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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during February 2016 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 25 percent from February 2015. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 680,000 pounds live weight, up 33 percent from February 2015. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 26 pounds from the previous year, at 1,112 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 173,000 pounds live weight, up 13 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from the previous year, at 293 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 3.90 billion pounds in February, up 5 percent from the 3.73 billion pounds produced in February 2015.

Beef production, at 1.89 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.29 million head, up 5 percent from February 2015. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,372 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.1 million pounds, 3 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 36,500 head, down 1 percent from February

2015. The average live weight was down 6 pounds from last year, at 287 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.00 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.43 million head, up 4 percent from February 2015. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 283 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was up 8 percent from February 2015. Sheep slaughter totaled 175,800 head, 7 percent above last year. The average live weight was 142 pounds, up 1 pound from February a year ago.

January to February 2016 commercial red meat production was 8.00 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2015. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

February 2015 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2016 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 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 10.8 million head on March 1, 2016. The inventory was 1 percent above March 1, 2015.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.71 million head, 10 percent above 2015. Net placements were 1.65 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 335,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 300,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 445,000 head, and 800 pounds and greater were 630,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.59 million head, 5 percent above 2015.

Other disappearance totaled 58,000 head during February, 3 percent below 2015.

TROUT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - The total value of fish sold for 2015 was 1.05 million dollars. In 2014, the commercial trout producers in West Virginia had a total value of fish sold of 1.23 million dollars for the 12 month period from January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014.

The number of **trout 12 inches and longer** sold during 2015 totaled 550,000 fish, up from 420,000 fish in 2014. The average price per pound was \$2.12, down from \$2.25 per pound in 2014. The value of sales for the 2015 marketing year was 984 thousand dollars, down from 1.17 million dollars in 2014. Other size categories are not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

The number of **distributed trout** during 2015 totaled 900,000 6"- 12" fish, comparison data not available.

The average value per pound was \$3.34, comparison data not available. The estimated value of fish distributed totaled 1.8 million dollars, comparison data not available. Other size categories are not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Trout losses in 2015 totaled 33,000 pounds, up from the 2014 total of 20,000 pounds. The number of trout lost in 2015 totaled 65,000 fish, down from the 2014 total of 92,000 fish.

United States - The total value of fish sales received by trout growers in the United States totaled 104 million dollars for 2015, an increase of 1 percent from 2014. Idaho accounted for 47 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of **trout 12 inches and longer** sold during 2015 totaled 45.4 million fish, down 6 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound was \$1.66, up 5 percent from 2014. The value of sales for the 2015 marketing year was 96.4 million

Trout Value of Sales (excluding eggs), 2014-2015								
State	12" and longer		6"-12" Size		1"- 6" Size		Total Value of Fish Sold	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Thousand Dollars								
AR**								
CA	4,697	5,056	*	*	*	*	4,990	5,390
CO	1,495	1,770	*	*	*	*	1,666	2,045
GA	*	*	*	*	*	*	455	483
ID	52,750	48,875	*	*	*	*	53,118	49,362
MI	458	*	*	*	*	*	619	1,347
MO	1,686	1,818	460	*	104	*	2,250	2,518
NY	*	*	170	194	*	*	631	636
NC	6,885	7,807	*	*	*	*	7,888	8,469
OR	*	*	*	376	17	*	*	*
PA	4,408	5,156	1,045	906	118	60	5,571	6,122
UT	531	444	*	*	*	*	604	630
VA	1,213	1,435	*	*	*	*	1,481	1,610
WA	*	*	1,208	1,779	*	*	*	*
WV	1,166	984	*	*	*	*	1,233	1,052
WI	1,394	1,399	138	*	5	*	1,537	1,462
Other States ¹	19,058	21,693	2,837	3,167	1,373	1,474	21,173	23,267
United States	95,741	96,437	5,858	6,422	1,617	1,534	103,216	104,393

¹ Other States include State estimates not listed and States suppressed due to disclosure.

* Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

** Arkansas reported trout only for distribution and no sales.

dollars, up 1 percent from 2014. For trout 12 inches or longer, 58 percent were sold to processors.

The number of **6"- 12" trout** sold during 2015 totaled 4.90 million fish, a decrease of 5 percent from 2014. The average price per pound was \$3.50 during 2015, up 6 percent from the 2014 price. The total value of sales was 6.42 million dollars during 2015, a 10 percent increase from the previous year. The major sales outlets for 6"-12" trout were for recreational stocking accounting for 48 percent of total sales, followed by government agencies with 22 percent.

The number of **1"- 6" trout** sold during 2015 totaled 8.47 million, an increase of 1 percent from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$181 during 2015, down from \$194 in 2014. The total value of sales was 1.53 million dollars, down 5 percent from last year's total.

Distributed Trout - Trout distributed for restoration, conservation, enhancement, or recreational purposes, primarily by State and Federal hatcheries, included 7.32 million 12" or longer fish, 67.0 million 6"- 12" fish, and 58.7 million 1"- 6" fish. The estimated value of fish distributed totaled 118 million dollars, up 5 percent from 2014.

Trout Losses - Total losses of all trout intended for sale were 28.3 million fish during 2015. Disease accounted for 90 percent of these losses.

HONEY PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Honey production in 2015 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 175,000 pounds, down 11,000 pounds, or 6 percent, from the 2014 total of 186,000 pounds. There were 5,000 producing colonies in 2015, down 1,000 producing colonies from 6,000 in 2014. Yield per colony averaged 35 pounds, up 4 pounds from 31 pounds in 2014. Honey stocks on December 15, 2015, were reported at 32,000 pounds, down 1,000 pounds, or 3 percent, from 33,000 pounds reported in 2014.

Prices for the 2015 crop averaged 444 cents per pound, up 9 percent from the price of 407 cents per pound in 2014. Value of production totaled 777,000 dollars, up 20,000 dollars, or 3 percent, from 757,000 dollars in 2014.

United States - Honey production in 2015 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 157 million pounds, down 12 percent from 2014. There were 2.66 million colonies from which honey was harvested in 2015, down 3 percent from 2014. Yield of honey harvested per colony averaged 58.9 pounds, down 10 percent from the 65.1 pounds in 2014. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total

production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 42.2 million pounds on December 15, 2015, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Honey production in 2015 from producers with less than five colonies totaled 720 thousand pounds. There were 23 thousand colonies from which honey was harvested in 2015, with an average yield of 31.3 pounds harvested per colony. This yield is 27.6 pounds less than what was pulled per colony on operations with five or more colonies. Comparisons to 2014 are unavailable because no data prior to 2015 were collected for operations with less than five colonies.

Honey prices decreased during 2015 to 209.0 cents per pound, down 4 percent from a record high of 217.3 cents per pound in 2014. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2014 crop reflect honey sold in 2014 and 2015. Some 2014 honey was sold in 2015, which caused some revisions to the 2014 honey prices. Price data were not collected for operations with less than five colonies.

CROP VALUES

Charleston, West Virginia - Corn for grain value of production totaled \$20.46 million in 2015, a 1 percent decrease from \$20.65 million in 2014. The marketing year average price received per bushel for corn was \$3.95, up \$0.10 from \$3.85 per bushel in 2014.

The value of **all wheat** production in 2015 was \$1.30 million, a 49 percent decrease from the 2014 crop value of \$2.55 million. Growers received an average of \$5.40 per bushel for the 2015 crop, down \$0.30 from the price per bushel of \$5.70 in 2014.

Soybeans value of production totaled \$11.23 million, a 15 percent decrease from the 2014 value of \$13.26 million. The average price received per bushel for soybeans was \$9.00. This was down \$1.00 from the 2014 average price of \$10.00 per bushel.

The value of **all hay** production totaled \$134.66 million in 2015, a 1 percent increase from the 2014 value of \$132.95 million. The average price received per ton was \$130.00. This was up \$13.00 from the 2014 average price of \$117.00 per ton.

The value of **alfalfa hay** production totaled \$13.53 million in 2015, a 38 percent increase from the 2014 value of \$9.83 million. The average price received per ton was \$205.00. This was up \$16.00 from the 2014 average price of \$189.00 per ton.

The value of all **other hay** production totaled \$121.13 million in 2015, 2 percent less than the 2014 value of \$123.12 million. The average price received per ton was \$125.00. This was up \$11.00 from the 2014 average price of \$114.00 per ton.

United States Value and Marketing Year Average Price with 2014 Comparisons

- Corn for grain value of production - \$49.04 billion, down 7 percent; \$3.60 per bushel, down \$0.10.
- All wheat value of production - \$10.20 billion, down 14 percent; \$5.00 per bushel, down \$0.99.
- Soybeans value of production - \$34.54 billion, down 13 percent; \$8.80 per bushel, down \$1.30.
- All hay value of production - \$16.84 billion, down 12 percent; \$151.00 per ton, down \$21.00.
- Alfalfa hay value of production - \$8.73 billion, down 17 percent; \$163.00 per ton, down \$33.00.
- All other hay value of production - \$8.11 billion, down 5 percent; \$125.00 per ton, down \$5.00.

MAPLE SYRUP SURVEY

The West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service is pleased to announce that West Virginia will be included in the National 2016 Maple Syrup Survey. This will be the first time West Virginia has been a part of the maple syrup program. Producers will be contacted during the latter part of April through May 17th.

The survey asks various questions including the number of taps, the amount of syrup produced, the sap flow temperature, the color of the syrup, sales, and the length of sap collection.

Producers in the sample may be mailed a survey with the option to respond over the internet, or may be field enumerated for their information. Final results will be released in the *Crop Production Report* on June 10th at noon. This and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS West Virginia Field Office at 1-800-535-7088.

NEXT ISSUE

Red Meat Production
First Quarter Milk Production
Prospective Plantings

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