

# North Dakota Farm Prices Continue Steady Decline

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Farm prices of North Dakota farm products on August 15, 1955, were generally lower, both for the month and for the year. The North Dakota all-commodity farm price index for August 15 was nine points lower than a month earlier and 21 points lower than a year earlier.

The August 15 farm price index for grains was down seven points for the month and 16 points for the year. The North Dakota meat animals index was down 13 points for the month and 43 points for the year. The dairy farm price index was unchanged both for the month and the year, while the farm price index for poultry and eggs was up three points for the month and up six points for the year ending August 15, 1955.

North Dakota farm price changes for the month ending August 15, 1955, were: all spring wheat down 4 cents, corn down 13 cents, oats down 8 cents, barley down 12 cents, rye down 11 cents, flaxseed down 14 cents, alfalfa seed down \$1, sweet clover seed down \$1.50, beef cattle down 50 cents, calves down 90 cents, lambs down 50 cents, hogs down \$1, and milk cows down \$5 per head. For the same period, wholesale milk was up 10 cents, retail milk and butterfat both unchanged, wool up 1 cent, chickens and turkeys both unchanged, and eggs up 1 cent.

The general farm price trend for many North Dakota farm commodities has been downward for the following number of months: all spring wheat seven months, corn 11 months, oats nine months, barley five months; rye 11 months, alfalfa seed eight months, sweet clover seed five months, calves six months, and hogs 16 months. The commodities with farm prices strictly downward are: potatoes down three months, beef cattle down four months, lambs down two months, milk cows down three months. The farm price trend for flaxseed has been mostly down for 15 months. Butterfat has shown but little change for five months, retail milk no change for two months, and turkeys no change for 10 months. The North Dakota farm price for wholesale milk and wool has been up for two months. Chicken prices show an upward trend for seven months, but eggs, after a downward trend of four months, are up for the last month only.

## Per Cent of Parity—North Dakota Farm Products—August 15, 1955

Crops		Livestock and Livestock Products			Poultry and Eggs				
Wheat	85%	Flaxseed	63%	Beef Cattle	67%	Whsle. Milk	80%	Chickens	52%
Corn	58%	Potatoes	45%	Calves	67%	Butterfat	80%	Turkeys	74%
Oats	45%	Alfalfa Seed	79%	Lambs	76%	Wool	72%	Eggs	59%
Barley	60%	Sweet Clover		Hogs	66%				
Rye	38%	Seed	84%						

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**PRICES OF NORTH DAKOTA FARM PRODUCTS**

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**CROPS<sup>1</sup>**

Crop of	Spring Wheat (bu.)	Corn (bu.)	Oats (bu.)	Barley (bu.)	Rye (bu.)	Flax- seed (bu.)	Pota- toes (bu.)	Alfalfa Seed (cwt.)	Sweet Clover Seed (cwt.)
1929 .....	\$1.00	\$ .67	\$ .33	\$ .43	\$ .79	\$2.85	\$1.33	\$29.00	\$ 5.85
1932 .....	.36	.27	.09	.14	.22	.27	.23	12.50	2.35
1935-39 .....	.83	.57	.24	.37	.43	1.60	.57	20.35	5.75
1952 .....	2.17	1.39	.63	1.16	1.59	3.62	1.79	30.80	8.40
1953 .....	2.19	1.34	.63	1.08	1.29	3.62	.62	22.50	8.60
1954 .....	2.25	1.25	.60	1.03	1.30	3.00	.90	31.10	10.50
Aug. 15 .....	2.23	1.31	.50	.95	.93	2.99	1.80	22.00	7.50
1955.....									
June 15 .....	2.23	1.20	.57	.95	.90	2.96	1.30	32.00	11.50
July 15 .....	2.17	1.19	.46	.92	.74	2.91	..... <sup>c</sup>	31.00	11.50
Aug. 15 .....	2.13	1.06	.38	.80	.63	2.77	.65	30.00	10.00
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup>									
8-15-55 .....	2.51	1.82	.85	1.33	1.66	4.41	1.44	37.90	11.90

**LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS<sup>2</sup>**

Year	Beef Cattle (cwt.)	Calves (cwt.)	Lambs (cwt.)	Hogs (cwt.)	Milk Cows (head)	Whsle. Milk (cwt.)	Retail Milk (qt.)	Butter- fat (lb.)	Wool (lb.)
1929 .....	\$ 8.30	\$11.10	\$10.70	\$ 8.40	\$ 82	\$2.45	\$ .098	\$ .44	\$ .29
1932 .....	3.30	4.20	3.95	2.65	30	1.55	.076	.16	.07
1935-39 .....	5.80	7.05	7.40	7.35	49	2.05	.087	.34	.23
1952 .....	21.10	23.70	23.00	16.50	264	4.21	.178	.77	.52
1953 .....	14.30	16.20	17.60	19.80	190	3.96	.176	.69	.49
1954 .....	14.40	15.70	17.80	19.30	166	3.78	.178	.60	.49
Aug. 15 .....	14.80	15.30	18.00	19.30	155	3.70	.181	.59	.49
1955.....									
June 15 .....	14.80	16.40	18.00	16.60	160	3.50	.180	.59	.40
July 15 .....	14.60	16.40	18.00	15.00	155	3.60	.180	.58	.41
Aug. 15 .....	14.10	15.50	17.50	14.00	150	3.70	.180	.58	.42
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup>									
8-15-55 .....	21.10	23.10	23.10	21.10	.....	4.63	.....	.73	.59

**POULTRY AND EGGS<sup>2</sup>**

**FARM PRICE INDICES**

Year	Chickens (lb.)	Turkeys (lb.)	Eggs (doz.)	N. Dak. Prices Rec'd.	U.S. Prices Rec'd.	U.S. Prices Paid	Ratio of Prices Pd. to Prices Rec'd. <sup>5</sup>
1929 .....	\$ .17	\$ .22	\$ .24	129	148	160	81
1932 .....	.08	.11	.10	52	65	112	46
1935-39 .....	.12	.17	.28	101	107	125	81
1952 .....	.18	.33	.30	269	288	287	94
1953 .....	.18	.34	.37	249	258	279	89
1954 .....	.12	.27	.27	242	250	281	86
Aug. 15 .....	.16	.25	.25	243	249	281	86
1955.....							
June 15 .....	.14	.27	.26	239	243	282	85
July 15 .....	.15	.27	.25	231	237	281	82
Aug. 15 .....	.15	.27	.26	222	233	279	80
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup>							
8-15-55 .....	.29	.37	.46				

<sup>1</sup>Yearly prices are weighted average prices for crop year.  
<sup>2</sup>Yearly prices are weighted average prices for calendar year.  
<sup>3</sup>Ratio of North Dakota prices received to United States prices paid by farmers.  
<sup>4</sup>Price which would give that commodity a parity ratio of 100 on U.S. average basis.  
<sup>5</sup>Prices shown only in months when more than 0.5 per cent of the crop was marketed.