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# 2006 Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum

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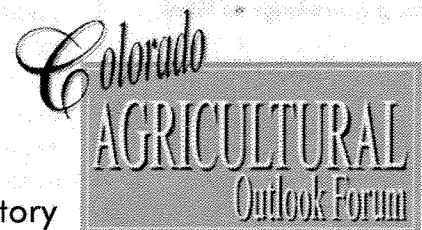
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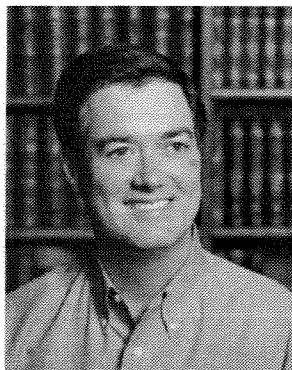


**"New Realities,  
New Opportunities"**

Inside:  
Agricultural Outlook Articles  
2006 Agricultural Industry Directory

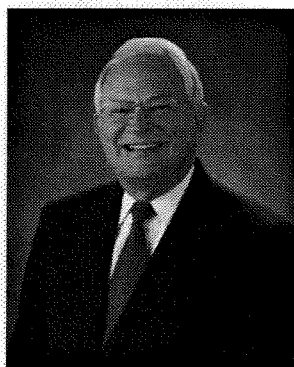


# New Realities, New Opportunities



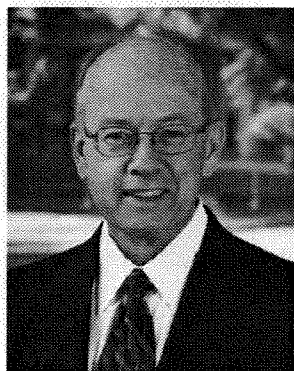
"This year's Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum will explore what untapped resources exist in Colorado that can bring a renewed vitality to rural communities. The forum will examine these resources and provide information about how to take advantage of them, whether it's generating alternative energy sources or providing unique tourism opportunities for wildlife viewing. I applaud the sponsors of this Forum for bringing fresh ideas forward to create a stronger rural economy."

- *Bill Owens, Governor*



"This year's Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum will provide you with helpful information about emerging issues and new trends in agriculture. We'll look at how Congress is approaching the 2007 Farm Bill debate and learn about new developments in renewable fuels and what they mean to Colorado's agricultural industry. Thanks for joining us, and I'm sure you'll find the Forum informative and useful."

- *Don Ament, Commissioner, Colorado Department of Agriculture*



"This is an exciting time to explore new opportunities in Colorado agriculture. The realities we confront today include global competition, the opening of new and relatively untapped markets, a challenging regulatory climate, constricted funding, unprecedented demands on our land and water resources, and challenges related to diseases, pests and security. Our success in how we address this new environment may determine the future viability of Colorado agriculture. Colorado State University is proud to join the industry and state leaders in leading this critical discussion."

- *Larry Edward Penley, President, Colorado State University  
Chancellor, Colorado State University System*



**Putting Knowledge to Work**

*Funding for this  
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by Colorado State  
University Cooperative  
Extension.*

## Mission of the Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum

To contribute to a healthy and viable agricultural industry in Colorado, this annual event shall seek to:

1. Facilitate a spirit of community to enhance Colorado agriculture's competitiveness.
2. Encourage positive awareness of Colorado agriculture.
3. Encourage interaction among commodity and other industry segments.
4. Present future-oriented, cutting edge topics that promote communication and understanding across the entire industry while considering the uniqueness among industry segments.
5. Relate and connect a global outlook to state and local agricultural production, business, and policy issues.

# 2006 Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum

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# State of the Colorado Economy and Agricultural Overview

*by Jim Rubingh, director, markets division,  
Colorado Department of Agriculture*

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*The agriculture section of this report was prepared by a committee of agricultural specialists, chaired by Jim Rubingh, markets division director, Colorado Department of Agriculture. A copy of the report is reprinted with permission from the Business Research Division.*

Strong livestock sales have continued to drive a robust agricultural economy in Colorado. Record livestock 2005 prices put net income in Colorado at over 1 billion dollars for the second straight year. Cattle prices will decline slightly during 2006 but net farm income will again be near the 1 billion dollar mark. Rising fuel and fertilizer costs, however, remain a growing concern and are having a strong negative impact on many grain farmers in Colorado.

Livestock remains Colorado's largest agricultural sector representing some 73 percent of all farm gate sales. Cash receipts from cattle will exceed 3 billion dollars for the third consecutive year in 2006. Although Colorado fed cattle marketings at 2 million head will be at their lowest number in decades, the average steer and heifer price of \$109/hundredweight (cwt.) will be the second highest price recorded. The declining number of cattle marketed last year and in 2006 shows that the cattle cycle has turned as ranchers are retaining more heifers in order to rebuild their herds. This will result in greater beef cow numbers in 2007 and through the remainder of this decade. This current cattle cycle has been very beneficial to our cow-calf operators and again in 2006 calf prices should be strong, averaging between \$1.05 and \$1.16/lb. Packers and feeders will continue to struggle in the first half of 2006 as it will be difficult for them to find enough cattle to efficiently run their operations.

Dairy remains a very important part of Colorado's agricultural economy. Dairy cattle numbers continue to grow in Colorado by about 5 percent annually. In particular, we are experiencing a significant increase in organic dairy production, which helps drive organic hay and grain production. Dairy prices in 2006 will remain fairly flat, averaging about \$12.50/cwt. and putting statewide production at some \$325 million dollars.

Lamb prices in 2005 were very strong and will drive production in 2006 up another 2 percent in Colorado. Prices will drop back about 6.5 percent next year but still should keep lamb production profitable. Total sales of wool and lamb will be around \$125 million. In 2006, hog prices will average about 6 percent below this year while production increases 1 percent to 2 percent. Overall pork exports will likely decrease as international markets for beef begin to open. Total Colorado hog sales will be off about 5 percent at \$190 million. Egg production and prices will remain fairly steady and will account for about \$110 million in sales.

Total livestock sales will be down from the past two years, coming in at about \$3.8 billion. This is due primarily to lower cattle numbers. Most of the livestock industry, however, should experience another profitable year in 2006.

The U.S. corn crop is forecast at 10.9 billion bushels. Although this is 8 percent below 2004, it is on track to be the second largest crop on record. Our crop in Colorado is expected to be down about 14 percent in 2005 and likely to with rising fuel and fertilizer costs the crop will further decline in 2006. With a large crop carryover and anticipated prices below \$2.00 expect the state's corn crop to return \$210 million in 2006, some \$34 million less than the previous year. How the opening of the new ethanol facility in Sterling may impact our corn industry is still unknown.

Wheat harvests in Colorado have been disappointing in four of the last five years. Drought or abnormally hot weather have driven yields far below expected norms. Good fall precipitation means that the 2006 crop appears to have excellent potential. Assuming normal yields and wheat returning about \$3.20/bu. expect a crop of about 80 million bushels and sales of \$210 million.

*Total livestock sales will be down from the past two years, coming in at about \$3.8 billion. This is due primarily to lower cattle numbers. Most of the livestock industry, however, should experience another profitable year in 2006.*

Hay remains our largest crop in terms of value (\$375 million) but due to on farm use, actual sales are about one-half of that value. The 2006 the price for hay will likely average about \$90/ton and total cash receipts will come in at around \$190 million. Potato prices have rebounded this past year at least in part due to significantly reduced acreage in Colorado and in other major potato producing regions of the country. A new marketing coop has formed with chapters in most potato producing states, including Colorado. This group has significantly impacted planting decisions. Expect potato receipts in Colorado next year to come in at about \$150 million. Sunflowers had strong prices in 2005 and along with other oil crops prices should remain steady in 2006. Cash receipts of about \$38 million are expected in 2006, which will result in the most valuable sunflower crop recorded to date.

Greenhouse/nursery sales continue to grow and now exceed the sales from traditional crops such as corn and wheat. Sales in 2006 are again expected to increase by over 5 percent and should reach \$300 million for the first time. This is an increase of some two hundred percent in the past 13 years. Other crops, which have done well in recent years, include specialty vegetables. With the onset of additional farmers markets and direct marketing we are likely to see an increase in vegetable production along the Front Range. Expect dry beans, onions, sugar beets, and fruit receipts to remain fairly steady in 2006. Overall crop receipts will be up about \$58 million for a total of \$1.445 billion.

While other farm income is expected to remain steady at \$600 million a slight decline in government payments to about \$270 million is expected. This will result in total cash receipts of \$5.65 billion and gross farm income of \$6.25 billion, about \$100 million below last year. Increased fuel and fertilizer costs are likely to impact many farmers planting decisions next year resulting in more wheat being planted and less corn. The influence of low corn prices and a decline in the number of cattle being fed and marketed will combine with crop planting changes to result in a small decrease in total production expenses. Overall net farm income is expected to decline

by about 5 percent to \$950 million. Although this is again a better than average year for our state's farmers and ranchers, those in the livestock business are likely to fair much better than those producing grain. Many grain producers will be facing both high costs in the form of fuel and fertilizer and will also receive low prices for their efforts. Agriculture in Colorado is very diverse and can be fickle. As always, how we end up will depend on rain, snowfall, and the timing of markets opening or closing around the world. It seems that every year brings its own unique set of challenges and opportunities.

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## Bio-pharming in Colorado

*This article was condensed from "Bio-farming in Colorado: A Guide to Issues for Making Informed Choices," October 2004. For the complete paper and references, see: <http://www.cipp.colostate.edu/publications.html>*

*by the Colorado Institute of Public Policy, Colorado State University*

Agriculture is entering a new era — an era when genetically engineered crops might be successfully grown not only for human and livestock food, but also to produce medicine and industrial chemicals. Raising crops for plant-made pharmaceuticals and industrial compounds, which scientists have envisioned for some 20 years, often is called "molecular farming" or "bio-pharming."

Bio-pharming uses crops such as corn, soybeans, rice and tobacco to produce specialized proteins for pharmaceuticals. Production of these proteins is possible because bio-pharm crops are engineered to contain genes from mammals, microorganisms or other plants, resulting in modifications that do not naturally occur in plants. These modifications could present potential risks because these crops are not intended to replicate themselves in farm fields or to mingle in the natural environment; they are not intended as food for humans, livestock or wildlife. For these reasons, the cultivation of bio-pharm crops has sparked controversy and presents regulatory agencies and others with the challenge of ensuring that novel genes and plant material are controlled and do not present unacceptable risk to people, animals, the environment and existing markets for other crops ("Drugs in crops," 2004; Flinn and Zvon, 2004).

During four focus groups held by the Colorado Institute of Public Policy in May 2004, safety was the top issue identified. These bio-pharming discussions, in an agricultural community in each quadrant of the state, involved 56 stakeholders interested in and potentially affected by bio-pharming. Many participants identified economic development as bio-pharming's chief potential benefit for Colorado and agreed the state would need to minimize potential risks for human health, the environment and existing crop markets for the technology to move ahead.

### Why Colorado?

Bio-pharming emerged in Colorado in spring 2003, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) granted a permit to Meristem Therapeutics of Clermont-Ferrand, France, to grow 30 acres

of bio-pharm corn on the state's northeastern plains. The Colorado Department of Agriculture concurred with the USDA's decision that would have produced a therapeutic protein, an enzyme called lipase, to treat digestive problems in patients with cystic fibrosis (Mison, 2004). In spite of the approval, the permit was granted too late for the 2003 growing season and the plan did not move ahead (Auge, 2003a, 2003b).

In spring 2004, Colorado's first bio-pharm crop — comprising about 2,000 genetically engineered corn plants — was sown on a 90-foot-by-35-foot plot in Logan County, also on the northeastern plains. An Iowa State University researcher received a federal permit to grow the bio-pharm crop as part of research to develop a corn-based edible vaccine system for livestock. The Colorado Department of Agriculture (2004) again concurred.

These are two examples of how bio-pharming might be conducted in Colorado, and other proposals could be in the near future as bio-pharming expands. Colorado has several conditions that make it attractive for bio-pharming.

*In spring 2004, Colorado's first bio-pharm crop — comprising about 2,000 genetically engineered corn plants — was sown on a 90-foot-by-35-foot plot in Logan County, also on the northeastern plains.*

- The state presents relative ease in assuring isolation for open-air bio-pharm crops, such as corn. That is significant as regulators, growers and biotech companies seek to prevent pollen and other plant materials from mingling with wild and cultivated plant species.
- The state presents potentially favorable growing conditions for bio-pharming, which include the possibility of high-crop yields from irrigated fields; comparatively few problems with insects and disease; and the sunny days and moderate temperatures important for crop production.
- Colorado has 261 greenhouse farms with 19.90 million square feet of capacity, some of which might be used for bio-pharm crops suited to enclosed environments.
- Colorado's agricultural heritage presents a tradition of farming know-how and success, which places agriculture among the top industries in the state.
- Colorado has a thriving scientific community, an infrastructure of training and research facilities, and a vibrant biotech business community.

#### Why bio-pharming?

Many human ailments can be traced to the body's failure to make a specific protein or to make it appropriately. Solving the problem is difficult: Most protein-based drugs cannot be synthesized and must come from a living source. Their manufacture typically occurs in sterile fermentation facilities, where genetically engineered microorganisms or mammalian cells are cultured to produce medicinal proteins in stainless-steel tanks, called bioreactors (Felsot, 2002).

Another method for obtaining biopharmaceuticals is to extract them from animal and human tissues. But these are high-cost procedures that carry the risk of transmitting infectious diseases to human recipients. Additionally, current methods for mass production of medicinal proteins are not sufficient to meet all potential needs (Huang, 2000; Walsh, 2000).

Studies show that genetically engineered plants can produce medicinal proteins about 80 percent cheaper than fermentation systems and could reduce the costs of goods as much as 50 percent (Mison and Curling, 2000; Biotechnology Industry Organization, 2002; Crosby, 2003). The biotech industry believes it could quickly and effectively respond to rising demand for treatments by planting more bio-pharm acreage (Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology, 2002).

The market potential of bio-pharming and the state's first two bio-pharming proposals suggest that Colorado is at a crossroads: It may accept a passive role in bio-pharming, evaluating proposals on a piecemeal basis, or it may take a proactive role with the technology, developing policies to responsibly and profitably adopt bio-pharming in a manner consistent with the values and standards of state residents (European Commission, 2002).

*Studies show that genetically engineered plants can produce medicinal proteins about 80 percent cheaper than fermentation systems and could reduce the costs of goods as much as 50 percent*

#### Benefits of Bio-pharming

Economic development is the main benefit of bio-pharming in Colorado and the state will likely achieve the greatest economic benefits if it also attracts research and development activity and processing facilities. Clustered and integrated operations involve more people and higher-paying jobs than cultivation alone, yielding economic resonance in the state (National Governors Association, 2003).

During Colorado Institute of Public Policy focus groups in spring 2004, conventional farmers expressed hope that bio-pharming could be a springboard to better economic health for individual growers and their communities. Focus group participants in all quadrants of the state agreed that attracting bio-pharm processing and related activities to rural Colorado would be the best way to achieve widespread economic gains from the technology, but cautioned that bio-pharm cultivation alone has limited economic benefit.

The Biotechnology Industry Organization, whose membership includes companies developing bio-pharm products, estimates that few farmers will be involved in bio-pharming because smaller acreages are needed to produce large quantities of medicinal proteins and crops will be grown under stringent regulatory conditions. Economic analyses suggest that drug companies and consumers will gain most from plant-made pharmaceuticals (Duffy 2001; Kostandini, Mills and Norton, 2004). This is why some bio-pharming proponents want Colorado communities to get involved in processing; it could be a route for the state to participate in the bio-pharming production chain and potentially to realize more economic benefit. Economic benefits also could accrue if partnerships develop between pharmaceutical companies and Colorado research facilities. Likewise, less expensive



prescription drugs could produce economic benefits for the state and its residents.

Understanding the potential for economic development from bio-pharming involves case-by-case analysis of required investments and potential community returns. A proposed bio-pharming project might be of interest to a community if overall benefits meet economic-development goals and outweigh costs incurred to fulfill a company's infrastructure needs.

#### Conclusion

Colorado is at a policy crossroads with bio-pharming. To maximize its benefits and minimize its risks, Colorado decision makers should consider both scientifically derived data and community values when forming policies about the technology and its application in the state.

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## The Climate of Colorado

*by Nolan Doesken and Roger Pielke, Sr., Colorado Climate Center, Atmospheric Science, Colorado State University*

The recently ended 2005 water year, October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005, helped continue gradual drought recovery for much of Colorado. Drought conditions were at their worst during late summer of 2002 but have improved. The year of 2003 was not much better, but one incredible snowstorm in March 2003, over north central Colorado, single-handedly dropped the equivalent of several months of average precipitation. This one storm relieved drought stress over the Front Range and parts of Northeastern Colorado. In 2004, there was average precipitation and snow pack, but a cool summer reduced water demand and extended water supplies and soil moisture.

For 2005, precipitation totals were near the long-term (1971-2000) averages over most of the eastern three-quarters of the state, while Western Colorado was much wetter than average. A few locations exceeded their average precipitation for the year by 30 percent or more, including areas from Grand Junction to near Glenwood Springs, a few locations near Durango, and parts of Moffat and Rio Blanco counties in Northwest Colorado.

Another wet area was Huerfano County (Walsenburg) and parts of surrounding areas in south central Colorado. Southwest Colorado got off to an extremely wet start with precipitation totals nearly double the average by mid-January, but the last half of the year was dry so these areas ended up only slightly above average for the year.

Drier than average conditions were fairly common east of the mountains where a dry May, July and September made it tough on those farmers who rely on summer rains to help their crops. Water year precipitation ended up between 70 percent and 85 percent of average from parts of Weld and Morgan counties south through Limon and Hugo to the Arkansas River. Some of these areas continued to

*In nearly nine out of every 10 years, drought conditions are present somewhere in Colorado.*

suffer long-term impacts from drought, but were greatly aided by the soaking rains that followed in October 2005. As much as 4 inches of much-needed rain fell over several counties of northeastern Colorado in October.

#### Upcoming Water Year

As we move through the winter of 2005-2006, dry conditions are emerging once again over southern Colorado and parts of the Front Range and eastern plains. While arctic cold in early December 2005 brought back memories of old-fashioned cold winters, a return to unseasonably mild temperatures in late December and early January 2006 has again brought nervous feelings of merging drought.

As we look back on our climate conditions, it is important to realize that Colorado is a dry state. Average precipitation for the state as a whole is only about 17 inches and is much lower when heavy mountain precipitation is not included. In nearly nine out of every 10 years, drought conditions are present somewhere in Colorado. The

year 2002 was unusual in that the entire state faced severe drought conditions at the same time, but even in good years, some parts of Colorado are normally suffering from inadequate moisture. Although 2003 to 2005 have not been exceptionally wet, we are fortunate to have recovered as quickly as we did from the extremes of drought, but we remain very vulnerable.

The tendency towards experiencing temperatures above the 1971 to 2000 average values can exacerbate drought vulnerability and reduce soil moisture since higher temperatures usually mean higher water usage by agricultural crops, urban landscapes, rangeland and forests. Regardless of where we stand today, all we need is a hot and dry spring and Colorado can lapse again into the painful grip of drought. We are happy that early winter of the 2006 water year has delivered heavy snows to the northern and central mountains of Colorado. We will need that moisture for sure. Meanwhile, watch the skies as we move towards the 2006 growing season and be ready.

#### Highlights for the Colorado Water Year 2005

- Late November: cold and snow
- Dec: dry and mild for most of the state
- Dec.- Jan. 11: Blitz of mountain snow (and low-elevation rain) over the southwest with over 10' to 18' of new snow in some areas.
- Jan.: Unusually warm statewide, especially in Western Colorado
- Feb.: dry and warm east of the mountains
- March: Some heavy precipitation in southern part of state.
- April: Generous moisture, a blizzard over parts of the plains on the 10th.
- May: dry and warm, water from mountain snowmelt in many rivers and streams
- June: beneficial rains over the northwest and the northeastern plains.
- July: dry with extreme heat
- August: Spotty rain, but locally very heavy. A real soaker in Denver in early August greatly reduced urban water demands and several good rains watered dryland crops in many parts of eastern Colorado.
- Late Sept.: heavy rains over the west part of the state. Record high streamflows on the Colorado River for this time of year.
- Dec. 2004-Feb. 2005: Temperatures were above average, making it the 12th consecutive warmer-than-average winter (Dec.-2004 to Feb. 2005) for the state.
- Based on reservoir levels, continued improvement in surface water supply was noted during 2005 in Colorado. After reaching extreme low-levels in late 2002, reservoir levels have slowly returned to near normal in many basins.

### Climate Resources

The Colorado Climate Center maintains climatological data for weather stations all across Colorado. Weather data go back into the 1800s for some locations. Running totals of precipitation are provided for each year for many weather stations across the state in comparison with long-term averages. For more information, contact the Colorado Climate Center at Colorado State University at (970) 491-8545 or visit <http://ccc.atmos.colostate.edu>

Rain, hail and snow data are also available for hundreds of locations in Colorado every day. <http://www.cocorahs.org>

We continue to seek more citizen volunteers to help monitor rain, hail and snow patterns. If you are interested, go to <http://www.cocorahs.org> and click on "Join CoCoRaHS - the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow network".

## Colorado Agricultural Outlook Summaries

### Fruit Industry Outlook

*by Harold J. Larsen, Ph.D.,  
Cooperative Extension fruit  
disease specialist, Western  
Colorado Research Center at  
Orchard Mesa, Colorado State  
University*

*For the complete article: see  
[www.coloradoagoutlook.org/](http://www.coloradoagoutlook.org/)*

Colorado's wine grape industry rebounded from a slight dip in 2004 with a banner year in 2005 providing good prices and an increase in bearing acreage. New records were achieved for production and crop valuation of wine grapes: production was about 1,800 tons (over the previous record of 1,500 tons) and crop valuation about \$2.2 million (over the previous record of \$1.8 million). Value of the vintage is likely to be around \$22 million to \$24 million using a conservative 10x multiplier.

Peach production was reduced slightly (only about 85 percent of a full crop harvested) because of higher incidence of split pits, split fruit, bird feeding damage, and some hail damage in higher elevation locations. Value of the peach crop for 2005 is estimated to be about \$10 million.

Pears also had some hail damage and production was estimated at around 2,200 tons; prices were good, however, and provided an estimated valuation of \$1.3 million. Sweet cherry production and prices was good, near or above average for both. Apricots had a reasonably good crop, estimated to be about 90 percent of optimum with good prices. Only apples were down significantly, at an estimated 35 percent to 40 percent of average due to substantial hail in late summer/early fall. Prices for the portion of the crop harvested held well, however, and a crop valuation of \$2 million is expected.

Challenges for 2006 include fruit quality and size, bird damage, and matching production of wine grapes with winery capacity as a new record for wine grape production is expected as bearing acreage of wine grapes continues to expand.

## Feed Grain Outlook

*by Rod Sharp, Cooperative Extension western regional agriculture and business management specialist, Colorado State University; James G. Robb, director, Livestock Marketing Information Center, Lakewood.*

*For the complete article, see: [www.coloradoagoutlook.org/](http://www.coloradoagoutlook.org/)*

Colorado feed grain complex and other feed grain prices tend to follow corn market developments. Feed grain and livestock producers will again keep a close watch on corn and other feed grain prices this year. The national cash corn price received by farmers for the 2005-06 crop-marketing year is estimated at \$1.80 per bushel. This is 13 percent lower than a year ago and \$.32 lower than the 2000-2004 five-year average. Looking ahead to calendar year 2006, the dominant factors in the feed grain markets will be U.S. and world corn supplies, and ethanol production.

### Corn Supply

Projections in late 2005 put total U.S. corn supply at 13.2 billion bushels, a record high. Beginning stocks were much higher this year at 2.1 billion bushels. Total 2005 U.S. Corn production is estimated at 11.0 billion bushels compared to 11.8 billion bushels in 2004. Imports are estimated at 10 million bushels for 2005. This is about the same as a year ago and 4 million bushels less than the previous two years.

### Corn Usage

Corn usage is expected to increase slightly in the 2005-2006 crop-marketing year supported by record large industrial usage (2.98 billion bushels). Total usage is expected to be 10.8 billion bushels, an increase of 127 million bushels from 2004-05.

### Feed Grain Price Outlook

In the short term (January through March 2005), the major factors that influence feed grain prices will be U.S. export levels and South American feed grain developments. Come spring, prospects for the new U.S. corn crop will have increasing influence on prices. Preliminary projections put U.S. corn plantings in 2006 at about 2 to 3 million acres below 2005's. Most of the uncertainty for 2006 is related to planting intentions as farmers face higher fuel and fertilizer costs. With normal crop growing conditions, U.S. corn production could again be larger than usage.

Overall, even if usage remains strong, as expected, the 2005-2006 average corn price is expected to be about \$1.95 per bushel. For the 2006-2007 crop-marketing year, corn prices may not be able to increase much. Major increases in corn and feed grain prices may require decreased production from weather problems (domestic or foreign). A short crop somewhere would likely result in higher corn prices very quickly. Watch crop plantings and growing conditions closely.

Record high prices driven by reduced supplies were the story for 2005. We thought prices would be high though we didn't foresee that prices would be as high as they were, but we'll take it. What does the market have in store for 2006 and 2007? We think largely more of the same.

## Livestock Outlook

*by Stephen R. Koontz, Ph.D.,  
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*For the complete article, see:  
[www.coloradoagoutlook.org/](http://www.coloradoagoutlook.org/)*

### Cattle

Christmas came all year for the cattle industry. Feeder cattle and calf prices were at record highs for most of the year. Cow-calf producers were and are making record per animal profits, and the low prices for fed cattle were at levels typical for high prices of previous years - in the low \$80s. The most significant news that came in December of 2005 was the reopening of the Japanese market to U.S. beef. Allowing trade is not the same as actual trade occurring but this will be the present the industry opens all next year.

It became clear in 2005 that the cattle cycle turned from herd liquidation to expansion in 2004. Because of the herd rebuilding, the dominant factor in the cattle outlook will be tight cattle numbers. Exactly how strong cattle prices will be as a result of this will depend on cow-calf producers.

The upside potential of prices in cattle markets appears to us to be only potentially limited by large slaughter cattle weights. We will see more of these heavy cattle weights in the next couple of years, but how big is up to cattle feeders. However, it is unlikely that weights will increase enough to offset the reduced numbers.

Feed grain prices will present some risk to calf and yearling prices in 2006 and 2007. There were concerns of drought in the Corn Belt during the late spring and summer of 2005. But as the late summer turned into fall, it was clear the U.S. corn crop was in excellent shape and feed grain supplies were ample.

The other side of the price coin is demand. Beef producers have enjoyed eight years of improving beef demand. We are not sure why demand is increasing, but we think strong demand will continue in 2006.

We forecasted the reopening of the border with Canada to movement of live cattle - fed and feeder - as happening last year and we are encouraged with the reopening of the border with Japan. Prospects for beef exports must improve. However, the magnitude will depend on Japanese consumers. Trade tends to grow slowing and stop quickly.

The USDA is forecasting a 4.8 percent year-to-year increase in U.S. beef production for 2006 and we think the increase will be more modest and continuing improvement in demand, beef and cattle prices will remain strong in 2006 compared to 2005.

As a result, look for cash fed cattle prices in 2006 to average in the high \$80s per cwt. Average fed cattle prices could be in the \$90s in first quarter. Prices may erode as the second quarter progresses with summer quarter still averaging over \$80 per cwt. Average fed cattle prices could be back in the high \$80s during the fourth quarter of 2006.

Feeder cattle and calf prices will stay strong during 2006 and calf prices are again expected to set seasonal high prices prior to summer grass. Calf prices should remain well over \$100 per cwt throughout the year. Prices should average over \$120 in the first and second quarter and could decrease some in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, as usual, calf prices will be the lowest of the year. Still,

500 to 600 pound calves in the fall of 2006 will average over \$100 per cwt.

#### Hogs

The 2005 hog market dodged a bullet - in our minds - but will be tested again next year. The industry last faced large numbers and low prices during 2002 and saw good prices and profits for 2003 through 2005. We predicted modest cyclical expansion, lower prices in 2005, and the cyclical low in 2006 or 2007. In fact, the futures market agreed with us during the summer months.

The December USDA Hogs and Pigs reports indicated modest herd expansion would continue in 2006. Herd size will likely increase and the cyclical expansion could peak in 2006. This would be consistent with a normal cycle.

Forecasts indicate that U.S. hog slaughter will be 2 percent above that of a year earlier in the first quarter of 2006. Hog slaughter may post larger year-to-year increases for the balance of the year with 2006 being 1.1 percent above 2005. Market hog carcasses are generally 0.5 percent larger than the previous year. However, the decreases in corn price may result in heavier weights. All in all, the market will see pork production increased 1 percent to 2 percent for the year and some year-to-year weakening in hog prices - most of that in the first and fourth quarters. Still, most hog operations will be profitable at least throughout the first three quarters of 2006.

Cyclically, barrow and gilt prices are anticipated to remain strong in 2006. Market hog prices are forecasted to be in the mid-\$70's per cwt. in the first quarter of 2005. Market hog prices are forecasted to be in the mid-to-high \$60's during the second and third quarters. Slaughter hog prices may finish the year in the high \$50's, on a carcass basis, and should average in the \$64 to \$69 range for the year.

#### Lamb

Quarterly slaughter lamb prices in 2005 were 5 percent to 12 percent better than those in 2004. Better lamb prices are due to a 3.8 percent decrease in U.S. lamb production across 2005. U.S. lamb imports were slightly below a year ago in 2005. Production for 2006 and 2007 will likely increase so some price decreases are inevitable. Imports are also expected to increase slightly in 2006 and 2007 reflecting flock growth in Australia and New Zealand. Imports increased an average of 7.5 percent per year for the last three years and will likely continue that trend. If both of these scenarios occur then on a carcass basis slaughter lamb prices could average \$189 to \$198 per cwt in 2006 and \$179 to \$187 per cwt in 2007.

## Sunflower and Oilseed Outlook

*by Dennis A. Kaan, northern region agriculture and business management specialist, Colorado State University*

*For the complete article, see: [www.coloradoagoutlook.org](http://www.coloradoagoutlook.org)*

Sunflower production in the U.S. and Colorado increased in 2005 due to two key factors, favorable price contracts and favorable growing conditions. In the U.S., acreage was up 151 percent to 2,581,000 acres in 2005 while yield was up 125 percent to 1,500 pounds per acre raising total production to 3.87 billion pounds. In Colorado, acreage was up 161 percent to 198,000 acres in 2005 while yield was up 117 percent to 1,400 pounds per acre creating a 189 percent increase in production to 277 million pounds.

The challenge now for the sunflower industry is to keep the momentum going. The excellent experience in 2005 will certainly help many growers look closer at sunflowers compared to soybeans, but price will be a key factor. Contract prices will need to be attractive again in 2006 to compete with soybeans for acreage in the major sunflower and soybean producing regions.

### Dry Bean Outlook

Dry bean production in the U.S. and Colorado followed the same trend as sunflowers for the same key factors, favorable price contracts and favorable growing conditions. Carryover stocks had declined over the past several years to the point of exhausting supplies for some classes of beans. Growing conditions favored growers in 2005 once again and U.S. production registered a 53 percent increase above the short 2004 crop year. The larger crop this year reflects double-digit increases in most dry bean-producing states, with the greatest improvement from a year earlier in Colorado (up 84 percent), Texas (up 83 percent), and Minnesota (up 81 percent).

Now that the 2005 crop is a bit larger than earlier estimates, U.S. dry bean supplies are expected to be more than adequate to satisfy average domestic and international demand this season. Despite this, with low beginning stocks, available supply across all bean classes is still estimated to be the second lowest in the past 16 years. For 2005/06, the national season average grower price is projected to range from \$18 to \$20 per cwt.

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## Vegetable Crop Production Outlook

*by Michael Bartolo, Ph.D., Cooperative Extension vegetable crop specialist and research scientist, Arkansas Valley Research Center, Colorado State University*

*For the complete article, see: [www.coloradoagoutlook.org](http://www.coloradoagoutlook.org)*

In 2005, vegetable growers faced challenges related to high fuel prices and labor costs. Despite these issues and the closure a vegetable processing facility in the state, growers realized a relatively good market year. The health of the state's vegetable industry has been boosted by the popularity of farmers' markets and the commitment of large retail outlets and restaurants to feature Colorado-grown produce. Overall, onions continue to be the most widely grown vegetable followed by sweet corn, carrots, and cabbage.

## Wheat Outlook

by *Stephen R. Koontz*,  
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*James Pritchett*, *assistant  
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resource economics; and John  
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*For the complete article, see:  
[www.coloradoagoutlook.org](http://www.coloradoagoutlook.org)*

Prospects were excellent for the 2005-2006 Colorado wheat crop, but the late spring of 2005 saw hot weather and dry winds in northeast Colorado so wheat yields were hurt substantially. The 2000's have brought turmoil to Colorado wheat producers and world wheat markets. Prospects for 2006-2007 have begun the same as last crop year. Let's hope the yields hold up to potential and that the turmoil ends.

World stocks of all wheat have been declining since the 1999-2000 crop year but grew sharply in 2004-2005. The December 9, 2005 USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) reported ending stocks increased 13.5 percent two years ago. Higher ending stocks were due to increased production in major wheat growing and export countries. World stocks declined 4.5 percent in 2005-2006, which is the reason wheat prices have exhibited some volatility over the past year. It is likely this price behavior will continue and there will be short quick run-ups in price and short quick declines in price, unless world production is exceptionally large next year as it was in 1998.

U.S. production was slightly less than domestic consumption and exports so that ending stocks tightened slightly in the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 crop years. The WASDE reported 540 million bushels of ending stock for 2004-2005 and 530 million bushels 2005-2006. The changes in supply and demand conditions in the U.S. have not exactly paralleled changes in the world supply and demand conditions. The U.S. also continues to plant fewer and fewer acres to wheat. The 1997-1998 crop year saw over 70 million acres planted. The 2006 crop year will see less than 60 million acres planted. Meanwhile, production and consumption grows worldwide. Trends in the U.S. supply and demand conditions do not match trends in world supply and demand.

Similarly, Colorado has not followed what has happened to the rest of U.S. producers. Colorado wheat production was down 40 percent in 2004 from 2003 and was up 15 percent in 2005 from 2004 to 54 million bushels. Average yields were 35.1 bushels per acre in 2003, 27.4 in 2004, and 24.4 in 2005. This last year saw the smallest yield since the drought of 2002. Colorado production was up in 2005 because of 11 percent increased planted acres and 29 percent increased harvested acres over the previous year. These changes well offset the decline in yield per acre.

The price outlook for wheat in 2006 largely depends on production in the United States and world this next year. Reasonable wheat prices and adequate moisture was present in many winter-wheat producing states when planting decisions were made. Thus, acres planted to wheat are expected to increase for the 2006-2007 crop year. Unofficial estimates of the number of acres of wheat planted in the U.S. in 2006-2007 is approximately 58.5 million acres, an increase of 1 percent over 2005-2006. Wheat plantings were down 1.5 percent in 2005, with Colorado wheat producers increasing their planted acres by 11 percent to 2.6 million acres. This increase in planted acres breaks the trends of declining plantings throughout the 1990's and early



2000's. Colorado has appeared to stabilize at approximately 2.5 million acres.

The winter wheat crop in Colorado and most of the U.S. was planted on schedule. As of November 28, 2005, USDA Crop Progress reported 100 percent of Colorado's winter wheat crop had emerged and the crop appears to be in stellar condition. At the end of November, 31 percent was in excellent condition, 51 percent was good, 16 percent was fair, 2 percent was poor, and none was in very poor condition. This compares to the conditions of the 18 largest wheat producing states, of which 8 percent of the winter wheat is in excellent condition, 44 percent is in good condition, 33 percent is fair, 8 percent is poor, and 6 percent is in very poor condition. The condition of Colorado's crop was better than any of the other 18 major producing states. The winter wheat crop in Texas and South Dakota are in the poorest shape. Oklahoma is also in reasonably bad shape, while Kansas largely mirrors the 18-state figures.

*The USDA Winter Wheat Seedings Report, released in January 2006, provides official estimates of planted acres that will allow more accurate production and price forecasting.*

The USDA Winter Wheat Seedings Report, released in January 2006, provides official estimates of planted acres that will allow more accurate production and price forecasting. USDA Crop Progress reports will not be issued until April 3, 2006. Wheat crop conditions for the 18 states will be known then and updated weekly and we will see how wheat fared over the winter. Accurate forecasts of harvested acres and yields will be difficult until the winter and spring weather is observed and reports are continued. Until then, current forecasts indicate a slight increase in harvested acres and slight decrease in yields with U.S. production holding steady. Forecasts also suggest slight increases in domestic food and feed use and slight decreases in exports. All of this translates into little change in ending stocks to slight increases for the 2006-2007 crop year.

Reasonable production and use forecasts suggest 2006-2007 ending stocks between 450 million bushels and 575 million bushels. With the lower of the two stocks numbers, a \$3.75 Colorado wheat price is expected and with the higher ending stock number, \$2.75 is expected. With ending stocks in the middle of this range then a \$3.25 Colorado wheat price for the 2006-2007-crop year is likely.

The factors to watch over the winter and spring include the weather and its impact on production and then exports. The U.S. dollar strengthened late in 2005 but is following a substantial weakening of the previous year and a half. If world production is down and the world economy stays strong, then U.S. wheat exports could improve. U.S. wheat prices largely depend on the world wheat export market. The U.S. competes in the world export market along with the big four exporters: Argentina, Australia, Canada and the European Union. For 2005-2006, world wheat trade is forecasted at 110 million metric tons, up 0.5 percent from 2004-2005. Global consumption of wheat was at 622 MMT, up 13 MMT from 609 MMT in 2004-2005, and up 33 MMT from 589 MMT in 2003/04. Global

production was 615 MMT, down 8 MMT from 627 MMT in 2004/05, and up 50 MMT from 555 MMT in 2003-2004. World ending stocks are expected to be steady as are prices, but Coloradans will take steady prices if the crop condition stays as good as it was in 2005.

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## Green Industry Outlook

*by Jim Klett, Ph.D., Cooperative Extension landscape horticulture specialist and professor, horticulture and landscape architecture, Colorado State University*

*For the complete article, see:  
[www.coloradoagoutlook.org](http://www.coloradoagoutlook.org)*

The green industry continues to be the fastest growing segment of agriculture in Colorado. The green industry has averaged 10 percent growth per year since 1993 for a total of \$1.731 billion in 2002.

In Colorado, the green industry provides almost 35,000 jobs, an increase of 12,000 jobs since 1994 (6 percent growth per year) with \$825 million in payroll (up from \$450 million from 1994 or 18 percent annual growth).

“An Easy Being Green” campaign was initiated in 2003 and continued in 2005 to highlight the industries sound water and best management practices across Colorado and to ensure landscapes remain an essential foundation of Colorado’s quality of life, economic health and public image. The Governor of Colorado proclaimed December 12-16, 2005 Best Management Practices (BMP) Awareness Week.

## Colorado's Agricultural Export Trends

by Timothy J. Larsen, senior international marketing specialist, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Colorado's agricultural exports dropped in 2004 due to the closed markets in Asia for Colorado and U.S. beef. The loss of the largest export market (Japan) for U.S. beef has reduced Colorado's total exports.

Colorado's top agricultural export product category continues to be beef and meat products, despite the loss of key export markets in 2004. These markets remained closed in 2005 and will continue to reduce Colorado's exports. Fortunately, Mexico opened to selected U.S. beef products in the spring of 2004 to provide a strong market for Colorado beef. In the fall of 2005, some Asian markets opened and the Japanese market opened in December. With the opening of the Japanese market, we anticipate the remaining closed markets in Asia will also open. Unfortunately, with the market closed for two years, the market will require several years to regain the past sales level. Colorado's other export sectors have held their global market, with

wheat growing due to increased world prices and global demands.

The closed markets for Colorado beef have had a significant impact on our top export markets for agricultural products. Mexico continues as the strongest market, assisted by the continued imports of beef as well as all other import categories. Japan, Korea and Taiwan have not imported U.S. beef since 2003 and a drop in exports to each of these markets is

attributed to the lost beef markets.

Mexico continues to grow as Colorado's most important agricultural export market. Since the effective date of the NAFTA Accord, Mexican agricultural exports have demonstrated strong growth in key Colorado sectors. U.S. Beef has experienced a growth in exports to Mexico of over 590 percent since 1995, while vegetable exports have grown 380 percent and wheat exports have grown 270 percent.

Colorado's Agricultural Exports  
Value in US Million dollars

| Commodity                        | 2002         | 2003         | 2004         | 2005*        | 2006**       |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Beef and meat products           | 317.5        | 295.9        | 210.1        | 220.8        | 217.9        |
| Hides and furs                   | 148.2        | 149.2        | 156.5        | 150.9        | 150.9        |
| Course grains/feed/fodder        | 174.7        | 130.7        | 153.4        | 131.6        | 164.7        |
| Wheat, flour & products          | 148.7        | 119.9        | 200.3        | 161.3        | 157.3        |
| Fruit, vegetables-fresh/proc.    | 76.3         | 74.0         | 69.2         | 75.4         | 82.7         |
| Misc. Processed foods & ag prod. | 44.6         | 44.5         | 46.8         | 47.4         | 46.5         |
| Dairy                            | 13.1         | 13.0         | 16.9         | 22.5         | 22.5         |
| Animal fats/oils                 | 29.5         | 36.8         | 34.6         | 34.4         | 35.2         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>965.8</b> | <b>956.4</b> | <b>895.4</b> | <b>851.7</b> | <b>855.1</b> |

\*USDA Projection; \*\*USDA Forecast

Colorado's Top Agricultural Export Markets  
Value in US Millions

|           | 2001  | 2002  | 2003  | 2004  |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Mexico    | 190.5 | 225.7 | 236.3 | 237.6 |
| Canada    | 174.7 | 163.1 | 165.1 | 117.6 |
| Japan     | 199.3 | 153.5 | 165.3 | 91.7  |
| Taiwan    | 74.4  | 78.1  | 60.7  | 55.0  |
| China     | 30.9  | 35.4  | 39.8  | 53.2  |
| Korea     | 90.8  | 103.5 | 108.0 | 42.8  |
| Europe    | 41.9  | 38.0  | 30.3  | 34.9  |
| Hong Kong | 32.1  | 28.2  | 29.8  | 16.7  |

## 2006 Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum Directory

Please call (303) 239-4100, or 1-800-886-7683 to report any changes or additions to this directory.

### COLORADO AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS

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(303) 644-4110; fax: (303) 646-2654  
www.alpacabreeders.com

Associated Landscape Contractors  
of Colorado  
5290 E. Yale Circle, Suite 100  
Denver, CO 80222  
(303) 757-5611 / (800) 339-2441  
fax: (303) 757-5636 www.alcc.com

Associated Society of Landscape  
Architects-Colorado Chapter  
6456 S Niagara Court  
Centennial, CO 80111  
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5833 www.ccasla.org

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(970) 240-8373; fax: (970) 240-8426

Colorado Aquaculture Association  
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Estes Park, CO 80517  
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www.colaqua.org

Colorado Association of  
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743 Horizon Court, Suite 322  
Grand Junction, CO 81506  
(970) 248-0070; fax: (970) 248-9229  
www.cacd.us

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6456 S Niagara Court  
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(303) 850-7587; fax: (303) 220-5833  
www.lawncarescolorado.org

Colorado Beef Council  
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(303) 830-7892; fax: (303) 830-7896  
www.cobeef.com

Colorado Beekeepers Association  
5945 Road 346  
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(970) 876-5489; fax: (970) 876-5676

Colorado Cattlemen's Association  
8833 Ralston Road  
Arvada, CO 80002  
(303) 431-6422; fax: (303) 431-6446  
http://cca.beef.org

Colorado CattleWomen, Inc.  
P.O. Box 68  
Matheson, CO 80830  
(719) 541-2763; fax: (719) 843-7758  
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Colorado Cooperative Council  
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(970)454-4054; fax: (970) 454-4082

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127 22nd Street  
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Red Feather Lake, CO 80545  
(970) 881-2902; (970) 881-2587

Colorado Elk Breeders Association  
2055 Highway 50  
Penrose, CO 81240  
(719) 238-0104; fax: (719) 372-0418  
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Centennial, CO 80112  
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Livermore, CO 80536  
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www.growingyourfuture.com

Colorado Future Farmers of  
America (FFA) Association  
9101 E Lowry Boulevard  
Denver, CO 80230  
(303) 595-1562; fax (720) 858-3130

Colorado Future Farmers of  
America (FFA) Foundation  
62768 N. Star Drive  
Montrose, CO 81401  
(970) 249-1465

Colorado Hay and Forage  
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PO Box 416, Mead, CO 80542  
(970) 638-4535

Colorado Hereford Association  
5755 County Road 63  
Keensburg, CO 80643  
(303) 732-0423; fax: (303) 732-0856

Colorado Horse Development  
Authority-Rocky Mountain Horse Expo  
420 E 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #145  
Denver, CO 80216  
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www.cohoco.com

Colorado Livestock Association  
822 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 210  
Greeley, CO 80631-3938  
(970) 378-0500; fax: (970) 378-1962  
www.coloradolivestock.org

Colorado Milk Marketing Board  
1776 South Jackson Street, Ste 600  
Denver, CO 80210-3805  
(303) 757-7418; fax: (303) 757-7488

Colorado Nursery & Greenhouse  
Association  
959 S Kipling Pkwy, Suite 200  
Lakewood, CO 80226  
(303) 758-6672; fax: (303) 758-6805  
www.coloradonga.org

Colorado Onion Association  
P.O. Box 1285  
Elizabeth, CO 80107  
(303) 646-8883; fax: (303) 646-8914

Colorado Organic Producers  
Association  
2727 County Road 134  
Hesperus, CO 81326  
(970) 588-2292; fax: (970) 588-2294  
www.organiccolorado.org

Colorado Pork Producers Council  
822 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 210  
Greeley, CO 80631-3938  
(970) 378-0500; fax: (970) 378-1962

Colorado Potato Administrative  
Committee Area II  
PO Box 348  
Monte Vista, CO 81144-0348  
(719) 852-3322; fax: (719) 852-4684  
www.coloradopotato.org

Colorado Potato Administrative  
Committee Area III  
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Greeley, CO 80632-1774  
(970) 304-0861; fax: (970) 352-5231  
www.coloradopotato.org

Colorado Poultry Improvement  
Board  
10720 REA Rd  
Fountain, CO 80817  
donna.jlachey@netzero.com

Colorado Rural Development  
Council  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 500  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 866-5193  
www.ruralcolorado.org

Colorado Seed Growers  
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Colorado State University  
227 Shepardson Building  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1170  
(970) 491-6202; fax: (970) 491-1173

Colorado State Forest Service  
Colorado State University  
Forestry Building  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-5060  
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Association  
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Greeley, CO 80631  
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Colorado Sunflower  
Administrative Committee  
251 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 101  
Burlington, CO 80807  
(719) 346-5571/(303) 646-8883  
fax: (719) 346-5660  
www.sunflowernsa.com

Colorado Sweet Corn  
Administrative Committee  
P.O. Box 1438  
Montrose, CO 81402-1438  
(970) 249-1083

Colorado Veterinary Medical  
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789 Sherman Street, Suite 550  
Denver, CO 80203-3596  
(303) 318-0447; fax: (303) 318-0450  
www.colovma.com

Colorado Weed Management  
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PO Box 1910  
Granby, CO 80446  
(970) 887-1228; fax: (970) 887-1229  
www.cwma.org

Colorado Wheat Administrative  
Committee- Colorado Association  
of Wheat Growers  
7100 S Clinton Street, Suite 120  
Centennial, CO 80112  
(303) 721-3300; fax: (303) 721-7555  
www.wheatworld.org

Colorado Wine Industry  
Development Board  
700 Kipling Street, Suite 4000  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
(303) 239-4114; fax: (303) 239-4125  
www.coloradowine.com

Colorado Wool Growers  
Association- Colorado Sheep and  
Wool Authority  
8833 Ralston Road, Suite 200  
Arvada, CO 80002  
(303) 431-8310; fax: (303) 431-2156  
www.coloradosheep.org

Colorado Young Farmers  
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100 College Drive, Box C129  
Sterling, CO 80751  
(970) 521-6690; fax: (970) 521-6801  
www.coloradoyoungfarmer.com

Garden Centers of Colorado  
6456 S Niagara Court  
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(303) 850-7589; fax: (303) 220-5833  
www.gardencentersofcolorado.org

Green Industries of Colorado  
9367 W Vandeventor Drive  
Littleton CO 80128  
(303) 973-4026; fax: (303) 973-2263  
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International Society of  
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Denver, CO 80234  
(303) 433-4446 / (800) 243-1233 fax:  
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Rocky Mountain Bean Dealers  
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P.O. Box 1285  
Elizabeth, CO 80107  
(303) 646-8883; fax: (303) 646-8914

Rocky Mountain Farmers Union  
5655 S. Yosemite Street, Ste 400  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111  
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(303) 986-3309; fax: (303) 986-3892  
www.rangelands.org

Western Colorado Horticulture  
Society, PO Box 1221  
Palisade, CO 81526-1221  
(970) 241-6407

Western Dairy Farmers' Promotion  
Association  
12000 N Washington St, Ste 200  
Thornton, CO 80241-1926  
(303) 451-7711; fax: (303) 451-0411  
www.wdairyCouncil.com

Wholesale Florists of Colorado  
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www.gelbvieh.com

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www.ancw.org

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American Lamb Board  
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www.lambchef.com

American Society of Farm  
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Denver, CO 80246-2664  
(303) 758-3513; fax: (303) 758-0190  
www.asfmra.org

Dairy Farmers of America  
9775 E 97th Place  
Henderson, CO 80640  
(800) 626-6455; fax: (303) 853-0737  
www.dfamilk.com

National Bison Association  
1400 W. 122 Avenue, Suite 106  
Westminster, CO 80234  
(303) 292-2833; fax: (303) 292-2564  
www.bisoncentral.com

National Cattlemen's Beef Assn  
9110 E Nichols Avenue, #300  
Centennial, CO 80112  
(303) 694-0305; fax: (303) 694-2851  
www.beef.org

National Farmers Union  
5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 300  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111-3136  
(303) 337-5500; fax: (303) 771-1770  
www.nfu.org

National Honey Board  
390 Lashley St.  
Longmont, CO 80501-6045  
(303) 776-2337; (800) 553-7162  
fax: (303) 776-1177  
www.nhb.org

National Livestock Producers Assn  
660 Southpointe Court, Suite 314  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
(719) 538-8843; (800) 237-7193  
fax: (719) 538-8847  
www.nlpa.org

National Onion Association  
822 7th Street, Suite 510  
Greeley, CO 80631  
(970) 353-5895; fax: (970) 353-5897  
www.onions-usa.org

National Potato Promotion Board  
7555 East Hampden Ave, Ste 412  
Denver, CO 80231  
(303) 873-2331; fax: (303) 369-7718  
www.potatohelp.com  
www.uspotatoes.com

National Western Stock Show,  
Rodeo & Horse Show  
4655 Humboldt Street  
Denver, CO 80216  
(303) 297-1166; fax: (303) 292-1708  
www.nationalwestern.com

Wheat Food Council  
10841 S. Crossroads Dr., Suite 105  
Parker, CO 80134  
(303) 840-8787  
www.wheatfoods.org

U.S. Meat Export Federation  
1050 17th Street, Suite 2200  
Denver, CO 80265  
(303) 623-6328; fax: (303) 623-0297  
www.usmef.org

#### CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Agate  
PO Box 215, Simla, CO 80835  
(719) 541-2359; fax (719) 541-3061

Baca County  
PO Box 398, Springfield, CO 81073  
(719) 523-6251; fax (719) 523-6263

Bent  
760 Bent Avenue, Las Animas, CO 81054  
(719) 456-0120; fax (719) 456-2717

Big Thompson  
PO Box 154, LaPorte, CO 80535  
(970) 493-1638; fax (970) 493-1638

Bookcliff  
PO Box 1302, Glenwood Sprgs, CO 81602  
(970) 945-5494; fax (970) 945-0837

Boulder Valley  
9595 Nelson Rd. Box D  
Longmont, CO 80501  
(303) 776-4034; fax (303) 684-9893

Branson/Trinchera  
3590 E. Main St., Trinidad, CO 81082  
(719) 846-3681; fax (719) 846-0525

Burlington  
138 South 14th St., Burlington, CO 80807  
(719) 346-7699; fax (719) 346-5179

Centennial  
621 Iris Dr., Sterling, CO 80751  
(970) 522-7440; fax (970) 886-2261

Center,  
PO Box 424, Center, CO 81125  
(719) 754-3400; fax (719) 754-3109

Central Colorado  
16995 Old Pueblo Rd., Fountain,  
CO 80817  
(719) 382-8041; fax (719) 382-8041

Cheyenne  
PO 850, Cheyenne Wells, CO 80810  
(719) 767-5648; fax (719) 767-5140

Colorado First  
356 Ranney St., Craig, CO 81625  
(970) 824-3476; fax (970) 824-7055

Conejos County  
PO Box 255, La Jara, CO 81140  
(719) 274-4311; fax (719) 274-4312

Cope  
2862 WA CR LL, Flagler, CO 80815  
(970) 383-2324; fax (970) 383-2324

Costilla  
PO Box 345, San Luis, CO 81152  
(719) 672-3673; fax (719) 379-3491

Custer County - Divide  
PO Box 756, Westcliffe, CO 81252  
(719) 783-9782; fax (719) 783-9528

Debeque - Plateau Valley  
2738 Crossroads Blvd, # 102  
Grand Jct, CO 81506  
(970) 242-4511; fax (970) 242-8469

Deer Trail  
133 West Bijou Ave, Byers, CO 80103  
(303) 822-5257; fax (303) 822-9542

Delta  
690 Industrial Blvd, Delta, CO 81416  
(970) 874-5735; fax (970) 874-0407

Dolores  
628 W 5th St., Cortez, CO 81321  
(970) 565-9045; fax (979) 565-8797

Double El  
PO Box 215, Simla, CO 80835  
(719) 541-2359; fax (719) 541-3061

Douglas County  
PO 88, Franktown, CO 80116  
(303) 688-3042; fax (303) 660-3838

Douglas Creek  
PO Box 837, Meeker, CO 81641  
(970) 878-5628; fax (970) 878-3730

Dove Creek  
PO Box 10, Dove Creek, CO 81324  
(970) 677-2463; fax (970) 677-2453

Eagle County  
PO Box 2168, Eagle, CO 81631  
(970) 945-5494, fax (970) 945-0837

East Adams  
133 West Bijou Ave, Byers, CO 80103  
(303) 822-5257; fax (303) 822-9542

East Otero  
200 S. 10th St, Rocky Ford, CO 81067  
(719) 254-7672; fax (719) 254-4541

El Paso County  
1826 E Platte Ave., Ste 114  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909  
(719) 632-9598

Flager  
PO Box 447, Flagler, CO 80815  
(719) 765-4676; fax (719) 765-4370

Fort Collins  
1415 N College Ave., Ste 3  
Ft. Collins, CO 80524  
(970) 221-0611; fax (970) 221-0611

Fremont  
248 Dozier Ave, Canon City, CO 81212  
(719) 275-4465; fax (719) 275-3019

Gunnison  
216 N Colorado, Gunnison, CO 81230  
(970) 642-4461; fax (970) 642-4425

Haxtun  
1280 SW Interoccean Dr  
Holyoke, CO 80734  
(970) 854-2812; fax (970) 854-2854

High Plains  
PO Box 127, Hugo, CO 80821  
(719) 743-2408; fax (719) 743-2501

Jefferson  
655 Parfet St. Rm E-300  
Lakewood, CO 80215-5517  
(720) 544-2870; fax (720) 544-2964

Kiowa  
PO 688, Franktown, CO 80116  
(303) 621-2070; fax (303) 660-3838

Kiowa County  
PO Box 845, Eads, CO 81036-0845  
(719) 438-5414; fax (719) 438-5410

La Plata  
PO Box 623, Durango, CO 81302  
(970) 259-1057

Lake County  
134 CR 44, Leadville, CO 80461  
(719) 486-1869

Longmont  
9595 Nelson Rd Box D  
Longmont, CO 80501  
(303) 776-4034; fax (303) 684-9893

Mancos  
PO Box 308, Mancos, CO 81328  
(970) 533-7317; fax (970) 533-7317

Mesa  
2738 Crossroads Blvd #102  
Grand Jct, CO 81506  
(970) 242-4511; fax (970) 242-8469

Middle Park  
PO Box 265, Kremmling, CO 80459  
(970) 724-3456; fax (970) 724-0807

Morgan  
200 W Railroad Ave, Ft Morgan, CO 80701  
(970) 867-9659; fax (970) 867-9410

Mosca - Hooper  
PO Box 1238, Alamosa, CO 81101  
(719) 589-6432; fax (719) 378-2980

Mount Sopris  
PO 1302, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602  
(970) 945-5494; fax (970) 945-0837

North Park  
PO Box 1136, Walden, CO 80480  
(970) 723-8204; fax (970) 723-4709

Northeast Prowers  
PO Box 535, Holly, CO 81047  
(719) 537-6506; fax (719) 537-6625

Olney - Boone  
200 S 10th St, Rocky Ford, CO 81067  
(719) 254-7672; fax (719) 263-4317

Pine River  
31 Suttle St, Durango, CO 81303  
(970) 259-3289; fax (970) 884-2498

Platte Valley  
840 Broadway, Fort Lupton, CO  
80621-2125, fax (303) 857-6721

Prairie  
PO Box 127, Hugo, CO 80821  
(719) 743-2408; fax (719) 743-2501

Prowers  
3503 S Main, Lamar, CO 81052  
(719) 336-3437; fax (719) 336-2210

Rio Grande  
PO Box 801  
Monte Vista, CO 81144  
(719) 852-5114; fax (719) 754-3109

Routt County  
1475 Pine Grove Rd, # 201A  
Steamboat Spgs, CO 80487  
(970) 879-3225; fax (970) 879-2517

San Juan  
505A CR 600, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
(970) 731-3615; fax (970) 731-1570

San Miguel Basin  
PO Box 102, Norwood, CO 81423  
(970) 327-4642; fax (970) 327-4090

Sedgwick County  
210 Elm, St. Julesburg, CO 80737  
(970) 474-2518; fax (970) 474-4918

Shavano  
102 Par Place, Montrose, CO 81401  
(970) 249-8407; fax (970) 249-5718

South Platte  
621 Iris Dr, Sterling, CO 80751  
(970) 522-7440; fax (970) 886-2713

South Pueblo County  
1626 Hwy 50, West Pueblo, CO 81008  
(719) 543-8386; fax (719) 566-0395

South Side  
PO Box 1302  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602  
(970) 945-5494; fax (970) 945-0837

Southeast Weld  
57 W Bromley Ln, Brighton, CO 80601  
(303) 659-7004; fax (303) 849-5272;

Spanish Peaks Purgatoire River  
3590 E. Main St, Trinidad, CO 81082  
(719) 846-3681; fax (719) 846-0525

Teller - Park  
800 Research Drive, Ste. 100  
Woodland Park, CO 80863  
(719) 686-9405; fax (719) 686-9403

Turkey Creek  
1626 Hwy 50, W. Pueblo, CO 81008  
(719) 543-8386; fax (719) 543-3914

Upper Arkansas  
325 W Rainbow Blvd, Salida, CO 81201  
(719) 539-7331; fax (719) 539-3593

Upper Huerfano  
711 Walsen Ave., #A  
Walsenburg, CO 81089-2476  
(719) 738-1171; fax (719) 738-4873



Washington County  
PO Box U, Akron, CO 80720  
(970) 345-2006; fax (970) 345-6610

West Adams  
224 S 14th Ave, Brighton, CO 80601  
(303) 659-3118; fax (303) 655-2080

West Arapahoe  
21901 E Hampden Ave, Aurora, CO 80013  
(303) 693-3621; fax (303) 617-0032

West Greeley  
4302 W 9th St Rd, Greeley, CO 80634  
(970) 356-8097; fax (970) 351-0392

West Otero Timpas  
PO Box 408, La Junta, CO 81050  
(719) 384-5878; fax (719) 383-2122

White River  
PO Box 837, Meeker, CO 81641  
(970) 878-5628; fax (970) 878-3730

Yuma  
PO Box 116, Yuma, CO 80759  
(970) 848-5605; fax (970) 848-5613

Yuma County  
247 N Clay St Ste 1, Wray, CO 80758  
(970) 332-3107; fax (970) 332-4425

#### GOVERNMENT

**Governor Bill Owens**  
136 State Capitol  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 866-2471; fax: (303) 866-2003  
[www.colorado.gov](http://www.colorado.gov)

**Office of Economic Development  
& International Trade**  
1625 Broadway, Suite 1700  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 892-3840; fax: (303) 892-3848  
[www.state.co.us/oed](http://www.state.co.us/oed)

**Office of Energy Management and  
Conservation**  
225 E 16th Avenue, Suite 650  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 866-2100 / (800) 632-6662  
fax: (303) 866-2930  
[www.state.co.us/oemc](http://www.state.co.us/oemc)

**Governor's Advocate Office**  
127 State Capitol  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 866-2885 / (800) 283-7215  
fax: (303) 866-6326  
[www.state.co.us/govsadvocateoffice](http://www.state.co.us/govsadvocateoffice)

**Department of Agriculture**  
700 Kipling Street, Suite 4000  
Lakewood, CO 80215-8000  
(303) 239-4100 / (800) 886-7683  
fax: (303) 239-4125  
[www.ag.state.co.us](http://www.ag.state.co.us)

**Animal Industry Division**  
(303) 239-4161; fax: (303) 239-4164

**Brand Inspection Division**  
4701 Marion Street, Suite 201  
Denver, CO 80216  
(303) 294-0895; fax: (303) 294-0918

**Colorado State Fair**  
1001 Beulah Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004  
(719) 561-8484; (800) 876-456

**Conservation Services Division**  
(303) 239-4112; fax: (303) 239-4125

**Inspection & Consumer Serv. Div.**  
2331 W 31<sup>st</sup> Ave, Denver, CO 80211  
(303) 477-0076; fax: (303) 480-9236

**Markets Division**  
(303) 239-4114; fax: (303) 239-4125

**Plant Industry Division**  
(303) 239-4140; fax: (303) 239-4177

**Department of Natural Resources**  
1313 Sherman Street, Suite 718  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 866-3311 / (800) 536-5308  
fax: (303) 866-2115

**Colorado State Parks**  
(303) 866-3437

**Division of Minerals & Geology**  
(303) 866-3567; fax: (303) 832-8106

**Division of Water Resources**  
(303) 866-3581; fax: (303) 866-3589

**Division of Wildlife**  
6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216  
(303) 297-1192

**State Land Board**  
(303) 866-3454; fax: (303) 866-3152

**Water Conservation Board**  
(303) 866-3441

**Dept. of Public Health & Environ.**  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, CO 80246

(303) 692-2000/(800) 886-7689  
**Air Pollution Control Division**  
(303) 692-3100

**Environmental Sustainability  
Program**, (303) 692-3269

**Water Quality Control Division**  
(303) 692-3500

**Great Outdoors Colorado**  
1600 Broadway, Suite 1650  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 863-7522; fax: (303) 863-7517

[www.goco.org](http://www.goco.org)

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

**Federal Information Center**  
(800) 688-9889

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**  
655 Parfet Street  
Lakewood, CO 80215

**Agricultural Statistics Service**  
(303) 236-2300  
[www.nass.usda.gov/co](http://www.nass.usda.gov/co)

**Animal & Plant Health Inspection  
Service (APHIS)**  
Plant Protection & Quarantine  
3950 Lewiston Road  
Aurora, CO 80011  
(303) 371-3355

**Animal & Plant Health Inspection  
Service (APHIS)**  
Veterinary Services  
755 Parfet Street, Suite 136  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
(303) 231-5385

**Farm Service Agency**  
(720) 544-2876, [www.fsa.usda.gov/co](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/co)

**Food & Nutrition Services**  
665 Broadway, Suite B  
Denver, CO 80303  
(303) 497-5411; (303) 497-7306

**Natural Resources Conservation  
Service**  
(720) 544-2810  
[www.co.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov)

**Packers and Stockers  
Administration**  
8950 Lewiston, Suite 200  
Aurora, CO 80011-1550  
(303) 375-4240

**Rural Development**  
(720) 544-2903  
[www.rurdev.usda.gov/co](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/co)  
**U.S. Forest Service/Regional Office**  
740 Simms Street, Golden, CO 80401  
(303) 275-5350, fax: (303) 275-5327

**U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. Export Assistance Center**  
1625 Broadway, Suite 680  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 844-6622, ext. 18

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management –  
State Office**  
2850 Youngfield Street  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
(303) 239-3600; fax: (303) 239-3933  
[www.co.blm.gov](http://www.co.blm.gov)

**National Park Service**  
12795 W Alameda Parkway  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
(303) 969-2000  
**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**  
134 Union Boulevard, Suite 670  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
(303) 236-4773  
[www.mountain-prairie.fws.gov/co](http://www.mountain-prairie.fws.gov/co)

**U.S. Geological Survey**  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 715  
Denver Federal Center  
Lakewood, CO 80203  
(303) 866-2611

**U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency (EPA) -Region 8 Office**  
999 18th Street, Suite 200  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 312-6312; (800) 227-8917  
[www.epa.gov/region8](http://www.epa.gov/region8)

**The White House**  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500  
Comments: (202) 456-1111  
Switchboard: (202) 456-1414  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

### COLORADO CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES

**Congressman Bob Beauprez**  
504 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2645; fax: (202) 225-5278  
[www.house.gov/beauprez](http://www.house.gov/beauprez)  
Aurora (303) 369-4727  
Wheatridge (303) 940-5821

**Congresswoman Diana DeGette**  
1527 Longworth House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4431; fax: (202) 225-5657  
[www.house.gov/degette](http://www.house.gov/degette)  
Denver (303) 844-4988

**Congressman Joel Hefley**  
2372 Rayburn House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4422; fax: (202) 225-1942  
[www.house.gov/hefley](http://www.house.gov/hefley)  
Colorado Springs (719) 520-0055

**Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave**  
1507 Longworth House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4676; fax: (202) 225-5870  
[www.house.gov/musgrave](http://www.house.gov/musgrave)  
Greeley (970) 352-4037  
Las Animas (719) 456-0925  
Longmont (720) 494-4336  
Loveland (970) 663-3536  
Sterling (970) 522-1788

**Congressman Tom Tancredo**  
1130 Longworth House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-7882; fax: (202) 226-4623  
[www.house.gov/tancredo](http://www.house.gov/tancredo)  
Castle Rock (303) 688-3430  
Centennial (720) 283-9772  
Littleton (720) 283-7575

**Congressman John T. Salazar**  
1531 Longworth House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4761; fax: (202) 226-9669  
[www.house.gov/salazar](http://www.house.gov/salazar)  
Alamosa (719) 587-5105  
Durango (970) 375-3264  
Grand Junction (970) 245-7107  
Pueblo (719) 543-8200

**Congressman Mark Udall**  
240 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2161, fax: (202) 226-7840  
[www.house.gov/markudall](http://www.house.gov/markudall)  
Minturn (970) 827-4154  
Westminster (303) 650-7820

**Senator Wayne Allard**  
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-5941; fax: (202) 224-6471  
[www.allard.senate.gov](http://www.allard.senate.gov)  
Colorado Springs (719) 634-6071  
Durango (970) 375-6311  
Englewood (303) 220-7414  
Grand Junction (970) 245-9553  
Loveland (970) 461-3530  
Pueblo (719) 545-9751

**Senator Ken Salazar**  
702 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 244-5852, fax: (202) 228-5036  
[www.salazar.senate.gov](http://www.salazar.senate.gov)  
Alamosa (719) 587-0096  
Colorado Springs (719) 328-1100  
Denver (303) 455-7600/866-455-9866  
Durango (970) 259-1710  
Fort Collins/Greeley (970) 224-2200  
Fort Morgan (970) 542-9446  
Grand Junction (970) 241-6631  
Pueblo (719) 542-7550

### FARM/RANCH MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE

**Aims Community College**  
Greeley, (970) 330-8008 ext. 6208  
(800) 301-5388

**Colorado Comm. College System**  
9101 East Lowry Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80230, (303) 620-4000

**Colorado Northwestern  
Community College**  
Rangely, (970) 675-3209  
(800) 562-1105  
Craig  
(970) 824-1105

Colo. State University Department  
of Agricultural and Resource  
Economics  
(970) 491-6955

Delta-Montrose Area Vocational  
Technical Center  
Delta (970) 874-7671

Lamar Community College  
(719) 336-2248

Mesa College  
Grand Junction  
(970) 248-1020 / (800) 982-6372  
Montrose Center  
(970) 249-7009

Morgan Community College  
Fort Morgan  
(970) 542-3100 / (800) 622-0216

Northeastern Jr. College  
Sterling  
(970) 521-6600 / (800) 626-4637

Otero Jr. College  
La Junta  
(719) 384-6831

Pueblo Community College  
(719) 549-3200

San Juan Basin Technical School  
and Pueblo Community College  
Cortez (970) 565-8457  
Durango (970) 385-4267

Trinidad State Jr. College  
(719) 846-5011 / (800) 621-8752  
Valley Campus  
(719) 589-7000 / (800) 411-8382

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
Fort Collins, CO 80523  
Information: (970) 491-1101  
[www.colostate.edu](http://www.colostate.edu)

Agricultural Experiment Station  
(and Research Centers)  
(970) 491-5371

Research Centers:  
ARDEC (Agricultural Research,  
Development and Education

Center), Fort Collins  
(970) 491-2405  
Arkansas Valley, Rocky Ford  
(719) 254-6312  
Eastern Colorado, Akron  
(970) 345-6402  
Plainsman, Walsh (970) 324-5643  
San Juan Basin, Hesperus  
(970) 385-4574  
San Luis Valley, Center  
(970) 754-3594  
Southwestern Colorado  
Yellow Jacket (970) 562-4255  
Western Colorado (3 locations):  
Fruita (970) 858-3629  
Orchard Mesa (970) 434-3264  
Rogers Mesa (970) 872-3387

College of Agricultural Sciences  
(970) 491-6274

Colorado Agricultural & Rural  
Leadership Program  
(970) 491-2246

Colorado State Forester  
(970) 491-6303

Colorado Water Resources  
Research Institute  
(970) 491-6308

Cooperative Extension  
(970) 491-6281  
(County Offices listed opposite  
page)

Food Safety Specialist  
(970) 491-7334

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
OFFICES

Adams County  
Brighton (303) 637-8100  
Alamosa County  
San Luis Valley Area Office  
Monte Vista (719) 853-7381  
Arapahoe County  
Littleton (303) 730-1920  
Archuleta County  
Pagosa Springs (970) 264-5931  
Baca County  
Springfield (719) 523-6971  
Bent County  
Las Animas (719) 456-0764  
Boulder County  
Longmont (303) 678-6238  
Broomfield County  
Broomfield (720) 887-2286  
Chaffee County  
Salida (719) 539-6447  
Cheyenne County  
Cheyenne Wells (719) 767-5716  
Conejos County  
San Luis Valley Area  
La Jara (719) 274-5200  
Costilla County  
San Luis Valley Area Office  
(719) 853-7381  
Crowley County  
Ordway (719) 267-4741 ext. 7  
Custer County  
Westcliffe (719) 783-2514  
Delta County  
Delta (970) 874-2195  
Denver County  
Denver (720) 913-5270  
Dolores County  
Dove Creek (970) 677-2283  
Douglas County  
Castle Rock (720) 733-6930  
Eagle County  
Eagle (970) 328-8630  
Elbert County  
Simla (719) 541-2361  
Kiowa Branch (303) 621-3162  
El Paso County  
Colorado Springs (719) 636-8920  
Fremont County  
Canon City (719) 276-7390  
Garfield County  
Rifle (970) 625-3969  
Gilpin County  
Golden (303) 582-9106  
Grand County  
Kremmling (970) 724-3436  
Gunnison County  
Gunnison (970) 641-1260

Huerfano County  
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## **Colorado Agricultural and Rural Leadership (CARL) Program**

Agriculture must develop leaders capable of communicating the issues of agriculture to the greater population and at the same time, be insightful and forward thinking leaders within their own industries. The Colorado Agricultural and Rural Leadership program is a two year, interactive travel/study program dedicated to producing graduates with the vision and commitment to lead change and ensure the sustainability of Colorado's agricultural economies and rural communities. CARL program graduates hold a growing number of positions of major responsibility at local, state and national levels.

Assistance and encouragement to new participants will be provided by alumni of former participants of the CARL program, the Colorado Department of Agriculture and several farm, ranch, and agricultural organizations and agencies. For more information on the program, contact Dr. Jim Heird, CARL director and associate dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at (970) 491-6274, or see: <http://www.agsci.colostate.edu/carl/>

## **Colorado Agricultural Leadership Associates**

Colorado Agricultural Leadership Associates is a private, non-profit organization formed to promote unity and cooperation among the Colorado Agricultural Leadership program graduates, Colorado Agricultural and Rural Leadership Program graduates, and other agricultural leadership programs. The purpose of the organization is to:

- Promote and initiate continuing education programs for members on issues of importance to Colorado's agricultural industry;
- Work on programs that enhance the general public's understanding of Colorado's agricultural industry;
- Promote and encourage members on a nonpartisan, non-discriminatory basis to attain leadership positions of importance to Colorado agriculture and rural communities.

Associate members have been instrumental in establishing the Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum and Colorado-Russia Agricultural Group, and conducting community outreach meetings throughout Colorado. Contact Nelson Martin, 6532 WCR 50 Johnstown, CO 80534, 800-333-7929, or, [nmartin@ranch-way.com](mailto:nmartin@ranch-way.com), for more information.

## **2006 Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum Organization**

The Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum (CAOF) reorganized after the 2004 Forum, and is now working to establish Colorado Non-Profit organization with 501(c)(3) status. The operation of the CAOF is directed by a nine-member board of trustees with three members each representing the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension, and the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Associates - the three organizations behind the concept of the CAOF. The board of trustees solicits and receives important advice and recommendations about the focus, content and speakers for each forum from a steering committee of representatives of the primary state agricultural organizations and commodity groups. The steering committee also provides invaluable assistance in the actual presentation of the forum each year.

### **Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum Board of Trustees**

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## Colorado State University Cooperative Extension

Congress authorized Cooperative Extension in each state in 1914 and since then, Cooperative Extension has been in the education and information business. Cooperative Extension provides the link between the university and the citizens of each state. Cooperative Extension makes the research, information and expertise, provided by our country's land-grant universities, available to the people and helps them use this information to solve problems and improve quality of life.

Agriculture and natural resources, consumer and family education, and 4-H youth-development faculty in our counties are all part of Cooperative Extension's efforts to bring the latest information to the people of Colorado.

Colorado State University Cooperative Extension makes the entire state our campus and its residents our students. Our system of county offices puts Cooperative Extension resources within easy reach of Colorado's 64 counties.

In an age of information, rapidly changing technology and access to information, Cooperative Extension offers a rare commodity; information you can trust. If Coloradans are looking for straightforward, research-based, usable information on agriculture and natural resources; 4-H youth development; consumer and family issues; or community development, then their first stop should be the Cooperative Extension office in their county.



Colorado State University Cooperative Extension helps Colorado improve the quality of life for its families and communities.

Administration (970) 491-6281; [www.ext.colostate.edu](http://www.ext.colostate.edu)

For Extension publications call: The Cooperative Extension Resource Center (970) 491-6198

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## Colorado Department of Agriculture

With 30,000 farms and ranches across the state, Colorado agriculture helps feed the nation and the world, provides wildlife habitat, protects the environment and fuels the state economy. Our agricultural industry- including inputs, production, processing, and marketing- generates more than 105,000 jobs, which is 4.4 percent of the state's total, and contributes nearly \$16 billion to Colorado's economy each year. With our largest markets in Mexico, Japan, Canada and Korea, Colorado farmers and ranchers exported Colorado food products valued at \$933 million in 2002. This figure is expected to exceed \$1 billion in 2004.

The mission of the Colorado Department of Agriculture is to strengthen agriculture's future by providing consumer protection, promoting environmental quality and animal health, and ensuring equity and integrity in business and government.

The Department of Agriculture was created as an agency of state government in 1949, although its historical roots date back to before the turn of the century. More than 260 employees perform a wide array of services for consumers, farmers and ranchers throughout the state. Under the direction of Commissioner Don Ament, the Colorado Department of Agriculture is proud to serve Colorado citizens through our divisions: Animal Industry, Livestock Inspection, Inspection and Consumer Services, Markets, Plant Industry, Conservation Services, and State Fair.



Colorado Department of Agriculture, (303) 239-4100

Public Information: (303) 239-4190

E-mail: [comments@ag.state.co.us](mailto:comments@ag.state.co.us); [www.ag.state.co.us](http://www.ag.state.co.us)

# Thank you!

The *Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension and Colorado Agricultural Leadership Associates*, sponsors of the 2006 Colorado Agricultural Outlook Forum, gratefully acknowledge the support of the following firms, associations and agencies that help make this event possible.

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