

California Field Crop Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down one point (0.9 percent) from February 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 116, decreased two points (1.7 percent) from both last month and February 2005.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - FEBRUARY 2006

The February All Crops Index is 113, up 4.6 percent from January and 5.6 percent above February 2005. From January, index increases for fruits & nuts, feed grains & hay, and food grains more than offset index decreases for vegetables and oil-bearing crops.

Mid-February prices received by California farmers increased from January for dry edible beans, all potatoes, winter potatoes, all hay, and alfalfa hay. Mid-February prices for fall potatoes were below the previous month. Hay other than alfalfa remained the same as the previous month. Wheat and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. There was insufficient data to establish a mid-February price for barley, oats, and cottonseed. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all hay, and alfalfa hay. All potatoes, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and hay other than alfalfa were below February 2005's level.

The February Food Grains Index, at 120, is 2.6 percent above the previous month and 10 percent above a year ago. The February all wheat price, at \$122.00 per ton, is up \$4.67 from January and up \$10.00 from February 2005.

U.S. FEBRUARY FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UNCHANGED FROM LAST MONTH

The February Feed Grains & Hay Index is 95, up 3.3 percent from last month and 4.4 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$71.79 per ton, is up 36 cents from last month and \$2.15 above February 2005. The all hay price, at \$95.00 per ton, is up \$3.80 from January and \$6.80 above last February. Grain sorghum, at \$3.27 per cwt., is 12 cents above January and 31 cents above February of last year.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 113 based on 1990-92=100, is unchanged from January. The Crop Index is up five points (4.6 percent), but the Livestock Index decreased four points (3.4 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for oranges, wheat, hay, and hogs. Lower prices were received for cattle, tomatoes, milk, and eggs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of cattle, milk, broilers, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton.

The February Cotton Index, at 80, is unchanged from January, but 27 percent above last year. The February price, at 48.3 cents per pound, is down 0.3 cents from the previous month, but 10 cents above last February.

The February Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 118, is unchanged from last month, but 11 percent above February 2005. The all potato price, at \$6.97 per cwt., is down 10 cents from January, but up \$1.18 from last February. The all dry bean price, at \$19.70 per cwt., is up 40 cents from the previous month, but \$8.10 below February 2005.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2005	January 2006	February 15, 2006	February 2005	January 2006	February 15, 2006
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Ton	---	---	---	69.64	71.43	71.79
Wheat 2/	Ton	3/	117.67	3/	112.00	117.33	122.00
Oats 2/	Ton	---	4/	4/	104.38	108.13	111.25
Barley 2/	Ton	3/	3/	4/	96.25	102.92	106.25
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	2.96	3.15	3.27
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	6.90	7.67	7.73
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	37.00	40.00	42.00	27.80	19.30	19.70
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	15.20	12.60	13.70	5.79	7.07	6.97
Winter	Cwt.	18.00	14.70	17.00	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	7.90	7.75	7.65	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	125.00	128.00	131.00	88.20	91.20	95.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	131.00	135.00	138.00	94.00	95.60	99.20
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	92.00	90.00	90.00	74.20	79.30	83.20
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lb.	0.523	0.609	3/	0.383	0.486	0.483
Cottonseed	Ton	3/	3/	4/	111.00	102.00	98.20

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/ Insufficient data to establish a price. 5/ Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Feb. 2005	Jan. 2006	Feb. 2006	Feb. 2005	Jan. 2006	Feb. 2006
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	723	717 1/	721	114	113 1/	113
All Crops	528	535 1/	558	107	108 1/	113
Food Grains	347	371 1/	381	109	117 1/	120
Feed Grains and Hay	326	327 1/	340	91	92 1/	95
Cotton	324	411 1/	408	63	80 1/	80
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	535	596 1/	595	106	118 1/	118
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,823	1,940 1/	1,942	137	146 1/	146
Parity Ratio 3/	40	37	37	83	77	77

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 POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARCH 1 STOCKS BY STATE 1/**

State	Crop of 2004			Crop of 2005		
	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2005	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2006	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	3,648	1,500	41	3,240	900	28
Colorado	23,791	11,900	50	22,292	10,200	46
Idaho	131,970	64,000	48	116,975	55,000	47
Maine	19,065	9,400	49	15,736	8,700	55
Michigan	13,650	3,600	26	13,920	3,600	26
Minnesota	18,920	8,800	47	17,630	7,100	40
Montana	3,551	2,400	68	3,434	2,900	84
Nebraska	9,288	2/	---	8,245	3,300	40
New York	5,184	700	14	5,226	1,300	25
North Dakota	26,765	13,100	49	20,500	6,700	33
Ohio	1,080	2/	---	3/	3/	3/
Oregon	19,775	9,000	46	22,023	11,500	52
Pennsylvania	2,640	700	27	3/	3/	3/
Washington	93,810	29,000	31	95,480	32,000	34
Wisconsin	30,450	10,700	35	27,880	10,500	38
Other States 4/	---	3,220	---	---	---	---
15-STATE TOTAL	403,587	168,020	42	372,581	153,700	41

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2005 crop. Seed usage in 2005 totaled 24.7 million cwt. 2/ Combined into "Other States." 3/ Stock estimates discontinued in 2005. 4/ Thirteen States for the 2005 crop.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROPS YIELD AND PRODUCTION HISTORY

Crop	Unit	Yield				Production			
		2004	2005	Record High	Record Year	2004	2005	Record High	Record Year
Barley	Tons	1.44	1.51	1.68	1995	108,000	90,720	1,996,896	1957
Beans, Dry	Cwt.	20.20	21.30	22.70	1997	1,152,000	1,385,000	4,109,000	1955
Corn for Grain	Tons	4.90	4.82	4.90	2004	735,000	529,760	1,428,000	1984
Cotton, Upland Lint	1/	1,543.00	1,178.00	1,543.00	2004	1,790,000	1,050,000	3,535,000	1981
Cottonseed	Tons	---	---	---	---	902,000	588,000	1,445,000	1981
Hay, All	Tons	5.76	5.76	5.85	2003	9,220,000	8,935,000	9,594,000	2002
Hay, Alfalfa	Tons	7.00	6.90	7.20	1997, 2001	7,350,000	6,900,000	8,094,000	2002
Hay, Other	Tons	3.40	3.70	3.70	2005	1,870,000	2,035,000	2,035,000	2005
Oats	Tons	1.36	1.20	1.36	1995, 1999, 2004	34,000	24,000	121,312	1957
Potatoes, All	Cwt.	392.00	352.00	402.00	2003	17,661,000	14,964,000	35,166,000	1966
Rice	Cwt.	86.00	73.80	86.00	2004	50,759,000	38,836,000	50,759,000	2004
Sugar Beets	Cwt.	40.80	38.70	40.80	2004	1,995,000	1,707,000	9,031,000	1972
Potatoes, Sweet	Tons	280.00	300.00	300.00	2003, 2005	3,220,000	3,510,000	3,510,000	2005
Wheat, All	Tons	2.59	2.29	2.59	2004	1,086,000	844,650	3,166,350	1981

1/ Yield in pounds, production in bales.