



California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 17 points (13 percent) from February 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 145, decreased 1 point (0.7 percent) from last month, but increased 17 points (13 percent) from February 2007.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - FEBRUARY 2008

The February All Crops Index is 159, up 0.6 percent from January and 15 percent above February 2007. Index increases for food grains, oil-bearing crops, feed grains & hay, and fruits & nuts offset the index decreases for commercial vegetables and potatoes & dry beans.

Mid-February prices received by California farmers increased from January for dry edible beans, all potatoes, fall potatoes, all hay and alfalfa hay. Prices for winter potatoes were below the previous month. Mid-February prices for other hay remained unchanged from the previous month. Wheat and cottonseed were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. There was insufficient data to establish a mid-February price for oats, barley, and upland cotton lint. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, fall potatoes and all types of hay. All potatoes and winter potatoes were below February 2007's level.

The February Food Grains Index, at 298, is 21 percent above the previous month and 94 percent above a year ago. The February all wheat price, at \$346.67 per ton, is up \$82.34 from January and \$189.67 above February 2007.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

Feed Grains & Hay Index is 184, up 5.7 percent from last month and 23 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$151.79 per ton, is up \$10.00 from last month and \$28.93 above February 2007. The all hay price, at \$133.00 per ton, is up \$4.00 from January and up \$20.00 from last February. Grain sorghum, at \$7.82 per cwt., is 42 cents above January and 87 cents above February last year.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 145 percent based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from January. The Crop Index is up 1 point (0.6 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for wheat, soybeans, corn, and hogs and lower prices were received for milk, lettuce, broccoli, and tomatoes. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of milk, cattle, broilers, and eggs offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton.

The February Cotton Index, at 100, is unchanged from January, but 28 percent above last year. The February price, at 60.7 cents per pound, is unchanged from the previous month, but 13.3 cents above last February.

The February Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 127, is down 1.6 percent from last month and 0.8 percent below February 2007. The all potato price, at \$7.14 per cwt., is down 19 cents from January and down 28 cents from last February. The all dry bean price, at \$29.50 per cwt., is up \$2.20 from the previous month and \$4.10 above February 2007.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

| Commodity | Unit | CALIFORNIA | | | UNITED STATES | | |
|-----------------------|------|---------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | February 2007 | January 2008 | 15-Feb-2008 | February 2007 | January 2008 | 15-Feb-2008 |
| Dollars | | | | | | | |
| Corn 2/ | Tons | --- | --- | --- | 122.86 | 141.79 | 151.79 |
| Wheat 2/ | Tons | 156.67 | 179.33 | 3/ | 157.00 | 264.33 | 346.67 |
| Oats 2/ | Tons | 4/ | 4/ | 4/ | 146.88 | 185.00 | 185.63 |
| Barley 2/ | Tons | 4/ | 4/ | 4/ | 128.75 | 180.83 | 169.17 |
| Sorghum Grain 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 6.95 | 7.40 | 7.82 |
| Rice 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 10.10 | 11.80 | 12.20 |
| Dry Edible Beans 2/ | Cwt. | 47.80 | 45.10 | 48.20 | 25.40 | 27.30 | 29.50 |
| All Potatoes 5/ | Cwt. | 12.40 | 10.30 | 10.50 | 7.42 | 7.33 | 7.14 |
| Winter | Cwt. | 18.80 | 17.80 | 16.40 | --- | --- | --- |
| Spring | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Summer | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fall | Cwt. | 7.40 | 8.05 | 8.25 | --- | --- | --- |
| All Hay, Baled 2/ | Tons | 127.00 | 169.00 | 170.00 | 113.00 | 129.00 | 133.00 |
| Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/ | Tons | 135.00 | 182.00 | 183.00 | 115.00 | 135.00 | 138.00 |
| Other Hay, Baled 2/ | Tons | 97.00 | 123.00 | 123.00 | 108.00 | 118.00 | 122.00 |
| Upland Cotton Lint 2/ | Lbs | 0.640 | 3/ | 4/ | 0.474 | 0.607 | 0.607 |
| Cottonseed | Tons | 158.00 | 3/ | 3/ | 130.00 | 171.00 | 162.00 |

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/ 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 2007 | Jan 2008 | Feb 2008 | Feb 2007 | Jan 2008 | Feb 2008 |
| Prices Received | | | | | | |
| All Farm Products | 811 | 921 1/ | 919 | 128 | 145 1/ | 145 |
| All Crops | 679 | 779 1/ | 786 | 138 | 158 1/ | 159 |
| Food Grains | 491 | 780 1/ | 947 | 154 | 246 1/ | 298 |
| Feed Grains and Hay | 537 | 621 1/ | 657 | 150 | 174 1/ | 184 |
| Cotton | 401 | 513 1/ | 513 | 78 | 100 1/ | 100 |
| Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans | 649 | 654 1/ | 642 | 128 | 129 1/ | 127 |
| Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities. | | | | | | |
| Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/ | 2.084 | 2.266 1/ | 2.299 | 156 | 170 1/ | 172 |
| Parity Ratio 3/ | 39 | 41 1/ | 40 | 82 | 85 1/ | 84 |

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 1/

| State | Crop of 2006 | | | Crop of 2007 | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Production | Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2007 | Percent of Production | Production | Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2008 | Percent of Production |
| | 1,000 Cwt. | | | 1,000 Cwt. | | |
| California | 3,870 | 1,200 | 31 | 4,223 | 1,100 | 26 |
| Colorado | 22,686 | 11,300 | 50 | 20,981 | 9,500 | 45 |
| Idaho | 128,915 | 59,500 | 46 | 131,650 | 63,000 | 48 |
| Maine | 17,980 | 9,800 | 55 | 16,530 | 8,000 | 48 |
| Michigan | 14,190 | 3,300 | 23 | 14,700 | 4,600 | 31 |
| Minnesota | 20,400 | 8,300 | 41 | 20,680 | 8,500 | 41 |
| Montana | 3,518 | 3,100 | 88 | 3,696 | 3,300 | 89 |
| Nebraska | 8,730 | 3,400 | 39 | 8,051 | 3,000 | 37 |
| New York | 5,700 | 1,000 | 18 | 5,216 | 700 | 13 |
| North Dakota | 25,480 | 9,900 | 39 | 23,660 | 8,000 | 34 |
| Oregon | 18,533 | 9,700 | 52 | 20,238 | 11,600 | 57 |
| Washington | 89,900 | 28,500 | 32 | 102,300 | 40,000 | 39 |
| Wisconsin | 29,370 | 10,700 | 36 | 28,160 | 10,500 | 37 |
| 13-State Total | 389,272 | 159,700 | 41 | 400,085 | 171,800 | 43 |
| Klamath Basin 2/ | --- | 2,200 | --- | --- | 2,050 | --- |

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant the following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2007 totaled 26.4 million cwt.

2/ Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROPS YIELD AND PRODUCTION HISTORY

| Crop | Unit | Yield | | | | Production | | | |
|---------------------|------|----------|----------|-------------|------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 2006 | 2007 | Record High | Record Year | 2006 | 2007 | Record High | Record Year |
| Barley | Tons | 1.32 | 1.44 | 1.68 | 1995 | 85,800 | 57,600 | 1,996,896 | 1957 |
| Beans, Dry | Cwt. | 18.60 | 20.90 | 22.70 | 1997 | 1,209,000 | 1,212,000 | 4,109,000 | 1955 |
| Corn for Grain | Tons | 4.62 | 5.04 | 5.04 | 2007 | 508,200 | 1,008,000 | 1,428,000 | 1984 |
| Cotton, Upland Lint | 1/ | 1,321.00 | 1,559.00 | 1,559.00 | 2007 | 779,000 | 630,000 | 3,535,000 | 1981 |
| Cottonseed | Tons | -- | -- | -- | -- | 532,000 | 507,000 | 1,445,000 | 1981 |
| Hay, All | Tons | 5.67 | 5.85 | 5.85 | 2003, 2007 | 9,640,000 | 9,422,000 | 9,640,000 | 2006 |
| Hay, Alfalfa | Tons | 6.80 | 7.20 | 7.20 | 1997, 2001, 2007 | 7,480,000 | 7,128,000 | 8,094,000 | 2002 |
| Hay, Other | Tons | 3.60 | 3.70 | 3.70 | 2007 | 2,160,000 | 2,294,000 | 2,294,000 | 2007 |
| Oats | Tons | 1.38 | 1.49 | 1.49 | 2007 | 27,520 | 29,760 | 121,312 | 1957 |
| Potatoes, All | Cwt. | 359.00 | 363.00 | 402.00 | 2003 | 15,145,000 | 15,339,000 | 35,166,000 | 1966 |
| Rice | Cwt. | 76.60 | 82.20 | 86.00 | 2004 | 40,040,000 | 43,822,000 | 50,759,000 | 2004 |
| Sugar Beets | Cwt. | 36.10 | 37.50 | 40.80 | 2004 | 1,556,000 | 1,466,000 | 9,031,000 | 1972 |
| Potatoes, Sweet | Tons | 305.00 | 320.00 | 320.00 | 2007 | 3,721,000 | 4,256,000 | 4,256,000 | 2007 |
| Wheat, All | Tons | 2.00 | 2.51 | 2.59 | 2004 | 628,050 | 789,750 | 3,166,350 | 1981 |

1/ Yield in pounds, production in bales.