



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

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# AG UPDATE

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## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

### JULY 2009

Red meat production in **Colorado** during July 2009 totaled 178.8 million pounds, up 2 percent from the 175.4 million pounds produced during the previous month but 10 percent below the 198.3 million pounds produced during July 2008. Cattle kill during July was down 10 percent from the previous year to 209,700 head and the average live weight was slightly below 2008 at 1,304 pounds. Hog slaughter, at 800 head, was down 100 head from July 2008 and the average live weight decreased 3 pounds to 246. Accumulated production for the first seven months of this year now totals 1.19 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the 1.28 billion pounds produced during July of last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.12 billion pounds in July, down 3 percent from the 4.25 billion pounds produced in July 2008. Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.92 million head, down 5 percent from July 2008. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,282 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.8 million pounds, 12 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 79,900 head, down 9 percent from July 2008. The average live weight was down 13 pounds from last year, at 230 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.83 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.15 million head, down 3 percent from July 2008. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 267 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.9 million pounds, was up 1 percent from July 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 207,400 head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 3 pounds from July a year ago.

January to July 2009 commercial red meat production was 28.4 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was

down 3 percent, pork was down 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

## Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States

Area And Species	July	June	July	January-July	
	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009
Million Pounds					
<b>Colorado</b> .....	198.3	175.4	178.8	1,284.2	1,190.9
<b>United States</b> .....	4,250.1	4,161.5	4,123.6	29,295.0	28,424.5
Beef .....	2,371.6	2,288.7	2,270.5	15,642.2	15,120.1
Veal .....	12.3	11.5	10.8	81.0	78.9
Pork .....	1,852.5	1,847.5	1,828.3	13,469.0	13,127.2
Lamb & Mutton .....	13.7	13.9	13.9	102.8	98.2

## CATTLE ON FEED

### AUGUST 1, 2009

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 850,000 head as of August 1, 2009. The latest inventory was up 13 percent from last year's inventory but down 7% from the July 1, 2009 inventory of 910,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 180,000 head of fed cattle during July 2009. This represents a 5% decrease from last month's marketings but an increase of 3% from the marketings a year ago. An estimated 125,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during July, the same as June 2009's placements, but 14 percent above a year ago. Of the number placed in July, 12 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 12 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 28 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 48 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for July was at 5,000 head, consistent with 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 9.6 million head on August 1, 2009. The inventory was 2 percent below August 1, 2008. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.86 million, 13 percent above 2008. Net placements were 1.82 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 455,000, 600-699 pounds were 365,000, 700-799 pounds were 458,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 585,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.93 million, 5 percent below 2008. This is the third lowest marketings for the month of July since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 43,000 during July, 4 percent below 2008. This is the lowest other disappearance for the month of July since the series began in 1996.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States  
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots  
July 1 to August 1, 2008-2009**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 head			
On Feed July 1	820	910	10,295	9,752
Placements During July	110	125	1,656	1,863
< 600 pounds	15	15	360	455
600 - 699 Pounds	20	15	315	365
700 - 799 Pounds	35	35	481	458
800 Plus Pounds	40	60	500	585
Marketings During July	175	180	2,037	1,928
Other Disap. During July	5	5	45	43
On Feed August 1	750	850	9,869	9,644

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION  
JULY 2009**

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 89 million eggs during July 2009, unchanged from the previous month and down 4 percent from July 2008. The total number of all layers averaged 3.63 million during July this year, up 1 percent from 3.60 million in June of this year but down 5 percent from July 2008. The number of eggs per 100 layers was 2,453 in July 2009 up 1 percent from July 2008, but 1 percent below June 2009.

**United States** egg production totaled 7.59 billion during July 2009, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.51 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 71 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2009 averaged 333 million, down 1 percent from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,281 eggs, up 1 percent from July 2008.

All layers in the U.S. on August 1, 2009 totaled 333 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 333 million layers consisted of 277 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 52.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.88 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on August 1, 2009, averaged 73.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from August 1, 2008.

**MUSHROOMS  
2008-2009**

Sales of the 2008-09 U.S. mushroom crop are 817 million pounds, up 1 percent from the 2007-08 season. Value of sales for the 2008-09 U.S. mushroom crop is \$957 million, down 1 percent from the previous season. The number of growers, at 285, is up 6 from last season. The average price is \$1.17 per pound, down 1 cent from 2007-08.

Volume of sales reported by growers of Agaricus mushrooms for fresh market is 679 million pounds, virtually unchanged from a year ago. Volume of sales of Agaricus mushrooms for processing is 123 million pounds, up 4 percent from last

season. Value of sales for all Agaricus mushrooms totaled \$909 million, down 1 percent from the previous year and the 2006-07 season.

**Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms Combined:  
Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, Price Per lb., and  
Value of Sales, July 1, 2006- June 30, 2009**

Year	Growers <u>1/</u>	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales	Price Per Pound <u>2/</u>	Value of Sales
	Number	1,000 Lbs.	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
2006-07.....	280	828,002	1.160	961,446
2007-08.....	279	812,604	1.180	962,756
2008-09.....	285	816,974	1.170	957,028

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.

Agaricus mushroom volume of sales totaled 802 million pounds, up slightly from the 2007-08 season but 2 percent below 2006-07. Pennsylvania accounted for 65 percent of the total volume of sales and second-ranked California contributed 15 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop was estimated at \$909 million dollars, down 1 percent from the 2007-08 season. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 111 million pounds, up 5 percent from last season and 12 percent above the 2006-07 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 14 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold. The brown mushroom crop value of sales for the 2008-09 season is \$155 million dollars, 17 percent of the total Agaricus value.

The total number of Agaricus growers in the U.S., at 116, is 5 more growers than last season but 1 less than two seasons ago. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 71 percent of U.S. Agaricus production, or 570 million pounds. The growing area is 26.2 million square feet, down 3 percent from the previous season and 12 percent below 2006-07. Total fillings are 134 million square feet, down 1 percent from last season and 8 percent below 2006-07. Yields averaged 5.98 pounds per square foot, 2 percent above last season. Producers received an average return of \$6.78 per square foot, up 3 cents from last season and 50 cents above the 2006-07 season. U.S. fresh market production at 679 million pounds is virtually unchanged from the previous season, while processed production, at 123 million pounds, is 4 percent 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 2009-10 crop are nearly identical to the 2008-09 season. The 62 growers of Agaricus mushrooms in Chester County, Pennsylvania produced 364 million pounds of Agaricus mushrooms valued at \$312 million. The growing area in Chester County was 11.8 million square feet. Total fillings were 56.0 million square feet.

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

**AUGUST 15, 2009**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 127 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 5 points (3.8 percent) from July. The Crop Index is down 6 points (3.9 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 3 points (2.7 percent). Producers received lower prices for broilers, wheat, corn, and grapes and higher prices for milk, eggs, apples, and lemons. 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 calves offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, broilers, and strawberries. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (17 percent) from August 2006. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 29 points (19 percent) from August 2008. The Food Commodities Index, at 125, decreased 5 points (3.8 percent) from last month and decreased 28 points (18 percent) from August 2008.

The **August All Crop Index** is 147, down 3.9 percent from July and 17 percent below August 2008. The August all wheat price, at \$4.72 per bushel, is down 41 cents from July and \$2.89 below August 2008. The corn price, at \$3.31 per bushel, is down 29 cents from last month and \$1.95 below August 2008. The all hay price, at \$109 per ton, is down \$7.00 from July and \$54.00 from last August. The soybean price, at \$10.70 per bushel, decreased 10 cents from July and is \$2.10 below August 2008. The all potato price, at \$9.90 per cwt, is up 9 cents from July but down \$1.43 from last August. The all dry bean price, at \$31.70 per cwt, is down 70 cents from the previous month and \$6.30 from August 2008.

The August **Livestock and Products Index**, at 109, is 2.7 percent below last month and down 20 percent from August 2008. Compared with a year ago, prices are lower for milk, cattle, hogs, broilers, eggs, turkeys, and calves. The August hog price, at \$39.70 per cwt, is down \$3.50 from July and \$21.00 lower than a year ago. The August beef cattle price of \$80.30 per cwt is down 80 cents from last month and \$15.50 lower than August 2008. The August all milk price of \$11.80 per cwt is up 50 cents from last month but down \$6.60 from August 2008.

### Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index	2008		2009	
	July	August	July	August
1990-92 = 100				
	Percent			
Prices Received .....	159	156	132	127
Prices Paid .....	191	191	177	177
Ratio 1/ .....	83	82	75	72

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

**Colorado** commodity prices for Mid-August averaged lower than the previous month except for potatoes. Livestock prices remained unchanged except for milk sold to plants. Wheat, at \$4.12 per bushel decreased 75 cents from the previous month and was \$3.38 below a year ago. Corn decreased 54 cents

from July to \$3.20 per bushel and was \$1.39 lower than August 2008. Alfalfa hay prices, at \$135.00 per cwt, were down \$5.00 from last month and \$35.00 below August 2008. Other hay decreased \$15.00 from last month to \$125.00 and was \$20.00 below a year ago. Steers and Heifers, at \$90.00 per cwt, remained unchanged from July but averaged \$14.00 below August 2008. Cows remained unchanged from July at \$50.00 per cwt but were \$8.80 below a year ago. Calves, at \$113.00 per cwt, were unchanged from July of this year but were \$2.00 above August 2008.

### Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		August 2008	July 2009	August 2009
<b>Crops</b>				
Dollars				
Wheat .....	Bu.	7.50	4.87	4.12
Corn .....	Bu.	4.59	3.74	3.20
Potatoes .....	Cwt	3/	7.50	7.65
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	35.70	38.50	2/
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	170.00	140.00	135.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	145.00	140.00	125.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	103.00	89.20	89.20
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	104.00	90.00	90.00
Cows .....	Cwt	58.80	50.00	50.00
Calves .....	Cwt	111.00	113.00	113.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	30.00	31.00	4/
Lambs .....	Cwt	99.00	103.00	4/
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	18.90	11.50	11.90
<b>United States</b>				
Dollars				
Wheat .....	Bu.	7.61	5.13	4.72
Corn .....	Bu.	5.26	3.60	3.31
Soybeans .....	Bu.	12.80	10.80	10.70
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	5.46	5.12	4.33
Barley (Feed) .....	Bu.	4.54	2.88	2.47
Sorghum .....	Cwt	8.40	5.19	5.37
Potatoes .....	Cwt	11.33	9.81	9.90
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	38.00	32.40	31.70
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	179.00	120.00	111.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	121.00	104.00	101.00
Onions .....	Cwt	8.52	15.40	11.80
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	95.80	81.10	80.30
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	100.00	85.30	84.60
Cows .....	Cwt	57.60	47.40	46.70
Calves .....	Cwt	117.00	110.00	110.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	26.60	29.50	4/
Lambs .....	Cwt	99.90	101.00	4/
Hogs .....	Cwt	60.70	43.20	39.70
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	18.40	11.30	11.80
Broilers .....	Lb.	0.47	0.49	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/ 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, 2009**

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2009 were greater than year earlier levels for cheese, pork, butter, eggs, beef, and turkey. Butter stocks were up slightly from last month and up 7 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 2 percent from the previous month but up 7 percent 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 21 percent from last month but up 4 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on July 31, 2009 were up 6 percent from the previous month but down 3 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 4 percent from the previous month but down 8 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 8 percent from last month and up 3 percent from July 31, 2008.

## 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. 11 - Crop Production  
Sept. 18 - Milk Production  
Sept. 18 - Cattle on Feed  
Sept. 22 - Cold Storage  
Sept. 22 - Chickens and Eggs  
Sept. 24 - Potatoes  
Sept. 25 - Livestock Slaughter  
Sept. 25 - Quarterly Hogs and Pigs  
Sept. 29 - Agricultural Prices  
Sept. 30 - Grain Stocks  
Sept. 30 - Small Grains Summary

### Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	July 31, 2008	June 30, 2009	July 31, 2009
	<b>1,000 Pounds</b>		
Butter.....	246,132	262,854	263,954
Cheese, total natural .....	902,797	972,477	982,541
Eggs, frozen .....	21,097	21,655	22,370
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,362,049	1,253,756	1,324,135
Chicken .....	738,872	653,885	677,747
Turkey .....	620,692	594,742	640,092
Fruits, frozen .....	1,043,092	973,661	1,145,616
Fruit Juices, frozen .....	1,751,392	1,821,596	1,673,607
Vegetables, total frozen	1,632,246	1,563,955	1,843,547
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,107,503	1,245,127	1,190,946
Meats, total red.....	960,531	1,043,079	1,025,469
Beef, total frozen .....	430,818	434,804	448,152
Pork, total frozen .....	505,269	577,914	547,331

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.

**William Meyer**  
Director

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