



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

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FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS - 2009

The number of farms in Colorado, at 36,200 for 2009, was down 300 from a year earlier. The percent change and the Colorado number of agricultural operations for each sales class was as follows: \$1,000 - \$9,999, down nearly 5 percent to 19,500 farms; \$10,000 - \$99,999, up 9 percent to 11,300 farms; \$100,000 - \$249,000, up 4 percent to 2,700 farms; \$250,000 - \$499,999, decreased 8 percent to 1,100 farms; and \$500,000 and over, down 6 percent to 1,600 farms. The total land in farms remained unchanged at 31.3 million acres but the average farm size increased 7 acres from the previous year to 865 acres in 2009.

The number of farms in the United States in 2009 is estimated at 2.2 million, virtually unchanged from 2008. Total land in farms, at 919.8 million acres, decreased 110 thousand acres from 2008. The average farm size is 418 acres, unchanged from the previous year. Farm numbers and land in farms are broken down into five economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these "sales classes" by summing their sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, and \$500,000.

Farm numbers declined slightly in the \$10,000-\$99,999 and \$500,000 and over sales classes. Lower commodity prices and smaller value of sales contributed to changes in the number of farms within these sales classes. Farm numbers increased 0.5 percent, to 1.23 million farms, in the \$1,000 - \$9,999 sales class. Meanwhile, the number of farms in the \$500,000 and over sales class decreased by 1.0 percent to 124,720 farms.

Land in farms decreased in the smallest and largest sales classes. In the \$1,000-\$9,999 sales class, land in farms dropped 1.1 percent, to 105.5 million acres. Land operated by farms in the \$500,000 & over in sales class decreased 1.0 percent, to 290.0 million acres. Land operated by farms with \$250,000-\$499,999 in sales increased by 4.1 percent. The average farm size was unchanged in 2009. However, average farm sizes declined in some of the sales classes partially due to smaller farms moving up to higher sales classes.

To access NASS and Colorado reports:

http://www.nass.usda.gov

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This report also contains estimates of farm numbers and land in farms for Puerto Rico. The number of farms with sales of \$1,000 or more in Puerto Rico was 10,400 in 2009, down 800 farms from 2008. Land in farms, at 450,000 acres, is down 20,000 acres from the previous year. The average farm size in Puerto Rico in 2009 was estimated at 43 acres.

Farms and Land in Farms. Colorado and United States, 2004-2009

	Number of Farms <u>1</u> /		Land in Farms 1/		
Year		United		United	
	Colorado	States	Colorado	States	
	Num	ber	Thousan	Thousand Acres	
2004	30,900	2,112,970	31,100	932,260	
2005	30,500	2,098,690	31,100	927,940	
2006	30,700	2,088,790	31,300	925,790	
2007	36,900	2,204,950	31,400	921,460	
2008	36,500	2,200,100	31,300	919,910	
2009	36,200	2,200,010	31,300	919,800	

1/ A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms by Economic Sales Class, Colorado, 2008-2009

Economic	Farms		Land in Farms		
Sales Class	2008	2009	2008	2009	
	Number		1,000 acres		
\$ 1,000- \$9,999	20,600	19,500	2,700	2,600	
\$ 10,000- \$99,999	10,400	11,300	8,400	9,400	
\$100,000- \$249,999	2,600	2,700	5,900	5,800	
\$250,000- \$499,999	1,200	1,100	5,600	5,400	
\$500,000 & over	1,700	1,600	8,700	8,100	

Number of Farms and Land in Farms by Economic Sales Class, United States, 2008-2009

Economic	Farms		Land in Farms	
Sales Class	2008	2009	2008	2009
	Number		1,000 acres	
\$ 1,000- \$9,999	1,222,100	1,228,200	106,700	105,480
\$ 10,000- \$99,999	604,500	597,980	225,310	226,900
\$100,000- \$249,999	149,000	149,490	151,300	148,000
\$250,000- \$499,999	98,500	99,620	143,545	149,435
\$500,000 & over	126,000	124,720	293,055	289,985

POTATO STOCKS - FEBRUARY 1, 2010

Colorado's growers and commercial storage facilities in the San Luis Valley had 12.2 million cwt of potatoes on hand as of February 1, 2010, down 4 percent from the 12.7 million cwt on hand one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 55 percent of the 22.08 million cwt produced in 2009. The February 1, 2009 stocks represented 57 percent of the 21.91

million cwt of potatoes produced in 2008. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for table stock have averaged 68 percent of the production for the 2004-2008 period. The remaining 32 percent of production is used for seed, processing, feed and home use or is lost through cullage and shrinkage. The total quantity of potatoes sold as a percent of production has averaged about 86 percent over the past five years.

The **13 major potato States** held 203 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2010, up 11 percent from a year ago and 2 percent above February 1, 2008. Potatoes in storage accounted for 53 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production, 3 percentage points above February 1, 2009. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 2.80 million cwt on February 1, 2010, unchanged from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon.

Potato disappearance, at 181 million cwt, was 3 percent below February 1, 2009 and down 9 percent from 2008. Season-todate shrink and loss, at 18.7 million cwt, was up 11 percent from the same date in 2009 and 2 percent above 2008. Processors in the 9 major States have used 90.4 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 9 percent from the same period last year and down 15 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 17.1 million cwt of the total processing, down 7 percent from last year and 19 percent below the same period in 2008.

Fall Potatoes:	Production and Stocks
Februar	y 1, 2008-2009 1/

<u>February 1, 2008-2009 1</u> /					
	Crop of 2008		Crop o	of 2009	
		Stocks Feb. 1,		Stocks Feb. 1,	
State	Prod.	2009	Prod.	2010	
	1,00	0 Cwt	1,000 Cwt		
California	3,948	1,300	4,158	1,200	
Colorado	21,907	12,700	22,080	12,200	
Idaho	116,475	66,000	131,000	76,500	
Maine	14,769	8,500	15,263	9,400	
Michigan	14,875	4,800	15,660	5,200	
Minnesota 3/	20,400	10,200	20,700		
Montana	3,465	3,400	3,347	3,100	
Nebraska	8,245	4,100	8,756	4,200	
New York 3/	5,696	1,600	4,950		
North Dakota	22,680	10,400	19,125	9,000	
Oregon	18,676	12,000	21,460	12,900	
Washington	93,000	38,600	48,900	43,300	
Wisconsin	25,730	10,300	28,980	14,900	
Other States				11,500	
13 States	369,866	183,900	383,929	203,400	
Klamath Basin 2/		2,800		2,800	

Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2007 totaled 26.4 million cwt.
Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co. OR.
Missing stocks combined into "other states".

COUNTY ESTIMATES- 2009

The Colorado Field Office of USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) announces the publication of 2009 county estimates of acreage and production for the major crops in Colorado. The estimates are published on the NASS website, <u>www.nass.usda.gov</u>, under Quick Stats, State and County Data. County estimates for additional states are also available.

County estimates for small grains, including wheat and barley, were published on February 19, 2010. Row crops such as corn, sorghum and sunflowers were released February 26, 2010. NASS will publish county estimates for hay on April 16, dry beans and sugarbeets on June 30, and potatoes on October 4. County estimates for Cattle will be published on April 14.

MILK PRODUCTION JANUARY 2010

Milk production in **Colorado** during January of 2010 totaled 224 million pounds, down 10 percent from last year. The average number of cows for January at 116,000 head, decreased 10 percent from the last year. Production per cow averaged 1,930 pounds for the month of January, 1 percent below January 2009.

Milk production in the 23 major States during January totaled 14.8 billion pounds, down 0.6 percent from January 2009. December revised production at 14.6 billion pounds, was down 0.7 percent from December 2008. The December revision represented an increase of 18 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,782 pounds for January, 30 pounds above January 2009. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.32 million head, 191,000 head less than January 2009, but 4,000 head more than December 2009.

Milk Cows and Milk Production - Colorado

Item	Jan. 2009	Dec. 2009	Jan. 2010
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1</u> /	129	116	116
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2</u> /	1,940	1,900	1,930
Production (mil. lbs.) 2/	250	220	224

 $\underline{1}$ / Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

 $\underline{2}$ / Excludes milk sucked by calves.

MILK PRODUCTION ANNUAL 2009

Colorado's total output of milk during 2009 totaled 2.84 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2.94 billion pounds produced during 2008. The annual total for 2009 marks the seventh consecutive year that production has exceeded two billion pounds.

The average number of milk cows for 2009 was 123,000 down 4 percent from a year earlier. The average production per cow for 2009 increased 159 pounds from the previous year to 23,089 pounds.

The annual production of milk for the United States during 2009 was 189 billion pounds, 0.3 percent below 2008. Revisions to 2008 production decreased the annual total 10 million pounds. Revised 2009 production was up 61 million pounds from last month's publication.

Production per cow in the U.S. averaged 20,576 pounds for 2009, 181 pounds above 2008. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 13.1 percent from 2000. The average number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. during 2009 was 9.20 million head, down 1.2 percent from 2008. There was no revision to the average number of milk cows for 2008.

Annual Milk Production, Colorado and United States, 2007-2009

Item	2007	2008	2009	
Colorado				
Milk Cows (1,000 head) 1/	118	128	123	
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) 2/	22,932	22,930	23,089	
Production (mil. lbs.) 2/	2,706	2,935	2,840	
United States				
Milk Cows (1,000 head) 1/	9,189	9,315	9,201	
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) 2/	20,204	20,395	20,576	
Production (mil. lbs.) 2/	185,654	189,982	189,320	

1/ Average number during year, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

COLD STORAGE JANUARY 31, 2010

United States frozen food stocks refrigerated warehouses on January 31, 2010 were greater than year earlier levels for cheese and eggs. Butter stocks were up 28 percent from last month but down 4 percent from a year ago. Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 3 percent from the previous month but down 13 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 5 percent from the previous month but down 18 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 6 percent from last month and down 23 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on January 31, 2010 were up 3 percent from the previous month but down 19 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 10 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 15 percent from last month but down 33 percent from January 31, 2009.

A change in classification of reported data beginning with January 31, 2009 in the Other Chicken category has resulted in an increase of Leg Quarters along with a corresponding decrease in Other Chicken. The updated 2009 data for these categories are published in the 2009 Annual Summary, released on February 22, 2010. The Total Chicken category is unaffected by this change in reporting.

Stocks in Storage United States

Stocks in Storage, United States					
Commodity	Jan. 31, 2009	Dec 30, 2009	Jan 31, 2010		
		1,000 Pounds			
Butter	176,526	133,022	169,818		
Cheese, total natural	882,376	966,758	980,795		
Eggs, frozen	22,558	23,644	24,407		
Poultry, total frozen	1,144,046	898,716	927,939		
Chicken	694,433	633,290	625,258		
Turkey	446,197	261,838	299,884		
Fruits, frozen	1,134,205	1,328,637	1,227,104		
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,569,819	1,496,469	1,580,815		
Vegetables, total frozen	2,172,077	2,471,765	2,291,763		
Potatoes, total frozen	1,171,020	1,043,845	1,087,863		
Meats, total red	1,096,229	924,884	950,373		
Beef, total frozen	462,647	430,280	432,816		
Pork, total frozen	606,936	471,125	495,610		

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

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William Meyer Director Rodger Ott Deputy Director