



**NATIONAL
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AG UPDATE

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER JULY 2012

Red meat production in **Colorado** during July 2012 totaled 190.5 million pounds, slightly below the 190.8 million pounds produced during the previous month but increased 6 percent from the 180.4 million pounds produced during July 2011. Cattle kill during July was up 2 percent from the previous year to 215,200 head and the average live weight was slightly above 2011 at 1,336 pounds. Hog slaughter, at 1,300 head, was up 800 head from July 2011 but the average live weight decreased 37 pounds to 215. Sheep and lamb slaughter increased to 76,100 head, a 690 head increase from a year earlier and the average live weight, increased 17 pounds per head to 173 pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the first seven months of this year now totals 1.28 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the 1.23 billion pounds produced during the same period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 3.94 billion pounds in July, up 4 percent from the 3.79 billion pounds produced in July 2011.

Beef production, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, up 1 percent from July 2011. The average live weight was up 23 pounds from the previous year, at 1,295 pounds.

Veal production totaled 9.5 million pounds, 6 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,500 head, down 8 percent from July 2011. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from last year, at 241 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.57 million head, up 5 percent from July 2011. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was up 14 percent from July 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 178,600

head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, up 7 pounds from July a year ago.

January to July 2012 commercial red meat production was 28.2 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 8 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 3 percent.

Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States

Area	July 2011	June 2012	July 2012	January-July	
And Species				2011	2012
	Million Pounds				
Colorado	180.4	190.8	190.5	1,230.9	1,278.9
United States	3,792.3	4,023.9	3,944.5	27,991.5	28,215.4
Beef	2,134.1	2,252.1	2,200.8	15,103.0	14,958.0
Veal	10.1	8.9	9.5	75.2	68.9
Pork	1,637.1	1,750.4	1,721.8	12,726.3	13,098.4
Lamb & Mutton	10.9	12.4	12.5	87.0	90.0

CATTLE ON FEED AUGUST 17, 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 940,000 head as of August 1, 2012. The latest inventory was down 3 percent from last year's inventory and down 3 percent from the July 1, 2012 inventory of 970,000 head. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 180,000 head of fed cattle during July 2012. This represents a 6 percent increase from last month's marketings but down 8 percent from the marketings a year ago. An estimated 155,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during July, up 24 percent from last month but down 9 percent from last year. Of the number placed in July, 16 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 13 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 26 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 45 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for July at 5,000 head, is the same as last year and last month.

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 August 1, 2012. The inventory was 1 percent above August 1, 2011. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.92 million, 10 percent below 2011. Net placements were 1.86 million head. During July, placements of

cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 500,000, 600-699 pounds were 325,000, 700-799 pounds were 470,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 627,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.91 million, slightly below 2011. Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during July, 11 percent below 2011.

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

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
	1,000 head			
On Feed July 1	1,000	970	10,433	10,710
Placements During July	170	155	2,135	1,922
< 600 pounds	45	25	620	500
600 - 699 Pounds	25	20	400	325
700 - 799 Pounds	40	40	495	470
800 Plus Pounds	60	70	620	627
Marketings During July	195	180	1,918	1,913
Other Disap. During July	5	5	71	63
On Feed August 1	970	940	10,579	10,656

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION
JULY 2012**

Colorado laying flocks produced 106 million eggs during July 2012 up 5 percent from the previous month of 101 million eggs and up 2 million from July 2011. The average number of layers for the month, at 3.79 million, remained unchanged from the 3.79 million the previous month but was 3 percent below the 3.92 million layers for July 2011. The rate of lay for July 2012, at 2,523 eggs per 100 layers, was 6 percent above the 2,382 for the previous month and above the 2,371 in July a year earlier.

United States egg production totaled 7.73 billion during July 2012, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.68 billion table eggs, and 1.05 billion hatching eggs, of which 983 million were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2012 averaged 335 million, down slightly from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,307 eggs, up slightly from July 2011.

All layers in the United States on August 1, 2012 totaled 334 million, down slightly from last year. The 334 million layers consisted of 281 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 50.6 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.78 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on August 1, 2012, averaged 74.8 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from August 1, 2011.

**MUSHROOMS
2011-2012**

Sales of the 2011-2012 United States mushroom crop totaled 900 million pounds, up 4 percent from the 2010-2011 season. Value of sales for the 2011-2012 United States mushroom crop is \$1.10 billion, up 8 percent from the previous season. The

number of growers, at 279, is down 9 from last season. The average price is \$1.22 per pound, up 4 cents from a year ago.

**Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms Number of
Growers, Sales, Price, and Value – United States:
2009-2012**

Year	Growers 1/	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales 1,000 Lbs.	Price Per Pound 2/	Value of Sales Dollars
2009-10	317	792,493	1.170	923,889
2010-11	288	863,762	1.180	1,017,884
2011-12	279	899,928	1.220	1,099,096

1/ Number of growers counted once if growing both Agaricus and specialty mushrooms. 2/ Average price received at the point of first sale, weighted by each method of sale.

AGARICUS MUSHROOMS

Agaricus mushroom volume of sales totaled 882 million pounds, up 4 percent from the 2010-2011 season. Pennsylvania accounted for 62 percent of the total volume of sales and second-ranked California contributed 14 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop was estimated at \$1.04 billion dollars, up 8 percent from the 2010-2011 season. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 146 million pounds, up 7 percent from last season. Brown mushrooms accounted for 17 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold and 20 percent of the total Agaricus value.

The total number of Agaricus growers in the United States, at 105, is 4 less than last season. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 72 percent of United States Agaricus production, or 636 million pounds.

United States fresh market production of Agaricus mushrooms totaled 771 million pounds, up 7 percent from the previous season, while processed production, at 110 million pounds, is 13 percent below the previous season. Growers reported United States fresh market production made up 87 percent of total sales volume, while processed production represented the remaining 13 percent. Grower total filling intentions for the 2012-2013 crop are 141 million square feet, up 1 percent from the total fillings in the 2011-2012 season.

The 60 growers of Agaricus mushrooms in Chester County, Pennsylvania produced 399 million pounds, decrease of 1 percent compared to the 2010-2011 growing season. This production was valued at 366 million dollars, up less than 1 percent from last season. The growing area in Chester County was 12.4 million square feet, down 4 percent from the previous growing season. Total fillings were 60.9 million square feet, down 0.7 percent from the 2010-2011 growing season.

SPECIALTY MUSHROOMS

Value of sales for commercially grown specialty mushrooms in 2011-2012 totaled 59.9 million, up 12 percent from the 2010-2011 season. A specialty grower is defined as having at least 200 natural wood logs in production or some commercial indoor growing area, and \$200 dollars or more in sales. The average price per pound received by growers, at \$3.32, is up 31 cents from the previous season.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES AUGUST 2012

The preliminary **All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers** in August, at 192 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 2 points (1.1 percent) from July. The Crop Index is up 3 points (1.3 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.0 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, milk, eggs, and soybeans. Lower prices were received for hogs, onions, potatoes, and carrots. 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 cattle, barley, sweet corn, and calves offset the decreased marketing of wheat, hay, corn, and strawberries.

The **August All Crop Index** at 231, increased 1.3 percent from July and is 9.0 percent above August 2011. Index increases for feed grains & hay and fruits & nuts more than offset the index decreases for potatoes & dry beans and upland cotton. The August all wheat price, at \$8.03 per bushel, is up 10 cents from July and 44 cents above August 2011. The corn price, at \$7.54 per bushel, is up 40 cents from last month and 66 cents above August 2011. The All hay price, at \$184.00 per ton, is unchanged from July but is \$5.00 higher than last August. The all potato price, at \$8.23 per hundredweight, is down \$1.06 from July and down \$2.24 from last August. The all dry bean price, at \$43.00 per hundredweight, is down \$2.80 from the previous month but \$9.00 higher than August 2011.

The August **Livestock and Products Index**, at 153, is 2.0 percent above last month but down 3.2 percent from August 2011. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for cattle, calves, broilers, and turkeys. Prices for milk, hogs, and eggs are lower than last year. The August hog price, at \$69.20 per hundredweight, is down \$2.90 from July and \$6.60 lower than a year ago. The August beef cattle price of \$115 per hundredweight is up \$1.00 from last month and \$4.00 higher than August 2011. The August all milk price \$17.80 per hundredweight is up 90 cents from last month but \$4.30 lower than August 2011.

Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2011		2012	
	August	July	August	July
	Percent			
Prices Received	184	190	192	
Prices Paid.....	205	213	216	
Ratio 1/	90	89	89	

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

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Aug. 2011	July 2012	Aug. 2012
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	7.17	7.68	8.02
Corn.....	Bu.	7.06	6.98	7.75
Barley (All)	Bu.	5.25	6.53	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	19.10	9.05	2/
Dry edible beans	Cwt	41.10	54.00	2/
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	190.00	235.00	235.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	170.00	200.00	210.00
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	22.00	16.80	17.50
United States				
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	7.59	7.93	8.03
Corn.....	Bu.	6.88	7.14	7.54
Soybeans.....	Bu.	13.40	15.40	15.90
Barley (All)	Bu.	5.27	6.32	6.67
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	4.91	5.53	5.57
Sorghum	Cwt	10.70	10.70	11.90
Potatoes	Cwt	10.47	9.29	8.23
Dry edible beans	Cwt	34.00	45.80	43.00
Sunflowers	Cwt	32.20	27.10	27.60
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	196.00	198.00	203.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	135.00	143.00	140.00
Onions	Cwt	9.46	21.90	18.30
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	111.00	114.00	115.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	114.00	117.00	118.00
Cows.....	Cwt	70.80	80.90	80.00
Calves.....	Cwt	134.00	144.00	151.00
Hogs	Cwt	75.80	72.10	69.20
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	22.10	16.90	17.80
Broilers	Lb.	0.48	0.49	0.49

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.

Colorado commodity prices for Mid-August averaged higher than the previous month. Wheat, at \$8.02 per bushel increased 34 cents from the previous month and was 85 cents higher than a year ago. Corn increased 77 cents from July to \$7.75 per bushel and was 69 cents higher than August 2011. The alfalfa hay price, at \$235.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month, but \$45.00 above August 2011. Other hay increased \$10.00 from last month to \$210.00 and was \$40.00 above a year ago.

**COLD STORAGE
JULY 31, 2012**

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2012 were down slightly from the previous month and down 4 percent from July 31, 2011. Butter stocks were down 5 percent from last month but up 24 percent from a year ago.

Total frozen poultry supplies on July 31, 2012 were up 1 percent from the previous month but down 6 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up slightly from the previous month but down 14 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 1 percent from last month and up 6 percent from July 31, 2011.

Total frozen fruit stocks were up 22 percent from last month and up 14 percent from a year ago. Total frozen vegetable stocks were up 12 percent from last month and up 7 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 5 percent from the previous month but up 15 percent from last year. Total pounds of beef in freezers were down 3 percent from the previous month but up 10 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 8 percent from the previous month but up 20 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 43 percent from last month and down 5 percent from last year.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	July 31, 2011	June 30, 2012	July 31, 2012
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	187,796	243,235	231,999
Cheese, total natural	1,084,946	1,048,262	1,043,353
Eggs, frozen	33,924	40,191	38,674
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,288,051	1,197,327	1,208,139
Chicken	757,114	646,137	648,638
Turkey	524,846	547,091	554,984
Fruits, frozen	953,392	889,542	1,088,232
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,025,041	1,265,694	1,167,234
Vegetables, total frozen.	1,654,625	1,580,212	1,768,263
Potatoes, total frozen.....	917,833	1,143,598	1,067,616
Meats, total red.....	894,188	1,087,639	1,030,770
Beef, total frozen	415,200	468,732	455,743
Pork, total frozen	454,337	592,880	546,551

Data are collected from warehouses artificially cooled to a temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit or lower, and whose food products are normally stored for 30 days or more. All food items in these facilities are reported regardless of the number of days stored at the time of the report. Also included are specialized storage facilities meeting the 30 day requirement, such as fruit houses, dairy manufacturing plants, frozen fruit, fruit juice, vegetable processors, and poultry and meat packing plants.

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 Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Sept. 6 - Vegetables
- Sept. 12 - Crop Production
- Sept. 19 - Milk Production
- Sept. 20 - Potatoes
- Sept. 21 - Cold Storage
- Sept. 21 - Chickens and Eggs
- Sept. 21 - Cattle on Feed
- Sept. 21 - Livestock Slaughter
- Sept. 27 - Agricultural Prices
- Sept. 28 - Quarterly Hogs and Pigs
- Sept. 28 - Grain Stocks
- Sept. 28 - Small Grains Summary

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