



# California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - FEBRUARY 2013

Mid-February prices received by California farmers increased from January for other types of hay and decreased for alfalfa hay. Prices for fall potatoes were unchanged from the previous month. Wheat, barley, 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 dry, edible beans, spring potatoes, and cottonseed. The price for all types of hay and fall potatoes were below February 2012's level.

## U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 197 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 20 points (9.2 percent) from January. The Crop Index is down 20 points (8.0 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 3 points (1.8 percent). Producers received lower prices for lettuce, corn, broccoli, and wheat and higher prices for hogs, celery, rice, and oranges. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly movement of cattle, milk, broilers,

and hogs offset the decreased marketing of corn, soybeans, wheat, and grain sorghum.

The February All Crops Index, at 230, decreased 8.0 percent from January, but is 12 percent above February 2012. Index decreases for feed grains & hay, commercial vegetables, and oilseeds more than offset the index increases for fruits & nuts and upland cotton.

The February Food Grains Index, at 249, is 3.1 percent below the previous month, but 9.7 percent above a year ago. The February price for all wheat, at \$258.33 per ton, is down \$12.34 from January, but \$21.66 above February 2012.

The February Feed Grains & Hay Index, at 295, is down 1.7 percent from last month, but 10 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$246.07 per ton, is down \$2.50 from last month, but \$21.78 above February 2012. The all hay price, at \$194 per ton, is up \$3.00 from January and \$17.00 from last February. Sorghum grain, at \$11.80 per cwt., is 20 cents below January, but \$1.00 above February last year.

The February Upland Cotton Index, at 120, is up 0.8 percent from January, but 21 percent below last year. The February price, at 72.7 cents per pound, is up 0.5 cents from the previous month, but 19.6 cents below last February.

The February Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 142, is down 5.3 percent from last month and 18 percent below February 2012. The all potato price, at \$7.84 per cwt., is down 3 cents from January and \$1.47 from last February. The all dry bean price, at \$35.00 per cwt., is down \$2.20 from the previous month and \$11.70 below February 2012.

## AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS <sup>a/</sup>

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2012	January 2013	Feb 15, 2013	February 2012	January 2013	Feb 15, 2013
Dollars							
Corn b/	Tons	---	---	---	224.29	248.57	246.07
Wheat b/	Tons	c/	267.33	c/	236.67	270.67	258.33
Oats b/	Tons	---	---	---	216.88	253.13	237.50
Barley b/	Tons	d/	c/	c/	225.42	267.08	257.50
Sorghum Grain b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	10.80	12.00	11.80
Rice b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	14.10	14.50	15.30
Dry Edible Beans b/	Cwt.	50.30	49.30	d/	46.70	37.20	35.00
All Potatoes e/	Cwt.	8.80	6.90	6.90	9.31	7.87	7.84
Spring	Cwt.	d/	d/	d/	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	8.80	6.90	6.90	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled b/	Tons	244.00	206.00	205.00	177.00	191.00	194.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled b/	Tons	250.00	212.00	209.00	194.00	217.00	218.00
Other Hay, Baled b/	Tons	225.00	187.00	190.00	142.00	144.00	148.00
Upland Cotton Lint b/	Lbs	c/	c/	c/	0.923	0.722	0.727
Cottonseed	Tons	c/	352.00	d/	276.00	250.00	217.00

a/ 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.

b/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

c/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure of operations.

d/ Insufficient data to establish a price.

e/ Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Feb 2012	Jan 2013	Feb 2013	Feb 2012	Jan 2013	Feb 2013
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	1,150	1,377	1,249	181	217	197
All Crops	1,022	1,237	1,141	206	250	230
Food Grains	720	816	788	227	257	249
Feed Grains and Hay	955	1,070	1,052	268	300	295
Cotton	781	611	615	152	119	120
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	881	762	721	174	150	142
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	2,806	2,925	2,922	211	220	219
Parity Ratio 3/	41	47	43	86	99	90

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.

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**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROPS YIELD AND PRODUCTION HISTORY**

Crop	Unit	Yield				Production			
		2011	2012	Record High	Record Year	2011	2012	Record High	Record Year
Barley	Tons	1.51	1.32	1.70	2002	113,400	105,600	1,997,000	1957
Beans, Dry	Cwt.	19.00	22.70	23.20	2010	1,083,000	1,304,000	5,216,000	1940
Corn for Grain	Tons	5.18	5.18	5.46	2008, 2010	777,000	932,400	1,428,000	1984
Cotton, Upland Lint	1/	1,474	1,651	1,651	2012	556,000	485,000	3,535,000	1981
Cottonseed	Tons	--	--	--	--	565,000	515,000	1,445,000	1981
Hay, All	Tons	5.66	5.62	5.85	2003	7,980,000	8,715,000	9,774,000	2002
Hay, Alfalfa	Tons	6.90	6.90	7.20	1997, 2001, 2007	6,072,000	6,555,000	8,004,000	2002
Hay, Other	Tons	3.60	3.60	3.80	2008	1,908,000	2,160,000	2,204,000	2008
Oats	Tons	1.60	1.44	1.68	2009	24,000	36,000	121,300	1957
Potatoes, All	Cwt.	414	421	421	2012	15,232,000	15,912,000	35,166,000	1966
Rice	Cwt.	83.5	81.1	86.0	2004, 2009	48,402,000	45,070,000	50,759,000	2004
Sugar Beets	Tons	46.5	44.0	46.5	2011	1,172,000	1,078,000	9,031,000	1972
Potatoes, Sweet	Tons	320	343	355	2010	5,824,000	6,174,000	6,390,000	2010
Wheat, All	Tons	2.71	2.73	2.73	2012	1,447,050	1,215,750	2,959,800	1981

1/ Yield in pounds, production in bales.