

# Prices of North Dakota Farm Products

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The North Dakota all-commodity farm price index for October 15, 1950 was 10 points lower than the month earlier. This reflects the general downward trend of farm prices for most North Dakota commodities for the month ending October 15. A number of these commodities have shown a downward tendency for the past several months. Much of this trend may be seasonal. The 15th of the month farm price for sweet clover seed has been lower each month for the past five months. Likewise the farm price of flaxseed has been lower for four months. Wheat, rye, and beef cattle have shown a downward price trend for three months. The commodities that have had a two month downward trend are potatoes, hogs, and chickens. Three of the feed grains, corn, oats, and barley, have also shown a downward tendency but with these three commodities the September 15 farm price was higher than August 15, but this gain had been more than lost by October 15. The October 15 farm prices of veal calves, lambs, and turkeys were also lower than the month earlier. This all adds up to the fact that the October 15, 1950, farm price of 14 of the 21 farm commodities reported in the accompanying table was lower than the month earlier.

The farm price trend for milk cows, wholesale milk, and butterfat has been upward for the past four months. Likewise the farm price trend for eggs has been upward for three months. Alfalfa seed and wool have shown an upward tendency for two months.

While the general trend of North Dakota farm prices has recently been downward, the October 15 farm price of the majority of these commodities is still higher than that of the same date a year ago. The commodities that are higher than a year ago are corn, oats, barley, alfalfa seed, beef cattle, veal calves, lambs, hogs, milk cows, retail milk, wool, chickens, and turkeys.

The October 15, 1950, North Dakota farm prices compared with U. S. parity prices for the same date are: all spring wheat 85%, corn 72%, oats 58%, barley 73%, rye 61%, flaxseed 65%, potatoes 39%, beef cattle 121%, veal calves 128%, lambs 126%, hogs 92%, wholesale milk 85%, butterfat 89%, wool 108%, chickens 63%, turkeys 89%, and eggs 60%. On the whole the parity price ratio was less favorable than it was a year ago.

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**PRICES OF NORTH DAKOTA FARM PRODUCTS**

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CROPS<sup>1</sup> (\$ per bushel)

Year	Spring Wheat	Corn	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flax- seed	Pota- toes	Alfalfa Seed	Sweet Clover Seed
1929.....	\$1.00	\$ .67	\$ .33	\$ .43	\$ .79	\$2.85	\$1.33	\$17.40	\$3.50
1932.....	.36	.27	.09	.14	.22	.87	.23	7.50	1.40
1935-39.....	.83	.57	.24	.37	.43	1.60	.57	12.20	3.45
1947.....	2.53	1.97	1.00	1.90	2.32	6.18	1.44	18.90	6.40
1948.....	2.03	1.25	.60	1.09	1.28	5.65	1.40	26.30	7.90
1949									
Oct. ....	1.99	.96	.49	1.07	1.16	3.33	1.05	21.90	8.60
1950									
August ..	2.09	1.23	.57	1.11	1.07	3.30	1.45	23.50	10.00
Sept. ....	2.00	1.24	.60	1.15	1.11	3.17	1.25	23.80	6.90
Oct. ....	1.93	1.18	.57	1.10	1.07	2.88	.70	25.60	6.20
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup>									
.....	2.27	1.65	.98	1.51	1.76	4.46	1.80	.....	.....

**LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS<sup>2</sup>**

Year	Beef Cattle (cwt.)	Veal Calves (cwt.)	Lambs (cwt.)	Hogs (cwt.)	Milk Cows (Hd.)	Whsle. Milk (cwt.)	Retail Milk (qt.)	Butter- fat (lb.)	Wool (lb.)
1929.....	\$8.30	\$11.10	\$10.70	\$ 8.40	\$ 82.	\$2.45	\$ .098	\$ .44	\$ .29
1932.....	3.30	4.20	3.95	2.65	30.	1.55	.076	.16	.07
1935-39....	5.80	7.05	7.40	7.35	49.	2.05	.087	.34	.23
1947.....	17.80	20.70	20.70	23.30	151.	3.79	.151	.71	.41
1948.....	20.50	23.60	22.00	21.90	196.	4.37	.166	.80	.44
1949.....	17.80	20.80	21.20	16.80	188.	3.74	.165	.63	.43
Oct. ....	17.00	20.00	21.50	17.00	185.	3.90	.167	.65	.42
1950									
August ..	23.00	26.30	23.70	19.00	210.	3.60	.165	.62	.51
Sept. ....	22.50	26.50	24.70	18.50	220.	3.75	.170	.62	.56
Oct. ....	21.50	25.50	24.70	18.00	225.	3.85	.170	.64	.56
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup>									
.....	17.70	19.90	19.50	19.60	....	4.52	....	.72	.52

**POULTRY AND EGGS<sup>2</sup>****FARM PRICE INDICES (1910-14=100)**

Year	Chickens (lb.)	Turkeys (lb.)	Eggs (doz.)	N. Dak. Prices Rec'd	U. S. Prices Rec'd	U. S. Prices Paid	Ratio of Prices Pd. to Prices Rec'd <sup>3</sup>
1929.....	\$ .17	\$ .22	\$ .24	129	148	160	81
1932.....	.08	.11	.10	52	65	112	46
1935-39....	.12	.17	.28	101	107	125	81
1947.....	.21	.32	.35	308	275	240	128
1948.....	.24	.41	.36	292	285	259	113
1949.....	.19	.34	.36	245	249	250	98
Oct. ....	.18	.32	.369	237	242	246	96
1950							
August ..	.22	.36	.26	255	267	258	99
Sept. ....	.21	.38	.27	249	272	261	95
Oct. ....	.19	.34	.31	239	268	261	92
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup>							
.....	.30	.38	.52				

<sup>1</sup>Yearly prices are weighted average prices for crop year.<sup>2</sup>Yearly prices are weighted average prices for calendar year.<sup>3</sup>Ratio of North Dakota prices received to United States prices paid by farmers.<sup>4</sup>Price which would give that commodity a parity ratio of 100, on U. S. average basis.