



# PRICES



## PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

Prices received by cattle producers in mid-December were lower compared with the entire month of November. Hogs at \$50.00 per cwt were \$1.60 per cwt below November but \$21.00 per cwt above December 2003. The mid-month price for cows at \$49.50 per cwt, was \$1.60 less than a month earlier but \$1.40 more than the previous year. Steers and heifers at \$95.60 per cwt were 10 cents below last month but \$10.90 higher than a year ago. Calves at \$124.00 per cwt, were \$2.00 less than the previous month but \$16.00 more than December 2003.

The Florida milk price estimate for December was \$18.70 per cwt, 10 cents more than last month and 70 cents above the previous year. The commercial broiler price at 44.0 cents per pound was unchanged from a month earlier but 1.0 cent more than last year. Table eggs at 53.0 cents per dozen were 7.0 cents higher than a month ago but 1.0 cent less than December 2003.

## US PRICE INDEXES

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 112, based on 1990-92=100, is 3 points below the November Index. The Crop Index is down 8 points (7.1 percent) from November while the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, dairy, eggs, and cauliflower. Lower prices were received for tomatoes, oranges, corn, and cotton. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall Index. Increased average marketings of dairy,

tobacco, and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, grapes, and soybeans. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 2 points (1.8 percent) from December 2003.

The Food Commodities Index decreased 4 points (3.3 percent) from last month to 118. The Index is up 2 points (1.7 percent) from December 2003.

## PRICES PAID INDEX

The December Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 134 percent of the 1990-92 average. The Index is unchanged from November but 5 points (3.9 percent) above December 2003. Lower prices in December for feeder cattle, diesel fuel, complete feeds, and gasoline, are offset by higher prices for feeder pigs, nitrogen fertilizers, LP gas, and feed concentrates.

## INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

Index 1990-92=100	2003		2004	
	Nov	Dec	Nov	Dec
Prices Received	116	114	115	112
Prices Paid	129	129	134	134
Ratio <sup>1/</sup>	90	88	86	84

<sup>1/</sup> Prices Received/Prices Paid.

## AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS <sup>1/</sup>

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		December 2003	November 2004	December 2004	December 2003	November 2004	December 2004
<b>MEAT ANIMALS:</b>							
Hogs	\$ per cwt.	29.00	51.60	50.00	34.20	55.70	54.50
Cows	\$ per cwt.	48.10	51.10	49.50	49.20	48.90	48.70
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt.	84.70	95.70	95.60	95.60	90.20	91.90
Calves	\$ per cwt.	108.00	126.00	124.00	112.00	124.00	121.00
<b>MILK: <sup>2/</sup></b>							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt.	18.00	18.60	18.70	13.80	16.10	16.50
<b>POULTRY:</b>							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	43.0	44.0	44.0	38.0	39.0	39.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	54.0	46.0	53.0	73.9	43.6	48.8
<b>CITRUS, ON TREE:</b>							
Oranges	\$ per box	1.71	4.42	1.93	2.55	7.41	2.62
Grapefruit	\$ per box	3.39	13.03	14.20	3.57	14.22	14.55
Tangerines	\$ per box	6.87	9.79	10.52	8.63	11.61	12.71
<b>FIELD CROPS:</b>							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt	**	**	**	5.77	5.04	5.10
Hay, baled	\$ per ton	**	**	**	80.60	86.20	84.30
Tobacco, Type 11-37	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	1.995	1.985	2.050
Peanuts	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	0.196	0.202	0.226
Corn*	\$ per bu.				2.31	2.05	1.99
Oats*	\$ per bu.				1.58	1.49	1.42
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				63.3	44.4	41.0
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt				4.20	3.06	2.94
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				7.17	5.36	5.41
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				3.62	3.39	3.29

<sup>1/</sup> Eggs, broilers and hay prices are midmonth estimates. Prices for the latest month for grains and soybeans are midmonth estimates. Prices for most meat animals are first half of month and other estimates are for the entire month.

<sup>2/</sup> 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 December Index is 104, down 7.1 percent from November and 9.6 percent below the December 2003 Index. Index decreases from November for fruits and nuts, commercial vegetables, cotton, feed grains and hay, and food grains more than offset Index increases in tobacco, potatoes and dry beans, and oil-bearing crops.

**FOOD GRAINS:** The December Index, at 113, is down 0.9 percent from the previous month and 6.6 percent less than December 2003. The all wheat price, at \$3.38 per bushel, is down 8 cents from the November price and 30 cents below last December. The rice price, at \$7.41 per cwt, is up 2 cents from November but 16 cents below a year ago.

**FEED GRAINS & HAY:** The December Index is 91, down 1.1 percent from last month and 12 percent below December 2003. The corn price, at \$1.99 per bushel, is down 6 cents from November and is 32 cents below last year's December price. The all hay price, at \$84.30 per ton, is down \$1.90 from last month but \$3.90 above December 2003.

**OIL-BEARING CROPS:** The December Index, at 99, is up 2.1 percent from November but 21 percent below the previous December. The soybean price, at \$5.41 per bushel, increased 5 cents from November but decreased \$1.76 from the December 2003 price.

**COTTON:** The December Index, at 68, is down 6.9 percent from a month ago and 35 percent below December 2003. The cotton price, at 41.0 cents per pound, is down 3.4 cents from November and 22 cents below a year ago.

**POTATOES & DRY BEANS:** The December Index, at 98, is up 2.1 percent from last month and 1.0 percent above December 2003. The all potato price, at \$5.10 per cwt, is up 6 cents from the previous month but 67 cents below last December. The all dry bean price, at \$27.10 per cwt, is up \$1.30 from last month and \$9.70 above December 2003.

**FRUITS & NUTS:** The December Index, at 102, is down 27 percent from the previous month but 9.7 percent above December 2003. Price decreases for oranges and apples more than offset price increases for grapes and grapefruit.

**COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES:** The December Index, at 147, is 17 percent below last month and is down 14 percent from December 2003. Price decreases during December for tomatoes, celery, and sweet corn more than offset price increases for cauliflower, cantaloup, and broccoli.

### LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS

The December Index, at 120, is up 0.8 percent from last month and up 7.1 percent from December 2003. Compared with a year ago, prices are higher for dairy, hogs, broilers, turkeys, and calves, but lower for eggs and all cattle.

**MEAT ANIMALS:** The December Index, at 119, is up 0.8 percent from last month and up 8.2 percent from last year. The December hog price of \$54.50 per cwt is down \$1.20 from November but up \$20.30 from a year ago. The December beef cattle price of \$86.80 is up \$1.70 from last month but down \$3.60 from December 2003.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS:** The December Index, at 126, is up 2.4 percent from November and up 19 percent from December 2003. The December all milk price of \$16.50 per cwt is up \$0.40 from last month and up \$2.70 from December 2003. The fluid grade milk price is up \$0.40 and the manufactured grade milk price is up \$0.30 from the previous month.

**POULTRY & EGGS:** The December Index, at 118, is unchanged from November but is down 2.5 percent from a year ago. December market egg prices, at 48.8 cents per dozen, increased 5.2 cents from November but were down 25.1 cents from last year. The December broiler price, at 39.0 cents per pound, was unchanged from November. The December turkey price, at 46.2 cents per pound, is down 2.8 cents from last month.

**PRICES RECEIVED FOR SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, BY MONTHS,  
UNITED STATES, 2003 AND 2004**

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle <sup>1/</sup>		All hogs	
	2003	2004 <sup>2/</sup>	2003	2004 <sup>2/</sup>	2003	2004 <sup>2/</sup>	2003	2004 <sup>2/</sup>	2003	2004 <sup>2/</sup>
	<i>Dollars per bushel</i>						<i>Dollars per cwt</i>			
Jan	3.89	3.68	2.33	2.39	5.51	7.35	72.90	80.90	32.90	36.80
Feb	3.70	3.77	2.34	2.61	5.55	8.28	73.90	78.50	34.30	42.60
Mar	3.55	3.83	2.33	2.75	5.59	9.28	72.60	83.40	34.70	47.20
Apr	3.37	3.88	2.34	2.89	5.82	9.62	74.50	84.80	34.80	47.40
May	3.33	3.82	2.38	2.87	6.07	9.56	75.50	88.40	41.30	56.80
Jun	3.08	3.57	2.34	2.79	6.09	9.08	74.90	89.50	45.00	56.60
Jul	2.95	3.37	2.17	2.51	5.82	8.46	75.80	88.50	42.70	57.10
Aug	3.35	3.27	2.15	2.34	5.68	6.83	79.30	88.90	39.60	55.40
Sep	3.39	3.36	2.20	2.20	6.06	5.84	84.90	85.80	39.70	54.80
Oct	3.44	3.44	2.12	2.15	6.60	5.56	91.50	86.10	36.70	52.10
Nov	3.61	3.46	2.20	2.05	7.05	5.36	93.40	85.10	34.70	55.70
Dec	3.68	3.38	2.31	1.99	7.17	5.41	90.40	86.80	34.20	54.50

<sup>1/</sup> Cows, steers, and heifers.

<sup>2/</sup> Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.