



# AG UPDATE

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## SMALL GRAINS SUMMARY 2006 CROPS COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

The final 2006 all wheat production for Colorado, at 41.5 million bushels, was 23 percent below the production attained the previous year. Winter wheat production was estimated at 39.9 million bushels, down 24 percent from last year's crop. The area harvested for grain was estimated at 1.9 million acres, down from 2.2 million acres harvested last year. Continued dry spring conditions reduced average yield per acre to 21.0 bushels, 3.0 bushels below last year's 24.0 bushels and the lowest yield since 1968. The area seeded last fall for this year's crop was estimated at 2.15 million acres. This year's spring wheat crop was estimated at 1.6 million bushels, up 31 percent from last year's crop. The average yield of 85.0 bushels per acre was 20 bushels above last year. The area harvested for grain was estimated at 19,000 acres from 20,000 seeded. Colorado's barley production in 2006 was estimated at 4.8 million bushels, down 37 percent from a year ago and the lowest production since 1934. The average yield per acre, at 115.0 bushels, was down 15 bushels from last year. The area harvested for grain was estimated at 42,000 acres, down from 59,000 acres in 2005. Production of oats in 2006 totaled 700,000 bushels, 38 percent below last year. This is the lowest production since 1879 excluding the extreme drought year of 2002. Average yield was placed at 70.0 bushels per acre, 5 bushels below last year's crop. The area harvested for grain was estimated at 10,000 acres, down from 15,000 acres last year. Acres seeded to oats totaled 85,000 in 2006 up 10,000 acres from last year.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All wheat production totals 1.81 billion bushels in 2006, up 1 percent from the last forecast but 14 percent below 2005. Grain area is 46.8 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is 38.7 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushel from August but down 3.3 bushels from last year. The level of production and change from last year by type are: winter wheat, 1.30 billion bushels, down 13 percent; other spring wheat, 460 million bushels, down 9 percent; Durum wheat, 53.5 million bushels, down 47 percent. Oat production is estimated at a record low 93.8 million bushels, 13 percent below the August 1 forecast and 18 percent below last year's 115 million bushels. The estimated yield is 59.5 bushels per

acre, up 3.2 bushels from August but down 3.5 bushels from a year ago. Compared with last year, yields declined in nearly all States except for those in the eastern Great Lakes region, Ohio Valley, and the Pacific Northwest. Harvested area is a record low 1.58 million acres, 17 percent below the August 1 forecast and 14 percent below last year.

Barley production is estimated at 180 million bushels, down 2 percent from the August 1 forecast and down 15 percent from last year. Average yield per acre, at 61.0 bushels, is down 0.2 bushel from the previous forecast and 3.8 bushels below 2005. The area harvested for grain is estimated at 2.95 million acres, down 1 percent from August and 10 percent below a year ago. Area harvested for grain is the lowest since 1885, while production is the lowest since 1936. Harvested area is down in most States, including the four States with the largest acreage. Acreage harvested is down 90,000 in Idaho, 80,000 in Montana, 65,000 in North Dakota, and 15,000 in Washington. Production is down throughout the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains, partly due to the decreased acreage, but also because yields are down in these areas due to dry conditions during most of the growing season. However, yields are higher than last year in the Pacific Northwest, Corn Belt, Ohio River Valley, and most Atlantic Coast States.

### GRAIN STOCKS SEPTEMBER 1, 2006

All wheat stocks in Colorado as of September 1, 2006 totaled 41.95 million bushels, a decrease of 16 percent from 50.06 million bushels on hand one year earlier. On-farm stocks were 26 percent below the previous year and off-farm stocks decreased 10 percent. United States all wheat stored in all positions on September 1, 2006 totaled 1.74 billion bushels, down 9 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 572 million bushels, down 21 percent from last September. Off-farm stocks, at 1.17 billion bushels, are down 3 percent from a year ago. The June - August 2006 indicated disappearance is 640 million bushels, down 11 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Old crop corn stocks in Colorado were estimated at 12.89 million bushels, down 20 percent from the 16.17 million bushels on hand a year earlier. Farm stocks, at 5.30 million bushels, was 29 percent below a year earlier, and off-farm stocks at 7.59 million bushels, were 12 percent below the previous year. Old corn crop stocks in all positions for the United States on September 1, 2006 totaled 1.97 billion bushels, down 7 percent from September 1, 2005. Of the total stocks, 750 million bushels are stored on farms, down 9 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 1.22 billion bushels, are down 6 percent from a year ago. The June - August 2006 indicated disappearance is 2.39 billion bushels, compared with 2.21 billion bushels during the same period last year.

## Grain Stocks

### Colorado and United States, September 1, 2005-2006

Grain And Position 1/	Colorado		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
<b>1,000 Bushels</b>				
<b>All wheat</b>				
On farms .....	19,000	14,000	721,360	572,120
Off farms.....	31,060	27,945	1,201,931	1,171,021
Total .....	50,060	41,945	1,923,291	1,743,041
<b>Corn</b>				
On farms .....	7,500	5,300	820,500	749,500
Off farms.....	8,670	7,590	1,293,472	1,221,072
Total .....	16,170	12,890	2,113,972	1,970,572
<b>Barley</b>				
On farms .....	2/	2/	137,400	112,750
Off farms.....	2/	6,300	117,511	100,139
Total .....	2/	2/	254,911	212,889
<b>Oats</b>				
On farms .....	2/	2/	71,700	59,900
Off farms.....	82	80	41,803	39,328
Total .....	2/	2/	113,503	99,228
<b>Sorghum</b>				
On farms .....	2/	2/	5,900	5,250
Off farms.....	390	2/	51,041	59,919
Total .....	2/	2/	56,941	65,169
<b>Soybeans</b>				
On farms .....	3/	3/	99,700	176,300
Off farms.....	2/	2/	156,038	272,488
Total .....	2/	2/	255,738	448,788

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

2/ Not published separately to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Not estimated.

Grain sorghum stored in all positions for the United States on September 1, 2006 totaled 65.2 million bushels, up 14 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 5.25 million bushels, are down 11 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 59.9 million bushels, are up 17 percent from September 1, 2005. The June - August 2006 indicated disappearance from all positions is 49.7 million bushels, down 12 percent from the same period a year ago. Old crop soybeans stored in all positions on September 1, 2006 totaled 449 million bushels, up 75 percent from September 1, 2005. This is the largest September 1 stocks level since 1986. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 176 million bushels, up 77 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 272 million bushels, are up 75 percent from last September. Indicated disappearance for June - August 2006 totaled 542 million bushels, up 22 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The Colorado off-farm oats stocks of 80,000 bushels were down 2 percent from a year earlier. Colorado off-farm barley stocks were 6.3 million bushels. Oats stored in all positions on September 1, 2006 were not published separately to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Barley stocks in all positions for United States on September 1, 2006 totaled 213 million bushels, down 16 percent from September 1, 2005. On-farm stocks are estimated at 113 million bushels, 18 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 100 million bushels, are 15 percent below September 2005. The June - August 2006 indicated disappearance is 75.1 million bushels, 12 percent below the same period a year earlier.

## CHICKENS AND EGGS      AUGUST 2006

Colorado laying flocks produced 95 million eggs during August 2006 up 2 percent from the previous month of 93 million eggs and up 4 million from August 2005. The average number of layers for the month, at 3.87 million, was 4 percent above the 3.70 million the previous month and was slightly above the 3.84 million layers for August 2005. The rate of lay for August 2006, at 2,456 eggs per 100 layers, 2 percent below the 2,511 for the previous month but 4 percent above the 2,368 in August a year earlier.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.64 billion during August 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.56 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 65 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during August 2006 averaged 341 million, up slightly from last year. August egg production per 100 layers was 2,239 eggs, up 1 percent from August 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on September 1, 2006, totaled 342 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 342 million layers consisted of 285 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 53.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.73 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on September 1, 2006, averaged 72.6 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from September 1, 2005.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 7.12 billion eggs during August 2005, up from the 6.99 a year ago. The average number of layers during August, at 317 million, up from the 315 a year ago.

## HOG AND PIG INVENTORY SEPTEMBER 1, 2006

The all hog and pig inventory in **Colorado** as of September 1, 2006 totaled 850,000 head, down 1 percent from one year earlier. The breeding inventory of 155,000 head was up 7 percent from a year earlier but the market hog inventory was down 3 percent to 695,000 head. During the June through August 2006 period, producers farrowed 83,000 sows which averaged 9.00 pigs per litter, resulting in a total pig crop of 747,000 for the period. Producers expect to farrow 83,000 sows during the September-November 2006 period.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES - SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September, at 118 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2 points (1.7 percent) from August. The Crop Index is down 7 points (5.6 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.9 percent). Producers received lower commodity prices for lettuce, potatoes, hogs, and broccoli. Higher prices were received for cattle, milk, tomatoes, and turkeys. The overall index is also affected by

the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Decreased average marketings of cattle, broilers, wheat, and grapes offset increased marketings of soybeans, apples, corn, and potatoes.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 2 points (1.7 percent) from September 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 121, decreased 2 points (1.6 percent) from last month and is unchanged from September 2005.

The September All Crops Index at 119, down 5.6 percent but 7.2 percent above September 2005. The September all wheat price, at \$3.98 per bushel, is up 7 cents from August and 62 cents above September 2005. The corn price, at \$2.11 per bushel, is up 2 cents from last month and 11 cents above September 2005. The soybean price, at \$5.12 per bushel, decreased 11 cents from August and is 65 cents from September 2005. The all potato price, at \$6.81 per cwt, is down \$1.14 from August but up \$1.12 from last September. The all dry bean price, at \$19.40 per cwt, is down 20 cents from the previous month but up \$1.40 from September 2005.

The September Livestock and Products Index, at 116, is 0.9 percent above last month but down 4.9 percent from September 2005. The September hog price, at \$50.00 per cwt, is down \$1.60 from August but 60 cents higher than a year ago. The September beef cattle price of \$90.30 is up \$2.60 from last month and \$2.30 higher than September 2005. The September all milk price of \$12.60 is up 60 cents from last month but down \$2.70 from September 2005.

**Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States**

Index 1990-92 = 100	2005		2006	
	Aug.	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.
	<b>Percent</b>			
Prices Received .....	116	116	120	118
Prices Paid.....	141	142	148	147
Ratio 1/.....	82	82	81	80

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid.

Colorado commodity prices for all crop items were lower for September 2006, except for potatoes, dry edible beans, and wheat when compared with the previous month, while livestock items except calves were all higher than the previous month. September wheat, at \$4.20 per bushel, was unchanged from August but was 74 cents above September 2005. Corn decreased 16 cents from August to \$2.32 per bushel but was 11 cents above a year ago. The all potato price of \$9.60 per cwt. was \$1.35 above the August price but averaged 40 cents below the September 2005 price. Dry beans, at \$20.40 per cwt., increased 50 cents from August and averaged 70 cents above a year ago. Alfalfa hay, at \$130.00 per ton, was \$3.00 below the previous month but \$24.00 above September 2005. Other hay prices at \$123.00 per ton was \$2.00 lower than the previous month but averaged \$18.00 above a year earlier.

September mid-month beef cattle prices, at \$115.00 per cwt., averaged \$4.00 above both August and September 2005. Steer

and heifer prices for September averaged \$116.00 per cwt., up \$4.00 from August and \$8.00 above September 2005. Cow prices, at \$50.00 per cwt. were \$2.20 above August but \$2.40 per cwt. below September 2005. Calves decreased \$4.00 from August to \$137.00 per cwt. but averaged \$4.00 per cwt. above September a year ago.

**Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/**

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Sept. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006
		<b>Dollars</b>		
<b>Crops</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	3.46	4.20	4.20
Corn .....	Bu.	2.21	2.48	2.32
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	3.12	2/	2/
Potatoes.....	Cwt	10.00	8.25	9.60
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	19.70	19.90	20.40
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	106.00	133.00	130.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	105.00	125.00	123.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products.....</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	111.00	111.00	115.00
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	108.00	112.00	116.00
Cows .....	Cwt	52.40	47.80	50.00
Calves.....	Cwt	133.00	141.00	137.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	42.20	33.00	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	109.00	96.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	15.20	12.20	12.60
		<b>United States</b>		
		<b>Dollars</b>		
<b>Crops</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	3.36	3.91	3.98
Corn .....	Bu.	1.90	2.09	2.11
Soybeans .....	Bu.	5.77	5.23	5.12
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2.36	2.70	2.65
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	1.84	2.06	2.18
Sorghum.....	Cwt	3.41	4.35	3.99
Potatoes.....	Cwt	5.69	7.95	6.81
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	18.00	19.60	19.40
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	106.00	110.00	112.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	78.90	91.50	93.00
Onions .....	Cwt	13.10	15.40	13.90
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	88.00	87.70	90.30
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	92.10	91.90	95.20
Cows .....	Cwt	49.80	47.00	47.30
Calves.....	Cwt	135.00	134.00	135.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	43.70	28.40	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	110.00	94.80	3/
Hogs.....	Cwt	49.40	51.60	50.00
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	15.30	12.00	12.60
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.460	0.420	0.420

1/ 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/ Discontinued.

(Continued from page 2)

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2006 was 62.7 million head. This was up 1 percent from September 1, 2005 and up 2 percent from June 1, 2006. Breeding inventory, at 6.08 million head, was up 2 percent from last year and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 56.6 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and up 2 percent from last quarter. The June-August 2006 pig crop, at 26.7 million head, was up 1 percent from 2005 and up 2 percent from 2004. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.92 million head, up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.14 for the June-August 2006 period, compared to 9.06 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

**Hogs and Pigs, September 1, 2005-2006**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<b>1,000 Head</b>			
All Hogs & Pigs.....	860	850	61,846	62,704
Kept for breeding ...	145	155	5,972	6,079
Market.....	715	695	55,873	56,625
Under 60 lbs.....	400	385	20,764	20,998
60-119 lbs .....	110	85	13,876	13,991
120-179 lbs .....	85	85	11,404	11,555
180 lbs. & over....	120	140	9,830	10,082
Sows Farrowed:				
June thru Aug.....	81	83	2,918	2,924
Sept.thru Nov <u>1/</u> ....	81	83	2,900	2,925
June thru Nov <u>2/</u> ....	162	186	5,818	5,849
Pig Crop:				
June thru Aug.....	713	747	26,449	26,727
Sept thru Nov .....	713	<u>3/</u>	26,187	<u>3/</u>
June thru Nov .....	1,426	<u>3/</u>	52,636	<u>3/</u>

1/ Intentions for 2006.

2/ Actual for June-August plus intentions for Sept-Nov 2006.

3/ Not estimated

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.92 million sows farrow during the September-November 2006 quarter, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings in both 2005 and 2004. Intended farrowings for December 2006-February 2007, at 2.90 million sows, are up 2 percent from both 2006 and 2005.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

## REVISIONS

All inventory and pig crop estimates for September 2005 through June 2006 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, a small adjustment of less than one-half of one percent was made to the March 2006 inventory along with an adjustment of slightly larger than one-half of one percent to the June 2006 total inventory.

## 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: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

- Oct. 4 - Vegetables
- Oct. 12 - Crop Production
- Oct. 13 - Turkey Hatchery
- Oct. 18 - Milk Production
- Oct. 20 - Cattle On Feed
- Oct. 20 - Cold Storage
- Oct. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Oct. 23 - Chickens and Eggs
- Oct. 31 - Agricultural Prices

**R. René Picanso**  
Director

**Steve Anderson**  
Deputy Director