



Issue 2006-08, Released 08/14/06

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

THANK YOU

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

*Agriculture Prices
August Crop Forecasts
Cattle on Feed
Livestock Slaughter
July Cattle/Sheep
Inventory*

HAY PRICES CONTINUE TO RISE

The *Index of Prices Received* by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agriculture commodities sold during July was 123 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was up unchanged from May but down 2 points (2 percent) from July 2005. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes

The **All Livestock Index**, at 128, was up 2 points (2 percent) from June but down 5 points (4 percent) from July 2005. Cow and sheep prices were above last month, but steer and heifer, calf, and lamb prices remained unchanged. Cow, sheep, and lamb prices were down from this time last year, but steer and heifer prices and calf prices were up. Cow prices averaged 50 cents above June but \$8.10 lower than July 2005. Steer and heifer prices were unchanged from last month but \$2.00 above last year's price. Calf prices were unchanged from June but \$2.00 higher than July 2005. Sheep prices were 90 cents above June but \$17.10 below last year's price. Lamb prices were unchanged from last month but \$30.00 lower than last year at this time.

The **All Crops Index**, at 110, was up 1 point (1 percent) from June but was up 5 points (5 percent) from July last year. Prices for alfalfa hay, other hay, corn, and wheat were higher than last month, while the dry beans price was lower. Oats and feed barley remained unchanged. Compared with July 2005, prices were higher for all crops except dry beans which were down \$9.10 from last year. Corn was up 5 cents from June and up 31 cents from July 2005. Oats was unchanged from last month but was up 5 cents from last year. Feed barley was unchanged from last month but up 3 cents from last year at this time. Wheat was up 7 cents from June and up \$1.11 from last July. Dry beans were down 20 cents from June and down \$9.10 from last year. Alfalfa hay and other hay were each up \$3.00 from June and up \$9.00 and \$11.00, respectively, from last year's prices.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in July, at 117 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from June. The Crop Index was down 3 points (2 percent) while the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, broilers, asparagus, and snap beans. Lower prices were received for grapes, cantaloupes, hogs, and broccoli. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of grapes, wheat, tomatoes, and hay offset decreased marketings of milk, cantaloupes, potatoes, and asparagus.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 1 point (1 percent) from July 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 118, decreased 1 point (1 percent) from last month but was unchanged from July 2005.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, JULY 2005, JUNE 2006, AND JULY 15, 2006								
U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY								
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		JULY 2005	JUNE 2006	JULY 15 2006	JULY 2005	JUNE 2006	JULY 15 2006	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS								
Cows	100#	57.10	48.50	49.00	53.80	46.70	47.00	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	107.00	109.00	109.00	88.20	88.50	90.40	—
Calves	100#	131.00	133.00	133.00	133.00	133.00	136.00	450
Sheep	100#	41.10	23.10	24.00	41.00	28.60	1/	—
Lambs	100#	131.00	101.00	101.00	110.00	92.00	1/	—
CROPS								
Corn	Bu.	2.24	2.50	2.55	2.11	2.14	2.20	28
Oats	Bu.	1.55	1.60	1.60	1.48	1.93	1.89	43
Feed Barley	Bu.	1.65	1.68	1.68	1.88	2.08	2.01	—
All Wheat	Bu.	3.16	4.20	4.27	3.20	4.01	4.09	39
Dry Beans	100#	26.60	17.70	17.50	25.40	18.90	19.50	35
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	73.00	79.00	82.00	109.00	115.00	113.00	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	67.00	75.00	78.00	75.90	99.10	89.30	—
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				
	JULY 2005	JUNE 2006	JULY 15 2006	JULY 2005	JUNE 2006	JULY 15 2006		
All Commodities	125	123	123	116	117	117		
All Crops	105	109	110	115	126	123		
All Livestock and Products	133	126	128	117	110	110		

WYOMING SUGARBEET PRODUCTION LARGEST SINCE 2000

Average yields per acre in Wyoming are expected to be higher than last year for sugarbeets but lower for barley, dry beans, other hay, and alfalfa hay. Total production is also expected to be larger for sugarbeets but smaller for the other crops. The survey was done around August 1.

Barley production in Wyoming is forecast at 4.73 million bushels. This would be down 15 percent from last year's crop and 33 percent below 2004. If realized, production will be the smallest since 2002. The expected area for harvest, at 55,000 acres, is down 5,000 acres from 2005, while the expected yield of 86 bushels per acre is unchanged from the July 1 forecast but down 7 bushels from 2005.

Alfalfa hay production is forecast to reach 1.44 million tons in 2006, down 4 percent from last year's crop, but up 10 percent from the 2004 crop. Yields are expected to average 2.4 tons per acre, 0.1 ton below last year and 0.5 ton below the 2004 record high. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 600,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Production of **all other hay**, at 561,000 tons, is expected to be 20 percent below last year. Acreage expected to be cut is down 6 percent from last year and 2004. Average yield, at 1.1 tons per acre, is down 0.2 ton per acre from 2005 and down 0.3 ton per acre from 2004. The 2006 **all hay** production forecast, at 2.00 million tons, is down 9 percent from last year and 3 percent below the 2004 crop.

The August 1 forecast for **sugarbeet** production in Wyoming, at 943,000 tons, is 18 percent above last year's crop and 16 percent above 2004. If realized, the production will be the largest since 2000. Harvested acreage is expected to total 41,900 acres, 6,000 more than last year and the largest since 2000. Yield per acre is forecast at 22.5 tons per acre, up 0.2 ton from 2005 but 0.3 ton lower than in 2004.

Dry bean production in 2006 is forecast at 594,000 hundredweight. If realized, this would be down 23 percent from 2005 but up 10 percent from 2004. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 27,000 acres, down 6,000 acres from last year, but 3,000 more than in 2004. Yield is expected to average 2,200 pounds per acre, 150 pounds per acre less than last year's record high yield. Of the 29,000 acres of **dry beans** planted, 25,000 acres are pinto beans compared with 29,000 acres in 2005.

UNITED STATES: Winter Wheat production is forecast at 1.28 billion bushels, up slightly from last month but 14 percent below 2005. Area harvested for grain totals 31.1 million acres, down 8 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is forecast at 41.2 bushels per acre, up 0.1 bushel from July 1. **Barley** production for 2006 is forecast at 183 million bushels, 14 percent below 2005 and the smallest production since 1936. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 61.2 bushels per acre, down 3.6 bushels from last year.

Corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last year and 7 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 152.2 bushels per acre, up 4.3 bushels from last year. Production would still be the third largest on record.

Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures production is forecast at 71.2 million tons, down 6 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 3.18 tons per acre, down 0.20 ton from 2005. Harvested area is up fractionally from last year. **All other hay** production is forecast at 71.1 million tons, down 5 percent from 2005.

Sugarbeets production for 2006 is forecast to be 31.8 million tons, 16 percent above last year's production. Growers in the 11 sugarbeet producing States expect to harvest 1.34 million acres, up 2 percent from June and up 8 percent from last year. The yield is forecast at 23.7 tons per acre, 1.5 tons above 2005.

U.S. **dry edible bean** production is forecast at 23.3 million hundredweight in 2006, down 15 percent from last year but 31 percent above two years ago. Harvested acreage is down 3 percent from 2005 and average yield is down 210 pounds per acre.

ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2005; ACREAGE AND AUGUST 1 FORECASTS 2006

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		
	2005	2006	2005	July 2006	2005	July 2006	2005	July 2006	06/05 %
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres				1,000		
WYOMING									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	80	90	49	58	140.0	2/	6,860	2/	
Winter Wheat (bu)	160	150	145	135	30.0	3/	4,350	3/	
Spring Wheat (bu)	9	10	7	8	45.0	3/	315	3/	
Oats (bu)	55	50	12	12	50.0	3/	600	3/	
Barley (bu)	75	65	60	55	93.0	86.0	5,580	4,730	85%
Sugarbeets (tons)	36.2	42.8	35.9	41.9	22.3	22.5	801	943	118%
Dry Beans (cwt)	34.0	29.0	33.0	27.0	23.5	22.0	776	594	77%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	600	600	2.50	2.40	1,500	1,440	96%
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	540	510	1.30	1.10	702	561	80%
All Hay (tons)	—	—	1,140	1,110	1.93	1.80	2,202	2,001	91%
UNITED STATES									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	81,759	79,366	75,107	72,091	147.9	152.2	11,112,072	10,975,740	99%
Winter Wheat (bu)	40,433	41,393	33,794	31,108	44.4	41.2	1,499,129	1,283,134	86%
Spring Wheat (bu)	14,036	14,595	13,609	14,154	37.1	32.7	504,456	463,511	92%
Oats (bu)	4,246	4,312	1,823	1,907	63.0	56.3	114,878	107,423	94%
Barley (bu)	3,875	3,496	3,269	2,990	64.8	61.2	211,896	182,972	86%
Sugarbeets (tons)	1,299.8	1,362.8	1,242.9	1,344.2	22.2	23.7	27,537	31,835	116%
Dry Beans (cwt)	1,665.0	1,607.3	1,568.6	1,519.0	17.4	15.3	27,350	23,301	85%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	22,389	22,407	3.38	3.18	75,771	71,205	94%
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	39,260	40,290	1.91	1.77	74,819	71,121	95%
All Hay (tons)	—	—	61,649	62,697	2.44	2.27	150,590	142,326	95%

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

2/Forecasts no longer made. Final estimates released January 2007.

3/Forecasts no longer made. Final estimates released September 29.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 5 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 July 1, 2006. The inventory was 5 percent above July 1, 2005 and 7 percent above July 1, 2004. This is the second highest July 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.09 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 65 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.71 million head, up 5 percent from 2005.

Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.95 million, 10 percent above 2005 and 18 percent above 2004. This is the second highest placements for the month of June since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.89 million. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 565,000, 600-699 pounds were 430,000, 700-799 pounds were 456,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 500,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during June totaled 2.20 million, 6 percent above 2005 and up 6 percent from 2004. This is the second highest fed cattle marketings for the month of June since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during June, unchanged from 2005 but 10 percent below 2004.

CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, JULY, 2005-2006 1/

State	On Feed	Place-	Market-	Other	On Feed	On Feed
	June 1, 2006	ments June 2006	ings June 2006	Disapp. June 2006	July 1, 2006	July 1, 2005
Thousand Head						
CO	1,030	175	215	10	980	900
KS	2,400	445	550	15	2,280	2,200
NE	2,120	370	490	10	1,990	1,820
TX	2,960	530	500	10	2,980	2,950
Oth Sts.	2,677	431	448	18	2,642	2,524
U.S.	11,187	1,951	2,203	63	10,872	10,394

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. BEEF PRODUCTION UP 9 PERCENT

WYOMING: Commercial red meat production in Wyoming during June 2006 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was up 10 percent from the previous month and down 3 percent from June 2005. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Six hundred *cattle* were slaughtered in June, unchanged from last year. Total live weight was 773,000 pounds, down 4 percent from June 2005. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,204 pounds, down 37 pounds from last year.

A total of 300 *hogs* and *pigs* were processed, unchanged from last June. Total live weight, at 72,000 pounds, was down 9 percent from June 2005. Average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 266 pounds, up 4 pounds from last year.

One hundred *sheep* and *lambs* were processed in June, unchanged from June 2005. Live weight totaled 11,000 pounds, down 4,000 pounds from last year. Average live weight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 130 pounds, down 20 pounds from a year earlier.

Red Meat production from January to June 2006 totaled 2.9 million pounds, down 9 percent from the same period last year.

United States: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.12 billion pounds in June, up 4 percent from the 3.96 billion pounds produced in June 2005.

Beef production, at 2.43 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.16 million head, up 8 percent from June 2005. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.34 million head, 2 percent below June 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from June 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 211,800 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 1 pound from June a year ago.

January to June 2006 commercial red meat production was 23.3 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, JUNE 2005 AND 2006, Wyoming and U.S.

SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES					
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight			
	June 2005	June 2006	June 2005	June 2006	% 06/05	June 2005	June 2006	June 2005	June 2006	% 06/05	
			1,000 Pounds						1,000 Pounds		
Cattle	600	600	803	773	96	2,937,600	3,159,000	3,656,128	3,977,593	109	
Hogs	300	300	79	72	91	8,553,800	8,342,200	2,295,391	2,237,832	97	
Sheep & Lambs	100	100	15	11	73	221,700	211,800	30,509	29,078	95	

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REGIONAL LAMB CROP UP 2 PERCENT

The 2006 lamb crop for Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming is expected to total 1.30 million head, up 2 percent from the 2005 lamb crop. This region accounted for 32 percent of the national total lamb crop of 4.10 million head.

The survey conducted in early July also indicated that operators in the five States owned 2.65 million **sheep and lambs** on July 1, unchanged from last July. The number of **breeding sheep and lambs** was 1.46 million head, also unchanged from last year, and the number of **market sheep and lambs** totaled 1.19 million head, unchanged from last year.

Of the total breeding sheep in the five States, **ewes 1 year and older** totaled 1.22 million head, **rams 1 year and older** totaled 40,000 head, and **replacement lambs** totaled 200,000 head, all unchanged from last year.

Of the 1.19 million market sheep and lambs in the Region, 20,000 were **market sheep**, unchanged from last year, and 1.17 million were **market lambs**, both unchanged from the previous July.

UNITED STATES: The 2006 lamb crop in the United States is expected to total 4.10 million head, down 1 percent from the 2005 lamb crop of 4.13 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2006 totaled 3.62 million head or 88 percent of the yearly total. An additional 480,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2006.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 2006 totaled 7.77 million head, down slightly from 7.80 million on July 1, 2005, but 2 percent above July 1, 2004. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.64 million head on July 1, 2006 was down slightly from July 1, 2005. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs), at 3.14 million head, were also down slightly from last July.

The breeding herd consists of 3.78 million ewes one year old and older, 185,000 rams one year old and older, and 670,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). **Market lamb** inventory at 3.06 million head was comprised of 1.80 million lambs under 65 pounds, 630,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 370,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 260,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 80,000 head.

ALL SHEEP & LAMBS, JULY 1, MOUNTAIN REGION AND U.S.

Class	2004	2005	2006	% 2006/2005
	—————1,000 Head—————			
Mountain Region 1/				
All Sheep & Lambs	2,600	2,650	2,650	100%
Market Sheep & Lambs	1,170	1,190	1,190	100%
Market Sheep	20	20	20	100%
Market Lambs	1,150	1,170	1,170	100%
Breeding Sheep & Lambs	1,430	1,460	1,460	100%
Ewes 1 Yr & Over	1,210	1,220	1,220	100%
Rams 1 Yr & Over	40	40	40	100%
Replacement Lambs	180	200	200	100%
Lamb Crop	1,270	1,280	1,300	102%
United States				
All Sheep & Lambs	7,650	7,800	7,770	100%
Market Sheep & Lambs	3,105	3,145	3,135	100%
Market Sheep	75	90	80	89%
Market Lambs	3,030	3,055	3,055	100%
Breeding Sheep & Lambs	4,545	4,655	4,635	100%
Ewes 1 Yr & Over	3,745	3,790	3,780	100%
Rams 1 Yr & Over	180	185	185	100%
Replacement Lambs	620	680	670	99%
Lamb Crop	4,096	4,125	4,100	99%

1/CO, MT, SD, UT, & WY

JULY 1 U.S. CATTLE INVENTORY UP 1 PERCENT

All *cattle and calves* in the United States as of July 1, 2006, totaled 105.7 million head, 1 percent above the 104.5 million on July 1, 2005 and 2 percent above the 103.4 million two years ago. Estimates for Wyoming are not made at this time but, as previously reported, January 1, 2006 cattle inventory in Wyoming totaled 1.44 million head, up 7 percent from the previous year and up 3 percent from 2 years ago.

For the U.S., all *cows and heifers that have calved*, at 43.0 million, were up slightly from the 42.8 million on July 1, 2005 and 1 percent above the 42.4 million two years ago. *Beef cows*, at 33.9 million, were up slightly from July 1, 2005 and up 1 percent from two years ago. *Milk cows*, at 9.15 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2005 and up 2 percent from two years ago.

Other U.S. class estimates on July 1, 2006, and the changes from July 1, 2005, are as follows:

- * *All heifers* 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, up 2 percent.
- * *Beef replacement heifers*, 5.0 million, unchanged.
- * *Milk replacement heifers*, 3.8 million, up 3 percent.
- * *Other heifers*, 7.7 million, up 3 percent.
- * *Steers* weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.9 million, up 3 percent.
- * *Bulls* weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged.
- * *Calves* under 500 pounds, 29.2 million, up 1 percent.
- * *All cattle and calves on feed* for slaughter, 12.5 million, up 4 percent.

CALF CROP UP SLIGHTLY

The **2006 U.S. calf crop** is expected to be 37.9 million, up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.6 million, up 1 percent from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004.

CATTLE & CALVES: NUMBER BY CLASS AND CALF CROP, JULY 1, UNITED STATES

	2004	2005	2006	% 2006/2005
—————1,000 Head—————				
Cattle and Calves	103,400	104,500	105,700	101%
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved:	42,400	42,800	43,000	100%
Beef Cows	33,400	33,750	33,850	100%
Milk Cows	9,000	9,050	9,150	101%
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	15,950	16,200	16,500	102%
For Beef Cow Replacement	4,800	5,000	5,000	100%
For Milk Cow Replacement	3,600	3,700	3,800	103%
Other Heifers	7,550	7,500	7,700	103%
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	14,200	14,400	14,900	103%
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	2,050	2,100	2,100	100%
Calves Under 500 Pounds	28,800	29,000	29,200	101%
Calf Crop	37,505	37,780	37,900	100%
Cattle on Feed	11,800	12,000	12,500	104%