



North Dakota

FARM REPORTER

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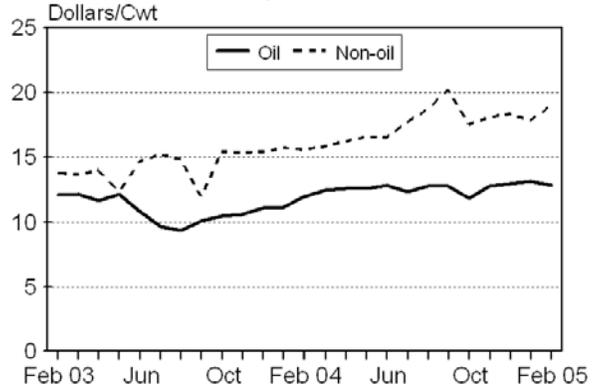
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AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota
The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in February is 111 percent of the 1990-1992 base.

This is down 3 percent from last year but 3 percent above two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 106 percent of the base, is down 10 percent from February 2004 while the All Livestock Index, at 122 percent, is up 12 percent from last year. February indexes are calculated using preliminary mid-month prices.

Sunflower: Prices Received by Farmers North Dakota, Feb 2003-Feb 2005



Prices Received by Farmers, February 2005

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price Feb 2005
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		Feb 2004	Jan 2005	Feb 2005	Feb 2004	Jan 2005	Feb 2005	
		--- Dollars ---			--- Dollars ---			- Dollars -
Wheat, All	Bu	3.83	3.50	3.45	3.77	3.42	3.38	9.91
Durum	Bu	4.09	3.59	3.55	4.08	3.62	3.59	---
Other Spring	Bu	3.79	3.50	3.45	3.84	3.60	3.55	---
Winter	Bu	---	2.67	2.50	3.67	3.27	3.24	---
Corn	Bu	2.50	1.91	1.60	2.61	2.12	2.02	6.64
Rye	Bu	2.15	---	---	---	---	---	6.34
Oats	Bu	1.21	1.22	1.25	1.58	1.64	1.58	3.95
Barley, All	Bu	2.57	2.13	2.17	2.73	2.42	2.48	6.73
Feed	Bu	1.91	1.47	1.50	2.16	1.65	1.74	---
Malting	Bu	2.76	2.46	2.45	2.96	2.75	2.77	---
Sunflower, All	Cwt	12.80	14.10	14.10	12.80	13.70	13.60	---
Oil	Cwt	12.00	13.20	12.90	---	---	---	---
Non-oil	Cwt	15.60	17.80	19.00	---	---	---	---
Baled Hay, All ^{1/}	Ton	55.00	57.00	58.00	81.20	84.20	84.70	---
Alfalfa ^{1/}	Ton	59.00	63.00	62.00	85.10	90.90	91.90	---
Other ^{1/}	Ton	43.00	46.00	44.00	72.10	70.60	70.00	---
Canola	Cwt	11.80	9.95	---	---	---	---	---
Flaxseed	Bu	6.40	8.90	10.50	6.39	8.90	10.50	13.40
Soybeans	Bu	7.72	5.59	5.50	8.28	5.57	5.39	16.10
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	15.70	26.40	26.00	17.50	27.40	28.30	50.40
Navy	Cwt	15.90	23.00	---	---	---	---	---
Pinto	Cwt	15.60	27.10	---	---	---	---	---
Potatoes, All	Cwt	5.60	6.20	5.80	5.87	5.59	5.44	15.00
Fresh ^{2/}	Cwt	5.15	6.25	---	6.69	5.89	---	---
Processing	Cwt	5.60	6.00	---	5.39	5.34	---	---
Beef Cattle	Cwt	84.40	101.00	97.00	78.50	89.40	89.60	172.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	88.40	106.00	103.00	82.30	94.40	93.80	---
Cows	Cwt	48.20	51.70	53.00	46.00	50.50	52.80	---
Calves	Cwt	110.00	126.00	123.00	111.00	125.00	128.00	234.00
Sheep	Cwt	40.00	48.00	---	40.80	53.50	---	84.30
Lambs	Cwt	104.00	116.00	---	106.00	114.00	---	209.00
Hogs	Cwt	45.40	54.30	---	42.60	53.20	50.40	107.00

^{1/} Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. ^{2/} Fresh market prices only, includes table stock.

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AGRICULTURAL PRICES (Continued)

Index Numbers of Farm Prices, February 2005

Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	Feb 2004	Jan 2005	Feb 2005	Feb 2004	Jan 2005	Feb 2005
Prices Received	(1990-92 = 100)					
All Farm Products	115	118	111	116	111	113
Crops	118	114	106	121	101	106
Food Grains	122	115	110	124	113	109
Feed Grains & Hay	116	98	89	113	95	93
Oil Bearing Crops ^{1/}	134	122	115	147	100	98
Potatoes & Dry Beans ^{2/}	92	114	102	100	150	101
Livestock	109	127	122	112	121	120
Meat Animals	110	131	126	104	121	120
Dairy Products	105	98	105	104	122	118
Other Livestock Products ^{3/}	99	99	99	139	122	120
Prices Paid	---	---	---	131	134	134
Ratio ^{4/}	---	---	---	89	83	84

^{1/} Includes non-oil sunflower. ^{2/} North Dakota includes sugarbeets. ^{3/} United States excludes wool. ^{4/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid.

United States

The February All Farm Products Index

is 113 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 2 percent from the January index but 3 percent below the February 2004 index. The All Crops Index is 106, up 5 percent from January but 12 percent below February 2004. The Livestock and Products Index, at 120, is down 1 percent from last month but up 7 percent from February 2004.



HONEY PRODUCTION

North Dakota
Honey production in 2004 from North Dakota producers with five or more colonies totaled 30.4 million pounds, up 3 percent from 2003. North Dakota regained its first place position in total honey production.

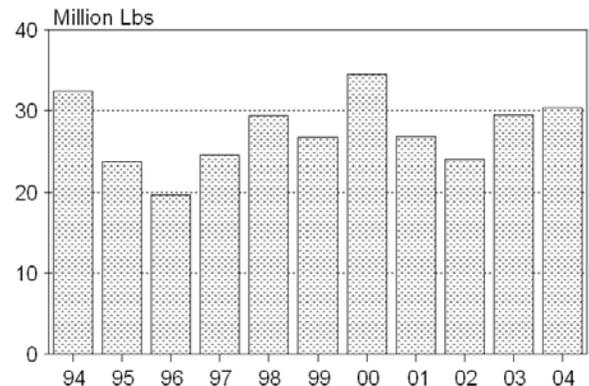
There were 390,000 honey producing colonies in North Dakota during 2004, up 50,000 from 2003. Yield per colony averaged 78 pounds, down from 87 pounds in 2003. The highest yield on record was 142 pounds in 1972.

Producer honey stocks were 9.13 million pounds on December 15, 2004, up from 6.80 million pounds a year

earlier. Prices for the 2004 crop averaged 105 cents per pound, down 31 cents from 2003. Prices were based on sales to private processors and cooperatives and retail sales by producers.

United States
Honey production in 2004 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 184 million pounds, up 1 percent from 2003. There were 2.56 million colonies producing honey in 2004, down 2 percent from 2003. Yield per colony averaged 71.8 pounds, up 3 percent from the 69.9 pounds in 2003. Producer honey stocks were 61.2 million pounds on December 15, 2004, up 50 percent from a year earlier.

Honey: Production North Dakota, 1994-2004



Honey prices decreased during 2004 to 108.5 cents, down 22 percent from 138.7 cents in 2003. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives.

Honey Production and Stocks on Hand

State ^{1/}	Producing Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production		Stocks on Hand Dec. 15 ^{2/}		Average Price Per Pound		Value of Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	-- 1,000 --		-- Pounds --		-- 1,000 Pounds --				-- Cents --		- 1,000 Dollars -	
North Dakota	340	390	87	78	29,580	30,420	6,803	9,126	136	105	40,229	31,941
California	480	390	67	45	32,160	17,550	6,432	5,792	139	101	44,702	17,726
Florida	210	205	71	98	14,910	20,090	1,491	2,009	132	100	19,681	20,090
Minnesota	120	135	83	75	9,960	10,125	1,892	1,924	144	104	14,342	10,530
Montana	145	140	66	77	9,570	10,780	1,914	3,773	144	106	13,781	11,427
South Dakota	215	215	70	105	15,050	22,575	2,709	13,545	143	106	21,522	23,930
United States	2,599	2,556	70	71.8	181,727	183,582	40,785	61,222	138.7	109	253,106	201,790

^{1/} Published are a few selected states from the National release. ^{2/} Held by producers.

NORTH DAKOTA'S RANK IN AGRICULTURE

Farmers and ranchers in the state maintained North Dakota's #1 ranking in the production of spring and durum wheat, barley, oats, canola, pinto beans, dry edible peas, flaxseed and sunflower in 2004 compared to other states. Lentil production in North Dakota moved to first place in 2004, up from second place last year. North Dakota remained the second highest all wheat producing state in 2004, behind Kansas.

Durum wheat production in North Dakota accounted for 59 percent of the U.S. total, down from 60 percent in 2003 while spring wheat accounted for 43 percent, down from 48 percent last year. Canola production accounted for 91 percent of the U.S. total compared to 90 percent in 2003. Pinto bean production accounted for 46 percent of the U.S. total, down from 56 percent a year ago. Flaxseed, dry edible peas, sunflower, barley and oat production accounted for 95, 61, 39, 33 and 12 percent of the U.S. total, respectively.

North Dakota regained its first place position in honey production in 2004, ahead of South Dakota. North Dakota bee colonies produced 17 percent of the U.S. production, up from 16 percent in 2003. Sugarbeet production rank remained in third place, behind Minnesota and Idaho.

NORTH DAKOTA'S 2004 RANK AMONG STATES

Rank . . .	Percent of Nation's Production . . .
#1	Spring Wheat 43%
	Durum Wheat 59%
	Barley 33%
	Oats 12%
	Canola 91%
	All Sunflower 39%
	Oil Sunflower 39%
	Non-oil Sunflower 37%
	Flaxseed 95%
	All Dry Edible Beans 27%
	Pinto Beans 46%
	Dry Edible Peas 61%
	Lentils 31%
	Honey 17%
#2	All Wheat 14%
	Rye 9%
	Navy Beans 30%
#3	Sugarbeets 16%
#4	Potatoes 6%
#11	Soybeans 3%
#16	Corn for Grain 1%

The 10 Leading States and North Dakota's Rank

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	North Dakota's Rank	Percent of Nation ^{1/}
Crop Production - 2004												
Corn, Grain	IA	IL	NE	MN	IN	SD	OH	MO	KS	WI	16	1
Silage	WI	CA	NY	PA	MN	SD	MI	IA	ID	NE	18	2
Wheat, Durum	ND	MT	AZ	CA	SD	MN					1	59
Spring	ND	MN	MT	SD	ID	WA	OR	CO	UT	NV	1	43
Winter	KS	OK	WA	TX	MT	ID	NE	SD	OH	IL	22	1
All	KS	ND	MT	OK	WA	SD	TX	ID	MN	NE	2	14
Oats	ND	SD	WI	MN	IA	TX	PA	MI	NE	NY	1	12
Barley	ND	ID	MT	WA	CO	MN	WY	OR	AZ	CA	1	33
Rye	OK	ND	SD	GA							2	9
Flaxseed	ND	MT	SD	MN							1	95
Potatoes	ID	WA	WI	ND	CO	OR	ME	MN	CA	MI	4	6
Sugarbeets	MN	ID	ND	MI	CA	MT	NE	CO	WY	OR	3	16
Soybeans	IL	IA	IN	MN	MO	NE	OH	SD	AR	KS	11	3
Dry Edible Beans, Navy	MI	ND	MN	ID	NE	SD	WY/OR				2	30
Pinto	ND	NE	CO	ID	WY	MT	MN	NM	WA/KS		1	46
All	ND	MI	NE	ID	CA	MN	CO	WA	WY	MT	1	27
Dry Edible Peas	ND	WA	MT	ID	OR						1	61
Lentils	ND	WA	MT	ID							1	31
Sunflower, Oil	ND	SD	KS	CO	MN	NE	TX				1	39
Non-oil	ND	CO	TX	SD	MN	KS	NE				1	37
All	ND	SD	KS	CO	MN	TX	NE				1	39
Canola	ND	MN									1	91
Hay, Alfalfa	CA	IA	SD/MN		ID	NE	WI	KS	MT	MI	16	3
All Other	TX	MO	KY	TN	OK	KS	AR	VA	PA	AL	14	2
All	TX	MO	CA	KS	SD	IA	NE	OK	KY	MN	16	2
Total Acreage												
Principal Crops Planted	IA	IL	TX	KS	ND	MN	NE	SD	MO	IN	5	7
Principal Crops Harvested	IA	IL	KS	ND	TX	MN	NE	SD	MO	IN	4	6
Grain Storage, December 1												
On-Farm Capacity	IA	MN	IL	NE	ND	IN	SD	MO/OH		KS	5	7
Off-Farm Capacity	IL	IA	KS	NE	TX	MN	IN	OH	ND	OK	9	3
Livestock on Hand - January 1, 2005												
All Cattle & Calves	TX	KS	NE	OK/CA	MO	SD	IA	WI	CO		18	2
Cattle & Calves on Feed	TX	NE	KS	CO	IA	CA	SD	OK	AZ	ID	23	*
Cows That Have Calved	TX	CA	MO	OK	NE	SD	KS	WI	MT	KY/IA	15	2
Milk	CA	WI	NY	PA	MN	ID	TX/NM		MI	OH	33	*
Beef	TX	MO	OK	NE	SD	KS	MT	KY	TN	IA	13	3
All Hogs - December 1, 2004	IA	NC	MN	IL	IN	MO	NE	OK	KS	OH	26	*
All Sheep & Lambs	TX	CA	WY	SD	CO	MT	UT/ID		IA	OR	15	2
Livestock Production - 2004												
Calf Crop	TX	CA	MO	OK	NE	SD	MT/KS		WI	IA	13	3
Lamb Crop	TX	WY	SD	MT	CA	UT	ID	IA	CO	OR	13	2
Pig Crop	NC	IA	MN	IL	OK	NE	MO	IN	KS	OH	24	*
Turkeys Raised	MN	NC	AR	MO	VA	CA	IN	PA/SC		IA	16	*
Wool Production	TX	WY	CA	SD	CO	MT	UT	ID	IA	OR	14	2
Honey Production	ND	SD	FL	CA	MT	MN	TX	ID	WI	NE	1	17

* Less than one-half of one percent. 1/ North Dakota's percent of the Nation's total.

Corn: United States corn ending stocks for the 2004/05 marketing year are forecast by World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) to total 2.01 billion bushels, up 50 million bushels from the previous forecast, and 1.05 billion bushels above the 2003/04 marketing year. Projected exports were decreased 50 million bushels from last month due to increased competition from Argentina and smaller imports by Canada. The average price for the 2004 crop is expected to be between \$1.85 and \$2.05 per bushel.

Soybeans: Ending United States soybean stocks for the 2004/05 marketing year are forecast by WAOB to total 440 million bushels, up 5 million bushels from the previous forecast and 328 million bushels above the 2003/04 marketing year. If realized, this would be the highest ending stocks level since 1985/86. Exports remained unchanged from last month, while crush prospects decreased by 5 million bushels, reflecting lower domestic soybean meal demand. The average price for the 2004 crop is expected to be between \$4.80 and \$5.40 per bushel.

Wheat: United States wheat ending stocks for the 2004/05 marketing year are forecast by WAOB to total 558 million bushels, down 25 million bushels from last month due to

increased exports. Projected exports are 25 million bushels above last month because of increased world import demand and stronger than expected sales of hard bread wheats. Hard red spring wheat exports are 15 million bushels more than last month; hard red winter exports are up 12 million bushels; and white wheat exports are up 5 million bushels. Soft red winter wheat exports are down 5 million bushels and durum exports are 2 million bushels lower than last month. The average price for the 2004 crop is expected to be between \$3.30 and \$3.45 per bushel.

Cattle: Mid-February prices for choice steers (Nebraska direct, 1100-1300 pounds) averaged \$89 per cwt, down \$2 from mid-January. Feeder steer prices (Oklahoma City, medium-large frame, 750-800 pounds) were roughly \$104 per cwt, down \$3 from a month ago.

Hogs: For the first two weeks of February, hog slaughter was running 2.4% above a year ago. Cash prices at mid-February (Iowa-Southern Minnesota direct, 51-52 percent lean) averaged \$49 per cwt, down \$4 from the mid-January price. First quarter prices are expected to average \$52 per cwt.

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