

# Prices of North Dakota Farm Products

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North Dakota farm prices for the first two months of 1956 have indicated a somewhat stronger tone than that of the last six months of 1955. The North Dakota all-commodity farm price index for each month of the latter part showed a general downward trend whereas the 15th of the month farm price index for the first two months of 1956 shows an upward trend.

The accompanying table will show that for the month ending February 15, 1956, ten of the North Dakota commodities were higher in price than a month earlier; five show no change; but six were lower. However, for the year ending February 15, 1956, only four North Dakota commodities were higher than a year earlier, sixteen were lower, and one was unchanged.

The trend for the farm price for all wheat has been downward for more than a year. However, spring wheat farm price is down only 13 cents for the year whereas durum farm price is down 91 cents for the year. The price for durum shows signs of returning to approximately the same level of spring wheat. The price of durum for more than three and one-half years has consistently been higher than that of spring wheat. The farm price for corn, after a generally downward trend for more than a year has shown an upward trend the past four months. The farm price for oats was unchanged for the month but has shown an upward tendency for the past six months. The farm price for barley has been downward for almost a year. Rye farm price has been generally upward for six months. The price for flaxseed has likewise been upward for five months. The farm price for potatoes has also been up for five months. After a downward tendency for six months the price of alfalfa seed has been up for two months. In general, the farm price for sweet clover seed has been upward for five months.

The farm price trend for livestock has been upward for the past two or three months whereas that for livestock products has been, in the main, unchanged. The farm price for poultry for the year ending February 15, 1956, was all higher than a year earlier. For the month ending February 15, 1956, chickens were up one cent, turkeys were unchanged and eggs were down four cents.

## Per Cent of Parity—North Dakota Farm Products—February 15, 1956

Crops			Livestock and Livestock Products			Poultry and Eggs			
Wheat	87%	Flaxseed	69%	Beef Cattle	59%	Whsle. Milk	78%	Chickens	50%
Corn	60%	Potatoes	105%	Calves	76%	Butterfat	82%	Turkeys	81%
Oats	52%	Alfalfa Seed	51%	Lambs	72%	Wool	67%	Eggs	68%
Barley	64%	Sweet Clover		Hogs	54%				
Rye	48%	Seed	78%						

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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
1955—									
February .....	2.24	1.15	.57	.99	1.04	2.96	.75	32.00	13.00
November .....	2.16	1.00	.43	.88	.67	2.75	.90	15.80	8.50
December .....	2.11	1.04	.46	.86	.78	2.80	.95	15.70	8.20
1956—									
January .....	2.11	1.03	.44	.86	.80	2.92	1.05	16.30	8.80
February .....	2.08	1.04	.44	.84	.79	3.05	1.45	18.60	9.00
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup> 2-15-56 .....	2.38	1.73	.84	1.32	1.65	4.40	1.38	36.70	11.60

### 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	19.30	190	3.96	.176	.69	.49
1954 .....	14.40	15.70	17.80	19.30	166	3.78	.178	.60	.49
1955—									
Feb. ....	14.50	18.00	18.20	15.80	165	3.70	.180	.60	.50
Nov. ....	12.80	15.00	16.40	11.30	150	4.00	.180	.60	.39
Dec. ....	11.20	15.60	15.70	9.20	145	3.85	.184	.60	.39
1956—									
Jan. ....	11.90	16.50	16.20	9.80	150	3.70	.180	.60	.40
Feb. ....	12.40	17.60	16.80	11.20	150	3.60	.180	.59	.40
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup> 2-15-56 .....	21.10	23.20	23.20	20.90	.....	4.59	.....	.72	.60

### POULTRY AND EGGS<sup>3</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
1955—							
Feb. ....	.12	.27	.30	239	244	283	84
Nov. ....	.14	.29	.32	221	225	279	79
Dec. ....	.13	.29	.37	216	223	278	78
1956—							
Jan. ....	.13	.29	.35	218	226	281	78
Feb. ....	.14	.29	.31	219	226	280	78
U.S. Parity <sup>4</sup> 2-15-26 .....	.28	.36	.45				

<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.