



Telephone: 1-304-357-5123
Email: nass-wv@nass.usda.gov



National Agricultural
Statistics Service
West Virginia Field Office
in cooperation with
West Virginia
Department of Agriculture
Kent Leonhardt, Commissioner
David Knopf, EMR Director

Released: November 2022

Volume 35, Number 11

In This Issue

- RED MEAT PRODUCTION**
- CATTLE ON FEED**
- CHICKENS AND EGGS**
- NOVEMBER CROP PRODUCTION**
- FARM LABOR**
- JANUARY SURVEYS ANNOUNCEMENT**

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during October 2022 totaled 1.10 million pounds. This was down 7 percent from October 2021. 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 1,547,000 pounds live weight, down 12 percent from October 2021. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,600 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 19 pounds from the previous year, at 997 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 281,000 pounds live weight, up 36 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 297 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 4.76 billion pounds in October, up slightly from the 4.75 billion pounds produced in October 2021.

Beef production, at 2.40 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.90 million head, up 2 percent from October 2021. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,375 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.5 million pounds, 1 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 30,400 head, down 14 percent from October 2021. The average live weight was up 34 pounds from last year, at 259 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.34 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.9 million head, down 1 percent from October 2021. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 288 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.4 million pounds, was down 9 percent from October 2021. Sheep slaughter totaled 169,100 head, 10 percent below last year. The average live weight was 122 pounds, up 1 pound from October a year ago.

January to October 2022 commercial red meat production was 46.2 billion pounds, down slightly from 2021. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was up 3 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

October 2021 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays. October 2022 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 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 11.7 million head on November 1, 2022. The inventory was 2 percent below November 1, 2021.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.11 million head, 6 percent below 2021. Placements were the lowest for October since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 2.05 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 545,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 465,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 450,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 378,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 190,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 80,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.80 million head, 1 percent above 2021.

Other disappearance totaled 54,000 head during October, 5 percent below 2021.

CHICKENS AND EGGS

United States - Egg production totaled 9.13 billion during October 2022, down 4 percent from last year. Production included 7.83 billion table eggs, and 1.30 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.21 billion were broiler-type and 90.6 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during October 2022 totaled 374 million, down 4 percent from last year. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,439 eggs, up slightly from October 2021.

Total layers in the United States on November 1, 2022, totaled 375 million, down 4 percent from last year. The 375 million layers consisted of 309 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 62.6 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.52 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on November 1, 2022, averaged 78.7 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from November 1, 2021.

Egg-type chicks hatched during October 2022 totaled 51.3 million, up 12 percent from October 2021. Eggs in incubators totaled 49.0 million on November 1, 2022, up 7 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 251 thousand during October 2022, down slightly from October 2021.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during October 2022 totaled 851 million, up 5 percent from October 2021.

Eggs in incubators totaled 705 million on November 1, 2022, up slightly from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 8.78 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during October 2022, up 3 percent from October 2021.



NOVEMBER CROP PRODUCTION

United States - Corn production for grain is forecast at 13.9 billion bushels, up less than 1 percent from the previous forecast, but down 8 percent from 2021. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 172.3 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.4 bushel from the previous forecast, but down 4.4 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain, forecast at 80.8 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 5 percent from the previous year.

The November 1 corn objective yield data indicate the sixth highest number of ears on record for the combined objective yield States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin). At 13.9 billion bushels, the 2022 corn production for grain is forecast to be the seventh highest production on record for the United States. The forecasted yield, at 172.3 bushels per acre, is down 2 percent from last year's record high final estimate of 176.7 bushels per acre. Record high yields are forecast in California, Illinois, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Soybean production for beans is forecast at 4.35 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the previous forecast, but down 3 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 50.2 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.4 bushel from the previous forecast, but down 1.5 bushels from 2021. Area harvested for beans in the United States is forecast at 86.6 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up less than 1 percent from 2021.

The November objective yield data for the combined 11 major soybean-producing States (Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, and South Dakota) indicate a lower pod count compared with the previous year. Compared with final counts for 2021, pod counts are down in 8 of the 11 published States. Nebraska showed the greatest decrease, down 562 pods per 18 square feet from the previous year. If realized, the forecasted yield will be a record high in Arkansas, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

FARM LABOR

United States - There were 785,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 9-15, 2022, up 2 percent from the October 2021 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 797,000 during the week of July 10-16, 2022, unchanged from the July 2021 reference week.

Farm operators **paid their hired workers an average gross wage of \$17.72 per hour during the October 2022 reference week**, up 7 percent from the October 2021 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$17.04 per hour, up 6 percent. Livestock workers earned \$16.52 per hour, up 7 percent. The field and livestock worker combined gross wage rate, at \$16.90 per hour, was up 6 percent from the 2021 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 41.8 hours during the October 2022 reference week, down slightly from the hours worked during the October 2021 reference week.

Farm operators **paid their hired workers an average gross wage of \$17.63 per hour during the July 2022 reference week**, up 6 percent from the July 2021 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$16.80 per hour, up 4 percent, while livestock workers earned \$16.65 per hour, up 10 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined gross wage rate, at \$16.76 per hour, was up 6 percent from the July 2021 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 41.1 hours during the July 2022 reference week, up slightly from the hours worked during the July 2021 reference week.

The 2022 all hired worker annual average gross wage rate was \$17.56 per hour, up 7 percent from

the 2021 annual average gross wage rate. The 2022 field worker annual average gross wage rate was \$16.77 per hour, up 6 percent from the 2021 annual average. The 2022 livestock worker annual average gross wage rate was \$16.29 per hour. The 2022 annual average combined gross wage for field and livestock workers was \$16.62, up 7 percent from the 2021 annual average of \$15.56 per hour.

JANUARY AGRICULTURAL SURVEYS ANNOUNCEMENT

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be conducting the January Cattle and Sheep and Goat surveys from December 30th, 2022, through January 15th, 2023. Survey data are collected across the country and are used to set state and national estimates for cattle, sheep and goats.

Enumerators from the West Virginia Field Office will be collecting data on cattle, sheep and goat inventories. The cattle questions will cover milk and beef cow numbers including replacement heifers, steers, cattle on feed, milk production, and calf crop. Sheep and goat questions will include breeding and market sheep and goat numbers, lamb and kid crops, 2022 wool and mohair production, and death totals. Results of the surveys will be published in the February edition of the *Mountain State Reporter* and on our website at <https://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>.

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



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
West Virginia Department of Agriculture
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

Census of Agriculture

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. For America's farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity.

Census Key Dates: November 2022 – census mails out
February 2023 – response deadline
Spring/summer 2024 – data release

988



Suicide & Crisis Lifeline