

THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS AT A GLANCE

The highest quotations of wholesale prices for standard grades of farm produce in the leading markets of the world on the dates named; poorer stuff lower.

	Boston	New York	Chicago	Cincinnati	St. Louis	Memphis	San Francisco	Montreal	London
May	19	19	19	18	18	18	18	18	18
Wheat, p bu,	—	.72	.68	.75	—	—	1.07	.68	.81
Corn, p bu,	.47	.42½	.37½	.41	.50	.48	1.12½	.44½	.54½
Oats, p bu,	.31	.27	.23½	.25½	.32	.33	1.15	.31½	—
Rye, p bu,	.66	.57	.54	—	—	—	1.10	.62	—
Barley, p bu,	.63	.51	.43	—	—	—	1.87	.50	—
Flour, p bbl,	3.90	4.30	3.90	3.90	3.95	4.50	3.75	4.00	4.00
Cotton, mid upland, p lb,	.09½	.09½	.09½	.09½	.09½	.09½	—	—	.10½
Cattle, p 100 lbs l w,	6.40	6.50	6.85	6.50	4.50	4.00	4.25	—	6.13½
Sheep, p 100 lbs l w,	5.50	6.00	6.65	4.75	5.00	4.50	4.50	—	—
Hogs, p 100 lbs l w,	6.75	6.70	6.50	5.45	5.25	4.50	5.30	5.30	—
Veal calves, p 100 lbs l w,	5.50	6.65	6.75	6.75	6.80	5.00	5.45	—	—
Poultry, p lb, d w,	.12	.10½	.08½	.08½	.14	.13	15.50	—	—
Butter, creamery, p lb,	.20½	.20	.19½	.21½	.22	.23	.17½	.17½	.20
Cheese, factory, p lb,	.11	.12½	.10	.12½	.13½	.12	.10	.108½	.12
Eggs, p dz,	.16	.14½	.11½	.10½	.09½	.10	.16½	.12½	.15
Apples, p bbl,	5.00	5.00	6.00	4.50	5.50	5.15	2.50	5.00	—
Hay, p ton,	18.00	19.00	12.50	14.50	18.00	10.00	9.50	7.50	—
Straw, rye, p ton,	16.00	15.50	9.00	7.00	—	—	—	5.00	—
Hops, p lb,	.11	.11	—	—	—	—	.11	.13	.16½
Onions, p bu,	—	—	—	.30	1.50	11.00	—	—	—
Potatoes, p bu,	.50	.50	.35	.40	.65	.60	.70	.40	—
Beef, p lb d w,	.08½	—	—	—	—	—	.08½	—	—
Pork, p lb d w,	.06½	.07½	.06	—	—	—	.09½	—	—
Lard, p lb,	.03½	.07½	.07	.07	.07½	.06½	.09½	.09½	—
Hides, p lb,	.03½	.09½	.09½	.08	.07	.08½	.10½	—	—

† Cental. ‡ Pdz. * Pbx. † Estimated d w.

Business Side of Farming.

ACTIVE LIVE STOCK TRADE.

All classes of meat animals continue to sell well, and the live stock markets as a whole are seldom, if ever, in better condition than now. Hogs are \$1 @ 10 p 100 lbs higher than a year ago, sheep have enjoyed a veritable boom, prices lately receding a trifle, and all grades of cattle are in demand, due to the excellent inquiry on both home and foreign account. Sheep have ruled higher this spring than in more than six years, and this branch of the live stock trade has been profitable to farmers. Receipts at primary markets have been considerably smaller the first five months of the year, and the higher wool prices have also contributed very largely to the improvement. Large numbers of prime heavy western sheep have been bought for export to Europe, and the home consumption is also excellent. About the usual numbers of western feed lambs have been finished and sold at profitable prices. In such western markets as Buffalo and Pittsburgh, receipts of natives are liberal and a good many are coming forward from Canadian points.

Fat hogs at 5½c in Chicago and 5½c in Buffalo mean a fair margin of profit to farmers, even with corn selling at medium to good prices in the country. Relatively little hog cholera is prevalent, and indications point to only moderate supplies of stock hogs and butler weights for some time to come. Fat American steers have recently sold on the hoof in London on the basis of 14c p lb, estimated dressed weight, or 2c better than a year ago. This stimulates buying on the part of exporters and helps the farm price.

NEW WHEAT APPEARING.

Harvest has begun in the wheat fields of Cal, and before long this work will be earnestly prosecuted in Tex., Okla and southern Kan. It is too early to know much about the rate of yield. Winter wheat promise is good as a whole, with the exception of unquestioned damage in a few important states such as Mich, Ind and O, where the yield is bound to be light. In the spring wheat territory of the northwest farmers finished seeding in good shape and since that date some complaint of unfavorable weather is noted. No estimates of the '00 wheat crop can be made thus early. The markets meanwhile are inclined to lag, wheat selling down to 64½c p bu at Chicago, followed by a slight recovery. With fairly promising conditions at home at a season of the year when crops look well, if ever, with indifferent advices from abroad and only a moderate export trade, it is not in order to expect much animation or strength in wheat. But the bears are not aggressive, and the new crop may prove anything but burdensome.

THE OUTLOOK FOR APPLES

is encouraging as a whole, although promising conditions at the close of May do not necessarily insure a good yield of merchantable fruit in Oct. Apple orchards nearly everywhere came through the winter healthy and strong and bloomed well, followed by

a good set of fruit. There are some exceptions in important sections, but this does not alter the general statement.

A good many young orchards are coming into bearing, especially in the southwest and west, including the great basin of the Mo river. In the older apple sections of N Y, N E, Mich, etc, orchardists hope for a good crop and are probably paying more attention to spraying than ever before.

WOOL MARKETS UNSETTLED.

Following a moderate price decline, compared with the high level of the winter, holders of the new clip, including a good many people in the west, are slow to part with their property at present bid prices. On the other hand, the dealers, especially in the big eastern centers point to weakness abroad and are endeavoring to secure further price concessions. The statistical position of wool is considered favorable to holders.

Egg Buyers Discriminate—With the advent of warm weather prices cover a wide range, buyers preferring choice northern stock at 14½c p doz more than southern. It is too late to expect much demand from dealers for placing in cold storage, but current consumption is very large.

Berries at Wide Range—All sorts of prices govern the market for strawberries, this fruit being very plentiful practically everywhere. From figures around \$1.55½2 p case of 24 qts for strictly choice stock, Chicago prices range downward to 50½c for soft and common lots, these going to canners and peddlers.

Onion Situation Somewhat Mixed—Low prices throughout much of the past season discouraged a good many growers although the heavy tonnage meant liberal aggregate returns. The acreage under onions for the crop of '00 will evidently be substantially the same as last year. In portions of the middle west there will be a falling off, but the area will be a full one in O, N Y and N E.

Deserting an Old Stand-by—Farmers in Wayne Co, N Y, who for years have made a specialty of growing peppermint, are working out of this and devoting the land to sugar beets. A big factory has been erected for the manufacture of sugar and thousands of acres of land are pledged to this crop. The king is dead; long live the king.

Flaxseed \$2 Per Bushel—That is the price old seed will reach, say some of the bullish speculators, and in fact farmers in the northwest have paid that much for seed flax. A big acreage is assured. Recent sales have been made for delivery next fall at \$1.20 and 1.23 p bu, an excellent price, providing the crop is as big as now seems possible.

A Bushel of Cranberries is estimated to cost on an average \$1.55, according to the estimate of the sec'y of the American cranberry growers' ass'n. Included in this total are the following items: Picking 40c, supervision 5c,

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New Potatoes from the middle south are moving more rapidly and this affects old stock. The market as a whole is quiet, choice old Burbanks, Rurals, Peerless, etc, selling in the northern markets at 32½40c p bu in car lots.

Chinch Bugs are said to be very plentiful in oat and wheat fields of Kan. Unless these reports are exaggerated, the pest may have an effect on the grain harvest.

The Cherry Crop promises to be a good one. In the northern orchard belt trees blossomed well. Cal cherries have been on the market some time and shipments are now being made from La and other southern states. The markets are seldom overstocked with this attractive fruit.

Health in Dairy Markets—A normal demand exists for butter and cheese and factories are all in operation, turning out liberal quantities. Pasturage is good, but the quality of the finished product is still somewhat lacking in flavor. Butter shows a recovery since the sharp break a few weeks ago and the consumption is large.

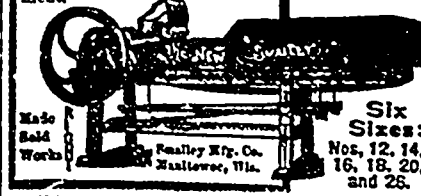
Truck Quotations Nominal—At this time of year prices vary greatly and market conditions change rapidly. Receipts everywhere are liberal with all reasonable varieties of fresh vegetables and fruits in evidence. Best lots sell well, but only mean figures are realized for off grades.

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