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down 4 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Dec. 2010	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	January-December	
				2010	2011
	Million Pounds				
Colorado:	184.5	170.0	179.3	2,130.9	2,150.3
United States:	4,325.8	4,259.7	4,216.4	49,039.4	49,236.3
Beef	2,270.9	2,149.4	2,127.2	26,304.9	26,199.3
Veal	11.7	10.8	10.7	134.3	129.2
Pork	2,055.4	2,086.9	2,065.9	22,436.5	22,759.1
Lamb & Mutton	14.9	12.6	12.5	163.7	148.6

**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
DECEMBER 2012**

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during December 2011 totaled 179.3 million pounds, down 3 percent from the same month a year earlier but up 5 percent above November 2011. Beef slaughter during December was down 3 percent from a year ago to 202,300 head and the average live weight decreased 3 pounds to 1,353. Hog slaughter was placed at 800 head for December 2011, up from 600 head a year earlier. The average live weight of 237 pounds decreased 24 pounds from a year earlier. Sheep and lamb slaughter decreased 5 percent to 85,700 head from a year earlier and the average live weight, at 160 pounds, is a 3 pound increase. The preliminary total red meat production for all months of 2011 totaled 2.15 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the 2.13 billion pounds produced during 2010.

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

**CATTLE INVENTORY
JANUARY 1, 2012**

The January 1, 2012 inventory of all cattle and calves in **Colorado** totaled 2.75 million head, up 4 percent from the January 1, 2011 inventory. Beef cows, at 749,000 head, were up 22,000 head from the previous year. Milk cows increased 8,000 head from last year to 131,000 head. Colorado's 2011 calf crop, at 800,000 head, is up 3 percent from 2010. Other class estimates as of January 1, 2012 and percent changes from 2011 were as follows: Beef replacement heifers 500 pounds, up 29 percent to 155,000 head; milk replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, were unchanged from last year's 75,000 head; other heifers 500 pounds and over, up 2 percent to 520,000; steers 500 pounds and over, up 2 percent to 930,000; bulls 500 pounds and over, no change at 50,000 head; and calves under 500 pounds, up 4 percent to 140,000 head. The total inventory included 1,170,000 head of cattle and calves on feed, up 6 percent from last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.22 billion pounds in December, down 3 percent from the 4.35 billion pounds produced in December 2010. Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, down 6 percent from December 2010. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,297 pounds. Veal production totaled 10.7 million pounds, 8 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,900 head, down 6 percent from December 2010. The average live weight was down 8 pounds from last year, at 253 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.07 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.94 million head, up slightly from December 2010. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 278 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was down 16 percent from December 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 180,700 head, 16 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, up 1 pound from December a year ago.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2012 totaled 90.8 million head, 2 percent below the 92.7 million on January 1, 2011. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 88.1 million on hand in 1952. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 39.1 million, were down 2 percent from the 40.0 million on January 1, 2011. Beef cows, at 29.9 million, were down 3 percent from January 1, 2011. Milk cows, at 9.2 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2011. Other class estimates on January 1, 2012 and the change from January 1, 2011, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.4 million, down 1 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.2 million, up 1 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.5 million, down 1 percent. Other heifers, 9.6 million, down 2 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.1 million, down 2 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, down 5 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 14.1 million, down 3 percent.

January to December 2011 commercial red meat production was 49.2 billion pounds, up slightly from 2010. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 1 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 25.7 million, down 4 percent. The 2011 calf crop was estimated at 35.3 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. This is the smallest calf crop since the 34.9 million born during 1950. Calves born during the first half of 2011 are estimated at 25.7 million, down 1 percent from 2010.

**SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY
JANUARY 1, 2011**

The January 1, 2012 inventory of all sheep and lambs in **Colorado** totaled 460,000 head, up 24 percent from January 1, 2011. The number of breeding sheep and lambs increased by 9 percent from last year to 190,000 head while market sheep and lambs increased by 38 percent to 270,000 head. The number of replacement lambs increased from 28,000 head in 2011 to 31,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older increased 8 percent from last year to 154,000 head. The number of rams one year old and older remained unchanged at 5,000 head. Of the 270,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 1,000 head were market sheep and 269,000 head were market lambs. There were 3,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, up 1,000 head from a year earlier; 14,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, up 4,000 from the previous year; 85,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 42,000 last year; and 167,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with 139,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2011. The 2011 lamb crop, at 190,000 head, was 12 percent above the 2010 lamb crop

All sheep and lamb inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2012, totaled 5.35 million head, down 2 percent from 2011. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 3.98 million head on January 1, 2012, down 3 percent from 4.08 million head on January 1, 2011. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.16 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2012, totaled 1.37 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2011. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Twenty-two percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 22 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 38 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory. The 2011 lamb crop of 3.51 million head, was down 2 percent from 2010. The 2011 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2011, an increase of 2 percent from 2010.

**AGRICULTURAL PRICES
January 2011**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 186 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 7 points (3.9 percent) from December. The Crop Index is up 10 points (5.1 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.6 percent). Producers received higher prices for cattle, broilers, soybeans, and corn and lower prices for eggs, milk, wheat, and lettuce. 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 corn, soybeans, cattle, and rice offset decreased marketings of milk, broilers, cotton, and cottonseed. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20

points (12 percent) from January 2011. The Food Commodities Index, at 171, increased 2 points (1.2 percent) from last month and 12 points (7.5 percent) from January 2011.

The January All Crops index, at 208, increased 5.1 percent from December and 10 percent above January 2011. Index increases for feed grains & hay and potatoes & dry beans more than offset index decreases for commercial vegetables, food grains, fruits & nuts, and oilseeds. The corn price, at \$5.90 per bushel, is up 4 cents from last month and 96 cents above January 2011. The all hay price, at \$172 per ton, decreased \$5 from December but is \$60.00 higher than last January. The sorghum grain price, at \$10.40 per hundredweight, is 10 cents less than December but 91 cents above January last year.

The soybean price, at \$11.70 per bushel, increased 20 cents from December and is 10 cents higher than January 2011. The all dry bean price, at \$45.80 per hundredweight, is up \$4.00 from the previous month and \$19.60 above January 2011.

Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2011		2012
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.
	Percent		
Prices Received.....	166	179	186
Prices Paid	195	205	207
Ratio 1/.....	85	87	90

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

Compared with January 2011, all **Colorado** crop prices averaged higher except for wheat and potatoes. Mid-January 2012 wheat, at \$6.25 per bushel, decreased 9 cents from the previous month and was 8 cents below January a year ago. Corn, at \$6.00 per bushel, averaged 9 cents below December 2011 but was \$1.23 above January 2011. The mid-January potato price, at \$10.80 per hundredweight, was down 10 cents from last month and decreased \$2.20 per hundredweight from January a year ago. Dry edible bean prices decreased 10 cents from December to \$44.00 per hundredweight but were \$19.10 per hundredweight higher than January last year. Alfalfa hay, at \$240.00 per ton, increased \$10.00 from last month and was \$110.0 per ton higher than January a year ago. The other hay price, at \$165.00 per ton, increased \$5.00 from last month and was \$60.00 above the January 2011 price. The January all milk price of \$18.90 per hundredweight was down 20 cents from last month but was \$2.20 cents above a year ago. Beginning with January 2011, State level cows, calves, steers, heifers, beef cattle, sheep, lamb and hog monthly prices were discontinued.

Average Prices Received By Farmers ^{1/}

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	6.33	6.34	6.25
Corn	Bu.	4.77	6.09	6.00
Barley (All)	Bu.	2/	4.78	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	13.00	10.90	10.80
Dry edible beans	Cwt	24.90	44.10	44.00
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	130.00	230.00	240.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	105.00	160.00	165.00
Livestock Products				
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	16.70	19.10	18.90
United States				
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	6.69	7.19	6.86
Corn	Bu.	4.94	5.86	5.90
Soybeans	Bu.	11.60	11.50	11.70
Barley (All)	Bu.	3.86	5.44	5.44
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	3.46	4.89	4.29
Sorghum	Cwt.	9.49	10.50	10.40
Potatoes	Cwt	9.08	9.08	9.08
Dry edible beans	Cwt	26.20	41.80	45.80
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	121.00	199.00	192.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	97.30	126.00	127.00
Onions.....	Cwt	12.40	9.48	8.93
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	107.00	120.00	124.00
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	110.00	126.00	129.00
Cows	Cwt	65.00	70.50	73.80
Calves	Cwt	136.00	157.00	166.00
Sheep	Cwt	81.90	3/	3/
Lambs	Cwt	149.00	3/	3/
Hogs	Cwt	55.80	63.50	62.40
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	16.70	19.80	19.20
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.45	0.47	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.

^{3/} Discontinued.

WOOL PRODUCTION December 2011

Wool production in **Colorado** during 2011 totaled 2.6 million pounds, up from 2.5 million pounds produced in 2010. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 370,000 head, was up 7 percent from 345,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2011 totaled \$5.59 million, up 50 percent from a year earlier as producers received \$2.15 per pound of wool sold compared with \$1.49 per pound the previous year.

Shorn wool production in the **United States** during 2011 was 29.3 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2010. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.03 million head, also down 4 percent from 2010. The average price paid for wool sold in 2011 was a record high \$1.67 per pound for a total value of 48.9 million dollars, up 40 percent from 35.0 million dollars in 2010.

GRAZING FEE RATES 2011

Colorado monthly grazing fee rates for private, non-irrigated

grazing land in 2011 increased from last year for all three categories, with AUM averaging \$17.20 per month, cow-calf rates averaging \$19.30 per month, and dollars per head averaging \$17.70 per month.

Grazing fee rates for the **17 Western States** listed in the table averaged higher in all three categories from the previous year. The animal unit rate increased \$1.70 to \$17.00 per month. Cow-calf rates increased \$1.30 to \$19.20 compared with last year. The per head rate for 2011 increased \$1.00 to \$17.60.

Grazing Fee Rates for Cattle by Selected States and Regions

Survey Average Rates ^{1/}						
State	Animal Unit ^{2/}		Cow-Calf		Per Head	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	Dollars per Month		Dollars per Month		Dollars per Month	
AZ.....	9.00	9.00	12.00	7/	11.00	12.00
CA	16.40	17.30	20.50	21.50	17.00	18.20
CO	15.00	15.30	17.10	17.50	16.50	16.60
ID	12.00	14.50	15.00	16.50	14.00	15.00
KS	15.00	17.00	19.00	21.00	15.00	18.50
MT	18.40	19.40	20.20	21.60	19.30	19.50
NE	25.60	27.30	31.00	32.90	27.40	27.40
NV	12.50	13.00	7/	14.00	13.00	14.00
NM.....	11.50	13.00	13.50	7/	12.50	13.00
ND.....	18.10	18.00	19.80	19.80	18.50	15.50
OK.....	9.50	11.00	12.50	12.50	11.50	13.10
OR.....	14.20	14.80	17.00	17.30	14.00	16.50
SD	22.90	24.20	27.00	29.00	24.50	27.00
TX.....	11.50	14.40	12.40	13.90	13.10	13.90
UT	13.10	13.20	17.00	18.60	15.50	15.80
WA	12.00	12.00	15.00	14.00	13.00	13.00
WY	16.60	17.60	19.30	20.50	17.20	18.30
17-State ^{3/}	15.30	17.00	17.90	19.20	16.60	17.60
16-State ^{4/}	16.70	17.90	19.90	21.10	17.90	18.90
11-State ^{5/}	15.00	16.00	17.60	18.60	16.10	16.80
9-State ^{6/}	15.30	17.20	17.90	19.30	16.70	17.70

^{1/} The average rates are estimates based on survey indications of monthly lease rates for private, non-irrigated grazing land from the January Cattle Survey.

^{2/} Includes animal unit plus cow-calf rates. Cow-calf rate converted to animal unit (AUM) using (1 aum=cow-calf *0.833).

^{3/} 17 Western States: All States listed.

^{4/} 16 Western States: All States except Texas.

^{5/} 11 Western States: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY.

^{6/} 9 Great Plains States: CO, KS, NE, NM, ND, OK, SD, TX, and WY.

^{7/} Insufficient number of reports to establish an estimate.

COLD STORAGE December 31, 2011

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on December 31, 2011 were up 1 percent from the previous month but down 6 percent from December 31, 2010. Butter stocks were up 12 percent from last month and up 29 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 1 percent from the previous month but up 1 percent from last year. Total

pounds of beef in freezers were up 2 percent from the previous month and up 1 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 3 percent from the previous month but up 1 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 55 percent from last month but down 19 percent from last year. Total frozen poultry supplies on December 31, 2011 were down 1 percent from the previous month and down 16 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 3 percent from the previous month and down 22 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 6 percent from last month and up 7 percent from December 31, 2010.

Total frozen fruit stocks were down 6 percent from last month but up 3 percent from a year ago. Total frozen vegetable stocks were down 5 percent from last month and down 3 percent from a year ago.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Dec. 31, 2010	Nov 30, 2011	Dec 31, 2010
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	81,695	93,523	105,180
Cheese, total natural	1,047,926	968,985	981,317
Eggs, frozen	25,357	32,967	36,045
Poultry, total frozen.....	996,859	848,049	837,159
Chicken	802,794	651,216	629,078
Turkey	191,560	194,227	205,679
Fruits, frozen	1,165,123	1,282,608	1,205,506
Fruit Juices, frozen	1,165,564	797,964	958,450
Vegetables, total frozen...	2,354,112	2,398,453	2,287,390
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,018,905	1,053,651	998,639
Meats, total red.....	939,864	958,920	952,610
Beef, total frozen	444,963	441,546	451,199
Pork, total frozen	475,829	495,117	481,673

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.

**GOAT INVENTORY
JANUARY 1, 2011**

Meat and all other goats in **Colorado** accounted for 39,000 head compared with 35,000 on January 1, 2011 and milk goats totaled 11,000 head, up from 8,200 head a year ago. Angora and all goat inventory numbers on January 1, 2012 totaled 1,000 head, no change from last year.

All goat inventory in the **United States** on January 1, 2012, totaled 2.86 million head, down 4 percent from 2011. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.38 million head, down 4 percent from 2011. Does one year old and older, at 1.78 million head, were 3 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 487 thousand head, down 5 percent from a year ago.

On January 1, 2012 meat and all other goats totaled 2.36 million head, down 4 percent from 2011. Milk goat inventory was 360 thousand head, unchanged from January 1, 2011, while Angora goats were down 15 percent, totaling 146 thousand head.

Mohair production in the United States during 2011 was 865 thousand pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 149 thousand head. Average weight per clip was 5.8 pounds. Mohair price was \$4.12 per pound with a value of 3.56 million dollars.

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>

- Feb. 15 - Potato Stocks
- Feb. 15 - Turkey Hatchery
- Feb. 17 - Milk Production
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Monthly
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage - Annual
- Feb. 24 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 24 - Livestock Slaughter
- Feb. 24 - Trout Production
- Feb. 28 - Chickens and Eggs - Annual
- Feb. 29 - Chickens and Eggs - Monthly
- Feb. 29 - Agricultural Prices

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