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New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

FARM FACTS
"FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE"

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New Jersey Quarterly Milk Production: The January-March 2003 Quarterly Milk Production for New Jersey was 57.0 million pounds, unchanged from the previous quarter, but 5.0 percent below the January-March period last year.

Milk cow numbers in New Jersey remained steady. The average number of milk cows during the January-March 2003 quarter was 13,000 head, the same as the October-December 2002 quarter and the January-March 2002 quarter.

New Jersey Spring Vegetables: For the 2003 crop year, some changes have been made to the National Vegetable Program. New Jersey asparagus, escarole and endive, romaine and leaf lettuce, and strawberries were removed from the spring estimate program. The New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service, however will continue to provide state level estimates of these crops in the New Jersey Annual Vegetable Report published in February 2004.

The prospective area for harvest of selected fresh market vegetables (cabbage, head lettuce, snap beans) is forecast at 3,200 acres during the spring quarter, down 100 acres from last year. Prospective harvesting acres for processing vegetables (snap beans, green peas, sweet corn, and tomatoes) is 5,600 acres compared with 7,100 acres last year; down 1,500 acres. The contracted acres were not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

New Jersey Spring Vegetables - Selected Crops

Crop	Harvested		Planted for Harvest
	2001	2002	2003
----- acres -----			
Cabbage	1,000	1,100	1,100
Head Lettuce	700	700	600
Snap Beans	1,300	1,500	1,500

United States Quarterly Milk Production: Milk production in the 20 major States during April totaled 12.7 billion pounds, up 0.8 percent from April 2002. March revised production, at 13.0 billion pounds, was up 1.2 percent from March 2002. The March revision represented a decrease of 0.2 percent or 27 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,625 pounds for April, 4 pounds above April 2002. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.80 million head, 42,000 head more than April 2002, but 11,000 head less than March 2003.

United States Spring Vegetables: The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 217,100 acres, up 2 percent from last year. Acreage decreases for snap beans, carrots, and head lettuce were more than offset by acreage increases for broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, bell peppers, and tomatoes. Celery acreage remained the same. Melon acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 78,800 acres, up 1 percent from last year's comparable States. Cantaloup acreage is up 2 percent from a year ago. Honeydew acreage is unchanged. Watermelon acreage is down 1 percent from comparable States in 2002. Asparagus acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 59,000 acres, down 11 percent from last year. Strawberry acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 33,700 acres, up 4 percent from comparable States in 2002.

Processors expect to contract 1.28 million acres of the five major processed vegetable crops in the U.S. this year, virtually unchanged from last year. Acreage increases are forecast for cucumbers for pickles, green peas, and tomatoes, while snap beans and sweet corn show decreases. Freezing firms expect a 2 percent decrease from 2002, with 411,300 acres under contract. Green pea acreage is up 4 percent from 2002. Sweet corn acreage is down 3 percent. Snap bean acreage is down 8 percent from last year. Canneries contracted for 873,100 acres, up 1 percent from 2002. Sweet corn acreage is up 1 percent, cucumbers for pickles, up 20 percent, and green pea acreage is up 10 percent from a year ago. Tomato acreage is up less than 1 percent. Acreage for snap beans is down 13 percent from last season.

New Jersey Floriculture: Selected Crops and State Totals, 2001 - 2002

Plant Type	Units	Operations with \$100,000 + Sales					
		Growers		Quantity Sold		Wholesale Value of Sales 1/	
		2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
		<i>Number</i>		<i>1,000 Units</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Bedding/Garden Plants, Total		2/	2/	2/	2/	74,990	80,384
Hanging Baskets, Geraniums	Baskets	84	82	275	297	1,699	1,886
Hanging Baskets, Impatiens	Baskets	62	57	147	134	804	777
Hanging Baskets, New Guinea	Baskets	90	80	332	323	2,052	1,983
Other Hanging Baskets, Flowering	Baskets	77	68	650	622	3,699	3,583
Impatiens	Flats	115	102	998	1,080	7,216	8,316
Petunias	Flats	110	100	362	346	2,614	2,775
Other Flowering and Foliage Type	Flats	107	94	1,192	1,116	9,107	8,136
Potted Geraniums (Cuttings)	Pots	105	97	2,500	2,434	4,142	4,378
Potted Hardy/Garden Mums	Pots	91	85	4,112	4,048	7,406	7,544
Potted New Guinea Impatiens	Pots	105	97	1,385	1,514	2,109	2,273
Other Potted Flowering and Foliar Type	Pots	55	62	1,822	1,646	2,958	3,159
Flowering Potted Plants, Total		2/	2/	2/	2/		30,826
Lilies, Easter	Pots	45	43	606	597	2,128	2,189
Poinsettias	Pots	92	89	2,412	2,375	9,938	9,600
Foliage For Indoor or Patio Use, Total		2/	2/	2/	2/	5,552	5,754
Hanging Baskets, Foliage	Baskets	30	31	227	191	951	802
Potted Foliage	Pots	14	14	3/	3/	4,601	4,952
Growers with Gross Value of Sales	Number of Growers		Covered Area (1,000 Sq. Ft)		Expanded Wholesale Value of Sales (\$1,000) 4/		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	
\$100,000 and over	177	168	16,627	17,116	129,384	137,934	
\$10,000 - \$99,999	<u>199</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>2,602</u>	<u>2,371</u>	<u>9,619</u>	<u>7,829</u>	
Total	376	362	19,229	19,487	139,003	145,763	

1/ Equivalent wholesale value of all sales.

2/ Data not available.

3/ Data not collected.

4/ Wholesale value of sales as reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus a calculated wholesale value of sales for growers with sales below \$100,000. The value of sales for growers below the \$100,000 level was estimated by multiplying the number of growers in each size group by the mid-point of each dollar value range.

New Jersey Egg and Turkey Production, Price, and Value

New Jersey produced 533 million eggs in 2002 compared to 556 million produced the previous year, a four percent decline. The value of 2002 egg production was \$22.7 million, down 8 percent from \$24.6 million produced in 2001.

New Jersey producers raised 34 thousand turkeys in 2002, down 23 percent from 44 thousand turkeys produced in 2001. The value of turkeys raised was \$551 thousand, down 23 percent from \$714 thousand generated from turkey sales in 2001.

Egg Production, Price, and Value: Selected States and United States 1/

	Egg Production		Price Per Dozen 2/		Value of Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>Million</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Delaware	369	347	0.676	0.606	20,787	17,524
Maryland	870	894	0.607	0.565	44,008	42,092
New Jersey	556	533	0.531	0.512	24,603	22,741
New York	1,143	1,100	0.567	0.489	54,007	44,825
Pennsylvania	6,662	6,520	0.547	0.514	303,676	279,273
United States	85,745	86,698	0.622	0.590	4,446,312	4,262,662

1/ Estimates cover the 12 month period Dec 1, previous year through Nov 30.

2/ Average of all eggs, including hatching eggs.

Turkey Production, Price, and Value: Selected States and United States

	Number Raised 1/		Pounds Produced		Price Per Pound 2/		Value of Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Delaware	4	3	109	94	0.39	0.37	43	35
Maryland	460	435	15,042	14,181	0.39	0.37	5,866	5,247
New Jersey	44	34	893	697	0.80	0.79	714	551
New York	510	520	11,067	12,220	0.41	0.37	4,537	4,521
Pennsylvania	9,500	9,900	213,750	233,640	0.46	0.39	98,325	91,120
United States	272,059	272,429	7,154,781	7,406,050	0.390	0.365	2,790,317	2,700,333

1/ Estimated base of turkeys placed the 12 month period September 1, previous year through August 31.

2/ New York prices are equivalent live weight returns to producers. All other states' prices are actual live weight prices.

Prices Received by Farmers

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April is 101, based on 1990-92=100, up two 2 points (2 percent) from the March Index. Higher prices for cattle, lettuce, onions, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for tomatoes, broilers, wheat, and hogs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of strawberries, cattle, oranges, and milk offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton, and wheat. This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 7 points (7.4 percent) from April 2002. Higher prices for cattle, corn, soybeans, and broilers more than offset lower prices for potatoes, dry beans, celery, and lemons.

The Food Commodities Index increased 3 points (3.1 percent) above last month to 99, and is 6 points (6.4 percent) above April last year.

Prices Paid Index Up 1 Point

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 128 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was up 1 point from March and 5 points (4.1 percent) above April 2002. Higher prices in April for feeder cattle, self-propelled machinery, hay and forages, and feed grains more than offset lower prices for diesel fuel, complete feeds, milk cows, and feeder pigs.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Apr 2002	Mar 2003	Apr 2003
<i>Dollars</i>			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.09	2.83	2.87
Hay, all, baled, per ton 1/	98.30	92.80	94.50
Soybeans, per bushel	4.47	5.60	5.90
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb	.218	.226	.234
Strawberries, per lb	.600	.623	.770
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	19.40	18.90	16.30
Lettuce, per cwt	14.10	9.64	14.40
Tomatoes, per cwt	34.30	53.30	32.20
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	67.30	72.70	75.00
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	70.60	76.70	79.30
Cows, per cwt	40.10	39.50	40.10
Calves, per cwt	101.00	97.00	99.10
Broilers, live, per lb	.280	.330	.310
Eggs, all, per dozen	.496	.687	.651
Milk, all, per cwt 2/	13.30	11.34	11.47

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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