



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

USDA/NASS Colorado Field Office  
PO Box 150969

Lakewood, CO 80215

Phone: (303)236-2300 1-800-392-3202

FAX: (303)236-2299 1-800-643-6885

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# AG UPDATE

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## CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION MARCH 2007

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 93 million eggs during March 2007 compared with 89 million in March 2006 and 84 million in February 2007. The number of layers during March of this year was 3.75 million, up from 3.63 million the previous year. The average number of eggs produced per 100 birds was 2,480 for March 2007 compared with 2,450 for March 2006.

**United States** egg production totaled 7.77 billion during March 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.65 billion table eggs, and 1.12 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.06 billion were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The number of layers during March 2007 averaged 346 million, down 1 percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,243 eggs, up slightly from March 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2007, totaled 346 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 346 million layers consisted of 286 million layers producing table-or market type type eggs, 56.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.80 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2007, averaged 73.0 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from April 1, 2006.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2007 totaled 40.5 million, up 4 percent from March 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 39.5 million on April 1, 2007, up 11 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 316,000 during March 2007, up 21 percent from March 2006.

## MEAT ANIMALS: PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME 2006 SUMMARY

The total gross income to Colorado producers from beef, pork, and sheep and lambs during 2006 totaled \$3.58 billion, 3 percent above the \$3.46 billion for the previous year. Gross income from cattle and calves during 2006 increased 4 percent from the previous year to \$3.28 billion and represented 92 percent of the total income from the three species. The gross income from hogs and pigs decreased 2 percent from 2005 to \$182.2 million. Gross income from sheep and lambs decreased 7 percent to \$118.6 million. The beginning year value per head for each of the three meat animals compared with a year earlier were as follows: cattle and calves, \$970 (down \$140); hogs and pigs, \$82 (down \$3); and sheep and lambs, \$124 (down \$12).

Marketings of meat animals during 2006 represented 3.52 billion pounds, up 7 percent from 3.28 billion pounds marketed in 2005. Marketings of cattle and calves, at 3.05 billion pounds, represented 87 percent of the total. The 2006 marketings of hogs and pigs, at 345.4 million pounds, increased 6 percent from 324.6 million pounds in 2005. Sheep and lamb marketings, at 126.4 million pounds, rose 8 percent from a year earlier.

## UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

The 2006 gross income from cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs for the U.S. totaled \$64.2 billion, down 2 percent from 2005. Gross income decreased for cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs. Cattle and calves decreased slightly, hogs and pigs decreased 6 percent, and sheep and lambs decreased 15 percent.

Total 2006 cash receipts from marketings of meat animals decreased 2 percent to \$63.7 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 77 percent of this total, hogs and pigs 22 percent, and sheep and lambs 1 percent. Production increased for all cattle and calves and hogs and pigs. Production decreased for sheep and lambs. Average prices were down for all three species.

Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves decreased slightly from \$49.3 billion in 2005 to \$49.1 in 2006. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 54.7 billion pounds in 2006, up 3 percent from 2005. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$87.20, a decrease of \$2.50 from 2005. For calves, the annual average price decreased from \$135.00 to \$133.00.

Cash receipts from hogs and pigs totaled \$14.1 billion during 2006, down 6 percent from 2005. Marketings totaled 29.2 billion pounds in 2006, up 3 percent from 2005. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight decreased from \$50.20 in 2005 to \$46.00 in 2006.

Cash receipts from marketings of sheep and lambs in 2006 were \$481 million, down 15 percent from 2005. Marketings decreased slightly to 569 million pounds. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for sheep decreased from \$45.10 in 2005 to \$35.20 in 2006. For lambs, the annual average price decreased from \$110.00 to \$95.50.

## **POULTRY PRODUCTION & VALUE 2006 SUMMARY**

### **COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

The value of egg production in Colorado during 2006 totaled \$47.4 million, up 13 percent from the value of \$42.1 million in 2005. A total of 1.08 million eggs were produced during 2006, up 1 percent. The average price per dozen eggs increased from 47.2 cents in 2005 to 52.6 cents in 2006.

During 2006, there were 9.4 million pounds of chicken sold at an average price of 5.1 cents per pound for a total value of sales at \$482,000. A year earlier, 12.1 million pounds of chicken were sold at an average price of 4.9 cents per pound for a total value of sales of \$591,000. A majority of the chickens sold are non-producing egg-type layers which have a low value. Colorado data for turkeys is combined with other states to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

### **UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS**

The combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from chickens in 2006 was \$26.8 billion, down 5 percent from the \$28.2 billion in 2005. Of the combined total, 70 percent was from broilers, 16 percent from eggs, 13 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The value of broilers produced during 2006 was \$18.9 billion, down 10 percent from 2005. The total number of broilers produced in 2006 was 8.88 billion, up slightly from 2005. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2006 was 48.8 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2005. The 2006 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 38.6 cents per pound, compared with 43.6 cents in 2005.

The value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 2006 was \$53.1 million, down 18 percent from the \$64.7 million a year ago. Prices averaged 5.8 cents per pound, compared with 6.5 cents in 2005. The number of chickens sold in 2006 totaled 172 million, down 11 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

Value of all egg production in 2006 was \$4.39 billion, up 8 percent from the \$4.05 billion in 2005. Egg production totaled 90.9 billion eggs, up 1 percent from the 90.0 billion eggs produced in 2005. In 2006, all eggs averaged 57.9 cents per dozen, compared with 54.0 cents in 2005.

The value of turkeys produced during 2006 was \$3.55 billion, up 12 percent from the \$3.18 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 2006 totaled 7.42 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 7.10 billion pounds produced in 2005. The average price received by producers during 2006 was 47.9 cents per pound, compared with 44.9 cents in 2005.

## **AGRICULTURAL PRICES APRIL 15, 2007**

The **preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received** by Farmers in April, at 135 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.7 percent) from March. The Crop Index is down 1 point (0.7 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.4 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for onions, milk, cattle, and tomatoes. Lower prices were received for lettuce, corn, strawberries, and eggs. 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 cattle, oranges, strawberries, and milk offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and hogs.

The April **All Crops Index** is 144, down 0.7 percent from March but 21 percent above April 2006. Price decreases for fruits & nuts, feed grains & hay, and oil-bearing crops more than offset price increases for potatoes & dry beans, commercial vegetables, and food grains. The April all wheat price, at \$4.94 per bushel, is up 19 cents from March and \$1.13 from April 2006. The corn price, at \$3.20 per bushel, is down 23 cents from last month but \$1.09 above April 2006. The all hay price, at \$124 per ton, is \$7.00 above March and \$19.00 above last April. Sorghum grain, at \$5.88 per cwt, is 74 cents below March but \$2.18 above April last year. The soybean price, at \$6.81 per bushel, decreased 14 cents from March but is \$1.29 above April 2006. The all potato price, at \$9.78 per cwt, is up \$1.44 from March and \$1.43 from last April. The all dry bean price, at \$26.00 per cwt, is up 20 cents from the previous month and \$7.10 above April 2006.

The April **Livestock and Products Index**, at 129, is 2.4 percent above last month and up 23 percent from April 2006. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for milk, broilers, cattle, eggs, hogs, and turkeys. The price for calves is down from last year. The April hog price, at \$46.00 per cwt, is up \$1.00 from March and \$4.70 higher than a year ago. The April beef cattle price of \$94.60 per cwt is up \$2.60 from last month and \$9.80 higher than April 2006. The April all milk price of \$16.40 per cwt is up 80 cents from last month and up \$4.30 from April 2006.

**Prices Received and Paid Summary  
United States**

Index 1990-92 = 100	2006		2007	
	Mar.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.
	<b>Percent</b>			
Prices Received.....	113	111	134	135
Prices Paid .....	147	148	155	157
Ratio <sup>1/</sup> .....	77	75	86	86

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

Compared with April 2006, all **Colorado** crop prices except potatoes averaged higher while all livestock prices averaged higher except calves which were lower. Mid-April 2007 wheat, at \$4.72 per bushel, was 11 cents higher than the previous month and 62 cents above April a year ago. Corn, at \$3.00 per bushel, was 20 cents below the previous month but 74 cents above April 2006. The mid-April potato price, at \$8.05 per cwt, decreased 10 cents from last month and was 70 cents below April a year ago. Dry bean prices were 70 cents below March at \$24.30 per cwt but were \$5.90 above the April 2006 price of \$18.40 per cwt. Alfalfa hay, at \$140.00 per ton, was unchanged from March but \$38.00 above April 2006. The other hay price, at \$135.00 per ton, was \$5.00 above March and \$37.00 above April a year ago.

The mid-April steer and heifer price, at \$107.00 per cwt was \$3.00 above last month as well as \$5.00 above the previous year average of \$102.00 per cwt. Cow prices increased \$2.30 from the previous month to \$50.10 per cwt and averaged 40 cents above April 2006. The mid-April calf price of \$125.00 per cwt averaged \$2.00 lower than the previous month and \$5.00 below the April 2006 average of \$130.00 per cwt. The April all milk price of \$16.50 was up \$1.00 from last month.

**Average Prices Received By Farmers <sup>1/</sup>**

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Apr. 2006	Mar. 2007	Apr. 2007
<b>Crops</b>		<b>Dollars</b>		
Wheat.....	Bu.	4.10	4.61	4.72
Corn .....	Bu.	2.26	3.20	3.00
Potatoes .....	Cwt	8.75	8.15	8.05
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	18.40	25.00	24.30
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	102.00	140.00	140.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	98.00	130.00	135.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	101.00	103.00	106.00
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	102.00	104.00	107.00
Cows.....	Cwt	49.70	47.80	50.10
Calves .....	Cwt	130.00	127.00	125.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	38.00	34.00	<sup>3/</sup>
Lambs .....	Cwt	97.00	94.00	<sup>3/</sup>
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	12.00	15.50	16.50
		<b>United States</b>		
<b>Crops</b>		<b>Dollars</b>		
Wheat.....	Bu.	3.81	4.75	4.94
Corn .....	Bu.	2.11	3.43	3.20
Soybeans.....	Bu.	5.52	6.95	6.81
Barley (All).....	Bu.	2.65	3.10	3.29
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	1.81	3.23	3.36
Sorghum .....	Cwt	3.70	6.62	5.88
Potatoes .....	Cwt	8.35	8.34	9.78
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	18.90	25.80	26.00
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	108.00	120.00	128.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	94.90	108.00	113.00
Onions .....	Cwt	15.10	43.10	76.10
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	84.80	92.00	94.60
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	89.20	97.70	100.00
Cows.....	Cwt	48.40	47.20	48.80
Calves .....	Cwt	137.00	124.00	126.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	35.20	35.60	<sup>3/</sup>
Lambs .....	Cwt	35.20	35.60	<sup>3/</sup>
Hogs.....	Cwt	41.30	45.00	46.00
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	12.10	15.60	16.40
Broilers .....	Lb.	0.350	0.500	0.500

<sup>1/</sup> 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.

<sup>2/</sup> Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms.

<sup>3/</sup> Mid-month price not est.

# MILK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME

## 2006 SUMMARY

The total value of milk produced in **Colorado** during 2006 totaled \$331.1 million, down 5 percent from \$349.9 million in 2005. In 2006, the 2.55 billion pounds of milk produced was 8 percent higher than the 2.35 billion pounds produced the previous year. The average price of \$13.00 per hundredweight was \$1.90 below the 2005 average of \$14.90.

Milk production in the **United States** increased 2.8 percent in 2006 to 182 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 19,951 pounds, was 386 pounds above 2005. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.11 million head, up 69,000 head from 2005.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2006 totaled \$23.4 billion, 12.3 percent lower than 2005. Producer returns averaged \$12.97 per hundredweight, 14.6 percent below 2005. Marketings totaled 181 billion pounds, 2.8 percent above 2005. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

An estimated 1.14 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 0.3 percent more than 2005. Calves were fed 87 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

## DAILY PRODUCTS – ANNUAL 2006 SUMMARY

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Total cheese** production, excluding cottage cheeses, was 9.53 billion pounds, 4.2 percent above 2005 production. Wisconsin was the leading State with 25.9 percent of the production.

**Italian varieties**, with 3.99 billion pounds were 4.9 percent above 2005 production and accounted for 41.8 percent of total cheese in 2006. Mozzarella accounted for 78.8 percent of the Italian production followed by Provolone with 8.0 percent and Ricotta with 6.1 percent. California was the leading State in Italian cheese production with 29.7 percent of the production.

**American type cheese** production was 3.91 billion pounds, 2.7 percent above 2005 and accounted for 41.0 percent of total cheese in 2006. Wisconsin was the leading State in American type cheese production with 21.0 percent of the production.

**Butter** production in the United States during 2006 totaled 1.45 billion pounds, 7.5 percent above 2005. California accounted for 31.0 percent of the production, followed by Wisconsin with 26.2 percent.

**Dry milk powders:** (2006 U.S. production, comparisons with 2005)

Nonfat dry milk, human --- 1.22 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent.

Skim milk powders --- 289 million pounds, down 10.4 percent.

**Whey products:** (2006 U.S. production, comparisons with 2005)

Dry whey, total --- 1.10 billion pounds, up 5.7 percent.

Lactose, human and animal --- 739 million pounds, up 3.5 percent.

Whey protein concentrate, total --- 428 million pounds, up 11.4 percent.

**Frozen products:** (2006 U.S. production, comparisons with 2005)

Ice cream, Regular (total) --- 966 million gallons, up 0.6 percent.

Ice cream, Lowfat (total) --- 372 million gallons, up 3.3 percent.

Sherbet (total) --- 52.1 million gallons, down 7.6 percent.

Frozen Yogurt (total) --- 67.5 million gallons, up 2.0 percent.

## 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/>

May 11 - Crop Production

May 14 - Turkey Hatchery

May 15 - Potato Stocks

May 18 - Milk Production

May 16 - Ag Chemical Usage - Field Crops

May 18 - Cattle on Feed

May 21 - Cold Storage

**R. René Picanso**  
Director  
Director

**Steve Anderson**  
Deputy