

GRAIN, CATTLE, HOG, & MILK BFP FUTURES MARKETS

Markets Courtesy of Chicago Board and Mercantile Exchange
Closing Bids: Thursday, December 21, 2000

Corn

Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing	Settle	Net Chg
01Jan	218	220	217 1/2	220	220	+16
01Mar	224 1/4	226 1/2	223 3/4	226 1/2	226 1/4	+12
01May	232	234 1/2	231 3/4	234 1/2	234	+14
01Jul	239 3/4	241 3/4	239	241 1/2	241 3/4	+12
01Sep	246 1/4	248 1/2	246 1/4	248 1/4	248	+12
01Dec	256 1/2	258	255 3/4	257 3/4	257 1/2	+6
02Mar	264 1/4	265 3/4	263 3/4	265 1/2	265 3/4	+4
02Jul	273	274 3/4	273	274 3/4	274 3/4	+10
02Dec	267	267 1/2	266	267 1/2	267 1/2	-4
Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing	Settle	Net Chg

Oats

Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing	Settle	Net Chg
01Mar	110 1/2	111 1/2	109 3/4	111 1/4	111 1/4	+6
01May	116 3/4	117 1/4	116	117 1/4	117 1/4	+6
01Jul	122 3/4	123 1/2	122 3/4	123 1/4 a	123 1/4	+10
01Sep	125 1/2	126	125 1/2	126 b	126	+2
01Dec	131 1/2	133 1/2	131 1/2	133 1/2 b	133 1/2	+6
Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing	Settle	Net Chg

Soybeans

Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing	Settle	Net Chg
01Jan	507	511	505 1/2	511	509	
01Mar	515 1/2	519 1/2	514 3/4	519 1/2	518 1/2	
01May	522	525 1/2	521	525 1/2	525	
01Jul	527	530 1/2	526	530 1/2	530	
01Aug	527	529 1/4	525 3/4	529 1/4		
01Sep	525	525	521 1/2	525		
01Nov	524	526 1/2	523	526	526 1/2	
02Jan				534 1/2		
02Mar				542 1/2	543 a	
02Nov				559 1/2	560 a	
Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing	Settle	Net Chg

Lean Hogs

Daily Prices As of :- Thursday, 21 December

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Prev. Volume	Prev. Open_Int	
12/21/00	Feb 01	5610	5635	5577	5585	-40	4452	26393
12/21/00	Apr 01	5650	5665	5622	5635	-30	1164	6596
12/21/00	Jun 01	6220	6232	6185	6202	-23	369	4271
12/21/00	Jul 01	6005	6030	5975	5987	-28	180	1417
12/21/00	Aug 01	5850	5850	5800	5822	-35	115	804
12/21/00	Oct 01	5045	5045	5000	5017	-48	86	1295
12/21/00	Dec 01	4815	4815	4777	4787	-33	35	1097
12/21/00	Feb 02	0	4867	4845	4867	-3	0	32
12/21/00	Apr 02	0	4870	4850	4862	-18	0	1

Composite Volume Open_Int

12/20/00 6401 41906

Live Cattle

Daily Prices As of :- Thursday, 21 December

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Prev. Volume	Prev. Open_Int	
12/21/00	Dec 00	7830	7860	7750	7797	-50	2376	6466
12/21/00	Feb 01	7760	7772	7660	7692	-75	8449	64977
12/21/00	Apr 01	7847	7857	7770	7795	-60	2565	32229
12/21/00	Jun 01	7427	7432	7345	7367	-63	1075	12733
12/21/00	Aug 01	7435	7437	7365	7372	-65	846	11754
12/21/00	Oct 01	7585	7585	7530	7550	-52	133	2937
12/21/00	Dec 01	7625	7630	7605	7620	-55	55	1125

Composite Volume Open_Int

12/20/00 15499 132222

Pork Bellies

Daily Prices As of :- Thursday, 21 December

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Prev. Volume	Prev. Open_Int	
12/21/00	Feb 01	6700	6720	6645	6672	-63	556	2233
12/21/00	Mar 01	6695	6732	6655	6665	-45	43	247
12/21/00	May 01	6800	6825	6752	6752	-53	2	130
12/21/00	Jul 01	0	6850	6760	6760	unch	0	69
12/21/00	Aug 01	6800	6850	6800	6850	-47	2	-29

Composite Volume Open_Int

12/20/00 603 2708

Weekly Dairy Market Outlook

By Ken Bailey
Penn State University
December 15, 2000

November Milk Production Slows

- Milk production in 20 states up just 1.5%
- Cow numbers slowing
- CME butter falls to \$1.20/lb

The Nation's milk supply is finally showing signs of slowing down. USDA reported that November milk production for 20 select states was up just 1.5 percent from a year ago. That compares with growth rates of 3-4 percent the first quarter of this year. Production per cow in November averaged 1,463 pounds, just 4 pounds above a year ago. And the number of cows on farms in 20 select states in November was 7.85 million head. That's just 1,000 more head than in October 2000.

Both yield per cow and cow numbers are slowing down. Milk production in November was up just 1.7 percent in California, down 8.4 percent in Arizona, up 8.5 percent in Idaho, and up 5.1 percent in New Mexico. In the Midwest, milk production was up 19.4 percent in Indiana, up 7.6

percent in Michigan, and up 5.6 percent in Ohio. In the Southeast, milk production in Florida was up 7.5 percent.

Butter prices at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange fell 65.25 cents per pound during the past 5 CME cash trading sessions. Butter prices began the week at \$1.30 per pound on Monday and fell to \$1.20 by Friday. USDA reported that year-end holiday orders have been placed and shipped. Thus current prices reflect very short term needs. Food service needs are reported to be very active for this time of year.

Cheese prices rose slightly this week at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Barrels rose from \$1.0950 per pound on Monday, December 11 to \$1.1100 per pound by Friday, December 15. Blocks also rose from \$1.0950 per pound on Monday to \$1.1250 by Friday. USDA reported that natural demand is seasonally good and process cheese is moderate to good. The government purchased 11,976 net pounds of blocks and 554,400 pounds of process cheese from the Midwest under the dairy price support program this week. However, barrel cheese from western sources had contract adjustments resulting in a negative adjusted total of 268,251

pounds for the week.

On December 1, USDA announced November federal order class prices of \$13.68 per cwt for Class II, \$8.57 for Class III, and \$13.00 for Class IV. November average butter prices were relatively high at \$1.4051

per pound, whereas cheese prices were relatively low at \$1.0245 per pound. Since then cheese prices rose to support levels and butter prices have weakened. Thus I am forecasting December class prices of \$14.34 per cwt for Class II,

\$9.19 for Class III, and \$13.61 for Class IV.

For more information regarding milk markets, see my website: www.aers.psu.edu/dairyoutlook/

Average Farm Feed Costs for Handy Reference

To help farmers across the state to have handy reference of commodity input costs in their feeding operations for DHIA record sheets or to develop livestock feed cost data, here's last week's average costs of various ingredients as compiled from regional reports across the state of Pennsylvania.

Remember, these are averages, so you will need to adjust your figures up or down according to your location and the quality of your crop.

- Corn, No.2y — 1.96 bu., 3.50 cwt.
- Wheat, No.2 — 2.23 bu., 3.72 cwt.
- Barley, No.3 — 1.39 bu., 2.96 cwt.
- Oats, No.2 — 1.36 bu., 4.24 cwt.
- Soybeans, No.1 — 4.5 bu., 7.52 cwt.
- Ear Corn — 57.61 ton, 2.88 cwt.
- Alfalfa Hay — 105.00 ton, 5.25 cwt.
- Mixed Hay — 106.25 ton, 5.31 cwt.
- Timothy Hay — 108.75 ton, 5.44 cwt.

Table 1. Chicago Mercantile Exchange Prices, Weekly Averages

	15-Dec-00	8-Dec-00	1-Dec-00	24-Nov-00	17-Nov-00
Cheese:					
500 lb barrels	1.1020	1.0910	1.0710	1.0517	1.0340
40-lb blocks	1.1090	1.1025	1.0985	1.0833	1.1020
Nontat dry milk:					
Extra Grade	1.0300	1.0300	1.0300	1.0300	1.0300
Grade A	1.0300	1.0300	1.0300	1.0300	1.0300
Butter:					
Grade AA	1.2500	1.1715	1.8325	1.7950	1.7950

Source: Dairy Market News, AMS, USDA

(<http://www.ams.usda.gov/dairy/mncs/weekly.htm>).

Table 2. NASS Weekly US Average Survey Prices

	9-Dec-00	2-Dec-00	25-Nov-00	18-Nov-00	11-Nov-00
Cheese					
500 lb. Barrels 1/	1.0474	1.0351	1.0020	0.9851	0.9875
40-lb blocks	1.0720	1.0521	1.0443	1.0081	1.0222
Butter	1.7518	1.7581	1.7217	1.5498	1.2958
Nonfat dry milk	1.0126	1.0147	1.0161	1.0159	1.0178
Dry whey	0.2164	0.1984	0.1990	0.1939	0.1898

Source: Dairy Product Prices, NASS, USDA

(<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/price/dairy/1999/>).

1/ Adjusted to 39% moisture.

