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**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER  
DECEMBER 2009**

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during December 2009 totaled 165.7 million pounds, up 1 percent from the same month a year earlier and 10 percent above November 2009. Beef slaughter during December was up 3 percent from a year ago to 192,400 head and the average live weight decreased 23 pounds to 1,325. Hog slaughter was placed at 600 head for December 2009, down from 700 head a year earlier. The average live weight of 258 pounds remained unchanged from a year earlier. The preliminary total red meat production for all months of 2009 totaled 2.04 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the 2.13 billion pounds produced during 2008.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.15 billion pounds in December, down slightly from the 4.16 billion pounds produced in December 2008. Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, up 3 percent from December 2008. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,296 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.1 million pounds, 2 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 92,300 head, down 2 percent from December 2008. The average live weight was down 5 pounds from last year, at 240 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.99 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.83 million head, down 3 percent from December 2008. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.9 million pounds, was up 3 percent from December 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 235,300 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, up 2 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2009 commercial red meat production was 49.3 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2008.

Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

**Red Meat Production Colorado and United States**

Area and Species	Dec. 2008	Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	January-December	
				2008	2009
<b>Million Pounds</b>					
<b>Colorado:</b>	164.3	151.1	165.7	2,133.9	2,038.1
<b>United States:</b>	4,162.8	3,962.9	4,147.5	50,224.6	49,264.4
Beef	2,082.0	2,015.3	2,133.5	26,560.7	25,962.6
Veal	13.3	11.8	13.1	143.1	138.3
Pork	2,052.1	1,921.4	1,985.0	23,347.0	22,992.6
Lamb & Mutton	15.4	14.4	15.9	173.8	170.9

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

**CATTLE INVENTORY  
JANUARY 1, 2010**

The January 1, 2010 inventory of all cattle and calves in **Colorado** totaled 2.60 million head, remained unchanged from January 1, 2009. Beef cows, at 714,000 head, were down 6,000 head from the previous year. Milk cows decreased 14,000 head from last year to 116,000 head. Colorado's 2009 calf crop was down 1 percent from 2008 to 770,000.

Other class estimates as of January 1, 2010 and percent changes from 2009 were as follows: Beef replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, remained unchanged from last year at 120,000; milk replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, up 17 percent to 70,000 head; other heifers 500 pounds and over, down 6 percent to 500,000; steers 500 pounds and over, up 12 percent to 860,000; bulls 500 pounds and over, down 10 percent to 45,000; and calves under 500 pounds, down 20 percent to 175,000 head. The total inventory included 1,020,000 head of cattle and calves on feed, remained unchanged from January 1, 2009.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2010, totaled 93.7 million head, 1 percent below the 94.5 million on January 1, 2009. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.5 million, were down 1 percent from the 41.0 million on January 1, 2009. Beef cows, at 31.4 million, were down 1 percent from January 1, 2009. Milk cows, at 9.1 million, were down 3 percent from January 1, 2009. Other class estimates on January 1, 2010, and the change from January 1, 2009, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.7 million, up slightly. Beef replacement heifers, 5.4 million, down 2 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.5 million, up 2 percent. Other heifers, 9.7 million, up 1 percent.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.4 million, down 2 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.2 million, up slightly. Calves under 500 pounds, 14.9 million, up slightly. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.6 million, down 2 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 27.5 million, down slightly. The 2009 calf crop was estimated at 35.8 million head, down 1 percent from 2008. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 26.0 million, down 1 percent from 2008.

### SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2010

The January 1, 2010 inventory of all sheep and lambs in **Colorado** totaled 375,000 head, down 9 percent from the 410,000 on hand as of January 1, 2009. The number of breeding sheep and lambs decreased 7 percent to 190,000 head as well as market sheep and lambs who decreased 10 percent from last year to 185,000 head. The number of replacement lambs decreased 6 percent from last year to 30,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older decreased 7 percent from last year to 155,000 head. The number of rams one year old and older decreased from last year to 5,000 head. Of the 185,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 1,000 head were market sheep and 184,000 head were market lambs. There were 2,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, down 1,000 from a year earlier; 7,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, down 3,000 from the previous year; 17,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 25,000 last year; and 158,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with the 165,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2009. The 2009 lamb crop, at 180,000 head, decreased 14 percent from the 2008 lamb crop.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2010, totaled 5.63 million head, down 2 percent from 2009. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010, down 1 percent from 4.25 million head on January 1, 2009. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.34 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2010, totaled 1.44 million head, down 4 percent from January 1, 2009. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-five percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 19 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 38 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings.

### AGRICULTURAL PRICES JANUARY 15, 2010

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 137 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 2 points (1.5 percent) from December. The Crop Index is unchanged but the Livestock Index increased 4 points (3.4 percent). Producers received higher prices for broilers, cattle, hogs, and apples and lower prices for lettuce, corn, broccoli, and soybeans. 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 corn, soybeans, wheat, and rice offset decreased marketings of milk, broilers, cotton, and grapes.

The January index for all crops is 148, unchanged from December but 8.1 percent below January 2009. The all hay price, at \$109.00 per ton, increased \$2.00 from December but is \$26.00 below last January. Sorghum grain, at \$5.53 per cwt, is down 18 cents from December and 15 cents lower than January last year. The soybean price, at \$9.49 per bushel, decreased 31 cents from December and is 48 cents below January 2009. The all potato price, at \$7.19 per cwt, decreased 20 cents from December and \$2.21 from last January. The all dry bean price, at \$33.30 per cwt, is up \$1.10 from the previous month but \$1.70 below January 2009.

The January Livestock and Products Index, at 123, is 3.4 percent above last month and up 7.9 percent from January 2009. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for milk, hogs, cattle, turkeys, and calves. Prices for broilers and all eggs were unchanged. The January hog price, at \$47.30 per cwt, is up \$2.30 from December and \$4.50 higher than a year ago. The January beef cattle price of \$81.90 per cwt is up \$3.30 from last month and \$1.80 higher than January 2009. The January all milk price of \$16.50 per cwt is unchanged from last month but is up \$3.20 from January 2009. The fluid grade milk price is unchanged but the manufacturing grade milk price is down 30 cents from the previous month.

**Prices Received and Paid Summary United States**

Index 1990-92 = 100	2008		2009		2010
	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Jan.
<b>Percent</b>					
Prices Received.....	135	139	135	137	137
Prices Paid .....	179	180	179	183	183
Ratio <sup>1/</sup> .....	75	77	75	75	75

<sup>1/</sup> Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid.

Compared with January 2009, all **Colorado** crop prices averaged lower. Mid-January 2010 wheat, at \$4.31 per bushel, decreased 16 cents from the previous month and was \$1.67 below January a year ago. Corn, at \$3.48 per bushel, averaged 21 cents below December 2009 and was 89 cents below January 2009. The mid-January potato price, at \$5.90 per cwt, was down 55 cents from last month and decreased \$7.30 per cwt from January a year ago. Dry beans prices decreased 20 cents from December to \$32.20 per cwt and were \$3.20 per cwt lower than January last year. Alfalfa hay, at \$130.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month but \$40.00 below January 2009. The other hay price, at \$110.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month but was \$20.00 below the January 2009 price.

Prices for all livestock items averaged higher than a year ago. The mid-January steer and heifer price, at \$92.20 per cwt, was up \$5.20 from last month and up \$2.20 from a year ago. Cow prices increased \$2.50 per cwt from December to \$48.10 per cwt and averaged \$4.60 per cwt above January 2009. The mid-January 2010 calf price increased \$7.00 from last month to \$113.00 per cwt and was up \$8.00 from a year ago. The January all milk price of \$16.70 per cwt was up 30 cents from last month and increased \$3.00 from a year ago.

### Average Prices Received By Farmers <sup>1/</sup>

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Jan. 2009	Dec. 2009	Jan. 2010
<b>Dollars</b>				
<b>Crops</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	5.98	4.47	4.31
Corn .....	Bu.	4.37	3.69	3.48
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2/	5.15	2/
Potatoes .....	Cwt	13.20	6.45	5.90
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	35.40	32.40	32.20
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	170.00	130.00	130.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	130.00	110.00	110.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	89.10	86.20	91.30
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	90.00	87.00	92.20
Cows.....	Cwt	43.50	45.60	48.10
Calves.....	Cwt	105.00	106.00	113.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	31.00	40.00	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	100.00	100.00	3/
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	13.70	16.40	16.70
<b>United States</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
<b>Crops</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	6.20	4.85	4.79
Corn.....	Bu.	4.36	3.59	3.45
Soybeans .....	Bu.	9.97	9.80	9.49
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	5.34	4.54	4.38
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	2.90	2.63	2.56
Sorghum .....	Cwt	5.68	5.71	5.53
Potatoes .....	Cwt	9.40	7.39	7.19
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	35.00	31.20	33.30
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	148.00	110.00	113.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	110.00	98.90	99.60
Onions .....	Cwt	9.47	7.93	9.64
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt	80.10	78.60	81.90
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	85.80	83.80	87.00
Cows.....	Cwt	42.30	43.50	47.10
Calves.....	Cwt	106.00	105.00	109.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	31.40	45.20	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	101.00	98.10	3/
Hogs .....	Cwt	42.80	45.00	47.30
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	13.30	16.50	16.50
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.48	0.42	0.48

<sup>1/</sup> 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.

<sup>2/</sup> Insufficient sales to establish a price. <sup>3/</sup> Mid-month prices discontinued.

### WOOL PRODUCTION – 2009

Wool production in **Colorado** during 2009 totaled 2.2 million pounds, down from 2.6 million pounds produced in 2008. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 300,000 head, was down 21 percent from 380,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2009 totaled \$1.80 million, down 38 percent from a year earlier as producers received \$0.82 cents per pound of wool sold compared with \$1.12 per pound the previous year.

Shorn wool production in the **United States** during 2009 was 30.9 million pounds, down 6 percent from 2008. Sheep and

lambs shorn totaled 4.20 million head, down 5 percent from 2008. The average price paid for wool sold in 2009 was \$0.79 per pound for a total value of 24.4 million dollars, down 25 percent from 32.5 million dollars in 2008.

### GRAZING FEE RATES 2009

**Colorado** monthly grazing fee rates for private, non-irrigated grazing land in 2009 increased from last year for the animal unit per month (AUM), cow-calf basis, and dollars per head, with AUM averaging \$14.70 per month, cow-calf rates averaging \$16.30 per month, and dollars per head averaging \$15.20 per month.

Grazing fee rates for the **17 Western States** listed in the table averaged lower in two categories from the previous year and remained unchanged in cow-calf basis. The animal unit rate decreased 10 cents to \$14.60 per month.. Cow-calf rates remained unchanged at \$17.00 compared with last year. The per head rate for 2009 decreased 10 cents to \$15.50.

#### Grazing Fee Rates for Cattle by Selected States and Regions

State	Survey Average Rates <sup>1/</sup>					
	Animal Unit <sup>2/</sup>		Cow-Calf		Per Head	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<b>Dollars per Month</b>		<b>Dollars per Month</b>		<b>Dollars per Month</b>	
AZ.....	8.50	7/	7/	7/	11.00	10.00
CA .....	17.80	16.70	22.10	21.00	18.50	17.50
CO .....	14.50	14.70	16.00	16.30	14.50	15.20
ID .....	12.60	12.60	16.30	15.90	14.10	14.00
KS .....	14.00	13.50	17.00	16.50	13.50	14.00
MT .....	18.10	18.00	20.00	20.20	19.80	18.90
NE .....	25.00	24.80	29.70	29.30	28.00	26.50
NV.....	13.50	11.00	14.70	12.00	14.00	12.00
NM.....	11.00	10.00	11.50	13.00	12.00	12.00
ND.....	15.80	16.00	17.80	17.70	15.50	16.20
OK.....	9.00	9.00	13.00	11.50	9.50	10.50
OR.....	14.00	14.60	16.80	17.80	14.60	15.50
SD .....	21.70	22.90	25.20	25.60	23.00	23.00
TX.....	10.70	10.50	11.00	11.50	11.00	11.20
UT.....	13.00	13.00	15.90	16.30	15.50	15.30
WA.....	11.50	11.00	13.40	13.00	14.10	12.80
WY.....	15.70	16.00	18.40	18.70	16.40	16.70
17-State <sup>3/</sup> .....	14.70	14.60	17.00	17.00	15.60	15.50
16-State <sup>4/</sup> .....	16.20	16.10	19.30	19.00	17.20	17.10
11-State <sup>5/</sup> .....	15.00	14.70	17.40	17.40	16.20	15.80
9-State <sup>6/</sup> .....	14.50	14.50	16.80	16.70	15.20	15.30

<sup>1/</sup>The average rates are estimates based on survey indications of monthly lease rates for private, non-irrigated grazing land from the January Cattle Survey.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes animal unit plus cow-calf rates. Cow-calf rate converted to animal unit (AUM) using (1 aum=cow-calf \*0.833).

<sup>3/</sup> 17 Western States:All States listed.

<sup>4/</sup> 16 Western States:All States except Texas.

<sup>5/</sup> 11 Western States: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA,and WY.

<sup>6/</sup> 9 Great Plains States: CO, KS, NE, NM, ND, OK, SD, TX, and WY.

<sup>7/</sup> Insufficient data.

## COLD STORAGE - DECEMBER 31, 2009

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on December 31, 2009 were greater than year earlier levels for cheese, butter and eggs. Butter stocks were down 6 percent from last month but up 12 percent from a year ago. Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 14 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 2 percent from the previous month and down 15 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 30 percent from last month and up 12 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on December 31, 2009 were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 24 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 4 percent from the previous month and down 18 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 7 percent from last month but down 37 percent from December 31, 2008.

### Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Dec. 31, 2008	Nov 30, 2009	Dec 31, 2009
<b>1,000 Pounds</b>			
Butter .....	118,962	142,661	133,663
Cheese, total natural .....	851,960	961,745	966,911
Eggs, frozen.....	22,638	21,158	24,347
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,163,579	898,313	884,912
Chicken.....	765,442	659,326	631,168
Turkey.....	396,144	234,480	250,178
Fruits, frozen.....	1,245,637	1,429,902	1,331,545
Fruit Juices, frozen .....	1,458,953	1,443,043	1,485,927
Vegetables, total frozen.....	2,365,988	2,603,565	2,464,291
Potatoes, total frozen .....	1,098,580	1,108,070	1,054,285
Meats, total red .....	1,078,474	936,835	927,938
Beef, total frozen .....	492,637	430,913	429,715
Pork, total frozen .....	555,642	482,816	474,845

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 00the storage data.

## GOAT INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2010

Meat and all other goats in **Colorado** accounted for 38,000 head compared with 34,000 on January 1, 2009. Milk goats totaled 8,400 head, up from 8,300 head a year ago. Angora and all goat inventory numbers were not published due to confidentiality.

All goat inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2010, totaled 3.04 million head, down 1 percent from 2009. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.53 million head, down 1 percent from 2009. Does one year old and older, at 1.87 million head, were 1 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 518,000 head, down 2 percent from a year ago. Kid crop for 2009 totaled 1.94 million head for all goats, down 1 percent from 2008. Meat and all other goats totaled 2.54 million head on January 1, 2010, down slightly from 2009. Milk goat inventory increased to 355,000 head, 6 percent above January 1, 2009, while Angora goats were down 19 percent, totaling 150,000 head. Mohair production in the United States during 2009 was 1.01 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 160,500 head. Average weight per clip was 6.3 pounds. Mohair price was \$2.66 per pound with a value of 2.69 million dollars.

### 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. 12 - Potato Stocks
- Feb. 16 - Turkey Hatchery
- Feb. 19 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 19 - Milk Production
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Monthly
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Annual
- Feb. 25 - Chickens and Eggs - Annual
- Feb. 26 - Livestock Slaughter
- Feb. 26 - Trout Production
- Feb. 26 - Chickens and Eggs - Monthly
- Feb. 26 - Agricultural Prices

**William Meyer**  
Director

**Rodger Ott**  
Deputy Director