

# California Field Crop Review



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## CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - FEBRUARY 2002

Mid-February prices received by California farmers increased from January for all potatoes, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, all hay, alfalfa hay, and cottonseed. Dry edible beans and other hay were below the previous month. Mid-February prices for wheat, barley, and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all potatoes, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and all types of hay. Cottonseed was below February 2001's level.

## U.S. FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP FOUR POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February was 99, using a 1990-92=100 base period, up four points (4.2 percent) from the January Index. Price increases for lettuce, cattle, broccoli, and potatoes more than offset decreased prices for broilers, tomatoes, peanuts and eggs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities that farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher marketings for milk, cattle, broilers, and hogs more than offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and wheat.

Compared with February 2001, the All Farm Products Index was down one point (1 percent). Lower prices for cattle, broilers, eggs, and onions more than offset higher prices for lettuce, broccoli, potatoes, and oranges.

The February All Crops Index was 101, up 8.6 percent from January and 3.1 percent above February 2001. Since January, index increases for commercial vegetables, potatoes and dry beans, fruits and nuts, and cotton more than offset index decreases for food grains and tobacco.

The February Food Grains Index, at 85, was down 3.4 percent from the previous month and 6.6 percent below February 2001. The February all wheat price, at \$95.00 per ton, was down 67 cents from January, but 67 cents above February 2001.

The February Feed Grains & Hay Index was 90, unchanged from both last month and February 2001. The corn price, at \$68.93 per ton, was down \$1.43 cents from last month and \$1.07 cents below February 2001. The all hay price, at \$90.40 per ton, was \$2.60 below January, but \$3.50 above last February. Grain sorghum, at \$3.24 per cwt., was down 10 cents from January and 23 cents below February of last year.

The February Cotton Index, at 49, was up 2.1 percent from January, but 39 percent below February 2001. The February price, at 29.7 cents per pound, was up 0.8 cents from the previous month, but down 18.8 cents from last February.

The February Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 130, was up 11 percent from last month and 53 percent above February 2001. The all potato price, at \$7.51 per cwt., was up 61 cents from January and \$2.25 above last February. The all dry bean price, at \$25.30 per cwt., was up \$4.20 from the previous month and \$10.00 above February 2001.

## FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2001	January 2002	February 2002	February 2001	January 2002	Feb. 15, 2002
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Ton	---	---	---	70.00	70.36	68.93
Wheat 2/	Ton	3/	3/	3/	94.33	95.67	95.00
Oats 2/	Ton	---	---	---	80.00	119.38	121.88
Barley 2/	Ton	3/	3/	3/	87.50	87.50	91.25
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.47	3.34	3.24
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	5.72	3.94	4.13
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	26.90	31.80	31.60	15.30	21.10	25.30
All Potatoes 4/	Cwt.	15.90	16.30	20.30	5.26	6.90	7.51
Winter	Cwt.	19.90	20.20	23.20	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	5.30	9.55	9.80	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	100.00	111.00	114.00	86.90	93.00	90.40
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	103.00	113.00	118.00	92.90	101.00	99.50
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	84.00	100.00	91.00	71.80	73.70	70.80
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lb.	0.574	0.410	3/	0.485	0.289	0.297
Cottonseed	Ton	143.00	132.00	137.00	117.00	94.00	102.00

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole. 2/ Previous month revised to monthly average. 3/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure.

4/ Monthly average.

## INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Feb. 2001	Jan. 2002	Feb. 2002	Feb. 2001	Jan. 2002	Feb. 2002
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	634	605 1/	629	100	95 1/	99
All Crops	482	461 1/	500	98	93 1/	101
Food Grains	291	279 1/	270	91	88 1/	85
Feed Grains and Hay	324	323 1/	323	90	90 1/	90
Cotton	410	244 1/	251	80	48	49
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	431	591 1/	656	85	117 1/	130
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,654	1,619 1/	1,619	124	122 1/	122
Parity Ratio 3/	38	37 1/	39	81	78 1/	81

1/ Revised. 2/ All production indexes as of 15th of month. 3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

**FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARCH 1 STOCKS**

Fall potatoes in California storage facilities totaled 200 thousand cwt., as of March 1, 2002, 85 percent less than a year ago.

California's March 1 stocks were 18 percent of the fall potato production, and a 49 percent decrease from last year's 35 percent.

**FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARCH 1 STOCKS BY STATE 1/**

State	Crop of 2000			Crop of 2001		
	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2001	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2002	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	3,741	1,300	35	1,113	200	18
Colorado	27,972	13,000	46	21,357	9,400	44
Idaho	152,320	76,500	50	127,980	66,000	52
Maine	17,920	8,700	49	16,120	7,000	43
Michigan	14,963	3,400	23	14,030	3,200	23
Minnesota	21,240	10,100	48	18,425	7,900	43
Montana	3,503	2,800	80	3,040	2,550	84
Nebraska	10,127	2/	2/	8,512	2/	2/
New York	5,964	1,000	17	5,942	650	11
North Dakota	26,950	11,500	43	26,400	12,300	47
Ohio	1,134	2/	2/	984	2/	2/
Oregon	30,683	17,000	55	20,730	11,500	55
Pennsylvania	3,510	830	24	3,173	660	21
Washington	105,000	37,500	36	94,400	32,500	34
Wisconsin	33,800	10,500	31	31,955	11,500	36
Other States	---	3,540	---	---	2,510	---
<b>15-STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>458,827</b>	<b>197,670</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>394,161</b>	<b>167,870</b>	<b>43</b>

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2002 crop. Seed usage in 2001 totaled 27.4 million cwt.

2/ Combined into "Other States."

**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROPS YIELD AND PRODUCTION HISTORY**

CROP	UNIT	YIELD				PRODUCTION			
		2000	2001	Record High	Record Year	2000	2001	Record High	Record Year
Barley	Tons	1.63	1.27	1.68	1995	155,000	139,900	1,996,896	1957
Beans, Dry	Cwt.	18.40	18.00	22.70	1997	2,059,000	1,602,000	4,109,000	1955
Corn for Grain	Tons	4.76	4.76	4.76	1994/99/00/01	975,800	761,600	1,428,000	1984
Cotton, Upland Lint	1/	1,378.00	1,361.00	1,378.00	2000	2,210,000	1,800,000	3,535,000	1981
Cottonseed	Tons	--	--	--	--	909,000	875,000	1,445,000	1981
Hay, All	Tons	5.60	5.79	5.79	2001	8,568,000	8,915,000	8,915,000	2001
Alfalfa	Tons	7.00	7.20	7.20	1997/01	7,140,000	7,272,000	7,272,000	2001
Other	Tons	2.80	3.10	3.50	1995	1,428,000	1,643,000	1,855,000	1995
Oats	Tons	1.20	0.96	1.36	1995/99	30,000	14,400	121,312	1957
Potatoes, All	Cwt.	380.00	365.00	381.00	1986	16,710,000	12,788,000	35,166,000	1966
Rice	Cwt.	79.40	81.70	85.00	1992/94	43,521,000	38,490,000	43,585,000	2000
Sugar Beets	Tons	34.00	35.70	35.70	2001	3,145,000	1,607,000	9,031,000	1972
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt.	250.00	230.00	250.00	2000	2,625,000	2,346,000	2,625,000	2000
Wheat, All	Tons	2.28	2.28	2.53	1988	1,110,000	1,053,200	3,166,350	1981

1/ Yield in pounds, production in bales.