

prices & income review

Grain and Hay: Prices received for grain were up in 2006. The largest price increase was for corn, which soared 53% to an average \$3.35 per bushel. This compares with \$2.19 in 2005 and is the highest since 1995, when corn prices averaged \$3.65 per bushel. Price increases for other grains were more moderate, with the season average price for soybeans 8% above 2005, barley priced at 6% above 2005, and winter wheat valued at 7% over 2005. This brought soybeans to a season average price of \$5.95 per bushel, barley to \$1.55 per bushel, and winter wheat to \$3.35 per bushel. Hay prices were largely unchanged from 2005, with all hay again selling for an average \$164.00 per ton. Prices for alfalfa were down slightly, from \$169.00 in 2005 to \$160.00 in 2006. Prices for other types of hay were up slightly, increasing from \$161.00 in 2005 to \$165.00 in 2006.



Fresh Market Fruit: Prices for fresh market apples increased 18% in 2006. Producers received an average 28.5 cents per pound for their crop, up 4.4 cents from 24.1 cents in 2005.

Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry: Prices for all beef cattle remained fairly stable, at a season average \$85.10 per hundredweight. This compares with \$85.80 per hundredweight in 2005. However, prices for beef cattle varied by type. Prices for cows, steers and heifers were down slightly, while prices for calves rose. The price for milk cows was up \$100.00, from \$1,730.00 per head in 2005 to \$1,830.00 per head in 2006. However, producers received less for milk. Milk sold for \$14.10 per hundredweight, down 13% from \$16.20 per hundredweight in 2005. Hog producers received less for their stock in 2006, with prices dropping nearly \$4.00 per hundredweight in 2006 for all hogs. Barrows and gilts sold for an average \$39.40, down from \$42.80 in 2005, and sows sold for \$32.30, down from \$38.60 in 2005. Prices for poultry were varied, with broiler prices down 11% but egg prices up 4% from 2005. Broilers sold for an average \$41.00 per pound, as compared with \$46.00 per pound in 2005. Producers received an average 46 cents per dozen for eggs, versus 44.2 cents in 2005.

