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New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

FARM FACTS
"FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE"

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Volume: 02 Number: 12

Date: January 16, 2003

Monthly Hogs and Pigs *October Pig Crop Down 2 Percent*

The October 2002 U.S. pig crop at 8.33 million head, was 2 percent below the previous year. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 940 thousand head, 2 percent below last year. The average pigs per litter for October increased to 8.86, compared to 8.85 last year.

The U.S. inventory of sows and gilts on November 1, 2002, was 5.83 million head, down 2 percent from November 1, 2001.

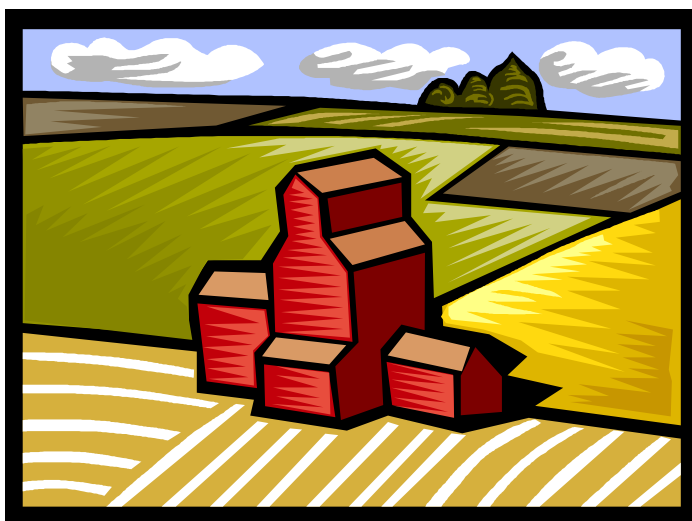
U.S. sows and gilts bred during October totaled 1.18 million head, down 1 percent from the previous year.

Winter Wheat Seedings *Planted Acres Largest Since 1998*

Winter wheat seeded area for 2003 is expected to total 44.2 million acres, up 6 percent from 2002. This is the largest area since 1998. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 32.1 million; Soft Red Winter, 8.2 million; and White Winter, 3.9 million.

Winter Wheat: Planted area for harvest in 2003 is estimated at 44.2 million acres. This is up 6 percent from 2002 and is the largest acreage since 1998. Seeding began last August and advanced ahead of the 5-year

average pace throughout the fall. Nearly all of the U.S. acreage was seeded by December 1. Most remaining intended area is in the Southeast and California. Seeding should finish sometime next month in California.



NEW JERSEY CROP REPORT

Annual Report 2002

Acreage Planted and Harvested						
Crop	Area Planted			Area Harvested		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			<i>1,000 Acres</i>		
Barley	5	5	4	4	4	3
Wheat	40	31	38	35	27	32
Soybeans	100	103	100	98	101	97
All Corn	90	80	90			
Corn for Grain				75	66	70
Corn for Silage				14	13	18
All Hay				130	120	115
Alfalfa Hay				30	30	25
Other Hay				100	90	90
Potatoes	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.6
Sweet Potatoes	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2

Yield and Production						
Crop	Yield			Production		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
	<i>Bushels</i>			<i>1,000 Bushels</i>		
Barley	78.0	54.0	74.0	312	216	222
Wheat	57.0	45.0	58.0	1,995	1,215	1,856
Soybeans	40.0	31.0	23.0	3,920	3,131	2,231
Corn for Grain	134.0	112.0	58.0	10,050	7,392	4,060
	<i>Tons</i>			<i>1,000 Tons</i>		
Corn for Silage	17.0	16.0	10.0	238	208	180
All Hay	2.00	2.13	1.83	260	255	210
Alfalfa Hay	3.00	3.40	3.00	90	102	75
Other Hay	1.70	1.70	1.50	170	153	135
	<i>Cwt.</i>			<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>		
Potatoes	285	255	265	713	638	689
Sweet Potatoes	100	105	125	120	126	150



A special *“Thank You”* goes to New Jersey Farmers who have helped us by completing the **December Agricultural Survey**.

Grain Stocks

Corn Stocks Down 8 Percent from December 2001

Soybean Stocks Down 7 Percent

All Wheat Stocks Down 19 Percent

Corn stocks in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 7.63 billion bushels, down 8 percent from December 1, 2001. Of the total stocks, 4.80 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 9 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.83 billion bushels, are down 5 percent from the previous year. The September - November 2002 indicated disappearance is 2.97 billion bushels, compared with 3.14 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 2.11 billion bushels, down 7 percent from December 1, 2001. On-farm stocks totaled 1.17 billion bushels, down 6 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 944 million bushels, are down 9 percent from a year ago. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2002 totaled 823 million bushels, down 5 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 1.32 billion bushels, down 19 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 385 million bushels, down 26 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 936 million bushels, are down 15 percent from a year ago. The indicated September - November 2002 disappearance is 430 million bushels, down 19 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 75.4 million bushels, down 2 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 49.5 million bushels, are down slightly from December 1, 2001. Off-farm

stocks totaled 25.9 million bushels, down 4 percent from a year ago. The indicated September - November 2002 disappearance of 17.4 million bushels is down 15 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Barley stocks in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 170 million bushels, down 13 percent from December 1, 2001. On-farm stocks are estimated at 83.4 million bushels, 10 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 86.6 million bushels, are 16 percent below December 2001. Indicated disappearance during the September - November 2002 quarter totaled 54.0 million bushels, up 7 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Oats stored in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 104 million bushels, 9 percent below the stocks on December 1, 2001. Of the total stocks on hand, 52.3 million bushels are stored on farms, 10 percent less than a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 51.3 million bushels, 9 percent below a year earlier. Indicated disappearance during September - November 2002 totaled 8.12 million bushels, up 5.94 million from the same period a year ago.

Grain sorghum stored in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 230 million bushels, down 27 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 51.6 million bushels, are down 29 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 178 million bushels, are down 26 percent from December 1, 2001. The September - November 2002 indicated disappearance from all positions is 201 million bushels, down 17 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Agricultural Prices

December Farm Prices Received Index

Down 1 Point From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December is 97, based on

1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the November index. Lower prices for wheat, lettuce, broccoli, and eggs more than offset higher prices for cattle, tomatoes, hogs, and strawberries. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Decreased

marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn offset increased marketings of wheat, tobacco, milk, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is 4 points (4.3 percent) above December, 2001. Higher prices for soybeans, wheat, corn, and cattle more than offset lower prices for broilers, hogs, lettuce, calves, and dry beans.

The Food Commodities Index declined 1 point (1.0 percent) from last month to 96, but is 2.1 percent above November last year.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Dec 2001	Nov 2002	Dec 2002
----- Dollars -----			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.21	2.79	2.85
Hay, all, baled, per ton 1/	95.60	93.60	92.60
Soybeans, per bushel	4.20	5.46	5.48
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb	.231	.268	.263
Strawberries, per lb	--	1.08	1.62
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	22.60	16.60	15.10
Lettuce, per cwt	10.00	11.20	8.64
Tomatoes, per cwt	25.00	39.50	48.40
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	64.80	67.60	70.20
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	68.50	72.00	74.80
Cows, per cwt	36.00	33.00	34.20
Calves, per cwt	101.00	88.20	93.60
Broilers, live, per lb	.370	.290	.290
Eggs, all, per dozen	.590	.720	.679
Milk, all, per cwt 2/	13.50	11.80	11.90

1/ Mid-month

2/ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.



For a copy of the finished report or to obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service website at www.nass.usda.gov/nj or call 1-800-328-0179.

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