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## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER APRIL 2007

Red meat production in Colorado during April 2007 totaled 133.7 million pounds, 6 percent below 142.2 million pounds produced during April 2006 and 10 percent below March 2007. The accumulated production for the first four months of this year now totals 571.0 million pounds, down 2 percent from the 579.9 million pounds produced during the comparable period last year. Cattle kill in Colorado during April decreased 5 percent from the previous year to 162,400 head. The average live weight of 1,242 pounds was 5 pounds below the average for April 2006. Hog slaughter decreased 33 percent from a year ago to 600 head and the average live weight decreased 4 pounds to 262. Sheep and lamb kill during April totaled 83,400 head, down 9 percent from the previous year. The average live weight of 161 pounds increased 1 pound from April 2006.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.75 billion pounds in April, up 4 percent from the 3.61 billion pounds produced in April 2006. Beef production, at 2.02 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.70 million head, up 4 percent from April 2006. The average live weight was down 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,235 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 11.8 million pounds, 14 percent above April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,900 head, up 19 percent from April 2006. The average live weight was down 14 pounds from last year, at 347 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.71 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.47 million head, up 6 percent from April 2006. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.1 million pounds, was down 11 percent from April 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 216,900 head, 12 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, up 3 pounds from April a year ago.

**January to April 2007 commercial red meat production** was 15.5 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was up 12 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

### Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States 1/

Area and Specie	Apr. 2006	Mar. 2007	Apr. 2007	January-April	
				2006	2007
	Million Pounds				
Colorado.....	142.2	148.1	133.7	579.9	571.0
United States .....	3,614.8	4,011.9	3,753.0	15,116.5	15,472.8
Beef .....	1,969.2	2,117.9	2,015.2	8,050.8	8,250.4
Veal .....	10.4	13.5	11.8	46.2	51.8
Pork .....	1,618.3	1,860.9	1,710.9	6,953.4	7,106.5
Lamb & Mutton....	16.9	19.6	15.1	66.1	64.1

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

## CHICKEN AND EGG PRODUCTION APRIL 2007

Colorado laying flocks produced 87 million eggs during April 2007, up 1 percent from the 86 million produced during the same month last year. March egg production was up 4 percent in 2007 at 93 million eggs. During April, the average number of layers was 3.74 million compared with 3.64 million in April 2006 and 3.75 in March 2007. The average number of eggs produced per 100 layers was 2,328 this April compared with 2,366 last April and 2,480 for March of this year.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.43 billion during April 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.34 billion table eggs, and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 2007 averaged 344 million, down 1 percent from last year. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,162 eggs, down slightly from April 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on May 1, 2007 totaled 342 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 342 million layers consisted of 283 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.87 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs.

Rate of lay per day on May 1, 2007, averaged 71.1 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from May 1, 2006. Egg-type chicks hatched during April 2007 totaled 39.7 million, up 12 percent from April 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 36.8 million on May 1, 2007, down 2 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 274,000 during April 2007, up 8 percent from April 2006.

## AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL USAGE 2006 FIELD CROPS

The agricultural chemical use estimates in this report refer to on-farm use of commercial fertilizers and pesticides on targeted field crops for the 2006 crop year. Field crops include rice, organic soybeans, soybeans, durum wheat, other spring wheat, and winter wheat. Farm operators were enumerated late in the growing season after the farm operator had indicated that planned applications were completed. The data were compiled from 2 surveys, the Agricultural Resources Management Survey (ARMS) and Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP). Data collection occurred primarily during the months of September to December of 2006. Highlights for winter wheat and other spring wheat follow. The full report can be accessed on the NASS website, [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

Fourteen **winter wheat** producing States were included in the 2006 survey: **Colorado**, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, and Washington. Nitrogen applications averaged 64 pounds per acre per crop year and were applied to 80 percent of the Program States' planted acres. An average of 34 pounds of phosphate per acre per year was applied to 57 percent of the winter wheat planted acres in the Program States. Potash was applied to 17 percent of the planted acreage at an average rate of 49 pounds per acre per year in the States surveyed. Sulfur was applied on 14 percent of the acres planted at an average of 14 pounds per acre per year.

Herbicides were applied to 49 percent of the winter wheat planted acreage in 2006 in the 14 Program States. Glyphosate isopropylamine salt was the most widely used herbicide, applied to 15 percent of the planted acreage at a rate of 0.963 pounds per acre per crop year. The two next most commonly applied herbicides, on a per acre basis were 2, 4-D, 2-EHE and Metsulfuron-methyl, at 14 percent with average application rates of 0.440 and 0.002 pounds per acre per year, respectively.

Insecticides were applied to 3 percent of the 2006 winter wheat planted acreage. Chlorpyrifos, at 2 percent, was the only insecticide applied to more than one half of one percent of the planted acres. It was applied at an average rate of 0.378 pounds per acre per year.

Fungicide treatments were applied to 2 percent of the winter wheat acreage in the Program States. Azoxystrobin, Propiconazole, and Pyraclostrobin were each applied to 1 percent of the winter wheat planted acres. They were applied at 0.055, 0.082, and 0.078 pounds per acre per year respectively.

Six **other spring wheat** producing States were included in the 2006 survey: Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Washington. Nitrogen applications averaged 72 pounds per acre per crop year to 95 percent of these States' planted acres. An average of 32 pounds per acre per year of phosphate was applied to 85 percent of the other spring wheat planted acres in the Program States. Potash was applied to 27 percent of the planted acreage at an average of 18 pounds per acre per year in the Program States. Sulfur was applied on 13 percent of the acres planted at an average application rate of 13 pounds per acre per year.

Herbicides were applied to 93 percent of the Program State planted acreage. MCPA, 2ethyhexyl was the most commonly applied herbicide with 40 percent of the planted acres receiving one application. It was applied at an average rate of 0.281 pounds per acre per year. Bromoxynil octanoate was applied to 32 percent of the planted acres at an average rate of 0.241 pounds per acre per year. Glyphosate isopropylamine salt was used on 30 percent of all planted acres at an average application rate of 0.624 pounds was applied per acre per crop year.

Insecticides were applied to 1 percent of the Program State acres, but each individual active ingredient was applied to less than one half of one percent of the planted acres. Dimethoate and Lambda-cyhalothrin were applied at an average rate of 0.384 and 0.023 pounds per acre per year, respectively.

Fungicides were applied to 15 percent of the other spring wheat planted acres in 2006. Propiconazole and Pyraclostrobin were each applied to 7 percent of the planted acreage at an average rate of 0.069 and 0.055 pounds per acre per year, respectively. Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin were each applied to 2 percent of the other spring wheat planted acres in 2006 with average rates per crop year of 0.101 and 0.074 pounds per acre, respectively.

# AGRICULTURAL PRICES

## MAY 15, 2007

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May, at 138 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 4 points (3.0 percent) from April. The Crop Index is up 3 points (2.1 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 5 points (3.9 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for milk, hogs, hay, and broilers. Lower prices were received for lettuce, cattle, broccoli, and cauliflower. 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 sweet corn, broilers, peaches, and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, milk, oranges, and apples.

The May All Crops Index is 144, up 2.1 percent from April and 20 percent above May 2006. Index increases for fruits & nuts, feed grains & hay, oil-bearing crops, and potatoes & dry beans more than offset the index decreases for commercial vegetables, cotton, and food grains. The May all wheat price, at \$4.70 per bushel, is down 19 cents from April but 61 cents above May 2006. The corn price, at \$3.48 per bushel, is up 9 cents from last month and \$1.31 above May 2006. The all hay price, at \$138 per ton, is up \$14.00 from April and \$25.00 from last May. Sorghum grain, at \$5.78 per cwt, is 18 cents below April but \$1.77 above May last year. The soybean price, at \$7.15 per bushel, increased 27 cents from April and is \$1.47 above May 2006. The all potato price, at \$8.69 per cwt, is up 16 cents from April and 86 cents higher than last May. The all dry bean price, at \$25.90 per cwt, is up \$1.30 from the previous month and \$6.60 above May 2006.

The May Livestock and Products Index, at 134, is 3.9 percent above last month and up 29 percent from May 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 May hog price, at \$52.00 per cwt, is up \$4.70 from April and \$3.80 higher than a year ago. The May beef cattle price of \$93.50 per cwt is down 80 cents from last month but \$11.30 higher than May 2006. The May all milk price of \$17.80 per cwt is up \$1.20 from last month and \$5.90 from May 2006. The fluid grade milk price is up \$1.20 and the manufacturing grade milk price is up \$1.30 from the previous month.

### Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2006		2007	
	April	May	April	May
	<b>Percent</b>			
Prices Received .....	111	111	134	138
Prices Paid .....	148	149	157	158
Ratio <sup>1/</sup> .....	75	74	85	87

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

All mid-May 2007 Colorado crop prices except potatoes increased from the previous year. All prices for livestock items except calves increased from May 2006. Wheat, at \$4.55 per bushel, was 8 cents below the previous month but 29 cents higher than May a year ago. Corn prices increased 15

cents from April to \$3.30 per bushel and averaged 96 cents above May 2006. Potatoes were unchanged from the previous month at \$7.80 per cwt but were \$1.35 per cwt below the \$9.15 per cwt received in May 2006. Alfalfa hay averaged \$140.00 per ton in mid-May of this year, unchanged from the previous month but \$38.00 per ton above May 2006. Other hay was up \$10.00 from the previous month, at \$145.00 per ton, and averaged \$47.00 per ton above May 2006. Steers and heifers, at \$105.00 per cwt, were down \$2.00 from April but averaged \$3.00 per cwt above May 2006. Calves decreased \$3.00 per cwt from the previous month to \$121.00 and were \$9.00 per cwt below the May 2006 average of \$130.00 per cwt. The April 2007 all milk price of \$17.70 was up \$1.00 from last month.

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

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		May 2006	April 2007	May 2007
<b>Crops</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	4.26	4.63	4.55
Corn .....	Bu.	2.34	3.15	3.30
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>
Potatoes .....	Cwt	9.15	7.80	7.80
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	18.40	24.60	25.40
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	102.00	140.00	140.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	98.00	135.00	145.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	101.00	106.00	104.00
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	102.00	107.00	105.00
Cows .....	Cwt	49.70	51.00	53.70
Calves .....	Cwt	130.00	124.00	121.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	38.00	34.00	<sup>3/</sup>
Lambs .....	Cwt	97.00	97.00	<sup>3/</sup>
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	12.10	16.70	17.70
<b>United States</b>				
<b>Crops</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	4.09	4.89	4.70
Corn .....	Bu.	2.17	3.39	3.48
Soybeans .....	Bu.	5.68	6.88	7.15
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2.97	3.07	3.33
Barley (Feed) .....	Bu.	2.45	3.20	3.47
Sorghum .....	Cwt	4.01	5.96	5.78
Potatoes .....	Cwt	7.83	8.53	8.69
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	19.30	24.60	25.90
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	117.00	128.00	144.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	95.80	113.00	116.00
Onions .....	Cwt	15.60	57.20	22.60
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	82.20	94.30	93.50
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	86.30	99.90	98.60
Cows .....	Cwt	47.40	49.20	51.60
Calves .....	Cwt	134.00	127.00	126.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	32.50	33.80	<sup>3/</sup>
Lambs .....	Cwt	88.90	97.20	<sup>3/</sup>
Hogs .....	Cwt	48.20	47.30	52.00
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	11.90	16.60	17.80
Broilers .....	Lb.	.350	.500	.510

<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> Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms. <sup>3/</sup> Mid-month price not estimated.

## COLD STORAGE APRIL 30, 2007

**Frozen food stocks** in refrigerated warehouses on April 30, 2007 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, cheese and pork. Butter stocks were up 27 percent from last month and up 8 percent from a year ago.

**Total red meat** supplies in freezers were up 2 percent from last month but down 2 percent from the previous year. Frozen pork supplies were up 5 percent from last month and up slightly from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 12 percent from last month but down 1 percent from last year.

**Total frozen poultry** supplies on April 30, 2007 were up 2 percent from the previous month but down 24 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 1 percent from the previous month but down 28 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 3 percent from last month but down 16 percent from April 30, 2006.

**Stocks in Storage, United States**

Commodity	April 30, 2006	Mar. 31, 2007	April 30, 2007
<b>1,000 Pounds</b>			
Butter.....	227,731	193,104	245,527
Cheese, total natural .....	832,818	873,171	881,495
Eggs, frozen.....	23,259	14,632	14,319
Poultry, total frozen .....	1,272,729	951,637	969,247
Chicken .....	840,995	599,274	606,963
Turkey .....	423,732	346,703	355,733
Fruits, frozen .....	710,915	845,110	871,599
Fruit Juices, frozen .....	1,410,834	1,197,366	1,295,420
Vegetables, total frozen .....	1,551,785	1,530,352	1,341,486
Potatoes, total frozen .....	1,176,646	1,114,636	1,108,597
Meats, total red.....	979,105	942,228	956,850
Beef, total frozen .....	441,266	425,895	411,813
Pork, total frozen .....	520,022	494,761	521,967

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Food stocks are excluded for places where entire inventories are turned over more than once a month.

## 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>

- June 11 - Crop Production
- June 14 - Potato Stocks
- June 18 - Milk Production
- June 22 - Cattle On Feed
- June 22 - Chickens and Eggs
- June 22 - Cold Storage
- June 22 - Livestock Slaughter
- June 28 - Agricultural Prices
- June 29 - Hogs and Pigs

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