



AGRICULTURAL PRICES

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PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

Prices received by livestock producers in mid-March were mixed, compared with the entire month of February. The mid-March price for cows at \$43.60 per hundredweight, was \$3.00 less than a month earlier, and \$9.90 lower than a year ago. Steers and heifers at \$81.00 per hundredweight, were up \$3.00 per hundredweight from the previous month, but \$12.00 less than a year earlier. Calves at \$93.00 per hundredweight were \$1.70 higher than a month earlier but \$15.00 less than March 2008. Hogs at \$38.60 per hundredweight were 30 cents more than the previous month and \$6.60 higher than a year ago.

The Florida milk at \$14.50 per hundredweight, was \$1.80 and \$5.90 less than the previous month and last year, respectively. The commercial broiler price at 52.0 cents per pound was 1.0 cent less than a month earlier, and unchanged from last year. The March egg price at 63.0 cents per dozen, was 2.0 cents below a month earlier and was 67.0 cents less than a year earlier.

US PRICE INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 126 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from February. The Crop Index is up 1 point (0.7 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased one point (0.9 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, lettuce, snap beans, and tomatoes and lower prices for broilers, soybeans, strawberries, and celery. 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 marketings of strawberries, broilers, soybeans, and milk offset decreased marketings of cattle, corn, cotton, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 20 points (14 percent) from March 2008. The Food Commodities Index, at 121, decreased 1 point (0.8 percent) from last month and decreased 23 points (16 percent) from March 2008.

SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92=100	2008		2009	
	Feb	Mar	Feb	Mar
Prices Received	146	146	126	126
Prices Paid	171	174	174	174
Ratio ^{1/}	85	84	72	72

^{1/} Prices Received/Prices Paid.

AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		Mar 2008	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Mar 2008	Feb 2009	Mar 2009
MEAT ANIMALS:							
Cows	\$ per cwt.	53.50	46.60	43.60	51.50	43.90	44.00
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt.	93.00	78.00	81.00	92.90	83.80	83.50
Calves	\$ per cwt.	108.00	91.30	93.00	118.00	105.00	104.00
Hogs	\$ per cwt.	32.00	38.30	38.60	40.30	43.90	44.20
MILK: ^{2/}							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt.	20.40	16.30	14.50	18.10	11.60	11.50
POULTRY:							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	52.0	53.0	52.0	46.0	47.0	45.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	130.0	65.0	63.0	130.0	63.9	64.3
CITRUS, ON TREE:							
Oranges	\$ per box	6.33	4.57	3.27	6.20	5.43	5.06
Grapefruit	\$ per box	2.73	3.52	2.96	2.70	3.79	3.33
Tangerines	\$ per box	3.77	8.33	9.32	11.70	18.98	15.10
FIELD CROPS:							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt.	**	22.10	22.80	8.37	8.87	9.07
Hay, baled	\$ per ton	**	**	**	133.00	132.00	129.00
Peanuts	\$ per lb.	**	**	**	0.207	0.253	0.256
Corn*	\$ per bu.				4.70	3.81	3.96
Oats*	\$ per bu.				3.43	2.76	2.11
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				63.0	41.6	40.9
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt.				9.04	5.05	5.54
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				11.40	9.55	9.13
Tobacco, Type 11-37*	\$ per lb.				**	**	**
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				9.96	5.26	5.27

^{1/} 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.

^{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 March Index is 147, up 0.7 percent from February but 12 percent below March 2008. Index increases for commercial vegetables, feed grains & hay, fruits & nuts, food grains, and potatoes & dry beans more than offset the Index decrease for oil-bearing crops and cotton.

FOOD GRAINS: The March Index, at 204, is 0.5 percent above the previous month but 33 percent below a year ago. The March all wheat price, at \$5.85 per bushel, is up six cents from February but \$4.65 below March 2008.

FEED GRAINS & HAY: The March Index is 172, up 1.2 percent from last month but 14 percent below a year ago. The corn price, at \$3.96 per bushel, is up nine cents from last month but 74 cents below March 2008. The all hay price, at \$129 per ton, is down \$3.00 from February and \$4.00 below last March. Sorghum grain, at \$5.54 per hundredweight is 49 cents above February but \$3.50 below March last year.

OIL-BEARING CROPS: The March Index, at 164, is down 5.2 percent from February and 20 percent lower than March 2008. The soybean price, at \$9.13 per bushel, decreased 42 cents from February and is \$2.27 below March 2008.

COTTON: The March Index, at 67, is down 2.9 percent from February and 36 percent below last year. The March price, at 40.9 cents per pound, is down 0.7 cent from the previous month and 22.1 cents below last March.

POTATOES & DRY BEANS: The March Index, at 155, is up 1.3 percent from last month and 5.4 percent above March 2008. The all potato price, at \$9.07 per hundredweight, is up 20 cents from February and 70 cents from last March. The all dry bean price, at \$28.80 per hundredweight is down \$1.30 from the previous month and \$3.40 below March 2008.

FRUITS & NUTS: The March Index, at 124, is up 2.5 percent from February but 16 percent lower than a year ago. The increase in marketings of strawberries more than offset price decreases for strawberries, apples, oranges, and grapefruit.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES: The March Index, at 146, is up 7.4 percent from last month and 9.0 percent above March 2008. Price increases during March for lettuce, snap beans, tomatoes, and sweet corn more than offset price declines for celery, onions, and broccoli.

LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS: The March Index, at 108, is down 0.9 percent from last month and 16 percent from March 2008. Compared with a year ago, prices are lower for milk, cattle, eggs, broilers, calves, and turkeys. Hogs prices are higher.

MEAT ANIMALS: The March Index, at 104, is down 1.0 percent from last month but 7.1 percent lower than last year. The March hog price, at \$44.20 per hundredweight is up 30 cents from February and \$3.90 higher than a year ago. The March beef cattle price of \$78.50 per hundredweight is down 30 cents from last month and \$9.30 lower than March 2008.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: The March Index, at 88, is down 1.1 percent from a month ago and 37 percent lower than March last year. The March all milk price of \$11.50 per hundredweight is down 10 cents from last month and down \$6.60 from March 2008. The fluid grade milk price is down ten cents but the manufacturing grade milk price is up 40 cents from the previous month.

POULTRY & EGGS: The March Index, at 137, is down 2.8 percent from February and 14 percent below a year ago. The March market egg price, at 64.3 cents per dozen, increased 0.4 cent from February but is 65.7 cents below March 2008. The March broiler price, at 45.0 cents per pound, is down 2.0 cents from February and 1.0 cent below a year ago. The March turkey price, at 46.7 cents per pound, is up 0.2 cent from the previous month but down 6.2 cents from a year earlier.

**PRICES RECEIVED FOR SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, BY MONTHS,
UNITED STATES, 2008 AND 2009**

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle ^{1/}		All hogs	
	2008	2009 ^{2/}	2008	2009 ^{2/}	2008	2009 ^{2/}	2008	2009 ^{2/}	2008	2009 ^{2/}
	<i>Dollars per bushel</i>						<i>Dollars per cwt</i>			
Jan	7.96	6.21	3.98	4.36	9.95	9.97	87.50	80.10	37.40	42.80
Feb	10.10	5.79	4.54	3.87	11.70	9.55	89.00	78.80	42.20	43.90
Mar	10.50	5.85	4.70	3.96	11.40	9.13	87.80	78.50	40.30	44.20
Apr	10.10		5.14		12.00		86.80		44.40	
May	8.87		5.27		12.10		91.30		55.30	
Jun	7.62		5.47		13.10		91.90		53.40	
Jul	7.16		5.25		13.30		95.10		54.30	
Aug	7.64		5.26		12.80		95.80		60.70	
Sep	7.43		5.02		10.70		94.20		52.60	
Oct	6.67		4.37		9.94		87.40		48.50	
Nov	6.28		4.26		9.38		84.30		40.70	
Dec	5.97		4.10		9.24		79.70		41.90	

^{1/} Cows, steers, and heifers.

^{2/} Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.