



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.


Dean C. Groskurth
Director

March Prospective Plantings

As of March 1, Nebraska producers expect to increase acreage planted to corn, sorghum, dry edible beans, and oats, while decreasing acreage devoted to soybeans, hay, wheat (sown last fall), sunflowers, and sugarbeets. Nebraska corn growers expect to plant 10.3 million acres for all purposes in 2012, up 5 percent from 2011 and the largest since 1933. Soybean producers intend to plant 4.7 million acres, down 4 percent from a year earlier. Last fall, winter wheat was sown on 1.35 million acres, down 11 percent from the 2011 crop. This is the smallest winter wheat acreage planted in Nebraska

since records began in 1909. Sorghum growers expect to plant 165,000 acres, up 10 percent from last year. Hay acreage for harvest, at 2.4 million, is expected to be down 3 percent from last year. Dry edible bean producers intend to plant 155,000 acres, up 41 percent from 2011. Oat planting intentions, at 75,000 acres, are up 15,000 acres from 2011. Sunflower planting intentions, at 50,000 acres, are down 9,000 acres from last year and sugarbeet plantings, at 50,000 acres, are down 4 percent from a year ago.

Crop Summary: Acres Planted, Nebraska and United States, 2010-2012

Crop	Nebraska				United States			
	2010	2011	Inten- tions 2012 ¹	<u>2012</u> 2011	2010	2011	Inten- tions 2012 ¹	<u>2012</u> 2011
	1,000 Acres			Percent	1,000 Acres			Percent
Corn	9,150	9,850	10,300	105	88,192	91,921	95,864	104
Soybeans	5,150	4,900	4,700	96	77,404	74,976	73,902	99
Sorghum	155	150	165	110	5,404	5,481	5,950	109
Oats	90	60	75	125	3,138	2,496	2,863	115
Dry Beans	170	110	155	141	1,911.4	1,205.9	1,669.9	138
Sugar Beets	50.0	52.2	50.0	96	1,171.9	1,232.8	1,241.3	101
All Hay ²	2,690	2,480	2,400	97	59,872	55,633	57,348	103
All Wheat	1,600	1,520	1,350	89	53,593	54,409	55,908	103
Winter Wheat	1,600	1,520	1,350	89	37,335	40,646	41,709	103
Sunflower -- Oil	25	38	35	92	1,463.0	1,289.5	1,536.5	119
-- Non-oil	37	21	15	71	488.5	253.5	271.5	107
-- All	62	59	50	85	1,951.5	1,543.0	1,808.0	117

¹Intended plantings in 2012 as indicated by reports from farmers. ²Area harvested.

Source: USDA NASS Prospective Plantings, March 30, 2012

Grain Stocks

Nebraska corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2012, totaled 687 million bushels, down 10 percent from March 1, 2011. Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 122 million bushels, up 37 percent from last year. Wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2012, totaled 38.8 million bushels, down 31 percent from a year ago.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2012, totaled 6.01 billion bushels, down 8 percent from March 1, 2011. Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 1.37 billion bushels, up 10 percent from last year. All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2012, totaled 1.20 billion bushels, down 16 percent from a year ago.

Grain Stocks: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, 2010-2012

Grain and Position	Nebraska				United States			
	March 1, 2010	March 1, 2011	March 1, 2012	2012 2011	March 1, 2010	March 1, 2011	March 1, 2012	2012 2011
	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>				<i>Percent</i>			
Corn					<i>1,000 Bushels</i>			
On Farms	530,000	380,000	350,000	92	4,548,000	3,384,000	3,192,000	94
Off Farms ¹	376,390	385,814	336,556	87	3,145,787	3,139,228	2,817,260	90
Total	906,390	765,814	686,556	90	7,693,787	6,523,228	6,009,260	92
All Wheat					<i>Percent</i>			
On Farms	4,400	2,900	2,400	83	348,250	288,010	217,400	75
Off Farms ¹	41,767	52,938	36,368	69	1,008,107	1,137,292	983,255	86
Total	46,167	55,838	38,768	69	1,356,357	1,425,302	1,200,655	84
Soybeans					<i>Percent</i>			
On Farms	31,000	25,000	32,000	128	609,200	505,000	555,000	110
Off Farms ¹	60,086	64,076	90,103	141	660,868	743,800	817,258	110
Total	91,086	89,076	122,103	137	1,270,068	1,248,800	1,372,258	110
Sorghum					<i>Percent</i>			
On Farms	2,400	1,300	1,300	100	23,680	13,020	12,800	98
Off Farms ¹	8,364	5,482	5,180	94	151,873	158,027	95,135	60
Total	10,764	6,782	6,480	96	175,553	171,047	107,935	63
Oats					<i>Percent</i>			
On Farms	600	400	450	113	30,900	26,950	19,750	73
Off Farms ¹	(D)	(D)	204		67,091	59,361	52,788	89
Total	(D)	(D)	654		97,991	86,311	72,538	84

¹Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Source: USDA NASS Grain Stocks, March 30, 2012

Prices Received: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, Preliminary March 2012 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Nebraska			United States		
		March 2011 ¹	February 2012 ¹	March 2012 ²	March 2011 ¹	February 2012 ¹	March 2012 ²
All wheat	Bushels	\$ 6.38	\$ 6.43	\$ 6.30	\$ 7.55	\$ 7.10	\$ 7.24
Corn	Bushels	5.30	6.22	6.40	5.53	6.28	6.48
Oats	Bushels	3.72	3.99	4.05	3.28	3.46	3.58
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	10.30	10.60	10.70	10.60	10.80	11.30
Soybeans	Bushels	12.60	11.90	12.70	12.70	12.20	13.10
Hay, All, Baled	Ton	76.00	128.00	129.00	126.00	176.00	181.00
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	80.00	139.00	140.00	142.00	198.00	201.00
Other, Baled	Ton	65.00	95.00	99.00	99.50	130.00	139.00
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	31.90	46.90	47.30	29.90	46.70	49.00
Hogs	Cwt.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	62.90 ³	65.50 ³	65.70 ³
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	63.10 ³	65.80 ³	65.80 ³
Sows	Cwt.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	58.00 ³	58.30 ³	60.40 ³
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	115.00 ³	127.00 ³	130.00 ³
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	118.00 ³	131.00 ³	134.00 ³
Cows	Cwt.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	75.20 ³	82.00 ³	84.50 ³
Calves	Cwt.	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	148.00 ³	184.00 ³	185.00 ³

¹Entire month average except hay. ²Preliminary. ³Price data source is USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service.

(NA) Not Available – State prices discontinued.

Source: USDA NASS Agricultural Prices, March 29, 2012

Hogs and Pigs

Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2012, was 3.10 million head. This was unchanged from March 1, 2011, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2011. Breeding inventory, at 390,000 head, was up 5 percent from March 1, 2011, and up 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 2.71 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, and down 2 percent from last quarter.

Inventory of all hogs and pigs in the United States on March 1, 2012 was 64.9 million head. This was up 2 percent from March 1, 2011, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2011. Breeding inventory, at 5.82 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 59.1 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

Hogs and Pigs: March 1 Inventory, Sows Farrowing and Pig Crop, Nebraska and United States 2011-2012¹

Item	Nebraska			United States		
	2011	2012	2012/2011	2011	2012	2012/2011
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>
March 1 Inventory						
All hogs and pigs	3,100	3,100	100	63,684	64,872	102
Breeding	370	390	105	5,788	5,820	101
Market	2,730	2,710	99	57,896	59,052	102
Market Hogs & Pigs						
Under 50 pounds	910	880	97	18,863	19,332	102
50-119 pounds	800	790	99	16,060	16,456	102
120-179 pounds	595	605	102	12,361	12,569	102
180 pounds and over	425	435	102	10,612	10,695	101
Sows Farrowing						
December-February ²	175	175	100	2,843	2,877	101
March-May ³	185	180	97	2,917	2,890	99
December-May ^{2,4}	360	355	99	5,760	5,767	100
June-August ³	180	180	100	2,927	2,880	98
September-November	180			2,894		
June-November	360			5,822		
Pig Crop						
December-February ²	1,768	1,820	103	27,866	28,681	103
March-May	1,906			29,252		
December-May ²	3,674			57,118		
June-August	1,890			29,355		
September-November	1,872			29,014		
June-November	3,762			58,369		

¹May not add due to rounding. ²December preceding year. ³Intentions for 2012. ⁴Actual farrowings for December 2011–February 2012 plus intentions for March-May 2012. Source: USDA NASS Quarterly Hog and Pigs, March 30, 2012

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price and Value, Nebraska and United States 2010-2011¹

State and Year	Honey producing colonies ²	Yield per colony	Production	Stocks Dec. 15 ³	Average price per pound ⁴	Value of production ⁵
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2010						
Nebraska	41	55.0	2,255	902	151.0	3,405
United States	2,692	65.6	176,462	45,018	161.9	285,692
2011						
Nebraska	41	59.0	2,419	653	173.0	4,185
United States	2,491	59.6	148,357	36,761	172.9	256,509

¹For producers with 5 or more colonies. ²Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was taken during the year. It is possible to take honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year. ³Stocks held by producers.

⁴Average price per pound based on expanded sales. ⁵Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound. Source: USDA NASS Honey, March 30, 2012

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

February 2012 number slaughtered and changes from last year and last month are shown below. February 2011 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. February 2012 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, February 2012 with Comparisons

Item	Total ¹	Feb 2012 Percent of	
		Feb 2011	Jan 2012
Nebraska <i>1,000 Head</i>			
Cattle, head	518.2	98	96
Hogs, head	659.3	113	98
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	572.4	104	96
United States			
Cattle, head	2,557.7	98	94
Calves, head	60.2	87	89
Hogs, head	9,044.5	106	95
Sheep & Lambs, head	165.4	107	100
Red Meat, mil, lbs.	3,914.0	103	95

¹Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, March 23, 2012

Stocks in Cold Storage: By Commodity, United States, February 29, 2012 with Comparisons

Commodity	Stocks	Feb 29, 2012 Percent of	
		Feb 28, 2011	Jan 31, 2012
<i>1,000 Lbs</i>			
Total red meat	1,115,938	106	102
Beef	466,106	101	96
Pork	624,718	109	107
Poultry	951,830	94	105
Turkey	350,087	121	118
Chicken	599,421	84	99

Source: USDA NASS Cold Storage, March 22, 2012

Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and United States, February 2012 with Comparisons

Item	2011	2012	2012/2011
Number of Layers			
Nebraska	9.4	9.2	99
United States	339.8	338.2	100
Table Eggs Produced			
Nebraska	210	214	102
United States	6,022	6,249	104
Chickens Hatched, February			
United States			
Egg-type	37.3	39.3	105
Broiler	708.7	705.1	99

Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, March 22, 2012

2011 Cropland Data Layer Available

The Cropland Data Layer for Nebraska depicting distribution of 2011 crops is now available on CD Rom. Order it at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/research/Cropland/SARS1a.htm> or call 1-800-727-9540.