



**LIVESTOCK**  
**DAIRY & POULTRY**

LDP-03-04



**FLORIDA**  
**AGRICULTURE**

April 2003

**TOPICS IN THIS REPORT**

- Cattle on Feed: Average Prices - Nebraska
- Chickens and Eggs
- Hatchery Production
- Milk Production
- Livestock Slaughter: Auction prices

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.80 million, 1 percent below 2002 and 6 percent below 2001.

Other disappearance totaled 62,000 during March, 10 percent below 2002 and 37 percent below 2001.

**U. S. CATTLE ON FEED 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS**

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.70 million head on April 1, 2003. The inventory was 8 percent below April 1, 2002 and 7 percent below April 1, 2001. The inventory included 6.72 million steers and steer calves, down 7 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.92 million head, down 9 percent from 2002.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 2.04 million, 5 percent above 2002 and 11 percent above 2001. Net placements were 1.98 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 276,000, 600-699 pounds were 390,000, 700-799 pounds were 744,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 632,000.

**Cattle on Feed: U.S. Number Placed on Feed, by weight groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, March, 2002, February and March, 2003**

Month	Less than 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
1,000 head					
Mar. 2002	314	372	702	565	1,953
Feb. 2003	*260	*373	*593	*426	*1,652
Mar. 2003	276	390	744	632	2,042

\*Revised

**Cattle and Calves on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, and United States**

State	Number on feed March 1			Placed during March			Marketed during March			Other disappearance during March			Number on feed April 1		
	2002	2003	2003-02	2002	2003	2003-02	2002	2003	2003-02	2002	2003	2003-02	2002	2003	2003-02
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
AZ	310	279	90	32	31	97	27	29	107	1	3	300	314	278	89
CA	475	470	99	68	62	91	55	58	105	3	4	133	485	470	97
CO	1,150	990	86	200	165	83	215	180	84	15	5	33	1,120	970	87
ID	315	280	89	70	58	83	59	57	97	1	1	100	325	280	86
IA	400	360	90	49	56	114	53	55	104	1	1	100	395	365	92
KS	2,420	2,240	93	435	510	117	420	410	98	15	20	133	2,420	2,320	96
NE	2,300	2,190	95	310	320	103	300	310	103	10	10	100	2,300	2,190	95
NM	109	112	103	19	16	84	14	22	157	1	1	100	113	105	93
OK	345	320	93	80	94	118	64	71	111	1	3	300	360	340	94
SD	210	215	102	44	44	100	33	43	130	1	1	100	220	215	98
TX	2,850	2,560	90	560	600	107	495	480	97	15	10	67	2,900	2,670	92
WA	229	180	79	40	31	78	37	30	81	2	1	50	230	180	78
Oth. Sts.	405	325	80	46	55	120	53	58	109	3	2	67	395	320	81
U.S.	11,518	10,521	91	1,953	2,042	105	1,825	1,803	99	69	62	90	11,577	10,703	92

\*Revised

**Average prices, Nebraska, dollars per cwt**

Week ended	Slaughter steers				Slaughter heifers			
	Choice 1100-1300 lbs				Choice 1000-1200 lbs			
	2002		2003		2002		2003	
Mar 22	71.40		78.35		71.21		78.14	
Mar 29	71.06		78.87		70.77		78.44	
Apr 05	71.78		79.88		72.18		79.52	

## CHICKENS AND EGGS

### FLORIDA

Table eggs sold in mid-April 2003 averaged 52.0 cents, up 1.0 cent from mid-March. Table egg production in Florida during March was 235 million eggs, up 14 percent from the previous month.

### UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.36 billion during March 2003, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.26 billion table eggs and 1.11 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.04 billion were broiler-type and 64.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2003 averaged 338 million, up slightly from a year earlier. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,181 eggs, down 1 percent from March 2002. March 2003 contained 21 weekdays, and five Saturdays, the same as March 2002.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2003, totaled 338 million, up slightly from a year ago. The 338 million layers consisted of 278 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 57.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2003, averaged 70.8 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.87 billion eggs during March 2003, down 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during March, at 315 million, was down slightly from a year ago.

Mid-month table egg prices received  
by Florida egg producers.

Month	Cents per dozen	
	2002	2003
January	41.0	55.0
February	44.0	56.0
March	50.0	51.0
April	40.0	52.0
May	31.0	
June	43.0	
July	35.0	
August	37.0	
September	36.0	
October	38.0	
November	43.0	
December	54.0	

**FLORIDA:** Layers on hand first of month,  
percent molting and molted

	Apr 2002	Feb 2003	Mar 2003	Apr 2003
Total layers on hand: Thous.	10,534	10,716	11,019	10,785
Percent of layers:				
Being molted	6.0	6.0	5.0	3.0
Molt completed	29.5	29.0	27.5	28.5

Layers and egg production, March 2003, production year-to-date egg production for selected States

Selected States	Average layers on hand	Eggs per 100 layers	Egg production				Layers	
			Total	Table	Hatching	Year to date <sup>1/</sup>	Being molted	Molt completed
	Thousand		Millions				Percent	
Alabama	9,856	1,928	190	54	136	734	0.0	8.0
Arkansas	15,731	1,894	298	107	191	1,122	1.0	9.5
California	20,179	2,220	448			1,848	2.5	41.0
<b>Florida</b>	<b>10,903</b>	<b>2,238</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>28.5</b>
Georgia	20,734	2,088	433	259	174	1,654	1.5	17.0
Indiana	23,042	2,261	521	508	13	2,006	1.0	34.0
Iowa	38,062	2,183	831			3,301	2.5	35.0
Maine	4,248	2,331	99			344	0.0	0.0
Maryland	2,858	2,344	67	64	3	89	0.0	26.5
Michigan	6,624	2,264	150			589	1.5	30.0
Minnesota	11,435	2,256	258	249	9	1,008	4.0	30.5
Mississippi	6,844	2,046	140	47	93	533	0.0	12.0
Missouri	6,950	2,273	158			612	1.5	17.0
Nebraska	11,704	2,230	261	261		1,003	8.0	23.5
New York	3,723	2,391	89			344	0.0	7.0
North Carolina	11,152	1,928	215	78	137	838	1.0	10.0
Ohio	29,650	2,175	645			2,571	5.0	26.5
Pennsylvania	24,229	2,386	578	562	16	2,254	2.0	19.0
South Carolina	5,334	2,268	121	101	20	448	0.0	24.0
Texas	18,784	2,215	416			1,579	0.0	24.5
Virginia	3,243	1,912	62	23	39	254	7.5	15.0
Washington	4,954	2,160	107			430	1.0	43.5
Other States	47,359	2,152	489	400	89	1,884	1.4	23.6
United States	337,598	2,181	7,363	6,256	1,107	28,689	2.2	24.4

<sup>1/</sup> Production year begins December 1.

## HATCHERY PRODUCTION

### FLORIDA

The March hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 5,899,000 was 30 percent below a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 4,510,000, were 35 percent below a year ago.

Egg-type hatch during March at 571,000 chicks was nine percent below last year. Egg-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 507,000 were eight percent below last year.

### UNITED STATES

The March 2003 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 775 million, was down 2 percent from March of the previous year. There were 638 million eggs in incubators on April 1, 2003, down 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.3 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2003, down 7 percent from March 2002.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March totaled 36.7 million, down 1 percent from March 2002. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.3 million on April 1, 2003, up 3 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 315,000 during March 2003, up 33 percent from March 2002.

Hatchery production, United States

Item	2002	2003	2003 % of 2002
-- Thousands --			
<b>Egg-Type:</b>			
Eggs in incubators: Apr 1	33,221	34,344	103
Chicks hatched during Mar	36,977	36,726	99
Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	237	315	133
7-18 months earlier <sup>1/</sup>	3,239	2,886	89
<b>Broiler-Type:</b>			
Eggs in incubators: Apr 1	646,301	637,759	99
Chicks hatched during Mar	791,093	774,836	98
Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	6,775	6,329	93
7-14 months earlier <sup>2/</sup>	60,771	62,559	103

<sup>1/</sup> 2003 includes pullet chicks hatched September 2001 through August 2002. <sup>2/</sup> 2003 includes pullet chicks hatched December 2001 through August 2002.

## MILK PRODUCTION

### FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 223 million pounds of milk during March 2003, down two percent from the previous March. Production per cow of 1,515 pounds was one percent above last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in March totaled 147,000, three percent below last year.

### UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 20 major States during March totaled 13.0 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from March 2002. February revised production, at 11.6 billion pounds, was up 1.6 percent from February 2002. The February revision represented a decrease of 8 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,664 pounds for March, 10 pounds above March 2002.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.81 million head, 67,000 head more than March 2002, and 2,000 head more than February 2003.

Milk cows and production, Florida and U.S.

Month and year	Milk cows	Monthly milk production	
		Per cow	Monthly Total
	Thous.	Lbs.	Mil. Lbs.
<b>Florida:</b>			
March 2002	151	1,505	227
February 2003	147	1,345	198
March 2003	147	1,515	223
<b>20 Major States:</b>			
March 2002	7,745	1,654	12,810
February 2003	7,810	1,484	11,588
March y 2003	7,812	1,664	12,996
<b>United States</b>			
March 2002	--	--	14,864
February 2003	--	--	13,406
March 2003	--	--	15,035

Milk production by quarters, United States

Month	Milk cows <sup>1/</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2/</sup>		Milk production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Thousand		Pounds		Mil. Lbs.	
Jan-Mar	9,112	9,155	4,653	4,692	42,397	42,958
Apr-Jun	9,149		4,811		44,015	
Jul-Sep	9,153		4,566		41,791	
Oct-Dec	9,148		4,543		41,555	
Annual Total	9,141		18,571		169,758	

<sup>1/</sup> Dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2/</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat output in Florida for March 2003 was 5.6 million pounds, four percent above the same month last year.

Commercial production of red meat in the United States for March at 3.70 billion pounds, was one percent above 2002.

### Commercial slaughter and red meat production, Florida and United States

Source and kind	March 2002	February 2003	March 2003	Year to date 2002	Year to date 2003
<b>Florida</b>					
Cattle slaughtered (1000 head) <sup>1/</sup>	8	7	8	24	24
Hogs:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	8	8	9	19	25
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	1,372	1,420	1,669	3,454	2,738
Red meat production (million pounds)	5.4	5.1	5.6	15.6	16.5
<b>United States</b>					
Cattle:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	2,738	2,570	2,770	8,410	8,347
Total liveweight (million pounds)	3,397	3,240	3,417	10,531	10,471
Average liveweight (pounds)	1,241	1,268	1,234	1,252	1,255
Beef production (million pounds)	2,059	1,944	2,047	6,376	6,283
Calves:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	77	83	85	237	262
Total liveweight (million pounds)	25	26	27	77	83
Average liveweight (pounds)	324	316	323	324	319
Veal production (million pounds)	15	16	17	46	51
Hogs:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	7,987	7,680	8,052	24,146	24,520
Liveweight (million pounds)	2,133	2,047	2,182	6,450	6,582
Average liveweight (pounds)	267	267	268	267	267
Pork production (million pounds)	1,581	1,521	1,619	4,779	4,889
Red meat production (million pounds)	3,678	3,497	3,701	11,261	11,274

<sup>1/</sup>Does not include calf slaughter data.

### Average Dollars Per Cwt Received through 11 Florida Auctions March 2002 and 2003

Grade	Stocker calves under 300 lbs.				Stocker calves over 300 lbs.				
	2002		2003		Grade	2002		2003	
	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers		Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers
Medium #1	130.72	114.75	123.05	102.28	Large #1	106.15	91.56	103.75	84.94
Medium #2	109.91	96.53	108.65	89.87	Medium #1	92.24	84.12	89.66	80.00
All grades	122.47	107.20	114.86	94.74	Medium #2	99.10	88.38	97.12	82.96
					All grades				

SOURCE: FDA & CS, Div. Of Marketing and Development, Market News Service. <sup>1/</sup> Not available.