

NORTH DAKOTA FARM PRICES

by
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The March 15th, 1947 North Dakota all-commodity farm price index at 322 was the highest ever reported for North Dakota. The same thing was true for the North Dakota index for grains and for the index for meat animals. The index for grains was 333 and the index for meat animals was 379. The somewhat lower farm prices reported for April 15th, 1947 brought these indexes down, the all-commodity index being down 17 points, the grains index down 22 points and the meat animals index down 3 points, as compared with those of the previous month.

The report of the Federal Agricultural Statistician shows that on March 15th, 1947 the North Dakota farm prices of six commodities were the highest of record, with rye at \$3.43 per bushel, flaxseed at \$8.20 per bushel, veal calves at \$20.20 per hundred pounds, lambs at \$20.40 per hundred pounds, hogs at \$25.50 per hundred pounds, and milk cows at \$147.00 per head. Two other commodities were the highest of record on April 15th, 1947, beef cattle at \$17.80 per hundred pounds and sweet clover seed at \$8.00 per bushel. The farm price for alfalfa seed on April 15th, 1947 equals the record price set on May 15th, 1920 when the price was also \$27.00 per bushel. The farm price for barley of \$1.52 for both March 15th, and April 15th, has been exceeded by only once when on March 15th, 1918 the price was \$1.60 per bushel.

As already indicated the April 15th, 1947 North Dakota farm prices were somewhat lower than the record high price level established on March 15th, 1947. The changes on April 15th were as follows: the grain farm price changes were, durum wheat down 3 cents, spring wheat down 12 cents, corn up 16 cents, oats down 1 cent, barley no change, rye down 59 cents and flaxseed down 90 cents. In the meat animals group, beef cattle were up 50 cents, veal calves no change, sheep up 50 cents, lambs down \$1.40 and hogs down \$1.10. The changes in the dairy products from that of the previous month were, wholesale milk no change, retail milk farm price down .2 of 1 cent, butter down 3 cents and butterfat down 6 cents. Poultry and eggs changes were; chickens up 1 cent, turkeys up 2 cents and eggs no change. The commodities in the miscellaneous group show these changes, loose hay up 95 cents, horses no change, milk cows down \$5.00, wool no change, potatoes down 5 cents, alfalfa seed up \$2.50 and sweet clover seed up \$1.00.

Average Prices Received by North Dakota Farmers April 15, 194—, With Comparisons

Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Office of the Agricultural Statistician

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Commodity	Unit	Price Relatives ^a			Average Prices		
		April 15 1947	March 15 1947	April 15 1946	Aug. 1909 July 1914 Average	April 15 1947	March 15 1947
All Spring Wheat	bu.	2.37	2.47	1.55	.847	280	292
Durum	bu.	2.29	2.32	1.58			
Other Spring	bu.	2.39	2.51	1.54			
Corn	bu.	1.52	1.36	1.00	.573	265	238
Oats	bu.	.78	.79	.66	.353	221	224
Barley	bu.	1.52	1.52	1.12	.539	282	282
Rye	bu.	2.84	3.43	2.38	.60	473	572
Flaxseed	bu.	7.30	8.20	2.83	1.708	427	480
Beef Cattle	cwt.	17.80	17.30	12.20*	4.48	397	386
Veal Calves	cwt.	20.20	20.20	12.90*	6.01	336	336
Sheep	cwt.	8.90	8.40	6.70	4.50	196	186
Lambs	cwt.	19.00	20.40	13.90	5.62	338	363
Hogs	cwt.	24.40	25.50	13.60	6.78	360	376
Wholesale Milk**	cwt.	3.75	3.75*	2.70	2.08	180	180*
Retail Milk	qt.	.146	.144	.112	.063	232	229
Butter	lb.	.70	.73	.51	.236	297	310
Butterfat**	lb.	.68	.74	.51	.254	268	291
Chickens (Live)	lb.	.216	.206	.200	.099	218	208
Turkeys (Live)	lb.	.330	.310	.310	.125	264	248
Eggs	doz.	.344	.344	.284	.206	167	167
Loose Hay	ton	10.25	9.30	6.80	6.35	161	147
Horses	head	35.00	35.00	30.00	149.00	23	23
Milk Cows	head	142.00	147.00	111.00			
Wool	lb.	.42	.42	.43	.171	246	246
Potatoes	bu.	1.15	1.20	1.20	.636	181	189
Alfalfa seed	bu.	27.00	24.50	20.70		228	207
Sweet clover seed	bu.	8.00	7.00	6.10		180	158

^aRelation 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

	April 15 1947	March 15 1947	April 15 1946
North Dakota farm price index ² (All Groups)	305	322	201
Grains	311	333	198
Meat Animals	376	379	238
Dairy Products	260	278	195
Poultry & Eggs	203	197	180
Miscellaneous	157	155	147
U. S. farm price index (All Groups)	276	280	212
U. S. index of prices paid by farmers	230	227*	181
North Dakota ratio of prices received to prices paid ³	133	142*	111

¹August 1909-July 1914=100.

²Calculated by the percentage method.

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

*Revised.