



# Range Review

Wyoming Field Office  
PO Box 1148 · Cheyenne, WY 82003  
307-432-5600 • FAX 307-432-5598 • www.nass.usda.gov/wy

Issue 2008-04, Released 04/28/08

## IN THIS ISSUE . . .

### THANK YOU

to all the producers who participated in our recent surveys. The results you requested are in this issue.

*Agriculture Prices*  
*Prospective Plantings*  
*Cattle on Feed*  
*Feb Livestock Slaughter*  
*Milk Production*

### WHEAT PRICES CONTINUE TO CLIMB

The *Index of Prices Received* by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agriculture commodities sold during March was 120 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was down 7 points (6 percent) from February and down 4 points (3 percent) from March 2007. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes.

The **All Livestock Index**, at 113, was down 9 points (7 percent) from February and down 8 points (7 percent) from March 2007. Prices for all livestock were down from last year except for cows and lambs. Prices were down for all livestock compared to last month. Cow prices averaged \$49.90 per hundredweight, down 70 cents from February but up \$2.10 from last year. Steer and heifer prices, at \$91.80 per hundredweight, were down \$9.20 from last month and down \$10.20 from last year's price. Calf prices averaged \$124.00 per hundredweight, down \$2.00 from both last month and last year. Sheep prices, at \$18.80, were down \$8.10 from February and \$21.60 below last year's price. Lamb prices, at \$97.50, were down \$2.50 from last month but up \$3.50 from last year.

The **All Crops Index**, at 164, was up 11 points (7 percent) from February and up 22 points (15 percent) from last March. All crop prices were unchanged or higher than last month. All crop prices were higher than last year with the exception of corn and other hay. Corn averaged \$4.00 per bushel, up \$1.50 from February but 6 cents below last year. Wheat averaged \$10.50, up 34 cents from February and up \$5.65 from last year. Dry beans averaged \$30.00 per hundredweight in March, up \$5.60 from last year. Alfalfa hay, unchanged from both last month and last year, came in at \$110.00 per ton. Other hay, at \$103.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month and down \$2.00 from last year.

**United States:** The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 150 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (2.0 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up 8 points (4.9 percent) but the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for wheat, corn, lettuce, and eggs and lower prices for milk, snap beans, strawberries, and hogs. In addition to prices, the overall index is affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of strawberries, soybeans, milk, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, corn, cotton, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 17 points (13 percent) from March 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 149, increased 3 points (2.1 percent) from last month and increased 15 points (11 percent) from March 2007.

### PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, MARCH 2007, FEBRUARY 2008, AND MARCH 15, 2008 U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY

COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		MAR 2007	FEB 2008	MAR 15 2008	MAR 2007	FEB 2008	MAR 15 2008	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
<b>LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS</b>								
Cows	100#	47.80	50.60	49.90	47.20	51.40	52.20	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	102.00	101.00	91.80	97.70	94.20	93.80	—
Calves	100#	126.00	126.00	124.00	122.00	120.00	120.00	35
Sheep	100#	40.40	26.90	18.80	36.60	29.90	1/	—
Lambs	100#	94.00	100.00	97.50	95.50	96.80	1/	—
<b>CROPS</b>								
Corn	Bu.	4.06	2.50	4.00	3.43	4.53	4.83	61
Oats	Bu.	2/	3.52	3.52	2.40	3.20	3.38	66
Feed Barley	Bu.	2/	2/	2/	3.19	4.67	4.41	—
All Wheat	Bu.	4.85	10.16	10.50	4.75	9.98	11.70	94
Dry Beans	100#	24.40	2/	30.00	25.70	32.20	32.20	51
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	110.00	110.00	110.00	121.00	138.00	143.00	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	105.00	103.00	103.00	115.00	122.00	128.00	—

1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996. 2/ Insufficient sales

**NOTE:** Entire month price is a revision of previous mid-month price except for hay which is always a mid-month price.

### INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS & RANCHERS, WYOMING & U.S.

1990-92 = 100	WYOMING			UNITED STATES		
	MAR 2007	FEB 2008	MAR 15 2008	MAR 2007	FEB 2008	MAR 15 2008
<b>All Commodities</b>	124	127	120	133	147	150
<b>All Crops</b>	142	153	164	142	163	171
<b>All Livestock and Products</b>	121	122	113	125	133	133

## US CORN PLANTED ACREAGE DOWN 8 PERCENT FROM 2007

**WYOMING:** As of March 1, Wyoming farmers planted or intended to plant 411,000 acres of small grains and row crops last Fall and this Spring, up 3 percent from last year, according to Vito Wagner with the Wyoming Statistical Office of USDA NASS. Winter wheat plantings were down from last year and intentions for oats and corn were also lower. Planting intentions for barley, spring wheat, and sugarbeets were all up from the actual 2007 plantings. Dry bean intentions remained unchanged from last year's crop.

**Small Grains:** Wyoming's 2008 **barley** acreage is expected to total 90,000 acres, up 28,000 from last year, and 20,000 acres above the 2006 crop. Farmers intend to plant 30,000 acres of **oats**, down 10,000 acres from last year, and down 18,000 acres from 2006. **Spring wheat**, at 13,000 acres, will be up 7,000 acres from last year and up 5,000 acres from 2006. **Winter wheat** was seeded on 130,000 acres last fall, down 10,000 acres from the 2007 crop, and down 20,000 acres from the 2006 crop.

**Row Crops:** Wyoming farmers expect to plant 90,000 acres of **corn** this year, down 5,000 acres from last year but up 5,000 acres from 2006. Producers intend to plant 32,600 acres of **sugarbeets**, which would be 3 percent above last year but 24 percent below 2006. **Dry bean** plantings this year are expected to total 25,000 acres, unchanged from 2007 and down 4,000 acres from 2006.

The total acreage of **all hay** expected to be harvested in the State in 2008 is 1.15 million acres. This would be 5 percent above last year, and 10 percent above the 2006 crop.

These estimates are based on a survey conducted in early March. Actual plantings may vary from these estimates because of weather, economic conditions, and the effect of this report itself.

**UNITED STATES:** **All wheat** planted area is estimated at 63.8 million acres, up 6 percent from 2007. The 2008 winter wheat planted area, at 46.8 million acres, is 4 percent above last year and up slightly from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 32.5 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 10.7 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.63 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to **other spring wheat** for 2008 is expected to total 14.3 million acres, up 8 percent from 2007. Of this total, about 13.6 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The intended Durum planted area for 2008 is 2.63 million acres, up 22 percent from the previous year.

Growers intend to plant 4.15 million acres of **barley** for 2008, up 3 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the fourth lowest barley planted acreage on record. **Oat** acres seeded and to be seeded for the 2008 crop year are expected to total 3.42 million acres, down 9 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the lowest planted acreage on record.

Growers intend to plant 1.40 million acres of **dry beans** in 2008, down 8 percent from last year and 14 percent below 2006. The decrease in planted acres can be attributed in part to strong prices for competing crops. Area planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2008 crop year is expected to total 1.13 million acres, 11 percent lower than the 2007 planted acreage. **Corn** growers intend to plant 86.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2008, down 8 percent from last year when corn planted area was the highest since 1944. **Hay** producers expect to harvest 60.6 million acres of all hay in 2008, down 2 percent from last year.

**Planting Intentions for 2008 and Actual Plantings for 2007,  
Wyoming and United States**

Crops	Acreage Planted/to Be Planted					
	Wyoming			United States		
	2007	2008 Intentions	08/07	2007	2008 Intentions	08/07
	1,000 Acres		Percent	1,000 Acres		Percent
Corn, All Purposes	95	90	95	93,600	86,014	92
Winter Wheat	140	130	93	44,987	46,840	104
Durum Wheat	—	—	—	2,149	2,630	122
Spring Wht Other than Durum	6	13	217	13,297	14,333	108
Oats	40	30	75	3,760	3,420	91
Barley	62	90	145	4,020	4,147	103
Sugarbeets	31.8	32.6	103	1,269.8	1,131.8	89
Dry Edible Beans	25	25	100	1,526.9	1,398.5	92
Hay, All 1/	1,100	1,150	105	61,625	60,583	98

1/ Area for harvest

## U.S. Cattle on Feed Up Slightly

**Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.7 million head on April 1, 2008. The inventory was slightly above April 1, 2007 but 1 percent below April 1, 2006. This is the second highest April 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.35 million steers and steer calves, down 1 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.28 million head, up 3 percent from 2007.

**Placements** in feedlots during March totaled 1.74 million, 11 percent below 2007 and 5 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.67 million head. This is the second lowest placements for the month of March since the series began in 1996. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 335,000, 600-699 pounds were 330,000, 700-799 pounds were 561,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 510,000.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during March totaled 1.84 million, slightly below 2007 and 6 percent below 2006.

**Other disappearance** totaled 63,000 during March, 12 percent below 2007 and 30 percent below 2006.

### CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, APR 1, 2007-2008 1/

State	On Feed Mar 1, 2008	Place- ments Mar 2008	Market- ings Mar 2008	Other Disapp. Mar 2008	On Feed Apr 1, 2008	On Feed Apr 1, 2007
Thousand Head						
CO	1,050	135	160	5	1,020	1,020
KS	2,410	440	415	15	2,420	2,480
NE	2,490	360	390	10	2,450	2,480
TX	2,920	450	480	10	2,880	2,800
Oth Sts.	2,983	351	397	23	2,914	2,884
U.S.	11,853	1,736	1,842	63	11,684	11,664

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

## WYOMING FEBRUARY COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN 17 PERCENT FROM JANUARY

**WYOMING: Commercial red meat** production in Wyoming during February 2008 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was down 17 percent from both last month and last year. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Six hundred **cattle** were slaughtered in February, down 100 head from last year. Total live weight was 709,000 pounds, down 11 percent from February 2007. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,219 pounds, up 17 pounds from last year.

A total of 400 **hogs and pigs** were processed, unchanged from last year. Total live weight, at 101,000 pounds, was down 5 percent from February 2007. Average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 274 pounds, up 8 pounds from last year.

One hundred **sheep and lambs** were processed in February, unchanged from last year. Total live weight, at 15,000 pounds, was unchanged from February 2007. Average live weight of sheep and lambs was 145 pounds, down 5 pounds from last year.

January to February 2008 commercial red meat production was 1.10 million pounds, down 8 percent from last year.

**UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.97 billion pounds in February, up 10 percent from the 3.62 billion pounds produced in February 2007.

**Beef production**, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.64 million head, up 3 percent from February 2007. The average live weight was up 11 pounds from the previous year, at 1,285 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.90 billion pounds, up 16 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.38 million head, up 16 percent from February 2007. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.0 million pounds, was up 4 percent from February 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 211,400 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2008 commercial red meat production was 8.38 billion pounds, up 9 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, veal was down 16 percent, pork was up 15 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

### COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, FEBRUARY 2007 AND 2008, Wyoming and U.S.

SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Feb. 2007	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2007	Feb. 2008	08/07	Feb. 2007	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2007	Feb. 2008	08/07
			1,000 Pounds		Percent			1,000 Pounds		Percent
<b>Cattle</b>	700	600	800	709	89	2,561,200	2,643,200	3,249,960	3,383,319	104
<b>Hogs</b>	400	400	106	101	95	8,117,300	9,378,100	2,183,764	2,534,773	116
<b>Sheep &amp; Lambs</b>	100	100	15	15	100	204,700	211,400	28,708	30,111	105

USDA/NASS  
 Wyoming Field Office  
 PO Box 1148  
 Cheyenne WY 82003-1148

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
 Penalty for private use \$300

Presort Standard Postage and Fees Paid USDA Permit N. G-38
---

### WYOMING MILK COWS UNCHANGED FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER

**WYOMING:** The number of milk cows in **Wyoming** during January - March 2008 averaged 7,000 head. The number was unchanged from the previous quarter but 100 head below the same quarter one year ago. Milk production during the first quarter of 2008 was 35.3 million pounds, was up from 34.7 million pounds the previous quarter and up 21 percent from the same quarter last year.

**UNITED STATES:** Milk production in the U.S. during the January - March quarter totaled 47.6 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from the January - March quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.25 million head, 112,000 head more than the same period last year.

### MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, SELECTED STATES AND U.S., JAN-MAR, 2007 AND 2008

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Production 2/		08/07
	2007	2008	2007	2008	
	1,000 Head		Million Pounds		Percent
<b>WY</b>	7.1	7.0	29.1	35.3	121
CA	1,795	1,843	10,072	10,458	104
CO	115	124	625	709	113
ID	503	537	2,724	2,965	109
MT	18	17	84	76	90
NE	60	58	279	269	96
SD	84	87	401	426	106
UT	85	85	414	430	104
WI	1,246	1,250	5,904	6,046	102
<b>US</b>	9,138	9,250	46,058	47,552	103

1/Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/Excludes milk sucked by calves.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.