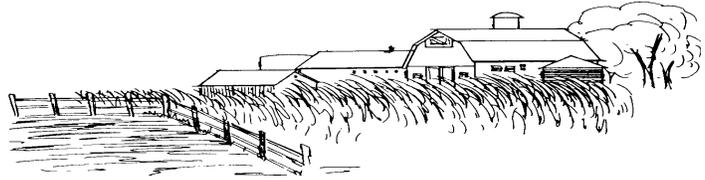




UTAH
AGRICULTURAL
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News Release

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AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Utah: Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-February 2004, compared with January 2004, were up for barley, but down for alfalfa hay and other hay, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service. The lamb price for January 2004 was \$102.00 per cwt, up \$11.00 from February 2003. The January 2004 sheep price, at \$34.00 was \$7.00 below February 2003. Barley, at \$2.61 per bushel, was up 22 cents from the previous month's price and 9 cents above last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$78.00 per ton, down \$6.00 from last month and \$15.00 below last year. Other hay, at \$66.00 per ton, was \$5.00 lower than last month but \$3.00 higher than February 2003.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February at 113, based on 1990-92=100, is 2 points (1.8 percent) above the January Index. The Livestock Products Index increased 1 point (0.9 percent) from January while the All Crops Index increased 2 points (1.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for soybeans, broilers, corn, and hogs. Lower prices were received for cattle, lettuce, eggs, and broccoli. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of milk, cattle, broilers, and eggs offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, tobacco, and wheat. This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 14 points (14 percent) from February 2003. The Food Commodities Index increased 2 points (1.8 percent) from last month to 114, and is 18 points (19 percent) above February 2003.