

U.S. Animal Feed Consumption Study

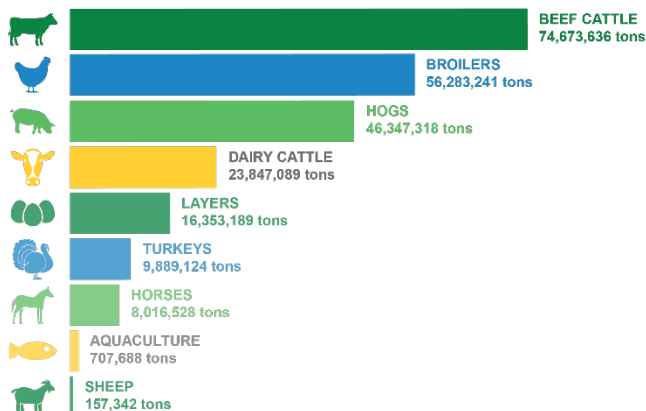


Institute for Feed Education & Research

About

For more than 10 years, the American Feed Industry Association has used the U.S. Department of Agriculture's animal production numbers and average feed conversion ratios to estimate the amount of animal feed consumed in the United States. Unfortunately, this simple method of calculating the industry's annual production excluded some data, including variations in diets due to the life stages of animals, producers' regional feeding practices and on farm-feed production, such as hay and forages. The Institute for Feed Education and Research saw a need to conduct a more thorough analysis of the total feed produced and consumed in the U.S. to more accurately capture the industry's total annual production.

Results

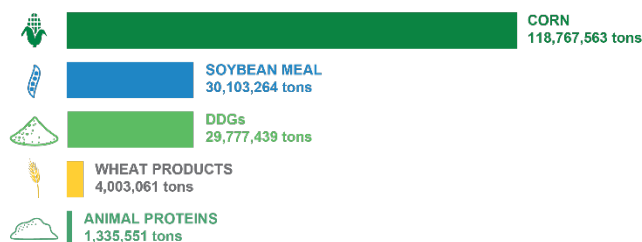


In 2016, over 236 million tons of animal food were consumed by nine animal species.

Using input from industry and university experts, the IFEEDER contracted with Decision Innovation Services to conduct an analysis that included variances in the top nine animal species' diets by life stage and geographic location. The study found that in 2016, approximately 236.3 million tons of animal food were fed to U.S. livestock and poultry, including: 74.7 million tons to cattle on feed; 56.3 million tons to broilers; and 46.3 million tons to hogs, the top three animal consumers. Corn, the most abundantly produced crop in the United States, made up slightly more than half of the total amount of animal food consumed, but when combined with soybean meal and dried distiller's grains (DDGs), represented more than 75% of all feed tonnage provided in 2016.

Not only did the data provide the first breakdown of animal diets by region, it also showed how important major agricultural commodities, coproducts (e.g., soybean oil, DDGs or bakery meal) and other ingredients (e.g., enzymes, vitamins and minerals) are in supporting animal agriculture.

TOP 5 FEED INGREDIENTS



Impact

The IFEEDER report provides accurate data to capture the total volume and value of the ingredients used in feed. It demonstrates the industry's importance and value in supporting farmers and highlights the importance that producing safe and nutritious ingredients for use in feed has in supporting the overall vibrance of the animal agriculture sector.

The report has allowed the AFIA to better represent its members and provide more accurate information for policy-makers developing state and federal legislative policies and regulations. This information has been useful in discussions on such issues as international trade agreements and trade barriers, regulatory implementation, mitigating animal disease risks and international standard setting. It has been used in communications to news media and consumer audiences explaining animal nutrition. Several allied associations and state feed and grain associations have also used the data to better inform their advocacy campaigns.