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2007 GROWING SEASON

North Dakota During March, the eastern half of the state was hit with a heavy snow storm, while the western half had dry conditions that allowed them to begin fieldwork activities. Above normal temperatures provided favorable conditions for calving and lambing. Early April brought rain and snow showers across the state causing producers to delay fieldwork activities. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork was April 21, four days later than last year. The expected starting dates ranged from April 12 in the southwest district to April 25 in the east central district.

Planting began behind the five-year (2002-2006) average for all crops except for dry edible beans, soybeans and sunflowers. By May 6, planting progress for small grains had advanced ahead of average. Planting progress for all other crops advanced ahead of average by May 20. Rain and thunderstorms slowed planting progress. By June 3, all small grain planting was complete, except durum wheat which took an additional week to complete. Corn was 98 percent planted, ahead of average and the soybean crop, at 88 percent planted, was behind last year but equal to the average pace.

All crops were rated mostly good to excellent through early June. In all areas of the state, moisture was very beneficial for pasture and ranges, especially in last year's drought stricken areas. Pasture and ranges were rated 78 percent good to excellent on June 10, compared with 50 percent a year earlier. During late June and into July, above normal temperatures and only scattered precipitation produced heat stress in crops and pastures. On August 26, violent storms rumbled through the south central and eastern half of the state as producers were concerned about damage to crops that remained in the field. Multiple tornados and hail were reported in storm affected areas.

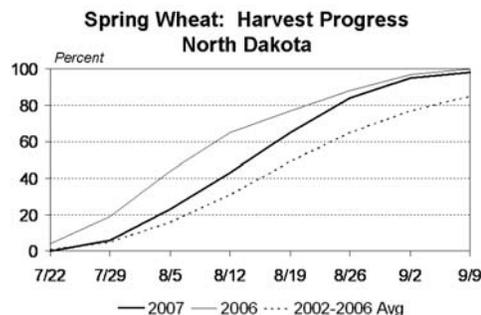
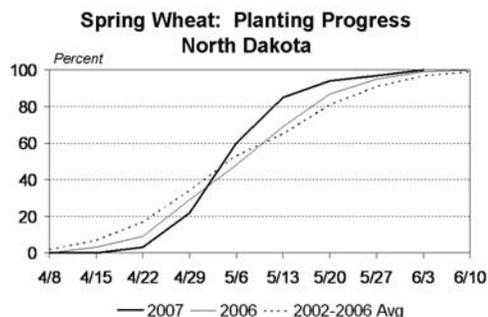
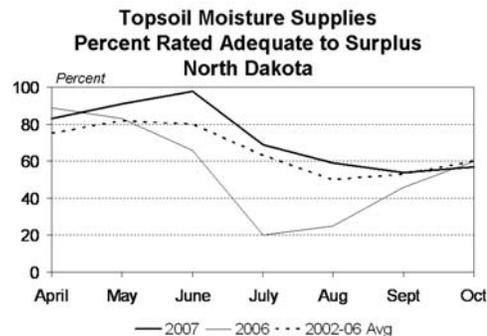
Small grain harvest began on July 22, near the average pace. Favorable conditions over the next two weeks allowed small grain harvest to move ahead of the average pace. As of September 2, barley and oats were virtually complete at 99 and 98 percent, respectively. Spring wheat was 95 percent harvested and durum wheat was 81 percent harvested, both were behind last year but ahead of average. Harvest was nearly complete for durum wheat and canola by September 16. The following week, soybean harvest was 8 percent complete, behind both last year and average. Dry edible bean and potato harvest were 48 and 54 percent complete, respectively.

Above average temperatures during the first two weeks of October allowed producers to make excellent progress harvesting late season crops. Mid-month storm systems slowed harvest progress. Corn was 41 percent complete, 3

percentage points ahead of average. As of October 21, soybean, sugarbeet and sunflower harvest were 80, 89 and 31 percent complete, respectively.

A statewide killing frost finally occurred the week ending October 28 which aided the dry down process of corn and sunflowers. Drier conditions allowed producers to spend more time harvesting crops. Harvest of dry edible beans and soybeans were virtually complete by November 4. Corn and sunflowers were virtually complete by November 18, slightly behind last year but ahead of the average pace.

The 2007 crop year saw above average rainfall through mid-June as all weather stations, except Dickinson, received greater than normal precipitation. Above normal temperatures and dry conditions were dominant during the summer months depleting soil moisture supplies. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were rated better than average until early July. By September 30, topsoil moisture supplies were rated 50 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 55 percent last year and 55 percent on average.



AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota

The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in November is 197 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is up 52 percent from last year and 61 percent above two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 218 percent of the base, is up 64 percent from November 2006 and the All Livestock and Products Index, at 127 percent, is up 5 percent from last year. November indexes are calculated using preliminary mid-month prices.

**Index Numbers of Farm Prices
North Dakota and United States, November 2007**

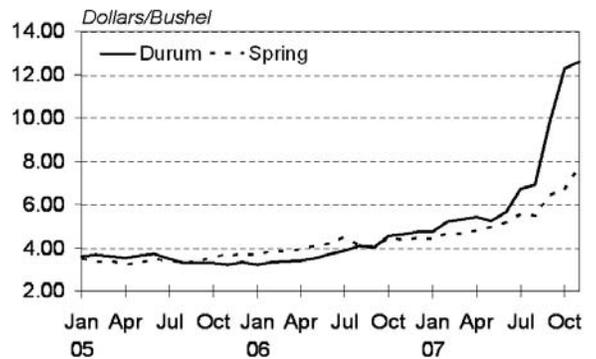
Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2007
	(1990-92 = 100)					
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	130	182	197	119	141	143
Crops	133	198	218	122	148	150
Food Grains	155	296	319	152	236	241
Feed Grains & Hay	130	162	176	129	149	156
Oil Bearing Crops ^{1/}	117	172	193	108	144	165
Potatoes & Dry Beans ^{2/}	129	149	142	113	106	115
Livestock and Products	121	123	127	116	132	135
Meat Animals	124	125	130	112	118	115
Dairy Products	101	100	101	106	164	165
Other Livestock Products ^{3/}	112	112	112	133	141	155
Prices Paid	NA	NA	NA	148	160	161
Ratio ^{4/}	NA	NA	NA	80	88	89

1/ Includes non-oil sunflower. 2/ North Dakota includes sugarbeets. 3/ United States excludes wool. 4/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid. NA=Not applicable.

United States

The November All Farm Products Index is 143 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 1 percent from the October index and 20 percent above the November 2006 index. The All Crops Index is 150, up 1 percent from October and 23 percent above November 2006. The Livestock and Products Index, at 135, is 2 percent above last month and up 16 percent from November 2006.

**Durum & Spring Wheat: Prices Received
North Dakota, January 2005-November 2007**



**Prices Received by Farmers
North Dakota and United States, November 2007**

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price Nov 2007
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	
Wheat, All	Bu	4.41	8.18	9.05	4.59	7.65	7.92	11.10
Durum	Bu	4.62	12.30	12.60	4.62	11.60	12.70	NA
Spring	Bu	4.37	6.69	7.75	4.48	7.01	7.67	NA
Winter	Bu	4.31	6.08	7.25	4.67	7.54	7.50	NA
Corn	Bu	2.42	2.97	3.15	2.88	3.29	3.49	8.24
Oats	Bu	1.98	2.04	2.15	2.05	2.44	2.35	4.62
Barley, All	Bu	2.72	4.10	4.93	2.92	4.50	4.69	7.77
Feed	Bu	2.58	3.67	4.40	2.84	4.88	4.93	NA
Malting	Bu	2.81	4.42	5.10	2.98	4.14	4.52	NA
Sunflower, All	Cwt	12.40	17.40	18.70	12.50	17.80	18.90	35.60
Oil	Cwt	12.00	17.10	18.20	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-oil	Cwt	15.10	20.00	20.60	NA	NA	NA	NA
Baled Hay, All ^{1/}	Ton	67.00	54.00	55.00	109.00	133.00	131.00	NA
Alfalfa ^{1/}	Ton	71.00	60.00	58.00	110.00	137.00	135.00	NA
Other ^{1/}	Ton	50.00	42.00	41.00	106.00	122.00	123.00	NA
Canola	Cwt	12.00	16.40	19.10	NA	16.30	19.10	29.40
Flaxseed	Bu	5.38	11.60	13.20	5.38	11.60	13.20	18.10
Soybeans	Bu	5.61	7.85	9.20	6.08	8.36	9.48	18.20
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	19.30	23.50	24.00	21.80	25.90	26.80	58.40
Navy	Cwt	16.70	^{2/}	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pinto	Cwt	19.50	23.50	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Potatoes, All	Cwt	6.95	7.35	7.35	6.59	5.83	6.35	17.60
Fresh ^{3/}	Cwt	8.30	8.35	NA	8.34	7.82	NA	NA
Processing	Cwt	6.25	7.05	NA	5.70	5.37	NA	NA
Beef Cattle	Cwt	88.60	95.50	93.40	84.40	90.60	89.30	218.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	103.00	109.00	107.00	90.00	96.40	95.40	NA
Cows	Cwt	43.00	44.70	45.00	43.60	46.60	43.60	NA
Calves	Cwt	112.00	119.00	121.00	119.00	122.00	118.00	313.00
Sheep	Cwt	31.00	26.00	NA	30.30	25.30	NA	105.00
Lambs	Cwt	105.00	100.00	NA	95.60	97.00	NA	255.00
Hogs	Cwt	45.60	43.00	NA	44.90	42.10	38.50	125.00

1/ Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. 2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock. NA=Not applicable.

MARKETING YEAR AVERAGE PRICES

North Dakota

The 2006 Marketing Year Average (MYA) price for corn, at \$2.77 per bushel, was up 97 cents from 2005, and the soybean price, at \$5.98 per bushel, was up 61 cents from the 2005 marketing year. The oil sunflower price, at \$13.80 per hundredweight (cwt), was a \$2.90 increase from 2005 while the non-oil sunflower price, at \$16.80 per cwt, was a 40 cent decrease from 2005. The MYA price for all dry edible beans, at \$20.20 per cwt, was a \$4.70 increase from the previous year. The dry edible pea price, at \$6.33 per cwt, was up \$1.81 from 2005. The MYA fresh potato price was \$8.15 per cwt, down from the previous year's \$10.30 per cwt while the potatoes for processing price was \$6.00 per cwt, up from the previous year's \$5.80 per cwt.

Late Season Crops: Marketing Year Average Prices North Dakota and United States, 2005-2006

Item	Unit	North Dakota		United States	
		2005	2006	2005	2006
Corn	Bu	1.80	2.77	2.00	3.04
Soybeans	Bu	5.37	5.98	5.66	6.43
Flaxseed	Bu	5.94	5.80	5.94	5.80
Canola	Cwt	9.64	11.90	9.62	11.90
Sunflower, All	Cwt	12.10	14.40	12.10	14.50
Oil	Cwt	10.90	13.80	10.50	14.10
Non Oil	Cwt	17.20	16.80	17.30	16.80
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	15.50	20.20	18.50	22.10
Navy	Cwt	18.60	17.70	NA	NA
Pinto	Cwt	14.80	20.50	NA	NA
Dry Edible Peas	Cwt	4.52	6.33	4.78	6.56
Lentils	Cwt	10.20	9.72	11.00	12.40
Potatoes, All	Cwt	6.80	6.55	7.06	7.33
Fresh	Cwt	10.30	8.15	10.36	10.27
Processing	Cwt	5.80	6.00	5.39	5.90

NA=Not Available.

LATE SEASON CUSTOM RATES

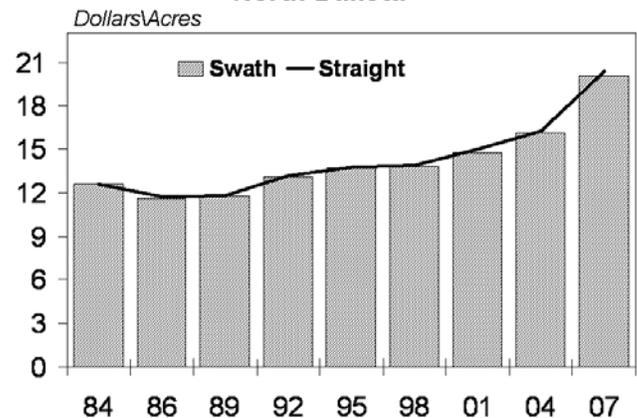
North Dakota

This publication is the result of an October 2007 survey conducted by the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Approximately 2,900 reports from farmers and ranchers, elevators, custom harvesters, and other custom operators were tabulated. The survey is designed to provide state and regional averages of custom work rates.

Appreciation is expressed to all survey participants who provided the data for this report. Funding was provided by the North Dakota State University Experiment Station and Extension Service.

This report contains state and regional level custom work rates for harvesting, drying and hauling crops, seed preparation, hauling hay and livestock, and other custom work for fall operations. The rates in this report are averages, not estimates. They include the charges for equipment, power, fuel, and the operator. Exchange work was not considered custom work for this survey.

Small Grain & Flaxseed Combining 1/ North Dakota



1/ Averages for years 1984 -1998 do not include flaxseed.

OTHER CUSTOM WORK, STATEWIDE AVERAGES, NORTH DAKOTA, 2007

Operation	2007					2004 Average Rate	2007 as Percent of 2004
	Unit	Number of Reports	Range in Rates	Most Frequent Rate Reported	Average Rate		
		<i>Number</i>	<i>\$/Unit</i>	<i>\$/Unit</i>	<i>\$/Unit</i>	<i>\$/Unit</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Custom Farming ¹							
Small Grains	Acre	134	8.00-165.00	50.00	36.62	40.17	91
Row Crops	Acre	63	10.00-200.00	50.00	42.51	49.26	86
Miscellaneous							
Mowing/Clipping CRP	Acre	240	0.50-20.00	7.00	7.73	6.48	119
	Hour	49	4.00-125.00	50.00	58.37	51.28	114
On Farm Grain Bin Storage	Cents/Bu/Month	306	0.01-0.50	0.03	0.03	0.03	100
On Farm Grain Bin Storage	Cents/Bu/Year	146	0.01-0.95	0.10	0.12	NA	NA
Machine Shed Rental	Cents/Sq Ft/Month	5	0.01-0.35	NA	0.11	0.13	85
Machine Shed Rental	Cents/Sq Ft/Year	18	0.01-2.00	0.05	0.47	NA	NA
Farm Drainage/Ditching	Hour	61	8.00-250.00	100.00	101.67	86.03	118
Land Leveling	Hour	26	4.00-200.00	100.00	87.12	72.21	121
Rock Picking	Hour	56	2.00-125.00	50.00	42.24	42.99	98
Snow Removal							
Front End Loader	Hour	199	6.00-125.00	50.00	56.11	50.87	110
Tractor Blower	Hour	192	5.00-100.00	50.00	51.80	47.39	109

¹ Includes all necessary farming operations from field preparation through harvesting. NA=Not Available

LATE SEASON CUSTOM RATES (Continued)

HISTORICAL DATA, STATEWIDE AVERAGES, NORTH DAKOTA, 1984 - 2007

Operation	Unit	1984	1986	1989	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2007
		\$/Unit								
Swathing Grain										
Self Propelled	Acre	3.73	3.67	3.94	4.22	4.46	5.04	5.47	6.21	7.79
PTO Unit	Acre	3.36	3.39	3.68	4.03	4.23	4.58	5.23	5.75	7.63
Combining From Swaths										
Small Grains & Flaxseed ¹	Acre	12.61	11.59	11.82	13.13	13.70	13.82	14.72	16.12	20.04
Dry Beans	Acre	15.04	14.65	16.27	18.20	18.18	19.06	19.06	21.02	23.11
Straight Combining										
Small Grains & Flaxseed ¹	Acre	12.57	11.71	11.80	13.15	13.74	13.88	15.03	16.27	20.41
Corn	Acre	14.83	14.46	14.05	15.23	16.33	16.26	17.33	18.43	22.81
Sunflower	Acre	13.26	12.54	12.40	13.54	14.14	14.49	15.29	16.31	20.32
Soybeans	Acre	14.68	14.08	14.20	15.70	15.57	16.10	16.72	18.22	21.31
Dry Beans	Acre	15.31	15.46	16.46	18.39	17.96	19.10	18.29	19.64	23.27
Making Corn Silage										
Chopping Only	Acre	16.41	16.06	16.83	17.65	18.51	18.69	20.78	26.75	35.45
Chopping and Hauling	Acre	21.22	19.54	20.02	21.65	22.62	23.62	26.26	37.55	43.83
Drying										
Small Grains	Bushel	0.152	0.131	0.118	0.108	0.111	0.123	0.113	0.145	0.128
Flaxseed	Bushel	0.172	0.153	0.124	0.110	0.134	0.134	0.109	0.168	0.132
Corn	Bushel	0.176	0.164	0.126	0.115	0.123	0.146	0.132	0.179	0.141
Sunflower	Cwt	0.309	0.204	0.200	0.157	0.152	0.171	0.165	0.168	0.187
Soybeans	Bushel	NA	NA	NA	0.093	0.085	0.115	0.125	0.147	0.105
Hauling										
Wheat	Bushel	0.095	0.096	0.092	0.090	0.098	0.109	0.116	0.123	0.157
Barley	Bushel	0.091	0.093	0.089	0.088	0.094	0.101	0.117	0.119	0.154
Oats	Bushel	0.089	0.087	0.088	0.087	0.094	0.100	0.107	0.107	0.146
Flaxseed	Bushel	0.096	0.088	0.094	0.091	0.097	0.124	0.107	0.139	0.139
Corn	Bushel	0.091	0.086	0.085	0.087	0.097	0.101	0.114	0.110	0.151
Sunflower	Cwt	0.165	0.168	0.202	0.196	0.189	0.339	0.378	0.413	0.376
Seed Grain Preparation										
Cleaning Only	Gross Bu	0.275	0.277	0.291	0.299	0.321	0.340	0.361	0.380	0.436
Treating Only	Gross Bu	0.404	0.393	0.437	0.504	0.552	0.519	0.514	0.542	0.801
Cleaning & Treating	Gross Bu	0.678	0.643	0.718	0.784	0.800	0.726	0.846	0.915	1.169
Farm Drainage/Ditching	Hour	56.80	54.48	50.34	58.66	63.49	76.25	84.80	86.03	101.67
Land Leveling	Hour	55.21	51.17	48.03	58.31	60.61	63.26	64.31	72.21	87.12
Rock Picking	Hour	35.69	35.34	37.55	40.20	39.26	52.29	42.72	42.99	42.24

¹ Averages for years 1984-1998 do not include flaxseed. NA=Not Available

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