



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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January 2008 Prices Received

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January 2008 full-month crop prices were mixed when compared with December 2007, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Montana's winter wheat price increased \$0.40 to \$6.65 per bushel, spring wheat rose \$0.71 to \$8.00 per bushel, but durum wheat was down \$0.50 to \$10.10 per bushel. Feed barley prices rose \$0.04 from the previous month to \$4.77 per bushel, but malt barley prices decreased \$0.93 to \$4.22 per bushel.

The mid-February price for alfalfa hay rose \$1.00 to \$78.00 per ton from January and all other hay jumped \$12.00 to \$82.00 per ton. Mid-February grain prices were mostly higher than the previous month with winter wheat at \$9.25 per bushel, durum wheat was \$14.80 per bushel, spring wheat was \$12.30 per bushel, feed barley was \$4.07 per bushel, and malt barley was \$3.55 per bushel.

Livestock prices for the full month of January were mixed when compared with December 2007. Steer and heifer prices decreased \$9.20 to \$108.00 per cwt, cows rose \$2.80 per cwt to \$45.50, beef cattle rose \$0.80 to \$89.20 per cwt, but the price for calves was down \$5.00 to \$116.00 per cwt. Sheep prices rose \$5.90 to \$28.70 per cwt, but lambs decreased \$1.00 to \$103.00 per cwt. All milk prices decreased \$1.20 from last month to \$20.70 per cwt. Livestock prices for mid February were mostly higher with steer and heifer prices at \$99.20 per cwt, cows were \$51.60 per cwt, beef cattle were \$91.60, calves were \$119.00 per cwt, and all milk prices were \$21.30 per cwt.

Nationally, prices for January and changes from December were as follows: winter wheat was \$7.78 per bushel, up \$0.12, spring wheat was \$7.99 per bushel, up \$0.53, durum wheat was \$13.20 per bushel, up \$1.60, all barley was \$4.34 per bushel, down \$0.17, oats were \$2.96 per bushel, up \$0.27, steers and heifers were \$93.40, down \$1.70 per cwt, cows were \$46.30 per cwt, up \$1.40, calves were \$117.00 per cwt, down \$1.00, sheep were \$31.90 per cwt, up \$2.20, lambs were \$97.50 per cwt, down \$1.00, and all milk was \$20.50 per cwt, down \$1.00.

The U.S. mid-February winter wheat price was \$9.22 per bushel, spring wheat was \$11.90 per bushel, durum wheat was \$16.40 per bushel, malt barley was \$3.97 per bushel, feed barley was \$4.29 per bushel, and oats were \$2.97 per bushel. Steers and heifers were \$93.20 per cwt, cows were \$49.70 per cwt, calves were \$118.00 per cwt, all hogs were \$41.90 per cwt, all eggs were \$1.31 per dozen, and all milk was \$19.30 per cwt.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 145 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from January. The Crop Index is up 1 point (0.6 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for wheat, soybeans, corn, and hogs and lower prices were received for milk, lettuce, broccoli, and tomatoes. 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 milk, cattle, broilers, and eggs offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton.

#end#

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Jan 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Jan 2008	Dec 2007	Jan 2007	15-Feb-08	15-Feb-08
Dollars									
Winter Wheat	Bu	4.52	6.25	6.65	7.78	0.40	2.13	9.25	9.22
Durum Wheat	Bu	4.73	10.60	10.10	13.20	-0.50	5.37	14.80	16.40
Spring Wheat	Bu	4.61	7.29	8.00	7.99	0.71	3.39	12.30	11.90
All Wheat	Bu	4.58	6.94	7.20	7.93	0.26	2.62	10.50	10.40
All Barley	Bu	3.15	5.01	4.50	4.34	-0.51	1.35	3.82	4.06
Feed Barley	Bu	2.94	4.73	4.77	4.85	0.04	1.83	4.07	4.29
Malt Barley	Bu	3.19	5.15	4.22	4.11	-0.93	1.03	3.55	3.97
Oats	Bu	2.84	na	3.06	2.96	na	0.22	na	2.97
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	78.00	76.00	77.00	135.00	1.00	-1.00	78.00	138.00
All Other Hay	Ton	67.00	71.00	70.00	118.00	-1.00	3.00	82.00	122.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	76.00	75.00	76.00	129.00	1.00	0.00	78.00	133.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	93.80	108.00	98.80	93.40	-9.20	5.00	99.20	93.20
Cows	Cwt	44.80	42.70	45.50	46.30	2.80	0.70	51.60	49.70
Beef Cattle 1/	Cwt	85.50	88.40	89.20	87.30	0.80	3.70	91.60	87.80
Calves	Cwt	113.00	121.00	116.00	117.00	-5.00	3.00	119.00	118.00
Sheep	Cwt	35.50	22.80	28.70	31.90	5.90	-6.80	na	na
Lambs	Cwt	97.60	104.00	103.00	97.50	-1.00	5.40	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	14.40	21.90	20.70	20.50	-1.20	6.30	21.30	19.30

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