3	6,736,000
Boone	155,000	148,500	150.7	22,377,000	Gosper	64,000	59,700	175.0	10,446,300
Burt	118,000	117,500	138.5	16,274,700	Harlan	66,000	62,200	148.9	9,262,000
Cedar	144,000	135,500	124.0	16,799,300	Kearney	161,000	155,400	177.7	27,610,100
Cuming	144,000	139,200	129.1	17,966,600	Phelps	161,000	156,200	199.2	31,109,800
Dakota	59,000	58,200	148.2	8,626,400	Webster	56,000	52,600	133.2	7,006,400
Dixon	83,000	81,200	116.7	9,477,200	Other Counties				
Knox	113,000	93,500	113.9	10,647,100	SOUTH	810,000	774,400	168.6	130,551,900
Madison	131,000	126,000	132.8	16,732,000	Clay	144,000	138,400	167.6	23,195,400
Pierce	126,000	119,000	144.1	17,152,800	Fillmore	172,000	169,500	160.0	27,121,600
Stanton	75,000	71,400	128.3	9,158,000	Gage	127,000	119,900	89.2	10,694,500
Thurston	89,000	87,600	148.5	13,007,500	Jefferson	77,000	73,600	127.9	9,411,200
Wayne	108,000	103,300	142.3	14,700,800	Johnson	36,000	35,000	102.8	3,598,100
Other Counties					Nemaha	77,000	75,600	89.3	6,752,000
NORTHEAST	1,515,000	1,445,500	138.3	199,871,000	Nuckolls	69,000	66,800	132.7	8,863,600
Buffalo	179,000	170,400	186.5	31,782,200	Otoe	115,000	112,100	77.3	8,664,000
Custer	215,000	197,900	153.9	30,457,100	Pawnee	37,000	33,800	70.7	2,388,000
Dawson	187,000	178,600	180.3	32,199,800	Richardson	94,000	91,200	87.0	7,934,400
Greeley	70,000	65,900	164.3	10,830,100	Saline	106,000	103,000	128.4	13,227,800
Hall	193,000	188,200	184.1	34,646,200	Thayer	111,000	109,700	152.0	16,672,300
Howard	90,000	83,900	156.7	13,149,500	Other Counties				
Sherman	66,000	60,900	163.9	9,983,400	SOUTHEAST	1,165,000	1,128,600	122.7	138,522,900
Valley	70,000	66,500	168.4	11,198,600	NEBRASKA	8,100,000	7,700,000	146.0	1,124,200,000
Other Counties									
CENTRAL	1,070,000	1,012,300	172.1	174,246,900					

¹Missing data included in other counties, district and state totals.

Note: County estimates for other Nebraska crops are available at <http://www.nass.usda.gov:81/ipedb/>

Source: USDA Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service.

Potato Stocks

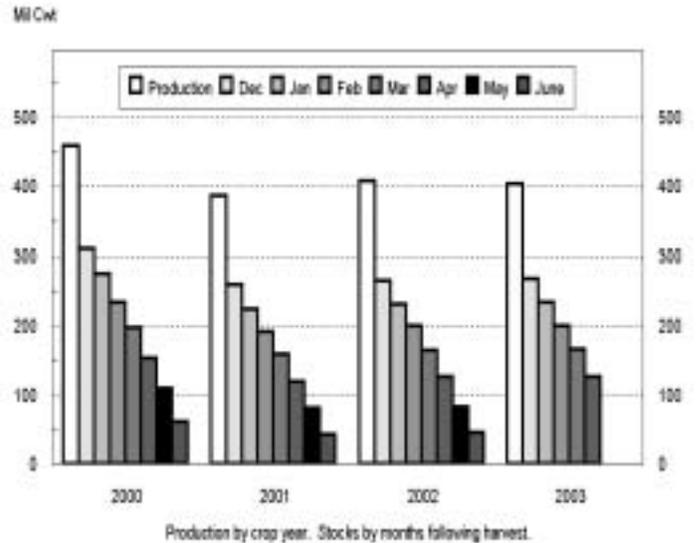
Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Selected States, April 1, 2004

State	Production	Total Stocks April 1, 2004
<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>		
California	3,444	1,500
Colorado	23,652	7,000
Idaho	123,180	46,500
Maine	17,030	6,500
Michigan	15,015	3,100
Minnesota	22,330	7,600
Montana	3,339	2,100
Nebraska ¹	9,860	
New York	6,510	750
North Dakota	27,440	11,200
Ohio ¹	1,290	
Oregon	20,991	8,300
Pennsylvania	3,915	500
Washington	93,150	21,500
Wisconsin	32,800	7,300
Other States		2,560
Total 15 States	403,946	126,410

Nebraska and Ohio combined into "Other States".

Source: USDA NASS Potato Stocks, April 14, 2004.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



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>										
<i>\$/Bu.</i>										
Corn										
2001/02	9,503	1,899	10	11,412	5,864	2,046	1,905	9,815	1,596	1.97
2002/03	8,967	1,596	14	10,578	5,558	2,340	1,592	9,491	1,087	2.32
2003/04 ³	10,114	1,087	10	11,211	5,800	2,555	2,000	10,355	856	2.45-2.65
Soybeans										
2001/02	2,891	248	2	3,141	1,700	169	1,064	2,933	208	4.38
2002/03	2,756	208	5	2,969	1,615	130	1,045	2,791	178	5.53
2003/04 ³	2,418	178	8	2,604	1,475	114	900	2,489	115	7.40-7.80
Wheat										
2001/02	1,947	876	108	2,931	926	265	962	2,154	777	2.78
2002/03	1,606	777	77	2,460	918	197	854	1,969	491	3.56
2003/04 ³	2,337	491	75	2,903	900	307	1,165	2,372	531	3.35-3.40
Sorghum										
2001/02	514	42	0	556	230	23	242	495	61	1.94
2002/03	361	61	0	422	169	24	186	379	43	2.32
2003/04 ³	411	43	0	454	175	25	210	410	44	2.45-2.65

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, April 8, 2004.

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