NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

AG UPDATE

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CHICKENS AND EGGS - JANUARY 2007

Colorado laying flocks produced 88 million eggs during January 2007 up from 87 million eggs one month earlier but down from 94 million eggs produced in January last year. The number of layers during January totaled just under 3.78 million, down 1 percent from 3.82 million a year earlier. The average rate of lay for January 2007, at 2,331 eggs per 100 layers, compares with 2,462 eggs per 100 layers during January 2006.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.64 billion during January 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.54 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2007 averaged 347 million, down 1 percent from last year. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,200 eggs, down slightly from January 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on February 1, 2007 totaled 347 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 347 million layers consisted of 288 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.7 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.81 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2007, averaged 70.7 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from February 1, 2006.

TROUT PRODUCTION - 2006

There were 13 operations in Colorado during 2006 which had trout sales totaling $2.30 million and 23 operations that distributed trout valued at $4.92 million. The total value of the trout sold and distributed during 2006 totaled $7.22 million, up 8 percent from the comparable value of $6.70 million a year earlier. To avoid disclosure of individual operations, the detailed information on trout sales by size of fish is not published separately. There were just under 1.67 million pounds of fish of all sizes distributed during 2006 which had and average value of $2.47 per pound for fish 6 inches and larger compared with 1.47 million pounds distributed in 2005 which averaged $3.10 per pound for fish 6 inches and larger.

The total value of fish sales received by trout growers in the 20 selected States totaled 74.9 million dollars for 2006, an increase of 8 percent from 2005. Idaho accounted for 55 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of trout 12 inches and longer sold during 2006 totaled 49.2 million fish, down 11 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound was $1.10, up 5 cents from 2005. The value of sales for the 2006 marketing year was 67.7 million dollars, up 8 percent from 2005. Based on the dollar value, 71 percent were sold to processors and 17 percent were sold to fee and recreational fishing establishments. The number of 6"- 12" trout sold during 2006 totaled 5.52 million fish, an increase of 15 percent from 2005. The average price per pound was $2.59 during 2006, down 24 cents from the 2005 price. The total value of sales was 5.65 million dollars during 2006, a 9 percent increase from the previous year. The major sales outlet for 6"-12" trout was to fee and recreational fishing establishments accounting for 50 percent of total sales, followed by other producers with 15 percent. The number of 1"- 6" trout sold during 2006 totaled 7.96 million, a 13 percent increase from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was $183.00 during 2006, a $4.00 decrease from 2005. The total value of sales was 1.46 million dollars, up 11 percent from last year's total.

Trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes, primarily by State and Federal hatcheries, included 6.25 million 12" or longer fish, 57.9 million 6"-12" fish, and 83.2 million fingerlings. The estimated value of fish and eggs distributed totaled 81.1 million dollars, up 6 percent from 2005.

BEES AND HONEY PRODUCTION - 2006

The number of colonies in **Colorado** during 2006 was up 17 percent from a year earlier at 36,000. The total honey production of 2.70 million pounds for 2006 was 38 percent above the 1.96 million pounds a year earlier. The yield per colony increased from 70 pounds per colony in 2005 to 75 pounds per colony in 2006. The total value of the 2006 honey crop was $3.75 million, up 97 percent increase from $1.90 million the previous year. The average price received for the 2006 crop was $1.39 per pound, up from 97 cents per pound received for the 2005 crop. December 15, 2006 honey stocks of 1,458,000 pounds were up 62 percent from 902,000 pounds a year earlier.

Honey production in 2006 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 155 million pounds, down 11 percent from 2005. There were 2.39 million colonies producing honey in 2006, down 1 percent from 2005. Yield per colony averaged

64.7 pounds, down 11 percent from the 72.4 pounds in 2005. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced, therefore yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 60.5 million pounds on December 15, 2006, down 3 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

CATTLE ON FEED - FEBRUARY 1, 2007

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 1,040,000 head as of February 1, 2007. The latest inventory was 5 percent below January 1, 2007 and down 6 percent from the 1,110,000 on feed on February 1, 2006. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 200,000 head of fed cattle during January 2007. This was 33 percent above December 2006 marketings of 150,000 head and 8 percent above the marketings one year ago. An estimated 155,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during January, 31 percent below a year ago but 15 percent above December 2006 placements of 135,000. Of the number placed in January, 10 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 23 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 35 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 32 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for January at 15,000 head, was 10,000 head above last month and 5,000 above a year ago.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.7 million head on February 1, 2007. The inventory was 3 percent below February 1, 2006 but 3 percent above February 1, 2005. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.69 million, 23 percent below 2006 and 10 percent below 2005. Net placements were 1.59 million. This is the second lowest placements for the month of January since the series began in 1996. During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 320,000, 600-699 pounds were 390,000, 700-799 pounds were 545,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 435,000. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.84 million, up 2 percent from 2006 and up 4 percent from 2005. Other disappearance totaled 97,000 during January, 17 percent above 2006 and 33 percent above 2005.

Cattle on Feed, 1,000+ Feedlots, Colorado and United States, February 1, 2006-2007

Item	Colorado 2006	Colorado 2007	United States 2006	United States 2007
	1,000 head			
On Feed Jan. 1.	1,080	1,100	11,804	11,974
Placements During Jan.	225	155	2,199	1,690
< 600 pounds	35	15	530	320
600 - 699 Pounds	45	35	447	390
700 - 799 Pounds	85	55	702	545
800 Plus Pounds	60	50	520	435
Marketings During Jan.	185	200	1,810	1,841
Other Disap. During Jan.	10	15	83	97
On Feed Feb. 1	1,110	1,040	12,110	11,726

NUMBER OF FEEDLOTS AND ANNUAL FED CATTLE MARKETINGS - 2005-2006

There were 230 feedlots in **Colorado** in operation during 2006 and they marketed 1,960,000 head of cattle for the slaughter market. Of the total, there were 92 feedlots with a capacity of less than 1,000 head that marketed 25,000 head during 2006. There were 138 feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or more and they marketed 1,935,000 head for the slaughter market. The 13 feedlots that have a capacity of 32,000 head or greater marketed 1,150,000 head of cattle during 2006, representing 59 percent of the state's total marketing from all feedlots.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head represented 83.9 percent of all cattle and calves on feed in the United States on January 1, 2007, up from 83.5 percent on January 1, 2006. Marketings of fed cattle for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head during 2006 represented 86.1 percent all cattle marketed from feedlots in the United States, up from 86.0 percent during 2005.

Number of Feedlots and Annual Fed Cattle Marketings by Size 2005-2006

Feedlot Capacity	Feedlots 2005	Feedlots 2006	Fed Cattle Marketings 2005	Fed Cattle Marketings 2006	Percent of Total Mrktgs. 1/ 2005	Percent of Total Mrktgs. 1/ 2006
Colorado						
	Number		1,000 Head		Percent	
Under 1,000	105	92	30	25	1.5	1.3
1,000 – 3,999	76	62	90	85	4.5	4.3
4,000 – 15,999	52	50	335	310	16.6	15.8
16,000 – 31,999	14	13	420	390	20.8	19.9
32,000 & over	12	13	1,140	1,150	56.6	58.7
Total	259	230	2,015	1,960	100.0	100.0
United States						
	Number		1,000 Head		Percent	
Under 1,000	86,000	86,000	3,620	3,640	14.0	13.9
1,000 - 1,999	855	818	811	797	3.1	3.1
2,000 - 3,999	547	552	1,307	1,347	5.1	5.2
4,000 - 7,999	349	344	1,780	1,773	6.9	6.8
8,000 - 15,999	185	190	2,609	2,713	10.1	10.4
16,000 – 31,999	136	135	4,574	4,758	17.7	18.2
32,000 & over	126	126	11,091	11,089	43.0	42.5
Total	88,198	88,165	25,792	26,117	100.0	100.0

1/ Percents may not total to 100 due to rounding.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES - FEBRUARY 15, 2006

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 127 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (2.4 percent) from January. The Crop Index is up 6 points (4.6 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.6 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for corn, broilers, soybeans, and hogs. Lower prices were received for broccoli, lettuce, eggs, and oranges. 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 dairy, cattle, broilers, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton.

The February **All Farm Products Index** is 127 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 2.4 percent from the January index and 12 percent above the February 2006 index. From January, index increases for oil-bearing crops, feed grains & hay, and fruits & nuts more than offset the index decreases for vegetables and cotton. The February all wheat price, at $4.66 per bushel, is up 12 cents from January and $1.00 above February 2006. The corn price, at $3.32 per bushel, is up 27 cents from last month and $1.30 from February 2006. The all hay price, at $114 per ton, increased $2.00 from January and $18.20 from last February. The soybean price, at $6.83 per bushel, increased 45 cents from January and $1.16 from February 2006. The all potato price, at $7.28 per cwt, is up 22 cents from January and 52 cents from last February. The all dry bean price, at $23.80 per cwt, is up $1.10 from the previous month and $6.40 above February 2006. The February all milk price of $14.70 per cwt is up 20 cents from last month and $1.20 from February 2006.

The February **Livestock and Products Index**, at 119, is 2.6 percent above last month and up 4.4 percent from February 2006. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for broilers, milk, eggs, hogs, and turkeys. Prices for cattle and calves are down from last year. The February hog price, at $46.60 per cwt, is up $3.90 from January and $4.00 higher than a year ago. The February beef cattle price of $85.80 per cwt is up $1.50 from last month but $6.60 lower than February 2006. The February all milk price of $14.70 per cwt is up 20 cents from last month and $1.20 from February 2006.

Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2006 Jan.	2006 Feb.	2007 Jan	2007 Feb.
	Percent			
Prices Received	113	113	124	127
Prices Paid	148	147	152	153
Ratio 1/	76	77	82	83

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

Colorado prices for February 2007 were higher than a year earlier for crops and livestock items except for potatoes and cattle. Mid-February 2007 wheat, at $4.46 per bushel, was 9 cents below the previous month but 70 cents above February a year ago. Corn prices increased 37 cents from January to $3.50 per bushel and averaged $1.32 above February 2006. The mid-February potato price, at $8.15 per cwt, was 15 cents above last month but 60 cents per cwt below February a year ago. Dry bean prices, at $22.00 per cwt, averaged 80 cents per cwt above last month and was $4.40 per cwt above February 2006. Alfalfa hay, at $140.00 per ton, was unchanged from January but averaged $37.00 above February 2006. The other hay price, at $127.00 per ton, was $1.00 above January and $26.00 per ton above February a year ago. The mid-February steer and heifer price increased $1.60 per cwt from last month to $96.70 per cwt but decreased $18.30 below the $115.00 per cwt a year ago. Cow prices increased $1.70 from the previous month to $47.60 per cwt but were $4.80 per cwt below February 2006. The mid-February calf price of $105.00 per cwt is $5.00 below January and was $36.00 per cwt below a year ago.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Feb. 2006	Jan. 2007	Feb. 2007
		Colorado		
Crops		**Dollars**		
Wheat	Bu.	3.76	4.55	4.46
Corn	Bu.	2.18	3.13	3.50
Barley (All)	Bu.	2/	2/	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	8.75	8.00	8.15
Dry edible beans	Cwt	17.60	21.20	22.00
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	103.00	140.00	140.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	101.00	126.00	127.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	114.00	94.10	95.70
Steers & heifers	Cwt	115.00	95.10	96.70
Cows	Cwt	52.40	45.90	47.60
Calves	Cwt	141.00	110.00	105.00
Sheep	Cwt	43.00	32.00	3/
Lambs	Cwt	105.00	94.00	3/
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	14.00	14.90	14.70
		United States		
Crops		**Dollars**		
Wheat	Bu.	3.66	4.54	4.66
Corn	Bu.	2.02	3.05	3.32
Soybeans	Bu.	5.67	6.38	6.83
Barley (All)	Bu.	2.55	3.03	3.10
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	1.83	3.12	3.13
Sorghum	Cwt	3.40	6.31	6.67
Potatoes	Cwt	6.76	7.06	7.28
Dry edible beans	Cwt	17.40	22.70	23.80
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	98.40	115.00	117.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	88.60	102.00	105.00
Onions	Cwt	8.04	26.50	25.60
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	92.40	84.30	85.80
Steers & heifers	Cwt	97.60	89.80	90.70
Cows	Cwt	49.50	44.40	46.50
Calves	Cwt	143.00	115.00	115.00
Sheep	Cwt	45.90	37.10	3/
Lamb s	Cwt	97.80	96.50	3/
Hogs	Cwt	42.60	42.70	46.60
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	13.50	14.50	14.70
Broilers	Lb.	0.380	0.430	0.470

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 farms.
3/ Mid-month price not est.

FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS - 2006

The number of farms in **Colorado**, at 30,700 for 2006, was up 200 from a year earlier. The percent change and the Colorado number of agricultural operations for each sales class was as follows: $1,000 - $9,999, up 1 percent to 17,300 farms; $10,000 - $99,999, down 2 percent to 9,100 farms; $100,000 - $249,000, remained unchanged at

2,100 farms; $250,000 - $499,999, increased 1 percent to 1,000 farms; and $500 ,000 and over, up 1 percent to 1,200 farms. The total land in farms remained unchanged at 30.7 million acres but the average farm size decreased 7 acres from last year to 1,000 acres in 2006.

The number of farms in the **United States** in 2006 is estimated at 2.09 million, 0.4 percent fewer than in 2005. Total land in farms, at 932.4 million acres, decreased 780 thousand acres, or 0.08 percent, from 2005. The average farm size was 446 acres during 2006, an increase of one acre from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

Farm numbers and land in farms are broken down into five economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these “sales classes” by summing their sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at $10,000, $100,000, $250,000, and $500,000. Farm numbers declined in the $1,000-$9,999 and the $100,000 - $249,999 sales classes. Farm numbers rose slightly in the $10,000 - $99,999 and the two largest sales classes. The decline in the smallest sales class is most likely due to normal attrition, such as retirements, and rising incomes. The changes within the other sales classes were a result of operations moving to larger sales classes by consolidation and expansion.

Land in farms also shifted from lower sales classes to higher sales classes. In the $1,000-$9,999 sales class, land in farms dropped 3.0 percent, to 114.7 million acres, while land operated by farms in the largest sales class, $500,000 & over in sales, increased 1.7 percent, to 213.4 million acres. Over all, the average farm size increased 1 acre in 2006. However, average farm sizes declined in some of the sales classes due to smaller farms moving up to higher sales classes.

This report also contains estimates of farm numbers and land in farms for Puerto Rico. The number of farms with sales of $1,000 or more in Puerto Rico was 13,600 in 2006, unchanged from 2005. Land in farms, at 610,000 acres, also remained unchanged from the previous year. The average farm size in Puerto Rico in 2006 was estimated at 45 acres.

Farms and Land in Farms,
Colorado and United States, 2001-2006

Year	Number of Farms 1/		Land in Farms 1/	
	Colorado	United States	Colorado	United States
	Number		Thousand Acres	
2001	30,900	2,148,630	31,400	942,070
2002	31,400	2,135,360	31,100	940,300
2003	31,400	2,126,860	31,000	938,650
2004	30,900	2,112,970	30,900	936,295
2005	30,500	2,098,690	30,700	933,210
2006	30,700	2,089,790	30,700	932,430

1/ A farm is any establishment from which $1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

Percent of Farms and Land in Farms by
Economic Sales Class, Colorado, 2005-2006

Economic Sales Class	Farms		Land in Farms	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Percent of Total			
$ 1,000- $9,999	56	56	9	9
$ 10,000- $99,999	30	30	33	32
$100,000- $249,999	7	7	22	22
$250,000- $499,999	3	3	15	16
$500,000 & over	4	4	20	21
Total	100	100	100	100

1/ Percents may not add due to rounding.

Percent of Farms and Land in Farms by
Economic Sales Class, United States, 2005-2006

Economic Sales Class	Farms		Land in Farms	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Percent of Total			
$ 1,000- $9,999	56	55	13	12
$ 10,000- $99,999	28	29	28	28
$100,000- $249,999	8	8	21	21
$250,000- $499,999	4	4	16	16
$500,000 & over	4	4	22	23
Total	100	100	100	100

1/ Percents may not add due to rounding.

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**

Mar. 2 - Livestock Slaughter - Annual
Mar. 15 - Potato Stocks
Mar. 16 - Milk Production
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Mar. 23 - Cattle on Feed
Mar. 23 - Chickens and Eggs
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