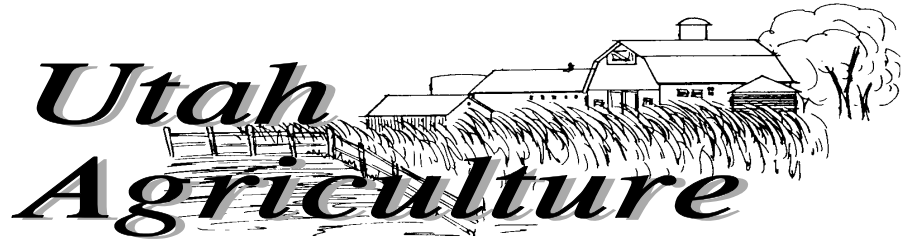




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U.S. Department of Agriculture
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Agricultural Prices

Utah: Mid-May 2005 price received by Utah farmers and ranchers for alfalfa hay was down while other hay price was unchanged compared to a month ago. Baled alfalfa hay at \$90.00 per ton, was \$2.00 below last month and the same as last year. Other hay, at \$80.00 per ton, was the same as last month but \$5.00 above May 2004.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May, at 122, based on 1990-92=100, is unchanged from April. The Crop and Livestock Indices are unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for hogs, strawberries, hay, and potatoes. Lower prices were received for lettuce, broccoli, asparagus, and dairy. The overall index is also affected by the 3-year average seasonal change in the mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of cantaloup, sweet corn, grapes, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, dairy, calves, and asparagus.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 7 points (5.4 percent) from May 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 126, is unchanged from last month but 5 points (3.8 percent) below May 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	2.69	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	2.32	93.00	103.00	75.50	75.40
May	2.71	(2)	90.00	90.00	75.00	80.00	2.78	2.53	109.00	116.00	78.30	76.10
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	

¹ May 2005 is mid-month price.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

Farm Labor

MOUNTAIN REGION II: (includes Utah, Nevada, and Colorado): During the week of April 10-16, 2005 there were 20,000 workers hired by farm operators in the region. All hired workers (excluding Agricultural Service Workers) were paid an average wage of \$8.50 per hour, down \$1.43 from January 2005 and 84 cents less than the national average. Field workers received \$7.70 per hour on average, up 33 cents from January 2005. Livestock workers received \$8.41 per hour, down \$1.24 from January 2005.

UNITED STATES: There were 978,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 10-16, 2005, down 10 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 746,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 232,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.34 per hour during the April 2005 reference week, up 11 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.55 per hour, up 8 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$9.23 per hour compared with \$8.95 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.73 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year.

Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region and United States, April 10-16, 2005 ¹

U.S. and Region	Hired							Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked	Type of Worker			
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less		Field	Livestock	Field & Lvstk Combined	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	Hours per Week	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour	Dollars per Hour
Mountain I ²	24	20	4	44.5	7.89	8.49	8.23	8.43
Mountain II ³	20	17	3	41.6	7.70	8.41	8.02	8.50
Mountain III ⁴	18	17	1	44.8	7.95	9.40	8.51	9.18
US	746	596	150	39.8	8.55	9.23	8.91	9.34

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Mountain I - Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. ³ Mountain II - Colorado, Nevada and Utah. ⁴ Mountain III - Arizona and New Mexico.

Manufactured Dairy Products

UTAH: Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) in March 2005, at 6.2 million pounds, was up 1.2 percent from March 2004, and was up 41.8 percent from February 2005. **Hard ice cream** production totaled 2.4 million gallons, up 31.7 percent from March 2004 and up 18.4 percent from February 2005.

UNITED STATES: Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 797 million pounds, 1.4 percent above March 2004 and 12.6 percent above February 2005. **American type cheese** production totaled 329 million pounds, 1.4 percent above March 2004 and 12.1 percent above February 2005. **Butter** production was 120 million pounds in February, 19.3 percent above March 2004 and 5.5 percent above February 2005. **Hard ice cream** production at 78.6 million gallons, was up 0.2 percent from March 2004, and up 22.3 percent from February 2005.

Manufactured Dairy Production - March 2004-2005 with Comparisons

Product	Utah			United States		
	Mar 2004	Feb ¹ 2005	Mar 2005	Mar 2004	Feb ¹ 2005	Mar 2005
	1,000 Pounds					
Total Cheese	6,092	4,349	6,165	785,626	707,365	796,502
	1,000 Gallons					
Hard ice cream	1,815	2,019	2,390	78,409	64,240	78,551

¹ Revised.

Livestock Slaughter

UTAH: Commercial red meat production totaled 28.1 million pounds in April 2005, 18 percent below April of the previous year. Cattle slaughter in Utah for April 2005 totaled 37,400 head, 20 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was 1,172 pounds, up 22 pounds from April 2004. Hog slaughter totaled 4,100 head, 7 percent below April 2004. The average live weight was 250 pounds, up 30 pounds from the previous year. Sheep and lamb slaughter during April 2005 totaled 2,400 head, down 600 head from the previous year. Average live weight, at 132 pounds, was up 6 pounds from the previous year.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in April, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in April 2004. **Beef production**, at 1.89 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, down 5 percent from April 2004. The average live weight was up 20 pounds from the previous year, at 1,220 pounds. **Veal production** totaled 13.0 million pounds, 7 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 61,600 head, down 13 percent from April 2004. The average live weight was 23 pounds above last year, at 353 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.70 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.44 million head, 2 percent below April 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds. **Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.5 million pounds, was down 11 percent from April 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 220,800 head, 14 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 5 pounds from April a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter, April 2004-2005 ¹

Item	Utah		United States	
	April		April	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
Production (Million Pounds)				
Red Meat	34.3	28.1	3,712.8	3,622.3
Number Slaughtered (Thousand Head)				
Cattle	46.5	37.4	2,697.7	2,560.1
Calves	1	1	70.7	61.6
Hogs	4.4	4.1	8,653.2	8,443.8
Sheep & Lamb	3.0	2.4	256.2	220.8
Average Live Weight (Pounds)				
Cattle	1,150	1,172	1,200	1,220
Calves	1	1	330	353
Hogs	220	250	268	271
Sheep & Lamb	126	132	136	141

¹ Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Hay Stocks on Farms

UTAH: Hay stocks totaled 300,000 tons on May 1, 2005, up 7.5 percent from May 1 of the previous year. Disappearance totaled 1,083,000 tons, down 133,000 tons from a year ago. Drought conditions have continued to push demand for hay.

UNITED STATES: All hay stored on farms May 1, 2005 totaled 27.7 million tons, up 7 percent from the previous year. Disappearance of hay from December 1, 2004 - May 1, 2005, totaled 86.6 million tons, 2 percent greater than the disappearance of 85.1 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Twenty-six of the 48 reporting States had higher hay stocks than a year ago. Many of the States reporting an increase in stocks were located in the northern Great Plains and the central Corn Belt. The increase in hay stocks from May 2004 in some areas can be attributed to higher hay production during 2004, mild winter conditions, and sufficient early season pasture growth, reducing the need for supplemental feeding.

Stocks declined in the western and southeastern States. In Washington, lack of winter precipitation and minimal spring pasture growth depleted hay stocks. In California, a decrease in 2004 hay production, combined with strong consumption by dairies, reduced hay stocks by 30 percent from the previous year. In the Southeast, hay stocks are down due to lower 2004 hay production in most areas with some areas reporting poor quality as a result of wet weather during harvest.

Hay Stocks on Farms Selected States & U.S.

State	December 1		May 1	
	2003	2004	2004	2005
1,000 Tons				
AZ	280	250	55	35
CA	2,086	1,724	306	215
CO	1,841	2,527	610	470
ID	2,772	2,782	445	535
MT	3,986	4,427	790	860
NV	857	741	121	80
NM	525	545	115	164
UT	1,495	1,383	279	300
WY	1,963	1,818	478	383
US	111,027	114,294	25,947	27,708

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US Winter Wheat

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.59 billion bushels, up 6 percent from 2004. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 45.4 bushels per acre, 1.9 bushels more than last year. Grain area totals 35.1 million acres, up 2 percent from last season.

Hard Red production is up 18 percent from a year ago to 1.01 billion bushels. Soft Red is down 21 percent and totals 302 million bushels. White production totals 283 million bushels, up 7 percent from a year ago. Of the White production total, 31.2 million bushels are Hard White and 251 million bushels are Soft White. This is the first year that production levels for Hard White and Soft White are available; therefore, there are no previous year comparisons.