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in cooperation with

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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during April 2016 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was down 1 percent from April 2015. 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 541,000 pounds live weight, up 6 percent from April 2015. Cattle slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 43 pounds from the previous year, at 1,084 pounds.

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

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 163,000 pounds live weight, down 10 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from the previous year, at 287 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 3.98 billion pounds in April, down 1 percent from the 4.02 billion pounds produced in April 2015.

Beef production, at 1.96 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter

totaled 2.41 million head, up 1 percent from April 2015. The average live weight was up 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,348 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.0 million pounds, 10 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 34,800 head, down 2 percent from April 2015. The average live weight was down 25 pounds from last year, at 293 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.00 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.37 million head, down 3 percent from April 2015. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.8 million pounds, was down 6 percent from April 2015. Sheep slaughter totaled 189,000 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 2 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2016 commercial red meat production was 16.2 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2015. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

April 2015 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays. April 2016 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 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 2015 totaled 138.1 million pounds, up 2 percent from 2014. Cattle and calves production increased to 136.7 million pounds from 134.7 million pounds in 2014. Hogs and pigs production increased 13 percent to 1.4 million pounds from 1.3 million pounds in 2014. The value of production of meat animals increased to \$221.1

million compared to the value of \$218.2 million in 2014.

Total 2015 cash receipts from marketings for all meat animals were \$211.5 million, down 16 percent from cash receipts of \$252.5 million in 2014. Cattle and calves accounted for over 99 percent of the total cash receipts and hogs and pigs accounted for less than 1 percent.

The 2015 gross income from cattle and calves, and hogs and pigs was \$219.4 million, down 15 percent from the 2014 gross income of \$259.3 million. Gross income from cattle and calves was down 15 percent, and hogs and pigs was down 34 percent from 2014.

Cattle and calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves decreased 16 percent during 2015. Receipts totaled \$211.0 million compared with \$251.8 million in 2014. All cattle and calf marketings during 2015 reached 130.2 million pounds, down from 156.3 million pounds in 2014.

Hogs and pigs: Cash receipts from marketings of hogs and pigs were \$500,000 during 2015, down 23 percent from the 2014 cash receipts of \$649,000. Marketings of 860,000 pounds during 2015 were 4 percent above the 2014 total marketings of 830,000 pounds.

United States – Total 2015 production of cattle and calves and hogs and pigs for the United States totaled 76.6 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2014. Production increased 3 percent for cattle and calves and 9 percent for hogs and pigs.

Total 2015 cash receipts from marketings of meat animals decreased 8 percent to \$99.3 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 79 percent of this total and hogs and pigs accounted for 21 percent.

The 2015 gross income from cattle and calves and hogs and pigs for the United States totaled \$99.9 billion, down 8 percent from 2014. Gross income decreased 4 percent for cattle and calves and 21 percent for hogs and pigs from previous year's gross income.

Cattle and Calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves decreased 4 percent from \$81.5 billion in 2014 to \$78.2 billion in 2015. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 52.4 billion pounds in 2015, down 1 percent from 2014.

Hogs and Pigs: Cash receipts from hogs and pigs totaled \$21.0 billion during 2015, down 21 percent from 2014. Marketings totaled 36.2 billion pounds in 2015, up 9 percent from 2014.

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.

2015 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 2015, was \$321.0 million, down 10 percent from the combined value of \$354.9 million in 2014. Of the combined total, 60 percent was from broilers, 23 percent from turkeys, 17 percent from eggs, and less than 1 percent from sales of chickens.

There were 93.7 million **broilers produced** in West Virginia during 2015, down 2 percent from the number of 95.3 million broilers produced in 2014. Total live weight was 356.1 million pounds, down from 371.7 million pounds in 2014. Value of production totaled \$191.6 million, down 19 percent from the 2014 value of \$236.8 million. The average live weight equivalent price of 53.8 cents per pound is down from the 2014 average live weight equivalent price of 63.7 cents per pound. Equivalent price is for the commercial producer, not contractees.

Turkeys raised in West Virginia totaled 3.0 million, down 0.1 million from the 2014 total. Total live weight was 90.6 million pounds, up 11 percent from 81.8 million pounds in 2014. Value of production totaled \$73.5 million, up 22 percent from the 2014 value of production of \$60.2 million. The average live weight equivalent price was 81.1 cents per pound, up 7.6 cents per pound from the 2014 price of 73.5 cents.

The **number of chickens sold** for slaughter (excluding broilers) totaled 1.57 million head, down 2 percent from the 2014 total of 1.60 million head sold. The number of pounds sold was 12.4 million pounds, down 2 percent from the 2014 number of 12.6 million pounds sold. Value of sales totaled \$2.09 million, up from \$2.07 million in 2014. Prices averaged 16.9 cents per pound, up from the 2014 price of 16.4 cents per pound.

Egg production in West Virginia totaled 274 million eggs during 2015, up 1 percent from the 2014 production of 270 million eggs. The average price per dozen was 231.5 cents, down from the 2014 average price per dozen of 244.0 cents. The total value of production was \$53.9 million, down 4 percent from

the 2014 total of \$55.9 million. Most eggs produced in West Virginia are hatching eggs for broilers, not for table egg consumption.

United States – The total value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from chickens in 2015 was \$48.0 billion, down 1 percent from \$48.4 billion in 2014. Of the combined total, 60 percent was from broilers, 28 percent from eggs, 12 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The value of broilers produced during 2015 was \$28.7 billion, down 12 percent from 2014. The total number of broilers produced in 2015 was 8.69 billion, up 2 percent from 2014. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2015 was 53.4 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2014.

The value of turkeys produced during 2015 was \$5.71 billion, up 8 percent from the \$5.30 billion the previous year. The total number of turkeys raised in 2015 was 233 million, down 2 percent from 2014. Turkey production in 2015 totaled 7.04 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the 7.22 billion pounds produced in 2014.

The value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 2015 was \$101 million, up 5 percent from \$96.2 million a year ago. The number of chickens sold in 2015 totaled 194 million, up 2 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

Value of all egg production in 2015 was \$13.5 billion, up 32 percent from \$10.3 billion in 2014. Egg production totaled 96.4 billion eggs, down 4 percent from 101 billion eggs produced in 2014.

MILK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME

Charleston, West Virginia – Milk production totaled 141 million pounds during 2015, up 1 million pounds from the 2014 production of 140 million pounds. The average number of milk cows during the year was 9,000 head, unchanged from 2014. Average milk production per cow was 15,667 pounds or around 1,822 gallons, up 111 pounds from the 2014 number of 15,556 pounds.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2015 totaled \$24.3 million, down 28 percent from the 2014 cash receipts number of \$33.7 million. Producer returns averaged \$17.50 per hundredweight, down \$6.90 from 2014. Milk marketed by producers totaled 139 million pounds or 16.2 million gallons in 2015, up

1 million pounds from the 2014 number of 138 million pounds. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers.

United States – Milk production increased 1.3 percent in 2015 to 209 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 22,393 pounds, was 134 pounds above 2014. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.32 million head, up 60,000 head from 2014.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2015 totaled \$35.7 billion, 27.6 percent lower than 2014. Producer returns averaged \$17.21 per hundredweight, 28.5 percent below 2014. Marketings totaled 207.7 billion pounds, 1.3 percent above 2014. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

An estimated 969 million pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 0.5 percent more than 2014. Calves were fed 91 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, 2016, totaled 190,000 tons. This is 30,000 tons less than what was on hand last year at this time. The disappearance of all hay stocks on farms from December 1, 2015 - May 1, 2016, was 660,000 tons, 4 percent less than the December 1, 2014 - May 1, 2015, crop disappearance of 690,000 tons for the same period.

United States – Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.43 billion bushels, up 4 percent from 2015. As of May 1, the United States yield is forecast at 47.8 bushels per acre, up 5.3 bushels from last year. If realized, this will equal the record yield set in 1999.

All on farm hay stocks stored on United States farms as of May 1, 2016 totaled 25.1 million tons, up 3 percent from a year ago. Disappearance between December 1, 2015 and May 1, 2016 totaled 69.9 million tons, compared with 67.5 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

May 1 hay stocks were up slightly from the previous year as mild winter conditions throughout most of the Nation did not extend supplemental feeding.

JUNE SURVEYS

During the next several weeks, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct two major midyear surveys, the June Agricultural Survey and the June Area Survey. The agency will survey more than 700 farms across West Virginia to determine crop production and supplies levels in 2016.

"Due to the widespread and significant impact of its results, these are two of the most important and well-known surveys NASS conducts," explained David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. "When growers respond, they provide essential information that helps determine the prospective production and supply of major commodities in the United States for 2016. Everyone who relies on agriculture for their livelihoods is interested in the results."

NASS gathers the data for the June Agriculture Survey online, by mail, phone and in person interview. For the June Area Survey, agency representatives visit randomly selected tracts of land and interview the operators of any farm on that land. Growers provide information on crop acreage, grain stocks, livestock inventory, cash rents, land values, and value of sales.

"It is very essential for farmers to participate due to the influence the estimates have on our agricultural industry and on government policy and programs," explained Charmaine Wilson, West Virginia state statistician.

"With the grower's willingness to respond, it helps us publish reliable data that's leading to success in servicing West Virginia agriculture."

NASS will compile and analyze the survey information and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the annual *Acreage* report and quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released June 30, 2016. USDA's monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* also includes these data.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state and national level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," Knopf stated. "We recognize this is a hectic time for farmers, but the information they provide helps U.S. agriculture remain viable and capable. I urge them to respond to these surveys and thank them for their cooperation."

All reports are available on the NASS website: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications>.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Field Office at (800) 928-5277.

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Farm Labor

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