

U.S. grain support levels among lowest in world

WHEAT SUPPORT OR GUARANTEED PRICE, OCT., 1978

(In U.S. Dollars Per Bushel)

Egypt	\$1.82	USSR	\$3.89	Ireland	\$4.92	Denmark	\$ 6.34
UNITED STATES	2.35	Yugoslavia	3.97	Spain	4.93	Austria	6.53
Australia	2.37	Peru	3.97	Poland	4.93	W. Germany	7.02
Argentina	2.72	Chile	4.08	Kenya	4.95	Guatemala	7.10
Pakistan	2.72	United Kingdom	4.08	Iran	5.39	Brazil	7.48
Canada	3.02	Syria	4.21	Greece	5.39	Taiwan	7.56
E. Germany	3.05	Hungary	4.38	Netherlands	5.50	Norway	9.58
Turkey	3.13	Lebanon	4.46	Italy	5.52	Nigeria	9.99
Mexico	3.13	Sweden	4.54	Belgium	5.74	Korea	10.48
Israel	3.75	Portugal	4.57	Morocco	5.80	Switzerland	17.52
India	3.84	Czechoslovakia	4.62	Colombia	5.96	Japan	22.97
New Zealand	3.86	Uruguay	4.79	Ecuador	5.99		

CORN SUPPORT OR GUARANTEED PRICE, OCT., 1978

(In U.S. Dollars Per Bushel)

Brazil	\$1.70	Phillipines	\$3.10	Iran	\$4.32	Syria	\$ 5.21
UNITED STATES	2.00	Nicaragua	3.15	Italy	4.57	Costa Rica	5.30
Uruguay	2.00	Mexico	3.25	France	4.70	Belgium	5.35
Pakistan	2.20	Portugal	3.33	Colombia	4.72	Taiwan	5.64
India	2.69	Kenya	3.35	Guatemala	4.72	W. Germany	5.84
USSR	2.69	Hungary	3.73	Poland	4.82	Nigeria	5.92
Indonesia	2.74	Dominican Repub.	3.76	Greece	4.95	Korea	8.89
Peru	2.76	Czechoslovakia	3.86	EEC	5.05	Switzerland	10.56
New Zealand	2.84	Ecuador	3.94	Netherlands	5.13		
Yugoslavia	2.89	Morocco	4.14	El Salvador	5.16		

WASHINGTON, D.C. — How do domestic grain price support levels compare with those of other nations?

According to information from the United States Department of Agriculture, U.S. farmers are nearly at the bottom of the rankings for wheat and corn.

The price support levels provided to American farmers by their government for wheat and corn are the lowest in the world with the exception of Egypt for wheat and Brazil for corn. The wheat support rates or guaranteed prices range from a low of \$1.82 in Egypt to a high of \$22.97 in Japan. The corn support rates or guaranteed prices range from \$1.70 in Brazil to \$10.56 in Switzerland.

The data appears in a foreign agriculture circular, entitled "Wheat and Corn Prices for Selected Countries," recently published by the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service. It was obtained through reports from U.S. agricultural attaches in about 65 countries.

Exact comparisons are difficult to make because of differences in support systems, variation in grain qualities, standards and grades, freight costs, location at which the price is reported, and variation in dollar exchange rates.

Nevertheless, the figures are useful for general comparisons, Reuben L. Johnson, National Farmers Union director of Legislative Services commented last week. "And they do indicate the kind of priority food and farmers have with their respective governments," he added.



MARK WESCH



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