

California Field Crop Review



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Compared with February 2000, the All Farm Products Index was six points (6.5 percent) higher. Price increases from February 2000 for cattle, lettuce, milk, and broilers were partially offset by lower prices for soybeans, corn, grapefruit, and potatoes.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - FEBRUARY 2001

The February All Crops Index was 97, up 3.2 percent from January and 5.4 percent above February 2000. From January, index increases for commercial vegetables, potatoes and dry beans, tobacco, and fruits and nuts more than offset index decreases for oil-bearing crops, cotton, and food grains.

Mid-February prices received by California farmers increased from January for all potatoes, all types of hay, and cottonseed. Dry edible beans remained the same as January. Winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and Upland cotton lint were below the previous month. Mid-February prices for wheat and barley were not published to avoid possible disclosure. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all potatoes, winter potatoes, all types of hay and cottonseed. Fall potatoes and Upland cotton lint were below the February 2000 level.

The February Food Grains Index, at 91, was down 2.2 percent from the previous month, but 7.1 percent above February 2000. The February all wheat price, at \$4.72 per cwt., was down three cents from January, but 49 cents above February 2000.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES TWO POINTS

The February Feed Grains & Hay Index, at 89, was unchanged from last month, but 1.1 percent above February 2000. The corn price, at \$3.43 per cwt., was down 11 cents from both last month and February 2000. The all hay price, at \$86.80 per ton, was \$1.90 above January and \$12.50 above last February. Grain sorghum, at \$3.39 per cwt., was up two cents from January and 33 cents above February last year.

The Preliminary All Farms Products Index of Prices Received in February was 99 based on 1990-92=100, up two points (2.1 percent) from the January Index. Higher prices for lettuce, broilers, oranges, and hogs were partially offset by lower prices for strawberries, soybeans, corn, and tomatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of milk, cattle, broilers, and strawberries were partially offset by lower marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and cotton.

The February Cotton Index, at 83, was down 3.5 percent from January, but 7.8 percent above February 2000. The February price, at 50.3 cents per pound, was down two cents from the previous month, but up 3.5 cents from last February.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2000	January 2001	February 2001	February 2000	January 2001	Feb. 15, 2001
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.54	3.54	3.43
Wheat 2/	Cwt.	4.25	3/	3/	4.23	4.75	4.72
Oats 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.97	3.75	3.78
Barley 2/	Cwt.	5.10	3/	3/	4.44	4.08	4.13
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.06	3.37	3.39
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	5.88	5.84	5.69
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	26.80	26.90	26.90	15.60	15.00	14.80
All Potatoes 4/	Cwt.	12.70	13.30	14.90	5.92	4.56	5.05
Winter	Cwt.	17.20	21.20	20.50	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	7.75	5.45	5.40	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	89.00	98.00	106.00	74.30	84.90	86.80
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	91.00	101.00	110.00	77.00	91.30	94.20
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	70.00	80.00	85.00	68.40	69.50	71.20
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lb.	0.579	0.599	0.570	0.468	0.523	0.503
Cottonseed	Ton	137.00	136.00	143.00	115.00	109.00	114.00

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole. 2/ Previous month revised to monthly average. 3/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure. 4/ Monthly average.

INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Feb. 2000	Jan. 2001	Feb. 2001	Feb. 2000	Jan. 2001	Feb. 2001
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	591	614 1/	632	93	97 1/	99
All Crops	453	463 1/	479	92	94 1/	97
Food Grains	270	297 1/	290	85	93 1/	91
Feed Grains and Hay	315	319 1/	318	88	89	89
Cotton	396	442 1/	425	77	86 1/	83
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	500	397 1/	431	99	78	85
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,578	1,651 1/	1,672	119	124 1/	126
Parity Ratio 3/	37	37 1/	38	78	78 1/	79

1/ Revised. 2/ All production indexes as of 15th of month. 3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARCH 1 STOCKS

Fall potatoes in California storage facilities totaled 1.30 million cwt. as of March 1, 2001, 28 percent less than a year ago.

California's March 1 stocks were 35 percent of the fall potato production, and a 22 percent decrease from last year's 45 percent.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARCH 1 STOCKS BY STATE 1/

State	Crop of 1999			Crop of 2000		
	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2000	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2001	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	4,005	1,800	45	3,741	1,300	35
Colorado	25,762	12,900	50	27,972	13,000	46
Idaho	133,330	65,000	49	152,320	75,000	49
Maine	17,813	9,400	53	17,920	8,700	49
Michigan	14,963	4,200	28	14,963	3,400	23
Minnesota	18,020	6,200	34	21,240	10,100	48
Montana	3,325	2,700	81	3,503	3,000	86
Nebraska	8,904	2/	2/	10,127	2/	2/
New York	6,758	1,300	19	5,964	700	12
North Dakota	26,400	9,000	34	26,950	11,100	41
Ohio	987	2/	2/	1,134	2/	2/
Oregon	28,020	15,500	55	30,683	17,300	56
Pennsylvania	3,080	700	23	3,510	700	20
Washington	95,200	28,000	29	108,000	40,000	37
Wisconsin	34,000	10,600	31	33,800	10,500	31
15-STATE TOTAL	420,567	169,620	40	461,827	198,320	43

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2001 crop. Seed usage in 2000 totaled 29.7 million cwt. 2/ Not published to prevent possible disclosure of individual operations.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROPS YIELD AND PRODUCTION HISTORY

CROP	UNIT	YIELD				PRODUCTION			
		1999	2000	Record High	Record Year	1999	2000	Record High	Record Year
Barley	Tons	1.54	1.63	1.68	1995	153,600	138,700	1,996,896	1957
Beans, Dry	Cwt.	18.60	18.80	22.70	1997	2,455,000	2,100,000	4,109,000	1955
Corn for Grain	Tons	4.76	4.76	4.76	1994/1999/2000	880,600	1,118,600	1,428,000	1984
Cotton, Upland Lint	1/	1,254.00	1,371.00	1,371.00	2000	1,580,000	2,200,000	3,535,000	1981
Cottonseed	Tons	--	--	--	--	799,000	926,000	1,445,000	1981
Hay, All	Tons	5.56	5.60	5.60	2000	8,782,000	8,568,000	8,782,000	1999
Alfalfa	Tons	6.90	7.00	7.20	1997	7,245,000	7,140,000	7,260,000	1988
Other	Tons	2.90	2.80	3.50	1995	1,537,000	1,428,000	1,855,000	1995
Oats	Tons	1.36	1.20	1.36	1995/1999	34,000	30,000	121,312	1957
Potatoes, All	Cwt.	376.00	380.00	381.00	1986	16,227,000	16,355,000	35,166,000	1966
Rice	Cwt.	72.70	79.50	85.00	1992/1994	36,690,000	43,585,000	43,585,000	2000
Sugar Beets	Tons	32.00	32.50	32.50	2000	3,456,000	3,039,000	9,031,000	1972
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt.	240.00	250.00	250.00	2000	2,400,000	2,425,000	2,425,000	2000
Wheat, All	Tons	2.49	2.30	2.53	1988	1,133,600	1,026,000	3,166,350	1981

1/ Yield in pounds, production in bales.