



# LIVESTOCK

## 2003 Missouri Livestock Summary

**GENERAL:** Several factors have influenced the type of livestock production currently practiced in Missouri. Climate, soil types and terrain, location, availability of markets, and its people have all contributed to animal agriculture in the state. The climate of Missouri is such that livestock are not subjected to the higher temperatures of the more southerly states and the disease and pest problems associated with them. Yet it is not so far north as to require livestock to endure extremely harsh winters. Pastures receive more rainfall than in the arid southwestern states but not as much as the humid northwestern or southeastern United States. The climate also contributes to the long growing season for native grasses and improved pasture. The northern and southeastern fertile cropland portions of the state provide feed grains while the hilly Ozark Plateau is suitable only for animal agriculture. Being near the geographical and population centers of the contiguous United States allows Missouri to export animals easily for further feeding, processing, or consumption.

**CASH RECEIPTS:** Total cash receipts for 2003 Missouri livestock and products were 2.63 billion dollars, up 15 percent from 2002. Meat animals accounted for 58.5 percent of total receipts, poultry/eggs 31.3 percent, and dairy products 8.9 percent. Specialty livestock farms accounted for the remaining 1.3 percent.

**CATTLE:** The inventory of all cattle and calves on Missouri farms on January 1, 2004 totaled 4.35 million head, a decrease of 3 percent from the 4.50 million head on hand a year earlier. There were 2.25 million head of cows and heifers that had calved in Missouri, the same as the previous year. Beef cows totaled 2.13 million head, up slightly from the 2.12 million head on hand January 1, 2003. Milk cows decreased 7 percent to 125,000 head from 134,000 head a year earlier. Missouri's 2003 calf crop totaled 2.08 million head, down slightly from the previous year. The number of operations with cattle declined 4 percent to 65,000 operations for 2003 compared with 68,000 operations a year earlier.

**MILK PRODUCTION:** Missouri milk production during 2003 totaled 1.89 billion pounds, a 3 percent decrease from the

1.95 billion pounds produced during 2002. The average number of milk cows on hand during the year decreased 5.8 percent to 129,000 head from 137,000 head a year earlier. Milk production per cow increased 3 percent from 14,204 pounds per cow in 2002 to 14,620 pounds per cow in 2003. The number of operations with milk cows decreased 9 percent from 3,400 operations in 2002 to 3,100 operations in 2003.

**MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS:** Total ice cream production totaled 45.1 million gallons, 17 percent above the 2003 production of 38.6 million gallons. Total cheese production (excluding cottage cheese) totaled 97.4 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2002's 98.5 million pounds.

**HOGS:** The December 1, 2003 inventory of Missouri hogs and pigs stayed the same as the previous year with 2.95 million head. There were 685,000 sows farrowed during 2003, a decrease of under 1 percent from the 690,000 farrowed in 2002. The pig crop for 2003 totaled 6.1 million pigs, down from the 6.22 million pigs born in 2002. Pigs saved per litter averaged 8.91 pigs in 2003 compared with 9.02 pigs a year earlier. The number of hog operations in Missouri decreased 10 percent from 3,000 operations in 2002 to 2,700 operations in 2003.

**SHEEP:** Missouri's sheep and lambs totaled 60,000 head on January 1, 2004. This was down 10 percent from the 67,000 head on hand a year earlier. Breeding sheep and lambs accounted for 54,000 head, down 6,000 from January 1, 2003. Sheep and lambs for market totaled 6,000 head, down 1,000 head from a year earlier. Missouri's 2003 lamb crop totaled 55,000 head, down 8 percent from 2002's 60,000 head. The number of operations with sheep in Missouri during 2003 increased 6 percent to 1,800 operations from 1,700 operations during 2002.

**CHICKENS AND EGGS:** The number of all chickens (excluding commercial broilers) on hand December 1, 2003 in Missouri totaled 8.28 million, down 3 percent from the 8.56 million on hand a year earlier. The average number of layers during 2003 was 6.5 million, down 4 percent from the 6.76 million averaged during 2002. The average number of eggs per layer increased 5 percent from 272 eggs during 2002 to 286 eggs in 2003. Total egg production in Missouri increased 1 percent to 1.86 billion eggs.

**TURKEYS:** There were 26.50 million turkeys raised in Missouri during 2003, up 4 percent from the 25.5 million raised in 2002. The average price per pound decreased to 35 cents per pound from 36 cents per pound a year earlier. The value of production for 2003 was 285.7 million dollars, up 1 percent from the 2002 value of production of 281.8 million dollars.