



New Jersey

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER, 2011

FARM FACTS

USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, New Jersey Field Office, P.O. Box 330 Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone: 1(800)328-0179 Fax: 1(800)625-7581 www.nass.usda.gov/nj/

Seasons Greetings

"Fact Finders
for Agriculture"

Nass to Reinstate Several Agricultural Estimates Programs ➡

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

*Nass to Reinstate
Agricultural Es-
timates Programs* 2

*Farm Labor &
Wage Rates* 3

*Prices Received
Index* 4

2011 USDA Certified Organic Production Survey

The 2011 USDA Certified Organic Production Survey gathers detailed production and marketing information for certified organic crops, livestock and agricultural products in the United States.

Your response will help shape key decisions and policies, such as:

- USDA's Risk Management Agency's Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) will use the information published to provide better insurance coverage for organic crops.
- USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service will use the data on agricultural products to enhance programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service will use the information to evaluate the potential expansion of the Market Access Program to allow for more exports of organic agricultural products.

NASS will survey all known USDA certified organic operators from December 2011 – April 2012. Producers are encouraged to respond online at www.agcounts.usda.gov. By law your information will be kept confidential.

For more information visit www.nass.usda.gov.

NASS to Reinstate Several Agricultural Estimates Programs

NASS leadership recently concluded a deliberate review of all programs against mission- and user-based criteria, aimed at finding cost savings and forward-thinking business efficiencies so that timely, accurate and useful data remains available in service to agriculture. In 2011, NASS made several enhancements within its programs and operations to deliver improved results for the American people, including opening a new national operations center in St. Louis that will centralize data collection and service to people who provide and use NASS products and services. These efforts and more over the last year have allowed NASS leadership the flexibility within its budget to retain and reinstate several key reports.

The reinstated programs are:

- Annual Reports on Farm Numbers, Land in Farms Reports and Farm Income
- Catfish and Trout Reports (data collection begins Dec. 9; report released Dec. 20)
- Annual Floriculture Report
- January Sheep and Goat Report (data collection begins Dec. 23; report date is Jan. 27)
- July Cattle Report
- Annual Bee and Honey Report (data collection begins Jan. 23; report date is March 30)
- Annual Hops Production Report (data collection begins Dec. 9; report date is Dec. 21)
- Annual Mink Report
- Fruit and Vegetable in season forecast and estimates
- Rice Stocks June Report

Recognizing the importance of NASS's data products and services to U.S. agriculture, NASS will make available any data that falls outside of the scope of the agricultural estimates programs in the 5-year Census of Agriculture. The next census will be conducted beginning January 2013 to reflect activities in the 2012 calendar year.

NASS will publish Federal Register notices reflecting these program changes in the near future.



2011 Farm Labor

Northeast II*Workers Down 3 Percent, Wages Down 8 Percent*

Workers: There were 36,000 hired workers on Northeast II Region farms and ranches the week of October 9, 2011, through October 15, 2011, down from 37,000 a year ago. States included in the Northeast Region II are Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Hours worked during the reference week averaged 39.0 compared to 41.9 the previous year.

Wages: Farm operators in the Northeast Region II paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.16 per hour during the October 2011 reference week, down .89 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.04 per hour, down 1.80 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.43 per hour compared with \$10.17 a year earlier.

Hours Worked: The number of hours worked averaged 39.0 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 7 percent from a year ago.

United States*Workers Down 1 Percent, Wage Rates Up 2 Cents*

Workers: There were 1,141,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 9-15, 2011, down 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 828,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 313,000 workers.

Wages: Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.15 per hour during the October 2011 reference week, up 2 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.54 per hour, up 5 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.67 per hour compared with \$10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.57 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year.

Hours Worked: The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 for hired workers during the survey week, down fractionally from a year ago.

Farm Labor & Wage Rates: Northeast II Region and United States ¹

Items	Northeast II ²			United States ³		
	Oct. 10-16, 2010	July 10-16, 2011	Oct. 9-15, 2011	Oct. 10-16, 2010	July 10-16, 2011	Oct. 9-15, 2011
Thousand workers			Thousand workers			
Hired Workers	37	33	36	827	834	828
150 Days or More	28	21	26	589	603	590
149 Days or Less	9	12	10	238	231	238
Dollars Per Week			Dollars Per Week			
Average Hours Worked (All Hired Farm Workers) ¹	41.9	39.2	39.0	41.7	41.2	41.6
Dollars Per Hour			Dollars Per Hour			
Average Wage Rate (All Hired Farm Workers) ¹	12.05	10.95	11.16	11.13	10.93	11.15
By Type of Workers						
Field	11.84	9.93	10.04	10.49	10.27	10.54
Livestock	10.17	10.46	10.43	10.28	10.29	10.67

Source: USDA - NASS: Farm Labor, November 2011

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Includes Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. ³ Excludes Alaska ⁴ Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

November Farm Prices Received Index Up 1 Point

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 23 points (The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 185 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, is up 1 point (0.5 percent) from October. The Crop Index is up 5 points (2.5 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 2 points (1.3 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, lettuce, cattle, and broilers and lower prices for soybeans, hogs, apples, and hay. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly movement of milk, cattle, corn, and cotton offset the decreased marketing of soybeans, peanuts, potatoes, and sunflowers.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 31 points (20 percent) from November 2010. The Food Commodities Index, at 171, decreased 2 points (1.2 percent) from last month but increased 22 points (15 percent) from November 2010.

November Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The November Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 205 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index is unchanged from October but 18 points above (9.6 percent) November 2010. Higher prices in November for feeder cattle, nitrogen, diesel, and mixed fertilizer offset lower prices for complete feeds, concentrates, supplements, and other services.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Nov 2010	Oct 2011	Nov 2011
dollars			
Field Crops			
Corn, per Bushel	4.55	5.71	6.00
Hay, All, Baled, per Ton ¹	110.00	181.00	176.00
Alfalfa ¹	117.00	203.00	198.00
Other ¹	97.80	129.00	122.00
Soybeans, per Bushel	11.10	11.70	11.50
Winter Wheat, per Bushel	6.02	6.54	6.41
Fruit, Fresh			
Apples, per Lb ²	0.353	0.434	0.383
Peaches, per Ton ²	\$	\$	\$
Vegetables, Fresh⁶			
Corn, Sweet, per Cwt	20.60	28.40	22.90
Lettuce, per Cwt	35.40	17.00	32.60
Tomatoes, per Cwt	38.10	26.60	43.80
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, all, per Cwt	94.00	117.00	119.00
Steers and Heifers, per Cwt	101.00	122.00	125.00
Cows, per Cwt ³	51.50	65.00	65.70
Calves, per Cwt	125.00	145.00	152.00
Broilers, live, per Lb ⁴	0.480	0.430	0.450
Eggs, all, per Dozen ¹	1.130	1.020	1.020
Milk, all, per Cwt ⁵	17.90	19.90	19.90
Fat Test, All Milk per %	3.81	3.73	3.79

Source: USDA - NASS: Agricultural Prices, November 2011

¹ Mid-Month Price² Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, NY, and WA. Prices as sold for other states.³ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.⁴ Equivalent live weight price. ⁵ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.⁶ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

To obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the New Jersey Field Office
at www.nass.usda.gov/nj/ or call us at 1-800-328-0179



OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300



USDA, NASS
New Jersey Field Office
Rm 205 Health and Ag Bldg
P.O. Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625