



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

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# AG UPDATE

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32 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 26 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for January was estimated at 10,000 head, no change from last month but up 5,000 head from 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 11.8 million head on February 1, 2012. The inventory was 2 percent above February 1, 2011. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.85 million, 2 percent below 2011. Net placements were 1.77 million head. During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 445,000, 600-699 pounds were 430,000, 700-799 pounds were 525,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 447,000. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.82 million, 2 percent above 2011. Other disappearance totaled 81,000 during January, 42 percent above 2011.

## CHICKENS AND EGGS JANUARY 2012

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 116 million eggs during January 2012 a decrease from the 119 million eggs one month earlier but up from 88 million eggs produced in January last year. The number of layers during January totaled 4.35 million, 35 percent higher than the 3.23 million a year earlier. The average rate of lay for January 2012, at 2,421 eggs per 100 layers, is slightly lower than the 2,436 eggs per 100 layers during January 2011.

**United States** egg production totaled 7.83 billion during January 2012, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.78 billion table eggs, and 1.05 billion hatching eggs, of which 972 million were broiler-type and 73 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2012 averaged 338 million, down 1 percent from last year. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,319 eggs, up 1 percent from January 2011.

All layers in the United States on February 1, 2012 totaled 337 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 337 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 50.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.97 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2012, averaged 73.4 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from February 1, 2011.

## CATTLE ON FEED FEBRUARY 1, 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 1,140,000 head as of February 1, 2012. The latest inventory was down 1 percent from January 1, 2012 but up 7 percent from February 1, 2011. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 190,000 head of fed cattle during January 2012, up 19 percent from the December 2011 marketings of 160,000 head but even with a year ago. An estimated 190,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during January 2012, 3 percent above a year ago and 19 percent above the December 2011 placements of 160,000. Of the number placed in December, 16 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 26 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds,

## Cattle on Feed, 1,000+ Feedlots, Colorado and United States, February 1, 2011-2012

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
<b>1,000 head</b>				
On Feed Jan. 1.	1,080	1,150	11,513	11,861
Placements During Jan.	185	190	1,889	1,847
< 600 pounds	25	30	460	445
600 - 699 Pounds	50	50	475	430
700 - 799 Pounds	65	60	544	525
800 Plus Pounds	45	50	410	447
Marketings During Jan.	190	190	1,774	1,816
Other Disap. During Jan.	5	10	57	81
On Feed Feb. 1	1,070	1,140	11,571	11,811

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES FEBRUARY 28, 2012

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 180 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 8 points (4.3 percent) from January. The Crop Index is down 8 points (3.8 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.6 percent). Producers received lower prices for milk, strawberries, celery, and lettuce and higher prices for soybeans, corn, broilers, and hogs. 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, milk, broilers, and hogs offset the decreased marketing of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton.

The February all crops index is at 204, decreased 3.8 percent from January but is 2.0 percent above February 2011. Index

decreases for commercial vegetables, food grains, and potatoes & dry beans more than offset the index increases for oilseeds, feed grains & hay, upland cotton, and fruits & nuts. The February all wheat price, at \$7.09 per bushel, is up 5 cents from January but 33 cents below February 2011. The corn price, at \$6.16 per bushel, is up 9 cents from last month and 51 cents above February 2011. The all hay price, at \$176 per ton, increased \$4.00 from January and is \$60.00 higher than last February. Sorghum grain, at \$10.90 per cwt, is 10 cents above January but unchanged from February last year. The soybean price, at \$12.30 per bushel, increased 40 cents from January but is down 40 cents from February 2011. The all potato price, at \$9.22 per cwt, is 1 cent less than January and down 4 cents from last February. The all dry bean price, at \$46.20 per cwt, is up \$4.00 from the previous month and \$17.60 above February 2011.

The February Livestock and Products Index, at 157, is 0.6 percent above last month and up 9.0 percent from February 2011. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for cattle, broilers, calves, hogs, and turkeys. Prices for milk and eggs are down from last year. The February hog price, at \$65.50 per cwt, is up \$2.00 from January and \$4.10 higher than a year ago. The February beef cattle price of \$126 per cwt increased \$1.00 from last month and is \$18.00 higher than February 2011. The February all milk price of \$17.90 per cwt declined \$1.10 from last month and \$1.20 from February 2011.

**Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States**

Index 1990-92 = 100	2011	2012	2012
	Feb.	Jan	Feb.
	<b>Percent</b>		
Prices Received .....	171	188	180
Prices Paid.....	197	208	209
Ratio 1/ .....	87	90	86

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

**Colorado** prices for Mid-February 2012 were higher than a year earlier for crops except wheat and potatoes. Mid-February 2012 wheat, at \$6.34 per bushel, was 14 cents lower than the previous month and 54 cents below February a year ago. Corn prices increased 5 cents from January to \$6.10 per bushel and averaged 74 cents above February 2011. The mid-February potato price, at \$10.80 per hundredweight, was 40 cents below last month and \$2.60 per hundredweight below February a year ago. Dry bean prices, at \$51.00 per hundredweight, averaged \$2.80 per hundredweight above last month and were \$23.50 per hundredweight above February 2011. Alfalfa hay, at \$245.00 per ton, was \$5.00 per hundredweight above January and \$110.00 above February 2011. The other hay price, at \$165.00 per ton remained unchanged from last month but was \$60.00 above February a year ago. Milk prices at \$18.00 per hundredweight decreased \$1.30 from last month and 90 cents from February a year ago.

**Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/**

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		Feb. 2011	Jan. 2012	Feb. 2012
<b>Crops</b>				
Dollars				
Wheat .....	Bu.	6.88	6.48	6.34
Corn.....	Bu.	5.36	6.05	6.10
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	4.08	5.22	2/
Potatoes .....	Cwt	13.40	11.20	10.80
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	27.50	48.20	51.00
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	135.00	240.00	245.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	105.00	165.00	165.00
<b>Livestock Products</b>				
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	18.90	19.30	18.00
<b>United States</b>				
Dollars				
Wheat .....	Bu.	7.42	7.04	7.09
Corn.....	Bu.	5.65	6.07	6.16
Soybeans.....	Bu.	12.70	11.90	12.30
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	3.95	5.40	5.05
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	3.56	4.84	4.28
Sorghum .....	Cwt.	10.90	10.80	10.90
Potatoes .....	Cwt	9.26	9.23	9.22
Dry edible beans .....	Cwt	28.60	42.20	46.20
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	129.00	192.00	198.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	95.80	127.00	130.00
Onions .....	Cwt	9.97	7.52	5.91
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	108.00	125.00	126.00
Steers & heifers .....	Cwt	111.00	130.00	130.00
Cows .....	Cwt	72.50	74.60	80.10
Calves.....	Cwt	139.00	169.00	180.00
Sheep .....	Cwt	76.00	3/	3/
Lambs .....	Cwt	155.00	3/	3/
Hogs .....	Cwt	61.40	63.50	65.50
Milk sold to plants .....	Cwt	19.10	19.00	17.90
Broilers .....	Lb.	0.44	0.49	0.52

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.

**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER  
JANUARY 2011**

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during January 2012 totaled 181.4 million pounds, up 8 percent from the same month last year and 1 percent above a month earlier in December 2011. Cattle slaughter during January was up 4 percent from a year earlier to 201,200 head and the average live weight was up 19 pounds to 1,369. Hog slaughter, at 1,000 head, was 67 percent above January 2011 but the average live weight decreased 23 pounds to 227. Sheep and lamb slaughter, at 79,100 head, was 30 percent above January 2011 and the average live weight increased 13 pounds to 170.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.12 billion pounds in January, up 2 percent from the 4.04 billion pounds produced in January 2011. Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was slightly below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 1 percent

from January 2011. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,300 pounds. Veal production totaled 10.4 million pounds, 3 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,700 head, 6 percent below January 2011. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 262 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.99 billion pounds, 5 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.54 million head, 5 percent above January 2011. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 278 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 12.1 million pounds, was 8 percent above January 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 164,800 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 147 pounds, up 8 pounds from January a year ago.

## 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>

- Mar. 19 - Milk Production
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### Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Species	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2012 as % of	
				Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011
	<b>Million Pounds</b>				
<b>Colorado: .....</b>	167.8	179.3	181.4	108	101
<b>United States: .....</b>	4,042.0	4,216.4	4,123.4	102	98
Beef.....	2,123.7	2,127.2	2,113.8	100	99
Veal.....	10.8	10.7	10.4	97	97
Pork.....	1,896.4	2,065.9	1,987.0	105	96
Lamb & Mutton	11.2	12.5	12.1	108	97

**William Meyer**  
Director

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Deputy Director

## TROUT PRODUCTION 2011

During 2011 **Colorado** had trout sales totaling \$1.84 million and distributed trout valued at \$5.02 million. The total value of the trout sold and distributed, excluding eggs, during 2011 totaled \$6.86 million, up 3 percent from the comparable value of \$6.64 million a year earlier. The total value of fish sales received by trout growers in the United States totaled \$76.6 million for 2011, an increase of 7 percent from 2010. Idaho accounted for 50 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of **trout 12 inches and longer** sold in the **United States** sold during 2011 totaled 38.4 million fish, down 1 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound was \$1.53, up 13 cents from 2010. The value of sales for the 2011 marketing year was \$69.5 million, up 10 percent from 2010. For trout 12 inches or longer, 48 percent were sold to processors.

The number of **6"- 12" trout** sold during 2011 totaled 5.62 million fish, an increase of 7 percent from 2010. The average price per pound was \$3.20 during 2011, up 6 cents from the 2010 price. The total value of sales was \$6.11 million during 2011, a 4 percent decrease from the previous year. The major sales outlets for 6"-12" trout were for recreational stocking accounting for 54 percent of total sales, followed by government agencies with 13 percent.

The number of **1"- 6" trout** sold during 2011 totaled 5.0 million, a 43 percent decrease from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$207 during 2011, down from \$218 in 2010. The total value of sales was \$1.03 million, down 46 percent from last year's total.