



# MARYLAND GRAIN & LIVESTOCK REPORT

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The Maryland Field Office of the  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
wishes everyone a  
*Happy New Year!*

## WEEKLY GRAIN COMMENTARY

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A quite, holiday-shortened week still managed to produce positive results as corn prices established new contract highs. March traded to \$3.92, while May futures set a new high at \$4.00 and July futures closed at \$4.01, above key psychological resistance of \$4.00. December '07 futures touched \$3.75 level briefly on the open but follow through buying or lack of market participants was not there to push it through the barrier, settling at \$3.73 ¾. Fundamental news was severely lacking this week as weekly export sales were delayed due to holiday schedules. However, some export traders noted Chinese corn was offered at \$10 per tonne lower than U.S. or South American origins. The long term bullish fundamentals should continue to support prices on any extended downside move with corn needing to buy acres next year to supply optimistic long term domestic and global demand. In beans, traders are turning their attention to South America. The Agriculture Secretariat of Argentina estimated that this year's soybean plantings will be up 4.4% due to very good profitability. Planting is 78% complete, which is about normal for this time of year. Weather conditions have been favorable for Argentina so far this crop year and many expect the production estimates to increase if this trend continues. The latest Informa production estimate peg the Argentine crop at 43.7 MMT compared to 41.1 MMT last year. Like corn, the bean outlook remains positive as we should approach the \$7.25-\$7.30 range basis March futures. Obviously given the ample US supplies and the great South American weather, any rally can fizzle out but given the tight corn-bean ratio and US acreage reduction, the downside appears to be limited at this time.

Grain futures	Corn Basis		Soybean Basis		Wheat Basis	
	Nearby	Forward	Nearby	Forward	Nearby	Forward
Western, MD	-19		-40		-79	
Central, MD	-13	-5	-55	-50	-69	
Southern, MD	+1	-14	-38	-38		
Upper E. Shore	+4	-1	-25	-25	-95	
Lower E. Shore						

## THE CROP WEATHER WILL RESUME IN APRIL 2007

### CASH GRAINS – REGIONAL – (\$/bu) DEALERS AVERAGE CASH QUOTES

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley	
	12/19	12/26	12/19	12/26	12/19	12/26	12/19	12/26
Western, MD	3.68	3.68	6.12	6.30	4.20	4.28	1.75	1.75
Central, MD	3.61	3.74	5.99	6.15	4.26	4.38	----	----
Southern, MD	3.73	3.88	6.14	6.32	----	----	----	----
Upper E. Shore	3.76	3.91	6.24	6.45	3.87	4.12	----	----
Lower E. Shore	3.91	4.05	6.44	6.62	3.85	4.07	2.05	1.95

Soybean Meal	Lower Eastern Shore		Dealer's Average Cash Quotes (\$/ton)		
Date	12/19	12/26	Date	12/19	12/26
48% Soybean Meal	216.00	218.00	44% Soybean Meal	204.00	206.00

### FORWARD CONTRACT PRICE – REGIONAL (\$/bu) for Harvest Delivery Dealer's Avg. Quotes

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley	
	12/19	12/26	12/19	12/26	12/19	12/26	12/19	12/26
Western MD	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Central MD	3.61	3.66	6.62	6.78	4.26	4.38	----	----
Southern MD	3.51	3.57	6.72	6.90	4.16	4.35	1.75	1.75
Upper E Shore	3.64	3.70	6.85	7.03	4.20	4.39	1.90	1.90
Lower E Shore	3.78	3.77	6.97	7.15	4.16	4.33	1.93	1.98

### GRAIN FUTURES – Chicago Board of Trade (Cents & Quarter – cents/bushel) Settle – December 27, 2006 17:00 CST

Corn		Soybeans		Wheat		Soybean Meal <sup>1</sup>	
07Mar	386'6	07Jan	669'4	07Mar	507'0	07Jan	188'5
07May	394'6	07Mar	685'2	07May	515'0	07Mar	193'8
07Jul	399'2	07May	698'2	07Jul	498'2	07May	196'8
07Sep	382'2	07Jul	710'4	07Sep	500'2	07Jul	200'0
07Dec	371'2	07Aug	715'4	07Dec	509'6	07Aug	201'5
08Mar	377'0	07Sep	718'0	08Mar	512'0	07Sep	202'5

1/ Price Unit: Dollars and cents/ton (100 tons (2,000 lbs/ton))

### HAY AND STRAW

#### New Holland, PA – December 18, 2006- \$/ton

Alfalfa	Mixed Hay	Timothy	Orchard grass	Straw
90.00 - 200.00	85.00 - 310.00	90.00 - 200.00	90.00 - 190.00	82.00 - 190.00

#### Westminster, MD – December 26, 2006 - \$/bale

Alfalfa	Alfalfa Mix	Timothy	Grass Mix	Straw
4.50 - 4.90	3.90 - 4.60	2.90	5.70 - 6.20	2.80

#### Southern MD Regional Farmers Market - \$/bale - December 16, 2006 - Next Sale date - January 6, 2007

Alfalfa	Lespedeza	Straw	Timothy Mix	Orchard grass	Orchard grass mix
4.00 - 5.50	3.60 - 9.00	2.00 - 3.80	4.00	2.40	4.05 - 5.60

<b>POULTRY</b>				
<b>Negotiated price for truck lot of ready-to-cook, ice-pack, Grade A Fryers (\$ per CWT) – Week Ending – December 30, 2006</b>				
	<b>Current Week</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Month Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>N.Y. Weighted Avg.</b>	64.96	64.82	69.60	56.46
<b>12 City Composite</b>	67.63	66.39	66.26	63.76
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS - \$ per CWT - Westminster, MD – December 26, 2006</b>				
<b>Sheep</b>	45.00 - 70.00	<b>Lambs</b>	50 - 80 lbs	102.50 - 140.00
Too Thin	8.00 - 30.00		90 - 130 lbs	115.00 - 147.50
			Feeders: Very Thin	60.00 - 100.00
<b>TERMINAL MARKETS HOGS – December 27, 2006</b>		<b>DIRECT MARKET HOGS – Westminster, MD – December 26, 2006</b>		
<b>Base Price Range a.m.</b>	<b>Carcass Basis Base 185 lb Hog</b>	<b>Sows (1 -3) 300 – 449 lbs</b>	<b>Butcher Hogs #1 215 - 275</b>	54.00
<b>Eastern Corn belt Iowa, Minn</b>	50.50 - 64.50	N/A		
	52.75 - 64.00	29.48 - 36.47		
				<b>Sows Heavy Weights</b>
				<b>Boars Heavyweights</b>
				10.00 - 11.50
				<b>Lightweights</b>
				21.00
<b>Market Hogs - Millsboro, DE – December 12, 2006 - dollars/cwt 34.00 - 36.00 Next sale date - January 9, 2007</b>				
<b>FEEDER PIGS – (\$ per CWT) –</b>				
<b>Gumboro, DE December 12, 2006 Next sale date January 9, 2007</b>			<b>New Holland, PA December 12, 2006 - US 1-2</b>	
<b>Head: 321</b>			<b>Head: 367</b>	
Under 30 lbs	50.00-160.00	50 - 59 lbs	56.00 - 69.00	19-21 lbs 180.00 -195.00
30 - 39 lbs	50.00-100.00	60 - 69 lbs	67.00 - 76.00	23-29 lbs 135.00 -145.00
40 - 49 lbs	60.00- 100.00	70 - 79 lbs	45.00 - 70.00	35-52 lbs 82.00 -105.00
				55 -63 lbs 55.00 - 90.00
				66-75 lbs 35.00-70.00
				93 lbs 55.00
<b>Chicago Mercantile Exchange \$ per CWT – December 27, 2006</b>				
<b>CATTLE –LIVE FUTURES</b>			<b>HOGS-LEAN FUTURES</b>	
DEC06	88.88	JUN07	89.73	FEB07 62.48 JUN07 73.53
FEB07	92.08	AUG07	88.48	APR07 66.03 JLY07 71.60
APR07	93.63	OCT07	90.80	MAY07 71.13 AUG07 70.30
<b>STOCKER – FEEDER CATTLE – (\$ per CWT)</b>				
<b>Winchester, VA – December 18, 2006</b>			<b>Westminster, MD – December 26, 2006</b>	
<b>Steers</b>	300 - 400 lbs	130.00	<b>Steers</b>	200 - 300 lbs Jerseys 47.50 - 49.00
	400 - 500 lbs	105.00 -124.00		400 - 500 lbs 73.00 - 90.00
	500 - 600 lbs	95.00 -110.00		800 - 1000 lbs 65.00 - 69.00
	600 - 700 lbs	89.00 - 96.00		
<b>Heifers</b>	300 - 400 lbs	105.50 -115.00	<b>Heifers</b>	400 - 500 lbs 68.00 - 79.00
	400 - 500 lbs	85.00 -102.00		800 - 1000 lbs 61.00 - 66.00
	500 - 600 lbs	78.00 - 88.00		
	600 - 700 lbs	83.75		
<b>SLAUGHTER CATTLE (\$ per CWT)</b>				
<b>Westminster, MD – December 26, 2006</b>			<b>Fed Heifers</b> None offered	
<b>Sltr. Cows</b>	Breakers	45.50 - 49.50	<b>Hols. Bull Calves</b>	#1 90.00 - 115.00
	Boners	40.00 - 45.00		#2 70.00 - 85.00
	Thin/Slow	39.50 & down		#3 50.00 - 70.00
<b>Fed Steers</b>	None offered			Culls 25.00 - 42.50
				Jerseys 20.00 - 45.00
				Beef cross 90.00 - 100.00
			<b>Hols. Heifers</b>	#2 370.00
<b>Lancaster, New Holland &amp; Vintage – December 28, 2006</b>				
<b>Sltr Steers</b>			<b>Slaughter Heifers:</b>	
H Ch & Pr 2-3	1270 -1480 lbs	86.75 - 89.50	Ch & Pr 2-3	1075 - 1335 lbs 85.25 - 88.25
YG 4 / Full	1500 -1580 lbs	84.00 - 87.75		
	1585 -1625 lbs	76.50 - 79.00		
Choice 2-3	1165 -1490 lbs	84.50 - 87.00		
Sel & Lo Ch 1-3	1250 -1430 lbs	83.50 - 85.25	<b>Sltr. Cows:</b>	<b>Percent Lean</b>
Select 1-2	1110 -1400 lbs	81.00 - 83.00	Premium White	65 - 75 51.50 - 54.00
Standard 1	1175 - 1315 lbs	71.00 - 78.00	Breakers	75 - 80 49.00 - 52.00
<b>Hols. Steers:</b>			Boners	80 - 85 45.75 - 47.50
HCh & Pr 2-3	1490 -1525 lbs	76.00 - 77.00	Lean	88 - 90 39.75 - 44.25
Choice 2-3	1335 -1585 lbs	72.85 - 76.25	Lean < 1000 lbs	88 - 90 35.50 - 39.00
Sel & Lo Ch 1-3	1340 -1510 lbs	68.75 - 71.75		
Select 1-2	1095 -1355 lbs	65.00 - 70.00		

Compiled by USDA, NASS, Maryland Field Office

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