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in cooperation with

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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during July 2018 totaled 600,000 pounds. This was up 11 percent from July 2017. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 586,000 pounds live weight, up 7 percent from July 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,206 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 228,000 pounds live weight, up 10 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 800 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 282 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.24 billion pounds in July, up 6 percent from the 3.99 billion pounds produced in July 2017.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter

totaled 2.77 million head, up 6 percent from July 2017. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,330 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.1 million pounds, 8 percent above July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 47,800 head, up 22 percent from July 2017. The average live weight was down 27 pounds from last year, at 223 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.99 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.60 million head, up 6 percent from July 2017. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.1 million pounds, was up 10 percent from July 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 178,900 head, 7 percent above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 3 pounds from July a year ago.

January to July 2018 commercial red meat production was 30.5 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

July 2017 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays. July 2018 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.

CATTLE ON FEED

United States – Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on August 1, 2018. The inventory was 5 percent above August 1, 2017. This is the highest August 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.74 million head, 8 percent above 2017. Net placements were 1.68 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 410,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 290,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 415,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 367,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 175,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 85,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.87 million head, 5 percent above 2017.

Other disappearance totaled 63,000 head during July, 31 percent above 2017.

HONEY BEE COLONIES

Charleston, West Virginia – Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies in West Virginia as of January 1, 2018 totaled 4,700, down 15 percent from January 1, 2017. The number of colonies on April 1, 2018 totaled 7,000, down 7 percent from April 1, 2017. During 2017, honey bee colonies on April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 7,500, 9,000, and 8,500, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies from January-March 2018, were 2,000 colonies or 24 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April-June 2018 was 490, or 7 percent. During the quarter of October-December 2017, colonies lost totaled 1,200 colonies or 14 percent, the highest of any quarter in 2017. The quarter in 2017 with the lowest number of colonies lost was April-June, with 370 colonies lost or 5 percent.

Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies from January-March 2018 were 330 colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April-June 2018 was 2,100. During the quarter of April-June 2017, 4,100 colonies were added, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter of 2017. The quarter of October-December 2017 added 70 colonies, the lowest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter of 2017.

Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies from January-March 2018 were 60, or 1 percent. During the quarter of April-

June 2018, 550 colonies, or 8 percent, were renovated. The quarter in 2017 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April-June with 2,500 colonies renovated, or 33 percent. The quarter in 2017 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was January-March, with 100 colonies renovated. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

Varroa mites were the number one stressor for operations with five or more colonies during all quarters of 2017. The quarter of October-December 2017 had highest percentage of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites at 60.1 percent. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January-March 2018 and April-June 2018 are 15.0 percent and 13.8 percent, respectively.

United States – Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies in the United States on January 1, 2018 totaled 2.63 million colonies, down slightly from January 1, 2017. The number of colonies in the United States on April 1, 2018 was 2.69 million colonies. During 2017, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 2.64 million, 2.69 million, 2.99 million, and 2.85 million colonies, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2018, was 425 thousand colonies, or 16 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April through June 2018 was 270 thousand colonies, or 10 percent. During the quarter of October through December 2017, colonies lost totaled 425 thousand colonies, or 15 percent, the highest of any quarter in 2017. The quarter in 2017 with the lowest number of colonies lost was April through June, with 286 thousand colonies lost, or 11 percent.

Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2018 was 513 thousand colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April through June 2018 was 726 thousand. During the quarter of April through June 2017, 613 thousand colonies were added, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter of 2017. The quarter of October through December 2017 added 205 thousand colonies, the least number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter of 2017.

Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies from January through March

2018 was 289 thousand colonies, or 11 percent. During the quarter of April through June 2018, 715 thousand colonies, or 27 percent, were renovated. The quarter in 2017 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April through June with 763 thousand colonies renovated, or 28 percent. The quarter in 2017 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was October through December 2017, with 214 thousand or 8 percent. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through a nuc or package.

Varroa mites were the number one stressor for operations with five or more colonies during all quarters of 2017. The quarter of October through December 2017 had the highest percentage of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites at 55.3 percent. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January through March 2018 and April through June 2018 are 40.8 percent and 53.4 percent, respectively.

AUGUST CROP PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – All other hay production (excluding alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures) is forecast at 1,083,000 tons, up 57,000 tons from 2017. The area harvested is expected to total 570,000 acres, unchanged from the previous year. Average yield per acre is forecast at 1.90 tons, up 0.10 tons per acre from 2017.

Based on August 1 conditions, **apple** production is forecast at 110.0 million pounds. The forecast is up 8.0 million pounds or 8 percent from the 2017 crop of 102.0 million pounds.

Based on August 1 conditions, **peach** production is forecast at 6,500 tons (13.0 million pounds). The forecast is down 100 tons or 2 percent from the 2017 crop of 6,600 tons.

United States August 1, 2018 Forecast with 2017 Comparisons

- Corn production - 14.6 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent.
- Corn yield - 178.4 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushels.
- Oats production - 65.7 million bushels, up 33 percent.
- Winter wheat production - 1.19 billion bushels, down 6 percent.

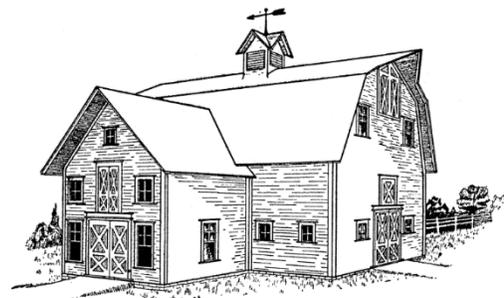
- Alfalfa and Alfalfa mixtures hay production - 57.8 million tons, up 5 percent.
- All other hay production - 70.7 million tons, down 7 percent.
- All tobacco production - 647.0 million pounds, down 9 percent.
- Burley tobacco production - 133.0 million pounds, down 17 percent.
- Soybean production - 4.59 billion bushels, up 4 percent.
- Barley production - 156.0 million bushels, up 10 percent.
- Apple production - 11.5 billion pounds, up less than 1 percent.
- Peach production - 732,050 tons, up 5 percent.

LAND VALUES

United States – Farm real estate value, a measurement of the value of all land and buildings on farms, averaged \$3,140 per acre for 2018, up \$60 per acre (1.9 percent) from 2017 values. Regional changes in the average value of farm real estate ranged from an 8.3 percent increase in the Southern Plains region to 1.4 percent decrease in the Northern Plains region. The highest farm real estate values were in the Corn Belt region at \$6,430 per acre. The Mountain region had the lowest farm real estate value at \$1,140 per acre.

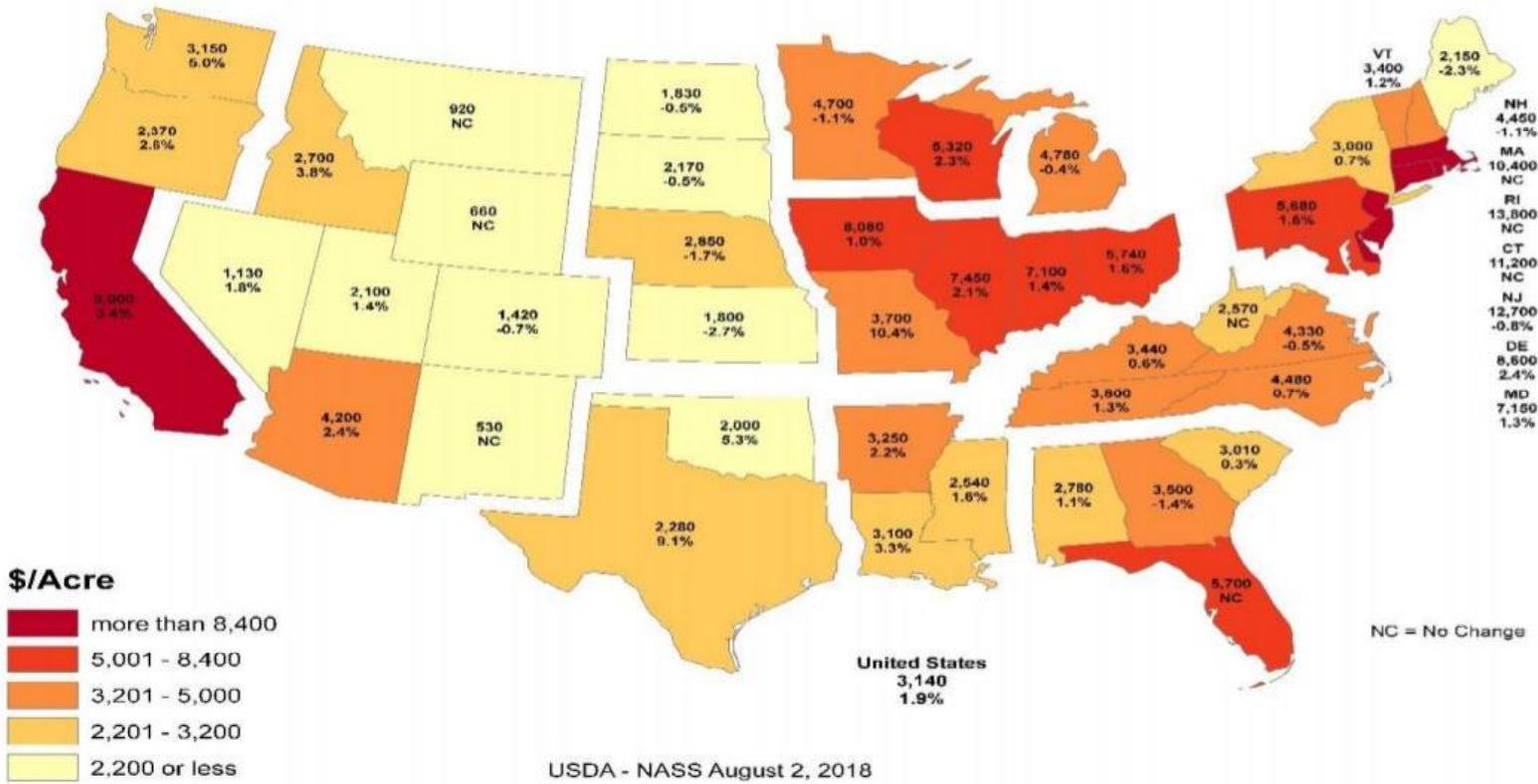
The United States **cropland value** averaged \$4,130 per acre, an increase of \$40 per acre from the previous year. In the Southern Plains region, the average cropland value increased 4.7 percent from the previous year, while in the Lake region, cropland values decreased by 0.6 percent.

The United States **pasture value** increased by \$40 per acre (3.0 percent) from 2017 values. The Southern Plains region had the highest increase from 2017 at 5.6 percent. The Pacific region remained unchanged at \$1,650 per acre.



2018 Farm Real Estate Value by State

Dollars per Acre and Percent Change from 2017



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 Chickens and Eggs
 Cash Receipts

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