



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture  
10 W 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626

## Agricultural Prices Received for March

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For more information contact: Eric Siebens or Peggy Stringer at 1-800-835-2612

Montana crop prices for the full month of March 2008 were mostly higher when compared with the previous month. The March to February price comparisons are: winter wheat was \$8.26 per bushel, up \$0.95, spring wheat rose \$0.18 to \$8.84 per bushel, and durum wheat increased \$3.20 to \$14.40 per bushel, setting a new record high. Feed barley prices decreased \$0.23 to \$4.49 per bushel and malt barley decreased \$0.11 to \$4.15 per bushel.

The mid-April price for alfalfa hay was unchanged from March at \$89.00 per ton, but all other hay increased \$5.00 to \$84.00 per ton. Mid-April grain prices were mixed when compared with March 2008. Winter wheat was \$9.77 per bushel, up \$1.51, spring wheat was \$10.20 per bushel, up \$1.36, durum wheat was \$12.50 per bushel, down \$1.90, feed barley was \$4.16 per bushel, down \$0.33, and malt barley was \$5.13 per bushel, up \$0.98.

Livestock prices for the full month of March 2008 were mostly lower when compared with February 2008. March to February price comparisons are: steers and heifers decreased \$5.20 to \$96.80 per cwt, cows decreased \$1.50 per cwt to \$51.20, beef cattle decreased \$2.30 to \$91.30 per cwt, calves were unchanged at \$120.00 per cwt, sheep were down \$1.30 to \$19.50 per cwt, lambs dropped \$10.80 to \$99.20 per cwt, and milk decreased \$1.90 to \$19.40 per cwt. The mid-April prices were: steers and heifers were \$101.00 per cwt, cows were \$49.80 per cwt, beef cattle were \$90.20 per cwt, calves were \$114.00 per cwt, and milk was \$17.30 per cwt.

Nationally, prices for March 2008 and changes from February were: winter wheat was \$10.00 per bushel, up \$1.03, spring wheat was \$11.00 per bushel, down \$0.10, durum wheat was \$15.40 per bushel, up \$1.90, all barley was \$4.17 per bushel, down \$0.22, steers and heifers were \$92.70 per cwt, down \$1.50, cows were \$51.20 per cwt, down \$0.20, beef cattle were \$87.70 per cwt, down \$1.30, calves were \$119.00 per cwt, down \$1.00, sheep were \$28.30 per cwt, down \$1.60, lambs were \$98.00 per cwt, up \$1.20, and all milk was \$18.10 per cwt, down \$1.00.

The U.S. mid-April prices were: winter wheat was \$9.26 per bushel, spring wheat was \$10.90 per bushel, durum wheat was \$12.60 per bushel, all wheat was \$10.10 per bushel, malt barley was \$4.62 per bushel, and feed barley was \$4.28 per bushel, steers and heifers were \$90.10 per cwt, cows were \$49.90 per cwt, beef cattle were \$85.10 per cwt, calves were \$115.00 per cwt, all milk was \$18.00 per cwt, all hogs were \$40.60 per cwt, and all eggs were \$1.16 per dozen.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (8.3 percent) from April 2008. The Food Commodities Index, at 140, decreased 5 points (3.4 percent) from last month but increased 5 points (3.7 percent) from April 2008.

#end#

**Montana Average Farm Prices Received**

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2007	15-Apr-08	15-Apr-08
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	4.65	7.31	8.26	10.00	0.95	3.61	9.77	9.26
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.37	11.20	14.40	15.40	3.20	9.03	12.50	12.60
Spring Wheat	Bu	4.75	8.66	8.84	11.00	0.18	4.09	10.20	10.90
All Wheat	Bu	4.74	8.01	8.73	10.60	0.72	3.99	10.10	10.10
All Barley	Bu	3.28	4.39	4.23	4.17	-0.16	0.95	4.90	4.53
Feed Barley	Bu	3.01	4.72	4.49	4.22	-0.23	1.48	4.16	4.28
Malt Barley	Bu	3.32	4.26	4.15	4.16	-0.11	0.83	5.13	4.62
Oats	Bu	2.32	na	na	3.44	na	na	na	3.59
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	95.00	78.00	89.00	143.00	11.00	-6.00	89.00	157.00
All Other Hay	Ton	99.00	82.00	79.00	128.00	-3.00	-20.00	84.00	140.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	95.00	78.00	88.00	139.00	10.00	-7.00	88.00	152.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	102.00	102.00	96.80	92.70	-5.20	-5.20	101.00	90.10
Cows	Cwt	47.60	52.70	51.20	51.20	-1.50	3.60	49.80	49.90
Beef Cattle 1/	Cwt	91.10	93.60	91.30	87.70	-2.30	0.20	90.20	85.10
Calves	Cwt	125.00	120.00	120.00	119.00	0.00	-5.00	114.00	115.00
Sheep	Cwt	31.80	20.80	19.50	28.30	-1.30	-12.30	na	na
Lambs	Cwt	101.00	110.00	99.20	98.00	-10.80	-1.80	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	15.00	21.30	19.40	18.10	-1.90	4.40	17.30	18.00

1/ Composite of steers, heifers, and cows. na-not available.