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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

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May Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat
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Louisiana Crop Acreage

Corn, sorghum and rice planted acreages exceeded the levels intended by Louisiana farmers in March of this year. Excellent corn prices associated with the high demand for ethanol were cited as the main reasons for the big jump in acreage. Cotton and soybeans lost most of the acreage gained by corn this year.

Corn planted acreage, at 750,000 acres, is up 450,000 acres, or 150 percent from a year ago and up 50,000 from March intentions. This is the highest planted acreage since 1950, when the state planted 853,000 acres.

Grain sorghum planted acreage is estimated at 210,000 acres, up 120,000 acres or 133 percent from 2006 and up 30,000 acres from March intentions.

Sugarcane acreage for harvest is estimated at 430,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year. This is the lowest harvested acres for sugar and seed since 1997 when the state harvested 410,000 acres.

Cotton planted acreage is expected to total 340,000 acres, down 46 percent from last year and down 11 percent from March intentions. This will be the lowest planted acreage since 1975, when 320,000 acres were planted.

Rice planted acreage is estimated at 390,000 acres, up 11 percent from 2006 and up 40,000 acres from March intentions. Long grain varieties are expected to account for 380,000 acres and medium grain for the remaining 10,000 acres.

Soybean planted acreage is expected to decrease 31 percent from last year, to 600,000 acres. If realized this will be the lowest planted acreage since 1964, when 508,000 acres were planted.

Sweet potato planted acreage, at 16,000 acres, is down 2,000 acres from a year ago.

An estimated 220,000 acres were planted to **winter wheat**, up 105,000 acres or 91 percent from a year ago. Of these, an estimated 210,000 acres were harvested for grain.

All **hay** acreage intended for harvest is estimated at 400,000 acres, up 10,000 acres or 3 percent from 2006.

United States Crop Acreage

Corn: The 2007 corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 92.9 million acres, up 19 percent from 2006 and 14 percent higher than 2005. This is the highest planted area since 1944, when 95.5 million acres were planted for all purposes. Growers expect to harvest 85.4 million acres for grain, up 21 percent from 2006 to the highest level since 1933. Farmers responding to the survey indicated that 99 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted at the time of the interview compared with an average of 98 percent for the past 10 years.

Sorghum: Area planted to sorghum in 2007 is estimated at 7.8 million acres, up 19 percent from 2006. Area to be harvested for grain is forecast at 6.7 million acres, up 36 percent from last year. Producers in Texas expect to plant 2.9 million, up 45 percent from last year and surpassing Kansas' planted area for the first time since 1998. Kansas producers expect to plant 2.8 million acres, up 2 percent from last year.

Sugarcane: Area for harvest of sugarcane for sugar and seed during the 2007 crop year is forecast at 891,700 acres, down 1 percent from 2006. Area for harvest in Louisiana is down 5,000 acres from last year and Florida growers expect to harvest 4,000 fewer acres than last year.

Cotton: The 2007 all cotton planted area is estimated at 11.1 million acres, down 28 percent from last year. Upland cotton planted area totals 10.8 million acres, down 28 percent from 2006 and the lowest acreage since 1989. The lower price for cotton and the higher prices for bio-fuel crops led some growers to switch to those crops. In the Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee), producers planted 2.7 million acres, down 36 percent from last year.

Rice: Area planted to rice in 2007 is estimated at 2.7 million acres, down 3 percent from 2006. This is the lowest planted acreage since 1989. Area for harvest is estimated at 2.7 million acres, also 3 percent below last year's area harvested. All rice-producing states except Louisiana and Texas planted fewer acres compared to last year. Growers in Arkansas planted 1.3 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Long grain planted acreage, representing 76 percent of the total, is down 5 percent from last year. Medium grain planted acreage, representing 21 percent of the total, increased 2 percent from 2006. Area planted to short grain varieties is unchanged from last year and represents 2 percent of the total.

Planted Acreage, June 1, 2007

Crop	Louisiana			United States		
	2006	2007	%Change	2006	2007	% Change
	-----Thousand Acres-----			-----Thousand Acres-----		
Corn	300	750	+150	78,327	92,888	+19
Upland Cotton	635	340	-46	14,948	10,760	-28
Rice, All	350	390	+11	2,838	2,744	-3
Sorghum	90	210	+133	6,522	7,765	+19
Soybeans	870	600	-31	75,522	64,081	-15
Sweet Potatoes	18	16	-11	95.2	96.5	+1
Winter Wheat	115	220	+91	40,575	45,136	+12
Hay ¹	390	400	+3	60,807	61,789	+2
Sugarcane ^{1,2}	435	430	-1	898.1	891.7	-1

¹ Harvested Acres
² For sugar and seed

Soybeans: The 2007 soybean planted area is estimated at 64.1 million acres, down 15 percent from last year's record high. Planted area declined from last year in all states except New York, Pennsylvania, and the southeast states. Area for harvest is forecast at 63.3 million acres, down 15 percent from 2006. The planted and harvested area is the lowest since 1995.

Sweet potatoes: Planted area of sweet potatoes is estimated at 96,500 acres for the 2007 season, up 1 percent from last year and 6 percent above two years ago. Harvested area is forecast at 93,200 acres, up 7 percent from 2006 and 5 percent above 2005. The acreage increase is due mainly to favorable growing conditions in the largest states.

Winter Wheat: The 2007 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 45.1 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous estimate and up 11 percent from 2006. Area harvested for grain is forecasted at 37.6 million acres, up 1 percent from the June forecast and up 21 percent from last year.

Hay: Producers expect to harvest 61.8 million acres of all hay in 2007, up 2 percent from 2006. Expected harvested area of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, at 21.5 million acres, is up marginally from last year. All other hay harvested area is expected to total 40.3 million acres, up 2 percent from 2006.

Louisiana and U.S. Grain Stocks, June 1, 2006-2007

Item	Louisiana ¹		United States	
	June 1		June 1	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
	----- Thousand Bushels -----		----- Thousand Bushels -----	
Corn				
On Farm			2,350,500	1,826,600
Off Farm ²	<u>11,060</u>	<u>10,226</u>	<u>2,011,199</u>	<u>1,707,101</u>
TOTAL			4,361,699	3,533,701
Sorghum				
On Farm			12,650	5,380
Off Farm ²	<u>1,377</u>	<u>1,124</u>	<u>102,213</u>	<u>69,498</u>
TOTAL			114,863	74,878
Soybeans				
On Farm			495,500	500,000
Off Farm ²	<u>4,139</u>	<u>4,259</u>	<u>495,199</u>	<u>591,085</u>
TOTAL			990,699	1,091,085
All Wheat				
On Farm			111,010	73,190
Off Farm ²	<u>3,870</u>	<u>4,455</u>	<u>460,180</u>	<u>382,503</u>
TOTAL			571,190	455,693

¹ Louisiana on-farm stocks and total stocks not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

² Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

Louisiana Grain Stocks

Total off-farm **sorghum** stocks were estimated at 1.1 million bushels, compared to 1.4 million bushels in 2006.

Off-farm holdings of **corn** totaled 10.2 million bushels, down 8 percent from 2006.

All wheat off-farm stocks totaled 4.5 million bushels, compared to 3.9 million bushels in 2006.

Total off-farm **soybean** stocks were estimated at 4.3 million bushels, compared to 4.1 million bushels in 2006.

United States Grain Stocks

Grain sorghum stored in all positions on June 1, 2007, totaled 74.9 million bushels, down 35 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 5.4 million bushels, are down 57 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 69.5 million bushels, are down 14 percent from the same period last year.

Corn stocks in all positions on June 1, 2007, totaled 3.5 billion bushels, down 19 percent from June 1, 2006. Of the total stocks, 1.8 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 22 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 1.7 billion bushels, are down 15 percent from a year ago.

All wheat stored in all positions on June 1, 2007, totaled 456 million bushels, down 20 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 73.2 million bushels, down 34 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 383 million bushels, are down 17 percent from a year ago.

Soybeans stored in all positions on June 1, 2007, totaled 1.1 billion bushels, up 10 percent from June 1, 2006; this is the largest June 1 stocks on record. On-farm stocks totaled 500 million bushels, up 1 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 591 million bushels, are up 19 percent from the previous year.

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during May totaled 500,000 pounds, down 29 percent from April and 29 percent from the previous year.

There were 600 head of **cattle** slaughtered during May, down 100 head from April and 200 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 797 pounds, down 68 pounds from the previous month, but 8 pounds above May 2006. Total live weight, at 492,000 pounds, was 21 percent below the previous month and 25 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during May totaled 200 head, down 100 head from April but the same as May 2006. Live weight averaged 500 pounds, down 6 pounds from April but 2 pounds above May 2006. Total live weight, at 121,000 pounds, was down 27 percent from April but the same as the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during May totaled 1,200 head, down 400 head from the previous month and 300 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 197 pounds, up 11 pounds from April and 3 pounds above the previous year. Total live weight was 238,000 pounds, down 22 percent from April and 20 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during May was 200 head, down 100 head from April but 100 head above the previous year. Live weight averaged 75 pounds, down 11 pounds from April and 5 pounds below May 2006.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.08 billion pounds in May, up slightly from the 4.06 billion pounds produced in May 2006.

May 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. May 2006 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.3 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.1 million head, up slightly from May 2006. The average live weight was down 12 pounds from the previous year, at 1,232 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.4 million pounds, 3 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 59,000 head, up 4 percent from May 2006. The average live weight was down 23 pounds from last year, at 349 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.8 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.8 million head, up 3 percent from May 2006. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.5 million pounds, was down 4 percent from May 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 218,200 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 142 pounds, the same as May 2006.

January to May 2007 commercial red meat production was 19.5 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was up 9 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	April	May		January - May		May		January - May	
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	----- Number, thousand head -----					----- Number, thousand head -----			
Cattle	0.7	0.8	0.6	3.8	3.5	3,039.1	3,051.0	13,490.9	13,907.4
Calves	0.3	0.2	0.2	1.4	1.5	56.9	59.0	271.9	327.9
Hogs	1.6	1.5	1.2	8.0	7.7	8,536.5	8,760.0	42,703.4	43,912.4
Sheep & Lambs	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.7	1.3	225.6	218.2	1,150.0	1,134.9
	----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----					----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----			
Cattle	619	657	492	3,273	3,030	3,768,689	3,747,840	16,981,020	17,423,541
Calves	166	121	121	750	791	21,051	20,485	97,503	107,006
Hogs	305	299	238	1,641	1,579	2,306,430	2,352,965	11,581,491	11,841,025
Sheep & Lambs	23	11	18	75	126	32,055	30,949	163,073	158,794
	----- Average live weight, pounds -----					----- Average live weight, pounds -----			
Cattle	860	784	792	861	866	1,244	1,232	1,263	1,257
Calves	506	498	500	536	527	372	349	361	329
Hogs	186	194	197	205	205	270	269	272	270
Sheep & Lambs	86	80	75	107	97	142	142	142	140
	----- Million pounds -----					----- Million pounds -----			
Red Meat	0.7	0.7	0.5	3.7	3.5	4,063.8	4,075.1	19,179.1	19,547.9

Prices Received Index Increased 3 Points

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in June, at 141 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points from May. The Crop Index was up 3 points and the Livestock Index increased 2 points. Producers received higher commodity prices for milk, corn, lettuce, and soybeans. Lower prices were received for cantaloups, cattle, tomatoes, and eggs. The overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of wheat, grapes, hay, and cantaloups offset decreased marketings of oranges, strawberries, tomatoes, and sweet corn.

The Preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 23 points from June 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 141, increased 2 points from last month and 22 points from June 2006.

Prices Paid Index Down 1 Point

The June Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 156 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was down 1 point from May but 7 points above June 2006. Lower prices in June for complete feeds, feed concentrates, and feeder pigs offset higher prices for feed grains and diesel fuel.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	June 2006	May 2007	June 2007 ¹	June 2006	May 2007	June 2007 ¹
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	5.78	6.82	2/	5.62	7.13	7.57
Rice, per cwt	8.55	9.84	9.78	8.11	9.72	9.80
Upland Cotton, per pound	.455	.438	.443 ³	.474	.448	.451 ³
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	109.00	138.00	131.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	61.90	65.50	62.90	84.00	93.20	89.70
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	103.00	100.00	96.00	88.20	98.10	94.00
Cows, per cwt ⁵	43.50	50.00	48.00	46.80	51.60	50.00
Calves, per cwt	118.00	117.00	112.00	135.00	126.00	125.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.390	.510	.520
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.547	.773	.676
Milk, All, per cwt ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	11.90	18.00	20.00

¹ Mid-month.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

⁴ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums.

Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available.

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