



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Great Lakes Region



Agriculture Across Michigan

Vol. 44 No. 12

December 2023

October Milk Production

Dairy herds in Michigan produced 1.01 billion pounds of milk during October, up 2.6 percent from a year ago. Production per cow in Michigan averaged 2,300 pounds for October, unchanged from October 2022. The dairy herd was estimated at 439,000 head for October, up 11,000 head from a year earlier. The average price of milk cows in October was \$1,980 per head, up \$220 from a year ago. The average price of milk sold in October by Michigan dairy producers was \$20.90 per cwt., \$3.30 less than the price in October 2022.

Milk Cows, Production, and Price – Michigan: October 2022 and 2023

Item	2022	2023
Cows 1,000 hd	428	439
Milk per cow lbs/month	2,300	2,300
Production mil lbs	984	1,010
Milk cow price dol/hd	1,760	1,980
Milk price, all dol/cwt	24.20	20.90
Fat test pct	4.04	4.13
Protein ¹ pct	3.28	3.26

¹ FMO 33

October Agricultural Prices

Prices received by Michigan farmers for the full month of October 2023 are listed in the table below. Some Michigan highlights were: October corn, at \$4.82 per bushel, decreased \$0.49 from September and decreased \$1.54 from last year; October soybeans, at \$12.90 per bushel, decreased \$1.40 from last month and decreased \$1.00 from last year; October wheat, at \$5.19 per bushel, decreased \$0.31 from September and decreased \$3.42 from last year; October milk, at \$20.90 per cwt., increased \$0.60 from last month but decreased \$3.30 from last year.

Nationally, the October Prices Received Index 2011 Base (Agricultural Production), at 114.1, decreased 6.3 percent

from September and 11 percent from October 2022. At 104.0, the Crop Production Index was down 7.6 percent from last month and 14 percent from the previous year. The Livestock Production Index, at 133.5, increased 0.3 percent from September, but decreased 4.1 percent from October last year. Producers received lower prices for corn, hogs, soybeans, and apples but higher prices during October for milk, calves, cattle, and dry beans. In addition to prices, the volume change of commodities marketed also influences the indexes. In October, there was decreased marketing of cattle, milk, broilers, and wheat and increased monthly movement for soybeans, corn, cotton, and calves.

Prices Received by Farmers¹ - Michigan and United States: October 2023 with Comparisons

Commodity	Michigan			United States		
	Oct 2022	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Oct 2022	Sep 2023	Oct 2023
Beans, dry edibledollars/cwt	46.10	44.20	44.40	41.80	38.80	42.70
Corndollars/bu	6.36	5.31	4.82	6.49	5.21	4.93
Hay, alfalfadollars/ton	190.00	205.00	200.00	281.00	224.00	217.00
Hay, otherdollars/ton	125.00	145.00	140.00	183.00	161.00	164.00
Oatsdollars/bu	4.87	5.28	4.37	4.38	3.86	3.77
Soybeansdollars/bu	13.90	14.30	12.90	13.50	13.20	12.70
Wheat, winterdollars/bu	8.61	5.50	5.19	9.09	6.71	6.43
Milk, alldollars/cwt	24.20	20.30	20.90	25.60	21.00	21.60

¹ Entire month weighted average price.

Red Meat Production

Commercial red meat production in Michigan totaled 119.5 million pounds in October 2023, up 7 percent from October 2022.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.77 billion pounds in October, up slightly from the 4.76 billion pounds produced in October 2022.

Beef production, at 2.34 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, down 3 percent from October 2022. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,374 pounds.

Veal production totaled 4.2 million pounds, 8 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 23,100 head, down 24 percent from October 2022. The average live weight was up 49 pounds from last year, at 308 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.42 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.4 million head, up 5 percent from October 2022. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.3 million pounds, was up 7 percent from October 2022. Sheep slaughter totaled 193,500 head, 14 percent above last year. The average live weight was 115 pounds, down 7 pounds from October a year ago.

January to October 2023 commercial red meat production was 45.2 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2022. Accumulated beef production was down 5 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

Commercial Slaughter - Michigan: October 2022 and 2023

Species	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Calves	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hogs	322.4	370.0	95,999	107,982	298	292
Sheep	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

USDA to Measure Financial Well-Being of Michigan Farmers

Beginning in January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will spend several weeks gathering information about farm economics and production practices from farmers and ranchers across Michigan, as the agency conducts the third and final phase of the 2023 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). ARMS is a joint effort between NASS and USDA's Economic Research Service. The information farmers and ranchers provide through the survey influences national and state policy-making decisions. In addition, ARMS data are used to calculate the farm sector portion of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The survey also collects detailed information on production practices, costs, and returns for 13 principal commodities on a rotating basis.

In an effort to obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to more than 40,000 producers nationwide, including over 700 in Michigan, between January and April. The survey asks producers to provide in-depth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics. The 2023 ARMS survey in Michigan includes 2 special versions of the questionnaire

focused on farm costs and returns for oat and soybean producers. The survey also includes questions on conservation practices, farm and household finances, and off-farm employment. In January, interviewers will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded by mail or on-line. We appreciate their time and are here to help them with the questionnaire so that their information will continue supporting sound agricultural decision-making.

In addition to producing accurate information, NASS has strong safeguards in place to protect the confidentiality of all farmers who respond to its surveys. The agency will only publish data in an aggregate form, ensuring the confidentiality of all responses and that no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The expense data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual *Farm Production Expenditures* report on July 26, 2024. That report and others are available at nass.usda.gov/Publications. More reports based on ARMS data and more information about ARMS are available at ers.usda.gov/arms.

Chickens and Eggs

All layers in Michigan totaled 16.2 million during October, down 5 percent from a year ago. Egg production totaled 415 million eggs, down 3 percent from last year. The rate of lay during October was 2,559 eggs per 100 layers.

All layers in the U.S. totaled 389.4 million during October, up 3 percent from a year ago. There were 23.0 million turkey poults hatched in the U.S. in October, up 2 percent from the previous year.

Egg and Hatchery Production - Michigan and United States: October 2022 and 2023

Item	2022	2023	Percent Change
Michigan			
All layersthousand	17,020	16,210	-5
Eggs per hundred layers number	2,525	2,559	1
Eggs produced million	430	415	-3
U.S.			
All Layersthousand	377,572	389,378	3
Eggs per hundred layers number	2,443	2,452	0
Eggs produced million	9,225	9,549	4
Turkey Eggs in incubators, Nov 1thousand	26,479	25,752	-3
Turkey Poults hatched, Octthousand	22,454	22,952	2

The USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will begin publishing 2023 county level estimates soon. The table below shows the county estimate release schedule. County estimates for 2023 and all previous years will be available on the Quick Stats searchable database (www.nass.usda.gov) at 3:00 p.m. ET on the release date.

Release Schedule for 2023 County Estimates

Commodity	Release Date
Oats	December 15, 2023
Winter Wheat	December 15, 2023
Corn for Grain	February 23, 2024
Soybeans	February 23, 2024
Cattle & Calves	May 13, 2024



Thank You to our Data Providers

The USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region and enumerator staff are pleased to provide you and the Michigan agricultural industry with current, reliable information as summarized in the following articles. This service is possible because you and other respondents provided us with timely survey responses. Thank you!