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Livestock Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture
 Bureau of Agricultural Economics
 (Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates)

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Further declines during the past year in numbers and values of all livestock and heavy declines in valuations of all livestock, except sheep, in Colorado during the past five years, are the outstanding features of the annual report of January 1, 1925. The number of all of the principal farm animals on the farms and ranges of the state the first day of this year is estimated at 4,975,000 and valued at \$87,744,000. This value is 45 per cent less than the total of \$154,519,000 for 4,744,000 animals, January 1, 1920, and .8 per cent less than the \$88,460,000 placed upon 5,066,000 head a year ago, and a decrease of 1.7 per cent in numbers over a year ago.

Comparative numbers and values of the principal classes of livestock of the state and the United States for all classes of livestock except horses and mules since 1910, and the census figures for 1910 and 1920, are produced for reference in the tables on pages three and four of this bulletin. Consideration of these figures for Colorado reveal the following information relating to changes in numbers and values for the more important classes of livestock.

Milk cows number 271,000, an increase of 10,000 (3.8 per cent) in the last year, and valued at \$45, a decline of \$5.00 (10 per cent) per head; in the five years, milk cows increased 37,000 (15.8 per cent) and declined \$42 (48.2 per cent) per head. Other cattle number 1,202,000 or 6 per cent less than last year, and are valued at \$23.30, a further decline of \$1.80 per head; in the past five years the decrease in number was 321,000 (21.1 per cent), with a decline of \$23.10 (49.8 per cent) in value per animal. The sheep of the state number 2,616,000 which is an increase of 148,000, or 5.9 per cent, over a year ago. The present value per head is \$9.60, being \$2.10 higher than a year ago. The number is 531,000 more than in 1920, while the value increased 50 cents per head in the five-year period. The estimated numbers of sheep held in the breeding herds of the state on January 1 are 1,016,000, or 56,000 more than 1924. The number of sheep in feed lots for fattening on January 1 was 1,600,000. Swine are placed at 466,000, a decrease of 156,000 (25 per cent) during last year, however, in the same period the value per head increased \$1.50 (15.8 per cent), to the present value of \$11.00; the number this year is estimated at only 16,000 (3.6 per cent) more than the census number of 450,000 for January 1, 1920, while the value per head is \$7.00 (38.8 per cent) less than five years ago. The Federal Census reported the number of sows and gilts for breeding purposes in the state January 1, 1920, as 79,658, or 36.4 per cent of all swine. Reports from county assessors indicated that the farmers of the state held about 83,000 brood sows on April 1, 1924.

Assuming that the results of the special inquiry of December 1, 1924, still hold good a month later, 46.4 per cent of all the swine on Colorado farms January 1, 1925, were pigs under six months old and numbered about 216,000. Other swine over six months old including about 50,000 sows bred for spring farrowing numbered about 250,000.

The numbers of sheep still on feed in transit in the state, on April 1, of each year, as shown by county assessors' figures to the Colorado State Tax Commission, and the total numbers of sheep on feed in transit on January 1 of each year, as shown by special reports to the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates since 1914, are as follows:

Year	Number April 1	Number Jan. 1	Year	Number April 1	Number Jan. 1	Year	Number April 1	Number Jan. 1
1914	not segregated	1,300,000	1918	806,560	1,135,000	1922	762,872	1,040,000
1915	not segregated	1,116,000	1919	656,455	940,000	1923	1,145,104	1,500,000
1916	767,468	1,150,000	1920	666,810	950,000	1924	1,137,676	1,400,000
1917	929,659	1,250,000	1921	1,029,242	1,233,000	1925	.....	1,600,000

Assessors' Figures and Valuations: For comparative information, the abstracts of assessments for Colorado as returned by the county assessor to the State Tax Commission are given in the table below. The numbers of livestock assessed are not strictly comparable with those of the Crop and Livestock Estimating Service for the reason that the assessors' figures pertain to the stock on hand on April 1, while those of the Bureau estimates include animals of all ages and many that were born after April 1 and not included in the assessments; and, as in the cases of sheep and swine, many that are marketed before they are a year old, and, consequently, are never subject to assessment. The census and the Crop Reporting Service includes in the number of cows being milked many that are primarily beef cattle and properly assessed as such, and not included in the number of milk cows assessed. It should be noted in comparing assessed valuations that all property including livestock prior to 1913 was assessed on a basis of about one-third value, hence, the low valuations prior to 1913.

Year	HORSES		MULES		RANGE CATTLE	
	Number	Assessed Value	Per Head	Number	Assessed Value	Per Head
1910	246,975	\$7,506,000	\$30.39	14,277	\$24,559	\$36.74
1911	259,990	7,752,000	29.81	16,741	601,292	35.91
1912	255,511	7,254,000	28.38	16,321	600,442	35.69
1913	281,704	18,028,000	63.99	19,329	1,568,328	81.12
1914	279,826	18,211,000	65.05	19,635	1,669,737	85.03
1915	296,368	20,031,000	67.59	23,284	1,991,820	85.54
1916	308,062	21,729,000	70.54	26,280	2,303,481	87.64
1917	326,002	23,837,000	73.12	29,269	2,716,010	92.80
1918	352,794	26,836,000	76.05	29,838	2,843,990	95.31
1919	354,868	25,254,000	71.16	30,045	2,660,731	88.56
1920	337,903	22,856,000	67.65	28,682	2,476,076	86.33
1921	333,668	18,495,000	55.42	29,539	2,054,836	69.56
1922	318,808	15,350,168	48.15	31,741	1,787,269	56.31
1923	304,262	11,901,589	39.12	32,528	1,499,818	46.10
1924	290,323	10,722,407	36.93	35,325	1,495,797	42.34

** (000). Require three ciphers (000) to complete value.

Year	DAIRY CATTLE		RANGE OR STOCK SHEEP		SWINE	
	Number	Assessed Value	Per Head	Number	Assessed Value	Per Head
1910				1,463,861	\$2,165,838	\$1.48
1911				1,757,771	2,400,404	1.36
1912				1,352,900	1,788,897	1.32
1913	73,768	\$3,324,000	\$45.06	1,579,560	4,776,626	3.02
1914	97,732	4,994,869	51.10	1,555,165	4,853,413	3.12
1915	101,037	5,786,218	57.26	1,157,544	4,032,950	3.48
1916	110,298	6,727,172	60.99	1,044,380	5,092,433	4.88
1917	124,342	7,919,512	63.69	1,003,168	7,182,427	7.16
1918	137,126	9,449,630	68.91	1,164,411	12,659,415	10.87
1919	143,106	10,170,007	71.06	1,089,037	11,386,972	10.46
1920	143,981	10,169,207	70.56	915,394	9,230,084	10.08
1921	145,070	7,981,591	55.02	855,873	3,216,728	3.76
1922	149,119	7,295,697	48.92	815,714	3,441,985	4.22
1923	143,163	6,245,287	43.62	830,483	4,390,920	5.57
1924	149,421	6,037,736	40.41	809,761	4,690,927	5.79

In addition to the number of range cattle listed above, on April 1, 1924, there were still 87,738 cattle on feed in transit, as reported by county assessors. These were located in the following counties: Adams, 640; Boulder, 4,634; Larimer, 16,982; Weld, 29,303; Logan, 11,500; Morgan, 14,907; Washington, 258; Jefferson, 200; Bent, 460; Otero, 8,289; Prowers, 565. According to assessors' assessments the number of cattle still on feed in transit in the state on April 1, for the past nine years were as follows: 1924, 87,738; 1923, 83,248; 1922, 82,430; 1921, 77,813; 1920, 73,163; 1919, 84,907; 1918, 78,651; 1917, 77,311; 1916, 47,292.

In addition to the range sheep listed April 1, 1924, there were still 1,137,676 sheep on feed in transit in the state, for the spring market, as reported by county assessors. These were located in the following counties: Boulder, 7,287; Larimer, 414,970; Weld, 442,766; Morgan, 112,593; Yuma, 2,335; Bent, 86,562; Las Animas, 6,800; Otero, 22,133; Prowers, 42,230. However, a considerable number of sheep had already moved to market prior to April 1.

Values Decrease. The report shows that in the five years from January 1, 1920 to January 1, 1925, the following decreases in the values of the farm animals of Colorado occurred, except sheep, which made a gain: Horses, \$17,899,000; mules, \$1,218,000; milk cows, \$8,163,000; other cattle, \$42,660,000; swine, \$2,974,000; all stock, \$66,775,000; sheep, \$6,141,000 gain.

Based on values per head the decline in value of all stock in the five year period has been 46 per cent.

For the United States similar decreases occurred in the five years, totaling in each class as follows: Horses, \$800,418,000; mules, \$369,368,000; milk cows, \$758,141,000; other cattle, \$905,019,000; sheep, \$35,639,000; swine, \$487,106,000; and all stock \$3,355,691,000 or 41.1 per cent. Based on average values per head the decline in the five years has amounted to 64.7 per cent.

The numbers of livestock not on farms, that is, the stock in the cities and villages, are not estimated yearly, but their numbers in 1920 as reported by the census were:

	Horses	Mules	Milk Cows	Other Cattle	Sheep	Swine
Colorado	23,805	2,481	11,551	32,708	28,799	15,155
United States ...	1,705,611	378,250	(all cattle)	2,111,928	450,742	2,638,389

Values per head: Relations of the values per head to those of the preceding year, and of 1925, to those of 1920 and 1913, are expressed in per cents in the tables below:

FOR COLORADO

Years	Horses Percent	Mules Percent	Milk Cows Percent	Other Cattle Percent	Sheep Percent	Swine Percent	Average Values Total Livestock Percent
1920 .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1921	79.7	85.3	79.3	72.2	53.2	68.0	69.7
1922	87.0	76.6	81.4	78.8	86.8	77.6	85.4
1923	85.1	86.9	92.9	96.2	165.0	109.4	95.9
1924	91.3	96.7	94.4	98.8	98.7	89.5	94.7
1925	95.2	93.1	80	92.8	128.0	115.7	100.9
1925 % of 1920	50.6	52.9	51.7	50.2	105.5	61.1	54.1
1925 % of 1913	45.9	51.9	83.6	68.6	266.6	100	75.2

FOR UNITED STATES

Years	Horses Percent	Mules Percent	Milk Cows Percent	Other Cattle Percent	Sheep Percent	Swine Percent	Average Values Total Livestock Percent
1920 .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1921	87.3	78.6	74.7	72.5	60.4	68.0	77.8
1922	83.6	75.6	83.7	75.9	76.1	77.6	81.5
1923	98.9	97.2	89.2	107.8	156.0	113.0	99.6
1924	92.2	97.9	102.5	97.7	104.9	84.4	94.7
1925	97.9	95.7	96.8	98.0	120.9	126.4	106.3
1925 % of 1920	65.2	54.3	58.7	56.7	91.0	64.7	64.7
1925 % of 1913	56.8	64.8	112.2	92.5	241.9	126.1	96.6

It will be noted from the foregoing tables that with the exception of sheep and swine there has been a decline in the average values of all classes of stock for both Colorado and the United States, also the average values of all stock in Colorado except sheep and swine are less than in 1913, and similarly, average values for all stock except sheep and swine and milk cows are less for the United States than in 1913.

NUMBERS AND VALUES OF LIVESTOCK ON FARMS ON JANUARY 1, FOR FIFTEEN YEARS, INCLUDING FEDERAL CENSUS FOR 1910 AND 1920

Farm Animals	COLORADO				UNITED STATES			
	Percent Prec'd'g Year	Numbers Total Number **000	Values Per Head	Values Aggregate **000	Percent Prec'd'g Year	Numbers Total Number **000	Values Per Head	Values Aggregate **000
Horses—								
1910 .....	..	*294	\$ 93.13	\$ 27,380	..	*19,833	\$108.00	\$2,142,524
1913 .....	..	324	87.00	28,188	100.3	20,567	110.77	2,278,222
1920 .....	..	*421	79.00	33,259	96.8	19,766	96.51	1,907,646
1921	99.0	417	62.00	25,134	97.2	19,208	84.31	1,619,423
1922	101.0	421	54.00	22,734	99.2	18,056	70.54	1,344,136
1923	101.0	408	46.00	18,768	97.7	18,627	69.83	1,300,729
1924	98.0	400	42.00	16,800	96.9	18,059	64.41	1,163,180
1925	96.0	384	40.00	15,360	97.3	17,589	62.95	1,107,228
Mules—								
1910 .....	..	*14.7	122.03	1,799	..	*4,210	120.20	506,049
1913 .....	..	17	104.00	1,768	100.6	4,386	124.31	545,245
1920 .....	..	*31	102.00	3,162	101.8	5,427	148.42	805,495
1921	103.2	32	90.00	2,880	100.5	5,455	116.69	636,568
1922	100.0	32	69.00	2,208	100.2	5,467	88.09	481,578
1923	103.0	33	60.00	1,980	100.3	5,485	85.94	471,385
1924	109.1	36	58.00	2,088	99.2	5,446	84.20	458,553
1925	100	36	54.00	1,944	97.5	5,411	80.60	436,127
Milk Cows—								
1910 .....	..	*145	..	..	..	20,625	35.29	727,802
1913 .....	..	164	44.50	7,298	100.9	20,823	39.97	832,209
1920	113.1	167	47.00	7,849	99.4	20,699	39.39	815,414
1921	101.8	167	..	..	..	..	..	..
1922	102.9	172	53.80	9,254	99.0	20,497	45.02	922,783

COLORADO

UNITED STATES

Farm Animals Milk Cows	Numbers		Values		Numbers		Values	
	Percent Prec'd'g Year	Total Number **000	Per Head	Aggregate **000	Percent Prec'd'g Year	Total Number **000	Per Head	Aggregate **000
1914	108.1	186	63.00	11,718	101.2	20,737	53.94	1,118,487
1915	110.2	205	68.00	13,940	102.5	21,262	55.33	1,176,338
1916	106.7	219	72.00	15,768	104.0	22,108	53.92	1,191,955
1917	117.3	257	73.50	17,420	103.6	22,894	59.63	1,365,251
1918	98.8	254	82.00	20,828	101.8	23,310	70.54	1,644,331
1919	103.8	264	88.00	23,232	100.7	23,475	78.20	1,836,770
1920	103.0	*234	87.00	20,358	100.6	23,722	85.86	2,036,750
1921	101.0	236	70.00	16,520	99.5	23,594	64.22	1,515,249
1922	103.0	243	57.00	13,851	102.1	24,082	50.98	1,227,703
1923	104.0	253	53.00	13,409	101.5	24,437	50.83	1,242,113
1924	103.0	261	50.00	13,050	101.4	24,786	52.16	1,232,833
1925	103.8	271	45.00	12,195	102.1	25,319	50.50	1,276,609
Other Cattle—								
1910		*985	†27.50	†31,017	...	*41,178	19.07	785,261
1911	98.3	969	24.80	24,031	96.4	39,679	20.54	815,184
1912	95.0	921	27.60	25,420	93.9	37,260	21.20	790,064
1913	100.0	921	34.10	31,406	96.7	36,030	26.36	949,645
1914	103.0	949	40.00	37,969	99.5	35,855	31.13	1,016,333
1915	104.9	996	43.70	43,525	103.4	37,067	33.38	1,237,376
1916	110.0	1,096	44.80	49,101	107.4	39,812	33.53	1,324,323
1917	109.4	1,200	44.70	53,640	104.7	41,689	35.92	1,497,621
1918	106.0	1,272	50.20	63,854	105.8	44,112	40.88	1,803,462
1919	112.0	1,425	54.40	77,520	102.2	45,085	44.22	1,993,442
1920	95.0	*1,523	46.40	70,667	99.3	43,398	43.21	1,875,043
1921	95.0	1,447	33.50	48,474	96.8	41,993	31.36	1,316,737
1922	94.0	1,361	26.40	35,930	100.0	41,977	23.77	997,726
1923	100.0	1,361	25.40	34,569	102.0	42,803	25.57	1,094,469
1924	94.0	1,279	25.10	32,103	97.4	41,720	24.99	1,042,533
1925	93.9	1,202	23.30	28,007	94.8	39,609	24.49	970,024
Sheep—								
1910		*1,426	4.80	6,856	...	*52,488	4.12	216,039
1911	112.9	1,611	3.60	5,800	102.3	53,633	3.91	209,535
1912	98.0	1,579	3.00	4,737	97.6	52,362	3.46	181,179
1913	110.0	1,737	3.60	6,253	98.3	51,482	3.94	202,779
1914	96.0	1,668	3.70	6,172	96.6	49,719	4.02	200,045
1915	104.9	1,751	4.40	7,704	100.5	49,956	4.50	224,687
1916	105.0	1,839	5.20	9,563	97.3	48,625	5.17	251,594
1917	106.0	1,950	7.50	14,625	97.9	47,616	7.13	339,623
1918	120.5	2,350	12.60	29,610	102.1	48,603	11.82	574,575
1919	94.0	2,209	10.90	24,078	100.5	48,866	11.63	568,265
1920	96.0	2,085	9.10	18,973	96.4	39,025	10.47	408,536
1921	110.6	2,306	5.30	12,221	96.0	37,452	6.30	235,855
1922	89.0	2,054	4.60	9,449	97.0	36,327	4.80	174,545
1923	114.0	2,444	7.60	18,574	102.5	37,223	7.51	279,464
1924	100.9	2,468	7.50	18,510	102.9	38,300	7.88	301,804
1925	105.9	2,616	9.60	25,114	102.1	39,134	9.53	372,947
Swine—								
1910		179	8.75	1,568	...	*58,186	9.17	533,309
1911	120.1	215	9.80	2,107	112.8	65,620	9.37	615,170
1912	98.1	211	8.00	1,688	99.7	65,410	8.00	523,323
1913	97.1	205	11.00	2,255	93.5	61,178	9.86	603,109
1914	100.0	205	10.50	2,152	96.3	58,933	10.40	612,961
1915	124.9	256	10.50	2,688	109.6	64,613	9.87	637,479
1916	121.0	320	8.20	2,624	104.9	67,766	8.40	569,573
1917	110.0	352	12.00	4,224	99.6	67,503	11.75	792,898
1918	107.1	387	20.00	7,740	105.1	70,978	19.54	1,337,261
1919	104.9	406	22.00	8,932	105.1	74,584	22.02	1,642,598
1920	94.0	*450	18.00	8,100	96.2	59,344	19.07	1,131,674
1921	92.0	414	12.30	5,092	94.5	56,097	12.97	727,330
1922	110.0	455	9.60	4,368	103.6	58,127	10.11	587,482
1923	115.0	592	10.50	6,216	117.4	68,227	11.59	791,095
1924	105.0	622	9.50	5,909	96.9	66,130	9.76	645,429
1925	74.9	466	11.00	5,126	78.9	52,234	12.34	644,563
Total Livestock—								
1910		3,044	22.54	68,620	...	196,480	24.48	4,910,975
1911	107.9	3,287	20.89	68,654	103.9	204,355	25.82	5,276,438
1912	97.8	3,216	20.88	67,074	98.1	200,640	24.96	5,098,327
1913	104.9	3,376	23.43	79,124	96.7	194,140	28.33	5,501,783
1914	99.6	3,365	26.13	87,939	98.2	190,655	30.89	5,969,253
1915	106.1	3,573	27.75	99,152	104.2	193,577	30.06	6,020,670
1916	107.9	3,854	28.92	111,465	102.7	204,063	29.50	6,735,612
1917	108.1	4,163	30.68	127,745	100.8	205,635	32.75	6,284,198
1918	112.8	4,692	34.92	163,975	103.8	213,431	33.81	8,284,198
1919	101.3	4,754	36.85	175,208	102.3	218,446	40.41	8,827,694
1920	100.7	4,744	32.59	154,519	98.8	190,682	42.29	8,165,194
1921	102.3	4,852	22.73	110,321	96.3	183,799	32.94	6,051,202
1922	94.0	4,566	19.39	88,540	100.2	184,316	26.82	4,793,170
1923	110.3	5,091	18.38	93,516	103.8	191,344	26.71	5,173,165
1924	99.4	5,066	17.46	88,460	101.6	194,441	25.74	4,904,387
1925	98.2	4,975	17.63	87,744	92.2	179,296	27.38	4,809,560

Explanations: In the main table containing numbers and valuations of livestock, numbers with one star (*) indicate the Federal census numbers for January 1, 1920, and April 15, 1910. Columns with two stars (**) at the top indicate that the numbers and aggregate values require three ciphers (000) to complete the numbers and values. †Values 1910 milk cows included with other cattle.