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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during July 2023 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was up 49 percent from July 2022. 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 1,140,000 pounds live weight, up 51 percent from July 2022. Cattle slaughter totaled 900 head, up 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 20 pounds from the previous year, at 1,241 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published because data were less than level of precision shown or not applicable.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 220,000 pounds live weight, up 67 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 800 head, up 400 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 19 pounds from the previous year, at 293 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.13 billion pounds in July, down 2 percent from the 4.23 billion pounds produced in July 2022

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.60 million head, down 6 percent from July

2022. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,344 pounds.

Veal production totaled 3.8 million pounds, 8 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 23,200 head, down 21 percent from July 2022. The average live weight was up 36 pounds from last year, at 278 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.01 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.62 million head, up 3 percent from July 2022. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 281 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 9.5 million pounds, was down 9 percent from July 2022. Sheep slaughter totaled 159,600 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 118 pounds, down 8 pounds from July a year ago.

January to July 2023 commercial red meat production was 31.4 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2022. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

July 2022 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays. July 2023 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 11.0 million head on August 1, 2023. The inventory was 2 percent below August 1, 2022.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.62 million head, 8 percent below 2022. Net placements were 1.55 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were

365,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 250,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 370,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 373,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 185,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 75,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.73 million head, 5 percent below 2022.

Other disappearance totaled 65,000 head during July, 16 percent above 2022.

HONEY BEE COLONIES

Charleston, West Virginia – Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies in West Virginia as of January 1, 2023 totaled 5,000, up 9 percent from January 1, 2022. The number of colonies in the State on April 1, 2023 was 5,500. During 2022, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 4,600, 5,000, 8,000 and 7,500, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies from January-March 2023, were 600 colonies, or 10 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April-June 2023 was 350 colonies, or 5 percent. During the quarter of October-December 2022, colonies lost totaled 1,100, or 14 percent, the highest of any quarter surveyed in 2022. The quarter surveyed in 2022 with the lowest number of colonies lost was April-June, with 260 colonies lost, or 3 percent.

Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies from January-March 2023 were 40 colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April-June 2023 was 1,400 colonies. During the quarter of April-June 2022, 2,400 colonies were added, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2022. The quarter surveyed in 2022 with the lowest number of colonies added was October-December 2022, with zero added colonies.

Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies from January-March 2023 were 40, or 1 percent. The number of colonies renovated during the quarter of April-June 2023 was 1,000 colonies, or 15 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2022 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April-June with 2,600 colonies renovated, or 35 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2022 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was January-March, with 200 colonies renovated, or 4 percent. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

Varroa mites were the number one stressor for operations with five or more colonies during all quarters surveyed in 2022. The quarter of October-December 2022 had the highest percentage of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites at 33.4 percent. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January-March 2023 and April-June 2023 was 14.5 percent and 31.1 percent, respectively.

United States – Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies in the United States on January 1, 2023 totaled 2.68 million colonies, down 7 percent from January 1, 2022. The number of colonies in the United States on April 1, 2023, was 2.71 million colonies. During 2022, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 2.88 million, 2.91 million, 3.11 million, and 2.89 million colonies, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2023, was 373,880 colonies, or 14 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April through June 2023, was 237,350 colonies, or 9 percent. During the quarter of April through June 2022, colonies lost totaled 363,570 colonies, or 13 percent, the highest number lost of any quarter surveyed in 2022. The quarter surveyed in 2022 with the lowest number of colonies lost was January through March, with 331,480 colonies lost, or 12 percent.

Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies in West Virginia

Quarter	Number of colonies (number)	Maximum colonies ¹ (number)	Lost colonies (number)	Percent lost ² (percent)	Added colonies (number)	Renovated colonies ³ (number)	Percent renovated ⁴ (percent)
Jan-Mar 22	4,600	5,000	1,000	20	1,000	200	4
Apr-Jun 22	5,000	7,500	260	3	2,400	2,600	35
Jul-Sep 22	8,000	8,000	360	5	520	660	8
Oct-Dec 22	7,500	8,000	1,100	14	0	220	3
Jan-Mar 23	5,000	6,000	600	10	40	40	1
Apr-Jun 23	5,500	6,500	350	5	1,400	1,000	15

¹ Number of colonies at the beginning of quarter plus all colonies moved into the state during the quarter. ² Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies. ³ Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package. ⁴ Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies.



Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2023 was 384,790 colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April through June 2023 was 596,360. During the quarter of April through June 2022, the number of colonies added were 573,160 colonies, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2022. The quarter of July through September 2022 added 152,640 colonies, the least number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2022.

Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2023 was 113,440 colonies, or 4 percent. During the quarter of April through June 2023, the number of colonies renovated were 478,440 colonies, or 18 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2022 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April through June 2022 with 494,890 colonies renovated, or 17 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2022 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was October through December 2022, with 147,950, or 5 percent. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through a nucleus (nuc) colony or package.

Varroa mites were the number one stressor for operations with five or more colonies during all quarters surveyed in 2022. The period with the highest percentage of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites was April through June 2022 at 47.5 percent. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January through March 2023 and April through June 2023 are 39.7 percent and 50.9 percent, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost with Colony Collapse Disorder symptoms on operations with five or more colonies was 107,630 colonies from January through March 2023. This represents a 25 percent increase from the same quarter in 2022.

AUGUST CROP PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – All other hay production (excluding alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures) is forecast at 960,000 tons, down 85,000 tons from 2022. The area harvested is expected to total 600,000 acres, up 50,000 acres from the previous year. Average yield per acre is forecast at 1.60 tons, down .30 ton per acre from 2022.

United States August 1, 2023 Forecast with 2022 Comparisons

- Corn production for grain – 15.1 billion bushels, up 10 percent.
- Corn yield – 175.1 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushels.
- Oats production – 49.5 million bushels, down 14 percent.
- Winter wheat production – 1.23 billion bushels, up 11 percent.
- Alfalfa and Alfalfa mixtures hay production – 48.9 million tons, up 2 percent.
- All other hay production – 69.9 million tons, up 8 percent.
- All tobacco production – 444 million pounds, down 1 percent.
- Burley tobacco production – 66.0 million pounds, up 13 percent.
- Soybean production for beans – 4.21 billion bushels, down 2 percent.
- Barley production – 180.0 million bushels, up 3 percent.
- Apple production – 9.91 billion pounds, up 1 percent.
- Peach production – 543,000 tons, down 13 percent.



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1. General (barns, hay fields, crops, farmer at work, farm equipment)
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5. Chickens
6. Turkeys
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