

# North Dakota Farm Prices

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**T**HE PRICES received by farmers were generally higher on December 15, 1944, than for the previous month. Eighteen of the commodity prices reported in the table below were higher, seven show no change and only two, rye and horses, were lower. This has resulted in an advance of 3 points in the North Dakota all-commodity farm price index for the month. This all-commodity index, which is the highest for the year ending December 15, is also 3 points higher than it was a year earlier.

The December 15 index for grains was 2 points higher than the previous month due to the following price changes—wheat up 1 cent, corn up 3 cents, oats up 5 cents, barley up 4 cents, flaxseed no change, and rye down 2 cents. The grains index was the same as that of December 15 a year earlier.

The meat animals December 15, 1944 index was 2 points above that of the previous month as beef cattle, veal calves and lambs all registered gains of 20 cents per hundred, sheep were up 5 cents, but hogs show no gain. The meat animal index for December 15, 1944, was 10 points higher than the revised index for a year earlier.

The index for dairy products on December 15 was up 4 points over that of the previous month due mainly to a 1 cent per pound increase in the price of butterfat, as there was no change in prices of but-

ter and wholesale milk and only a small fraction of a cent increase in the price of retail milk. The index was 5 points higher than that of the same date a year earlier.

The poultry and eggs index was up 12 points over that of November 15, 1944, with the price gains for these commodities being a strong fraction of a cent for chickens, 1½ cents for turkeys and almost 3 cents for eggs. The index for these commodities was, however, 10 points lower than it was a year earlier.

The price changes for the month ending December 15, 1944, in the miscellaneous group of commodities were varied. Milk cows, alfalfa seed and sweet clover seed show no change, loose hay was up 30 cents per ton, wool was up 1 cent per pound, potatoes were up 10 cents per hundred pounds and horses were down \$6.00 a head.

## AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY NORTH DAKOTA FARMERS DEC. 15, 1944, WITH COMPARISONS

Bureau of Agricultural Economics Office of the Agricultural Statistician  
ROBERT S. McCAULEY, Agricultural Statistician  
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Commodity	Unit	Average Prices				Price Relatives <sup>1</sup>		
		Dec. 15 1943	Nov. 15 1944	Dec. 15 1943	Aug. 1909 July 1914 Average	Dec. 15 1944	Nov. 15 1944	Dec. 15 1944
All Spring Wheat	bu.	1.42	1.41	1.40	.847	168	166	165
Durum	bu.	1.42	1.40	1.38	.....			
Other Spring	bu.	1.42	1.41	1.41	.....			
Corn	bu.	.85	.82	.95	.573	149	143	166
Oats	bu.	.55	.50	.67	.353	156	142	190
Barley	bu.	.94	.90	1.00	.539	174	167	186
Rye	bu.	.92	.94	.99	.60	153	157	165
Flaxseed	bu.	2.85	2.85	2.80	1.708	167	167	164
Beef Cattle	cwt.	10.20	10.00	9.60*	4.48	228	223	214*
Veal Calves	cwt.	12.20	12.00	11.90	6.01	203	200	198
Sheep	cwt.	5.60	5.50	6.20	4.50	123	121	137
Lambs	cwt.	12.00	11.80	12.10	5.62	213	210	215
Hogs	cwt.	12.70	12.70	12.10	6.78	187	187	178
Wholesale Milk	cwt.	2.70	2.70	2.60	2.08	130	130	125
Retail Milk	qt.	.109	.108	.105	.063	173	170	167
Butter	lb.	.48	.48	.48	.236	204	204	204
Butterfat	lb.	.51	.50	.50	.254	201	197	197
Chickens (Live)	lb.	.208	.201	.205	.099	210	203	207
Turkeys (Live)	lb.	.345	.330	.335	.125	276	264	268
Eggs	doz.	.340	.313	.387	.206	165	152	188
Loose Hay	ton	6.70	6.40	5.90	6.35	105	101	93
Horses	head	42.00	48.00	58.00	149.00	28	32	39
Milk Cows	head	95.00	95.00	99.00	.....			
Wool	lb.	.41	.40	.43	.171	240	234	251
Potatoes	bu.	1.20	1.10	1.00	.636	189	173	157
Alfalfa seed	bu.	21.00	21.00	21.00	.....	177	177	177
Sweet clover seed	bu.	6.00	6.00	6.00	.....	135	135	135

<sup>1</sup>Relation of current prices of each commodity to the average price of each commodity during the base period, August 1909 to July 1914.

\*Revised.

## INDICES OF NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURE<sup>1</sup>

	Dec. 15 1944	Nov. 15 1944	Dec. 15 1943
North Dakota farm price index <sup>2</sup> (All Groups) .....	177	174	174*
Grains .....	167	165	167
Meat Animals .....	208	206	198*
Dairy Products .....	194	190	189
Poultry and Eggs .....	204	192	214
Miscellaneous .....	147	139	134
U. S. farm price index (All Groups) .....	200	196	196*
U. S. index of prices paid by farmers .....	171	171	167*
North Dakota ratio of prices received to prices paid <sup>3</sup> ....	104	102	104

<sup>1</sup>August 1909—July 1914—100.

<sup>2</sup>Calculated by weighted aggregative method on basis of 24 commodities.

<sup>3</sup>Ratio for North Dakota based on United States prices paid by farmers.

\*Revised.