

OREGON AGRI-FACTS



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Highlights

- Prices • Farm labor
- Mushrooms • Cattle on feed • Hazelnuts

United States feed ratios

Feed ratios	Aug. 2001	Aug. 2002	Aug. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004
Broiler	7.8	4.4 8	5.8	*6.1	6.8
Hog-corn	26.7	13.8	18.4	*22.7	24.7
Milk feed	3.64	2.20	2.89	*2.95	3.06

* Revised.

Average prices received by farmers and ranchers

Commodity and unit	U.S. prices Aug. 2003	U.S. prices Aug 15 2004 ^{1/}	Oregon		
			Aug 2003	July 2004	Aug15 2004 ^{1/}
Crops:					
Wheat, bu \$	3.35	3.13	3.59	3.83	3.52
Barley, bu \$	2.91	2.45	2.43	2.26	2.00
Oats, bu \$	1.39	1.31	-	-	-
Hay, Alfalfa baled, ton \$	91.90	97.40	102.00	113.00	115.00
Hay, All Baled, ton \$	85.00	89.80	108.00	109.00	111.00
Potatoes, cwt \$	5.75	6.31	4.85	5.45	5.90
Onions, fr, cwt \$	13.80	14.10	-	-	-
Sweet corn, fr, cwt . . \$	20.10	21.70	-	-	-
Pears, fr, ton \$	272.00	553.00	-	-	-
Apples, fr, lbs \$.346	.273	-	-	-
Strawberries, fr, lbs . \$.681	.700	-	-	-
Livestock/products:					
Steers/heifers cwt \$	82.90	91.50	85.00	101.00	100.00
Slaughter cows cwt \$	44.50	55.50	44.80	52.00	52.50
Calves, cwt \$	106.00	131.00	94.00	110.00	107.00
Lambs, cwt \$	88.60	-	87.00	95.00	-
Sheep, cwt \$	29.20	-	29.00	36.00	-
All milk sold to plants, cwt \$	13.30	15.00	-	-	-
Fat test %	3.55	3.58	-	-	-
Eggs, doz \$.808	.530	-	-	-

Index numbers of prices received by Oregon farmers and ranchers

Commodities	1910-14=100		1990-92=100		
	Aug. 2003	Aug. 2004	Aug. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004
All farm products	659	673	109	119	111
All crops	634	620	113	120	110
Livestock & prod.	733	817	100	118	112

United States price ratio

Indexes	1910-14=100		1990-92=100		
	Aug. 2003	Aug. 2004	Aug. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004
Prices rcvd	694	764	109	*124	120
Prices paid	1,691	1,792	127	134	135
Ratio ^{2/}	41	43	86	*93	89

^{1/} Price Paid, Interest, Taxes & Farm Wage Rates indexes from quarterly reports.

^{2/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. This ratio on 1910-14=100 Base is the parity ratio.

^{1/} Preliminary.
* Revised entire month.

These price indices are designed to track aggregate prices farmers pay and receive over time. The commodity weighting for prices received varies monthly according to what is normally marketed for a given time of year. They can be volatile month to month.

United States Mushrooms

Sales of the 2003-2004 Agaricus and specialty mushrooms in the U.S. is estimated at 857 million pounds, up nearly 9 million pounds from last year. Value of sales increased 3 percent for all U.S. mushrooms sold. The number of growers, at 278, is up 13 growers from last year. Average price per pound is \$1.07, up 2 cents from 2002-2003.

Agaricus mushroom sales totaled 844 million pounds, up fractionally from the 2002-2003 season. Area in production increased 4 percent from last year. Prices received by growers increased 2 cents per pound. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 96 million pounds, 11 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold. The brown mushroom crop value of sales for the 2003-2004 season is estimated at \$124.7 million, 14 percent of the total Agaricus value.

Specialty mushrooms sales totaled 13 million pounds, up 11 percent from the 2002-2003 season. Shiitake growers saw a 7 percent sales increase from last year; Oyster mushroom growers saw a 11 percent increase; and growers of other exotic mushrooms saw a 28 percent increase in sales volume. Price for all specialty mushrooms is estimated at \$3.04 per pound, up 15 cents from last season. Prices received for Shiitake mushrooms increased 16 cents per pound, prices received for Oyster mushrooms increased 14 cents per pound, and prices received for all other exotics decreased 9 cents per pound.

Agaricus mushroom production, July 1 - June 30 ^{1/}

State and year	Area	Volume of sales	Price per pound	Value of sales
	1,000 sq. ft.	1,000 pounds	Dollars	1,000 dollars
California				
2002-2003	5,401	127,713	1.33	170,234
2003-2004	5,066	122,477	1.41	172,683
Other western States ^{2/ 3/}				
2002-2003	2,767	44,388	1.28	50,187
2003-2004	2,746	44,486	1.34	51,503
United States				
2002-2003	30,280	836,398	1.02	855,983
2003-2004	31,549	843,959	1.04	880,437

Brown mushroom production, July 1 - June 30 ^{1/}

Region and Year	Growers	Volume of sales	Value of sales
	Number	1,000 pounds	1,000 dollars
West ^{2/}			
2001-2002	17	15,199	30,617
2002-2003	17	15,708	29,042
2003-2004	17	15,542	29,287
United States			
2001-2002	59	94,581	117,922
2002-2003	62	110,710	140,051
2003-2004	60	95,831	124,699

^{1/} Brown mushrooms are part of Agaricus mushrooms.

^{2/} West: CA, CO, MT, OR, UT and WA.

^{1/} Agaricus mushrooms excludes specialty varieties.

^{2/} Includes CO, OR, UT, WA, & MT.

^{3/} Price per pound includes CA, CO, OR, UT, MT & WA.

Specialty mushrooms, U.S. total production, July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004 ^{1/}

Year and variety	Growers ^{2/}	Total production	Volume of sales	Price per pound	Value of sales
		1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Dollars	1,000 dollars
2001-2002					
Shiitake	132	8,454	8,024	2.92	23,407
Oyster	53	4,273	4,035	2.01	8,092
Other	23	1,541	1,424	4.02	5,727
Total U.S.	156	14,268	13,483	2.76	37,226
2002-2003					
Shiitake	134	7,476	7,059	3.08	21,718
Oyster	62	3,997	3,562	1.91	6,820
Other	23	1,431	1,287	4.56	5,873
Total U.S.	153	12,904	11,908	2.89	34,411
2003-2004					
Shiitake	142	7,762	7,542	3.24	24,461
Oyster	69	4,208	3,968	2.05	8,133
Other	25	1,692	1,651	4.47	7,387
Total U.S.	167	13,662	13,161	3.04	39,981

^{1/} Specialty mushroom estimates represent growers who have at least 200 natural wood logs in production or commercial indoor growing areas.

^{2/} Growers counted only once for US total if growing more than one specialty type. Agaricus and specialty mushrooms are included.

2004 hazelnut crop forecast up 16 percent from 2003

Hazelnut production in Oregon is forecast to be 44,000 tons this year, the third highest hazelnut crop on record. If realized, this would be 16 percent above last year's revised hazelnut crop, and 26 percent above 2002's total production. However, this year's forecasted production level of 44,000 tons would fall short of the record set in 2001 with 49,500 tons. The second highest hazelnut crop on record was 1997's 46,650 tons

If realized, the 2004 hazelnut crop would be a deviation from a biennial bearing pattern which has endured for over a decade. The forecasted level of 44,000 tons is 6,100 tons higher than the 2003 crop, which was considered to be an "up" year according to the historical production patterns. Since the early 1990's, Oregon's hazelnut crop production has annually swung from highs to lows, one of the most noteworthy being 1998's crop of 15,400 tons, which was a decline of over 31,000 tons from 1997's huge crop.

This year, there was an average of 298 nuts picked per tree for the OASS Hazelnut Objective Yield Survey, the highest nut count since 2001's 574 nuts per tree, a year which produced a bumper crop of 49,500 tons. This compares with 261 nuts in 2003, and 222 nuts in 2002. The percentage of good nuts found in the OASS laboratory, 85.1 percent, was down nearly three percentage points from 88.0 percent last year, and up less than one percentage point from 2002. The average dry weight per good nut sampled was 3.28 grams. This year's sampled nuts were heavier than in 2003, but slightly lighter than those sampled in 2002. The average size per good nut was 5.93, 22 percent larger than in 2003, but one percent smaller than in 2002. Brown stained nuts amounted to less than 0.10 percent of all good nuts sampled, an historic low, surpassing last year's record low of 0.12 percent.

Hazelnuts: Acreage, production, disposition and value, 2002-2004 ^{1/}

	2002	2003	2004 ^{2/}
Bearing acreage	29,200	28,000	28,600
Production in tons ^{3/}	19,500	37,900	44,000
Price per ton	\$1,000.00	\$1,030.00	1/
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	
Production sold in shell	13,000	21,900	
Production sold shelled	6,500	15,800	
Meat production of nuts sold shelled	2,600	6,300	
	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Value of production	19,500	38,831	

1/ Other estimates available July 2005.

2/ Production forecast as of August 24, 2004.

3/ In-shell basis.

U.S. hired workers

There were 1.29 million hired workers on the farms and ranches in the U.S. for the week of July 11-17, 2004. On average, wage rates were up 2 percent from a year ago. All hired workers were paid \$9.10 an hour, 22 cents more than a year ago. Field workers made \$8.42 per hour, up 25 cents from previous year. Livestock workers were paid \$8.75 an hour.

The average number of hours worked was 39.3, down 1 percent from a year ago.

There were 112,000 hired workers in the Pacific region for the week of July 11-17, working an average of 37.3 hours a week.

Wage rates for all hired workers in the region was \$9.25 per hour. Field workers received \$8.88 per hour, while livestock workers were paid \$8.90 per hour.

U.S. hired farm workers July 11-17, 2004 ^{1/}

Area	Number of hired workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked	Wage rates for all hired workers	Type of worker			
		150 days or more	149 days or less			Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock workers combined	
	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Per week</i>	<i>Dollars per hour</i>	<i>Dollars per hour</i>	<i>Dollars per hour</i>	<i>Dollars per hour</i>	
PNW ^{2/}	2004	112	47	65	37.3	9.25	8.88	8.90	8.88
	2003	110	54	56	36.3	8.74	8.03	10.95	8.32
MTN ^{3/}	2004	34	24	10	47.8	8.23	7.91	7.89	7.90
	2003	31	22	9	46.7	7.63	7.27	7.41	7.34
CALIF	2004	210	167	43	45.6	9.50	8.69	9.90	8.85
	2003	225	205	20	45.7	9.22	8.43	9.65	8.55
U.S.	2004	953	637	316	39.3	9.10	8.42	8.75	8.50
	2003	943	680	263	39.8	8.88	8.17	8.57	8.26

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers.

^{2/} Includes Oregon and Washington.

^{3/} Includes Idaho, Montana & Wyoming.

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