



AG UPDATE

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER SEPTEMBER 2006

Red meat production in Colorado during September 2006 totaled 132.9 million pounds, down 11 percent from 149.9 million pounds a year earlier and 21 percent below the revised August 2006 production. Cattle kill during September was down 13 percent from a year earlier to 151,700 head but the average live weight increased 19 pounds to 1,316 per head. Hog slaughter, at 1,200 head, was down 300 head from a year earlier but the average live weight of 261 pounds was 1 pound above the previous year. Accumulated red meat production for the January-September period this year, at 1.41 billion pounds, is 6 percent above the same period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in September, up slightly from the previous year. Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.77 million head, down slightly from September 2005. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,282 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.8 million pounds, 3 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57,500 head, down 5 percent from September 2005. The average live weight was 2 pounds above last year, at 365 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.74 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.83 million head, slightly below September 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 266 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.2 million pounds, was down 9 percent from September 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 219,100 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 6 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2006 commercial red meat production was 35.2 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States

Area and Specie	Sept. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006	January-September	
				2005	2006
	Million Pounds				
Colorado:	149.9	168.9	132.9	1,337.2	1,414.5
United States:	3,930	4,245	3,933	33,889	35,228
Beef.....	2,158	2,442	2,162	18,473	19,585
Veal.....	13.2	14.2	12.8	117.4	113.5
Pork.....	1,743	1,774	1,744	15,159	15,391
Lamb & Mutton ...	15.6	14.6	14.2	139.0	138.8

CATTLE ON FEED OCTOBER 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 1,060,000 head as of October 1, 2006. The latest inventory was up 10 percent from September 1, 2006 and up 18 percent from the 900,000 on feed on October 1, 2005. The inventory included 730,000 steers and steer calves, up 25 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 325,000 head, was up 5 percent from last year while cows and bulls were unchanged at 5,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 140,000 head of fed cattle during September 2006. This was 22 percent below August 2006 revised marketings of 180,000 head and 3 percent below a year ago. An estimated 245,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during September, down 12 percent from a year ago but 20 percent above the revised August 2006 placements of 205,000. Of the number placed in September, 20 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 14 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 20 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 45 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for September, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from September 2005 and August 2006.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.4 million head on October 1, 2006. The inventory was 9 percent above October 1, 2005 and 8 percent above October 1, 2004. This is the highest October 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.20 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.12 million head, up 16 percent from 2005. Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.23 million, 5 percent below 2005 and 6 percent below 2004. Net placements were 2.16 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing

less than 600 pounds were 725,000, 600-699 pounds were 412,000, 700-799 pounds were 450,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 645,000. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.77 million, 3 percent below 2005 and 2 percent below 2004. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 68,000 during September, 19 percent above 2005 and 11 percent above 2004.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000 Plus Capacity, Sept. 1 to Oct 1, 2005-2006**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 head			
On Feed Sept. 1	770	960	10,482	11,385
Placements During Sept.	280	245	2,335	2,232
< 600 pounds	30	50	565	725
600 - 699 Pounds	45	35	505	412
700 - 799 Pounds	70	50	550	450
800 Plus Pounds	135	110	735	645
Marketings During Sept.	145	140	1,816	1,765
Other Disap. During Sept.	5	5	57	68
On Feed Oct 1.	900	1,060	10,482	11,385
Steers & Steer Calves	585	730	6,872	7,197
Heifers & Heifer Calves	310	325	3,553	4,122
Cows & Bulls	5	5	57	66

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION
SEPTEMBER 2006**

Colorado laying flocks produced 92 million eggs during September 2006 compared with 87 million during the same month a year earlier and 95 million during August of this year. The average number of layers for the month, at 3.85 million, was nearly unchanged from September 2005 and August 2006. The rate of lay for September 2006 was 2,389 eggs per 100 layers compared with 2,251 during September 2005 and 2,456 in August 2006.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.42 billion during September 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.38 billion table eggs, and 1.04 billion hatching eggs, of which 977 million were broiler-type and 63 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2006 averaged 343 million, up slightly from last year. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,165 eggs, up slightly from September 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 2006, totaled 343 million, up slightly from last year. The 343 million layers consisted of 288 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 53.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.65 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2006, averaged 71.7 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from October 1, 2005.

**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL USAGE
RESTRICTED USE
OCTOBER 2005**

The agricultural chemical usage data in this report were derived from pesticide products reported in the Agricultural Chemical Usage 2005 Field Crops Summary.

Field Crops: The data were compiled from 2 surveys, the Agricultural Resources Management Survey (ARMS) and Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP). Targeted crops included corn, fall potatoes, oats, upland cotton, and soybeans. The Program States accounted for 82 to 93 percent of the U.S. acreage for these crops.

A limited number of restricted use herbicides were applied to field crops in 2005. The most commonly used herbicides were Atrazine, Acetochlor, and Isoxaflutole on 49, 23, and 6 percent of the acreage, respectively, to the acres planted to corn in the States surveyed.

A wide range of restricted use insecticides was used on corn, fall potatoes, soybeans, and upland cotton. Cyfluthrin was the most commonly used restricted insecticide, covering 29 percent of the fall potato acres; followed by Esfenvalerate and Imidacloprid, applied to 27 and 20 percent of the fall potatoes acreage, respectively. Aldicarb and Dicrotophos, the next most utilized insecticides, were both applied to 19 percent of the upland cotton acreage. Triphenyltin hydroxide, was the only restricted use fungicide applied to any program field crop, as it was applied to 10 percent of the fall potato acreage. Paraquat, used as a defoliant, on 14 percent of the upland cotton acreage and 2 percent of the fall potato acreage was the most commonly applied Other Chemical.

Fruit Crops: Growers in 13 Program States were surveyed to obtain restricted chemical use data on 22 selected fruit crops in 2005. The data on restricted use applications cover the period immediately following harvest of the 2004 crop through harvest of the 2005 crop. Dates and figs were included in the survey but do not appear in the publication because there were no restricted use chemicals reported.

A limited number of restricted use herbicides were applied to fruit crops in 2005. The only restricted use herbicide applied was Paraquat, as it was applied to nearly every target crop, in percentages ranging from 1 percent of the grapefruit acreage to 76 percent of the raspberry acreage. A wide variety of restricted use insecticides were used on fruit crops. The most widely used insecticide was Abamectin, as it was applied to 66 percent of the pear acreage, 61 percent of the tangelos, and 58 percent of the grapefruit acreage; followed by Esfenvalerate, which was applied 49 percent of the nectarine acreage, 43 percent of the plums, and 37 percent of the peach acreage. Bifenthrin was applied to 70 percent of the raspberry acreage. Azinphos-methyl was applied to 60 percent of the tart cherry acreage. Strychnine was the most commonly used Other Chemical, applied to 19 percent of the avocado acreage.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES OCTOBER 2006

The preliminary **All Farm Products Index of Prices Received** by Farmers in October, at 117 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2 points (1.7 percent) from September. The Crop Index is down 6 points (4.9 percent) but the Livestock Index is unchanged. Producers received lower commodity prices for lettuce, broilers, cattle, and tomatoes and higher prices for corn, wheat, turkeys, and milk. 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 milk, wheat, grapes, and sweet corn offset increased marketings of soybeans, corn, upland cotton, and sorghum grain.

The October **All Crops Index** is 116, down 4.9 percent from September but 13 percent above October 2005. The October all wheat price, at \$4.65 per bushel, is up 59 cents from September and \$1.22 above October 2005. The corn price, at \$2.72 per bushel, is up 52 cents from last month and 90 cents above October 2005. The soybean price, at \$5.46 per bushel, increased 22 cents from September but is 21 cents below October 2005. The all potato price, at \$5.74 per cwt, is down 61 cents from September but up 37 cents from last October. The all dry bean price, at \$19.90 per cwt, is up \$1.10 from both the previous month and October 2005.

The October **Livestock & Products Index**, at 117, is unchanged last month but down 4.1 percent from October 2005. The October hog price, at \$46.90 per cwt, is down \$2.00 from September and 10 cents lower than a year ago. The October beef cattle price of \$89.10 per cwt is down \$1.70 from last month and \$1.30 lower than October 2005. The October all milk price of \$13.30 per cwt is up 40 cents from last month but down \$2.30 from October 2005.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2005		2006	
	Sept.	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.
	Percent			
Prices Received	116	111	119	117
Prices Paid	142	144	146	146
Ratio 1/	82	77	82	80

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates.

Colorado's mid-October prices for most crop items averaged higher than a year ago except for potatoes. All livestock items averaged below a year ago. Wheat, at \$4.93 per bushel, averaged \$1.53 above October 2005 and 65 cents above September of this year. Corn averaged \$3.00 per bushel in mid-October this year, up 72 cents from the previous year and up 57 cents from last month. Potato prices increased 25 cents per cwt from last month to \$8.45 per cwt but averaged 55 cents below the October 2005 average of \$9.00 per cwt.

Alfalfa hay prices at \$135.00 per ton, increased \$5.00 from last month and was \$31.00 above a year ago. Other hay prices, at \$124.00 per ton, increased \$1.00 per ton from

September 2006 and were up \$24.00 from October 2005. Steer and heifer prices were down \$6.00 from September at \$116.00 per cwt and averaged \$6.00 per cwt below last year. Cows, at \$48.20 per cwt, were down \$1.60 from last month and averaged \$1.30 below October 2005. Calves averaged \$125.00 for mid-October, \$7.00 below last month and down \$8.00 per cwt from a year ago. The October all milk price of \$13.50 was 30 cents above last month but \$1.90 below a year ago.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Oct. 2005	Sept. 2006	Oct. 2006
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	3.40	4.28	4.93
Corn	Bu.	2.28	2.43	3.00
Barley (All)	Bu.	3.15	2/	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	9.00	8.20	8.45
Dry edible beans	Cwt	18.40	19.60	19.60
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	104.00	130.00	135.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	100.00	123.00	124.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	115.00	115.00	109.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	116.00	116.00	110.00
Cows	Cwt	49.50	49.80	48.20
Calves	Cwt	133.00	132.00	125.00
Sheep	Cwt	42.40	35.00	3/
Lambs	Cwt	109.00	98.00	3/
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	15.40	13.20	13.50
		United States		
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	3.43	4.06	4.65
Corn	Bu.	1.82	2.20	2.72
Soybeans	Bu.	5.67	5.24	5.46
Barley (All)	Bu.	2.41	2.56	2.94
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	1.81	2.33	2.77
Sorghum	Cwt	2.99	4.28	5.14
Potatoes	Cwt	5.37	6.35	5.74
Dry edible beans	Cwt	18.80	18.80	19.90
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	105.00	112.00	112.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	79.00	93.00	93.80
Onions	Cwt	12.90	13.60	11.70
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	90.40	90.80	89.10
Steers & heifers	Cwt	96.10	95.80	94.40
Cows	Cwt	46.60	47.10	46.00
Calves	Cwt	135.00	135.00	131.00
Sheep	Cwt	43.60	31.70	3/
Lambs	Cwt	108.00	98.50	3/
Hogs	Cwt	47.00	48.90	46.90
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	15.60	12.90	13.30
Broilers	Lb.	0.430	0.420	0.400

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/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms. 3/ Mid-month prices discontinued

COLD STORAGE SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 2006 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, beef, cheese, pork, and eggs.

Butter stocks were down 7 percent from last month, but up 42 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 11 percent from both last month and the previous year. Frozen pork supplies were up 15 percent from last month and up 7 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 14 percent from last month and down 27 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on September 30, 2006 were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 3 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 2 percent from the previous month, but down 4 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 7 percent from last month and down 3 percent from September 30, 2005.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Sept. 30, 2005	Aug. 31, 2006	Sept. 30, 2006
1,000 Pounds			
Butter.....	124,061	188,772	175,619
Cheese, total natural	769,001	862,017	854,619
Eggs, frozen	18,837	21,560	19,291
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,235,135	1,217,964	1,193,458
Chicken	754,882	710,420	723,898
Turkey	477,801	500,258	463,266
Fruits, frozen	988,081	1,027,245	971,791
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,478,471	1,131,858	1,012,183
Vegetables, total frozen....	2,356,460	2,084,836	2,480,639
Potatoes, total frozen	1,180,358	964,139	1,003,209
Meats, total red.....	890,932	893,616	992,703
Beef, total frozen.....	438,750	471,677	497,501
Pork, total frozen.....	431,573	404,425	463,878

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

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.nass.usda.gov>

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- Nov. 17 - Cattle on Feed
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- Nov. 21 - Cold Storage
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- Nov. 30 - Agricultural Prices

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