



# Nevada Ag Stats Newsletter

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## Crop Values

**Nevada:** The value of Nevada's principal crop, hay, decreased 9 percent from 2011 to \$267.1 million. Wheat crop values decreased 10 percent from 2011 to \$7.8 million.

**United States:** The value of the all hay crop for 2012 increased 2 percent from 2011 to \$18.56 billion. All wheat crop value increased 25 percent to \$17.94 billion.

### Value of Production – Nevada and United States: 2010 to 2012

Commodity	Nevada			United States		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
	(1,000 dollars)					
All Wheat	7,130	8,730	7,825	12,827,254	14,322,909	17,943,343
Winter Wheat	6,050	6,748	6,691	8,009,479	10,158,214	12,547,275
Spring Wheat	1,080	1,982	1,134	4,157,042	3,688,088	4,698,011
All Hay	191,376	294,040	267,096	14,656,191	18,251,166	18,557,655
Alfalfa Hay	151,704	237,600	217,536	7,728,468	10,917,174	10,406,796
All Other Hay	39,672	56,440	49,560	6,927,723	7,333,992	8,150,857
Potatoes	(D)	(D)	16,614	3,721,501	4,040,568	3,914,949
Principal Crops <sup>1</sup>	268,311	375,841	<sup>2</sup>	191,234,810	212,059,439	<sup>2</sup>

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. <sup>1</sup> Crops included are shown in the summary table of the February 2013 Crop Values Report. [www.nass.usda.gov/publications/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/publications/) <sup>2</sup> Released February 2014

## Hay Prices

**Nevada:** The all hay price, at \$205.00 per ton, is up \$10.00 from January and down \$25.00 from last February. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at \$205.00 per ton, up \$10.00 from January and down \$28.00 from a year ago. All other hay, at \$163.00 per ton, is unchanged from January and down \$2.00 from a year ago.

**United States:** The all hay price, at \$194 per ton, is up \$3.00 from January and \$17.00 from last February. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at \$218.00 per ton, up \$1.00 from January. All other hay at \$148.00 per ton, is up \$4.00 from last month.

### Hay Prices Received by Type measured in \$ per Ton – Select States & United States: February 2013

State	All Hay			Alfalfa Hay			Other Hay <sup>1</sup>		
	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013
Arizona	252.00	201.00	201.00	255.00	200.00	200.00	185.00	210.00	210.00
California	244.00	208.00	205.00	250.00	215.00	209.00	225.00	185.00	190.00
Idaho	208.00	197.00	199.00	210.00	200.00	200.00	145.00	150.00	150.00
<b>Nevada</b>	<b>230.00</b>	<b>195.00</b>	<b>205.00</b>	<b>233.00</b>	<b>196.00</b>	<b>205.00</b>	<b>165.00</b>	<b>163.00</b>	<b>163.00</b>
Oregon	212.00	213.00	217.00	237.00	225.00	220.00	196.00	201.00	212.00
Utah	175.00	180.00	182.00	175.00	183.00	184.00	142.00	148.00	148.00
United States	177.00	191.00	194.00	194.00	217.00	218.00	142.00	144.00	148.00

<sup>1</sup> Other hay is comprised of grain and grain mixtures, timothy, clover, wild, prairie, range, and other types.

## Hay Stocks

**Nevada:** Hay stocks on December 1, 2012 were down 22 percent from last year, totaling 650,000 tons.

**United States:** All hay stored on farms December 1, 2012 totaled 76.5 million tons, down 16 percent from a year ago. This is the lowest December 1 stocks level since 1957. Disappearance from May 1, 2012 - December 1, 2012 totaled 64.7 million tons, compared with 62.7 million tons for the same period a year ago.

### **Hay Stocks on Farms – Nevada and United States: May 1 and December 1, 2003-2012**

Year	Nevada		United States	
	May 1 <sup>st</sup> Tons	December 1 <sup>st</sup> Tons	May 1 <sup>st</sup> Tons	December 1 <sup>st</sup> Tons
2003	167,000	857,000	22,013,000	111,011,000
2004	121,000	741,000	25,947,000	114,489,000
2005	80,000	788,000	27,758,000	105,181,000
2006	209,000	879,000	21,345,000	96,400,000
2007	202,000	767,000	14,990,000	104,089,000
2008	90,000	1,000,000	21,585,000	103,658,000
2009	170,000	1,012,000	22,065,000	107,222,000
2010	310,000	819,000	20,931,000	102,134,000
2011	46,000	830,000	22,217,000	90,726,000
2012	238,000	650,000	21,381,000	76,547,000

## Farm Numbers

**Nevada:** The number of farms and ranches operating in Nevada during 2012 is estimated at 2,950, down slightly from the 2,980 estimated for 2011. The total land area in farms for Nevada, not including public lands grazed, decreased slightly to 5.84 million acres. Nevada's average farm size was 1,980 acres in 2012.

**United States:** The number of farms in the United States in 2012 is estimated at 2.2 million, down 11,630 farms from 2011. Total land in farms, at 914 million acres, decreased 3 million acres from 2011. The average farm size is 421 acres, up 1 acre from the previous year.

The number of operations with cattle totaled 915,000 for 2012, down 1 percent from 2011. Beef cow operations in 2012, at 729,000, were also down 1 percent from last year. The number of milk cow operations for 2012 totaled 58,000, down 3 percent from 2011.

The number of operations with hogs totaled 68,300 for 2012, down 1 percent from 2011. Places with 2,000 or more head accounted for 87 percent of the inventory.

The number of operations with sheep totaled 79,500 for 2012, down 1 percent from 2011. Of all sheep operations that include breeding sheep, 93.9 percent were comprised of 1-99 head, 5.0 percent had 100-499 head, and the remaining 1.1 percent were operations with 500 head or more. Operations with 1-99 head account for 35.5 percent of the inventory, 100-499 head account for 21.1 percent of the inventory, and 500+ head account for 43.4 percent of the inventory.

The number of operations with goats totaled 149,000 for 2012, down 1 percent from a year earlier. Angora goat operations totaled 5,300, down 4 percent from 2011. Milk goat operations totaled 30,500, down 2 percent from 2011. Meat goat operations totaled 123,000, down 1 percent from a year earlier. Total goat operations will be equal to or less than the sum of angora, milk and meat goat operations since places which own more than one goat type count as only one operation.

## Agricultural Statistics: A Historical Timeline

### Part 3: 1903 - 1916

**1903:** Agricultural statistics report procedures consist of three individuals, led by the Chief Statistician, reviewing survey indications shortly before a report is scheduled to be released. Once the report's contents are set, the three individuals are free to go about their business and even to leave the building. (U.S. Population 1900 - 76,212,168 | Number of Farms 1900 - 5,739,657)

**1903:** On December 11, President Theodore Roosevelt sends a letter to the Secretary of Agriculture stating, "The enclosed two papers are among a number of complaints that I have had in this matter of the leak in the cotton reports. For over a year I have heard grumbling about these leakings and complaints that the Government reports were used to help the stock gamblers. Will you let me know about this matter."

**1903:** The Secretary of Agriculture initiates an investigation and discovers that E.S. Holmes, Jr., one of the three men responsible for reviewing cotton estimates, has been providing Louis Van Riper, a New York City cotton trader, with advance information. To dispel rumors and prevent future security breaches, Bureau Chief John Hyde no longer permits the three reviewers to leave the work area until the report has been released.

**1905:** The new procedures do not deter Holmes and Van Riper, who develop a signaling system using window blinds to indicate the figure to be published. The scheme finally comes to light following the Cotton Acreage report issued June 2. After the three reviewers meet and adopt the state and national figures to be published, Holmes sends his signal to Van Riper, who proceeds to place trades. However, before the figures are actually published, one of the individuals working on the report asks for reconsideration and the figures are revised.

**1905:** Unhappy with the outcome of his trades, Van Riper charges in a telegram that a "fraudulent" report was released. In explaining why he believes the report to be false, he unwittingly reveals that he had advance information. On further questioning, Holmes and Van Riper turn on one another and reveal the full extent of the data leak. Holmes is removed from office and receives a fine of \$5,000. Bureau Chief Hyde resigns.

**1905:** The Crop Reporting Board is created. Willet M. Hays, an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture charged with temporarily heading the Bureau of Statistics, develops an approach for identifying eight qualified individuals to bring statistical knowledge to crop estimating work. The Crop Reporting Board begins to issue reports in November.

**1908:** The Bureau of Statistics begins monthly collection of prices farmers receive for various agricultural commodities.

**1909:** Congress enacts a law making it a crime for federal employees to disclose crop estimates prematurely, issue false reports, and speculate in products of the soil. The law also requires the Secretary of Agriculture to formally approve crop estimates before they can be issued.

**1909:** By the end of 1909, the Bureau of Statistics has 19 regional field agents, 44 state agents, 135,000 voluntary county reporters, 33,000 voluntary township reporters and 25,000 farmers serving as correspondents.

**1910:** The Bureau of Statistics begins annual collection of data on prices farmers pay for 74 commodities. (U.S. Population 1910 - 92,228,496 | Number of Farms 1910 - 6,366,044)

**1914:** The positions of part-time state statistical agents and full-time regional field agents are abolished. They are replaced by full-time state statistical agents under the Federal Civil Service. There is no budget for office staff, so state statistical agents rely on family members for assistance addressing and mailing inquiries. The statistical agents' reports supplement the returns from county and township correspondents for calculating the final estimates.

**1915:** The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) is established to represent state departments of agriculture.

**1916:** The first objective determination of crop acreages begins. A statistician in South Carolina counts the number of fields devoted to each crop from a train window during his travels. "Route samples" of fields lead other state statisticians to experiment with counts of fields by crops.

### February Weather Summary

Temperatures warmed a bit early in February before returning to the below-normal pattern that has characterized the season. Precipitation totals were below normal in nearly all areas and parts of the West and the South received only traces. Snow accumulations in the principal watersheds of northern and central Nevada fell behind normal but ranging about 75% to 90% of the long term average. The Bureau of Land Management began meetings for contingency planning in case of drought. Different scenarios of grazing restrictions are being considered. Some fields were plowed in preparation of the growing season and some pre-emergent herbicides were applied. Potato processing was on going. Greenhouse production was active in the South. Onion shipments from storages were waning. Main farm and ranch activities included: early field preparation, equipment maintenance, feeding and doctoring livestock.

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#### Weather data for stations in Nevada: February 2013

Station	Temperature (°F)				Precipitation (inches)		
	Monthly Avg.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24 Hour
Reno	38.4	-1.5	64	19	Trace	-1.02	Trace
Elko	27.5	-2.4	49	3	0.56	-0.28	0.25
Ely	25.3	-3.7	54	-9	0.65	-0.10	0.39
Winnemucca	33.4	-1.8	60	9	0.09	-0.57	0.04
Eureka	25.1	-4.1	51	-3	0.82	-0.04	0.28
Tonopah	35.2	-1.6	59	15	0.19	-0.33	0.19
Las Vegas	51.5	-1.4	71	35	Trace	-0.76	Trace