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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during March 2019 totaled 600,000 pounds. This was up 8 percent from March 2018. 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 717,000 pounds live weight, up 16 percent from March 2018. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,051 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 166,000 pounds live weight, down 6 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 22 pounds from the previous year, at 260 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 4.43 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 4.52 billion pounds produced in March 2018.

Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.65 million head, down 2 percent from March 2018. The average live weight was down 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,339 pounds.

Veal production totaled 5.8 million pounds, 5 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 45,800 head, up 5 percent from March 2018. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from last year, at 219 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.30 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up slightly from March 2018. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 287 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.0 million pounds, was down 8 percent from March 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 190,700 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 3 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2019 commercial red meat production was 13.3 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2018. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down slightly, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

March 2018 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays. March 2019 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.

TROUT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – The total value of fish sold for 2018 was 1.01 million dollars. In 2017, the commercial trout producers in West Virginia had a total value of fish sold of 1.07 million dollars for the 12 month period from January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017.

The number of trout 12 inches and longer sold during 2018 totaled 450,000 fish, down from 590,000 fish in 2017. The average price per pound was \$2.31, up from \$2.03 per pound in 2017. The value of sales for the 2018 marketing year was 1.01 million dollars, down from 1.05 million dollars in 2017. Other size categories are not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

The number of distributed trout 12 inches and longer during 2018 totaled 380,000 fish. The average value per pound was \$3.04 in 2018. The estimated value of fish distributed totaled 1.17 million dollars for 2018. Data for 2017 were withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

The number of distributed trout 6” - 12” during 2017 totaled 400,000 fish. The average value per pound was \$3.00 in 2017. The estimated value of fish distributed totaled 636 thousand dollars for 2017.

Data for 2018 were withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. Data for distributed trout size 1" - 6" were not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. The estimated value of fish distributed totaled 2.7 million dollars, up from 2.6 million dollars in 2017.

Trout losses in 2018 totaled 11,000 pounds, down from the 2017 total of 17,000 pounds. The number of trout lost in 2018 totaled 91,000 fish, up from the 2017 total of 64,000 fish.

United States – The total value of fish sales received by trout growers in the United States totaled 100 million dollars for 2018, a decrease of 10 percent from 2017. Idaho accounted for 40 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of trout 12 inches and longer sold during 2018 totaled 35.8 million fish, down 13 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound was \$1.91, the same as 2017. The value of sales for the 2018 marketing year was 91 million dollars, down 12 percent from 2017. For trout 12 inches or longer, 41 percent were sold to processors.

The number of 6"- 12" trout sold during 2018 totaled 8.05 million fish, an increase of 25 percent from 2017. The average price per pound was \$3.60 during 2018, down 9 percent from the 2017 price. The total value of sales was 7.86 million dollars during 2018, a 5 percent increase from the previous year. The major sales outlets for 6"-12" trout were for recreational stocking accounting for 52 percent of total sales, followed by wholesale to other producers with 28 percent.

The number of 1"- 6" trout sold during 2017 totaled 6.72 million, an increase of 4 percent from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$197 during 2018, up from \$196 in 2017. The total value of sales was 1.33 million dollars, up 4 percent from last year's total.

Distributed Trout - Trout distributed for restoration, conservation, enhancement, or recreational purposes, primarily by State and Federal hatcheries, included 8.07 million 12" or longer fish, 62.0 million 6"- 12" fish, and 53.1 million 1"- 6" fish. The estimated value of fish distributed totaled 129 million dollars, down 3 percent from 2017.

Trout Value of Sales (excluding eggs), 2017-2018								
State	12" and longer		6"-12" Size		1"- 6" Size		Total Value of Fish Sold	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
Thousand Dollars								
AR ^{1/}	*	*	*	*	*	*	3,854	*
CA	3,455	2,695	*	*	*	*	3,706	2,978
CO	*	*	*	45	*	*	*	*
GA	50,400	39,960	*	*	*	*	50,418	40,290
ID	*	*	*	109	*	*	1,492	1,511
MI	1,740	*	*	*	*	*	2,819	*
MO	*	*	122	210	*	*	569	732
NY	7,885	7,600	*	*	*	*	9,111	8,790
NC	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
OR	4,879	5,136	1,322	1,213	75	95	6,276	6,444
PA	550	385	*	*	*	*	694	443
UT	1,577	1,577	*	*	*	*	1,747	1,733
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
WA	1,045	1,005	*	*	*	*	1,066	1,005
WV	1,569	1,314	*	*	*	*	1,694	1,468
WI	29,637	31,111	6,008	6,283	1,194	1,231	28,012	34,575
Other States ^{2/}	102,737	90,783	7,452	7,860	1,269	1,326	111,458	99,969
United States								

^{1/} Arkansas reported trout only for distribution and no sales. ^{2/} Other States include State estimates not listed and States suppressed due to disclosure. * Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Trout Losses - Total losses of all trout intended for sale were 29.1 million fish during 2017. Disease accounted for 92 percent of these losses.

FIRST QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Milk production in West Virginia totaled 24 million pounds or 2.8 million gallons during the January - March quarter of 2019. This was down 20 percent from the same period in 2018, and down 1 million pounds or 116,000 gallons from the October - December 2018 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 6,500 head, down 500 head from the same period in 2018, and down 500 head from the previous quarter.

United States – Milk production in the United States during the January - March quarter totaled 54.5 billion pounds, up 0.2 percent from the January - March quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.35 million head, 8,000 head less than the October - December quarter, and 84,000 head less than the same period last year.

Note: A conversion of 8.6 pounds per gallon was used.

CROP VALUES

Charleston, West Virginia – **Corn for grain** value of production totaled \$19.56 million in 2018, a slight decrease of 1 percent from \$19.81 million in 2017. The marketing year average price received per bushel for corn was \$3.90, down \$0.05 per bushel from \$3.95 per bushel in 2017.

The value of **all wheat** production in 2018 was \$676 thousand, a 48 percent decrease from the 2017 crop value of \$1.30 million. Growers received an average of \$4.90 per bushel for the 2018 crop, up \$0.20 per bushel from the price per bushel of \$4.70 in 2017.

Soybeans value of production totaled \$12.43 million, a 6 percent decrease from the 2017 value of \$13.20 million. The average price received per bushel for soybeans was \$8.60. This was down \$0.80 a bushel from the 2017 average price of \$9.40 per bushel.

The value of **all hay** production totaled \$116.45 million in 2018, a 3 percent decrease from the 2017 value of \$120.40 million. The average price received per ton was \$127.00. This was up \$7.00 per ton from the 2017 average price of \$120.00 per ton.

The value of **alfalfa hay** production totaled \$7.71 million in 2018, an 11 percent decrease from the 2017 value of \$8.69 million. The average price received per

ton was \$203.00. This was up \$14.00 per ton from the 2017 average price of \$189.00 per ton.

The value of all **other hay** production totaled \$108.73 million in 2018, 3 percent less than the 2017 value of \$111.71 million. The average price received per ton was \$123.00. This was up \$7.00 per ton from the 2017 average price of \$116.00 per ton.

United States Value and Marketing Year Average Price with 2017 Comparisons

- Corn for grain value of production - \$51.48 billion, up 4 percent; \$3.55 per bushel, up \$0.19.
- All wheat value of production - \$9.70 billion, up 17 percent; \$5.15 per bushel, up \$0.43.
- Soybeans value of production - \$39.13 billion, down 5 percent; \$8.60 per bushel, down \$0.73.
- All hay value of production - \$17.05 billion, up 6 percent; \$164.00 per ton, up \$22.00.
- Alfalfa hay value of production - \$8.46 billion, up 4 percent; \$181.00 per ton, up \$27.00.
- All other hay value of production - \$8.59 billion, up 8 percent; \$133.00 per ton, up \$13.00.

* *Note:* 2018 data are preliminary. State and United States preliminary 2018 MYA prices for corn, sorghum, oats, barley, wheat, rice, soybeans, flaxseed, sunflower, canola, Upland cotton, dry edible beans, chickpeas (garbanzo beans), dry edible peas, Austrian winter peas, lentils, peanuts, and potatoes are based on entire month price data through December 2018 and, except for cotton and peanuts, allowances are made for the portion of the 2018 crop to be marketed during the remainder of each crop's 2018 marketing year. State MYA prices for crops not in the monthly price program are based on annual surveys.

FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS

United States – **The number of farms** in West Virginia totaled 23,400 in 2018, down 200 farms from 2017. The total land in farms was 3.60 million acres, down 0.1 million acres from 2017. The average farm size was 154 acres, down 3 acres from 2017.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$1,000 - \$9,999** economic sales class totaled 17,000 in 2018, unchanged from 2017. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 1.60 million acres, unchanged from 2017. The average farm size for this sales class was 94 acres, unchanged from 2017.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$10,000 - \$99,999** economic sales class totaled 5,600 in 2018, down 200 farms from 2017. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 1.40 million acres, down 0.1 million acres from 2017. The average farm size for this sales class was 250 acres, down 9 acres from 2017.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$100,000 - \$249,999** economic sales class totaled 370 in 2018, unchanged from 2017. Land in farms for this sales

class totaled 270,000 acres, unchanged from 2017. The average farm size for this sales class was 730 acres, unchanged from 2017.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$250,000 - \$499,999** economic sales class totaled 130 in 2018, unchanged from 2017. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 120,000 acres, unchanged from 2017. The average farm size for this sales class was 923 acres, unchanged from 2017.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$500,000 - \$999,999** economic sales class totaled 150 in 2018, unchanged from 2017. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 100,000 acres, unchanged from 2017. The average farm size for this sales class was 667 acres, unchanged from 2017.

The West Virginia number of farms in the **\$1,000,000 or more** economic sales class totaled 150 in 2018, unchanged from 2017. Land in farms for this sales class totaled 110,000 acres, unchanged from 2017. The average farm size for this sales class was 733 acres, unchanged from 2017.

United States – The number of farms in the United States for 2018 is estimated at 2,029,200, down 12,800 farms from 2017. Total land in farms, at 899,500,000 acres, decreased 870,000 acres from 2017. The average farm size for 2018 is 443 acres, up 2 acres from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are differentiated by six economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these six sales classes by summing the sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, \$500,000, and \$1,000,000. Producers were asked during the 2018 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2017 calendar year.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 in sales for the year to qualify as a farm, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more. Point Farms are assigned a sales class based on the sum of the agricultural point (dollar) values assigned to the quantity of commodities produced but not sold. The 2017 Census of Agriculture showed that 471,593 farms or 23.1 percent of the 2.04 million farms were Point Farms. These Point Farms operated 59.2 million acres or 6.6 percent of the 900.2 million acres of farmland.

Number of farms declined by 12,800 from 2017. The number of farms in Sales Class \$500,000 - \$999,999 increased while all other sales classes declined. Fifty-one percent of all farms had less than \$10,000 in sales. Eighty-two percent of all farms had less than \$100,000 in sales. Seven percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

Land in farms, at 899,500,000 acres, is down 870,000 acres from 2017. The biggest change for 2018 is that producers in Sales Class \$250,000 - \$499,999 operated 1,080,000 fewer acres than in 2017. In 2018, 30.1 percent of all farmland was operated by farms with less than \$100,000 in sales, while 40.8 percent of all farmland was operated by farms with sales of \$500,000 or more.

The **average farm size** continued to increase in 2018 as the number of farms declined more than land in farms. The overall average size increased by 2 acres to 443 acres per farm. Average farm size decreased in the \$500,000 - \$999,999 sales class and increased or remained unchanged in all others.

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