United States Department of Agriculture

LDP-M-118

April 27, 2004

Electronic Outlook Report from the Economic Research Service

www.ers.usda.gov

Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook

Leland Southard (Coordinator)

Red Meat, Poultry, and Dairy Prices Showing Strength

Contents

The next release is May 18, 2004

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board.

First-quarter cattle, hog, broiler, milk, and egg prices averaged above a year earlier. The price increases are in the face of export restrictions currently affecting beef and broilers and larger-than-year-earlier pork, broiler, and egg production. These higher prices are increasing producers' returns, but sharply rising feed costs (mainly corn and soybean meal) are eroding those higher returns.

Even with increased production, almost all wholesale broiler prices are considerably higher than in the previous year. The average 12-City price for whole broilers was 73.2 cents per pound in the first quarter of 2004, an increase of over 20 percent from the previous year. Prices for broiler parts are also higher. Some averages for the first quarter in the Northeast market are: boneless/skinless breasts, 179.7 cents per pound, up 28 percent; leg quarters, at 34.3 cents per pound, up 69 percent; whole wings, 119.2, up 67 percent; and whole thighs at 46.6 cents a pound, up 45 percent. While the price changes may be slightly different in other markets, broiler prices have risen strongly for almost all products.

Lower turkey production coupled with higher prices for almost all animal products have led to strong turkey price increases from the previous year. The wholesale price for whole turkeys has only had a small upturn (2 percent higher), but prices for turkey parts are much stronger than at this time in 2003. Over the first 2 months of 2004, prices for boneless/skinless turkey breast averaged $1.55 per pound, up 30 percent from the previous year. Other turkey products rose even more, drum meat prices were up over 150 percent, wing prices were almost 140 percent higher, and prices for mechanically deboned meat (MDM) turkey were at 29 cents per pound, up 78 percent. With production lower and strong prices expected for competing meats, Turkey part prices are expected to remain above year-earlier levels through the first three-quarters of 2004.

First-quarter 2004 pork production and hog prices were both higher than a year ago, reflecting very strong demand for pork products in the United States and in markets abroad--Mexico in particular. January-March pork production is estimated at 5.14

billion pounds, almost 5 percent more than in the first quarter of 2003. The first quarter price of 51-52 percent lean, live equivalent, hogs was $44.18, per hundredweight (cwt), 25 percent above a year ago. Higher hog prices reflect, in part, strong U.S. consumer demand for pork products, especially bacon. Consumers appear willing to pay more for larger supplies of pork at retail. Hog prices are expected to average about $40-42 per cwt in 2004, almost 5-percent above 2003.

Tight beef supplies, in spite of reduced beef exports, and continued strong beef demand continue to result in higher prices. As the spring barbecue season begins, supplies and slaughter weights are much lower than expected. Boxed beef prices rose sharply in early April as supplies of higher grading cattle tightened and demand increased seasonally. Prices moved up from under $140 a cwt in early April to near $160 per cwt in mid-April. The Choice/Select spread widened to about $20 per cwt in mid-April from $6 to $7 per cwt in January/February, and about $12 a year earlier when supplies of higher grading cattle were also tight.

Poultry

Broiler Prices Up Sharply

Even with increased production, almost all wholesale broiler prices are considerably higher than in the previous year. In the first quarter of 2004, the average 12-City price for whole broilers averaged 73.2 cents per pound, an increase of over 20 percent from the previous year. Prices for broiler parts are also higher. Some averages for the first quarter in the Northeast market are: boneless/skinless breasts, 179.7 cents per pound, up 28 percent; leg quarters, at 34.3 cents per pound, up 69 percent; whole wings, 119.2, up 67 percent; and whole thighs at 46.6 cents a pound, up 45 percent. While the price changes may be slightly different in other markets, broiler prices have risen strongly for almost all products. Continued price strength for broiler products through the remainder of the year will be needed to help offset a sharp increase in corn and soybean meal prices. Corn and soybean meal make up the bulk of poultry feed which is the largest variable cost in broiler production. Corn prices are estimated to be 5-14 percent higher this crop year (2003/2004), and soybean meal prices are expected to increase 46-60 percent.

Over the first 2 months of 2004, broiler production totaled 5.28 billion pounds, up 1.6 percent from the same period last year. Most of the production increase is due to a 1.2-percent increase in the number of broilers slaughtered. The average liveweight of birds at slaughter was also higher, but up only 0.6 percent from the previous year. First-quarter 2004 broiler production is estimated at 8.18 billion pounds, up 110 million pounds from earlier expectations and 5-percent higher than in first-quarter 2003. Most of the first quarter 2004 estimated production growth is due to March having 23 slaughter days compared with only 21 slaughter days in 2003.

The increase in broiler production has come at a time when the average size of the broiler laying flock is smaller than the previous year. According to National Agricultural Statistics Service reports, the average size of the broiler laying flock over the first 2 months of 2004 was just over 56 million birds, down 0.8 percent from the previous year. Although the number of hens in the laying flock are down slightly, a greater percentage of the eggs are going to hatcheries so that the total number of chicks hatch for growout is higher. Over the last 5 weeks (through 4/03/04) the number of broiler chicks being placed for growout was estimated at an average of 171 million chicks per week, 2.1-percent higher than the same period in the previous year. This growth in the number of chicks being placed for growout points toward a continued expansion in broiler production through the second quarter, with production estimated at 8.56 billion pounds, 3.5-percent higher than in the second quarter of 2003.

Turkey Parts Price Increases Outpace Whole Bird Prices

With production lower and prices for almost all animal products higher, turkey parts prices have increased strongly from the previous year. The wholesale price for whole turkeys has only had a small upturn (2-percent higher), but prices for turkey parts are much stronger than at this time in 2003. Over the first 2 months of 2004, prices for boneless/skinless turkey breasts averaged $1.55 per pound, up 30 percent from the previous year. Other turkey products rose even more, drum meat prices were up over 150 percent, wing prices were almost 140 percent higher, and prices for mechanically deboned meat (MDM) turkey were at 29 cents per pound, up 78 percent. Turkey prices are expected to remain above year-earlier levels through the first three quarters of 2004.

Over the first 2 months of 2004, turkey production was 831 million pounds, down 9 percent from the same period in 2003. Most of the production decrease is a result of an 8-percent decline in the number of turkeys being slaughtered. The average liveweight of turkeys at slaughter averaged 27.2 pounds, this is down 1.7 percent from the previous year. First-quarter 2004 turkey production is estimated at 1.31 billion pounds, down 70 million pounds from the previous year (5-percent lower).

Turkey production for all of 2004 is expected to be lower than the previous year, as poult placements have been running consistently lower than a year earlier. Over the first 2 months of 2004, poult placements totaled 46.2 million birds, down 6.2 percent from the same period in 2003. Turkey meat production in 2004 is expected to be 5.53 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2003.

Hogs/Pork

Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Report Largely Neutral

The March 1 ***Quarterly Hogs and Pigs*** report indicated that the total U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs was 2-percent above a year ago, while the U.S. breeding herd was 2-percent smaller. With larger market hog inventories and first-half 2004 farrowings likely a bit larger than earlier reported, the report suggests slightly more pork production in 2004. The reported summer farrowing intentions, 2-percent below actual farrowings a year ago, could suggest lower first-quarter 2005 pork production than in 2004.

Canadian Feeder Pigs/U.S. Finishing Operations an Important Source of U.S. Pork Production

Although the recent ***Quarterly Hogs and Pigs*** report indicated U.S. inventories of breeding animals trending lower, U.S. pork production has been trending higher. Higher breeding herd productivity and a developing hog finishing sector in the United States relying on Canadian feeder pigs, together explain higher pork production despite lower breeding inventories. First-quarter 2004 imports of Canadian hogs will likely be record-large, at more than 2 million head. Higher imports reflect strong demand by U.S. hog finishers and lower slaughter demand in Canada.

With imported feeder pigs and slaughter animals from Canada expected to represent almost 8 percent of projected U.S. hog slaughter this year, the outcome of a petition filed by the National Pork Producers' Council et al, filed last month with the U.S. Commerce Department and the International Trade Commission, could have significant implications for U.S. pork production. Preliminary rulings on the petition, that charges the Canadian Government and hog producers with dumping and unfair subsidy programs, could come as early as the summer of 2004. Final resolution of the issues could take as long as a year after the initial filing of the petition.

Production and Prices Higher in the First Quarter

First-quarter 2004 pork production and hog prices were both higher than a year ago, reflecting very strong demand for pork products in the United States and in markets abroad--Mexico in particular. January-March pork production is estimated at 5.14 billion pounds, almost 5-percent more than in the first quarter of 2003. The first-quarter price of 51-52 percent lean, live equivalent, hogs was $44.18 per cwt, 25-percent above a year ago. Higher hog prices reflect, in part, strong U.S. consumer demand for pork products, especially bacon. Hog prices are expected to average about $40-$42 per cwt in 2004, almost 5-percent above 2003. Consumers appear willing to pay more for larger supplies of pork at retail. First-quarter retail pork prices, in the high $2.60s per pound, are averaging more than 3-percent above the same period last year. Retail pork prices for all of 2004 will likely average in the high $2.60s, about 1-percent more than in 2003.

Trade Begins the Year on a Strong Note

The U.S. pork industry exported more than 154 million pounds (carcass weight) of product in January, almost 15-percent more than last year. Mexican demand for U.S. pork products was particularly strong. On April 1, the Japanese Government removed its Safeguard on imported pork products, which effectively lowers imported pork prices. Upcoming export numbers are expected to reflect strong Japanese demand for competitively priced U.S. pork products, particularly while the Japanese market stays closed to North American beef products, and some poultry as well.

January pork imports were about 1-percent lower than January 2003. U.S. consumer demand for imported pork products from both Canada and Denmark was lower, likely due to the lower valued U.S. dollar, which tends to make imported goods more expensive.

Cattle/Beef

Winter Quarter Beef Production Down; Demand Strong

First-quarter beef production is likely down about 7 percent from a year earlier, and slaughter is down over 5 percent, with cow slaughter down sharply. Poor feeding conditions are holding down slaughter weights at the same time beef demand is rising seasonally. Commercial dressed slaughter weights are expected to decline about 10 pounds from the weather-reduced 2003 level and down about 16 pounds from 2002 when feeding conditions were very favorable. This large decline in the dressed averages is occurring along with sharply reduced cow slaughter, which normally would be supportive of heavier dressed weight averages. First quarter cow slaughter was down over 14 percent, but steer and heifer slaughter are down only about 3 percent. In the last half of March, federally inspected steer weights averaged 13 pounds below a year earlier, while heifer weights were down 6 pounds. Although cattle-on-feed inventories on March 1 were 4 percent above a year earlier and marketings are expected to rise seasonally through summer, poor feedlot performance continues to hold back marketing numbers and slaughter weights. This very tight supply situation places cattle feeders in a very strong negotiating position as the early barbecue season begins. While beef cow slaughter declines are positive for stabilizing cattle inventories, actual herd and production expansion is still several years away.

While fed cattle marketings are expected to rise seasonally, supplies will remain tight until feedlot performance begins to improve. Typically slaughter weights don't begin to rise until late April to May and the cool wet conditions in early April will hold down this seasonal weight transition. Cow slaughter is expected to remain low, with the beef sector showing the first feeble steps toward expansion with the lowest beef cow slaughter in several decades. Higher milk prices and tight dairy heifer supplies are resulting in much lower dairy cow slaughter than was expected earlier. First-quarter dairy cow slaughter was down nearly 14 percent from a year earlier.

Beef Prices Rebound Sharply

Tight beef supplies, in spite of reduced beef exports, and continued strong beef demand continue to result in prices sharply above a year earlier. As the spring barbecue season begins, beef supplies and slaughter weights are much lower than expected. Boxed beef prices rose sharply in early April as supplies of higher grading cattle tightened and demand increased seasonally. Prices for Choice boxed beef were averaging 15 to 20 percent above a year earlier. Prices moved up from under $140 a cwt in early April to near $160 per cwt in mid-April. Farm-to-wholesale price spreads have declined as packers were forced to pay higher-than-expected prices for fed cattle. Wholesale-to-retail spreads remained historically wide as tight supplies give the retail sector little incentive to reduce prices for the very tight supply of Choice beef. The Choice/Select spread widened to near $20 per cwt in mid-April from $6 to $7 per cwt in January/February, and from about $12 per cwt a year earlier when supplies of higher grading cattle were also tight.

Prices for Choice beef at retail averaged near $4.00 a pound in January and February and prices are expected to remain strong until supplies of Choice beef increase. Retail meat prices are up sharply as consumers have become more comfortable with the more positive image of meat in diets. Consuming beef is now seen in a much more positive light than at any time in the past 15 to 20 years. In addition, the movement toward higher quality more consistent-eating beef has increased consumer satisfaction. Unfortunately for much of the past year, higher quality beef supplies have been very tight with retail prices well above year-earlier levels. However, consumers seem very willing to pay the higher prices for today's more consistent quality beef. Declining cattle inventories are going to keep beef supplies tight for the next couple of years and prices strong.

In Spite of Strong Beef Prices, Expansion May Be Slow To Materialize

The stronger the industry herd expansion response to higher prices, the tighter beef supplies are going to be through 2006. Cattlemen are likely to remain wary of expansion until forage supplies improve in many areas. The recent reduction in cow slaughter is very positive as the first step toward expansion, but real movement toward expansion cannot occur until heifers are retained this fall from this year's calf crop. The extent to which this occurs will further tighten beef supplies and will not begin to contribute to increased production until mid-2007. Until then supplies will remain tight and prices fairly strong. Market uncertainties regarding export markets and new protocols on production and animal identification programs could certainly restrain expansion plans and may well impact cattle prices and market entry for at least some producers. While the industry is apparently ending the liquidation phase of this much-extended cattle cycle, the expansion phase has yet to materialize.

Veal

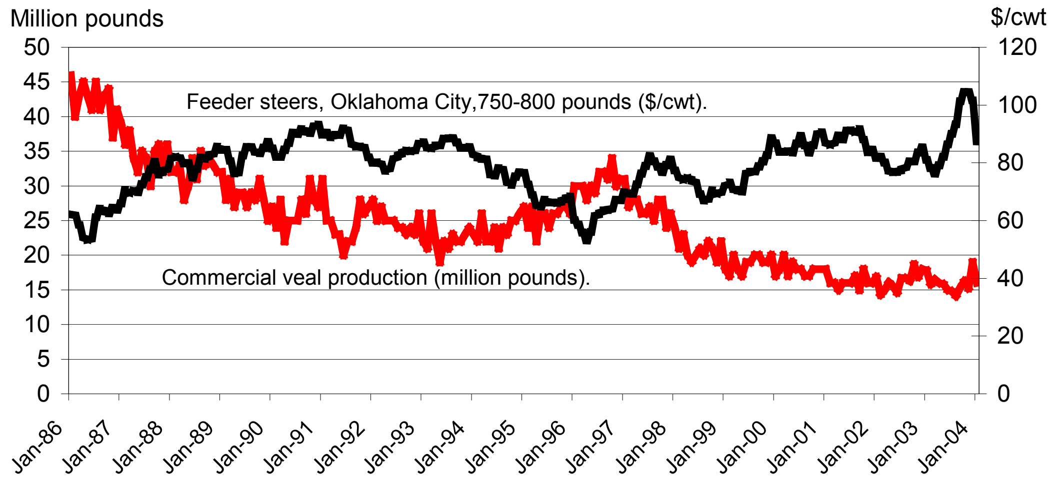
U.S. Veal Production

The veal industry in the United States is primarily a byproduct of the dairy industry—dairy cows give birth to calves in order to produce milk. Most female calves (heifers) are retained as replacements for the dairy herd. Heifers not kept as replacements and most male calves are sold or given away when a few days old and are then raised for meat. Veal calves generally fall into one of two categories: "Bob" veal and "Special Fed" veal. Bob vealers are usually marketed at up to 3 weeks of age or at a weight of 150 pounds. Special Fed calves are either milk fed or formula fed until 16 to 18 weeks old or up to 450 pounds and sold as veal, but can be fed to slaughter weights of 1,200 to 1,400 pounds and sold as beef. There are regional variations in final marketing weights. For example, Oregon State extension budgets are for 330-lb calves, but Pennsylvania extension budgets are for 420-lb calves. Bob veal comprises roughly 15 percent of the veal calf market, but production varies depending on factors affecting the beef industry—the cattle cycle, beef cattle prices, and weather. Special Fed veal makes up the majority of the veal calf market and production is more consistent.

The number of dairy cows in the United States has been declining since World War II, and with it, veal calf production. This occurs especially when feeder cattle prices increase (fig. 1). U.S. veal production has declined since 1990 in all but 3 years. Veal is also imported, primarily from Canada, but Canadian veal imports have historically made up a very small percentage of total U.S. veal consumption, averaging 3.3 percent since 1990. U.S. Department of Commerce data show veal imports from Canada declining for the same 11 years.

Per capita consumption of veal in the United States has also declined over time, from 2.8 pounds in 1975, to 0.6 pound by 2003. This decline in per capita veal consumption may be due to an increase in veal prices as well as a decrease in demand as consumer tastes and preferences have shifted away from veal. Hence, it appears that both veal production and consumption are declining over time, and comprising an ever-smaller portion of the red meat industry.

Monthly commercial veal production and feeder steer prices



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Agricultural Marketing Service.

Contacts and Links

Contact Information

Leland Southard (coordinator)	202-694-5187	southard@ers.usda.gov
David J. Harvey (poultry)	202-694-5177	djharvey@ers.usda.gov
Ron Gustafson (cattle)	202-694-5174	ronaldg@ers.usda.gov
Dale Leuck (beef trade)	202-694-5186	djleuck@ers.usda.gov
Keithly Jones (sheep and goats)	202-694-5172	kjones@ers.usda.gov
Mildred Haley (hogs/pork)	202-694-5176	mhaley@ers.usda.gov
Jim Miller (dairy)	202-694-5184	jjmiller@ers.usda.gov
LaVerne Williams (statistics)	202-694-5190	lwilliam@ers.usda.gov
Laverne Creek (web publishing)	202-694-5191	lmcreek@ers.usda.gov
Donald Blayney (dairy)	202-694-5171	dblayney@ers.usda.gov
Fawzi Taha (eggs)	202-694-5178	ftaha@ers.usda.gov

Subscription Information

Subscribe to ERS e-mail notification service at http://www.ers.usda.gov/updates/ to receive timely notification of newsletter availability. Printed copies can be purchased from the USDA Order Desk by calling 1-800-999-6779 (specify the issue number or series SUB-LDPM-4042).

Related Article

The recent discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) http://www.ers.usda.gov/features/BSE/index.htm in a dairy cow in the State of Washington has caused importers to either ban or restrict beef imports from the United States.

Data

Retail Price Reporting for Meat
http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/Meatscanner/ A new ERS database contains monthly average retail prices for selected cuts of red meat and poultry, based on electronic supermarket scanner data. While not based on a random sample, the raw data underlying the database are from supermarkets across the United States that account for approximately 20 percent of U.S. supermarket sales. Leland Southard, (202) 694-5187.

Web Sites

Animal Production and Marketing Issues, http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/AnimalProducts/
Cattle, http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/cattle/
Hogs, http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/hogs/
Poultry and Eggs, http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/poultry/
Dairy, http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/dairy
WASDE, http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/wasde/latest.pdf

Red meat and poultry forecasts

	2001	2002	2003					2004				
	Annual	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual
Production, million lb												
Beef	26,107	27,090	6,284	6,905	7,084	5,975	26,248	5,855	6,600	6,700	6,000	25,155
Pork	19,138	19,664	4,908	4,750	4,815	5,509	19,982	5,140	4,875	4,965	5,400	20,380
Lamb and mutton	223	219	49	50	48	52	199	53	48	47	50	198
Broilers	31,266	32,240	7,786	8,275	8,448	8,240	32,749	8,175	8,565	8,800	8,500	34,040
Turkeys	5,562	5,713	1,380	1,439	1,409	1,423	5,650	1,310	1,390	1,400	1,425	5,525
Total red meat & poultry	83,006	85,669	20,582	21,598	21,976	21,367	85,523	20,683	21,649	22,087	21,541	85,960
Table eggs, mil. doz.	6,078	6,190	1,524	1,528	1,559	1,596	6,207	1,545	1,550	1,570	1,590	6,255
Per capita consumption, retail lb 1/												
Beef	66.2	67.6	16.2	16.9	16.8	14.9	64.8	15.6	17.5	17.7	15.7	66.5
Pork	50.2	51.5	12.6	12.5	12.6	14.1	51.8	13.0	12.5	12.8	13.7	52.0
Lamb and mutton	1.1	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.1
Broilers	76.6	80.5	19.6	20.7	21.3	19.8	81.4	20.4	21.5	21.3	20.5	83.8
Turkeys	17.5	17.7	3.6	3.9	4.6	5.3	17.4	3.6	3.8	4.1	5.5	17.0
Total red meat & poultry	213.6	220.5	52.8	54.8	56.0	54.9	218.5	53.3	56.1	56.7	56.2	222.2
Eggs, number	252.7	255.5	62.5	62.9	63.6	65.2	254.2	62.2	62.5	63.4	64.2	252.3
Market prices												
Choice steers, Neb., $/cwt	72.71	67.04	77.82	78.49	83.07	99.38	84.69	82.16	74-78	70-76	74-80	75-79
Feeder steers, Ok City, $/cwt	88.20	80.04	78.48	82.49	94.90	103.51	89.85	87.98	81-85	81-87	82-88	83-87
Boning utility cows, S. Falls, $/cwt	44.39	39.23	40.53	46.52	49.84	49.60	46.62	47.50	47-49	46-48	45-49	46-48
Choice slaughter lambs, San Angelo, $/cwt	72.04	72.31	91.92	93.71	89.48	92.82	91.98	99.00	96-100	93-99	93-99	95-99
Barrows & gilts, N. base, l.e. $/cwt	45.81	34.92	35.38	42.64	42.90	36.89	39.45	44.18	42-44	40-42	35-39	40-42
Broilers, 12 City, cents/lb	59.10	55.60	60.30	59.60	63.40	64.60	62.00	73.20	72-74	69-73	66-72	70-73
Turkeys, Eastern, cents/lb	66.30	64.50	61.10	60.60	59.10	67.40	62.10	61.50	61-63	62-66	63-69	62-65
Eggs, New York, cents/doz.	67.20	67.10	77.20	73.90	89.90	110.70	87.90	114.90	103-107	97-103	101-109	104-109
U.S. trade, million lb												
Beef & veal exports	2,269	2,447	585	678	681	579	2,523	10	120	150	150	430
Beef & veal imports	3,164	3,218	810	741	619	836	3,006	775	850	855	740	3,220
Lamb and mutton imports	146	162	40	44	35	48	167	51	41	39	42	173
Pork exports	1,560	1,611	413	438	406	460	1,717	460	475	420	470	1,825
Pork imports	951	1,070	289	301	298	297	1,185	285	290	295	300	1,170
Broiler exports	5,555	4,807	1,200	1,166	1,182	1,385	4,932	1,115	1,150	1,340	1,350	4,955
Turkey exports	487	439	103	114	130	136	483	110	100	125	135	470

1/ Per capita meat and egg consumption data are revised, incorporating a new population series from the U.S. Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis based on the 2000 Census.

Economic Indicator Forecasts 1/

	2002		2003					2004				
	IV	**Annual**	**I**	**II**	**III**	**IV**	**Annual**	**I**	**II**	**III**	**IV**	**Annual**
GDP, chain wtd (bil. 2000 dol.)	10,161	10,083	10,210	10,288	10,493	10,599	10,398	10,713	10,826	10,931	11,041	10,876
CPI-U, annual rate (pct.)	2.4	2.2	3.9	0.6	2.3	0.9	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.6
Unemployment (pct.)	5.9	5.8	5.8	6.2	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.6
Interest (pct.)												
3-month Treasury bill	1.3	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.2
10-year Treasury bond yield	4.0	4.6	3.9	3.6	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.5

1/ Source: Survey of Professional Forecasters, Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank, February 2004.

Dairy Forecasts

	2002		2003					2004				
	IV	**Annual**	**I**	**II**	**III**	**IV**	**Annual**	**I**	**II**	**III**	**IV**	**Annual**
Milk cows (thous,)	9,142	9,139	9,144	9,109	9,073	9,011	9,084	8,990	8,960	8,920	8,890	8,940
Milk per cow (pounds)	4,555	18,608	4,710	4,827	4,601	4,609	18,747	4,775	4,890	4,665	4,695	19,025
Milk production (bil. pounds)	41.6	170.1	43.1	44.0	41.7	41.5	170.3	42.9	43.8	41.6	41.7	170.1
Commercial use (bil. pounds)												
milkfat basis	43.9	170.8	41.4	43.0	44.9	45.3	174.7	42.0	43.9	45.2	45.3	176.3
skim solids basis	41.3	163.9	40.1	41.3	42.3	41.9	165.6	42.5	43.2	42.5	42.1	170.3
Net removals (bil. pounds)												
milkfat basis	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.0	1.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
skim solids basis	1.4	9.8	3.1	3.2	1.5	0.9	8.6	0.6	0.8	1.8	1.2	4.3
Prices (dol./cwt)												
All milk 1/	11.97	12.11	11.37	11.07	13.20	14.40	12.51	13.83	17.90 -18.30	16.15 -16.85	14.90 -15.90	15.70 -16.20
Class III	10.10	10.42	9.52	9.62	13.29	13.24	11.42	12.66	18.45 -18.85	15.30 -16.00	13.30 -14.30	14.95 -15.45
Class IV	10.52	10.81	9.89	9.74	10.05	10.33	10.00	12.43	13.50 -14.00	12.20 -13.00	11.45 -12.55	12.40 -13.00

1/ Simple averages of monthly prices. May not match reported annual averages.

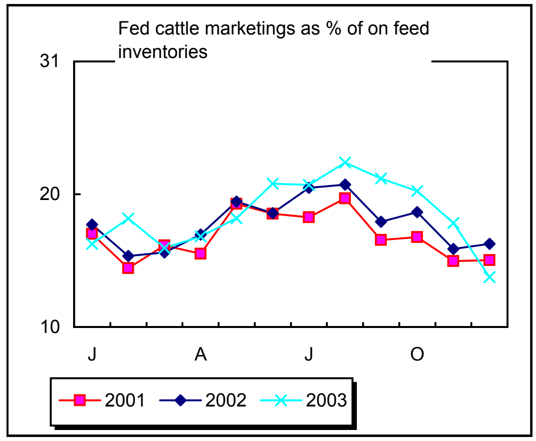
PRODUCTION INDICATORS

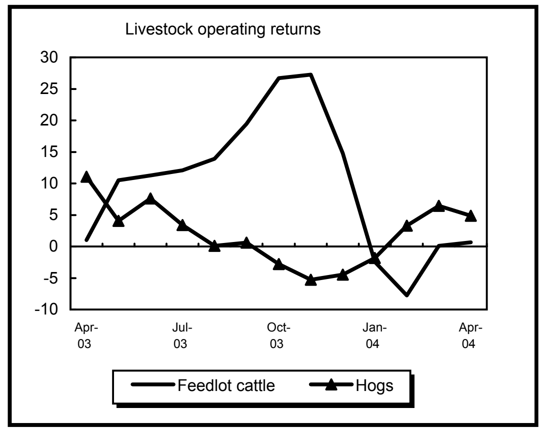
	Mar. '2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. /* 2004
			1,000 Head	
Cattle:				
On feed - US, 1,000+ Hd.	10,546	11,253	11,128	10,977
Net placements	1,970	1,657	1,541	1,737
Marketings	1,803	1,782	1,692	1,966
Broilers:				
Eggs in incubators (000) /1	631,402	637,048	636,126	647,596
Chicks hatched (000) /2	774,354	773,970	708,480	791,149
Hatching egg layers /1	57,335	55,037	56,074	56,810
Pullets placed (000)	7,038	6,811	7,058	6,815
Hvy-type hen slaughter /2	5,596	5,487	4,330	5,280
Turkeys:				
Eggs in incubators (000) /1	31,271	28,394	28,774	29,113
Poults placed (000)	24,902	23,273	23,120	23,908
Eggs:				
Table egg prod. (mil. doz.) /2	526.3	526.3	478.0	537.0
Table egg layers, (000) /1	280,082	280,096	279,564	280,529
Table eggs/100 layers /1	72.1	73.4	72.1	72.9
Chicks hatched (000) /2	36,775	35,350	31,490	37,530
Lt.-type hen slaughter /2	6,963	5,838	4,611	5,570

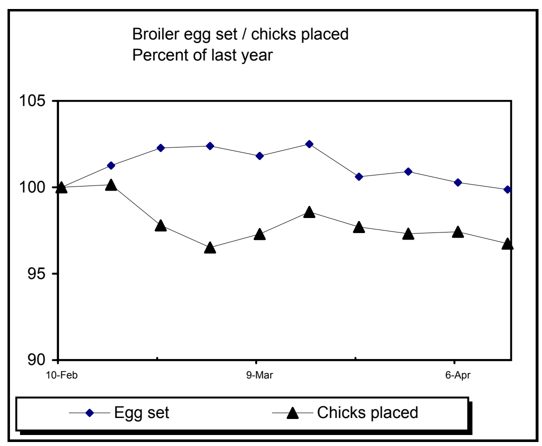
ESTIMATED RETURNS

	Apr. '2003	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Apr. /* 2004
			Cents/lb	
Great Plains cattle feedlot				
Breakeven price /3	71.75	85.37	86.16	84.35
Selling price	78.98	77.60	86.25	85.00
Net margin	7.23	-7.77	0.09	0.65
N. Central hog farrow to finish				
Breakeven price /3	39.25	41.84	41.85	42.86
Selling price	36.42	45.15	48.30	47.75
Net margin	-2.83	3.31	6.45	4.89
Broiler	**Index**	**Index**	**Index**	**Index**
Feed Cost 1998-2000=100	107.1	117.6	123.7	129.0
Market Price 1998-2000=100	104.6	139.5	146.0	148.0
Price - Cost 1998-2000=100	103.6	147.3	153.9	154.9
Turkey				
Feed Cost 1998-2000=100	105.4	121.5	121.8	129.5
Market Price 1998-2000=100	90.7	90.9	93.8	94.4
Price - Cost 1998-2000=100	84.1	77.0	81.0	78.5
Egg				
Feed Cost 1998-2000=100	109.8	127.3	133.9	138.8
Market Price 1998-2000=100	96.1	139.7	155.3	116.1
Price - Cost 1998-2000=100	88.9	146.1	166.5	104.3

/1 First of month.
/2 Last month estimated.
/3 Does not include capital replacement cost.
/* estimate.

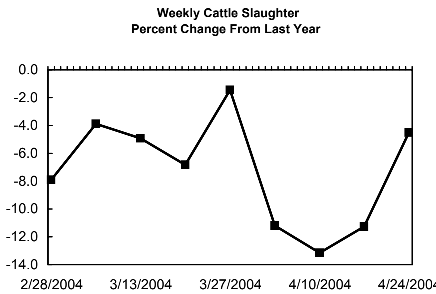




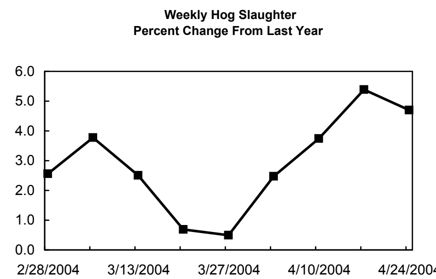


MEAT STATISTICS

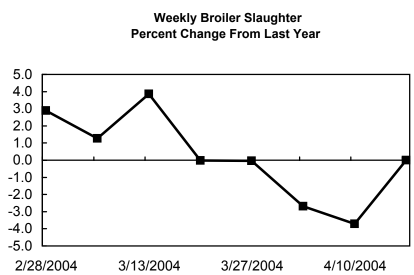
	Jan. - Apr. 2003	Jan. - Apr. 2004	2003 Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	/*
Commercial production				*Million pounds*				
Beef	8,436	7,781	1,978	1,924	1,803	2,109	1,945	
Veal	66	54	19	16	15	14	9	
Pork	6,570	6,870	1,873	1,758	1,571	1,801	1,740	
Lamb	69	69	18	15	15	22	17	
Total red meat	15,141	14,774	3,888	3,713	3,403	3,946	3,711	
Broilers	10,520	11,021	2,764	2,825	2,451	2,929	2,816	
Other chicken	169	145	39	39	30	36	39	
Turkeys	1,854	1,685	439	440	391	432	422	
Total poultry	12,544	12,851	3,242	3,304	2,873	3,397	3,277	
Total meat & poultry	27,684	27,625	7,130	7,018	6,276	7,343	6,988	

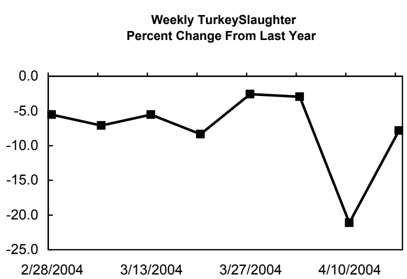


	Jan. - Apr. 2003	Jan. - Apr. 2004	2003 Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	/*
Commercial slaughter/**				*Thousand head*				
Cattle	11,317	10,547	2,675	2,577	2,427	2,871	2,672	
Steers	5,479	5,155	1,278	1,246	1,144	1,408	1,357	
Heifers	3,618	3,496	815	826	844	971	855	
Beef Cows	1,020	883	284	241	193	224	225	
Dairy Cows	1,002	842	249	223	210	222	187	
Bulls and stags	198	171	49	41	36	46	48	
Calves	341	281	97	79	72	77	53	
Sheep	1,026	994	262	219	213	307	255	
Hogs	32,996	34,414	9,361	8,789	7,886	9,039	8,700	
Barrows & gilts	31,871	33,205	9,057	8,506	7,606	8,708	8,385	
Sows	1,044	1,118	284	263	259	306	290	
Broilers	2,755,154	2,847,632	715,407	722,586	653,546	751,500	720,000	
Turkeys	85,600	78,649	20,751	20,153	18,446	20,400	19,650	



	Apr. 2003	2003 Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	/*
F.I. dressed weight			*Pounds*				
Cattle	731	747	753	750	741	735	
Calves	205	200	202	207	190	183	
Sheep	67	70	72	71	73	69	
Hogs	200	201	201	200	200	201	
Beginning cold storage stocks			*Million pounds*				
Beef	403.1	373.8	395.1	434.4	435.0	418.8	
Pork	530.5	438.9	470.7	510.5	482.8	454.7	
Bellies	43.0	33.1	49.0	63.1	57.1	51.7	
Hams	90.9	73.6	49.9	71.8	68.7	51.7	
Total chicken	642.0	569.3	611.5	534.9	542.8	597.4	
Turkey	549.3	350.7	354.0	420.5	471.7	515.0	
Frozen eggs	17.0	14.9	18.0	21.3	21.1	19.3	



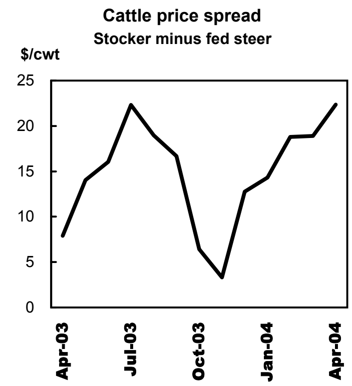


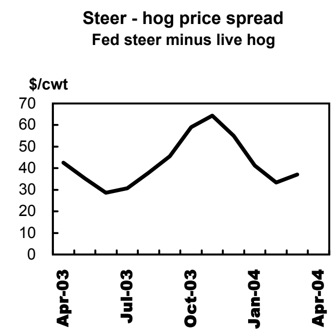
/* Estimates with exception of Cold Storage

/** Slaughter classes are estimated

LIVESTOCK PRICES

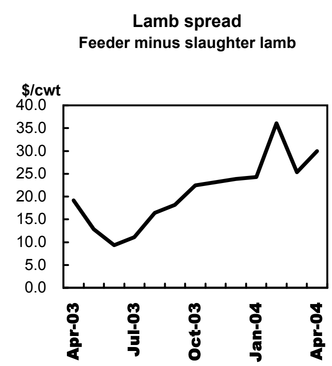
	2003 Apr.	2004 Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. /*
Cattle prices						
Steers, Choice, 11-13 cwt						
Texas Panhandle	78.98	91.11	80.25	78.57	85.41	85.00
Nebraska Direct	79.24	90.75	80.36	79.15	86.96	86.35
Cows - Sioux Falls						
Utility breaking	46.80	52.88	49.63	47.38	50.50	55.35
Utility boning	45.20	48.13	48.50	45.50	48.50	52.40
Feeder Cattle - Oklahoma City						
Steers: Med. #1						
500-550 lb	97.20	111.98	107.44	111.19	115.86	118.25
600-650 lb	86.87	103.88	94.58	97.36	104.31	107.35
750-800 lb	79.15	101.63	87.36	86.61	89.97	94.85
Heifers: Med. #1						
450-500 lb	90.84	99.92	99.02	101.86	109.84	110.50
700-750 lb	75.52	94.07	83.98	82.45	87.69	90.30
Hog prices						
Barrows and gilts						
National base 51-52% lean	36.42	36.02	39.02	45.21	48.30	47.75
(live equivalent = carcass x .74)						
Sows						
Iowa-S. Minn. #1-2, 300-400 lb	25.47	26.83	28.36	36.45	41.00	42.50
Sheep & lamb prices						
San Angelo, TX						
Slaughter lambs, Choice	88.13	96.17	99.44	99.94	102.50	92.35
Ewes, Good	38.81	49.25	49.38	49.87	42.62	44.55
Feeder lambs, Choice	107.31	120.00	123.75	136.00	127.81	122.30





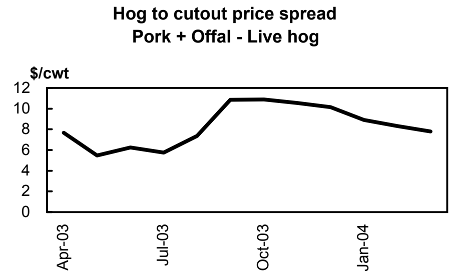
GRAIN AND FEED PRICES

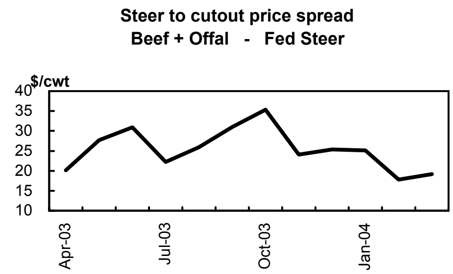
	2003 Apr.	2004 Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. /*
			$/bu			
Corn, #2 Yellow, Cen. Ill	2.36	2.38	2.52	2.73	2.89	3.00
Wheat, HRW Ord., K.C.	3.73	4.21	4.25	4.15	4.20	4.23
			$/ton			
SBM, 48% Solvent, Decatur	182.10	231.11	252.15	257.39	301.14	308.30
Alfalfa Hay, U.S. Avg.	96.20	87.90	83.60	84.70	85.90	N/A
Grass Hay, U.S. Avg.	86.40	66.90	71.40	69.90	70.90	N/A

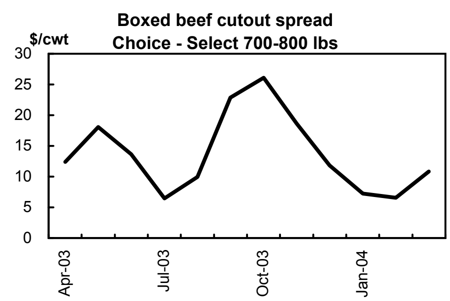


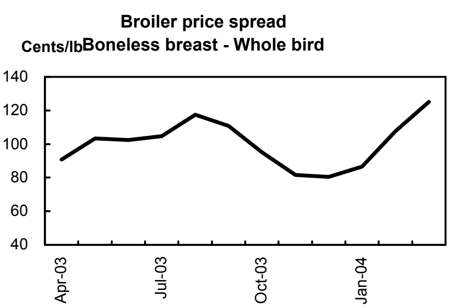
WHOLESALE PRICES

	2003		2004			
	Apr.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. /*
Beef, Central U.S.						
Boxed beef cutout				$/cwt		
Choice 1-3 550-700 lb	133.03	153.71	138.60	129.29	141.34	153.80
Choice 1-3 700-850 lb	133.38	151.83	137.40	127.51	141.51	155.00
Select 1-3 700-850 lb	121.01	140.01	130.15	120.95	130.66	138.85
Canner-Cutter Cows	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bnls. beef, 90% fresh	102.77	125.69	131.66	126.86	121.78	133.30
Importd bnls. beef 90% frz.	93.72	125.63	124.78	120.15	119.44	121.50
Hide & offal value	8.12	10.31	9.05	8.22	8.25	8.24
Veal carcass, 220-280 lb	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pork, Central U.S.						
Pork cutout composite	54.57	55.71	58.57	66.01	69.51	70.00
Loins, 14-19 lb Bl 1/4" trim	96.90	93.72	111.98	117.30	110.00	113.75
Bellies, 12-14 lb skin on trmd.	84.94	81.00	79.78	90.76	103.67	102.00
Hams, 20-23 lb Bl trmd. TS1	37.49	41.29	39.60	50.03	64.17	49.50
Trimmings, 72% fresh	36.96	41.25	43.58	49.18	62.78	61.50
Lamb, East Coast						
55 lb Down, Choice	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
55-65 lb, Choice	193.51	182.10	181.93	191.38	198.98	196.50
				cents/lb		
Broilers						
12 City Avg.	57.78	65.71	68.66	74.96	75.94	76.40
Georgia dock	62.38	67.69	68.92	71.15	72.21	73.40
Northeast						
Breast, boneless	148.60	146.17	155.23	182.66	201.12	216.50
Breast, Ribs on	84.20	81.64	90.46	102.23	112.25	120.50
Legs, whole	30.35	37.51	40.18	51.54	45.36	42.30
Leg quarters	20.82	29.67	30.87	38.41	33.71	33.20
Turkeys						
Eastern region						
Toms, 16-24 lb	58.89	60.45	58.83	58.89	60.53	63.60
Hens, 8-16 lb	61.43	66.85	62.13	61.61	62.62	64.25
Breast, 4-8 lb	90.00	91.31	90.42	90.75	91.74	93.50
Drumsticks	20.30	42.53	42.62	53.93	48.03	30.75
Wings, full cut	14.81	41.34	36.77	42.99	46.59	46.35
Eggs, grd A, lg, doz						
12 City Metro	70.22	106.22	104.16	102.11	113.56	84.40
New York	77.09	109.33	114.30	107.47	122.91	87.70









/* Estimates.

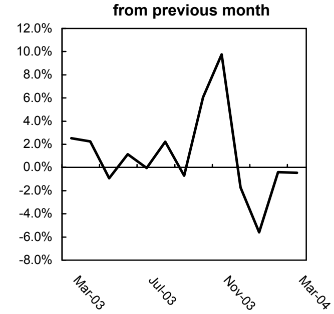
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Situation and Outlook

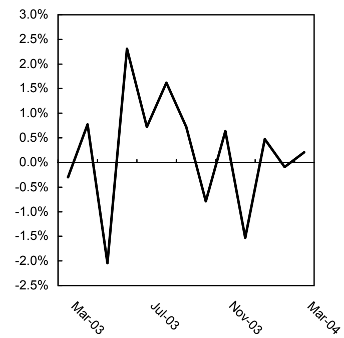
RETAIL PRICES & SPREADS

	Oct-2003	Nov-2003	Dec-2003	Jan-2004	Feb-2004	Mar-2004
Retail prices			***Cents/lb***			
Beef - Choice	393.3	431.7	424.3	400.5	398.9	397.1
Beef - All fresh	340.0	362.5	370.2	361.3	361.5	356.6
Ground beef	201.0	225.6	223.2	226.0	225.0	216.9
Round roast	351.3	385.8	385.5	363.7	375.2	371.9
T-bone steak	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pork	270.5	272.2	268.0	269.3	269.0	269.6
Bacon	316.1	322.8	318.2	315.7	318.9	312.9
Chops	308.0	301.1	290.7	300.8	303.7	305.6
Sausage	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Broilers - Composite	164.1	162.2	162.0	162.6	163.6	163.8
Whole, fresh	102.2	106.8	105.0	106.2	106.0	110.0
Breast - bone in	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Leg - bone in	132.5	127.5	127.4	128.3	130.5	129.9
Turkey; whole frozen	111.2	100.6	105.4	108.4	109.4	113.4
Eggs, Gr A, Lg, Doz	133.0	144.8	155.9	157.3	158.3	162.5
Price indexes			***1982-84=100***			
CPI - All	185.0	184.5	184.3	185.2	186.2	187.4
All food	181.7	182.4	183.6	183.8	184.1	184.4
All meat	174.6	181.3	182.7	180.6	180.2	179.0
Beef & veal	182.1	195.6	198.8	194.2	193.5	190.1
Pork	170.1	168.6	167.5	168.4	167.7	169.4
Poultry	172.5	172.5	174.4	174.5	174.1	177.8
Price Spreads			***Cents / retail lb***			
Beef						
Farm to wholesale	55.5	40.2	40.9	40.8	29.1	32.9
Wholesale to retail	121.8	174.3	187.3	187.7	200.4	178.8
Farmers share (%)	55	50	46	43	42	47
Pork						
Farm to wholesale	40.8	39.6	39.0	39.6	34.5	33.9
Wholesale to retail	162.4	169.9	166.2	161.3	155.1	150.8
Farmers share (%)	25	23	23	25	30	32
Poultry and eggs						
Wholesale to retail						
Broilers	95.2	92.8	91.7	88.5	84.0	80.6
Retail to consumer						
Turkey	37.8	25.1	33.2	39.4	40.4	42.5
Eggs Cents/doz	43.2	34.9	50.7	54.1	57.2	49.9

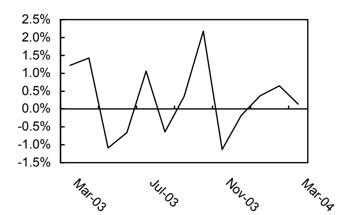
Retail beef price
Percent change from previous month



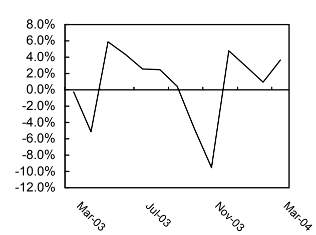
Retail pork price
Percent change from previous month



Composite broiler price
Percent change from previous month



Retail Turkey Price
Percent change from previous month



Sources: Economic Research Service, USDA and Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Cumulative U.S. livestock & meat trade

	2002	2003	Jan. - Feb-2003	Jan. - Feb-2004
Beef & veal imports		*Carcass wt., 1,000 lb*		
Australia	1,136,758	1,128,624	191,781	173,525
New Zealand	603,931	644,676	102,866	143,017
Canada	1,090,894	740,016	176,903	153,481
Brazil	200,785	206,097	27,463	34,699
Argentina	85,349	87,890	13,338	16,034
Central America	68,325	79,234	16,256	15,155
Uruguay	14,095	103,361	3,173	47,689
Mexico	16,707	15,824	2,276	2,667
Other	756	226	70	237
Total	3,217,599	3,005,949	534,124	586,503
Beef & veal exports				
Japan	771,074	919,520	144,338	682
Canada	240,550	226,325	41,607	1,928
Mexico	629,252	588,613	81,746	4,053
South Korea	597,301	587,660	88,492	691
Caribbean	23,015	21,785	3,252	3,878
Russia	17,388	10,778	1,570	0
Other	169,125	168,332	26,848	4,575
Total	2,447,704	2,523,013	387,853	15,807
Cattle imports			*Head*	
Mexico	816,460	1,239,220	190,049	175,952
Canada	1,686,508	512,353	223,791	2,981
Over 700 lb	1,259,536	439,016	191,888	-
440-700 lb	221,782	12,520	6,916	903
Total	2,502,973	1,751,585	413,840	178,933
Cattle exports				
Mexico	106,019	24,183	7,852	172
Canada	134,220	68,100	16,951	2,507
Total	244,394	100,270	25,213	2,709
Lamb imports		*Carcass wt., 1,000 lb*		
Australia	68,073	75,309	9,603	13,157
New Zealand	48,565	59,094	7,569	13,138
Total	117,047	134,754	17,172	26,442
Mutton imports				
Total	42,886	32,889	5,429	13,675
Lamb and mutton exports				
Total	7,101	6,595	1,287	1,442
Customs Service (beef/veal)		*Product wt., metric tons*		
YTD imports under WTO:		4/22/2003	4/19/2004	% of quota
Canada		115,598	98,541	NA
Mexico		1,013	1,360	NA
TRQ countries		162,631	163,396	23
Australia		91,797	78,037	21
New Zealand		61,188	71,151	33
Argentina		-	-	-
Uruguay		-	5,304	27
Japan		-	-	-
Other		9,646	8,904	14
Total		279,241	263,296	NA

	2002	2003	Jan. - Feb-2003	Jan. - Feb-2004
Pork imports		*Carcass wt., 1,000 lb*		
Canada	879,949	971,334	153,532	143,070
Denmark	123,013	147,110	22,983	23,590
Poland	24,420	22,630	4,086	3,435
Netherlands	6,730	5,887	1,130	710
Hungary	4,806	5,457	998	478
Other	31,809	32,775	4,783	4,997
Total	1,070,727	1,185,193	187,512	176,280
Pork exports				
Japan	775,945	794,347	135,037	140,929
Canada	188,351	191,464	26,427	35,002
Mexico	313,695	348,800	45,302	80,191
Russia	41,397	16,493	4,410	4,573
South Korea	70,836	79,880	16,486	9,380
Hong Kong	28,393	44,620	5,051	4,384
Caribbean	20,350	16,102	2,438	3,319
Other	173,262	225,146	32,446	46,662
Total	1,612,228	1,716,852	267,597	324,439
Hog imports			*Head*	
Canada	5,740,073	7,438,063	994,619	1,476,200
Under 110 lb	3,757,882	4,971,044	705,978	962,677
Total	5,740,675	7,438,254	994,619	1,476,746
Hog exports				
Total	205,121	169,881	26,976	56,657
Broiler exports		*Ready to cook, 1,000 lb*		
Japan	120,682	101,739	14,393	9,393
Mexico	324,148	363,225	46,268	60,144
Hong Kong	607,448	308,309	88,979	37,007
Singapore	37,475	27,914	5,544	2,617
Canada	191,517	200,418	28,244	33,750
Russia	1,520,532	1,458,098	265,416	141,076
Latvia	97,281	96,509	8,019	11,852
Other	1,908,100	2,375,765	356,396	388,756
Total	4,807,184	4,931,979	813,259	684,596
Turkey exports				
Mexico	186,284	241,411	28,779	36,339
Canada	14,445	14,742	2,106	2,695
South Korea	12,990	9,706	1,882	859
Russia	29,026	25,168	1,779	1,142
Hong Kong	70,199	45,673	8,929	1,339
Other	125,635	146,119	21,672	16,047
Total	438,579	482,820	65,147	58,422
Shell egg exports		*1,000 doz.*		
Canada	30,496	26,374	2,448	2,326
Japan	2,256	105	104	-
Other	55,900	60,844	10,648	6,280
Total	88,652	87,324	13,200	8,606

Sources: Economic Research Service, USDA and Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Monthly U.S. livestock and meat trade **

	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04
Beef & veal imports						*Carcass wt., 1,000 lb*							
Australia	40,579	76,061	87,574	89,162	92,207	97,250	92,233	102,846	110,506	88,317	100,688	134,456	39,069
New Zealand	60,516	72,565	81,533	67,836	69,846	72,666	52,970	31,645	20,315	26,012	46,422	71,938	71,079
Canada	85,015	94,892	90,542	60,260	88	178	88	37,627	90,416	97,536	91,487	74,560	78,921
Brazil	13,019	15,816	16,022	21,344	20,961	18,896	16,937	15,519	17,168	15,419	20,551	20,101	14,598
Argentina	4,601	5,178	3,730	4,576	9,418	5,758	7,918	8,752	10,808	7,827	10,587	8,313	7,721
Central America	10,422	8,591	5,950	5,747	3,976	6,472	4,001	4,616	7,396	7,111	9,117	6,844	8,312
Uruguay	924	1,500	1,347	2,508	2,593	7,479	17,913	13,403	20,569	15,573	17,303	23,961	23,728
Mexico	957	1,233	1,191	1,165	1,660	928	1,362	1,374	1,579	1,491	1,567	1,567	1,100
Other	67	86	13	3	4	33	2	4	3	6	4	233	4
Total	216,100	275,921	287,901	252,601	200,755	209,660	193,424	215,787	278,759	259,290	297,726	341,973	244,530
Beef & veal exports													
Japan	73,320	75,540	74,992	79,108	86,301	81,752	76,811	80,098	90,389	76,413	53,779	423	259
Canada	20,112	22,508	20,956	25,441	29,298	17,823	10,969	15,534	14,826	15,163	12,198	741	1,188
Mexico	36,125	37,337	43,835	63,316	67,643	64,914	59,871	54,947	49,438	30,820	34,745	1,304	2,748
Korea, Rep.	46,072	44,316	42,320	42,020	62,965	65,003	65,542	35,139	49,374	47,065	45,424	100	591
Caribbean	1,590	1,792	2,036	1,529	1,758	1,916	1,786	1,492	2,041	1,878	2,306	1,675	2,203
Russia	469	1,198	1,253	1,216	1,262	930	511	1,811	612	375	41	-	0
Other	13,929	14,123	11,078	10,134	9,973	10,813	13,993	18,903	19,841	18,004	14,622	2,217	2,358
Total	191,618	196,813	196,470	222,763	259,200	243,151	229,483	207,924	226,521	189,719	163,115	6,459	9,348
Cattle imports						*Head*							
Mexico	92,277	98,285	90,636	97,125	54,707	42,885	40,912	58,983	161,342	204,066	200,230	69,004	106,948
Canada	105,678	118,178	114,129	49,350	2,874	-	-	-	-	-	4,031	2,981	-
Over 700 lb	92,345	105,351	101,240	40,537	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
440-700 lb	2,319	966	2,263	880	475	-	-	-	-	-	1,020	903	-
Total	197,955	216,463	204,765	146,487	57,581	42,885	40,912	58,983	161,342	204,066	204,261	71,985	106,948
Cattle exports													
Mexico	2,124	1,913	2,042	1,588	2,015	1,128	978	515	1,336	3,154	1,662	172	-
Canada	8,417	10,712	8,816	9,009	7,420	2,060	1,349	2,531	1,590	3,829	3,833	2,507	-
Total	10,888	13,033	11,926	10,811	11,408	3,950	3,073	3,930	3,801	7,246	5,879	2,709	-
Lamb imports						*Carcass wt., 1,000 lb*							
Australia	3,906	7,203	9,014	7,095	6,491	4,758	4,421	4,600	6,102	7,871	8,150	7,789	5,368
New Zealand	3,821	6,690	6,738	4,358	3,556	3,914	8,088	4,579	4,776	4,620	4,206	6,075	7,063
Total	7,727	14,003	15,796	11,454	10,046	8,688	12,509	9,254	10,942	12,499	12,390	13,971	12,471
Mutton imports													
Total	1,897	3,088	3,512	1,884	1,464	1,704	1,667	1,583	2,896	3,552	6,111	8,336	5,339
Lamb and mutton exports													
Total	613	695	609	342	610	549	376	462	337	687	641	604	838

The 13 month revisions for the year 2002 will be posted July 22

Monthly U.S. livestock and meat trade, continued

	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04
Pork imports						***Carcass wt., 1,000 lb***							
Canada	76,637	81,018	78,629	75,260	85,124	84,569	79,696	86,333	88,339	81,292	77,541	73,349	69,721
Denmark	13,758	15,749	14,626	14,529	15,354	10,386	10,127	9,354	10,803	11,860	11,339	12,230	11,360
Poland	2,074	1,460	1,594	1,259	1,792	1,787	2,407	2,593	2,082	2,042	1,528	1,693	1,743
Netherlands	715	403	572	487	685	350	299	488	344	720	408	259	451
Hungary	464	467	470	464	422	600	596	608	290	265	278	478	-
Other	2,098	2,626	3,353	3,306	3,436	3,087	2,471	2,181	2,295	2,408	2,829	2,844	2,152
Total	95,746	101,722	99,244	95,305	106,813	100,779	95,596	101,558	104,152	98,587	93,924	90,853	85,427
Pork exports													
Japan	67,615	74,975	75,798	82,216	81,540	74,851	52,800	47,397	58,506	55,209	56,016	65,941	74,988
Canada	13,545	16,042	13,393	14,988	12,153	14,270	14,172	19,327	19,312	22,878	18,501	17,890	17,112
Mexico	20,907	21,961	19,779	27,066	28,559	25,991	29,332	32,347	35,437	38,043	44,984	43,350	36,840
Russia	2,367	1,495	1,213	1,262	920	591	612	1,425	1,463	2,074	1,028	882	3,691
Korea, Rep.	7,693	9,870	7,217	7,303	6,468	5,001	5,746	5,078	5,093	5,825	5,795	3,155	6,225
Hong Kong	3,140	3,054	2,912	3,342	3,872	5,131	2,541	2,362	3,650	6,622	6,083	1,765	2,619
Caribbean	1,012	1,003	915	1,503	925	962	1,369	1,264	1,657	1,999	2,067	1,665	1,654
Other	17,038	17,151	14,368	14,639	15,670	16,656	24,192	22,751	21,406	24,585	21,283	19,366	27,296
Total	133,318	145,550	135,595	152,318	150,107	143,453	130,764	131,951	146,524	157,236	155,757	154,014	170,425
Hog imports						***Head***							
Canada	449,352	507,874	529,021	568,915	580,322	709,497	663,960	723,971	728,590	667,950	763,344	805,534	670,666
Under 110 lb	328,845	370,013	397,116	426,665	401,779	468,791	420,489	449,136	444,102	405,456	481,519	515,961	446,716
Total	449,352	507,874	529,021	568,915	580,328	709,497	664,145	723,971	728,590	667,950	763,344	805,534	671,212
Hog exports													
Total	11,313	6,682	3,295	2,279	3,311	12,727	15,492	18,721	10,285	38,423	31,690	33,429	23,228
Broiler exports	***Has been revised to exclude paws					***Ready to cook, 1,000 lb***							
Japan	6,174	5,861	7,851	8,811	16,357	11,415	13,609	8,573	7,655	4,137	3,077	5,003	4,391
Mexico	21,939	27,736	25,281	30,311	32,248	30,552	22,744	33,157	37,113	31,847	45,968	27,781	32,363
Hong Kong	44,714	33,061	18,101	15,011	15,836	18,602	25,013	19,822	23,073	29,464	21,346	24,309	12,699
Singapore	2,569	3,384	1,278	1,576	1,782	1,524	2,655	2,942	3,368	1,920	1,942	1,500	1,117
Canada	13,240	14,518	14,879	18,942	17,306	19,165	18,527	19,597	18,258	17,043	13,939	17,539	16,211
Russia	152,948	144,644	79,625	74,298	110,628	143,180	99,132	111,648	206,734	144,783	78,009	53,891	87,185
Latvia	4,139	1,759	9,072	11,924	7,355	8,792	23,076	4,274	12,537	8,601	1,102	2,552	9,300
Other	149,195	155,565	153,544	225,444	268,387	181,772	187,983	173,858	244,118	228,374	200,324	229,398	159,358
Total	394,919	386,528	309,631	386,317	469,900	415,001	392,739	373,871	552,856	466,169	365,708	361,973	322,623
Turkey exports													
Mexico	15,419	15,727	15,225	20,589	20,352	18,883	18,151	27,897	28,570	22,813	24,425	19,843	16,496
Canada	1,211	1,520	1,344	1,697	883	1,414	1,440	1,661	1,046	970	661	1,429	1,266
S. Korea	1,038	1,234	681	1,281	1,025	1,246	624	116	520	921	175	757	103
Russia	1,617	2,555	892	1,832	1,384	2,085	2,170	4,591	3,960	3,690	231	28	1,114
Hong Kong	5,425	4,346	1,979	1,918	3,315	2,495	6,020	4,520	4,502	3,721	3,926	1,261	77
Other	10,900	12,245	12,800	12,857	13,617	9,570	16,137	10,972	11,736	13,225	11,288	8,486	7,561
Total	35,609	37,628	32,921	40,174	40,576	35,693	44,543	49,757	50,335	45,340	40,705	31,804	26,617
Shell egg exports						***1,000 doz.***							
Canada	1,243	1,548	1,717	1,982	2,498	2,257	2,943	2,956	2,944	2,430	2,651	883	1,443
Japan	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	5,480	10,101	3,927	5,122	5,107	5,616	4,885	4,955	3,955	3,225	3,304	3,399	2,881
Total	6,723	11,648	5,644	7,104	7,607	7,873	7,828	7,911	6,898	5,655	5,954	4,282	4,324

Sources: Economic Research Service, USDA and Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

For further information: Dale Leuck (202) 694-5186 or Mildred Haley (202) 694-5176.

U.S. dairy situation at a glance 1/

Updated: 4/27/04

	Unit	2001	2002	2003	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03
Milk production:								
Production (20 States)	Mil. lb.	142,979	146,981	147,856	12,616	11,628	13,014	12,693
Milk cows (20 States)	Thou.	7,745	7,785	7,775	7,810	7,811	7,810	7,800
Milk per cow (20 States)	Lb.	18,459	18,881	19,017	1,615	1,489	1,666	1,627
Production (U.S. est.)	Mil. lb.	165,497	170,063	170,312	14,589	13,442	15,038	14,639
Milk prices:								
All milk	Dol./cwt	15.05	12.11	12.51	11.70	11.40	11.00	11.00
Milk eligible for fluid use	Dol./cwt	15.09	12.11	12.53	11.80	11.40	11.00	11.10
Manufacturing grade milk	Dol./cwt	13.44	10.92	11.73	10.50	10.30	9.80	9.90
Class III (cheese milk) 3.5% fat	Dol./cwt	13.10	10.42	11.42	9.78	9.66	9.11	9.41
Class IV (butter-powder milk) 3.5% fat	Dol./cwt	13.76	10.81	10.00	10.07	9.81	9.79	9.73
Slaughter cow price, South St. Paul	Dol./cwt	44.78	40.09	46.88	38.63	40.22	42.31	42.68
Chicago Mercantile Exchange prices:								
Butter	Dol./lb.	1.6630	1.1059	1.1450	1.0815	1.0405	1.0915	1.0906
American cheese, 40-pound blocks	Dol./lb.	1.4387	1.1822	1.3172	1.1507	1.0920	1.0817	1.1225
American cheese, barrels	Dol./lb.	1.4052	1.1438	1.2703	1.0929	1.0430	1.0469	1.0902
Wholesale price:								
Nonfat dry milk, Central States	Dol./lb.	1.0083	0.9308	0.8439	0.8562	0.8347	0.8375	0.8375
Retail prices:								
Consumer Price Index	1982-84=100	177.1	179.9	184.0	181.7	183.1	184.2	183.8
All food	1982-84=100	173.1	176.2	180.0	177.5	178.3	178.6	178.4
Dairy products	1982-84=100	167.1	168.1	167.9	166.4	167.2	167.1	165.8
Fluid milk	Dec 1997=100	112.7	110.6	111.5	109.9	109.0	108.5	109.0
Other dairy products	Dec 1997=100	112.5	114.5	115.0	112.9	114.0	114.6	114.9
Dairy product output:								
Butter	Mil. lb.	1,231.8	1,355.1	1,239.6	141.4	128.4	126.3	122.7
American cheese	Mil. lb.	3,544.2	3,709.0	3,675.5	319.5	285.6	318.5	308.6
Other-than-American cheese	Mil. lb.	4,716.4	4,890.0	4,953.6	398.2	367.9	416.9	412.8
Frozen products 2/	Mil. gal.	1,300.3	1,280.1	1,322.6	96.7	100.9	114.0	122.4
All products (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	102,648	109,037	107,452	9,422	8,729	9,535	9,535
Nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	1,413.8	1,569.0	1,491.6	133.8	130.4	146.3	150.4
Beginning stocks:								
Commercial butter	Mil. lb.	24.0	55.5	157.3	157.3	204.5	238.5	242.4
Commercial American cheese	Mil. lb.	521.1	448.3	493.1	493.1	514.6	538.5	529.2
Other cheese	Mil. lb.	185.2	210.9	236.8	236.8	246.3	231.2	240.5
Manufacturers' nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	146.3	124.5	90.5	90.5	99.6	104.5	122.4
All commercial (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	6,839	7,041	9,889	9,889	11,186	12,046	12,110
All commercial (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	8,801	8,085	8,433	8,433	8,849	9,005	9,206
All Government (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	139	218	268	268	299	322	394
All Government (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	6,028	9,070	12,212	12,212	12,124	12,527	13,029
Commercial disappearance:								
Butter	Mil. lb.	1,275.4	1,288.1	1,306.3	96.2	94.1	119.3	105.9
American cheese	Mil. lb.	3,681.7	3,730.3	3,713.5	303.1	268.2	324.9	302.9
Other-than-American cheese	Mil. lb.	5,058.9	5,252.3	5,366.0	411.0	409.5	439.8	438.4
Nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	946.4	792.6	770.1	47.2	40.5	41.9	57.9
All products:								
m.e.-fat	Mil. lb.	169,654	170,850	174,665	13,612	12,747	15,085	14,321
Milkfat	Mil. lb.	6,226	6,289	6,404	514	478	559	525
Skim solids	Mil. lb.	14,183	14,184	14,339	1,187	1,089	1,224	1,189
USDA net removals:								
Butter	Mil. lb.	0.0	0.0	29.1	0.6	2.9	5.0	5.1
Cheese	Mil. lb.	3.9	15.8	41.3	1.9	2.9	10.4	9.0
Nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	495.9	824.3	706.3	78.7	85.0	87.1	86.1
All products (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	145	327	1,170	47	107	224	214
All products (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	5,810	9,752	8,633	935	1,018	1,117	1,093
Imports:								
All products (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	5,716	5,103	5,040	458	355	426	423
All products (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	4,686	5,103	4,980	323	360	447	393
International market prices:								
Butter	$/metric ton	1,391	1,158	1,416	1,280	1,220	1,259	1,275
Nonfat dry milk	$/metric ton	2,019	1,348	1,744	1,753	1,725	1,691	1,682

1/ Some data series different than formerly published due to changes in availability.

2/ Hard ice cream, ice milk, and sherbet.

m.e.-fat (skim) = Milk equivalent, fat (skim solids)basis NA=Not available

Source: Compiled by Economic Research Service from: National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Marketing Service, Bureau of Labor Statistics Bureau of Census, and Foreign Agricultural Service.

For further information, contact James Miller (202) 694-5184, jjmiller@ers.usda.gov
Published in Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook,http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ldp/

U.S. dairy situation at a glance (continued)

May-03	Jun-03	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04
13,013	12,428	12,421	12,207	11,731	12,083	11,709	12,313	12,491	11,787	12,776
7,787	7,785	7,780	7,771	7,764	7,743	7,721	7,713	7,716	7,716	7,714
1,671	1,596	1,597	1,571	1,511	1,561	1,517	1,596	1,619	1,528	1,656
15,003	14,323	14,266	14,016	13,464	13,904	13,469	14,159	14,395	13,579	14,714
11.10	11.10	12.00	13.20	14.40	15.00	14.50	13.70	13.20	13.60	14.70
11.10	11.10	12.00	13.20	14.40	15.00	14.50	13.80	13.20	13.60	14.70
10.10	10.20	11.50	13.20	14.10	14.70	13.80	12.70	12.30	12.80	14.10
9.71	9.75	11.78	13.80	14.30	14.39	13.47	11.87	11.61	11.89	14.49
9.74	9.76	9.95	10.14	10.05	10.16	10.30	10.52	10.97	12.21	14.10
46.59	45.75	48.88	50.00	50.09	51.35	52.69	53.43	49.09	49.83	49.78
1.0919	1.1142	1.1985	1.1708	1.1731	1.1846	1.2057	1.2969	1.4320	1.7132	2.1350
1.1421	1.1864	1.5123	1.6000	1.6000	1.5876	1.3932	1.3383	1.3062	1.3958	1.8197
1.1161	1.1562	1.4668	1.5736	1.5640	1.5364	1.2949	1.2621	1.2539	1.3586	1.7977
0.8375	0.8338	0.8419	0.8480	0.8500	0.8523	0.8500	0.8477	0.8366	0.8413	0.8518
183.5	183.7	183.9	184.6	185.2	185.0	184.5	184.3	185.2	186.2	187.4
178.8	179.6	179.7	180.4	180.7	181.7	182.4	183.6	183.8	184.1	184.4
165.4	163.9	164.7	167.5	170.3	171.8	171.2	173.0	172.4	172.1	171.9
108.7	108.0	108.3	109.8	115.3	117.2	117.3	117.5	116.7	115.8	114.6
115.2	113.1	115.2	116.0	115.6	115.8	116.0	116.7	116.1	118.3	117.0
114.7	83.8	79.5	70.1	73.1	97.0	88.0	114.4	131.9	105.7	NA
320.2	307.2	306.5	302.1	290.1	304.5	293.2	319.4	321.4	298.8	NA
422.0	407.3	410.7	406.9	422.0	436.9	417.2	434.8	414.5	401.9	NA
124.9	131.9	130.4	119.1	108.6	103.4	86.0	84.3	88.8	97.2	NA
9,666	9,040	8,928	8,486	8,327	8,782	8,097	8,905	9,261	8,556	NA
154.2	130.8	122.0	100.7	88.5	99.0	103.4	132.2	120.5	109.5	NA
258.6	289.0	290.6	272.7	244.3	197.0	159.1	113.8	93.4	151.2	156.9
531.7	536.0	546.2	546.3	537.8	508.0	481.6	460.3	481.8	508.5	523.6
246.4	252.5	250.1	256.5	247.6	245.3	231.3	228.3	233.0	238.8	233.5
128.8	128.3	123.2	89.5	75.3	69.2	69.4	87.3	107.7	108.8	99.3
12,548	13,303	13,442	13,114	12,352	11,001	9,777	8,542	8,332	9,895	10,124
9,382	9,491	9,536	9,229	8,891	8,472	8,019	7,948	8,439	8,794	8,788
525	618	726	734	733	717	718	604	582	468	443
13,607	13,877	14,354	14,403	13,903	13,512	12,590	11,561	10,405	10,011	9,574
82.8	80.9	97.2	98.8	119.7	135.9	135.4	140.1	82.2	102.2	NA
312.4	295.7	309.1	317.2	325.1	336.7	319.4	298.8	297.9	285.4	NA
447.6	438.6	447.5	446.3	457.2	490.7	463.4	476.0	430.1	430.9	NA
64.5	57.3	94.4	81.8	62.2	87.6	78.1	56.7	58.9	81.5	NA
14,338	14,309	14,884	15,003	15,044	15,470	15,069	14,783	13,265	13,551	NA
518	512	526	532	543	574	564	559	501	506	NA
1,220	1,170	1,214	1,215	1,183	1,271	1,211	1,163	1,188	1,157	NA
5.3	3.6	2.6	1.6	2.5	1.3	0.7	-2.0	-5.7	0.0	0.0
10.6	4.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
90.2	78.6	61.3	33.1	32.4	11.2	7.4	55.2	60.5	37.5	-47.8
233	136	74	46	64	32	17	-25	-103	15	-4
1,156	959	719	388	380	132	86	650	711	443	-549
414	349	455	362	382	465	471	480	415	295	NA
397	330	477	379	399	474	500	500	288	286	NA
1,275	1,333	1,448	1,475	1,575	1,633	1,630	1,595	1,606	1,579	1,655
1,723	1,713	1,708	1,717	1,759	1,803	1,818	1,842	1,788	1,782	1,856

U. S. milk production and related data

Updated: 4/27/04

Year and quarter	Milk cows	Milk per cow	Milk production	Corn-soybean meal mix 1/	Replace-ment cow price 2/
	thousands	pounds	mil. pounds	dol. per cwt	dollars
1998					
JAN-MAR	9,175	4,269	39,167	5.44	1,070
APR-JUN	9,167	4,447	40,767	4.90	1,110
JUL-SEP	9,145	4,211	38,513	4.29	1,120
OCT-DEC	9,128	4,262	38,901	4.13	1,180
Avg. or total	9,154	17,189	157,348	4.69	1,120
1999					
JAN-MAR	9,128	4,436	40,489	4.23	1,250
APR-JUN	9,155	4,590	42,021	4.15	1,240
JUL-SEP	9,171	4,336	39,766	3.84	1,280
OCT-DEC	9,171	4,410	40,440	3.93	1,380
Avg. or total	9,156	17,772	162,716	4.04	1,280
2000					
JAN-MAR	9,186	4,640	42,622	4.41	1,330
APR-JUN	9,212	4,688	43,185	4.59	1,340
JUL-SEP	9,221	4,458	41,108	3.81	1,350
OCT-DEC	9,203	4,416	40,644	4.36	1,350
Avg. or total	9,206	18,202	167,559	4.29	1,340
2001					
JAN-MAR	9,141	4,514	41,266	4.41	1,320
APR-JUN	9,112	4,688	42,720	4.15	1,390
JUL-SEP	9,096	4,459	40,563	4.40	1,590
OCT-DEC	9,106	4,497	40,948	4.23	1,700
Avg. or total	9,114	18,158	165,497	4.30	1,535
2002					
JAN-MAR	9,113	4,662	42,485	4.27	1,610
APR-JUN	9,148	4,820	44,089	4.33	1,710
JUL-SEP	9,154	4,571	41,846	5.09	1,670
OCT-DEC	9,142	4,555	41,643	4.89	1,420
Avg. or total	9,139	18,608	170,063	4.64	1,575
2003					
JAN-MAR	9,144	4,710	43,069	4.97	1,370
APR-JUN	9,109	4,827	43,965	5.15	1,300
JUL-SEP	9,073	4,601	41,746	4.96	1,310
OCT-DEC	9,011	4,609	41,532	5.33	1,370
Avg. or total	9,084	18,747	170,312	5.10	1,340
2004					
JAN-MAR	8,991	4,748	42,688	6.15	1,390

1/ Value of farm corn and 48 percent soybean meal, Decatur, needed to produce
16-percent protein concentrate feed.
2/ During the first month of the quarter.
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service
For more information contact: James Miller (202) 694-5184, email jjmiller@ers.usda.gov
Published in Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook,http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ldp/

Nonfat dry milk: Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						thousand pounds							
Price support purchases 1/													
1990	2,936	-662	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,885	22,650	34,150	42,839	117,798
1991	55,403	44,241	42,531	48,379	28,842	4,676	-524	-985	-600	0	0	0	221,963
1992	3,685	948	0	120	0	0	0	3,410	1,200	0	0	0	9,363
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,912	1,171	430	0	0	18,513
1994	0	0	0	0	10,634	23,258	15,976	268	194	0	0	5,313	55,643
1995	7,235	222	0	0	0	110	4,223	7,508	0	0	0	0	19,298
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	828	4,393	1,102	12,179	13,514	270	1,400	6,347	40,033
1998	14,276	10,674	10,929	13,964	26,719	22,080	14,319	1,162	0	103	0	0	114,226
1999	625	11,986	20,735	35,009	34,035	41,671	26,934	7,600	7,367	5,313	7,608	38,036	236,919
2000	41,013	46,695	61,487	61,191	71,902	51,431	32,448	41,004	31,856	42,804	38,185	38,057	558,073
2001	61,982	39,590	50,006	31,998	34,969	25,148	29,960	6,552	-348	5,168	34,247	35,272	354,544
2002	56,212	63,831	68,790	82,956	100,018	75,078	73,736	32,576	25,171	21,902	26,244	53,221	679,735
2003	64,072	72,244	78,356	79,304	83,893	62,094	57,335	30,477	26,826	24,949	29,130	62,283	670,963
2004	73,775	43,522	13,550										
DEIP removals 2/													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	262	0	0	4,738	33	3,646	4,125	8,907	11,448	14,422	47,581
1992	906	1,684	3,082	5,714	17,269	1,909	14,826	13,263	3,338	26,451	6,828	32,088	127,358
1993	36,120	35,016	39,760	16,770	25,049	18,413	22,718	3,847	12,952	11,049	44,068	20,659	286,421
1994	14,859	21,848	14,281	37,714	7,646	3,862	13,040	25,512	20,274	25,522	29,661	20,173	234,392
1995	22,303	45,614	46,584	45,285	44,767	22,761	19,898	18,612	17,981	29,006	7,604	7,092	327,507
1996	2,581	4,011	7,911	8,217	9,444	7,123	4,972	4,017	1,154	3,048	5,013	5,748	63,239
1997	9,174	14,353	17,347	19,991	20,848	28,317	22,061	22,923	21,208	24,631	31,916	25,191	257,960
1998	23,238	21,002	13,810	14,151	10,111	7,069	25,844	28,223	21,692	17,012	21,635	24,387	228,174
1999	22,744	23,894	16,572	13,866	19,812	28,038	28,114	28,705	32,005	28,116	31,049	30,745	303,660
2000	19,304	16,817	15,057	13,853	9,941	10,476	9,607	9,534	8,268	7,560	7,326	6,755	134,498
2001	8,590	11,327	16,875	16,537	16,242	9,649	9,269	8,315	7,859	11,016	16,473	9,161	141,314
2002	10,519	17,785	16,888	15,202	14,646	11,868	10,914	15,232	14,607	14,546	11,501	8,265	162,333
2003	14,767	12,760	8,700	7,064	6,744	16,533	20,643	14,363	14,048	13,964	4,176	15,314	149,076
2004	15,314	15,314	15,314										
Unrestricted sales 3/													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1993	591	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	591
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,017	0	0	3,017
1996	125	0	0	0	5,876	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,001
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,198	1,337	12,470	0	16,005
1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,286	1,460	0	17,746
2003	91	6	0	238	436	0	16,639	11,760	8,506	27,720	25,931	22,408	113,735
2004	28555	21367	76649										

Nonfat dry milk: Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004 (cont.)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						thousand pounds							
Net removals 4/													
1990	2,936	-662	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,885	22,650	34,150	42,839	117,798
1991	55,403	44,241	42,793	48,379	28,842	9,414	-491	2,661	3,525	8,907	11,448	14,422	269,544
1992	4,591	2,632	3,082	5,834	17,269	1,909	14,826	16,673	4,538	26,451	6,828	32,088	136,721
1993	35,529	35,016	39,760	16,770	25,049	18,413	22,718	20,759	14,123	11,479	44,068	20,659	304,343
1994	14,859	21,848	14,281	37,714	18,280	27,120	29,016	25,780	20,468	25,522	29,661	25,486	290,035
1995	29,538	45,836	46,584	45,285	44,767	22,871	24,121	26,120	17,981	25,989	7,604	7,092	343,788
1996	2,456	4,011	7,911	8,217	3,568	7,123	4,972	4,017	1,154	3,048	5,013	5,748	57,238
1997	9,174	14,353	17,347	19,991	21,676	32,710	23,163	35,102	34,722	24,901	33,316	31,538	297,993
1998	37,514	31,676	24,739	28,115	36,830	29,149	40,163	29,385	19,494	15,778	9,165	24,387	326,395
1999	23,369	35,880	37,307	48,875	53,847	69,709	55,048	36,305	39,372	33,429	38,657	68,781	540,579
2000	60,317	63,512	76,544	75,044	81,843	61,907	42,055	50,538	40,124	50,364	45,511	44,812	692,571
2001	70,572	50,917	66,881	48,535	51,211	34,797	39,229	14,867	7,511	16,184	50,720	44,433	495,857
2002	66,731	81,616	85,678	98,158	114,664	86,946	84,650	47,808	39,778	20,162	36,285	61,846	824,322
2003	78,748	84,998	87,056	86,130	90,201	78,627	61,339	33,080	32,368	11,193	7,375	55,189	706,304
2004	60,534	37,469	-47,785										
Government stocks 5/													
1990	111	1,794	2,648	410	428	655	887	935	5,979	14,131	28,750	47,356	47,356
1991	82,333	111,615	166,884	202,626	254,400	275,320	279,892	268,776	253,902	238,090	188,983	153,788	153,788
1992	129,238	88,555	65,125	72,468	61,214	51,153	36,196	24,573	16,390	8,866	7,691	3,808	3,808
1993	2,098	1,051	1,323	1,186	452	332	194	940	5,097	9,322	11,130	9,695	9,695
1994	7,436	4,852	3,245	2,802	544	4,471	14,148	32,212	37,718	39,343	32,250	27,733	27,733
1995	26,103	27,960	27,924	27,412	25,857	22,243	21,497	19,454	19,115	20,391	15,620	14,378	14,378
1996	13,890	10,202	9,611	10,172	1,433	1,453	414	440	379	329	354	304	304
1997	290	188	251	211	176	93	3,258	5,494	7,977	14,348	21,490	21,538	21,538
1998	23,982	25,923	36,153	48,036	54,788	68,881	91,027	107,514	112,455	108,895	97,234	95,227	95,227
1999	92,542	82,302	83,641	85,653	88,116	114,498	140,616	170,713	146,761	133,112	138,070	133,620	133,620
2000	149,699	186,086	227,429	260,418	309,369	365,954	406,228	454,512	481,211	492,863	520,616	515,834	515,834
2001	562,927	588,585	667,622	731,338	747,304	779,234	803,064	820,609	815,070	784,978	758,990	775,700	775,700
2002	780,104	823,230	870,629	932,616	990,696	1,061,611	1,115,973	1,217,549	1,222,878	1,199,954	1,150,980	1,046,769	1,046,769
2003	1,035,733	1,071,060	1,110,713	1,154,186	1,177,037	1,212,414	1,216,762	1,169,719	1,138,209	1,059,069	974,692	870,338	870,338
2004	836,407	800,312	760,894										

1/ Purchases will be negative if contract cancellations exceed new purchase contracts.
2/ Exports subsidized under the Dairy Export Incentive Program. Assumed removed from commercial supplies 1 month before shipment.
3/ Includes product swapped for pudding and processed cheese.
4/ Net removals equal price support purchases plus DEIP removals minus unrestricted sales.
5/ End of period.
Source: Economic Research Service calculations from Farm Service Agency and Foreign Agricultural Service data.
For more information contact: James Miller (202) 694-5184, email jjmiller@ers.usda.gov
Published in Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook,http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ldp/

Butter: Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004 1/

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						thousand pounds							
Price support purchases 2/													
1990	71,784	59,898	45,012	46,915	48,916	23,948	15,462	15,555	5,607	12,425	10,845	30,548	386,915
1991	77,455	68,601	52,046	70,437	62,418	23,084	11,482	456	420	3,721	10,796	33,763	414,679
1992	96,307	63,332	57,842	46,440	50,865	13,276	12,946	12,897	2,094	1,077	8,072	23,905	389,053
1993	72,330	62,167	45,206	29,092	45,090	29,925	10,927	-1,146	-1,233	0	0	13,994	306,352
1994	48,416	39,077	8,579	12,510	29,567	15,278	1,075	77	0	0	1,297	7,352	163,228
1995	16,164	1,154	154	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17,472
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2003	550	1,227	3,375	3,300	2,516	373	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,341
2004	0	0	0										
DEIP removals 3/													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	7,000	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	14,000
1991	0	0	0	0	383	4,664	4,347	1,297	2,576	3,227	14,416	42	30,952
1992	0	176	128	152	4,143	13,341	3,786	4,292	6,794	13,008	4,366	442	50,628
1993	0	4,107	5,090	2,551	5,308	542	876	897	489	848	3,323	7,583	31,614
1994	1,050	6,144	7,465	3,115	17,112	4,398	6,969	5,761	5,577	8,446	15,791	13,258	95,086
1995	7,833	13,098	12,499	11,576	11,676	6,205	3,720	2,158	2,070	788	176	0	71,799
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	70
1997	740	827	872	1,910	3,116	4,517	4,726	3,639	3,877	3,516	5,223	5,419	38,382
1998	3,311	1,526	745	403	326	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,311
1999	0	0	435	435	0	0	0	0	517	517	798	993	3,695
2000	2,007	2,640	1,642	872	798	657	242	0	0	0	0	0	8,858
2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	1,627	1,627	1,800	2,779	3,220	2,559	2,493	2,493	1,712	693	521	21,524
2004	521	0	0										
Unrestricted sales													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,543	1,224	0	0	2,767
1992	0	0	0	0	0	77	0	0	40	0	0	41	158
1993	0	808	311	0	0	38	1,608	5,673	23,605	3,503	13,571	1,009	50,126
1994	0	0	4,641	111	0	0	4,891	21,870	8,771	7,499	6,182	0	53,965
1995	0	11,000	42	0	0	0	0	295	148	0	0	0	11,485
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	845	0	423	0	2,531	3,799
2004	6171	0	0										

Butter: Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004 (cont.) 1/

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						thousand pounds							
Net removals 4/													
1990	71,784	59,898	45,012	46,915	48,916	30,948	22,462	15,555	5,607	12,425	10,845	30,548	400,915
1991	77,455	68,601	52,046	70,437	62,801	27,748	15,829	1,753	1,453	5,724	25,212	33,805	442,864
1992	96,307	63,508	57,970	46,592	55,008	26,540	16,732	17,189	8,848	14,085	12,438	24,306	439,523
1993	72,330	65,466	49,985	31,643	50,398	30,429	10,195	-5,922	-24,349	-2,655	-10,248	20,568	287,840
1994	49,466	45,221	11,403	15,514	46,679	19,676	3,153	-16,032	-3,194	947	10,906	20,610	204,349
1995	23,997	3,252	12,611	11,576	11,676	6,205	3,720	1,863	1,922	788	176	0	77,786
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	70
1997	740	827	872	1,910	3,116	4,517	4,726	3,639	3,877	3,516	5,223	5,419	38,382
1998	3,311	1,526	745	403	326	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,311
1999	0	0	435	435	0	0	0	0	517	517	798	993	3,695
2000	2,007	2,640	1,642	872	798	657	242	0	0	0	0	0	8,858
2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2003	550	2,854	5,002	5,100	5,295	3,593	2,559	1,648	2,493	1,289	693	-2,010	29,066
2004	-5,650	0	0										
Government stocks 5/													
1990	234,285	251,820	286,502	311,520	349,979	378,335	381,462	385,247	375,122	374,131	365,207	372,736	372,736
1991	402,257	449,573	492,602	549,362	577,186	594,035	589,381	580,689	553,826	534,627	520,495	510,546	510,546
1992	539,035	613,290	643,372	670,804	698,006	735,210	735,457	686,058	589,608	514,594	463,231	429,664	429,664
1993	472,955	487,045	521,785	568,950	576,730	606,763	539,979	492,196	408,978	327,885	267,624	229,206	229,206
1994	235,281	233,957	242,684	247,132	263,578	264,061	233,975	190,122	149,029	115,905	75,581	67,946	67,946
1995	66,213	63,732	52,784	46,711	38,507	33,076	21,375	16,118	8,075	5,228	4,344	2,797	2,797
1996	3,406	3,512	1,308	2,524	995	804	793	843	546	277	227	294	294
1997	161	347	364	466	1,259	644	661	563	499	392	364	306	306
1998	160	127	256	398	308	300	285	216	169	8	8	4	4
1999	247	281	181	67	257	257	334	258	214	391	313	223	223
2000	288	383	347	229	489	420	391	388	375	330	188	142	142
2001	338	279	717	623	653	829	815	1,065	331	344	341	436	436
2002	260	1,200	1,323	2,063	2,258	2,026	1,991	2,449	1,873	1,844	1,021	555	555
2003	349	1,391	2,576	5,089	8,938	10,779	11,183	9,567	10,172	11,084	8,701	6,172	6,172
2004	1258	1209	602										

1/ Includes butter equivalent of butteroil where applicable.
2/ Purchases will be negative if contract cancellations exceed new purchase contracts.
3/ Exports subsidized under the Dairy Export Incentive Program. Assumed removed from commercial supplies 1 month before shipment.
4/ Net removals equal price support purchases plus DEIP removals minus unrestricted sales.
5/ End of period.

Cheese: Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004 1/

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						thousand pounds							
Price support purchases 2/													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,512	16,968	21,480
1991	15,476	18,029	13,035	15,095	8,180	7,135	-543	0	-700	0	0	0	75,707
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	112	112
1993	1,078	2,529	1,728	-335	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	5,037
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	484	0	0	149	977	158	0	0	0	0	0	1,768
1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	396	1,465	1,824	3,105	-44	0	198	0	396	5,918	3,474	16,732
2001	862	464	-40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,286
2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	684	5,724	945	277	1,148	4,086	12,864
2003	1,348	2,064	9,604	8,232	9,825	4,118	198	0	0	0	0	0	35,389
2004	0	0	0										
DEIP removals 3/													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	450	735	1,185
1992	6,984	774	734	2,205	0	0	0	661	225	148	2,436	119	14,286
1993	119	176	0	0	734	454	375	410	386	185	220	183	3,242
1994	141	181	101	101	110	212	181	203	1,721	1,808	1,858	293	6,910
1995	396	351	597	580	443	395	417	621	626	655	660	313	6,054
1996	239	211	444	443	446	521	512	441	280	333	369	355	4,594
1997	529	552	540	529	1,193	1,204	1,428	634	439	1,150	812	533	9,543
1998	651	675	627	679	584	570	678	754	699	626	710	910	8,163
1999	727	512	406	348	289	134	179	520	436	416	249	351	4,567
2000	361	297	343	407	1,448	1,899	2,052	1,288	872	780	780	768	11,295
2001	768	768	0	0	0	0	704	707	707	707	707	707	5,775
2002	707	707	0	0	0	0	0	167	167	167	525	525	2,965
2003	525	815	815	815	815	290	290	290	290	184	0	742	5,869
2004	742	742	742										
Unrestricted sales													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	629	2,575	0	0	3,204
2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0										

Cheese: Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004 (cont.) 1/

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						thousand pounds							
Net removals 4/													
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,512	16,968	21,480
1991	15,476	18,029	13,035	15,095	8,180	7,135	-543	0	-700	0	450	735	76,892
1992	6,984	774	734	2,205	0	0	0	661	225	148	2,436	231	14,398
1993	1,197	2,705	1,728	-335	734	454	412	410	386	185	220	183	8,279
1994	141	181	101	101	110	212	181	203	1,721	1,808	1,858	293	6,910
1995	396	351	597	580	443	395	417	621	626	655	660	313	6,054
1996	239	211	444	443	446	521	512	441	280	333	369	355	4,594
1997	529	1,036	540	529	1,342	2,181	1,586	634	439	1,150	812	533	11,311
1998	651	675	627	679	584	570	678	754	699	626	710	910	8,163
1999	727	512	406	348	289	134	179	520	436	416	249	351	4,567
2000	361	693	1,808	2,231	4,553	1,855	2,052	1,486	872	1,176	6,698	4,242	28,027
2001	1,630	1,232	-40	0	0	0	704	707	78	-1,868	707	707	3,857
2002	707	707	0	0	0	0	684	5,891	1,112	444	1,673	4,611	15,829
2003	1,873	2,879	10,419	9,047	10,640	4,408	488	290	290	184	0	742	41,260
2004	742	742	742										
Government stocks 5/													
1990	5,441	4,924	4,299	2,638	2,603	2,546	3,587	4,567	3,695	1,616	2,581	8,219	8,219
1991	14,603	19,290	26,251	33,915	35,789	34,337	35,410	31,600	29,497	27,234	25,748	23,107	23,107
1992	21,261	20,052	21,660	21,260	20,041	18,150	15,373	13,682	8,963	6,511	12,685	16,528	16,528
1993	12,810	11,807	15,349	15,439	9,223	9,034	5,863	4,589	3,105	2,601	2,347	2,155	2,155
1994	1,678	1,661	1,413	1,186	796	645	666	849	1,262	1,281	884	912	912
1995	848	854	811	608	518	254	502	412	362	288	533	392	392
1996	144	218	187	213	234	206	275	460	446	429	375	271	271
1997	359	494	760	887	846	659	1,602	1,837	535	341	532	470	470
1998	476	618	481	756	630	473	1,051	1,044	967	844	498	552	552
1999	517	312	156	539	406	679	472	611	529	602	684	954	954
2000	673	737	622	1,987	2,173	3,346	3,926	2,695	1,897	1,448	1,594	2,280	2,280
2001	5,232	7,718	8,943	8,556	8,055	8,064	8,102	8,019	6,396	4,050	3,341	4,027	4,027
2002	4,123	4,037	3,901	3,910	3,932	4,462	1,985	1,371	2,329	4,104	4,016	2,687	2,687
2003	6,710	5,866	9,934	17,199	17,643	24,198	23,870	28,723	26,334	26,170	21,413	27,401	27,401
2004	27,516	25,857	24,259										

1/ Includes process.
2/ Purchases will be negative if contract cancellations exceed new purchase contracts.
3/ Exports subsidized under the Dairy Export Incentive Program. Assumed removed from commercial supplies 1 month before shipment.
4/ Net removals equal price support purchases plus DEIP removals minus unrestricted sales.
5/ End of period.

Milk equivalent (milkfat basis): Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						million pounds							
Net removals 1/													
1990	1,566	1,306	981	1,023	1,066	675	490	339	126	276	286	832	8,964
1991	1,844	1,672	1,264	1,685	1,451	674	340	39	26	127	557	744	10,426
1992	2,165	1,392	1,272	1,052	1,232	606	402	393	197	322	341	557	9,932
1993	1,098	999	262	361	1,039	455	96	-318	-23	67	281	486	4,804
1994	590	126	328	296	293	160	104	64	64	38	20	7	2,091
1995	590	126	330	296	293	160	104	77	64	38	20	7	2,105
1996	4	5	11	12	10	7	8	7	4	4	5	10	87
1997	27	37	33	53	89	130	126	101	103	102	142	147	1,090
1998	108	62	40	26	24	13	16	14	15	14	14	21	367
1999	21	23	32	31	21	23	20	20	30	27	40	55	343
2000	88	99	86	78	107	78	55	46	38	34	84	49	842
2001	31	23	14	11	11	8	15	10	2	-14	18	16	145
2002	21	24	19	22	25	19	25	65	19	9	23	56	327
2003	47	107	224	214	233	136	74	46	64	32	17	-25	1,170
2004	-103	15	-4										
Government stocks 2/													
1990	5,162	5,541	6,291	6,820	7,658	8,275	8,352	8,443	8,215	8,176	7,993	8,213	8,213
1991	8,924	10,005	11,020	12,336	12,971	13,330	13,240	13,014	12,405	11,963	11,629	11,379	11,379
1992	11,978	13,578	14,240	14,836	15,415	16,208	16,187	15,092	12,945	11,286	10,223	9,526	9,526
1993	10,434	10,731	11,521	12,550	12,660	13,314	11,828	10,775	8,947	7,175	5,860	5,020	5,020
1994	5,148	5,118	5,305	5,401	5,757	5,766	5,113	4,162	3,271	2,549	1,664	1,497	1,497
1995	1,458	1,405	1,166	1,031	851	729	477	361	184	122	105	69	69
1996	80	82	34	60	25	21	21	24	17	11	9	10	10
1997	8	13	17	20	37	21	31	32	19	16	19	18	18
1998	15	16	20	28	26	27	38	40	40	34	28	28	28
1999	32	28	25	27	31	39	44	50	43	44	44	44	44
2000	47	57	64	82	100	121	135	134	133	130	134	139	139
2001	181	208	246	255	254	265	270	279	247	219	206	218	218
2002	216	245	257	287	304	319	308	335	333	343	314	268	268
2003	299	322	394	525	618	726	734	733	717	718	604	582	582
2004	468	443	408										

1/ Net removals equal price support purchases plus DEIP removals minus unrestricted sales. Includes DEIP exports of dry whole milk.

2/ End of period. Includes evaporated milk.

Milk equivalent (skim solids basis): Government removals and stocks, 1990-2004

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
						million pounds							
Net removals 1/													
1990	43	-1	5	6	6	4	3	2	186	265	443	670	1,605
1991	807	702	633	721	424	185	-9	31	34	104	141	176	3,955
1992	134	46	51	112	241	56	214	213	57	320	158	400	2,003
1993	198	270	180	457	238	341	362	328	286	343	388	335	3,724
1994	416	585	592	567	556	289	301	324	230	354	70	89	4,374
1995	416	585	592	567	556	289	301	324	230	354	70	89	4,373
1996	32	51	102	107	52	89	65	53	18	40	63	75	747
1997	117	185	213	240	271	408	289	425	417	312	412	392	3,681
1998	468	393	309	339	438	346	475	350	239	195	120	301	3,973
1999	290	435	451	581	637	820	649	436	470	399	466	821	6,455
2000	738	771	929	920	1,032	776	534	627	500	612	610	564	8,613
2001	838	605	778	565	596	405	464	180	88	170	597	524	5,810
2002	784	957	997	1,143	1,335	1,012	992	615	474	239	439	766	9,752
2003	935	1,018	1,117	1,093	1,156	959	719	388	380	132	86	649	8,633
2004	711	443	-549										
Government stocks 2/													
1990	85	103	111	72	77	82	94	104	153	227	406	679	679
1991	1,153	1,546	2,264	2,762	3,387	3,618	3,682	3,515	3,317	3,108	2,519	2,081	2,081
1992	1,781	1,304	1,046	1,131	993	863	664	506	354	235	276	265	265
1993	211	190	231	234	163	163	122	113	137	174	185	161	161
1994	132	102	81	75	47	91	201	408	471	486	394	341	341
1995	321	343	341	332	312	266	260	234	228	242	189	172	172
1996	165	122	115	121	20	20	9	11	10	9	9	7	7
1997	8	8	12	13	12	8	55	84	99	171	257	258	258
1998	286	310	427	568	646	808	1,072	1,264	1,321	1,278	1,138	1,115	1,115
1999	1,084	962	977	1,004	1,032	1,341	1,643	1,995	1,715	1,556	1,615	1,566	1,566
2000	1,750	2,174	2,654	3,052	3,624	4,294	4,768	5,318	5,621	5,752	6,077	6,028	6,028
2001	6,606	6,929	7,861	8,599	8,779	9,151	9,429	9,632	9,552	9,178	8,869	9,070	9,070
2002	9,122	9,623	10,174	10,895	11,572	12,402	13,011	14,187	14,259	14,010	13,439	12,212	12,212
2003	12,124	12,527	13,029	13,607	13,877	14,353	14,403	13,903	13,512	12,590	11,561	10,405	10,405
2004	10,011	9,574	9,101										

1/ Net removals equal price support purchases plus DEIP removals minus unrestricted sales. Includes DEIP exports of dry whole milk.

2/ End of period. Includes evaporated milk.

Commercial disappearance: Milk in all products, 2004

Updted: 4/27/04

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Supply:													
Production	14,395	13,579	14,714										
Farm use	85	79	85										
Marketings	14,310	13,500	14,629										
Beginning commercial stocks	8,332	9,895	10,124										
Imports	415	295											
Total supply	23,057	23,690											
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	9,895	10,124											
USDA net removals	(103)	15	(4)										
Commercial disappearance	13,265	13,551											
Percent change		[2.6]											
from a year ago	-2.5	6.3											
Cumulative disappearance	13,265	26,816											

	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
Percent change from a year ago				

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Source: Compiled by Economic Research Service, from National Agricultural Statistics Service, Foreign Agricultural Service , Dept. of Commerce's Bureau of Census, and Farm Service Agency.

For further information, contact: James Miller, (202) 694-5184, jjmiller@ers.usda.gov

Commercial disappearance: Milkfat, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
						Million pounds							
Supply:													
Production	543	509											
Farm use	3	3											
Marketings	539	506											
Beginning commercial stocks	306	363											
Imports	15	10											
Total supply	860	879											
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	363	372											
USDA net removals	(4)	1											
Commercial disappearance	501	506											
Percent change from a year ago	-2.4	[2.3] 5.9											
Cumulative disappearance	501	1,008											

	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
Percent change from a year ago				

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Commercial disappearance: Skim solids, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
						Million pounds							
Supply:													
Production	1,262	1,177											
Farm use	7	7											
Marketings	1,254	1,170											
Beginning commercial stocks	725	755											
Imports	25	25											
Total supply	2,004	1,950											
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	755	755											
USDA net removals	61	38											
Commercial disappearance	1,188	1,157											
Percent change from a year ago	0.1	[2.6] 6.3											
Cumulative disappearance	1,188	2,345											

	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
Percent change from a year ago				

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Commercial disappearance: Butter, 2004

Updated: 4/27/04

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Supply:													
Production	131.9	105.7											
Beginning commercial stocks	93.4	151.2	156.9										
Imports	2.5	2.2											
Total supply	227.8	259.1											
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	151.2	156.9	154.5										
USDA net removals	-5.6	0.0	0.0										
Commercial disappearance	82.2	102.2											
Percent change from a year ago	-14.6	[4.9] 8.6											
Cumulative disappearance	82.2	184.4											

	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
Percent change from a year ago				

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.
Source: Compiled by Economic Research Service, from National Agricultural Statistics Service, Foreign Agricultural Service , Dept. of Commerce's Bureau of Census, and Farm Service Agency.
For further information, contact: James Miller, (202) 694-5184, jjmiller@ers.usda.gov

Commercial disappearance: Nonfat dry milk, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
						Million pounds							
Supply:													
Production	120.5	109.5											
Beginning commercial stocks	107.7	108.8	99.3										
Imports	0.0	0.0											
Total supply	228.2	218.3											
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	108.8	99.3											
USDA net removals	60.5	37.5	-47.8										
Commercial disappearance	58.9	81.5											
Percent change from a year ago	24.8	[94.3] 101.2											
Cumulative disappearance	58.9	140.4											
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
Percent change from a year ago													

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Commercial disappearance: American cheese, 2004

Updated: 4/27/04

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
						Million pounds							
Supply:													
Production	321.4	298.8											
Beginning commercial stocks	481.8	508.5	523.6										
Imports	3.9	2.4											
Total supply	807.1	809.7											
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	508.5	523.6	508.6										
USDA net removals	0.7	0.7	0.7										
Commercial disappearance	297.9	285.4											
Percent change from a year ago	-1.7	[2.7] 6.4											
Cumulative disappearance	297.9	583.3											

	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
Percent change from a year ago				

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Source: Compiled by Economic Research Service, from National Agricultural Statistics Service, Foreign Agricultural Service , Dept. of Commerce's Bureau of Census, and Farm Service Agency.

Commercial disappearance: Other-than-American cheese, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
						Million pounds							
Supply:													
Production	414.5	401.9											
Beginning commercial stocks	233.0	238.8	233.5										
Imports	21.4	23.7											
Total supply	668.9	664.4											
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	238.8	233.5	239.1										
USDA net removals													
Commercial disappearance	430.1	430.9											
Percent change from a year ago	4.6	[1.6] 5.2											
Cumulative disappearance	430.1	861.0											
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
Percent change from a year ago													

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Poultry Costs and Returns Indexes

The Poultry and Egg Cost and Returns estimates that have been published monthly in the Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook report were originally developed to provide an estimate of the major costs and market prices facing the broiler, turkey, and egg industries. However, the complete dataset needed to estimate all the costs and the wide variety of market prices facing these industries on a monthly basis were not available. Therefore the calculations used to produce this series were simplified. On a monthly basis, changes in feed costs were based on monthly changes in the prices of soybean meal and corn. The amount of lag in the feed prices varied for each of the three industries. The remaining coefficients and other costs used in developing the production, and marketing costs were constants. To simplify the market prices facing the various industries, the price of only one specific product for each industry was used.

The net returns series were originally developed to examine changes in the cost of production and market value for specific products that were basic to the broiler, turkey, and egg industries. Because feed prices are readily available and are the largest single component of production costs, changes in feed costs were utilized to represent monthly changes in production costs. Since these industries are vertically integrated between the production and processing sectors, changes in prices at the wholesale level were used to represent changes in market prices.

The Poultry and Egg Costs and Returns dollar estimates are going to be replaced by indexes for the following reasons. First, by converting these costs and prices to indexes we can still examine changes in the two main factors that impact returns for these industries. In addition, the use of indexes shifts the focus of the data to the relative changes and away from absolute net returns values that have been the primary source of concern to a number of segments of the poultry industry.

Second, in addition to developing the new indexes, the table has been changed and simplified. There would be only three indexes for each segment of the poultry industry. One representing feed costs, one representing wholesale market prices, and the third would represent the difference between the two. This sounds like a great reduction in the amount of information being published, but in reality it is not. As it stands now, the only price changes moving the production cost figures on a monthly basis are changes in feed prices. The additional elements of production costs are based on constant benchmarks for additional growing costs and processing and marketing costs. Since only the feed costs are changing, why not develop and publish only an index for feed costs?

Third, by dropping the benchmarked estimates of further production costs and processing and marketing costs, an index based on the wholesale composite price for broilers could be used in place of the current price series which is a weighted-average price in 12 cities for whole birds. While even the wholesale composite price does not fully capture the entire range of products sold, its use of a variety of parts prices comes closer to the range of prices actually facing a broiler integrator. The price indexes for turkey and eggs would continue to use the market prices as in the old series.

Fourth, by showing only indexes of feed costs and wholesale market prices, the index of the difference between these two prices ceases to be a net returns estimate. The use of the term “net returns” was probably the chief factor causing estimates presented in the old series to be misused in the past. While no longer showing an estimate of net returns, this series still actually provides the same amount of data as before. In the case where the wholesale broiler composite price is used to construct the market price index, users will have a greater amount of data available.

Fifth, agency resources can be directed towards improvements in the indexes representing feed costs and market prices. While the Economic Research Service has already developed a wholesale composite price for broilers to better represent the spectrum of products being sold by broiler integrators, a similar composite price could be explored for the turkey and egg industries.

Broiler, turkey, and egg feed costs and market prices

Date	DECATUR SOYBEAN MEAL	CHICAGO No. 2 CORN	Feed costs Liveweight Basis	Market Price	Market Price - Feed costs
	$ / ton	$ / bushel	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100
BROILERS					
Feb-2003	176.80	2.43	104.5	106.9	107.7
Mar-2003	175.40	2.43	105.1	106.2	106.6
Apr-2003	182.10	2.48	107.1	104.6	103.6
May-2003	195.40	2.54	106.9	112.3	114.2
June-2003	191.90	2.49	108.9	117.1	120.1
July-2003	187.30	2.26	112.2	119.9	122.7
Aug-2003	189.70	2.31	110.7	126.2	131.7
Sept-2003	235.20	2.34	106.2	126.3	133.4
Oct-2003	225.20	2.27	107.4	120.7	125.4
Nov-2003	242.00	2.35	115.8	121.8	123.8
Dec-2003	231.54	2.49	113.0	123.6	127.4
Jan-2004	252.15	2.64	117.2	129.8	134.3
Feb-2004	265.88	2.82	117.6	139.5	147.3
Mar-2004	265.88	3.02	123.7	146.0	153.9
TURKEYS	$ / ton	$ / bushel	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100
Feb-2003	176.80	2.43	105.6	89.7	82.5
Mar-2003	175.40	2.43	104.5	90.5	84.1
Apr-2003	182.10	2.48	105.4	90.7	84.1
May-2003	195.40	2.54	108.0	89.3	80.8
June-2003	191.90	2.49	107.6	89.0	80.5
July-2003	187.30	2.26	110.2	86.9	76.3
Aug-2003	189.70	2.31	114.4	86.6	74.0
Sept-2003	235.20	2.34	112.6	91.6	82.1
Oct-2003	225.20	2.27	107.1	97.6	93.3
Nov-2003	242.00	2.35	108.6	100.8	97.2
Dec-2003	231.54	2.49	119.7	95.8	84.9
Jan-2004	252.15	2.64	116.1	90.8	79.4
Feb-2004	265.88	2.82	121.5	90.9	77.0
Mar-2004	265.88	3.02	121.8	93.8	81.0
EGGS	$ / ton	$ / bushel	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100
Feb-2003	176.80	2.43	108.0	90.2	80.9
Mar-2003	175.40	2.43	110.0	96.9	90.0
Apr-2003	182.10	2.48	109.8	96.1	88.9
May-2003	195.40	2.54	112.1	80.0	63.2
June-2003	191.90	2.49	115.7	93.4	81.8
July-2003	187.30	2.26	113.9	97.0	88.2
Aug-2003	189.70	2.31	107.5	115.8	120.1
Sept-2003	235.20	2.34	109.2	116.1	119.7
Oct-2003	225.20	2.27	117.2	124.2	127.9
Nov-2003	242.00	2.35	113.9	151.7	171.4
Dec-2003	231.54	2.49	118.6	145.3	159.3
Jan-2004	252.15	2.64	120.3	142.5	154.1
Feb-2004	265.88	2.82	127.3	139.7	146.1
Mar-2004	265.88	3.02	133.9	155.3	166.5

NOTE - These statistical series were developed to show changes in poultry feed costs and
and market prices for broilers products, whole turkeys, large cartoned eggs.
Sources: Corn and soybean prices - AMS Grain and Feed Weekly Summary.
Broilers, wholesale composite price - ERS.
Turkeys, 3-region wholesale whole bird price - ERS.
Eggs, 1 dozen Grade A large combined regional price - ERS.
For more information contact: David Harvey (202) 694-5177 email djharvet@ers.usda.gov
Published in Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook, http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ldp/