

Agricultural Prices



**National
Agricultural
Statistical
Service**

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

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Prices Received Index Up 2 Points in March

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in March was 108 based on 1990-92=100, up 2 points (1.9 percent) from February. Price gains from February for corn, lettuce, tomatoes, and hogs more than offset price declines for broilers, cattle, and several fruit commodities. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level. However, these changes were essentially offsetting in March.

Compared with March 1995, the All Farm Products Index was 9 points (9.1 percent) higher. Price increases from March 1995 for corn, hogs, soybeans, and wheat more than offset price decreases for cattle, calves, and several vegetables.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates, at 113 of its 1990-92 average, was unchanged from February 1996 but up 5 points (4.6 percent) from March 1995. Since February, price increases for fertilizer and feed were offset by lower feeder cattle and fuel prices.

Index Summary Table

| Index 1990-92=100 | 1995 | | 1996 | |
|---------------------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| | Feb | Mar | Feb | Mar |
| Prices Received | 97 | 99 | 106 | 108 |
| Prices Paid ^{1/} | 108 | 108 | 113 | 113 |
| Ratio ^{2/} | 90 | 92 | 94 | 96 |

^{1/} Prices paid indexes (1990-92=100) published monthly beginning January 1996. Indexes for 1995 were constructed for historical comparison.

^{2/} Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

Prices Received by Farmers

The March All Farm Products Index was 108 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 1.9 percent from February and 9.1 percent above March 1995.

All Crops: The March index was 127, up 4.1 percent from February and 19 percent from March 1995. Price gains from February for corn and commercial vegetables more than offset declines for fruits and cotton.

Commercial Vegetables: The March index of 133 was 43 percent above February but 9.5 percent below last year. Higher prices for most vegetables, except onions, combined to move the index up significantly. Contributing most to the monthly increase were higher tomato and lettuce prices, reflecting short term reductions in supplies. Ample supplies of onions, along with unsteady demand, moved prices lower.

Feed Grains & Hay: The March index was 147, up 4.3 percent from the previous month and 44 percent from March 1995. Prices were higher for all feed grains and hay, except barley. The March corn price averaged \$3.54 per bushel and the sorghum price averaged \$6.36 per cwt, both record highs. Strong export demand continues to support prices, along with lower projected global coarse grain stocks.

Oil-Bearing Crops: The index was 124, down 0.8 percent from February, but up 27 percent from one year ago. Soybean prices declined four cents to \$6.97 per bushel on reduced export prospects. Also, the global production projection of oilseeds was raised one percent from last month due to increases in China and India.

Cotton: The March index was 124, down 1.6 percent from February and 8.8 percent from March 1995. The March cotton price, at 75.1 cents per pound, was down 1.4 cents from February and 7.5 cents from March a year ago. Marketings during the first two weeks of March were down from the same period a year ago as cotton mill consumption continues to be below year earlier levels.

Potatoes & Dry Beans: The March index, at 131, was 14 percent above February and 36 percent above last year. The March potato price increased \$1.07 from February to \$7.88 per cwt, and was \$2.49 above last year. Increased seasonal marketings of winter potatoes pushed the March price higher. Dry bean prices increased 70 cents to \$20.50 per cwt.

Livestock & Products: The March index, at 94, was 1.1 percent above both February 1996 and March 1995. Hog prices were up from February, while cattle and broiler prices were down.

Meat Animals: The March meat animal index, at 83, was up 1.2 percent from February 1996, but down 6.7 percent from March a year ago. Higher prices in March for hogs more than offset lower prices for beef cattle. March hog prices, at \$48.40 per cwt, were up \$2.00 from a month earlier and \$10.60 above the previous year. Strong export sales for pork continue to hold prices above year earlier levels. Beef cattle prices, at \$57.20 per cwt, were down 70 cents from February and \$9.70 from March 1995. Calf prices, at \$58.80 per cwt, were down only 20 cents from February, but were \$25.60 below March 1995. Beef production during the first quarter of 1996 was up 8 percent from a year earlier.

Dairy Products: The March index was 106, unchanged from February, but 9.3 percent above last year. The March milk price was steady, at \$13.80 per cwt, reflecting strong demand and tight manufactured product holdings.

Index Numbers of Prices Received by Farmers, United States, March 1996,
with Comparisons

| Index | 1910-14=100 | | | | 1990-92=100 1/ | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|------|-------|------|----------------|------|------|
| | 1995 | | 1996 | | 1995 | | 1996 |
| | Average: | Mar | Feb | Mar | Mar | Feb | Mar |
| All Farm Products | 639 | 628 | *672 | 687 | 99 | 106 | 108 |
| All Crops | 500 | 526 | *600 | 625 | 107 | *122 | 127 |
| Food Grains | 325 | 360 | *504 | 502 | 113 | *159 | 158 |
| Feed Grains & Hay | 363 | 364 | *504 | 526 | 102 | *141 | 147 |
| Cotton | 517 | 698 | *647 | 635 | 136 | *126 | 124 |
| Tobacco | 1263 | 1491 | *1757 | 1513 | 99 | *116 | 100 |
| Oil-Bearing Crops | 554 | 539 | *683 | 680 | 98 | *125 | 124 |
| Fruit & Nuts | 716 | 518 | *688 | 683 | 74 | *99 | 98 |
| Commercial Vegetables | 698 | 983 | *621 | 888 | 147 | *93 | 133 |
| Potatoes & Dry Beans | 540 | 484 | *581 | 663 | 96 | *115 | 131 |
| Other Crops | 493 | 525 | 532 | 532 | 106 | 108 | 108 |
| Livestock & Products | 768 | 713 | 716 | 720 | 93 | 93 | 94 |
| Meat Animals | 1021 | 902 | 838 | 843 | 89 | 82 | 83 |
| Dairy Products | 799 | 780 | 848 | 848 | 97 | 106 | 106 |
| Poultry & Eggs | 282 | 284 | 319 | 314 | 101 | 113 | 112 |
| Food Commodities | | | | | 97 | 100 | 103 |

* Revised.

1/ 1990-92=100 reference replaced 1977=100 in January 1995.

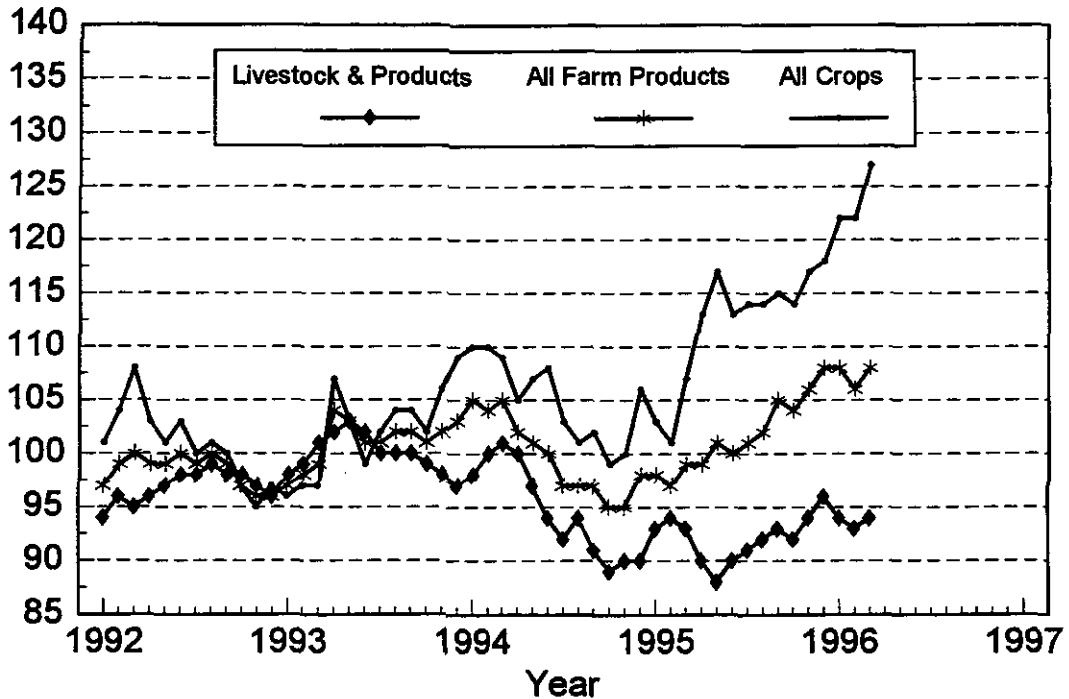
Selected Index Numbers for Prices Received and Paid by Farmers,
1990-92=100, by Months, United States, 1995 and 1996

| Month | Index of Prices Received | | | | Index of Prices Paid | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-------|----------|-------|----------------------|----------|-------|-------|------------|-------|
| | All Farm | | All | | Livestock | | All | | Production | |
| | Products | Crops | Products | Crops | and | Products | Items | Items | Items | Items |
| | 1995 | 1996 | 1995 | 1996 | 1995 | 1996 | 1995 | 1996 | 1995 | 1996 |
| Jan | 98 | 108 | 103 | 122 | 93 | 94 | 108 | 112 | 107 | 112 |
| Feb | 97 | 106 | 101 | 122 | 94 | 93 | 108 | 113 | 107 | 113 |
| Mar | 99 | 108 | 107 | 127 | 93 | 94 | 108 | 113 | *106 | 113 |
| Apr | 99 | | 113 | | 90 | | 108 | | 107 | |
| May | 101 | | 117 | | 88 | | 108 | | 107 | |
| Jun | 100 | | 113 | | 90 | | 108 | | 107 | |
| Jul | 101 | | 114 | | 91 | | 108 | | 107 | |
| Aug | 102 | | 114 | | 92 | | 108 | | 107 | |
| Sep | 105 | | 115 | | 93 | | 108 | | 107 | |
| Oct | 104 | | 114 | | 92 | | 111 | | 110 | |
| Nov | 106 | | 117 | | 94 | | 111 | | 110 | |
| Dec | 108 | | 118 | | 96 | | 111 | | 110 | |

* Revised.

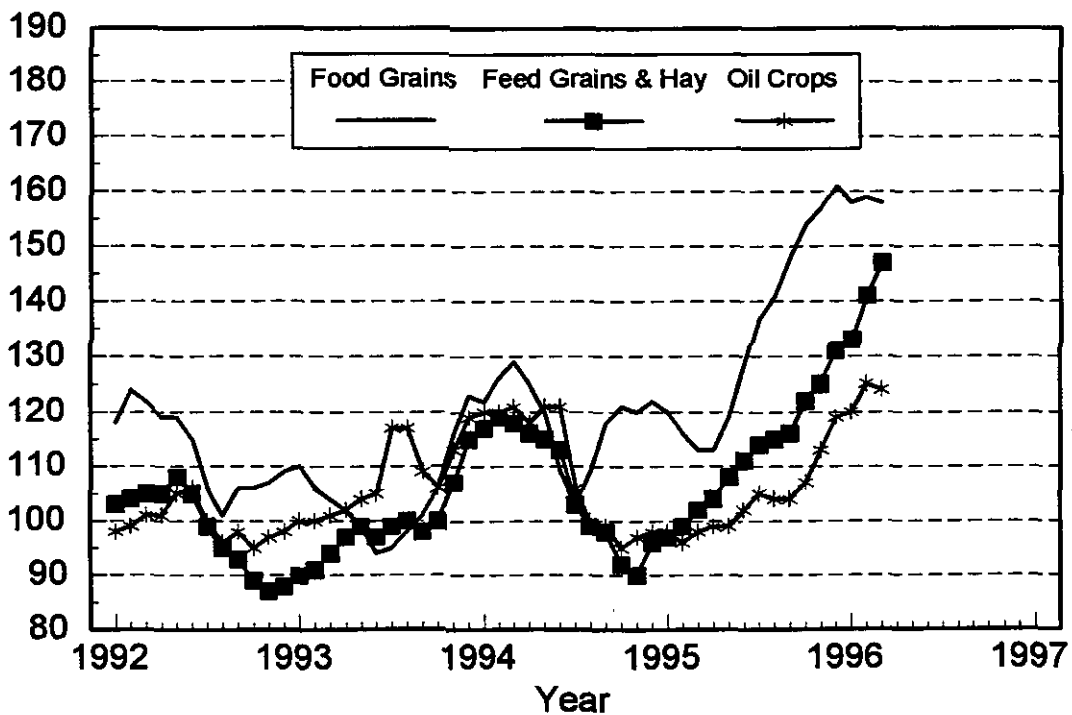
Prices Received, Major Indexes, US

Index Values(1990-92=100)

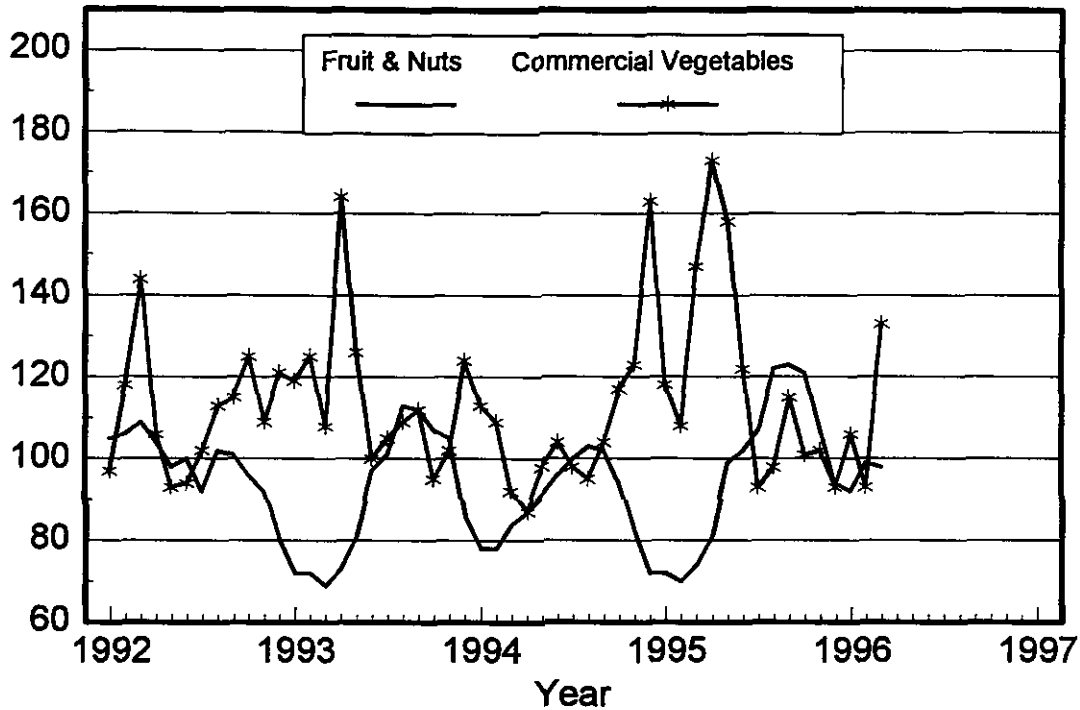


Prices Received, Food, Feed & Oil Indexes, US

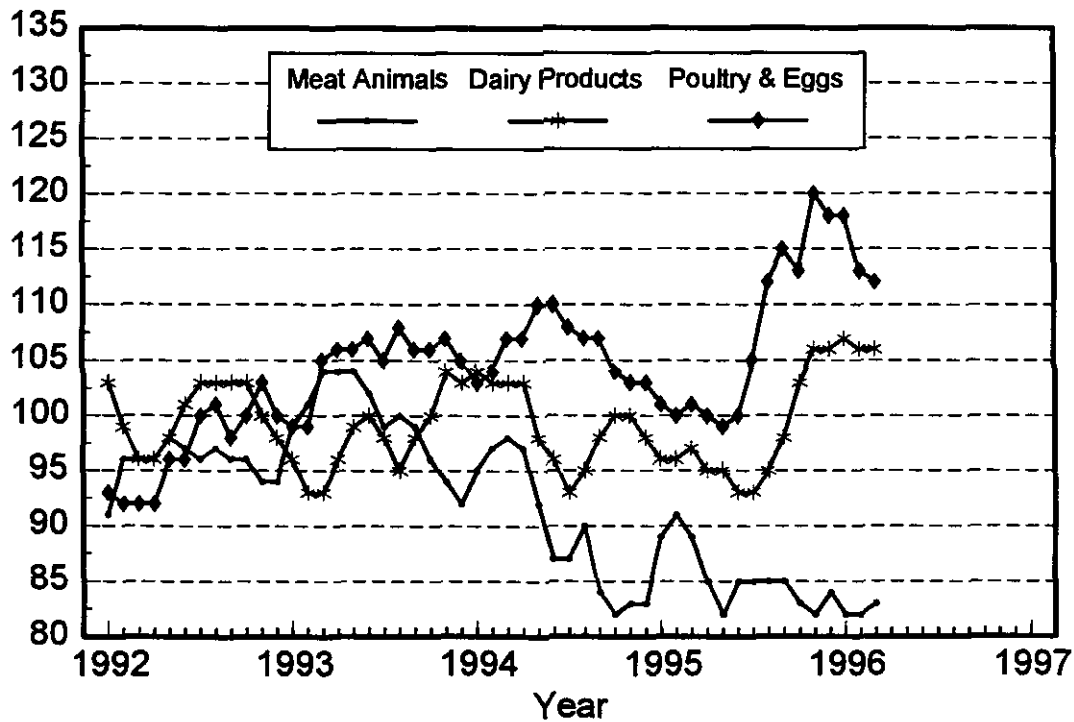
Index Values(1990-92=100)



Prices Received, Fruit/Vegetable Indexes, US Index Values(1990-92=100)



Prices Received, Livestock Product Indexes, US Index Values(1990-92=100)



Prices Received by Farmers, United States,
March 1996, with Comparisons

| Commodity | Unit | Average 1990-92 | Entire Month | | Preliminary |
|----------------------|------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | Mar 1995 | Feb 1996 | Mar 1996 |
| Dollars | | | | | |
| Field Crops | | | | | |
| Barley, All | Bu | 2.12 | 2.13 | 3.28 | 3.26 |
| Feed | Bu | 1.90 | 1.95 | 3.09 | 2.99 |
| Malting | Bu | 2.43 | 2.35 | 3.43 | 3.48 |
| Beans, Dry Edible | Cwt | 19.10 | 21.30 | 19.80 | 20.50 |
| Corn | Bu | 2.30 | 2.30 | 3.37 | 3.54 |
| Cotton, Upland | Lb | .606 | .826 | .765 | .751 |
| Cottonseed | Ton | 96.00 | | 120.00 | |
| Flaxseed | Bu | 4.27 | 5.13 | 5.18 | 5.30 |
| Hay, All, Baled 1/ | Ton | 76.30 | 83.40 | 81.20 | 83.40 |
| Alfalfa 1/ | Ton | 77.20 | 89.00 | 88.20 | 89.10 |
| Other 1/ | Ton | 60.00 | 67.60 | 64.70 | 65.20 |
| Oats | Bu | 1.22 | 1.33 | 1.97 | 2.03 |
| Peanuts, In-Shell | Lb | .304 | | | |
| Potatoes | Cwt | 5.82 | 5.39 | 6.81 | 7.88 |
| Rice, Rough | Cwt | 7.07 | 6.67 | 9.10 | 9.14 |
| Sorghum Grain | Cwt | 3.75 | 3.76 | 6.24 | 6.36 |
| Soybeans | Bu | 5.61 | 5.51 | 7.01 | 6.97 |
| Sunflower 2/ | Cwt | 9.50 | 10.40 | 11.50 | 11.70 |
| Tobacco | Lb | 1.740 | 1.715 | 2.020 | 1.740 |
| Wheat, All | Bu | 2.96 | 3.52 | 4.99 | 4.96 |
| Winter | Bu | 2.93 | 3.47 | 5.01 | 4.91 |
| Durum | Bu | 2.86 | 4.59 | 5.72 | 5.59 |
| Other Spring | Bu | 3.11 | 3.38 | 4.81 | 4.86 |
| Hard Red | Bu | 2.95 | 3.41 | 4.91 | |
| Soft Red | Bu | 2.87 | 3.40 | 4.86 | |
| White | Bu | 3.24 | 3.58 | 4.90 | |
| Fruit | | | | | |
| Citrus-Equiv on-tree | | | | | |
| Grapefruit | Box | 5.77 | 1.14 | 1.94 | 1.19 |
| Lemons | Box | 10.10 | 2.43 | .600 | .270 |
| Limes | Box | 10.15 | 24.80 | 33.43 | |
| Oranges | Box | 5.79 | 4.11 | 4.45 | 4.49 |
| Tangelos | Box | 5.82 | | | |
| Tangerines | Box | 15.11 | 16.17 | 13.17 | 11.17 |
| Temples | Box | 6.23 | 2.44 | 4.61 | 6.14 |
| Non-citrus | | | | | |
| Apples, Fresh 3/ | Lb | .212 | .182 | .250 | .252 |
| Grapes, Fresh 3/ | Ton | 506.00 | | | |
| Peaches, Fresh 3/ | Lb | .216 | | | |
| Pears, Fresh 3/ | Ton | 370.00 | 346.00 | 317.00 | 335.00 |
| Strawberries, Fresh | Lb | .560 | .598 | .788 | .653 |

1/ Mid-month price.

2/ KS, MN, ND and SD average.

3/ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, NY (apples only), OR (pears only) and WA (apples, peaches, and pears). Prices as sold for other states.

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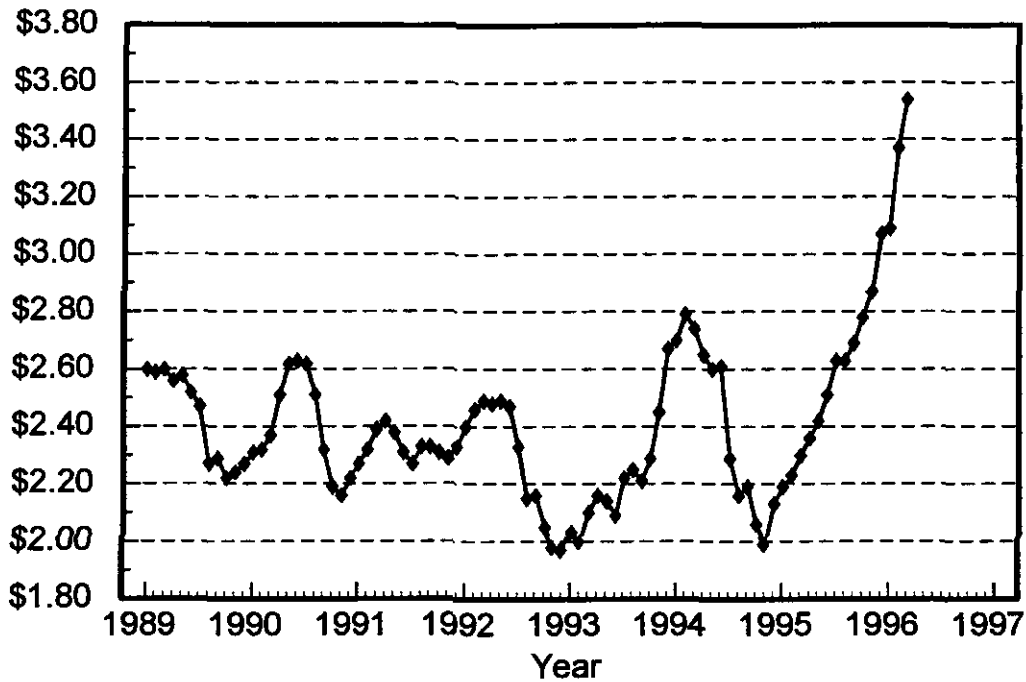
Prices Received by Farmers, United States,
March 1996, with Comparisons (continued)

| Commodity | Unit | Average 1990-92 | Entire Month | | Preliminary |
|-----------------------|------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | Mar 1995 | Feb 1996 | Mar 1996 |
| Dollars | | | | | |
| Vegetables, Fresh 1/ | | | | | |
| Asparagus | Cwt | 79.80 | 93.60 | 84.50 | 91.70 |
| Broccoli | Cwt | 22.50 | 53.50 | 21.70 | 34.70 |
| Cantaloupes | Cwt | | | | |
| Carrots | Cwt | 13.20 | 18.90 | 13.80 | 15.90 |
| Cauliflower | Cwt | 26.80 | 53.80 | 31.50 | 73.40 |
| Celery | Cwt | 11.60 | 20.30 | 8.46 | 9.04 |
| Corn, Sweet | Cwt | 15.70 | 27.80 | 24.10 | 25.10 |
| Cucumbers 2/ | Cwt | | 19.60 | | |
| Lettuce | Cwt | 11.90 | 27.30 | 9.13 | 16.40 |
| Onions | Cwt | 12.80 | 18.60 | 9.50 | 8.70 |
| Snap Beans 2/ | Cwt | | 35.00 | 72.20 | 73.10 |
| Tomatoes | Cwt | 32.30 | 37.10 | 33.10 | 61.10 |
| Livestock | | | | | |
| Calves | Cwt | 94.30 | 84.40 | 60.00 | 58.80 |
| Cattle, All Beef | Cwt | 72.90 | 66.90 | 57.90 | 57.20 |
| Cows | Cwt | 49.60 | 39.90 | 32.10 | 31.60 |
| Steers & Heifers | Cwt | 77.10 | 70.30 | 61.10 | 60.40 |
| Milk Cows 3/ | Head | 1130.00 | | | |
| Hogs, All | Cwt | 47.70 | 37.80 | 46.40 | 48.40 |
| Barrows & Gilts | Cwt | 48.40 | 38.20 | 47.30 | 49.20 |
| Sows | Cwt | 39.50 | 31.10 | 33.10 | 34.90 |
| Lambs | Cwt | 56.20 | 74.80 | 84.10 | |
| Sheep | Cwt | 23.40 | 31.70 | 34.20 | |
| Dairy and Poultry | | | | | |
| Milk, All 4/ | Cwt | 13.06 | 12.70 | 13.80 | 5/13.80 |
| Fluid Grade | Cwt | 13.10 | 12.70 | 13.90 | 5/13.80 |
| Mfg Grade | Cwt | 11.80 | 11.70 | 12.60 | 5/12.50 |
| Broilers, Live 6/ | Lb | .317 | .328 | .353 | .337 |
| Eggs, All 7/ | Doz | .643 | .614 | .765 | .803 |
| Market 7/8/ | Doz | .546 | .497 | .663 | .711 |
| Turkeys, Live 6/7/ | Lb | .380 | .383 | .424 | .418 |
| Adjusted for Seasonal | | | | | |
| Variation | | | | | |
| Eggs, All | Doz | .545 | .627 | .743 | .795 |
| Milk, All 4/ | Cwt | 9.71 | 13.37 | 14.08 | 14.38 |

- 1/ F.O.B. shipping point.
- 2/ Monthly estimates began January 1995.
- 3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices available for Jan, Apr, Jul, and Oct.
- 4/ Before deductions for hauling and government withholding, but includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.
- 5/ Fat test percent: all milk 3.73, fluid milk 3.72, mfg grade 3.84.
- 6/ Equivalent liveweight returns to producers for most States.
- 7/ Mid-month price.
- 8/ Includes eggs sold retail by the producer.

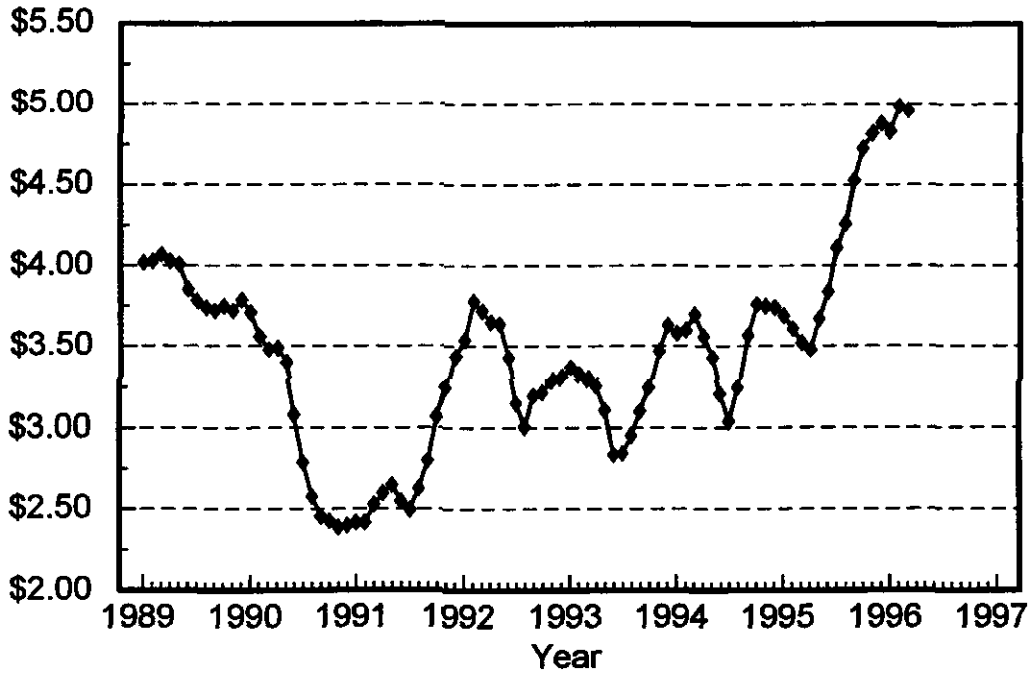
Prices Received by Farmers, Corn, US

Dollars per Bu



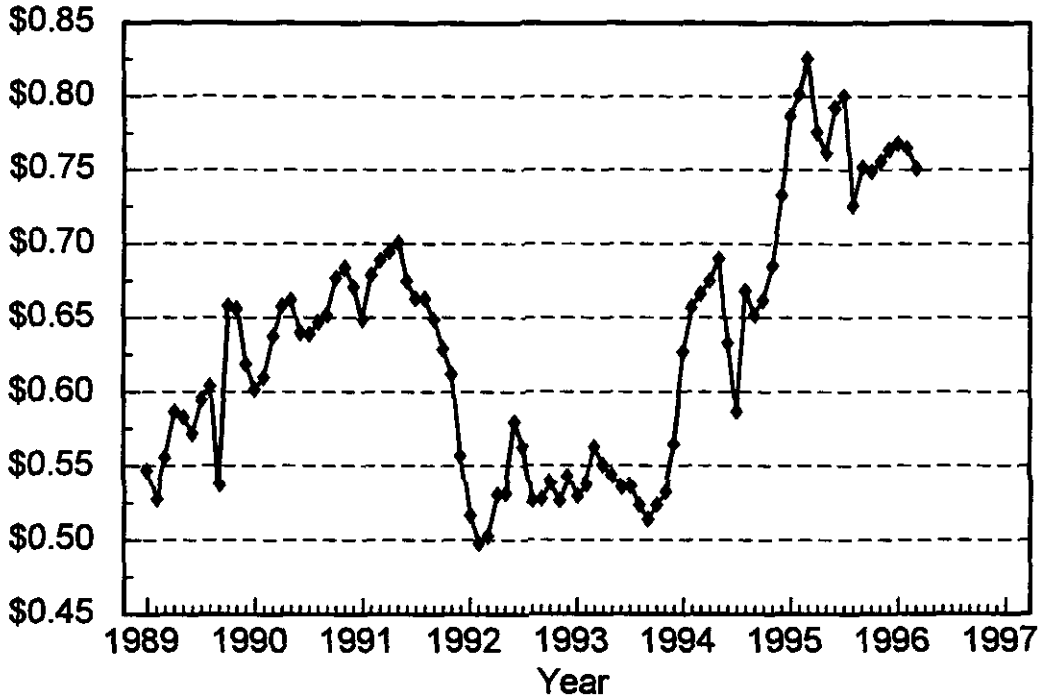
Prices Received by Farmers, Wheat, US

Dollars per Bu



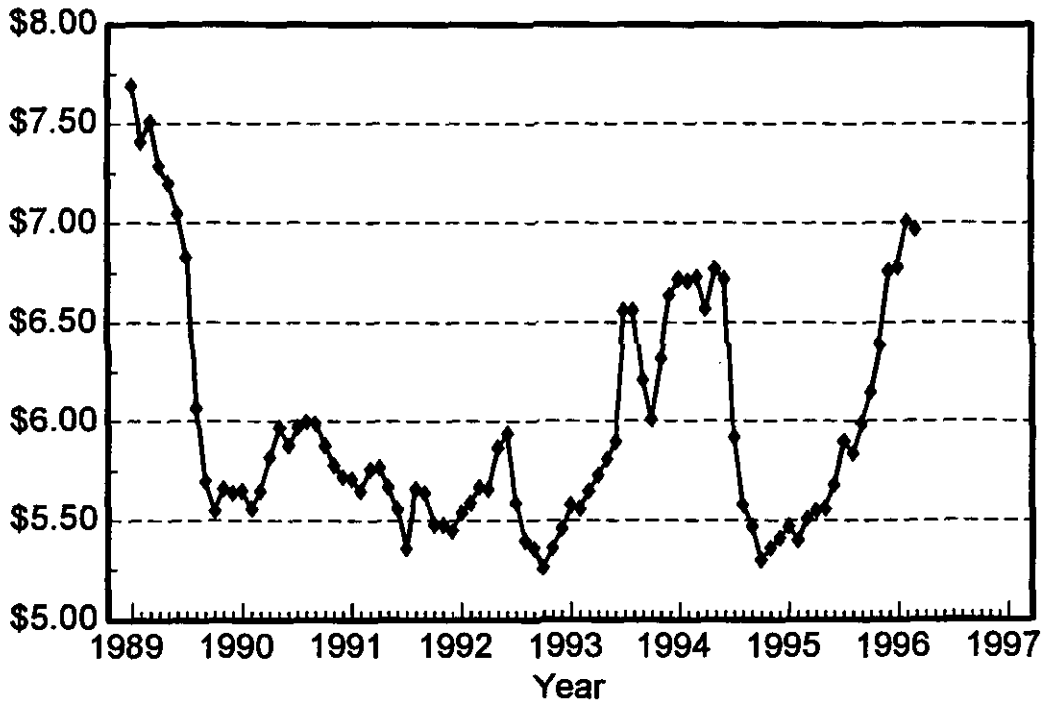
Prices Received by Farmers, Cotton, US

Dollars per Pound



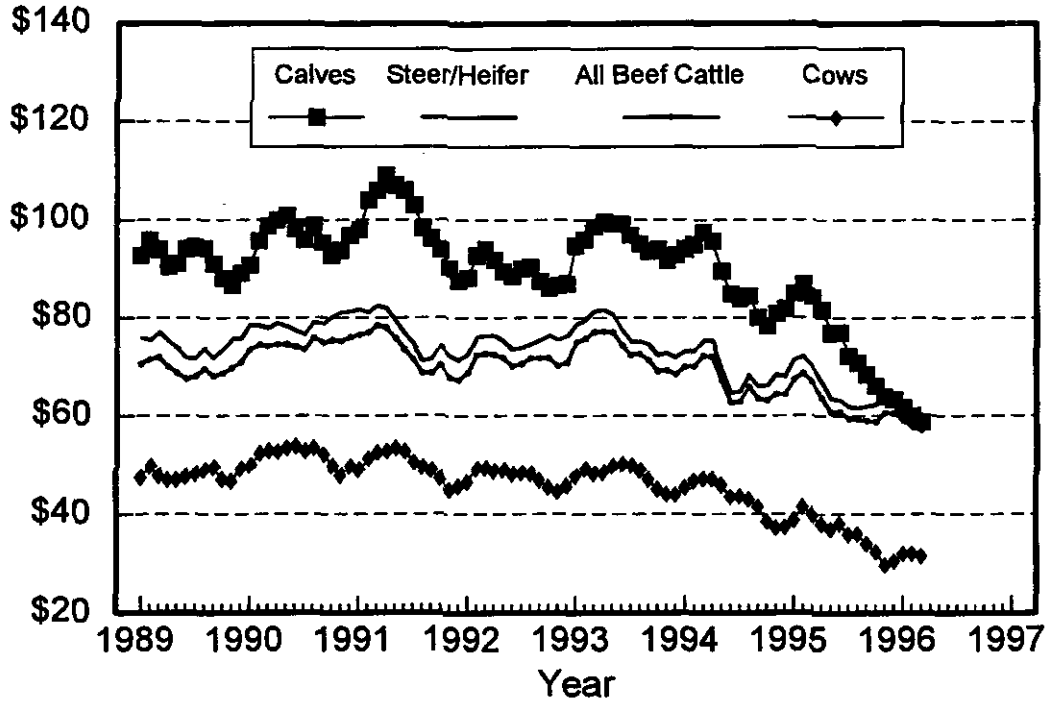
Prices Received by Farmers, Soybeans, US

Dollars per Bu



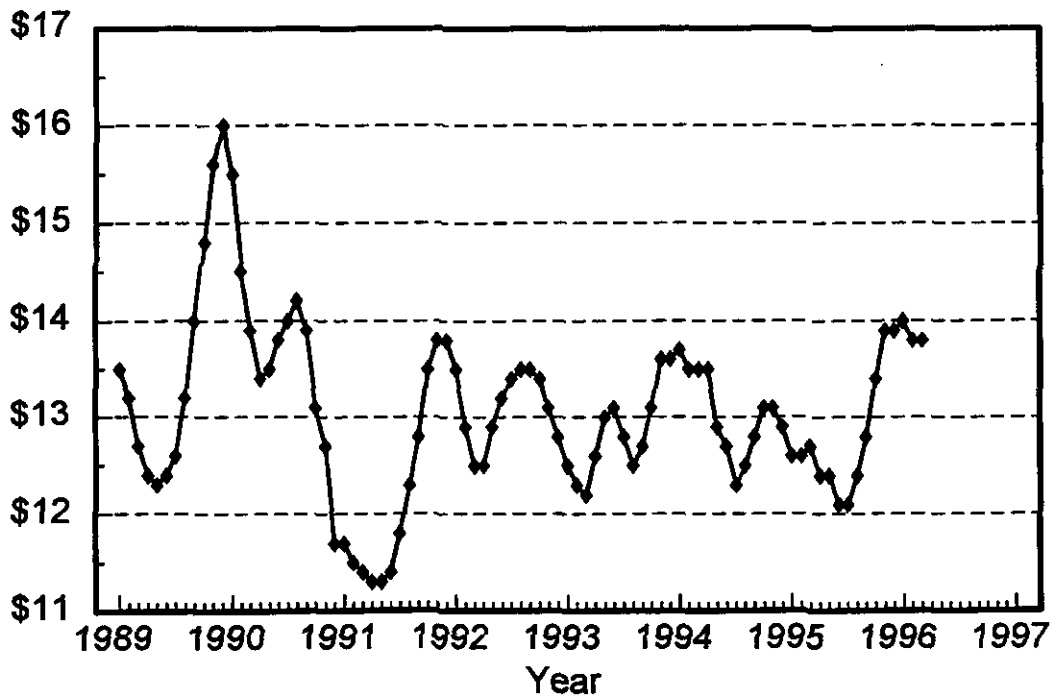
Prices Received by Farmers, Cattle, US

Dollars per Cwt



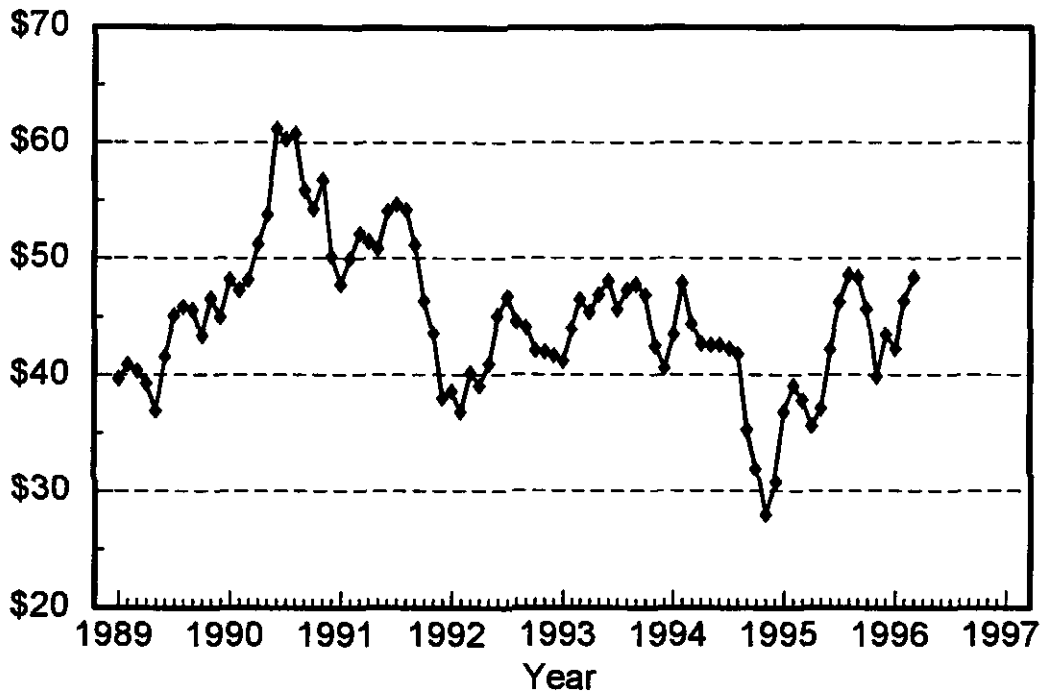
Prices Received by Farmers, Milk, US

Dollars per Cwt



Prices Received by Farmers, Hogs, US

Dollars per Cwt



Prices Received, Turkeys & Broilers, US

Dollars per Pound

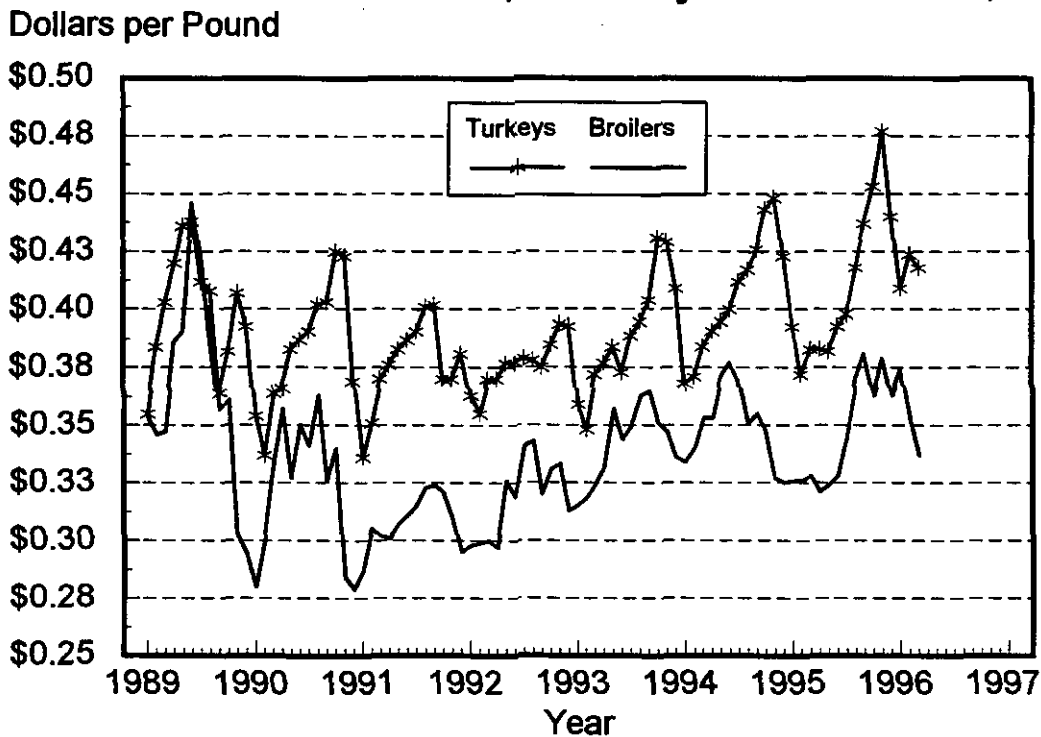


Figure 13

Wheat: Prices Received, by States, February and March 1996

| State | All Wheat | | Winter Wheat | | Durum Wheat | | Oth Spring Wheat | |
|-------|--------------------|--------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------|------------------|--------|
| | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ |
| | Dollars per Bushel | | | | | | | |
| AZ | | | | | | | | |
| AR | 3/ | 4/ | 3/ | 4/ | | | | |
| CA | 5.24 | 5.00 | 5.24 | 5.00 | | | | |
| CO | 5.08 | 4.88 | 5.09 | 4.89 | | | 3/ | 3/ |
| GA | | | | | | | | |
| ID | 4.64 | 4.84 | 4.66 | 4.89 | | | 4.61 | 4.78 |
| IL | 4.66 | 4.60 | 4.66 | 4.60 | | | | |
| IN | 4.81 | 4.58 | 4.81 | 4.58 | | | | |
| KS | 5.17 | 5.05 | 5.17 | 5.05 | | | | |
| MI | 4.98 | 4.50 | 4.98 | 4.50 | | | | |
| MN | 4.87 | 4.96 | | | 3/ | 3/ | 4.86 | 4.95 |
| MO | 4.50 | 4.45 | 4.50 | 4.45 | | | | |
| MT | 4.77 | 4.83 | 4.86 | 4.85 | 5.33 | 5.50 | 4.72 | 4.80 |
| NE | 4.96 | 4.90 | 4.96 | 4.90 | | | | |
| ND | 5.13 | 5.10 | 3/ | 3/ | 5.74 | 5.60 | 4.84 | 4.85 |
| OH | 4.88 | 4.80 | 4.88 | 4.80 | | | | |
| OK | 5.27 | 5.02 | 5.27 | 5.02 | | | | |
| OR | 5.22 | 5.05 | 5.22 | 5.05 | | | | |
| SD | 4.85 | 4.85 | 4.73 | 4.69 | 3/ | 3/ | 4.95 | 4.97 |
| TX | 5.14 | 5.10 | 5.14 | 5.10 | | | | |
| WA | 5.18 | 4.92 | 5.16 | 4.90 | | | 5.28 | 5.06 |
| US | 4.99 | 4.96 | 5.01 | 4.91 | 5.72 | 5.59 | 4.81 | 4.86 |

- 1/ Entire month.
- 2/ Mid-month.
- 3/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers.
- 4/ Sales volume insufficient to establish a price.

Prices Received for Selected Agricultural Commodities, by Months, United States, 1995 and 1996

| Month | All Wheat | | Corn | | Soybeans | | Beef Cattle 1/ | | All Hogs | |
|-------|--------------------|---------|------|---------|----------|---------|-----------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | 1995 | 1996 2/ | 1995 | 1996 2/ | 1995 | 1996 2/ | 1995 | 1996 2/ | 1995 | 1996 2/ |
| | Dollars per Bushel | | | | | | Dollars per Cwt | | | |
| Jan | 3.69 | 4.83 | 2.19 | 3.09 | 5.47 | 6.78 | 67.60 | 59.10 | 36.80 | 42.30 |
| Feb | 3.61 | 4.99 | 2.23 | 3.37 | 5.40 | 7.01 | 68.80 | 57.90 | 39.10 | 46.40 |
| Mar | 3.52 | 4.96 | 2.30 | 3.54 | 5.51 | 6.97 | 66.90 | 57.20 | 37.80 | 48.40 |
| Apr | 3.48 | | 2.36 | | 5.55 | | 63.30 | | 35.60 | |
| May | 3.67 | | 2.42 | | 5.56 | | 60.80 | | 37.10 | |
| Jun | 3.84 | | 2.51 | | 5.68 | | 60.90 | | 42.20 | |
| Jul | 4.11 | | 2.63 | | 5.90 | | 59.50 | | 46.30 | |
| Aug | 4.26 | | 2.63 | | 5.84 | | 59.40 | | 48.60 | |
| Sep | 4.53 | | 2.69 | | 5.99 | | 59.10 | | 48.40 | |
| Oct | 4.73 | | 2.78 | | 6.15 | | 58.80 | | 45.70 | |
| Nov | 4.82 | | 2.87 | | 6.39 | | 60.70 | | 39.90 | |
| Dec | 4.88 | | 3.07 | | 6.76 | | 60.60 | | 43.50 | |

- 1/ Cows, steers and heifers.
- 2/ Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.

Grains: Prices Received, by States, February and March 1996

| State | Barley 1/ | | Corn | | Oats | | Soybeans | | Sorghum Grain | |
|-------|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ |
| | Dollars per Bushel | | | | | | Dollars per Cwt | | | |
| AL | | | | | | | | | | |
| AR | | | | | | | 7.30 | 7.24 | 4/ | 4/ |
| CA | 3.93 | 3.70 | | | 4/ | 4/ | | | | |
| CO | 4/ | 4/ | 3.57 | 3.70 | | | | | 6.23 | 6.50 |
| GA | | | 4.13 | 4.20 | | | 4/ | 4/ | | |
| ID | 3.18 | 3.21 | | | | | | | | |
| IL | | | 3.53 | 3.75 | 2.16 | 2.00 | 7.12 | 7.10 | | |
| IN | | | 3.41 | 3.63 | | | 7.16 | 7.15 | | |
| IA | | | 3.24 | 3.45 | 2.07 | 1.96 | 6.86 | 6.84 | | |
| KS | | | 3.67 | 3.80 | | | 7.09 | 7.00 | 6.23 | 6.30 |
| KY | | | 3.59 | 3.75 | | | 7.33 | 7.25 | | |
| LA | | | | | | | 7.12 | 4/ | | |
| MI | | | 3.23 | 3.40 | 2.23 | 2.20 | 6.95 | 6.95 | | |
| MN | 2.80 | 2.67 | 3.08 | 3.20 | 1.90 | 2.03 | 6.69 | 6.73 | | |
| MS | | | | | | | 7.16 | 7.11 | | |
| MO | | | 3.62 | 3.75 | | | 7.09 | 7.00 | 6.19 | 6.30 |
| MT | 3.29 | 3.25 | | | | | | | | |
| NE | | | 3.30 | 3.45 | 2.30 | 2.40 | 6.84 | 6.81 | 6.06 | 6.35 |
| NM | | | | | | | | | 4/ | 4/ |
| NY | | | | | 4/ | 4/ | | | | |
| NC | | | 3.92 | 4.15 | | | 6.87 | 7.12 | | |
| ND | 3.34 | 3.37 | | | 1.78 | 1.80 | | | | |
| OH | | | 3.49 | 3.70 | 4/ | 4/ | 7.15 | 7.15 | | |
| OK | | | | | | | | | 6.29 | 6.51 |
| OR | 3.42 | 3.38 | | | 2.28 | 2.26 | | | | |
| PA | | | 3.92 | 4.08 | 2.18 | 2.30 | | | | |
| SC | | | | | | | 7.18 | 7.14 | | |
| SD | 3.11 | 3.09 | 3.23 | 3.46 | 2.04 | 2.06 | 6.61 | 6.62 | | |
| TN | | | | | | | 7.33 | 7.30 | | |
| TX | | | 3.88 | 4.03 | | | | | 6.49 | 6.67 |
| UT | 3.32 | 3.51 | | | | | | | | |
| WA | 3.51 | 3.26 | | | | | | | | |
| WI | | | 3.21 | 3.35 | 1.92 | 2.00 | | | | |
| WY | 3.24 | 3.23 | | | | | | | | |
| US | 3.28 | 3.26 | 3.37 | 3.54 | 1.97 | 2.03 | 7.01 | 6.97 | 6.24 | 6.36 |

1/ The Three-State (MN, ND and SD) Feed Barley price for March 1996 is \$2.69.
 2/ Entire month. 3/ Mid-month. 4/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers.

Malting and Feed Barley: Prices Received Selected States, February and March 1996

| State | Malting Barley | | Feed Barley | |
|-------|--------------------|------|-------------|------|
| | Feb | Mar | Feb | Mar |
| | Dollars per Bushel | | | |
| ID | 3.11 | 3.09 | 3.26 | 3.32 |
| MN | 3.20 | 3.19 | 2.75 | 2.60 |
| MT | 3.54 | 3.55 | 3.01 | 3.00 |
| ND | 3.48 | 3.55 | 2.85 | 2.75 |
| SD | 3.49 | 3.52 | 2.76 | 2.70 |

Field Crops: Prices Received, by States, February and March 1996

| State | Dry Edible Beans | | Sunflower | | Flaxseed | | Tobacco | | Peanuts 4/ | |
|-------|------------------|--------|-----------|--------|----------------|--------|-------------------|--------|------------|--------|
| | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 3/ |
| | Dollars per Cwt | | | | Dollars per Bu | | Dollars per Pound | | | |
| AL | | | | | | | | | | |
| CA | 34.60 | 34.30 | | | | | | | | |
| CO | 16.70 | 18.10 | | | | | | | | |
| FL | | | | | | | | | | |
| GA | | | | | | | | | | |
| ID | 18.40 | 19.00 | | | | | | | | |
| IN | | | | | | | 1.865 | | | |
| KS | | | 5/ | 5/ | | | | | | |
| KY | | | | | | | 1.950 | 1.885 | | |
| MD | | | | | | | | 1.685 | | |
| MI | 17.60 | 18.00 | | | | | | | | |
| MN | 21.40 | 21.50 | 12.30 | 12.70 | | | | | | |
| MO | | | | | | | | | | |
| NE | 22.80 | 22.00 | | | | | | | | |
| NC | | | | | | | | | | |
| ND | 15.90 | 16.90 | 11.80 | 11.80 | 5.18 | 5.30 | | | | |
| OH | | | | | | | 1.880 | | | |
| OK | | | | | | | | | | |
| SC | | | | | | | | | | |
| SD | | | 11.00 | 10.70 | 5.15 | 5.31 | | | | |
| TN | | | | | | | 2.175 | 1.905 | | |
| TX | | | | | | | | | | |
| VA | | | | | | | | | | |
| WA | 20.70 | 20.40 | | | | | | | | |
| WV | | | | | | | | | | |
| US | 19.80 | 20.50 | 11.50 | 11.70 | 5.18 | 5.30 | 2.020 | 1.740 | | |

- 1/ Entire month.
- 2/ Mid-month.
- 3/ Based on sales through first half of month.
- 4/ Marketing year Aug - Jan.
- 5/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers.

Tobacco: Prices Received, by Area and Type, March 1996, with Comparisons

| Class by Ttpe | Type | Mar 1995 | Feb 1996 | Mar 1996 |
|-----------------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Dollars Per Pound | | | | |
| Fire-cured | | | | |
| Eastern District | 22 | 1.810 | 2.200 | 1.930 |
| Western District | 23 | 1.725 | 2.060 | 1.645 |
| KY-TN Fire-cured | 22-23 | 1.795 | 2.165 | 1.885 |
| Total Fire-cured | 21-23 | 1.795 | 2.165 | 1.885 |
| Light Air-cured | | | | |
| Burley | 31 | | 1.875 | |
| Southern MD Belt | 32 | 1.670 | | 1.685 |
| Total light air-cured | 31-32 | 1.670 | 1.875 | 1.685 |
| Dark Air-cured | | | | |
| One Sucker Belt | 35 | | 1.435 | |
| Green River Belt | 36 | | 1.460 | |
| KY-TN Dark Air-cured | 35-36 | | 1.440 | |
| Total Dark Air-cured | 35-37 | | 1.440 | |
| US | 11-37 | 1.715 | 2.020 | 1.740 |

Field Crops and Apples: Prices Received, by States,
February and March 1996

| State | Cotton, Upland | | March | | | Apples Fresh Use 1/4/ |
|-------|-------------------|--------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Cotton- seed 5/ | Hay, Baled 3/ All | Alfalfa Other | |
| | Dollars per Pound | | Dollars per Ton | | | Dol/Lb |
| AL | .774 | .775 | | | | |
| AZ | .699 | .750 | 94.00 | 97.00 | 67.00 | |
| AR | .736 | .745 | 65.00 | 115.00 | 59.00 | |
| CA | .867 | .814 | 103.00 | 104.00 | 79.00 | |
| CO | | | 82.00 | 83.00 | 73.00 | |
| GA | .796 | .790 | | | | |
| ID | | | 85.00 | 87.00 | 62.00 | |
| IL | | | 93.00 | 97.00 | 69.00 | |
| IN | | | 83.00 | 90.00 | 70.00 | |
| IA | | | 84.00 | 89.00 | 64.00 | |
| KS | | | 78.00 | 80.00 | 57.00 | |
| KY | | | 69.00 | 101.00 | 65.00 | |
| LA | .735 | .729 | | | | |
| MI | | | 69.00 | 70.00 | 60.00 | .170 |
| MN | | | 76.00 | 84.00 | 44.00 | |
| MS | .747 | .734 | | | | |
| MO | | | 67.00 | 99.00 | 60.00 | |
| MT | | | 65.00 | 66.00 | 54.00 | |
| NE | | | 58.00 | 62.00 | 46.00 | |
| NV | | | 90.00 | 92.00 | 74.00 | |
| NM | | | 124.00 | 127.00 | 95.00 | |
| NY | | | 95.00 | 103.00 | 81.00 | .188 |
| ND | | | 41.00 | 46.00 | 31.00 | |
| OH | | | 81.00 | 105.00 | 55.00 | .245 |
| OK | | | 82.00 | 94.00 | 63.00 | |
| OR | | | 101.00 | 104.00 | 76.00 | |
| PA | | | 99.00 | 113.00 | 92.00 | .230 |
| SD | | | 56.00 | 60.00 | 45.00 | |
| TN | .723 | .729 | | | | |
| TX | .754 | .744 | 76.00 | 133.00 | 67.00 | |
| UT | | | 60.00 | 61.00 | 43.00 | |
| VA | | | | | | .180 |
| WA | | | 96.00 | 94.00 | 109.00 | .275 |
| WI | | | 69.00 | 72.00 | 56.00 | |
| WY | | | 66.00 | 67.00 | 62.00 | |
| US | .765 | .751 | 83.40 | 89.10 | 65.20 | .252 |

1/ Entire month. 2/ Based on sales during the first half of the month.
3/ Mid-month. 4/ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, NY, and WA.
Price at point of first sale for other states. 5/ Marketing year
August-February.

Upland Cotton and Rice: Prices Received and Marketings,
United States, March 1996, with Comparisons

| Item | Unit | Jan 1996 1/ | Feb 1996 1/ | Mar 1996 2/ |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cotton, Upland | | | | |
| Average Price | Dollars/Pound | .768 | .765 | .751 |
| Marketings 3/ | 1,000 Bales | 2276 | 751 | NA |
| Rice | | | | |
| Average Price | Dollars/Cwt | 9.33 | 9.10 | 9.14 |
| Marketings 4/ | 1,000 Cwt | 13130 | 11898 | NA |

1/ Entire month. 2/ Based on purchases for the first half of the month.
3/ Expanded data from sample of about 56 percent of buyers. 4/ Purchases
by private firms and rice (rough equivalent) shipped by cooperatives.

Citrus Fruit: Prices and Equivalent Returns, by Utilization,
By States, and United States, March 1996

| Commodity, State and Area | F.O.B. Packed Fresh | Equivalent Returns | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------|---------|---------|-------|---------|
| | | Packinghouse-door | | | On-tree | | |
| | | All | Fresh | Process | All | Fresh | Process |
| Dollars per Box 1/ | | | | | | | |
| Grapefruit 2/ | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| AZ | : 11.50 | 3.69 | 6.06 | -0.23 | 1.75 | 4.12 | -2.17 |
| CA | : 11.30 | 3.83 | 5.86 | -0.23 | 1.89 | 3.92 | -2.17 |
| FL | : 10.30 | 3.13 | 3.90 | 2.78 | 0.53 | 1.65 | 0.04 |
| White Seedless | : 9.60 | 3.27 | 3.10 | 3.30 | 0.60 | 0.83 | 0.55 |
| Colored Seedless | : 10.70 | 2.87 | 4.30 | 1.05 | 0.38 | 2.05 | -1.76 |
| Other | : | 3.40 | | 3.40 | 1.13 | | 1.13 |
| TX | : 12.10 | 4.97 | 6.66 | 1.46 | 3.99 | 5.66 | 0.51 |
| CA-AZ | : 11.40 | 3.73 | 6.01 | -0.23 | 1.79 | 4.07 | -2.17 |
| US | : 10.90 | 3.48 | 4.86 | 2.63 | 1.19 | 3.02 | 0.07 |
| Lemons | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| AZ | : 17.00 | 3.52 | 8.56 | 1.14 | -0.12 | 4.92 | -2.50 |
| CA | : 17.40 | 3.99 | 8.96 | 1.14 | 0.35 | 5.32 | -2.50 |
| US | : 17.30 | 3.91 | 8.90 | 1.14 | 0.27 | 5.26 | -2.50 |
| Oranges | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| AZ | : 12.90 | 6.20 | 6.96 | -0.17 | 4.12 | 4.88 | -2.24 |
| Navel and Misc | : 12.10 | 4.37 | 6.08 | -0.44 | 2.32 | 4.03 | -2.49 |
| Valencia | : 13.00 | 6.58 | 7.10 | 0.02 | 4.50 | 5.02 | -2.06 |
| CA | : 14.50 | 5.30 | 8.47 | -0.44 | 3.24 | 6.42 | -2.49 |
| Navel and Misc | : 14.30 | 5.07 | 8.28 | -0.44 | 3.02 | 6.23 | -2.49 |
| Valencia | : 17.10 | 9.81 | 11.20 | -0.44 | 7.73 | 9.12 | -2.52 |
| FL | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Valencia | : 13.00 | 6.90 | 6.90 | 6.90 | 4.90 | 4.95 | 4.90 |
| TX | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Valencia | : 17.00 | 11.00 | 11.43 | 4.21 | 9.84 | 10.27 | |
| CA-AZ | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Navel and Misc | : 14.30 | 5.07 | 8.25 | -0.44 | 3.02 | 6.20 | -2.49 |
| Valencia | : 15.00 | 8.21 | 9.12 | -0.27 | 6.13 | 7.04 | -2.35 |
| US | : 14.20 | 6.50 | 8.13 | 6.05 | 4.49 | 6.11 | 4.05 |
| Tangerines | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| AZ | : 15.90 | 5.83 | 10.08 | | 4.65 | 8.05 | |
| CA | : 19.60 | 6.05 | 13.78 | | 5.16 | 11.75 | |
| FL | : 30.00 | 18.35 | 23.70 | 8.60 | 15.61 | 21.10 | 5.60 |
| US | : 25.30 | 13.22 | 19.18 | 4.43 | 11.17 | 16.79 | 2.88 |
| Temples | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| FL | : 16.00 | 8.14 | 10.50 | 7.20 | 6.14 | 8.60 | 5.15 |

1/ Approximate net contents per box are as follows: Grapefruit - AZ and CA, 67 lbs; FL, 85 lbs; TX, 80 lbs; Lemons - 76 lbs; Oranges - AZ and CA, 75 lbs; FL, 90 lbs; TX 85 lbs; Tangerines - AZ and CA, 75 lbs; FL, 95 lbs; Temples - 90 lbs.

2/ Desert Valley no longer reported separately.

Potatoes: Prices Received, by States,
February and March 1996

| State | Feb | Mar | State | Feb | Mar |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------------------|------|------|
| : Dollars per Cwt | | | : Dollars per Cwt | | |
| AL | | | NC | | |
| AZ | | | ND - All 1/ | 5.40 | 6.10 |
| CA - All | 12.80 | 12.80 | - Fresh 2/ | 5.65 | NA |
| - Winter | 18.50 | 20.40 | - Processing | 4.90 | NA |
| - Spring | | | OH | 7.50 | 7.85 |
| - Summer | | | OR | 7.60 | 7.20 |
| - Fall | 10.30 | 10.30 | PA | 8.00 | 8.20 |
| CO - All 1/ | 6.55 | 6.65 | TX | | |
| - Fresh 2/ | 7.30 | NA | VA | | |
| FL | 26.70 | 24.20 | WA - All | 6.25 | 6.40 |
| ID - All 1/ | 6.35 | 6.70 | - Processing | 5.45 | NA |
| - Fresh 2/ | 7.40 | NA | WI - All 1/ | 6.60 | 6.60 |
| - Processing | 5.80 | NA | - Fresh 2/ | 7.00 | NA |
| ME | 6.30 | 6.60 | - Processing | 5.20 | NA |
| MI | 7.15 | 7.20 | | | |
| MN | 5.95 | 6.00 | US - All 1/ | 6.81 | 7.88 |
| NY | 7.30 | 7.30 | - Fresh 2/ | 8.64 | NA |
| | | | - Processing | 5.45 | NA |

1/ Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed.

2/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices.

Cattle: Prices Received, by States, February and March 1996

| State | Cows 1/ | | Steers & Heifers: | | Beef Cattle 4/ | | Calves | |
|-------|-----------------|--------|-------------------|--------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ | Feb 2/ | Mar 3/ |
| | Dollars per Cwt | | | | | | | |
| AZ | 32.00 | 31.50 | 58.50 | 58.00 | 55.30 | 55.10 | 59.00 | 60.00 |
| AR | 32.90 | 32.70 | 52.80 | 51.80 | 42.70 | 42.10 | 44.70 | 44.10 |
| CA | 31.50 | 30.00 | 49.50 | 50.00 | 41.20 | 41.20 | 59.00 | 61.00 |
| CO | 34.70 | 34.50 | 62.00 | 61.00 | 60.40 | 59.40 | 62.80 | 62.40 |
| FL | 33.30 | 32.80 | 46.30 | 46.00 | 34.90 | 35.40 | 53.90 | 54.20 |
| GA | 31.30 | 30.80 | 45.40 | 44.70 | 36.50 | 36.40 | 50.00 | 50.20 |
| ID | 33.30 | 32.30 | 55.90 | 55.10 | 51.00 | 49.60 | 54.60 | 55.90 |
| IL | 31.60 | 30.70 | 61.30 | 60.20 | 60.70 | 59.60 | 95.00 | 95.00 |
| IA | 32.20 | 31.70 | 62.10 | 61.20 | 57.30 | 56.50 | 51.70 | 52.00 |
| KS | 32.50 | 31.10 | 61.40 | 61.00 | 60.50 | 60.10 | 59.50 | 55.00 |
| KY | 31.00 | 32.00 | 49.00 | 48.00 | 44.70 | 44.20 | 48.00 | 48.00 |
| LA | 31.40 | 31.00 | 47.10 | 47.00 | 35.80 | 35.50 | 51.00 | 50.00 |
| MI | 32.90 | 34.00 | 53.90 | 54.00 | 47.60 | 48.00 | 53.50 | 53.00 |
| MN | 31.90 | 31.50 | 56.70 | 57.00 | 54.50 | 54.70 | 52.90 | 51.00 |
| MO | 32.10 | 31.40 | 53.00 | 52.40 | 48.40 | 47.80 | 55.70 | 54.20 |
| MT | 33.70 | 34.30 | 56.40 | 56.50 | 52.80 | 52.50 | 62.20 | 61.10 |
| NE | 32.30 | 31.90 | 64.00 | 63.00 | 62.90 | 62.10 | 62.80 | 59.90 |
| NM | 36.30 | 36.20 | 51.30 | 50.00 | 45.20 | 45.20 | 52.30 | 51.10 |
| ND | 32.00 | 32.00 | 54.30 | 54.50 | 51.20 | 50.50 | 54.10 | 54.00 |
| OH | 29.80 | 30.00 | 59.30 | 58.00 | 56.40 | 55.20 | 51.50 | 50.00 |
| OK | 32.20 | 32.00 | 56.00 | 54.20 | 54.10 | 52.40 | 57.90 | 55.80 |
| OR | 33.00 | 33.00 | 51.00 | 51.50 | 45.60 | 46.00 | 55.00 | 55.00 |
| PA | 32.70 | 32.00 | 59.80 | 58.60 | 52.80 | 51.70 | 71.00 | 66.30 |
| SD | 30.20 | 30.10 | 58.70 | 56.90 | 55.60 | 54.20 | 60.50 | 59.00 |
| TN | 29.70 | 30.20 | 48.30 | 48.70 | 40.90 | 41.30 | 49.80 | 48.90 |
| TX | 30.30 | 29.80 | 60.00 | 59.60 | 57.90 | 57.50 | 56.10 | 54.60 |
| VA | 29.90 | 29.70 | 47.40 | 47.50 | 40.90 | 42.70 | 46.60 | 46.00 |
| WI | 33.30 | 33.10 | 55.10 | 55.30 | 42.50 | 42.40 | 97.30 | 95.10 |
| WY | 36.60 | 36.60 | 55.70 | 56.00 | 52.60 | 54.10 | 63.50 | 63.00 |
| US | 32.10 | 31.60 | 61.10 | 60.40 | 57.90 | 57.20 | 60.00 | 58.80 |

- 1/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
- 2/ Entire month.
- 3/ Mid-month.
- 4/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

Hogs: Prices Received, by States, February and March 1996

| State | Sows | | Barrows and Gilts | | All Hogs | |
|-------|-----------------|--------|-------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ | Feb 1/ | Mar 2/ |
| | Dollars per Cwt | | | | | |
| GA | 32.30 | 33.80 | 46.20 | 48.50 | 44.80 | 47.00 |
| IL | 32.70 | 33.40 | 46.30 | 47.90 | 45.30 | 46.70 |
| IN | 33.30 | 36.20 | 46.50 | 48.00 | 45.00 | 46.70 |
| IA | 34.70 | 36.40 | 48.20 | 50.20 | 47.70 | 49.60 |
| KS | 33.10 | 37.50 | 46.20 | 48.80 | 44.50 | 47.60 |
| KY | 33.00 | 34.00 | 47.00 | 48.00 | 46.40 | 47.40 |
| MI | 31.70 | 34.60 | 46.70 | 47.90 | 45.80 | 47.10 |
| MN | 34.40 | 35.50 | 48.10 | 50.50 | 47.60 | 49.90 |
| MO | 32.30 | 34.60 | 45.60 | 47.60 | 44.50 | 46.60 |
| NE | 34.70 | 37.20 | 48.60 | 50.60 | 48.30 | 50.30 |
| NC | 34.60 | 35.50 | 47.20 | 49.50 | 47.00 | 49.20 |
| OH | 32.50 | 33.00 | 48.10 | 49.00 | 46.80 | 47.70 |
| PA | 31.00 | 32.00 | 45.40 | 47.70 | 43.20 | 45.30 |
| SC | 30.40 | 32.30 | 45.00 | 47.00 | 44.20 | 46.10 |
| SD | 32.40 | 34.90 | 48.90 | 51.20 | 47.30 | 49.60 |
| TN | 32.20 | 34.10 | 44.70 | 46.60 | 43.50 | 45.40 |
| TX | 28.90 | 29.90 | 41.00 | 42.60 | 39.60 | 41.10 |
| VA | 32.90 | 34.00 | 46.50 | 48.50 | 46.20 | 48.20 |
| WI | 30.10 | 31.80 | 45.40 | 47.60 | 43.40 | 45.50 |
| US | 33.10 | 34.90 | 47.30 | 49.20 | 46.40 | 48.40 |

1/ Entire month
2/ Mid-month.

Sheep and Poultry: Prices Received, by States,
February and March 1996

| State | February | | March | | |
|-------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Sheep 1/ | Lambs 1/ | Turkeys 2/3/ | Broilers 1/4/ | Eggs 2/5/ |
| | ---- Dollars per Cwt ---- | | Dollars per Pound | | Dol/Doz |
| AL | | | | .350 | .680 |
| AZ | | | | | |
| AR | | | .42 | .340 | .780 |
| CA | 31.00 | 84.00 | .44 | .320 | .710 |
| CO | 33.80 | 83.00 | | | |
| CT | | | | | 1.160 |
| DE | | | | .310 | |
| FL | | | | | .670 |
| GA | | | | .340 | .719 |
| ID | 31.40 | 70.90 | | | |
| IN | | | .43 | | .750 |
| IA | 32.00 | 85.10 | .45 | | .622 |
| KS | 30.00 | 84.00 | | | |
| ME | | | | | 1.090 |
| MD | | | | .310 | |
| MI | | | | | .660 |
| MN | 30.60 | 83.80 | .41 | | .560 |
| MS | | | | .340 | .798 |
| MO | | | .40 | | .667 |
| MT | 31.10 | 86.60 | | | |
| NE | 30.80 | 83.00 | | | |
| NM | | | | | |
| NY | | | | | .794 |
| NC | | | .40 | .335 | .631 |
| OH | 30.00 | 76.10 | | | .691 |
| OR | 23.00 | 75.00 | | | |
| PA | | | .40 | .330 | .600 |
| SC | | | | | .764 |
| SD | 32.80 | 89.10 | | | |
| TX | 39.10 | 87.50 | | .350 | .790 |
| UT | 26.00 | 83.00 | | | |
| VA | | | .44 | .330 | |
| WA | | | | | .842 |
| WY | 30.40 | 85.20 | | | |
| US | 34.20 | 84.10 | .418 | .337 | .711 |

- 1/ Entire month.
- 2/ Mid-month.
- 3/ IN, IA, MN and PA are actual liveweight prices. All other State prices are equivalent liveweight returns to producers (see footnote 4 for formula).
- 4/ Equivalent liveweight returns to producers. Derived from ready-to-cook (RTC) prices using the following formula: (RTC price minus processing cost) * (dressing percentage) = equivalent liveweight price.
- 5/ Market (table) eggs. Includes eggs sold retail by the producer.

Milk and Milk Cows: Prices Received, by States, February and March 1996

| State | February | | | | March | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|---------------|----------|---------|
| | Fluid Grade Milk 1/ | | Manufacturing Grade Milk | | All Milk 2/ | | All Milk 2/3/ | | Cows 4/ |
| | Price | Fat Test | Price | Fat Test | Price | Fat Test | Price | Fat Test | |
| AL | 15.40 | 3.63 | | | 15.40 | 3.63 | 15.20 | 3.58 | |
| AR | 15.40 | 3.67 | 11.90 | 3.70 | 15.40 | 3.67 | 15.10 | 3.55 | |
| CA | 12.50 | 3.70 | 11.90 | 3.94 | 12.48 | 3.71 | 12.50 | 3.66 | |
| CO | 13.90 | 3.72 | | | 13.90 | 3.72 | 14.00 | 3.69 | |
| FL | 16.90 | 3.63 | | | 16.90 | 3.63 | 16.70 | 3.60 | |
| GA | 15.50 | 3.66 | | | 15.50 | 3.66 | 15.40 | 3.60 | |
| ID | 13.10 | 3.69 | 12.50 | 3.98 | 13.10 | 3.71 | 13.20 | 3.68 | |
| IL | 13.80 | 3.83 | 13.20 | 3.88 | 13.80 | 3.83 | 13.70 | 3.76 | |
| IN | 14.20 | 3.85 | 11.90 | 3.94 | 14.10 | 3.85 | 13.90 | 3.78 | |
| IA | 13.30 | 3.83 | 12.60 | 3.91 | 13.20 | 3.84 | 12.90 | 3.76 | |
| KS | 13.40 | 3.74 | 11.90 | 3.80 | 13.40 | 3.74 | 13.30 | 3.67 | |
| KY | 14.80 | 3.75 | 11.10 | 3.79 | 14.80 | 3.75 | 14.60 | 3.67 | |
| LA | 15.50 | 3.52 | | | 15.50 | 3.52 | 15.30 | 3.45 | |
| MD | 14.20 | 3.83 | | | 14.20 | 3.83 | 14.10 | 3.83 | |
| MI | 14.00 | 3.81 | 11.90 | 3.84 | 14.00 | 3.81 | 14.10 | 3.76 | |
| MN | 13.90 | 3.82 | 12.60 | 3.81 | 13.76 | 3.82 | 13.80 | 3.79 | |
| MS | 14.90 | 3.58 | | | 14.90 | 3.58 | 14.90 | 3.57 | |
| MO | 14.60 | 3.72 | 12.20 | 3.84 | 14.50 | 3.73 | 14.40 | 3.67 | |
| NE | 13.30 | 3.83 | 12.80 | 3.93 | 13.20 | 3.84 | 13.00 | 3.80 | |
| NM | 12.80 | 3.65 | | | 12.80 | 3.65 | 12.60 | 3.58 | |
| NY | 13.90 | 3.76 | | | 13.90 | 3.76 | 13.90 | 3.76 | |
| NC | 15.70 | 3.76 | 12.10 | 4.09 | 15.70 | 3.76 | 15.50 | 3.70 | |
| ND | 13.40 | 3.75 | 12.30 | 3.79 | 12.90 | 3.77 | 12.80 | 3.72 | |
| OH | 14.30 | 3.87 | 11.80 | 3.99 | 14.10 | 3.88 | 13.80 | 3.85 | |
| OK | 15.00 | 3.73 | | | 15.00 | 3.73 | 14.80 | 3.68 | |
| OR | 13.30 | 3.74 | 12.80 | 4.25 | 13.30 | 3.75 | 13.10 | 3.66 | |
| PA | 14.70 | 3.83 | 12.70 | 4.01 | 14.70 | 3.83 | 14.60 | 3.79 | |
| TN | 15.20 | 3.77 | 11.70 | 3.85 | 15.10 | 3.77 | 14.70 | 3.72 | |
| TX | 14.00 | 3.67 | | | 14.00 | 3.67 | 13.60 | 3.59 | |
| UT | 13.30 | 3.71 | 12.90 | 3.82 | 13.30 | 3.72 | 13.20 | 3.64 | |
| VT | 14.30 | 3.81 | | | 14.30 | 3.81 | 14.00 | 3.80 | |
| VA | 14.60 | 3.77 | 11.10 | 3.83 | 14.60 | 3.77 | 14.40 | 3.75 | |
| WA | 13.30 | 3.74 | | | 13.30 | 3.74 | 13.10 | 3.70 | |
| WI | 13.90 | 3.85 | 13.02 | 3.93 | 13.83 | 3.86 | 14.00 | 3.84 | |
| US | 13.90 | 3.77 | 12.60 | 3.89 | 13.80 | 3.77 | 13.80 | 3.73 | |

- 1/ Including surplus diverted to manufacturing.
- 2/ Before deductions for hauling and government withholding. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.
- 3/ Preliminary.
- 4/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published Jan, Apr, Jul and Oct.

Parity Price Equivalent for Manufacturing Milk 1/: United States, February and March 1996, with Comparisons

| Item | Mar 1995 | Feb 1996 | Mar 1996 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Parity Equivalent.....Dol per Cwt | 24.77 | 25.87 | 25.96 |
| Average Price F.O.B.....Dol per Cwt | 11.70 | 12.60 | 2/12.50 |
| Average Fat Test of Milk..Percent | 3.79 | 3.89 | 2/3.84 |

- 1/ The parity price equivalent during 1996 is 91.4 percent of the parity price of all milk sold to plants, compared with 91.4 percent in 1995. For additional details, see January 1996 issue of Agricultural Prices.
- 2/ Preliminary.

United States Parity Prices for Farm Products and Average Prices Received as
Percent of Parity Prices Based on Data for March 1996, with Comparisons 1/

| Commodity and Unit | Parity Prices | | | | Prices as Percent | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|-------------------|------|------|
| | Adjusted: Base Prices | Based on Data for | | | of Parity | | |
| | Mar | Feb | Mar | Mar | Feb | Mar | |
| | 1995 | 1996 | 1996 | 1995 | 1996 | 1996 | |
| | Dollars | | | Percents | | | |
| Basic Commodities | | | | | | | |
| All Wheat, Bu | .618 | 8.54 | 9.12 | 9.13 | 41 | 55 | 54 |
| Rice, Cwt | 1.70 | 23.90 | 25.10 | 25.10 | 28 | 36 | 36 |
| Corn, Bu | .411 | 5.78 | 6.06 | 6.07 | 40 | 56 | 58 |
| Cotton, Lb | | | | | | | |
| American Upland | .114 | 1.58 | 1.68 | 1.68 | 52 | 46 | 45 |
| Extra Long Staple | .152 | 2.05 | 2.24 | 2.25 | | | |
| Peanuts, Lb | .0444 | .613 | .655 | .656 | | | |
| Tobacco, By Type, Lb | | | | | | | |
| Flue-Cured 11-14 | .251 | 3.52 | 3.70 | 3.71 | | | |
| VA Fire-Cured, 21 | .230 | 3.16 | 3.39 | 3.40 | | | |
| KY-TN Fire-Cured, 22-23 | .298 | 4.08 | 4.40 | 4.40 | 44 | 49 | 43 |
| Burley, 31 | .260 | 3.60 | 3.84 | 3.84 | | 49 | |
| Maryland, 32 | .218 | 3.03 | 3.22 | 3.22 | 55 | | 52 |
| Dark Air-Cured, 35-36 | .247 | 3.38 | 3.64 | 3.65 | | 40 | |
| Sun-Cured, 37 | .206 | 2.77 | 3.04 | 3.04 | | | |
| PA Seedleaf, 41 | .161 | 2.21 | 2.37 | 2.38 | | | |
| Cigar Filler & Binder, | | | | | | | |
| 42-44, 54-55 | .198 | 2.77 | 2.92 | 2.92 | | | |
| Puerto Rican Filler, 46 | .173 | 2.42 | 2.55 | 2.56 | | | |
| Cigar Binder, 51-52 | .373 | 4.81 | 5.50 | 5.51 | | | |
| Designated Nonbasic | | | | | | | |
| All Milk, Sold to | | | | | | | |
| Plants, Per Cwt | 1.92 | 27.10 | 28.30 | 28.40 | 2/49 | 2/50 | 2/51 |
| Honey, Extracted, Lb | 3/.0812 | 1.17 | 1.20 | 1.20 | | | |
| Wool and Mohair | | | | | | | |
| Wool, Lb 4/ | .282 | 3.87 | 4.16 | 4.17 | | | |
| Mohair, Lb | .708 | 10.00 | 10.40 | 10.50 | | | |
| Other Nonbasic | | | | | | | |
| Barley, Bu | .373 | 5.17 | 5.50 | 5.51 | 41 | 60 | 59 |
| Cottonseed, Ton | 14.90 | 203.00 | 220.00 | 220.00 | | 55 | |
| Dry Edible Beans, Cwt | 3.26 | 45.30 | 48.10 | 48.20 | 47 | 41 | 43 |
| Flaxseed, Bu | .740 | 10.60 | 10.90 | 10.90 | 48 | 48 | 49 |
| Oats, Bu | .229 | 3.21 | 3.38 | 3.38 | 41 | 58 | 60 |
| Potatoes, Cwt | .865 | 11.60 | 12.80 | 12.80 | 46 | 53 | 62 |
| Rye, Bu | .281 | 3.83 | 4.14 | 4.15 | | | |
| Sorghum Grain, Cwt | .642 | 8.93 | 9.47 | 9.48 | 42 | 66 | 67 |
| Soybeans, Bu | .886 | 12.40 | 13.10 | 13.10 | 44 | 54 | 53 |
| Sweetpotatoes, Cwt | 1.35 | 19.00 | 19.90 | 19.90 | | | |
| Apples, Fresh, Lb 5/ | .0286 | .387 | .422 | .422 | 47 | 59 | 60 |
| Citrus (equiv on-tree), box: | | | | | | | |
| Grapefruit | .671 | 9.96 | 9.90 | 9.91 | 11 | 20 | 12 |
| Lemons | 1.23 | 16.30 | 18.10 | 18.20 | 15 | 3 | 1 |
| Limes (FL) | 1.41 | 20.40 | 20.80 | 20.80 | | 161 | |
| Oranges | .824 | 12.40 | 12.20 | 12.20 | 33 | 36 | 37 |
| Tangerines | 1.94 | 27.40 | 28.60 | 28.70 | 59 | 46 | 39 |
| Temples (FL) | .674 | 10.30 | 9.94 | 9.95 | 24 | 46 | 62 |
| Beef Cattle, Cwt | 10.10 | 141.00 | 149.00 | 149.00 | 47 | 39 | 38 |
| Calves, Cwt | 13.00 | 180.00 | 192.00 | 192.00 | 47 | 31 | 31 |
| Hogs, Cwt | 6.89 | 97.40 | 102.00 | 102.00 | 39 | 45 | 47 |
| Lambs, Cwt | 10.20 | 142.00 | 150.00 | 151.00 | 53 | 56 | |
| Sheep, Cwt | 4.09 | 56.60 | 60.30 | 60.40 | 56 | 57 | |
| Eggs, Doz | .0931 | 1.30 | 1.37 | 1.38 | 2/48 | 2/54 | 2/58 |
| Turkeys, Live, Lb | .0586 | .838 | .864 | .866 | 46 | 49 | 48 |

--continued

Parity Prices Based on Data for March 1996, United States 1/ (continued)

| Other Nonbasic Commodities | : Adj Base Prices | : Parity Prices | : Other Nonbasic Commodities | : Adj Base Prices | : Parity Prices |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | Dollars | | | Dollars | |
| Field Crops and Misc Commodities | | | Noncitrus Fruit | | |
| Hops, Lb | .245 | 3.62 | Pears, Ton | | |
| Tobacco, Lb Type 61 | 2.71 | 40.00 | Fresh 5/ | 49.90 | 737.00 |
| | | | Dried, CA 7/ | 133.00 | 1960.00 |
| Noncitrus Fruit | | | Plums, CA, Ton | | |
| Apples, Ton 7/ | | | Fresh, Equiv on-Tree | 58.20 | 860.00 |
| Processing | 18.00 | 266.00 | Prunes, Dried, CA, Ton 7/ | 133.00 | 1960.00 |
| Apricots, Ton | | | Prunes and Plums, Excl CA, Ton | | |
| Fresh 8/ | 161.00 | 2380.00 | Fresh 10/ | 55.90 | 826.00 |
| Dried, CA | 310.00 | 4580.00 | Processing 7/ | | |
| Avocados, Ton 8/ | 171.00 | 2530.00 | Excl Dried | 18.90 | 279.00 |
| Cherries | | | | | |
| Sweet, Ton | 140.00 | 2070.00 | Tree Nuts 11/ | | |
| Tart, Lb | .0294 | .434 | Almonds, Lb | .212 | 3.13 |
| Cranberry, Bbl 6/ | 7.10 | 105.00 | Hazelnuts, Ton | 117.00 | 1730.00 |
| Dates, CA, Ton 8/ | 137.00 | 2020.00 | Walnuts, Ton | 164.00 | 2420.00 |
| Grapes, Ton | | | | | |
| Raisin Variety | 135.00 | 1990.00 | Vegetables, Cwt 12/ | | |
| Other, Dried | 49.90 | 737.00 | Fresh | | |
| Nectarines | | | Carrots 9/ | 1.67 | 24.70 |
| Fresh, Calif, Ton 8/ | 62.30 | 920.00 | Cauliflower 9/ | 4.11 | 60.70 |
| Olives, CA | | | Celery 9/ | 1.89 | 27.90 |
| Canning, Ton 6/ | 95.00 | 1400.00 | Honeydew Melons | 2.38 | 35.20 |
| Peaches | | | Lettuce | 2.14 | 31.60 |
| Fresh, Lb 5/ | .0406 | .600 | Onions 9/ | 1.80 | 26.60 |
| Dried, CA, Ton | 137.00 | 2020.00 | Tomatoes | 4.38 | 64.70 |
| Processing 6/ | | | | | |
| Excl Dried | | | | | |
| Clingstone, CA, Ton | 30.70 | 453.00 | | | |

- 1/ Parity prices are computed under the provisions of Title III, Subtitle a, Section 301 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948, 1949, and 1956. See January and July Agricultural Prices for details on adjusted base price and parity price computations.
- 2/ Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price.
- 3/ Wholesale extracted. Adjusted base price derived from state annual averages prices weighted by production. For 1982 through 1985 the national averages are the support prices.
- 4/ Average local market price, excluding incentive payments.
- 5/ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, NY (apples only), OR (except peaches), and WA. Price at point of first sale for other states.
- 6/ Equivalent returns for bulk fruit at first delivery point.
- 7/ Equivalent returns at processing plant door.
- 8/ Equivalent returns at packinghouse door.
- 9/ Includes some processing.
- 10/ Based on "as sold" prices for fresh fruit in all states.
- 11/ Prices in-shell basis except almonds which are shelled basis.
- 12/ F.O.B. shipping point prices.

Wool and Mohair: Prices Received, Marketing Year Average,
by States, 1994-95 1/

| State | Wool | | Mohair | |
|--------|------|------|---------|---------|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1994 | 1995 |
| AL | .83 | 1.15 | | |
| AK | 1.20 | 1.25 | | |
| AZ | .47 | .62 | .74 | 1.52 |
| CA | .65 | 1.02 | | |
| CO | .72 | 1.09 | | |
| CT | .62 | .78 | | |
| ID | .68 | .88 | | |
| IL | .38 | .55 | | |
| IN | .34 | .55 | | |
| IA | .39 | .60 | | |
| KS | .63 | .83 | | |
| KY | .53 | .70 | | |
| LA | .53 | .68 | | |
| ME | .80 | .76 | | |
| MD | .54 | .81 | | |
| MA | .79 | .80 | | |
| MI | .52 | .68 | 2.67 | 1.70 |
| MN | .42 | .64 | | |
| MO | .42 | .64 | | |
| MT | .86 | 1.23 | | |
| NE | .50 | .65 | | |
| NV | .73 | 1.08 | | |
| NH | .81 | .98 | | |
| NJ | .66 | .76 | | |
| NM | .83 | 1.17 | 1.61 | 1.66 |
| NY | .65 | .84 | | |
| NC | .61 | .85 | | |
| ND | .61 | .94 | | |
| OH | .48 | .65 | | |
| OK | .64 | .79 | 2.52 | 1.73 |
| OR | .55 | .80 | | |
| PA | .58 | .78 | | |
| SD | .75 | 1.08 | | |
| TN | .65 | .82 | | |
| TX | 1.05 | 1.15 | 2.62 | 1.85 |
| UT | .70 | 1.01 | | |
| VT | .81 | .84 | | |
| VA | .63 | .88 | | |
| WA | .60 | .84 | | |
| WV | .56 | .88 | | |
| WI | .44 | .62 | | |
| WY | .84 | 1.20 | | |
| Oth 2/ | .57 | .70 | | |
| US | .78 | 1.04 | 2.56 3/ | 1.84 3/ |

1/ Average local market price for wool sold; does not include incentive payment.

2/ Includes AR, DE, FL, GA, MS, RI and SC.

3/ 5-States

Reliability of Prices Received by Farmers Estimates

Definition: Prices received represent sales from producers to first buyers. They include all grades and qualities. The average commodity price from the survey multiplied by the total quantity marketed theoretically should give the total cash receipts for the commodity.

Survey Procedures: Primary sales data used to determine grain prices were obtained from probability samples of 2600 mills and elevators. These procedures ensure that virtually all grain moving into commercial channels has a chance of being included in the survey. Generally, States surveyed account for 90 percent or more of total U.S. production. Livestock prices are obtained from packers, stockyards, auctions, dealers, and market check data from AMS-USDA, private marketing organizations, and state commodity groups and agencies. Inter-farm sales of grain and livestock are not included since they represent very small percentages of the total marketings. Grain marketed for seed is also excluded. Fruit and vegetable prices are obtained from sample surveys and market check data from AMS-USDA, private marketing organizations, state agencies, and universities.

Summary and Estimation Procedures: Survey quantities sold are expanded by strata to state levels and used to weight average strata prices to a state average. State prices are then weighted to a U.S. price based on expanded marketings. Recommendations are prepared by the State Statistical Offices and reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board in Washington, D.C. State recommendations are reviewed for reasonableness with survey data, other States, and recent historic estimates.

Revisions: For most items, the current month's price represents a 3-5 day period around the mid-month. Previous month's prices represent actual dollars received for quantities sold during the entire month. Revisions are published in monthly issues of "**Agricultural Prices**" and in the annual summary published in July. A schedule of monthly revisions is published in the December issue of "**Agricultural Prices**" and in the July annual summary.

Reliability: U.S. price estimates generally have a sampling error of less than one half percent for the major commodities such as corn, wheat, soybeans, cotton, and rice. To assist users in evaluating the reliability of prices received estimates for major grain commodities, the "**Root Mean Square Error**" is shown in the table on the next page. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the difference between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for the 5-month corn price is 0.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current 5-month price of \$2.47 per bushel will not be above or below the final 5-month price by more than 0.2 percent, or about half of a cent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90% confidence interval) that the difference will not exceed 0.3 percent, or about three-fourths of a penny.

Prices Paid

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 113 (1990-92=100), unchanged from February 1996 but up 4.6 percent from March 1995.

Production Index: The farm production, goods, and services index for March 1995, at 113, was unchanged from last month but up 6.6 percent from March 1995. Since February 1996, price increases for fertilizer and feed were offset by lower prices for feeder cattle purchases and fuels.

Livestock and Poultry: The index for livestock and poultry purchases was 72, a drop of 1.4 percent from last month and 14 percent from March a year earlier. Lower February feeder cattle and calf prices more than offset higher feeder pig prices.

Fertilizer: The fertilizer index rose to 124, up 2.5 percent since February and 6.9 percent from March last year. Prices since last month were higher for all fertilizer categories.

Fuels: The fuel index, at 93, was down 2.1 percent from last month but was up 13 percent from March 1995. Compared with February 1996, lower diesel and gasoline prices were partially offset by higher LP fuel prices.

Feed: At 132, the feed index increased 0.8 percent from February and 39 percent from March a year ago. Since February, higher feed grain, supplement, and hay prices more than offset lower complete feed and concentrate prices.

Farm Machinery: The March index, at 119, was up 0.8 percent from February and 7.2 percent above March 1995. Prices for non self-propelled farm machinery were slightly higher compared to last month. Tractor and self-propelled machinery prices were unchanged from February.

Consumer Price Index: The February 1996 Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent before seasonal adjustment to a level of 154.9 (1982-84=100). The January index was 154.4. For the 12-month period ending in February, the overall index increased 2.7 percent.

Index Numbers of Prices Paid by Farmers and Related Parity Ratios
United States, March 1996 With Comparisons

| Indexes and Ratios | 1910-14 = 100 | | | 1990-92 = 100 | | |
|---|---------------|-------|------|---------------|------|-----|
| | 1995 | 1996 | | 1995 | 1996 | |
| | Mar | Feb | Mar | Mar | Feb | Mar |
| Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities & Services, Interest, Taxes, & Wage Rates (PPITW) | 1418 | 1475 | 1477 | 108 | 113 | 113 |
| Production | 1022 | *1090 | 1091 | 106 | 113 | 113 |
| Feed | 463 | *642 | 646 | 95 | 131 | 132 |
| Livestock and Poultry | 1075 | 926 | 914 | 84 | 73 | 72 |
| Seeds | 1091 | 1091 | 1091 | 110 | 110 | 110 |
| Fertilizer | 423 | 440 | 449 | 116 | 121 | 124 |
| Agricultural Chemicals | 715 | 718 | 717 | 116 | 117 | 117 |
| Fuels | 631 | 742 | 722 | 82 | 95 | 93 |
| Supplies & Repairs | 791 | 803 | 807 | 111 | 113 | 114 |
| Autos & Trucks | 3185 | *3314 | 3318 | 120 | 125 | 126 |
| Farm Machinery | 2773 | *2946 | 2949 | 111 | 118 | 119 |
| Building Material | 1542 | 1542 | 1542 | 113 | 114 | 114 |
| Farm Services & Rent | 1400 | 1444 | 1448 | | | |
| Farm Services | | | | 117 | 118 | 117 |
| Rent | | | | 116 | 119 | 119 |
| Interest 1/ | 2578 | 2540 | 2540 | 103 | 101 | 101 |
| Taxes 2/ | 3123 | 3243 | 3243 | 117 | 121 | 121 |
| Wage Rates | 4348 | 4418 | 4418 | 116 | 119 | 119 |
| Production, Interest, Taxes, & Wage Rates (PITW) | 1431 | *1511 | 1512 | 107 | 112 | 112 |
| Family Living-CPI 3/ | 1433 | *1457 | 1462 | 112 | 115 | 115 |
| Ratio (Received\Paid) | | | | 92 | 94 | 96 |
| Parity Ratio 4/ | 45 | *46 | 47 | | | |
| Parity Ratio Adjusted 5/ | 47 | 46 | 47 | | | |
| PPITW Adjusted for Productivity 6/ | 977 | 1001 | 1003 | | | |
| Crop Sector (PPITW) | | | | 112 | 115 | 115 |
| Livestock Sector (PPITW) | | | | 105 | 112 | 112 |
| Farm Sector (Production) | | | | 93 | 107 | 107 |
| Non-Farm Sector (Production) | | | | 113 | 116 | 116 |

* Revised. 1/ Interest per acre on farm real estate debt and interest rate on farm non-real estate debt. 2/ Farm real estate taxes payable per acre. 3/ Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U), for the previous month converted by the USDA. 4/ Ratio of index of prices received to PPITW (1910-14=100). 5/ Based on estimated cash receipts, from marketings and government payments, the preliminary adjustment factor is 1.020 for 1996 and the revised factor is 1.034 for 1995. 6/ PPITW is adjusted based on productivity trend for the prior 15 years.

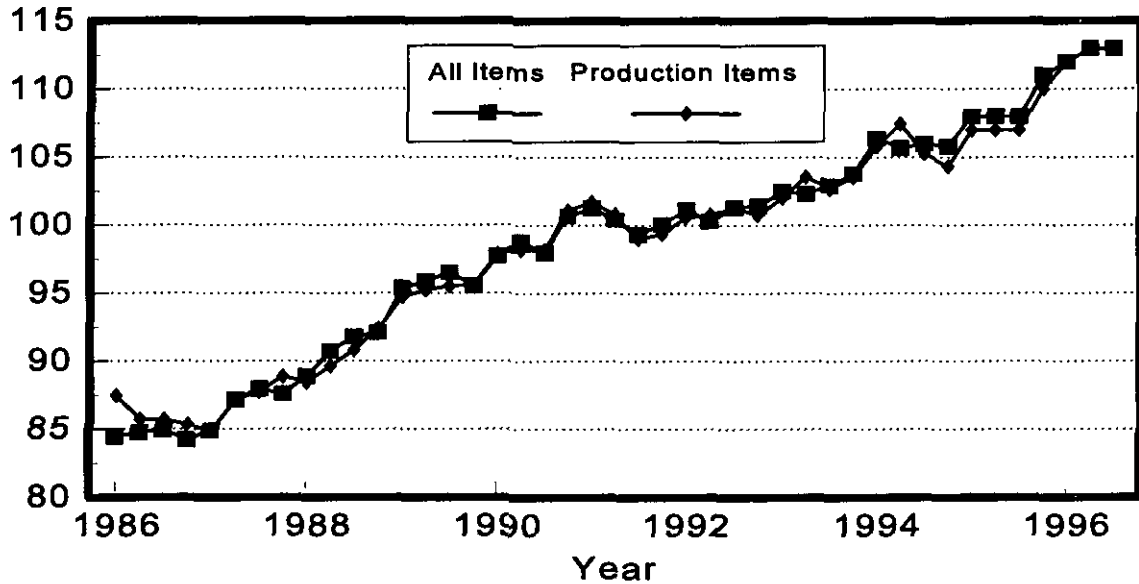
Prices Paid Indexes and Annual Weights for Selected Production
Input Sub-Components United States, March 1996 With Comparisons

| Index | Relative Weights | | Input Indexes | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|---------------------------|------|-----|
| | 5-Year Moving Average | | 1995 | 1996 | |
| | 1995 | 1996 | Mar | Feb | Mar |
| | ----- Percent ----- | | ----- (1990-92=100) ----- | | |
| Production Items | 66.3 | 66.1 | 106 | 113 | 113 |
| Feed | 11.5 | 11.2 | 95 | 131 | 132 |
| Complete Feeds | 5.0 | 4.9 | 99 | 120 | 120 |
| Feed Grains | 2.1 | 2.1 | 98 | *146 | 153 |
| Hay/Forages | 1.3 | 1.2 | 108 | 105 | 106 |
| Concentrates | 1.8 | 1.8 | 83 | 144 | 141 |
| Supplements | 1.3 | 1.2 | 80 | 158 | 161 |
| Livestock & Poultry | 8.4 | 8.3 | 84 | 73 | 72 |
| Feeder Cattle | 6.5 | 6.4 | 83 | 68 | 66 |
| Milk Cow Replacements | .7 | .7 | 102 | 94 | 94 |
| Feeder Pigs | .7 | .7 | 61 | 73 | 80 |
| Poultry | .5 | .5 | 103 | 103 | 103 |
| Seeds | 2.7 | 2.7 | 110 | 110 | 110 |
| Field Crops | 2.4 | 2.4 | 110 | 109 | 109 |
| Grasses/Legumes | .3 | .3 | 114 | 119 | 119 |
| Fertilizer | 4.7 | 4.6 | 116 | 121 | 124 |
| Mixed Fertilizer | 2.1 | 2.0 | 103 | 117 | 118 |
| Nitrogen | 2.0 | 1.9 | 133 | 129 | 132 |
| Potash & Potassium | .6 | .5 | 103 | 111 | 116 |
| Agricultural Chemicals | 3.4 | 3.4 | 116 | 117 | 117 |
| Herbicides | 2.1 | 2.1 | 112 | 114 | 114 |
| Insecticides | .8 | .8 | 121 | 124 | 124 |
| Fungicides/Other | .5 | .5 | 122 | 117 | 117 |
| Fuels | 2.9 | 2.9 | 82 | 95 | 93 |
| Diesel | 1.6 | 1.6 | 75 | 95 | 90 |
| LP Gas | .3 | .3 | 98 | 107 | 114 |
| Gasoline | 1.0 | 1.0 | 87 | 92 | 90 |
| Farm Supplies & Repairs | 5.4 | 5.4 | 111 | 113 | 114 |
| Supplies | 1.8 | 1.8 | 109 | 112 | 112 |
| Repairs | 3.6 | 3.6 | 113 | 114 | 115 |
| Autos & Trucks | 1.4 | 1.4 | 120 | 125 | 126 |
| Autos | .2 | .2 | 118 | 119 | 119 |
| Trucks | 1.2 | 1.2 | 120 | 126 | 127 |
| Farm Machinery | 4.5 | 4.5 | 111 | 118 | 119 |
| Self-Propelled | 1.8 | 1.8 | 111 | 120 | 120 |
| Tractors | 1.0 | 1.0 | 110 | 113 | 113 |
| Other Machinery | 1.7 | 1.7 | 110 | *119 | 120 |
| Building Materials | 2.4 | 2.5 | 113 | 114 | 114 |
| Farm Services | 11.1 | 11.2 | 117 | 118 | 117 |
| Custom Rates | 1.1 | 1.1 | 104 | 111 | 111 |
| Other Services | 10.0 | 10.1 | 118 | 118 | 118 |
| Rent | 7.8 | 8.0 | 116 | 119 | 119 |
| Cash | 3.5 | 3.6 | 123 | 129 | 129 |
| Share | 4.3 | 4.4 | 110 | 111 | 111 |

* Revised.

Prices Paid by Farmers, Major Indexes US, by Quarter and Month 1/

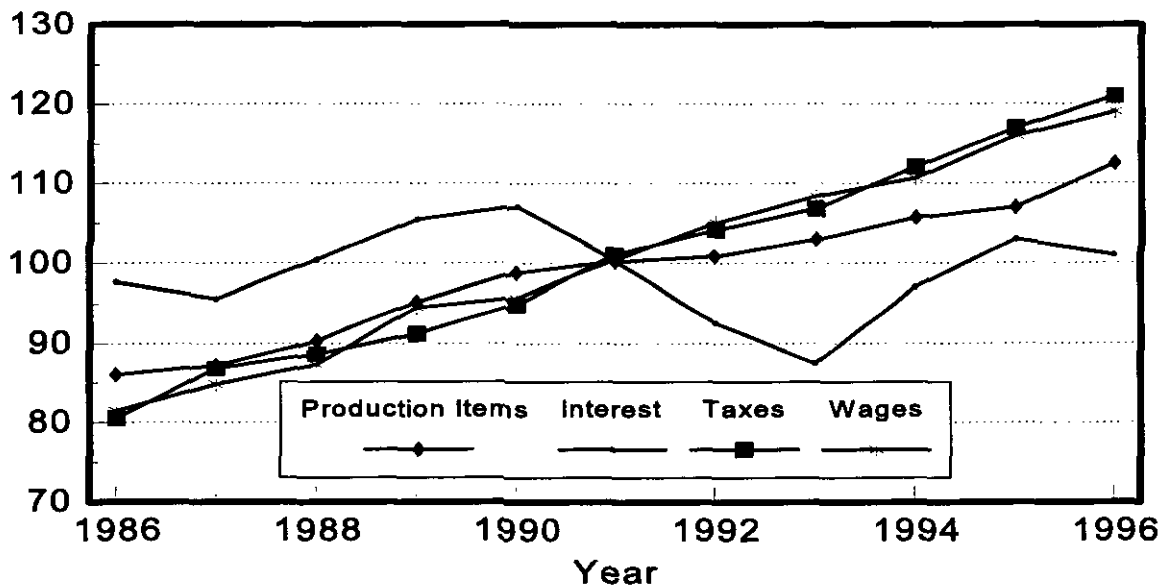
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1996.

Prices Paid by Farmers, Major Indexes US, Annual Averages 1/

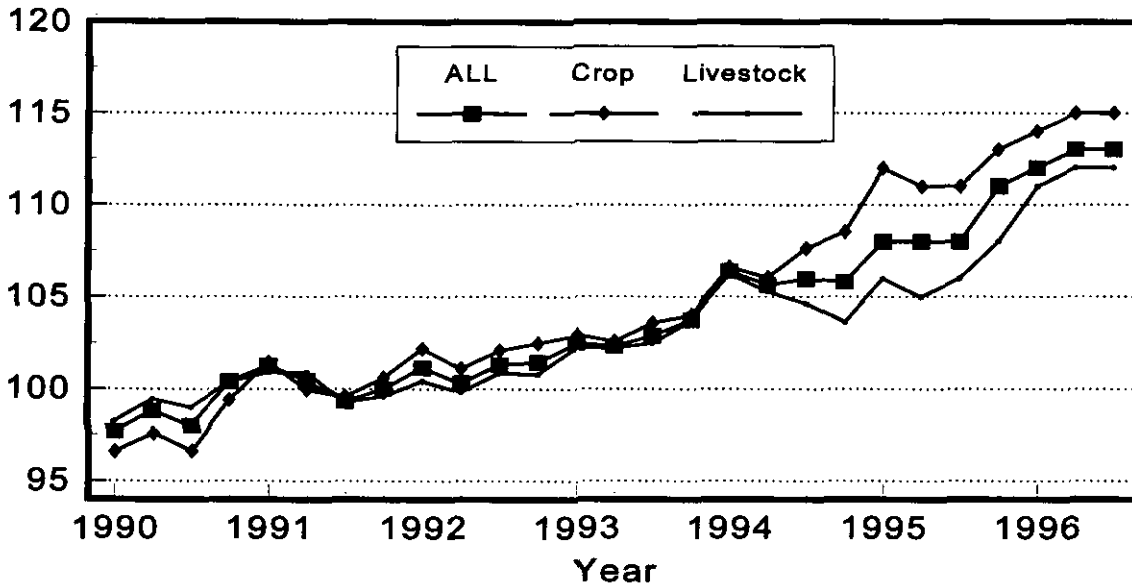
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values for 1996 are year-to-date averages.

Prices Paid by Farmers, Indexes, All Items US, By Farm Type 1/

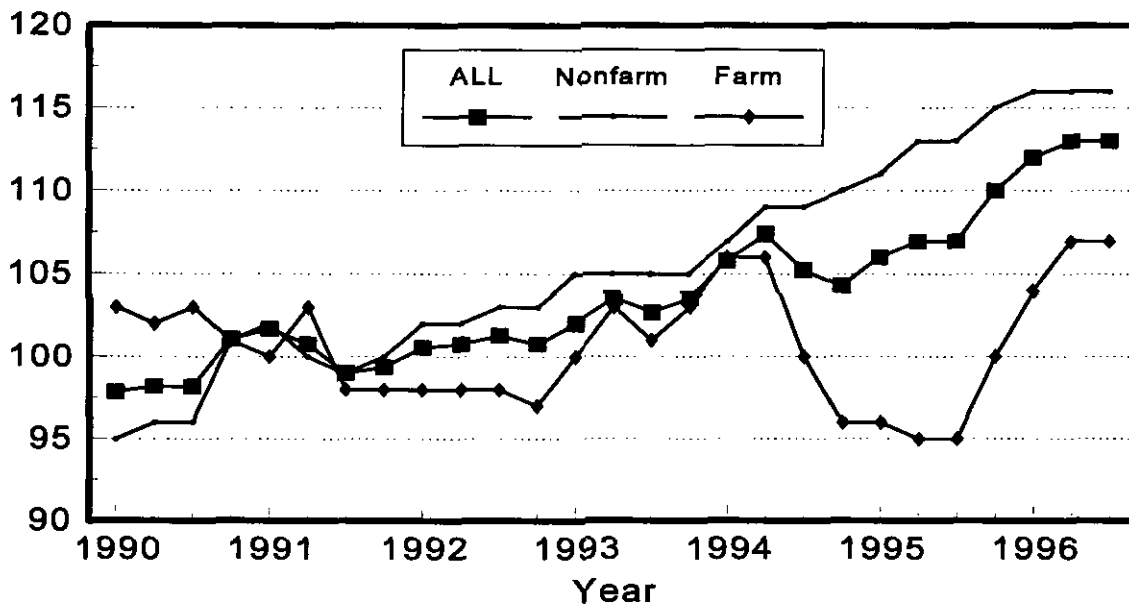
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1996.

Prices Paid by Farmers, Indexes, All Production Items US, By Sector Origin

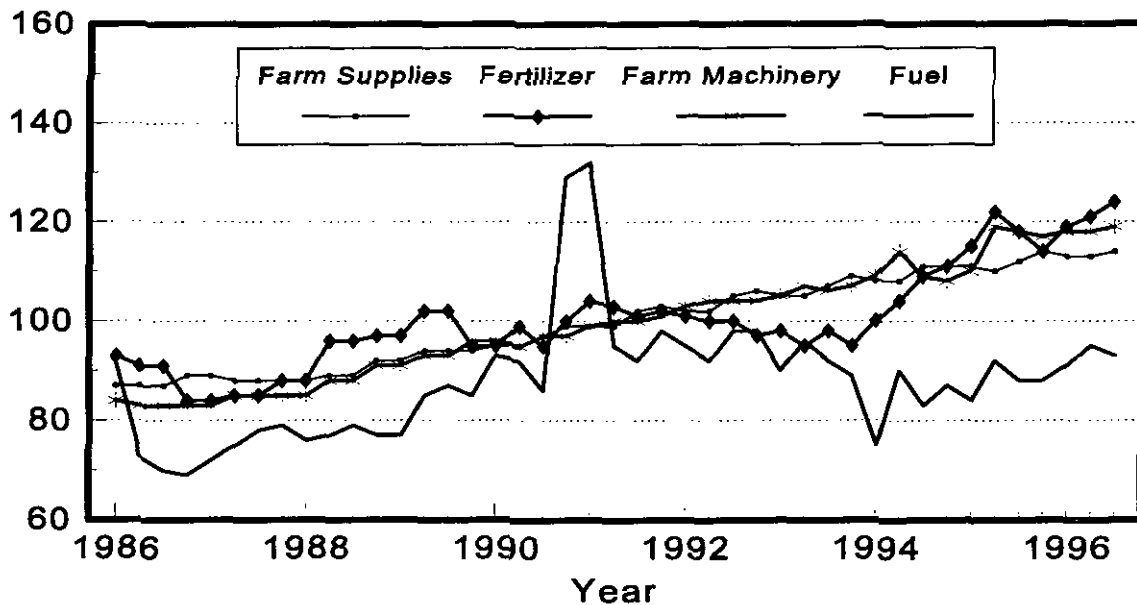
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1996.

Prices Paid by Farmers, Selected Production Indexes US, By Non-Farm Sector 1/

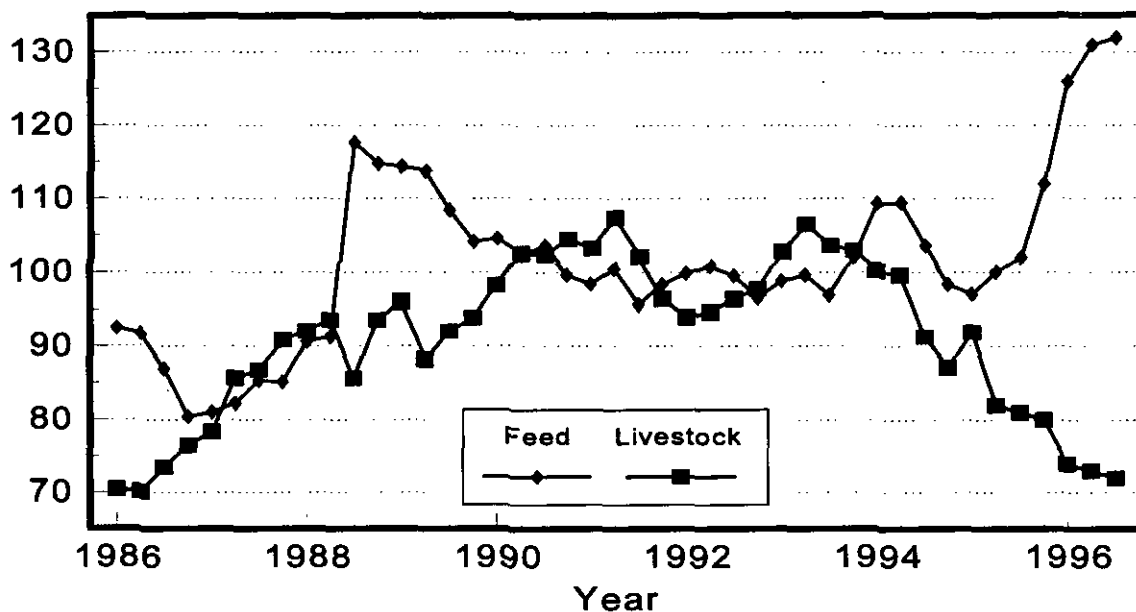
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1996.

Prices Paid by Farmers, Selected Production Indexes US, By Farm Sector 1/

Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1996.

Feed Price Ratios: With Comparisons, United States, March 1996

| Feed Price Ratio 1/ | 1995 | | 1996 | |
|--|------|-------|------|-----|
| | Mar | Feb | Mar | Mar |
| Broiler-Feed: Pounds of Broiler Grower equal in value to 1 pound of broiler, live weight. | 5.3 | *4.2 | 3.9 | |
| Market Egg Feed: Pounds of Laying Feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs. | 9.2 | *8.9 | 9.3 | |
| Hog-Corn: Bushels of Corn equal in value to 100 pounds of hog, live weight. | 16.4 | 13.8 | 13.7 | |
| Milk-Feed: Pounds of 16% Mixed Dairy Feed equal in value to 1 pound of Whole Milk. | 2.73 | *2.37 | 2.31 | |
| Steer Heifer-Corn: Bushels of Corn equal in value to 100 pounds of Steer & Heifers, live weight. | 30.6 | *18.1 | 17.1 | |
| Turkey-Feed: Pounds of Turkey Grower equal in value to 1 pound of Turkey, live weight. | 6.5 | *5.2 | 5.1 | |

1/ Effective January 1995, prices of commercial prepared feeds are based on current U.S. prices received for corn, soybeans, alfalfa hay, and all wheat.

* Revised.

Feeder Livestock and Poultry: Prices Paid, With Comparisons
United States, March 1996

| ITEM | Unit | 1995 | | 1996 | |
|-------------------|------|-------|---------|-------|-----|
| | | Mar | Feb | Mar | Mar |
| | | | Dollars | | |
| Cattle and Calves | Cwt | 70.40 | 57.70 | 56.00 | |
| Feeder Pigs | Cwt | - | 67.00 | 74.00 | |

Prices Paid by Farmers

Definition: Prices paid by farmers represent the average costs of inputs purchased by farmers and ranchers to produce agricultural commodities. Conceptually, the average price when multiplied by quantity purchased should equal total producer expenditures for the item.

Survey Procedures: The prices paid data are obtained from establishments that sell goods and services to farmers and ranchers. Annually, about 8,500 firms are randomly selected from lists by type of item sold with an average response rate in the range of 75-80 percent. Firms are asked to report the price for the specified item "most commonly bought by farmers" or that was the "volume seller". Approximately 135 items are surveyed each April to represent all production input items purchased. The survey reference period for most items is the 5 business days centered around the 15th of the month. Separate prices paid surveys are conducted for, agricultural chemicals, fuels, feed, fertilizer, machinery, and seed.

Summary and Estimation Procedures: The annual April Paid Survey is summarized as a nonprobability survey. Average prices reported are aggregated to the region and U.S. level using weights available from expenditure data and other administrative sources. Price recommendations are prepared by the State Statistical Offices and Headquarters for review by the Agricultural Statistics Board in Washington, D.C. Also, the change in price level for individual items surveyed are combined to the regional and U.S. levels, and are published as prices paid indexes referenced to a specific base period. Prices paid indexes for new autos and trucks, building materials, farm supplies, motor supplies, and marketing containers are updated based on price changes measured in selected Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indexes.

Revisions: Any revisions are published in the monthly and in annual issues of "Agricultural Prices". The basis for revision must be supported by additional data that directly affect the level of the estimate. More revisions are likely in April when separate prices paid surveys are conducted, in lieu of BLS indexes, by the USDA to measure price change.

Reliability: Current methods of summarization in April are not designed directly to calculate sampling errors. However, analytical measures approximate the U.S. relative sampling errors for major items around 10 percent. Any nonsampling errors are attributed to such things as the inability to obtain correct information, differences in interpreting questions or definitions, mistakes in coding or processing the data, etc. Efforts are made at each step in the survey process to minimize these nonsampling errors.

Program Change: Effective January 1, 1995, the National Agricultural Statistics Service updated the weights and changed the construction of its prices paid and received by farmers indexes. A Federal Register Notice dated October 28, 1994 discussed these program modifications.

A 1990-92 reference and base period replaced the 1977 reference and 1971-73 base weight period. Five-year moving average weights replaced the current fixed 1971-73 base period weights. The 1910-14=100 price indexes, required by statute for computing parity prices, were linked forward based on the changes in the new 1990-92=100 indexes. The new indexes were constructed by multiplying the ratios of the current prices to the base period prices by the moving average weights (adjusted for seasonal marketing patterns for the prices received indexes).

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Report Features

The next "Agricultural Prices" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on **April 30, 1996.**

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