



To access NASS and Colorado reports:
<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office

PO Box 150969 Lakewood, CO 80215

Phone: (303)236-2300 1-800-392-3202

FAX: (303)236-2299 1-800-643-6885

Released: January 11, 2010

Vol. 30 No. 1

Contents of This Issue

- ▶Livestock Slaughter
 - ▶Cattle On Feed
 - ▶Hogs and Pigs
- ▶Chickens and Eggs
- ▶Agricultural Prices
 - ▶Cold Storage

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER - NOVEMBER 2009

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during November 2009 totaled 151.1 million pounds, 1 percent above the same month last year but 16 percent below October 2009. Beef slaughter was up 2 percent from a year ago to 174,900 head and the average live weight decreased 14 pounds to 1,323. Hog slaughter at 800 head was unchanged from the previous year but the average live weight increased 9 pounds to 269. Accumulated production of all red meat for the January-November 2009 period totaled 1.87 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the 1.97 billion pounds produced during the same period in 2008.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.96 billion pounds in November, up 2 percent from the 3.87 billion pounds produced in November 2008. Beef production, at 2.02 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.60 million head, up 3 percent from November 2008. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,298 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.8 million pounds, 5 percent above November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 81,200 head, up slightly from November 2008. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from last year, at 246 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.92 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.46 million head, up 1 percent from November 2008. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.4 million pounds, was up 12 percent from November 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 219,200 head, 14 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down 3 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2009 commercial red meat production was 45.1 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 2 percent.

Red Meat Production - Colorado and United States

Area And Species	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	January-November	
	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009
	Million Pounds				
Colorado	149.8	180.3	151.1	1,969.6	1,872.4
United States	3,869.5	4,391.0	3,962.8	46,061.5	45,116.9
Beef	1,959.3	2,275.3	2,015.3	24,478.4	23,829.0
Veal	11.3	12.2	11.8	129.8	125.2
Pork	1,886.1	2,089.1	1,921.4	21,295.0	21,007.6
Lamb & Mutton	12.8	14.3	14.4	158.4	155.0

^{1/} Totals may not add due to rounding.

CATTLE ON FEED - DECEMBER 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 1,060,000 head as of December 1, 2009. The latest inventory was up 2 percent from November 1, 2009 and up 5 percent from the 1,010,000 on feed on December 1, 2008. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 140,000 head of fed cattle during November 2009. This was 12 percent below October 2009 marketings of 160,000 head but 8 percent above a year ago. An estimated 165,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during November. This was 33 percent below the October 2009 placements and down 11 percent from the 185,000 head placed a year ago. Of the number placed in November, 24 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 30 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 21 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 24 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for November, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from November 2008 and October 2009.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on December 1, 2009. The inventory was 1 percent below December 1, 2008. Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.85 million, 8 percent below 2008. For the month of November, placements were the second lowest since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.78 million head. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 510,000, 600-699 pounds were 565,000, 700-799 pounds were 395,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 375,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.63 million, 4 percent above 2008. For the month of November, fed cattle marketings were the third lowest since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 66,000 during November, 1 percent below 2008.

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

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 head			
On Feed Nov. 1	960	1,040	10,972	11,134
Placements During Nov.	185	165	2,016	1,845
< 600 pounds	50	40	565	510
660- 699 Pounds	55	50	630	565
700 - 799 Pounds	40	35	451	395
800 Plus Pounds	40	40	370	375
Marketings During Nov.	130	140	1,575	1,631
Other Disap. During Nov.	5	5	67	66
On Feed Dec 1	1,010	1,060	11,346	11,282

**HOG AND PIG INVENTORY –
DECEMBER 1, 2009**

Colorado's December 1, 2009 inventory of all hogs and pigs, at 720,000 head, decreased 1 percent from a year ago and was down 1 percent from the September 2008 total. The breeding hog inventory of 150,000 head remained unchanged from December 1, 2008 and unchanged from September 2009. The market hog inventory for December 1, 2009 was 570,000 head, down 2 percent from a year earlier and down 2 percent from September 1, 2009.

Colorado's 2009 pig crop of 2.64 million head was 5 percent below 2008. There were 289,000 sows farrowed during the December 2008 through November 2009 time period compared with 312,000 sows farrowed during the comparable period a year earlier. The 2009 average litter size was 9.14 pigs this year, up from 8.90 pigs per litter in 2008.

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2009 was 65.8 million head. This was down 2 percent from December 1, 2008 and down 2 percent from September 1, 2009. Breeding inventory, at 5.85 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 60.0 million head, was down 2 percent from last year and down 2 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2009 pig crop, at 28.8 million head, was up slightly from 2008 but down 2 percent from 2007. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.97 million head, down 2 percent from 2008 and down 6 percent from 2007. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 51 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.70 for the September-November 2009 period, compared to 9.50 last year. The litter rate equaled the record for pigs saved per litter set during the June- August 2009 period. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.80 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

United States hog producers intend to have 2.95 million sows farrow during the December 2009-February 2010 quarter, down 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same

period in 2009 and down 4 percent from 2008. Intended farrowings for March-May 2010, at 2.94 million sows, are down 3 percent from 2009 and down 4 percent from 2008. The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 44 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 43 percent last year.

Revisions

All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2008 through September 2009 were reviewed using slaughter, death loss and current import and export data. Based on this review, adjustments of less than one half of one percent were made to the December-February 2009 pig crop and September 2009 total inventory. An adjustment of less than one percent was made to the June 2009 total inventory while an adjustment of less than two percent was made to the March-May 2009 pig crop.

Hogs and Pigs, December 1, 2008-2009

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Head			
All Hogs & Pigs	730	720	67,148	65,807
Kept for breeding	150	150	6,062	5,850
Market	580	570	61,087	59,957
Under 50 lbs	285	270	19,428	19,085
50-119 lbs	100	115	17,396	17,062
120-179 lbs	70	55	12,731	12,529
180 lbs. & over	125	130	11,533	11,282
Sows Farrowed ^{1/}	312	289	12,225	11,969
Pigs per litter ^{1/}	8.90	9.14	9.41	9.62
Pig Crop ^{1/}	2,778.0	2,642.0	115,030	115,174

^{1/} Annual: December previous year - November current year

CHICKENS AND EGGS - NOVEMBER 2009

Colorado laying flocks produced 91 million eggs during November 2009, down 1 million from a month earlier and unchanged from November 2008. The number of layers during November 2009 totaled 3.77 million, 3 percent below a year earlier but up 2 percent from the previous month. The average rate of lay for November 2009, at 2,414 eggs per 100 layers, compares with 2,344 eggs per 100 layers during November 2008 and 2,446 for October 2009.

United States egg production totaled 7.55 billion during November 2009, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.52 billion table eggs, and 1.03 billion hatching eggs, of which 960 million were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 2009 averaged 337 million, down slightly from last year. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,238 eggs, up 1 percent from November 2008.

All layers in the U.S. on December 1, 2009 totaled 339 million, down slightly from last year. The 339 million layers consisted of 282 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 53.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.90 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on December 1, 2009, averaged 74.8 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from December 1, 2008.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES - DECEMBER 15, 2009

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 136 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from November. The Crop Index is down 2 points (1.3 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.6 percent). Producers received higher prices for milk, soybeans, grapes, and strawberries and lower prices for oranges, cattle, corn, and broccoli. 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 wheat, milk, oranges, and lettuce offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, cattle, and grapes.

The December All Crops Index is 152, down 1.3 percent from November but 1.3 percent above December 2008. The December all wheat price, at \$4.81 per bushel, is up 2 cents from November but \$1.14 below December 2008. The corn price, at \$3.59 per bushel, is down 6 cents from last month and 52 cents below December 2008. The all hay price, at \$107.00 per ton, is unchanged from November but down \$31.00 from last December. The soybean price, at \$9.96 per bushel, increased 43 cents from November and is 72 cents above December 2008. The all potato price, at \$7.16 per cwt, is up 7 cents from November but down \$2.14 from last December. The all dry bean price, at \$31.80 per cwt, is up \$1.70 from the previous month but \$2.40 below December 2008.

The December Livestock and Products Index, at 118, is 2.6 percent above last month but down 0.8 percent from December 2008. The December hog price, at \$43.70 per cwt, is up \$3.50 from November and \$1.80 higher than a year ago. The December beef cattle price of \$78.20 per cwt is down \$1.40 from last month and \$1.50 lower than December 2008. The December all milk price of \$16.30 per cwt is up \$1.00 from last month and 80 cents from December 2008.

Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2008		2009	
	Nov.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.
	Percent			
Prices Received	142	135	136	136
Prices Paid	182	178	177	177
Ratio 1/	78	76	77	77

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

Colorado's December 2009 crop prices averaged lower from a year ago. All livestock prices averaged higher than a year ago except beef cattle and steers and heifers. Mid-December 2009 wheat, at \$4.30 per bushel, decreased 29 cents from the previous month and was \$1.97 below December a year ago. Corn prices decreased 17 cents from November to \$3.62 per bushel and averaged 59 cents below December 2008. Potatoes remained unchanged at \$6.50 per cwt from last month but decreased \$7.90 per cwt from December 2008. Dry bean prices averaged \$31.00 per cwt in December, up 60 cents from the previous month but \$5.80 below the same month in

2008. Mid-December 2009 alfalfa hay prices at \$130.00 per ton remained unchanged from the previous month but down \$40.00 from a year ago. Other hay prices at \$110.00 per ton were unchanged from the previous month and down \$20.00 from December 2008. Steer and heifer prices, at \$87.00 per cwt decreased \$3.00 from November and were 30 cents per cwt below December 2008. December 2009 cow prices, at \$45.50 per cwt, averaged \$2.00 above the November price and \$5.00 above December a year ago. Calves, at \$107.00 per cwt, were up \$6.00 from the previous month and \$8.50 per cwt above December 2008. The December all milk price of \$16.00 per cwt was up \$1.10 from last month and increased 10 cents from a year ago.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Dec. 2008	Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	6.27	4.59	4.30
Corn	Bu.	4.21	3.79	3.62
Barley (All)	Bu.	3/	5.22	3/
Potatoes	Cwt	14.40	6.50	6.50
Dry edible beans	Cwt	36.80	30.40	31.00
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	170.00	130.00	130.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	130.00	110.00	110.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	86.40	89.10	86.20
Steers & heifers	Cwt	87.30	90.00	87.00
Cows	Cwt	40.50	43.50	45.50
Calves	Cwt	98.50	101.00	107.00
Sheep	Cwt	32.00	34.00	2/
Lambs	Cwt	100.00	95.00	2/
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	15.90	14.90	16.00
United States				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	5.95	4.79	4.81
Corn	Bu.	4.11	3.65	3.59
Soybeans	Bu.	9.24	9.53	9.96
Barley (All)	Bu.	5.49	4.53	4.15
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	3.00	2.51	2.52
Sorghum	Cwt	5.13	5.67	5.86
Potatoes	Cwt	9.30	7.09	7.16
Dry edible beans	Cwt	34.20	30.10	31.80
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	152.00	110.00	110.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	109.00	99.10	98.90
Onions	Cwt	13.40	8.40	7.92
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	79.70	79.60	78.20
Steers & heifers	Cwt	85.70	85.40	83.50
Cows	Cwt	40.20	41.70	42.90
Calves	Cwt	98.90	105.00	105.00
Sheep	Cwt	32.90	36.80	2/
Lambs	Cwt	101.00	98.00	2/
Hogs	Cwt	41.90	40.20	43.70
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	15.50	15.30	16.30
Broilers	Lb.	0.48	0.41	0.41

^{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 firms.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Nov. 30, 2008	Oct. 31, 2009	Nov. 30, 2009
1,000 Pounds			
Butter.....	119,946	190,624	142,175
Cheese, total natural.....	818,633	969,185	961,376
Eggs, frozen	21,261	22,912	21,099
Poultry, total frozen	1,173,430	1,150,696	893,163
Chicken	811,100	635,993	660,988
Turkey	360,379	509,463	227,668
Fruits, frozen	1,337,494	1,502,944	1,428,501
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,420,327	1,430,570	1,446,985
Vegetables, total frozen	2,558,667	2,724,568	2,593,131
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,212,093	1,162,924	1,099,553
Meats, total red.....	1,037,826	968,358	941,070
Beef, total frozen.....	481,564	427,716	430,761
Pork, total frozen.....	526,680	516,300	487,202

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.

COLD STORAGE

November 30, 2009

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2009 were greater than year earlier levels for butter and cheese. Butter stocks were down 25 percent from last month but up 19 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 3 percent from the previous month and down 9 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 6 percent from the previous month and down 7 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 20 percent from last month and up 33 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on November 30, 2009 were down 22 percent from the previous month and down 24 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 4 percent from the previous month but down 19 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 55 percent from last month and down 37 percent from November 30, 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 Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Jan. 17 - Potato Stocks
- Jan. 19 - Milk Production
- Jan. 22 - Fruit Crops - Annual
- Jan. 22 - Cattle On Feed
- Jan. 22 - Livestock Slaughter
- Jan. 27 - Vegetables – Annual
- Feb. 09 - Crop Production
- Feb. 12 - Crop Values

William Meyer
Director

Rodger Ott
Deputy Director