



New Jersey Cattle

- All cattle and calves in New Jersey as of January 1, 2003, totaled 46 thousand head, 5 percent above the 44 thousand on January 1, 2002. Two years ago 48 thousand cattle and calves were on New Jersey farms. The highest inventory of cattle and calves was 264,000 head on hand January 1, 1880.
- All cows and heifers that have calved, at 22 thousand, were up 1,000 head from the 21 thousand on January 1, 2002. Beef cows, at nine thousand, were up one thousand from both January 1, 2002, and January 1, 2001. Milk cows, at 13 thousand, were unchanged from January 1, 2002. This compares to 16 thousand milk cows on hand January 1, 2001.
- Beef and dairy replacement heifers, at 3 thousand and 6 thousand, respectively, were unchanged from January 1, 2002.
- Other class estimates on January 1, 2003, were unchanged from previous year except for steers over 500 pounds. Steers over 500 pounds were at 4,000 head, up 1,000 from the previous year.
- There were 1,600 operations with cattle and calves on New Jersey farms in 2002. This compares to the 1,700 operations in 2001. Nine hundred of these operations had one or more beef cows on hand at any time during 2002. Two hundred and fifty of the operations had one or more milk cows on hand during 2002.

All Cattle and Calves: Number by Class & Calf Crop, New Jersey and United States

	New Jersey		United States	
	January 1, 2002	January 1, 2003	January 1, 2002	January 1, 2003
<i>Number of Head (000)</i>				
All cattle and calves	44	46	96,704.0	96,106.0
Cows and heifers that have calved:				
Beef cows	8	9	33,117.7	32,946.9
Milk cows	13	13	9,111.6	9,151.7
Heifers:				
Beef cow replacement	3	3	5,561.0	5,607.6
Milk cow replacement	6	6	4,060.2	4,103.5
Other	2	2	10,057.1	9,890.0
Steers, bulls, and heifers:				
Steers, 500 pounds and over	3	4	16,789.8	16,590.2
Bulls, 500 pounds and over	1	1	2,243.8	2,252.7
Steers, heifers, & bulls, under 500 lbs.	8	8	15,762.8	15,563.4
	2001	2002	2001	2002
Calf Crop	18	18	38,280	38,193

United States Sheep and Goats

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2003, totaled 6.35 million head, down 5 percent from 2002 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942.

Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.68 million head on January 1, 2003, down 5 percent from 4.91 million head on January 1, 2002. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.79 million head, were 5 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2003, totaled 1.67 million head, down 6 percent from January 1, 2002. Market

lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-six percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65-84 pounds, 24 percent were 85-105 pounds, 29 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2002 lamb crop of 4.36 million head was down 3 percent from 2001 and established a new record low. The 2002 lambing rate was 110 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2002, unchanged from 2001.

The number of operations with sheep during 2002 totaled 64,170, down 1 percent from 2001 and 3 percent from 2000.

Honey

New Jersey Honey Production

Honey production from producers with five or more hives in New Jersey during 2002 totaled 350 thousand pounds, down 6 percent from 2001. The number of colonies, at 10,000, was down 1,000 from 2001. Honey stocks on December 15, 2002, amounted to 74,000 pounds, up 3,000 pounds from 2001.

The average price received for honey sold during 2002 was 98 cents per pound, up 13 cents from 2001. The value of the 2002 honey crop was \$343 thousand, up 8 percent from the previous year.

United States Honey Production Drops 8 Percent

Honey production in 2002 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 171 million pounds, down 8 percent from 2001. There were 2.52 million colonies producing honey in 2002, up 1 percent from 2001. Yield per colony averaged 67.8 pounds, down 8 percent from the 74.0 pounds in 2001. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state, thus yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested.

Honey prices increased to a record high 128.6 cents during 2002, up 83 percent from 70.4 cents in 2001. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives.

Honey: Number of Colonies and Production: Selected States and United States 1/

Selected States	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Colonies		Pounds		1,000 pounds	
Maryland	4	3	46	46	184	138
New Jersey	11	10	34	35	374	350
New York	53	60	70	98	3,710	5,880
Pennsylvania	17	18	57	57	969	1,026
United States	2,506	2,524	74.0	67.8	185,461	171,140

Honey: Stocks and Values: Selected States and United States 1/

Selected States	Stocks, December 15 2/		Average Price Per Pound 3/		Value of Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Pounds		Cents		1,000 dollars	
Maryland	55	21	160	175	294	242
New Jersey	71	74	85	98	318	343
New York	1,781	2,470	79	117	2,931	6,880
Pennsylvania	514	513	92	130	891	1,334
United States	64,556	39,047	70.4	128.6	132,225	221,638

1/ For producers with 5 or more colonies.

2/ Stocks held by producers.

3/ Prices weighted by sales.

Crop Values: Summary by State and United States, 2002 1/

State	Field and Misc Crops	Fruit and Nuts	Commercial Vegetables	Total Value Principal Crops
	1,000 Dollars			
New Jersey	63,030	87,822	127,266	278,118
United States	71,290,636	12,803,900	10,628,796	94,723,332

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2001-2002 Barley County Estimates, New Jersey

County	Acres Planted For All Purposes		Acres Harvested		Yield Per Acre (Bushels)		Production (Bushels)	
	2001	2002 1/	2001	2002 1/	2001	2002 1/	2001	2002 1/
<i>District 80 (South)</i>								
Cumberland	600	500	500	400	50.0	77.0	25,000	30,800
Gloucester	1,000	800	900	700	55.6	75.0	50,000	52,500
Salem	1,500	1,500	1,300	1,200	56.2	73.0	73,000	87,600
Other Counties 2/	1,900	1,200	1,300	700	52.3	73.0	68,000	51,100
State	5,000	4,000	4,000	3,000	54.0	74.0	216,000	222,000

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Other counties could have come from any of the districts.

2001-2002 Wheat County Estimates, New Jersey

County	Acres Planted For All Purposes		Acres Harvested		Yield Per Acre (Bushels)		Production (Bushels)	
	2001	2002 1/	2001	2002 1/	2001	2002 1/	2001	2002 1/
District 20 (North)								
Hunterdon	4,200	4,700	3,700	4,200	42.7	53.0	158,000	222,600
Somerset	2,000	2,200	1,800	2,000	33.3	50.0	60,000	100,000
Warren	1,200	1,800	1,100	1,600	48.2	57.0	53,000	91,200
District 50 (Central)								
Burlington	2,300	3,300	2,100	2,700	53.8	63.0	113,000	170,100
Mercer	900	1,300	800	1,100	33.8	52.0	27,000	57,200
Middlesex	1,000	1,300	900	1,200	36.7	61.0	33,000	73,200
Monmouth	1,800	2,100	1,400	1,700	35.7	54.0	50,000	91,800
District 80 (South)								
Cumberland	6,400	7,300	5,600	6,100	46.6	60.0	261,000	366,000
Gloucester	3,000	3,800	2,400	3,200	41.3	53.0	99,000	169,600
Salem	7,600	9,100	6,700	7,300	50.9	64.0	341,000	467,200
Other Counties 2/	600	1,100	500	900	40.0	52.0	20,000	47,100
State	31,000	38,000	27,000	32,000	45.0	58.0	1,215,000	1,856,000

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Other counties could have come from any of the districts.

United States Farm Labor

There were 884,000 hired workers on U.S. farms and ranches the week of January 12-18, 2003, down 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 724,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 160,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.32 per hour during the January 2003 reference week, up 35 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.29 per hour, up 4 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$8.91 per hour compared with \$8.20 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.50 per hour, was up 27 cents from last year.

Farm Labor & Wage Rates: Northeast II Region and United States

Items	Northeast II 1/			United States		
	January 2002	October 2002	January 2003	January 2002	October 2002	January 2003
	<i>Thousand workers</i>			<i>Thousand workers</i>		
Hired Workers (All)	33	41	23	890	1,211	884
Ag Service Workers	2 /	2 /	2 /	183	271	160
Hired Workers	33	41	23	707	940	724
150 Days or More	29	34	19	584	685	609
149 Days or Less	4	7	4	123	255	115
	<i>Per week</i>			<i>Per week</i>		
Average Hours Worked (Hired Farm Workers)	38.1	36.4	37.2	38.5	40.4	37.8
	<i>Per hour</i>			<i>Per hour</i>		
Average Wage Rate (All Hired Farm Workers)	\$8.87	\$9.29	\$9.83	\$8.97	\$8.95	\$9.32
By Type of Worker						
Field	\$8.71	\$8.61	\$9.16	\$8.25	\$8.34	\$8.29
Livestock	\$6.88	\$8.17	\$8.34	\$8.20	\$8.42	\$8.91

1/ Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

2/ Data Not Published.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February was 99, based on 1990-92 = 100, unchanged from the January index. Higher prices for cattle, hogs, corn, and soybeans offset lower prices for tomatoes, broilers, wheat, and eggs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Increased marketings of cattle, broilers, eggs, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is also unchanged from February 2002. Higher prices for corn, soybeans, cattle, and cotton more than offset lower prices for lettuce, hogs, broccoli, and potatoes.

The Food Commodities Index decreased 1 point (1 percent) from last month to 97, but is 3 points (3 percent) below January last year.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 127 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from January but 4 points (3.3 percent) above February 2002. Lower prices in February for feeder cattle, feeder pigs, feed supplements, and hay and forages are offset by higher prices for diesel fuel, nitrogen fertilizers, gasoline, and LP gas.

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Feb 2002	Jan 2003	Feb 2003
<i>Dollars</i>			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.17	2.85	2.85
Hay, all, baled, per ton 1/	91.70	92.90	91.80
Soybeans, per bushel	4.22	5.52	5.57
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb	.216	.258	.246
Strawberries, per lb	1.04	1.09	1.03
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	23.50	29.00	33.30
Lettuce, per cwt	44.10	12.10	11.20
Tomatoes, per cwt	26.60	47.20	29.10
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	70.00	73.20	74.60
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	73.50	77.80	78.90
Cows, per cwt	40.60	36.90	38.10
Calves, per cwt	105.00	96.80	97.60
Broilers, live, per lb	.340	.350	.340
Eggs, all, per dozen	.559	.689	.640
Milk, all, per cwt 2/	13.10	11.70	11.50

1/ Mid-month

2/ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.