



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Prices Received
- Planting Intentions
- Grain Stocks
- Honey Production
- Farm Numbers
- Dairy Products

Mid-March Prices Received by Farmers

Preliminary indications of prices received by Idaho farmers for the month of March showed increases for feed barley, all wheat, dry beans, potatoes, beef cattle, cows, steers and heifers, calves, and all milk. Prices decreased for all barley and alfalfa hay.

The Preliminary All Farms Products Index of Prices Received in March was 104 based on 1990-92= 100, up 4 points (4.0 percent) from the February Index. Higher prices for hogs, broilers, milk, and cattle were partially offset by lower prices for apples, lettuce, strawberries, and corn. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketing of strawberries, asparagus, milk, and broilers were partially offset by lower marketings of cattle, cotton, oranges, and corn.

Prices Received by Farmers for Selected Commodities, Mar. 2000-Mar. 2001

Commodity	Unit	Idaho			United States			
		March 2000	February 2001	March 2001 ^{1/}	March 2000	February 2001	March 2001	
							Price ^{1/}	% Parity
CROPS:								
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	87.00	95.00	91.00	77.70	94.20	93.70	-
Barley, All	Bu.	2.61	2.67	2.64	2.23	2.07	2.16	33
Feed	Bu.	1.91	2.13	2.15	1.78	1.76	1.87	-
Malting	Bu.	10/	10/	10/	2.53	2.21	2.36	-
Dry Beans	Cwt.	14.30	16.90	17.00	14.50	15.20	14.80	31
Potatoes ^{2/}	Cwt.	5.45	3.55	4.10	6.26	5.02	5.62	41
Fresh ^{3/}	Cwt.	4.60	2.20	-	6.77	4.63	-	-
Processing	Cwt.	5.00	4.80	-	5.26	5.16	-	-
Wheat, All	Bu.	2.58	2.76	2.86	2.59	2.83	2.89	30
LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS:								
Beef Cattle ^{4/}	Cwt.	65.90	71.10	72.50	69.80	74.80	77.00	48
Cows ^{5/}	Cwt.	37.30	41.50	42.30	39.00	42.70	43.20	-
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	75.00	79.40	82.00	73.40	78.90	81.10	-
Calves	Cwt.	94.00	103.00	104.00	109.00	109.00	111.00	53
Lambs	Cwt.	76.00	78.00	-	80.20	80.10	-	-
Milk, All ^{6/}	Cwt.	10.60	11.60	12.10	11.90	13.00	7/ 13.60	8/ 43
Fluid Grade ^{9/}	Cwt.	10.60	11.60	-	12.00	13.10	7/ 13.70	-
Mfg. Grade	Cwt.	10.00	11.70	-	10.10	11.10	7/ 11.80	-

1/ Mid-Month. 2/ Average monthly price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices. 4/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined. 5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 6/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. 7/ Fat test percent: all milk 3.72, fluid milk 3.72, mfg. grade 3.86. 8/ Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price. 9/ Includes milk diverted to manufacturing. 10/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index 1990-92 = 100	February 2000	March 2000	February 2001		March 2001 Preliminary
			Preliminary	Revised	
Prices Received	93	96	99	100	104
Prices Paid	119	119	126	124	124
Ratio ^{1/}	78	81	79	81	84

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

2001 Idaho Planting Intentions

Idaho farmers intend to seed 640,000 acres of spring wheat, up 8 percent from 2000's 590,000 acres. Winter wheat seedings of 760,000 acres decreased nearly 3 percent from the 2000 crop. Barley seedings are expected to total 760,000 acres, up from last season's 750,000 acres. Oat seedings are expected to be 80,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Corn plantings are expected to decrease 5,000 acres from 2000 to 190,000 acres. Dry bean planting intentions are unchanged from last year at 90,000 acres. All hay intended for harvest, at 1,410,000 acres, is up 1 percent from 2000. Sugarbeet plantings are expected to total 203,000 acres, down 4 percent from last year's record high of 212,000 acres planted.

Nationally, producers intend to seed 15.5 million acres of other spring wheat in 2001, up 2 percent from last year. Winter wheat seedings totaled 41.3 million acres, down 5 percent from last

year's 43.3 million acres. This is the lowest acres seeded to winter wheat since 1971. All wheat planted area is expected to total 60.3 million acres in 2001. This is down 4 percent from 2000 and the lowest level since 1973. Barley growers intend to seed 5.32 million acres for 2001, 9 percent below the 5.84 million acres seeded a year ago. Area planted to dry beans is expected to total 1.45 million acres, down 17 percent from last year. This is the lowest U.S. dry bean acreage since 1983.

Acreage actually planted may vary from those indicated as a result of weather, economic conditions, availability of production inputs and the effect of this report itself. At the time the survey was conducted, power buyback programs and irrigation water reduction programs in the West were not finalized. Participation in these programs may affect actual planted acreage.

Planted Acreage 1999-00 & Planting Intentions March 1, 2001 - Idaho & U.S.

CROP	PLANTED		PLANTING	2001 AS A PERCENT OF 2000
	1999	2000	2001	
	<i>Thousand Acres</i>			<i>Percent</i>
IDAHO				
All Wheat	1,420	1,370	1,400	102
Winter Wheat	760	780	760	97
Spring Wheat ^{1/}	660	590	640	108
Corn ^{2/}	165	195	190	97
Oats	80	80	80	100
Barley	710	750	760	101
All Hay ^{3/}	1,430	1,390	1,410	101
Sugarbeets	211	212	203	96
Dry Beans ^{4/}	105	90	90	100
UNITED STATES				
All Wheat	62,714	62,529	60,299	96
Winter Wheat	43,331	43,348	41,336	95
Spring Wheat ^{1/}	15,348	15,244	15,501	102
Corn ^{2/}	77,386	79,545	76,693	96
Oats	4,673	4,477	4,425	99
Barley	5,194	5,844	5,321	91
All Hay ^{3/}	63,220	59,854	63,771	107
Sugarbeets	1,560.6	1,564.2	1,432.5	92
Dry Beans ^{4/}	2,023.0	1,756.2	1,452.9	83

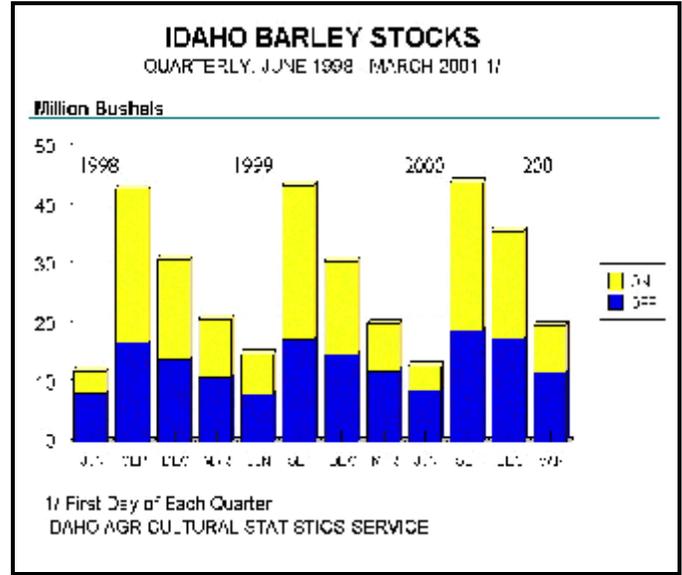
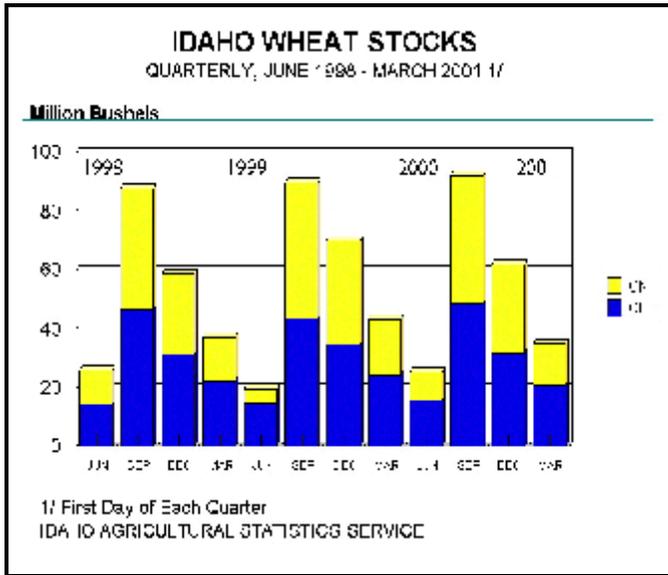
^{1/} Spring wheat other than durum. ^{2/} Excludes sweet corn. ^{3/} Area harvested 1999-2000, intended for harvest 2001.
^{4/} Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

March 1 Grain Stocks

Idaho's March 1, 2001 stocks of wheat stored in all positions totaled 35.1 million bushels, down 20 percent from last year. On-farm storage was estimated at 14.0 million bushels, 5.00 million bushels less than last year's on-farm total. Off-farm stocks, including stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors was estimated at 21.1 million bushels, down 14 percent from March 1, 2000. Barley stocks in all positions totaled 19.9 million bushels, down 1 percent from last year. On-farm storage was estimated at 8.00 million bushels, equaling the amount on hand March 1, 2000. Off-farm storage was estimated at 11.9 million bushels, down 2 percent from a year ago.

Nationally, wheat stored in all positions March 1, 2001, was estimated at 1.34 billion bushels, down 5 percent from last year. On-farm stocks totaled 390 million bushels, down 8 percent from March 1, 2000. Off-farm stocks of 950 million bushels were down 4 percent from a year ago. Barley stored in all positions totaled 162 million bushels, down 5 percent from last year. On-farm stocks were estimated at 58.6 million bushels, down 1 percent from 2000. Off-farm stocks accounted for 103 million bushels, down 7 percent from last March.

March 1 Grain Stocks



Honey Production and Prices

Idaho honey production in 2000 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 4.70 million pounds, down 18 percent from 1999. The estimate of 100,000 colonies producing honey in 2000, is down 20,000 colonies from last year's estimate. Yield per colony averaged 47 pounds, down 1 pound from the 48 pounds in 1999. Producer honey stocks were 2.68 million pounds on December 15, 2000, down 14 percent from a year earlier. The average honey price per pound is 52 cents, a decline of 7 cents from a year ago.

Nationally, honey production in 2000 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 221 million pounds, up 8 percent from 1999. There were 2.63 million colonies producing honey in 2000, down 2 percent from 1999. Yield per colony averaged 83.9 pounds, up 7.5 pounds from the 76.4 pounds in 1999. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 86.2 million pounds on December 15, 2000, up 9 percent from a year earlier.

Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 1999-00

Color Class	Price					
	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Cents per Pound					
Water White, Extra White, White	60.1	56.2	123.4	119.4	60.9	58.4
Extra Light Amber	55.1	54.0	124.5	122.7	59.8	59.3
Light Amber, Amber, Dark Amber	51.2	49.8	129.1	137.6	59.0	58.9
All Other Honey Area Specialties	61.7	63.7	150.3	195.3	73.7	92.4
All Honey	56.4	54.5	126.6	132.8	60.1	59.4

Idaho Farm Numbers Unchanged

The number of farms and ranches in Idaho in 2000 is estimated at 24,500, unchanged from both 1999 and 1998. Total land in farms in Idaho at 11.9 million acres, remains the same as 1999. The average farm size in Idaho is unchanged from the previous year's estimate of 486 acres.

The number of farms and ranches in the United States in 2000 is estimated at 2.17 million, down 0.9 percent from 1999. The

decline in farms and ranches occurred primarily in agricultural operations with less than \$10,000 in sales. This is the largest decline in farms and ranches since 1991 when just over 29,000 operations were lost. Total land in farms, at 943 million acres, declined 0.5 percent or 4.45 million acres from last year. The average size of farm increased 2 acres from 432 acres in 1999 to 434 acres in 2000.

U.S. Dairy Products February 2001 Highlights

Butter production was 115 million pounds in February, 11.6 percent below February 2000 and 11.0 percent below January 2001.

American type cheese production totaled 278 million pounds, 8.2 percent below February 2000 and 7.8 percent below January 2001.

Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 637 million pounds, 1.4 percent below February 2000 and 7.3 percent below January 2001.

Cream cottage cheese production was 28.8 million pounds, 2.1 percent above February 2000 but 5.5 percent below January 2001.

Lowfat cottage cheese production was 28.8 million pounds, 2.0 percent below February 2000 and 3.1 percent below January 2001.

Frozen dessert: (comparisons with February 2000)

Ice cream, Regular (hard) — 67.1 million gallons, down 0.9 percent.

Ice cream, Lowfat (total) — 26.5 million gallons, down 2.5 percent.

Ice cream, Nonfat (hard) — 2.22 million gallons, down 13.1 percent.

Sherbet (hard) — 3.83 million gallons, up 4.7 percent.

Frozen Yogurt (total) — 6.43 million gallons, down 6.2 percent.

Dry milk products: (comparisons with February 2000)

Nonfat dry milk for human food — 114 million pounds, down 14.2 percent.

Dry whole milk — 4.62 million pounds, down 60.1 percent.

Dry buttermilk — 4.56 million pounds, down 15.1 percent.