

# PASS To Measure Acreage And Yields

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — What are the crops going to yield in 2002? Each crop season is started with blind expectations.

In Pennsylvania, the final yield for grain corn in 2001 was 98 bushels per acre, up 29 bushels per acre when compared to 2000. For soybeans, the 2001 yield, down almost 20 percent less than 2000's yield, was estimated at 35 bushels per acre. For small grains, the final estimates for wheat and barley stood at 52 and 65 bushels per acre, respectively. The information just mentioned are a few examples of the statistics that are produced from our monthly agricultural yield survey. The yield surveys allows a monthly tracking of production based on conditions at the first of each month.

The Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service will once again be conducting its yearly Agricul-

tural Yield Survey starting in May with questions on winter wheat plantings, yield and hay stocks and finishing in November with final corn and soybean yields. This monthly survey will begin at the start of each month for seven months. As with all surveys conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, individual operator information is kept strictly confidential and is used only with other reports to establish county and state level statistics.

Farmer responses to the ag yield surveys are used to generate state and national yield and production forecasts for major field crops. Production forecasts give an important advance warning of the size of each crop in Pennsylvania and across the nation. In addition, contract harvesters, transportation companies and storage facilities have advance notice to prepare to handle a

large volume. Or in the case of a small crop, our ag yield report warns about the possible need to plan for alternate livestock feed sources or farmer assistance programs such as the 1999 Drought Assistance Program.

Results of this survey will be released from Washington, D.C. The survey results will be sent to anyone requesting the information in the Keystone Ag Digest. This is a bimonthly publication and will be received within a few weeks of the actual release date. Reports may be obtained on the actual release dates via the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass>.



# April 1 Cattle On Feed Up Slightly

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the U.S. for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.58 million head on April 1, 2002.

The inventory was almost one-half percent above April 1, 2001 and 3 percent above April 1, 2000, according to the National Agricultural Service (NASS).

The inventory included 7.23 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.30 million head, down 4 percent from 2001.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.95 million, 6 percent above 2001 but 4 percent below 2000. Net placements were 1.88 million.

During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 314,000, 600-699 pounds were 372,000, 700-799 pounds were 702,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 565,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.83 million, 5 percent below 2001 and 11 percent below 2000.

Other disappearance totaled 69,000 during March, 30 percent below 2001 and 33 percent below 2000.

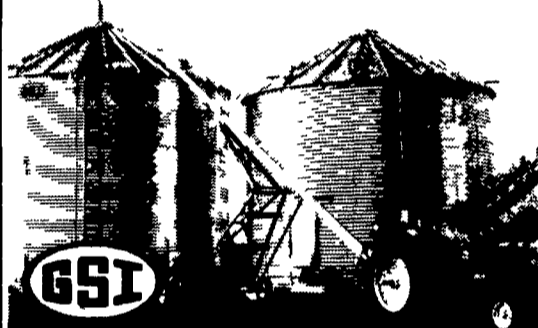
## CATTLE ON FEED: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance - 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, United States, April 1, 2001-2002

ITEM	Number			2002 as % of 2000 Percent
	2000	2001	2002	
On Feed Feb 1 <sup>1</sup>	11,330	11,695	11,518	102 98
Placed on Feed During Feb	2,031	1,842	1,953	96 106
Cattle Marketed During Feb	2,056	1,916	1,825	89 95
Other Disappearance During Feb <sup>2</sup>	103	98	69	67 70
On Feed March 1 <sup>1</sup>	11,202	11,523	11,577	103 100

- 1 - Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and expected to produce a carcass that will grade Select or better.
- 2 - Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

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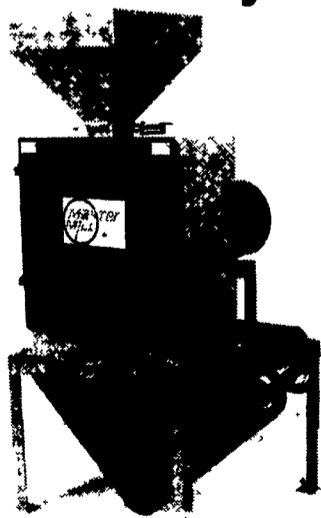
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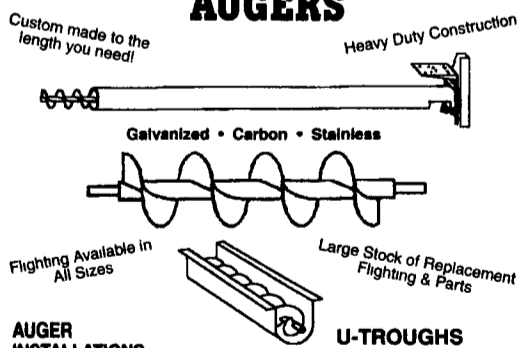
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  - ✓ Around poultry & dairy barns
  - ✓ At your grain bins or bulk tanks
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	4"	6"	8"	10"
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