

Issue 2003-01, Released 1/23/03

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Thank You

to all the
producers who
participated in our
recent surveys. The
results you requested
are in this issue.

*Agricultural Prices
Annual Crop Production
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Cattle on Feed
Hog Inventory
Livestock Slaughter*

HAY PRICES CONTINUE UPWARD CLIMB

The *Index of Prices Received* by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agricultural commodities sold during December was 101 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was up 3 points (3 percent) from November, but down 3 points (3 percent) from December 2001. The All Livestock Index was down 1 point (1 percent) from November and down 8 points (8 percent) from the previous year. The prices for cows, steers and heifers, calves, sheep, and lambs were all higher than last month. The All Crops Index was down 1 point (1 percent) from November, but up 10 points (8 percent) from December 2001. Average prices for dry beans, alfalfa hay, and other hay were higher than the previous month, but prices for corn and wheat were lower. Hay prices continued to rise since the summer lows. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes and caused the livestock index to be lower than the previous month.

The *Index of Prices Received for Livestock*, at 90, was down 1 point from November and was 8 points lower than December 2001. Sheep prices were \$3.70 higher than November, but 40 cents lower than December 2001. Lamb

prices averaged \$1.90 higher than November and \$23.20 higher than December 2001. Steer and heifer prices were up 80 cents from November but \$2.20 lower than the previous year. Cow prices were up 50 cents from November but \$2.30 lower than last December. Calf prices averaged up \$3.80 from November but down \$9.00 from December 2001.

The *Index of Prices Received for Crops*, at 132, was down 1 point from November, but up 10 points from December 2001. Wheat was down 28 cents from November, but \$1.42 higher than December 2001. Alfalfa hay was up \$1.00 from November, but was unchanged from last December. Other hay prices were also up \$1.00 from November and \$1.00 from the previous year. The average corn price was down 4 cents from November but up 71 cents from December 2001. Oats were unchanged from November but 60 cents higher than December 2001. Feed barley was also unchanged from November but 5 cents lower than the previous year. Dry beans were up 10 cents from November but \$1.20 lower than December 2001.

UNITED STATES: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December is 97, based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1 percent) from the November index. Lower prices for wheat, lettuce, broccoli, and eggs more than offset higher prices for cattle, tomatoes, hogs, and strawberries. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Decreased marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn offset increased marketings of wheat, tobacco, milk, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is 4 points (4 percent) above December 2001. Higher prices for soybeans, wheat, corn, and cattle more than offset lower prices for broilers, hogs, lettuce, calves, and dry beans.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, DECEMBER 2001, NOVEMBER 2002, AND DECEMBER 15, 2002								
U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY								
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		DEC 2001	NOV 2002	DEC 15 2002	DEC 2001	NOV 2002	DEC 15 2002	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS								
Cows	100#	37.10	34.30	34.80	36.00	33.00	34.20	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	86.70	83.70	84.50	68.50	72.00	74.80	—
Calves	100#	102.00	89.20	93.00	101.00	88.20	93.60	44
Sheep	100#	37.40	33.30	37.00	34.00	32.80	1/	—
Lambs	100#	66.80	88.10	90.00	61.40	84.10	1/	—
CROPS								
Corn	Bu.	2.09	2.84	2.80	1.98	2.27	2.29	35
Oats	Bu.	1.55	2.15	2.15	1.92	1.90	1.81	45
Feed Barley	Bu.	2.20	2.15	2.15	1.77	2.32	2.29	—
All Wheat	Bu.	2.68	4.38	4.10	2.88	4.25	3.93	41
Dry Beans	100#	20.40	19.10	19.20	21.70	16.10	15.50	32
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	112.00	111.00	112.00	105.00	101.00	100.00	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	106.00	106.00	107.00	73.40	75.40	74.70	—
1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996.								
NOTE: Entire month price is a revision of previous mid-month price except for hay which is always a mid-month price.								
INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS & RANCHERS, WYOMING & U.S.								
1990-92 = 100	WYOMING			UNITED STATES				
	DEC 2001	NOV 2002	DEC 15 2002	DEC 2001	NOV 2002	DEC 15 2002		
All Commodities	104	98	101	93	98	97		
All Crops	122	133	132	90	104	102		
All Livestock and Products	98	91	90	96	90	91		

2002 CROP PRODUCTION IN WYOMING SMALLEST SINCE 1966

The Crop Production Index for **Wyoming** field crops in 2002 was 90 percent of the 1957-59 base. This is a drop of 20 points from 2001, 43 points below 2000, and the lowest crop production index since 1966. Continuing drought conditions and short irrigation water supplies caused the reduced production of almost all crops.

SMALL GRAINS: The 2002 Wyoming **winter wheat** production fell 21 percent from the previous year to 2.28 million bushels, the smallest crop since 1965. Farmers harvested 120,000 acres, unchanged from 2001. Yields averaged only 19 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from 2001 and 2000 and the lowest since 1965. **Spring wheat** production totaled 96,000 bushels, 43 percent less than in 2001, and the smallest production since estimates were established in 1909. Harvested acres were down 2,000 acres to 4,000 and yield, at 24 bushels per acre, was down 4 bushels from 2001. **Barley** production, at 4.90 million bushels, was down 30 percent from 2001 due to fewer acres harvested and lower yields. Production was the lowest since the 1967 crop. The average yield was 70 bushels per acre, 12 bushels below the 2001 yield. Production of **oats** in the State in 2002 was down 40 percent from 2001 to 810,000 bushels and was the smallest since 1900. The average yield was up 6 bushels to 54 bushels per acre, but only 15,000 acres were harvested for grain compared with 28,000 in 2001.

ROW CROPS: **Corn for grain** production in Wyoming during 2002 totaled 4.46 million bushels, down 30 percent from 2001. Growers harvested 36,000 acres for grain, down from 51,000 acres in 2001. Yields averaged 124 bushels per acre, one bushel below the previous year. **Corn silage** production, at 720,000 tons, was down 7 percent from the previous year. Yields averaged 18 tons per acre, down 3 tons from 2001. **All dry bean** production totaled 624,000 hundredweight, up 21 percent from 2001, but down 18 percent from 2000. Harvested area increased 5,000 acres from 2001. Average yield was up 10 pounds per acre. **Pinto bean** production accounted for 87 percent of the total. **Sugarbeet** production totaled 659,000 tons, down 23 percent from 2001. Planted acreage for beets was down 18 percent and harvested acreage was down 5,600 acres from last year. Average yield, at 18.3 tons per acre, was down 2.3 tons per acre. Sugarbeet production was the smallest since 1984.

HAY: **All hay** production in Wyoming totaled 1.60 million tons in 2002, down 15 percent from the previous year and the smallest hay crop since 1969. **Alfalfa hay** production was down 10 percent from last year and 19 percent below 2000. Alfalfa acreage harvested was off 14 percent, but the average yield was up 0.1 tons to 2.3 tons per acre. Alfalfa hay production was the smallest since 1985. **Other hay** production totaled 450,000 tons, down 26 percent from 2001, 33 percent below 2000, and the smallest production since 1954. Acreage cut for other hay was the smallest acreage since estimates were established in 1954. Average yield for other hay was down 0.1 tons to 1.0 ton per acre.

ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY 2001 AND 2002

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	02/01 %
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres				1,000		
WYOMING									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	90	80	51	36	125	124	6,375	4,464	70%
Corn Silage (tons)	—	—	37	40	21	18	777	720	93%
Winter Wheat (bu)	160	150	120	120	24	19	2,880	2,280	79%
Spring Wheat (bu)	8	9	6	4	28	24	168	96	57%
Oats (bu)	75	70	28	15	48	54	1,344	810	60%
Barley (bu)	100	90	85	70	82	70	6,970	4,900	70%
Sugarbeets (tons)	48.5	40.0	41.6	36.0	20.6	18.3	857	659	77%
Dry Beans (cwt)	27	32	24	29	21.4	21.5	514	624	121%
Pinto	22.0	27.0	20.0	25.0	22.0	21.8	440	544	124%
Great Northern	3.0	2.0	2.5	1.6	18.4	17.5	46	28	61%
Navy	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	16.3	22.5	13	18	138%
Other	1.0	2.0	0.7	1.6	21.4	21.3	15	34	227%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	580	500	2.20	2.30	1,276	1,150	90%
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	550	450	1.10	1.00	605	450	74%
All Hay (tons)	—	—	1,130	950	1.66	1.68	1,881	1,600	85%
UNITED STATES									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	75,752	79,054	68,808	69,313	138.2	130.0	9,506,840	9,007,659	95%
Corn Silage (tons)	—	—	6,148	7,490	16.6	14.0	102,077	104,979	103%
Winter Wheat (bu)	41,078	41,735	31,295	29,651	43.5	38.5	1,361,479	1,142,802	84%
Spring Wheat (bu)	15,609	15,714	14,549	13,463	35.2	29.3	512,008	394,189	77%
Oats (bu)	4,403	5,005	1,905	2,098	61.4	56.8	117,024	119,132	102%
Barley (bu)	4,967	5,073	4,289	4,135	58.2	54.9	249,420	226,873	91%
Sugarbeets (tons)	1,370.5	1,427.9	1,243.4	1,361.0	20.7	20.2	25,764	27,550	107%
Dry Beans (cwt)	1,435.9	1,922.1	1,248.5	1,726.9	15.69	17.36	19,583	29,974	153%
Pinto	557.1	813.3	507.8	725.3	17.17	17.76	8,721	12,880	148%
Great Northern	109.5	93.8	98.7	82.1	21.36	18.82	2,108	1,545	73%
Navy	213.3	345.3	163.8	305.7	14.11	17.35	2,311	5,304	230%
Other	556.0	669.7	478.2	613.8	13.47	16.69	6,443	10,245	159%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	23,822	23,135	3.37	3.19	80,327	73,824	92%
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	39,699	41,362	1.93	1.86	76,437	77,138	101%
All Hay (tons)	—	—	63,521	64,497	2.47	2.34	156,764	150,962	96%

1/ Corn planted for all purposes, harvested for grain.

U.S. WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS LARGEST SINCE 1998

Wyoming farmers seeded an estimated 180,000 acres of winter wheat for harvest in 2003. This is a 20 percent increase from 2002 and a 13 percent increase from 2001 crop seedings. Winter wheat seedings are still below the 2000 crop level when 190,000 acres were seeded. Wheat prices rose significantly in the latter part of 2002 averaging over \$4.00 per bushel beginning in September.

Nationally, winter wheat acreage seeded for the 2003 crop is expected to total 44.2 million acres, up 6 percent from 2002 and the largest acreage since 1998. Hard red winter wheat seedings are up 8 percent to 32.1 million acres, soft red winter wheat down 1 percent to 8.2 million, and white winter wheat up 9 percent to 3.9 million.

WINTER WHEAT: AREA SEEDED SELECTED STATES AND U.S., 2001-2003

State	Crop Year			% 03/02
	2001	2002	2003	
— 1,000 Acres —				
CO	2,350	2,350	2,600	111%
KS	9,800	9,600	10,300	107%
MT	1,300	1,450	1,750	121%
NE	1,750	1,650	1,700	103%
OK	5,600	6,000	6,500	108%
SD	1,300	1,300	1,500	115%
TX	5,600	6,400	6,600	103%
WY	160	150	180	120%
U.S.	41,078	41,735	44,246	106%

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 8 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.9 million head on December 1, 2002. Inventory was 8 percent below December 1, 2001 and 9 percent below December 1, 2000.

Placements in November totaled 1.98 million, 4 percent above 2001 but 2 percent below 2000. Placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 589,000, 600-699 pounds were 660,000, 700-799 pounds were 417,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 311,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.73 million, 4 percent below 2001 and 5 percent below 2000.

Cattle on feed December 1, 2002, in the historic 7 monthly States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.4 million, down 8 percent from the previous year and 8 percent below December 1, 2000.

CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, DEC. 1, 2001-2002 1/

State	On Feed Nov 1, 2002	Place- ments Nov 2002	Market- ings Nov 2002	Other Disapp. Nov 2002	On Feed Dec 1, 2002	On Feed Dec 1, 2001
Thousand Head						
CO	1,060	190	170	10	1,070	1,160
KS	2,300	420	395	25	2,300	2,640
NE	2,110	410	330	10	2,180	2,270
TX	2,730	470	475	25	2,700	2,990
Oth						
Sts.	*2,542	487	361	20	2,648	2,831
U.S.	*10,742	1,977	1,731	90	10,898	11,891

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

* Revised

WYOMING HOG INVENTORY DOWN SLIGHTLY

The December 1, 2002 inventory of all hogs and pigs in Wyoming totaled 115,000 head, compared with 117,000 head a year earlier. Total inventory was still above two years ago when 108,000 head were on hand December 1, 2000. Breeding inventory was down 1,000 head from last year and market hogs also dropped 1,000 head. The market hogs on hand consisted of 38,000 head (40%) under 60 pounds, 19,000 (20%) weighing between 60 and 119 pounds, 19,000 (20%) between 120 and 179 pounds and 19,000 (20%) weighing 180 pounds and over.

A total of 42,000 sows farrowed during the 12 month period ending December 1, 2002. The average litter rate was 8.7 pigs per sow for an annual pig crop of 365,000 pigs. For the same period a year earlier, 36,000 sows farrowed 312,000 pigs. There were an estimated 150 operations in Wyoming with one or more hogs and pigs on hand during 2002, unchanged from the previous year.

UNITED STATES: U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2002 was 58.9 million head, 1 percent below December 2001 and 2 percent below September 1, 2002. Breeding inventory was down 3 percent from December 1, 2001, and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory was 1 percent below last year and 2 percent below last quarter.

The number of operations with hogs during 2002 totaled 75,350, down 7 percent from 2001 and 13 percent below 2000. Places with 2,000 or more hogs on hand accounted for 10 percent of the operations and 75 percent of the inventory.

	2001	2002	% 02/01
1,000 head			
WYOMING			
All Hogs & Pigs, Dec 1	117	115	98%
for Breeding	21	20	95%
for Market	96	95	99%
Sows Farrowed, Dec-Nov 1/	36	42	117%
Pig Crop	312	365	117%
UNITED STATES			
All Hogs & Pigs, Dec 1	59,804	58,943	99%
for Breeding	6,209	6,012	97%
for Market	53,594	52,931	99%
Sows Farrowed, Dec-Nov 1/	11,385	11,429	100%
Pig Crop	100,503	100,758	100%

1/ December preceding year.

U.S. LAMB AND MUTTON AT RECORD LOW FOR NOVEMBER

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during November 2002 totaled 400,000 pounds. This is up 85 percent from October 2002, but down 2 percent from November 2001. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Six hundred **cattle** were slaughtered, unchanged from November 2001. Total liveweight was 658,000 pounds, up 1 percent from last year. Average liveweight of cattle slaughtered was 1,185 pounds, 15 pounds heavier than a year ago.

Three hundred **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, also unchanged from last year. Total liveweight, at 75,000 pounds, was down 15 percent from November 2001. Average liveweight of hogs slaughtered was 261 pounds, down 15 pounds from last year.

One hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed totaling 13,000 pounds liveweight. Average liveweight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 138 pounds, unchanged from a year earlier.

January - October red meat production was 4.9 million pounds, up 14 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in November, down 2 percent from the 3.97 billion pounds produced in November 2001.

Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.86 million head, down 1 percent from November 2001. The average liveweight was 1,260 pounds, up 5 pounds from November a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.71 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.66 million head, 1 percent below November 2001. The average liveweight was 268 pounds, down 1 pound from November a year ago.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.8 million pounds, was down 9 percent from November 2001 and 6 percent below the previous record low set in 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 271,300 head, 5 percent below last year. The average liveweight was 132 pounds, down 6 pounds from November a year ago.

January - November red meat production was 43.3 billion pounds, 3 percent above the previous year. Accumulated beef production was up 4 percent from last year, pork was up 3 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, NOVEMBER 2001 AND 2002, Wyoming and U.S.										
SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Nov 2001	Nov 2002	Nov 2001	Nov 2002	%	Nov 2001	Nov 2002	Nov 2001	Nov 2002	%
			1,000 Pounds					1,000 Pounds		
Cattle	600	600	649	658	101	2,903,400	2,861,300	3,644,238	3,606,275	99
Hogs	300	300	88	75	85	8,716,200	8,655,500	2,345,186	2,315,439	99
Sheep & Lambs	100	100	19	13	68	287,100	271,300	39,614	35,809	90