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New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

FARM FACTS

"FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE"

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New Jersey Spring Vegetables: The 2004 growing seasons started slightly later than normal due to cold and wet conditions in early spring. The prospective area for harvest of selected fresh market vegetables (cabbage, head lettuce, and snap beans) is forecast at 3,200 acres during the spring quarter, up 200 acres from last year. Prospective harvesting acres for processing vegetables (snap beans, green peas, sweet corn, and tomatoes) are 7,400 acres compared with 5,600 acres last year; and 7,100 acres in 2002. The contracted acres were not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

New Jersey Spring Vegetables - Selected Crops

Crop	Harvested		Planted for Harvest
	2002	2003	2004
<i>Acres</i>			
Cabbage	1,100	1,000	1,000
Head Lettuce	700	600	700
Snap Beans	1,500	1,400	1,500

United States Spring Vegetables: The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 222,400 acres, up 3 percent from last year. Acreage increased for all forecasted vegetables except for celery, which remains unchanged, and sweet corn, which decreased 3 percent. Melon acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 83,700

acres, up 7 percent from last year. Cantaloup acreage is up 13 percent from a year ago. Watermelon acreage is up 5 percent from 2003. Honeydew melon acreage is down 7 percent. Asparagus acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 53,500 acres, down 20 percent from last year. Strawberry acreage for harvest is forecast at 44,100 acres, up 9 percent from comparable states in 2003. Processors expect to contract 1.27 million acres of the 5 major processed vegetable crops in the U.S. this year, down 1 percent from last year. Acreage decreases are forecast for green peas, snap beans, and sweet corn, while cucumbers for pickles and tomatoes show increases. Freezing firms expect a 3 percent decrease from 2003, with 407,200 acres under contract. Sweet corn acreage for freezing is down 7 percent. However, green pea acreage is up 2 percent from 2003. Snap bean acreage is up 1 percent from last year. Canneries contracted for 859,400 acres, virtually unchanged from 2003. Acreage for snap beans is down 5 percent from last season. Green pea acreage is down 16 percent from a year ago. Cucumbers for pickles increased 18 percent, sweet corn acreage is up 3 percent, and tomato acreage is 1 percent above last year. Total planted onion acreage for all seasons in 2004 is forecast at 177,270 acres, up 6 percent from last year. Spring onions will be harvested from 37,100 acres in 2004, up 17 percent from 2003. Georgia and Texas combined production is forecast at 6.93 million cwt, 21 percent above last year. Summer non-storage onion planted acreage, at 23,200 acres, is up 2 percent. Total summer onion acreage, at 138,470 acres, is up 5 percent from the previous year.

New Jersey 2003 Summer Potatoes Revisions: The final estimate of 2003 summer potato crop production is 675,000 cwt, down 4 percent from previous year. Harvested area covered 2,700 acres, up 100 from 2002. The average yield of 250 cwt per acre is down 25 cwt from the 2002 yield of 275 cwt.

United States 2003 Summer Potato: The final estimate of 2003 summer potato crop production is 19 million cwt, 6 percent above 2002. Harvested area covered 59,000 acres, down slightly from 2002. The average yield of 322 cwt per acre is up 18 cwt from the previous year.



New Jersey Quarterly Milk Production: The January-March 2004 Quarterly Milk Production for New Jersey was 52 million pounds, down 9 percent from the January-March period last year.

The average number of milk cows during the January-March 2004 quarter was 12,000 head, 1,000 head less than the January-March 2003 quarter.

United States Quarterly Milk Production: Milk production in the U.S. during the January-March 2004 quarter totaled 42.7 billion pounds, down 0.9 percent from the January-March quarter last year.

The average number of milk cows in the United States during the January-March 2004 quarter was 9 million head, 153,000 head less than the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Production: By Selected States and the United States, Preliminary January-March, 2003-2004

State	January-March Milk Cows 1/		January-March Milk Production 2/		Change From 2003	
	2003	2004	2003	2004		
		<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Delaware	8.5	7.8	37	34.5	-6.8	
Maryland	79	76	319	306	-4.1	
New Jersey	13	12	57	52	-8.8	
New York	677	659	3,018	2,901	3.9	
Pennsylvania	588	564	2,686	2,534	5.7	
United States	9,144	8,991	43,069	42,688	0.9	

1/ Includes dry cows excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

New Jersey Egg and Turkey Production, Price, and Value

New Jersey produced 556 million eggs in 2003 compared to 534 million produced the previous year, a 4 percent increase. The value of 2003 egg production was \$29.2 million, up 28 percent from \$22.8 million produced in 2002.

New Jersey producers raised 33,000 turkeys in 2003, down 3 percent from 34,000 turkeys produced in 2002. The value of turkeys raised was \$535,000, down 3 percent from \$551,000 generated from turkey sales in 2002.

Egg Production, Price, and Value: Selected States and United States 1/

State	Egg Production		Price Per Dozen 2/		Value of Production		
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
		<i>Million</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Maryland	923	813	0.563	0.682	43,210	46,206	
New Jersey	534	556	0.512	0.630	22,784	29,190	
New York	1,100	1,048	0.489	0.645	44,825	56,330	
Pennsylvania	6,520	6,754	0.514	0.659	279,273	370,907	
United States	87,252	87,196	0.589	0.731	4,281,416	5,315,311	

1/ Estimates cover the 12 month period Dec 1, previous year through Nov 30.

2/ Average of all eggs, including hatching eggs.

Turkey Production, Price, and Value: Selected States and United States

State	Number Raised 1/		Pounds Produced		Price Per Pound 2/		Value of Production		
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
		<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Maryland	480	500	15,648	15,400	0.37	0.39	5,790	6,006	
New Jersey	34	33	697	686	0.79	0.78	551	535	
New York	520	570	12,220	13,281	0.37	0.36	4,521	4,781	
Pennsylvania	9,900	9,500	233,640	215,650	0.39	0.47	91,120	101,356	
United States	275,477	274,348	7,494,861	7,549,333	0.365	0.360	2,732,481	2,720,180	

1/ Based on turkeys placed the 12 month period September 1, previous year through August 31, current year. Excludes turkeys lost.

2/ New Jersey and Pennsylvania prices are actual live weight prices. All other states' prices are equivalent live weight returns to producers.

Meat Animals Production, Disposition, and Income, 2003 Summary

New Jersey's calf crop for 2003 was 18,000 head, unchanged from previous year. Inshipments for 2003 totaled 1,400 head, up 900 from 2002. Cattle marketings from New Jersey farms totaled 7,600 head, up 27 percent from previous year. Cattle slaughtered and deaths in 2003 was unchanged from 2002.

The 2003 pig crop in New Jersey was 5,600 head, compared to 17,600 head the previous year. Inshipments for 2003 totaled 19,000 head, unchanged from 2002. Hog marketings from New Jersey farms totaled 25,600 head, down 23 percent from previous year. Pig deaths for 2003 were 600 above the 2002 total. Farm slaughter in 2003 was unchanged from 2002.

New Jersey and United States Cattle and Calves: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2003 1/

State	Inventory Jan 1, 2003	Calf Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/		Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths		Inventory Jan 1, 2004
				Cattle	Calves	Cattle & Calves	Cattle	Calves	
<i>1,000 Head</i>									
NJ	46.0	18.0	1.4	7.6	9.3	0.5	1.0	1.0	46.0
US	96,100.0	37,902.8	22,384.1	47,682.8	9,594.9	191.3	1,710.2	2,325.7	94,882.0

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory January 1, 2003, calf crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory January 1, 2004.

2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.

3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

New Jersey and United States Cattle and Calves: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2002 1/

State	Inventory Jan 1, 2002	Calf Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/		Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths		Inventory Jan 1, 2003
				Cattle	Calves	Cattle & Calves	Cattle	Calves	
<i>1,000 Head</i>									
NJ	44.0	18.0	0.5	6.0	8.0	0.5	1.0	1.0	46.0
US	96,723.0	38,223.7	21,461.9	46,753.4	9,286.1	193.2	1,710.3	2,365.6	96,100.0

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory January 1, 2002, calf crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory January 1, 2003.

2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.

3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

New Jersey and United States Hogs and Pigs: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2003 1/

State	Inventory Dec 1, 2002	Pig Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/	Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths	Inventory Dec 1, 2003
		Dec - Nov					
<i>1,000 Head</i>							
NJ	15.0	5.6	19.0	25.6	1.0	1.0	12.0
US	59,554.2	101,254.0	31,464.9	124,105.5	114.2	7,664.8	60,388.7

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory December 1, 2002, pig crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory December 1, 2003.

2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.

3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

New Jersey and United States Hogs and Pigs: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2002 1/

State	Inventory Dec 1, 2001	Pig Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/	Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths	Inventory Dec 1, 2002
		Dec - Nov					
<i>1,000 Head</i>							
NJ	13.0	17.6	19.0	33.2	1.0	0.4	15.0
US	59,721.6	101,677.9	29,433.9	124,012.9	114.2	7,152.3	59,554.2

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory December 1, 2001, pig crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory December 1, 2002.

2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.

3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

Agricultural Prices

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April 2004 at 124, based on 1990-92=100, is 2.5 percent above the March 2004 Index. This is the highest index level since records began. The Livestock Products Index increased 3.3 percent from March 2004 while the All Crops Index increased 1.7 percent. Producers received higher commodity prices for milk, cattle, corn, and lettuce. Lower prices were received for eggs, strawberries, hogs, and tobacco. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cattle, milk, strawberries, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton, and hogs. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 23 percent from April 2003.

The Food Commodities Index increased 2.5 percent from last month to 125. The index stands 26 percent above April 2003.

Prices Paid Index Reaches Record High

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 133 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from March 2004, but 3.9 percent above April 2003. Higher prices in April for feeder cattle, hay and forages, milk cows, and feed grains more than offset lower prices for feed concentrates, gasoline, LP gas, and insecticides. The April All Farm Products Index is 124 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 2.5 percent from the March index and 23 percent above the April 2003 index.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Apr 2003	Mar 2004	Apr 2004
-- Dollars --			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.85	2.79	2.73
Hay, all, baled, per ton 1/	92.90	81.80	89.60
Soybeans, per bushel	5.82	9.27	9.54
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb	0.234	0.307	0.299
Strawberries, per cwt	69.50	69.10	49.50
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	14.90	20.20	23.20
Lettuce, per cwt	12.50	10.40	13.30
Tomatoes, per cwt	30.00	42.20	42.10
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	74.50	83.40	85.30
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	78.80	87.90	89.70
Cows, per cwt	40.20	46.60	49.00
Calves, per cwt	98.90	115.00	116.00
Broilers, live, per lb	0.310	0.470	0.480
Eggs, all, per dozen	0.686	1.100	0.769
Milk, all, per cwt 2/	11.00	15.40	18.00

1/ Mid-month

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



For a copy of the finished report or to obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service website at www.nass.usda.gov/nj/ or call 1-800-328-0179.