



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
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# AG UPDATE

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beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was up 4 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**

Area And Specie	July 2006	June 2007	July 2007	January-July	
	Million Pounds				
	2006	2007	2007	2006	2007
<b>Colorado</b> .....	167.7	172.4	161.6	1,098.5	1,063.1
<b>United States</b> .....	3,790.6	4,027.8	3,938.9	27,107.0	27,514.8
Beef .....	2,213.6	2,348.7	2,225.7	15,019.5	15,139.7
Veal .....	11.2	11.2	10.7	82.5	86.0
Pork .....	1,552.6	1,654.2	1,659.0	11,895.2	12,182.4
Lamb & Mutton .....	13.2	13.7	13.5	109.8	106.8

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

### JULY 2007

Red meat production in **Colorado** during July 2007 totaled 161.6 million pounds, down 4 percent from the 167.7 million pounds produced during July 2006 and 6 percent below the 172.4 million pounds produced during June of this year. Cattle kill during July was down 3 percent from the previous year to 190,400 head and the average live weight decreased 11 pounds to 1,291 pounds per head. Hog slaughter, at 900 head, was down 100 head from July 2006 and the average live weight remained the same. **Accumulated production** for the first seven months of this year now totals 1.10 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the 1.11 billion pounds produced during July of last year.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.94 billion pounds in July, up 4 percent from the 3.79 billion pounds produced in July 2006. **Beef production**, at 2.26 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.90 million head, up 2 percent from July 2006. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,269 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 10.7 million pounds, 5 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 62,600 head, up 8 percent from July 2006. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from last year, at 289 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.66 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.40 million head, up 7 percent from July 2006. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 264 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.5 million pounds, was up 2 percent from July 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 204,700 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, up 1 pound from July a year ago.

**January to July 2007 commercial red meat production** was 27.5 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated

## CATTLE ON FEED

### AUGUST 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 870,000 head as of August 1, 2007. The latest inventory was down 7 percent from last year's and last month's inventory of 940,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 175,000 head of fed cattle during July 2007. This represents no change from a year ago, but was down 8 percent from last month's marketings of 190,000. An estimated 115,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during July, down 4 percent from June 2007 placements, and 21 percent below a year ago. Of the number placed in July, 13 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 17 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 30 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 39 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for July, at 10,000 head, no change from last year or last month.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.3 million head on August 1, 2007. The inventory was 5 percent below August 1, 2006 but 2 percent above August 1, 2005. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.62 million, 17 percent below 2006 and 3 percent below 2005. Net placements were 1.56 million. This is the lowest placements for the month of July since the series began in 1996. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 360,000, 600-699 pounds were 312,000, 700-799 pounds were 445,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 505,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 2.0 million, 3 percent above 2006 and 4 percent above 2005. Other disappearance totaled 61,000 during July, 5 percent above 2006 but unchanged from 2005.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States  
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots  
July 1 to August 1, 2006-2007**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 head			
On Feed July 1	980	940	10,872	10,737
Placements During July	145	115	1,958	1,622
< 600 pounds	40	15	570	360
600 - 699 Pounds	30	20	403	312
700 - 799 Pounds	40	35	490	445
800 Plus Pounds	35	45	495	505
Marketings During July	175	175	1,950	1,999
Other Disap. During July	10	10	58	61
On Feed August 1	940	870	10,822	10,299

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION  
JULY 2007**

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 91 million eggs during July 2007 compared with 88 million during the previous month and 93 million in July 2006. The total number of all layers averaged 3.69 million during July this year, down nearly 1 percent from 3.73 million in June of this year and slightly less than July 2006. The number of eggs per 100 layers was 2,469 in July 2007 down 2 percent from July 2006, but 5 percent above June 2007.

**U.S.** egg production totaled 7.57 billion during July 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.44 billion table eggs, and 1.14 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2007 averaged 339 million, down 1 percent from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,234 eggs, down slightly from July 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on August 1, 2007 totaled 340 million, down slightly from last year. The 340 million layers consisted of 281 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.72 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on August 1, 2007, averaged 72.1 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from August 1, 2006.

**MUSHROOMS  
2006-2007**

Sales of the 2006-07 U.S. mushroom crop are 827 million pounds, down 2 percent from the 2005-06 season and 3 percent below two years ago. Value of sales for the 2006-07 U.S. mushroom crop is \$956 million, up 7 percent from the previous season and 5 percent above the 2004-05 season. The number of growers, at 279, is down 27 from last season. The average price is \$1.16 per pound, up 11 cents from 2005-06.

Sales reported by growers of Agaricus mushrooms for fresh market are 697 million pounds, down 1 percent from last season. Sales of Agaricus mushrooms for processing are 117 million pounds, 9 percent below last season. Value of sales for all Agaricus mushrooms totaled 915 million dollars, up 8 percent from the previous season and 6 percent above 2004-05.

**Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms Combined:  
Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, Price Per lb., and  
Value of Sales, July 1, 2004- June 30, 2007**

Year	Growers <u>1/</u>	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales	Price Per Pound <u>2/</u>	Value of Sales
		1,000 Lbs.		1,000 Dollars
2004-05 .....	296	853,154	1.070	908,733
2005-06 .....	306	847,113	1.050	889,365
2006-07 .....	279	826,666	1.160	955,799

1/ Number of growers counted once if growing both Agaricus and specialty mushrooms.

2/ Average price received at the point of first sale, weighted by each method of sale.

Agaricus mushroom sales totaled 814 million pounds, down 2 percent from the 2005-06 season and 3 percent below 2004-05. Pennsylvania accounted for 61 percent of the total volume of sales and second ranked California contributed 14 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop was estimated at \$915 million, up 8 percent from the 2005-06 season. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 99.2 million pounds, down 30 percent from last season and 1 percent lower than the 2004-05 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 12 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold. The brown mushroom crop value of sales for the 2006-07 season is \$140 million, 15 percent of the total Agaricus value.

The number of Agaricus growers in the U.S. totaled 117, 6 fewer than last season and 1 less than two seasons ago. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 63 percent of U.S. Agaricus production, or 514 million pounds. The growing area is 28.2 million square feet, down 1 percent from the previous season and 3 percent below 2004-05. Total fillings are 143 million square feet, up 1 percent from last season and slightly above 2004-05. Yields averaged 5.68 pounds per square foot, down 3 percent from last season. Producers received an average return of \$6.39 per square foot, up 44 cents from last season and 36 cents above the 2004-05 season. U.S. fresh market production at 697 million pounds is down 1 percent from the previous season, while processed production, at 117 million pounds, is 9 percent below the previous season. Growers reported U.S. fresh market production at 86 percent of total sales volume with processed production making up the remaining 14 percent. Grower total filling intentions for the 2007-08 crop are virtually unchanged from the 2006-07 crop.

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

AUGUST 15, 2007

The **preliminary All Farm Products Index** of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 139 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2 points (1.4 percent) from July. The Crop Index is down 2 points (1.4 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received lower prices for onions, corn, broilers, and eggs. Higher commodity prices were received for wheat, cattle, strawberries, and broccoli. 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, grapes, calves, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and broilers. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (17 percent) from August 2006.

The **August All Crop Index** is 139, down 1.4 percent from July but 11 percent above August 2006. The August all wheat price, at \$5.85 per bushel, is up 68 cents from July and \$1.94 above August 2006. The corn price, at \$3.17 per bushel, is down 15 cents from last month but \$1.08 above August 2006. The all hay price, at \$132 per ton, is up \$1.00 from July and up \$26.00 from last August. The soybean price, at \$7.49 per bushel, decreased 7 cents from July but is \$2.26 above August 2006. The all potato price, at \$7.98 per cwt, is down 50 cents from July and 25 cents from last August. The all dry bean price, at \$26.40 per cwt, is down \$2.10 from the previous month but \$6.90 above August 2006.

The August **Livestock and Products Index**, at 139, is 0.7 percent below last month but up 22 percent from August 2006. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for milk, broilers, eggs, cattle, turkeys, and hogs. The price for calves is down from last year. The August hog price, at \$53.20 per cwt, is up \$1.00 from July and \$1.60 higher than a year ago. The August beef cattle price of \$90.50 per cwt is up \$1.30 from last month and \$3.30 higher than August 2006. The August all milk price of \$21.70 per cwt is unchanged from last month but up \$9.70 from August 2006.

### Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index	2006		2007	
	July	August	July	August
1990-92 = 100				
	Percent			
Prices Received .....	117	119	141	139
Prices Paid .....	149	149	158	158
Ratio <u>1</u> / .....	79	80	89	88

1/Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

**Colorado** commodity prices for Mid-August averaged higher than the previous month except for corn and other hay. Livestock prices were higher except for beef cows and calves. Wheat, at \$5.82 per bushel increased 82 cents from the previous month and was \$1.62 above a year ago. Corn decreased 3 cents from July to \$3.45 per bushel but was 97 cents higher than August 2006. Dry beans averaged from

\$29.10 per cwt for mid-August, up 60 cents from July and \$9.20 above August 2006. Alfalfa hay prices, at \$140.00, were up \$5.00 from last month and \$7.00 above August 2006. Other hay remained the same as last month at \$135.00 and was \$10.00 above a year ago. Steers and Heifers, at \$102.00 per cwt, were up \$2.00 from July but averaged \$10.00 below August 2006. Cows decreased \$1.20 cents from July to \$53.00 per cwt but were \$5.20 above a year ago. Calves, at \$122.00 per cwt, were unchanged from July of this year but \$19.00 below August 2006.

### Average Prices Received By Farmers 1 /

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		August 2006	July 2007	August 2007
Dollars				
<b>Crops</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	4.20	5.00	5.82
Corn.....	Bu.	2.48	3.48	3.45
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	<u>3</u> /	3.75	<u>3</u> /
Potatoes .....	Cwt	8.60	7.25	N/A
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	19.90	28.50	29.10
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	133.00	135.00	140.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	125.00	135.00	135.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	111.00	99.10	101.00
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	112.00	100.00	102.00
Cows.....	Cwt	47.80	54.20	53.00
Calves.....	Cwt	141.00	122.00	122.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	33.00	31.00	<u>4</u> /
Lambs.....	Cwt	96.00	98.00	<u>4</u> /
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	12.20	20.30	21.00
United States				
Dollars				
<b>Crops</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	3.91	5.17	5.85
Corn.....	Bu.	2.09	3.32	3.17
Soybeans .....	Bu.	5.23	7.56	7.49
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2.70	3.45	3.57
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	2.06	3.22	3.65
Sorghum .....	Cwt	4.35	5.52	5.89
Potatoes .....	Cwt	8.23	8.48	7.98
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	19.50	28.50	26.40
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	109.00	137.00	137.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	96.20	113.00	118.00
Onions .....	Cwt	13.70	20.30	9.07
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	87.20	89.20	90.50
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	91.50	93.10	94.40
Cows.....	Cwt	46.80	51.40	51.50
Calves.....	Cwt	136.00	127.00	129.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	27.90	28.70	<u>4</u> /
Lambs.....	Cwt	95.40	98.60	<u>4</u> /
Hogs .....	Cwt	51.60	52.20	53.20
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	12.00	21.70	21.70
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.420	0.510	0.500

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/Mid-month price discontinued. 3/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms. 4/ Mid-month price not estimated.

## TURKEYS RAISED

2007

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2007 is 272 million, up 4 percent from the number raised during 2006. The following six States are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2007: Minnesota, at 46.0 million turkeys, is up 2 percent from last year; North Carolina, at 39.0 million turkeys, is up 4 percent from last year; Arkansas, at 31.0 million turkeys, is up 3 percent from a year ago; Virginia, at 21.5 million turkeys, is unchanged from 2006; Missouri, at 21.0 million turkeys, is up 5 percent from last year; and California, at 16.8 million turkeys, is up 6 percent from last year.

## COLD STORAGE

JULY 31, 2007

**Frozen food stocks** in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2007 were greater than year earlier levels for pork and butter. Butter stocks were down slightly from last month but up 5 percent from a year ago.

**Total red meat supplies** in freezers were up 3 percent from both last month and the previous year. Frozen pork supplies were down 2 percent from last month but up 10 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 33 percent from last month but up 3 percent from last year.

**Total frozen poultry supplies** on July 31, 2007 were up 7 percent from the previous month but down 17 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 3 percent from the previous month but down 11 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 12 percent from last month but down 2 percent from July 31, 2006.

## Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	July 31, 2006	June 30, 2007	July 31, 2007
	<b>1,000 Pounds</b>		
Butter .....	259,832	272,975	271,882
Cheese, total natural .....	898,917	873,056	867,278
Eggs, frozen .....	23,596	17,411	17,475
Poultry, total frozen .....	1,247,584	1,085,851	1,157,743
Chicken .....	727,855	629,993	645,917
Turkey .....	512,223	448,106	502,635
Fruits, frozen .....	1,057,400	921,052	1,183,706
Fruit Juices, frozen .....	1,271,618	1,256,146	1,208,719
Vegetables, total frozen .....	1,654,362	1,237,075	1,503,247
Potatoes, total frozen .....	996,405	1,078,208	988,242
Meats, total red .....	915,539	918,438	947,242
Beef, total frozen .....	479,218	429,078	467,479
Pork, total frozen .....	417,769	467,949	459,795

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

## 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 Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Sept. 12 - Crop Production
- Sept. 18 - Milk Production
- Sept. 20 - Potatoes
- Sept. 21 - Cold Storage
- Sept. 21 - Cattle on Feed
- Sept. 21 - Chickens and Eggs
- Sept. 21 - Livestock Slaughter
- Sept. 27 - Agricultural Prices
- Sept. 28 - Grain Stocks
- Sept. 28 - Quarterly Hogs and Pigs
- Sept. 28 - Small Grains Summary

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