



**NATIONAL
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STATISTICS
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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

JULY 2008

Red meat production in **Colorado** during July 2008 totaled 198.3 million pounds, up 23 percent from the 161.6 million pounds produced during July 2007 and 1 percent above the 196.1 million pounds produced during June of this year. Cattle kill during July was up 22 percent from the previous year to 232,500 head and the average live weight increased 19 pounds to 1,310 pounds per head. Hog slaughter, at 900 head, remained unchanged from July 2007 but the average live weight increased 2 pounds from a year earlier. Accumulated production for the first seven months of this year now totals 1,284.2 billion pounds, up 21 percent from the 1,063.1 billion pounds produced during July of last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.25 billion pounds in July, up 8 percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in July 2007. Beef production, at 2.37 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.06 million head, up 6 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,273 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.3 million pounds, 16 percent above July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 87,900 head, up 41 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was down 46 pounds from last year, at 243 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.85 billion pounds, up 12 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.47 million head, up 13 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 262 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.7 million pounds, was up 1 percent from July 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 207,800 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 1 pound from July a year ago.

January to July 2008 commercial red meat production was 29.3 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef

production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 11 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States

Area And Species	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	January-July	
				2007	2008
Million Pounds					
Colorado	161.6	196.1	198.3	1,063.1	1,284.2
United States	3,940.4	4,049.6	4,251.6	27,518.6	29,294.6
Beef	2,256.7	2,262.7	2,372.7	15,142.1	15,641.3
Veal	10.7	11.7	12.3	86.0	81.0
Pork	1,659.5	1,762.1	1,852.9	12,183.6	13,469.3
Lamb & Mutton	13.5	13.1	13.7	106.9	103.0

CATTLE ON FEED

AUGUST 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 750,000 head as of August 1, 2008. The latest inventory was down 14 percent from last year's inventory and down 8% from the July 1, 2008 inventory of 820,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 170,000 head of fed cattle during July 2008. This represents a 3% decrease from last month's revised marketings and also from the marketings a year ago. An estimated 105,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during July, up 24 percent from June 2008's revised placements, but 9 percent below a year ago. Of the number placed in July, 14 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 19 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 29 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 38 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for July, at 5,000 head, decreased 5,000 head from last month and 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 9.87 million head on August 1, 2008. The inventory was 4 percent below August 1, 2007 and 9 percent below August 1, 2006. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.66 million, 2 percent above 2007 but 15 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.62 million head. This is the second 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 320,000, 700-799 pounds were 476,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 505,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 2.04 million, 2 percent above 2007 and 5 percent above 2006. Other disappearance totaled 45,000 during July, 26 percent below 2007 and 22 percent below 2006.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots
July 1 to August 1, 2007-2008**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 head			
On Feed July 1	940	820	10,737	10,295
Placements During July	115	105	1,622	1,661
< 600 pounds	15	15	360	360
600 - 699 Pounds	20	20	312	320
700 - 799 Pounds	35	30	445	476
800 Plus Pounds	45	40	505	505
Marketings During July	175	170	1,999	2,042
Other Disap. During July	10	5	61	45
On Feed August 1	870	750	10,299	9,869

**MUSHROOMS
2007-2008**

Sales of the 2007-08 U.S. mushroom crop are 809 million pounds, down 2 percent from the 2006-07 season and 4 percent below two years ago. Value of sales for the 2007-08 U.S. mushroom crop is \$964 million, virtually unchanged from the previous season but 8 percent above the 2005-06 season. The number of growers, at 286, is up 6 from last season. The average price is \$1.19 per pound, up 3 cents from 2006-07.

Volume of sales reported by growers of Agaricus mushrooms for fresh market is 675 million pounds, down 3 percent from last season. Volume of sales of Agaricus mushrooms for processing is 118 million pounds, virtually unchanged from last season. Value of sales for all Agaricus mushrooms totaled \$914 million, down slightly from the previous season but 8 percent above 2005-06.

Agaricus mushroom volume of sales totaled 793 million pounds, down 3 percent from the 2006-07 season and 5 percent below 2005-06. Pennsylvania accounted for 63 percent of the total volume of sales and second-ranked California contributed 14 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop was estimated at \$914 million dollars, down slightly from the 2006-07 season. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 105 million pounds, up 6 percent from last season but 11 percent lower than the 2005-06 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 13 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold. The brown mushroom crop value of sales for the 2007-08 season is \$143 million dollars, 16 percent of the total Agaricus value.

The total number of Agaricus growers in the U.S., at 108, is 9 fewer growers than last season and 15 less than two seasons ago. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 65 percent of U.S. Agaricus production, or 514 million pounds. The growing area is 28.4 million square feet, down 5 percent from the previous season but virtually unchanged from 2005-06.

**Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms Combined:
Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, Price Per lb., and
Value of Sales, July 1, 2005- June 30, 2008**

Year	Growers 1/	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales	Price Per Pound 2/	Value of Sales
		1,000 Pounds	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars
2005-06	306	847,113	1.050	889,365
2006-07	280	828,002	1.160	961,446
2007-08	286	809,034	1.190	963,522

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.

Total fillings are 140 million square feet, down 4 percent from last season and 2 percent below 2005-06. Yields averaged 5.67 pounds per square foot, 2 percent above last season. Producers received an average return of \$6.54 per square foot, up 26 cents from last season and 59 cents above the 2005-06 season. U.S. fresh market production at 675 million pounds is down 3 percent from the previous season, while processed production, at 118 million pounds, is slightly above the previous season. Growers reported U.S. fresh market production at 85 percent of total sales volume with processed production making up the remaining 15 percent. Grower total filling intentions for the 2008-09 crop are nearly identical to the 2007-08 season.

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION
JULY 2008**

Colorado laying flocks produced 93 million eggs during July 2008 compared with 83 million during the previous month and 91 million in July 2007. The total number of all layers averaged 3.81 million during July this year, up nearly 2 percent from 3.72 million in June of this year and slightly less than July 2007. The number of eggs per 100 layers was 2,436 in July 2008 down 1 percent from July 2007, but 9 percent above June 2008.

United States egg production totaled 7.60 billion during July 2008, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.49 billion table eggs, and 1.12 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 64 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2008 averaged 336 million, down 1 percent from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,262 eggs, up 1 percent from July 2007.

All layers in the United States on August 1, 2008 totaled 335 million, down 2 percent from last year. The 335 million layers consisted of 277 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.69 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on August 1, 2008, averaged 72.5 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from August 1, 2007.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES AUGUST 15, 2008

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 155 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 4 points (2.5 percent) from July. The Crop Index is down 7 points (3.8 percent) and the Livestock Index declined 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received lower prices for corn, broilers, soybeans, and milk. Higher prices were realized for wheat, hogs, eggs, and strawberries. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of cattle, grapes, sweet corn, and potatoes offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and broilers. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 16 points (12 percent) from August 2007.

The August index is 175, down 3.8 percent from July but 23 percent above August 2007. The August all wheat price, at \$8.02 per bushel, is up 86 cents from July and \$2.38 above August 2007. The corn price, at \$4.90 per bushel, is down 34 cents from last month but \$1.64 above August 2007. The all hay price, at \$165 per ton, is up \$1.00 from July and \$41.00 from last August. The soybean price, at \$12.10 per bushel, decreased \$1.20 from July but is \$4.38 above August 2007. The all potato price, at \$11.32 per cwt, is down \$1.01 from July but up \$4.47 from last August. The all dry bean price, at \$39.60 per cwt, is up \$3.10 from the previous month and \$13.90 above August 2007.

The August index, at 137, is 0.7 percent below last month but unchanged from August 2007. Compared with a year ago, milk and calf prices are lower. Prices are higher for cattle, hogs, eggs, broilers, and turkeys. The August hog price, at \$59.70 per cwt, is up \$5.50 from July and \$8.40 higher than a year ago. The August beef cattle price of \$96.10 per cwt is up \$1.00 from last month and \$4.70 higher than August 2007. The August all milk price of \$18.50 per cwt is down 90 cents from last month and \$3.10 from August 2007.

Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index	2007		2008	
	July	August	July	August
1990-92 = 100				
	Percent			
Prices Received	139	139	159	155
Prices Paid	162	162	192	194
Ratio 1/	86	86	83	80

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

Colorado crop prices for Mid-August averaged higher than the previous month except for corn. Livestock prices were unchanged or higher for cattle. Wheat, at \$8.00 per bushel increased 69 cents from the previous month and was \$2.44 above a year ago. Corn decreased 11 cents from July to \$4.60 per bushel but was \$1.06 higher than August 2007. Dry beans averaged from \$37.10 per cwt for mid-August, up 30 cents from July and \$9.20 above August 2007. Alfalfa hay prices, at

\$170.00, were up \$10.00 from last month and \$30.00 above August 2007. Other hay increased \$10.00 from last month at \$135.00 and was \$10.00 above a year ago. Steers and Heifers, at \$103.00 per cwt, were unchanged July and remained unchanged from August 2007. Cows decreased \$2.30 from July to \$59.10 per cwt but were \$5.10 above a year ago. Calves, at \$112.00 per cwt, increased \$3.00 from July of this year but were \$10.00 below August 2007.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		August 2007	July 2008	August 2008
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	5.56	7.31	8.00
Corn	Bu.	3.54	4.71	4.60
Barley (All).....	Bu.	3.39	5.49	3/
Potatoes	Cwt	6.95	16.10	4/
Dry edible beans	Cwt	27.90	36.80	37.10
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	140.00	160.00	170.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	135.00	135.00	145.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	102.00	102.00	102.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	103.00	103.00	103.00
Cows.....	Cwt	54.00	56.80	59.10
Calves.....	Cwt	122.00	109.00	112.00
Sheep	Cwt	32.00	28.00	4/
Lambs	Cwt	96.00	100.00	4/
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	22.00	19.80	19.30
United States				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	5.64	7.16	8.02
Corn	Bu.	3.26	5.24	4.90
Soybeans.....	Bu.	7.72	13.30	12.10
Barley (All).....	Bu.	3.55	5.11	5.00
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	3.60	4.70	4.41
Sorghum	Cwt	5.93	9.07	8.26
Potatoes	Cwt	6.85	12.33	11.32
Dry edible beans	Cwt	25.70	36.50	39.60
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	135.00	177.00	180.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	105.00	130.00	126.00
Onions	Cwt	10.80	15.10	11.70
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	91.40	95.10	96.10
Steers & heifers	Cwt	95.70	99.60	100.00
Cows.....	Cwt	51.50	56.40	57.60
Calves.....	Cwt	127.00	115.00	114.00
Sheep	Cwt	28.30	26.90	4/
Lambs	Cwt	97.90	103.00	4/
Hogs	Cwt	51.30	54.20	59.70
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	21.60	19.40	18.50
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.460	0.500	0.470

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/ Insufficient sales to establish a price. 3/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms. 4/ Mid-month price not estimated.

**COLD STORAGE
JULY 31, 2008**

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2008 were greater than year earlier levels for turkey, chicken, pork, and cheese. Butter stocks were down 4 percent from last month and down 9 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 2 percent from the previous month and down slightly from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 5 percent from the previous month but up 8 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 20 percent from last month but up 87 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on July 31, 2008 were up 3 percent from the previous month and up 16 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 3 percent from the previous month but up 12 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 10 percent from last month and up 23 percent from July 31, 2007.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	July 31, 2007	June 30, 2008	July 31, 2008
1,000 Pounds			
Butter.....	271,508	258,360	248,159
Cheese, total natural	885,988	902,471	901,088
Eggs, frozen	17,495	16,139	19,886
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,178,316	1,333,153	1,368,160
Chicken	665,583	768,776	747,227
Turkey	503,547	562,693	618,448
Fruits, frozen	1,218,375	864,126	1,022,165
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,210,411	1,861,280	1,748,934
Vegetables, total frozen	1,516,542	1,366,986	1,634,876
Potatoes, total frozen	991,767	1,190,031	1,107,268
Meats, total red.....	943,491	963,948	940,722
Beef, total frozen	467,733	421,222	424,064
Pork, total frozen	455,854	517,189	492,227

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.

**TURKEYS RAISED
2008**

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2008 is 271 million, down slightly from the number raised during 2007. The following six States are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2008: Minnesota, at 49.0 million turkeys, is up 2 percent from last year; North Carolina, at 39.0 million turkeys, is unchanged from last year; Arkansas, at 31.0 million turkeys, is unchanged from a year ago; Virginia, at 21.0 million turkeys, is unchanged from 2007; Missouri, at 20.0 million turkeys, is unchanged from last year; and Indiana, at 15.9 million turkeys, is up 5 percent from last year.

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. 19 - Cattle on Feed
- Sept. 22 - Cold Storage
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- Sept. 30 - Small Grains Summary

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