



Issue 2006-12, Released 12/13/06

**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  
Crop Production  
Cattle on Feed  
Livestock Slaughter  
Annual Wage Rates  
Agricultural Labor*

**CATTLE PRICES LOWER;  
HAY HIGHER**

The *Index of Prices Received* by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agriculture commodities sold during November was 118 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was down 7 points (6 percent) from October and down 12 points (9 percent) from November 2005. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes

The **All Livestock Index**, at 117, was down 8 points (6 percent) from October and down 17 points (13 percent) from November 2005. Livestock prices were down from last month except for lambs. All livestock prices were down from this time last year. Cow prices averaged \$2.10 below October and \$5.80 lower than November 2005. Steer and heifer prices were down \$2.00 from last month and down \$12.00 from last year's price. Calf prices were down \$5.00 from last month and \$17.00 lower than November 2005. Sheep prices were \$1.50 below October and \$16.20 below last year's price. Lamb prices were \$3.00 above last month but \$4.00 lower than last year at this time.

The **All Crops Index**, at 126, was up 2 points (2 percent) from October and up 18 points (17 percent) from last November. Prices for all crops were higher than last month except oats which was unchanged. Prices were also higher than last year for all crops. Corn averaged up 1 cent from October and up 10 cents from November 2005. Wheat was up 14 cents from October, up \$1.57 from last year, and the highest since June 1996. Dry beans were up 10 cents from October and up \$1.50 from last year. Alfalfa hay was up \$3.00 per ton from last month and \$18.00 per ton from last year. Other hay was also up \$3.00 from October and up \$19.00 from last year.

**United States:** The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 121 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (4 percent) from October. The Crop Index was up 10 points (9 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (1 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for corn, soybeans, eggs, and milk. Lower prices were received for cattle, tomatoes, oranges, and hogs.

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 milk, cattle, cotton, and oranges offset decreased marketings of soybeans, potatoes, peanuts, and lettuce.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 9 points (8 percent) from November 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 121, increased 4 points (3 percent) from last month and 2 points (2 percent) from November 2005.

**PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, NOVEMBER 2005, OCTOBER 2006, AND NOVEMBER 15, 2006  
U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY**

COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		NOV 2005	OCT 2006	NOV 15 2006	NOV 2005	OCT 2006	NOV 15 2006	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
<b>LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS</b>								
Cows	100#	50.80	47.10	45.00	45.90	45.90	43.70	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	122.00	112.00	110.00	97.10	94.00	90.00	—
Calves	100#	144.00	132.00	127.00	137.00	127.00	119.00	45
Sheep	100#	45.20	30.50	29.00	46.20	31.10	1/	—
Lambs	100#	122.00	115.00	118.00	107.00	98.10	1/	—
<b>CROPS</b>								
Corn	Bu.	2.40	2.49	2.50	1.77	2.54	3.12	40
Oats	Bu.	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.64	1.77	1.97	46
Feed Barley	Bu.	1.56	—	2.60	1.91	2.68	3.07	—
All Wheat	Bu.	3.28	4.71	4.85	3.45	4.59	4.62	44
Dry Beans	100#	20.20	21.60	21.70	18.00	19.70	21.00	39
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	76.00	91.00	94.00	98.30	112.00	109.00	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	72.00	88.00	91.00	80.00	93.80	98.10	—

1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996.

2/Insufficient sales to establish a price.

**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		
	NOV 2005	OCT 2006	NOV 15 2006	NOV 2005	OCT 2006	NOV 15 2006
All Commodities	130	125	118	112	116	121
All Crops	108	124	126	105	115	125
All Livestock and Products	134	125	117	121	117	116

## WYOMING DRY BEAN CROP SMALLER THAN LAST YEAR

**WYOMING:** The December 1 forecast of production for Wyoming's dry bean crop indicates production is down 23 percent from last year but 10 percent higher than 2004. The 2006 production is expected to decrease by 182,000 hundredweight, due to 6,000 fewer acres harvested and a lower average yield per acre.

**All dry bean** production is forecast at 594,000 hundredweight, down from 776,000 in 2005, but above the 2004 production of 541,000 hundredweight. A total of 27,000 acres were harvested with an average yield forecast at 2,200 pounds per acre. Yield would be down 150 pounds per acre from the record high last year, 50 pounds lower than the 2004 crop and the smallest yield since 2002. **Pinto bean** production is expected to drop 23 percent to 520,000 hundredweight or 88 percent of the total. Production of **great northern beans** fell 14 percent to 32,000 hundredweight or 5 percent of the total.

**Navy bean** production, at 23,000 hundredweight, was unchanged and comprised 4 percent of the total. The remaining 19,000 hundredweight, or 3 percent of the production, was in various **other varieties**.

**UNITED STATES:** U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 23.8 million hundredweight for 2006, virtually unchanged from the October forecast but 11 percent below the revised 2005 production. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.53 million acres, 2 percent below the last forecast but virtually unchanged from the previous year's acreage. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,558 pounds per acre, an increase of 35 pounds from the October forecast but 188 pounds below the 2005 yield. Production is below a year ago in 13 of the 18 producing States. Pinto bean production is expected to be down 24 percent, great northern beans down 26 percent, and navy beans up 6 percent.

### ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2005; FINAL SMALL GRAINS, ROW CROP FORECASTS AND DECEMBER 1 DRY BEAN FORECASTS, 2006

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		
	2005	2006	2005	Dec 2006	2005	Dec 2006	2005	Dec 2006	06/05 %
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres				1,000		
<b>WYOMING</b>									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	80	85	49	55	140.0	2/	6,860	2/	
Winter Wheat (bu) 3/	160	150	145	135	30.0	27.0	4,350	3,645	84%
Other Spring Wheat (bu) 3/	9	8	7	6	45.0	39.0	315	234	74%
Oats (bu) 3/	55	48	12	12	50.0	57.0	600	684	114%
Barley (bu) 3/	75	70	60	57	93.0	83.0	5,580	4,731	85%
Sugarbeets (tons) 4/	36.2	42.8	35.9	40.8	22.3	19.9	801	812	101%
Dry Beans (cwt)	34.0	29.0	33.0	27.0	23.5	22.0	776	594	77%
Alfalfa Hay (tons) 5/	—	—	600	600	2.50	2.40	1,500	1,440	96%
Other Hay (tons) 5/	—	—	540	510	1.30	1.10	702	561	80%
All Hay (tons) 5/	—	—	1,140	1,110	1.93	1.80	2,202	2,001	91%
<b>UNITED STATES</b>									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	81,759	78,561	75,107	71,047	147.9	151.2	11,112,072	10,744,806	97%
Winter Wheat (bu) 3/	40,433	40,575	33,794	31,117	44.4	41.7	1,499,129	1,298,081	87%
Other Spring Wheat (bu) 3/	14,036	14,899	13,609	13,878	37.1	33.2	504,456	460,480	91%
Oats (bu) 3/	4,246	4,168	1,823	1,576	63.0	59.5	114,878	93,764	82%
Barley (bu) 3/	3,875	3,452	3,269	2,951	64.8	61.0	211,896	180,051	85%
Sugarbeets (tons) 4/	1,299.8	1,362.8	1,242.9	1,305.9	22.2	25.8	27,537	33,627	122%
Dry Beans (cwt)	1,630.0	1,628.2	1,533.6	1,530.2	17.46	15.58	26,772	23,843	89%
Alfalfa Hay (tons) 5/	—	—	22,389	22,407	3.38	3.33	75,771	74,527	98%
Other Hay (tons) 5/	—	—	39,260	40,290	1.91	1.80	74,819	72,511	97%
All Hay (tons) 5/	—	—	61,649	62,697	2.44	2.35	150,590	147,038	98%

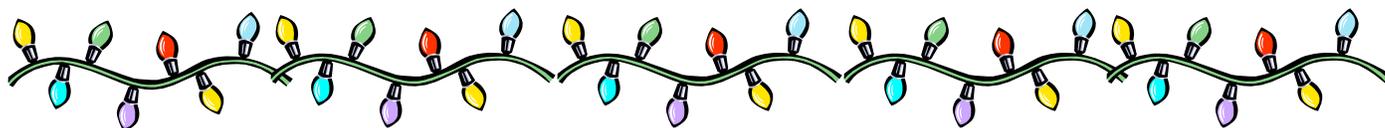
1/Corn planted for all purposes, harvested for grain.

2/Forecasts no longer made. Final estimates released January 12, 2007.

3/Year-end estimates.

4/Forecasts carried forward from November 1.

5/Forecasts carried forward from October 1.



## U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 4 Percent

**Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.0 million head on November 1, 2006. The inventory was 4 percent above November 1, 2005 and 6 percent above November 1, 2004. This is the highest November 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

**Placements** in feedlots during October totaled 2.43 million, 13 percent below 2005 and 10 percent below 2004. Net placements were 2.34 million head. This is the second lowest placements for the month of October since the series began in 1996. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 840,000, 600-699 pounds were 645,000, 700-799 pounds were 485,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 455,000.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during October totaled 1.77 million, 2 percent above 2005 but 2 percent below 2004.

**Other disappearance** totaled 81,000 during October, 40 percent above 2005 and 23 percent above 2004.

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

State	On Feed	Place-	Market-	Other	On Feed	On Feed
	Oct 1, 2006	ments Oct 2006	ings Oct 2006	Disapp. Oct2006	Nov 1, 2006	Nov 1, 2005
Thousand Head						
CO	1,060	210	140	10	1,120	1,030
KS	2,450	520	395	25	2,550	2,410
NE	2,220	560	330	10	2,440	2,280
TX	2,930	590	510	20	2,990	2,970
Oth						
Sts.	2,725	545	395	16	2,859	2,783
U.S.	11,385	2,425	1,770	81	11,959	11,473

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. RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

**Commercial red meat** production in Wyoming during October 2006 totaled 300,000 pounds. This was down 40 percent from the previous month and 3 percent below October 2005. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Three hundred **cattle** were slaughtered in October, unchanged from last year. Total live weight was 398,000 pounds, down 2 percent from October 2005. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,224 pounds, up 24 pounds from last year.

A total of 200 **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, unchanged from last October. Total live weight, at 52,000 pounds, was down 7 percent from October 2005. Average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 252 pounds, down 25 pounds from last year.

One hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed in October, unchanged from October 2005. Live weight totaled 8,000 pounds, unchanged from last year. Average live weight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 133 pounds, up 1 pound from a year earlier.

**Red Meat production** from January to October 2006 totaled 5.0 million pounds, down 11 percent from the same period last year.

**United States: Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.18 billion pounds in October, up 7 percent from the 3.93 billion pounds produced in October 2005.

**Beef production**, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.86 million head, up 7 percent from October 2005. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year to 1,288 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.92 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.64 million head, 6 percent above October 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.6 million pounds, was down 1 percent from October 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 236,000 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, down 6 pounds from October a year ago.

**January to October 2006 commercial red meat production** was 39.4 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

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

SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Oct. 2005	Oct. 2006	Oct. 2005	Oct. 2006	% 06/05	Oct. 2005	Oct. 2006	Oct. 2005	Oct. 2006	% 06/05
			1,000 Pounds					1,000 Pounds		
Cattle	300	300	408	398	98	2,679,200	2,855,500	3,428,297	3,678,846	107
Hogs	200	200	56	52	93	9,118,100	9,636,200	2,449,676	2,596,678	106
Sheep & Lambs	100	100	8	8	100	228,200	236,000	31,403	31,062	99

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
 Penalty for private use \$300



**WYOMING ANNUAL AVERAGE AG WAGE  
 UP 5 PERCENT**

**WYOMING:** The annual average wage rate for all hired labor on Wyoming farms and ranches in 2006 was \$8.42 per hour. The average wage was up 26 cents from the 2005 average of \$8.16 per hour. The annual average rate is based on data collected during four surveys conducted in January, April, July, and October. The annual average wage rate for field workers was \$7.90 in 2006, compared with \$8.15 in 2005. The combined wage rate for field and livestock workers, excluding supervisors and other workers was \$7.59 in 2006, up from \$7.49 in 2005.

**UNITED STATES:** The 2006 annual average number of hired workers for the Nation was 751,800 workers, down 4 percent from 2005. The annual average number of hours worked during the week was 40.5 in 2006, up from 40.1 in 2005.

The 2006 U.S. all hired worker annual average wage rate was \$9.87, up 4 percent from the 2005 annual average wage rate of \$9.51. The U.S. field worker annual average wage rate was \$9.06, up 36 cents from last year's annual average. The field and livestock worker combined annual average wage rate at the U.S. level was \$9.15, up 4 percent from last year's annual average wage rate of \$8.84.

**Annual Farm Wage Rates, All Hired Workers,  
 Selected States and U.S., 1/ 2/**

State	All Hired Workers	
	2005	2006
	Dollars per hour	
WY	8.16	8.42
CO	9.04	9.51
ID	8.73	9.36
MT	9.46	9.39
NE	9.21	9.84
SD	9.09	9.24
UT	9.30	9.08
U.S. 3/	9.51	9.87

1/ Excludes Ag Service Workers  
 2/ Annual average rate is weighted average of rates for each survey week in January, April, July, and October.  
 3/ Excludes Alaska.



**OCTOBER WAGE RATES UP 7 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR**

**WYOMING:** The number of hired farm and ranch workers in the tri-state region during the week October 8-14, 2006 was down 5,000 from a year ago. During this period, 24,000 hired workers were working on farms and ranches in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region which includes **Wyoming**, Montana, and Idaho. The total excludes agricultural service workers. Of the 24,000 hired workers, 17,000 were expected to work for 150 days or more and 7,000 were expected to work 149 days or less, compared with 17,000 and 12,000 last year.

The average wage rate for all hired workers in the tri-state labor force during the survey week was \$9.55 per hour, up 14 cents (4 percent) from last July and up 64 cents (7 percent) from October 2005.

The average number of hours worked during the survey week was 47.6 compared with 51.4 last October.

**UNITED STATES:** There were 1.08 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 8-14, 2006, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 797,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 280,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.95 per hour during the October 2006 reference week, up 34 cents from a year earlier. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 1 percent from a year ago.

**Farm Wage Rates by Type of Worker,  
 Regions and U.S., October 8-14, 2006 1/**

Region	Hired Workers			
	Type of Worker			
	Field	Lvstk	Fld & Lvstk Combined	All Hired Workers
	Dollars per hour			
Mntn I 2/	8.87	9.24	9.00	9.55
Mntn II 3/	8.86	9.32	9.05	9.80
No Plns 4/	10.13	9.59	9.95	10.20
U.S. 5/	9.25	9.41	9.29	9.95

1/ Excludes Ag Service Workers  
 2/ Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming  
 3/ Colorado, Nevada and Utah  
 4/ Kansas, Nebraska, North & South Dakota  
 5/ Excludes Alaska