



Agriculture Across Michigan

March Agricultural Prices

Prices received by Michigan farmers for the full month of March 2018 are listed in the table below. Some Michigan highlights were: March corn, at \$3.59 per bushel, increased \$0.10 from February, but decreased \$0.03 from last year; March soybeans, at \$9.99 per bushel, increased \$0.35 from last month and increased \$0.02 from last year; March wheat, at \$4.72 per bushel, increased \$0.22 from February and increased \$0.23 from last year; March milk, at \$14.10 per cwt., increased \$0.30 from last month, but decreased \$2.40 from last year.

The March Prices Received Index (Agricultural Production), at 94.9, increased 4.5 percent from February 2018. At 87.5, the Crop Production Index increased 1.5 percent. The Livestock Production Index, at 99.8, increased 5.9 percent. Producers received higher prices for market eggs, broilers, lettuce, and milk but lower prices for oranges, hogs, lemons, and grapefruit. Compared with a year earlier, the Prices Received Index is up 0.9 percent. The Crop Production Index increased 2.2 percent but the Livestock Production Index decreased 0.7 percent. In addition to prices, the indexes are influenced by the volume change of commodities producers market. Increased monthly movement of milk, strawberries, cattle, and calves offset the decreased marketing of cotton, soybeans, apples, and hay. The Food Commodities Index, at 99.8, increased 4.8 percent from the previous month but was unchanged from March 2017.

USDA Seeks Feedback from Growers about 2018 Crops, Stocks, Inventories, and Values

During the first two weeks of June, U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct two major mid-year surveys, the June Agricultural Survey and the June Area Survey. The agency will survey over 2,300 farmers across Michigan to determine crop production and supplies levels in 2018.

NASS gathers the data for the June Agricultural Survey online, by mail, phone and in-person interview. For the June Area Survey, agency representatives visit randomly selected tracts of land and interview the operators of any farm or ranch on that land. Growers provide information on crop acreage – including biotech crops—as well as grain stocks, livestock inventory, cash rents, land values, and value of sales.

NASS will compile and analyze the survey information and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the annual *Acreage* report and quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released June 29, 2018. Survey data contribute to NASS's monthly and annual *Crop Production* reports, as well as the annual *Small Grains Summary* and USDA's monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified. All reports are available on the NASS website: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications>. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Great Lakes Regional Field Office at (800) 453-7501.

Prices Received by Farmers¹, March 2018

Commodity	Michigan			United States		
	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2018
Beans, dry edible dollars/cwt	34.10	29.50	29.30	32.40	26.90	26.20
Corn dollars/bu	3.62	3.49	3.59	3.49	3.38	3.51
Hay, alfalfa dollars/ton	140.00	175.00	160.00	134.00	155.00	166.00
Hay, other dollars/ton	115.00	145.00	130.00	127.00	124.00	123.00
Oats dollars/bu	2.91	3.13	3.34	2.39	2.64	2.80
Soybeans dollars/bu	9.97	9.64	9.99	9.69	9.49	9.81
Wheat, winter dollars/bu	4.49	4.50	4.72	3.82	4.63	4.73
Milk, all dollars/cwt	16.50	13.80	14.10	17.30	15.30	15.60

¹ Entire month weighted average price.

April Potato Stocks

Potato Stocks in Michigan on April 1, 2018, were 3.8 million hundredweight (cwt), up 46 percent from last year's 2.6 million cwt. April's stocks represent 21 percent of the total production. Stocks include potatoes stored by both processors and growers.

The 13 major potato States held 134 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2018, up 2 percent from April 1, 2017. Potatoes in storage accounted for 33 percent of the fall storage States' 2017 production, 1 percentage point more than last year. Potato disappearance, at 266 million cwt, was down 3 percent from April 1, 2017. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 19.3 million cwt, was 8 percent lower than the same time last year. Processors in the 8 major States used 146 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 1 percent from April 2017.

March Milk Production

Dairy herds in Michigan produced 971 million pounds of milk during March, up 0.8 percent from a year ago. The daily rate per cow was 73.5 pounds, up 0.4 pounds from March 2017. The dairy herd was estimated at 426,000 head for March, up 1,000 head from a year earlier. The average price of milk sold in March by Michigan dairy producers was \$14.10 per cwt., \$2.40 less than the price in March 2017.

Michigan Dairy Summary, March 2018

Item		2016	2017	2018
Cows	1,000 Hd	416	425	426
Milk per cow	Lb/day	71.6	73.1	73.5
Production	Mil lbs	924	963	971
Milk price, all	Dol/cwt	14.10	16.50	14.10
Fat test	Pct	3.71	3.75	3.72
Protein ¹	Pct	3.11	3.16	3.16

¹ FMO 33

Chickens and Eggs

All layers in Michigan totaled 15.5 million during March, up 8 percent from a year ago. Egg production totaled 392 million eggs, up 7 percent from last year. The rate of lay during March was 2,531 eggs per 100 layers. All layers in the U.S. totaled

386.4 million during March up 3 percent from a year ago. There were 24.0 million turkey poults hatched in the U.S. in March, down 7 percent the previous year.

Egg and Hatchery Production, March 2018

Item		2017	2018	Percent Change
Michigan				
All layers	Thousand	14,375	15,493	8
Eggs per hundred layers	Number	2,544	2,531	-1
Eggs produced	Million	366	392	7
U.S.				
All Layers	Thousand	376,257	386,368	3
Eggs per hundred layers	Number	2,394	2,355	-2
Eggs produced	Million	9,007	9,097	1
Turkey Eggs in incubators, Apr 1	Thousand	28,701	28,091	-2
Turkey Poults hatched, Mar	Thousand	25,812	24,000	-7

Michigan Winter Wheat Production

Michigan wheat growers are very optimistic about the 2018 wheat crop despite the crop's progress being behind schedule. Michigan producers expect to harvest 490,000 acres, up 65,000 acres from last year. Wheat production in the state is expected to be 45.6 million bushels. The yield forecast of 93 bushels, if realized, would be 14 bushels above the previous year and 4 bushels above the previous State record set in 2016.

U.S winter wheat production is forecast at 1.19 billion bushels, down 6 percent from 2017. As of May 1, the United

States yield is forecast at 48.1 bushels per acre, down 2.1 bushels from last year.

Hay stocks on Michigan farms on May 1, 2018 were 260,000 tons, down 31 percent from this time last year.

All hay stored on United States farms as of May 1, 2018 totaled 15.7 million tons, down 36 percent from the previous year. Disappearance from December 1, 2017 - May 1, 2018 totaled 70.6 million tons, compared with 71.4 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production by Crop – Michigan and United States: 2016 - 2018

Commodity	Michigan			United States		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Wheat, winter						
Planted..... 1,000 acres	610	480	530	36,152	32,696	32,708
Harvested..... 1,000 acres	570	425	490	30,237	25,291	24,769
Yield..... Bushels	89.0	79.0	93.0	55.3	50.2	48.1
Production..... 1,000 bu	50,730	33,575	45,570	1,672,582	1,269,437	1,191,542

Red Meat Production

Commercial red meat production in Michigan totaled 80.3 million pounds in March 2018, up 37.1 million pounds from March 2017.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.52 billion pounds in March, down slightly from the 4.54 billion pounds produced in March 2017.

Beef production, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.70 million head, down 2 percent from March 2017. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,358 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.1 million pounds, 6 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 43,700 head, down 3 percent from March 2017. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from last year, at 240 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.30 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.7 million head, up slightly from March 2017. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.2 million pounds, was up 3 percent from March 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 201,600 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, unchanged from March a year ago.

January to March 2018 commercial red meat production was 13.2 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up slightly, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 3 percent.

Michigan Commercial Slaughter, March 2018

Species	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(Pounds)	(Pounds)
Cattle	46.7	48.0	65,614	67,930	1,414	1,425
Calves	0.1	0.1	30	33	300	302
Hogs	17.6	183.5	6,942	54,809	395	299
Sheep	16.6	18.8	2,316	2,660	139	142

PRST STD
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
USDA
PERMIT NO. G-38

USDA NASS Great Lakes Region
P.O. Box 30239
Lansing, MI 48909-9983
(517) 324-5300 FAX (855) 270-2709
Email: nassrfglr@usda.gov

Thank You to our Data Providers

The USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region and enumerator staff are pleased to provide you and the Michigan agricultural industry with current, reliable information as summarized in the following articles. This service is possible because you and other respondents provided us with timely survey responses. Thank you!