

LIVESTOCK HIGHLIGHTS

CATTLE AND CALVES

Kentucky's **All Cattle & Calf** inventory totaled 2.26 million head on January 1, 2001. This was up 1 percent from the revised January 1, 2000 estimate of 2.23 million head and the first year to year increase since 1996. Inventories of beef replacement heifers, steers, and other heifers over 500 pounds were higher than the previous year. Beef cow inventory totaled 1.06 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2000. Milk cow numbers were unchanged from the previous year and totaled a record low 130,000 head. Bulls over 500 pounds were unchanged from January 2000, while heifers over 500 pounds for milk cow replacement and calves under 500 pounds showed declines from the

previous year. The 2000 calf crop totaled 1.09 million head, down 3 percent from 1999 and the smallest calf crop in Kentucky since 1962.

The value of the January 1, 2001 inventory, at \$1.47 million, was up 14 percent from the previous year. Average value per head was \$650, compared with \$580 on January 1, 2000. Cash receipts from marketings totaled \$541 million during 2000, 3 percent below 1999. Marketings for 2000 were 20 percent below 1999 but prices were up. Cattle prices averaged \$71.90 per hundredweight during 2000 compared with \$59.30 during 1999. Calves averaged \$96.10 per hundredweight compared with \$80.20 during 1999.

HOGS AND PIGS

Finding adequate market opportunities continued to be difficult for Kentucky's hog producers. More producers are raising hogs on contract for others and the number of farrow to finish operations are declining. The December 1, 2000 **Hog & Pig** inventory set another record low at 430,000 head. Hog numbers were 7 percent below 1999 and have been declining steadily since 1995. Hogs for breeding totaled 50,000 on December 1, 2000, down 9 percent from 1999. December 2000 market hogs, at 380,000 head, were 6 percent below the 1999 level.

The 2000 pig crop totaled 775,000 compared with 1.01 million during 1999. Pigs saved per litter averaged 8.52, compared with the 1999 average of 8.68. Producers farrowed 91,000 sows during 2000 compared with 116,000 during 1999.

Kentucky's hog and pig inventory was valued at \$26.7 million on December 1, 2000, up 11 percent from the previous year. Cash receipts from marketings climbed 15 percent from 1999 to \$89.6 million. Marketings slipped 19 percent from 1999, but the average price during 2000 was \$40.20 per hundredweight, compared with \$28.50 recorded in 1999.

POULTRY

Broiler production for 2000 totaled 1.04 billion pounds from 208.2 million birds. Value of production was \$343.5 million, making broilers the fourth largest source of cash receipts for Kentucky farmers. Compared with 1999, broiler production increased 6 percent but total value declined 5 percent. Average value per pound was 33 cents during 2000 compared with 37 cents during the previous year.

The December 1, 2000 inventory of **All Chickens** (excluding broilers) totaled 5.80 million birds, up 3 percent from the previous December. Laying flocks produced 940 million eggs during 2000, a 2 percent increase from the previous year. Value of sales from eggs came to \$70.8 million for 2000, 17 percent above 1999. Eggs averaged 90.4 cents per dozen in 2000 compared with 78.5 cents during 1999.