

Prices of North Dakota Farm Products

By L. W. Schaffner¹

Farm prices of North Dakota farm products on October 15, 1955, were about the same as compared to the previous month but lower than a year earlier.

The North Dakota all-commodity farm price index for October 15 was a point higher than a month earlier but 15 points lower than a year earlier. The October 15 farm price index for grains was up a point for the month but down 16 points for the year. The North Dakota meat animals index was down five points for the month and down 30 points for the year, while the dairy farm price index was up three points for both the month and the year. The farm price index for poultry and eggs was up seven points for the month and up 39 points for the year ending October 15, 1955.

October 15 farm prices, compared to the previous month's prices, showed nine commodities with price increases, seven commodities with price decreases and five commodities with prices unchanged. In comparison to the previous year, six commodities had price increases and 15 commodities had price declines. The commodities with price increases for the year included calves, retail milk, butterfat, chickens, turkeys and eggs.

The North Dakota farm price changes for the month ending October 15, 1955, were: oats and barley up two cents; rye up seven cents; flax and eggs up three cents, potatoes up 15 cents; calves up 80 cents; wholesale milk up five cents; and butterfat up one cent. For the same period corn was down 15 cents; hogs down 70 cents; milk cows down \$10 per head; and wool down two cents. The price of all-wheat, sweet clover seed, retail milk, chickens and turkeys remained unchanged for this period, September 15 to October 15.

The price of hogs was \$17.50 on October 15, 1954, and on October 15, 1955 the price was \$13.70, a decline of \$3.80 for the year. The October decline makes that the seventeenth month that the price has been downward. The hog price trend started downward in May, 1954, after reaching a top of \$25.80 per hundred weight.

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

Crops			Livestock and Livestock Products			Poultry and Eggs			
Wheat	87%	Flax	61%	Beef Cattle	64%	Whsle. Milk	84%	Chickens	50%
Corn	51%	Potatoes	52%	Calves	75%	Butterfat	82%	Turkeys	84%
Oats	49%	Sweet Clover		Lambs	71%	Wool	66%	Eggs	70%
Barley	65%	Seed	69%	Hogs	65%				
Rye	43%								

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PRICES OF NORTH DAKOTA FARM PRODUCTS

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CROPS¹

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
Oct. 15	2.25	1.25	.58	1.01	1.01	3.02	.85	30.00	11.50
1955									
Aug. 15	2.13	1.06	.38	.80	.63	2.77	.65	30.00	10.00
Sept. 15	2.17	1.08	.40	.84	.64	2.68	.60	17.00	8.20
Oct. 15	2.17	.93	.42	.86	.71	2.71	.75	16.20	8.20
U.S. Parity ⁴	2.49	1.81	.85	1.33	1.66	4.42	1.45	38.10	11.90

LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS²

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	19.30	190	3.96	.176	.69	.49
1954	14.40	15.70	17.80	19.30	166	3.78	.178	.60	.49
Oct. 15	14.10	15.00	17.20	17.50	160	4.00	.178	.59	.49
1955									
Aug. 15	14.10	15.50	17.50	14.00	150	3.80	.180	.58	.42
Sept. 15	13.70	16.50	16.50	14.40	155	3.85	.180	.59	.41
Oct. 15	13.60	17.30	16.40	13.70	145	3.90	.180	.60	.39
U.S. Parity ⁴	21.10	23.20	23.20	21.10	.....	4.65	.....	.73	.59

POULTRY AND EGGS²

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. ³
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
Oct. 15 .....	.10	.27	.24	240	242	279	86
1955							
Aug. 15 .....	.15	.27	.26	222	233	279	80
Sept. 15 .....	.15	.31	.29	224	235	279	80
Oct. 15 .....	.15	.31	.32	225	230	280	80
U.S. Parity ⁴ .....	.46	.37	.29				

¹Yearly prices are weighted average prices for crop year.²Yearly prices are weighted average prices for calendar year.³Ratio of North Dakota prices received to United States prices paid by farmers.⁴Price which would give that commodity a parity ratio of 100 on U.S. average basis.