

AG UPDATE

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CATTLE INVENTORY JULY 1, 2006

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of July 1, 2006, totaled 105.7 million head, 1 percent above the 104.5 million on July 1, 2005 and 2 percent above the 103.4 million two years ago. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 43.0 million, were up slightly from the 42.8 million on July 1, 2005 and 1 percent above the 42.4 million two years ago. Beef cows, at 33.9 million, were up slightly from July 1, 2005 and up 1 percent from two years ago. Milk cows, at 9.15 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2005 and up 2 percent from two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2006 and the changes from July 1, 2005, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, up 2 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.0 million, unchanged.
- Milk replacement heifers, 3.8 million, up 3 percent.
- Other heifers, 7.7 million, up 3 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.9 million, up 3 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 29.2 million, up 1 percent.
- All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 12.5 million, up 4 percent.

The 2006 calf crop is expected to be 37.9 million, up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.6 million, up 1 percent from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004.

Vol. 26 No. 15 Cattle and Calves, United States, July 1, 2004-2006

Cattle and Carves, Cinted States, July 1, 2004-2000				
Class	2004	2005	2006	
	1,000 Head			
All Cattle and Calves	103,400	104,500	105,700	
All Cows	42,400	42,800	43,000	
Beef Cows	33,400	33,750	33,850	
Milk Cows	9,000	9,050	9,150	
Heifers 500 lbs. and Over	15,950	16,200	16,500	
Beef Cow Replacement	4,800	5,000	5,000	
Milk Cow Replacement	3,600	3,700	3,800	
Other Heifers	7,550	7,500	7,700	
Steers 500 lbs. and Over	14,200	14,400	14,900	
Bulls 500 lbs. and Over	2,050	2,100	2,100	
Calves Under 500 lbs	28,800	29,000	29,200	
Calf Crop <u>1</u> /	37,505	37,780	37,900	

 $\underline{1}$ / For the current year, the calf crop is the number of calves born before July 1 plus the number expected to be born on and after July 1.

CATTLE ON FEED JULY 1, 2006

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 980,000 head as of July 1, 2006. The latest inventory was down 5 percent from June 1, 2006, but up 9 percent from the 900,000 on feed on July 1, 2005. The inventory included 650,000 steers and steer calves, up 17 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 320,000 head, was down 6 percent from the previous year. The number of cows and bulls totaled 10,000, up 5,000 from last year. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 215,000 head of fed cattle during June 2006. This was 16 percent above May 2006 marketings of 185,000 head and 13 percent above a year ago. An estimated 175,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during June, 35 percent above a year ago but no change from May 2006 placements. Of the number placed in June, 29 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 20 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 31 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 20 percent weighed 800 pounds or greater. Other disappearance during June 2006, at 10,000 head, was down 50 percent from May but unchanged from June 2005.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.9 million head on July 1, 2006. The inventory was 5 percent above July 1, 2005 and 7 percent above July 1, 2004. This is the second highest July 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.09 million steers and

steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 65 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.71 million head, up 5 percent from 2005. Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.95 million, 10 percent above 2005 and 18 percent above 2004. This is the second highest placements for the month of June since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.89 During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 565,000, 600-699 pounds were 430,000, 700-799 pounds were 456,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 500,000. Marketings of fed cattle during June totaled 2.20 million, 6 percent above 2005 and up 6 percent from 2004. This is the second highest fed cattle marketings for the month of June since the series began in Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during June, unchanged from 2005 but 10 percent below 2004.

Cattle on feed July 1, 2006, from all feedlots in the United States, totaled 12.5 million, up 4 percent from the 12.0 million on July 1, 2005 and up 6 percent from July 1, 2004. Cattle on feed in feedlots with 1,000 or more head accounted for 87 percent of the total cattle on feed on July 1, 2006, unchanged from July 1, 2005.

Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, June 1 to July 1, 2005-2006

1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, Julie 1 to July 1, 2003-2000				
	Colorado		United States	
Item	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 head			
On Feed June 1	970	1,030	10,771	11,187
Placements During June	130	175	1,769	1,951
< 600 pounds	25	50	412	565
600 - 699 Pounds	25	35	347	430
700 - 799 Pounds	40	55	480	456
800 Plus Pounds	40	35	530	500
Marketing's During June	190	215	2,083	2,203
Other Disap. During June	10	10	63	63
On Feed July 1	900	980	10,394	10,872
Steers & Steer Calves	555	650	6,802	7,092
Heifers & Heifer Calves	340	320	3,527	3,710
Cows & Bulls	5	10	65	70

SHEEP INVENTORY JULY 1, 2006

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on July 1, 2006 totaled 7.77 million head, down slightly from July 1, 2005, but 2 percent above July 1, 2004. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.64 million head on July 1, 2006 was down slightly from July 1, 2005. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 3.14 million head, were also down slightly from last July. The breeding herd consists of 3.78 million ewes one year old and older, 185,000 rams one year old and older, and 670,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). Market lamb inventory at 3.06 million head was comprised of 1.80 million lambs under 65 pounds, 630,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 370,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 260,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 80,000 head.

The 2006 lamb crop in the United States is expected to total 4.10 million head, down 1 percent from the 2005 lamb crop of 4.13 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2006 totaled 3.62 million head or 88 percent of the yearly total. An additional 480,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2006.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER JUNE 2006

Red meat production in **Colorado** during June 2006 totaled 178.2 million pounds, 7 percent above the 166.6 million pounds produced during June 2005. Cattle kill was up 5 percent from the previous year to 213,500 head and the average live weight increased 28 pounds to 1,270 pounds per head. Hog slaughter increased 13 percent from the previous year, to 900 head, but the average live weight was down 4 pounds to 270. Accumulated production for the first six months of this year now totals 928.7 million pounds, 8 percent above the 861.5 billion pounds produced during the comparable period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.12 billion pounds in June, up 4 percent from the 3.96 billion pounds produced in June 2005. Beef production, at 2.43 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.16 million head, up 8 percent from June 2005. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.0 million pounds, 1 percent below June a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,700 head, down slightly from June 2005. The average live weight was 4 pounds below last year, at 365 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.34 million head, 2 percent below June 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 268 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 14.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from June 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 211,800 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 1 pound from June a year ago.

January to June 2006 commercial red meat production was 23.3 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

Red Meat Production - Colorado and United States

Area	June	May	June	January	-June
and Specie	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006
	Million Pounds				
Colorado	166.6	170.0	178.2	861.50	928.7
United States	3,962	4,049	4,120	22,245	23,269
Beef	2,227	2,297	2,429	11,913	12,777
Veal	13.2	13.1	13.0	78.0	74.5
Pork	1,707	1,722	1,663	10,159	10,320
Lamb&Mutton	15.3	16.3	14.6	94.6	96.9

AGRICULTURAL PRICES JULY 31, 2006

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in July, at 117 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from June. The Crop Index is down 3 points (2.4 percent) while the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, broilers, asparagus, and snap beans. Lower prices were received for grapes, cantaloupes, hogs, and broccoli. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of grapes, wheat, tomatoes, and hay offset decreased marketings of milk, cantaloupes, potatoes, and asparagus.

The July **All Crop Index**, at 123 is down 2.4 from last month and down 7.0 percent from July 2005. The July all wheat price at \$4.09 per bushel, is up 8 cents from June and up 89 cents from July 2005. The corn price, at \$2.20 per bushel, is up 6 cents from last month but 9 cents below July 2005. The all hay price, at \$107 per ton, is \$2.00 below June but up \$7.30 from last July. The soybean price, at \$5.60 per bushel, decreased 1 cent from June but is \$1.05 below July 2005.

The July **Livestock and Product Index**, at 110, is unchanged from last month but down 6.0 percent from July 2005. The July hog price, at \$49.40 per cwt, is down \$4.40 cents from June and 40 cents lower than a year ago. The July beef cattle price of \$86.10 is up \$1.90 from last month and \$1.10 higher than July 2005. The July all milk price of \$11.90 per cwt is unchanged from last month but down \$2.90 from July 2005.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Trices received and raid Sammary Emica States				
Index	2005		2006	
1990-92 = 100	June	July	June	July
	Percent			
Prices Received	119	116	117	117
Prices Paid	140	141	147	148
Ratio <u>1</u> /	84	82	80	79

^{1/} Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

Compared with July 2005, all Colorado crop prices averaged higher except dry beans. All livestock prices averaged higher except for cows and milk. Mid-July 2006 wheat, at \$4.58 per bushel, increased 38 cents from the previous month and was \$1.52 above July a year ago. Corn prices increased 6 cents from June to \$2.50 per bushel but averaged 22 cents below July 2005. The mid-July potato price was 1.45 cents higher than last month at \$9.65 per cwt, and \$4.90 per cwt higher than July a year ago. The dry bean average price, at \$17.40 per cwt, increased 10 cents from last month but was \$12.70 per cwt lower than July a year ago. Alfalfa hay averaged \$135.00 per ton, \$15.00 higher than June and up \$36.00 from July 2005. Other hay at, \$130.00 per ton, was up \$15.00 from last month and \$43.00 from July a year ago. The mid-July steer and heifer price increased \$7.00 from last month to \$111.00 per cwt and averaged \$3.00 above the \$108.00 per cwt a year ago. Cow prices were down \$1.30 from last month to \$47.10 per cwt and were \$5.50 per cwt lower than July 2005. Calf prices, at \$140.00 per cwt, were \$9.00 above last month and \$4.00 higher than the \$136.00 per cwt received a year ago. Milk sold to plants, at \$12.10 per cwt, averaged 10 cents above last month but was \$2.60 below July 2005.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

			Colorado	
		July	June	July
Item	Unit	2005	2006	2006
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	3.06	4.20	4.58
Corn	Bu.	2.28	2.44	2.50
Barley (All)	Bu.	<u>2</u> /	<u>2</u> /	<u>2</u> /
Potatoes	Cwt	4.75	8.20	9.65
Dry edible beans	Cwt	30.10	17.30	17.40
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	99.00	120.00	135.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	87.00	115.00	130.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	107.00	103.00	110.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	108.00	104.00	111.00
Cows	Cwt	52.60	48.40	47.10
Calves	Cwt	136.00	131.00	140.00
Sheep	Cwt	37.90	31.00	<u>3</u> /
Lambs	Cwt	117.00	97.00	<u>3</u> /
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	14.70	12.00	12.10
		United States		
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	3.20	4.01	4.09
Corn	Bu.	2.11	2.14	2.20
Soybeans	Bu.	6.65	5.61	5.60
Barley (All)	Bu.	2.37	2.78	2.46
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	1.88	2.08	2.01
Sorghum	Cwt	3.94	3.95	4.43
Potatoes	Cwt	7.63	8.60	8.78
Dry edible beans	Cwt	25.40	18.90	19.50
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	109.00	115.00	113.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	75.90	90.10	89.30
Onions	Cwt	14.00	17.10	19.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	85.00	84.20	86.10
Steers & heifers	Cwt	88.20	88.50	90.40
Cows	Cwt	53.80	46.70	47.00
Calves	Cwt	133.00	133.00	136.00
Sheep	Cwt	41.00	28.60	<u>3</u> /
Lambs	Cwt	110.00	92.00	<u>3</u> /
Hogs	Cwt	49.80	53.80	49.40
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	14.80	11.90	11.90
Broilers	Lb.	0.440	0.390	0.400
1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of				

<u>1</u>/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments.

^{2/} Insufficient data to establish price. 3/ Not Published

CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION - JUNE 2006

Laying flocks in **Colorado** produced 90 million eggs during June 2006, up 5 percent from 86 million eggs produced June 2005. The number of layers averaged 3.73 million during June of this year, down 1 percent from 3.77 million for June 2005. The June 2006 egg production per 100 layers was 2,416 up 6 percent from 2,284 eggs per 100 layers in June 2005.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.38 billion during June 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.33 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 991 million were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during June 2006 averaged 342 million, up 1 percent from last year. June egg production per 100 layers was 2,159 eggs, down slightly from June 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on July 1, 2006, totaled 341 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 341 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.82 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on July 1, 2006, averaged 72.7 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from July 1, 2005.

COLD STORAGE JUNE 30, 2006

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on June 30, 2006 were greater than year earlier levels for beef, butter, chicken, eggs, and cheese. Butter stocks were down 1 percent from last month, but up 27 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 6 percent from last month, but up 2 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 14 percent from last month and down 17 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 19 percent from last month and down 26 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on June 30, 2006 were up 4 percent from the previous month and up 8 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 1 percent from the previous month and up 13 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 8 percent from last month, but down slightly from June 30, 2005.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Stocks in Storage, Cinted States						
Commodity	June 30, 2005	May 31, 2006	June 30, 2006			
	1,000 Pounds					
Butter	179,648	229,887	228,555			
Cheese, total natural	823,444	846,260	863,852			
Eggs, frozen	19,681	21,017	22,133			
Poultry, total frozen	1,199,617	1,247,606	1,293,510			
Chicken	690,840	773,099	782,004			
Turkey	506,302	466,579	505,384			
Fruits, frozen	765,766	740,290	847,993			
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,812,522	1,460,961	1,388,663			
Vegetables, total frozen	1,515,635	1,369,674	1,433,024			
Potatoes, total frozen	1,190,464	1,105,186	1,103,379			
Meats, total red	851,659	926,210	866,925			
Beef, total frozen	342,106	434,552	438,285			
Pork, total frozen	492,494	473,317	408,722			
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Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Food stocks are excluded for places where entire inventories are turned over more than once a month.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at:

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Aug. 11 - Crop Production
Aug. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
Aug. 16 - Mushrooms
Aug. 17 - Milk Production
Aug. 18 - Cattle on Feed
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