

Farm Market Report

Grain Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Portland

Grains are stated in dollars per bushel or hundredweight (cwt.) except feed grains traded in dollars per ton. National grain report bids are for rail delivery unless truck indicated.

PORTLAND GRAIN (USDA Market News) Portland Dec. 29

PACIFIC NORTHWEST MARKET SUMMARY

Cash wheat bids for December delivery ended the reporting week on Thursday, Dec. 29, were mixed compared to Dec. 22 noon bids for December delivery.

March wheat futures ended the reporting week on Thursday, Dec. 29, lower as follows compared to Dec. 22 closes: Chicago wheat futures were 7.75 cents higher at \$4.0475, Kansas City wheat futures were 7.25 cents higher at \$4.1525 and Minneapolis wheat futures trended .50 of a cent higher at \$5.3550. Chicago March corn futures trended 2.50 cents higher at \$3.4975 and January soybean futures closed 8.75 cents higher at \$10.0325.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat delivered to Portland in unit trains or barges during December for ordinary protein trended 1 to 35 cents per bushel higher compared to week ago prices for the same delivery period at \$4.45-4.56. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. White Club Wheat premiums were zero to 25 cents per bushel over soft white wheat bids this week and last week.

One year ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat any protein for December delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were not

available and bids for White Club Wheat were also not available. Forward month bids for soft white wheat ordinary protein were as follows: January and February \$4.45-4.56, March \$4.3975-4.56 and April \$4.4575-4.5775. One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: January, February and March \$4.70-5.30 and April not available.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein during December trended 4.75 to 8 cents per bushel higher than week ago prices for the same delivery period at \$4.50-4.5475. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. White club wheat premiums for guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein soft white wheat bids this week were zero to 25 cents per bushel over soft white wheat bids this week and last week.

One year ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein for December delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were \$6.35-6.50 and bids for White Club Wheat were not available. Forward month bids for soft white wheat guaranteed 10.5 percent proteins were as follows: January and February \$4.50-4.5475, March \$4.3975-4.5475, and April \$4.4575-4.6275.

One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: January \$6.20-6.50, February and March \$6.25-6.50 and April \$6.3150-6.50.

Bids for 11.5 percent protein U.S. 1 Hard Red Winter Wheat for December delivery were 7.25 cents per bushel higher compared to Dec. 22 noon bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Bids were as follows: De-

ember \$4.8525-5.1025, January and February \$5.25-5.10, March \$5.0525-5.1025 and April \$5.12.

Bids for non-guaranteed 14.0 percent protein U.S. 1 Dark Northern Spring Wheat for Portland delivery during December were 0.50 of a cent per bushel higher than Dec. 22 noon bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Bids for non-guaranteed 14 percent protein were as follows: December \$6.4050-6.6050, January, February and March \$6.3550-6.6050 and April \$6.4175-6.5675.

COARSE FEEDING GRAINS

Bids for U.S. 2 Yellow Corn delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for December delivery trended 2.50 to 5.50 cents higher from \$4.3775-4.4775. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Forward month corn bids were as follows: January \$4.3775-4.4775, February \$4.3775-4.4775, March \$4.3575-4.4575, April and May \$4.3075-4.3175. Bids for U.S. 1 Yellow Soybeans delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for December delivery was not available. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Forward month soybean bids were as follows: January \$10.9625-11.25, February \$10.9575-10.9875 and March \$10.8775. Bids for U.S. 2 Heavy White Oats for December delivery trended steady at \$3.2650 per bushel.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXPORT NEWS

There were 24 grain vessels in Columbia River ports on Thursday, Dec. 29, with six docked compared to 26 last week with five docked. There were no new confirmed export sales this week from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) of the USDA.

Potato Market Reports

Compiled by North American Potato News and USDA Agricultural Market Service

Prices are weekly averages of daily prices. All prices are in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) FWA is a weighted average of shipping point prices or common packs in each area. Weights differ by area. GRI is the Grower Returns Index for each individual area.

FRESH RUSSET POTATO MARKET REPORT (North American Potato Market News) (USDA Market News) Dec. 31

Market Commentary: Russet potato markets were relatively flat during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

SHIPPING AREA	FWA	Chg	GRI	Chg	70 ct	Chg	10 lb. Film	Chg
IDAHO BURBANKS	\$10.86	-\$0.16	\$4.27	-\$0.09	\$13.50	\$0.50	\$9	\$0
IDAHO NORKOTAHNS	\$9.91	\$0.04	\$3.49	\$0.03	\$11.50	\$0	\$9	\$0
COLUMBIA BASIN	\$11.03	\$0	\$4.37	\$0	\$13.50	\$0	\$8.50	\$0

California Egg Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Des Moines

Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

DAILY CALIFORNIA SHELL EGGS (USDA Market News) Des Moines, Iowa Dec. 30

Benchmark prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are 3 cents lower for Jumbo, 17 cents lower for Extra Large and Large and 3 cents lower for Medium and Small. The underline is sharply lower. Offerings are moderate to heavy with demand light to occasionally moderate. Supplies are moderate. Market activity is slow to moderate. Small benchmark price \$1.05.

Size	Range	Size	Range
Jumbo	184	Extra large	187
Large	183	Medium	125

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, delivered store door.

Size	Range	Size	Range
Jumbo	159-171	Extra large	173-177
Large	165-174	Medium	106-117

Utah's Grazing Improvement Program develops key principles

Utah, like other states in the Western region, has a significant amount of land unsuited for crop production, but useful for livestock grazing.

An article in the October 2016 issue of Rangelands, a publication of the Society for Range Management, gives the history and overview of a program designed to regenerate Utah's rangelands.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, heavy grazing left Utah's rangelands with denuded soils and lower functioning watersheds. Several agencies and programs were established to counteract the depleted rangelands. This included moving forest reserves under the care of the U.S. Forest Service and establishing the Great Basin Experiment Station to implement research-based grazing models and produce long-term grazing records and studies.

The grazing management techniques of the early 1900s called for reducing the number of animals in an attempt to address the degradation that had taken place. Reducing livestock numbers has continued to be the most politically expedient way to attempt to solve this ongoing

Greener Pastures Doug Warnock



problem. In Utah this has resulted in a four-fold reduction in animals on federal lands since 1960.

The reduction of animals has not solved the problem, especially if the problem is related to livestock distribution. In addition to not solving the underlying ecological and environmental issues that the reduction hoped to solve, the reduction also created economic hardship for the ranchers grazing cattle on the public lands.

"This disconnect between the regulatory regime and good grazing practices motivated grazing experts in Utah to create a program that would promote and facilitate proper grazing techniques," reported grazing specialists with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Grazing Improvement Program.

The Utah Grazing Improvement Program (UGIP) was established in 2006 along with a state grazing advisory board and regional advisory

boards. The advisory boards provide a means for grass-roots input and are supported by the Utah Farm Bureau, Utah Cattlemen's Association, Utah Farmers Union, Utah Woolgrowers Association, county commissioners in rural Utah counties, the Utah Association of Conservation Districts and others.

UGIP assembled a group of range professionals to develop guidelines for managing the state's rangelands. They said, "most rangelands are not overstocked, but they are often undermanaged."

The most effective way to manage vegetation on a large scale to benefit watershed health and preserve wildlife populations is with well-managed livestock.

This is something not understood by the average citizen. There is a powerful positive relationship between well-managed livestock grazing, healthy watersheds and diverse and abundant wildlife populations as stated in a report from the Government Accountability Office.

The UGIP focuses on three main principles:

- Time, which refers to the duration of grazing, the season of use, the frequency and

the intensity of grazing.

- Managing plant succession through grazing, mechanical, fire and other means can enhance diversity and production.
- Monitoring and use of adaptive management.

Monitoring is the key to successful management, allowing for adaptive management of grazing and protecting watersheds. Monitoring provides a clear picture of what is happening and will show trends in vegetation response to the management practices being applied.

Grazing can be an important and positive management tool on rangelands. When rangeland managers use the grazing principles of time, timing, frequency, and intensity of grazing, all of the resources associated with rangelands will be protected and multiple uses can successfully co-exist on the landscape.

Doug Warnock, retired from Washington State University Extension, lives on a ranch in the Touchet River Valley where he writes about and teaches grazing management. He can be contacted at dwarnockgreenerpastures@gmail.com.

2016 ends mixed; 2017 starts slipping

Cash dairy prices ended 2016 mixed.

The cheddar blocks fell to \$1.6550 per pound Thursday, the lowest price since Oct. 27, then inched back up a half-cent Friday, after 21 cars traded hands. They closed the week, the month, and the year at \$1.66, down 3 cents on the Christmas holiday-shortened week, after plunging 11 cents the previous week, but were 15

Dairy Markets Lee Mielke



1/4-cents above a year ago.

The barrels closed at \$1.60, up 4 1/2-cents on the week, 7 cents above a year ago, and at a closer-to-normal 6 cents below the blocks. Twenty-eight cars of block traded hands last week

and 17 of barrel.

The markets were closed Monday but the first day of trading in 2017 took the blocks up a penny, to \$1.67, while the barrels inched a half-cent lower, to \$1.5950.

Midwestern cheese producers report that cheese demand is beginning to slow, according to Dairy Market News. Buyers pushing to keep end-of-year inventories low is a factor. How-

ever, cheesemakers expect an uptick before the Super Bowl season beginning in late January.

Western cheese output is strong with ample supplies of milk available. Demand remains good and some cheesemakers feel December sales were better than they have been for a few years. Manufacturers hope 2017 will bring more export opportunities.

WASHINGTON OREGON
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To view the conference schedule and to register visit:
www.potatoconference.com

January 24th, 25th & 26th Three Rivers Convention Center & Toyota Center
Kennewick, WA

ROP-1-2-2/#14

Dairy report

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Madison

FLUID MILK AND CREAM REVIEW — WEST (USDA Market News) Madison, Wis. Dec. 29

California dairy contacts note milk production is starting to increase along normal seasonal trends. Contacts say this is a little later than usual. Sales into Class 1 have been lower through the holiday week, but are expected to increase as bottlers ramp up before educational institutions resume classes.

Heavy snow is building a good snowpack and rains are aiding recently planted forage crops. The precipitation is helping recharge California reservoirs, which now stand at 18.5 million acre-feet, 88 percent of normal levels. This is a positive sign that water may be more readily available than it has been through the last few years of drought.

Seasonally strong milk production is continuing in the Pacific Northwest. Bottlers are diverting heavy milk supplies into manufactured dairy product lines as educational institutions take their winter holiday breaks. Industry contacts expect the flow of milk volumes to increase into bottling late this week or early next week.

Milk production in the mountain states of Idaho, Colorado and Utah is solid. Manufacturers say they are not having any problems getting enough milk for their processing needs. During this holiday week, milk supplies are long and milk shippers are working hard to find homes for the excess milk.

Some industry contacts report milk moving into the region from neighboring states at \$3 below Class III prices.

According to the DNM National Retail Report-Dairy for the week of Dec. 23-29, the national weighted average advertised price for one gallon of milk is \$2.50. The weighted average regional price in the Southwest is \$1.99. There were no reported sale prices for gallon milk in the Northwest this week.

Western condensed skim is clearing into NDM processing in good volumes, but demand has been relatively flat. Industry contacts say there is plenty of cream available. Sour cream, egg-nog, and cream cheese production is slowing, making available cream more plentiful. Some butter makers are trying to absorb the excess cream through their churns. Multiples range from .90 to 1.20 depending on location and use.

New Year's Resolutions:

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