



ATTENTION: Due to budget constraints, we will no longer publish these reports semi-monthly. Starting in May we will only publish a single Monthly Report.

Planting Intentions

UTAH: Utah farm operators, as of March 1, 2005, intend to plant more acres of all wheat, spring wheat, all hay, and dry beans, but fewer acres of corn and barley. Planting intentions for oats is at the same level as last year.

Corn acres planted are expected to be 50,000, down 5,000 acres from the previous year. All wheat intentions were estimated at 152,000 acres, 9,000 acres more than last year. Winter wheat planting is at 135,000 acres, 4 percent above the previous year. Spring wheat planting is expected to total 17,000 acres, up 31 percent from the previous year's level. If current growers' intentions are realized, Utah farmers will plant 60,000 acres of oats, remaining the same as last year. Barley intentions are 40,000 acres, a decrease of 10,000 acres from 2004. Planting intentions for dry edible beans are 6,000 acres, an increase of 700 acres from last year. Harvesting intentions for all hay are 720,000 acres, up 1 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 81.4 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2005, up 1 percent from 2004 and 4 percent above 2003. All wheat planted area is expected to total 58.6 million acres in 2005, down 2 percent from 2004. If realized, this would be the lowest planted acreage since 1972. Winter wheat planted area for the 2005 crop is 41.6 million acres, down 4 percent from 2004, but virtually unchanged from the Winter Wheat Seedings Report. Other spring wheat Growers intend to plant 14.4 million acres this year, up 4 percent from 2004. Oats acres seeded and to be seeded for the 2005 crop year are expected to total 4.27 million acres, up 4 percent from last year's planted area. Barley growers intend to plant 3.97 million acres in 2005, down 12 percent from last year and, if realized, the lowest since barley planted acreage estimates began in 1926. Dry beans prospective for 2005 planting totals 1.66 million acres, up 23 percent from last year and 18 percent above 2 years ago. Hay producers expect to harvest 62.9 million acres of all hay in 2005, up 2 percent from last year.

Utah Grain Stocks

UTAH: March 1, 2005 stocks of corn were higher at off-farm locations than the previous year, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service. Wheat, oats, and barley at off-farm locations in Utah were lower than on March 1, 2004. Off farm all wheat stocks on March 1, 2005 were 4.77 million bushels in Utah, down 17 percent from the previous year. Utah off farm corn stocks were 647,000 bushels, up 13 percent from March 1, 2004. Off farm barley stocks, at 439,000 bushels, were down 7 percent from last March. Off farm oat stocks on March 1, 2005 were 60,000 bushels, down 38 percent from 2004.

UNITED STATES: Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2005 totaled 6.75 billion bushels, up 28 percent from March 1, 2004. This is the highest March 1 stocks level since 1988. Of the total stocks, 4.14 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 37 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.62 billion bushels, are up 17 percent from a year ago. The December 2004 - February 2005 indicated disappearance is 2.70 billion bushels, compared with 2.68 billion bushels during the same period last year. All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2005 totaled 981 million bushels, down 4 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 305 million bushels, up 18 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 676 million bushels, are down 11 percent from a year ago. The December 2004 - February 2005 indicated disappearance is 449 million bushels, down 10 percent from the same period a year earlier. Barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2005 totaled 191 million bushels, up 25 percent from March 1, 2004. On-farm stocks are estimated at 79.7 million bushels, 54 percent above a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 111 million bushels, are 10 percent above March 1, 2004. Indicated disappearance during the December 2004 - February 2005 quarter totaled 55.3 million bushels, up 23 percent from the same period a year earlier. Oats stored in all positions on March 1, 2005 totaled 82.5 million bushels, 13 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2004. Of the total stocks on hand, 43.5 million bushels are stored on farms, 5 percent lower than a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 39.0 million bushels, 21 percent below a year earlier. Indicated disappearance during December 2004 - February 2005 totaled 22.4 million bushels, compared with 24.3 million bushels from the same period a year ago.

U.S. Turkey Eggs in Incubators & Poult Placement

Turkey eggs in incubators on April 1, 2005, in the United States totaled 29.1 million, 4 percent below April 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were 4 percent above the March 1, 2005 total of 28.1 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down slightly, West North Central down 1 percent, North and South Atlantic down 11 percent, South Central down 13 percent, and West up 11 percent.

United States were down 3 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were up 10 percent from February 2005. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 8 percent, West North Central up 1 percent, North and South Atlantic down 8 percent, South Central down 14 percent, and West up 15 percent.

The 23.4 million poult placed during March 2005 in the

Eggs in Incubators: First of Month by Region and United States, April 2005 with Comparisons

Geographic Division	Apr 1 2004	Mar 1 2005	Apr 1 2005	Percent of Previous Year	Percent of Previous Month
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
E N Central	4,772	4,517	4,758	100	105
W N Central	11,025	10,938	10,893	99	100
N & S Atlantic	9,644	7,879	8,543	89	108
S Central	2,475	*2,282	2,152	87	94
West	2,447	2,435	2,713	111	111
US	30,363	*28,051	29,059	96	104

Poults Placements: Entire Month by Region and United States, March 2005 with Comparisons ¹

Geographic Division	Mar 2004	Feb 2004	Mar 2005	Percent of Previous Year	Percent of Previous Month
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
E N Central	3,708	3,339	3,420	92	102
W N Central	9,139	8,316	9,257	101	111
N & S Atlantic	7,621	6,275	6,989	92	111
S Central	2,056	1,599	1,758	86	110
West	1,691	1,792	1,952	115	109
US	24,215	21,321	23,376	97	110

*Revised.

¹Regional placements refer to poults placed from hatcheries located in that region, and not the actual location of the birds after placement.

Regional Listing:

North Atlantic: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

East North Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.

West North Central: IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.

South Atlantic: DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV.

South Central: AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN, TX.

West: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.

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, but up 6.1 percent from January 2005.

Manufactured Dairy Production - February 2004-2005 with Comparisons

Product	Utah			United States		
	Feb 2004	Jan ¹ 2005	Feb 2005	Feb 2004	Jan ¹ 2005	Feb 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

¹ Revised.

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.

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Agricultural Prices

Utah: Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-March 2005, compared with February 2005, were down for barley, up for alfalfa hay, and remained unchanged for other hay, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service. Barley, at \$1.60 per bushel, was down 36 cents from the previous month's price and 99 cents below last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$99.00 per ton, up \$8.00 from last month and up \$24.00 from last year. Other hay, at \$80.00 per ton was the same as last month but \$18.00 above March 2004.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 118, based on 1990-92=100, is 4 points (3.5 percent) above the February Index. The Crop Index is up 7 points (6.6 percent) while the Livestock Index is up 3 points (2.5 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, soybeans, lettuce, and corn. Lower prices were received for strawberries, grapefruit, apples, 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 strawberries, dairy, broilers, and tomatoes offset decreased marketings of cattle, corn, oranges, and cotton.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 3 points (2.5 percent) from March 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 122, is 4 points (3.4 percent) above last month but down 1 point (0.8 percent) from March 2004.

Average Prices Received by Farmers ¹

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	2.71	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	1.60	75.00	99.00	62.00	80.00	2.77	2.48	86.20	96.40	72.00	70.40
April	2.72		81.00		70.00		2.78		93.00		75.50	
May	2.71		90.00		75.00		2.78		109.00		78.30	
June	2.51		88.00		80.00		2.64		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	

¹ March 2005 is mid-month price.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.