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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during September 2020 totaled 1,300,000 pounds, this was up 38 percent from September 2019. 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 1,823,000 pounds live weight, up 48 percent from September 2019. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,700 head, up 400 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 107 pounds from the previous year, at 1,076 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 296,000 pounds live weight, up 21 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,000 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was unchanged 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 4.71 billion pounds in September, up 6 percent from the 4.44 billion pounds produced in September 2019.

Beef production, at 2.35 billion pounds, was 8 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.81 million head, up 5 percent from September 2019. The average live weight was up 27 pounds from the previous year, at 1,379 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.9 million pounds, 20 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 32,400 head, down 34 percent from September 2019. The average live weight was up 45 pounds from last year, at 261 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.34 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.0 million head, up 4 percent from September 2019. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was down slightly from September 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 185,200 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 117 pounds, down 5 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2020 commercial red meat production was 41.0 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2019. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 7 percent.

September 2019 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays. September 2020 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.

CHICKENS AND EGGS

United States – Egg production totaled 9.03 billion during September 2020, down 2 percent from last year. Production included 7.81 billion table eggs, and 1.22 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.14 billion were

broiler-type and 81.0 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during September 2020 totaled 384 million, down 3 percent from last year. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,354 eggs, up 1 percent from September 2019.

Total layers in the United States on October 1, 2020 totaled 385 million, down 3 percent from last year. The 385 million layers consisted of 321 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 60.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.12 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2020, averaged 78.9 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from October 1, 2019.

Egg-type chicks hatched during September 2020 totaled 49.9 million, down 1 percent from September 2019. Eggs in incubators totaled 46.6 million on October 1, 2020, down 4 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 189,000 during September 2020, down 34 percent from September 2019.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during September 2020 totaled 810 million, down 1 percent from September 2019. Eggs in incubators totaled 667 million on October 1, 2020, down 1 percent from a year ago.

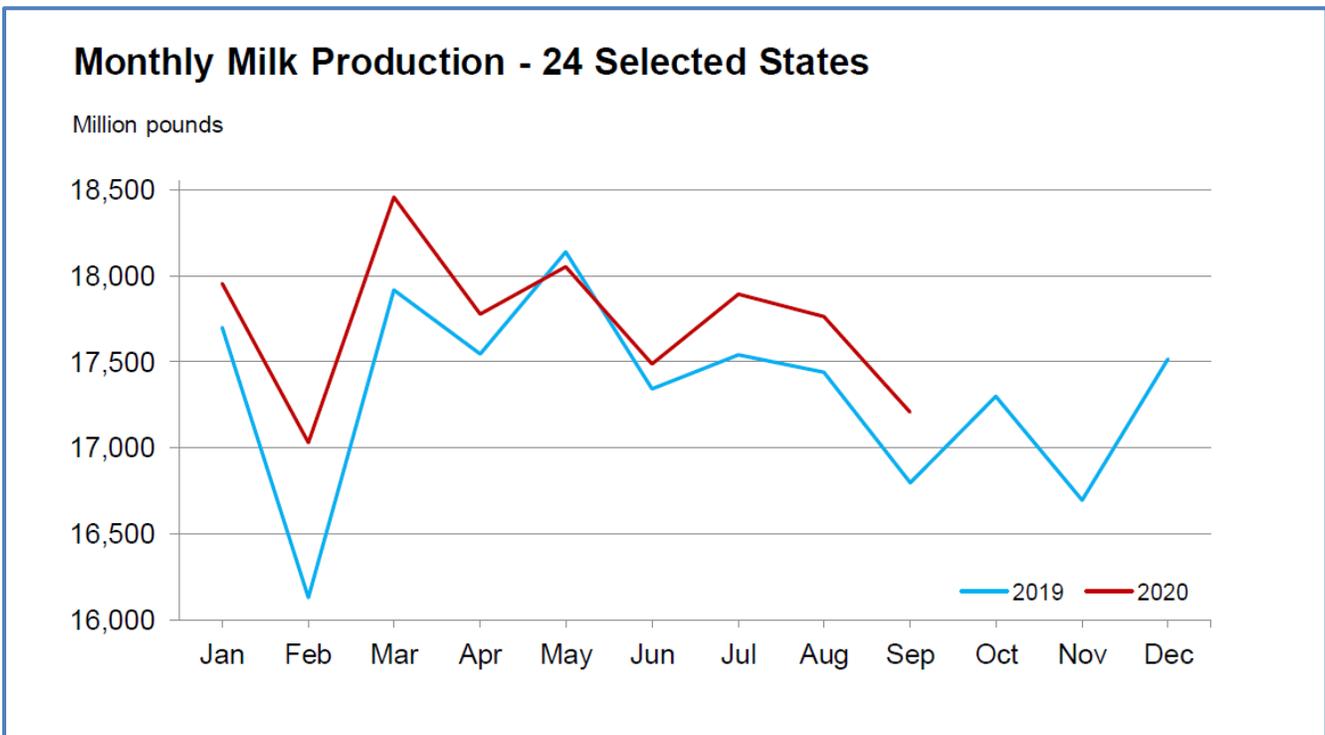
Leading breeders placed 9.35 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2020, up 9 percent from September 2019.

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 2020. This is unchanged from the same period in 2019, but down 1 million pounds or 116,000 gallons from the April - June 2020 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 6,000 head, unchanged from the same period in 2019, and the previous quarter.

United States – Milk production in the United States during the July - September quarter totaled 55.3 billion pounds, up 2.0 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.36 million head, 1,000 head less than the April - June quarter, but 39,000 head more than the same period last year.

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



OCTOBER CROP PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – All other hay production is forecast at 969,000 tons, up 6 percent from the August 1 forecast of 918,000 tons, and up 14 percent from the 2019 crop. All other hay harvested acreage is expected to total 510,000 acres in 2020, this is unchanged from the August 1 forecast, but up 2 percent from 2019. Yield is expected to average 1.90 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton per acre from the August 1 forecast, and up 0.20 ton per acre from 2019. The October 1 production forecast for alfalfa hay is not published for West Virginia. The next alfalfa hay estimate will be published in January 2021.

Corn planted is estimated at 50,000 acres, up 9 percent from the previous forecast, but down 2,000 acres from 2019. Growers expect to harvest 35,000 acres for grain, up 9 percent from the previous forecast, but down 3,000 acres from last year.

United States – Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures dry hay production for 2020 is forecast at 52.6 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast, but down 4 percent from 2019. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.22 tons per acre, up 0.06 ton from the August forecast, but down 0.06 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.4 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, and down 2 percent from 2019. Record high yields are forecast in Arizona, Idaho, and Oregon.

Other hay production is forecast at 75.1 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast and up 1 percent from 2019. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.08 tons per acre, up 0.04 from the August forecast and up 0.01 ton from last year. If realized this yield would represent the second highest yield on record. Harvested area is forecast at 36.0 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 1 percent from 2019. Record high yields are expected in Alabama, California, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, and Wyoming.

Corn production for grain is forecast at 14.7 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up 8 percent from 2019. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average a recordhigh 178.4 bushels per harvested acre, down 0.1 bushel from the previous forecast, but up 10.9

bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 82.5 million acres, down 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up 1 percent from the previous year. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.

Soybean production for beans is forecast at 4.27 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up 20 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average a record high 51.9 bushels per harvested acre, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 4.5 bushels from 2019. Area harvested for beans in the United States is forecast at 82.3 million acres, down 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up 10 percent from 2019. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.

ORGANIC FARMS

Charleston, West Virginia – In 2019, West Virginia had 27 certified organic farms, up 3 farms from 24 farms in 2014 (data in 2014 included both certified organic farms and farms exempt from certification). In 2019, 8 farms had sales of \$500,000 or more; 9 farms had sales from \$100,000 to \$499,999. Certified organic acres operated were 3,054.

In 2019, 12 farms had crop production, including nursery and greenhouse, 15 had livestock and poultry, and 7 had livestock and poultry products. Some of the produce and livestock West Virginia organic farms sold included blueberries, blackberries, squash, lettuce, tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, maple syrup, all hay, soybeans, corn for silage, cows, sheep, and broilers.

Some other interesting facts include the following: 10 farms used animal manures, 9 farms planted green manures, 5 farms maintained beneficial insect/vertebrate habitats, 8 farms produced or used organic mulch/compost, 5 farms had direct consumer sales, 8 farms sold through retail markets, institutions, or food hubs, and 7 farms reported market access as a major production challenge.

Data are from the 2019 Certified Organic Survey that is part of the 2017 Census of Agriculture program. Survey data were published from producers that were

certified organic and transitioning to organic certification. Detailed organic survey data are available on the

NASS website, for more information go to:
https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online_Resources/Organics/index.php.

West Virginia Certified Organic Sales by Product Type¹

		2014	2019
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse	farms	16	12
	dollars	160,000	286,000
Livestock and poultry	farms	8	15
	dollars	298,000	10,554,000
Livestock and poultry products	farms	3	7
	dollars	(D)	2,515,000
Total farms		24	27
Total value of products sold in dollars		(D)	13,354,000

^{1/} 2014 survey data included published data from farms that were certified organic, exempt from certification, and transitioning to organic certification. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.

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 Chickens and Eggs

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