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Red Meat Production

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during April 2021 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was down 23 percent from April 2020. 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 1,047,000 pounds live weight, down 27 percent from April 2020. Cattle slaughter totaled 900 head, down 400 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 26 pounds from the previous year, at 1,103 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 134,000 pounds live weight, down 46 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 400 head, down 400 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 313 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 April, up 22 percent from the 3.86 billion pounds produced in April 2020.

Beef production, at 2.35 billion pounds, was 29 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.85 million head, up 27 percent from April 2020. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,366 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.3 million pounds, 12 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 27,400 head, down 18 percent from April 2020. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from last year, at 268 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.34 billion pounds, up 15 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.8 million head, up 15 percent from April 2020. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 290 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was up 22 percent from April 2020. Sheep slaughter totaled 222,800 head, 23 percent above last year. The average live weight was 122 pounds, down 1 pound from April a year ago.

January to April 2021 commercial red meat production was 18.9 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2020. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

April 2020 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays. April 2021 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.

Meat Animals Production, Disposition And Income

Charleston, West Virginia – The production of meat animals in West Virginia during 2020 totaled 137.5 million pounds, down 7 percent from 2019. Cattle and calves production decreased to 136.0 million pounds from 146.2 million pounds in 2019.

Hogs and pigs production decreased 5 percent to 1.55 million pounds from 1.64 million pounds in 2019. The value of production of meat animals decreased to \$142.6 million compared to the value of \$158.8 million in 2019.

Total 2020 cash receipts from marketings for all meat animals were \$165.8 million, up 3 percent from cash receipts of \$161.0 million in 2019. Cattle and calves accounted for over 99 percent of the total cash receipts and hogs and pigs accounted for less than 1 percent.

The 2020 gross income from cattle and calves and hogs and pigs was \$172.0 million, up 3 percent from the 2019 gross income of \$167.2 million. Gross income from cattle and calves was up 3 percent, but hogs and pigs was down 15 percent from 2019.

Cattle and calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves increased 3 percent during 2020. Receipts totaled \$165.2 million compared with \$160.2 million in 2019. All cattle and calf marketings during 2020 reached 157.3 million pounds, up from 147.0 million pounds in 2019.

Hogs and pigs: Cash receipts from marketings of hogs and pigs were \$669,000 during 2020, down 17 percent from the 2019 cash receipts of \$803,000. Marketings of 1.38 million pounds during 2020 were 13 percent below the 2019 total marketings of 1.58 million pounds.

United States – Total 2020 production of cattle and calves and hogs and pigs for the United States totaled 86.0 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2019. Production increased 2 percent for cattle and calves, but decreased 3 percent for hogs and pigs.

Total 2020 cash receipts from marketings of meat animals decreased 7 percent to \$82.3 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 77 percent of this total and hogs and pigs accounted for 23 percent.

The 2020 gross income from cattle and calves and hogs and pigs for the United States totaled \$82.7 billion, down 7 percent from 2019. Gross income decreased 5 percent for cattle and calves, and decreased 12 percent for hogs and pigs from previous year's gross income.

Cattle and Calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves decreased 5 percent, from \$66.3 billion in 2019 to \$63.1 billion in 2020. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 59.0 billion pounds in 2020, up 1 percent from 2019.

Hogs and Pigs: Cash receipts from hogs and pigs totaled \$19.2 billion during 2020, down 12 percent from 2019. Marketings totaled 41.9 billion pounds in 2020, down 3 percent from 2019.

Note: Gross income equals cash receipts plus value of home consumption. Cash receipts equals receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter. Marketings exclude custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State.

2020 Poultry Production And Value

Charleston, West Virginia – The combined value of production and value of sales from broilers, turkeys, eggs, and the value of sales from chickens in 2020, was \$246.3 million, down 5 percent from the combined value of \$258.7 million in 2019. Of the combined total, 41 percent was from broilers, 36 percent from turkeys, 23 percent from eggs, and less than 1 percent from sales of chickens.

There were 70.2 million **broilers produced** in West Virginia during 2020, down 7 percent from the number of 75.5 million broilers produced in 2019. Total live weight was 273.8 million pounds, down 5 percent from 286.9 million pounds in 2019. Value of production totaled \$99.9 million, down 28 percent from the 2019 value of \$139.4 million. The average live weight equivalent price of 36.5 cents per pound is down from the 2019 average live weight equivalent price of 48.6 cents per pound. Equivalent price is for the commercial producer, not contractees.

Turkeys raised in West Virginia totaled 3.9 million, up 500,000 from the 2019 total. Total live weight was 126.0 million pounds, up 16 percent from 2019. Value of production totaled \$89.3 million, up 42 percent from the 2019 value of production of \$63.0 million. The average live weight equivalent price was 70.9 cents per pound, up 13.0 cents per pound from the 2019 price of 57.9 cents.

The **number of chickens sold** for slaughter (excluding broilers) totaled 1.59 million head, down 5 percent from the 2019 total of 1.68 million head sold. The number of pounds sold was 12.8 million pounds, down 4 percent from the 2019 number of 13.4 million pounds sold. Value of sales totaled \$345.4 thousand, down from \$761.3 thousand in 2019. Prices averaged 2.7 cents per pound, down from the 2019 price of 5.7 cents per pound.

Egg production in West Virginia totaled 290.3 million eggs during 2020, down 5 percent from the 2019 production of 306.2 million eggs. The average price per dozen was 234.3 cents, up from the 2019

average price per dozen of 217.6 cents. The total value of production was \$56.7 million, up 2 percent from the 2019 total of \$55.5 million. Most eggs produced in West Virginia are hatching eggs for broilers, not for table egg consumption.

United States – The combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from chickens in 2020 was \$35.5 billion, down 11 percent from \$40.0 billion in 2019. Of the combined total, 61 percent was from broilers, 24 percent from eggs, 15 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The value of broilers produced during 2020 was \$21.7 billion, down 23 percent from 2019. The total number of broilers produced in 2020 was 9.22 billion, up slightly from 2019. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2020 was 59.4 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2019.

The value of turkeys produced during 2020 was \$5.19 billion, up 20 percent from the \$4.32 billion the previous year. The total number of turkeys raised in 2020 was 224 million, down 2 percent from 2019. Turkey production in 2020 totaled 7.32 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the 7.47 billion pounds produced in 2019.

The value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 2020 was \$18.8 million, down 50 percent from \$37.6 million a year ago. The number of chickens sold in 2020 totaled 185 million, down 1 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

Value of all egg production in 2020 was \$8.66 billion, up 18 percent from \$7.33 billion in 2019. Egg production totaled 112 billion eggs, down 1 percent from 113 billion eggs produced in 2019.

Milk Production, Disposition And Income

Charleston, West Virginia – Milk production totaled 89 million pounds during 2020, down 1 million pounds from the 2019 production of 90 million pounds. The average number of milk cows during the year was 6,000 head, unchanged from 2019. Average milk production per cow was 14,833 pounds or around 1,725 gallons, down 167 pounds from the 2019 number of 15,000 pounds.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2020 totaled \$15.2 million, down 6 percent from the 2019 cash receipts number of \$16.2 million. Producer returns averaged \$17.50 per hundredweight, down \$.90 from 2019. Milk marketed by producers totaled 87 million pounds or 10.1 million gallons in 2020,

down 1 million pounds from the 2019 number of 88 million pounds. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers.



United States – Milk production increased 2.2 percent in 2020 to 223 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 23,777 pounds, was 382 pounds above 2019. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.39 million head, up 51,000 head from 2019.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2020 totaled \$40.5 billion, up slightly from 2019. Producer returns averaged \$18.25 per hundredweight, 2.1 percent below 2019. Marketings totaled 222.1 billion pounds, 2.2 percent above 2019. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

An estimated 1.09 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 6.2 percent more than 2019. Calves were fed 92 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

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

May Crop Production

Charleston, West Virginia – On farm hay stocks, as of May 1, 2021, totaled 145,000 tons. This is 50,000 tons more than what was on hand last year at this time. The disappearance of all hay stocks on farms from December 1, 2020 - May 1, 2021, was 625,000 tons, 11 percent more than the December 1, 2019 - May 1, 2020, crop disappearance of 565,000 tons for the same period.

United States – Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.28 billion bushels, up 10 percent from 2020. As of May 1, the United States yield is forecast at 52.1 bushels per acre, up 1.2 bushels from last year's average yield of 50.9 bushels per acre. Area expected to be harvested for grain is forecast at 24.6 million acres, up 7 percent from last year.

All on farm hay stocks stored on United States farms as of May 1, 2021 totaled 18.0 million tons, down 12 percent from May 1, 2020. Disappearance from December 1, 2020 - May 1, 2021 totaled 66.0 million tons, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Record low May 1 hay stock levels were estimated in New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

Farm Labor

United States – There were 613,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 11-17, 2021, down 11 percent from the April 2020 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 506,000 during the week of January 10-16, 2021, down 11 percent from the January 2020 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$15.97 per hour during the April 2021 reference week, up 6 percent from the April 2020 reference week. Field workers received an average

of \$15.19 per hour, up 7 percent. Livestock workers earned \$14.81 per hour, up 5 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$15.06 per hour, was up 6 percent from the 2020 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.9 hours during the April 2021 reference week, up 1 percent from the hours worked during the April 2020 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$16.21 per hour during the January 2021 reference week, up 6 percent from the January 2020 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$15.23 per hour, up 7 percent, while livestock workers earned \$14.87 per hour, up 5 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$15.08 per hour, was up 6 percent from the January 2020 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.2 hours during the January 2021 reference week, unchanged from the hours worked during the January 2020 reference week.

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Red Meat Production
Maple Syrup

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