



# Nebraska Agri-Facts

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**Survey Results Included**

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Dear Nebraska Farmers, Ranchers and Agribusinesses:

The following narrative and tables are from recently published reports by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board. These data are direct results of information provided by Nebraska producers and agribusinesses to the surveys conducted each month by this office. Thank you for your response to these surveys.

Joseph L. Parsons  
Director

## March Prospective Plantings

As of March 1, Nebraska producers expect to increase acreage planted to soybeans, hay, oats, sunflower, and sugarbeets, decrease acreage devoted to sorghum, dry edible beans, and wheat (sown last fall). While leaving corn unchanged from a year ago. Nebraska corn growers expect to plant 8.8 million acres for all purposes in 2009, unchanged from last year. Soybean growers intend to plant 5.0 million acres, up 2 percent from last year and just 50,000 acres or 1 percent below the record high set in 2006. Last fall, winter wheat was sown on 1.7 million acres, down 3 percent from a year earlier and 17 percent below the 2007 crop.

Sorghum growers expect to plant 250,000 acres, down 50,000 acres or 17 percent from last year and the smallest acreage since 1932. Hay acreage for harvest, at 2.6 million, would be up 1 percent from last year. Dry edible bean producers intend to plant 115,000 acres, down 15 percent from 2008. Oat planting intentions, at 115,000 acres, are up 21 percent from 2008. Sunflower planting intentions, at 65,000 acres, are up 1,000 acres from last year. Sugarbeet plantings of 52,000 acres would be up 15 percent from a year ago.

**Crop Summary: Acres Planted, Nebraska and United States, 2007-2009**

| Crop            | Nebraska    |       |                                      |                     | United States |         |                                      |                     |
|-----------------|-------------|-------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
|                 | 2007        | 2008  | Inten-<br>tions<br>2009 <sup>1</sup> | <u>2009</u><br>2008 | 2007          | 2008    | Inten-<br>tions<br>2009 <sup>1</sup> | <u>2009</u><br>2008 |
|                 | 1,000 Acres |       |                                      | Percent             | 1,000 Acres   |         |                                      | Percent             |
| Corn            | 9,400       | 8,800 | 8,800                                | 100                 | 93,527        | 85,982  | 84,986                               | 99                  |
| Soybeans        | 3,870       | 4,900 | 5,000                                | 102                 | 64,741        | 75,718  | 76,024                               | 100                 |
| Sorghum         | 350         | 300   | 250                                  | 83                  | 7,712         | 8,284   | 6,960                                | 84                  |
| Oats            | 120         | 95    | 115                                  | 121                 | 3,763         | 3,217   | 3,400                                | 106                 |
| Dry Beans       | 110         | 135   | 115                                  | 85                  | 1,527.4       | 1,495.0 | 1,546.1                              | 103                 |
| Sugar Beets     | 47.5        | 45.2  | 52.0                                 | 115                 | 1,268.8       | 1,090.8 | 1,151.6                              | 106                 |
| All Hay         | 2,650       | 2,570 | 2,600                                | 101                 | 61,006        | 60,062  | 60,297                               | 100                 |
| All Wheat       | 2,050       | 1,750 | 1,700                                | 97                  | 60,460        | 63,147  | 58,638                               | 93                  |
| Winter Wheat    | 2,050       | 1,750 | 1,700                                | 97                  | 45,012        | 46,281  | 42,889                               | 93                  |
| Sunflower - Oil | 35          | 45    | 35                                   | 78                  | 1,766         | 2,163   | 1,737                                | 80                  |
| - Non-oil       | 14          | 19    | 30                                   | 158                 | 305           | 354     | 333                                  | 94                  |
| - All           | 49          | 64    | 65                                   | 102                 | 2,070         | 2,517   | 2,070                                | 82                  |

<sup>1</sup>Intended plantings as indicated by reports from farmers

Source: USDA NASS Prospective Plantings, March 31, 2009

## Grain Stocks

Nebraska corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2009, totaled 808 million bushels, up 5 percent from March 1, 2008. Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 99 million bushels, down 17 percent from last year. Wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2009, totaled 29.9 million bushels, up 2 percent from a year ago.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2009, totaled 6.96 billion bushels, up 1 percent from March 1, 2008. Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 1.30 billion bushels, down 9 percent from last year. All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2009, totaled 1.04 billion bushels, up 46 percent from a year ago.

### Grain Stocks: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, 2007-2009

| Grain and Position     | Nebraska             |               |               |              | United States  |               |               |              |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
|                        | March 1, 2007        | March 1, 2008 | March 1, 2009 | 2009<br>2008 | March 1, 2007  | March 1, 2008 | March 1, 2009 | 2009<br>2008 |
|                        | <i>1,000 Bushels</i> |               |               |              | <i>Percent</i> |               |               |              |
| Corn                   |                      |               |               |              |                |               |               |              |
| On Farms               | 340,000              | 430,000       | 490,000       | 114          | 3,330,000      | 3,780,000     | 4,085,000     | 108          |
| Off Farms <sup>1</sup> | 301,568              | 336,772       | 318,288       | 95           | 2,738,250      | 3,078,722     | 2,873,397     | 93           |
| Total                  | 641,568              | 766,772       | 808,288       | 105          | 6,068,250      | 6,858,722     | 6,958,397     | 101          |
| All Wheat              |                      |               |               |              |                |               |               |              |
| On Farms               | 1,700                | 1,100         | 2,900         | 264          | 192,450        | 91,990        | 280,200       | 305          |
| Off Farms <sup>1</sup> | 21,227               | 28,263        | 26,950        | 95           | 664,278        | 617,280       | 756,372       | 123          |
| Total                  | 22,927               | 29,363        | 29,850        | 102          | 856,728        | 709,270       | 1,036,572     | 146          |
| Soybeans               |                      |               |               |              |                |               |               |              |
| On Farms               | 51,000               | 34,000        | 41,000        | 121          | 910,000        | 593,000       | 656,500       | 111          |
| Off Farms <sup>1</sup> | 96,585               | 84,880        | 58,063        | 68           | 876,887        | 840,982       | 645,106       | 77           |
| Total                  | 147,585              | 118,880       | 99,063        | 83           | 1,786,887      | 1,433,982     | 1,301,606     | 91           |
| Sorghum                |                      |               |               |              |                |               |               |              |
| On Farms               | 1,900                | 2,700         | 2,400         | 89           | 17,100         | 26,100        | 32,200        | 123          |
| Off Farms <sup>1</sup> | 10,716               | 11,245        | 12,399        | 110          | 125,122        | 159,808       | 176,593       | 111          |
| Total                  | 12,616               | 13,945        | 14,799        | 106          | 142,222        | 185,908       | 208,793       | 112          |
| Oats                   |                      |               |               |              |                |               |               |              |
| On Farms               | 700                  | 500           | 400           | 80           | 33,900         | 31,000        | 30,000        | 97           |
| Off Farms <sup>1</sup> | 2                    | 2             | 2             |              | 37,158         | 47,988        | 65,364        | 136          |
| Total                  | 2                    | 2             | 2             |              | 71,058         | 78,988        | 95,364        | 121          |

<sup>1</sup>Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. <sup>2</sup>Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.  
Source: USDA NASS Grain Stocks, March 31, 2009

### Prices Received: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, Preliminary March 2009 with Comparisons

| Commodity        | Unit    | Nebraska              |                       |              | United States         |                       |              |             |                           |
|------------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|
|                  |         | Mar 2008 <sup>1</sup> | Feb 2009 <sup>1</sup> | Mar 15, 2009 | Mar 2008 <sup>1</sup> | Feb 2009 <sup>1</sup> | Mar 15, 2009 | % of Parity | Parity Price <sup>2</sup> |
| All wheat        | Bushels | \$ 9.84               | \$ 5.08               | \$ 5.30      | \$ 10.50              | \$ 5.79               | \$ 5.85      | 44          | \$ 13.40                  |
| Corn             | Bushels | 4.53                  | 3.96                  | 4.00         | 4.70                  | 3.87                  | 3.96         | 48          | 8.27                      |
| Oats             | Bushels | 4.30                  | 2.52                  | 2.50         | 3.43                  | 2.76                  | 2.11         | 39          | 5.47                      |
| Grain Sorghum    | Cwt.    | 8.53                  | 4.93                  | 5.50         | 9.04                  | 5.05                  | 5.54         | 37          | 14.80                     |
| Soybeans         | Bushels | 11.50                 | 9.27                  | 8.75         | 11.40                 | 9.55                  | 9.13         | 45          | 20.10                     |
| Hay, All, Baled  | Ton     | 88.00                 | 89.00                 | 87.00        | 133.00                | 132.00                | 129.00       |             |                           |
| Alfalfa, Baled   | Ton     | 90.00                 | 91.00                 | 89.00        | 144.00                | 143.00                | 137.00       |             |                           |
| Other, Baled     | Ton     | 77.00                 | 78.00                 | 74.00        | 116.00                | 107.00                | 109.00       |             |                           |
| Dry Edible Beans | Cwt.    | 35.40                 | 29.40                 | 28.30        | 32.20                 | 30.10                 | 28.80        | 45          | 64.60                     |
| Hogs             | Cwt.    | 41.90                 | 44.70                 | 44.50        | 40.30                 | 43.90                 | 44.20        | 34          | 129.00                    |
| Barrows & Gilts  | Cwt.    | 42.20                 | 44.70                 | 44.50        | 41.10                 | 43.90                 | 44.30        |             |                           |
| Sows             | Cwt.    | 25.00                 | 47.00                 | 44.90        | 22.50                 | 43.40                 | 42.00        |             |                           |
| Beef Cattle      | Cwt.    | 92.90                 | 83.00                 | 83.50        | 87.80                 | 78.80                 | 78.50        | 33          | 236.00                    |
| Steers & Heifers | Cwt.    | 94.10                 | 84.10                 | 84.60        | 92.90                 | 83.80                 | 83.50        |             |                           |
| Cows             | Cwt.    | 54.00                 | 48.30                 | 48.70        | 51.50                 | 43.90                 | 44.00        |             |                           |
| Calves           | Cwt.    | 122.00                | 112.00                | 111.00       | 118.00                | 105.00                | 104.00       | 31          | 338.00                    |
| Sheep            | Cwt.    | 27.60                 | 29.50                 |              | 28.70                 | 31.90                 |              |             | 103.00                    |
| Lambs            | Cwt.    | 91.00                 | 96.80                 |              | 97.40                 | 100.00                |              |             | 266.00                    |

<sup>1</sup>Entire month average except hay. <sup>2</sup>Parity price based on data for March 2009.  
Source: USDA NASS Agricultural Prices, March 31, 2009

## Hogs and Pigs

Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2009, was 3.15 million head. This was 5 percent below March 1 and December 1, 2008. Breeding inventory, at 375,000 head, was up 1 percent from March 1, 2008 and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 2.78 million head, was down 5 percent from last year and last quarter.

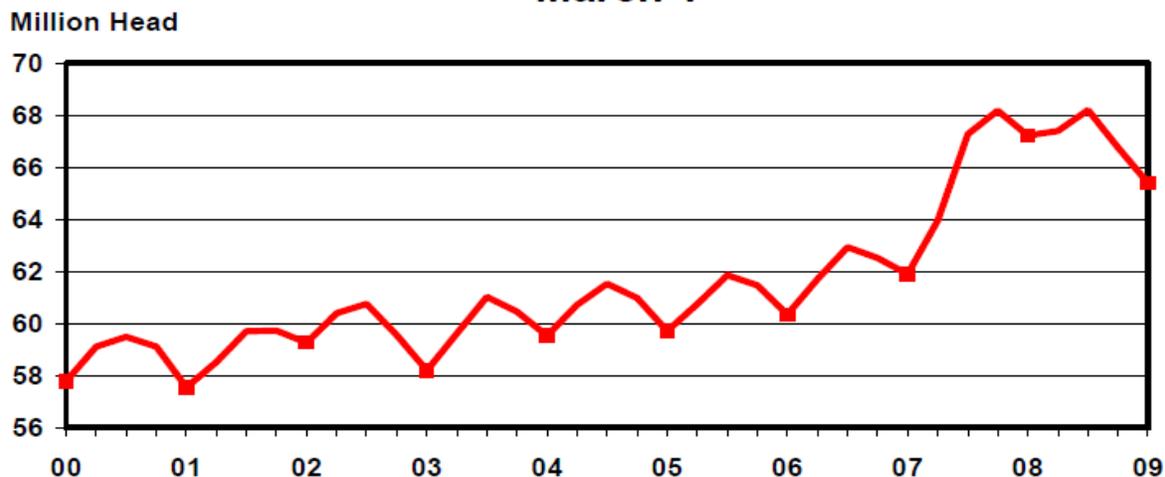
Inventory of all hogs and pigs in the United States was 65.4 million head on March 1, 2009. This was down 3 percent from March 1, 2008 and down 2 percent from December 1, 2008. Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down 1 percent from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 59.4 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down 2 percent from last quarter.

**Hogs and Pigs: March 1 Inventory, Sows Farrowing and Pig Crop, Nebraska and United States 2008-2009<sup>1</sup>**

| Item                           | Nebraska          |       |                | United States     |        |                |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|--------|----------------|
|                                | 2008              | 2009  | 2009/2008      | 2008              | 2009   | 2009/2008      |
|                                | <i>1,000 Head</i> |       | <i>Percent</i> | <i>1,000 Head</i> |        | <i>Percent</i> |
| March 1 Inventory              |                   |       |                |                   |        |                |
| All hogs and pigs              | 3,300             | 3,150 | 95             | 67,218            | 65,389 | 97             |
| Breeding                       | 370               | 375   | 101            | 6,200             | 6,011  | 97             |
| Market                         | 2,930             | 2,775 | 95             | 61,018            | 59,378 | 97             |
| Market Hogs & Pigs             |                   |       |                |                   |        |                |
| Under 60 pounds                | 1,080             | 1,030 | 95             | 22,137            | 21,458 | 97             |
| 60-119 pounds                  | 760               | 700   | 92             | 14,490            | 14,126 | 97             |
| 120-179 pounds                 | 660               | 610   | 92             | 13,193            | 12,862 | 97             |
| 180 pounds and over            | 430               | 435   | 101            | 11,199            | 10,932 | 98             |
| Sows Farrowing                 |                   |       |                |                   |        |                |
| December-February <sup>2</sup> | 190               | 180   | 95             | 3,071             | 2,978  | 97             |
| March-May <sup>3</sup>         | 185               | 180   | 97             | 3,052             | 2,962  | 97             |
| December-May <sup>2,4</sup>    | 375               | 360   | 96             | 6,123             | 5,940  | 97             |
| June-August <sup>3</sup>       | 185               | 180   | 97             | 3,075             | 2,952  | 96             |
| September-November             | 185               |       |                | 2,990             |        |                |
| June-November                  | 370               |       |                | 6,065             |        |                |
| Pig Crop                       |                   |       |                |                   |        |                |
| December-February <sup>2</sup> | 1,805             | 1,755 | 97             | 28,387            | 28,230 | 99             |
| March-May                      | 1,776             |       |                | 28,630            |        |                |
| December-May <sup>2</sup>      | 3,581             |       |                | 57,017            |        |                |
| June-August                    | 1,795             |       |                | 29,240            |        |                |
| September-November             | 1,813             |       |                | 28,410            |        |                |
| June-November                  | 3,608             |       |                | 57,650            |        |                |

<sup>1</sup> May not add due to rounding. <sup>2</sup> December preceding year. <sup>3</sup> Intentions for 2009. <sup>4</sup> Actual farrowings for December 2008-February 2009 plus intentions for March-May 2009. Source: USDA NASS Quarterly Hog and Pigs, March 27, 2009

## U.S. Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Inventory March 1



### Commercial Livestock Slaughter

February 2009 number slaughtered and changes from last year and last month are shown below. February 2008 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. February 2009 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

#### Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, February 2009 with Comparisons

| Item                 | Total <sup>1</sup> | Feb 2009 Percent of |          |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
|                      |                    | Feb 2008            | Jan 2009 |
| <b>Nebraska</b>      |                    |                     |          |
|                      | <i>1,000 Head</i>  |                     |          |
| Cattle, head         | 498.1              | 92                  | 92       |
| Hogs, head           | 612.2              | 95                  | 92       |
| Red Meat, mil. lbs.  | 541.3              | 95                  | 93       |
| <b>United States</b> |                    |                     |          |
| Cattle, head         | 2,527.3            | 96                  | 93       |
| Calves, head         | 74.1               | 107                 | 87       |
| Hogs, head           | 8,913.2            | 95                  | 90       |
| Sheep & Lambs, head  | 180.1              | 85                  | 95       |
| Red Meat, mil, lbs.  | 3,825.1            | 96                  | 92       |

<sup>1</sup> Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, March 20, 2009

### Stocks in Cold Storage: By Commodity, United States, February 2009 with Comparisons

| Commodity       | Stocks           | Feb 2009 Percent of |          |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|----------|
|                 |                  | Feb 2008            | Jan 2009 |
|                 | <i>1,000 Lbs</i> |                     |          |
| Total red meats | 1,096,075        | 102                 | 100      |
| Beef            | 434,166          | 99                  | 94       |
| Pork            | 636,608          | 104                 | 105      |
| Poultry         | 1,120,961        | 95                  | 98       |
| Turkey          | 470,053          | 113                 | 105      |
| Chicken         | 647,452          | 85                  | 93       |

Source: USDA NASS Cold Storage, March 20, 2009

### Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and United States, February 2009 with Comparisons

| Item                              | 2008            | 2009  | 2009/2008      |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
|                                   | <i>Millions</i> |       | <i>Percent</i> |
| <b>Number of Layers</b>           |                 |       |                |
| Nebraska                          | 10.0            | 9.7   | 97             |
| United States                     | 343.3           | 340.8 | 99             |
| <b>Table Eggs Produced</b>        |                 |       |                |
| Nebraska                          | 222             | 209   | 94             |
| United States                     | 6,034           | 5,907 | 98             |
| <b>Chickens Hatched, February</b> |                 |       |                |
| United States                     |                 |       |                |
| Egg-type                          | 37.5            | 36.9  | 98             |
| Broiler                           | 771.2           | 700.9 | 91             |

Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, March 23, 2009

### 2008 Cropland Data Layer Available

The Cropland Data Layer for Nebraska depicting distribution of 2008 crops is now available on CD Rom. Order it at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/research/Cropland/sarsample3.html> or call 1-800-727-9540.

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