



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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April Ag Prices Received

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Montana's April 2008 full month crop prices were higher when compared with March 2008, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Winter wheat was \$8.49 per bushel, up \$0.23 from March, spring wheat was \$9.69 per bushel, up \$0.85, durum wheat was \$15.80 per bushel, up \$1.40, setting a new record high, feed barley was \$4.55 per bushel, up \$0.06, and malt barley was \$4.72 per bushel, up \$0.57.

The mid May price for alfalfa hay rose \$10.00 to \$99.00 per ton and all other hay increased \$18.00 to \$102.00 per ton. Mid May grain prices were mixed when compared with April. The winter wheat price was \$8.30 per bushel, spring wheat was \$10.50 per bushel, durum wheat was \$12.40 per bushel, malt barley was \$6.00 per bushel, and feed barley was \$3.80 per bushel.

Livestock prices for the full month of April were mixed when compared with the previous month. Steer and heifer prices were \$99.50 per cwt, up \$2.70, cows were \$50.90 per cwt, down \$0.30, calves dropped \$7.00 to \$113.00 per cwt, sheep were \$24.50 per cwt, up \$5.00, lambs were \$101.00 per cwt, up \$1.80 and milk was \$18.20 per cwt, down \$1.20. Mid month May steer and heifers were \$100.00 per cwt, cows were \$54.80 per cwt, calves were \$114.00 per cwt, and milk was \$18.70 per cwt.

Nationally, prices for May and changes from April were as follows: winter wheat was \$9.61 per bushel, down \$0.39; spring wheat was \$10.50 per bushel, down \$0.50; durum wheat was \$13.80 per bushel, down \$1.60; the all barley price was \$4.54 per bushel, up \$0.37; steer and heifer prices were \$91.60 per cwt, down \$1.10; and calf prices were down \$3.00 to \$116.00 per cwt.

The U.S. mid May winter wheat price was \$7.76 per bushel, spring wheat was \$10.20 per bushel, durum wheat was \$12.10 per bushel, all wheat was \$8.80 per bushel, malt barley was \$5.06 per bushel, feed barley was \$3.98 per bushel, and all barley was \$4.76 per bushel. Steer and heifer prices were \$95.40 per cwt, cows were \$53.10 per cwt, calves were \$116.00 per cwt, all hogs were \$44.10 per cwt, and all eggs were \$0.88 per dozen.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May, at 150 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (3.4 percent) from April. The Crop Index is up 4 points (2.4 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 5 points (3.9 percent).

#end#

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	Apr 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2007	15-May-08	15-May-08
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	4.79	8.26	8.49	9.61	0.23	3.70	8.30	7.76
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.57	14.40	15.80	13.80	1.40	10.23	12.40	12.10
Spring Wheat	Bu	4.82	8.84	9.69	10.50	0.85	4.87	10.50	10.20
All Wheat	Bu	4.87	8.73	9.26	10.00	0.53	4.39	9.55	8.80
All Barley	Bu	3.28	4.23	4.65	4.54	0.42	1.37	5.14	4.76
Feed Barley	Bu	2.91	4.49	4.55	4.65	0.06	1.64	3.80	3.98
Malt Barley	Bu	3.35	4.15	4.72	4.48	0.57	1.37	6.00	5.06
Oats	Bu	2.32	na	3.74	3.48	na	na	na	3.46
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	93.00	89.00	89.00	157.00	0.00	-4.00	99.00	177.00
All Other Hay	Ton	95.00	79.00	84.00	140.00	5.00	-11.00	102.00	134.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	93.00	88.00	88.00	152.00	0.00	-5.00	99.00	166.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	102.00	96.80	99.50	91.60	2.70	-2.50	100.00	95.40
Cows	Cwt	49.90	51.20	50.90	50.50	-0.30	1.00	54.80	53.10
Beef Cattle 1/	Cwt	87.40	91.30	88.30	86.60	-3.00	0.90	86.00	90.50
Calves	Cwt	121.00	120.00	113.00	116.00	-7.00	-8.00	114.00	116.00
Sheep	Cwt	28.20	19.50	24.50	28.80	5.00	-3.70	na	na
Lambs	Cwt	96.00	99.20	101.00	99.40	1.80	5.00	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	15.50	19.40	18.20	18.00	-1.20	2.70	18.70	18.20

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