North Dakota Farm Prices

By

Perry V. Hemphill Assistant Agricultural Economist

NORTH DAKOTA FARM PRICES CONTINUE TO BREAK ALL-TIME RECORDS. DURING THE YEAR OF 1946 THE FARM PRICE OF 14 OF THE 25 PRINCIPAL NORTH DAKOTA FARM COMMODITIES REACHED THE HIGHEST PRICE EVER RE-PORTED BY THE FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICIAN. The farm price of corn on July 15th, 1946 was a record high of \$2.00 per bushel. The farm price of butter, butterfat, chickens, and turkeys were at record highs on Oct. 15th, 1946 with butter at 90 cents per pound, butterfat at 91 cents per pound, chickens at 26.9 cents per pound live-weight, and turkeys at 35 cents per pound live-weight. The farm price of flaxseed, beef cattle, lambs, wholesale milk, and milk cows reached record highs on Nov. 15th, 1946 with flaxseed at \$6.90 per bushel, beef cattle at \$16.90 per hundred, lambs at \$19.30 per hundred, wholesale milk at \$4.20 per hundred pounds, and milk cows at \$140.00 per head. The record highs recorded on Dec. 15th, 1946 were rye at \$2.50 per bushel, veal calves at \$17.60 per hundred, hogs at \$21.80 per hundred, and retail milk at 14.8 cents per quart. One other record was registered in 1946 when the farm price of horses for April 15th was reported at a record low of \$30.00 per head.

The North Dakota all-commodity farm price index for Dec. 15th, 1946 was up 9 points over that of the previous month and at 280 was the highest all-commodity farm price index ever reported for North Dakota. The farm price index for grains at 270 was 9 points higher than the previous month. The farm price index for meat animals was 347, the highest ever reported for North Dakota. The Dec. 15th, 1946 farm price index for dairy products at 325 was 7 points higher than the Nov. 15th index but 9 points under the record high of 334 which was reported on Oct. 15th, 1946. The farm price index for Dec. 15th, 1946 for poultry and eggs was 10 points lower than the previous month.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY NORTH DAKOTA FARMERS DECEMBER 15, 1946, WITH COMPARISONS

Bureau of Agricultural Economics Office of the Agricultural Statistician

Ovide E. Grenjer Agricultural Statistician

C. J. Heltemes Agricultural Statistician in Char

		500	Avera	age Prices	Price Relatives 1			
Commodity	Unit	Dec. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1946	Dec. 15 1945	Aug. 1909 July 1914 Average	Dec. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1946	De 15 194
All Spring Wheat	bu.	1.99	1.93	1.52	.847	235	228	17:
Durum	bu. •	2.04	1.91	1.54	100000000		*****	000000
Other Spring	bu.	1.98	1.94	1.51	10.	*****		
Corn	bu.	1.00	1.00	.95	.573	175	175	16
Oats	bu.	.71	.66	.62	.353	201	187	170
Barley	bu.	1.40	1.31	1.06	.539	260	243	19
Rye	bu.	2.50	2.27	1.49	.60	417	378	248
Flaxseed	bu.	6.90	6.90	2.84	1.708	404	404	166
Beef Cattle	cwt.	16.80	16.90	10.40*	4.48	375	377	232
Veal Calves	cwt.	17.60	17.40	11.90*	6.01	293	290	198
Sheep	cwt.	7.60	7.90	6.10	4.50	167	174	135
Lambs	cwt.	19.30	19.30	12.30	5.62	343	343	219
Hogs	cwt.	21.80	21.00	13.50	6.78	322	310	199
Wholesale Milk**	cwt.	4.20	4.20*	2.75	2.08	202	202*	13
Retail Milk	qt.	.148	.145	.112	.063		230	178
Butter	lb.	.86	.85	.51	.236	365	360	216
Butterfat**	lb.	.88	.86	.51	,254	346	339	20
Chickens (Live)	lb.	.219	.218	.204	.099	221	220	206
Turkeys (Live)	lb.	.330	.340	.320	.125	264	272	256
Eggs	doz.	.368	.397	.398	.206	179	193	193
Loose Hay	ton	9.00	7.80	6.60*	6.35	142	123	104
Horses	head	32.00	34.00	32.00	149.00	21	24	2
Milk Cows	head	140.00	140.00	107.00		,		
Wool	lb.	.43	.43	.43	.171	251	251	251
Potatoes	bu.	1.05	.95	.95	.636	-165	149	
Alfalfa seed	bu.	24.00	23.60	21.00	.000	202	199	149
Sweet clover seed	bu.	6.20	6.30	6.00		140	142	î.

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

*Revised.

** Does not include Dairy Production Payments.

INDICES OF NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURE 1

	Dec. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1946	Dec. 15 1945
North Dakota farm price index 2 (All Groups)	280	271	189
Grains	270	261	184
Meat Animals	347	343	216
Dairy Products	325	318	195
D14 0 15	210	220	213
Poultry & Eggs			
Poultry & Eggs		. 133	
Miscellaneous	142	133	128
N#2 11		133 263 212	128* 207 176

¹ August 1909-July 1914—100. ² Calculated by the percentage method. ³ Ratio for North Dakota based on United States prices paid by farmers. Revised.