



# MARYLAND GRAIN & LIVESTOCK REPORT

December 19, 2008	MDA #117	VOLUME 33	No. 51	PUB. Weekly
<b>WEEKLY GRAIN COMMENTARY</b> Kevin McNew Adjunct Professor, UMD-College Park				

A relatively quiet week in the grain markets after bullish enthusiasm waned at the start of the week. Weekly corn export sales were in line with expectations. There were 612,500 MT of corn sold for the week and experts guesses were between 550,000 to 750,000 MT. Surprisingly absent from the line-up was Mexico which made massive purchases last week. Total corn exports and sales for the current marketing year stand at 20.2 million MT compared to last year's sales of 37.739 million MT. Most of the deficiency can be explained by year to year drops to Mexico of 1.3 million, Japan 1.9 million and Egypt 1.6 million MT. Other Asia and Oceanic countries account for the largest year to year decline, 5.9 million MT. South Korea leads the list, down 2.9 million MT for the year. For soybeans, weekly sales came in at 900,300 MT above the 700,000 MT upper-forecast by analysts. Forecasts for Argentina are still calling for scattered showers that could bring 1 to 2" of rainfall locally over the weekend; however, these areas will be very isolated and net drying is still likely to occur. Rainfall in Southwestern Brazil was reduced for the upcoming week. It is estimated that 50% of the corn crop will be pollinating this week during a time that dry conditions do not seem to be easing. At least temperatures will be moderate during this time frame. Domestic basis levels were steady/better over the past week as light farmer selling continues to underpin the market.

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

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley	
	12/09	12/16	12/09	12/16	12/09	12/16	12/09	12/16
Western, MD	3.60	3.85	7.28	7.81	3.15	3.68	3.23	3.23
Central, MD	3.49	4.10	7.51	7.95	3.89	4.33	----	----
Southern, MD	3.28	3.99	7.53	7.99	----	----	----	----
Upper E. Shore	3.46	4.17	7.68	8.14	----	----	----	----
Lower E. Shore	3.75	6.32	7.97	8.34	----	----	----	----

### 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	
	12/09	12/16	12/09	12/16	12/09	12/16	12/09	12/16
Western MD	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Central MD	3.82	4.30	7.98	8.26	3.84	4.83	----	----
Southern MD	3.52	4.22	7.49	8.11	3.65	4.40	2.02	2.43
Upper E Shore	3.65	4.35	7.64	8.26	3.75	4.50	2.07	2.48
Lower E Shore	3.92	4.46	7.86	8.48	3.77	4.49	2.34	2.75

### GRAIN FUTURES – CME Group - Settle - December 18, 2008 (Cents & Quarter – cents/bushel)

Corn		Soybeans		Wheat		Soybean Meal <sup>1/</sup>	
MAR09	393'6	JAN09	866'6	MAR09	565'2	JAN09	264'6
MAY09	404'6	MAR09	875'0	MAY09	576'2	MAR09	264'2
JUL09	413'0	MAY09	882'4	JUL09	590'4	MAY09	267'0
SEP09	425'0	JUL09	900'2	SEP09	603'0	JUL09	271'7
DEC09	440'4	AUG09	887'0	DEC09	631'6	AUG09	271'0
MAR10	450'0	SEP09	883'4	MAR10	639'0	SEP09	270'1

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

### HAY AND STRAW

#### New Holland, PA - \$/ton – December 15, 2008

Alfalfa	Mixed Hay	Timothy	Grass	Straw
105.00 - 280.00	85.00 - 290.00	55.00 - 225.00	75.00 - 225.00	75.00 - 185.00

#### Westminster, MD - December 16, 2008 - \$/bale

Alfalfa	Alfalfa Mix	Timothy	Timothy Mix	Grass Mix	Straw
3.90 - 4.00	1.90 - 4.00	3.10 - 5.00	2.80 - 3.60	2.00 - 2.20	1.90 - 3.10

### POULTRY

#### Negotiated price for truck lot of ready-to-cook, ice-pack, Grade A Fryers (\$ per CWT) – Week Ending – December 20, 2008

	Current Week	Prev. Week	Prev. Month	Prev. Year
N.Y. Weighted Avg.	77.52	77.73	69.67	66.50
12 City Composite	81.84	82.26	76.92	70.40

SHEEP & LAMBS - Westminster, MD - December 16, 2008 - \$/cwt							
Sheep	30.00 - 45.00	Lambs	50 - 80 lbs	90.00 - 115.00			
Yearlings	70.00 - 87.50		Feeders - Very thin	50.00 - 100.00			
TERMINAL MARKETS HOGS - December 18, 2008				DIRECT MARKET HOGS - Westminster, MD - December 16, 2008			
* Base Price Range	Carcass Basis	Weighted	Butcher Hogs				
	Base 185 lb Hog	Average	288 - 336 lbs	48.00 - 50.50			
Iowa, Minn	42.50 - 52.70	50.70					
Eastern Corn belt	46.00 - 54.15	52.23					
* Base price is the price from which no discounts are subtracted and no premiums are added.							
MARKET HOGS - Millsboro, DE - (\$/CWT) - December 16, 2008 34.00 Next sale date - January 13, 2009							
FEEDER PIGS - Gumboro, DE - (\$/CWT) - December 16, 2008 Next sale date - January 13, 2009							
Under 30 lbs	50.00 - 200.00	40 - 49 lbs	60.00 - 73.00	60 - 69 lbs	50.00 - 61.00		
30 - 39 lbs	60.00 - 120.00	50 - 59 lbs	58.00 - 64.00				
CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE GROUP (cwt) - December 18, 2008							
LIVE CATTLE - FUTURES				LEAN HOGS - FUTURES			
DEC08	86.25	JUN09	85.60	FEB09	62.60	JUN09	79.48
FEB09	87.03	AUG09	85.25	APR09	69.45	JUL09	79.15
APR09	89.35	OCT09	88.13	MAY09	77.85	AUG09	77.00
STOCKER - FEEDER CATTLE - (\$/cwt)							
Winchester, VA - December 15, 2008				Westminster, MD - December 16, 2008			
Steers	300 - 400 lbs	86.00 - 101.00					
	400 - 500 lbs	85.00 - 98.00	Steers	200 - 300 lbs	47.50 - 65.00		
	500 - 600 lbs	84.00 - 94.00		400 - 500 lbs	52.00 - 76.00		
	600 - 700 lbs	74.50 - 83.50		600 - 700 lbs	47.50 - 67.00		
	700 - 800 lbs	77.00 - 77.50					
	800 - 900 lbs	75.00 - 79.00					
Heifers	300 - 400 lbs	68.00 - 72.00					
	400 - 500 lbs	75.00 - 83.00	Heifers	200 - 300 lbs	40.00 - 60.00		
	500 - 600 lbs	70.00 - 85.50		400 - 500 lbs	49.00 - 59.00		
SLAUGHTER CATTLE (\$/cwt)							
Westminster, MD - December 16, 2008				Fed Heifers			
Sltr. Cows			Choice	84.50 - 84.75			
Premium	59.00		Select	79.75			
Breakers	49.75 - 54.00		Holsteins	59.00 - 63.00			
Boners	43.00 - 49.00		Hols. Bull Calves to Feed				
Thin/Slow	42.50 & Down		#1	50.00 - 67.50			
Fed Steers			#2	20.00 - 40.00			
Choice & Prime	82.50 - 86.00						
Low Choice	80.00 - 82.50		Culls	8.00 - 17.00			
Select	74.75						
Holsteins	69.00 - 71.50						
Lancaster, New Holland & Vintage - December 18, 2008							
Sltr. Steers:			Sltr. Heifers:				
Hi Ch & Pr 2-3	1315 - 1508 lbs	87.00 - 89.00	Hi Ch & Pr 2-3	1125 - 1395 lbs	83.00 - 85.00		
Choice 2-3	1225 - 1480 lbs	84.00 - 87.00	Choice 2-3	1050 - 1285 lbs	80.00 - 83.00		
Hi Sel & Lo Ch 2-3	1100 - 1440 lbs	80.00 - 83.00					
Hols. Steers:			Sltr. Cows:		Percent Lean	Avg. Dressing	
Hi Ch & Pr 2-3	1455 - 1585 lbs	74.00 - 78.00	Premium White	65 - 75	46.00 - 49.00		
Choice 2-3	1395 - 1590 lbs	72.00 - 74.00	Breakers	75 - 80	44.00 - 47.00		
Hi Sel & Lo Ch 2-3	1255 - 1550 lbs	67.00 - 71.00	Boners	80 - 85	41.00 - 45.00		
			Lean	88 - 90	36.00 - 41.00		

*There will be no Grain and Livestock Report issued on December 26, 2008 due to holiday closures.*

*The Maryland Field Office of the  
National Agricultural Statistics Service*

*wishes everyone a*

*Happy Holiday Season!*

Compiled by USDA, NASS, Maryland Field Office

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