

## Montana Agricultural Exports Increased \$56.5 million in 2006

The value of Montana's agricultural commodities exported during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, totaled \$590.2 million, \$56.5 million more than 2005. Wheat and Products remained Montana's leading export, making up 77 percent of the state's agricultural exports. Vegetables & Preparations and Feeds and Fodders tied for second place, each at seven percent of the total. The Vegetables & Preparations category includes dry beans, dry peas, lentils, and fall potatoes.

Wheat and Products exports showed the largest change in value, increasing \$65.4 million from 2005. Vegetables and Preparations were up \$3.7 million, followed by Feeds and Fodders which increased \$1.2 million. Seeds showed the largest decline in exports, dropping \$8.9 million from 2005, followed by Feed Grains and Products dropping \$7.8 million.

Montana remained in third place among states exporting Wheat and Products for fiscal year 2006. The top wheat exporting state for 2006 was Kansas, followed by North Dakota, Montana, Washington, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Minnesota. Considering exports of all products, California remained on top, followed by Iowa, Texas, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, and Washington. Montana moved up from thirty-second place in 2005 for exports of all products to thirtieth place in 2006.

U.S. agricultural exports reached a record high in fiscal 2006 at \$68.7 billion, some \$6.2 billion higher than the record set in fiscal 2005. The export value for Wheat and Products is up 5 percent over 2005 at \$6.2 billion. This increase is largely due to wheat products as the value of wheat exports is largely unchanged from 2005 to 2006. Wheat shipments are down roughly 5 percent from 2005. Wheat remains the third largest U.S. agricultural export group in fiscal 2006.

Feed Grains and Products became the largest valued agricultural export commodity in 2006 at \$8.7 billion—growing some \$2 billion over fiscal 2005. Nearly all of this growth is related to corn as export values grew from \$4.7 billion in fiscal 2005 to \$6.2 billion in 2006. While corn export value is up 32 percent, the increase is not just price related—the volume of corn shipped is also up nearly 25 percent over 2005.

Concerns about market access continue to challenge global meat trade. Beef exports from the United States to Japan and South Korea have yet to fully resume, although trade with other markets has been restored. As a result, Live Animals and Meat export values are up 19 percent over 2005. Beef and veal exports are still about half the 2003 level but are up 70 percent over 2005.

### Agricultural Exports for Montana and the United States 1/

Commodity	MONTANA			UNITED STATES		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
	Million Dollars					
Wheat and Products	355.4	386.3	451.7	6,631.9	5,886.3	6,187.4
Feed Grains and Products	19.8	31.2	23.4	8,290.9	6,968.4	8,689.7
Fruits and Preparations	--	--	--	3,841.9	4,099.5	4,585.2
Vegetables and Preparations 2/	23.8	35.9	39.6	3,291.3	3,631.9	3,905.1
Live Animals and Meat	6.2	7.2	8.3	4,417.5	4,922.6	5,841.9
Hides and Skins	0.9	0.9	1.0	1,763.3	1,748.1	1,977.5
Poultry and Products	0.3	0.4	0.4	2,519.2	3,028.7	2,986.1
Fats, Oils and Greases	0.3	0.3	0.2	574.1	479.4	478.0
Dairy Products	2.7	3.6	3.5	1,325.0	1,744.5	1,819.6
Feeds and Fodders	30.6	38.4	39.6	2,032.2	2,210.6	2,492.8
Seeds	15.0	18.3	9.4	865.4	916.3	876.8
Other	10.0	11.3	13.0	26,856.1	26,879.9	28,880.4
<b>ALL COMMODITIES 3/</b>	<b>464.8</b>	<b>533.7</b>	<b>590.2</b>	<b>62,408.8</b>	<b>62,516.2</b>	<b>68,720.6</b>

1/ Fiscal year ending September 30. 2/ Vegetables category includes dry beans, dry peas, lentils, and fall potatoes.

3/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

SOURCE: Economic Research Service, U.S. Agricultural Trade Update, June 2007