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PRICES



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PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

Prices received by cattle producers in mid-April were lower compared with the entire month of March. Hogs were down \$5.10 per cwt from last month and \$13.90 less than the previous year. The price for cows at \$43.10 per cwt was 10 cents below a month earlier and \$1.00 less than a year earlier. Steers and heifers at \$77.30 per cwt were down \$1.00 and \$8.80 from last month and last year, respectively. Calves at \$98.80 per cwt were 80 cents less than last month and \$11.20 less than April 2001.

The Florida milk price estimates for April averaged \$15.70 per cwt, down 10 cents from last month and \$1.40 less than a year earlier. The commercial broiler price of 34.0 cents per pound was 1.0 cent less than the previous month and 3.0 cents below a year earlier. Table eggs at 40.0 cents per dozen, were down 7.0 cents from last month and 10.0 cents lower than last year.

US PRICE INDEXES

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April was 95, based on 1990-92=100, down 10 points (9.5 percent) from the revised March Index. Declining lettuce prices along with decreases for hogs, eggs, and cattle, more than offset increased prices for onions, hay, apples, and potatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall Index. Higher marketings for cattle, strawberries, milk, and oranges

more than offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and cotton.

Compared with April last year, the All Farm Products Index was down 11 points (10.4 percent). Lower prices for broilers, milk, hogs, and cattle more than offset higher prices for potatoes, tomatoes, apples, and carrots. The food commodities Index decreased by 13.0 percent over both last month and last year.

PRICES PAID INDEX

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 123 percent of the 1990-92 average. The Index was unchanged from March but 1 point (0.8 percent) below April 2001. Lower prices in April for feeder cattle, feeder pigs, feed grains, and insecticides, were offset by higher prices for field crop seeds, hay and forages, gasoline, nitrogen fertilizers, and diesel fuel.

INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

Index 1990-92=100	2001		2002	
	Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr
Prices Received	103	103	105	95
Prices Paid	124	124	123	123
Ratio ^{1/}	83	85	85	77

^{1/} Prices Received/Prices Paid.

Average price received by farmers ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		April 2001	March 2002	April 2002	April 2001	March 2002	April 2002
Meat animals:							
Hogs	\$ per cwt	40.40	31.60	26.50	47.80	36.00	30.50
Cows	\$ per cwt	44.10	43.20	43.10	43.30	41.60	40.50
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt	86.10	78.30	77.30	79.60	74.30	71.20
Calves	\$ per cwt	110.00	99.60	98.80	112.00	104.00	102.00
Milk: ^{2/}							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt	17.10	15.80	15.70	14.60	12.70	12.50
Poultry:							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	37.0	35.0	34.0	39.0	32.0	30.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	50.0	47.0	40.0	48.4	51.5	32.1
Citrus, on tree:							
Oranges	\$ per box	3.94	3.40	4.00	4.71	4.88	4.30
Grapefruit	\$ per box	1.39	1.22	0.93	1.41	1.23	1.02
Tangerines	\$ per box	10.92		14.10	9.00	8.19	13.17
Field crops:							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt	12.80	31.00	18.70	5.47	8.50	8.61
Hay, baled	\$ per ton	**	**	**	99.00	91.40	99.90
Tobacco, Type 11-37	Cents per lb.	**	**	**	142.0	164.5	**
Peanuts	Cents per lb.	**	**	**	**	**	**
Corn*	\$ per bu.				1.89	1.94	1.86
Oats*	\$ per bu.				1.28	1.99	1.90
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				42.6	29.9	30.3
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt				3.04	3.22	3.11
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				4.22	4.38	4.38
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				2.78	2.81	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 April Index was 100, down 15 percent from March and 2.9 percent below April 2001. From March, price decreases for cotton, oil-bearing crops, food grains, fruits and nuts, feed grains and hay, and tobacco more than offset price increases for potatoes and dry beans and commercial vegetables.

FOOD GRAINS: The April Index, at 83, was down 2.3 percent from the previous month and 9.8 percent below April 2001. The April all wheat price, at \$2.80 per bushel, was down seven cents from March and six cents below April 2001. Demand continues to be sluggish.

FEED GRAINS & HAY: The April Index, at 90, was down one percent from last month but unchanged from April 2001. The corn price, at \$1.86 per bushel, was down eight cents from last month and three cents below April 2001. Prices are down due to weak exports, favorable planting conditions, and the expected acreage increase. The all hay price, at \$99.90 per ton, was \$8.50 above March and 90 cents higher than last April.

OIL-BEARING CROPS: The April Index, at 79, was unchanged from March but 5.3 percent above April 2001. Soybeans, at \$4.38 per bushel, were unchanged from March. The sunflower price, at \$9.71 per cwt, decreased 49 cents from March but was \$2.04 above April 2001.

POTATOES AND DRY BEANS: The April Index, at 147, was 1.4 percent above last month and 60 percent above April 2001. The all potato price, at \$8.61 per cwt, was up 11 cents from the previous month and \$3.14 above last April. The dry edible bean price, at \$26.70 per cwt, was ten cents above last month and \$11.10 above April 2001. Prices for both commodities continue to be higher than last year due to reduced supplies.

COTTON: The April Index, at 50, was up 2 percent from March but 29 percent below April 2001. The April price, at 30.3 cents per pound, was up 0.4 cent from the previous month but 12.3 cents below last April. Demand remains high, but large carryover continues to keep prices depressed.

FRUITS AND NUTS: The April Index, at 86, was down 6.5 percent from the previous month and 17 percent below April 2001. The

strawberry price, at 62.7 cents per pound, was down 24.6 cents from March and 13 cents below April 2001. Prices declined as harvest picks up.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES: The April Index, at 130, was 52 percent below last month and 5.8 percent less than April 2001. The lettuce price, at \$19.30 per cwt, decreased \$67.10 from a month ago and was \$2.30 below last April. Simultaneous increased supplies from several production areas brought prices back down to normal levels. The tomato price, at \$30.20 per cwt, was \$8.30 below last month but \$11.20 higher than April 2001.

LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS

The April Index, at 90, was down 5.3 percent from last month and 17 percent from April 2001. Compared with a year ago, prices were lower for all milk, hogs, broilers, all cattle, eggs, turkeys, and calves.

MEAT ANIMALS: The April Index, at 87, was down 5.4 percent from last month, and 16 percent from a year ago. The April hog price was \$30.50 per cwt, down \$5.50 from March, and \$17.30 from this same time a year ago. The April beef cattle price of \$67.80 was down \$2.90 from last month and down \$7.60 from April 2001. Decreased poultry exports pulled down prices of hogs and cattle.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: The April Index, at 96, was down 1.0 percent from March, and 14 percent below April 2001. The April all milk price, at \$12.50 per cwt, was down 20 cents from March, and down \$2.10 from last year. Prices for both fluid and manufacturing grade milk decreased from March and the previous year.

POULTRY AND EGGS: The April Index, at 91, was down 10 percent from March and 22 percent below a year ago. The April broiler price, at 30.0 cents per pound, decreased 2.0 cents from March. Export demand dropped with an uncertain outlook. April market egg prices, at 32.1 cents per dozen, decreased 19.4 cents from March. Domestic demand dropped after an early Easter Holiday. Turkey prices, averaging 32.6 cents per pound, were down 0.3 cents from the previous month. Demand was steady and supplies more than adequate for buyers' needs.

Prices received for Selected Agricultural Commodities, by months,
United States, 2001 and 2002

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle ^{1/}		All hogs		
	2001	2002 ^{2/}	2001	2002 ^{2/}	2001	2002 ^{2/}	2001	2002 ^{2/}	2001	2002 ^{2/}	
	Dollars per bushel						Dollars per cwt				
Jan	2.84	2.87	1.98	1.97	4.68	4.22	74.60	67.10	37.20	37.70	
Feb	2.83	2.83	1.96	1.93	4.46	4.21	74.70	69.90	39.10	38.50	
Mar	2.87	2.87	1.96	1.94	4.39	4.38	76.00	70.70	45.90	36.00	
Apr	2.86	2.80	1.89	1.86	4.22	4.38	75.40	67.80	47.80	30.50	
May	2.98		1.82		4.33		73.60		50.40		
Jun	2.74		1.76		4.46		73.60		52.20		
Jul	2.63		1.87		4.79		71.90		51.70		
Aug	2.73		1.90		4.85		70.60		50.80		
Sep	2.85		1.91		4.53		69.00		45.20		
Oct	2.86		1.84		4.09		66.50		40.20		
Nov	2.88		1.85		4.16		64.00		35.00		
Dec	2.89		1.98		4.20		64.80		33.30		

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