

Livestock and Livestock Products - 2007

All cattle and calves on farms January 1, 2008, in New Jersey totaled 38,000 head, unchanged from the previous year. Value per head increased \$50 from the previous year to \$1,250. The 2008 inventory value was estimated at \$47.5 million, \$1.9 million more than the total from a year ago.

Cattle: The total number of milk cows and beef cows on January 1, 2008, was 10,000 head and 9,000 head, respectively, with milk cows down 500 head and beef cows up 500 head from the previous year. Of the total cattle and calf inventory, cows that have calved accounted for 50 percent. Heifers weighing 500 pounds or more totaled 9,000 head, 24 percent of total inventory. Of these, 5,000 were milk cow replacements, 2,000 were beef cow replacements, and 2,000 were intended for slaughter. There were 3,000 steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 8 percent of all cattle and calves. Bulls at 500 pounds and over numbered 1,000 head or 3 percent of the total inventory. Calves less than 500 pounds accounted for the remaining 6,000 animals, 16 percent of all cattle and calves on January 1, 2008. The 2007 calf crop totaled 14,000 head, unchanged from 2006.

Milk: Milk production in the Garden State totaled 168 million pounds, down 6 percent from the 178 million pounds produced in 2006. The average number of milk cows was 10,000 head, down 1,000 head from the previous year. Milk per cow averaged 16,800 pounds in 2007 compared to 16,182 a year earlier. Value of production of milk totaled \$32.9 million during 2007, compared to \$23.9 million in 2006. The leading milk producing counties were Salem, Sussex, Warren and Gloucester, accounting for 80 percent of the state total.

Hogs and Pigs: All hogs and pigs on New Jersey farms December 1, 2007 totaled 9,000 head, unchanged from the previous year. Value per head averaged \$83, a decrease of \$17 from 2006. The total value of the hog and pig inventory amounted to \$747,000, down \$153,000 from the previous year. Of the total hogs and pigs on farm in the state, 11 percent were kept for breeding and 89 percent were market hogs. The New Jersey pig crop totaled 7,000, up 23 percent from 2006.

Chicken and Eggs: Egg production in the Garden State in 2007 decreased to 424 million eggs, compared to 446 million eggs in 2006. Eggs per layer averaged 280, down from 286, the year before. Average layer numbers on New Jersey farms totaled 1.51 million during 2007, compared to the 1.56 million in 2006. In 2007, poultry managers in the state received an average of 92.0 cents per dozen eggs, compared with 54.5 cents in 2006. The value of egg production in 2007 rose by 60 percent from 2006, to \$32.5 million.

Turkeys: New Jersey turkey production in 2007 was 39,000 birds, 6,000 more than the number raised the previous year. Turkey growers received an average price of \$1.52 per pound, 36 cents more than the price in 2006. In 2007, the value of production increased to \$1,280,000, up 52 percent from the \$842,000 the year before.

Honey: Honey production in 2007 amounted to 513,000 pounds, increasing 58 percent from the 324,000 pounds produced the year before. Beekeepers received an average price of 217 cents per pound in 2007, up \$1.02 per pound from the previous year. The value of production rose from the 2006 level of \$373,000 to \$1,113,000 in 2007.