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IN THIS ISSUE

Oats And Barley: Acreage, Yield, and Production
Potatoes: Acreage, Production Disposition, Stocks
Chickens: Layers and Eggs

Tobacco: Acreage, Yield, and Production
Milk: Number of Cows, Production, and Price
Dairy Products: Butter, Cheese, Creams

FIELD CROPS: Wet weather during April and heavy soils at the start of May delayed planting from one week to ten days for many Maine farmers. As a result, only 20 percent of the state's 2007 oat and barley crops had been planted by May 20. Much warmer weather followed and remained through the Memorial Day weekend, allowing farmers to catch up on field work. Crop weather specialists have rated Maine's grain crops as excellent or good for the entire season. Harvest was underway by the last week in August, trailing last year and normal by a week or more due to the late start. Harvest wrapped up the first week in October, on schedule with normal.

Maine **oat** production is expected to total 2.1 million bushels in 2007, a 27 percent increase over the previous year's low-yielding crop. Grain acreage harvested is estimated at 30,000 acres, unchanged from a year earlier. Early September grower assessments placed grain yields at 70 bushels per acre, compared with 55 bushels per acre in 2006.

Maine's 2007 **barley** production is estimated at 1.2 million bushels, 40 percent above last year's low-yielding crop. Grain acreage harvested, at 17,000 acres, is unchanged from a year earlier. Based on grower assessments in early September, grain yields are expected to average 70 bushels per acre in the state of Maine, up 20 bushels per acre from 2006 yields.

TOBACCO: The October 1, 2007 tobacco forecast placed **broadleaf** production at 4.85 million pounds in the Connecticut River Valley. Increased broadleaf acreage and improved yields would place 2007 marketed production nine percent above last year's output. The 2007 season began with cool, wet conditions which delayed growth in the greenhouses. Warmer weather arrived in May to enhance growing conditions. Lack of rain late in the growing season forced many growers to irrigate fields. Massachusetts tobacco growers had the crop all harvested and curing in sheds by early September, while farmers in Connecticut were hanging tobacco to cure through the end of the month. Disease problems included blue mold in both shade and broadleaf fields. Early October assessments were made as the crop hung in the sheds to cure, and growers placed expected marketed yield at 1,732 pounds per

acre. Based on early October marketed yield projections, **shade** production was expected to total 1.8 million pounds in Connecticut and Massachusetts, 33 percent above previous year due to more acres harvested and improved yields.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production in **Vermont** totaled 205 million pounds for September 2007, which increased one million pounds from September 2006. There were an estimated 140,000 milk cows on Vermont farms in September, unchanged from the previous year for the same month and an increase of 1,000 head from August 2007.

Milk production in New England during the third quarter (July-September) of 2007 totaled 1.01 billion pounds, an increase of 4.7 million pounds from the previous year. There were an estimated 220,600 milk cows on hand from July through September 2007, a decrease of 500 cows from the previous quarter. Quarterly milk production averaged 4,599 pounds per cow, a two percent increase from the same quarter in 2006.

Milk production in the United States during the third quarter of this year totaled 46.1 billion pounds, an increase of three percent from the third quarter of 2006. There were 9.2 million milk cows in the United States during the third quarter of the year, slightly above the previous quarter's total. The United States average quarterly milk production rate was 5,036 pounds per cow for the third quarter of 2007, a three percent increase from the third quarter of 2006.

LAYER AND EGG PRODUCTION: Connecticut and Maine **layer** inventories in September 2007 totaled 6.7 million birds, up one percent from the combined total in September 2006. Maine is the leading producer of eggs in New England, laying 80 million eggs in September 2007. Connecticut layers produced 67 million eggs.

The **United States** layer inventory during September 2007 totaled 340 million, down one percent from a year earlier. United States egg production totaled 7.37 billion eggs during September 2007, a decrease of 0.8 percent from September 2006.

MAINE OATS and BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2006 – 2007

Crop and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Acres				Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Oats								
Maine	31	31	30	30	55.0	70.0	1,650	2,100
UNITED STATES	4,168	3,760	1,566	1,505	59.8	60.9	93,638	91,599
Barley								
Maine	18	18	17	17	50.0	70.0	850	1,190
UNITED STATES	3,452	4,020	2,951	3,508	61.1	60.4	180,165	211,825

SOURCE: *Small Grains 2007 Summary*, 8:30 a.m., September 28, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

TOBACCO: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2005 – 2007

Crop and State	Area Harvested			Yield per Acre			Production		
	2005	2006	2007 Forecast as of October 1	2005	2006	2007 Forecast as of October 1	2005	2006	2007 Forecast as of October 1
	Acres			Pounds			1,000 Pounds		
Broadleaf (Type 51):									
Connecticut	1,520	1,650	1,800	1,720	1,760	1,750	2,614	2,904	3,150
Massachusetts	900	950	1,000	1,670	1,610	1,700	1,503	1,530	1,700
CT and MA Total	2,420	2,600	2,800	1,701	1,705	1,732	4,117	4,434	4,850
Shade (Type 61):									
Connecticut	930	850	1,000	1,400	1,280	1,500	1,302	1,088	1,500
Massachusetts	290	200	220	1,180	1,450	1,500	342	290	330
CT and MA Total	1,220	1,050	1,220	1,348	1,312	1,500	1,644	1,378	1,830
UNITED STATES (All Types)	297,080	338,900	355,070	2,171	2,144	2,000	645,015	726,644	709,965

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., October 12, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 2002 – 2006 Crop Years
Prices Received ¹ by Farmers for All Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average

Crop Year	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Market Year Average
	Dollars per Cwt											
2002	5.75	5.45	5.60	6.65	6.95	7.10	7.10	7.45	8.10	8.15	7.40	7.05
2003	6.00	5.25	5.45	5.85	5.70	5.80	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.75	7.05	6.05
2004	5.90	5.15	5.65	6.15	6.35	5.90	6.55	6.60	6.95	7.30	7.40	6.50
2005	²	5.85	6.30	7.90	8.20	8.20	8.40	8.75	9.45	9.30	8.55	8.25
2006	²	6.25	6.50	8.15	8.25	8.40	7.90	7.60	8.15	8.20	8.05	7.80

¹ Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed, and feed.² Missing data indicates too few potatoes being marketed to set price.SOURCE: *Potatoes, 2006 Summary*, 3:00 p.m., September 20, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, September 2006 – 2007

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹		Egg Production from All Layers ¹	
	September 2006	September 2007	September 2006	September 2007	September 2006	September 2007	September 2006	September 2007
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	2,605	2,824	2,662	2,879	2,367	2,327	63	67
Maine	3,923	3,743	3,994	3,822	2,103	2,093	84	80
UNITED STATES	280,547	275,202	343,147	339,841	2,165	2,169	7,430	7,370

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.SOURCE: *Chickens and Eggs*, 3:00 p.m., October 22, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, September 2007 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ¹			Production per Cow			Production ²		
	September 2006	August 2007	September 2007	September 2006	August 2007	September 2007	September 2006	August 2007	September 2007
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	140	139	140	1,460	1,540	1,465	204	214	205
New York	631	625	626	1,515	1,640	1,570	956	1,025	983
Pennsylvania	553	551	550	1,560	1,620	1,550	863	893	853
UNITED STATES ³	8,251	8,330	8,342	1,613	1,721	1,644	13,307	14,332	13,715

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.² Excludes milk sucked by calves.³ United States includes 23 major States: AZ, CA, CO, FL, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, TX, VT, VA, WA, and WI.SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., October 18, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

QUARTERLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, July – September 2007 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ¹			Production per Cow			Production		
	Jul – Sep 2006	Apr – Jun 2007	Jul – Sep 2007	Jul – Sep 2006	Apr – Jun 2007	Jul – Sep 2007	Jul – Sep 2006	Apr – Jun 2007	Jul – Sep 2007
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Connecticut	19.0	19.0	19.0	4,550	4,950	4,680	86.0	94.0	89.0
Maine	32.0	32.0	33.0	4,560	4,600	4,580	146.0	147.0	151.0
Massachusetts	15.5	15.0	14.5	4,360	4,330	4,280	68.0	65.0	62.0
New Hampshire	15.0	14.0	14.0	4,700	5,290	5,210	71.0	74.0	73.0
Rhode Island	1.1	1.1	1.1	4,360	4,180	4,090	4.8	4.6	4.5
Vermont	141.0	140.0	139.0	4,496	4,550	4,568	634.0	637.0	635.0
NEW ENGLAND	223.6	221.1	220.6	4,516	4,621	4,599	1,009.8	1,021.6	1,014.5
UNITED STATES	9,113.0	9,129.0	9,157.0	4,897	5,195	5,036	44,710.0	47,429.0	46,114.0

¹ Average number for quarter including dry cows.SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., October 18, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.VERMONT MILK: 2002 – 2007 Prices Received ¹ by Farmers for Milk Sold

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
	Price per Cwt												
2002	14.20	13.80	13.30	13.10	12.70	12.10	11.60	11.70	12.00	12.50	12.50	12.40	12.70
2003	12.30	11.90	11.50	11.40	11.50	11.50	12.10	13.40	15.00	15.80	15.50	14.80	13.00
2004	14.00	14.40	16.20	17.80	20.10	19.80	17.60	15.50	16.30	16.60	17.00	17.20	16.90
2005	16.90	16.00	16.60	15.80	15.50	15.10	15.80	15.70	16.10	16.50	16.10	15.50	16.00
2006	15.30	14.60	13.80	12.80	12.70	12.70	12.70	12.90	13.60	14.50	14.70	14.80	13.70
2007 ²	15.60	15.80	16.70	17.60	19.00	21.00	23.20	23.40	23.50				

¹ Prices include quality, quantity, and other premiums; excludes deductions for hauling and hauling subsidies.² Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., September 27, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, August 2007 with Comparisons

Product	August 2006 ¹	July 2007 ¹	August 2007	August 2007 as percent of:	
				August 2006	July 2007
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	781	1,175	953	122	81
American Type Cheese ²	6,821	6,566	6,344	93	97
Mozzarella Cheese	3,512	3,427	3,625	103	106
Other Italian Cheese ³	964	575	792	82	138
Cottage Cheese ⁴	652	552	679	104	123
	1,000 Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	7,747	7,809	6,809	88	87
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	1,202	1,244	1,132	94	91
Milk Sherbet, Hard	384	165	97	25	59

¹ Revised.² American type Cheese includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack.³ Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.⁴ Creamed and low fat.SOURCE OF NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, 3:00 p.m., October 4, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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The 2007 Census of Agriculture is your chance to share your voice. Your response provides vital information that impacts decisions about community development, funding availability, farm policy and other key issues. By actively participating in the Census, you join with other voices to make positive changes.

Look for the Census in your mailbox in early January 2008. Complete and return it by February 4, 2008. Remember, when you lend your voice, you help ensure a better future for your operation, your family and your community.



2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

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