



**NATIONAL  
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STATISTICS  
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# AG UPDATE

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## Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States 1,000+ Capacity April 1 to May 1, 2007-2008

| Item                     | Colorado          |       | United States |        |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------|---------------|--------|
|                          | 2007              | 2008  | 2007          | 2008   |
|                          | <b>1,000 head</b> |       |               |        |
| On Feed April 1          | 1,020             | 1,020 | 1,020         | 11,684 |
| Placements During Apr.   | 150               | 115   | 1,568         | 1,536  |
| < 600 pounds             | 30                | 15    | 375           | 315    |
| 600 - 699 Pounds         | 30                | 25    | 263           | 278    |
| 700 - 799 Pounds         | 40                | 35    | 430           | 428    |
| 800 Plus Pounds          | 50                | 40    | 500           | 515    |
| Marketings During Apr.   | 130               | 165   | 1,816         | 2,010  |
| Other Disap. During Apr. | 20                | 20    | 99            | 75     |
| On Feed May 1            | 1,020             | 950   | 11,297        | 11,135 |

## CATTLE ON FEED

May 1, 2008

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 950,000 head as of May 1, 2008. This latest inventory is down 7 percent from both last month and last year. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 165,000 head of fed cattle during April 2008. This was 3 percent above March 2008 marketings of 160,000 head, and 27 percent above April marketings one year earlier. An estimated 115,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during April, 15 percent below a month ago and 23 percent below April 2007 placements of 150,000. Of the number placed in April, 13 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 22 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 30 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 35 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for April, at 20,000 head, was up 15,000 head from last month but the same as last year.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on May 1, 2008. The inventory was 1 percent below May 1, 2007 and 4 percent below May 1, 2006. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.54 million, 2 percent below 2007 and 5 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.46 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 315,000, 600-699 pounds were 278,000, 700-799 pounds were 428,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 515,000. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 2.01 million, 11 percent above 2007 and 13 percent above 2006. This is the highest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 75,000 during April, 24 percent below 2007 and 14 percent below 2006.

## POTATO STOCKS

May 1, 2008

Fall potato stocks in the **San Luis Valley of Colorado** totaled 4.4 million cwt as of May 1, 2008, down 24 percent from the stocks on hand one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 21 percent of the 20.98 million cwt produced in 2007. The May 1, 2007 stocks represented 26 percent of the 22.69 million cwt produced in 2006. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for **table stock** have accounted for 69 percent of the total production during the 2002-2006 period. The remaining 31 percent of the production is utilized for seed, processing, and home use or is lost through shrinkage.

The 13 major potato States held 92.7 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2008, up 17 percent from last year and 22 percent above May 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 23 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from last year. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 570 thousand cwt on May 1, 2008, down 5 percent from last year. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to May 1 was at 307 million cwt, 1 percent below last year but up 3 percent from 2006. Shrink and loss, at 23.4 million cwt, was down 3 percent from the same period in 2007 but up 6 percent from 2006.

**Hay Stocks on Farms,  
Selected States and U. S., May 1, 2006-2008**

| State                     | 2006              | 2007          | 2008          |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                           | <b>1,000 tons</b> |               |               |
| Alabama.....              | 264               | 144           | 150           |
| Arizona.....              | 40                | 35            | 36            |
| Arkansas.....             | 210               | 160           | 530           |
| California.....           | 192               | 202           | 250           |
| <b>Colorado.....</b>      | <b>460</b>        | <b>290</b>    | <b>520</b>    |
| Connecticut.....          | 9                 | 12            | 8             |
| Delaware.....             | 4                 | 4             | 1             |
| Florida.....              | 60                | 21            | 66            |
| Georgia.....              | 198               | 82            | 145           |
| Idaho.....                | 375               | 320           | 300           |
| Illinois.....             | 324               | 325           | 210           |
| Indiana.....              | 207               | 198           | 93            |
| Iowa.....                 | 1,000             | 684           | 640           |
| Kansas.....               | 800               | 600           | 1,100         |
| Kentucky.....             | 635               | 600           | 186           |
| Louisiana.....            | 81                | 57            | 100           |
| Maine.....                | 25                | 27            | 27            |
| Maryland.....             | 74                | 60            | 52            |
| Massachusetts.....        | 17                | 13            | 12            |
| Michigan.....             | 395               | 350           | 320           |
| Minnesota.....            | 1,150             | 740           | 535           |
| Mississippi.....          | 210               | 78            | 196           |
| Missouri.....             | 873               | 625           | 900           |
| Montana.....              | 1,463             | 760           | 1,025         |
| Nebraska.....             | 1,070             | 863           | 1,010         |
| Nevada.....               | 209               | 202           | 90            |
| New Hampshire.....        | 8                 | 12            | 6             |
| New Jersey.....           | 8                 | 10            | 5             |
| New Mexico.....           | 133               | 105           | 125           |
| New York.....             | 285               | 326           | 283           |
| North Carolina.....       | 282               | 120           | 79            |
| North Dakota.....         | 1,806             | 609           | 1,260         |
| Ohio.....                 | 363               | 356           | 165           |
| Oklahoma.....             | 550               | 400           | 1,600         |
| Oregon.....               | 210               | 180           | 150           |
| Pennsylvania.....         | 410               | 520           | 500           |
| Rhode Island.....         | 1                 | 3             | 1             |
| South Carolina.....       | 120               | 65            | 55            |
| South Dakota.....         | 2,140             | 1,150         | 1,930         |
| Tennessee.....            | 742               | 425           | 195           |
| Texas.....                | 896               | 885           | 4,906         |
| Utah.....                 | 266               | 185           | 215           |
| Vermont.....              | 57                | 38            | 60            |
| Virginia.....             | 730               | 268           | 226           |
| Washington.....           | 250               | 240           | 208           |
| West Virginia.....        | 214               | 136           | 92            |
| Wisconsin.....            | 1,135             | 1,308         | 790           |
| Wyoming.....              | 394               | 220           | 240           |
| <b>United States.....</b> | <b>21,345</b>     | <b>15,013</b> | <b>21,593</b> |

Processors have used 158 million cwt of the 2007 potato crop so far this season, down 3 percent from last year's season-to-date usage but up 6 percent from 2 years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon total processing decreased 1 percent from a year ago and Maine's total processing was 3 percent below 2007. Washington and the rest of Oregon total processing was 4 percent lower than last season. Dehydrating usage accounted for 33.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year but 11 percent above the same period in 2006.

California's, Idaho's, Oregon's, and Washington's potato stocks were up 2, 12, 33, and 79 percent from May 1, 2007, respectively, while Colorado's stocks were down 24 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin's potato stocks were down 8 percent from last year; North Dakota's stocks were 19 percent below 2007; and potato stocks in Nebraska were down 29 percent from the previous season. Minnesota's stocks increased 17 percent from the same date in 2007 and Michigan's potato stocks were 129 percent higher than a year ago. Maine's potato stocks were 25 percent lower than last year.

**HAY STOCKS  
MAY 1, 2008**

Hay stocks on **Colorado** farms and ranches as of May 1, 2008 totaled 520,000 tons, up 79 percent from stocks of 290,000 tons on hand last year. Improved pasture conditions last fall and winter decreased demand despite slight increases in cattle and sheep inventories.

All hay stored on farms May 1, 2008 totaled 21.6 million tons, up 44 percent from the previous year. Disappearance of hay from December 1, 2007- May 1, 2008 totaled 82.4 million tons, 1 percent more than the disappearance of 81.5 million tons for the same period a year earlier. Hay stocks increased from last year throughout the entire Great Plains, the Delta, most of the Southeast, and the Rocky Mountain States. Hay stocks increased significantly in Texas and Oklahoma where weather conditions during the 2007 growing season nearly doubled hay production and improved pasture conditions throughout the year.

Lower 2007 hay production in most States east of the Mississippi River, except in the Southeast, held May 1, 2008 hay stocks below a year ago. The largest declines occurred in Kentucky, Minnesota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin. In Kentucky and Tennessee where stocks are less than half of the previous year, production was down due to the April 2007 freeze and dry summer weather, so some producers resorted to hauling hay in from other States. Wisconsin's May 1 hay stocks are at a record low level while Tennessee recorded the lowest May 1 hay stock level since 1962.

## CROP PRODUCTION MAY 1, 2008

Winter wheat production in **Colorado**, based on conditions as of May 1, 2008, is forecast at 67.2 million bushels according to the Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service. This forecast is 29 percent below last year's production, but 68 percent above the winter wheat crop produced two years ago. Acreage for harvest, estimated at 2.1 million acres, is 250,000 acres less than a year ago.

Average yield is forecast at 32.0 bushels per acre, down 8.0 bushels per acre from last year's crop. Conditions were dry for fall seeding and emergence. Currently, topsoil moisture supplies are significantly less than last year at this time and are rated mostly short to adequate in most areas. Subsoil moisture supplies are also diminished. Final yield will largely be determined by the combination of moisture and temperature conditions during May and June.

*(Continued on Page 4)*

**Winter Wheat: Acres harvested, yield and production, selected states and United States, 2006-2008**

| STATE                            | Acres harvested |                   | Yield per acre |                   | Production       |                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                                  | 2007            | Indicated<br>2008 | 2007           | Indicated<br>2008 | 2006             | 2007             | Indicated<br>2008 |
|                                  | 1,000 Acres     |                   | Bushels        |                   | 1,000 Bushels    |                  |                   |
| Arkansas .....                   | 700             | 840               | 41.0           | 53.0              | 18,605           | 28,700           | 44,520            |
| California .....                 | 240             | 320               | 80.0           | 70.0              | 14,500           | 19,200           | 22,400            |
| <b>Colorado .....</b>            | <b>2,350</b>    | <b>2,100</b>      | <b>40.0</b>    | <b>32.0</b>       | <b>39,900</b>    | <b>94,000</b>    | <b>67,200</b>     |
| Delaware .....                   | 55              | 78                | 68.0           | 66.0              | 3,015            | 3,740            | 5,148             |
| Georgia .....                    | 230             | 350               | 40.0           | 54.0              | 5,880            | 9,200            | 18,900            |
| Idaho .....                      | 710             | 840               | 73.0           | 72.0              | 54,670           | 51,830           | 60,480            |
| Illinois .....                   | 890             | 1,160             | 57.0           | 63.0              | 60,970           | 50,730           | 73,080            |
| Indiana .....                    | 370             | 530               | 57.0           | 66.0              | 31,740           | 21,090           | 34,980            |
| Kansas .....                     | 8,600           | 9,400             | 33.0           | 38.0              | 291,200          | 283,800          | 357,200           |
| Kentucky .....                   | 250             | 450               | 49.0           | 66.0              | 22,720           | 12,250           | 29,700            |
| Maryland .....                   | 170             | 215               | 68.0           | 64.0              | 8,500            | 11,560           | 13,760            |
| Michigan .....                   | 540             | 710               | 65.0           | 69.0              | 47,450           | 35,100           | 48,990            |
| Mississippi .....                | 330             | 425               | 56.0           | 57.0              | 4,307            | 18,480           | 24,225            |
| Missouri .....                   | 880             | 1,120             | 43.0           | 52.0              | 49,140           | 37,840           | 58,240            |
| Montana .....                    | 2,190           | 2,600             | 38.0           | 34.0              | 82,560           | 83,220           | 88,400            |
| Nebraska .....                   | 1,960           | 1,850             | 43.0           | 44.0              | 61,200           | 84,280           | 81,400            |
| New York .....                   | 85              | 120               | 52.0           | 55.0              | 5,795            | 4,420            | 6,600             |
| North Carolina .....             | 500             | 700               | 40.0           | 51.0              | 24,780           | 20,000           | 35,700            |
| Ohio .....                       | 730             | 1,000             | 63.0           | 64.0              | 65,280           | 45,990           | 64,000            |
| Oklahoma .....                   | 3,500           | 4,500             | 28.0           | 33.0              | 81,600           | 98,000           | 148,500           |
| Oregon .....                     | 735             | 760               | 55.0           | 60.0              | 38,690           | 40,425           | 45,600            |
| Pennsylvania .....               | 155             | 190               | 58.0           | 58.0              | 8,850            | 8,990            | 11,020            |
| South Carolina .....             | 135             | 170               | 31.0           | 50.0              | 6,150            | 4,185            | 8,500             |
| South Dakota .....               | 1,980           | 1,750             | 48.0           | 44.0              | 41,400           | 95,040           | 77,000            |
| Tennessee .....                  | 260             | 490               | 41.0           | 58.0              | 12,160           | 10,660           | 28,420            |
| Texas .....                      | 3,800           | 3,400             | 37.0           | 29.0              | 33,600           | 140,600          | 98,600            |
| Virginia .....                   | 205             | 250               | 64.0           | 64.0              | 10,540           | 13,120           | 16,000            |
| Washington .....                 | 1,690           | 1,720             | 64.0           | 63.0              | 118,800          | 108,160          | 108,360           |
| Wisconsin .....                  | 270             | 300               | 69.0           | 68.0              | 17,940           | 18,630           | 20,400            |
| Other States <sup>1/</sup> ..... | 1,442           | 1,824             | 43.5           | 44.0              | 36,139           | 62,749           | 80,209            |
| <b>United States .....</b>       | <b>35,952</b>   | <b>40,162</b>     | <b>42.2</b>    | <b>44.3</b>       | <b>1,298,081</b> | <b>1,515,989</b> | <b>1,777,532</b>  |

<sup>1/</sup>Other States include AL, AZ, FL, IA, LA, MN, NV, NJ, NM, ND, UT, WV, and WY. Individual state level estimates will be published in the "Small Grains 2008 Summary", September 30, 2008.

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Production of winter wheat for the **United States** is forecasted at 1.78 billion bushels, up 17 percent from 2007. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecasted at 44.3 bushels per acre, 2.1 bushels above last year. Expected grain area totals 40.2 million acres, up 12 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter (HRW) harvested acreage is up about 6 percent from the previous year. Soft Red Winter (SRW) harvested acreage is estimated to be up 35 percent from last year. The portion of the winter wheat crop rated good to excellent on April 27, at 46 percent, was 10 percentage points below a year ago.

HRW harvested acreage expectations in the central and southern Great Plains are above last year's freeze and flood reduced levels, mainly due to Kansas and Oklahoma acreage which is expected to be up 9 percent and 29 percent, respectively. Texas and Colorado harvested acreage is expected to be down 11 percent, due to lower planted acreage and dry conditions. As of April 27, heading was behind normal in Texas and Oklahoma, and significantly behind in Kansas. The Nebraska wheat crop has come through the winter with minimal acreage loss with the crop condition rated above last year. As of April 27, Nebraska crop development was about 11 days behind last year and normal due to the unseasonably cool weather. Crop development in Montana is slightly behind last year with conditions rated mostly fair to good.

## MILK PRODUCTION APRIL 2008

**Colorado** dairy herds produced 243 million pounds of milk during April, up 24 million pounds from the same period a year earlier. The average number of cows was 127,000, up 10 percent from the previous year. Production per cow averaged 1,910 pounds for April, 1 percent above the 1,900 produced a year ago.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during April totaled 14.8 billion pounds, up 2.5 percent from April 2007. March revised production at 15.1 billion pounds, was up 2.3 percent from March 2007. The March revision represented a decrease of 10 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,757 pounds for April, 12 pounds above April 2007. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.44 million head, 152,000 head more than April 2007, and 8,000 head more than March 2008.

## Milk Cows and Milk Production, Colorado and 23 States

| Item                                   | April<br>2007 | Mar.<br>2008 | April<br>2008 |
|--|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Colorado</b>                        |               |              |               |
| Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> ....  | 115           | 126          | 127           |
| Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u> .....    | 1,900         | 1,945        | 1,910         |
| Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u> ..... | 219           | 245          | 243           |
| <b>23 States Total:</b>                |               |              |               |
| Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> ....  | 8,292         | 8,436        | 8,444         |
| Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u> .....    | 1,745         | 1,794        | 1,757         |
| Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u> ..... | 14,470        | 15,134       | 14,833        |

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

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## 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 30 - Agricultural Prices
- June 10 - Crop Production
- June 13 - Potato Stocks
- June 13 - Turkey Hatchery
- June 18 - Milk Production
- June 20 - Cattle on Feed
- June 20 - Cold Storage
- June 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- June 23 - Chickens and Eggs
- June 27 - Agricultural Prices
- June 27 - Hogs and
- June 30 - Acreage
- June 30 - Grain Stocks

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