

# Weekly Market Summary

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Bob Holden, Governor

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## Weekly Slaughter Hog Quotations

Location	Type	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
St. Joseph	B & G Bulk & Top	42.50-43.00	43.50-44.00	43.50-44.00	43.50-44.00	Closed
	Sows - Range	37.00-42.00	37.00-42.00	37.00-42.00	Scarce	
St. Paul	B & G Bulk & Top	42.00-42.50	42.00-43.00	43.00-43.50	43.00-43.50	43.00-43.50
	Sows - Range	38.00-46.00	38.00-46.00	36.00-45.00	36.00-42.00	

## MISSOURI WEEKLY FEEDER CATTLE WEIGHTED AVERAGE REPORT

Receipts 36,541, Week ago 45,966, Year ago 15,734  
WEIGHTED AVERAGES  
Medium and Large 1 (Medium Flesh)

Fdr. STEERS:		Fdr. HEIFERS:		Hols. STEERS	
366 lbs	130.00	363 lbs	114.37	364 lbs	96.84
455 lbs	118.80	454 lbs	108.61	462 lbs	86.65
553 lbs	110.41	550 lbs	99.62	556 lbs	81.05
646 lbs	99.94	637 lbs	91.83	668 lbs	78.62
745 lbs	90.10	730 lbs	84.97	737 lbs	73.55
838 lbs	88.50	840 lbs	80.39	849 lbs	70.84
918 lbs	84.60				

## SOUTHERN MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY (West Plains)

Receipts 4000, Week ago 5619, Year ago 5089

Compared to last week Steers under 750 and Heifers under 650 lbs 2.00-4.00 higher, heavier yearlings firm to mostly 2.00 higher. Slaughter Cows and Bulls 2.00 to 3.00 higher.

STEERS:		HEIFERS:	
Medium and Large 1 weight	price	Medium and Large 1 weight	price
400-450	114.00-125.00	300-400	105.00-116.00
450-500	110.00-121.00	400-500	97.00-111.00
500-550	108.00-116.00	500-550	100.50-105.00
550-600	101.00-110.00	550-600	90.00-100.50
600-700	91.00-100.00	600-650	88.50-92.00
700-800	84.00-94.00	700-770	82.00-86.50
800-855	83.50-83.50		

**COW AND CALF PAIRS:**  
Medium and Large 1-2 Scarce

**REPLACEMENT COWS:** Large 1-2, 4 to 6 yrs, 1200-1670 lbs 3<sup>rd</sup> stage 900.00-980.00 per head, Medium and Large 1-2, 5 to 7 yrs 1130-1285 lbs 1st and 2nd stage 720.00-760.00 per head.

**SLAUGHTER COWS:** Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 43.50-48.00 high dressing 47.50-50.00. Lean (85-90%) 39.00-45.50, low dressing 33.50-39.00.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:** Yield Grade 1-2, 1100-2265 lbs, 57.50-65.00, high dressing 66.50, lower dressing 51.00-57.50.

## WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY (Kingsville, Sedalia)

Cattle:

Receipts 4762, Week ago 3065, Year ago 3971

Feeder Steers and Heifers 2.00 to 5.00 higher. Slaughter Cows firm to 1.00 higher.

FEEDER STEERS:		FEEDER HEIFERS:	
Medium and Large 1 weight	price	Medium and Large 1 & 1-2 weight	price
300-400	118.00-138.00	300-400	109.00-126.00
400-500	109.00-127.00	400-500	100.00-115.00
500-600	100.00-118.00	500-600	88.00-110.00
600-650	97.00-111.00	600-700	86.00-95.75
650-700	92.00-102.50	700-800	82.00-89.50
700-800	85.00-97.75	800-900	81.00-83.25
800-900	83.00-90.75		

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**  
Breaking & Boning (70-85% lean) 44.25-50.00. High dressing 50.25-53.75 Lean (85-90%) 43.50-49.25.

**REPLACEMENT COWS:**  
Medium and Large 1-2, 2 to 7 yrs 865-1545 lbs 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> stage 660.00-985.00 per head.

**COW AND CALF PAIRS:**  
Medium and Large 1-2, Scarce

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**  
Yield Grade 1-2; 1245-2215 lbs 56.00-66.75.

## SOUTHWEST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY (Joplin and Springfield)

Feeder Cattle		Cows and Bulls		Dairy Cattle	
Receipts	1968	Receipts	1050	Springfield	
week ago	6658	week ago	1350	02-24-2004	
Year ago	12,968	Year ago	1025	1016	

Compared to last week: Feeder Steers and Heifers steady to 3.00 higher. Slaughter Cows and Bulls 1.00 to 2.00 higher.

STEERS:		HEIFERS:	
Medium and Large 1 weight	price	Medium and Large 1 weight	price
300-400	127.00-140.00	300-400	116.00-118.00
400-500	108.50-125.00	400-500	97.50-115.00
500-600	100.00-115.00	500-600	91.00-105.00
600-700	92.00-101.50	600-700	86.00-98.00
700-800	87.00-94.00	700-800	81.00-86.00
800-900	81.75-83.30	800-900	75.00

S.W. Mo. Continued)

**HOLSTEINS:**

Large Frame 3	
Weight	price
300-400	96.00-106.00
500-600	74.75-87.00
600-700	78.50-80.00
700-800	67.50-76.75
800-900	70.75-71.00

**REPLACEMENT COWS:**

Medium and Large 2, 2 to 7 yrs, 3rd stage, 1050-1350 lbs, 735.00-850.00 per head.

**COW\CALF PAIRS:** Medium and Large 1-2, 950-1250 lbs, 3 yrs to ss, with baby-400 lb calves, 850.00-1150.00

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Breakers & Boners (70-85% lean) 46.50-51.50, Lean (85-90% lean) 44.00-49.00.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Yield grade 1-2, 1270-2450 lbs 62.50-69.00, high dressing 71.50-75.50.

**Dairy Cattle Sales**

Springer Heifers: Supreme 1500.00-1780.00, Approved 1300.00-1475.00, Jersey 960.00-1060.00, Open Heifers: Approved 700-800 lbs 1100.00, 600-700 lbs 900.00-1095.00, 500-600 lbs 830.00-980.00, 400-500 lbs 660.00-890.00. Baby Calves: Holstein Heifers 310.00-400.00, Bulls 115.00-185.00

**EAST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Bowling Green, Kingdom City, Boonville)

**Cattle**

Receipts 6608 Week ago 4435 Year ago 6398.

Compared feeder steers and heifers steady. Slaughter cows steady to 2.00 lower.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1& 1-2	
weight	price
350-400	125.00-135.00
400-500	115.00-135.00
500-600	101.00-122.50
600-700	92.00-108.00
700-800	85.50-96.50
800-850	82.50-87.50

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Yield Grade 1-2, 1400-2200 lbs 55.00-60.00, high dressing 60.75-66.75.

**SLAUGHTER STEERS:**

Choice 2-4, 82.00-86.25.

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1 & 1-2	
weight	price
350-400	105.00-122.00
400-500	97.00-120.00
500-600	90.00-112.00
600-700	85.00-98.50
700-800	80.50-87.50

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Lean, Breaking and Boning, (70-90 percent lean) 38.00-48.00, high dressing 45.00-53.00, low dressing 32.00-42.00

**SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:** Choice

2-4, 81.50-84.00.

**NORTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Palmyra, New Cambria, and Green City)

**Feeder Cattle:**

Receipts 4709  
Week ago 2547  
Year ago 4060

**Slaughter Cattle:**

Receipts 93  
Week ago 122  
Year ago 90

Feeder Steers and Heifers steady to 3.00 higher. Slaughter cows steady. Slaughter Steers and Heifers 2.00 to 3.00 higher.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1-2	
weight	price
300-400	125.00-140.00
400-500	120.00-133.00
500-600	105.00-119.00
600-700	96.50-108.25
700-800	85.25-96.00
800-900	85.10-94.00
900-950	Scarce

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Boning(80-85% lean) 45.00-51.00, low dressing 40.00-45.00

**SLAUGHTER STEERS:**

Choice 2-3, 1100-1400 lbs 82.00-84.50

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1-2	
weight	price
300-400	110.00-126.00
400-500	105.00-117.00
500-600	92.00-110.75
600-700	89.50-101.50
700-800	84.30-87.00
800-900	83.90-84.00

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Yield Grade 1-2, 1200-2450 lbs, 55.25-61.75

**SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:**

Choice 2-3, 1000-1400 lbs 80.50-83.75

**SOUTH CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Cuba and Vienna)

Receipts 3120, week ago 4310, year ago 4033

Feeder Steers and Heifers steady to 3.00 higher, Slaughter cows and Bulls steady.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1 and 1-2	
weight	price
350-400	Scarce
400-500	112.00-125.00
500-600	100.00-114.00
600-700	90.00-101.50
700-800	85.50-94.00
800-900	Scarce

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Breakers & Boners(70-85% lean) 42.50-48.55, high dressing up to 50.25, Lean (85-90% lean) 40.00-45.50.

**COW\CALF PAIRS:**

Medium and Large 1-2, 3 to 5 yrs 950-1100 lbs with 200-400 lb calves 1185.00-1300.00 per pair.

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1 and 1-2	
weight	price
300-400	106.00-114.00
400-500	97.50-114.00
500-600	91.10-109.00
600-700	86.00-98.00
750-775	81.25-86.00

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Yield Grade 1-2 1345-2320 lbs 56.00-63.25. high dressing up to 67.00

**REPLACEMENT COWS:** Medium

and Large 1-2, 3 to 5 yrs 1050-1250 lbs in the 3 rd stage 910.0-1025.00 per head.

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Patton Junction and Fruitland)

Receipts 1877 Week ago 1998 Year ago 2692

Compared to last week, Feeder Steers and Heifers steady to 2.00 higher. Slaughter Cows 2.00 lower Slaughter Bulls steady.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1-2	
weight	price
250-300	117.00-128.00
300-400	113.00-130.00
400-500	103.00-118.00
500-600	94.00-112.00
600-700	88.00-98.00
700-800	82.00-90.00

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Breaking and Boning (75-85% lean) 37.75-45.50, high dressing 45.50-48.00.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Y.G. 1-2, 1285-2415 lbs 52.75-57.50, high dressing 58.00-60.25.

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1-2	
weight	price
250-300	102.00-112.50
300-400	101.00-112.00
400-500	90.50-105.00
500-600	85.25-97.00
600-700	78.00-88.00
700-750	78.00-84.00

**REPLACEMENT COWS:**

Medium and Large 1-2, 2-7 yrs, 865-1330 lbs, 2nd and 3rd stage, 610.00-820.00 per head.

**COW AND CALF PAIRS:**

Medium and Large 1-2, 2-7 yrs, 855-1325 lbs with 125-250 lbs calves 715.00-985.00 per pair.

**MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT SLAUGHTER CATTLE REPORT**

Weekly Receipts 800, Week ago 400; Year ago 800

Trade moderate to active, live sales undertone higher, dressed on grid 1.00-3.00 higher. Demand and seller interest good.

**STEERS:**

Live sales: 50-60% Choice 1200-1250 lbs 84.50-85.00

**STEERS AND HEIFERS:**

Carcass sales: Steers and heifers No Sales

**HEIFERS:**

Live sales: no sales

**GRADE AND WEIGHT: (Grid)**

Choice 550-950 lbs 135.00-137.00  
Select 550-950 lbs 127.00-130.00

**INTERIOR MISSOURI DIRECT HOGS**

Weekly Receipts 11,532, Week ago 8862, Year ago 13,132

Weekly Top: Thursday 62.00

**BARROWS AND GILTS:**

2.00 higher  
Base Carcass Meat Price 58.00-60.00.

**SOWS:**

Steady to 2.00 lower  
300-500 lbs 35.00-40.00  
over 500 lbs 42.00-44.00

**MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT  
WEANER AND FEEDER PIG REPORT**

Receipts: 13160 [FOB 3435 Delivered 9725] Compared to last week, weaner pigs and feeder pigs steady. Moderate demand for moderate supply.

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights  
FOB the farm 0% negotiated  
3445 head 10 lbs. 28.65-33.00, weighted average price 30.29

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights  
Delivered 36.2% negotiated  
3465 head 10 lbs 30.07-32.00 weighted average price 31.26  
ARK to Ill and NEB  
5060 head 10 lbs 30.33-31.75 weighted average price 30.91

Feeder pigs in all lot sizes:  
Fob the farm no sales

Feeder pigs in all lot sizes:  
Delivered 100% negotiated.  
1200 head 40-50 lbs 40.00-46.00 weighted average 44.7 lbs 44.40

**WEEKLY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER**

	<u>CATTLE</u>	<u>HOGS</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>
Week to date	615,000	1,962,000	59,000
Last Week	582,000	1,955,000	53,000
Last Year	639,000	1,907,000	55,000
2004 Yr to dt	5,517,000	18,408,000	478,000
2003 Yr to dt	6,141,000	18,199,000	494,000

**MIDWEST SHEEP REVIEW**

Slaughter Receipts:  
This week 59,000  
Week ago 53,000  
Year ago 55,000

Slaughter Lambs 2.00 to 5.00 higher.  
Slaughter Ewes 5.00 lower.  
Feeder Lambs Steady

SLAUGHTER EWES:  
Utility and Good 1-3,30.00-35.00  
Cull 1, 25.00-30.00 (per cwt.)

FEEDER LAMBS:  
60-80 lbs 110.00-120.00, 80-100 lbs 100.00-110.00 (per cwt.)

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Ch & Pr 90-150 lbs; shorn 102.00-104.00, woolled 98.00-100.00.

**Weekly Hay Summary**

April showers in March had many truckers changing wiper blades and pulling out the big tarps this week. The hay market remains pretty busy with farmers buying the last loads of hay needed before they turn to grass. Many farmers like every year are starting to get the spring fever. Many buggies got their tires aired up and wheel bearings packed in the last week or two. A few guys even repaired tarps after the mice got hungry this winter and ate holes in them. It seems now everything is on the up and up and you can bet it won't be long before someone can't take it no more and gets stuck in a field somewhere. Pasture grass and wheat is just beginning to show new growth in many parts of southern Missouri and farmers are full of energy and hope of what this new growing year might offer. Supply is moderate to heavy on average quality hay, it appears that most plies will have some left when it comes time to stack new crop, buyers still have to look pretty hard for the high quality hay. Hay demand is moderate and hay prices are mostly steady. Supreme quality alfalfa 110.00-140.00. Premium quality alfalfa 80.00-110.00. Prairie hay 65.00-85.00, Good quality brome hay 60.00-100.00. Good quality timothy hay 3.00-3.50 per small square. Good large round bales mixed grass hay 15.00-25.00, Good red clover hay 50.00-75.00. Fair quality large round bales Fescue 10.00-20.00 per bale. Wheat straw 1.50-2.50 per small square.

**MIDWEST EGG REVIEW**

Prices on large .12 higher, medium .12 higher, small .08 to .09 higher, IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN: Prices paid to producers. (Cents per dozen) Large .86-.93 Medium .76-.80, Small .44-.47.

**WHOLESALE FEEDSTUFFS PRICES  
(DOLLARS PER TON-BULK BASIS)**

Area	Soybean Meal 48% Solvent	Cottonseed Meal 41% Solvent	Meat Meal	Wheat Middlings
Kansas City	287.75	221.50	230.00	87.50
St. Louis	292.50	215.00	222.50	82.50
Memphis	283.60	195.00	----	85.00
Decatur	284.00	----	----	-----

Weekly Average Prices as of Mar 02, 2004

**WEEKLY COMMODITY GRAIN FUTURES TRENDS**

Compared to last Friday: Soybeans uneven, .09 lower to .06 higher, Wheat .11 to .17 lower, Corn .04 to .06 lower, Soybean meal 3.90 to 6.60 higher, KC Wheat .08 to .12 lower. (all price trends approximate ranges).

**Daily Grain Futures Closes**

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Soybeans					
Mar	962 1/4	931	942	932 1/2	933 3/4
May	957 1/2	928 1/2	943	936 1/2	937 3/4
Jul	944 1/2	914	927 3/4	925	926
Aug	897 1/2	869 1/2	880	880	881 1/4
Sep	826 1/4	810	810 1/2	811	811 1/2
Wheat					
Mar	375	374	369 1/2	370 3/4	366 1/2
May	385	381 3/4	376 1/4	378 1/2	373 3/4
Jul	387 1/2	384 1/2	379 3/4	381 1/2	377 1/2
Sep	390 3/4	388	383 1/2	385	382 1/2
Dec	398 1/4	396 1/2	392	394	391 3/4
Corn					
Mar	296	289 1/2	290 1/2	290 3/4	290 1/2
May	302 3/4	295 3/4	297 3/4	297	297 1/4
Jul	306	299 1/4	301 1/2	300 3/4	301
Sep	299 1/2	293 1/2	296	295	294 3/4
Dec	296 1/2	292	293 1/4	292	291 1/2
KC Wheat					
Mar	379 1/2	379	373	375	372 1/4
May	384	382 1/2	380 1/2	381	377 3/4
Jul	386	384 3/4	383	383 3/4	380 1/2
Sep	388 1/2	387 1/4	386 1/2	387 1/4	384
Dec	397	396	394	394	393
SB Meal					
Mar	283.90	280.00	283.10	282.80	283.80
May	286.10	281.30	285.30	284.20	285.60
Jul	281.60	277.40	280.60	279.60	282.20
Aug	271.20	267.00	269.70	269.70	272.00
Sep	256.00	252.30	254.00	254.00	255.50

**WEEKLY COMMODITY LIVE FUTURES TRENDS**

Compared to last Friday: Live Cattle 1.40 to 2.45 higher, except Aug .57 lower, Lean Hogs April .10 lower, others .50 to 1.10 higher, Pork Bellies .33 to 2.00 lower, Feeder Cattle Mar .80 higher, others .23 to .75 lower.

**Daily Live Futures Closes**

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Cattle					
Mar	79.70	79.52	81.00	81.90	81.45
Apr	77.80	77.57	78.32	79.42	79.22
Jun	74.00	73.57	73.75	73.85	74.32
Aug	74.30	74.00	74.02	73.65	73.15
Oct	77.12	76.92	77.02	76.32	75.70
Lean Hogs					
Apr	62.30	62.82	60.90	60.47	61.92
May	62.12	62.27	60.80	61.30	62.10
Jun	67.47	67.75	65.32	66.25	67.40
Jul	63.65	63.60	62.72	62.27	63.57
Aug	60.35	60.55	59.55	59.55	60.72
Prk Bel					
Mar	97.30	97.55	96.40	95.25	95.62
May	99.07	98.70	97.67	96.07	96.55
Jul	99.87	99.45	98.70	97.42	96.97
Aug	96.85	96.90	96.00	94.40	94.75
Feb	85.85	85.85	85.70	84.75	84.70
Fdr. Cat.					
Mar	88.05	87.50	87.75	87.17	87.30
Apr	87.07	86.17	86.37	85.25	85.25
May	87.97	87.32	87.42	86.17	85.82
Aug	89.45	88.90	89.00	88.37	87.92
Sep	89.65	88.87	89.05	88.30	87.77

**Market News Hotline**  
**1-573-522-9244**

**March 05, 2004**

**MISSOURI GRAIN WEEKLY TRENDS**

Soybeans uneven, .13 lower to .02 higher  
 Wheat .11 to .20 lower  
 Corn .01 to .08 lower  
 Grain Sorghum .07 to .13 lower

**Weekly Missouri Selected Cash Grain Bids**

Area	#1 Soybean	#2 Soft Wheat	#2 Corn	#2 Grain Sorghum
<u>Kansas City</u>				
Monday	9.65	3.79	2.93-2.94	5.11-5.13
Tuesday	9.36	3.93	2.86-2.87	5.00-5.02
Wednesday	9.50	3.71-3.73	2.88-2.89	5.04-5.05
Thursday	9.44	3.71-3.76	2.87-2.88	5.02-5.04
Friday	9.45	3.68-3.73	2.87-2.88	5.02-5.04
<u>St. Louis</u>				
Monday	9.68	4.00	3.06	5.53
Tuesday	9.32	3.94	2.95	5.37
Wednesday	9.49	3.94	3.01	5.48
Thursday	9.39	3.96	3.00	5.46
Friday	9.38-9.40	3.87	2.99	5.37
<u>Central</u>				
Monday	9.44-9.50	3.40-3.45	2.85-2.86	4.83
Tuesday	9.14-9.21	3.37-3.47	2.78-2.80	4.71
Wednesday	9.29-9.36	3.31-3.41	2.80-2.82	4.75
Thursday	9.22-9.30	3.34-3.44	2.79-2.81	4.73
Friday	9.23-9.31	3.29-3.39	2.79-2.81	4.75
<u>S.E. Mo.</u>				
Monday	9.61-9.66	3.98-4.01	2.97-3.01	5.37-5.50
Tuesday	9.29-9.35	3.95-3.99	2.90-2.94	5.25-5.35
Wednesday	9.40-9.48	3.31-3.91	2.92-2.96	5.28-5.41
Thursday	9.32-9.38	3.80-3.94	2.91-2.95	5.14-5.39
Friday	9.34-9.40	3.76-3.89	2.91-2.95	5.14-5.39

(PRICES PER BU. EXCEPT GR. SORG. PER CWT)  
 \* NEW CROP

The Weekly Market Summary is available to anyone for an \$18.00 annual subscription fee. To subscribe, send your check or money order to: Weekly Market Summary, Missouri Department of Agriculture, PO Box 630, Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102

**2003 Missouri Farm Numbers and Land in Farms**

"Farm numbers continue to decline in Missouri," says Marlowe Schlegel, State Statistician. Current numbers at 106,000 farms compare with 138,000 thirty years ago. "The complexion of Missouri agriculture has and continues to change," says Schlegel. Economic conditions and lifestyle choices are the major contributors to the decline. The number of Missouri farms in 2003 was estimated at 106,000, down 1,000 farms from a year earlier. The average farm size in Missouri during 2003 is estimated at 285 acres, up 3 acres from a year ago. A farm is defined as "any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year." Total land in Missouri farms is estimated at 30.2 million acres, the same as the previous year. Missouri farms in the economic sales class of \$1,000 to \$9,999 are estimated at 59,600, down slightly from a year earlier. Farms in the sales group of \$10,000 to \$99,999 totaled 36,100, down 2 percent from last year. The \$100,000 to \$499,000 group is estimated at 8,600, down slightly from 2002, while farms with sales of \$500,000 and over totaled 1,700, the same as 2002.

**U.S. Farms and Land in Farms Decline Slightly in 2003**

The number of farms in the United States in 2003 is estimated at 2.13 million, 0.4 percent fewer than in 2002. The decline in farms occurred in all sales categories except the \$250,000-\$499,999 class which remained unchanged. Total land in farms, at 938.8 million acres, decreased 1,550,000 acres from 2002. The average size farm during 2003 was 441 acres, an increase of one acre from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms continues to reflect consolidation in farming operations and competition for agricultural land for other uses. The U.S. number of agricultural operations in the economic sales class \$1,000-\$9,999 declined 0.2 percent to 1,199,270 in 2003. Farms with sales of \$10,000-\$99,999 decreased 0.7% from 2002 to 600,530. The number of farms with \$100,000-\$249,999 in sales was 167,230, a decline of 0.9 percent. In the \$250,000-\$499,999 sales class, the number of farms was unchanged from the previous year. The number of agricultural operations with \$500,000 or more of sales declined 0.4% from 2002. Generally favorable weather, stronger commodity prices, higher value of commodities produced, farm consolidation, and competition for other uses of farmland contributed to the shifting of farms among the sales categories. The number of farms in 2003 declined in 20 States, remained unchanged in 28 States, and increased in two States. The largest decline in farms occurred in California which lost 1,200 places followed by Missouri with 1,000.