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### AUGUST CROP PRODUCTION

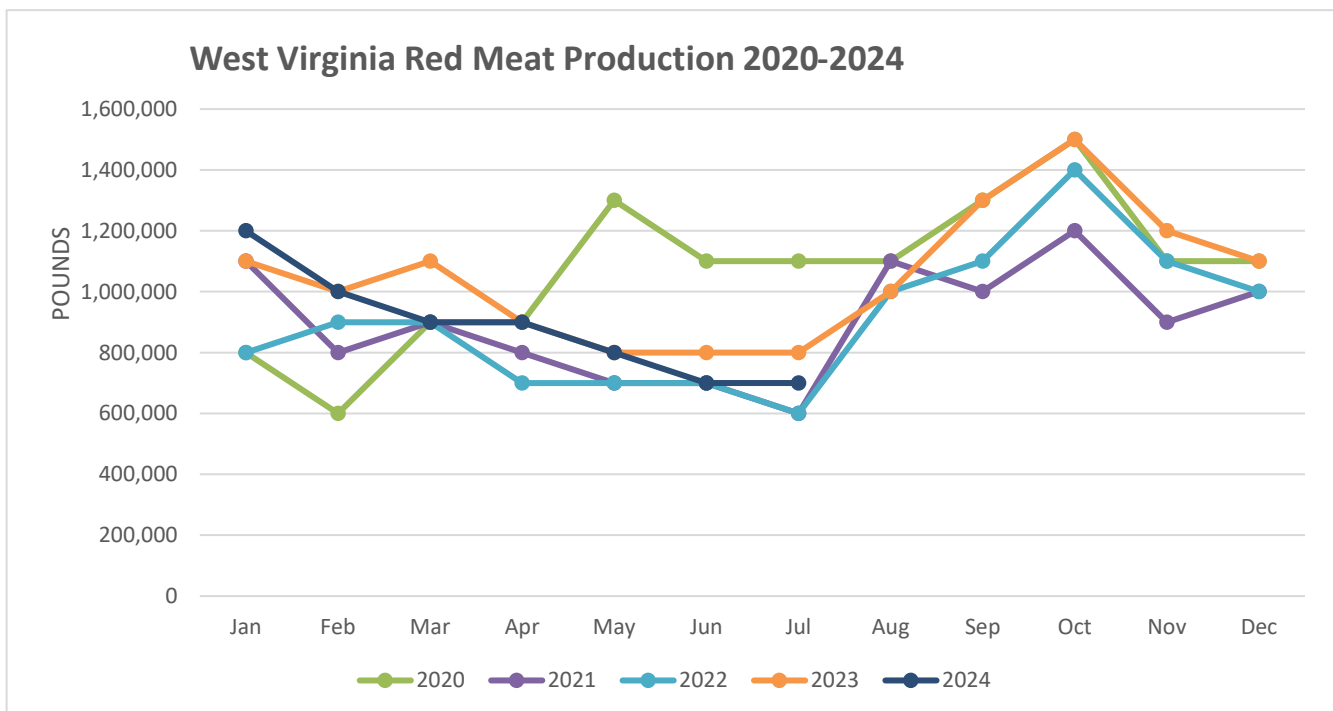
**All other hay** in West Virginia production (excluding alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures) is forecast at 1,062,000 tons, up 42,000 tons from 2023. The area harvested is expected to total 590,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from the previous year. Average yield per acre is forecast at 1.80 tons, up .10 ton per acre from 2023.

### RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Commercial red meat production** in West Virginia during July 2024 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was down 19 percent from July 2023. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 870,000 pounds live weight, down 23 percent from July 2023. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, down 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,241 pounds.

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 188,000 pounds live weight, down 15 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 700 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.



## WEST VIRGINIA RANKING OF MARKET VALUE OF AG PRODUCTS SOLD

### 2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE *Ranking of Market Value of Ag Products Sold*



## West Virginia

Item	Farms	Sales (\$1,000)	Rank by Sales	Percent of Total Sales *	Top County
Total sales	22,787	947,765	(X)	100	Hardy
Poultry and eggs	2,909	496,842	1	52.4	Hardy
Cattle and calves	7,886	178,886	2	18.9	Greenbrier
Other crops and hay	10,995	65,977	3	7	Preston
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	813	63,904	4	6.7	Jefferson
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	504	41,155	5	4.3	Mason
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	942	39,315	6	4.1	Berkeley
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	1,037	(D)	7	(D)	Hampshire
Milk from cows	64	20,112	8	2.1	Jefferson
Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, and milk	1,364	5,759	9	0.6	Hampshire
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	531	4,856	10	0.5	Jefferson
Aquaculture	26	(D)	11	(D)	Raleigh
Other animals and other animal products	745	2,715	12	0.3	Tucker
Hogs and pigs	826	(D)	13	(D)	Hampshire
Cultivated Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	169	(D)	14	(D)	Mercer
Tobacco	2	(D)	15	(D)	Harrison
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	

(-) Represents zero. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms. (X) Not applicable.

## HONEY BEE COLONIES

**Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies** in West Virginia as of January 1, 2024 totaled 6,000, up 20 percent from January 1, 2023. The number of colonies in the State on April 1, 2024 was 6,500. During 2023, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 5,000, 5,500, 7,500 and 8,000, respectively.

**Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies** from January-March 2024, were 640 colonies, or 9 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April-June 2024 was 380 colonies, or 6 percent. During the quarter of October-December 2023, colonies lost totaled 930, or 12 percent, the highest of any quarter surveyed in 2023. The quarter surveyed in 2023 with the lowest number of colonies lost was July-September, with 230 colonies lost, or 3 percent.

**Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies** from January-March 2024 were 300 colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April-June 2024 was 1,100 colonies. During the quarter of October-December 2023, 2,400 colonies were added, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2023. The quarter surveyed in 2023 with the lowest number of colonies added was January-March 2023, with 40 added colonies.

**Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies** from January-March 2024 were 10 (percent renovated was less than half of a percent). The number of colonies renovated during the quarter of April-June 2024 was 520 colonies, or 8 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2023 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April-June with 1,000 colonies renovated, or 15 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2023 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was January- March, with 40 colonies renovated, or 1 percent. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

**Varroa mites were the number one stressor for operations with five or more colonies** during all quarters surveyed in 2023. The quarter of April-June 2023 had the highest percentage of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites at 31.1 percent. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January-March 2024 and April-June 2024 was 12.9 percent and 16.1 percent, respectively.

**Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies in West Virginia**

Quarter	Number of colonies	Maximum colonies <sup>1</sup>	Lost colonies	Percent lost <sup>2</sup>	Added colonies	Renovated colonies <sup>3</sup>	Percent renovated <sup>4</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Jan-Mar 23	5,000	6,000	600	10	40	40	1
Apr-Jun 23	5,500	6,500	350	5	1,300	1,000	15
Jul-Sep 23	7,500	8,000	230	3	400	790	10
Oct-Dec 23	8,000	8,000	930	12	2,400	230	3
Jan-Mar 24	6,000	7,500	640	9	300	10	(Z)
Apr-Jun 24	6,500	6,500	380	6	1,100	520	8

<sup>1</sup> Number of colonies at the beginning of quarter plus all colonies moved into the state during the quarter. <sup>2</sup> Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies. <sup>3</sup> Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package. <sup>4</sup> Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

**United States - Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies** in the United States on January 1, 2024 totaled 2.71 million colonies, down 1 percent from January 1, 2023. The number of colonies in the United States on April 1, 2024, was 2.71 million colonies. During 2023, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 2.73 million, 2.71 million, 2.92 million, and 2.82 million colonies, respectively.

**Honey bee colonies lost with Colony Collapse Disorder symptoms** on operations with five or more colonies was 70,650 colonies from January through March 2024. This represents a 34 percent decrease from the same quarter in 2023.

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**988**

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