

GRAIN, CATTLE, HOG, & MILK BFP

FUTURES MARKETS

Markets Courtesy of Chicago Board and Mercantile Exchange
Closing Bids: Thursday, March 6, 2003

Corn

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge
03/05/03 *CASH*		2166	2466	2466	+10
03/06/03 MAR 03	2392	2400	2380	2396	+30
03/06/03 MAY 03	2394	2404	2380	2402	+30
03/06/03 JUL 03	2404	2124	2396	2422	+30
03/06/03 SEP 03	2410	2430	2410	2422	+22
03/06/03 DEC 03	2432	2440	2422	2434	+22
03/06/03 MAR 04	2476	2490	2476	2486	+22
03/06/03 MAY 04	2522	2524	2516	2520	+20
03/06/03 JUL 04	2522	2540	2522	2534	+22
03/06/03 DEC 04	2420	2426	2410	2424	+14
03/06/03 DEC 05	2440	2440	2440	2440	-30

Total	Volume	Open_Int
03/05/03	59442	448413

Soybeans

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge
03/05/03 *CASH*		5625	5625	5625	-30
03/06/03 MAR 03	5690	5700	5622	5624	-60
03/06/03 MAY 03	5670	5690	5620	5622	-52
03/06/03 JUL 03	5654	5670	5600	5602	-52
03/06/03 AUG 03	5544	5560	5500	5504	-44
03/06/03 SEP 03	5364	5390	5334	5334	-40
03/06/03 NOV 03	5194	5204	5160	5162	-34
03/06/03 JAN 04	5214	5214	5190	5194	-24
03/06/03 MAR 04	5220	5224	5200	5224	-20
03/06/03 MAY 04	5220	5220	5220	5220	-14
03/06/03 NOV 04	5010	5010	5002	5002	-10

Total	Volume	Open_Int
03/05/03	42639	228724

Soybean Meal

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge
03/05/03 *CASH*		17950	17950	17950	-50
03/06/03 MAR 03	1760	1760	1734	1736	-25
03/06/03 MAY 03	1743	1748	1717	1719	-28
03/06/03 JUL 03	1724	1727	1700	1701	-26
03/06/03 AUG 03	1673	1675	1652	1652	-25
03/06/03 SEP 03	1626	1628	1610	1613	-18
03/06/03 OCT 03	1563	1568	1546	1548	-18
03/06/03 DEC 03	1553	1556	1536	1538	-17
03/06/03 JAN 04	1550	1553	1540	1541	-13
03/06/03 MAR 04	1564	1564	1546	1548	-12
03/06/03 MAY 04	1565	1575	1557	1557	-13
03/06/03 JUL 04	1570	1580	1563	1565	-5
03/06/03 AUG 04	1570	1575	1558	1558	-12
03/06/03 SEP 04	1575	1575	1560	1560	-10
03/06/03 OCT 04	1575	1575	1560	1560	-20
03/06/03 DEC 04	1555	1555	1555	1555	-10

Total	Volume	Open_Int
03/05/03	18967	167760

Lean Hogs

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Previous Volume	Previous Open_Int
03/05/03 CASH	0	4627	4627	4627	-15	0	0
03/06/03 Apr 03	5250	5262	5065	5187	75	3852	16341
03/06/03 May 03	5825	5895	5790	5892	3	187	2360
03/06/03 Jun 03	6135	6200	6050	6190	+15	1702	10166
03/06/03 Jul 03	6007	6070	5957	6035	+23	359	3323
03/06/03 Aug 03	5890	5970	5880	5952	+37	230	3333
03/06/03 Oct 03	5100	5195	5080	5170	+58	52	1268
03/06/03 Dec 03	5045	5125	5010	5110	+85	19	510
03/06/03 Feb 04	5525	5590	5490	5590	+75	0	93
03/06/03 Apr 04	5750	5815	5720	5815	+75	0	15

Composite Volume Open_Int

03/05/03	6402	37409
----------	------	-------

Live Cattle

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Previous Volume	Previous Open_Int
03/05/03 CASH	0	7748	7748	7748	-154	0	0
03/06/03 Apr 03	7432	7490	7400	7460	-10	7432	47961
03/06/03 Jun 03	6935	6975	6900	6967	+7	2772	25507
03/06/03 Aug 03	6650	6687	6620	6680	+15	1138	9361
03/06/03 Oct 03	6892	6905	6857	6900	+3	360	7176
03/06/03 Dec 03	7002	7020	6990	7010	+5	62	3514
03/06/03 Feb 04	7190	7197	7175	7195	+3	90	1142
03/06/03 Apr 04	7220	7230	7220	7230	+8	1	3

Composite Volume Open_Int

03/05/03	11855	94664
----------	-------	-------

Pork Bellies

Date	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge	Previous Volume	Previous Open_Int
03/05/03 CASH	0	8300	8300	8300	+100	0	0
03/06/03 Mar 03	8470	8595	8465	8562	+17	186	466
03/06/03 May 03	8590	8690	8540	8680	+65	727	1762
03/06/03 Jul 03	8610	8717	8610	8712	+2	57	503
03/06/03 Aug 03	8425	8425	8425	8425	unch	5	26
03/06/03 Feb 04	7925	7925	7925	7925	unch	1	2
03/06/03 Mar 04	7925	7925	7925	7925	-25	0	1

Composite Volume Open_Int

03/05/03	976	2760
----------	-----	------

Oats

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chge
03/05/03 *CASH*		2256	2256	2256	-34
03/06/03 MAR 03	2132	2150	2116	2150	-14
03/06/03 MAY 03	1850	1884	1850	1870	-6
03/06/03 JUL 03	1732	1770	1732	1764	+14
03/06/03 SEP 03	1590	1590	1590	1590	unch
03/06/03 DEC 03	1550	1550	1540	1544	-4
03/06/03 MAR 04	1590	1590	1590	1590	unch

Total	Volume	Open_Int
03/05/03	2329	5875

Weekly Dairy Market Outlook

Ken Bailey
Professor of
Agricultural Economics,
Dairy Marketing and Policy
Penn State

Feb. 28, 2003
BLOCK CHEESE FALLS BELOW \$1 PER POUND

- Chicago cheese continues to weaken.
- Grade AA butter flat.
- Consumption figures announced for 2002.

The cheese market seems to be getting worse every week. That may be interpreted as an under-

statement. On Friday, Feb. 28, 40-pound block cheese prices fell below \$1 per pound to \$0.9925. This is well below the support price of \$1.1314.

USDA is citing weak demand and strong availability of product as the reason. Grade AA butter prices in Chicago remained flat at \$1.0292 per pound. Western prices for nonfat dry milk are right at support-price levels.

At a meeting in Idaho this week, a producer asked how cheese prices could remain below support price levels at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Good question! Basically, the price support program offers to purchase unlimited quantities of block cheese at exactly \$1.1314 per pound. However, they can't force anyone to sell cheese to the government. So, what isn't purchased ends up on the market or in inventory.

There is a disincentive to offer cheese to the USDA since it involves a cost to processors, about 3 cents per pound. However, with prices this low, it is very likely that more cheese will be offered to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) in the weeks ahead. For the week ending Feb. 28, the CCC purchased 514,800 pounds of Central processed cheese.

USDA announced the February class and component prices for 2003. Component prices for

February 2003 milk checks will be \$1.1373 per pound for butterfat, \$1.8538 per pound for protein, and \$0.0240 per pound for other solids. The class prices are as follows: Class II is \$10.66 per CWT, Class III is \$9.66, and Class IV is \$9.81.

Final consumption figures for 2002 were also just released by USDA. The milk supply rose 2.6 percent in 2002 and imports, on a butterfat basis, fell 10.7 percent. Total commercial disappearance on a milkfat basis rose 0.5 percent.

What is more interesting is the estimated consumption figures on a product-pound basis. Consumption figures for 2002 relative to the previous year were butter, up 0.9 percent; American cheese, up 0.9 percent; other cheese, up 3.7 percent; nonfat dry milk, down 22.4 percent; and fluid milk products, up 0.3 percent.

It appears that the real problems in 2002 were with butter, American cheese, and nonfat dry milk consumption figures.

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 — 3.19 bu., 5.70 cwt.
- Wheat, No.2 — 3.28 bu., 5.48 cwt.
- Barley, No.3 — 2.16 bu., 4.62 cwt.
- Oats, No.2 — 2.01 bu., 6.28 cwt.
- Soybeans, No.1 — 5.65 bu., 9.44 cwt.
- Ear Corn — 89.08 ton, 4.45 cwt.
- Alfalfa Hay — 151.25 ton, 7.56 cwt.
- Mixed Hay — 143.75 ton, 7.19 cwt.
- Timothy Hay — 132.50 ton, 6.63 cwt.