

Livestock Summary

Iowa producers had 3.85 million **cattle and calves** on farms January 1, 2013, down 50,000 from January 1, 2012. Cows that had calved totaled 1.13 million head, up 3 percent from a year earlier. Of this total, 925,000 head were beef cows and 205,000 head were milk cows.

Heifers weighing 500 pounds and over were at 950,000 head, up 3 percent from the year earlier. Of this total, 150,000 head were beef cow replacements, up 7 percent; 120,000 head were milk cow replacements, down 25 percent from 2012; and all other heifers numbered 680,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds or more were down 4 percent at 1.25 million head. Bulls 500 pounds and over included 60,000 head, unchanged from January 1, 2012. Calves weighing under 500 pounds totaled 460,000 head, down 12 percent.

Iowa continued to rank number one in **hog** inventory in the United States. Hogs and pigs on hand December 1, 2012, totaled 20.6 million head, 31 percent of the nation's hogs.

Iowa's pork producers farrowed 1.96 million sows from December 2011 through November 2012. The average pigs saved per litter was 10.4. This resulted in a pig crop of 20.31 million, a 2 percent increase from the previous year.

Sheep and lambs totaled 175,000 head on January 1, 2013, down 10 percent from a year ago. An estimated 150,000 lambs were born during 2012, down 3 percent.

Iowa **milk production** totaled 4.43 billion pounds of milk during 2012, up 2 percent from 2011. Milk cows on hand remained unchanged from last year, averaging 204,000 head. The annual average milk produced per cow was 21,730 pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year.

Slaughter plants in Iowa produced 6.64 billion pounds of red meat (beef, veal, pork, and mutton) during 2012, increasing over half of a percent from 2011.

Prices Summary

All milk prices averaged \$19.20 per hundredweight in 2012, down about 6 percent from \$20.50 in 2011. Prices averaged from a high of \$23.00 in December to a low of \$16.80 in May.

The 2011-2012 marketing year average price received for **corn** was \$6.20 per bushel, up 19 percent from the previous year. The **marketing year** began with \$6.63 per bushel in September and climbed to a high of \$7.89 per bushel in August. The average monthly prices for the 2012 **calendar year** ranged from a high of \$7.89 per bushel in August to a low of \$5.99 in January.

The 2011-2012 marketing year average price for **soybeans** was \$12.60 per bushel, an increase of 13 percent from 2010-2011. The **marketing year** began with \$12.60 per bushel in September and increased to a high of \$16.80 per bushel in August. The average monthly prices for the 2012 **calendar year** ranged from a high of \$16.80 per bushel in August to a low of \$11.80 in January.

The 2011-2012 marketing year average price for **oats** was \$3.33 per bushel, up 37 percent from 2010-2011. The **marketing year** began with \$3.18 per bushel in July and ended with \$3.78 per bushel in June. The average monthly prices for the 2012 **calendar year** ranged from a high of \$4.15 per bushel in December to a low of \$3.51 in January.

The 2011-2012 marketing year average price received for **all hay** was \$130 per ton, increasing almost 22 percent from the last year. Average monthly prices for the 2012 **calendar year** ranged from a high of \$206 per ton in September to a low of \$128 in May.