

in the same proportion as last quarter. Individuals and estates were sellers in 60 percent of the sales reported; all corporations, 8 percent; state credit agencies, 16 percent; and counties, 16 percent.

Of the individual sellers, 25 percent were owner-operators, 71 percent were nonoperators, and 4 percent were not classified. There were 14 owner-operators classified as to their future intentions; 12 of these intended to continue farming; 1 planned to go into another occupation; and 1, to retire.

Type of Buyer

Farmers were the predominate type of buyer this quarter

with a slightly higher percentage than last quarter. Seventy-one percent of the buyers were farmers and 29 percent were nonfarmers. Owner - operators were buyers in a smaller percentage of the sales and tenants in a higher percentage than last quarter. Of the farmer buyers, 73 percent were owner-operators, 18 percent were tenants, and 9 percent were unclassified. Nonfarmer buyers numbered 36, of which 32, or 89 percent, were residents, and 4, or 11 percent, were non-residents.

It was the intention of all the farmer buyers to operate the land they had bought, and it was not the intention of any of the nonfarmer buyers to operate the land they purchased.

North Dakota Farm Prices

By

Perry V. Hemphill¹

The North Dakota all commodity farm price index for Oct. 15, 1945, was up 3 points over that of the previous month, due almost entirely to stronger grain prices as the index for grains was up 9 points while there was no change in the dairy products index and the meat animals index was down 8 points, the poultry and eggs index was down 7 points and the index for the miscellaneous commodities was down 36 points. The decline of 36 points for the miscellaneous index was due almost entirely to the sharp drop in the farm price for potatoes.

The farm prices for Oct. 15, 1945, as reported by the North Dakota Federal Statistician, show that wheat, oats and barley had recovered from a seasonal decline with the farm price of each up from 5 to 7 cents. There was no change in the North Dakota farm price for corn, in fact, there has been no change for the past 4 months. Rye prices continued to sky-rocket with an increase of 13 cents for the month ending Oct. 15, making the farm price \$1.43 which is the first time in 25 years that it has been above \$1.40 per bushel.

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The reported farm price for beef cattle was down 80 cents from the previous month which means that the trend of beef cattle prices has been almost identical during the late summer and early fall months for each of the past 3 years. In 1943 farm beef cattle prices declined \$3.10 from June to November. In 1944 the decline extended from May to August with a decline of \$2.50 per one hundred pounds. The 1945 decline from July 15 to Oct. 15 has been \$2.30 per hundred. The farm price for veal calves on Oct. 15, 1945, was down 30 cents from the previous month, lamb prices were down 10 cents and there was no change in sheep or hog prices for the month.

There was no great change in the farm prices of dairy products for the month ending Oct. 15, 1945, with wholesale milk up 5 cents per hundred pounds, butter up 1 cent per pound and no change in retail milk or butter-

fat. There was likewise no great change in poultry and egg prices as chickens were down slightly more than 3 cents, turkeys were down 1 cent and eggs were up only a fraction of a cent.

In the miscellaneous group of commodities the price changes were varied, as follows: loose hay down 30 cents per ton, milk cows up \$2.00 per head, wool up 1 cent per pound, alfalfa seed up \$1.00 per bushel and sweet clover seed up 20 cents per bushel. Horses, with a reported farm price of \$35.00 per head, established a new low for the record. The farm price for horses has been on an almost continual nose dive since July, 1943, when the price was \$70.00 per head, whereas on Oct. 15, 1945, it was exactly half that figure. The farm price of potatoes has taken a nose dive the past two months as the price between Aug. 15 and Oct. 15 has dropped \$1.05 per bushel.

Indices of North Dakota Agriculture¹

	Oct. 15 1945	Sept. 15 1945	Oct. 15 1944
North Dakota farm price index ² (All Groups)	182	179	168*
Grains	180	171	161
Meat Animals	205	213	189*
Dairy Products	191	191	190
Poultry & Eggs	180	187	189
Miscellaneous	115	151	142*
U. S. farm price index (All Groups)	199	197	194
U. S. index of prices paid by farmers	175	174	170
North Dakota ratio of prices received to prices paid ³	104	103	99*

¹August 1909-July 1914—100.

²Calculated by weighted aggregative method on basis of 24 commodities, the percentage method

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

*Revised.

Average Prices Received by North Dakota Farmers

Oct. 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		
		Oct. 15 1945	Sept. 15 1945	Oct. 15 1944	Aug. 1909 July 1914 Average	Oct. 15 1945	Sept. 15 1945	Oct. 15 1944
All Spring Wheat	bu.	1.50	1.43	1.37	.847	177	169	162
Durum	bu.	1.52	1.52	1.36	-----	-----	-----	-----
Other Spring	bu.	1.50	1.41	1.37	-----	-----	-----	-----
Corn	bu.	.96	.96	.92	.573	167	167	161
Oats	bu.	.52	.46	.48	.353	147	130	136
Barley	bu.	1.01	.96	.90	.539	187	178	167
Rye	bu.	1.43	1.30	.92	.60	238	217	153
Flaxseed	bu.	2.84	2.84	2.84	1.708	166	166	166
Beef Cattle	cwt.	9.40	10.20	8.30*	4.48	210	228	185*
Veal Calves	cwt.	12.70	13.00	11.80*	6.01	211	216	196*
Sheep	cwt.	6.00	6.00	5.70	4.50	133	133	126
Lambs	cwt.	12.30	12.40	11.80	5.62	219	221	210
Hogs	cwt.	13.40	13.40	13.00	6.78	198	198	192
Wholesale Milk**	cwt.	2.75	2.70	2.70*	2.08	132	130	130
Retail Milk	qt.	.111	.111	.107	.063	176	176	170
Butter	lb.	.47	.48	.48	.236	199	204	204
Butterfat**	lb.	.50	.50	.50	.254	197	197	197
Chickens (Live)	lb.	.201	.234	.208	.099	203	236	210
Turkeys (Live)	lb.	.32	.33	.33	.125	256	264	264
Eggs	doz.	.273	.271	.294	.206	133	132	143
Loose Hay	ton	6.60	6.90	6.30	6.35	104	109	99
Horses	head	35.00	36.00	50.00	149.00	23	24	34
Milk Cows	head	103.00	101.00	96.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Wool	lb.	.43	.42	.44*	.171	251	246	257*
Potatoes	bu.	.75	1.25	1.10	.636	118	197	173
Alfalfa seed	bu.	22.00	21.00	21.00	-----	185	177	177
Sweet clover seed	bu.	6.20	6.00	6.30	-----	140	135	142

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.