

## Prices of North Dakota Farm Products

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The overall trend of North Dakota farm prices for the month ending Dec. 15, 1956 might be said to be unchanged to slightly lower as the farm prices of 6 of the 21 commodities included in the accompanying table were unchanged for the month, 10 had decreased for the month, and 5 were higher than a month earlier. The Dec. 15, 1956 all-commodity farm price index for North Dakota was down 1 point for the month but it was up 9 points over that of a year earlier.

The grain index was down 1 point for the month. The all spring wheat farm price was down 1 cent, but durum was up 6 cents while hard wheat was down 2 cents. Barley was up 2 cents and alfalfa seed was up 20 cents for the month. Oats and flaxseed were unchanged, but corn was down 2 cents, rye down 6 cents, soybeans down 1 cent and potatoes down 10 cents. It should be noted that all of these crops except wheat and potatoes were higher than a year ago. The grain farm price index was 6 points above that of a year ago.

The meat animals farm price index was up 4 points for the month as the farm price of hogs was up \$1.20 while the beef cattle farm price was down 40 cents with calves and lambs each down 20 cents for the month. The Dec. 15, 1956 farm

price index for meat animals was 48 points higher than a year ago as calves were up 10 cents, lambs up 80 cents, beef cattle up 90 cents and hogs up \$5.70 for the year. Milk cows were up \$5 for the month and for the year. Butterfat was down 1 cent for the month while wholesale milk, retail milk, and wool were unchanged.

There was little change in milk prices for the year but butterfat was up 1 cent and wool up 7 cents for the year. The Dec. 15, 1956 farm price index for poultry and eggs was up 2 points for the month with turkeys up 2 cents, chickens unchanged, and eggs down 1 cent. The poultry and eggs farm price index was down 40 points for the year with eggs down 10 cents, chickens down 4 cents and turkeys down 3 cents.

### Percent of Parity—North Dakota Farm Products—December 15, 1956

Crops		Livestock and Livestock Products		Poultry and Eggs	
Wheat	85%	Beef cattle	59%	Chickens	31%
Corn	58%	Calves	66%	Turkeys	70%
Oats	63%	Lambs	70%	Eggs	58%
Barley	69%	Hogs	70%		
Rye	60%	Wholesale milk	82%		
Flaxseed	67%	Butterfat	85%		
Soybeans	71%	Wool	71%		
Potatoes	44%				
Alfalfa seed	79%				

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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.)	Soy- beans (bu.)	Pota- toes (cwt.)	Alfalfa Seed (cwt.)
1929 .....	\$1.00	\$ .67	\$ .33	\$ .43	\$ .79	\$2.85	.....	\$2.22	\$29.00
1932 .....	.36	.27	.09	.14	.22	.27	.....	.38	12.50
1935-39 .....	.33	.57	.24	.37	.43	1.60	.....	.95	20.35
1953 .....	2.19	1.34	.63	1.08	1.29	3.62	2.64	1.03	22.50
1954 .....	2.23	1.25	.60	1.02	1.26	3.02	2.33	1.51	31.20
1955 .....	2.14	1.20	.48	.87	1.05	2.85	2.05	1.94	17.50
Dec. ....	2.11	1.04	.46	.86	.78	2.80	1.99	1.58	15.70
1956—									
Oct. ....	2.02	1.03	.53	.88	1.05	2.88	1.91	1.05	28.60
Nov. ....	2.11	1.05	.57	.92	1.09	3.02	2.11	1.15	29.80
Dec. ....	2.10	1.03	.57	.94	1.03	3.02	2.10	1.05	30.00
U. S. Parity <sup>4</sup>									
Dec. 15, '56 .....	2.46	1.79	.87	1.36	1.71	4.54	2.95	2.38	37.90

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

Year	Beef Cattle (cwt.)	Calves (cwt.)	Lambs (cwt.)	Hogs (cwt.)	Milk Cows (head)	Whale. 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
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	3.76	.178	.61	.49
1955 .....	13.60	16.10	16.90	13.30	156	3.75	.181	.59	.39
Dec. ....	11.90	15.60	16.00	9.50	145	3.90	.184	.62	.37
1956—									
Oct. ....	13.40	16.10	17.00	14.70	150	3.85	.180	.62	.41
Nov. ....	13.20	15.90	17.00	14.00	145	3.90	.180	.64	.44
Dec. ....	12.80	15.70	16.80	15.20	150	3.90	.180	.63	.44
U. S. Parity <sup>4</sup>									
Dec. 15, '56 .....	21.80	23.90	24.00	21.60	.....	4.74	.....	.74	.62

### 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 Rec'd to Prices Pd. <sup>3</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
1953 .....	.18	.34	.37	249	258	279	90
1954 .....	.12	.27	.27	243	249	281	86
1955 .....	.14	.30	.28	231	236	281	82
Dec. ....	.13	.29	.37	217	222	278	78
1956—							
Oct. ....	.10	.25	.27	221	234	287	77
Nov. ....	.09	.24	.28	227	234	289	79
Dec. ....	.09	.26	.37	226	237	289	78
U. S. Parity <sup>4</sup>							
Dec. 15, '56 .....	.29	.37	.47				

<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.