NATIONAL
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AG UPDATE

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Released: April 3, 2007 Vol. 27 No. 7

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PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS
MARCH 1, 2007

Colorado growers intend to plant 1,250,000 acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, up 25 percent from the 1,000,000 acres planted to corn a year earlier. Sorghum intentions are 240,000 acres, down 40,000 acres from plantings last year. Winter wheat seedings last fall for harvest in 2007 remain at 2,250,000 acres, unchanged from January's report, but up 100,000 acres from the 2006 crop. Growers intend to plant 20,000 acres of spring wheat this year, unchanged from last year's plantings. The area expected to be seeded to oats, at 70,000 acres, is down 15,000 acres from the actual seedings a year ago. Planting intentions for barley are up 8,000 acres to 55,000. Growers intend to plant 95,000 acres of sunflowers this year, down 5,000 acres from what they planted in 2006. The acreage of oil varieties is expected total 80,000 acres, unchanged from last year's plantings. The area planted to non-oil varieties is expected to decrease 5,000 acres to 15,000 acres this year. The state's dry bean growers indicate they plan to reduce plantings by 20,000 acres from last year to 50,000 this year. The area planted to sugarbeets is expected to decrease 6,300 acres from last year to 35,800 acres. Hay producers in the state intend to harvest 1,560,000 million acres this year, up 30,000 acres from the number of acres cut for hay in 2006.

Eastern Plains producers enjoy better soil moisture supplies this year while the West Slope remains relatively dry. Final acreages actually planted for several crops will be determined by irrigation water prospects at planting time and changes in economic conditions between now and actual planting.

Growers in the **United States** intend to plant 90.5 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, up 15 percent from 2006 and 11 percent higher than 2005. If realized this would be the highest acreage since 1944, when 95.5 million acres were planted for all purposes. Expected acreage is up in nearly all States as favorable corn prices, caused by increased demand from ethanol producers and strong exports sales, are encouraging farmers to plant more acres to corn. The increase in intended corn acres is partially offset by lower expected acres of soybeans in the Corn Belt and Great Plains and fewer expected acres of cotton and rice in the Delta and Southeast.

The 2007 sorghum area intended to be planted for all purposes is 7.11 million acres, up 9 percent from 2006. Sorghum acres are expected to increase in States located in the lower Mississippi Valley, including Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The largest increase is expected in Texas, where growers intend to plant 450,000 acres more than the previous year. With corn use shifting toward ethanol production, the expected sorghum increase in Texas is driven by higher grain prices and increased demand for grain sorghum as feed. Kansas continues to have the largest area of sorghum planting intentions at 2.80 million acres, up 2 percent from last year.

Planting Intentions
Colorado and United States, 2006-2007

Crop	Colorado		United States	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Acres			
Corn, all	1,000	1,250	78,327	90,454
Sorghum, all	280	240	6,522	7,109
Oats	85	70	4,168	4,029
Wheat, all 1/	2,170	2,270	57,334	60,303
Winter	2,150	2,250	40,575	44,505
Spring	20	20	14,899	13,808
Barley	47	55	3,452	3,703
Soybeans	…	…	75,522	67,140
Sunflower, all	100	95	1,950	1,799
Oil	80	80	1,658	1,465
Non-oil	20	15	292	334
Dry beans	70.0	50.0	1,629.8	1,504.5
Sugarbeets	42.1	35.8	1,366.7	1,294.7
Hay, all 2/	1,530	1,560	60,807	63,056

1/ Includes Durum for U.S.
2/ Harvested acres 2006, intentions to harvest in 2007.

Oats acres seeded and to be seeded for the 2007 crop year are expected to total 4.03 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the lowest planted acreage on record. Area planted to oats is expected to decrease or remain unchanged in 20 States, including most States in the northern and central Rocky Mountains, central Corn Belt, and the Ohio Valley. The largest decrease is expected in Iowa, where the intended planted area is 140,000 acres, down 70,000 acres from 2006. Large decreases are also expected in South Dakota and Wisconsin, down 13 percent and 16 percent, respectively, from the previous year. The largest increase is in North Dakota where 530,000 acres are expected, an increase of 110,000 acres from 2006.

Winter Wheat planted area for the 2007 crop is estimated at 44.5 million acres, up 1 percent from the Winter Wheat Seedings report. Acreage increases from the previous report were mainly in the Soft Red Winter growing States. States with the most notable acreage increases were Mississippi and Georgia. Arkansas, Pennsylvania, and Oregon were the only States to show an acreage decrease. Of the total acreage, about 31.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 8.66 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.92 million acres are White Winter. With adequate moisture received over most of the Great Plains during the winter, crop conditions have improved from last fall. Other Spring Wheat growers intend to plant 13.8 million acres this year, down 7 percent from 2006. Of the total, about 13.3 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The most notable expected acreage declines are in the Dakotas and Montana.

GRAIN STOCKS-MARCH 1, 2007

All wheat stocks in **Colorado** as of March 1, 2007 totaled 19.25 million bushels, down 6 percent from 20.54 million bushels on hand one year earlier. Farm stocks, at 4.5 million bushels, were down 10 percent from the previous year and off-farm stocks were down 5 percent to 14.75 million bushels. **Corn** stocks, at 53.18 million bushels, were down 15 percent. Farm stocks were down 18 percent to 28.0 million bushels and off-farm stocks were down 11 percent to 25.18 million bushels. Off-farm **oats** stocks were up 14 percent to 80,000 bushels.

Off-farm **Grain Sorghum** was down 61 percent to 745,000 bushels and off-farm **Barley** was also down 61 percent from last year to 2.63 million bushels.

Corn stocks in all positions in the **United States** on March 1, 2007 totaled 6.07 billion bushels, down 13 percent from March 1, 2006. Of the total stocks, 3.33 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 18 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.74 billion bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 2.86 billion bushels, compared with 2.83 billion bushels during the same period last year

Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 1.78 billion bushels, up 7 percent from a year ago and the largest March 1 stocks on record. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 910 million bushels, up 4 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 874 million bushels, are up 10 percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2006 - February 2007 quarter totaled 917 million bushels, up 10 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 856 million bushels, down 12 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 192 million bushels, down 25 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 663 million bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 459 million bushels, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

Barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 117 million bushels, down 30 percent from March 1, 2006. On-farm stocks are estimated at 38.3 million bushels, 44 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 78.9 million bushels, are 20 percent below March 2006. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance totaled 55.7 million bushels, 35 percent above the same period a year earlier. **Oats** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 71.0 million bushels, 5 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2006. Of the total stocks on hand, 33.9 million bushels are stored on farms, down 20 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 37.1 million bushels, up 14 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during December 2006 - February 2007 totaled 27.9 million bushels, up 34 percent from the same period a year ago. **Grain sorghum** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 142 million bushels, down 26 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 17.1 million bushels, are down 35 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 125 million bushels, are down 25 percent from a year earlier. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance from all positions is 70.0 million bushels, down 28 percent from the same period last year.

Grain Stocks
Colorado and United States, March 1, 2006-2007

Grain and Position 1/	Colorado 2006	Colorado 2007	United States 2006	United States 2007
	1,000 Bushels			
All wheat				
On farms	5,000	4,500	256,000	192,450
Off farms	15,540	14,750	716,215	663,320
Total	20,540	19,250	972,215	885,770
Corn				
On farms	34,000	28,000	4,055,000	3,330,000
Off farms	28,410	25,180	2,932,328	2,739,692
Total	62,410	53,180	6,987,328	6,069,692
Barley				
On farms	2/	2/	68,400	38,310
Off farms	6,665	2,625	98,354	78,850
Total	2/	2/	166,754	117,160
Oats				
On farms	2/	2/	42,200	33,900
Off farms	70	80	32,673	37,127
Total	2/	2/	74,873	71,027
Sorghum				
On farms	2/	2/	26,200	17,100
Off farms	1,900	745	166,936	125,094
Total	2/	2/	193,136	142,194
Soybeans				
On farms	3/	3/	872,000	910,000
Off farms	2/	2/	797,206	874,276
Total	2/	2/	1,669,206	1,784,276

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.
2/ Minor states are not published separately, but are included in US total.
3/ Not estimated.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES
MARCH 15, 2007

The preliminary **All Farm Products Index of Prices Received** by Farmers in March, at 133 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (3.9 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up 6 points (4.3 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 5 points (4.2 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, lettuce, oranges, and broilers. Lower prices were received for strawberries, celery, corn, and hogs.

The March **All Crops Index** is 144, up 4.3 percent from February and 22 percent above March 2006. Index increases for potatoes & dry beans, commercial vegetables, and fruits & nuts more than offset the index decreases for cotton and feed grains & hay. The corn price, at $3.36 per bushel, is down 8 cents from last month but $1.30 above March 2006. The all hay price, at $117 per ton, is $3.00 higher than February and $19.50 above last March. Sorghum grain, at $6.74 per cwt, is 24 cents below February but $3.20 above March last year. The soybean price, at $6.85 per bushel, decreased 2 cents from February but is $1.28 above March 2006. The all potato price, at $8.52 per cwt, is up $1.29 from February and up 2 cents from last March. The all dry bean price, at $25.70 per cwt, is up 40 cents from the previous month and $8.60 above March 2006.

The March **Livestock and Products Index** at 125, is 4.2 percent above last month and up 14 percent from March 2006. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for broilers, milk, cattle, hogs, eggs, and turkeys. The price for calves is down from last year. The March hog price, at $45.40 per cwt, is down $1.90 from February but $2.60 higher than a year ago. The March beef cattle price of $91.40 per cwt is up $4.80 from last month and $3.50 higher than March 2006. The March all milk price of $15.50 per cwt is up 60 cents from last month and $2.90 higher than March 2006.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2006 Feb.	2006 Mar.	2007 Feb.	2007 Mar.
	Percent			
Prices Received	113	113	128	133
Prices Paid	147	147	153	155
Ratio 1/	77	77	84	86

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

Compared with March 2006, **Colorado** crop prices were higher than last year except for potatoes, while livestock prices all averaged lower. Mid-March 2007 wheat, at $4.55 per bushel, was up 73 cents from a year ago and was 9 cents above last month. Corn prices decreased 2 cents from February to $3.25 per bushel but averaged $1.06 higher than March 2006. The mid-March potato price, at $8.35 per cwt, increased 20 cents from last month but decreased 45 cents from March a year ago. Alfalfa hay, at $140.00 per ton, was unchanged from February 2007 but $38.00 per ton above March 2006. The other hay price, at $130.00 per ton, was $3.00 above February and was $33.00 above March a year ago. The mid-March steer and heifer price, at $103.00 per cwt, increased $6.10 from last month but averaged $3.00 below a year ago. Cow prices decreased 60 cents from the previous month to $47.90 per cwt and were $3.10 per cwt below March 2006. The mid-March calf price of $126.00 per cwt was up $16.00 from last month but down $6.00 from a year ago. The March all milk price of $15.10 per cwt is up 30 cents from last month.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado Mar. 2006	Colorado Feb. 2007	Colorado Mar. 2007
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	3.82	4.46	4.55
Corn	Bu.	2.19	3.27	3.25
Barley (All)	Bu.	2/	4/	4/
Potatoes	Cwt	8.85	8.15	8.35
Dry edible beans	Cwt	18.10	24.20	2/
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	102.00	140.00	140.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	97.00	127.00	130.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	105.00	95.90	102.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	106.00	96.90	103.00
Cows	Cwt	51.00	48.50	47.90
Calves	Cwt	132.00	110.00	126.00
Sheep	Cwt	38.00	34.00	3/
Lambs	Cwt	98.00	96.00	3/
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	15.40	14.80	15.10
		United States		
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	3.79	4.71	4.75
Corn	Bu.	2.06	3.44	3.36
Soybeans	Bu.	5.57	6.87	6.85
Barley (All)	Bu.	2.70	3.10	3.27
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	1.80	3.17	3.21
Sorghum	Cwt	3.54	6.98	6.74
Potatoes	Cwt	8.50	7.23	8.52
Dry edible beans	Cwt	17.10	25.30	25.70
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	100.00	117.00	120.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	90.10	105.00	108.00
Onions	Cwt	7.45	31.10	40.70
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	87.90	86.60	91.40
Steers & heifers	Cwt	92.80	91.50	97.20
Cows	Cwt	49.50	47.00	46.90
Calves	Cwt	139.00	117.00	123.00
Sheep	Cwt	40.10	36.50	3/
Lambs	Cwt	92.10	95.40	3/
Hogs	Cwt	42.80	47.30	45.40
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	12.60	14.90	15.50
Broilers	Lb.	0.370	0.470	0.500

1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

3/ Not available

4/ Discontinued.

HOGS AND PIGS
MARCH 1, 2007

Colorado's inventory of all hogs and pigs as of March 1, 2007 totaled 810,000 head, down 2 percent from March 1, 2006. The breeding hog inventory is unchanged from a year earlier at 150,000 head but the market hog inventory was down 3 percent at 660,000 head. Colorado's December 2006 - February 2007 pig crop of 730,000 head is up 2 percent from the comparable period a year earlier. There were 83,000 sows farrowed during the December 2006 - February 2007 time period compared with 81,000 sows farrowed during the comparable period a year earlier. Colorado producers intend to farrow 83,000 sows during the March - May 2007 period and 83,000 sows during the June - August 2007 period.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2007 was 61.1 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2006, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2006. **Breeding inventory,** at 6.08 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. **Market hog inventory,** at 55.0 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2006-February 2007 pig crop, at 26.1 million head, was up 2 percent from 2006 and up 3 percent from 2005. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.87 million head, up 1 percent from both 2006 and 2005. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.08 for the December 2006-February 2007 period, compared to 9.03 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the March-May 2007 quarter, down slightly from the actual farrowings, but up 1 percent from 2005. Intended farrowings for June-August 2007, at 2.92 million sows, are virtually unchanged 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.

Hogs and Pigs, March 1, 2006-2007

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Head			
All Hogs & Pigs	830	810	60,326	61,103
Kept for breeding	150	150	6,025	6,081
Market	680	660	54,301	55,022
Under 60 lbs	360	370	19,988	20,265
60-119 lbs	90	95	13,006	13,086
120-179 lbs	80	75	11,434	11,423
180 lbs. & over	150	120	9,874	10,248
Sows Farrowed:				
Dec – Feb	81	83	2,840	2,874
March - May 1/	81	83	2,927	2,913
June – Aug 1/	82	83	2,912	2,917
Pig Crop:				
Dec – Feb	713	730	25,661	26,084
March - May	721	2/	26,579	2/
June – Aug	738	2/	26,518	2/

1/ Actual for 2006; intentions for 2007. 2/ Not estimated.

CHICKENS AND EGGS
FEBRUARY 2007

Colorado laying flocks produced 84 million eggs during February 2007, down 3 percent from the same month a year earlier and 4 percent below the 88 million eggs produced during January 2007. The average number of layers during February 2007 totaled 3.83 million, up 3 percent from 3.73 million a year earlier and 2 percent above the 3.77 million for the previous month. The average rate of lay for February 2007, at 2,196 eggs per 100 layers, compares with 2,198 eggs per 100 layers during February 2006 and 2,331 for January 2007.

United States egg production totaled 6.91 billion during February 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 5.92 billion table eggs, and 998 million hatching eggs, of which 937 million were broiler-type and 61 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2007 averaged 347 million, down 1 percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,992 eggs, down slightly from February 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on March 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, 56.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.82 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2007, averaged 71.6 eggs per 100 layers, unchanged from March 1, 2006.

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 Internet at: **http://www.nass.usda.gov**

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April 10 - Crop Production
April 13 - Potato Stocks
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