



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

AG UPDATE

To access NASS and Colorado reports:
<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office

Denver Federal Center Bldg 67, Room 630

Denver, CO 80225 **Phone:** (303)236-2300 1-800-392-3202

FAX: (303)236-2299 1-800-643-6885

Released: November 26, 2012

Vol. 32 No. 22

Contents of This Issue

- ▶Milk Production
- ▶Crop Production
- ▶Cold Storage

**COLD STORAGE
OCTOBER 31, 2012**

Stocks in Storage, United States

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on October 31, 2012 were down 4 percent from the previous month and down 6 percent from October 31, 2011. Butter stocks were down 26 percent from last month but up 11 percent from a year ago.

Total frozen poultry supplies on October 31, 2012 were down 6 percent from the previous month and down slightly from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down slightly from the previous month and down 7 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 13 percent from last month but up 12 percent from October 31, 2011.

Total frozen fruit stocks were up 21 percent from last month and up 8 percent from a year ago. Total frozen vegetable stocks were up 8 percent from last month and up 5 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 2 percent from the previous month but up 14 percent from last year. Total pounds of beef in freezers were down slightly from the previous month but up 2 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 4 percent from the previous month but up 24 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 22 percent from last month and up 119 percent from last year.

**MILK PRODUCTION
OCTOBER 2012**

Colorado dairy herds produced 271 million pounds of milk during the October 2012 period, 6 percent above the 256 million pounds produced during the same period in 2011. The average number of milk cows on hand during the month was 135,000, up 4,000 head from the same month last year. Production per cow averaged 2,005 pounds for October, 50 pounds per cow above last year at this time.

Milk production in the 23 major States during October totaled 15.2 billion pounds, down slightly from October 2011. September revised production at 14.7 billion pounds, was down 0.6 percent from September 2011. The September revision represented a decrease of 19 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,791 pounds for October, 1 pound above October 2011. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.47 million head, 10,000 head less than October 2011, and 8,000 head less than September 2012.

Milk Cows and Milk Production, 23 States

Item	Oct. 2011	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012
Colorado			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	131	135	135
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	1,955	1,955	2,005
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	256	264	271
23 States Total:			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	8,475	8,473	8,465
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	1,790	1,729	1,791
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	15,170	14,651	15,165

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves

Cold Storage – United States: October 31, 2012

Commodity	Oct. 31, 2011	Sept. 30, 2012	Oct. 31, 2012
1,000 Pounds			
Butter.....	130,684	195,819	144,981
Cheese, total natural.....	1,017,627	995,338	954,033
Eggs, frozen.....	33,895	31,375	29,024
Poultry, total frozen.....	1,105,909	1,175,279	1,103,721
Chicken.....	695,410	650,823	648,009
Turkey.....	406,864	521,810	454,043
Fruits, frozen.....	1,317,166	1,177,997	1,427,629
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	848,046	988,712	941,131
Vegetables, total frozen.....	2,493,609	2,416,126	2,610,850
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,118,135	1,112,873	1,167,261
Meats, total red.....	929,344	1,082,794	1,057,698
Beef, total frozen.....	416,950	424,930	423,799
Pork, total frozen.....	488,721	630,466	606,175

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.

CROP PRODUCTION NOVEMBER 1, 2012

Colorado's **corn** for grain production for 2012 remains forecast at 133.86 million bushels, down 23 percent from last year's crop of 172.90 million bushels, but unchanged from the October 1 forecast. Expected average yield is forecast at 138.0 bushels per acre, up 5.0 bushels from the previous year but equal to the October 1 forecast. Producers are expected to harvest 970,000 acres for grain compared with 1.30 million acres in 2011. **Sorghum** production for 2012 is now forecast at 3.20 million bushels, down 9 percent from the October 1 forecast, and 35 percent below last year's crop of 4.90 million bushels. An extremely dry growing season reduced yield expectations to an average of 20.0 bushels per acre, 15.0 bushels below the 2011 average. The area expected to be harvested for grain remains at 160,000 acres, which is a 20,000 acre increase from last year's harvested grain area. **Sugarbeet** production is now forecast at 986,000 tons, down 24,000 tons from October's forecast but up 157,000 tons from last year. Yields are expected to average a record high of 33.2 tons per acre, down 0.8 tons from last month's forecast, but up 4.3 tons per acre from the yield attained in 2011. The area for harvest remains forecast at 29,700 acres, up from 28,700 acres harvested in 2011. **Fall potato** growers in the San Luis Valley produced an estimated 21.02 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, down 270,000 hundredweight from last year's crop. Average yield was set at 385 hundredweight per acre, a decrease of 10 hundredweight per acre from the yield attained last year. The harvested area, estimated at 54,600 acres from 55,100 acres planted this year, was 700 acres above 2011.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 10.7 billion bushels, up slightly from the October forecast but down 13 percent from 2011. This represents the lowest production in the United States since 2006. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 122.3 bushels per acre, up 0.3 bushel from the October forecast but 24.9 bushels below the 2011 average. If realized, this will be the lowest average yield since 1995. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 87.7 million acres, unchanged from the October forecast and up 4 percent from 2011.

Sugarbeet production for the 2012 crop year is forecast at 34.9 million tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast. Producers expect to harvest 1.22 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast. Expected yield is forecast at 28.8 tons per acre, 0.5 tons lower than the previous month but 5.0 tons higher than last year. If realized, this will be a record yield for the United States.

Sorghum production is forecast at 256 million bushels, up 2 percent from last month and up 19 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 5.02 million acres, unchanged from October 1 but up 28 percent from 2011. Based on November 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 51.1 bushels per acre, up 0.9 bushel from last month but down 3.5 bushels from

last year. A record high yield is forecast in Louisiana, where farmers reported mostly favorable growing conditions.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.97 billion bushels, up 4 percent from October but down 4 percent from last year. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 39.3 bushels per acre, up 1.5 bushels from last month but down 2.6 bushels from last year. Compared with last month, yield forecasts are higher or unchanged across all States except for Oklahoma and Texas. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at 75.7 million acres, unchanged from October and up 3 percent from last year.

Total U.S. **potato** production in 2012 from all seasons is forecast at 467 million hundredweight, 9 percent above 2011. Harvested area, at 1.14 million acres, is up slightly from the September forecast and up 6 percent from last year. Average yield is forecast at 411 hundredweight per acre, up 12 hundredweight from the previous year.

Production of **fall potatoes** for 2012 is forecast at 422 million hundredweight, up 8 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 991,500 acres, is slightly above the September 1 forecast and 6 percent above the 2011 estimate. The average yield forecast, at 426 hundredweight per acre, is up 10 hundredweight from last year's yield.

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>

- Nov. 30 - Agricultural Prices
- Dec. 11 - Crop Production
- Dec. 14 - Potato Stocks
- Dec. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Dec. 19 - Milk Production
- Dec. 21 - Cattle On Feed

William Meyer
Director

Rodger Ott
Deputy Director



Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2011-2012

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012		2011	2012	2011	2012
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
Colorado:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	1,500	1,420	1,300	970	Bu.	133.00	138.0	172,900	133,860
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	220	245	140	160	Bu.	35.0	20.0	4,900	3,200
All Wheat	2,345	2,363	2,044	2,182	Bu.	40.0	34.3	81,828	74,848
Winter Wheat	2,300	2,350	2,000	2,170	Bu.	39.0	34.0	78,000	73,780
Spring Wheat	45	13	44	12	Bu.	87.0	89.0	3,828	1,068
Oats	45	55	10	6	Bu.	70.0	70.0	700	420
Barley	66	58	63	55	Bu.	126.0	123.0	7,938	6,765
Proso Millet	250	200	230	4/	Bu.	27	4/	6,210	4/
All Hay .....	...	...	1,620	4/	Tons	2.54	4/	4,110	4/
Alfalfa Hay .....	...	...	800	790	Tons	3.6	3.7	2,880	2,923
Other Hay .....	...	...	820	710	Tons	1.5	1.0	1,230	710
Sugarbeets	29.4	31.2	28.7	29.7	Tons	28.9	33.2	829	986
Dry edible beans	38	50	37	45	Cwt.	15.8	15.6	585	702
Sunflowers, All	128	86	113	69	Lbs.	1,099	782	124,200	53,940
Sunflowers, Oil	110	75	97	60	Lbs.	1,000	4/	97,000	4/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	18	11	16	9	Lbs.	1,700	4/	27,200	4/
All potatoes	58.5	6/	58.3	6/	Cwt.	392	4/	22,853	4/
Summer potatoes	4.5	5.4	4.4	5.3	Cwt.	355	385	1,562	2,041
Fall potatoes	54.0	55.1	53.9	54.6	Cwt.	395	385	21,291	21,021
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	9,000	17,000
Peaches .....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	12	15
United States:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	91,921	96,946	83,981	87,721	Bu.	147.2	122.3	12,358,412	10,725,191
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	5,481	6,238	3,929	5,016	Bu.	54.6	51.1	214,443	256,164
All Wheat <u>2/</u>	54,409	55,736	45,705	48,991	Bu.	43.7	46.3	1,999,347	2,269,117
Winter Wheat	40,646	41,324	32,314	34,834	Bu.	46.2	47.2	1,493,677	1,645,202
Spring Wheat	12,394	12,289	12,079	12,055	Bu.	37.7	45.0	455,188	541,959
Oats	2,496	2,760	939	1,045	Bu.	57.1	61.3	53,649	64,024
Barley	2,559	3,637	2,239	3,244	Bu.	69.6	67.9	155,780	220,284
Rye	1,266	1,300	242	248	Bu.	26.1	28.0	6,326	6,944
Proso Millet	370	315	338	4/	Bu.	27.1	4/	9,149	4/
All Hay .....	...	...	55,633	57,574	Tons	2.36	2.12	131,144	121,974
Alfalfa Hay .....	...	...	19,213	18,812	Tons	3.40	2.95	65,332	55,566
Other Hay .....	...	...	36,420	38,762	Tons	1.81	1.71	65,812	66,408
Sugarbeets	1,232.7	1,243.5	1,213.1	1,215.5	Tons	23.8	28.8	28,828	34,946
Dry edible beans	1,205.9	1,733.7	1,155.9	1,690.0	Cwt.	17.2	18.4	19,833	31,033
Sunflowers, All	1,543.0	1,918.2	1,457.8	1,815.1	Lbs.	1,398	1,354	2,038,275	2,458,140
Sunflowers, Oil	1,289.5	1,656.5	1,233.4	1,576.5	Lbs.	1,397	4/	1,722,675	4/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	253.5	261.7	224.4	238.6	Lbs.	1,406	4/	315,600	4/
All potatoes <u>3/</u>	1,099.2	1,152.4	1,077.0	1,136.6	Cwt.	399	411	429,647	467,203
Summer potatoes	48.2	50.3	46.0	49.0	Cwt.	280	356	12,894	17,447
Fall potatoes	957.7	1,004.4	939.5	991.5	Cwt.	416	426	391,180	422,016
Soybeans	75,046	77,203	73,776	75,693	Bu.	41.9	39.3	3,093,524	2,971,022
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	9,420,000	8,065,700
Peaches .....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	1,072	1,023

1/ Planted for all purposes; harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops.

4/ January 2013