

Prices of North Dakota Farm Products

By Perry V. Hemphill¹

The North Dakota all-commodity farm price index for April 15, 1951 was one point lower than that of the previous month. The lower index for the month was due to generally lower grain prices and lower farm prices for dairy products as livestock farm prices were generally higher for the month. The farm prices for poultry and eggs were unchanged.

North Dakota farm prices for livestock continue to break all time high records. The North Dakota farm price for milk cows has been at an all time record high for eight consecutive months. The North Dakota farm price for beef cattle and for veal calves has broken all time highs for five consecutive months. After breaking all time highs for five consecutive months the April 15, 1951 farm price for lambs was down \$1 from the high of March 15. The farm price for wool broke all time records for four consecutive months but remained at the all time high reached March 15, 1951. North Dakota farm price for alfalfa seed has also broken all time record highs for five consecutive months.

A comparison of the April 15, 1951 North Dakota farm prices with the farm prices of January 15, 1951 (the last month before the general price ceilings became effective) shows the following percentage changes from that date: wheat unchanged, corn up 5%, oats unchanged, barley down 2%, rye up 10%, flaxseed up 2%, potatoes up 12%, alfalfa seed up 9%, sweet clover seed up 18%, beef cattle up 17%, veal calves up 10%, lambs up 13%, hogs up 7%, milk cows up 15%, wholesale milk down 5%, retail milk down 1%, butterfat down 4%, wool up 21%, chickens up 28%, turkeys down 3%, and eggs up 21%.

The following is the percent of parity price situation for North Dakota farm products based on the April 15, 1951 effective parity price for the United States: wheat 88%, corn 83%, oats 74%, barley 85%, rye 90%, flaxseed 90%, sweet clover seed 96%, potatoes 53%, alfalfa seed 137%, beef cattle 143%, veal calves 144%, lambs 156%, hogs 96%, wholesale milk 79%, butterfat 90%, wool 202%, chickens 73%, turkeys 83%, and eggs 65%.

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PRICES OF NORTH DAKOTA FARM PRODUCTS

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CROPS: (\$ 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
1948.....	2.01	1.24	.59	1.04	1.30	5.58	1.39	26.20	7.90
1949.....	1.99	1.09	.55	1.03	1.12	3.56	1.14	23.30	8.70
1950									
Apr.	2.02	1.12	.61	1.11	1.08	3.53	1.15*	25.90*	12.00*
1951									
Feb.	2.24	1.46	.80	1.34	1.57	4.45	.90	33.30	8.60
March.....	2.12	1.43	.75	1.34	1.56	4.54	.95	33.30	9.00
Apr.	2.11	1.45	.73	1.28	1.58	4.28	.95	34.00	8.50
U.S. Parity ⁴	2.40	1.75	.98	1.51	1.76	4.73	1.80	24.90	8.87

LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS²

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
1948.....	20.50	23.60	22.00	21.90	196.	4.26	.166	.80	.44
1949.....	17.80	20.80	21.20	16.80	188.	3.74	.165	.63	.43
1950									
Apr.	20.50	22.50*	22.80	15.00	190.	3.60*	.165	.61	.43*
1951									
Feb.	26.40	31.10	32.70	22.00	247.	3.85	.172	.72	1.05
March ..	27.00	21.50	35.00	21.00	265	3.85	.172	.71	1.15
Apr.	28.50	32.00	34.00	20.50	275.	3.80	.17	.69	1.15
U.S. Parity ⁴	19.90	22.20	21.80	21.40	....	4.81	....	.77	.57

POULTRY AND EGGS²

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 ³
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
1948.....	.24	.41	.36	292	285	259	113
1949.....	.19	.34	.36	244	249	250	98
1950							
Apr. ....	.17	.34	.26	243	241	250	97
1951							
Feb. ....	.21	.34	.30	290	313	276	105
March ..	.23	.33	.34	284	311	280	101
Apr. ....	.23	.33	.34	283	309	283	100
U.S. Parity ⁴	.31	.40	.53				

¹Yearly prices are weighted average prices for crop year.

²Yearly prices are weighted average prices for calendar year.

³Ratio of North Dakota prices received to United States prices paid by farmers.

⁴Price which would give that commodity a parity ratio of 100, on U. S. average basis.

*Revised