

# GRAIN, CATTLE, HOG, & MILK BFP FUTURES MARKETS

Markets Courtesy of Chicago Board and Mercantile Exchange  
Closing Bids: Wednesday, April 17, 2002

## Corn

Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing		Settle	Net Chg
02May	169 1/2	171 3/4	162	162 1/4	162	162 1/4	-76
02Jul	139 1/4	145 1/2	139	139 3/4	140	140	-14
02Sep	125	127	125	125 1/2		125 1/2	-20
02Dec	127	128	125 1/2	126		126	-24
03Mar				132 1/2 a		132 1/2	-14
Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing		Settle	Net Chg

## Soybeans

Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing		Settle	Net Chg
02May	469 1/2	474 1/2	468	469 3/4	470 1/2	470 1/4	-30
02Jul	474	476 1/2	470 1/2	472	472 3/4	472 1/2	-30
02Aug	472	473 3/4	468 1/2	469 1/2	469	469 1/4	-36
02Sep	467 1/2	470	464	464		464	-40
02Nov	466 1/2	470	462 1/2	463	464	463 1/2	-54
03Jan	471 1/2	474 1/2	468 1/2	468 1/2	469	468 3/4	-56
03Mar	473 1/2	474	472 1/2	474		474	-50
03May	478	478	476	476		476	-50
03Jul	482	482	479	479		479	-50
03Sep				476 n		476	-40
03Nov	482	485	479 1/2	479 1/2		479 1/2	-54
Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing		Settle	Net Chg

## Soybean Meal

Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing		Settle	Net Chg
02May	161.5	162.1	160.3	161.6	161.5	161.6	-5
02Jul	159.1	160.2	158.2	159.3	159.2	159.3	-5
02Aug	157.0	157.6	156.0	156.6		156.6	-13
02Sep	154.9	155.3	153.9	154.4 b	154.5 a	154.5	-9
02Oct	152.8	153.0	151.8	152.0		152.0	-10
02Dec	151.8	152.5	151.0	151.4		151.4	-10
03Jan	152.5	152.5	151.1	151.2 b	151.3 a	151.3	-13
03Mar	152.0	152.5	150.5	150.3 b	150.6 a	150.5	-20
03May	151.5	151.5	150.2	150.0 b	150.2 a	150.2	-23
03Jul	152.5	153.0	151.0	150.8 b	151.0 a	151.0	-19
03Aug	151.5	151.5	148.0	147.5 b	148.0 a	148.0	-10
03Sep	151.0	151.0	147.0	146.5 b	147.0 a	147.0	-15
03Oct				147.0 b	148.0 a	147.5	-10
03Dec				148.0 b	149.0 a	148.5	-5
Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing		Settle	Net Chg

## Lean Hogs

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Previous Volume	Previous Open_Int
04/16/02	*CASH*	0	4217	4217	4217	-510	0
04/17/02	May 02	4895	5035	4895	5035	+200	1409
04/17/02	Jun 02	5570	5615	5500	5597	+135	5501
04/17/02	Jul 02	5570	5635	5535	5595	+63	901
04/17/02	Aug 02	5425	5490	5400	5435	+28	605
04/17/02	Oct 02	4700	4720	4670	4690	-5	491
04/17/02	Dec 02	4595	4615	4535	4537	-35	304
04/17/02	Feb 03	4875	4890	4825	4865	-27	10

Composite Volume Open\_Int  
04/16/02 9225 34258

## Live Cattle

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Previous Volume	Previous Open_Int
04/16/02	*CASH*	0	6798	6798	6798	unch	0
04/17/02	Apr 02	6575	6647	6560	6607	+60	2913
04/17/02	Jun 02	6265	6332	6265	6300	+43	7694
04/17/02	Aug 02	6317	6375	6315	6347	+30	3186
04/17/02	Oct 02	6650	6685	6645	6662	+27	1927
04/17/02	Dec 02	6840	6875	6840	6857	+15	1670
04/17/02	Feb 03	6950	6975	6940	6952	+2	208
04/17/02	Apr 03	7070	7080	7060	7077	+12	39

Composite Volume Open\_Int  
04/16/02 17638 96677

## Pork Bellies

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Previous Volume	Previous Open_Int
04/16/02	*CASH*	0	6000	6000	6000	unch	0
04/17/02	May 02	6690	6870	6680	6800	+108	231
04/17/02	Jul 02	6820	6970	6802	6880	+80	199
04/17/02	Aug 02	6700	6890	6700	6772	+82	15
04/17/02	Feb 03	6670	6670	6670	6670	+15	0
04/17/02	Mar 03	6627	6627	6627	6627	unch	0

Composite Volume Open\_Int  
04/16/02 445 3315

## Oats

Month	Opening	High	Low	Closing		Settle	Net Chg
02May	169 1/2	171 3/4	162	162 1/4	162	162 1/4	-76
02Jul	139 1/4	145 1/2	139	139 3/4	140	140	-14
02Sep	125	127	125	125 1/2		125 1/2	-20
02Dec	127	128	125 1/2	126		126	-24
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## Weekly Dairy Market Outlook

Ken Bailey  
Penn State  
April 12, 2002

### Butter Markets Hit Spring Flush

- Grade AA butter falls to \$1.15/pound.
- Cheese prices holding steady
- Global price of butter depressed.

Butter markets are predictably depressed this week. Butter prices were holding in the \$1.25 per pound range just before and after Easter/Passover because of strong commercial demand. However, prices are weaker this week because of strong butterfat production and limited demand for the available cream. Grade AA butter prices in Chicago fell from \$1.22 per pound last week to \$1.15 per pound by the end of this week.

The reason for the price drop is because butterfat production is very strong and demand for cream from ice cream processors is just beginning to pick up. The market is dealing with excess butterfat, which is being churned into butter. The combination of strong production and high carryover stocks is putting downward pressure on the butter market. USDA reported this week that butter inventory figures this time of year are twice the level of last year.

Butter prices normally decline in the spring months since cream and butter supplies are normally much higher than market needs. In 2000, Grade AA butter prices were \$0.97-\$1.10 per pound in Chicago during March and April. Last year, however, milk and butterfat production was depressed

during the spring months. Grade AA butter prices rose to \$1.50-\$1.96 per pound during March and April of 2001.

Cheese prices at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange held steady this week. Blocks rose from \$1.24 per pound on Monday, April 8 to \$1.25 by Friday, April 12. Barrel cheese prices rose half a penny per pound from \$1.21 on Monday to \$1.2150 by Friday. Cheese production levels are strong for this time of year, but demand is sufficient enough to clear the markets each week.

Global butter prices have been depressed in recent months. Butter prices (82 percent butterfat) for New Zealand and Australia for the first half of April ranged from \$950-\$1,050 per ton. That is an average of \$0.45 per pound, well below the U.S. wholesale butter price of \$1.15 per pound. The milk production season in

New Zealand and Australia is winding down. USDA reports that they are 4-5 percent ahead of the prior season.

So what does it cost to export butter from New Zealand to the U.S.? If it is for butter outside our TRQ quota, the applicable tariff is 30.9 cents per kilogram, or \$0.68 per pound. The transportation cost of butter from that part of the world to the U.S. is \$200 per ton, or 9 cents per pound. With a global price of \$0.45 per pound, you can price New Zealand butter right now into the U.S. market for just \$1.22 per pound, which at this moment is above the U.S. price.

The relative difference between the U.S. and import price will change quickly in the next few months as demand for ice cream heats up. Ice cream is a big user of cream, which will be in short supply when the weather gets hotter. That will likely create an incentive to import more butter.

### 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 — 2.30 bu., 4.11 cwt.
- Wheat, No.2 — 2.61 bu., 4.36 cwt.
- Barley, No.3 — 1.85 bu., 3.96 cwt.
- Oats, No.2 — 1.88 bu., 5.85 cwt.
- Soybeans, No.1 — 4.28 bu., 7.14 cwt.
- Ear Corn — 65.66 ton, 3.28 cwt.
- Alfalfa Hay — 150.50 ton, 7.53 cwt.
- Mixed Hay — 148.75 ton, 7.44 cwt.
- Timothy Hay — 125.00 ton, 6.25 cwt.