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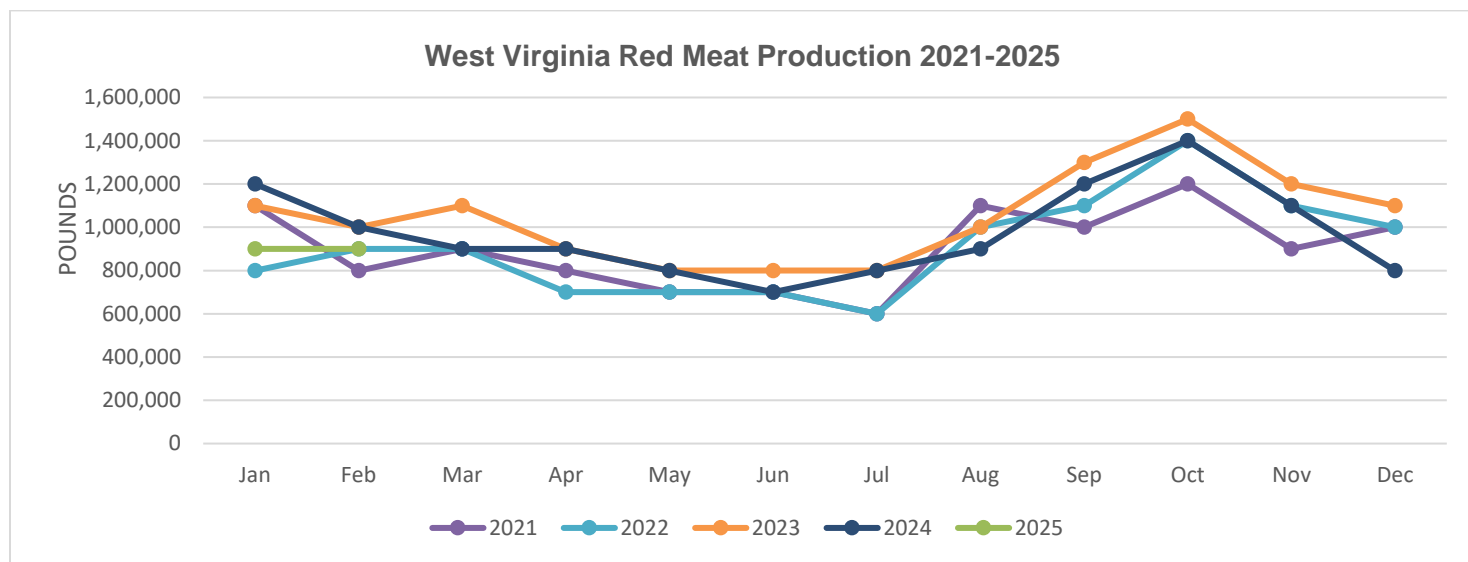
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
West Virginia Field Office  
in cooperation with  
West Virginia  
Department of Agriculture  
Kent Leonhardt, Commissioner  
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## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Commercial red meat production** in West Virginia during February 2025 totaled 900,000 pounds. This was down 4 percent from February 2024. **Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 1,309,000 pounds live weight, down 5 percent from February 2024. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,100 head, down 100 head from the previous year. **Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 166,000 pounds live weight, down 19 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, down 200 head from the previous year.



## CHICKENS AND EGGS SUMMARY

The number of **layers** in West Virginia during 2024 averaged 1.17 million, down 6 percent from the 2023 average of 1.24 million. The average annual production per layer was 236 eggs, down 2 eggs per layer from 2023. Pullets for 2024 totaled 800,000, up 11 percent from the 2023 total of 722,000. Other chickens totaled 118,000 in 2024, down 12 percent from the 2023 total of 134,000.

**Egg production** during the year ending November 30, 2024, totaled 275.4 million eggs. This was 7 percent down from the 2023 production of 294.8 million eggs.

### West Virginia Chicken Inventory, Value per Head, and Total Value – December 1, 2020-2024

	Total layers	Total pullets	Other chickens	Chicken inventory	Value per head	Total value
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 pullets)	(1,000 other)	(1,000 head)	(dollars)	(1,000 dollars)
2020	1,295	779	106	2,180	7.30	15,914
2021	1,364	825	98	2,287	7.90	18,067
2022	1,231	766	108	2,105	9.40	19,787
2023	1,250	722	134	2,106	11.00	23,166
2024	1,123	800	118	2,041	12.00	24,492

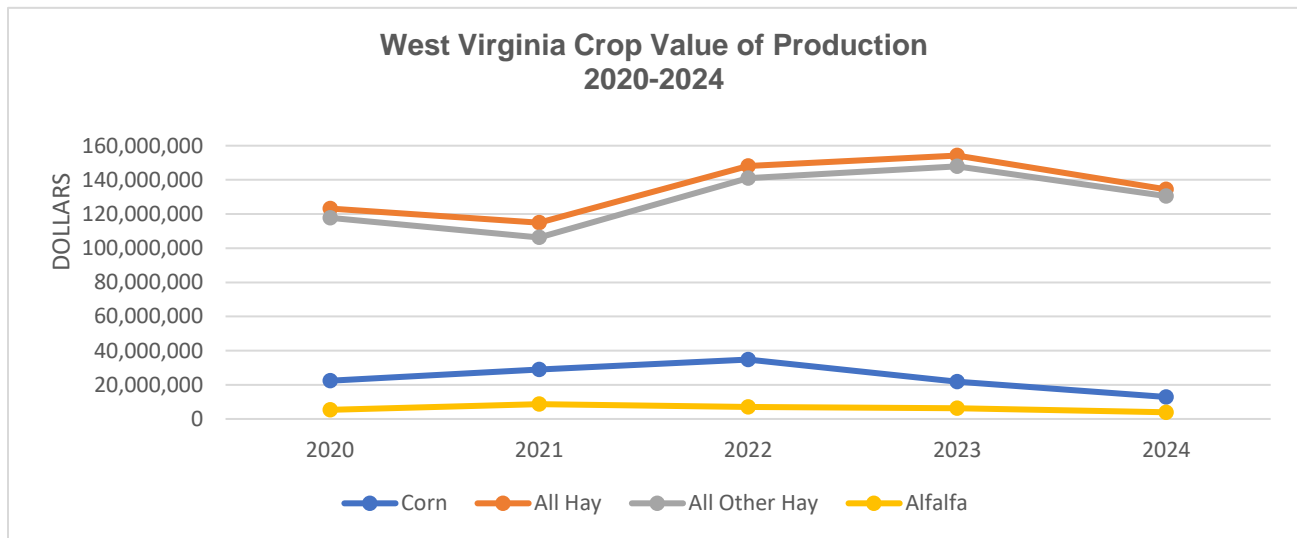
### VALUE OF PRODUCTION OF 2024 CROPS

**Corn for grain** value of production in West Virginia totaled \$12.87 million in 2024, a decrease of 41 percent from 2023. The marketing year average price received per bushel for corn was \$4.50, down \$0.50 per bushel from the 2023 average price of \$5.00 per bushel.

The value of **all hay** production totaled \$134.42 million in 2024, a 13 percent decrease from 2023. The average price received per ton was \$146.00. This was down \$1.00 per ton from the 2023 average price.

The value of **alfalfa hay** production totaled \$3.92 million in 2024, a 38 percent decrease from 2023. The average price received per ton was \$196.00. This was down \$8.00 per ton from the 2023 average price.

The value of all **other hay** production totaled \$130.5 million in 2024, a 12 percent decrease from 2023. The average price received per ton was \$145.00. This was unchanged from the 2023 average price.



### SPECIALTY CROPS ACRES

The 2022 Census of Agriculture Specialty Crop publication provides data that supplement the 2022 Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series publications. As a service to agricultural and economic data users, the 2022 data for specialty crops are published at the U.S. and State-level. The Farm Bill defines specialty crops as “fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops (including floriculture).” Eligible plants must be cultivated or managed and used by people for food, medicinal purposes, and/or aesthetic gratification to be considered specialty crops.

West Virginia has 2,510 farms with Specialty Crops, accounting for 13,083 acres. Land in Orchards, Land in Vegetables and Cultivated Christmas Trees are the leading specialty crops in West Virginia. The United States has 239,703 farms with Specialty Crops, accounting for 14.98 million acres. The largest specialty crop in the United States is Land in Orchards followed by Land in Vegetables.

In West Virginia, there are 414 farms with specialty crops that hire farm labor, employing 1,835 workers. The United States has 89,176 farms with specialty crops that hire farm labor, employing 1,093,573 workers.

Specialty Crops Acres – West Virginia and United States: 2022				
	West Virginia		United States	
	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres
All Specialty Crop	2,510	13,083	239,703	14,977,716
Land in Orchards	1,003	5,903	110,544	6,203,085
Land in Berries	599	814	35,331	356,896
Land in Vegetables	1,006	2,792	69,452	3,927,522
Pulse Crops	-	-	7,388	3,175,706
Nursery, Greenhouse, Floriculture, and Sod	510	821	52,822	880,895
Cultivated Christmas Trees (Acres in Production)	252	2,615	16,612	292,050
Short Rotations Woody Crops (Acres in Production)	2	(D)	120	4,991
Other Specialty Crops	11	(D)	1,364	136,570
- Represents zero. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.				

Hired Farm Labor on Farms with Specialty Crops – West Virginia and United States: 2022				
	West Virginia		United States	
	Farms	Workers	Farms	Workers
All hired labor	414	1,835	89,176	1,093,573
Workers by days worked - Less than 150 days	309	1,113	64,318	591,306
Workers by days worked - 150 days or more	190	722	55,725	502,267
Migrant labor- On farms with hired labor (farms)	202	-	13,650	-
Migrant labor- On farms reporting only contract labor (farms)	16	-	2,598	-
- Represents zero.				

### CONSERVATION LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETINGS TO BE HELD THIS SPRING

Locally led conservation begins with the community itself. Across West Virginia, Conservation Districts lead the effort in gathering public input from a broad range of agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals interested in natural resource conditions and conservation goals.

Local Work Groups (LWG) play a key role in this effort, convening to identify local natural resource concerns, discuss possible solutions, and provide recommendations. The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) uses this input to set priorities and establish criteria for conservation programs. Additionally, LWGs help shape local outreach efforts. The participation of farmers and other land managers is especially vital in developing and implementing locally led conservation programs.

LWG meetings occur at least once each year and are open to the public. "I would encourage participation from local farmers, forestland owners and other land users to attend their Local Work Group meetings because the knowledge they bring to the table is extremely valuable," said NRCS-WV State Conservationist, Jon Bourdon. "NRCS has always been a locally led conservation agency working in cooperation with the Conservation Districts to provide services to local land users on a voluntary basis. Receiving input from a diverse group contributes to successful programs."

Local Work Group meetings are announced in one or more local newspapers at least 14 calendar days prior to the meeting. If you're interested in participating in your Local Work Group meeting, contact your local Conservation District or NRCS office for details. Your local USDA Service Center can be found at [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov).

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