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PRICES

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE



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PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

Prices received by cattle producers in mid-February were higher compared with those for the entire month of January. Hogs, at \$35.30 per cwt. were up \$1.90 from last month but down \$1.50 from a year earlier. The price for cows at \$44.00 per cwt was up \$2.60 from the previous month and \$6.80 above a year earlier. Steers and heifers at \$84.00 per cwt, were up 80 cents from a month earlier and \$2.00 more than February 2000. Calves at \$111.00 per cwt were up \$5.00 and \$8.00 respectively from last month and last year.

The Florida milk price estimates for February averaged \$16.10 per cwt, \$2.20 less than a month earlier but \$1.40 more than February 2000. The commercial broiler price at 36.0 cents per pound was unchanged from the previous month but 2.0 cents more than a year earlier. Table eggs were 50.0 cents per dozen, 4.0 cents less than a month earlier but 12.0 cents above a year earlier.

US PRICE INDEXES

The Preliminary All Farms Products Index of Prices Received in February was 99 based on 1990-92=100, up 2 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.

Compared with February 2000, the All Farm Products Index was 6 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.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 126 percent of the 1990-92 average. The Index was up 2 points (1.6 percent) from January and 7 points (5.9 percent) above February 2000. Higher prices in February for nitrogen fertilizers, complete feeds, insecticides, and LP gas, were more than offset by lower prices for feeder cattle, feed grains, and potash and phosphate materials.

INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

Index 1990-92=100	2000		2001	
	Jan	Feb	Jan	Feb
Prices Received	91	93	97	99
Prices Paid	118	119	124	126
Ratio ^{1/}	77	78	78	79

^{1/} Prices Received/Prices Paid.

Average price received by farmers ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		February 2000	January 2001	February 2001	February 2000	January 2001	February 2001
Meat animals:							
Hogs	\$ per cwt	36.80	33.40	35.30	39.90	37.20	38.60
Cows	\$ per cwt	37.20	41.40	44.00	37.10	39.00	41.50
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt	82.00	83.20	84.00	71.00	79.30	78.40
Calves	\$ per cwt	103.00	106.00	111.00	105.00	108.00	108.00
Milk: ^{2/}							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt	14.70	18.30	16.10	11.80	13.20	13.10
Poultry:							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	34.0	36.0	36.0	33.5	34.0	37.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	38.0	54.0	50.0	52.3	50.3	50.9
Citrus, on tree:							
Oranges	\$ per box	3.25	2.41	2.62	3.43	2.82	3.29
Grapefruit	\$ per box	4.31	1.64	2.01	4.31	1.87	2.07
Tangerines	\$ per box	5.87	10.35	9.04	6.70	11.65	10.20
Field crops:							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt	22.20	**	26.00	5.92	4.56	5.05
Hay, baled	\$ per ton				74.30	84.90	86.80
Tobacco, Type 11-37	Cents per lb.	**	**	**	197.0	205.0	206.5
Peanuts	Cents per lb.	**	**	**	**	2.96	**
Corn*	\$ per bu.				1.98	1.98	1.92
Oats*	\$ per bu.				1.27	1.20	1.21
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				46.8	52.3	50.3
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt				3.06	3.37	3.39
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				4.79	4.68	4.37
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				2.37	2.77	2.73

^{1/} Eggs and hay estimates are midmonth prices. Prices for the latest month are midmonth estimates for grains and soybeans, and mostly first half of month for meat animals. Other estimates are for the entire month. ^{2/} Before deductions for hauling and government withholding, and includes quantity and other premiums, but excludes hauling subsidies. *Only marketing year average prices are estimated for Florida, except oats and sorghum which are not estimated. ** Not estimated this month.

HIGHLIGHTS--U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEXES

ALL CROPS: The February 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.

FOOD GRAINS: The February 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 \$2.83 per bushel, was down 2 cents from January but 29 cents above February 2000.

FEED GRAINS & HAY: The February Index, at 89, was unchanged from last month but 1.1 percent above February 2000. The corn price, at \$1.92 per bushel, was down 6 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 2 cents from January and 33 cents above February last year.

OIL-BEARING CROPS: The February Index, at 78, was down 7.1 percent from January and 9.3 percent below February 2000. The soybean price, at \$4.37 per bushel, decreased 31 cents from January and was 42 cents below February 2000.

COTTON: The February 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 2.0 cents from the previous month but up 3.5 cents from last February.

FRUIT AND NUTS: The February fruit and nut Index, at 92, was up 1.1 percent from the previous month but 2.1 percent below February 2000. Since January, prices increased for oranges and grapefruit.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES: The February Index, at 144, was up 20 percent from last month and 66 percent above February

2000. Price increases during February for lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, asparagus, and onions more than offset price declines for tomatoes, snap beans, and celery.

LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS: The February Index, at 102, was up 2.0 percent from last month and 8.5 percent from January 2000. Compared with a year ago, prices were higher for cattle, all milk, broilers, calves, and turkeys but lower for hogs, and eggs.

MEAT ANIMALS: The February Index, at 98, was up 1.0 percent from last month and 7.7 percent from a year ago. The February hog price was \$38.60 per cwt, up \$1.40 from January but down \$1.30 from a year ago. The February beef cattle price of \$74.70 was down 10 cents from last month but up \$7.10 from February 2000. January cattle slaughter was up 10 percent from December. Marketing supplies are declining seasonally.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: The February Index, at 100, was down 1.0 percent from January but up 11 percent from February 2000. The February all milk price at \$13.10 per cwt, was down 10 cents from January but up \$1.30 from last year. February prices decreased for fluid but increased for manufacturing grade milk. Cheese and butter prices were increasing during February.

POULTRY AND EGGS: The February Index, at 112, was up 6.7 percent from January, and 7.7 percent above a year ago. The February broiler price, at 37.0 cents per pound, was up 3.0 cents from January. Broiler demand is strengthening seasonally while year-to-date placements have been down. Market egg prices increased 0.6 cents to 50.9 cents per dozen, reflecting some seasonal strength in demand. Turkey prices decreased 0.3 cents to 36.3 cents per pound. Demand is declining seasonally and frozen stocks are building.

Prices received for Selected Agricultural Commodities, by months,
United States, 1999 and 2000

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle ^{1/}		All hogs	
	2000	2001 ^{2/}	2000	2001 ^{2/}	2000	2001 ^{2/}	2000	2001 ^{2/}	2000	2001 ^{2/}
	Dollars per bushel						Dollars per cwt			
Jan	2.51	2.85	1.91	1.98	4.62	4.68	67.80	74.80	36.80	37.20
Feb	2.54	2.83	1.98	1.92	4.79	4.37	67.60	74.70	39.90	38.60
Mar	2.59		2.03		4.91		69.80		41.70	
Apr	2.57		2.03		5.00		71.30		47.40	
May	2.59		2.11		5.19		69.40		48.30	
Jun	2.50		1.91		4.93		68.50		48.90	
Jul	2.32		1.64		4.53		67.50		48.30	
Aug	2.41		1.52		4.45		65.50		43.80	
Sep	2.44		1.61		4.57		65.30		41.60	
Oct	2.68		1.74		4.45		66.70		41.40	
Nov	2.83		1.86		4.55		69.10		36.80	
Dec	2.87		1.97		4.78		71.90		39.80	

^{1/} Cows, steers, and heifers. ^{2/} Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.