

PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

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Prices received by cattle producers in mid-December were mixed compared with the entire month of November. Hogs at \$39.80 per cwt were \$6.70 per cwt less than December 2004. The mid-month price for cows at \$43.50 per cwt, were 80 cents higher than last month but \$6.00 below last year. Steers and heifers at \$96.70 per cwt, was \$3.30 less than the previous month but \$1.00 more than a year earlier. Calves at \$124.00 per cwt were \$2.00 and \$1.00 below last month and last year, respectively.

The Florida milk price estimate for December was \$17.90 per cwt, \$1.00 less than a month earlier and 80 cents below December 2004. The commercial broiler price of 43.0 cents per pound was 1.0 cent less than the previous month and year. The December table egg price, at 60.0 cents per dozen, was 9.0 cents above a month earlier and 7.0 cents more than December 2004.

US PRICE INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 114, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.9 percent) from November. The Crop Index is up 4 points (3.8 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 2 points (1.7 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, corn, strawberries, and lettuce. Lower prices were received for oranges, broilers, dairy, and grapes. The overall Index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of dairy, wheat, oranges, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is up three points (2.7 percent) from December 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 120, was unchanged from last month but increased three points (2.6 percent) from December 2004.

PRICES PAID

The December Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 143 percent of the 1990-92 average. The Index is unchanged from November but nine points (6.7 percent) above December 2004. Lower prices in December for feeder cattle, diesel fuel, complete feeds, and LP gas offset higher prices for nitrogen fertilizers, feed concentrates, feeder pigs, and feed grains.

SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92=100	2004		2005	
	Nov	Dec	Nov	Dec
Prices Received	115	111	113	114
Prices Paid	135	134	143	143
Ratio ^{1/}	85	83	79	80

^{1/} Prices Received/Prices Paid.

AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		Dec. 2004	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Dec. 2004	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005
MEAT ANIMALS:							
Hogs	\$ per cwt.	46.50	37.90	39.80	52.40	43.60	45.50
Cows	\$ per cwt.	49.50	42.70	43.50	48.60	46.00	46.60
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt.	95.70	100.00	96.70	91.90	97.30	99.10
Calves	\$ per cwt.	125.00	126.00	124.00	122.00	133.00	135.00
MILK: ^{2/}							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt.	18.70	18.90	17.90	16.40	15.10	14.70
POULTRY:							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	44.0	44.0	43.0	39.0	42.0	39.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	53.0	51.0	60.0	48.8	48.2	56.4
CITRUS, ON TREE:							
Oranges	\$ per box	1.93	4.26	3.09	3.27	8.82	4.42
Grapefruit	\$ per box	15.63	9.20	9.37	14.72	10.66	10.11
Tangerines	\$ per box	10.52	9.94	9.48	13.35	13.14	11.90
FIELD CROPS:							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt	**	**	**	5.36	6.31	6.60
Hav. baled	\$ per ton	**	**	**	86.00	91.70	92.00
Tobacco, Type	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	2.005	**	**
Peanuts	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	0.183	0.176	0.174
Corn*	\$ per bu.				2.04	1.77	1.88
Oats*	\$ per bu.				1.60	1.63	1.73
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				39.3	48.5	48.9
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt				2.99	2.82	2.94
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				5.45	5.62	5.71
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				3.34	3.29	3.30

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



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HIGHLIGHTS--U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEXES

ALL CROPS

The December Index is 109, up 3.8 percent from November and 4.8 percent above December 2004. From November, Index increases for vegetables, feed grains & hay, potatoes and dry beans, and oil-bearing crops more than offset the Index decreases for fruits and nuts.

FOOD GRAINS: The December Index, at 116, is 0.9 percent above the previous month and 2.7 percent above a year ago. The December all wheat price, at \$3.47 per bushel, is unchanged from November but up seven cents from December 2004.

FEED GRAINS & HAY: The December Index is 89, up 7.2 percent from last month but 4.3 percent below a year ago. The corn price, at \$1.88 per bushel, is up 11 cents from last month but 16 cents below December 2004. The all hay price, at \$92.00 per ton, is 30 cents above November and up \$6.00 from last December. Grain sorghum, at \$2.94 per cwt, is 12 cents above November but five cents below December last year.

OIL-BEARING CROPS: The December Index, at 101, is up 3.1 percent from November and 1.0 percent higher than December 2004. The soybean price, at \$5.71 per bushel, increased nine cents from November and is 26 cents above December 2004.

COTTON: The December Index, at 81, is up 1.3 percent from November and 25 percent above last year. The December price, at 48.9 cents per pound, is up 0.4 cent from the previous month and 9.6 cents above last December.

POTATOES & DRY BEANS: The December Index, at 111, is up 4.7 percent from last month and 9.9 percent above December 2004. The all potato price, at \$6.60 per cwt, is up 29 cents from November and up \$1.24 from last December. The all dry bean price, at \$18.60 per cwt, is up 30 cents from the previous month but \$8.40 below December 2004.

FRUITS & NUTS: The December Index, at 125, is down 18 percent from November but 11 percent higher than a year ago. Price decreases for oranges, grapes, and apples more than offset a price increases for strawberries.

Commercial Vegetables: The December Index, at 152, is up 35 percent from last month and 21 percent above December 2004. Price increases during December for tomatoes, lettuce, and snap beans more than offset a price decline for celery.

LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS

The December Index, at 119, is 1.7 percent below last month and down 0.8 percent from December 2004. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for cattle, eggs, calves, and turkeys but lower for dairy and hogs. The price for broilers is unchanged from last year.

MEAT ANIMALS: The December Index, at 121, is up 0.8 percent from last month and 2.5 percent higher than last year. The December hog price, at \$45.50 per cwt, is up \$1.90 from November but \$6.90 lower than a year ago. The December beef cattle price of \$92.70 is up \$1.40 from last month and \$5.90 higher than December 2004.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: The December Index, at 113, is down 2.6 percent from a month ago and 10 percent lower than December last year. The December all milk price of \$14.70 is down 40 cents from last month and down \$1.70 from December 2004. The fluid grade milk price is down 30 cents from November but the manufactured grade milk price is unchanged from last month.

POULTRY & EGGS: The December Index, at 123, is down 3.1 percent from November but 4.2 percent above a year ago. The December market egg price, at 56.4 cents per dozen, increased 8.2 cents from November and is 7.6 cents above December 2004. The December broiler price, at 39.0 cents per pound, is down 3.0 cents from November but unchanged from a year ago. The December turkey price, averaging 54.3 cents per pound, is down 0.6 cent from the previous month but up 8.4 cents from a year earlier.

PRICES RECEIVED FOR SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, BY MONTHS, UNITED STATES, 2004 AND 2005

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle ^{1/}		All hogs	
	2004	2005 ^{2/}	2004	2005 ^{2/}	2004	2005 ^{2/}	2004	2005 ^{2/}	2004	2005 ^{2/}
	<i>Dollars per bushel</i>						<i>Dollars per cwt</i>			
Jan	3.68	3.43	2.39	2.12	7.35	5.57	81.10	89.40	36.60	53.20
Feb	3.77	3.36	2.61	1.95	8.28	5.42	78.50	89.00	42.60	50.70
Mar	3.83	3.42	2.75	2.02	9.28	5.95	83.70	91.30	47.20	51.20
Apr	3.88	3.35	2.89	2.00	9.62	6.03	85.00	94.00	47.40	51.20
May	3.82	3.31	2.87	1.98	9.56	6.21	88.50	92.40	56.60	54.90
Jun	3.55	3.23	2.79	2.03	9.08	6.58	89.80	88.50	56.70	49.60
Jul	3.37	3.20	2.51	2.11	8.46	6.65	88.10	85.30	57.10	49.80
Aug	3.27	3.24	2.34	1.95	6.83	6.15	87.70	84.50	55.30	51.00
Sep	3.36	3.35	2.20	1.90	5.83	5.77	85.90	88.20	54.80	49.50
Oct	3.43	3.43	2.14	1.82	5.56	5.67	86.50	91.10	52.20	47.00
Nov	3.46	3.47	2.05	1.77	5.36	5.62	85.40	91.30	55.60	43.60
Dec	3.40	3.47	2.04	1.88	5.45	5.71	86.80	92.70	52.40	45.50

^{1/} Cows, steers, and heifers.

^{2/} Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.