



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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July Agricultural Prices Received

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Montana's July full month crop prices were mixed when compared with June 2008, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Montana's winter wheat price was \$8.50 per bushel, up \$0.37 from June, but spring wheat decreased \$0.30 to \$10.10 per bushel, and durum wheat prices dropped \$0.89 to \$9.91 per bushel. Feed barley was up \$0.75 from the previous month to \$4.20 per bushel, but malt barley decreased \$0.83 to \$5.66 per bushel.

The mid-August price for alfalfa hay in Montana was up \$13.00 from July 2008 to \$128.00 per ton, but all other hay was down \$7.00 to \$120.00 per ton. The mid-August grain prices were mostly lower with winter wheat at \$8.52 per bushel, spring wheat was \$9.19 per bushel, durum wheat was \$11.80 per bushel, feed barley was \$3.95 per bushel, and malt barley was \$5.28 per bushel.

Montana's livestock prices for the full month of July were mostly higher when compared with the previous month. Steer and heifer prices increased \$4.00 to \$101.00 per cwt and cows were up \$5.20 to \$59.10 per cwt. The price for calves dropped \$3.00 to \$105.00 per cwt, lambs decreased \$5.00 to \$105.00 per cwt, but sheep rose \$3.70 to \$26.00 per cwt. Milk prices increased \$1.40 from June to \$19.10 per cwt in July. Steer and heifer prices for mid-August were \$104.00 per cwt, cows were \$57.70 per cwt, calves were \$106.00 per cwt, and the mid-August milk price was \$20.50 per cwt.

Nationally, prices for July and changes from June were as follows: winter wheat was \$7.10 per bushel, down \$0.41, spring wheat was \$9.60 per bushel, down \$0.50, durum wheat was \$11.80 per bushel, up \$3.39, the all barley price was \$5.11 per bushel, up \$0.36, oats were \$3.46 per bushel, down \$0.03, steers and heifers were \$99.60 per cwt, up \$3.20, cows were \$56.40 per cwt, up \$2.10, calves were \$115.00 per cwt, down \$3.00, sheep were \$26.90 per cwt, up \$2.10, lambs were \$103.00 per cwt, up \$1.00, and the all milk price was \$19.40 per cwt, up \$0.10.

The U.S. mid-August winter wheat price was \$7.70 per bushel, spring wheat was \$8.62 per bushel, durum wheat was \$12.30 per bushel, malt barley was \$5.25 per bushel, feed barley was \$4.41 per bushel, all barley was \$5.00 per bushel, and oats were \$3.17 per bushel. Steer and heifer prices were \$100.00 per cwt, cows were \$57.60 per cwt, calves were \$114.00 per cwt, all hogs were \$59.70 per cwt, all eggs were \$0.965 per dozen, and the mid-August all milk price was \$18.50 per cwt.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 155 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 4 points (2.5 percent) from July. The Crop Index is down 7 points (3.8 percent) and the Livestock Index declined 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received lower prices for corn, broilers, soybeans, and milk. Higher prices were realized for wheat, hogs, eggs, and strawberries. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of cattle, grapes, sweet corn, and potatoes offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and broilers.

#end#

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Jul 2007	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Jul 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2007	15-Aug-08	15-Aug-08
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	5.19	8.13	8.50	7.10	0.37	3.31	8.52	7.70
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.94	10.80	9.91	11.80	-0.89	3.97	11.80	12.30
Spring Wheat	Bu	5.32	10.40	10.10	9.60	-0.30	4.78	9.19	8.62
All Wheat	Bu	5.30	9.54	9.56	7.16	0.02	4.26	9.13	8.02
All Barley	Bu	3.77	4.11	5.57	5.11	1.46	1.80	5.20	5.00
Feed Barley	Bu	3.23	3.45	4.20	4.70	0.75	0.97	3.95	4.41
Malt Barley	Bu	3.42	6.49	5.66	5.19	-0.83	2.24	5.28	5.25
Oats	Bu	na	na	na	3.46	na	na	na	3.17
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	79.00	84.00	115.00	177.00	31.00	36.00	128.00	180.00
All Other Hay	Ton	90.00	99.00	127.00	130.00	28.00	37.00	120.00	126.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	82.00	86.00	116.00	164.00	30.00	34.00	127.00	165.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	90.10	97.00	101.00	99.60	4.00	10.90	104.00	100.00
Cows	Cwt	53.70	53.90	59.10	56.40	5.20	5.40	57.70	57.60
Beef Cattle 1/ Calves	Cwt	81.70	75.00	85.10	95.10	10.10	3.40	93.40	96.10
Sheep	Cwt	114.00	108.00	105.00	115.00	-3.00	-9.00	106.00	114.00
Lambs	Cwt	23.30	22.30	26.00	26.90	3.70	2.70	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	103.00	110.00	105.00	103.00	-5.00	2.00	na	na
	Cwt	19.80	17.70	19.10	19.40	1.40	-0.70	20.50	18.50

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