



USDA  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Upper Midwest Regional Office  
[nassrfoumr@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfoumr@nass.usda.gov)  
[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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## PRICES

The average price received by farmers for **corn** during March in Iowa was \$3.43 per bushel according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Agricultural Prices* report. This was up \$0.04 from the February price, but \$0.03 below March 2016.

The March 2017 average price received by farmers for **soybeans**, at \$9.58 per bushel, was down \$0.13 from the February price, but \$1.12 above the March 2016 price.

The March average **oat** price per bushel was \$3.20, up \$0.12 from February, and \$0.37 above March 2016.

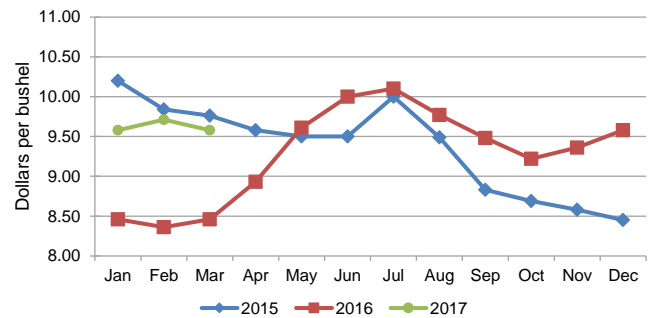
**All hay** prices in Iowa averaged \$80.00 per ton in March. This was down \$7.00 from the February price, and \$18.00 less than March 2016. The March 2017 **alfalfa hay** price averaged \$84.00, down \$6.00 from February, and \$18.00 below March 2016. The average price received for **other hay** during March was \$68.00 per ton. This was down \$8.00 from the February price, and \$14.00 lower than last year.

The average price was \$17.70 per cwt for **milk**, down \$1.50 from the February price, but \$2.20 above one year ago. Milk cow replacements averaged \$1,600 as of April 1, 2017.

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Soybean Price Received by Farmers - Iowa



## Prices Received by Farmers – Iowa and United States

	Iowa			United States		
	March 2016	February 2017	March 2017	March 2016	February 2017	March 2017
	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
Corn .....bu	3.46	3.39	3.43	3.56	3.44	3.49
Hay, all, baled .....ton	98.00	87.00	80.00	136.00	126.00	132.00
Alfalfa .....ton	102.00	90.00	84.00	139.00	129.00	135.00
Other .....ton	82.00	76.00	68.00	126.00	122.00	127.00
Oats .....bu	2.83	3.08	3.20	2.20	2.40	2.39
Soybeans .....bu	8.46	9.71	9.58	8.56	9.86	9.69
Milk, all .....cwt	15.50	19.20	17.70	15.30	18.50	17.30
Milk cows <sup>1,2</sup> .....head	1,860.00	1,570.00	1,600.00	1,830.00	1,620.00	1,640.00

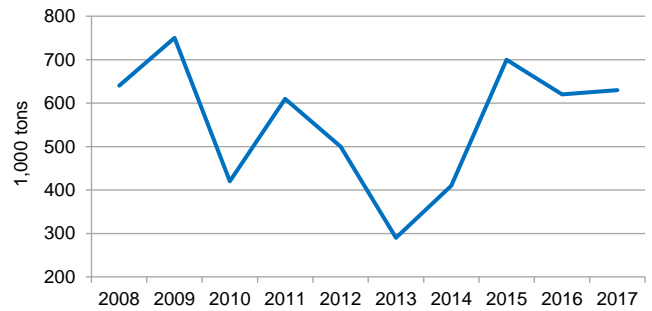
<sup>1</sup> Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices available for January, April, July, and October.

<sup>2</sup> Milk cow prices are for April 1, 2016, January 1, 2017, and April 1, 2017.

## HAY STOCKS

Dry hay stored on Iowa farms as of May 1, 2017, is estimated at 630,000 tons, an increase of 2 percent from May 2016, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Crop Production* report. Disappearance from December 1, 2016, through May 1, 2017, totaled 2.02 million tons, compared with 2.66 million tons for the same period last year.

**Hay Stocks on Farms - Iowa  
May 1, 2008-2017**



## **Hay Stocks on Farms – Iowa and United States: December 1 and May 1, 2015-2017**

	December 1		May 1	
	2015	2016	2016	2017
	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
Iowa .....	3,280	2,650	620	630
United States .....	94,993	95,837	25,140	24,388

## AG LABOR

There were 15,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Cornbelt II Region (Iowa and Missouri) during the reference week of January 8-14, 2017, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Farm Labor Report*. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$13.82 per hour, up \$0.59 from January 2016. The number of hours worked averaged 35.3 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 36.1 hours in January 2016.

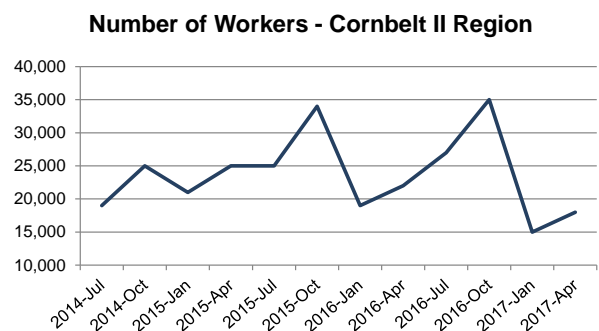
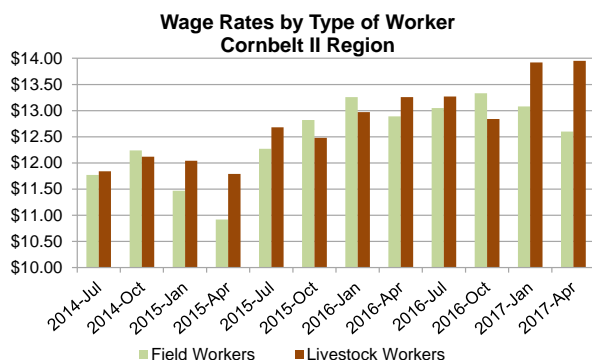
During the reference week of April 9-15, 2017, there were 18,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Cornbelt II Region (Iowa and Missouri). Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$13.41 per hour during the April 2017 reference week, up \$0.24 from April 2016. The number of hours worked averaged 37.2 for hired workers during the reference week, down from 37.8 hours in April 2016.

## **Hired Workers and Wage Rates – Cornbelt II Region and United States: 2016-2017**

[Cornbelt II Region includes Iowa and Missouri]

	Cornbelt II Region			United States		
	April 2016	January 2017	April 2017	April 2016	January 2017	April 2017
Hired workers on farms ..... 1,000 workers	22	15	18	703	533	673
Hours worked by hired workers ..... hours per week	37.8	35.3	37.2	40.4	38.0	40.4
Wage rate <sup>1</sup>						
Field and livestock combined ..... dollars per hour	13.10	13.55	13.15	12.00	12.35	12.32
Field..... dollars per hour	12.89	13.08	12.60	12.00	12.15	12.22
Livestock..... dollars per hour	13.26	13.92	13.95	12.01	12.66	12.53
All hired workers..... dollars per hour	13.17	13.82	13.41	12.75	13.43	13.23

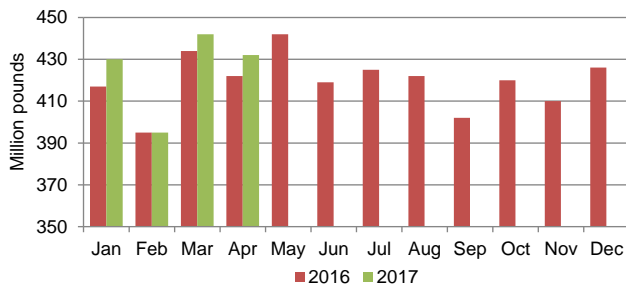
<sup>1</sup> Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.



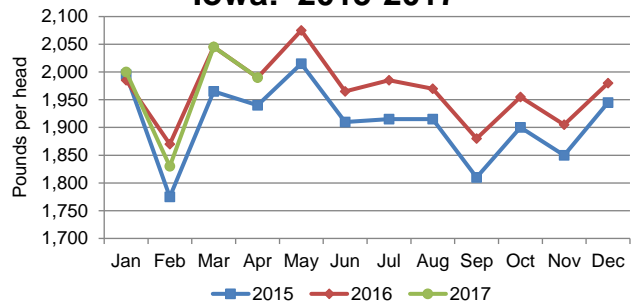
# MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Iowa during April 2017 totaled 432 million pounds, up 2 percent from the previous April according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Milk Production* report. The average number of milk cows during April, at 217,000 head, was 1,000 more than last month and 5,000 more than last year. Monthly production per cow averaged 1,990 pounds, the same as last April.

**Milk Production  
Iowa: 2016-2017**



**Milk Production per Cow  
Iowa: 2015-2017**



## Milk Cows and Production – Selected States: April 2016 and 2017

State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change from 2016 (percent)
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	
Arizona .....	197	201	2,160	2,200	426	442	3.8
California .....	1,766	1,755	1,970	1,960	3,479	3,440	-1.1
Colorado .....	149	159	2,155	2,165	321	344	7.2
Florida .....	124	125	1,855	1,865	230	233	1.3
Idaho .....	591	596	2,025	1,995	1,197	1,189	-0.7
Illinois .....	94	93	1,780	1,790	167	166	-0.6
Indiana .....	184	186	1,920	1,955	353	364	3.1
<b>Iowa .....</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Kansas .....	144	153	1,940	1,955	279	299	7.2
Michigan .....	417	425	2,165	2,215	903	941	4.2
Minnesota .....	460	459	1,760	1,800	810	826	2.0
New Mexico .....	311	328	2,110	2,150	656	705	7.5
New York .....	620	623	1,965	2,030	1,218	1,265	3.9
Ohio .....	266	262	1,770	1,810	471	474	0.6
Oregon .....	126	124	1,760	1,720	222	213	-4.1
Pennsylvania .....	530	525	1,745	1,805	925	948	2.5
South Dakota .....	114	117	1,840	1,860	210	218	3.8
Texas .....	465	510	1,955	2,010	909	1,025	12.8
Utah .....	92	92	1,885	1,925	173	177	2.3
Vermont .....	131	129	1,740	1,785	228	230	0.9
Virginia .....	90	87	1,665	1,755	150	153	2.0
Washington .....	276	273	2,010	1,980	555	541	-2.5
Wisconsin .....	1,279	1,280	1,965	1,975	2,513	2,528	0.6
<b>23-State Total .....</b>	<b>8,638</b>	<b>8,719</b>	<b>1,947</b>	<b>1,967</b>	<b>16,817</b>	<b>17,153</b>	<b>2.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

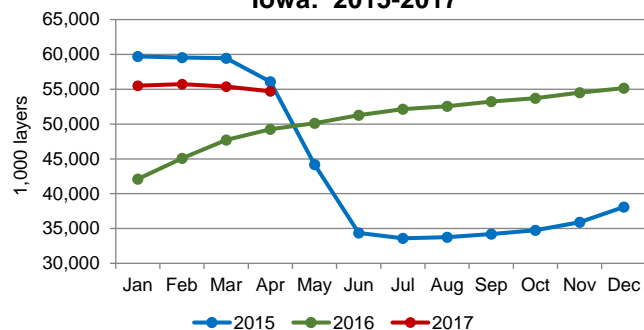
<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves

## CHICKENS & EGGS

Iowa egg production during April 2017 was 1.31 billion eggs, down 4 percent from last month, but up 21 percent from last year, according to the latest *Chickens and Eggs* report from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The average number of **all layers on hand** during April 2017 was 54.7 million, down 1 percent from last month, but up 11 percent from last year. Eggs per 100 layers for April were 2,388, down 3 percent from last month, but up 8 percent from last year.

Average Number of All Layers on Hand  
Iowa: 2015-2017



### Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: April 2016 and 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some states to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals.]

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 & above		All layers on hand		Eggs per 100 layers		Total egg production		Table egg production	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama .....	1,521	1,287	9,237	9,044	1,889	1,853	174.5	167.6	37.5	32.4
Arkansas .....	3,916	3,591	14,023	13,824	2,032	2,016	285.0	278.7	96.5	93.2
California .....	11,848	11,824	12,376	12,430	2,355	2,331	291.5	289.8	(D)	(D)
Colorado .....	4,339	4,026	4,769	4,456	2,455	2,534	117.1	112.9	(D)	(D)
Florida .....	8,167	7,496	8,615	7,882	2,163	2,285	186.3	180.1	181.1	175.2
Georgia .....	9,867	9,408	19,172	18,536	2,090	2,122	400.7	393.3	226.1	226.8
Illinois .....	5,027	4,543	5,497	5,016	2,283	2,456	125.5	123.2	120.9	118.4
Indiana .....	29,271	31,967	30,308	32,830	2,410	2,375	730.4	779.7	711.6	763.4
<b>Iowa .....</b>	<b>47,888</b>	<b>53,408</b>	<b>49,242</b>	<b>54,723</b>	<b>2,202</b>	<b>2,388</b>	<b>1,084.4</b>	<b>1,306.8</b>	<b>1,065.9</b>	<b>1,291.0</b>
Maryland .....	2,595	2,709	2,766	2,877	2,390	2,426	66.1	69.8	64.8	68.6
Michigan .....	12,893	14,023	13,130	14,286	2,537	2,486	333.1	355.2	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	9,311	9,984	9,766	10,438	2,251	2,459	219.8	256.7	213.6	250.4
Mississippi .....	1,432	1,428	5,704	5,628	1,988	1,986	113.4	111.8	34.1	34.2
Missouri .....	6,934	7,305	10,356	10,888	2,390	2,433	247.5	264.9	(D)	(D)
Nebraska .....	8,836	8,146	8,944	8,254	2,447	2,455	218.9	202.6	218.9	202.6
New York .....	5,303	5,255	5,698	5,631	2,394	2,484	136.4	139.9	(D)	(D)
North Carolina .....	6,437	7,192	14,096	15,082	2,089	2,121	294.5	319.9	155.8	177.9
Ohio .....	32,930	29,667	33,789	30,585	2,322	2,350	784.6	718.8	(D)	(D)
Oregon .....	2,319	2,216	2,458	2,355	2,567	2,599	63.1	61.2	63.1	61.2
Pennsylvania .....	25,493	25,670	27,632	27,781	2,508	2,415	693.1	671.0	660.1	639.3
South Carolina .....	3,232	2,578	4,545	3,770	2,202	2,324	100.1	87.6	76.9	65.5
South Dakota .....	1,836	2,607	1,978	2,749	2,396	2,401	47.4	66.0	47.4	66.0
Texas .....	16,404	17,330	20,653	21,639	2,197	2,167	453.7	468.9	(D)	(D)
Utah .....	4,354	5,072	4,392	5,110	2,352	2,429	103.3	124.1	103.3	124.1
Virginia .....	1,304	987	3,044	2,711	2,073	2,162	63.1	58.6	31.7	27.8
Washington .....	6,930	6,859	7,095	7,024	2,300	2,546	163.2	178.8	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	4,926	5,362	5,615	6,036	2,356	2,432	132.3	146.8	(D)	(D)
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	22,617	23,535	31,598	32,347	2,229	2,190	704.2	708.3	574.0	582.8
<b>United States .....</b>	<b>297,930</b>	<b>305,475</b>	<b>366,498</b>	<b>373,932</b>	<b>2,274</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>8,333.2</b>	<b>8,643.0</b>	<b>7,213.0</b>	<b>7,546.5</b>

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

<sup>1</sup> Includes data for states not published in this table.