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**Mid-March Prices Received by Farmers**

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

The Preliminary All Farms Products Index of Prices Received in March was 106 based on 1990-92=100, up 7 points (7.1 percent) from the February Index. A record price for lettuce, along with other increases for eggs, cattle, and tomatoes, more than offset decreased prices for broilers, milk, hogs, and broccoli. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher marketings for strawberries, lettuce, milk and tomatoes more than offset decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, corn, and cotton.

*Prices Received by Farmers for Selected Commodities, Mar. 2001-Mar. 2002*

Commodity	Unit	Idaho			United States			
		March 2001	February 2002	March 2002 <sup>1/</sup>	March 2001	February 2002	March 2002	
							Price <sup>1/</sup>	% Parity
<b>CROPS:</b>								
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	91.00	113.00	101.00	95.00	99.50	98.80	--
Barley, All	Bu.	2.67	2.85	2.95	2.07	2.21	2.26	36
Feed	Bu.	2.03	2.04	2.05	1.76	1.70	1.77	--
Malting	Bu.	10/	2.96	3.05	2.24	2.56	2.67	--
Dry Beans	Cwt.	17.00	22.40	23.10	14.90	26.20	26.90	57
Potatoes <sup>2/</sup>	Cwt.	4.10	5.90	6.20	5.12	7.60	8.29	63
Fresh <sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	1.70	7.60	--	5.08	11.40	--	--
Processing	Cwt.	4.70	5.00	--	5.10	5.36	--	--
Wheat, All	Bu.	2.96	3.18	3.20	2.87	2.83	2.81	30
<b>LIVESTOCK &amp; PRODUCTS:</b>								
Beef Cattle <sup>4/</sup>	Cwt.	70.80	65.80	66.40	76.00	69.90	71.60	46
Cows <sup>5/</sup>	Cwt.	40.10	39.20	42.10	42.30	40.60	42.40	--
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	80.50	73.30	74.10	80.50	73.60	75.30	--
Calves	Cwt.	104.00	95.00	97.00	112.00	105.00	104.00	50
Lambs	Cwt.	83.00	62.00	--	84.00	67.40	--	--
Milk, All <sup>6/</sup>	Cwt.	12.20	12.20	11.70	13.90	13.10	7/12.70	8/40
Fluid Grade <sup>9/</sup>	Cwt.	12.20	12.20	--	13.90	13.10	7/12.70	--
Mfg. Grade	Cwt.	12.20	12.20	--	12.20	12.00	7/11.30	--

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 3.73, fluid milk 3.73, mfg. grade 3.85. 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 2001	March 2001	February 2002		March 2002 Preliminary
			Preliminary	Revised	
Prices Received	100	104	99	99	106
Prices Paid	124	124	122	122	122
Ratio <sup>1/</sup>	81	84	81	81	87

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

## 2002 Idaho Planting Intentions

Idaho farmers intend to seed 520,000 acres of spring wheat, unchanged from last year, but down 12 percent from 2000. Winter wheat seedings, at 730,000 acres, are at the lowest level in Idaho since the 1962 crop. Winter wheat acreage decreased 4 percent from the 2001 crop. All wheat planted in Idaho is expected to total 1.25 million acres, down 2 percent from last year and the lowest level since 1988. Barley seedings are expected to total 690,000 acres, down from last season's 700,000 acres. If realized, this would be the least barley planted in Idaho since 1969. Oat seedings are expected to be 120,000 acres, an 8 percent decline from last year's acreage, but still Idaho's second largest planting since 1970. Corn plantings are expected to be unchanged from 2001 at 175,000 acres. Dry bean planting intentions are down 5,000 acres from last year at 70,000 acres, the smallest dry bean acreage planted in Idaho since 1924. Dry bean estimates include garbanzo beans, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. All hay harvested, at 1.45 million acres, is expected to be up 2 percent from 2001, exceeding the previous record hay acreage harvested in 1998 and 1999. Sugarbeet plantings are expected

to total 212,000 acres, up 7 percent from last year's 198,000 acres planted and equaling the record high acreage planted in 2000.

Nationally, producers intend to seed 15.1 million acres of other spring wheat in 2002, down 3 percent from last year. Winter wheat seedings totaled 41.1 million acres, down only 2,000 acres from last year. This is the lowest acres seeded to winter wheat since 1971. All wheat planted area is expected to total 59.0 million acres in 2002. This is down 1 percent from 2001 and the lowest level since 1972. Barley growers intend to seed 5.08 million acres for 2002, 2 percent above the record low 4.97 million acres seeded a year ago. Area planted to dry beans is expected to total 1.77 million acres, up 24 percent from last year.

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.

### *Planted Acreage 2000-2001 & Planting Intentions March 1, 2002 - Idaho & U.S.*

CROP	PLANTED		PLANTING INTENTIONS	2002 AS A PERCENT OF 2001
	2000	2001	2002	
	<i>Thousand Acres</i>			<i>Percent</i>
<b>IDAHO</b>				
All Wheat	1,370	1,280	1,250	98
Winter Wheat	780	760	730	96
Spring Wheat <sup>1/</sup>	590	520	520	100
Corn <sup>2/</sup>	195	175	175	100
Oats	80	130	120	92
Barley	750	700	690	99
All Hay <sup>3/</sup>	1,390	1,420	1,450	102
Sugarbeets	212	198	212	107
Dry Beans <sup>4/</sup>	90	75	70	93
<b>UNITED STATES</b>				
All Wheat	62,629	59,617	59,004	99
Winter Wheat	43,393	41,078	41,076	100
Spring Wheat <sup>1/</sup>	15,299	15,629	15,086	97
Corn <sup>2/</sup>	79,551	75,752	79,047	104
Oats	4,477	4,403	5,129	116
Barley	5,864	4,967	5,078	102
All Hay <sup>3/</sup>	59,854	63,511	63,743	100
Sugarbeets	1,564.2	1,371.1	1,418.4	103
Dry Beans <sup>4/</sup>	1,758.2	1,429.9	1,766.5	124

<sup>1/</sup> Spring wheat other than durum. <sup>2/</sup> Excludes sweet corn. <sup>3/</sup> Area harvested 2000-2001, intended for harvest 2002.

<sup>4/</sup> Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

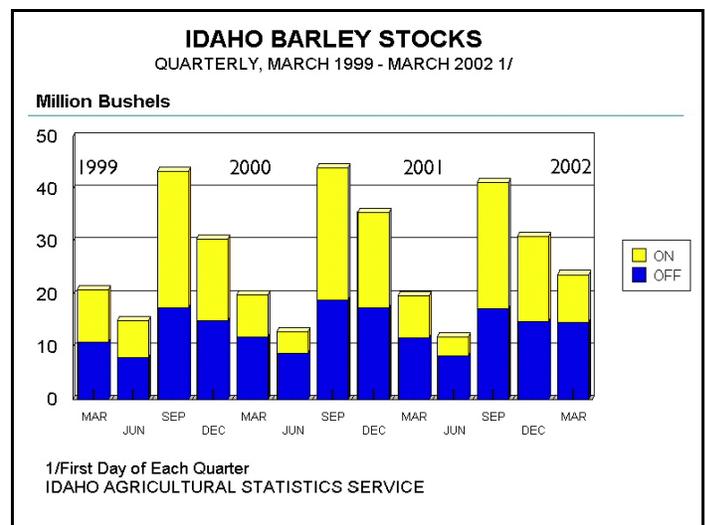
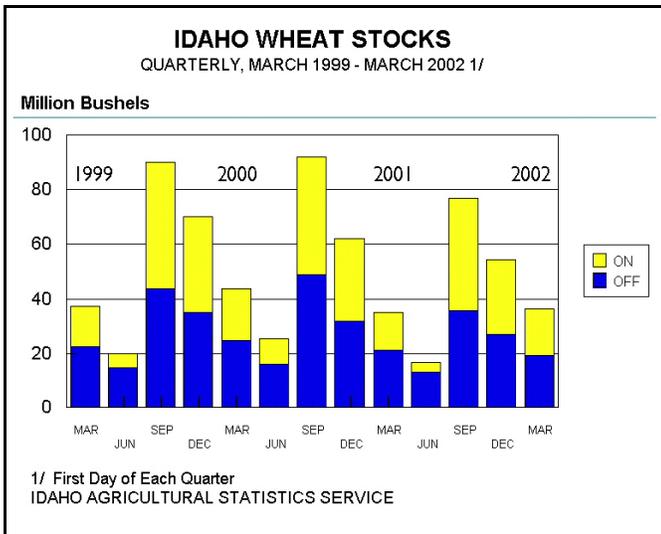
### March 1 Grain Stocks

Idaho's March 1, 2002 stocks of wheat stored in all positions totaled 36.3 million bushels, up 3 percent from last year. On-farm storage was estimated at 17.0 million bushels, 3.0 million bushels more than last year's on-farm total. Off-farm stocks, including stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors was estimated at 19.3 million bushels, down 9 percent from March 1, 2001. Barley stocks in all positions totaled 23.8 million bushels, up 19 percent from last year. On-farm storage was estimated at 9.0 million bushels, 1.0 million bushels more than the amount on hand March 1, 2001. Off-farm storage was estimated at 14.8 million bushels, up 24 percent from a year ago.

bushels were down 9 percent from a year ago. Barley stored in all positions totaled 142 million bushels, down 13 percent from last year. On-farm stocks were estimated at 46.0 million bushels, down 22 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks accounted for 95.7 million bushels, down 8 percent from last March.

Nationally, wheat stored in all positions March 1, 2002, was estimated at 1.21 billion bushels, down 10 percent from last year. On-farm stocks totaled 339 million bushels, down 12 percent from March 1, 2001. Off-farm stocks of 872 million

# March 1 Grain Stocks Honey Production and Prices



Idaho honey production in 2001 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 4.60 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2000. Honey producing colonies remain unchanged from last years estimate at 100,000 colonies. Yield per colony averaged 46.0 pounds, down 1 pound from the 47.0 pounds in 2000. Producer honey stocks were 1.61 million pounds on December 15, 2001, a decrease of 40 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound is 66 cents, up 14 cents from a year ago.

Nationally, honey production in 2001 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 186 million pounds, down 16 percent

from 2000. Honey production in 2001 was the lowest since 1989, when 181 million pounds was produced with a yield per colony of only 51.2 pounds. There were 2.51 million colonies producing honey in 2001, down 4 percent from 2000. Yield per colony averaged 74.0 pounds, down 10.1 pounds from the 84.1 pounds in 2000. 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 64.8 million pounds on December 15, 2001, down 24 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

## *Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 2000-01*

Color Class	Price					
	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	Cents per Pound					
Water White, Extra White, White	56.3	65.0	114.5	125.4	58.2	66.5
Extra Light Amber	56.0	64.0	121.7	130.7	60.7	66.9
Light Amber, Amber, Dark Amber	49.8	59.8	141.9	152.2	60.1	66.6
All Other Honey Area Specialties	63.2	59.8	175.2	152.5	92.9	78.7
All Honey	55.1	63.3	130.4	140.6	59.7	66.9

## IDAHO FARM NUMBERS DOWN 2 PERCENT

The number of farms and ranches in Idaho in 2001, at 24,000, is down 2 percent from the 24,500 farms and ranches in the State during 2000 and 1999. Total land in farms in Idaho, at 11.9 million acres, remains unchanged from both 2000 and 1999. The average size of farm increased from 486 acres to 496 acres in 2001. By legislation, the definition of a farm is "any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year." Government payments are included in sales. Places with their entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, set aside, or other government programs are considered operating farms.

The number of farms and ranches in the United States in 2001 is estimated at 2.16 million, down 0.7 percent from 2000. The decline in farms and ranches occurred primarily in agricultural operations with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,000 economic class. This is the second largest decline in farms and ranches since the 1.4% drop in 1991. Total land in farms, at 941 million acres, declined 0.2 percent or 1.9 million acres from last year. The average size of farm increased 2 acres from 434 acres in 2000 to 436 acres in 2001.

## U.S. Dairy Products February 2002 Highlights

**Total cheese output** (excluding cottage cheese) was 644 million pounds, 1.9 percent above February 2001 but 7.6 percent below January 2002.

**American type cheese** production totaled 289 million pounds, 5.1 percent above February 2001 but 8.4 percent below January 2002.

**Butter** production was 125 million pounds in February, 13.9 percent above February 2001 but 10.8 percent below January 2002.

**Frozen dessert:** (comparisons with February 2001)

Ice cream, Regular (hard) – 71.0 million gallons, up 5.7 percent.  
Ice cream, Lowfat (total) – 24.4 million gallons, down 7.4 percent.

Ice cream, Nonfat (hard) – 1.73 million gallons, down 21.8 percent.

Sherbet (hard) – 4.03 million gallons, up 5.2 percent.

Frozen Yogurt (total) – 6.36 million gallons, down 1.0 percent.

**Nonfat dry milk for human food:** (compared with February 2001)–125 million pounds, down 5.5 percent.