



# Agricultural Prices

Released March 30, 2000, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Agricultural Prices" or other assistance, see page B-11.

## Prices Received Index Increases 4 Points

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in March was 96 based on 1990-92=100, up 4 points (4.3 percent) from the February index. Higher prices for lettuce, cattle, broilers, and broccoli more than offset price decreases for eggs, strawberries, celery, and apples. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of strawberries, milk, broilers, and tomatoes more than offset the relatively lower marketings of cattle, cotton, corn, and oranges. These marketing changes accounted for one point of the March index increase.

Compared with March 1999, the All Farm Products Index was unchanged. Price decreases from March 1999 for milk, oranges, eggs, and rice offset price increases for hogs, cattle, lettuce, and calves.

## Prices Paid Index Up 1 Point

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 120 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was up 1 point (0.8 percent) from February and 5 points (4.3 percent) above March 1999. Higher prices in March for feed concentrates, complete feeds, nitrogen materials, and gasoline more than offset lower prices for feeder cattle and mixed fertilizers.

Index Summary Table

Index 1990-92=100	1999		2000	
	Feb	Mar	Feb	Mar
Prices Received	96	96	92	96
Prices Paid	115	115	119	120
Ratio 1/	83	83	77	80

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

## Prices Received by Farmers

The March All Farm Products Index was 96 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 4.3 percent from the February index but unchanged from the March 1999 index.

**All Crops:** The March index was 96, up 6.7 percent from February but 2.0 percent below March 1999. Price increases from February for vegetables, feed grains and hay, cotton, and oilseeds more than offset price decreases for fruit and nuts and tobacco.

**Food Grains:** The March Food Grains Index, at 86, was up 1.2 percent from the previous month but 13 percent below March 1999. The March all wheat price, at \$2.57 per bushel, was up 3 cents from the February price but 8 cents below March 1999. The rice price, at \$5.99 per cwt, was up 1 cent from last month but \$2.94 below a year earlier.

**Feed Grains & Hay:** The March index was 90, up 2.3 percent from last month but 2.2 percent below March 1999. The corn price, at \$2.03 per bushel, was up 5 cents from February but 3 cents below the March 1999 price. The all hay price, at \$74.80 per ton, was up \$2.20 from last month but \$4.20 below March 1999.

**Oil-Bearing Crops:** The March Oil-Bearing Crops Index, at 87, was up 1.2 percent from the February index and 4.8 percent above March 1999. The soybean price, at \$4.87 per bushel, increased 8 cents from February and was 26 cents above March 1999.

**Cotton:** The March index, at 79, was up 3.9 percent from February but was 13 percent below March 1999. The cotton price, at 47.8 cents per pound, was up 1.9 cents from February but down 7.3 cents from last March. Strong foreign demand is pushing prices upward.

**Livestock and Products:** The March index, at 95, was up 1.1 percent from last month but unchanged from March 1999. Compared with a year ago, prices were higher for hogs, cattle, calves, and turkeys but lower for all milk, eggs, and broilers.

**Meat Animals:** The March index, at 94, was up 2.2 percent from last month and 19 percent from a year ago. The March hog price was \$41.30 per cwt, up \$1.40 from February and \$13.30 from a year ago. The March beef cattle price of \$69.30 was up \$1.70 from last month and up \$6.90 from March 1999. Strong retail demand and a reduction in cow slaughter continue to hold prices up.

**Dairy Products:** The March index, at 90, was unchanged from February but down 22 percent from March 1999. The March all milk price, at \$11.80 per cwt, was unchanged from February but down \$3.20 from last year. March fluid and manufacturing grade milk prices were unchanged from last month. Cheese prices decreased the first two weeks of March but increased the third week.

**Poultry and Eggs:** The March index, at 104, was unchanged from February but 4.6 percent below a year ago. The March broiler price, at 34.9 cents per pound, was up 1.4 cents from February. Demand was moderate and supplies balanced. Broiler placements are running 1 percent above a year ago. Market egg prices decreased 14.1 cents to 38.2 cents per dozen. Large supplies of market eggs and weak export demand have caused prices to decline. Turkey prices increased 2.5 cents to 38.2 cents per pound, following a seasonal increase.

Index Numbers of Prices Received, United States, March 2000,  
with Comparisons

Index	1910-14=100				1990-92=100		
	1999		2000		1999	2000	
	Average	Mar	Feb	Mar	Mar	Feb	Mar
All Farm Products	639	612	*586	608	96	92	96
All Crops	500	486	*445	474	98	*90	96
Food Grains	325	313	*272	274	99	*85	86
Feed Grains & Hay	363	328	*314	323	92	*88	90
Cotton	517	466	*388	404	91	*76	79
Tobacco	1263	1574	*1657	1635	104	*109	108
Oil-Bearing Crops	554	454	*470	476	83	*86	87
Fruit & Nuts	716	697	*571	599	100	*82	86
Commercial Vegetables	698	777	*581	803	116	*87	120
Potatoes & Dry Beans	540	497	*502	524	98	*99	104
Other Crops	493	532	532	532	108	108	108
Livestock & Products	768	725	*722	731	95	94	95
Meat Animals	1021	801	*930	955	79	*92	94
Dairy Products	799	922	725	725	115	90	90
Poultry & Eggs	282	307	293	293	109	104	104
Food Commodities					96	*92	95

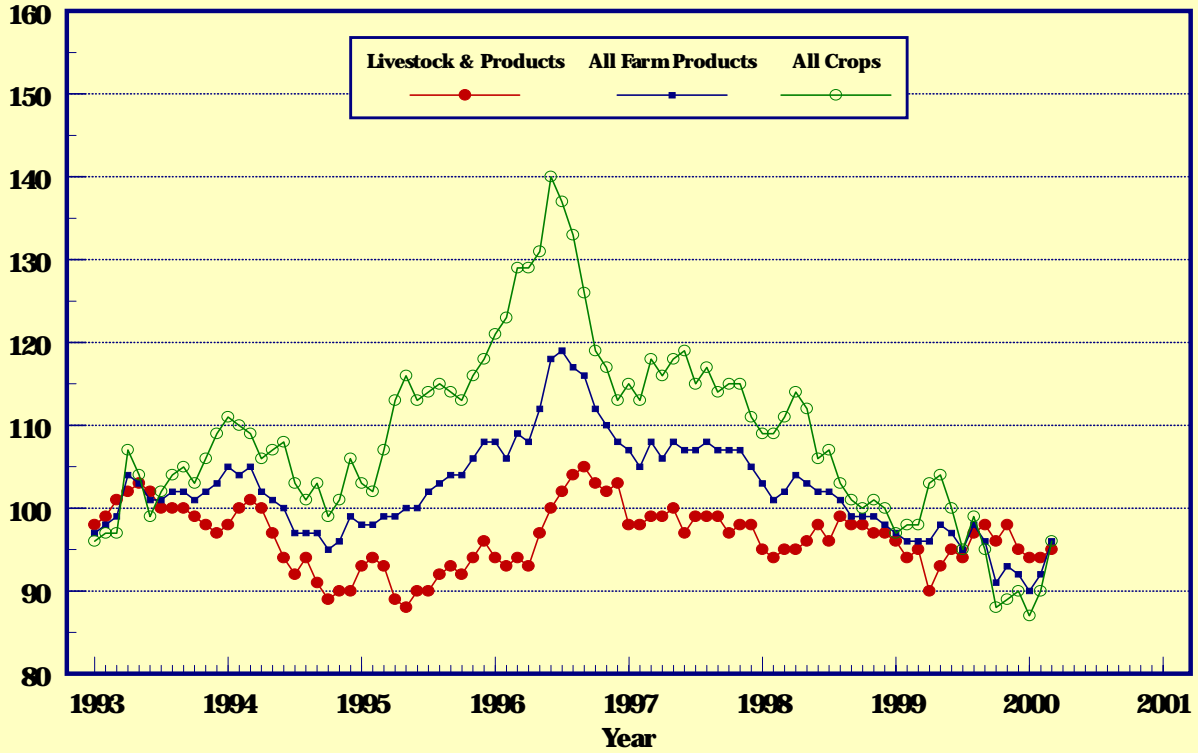
\* Revised.

Selected Index Numbers for Prices Received and Paid,  
1990-92=100, by Months, United States, 1999 and 2000

Month	Index of Prices Received				Index of Prices Paid					
	All Farm Products		All Crops		Livestock and Products		All Items		Production Items	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
Jan	97	90	97	87	96	94	115	118	111	115
Feb	96	92	98	90	94	94	115	119	111	116
Mar	96	96	98	96	95	95	115	120	111	117
Apr	96		103		90		115		111	
May	98		104		93		115		111	
Jun	97		100		95		115		111	
Jul	95		95		94		115		111	
Aug	98		99		97		115		112	
Sep	96		95		98		116		112	
Oct	91		88		96		117		113	
Nov	93		89		98		117		114	
Dec	92		90		95		118		115	

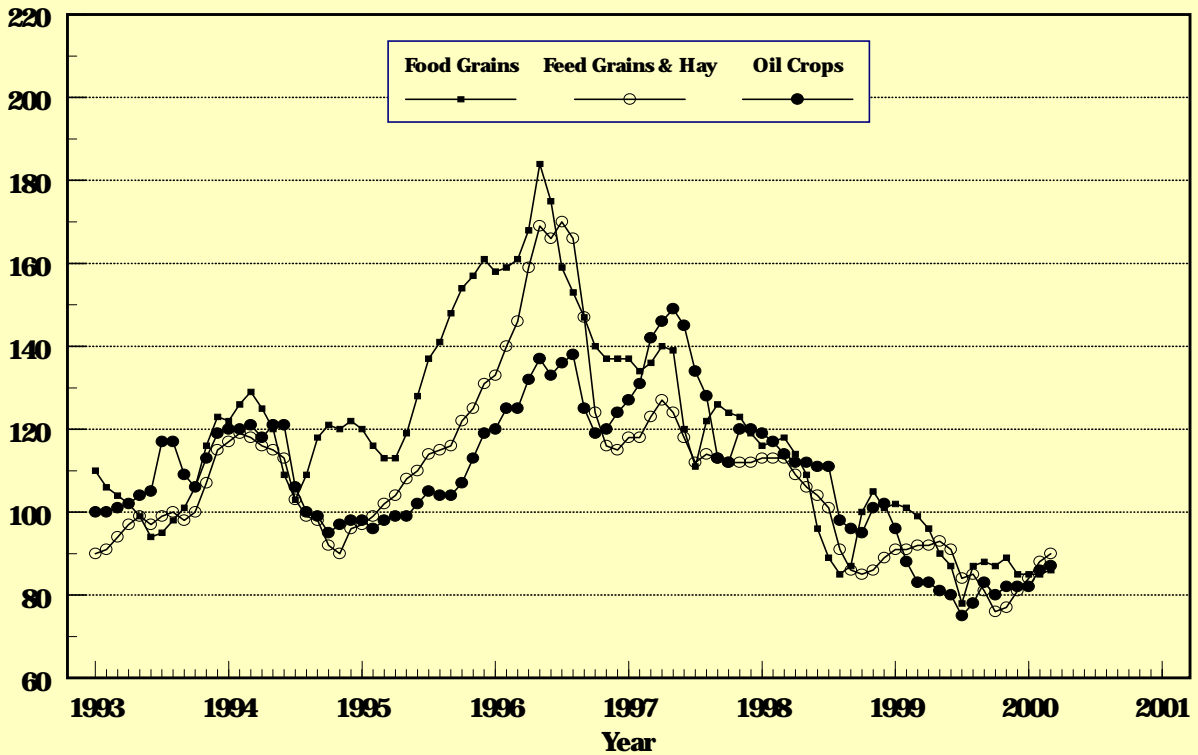
## Prices Received, Major Indexes, US

Index Values(1990-92= 100)



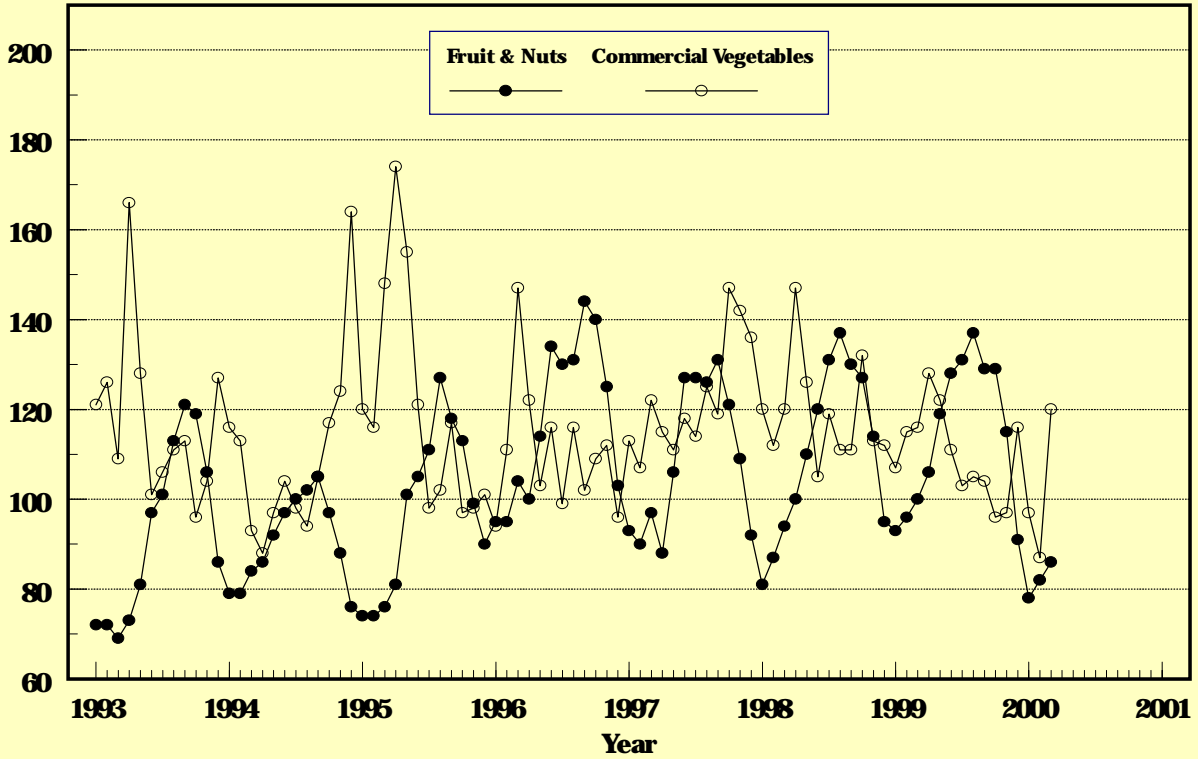
## Prices Received, Food, Feed & Oil Indexes, US

Index Values(1990-92= 100)



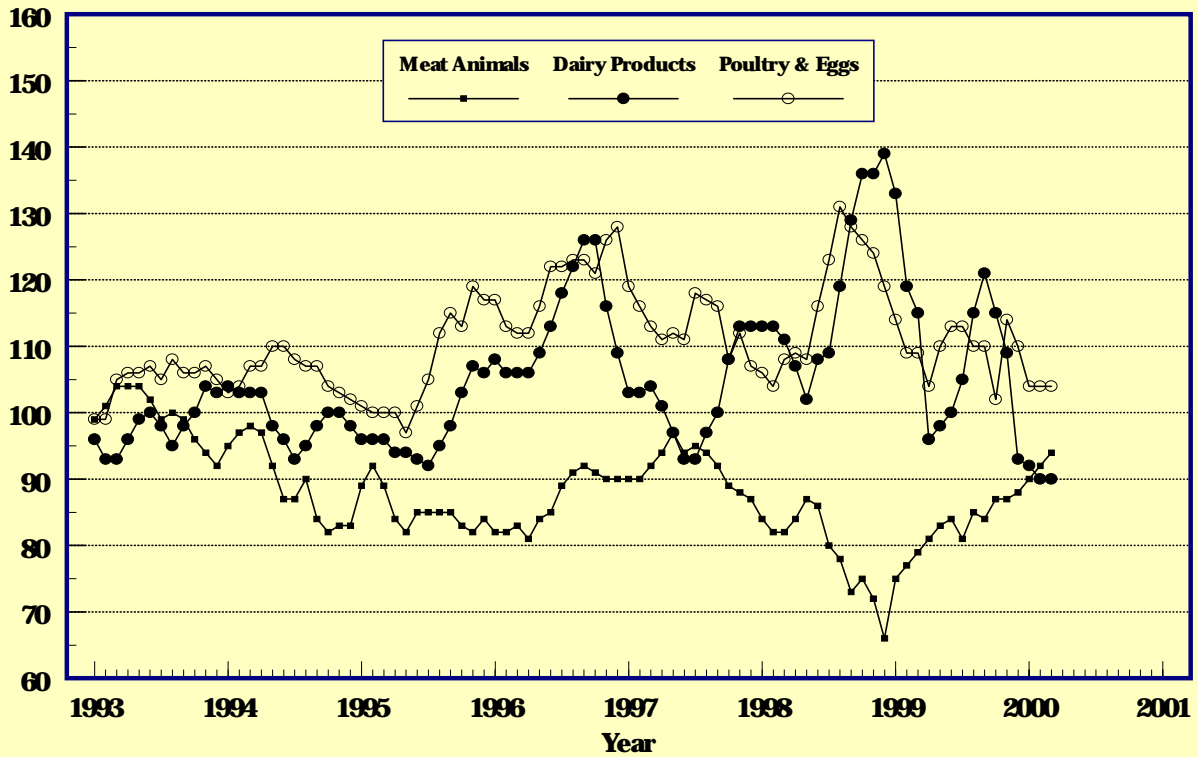
## Prices Received, Fruit/Vegetable Indexes, US

Index Values (1990-92= 100)



## Prices Received, Livestock Product Indexes, US

Index Values (1990-92= 100)



Prices Received, United States,  
March 2000, with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Average 1990-92	Entire Month		Preliminary
			Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000
Dollars					
Field Crops					
Barley, All	Bu	2.12	2.00	2.13	2.14
Feed	Bu	1.90	1.49	1.68	1.72
Malting	Bu	2.43	2.40	2.42	2.45
Beans, Dry Edible	Cwt	19.10	17.00	16.00	14.70
Corn	Bu	2.30	2.06	1.98	2.03
Cotton, Upland	Lb	.606	.551	.459	.478
Cottonseed	Ton	96.00		108.00	
Flaxseed	Bu	4.27	4.94	3.39	3.50
Hay, All, Baled 1/	Ton	76.30	79.00	72.60	74.80
Alfalfa 1/	Ton	77.20	83.20	77.40	78.00
Other 1/	Ton	60.00	67.40	66.70	66.70
Oats	Bu	1.22	1.20	1.27	1.28
Peanuts, In-Shell	Lb	.304			
Potatoes	Cwt	5.82	6.12	5.96	6.32
Rice, Rough	Cwt	7.07	8.93	5.98	5.99
Sorghum Grain	Cwt	3.75	3.16	3.08	3.28
Soybeans	Bu	5.61	4.61	4.79	4.87
Sunflower 2/	Cwt	9.50	10.80	8.77	8.68
Tobacco	Lb	1.740	1.810	1.905	1.880
Wheat, All	Bu	2.96	2.65	2.54	2.57
Winter	Bu	2.93	2.53	2.37	2.37
Durum	Bu	2.86	2.82	2.89	2.84
Other Spring	Bu	3.11	3.00	2.82	2.85
Hard Red Winter	Bu		2.53	2.37	
Soft Red Winter	Bu		2.28	2.34	
Hard Red Spring	Bu		3.06	2.86	
White	Bu	3.24	2.65	2.42	
Fruit					
Citrus-Equiv on-tree					
Grapefruit	Box	5.77	2.04	3.64	3.63
Lemons	Box	10.10	5.05	8.42	9.23
Limes 3/	Box	10.15	61.50		
Oranges	Box	5.79	6.03	3.51	3.54
Tangelos	Box	5.82		1.12	
Tangerines	Box	15.11	13.58	8.17	7.87
Temples	Box	6.23	3.57	2.08	1.95
Non-citrus					
Apples, Fresh 4/	Lb	.212	.153	.211	.205
Grapes, Fresh 4/	Ton	506.00			
Peaches, Fresh 4/	Lb	.216			
Pears, Fresh 4/	Ton	370.00	330.00	386.00	313.00
Strawberries, Fresh	Lb	.560	.954	.929	.766

1/ Mid-month price.

2/ KS, MN, ND and SD average.

3/ Current prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

4/ 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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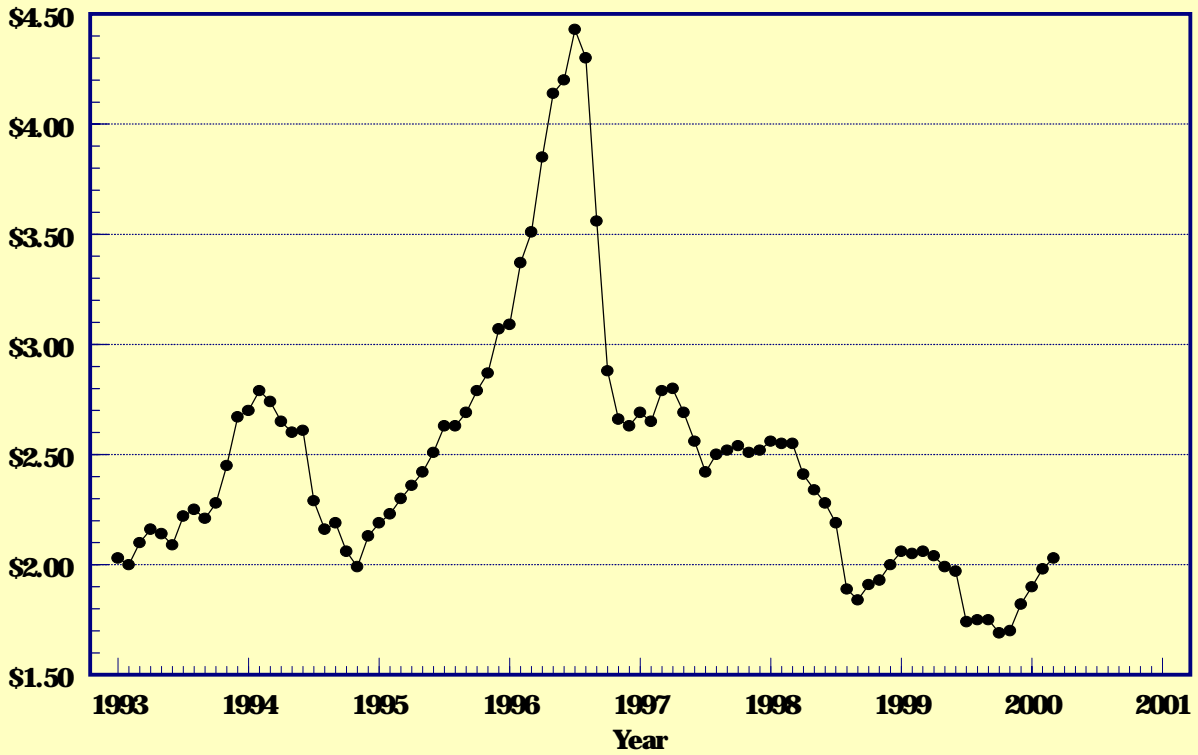
Prices Received, United States,  
March 2000, with Comparisons (continued)

Commodity	Unit	Average 1990-92	Entire Month		Preliminary
			Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000
Dollars					
Vegetables, Fresh 1/					
Asparagus	Cwt	79.80	178.00	99.70	100.00
Broccoli	Cwt	22.50	22.10	20.20	33.10
Cantaloupes	Cwt				
Carrots	Cwt	13.20	21.20	11.60	11.80
Cauliflower	Cwt	26.80	39.70	30.20	32.70
Celery	Cwt	11.60	8.35	16.00	12.70
Corn, Sweet	Cwt	15.70	26.30	21.40	18.90
Cucumbers 2/	Cwt		30.50	40.00	34.00
Lettuce	Cwt	11.90	14.50	9.28	18.90
Onions	Cwt	12.80	11.20	5.63	5.55
Snap Beans 2/	Cwt		46.00	49.60	52.40
Tomatoes	Cwt	32.30	24.80	23.50	32.00
Livestock					
Calves	Cwt	94.30	87.30	105.00	107.00
Cattle, All Beef	Cwt	72.90	62.40	67.60	69.30
Cows	Cwt	49.60	35.20	37.10	38.60
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	77.10	65.50	71.20	72.80
Milk Cows 3/	Head	1130.00			
Hogs, All	Cwt	47.70	28.00	39.90	41.30
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt	48.40	28.30	40.10	41.70
Sows	Cwt	39.50	21.00	36.50	34.50
Lambs	Cwt	56.20	67.40	72.00	
Sheep	Cwt	23.40	32.70	39.50	
Dairy and Poultry					
Milk, All 4/	Cwt	13.06	15.00	11.80	5/11.80
Fluid Grade	Cwt	13.10	15.10	11.90	5/11.90
Mfg Grade	Cwt	11.80	12.30	10.20	5/10.20
Broilers, Live 6/	Lb	.317	.358	.335	.349
Eggs, All 7/	Doz	.643	.679	.686	.574
Market 7/	Doz	.546	.531	.523	.382
Turkeys, Live 6/7/	Lb	.380	.370	.357	.382
Adjusted for Seasonal Variation					
Eggs, All	Doz	.545	.653	.641	.552
Milk, All 4/	Cwt	9.71	15.15	11.80	11.92

- 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. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.
- 5/ Fat test percent: all milk 3.73, fluid milk 3.73, mfg grade 3.82.
- 6/ Liveweight equivalent price.
- 7/ Mid-month price.

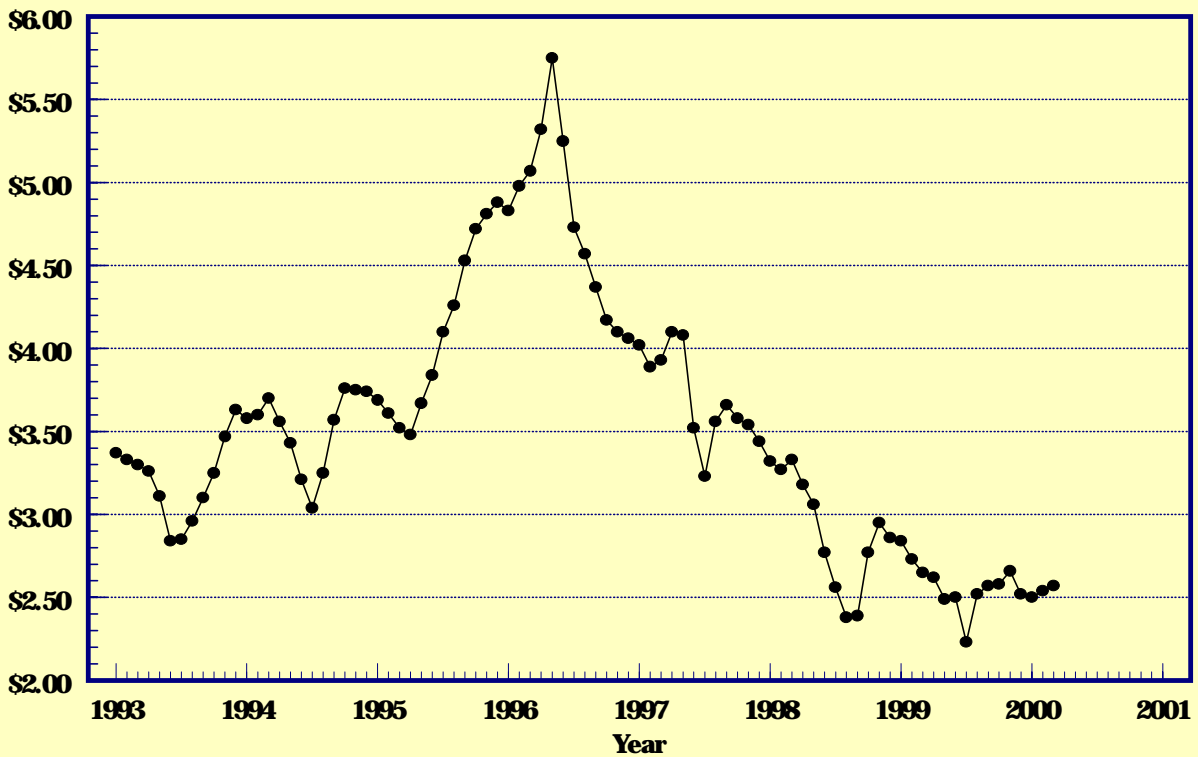
## Prices Received, Corn, US

Dollars per Bu



## Prices Received, Wheat, US

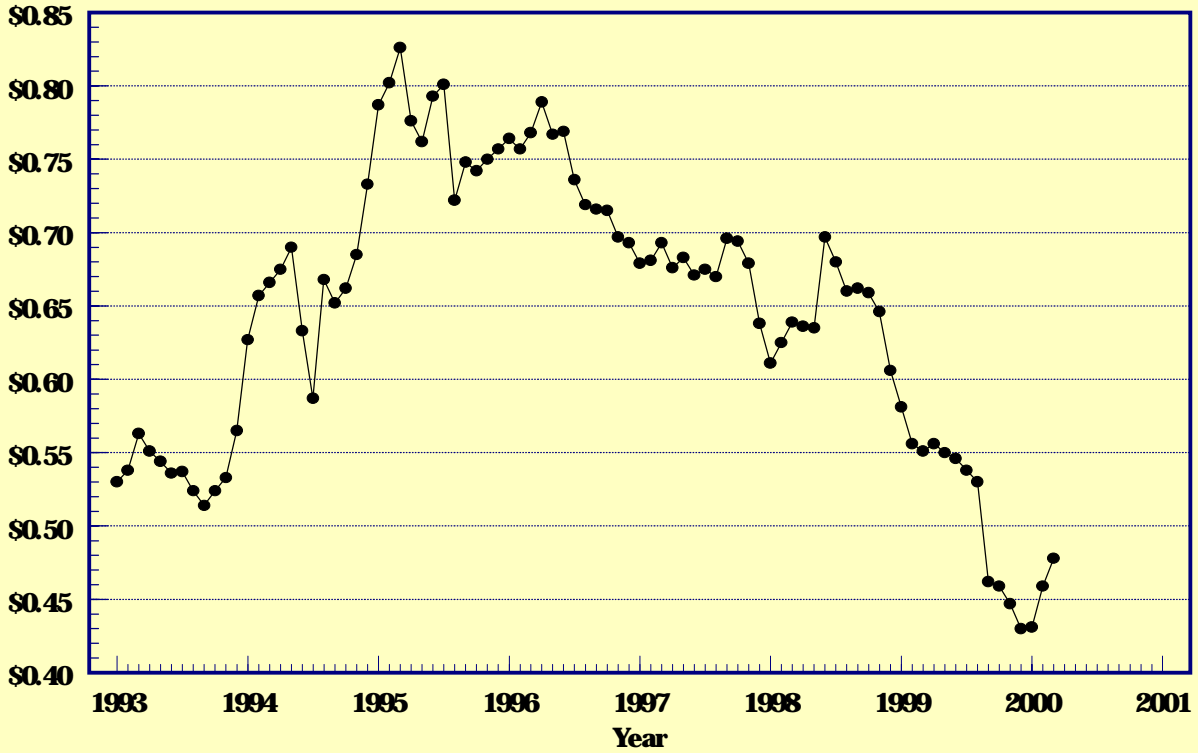
Dollars per Bu





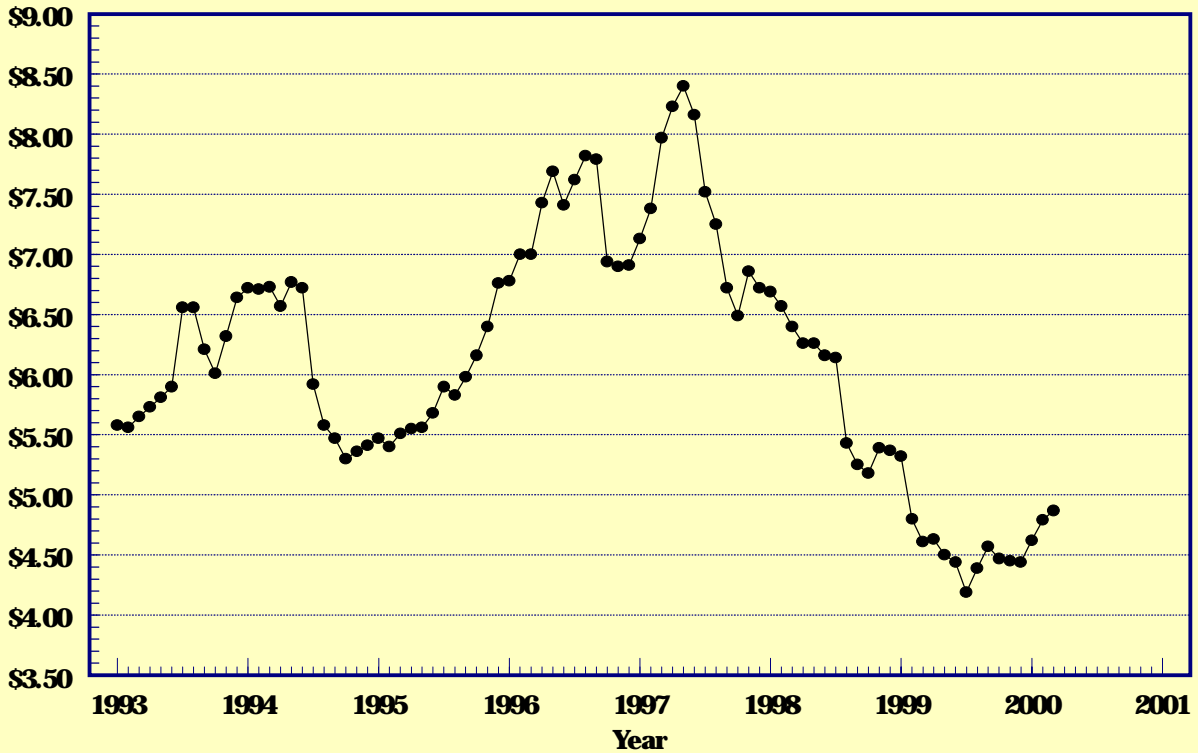
## Prices Received, Cotton, US

Dollars per Lb



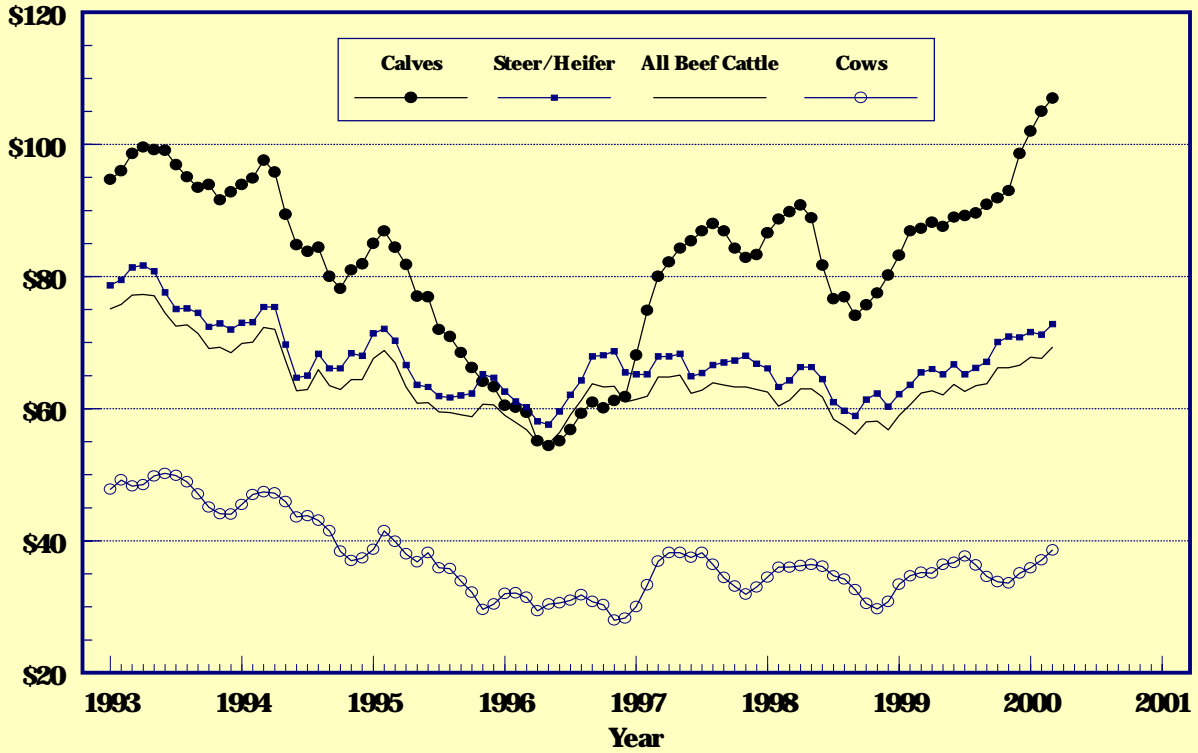
## Prices Received, Soybeans, US

Dollars per Bu



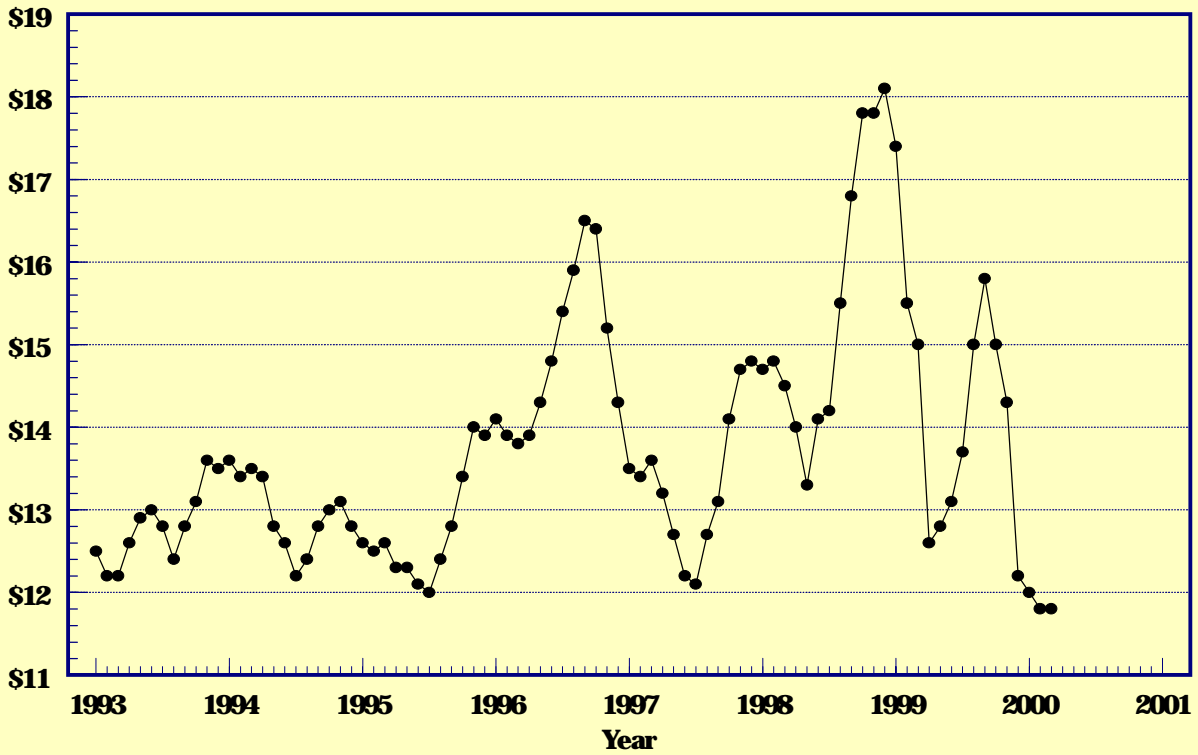
## Prices Received, Cattle, US

Dollars per Cwt



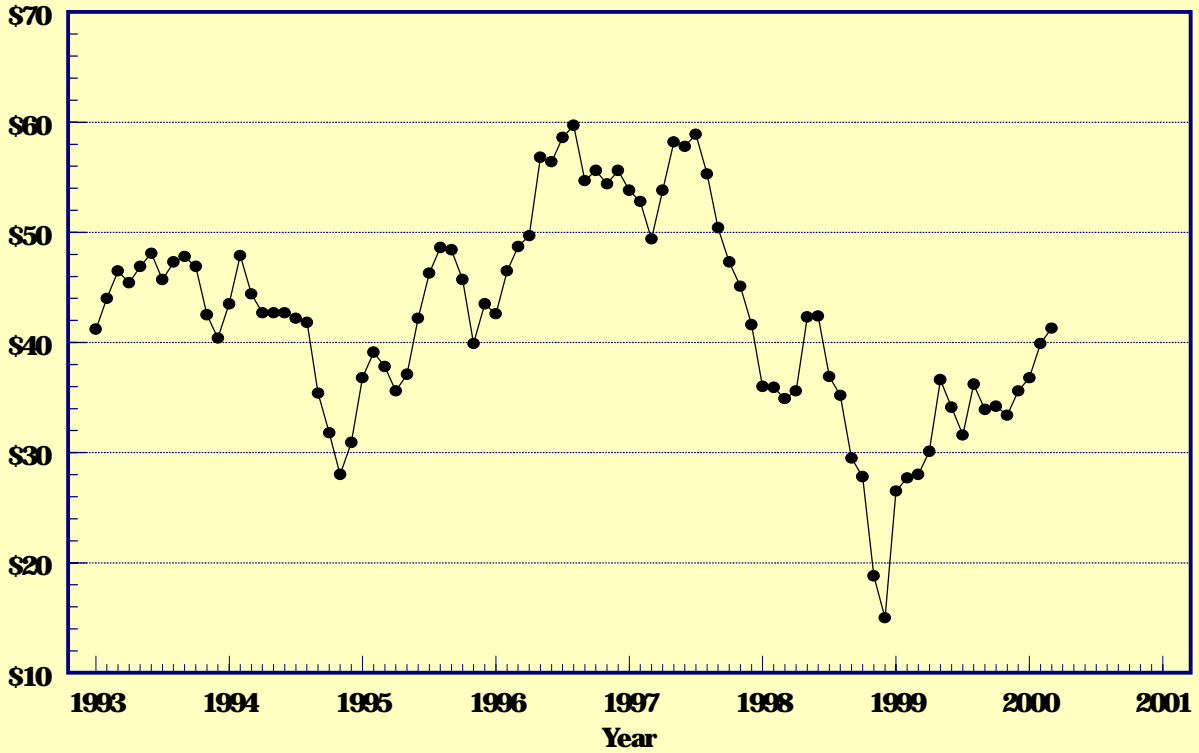
## Prices Received, Milk, US

Dollars per Cwt



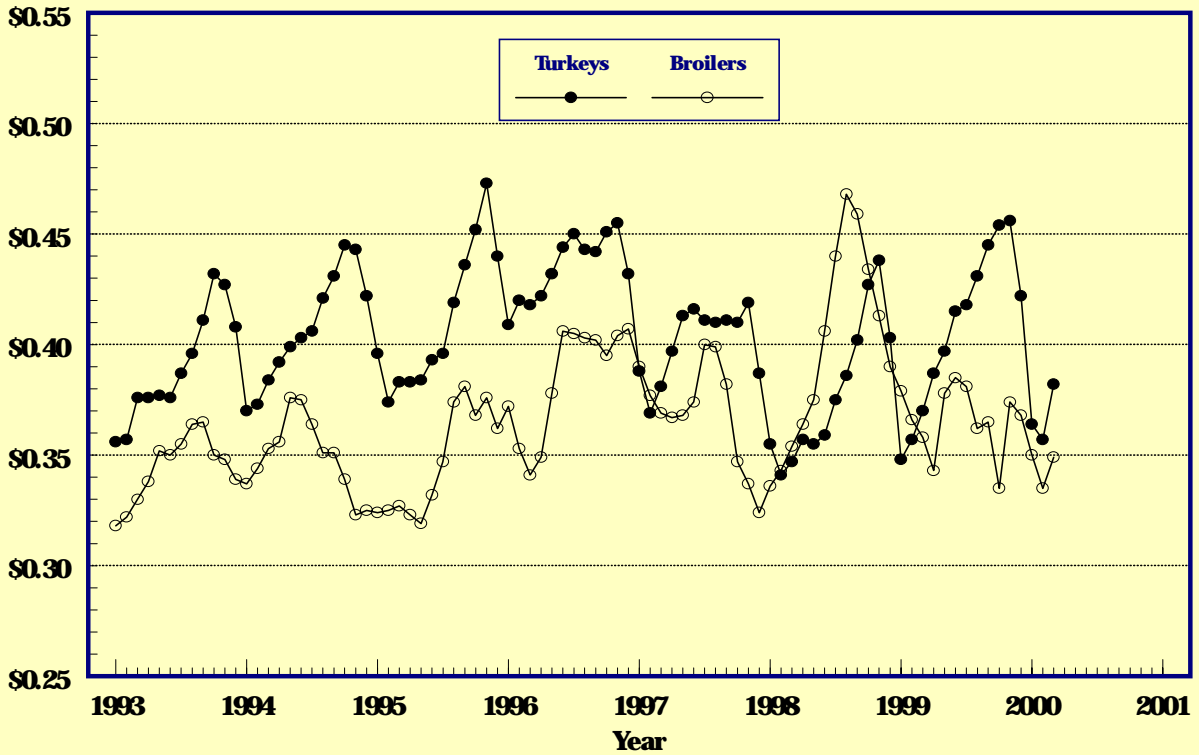
## Prices Received, Hogs, US

Dollars per Cwt



## Prices Received, Turkeys & Broilers, US

Dollars per Lb



Wheat: Prices Received, by States, February and March 2000

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							
AR	2.59	2.43	2.59	2.43				
CA	2.55	2.60	2.55	2.60	4/	4/		
CO	2.22	2.23	2.23	2.23			1.72	2.09
ID	2.51	2.43	2.26	2.25			2.66	2.70
IL	2.36	2.30	2.36	2.30				
IN	2.39	2.25	2.39	2.25				
KS	2.39	2.39	2.39	2.39				
MI	2.24	2.15	2.24	2.15				
MN	2.78	2.81	2.30	2.25	4/	4/	2.80	2.82
MO	2.37	2.36	2.37	2.36				
MT	2.89	2.87	2.67	2.60	3.84	3.70	2.89	2.90
NE	2.28	2.25	2.28	2.25				
ND	2.79	2.85	2.55	2.30	2.62	2.70	2.85	2.90
OH	2.18	2.10	2.18	2.10				
OK	2.30	2.31	2.30	2.31				
OR	2.59	2.63	2.51	2.60			2.91	2.85
SD	2.68	2.77	2.30	2.44	3/	4/	2.78	2.85
TX	2.29	2.28	2.29	2.28				
WA	2.56	2.59	2.56	2.61			2.59	2.50
US	2.54	2.57	2.37	2.37	2.89	2.84	2.82	2.85

- 1/ Entire month.
- 2/ Mid-month.
- 3/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.
- 4/ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

Prices Received for Selected Agricultural Commodities, by Months, United States, 1999 and 2000

Month	All Wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef Cattle 1/		All Hogs	
	1999	2000 2/	1999	2000 2/	1999	2000 2/	1999	2000 2/	1999	2000 2/
	Dollars per Bushel						Dollars per Cwt			
Jan	2.84	2.50	2.06	1.90	5.32	4.62	59.00	67.80	26.50	36.80
Feb	2.73	2.54	2.05	1.98	4.80	4.79	60.60	67.60	27.70	39.90
Mar	2.65	2.57	2.06	2.03	4.61	4.87	62.40	69.30	28.00	41.30
Apr	2.62		2.04		4.63		62.70		30.10	
May	2.49		1.99		4.50		62.10		36.60	
Jun	2.50		1.97		4.44		63.70		34.10	
Jul	2.23		1.74		4.19		62.60		31.60	
Aug	2.52		1.75		4.39		63.50		36.20	
Sep	2.57		1.75		4.57		63.80		33.90	
Oct	2.58		1.69		4.47		66.20		34.20	
Nov	2.66		1.70		4.45		66.20		33.40	
Dec	2.52		1.82		4.44		66.60		35.60	

- 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 2000

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							5.13	5.04	3.54	3.86
CA	2.45	2.25								
CO	1.80	1.90	1.93	1.97						
GA			2.54	2.60			5.08	4.97		
ID	2.57	2.48								
IL			2.03	2.10	1.10	1.15	4.87	4.95	3.69	3.75
IN			2.06	2.14			4.90	5.04		
IA			1.91	1.95	1.42	1.40	4.67	4.78		
KS			1.95	2.01			4.59	4.73	2.96	3.17
KY			2.23	2.25			5.06	5.05		
LA							4.92	5.24		
MI			1.95	2.00	1.42	1.40	4.78	4.95		
MN	1.68	1.66	1.76	1.85	1.06	1.10	4.55	4.70		
MS							4.95	5.07		
MO			2.11	2.15			4.91	4.90	3.49	3.50
MT	2.33	2.32			.97	1.00				
NE			1.90	2.00	1.45	1.45	4.61	4.78	3.10	3.30
NC			2.48	2.50			4.93	5.00		
ND	1.84	1.86			.95	.97				
OH			2.08	2.10	1.68	1.55	4.92	4.95		
OK									3.08	3.15
OR	2.01	2.00			1.52	1.40				
PA			2.57	2.56	1.80	1.72				
SD	2.26	2.26	1.73	1.79	1.31	1.28	4.43	4.62		
TN			1.92	2.20			5.06	5.05		
TX			2.12	2.23					3.20	3.42
UT	1.97	1.88								
WA	1.81	1.92								
WI			1.87	2.00	1.11	1.15	5.03	5.15		
WY	1.66	2.60								
US	2.13	2.14	1.98	2.03	1.27	1.28	4.79	4.87	3.08	3.28

- 1/ The Three-State (MN, ND and SD) Feed Barley price for March 2000 is \$1.40.
- 2/ Entire month.
- 3/ Mid-month.
- 4/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

Malting and Feed Barley: Prices Received Selected States, February and March 2000

State	Malting Barley		Feed Barley	
	Feb	Mar	Feb	Mar
----- Dollars per Bushel -----				
ID	2.75	1/	1.89	1.85
MN	1.73	1.70	1.37	1.40
MT	2.71	2.70	1.58	1.60
ND	2.06	2.10	1.43	1.40
SD	1/	1/	1.63	1.65
WY	1/	1/	1.66	1.70

- 1/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

Field Crops: Prices Received, by States, February and March 2000

State	Dry Edible Beans		Sunflower		Flaxseed		Tobacco		Peanuts 4/5/	
	Feb 1/	Mar 2/	Feb 1/	Mar 2/	Feb 1/	Mar 2/	Feb 1/	Mar 3/	Feb 1/	Mar 4/5/
	---- Dollars per Cwt		---- Dollars per Bu		---		Dollars per Pound		---	
AL										
CA	26.80	26.70								
CO	13.70	13.40								
FL										
GA										
ID	14.70	14.30								
IN							1.850	1.740		
KS			5/	5/						
KY							1.885	1.835		
MD										
MI	14.60	13.50								
MN	14.00	14.00	9.26	9.32						
MO							1.825			
NE	15.30	15.00								
NC										
ND	11.60	11.50	8.99	8.48	3.39	3.50				
OH							1.885			
OK										
SC										
SD			6.72	6.70		5/				
TN							2.045	1.945		
TX										
VA										
WV										
US	16.00	14.70	8.77	8.68	3.39	3.50	1.905	1.880		

- 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 firms.

Tobacco: Prices Received, by Area and Type, March 2000, with Comparisons

Class by Type	Type	Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000 1/
		Dollars per Pound		
Fire-cured				
VA Belt	21		2/	2/
Eastern District	22	2.140	2.220	1.970
Western District	23	2.030	2.100	1.985
Total Fire-cured	21-23	2.130	2.125	1.975
Light Air-Cured				
Burley	31	1.625	1.885	1.640
Total Light Air-Cured	31-32	1.695	1.885	1.640 3/
Dark Air-cured				
One Sucker Belt	35		1.715	4/
Green River Belt	36		1.745	4/
Sun-cured Belt	37		2/	2/
Total Dark Air-cured	35-37		1.735	
US	11-37	1.810	1.905	1.880

- 1/ Based on sales during the first half of the month.
- 2/ Sales closed in January.
- 3/ Market opens for Maryland Type 32 on 3/21/00.
- 4/ Sales closed in February.

Field Crops and Apples: Prices Received, by States,  
February and March 2000

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	.440	6/				
AZ	.489	6/	90.00	90.00	80.00	
AR	.458	.414				
CA	.608	.665	91.00	92.00	78.00	.255
CO			65.00	65.00	63.00	
GA	.439	.483				
ID			86.00	87.00	62.00	
IL			79.00	84.00	60.00	
IA			78.00	80.00	59.00	
KS			62.00	66.00	51.00	
KY			95.00	121.00	79.00	
LA	.432	.454				
MI			67.00	70.00	55.00	.140
MN			56.00	62.00	33.00	
MS	.428	.421				
MO			78.00	113.00	71.00	
MT			64.00	65.00	53.00	
NE			40.00	41.00	36.00	
NV			84.00	84.00	86.00	
NM			113.00	115.00	98.00	
NY			118.00	135.00	100.00	.165
NC	.518	6/				
ND			36.00	42.00	29.00	
OH			109.00	125.00	80.00	.295
OK			73.00	85.00	55.00	
OR			95.00	97.00	85.00	
PA			133.00	151.00	125.00	.180
SD			43.00	46.00	29.00	
TN	.414	.413				
TX	.455	.461	66.00	127.00	62.00	
UT			68.00	70.00	42.00	
VA						.220
WA			101.00	90.00	141.00	.214
WI			43.00	50.00	25.00	
WY			63.00	64.00	58.00	
US	.459	.478	74.80	78.00	66.70	.205

1/ Entire month. 2/ Based on sales during the first half of the month.  
3/ Mid-month. 4/ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA,MI,NY and WA.  
Price at point of first sale for other states. 5/ Marketing year  
August-February. 6/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of  
individual firms.

Upland Cotton and Rice: Prices Received and Marketings,  
United States, March 2000, with Comparisons

Item	Unit	Jan 2000 1/	Feb 2000 1/	Mar 2000 2/
Cotton, Upland				
Average Price	Dollars/Pound	.431	.459	.478
Marketings 3/	1,000 Bales	2319	1319	NA
Rice				
Average Price	Dollars/Cwt	6.03	5.98	5.99
Marketings 4/	1,000 Cwt	18260	13340	NA

1/ Entire month. 2/ Based on purchases for the first half of the month.  
3/ Expanded data from sample of about 60 percent of buyers. 4/ Purchases  
by private firms and rice (rough equivalent) shipped by cooperatives.

Citrus Fruit: Prices and Equivalent Returns, by Utilization,  
by State and United States, March 2000

Commodity And State	F.O.B. Packed Fresh	Equivalent Returns					
		Packinghouse-door			On-tree		
		All	Fresh	Process	All	Fresh	Process
Dollars per Box 1/							
Grapefruit							
AZ	11.80	4.23	6.36	-0.04	2.29	4.42	-1.98
CA	14.80	9.14	9.36	-0.04	7.20	7.42	-1.98
FL	14.80	5.93	6.83	5.58	3.59	4.83	3.10
White Seedless	15.70	5.81	7.10	5.50	3.49	5.10	3.10
Colored Seedless	14.40	6.07	6.70	5.70	3.69	4.70	3.10
Other		5.00		5.00	3.10		3.10
TX	16.20	5.12	7.50	1.12	3.99	6.35	0.02
US	15.00	5.87	6.96	5.38	3.63	5.09	2.96
Lemons							
AZ	35.30	17.57	26.86	0.74	13.93	23.22	-2.90
CA	25.20	12.59	16.76	0.74	8.95	13.12	-2.90
US	25.70	12.87	17.26	0.74	9.23	13.62	-2.90
Oranges							
AZ							
Navel and Misc	12.80	4.75	6.78	0.06	2.77	4.80	-1.92
CA	13.80	6.00	7.74	0.23	4.01	5.75	-1.76
Navel and Misc	13.60	5.81	7.58	0.06	3.83	5.60	-1.92
Valencia	15.70	8.58	9.80	3.16	6.50	7.72	1.08
FL	12.90	5.38	5.79	5.36	3.48	3.79	3.47
Early and Mids	11.60	5.14	4.50	5.15	3.29	2.50	3.30
Valencia	13.50	5.74	6.40	5.70	3.78	4.40	3.75
TX							
Valencia	15.50	5.67	6.70	1.65	4.38	5.40	0.40
US	13.60	5.44	7.24	5.22	3.54	5.26	3.33
Tangerines							
AZ	19.90	9.70	14.00	0.72	7.62	11.92	-1.36
CA	22.60	11.42	16.70	1.40	9.34	14.62	-0.68
FL	21.00	11.03	12.40	8.00	7.46	8.95	4.15
US	21.20	11.00	13.40	5.90	7.87	10.34	2.60
Temples							
FL	12.00	4.13	4.90	4.00	1.95	2.90	1.80

1/ Net lbs. per box: Grapefruit-AZ & CA-67, FL-85, TX-80; Lemons-76;  
Oranges-AZ & CA-75, FL-90, TX-85; Tangerines-AZ & CA-75, FL-95; Temples-90.



Potatoes: Prices Received, by States,  
February and March 2000

State	Feb	Mar	State	Feb	Mar
	: Dollars per Cwt			: Dollars per Cwt	
AL			NC		
AZ			ND - All 1/	5.90	6.00
CA - All	14.00	13.60	- Fresh 2/	6.70	NA
- Winter	19.30	20.60	- Processing	5.00	NA
- Spring			OH	6.20	6.35
- Summer			OR	5.00	5.40
- Fall	6.65	6.50	PA	8.30	8.25
CO - All 1/	4.35	4.30	TX		
- Fresh 2/	4.22	NA	VA		
FL	22.20	19.70	WA - All	5.45	5.40
ID - All 1/	4.80	5.10	- Processing	5.00	NA
- Fresh 2/	4.60	NA	WI - All 1/	6.10	6.40
- Processing	5.00	NA	- Fresh 2/	4.75	NA
ME	6.35	6.50	- Processing	6.15	NA
MI	7.20	7.35			
MN	7.15	7.55	US - All 1/	5.96	6.32
NY	8.10	7.80	- Fresh 2/	6.92	NA
			- Processing	5.32	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 2000

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	35.80	36.60	68.90	70.90	68.60	70.60	101.00	106.00
AR	33.70	36.20	78.50	78.50	62.40	65.40	98.50	104.00
CA	36.50	36.50	67.50	68.50	48.90	49.30	96.00	96.00
CO	39.00	41.10	70.60	74.00	68.40	72.00	106.00	110.00
FL	37.20	40.20	82.00	86.90	43.90	47.20	103.00	111.00
GA	37.20	39.00	79.30	83.50	51.50	56.80	97.00	103.00
ID	37.00	37.90	72.30	74.80	64.50	65.90	92.00	94.00
IL	35.00	35.50	67.70	68.70	67.00	68.00	117.00	120.00
IA	39.60	39.80	69.30	71.70	68.60	69.80	98.30	99.90
KS	36.80	38.80	71.70	71.70	70.70	70.70	107.00	106.00
KY	36.00	38.00	81.00	84.00	70.20	73.00	94.00	100.00
LA	36.50	40.00	85.00	88.00	50.10	53.40	100.00	106.00
MI	38.00	41.00	63.00	66.00	55.50	58.50	89.00	95.00
MN	38.20	40.00	66.00	67.50	61.70	63.40	89.10	90.00
MO	36.70	38.00	86.30	87.20	75.40	76.40	101.00	105.00
MT	36.80	40.50	85.40	85.60	77.10	79.70	105.00	104.00
NE	36.80	37.60	68.90	72.40	68.10	71.40	102.00	105.00
NM	40.00	41.30	87.50	88.40	68.50	71.40	103.00	105.00
ND	40.00	41.00	82.70	82.70	78.90	78.50	99.10	99.00
OH	36.30	38.00	67.00	68.00	63.90	65.00	87.90	89.00
OK	37.10	40.40	83.50	83.50	80.50	80.90	104.00	107.00
OR	38.50	39.10	84.10	84.60	70.40	71.00	91.20	95.60
PA	36.90	38.40	66.20	66.60	58.60	59.30	110.00	108.00
SD	37.20	38.40	83.00	83.80	78.00	79.30	107.00	108.00
TN	36.00	36.00	84.00	86.00	64.80	66.00	98.00	102.00
TX	34.80	38.20	73.80	75.60	70.70	72.60	106.00	110.00
VA	34.20	34.40	78.00	78.60	61.80	66.70	95.40	103.00
WI	38.20	40.20	66.50	66.60	50.10	51.30	125.00	125.00
WY	41.30	41.30	89.70	89.90	83.40	85.00	108.00	111.00
US	37.10	38.60	71.20	72.80	67.60	69.30	105.00	107.00

- 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 2000

State	Sows		Barrows and Gilts		All Hogs	
	Feb 1/	Mar 2/	Feb 1/	Mar 2/	Feb 1/	Mar 2/
	Dollars per Cwt					
AR	37.70	36.10	37.20	38.10	37.20	38.00
IL	35.70	33.60	39.30	41.20	39.00	40.60
IN	36.50	35.60	38.50	39.30	38.30	38.90
IA	41.50	39.30	41.90	43.20	41.90	43.10
KS	36.00	34.00	38.90	41.50	38.50	40.70
MI	32.00	30.00	40.00	41.00	39.40	40.20
MN	38.00	36.50	40.60	41.50	40.50	41.40
MO	36.10	34.30	36.80	37.40	36.70	37.20
NE	34.00	34.00	41.90	43.50	41.90	43.30
NC	36.40	34.60	39.80	42.60	39.80	42.50
OH	36.80	34.00	40.60	42.00	40.00	41.60
OK	35.50	33.40	36.30	37.40	36.20	36.90
PA	32.90	32.00	38.50	38.20	37.70	37.30
SD	31.10	28.20	42.00	41.60	40.90	40.30
TX	29.80	30.60	34.70	36.30	34.10	35.60
WI	32.20	30.80	37.00	39.00	36.40	37.90
US	36.50	34.50	40.10	41.70	39.90	41.30

1/ Entire month.  
 2/ Mid-month.

Sheep and Poultry: Prices Received, by States,  
February and March 2000

State	February		March	
	Sheep 1/	Lambs 1/	Turkeys 2/3/	Eggs 2/4/
	---- Dollars per Cwt ----		Dollars per Pound	Dol/Doz
AL				.430
AR			.40	.280
CA	31.50	72.00	.45	.318
CO	40.00	68.80		
CT				.450
DE				
FL				.410
GA				.340
ID	35.00	68.00		
IN			.36	.440
IA	37.40	68.00		.291
KS	34.00	69.00		
ME				.520
MD				
MI				.310
MN	32.10	72.10	.34	.370
MS				.440
MO			.40	.280
MT	39.60	80.00		
NE	44.50	72.60		
NY				.473
NC			.38	.293
ND	36.00	75.10		
OH	34.90	76.10		.446
OR	27.80	75.00		
PA				.440
SC				.451
SD	43.80	88.10		
TX	49.10	75.20		.330
UT	36.00	86.00		
VA			.38	
WA				.500
WY	42.00	67.40		
US	39.50	72.00	.382	.382

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 derived from ready-to-cook (RTC) prices using the following formula: (RTC price minus processing cost) \* (dressing percentage) = liveweight equivalent price.

4/ Market (table) eggs.

Milk and Milk Cows: Prices Received, by States, February and March 2000

State	February				March				
	Fluid Grade Milk 1/	Manufacturing Grade Milk	All Milk 2/	Price:Fat Test	All Milk 2/3/	Price:Fat Test	Milk Cows 4/	Price:Fat Test	
	Dol/Cwt	Pct	Dol/Cwt	Pct	Dol/Cwt	Pct	Dol/Cwt	Pct	Dol/Head
AZ	11.30	3.65			11.30	3.65	11.30	3.61	
CA	11.00	3.74	10.60	4.07	11.00	3.74	10.90	3.66	
FL	14.70	3.60			14.70	3.60	14.80	3.58	
ID	10.40	3.68	10.60	3.80	10.40	3.68	10.40	3.64	
IL	11.00	3.76	10.80	3.72	11.00	3.76	11.10	3.77	
IN	12.60	3.80	10.80	4.04	12.50	3.81	12.60	3.85	
IA	10.90	3.76	10.00	3.80	10.90	3.76	11.00	3.75	
KY	13.00	3.74	9.50	3.57	13.00	3.74	13.00	3.71	
MI	12.40	3.75	10.80	3.76	12.40	3.75	12.50	3.75	
MN	11.30	3.76	9.90	3.80	11.22	3.76	11.20	3.75	
MO	12.10	3.78	10.90	3.80	12.10	3.78	12.10	3.80	
NM	12.20	3.62			12.20	3.62	12.00	3.60	
NY	12.70	3.80			12.70	3.80	12.80	3.80	
OH	12.50	3.84	10.40	3.80	12.30	3.84	12.20	3.81	
PA	12.90	3.85	9.80	3.95	12.90	3.85	12.90	3.80	
TX	13.20	3.68			13.20	3.68	12.90	3.65	
VT	13.40	3.80			13.40	3.80	13.30	3.78	
VA	13.80	3.66			13.80	3.66	13.90	3.65	
WA	11.70	3.70			11.70	3.70	12.00	3.68	
WI	11.25	3.82	10.40	3.90	11.20	3.82	11.20	3.82	
US	11.90	3.76	10.20	3.84	11.80	3.76	11.80	3.73	

- 1/ Including milk diverted to manufacturing.
- 2/ Before deductions for hauling. 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 2000, with Comparisons

Item	Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000
Parity Equivalent.....Dol per Cwt	27.51	28.39	28.75
Average Price F.O.B.....Dol per Cwt	12.30	10.20	2/10.20
Average Fat Test of Milk..Percent	3.84	3.84	2/3.82

- 1/ The parity price equivalent during 2000 is 90.4 percent of the parity price of all milk sold to plants, compared with 91.1 percent in 1999. For additional details, see January 2000 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 2000, with Comparisons 1/

Commodity and Unit	: Adjusted: : Base : Prices	Parity Prices Based on Data for			: Prices as Percent : of Parity			
		: Mar : 1999	: Feb : 2000	: Mar : 2000	: Mar : 1999	: Feb : 2000	: Mar : 2000	
		----- Dollars -----			----- Percents -----			
Basic Commodities	:							
All Wheat, Bu	:	.609	9.58	9.62	9.73	28	26	26
Rice, Cwt	:	1.80	27.30	28.40	28.70	33	21	21
Corn, Bu	:	.420	6.55	6.64	6.71	31	30	30
Cotton, Lb	:							
American Upland	:	.112	1.73	1.77	1.79	32	26	27
Extra Long Staple	:	.143	2.22	2.26	2.28			
Peanuts, Lb	:	.0426	.651	.673	.680			
Tobacco, By Type, Lb	:							
Flue-Cured 11-14	:	.253	3.86	4.00	4.04			
VA Fire-Cured, 21	:	.254	3.81	4.01	4.06			
KY-TN Fire-Cured, 22-23	:	.318	4.79	5.02	5.08	44	42	39
Burley, 31	:	.270	4.07	4.27	4.31	40	44	38
Maryland, 32	:	.229	3.54	3.62	3.66	48		
Dark Air-Cured, 35-36	:	.272	4.07	4.30	4.34		40	
Sun-Cured, 37	:	.231	3.46	3.65	3.69			
PA Seedleaf, 41	:	.192	2.95	3.03	3.07			
Cigar Filler & Binder, 42-44, 54-55	:	.212	3.32	3.35	3.39			
Puerto Rican Filler, 46	:	.173	2.65	2.73	2.76			
Cigar Binder, 51-52	:	.612	8.45	9.67	9.77			
Designated Nonbasic	:							
All Milk, Sold to Plants, Per Cwt	:	1.99	30.20	31.40	31.80	2/50	2/38	2/37
Honey, Extracted, Lb	:	3/.0901	1.34	1.42	1.44			
Wool and Mohair	:							
Wool, Lb	:	.114	1.91	1.80	1.82			
Mohair, Lb	:	.240	3.54	3.79	3.83			
Other Nonbasic	:							
Barley, Bu	:	.375	5.86	5.93	5.99	34	36	36
Cottonseed, Ton	:	15.60	243.00	246.00	249.00		44	
Dry Edible Beans, Cwt	:	3.11	49.90	49.10	49.70	34	33	30
Flaxseed, Bu	:	.739	11.90	11.70	11.80	42	29	30
Oats, Bu	:	.213	3.43	3.37	3.40	35	38	38
Potatoes, Cwt	:	.852	13.20	13.50	13.60	46	44	46
Rye, Bu	:	.328	4.99	5.18	5.24			
Sorghum Grain, Cwt	:	.661	10.30	10.40	10.60	31	30	31
Soybeans, Bu	:	.877	13.90	13.90	14.00	33	34	35
Sweetpotatoes, Cwt	:	2.07	31.20	32.70	33.10			
Apples, Fresh, Lb 5/ Citrus (equiv on-tree), box:	:	.0930	.444	1.47	1.49	34	14	14
Grapefruit	:	.517	8.02	8.17	8.26	25	45	44
Lemons	:	1.22	18.40	19.30	19.50	27	44	47
Limes (FL)	:	1.30	17.90	20.50	20.80	344		
Oranges	:	.731	11.40	11.50	11.70	53	31	30
Tangerines	:	1.80	27.40	28.40	28.70	50	29	27
Temples (FL)	:	.635	9.72	10.00	10.10	37	21	19
Beef Cattle, Cwt	:	9.74	150.00	154.00	156.00	42	44	44
Calves, Cwt	:	12.50	191.00	198.00	200.00	46	53	54
Hogs, Cwt	:	6.44	101.00	102.00	103.00	28	39	40
Lambs, Cwt	:	10.30	155.00	163.00	164.00	43	44	
Sheep, Cwt	:	4.26	64.50	67.30	68.00	51	59	
Eggs, Doz	:	.0952	1.48	1.50	1.52	2/44	2/43	2/36
Turkeys, Live, Lb	:	.0580	.882	.916	.926	42	39	41

--continued

Parity Prices Based on Data for March 2000, 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	3.91	Peaches, cont.		
Spearmint Oil, Lb	1.80	28.70	Processing 6/		
Tobacco, Lb			Excl Dried		
Type 61	2.74	43.80	Clingstone,		
			CA, Ton	31.80	508.00
Noncitrus Fruit			Pears, Ton		
Apples, Ton 7/			Fresh 5/	52.70	842.00
Processing	19.40	310.00	Dried, CA 7/	152.00	2430.00
Apricots, Ton			Plums, CA, Ton		
Fresh 8/	117.00	1870.00	Fresh, Equiv		
Dried, CA	291.00	4650.00	on-Tree	53.60	856.00
Avocados, Ton 8/	207.00	3310.00	Prunes, Dried,		
Cherries			CA, Ton 7/	136.00	2170.00
Sweet, Ton	163.00	2600.00	Prunes and Plums,		
Tart, Lb	.0258	.412	Excl CA, Ton		
Cranberry, Bbl 6/	7.45	119.00	Fresh 10/	53.30	851.00
Dates, CA, Ton 8/	143.00	2280.00	Processing 7/		
Grapes, Ton			Excl Dried	23.60	377.00
Raisin Variety	151.00	2410.00	Tree Nuts 11/		
Other Dried	60.90	973.00	Almonds, Lb	.220	3.51
Kiwifruit, Ton	72.50	1160.00	Hazelnuts, Ton	118.00	1880.00
Nectarines			Pistachio, Lb	.161	2.57
Fresh, Calif,			Walnuts, Ton	182.00	2910.00
Ton 8/	63.60	1020.00			
Olives, CA			Vegetables, Cwt 12/		
Canning, Ton 6/	92.10	1470.00	Fresh		
Papayas (HI) Lb	.0507	.810	Carrots 9/	1.87	29.90
Peaches			Cauliflower 9/	4.32	69.00
Fresh, Lb 5/	.0388	.620	Celery 9/	1.84	29.40
Dried, CA,			Honeydew Melons	2.67	42.60
Ton	115.00	1840.00	Lettuce	2.19	35.00
			Onions 9/	1.72	27.50
			Tomatoes	4.38	69.90

- 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 "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 average 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.

## Reliability of Prices Received 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**".

**Reliability:** U.S. price estimates based on probability surveys generally have a sampling error of less than one percent for the major commodities such as corn, wheat, soybeans, cotton, and rice. Current methods of summarization for non-probability commodities are not designed directly to calculate sampling errors. However, analytical measures approximate the U.S. relative sampling errors at around five 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.



## Prices Paid by Farmers

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 120 (1990-92=100), 0.8 percent higher than February 2000 and 4.3 percent above March 1999.

**Production Index:** The March Farm Production, Goods, and Services Index, at 117, was up 0.9 percent from last month and 5.4 percent above last year. Higher prices in March for feed concentrates, complete feeds, nitrogen materials, and gasoline, more than offset lower prices for feeder cattle and mixed fertilizers.

**Feed:** The Feed Index, at 109, was 3.8 percent higher than the February Index and 7.9 percent above last March. Since February, prices were higher for all feed components.

**Livestock and Poultry:** The index for livestock and poultry purchases, at 108, was 0.9 percent lower than last month but 17 percent above last year. During March, lower prices for feeder cattle more than offset higher prices for feeder pigs. The March feeder cattle price at, \$86.70 per cwt, was down \$2.30 per cwt from the February price.

**Fertilizer:** The Fertilizer Index, at 110, was up 1.9 percent from February and 2.8 percent above a year ago. Higher March prices for nitrogen fertilizers more than offset lower prices for mixed fertilizers and potash and phosphate materials.

**Agricultural Chemicals:** The Chemical Index, at 122, was unchanged from last month but 0.8 percent above last March. Prices were slightly higher in March for herbicides and insecticides.

**Fuels:** The Fuels Index, at 145, was 5.1 percent above a month earlier and 101 percent above March 1999. The Fuels Index has risen 27 percent during the last five months. Compared to last month, prices were higher for gasoline, diesel fuel, and LP gas. The Diesel Fuel Index has doubled since last year. The Gasoline Index was 93 percent above March 1999.

**Farm Machinery:** The March Farm Machinery Index was 133, unchanged from February but 0.7 percent below last March. Since February, prices were slightly lower for other machinery.

**Consumer Price Index:** The February 2000 Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.6 percent, before seasonal adjustment to a level of 169.7 (1982-84=100). This compares to the January index of 168.7. For the 12-month period ending in February, the overall index has increased 3.2 percent.

Index Numbers of Prices Paid by Farmers and Related Parity Ratios  
United States, March 2000 With Comparisons

Indexes and Ratios	: 1910-14 = 100			: 1990-92 = 100			
	: 1999		: 2000	: 1999		: 2000	
	: Mar	: Feb	: Mar	: Mar	: Feb	: Mar	
Prices Paid by Farmers for	:						
Commodities & Services,	:						
Interest, Taxes, & Wage	:						
Rates (PPITW)	:	1525	*1589	1597	115	119	120
Production	:	1072	*1127	1135	111	*116	117
Feed	:	491	*514	530	101	*105	109
Livestock and Poultry	:	1178	1393	1375	92	109	108
Seeds	:	1216	1196	1196	123	121	121
Fertilizer	:	393	*396	402	107	*108	110
Agricultural Chemicals	:	751	*753	755	121	*122	122
Fuels	:	559	*1067	1119	72	*138	145
Supplies & Repairs	:	858	*867	867	121	122	122
Autos & Trucks	:	3168	*3165	3155	119	119	119
Farm Machinery	:	3366	*3336	3335	134	133	133
Building Material	:	1616	*1648	1653	119	*121	122
Farm Services & Rent	:	1377	*1383	1383			
Farm Services	:				114	115	115
Rent	:				117	117	117
Interest 1/	:	2640	2701	2701	105	108	108
Taxes 2/	:	3214	3281	3281	120	123	123
Wage Rates	:	5130	5247	5247	137	140	140
Production, Interest, Taxes,	:						
& Wage Rates (PITW)	:	1516	*1584	1593	113	*118	119
Family Living-CPI 3/	:	1567	*1612	1612	122	*126	126
Ratio (Received\Paid)	:				83	77	80
Parity Ratio 4/	:	40	37	38			
Parity Ratio Adjusted 5/	:	45	40	42			
PPITW Adjusted for	:						
Productivity 6/	:	1049	*1080	1081			
Crop Sector (PPITW)	:				118	*122	122
Livestock Sector (PPITW)	:				111	*117	118
Farm Sector (Production)	:				101	*109	110
Non-Farm Sector (Production)	:				115	*120	120

\* 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 1.091 for 2000 and the revised factor is 1.118 for 1999.
- 6/ PPITW is adjusted based on productivity trend for the prior 15 years.

Prices Paid Indexes and Annual Weights for Input Components and  
Sub-Components United States, March 2000 With Comparisons

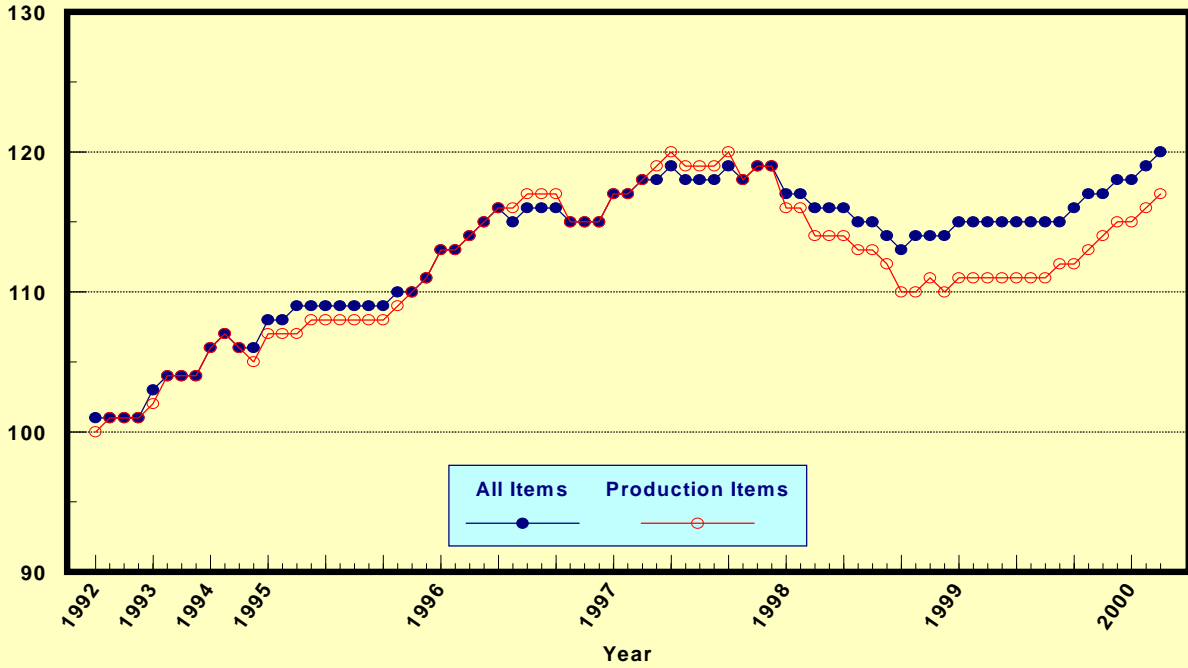
Index	Relative Weights		Input Indexes		
	5-Year Moving Average 1/		1999	2000	
	1999	2000	Mar	Feb	Mar
	----	Percent	----	(1990-92=100)	---
Production Items	67.4	67.3	111	*116	117
Feed	11.6	11.7	101	*105	109
Feed Grains	1.7	1.7	87	84	87
Complete Feeds	5.7	5.7	105	*108	110
Hay/Forages	1.5	1.5	103	98	99
Concentrates	1.8	1.8	91	*111	121
Supplements	1.0	1.0	114	*125	130
Livestock & Poultry	7.2	6.8	92	109	108
Feeder Cattle	5.6	5.3	88	105	102
Feeder Pigs	0.6	0.5	103	137	146
Milk Cow Replacements	0.6	0.6	111	118	118
Poultry	0.4	0.4	110	110	110
Seeds	2.8	2.9	123	121	121
Field Crops	2.6	2.7	123	121	121
Grasses/Legumes	0.3	0.3	123	121	121
Fertilizer	4.9	4.9	107	*108	110
Mixed Fertilizer	2.1	2.2	115	*112	112
Nitrogen	2.0	2.1	96	104	109
Potash & Phosphate	0.7	0.7	116	106	106
Agricultural Chemicals	3.8	3.9	121	*122	122
Herbicides	2.4	2.5	115	*115	116
Insecticides	0.9	0.9	142	140	141
Fungicides/Other	0.5	0.6	119	*121	121
Fuels	2.7	2.6	72	*138	145
Diesel	1.5	1.5	68	*134	136
Gasoline	0.8	0.8	72	*126	139
LP Gas	0.4	0.4	86	*184	196
Farm Supplies & Repairs	5.6	5.6	121	122	122
Supplies	1.9	1.9	117	*118	118
Repairs	3.7	3.7	123	125	125
Autos & Trucks	1.4	1.6	119	119	119
Autos	0.2	0.2	112	112	112
Trucks	1.3	1.4	120	120	120
Farm Machinery	4.0	4.0	134	133	133
Tractors	0.9	0.9	132	*133	133
Self-Propelled	1.6	1.6	133	130	130
Other Machinery	1.5	1.5	137	137	137
Building Materials	2.8	2.8	119	*121	122
Farm Services	12.4	12.4	114	115	115
Custom Rates	1.3	1.3	115	115	115
Other Services	11.1	11.2	114	115	115
Rent	8.2	8.1	117	117	117
Cash	3.7	4.0	135	135	135
Share	4.5	4.2	103	103	103
Interest	4.9	4.2	105	108	108
Taxes	3.1	3.1	120	123	123
Wage Rates	6.9	7.0	137	140	140
Family Living-CPI	17.7	17.7	122	*126	126

1/ Weights may not add due to rounding.

\* Revised.

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

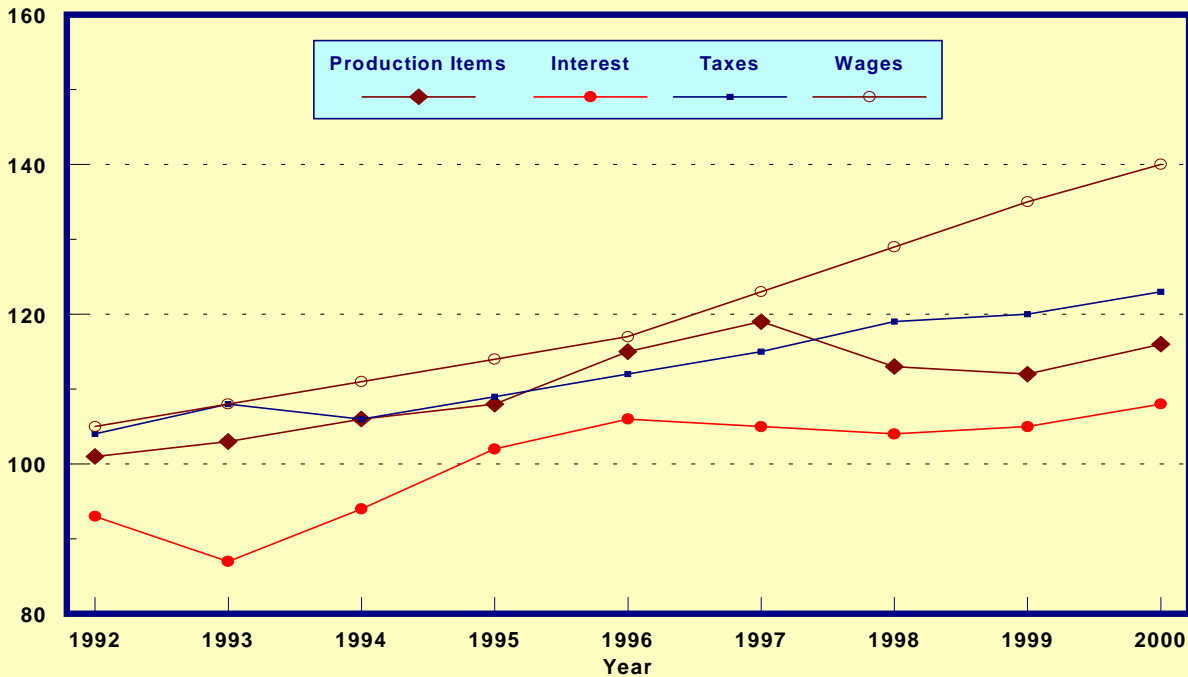
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1995.

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

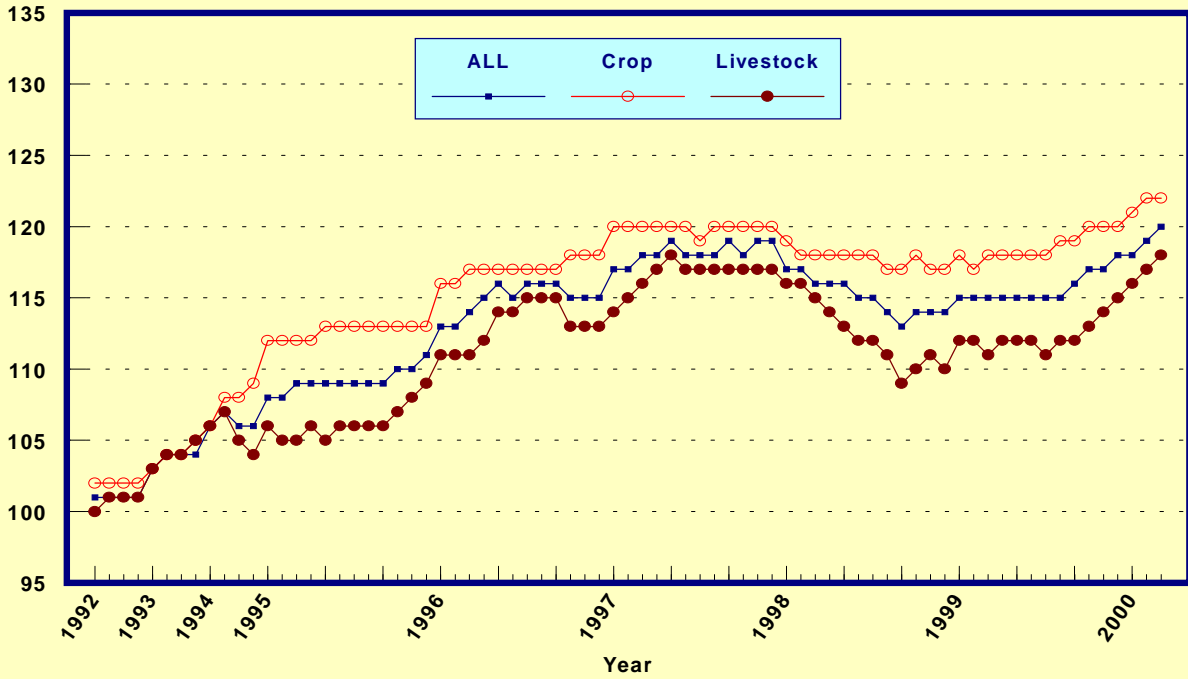
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values for 1999 are year-to-date averages.

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

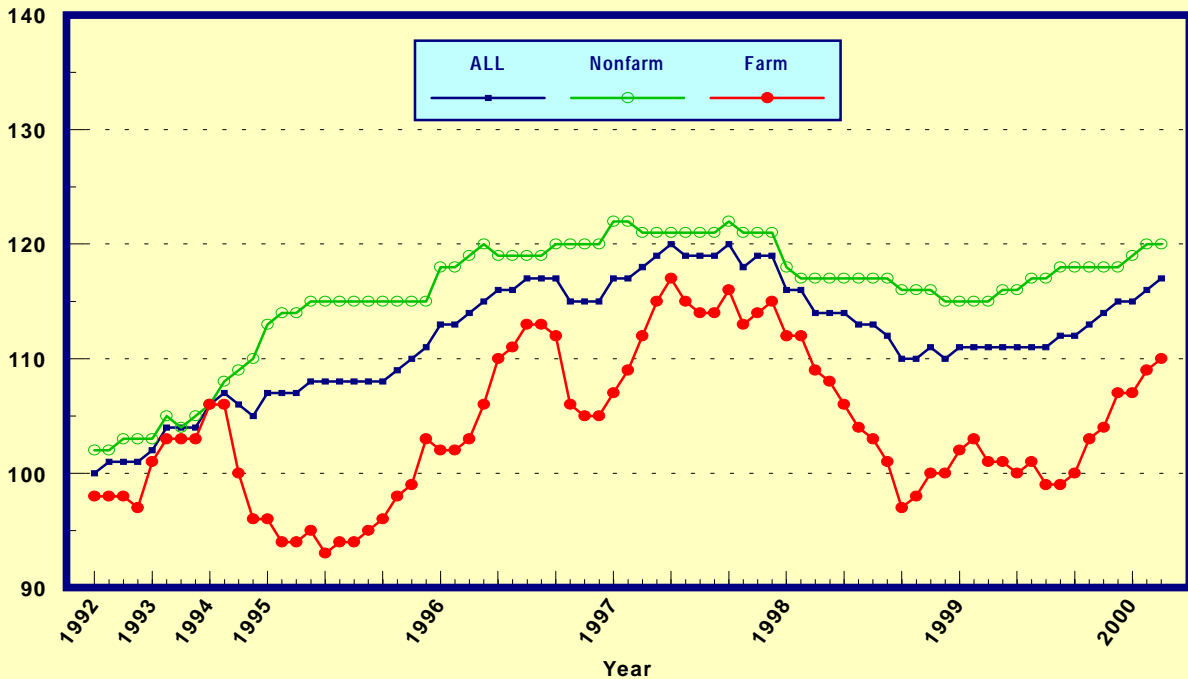
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1995.

## Prices Paid by Farmers, Indexes, All Production Items US, By Sector Origin 1/

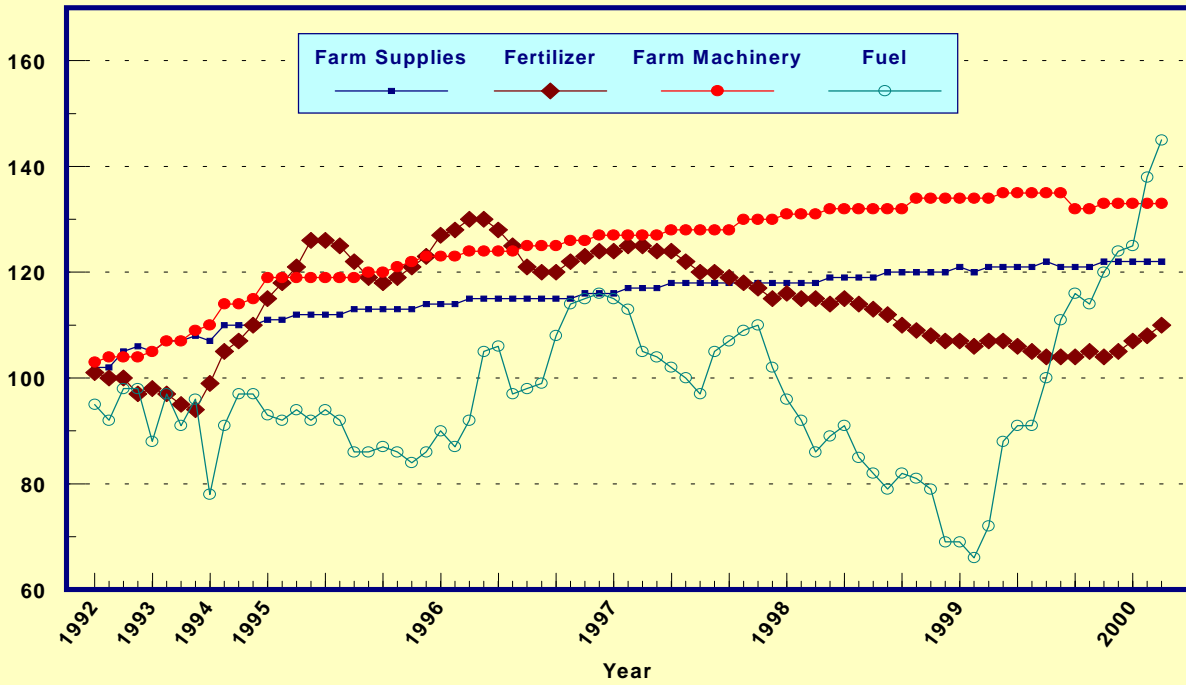
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1995.

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

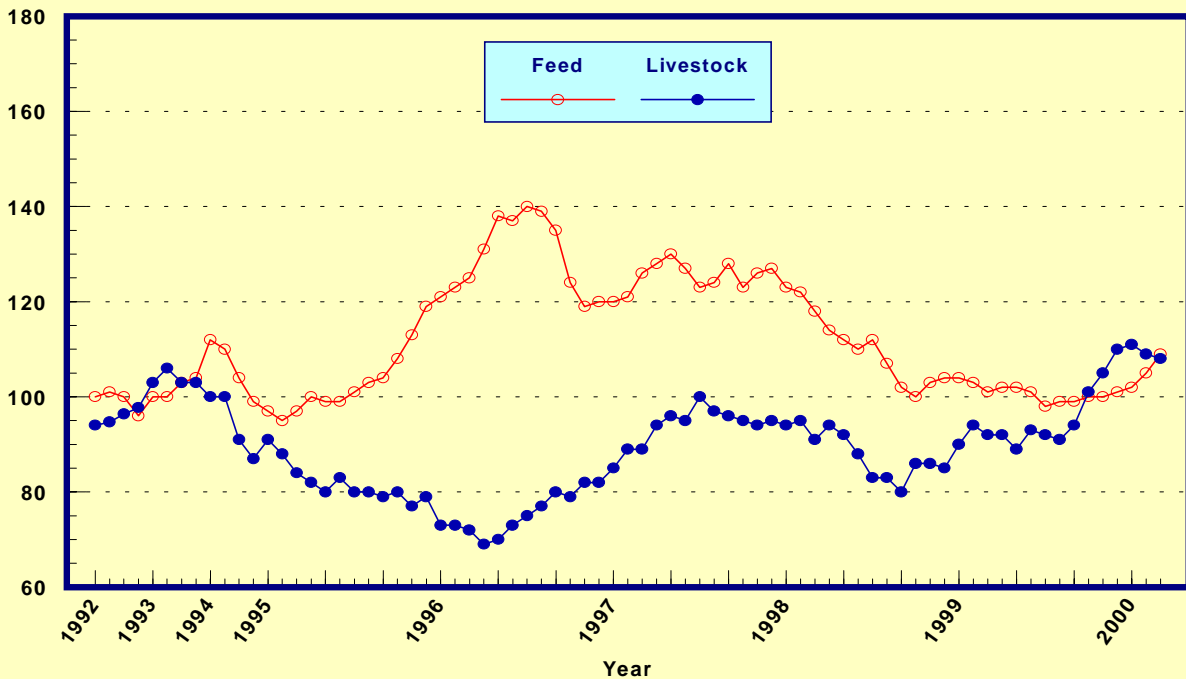
Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1995.

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

Percent (1990-92=100)



1/ Index values are monthly beginning in 1995.

Feed Price Ratios: United States, March 2000 with Comparisons

Feed Price Ratio 1/	1999		2000	
	Mar	Feb	Mar	Mar
Broiler-Feed: Pounds of Broiler Grower Feed equal in value to 1 pound of broiler, live weight	6.7	*6.2	6.3	
Market Egg Feed: Pounds of Laying Feed equal in Value to 1 dozen eggs	11.3	*11.3	8.0	
Hog-Corn: Bushels of Corn equal in value to 100 pounds of hog, live weight	*13.6	20.2	20.3	
Milk-Feed: Pounds of 16% Mixed Dairy Feed equal in value to 1 pound of Whole Milk	*3.57	*2.93	2.88	
Steer & Heifer-Corn: Bushels of Corn equal in value to 100 pounds of Steer & Heifers, live weight	31.8	*36.0	35.9	
Turkey-Feed: Pounds of Turkey Grower equal in value to 1 pound of Turkey, live weight	7.5	*7.2	7.6	

1/ Effective June 1996, prices of commercial prepared feeds are based on current U.S. prices received for corn, soybeans, alfalfa hay, and all wheat.  
\* Revised.

Prices Used to Calculate Feed Price Ratios:  
United States, March 2000 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	1999		2000	
		Mar	Feb	Mar	Mar
Broilers, Live	Lb	0.358	0.335	0.349	
Eggs, Market	Doz	0.531	0.523	0.382	
Hogs, All	Cwt	28.00	*39.90	41.30	
Milk, All	Cwt	15.00	11.80	11.80	
Steers and Heifers	Cwt	65.50	*71.20	72.80	
Turkeys, Live	Lb	0.370	0.357	0.382	
Corn	Bu	2.06	*1.98	2.03	
Hay, Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	83.20	*77.40	78.00	
Soybeans	Bu	4.61	*4.79	4.87	
Wheat, All	Bu	2.65	*2.54	2.57	

\* Revised.

Feeder Livestock: Prices Paid, United States  
March 2000 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	1999		2000	
		Mar	Feb	Mar	Mar
					Dollars
Feeders and Stockers Cattle and Calves	Cwt	74.30	89.00	86.70	

## 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 Prices 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).



## Index

### Prices Received

U.S. Prices and Indexes	Page		Page
Narrative.....	A-2	Cows, Beef.....	A-18
Price Indexes.....	A-3	Cows, Milk.....	A-21
Prices Received		Eggs.....	A-20
U.S. Summary.....	A-6-7	Flaxseed.....	A-14
Selected Commodities...	A-12	Fruit, Citrus.....	A-16
Upland Cotton and Rice:		Hay.....	A-15
Prices and Marketings..	A-15	All Hogs.....	A-19
Parity Prices.....	A-22-23	Lambs.....	A-20
Reliability Statement....	A-24	Milk.....	A-21
<b>Monthly State Prices</b>		Oats.....	A-13
Apples.....	A-15	Peanuts.....	A-14
Barley.....	A-13	Potatoes.....	A-17
Barrows and Gilts.....	A-19	Sheep.....	A-20
Beans, Dry Edible.....	A-14	Sorghum, Grain.....	A-13
Beef Cattle.....	A-18	Soybeans.....	A-13
Calves.....	A-18	Sows.....	A-19
Corn.....	A-13	Steers and Heifers.....	A-18
Cotton.....	A-15	Sunflower.....	A-14
Cottonseed.....	A-15	Tobacco.....	A-14
		Turkeys.....	A-20
		Wheat.....	A-12

**Index**

**Prices Paid**

**Page**

Narrative .....	B-1
Indexes and Parity Ratios .....	B-2-3
Charts .....	B-4-6
Feed Ratios .....	B-7
Reliability Statement .....	B-8

**U.S. Average Prices**

Commodity Prices Used in Feed Price Ratios .....	B-7
Feeder Livestock .....	B-7

## Report Features

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The next "Agricultural Prices" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on April 28, 2000.

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