

ILLINOIS FARM REPORT



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**
<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

RELEASED: APRIL 25, 2008 IFR-08-06

VOL. 29, NO. 6

HIGHLIGHTS VEGETABLES MILK PRODUCTION FLORICULTURE AGRICULTURAL PRICES

THIS FARM REPORT CONTAINS THE RESULTS FROM THESE SURVEYS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

*Vegetables for Processing
March Milk Production
Floriculture
March Prices Received*

VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING

Vegetable growers in Illinois intend to plant 14,500 acres of snap beans for processing under contract in 2008, up 14 percent from last year's contracted acreage. United States snap bean processors intend to contract 187,000 acres, down ten percent from last year's contract acreage. Canning acreage is expected to decrease nine percent and freezing acreage is expected to decrease 12 percent.

United States sweet corn processors plan to contract 384,960 acres, up one percent from 2007. Canning acreage is expected to increase three percent from last year and freezing acreage is expected to decrease less than one percent.

VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING, ILLINOIS & U.S., 2006-2008

Area	Planted area				Percent change 2008/2007
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract intentions	
		Total	Contract		
Acres					
SWEET CORN					
Illinois	1/	1/	1/	1/	--
United States	394,400	380,100	380,100	384,960	101
Canning	197,600	180,000	180,000	185,460	103
Freezing	196,800	200,100	200,100	199,500	100
SNAP BEANS					
Illinois	15,800	13,400	12,700	14,500	114
United States	211,920	213,270	208,600	187,000	90
Canning	142,580	136,100	133,300	120,750	91
Freezing	69,340	77,170	75,300	66,250	88

1/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Illinois during March 2008 totaled 167 million pounds, down two percent from last March. The number of milk cows on farms averaged 102,000 head, down 1,000 head from March of last year. Milk per cow averaged 1,640 pounds for March, 15 pounds below March 2007.

Estimated milk production in the U.S. during March 2008 totaled 16.5 billion pounds, up two percent from March 2007. Production per cow averaged 1,778 pounds, 13 pounds above March 2007. The number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. was 9.26 million head in March, 117,000 more than March 2007.

MILK PRODUCTION: ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, MARCH 2007-2008

		March					
		Illinois			United States		
		2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007	2007	2008	2008 as % of 2007
Milk Production:							
Number of milk cows	Head (000)	103	102	99	9,142	9,259	101
Milk production per cow	Lbs.	1,655	1,640	99	1,765	1,778	101
Total milk production	Mil. lbs.	170	167	98	16,132	16,462	102

FLORICULTURE

GROWERS, GROWING AREA & WHOLESALE VALUE OF SALES, ILLINOIS & U.S., 2006-2007

	Illinois		United States	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Number of growers ^{1/}	243	233	6,562	6,140
Expanded wholesale value (thousand dollars) ^{1/}	131,986	121,123	4,027,241	4,095,579
Total covered area (thousand square feet) ^{1/}	15,041	14,488	763,533	738,091
Open ground (acres) ^{1/}	392	491	31,629	31,007
	Thousand dollars			
Cut flowers	552	877	412,308	415,659
Gladioli	<u>2/</u>	319	22,694	23,629
Lilies	<u>2/</u>	86	75,459	73,894
Potted flowering plants	18,339	18,326	621,460	660,628
African Violets	<u>2/</u>	159	8,046	6,527
Azaleas	720	794	34,909	28,723
Chrysanthemums	598	557	40,815	39,960
Easter Lilies	1,376	1,460	26,106	26,954
Orchids	2,117	2,108	120,521	125,995
Poinsettias	9,902	8,220	171,012	180,978
Roses	66	68	21,446	22,976
Spring flowering bulbs	618	499	47,447	46,458
All other potted flowering plants	2,708	4,461	151,158	182,057
Foliage plants	6,831	2,556	527,912	629,581
Potted foliage	<u>2/</u>	2,086	466,609	568,251
Foliage hanging baskets	<u>2/</u>	470	61,303	61,330
Herbaceous perennial plants	44,961	46,883	513,091	502,693
Potted hardy/garden Chrysanthemums	5,312	5,746	103,656	100,441
Potted Hosta	2,994	3,039	27,924	28,886
Other potted herbaceous perennials	36,655	38,098	381,511	373,366
Annual bedding/garden plants	47,809	42,451	1,310,174	1,261,585
Geraniums from seed (flats)	182	141	4,373	4,036
New Guinea Impatiens (flats)	269	14	3,093	2,695
Impatiens (flats)	1,590	1,490	76,771	71,481
Marigolds (flats)	600	508	32,788	31,718
Pansy/Viola (flats)	793	718	66,168	68,602
Petunias (flats)	1,675	1,430	59,682	58,112
Other flowering and foliar type (flats)	4,556	4,644	205,649	194,499
Vegetable type (flats)	1,314	1,281	45,604	36,412
Potted Geraniums from vegetative cuttings	3,350	3,459	78,244	75,246
Potted Geraniums from seed	512	445	26,545	25,412
Potted New Guinea Impatiens	526	524	34,498	30,448
Potted Impatiens	371	323	28,130	23,491
Potted Marigolds	198	169	9,392	8,362
Potted Pansy/Viola	608	592	34,615	32,823
Potted Petunias	655	684	28,894	31,627
Other potted flowering and foliar type	4,637	6,009	278,296	278,943
Potted vegetable type	445	653	27,374	29,982
Geranium (cuttings) hanging baskets	611	608	22,186	22,326
Geranium (seeds) hanging baskets	39	75	1,483	1,678
New Guinea Impatiens hanging baskets	430	409	21,624	21,019
Impatiens hanging baskets	284	264	14,761	13,815
Pansy/Viola hanging baskets	18	46	2,625	3,318
Petunia hanging baskets	497	524	21,081	21,938
Other flowering hanging baskets	2,327	2,805	92,736	91,788
Total wholesale value of reported crops	125,929	115,813	3,866,501	3,941,769

^{1/} Includes all growers with gross value of sales of \$10,000 or more. Expanded wholesale value includes sales reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales plus a calculated value for growers with sales below \$100,000. All other estimates represent growers with value of sales of \$100,000 or more.

^{2/} Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The March index of prices received by Illinois farmers for all commodities was 186 percent of the base, down one point from the revised February figure but 52 points above March 2007. The current year's base was computed by multiplying the average production for the five-year period by the average price for each year. These five years were summed and then divided by five to arrive at an average (base) for the period. The current five-year average production was then multiplied by the current price and divided by the average for the five years to arrive at the current index. The March All Crops index, at 207 percent of the base, was unchanged from the revised February number and 67 points above March 2007. Crop prices increased for all commodities except for soybeans. The All Livestock index was at 109 percent of the base, down three points from the revised February number and one point below March 2007. Prices for all livestock commodities decreased, except for hogs. The hog-corn ratio was at 8.7.

The U.S. preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 150 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased three points from February. The Crop Index was up eight points 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 was affected by the seasonal change based on a three-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.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Feb. 2007	Mar. 2007	Feb. 2008	Mar. 15, 2008
ILLINOIS		2001-2005=100		2002-2006=100
All Farm Products	136	134	187 *	186
All Crops	142	140	207 *	207
Food grains	132	129	159 *	272
Feed grains/hay	156	156	205 *	215
Soybeans	124	118	206 *	192
All Livestock	113	110	112 *	109
Meat animals	111	109	105 *	103
Dairy products	122	119	150 *	138
UNITED STATES		1990-92=100		
All Farm Products	128	133	147 *	150
All Crops	138	142	163 *	171
Food grains	154	155	289 *	332
Feed grains/hay	150	151	194 *	206
Oilseeds	124	125	210 *	214
All Livestock	120	125	133 *	133
Meat animals	114	118	115 *	114
Dairy products	114	119	146 *	140
Prices Paid	156	159	173 *	176
Parity Ratio 1/	82	84	85 *	85

1/ Prices received index divided by prices paid index.

* Revised.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	Illinois				United States			
		Feb. 2007	Mar. 2007	Feb. 2008	Mar. 15, 2008	Feb. 2007	Mar. 2007	Feb. 2008	Mar. 15, 2008
Dollars									
Corn	Bushels	3.44	3.52	4.58 *	4.90	3.44	3.43	4.53 *	4.83
Soybeans	Bushels	7.05	7.11	12.20 *	12.00	6.87	6.95	11.70 *	11.90
Sorghum	Cwt.	7.14	7.16	8.83 *	9.00	6.95	6.48	8.35 *	8.72
Wheat, all	Bushels	4.24	4.09	8.75 *	9.30	4.71	4.75	9.98 *	11.70
Oats	Bushels	3/	3.03	3/	3/	2.35	2.40	3.20 *	3.38
Hay, all baled	Tons	103.00	107.00	141.00	143.00	113.00	119.00	133.00 *	139.00
Alfalfa hay, bld	Tons	108.00	110.00	152.00	155.00	115.00	121.00	138.00 *	143.00
Other hay, bld	Tons	84.00	86.00	115.00	120.00	108.00	115.00	122.00 *	128.00
Hogs, all	Cwt.	46.20	44.70	43.10 *	42.40	47.50	44.90	42.20 *	41.20
Barrows, Gilts	Cwt.	47.50	45.90	45.00 *	44.00	48.30	45.50	43.20 *	41.90
Sows	Cwt.	31.00	31.50	21.50 *	23.50	32.10	33.00	22.90 *	25.10
Beef cattle	Cwt.	89.10	96.00	92.20	91.70	86.10	91.60	89.00 *	88.70
Cows	Cwt.	47.00	48.00	53.50 *	52.00	47.00	47.20	51.40 *	52.20
Steers, Heifers	Cwt.	90.00	97.00	93.00	92.50	91.40	97.70	94.20 *	93.80
Calves	Cwt.	106.00	112.00	112.00	111.00	114.00	122.00	120.00 *	120.00
Milk cows	Head	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Milk, all	Cwt.	15.80	16.10	20.50 *	19.00	14.90	15.60	19.10 *	18.30
Milk, fluid	Cwt.	15.80	16.10	20.50	3/	14.90	15.60	19.10 *	18.30
Milk, mfg.	Cwt.	15.50	16.00	19.20	3/	14.40	15.10	18.30 *	18.30
Hog-corn ratio		13.4	12.7	9.4 *	8.7	13.8	13.1	9.3 *	8.5

1/ Prices received represents the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations.

2/ Estimated in January, April, July and October.

3/ State prices not published.

* Revised.

Illinois Farm Report (ISSN 0273-8643) is published monthly in February, March, May, June, August, September, November and December; twice in January, April, July and October by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture and USDA, NASS, Illinois Field Office, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, Illinois 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Periodical postage paid at Springfield, Illinois.

Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Farm Report, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9283.

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	July 31	Agricultural Prices

Brad Schwab, Mark Schleusener, Michael S. Clark, Agricultural Statisticians
"Printed by authority of the State of Illinois" 4/25/08, 1,375, 1399

