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Agri-View

ISSUE AV-17-06

**RELEASED
SEPTEMBER 19, 2006**

IN THIS ISSUE:

PRICES RECEIVED

CROP REPORT

FARM LABOR

**POULTRY DISTRICT
ESTIMATES**

MILK PRODUCTION



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**CROP PRICES
DOWN FROM
JULY**

Prices received by farmers for soybeans for August averaged \$5.07 per bushel, a decrease of 36 cents from the July price. Corn was down 17 cents from July to an August price of \$1.80 per bushel.

The all hog price for August was \$52.90 per cwt., an increase of \$1.10 from the July price. The all beef cattle price for August was \$76.80, an increase of 60 cents from the July price.

The all milk price for August, at \$11.90 per cwt., was up 20 cents from July.

The preliminary U.S. All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 120 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (2.6 percent) from July. The Crop Index is up 3 points (2.4 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 5 points (4.5 percent).

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity And Unit	U.S.		-----Minnesota-----	
	August 2006 1/	August 2005 2/	July 2006 2/	August 2006 1/
Barley, Feed & Malting, bu	2.69	2.18	1.91	1.98
Beans, Dry Edible, All, cwt.....	20.30	3/	3/	3/
Kidney, cwt	4/	3/	3/	3/
Navy, cwt	4/	3/	3/	3/
Pinto, cwt	4/	3/	3/	3/
Corn, bu	2.03	1.82	1.97	1.80
Hay, All Baled, ton	106.00	62.00	64.00	72.00
Alfalfa, Baled, ton	110.00	72.00	72.00	75.00
Other, Baled, ton	91.50	48.00	49.00	59.00
Oats, bu	1.70	1.40	1.69	1.64
Potatoes, cwt	9.03	9.60	6.15	11.00
Soybeans, bu	5.24	6.11	5.43	5.07
Sunflowers, All, cwt.....	12.50	3/	16.80	16.90
Wheat, All, bu.....	3.88	3.20	4.38	3.96
Calves, cwt.....	134.00	130.00	124.00	128.00
Cattle, All Beef, cwt 5/.....	87.70	74.00	76.20	76.80
Cows, cwt, 6/	46.90	52.90	50.90	50.00
Steers & Heifers, cwt.....	91.80	78.00	80.70	81.50
Milk Cows, head 7/.....	--	--	1,660.00	--
Hogs, All, cwt	51.60	52.20	51.80	52.90
Barrows & Gilts, cwt	52.50	52.30	51.90	53.00
Sows, cwt	33.60	39.20	32.50	35.00
Lambs, cwt 8/.....	--	104.00	95.30	--
Sheep, cwt 8/	--	38.00	26.00	--
Milk, All, cwt	11.90	14.00	11.70	11.90
Eggs, Table Market, doz.....	0.39	0.26	0.25	0.41

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Entire month data. 3/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms. 4/ Price not set at the US level 5/ "cows" and "steers and heifers" combined. 6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 7/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published in Jan., Apr., Jul., and Oct. 8/ Preliminary prices discontinued Jan. 1996.

U.S. INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED (1990-92=100)

Commodities	August 2005 1/	July 2006 1/	August 2006 2/
	All Farm Products	116	117
Crops	115	123	126
Meat Animals.....	116	117	119
Dairy Products	113	90	91
Poultry & Eggs.....	125	116	124

1/ Entire month data. 2/ Preliminary

U.S. INDEX SUMMARY (1990-92=100)

Item	July 2005	August 2005	July 2006	August 2006
	Prices Received	116	116	117
Prices Paid (Interest, Taxes, Wage Rates)	141	141	148	148
Parity Ration 1/	82	82	79	81

1/ Computed by dividing Prices Received Index by Prices Paid Index.

MINNESOTA CORN & SOYBEAN PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST MONTH

CORN production is forecast at 1.12 billion bushels, up 3 percent from the August forecast but down 6 percent from the record high corn production in 2005. Based on September 1 conditions, the yield is forecasted at 164.0 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels per acre from August. This is down 10 bushels per acre from the record high yield set in 2005.

SOYBEAN production for Minnesota, as of September 1, is forecasted at 288 million bushels. This is up 8 percent from the August forecast and down 6 percent from 2005. Soybean yield is forecast at 40.0 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from August and down 5 bushels per acre from 2005.

SUGARBEET production is forecast at 11.4 million tons, up 1 percent from the August forecast. If realized, this would surpass the record production, set in 2003, by 14%. Yield is forecast at 23.0 tons per acre, up 0.3 tons per acre from August and up 2.6 tons per acre from last year. If realized, this would break the previous record high yield of 21.5 tons per acre, set in 2000.

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

CORN production is forecast at 11.1 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month and fractionally above 2005. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from August and 6.8 bushels from last year. Forecast yields are higher than August across the northern Great Plains and western Corn Belt as moderate to heavy precipitation during the month improved soil moisture levels and crop conditions. Expected yields across the eastern Corn Belt are unchanged from last month. Farmers expect to harvest 71.8 million acres of corn for grain, down 250,000 acres from August and down 4 percent from 2005.

SOYBEAN production is forecast at 3.09 billion bushels, up 6 percent from the August forecast and up slightly from the 2005 crop. If realized, this would be the second highest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.8 bushels per acre, up 2.2 bushels from August but down 1.5 bushels from last year's record high yield. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher across the Corn Belt and most of the northern and central Great Plains. Near or above normal moisture in those areas during August improved crop conditions. In contrast, yields are down or unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Gulf Coast States and Atlantic Coast States, with the exception of South Carolina.

SUGARBEET production for 2006 is forecast at 32.4 million tons, 2 percent above the August forecast and 18 percent above last year's production. Growers in the 11 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.34 million acres, down fractionally from last month but 8 percent above last year. The yield is forecast at 24.1 tons per acre, up 0.4 ton from August and 1.9 tons above 2005. Production forecasts are up from last year for all States, except California and Michigan. The largest increases are in the Red River Valley, where Minnesota and North Dakota growers expect to produce 22 and 35 percent more than in 2005, respectively.

MINNESOTA & U.S. HARVESTED ACRES, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION FORECAST

COMMODITY	Acres Harvested		Yield			Production	
	2005 (000)	2006 (000)	2005	2006		2005 (000)	2006 (000)
				Aug 1	Sep 1		

MINNESOTA

CORN (Bu)	6,850	6,800	174.0	160.0	164.0	1,191,900	1,115,200
SOYBEANS (Bu)	6,800	7,200	45.0	37.0	40.0	306,000	288,000
SUGARBEETS (Ton)	460.0	496.0	20.4	22.7	23.0	9,384	11,408

UNITED STATES

CORN (Bu)	75,107	71,841	147.9	152.2	154.7	11,112,072	11,113,766
SOYBEANS (Bu)	71,361	73,935	43.3	39.6	41.8	3,086,432	3,092,970
SUGARBEETS (Ton)	1,242.9	1,343.6	22.2	23.7	24.1	27,537	32,390

LAKE REGION HIRED WORKERS DOWN BY 7,000 FROM JULY 2005

Lake Region: There were 68,000 hired workers on Lake Region (Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin) farms the week of July 9-15, 2006, down 7,000 from a year ago. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$10.22 per hour during the July 2006 survey week, up by 56 cents from July 2005. Field workers received an average of \$9.37 per hour, a 71 cent increase from a year ago. Livestock workers earned \$9.72 per hour compared with \$9.52 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock Workers combined wage rate at \$9.50 per hour was up 53 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 38.4 for hired workers during the survey week compared with 40.9 hours a year ago.

United States: There were 1,202,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 9-15, 2006, down 11 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 875,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 327,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.74 per hour during the July 2006 reference week, up 36 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.95 per hour, up 34 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$9.56 per hour compared with \$9.26 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.10 per hour, was up 32 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.9 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

WORKERS ON FARMS, HOURS WORKED PER WEEK, AND WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS, LAKE REGION AND UNITED STATES, JULY 2006

	Lake Region 1/		United States 2/	
	July 10-16 2005	July 9-15 2006	July 10-16 2005	July 9-15 2006
	1,000 Workers			
Workers on Farms All Hired Workers	75	68	1,344	1,202
	Hours Per Week			
Hours Worked All Hired Workers	40.9	38.4	40.6	40.9
	Dollars Per Hour			
Workers By Work Type				
Field	8.66	9.37	8.61	8.95
Livestock	9.52	9.72	9.26	9.56
Field & Livestock	8.97	9.50	8.78	9.10
All Workers	9.66	10.22	9.38	9.74

1/ Lake Region = Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Excludes agricultural service workers.

2/ Excludes Alaska.



**POULTRY: LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION
BY DISTRICT, MINNESOTA 2005**

District	Annual Average Layers	Total Egg Production
	Number	1,000 Eggs
Northwest	995,000	278,000
West Central	295,000	81,000
Central	7,072,000	1,906,000
South Central	1,661,000	447,000
Other Districts	1,015,000	273,000
MINNESOTA	11,038,000	2,985,000

AGRI-VIEW (USPS-413810) is published monthly in March, June, November and December; semi-monthly in February, April, May, August, September and October; and three times/month in January and July. Subscription rates are \$12.00 per year for non-reporters, and free for survey respondents by the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service, PO Box 7068, St. Paul, MN 55107. Periodicals class postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota and other mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to AGRI-VIEW, PO Box 7068, St. Paul, MN 55107.

**AUGUST MILK OUTPUT UP .9 PERCENT
IN MINNESOTA**

Totaling 686 million pounds, the state's August milk production was up 0.9 percent from August 2005.

Output per cow was 1,525 pounds in August, up 15 pounds from last August. Milk cows for August averaged 450,000 head, the same as July, and the same as a year ago.

August 2006 milk output in the 23 major states was 13.9 billion pounds, up 1.6 percent from August 2005. Milk cows in the 23 states averaged 8.25 million head, up 88,000 from the previous year. At 1,680 pounds, production per cow was 9 pounds greater than August 2005.

JULY/AUGUST 2006 MILK STATS

State	Milk Production		Change From Previous Year	
	July	August	July	August
	--- Million Lbs. ---		--- Percent ---	
California	3,119	3,288	-0.2	+4.1
Idaho	960	970	+6.4	+6.8
Minnesota	702	686	+2.2	+0.9
New York	1,038	1,032	+0.3	-0.3
Pennsylvania	888	875	-0.4	-1.1
Wisconsin	1,990	1,953	+0.6	-0.9
23 States	13,925	13,861	+1.5	+1.6

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