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**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
OCTOBER 2007**

Red meat production in **Colorado** during September 2007 totaled 157.7 million pounds, up 18 percent from 133.3 million pounds a year earlier but 6 percent below August 2007 production. **Cattle** kill during September was up 19 percent from a year earlier to 181.0 head and the average live weight increased 2 pounds to 1,322 per head. **Hog** slaughter, at 1,000 head, was down 200 head from a year earlier but the average live weight of 259 pounds was 6 pounds above the previous year. **Accumulated red meat production** for the January-September period this year, at 1.39 billion pounds, slightly lower than last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 3.86 billion pounds in September, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in September 2006. **Beef production**, at 2.09 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 4 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds.

Veal production totaled 9.4 million pounds, 22 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,000 head, down 3 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was down 68 pounds from last year, at 283 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.75 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.77 million head, down 1 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 266 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from September 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 210,600 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, unchanged from September a year ago.

January to September 2007 commercial red meat production was 35.7 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 2 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 Species | Sept. 2006 | Aug. 2007 | Sept. 2007 | January-September | |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------|------------|-------------------|----------|
| | | | | 2006 | 2007 |
| | Million Pounds | | | | |
| Colorado: | 133.3 | 167.6 | 157.7 | 1,401.4 | 1,388.4 |
| United States: | 3,949.9 | *4,325.6 | 3,864.1 | 35,313.0 | 35,704.5 |
| Beef | 2,169.9 | *2,450.6 | 2,094.9 | 19,638.0 | 19,685.1 |
| Veal | 12.1 | 10.3 | 9.4 | 107.4 | 105.7 |
| Pork | 1,753.7 | 1,849.9 | 1,746.3 | 15,429.0 | 15,788.6 |
| Lamb & Mutton . | 14.3 | 14.7 | 13.6 | 138.7 | 135.1 |

* - Revised.

**CATTLE ON FEED
OCTOBER 1, 2007**

COLORADO

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 940,000 head as of October 1, 2007. The latest inventory was up 11 percent from September 1, 2007 but down 11 percent from the 1,060,000 on feed on October 1, 2006. The inventory included 575,000 steers and steer calves, down 21 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 360,000 head, was up 11 percent from last year while cows and bulls were unchanged at 5,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 170,000 head of fed cattle during September 2007. This was 8 percent below August 2007 marketings of 185,000 head but 26 percent above a year ago. An estimated 265,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during September, up 10 percent from a year ago and 56 percent above the August 2007 placements of 170,000. Of the number placed in September, 13 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 15 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 25 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 47 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for September, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from September 2006 and August 2007.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.0 million head on October 1, 2007. The inventory was 4 percent below October 1, 2006 but 5 percent above October 1, 2005. The inventory included 6.83 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.07 million head, down 1 percent from 2006. Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.43 million, 9 percent above 2006 and 3 percent above 2005. Net placements were 2.37 million head. During September,

placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 610,000, 600-699 pounds were 505,000, 700-799 pounds were 570,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 740,000. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.71 million, 3 percent below 2006 and 6 percent below 2005. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 54,000 during September, 21 percent below 2006 and 5 percent below 2005.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000 Plus Capacity, Sept. 1 to Oct 1, 2006-2007**

| Item | Colorado | | United States | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------|---------------|--------|
| | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 |
| | 1,000 head | | | |
| On Feed Sept. 1 | 960 | 850 | 10,986 | 10,302 |
| Placements During Sept. | 240 | 265 | 2,227 | 2,425 |
| < 600 pounds | 45 | 35 | 720 | 610 |
| 600 - 699 Pounds | 35 | 40 | 412 | 505 |
| 700 - 799 Pounds | 50 | 65 | 450 | 570 |
| 800 Plus Pounds | 110 | 125 | 645 | 740 |
| Marketings During Sept. | 135 | 170 | 1,760 | 1,706 |
| Other Disap. During Sept. | 5 | 5 | 68 | 54 |
| On Feed Oct 1. | 1,060 | 940 | 11,385 | 10,967 |
| Steers & Steer Calves | 730 | 575 | 7,197 | 6,832 |
| Heifers & Heifer Calves | 325 | 360 | 4,122 | 4,070 |
| Cows & Bulls | 5 | 5 | 66 | 65 |

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION
SEPTEMBER 2007**

Colorado laying flocks produced 83 million eggs during September 2007 compared with 92 million during the same month a year earlier and 87 million during August of this year. The average number of layers for the month, at 3.76 million, was down 96,000 from September 2006 but up 34,000 from August 2007. The rate of lay for September 2007 was 2,210 eggs per 100 layers compared with 2,389 during September 2006 and 2,338 in August 2007.

United States egg production totaled 7.37 billion during September 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.27 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 64 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2007 averaged 340 million, down 1 percent from last year. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,169 eggs, up slightly from September 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 2007 totaled 340 million, down 1 percent 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 2.76 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2007, averaged 72.7 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from October 1, 2006.

**AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL USAGE
RESTRICTED USE
OCTOBER 2007**

The agricultural chemical usage data in this report were derived from pesticide products reported in the Agricultural Chemical Usage 2006 Field Crops Summary.

Field Crops: 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. Targeted crops included rice, soybeans, durum wheat, other spring wheat, and winter wheat. The Program States accounted for 87 to 100 percent of the U.S. acreage for these crops. There were insufficient reports to publish any restricted use chemical data for durum wheat.

A limited number of restricted use herbicides were applied to field crops in 2006. **Paraquat** was used on 1 percent of the soybean acres. **Alachlor** and **Atrazine** were both applied to less than 1 percent of the soybeans and winter wheat acreage, respectively.

A wide range of restricted use insecticides was used on rice, soybeans, and wheat. **Lambda-cyhalothrin** was used on 9 percent of the rice acres; **Zeta-cypermethrin** and **Lambda-cyhalothrin** were applied to 6 percent of the rice and soybean acreage, respectively. **Chlorpyrifos** was applied to 5 percent of the soybean acreage in the Program States.

Vegetable Crops: Growers in 19 Program States were surveyed to obtain restricted chemical use data on 23 selected vegetable crops in 2006. The targeted crops were: asparagus, snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupes, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, honeydews, lettuce, onions, green peas, bell peppers, pumpkins, spinach, squash, strawberries, tomatoes, and watermelons. The data on restricted use applications cover the period immediately following harvest of the 2005 crop through harvest of the 2006 crop. There was not enough application coverage to publish any restricted use chemical data for honeydews.

A limited number of restricted use herbicides were applied to vegetable crops in 2006. **Atrazine** was used on 61 percent of the fresh market sweet corn acreage and on 50 percent of the processed sweet corn acreage. **Pronamide** was applied to 44 percent of the other lettuce acreage and 38 percent of the head lettuce acreage. **Bentazon** was applied to 18 percent of the processed sweet corn acres, followed by **Paraquat**, which was applied to 17 percent of the fresh market tomato acres.

Several restricted use insecticides were used extensively on vegetable crops in the Program States. **Zeta-cypermethrin** was applied to 74 percent of head lettuce, 66 percent of other lettuce, and 47 percent of celery, while 39 percent of the fresh spinach, 28 percent of garlic, and 24 percent of the onion acreage were also reported as treated with restricted formulations of this active ingredient. **Esfenvalerate** was used

on 66 percent of the processed carrot acres, as well as on 31 percent of the fresh market tomato acres, 26 percent of the fresh market cucumbers, 25 percent of the squash acres, and 22 percent of the fresh market sweet corn acres. **Permethrin** was applied to 59 percent of the celery acreage, 50 percent of the head lettuce acres, and 46 percent of the fresh spinach acreage.

Restricted use pesticides used as "Other Chemicals" included **Chloropicrin** and **Dichloropropene**. **Chloropicrin** was used on 43 percent of the strawberry acreage, 25 percent of the fresh tomato acres, and 17 percent of the bell pepper acreage. **Dichloropropene** was used on 20 percent of the fresh market cucumber acreage, 10 percent of the squash acres, and 6 percent of the onion acreage.

Swine and Swine Facilities: The 2006 Swine and Swine Facilities Chemical Use Study collected information concerning chemicals applied to swine and swine facilities to control flies, mange/mites, lice, and other external pests. All data refer to the on-farm use of chemical active ingredients contained in insecticides. The two major restricted active ingredients reported as being used on swine facilities were **Diazinon** and **Permethrin**; a total of 1,702 and 353 pounds, respectively of these active ingredients were applied to the Program States swine facilities. There were insufficient reports to publish any active ingredient's data for all swine.

Dairy Cattle and Dairy Cattle Facilities: The 2006 Dairy Cattle and Dairy Cattle Facilities Chemical Use Study collected information concerning chemicals applied to dairy cattle and dairy cattle facilities to control flies, mange/mites, lice, grubs, and other external pests. There were insufficient reports to publish any active ingredient's data for dairy cattle and dairy cattle facilities.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES OCTOBER 2007

The preliminary **All Farm Products Index of Prices Received** by Farmers in October, at 142 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.7 percent) from September. The Crop Index is up 7 points (4.9 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 7 points (5.0 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, wheat, soybeans, and tomatoes and lower prices were received for broilers, hogs, cattle, 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 soybeans, corn, cotton, and grain sorghum offset decreased marketings of milk, wheat, grapes, and broilers.

The October **All Crops Index** is 149, up 4.9 percent from September and 31 percent above October 2006. The October **all wheat** price, at \$8.02 per bushel, is up \$1.27 from September and \$3.43 above October 2006. The **corn** price, at \$3.29 per bushel, is unchanged from last month but 74 cents above October 2006. **Grain sorghum**, at \$5.99 per cwt, is 15 cents below September but 83 cents above October last year. The **soybean** price, at \$8.58 per

bushel, increased 40 cents from September and is \$3.06 above October 2006. The **all potato** price, at \$5.66 per cwt, is down 32 cents from September and down 10 cents from last October. The **all dry bean price**, at \$26.80 per cwt, is up \$2.30 from the previous month and \$7.10 above October 2006.

The October **Livestock & Products Index** at 132, is 5.0 percent below last month but up 14 percent from October 2006. The October **hog** price, at \$42.60 per cwt, is down \$4.00 from September and \$3.90 lower than a year ago. The October **beef cattle** price of \$90.80 per cwt is down \$2.10 from last month but \$2.60 higher than October 2006. The October **all milk** price of \$21.20 per cwt is down 50 cents from last month but up \$7.60 from October 2006.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

| Index 1990-92 = 100 | 2006 | | 2007 | |
|------------------------|---------|------|-------|------|
| | Sept. | Oct. | Sept. | Oct. |
| | Percent | | | |
| Prices Received..... | 119 | 115 | 141 | 142 |
| Prices Paid | 149 | 148 | 159 | 159 |
| Ratio 1/ | 80 | 78 | 89 | 89 |

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates.

Colorado's mid-October prices for most crop items averaged higher than a year ago except for potatoes and alfalfa hay. Beef Cattle, Steers and Heifers, and Calves averaged below a year ago. Wheat, at \$7.43 per bushel, averaged \$2.61 above October 2006 and 80 cents above September of this year. Corn averaged \$3.54 per bushel in mid-October this year, up 86 cents from the previous year but down 7 cents from last month. Potato prices increased 25 cents per cwt from last month to \$7.90 per cwt but averaged 55 cents below the October 2006 average of \$8.45 per cwt.

Alfalfa hay prices at \$135.00 per ton, increased \$5.00 from last month and was unchanged from a year ago. Other hay prices, at \$130.00 per ton, decreased \$5.00 per ton from September 2007 but was up \$6.00 from October 2006. Steer and heifer prices were at \$108.00 per cwt and averaged \$1.00 per cwt below last month and a year ago. Cows, at \$48.60 per cwt, were down \$4.10 from last month but averaged 90 cents above October 2006. Calves averaged \$118.00 for mid-October, \$2.00 below last month and down \$6.00 per cwt from a year ago. The October all milk price of \$21.80 was 60 cents below last month but \$7.90 above a year ago.

Average Prices Received By Farmers ^{1/}

| Item | Unit | Colorado | | |
|---------------------------------|------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | | Oct. 2006 | Sept. 2007 | Oct. 2007 |
| Crops | | | | |
| Dollars | | | | |
| Wheat | Bu. | 4.82 | 6.63 | 7.43 |
| Corn | Bu. | 2.68 | 3.61 | 3.54 |
| Barley (All) | Bu. | 2.47 | 3.37 | <u>2/</u> |
| Potatoes | Cwt | 8.45 | 7.65 | 7.90 |
| Dry edible beans | Cwt | 19.70 | 27.90 | 28.50 |
| Alfalfa hay (baled) | Ton | 135.00 | 140.00 | 135.00 |
| Other hay (baled) | Ton | 124.00 | 135.00 | 130.00 |
| Livestock & Products | | | | |
| Beef Cattle | Cwt | 108.00 | 108.00 | 107.00 |
| Steers & Heifers | Cwt | 109.00 | 109.00 | 108.00 |
| Cows | Cwt | 47.70 | 52.70 | 48.60 |
| Calves | Cwt | 124.00 | 120.00 | 118.00 |
| Sheep | Cwt | 32.00 | 31.00 | <u>3/</u> |
| Lambs | Cwt | 95.00 | 95.00 | <u>3/</u> |
| Milk sold to plants | Cwt | 13.90 | 22.40 | 21.80 |
| United States | | | | |
| Dollars | | | | |
| Wheat | Bu. | 4.59 | 6.75 | 8.02 |
| Corn | Bu. | 2.55 | 3.29 | 3.29 |
| Soybeans | Bu. | 5.52 | 8.18 | 8.58 |
| Barley (All) | Bu. | 2.76 | 4.04 | 5.18 |
| Barley (Feed) | Bu. | 2.68 | 4.44 | 5.38 |
| Sorghum | Cwt | 5.16 | 6.14 | 5.99 |
| Potatoes | Cwt | 5.76 | 5.98 | 5.66 |
| Dry edible beans | Cwt | 19.70 | 24.50 | 26.80 |
| Alfalfa hay (baled) | Ton | 113.00 | 135.00 | 137.00 |
| Other hay (baled) | Ton | 101.00 | 124.00 | 122.00 |
| Onions | Cwt | 10.90 | 6.25 | 5.06 |
| Livestock & Products | | | | |
| Beef Cattle | Cwt | 88.20 | 92.90 | 90.80 |
| Steers & Heifers | Cwt | 93.70 | 98.10 | 96.70 |
| Cows | Cwt | 46.00 | 49.10 | 46.80 |
| Calves | Cwt | 128.00 | 127.00 | 125.00 |
| Sheep | Cwt | 31.40 | 26.20 | <u>3/</u> |
| Lambs | Cwt | 98.50 | 99.10 | <u>3/</u> |
| Hogs | Cwt | 46.50 | 46.60 | 42.60 |
| Milk sold to plants | Cwt | 13.60 | 21.70 | 21.20 |
| Broilers | Lb. | 0.40 | 0.48 | 0.43 |

^{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 estimated.

COLD STORAGE SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 2007 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, turkey and pork. Butter stocks were down 7 percent from last month but up 27 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 3 percent from the previous month and up 1 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 4 percent from both the previous month and last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 20 percent from last month but up 67 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on September 30, 2007 were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 4 percent

from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 1 percent from the previous month but down 11 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 5 percent from last month but up 7 percent from September 30, 2006.

Stocks in Storage, United States

| Commodity | Sept. 30, 2006 | Aug. 31, 2007 | Sept. 30, 2007 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1,000 Pounds | | | |
| Butter | 190,550 | 260,879 | 242,766 |
| Cheese, total natural | 843,135 | 830,086 | 820,720 |
| Eggs, frozen | 19,038 | 18,485 | 17,689 |
| Poultry, total frozen | 1,180,841 | 1,156,253 | 1,135,418 |
| Chicken | 710,281 | 624,077 | 630,411 |
| Turkey | 464,219 | 524,081 | 498,511 |
| Fruits, frozen | 963,258 | 1,198,845 | 1,164,213 |
| Fruit Juices, frozen | 1,007,806 | 1,069,278 | 931,414 |
| Vegetables, total frozen | 2,476,573 | 1,952,178 | 2,337,518 |
| Potatoes, total frozen | 1,009,609 | 999,029 | 1,083,825 |
| Meats, total red | 969,401 | 957,513 | 983,700 |
| Beef, total frozen | 491,916 | 479,724 | 486,888 |
| Pork, total frozen | 458,359 | 458,252 | 478,076 |

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 Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Nov. 9 - Crop Production
- Nov. 16 - Cattle on Feed
- Nov. 16 - Milk Production
- Nov. 20 - Chickens and Eggs
- Nov. 21 - Cold Storage
- Nov. 23 - Livestock Slaughter
- Nov. 30 - Agricultural Prices

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