2002 LIVESTOCK HIGHLIGHTS

CATTLE AND CALVES

Kentucky’s All Cattle and Calf inventory totaled 2.43 million head on January 1, 2003. This was up 6 percent from January 1, 2002 estimate of 2.30 million head. Inventories of beef replacement heifers, steers over 500 pounds and other heifers over 500 pounds were higher than 2002. Beef cow inventory totaled 1.12 million head, up 4 percent from January 1, 2002. Milk cow numbers were a record low 120,000 head on January 1, 2003, 4 percent below 2002. Bulls over 500 pounds, heifers over 500 pounds for milk cow replacement and calves under 500 pounds increased from January 2002. The 2002 calf crop totaled 1.11 million head, up 3 percent from 2001.

The all cattle and calves total value as of January 1, 2003 was $1.53 million, up 1 percent from 2002. Average value per head was $630, compared with $660 on January 1, 2002. Cash receipts from marketings totaled $406.4 million during 2002, down 19 percent from 2001. Marketings for 2002 were 9 percent below 2001 and prices decreased. Cattle prices averaged $64.90 per hundredweight during 2002 compared with $71.70 during 2001. Calves averaged $84.90 per hundredweight compared with $96.20 during 2001.

HOGS AND PIGS

Finding adequate market opportunities continued to be difficult for Kentucky’s hog producers. The December 1, 2002 Hog and Pig inventory set another record low at 370,000 head. Hog numbers were 9 percent below 2001 and have been declining steadily since 1995. Hogs for breeding totaled 40,000 on December 1, 2002, down 20 percent from 2001. December 2002 market hogs, at 330,000 head, were 7 percent below the 2001 level.

The 2002 pig crop totaled 781,000 compared with 797,000 during 2001. Pigs saved per litter averaged 8.58, compared with the 2001 average of 8.66. Producers farrowed 90,000 sows during 2002 compared with 92,000 during 2001.

Kentucky's hog and pig inventory was valued at $20.0 million on December 1, 2002, down 22 percent from the previous year. Cash receipts from marketings decreased 22 percent from 2001 to $73.5 million. Marketings increased from 2001, while the average price during 2002 was $31.00 per hundredweight, compared with $42.00 recorded in 2001.

ALL POULTRY

All Poultry includes broilers, eggs and other poultry. Cash receipts from all poultry totaled $505.9 million, the second highest for the State. Only horses and stud fees generated more cash receipts.

Broiler production for 2002 totaled 1.40 billion pounds from 269.9 million birds. Value of production was $421.1 million, making broilers the third largest source of cash receipts for Kentucky farmers. Compared with 2001, broiler production increased 9 percent and cash receipts decreased 16 percent. Average value per pound was 30 cents during 2002 compared with 39 cents during 2001.