NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

AG UPDATE

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U.S. CATTLE INVENTORY
JULY 1, 2012

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of July 1, 2012, totaled 97.8 million head, 2 percent below the 100.0 million on July 1, 2011. This is the lowest all cattle and calves inventory for July 1 since the series began in 1973.

Cattle and Calves
United States, July 1, 2011-2012

Class	2011	2012
	1,000 Head	
All Cattle and Calves................	100,000	97,800
All Cows	40,600	39,700
Beef Cows..........................	31,400	30,500
Milk Cows...........................	9,200	9,200
Heifers 500 lbs. and Over.......	16,000	15,700
Beef Cow Replacement.......	4,200	4,200
Milk Cow Replacement........	4,200	4,100
Other Heifers......................	7,600	7,400
Steers 500 lbs. and Over........	14,200	14,000
Bulls 500 lbs. and Over	2,000	1,900
Calves Under 500 lbs.............	27,200	26,500
Calf Crop 1/.............................	35,313	34,500

1/ For the current year, the calf crop is the number of calves born before July 1 plus the number expected to be born on and after July 1.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2012 and the changes from July 1, 2011, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 15.7 million, down 2 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 4.2 million, unchanged.
- Milk replacement heifers, 4.1 million, down 2 percent.
- Other heifers, 7.4 million, down 3 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.0 million, down 1 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 1.9 million, down 5 percent.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 26.5 million, down 3 percent.
- All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 12.3 million, up 1 percent.

The 2012 calf crop is expected to be 34.5 million, down 2 percent from 2011. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 25.1 million, down 2 percent from 2011.

CATTLE ON FEED
JULY 1, 2012

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 970,000 head as of July 1, 2012. The latest inventory was down 5 percent from June 1, 2012, and down 3 percent from the 1,000,000 on feed on July 1, 2011. The inventory included 645,000 steers and steer calves, down 7 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 320,000 head, was up 5 percent from the previous year. The number of cows and bulls totaled 5,000, and remained unchanged from last year. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 170,000 head of fed cattle during June 2012. This was unchanged from May 2012 marketings but down 3 percent from a year ago. An estimated 125,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during June, 31 percent below May 2012 placements but 19 percent above last year's placements for the same time period. Of the number placed in June, 20 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 16 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 32 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 32 percent weighed 800 pounds or greater. Other disappearance during June 2012, at 5,000 head, was 15,000 head lower than last month and 5,000 head below last year.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.7 million head on July 1, 2012. The inventory was 3 percent above July 1, 2011. The inventory included 6.74 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.92 million head, up 1 percent from 2011. Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.66 million, 2 percent below 2011. Net placements were 1.60 million head. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 460,000, 600-699 pounds were 320,000, 700-799 pounds were 390,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 494,000. Marketings of fed cattle during June totaled 1.97 million, 6 percent below 2011. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of June since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 66,000 during June, 8 percent below 2011.

Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, June 1 to July 1, 2011-2012

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
	1,000 head			
On Feed June 1	1,080	1,020	10,902	11,077
Placements During June	105	125	1,695	1,664
< 600 pounds	20	25	460	460
600 - 699 Pounds	25	20	380	320
700 - 799 Pounds	30	40	420	390
800 Plus Pounds	30	40	435	494
Marketings During June	175	170	2,092	1,965
Other Disap. During June	10	5	72	66
On Feed July 1	1,000	970	10,433	10,710
Steers & Steer Calves	690	645	6,502	6,736
Heifers & Heifer Calves	305	320	3,890	3,918
Cows & Bulls	5	5	41	56

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER JUNE 2012

Red meat production in **Colorado** during June 2012 totaled 190.8 million pounds, 2 percent below the 195.36 million pounds produced during June 2011. Cattle kill was down 7 percent from the previous year to 220,300 head but the average live weight increased 48 pounds to 1,316 pounds per head. Hog slaughter increased from the previous year, at 900 head, but the average live weight was down 62 pounds to 195 pounds per head. Sheep and lamb slaughter increased to 73,600 head, a 300 head increase from a year earlier and the average live weight, increased 20 pounds per head to 183 pounds. Accumulated production for the first six months of this year now totals 1,088.4 million pounds, 4 percent above the 1,050.5 million pounds produced during the comparable period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** 4.02 billion pounds in June, down 5 percent from the 4.18 billion pounds produced in June 2011. Beef production, 2.25 billion pounds, was 5 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.87 million head, down 8 percent from June 2011. The average live weight was up 28 pound from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds. Veal production totaled 8.9 million pounds, 20 percent below June a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,000 head, down 23 percent from June 2011. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from last year, at 270 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.75 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.55 million head, down 4 percent from June 2011. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 274 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 12.4 million pounds, was down 1 percent from June 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 168,900 head, 8 percent below last year. The average live weight was 147 pounds, up 10 pounds from June a year ago.

January to June 2012 commercial red meat production was 24.3 billion pounds, up slighly from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States 1/

Area and Species	June 2011	May 2012	June 2012	January-June 2011	January-June 2012
	Million Pounds				
Colorado	195.3	185.1	190.8	1,050.5	1,088.4
United States	4,218.8	4,182.8	4,024.0	24,199.1	24,271.0
Beef	2,375.0	2,232.0	2,252.2	12,986.8	12,757.3
Veal	11.2	10.4	8.9	65.1	59.5
Pork	1,820.0	1,926.8	1,750.4	11,089.2	11,376.6
Lamb & Mutton	12.6	13.6	12.4	76.1	77.5

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

COLD STORAGE JUNE 30, 2012

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on June 30, 2012 were up 2 percent from the previous month but down slightly from June 30, 2011. Butter stocks were down 7 percent from last month but up 28 percent from a year ago.

Total frozen poultry supplies on June 30, 2012 were up 5 percent from the previous month but down 6 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 1 percent from the previous month but down 14 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 10 percent from last month and up 8 percent from June 30, 2011.

Total frozen fruit stocks were up 7 percent from last month and up 13 percent from a year ago. Total frozen vegetable stocks were up 3 percent from last month and up 6 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 6 percent from the previous month but up 15 percent from last year. Total pounds of beef in freezers were down 5 percent from the previous month but up 9 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 7 percent from the previous month but up 20 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 25 percent from last month but up 1 percent from last year.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	June 30, 2011	May 31, 2012	June 30, 2012
	1,000 Pounds		
Butter	190,310	261,586	242,689
Cheese, total natural	1,051,424	1,024,584	1,049,321
Eggs, frozen	33,813	34,498	40,518
Poultry, total frozen	1,270,825	1.144.394	1,198,817
Chicken	756,549	641,725	647,287
Turkey	508,657	498,419	547,431
Fruits, frozen	785,547	835,082	889,500
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,114,617	1,370,114	1,260,502
Vegetables, total frozen	1,475,389	1,521,554	1,567,934
Potatoes, total frozen	1,087,672	1,070,880	1,143,647
Meats, total red	949,376	1,157,700	1,088,543
Beef, total frozen	432,763	497,897	470,832
Pork, total frozen	495,064	636,017	591,685

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Food stocks are excluded for places where entire inventories are turned over more than once a month.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES
JULY 31, 2012

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in July, at 193 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 11 points (6.0 percent) from June. The Crop Index is up 20 points (9.4 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, wheat, soybeans, and hogs and lower prices for cattle, grapes, broilers, 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 movement of wheat, grapes, grain sorghum, and hay offset the decreased marketing of milk, potatoes, cantaloupes, and corn.

The July Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 215 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index is up 1 point (0.5 percent) from June and 11 points (5.4 percent) above July 2011. Higher prices in July for feed grains, concentrates, nitrogen, and LP gas offset lower prices for feeder cattle, feeder pigs, diesel, and potash & phosphate.

Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index	2011	2012	
1990-92 = 100	July	June	July
	Percent		
Prices Received	183	182	193
Prices Paid	204	214	215
Ratio 1/	90	85	90

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

The July beef cattle price of $116 per cwt is down $5.00 from last month but $5.00 higher than July 2011. The July all milk price of $16.60 per cwt is up 40 cents from last month but down $5.20 from July 2011. The July all wheat price, $8.31 per bushel, is up $1.61 from June and $1.21 above July 2011. The corn price, at $7.36 per bushel, is up 99 cents from last month and is $1.03 above July 2011. The all hay price, at $184 per ton, is up $1.00 from June and up $14.00 from last July. Sorghum grain, at $12.00 per cwt, is $2.44 above June and up $1.60 from July last year. The soybean price, $15.60 per bushel, increased $1.70 from June and is $2.40 above July 2011. The all potato price, at at $9.76 per cwt, is down 17 cents from June and $4.43 lower than last July. The all dry bean price, at $43.80 per cwt, is down 40 cents from the previous month but $9.60 higher than July 2011.

Compared with July 2011, all **Colorado** crop prices averaged higher, except for potatotes, and all milk. Wheat prices, at $8.00 per bushel, increased $1.35 from the previous month and were $1.36 higher than July 2011. Corn prices increased $1.04 cents from June to $7.41 per bushel and averaged 81 cents above July 2011. The mid-July potato price increased 60 cents from last month to $9.90 per hundredweight, but was $9.40 per hundredweight below July 2011. The dry bean price for June and July of this year has been withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operators. Alfalfa hay remained unchanged from last month, at $235.00 but was $55.00 per ton higher than July 2011. Other hay, at $200.00 per ton, increased $10.00 from last month and was $45.00 higher than July 2011. The all milk price increased 50 cents higher than last month to $16.70 but was $4.90 below July 2011.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	July 2011	June 2012	July 2012
		Colorado		
		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	6.64	6.65	8.00
Corn	Bu.	6.60	6.37	7.41
Barley (All)	Bu.	2/	6.48	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	19.30	9.30	9.90
Dry edible beans	Cwt	36.70	2/	2/
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	180.00	235.00	235.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	155.00	190.00	200.00
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	21.60	16.20	16.70
		United States		
Crops		Dollars		
Wheat	Bu.	7.10	6.70	8.31
Corn	Bu.	6.33	6.37	7.36
Soybeans	Bu.	13.20	13.90	15.60
Barley (All)	Bu.	5.07	5.50	5.66
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	5.04	5.38	5.05
Sorghum	Cwt	10.40	9.56	12.00
Potatoes	Cwt	14.19	9.93	9.76
Dry edible beans	Cwt	34.20	44.20	43.80
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	189.00	201.00	198.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	119.00	133.00	143.00
Onions	Cwt	19.00	17.10	21.20
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	111.00	121.00	116.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	115.00	124.00	119.00
Cows...	Cwt	73.60	86.00	84.60
Calves	Cwt	138.00	166.00	152.00
Hogs	Cwt	71.70	70.20	73.80
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	21.80	16.20	16.60
Broilers	Lb.	0.470	0.510	0.490

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/ Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION JUNE 2012

Laying flocks in **Colorado** produced 101 million eggs during June 2012, up 4 percent from 97 million eggs produced in June 2011. The number of layers averaged 3.79 million during June of this year, up 5 percent from the 3.61 million produced last year. The June 2012 egg production per 100 layers was 2,382 down 1 percent from 2,400 eggs per 100 layers in June 2011.

United States egg production totaled 7.50 billion during June 2012, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.47 billion table eggs, and 1.03 billion hatching eggs, of which 965 million were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during June 2012 averaged 337 million, up slightly from last year. June egg production per 100 layers was 2,227 eggs, down slightly from June 2011.

All layers in the United States on July 1, 2012 totaled 335 million, down slightly from last year. The 335 million layers consisted of 281 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 51.6 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.81 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on July 1, 2012, averaged 73.9 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from July 1, 2011.

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**

Aug. 10 - Crop Production
Aug. 17 - Cattle on Feed
Aug. 17 - Milk Production
Aug. 20 - Mushrooms
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Aug. 22 - Cold Storage
Aug. 24 - Livestock Slaughter
Aug. 31 - Agricultural Prices

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