



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

# AG UPDATE

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down 10 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER  
OCTOBER 2012**

**Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States**

| Area<br>and Species  | Sept.          | Aug.    | Sept.   | January-September |          |
|----------------------|----------------|---------|---------|-------------------|----------|
|                      | 2011           | 2012    | 2012    | 2011              | 2012     |
|                      | Million Pounds |         |         |                   |          |
| Colorado: .....      | 187.0          | 204.9   | 167.7   | 1,622.8           | 1,651.5  |
| United States: ..... | 4,192.1        | 4,389.7 | 3,948.4 | 36,487.3          | 36,553.5 |
| Beef .....           | 2,252.2        | 2,386.7 | 2,215.4 | 19,705.3          | 19,341.5 |
| Veal .....           | 11.3           | 11.3    | 10.7    | 97.2              | 87.9     |
| Pork .....           | 1,883.5        | 1,891.5 | 1,953.8 | 16,572.9          | 17,007.4 |
| Lamb & Mutton ...    | 11.8           | 14.2    | 12.5    | 111.9             | 116.8    |

Red meat production in **Colorado** during September 2012 totaled 167.7 million pounds, down 10 percent from 187 million pounds a year earlier and 18 percent lower than August 2012 production. Cattle kill during September was down 11 percent from a year earlier to 187,800 head but the average live weight increased 10 pounds to 1,347 pounds per head. Hog slaughter, at 1,500 head, increased 500 head from a year earlier but the average live weight of 242 pounds was 16 pounds below the previous year. Sheep and lamb slaughter, at 75,000 head, decreased 9,300 head from a year earlier, but the average live weight of 178 pounds was 26 pounds above the previous year. Accumulated red meat production for the January-September period this year, now totals 1.65 billion pounds, 2 percent above last year.

**AGRICULTURAL PRICES  
OCTOBER 2012**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 210 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 17 points (8.8 percent) from September. The Crop Index is up 15 points (6.7 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 4 points (2.6 percent). Producers received higher prices for milk, hogs, grapes, and corn and lower prices for eggs, apples, lettuce, and soybeans. 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 soybeans, corn, grain sorghum, and cottonseed offset the decreased marketing of wheat, milk, cattle, and grapes.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 3.95 billion pounds in September, down 6 percent from the 4.19 billion pounds produced in September 2011. Beef production, at 2.02 billion pounds, was 9 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.54 million head, down 12 percent from September 2011. The average live weight was up 33 pounds from the previous year, at 1,311 pounds.

The October All Crops index, at 239, increased 6.7 percent from September and is 17 percent above October 2011. Index increases for feed grains & hay, oilseeds, and fruits & nuts more than offset the index decreases for commercial vegetables and potatoes & dry beans. The October all wheat price, at \$8.37 per bushel, is up 10 cents from September and \$1.10 above October 2011. The corn price, at \$6.95 per bushel, is up 6 cents from last month and \$1.22 above October 2011. The all hay price, at \$193 per ton, is up \$6.00 from September and up \$8.00 from last October. Sorghum grain, at \$11.90 per cwt, is 40 cents above September and \$1.20 above October last year. The soybean price, at \$14.20 per bushel, decreased 10 cents from September but is \$2.40 above October 2011. The all potato price, at \$6.92 per cwt, is down 28 cents from September and 54 cents from last October. The all dry bean price, at \$35.20 per cwt, is down \$3.00 from the previous month and \$6.40 below October 2011.

Veal production totaled 8.8 million pounds, 17 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 64,300 head, down 13 percent from September 2011. The average live weight was down 17 pounds from last year, at 235 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.91 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.45 million head, down 2 percent from September 2011. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was up 6 percent from September 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 174,300 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 145 pounds, up 11 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2012 commercial red meat production was 36.6 billion pounds, up slightly from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was

## Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

| Index<br>1990-92 = 100 | 2011           | 2012  |      |
|------------------------|----------------|-------|------|
|                        | Oct.           | Sept. | Oct. |
|                        | <b>Percent</b> |       |      |
| Prices Received .....  | 185            | 193   | 210  |
| Prices Paid.....       | 205            | 218   | 220  |
| Ratio 1/ .....         | 90             | 89    | 95   |

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

The October Livestock & Products Index at 160, is 2.6 percent above last month and up 3.9 percent from October 2011. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for broilers, cattle, milk, calves, and eggs. Prices for hogs and turkeys are down from last year. Prices for broilers are down from last year. The October hog price, at \$60.70 per cwt, is up \$5.00 from September but \$8.00 lower than a year ago. The October beef cattle price of \$121 per cwt is unchanged from last month but \$4.00 higher than October 2011. The October all milk price of \$21.10 per cwt increased \$1.50 from last month and \$1.10 from October 2011.

### Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

| Item                            | Unit | Colorado    |              |              |
|---------------------------------|------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                 |      | Oct<br>2011 | Sept<br>2012 | Oct.<br>2012 |
| <b>Dollars</b>                  |      |             |              |              |
| Wheat .....                     | Bu.  | 5.83        | 8.26         | 8.29         |
| Corn .....                      | Bu.  | 5.78        | 6.67         | 6.79         |
| Barley (All) .....              | Bu.  | 2/          | 6.65         | 2/           |
| Potatoes.....                   | Cwt  | 10.20       | 6.75         | 6.30         |
| Dry edible beans .....          | Cwt  | 44.40       | 41.70        | 35.80        |
| Alfalfa hay (baled) .....       | Ton  | 220.00      | 235.00       | 235.00       |
| Other hay (baled) .....         | Ton  | 160.00      | 205.00       | 210.00       |
| Milk sold to plants .....       | Cwt  | 19.70       | 19.50        | 20.50        |
| <b>United States</b>            |      |             |              |              |
| <b>Dollars</b>                  |      |             |              |              |
| <b>Crops</b>                    |      |             |              |              |
| Wheat .....                     | Bu.  | 7.27        | 8.27         | 8.37         |
| Corn .....                      | Bu.  | 5.73        | 6.89         | 6.95         |
| Soybeans.....                   | Bu.  | 11.80       | 14.30        | 14.20        |
| Barley (All) .....              | Bu.  | 5.51        | 6.40         | 6.15         |
| Barley (Feed) .....             | Bu.  | 4.76        | 5.58         | 5.66         |
| Sorghum .....                   | Cwt  | 10.70       | 11.50        | 11.90        |
| Potatoes.....                   | Cwt  | 7.46        | 7.20         | 6.92         |
| Dry edible beans .....          | Cwt  | 41.60       | 38.20        | 35.20        |
| Sunflowers .....                | Cwt  | 29.60       | 28.80        | 28.20        |
| Alfalfa hay (baled) .....       | Ton  | 204.00      | 205.00       | 212.00       |
| Other hay (baled) .....         | Ton  | 133.00      | 142.00       | 146.00       |
| Onions .....                    | Cwt  | 7.82        | 11.10        | 10.30        |
| <b>Livestock &amp; Products</b> |      |             |              |              |
| Beef Cattle .....               | Cwt  | 117.00      | 121.00       | 121.00       |
| Steers & heifers .....          | Cwt  | 122.00      | 125.00       | 126.00       |
| Cows.....                       | Cwt  | 65.00       | 79.20        | 77.50        |
| Calves.....                     | Cwt  | 145.00      | 162.00       | 163.00       |
| Hogs .....                      | Cwt  | 68.70       | 55.70        | 60.70        |
| Milk sold to plants .....       | Cwt  | 20.00       | 19.60        | 21.10        |
| Broilers.....                   | Lb.  | 0.43        | 0.49         | 0.50         |

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's mid-October prices for crop items averaged higher than a year ago, except for potatoes and dry beans. Wheat, at \$8.05 per bushel, averaged \$2.22 above October 2011 and 11 cents above September of this year. Corn averaged \$6.79 per bushel in mid-October this year, up \$1.01 from the previous year and up 12 cents from last month. Dry edible beans at \$35.80 per hundredweight averaged \$8.60 below October 2011, and \$5.90 below last month. Potato prices decreased 45 cents per hundredweight from last month to \$6.30 and averaged \$3.90 below the October 2011 average of \$10.20 per hundredweight. Alfalfa hay prices, at \$235.00 per ton, remained unchanged from last month and were \$15.00 above a year ago. Other hay prices at \$210.00 per ton increased \$5.00 from last month, and increased \$50.00 from a year ago. The October all milk price of \$20.50 was \$1.00 above last month and 80 cents above a year ago.

## COLD STORAGE SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on September 30, 2012 were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 5 percent from September 30, 2011. Butter stocks were down 3 percent from last month but up 29 percent from a year ago.

Total frozen poultry supplies on September 30, 2012 were down 3 percent from the previous month and down 1 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 3 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 5 percent from last month but up 2 percent from September 30, 2011.

Total frozen fruit stocks were up 2 percent from last month and up 10 percent from a year ago. Total frozen vegetable stocks were up 11 percent from last month and up 2 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 3 percent from the previous month and up 15 percent from last year. Total pounds of beef in freezers were down 2 percent from the previous month and down slightly from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 8 percent from the previous month and up 28 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 17 percent from last month and up 79 percent from last year.

### Stocks in Storage, United States

| Commodity                     | Sept. 30,<br>2011 | Aug. 31,<br>2012 | Sept. 30,<br>2012 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1,000 Pounds</b>           |                   |                  |                   |
| Butter .....                  | 150,979           | 201,135          | 195,428           |
| Cheese, total natural .....   | 1,046,014         | 1,002,411        | 994,309           |
| Eggs, frozen .....            | 31,889            | 35,856           | 31,367            |
| Poultry, total frozen .....   | 1,184,231         | 1,210,388        | 1,175,553         |
| Chicken .....                 | 669,496           | 659,343          | 651,749           |
| Turkey .....                  | 509,650           | 547,766          | 521,205           |
| Fruits, frozen .....          | 1,063,633         | 1,145,377        | 1,168,045         |
| Fruit Juices, frozen .....    | 884,388           | 1,068,312        | 982,094           |
| Vegetables, total frozen .... | 2,372,831         | 2,164,699        | 2,409,183         |
| Potatoes, total frozen .....  | 1,057,115         | 1,011,663        | 1,098,805         |
| Meats, total red .....        | 944,878           | 1,047,712        | 1,083,696         |
| Beef, total frozen .....      | 427,590           | 432,777          | 425,621           |
| Pork, total frozen .....      | 491,910           | 585,796          | 630,657           |

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

- Nov. 9 - Crop Production
- Nov. 16 - Cattle on Feed
- Nov. 19 - Milk Production
- Nov. 21 - Cold Storage
- Nov. 23 - Chickens and Eggs
- Nov. 23 - Livestock Slaughter
- Nov. 30 - Agricultural Prices

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