

North Dakota Farm Prices

by
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THE ALL-COMMODITY INDEX OF NORTH DAKOTA FARM PRICES AS REPORTED FOR AUGUST 15, 1945 WAS DOWN 3 POINTS FROM THAT OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH according to the mid-month report prepared by the Federal Agricultural Statistician of the United States Department of Agriculture at Fargo. THE JULY 15, 1945 ALL-COMMODITY INDEX, AS WELL AS THE REVISED INDEX FOR JUNE 15, 1945, WAS 189 WHICH IS THE HIGHEST THE INDEX HAS BEEN SINCE OCTOBER 15, 1920. The August 15, 1945 all-commodity index of North Dakota farm prices at 186 was 18 points higher than it was at the same time a year ago.

The index for grains for August 15, 1945 was 176 which is 3 points lower than the previous month but 15 points over that of a year ago. For the month spring wheat was down 3 cents, oats down 8 cents and rye down 1 cent. There was no change in the reported farm price for durum, corn, barley, or flaxseed. In spite of the 1 cent decline rye was still 35 cents higher than a year ago.

The farm price index for meat animals was, on August 15, 1945, lower by 8 points from that of the previous month but at 223 was still 36 points higher than the index for the same date a year earlier. The August 15, 1945 report indicates that beef cattle prices have declined 70 cents during the month, that the veal calf farm price was only down 10 cents while sheep and lamb prices were each down 40 cents. This was the first change reported in lamb prices for the past five months. There was no change in hog prices for the month, in fact no change has been reported for the past five months.

The August 15, 1945 farm price index for dairy products at 191 was the same as the previous month and only 2 points above that of a year ago. The only change registered for dairy products for the month was a one-tenth of 1 cent advance in the price of retail milk. There has been no change reported for butter and butterfat prices for the past five months.

The index for poultry and eggs was up 8 points for the month and 29 points higher than was the index on August 15, 1944 a year earlier. All the poultry and egg prices were higher on August 15, 1945 than a month earlier with chickens up almost a half cent, turkeys up 4 cents and eggs up practically 5 cents.

The index for the miscellaneous group of farm commodities was higher by 15 points over that of the previous month and 39

points higher than a year ago largely because of stronger potato prices. Loose hay was on August 15, 1945, 20 cents per ton lower than the previous month. Horses were down 3.00 per head which places the farm price at 36.00 the lowest price ever reported for horses. There was no change in the price of milk cows, wool or alfalfa seed. The farm price of potatoes was 1.80 which is the highest it has been during World War Two. Sweet clover seed was up 40 cents per bushel.

**Average Prices Received by North Dakota Farmers
Aug. 15, 1945, With Comparisons**

**Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Office of the Agricultural Statistician**

Ovide E. Grenier
Agricultural Statistician

Ben Kienholz
Agricultural Statistician in Charge

Commodity	Unit	Average Prices				Price Relatives ¹		
		Aug. 15 1945	July 15 1945	Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 1909 July 1914 Average	Aug. 15 1945	July 15 1945	Aug. 15 1944
All Spring Wheat	bu.	1.48	1.51	1.34	.847	175	178	158
Durum	bu.	1.53	1.53	1.36	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other Spring	bu.	1.47	1.50	1.33	.....	.....	.....	.....
Corn	bu.	.96	.96	.97	.573	167	167	169
Oats	bu.	.46	.54	.57	.353	130	153	161
Barley	bu.	.99	.99	1.02	.539	184	184	189
Rye	bu.	1.26	1.27	.91	.60	210	212	152
Flaxseed	bu.	2.85	2.85	2.82	1.708	167	167	165
Beef Cattle	cwt.	11.00	11.70	8.30*	4.48	246	261	185*
Veal Calves	cwt.	13.30	13.40	11.80*	6.01	221	223	196*
Sheep	cwt.	6.40	6.80	5.70	4.50	142	150	126
Lambs	cwt.	13.00	13.40	12.20	5.62	231	238	217
Hogs	cwt.	13.40	13.40	12.60	6.78	198	198	186
Wholesale Milk**	cwt.	2.65	2.65	2.60	2.08	127	127	125
Retail Milk	qt.	.111	.110	.110	.063	176	175	175
Butter	lb.	.48	.48	.48	.236	204	204	204
Butterfat**	lb.	.50	.50	.50	.254	197	197	197
Chickens (Live)	lb.	.248	.244	.211	.099	251	246	213
Turkeys (Live)	lb.	.330	.320	.290	.125	264	256	232
Eggs	doz.	.332	.312	.283	.206	161	151	137
Loose Hay	ton	6.90	7.10	5.10	6.35	109	112	80
Horses	head	36.00	39.00	55.00	149.00	24	26	37
Milk Cows	head	101.00	101.00	98.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wool	lb.	.42	.42	.42*	.171	246	246	246*
Potatoes	bu.	1.80	1.60	1.30	.636	283	252	204
Alfalfa seed	bu.	21.00	21.00	21.70	.....	177	177	183
Sweet clover seed	bu.	6.50	6.10	6.90	.....	146	137	155

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

*Revised.

**Does not include Dairy Production Payments.

Indices of North Dakota Agriculture¹

	Aug. 15 1945	July 15 1945	Aug. 15 1944
North Dakota farm price index ² (All Groups)	186	189	168*
Grains	176	179	161
Meat Animals	223	231	187*
Dairy Products	191	191	189
Poultry & Eggs	206	198	177
Miscellaneous	191	177	156*
U. S. farm price index (All Groups)	204	206	193
U. S. index of prices paid by farmers	173	173	170
North Dakota ratio of prices received to prices paid ³	108	109	99*

¹August 1909-July 1914—100.

²Calculated by the percentage method.

³Ratio for North Dakota based on United States prices paid by farmers.

*Revised.