

# Agricultural Prices

## PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

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Prices received by cattle producers were mixed, compared with the entire month of February. Hogs at \$40.30 per cwt were \$2.30 more than last month but \$8.30 per cwt less than March 2005. The mid-month price for cows at \$50.40 per cwt, was 50 cents more than last month but \$3.00 less than a year earlier. Steers and heifers at \$103.00 per cwt, was \$5.00 below the previous month but \$4.20 higher than March 2005. Calves at \$132.00 per cwt were \$4.00 and \$2.00 below last month and last year respectively.

The Florida milk price for March was \$16.70 per cwt, \$1.00 less than a month earlier and \$2.90 below March 2005. The commercial broiler price of 40.0 cents per pound was unchanged from previous month but 7.0 cents less than a year earlier. The March table egg price, at 59.0 cents per dozen, was 23.0 cents above a month ago and 26.0 cents higher than the previous year.

## US PRICE INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 113, based on 1990-92=100, is unchanged from January. The Crop Index is up 5 points (4.6 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 4 points (3.4 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for oranges, wheat, hay, and hogs. Lower prices were received for cattle, tomatoes, milk, and eggs. The overall Index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of cattle, milk, broilers, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 1 point (0.9 percent) from February 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 116, decreased 2 points (1.7 percent) from last month and decreased 2 points (1.7 percent) from February 2005.

## PRICES PAID

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 146 percent of the 1990-92 average. The Index is unchanged from January but 9 points (6.6 percent) above February 2005. Lower prices in February for feeder cattle, feeder pigs, LP gas, and herbicides offset higher prices for complete feeds, hay & forages, self-propelled machinery, and feed supplements.

## SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92=100	2005		2006	
	Feb	Mar	Feb	Mar
Prices Received	114	119	114	113
Prices Paid	137	139	145	144
Ratio <sup>1/</sup>	83	86	79	78

<sup>1/</sup> Prices Received/Prices Paid.

## AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS <sup>1/</sup>

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		Mar. 2005	Feb. 2006	Mar. 2006	Mar. 2005	Feb. 2006	Mar. 2006
<b>MEAT ANIMALS:</b>							
Hogs	\$ per cwt.	48.60	38.00	40.30	51.20	42.60	42.40
Cows	\$ per cwt.	53.40	49.90	50.40	55.00	49.70	49.90
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt.	98.80	108.00	103.00	95.20	97.80	94.10
Calves	\$ per cwt.	134.00	136.00	132.00	136.00	142.00	138.00
<b>MILK: <sup>2/</sup></b>							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt.	19.60	17.70	16.70	15.60	13.50	12.80
<b>POULTRY:</b>							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	47.0	40.0	40.0	44.0	38.0	37.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	33.0	36.0	59.0	32.7	30.1	49.9
<b>CITRUS, ON TREE:</b>							
Oranges	\$ per box	3.96	4.77	5.12	4.84	5.69	5.70
Grapefruit	\$ per box	11.54	11.07	8.51	10.58	10.65	8.65
Tangerines	\$ per box	12.96	9.74	7.92	13.57	11.82	10.01
<b>FIELD CROPS:</b>							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt	27.60	39.50	38.50	6.44	7.44	8.31
Hay, baled	\$ per ton	**	**	**	92.60	95.00	97.10
Tobacco, Type	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	1.455	**	**
Peanuts	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	0.185	0.198	0.175
Corn*	\$ per bu.				2.02	2.02	2.01
Oats*	\$ per bu.				1.73	1.82	1.77
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				40.3	49.0	49.6
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt				3.04	3.40	3.29
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				5.95	5.67	5.55
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				3.32	3.59	3.67

<sup>1/</sup> 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. <sup>2/</sup> 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 March Index is 117, up 2.6 percent from February and 0.9 percent above March 2005. From February, Index increases for commercial vegetables, potatoes & dry beans, and cotton more than offset the Index decreases for fruits & nuts and oil-bearing crops.

**FOOD GRAINS:** The March Index, at 122, is 0.8 percent above the previous month and 9.9 percent above a year ago. The March all wheat price, at \$3.71 per bushel, is up five cents from February and up 29 cents from March 2005.

**FEED GRAINS & HAY:** The March Index is 96, unchanged from last month but 1.1 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$2.01 per bushel, is down one cent from last month and one cent below March 2005. The all hay price, at \$97.10 per ton, is up \$2.10 from February and \$4.50 higher than last March. Grain sorghum, at \$3.29 per cwt, is 11 cents below February but 25 cents above March last year.

**OIL-BEARING CROPS:** The March Index, at 99, is down 2.9 percent from February and 7.5 percent lower than March 2005. The soybean price, at \$5.55 per bushel, decreased 12 cents from February and is 40 cents below March 2005.

**COTTON:** The March Index, at 82, is up 1.2 percent February and 22 percent above last year. The March price, at 49.6 cents per pound, is up 0.6 cent from the previous month and 9.3 cents above last March.

**POTATOES & DRY BEANS:** The March Index, at 138, is up 12 percent from last month and 21 percent above March 2005. The all potato price, at \$8.31 per cwt, is up 87 cents from February and up \$1.87 from last March. The all dry bean price, at \$19.50 per cwt, is up \$2.10 from the previous month but \$7.10 below March 2005.

**FRUITS & NUTS:** The March Index, at 144, is down 5.3 percent from February but 21 percent higher than a year ago. Price decreases for strawberries and grapefruit more than offset a price increase for lemons.

**COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES:** The March Index, at 141, is up 13 percent from last month but 14 percent below March 2005. Price increases during March for lettuce, cauliflower, and celery more than offset price declines for tomatoes, onions, and snap beans.

### LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS

The March Index, at 111, is 2.6 percent below last month and down 8.3 percent from March 2005. Compared with a year ago, prices are lower for milk, broilers, hogs, and cattle but higher for eggs, calves, and turkeys.

**MEAT ANIMALS:** The March Index, at 116, is down 3.3 percent from last month and 4.9 percent lower than last year. The March hog price, at \$42.40 per cwt, is down 20 cents from February and \$8.80 lower than a year ago. The March beef cattle price of \$89.20 per cwt is down \$3.20 from last month and \$1.80 lower than March 2005.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS:** The March Index, at 98, is down 4.9 percent from a month ago and 18 percent lower than March last year. The March all milk price of \$12.80 per cwt is down 70 cents from last month and \$2.80 below March 2005. The fluid grade milk price is down 70 cents and the manufactured grade milk price is down 80 cents from the previous month.

**POULTRY & EGGS:** The March Index, at 113, is up 4.6 percent from February but 7.4 percent below a year ago. The March market egg price, at 49.9 cents per dozen, increased 19.8 cents from February and 17.2 cents above March 2005. The March broiler price, at 37.0 cents per pound, is down 1.0 cent from February and 7.0 cents below a year ago. The March turkey price, averaging 40.3 cents per pound, is up 0.7 cent from the previous month and up 2.2 cents from a year earlier.

**PRICES RECEIVED FOR SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, BY MONTHS,  
UNITED STATES, 2005 AND 2006**

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle <sup>1/</sup>		All hogs	
	2005	2006 <sup>2/</sup>	2005	2006 <sup>2/</sup>	2005	2006 <sup>2/</sup>	2005	2006 <sup>2/</sup>	2005	2006 <sup>2/</sup>
	<i>Dollars per bushel</i>						<i>Dollars per cwt</i>			
Jan	3.43	3.52	2.12	2.00	5.57	5.88	89.10	95.10	53.20	40.70
Feb	3.36	3.66	1.95	2.02	5.42	5.67	89.80	92.40	50.70	42.60
Mar	3.42	3.71	2.02	2.01	5.95	5.55	91.00	89.20	51.20	42.40
Apr	3.35		2.00		6.03		93.70		51.10	
May	3.31		1.98		6.21		92.10		54.90	
Jun	3.23		2.03		6.58		88.00		49.50	
Jul	3.20		2.11		6.65		85.00		49.80	
Aug	3.24		1.95		6.15		84.40		51.00	
Sep	3.35		1.90		5.77		88.00		49.40	
Oct	3.43		1.82		5.67		90.40		47.00	
Nov	3.47		1.77		5.62		90.80		43.50	
Dec	3.54		1.92		5.77		93.30		44.30	

<sup>1/</sup> Cows, steers, and heifers.

<sup>2/</sup> Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.