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West Virginia Field Office  
  
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**RED MEAT PRODUCTION**

**Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production** during September 2019 totaled 900,000 pounds. This was up 18 percent from September 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 1,223,000 pounds live weight, up 28 percent from September 2018. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,300 head, up 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 965 pounds.

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

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 244,000 pounds live weight, down 6 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 800 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 295 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 4.44 billion pounds in September, up 6 percent from the 4.19 billion pounds produced in September 2018.

**Beef production**, at 2.19 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.68 million head, up 2 percent from September 2018. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,352 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 6.1 million pounds, 1 percent above September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 49,000 head, up 1 percent from September 2018. The average live weight was up 1 pound from last year, at 216 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.24 billion pounds, up 11 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.6 million head, up 10 percent from September 2018. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 282 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 179,400 head, 4 percent above last year. The average live weight was 122 pounds, down 10 pounds from September a year ago.

**January to September 2019 commercial red meat production** was 40.5 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2018. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

September 2018 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays. September 2019 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

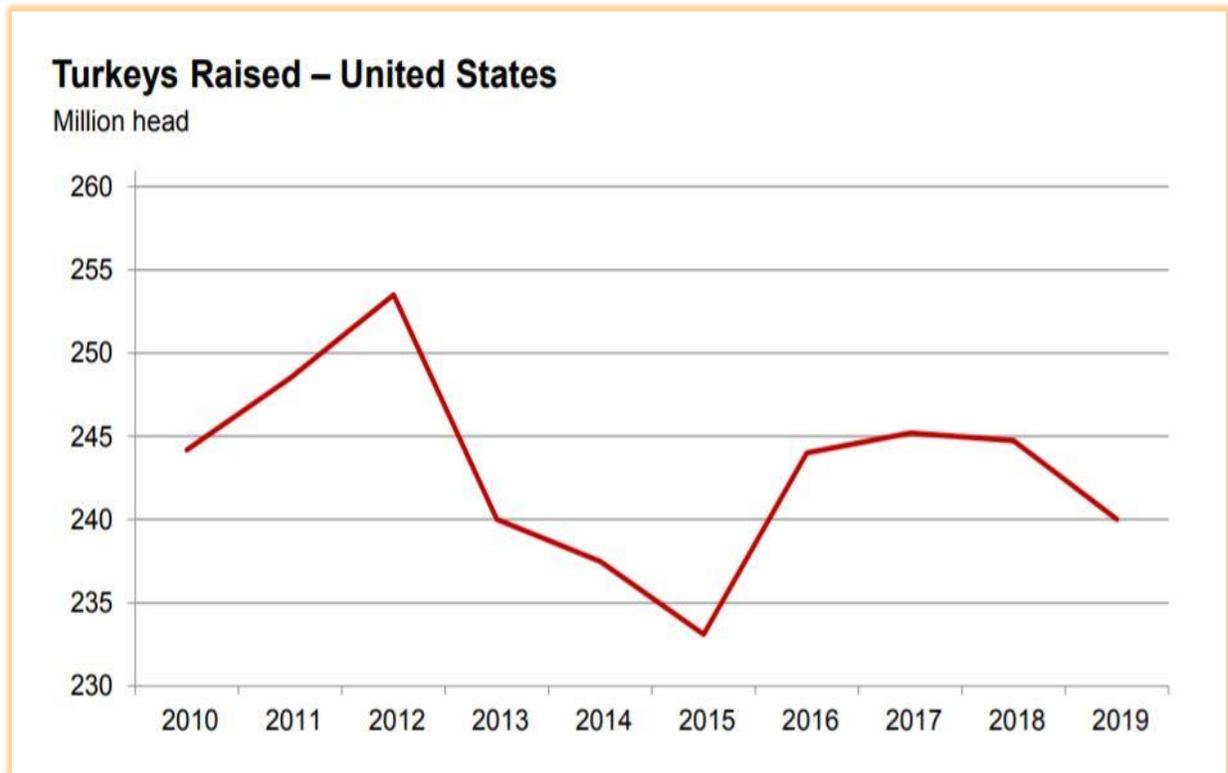
*Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.*

**TURKEYS RAISED**

**Charleston, West Virginia - Turkeys raised** in West Virginia during 2019 is forecasted to be 3.6 million birds, up 16 percent from 2018.

**United States - Turkeys raised** in the United States during 2019 is forecasted at 240 million, down 2 percent from the number raised during 2018. The top six states account for 67 percent of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2019. The largest turkey producing state is Minnesota, at 40.0 million turkeys, down 5 percent from the previous

year. North Carolina produced 32.5 million turkeys, unchanged from last year. Arkansas produced 32.0 million turkeys, which is up 2 percent from the previous year. Indiana is up 8 percent from a year ago to 21.5 million turkeys. Missouri produced 19.0 million turkeys, unchanged from last year. Virginia is down 7 percent from the previous year at 15.7 million turkeys.



**CHICKENS AND EGGS**

**United States - Egg production** totaled 9.19 billion during September 2019, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 8.04 billion table eggs, and 1.15 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 81.7 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during September 2019 totaled 394 million, up 1 percent from last year. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,332 eggs, up 1 percent from September 2018.

**Total layers** in the United States on October 1, 2019 totaled 395 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 395 million layers consisted of 333 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 58.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.46

million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2019, averaged 77.6 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from October 1, 2018.

**Egg-type chicks** hatched during September 2019 totaled 50.1 million, up 1 percent from September 2018. Eggs in incubators totaled 48.3 million on October 1, 2019, down 6 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 286 thousand during September 2019, up 91 percent from September 2018.

**Broiler-type chicks** hatched during September 2019 totaled 814 million, up 3 percent from September 2018. Eggs in incubators totaled 674 million on October 1, 2019, up 4 percent from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 8.62 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply

flocks during September 2019, up 4 percent from September 2018.

### THIRD QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia** - Milk production in West Virginia totaled 22 million pounds or 2.6 million gallons during the July - September quarter of 2019. This is down 18.5 percent from the same period in 2018, and down 1 million pounds or 116,000 gallons from the April - June 2019 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 6,000 head, down 1,000 head from the same period in 2018, but unchanged from the previous quarter.

**United States** - Milk production in the United States during the July - September quarter totaled 54.3 billion pounds, up 0.5 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.32 million head, 10,000 head less than the April - June quarter, and 66,000 head less than the same period last year.

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

### SMALL GRAINS SUMMARY

**United States - All wheat** production totaled 1.96 billion bushels in 2019, up 4 percent from the revised 2018 total of 1.89 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 38.1 million acres, down 4 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 51.6 bushels per acre, up 4.0 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2018 by type were: winter wheat, 1.30 billion bushels, up 10 percent; other spring wheat, 600 million bushels, down 4 percent; and Durum wheat, 57.7 million bushels, down 26 percent.

**Oat production** was estimated at 54.2 million bushels, up 1 percent from 2018 for comparable States. Yield was estimated at 64.4 bushels per acre, down 0.9 bushel from the previous year for comparable States. Harvested area, at 842,000 acres, was 2 percent above last year for comparable States.

**Barley production** was estimated at 171 million bushels, up 12 percent from the revised 2018 total of 154 million bushels. The average yield per acre, at 77.4 bushels, was down 0.1 bushel from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.72 million acres in 2019, up 7 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 2.21 million acres, was up 12 percent from 2018.

*Note: West Virginia Winter Wheat estimates were discontinued in 2019.*

### OCTOBER CROP PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia - All other hay** production is forecast at 864,000 tons, down 10 percent from the August 1 forecast of 960,000 tons, and down 2 percent from the 2018 crop. All other hay harvested acreage is expected to total 480,000 acres in 2019, this is unchanged from the August 1 forecast, but down 8 percent from 2018. Yield is expected to average 1.80 tons per acre, down 0.20 ton per acre from the August 1 forecast, but up 0.10 ton per acre from 2018. The October 1 production forecast for alfalfa hay is not published for West Virginia. The next alfalfa hay estimate will be published in January 2020.

**United States - Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures dry hay** production for 2019 is forecast at 54.2 million tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast, but up 3 percent from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.22 tons per acre, down 0.07 ton from the previous forecast, but up 0.05 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.8 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 1 percent from 2018. Record high yields are expected in Nevada and New Mexico.

**Other hay** production is forecast at 76.7 million tons, up 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 8 percent from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.13 tons per acre, up 0.02 ton from the previous forecast and up 0.17 ton from last year. If realized, this would represent a new record high for the United States, surpassing the previous record of 2.09 tons per acre in 2016. Harvested area is forecast at 35.9 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 1 percent from 2018.

Much of the country has received significant precipitation this year. While moisture has hindered fieldwork at times, it has encouraged forage growth. Favorable conditions in Iowa, Missouri, and Tennessee have producers expecting record high yields in 2019.

**Corn** production for grain is forecast at 13.8 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 4 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 168.4 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.2 bushel from the previous forecast, but down 8.0 bushels from 2018. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 81.8 million acres, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up slightly from 2018. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.

**Soybean** production for beans is forecast at 3.55 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 20 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 46.9 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushel from the previous forecast and down 3.7 bushels from 2018. Area harvested for beans in the United States is forecast at 75.6 million acres, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 14 percent from 2018. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.

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## DECEMBER AG SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT

**The West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service** will be conducting the December Agricultural Survey from November 29 - December 12. Representatives from our office will be contacting farmers by telephone and personal interview. Interviewers will be collecting data on corn, hay, and storage capacity. The results of this survey will be released on January 10, 2020 and will be published in the January edition of the *Mountain State Reporter* and on our website at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>.

*Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. Your information matters!*

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