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# Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook

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## Milk Prices Above 2010 levels Despite Increases in Production

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Tables will be released  
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The next newsletter  
release is May 17, 2011

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Approved by the  
World Agricultural  
Outlook Board

**Beef/Cattle:** Higher prices currently characterize the entire cattle/beef complex from cow-calf through retail. However, increasing supplies of fed cattle from last fall/winter's heavier year-over-year placements are expected to exert downward pressure on fed cattle prices when they begin to come to market during the second quarter of 2011.

**Beef/Cattle Trade:** U.S. beef exports in 2011 are forecast to be 176 million pounds greater than 2010 at 2.48 billion pounds. Year-over-year growth is expected to decline as the year progresses and less U.S. beef becomes available for exports. Counter to exports, U.S. beef imports should increase as the year progresses, with strong growth forecast in the final quarter of this year. In total, 2.24 billion pounds are forecast to be imported in 2011.

**Pork/Hogs:** The March Hogs and Pigs report showed a slightly larger inventory of market hogs, but any price effects of the slightly larger numbers are expected to be largely offset by continued strong domestic and international demand for U.S. pork. Continued productivity gains are likely to reduce effects of hog producers' stated intentions to reduce spring and summer farrowings. 2011 live equivalent prices of 51-52 percent lean hogs are expected to be \$62-\$65 per cwt, compared with \$55.06 a year ago. Second-quarter 2011 prices are expected to be \$67-\$69 per cwt, up from 59.60 in the same period of 2010. February exports were more than 7 percent greater than in February 2010, with Japan, Mexico, and South Korea together accounting for 64 percent of shipments.

**Poultry:** The forecast for U.S. broiler meat production in 2011 was decreased slightly to 37.4 billion pounds, 1.4 percent higher than in 2010, with the reduction coming in the first quarter. Even with strong growth in broiler meat production expected in first-quarter 2011, the estimates for broiler ending stocks were lowered. The combination of small or no increases in production in the remainder of 2011, lower stock levels, and support from higher livestock prices is expected to place upward pressure on most broiler product prices. Turkey production in January and February was 899 million pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Expected slower production growth for the remainder of 2011 and lower cold storage holdings are expected to exert upward pressure on turkey prices. Whole bird prices for first-quarter 2011 were up 19 percent from a year earlier.

**Poultry Trade:** February broiler and turkey shipments were up from a year ago. Broiler shipments totaled 514 million pounds, an increase of 12 percent from February 2010 shipments. Turkey shipments totaled 53 million pounds, a 36 percent increase from last year.

**Dairy:** Feed prices are expected to remain high throughout 2011. However, milk production is expected to continue to rise, based on slightly higher cow numbers and increased output per cow. Milk equivalent exports on both a fats and skims-solids basis will trail last year but are still significant enough to help support prices above 2010 levels. Forecast increases in commercial domestic use should also provide support prices as exports could weaken later in the year.

### *Southern Dryness Creates Uncertainty in Feeder Cattle and Cow Markets*

Early March rains alleviated part of the dry conditions in the Southeastern United States. However, the dry conditions have continued to spread and intensify in areas of the Southern Plains Region and could lead to further cow herd reductions and reduced demand for feeder cattle for spring/summer grazing programs. Roughly a third of the national beef cow herd is found in the areas affected by drought at the end of March.

Federally inspected non-dairy cow slaughter this year is about 5 percent below slaughter through the 4th week in March 2010. However, the first-quarter 2010 estimated commercial beef cow slaughter was the highest first-quarter estimate since 1997. The reduced beef cow slaughter could be an indication that producers may be beginning to consider cow-herd stabilization or even expansion. Even if commercial beef cow slaughter in 2011 were to decline by 5 percent, it would still represent the third highest commercial beef cow slaughter since 1997, exceeded only in 2008 and 2010. With subsequent inventory declines of that magnitude, and based on the lowest January 1 cow inventory since the early 1950s, it is hard to rationalize the reduced cow slaughter as expansion in any real sense. At any rate, beef cow inventories are expected to continue to decline, even if normal slaughter rates occur during the remainder of 2011.

A beginning herd expansion in 2013 will occur only if sufficient heifers are retained during 2011 to be bred in 2011 or 2012 and counted as heifers expected to calve or as cows in the January 1, 2013 inventory report. The July 1 *Cattle* inventory report from USDA, NASS could provide some insight into the status of heifer inventories. Prospects for the expected heifer inventory expansion depend on adequate pasture and range conditions during 2011. The continued dryness in the Southern tier of States and scattered additional areas—home to more than a third of the beef cow inventory—will likely dampen expansion plans in those affected areas.

Thus far in 2011, cattle feeders have been in a positive situation, with margins not seen since last May. Despite increasing grain and feed prices, margins in March were well over \$100 per head. Southern Plains feeding costs for the second quarter are estimated to be in the \$110-\$120 per cwt range, well below live cattle futures prices at their recent peaks, but also well above the \$103.16 average for first-quarter 2011.

### *Beef Prices Exceed Expectations*

Cutout values have reached levels not seen since October 2003, when the United States experienced reduced supplies of fed cattle and beef due to BSE in Canada. The U.S. had imposed import bans on Canadian cattle and beef in May 2003. Although the beef ban was lifted in August 2003, it was October before U.S. beef supplies again reached a level where prices began to decline. The situation today is different because cattle and beef supplies are tight due to significantly lower cattle inventories in North America. Despite the low supplies of cattle and beef, current levels in wholesale cutout values may begin to slip after the early demand for grilling products subsides later this quarter and last fall and winter's year-over-year larger feedlot placements of feeder cattle begin coming to market.

However, retail beef prices could receive what is expected to be a short-lived boost from increases in demand as grilling season approaches and retailers begin purchasing for that market. Other meat species, however, are better positioned price-wise for advertising specials at the retail level for the foreseeable future. Retail prices could average above those of last year due to the anticipated reduced supplies of beef later in 2011.

Ground beef prices remain high relative to prices for other cuts of beef, a situation that has persisted since the last half of 2006. A number of factors have come together to provide support for ground beef products: First, during the economic downturn and current state of unemployment, consumers have cut costs in many ways, purchasing relatively inexpensive cuts of beef, pork, and poultry, and ground beef is one of the cheaper beef products. Ground beef is a very versatile product that consumers can use in many ways to cut the costs of meat dishes that other cuts cannot—think stews, sauces, casseroles, and other dishes. Second, cull cows and bulls supply a major portion of processing beef that is blended with 50-percent lean beef to make ground beef blends, and as supplies of processing beef tighten, increased demand for ground beef provides incentives to use leaner cuts from fed cattle carcasses for grinding. As the proportion of Choice-grading fed cattle increases—which has occurred over the last few years--leaner cuts become more scarce, and the volume of 50-percent lean trim, which is blended with leaner beef to make ground products, increases. Finally, imports of processing beef—also blended with U.S. beef to make ground products—have declined due to declining cattle inventories worldwide and a weak dollar, both of which make those imports relatively more expensive in the United States.

### *Growth in U.S. Beef Exports To Continue Through Third Quarter*

U.S. beef exports for 2011 are forecast at 2.48 billion pounds, 176 million pounds greater than in 2010. If export estimates for this year are attained, 2011 would rival the second highest yearly export volume, recorded in 2002. The 2011 forecast is only 1.7 percent below the record level exported in 2003.

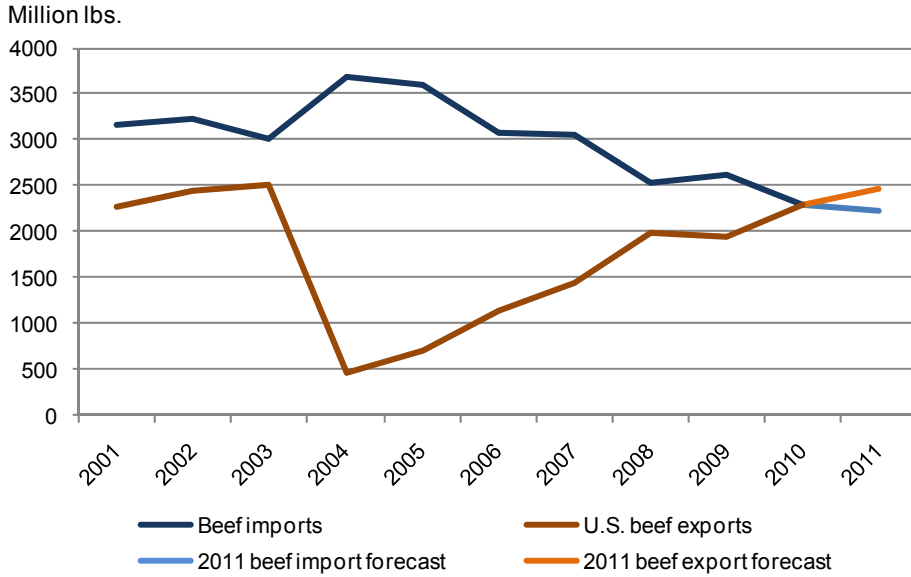
This growth in U.S. exports is expected to continue in Asian markets, namely in Japan and Korea, as well as through steady-to-growing export quantities shipped to Taiwan, Vietnam, and Hong Kong. Increased production in Mexico should somewhat temper growth in U.S. exports to Mexico this year. In addition, the Egyptian market can be expected to regain momentum as the country continues to transition politically, creating more stability in the marketplace.

Quarterly growth is anticipated through the third quarter of this year; however, increases in percentage growth should diminish as 2011 progresses and domestic supplies of beef become tighter. Year-over-year, U.S. beef exports are expected to increase 31, 11 and 5 percent in the first, second, and third quarters of this year. Exports are forecast to be below year-earlier levels in the fourth quarter of the year.

### *U.S. Beef Imports To Increase as 2011 Progresses*

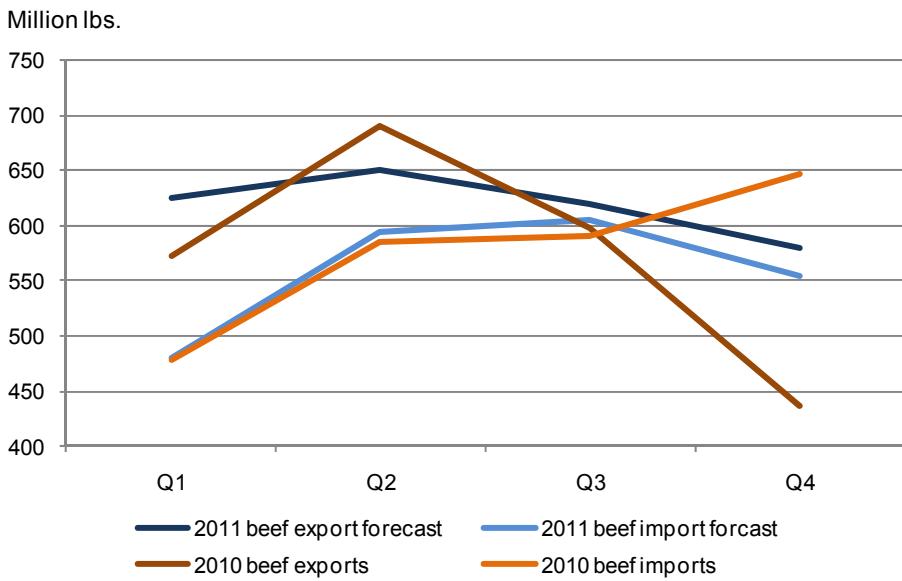
The pattern for growth in U.S. beef imports for 2011 should run counter to the trend in diminishing growth in exports. The supply of beef from Oceania entering the export market should increase as the year progresses, and year-over-year growth in U.S. imports should begin in the third quarter. Beef imports for the first and second quarters of the year should be 16 and 14 percent below year-earlier levels. Third-quarter imports should be about 1 percent greater than the same period a year earlier and beef imports in the final quarter of the year are expected to be 27 percent higher. Total 2011 imports should be about 3 percent below 2010, for a yearly total of 2.24 billion pounds.

### U.S. beef exports and imports, 2001-2010



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.  
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/MeatTrade/BeefVealYearly.htm>

### Quarterly U.S. beef exports and imports, 2010-2011



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.

### ***All Hogs and Pigs Inventory Increases While Farrowing Intentions Lag***

The *Quarterly Hogs and Pigs* report released by USDA on March 25th offered a mixed perspective of U.S. hog production. The report showed a slightly higher March 1st inventory of all hogs and pigs. The market hog component of the inventory was almost 1 percent larger than a year ago. With all other factors unchanged, slightly higher market hog numbers could be expected to have a dampening effect on hog prices. But it is more likely that expected strong domestic and foreign pork demand will offset any downside price effects of higher market hog inventories.

The report also indicated that producers intend to farrow about 3 percent fewer female breeding animals in both the spring (March-May) and summer (June-August) quarters of this year. Even if producers follow through with their stated intentions, it is likely that continued gains in pigs per litter will limit production effects of lower farrowings. Productivity gains are thus expected to combine with lower stated intentions to yield a spring pig crop only slightly smaller than a year ago. Lower summer farrowings are expected to be more than offset by continued gains in seasonally high litter rates, and thus to result in a marginally higher summer pig crop.

Commercial hog production this year is expected to be 22.6 billion pounds, slightly higher than last year. Second-quarter production is expected to come in at 5.35 billion pounds, almost 1 percent above the same period last year. Live equivalent prices of 51-52 percent lean hogs are expected to be \$62-\$65 per cwt this year, more than 15 percent above 2010 prices. For the second quarter, the expected price of \$67-\$69 is more than 14 percent above the same period last year.

### ***February Exports Strong***

February U.S. pork exports were almost 388 million pounds, more than 7 percent higher than a year ago. While the relatively low-valued U.S. dollar benefited most buyers of U.S. pork products in February, the value of the dollar with respect to the Japanese yen, in particular, likely spurred Japanese purchases of U.S. pork. February exports also reflect expected higher shipments to South Korea, in the aftermath of a series of recent outbreaks of foot and mouth disease. Shipments to Japan, Mexico, and South Korea accounted for about 64 percent of exports in February. First-quarter pork exports are expected to be 1.15 billion pounds, almost 10 percent above the same period a year ago. For the year, U.S. pork exports, forecast at 4.675 billion pounds are expected to be 10.6 percent higher than a year ago and to account for 20.7 percent of U.S. commercial pork production.

U.S. pork imports, at 60.4 million pounds in February, were about 7.2 percent lower than a year ago. Of the five largest sources of imported pork, February shipments from Canada, Denmark, and Italy were lower, while imports from Poland and Mexico were higher, year-over-year. While the relatively low value of the U.S. dollar typically spurs U.S. pork exports, it is also likely that U.S. pork imports in February were slowed by the effects of the low-valued U.S. dollar. Live swine imports were almost 461 thousand head in February, 1.7 percent lower than in February 2010. Live swine imports were almost 461 thousand head in February, 1.7 percent lower than in February 2010. U.S. imports of segregated-early-weaned animals increased almost 9 percent, likely reflecting strong returns in February from finishing hogs in the United States.



### ***Broiler Production Revised Downward in First Quarter***

The forecast for first-quarter 2011 broiler meat production was revised downward slightly to 9.2 billion pounds, 5.3 percent higher than the previous year. The revision was due to lower than expected weight gains in much of March. Broiler meat production expanded sharply in January, up 10.5 percent (helped by 1 additional slaughter day). However, meat production growth in February (up 4.1 percent) was due primarily to higher average weights at slaughter (up 3.2 percent). Preliminary estimates point toward only a small increase in the number of birds slaughtered in March, with most of the growth again coming from continued gains in bird weights. For the remaining three quarters of 2011, broiler meat production is expected to average about even with the previous year as production adjusts to sharp feed cost increases.

Over the first 2 months of 2011, broiler meat production totaled 6.0 billion pounds, up 7 percent from a year earlier. This increase in meat production was the result of the combined effect of a higher number of broilers being slaughtered (up 3.6 percent) and a 3.2 percent increase in their average live weight to 5.81 pounds. While the amount of broiler meat produced was up by 10.5 percent in January compared with the previous year, the meat production increase fell to 4.1 percent in February. The March year-over-year increase in broiler meat production is expected to be even smaller.

Even with the increases in meat production, broiler stock levels have fallen rapidly over the last several months. Ending first-quarter 2011 broiler stocks are forecast at 665 million pounds, down 108 million pounds from the end of 2010, but still 12 percent above a year earlier. At the end of February, cold storage holdings were 681 million pounds, down 12 percent from the previous year. While changes in stock reporting methods make year-over-year comparisons difficult, between January and February stocks of most leg meat products declined, but were partially offset by gains in stocks of breast meat and wings. The estimates for broiler ending stocks for the second and fourth quarters were also revised downward.

Weekly estimates of broiler eggs in incubators and chick placements in the NASS Broiler Hatchery Report point toward a continuing slowdown in the growth in the number of eggs being placed in incubators and the number of chicks being placed for growout. Over the last 5 weeks (March 5 to April 2), the number of eggs placed in incubators averaged 208 million, 1.2 percent higher than during the same period the previous year. During the same period, the number of chicks placed for grow out averaged 1 percent more than in the previous year. Chicks placed for growout in late March and early April will likely be ready for slaughter in early to mid-May (based on an average growout time of 7- to 8- weeks).

In first-quarter 2011, the 12-City price for whole broilers averaged 77.9 cents per pound, down 5.3 percent from the previous year. Although the first quarter price was down from the previous year, prices for whole birds have started moving higher with the March price averaging 82 cents per pound. Overall March prices in the Northeast region, compared with the previous year, averaged lower for breast meat products and higher for leg meat products. The March price for boneless/skinless breast was \$1.32 cents per pound, down 9 percent from the previous year.

The March price for boneless/skinless thighs was \$1.16 cents per pound, an increase of 23 percent from March 2010, and for that same period, prices for whole thighs rose by 32 percent. Prices for many broiler products are expected to strengthen over the next several months due to several factors. First, integrators have slowed the placement of chicks for growout in an attempt to lower supplies and raise prices enough to cover the large increases that have occurred in both feed and energy costs. Second, prices are also expected to be strong for both beef and pork products, as supplies are tight in those industries. These factors are expected to place upward pressures on broiler prices, but they will be countered by less-than-robust general economic conditions. While U.S. economic conditions appear to be gradually improving, unemployment rates are expected to remain relatively high in 2011.

### ***Turkey Production Up Slightly in 2011***

U.S. turkey meat production is estimated at 5.7 billion pounds in 2011, up less than 1 percent from the previous year. The increase in turkey meat production is expected to come from a higher number of birds slaughtered, as average weights are not expected to change greatly. Over the first 2 months of 2011, turkey meat production totaled 899 million pounds, up 6 percent from the same period in 2010. During January and February, the number of turkeys slaughtered rose by 5 percent compared with the same period in the previous year and average live bird weights were 30.7 pounds, about 1 percent higher than during January and February of 2010.

At the end of February 2011, cold storage holdings of turkey products totaled 296 million pounds, down 13 percent from the previous year. There were declines in cold storage holdings of most turkey products. Cold storage holdings of whole birds at the end of February were down 19 percent from the previous year to 122 million pounds, and cold storage holdings of turkey parts totaled 174 million pounds, down 9 percent from the previous year. Cold storage holdings for turkey are expected to remain below year-earlier quantities through the first half of 2011, but to average higher than the previous year's level in the second half of 2011, chiefly due to smaller exports.

After declining slightly in late 2010 and early 2011, prices for whole turkeys have begun to be pressured higher by slowing gains in production, relatively low stock levels, and strong exports. The national price for frozen whole hens was \$0.90 per pound in first-quarter 2011, up 19 percent from first-quarter 2010, which in turn was 7 percent higher than in first-quarter 2009. The March average for frozen whole hens was \$0.92 per pound. The combination of only small gains in turkey production and lower stocks is expected to place upward pressure on whole bird prices, keeping them above year-earlier levels throughout 2011, and the average for 2011 is forecast at \$0.93 to \$0.98 per pound, up from \$0.90 per pound in 2010.

### ***Table Egg Production Up, Hatching Egg Production Lower in 2011***

The forecast for first-quarter 2011 table egg production was lowered slightly to 1.62 billion dozen eggs. This is down 10 million dozen from the previous estimate, but up almost 1 percent from first-quarter 2010.

The forecast for fourth-quarter 2011 was reduced by 20 million dozen to 1.67 billion, but the overall 2011 production remains unchanged at 6.6 billion dozen, slightly less than 1 percent more than the previous year. With broiler meat production forecast to be up only slightly in the first half of 2011 and somewhat lower in the second half, hatching egg production is forecast at 1.06 billion dozen, down 1.1 percent from the previous year. In February, the number of hens in the table and hatching egg flocks were both lower. The number of table egg hens was down fractionally from the previous year and the number of hatching hens was down 1.4 percent, although the number of egg-type hens in the hatching flock was up 1.5 percent from February 2010. As with the other livestock industries, egg producers will be pressed to get product prices to a point that covers the additional production costs from higher feed prices.

### ***Eggs Prices 16 Percent Lower in First-quarter***

The wholesale price for one dozen large eggs in the New York region averaged \$1.06 in first-quarter 2011, down 16 percent from first-quarter 2010. With the Easter holiday late in April this year, egg prices began to strengthen seasonally at the very end of March and are expected to remain strong through the first 3 weeks of April and then decline seasonally starting just after the Easter holiday. The late Easter holiday is expected to boost egg prices in the New York market somewhat for second-quarter 2011, and prices are expected to be \$0.89 to \$0.93 per dozen, compared with \$0.83 per dozen for the same period in 2010.

### ***Egg Exports Higher in February***

In February, egg and egg product exports totaled 21.8 million dozen, 15 percent higher than a year earlier. Shipments to Japan and Hong Kong, traditionally two of the top three export markets, were both higher than in the previous year. Shipments to Korea continue to be much stronger than the previous year and in February accounted for much of the increase in total exports. Shipments to Korea during the first 2 months of 2011 were 652 percent higher than in the same period in 2010. The sharply higher exports to Korea were influenced by reductions in Korean pork supplies due to FMD related hog culling. These gains in exports were partially offset by reduced shipments to a number of EU markets. In early 2010, egg product exports to EU markets had been exceptionally strong. A large proportion of the exports to the EU countries were likely be used by their food processing industry. While shipments to Hong Kong so far in 2011 have been higher, exports to China have fallen sharply (down 89 percent).

### *Broiler Shipments Up in February*

February broiler shipments gave the first-quarter total volume a big push in 2011. Broiler shipments in February 2011 totaled 514 million pounds, 12-percent larger than last February. The major difference is the sizeable shipments exported to The Philippines and Korea. Shipments to The Philippines increased 102 percent from a year ago, while shipments to Ukraine increased more than 97 percent. Other country destinations, such as Mexico and Taiwan, play pivotal roles in the surge of broiler meat exported by the U.S. One of the key reasons for this surge in broiler shipments is a depreciation of the dollar. In addition to these countries, shipments to Russia were up slightly. Russia is the largest U.S. broiler meat destination, averaging 57.6 million pounds each month over the last year. When broiler meat is shipped to Russia and the volume exceeds the monthly average shipment, U.S. total broiler shipments are normally greater than 600 million pounds for the month.

### *Turkey Shipments Continue Strong in February*

Turkey shipments in February 2011 increased 36 percent from a year earlier. A total of 53 million pounds of turkey meat were shipped, with Mexico accounting for 57 percent (30 million pounds). China (Mainland) increased its imports of U.S. turkey meat 134 percent. Other major turkey destinations, such as Hong Kong, the Dominican Republic, and Canada, also were not strong contributors to the U.S. expansion in turkey shipments. Of the three countries, Canada had the largest increase in shipments from last year. Turkey shipments to Hong Kong decreased 14 percent, while shipments to the Dominican Republic decreased by 48 percent. In February 2011, Mexico, China, Hong Kong, the Dominican Republic, and Canada accounted for 78 percent of the U.S. total turkey shipments, which is 5-percent more than the combined shipments in February 2010.

### ***Milk Production Continues To Advance Despite High Feed Prices; Rising Domestic Commercial Use and Exports Maintain Demand and Prices***

Feed prices are expected to remain high by historic standards. Corn prices are forecast at \$5.20 to \$5.60 a bushel in 2010/11. Corn producers indicated intentions to plant 4 million acres more corn according to the *Prospective Plantings* report released last month. The forecast corn price is well below reported spot prices in central Illinois. This is because USDA forecasts reflect expected National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) prices received by farmers. Early season forward contracting of corn prices means the NASS farm price lags prevailing cash market prices. Soybean meal prices are forecast to average \$340 to \$360 a ton for 2010/2011. Soybean acreage is expected to be down slightly this spring from last year's record. Last month's quarterly grain stocks report showed corn stocks down 15 percent from last year and soybean stocks also down by only 2 percent from last year. Overall, the feed situation is likely to remain tight in 2011, keeping prices firm. The expected expanded planting of field crops could support higher alfalfa hay prices. The outcome for dairy producers is continued high feed prices.

The latest *Milk Production* report shows U.S. milk cow numbers for January and February in surveyed States above the corresponding period last year, as is milk per cow. In contrast, the *Livestock Slaughter* report shows dairy cow slaughter continuing ahead of a year ago, and high manufactured beef prices have increased prices for cull cows. These data suggest that replacements exceed culls nationally and that freshening of the national herd continues. The U.S. dairy herd will likely increase fractionally in 2011 to 9.165 million head, up from 9.117 million last year. Milk per cow is also forecast to rise this year, but by only a near-trend 1 percent compared with a 2.8 percent year-over-year increase last year. The small increases in herd size and milk per cow will move up production to 195.9 billion pounds of milk in 2011.

Milk equivalent imports are forecast at 3.7 billion pounds for the year on a fats basis and 4.8 billion pounds on a skims-solids basis. Imports on a skims-solids basis are virtually unchanged from 2010. Milk equivalent exports on a fats basis are forecast to total 7 billion pounds for 2011; this is a decline from 2010's totals, but the April 2011 forecast was increased from the March forecast based on stronger than expected exports of butterfat and cheese. Milk equivalent exports on a skims-solids basis are forecast at 31.3 billion pounds, a small decline from 2010. The April skims-solids export forecast was increased from the March forecast due to the high level of nonfat dry milk (NDM) shipments registered in January. For the second half of 2011, exports may weaken relative to the first half as increased competition from Oceania is expected to erode the competitive U.S. position. Nevertheless, the relative weakness of the U.S. dollar and strong global demand will help maintain exports at a strong pace.

Domestic commercial use is expected to rise on both a fats and skims-solids basis in 2011. Expected continued economic recovery underpins the forecasts. Commercial use on a fats basis is forecast to rise by nearly 1.8 percent in 2011 over 2010, the strongest year-over-year rise since 2006. Skims-solids commercial use is set to rise by 2.7 percent in 2011 after falling by an equal amount in 2010, making skim-solids commercial use in 2011 the same as in 2009.

Major dairy product prices are expected to go higher in 2011 compared with 2010, but 2011 price forecasts for cheese and butter were revised downward this month from the March forecast. Both cheese and butter prices have weakened recently, and cheese stocks have been relatively high. NDM prices are virtually unchanged from last month's forecast, based on expected continued strong exports. Cheese prices are forecast to average \$1.665 to \$1.715 per pound for the year, and NDM prices are projected to average \$1.375 to \$1.415 per pound. The butter price is expected to average \$1.735 to \$1.815 per pound for the year. Whey prices are forecast to average 41.0 to 44.0 cents per pound. High NDM prices may be providing some support for whey prices. Milk price forecasts will be higher this year than last, but the Class III price forecast was lowered slightly this month from March projections. The Class IV price, raised fractionally from last month based on stronger NDM prices, is estimated to average \$17.05 to \$17.65 per cwt. This will average above the Class III price, which is expected to average \$16.10 to \$16.60 per cwt. The all milk price is forecast to average \$18.15 to \$18.65 per cwt in 2011.

## Contacts and Links

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### Data Products

Meat Price Spreads, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/MeatPriceSpreads/>, provides monthly average price values, and the differences among those values, at the farm, wholesale, and retail stages of the production and marketing chain for selected cuts of beef, pork, and broilers. In addition, retail prices are provided for beef and pork cuts, turkey, whole chickens, eggs, and dairy products.

Livestock and Meat Trade Data, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/MeatTrade/>, contains monthly and annual data for the past 1-2 years for imports and exports of live cattle and hogs, beef and veal, lamb and mutton, pork, broiler meat, turkey meat, and shell eggs. The tables report physical quantities, not dollar values or unit prices. Breakdowns by major trading countries are included.

### Related Websites

Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ldp/>  
Animal Production and Marketing Issues, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/AnimalProducts/>  
Cattle, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/cattle/>  
Dairy, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/dairy/>  
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Poultry and Eggs, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/poultry/>  
WASDE, <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1194>

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U.S. red meat and poultry forecasts

	2004		2005		2006		2007 1/					2008					2009					2010					2011					
	Annual	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual
<b>Production, million lb</b>																																
Beef	24,548	24,683	6,082	6,724	6,834	6,513	26,153	6,237	6,649	6,802	6,733	26,421	6,372	6,899	6,908	6,382	26,561	6,248	6,602	6,689	6,424	25,963	6,251	6,549	6,771	6,746	26,316	<b>6,390</b>	<b>6,685</b>	<b>6,695</b>	<b>6,325</b>	<b>26,095</b>
Pork	20,511	20,685	5,335	5,008	5,087	5,625	21,055	5,396	5,128	5,256	6,163	21,943	6,024	5,593	5,632	6,098	23,347	5,811	5,488	5,698	5,996	22,993	5,607	5,301	5,401	6,127	22,436	<b>5,725</b>	<b>5,350</b>	<b>5,505</b>	<b>6,015</b>	<b>22,595</b>
Lamb and mutton	195	187	49	47	42	47	185	49	44	42	48	183	46	43	42	43	174	42	42	42	45	171	43	40	39	42	164	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>150</b>
Broilers	34,063	35,365	8,814	8,980	8,870	8,835	35,500	8,625	9,085	9,131	9,285	36,126	9,145	9,439	9,457	8,865	36,906	8,573	8,939	9,172	8,827	35,511	8,732	9,198	9,496	9,484	36,911	<b>9,200</b>	<b>9,370</b>	<b>9,475</b>	<b>9,375</b>	<b>37,420</b>
Turkeys	5,454	5,504	1,351	1,435	1,419	1,476	5,682	1,413	1,482	1,488	1,575	5,958	1,536	1,560	1,568	1,582	6,246	1,385	1,420	1,417	1,441	5,663	1,339	1,383	1,415	1,506	5,643	<b>1,390</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,415</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>5,665</b>
Total red meat & poultry	85,442	87,097	21,792	22,362	22,413	22,656	89,224	21,874	22,552	22,876	23,962	91,264	23,292	23,717	23,791	23,137	93,937	22,148	22,561	23,091	22,819	90,618	22,124	22,628	23,293	24,064	92,108	<b>22,899</b>	<b>23,020</b>	<b>23,290</b>	<b>23,357</b>	<b>92,566</b>
Table eggs, mil. doz.	6,365	6,413	1,617	1,617	1,632	1,656	6,522	1,598	1,593	1,602	1,642	6,435	1,587	1,577	1,599	1,640	6,403	1,597	1,603	1,614	1,661	6,475	1,603	1,620	1,639	1,667	6,550	<b>1,625</b>	<b>1,640</b>	<b>1,660</b>	<b>1,695</b>	<b>6,620</b>
<b>Per capita disappearance, retail lb 2/</b>																																
Beef	66.1	65.6	15.8	16.9	16.9	16.3	65.8	15.9	16.6	16.4	16.2	65.2	15.6	16.3	15.8	15.1	62.8	15.3	15.7	15.6	14.7	61.2	14.6	15.1	15.3	14.6	59.6	<b>14.3</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>58.3</b>
Pork	51.4	50.0	12.4	11.9	11.9	13.1	49.4	12.3	12.2	12.3	14.0	50.8	12.6	11.6	12.0	13.3	49.5	12.5	12.0	12.5	13.0	50.1	11.8	11.4	11.7	12.8	47.7	<b>11.7</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>46.8</b>
Lamb and mutton	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.9	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Broilers	84.4	85.8	21.7	22.1	21.9	20.9	86.5	21.2	21.6	21.4	21.2	85.4	21.3	21.4	21.1	19.7	83.5	19.3	20.1	20.6	19.6	79.6	20.0	20.5	21.4	20.3	82.2	<b>21.2</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>84.4</b>
Turkeys	17.1	16.7	3.5	3.9	4.3	5.2	16.9	3.8	4.1	4.2	5.5	17.5	4.0	4.1	4.3	5.3	17.6	3.7	3.9	4.0	5.3	16.9	3.5	3.6	4.1	5.1	16.4	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>16.1</b>
Total red meat & poultry	221.6	221.0	54.1	55.5	55.6	56.1	221.3	53.9	55.1	54.9	57.6	221.6	54.1	54.2	53.8	54.0	216.1	51.4	52.4	53.4	53.3	210.5	50.6	51.2	53.2	53.6	208.6	<b>51.4</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>208.0</b>
Eggs, number	257.3	255.8	64.1	63.7	63.9	64.7	257.8	62.2	61.7	62.4	63.8	250.1	61.8	61.3	62.0	63.8	248.9	62.0	61.5	61.4	62.9	247.7	61.4	61.3	62.0	62.7	247.4	<b>61.1</b>	<b>62.0</b>	<b>62.3</b>	<b>62.3</b>	<b>247.7</b>
<b>Market prices</b>																																
Choice steers, 5-area Direct, \$/cwt	84.75	87.28	89.24	80.39	85.40	86.61	85.41	90.61	93.45	91.36	91.85	91.82	89.59	92.82	98.45	88.22	92.27	84.48	84.48	83.05	83.29	83.25	89.44	96.33	95.47	100.28	95.38	110.07	<b>110-114</b>	<b>108-116</b>	<b>108-118</b>	<b>109-114</b>
Feeder steers, Ok City, \$/cwt	104.76	110.94	106.23	104.08	115.17	103.22	107.18	99.53	108.87	115.64	108.88	108.23	99.88	106.60	110.81	94.62	102.98	92.84	98.64	99.40	93.67	96.14	98.73	112.65	112.29	111	108.71	127.20	<b>123-127</b>	<b>118-126</b>	<b>120-130</b>	<b>122-127</b>
Cutter Cows, National L.E., \$/cwt	52.35	54.36	48.89	47.79	49.28	44.29	47.56	51.04	53.96	54.07	49.40	52.12	53.88	57.30	61.78	46.70	54.92	45.42	48.57	46.44	43.56	46.00	51.79	58.79	58.90	54.93	56.1	68.66	<b>68-72</b>	<b>66-70</b>	<b>62-70</b>	<b>67-70</b>
Choice slaughter lambs, San Angelo, \$/cwt	96.69	97.76	77.03	66.56	81.10	84.53	77.31	82.59	82.23	87.33	87.55	84.93	86.23	79.62	88.83	88.95	85.91	90.14	91.44	88.35	90.47	90.10	103.87	106.17	115.57	142	124.67	174.66	<b>166-170</b>	<b>161-169</b>	<b>163-173</b>	<b>167-172</b>
Barrows & gilts, N. base, l.e. \$/cwt	52.51	50.05	42.63	48.45	51.83	46.13	47.26	46.04	52.55	50.33	39.43	47.09	39.64	52.51	57.27	41.92	47.84	42.11	42.74	38.90	41.20	41.24	50.41	59.60	60.13	50.11	55.06	59.94	<b>67-69</b>	<b>65-69</b>	<b>57-61</b>	<b>62-65</b>
Broilers, 12 City, cents/lb	74.10	70.80	62.7	61.0	67.8	65.9	64.4	75.00	80.30	79.20	71.10	76.40	78.10	80.60	80.60	79.40	79.70	79.70	81.90	76.80	72.10	77.60	82.2	85	84.5	80	82.9	77.9	<b>82-86</b>	<b>84-90</b>	<b>84-92</b>	<b>82-86</b>
Turkeys, Eastern, cents/lb	69.70	73.40	67.3	71.3	79.4	89.8	77.0	69.70	77.90	89.90	90.80	82.10	77.40	88.90	96.50	87.30	87.50	73.80	79.10	81.40	83.80	79.50	75.6	84.4	97.9	103.7	90.4	90.2	<b>91-95</b>	<b>95-101</b>	<b>96-104</b>	<b>99-104</b>
Eggs, New York, cents/doz.	82.20	65.50	71.4	62.7	64.0	89.0	71.8	105.3	92.0	119.1	141.0	114.4	158.8	117.30	114.50	122.60	128.30	109.70	89.70	94.80	117.70	103.00	126	82.8	93.1	123.2	106.3	105.8	<b>89-93</b>	<b>93-99</b>	<b>108-116</b>	<b>99-104</b>
<b>U.S. trade, million lb</b>																																
Beef & veal exports	460	697	215	315	307	308	1,145	269	363	424	375	1,431	360	471	609	448	1,888	384	471	496	518	1,869	478	585	590	646	2,299	<b>625</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>2,475</b>
Beef & veal imports	3,679	3,599	843	790	730	722	3,085	770	884	774	624	3,052	637	661	584	655	2,537	704	751	623	550	2,628	573	690	598	436	2,297	<b>480</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>2,235</b>
Lamb and mutton imports	181	180	53	44	41	52	190	56	44	44	59	202	52	48	38	47	185	51	46	28	46	171	47	46	30	38	161	<b>48</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>168</b>
Pork exports	2,181	2,666	767	763	654	811	2,995	792	685	703	959	3,138	1,106	1,387	1,126	1,049	4,668	1,033	952	1,016	1,125	4,126	1,047	1,081	952	1,147	4,227	<b>1,150</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>1,225</b>	<b>4,675</b>
Pork imports	1,099	1,024	259	237	239	254	989	239	256	240	232	968	217	205	191	218	831	205	196	210	223	834	199	204	237	240	880	<b>215</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>910</b>
Broiler exports	4,783	5,203	1,270	1,297	1,234	1,404	5,205	1,275	1,393	1,493	1,610	5,771	1,507	1,787	1,912	1,756	6,962	1,753	1,655	1,719	1,708	6,835	1,488	1,683	1,648	1,954	6,773	<b>1,550</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,675</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>6,550</b>
Turkey exports	442	570	119	125	152	150	547	124	135	148	146	553	148	160	186	182	676	117	122	152	144	535	114	136	159	174	583	<b>130</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>560</b>
Live swine imports (thousand head)	8,506	8,191	2,133	2,088	2,204	2,338	8,763	2,302	2,370	2,464	2,869	10,005	2,915	2,149	2,201	2,083	9,348	1,761	1,614	1,518	1,472	6,365	1,446	1,408	1,479	1,450	5,783	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,430</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>5,850</b>

1/Forecasts are in bold.

2/Per capita meat and egg disappearance data are calculated using the Resident Population Plus Armed Forces Overseas series from the Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce.

Source: World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates and Supporting Materials.

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## Dairy Forecasts

	2010					2011				
	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual
Milk cows (thous.)	9,093	9,119	9,126	9,130	9,117	9,160	9,165	9,165	9,165	9,164
Milk per cow (pounds)	5,212	5,462	5,267	5,208	21,149	5,300	5,505	5,300	5,270	21,375
<b>Milk production (bil. pounds)</b>	<b>47.4</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>48.1</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>192.8</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>195.9</b>
Farm use	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0
Milk marketings	47.2	49.6	47.8	47.3	191.9	48.3	50.2	48.3	48.1	194.9
<b>Milkfat (bil. pounds milk equiv.)</b>										
Milk marketings	47.2	49.6	47.8	47.3	191.9	48.3	50.2	48.3	48.1	194.9
Beginning commercial stocks	11.3	13.1	13.5	12.2	11.3	10.9	11.8	14.0	13.2	10.9
Imports	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9	4.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	3.7
Total supply	59.7	63.6	62.3	60.4	207.3	60.1	62.8	63.2	62.3	209.5
Commercial exports	1.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	8.3	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.5	7.0
Ending commercial stocks	13.1	13.5	12.2	10.9	10.9	11.8	14.0	13.2	11.4	11.4
Net removals	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Commercial use	45.0	47.8	47.7	47.3	187.8	46.4	47.0	48.3	49.4	191.1
<b>Skim solids (bil. pounds milk equiv.)</b>										
Milk marketings	47.2	49.6	47.8	47.3	191.9	48.3	50.2	48.3	48.1	194.9
Beginning commercial stocks	11.3	11.9	12.6	12.5	11.3	12.3	11.5	12.4	11.7	12.3
Imports	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	4.8	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.3	4.8
Total supply	59.6	62.7	61.7	61.0	208.0	61.9	62.8	61.9	61.0	212.0
Commercial exports	6.2	8.7	8.4	8.7	32.1	8.0	8.2	7.8	7.3	31.3
Ending commercial stocks	11.9	12.6	12.5	12.3	12.3	11.5	12.4	11.7	12.2	12.2
Net removals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Commercial use	41.9	41.3	40.9	40.0	164.1	42.3	42.2	42.4	41.5	168.5
<b>Milk prices (dol./cwt) 1/</b>										
All milk	15.60	15.07	16.80	17.70	16.29	18.73	18.85	17.75	17.15	18.15
							-19.25	-18.45	-18.15	-18.65
Class III	13.85	13.31	15.06	15.40	14.41	16.63	16.20	16.00	15.45	16.10
							-16.60	-16.70	-16.45	-16.60
Class IV	13.22	14.82	16.04	16.29	15.09	18.08	18.10	16.55	15.45	17.05
							-18.60	-17.35	-16.55	-17.65
<b>Product prices (dol./pound) 2/</b>										
Cheddar cheese	1.471	1.419	1.587	1.614	1.523	1.708	1.655	1.660	1.625	1.665
							-1.695	-1.730	-1.725	-1.715
Dry whey	0.386	0.366	0.362	0.373	0.372	0.425	0.445	0.405	0.385	0.410
							-0.465	-0.435	-0.415	-0.440
Butter	1.387	1.551	1.915	1.955	1.702	1.990	1.860	1.620	1.480	1.735
							-1.930	-1.720	-1.610	-1.815
Nonfat dry milk	1.107	1.212	1.174	1.183	1.169	1.375	1.435	1.370	1.315	1.375
							-1.475	-1.430	-1.385	-1.415

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

2/ Simple averages of monthly prices calculated by the Agricultural Marketing Service for use in class price formulas. "Based on weekly "Dairy Product Prices", National Agricultural Statistics Service. Details may be found at [http://www.ams.usda.gov/dyfmfos/mib/fedordprc\\_dscrp.htm](http://www.ams.usda.gov/dyfmfos/mib/fedordprc_dscrp.htm)

Source: World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates and supporting materials.

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