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POTATO STOCKS - FEBRUARY 1, 2008

Colorado's growers and commercial storage facilities in the San Luis Valley had 11.2 million cwt of potatoes on hand as of February 1, 2008, down 15 percent from the 13.1 million cwt on hand one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 53 percent of the 20.98 million cwt produced in 2007. The February 1, 2007 stocks represented 58 percent of the 22.69 million cwt of potatoes produced in 2006. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for table stock have averaged 69 percent of the production for the 2002-2006 period. The remaining 31 percent of production is used for seed, processing, feed and home use or is lost through cullage and shrinkage.

The **13 major potato States** held 206 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2008, up 7 percent from last year and 9 percent above February 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 52 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from last year.

Disappearance of 194 million cwt from the start of harvest to February 1 was down 1 percent from last year but up 5 percent from 2006. Processors have used 104 million cwt of 2007 crop potatoes so far this season, down 4 percent from a year ago but 8 percent above 2 years ago.

Dehydrating usage was 20.9 million cwt of the total processing, down 12 percent from last year but 9 percent above the same date in 2006.

Western States held 152 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, up 12 percent from last year and 10 percent above 2006. Idaho's potato stocks were up 6 percent from last year; Washington's potato sheds held 32 percent more than last year; and Oregon's stocks increased 19 percent from last season.

Central States accounted for 43.3 million cwt of potato stocks on February 1, down 2 percent from last year but 10 percent above the same date in 2006. Wisconsin's potato stocks were unchanged from last year; North Dakota's sheds held

17 percent less; and potato stocks in Minnesota were 1 percent below last season. Nebraska's potato stocks decreased 8 percent from the same date in 2007. Michigan's potato sheds held 35 percent more than a year ago. Eastern States stored 10.8 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, down 15 percent from last year and 5 percent below February 1, 2006. Maine's potato sheds held 15 percent less than last year, while New York's potato stocks declined 14 percent from a year ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks

February 1, 2007-2008 ^{1/}

| State | Crop of 2006 | | Crop of 2007 | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| | Prod. | Stocks Feb. 1, 2007 | Prod. | Stocks Feb. 1, 2008 |
| | 1,000 Cwt | | 1,000 Cwt | |
| California..... | 3,870 | 1,300 | 4,223 | 1,400 |
| Colorado | 22,686 | 13,100 | 20,981 | 11,200 |
| Idaho..... | 128,915 | 70,000 | 131,650 | 74,000 |
| Maine..... | 17,980 | 11,300 | 16,530 | 9,600 |
| Michigan..... | 14,190 | 4,600 | 14,700 | 6,200 |
| Minnesota..... | 20,400 | 10,000 | 20,680 | 9,900 |
| Montana..... | 3,518 | 3,200 | 3,696 | 3,600 |
| Nebraska..... | 8,730 | 4,000 | 8,051 | 3,700 |
| New York | 5,700 | 1,400 | 5,216 | 1,200 |
| North Dakota | 25,480 | 12,000 | 23,660 | 10,000 |
| Oregon..... | 18,533 | 11,700 | 20,238 | 13,900 |
| Washington..... | 89,900 | 36,500 | 102,300 | 48,000 |
| Wisconsin..... | 29,370 | 13,500 | 28,160 | 13,500 |
| 13 States | 389,272 | 192,600 | 400,085 | 206,200 |
| Klamath Basin 2/ | | 2,600 | | 2,700 |

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2007 totaled 26.4 million cwt.

^{2/} Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co. OR.

FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS - 2007

The number of farms in **Colorado**, at 31,000 for 2007, was up 300 from a year earlier. The percent change and the Colorado number of agricultural operations for each sales class was as follows: \$1,000 - \$9,999, up nearly 2 percent to 17,600 farms; \$10,000 - \$99,999, up 1 percent to 9,200 farms; \$100,000 - \$249,000, up 2 percent to 2,150 farms; \$250,000 - \$499,999, decreased 10 percent to 900 farms; and \$500,000 and over, down 4 percent to 1,150 farms.

The total land in farms remained unchanged at 30.7 million acres but the average farm size decreased 10 acres from last year to 990 acres in 2007.

The number of farms in the **United States** in 2007 is estimated at 2.08 million, 0.6 percent fewer than in 2006. Total land in farms, at 930.9 million acres, decreased 1.5 million acres, or 0.16 percent, from 2006. The average farm size was 449 acres during 2007, an increase of three acres from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

Farm numbers and land in farms are broken down into five economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these "sales classes" by summing their sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, and \$500,000. Farm numbers declined in the \$1,000 - \$9,999 and the \$10,000 - \$99,999 sales classes. Farm numbers rose slightly in the three largest sales classes. The changes within the sales classes were a result of operations moving to larger sales classes by consolidation or expansion and strong commodity prices. Because of higher prices, many farms and ranches near the top of their sales class in 2006 moved into the next higher sales class in 2007 without adding land or otherwise expanding their operations.

Land in farms also shifted from lower sales classes to higher sales classes. In the \$1,000 - \$9,999 sales class, land in farms dropped 1.6 percent, to 112.8 million acres, while land operated by farms in the largest sales class, \$500,000 & over in sales, increased 1.8 percent, to 217.3 million acres. Over all, the average farm size increased three acres in 2007. However, average farm sizes declined in some of the sales classes due to smaller farms moving up to higher sales classes.

This report also contains estimates of farm numbers and land in farms for Puerto Rico. The number of farms with sales of \$1,000 or more in Puerto Rico was 13,500 in 2007, down 100 farms from 2006. Land in farms, at 600,000 acres, is down 10,000 acres from the previous year. The average farm size in Puerto Rico in 2007 was estimated at 44 acres.

Farms and Land in Farms, Colorado and United States, 2002-2007

| Year | Number of Farms ^{1/} | | Land in Farms ^{1/} | |
|------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | Colorado | United States | Colorado | United States |
| | Number | | Thousand Acres | |
| 2002 | 31,400 | 2,135,360 | 31,100 | 940,300 |
| 2003 | 31,400 | 2,126,860 | 31,000 | 938,650 |
| 2004 | 30,900 | 2,112,970 | 30,900 | 936,295 |
| 2005 | 30,500 | 2,098,690 | 30,700 | 933,210 |
| 2006 | 30,700 | 2,088,790 | 30,700 | 932,430 |
| 2007 | 31,000 | 2,075,510 | 30,700 | 930,920 |

^{1/} A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms by Economic Sales Class, Colorado, 2006-2007

| Economic Sales Class | Farms | | Land in Farms | |
|----------------------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|
| | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 |
| | Number | | 1,000 acres | |
| \$ 1,000- \$9,999 | 17,300 | 17,600 | 2,700 | 2,700 |
| \$ 10,000- \$99,999 | 9,100 | 9,200 | 9,900 | 10,000 |
| \$100,000- \$249,999 | 2,100 | 2,150 | 6,900 | 7,300 |
| \$250,000- \$499,999 | 1,000 | 900 | 4,800 | 4,300 |
| \$500,000 & over | 1,200 | 1,150 | 6,400 | 6,400 |

Number of Farms and Land in Farms by Economic Sales Class, United States, 2006-2007

| Economic Sales Class | Farms | | Land in Farms | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------|
| | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 |
| | Number | | 1,000 acres | |
| \$ 1,000- \$9,999 | 1,152,910 | 1,135,320 | 114,685 | 112,840 |
| \$ 10,000- \$99,999 | 597,350 | 594,230 | 258,890 | 255,505 |
| \$100,000- \$249,999 | 166,420 | 167,990 | 191,450 | 192,260 |
| \$250,000- \$499,999 | 90,760 | 93,000 | 153,980 | 153,000 |
| \$500,000 & over | 81,350 | 84,970 | 213,425 | 217,315 |

COUNTY ESTIMATES-ALL WHEAT 2007

Colorado's total wheat crop produced in 2007 totaled 95.5 million bushels, 130 percent above or 2.3 times the 41.5 million bushels produced in 2006. All wheat includes both winter and spring planted crops but excludes durum wheat. Favorable fall planting conditions and a moist spring combined to make the largest crop since 1999 and produced the second highest yield on record for the State. The planted acreage of 2,520,000 acres for the 2007 crop was 16 percent more than the 2,170,000 acres planted the previous year and the 2,369,000 acres harvested was 23 percent above the 1,919,000 acres harvested in 2006. Producers abandoned 151,000 acres in 2007 compared with 251,000 in 2006. Producers averaged 40.3 bushels per acre from the 2007 crop compared with 21.6 bushels per acre from the 2006 crop.

Kit Carson County retained status as the top wheat producing county in the state in 2007 by producing 12,211,000 bushels. This year's crop was up 163 percent over the 2006 crop of 4,645,000 bushels. Producers planted 301,200 acres for the 2007 crop, up 23 percent from the previous year and harvested 282,200 acres, up 30 percent. The average yield, at 43.5 bushels per acre, was 22.0 bushels above the 21.5 bushel average realized from the 2006 crop.

Washington County kept the second place ranking in Colorado for the 2007 crop by producing 9,971,000 bushels, up 124 percent from the 4,445,000 bushel crop produced in 2006. Acreage planted for the 2007 crop was up 15 percent from the previous year to 284,800 acres which was the second highest of any county in the State. The 265,700 acres harvested was also the second highest in the State and was 18 percent higher than the 224,700 acres harvested in 2006. The average yield in 2007, at 37.5 bushels per acre, was 17.5 bushels above the 2006 crop average of 20.0 bushels per acre.

Kiowa County jumped to third place for the 2007 crop with a total output of 9,541,000 bushels. The planted area of 227,000 acres was 29 percent more than the previous year and the 222,000 acres harvested also increased 29 percent from the 171,600 harvested in 2006. The average yield of 43.0 bushels per acre was 23.0 bushels per acre above the 2006 average of 20.0 bushels per acre.

Yuma County took the fourth place ranking in 2007, down from third place last year with a total output of 7,348,000 bushels. The latest crop was slightly more than double the 3,648,000 bushels produced the previous year. The planted area was 149,500 acres compared with 131,000 acres last year. Producers harvested 146,500 acres in 2007 compared with 125,600 acres a year earlier. The county's average yield of 50.0 bushels per acre was 21.0 bushels higher than the previous year.

Cheyenne County rounded out the top five wheat producing counties in the state with a total output of 6,787,000 bushels. The 2007 crop was over three times the 2006 crop of 2,055,000 bushels. Producers increased the planted area by 24 percent to 188,700 acres for the 2007 crop and harvested 180,200 acres, up from the 130,300 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield of 37.5 bushels per acre on the 2007 crop was 21.5 bushels per acre above the 2006 crop average.

The sixth through the tenth counties with the percent change from the previous year and the 2007 production for each county were as follows: **Baca County**, up 348 percent to 6,319,000 bushels; **Prowers County**, up 167 percent from the 2006 crop to 5,929,000 bushels; **Phillips County**, up 204 percent to 5,317,000 bushels; **Adams County**, up 98 percent to 5,133,500 bushels; and **Lincoln County**, up 154 percent to 4,896,000 bushels.

MILK PRODUCTION JANUARY 2008

Milk production in **Colorado** during January of 2008 totaled 233 million pounds, up 9 percent from last year. The average number of cows for January at 120,000 head, increased 4 percent from the last year. Production per cow averaged 1,940 pounds for the month of January, 5 percent below January 2007.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during January totaled 14.6 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from January 2007. December production, unrevised at 14.4 billion pounds, was up 2.8 percent from December 2006. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,743 pounds for January, 17 pounds above January 2007. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.40 million head, 120,000 head more than January 2007, and 15,000 head more than December 2007.

Milk Cows and Milk Production – Colorado

| Item | Jan. 2007 | Dec. 2007 | Jan. 2008 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> | 115 | 120 | 120 |
| Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u> | 1,855 | 1,965 | 1,940 |
| Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u> | 213 | 236 | 233 |

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

MILK PRODUCTION ANNUAL 2007

Colorado's total output of milk during 2007 totaled 2.70 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2.55 billion pounds produced during 2006. The annual total for 2007 marks the thirteen consecutive year of record high production in the state and is the sixth consecutive year that production has exceeded two billion pounds.

The average number of milk cows for 2007 was 118,000 up 7 percent from a year earlier. The average production per cow for 2007 decreased 240 pounds from the previous year to 22,915 pounds.

The annual production of milk for the **United States** during 2007 was 186 billion pounds, 2.1 percent above 2006. Revisions to 2006 production decreased the annual total 2 million pounds. Revised 2007 production was up 3 million pounds from last month's publication. Production per cow in the U.S. averaged 20,267 pounds for 2007, 316 pounds above 2006. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 17.9 percent from 1998. The average number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. during 2007 was 9.16 million head, up 0.5 percent from 2006. The average number of milk cows was revised up 5,000 head for 2007.

Annual Milk Production, Colorado and United States, 2005-2007

| Item | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Colorado | | | |
| Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> | 104 | 110 | 118 |
| Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u> | 22,577 | 23,155 | 22,915 |
| Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u> | 2,348 | 2,547 | 2,704 |
| United States | | | |
| Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> | 9,043 | 9,112 | 9,158 |
| Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u> | 19,565 | 19,951 | 20,267 |
| Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u> | 176,929 | 181,796 | 185,602 |

1/ Average number during year, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

COLD STORAGE JANUARY 31, 2008

United States frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on January 31, 2008 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, turkey, pork, and chicken. Butter stocks were up 21 percent from last month and up 26 percent from a year ago. Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 7 percent from the previous month and up 5 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 23 percent from the previous month and up 16 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 25 percent from last month and up 48 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on January 31, 2008 were up 11 percent from the previous month and up 14 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 3 percent from the previous month and up 13 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 32 percent from last month and up 18 percent from January 31, 2007.

The 2007 revisions of strawberries, other chicken, peanuts, cheese, and beef inventories are the result of increased coverage of cold storage facilities as well as updated plant information. Please refer to the *Cold Storage 2007 Summary*, published February 22, 2008, for all 2007 cold storage commodity estimates. Regional duck data has been reinstated beginning with the January 31, 2008 estimates. The regional 2007 monthly duck estimates can be found in the *Cold Storage 2007 Summary*

R. René Picanso
Director

Steve Anderson
Deputy Director

Stocks in Storage, United States

| Commodity | Jan. 31, 2007 | Dec 30, 2007 | Jan 31, 2008 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1,000 Pounds | | | |
| Butter | 148,703 | 155,162 | 187,934 |
| Cheese, total natural | 850,025 | 798,307 | 779,709 |
| Eggs, frozen | 17,207 | 14,652 | 14,018 |
| Poultry, total frozen | 976,616 | 1,007,260 | 1,116,154 |
| Chicken | 678,467 | 741,145 | 766,063 |
| Turkey | 293,379 | 260,594 | 344,906 |
| Fruits, frozen | 1,019,904 | 1,239,540 | 1,141,969 |
| Fruit Juices, frozen | 1,085,587 | 1,079,964 | 1,260,786 |
| Vegetables, total frozen | 1,963,929 | 2,221,392 | 2,028,745 |
| Potatoes, total frozen..... | 1,041,333 | 1,012,355 | 1,088,651 |
| Meats, total red | 977,303 | 961,556 | 1,030,373 |
| Beef, total frozen | 470,571 | 482,509 | 445,219 |
| Pork, total frozen | 484,302 | 458,665 | 563,576 |

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>

- Feb. 22 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 22 - Livestock Slaughter
- Feb. 26 - Trout
- Feb. 28 - Chickens And Eggs-Ann
- Feb. 29 - Agricultural Prices
- Feb. 29 - Honey
- Mar. 7 - Livestock Slaughter - Annual
- Mar. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Mar. 14 - Potato Stocks