



Contents of This Issue

- ▶ Potato Stocks
 - ▶ Farms and Land in Farms
- ▶ County Estimates - Winter Wheat 2008
 - ▶ Milk Production - January 2009
 - ▶ Milk Production - Annual 2008
- ▶ Cold Storage

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks

February 1, 2008-2009 ^{1/}

State	Crop of 2007		Crop of 2008	
	Prod.	Stocks Feb. 1, 2008	Prod.	Stocks Feb. 1, 2009
	1,000 Cwt		1,000 Cwt	
California.....	3,792	1,400	3,939	1,300
Colorado.....	20,981	11,200	21,338	12,500
Idaho.....	130,010	71,500	114,805	64,000
Maine.....	16,668	9,700	14,769	8,500
Michigan.....	14,700	5,300	14,875	5,000
Minnesota.....	21,560	9,900	20,400	10,600
Montana.....	3,696	3,400	3,465	3,200
Nebraska.....	8,217	3,700	8,342	4,000
New York.....	5,216	1,600	5,696	1,200
North Dakota.....	23,660	10,000	22,680	10,300
Oregon.....	20,293	13,900	18,676	12,000
Washington.....	100,800	43,800	93,000	38,600
Wisconsin.....	28,160	13,900	25,730	12,000
13 States.....	397,753	199,300	367,715	183,200
Klamath Basin ^{2/}.....		2,700		2,800

^{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.

POTATO STOCKS - FEBRUARY 1, 2009

Colorado's growers and commercial storage facilities in the San Luis Valley had 12.5 million cwt of potatoes on hand as of February 1, 2009, up 12 percent from the 11.2 million cwt on hand one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 59 percent of the 21.34 million cwt produced in 2008. The February 1, 2008 stocks represented 53 percent of the 20.98 million cwt of potatoes produced in 2007. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for table stock have averaged 68 percent of the production for the 2003-2007 period. The remaining 32 percent of production is used for seed, processing, feed and home use or is lost through cullage and shrinkage. The total quantity of potatoes sold as a percent of production has averaged about 86 percent over the past five years.

The **13 major potato States** held 183 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2009, down 8 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below February 1, 2007. Potatoes in storage accounted for 50 percent of the 2008 fall storage States' production, unchanged from February 1, 2008. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 2.80 million cwt on February 1, 2009, up 4 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon.

Potato disappearance, at 185 million cwt, was 7 percent below February 1, 2008 and 6 percent below 2007. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 16.9 million cwt, was down 8 percent from the same date in both 2008 and 2007. Processors in the 9 major States have used 99.2 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 7 percent from the same period last year and down 8 percent from 2 years ago.

Dehydrating usage accounted for 18.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 13 percent from last year and 22 percent below the same period in 2007.

FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS - 2008

The number of farms in **Colorado**, at 36,500 for 2008, was down 400 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, down nearly 2 percent to 20,600 farms; \$10,000 - \$99,999, down 2 percent to 10,400 farms; \$100,000 - \$249,000, up 4 percent to 2,600 farms; \$250,000 - \$499,999, decreased 8 percent to 1,200 farms; and \$500,000 and over, up 13 percent to 1,700 farms. The total land in farms decreased to 31.3 million acres but the average farm size increased 7 acres from the previous year to 858 acres in 2008.

The number of farms in the **United States** in 2008 is estimated at 2.2 million, 0.2 percent fewer than in 2007. Total land in farms, at 919.9 million acres, decreased 1.56 million acres, or 0.2 percent, from 2007. The average farm size was 418 acres, unchanged 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 slightly in the \$1,000-\$9,999, \$10,000-\$99,999, and \$100,000-\$249,999 sales classes. Farm numbers rose slightly in the two largest sales classes. Because of strong commodity prices and rising value of sales many farms and ranches near the top of their sales class in 2007 may have moved into the next higher sales class in 2008 without 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 1.1 percent, to 106.7 million acres, while land operated by farms in the largest sales class, \$500,000 & over in sales, increased 2.4 percent, to 293.1 million acres. The average farm size was unchanged in 2008. However, average farm sizes declined in some of the sales classes. This may have been 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 11,200 in 2008, down 200 farms from 2007. Land in farms, at 470,000 acres, is down 20,000 acres from the previous year. The average farm size in Puerto Rico in 2008 was estimated at 42 acres.

**Farms and Land in Farms,
Colorado and United States, 2003-2008**

Year	Number of Farms 1/		Land in Farms 1/	
	Colorado	United States	Colorado	United States
	Number		Thousand Acres	
2003	31,400	2,126,860	31,000	936,750
2004	30,900	2,112,970	30,900	932,260
2005	30,500	2,098,690	30,700	927,940
2006	30,700	2,088,790	30,700	925,790
2007	36,900	2,204,950	31,400	921,460
2008	36,500	2,200,000	31,300	919,900

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, 2007-2008**

Economic Sales Class	Farms		Land in Farms	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Number		1,000 acres	
\$ 1,000- \$9,999	21,000	20,600	2,900	2,700
\$ 10,000- \$99,999	10,600	10,400	8,600	8,400
\$100,000- \$249,999	2,500	2,600	6,000	5,900
\$250,000- \$499,999	1,300	1,200	6,100	5,600
\$500,000 & over	1,500	1,700	7,800	8,700

**Number of Farms and Land in Farms by
Economic Sales Class, United States, 2007-2008**

Economic Sales Class	Farms		Land in Farms	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Number		1,000 acres	
\$ 1,000- \$9,999	1,228,560	1,222,000	107,870	106,700
\$ 10,000- \$99,999	608,670	604,500	228,220	225,300
\$100,000- \$249,999	150,300	149,000	153,407	151,300
\$250,000- \$499,999	97,320	98,500	145,725	143,500
\$500,000 & over	120,190	126,000	286,238	293,100

COUNTY ESTIMATES-ALL WHEAT 2008

Colorado's total wheat crop produced in 2008 totaled 59.7 million bushels, 36 percent below 2007. All wheat includes both winter and spring planted crops but excludes durum wheat. A dry growing season reduced yield to slightly below the ten-year average. The planted acreage of 2,190,000 acres for the 2008 crop was 13 percent less than the 2,520,000 acres planted the previous year and the 1,936,000 acres harvested was 18 percent below the 2,369,000 acres harvested in 2007. Producers averaged 30.8 bushels per acre from the 2008 crop compared with 39.2 bushels per acre from the 2007 crop.

Kit Carson County retained status as the top wheat producing county in the state in 2008 by producing 7,900,000 bushels. This year's crop was down 35 percent over the 2007 crop of 12,100,000 bushels. Producers planted 244,000 acres for the 2008 crop, down 19 percent from the previous year and harvested 230,000 acres, down 18 percent. The average yield, at 34.5 bushels per acre, was 8.0 bushels below the 42.5 bushel average realized from the 2007 crop.

Washington County kept the second place ranking in Colorado for the 2008 crop by producing 5,623,000 bushels, down 44 percent from the 10,098,300 bushel crop produced in 2007. Acreage planted for the 2008 crop was down 11 percent from the previous year to 253,500 acres which was the highest of any county in the State. The 236,500 acres harvested was also the highest in the State but was 11 percent lower than the 267,200 acres harvested in 2007. The average yield in 2008, at 24 bushels per acre, was 14 bushels below the 2007 crop average of 38.0 bushels per acre.

Yuma County also kept the third place ranking in 2008 with a total output of 5,224,000 bushels. The latest crop was down from the 6,833,000 bushels produced the previous year. The planted area was 129,000 acres compared with 149,600 acres last year. Producers harvested 118,700 acres in 2008 compared with 146,600 acres a year earlier. The county's average yield of 44.0 bushels per acre was 2.5 bushels lower than the previous year.

Logan County jumped to fourth place for the 2008 crop with a total output of 3,690,000 bushels. The planted area of 122,000 acres was 8 percent less than the previous year and the 114,400 acres harvested also decreased 9 percent from the 125,500 harvested in 2007. The average yield of 32.5 bushels per acre was 2.5 bushels per acre below the 2007 average of 34.0 bushels per acre.

Weld County rounded out the top five wheat producing counties in the state with a total output of 3,609,500 bushels. The 2008 crop was 3 percent larger than the 2007 crop of 3,512,000 bushels. Producers decreased the planted area by 1 percent to 128,800 acres for the 2008 crop but harvested 121,300 acres, up from the 101,200 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield of 30.0 bushels per acre on the 2008 crop was 4.5 bushels per acre below the 2007 crop average.

The sixth through the tenth counties with the percent change from the previous year and the 2008 production for each county were as follows: **Adams County**, down 30 percent to 3,496,500 bushels; **Prowers County**, down 48 percent from the 2007 crop to 2,971,500 bushels; **Morgan County**, down 31 percent to 2,105,000 bushels; **Saguache County**, up 100 percent to 1,070,000 bushels; and **Rio Grande County**, up 65 percent to 568,000 bushels.

MILK PRODUCTION JANUARY 2009

Milk production in **Colorado** during January of 2009 totaled 250 million pounds, up 5 percent from last year. The average number of cows for January at 129,000 head, increased 2 percent from the last year. Production per cow averaged 1,940 pounds for the month of January, 3 percent above January 2008.

Milk production in the 23 major States during January totaled 14.9 billion pounds, up 1.0 percent from January 2008. December revised production at 14.7 billion pounds, was up 1.8 percent from December 2007. The December revision represented an increase of 44 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,746 pounds for January, 5 pounds above January 2008. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.51 million head, 58,000 head more than January 2008, and 12,000 head less than December 2008.

Milk Cows and Milk Production – Colorado

Item	Jan. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	126	130	129
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	1,880	1,940	1,940
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	237	252	250

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

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

MILK PRODUCTION ANNUAL 2008

Colorado's total output of milk during 2008 totaled 2.94 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2.71 billion pounds produced during 2007. The annual total for 2008 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 2008 was 128,000 up 8percent from a year earlier. The average production per cow for 2008 decreased 220 pounds from the previous year to 22,930 pounds.

The annual production of milk for the United States during 2008 was 190 billion pounds, 2.3 percent above 2007. Revisions to 2007 production increased the annual total 52 million pounds. Revised 2008 production was up 293 million pounds from last month's publication. Production per cow in the U.S. averaged 20,396 pounds for 2008, 192 pounds above 2007. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 14.8 percent from 1999. The average number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. during 2008 was 9.32 million head, up 1.4 percent from 2007. The average number of milk cows was revised up 44,000 head for 2008.

Annual Milk Production, Colorado and United States, 2006-2008

Item	2006	2007	2008
Colorado			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	110	118	128
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	23,155	22,932	22,930
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	2,547	2,706	2,935
United States			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	9,112	9,189	9,315
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	19,951	20,204	20,396
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	181,796	185,654	189,992

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

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

COLD STORAGE JANUARY 31, 2009

United States frozen food stocks refrigerated warehouses on January 31, 2009 were greater than year earlier levels for turkey, cheese, pork and beef. Butter stocks were up 49 percent from last month but down 5 percent from a year ago. Total red meat supplies in freezers were down slightly from the previous month but up 3 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 7 percent from the previous month and up 4 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 31 percent from last month but down 4 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on January 31, 2009 were down 2 percent from the previous month but up 4 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 10 percent from the previous month and down 11 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 15 percent from last month and up 39 percent from January 31, 2008.

The 2008 revisions of boneless beef, total beef, pork hams, and total pork are the result of increased coverage of cold storage facilities as well as updated plant information. The 2008 revisions of shelled and in-shell pecans are the result of corrected data from cold storage facilities. Please refer to the *Cold Storage 2008 Summary*, released February 20, 2009, for all 2008 cold storage commodity estimates.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Jan. 31, 2008	Dec 30, 2008	Jan 31, 2009
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	188,072	118,962	177,799
Cheese, total natural	781,363	851,960	862,287
Eggs, frozen	12,007	22,638	21,925
Poultry, total frozen	1,105,683	1,163,579	1,144,940
Chicken	773,005	765,442	687,522
Turkey	327,590	396,144	454,002
Fruits, frozen	1,140,318	1,245,637	1,137,932
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,260,236	1,458,953	1,569,040
Vegetables, total frozen.....	2,011,470	2,365,988	2,172,281
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,089,088	1,098,580	1,164,434
Meats, total red	1,047,477	1,078,474	1,078,118
Beef, total frozen	450,782	492,637	454,743
Pork, total frozen	574,929	555,642	595,161

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. 20 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Feb. 26 - Trout
- Feb. 26 - Chickens And Eggs-Ann
- Feb. 27 - Agricultural Prices
- Feb. 27 - Honey
- Mar. 6 - Livestock Slaughter – Annual
- Mar. 13 - Potato Stocks
- Mar. 16 - Turkey Hatchery

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