North Dakota Farm Prices

By PERRY V. HEMPHILL Assistant Agricultural Economist

The all-commodity index of farm prices received by North Dakota farmers on April 15th was 183 which is the highest the index has been since October, 1920. Of the five commodity group indexes (which when combined make up the all-commodity index), the grains index, the meat animals index and the miscellaneous index have all been steadily advancing for the past six to eight months. The dairy products index has shown but little change for the past eighteen months. The poultry and eggs index has declined 17 points the last four months.

The farm price of all spring wheat on April 15, 1945, was 1 cent higher than a month earlier making it \$1.46 which is the highest farm price for all spring wheat since February, 1925. The feed grains, with the exception of rye, were all lower in price from that of a month earlier. Rye increased 7 cents for the month ending April 15th, making it \$1.10 per bushel which is the highest farm price for rye since May, 1928. Flaxseed was unchanged at \$2.85 per bushel.

Beef cattle farm prices were 50 cents higher, veal calves and sheep each 20 cents higher, while lambs and hogs were unchanged for the month ending April 15th. There were no changes in the prices of any of the dairy products. Chicken prices and egg prices were but a fraction above that of the previous month and turkeys were 1 cent higher. Changes in the farm price of the miscellaneous commodities from that of the previous month were: loose hay down 30 cents per ton, horses down \$1.00 per head, milk cows up \$2.00 per head, wool down 2 cents per pound, potatoes up 10 cents per hundred, alfalfa seed up 10 cents per bushel and sweet clover seed prices were unchanged.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY NORTH DAKOTA FARMERS APR. 15, 1945, WITH COMPARISONS

Bureau of Agricultural Economics Office of the Agricultural Statistician

Ovide E. Grenier Agricultural Statistician

Ben Kienholz Agricultural Statistician in Charge

					- Charge			
Commodity	Unit	Apr. 15 1945	Average	Prices		Price Relatives ¹		
			Mar, 15 1945	Apr. 15 1944	Aug. 1909 July 1914 Average	Apr. 15 1945	Mar. 15 1945	Apr. 15 1944
All Spring Wheat	bu.	1.46	1.45	1.44	.847	172	171	170
Durum.	bu.	1.49	1.49	1.46	*****			1.0
Other Spring	bu.	1.45	1.44	1.44				
Corn	bu.	.78	.81	.99	.573	136	141	173
Oats	bu.	.57	.64	.68	.353	161	181	193
Barley	bu.	.98	1.03	1.08	.539	182	191	200
Rye	bu.	1.10	1.03 -	1.04	.60	183	172	173
Flaxsecd	bu.	2.85	2.85	2.80	1.708	167	167	164
Becf Cattle	ewt.	11.50	11.00	10.80*	4.48	257	246	241*
Veal Calves	CWt.	13.30	13.10	12.30°	6.01	221	218	205*
Sheep	ewt.	-7.00	6.80	6.70	4.50	155	150	148
Lambs	cwt.	13.30	-13.30	13.20	5.62	237	237	235
Hogs	ewt.	13.40	13.40	12.40	6.78	198	198	183
Wholesale Milk ²	cwt.	2.65	2.65	2.60	2.08	127	127	125
Retail Milk	qt.	$2.65 \\ -1.1$.11	.105	.063	175	175	167
Butter	11).	.48	.18	. 47	.236	204	204	199
Butterfat ²	Ib.	.50	.50	.51	.254	197	197	201
Chickens (Live)	Ib.	.209	.207	.199	.099	211	209	201
Turkeys (Live)	16.	.32	.33	.31	.125	$\overline{256}$	$\frac{264}{264}$	$\frac{201}{248}$
Eggs	doz.	.295	.292	.254	.206	$\bar{1}43$	142	$\frac{210}{123}$
Loose Hay	ton.	6.50	6.80	6.30	6.35	102	107	99
	head	43.00	44.00	56.00	1.19,00	29	30	38
Milk Cows	head	104.00	102,00	105.00		2.,	90	93
Wool	Ib.	.40	. 12	.41 -	.171	234	246	240
Potatoes .	bu.	1.50	1.40	1.00	.636	$\frac{537}{236}$	220	157
Alfalfa seed	bu.	21.50	21.40	22.30	.000	181	$\bar{1}80$	188
Sweet clover seed	bu.	6.20	6.20	6.80	******	140	140	153

Relation of current prices of each commodity to the average price of each commodity during the base period, August 1909 to July 1914.

Position! *Revised.

INDICES OF NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURE¹

	Apr. 15 1945	Mar. 15 1945	Apr. 15 1944
North Dakota farm price index ² (All Groups)		182	179*
Grains	173	172	172
Meat Animals	228	223	214*
Dairy Products	.191	191	192
Poultry & Eggs	187	188	172
Miscenaneous	168	163	136
U. S. farm price index (All Groups)	203	198	196
U. S. index of prices paid by farmers North Dakota ratio of prices received to		173	169
prices paid ³	106	105	106

August 1909-July 1914—100.
Calculated by percentage method.
Ratio for North Dakota based on United States prices paid by farmers. *Revised.