



# AG UPDATE

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**USDA NASS** Colorado Field Office  
PO Box 150969 Lakewood, CO 80215  
**Phone:** (303)236-2300 1-800-392-3202  
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**FAX:** (303)236-2299 1-800-643-6885

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veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

## Red Meat Production - Colorado and United States

Area And Species	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	January-November	
	2010	2011	2011	2010	2011
<b>Million Pounds</b>					
<b>Colorado:</b> .....	171.1	178.2	170.0	1,946.3	1,971.0
<b>United States:</b> ....	4,329.3	4,270.8	4,259.7	44,686.1	45,019.8
Beef .....	2,235.5	2,215.2	2,149.4	24,033.8	24,072.1
Veal .....	11.3	10.5	10.8	122.6	118.5
Pork .....	2,068.0	2,033.5	2,086.9	20,381.0	20,693.2
Lamb & Mutton	14.4	11.7	12.6	148.8	136.1

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER - NOVEMBER 2011

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during November 2011 totaled 170 million pounds, 1 percent below the same month last year and 5 percent below October 2011. Beef slaughter was slightly lower from a year ago to 194,600 head and the average live weight decreased 4 pounds to 1,333 pounds. Hog slaughter at 900 head increased 29 percent from the previous year but the average live weight decreased 14 pounds to 233 pounds. Sheep and lamb slaughter at 88,500 head increased 4 percent from the previous year and the average live weight increased 3 pounds to 155 pounds. Accumulated production of all red meat for the January-November 2011 period totaled 1.97 billion pounds, 1 percent above the 1.95 billion pounds produced during the same period in 2010.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.26 billion pounds in November, down 2 percent from the 4.33 billion pounds produced in November 2010. Beef production, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, down 3 percent from November 2010. The average live weight was down 6 pounds from the previous year, at 1,293 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.8 million pounds, 5 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 73,000 head, up slightly from November 2010. The average live weight was down 14 pounds from last year, at 255 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.09 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.04 million head, up 1 percent from November 2010. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.6 million pounds, was down 12 percent from November 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 186,700 head, 15 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 4 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2011 commercial red meat production was 45.0 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year,

## CATTLE ON FEED - DECEMBER 1, 2011

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 1,160,000 head as of December 1, 2011. The latest inventory was up 2 percent from November 1, 2011, and up 6 percent from the 1,090,000 on feed on December 1, 2010. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 145,000 head of fed cattle during November 2011. This was 6 percent below October 2011 marketings of 155,000 head and 3 percent below a year ago. An estimated 175,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during November, up 13 percent from a year ago but 24 percent below the October 2011 placements of 230,000. Of the number placed in November, 31 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 23 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 17 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 29 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for November, at 10,000 head, was up 5,000 head from last month and 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 12.1 million head on December 1, 2011. The inventory was 4 percent above December 1, 2010. This is the second highest December 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. Placements in feedlots during November totaled 2.04 million, 4 percent above 2010. Net placements were 1.94 million head. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 755,000, 600-699 pounds were 499,000, 700-799 pounds were 375,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 410,000. Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.77 million, slightly below 2010. Other disappearance totaled 102,000 during November, 65 percent above 2010.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States,  
1,000 Plus Capacity, Nov. 1 to Dec. 1, 2010-2011**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	<b>1,000 head</b>			
On Feed Nov. 1	1,090	1,140	11,497	11,914
Placements During Nov.	155	175	1,959	2,039
< 600 pounds	45	55	625	755
660- 699 Pounds	40	40	590	499
700 - 799 Pounds	30	30	374	375
800 Plus Pounds	40	50	370	410
Marketings During Nov.	150	145	1,774	1,770
Other Disab. Durina Nov.	5	10	62	102
On Feed Dec 1	1,090	1,160	11,620	12,081

**HOG AND PIG INVENTORY  
DECEMBER 1, 2011**

Colorado's December 1, 2011 inventory of all hogs and pigs, at 720,000 head, was down 1 percent from a year ago and down 5 percent from the September 2011 total. The breeding hog inventory of 150,000 head remained unchanged from December 1, 2010 and unchanged from September 2011. The market hog inventory for December 1, 2011 was 570,000 head, down 2 percent from a year earlier and down 7 percent from September 1, 2011.

Colorado's 2011 pig crop of 2.8 million head is slightly below last year. There were 285,000 sows farrowed during the December 2010 through November 2011 time period compared with 287,000 sows farrowed during the comparable period a year earlier. The 2011 average litter size was 9.83 pigs this year, up from 9.79 pigs per litter in 2010.

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2011 was 65.9 million head. This was up 2 percent from December 1, 2010, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2011. Breeding inventory, at 5.80 million head, was up slightly from last year, but down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 60.1 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2011 pig crop, at 29.0 million head, was up 2 percent from 2010. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, up slightly from 2010. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 10.02 for the September-November period, compared to 9.89 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

United States hog producers intend to have 2.87 million sows farrow during the December 2011-February 2012 quarter, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2011, but down slightly from 2010. Intended farrowings for March-May 2012, at 2.89 million sows, are down 1 percent

from 2011, and down 1 percent from 2010. The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 45 percent of the total United States hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

**Revisions**

All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2010 through September 2011 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, an adjustment of less than one percent was made to the June 2011 total inventory. An adjustment of less than one half of one percent was made to the September 2011 total inventory. An adjustment of less than one and one half percent was made to the March-May 2011 pig crop.

**Hogs and Pigs, December 1, 2010-2011**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	<b>1,000 Head</b>			
All Hogs & Pigs.....	730	720	64,925	65,931
Kept for breeding.....	150	150	5,778	5,803
Market.....	580	570	59,147	60,128
Under 50 lbs.....	275	265	18,864	19,271
50-119 lbs.....	105	105	16,519	16,895
120-179 lbs.....	70	65	12,233	12,472
180 lbs. & over.....	130	135	11,531	11,490
Sows Farrowed 1/.....	287	285	11,626	11,555
Pigs per litter 1/.....	9.79	9.83	9.78	9.97
Pig Crop 1/.....	2,810.0	2,801.0	113,685.0	115,215.0

1/ Annual: December previous year - November current year

**CHICKENS AND EGGS - NOVEMBER 2011**

Colorado laying flocks produced 112 million eggs during November 2011, unchanged from a month earlier and up 26 million from November 2010. The number of layers during November 2011 totaled 4.7 million, 29 percent above a year earlier but down slightly from the previous month. The average rate of lay for November 2011, at 2,377 eggs per 100 layers, compares with 2,350 eggs per 100 layers during November 2010 and 2,374 for October 2011.

United States egg production totaled 7.61 billion during November 2011, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.62 billion table eggs, and 999 million hatching eggs, of which 932 million were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 2011 averaged 338 million, down slightly from last year. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,253 eggs, up 1 percent from November 2010. All layers in the United States on December 1, 2011 totaled 338 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 338 million layers consisted of 286 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 50.1 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.78 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on December 1, 2011, averaged 75.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from December 1, 2010.

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES – DECEMBER 2011

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 176 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 8 points (4.3 percent) from November. The Crop Index is down 15 points (7.3 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.6 percent). Producers received lower prices for corn, soybeans, wheat, and lettuce and higher prices for eggs, broilers, cattle, 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, milk, broilers, and hay offset the decreased marketing of corn, soybeans, cattle, and grapes. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 23 points (15 percent) from December 2010. The Food Commodities Index, at 168, decreased 4 points (2.3 percent) from last month but increased 20 points (14 percent) from December 2010.

The December all wheat price, at \$6.45 per bushel, is down 81 cents from November but 1 cent above December 2010. The corn price, at \$5.44 per bushel, is down 40 cents from last month but 62 cents above December 2010. The all hay price, at \$177 per ton, is up \$1.00 from November and \$66.00 from last December. Sorghum grain, at \$10.10 per hundredweight, is 60 cents below November but \$1.31 above December last year. The soybean price, at \$11.10 per bushel, decreased 60 cents from November and is 50 cents below December 2010. The all potato price, at \$8.86 per hundredweight, is up 32 cents from November but \$1.08 below last December. The all dry bean price, at \$45.30 per hundredweight, is up \$5.40 from the previous month and \$20.70 above December 2010.

### Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2010		2011	
	Dec.	Nov.	Nov.	Dec.
	<b>Percent</b>			
Prices Received .....	153	184		176
Prices Paid.....	189	206		205
Ratio 1/ .....	81	89		86

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

**Colorado's** December 2011 crop prices averaged higher from a year ago, except wheat, potatoes and dry edible beans. Mid-December 2011 wheat, at \$5.68 per bushel, decreased 50 cents from the previous month and December a year ago. Corn prices decreased 24 cents from November to \$5.61 per bushel but averaged 95 cents above December 2010. Potatoes increased 10 cents per hundredweight from last month to \$10.40, but were 90 cents below December 2010. Dry bean prices, at \$10.40 per hundredweight, were 70 cents below November, but were \$21.50 per hundredweight above December a year ago. The Mid-December 2011 alfalfa hay price, at \$230.00 per ton, decreased \$5.00 from the previous month but was \$100.00 per ton higher than a year ago. Other hay prices, at \$160.00 per ton, were unchanged from the previous month but up \$55.00 from December 2010. The December all milk price of \$19.50 per hundredweight was down 40 cents from last month but increased \$2.70 per hundredweight from a year ago.

## Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Dec. 2010	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011
<b>Crops</b>				
Dollars				
Wheat .....	Bu.	6.18	6.18	5.68
Corn.....	Bu.	4.66	5.85	5.61
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2/	5.30	2/
Potatoes .....	Cwt	11.30	10.30	10.40
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	22.50	44.70	44.00
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	130.00	235.00	230.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	105.00	160.00	160.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	115.00	3/	3/
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	116.00	3/	3/
Cows .....	Cwt	61.50	3/	3/
Calves.....	Cwt	139.00	3/	3/
Sheep .....	Cwt	55.00	3/	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	145.00	3/	3/
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	16.80	19.90	19.50
<b>United States</b>				
Dollars				
Wheat .....	Bu.	6.44	7.26	6.45
Corn.....	Bu.	4.82	5.84	5.44
Soybeans.....	Bu.	11.60	11.70	11.10
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	3.86	5.39	5.50
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	3.40	4.87	4.48
Sorghum .....	Cwt	8.79	10.70	10.10
Potatoes .....	Cwt	9.94	8.54	8.86
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	24.60	39.90	45.30
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	121.00	198.00	199.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	96.00	122.00	126.00
Onions .....	Cwt	11.60	9.47	8.82
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	98.10	120.00	121.00
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	104.00	126.00	128.00
Cows .....	Cwt	55.10	66.00	69.00
Calves.....	Cwt	130.00	153.00	158.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	146.00	3/	3/
Lambs .....	Cwt	66.20	3/	3/
Hogs .....	Cwt	52.30	64.40	64.00
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	16.70	20.40	19.80
Broilers .....	Lb.	0.46	0.45	0.47

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.

3/ Discontinued.

## COLD STORAGE November 30, 2011

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2011 were down 4 percent from the previous month and down 5 percent from November 30, 2010. Butter stocks were down 27 percent from last month but up 36 percent from a year ago.

Total frozen poultry supplies on November 30, 2011 were down 23 percent from the previous month and down 9 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 5 percent from the previous month and down 14 percent from last year.

Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 53 percent from last month but up 11 percent from November 30, 2010.

Total frozen fruit stocks were down 1 percent from last month but up 3 percent from a year ago. Total frozen vegetable stocks were down 3 percent from last month and down 4 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 3 percent from the previous month and up 3 percent from last year. Total pounds of beef in freezers were up 6 percent from the previous month and up 1 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 1 percent from the previous month and up 6 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 207 percent from last month but down 29 percent from last year.

## 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>

- Jan. 20 - Cattle On Feed
- Jan. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Jan. 23 - Milk Production
- Jan. 26 - Vegetables – Annual
- Jan. 27 - Cattle
- Jan. 27 - Sheep & Goats
- Feb. 09 - Crop Production

### Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Nov. 30, 2010	Oct. 31, 2011	Nov. 30, 2011
<b>1,000 Pounds</b>			
Butter .....	69,932	130,684	91,916
Cheese, total natural .....	1,026,117	1,013,443	970,576
Eggs, frozen .....	22,910	33,895	32,908
Poultry, total frozen.....	940,020	1,105,909	854,634
Chicken .....	762,790	695,410	659,035
Turkey .....	174,110	406,864	192,993
Fruits, frozen .....	1,259,757	1,316,915	1,297,502
Fruit Juices, frozen .....	1,145,201	848,046	800,359
Vegetables, total frozen...	2,518,056	2,480,207	2,405,981
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,127,477	1,114,345	1,054,380
Meats, total red.....	925,319	927,021	954,700
Beef, total frozen .....	435,174	414,627	437,563
Pork, total frozen .....	467,950	488,721	494,880

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.

**William Meyer**  
Director

**Rodger Ott**  
Deputy Director