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# AG UPDATE

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## POTATO STOCKS FEBRUARY 1, 2007

Colorado's growers and commercial storage facilities in the San Luis Valley had 13.1 million cwt of potatoes on hand as of February 1, 2007, up 2 percent from the 12.9 million cwt on hand one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 58 percent of the 22.69 million cwt produced in 2006. The February 1, 2006 stocks represented 56 percent of the 22.91 million cwt of potatoes produced in 2005. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for **table stock** have accounted for 70 percent of the total production for the 2001-2005 period. The remaining 30 percent of the production is utilized for seed, processing, and home use or is lost through shrinkage.

The 13 major potato States held 188 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2007, down 1 percent from last year and 7 percent below February 1, 2005, for comparable States. Potatoes in storage account for 49 percent of the 2006 fall storage States' production, down 2 percentage points from last year.

Disappearance of 194 million cwt from the start of harvest to February 1, is up 5 percent from last year. Shrink and loss, at 18.2 million cwt, is up 8 percent from the previous year. Processors have used 106 million cwt of 2006 crop potatoes so far this season, up 10 percent from a year ago and 5 percent above 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 21.3 million cwt of the total processing, up 11 percent from last year but 3 percent below the same date in 2005.

Western States held 131 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, down 6 percent from last year. Idaho's potato stocks are down 2 percent from last year, Washington's potato sheds held 10 percent less than last year, and Oregon's stocks declined 19 percent from last season. Colorado potato sheds held 2 percent more stocks than last year, Montana's stocks are up 3 percent from 2006, and California's potato stocks increased 18 percent from last season.

Central States accounted for 44.7 million cwt of potato stocks on February 1, up 13 percent from last year. Wisconsin's potato stocks increased 11 percent from last year, North Dakota's sheds held 28 percent more, Minnesota stocks are up 8 percent, and potato stocks in Michigan are 13 percent above last season. Nebraska's potato stocks are unchanged from the same date in 2006. Eastern States stored 12.6 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, up 11 percent from last year. Maine's potato sheds held 19 percent more than last year, while New York's potato stocks declined 35 percent from a year ago.

## Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks February 1, 2006-2007 <sup>1/</sup>

State	Crop of 2005		Crop of 2006	
	Prod.	Stocks Feb. 1, 2006	Prod.	Stocks Feb. 1, 2007
	1,000 Cwt		1,000 Cwt	
California.....	3,306	1,100	3,783	1,300
<b>Colorado.....</b>	22,910	12,900	22,686	13,100
Idaho.....	118,288	66,000	121,820	64,500
Maine.....	15,455	9,700	18,270	11,500
Michigan.....	13,910	4,500	14,190	5,100
Minnesota.....	17,630	9,000	20,400	9,700
Montana.....	3,445	3,300	3,518	3,400
Nebraska.....	8,245	3,900	8,633	3,900
New York.....	5,226	1,700	5,700	1,100
North Dakota.....	20,500	9,400	25,480	12,000
Oregon.....	22,023	14,500	18,533	11,700
Washington.....	95,480	40,500	89,900	36,500
Wisconsin.....	27,880	12,600	29,370	14,000
13 States.....	374,298	189,100	382,283	187,800
<b>Klamath Basin <sup>2/</sup>.....</b>				2,600

<sup>1/</sup> Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2006 totaled 25.6 million cwt.

<sup>2/</sup> Estimates began in December 2006. Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co. OR.

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER JANUARY 2007

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during January 2007 totaled 147.7 million pounds, down 1 percent from the same month a year earlier but up 19 percent above December 2006. **Cattle** slaughter during January was up 2 percent from a year earlier to 171,800 head but the average live weight was down 20 pounds to 1,313. **Hog** slaughter, at 800 head, was down 200 head from January 2006 and the average live weight decreased 14 pounds to 271.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.09 billion pounds in January, up 5 percent from the 3.90 billion pounds produced in January 2006.

**Beef production**, at 2.16 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.80 million head, up 6 percent from January 2006. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 14.3 million pounds, 21 percent above January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 74,300 head, 34 percent above January 2006. The average live weight was down 31 pounds from last year, at 324 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.90 billion pounds, 4 percent above from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.37 million head, 5 percent above January 2006. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.1 million pounds, was 7 percent below January 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 216,700 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 5 pounds from January a year ago.

### Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Specie	Jan. 2006	Dec. 2006	Jan. 2007	Jan. 2007 as % of	
				Jan. 2006	Dec. 2006
	<b>Million Pounds</b>				
<b>Colorado:.....</b>	149.4	123.8	147.7	99	119
<b>United States:.....</b>	3,899	3,874	4,092	105	106
Beef .....	2,050	2,048	2,164	106	106
Veal .....	11.8	13.1	14.3	121	109
Pork .....	1,820	1,797	1,898	104	106
Lamb & Mutton	16.2	15.4	15.1	93	99

## COUNTY ESTIMATES ALL WHEAT 2006

Colorado's total wheat crop produced in 2006 totaled 41.52 million bushels, 23 percent below the 54.04 million bushels produced in 2005. All wheat includes both winter and spring planted crops but excludes durum wheat. Once again, producers' expectations were initially high with good fall planting conditions for winter wheat and spring moisture for both crops. Hot and dry conditions returned later in the growing season limiting yield and production. The average yield per harvested acre of 21.6 bushels was down from 24.4 bushels last year and the lowest since 1969. The planted acreage of 2,170,000 acres for the 2006 crop was 16 percent less than the 2,570,000 acres planted the previous year and the 1,919,000 acres harvested was 14 percent below the 2,219,000 acres harvested in 2005. Producers did not harvest 251,000 acres for grain in 2006 compared with 351,000 in 2005.

**Kit Carson County** remained the top wheat producing county in the state in 2006 by producing 4,645,000 bushels. This year's crop was down 24 percent from the 2005 crop of 6,090,000 bushels. Producers planted 244,500 acres for the 2006 crop, down 27 percent from the previous year and harvested 216,700 acres, down 26 percent. The average yield, however, at 21.5 bushels per acre in 2006 was a half bushel above the 21.0 bushel average realized from the 2005 crop.

**Washington County** continued as the second highest wheat producing county in Colorado for the 2006 crop by producing 4,445,000 bushels, down 14 percent from the 5,190,000 bushel crop produced in 2005. Acreage planted for the 2006 crop was down 8 percent from the previous year to 246,700 acres which was the largest area of any county in the state. The 224,700 acres harvested was also the largest area harvested in the state but was 6 percent below the 237,800 acres harvested in 2005. The average yield in 2006, at 20.0 bushels per acre, was 2.0 bushels below the 2005 crop average of 22.0 bushels per acre.

**Yuma County** jumped to a third place ranking for the 2006 crop with a total output of 3,648,000 bushels. The planted area of 131,000 acres was 19 percent less than the previous year and the 125,600 acres harvested decreased 6 percent from the 133,000 acres harvested in 2005. The average yield of 29.0 bushels per acre was 3.5 bushels per acre above the 2005 average of 25.5 bushels per acre.

**Kiowa County** took fourth place in 2006 with a total output of 3,433,000 bushels. The latest crop was 2 percent above the 3,380,000 bushels produced the previous year. Producers harvested 171,600 acres in 2006 compared with 160,900 acres a year earlier. The county's average yield of 20.0 bushels per acre was 1.0 bushel below the previous year.

**Weld County** rounded out the top five wheat producing counties in the state with a total output of 2,816,000 bushels. The 2006 crop was 21 percent lower than the 2005 crop of 3,578,000 bushels. Producers decreased the planted area by 11 percent to 127,900 acres for the 2006 crop and harvested 115,200 acres, down from the 125,400 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield of 24.5 bushels per acre on the 2006 crop was 4.0 bushels per acre below the 2005 crop average.

The top five producing counties accounted for 18,987,000 bushels in 2006, representing 46 percent of the state's total output of 41,515,000 bushels. The next five leading counties had a combined output of 11,402,000 bushels, bringing the total for the top ten counties to 30,389,000 bushels or 73 percent of the state total. The sixth through the tenth counties with the percent change from the previous year and the 2006 production for each county were as follows: **Adams County**, down 14 percent to 2,590,000 bushels; **Logan County**, down 31 percent from the 2005 crop to 2,565,000 bushels; **Prowers County**, down 35 percent to 2,220,000; **Cheyenne County**, down 32 percent to 2,055,000 bushels; and **Morgan County**, down 6 percent to 1,972,000 bushels.

## COUNTY ESTIMATES BARLEY 2006

Colorado's barley production decreased 37 percent from last year's output due to a 22 percent reduction in seeded acreage and a 15.0 bushel per acre decline in yield. The 2006 crop totaled 4,830,000 bushels compared with 7,670,000 bushels produced in 2005 as producers planted 47,000 acres, down 13,000 acres from the previous year. The area harvested, at 42,000 acres, was down 29 percent from the 59,000 acres harvested a year earlier. Statewide, growing conditions were typical but irrigation restrictions and unfavorable harvest conditions in the San Luis Valley reduced the state's average yield to 115.0 bushels per acre.

Saguache County led all barley producing areas of the state by producing 1,230,000 bushels in 2006. The latest crop was 32 percent smaller than the 1,810,000 bushels produced in 2005 and represented 25 percent of the state's total output. Producers harvested 7,600 acres in 2006 compared with 11,500 acres the previous year, a decrease of 34 percent. The average yield of 162.0 bushels per acre for 2006 was 4.5 bushels above the 2005 crop average of 157.5 bushels per acre.

Rio Grande County dropped to the second largest barley producing area of the state with a total production of 1,225,000 bushels in 2006, down 35 percent from the 1,880,000 bushels produced a year earlier. The 7,800 acres harvested in 2006 were down 36 percent from the previous year. However, the average yield of 157.0 bushels per acre was 1.5 bushels per acre above the average for the previous year's crop.

Alamosa County continued in third place for the 2006 crop by producing 650,000 bushels, down 50 percent from the 1,300,000 bushels produced in 2005. The harvested area of 5,400 acres decreased 33 percent from the 8,100 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield for the county, at 120.5 bushels per acre, was 40.0 bushels per acre below the previous year's average of 160.5 bushels per acre.

Weld County remained fourth as its 2006 barley output of 642,300 bushels was down 27 percent compared with 878,000 bushels produced the previous year. The harvested area of 8,200 acres was 1,200 acres below a year earlier. Per acre yields in the county were also lower than the previous year, averaging 78.5 bushels for the 2006 crop compared with 93.5 bushels per acre from the 2005 crop.

Conejos County maintained fifth place in barley producing counties in the state with a total production of 300,000 bushels in 2006. The latest crop was 59 percent smaller than the previous year's output of 740,000 bushels. The harvested area of 3,000 acres was 1,600 acres less than the previous year. However, the average yield for the county, at 100.0 bushels per acre, was 61.0 bushels per acre below the previous year's average of 161.0 bushels.

The top five producing counties accounted for 84 percent of the state's total barley crop of 4,830,000 bushels produced in 2006. Other top producing counties with the percent change in production from the previous year and the 2006 output were as follows: Costilla County, down 22 percent to 235,000 bushels; Boulder County, down 5 percent to 154,000 bushels; Larimer County, down 39 percent to 82,000 bushels.

## MILK PRODUCTION JANUARY 2007

Milk production in **Colorado** during January of 2007 totaled 212 million pounds, up 3.4 percent from last year. The average number of cows for January at 115,000 head, increased 8 percent from the last year. Production per cow averaged 1,840 pounds for the month of January, 5 percent decrease January 2006.

Milk production in the 23 major States during January totaled 14.2 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from January 2006. December production, at 14.0 billion pounds, was up 2.8 percent from December 2005. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,719 pounds for January, 8 pounds above January 2006. The number of cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.28 million head, 81,000 head more than January 2006, and 3,000 head more than December 2006.

### Milk Cows and Milk Production – Colorado

Item	Jan. 2006	Dec. 2006	Jan. 2007
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	106	114	115
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	1,935	1,910	1,840
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	205	218	212

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## MILK PRODUCTION ANNUAL 2006

**Colorado's** total output of milk during 2006 totaled 2.55 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2.35 billion pounds produced during 2005. The annual total for 2006 marks the twelfth consecutive year of record high production in the state and is the fifth consecutive year that production has exceeded two billion pounds.

The average number of milk cows for 2006 was 115,000 up 8 percent from a year earlier. The average production per cow for 2006 increased 578 pounds from the previous year to 23,155 pounds. Colorado has the highest output per cow during 2006 with 23,155 per cow.

The annual production of milk for the U.S. during 2006 was 182 billion pounds, 2.8 percent above 2005. Revisions to 2005 production decreased the annual total 60 million pounds. Revised 2006 production was down slightly from last month's publication. Production per cow in the U.S. averaged 19,951 pounds for 2006, 386 pounds above 2005. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 18.3 percent from 1997. The average number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. during 2006 was 9.11 million head, up 0.8 percent from 2005. The average number of milk cows was revised up 2,000 head for 2005, and down 3,000 head for 2006.

### Annual Milk Production, Colorado and United States, 2004-2006

Item	2004	2005	2006
<b>Colorado</b>			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	102	104	110
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	21,412	22,577	23,155
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	2,184	2,348	2,547
<b>United States</b>			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	9,012	9,043	9,112
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	18,967	19,565	19,951
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	170,934	176,929	181,798

1/ Average number during year, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## 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>

- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage
- Feb. 23 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 26 - Trout
- Feb. 27 - Chickens And Eggs-Ann
- Feb. 28 - Agricultural Prices
- Feb. 28 - Honey
- Mar. 2 - Livestock Slaughter - Annual
- Mar. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Mar. 15 - Potato Stocks

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