

Issue 2006-02, Released 2/02/06

IN THIS ISSUE . . . Agricultural Prices
to all the Annual Cattle Inventory
producers who Cattle on Feed
participated in our Livestock Slaughter
January surveys. Grazing Fees
The results you requested Milk Production
are in this issue. Annual Sheep Inventory & Wool Production
Annual Goat Inventory

WYOMING HAY PRICES SLIP LOWER

The **Index of Prices Received** by farmers and ranchers in Wyoming for agriculture commodities sold during January was 133 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was up 8 points (6 percent) from December and up 10 points (8 percent) from January 2005.

The **All Livestock Index**, at 138, was up 9 points (7 percent) from December and up 12 points (10 percent) from January 2005. Calf and sheep prices were up from December, while cow and steer and heifer prices were lower. Lamb prices were unchanged. Prices for steers and heifers, calves, and lambs were higher than last year at this time, while cow and sheep prices were lower. Cow prices averaged 80 cents below December and \$1.80 below January 2005. Steer and heifer prices were \$1.00 below last month but \$11.00 above last year's price. Calf prices set a record high averaging \$148.00 per hundredweight, \$2.00 higher than last month's previous record and \$14.00 higher than January 2005. Sheep prices, were \$1.40 above December but \$12.80 below last year's price. Lamb prices were unchanged from last month but up \$4.00 from a year ago.

The **All Crops Index**, at 110, was up 4 points (4 percent) from December but down 1 point (1 percent) from January last year. Prices for corn and wheat were higher than last month, while alfalfa prices were down from last month. The prices of oats and other hay were unchanged. Prices were lower for corn and dry beans in January compared with January 2005. Oats, wheat, alfalfa hay, and other hay were all up from last January. Corn was up 10 cents from December but down 23 cents from January 2005. Oats was unchanged from last month but 5 cents higher than January 2005. Wheat was up 5 cents from December and up 14 cents from last January. Dry beans were unchanged from December but down \$5.50 from last year. Alfalfa hay was down \$1.00 from December but up \$3.00 from January 2005. Other hay was unchanged from last month but \$4.00 higher than a year ago.

The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes.

UNITED STATES: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 112, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 3 points (3 percent) from December. The Crop Index was down 3 points (3 percent) and the Livestock Index also decreased 3 points (3 percent). Producers received lower commodity prices for lettuce, turkeys, eggs, and hogs. Higher prices were received for cattle, oranges, corn, and cotton. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of cattle, soybeans, corn, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of grapes, tomatoes, dairy, and cotton.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 1 point (1 percent) from January 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 118, decreased 4 points (3 percent) from last month but increased 2 points (2 percent) from January 2005.

The inventory of all **cattle and calves** on Wyoming ranches and farms on January 1, 2006 totaled 1.44 million head. This is a 7 percent increase from 1.35 million head on January 1, 2005 and up 3 percent from 1.40 million head on January 1, 2004.

The number of **beef cows** that have calved was up 1 percent from last year to 763,000 head, compared with 756,000 head a year earlier. **Beef cow replacement heifers** increased 21 percent from a year ago to a total of 175,000 on January 1. The number of **milk cows** was 7,000 head, up 3,000 from the previous year.

The total inventory of **steers, other heifers not intended for breeding, and calves under 500 pounds** was 445,000 head, up 12 percent from a year earlier. Steers totaled 200,000 head, up 35,000 head from a year earlier; other heifers totaled 155,000 up 13,000; and calves totaled 90,000, unchanged.

There were 80,000 head of cattle in Wyoming being fed on January 1 to go directly to slaughter, unchanged from last year.

The 2005 **calf crop** in Wyoming totaled 740,000 head, down 1 percent or 10,000 head from 2004.

UNITED STATES: All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. **Beef cows**, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. **Milk cows**, at 9.06 million, were also up 1 percent.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2006 and the change from January 1, 2005, were as follows: **all heifers** 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, up 2 percent; **beef replacement heifers**, 5.90 million, up 4 percent; **milk replacement heifers**, 4.28 million, up 4 percent; **other heifers**, 9.80 million, up slightly; **steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.9 million, up 3 percent; **bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.26 million, up 2 percent; **calves** under 500 pounds, 15.6 million, up 2 percent.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots totaled 14.1 million, up 3 percent.

The 2005 **calf crop** was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004.

ALL CATTLE AND CALVES, JANUARY 1, 2005-06 WYOMING AND U.S.

Class	Wyoming			United States		
	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	1,350	1,440	107	95,438.0	97,101.5	102
All Cows and Heifers that have Calved	760	770	101	41,920.4	42,311.4	101
Beef Cows	756	763	101	32,915.4	33,253.0	101
Milk Cows	4	7	175	9,005.0	9,058.4	101
Heifers 500 Pounds & Over	290	335	116	19,572.6	19,977.9	102
For Beef Cow Replacement	145	175	121	5,690.9	5,904.5	104
For Milk Cow Replacement	3	5	167	4,118.3	4,278.0	104
Other Heifers	142	155	109	9,763.4	9,795.4	100
Steers 500 Pounds & Over	165	200	121	16,475.8	16,923.1	103
Bulls 500 Pounds & Over	45	45	100	2,219.3	2,262.8	102
Heifers, Steers & Bulls Under 500 Pounds	90	90	100	15,249.9	15,626.3	102

CALF CROP 2004-05, WYOMING AND U.S.

Area	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004
Wyoming	750	740	99
United States	37,505.4	37,780.1	101

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, JANUARY 2005, DECEMBER 2005, AND JANUARY 15, 2006 U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY								
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		JAN 2005	DEC 2005	JAN 15 2006	JAN 2005	DEC 2005	JAN 15 2006	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS								
Cows	100#	51.80	50.80	50.00	50.50	47.20	46.50	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	105.00	117.00	116.00	94.40	99.90	101.00	—
Calves	100#	134.00	146.00	148.00	125.00	134.00	137.00	52
Sheep	100#	67.80	43.60	45.00	53.50	46.90	1/	—
Lambs	100#	118.00	122.00	122.00	114.00	102.00	1/	—
CROPS								
Corn	Bu.	2.73	2.40	2.50	2.12	1.92	1.96	26
Oats	Bu.	1.55	1.60	1.60	1.64	1.73	1.67	39
Feed Barley	Bu.	1.63	2/	2/	1.65	1.74	1.79	—
All Wheat	Bu.	3.31	3.40	3.45	3.43	3.54	3.48	34
Dry Beans	100#	26.00	20.50	20.50	27.20	18.60	17.50	32
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	74.00	78.00	77.00	94.50	97.70	95.60	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	68.00	72.00	72.00	73.30	78.00	79.30	—

1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996.

2/Insufficient sales to establish a price.

NOTE: Entire month price is a revision of previous mid-month price except for hay which is always a mid-month price.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS & RANCHERS, WYOMING & U.S.

1990-92 = 100	WYOMING			UNITED STATES		
	JAN 2005	DEC 2005	JAN 15 2006	JAN 2005	DEC 2005	JAN 15 2006
All Commodities	123	125	133	111	115	112
All Crops	111	106	110	102	110	107
All Livestock and Products	126	129	138	121	120	117

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 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 11.8 million head on January 1, 2006. The inventory was 4 percent above January 1, 2005 and 5 percent above January 1, 2004.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.88 million, 3 percent above 2004 and 8 percent above 2003. This is the highest placements for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.79 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 575,000, 600-699 pounds were 554,000, 700-799 pounds were 430,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 325,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.72 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 1 percent below 2003.

State	On Feed Dec 1, 2005	Place-ments Dec 2005	Market-ings Dec 2005	Other Disapp. Dec 2005	On Feed Jan 1, 2006	On Feed Jan 1, 2005
Thousand Head						
CO	1,070	155	140	5	1,080	1,080
KS	2,470	495	435	30	2,500	2,410
NE	2,400	350	305	15	2,430	2,300
TX	2,940	465	470	15	2,920	2,700
Oth Sts.	2,846	419	365	26	2,874	2,809
U.S.	11,726	1,884	1,715	91	11,804	11,299

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.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION AT RECORD HIGH FOR DECEMBER

Commercial red meat production in Wyoming during December 2005 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 5 percent from the previous month's production but down 21 percent from December 2004. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Seven hundred **cattle** were slaughtered in December, down 100 head from last year. Total live weight was 757,000 pounds, down 22 percent from December 2004. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,163 pounds, up 6 pounds from last year.

A total of 300 **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, unchanged from last December. Total live weight, at 75,000 pounds, was down 17 percent from December 2004. Average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 267 pounds, down 4 pounds from last year.

One hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed in December, down 100 head from December 2004. Live weight totaled 15,000 pounds, down 44 percent from December 2004. Average live weight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 140 pounds, up 8 pounds from a year earlier.

January to December 2005 **commercial red meat production** totaled 6.6 million pounds, up 3 percent from the same period in 2004.

United States: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.95 billion pounds in December, up 1 percent from the 3.93 billion pounds produced in December 2004.

Beef production, at 2.06 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 1 percent from December 2004. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year to 1,281 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.87 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.23 million head, slightly below December 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.5 million pounds, was down 3 percent from December 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 231,000 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 3 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2005 commercial red meat production was 45.7 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2004. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 7 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES					
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight			
	Dec 2004	Dec 2005	Dec 2004	Dec 2005	% 05/04	Dec 2004	Dec 2005	Dec 2004	Dec 2005	% 05/04	
			1,000 Pounds						1,000 Pounds		
Cattle	800	700	971	757	78	2,690,300	2,665,900	3,410,332	3,413,978	100	
Hogs	300	300	90	75	83	9,249,900	9,233,300	2,496,228	2,510,190	101	
Sheep & Lambs	200	100	27	15	56	242,100	231,000	33,816	32,931	97	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Wyoming Agricultural Statistics Service
PO Box 1148
Cheyenne WY 82003-1148

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use \$300

GRAZING RATES RISE

The average rate for grazing cattle in Wyoming on privately-owned, non-irrigated land in 2005 was \$14.80 per animal unit month (AUM), according to data collected on the January 1 cattle survey. The AUM rate was up \$0.90 from the previous year. Average rates for other methods of payment also were higher in 2005. The cow-calf rate rose \$1.00 to \$17.00 and the per head rate rose \$1.20 to \$15.50.

AVERAGE GRAZING RATES ON PRIVATELY OWNED, NON-IRRIGATED LAND, SELECTED STATES

State	AUM 1/ 2/		Cow-Calf		Per Head	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Dollars per Month						
CO	13.50	14.50	15.00	16.00	14.00	14.30
ID	12.20	12.50	14.20	14.60	12.60	13.00
MT	15.90	16.20	17.40	18.70	16.20	17.30
NE	23.00	22.50	27.50	27.50	25.20	25.00
SD	17.60	18.40	21.50	21.90	19.20	19.50
UT	11.80	11.60	13.80	13.60	13.10	13.00
WY	13.90	14.80	16.00	17.00	14.30	15.50

1/An AUM is the forage required to sustain one cow for one month

2/Includes animal unit plus cow-calf rates. Cow-calf rate converted to AUM using cow-calf=1.2 AUM's.

WYOMING MILK PRODUCTION UP 40 PERCENT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

WYOMING: The number of milk cows in Wyoming during October-December 2005 averaged 6,200 head. The number of cows was the highest since the first quarter of 1998. The number was up 1,200 head from the previous quarter and up 1,800 head from the same quarter one year earlier. Milk production during 2005's fourth quarter was 22.9 million pounds, up 24 percent from the previous three months and up 40 percent from the same quarter last year. Production was the largest since the third quarter of 1994 when it was 23.8 million pounds.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the U.S. during the October - December quarter totaled 43.6 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the October - December quarter 2004. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.05 million head, 31,000 head more than the same period in 2004.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, SELECTED STATES AND U.S., OCT-DEC, 2004 AND 2005

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Production 2/		Change from 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	1,000 Head		Million Pounds		Percent
WY	4.4	6.2	16.3	22.9	40.5
CA	1,741	1,770	9,130	9,381	2.7
CO	103	105	553	587	6.1
ID	434	471	2,310	2,590	12.1
MT	18	19	86	89	8.1
NE	61	60	264	268	1.5
SD	80	81	338	358	5.9
UT	89	85	397	413	4.0
WI	1,237	1,238	5,418	5,664	4.5
US	9,019	9,050	41,983	43,605	3.9

1/Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/Excludes milk sucked by calves.

WYOMING SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY MAINTAINS LAST YEAR'S GAINS; U.S. HIGHER

On January 1, 2006, Wyoming operators owned 450,000 **sheep and lambs**, unchanged from January 1, 2005 but up 5 percent from January 1, 2004. The number of **breeding sheep and lambs** was 350,000 head and the number of **market sheep and lambs** on January 1 was 100,000 head. Breeding ewes, rams, replacement lambs, market lambs, and market sheep were all unchanged from a year ago.

Of the total breeding sheep, 278,000 head were **ewes one year old and older**, up 3 percent from January 1, 2004. There were 10,000 **rams one year old and older**, up 1,000 head from 2004. **Replacement lambs for breeding** totaled 62,000, up 2 percent from 2004.

Of the 100,000 market sheep and lambs, 1,000 were **market sheep**, and 99,000 were **market lambs**. By weight groups, the number of market lambs was: under 65 pounds - 1,000 (1% of the total), 65 to 84 pounds - 7,000 (7%), 85 to 105 pounds - 29,000 (29%), and over 105 pounds - 62,000 (63%).

The 2005 **lamb crop** in Wyoming tied the 2004 record low of 300,000 head docked or branded. The lamb crop was down 10,000 head from 2003.

United States: All sheep and lamb inventory on January 1, 2006, totaled 6.23 million head, up 2 percent from both 2005 and 2004. The inventory began increasing in 2005 and has shown two consecutive year to year increases for the first time since 1987 and 1988.

Breeding sheep inventory increased to 4.64 million head on January 1, 2006, up 2 percent from 4.53 million head on January 1, 2005. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.66 million head, were 2 percent above last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2006, totaled 1.59 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 35 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent.

The 2005 lamb crop of 4.13 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004. The 2005 lambing rate was 115 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2005, up 2 percent from 2004.

WYOMING WOOL PRODUCTION OFF 3 PERCENT

Wyoming sheep produced 3.53 million pounds of **wool** during 2005 with a total value of \$3.53 million. Total value was down 17 percent from the previous year, as total production was down 3 percent and average wool prices were down 17 cents to \$1.00 per pound. Wyoming was second in the nation in wool production behind Texas.

UNITED STATES: Shorn wool production in the United States during 2005 was 37.2 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.07 million head, down slightly from 2004. The average price paid for wool sold in 2005 was \$0.71 per pound for a total value of 26.3 million dollars, down 12 percent from 29.9 million dollars in 2004.

SHORN WOOL PRODUCTION AND VALUE, SELECTED STATES, 2004 AND 2005

State	Sheep & Lambs Shorn		Weight Per Fleece		Wool Production		Price Per Lb.		Value 1/	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		Pounds		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
WYOMING	390	380	9.3	9.3	3,640	3,530	1.17	1.00	4,259	3,530
Colorado	390	420	6.6	6.3	2,570	2,650	.85	.63	2,185	1,670
Montana	267	260	9.3	9.6	2,472	2,490	1.17	.98	2,892	2,440
S. Dakota	345	330	7.6	7.8	2,610	2,582	.72	.60	1,879	1,549
Texas	810	800	6.9	6.9	5,600	5,550	1.02	.96	5,712	5,328
Utah	245	235	9.2	9.3	2,250	2,180	.83	.71	1,868	1,548
U.S.	5,073	5,072	7.4	7.3	37,622	37,232	.80	.71	29,921	26,272

1/ Annual production multiplied by average price per pound.

ALL SHEEP AND LAMBS, JANUARY 1, 2005-06, WYOMING AND U.S.

Class	Wyoming			United States		
	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	450	450	100	6,135.0	6,230.0	102
Market Sheep and Lambs	100	100	100	1,602.0	1,591.0	99
Breeding Sheep	350	350	100	4,533.0	4,639.0	102
Ewes 1 yr. & Over	278	278	100	3,572.5	3,657.0	102
Rams 1 yr. & Over	10	10	100	190.0	196.0	103
Replacement Lambs	62	62	100	770.5	786.0	102

LAMB CROP 2004-05, WYOMING AND U.S.

Area	Breeding Ewes 1 Yr. & Over January 1		Lambs Saved Per 100 Ewes 1 Yr. & Over January 1		Lambs Saved 1/		
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004
	Thousand Head		Percent		Thousand Head		Percent
Wyoming	270	278	111	108	300	300	100
United States	3,609.5	3,572.5	113	115	4,096	4,125	101

1/Lamb crop defined as lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

U.S. GOAT INVENTORY UP 4 PERCENT

On January 1, 2006, there were 4,000 meat and other goats and 1,600 milk goats on Wyoming farms and ranches. These categories exclude angora goats for which estimates were not published in Wyoming. The number of meat and other goats on January 1 was 5 percent more than on January 1, 2005, while the number of milk goats was down 24 percent from January 1, 2005.

On January 1, 2006 meat and all other goats in the U.S. totaled 2.26 million head, up 5 percent from 2005. Milk goat inventory increased 1 percent to 288,000 head while angora goats were down 1 percent totaling 278,000 head. The 2005 kid crop totaled 1.84 million head for all goats, up 4 percent from 2004.

UNITED STATES: All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2006, totaled 2.83 million head, up 4 percent from 2005. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.35 million head, up 4 percent from 2005. All market goats and kids totaled 471,800 head, up 4 percent from a year ago.

Mohair production in the United States during 2005 was 1.82 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 273,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.7 pounds. Mohair price was \$2.78 per pound with a total value of 5.1 million dollars.

GOATS BY CLASS, JANUARY 1, 2005-2006, WYOMING AND U.S.

Class	Wyoming			United States		
	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2004	2005	2006 as % of 2005
Angora	1/	1/		280,000	278,000	99
Milk	2,100	1,600	76	285,000	288,000	101
Meat & Other	3,800	4,000	105	2,150,000	2,260,000	105
All Goats	1/	1/		2,715,000	2,826,000	104

1/ Not Published.