

January 30, 2020 Board Meeting

- **Milk Production**

- In November, WI milk production totaled 2.41 billion pounds. This was down 2 percent over the previous November.
- Milk production in the 24 major states totaled 16.7 billion pounds. This is up less than one percent from the previous year.
- As of January 1, 2020, WI had 7,292 milk cow herds. This is down 818 herds from January 2019.

- **November Prices Received**

- Milk price for November was \$22.40 per cwt. This is \$5.40 higher per cwt. from previous November. The US price for November was \$21.00.
- The November price for corn is \$3.52 per bushel. This is up 16 cents from last November.
- The November price for soybeans is \$8.39 per bushel. This is up 11 cents from November 2018.
- The November price for alfalfa hay is \$226 per ton up \$46 per ton from last November.

- **December Hog Survey**

- On December 1, there were 365,000 hogs and pigs in Wisconsin. This is up 14 percent from the previous year. The total inventory in the United States was up 3 percent from December 2018.
- Wisconsin's breeding herd accounted for 60,000 head of the total inventory.
- 99,000 sows farrowed during December 2018 – November 2019. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 10.96 for the year in Wisconsin.

- **Highlights from the 2019 Final Crop Production Report**

- **Corn for grain** – Total production is estimated at 450 million bushels. This is down 17 percent from 2018. Wisconsin's corn for grain yield is estimated at 168 bushels per acre which is down 4 bushels per acre from 2018. The average yield in 2019 for the United States is estimated at 168.0 bushels per acre.

- **Soybeans** – Total production is estimated 79.9 million bushels, down 24 percent from 2018. Wisconsin soybean growers averaged 47 bushels per acre which is down 1 bushel per acre from 2018. The average yield in 2019 for the United States is estimated at 47.4 bushels per acre.
- **Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for dry hay** – 2019 production in Wisconsin is estimated at 2.11 million tons, up 10 percent from 2018. Producers averaged 2.4 tons per acre.
- **Potatoes** – Production is estimated at 28.2 million cwt, up 4 percent from 2018. Yield is estimated at 415 cwt, up 10 cwt per acre from last year.
- **Winter Wheat Seedings**
 - Wisconsin producers seeded 140,000 acres of winter wheat for the 2020 crop year, down 55,000 acres from the previous year. Nationally, the number of acres seeded is the second lowest winter wheat acreage on record.
- **2019 Wisconsin Crop Progress Review**
 - Soils were heavily saturated as the 2019 planting season opened, with topsoil moisture rated 48 percent surplus on March 31.
 - Below normal temperatures and frequent rain events kept soils wet throughout the cropping season, causing significant delays to fieldwork.
 - Overwintered crops were damaged by ice storms in January and February, followed by spring flooding and multiple freeze-thaw cycles in March, April, and May.
 - Deep mud and high grain moistures delayed the start of fall fieldwork, and remained major problems throughout the rest of the year.
- **Storage Capacity**
 - Wisconsin on-farm storage capacity on December 1, 2019 was 380 million bushels which up 4 percent from December 1, 2018.
 - Wisconsin's 355 off-farm storage facilities have a storage capacity of 395 million bushels, which up 4 percent from the previous year. Off-

farm storage exceeded on-farm storage capacity for the second time on record.

- **Other noteworthy items:**

- NASS is going to re-survey operators with unharvested corn and soybeans in Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin in the spring, once producers are able to finish harvesting remaining acres. NASS will update the January 10 Crop Production Report if the newly collected data justifies changes.
- 2019 county estimates for corn and soybeans will be released on February 20. This data is used in calculating payments farmers will receive in crop insurance.
- NASS is currently conducting the 2019 Organic Survey, a follow-on special study to the 2017 Census of Agriculture. This will be the sixth comprehensive organic survey NASS has conducted and the first since the 2016 Organic Survey. Results from the 2019 Organic Survey will be available in Fall 2020.