Livestock Inventory & Production

The total value of all cattle, hogs and sheep on Pennsylvania farms January 1, 2010, was $1.68 billion, down 14 percent from the previous year. Cattle inventory was valued at $1.57 billion on January 1, 2010, accounting for 93.6 percent of the total value of all livestock in Pennsylvania. Sheep inventory, valued at $16.0 million, accounted for 1.0 percent of the total. Hog inventory, valued at $90.9 million on December 1, 2009, accounted for 5.4 percent of the total livestock inventory value.

Cattle: All cattle in Pennsylvania totaled 1,620,000 head on January 1, 2010, up 30,000 head from January 1, 2009. Of the total, 700,000 were cows and heifers that had calved. Milk cow inventory totaled 540,000, a 10,000 head decrease from 1 year earlier. The number of beef cows at 160,000 head, was up 10,000 head from last year. Heifers 500 pounds and over totaled 340,000, up 30,000 from January 1, 2009. There were 300,000 heifers for dairy replacement and 40,000 for beef cow replacement. Steers 500 pounds and over totaled 150,000. A total of 25,000 bulls 500 pounds and over were on hand. Calves under 500 pounds totaled 355,000, up 20,000 from the previous year. The 2009 Pennsylvania calf crop totaled 610,000 head, steady with the 2008 calf crop.

The gross income from cattle production was $433 million in 2009, down 15.8 percent from the previous year. Pennsylvania ranked 5th in the United States in milk cow inventory on January 1, 2010, and 19th in cattle inventory.

Hogs: There were 1,140,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms as of December 1, 2009, 20,000 head above the previous year. Breeding hog inventory, at 100,000 head, was 10,000 head more than the previous year. A total of 1,040,000 market hogs and pigs were on hand as of December 1, 2009, 10,000 head above last year.

Pennsylvania's pig crop in 2009 totaled 1,675,000, up 139,000 head from 2008. A total of 170,000 sows farrowed in 2009, averaging 9.85 pigs per litter. The gross income from pork production was $171.3 million for 2009, which was down 2 percent from 2008. Pennsylvania's hog inventory ranked 12th in the United States on December 1, 2009.

Sheep: January 1, 2010 sheep and lamb inventory totaled 94,000 head, down 6,000 head from January 1, 2009. Commonwealth flocks included 80,000 breeding sheep and lambs. The total lamb crop for 2009 was 65,000 lambs, down 8,000 head from 2008. Wool production totaled 350,000 pounds, 50,000 pounds less than 2008 wool production.

The gross income from sheep production in 2009 was $6.0 million, up slightly from 2008. The value of wool produced during the year was $116,000, down $8,000 from 2008. Pennsylvania ranked 15th in the United States in sheep and lamb inventory as of January 1, 2010.

Goats: January 1, 2010 milk and meat goat inventory totaled 59,000 head, up 2,500 head from January 1, 2009. Commonwealth herds included 42,000 meat and other goats and 17,000 milk goats.

Red Meat Production: Pennsylvania red meat production, dressed weight basis, in commercial slaughter establishments totaled 1.28 billion pounds in 2009, down 4.1 percent from 2008. There were 234 commercial slaughter plants in Pennsylvania on January 1, 2010. Pennsylvania ranked 1st among all states in the number of commercial slaughter plants.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 928,500 head in 2009, 7 percent below the previous year. Total live weight for cattle slaughtered was 1.15 billion pounds. Average live weight at 1,255 pounds was 8 pounds below the 2008 average. Slaughter of calves weighing less than 500 pounds totaled 129,500 head, down 19.5 percent from 2008. Total live weight for calves slaughtered was 55.1 million pounds. The average live weight for calves, at 426 pounds, was up 56 pounds from 2008.

A total of 3,008,300 hogs were slaughtered in Pennsylvania in 2009, down slightly from 2008. Total live weight for hogs slaughtered was 774.4 million pounds. The average live weight for hogs slaughtered was 258 pounds, up 2 pounds from 2008.

Sheep and lamb slaughter was at 46,300 head. Total live weight for sheep and lambs slaughtered was 4,537,000 pounds. Sheep and lambs slaughtered averaged 98 pounds live weight, up 1 pound from the previous year.

Pennsylvania ranked 13th among all states in commercial red meat production in 2009. Pennsylvania's rankings by number of head slaughtered were: 8th for cattle, 3rd for calves, 10th for hogs, and 6th for sheep.