



RANGE REVIEW

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National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

Issue 2004-05, Released 5/14/04

IN THIS ISSUE...

Agricultural Prices
Meat Animal Income
Cattle on Feed
Livestock Slaughter
Crop Production
Hay Stocks

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

U.S. PRICE INDEX REACHES SECOND CONSECUTIVE HIGH

The **Index of Prices Received** by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agriculture commodities sold during April was 120 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was down 1 point (1 percent) from March, but up 18 points (18 percent) from last year.

The **All Livestock Index** was down 1 point (1 percent) from last month, but up 25 points (26 percent) from last year. Cows, steers and heifers, and sheep prices were higher than in March while calves and lamb prices were lower. All livestock prices were still well above last year at this time. Cow prices, at \$50.00 per hundredweight, were up \$1.10 from March and \$7.90 above April 2003. Steer and heifer prices averaged \$102.00 per hundredweight, up \$4.00 from March and \$21.90 higher than April 2003. Calf prices, at \$119.00 per hundredweight, were down \$4.00 from last month, but \$19.00 higher than a year ago. Lamb prices, at \$103.00 per hundredweight, were down \$5.00 from March, but \$11.00 above April 2003.

The **All Crops Index** was unchanged from March, but down 12 points (10 percent) from last year, the result of more than a \$40.00 per ton drop in hay prices from April 2003. The price for alfalfa hay was lower than last month. Prices were slightly higher for corn, oats, all wheat, and dry beans. Prices for other hay and feed barley were unchanged from March. Prices for oats, alfalfa hay and other hay were lower this month compared with April 2003. Alfalfa hay averaged \$70.00 per ton in April, down \$2.00 from March and \$44.00 below April 2003. Other hay prices, at \$66.00 per ton, were unchanged from last month, but were down \$43.00 from last year.

The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes.

UNITED STATES: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April at 124, based on 1990-92=100, is 3 points (2 percent) above the March Index. This is the highest index level since records began. The Livestock Products Index increased 4 points (3 percent) from March while the All Crops Index increased 2 points (2 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for milk, cattle, corn, and lettuce. Lower prices were received for eggs, strawberries, hogs, and tobacco. 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 cattle, milk, strawberries, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton, and hogs.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 23 points (23 percent) from April 2003. The Food Commodities Index increased 3 points (3 percent) from last month to 125. The index stands 26 points (26 percent) above April 2003.

CASH RECEIPTS FOR CATTLE DOWN 6 PERCENT IN WYOMING DESPITE HIGHER PRICES

WYOMING: Wyoming stock growers received \$687.5 million in cash receipts from cattle, sheep, and hog sales during 2003, down 4 percent from the previous year's \$718.6 million.

Cattle and calf marketing receipts, at \$633.6 million, accounted for 92 percent of the total receipts. Cattle receipts were down 6 percent from 2002. A 21 percent decrease in total pounds marketed held cash receipts down despite record high average prices. The average price for cattle marketed was up \$13.60 per hundredweight (cwt.) to \$85.50, and calf prices at \$109.00 per cwt. were up \$16.40. The 2003 calf crop was also 8 percent smaller than in 2002.

Hog and pig sales in 2003 totaled \$23.8 million, up 24 percent from last year but still 34 percent below the record high established in 2001. The number of hogs marketed increased 7 percent from 2002, and total pounds marketed increased 12 percent. The average price also increased from \$31.30 per cwt. in 2002 to \$36.20 in 2003. The increase in pounds marketed coupled with the higher price led to the increase in cash receipts. The 2003 pig crop was 11 percent larger than in 2002.

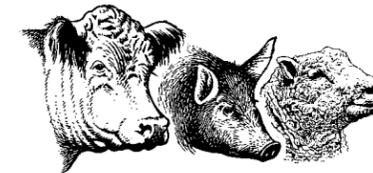
Cash receipts for **sheep and lambs** marketed in 2003 totaled \$30.2 million, up 26 percent from 2002. While the quantity marketed declined 3 percent, the average price for lambs marketed was up \$25.10 per cwt. to \$104.00, more than offsetting the decline in pounds marketed. Sheep prices increased \$10.50 to \$39.60 per cwt. The 2003 lamb crop was 9 percent below 2002 crop.

UNITED STATES: Total 2002 cash receipts from marketings of meat animals decreased 10 percent to \$48.0 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 79 percent of this total, hogs and pigs 20 percent, and sheep and lambs 1 percent. Production increased for hogs and pigs, but decreased for both cattle and calves and sheep and lambs. Average prices were down from 2001 levels for cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep while lambs showed an increase.

Cash receipts from marketings of **cattle and calves** decreased from \$40.4 billion in 2001 to \$38.0 in 2002, a 6 percent decrease. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 55.9 billion pounds in 2002, up 1 percent from 2001. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$66.50 a decrease of \$4.80 from 2001. For calves, the annual average price decreased \$9.60 to \$96.40.

Cash receipts from **hogs and pigs** totaled \$9.6 billion during 2002, down 23 percent from 2001. Marketings increased to 27.3 billion pounds in 2002, up 2 percent from 2001. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight decreased from \$44.30 in 2001 to \$33.40 in 2002.

Cash receipts from marketings of **sheep and lambs** in 2002 were \$431 million, up 8 percent from 2001. Marketings increased 2 percent to 652 million pounds. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for sheep decreased from \$34.60 in 2001 to \$28.20 in 2002, while for lambs the annual average price increased \$7.20 to \$74.10.



MEAT ANIMALS: PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME, WYOMING 2002-03

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 Pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 Pounds	Average Price per 100 lbs. Dollars		Value of Production 1,000 Dollars	Cash Receipts 3/ 1,000 Dollars	Gross Income 4/ 1,000 Dollars
			(Cattle)	(Calves)			
Cattle and Calves							
2002	610,890	911,210	71.90	92.60	449,894	675,394	681,312
2003	579,410	719,970	85.50	109.00	502,929	633,552	638,220
Sheep and Lambs							
2002	30,777	37,030	29.10	78.90	21,412	24,024	24,238
2003	28,817	35,904	39.60	104.00	26,154	30,199	30,474
Hogs and Pigs							
2002	50,584	50,170	31.30		19,080	19,134	19,494
2003	58,243	56,420	36.20		24,342	23,761	24,178
Total Meat Animals							
2002	692,251	998,410	—		490,386	718,552	725,044
2003	666,470	812,294	—		553,425	687,512	692,872

1/ Adjustments made for changes in inventory and for inshipments.

2/ Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State.

3/ Receipts from marketings and sales of farm slaughter.

4/ Gross income includes value of home consumption.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, APRIL 2003, MARCH 2004, AND APRIL 15, 2004								
U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY								
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		APR 2003	MAR 2004	APR 15 2004	APR 2003	MAR 2004	APR 15 2004	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS								
Cows	100#	42.10	48.90	50.00	40.20	46.60	49.00	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	80.10	98.00	102.00	78.80	87.90	89.70	—
Calves	100#	100.00	123.00	119.00	98.90	115.00	116.00	51
Sheep	100#	30.60	37.60	38.00	31.10	36.70	1/	—
Lambs	100#	92.00	108.00	103.00	93.70	104.00	1/	—
CROPS								
Corn	Bu.	2.95	3.30	3.35	2.34	2.75	2.87	43
Oats	Bu.	2.00	1.85	1.90	1.98	1.62	1.63	42
Feed Barley	Bu.	2.14	2.30	2.30	2.20	2.20	2.17	—
All Wheat	Bu.	3.31	3.71	3.75	3.37	3.84	3.82	38
Dry Beans	100#	17.50	18.30	19.00	18.70	21.10	21.10	41
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	114.00	72.00	70.00	96.50	85.90	92.70	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	109.00	66.00	66.00	79.50	70.90	76.00	—

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		
	APR 2003	MAR 2004	APR 15 2004	APR 2003	MAR 2004	APR 15 2004
All Commodities	102	121	120	101	121	124
All Crops	123	111	111	110	120	122
All Livestock and Products	97	123	122	93	121	125

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up Slightly

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.75 million head on April 1, 2004. The inventory was slightly above April 1, 2003 and 7 percent below April 1, 2002.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.80 million, 11 percent below 2003 and 8 percent below 2002. Net placements were 1.74 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 347,000, 600-699 pounds were 346,000, 700-799 pounds were 641,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 470,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.97 million, 9 percent above 2003 and 8 percent above 2002.

Other disappearance totaled 67,000 during March, 8 percent above 2003 and 3 percent below 2002.

CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, APR 1, 2003-2004 1/						
State	On Feed Mar 1, 2004	Place- ments Mar 2004	Market- ings Mar 2004	Other Disapp. Mar 2004	On Feed Apr 1, 2004	On Feed Apr 1, 2003
Thousand Head						
CO	1,020	150	190	10	970	970
KS	2,390	460	470	20	2,360	2,320
NE	2,270	295	350	5	2,210	2,190
TX	2,690	490	530	10	2,640	2,670
Oth						
Sts.	2,607	409	426	22	2,568	2,563
U.S.	10,977	1,804	1,966	67	10,748	10,713

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.

U.S. Pork Production at Monthly Record High for March

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during March 2004 totaled 500,000 pounds. This up 1 percent from the previous month but 13 percent less than March 2003. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Five hundred **cattle** were slaughtered in March, 100 less than in March 2003. Total live weight was 604,000 pounds, down 19 percent from March 2003. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,152 pounds, down 67 pounds from last year.

A total of 400 **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, 100 head less than last year. Total live weight, at 109,000 pounds, was down 15 percent from March 2003. Average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 268 pounds, up 9 pounds from last year.

One hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed in March, unchanged from March 2003. Live weight totaled 16,000 pounds, 11 percent below last year. Average live weight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 158 pounds, up 31 pounds from a year earlier.

January to March red meat production at 1.5 million pounds was 6 percent below a year ago's total of 1.6 million pounds.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, MARCH 2003 AND 2004 Wyoming and U.S.											
SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES					
	Number of Head		Total Live Weight			Number of Head		Total Live Weight			
	Mar	Mar	Mar	Mar	%	Mar	Mar	Mar	Mar	%	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	04/03	2003	2004	2003	2004	04/03	
		1,000 Pounds					1,000 Pounds				
Cattle	600	500	749	604	81	2,773,900	2,871,200	3,421,834	3,493,209	102	
Hogs	500	400	128	109	85	8,168,300	9,038,700	2,186,800	2,419,497	111	
Sheep & Lambs	100	100	18	16	89	262,700	306,800	36,260	44,121	122	

United States: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.95 billion pounds in March, up 6 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in March 2003.

Beef production, at 2.11 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.87 million head, up 4 percent from March 2003. The average live weight was down 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,217 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, up 11 percent from the previous year, and set a record monthly high. Hog kill totaled 9.04 million head, 11 percent above March 2003. The average live weight was unchanged the previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton, at 22.1 million pounds, was up 22 percent from March 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 306,800 head, 17 percent above last year. The average live weight was 144 pounds, up 6 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2004 commercial red meat production was 11.1 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 7 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

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U.S. WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION PROJECTED BELOW LAST SEASON

Based on conditions around May 1, winter wheat production in Wyoming this year is expected to total 3.38 million bushels, down 14 percent from 2003. Production would still be 42 percent more than in 2002. The average yield per harvested acre is forecast at 25 bushels, down 2 bushels from 2003 but up 6 bushels from the 2002 average yield. The total acreage expected to be harvested for winter wheat this year is 135,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year but 10,000 acres more than in 2002.

Moisture supplies throughout the State continue to be well below the five-year averages. Progress of the winter wheat crop is ahead of the average pace with over half jointed by May 10. Wind damage to this year's winter wheat crop in Wyoming has been light to moderate. Little freeze damage was reported.

UNITED STATES: Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.55 billion bushels, down 9 percent from 2003 but still 36 percent above 2002. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 44.2 bushels per acre, 2.5 bushels less than last year. Grain area totals 35.1 million acres, down 4 percent from last season.

Hard Red production is down 14 percent from a year ago to 910 million bushels. Soft Red is up 5 percent and totals 399 million bushels. White production totals 242 million bushels, down 9 percent from a year ago.

WYOMING HAY STOCKS REBOUND

Hay stocks on Wyoming farms and ranches totaled 465,000 tons as of May 1, 2004, up 133 percent from the same time last year, up 158 percent from the May 1, 2002 stocks, and the most since May 1, 2000. Good spring moisture during 2003 promoted a decent hay crop and good grass growth. Hay and roughage supplies were rated adequate or surplus in 96 percent of the State as of April 4, much better than last year when just over 50 percent of the State had adequate or surplus supplies.

UNITED STATES: Hay stocks on farms and ranches in the U.S. totaled 25.9 million tons as of May 1, up 17 percent from 2003 and 15 percent above May 1, 2002.

WINTER WHEAT, 2003 AND MAY 1, 2004 FORECAST, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	Acres Harvested		Yield per acre		Production		
	2003	Indicated 2004	2003	Indicated 2004	2003	Indicated 2004	% 2004/2003
		1,000	Bushels		1,000 Bushels		
WYOMING	145	135	27.0	25.0	3,915	3,375	86
Colorado	2,200	1,800	35.0	30.0	77,000	54,000	70
Kansas	10,000	9,000	48.0	41.0	480,000	369,000	77
Montana	1,720	1,600	37.0	33.0	63,640	52,800	83
Nebraska	1,820	1,850	46.0	39.0	83,720	72,150	86
Oklahoma	4,600	4,300	39.0	36.0	179,400	154,800	86
Texas	3,450	3,600	28.0	33.0	96,600	118,800	123
Washington	1,800	1,700	65.0	63.0	117,000	107,100	92
UNITED STATES	36,541	35,082	46.7	44.2	1,707,0694	1,550,395	91