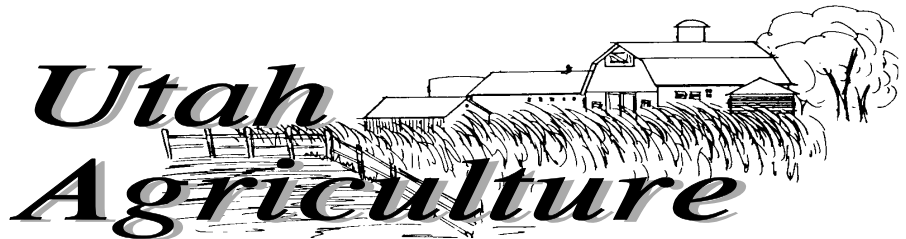




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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
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(monthly report)

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## Agricultural Prices

**Utah:** Mid-April 2005 prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers were up from last month for barley but down for alfalfa hay, while the other hay price was the same compared to a month ago. Barley, at \$2.04 per bushel, was up 13 cents from the previous month's price but 68 cents below last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$92.00 per ton, \$7.00 below last month and \$11.00 above last year. Other hay, at \$80.00 per ton, was the same as last month but \$10.00 above April 2004.

**United States:** The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 120, based on 1990-92=100, is 1 point (0.8 percent) above the March Index. The Crop Index is up 2 points (1.7 percent) while the Livestock Index is unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, asparagus, broccoli, and hay. Lower prices were received for lettuce, corn, celery, and eggs. 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 several commercial vegetables, cattle, strawberries, and dairy offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, hogs, and grapefruit.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 5 points (4.0 percent) from April 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 124, is 1 point (0.8 percent) above last month but down 3 points (2.4 percent) from April 2004.

Average Prices Received by Farmers <sup>1</sup>

Commodity	Utah						United States					
	Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled		Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled	
Month	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
January	2.39	2.10	84.00	85.00	71.00	75.00	2.69	2.42	84.80	90.90	70.20	70.60
February	2.74	1.96	78.00	91.00	66.00	80.00	2.73	2.37	85.10	91.90	72.10	70.00
March	2.59	1.91	75.00	99.00	62.00	80.00	2.77	2.46	86.20	96.40	72.00	70.40
April	2.72	2.04	81.00	92.00	70.00	80.00	2.78	2.48	93.00	103.00	75.50	75.40
May	2.71		90.00		75.00		2.78		109.00		78.30	
June	2.51		88.00		80.00		2.63		102.00		76.90	
July	2.42		90.00		80.00		2.54		98.40		70.90	
August	2.30		87.00		80.00		2.79		97.40		70.00	
September	2.05		85.00		78.00		2.43		95.50		65.70	
October	1.96		86.00		80.00		2.29		97.80		68.60	
November	2.39		92.00		88.00		2.51		94.00		67.80	
December	(2)		87.00		83.00		2.47		92.40		67.10	

<sup>1</sup> April 2005 is mid-month price.

<sup>2</sup> Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

## U.S. March Milk Production Up 3.1 Percent

**Milk production** in the 23 major States during March totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from March 2004. February revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from February 2004. However, production was up 3.1 percent on a per day basis after adjusting for the leap year. The February revision represented an increase of 30 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. **Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 1,704 pounds for March, 43 pounds above March 2004. **The number of milk cows** on farms in the 23 major States was 8.10 million head, 38,000 head more than March 2004, and 21,000 head more than February 2005.

### Milk Cows and Production: By State and United States, Preliminary January-March, 2004-2005

State	Jan-Mar Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Jan-Mar Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change From 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	17	16	71	63	-11.3
AK	1.2	1.2	3.6	3.5	-2.8
AZ	155	164	945	965	2.1
AR	25	23	86	82	-4.7
CA	1,706	1,743	8,956	9,151	2.2
CO	100	100	532	551	3.6
CT	21	20	102	99	-2.9
DE	7.5	7.5	34.0	34.0	
FL	139	139	612	639	4.4
GA	84	83	381	377	-1.0
HI	6.5	5.8	21.9	17.6	-19.6
ID	412	438	2,161	2,355	9.0
IL	108	105	516	503	-2.5
IN	146	154	741	746	0.7
IA	195	187	976	947	-3.0
KS	112	109	551	554	0.5
KY	111	110	366	357	-2.5
LA	40	36	139	127	-8.6
ME	34	32	151	147	-2.6
MD	76	73	300	299	-0.3
MA	17	17	74	73	-1.4
MI	300	307	1,575	1,605	1.9
MN	465	457	2,060	2,048	-0.6
MS	28	26	109	109	
MO	124	118	470	459	-2.3
MT	18	18	85	87	2.4
NE	61	60	267	264	-1.1
NV	25	25	127	128	0.8
NH	16	16	76	76	
NJ	12	12	52	49	-5.8
NM	326	320	1,690	1,620	-4.1
NY	659	650	2,901	2,956	1.9
NC	58	55	264	253	-4.2
ND	33	33	129	128	-0.8
OH	259	267	1,122	1,163	3.7
OK	80	75	330	311	-5.8
OR	119	120	548	559	2.0
PA	564	561	2,534	2,560	1.0
RI	1.2	1.0	5.2	4.5	-13.5
SC	17	18	79	79	
SD	80	80	333	344	3.3
TN	77	72	310	295	-4.8
TX	317	317	1,578	1,588	0.6
<b>UT</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>2.8</b>
VT	145	143	651	655	0.6
VA	105	105	441	452	2.5
WA	240	236	1,350	1,372	1.6
WV	13	13	50	48	-4.0
WI	12455	1,234	5,501	5,522	0.4
WY	4.1	4.4	14.8	15.6	5.4
US <sup>3</sup>	8,993	8,995	42,759	43,238	1.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

<sup>3</sup> May not add due to rounding.

## Manufactured Dairy Products

**UTAH: Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) in February 2005, at 4.3 million pounds, was down 18.7 percent from February 2004, and was down 2.1 percent from January 2005. **Hard ice cream** production totaled 2.0 million gallons, up 49.4 percent from February 2004 and also up 8.3 percent from January 2005.

**UNITED STATES: Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) was 708 million pounds, 0.5 percent above February 2004 but 6.2 percent below January 2005. **American type cheese** production totaled 292 million pounds, 1.6 percent below February 2004 and 9.2 percent below January 2005. Butter production was 113 million pounds in January, 7.3 percent above February 2004 but 11.8 percent below January 2005. **Hard ice cream** production at 64.1 million gallons, was down 2.6 percent from February 2004, and up 6.1 percent from January 2005.

Manufactured Dairy Production - February 2004-2005 with Comparisons

Product	Utah		United States			
	Feb	Jan <sup>1</sup>	Feb	Feb	Jan <sup>1</sup>	Feb
	2004	2005	2005	2004	2005	2005
	1,000 Pounds					
Total Cheese .....	5,351	4,443	4,349	704,288	754,684	708,116
	1,000 Gallons					
Hard ice cream .....	1,309	1,805	1,955	65,823	60,440	64,100

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

## Livestock Slaughter

**UTAH: Commercial red meat production** totaled 35.6 million pounds in March 2005, 8 percent above March of the previous year. **Cattle slaughter** in Utah for March 2005 totaled 47,300 head, 7 percent above a year earlier. The average live weight was 1,179 pounds, down 12 pounds from March 2004. **Hog slaughter** totaled 4,000 head, remaining the same as March 2004. The average live weight was 249 pounds, up 30 pounds from the previous year. **Sheep and lamb slaughter** during March 2005 totaled 3,000 head, down 100 head from the previous year. Average live weight, at 135 pounds, was up 4 pounds from the previous year.

**UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in March 2004. **Beef production**, at 2.04 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 5 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,238 pounds. **Veal production** totaled 13.3 million pounds, 6 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,900 head, down 11 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was 20 pounds above last year, at 328 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.95 million head, 1 percent below March 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds. **Lamb and mutton production**, at 19.5 million pounds, was down 12 percent from March 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 280,300 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 5 pounds from March a year ago.

### Commercial Livestock Slaughter, March 2004-2005 <sup>1</sup>

Item	Utah		United States	
	March		March	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>Production (Million Pounds)</b>				
Red Meat .....	33.0	35.6	3,945.0	3,423.0
<b>Number Slaughtered (Thousand Head)</b>				
Cattle .....	44.1	47.3	2,869.3	2,723.4
Calves .....	1	1	76.4	67.9
Hogs .....	4.0	4.0	9,038.5	8,946.1
Sheep & Lamb	3.1	3.0	307.1	280.3
<b>Average Live Weight (Pounds)</b>				
Cattle .....	1,167	1,179	1,217	1,238
Calves .....	1	1	308	328
Hogs .....	219	249	268	271
Sheep & Lamb	139	129	144	139

<sup>1</sup> Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

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## Floriculture

**UTAH:** In 2005 there were 74 growers of floriculture with wholesale values of sales of \$10,000 or more, down from 82 growers in 2003. They had 5.8 million square feet of covered growing area, a decrease of 376,000 from 2003. The total wholesale value of all reported crops for growers with more than \$100,000 in sales was \$42.8 million, down 8 percent from last year. Of the \$42.8 million in sales in 2004, the value of sales for total bedding /garden plants was \$28.3 million, total for potted flowering plants \$12.7 million, and total foliage for indoor or patio use \$1.8 million.

**UNITED STATES: Number of Growers:** The number of growers for 2004, at 11,099, is down 7 percent compared with the revised 2003 count of 11,996. The number of growers with sales of \$100,000 or more dropped to 4,579 for 2004 from 4,732 in 2003. The number of growers in all size-groups experienced decreases from the previous year. **Total Wholesale Value:** The total wholesale value of floriculture crops grown by operations exceeding the \$100,000 sales level is \$4.89 billion for 2004, up 2 percent from the revised 2003 total. These operations account for 94 percent of the total value of floriculture crops, but comprise only 41 percent of all growers. California contributes 21 percent of the total wholesale value for the 36 States surveyed. Florida ranks second with 16 percent. Michigan, Texas, and Ohio round out the top 5 States with 7 percent, 6 percent, and 4 percent, respectively. Of the \$4.89 billion, the value of sales for total bedding/garden plants was \$2.5 billion, total for potted flowering plants was \$815.1 million, total foliage for indoor or patio use \$639.0 million, and total cut flowers \$421.6 million.

The complete Floriculture Crops 2004 Summary can be found at  
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/other/zfc-bb/floran05.pdf>