



### Contents of This Issue

- ▶Milk Production
- ▶Crop Production
- ▶Cold Storage

## MILK PRODUCTION

### OCTOBER 2009

Colorado dairy herds produced 224 million pounds of milk during the October 2009 period, about 9 percent below the 246 million pounds produced during the same period in 2008. The average number of milk cows on hand during the month was 116,000, down 14,000 head from the same month last year. Production per cow averaged 1,930 pounds for October, 40 pounds per cow more than last year at this time.

Milk production in the 23 major States during October totaled 14.3 billion pounds, down 1.1 percent from October 2008. September revised production, at 14.0 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from September 2008. The September revision represented an increase of 16.0 million pounds or 0.1 from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,721 pounds for October, 21 pounds above October 2008. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.32 million head, 196,000 head less than October 2008, and 22,000 head less than September 2009.

#### Colorado and 23 State Milk Production, Oct., 2008-09

Item	Unit	2008	2009
<b>Colorado:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> .....	1,000 head	130	116
Production per cow <u>2/</u> ....	Pounds	1,890	1,930
Production <u>2/</u> .....	Mil. lbs.	246	224
<b>23 State Total:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> .....	1,000 head	8,512	8,316
Production per cow <u>2/</u> ....	Pounds	1,700	1,721
Production <u>2/</u> .....	Mil. lbs.	14,469	14,313

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## COLD STORAGE OCTOBER 31, 2009

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on October 31, 2009 were greater than year earlier levels for butter and cheese. Butter stocks were down 14 percent from last month but up 31 percent from a year ago. Total red meat supplies in

freezers were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 6 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were also down 2 percent from the previous month and down 1 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 4 percent from last month but up 71 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on October 31, 2009 were down 8 percent from the previous month and down 16 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down slightly from the previous month and down 20 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 17 percent from last month and down 12 percent from October 31, 2008.

### Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Oct. 31, 2008	Sept. 30, 2009	Oct. 31, 2009
<b>1,000 Pounds</b>			
Butter .....	149,391	227,924	195,063
Cheese, total natural.....	828,973	983,941	968,406
Eggs, frozen .....	22,358	21,590	22,217
Poultry, total frozen .....	1,367,688	1,253,510	1,148,421
Chicken.....	787,930	634,358	632,274
Turkey.....	577,984	613,891	510,896
Fruits, frozen.....	1,393,584	1,201,918	1,502,246
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,433,835	1,506,319	1,425,438
Vegetables, total frozen ...	2,621,466	2,624,709	2,738,356
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,200,486	1,130,249	1,165,371
Meats, total red .....	1,027,761	984,048	970,830
Beef, total frozen .....	470,979	428,913	426,361
Pork, total frozen.....	528,031	528,681	520,130

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.

## CROP PRODUCTION

### NOVEMBER 1, 2009

Colorado's **corn** for grain production for 2009 is now forecast at 137.75 million bushels, down 7 percent from last year's crop of 147.96 million bushels but up 4.75 million bushels from the October 1 forecast. Expected average yield is forecast at 145 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels from October 1. Producers are expected to harvest 950,000 acres for grain. **Sorghum** production for 2009 is now expected to total 3.30 million bushels, down from the October 1 forecast of 3.85 million bushels and 27 percent below last year's crop of 4.50 million bushels. The 2009 yield is expected to average 30 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from last month but equal to the 2008 average.

The area expected to be harvested remains at 110,000 acres, which is 40,000 acres less than last year. **Sugarbeet** production remains forecast at 970,000 tons, up 212,000 tons from the previous year. Yields are expected to average 27.7 tons per acre, unchanged from last month but up 1.2 tons per acre from the yield attained in 2008. The area for harvest is forecast at 35,000 acres, up from 28,600 acres in 2009. **Fall potato** growers in the San Luis Valley produced 21.80 million cwt of potatoes this year, down slightly from last year's crop. Average yield was 395 cwt per acre, up 10 cwt per acre from last year's yield and ties the record high yield first set in 2005. The harvested area of 55,200 acres this year was 1,700 acres less than in 2008.

#### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 12.9 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last month but 7 percent higher than 2008. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 162.9 bushels per acre, down 1.3 bushels from October but 9.0 bushels above last year. Despite the drop in yield from October, this yield will be the highest on record if realized. Total production will be second highest on record, only behind 2007. Within the Corn Belt, forecasted yields in Minnesota and Wisconsin increased, while Illinois, Iowa, and Michigan yields decreased.

Sorghum production is forecast at 364 million bushels, up slightly from the October 1 forecast but down 23 percent from 2008. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 5.68 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 22 percent from last year. Based on November 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 64.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from October but down 1.0 bushel from last year. The yield forecasts for Kansas and Texas, the two largest sorghum-producing States, are unchanged from October at 83.0 and 44.0 bushels per acre, respectively. Producers in Oklahoma are expecting a 5.0 bushel increase from last month, while Nebraska producers expect a 6.0 bushel decline from the October 1 forecast.

Production of **sugarbeets** in 2009 is forecast at 29.4 million tons, 5 percent below the October 1 forecast but up 10 percent from last year. Growers expect to harvest 1.15 million acres, down 1 percent from the October 1 forecast but 15 percent above last year. Harvested area increased 5,000 acres in Minnesota but decreased 5,000 acres in both Montana and Wyoming where recent freeze damage adversely affected some acreage and 3,000 acres in North Dakota where abnormally wet fields this season have slowed harvest. Expected yield is forecast at 25.6 tons per acre, down 1.2 tons from October 1 and down 1.1 tons from 2008. Record high yields are forecast in Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, and Wyoming.

Production of **fall potatoes** for 2009 is forecast at 392 million cwt, up 3 percent from 2008. Area harvested, at 919,900 acres, is virtually unchanged from the July estimate. The average yield, forecast at 426 cwt per acre, is up 15 cwt per acre from last year's yield and, if realized, will be the highest yield on record.

Idaho's yield is forecast at 411 cwt per acre. If realized, this will be Idaho's highest yield on record, 25 cwt above the record yield set in 2006. In eastern Washington, potato harvest was near completion. Despite weather delays, progress was the same as last year's pace and the 5-year average. In Colorado, growing conditions were favorable in the San Luis Valley, however, an early frost and disease led to an increase in abandonment this year. Oregon's crop had a normal start without any widespread delays during planting. In California, favorable weather conditions aided yields and resulted in good crop quality reports from growers. In North Dakota, planting began later than normal and remained behind average throughout the planting season. Crop condition was rated fair to good throughout the growing season. Wisconsin growers reported above average crop conditions and good quality. Cool temperatures and timely rain provided good growing conditions for Michigan potatoes. Late blight was reported across the State, but farmers were able to take corrective action when needed.

In Maine, cool, dry conditions aided growers with an early start to potato planting. Warm weather was welcomed in mid-August, but dry conditions continued into mid-September, preventing tubers from increasing in size.

#### 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. 30 - Agricultural Prices
- Dec. 10 - Crop Production
- Dec. 15 - Turkey Hatchery
- Dec. 15 - Potato Stocks
- Dec. 18 - Milk Production
- Dec. 18 - Cattle On Feed
- Dec. 22 - Cold Storage



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**Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2008-2009**

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009		2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
<b>Colorado:</b>									
All Corn <u>1/</u> .....	1,250	1,100	1,080	950	Bu.	137.0	145.0	147,960	137,750
All Sorghum <u>1/</u> .....	230	170	150	110	Bu.	30.0	30.0	4,500	3,300
All Wheat .....	2,190	2,630	1,936	2,479	Bu.	30.8	40.6	59,700	100,610
Winter Wheat .....	2,150	2,600	1,900	2,450	Bu.	30.0	40.0	57,000	98,000
Spring Wheat.....	40	30	36	29	Bu.	75.0	90.0	2,700	2,610
Oats .....	45	60	7	9	Bu.	70.0	65.0	490	585
Barley.....	80	78	72	77	Bu.	120.0	135.0	8,640	10,395
Proso Millet.....	270	200	230	4/	Bu.	33.0	4/	7,590	4/
All Hay.....	...	...	1,570	1,600	Tons	2.54	3.0	3,981	4,780
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	820	840	Tons	3.3	3.7	2,706	3,108
Other Hay.....	...	...	750	760	Tons	1.7	2.2	1,275	1,672
Sugarbeets .....	33.8	35.1	28.6	35.0	Tons	26.5	27.7	758	970
Dry edible beans.....	48	57	44	52	Cwt.	1,500	1,650	660	858
Sunflowers, All .....	194	91	162	83	Lbs.	947.0	1,361	153,400	113,000
Sunflowers, Oil .....	170	70	143	64	Lbs.	900	4/	128,700	4/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil .....	24	21	19	19	Lbs.	1,300	4/	24,700	4/
All potatoes .....	61.6	60.0	61.3	59.1	Cwt.	384.0	395.0	23,532	23,364
Summer potatoes.....	4.6	4.0	4.4	3.9	Cwt.	370.0	400.0	1,628	1,560
Fall potatoes .....	57.0	56.0	56.9	55.2	Cwt.	385.0	395.0	21,907	21,804
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	18,000	16,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	14	13
<b>United States:</b>									
All Corn <u>1/</u> .....	85,982	86,351	78,640	79,294	Bu.	153.9	162.9	12,101,238	12,920,928
All Sorghum <u>1/</u> .....	8,284	6,623	7,271	5,681	Bu.	65.0	64.0	472,342	363,810
All Wheat <u>2/</u> .....	63,193	59,133	55,699	49,868	Bu.	44.9	44.4	2,499,164	2,216,171
Winter Wheat .....	46,307	43,311	39,608	34,485	Bu.	47.1	44.2	1,867,333	1,522,718
Spring Wheat.....	14,165	13,268	13,517	12,955	Bu.	40.5	45.1	548,004	587,361
Oats .....	3,247	3,404	1,400	1,379	Bu.	63.7	67.5	89,135	93,081
Barley.....	4,246	3,567	3,779	3,113	Bu.	63.6	73.0	240,193	227,323
Rye .....	1,260	1,241	269	252	Bu.	29.7	27.8	7,979	6,993
Proso Millet.....	520	405	460	4/	Bu.	32.3	4/	14,880	4/
All Hay.....	...	...	60,062	60,177	Tons	2.43	2.54	145,672	152,729
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	20,980	20,982	Tons	3.32	3.43	69,620	71,977
Other Hay.....	...	...	39,082	39,195	Tons	1.95	2.06	76,052	80,752
Sugarbeets .....	1,090.8	1,118.5	1,004.6	1,150.5	Tons	26.7	25.6	26,837	29,445
Dry edible beans.....	1,495.0	1,532.6	1,445.2	1,435.0	Cwt.	1,768	1,754	25,558	25,170
Sunflowers, All .....	2,516.5	2,032.0	2,396.0	1,939.0	Lbs.	1,429	1,538	3,422,840	2,981,670
Sunflowers, Oil .....	2,163.0	1,698.0	2,062.0	1,624.0	Lbs.	1,452	4/	2,993,510	4/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil .....	353.5	334.0	334.0	315.0	Lbs.	1,285	4/	429,330	4/
All potatoes <u>3/</u> .....	1,059.6	1,065.4	1,046.9	1,044.5	Cwt.	396	411	415,055	429,691
Summer potatoes.....	47.2	43.9	45.1	42.5	Cwt.	306	346	13,805	14,705
Fall potatoes .....	931.1	936.9	922.0	919.9	Cwt.	411	426	378,588	391,529
Soybeans .....	75,718	77,510	74,681	76,619	Bu.	39.7	43.3	2,967,007	3,319,290
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	9,769,300	10,016,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	1,133.3	1,078.3
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	870.9	935.3

1/ Planted for all purposes: harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2010