



RANGE REVIEW

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National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

Issue 2004-11, Released 11/16/04

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

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Hay Prices Climb Upward

The **Index of Prices Received** by farmers and ranchers in Wyoming for agriculture commodities sold during October was 139 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was down 5 points (3 percent) from September but up 9 points (7 percent) from last year.

The **All Livestock Index** was down 8 points (5 percent) from last month but up 9 points (7 percent) from last year. Prices for cows, calves, and sheep were lower than in September, while steers and heifers and lambs remained unchanged. All livestock prices continued to be significantly above last year at this time with the exception of lambs which were unchanged. Cow prices averaged \$3.60 above October 2003. Steer and heifer prices were \$9.00 higher than last year. Calf prices averaged \$20.00 above October 2003 but \$1.00 below last month. Sheep prices were \$4.60 above October 2003 but \$2.30 below last month.

The **All Crops Index** was unchanged from September but was up 4 points (4 percent) from last year. Prices were lower than last month for corn and feed barley but higher for wheat, dry beans, and hay. All crops except corn and dry beans were lower this month compared with October 2003. Alfalfa hay averaged \$79.00 per ton in October, up \$4.00 from last month but \$2.00 lower than last year. Other hay prices, at \$73.00 per ton, were also \$4.00 higher than last month but \$2.00 below October 2003. Hay prices were the highest since December 2003. Dry beans averaged \$4.00 higher than last year and the highest since September 2002. Corn was up 48 cents from last year but down 25 cents from September.

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 October, at 111, based on 1990-92=100, is 4 points (3 percent) below the September Index. Declines occurred in both the Crop Price Index and the Livestock Price Index. The Crop Index declined 6 points (5 percent) from September while the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (1 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, tomatoes, oranges, grapes, and cucumbers. Lower prices were received for corn, soybeans, hogs, broilers, and potatoes.

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 soybeans, corn, and cotton offset decreased marketings of dairy, grapes, and sweet corn.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 2 points (2 percent) from October 2003. The Food Commodities Index declined 2 points (2 percent) from last month to 116. The index is unchanged from October 2003.

WYOMING AVERAGE SUGARBEET YIELD HIGHEST SINCE 1981

WYOMING: The November 1 forecast for Wyoming's sugarbeet crop indicates production will increase 10 percent from last year due a higher average yield per acre and more acreage harvested.

Sugarbeet growers intend to harvest 35,900 acres this year, up 2,200 acres (7 percent) from last year, but down 100 acres from 2002. Yield is expected to average 23.0 tons per acre, up 0.5 ton from the October 1 forecast and up 0.7 ton from 2003. This would be the highest average yield per acre since 1981. Total production in 2004 is expected to be 826,000 tons, up 10 percent from 2003 and up 25 percent from 2002. Production would be the largest since 2000.

United States: Corn for grain production is forecast at 11.7 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month and 16 percent above 2003. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 160.2 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushel from October and up 18.0 bushels from last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the largest on record. The previous record was set last year at 10.1 billion bushels.

Sugarbeet production is forecast at 29.8 million tons, 3 percent above the October 1 forecast but 3 percent below last year's production. Acres harvested and to be harvested in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States total 1.33 million acres. This is unchanged from October but 2 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 22.4 tons per acre, 0.7 ton above last month but 0.3 ton below 2003.

Small grain producers in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming that had not completed harvesting of oats, barley, durum wheat, or other spring wheat by September 1, 2004 were re-interviewed for final acreage harvested and production. As a result, U.S. oats production in 2004 is now estimated at 116 million bushels, down less than one percent from what was previously published in the "Small Grains Summary" on September 30. Barley production in the U.S. is estimated at 279 million bushels, slightly below the previous estimate but still slightly higher than in 2003. All wheat production this year in the U.S. is now estimated at 2.16 billion bushels, fractionally below the previous estimate and 8 percent below last year. No changes were made in Wyoming small grain estimates.

ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2003; FINAL SMALL GRAINS AND NOVEMBER 1 ROW CROP FORECASTS, 2004

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		
	2003	2004	2003	November 2004	2003	November 2004	2003	November 2004	04/03 %
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres				1,000		
WYOMING									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	80	95	50	60	129	2/	6,450	2/	
Winter Wheat (bu) 3/	160	150	145	135	27	26	3,915	3,510	90%
Spring Wheat (bu) 3/	8	10	6	6	30	40	180	240	133%
Oats (bu) 3/	60	50	23	15	48	53	1,104	795	72%
Barley (bu) 3/	90	90	75	75	93	92	6,975	6,900	99%
Sugarbeets (tons)	35.0	37.0	33.7	35.9	22.3	23.0	752	826	110%
Dry Beans (cwt)	32.0	25.0	29.0	24.0	22.20	21.50	645	516	80%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	--	--	650	490	2.40	2.30	1,560	1,127	72%
Other Hay (tons)	--	--	550	500	1.40	1.40	770	700	91%
All Hay (tons)	--	--	1,200	990	1.94	1.85	2,330	1,827	78%
UNITED STATES									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	78,736	80,968	71,139	73,311	142.2	160.2	10,113,887	11,740,920	116%
Winter Wheat (bu) 3/	45,384	43,350	36,753	34,462	46.7	43.5	1,716,721	1,499,434	87%
Spring Wheat (bu) 3/	13,842	13,763	13,441	13,174	39.5	43.2	531,402	568,918	107%
Oats (bu) 3/	4,597	4,085	2,220	1,792	65.0	64.7	144,383	115,935	80%
Barley (bu) 3/	5,348	4,527	4,727	4,021	58.9	69.4	278,283	279,253	100%
Sugarbeets (tons)	1,365.4	1,349.8	1,347.9	1,326.0	22.7	22.4	30,583	29,765	97%
Dry Beans (cwt)	1,406.1	1,373.4	1,346.9	1,250.1	16.72	14.95	22,515	18,693	83%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	--	--	23,578	22,226	3.24	3.48	76,307	77,371	101%
Other Hay (tons)	--	--	39,764	39,363	2.03	2.25	80,816	88,549	110%
All Hay (tons)	--	--	63,342	61,589	2.48	2.69	157,123	165,920	106%

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

2/Forecasts no longer made. Final estimates released January 12, 2005

3/Year-end estimate.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, OCTOBER 2003, SEPTEMBER 2004, AND OCTOBER 15, 2004.

U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY

COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			% OF PARITY
		OCT 2003	SEPT 2004	OCT 15 2004	OCT 2003	SEPT 2004	OCT 15 2004	
		Dollars			Dollars			
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS								
Cows	100#	49.40	56.50	53.00	44.60	53.10	50.40	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	108.00	117.00	117.00	97.80	89.30	91.10	—
Calves	100#	115.00	136.00	135.00	112.00	129.00	127.00	56
Sheep	100#	35.40	42.30	40.00	35.00	41.80	1/	—
Lambs	100#	115.00	115.00	115.00	96.80	101.00	1/	—
CROPS								
Corn	Bu.	1.87	2.60	2.35	2.12	2.20	1.89	28
Oats	Bu.	1.95	1.70	1.70	1.44	1.44	1.37	35
Feed Barley	Bu.	1.92	1.68	1.65	2.24	1.64	1.57	—
All Wheat	Bu.	3.07	3.05	3.06	3.44	3.36	3.38	33
Dry Beans	100#	18.00	21.80	22.00	17.80	22.90	25.30	49
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	81.00	75.00	79.00	89.10	95.50	97.80	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	75.00	69.00	73.00	69.20	65.70	68.60	—

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		
	OCT 2003	SEPT 2004	OCT 15 2004	OCT 2003	SEPT 2004	OCT 15 2004
All Commodities	130	144	139	113	115	111
All Crops	107	111	111	111	112	106
All Livestock and Products	133	150	142	116	118	117

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 3 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.5 million head on October 1, 2004. The inventory was 3 percent above October 1, 2003 and up slightly from October 1, 2002. The inventory included 6.46 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.96 million head, up 1 percent from 2003.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.37 million, 4 percent below 2003 but 8 percent above 2002. Net placements were 2.31 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 623,000, 600-699 pounds were 474,000, 700-799 pounds were 557,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 720,000. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.80 million, 11 percent below 2003 and 3 percent below 2002. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 61,000 during September, 3 percent below 2003 but 15 percent above 2002.

CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, OCTOBER 1, 2003-2004 1/						
State	On Feed Sept 1, 2004	Place- ments Sept 2004	Market- ings Sept 2004	Other Disapp. Sept 2004	On Feed Oct 1, 2004	On Feed Oct 1, 2003
Thousand Head						
CO	930	275	180	5	1,020	950
KS	2,130	520	410	20	2,220	2,300
NE	1,800	470	320	10	1,940	1,830
TX	2,670	600	490	10	2,770	2,720
Oth Sts.	2,443	509	400	16	2,536	2,418
U.S.	9,973	2,374	1,800	61	10,486	10,218

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.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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U.S. Pork Production Sets Record High for September

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during September 2004 totaled 600,000 pounds. This was down 36 percent from the previous month and 1 percent from September 2003. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Seven hundred **cattle** were slaughtered in September, unchanged from September 2003. Total live weight was 790,000 pounds, down 5 percent from September 2003. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,179 pounds down 34 pounds from last year.

A total of 500 **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, down 100 head from last year. Total live weight, at 145,000 pounds, was unchanged from September 2003. Average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 265 pounds, up 1 pound from last year.

Two hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed in September, unchanged from September 2003. Live weight totaled 23,000 pounds, up 5 percent from last year. Average live weight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 133 pounds, down 1 pound from a year earlier.

January to September red meat production, at 4.9 million pounds, was 4 percent below last year's total of 5.1 million pounds.

United States: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in September, down 3 percent from the 4.01 billion pounds produced in September 2003.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 9 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.74 million head, down 13 percent from September 2003. The average live weight was up 38 pounds from the previous year to 1,266 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year and a new record for September. Hog kill totaled 9.00 million head, 5 percent above September 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 265 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 243,600 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2004 commercial red meat production was 33.8 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, SEPTEMBER 2003 AND 2004, Wyoming and U.S.										
SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Sept 2003	Sept 2004	Sept 2003	Sept 2004	% 04/03	Sept 2003	Sept 2004	Sept 2003	Sept 2004	% 04/03
	1,000 Pounds					1,000 Pounds				
Cattle	700	700	833	790	95	3,128,900	2,735,500	3,841,020	3,462,349	90
Hogs	600	500	145	145	100	8,573,300	8,997,700	2,251,547	2,384,285	106
Sheep & Lambs	200	200	22	23	105	257,200	243,600	33,652	32,334	96

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

'Twas the night of Thanksgiving,
But I just couldn't sleep.
I tried counting backwards,
I tried counting sheep
The leftovers beckoned
The dark meat and white,
But I fought the temptation with all of my might.

Tossing and turning with anticipation,
The thought of a snack became infatuation!
So I raced to the kitchen,
Flung open the door,
And gazed at the fridge full of goodies galore.

I gobbled up turkey and buttered potatoes,
Pickles and carrots, beans and tomatoes.
I felt myself swelling so plump and so round,
Till all of a sudden, I rose off the ground!!

I crashed through the ceiling, floated into the sky
With a mouthful of pudding and a handful of pie,
But I managed to yell
as I soared past the trees ...

HAPPY EATING TO ALL,
PASS THE CRANBERRIES PLEASE!!

<http://www.clean-funnies.com/html/f1965.htm>