



PRICES

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE



May 1, 2003

PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

Prices received by cattle producers in mid-April were mostly higher compared with the entire month of March. Hogs at \$29.00 per cwt, were \$3.60 more than a month earlier and \$2.50 higher than April 2002. The price for cows at \$39.10 per cwt was 90 cents less than a month earlier and \$2.30 below the previous year. Steers and heifers at \$76.00 per cwt was 80 cents higher than the previous month but 40 cents less than a year earlier. Calves at \$94.20 per cwt were \$1.10 more than a month earlier but \$4.00 less than the previous year.

The Florida milk price estimates for April averaged \$13.70 per cwt, 20 cents below last month and \$1.90 less than a year earlier. The commercial broiler price at 37.0 cents per pound was 2.0 cents below last month but 3.0 cents more than April 2002. Table eggs at 52.0 cents per dozen was 1.0 cent above the previous month and 17.0 cents more than a year earlier.

US PRICE INDEXES

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April is 101, based on 1990-92=100, up two 2 points (2.0 percent) from the March Index. Higher prices for cattle, lettuce, onions, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for tomatoes, broilers, wheat, and hogs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall Index. Increased average

marketings of strawberries, cattle, oranges, and milk offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton, and wheat.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 7 points (7.4 percent) from April, 2002. Higher prices for cattle, corn, soybeans, and broilers more than offset lower prices for potatoes, dry beans, celery, and lemons

The Food Commodities Index increased 3 points (3.1 percent) above last month to 99, and is 6 points (6.4 percent) above April last year.

PRICES PAID INDEX

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 128 percent of the 1990-92 average. The Index was up 1 point from March and 5 points (4.1 percent) above April 2002. Higher prices in April for feeder cattle, self-propelled machinery, hay and forages, and feed grains more than offset lower prices for diesel fuel, complete feeds, milk cows, and feeder pigs.

INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

Index 1990-92=100	2002		2003	
	Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr
Prices Received	105	94	99	101
Prices Paid	123	123	127	128
Ratio ^{1/}	85	76	78	79

^{1/} Prices Received/Prices Paid.

Average price received by farmers ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		April 2002	March 2003	April 2003	April 2002	March 2003	April 2003
Meat animals:							
Hogs	\$ per cwt	26.50	25.40	29.00	31.70	34.70	33.80
Cows	\$ per cwt	41.40	40.00	39.10	40.10	39.50	40.10
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt	76.40	75.20	76.00	70.60	78.10	76.20
Calves	\$ per cwt	98.20	93.10	94.20	101.00	97.00	99.10
Milk: ^{2/}							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt	15.60	13.90	13.70	12.50	11.00	10.90
Poultry:							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	34.0	39.0	37.0	28.0	33.0	31.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	35.0	51.0	52.0	32.5	51.8	52.0
Citrus, on tree:							
Oranges	\$ per box	4.00	4.09	4.19	4.65	4.59	4.46
Grapefruit	\$ per box	1.34	1.32	0.96	1.38	1.37	1.29
Tangerines	\$ per box	12.06	7.57	8.83	13.49	10.19	10.51
Field crops:							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt	**	23.50	16.30	8.00	6.68	7.11
Hay, baled	\$ per ton	**	**	**	98.30	92.80	94.50
Tobacco, Type 11-37	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	**	1.570	1.225
Peanuts	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	**	.225	.206
Corn*	\$ per bu.				1.91	2.33	2.35
Oats*	\$ per bu.				1.99	2.08	1.98
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				27.2	47.3	45.0
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt				3.13	3.94	3.96
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				4.47	5.60	5.90
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				2.75	3.29	3.17

^{1/} Eggs and hay estimates are midmonth prices. Prices for the latest month are midmonth estimates for grains and soybeans, and mostly first half of month for meat animals. Other estimates are for the entire month.

^{2/} Before deductions for hauling and government withholding, and includes quantity and other premiums, but excludes hauling subsidies.

* Only marketing year average prices are estimated for Florida, except oats and sorghum which are not estimated.

** Not estimated this month.

HIGHLIGHTS--U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEXES

ALL CROPS

The April Index is 111, up 5.7 percent from March and 11 percent above April 2002. From March, Index increases for commercial vegetables, fruits and nuts, potatoes and dry beans, oil-bearing crops, and feed grains and hay more than offset Index decreases for tobacco, food grains, and cotton.

FOOD GRAINS: The April Index, at 97, is down 4.0 percent from the previous month but 15 percent above April 2002. The April all wheat price, at \$3.34 per bushel, is down 20 cents from March but 51 cents greater than April 2002. The rice price, at \$4.22 per cwt, increased 8 cents from March and is 28 cents above April 2002.

FEED GRAINS & HAY: The April Index, at 107, is up 0.9 percent from last month and 16 percent above April 2002. The corn price, at \$2.35 per bushel, is up 2 cents from last month and 44 cents above April 2002. The all hay price, at \$94.50 per ton, is \$1.70 above March but \$3.80 below last April.

OIL-BEARING CROPS: The April Index, at 106, is 5.0 percent above last month and 33 percent above April 2002. The soybean price, at \$5.90 per bushel, is up 30 cents from March and \$1.43 above April 2002. The sunflower price, at \$12.40 per cwt, decreased 10 cents from March but is \$1.90 above April 2002.

POTATOES & DRY BEANS: The April Index, at 116, is 5.5 percent above last month but 16 percent below April 2002. The all potato price, at \$7.11 per cwt, is up 43 cents from the previous month but 89 cents below last April. The dry edible bean price, at \$15.50 per cwt, is 30 cents above last month but \$12.00 below April 2002.

COTTON: The April Index, at 74, is down 5.1 percent from March but 64 percent above April 2002. The April price, at 45.0 cents per pound, is down 2.3 cents from the previous month but 17.8 cents above last April.

FRUITS & NUTS: The April Index, at 98, is up 14 percent from the previous month and 8.9 percent above April

2002. The strawberry price, at 77.0 cents per pound, is up 14.7 cents from March and 17.0 cents above April 2002.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES: The April Index, at 138, is 14 percent above both last month and April 2002. The lettuce price, at \$14.40 per cwt, increased \$4.76 from a month ago and is 30 cents above last April. The onion price, at \$38.10 per cwt, increased \$16.30 from March and is up \$21.90 from April 2002. The tomato price, at \$32.20 per cwt, is \$21.10 below last month and \$2.10 less than April 2002.

LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS

The April Index, at 93, is unchanged from last month and up 4.5 percent from April 2002. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for all cattle, broilers, eggs, hogs, and turkeys, but lower for all milk and calves.

MEAT ANIMALS: The April Index, at 96, is down 3.2 percent from last month but up 10 percent from last year. The April hog price of \$33.80 per cwt is down 90 cents from March but up \$2.10 from a year ago. The April beef cattle price of \$75.00 is up \$2.30 from last month and up \$7.70 from April 2002.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: The April Index, at 83, is down 1.2 percent from March and 14 percent below April 2002. The April all milk price of \$10.90 per cwt is down 10 cents from March and down \$1.60 from last year. The fluid grade milk price is down 10 cents from last month but the manufactured grade milk price is up 10 cents from the previous month.

POULTRY & EGGS: The April Index, at 99, is down 3.9 percent from March, but up 13.8 percent from a year ago. April market egg prices, at 52.0 cents per dozen, increased 0.2 cents from March due to seasonal influences. The April broiler price, at 31.0 cents per pound, decreased 2.0 cents from March. The broiler export market is still suspect with domestic demand good but exports weak. The April turkey price, at 35.1 cents per pound, is unchanged from last month.

Prices received for Selected Agricultural Commodities, by months,
United States, 2002 and 2003

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle ^{1/}		All hogs	
	2002	2003 ^{2/}	2002	2003 ^{2/}	2002	2003 ^{2/}	2002	2003 ^{2/}	2002	2003 ^{2/}
	Dollars per bushel						Dollars per cwt			
Jan	2.87	3.89	1.97	2.33	4.22	5.52	67.40	73.20	37.60	33.00
Feb	2.83	3.68	1.93	2.34	4.22	5.55	70.00	74.60	38.50	34.30
Mar	2.87	3.54	1.94	2.33	4.38	5.60	70.60	72.70	36.00	34.70
Apr	2.83	3.34	1.91	2.35	4.47	5.90	67.30	75.00	31.70	33.80
May	2.81		1.93		4.64		65.10		33.20	
Jun	2.93		1.97		4.88		64.00		35.80	
Jul	3.21		2.13		5.35		63.70		39.20	
Aug	3.63		2.38		5.53		64.40		31.90	
Sep	4.21		2.47		5.39		64.50		26.50	
Oct	4.37		2.34		5.19		64.60		30.80	
Nov	4.25		2.27		5.46		67.30		27.80	
Dec	4.06		2.32		5.46		70.40		30.30	

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