



# AG UPDATE

To access NASS and Colorado reports:  
[http:// www.nass.usda.gov](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: February 8, 2011

Vol. 31 No. 3

## Contents of This issue

- ▶ Livestock Slaughter
  - ▶ Cattle Inventory
- ▶ Sheep and Lamb Inventory
  - ▶ Agricultural Prices
  - ▶ Wool Production
  - ▶ Grazing Fee Rates
    - ▶ Cold Storage
  - ▶ Goat Inventory

## Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	January-December	
	2009	2010	2010	2009	2010
	<b>Million Pounds</b>				
<b>Colorado:</b>	165.7	171.1	184.6	2,038.1	2,130.9
<b>United States:</b>	4,148.6	4,329.2	4,355.2	49,274.1	49,050.1
Beef	2,134.4	2,235.7	2,272.5	25,966.1	26,316.3
Veal	13.1	11.3	11.7	138.3	134.3
Pork	1,985.3	2,067.8	2,056.0	22,998.9	22,436.0
Lamb & Mutton	15.9	14.3	15.0	170.7	163.6

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER DECEMBER 2010

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during December 2010 totaled 184.6 million pounds, up 11 percent from the same month a year earlier and 8 percent above November 2010. Beef slaughter during December was up 8 percent from a year ago to 208,400 head and the average live weight increased 31 pounds to 1,356. Hog slaughter was placed at 700 head for December 2010, up from 600 head a year earlier. The average live weight of 265 pounds increased 7 pounds from a year earlier. The preliminary total red meat production for all months of 2010 totaled 2.13 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 2.04 billion pounds produced during 2009.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.36 billion pounds in December, up 5 percent from the 4.15 billion pounds produced in December 2009. Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.92 million head, up 6 percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,305 pounds. Veal production totaled 11.7 million pounds, 11 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 77,700 head, down 16 percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from last year, at 261 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.06 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.93 million head, up 1 percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.0 million pounds, was down 6 percent from December 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 217,300 head, 8 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 2 pounds from December a year ago. January to December 2010 commercial red meat production was 49.1 billion pounds, down slightly from 2009. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

## CATTLE INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2011

The January 1, 2010 inventory of all cattle and calves in **Colorado** totaled 2.65 million head, up 2 percent from the January 1, 2010 inventory. Beef cows, at 727,000 head, were up 13,000 head from the previous year. Milk cows increased 7,000 head from last year to 123,000 head. Colorado's 2010 calf crop, at 780,000 head, is unchanged from 2009. Other class estimates as of January 1, 2011 and percent changes from 2010 were as follows: Beef replacement heifers 500 pounds and over did not change from last year's 120,000 head; milk replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, were up 7 percent to 75,000 head; other heifers 500 pounds and over, up 2 percent to 510,000; steers 500 pounds and over, up 6 percent to 910,000; bulls 500 pounds and over, up 11 percent to 50,000; and calves under 500 pounds, down 23 percent to 135,000 head. The total inventory included 1,100,000 head of cattle and calves on feed, up 8 percent from last year.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2010, 92.6 million head, 1 percent below the 93.9 million on January 1, 2010. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 91.2 million on hand in 1958. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.0 million, were down 1 percent from the 40.5 million on January 1, 2010. Beef cows, at 30.9 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2010. Milk cows, at 9.1 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2010. Other class estimates on January 1, 2011, and the change from January 1, 2010, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.5 million, down 1 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.2 million, down 5 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.6 million, up 1 percent. Other heifers, 9.8 million, up 1 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.4 million, down 1 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.2 million, down 2 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 14.5 million, down 3 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.0 million, up 3 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other

heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 26.7 million, down 3 percent. 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 25.9 million, down 1 percent from 2009.

### SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2011

The January 1, 2010 inventory of all sheep and lambs in **Colorado** totaled 370,000 head, unchanged from January 1, 2010. The number of breeding sheep and lambs decreased by 5 percent from last year to 175,000 head while market sheep and lambs increased by 5 percent to 195,000 head. The number of replacement lambs decreased from 30,000 head in 2010 to 28,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older decreased 5 percent from last year to 142,000 head. The number of rams one year old and older remained unchanged at 5,000 head. Of the 195,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 2,000 head were market sheep and 193,000 head were market lambs. There were 2,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, unchanged from a year earlier; 9,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, up 2,000 from the previous year; 42,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 17,000 last year; and 140,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with 158,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2010. The 2010 lamb crop, at 170,000 head, was 6 percent below the 2009 lamb crop.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2010, totaled 5.53 million head, down 2 percent from 2010. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.12 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.26 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2011, totaled 1.42 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2010. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 21 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 34 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings. The 2010 lamb crop of 3.60 million head, was down 2 percent from 2009. The 2010 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2010, unchanged from 2009.

### AGRICULTURAL PRICES January 2011

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 169 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 11 points (7.0 percent) from December. The Crop Index is up 20 points (11 percent) but the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher prices for corn, cattle, wheat, and soybeans and lower prices for eggs, turkeys, milk, and broilers. 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, cattle, and rice offset decreased marketings of cotton, wheat, and apples.

The January index 195, up 11 percent from December and 27 percent above January 2010. Indexes increased for feed grains & hay, oilseeds, and food grains more than offset the index decreases for other crops. The all hay price, at \$112.00 per ton, is unchanged from December but up \$6.00 from last January. The sorghum grain price, at \$9.89 per hundredweight, is \$1.10 above December and \$4.05 above January last year. The soybean price, at \$12.60 per bushel, increased \$1.00 from December and is \$2.81 above January 2010. The all potato price, at \$8.87 per hundredweight, is up 18 cents from December and \$1.70 from last January. The all dry bean price, at \$24.10 per hundredweight, is down 20 cents from the previous month and \$7.00 below January 2010.

The January Livestock and Products Index, at 135, is unchanged from last month but up 11 percent from January 2010. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for cattle, hogs, calves, turkeys, and milk. Prices for broilers and eggs are down from last year. The January hog price, at \$54.60 per hundredweight, is up \$2.30 from December and \$6.20 higher than a year ago. The January beef cattle price of \$106 per hundredweight is up \$7.90 from last month and \$23.90 higher than January 2010. The January all milk price of \$16.20 per hundredweight is down 50 cents from last month but 10 cents higher than January 2010. The fluid grade milk price is down 40 cents and the manufacturing grade milk price is 10 cents lower than the previous month.

**Prices Received and Paid Summary United States**

Index 1990-92 = 100	2010		2011
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.
	<b>Percent</b>		
Prices Received.....	140	158	169
Prices Paid .....	181	188	193
Ratio 1/.....	77	84	88

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

Compared with January 2010, all **Colorado** crop prices averaged higher except for dry edible beans and other hay. Mid-January 2011 wheat, at \$6.98 per bushel, increased 80 cents from the previous month and was \$2.41 above January a year ago. Corn, at \$5.25 per bushel, averaged 58 cents above December 2010 and was \$1.52 above January 2010. The mid-January potato price, at \$12.60 per hundredweight, was up \$1.30 from last month and increased \$6.70 per hundredweight from January a year ago. Dry beans prices increased 20 cents from December to \$22.70 per hundredweight but were \$8.60 per hundredweight lower than January last year. Alfalfa hay, at \$130.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month as well as January a year ago. The other hay price, at \$105.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month but was \$5.00 below the January 2010 price. The January all milk price of \$16.00 per hundredweight was down 80 cents from last month and was 20 cents below a year ago. Beginning with January 2011, State level cows, calves, steers, heifers, and beef cattle mid-month prices will be discontinued.

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

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Jan. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011
<b>Crops</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	4.57	6.18	6.98
Corn .....	Bu.	3.73	4.67	5.25
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2/	2/	2/
Potatoes.....	Cwt	5.90	11.30	12.60
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	31.30	22.50	22.70
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	130.00	130.00	130.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	110.00	105.00	105.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	91.70	115.00	3/
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	92.60	116.00	3/
Cows.....	Cwt	48.50	61.50	3/
Calves.....	Cwt	114.00	139.00	3/
Sheep .....	Cwt	45.00	55.00	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	101.00	145.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	16.20	16.80	16.00
<b>United States</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	4.90	6.45	7.40
Corn .....	Bu.	3.66	4.82	5.37
Soybeans.....	Bu.	9.79	11.60	12.60
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	4.68	3.84	4.05
Barley (Feed) .....	Bu.	2.63	3.29	3.84
Sorghum .....	Cwt	5.84	8.79	9.89
Potatoes.....	Cwt	7.17	8.69	8.87
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	31.10	24.30	24.10
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	111.00	121.00	121.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	97.70	94.60	95.30
Onions .....	Cwt	11.20	12.00	12.80
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	82.10	98.10	106.00
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	87.50	104.00	110.00
Cows.....	Cwt	47.90	55.20	63.00
Calves.....	Cwt	109.00	128.00	135.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	52.40	65.70	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	102.00	146.00	3/
Hogs .....	Cwt	48.40	52.30	54.60
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	16.10	16.70	16.20
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.48	0.46	0.45

<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 – December 2010

Wool production in **Colorado** during 2010 totaled 2.4 million pounds, up from 2.2 million pounds produced in 2009. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 340,000 head, was up 13 percent from 300,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2010 totaled \$3.58 million, up 98 percent from a year earlier as producers received \$1.49 per pound of wool sold compared with \$0.82 per pound the previous year.

Shorn wool production in the **United States** during 2009 was 30.6 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2009. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.22 million head, up slightly from 2009. The average price paid for wool sold in 2010 was \$1.15 per

pound for a total value of \$35.3 million dollars, up 45 percent from \$24.3 million dollars in 2009.

### GRAZING FEE RATES 2010

**Colorado** monthly grazing fee rates for private, non-irrigated grazing land in 2010 increased from last year for the animal unit per month (AUM), cow-calf basis, and dollars per head, with AUM averaging \$15.00 per month, cow-calf rates averaging \$17.10 per month, and dollars per head averaging \$16.50 per month.

Grazing fee rates for the **17 Western States** listed in the table averaged higher in all three categories from the previous year. The animal unit rate increased 70 cents to \$15.30 per month. Cow-calf rates increased 90 cents to \$17.90 compared with last year. The per head rate for 2010 increased \$1.10 to \$16.60.

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

Survey Average Rates <sup>1/</sup>						
State	Animal Unit <sup>2/</sup>		Cow-Calf		Per Head	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	Dollars per Month		Dollars per Month		Dollars per Month	
AZ.....	7/	9.00	7/	12.00	10.00	11.00
CA .....	16.70	16.40	21.00	20.50	17.50	17.00
CO .....	14.70	15.00	16.30	17.10	15.20	16.50
ID .....	12.60	12.00	15.90	15.00	14.00	14.00
KS .....	13.50	15.00	16.50	19.00	14.00	15.00
MT .....	18.00	18.40	20.20	20.20	18.90	19.30
NE .....	24.80	25.60	29.30	31.00	26.50	27.40
NV .....	11.00	12.50	12.00	7/	12.00	13.00
NM.....	10.00	11.50	13.00	13.50	12.00	12.50
ND.....	16.00	18.10	17.70	19.80	16.20	18.50
OK.....	9.00	9.50	11.50	12.50	10.50	11.50
OR.....	14.60	14.20	17.80	17.00	15.50	14.00
SD.....	22.90	22.90	25.60	27.00	23.00	24.50
TX.....	10.50	11.50	11.50	12.40	11.20	13.10
UT .....	13.00	13.10	16.30	17.00	15.30	15.50
WA .....	11.00	12.00	13.00	15.00	12.80	13.00
WY .....	16.00	16.60	18.70	19.30	16.70	17.20
17-State <sup>3/</sup> .....	14.60	15.30	17.00	17.90	15.50	16.60
16-State <sup>4/</sup> .....	16.10	16.70	19.00	19.90	17.10	17.90
11-State <sup>5/</sup> .....	14.70	15.00	17.40	17.60	15.80	16.10
9-State <sup>6/</sup> .....	14.50	15.30	16.70	17.90	15.30	16.70

<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 number of reports to establish an estimate.

## COLD STORAGE January 21, 2011

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on December 31, 2010 were greater than year earlier levels for chicken, eggs, cheese, beef and pork. Butter stocks were up 17 percent from last month but down 38 percent from a year ago. Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 2 percent from both the previous month and last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 2 percent from the previous month and up 1 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 35 percent from last month but down 10 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on December 31, 2010 were up 4 percent from the previous month and up 9 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 4 percent from the previous month and up 25 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 8 percent from last month but down 28 percent from December 31, 2009.

### Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Dec. 31, 2009	Nov 30, 2010	Dec 31, 2010
<b>1,000 Pounds</b>			
Butter .....	133,022	69,932	81,923
Cheese, total natural .....	966,758	1,003,744	1,026,207
Eggs, frozen .....	23,644	22,910	25,355
Poultry, total frozen.....	898,716	940,020	980,940
Chicken .....	633,290	762,790	790,552
Turkey .....	261,838	174,110	187,895
Fruits, frozen .....	1,328,637	1,259,757	1,165,242
Fruit Juices, frozen .....	1,496,469	1,145,201	1,159,262
Vegetables, total frozen...	2,471,765	2,517,056	2,354,187
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,043,845	1,127,477	1,029,039
Meats, total red.....	924,884	925,319	941,322
Beef, total frozen .....	430,280	435,175	446,614
Pork, total frozen .....	471,125	467,950	475,637

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.

## GOAT INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2010

Meat and all other goats in **Colorado** accounted for 35,000 head compared with 38,000 on January 1, 2010 and milk goats totaled 8,200 head, down from 8,400 head a year ago. Angora and all goat inventory numbers on January 1, 2011 totaled 1,000 head. Last year there was no report on Angoras due to confidentiality and publication rules.

All goat inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2010, totaled 3.00 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.49 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. Does one year old and older, at 1.84 million head, were 1 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 514,000 head, down 1 percent from a

year ago. On January 1, 2011 meat and all other goats totaled 2.47 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 2010. Milk goat inventory increased to 360,000 head, 1 percent above January 1, 2010, while Angora goats were up 7 percent, totaling 172,000 head. The 2010 kid crop totaled 1.91 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2009. Mohair production in the United States during 2010 was 1.09 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 181,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.0 pounds. Mohair price was \$3.49 per pound with a value of \$3.79 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. 15 - Potato Stocks
- Feb. 16 - Turkey Hatchery
- Feb. 18 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 18 - Milk Production
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Monthly
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Annual
- Feb. 25 - Chickens and Eggs - Annual
- Feb. 25 - Livestock Slaughter
- Feb. 25 - Trout Production
- Feb. 28 - Chickens and Eggs - Monthly
- Feb. 28 - Agricultural Prices

**William Meyer**  
Director

**Rodger Ott**  
Deputy Director