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**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
OCTOBER 2009**

Red meat production in **Colorado** during September 2009 totaled 173.3 million pounds, down 3 percent from 177.8 million pounds a year earlier and 2 percent below August 2009 production. Cattle kill during September was down 5 percent from a year earlier to 195.9 head and the average live weight increased 18 pounds to 1,347 per head. Hog slaughter, at 1,300 head, was up 200 head from a year earlier but the average live weight of 254 pounds was 1 pound above the previous year. Accumulated red meat production for the January-September period this year, at 1.54 billion pounds, slightly lower than last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.26 billion pounds in September, down slightly from the 4.27 billion pounds produced in September 2008. Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.81 million head, down 3 percent from September 2008. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,311 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.7 million pounds, 8 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 81,200 head, down 7 percent from September 2008. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from last year, at 270 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.00 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.94 million head, down slightly from September 2008. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from last year, at 244 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.8 million pounds, was up 2 percent from September 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 225,400 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, up 1 pound from September a year ago.

January to September 2009 commercial red meat production was 36.6 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was down 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Sept. 2008	Aug. 2009	Sept. 2009	January-September	
				2008	2009
	Million Pounds				
Colorado:	177.8	176.8	173.3	1,642.7	1,541.0
United States:	4,272.9	4,076.6	4,261.8	37,663.1	36,762.9
Beef	2,269	2,184.2	2,234.0	20,178.9	19,538.3
Veal	12.8	10.6	11.7	105.0	101.2
Pork	1,975.8	1,868.4	2,001.3	17,248.7	16,997.0
Lamb & Mutton .	14.5	13.3	14.8	130.5	126.4

* - Revised.

**CATTLE ON FEED
OCTOBER 1, 2009**

COLORADO

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 960,000 head as of October 1, 2009. The latest inventory was up 12 percent from September 1, 2009 and up 10 percent from the 870,000 on feed on October 1, 2008. The inventory included 650,000 steers and steer calves, up 26 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 305,000 head, was down 13 percent from last year while cows and bulls were unchanged at 5,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 155,000 head of fed cattle during September 2009. This was 18 percent below August 2009 marketings of 190,000 head but 3 percent above a year ago. An estimated 260,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during September, up 2 percent from a year ago and up 27 percent above the August 2009 placements of 205,000. Of the number placed in September, 8 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 10 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 25 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 58 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for September, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from September 2008 and August 2009.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.4 million head on October 1, 2008. The inventory was 5 percent below October 1, 2007 and 9 percent below October 1, 2006. The inventory included 6.51 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.85 million head, down 5 percent from 2007. Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.28 million, 6 percent below 2007 but 2 percent above 2006. Net placements were 2.23 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 445,000, 600-699 pounds were 415,000, 700-799

pounds were 541,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 880,000. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.81 million, 7 percent above 2007 and 3 percent above 2006. Other disappearance totaled 51,000 during September, 6 percent below 2007 and 25 percent below 2006.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000 Plus Capacity, Sept. 1 to Oct 1, 2008-2009**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 head			
On Feed Sept. 1	770	860	9,997	9,879
Placements During Sept.	255	260	2,281	2,388
< 600 pounds	20	20	445	490
600 - 699 Pounds	30	25	415	450
700 - 799 Pounds	45	65	541	593
800 Plus Pounds	160	150	880	855
Marketings During Sept.	255	260	2,281	2,388
Other Disap. During Sept.	5	5	51	47
On Feed Oct 1.	870	960	10,415	10,474
Steers & Steer Calves	515	650	6,513	6,416
Heifers & Heifer Calves	350	305	3,848	4,012
Cows & Bulls	5	5	54	46

**MILK PRODUCTION
SEPTEMBER 2009**

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Colorado dairy herds produced 224 million pounds of milk during September 2009, down 17 million pounds from last September's production, and down 20 million pounds from August's production. The average number of cows, at 119,000, decreased 4,000 head from last month, and down from 11,000 cows from the previous year. The average milk per cow for the month of September in Colorado was 1,880 pounds per cow, down from 1,980 pounds per cow in August and 30 pounds per cow lower than 2008. Colorado is seventh in the nation in milk production per cow.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during September totaled 13.9 billion pounds, down 0.7 percent from September 2008. August revised production at 14.6 billion pounds, was down 0.1 percent from August 2008. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,672 pounds for September, 22 pounds above September 2008. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.34 million head, 168,000 head less than September 2008, and 32,000 head less than August 2009.

Milk production in the U.S. during the July - September quarter totaled 46.8 billion pounds, down 0.3 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 44,000 head less than the same period last year.

Item	Unit	2008	2009
Colorado:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	130	119
Production per cow <u>2/</u>	Pounds	1,850	1,880
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. lbs.	241	224
23 State Total:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	8,510	8,342
Production per cow <u>2/</u>	Pounds	1,650	1,672
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. lbs.	14,041	13,949

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**AGRICULTURAL PRICES
OCTOBER 2009**

The preliminary All Farm Product Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 135 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 2 points (7.1 percent) from September. The Crop Index is up 11 points (7.7 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.9 percent). Producers received higher prices for lettuce, corn, milk, and broccoli and lower prices for broilers, cattle, snap beans, and cucumbers. 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 soybeans, corn, cotton, cottonseed offset decreased marketings of milk, wheat, grapes, and sweet corn.

The October All Crops Index is 154, up 7.7 percent from September but 8.3 percent below October 2008. The October all wheat price, at \$4.56 per bushel, is up 8 cents from September but \$2.09 below October 2008. The corn price, at \$3.54 per bushel, is up 29 from last month but 83 cents below October 2008. Grain sorghum, at \$5.57 per cwt, is 6 cents below September and \$1.32 lower than October last year. The soybean price, at \$9.74 per bushel, decreased 1 cent from September and 21 cents below October 2008. The all potato price, at \$7.79 per cwt, is down 48 cents from September but up 19 cents from last October. The all dry bean price, at \$28.60 per cwt, is down \$1.80 from the previous month and \$11.40 below October last year.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2008		2009	
	Sept.	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.
	Percent			
Prices Received.....	154	150	126	135
Prices Paid	190	187	175	175
Ratio <u>1/</u>	81	80	72	77

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates.

The October Livestock & Products Index at 109, is 0.9 percent above last month but down 14 percent from October 2008. The October hog price, at \$37.20 per cwt, is down \$50 cents from September and \$11.30 lower than a year ago. The October beef cattle price of \$78.90 per cwt is down \$1.70 from last month and \$8.50 lower than October 2008.

The October all milk price of \$13.80 per cwt increased

90 cents from last month but is \$4.00 lower than October 2008.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Oct. 2008	Sept. 2009	Oct. 2009
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat.....	Bu.	5.88	4.32	4.18
Corn.....	Bu.	4.10	3.52	3.60
Barley (All).....	Bu.	5.00	4.51	2/
Potatoes.....	Cwt	19.10	7.55	7.40
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	35.90	30.20	29.10
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	165.00	135.00	135.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	130.00	120.00	115.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	94.10	90.10	88.10
Steers & Heifers.....	Cwt	95.00	91.00	89.00
Cows.....	Cwt	47.50	47.00	46.00
Calves.....	Cwt	102.00	106.00	100.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	27.00	30.00	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	97.00	98.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	17.80	12.70	13.80
United States				
Dollars				
Wheat.....	Bu.	6.65	4.48	4.56
Corn.....	Bu.	4.37	3.25	3.54
Soybeans.....	Bu.	9.95	9.75	9.74
Barley (All).....	Bu.	5.73	4.78	3.94
Sorghum.....	Cwt	6.89	5.63	5.57
Potatoes.....	Cwt	7.60	8.27	7.79
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	40.00	30.40	28.60
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	171.00	110.00	109.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	118.00	100.00	98.50
Onions.....	Cwt	10.70	10.50	8.49
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	87.40	80.60	78.90
Steers & Heifers.....	Cwt	92.90	85.50	84.00
Cows.....	Cwt	48.40	44.40	43.70
Calves.....	Cwt	106.00	107.00	103.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	21.70	29.60	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	97.40	98.40	3/
Hogs.....	Cwt	48.50	37.70	37.20
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	17.80	12.90	13.80
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.45	0.42	0.40

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/ Mid-month price not estimated.

Colorado's mid-October prices for all crop items averaged lower than a year ago. Wheat, at \$4.18 per bushel, averaged \$1.70 below October 2008 and 14 cents below September of this year. Corn averaged \$3.60 per bushel in mid-October this year, down 50 cents from the previous year but up 8 cents from last month. Potato prices decreased 15 cents per cwt from last month to \$7.40 per cwt and averaged \$11.70 below the October 2008 average of \$19.10 per cwt. Alfalfa hay prices at \$135.00 per ton, remained unchanged from last month but decreased \$30.00 from a year ago. Other hay prices, at \$115.00 per ton, decreased \$5.00 per ton from September 2009 and was down \$15.00 from October 2008. Steer and heifer prices were at \$89.00 per cwt and averaged

\$2.00 per cwt below last month and \$6.00 below a year ago. Cows, at \$46.00 per cwt, were down \$1.00 from last month and averaged \$1.50 below October 2008. Calves averaged \$100.00 for mid-October, \$6.00 below last month and down \$2.00 per cwt from a year ago. The October all milk price of \$13.80 was \$1.10 above last month but \$4.00 below a year ago.

**COLD STORAGE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2009**

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 2009 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, cheese and pork. Butter stocks were down 11 percent from last month but up 23 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 1 percent from the previous month but down 2 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were slightly from both the previous month and up 1 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 22 percent from last month but up 80 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on September 30, 2009 were down 4 percent from the previous month and down 9 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 16 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 6 percent from last month and down 1 percent from September 30, 2008.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Sept. 30, 2008	Aug. 31, 2009	Sept. 30, 2009
1,000 Pounds			
Butter.....	186,878	259,578	230,227
Cheese, total natural.....	834,177	984,865	970,526
Eggs, frozen.....	21,890	22,558	21,535
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,382,367	1,305,723	1,257,086
Chicken.....	759,321	646,484	636,729
Turkey.....	621,475	653,546	615,096
Fruits, frozen.....	1,130,651	1,258,286	1,202,020
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,493,198	1,596,624	1,510,643
Vegetables, total frozen ...	2,461,285	2,186,385	2,602,937
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,180,803	1,094,838	1,124,117
Meats, total red.....	1,009,384	980,199	992,269
Beef, total frozen.....	454,520	420,096	434,091
Pork, total frozen.....	526,168	530,148	531,874

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>

- Nov. 10 - Crop Production
- Nov. 18 - Milk Production
- Nov. 20 - Cold Storage
- Nov. 20 - Cattle on Feed
- Nov. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Nov. 23 - Chickens and Eggs
- Nov. 30 - Agricultural Prices

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