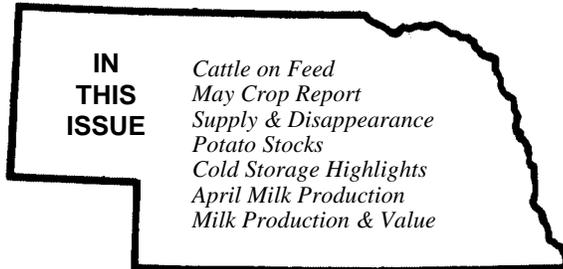


Issue 10-2004, released May 21, 2004, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.



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 2.1 million cattle on feed on May 1, up 1 percent from last year but 3 percent below May 1, 2002. Placements of cattle into feedlots during April totaled 320,000, unchanged from 2003 but 23 percent above 2002. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 420,000 head, the same as last year but 11 percent above April two years ago. Other disappearance during April totaled 10,000 compared with 10,000 during April 2003 and 10,000 during April 2002.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Down 2 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.36 million head on May 1, 2004. The inventory was 2 percent below May 1, 2003 and 6 percent below May 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.60 million, 14 percent below 2003 but 10 percent above 2002. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.89 million, 5 percent below both 2003 and 2002. Other disappearance totaled 97,000 during April, 54 percent above 2003 and 17 percent above 2002.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2003-2004

STATE	May 1 Number on Feed ¹			April Placements			April Marketings			April 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	269	295	110	32	31	97	40	27	68	1	2	200
California	470	500	106	61	75	123	63	67	106	3	3	100
Colorado	1,000	940	94	200	155	78	165	175	106	5	10	200
Idaho	275	250	91	45	45	100	49	47	96	1	3	300
Iowa	370	415	112	57	57	100	60	53	88	2	4	200
Kansas	2,270	2,240	99	420	355	85	450	440	98	20	35	175
Nebraska	2,080	2,100	101	320	320	100	420	420	100	10	10	100
New Mexico	101	105	104	21	14	67	24	11	46	1	3	300
Oklahoma	330	310	94	68	51	75	75	68	91	3	3	100
So. Dakota	210	200	95	31	26	84	29	28	97	2	3	150
Texas	2,680	2,560	96	540	415	77	520	480	92	10	15	150
Washington	170	160	94	25	24	96	34	33	97	1	1	100
Other States	310	285	92	50	35	70	56	45	80	4	5	125
United States	10,535	10,360	98	1,870	1,603	86	1,985	1,894	95	63	97	154

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 21, 2004.

2004 Wheat Production Down 14 Percent from Last Year

Based on May 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2004 winter wheat crop is forecast at 72.2 million bushels, down 14 percent from last year's crop. Average yield is forecast at 39 bushels per acre, down 7 bushels from last year's yield and near the ten-year average.

Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.85 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. This would be 95 percent of

the planted acres, below last year at 96, but above the ten-year average of 94 percent. As of May 4, topsoil moisture supplies were rated short to very short in the major wheat growing areas. Disease and insect pressure to date has been light.

May 1 Hay Stocks Up from Last Year

May 1 hay stocks of 1.6 million tons are up 83 percent from last year and are at the highest level since 1987.

Winter Wheat and Hay Stocks: Comparative Data, Nebraska and United States, 2002-2004

Classification	Nebraska			United States			
	2002	2003	2004 ¹	2002	2003	2004 ¹	
Winter Wheat							
Harvested for Grain ²	Percent	92.1	95.8	94.9	71.2	81.3	80.9
For harvest	1,000 Acres	1,520	1,820	1,850	29,742	36,541	35,082
Yield	Bushels	33.0	46.0	39.0	38.2	46.7	44.2
Production	1,000 Bushels	50,160	83,720	72,150	1,137,001	1,707,069	1,550,395
All Hay Farm Stocks	1,000 Tons	1,250	870	1,596	22,458	22,013	25,865

¹ Winter wheat forecasted May 1, 2004. ² Percent of seeded acreage.

Source: USDA NASS Crop Production, May 12, 2004.

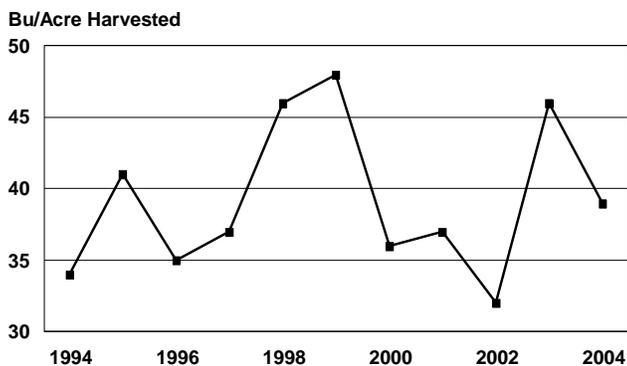
Winter Wheat: Area Harvested, Yield and Production, Selected States and United States, 2003-2004

State	Acres Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2003	2004 ¹	2003	2004 ¹	2003	2004 ¹
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	
Colorado	2,200	1,800	35.0	30.0	77,000	54,000
Kansas	10,000	9,000	48.0	41.0	480,000	369,000
Missouri	870	950	61.0	55.0	53,070	52,250
Montana	1,720	1,600	37.0	33.0	63,640	52,800
Nebraska	1,820	1,850	46.0	39.0	83,720	72,150
Oklahoma	4,600	4,300	39.0	36.0	179,400	154,800
South Dakota	1,380	1,440	43.0	38.0	59,340	54,720
Texas	3,450	3,600	28.0	33.0	96,600	118,800
Washington	1,800	1,700	65.0	63.0	117,000	107,100
United States	36,541	35,082	46.7	44.2	1,707,069	1,550,395

¹ Forecasted May 1, 2004.

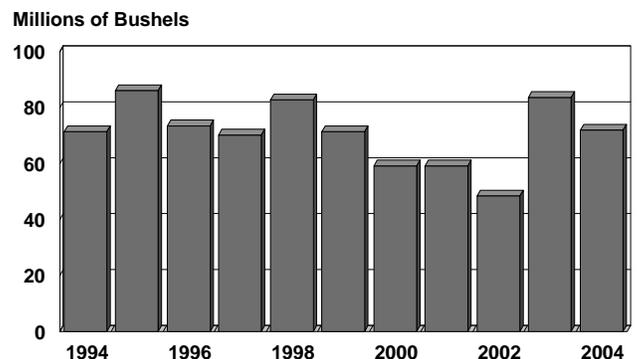
Source: USDA NASS Crop Production, May 12, 2004.

NEBRASKA WHEAT YIELD May 1, 2004 Forecast



Source: USDA Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, May 1, 2004

NEBRASKA WHEAT PRODUCTION May 1, 2004 Forecast



Source: USDA Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, May 1, 2004

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										
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	2,050	10,405	806	2.45-2.55
2004/05 ³	10,425	806	15	11,246	5,725	2,680	2,100	10,505	741	2.55-2.95
Soybeans										
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	7.65
2004/05 ³	2,965	115	5	3,085	1,665	150	1,080	2,895	190	5.85-6.85
Wheat										
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	1,170	2,377	526	3.40
2004/05 ³	2,080	526	65	2,671	915	282	975	2,172	499	3.25-3.85
Sorghum										
2002/03	361	61	0	422	169	24	186	193	43	2.32
2003/04 ³	411	43	0	454	175	25	210	200	44	2.45-2.55
2004/05 ³	455	44	0	499	190	35	225	225	49	2.50-2.90

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, 2004.

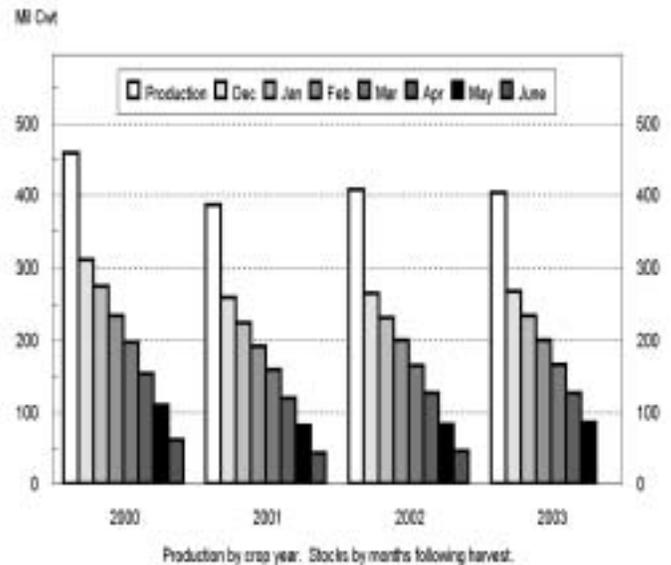
Potato Stocks

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

State	Production	Total Stocks May 1, 2004
<i>Thousand Cwt.</i>		
California	3,444	1,200
Colorado	23,652	3,600
Idaho	123,180	33,500
Maine	17,030	4,100
Michigan	15,015	1,600
Minnesota	22,330	5,500
Montana	3,339	500
Nebraska ¹	9,860	
New York	6,510	450
North Dakota	27,440	8,300
Ohio ¹	1,290	
Oregon	20,991	5,500
Pennsylvania	3,915	100
Washington	93,150	15,000
Wisconsin	32,800	3,800
Other States		1,650
Total 15 States	403,946	84,800

¹ Nebraska and Ohio combined into "Other States". Source: USDA NASS Potato Stocks, May 14, 2004.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Cold Storage

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on April 30, 2004, were greater than year earlier levels for frozen eggs, orange juice, vegetables and potatoes. Total red meat supplies in freezers were up slightly from last month, but down 4 percent from a year ago. Frozen pork stocks were down 1 percent from a month ago and down 13 percent from last year. Total frozen poultry supplies on April 30, 2004, were 7 percent higher than last month, but were 10 percent lower than a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 6 percent from last month, but down 12 percent from last year. 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 2004 with Comparisons

Commodity	Stocks 1,000 lbs.	Percent of	
		April 2003	March 2004
Total red meats	887,427	96	100
Beef	421,855	108	101
Pork	451,548	87	99
Poultry	1,183,849	90	107
Turkey	540,637	94	107

Source: USDA NASS Cold Storage, May 20, 2004.

Milk Cows and Production: By Month, 20 Selected States , 2003-2004¹

Month	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
January	7,810	7,716	1,615	1,619	12,616	12,491	99
February	7,811	7,716	1,489	1,528	11,628	11,787	101
March	7,810	7,717	1,666	1,658	13,014	12,798	98
April	7,800	7,719	1,627	1,630	12,693	12,584	99
May	7,787		1,671		13,013		
June	7,785		1,596		12,428		
July	7,780		1,597		12,421		
August	7,771		1,571		12,207		
September	7,764		1,511		11,731		
October	7,743		1,561		12,083		
November	7,721		1,517		11,709		
December	7,713		1,596		12,313		
Annual	7,775		19,017		147,856		

¹ 2004 revised. ²Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ³Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, May 17, 2004.

Milk Production and Value: Nebraska and United States, 2002-2003

Year	Number of Milk Cows ²	Production of Milk and Milkfat ¹					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										
2002 ³	67	17,418	648	3.72	1,167	43.4	13	1,154	12.50	144,250
2003	64	17,641	651	3.69	1,129	41.7	12	1,117	13.00	145,210
United States										
2002 ³	9,139	18,608	685	3.68	170,063	6,263.9	1,119	168,944	12.18	20,582,238
2003	9,084	18,749	688	3.67	170,312	6,245.6	1,114	169,198	12.55	21,227,695

¹Excludes milk sucked by calves. ²Average number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh. ³Revised.

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, Disposition and Income 2003 Summary, April 28, 2004.

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