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MONTHLY PRICES

The November 2017 average price received by farmers for **corn** in Minnesota was $2.92 per bushel. This was $0.10 below the October price and $0.18 below the November 2016 price.

The November 2017 average price received by farmers for **soybeans**, at $9.07 per bushel, was up $0.01 from the October price but down $0.18 from the November 2016 price.

The November 2017 price for **spring wheat** was $5.52 per bushel, down $0.09 from October but up $1.06 from November 2016.

All hay prices in Minnesota averaged $109.00 per ton in November, up $19.00 from the October price and $29.00 per ton more than November 2016. The **alfalfa hay** price was $134.00 per ton, up $26.00 from October and $40.00 above a year ago. The **other hay** price was $84.00, up $15.00 from October and $29.00 above a year ago.

The November average price was $18.70 per cwt for **milk**, up $0.20 from October but down $0.10 per cwt from one year ago.

Prices Received by Farmers - Minnesota and United States

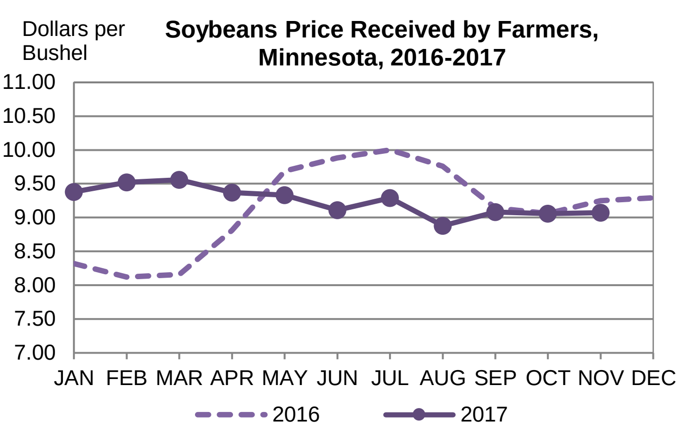
	Minnesota			United States		
	November 2016	October 2017	November 2017	November 2016	October 2017	November 2017
	(dollars)					
Barley, all ....bu	(D)	(D)	4.43	4.97	4.46	4.59
Beans, dry edible .... cwt	29.10	30.80	27.80	29.90	26.10	27.30
Corn ....bu	3.10	3.02	2.92	3.24	3.26	3.15
Hay, all baled ....ton	80.00	90.00	109.00	126.00	141.00	138.00
Alfalfa ....ton	94.00	108.00	134.00	130.00	152.00	148.00
Other ....ton	55.00	69.00	84.00	120.00	118.00	118.00
Oats ....bu	1.89	2.09	2.16	2.23	2.55	2.68
Soybeans ....bu	9.25	9.06	9.07	9.47	9.18	9.22
Spring wheat ....bu	4.46	5.61	5.52	4.48	5.55	5.78
Sunflowers, all .... cwt	18.00	18.80	17.00	16.40	16.80	16.60
Milk, all .... cwt	18.80	18.50	18.70	17.80	17.90	18.10

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Livestock Prices Received by Farmers - United States

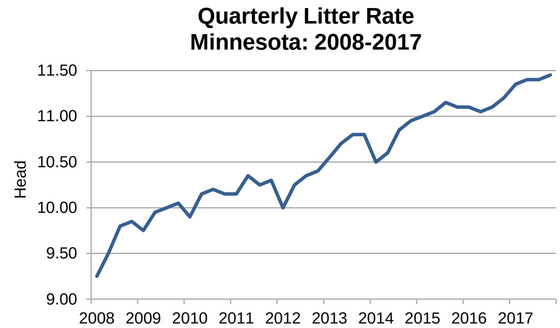
	November 2016	October 2017	November 2017
	(dollars)		
Calves .... cwt	144.00	177.00	177.00
Cattle, all beef .... cwt	104.00	109.00	119.00
Cows[1] .... cwt	61.90	65.40	63.40
Steers and heifers .... cwt	106.00	111.00	121.00
Hogs, all .... cwt	39.00	47.30	50.00
Barrows and gilts .... cwt	39.30	47.60	50.20
Sows .... cwt	30.40	36.30	44.60
Eggs (market) .... doz	0.310	0.680	1.230

1. Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.



HOGS & PIGS

On December 1, 2017, there were 8.50 million hogs and pigs on Minnesota farms. The December 1 inventory increased 200,000 from the previous quarter. The September-November quarterly pig crop was 3.61 million head, up 5 percent from the previous quarter and 4 percent from last year. A total of 315,000 sows farrowed during this quarter. The average pigs saved per litter was 11.45 for the quarter. This is a record high pigs saved per litter for any quarter. As of December 1, producers planned to farrow 295,000 sows and gilts in the December 2017-February 2018 quarter and 300,000 head during the March-May 2018 quarter.



United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2017 was 73.2 million head. This was up 2 percent from December 1, 2016, but down slightly from September 1, 2017. Breeding inventory, at 6.18 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up 1 percent from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 67.1 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, but down slightly from last quarter.

The September-November 2017 pig crop, at 33.4 million head, was up 3 percent from 2016. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.11 million head, up 2 percent from 2016. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 51 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high of 10.74 for the September-November period, compared to 10.63 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.90 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.80 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

United States hog producers intend to have 3.07 million sows farrow during the December-February 2018 quarter, up 3 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2017, and up 5 percent from 2016. Intended

Farrowings for March-May 2018, at 3.08 million sows, are up 2 percent from 2017, and up 4 percent from 2016.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 47 percent of the total United States hog inventory, unchanged from the previous year.

Note: All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2016 through September 2017 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. The net revision made to the December 2016 all hogs and pigs inventory was 0.1 percent. The net revision made to the March 2017 all hogs and pigs inventory was 0.4 percent. The net revision made to the June 2017 all hogs and pigs inventory was 0.9 percent. A revision of 1.5 percent was made to the March-May 2017 pig crop. A revision of 0.3 percent was made to the September 2017 all hogs and pigs inventory.

Hogs and Pigs, Breeding, Market, and Total Inventory – Selected States and United States: December 1, 2016 and 2017 [Data may not add to totals due to rounding.]

State	Breeding			Market			Total		
	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16
	(1,000 head)		*(percent)*	*(1,000 head)*		*(percent)*	*(1,000 head)*		*(percent)*
Illinois	490	540	110	4,610	4,560	99	5,100	5,100	100
Iowa	1,030	1,030	100	19,870	21,370	108	20,900	22,400	107
Minnesota	**560**	**550**	**98**	**7,540**	**7,750**	**103**	**8,100**	**8,300**	**102**
Missouri	395	435	110	2,655	2,665	100	3,050	3,100	102
Nebraska	420	415	99	2,880	2,985	104	3,300	3,400	103
North Carolina	870	880	101	8,030	8,420	105	8,900	9,300	104
United States	6,002	6,090	101	62,917	65,410	104	68,919	71,500	104

Hogs and Pigs, Market Inventory by Weight Group – Selected States, and United States: September 1, 2016 and 2017 [Weight groups may not add to market inventory due to rounding.]

State	Under 50 pounds		50-119 pounds		120-179 pounds		180 pounds and over	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	(1,000 head)							
Illinois	1,450	1,530	1,360	1,450	890	940	860	900
Iowa	5,620	5,830	6,550	6,820	5,010	5,080	3,990	4,070
Minnesota	**2,720**	**2,720**	**2,350**	**2,330**	**1,560**	**1,620**	**1,300**	**1,260**
Missouri	1,340	1,450	520	560	375	445	430	495
Nebraska	955	1,030	790	840	650	640	590	660
North Carolina	3,160	3,190	1,950	1,790	1,680	1,590	1,630	1,530
United States	20,887	21,447	18,102	18,549	13,786	14,105	12,660	12,949

CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in Minnesota for all feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 155,000 head on December 1, 2017. This is up 5,000 head from last month and up 9,000 head from last year. **Placements** during November totaled 26,000 head, down 17,000 head from last month but up 7,000 head from last year. **Marketings** for November were 20,000 head, up 8,000 head from last month and up 6,000 head from last year. **Other disappearance** totaled 1,000 head.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.5 million head on December 1, 2017. The inventory was 8 percent above December 1, 2016. **Placements** in feedlots during November totaled 2.10 million head, 14 percent above 2016. Net placements were 2.03 million head. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 610,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 545,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 455,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 294,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 75,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 120,000 head. **Marketings** of fed cattle during November totaled 1.84 million head, 3 percent above 2016. Marketings were the highest for November since the series began in 1996. **Other disappearance** totaled 71,000 head during November, 3 percent above 2016.

Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance by Month, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – Selected States and United States: 2016-2017

State	Cattle on feed [1] December 1			Placements during November			Marketings during November			November disappearance other than slaughter [2]		
	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16	2016	2017	'17 as % of '16
	(1,000 head)		*(percent)*	*(1,000 head)*		*(percent)*	*(1,000 head)*		*(percent)*	*(1,000 head)*		*(percent)*
Arizona	251	261	104	27	34	126	28	24	86	1	1	100
California	420	470	112	48	71	148	45	38	84	3	3	100
Colorado	910	990	109	140	150	107	135	135	100	5	5	100
Idaho	260	260	100	51	48	94	39	41	105	2	2	100
Iowa	600	700	117	102	122	120	100	110	110	2	2	100
Kansas	2,220	2,310	104	370	420	114	370	380	103	20	20	100
Minnesota	**146**	**155**	**106**	**19**	**26**	**137**	**14**	**20**	**143**	**1**	**1**	**100**
Nebraska	2,370	2,590	109	510	545	107	445	460	103	15	15	100
Oklahoma	290	315	109	52	60	115	55	63	115	2	2	100
South Dakota	240	260	108	47	54	115	46	53	115	1	1	100
Texas	2,430	2,660	109	390	480	123	435	445	102	15	15	100
Washington	195	215	110	41	43	105	40	36	90	1	2	200
Other States	320	330	103	46	46	100	35	39	111	1	2	200
United States	10,652	11,516	108	1,843	2,099	114	1,787	1,844	103	69	71	103

1 Cattle and calves on feed are steers and heifers being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot. 2 Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CHICKENS & EGGS

Minnesota **egg production** during November 2017 was 241 million eggs, down 3 percent from last month and down 6 percent from last year. The average number of **all layers on hand** during November 2017 was 10.4 million, up 2 percent from last month but down 5 percent from last year. **Eggs per 100 layers** for November were 2,319, down 4 percent from last month and down 1 percent from last year.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During November 2016 and 2017

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some states to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals.]

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 & above		All layers on hand		Eggs per 100 layers		Total egg production		Table egg production	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	(1,000 layers)				*(eggs)*		*(million eggs)*			
Minnesota	**10,444**	**9,928**	**10,902**	**10,411**	**2,353**	**2,319**	**256.5**	**241.4**	**250.1**	**234.8**
United States	307,253	308,753	374,040	378,092	2,328	2,306	8,707.1	8,717.1	7,602.4	7,604.4

COST OF POLLINATION

The total value of pollination of all crops in Region 4 for 2017 was 855 thousand dollars, down 66 percent from last year. Region 4 includes Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Apples had the highest total value of pollination of crops reported in Region 4 in 2017. The price per colony for apples increased 10 percent to $50.10 in 2017. The price per acre increased 27 percent to $41.20.

The price per colony for cherries in Region 4 decreased 10 percent to $30.80 in 2017. The price per acre decreased 7 percent to $25.70 in 2017. The total value of pollination for cherries in Region 4 for 2017 was 74 thousand dollars.

Paid Pollinated Acres, Price per Acre, Colonies Used, Price per Colony, and Total Value of Pollination - Region 4: 2016-2017

Crop	Paid pollinated acres		Price per acre		Colonies used		Price per colony[2]		Total value of pollination	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	(acres)		*(dollars)*		*(colonies)*		*(dollars)*		*(1,000 dollars)*	
Tree fruit										
Apple	3,000	2,050	32.50	41.20	3,900	3,200	45.50	50.10	177	160
Cherry	3,100	2,600	27.50	25.70	3,100	2,400	34.30	30.80	106	74
Vegetables										
Pumpkin	3,850	(NA)	26.70	(NA)	2,500	(NA)	80.30	(NA)	201	(NA)
All other[1]	3,400	2,700	71.90	41.70	35,000	12,500	57.90	49.70	2,027	621
Total	13,350	7,350	40.00	36.10	44,500	18,100	56.40	47.20	2,511	855

(NA) Not available. 1 Includes any crops not categorized above. 2 Regional total price per colony is total value of pollination divided by colonies used.

Estimation Regions

To improve the reliability and increase the number of estimates which can be published, estimates are published at regional level, based on the regions used for the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Regions 6 and 7 were combined. The states in each region are as follows:

Region 1: Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin.

Region 2: Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Region 3: Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas.

Region 4: Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming.

Region 5: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Regions 6 & 7: Arizona, California, Hawaii.

Terms and Definitions of Cost of Pollination Estimates

Paid Pollinated Acres: Acreage that an operation paid money to be pollinated by honey bees.

Dollars per Acre: The average price paid by operations to pollinate an acre of crop. Acres pollinated for free or on a non-monetary basis were not included in this calculation.

Colonies Used: The total colonies used to pollinate a crop; regardless of ownership or if on a paid basis.

Dollars per Colony: The average price paid by operations to use a colony for pollination. Colonies owned by the operation or used on a non-monetary basis were not included.

Total Value of Pollination: The total valuation of all pollination, calculated by multiplying the price per colony by colonies used.