



Range Review

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

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CATTLE PRICES UP FROM LAST MONTH

The *Index of Prices Received* by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agriculture commodities sold during May was 130 percent of the 1990-1992 base, according to Kim Faircloth with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS. The index was up 4 points (3 percent) from April and up 7 points (6 percent) from May 2007. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes.

The **All Livestock Index**, at 123, was up 6 points (5 percent) from April and up 2 points (2 percent) from May 2007. Prices for all livestock were up from last year except for calves and sheep. Prices were up for all livestock compared to last month with the exception of sheep. Cow prices averaged \$53.00 per hundredweight, up \$3.10 from April and up \$1.00 from last year. Steer and heifer prices, at \$105.00 per hundredweight, were up \$5.60 from last month and up \$1.00 from last year's price. Calf prices averaged \$116.00 per hundredweight, up \$3.00 from last month but down \$9.00 from last year. Sheep

prices, at \$28.00, were down 50 cents from April and 30 cents below last year's price. Lamb prices, at \$97.00, were up \$1.00 from last month and up \$5.00 from last year.

The **All Crops Index**, at 177, was down 6 points (3 percent) from April but up 42 points (17 percent) from last May. Hay prices were higher than last month while dry bean prices were unchanged. Prices for hay and dry beans were up from last year. Dry beans averaged \$32.00 per hundredweight in May, unchanged from last month and up \$7.30 from last year. Alfalfa hay, up \$5.00 from last month and up \$6.00 from last year, came in at \$120.00 per ton. Other hay, at \$112.00 per ton, was up \$4.00 from last month and up \$1.00 from last year.

UNITED STATES: 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). Producers received higher prices for hogs, cattle, onions, and broilers and lower prices for eggs, lettuce, wheat, and broccoli. 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 cantaloups, grapes, sweet corn, and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, milk, corn, and apples.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 14 points (10 percent) from May 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 147, increased 5 points (3.5 percent) from last month and increased 11 points (8.1 percent) from May 2007.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, MAY 2007, APRIL 2008, AND MAY 15, 2008 U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY

COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		MAY 2007	APR 2008	MAY 15 2008	MAY 2007	APR 2008	MAY 15 2008	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS								
Cows	100#	52.00	49.90	53.00	51.70	50.50	53.10	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	104.00	99.40	105.00	98.10	91.60	95.40	—
Calves	100#	125.00	113.00	116.00	124.00	116.00	116.00	32
Sheep	100#	28.30	28.50	28.00	30.80	28.80	1/	—
Lambs	100#	92.00	96.00	97.00	97.10	99.40	1/	—
CROPS								
Corn	Bu.	2.50	5.43	2/	3.49	5.15	5.12	62
Oats	Bu.	2/	3.04	2/	2.49	3.48	3.46	65
Feed Barley	Bu.	2/	2/	2/	3.20	4.65	3.98	—
All Wheat	Bu.	4.59	12.00	2/	4.88	10.00	8.80	67
Dry Beans	100#	24.70	32.00	32.00	24.40	34.40	36.30	55
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	114.00	115.00	120.00	145.00	157.00	177.00	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	111.00	108.00	112.00	115.00	140.00	134.00	—

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		
	MAY 2007	APR 2008	MAY 15 2008	MAY 2007	APR 2008	MAY 15 2008
All Commodities	123	126	130	136	145	150
All Crops	135	183	177	140	168	172
All Livestock and Products	121	117	123	132	127	132

U.S. WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION UP 2 PERCENT FROM MAY

UNITED STATES: Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.82 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the May 1 forecast and 20 percent above 2007. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 45.3 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel from last month and 3.1 bushels more than last year. Grain area totals 40.2 million acres, unchanged from May 1.

Hard Red production is up 2 percent from a month ago to 1.03 billion bushels. Soft Red is up 4 percent from last month and now totals 572 million bushels. White production totals 216 million bushels, up slightly from last month. Of the White production total, 23.2 million bushels are Hard White and 193 million bushels are Soft White.

WINTER WHEAT, 2007 AND JUNE 1, 2008 FORECAST, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.							
State	Acres Harvested		Yield per acre		Production		
	2007	Indicated 2008	2007	Indicated 2008	2007	Indicated 2008	2008/2007
	<i>1,000</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Colorado	2,350	2,100	40.0	30.0	94,000	63,000	67
Kansas	8,600	9,400	33.0	38.0	283,800	357,200	126
Montana	2,190	2,600	38.0	35.0	83,220	91,000	109
Nebraska	1,960	1,850	43.0	43.0	84,280	79,550	94
Oklahoma	3,500	4,500	28.0	35.0	98,000	157,500	161
Texas	3,800	3,400	37.0	30.0	140,600	102,000	73
Washington	1,690	1,720	64.0	63.0	108,160	108,360	100
Wyoming 1/	125		26.0		3,250		
UNITED STATES	35,952	40,162	42.2	45.3	1,515,989	1,817,364	120

1/ Forecasts no longer made for Wyoming. Wyoming's wheat production will be available on September 30, 2008.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 1 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on May 1, 2008. The inventory was 1 percent below May 1, 2007 and 4 percent below May 1, 2006.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.54 million, 2 percent below 2007 and 5 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.46 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 315,000, 600-699 pounds were 278,000,

700-799 pounds were 428,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 515,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 2.01 million, 11 percent above 2007 and 13 percent above 2006.

Other disappearance totaled 75,000 during April, 24 percent below 2007 and 14 percent below 2006.

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

State	On Feed Apr 1, 2008	Place- ments Apr 2008	Market- ings Apr 2008	Other Disapp. Apr 2008	On Feed May 1, 2008	On Feed May 1, 2007
Thousand Head						
CO	1,020	115	165	20	950	1,020
KS	2,420	360	470	20	2,290	2,350
NE	2,450	340	400	10	2,380	2,420
TX	2,880	360	540	10	2,690	2,680
Oth Sts.	2,914	361	435	15	2,825	2,827
U.S.	11,684	1,536	2,010	75	11,135	11,297

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 APRIL COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP 25 PERCENT FROM MARCH

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during April 2008 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 25 percent from last month and unchanged from last year. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Five hundred **cattle** were slaughtered in April, down 100 head from last year. Total liveweight was 663,000 pounds, up 2 percent from April 2007. Average liveweight of cattle slaughtered was 1,242 pounds, up 61 pounds from last year.

A total of 400 **hogs and pigs** were processed, up 100 head from last year. Total liveweight, at 118,000 pounds, was up 39 percent from April 2007. Average liveweight of hogs slaughtered was 291 pounds, up 26 pounds from last year.

One hundred **sheep and lambs** were processed in April, unchanged from last year. Total liveweight, at 22,000 pounds, was up 69 percent from April 2007. Average liveweight of sheep and lambs was 156 pounds, down 4 pounds from last year.

January to April 2008 commercial red meat production was 2.0 million pounds, down 9 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.30 billion pounds in April, up 14 percent from the 3.75 billion pounds produced in April 2007.

Beef production, at 2.25 billion pounds, was 12 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 10 percent from April 2007. The average liveweight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds.

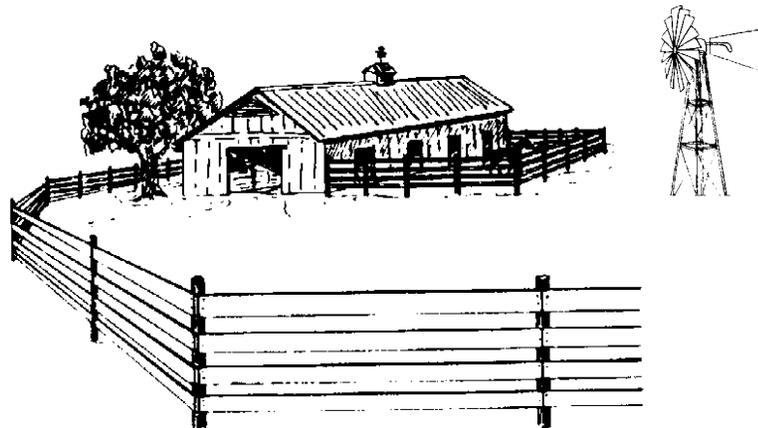
Pork production totaled 2.02 billion pounds, up 18 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.99 million head, up 18 percent from April 2007. The average liveweight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was up 2 percent from April 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 221,400 head, 2 percent above last year. The average liveweight was 138 pounds, unchanged from April a year ago.

January to April 2008 commercial red meat production was 16.8 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 13 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

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

SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Apr. 2007	Apr. 2008	Apr. 2007	Apr. 2008	08/07	Apr. 2007	Apr. 2008	Apr. 2007	Apr. 2008	08/07
			1,000 Pounds	Percent				1,000 Pounds	Percent	
Cattle	600	500	653	663	102	2,701,400	2,959,600	3,324,065	3,714,432	112
Hogs	300	400	85	118	139	8,466,900	9,994,700	2,284,838	2,690,031	118
Sheep & Lambs	100	100	13	22	169	216,600	221,400	29,941	30,609	102



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WAGE RATES UP FROM LAST YEAR

The number of hired farm and ranch workers in the tri-state region during the week of April 6-12, 2008 was down 7,000 (25 percent) from a year ago. During this period, 21,000 hired workers were working on farms and ranches in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region which includes **Wyoming**, Montana, and Idaho. The total excludes agricultural service workers. Of the 21,000 hired workers, 17,000 were expected to work for 150 days or more and 4,000 were expected to work 149 days or less, compared with 20,000 and 8,000 last year.

The average wage rate for all hired workers in the tri-state labor force during the survey week was \$9.50 per hour, up 15 cents (2 percent) from April 2007. Hired field workers were paid an average wage of \$9.46 per hour compared with \$8.79 last year. Hired livestock workers averaged \$9.09 per hour compared with \$9.01 last year.

The average number of hours worked during the survey week was 43.2 compared with 44.7 last July.

UNITED STATES: There were 919,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 6-12, 2008, down 7 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 700,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 219,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.60 per hour during the April 2008 reference week, up 40 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.65 per hour, up 30 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$10.32 per hour compared with \$9.59 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.87 per hour, was up 45 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.0 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Farm Wage Rates by Type of Worker, Selected Regions and U.S., April 6-12, 2008 1/

Region	Hired Workers			
	Type of Worker			
	Field	Lvstk	Fld & Lvstk Combined	All Hired Workers
Dollars per hour				
Mtn I 2/	9.46	9.09	9.25	9.50
Mtn II 3/	9.33	9.81	9.55	10.05
No Plns 4/	10.73	10.20	10.40	11.00
U.S. 5/	9.65	10.32	9.87	10.60

1/ Excludes Ag Service Workers
 2/ Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming
 3/ Colorado, Nevada and Utah

4/ Kansas, Nebraska, North & South Dakota
 5/ Excludes Alaska