

March 5, 2020 Board Meeting

- **Corn and Soybean County Estimates**
 - Released February 25th.
- **Vegetables**
 - Sweet Corn Production in Wisconsin totaled 9.99 million cwt from 57,100 acres. Wisconsin remained in third place for processing sweet corn production in 2020. Wisconsin's sweet corn for processing production had a value of \$33.6 million.
 - Snap Bean production in Wisconsin totaled 5.66 million cwt from 56,600 acres. Wisconsin maintained its number one ranking in production of processing snap beans with 38 percent of the nation's production. Production of snap beans for processing in Wisconsin was valued at \$26.3 million.
- **Milk Production**
 - In December, WI milk production totaled 2.61 billion pounds. This was up 3 percent over the previous December.
 - Milk production in the 24 major states totaled 18.1 billion pounds. This is up 3.2 percent from the previous year. Production in SD was up almost 12 percent over last December.
 - As of February 1, 2021, WI had 6,907 milk cow herds. This is down 351 herds from February 2020.
- **Results from the January Livestock Surveys**
 - All cattle and calves in Wisconsin as of January 1, 2021 totaled 3.45 million head. This is unchanged from January 1, 2020. Beef cows, at 310,000 head, were unchanged from last year. Milk cows, at 1.26 million head were unchanged from last year. All cattle and calves in the U.S. totaled 93.6 million head, down slightly from the January 1, 2020 inventory number. Nationally the number of milk cows totaled 9.44 million head; were up 1 percent from the previous year.
 - Milk goat inventory in Wisconsin was the largest in the United States at 72,000 head which down 6 percent from January 2020.
 - Sheep and lamb inventory in Wisconsin as of January 1, 2021 totaled 86,000 head.

- **Ag Labor**
 - During the reference week of October 11 – 17, 2020, there were 57,000 workers hired by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin). This was down 16 percent from the October 2019 reference week.
 - Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$15.72 per hour during the October 2020 reference week, up 8 cents from October 2019. Livestock workers averaged \$14.29 and field workers averaged \$15.75 per hour in October.
- **Farms and Land in Farms**
 - Released February 19.
- **Other noteworthy items:**
 - The March Planting Intentions report will be released on March 31.



WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER

February 1, 2021 - Vol. 21, No. 3

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The Wisconsin Farm Reporter is compiled from data and reports released by the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

All NASS data and reports are available free at www.nass.usda.gov

December Milk Prices

The Wisconsin all milk price for December 2020 was \$18.10 per hundredweight (cwt). This was \$4.60 lower than last month's price and \$3.30 lower than last December's price.

The U.S. all milk price for December was \$18.50 per cwt, 40 cents higher than Wisconsin's price but \$2.80 lower than last month's U.S. price. Nineteen of the 24 major milk producing states had a lower price when compared with November and 5 states has a higher price. Oregon had the largest price decrease, down \$6.20 to \$19.70 per cwt.

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange* (CME) 40-pound block cheese price closed at \$1.5750 per pound on January 29, while barrels were \$1.3900 per pound. The CME butter price was \$1.2450 per pound.

For the week ending January 23, 2021, the Agricultural Marketing Service* U.S. weekly 40-pound block cheese price averaged \$1.7836 per pound, and 500 pound barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.6256 per pound. The U.S. butter price was \$1.4194 per pound.

Milk Prices¹

Selected states	December 2019		November 2020		December 2020	
	Price	Fat	Price	Fat	Price	Fat
	per cwt.	test	per cwt.	test	per cwt.	test
	(dollars)	(percent)	(dollars)	(percent)	(dollars)	(percent)
Milk for all uses						
California	19.80	3.98	23.00	4.01	19.20	4.05
Idaho	20.30	4.18	21.20	4.29	17.70	4.31
Iowa	22.40	4.10	23.30	4.21	18.40	4.22
Michigan	19.40	3.96	18.50	3.98	17.80	4.00
Minnesota	22.10	4.19	24.00	4.28	18.70	4.31
New Mexico	19.30	4.00	19.10	3.92	16.30	3.99
New York	20.50	4.02	20.00	4.05	18.30	4.08
Pennsylvania	21.10	4.02	20.20	4.05	18.80	4.08
Texas	21.30	4.36	21.00	4.33	18.00	4.38
Wisconsin	21.40	4.00	22.70	4.06	18.10	4.10
United States	20.70	4.06	21.30	4.09	18.50	4.13

¹Before deduction for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

Prices Received by Farmers

The December 2020 average price received by farmers for **corn** in Wisconsin was \$3.80 per bushel. This was up 23 cents from November and 24 cents above the previous December.

The December **soybean** price, at \$11.10 per bushel, was up 70 cents from November and \$2.62 above the previous December.

The December **oat** price was \$2.78 per bushel, 41 cents above the November price, but 9 cents below December 2019.

All hay prices in Wisconsin averaged \$167.00 per ton in December, down \$19.00 from November and \$62.00 below December 2019. The **alfalfa hay** price averaged \$178.00 per ton in December, down \$18.00 from November and \$64.00 below the previous December. The **other hay** price averaged \$124.00, down \$23.00 from November and down \$62.00 from the December 2019 price.

Prices received for **milk cows** for dairy herd replacement averaged \$1,470 per head as of January 1, 2021.

Prices Received by Farmers

WISCONSIN		December 2019	November 2020	December 2020
(dollars)				
Corn	bu	3.56	3.57	3.80
Hay, all baled	ton	229.00	186.00	167.00
Alfalfa	ton	242.00	196.00	178.00
Other	ton	186.00	147.00	124.00
Oats	bu	2.87	2.37	2.78
Soybeans	bu	8.48	10.40	11.10
Milk cows ^{1,2}	head	1,260.00	1,420.00	1,470.00
UNITED STATES		December 2019	November 2020	December 2020
(dollars)				
Corn	bu	3.71	3.79	3.97
Hay, all baled	ton	158.00	156.00	155.00
Alfalfa	ton	172.00	167.00	169.00
Other	ton	136.00	136.00	134.00
Oats	bu	3.02	3.02	2.69
Soybeans	bu	8.70	10.30	10.50
Milk cows ^{1,2}	head	1,300.00	1,340.00	1,360.00
Calves	cwt	166.00	158.00	159.00
Cattle, all beef	cwt	117.00	113.00	118.00
Cows ³	cwt	51.80	57.70	59.30
Steers & Heifers	cwt	119.00	115.00	120.00
Hogs, all	cwt	43.40	48.00	47.30
Barrows & Gilts	cwt	43.60	48.20	47.70
Sows	cwt	38.00	41.90	33.40
Eggs (market) ⁴	doz	0.980	1.12	0.714

¹Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices available for January, April, July, and October. ²Milk cow prices are for October 1, 2019, July 1, 2020, and October 1, 2020. ³Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. ⁴Mid-month price. Also referred to as table eggs.

Cattle & Calves

Wisconsin

All cattle and calves in Wisconsin as of January 1, 2021, totaled 3.45 million head. This was equal to January 1, 2020. Beef cows, at 310,000 head, were unchanged from last year. Milk cows were also unchanged from last year at 1.26 million head.

All heifers 500 pounds and over were down 4% to 800,000 head. Heifers for beef cow replacement were down 11% to 80,000 head; heifers for milk cow replacement, at 660,000 head, were down 4% from the previous year; and all other heifers were up 20% to 60,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were up 6% from last year to 360,000 head. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over were unchanged at 30,000 head. Calves under 500 pounds on January 1, 2021, totaled 690,000 head, up 1% from last year.

The 2020 calf crop was estimated at 1.40 million head, down 1% from 2019. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2021 totaled 250,000 head, up 4% from one year ago.

United States

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2021, totaled 93.6 million head, slightly below the 93.8 million head on January 1, 2020.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.6 million head, were slightly below the 40.7 million head on January 1, 2020. Beef cows, at 31.2 million head, were down 1% from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.44 million head, were up 1% from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2021, totaled 20.0 million head, slightly below the 20.0 million head on January 1, 2020. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.81 million head, were up slightly from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.60 million head, were down 2% from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.58 million head, were 1% above a year earlier.

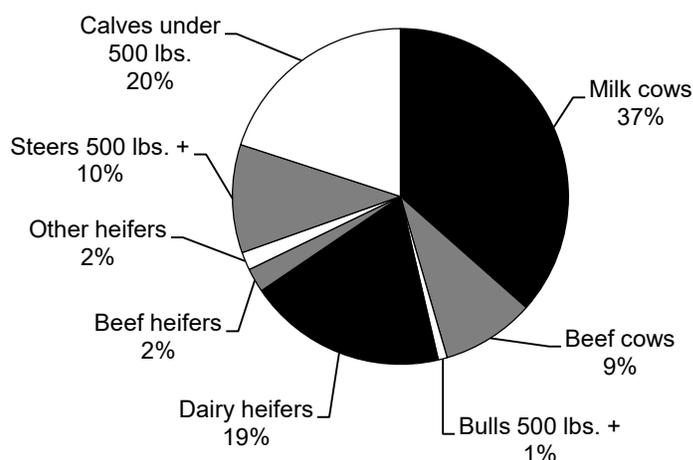
Steers weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2021, totaled 16.6 million head, up slightly from January 1, 2020. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2021, totaled 2.21 million head, down 1% from January 1, 2020. Calves under 500 pounds as of January 1, 2021, totaled 14.2 million head, down 1% from January 1, 2020.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.7 million head on January 1, 2021. The inventory is up slightly from the January 1, 2020, total of 14.7 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 81.4% of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2021, down slightly from the previous year. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds (outside of feedlots) at 25.7 million head, was slightly below January 1, 2020.

The 2020 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 35.1 million head, down 1% from the previous year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2020 were estimated at 25.8 million head, down 1% from the first half of 2019. Calves born during the second half of 2020 were estimated at 9.39 million head, 27% of the total 2020 calf crop.

All inventory and calf crop estimates for July 1, 2019, January 1, 2020, and July 1, 2020 were reviewed using calf crop, official slaughter, import and export data, and the relationship of new survey information to the prior surveys. Based on the findings of this review, July 1, 2019 all cattle and calves decreased by 0.3%. January 1, 2020 all cattle and calves decreased by 0.7% and 2019 calf crop decreased by 1.3%. July 1, 2020 all cattle and calves decreased by 0.8% and 2020 calf crop decreased by 1.9%.

CATTLE INVENTORY
Wisconsin, January 1, 2021



Cattle and Calves, Number by Class – Wisconsin and United States: January 1, 2020 and 2021

Class	Wisconsin			United States		
	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	3,450	3,450	100	93,793	93,595	100
All cows that have calved	1,570	1,570	100	40,681	40,598	100
Beef cows	310	310	100	31,339	31,158	99
Milk cows	1,260	1,260	100	9,343	9,440	101
Heifers 500 pounds and over	830	800	96	20,024	20,000	100
For beef cow replacement	90	80	89	5,809	5,812	100
For milk cow replacement	690	660	96	4,684	4,605	98
Other heifers	50	60	120	9,532	9,584	101
Steers 500 pounds and over	340	360	106	16,541	16,598	100
Bulls 500 pounds and over	30	30	100	2,237	2,211	99
Calves under 500 pounds	680	690	101	14,309	14,188	99
Cattle on feed ¹	240	250	104	14,658	14,707	100

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

Calf Crop – Wisconsin and United States: 2019 and 2020

	Wisconsin			United States		
	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Calf crop	1,420	1,400	99	35,592	35,136	99

Sheep, Lambs & Wool

All sheep and lambs inventory in Wisconsin as of January 1, 2021, totaled 86,000 head. Total breeding stock, at 69,000 head, was up 5% from a year ago. Total market sheep and lambs increased 13% from a year ago and totaled 17,000 head. The lamb crop for 2020 was 60,000 head. Wool production for the State was 345,000 pounds.

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2021, totaled 5.17 million head, down 1% from 2020. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.78 million head on January 1, 2021, decreased 1% from 3.81 million head on January 1, 2020. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.96 million head, were 1% below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2021, totaled 1.39 million head, unchanged from January 1, 2020. Market lambs comprised 94% of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6% of total market inventory.

The 2020 lamb crop of 3.21 million head was down 1% from 2019. The 2020 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2020, unchanged from 2019.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2020 was 23.1 million pounds, down 4% from 2019. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.28 million head, down 1% from 2019. The average price paid for wool sold in 2020 was \$1.66 per pound for a total value of 38.4 million dollars, down 15% from 45.4 million dollars in 2019.

Sheep death loss during 2020 totaled 210 thousand head, down 4% from 2019. Lamb death loss was down 5% from 388 thousand head to 370 thousand head in 2020.

Goats & Kids

Milk goat inventory in Wisconsin as of January 1, 2021, was 72,000 head. Wisconsin ranked first in total milk goats. The inventory was down 6% from January 2020.

All goats and kids inventory in the United States on January 1, 2021, totaled 2.58 million head, down 3% from 2020. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.12 million head, down 3% from 2020. Does one year old and older, at 1.57 million head, were down 3% from last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 465 thousand head, down 3% from a year ago.

Kid crop for 2020 totaled 1.66 million head for all goats, up 1% from 2019.

Meat and all other goats totaled 2.05 million head on January 1, 2021, down 2% from 2020. Milk goat inventory was 420 thousand head, down 3% from January 1, 2020, while Angora goats were down 10%, totaling 117 thousand head.

Mohair production in the United States during 2020 was 589 thousand pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 113 thousand head. Average weight per clip was 5.2 pounds. Mohair price was \$5.07 per pound with a value of 2.99 million dollars.

All Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, Wisconsin and United States, January 1, 2019-2020

Class	Wisconsin			United States		
	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	75.0	81.0	108	5,230.0	5,200.0	99
Total breeding sheep	63.0	66.0	105	3,820.0	3,810.0	100
Ewes	48.0	50.0	104	3,000.0	2,980.0	99
Rams	3.0	3.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	12.0	13.0	108	650.0	660.0	102
Total market	12.0	15.0	125	1,410.0	1,390.0	99
Lamb crop	62.0	60.0	97	3,230.0	3,210.0	99

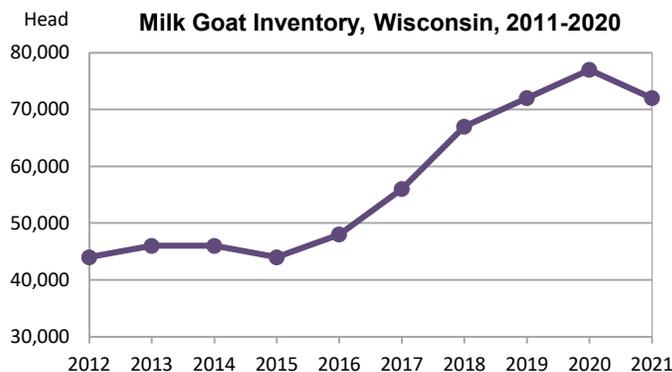
Wool: Production, Price, and Value, Wisconsin and United States, 2019-2020

Class	Wisconsin			United States		
	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019	2019	2020	2020 as % of 2019
	(units)	(units)	(percent)	(units)	(units)	(percent)
Sheep shorn (1,000 head)	49.0	50.0	102	3,320.0	3,275.0	99
Weight per fleece (pounds)	6.9	6.9	100	7.2	7.1	99
Production (1,000 pounds)	340	345	101	24,010	23,124	96
Price per pound (dollars)	0.55	0.50	91	1.89	1.66	88
Value ¹ (1,000 dollars)	187	173	93	45,364	38,405	85

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

Milk Goat Inventory: Selected States and United States, January 1, 2020 & 2021

	2020	2021
	(head)	
California	43,000	41,000
Iowa	29,000	27,000
Minnesota	14,000	12,000
Wisconsin	77,000	72,000
United States	435,000	420,000



Milk Production

Milk production in Wisconsin during December 2020 totaled 2.61 billion pounds, up 3% from the previous December. The average number of milk cows during December, at 1.26 million head, was the same as last month but down 2,000 from last year. Monthly production per cow averaged 2,070 pounds, up 55 pounds from last December.

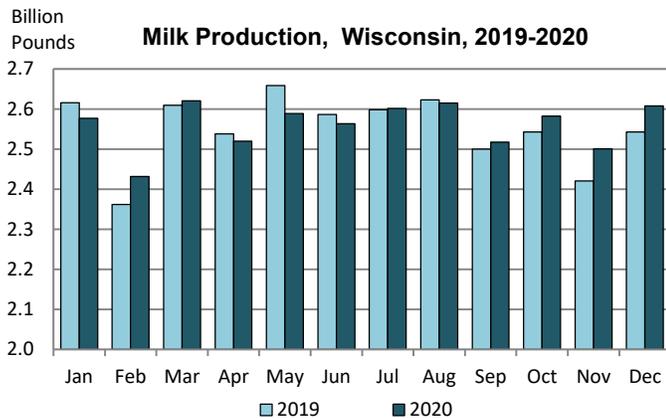
Milk production in the 24 major States during December totaled 18.1 billion pounds, up 3.2% from December 2019. November revised production, at 17.3 billion pounds, was up 3.5% from November 2019. The November revision represented an increase of 56 million pounds or 0.3% from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 2,027 pounds for December, 40 pounds above December 2019. The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 8.92 million head, 107,000 head more than December 2019, and 12,000 head more than November 2020.

Milk production in the United States during the October - December quarter totaled 55.6 billion pounds, up 3.0% from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.43 million head, 59,000 head more than the July - September quarter, and 81,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Production, Selected States, December 2019 and 2020

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Production ²		
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	Change from 2019
	<i>(thousand head)</i>		<i>(pounds)</i>		<i>(million pounds)</i>		<i>(percent)</i>
Arizona	194	196	2,105	2,095	408	411	0.7
California	1,725	1,720	1,975	2,045	3,407	3,517	3.2
Colorado	189	201	2,185	2,185	413	439	6.3
Florida	116	111	1,740	1,730	202	192	-5.0
Georgia	81	81	1,875	1,865	152	151	-0.7
Idaho	635	646	2,085	2,075	1,324	1,340	1.2
Illinois	82	84	1,810	1,845	148	155	4.7
Indiana	176	191	1,920	1,940	338	371	9.8
Iowa	215	220	2,080	2,120	447	466	4.3
Kansas	167	173	2,010	2,040	336	353	5.1
Michigan	427	439	2,225	2,270	950	997	4.9
Minnesota	445	455	1,870	1,915	832	871	4.7
New Mexico	330	337	2,070	2,100	683	708	3.7
New York	626	626	2,025	2,070	1,268	1,296	2.2
Ohio	252	258	1,810	1,860	456	480	5.3
Oregon	127	125	1,695	1,710	215	214	-0.5
Pennsylvania	483	478	1,745	1,790	843	856	1.5
South Dakota	127	141	1,920	1,935	244	273	11.9
Texas	580	613	2,085	2,120	1,209	1,300	7.5
Utah	97	95	1,910	1,940	185	184	-0.5
Vermont	124	120	1,805	1,810	224	217	-3.1
Virginia	74	74	1,700	1,725	126	128	1.6
Washington	282	279	2,000	2,005	564	559	-0.9
Wisconsin	1,262	1,260	2,015	2,070	2,543	2,608	2.6
24-State Total	8,816	8,923	1,987	2,027	17,517	18,086	3.2

¹Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. ²Excludes milk sucked by calves.



The Wisconsin Farm Reporter has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection.

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