

Released March 28, 2008, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Agricultural Prices* see page 35, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

March Farm Prices Received Index Up 3 Points From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 150 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (2.0 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up 8 points (4.9 percent) but the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for wheat, corn, lettuce, and eggs and lower prices for milk, snap beans, strawberries, and hogs. In addition to prices, the overall index is affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of strawberries, soybeans, milk, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, corn, cotton, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 17 points (13 percent) from March 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 149, increased 3 points (2.1 percent) from last month and increased 15 points (11 percent) from March 2007.

Prices Paid Index up 3 Points

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 176 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 3 points (1.7 percent) from February and 17 points (11 percent) above March 2007. Higher prices in March for diesel fuel, nitrogen fertilizers, complete feeds, and feed supplements more than offset lower prices for potash & phosphate materials, feeder cattle, trucks, and autos.

Index Summary Table

Index 1990-92=100	2007		2008	
	Feb	Mar	Feb	Mar
Prices Received	128	133	147	150
Prices Paid	156	159	173	176
Ratio ¹	82	84	85	85

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

Prices Received by Farmers

The March All Farm Products Index is 150 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 2.0 percent from the February index and 13 percent above the March 2007 index.

ALL CROPS: The March index is 171, up 4.9 percent from February and 20 percent above March 2007. Index increases for food grains, commercial vegetables, feed grains & hay, fruits & nuts more than offset the index decrease for cotton.

Food Grains: The March index, at 332, is 15 percent above the previous month and 114 percent above a year ago. The March all wheat price, at \$11.70 per bushel, is up \$1.72 from February and \$6.95 above March 2007.

Feed Grains & Hay: The March index is 206, up 6.2 percent from last month and 36 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$4.83 per bushel, is up 30 cents from last month and \$1.40 above March 2007. The all hay price, at \$139 per ton, is up \$6.00 from February and up \$20.00 from last March. Grain sorghum, at \$8.72 per cwt, is 37 cents above February and \$2.24 above March last year.

Oil-Bearing Crops: The March index, at 214, is up 1.9 percent from February and 71 percent higher than March 2007. The soybean price, at \$11.90 per bushel, increased 20 cents from February and is \$4.95 above March 2007.

Cotton: The March index, at 101, is down 1.0 percent from February but 31 percent above last year. The March price, at 61.4 cents per pound, is down 0.5 cent from the previous month but 15.0 cents above last March.

Potatoes & Dry Beans: The March index, at 138, is up 3.0 percent from last month and 1.5 percent above March 2007. The all potato price, at \$7.82 per cwt, is up 31 cents from February but down 11 cents from last March. The all dry bean price, at \$32.20 per cwt, is unchanged from the previous month but \$6.50 above March 2007.

Fruits & Nuts: The March index, at 156, is up 4.0 percent from February and 4.0 percent higher than a year ago. The price increase for oranges more than offset price decreases for strawberries, grapefruit, lemons, and apples.

Commercial Vegetables: The March index, at 131, is up 9.2 percent from last month but 32 percent below March 2007. Price increases during March for lettuce, tomatoes, broccoli, and cauliflower more than offset price declines for snap beans, cucumbers, and onions.

LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS: The March index, at 133, is unchanged from last month but up 6.4 percent from March 2007. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for milk, eggs, turkeys, and broilers. Prices for cattle, hogs, and calves are down from last year.

Meat Animals: The March index, at 114, is down 0.9 percent from last month and 3.4 percent lower than last year. The March hog price, at \$41.20 per cwt, is down \$1.00 from February and \$3.70 lower than a year ago. The March beef cattle price of \$88.70 per cwt is down 30 cents from last month and \$2.90 lower than March 2007.

Dairy Products: The March index, at 140, is down 4.1 percent from a month ago but 18 percent higher than March last year. The March all milk price of \$18.30 per cwt is down 80 cents from last month but up \$2.70 from March 2007. The fluid grade milk price is down 80 cents but the manufacturing grade milk price is unchanged from the previous month.

Poultry & Eggs: The March index, at 170, is up 4.3 percent from February and 15 percent above a year ago. The March market egg price, at \$1.30 per dozen, increased 8.0 cents from February and is 61.9 cents above March 2007. The March broiler price, at 51.0 cents per pound, is up 1.0 cent from February and a year ago. The March turkey price, at 52.9 cents per pound, is up 5.4 cents from the previous month and up 8.6 cents from a year earlier.

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**Index Numbers of Prices Received, United States,
March 2008, with Comparisons ¹**

Index	1910-14=100			1990-92=100			
	Average 1990-92	2007	2008		2007	2008	
		Mar	Feb	Mar	Mar	Feb	Mar
All Farm Products		843	*931	953	133	*147	150
All Crops		700	*804	842	142	*163	171
Food Grains		492	*919	1,054	155	*289	332
Feed Grains & Hay		540	*693	737	151	*194	206
Cotton		392	*523	519	77	*102	101
Tobacco ²		1,392	1,397	1,397	92	92	92
Oil-Bearing Crops		683	*1,147	1,169	125	*210	214
Fruits & Nuts		1,046	*1,044	1,086	150	*150	156
Commercial Vegetables		1,286	*799	878	192	*120	131
Potatoes & Dry Beans		689	*680	701	136	*134	138
Other Crops		580	585	585	118	119	119
Livestock & Products		962	*1,019	1,020	125	*133	133
Meat Animals		1,203	*1,169	1,155	118	*115	114
Dairy Products		959	*1,174	1,125	119	*146	140
Poultry & Eggs		415	459	477	148	163	170
Food Commodities					134	*146	149

* Revised.

¹ Revised historical price indexes for months not shown are available at www.nass.usda.gov.

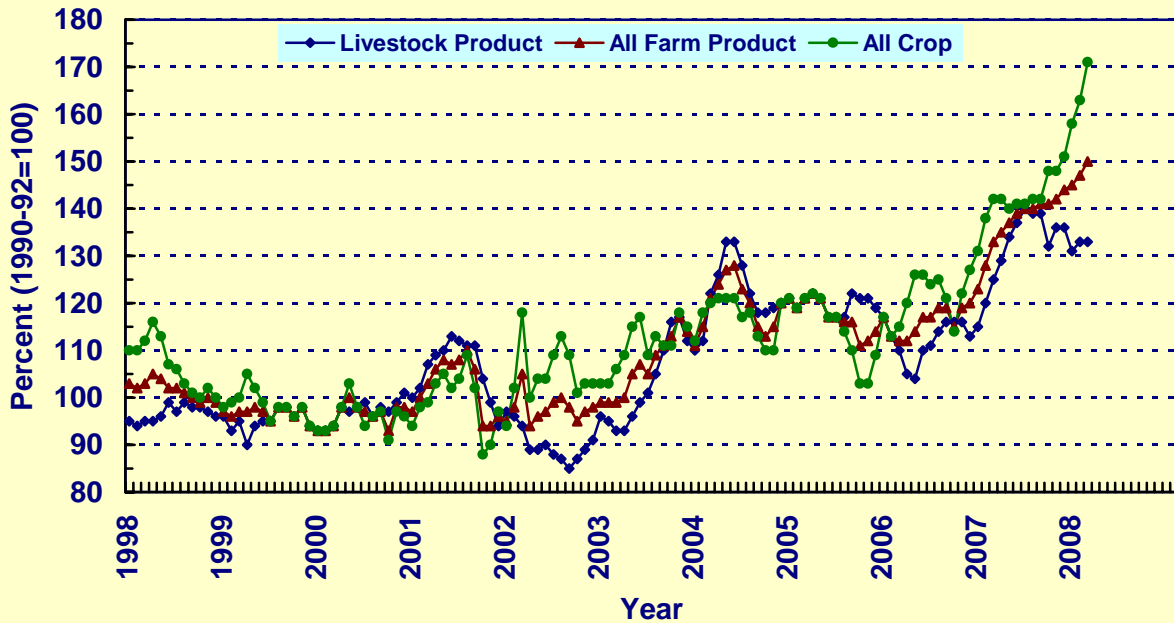
² Monthly prices discontinued July 2005.

**Selected Index Numbers for Prices Received and Paid,
1990-92=100, by Month, United States, 2007 and 2008 ¹**

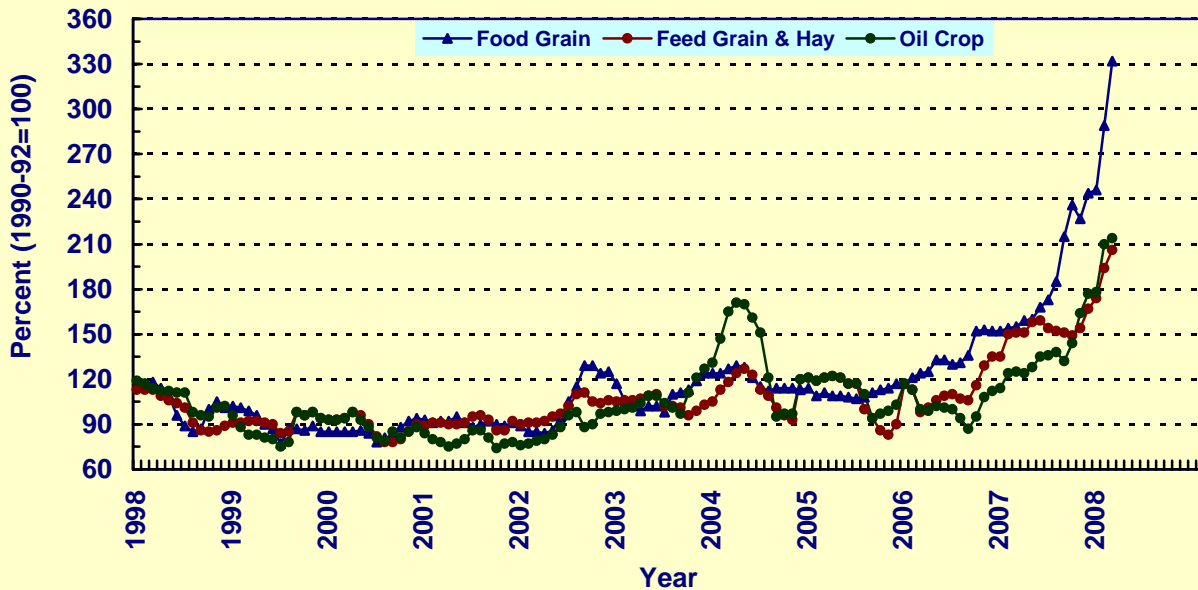
Month	Index of Prices Received						Index of Prices Paid			
	All Farm Products		All Crops		Livestock and Products		All Items		Production Items	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Jan	123	145	131	158	115	131	155	170	152	171
Feb	128	147	138	163	120	133	156	173	154	174
Mar	133	150	142	171	125	133	159	176	157	179
Apr	135		142		129		160		160	
May	137		140		134		161		160	
Jun	139		141		137		161		160	
Jul	140		141		140		161		161	
Aug	140		142		139		161		161	
Sep	141		142		139		162		161	
Oct	141		148		132		163		163	
Nov	142		148		136		165		165	
Dec	144		151		136		165		166	

¹ Revised historical price indexes for months not shown are available at www.nass.usda.gov.

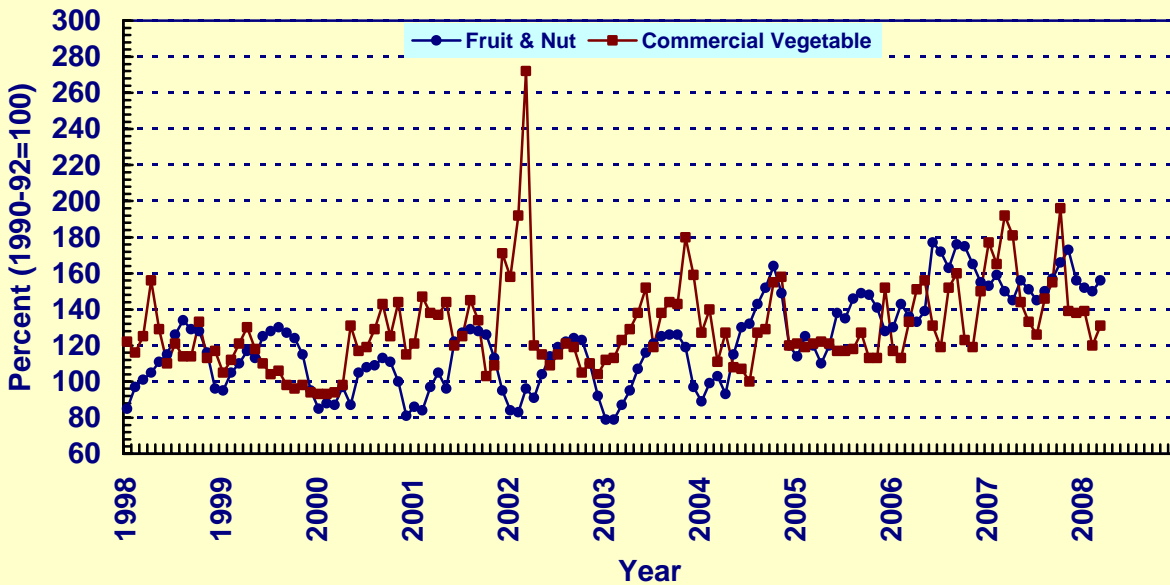
Prices Received, Major Indexes, US



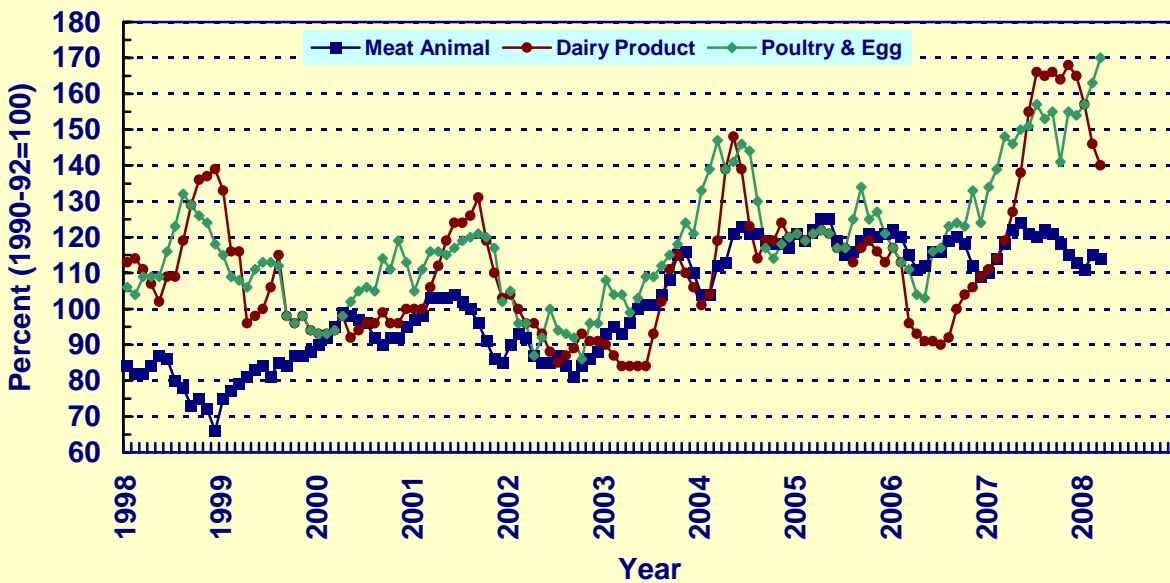
Prices Received, Food, Feed, & Oil Crop Indexes, US



Prices Received, Fruit and Vegetable Indexes, US



Prices Received, Livestock Product Indexes, US



**Prices Received, United States,
March 2008, with Comparisons**

Commodity	Unit	Average 1990-92	Entire Month		Preliminary
			Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Field Crops					
Barley, All	Bu	2.12	3.11	4.39	4.75
Feed	Bu	1.90	3.19	4.67	4.41
Malting	Bu	2.43	3.09	4.31	4.89
Beans, Dry Edible	Cwt	19.10	25.70	32.20	32.20
Canola ¹	Cwt			22.20	23.50
Chickpeas, All	Cwt		27.40	30.20	33.40
Large	Cwt		29.60	32.10	35.00
Small	Cwt		17.30	23.90	25.50
Corn	Bu	2.30	3.43	4.53	4.83
Cotton, Upland	Lb	0.606	0.464	0.619	0.614
Cottonseed ²	Ton	96.00		162.00	
Flaxseed	Bu	4.27	6.79	15.70	17.50
Hay, All, Baled ³	Ton	76.30	119.00	133.00	139.00
Alfalfa ³	Ton	77.20	121.00	138.00	143.00
Other ³	Ton	60.00	115.00	122.00	128.00
Lentils	Cwt		12.10	29.00	31.20
Oats	Bu	1.22	2.40	3.20	3.38
Peanuts, In-Shell	Lb	0.304	0.178	0.210	0.209
Peas, Dry Edible	Cwt		8.33	16.40	18.10
Austrian Winter	Cwt		8.22	(⁶)	(⁶)
Potatoes	Cwt	5.82	7.93	7.51	7.82
Rice, Rough	Cwt	7.07	10.00	12.50	12.90
Grain Sorghum	Cwt	3.75	6.48	8.35	8.72
Soybeans	Bu	5.61	6.95	11.70	11.90
Sunflower, All	Cwt	9.50	15.60	24.20	24.10
Wheat, All	Bu	2.96	4.75	9.98	11.70
Winter	Bu	2.93	4.67	8.97	11.00
Durum	Bu	2.86	5.32	13.50	14.50
Other Spring	Bu	3.11	4.73	11.10	12.50
Hard Red Winter	Bu		4.66	8.77	
Soft Red Winter	Bu		3.94	8.65	
Hard Red Spring	Bu		4.74	11.20	
White	Bu	3.24	5.04	10.10	
Fruit					
Citrus, Equiv on-tree					
Grapefruit	Box	5.77	2.91	4.07	3.14
Lemons	Box	10.10	8.68	42.42	39.77
Oranges	Box	5.79	10.58	5.74	6.07
Tangelos	Box	5.82	(⁶)	1.55	(⁶)
Tangerines	Box	15.11	12.98	14.80	13.15
Noncitrus, Fresh					
Apples ⁴	Lb	0.212	0.292	0.347	0.344
Grapes ^{4,6}	Ton	506.00			
Peaches ^{4,6}	Ton	432.00			
Pears ⁴	Ton	370.00	544.00	534.00	511.00
Strawberries	Cwt	56.00	88.90	128.00	113.00

¹ Monthly prices began in July 2007.

² Marketing year August - February.

³ Mid-month price.

⁴ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, and NY (apples only), and WA (apples, peaches, and pears). Prices as sold for other states.

⁵ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

⁶ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

**Prices Received, United States,
March 2008, with Comparisons**

Commodity	Unit	Average 1990-92	Entire Month		Preliminary
			Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Vegetables, Fresh ¹					
Asparagus	Cwt	79.80	107.00		
Broccoli	Cwt	22.50	27.60	22.90	28.40
Cantaloups ²	Cwt				
Carrots	Cwt	13.20	28.30	25.90	25.90
Cauliflower	Cwt	26.80	51.40	30.20	42.60
Celery	Cwt	11.60	31.90	13.20	13.30
Corn, Sweet	Cwt	15.70	30.20	23.00	28.00
Cucumbers ²	Cwt		33.60		23.20
Lettuce	Cwt	11.90	29.70	13.30	15.70
Onions	Cwt	12.80	35.00	3.55	2.11
Snap Beans ²	Cwt		102.00	98.30	43.00
Tomatoes	Cwt	32.30	26.30	45.50	53.00
Livestock					
Calves	Cwt	94.30	122.00	120.00	120.00
Cattle, All Beef	Cwt	72.90	91.60	89.00	88.70
Cows ³	Cwt	49.60	47.20	51.40	52.20
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	77.10	97.70	94.20	93.80
Milk Cows ⁴	Head	1,130.00			
Hogs, All	Cwt	47.70	44.90	42.20	41.20
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt	48.40	45.50	43.20	41.90
Sows	Cwt	39.50	33.00	22.90	25.10
Lambs	Cwt	56.20	95.50	96.80	
Sheep	Cwt	23.40	36.60	29.90	
Dairy and Poultry					
Milk, All ^{5 6}	Cwt	13.06	15.60	19.10	18.30
Fluid Grade ⁶	Cwt	13.10	15.60	19.10	18.30
Mfg Grade ⁶	Cwt	11.80	15.10	18.30	18.30
Broilers, Live ⁷	Lb	0.317	0.500	0.500	0.510
Eggs, All ⁸	Doz	0.643	0.828	1.310	1.380
Market ^{8 9}	Doz	0.546	0.681	1.220	1.300
Turkeys, live ^{8 10}	Lb	0.380	0.443	0.475	0.529
Adjusted for Seasonal Variation ¹¹					
Eggs, All	Doz	0.545	0.761	1.250	1.270
Milk, All ⁵	Cwt	9.71	16.20	19.60	19.00

¹ Beginning January 2006, point of first sale. F.O.B. shipping point for prior years.

² Monthly estimates began January 1995.

³ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁴ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices available for Jan, Apr, Jul, and Oct.

⁵ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

⁶ March 2008 Fat test percent: all milk, 3.74; fluid milk, 3.74; mfg grade, 4.02.

⁷ Equivalent live weight price.

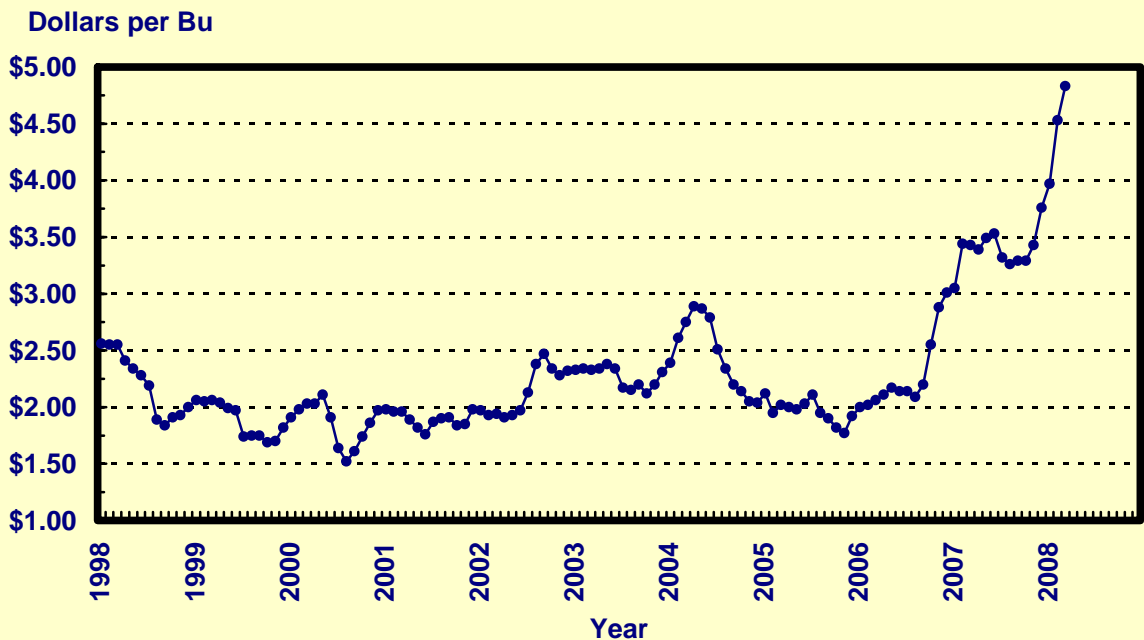
⁸ Mid-month price.

⁹ Also referred to as table eggs.

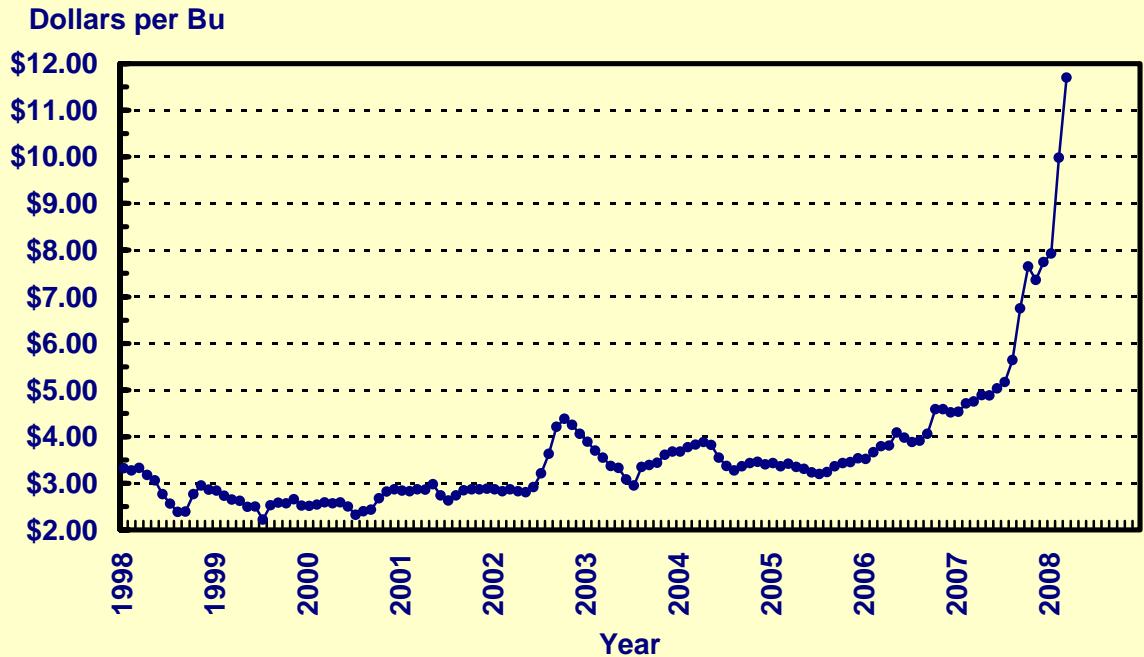
¹⁰ Live weight equivalent price is used when actual live weight price is not available.

¹¹ Seasonal adjustment factors are: All Eggs March 2007, 109; February 2008, 105; and March 2008, 109. All Milk March 2007, 96; February 2008, 98; and March 2008, 96.

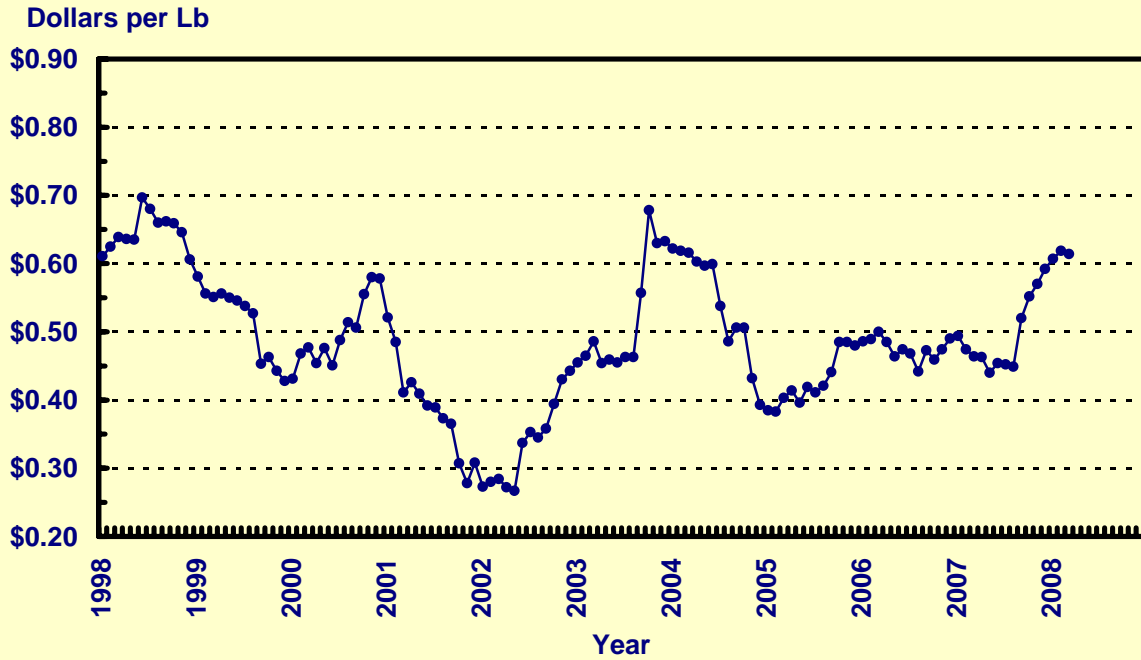
Prices Received, Corn, US



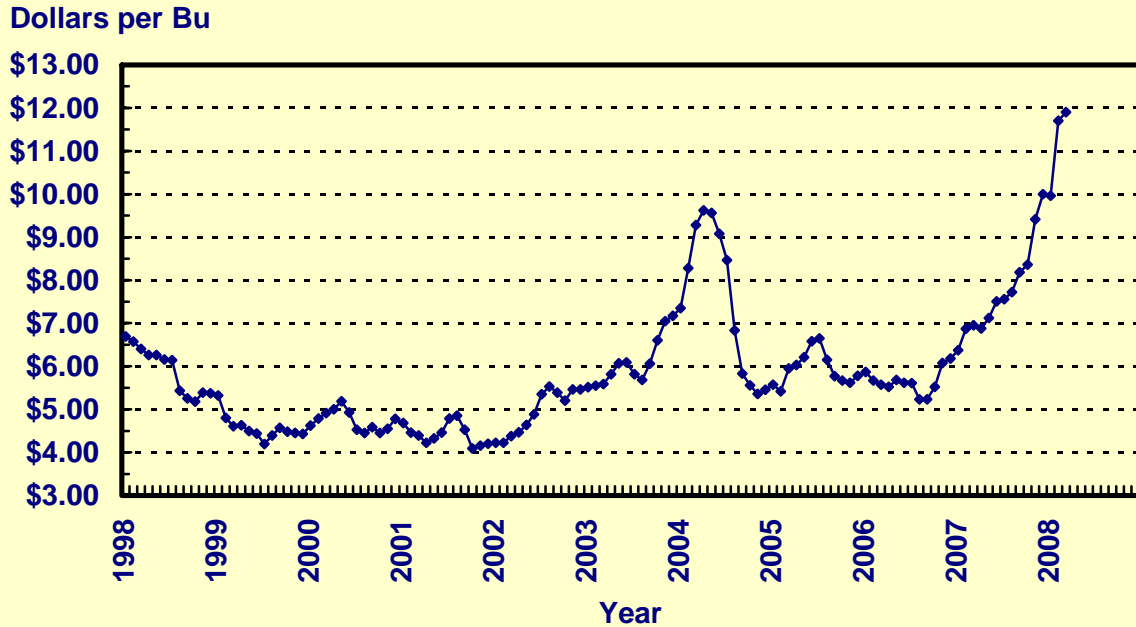
Prices Received, Wheat, US



Prices Received, Cotton, US

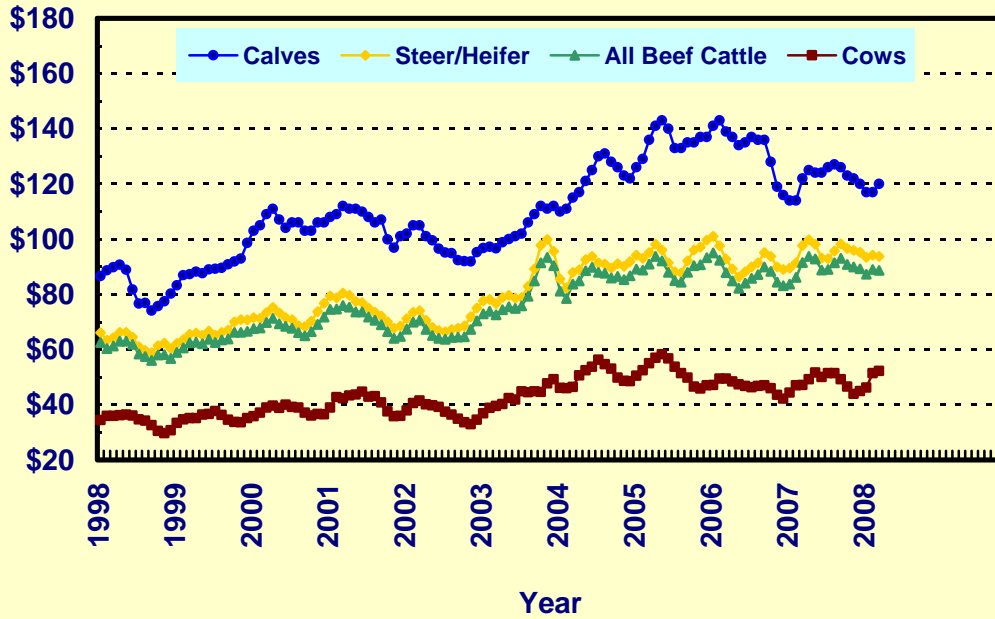


Prices Received, Soybeans, US



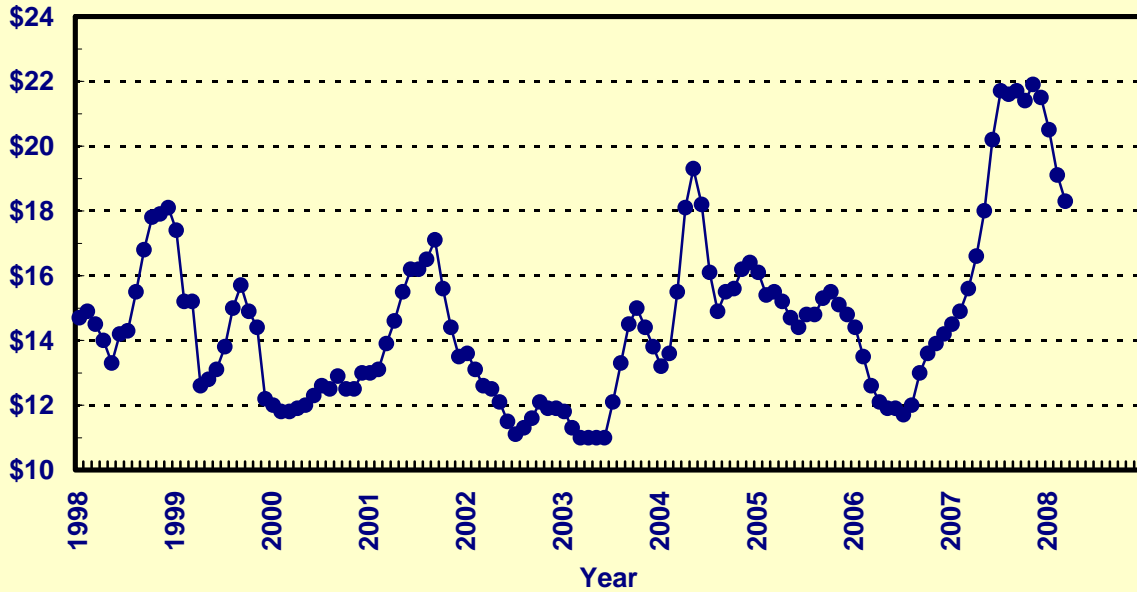
Prices Received, Cattle, US

Dollars per Cwt



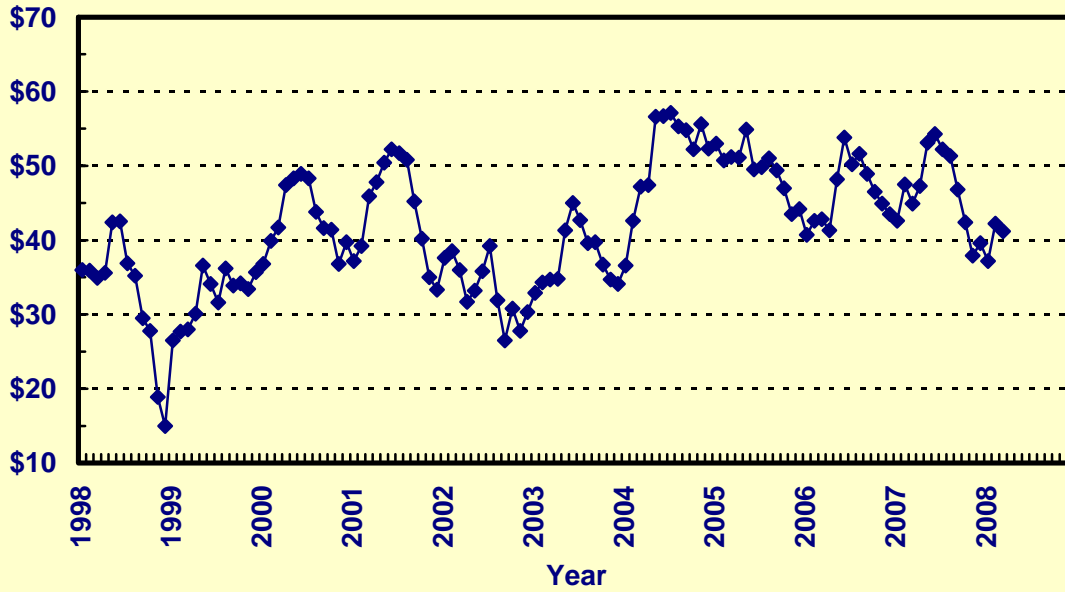
Prices Received, Milk, US

Dollars per Cwt



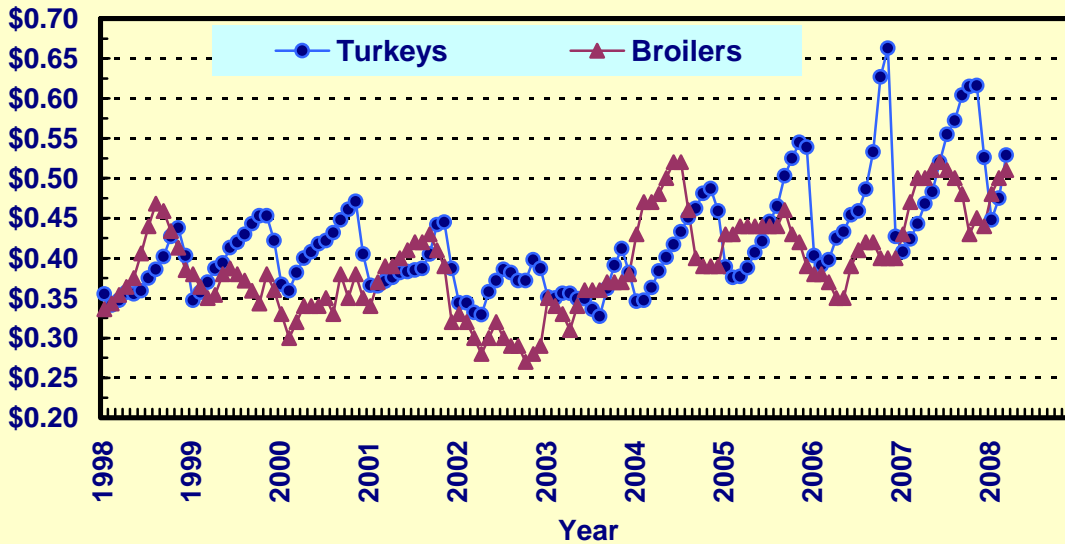
Prices Received, Hogs, US

Dollars per Cwt



Prices Received, Turkeys & Broilers, US

Dollars per Lb



Wheat: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008

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
	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>
AR	(³)	(⁴)	(³)	(³)				
CA	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(⁴)	(⁴)		
CO	8.82	10.80	8.74	10.80			(³)	(⁴)
ID	8.77	9.61	8.57	9.85	4.97	(³)	9.44	9.75
IL	8.75	9.30	8.75	9.30				
IN	9.06	10.80	9.06	10.80				
KS	9.29	12.00	9.29	12.00				
MI	7.64	8.00	7.64	8.00				
MN	10.10	11.20	9.40	10.60			10.10	11.20
MO	8.03	9.00	8.03	9.00				
MT	8.01	11.80	7.31	11.00	11.20	12.20	8.66	13.00
NE	8.87	10.10	8.87	10.10				
ND	12.70	13.70	8.21	11.00	15.80	16.20	12.50	13.50
OH	8.88	9.66	8.88	9.66				
OK	10.10	12.20	10.10	12.20				
OR	13.00	11.50	12.40	11.20			15.80	13.10
SD	9.54	10.60	8.29	9.75			10.30	11.00
TX	9.23	11.80	9.23	11.80				
WA	11.00	11.20	9.95	10.40			14.00	13.40
US	9.98	11.70	8.97	11.00	13.50	14.50	11.10	12.50

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 Month,
United States, 2007 and 2008 ¹**

Month	All Wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef Cattle ²		All Hogs	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>
Jan	4.53	7.93	3.05	3.97	6.37	9.96	83.70	87.30	42.60	37.20
Feb	4.71	9.98	3.44	4.53	6.87	11.70	86.10	89.00	47.50	42.20
Mar	4.75	11.70	3.43	4.83	6.95	11.90	91.60	88.70	44.90	41.20
Apr	4.89		3.39		6.88		93.70		47.30	
May	4.88		3.49		7.12		92.80		53.10	
Jun	5.03		3.53		7.51		88.80		54.30	
Jul	5.17		3.32		7.56		89.00		52.20	
Aug	5.64		3.26		7.72		91.40		51.30	
Sep	6.75		3.29		8.18		93.10		46.80	
Oct	7.65		3.29		8.36		90.90		42.40	
Nov	7.36		3.43		9.41		89.90		37.90	
Dec	7.74		3.76		10.00		89.20		39.60	

¹ Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.

² Cows, steers and heifers.

Grains: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008

Month	All Barley		Corn		Oats		Soybeans		Grain Sorghum	
	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²
	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>
AL							12.00	12.50	9.07	(³)
AR										
CA					(⁴)	(⁴)				
CO	(³)	(³)	4.36	4.65						
ID	4.22	4.27								
IL			4.58	4.90	(³)	(³)	12.20	12.00	8.83	9.00
IN			4.61	4.95			12.40	12.60		
IA			4.50	4.75	3.98	3.50	11.80	12.00		
KS			4.86	5.24	3.56	3.39	12.10	12.20	8.47	8.81
KY			4.59	5.00			12.10	12.50		
LA							9.31	(³)		
MI			4.71	4.90	3.48	(⁴)	11.90	12.00		
MN	3.98	4.03	4.23	4.50	3.05	3.10	11.30	11.80		
MS							10.10	11.00		
MO			4.51	4.80			11.90	11.60	8.39	8.60
MT	4.39	4.87			(⁴)	(⁴)				
NE			4.44	4.75	3.81	3.90	11.90	11.90	8.30	8.65
NY					(³)	(³)				
NC			5.04	5.36			11.70	12.20		
ND	4.51	4.86	4.40	4.75	2.58	3.35	10.90	11.50		
OH			4.66	5.01	(³)	(⁴)	11.60	11.70		
OK									8.09	8.75
OR	5.84	5.90			(⁴)	(⁴)				
PA			5.47	5.61	3.64	3.64				
SD	(³)	(³)	4.42	4.80	3.27	3.39	10.60	10.70		
TN			4.82	5.10			13.10	12.90		
TX			5.09	5.43	(³)	3.89			8.11	8.50
UT	(³)	5.38								
WA	5.32	5.33								
WI			4.40	4.55	3.03	3.25	11.90	11.60		
WY	(³)	(⁴)								
US	4.39	4.75	4.53	4.83	3.20	3.38	11.70	11.90	8.35	8.72

¹ Entire month.

² Mid-month.

³ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

⁴ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

Malting and Feed Barley: Prices Received Selected State, February and March 2008

State	Malting Barley		Feed Barley	
	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²
	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>
ID	4.13	4.25	5.15	4.65
MN	3.95	4.00	4.72	4.75
MT	4.26	5.08	4.72	4.35
ND	4.63	5.10	4.23	4.30
SD	(⁴)	(⁴)	(³)	(³)
WY	(³)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)

¹ Entire month.

² Mid-month.

³ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

⁴ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

Field Crops: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008

State	Dry Edible Beans		All Sunflower		Canola		Flaxseed		Peanuts ⁴	
	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ³
	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>	<i>Dollars per Pound</i>	<i>Dollars per Pound</i>
AL									0.200	0.201
CA	47.30	49.30								
CO	32.20	32.50								
FL									0.182	0.180
GA									0.206	0.196
ID	31.60	33.40								
KS			(⁵)	25.80						
MI	37.20	35.00								
MN	32.20	34.40	20.10	24.10	19.40	(⁶)				
NE	32.20	34.70								
NC									0.206	0.200
ND	29.20	30.10	22.40	23.50	22.30	23.50	15.70	17.50		
SD			27.30	25.60			(⁵)	(⁶)		
TX									0.241	0.260
VA									0.229	0.162
US	32.20	32.20	24.20	24.10	22.20	23.50	15.70	17.50	0.210	0.209

¹ Entire month.

² Mid-month.

³ Based on sales through first half of month.

⁴ In-Shell.

⁵ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

⁶ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

Field Crops and Apples: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008

State	Cotton, Upland		March				Apples Fresh Use ¹⁴
	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Cotton- seed ⁵	Hay, Baled ³			
				All	Alfalfa	Other	
<i>Dollars per Pound</i>	<i>Dollars per Pound</i>	<i>Dollars per Ton</i>	<i>Dollars per Ton</i>	<i>Dollars per Ton</i>	<i>Dollars per Ton</i>	<i>Dol/Lb</i>	
AL	0.566	0.558					
AZ	0.603	(⁶)		171.00	172.00	155.00	
AR	0.561	0.558					
CA	0.693	(⁷)		181.00	195.00	131.00	
CO				143.00	145.00	125.00	
GA	0.613	0.582					
ID				154.00	155.00	150.00	
IL				143.00	155.00	120.00	
IA				123.00	130.00	90.00	
KS				102.00	107.00	81.00	
KY				134.00	175.00	100.00	
LA	0.558	0.562					
MI				148.00	150.00	140.00	0.305
MN				128.00	130.00	100.00	
MS	0.556	0.558					
MO				109.00	165.00	90.00	
MT				88.00	89.00	79.00	
NE				89.00	90.00	77.00	
NV				167.00	170.00	140.00	
NM				158.00	161.00	131.00	
NY				121.00	145.00	115.00	0.331
NC	0.593	0.586					
ND				65.00	70.00	48.00	
OH				149.00	183.00	119.00	0.470
OK				99.00	124.00	66.00	
OR				170.00	168.00	175.00	
PA				205.00	230.00	200.00	0.304
SD				102.00	104.00	88.00	
TN	0.579	0.589					
TX	0.632	0.630		129.00	160.00	115.00	
UT				148.00	150.00	125.00	
VA							
WA				163.00	160.00	170.00	0.348
WI				113.00	115.00	80.00	
WY				108.00	110.00	103.00	
US	0.619	0.614		139.00	143.00	128.00	0.344

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.

⁷ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

**Upland Cotton and Rice: Prices Received and Marketings,
United States, March 2008, with Comparisons**

Item	Unit	Jan 2008 ¹	Feb 2008 ¹	Mar 2008 ²
Cotton, Upland				
Average Price	Dollars per Pound	0.607	0.619	0.614
Marketings ³	1,000 Bales	1,839	1,399	NA
Rice				
Average Price	Dollars per Cwt	11.80	12.50	12.90
Marketings ⁴	1,000 Cwt	19,730	15,072	NA

¹ Entire month.

² Based on purchases for the first half of the month.

³ Marketings based on a survey of cotton buyers in the major producing States - AL, AZ, AR, CA, GA, LA, MS, NC, TN, and TX.

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 2008**

Commodity, State and Type	F.O.B. Packed Fresh	Equivalent Returns ¹					
		Packinghouse-door			On-tree		
		All	Fresh	Process	All	Fresh	Process
	<i>Dollars per Box</i>	<i>Dollars per Box</i>	<i>Dollars per Box</i>	<i>Dollars per Box</i>	<i>Dollars per Box</i>	<i>Dollars per Box</i>	<i>Dollars per Box</i>
Grapefruit							
CA	16.00	6.15	6.58	-0.31	3.17	3.60	-3.29
FL	21.20	5.79	12.72	2.58	3.25	10.58	-0.14
White	20.00	4.30	11.25	2.90	1.95	9.15	0.50
Colored	21.50	6.72	13.10	2.30	4.07	10.95	-0.70
TX	18.00	3.67	7.19	0.65	2.45	5.94	-0.55
US	20.40	5.50	11.42	2.36	3.14	9.40	-0.19
Lemons							
CA	61.70	45.30	51.43	-0.44	39.77	45.90	-5.97
Oranges							
CA	18.50	8.38	10.39	1.47	5.83	7.83	-1.08
Navel and Misc	18.50	8.27	10.43	1.46	5.72	7.88	-1.09
Valencia	18.30	9.34	10.11	1.62	6.75	7.52	-0.97
FL	19.50	8.91	10.45	8.87	6.26	7.62	6.22
Early and Mids	18.90	8.83	9.90	8.80	6.17	7.10	6.15
Valencia	19.70	8.94	10.70	8.90	6.29	7.85	6.25
TX							
Early and Mids	10.60	0.32	-0.32	2.40	-1.13	-1.78	0.98
US	18.40	8.68	10.17	8.15	6.07	7.62	5.51
Tangerines							
AZ	32.50	17.37	23.08	0.24	14.07	19.78	-3.06
CA	37.70	23.05	28.28	0.24	19.75	24.98	-3.06
FL	22.00	8.02	10.50	5.50	4.27	7.00	1.50
US	32.70	16.64	22.67	3.69	13.15	19.31	-0.07

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

Potatoes: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008 ¹

State	Feb	Mar	State	Feb	Mar
	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>		<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>
AL			NC		
AZ			ND - All ²	7.25	7.30
CA - All ²	10.40	10.70	- Fresh ³	9.60	NA
- Winter	16.30	17.10	- Processing	6.45	NA
- Spring			OR	8.25	8.90
- Summer			TX		
- Fall	8.60	8.15	VA		
CO - All ²	9.55	9.75	WA - All ²	8.20	7.55
- Fresh ³	10.80	NA	- Processing	6.50	NA
FL	42.10	38.20	WI - All ²	8.30	8.30
ID - All ²	5.60	6.20	- Fresh ³	8.70	NA
- Fresh ³	6.00	NA	- Processing	7.85	NA
- Processing	5.40	NA	US - All ²	7.51	7.82
ME	7.95	8.15	- Fresh ³	9.86	NA
MI	9.40	9.85	- Processing	6.25	NA
MN	6.35	6.55			
NY	11.30	11.10			

¹ Missing data indicates no potatoes being marketed.

² Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stocks, processing, seed, and livestock feed.

³ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices.

Cattle: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008

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
	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>
AZ	52.00	54.00	95.00	95.00	77.80	78.60	114.00	112.00
AR	50.00	50.50	102.00	99.00	86.40	84.50	113.00	112.00
CA	45.00	48.00	92.90	92.50	71.80	72.90	112.00	120.00
CO	52.50	54.20	101.00	101.00	100.00	100.00	117.00	119.00
FL	55.80	54.50	93.80	95.00	73.30	73.20	108.00	110.00
GA	54.60	54.00	92.00	91.00	72.20	69.20	110.00	109.00
ID	47.40	47.60	91.40	92.40	81.70	81.60	108.00	110.00
IL	53.50	52.00	93.00	92.50	92.20	91.70	112.00	111.00
IA	52.00	53.50	93.50	91.90	92.70	91.10	112.00	111.00
KS	52.90	53.60	93.60	92.50	92.40	91.30	126.00	125.00
KY	50.00	49.00	94.00	91.00	83.40	80.90	111.00	109.00
LA	52.30	52.00	98.70	95.00	65.30	64.00	109.00	107.00
MI	53.00	54.00	87.00	87.00	76.80	77.10	104.00	103.00
MN	55.20	55.20	89.20	89.20	81.60	81.60	119.00	118.00
MO	50.20	49.10	101.00	99.30	83.70	88.30	117.00	115.00
MT	52.70	51.10	102.00	95.60	93.60	93.40	120.00	121.00
NE	54.70	54.20	95.10	95.00	93.90	93.80	125.00	124.00
NM	51.10	52.40	100.00	100.00	80.40	79.50	117.00	119.00
ND	52.00	53.00	99.00	97.00	92.90	90.80	118.00	116.00
OH	49.00	49.00	88.10	90.00	84.20	85.90	101.00	100.00
OK	52.90	52.70	101.00	98.50	99.10	96.70	119.00	115.00
OR	46.00	48.20	90.80	91.50	77.40	78.50	110.00	114.00
PA	51.30	52.20	86.10	86.50	77.10	77.60	118.00	115.00
SD	53.80	52.90	100.00	95.20	94.90	91.00	122.00	118.00
TN	52.00	51.00	94.00	93.00	77.20	76.20	110.00	108.00
TX	50.60	51.00	94.20	94.70	89.40	90.30	116.00	119.00
VA	49.00	49.30	88.60	90.40	73.90	79.30	106.00	109.00
WI	52.00	53.00	86.50	85.30	66.50	66.60	154.00	150.00
WY	50.60	49.90	101.00	91.80	92.90	85.10	126.00	124.00
US	51.40	52.20	94.20	93.80	89.00	88.70	120.00	120.00

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 State, February and March 2008

State	Sows		Barrows and Gilts		All Hogs	
	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²	Feb ¹	Mar ²
	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>
AR	22.20	25.00	40.10	39.00	38.30	37.60
IL	21.50	23.50	45.00	44.00	43.10	42.40
IN	26.50	29.60	45.60	44.10	43.90	42.80
IA	23.00	25.00	44.00	43.00	43.20	42.60
KS	24.30	26.20	38.40	35.90	36.60	34.60
MN	23.10	26.10	44.30	42.90	44.20	42.80
MO	20.60	22.60	37.50	35.50	36.10	34.50
NE	25.10	28.10	44.40	43.30	44.00	43.00
NC	21.00	23.40	43.50	42.20	43.30	42.00
OH	22.80	25.00	40.80	39.00	39.00	37.60
OK	21.30	23.50	36.30	34.30	34.10	32.70
PA	22.20	25.30	38.00	36.40	35.60	34.70
SD	23.10	25.40	44.40	42.60	42.30	40.90
US	22.90	25.10	43.20	41.90	42.20	41.20

¹ Entire month.

² Mid-month.

Sheep and Poultry: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008

State	February		March
	Sheep ¹	Lambs ¹	Market Eggs ^{2 3}
	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Cwt</i>	<i>Dollars per Dozen</i>
AL			1.370
AR			1.300
CA	29.00	89.00	1.330
CO	31.00	98.00	
CT			1.200
FL			1.350
GA			1.360
ID	28.00	93.00	
IN			1.340
IA	30.50	88.50	1.250
KY	37.00	93.00	
ME			1.490
MI			1.290
MN	36.00	94.70	1.330
MS			1.310
MO	32.40	100.00	1.250
MT	20.80	110.00	
NE	30.00	89.20	
NY			1.310
NC			1.290
ND	30.00	96.00	
OH	35.20	98.90	1.310
OR	36.00	96.00	
PA	47.40	120.00	1.220
SC			1.130
SD	22.40	105.00	
TX	30.20	105.00	1.290
VA	38.00	108.00	
WA			1.430
WV	34.00	106.00	
WY	26.90	100.00	
US	29.90	96.80	1.300

¹ Entire month.

² Mid-month.

³ Also referred to as table eggs.

Milk and Milk Cows: Prices Received, by State, February and March 2008

State	February ¹						March		
	Fluid Grade Milk ²		Manufacturing Grade Milk		All Milk ³		All Milk ^{3 4}		Milk Cows ⁵
	Price	Fat Test	Price	Fat Test	Price	Fat Test	Price	Fat Test	
	<i>Dol/Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Dol/Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Dol/Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Dol/Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Dol/Head</i>
AZ	18.30	3.64			18.30	3.64	17.20	3.57	
CA	17.70	3.80	19.00	4.27	17.74	3.81	17.10	3.79	
CO	19.30	3.59			19.30	3.59	18.50	3.58	
FL	23.20	3.59			23.20	3.59	20.50	3.55	
ID	17.50	3.67			17.50	3.67	17.80	3.65	
IL	20.50	3.95	19.20	3.85	20.50	3.95	19.00	3.85	
IN	20.30	3.75	17.70	3.99	20.30	3.75	18.60	3.76	
IA	19.40	3.78	17.30	3.97	19.40	3.78	18.00	3.75	
KS	19.60	3.78			19.60	3.78	18.70	3.73	
KY	21.10	3.76			21.10	3.76	18.30	3.69	
MI	19.70	3.70			19.70	3.70	18.50	3.67	
MN	19.50	3.81	17.80	3.84	19.50	3.81	19.00	3.79	
MO	19.80	3.74	16.10	3.97	19.70	3.75	18.20	3.67	
NM	18.50	3.67			18.50	3.67	17.70	3.69	
NY	19.50	3.77			19.50	3.77	17.90	3.76	
OH	20.60	3.86	17.90	4.01	20.50	3.87	18.90	3.75	
OR	18.30	3.74			18.30	3.74	17.50	3.70	
PA	21.00	3.80			21.00	3.80	19.20	3.80	
TX	19.50	3.79			19.50	3.79	19.00	3.73	
VT	20.40	3.80			20.40	3.80	18.90	3.77	
VA	23.10	3.74			23.10	3.74	22.00	3.70	
WA	18.20	3.74			18.20	3.74	17.20	3.70	
WI	19.20	3.79	17.60	3.94	19.20	3.79	19.70	3.78	
US	19.10	3.76	18.30	4.10	19.10	3.77	18.30	3.74	

¹ Entire month.

² Including milk diverted to manufacturing.

³ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

⁴ Preliminary.

⁵ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

**Parity Price Equivalent for Manufacturing Grade Milk ¹: United States,
February and March 2008, with Comparisons**

Item	Unit	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008
Parity Equivalent	Dollars per Cwt	36.60	41.40	42.10
Average Price F.O.B ^{2 3}	Dollars per Cwt	15.10	18.30	18.30
Average Fat Test of Milk ^{2 3}	Percent	4.02	4.10	4.02

¹ The parity price equivalent during 2008 is 92.1 percent of the parity price of all milk sold to plants, compared with 91.5 percent in 2007. For additional details, see January 2008 issue of "Agricultural Prices".

² Beginning in August 2007, Parity Price for Manufacturing Grade Milk is computed using the same methodology as Parity Prices for other commodities.

³ Preliminary for March 2008.

**Parity Prices for Farm Products and Average Prices Received as
Percent of Parity Prices, United States, with Comparisons¹**

Commodity and Unit	Adjusted Base Price	Parity Price			Price as Percent of Parity		
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Basic Commodities							
All Wheat, Bu	0.533	10.70	12.30	12.50	44	81	94
Rice, Cwt	1.29	28.90	29.70	30.20	35	42	43
Corn, Bu	0.337	7.94	7.75	7.89	43	58	61
Cotton, Lb							
American Upland	0.092	2.03	2.12	2.15	23	29	29
Extra Long Staple	0.137	2.94	3.15	3.21	32	32	31
Peanuts, Lb	0.035	0.641	0.805	0.819	28	26	26
Designated Nonbasic							
All Milk, Sold to Plants, Per Cwt ²	1.95	39.70	44.80	45.60	41	44	42
Honey, Extracted, Lb ³	0.122	2.54	2.80	2.86	41	37	36
Wool and Mohair							
Wool, Lb	0.080	1.69	1.84	1.87	40	48	47
Mohair, Lb	0.371	7.42	8.53	8.69	50	44	43
Other Nonbasic							
Barley, Bu	0.368	7.48	8.46	8.61	42	52	55
Canola, Cwt	1.530	28.30	35.20	35.80		63	66
Cottonseed, Ton	14.40	306.00	331.00	337.00	42	49	48
Dry Edible Beans, Cwt	2.71	56.20	62.30	63.40	46	52	51
Flaxseed, Bu	0.901	17.40	20.70	21.10	39	76	83
Mustard Seed, Cwt	2.00	39.70	46.00	46.80			
Oats, Bu	0.219	4.44	5.03	5.13	54	64	66
Potatoes, Cwt	0.827	16.90	19.00	19.40	47	40	40
Rapeseed, Cwt	1.73	32.90	39.80	40.50			
Rye, Bu	0.420	8.56	9.66	9.83			
Safflower, Cwt	1.88	38.00	43.20	44.00			
Sorghum Grain, Cwt	0.601	13.60	13.80	14.10	48	61	62
Soybeans, Bu	0.832	17.60	19.10	19.50	39	61	61
All Sunflower, Cwt	1.68	34.30	38.60	39.30	45	63	61
Sweetpotatoes, Cwt	2.34	47.70	53.80	54.80			
Apples, Fresh, Lb ⁴	0.032	0.622	0.736	0.749	47	47	46
Citrus (equiv on-tree), Box							
Grapefruit	0.631	12.90	14.50	14.80	23	28	21
Lemons	1.22	23.60	28.00	28.60	37	152	139
Oranges	0.651	12.40	15.00	15.20	85	38	40
Tangerines	1.37	27.90	31.50	32.10	47	47	41
Beef Cattle, Cwt	10.20	210.00	234.00	239.00	44	38	37
Calves, Cwt	14.80	302.00	340.00	346.00	40	35	35
Hogs, Cwt	5.58	121.00	128.00	131.00	37	33	31
Lambs, Cwt	11.60	246.00	267.00	272.00	39	36	
Sheep, Cwt	4.67	101.00	107.00	109.00	36	28	
Eggs, Doz ²	0.089	1.82	2.05	2.08	42	61	61
Turkeys, Live, Lb	0.056	1.160	1.290	1.310	38	37	40

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 averages prices weighted by production. For 1982 through 1985 the national averages are the support prices.

⁴ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, NY (apples only), OR (except peaches), and WA. Price at point of first sale for other states.

Parity Prices for Farm Products, March 2008, United States ¹

Other Nonbasic Commodities	Adjusted Base Price	Parity Price	Other Nonbasic Commodities	Adjusted Base Price	Parity Price
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Field Crops and Misc Commodities			Noncitrus Fruit, Continued		
Hops, Lb	0.263	6.16	Papayas (HI)	0.047	1.100
Spearmint Oil, Lb	1.37	32.10	Peaches		
Tobacco, Lb			Fresh, Ton ²	84.60	1,980.00
Flue-Cured, 11-14	0.231	5.41	Dried, CA, Ton	74.20	1,740.00
Fire-Cured, 21-23	0.311	7.28	Processing ³		
Burley, 31	0.248	5.81	Excl Dried		
Maryland, 32	0.191	4.47	Clingstone, CA, Ton	33.70	789.00
Dark Air-Cured, 35-37	0.278	6.51	Pears, Ton		
PA Seedleaf, 41	0.196	4.59	Fresh ²	54.50	1,280.00
Cigar Binder, 51	0.718	16.80	Dried, CA ⁴	177.00	4,140.00
Type 61	3.13	73.30	Plums, CA, Ton		
			Fresh, Equiv on-Tree	66.20	1,550.00
Noncitrus Fruit			Prunes, Dried, CA, Ton ⁴	141.00	3,300.00
Apples, Ton ⁴			Prunes and Plums, Excl CA, Ton		
Processing	15.70	368.00	Fresh ⁷	63.10	1,480.00
Apricots, Ton			Processing ⁴		
Fresh ⁵	105.00	2,460.00	Excl Dried	28.60	670.00
Dried, CA	252.00	5,900.00			
Avocados, Ton ⁵	227.00	5,310.00	Tree Nuts ⁸		
Cherries			Almonds, Lb	0.209	4.89
Sweet, Ton	197.00	4,610.00	Hazelnuts, Ton	162.00	3,790.00
Tart, Lb	0.035	0.819	Pistachio, Lb	0.179	4.19
Cranberry, Bbl ³	4.20	98.30	Walnuts, Ton	169.00	3,960.00
Dates, CA, Ton ⁵	185.00	4,330.00			
Grapes, Ton			Vegetables, Cwt ⁹		
Raisin Variety	119.00	2,790.00	Fresh		
Other Dried	70.90	1,660.00	Carrots ⁶	2.44	57.10
Kiwifruit, Ton	93.80	2,200.00	Cauliflower ⁶	4.32	101.00
Nectarines			Celery ⁶	2.04	47.80
Fresh, CA, Ton ⁵	58.50	1,370.00	Honeydew Melons	2.58	60.40
Olives, CA			Lettuce	2.35	55.00
canning, Ton ³	90.70	2,120.00	Onions ⁶	1.60	37.50
			Tomatoes	4.68	110.00

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 "Agricultural Prices" for details on adjusted base price and parity price computations.

² Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, NY (apples only), OR (except peaches), and WA. Price at point of first sale for other states.

³ Equivalent returns for bulk fruit at first delivery point.

⁴ Equivalent returns at processing plant door.

⁵ Equivalent returns at packinghouse door.

⁶ Includes some processing.

⁷ Based on "as sold" prices for fresh fruit in all states.

⁸ Prices in-shell basis except almonds which are shelled basis.

⁹ 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 about 2000 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 Field 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 preliminary price represents a 3-5 day period around the 15th of the 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) at 176 (1990-92=100), is up 1.7 percent from February 2008 and 11 percent from March 2007.

PRODUCTION INDEX: The March index, at 179, increased 2.9 percent from last month and 14 percent from last year. Higher prices in March for diesel fuel, nitrogen fertilizers, complete feeds, and feed supplements more than offset lower prices for potash & phosphate materials, feeder cattle, trucks, and autos.

Feed: The March index, at 197, increased 5.9 percent from February and 31 percent from last March. While all sub-component prices are higher, supplements are up 16 percent from last month.

Livestock & Poultry: The March index, at 125, decreased 1.6 percent from last month and 3.8 percent from last year. Since February, lower prices for feeder cattle more than offset higher prices for feeder pigs. The March feeder cattle price, at \$101.60 per cwt, is down \$2.30 per cwt from the February price. March feeder pigs averaged \$115.00 per cwt, up \$2.00 per cwt from February.

Fertilizer: The March index, at 277, is up 6.9 percent from February and 37 percent from March a year ago. Since February, higher prices for nitrogen fertilizers and mixed fertilizers more than offset lower prices for potash & phosphate materials.

Chemicals: The March index, at 139, increased 0.7 percent from February and 6.9 percent from last March. Since February, prices for all sub-components are higher.

Fuels: The March index, at 338, is up 10 percent from a month earlier and 41 percent above March 2007. The diesel fuel price is up 13 percent, the gasoline price is up 6.2 percent, and the LP gas price is up 1.3 percent.

Machinery: The March index, at 193, was unchanged from February but 2.1 percent above last March.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: The February 2008 Consumer Price Index, as issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, for all urban consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent before seasonal adjustment to a level of 211.693 (1982-84=100). This compares with the January index of 211.080. For the 12-month period ending in February, the overall index increased 4.0 percent.

**Indexes of Prices Paid by Farmers and Related Parity Ratios
United States, March 2008 With Comparisons¹**

Indexes and Ratios	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	2007	2008		2007	2008	
	Mar	Feb	Mar	Mar	Feb	Mar
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities & Services, Interest, Taxes, & Wage Rates (PPITW)	2,114	2,302	2,341	159	173	176
Production	1,522	1,692	1,733	157	174	179
Feed	731	910	962	150	186	197
Livestock & Poultry	1,662	1,623	1,599	130	127	125
Seeds	1,838	2,086	2,086	186	211	211
Fertilizer	740	950	1,016	202	259	277
Chemicals	803	851	861	130	138	139
Fuels	1,855	2,364	2,609	240	306	338
Supplies & Repairs	1,052	1,072	1,072	148	151	151
Autos & Trucks	2,975	2,956	2,947	112	111	111
Machinery	4,732	4,839	4,839	189	193	193
Building Materials	2,090	2,137	2,152	154	157	158
Services & Rent	1,752	1,842	1,842			
Services				145	150	150
Rent				151	163	163
Interest ²	3,865	4,100	4,100	154	164	164
Taxes ³	5,043	5,443	5,443	188	203	203
Wage Rates	6,720	6,959	6,959	180	186	186
Production, Interest, Taxes, & Wage Rates (PITW)	2,150	2,364	2,412	160	176	180
Family Living-CPI ⁴	1,950	2,011	2,011	152	157	157
Ratio (Received/Paid) Parity Ratio ⁵	40	*40	41	84	*85	85
Parity Ratio Adjusted ⁶	42	*42	43			
PPITW Adjusted for Productivity ⁷	1,401	1,462	1,468			
Crop Sector (PPITW)				163	178	181
Livestock Sector (PPITW)				154	168	171
Farm Sector (Production)				149	170	174
Non-Farm Sector (Production)				161	177	181

* Revised.

¹ Revised historical price indexes for months not shown are available at www.nass.usda.gov.

² Interest per acre on farm real estate debt and interest rate on farm non-real estate debt.

³ Farm real estate taxes payable per acre.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U), for the previous month converted by the USDA.

⁵ Ratio of index of prices received to PPITW (1910-14=100).

⁶ Based on estimated cash receipts, from marketings and government payments, the preliminary adjustment factor is 1.079 for 2008 and the revised factor is 1.096 for 2007.

⁷ PPITW is adjusted based on productivity trend for the prior 15 years.

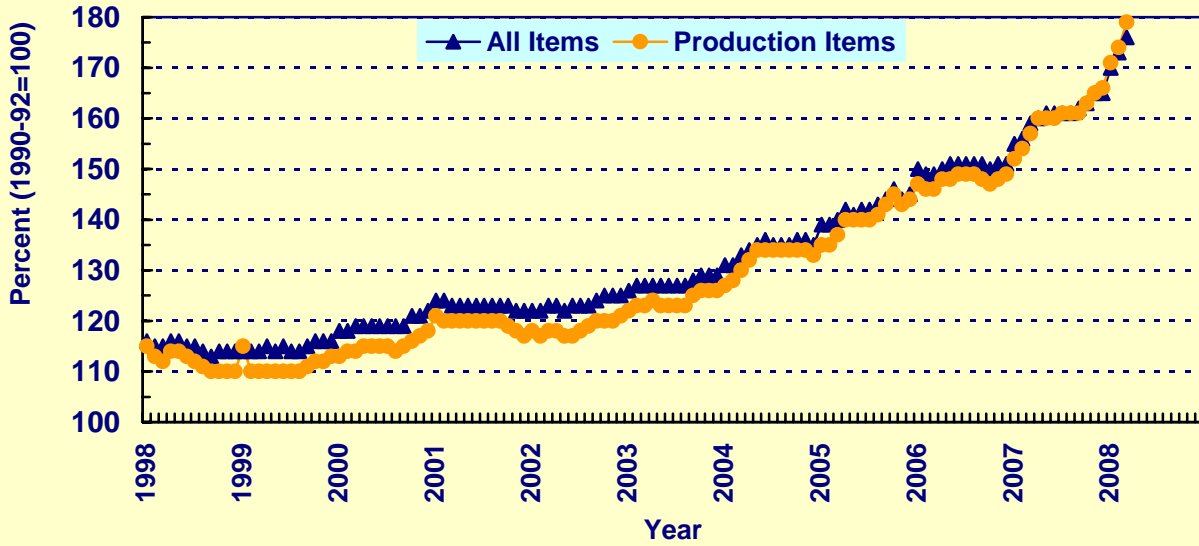
Prices Paid Indexes and Annual Weights for Input Components and Sub-Components United States, March 2008 With Comparisons¹

Index	Relative Weights 5-Year Moving Average ²		Input Indexes		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	
			Mar	Feb	Mar
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>(1990-92=100)</i>	<i>(1990-92=100)</i>	<i>(1990-92=100)</i>
Production Items	67.4	67.9	157	174	179
Feed	10.9	10.9	150	186	197
Feed Grains	1.6	1.6	150	197	210
Complete Feeds	5.3	5.4	145	175	184
Hay/Forages	1.4	1.4	161	177	185
Concentrates	1.7	1.7	142	177	179
Supplements	0.9	0.9	177	264	306
Livestock & Poultry	7.7	8.0	130	127	125
Feeder Cattle	6.0	6.2	124	123	120
Feeder Pigs	0.6	0.6	171	123	125
Milk Cow Replacements	0.6	0.6	147	174	174
Poultry	0.5	0.5	125	125	125
Seeds	3.7	3.8	186	211	211
Field Crops	3.4	3.5	191	218	218
Grasses/Legumes	0.4	0.4	133	142	142
Fertilizer	4.4	4.4	202	259	277
Mixed Fertilizer	1.9	1.9	183	224	233
Nitrogen	1.8	1.9	226	299	342
Potash & Phosphate	0.6	0.6	186	250	222
Chemicals	3.4	3.3	130	138	139
Herbicides	2.2	2.1	123	130	131
Insecticides	0.8	0.8	148	157	159
Fungicides/Other	0.5	0.5	132	141	142
Fuels	3.1	3.3	240	306	338
Diesel	1.9	2.1	260	330	373
Gasoline	0.7	0.8	206	243	258
LP Gas	0.4	0.4	211	300	304
Supplies & Repairs	4.8	4.7	148	151	151
Supplies	1.6	1.6	140	143	143
Repairs	3.2	3.1	153	155	155
Autos & Trucks	1.8	1.7	112	111	111
Autos	0.2	0.2	109	109	109
Trucks	1.6	1.5	112	112	111
Machinery	4.5	4.5	189	193	193
Tractors	1.0	1.0	166	180	180
Self-Propelled	1.8	1.8	196	197	197
Other Machinery	1.7	1.7	194	196	196
Building Materials	4.3	4.5	154	157	158
Services	12.2	12.2	145	150	150
Custom Rates	1.3	1.3	125	125	125
Other Services	10.9	10.9	147	153	153
Rent	6.7	6.6	151	163	163
Cash	3.6	3.5	180	195	195
Share	3.1	3.0	117	126	126
Interest	4.0	3.8	154	164	164
Taxes	2.9	2.9	188	203	203
Wage Rates	7.8	7.8	180	186	186
Family Living-CPI	18.0	17.6	152	157	157

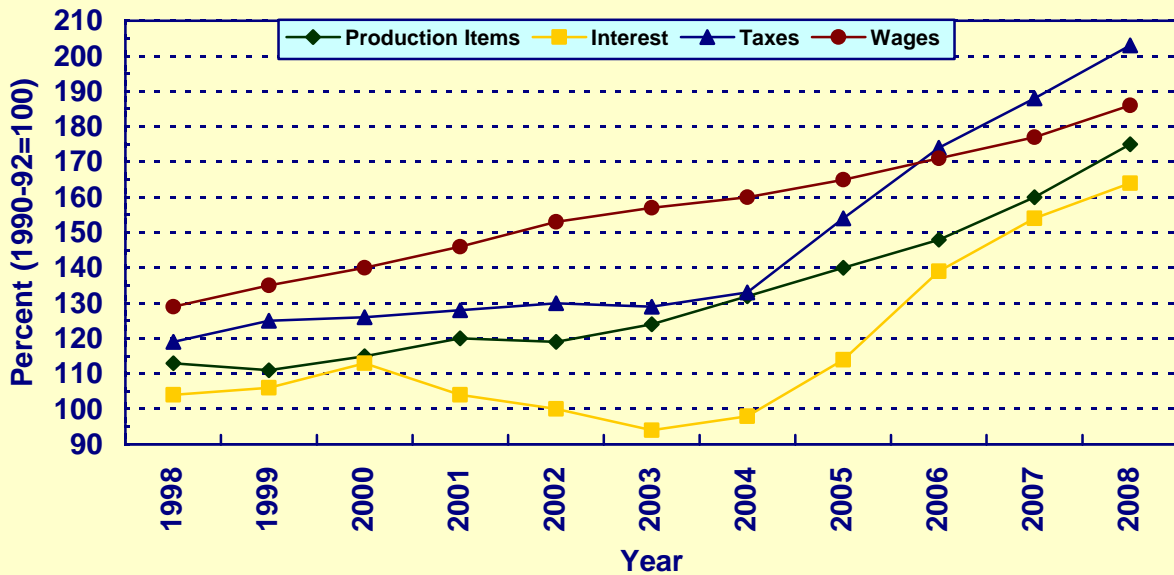
¹ Revised historical price indexes for months not shown are available at www.nass.usda.gov.

² Weights may not add due to rounding.

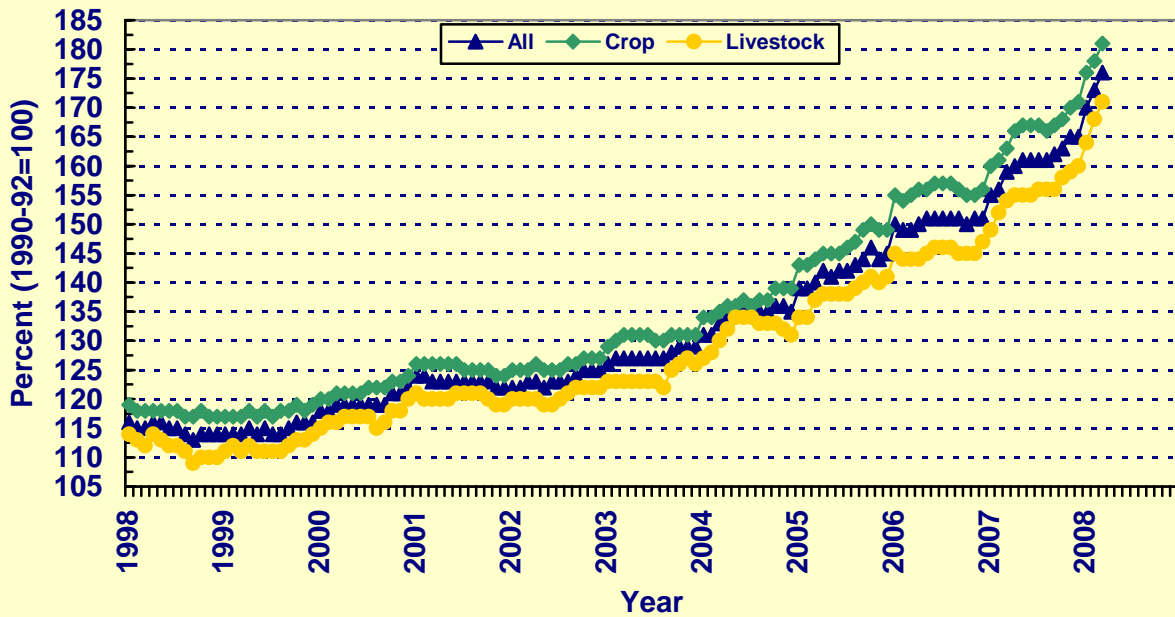
Prices Paid by Farmers, Major Indexes US, by Month



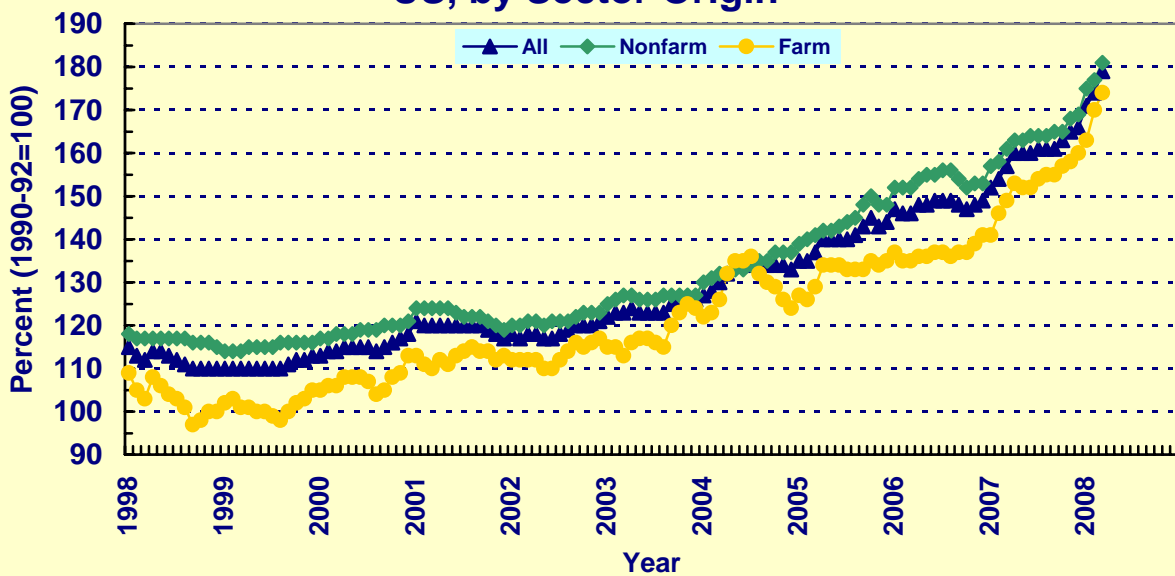
Prices Paid by Farmers, Major Indexes US, Annual Averages 1/



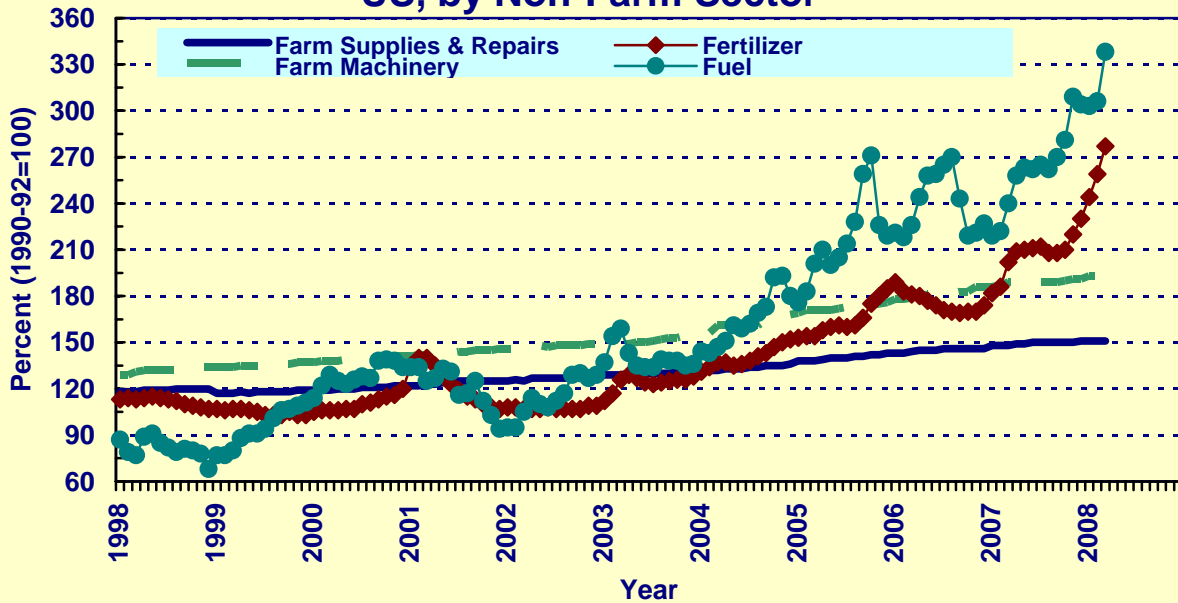
Prices Paid by Farmers, Indexes, All Items US, by Farm Type



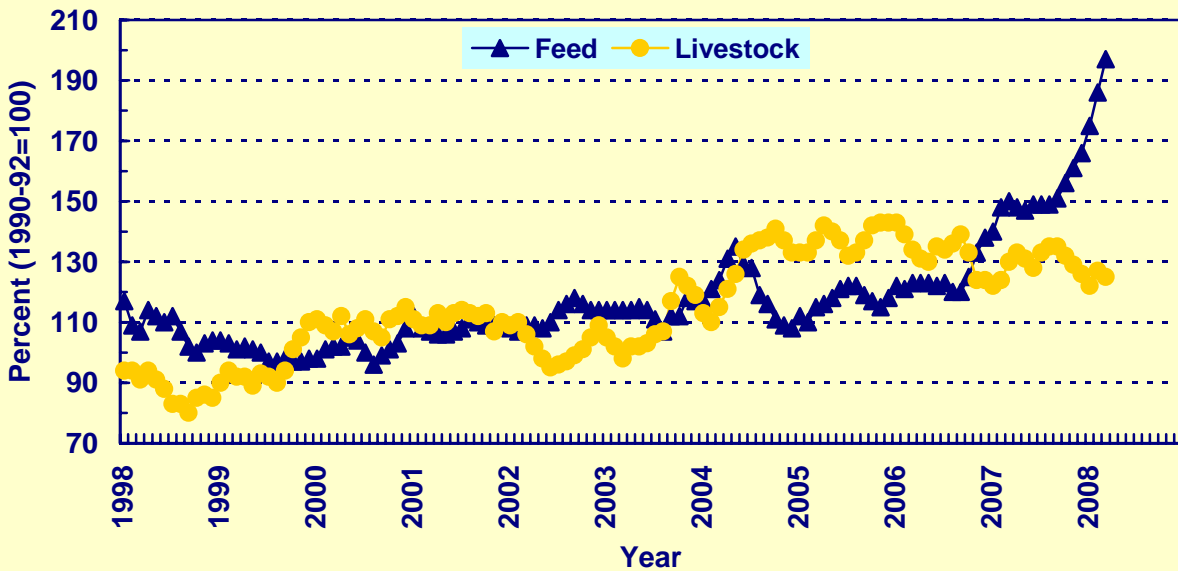
Prices Paid by Farmers, Indexes, All Production Items US, by Sector Origin



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



Prices Paid by Farmers, Selected Production Indexes US, by Farm Sector



Feed Price Ratios: United States, March 2008 with Comparisons

Feed Price Ratio ¹	2007	2008	
	Mar	Feb	Mar
Broiler-Feed: Pounds of Broiler Grower Feed equal in value to 1 pound of broiler, live weight ²	5.9	*3.9	3.8
Market Egg Feed: Pounds of Laying Feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs ³	9.1	*11.1	11.4
Hog-Corn: Bushels of Corn equal in value to 100 pounds of hog, live weight	13.1	*9.3	8.5
Milk-Feed: Pounds of 16% Mixed Dairy Feed equal in value to 1 pound of Whole Milk ⁴	2.39	*2.24	2.05
Steer & Heifer-Corn: Bushels of Corn equal in value to 100 pounds of Steer & Heifers, live weight	28.5	*20.8	19.4
Turkey-Feed: Pounds of Turkey Grower equal in value to 1 pound of Turkey, live weight ⁵	5.5	*3.6	3.8

* Revised.

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.

² The price of commercial prepared broiler feed is based on current U.S. prices received for corn and soybeans. The modeled feed uses 58 percent corn and 42 percent soybeans.

³ The price of commercial prepared layer feed is based on current U.S. prices received for corn and soybeans. The modeled feed uses 75 percent corn and 25 percent soybeans.

⁴ The price of commercial prepared dairy feed is based on current U.S. prices received for corn, soybeans, and alfalfa. The modeled feed uses 51 percent corn, 8 percent soybeans, and 41 percent alfalfa.

⁵ The price of commercial prepared turkey feed is based on current U.S. prices received for corn, soybeans, and wheat. The modeled feed used 51 percent corn, 28 percent soybeans, and 21 percent wheat.

**Prices Used to Calculate Feed Price Ratios:
United States, March 2008 with Comparisons**

Commodity	Unit	Entire Month		Preliminary
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008
Broilers, Live	Lb	0.500	0.500	0.510
Eggs, Market	Doz	0.681	1.220	1.300
Hogs, All	Cwt	44.90	42.20	41.20
Milk, All	Cwt	15.60	19.10	18.30
Steers and Heifers	Cwt	97.70	94.20	93.80
Turkeys, Live	Lb	0.443	0.475	0.529
Corn	Bu	3.43	4.53	4.83
Hay, Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	121.00	138.00	143.00
Soybeans	Bu	6.95	11.70	11.90
Wheat, All	Bu	4.75	9.98	11.70

**Feeder Livestock: Prices Paid, United States
March 2008 with Comparisons**

Commodity	Unit	2007	2008	
		Mar	Feb	Mar
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Feeders and Stockers Cattle and Calves	Cwt	105.40	*103.90	101.60
Feeder Pigs	Cwt	157.00	113.00	115.00

* Revised.

Reliability of Prices Paid Estimates

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 Field 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).

Information Contacts

General questions should be directed to Kevin Barnes, Chief, Environmental, Economics and Demographics Branch at (202) 720-6146. Below are the commodity specialists to contact for additional information.

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Ty Kalaus - Corn, Proso Millet, Flaxseed	(202) 720-9526
Shiela Corley - Cotton, Cottonseed	(202) 720-5944
Travis Thorson - Soybeans, Sunflower, Canola, Other Oilseeds	(202) 720-7369
Don Gephart - Hay, Oats, Sorghum	(202) 690-3234
Anthony Prillaman - Peanuts, Rice	(202) 720-2127
Dawn Keen - Sugarcane, Sugarbeets, Barley	(202) 720-7621
Lance Honig, Fruits, Vegetables & Special Crops Section	(202) 720-2127
Dan Norris - Peaches, Pears, Hops, Pulses, Mint	(202) 720-3250
Faye Propsom - Citrus, Tropical Fruits	(202) 720-5412
Mike Jacobsen - Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Cranberries, Plums, Prunes	(202) 720-4288
Leslie Colburn - Grapes, Tobacco	(202) 720-7235
Lance Honig - Potatoes, Dry Edible Beans, Sweet Potatoes	(202) 720-2127
Debbie Flippin - Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries	(202) 720-2157
Doug Marousek - Tree Nuts	(202) 720-4215

Livestock Prices Received

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Scott Hollis, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Scott Hollis - Sheep, Lambs, Goats, Wool, Mohair	(202) 690-2424
Jason Hardegree- Milk, Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Bruce Boess - Hogs (202) 720-3106	
Mike Miller - Cattle (202) 720-3040	
Darin Jantzi, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-3570
Toby Paterson - Turkeys	(202) 720-0585
Sharyn Lavender - Broilers, Honey	(202) 720-3244
Kim Linonis - Eggs (202) 690-8632	

Indexes, Prices Paid, and Parity Prices

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Kevin Hintzman, Economics Section	(202) 720-6146
Jennifer Sissom - Prices Paid Indexes, Prices Paid for Feed, Fertilizer, Agricultural Chemicals, Seeds, Farm Supplies and Repairs, Farm Machinery, Fuels, Feeder Livestock, Poultry Chicks, Feed Price Ratios, Autos & Trucks	(202) 690-3229
Daryl Brinkman - Prices Received Indexes, Parity Prices	(202) 720-8844
Kathy King - Grazing Fees	(202) 720-2250

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