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EGGS

Production

June table egg production totaled 592 million dozen, up 11 percent from June 2015. On July 1, the number of birds in the table egg flock was 300 million, up 9 percent compared to a year earlier. Egg-type hatching egg production was 96 million eggs, up 22 percent from a year ago. There were 1.0 billion broiler-type hatching eggs produced in June, down 2 percent from last year. The broiler-type laying flock on July 1 was 54.4 million hens, 1 percent below July 2015. Shell eggs broken totaled 200 million dozen during June 2016, up 4 percent from June a year ago, and 1 percent above the 197 million broken in May.

Price

After a brief rally at the end of June, table egg prices dropped again in July, reaching 59 cents/dozen by mid-month, where they remained through the beginning of August. Breaking stock prices also saw a brief rally at the end of June, but fell to 18 cents/dozen at the end of July. Prices in early August fell again to 13.5 cents/dozen, 94 percent below the record levels set one year earlier.

International Trade

The U.S. exported 11 million dozen shell eggs in June with a value of $31 million. This represents a drop of 11 percent in volume and 8 percent in value compared to May and a drop of 36 percent in volume and 32 percent in value compared to June 2015.

Egg products exports in June were valued at $7.8 million, 5 percent above May and 40 percent above June 2015. For the first 6 months of the year, shell egg exports were down 31 percent in volume and 19 percent in value compared to the same period in 2015, while egg products exports were down 29 percent in value. The five largest export markets for shell eggs and egg products in June were Mexico, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, and Brazil.

TURKEY

Production

June turkey production totaled 532 million pounds on a ready-to-cook basis. Daily production in June was 17 percent above last June's HPAI-reduced levels, driven mainly by increased bird numbers but helped by an increase in average dressed weights of 2 percent. The industry is poised for continued expansion; poults placed in June were up 6 percent from last year and eggs in incubators on July 1 were up 8 percent.

Total stocks of turkey in cold storage were up 9 percent year-over-year on June 30. Whole birds overall were down 8 percent, with whole toms up 5 percent and whole hens down 18 percent. White meat stocks continued to rise and were 60 percent above last June. Dark meat stocks were even with last year's levels.

Price

Whole body turkey prices remain volatile, but appear to be increasing at rates that are normal for this time of year. Parts prices continue to hold steady at levels below recent years' averages. Boneless/skinless (B/S) breast meat was unchanged through July, trading at 215 cents/lb. B/S thigh meat was also unchanged at 104 cents/lb. Tom drumsticks, however fell through the month, closing at 39 cents/lb.

International Trade

U.S. turkey exports in June totaled 21.5 thousand metric tons, valued at $46.8 million. Exports were up 1 percent in volume but down 4 percent in value compared to May, and up 14 percent in volume compared to June 2015, with year-over-year value unchanged. For the first 6 months of 2016, exports were down 6 percent in volume and 7 percent in value compared with the first half of 2015. Mexico, Hong Kong, Japan, Canada, and the Dominican Republic were the top five destinations for U.S. turkey products in June.

CHICKEN

Production

Total broiler production in June was 3.48 billion pounds on a ready-to-cook basis. Daily production in June was 1.5 percent above June 2015 but 4 percent below May. The industry appears to be pulling back from increasing production. Average dressed weights are not following their long-term trend of monthly increases. June's average dressed weight was 1 percent below May's and only 0.6 percent above June 2015. For the four weeks ending July 30, eggs set in incubators were up 0.6 percent from the same period in 2015 and chicks places were unchanged.

All chicken in cold storage on June 30 was 1 percent above the end of May and 13 percent above June 30, 2015. Whole broilers were even with May and up 2 percent from last June. White meat items dropped 7 percent month-over-month but rose 16 percent year-over-year. Dark meat items rose 6 percent from May, but were down 5 percent compared to last June. Leg quarter stocks in particular were up 12 percent on the month but down 6 percent on the year. Wing holdings continued to rise, up 11 percent from May and 85 percent from June 2015.

Price

Broiler prices fell during July. The national composite price for whole broilers fell 13 percent during the month, closing at 82 cents/lb. Parts prices were also mostly down. Boneless/skinless (B/S) breast meat fell 7 percent to 124 cents/lb., although the price rallied to 128 cents/lb. the first week of August. Leg quarter and drumstick prices both fell 7 percent, to 26 cents/lb. and 40 cents/lb., respectively. B/S thigh meat was the exception, rising 2 percent to 110 cents/lb. Wing prices rose slightly to 156 cents/lb.

International Trade

The U.S. exported 228 thousand metric tons of chicken in June with a value of $236 million. This is a decrease of 11 percent in volume and 9 percent in value compared to May and a decrease of 11 percent in volume and 10 percent in value compared to June 2015. For the first half of 2016, exports are down 5 percent in volume and 17 percent in value compared to 2015. The top five export destinations in June were Mexico, Canada, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

BEEF/VEAL

Production

June beef production was up 10 percent from June 2015, at 2.19 billion pounds and 8 percent above May's output. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.71 million head, up 10 percent from June 2015 and up 8 percent monthly. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from 2015, at 1,335 pounds. Accumulated beef production for the year so far was up 4 percent from 2015. Veal production in June was 6.4 million pounds, 8 percent below the 2015 volume but 7 percent above May production. Calf slaughter was 37,600 head, up 7 percent from June 2015 and 6 percent above May 2016. The average live weight was down 45 pounds year over year, at 291 pounds. Veal production for 2016 to date was down 7 percent from 2015.

Total stocks of beef in freezers at the end of June were up 1 percent from May and down 5 percent from last June. Boneless beef storage was also 1 percent higher than the month before, and 5 percent lower than last year. Frozen inventories of beef cuts were up 5 percent on a monthly basis and up 2 percent yearly. Veal supplies in cold storage were 20 percent higher on a month-to-month basis, and 137 percent higher yearly.

Price

After starting July up $5 to $122 per cwt, live cattle prices (FOB, steers and heifers) fell throughout the month to close back at $117 per cwt, 21% below last year. The beef cutout value steadily lost $10 over the month, ending at $199 per cwt, 15 percent below the 2015 value. After several months of hovering around $218 per cwt, the 90 percent lean boneless beef price lost $2, a level 22 percent below the 2015 price. 50 percent lean trim had only small fluctuations in July, and closed down $1 to $87 per cwt, 28 percent above the 2015 level. Packer-owned veal carcasses lost $6 to $322 per cwt, down 29 percent from 2015, while non-packer owned veal carcasses, fell $4 to close at $325 per cwt, 28 percent below 2015. The veal cutout average lost $10 to close at $513 per cwt, down 12 percent from 2015.

International Trade

Compared to June 2015, beef and veal exports (including variety meats) rose 2 percent to 98.9 thousand MT while the export value fell 6 percent to $545 million. This volume is down 1 percent from May, and the value is up 2 percent. 2016 exports for the year to date are 3 percent higher than in 2015, but the value is down 10 percent. Japan, Canada and South Korea were our largest export markets in June. Year-over-year beef import volumes were down 14 percent to 100.5 thousand MT, and were down 23 percent in value to $523 million. Compared to May, beef imports and value were both up 3 percent. Total yearly imports for 2016 so far are 11 percent lower in volume and 24 percent lower in value compared to 2015. Australia, New Zealand and Canada were the largest importers of beef.

PORK

Production

June pork production was 2.01 billion pounds, up 1 percent yearly, and up 3 percent from May. Hog slaughter, at 9.57 million head, was up 1 percent from June 2015 and up 4 percent monthly. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from last year to 280 pounds. Accumulated pork production for 2016 so far was up 5 percent from 2015.

Frozen pork supplies were down 5 percent from May and down 8 percent from last June. Bone-in picnics were 20 percent lower than ending inventory levels for May, and were down 9 percent from the previous June. Total hams in cold storage were up 15 percent on a monthly basis, and were down 8 percent year-over-year. Pork trimmings were 14 percent lower than in May and down 26 percent from June 2015. Stocks of pork bellies were down 19 percent from last month but up 42 percent from last year.

Price

The negotiated carcass price for barrows and gilts dropped $12 through July, closing at $68 per cwt, 9 percent under the 2015 price. The pork cutout value fell sharply the last week of July, losing $6 to $83 per cwt, 1 percent below 2015. Trimmed, bone-in hams, 23-27 pounds, lost most of June's gain, down $15 to $66 per cwt, 7 percent above 2015. However, picnic meat combos, cushion out, gained $14 to $97 per cwt, up 44 percent from last year's price. Pork trim, 72 percent lean saw a sharp gain of $16 before softening to end up $12, at $78 per cwt, 37 percent above 2015. Pork belly primals lost just over $10 to $119 per cwt, down 23 percent yearly.

International Trade

Pork exports in June (including variety meats) were up 8 percent from 2015 to 184 thousand MT and the value was up 12 percent to $488 million. Pork export volume was down 5 percent, but the value was up 1 percent from May 2016. For 2016, the total export volume was up 2 percent and down 4 percent in value from last year. The largest overseas markets for U.S. pork were Japan, Mexico and Canada.

Compared to 2015, June pork imports were down 14 percent in volume to 37.9 thousand MT, and were 9 percent lower in value at $134 million. The volume of pork imports dropped 7 percent from May, and was down 5 percent in value. Year-to-date measures showed pork import volume up slightly and value up 6 percent from 2015. Canada, Poland and Denmark were the largest importers of pork.

LAMB

Production

Lamb and mutton production in June was 13.2 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2015, and 2 percent above the May volume. Sheep slaughter totaled 195,200 head, just above last year and 5 percent more than last month. The average live weight was 140 pounds, 3 pounds lower than 2015. Lamb and mutton freezer stocks were 13 percent lower than the month before, and 10 percent higher than year earlier levels.

Price

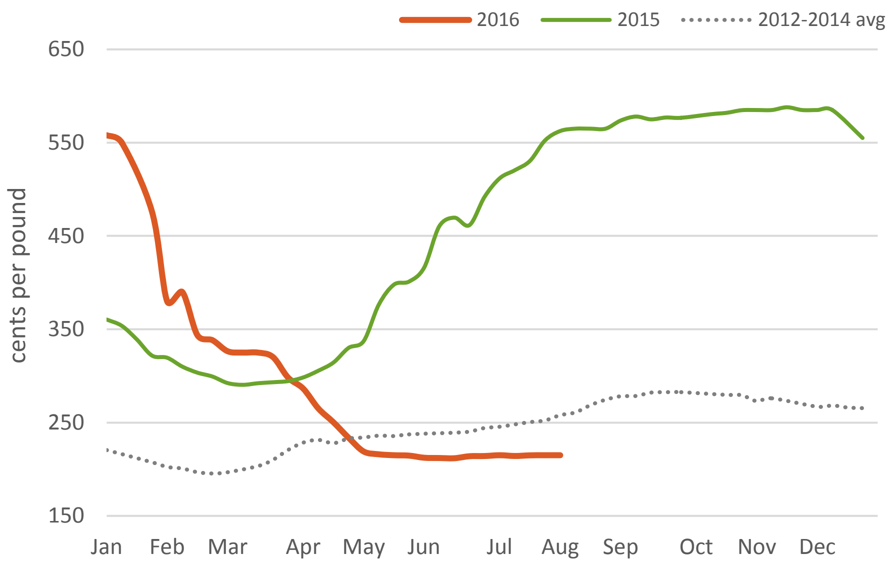
Negotiated live slaughter lamb gained through most of July, to $165 per cwt, up 4 percent from the 2015 value. The lamb cutout added $12, ending the month at $347 cwt, 2 percent below the 2015 value. Leg of lamb, trotter off prices saw ups and downs, but ended gaining $8 to $346 per cwt, 3 percent above the 2015 price. Boneless lamb shoulder prices climbed $26 per cwt in July, a 4 percent gain over last year.

International Trade

June lamb exports were down 24 percent from 2015 levels to 127 MT, and were down 11 percent in value to $769,000. Compared to May, export volume was down 17 percent and the value was down 32 percent. Total exports for 2016 are 13 percent lower in volume and 4 percent lower in value than in 2015. Mexico, Canada and Bermuda were the largest export markets of lamb and mutton. U.S. lamb imports in June were down 14 percent over 2015 at 7.2 thousand MT, with the value of imports down 22 percent to $51 million. Compared to May, both the import volume and value were 9 percent lower. For 2016 to date, imports are up 14 percent in volume and 3 percent in value over last year. Australia and New Zealand were the largest importers.

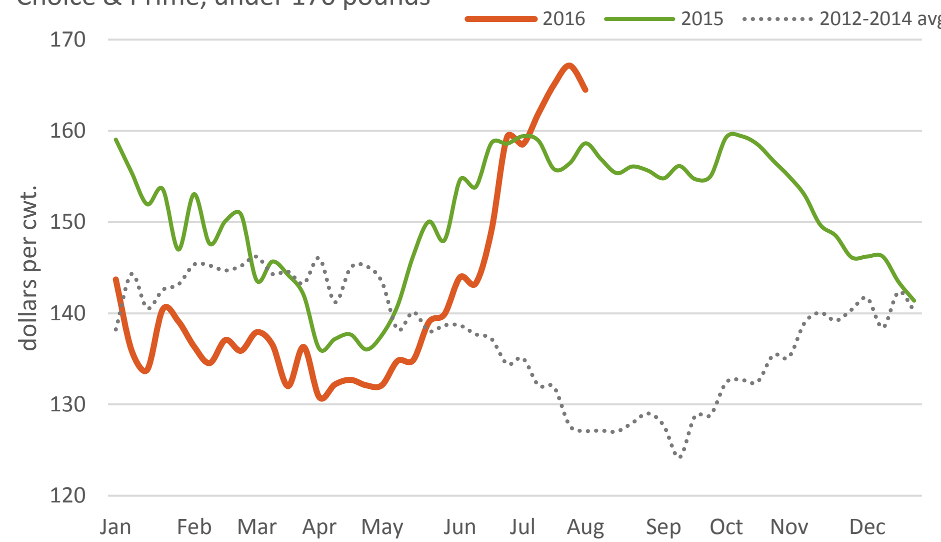
Questions, comments, or suggestions for articles? Contact Lawrence.Haller@ams.usda.gov or Sherry.Wise@ams.usda.gov.

Fresh Boneless/Skinless Tom Turkey Breast

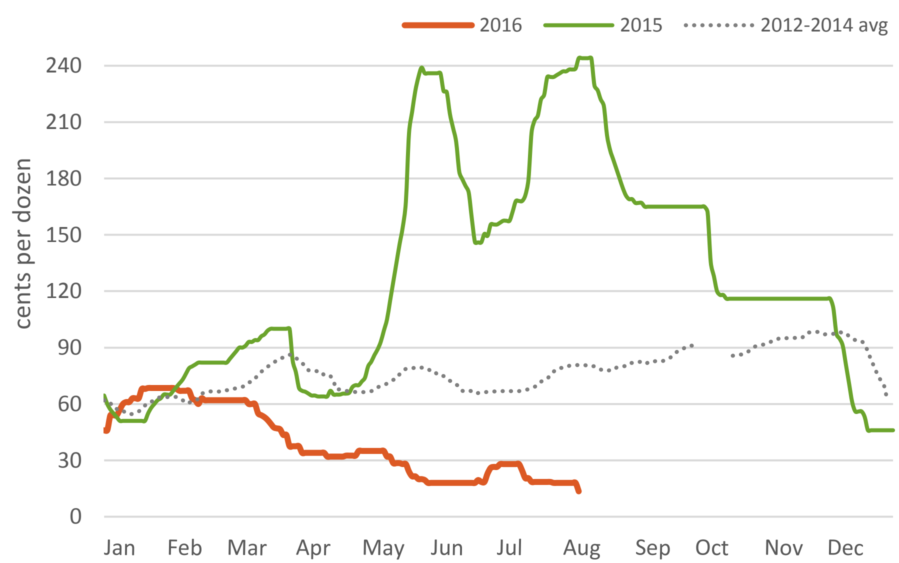


Negotiated Live Slaughter Lamb Prices

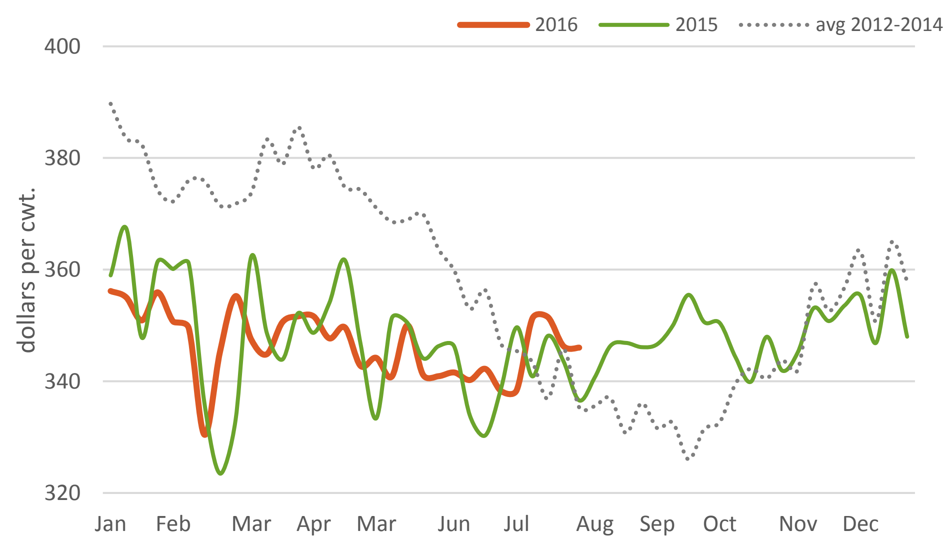
Choice & Prime, under 170 pounds



Central States Breaking Stock



Weekly Leg of Lamb, Trotter Off, Prices (233A)



Watermelon Weather

"When one has tasted Watermelon, he knows what the angels eat" - Mark Twain

$483,003,000

Total value of watermelon in the United States in 2015.

There are over 1,200 varieties of watermelon and over 300 are grown in the United States.

127,000

Acres of watermelon planted in the United States in 2015.

Florida is the top watermelon producing state, followed by Texas and California.

August 3rd

National Watermelon Day.

Watermelon is the unofficial fruit of summer.

July 4th & Memorial Day

Most popular days for watermelon consumption in 2015.

Americans ate 680,000,000 pounds of red seedless watermelon on July 4 and Memorial Day.

3,400,000,000

Pounds of red seedless watermelon consumed by Americans in 2015.

There were a total of 3,510,400,000 pounds produced in the U.S. in 2015.

Authored by Emma Morris, LPS Summer intern

Source: USDA Agricultural Analytics; NASS