



AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1222 Woodward St. · Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

December 2008

PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA FARMERS

Prices received by livestock producers in mid-December were mostly lower, compared with the entire month of November. The mid-December price for cows at \$41.00 per hundredweight, was \$1.40 lower than last month, and \$5.50 less than a year ago. Steers and heifers at \$73.00 per hundredweight, were down \$3.00 and \$15.30 per hundredweight from last month and last year, respectively. Calves at \$86.00 per hundredweight were \$4.00 per hundredweight less than November and \$19.00 per hundredweight lower than the previous year. Hogs at \$36.80 per hundredweight were \$1.60 more than a month earlier and 40 cents above a year earlier.

The Florida milk price for December was \$21.20 per hundredweight, down \$1.00 from last month and \$2.70 below a year earlier. The commercial broiler price at 54.0 cents per pound, was up 2.0 cents and 8.0 cents per pound from last month and last year, respectively. The December egg price at 85.0 cents per dozen, was four cents lower than a month earlier and 52 cents lower than last December.

US PRICE INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 133 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased eight points (5.7 percent) from November. The Crop Index is down 11 points (7.1 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased four points (3.2 percent). Producers received lower prices for cattle, corn, milk, and soybeans and higher prices for broilers, strawberries, lettuce, and hogs. In addition to price, the overall Index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of wheat, milk, broilers, and oranges offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, cattle, and grapes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down nine points (6.3 percent) from December 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 132, decreased seven points (5.0 percent) from last month and decreased 14 points (9.6 percent) from December 2007.

SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92=100	2007		2008	
	Nov	Dec	Nov	Dec
Prices Received	141	142	141	133
Prices Paid	165	166	181	177
Ratio ^{1/}	85	86	78	75

^{1/} Prices Received/Prices Paid.

AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	Florida			United States		
		Dec 2007	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Dec 2007	Nov 2008	Dec 2008
MEAT ANIMALS:							
Cows	\$ per cwt.	46.50	42.40	41.00	45.00	43.10	39.80
Steers & heifers	\$ per cwt.	88.30	76.00	73.00	95.30	91.00	85.70
Calves	\$ per cwt.	105.00	90.00	86.00	120.00	106.00	101.00
Hogs	\$ per cwt.	36.40	35.20	36.80	39.60	40.80	42.40
MILK: ^{2/}							
Sold to plants, all	\$ per cwt.	23.90	22.20	21.20	21.90	17.10	15.90
POULTRY:							
Com'l broilers	Cents per lb.	46.0	52.0	54.0	40.0	46.0	48.0
Table eggs	Cents per doz.	137.0	89.0	85.0	128.0	89.4	86.0
CITRUS, ON TREE:							
Oranges	\$ per box	**	3.74	4.13	5.80	5.26	4.75
Grapefruit	\$ per box	**	3.36	3.19	5.97	4.08	3.93
Tangerines	\$ per box	**	7.56	12.58	18.63	12.31	7.47
FIELD CROPS:							
Potatoes	\$ per cwt.	**	**	**	7.02	8.91	9.11
Hay, baled	\$ per ton	**	**	**	127.00	147.00	141.00
Peanuts	\$ per lb.	**	0.187	**	0.213	0.201	0.215
Corn*	\$ per bu.				3.77	4.26	4.05
Oats*	\$ per bu.				2.69	2.99	2.40
Cotton*	Cents per lb.				59.6	53.1	53.9
Sorghum*	\$ per cwt.				6.92	6.57	5.26
Soybeans*	\$ per bu.				10.00	9.38	8.97
Tobacco, Type 11-37*	\$ per lb.				**	**	**
Wheat, Winter*	\$ per bu.				7.70	5.64	5.06

^{1/} Eggs, broilers and hay prices are midmonth estimates. Prices for the latest month for grains and soybeans are midmonth estimates. Prices for most meat animals are first half of month and other estimates are for the entire month.

^{2/} Before deductions for hauling and government withholding, and includes quantity and other premiums, but excludes hauling subsidies.

* Only marketing year average prices are estimated for Florida, except oats and sorghum which are not estimated.

** Not estimated this month.

HIGHLIGHTS--U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEXES

ALL CROPS

The December Index is 145, down 7.1 percent from November and 3.3 percent below December 2007. Index decreases for fruits & nuts, commercial vegetables, food grains, feed grains and hay, and oil-bearing crops more than offset the Index increase for cotton and potatoes & dry beans.

FOOD GRAINS: The December Index, at 209, is 5.4 percent below the previous month and down 14 percent from a year ago. The December all wheat price, at \$5.91 per bushel, is down 37 cents from November and \$1.80 below December 2007.

FEED GRAINS & HAY: The December Index is 177, down 5.3 percent from last month but 6.6 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$4.05 per bushel, is down 21 cents from last month but 28 cents above December 2007. The all hay price, at \$141 per ton, is down \$6.00 from November but up \$14.00 from last December. Sorghum grain, at \$5.26 per cwt. is down \$1.31 from November and \$1.66 below December last year.

OIL-BEARING CROPS: The December Index, at 167, is down 3.5 percent from November and 5.6 percent lower than December 2007. The soybean price, at \$8.97 per bushel, decreased 41 cents from November and is \$1.03 below December 2007.

COTTON: The December Index, at 89, is up 1.1 percent from November but 9.2 percent below last year. The December price, at 53.9 cents per pound, is up 0.8 cent from the previous month but 5.7 cents below last December.

POTATOES & DRY BEANS: The December Index, at 160, is up 1.3 percent from last month and 29 percent above December 2007. The all potato price, at \$9.11 per cwt, is up 20 cents from November and \$2.09 from last December. The all dry bean price, at \$34.30 per cwt. is down 20 cents from the previous month but \$7.00 above December 2007.

FRUITS & NUTS: The December Index, at 122, is down 16 percent from November and 20 percent lower than a year ago. Price decreases for apples, grapes, oranges, and lemons more than offset price increase for strawberries.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES: The December Index, at 139, is down 6.7 percent from last month but 0.7 percent above December 2007. Price declines for tomatoes, broccoli, onions, and celery more than offset price increases during December for lettuce, snap beans, and carrots.

LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS

The December Index, at 120, is 3.2 percent below last month and down ten percent from December 2007. Compared with a year ago, prices are lower for milk, cattle, eggs, calves, and turkeys. Prices for broilers and hogs are up from last year.

MEAT ANIMALS: The December Index, at 104, is down 5.5 percent from last month and 8.0 percent lower than last year. The December hog price, at \$42.40 per cwt. is up \$1.60 from November and \$2.80 higher than a year ago. The December beef cattle price of \$79.90 per cwt. is down \$5.00 from last month and \$9.30 lower than December 2007.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: The December Index, at 122, is down 6.9 percent from a month ago and 26 percent lower than December last year. The December all milk price of \$15.90 per cwt is down \$1.20 from last month and down \$5.60 from December 2007. The fluid grade milk price is down \$1.20 and the manufacturing grade milk price is 70 cents lower than the previous month.

POULTRY & EGGS: The December Index, at 148, is down 0.7 percent from November but 2.1 percent above a year ago. The December market egg price, at 86.0 cents per dozen, decreased 3.4 cents from November and is 42.0 cents below December 2007. The December broiler price, at 48.0 cents per pound, is up 2.0 cents from November and 8.0 cents above a year ago. The December turkey price, at 44.5 cents per pound, is down 14.4 cents from the previous month and 8.1 cents from a year earlier.

**PRICES RECEIVED FOR SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, BY MONTHS,
UNITED STATES, 2007 AND 2008**

Month	All wheat		Corn		Soybeans		Beef cattle ^{1/}		All hogs	
	2007	2008 ^{2/}	2007	2008 ^{2/}	2007	2008 ^{2/}	2007	2008 ^{2/}	2007	2008 ^{2/}
	<i>Dollars per bushel</i>						<i>Dollars per cwt</i>			
Jan	4.53	7.96	3.05	3.98	6.37	9.95	83.70	87.30	42.60	37.20
Feb	4.71	10.10	3.44	4.54	6.87	11.70	86.10	89.00	47.50	42.20
Mar	4.75	10.50	3.43	4.70	6.95	11.40	91.60	87.70	44.90	40.20
Apr	4.89	10.10	3.39	5.14	6.88	12.00	93.70	86.60	47.30	44.10
May	4.88	8.87	3.49	5.27	7.12	12.10	92.80	91.10	53.10	55.30
Jun	5.03	7.62	3.53	5.47	7.51	13.10	88.80	92.00	54.30	53.30
Jul	5.17	7.16	3.32	5.25	7.56	13.30	89.00	95.10	52.20	54.20
Aug	5.64	7.64	3.26	5.26	7.72	12.80	91.40	96.10	51.30	60.60
Sep	6.76	7.43	3.28	5.02	8.15	10.70	93.10	94.40	46.80	52.70
Oct	7.65	6.67	3.29	4.37	8.36	9.94	90.90	87.90	42.40	48.60
Nov	7.39	6.28	3.44	4.27	9.42	9.38	89.90	84.90	37.90	40.80
Dec	7.71	5.91	3.77	4.05	10.00	8.97	89.20	79.90	39.60	42.40

^{1/} Cows, steers, and heifers.

^{2/} Current month prices are mid-month; prices for previous months are for the entire month.