



Illinois Grain & Livestock Market News

Volume 41 #1 - January, 2009

GRAIN PRICES TURN HIGHER FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

FEED GRAINS: Prices paid to producers of shelled corn ended the reporting period 68 cents higher, with sorghum values up 49 cents. December was a slow news month for grain prices; however prices rose substantially. Export activity has been slow for corn, but very good for soybeans. As shown in the USDA's Supply Demand report released December 11, the corn export forecast was trimmed by 100 million bushels. The 300 million bushels drop in the ethanol estimate also helped to boost the carryout figure for the 2008-2009 US corn crop to 1.474 billion bushels, up from the 1.124 billion bushels forecasted in November. In the December Supply Demand report, the USDA also lowered the average price forecasted from 4.40 per bushel down to 4.00. There was an increase seen in the USDA's World Supply Demand forecast. The December forecast estimated the world corn carryout at 123.83 million metric tonnes, up substantially from last month's estimate of 110.12 mmt. When corn was combined with sorghum, oats and barley under the category of Global coarse grains that stock number went up sharply in the December report too. The global coarse grain stocks for 2008-2009 were projected at 165.5 million tons, up 14.6 million from last month, and highest since the 2004-2005 crop year. To show how slow corn exports have been so far this marketing year, they are 310 million bushels behind last year's pace. From the Grains Inspected for Export report, for the week ending December 25, 2008, corn inspected for export totaled 514.7 million bushels, compared to 824 million last year. One positive note for corn in December was the development of a hot and dry weather pattern for South America. Many areas in the corn and soybean growing regions have experienced stress during their growing stages. At the Central Illinois Corn Processors bids gained 68 to 69 cents during the month of December to range from 3.90-4.02, with basis up 10 to 11 cents at -17H to -5H. At the Illinois River terminals south of Peoria, cash corn bids advanced 77 to 82 cents to 3.87-4.02, with basis up 19 to 24 cents to -20H to -18H. Cash corn bids to producers of shelled corn at the Illinois River terminals north of Peoria advanced 78 to 80 cents to 3.84-3.88, with basis gaining 20 to 22 cents to range from -23H to -19H. Cash corn bids to producers at country elevators in northern and western Illinois gained 70 to 72 cents at 3.60-3.72, with central Illinois locations up 67 to 74 cents to 3.70-3.87, and in southern Illinois corn bids advanced 67 to 78 cents to 3.73-3.86. Cash sorghum bids at the country elevators in southern Illinois were 52 to 56 cents higher at 2.72-3.15. Bids for new crop corn at the Illinois River terminals south of Peoria gained 49 to 62 cents during December to range from 3.93-3.94, with basis mixed ranging from -58Z to -57Z. At the Illinois River terminals north of Peoria new crop bids gained 59 to 62 cents to range from 3.78-3.85, with basis up 4 to 6 cents at -73½Z to -66Z. New crop bids to producers at country elevators in northern and western Illinois locations gained 51 to 54 cents to 3.75-3.91, with central Illinois locations up 47 to 58 cents ranging from 3.71-3.93, and in southern Illinois bids increased 51 to 68 cents to 3.75-4.02.

SOYBEANS: Prices gained 1.35 for the month of December. Prices posted only small gains most of the month, but during the last two weeks of the year, prices climbed almost 1.00 per bushel and finally ignited some farmer selling of cash soybeans. Before soybean harvest had a good start and bids went below 10.00 per bushel, many farmers had become limited sellers, only selling enough to cover financial needs. The USDA's Supply Demand report did little to move the market this month. The December 11th report left the 2008-2009 soybean carryout at 205 million bushels. Besides the poor economic news that influenced prices in October and November, there was other fundamental news to stir the market in December. The country of China was the main buyer of soybeans during the month. Many weeks in the USDA's Weekly Export Sales report, China was listed as a major buyer. Export inspections for the current marketing year have been running above the levels posted one year ago. From the Grain Inspected or Weighed for Export report for the week ending December 25, 2008, there had been 493 million bushels of soybeans weighed for export, compared to 440.8 million bushels for the same period last year. Also in December, traders were becoming more concerned with hot and dry weather conditions in South America. This is their planting and growing season and they are vulnerable to crop scares. Already in December, the USDA has lowered their forecast for the Brazilian soybean crop from 60 million metric tonnes to 59 mmt. For the month both the soybean bids and basis ended higher. The Central Illinois Soybean Processors bids to producers for cash soybeans were up 1.34 to 1.36 to range from 9.72-9.85, with basis 8 to 10 cents stronger at option F to +13F. Soybean meal also posted strong gains during the month up 47.20 to 50.20 per ton for 48% truck meal on a cash basis to range from 304.50-309.50. At the Illinois River terminals, south of Peoria, cash soybean bids advanced 1.37 to 1.38 for the month to range from 9.74-9.83, with basis up 11 to 12 cents to +2F to +11F. Bids to producers at the Illinois River terminals north of Peoria gained 1.31 to 1.37 to 9.67-9.76, with basis 5 to 11 cents higher at -5F to +4F. Cash soybean bids to producers at country elevators in northern and western Illinois were up 1.27 to 1.36 to range from 9.34-9.61, with central Illinois locations gaining 1.35 to 1.42 at 9.51-9.65, and in southern Illinois bids advanced 1.35 to 1.36 to range from 9.48-9.62. Bids for new crop soybeans for October delivery at the Illinois River terminals, south of Peoria went up 1.39 to 1.43 to range from 9.34-9.35, with basis 8 to 12 cents higher ranging from -73X to -72X. At the Illinois River terminals north of Peoria, new crop soybean bids gained 1.26 to 1.39 with bids ranging from 9.34-9.36, with basis mixed at -72X to -70X. New crop soybean bids to producers at country elevators in northern and western Illinois gained 1.31 to 1.39 to range from 9.19-9.42, with central Illinois locations up 1.33 to 1.48 to range from 9.37-9.56, and in southern Illinois new crop bids were up 1.15 to 1.21 to range from 8.91-9.32.

WHEAT: The average price paid to producers of Soft Red Winter Wheat ended 87 cents higher this month. Wheat prices had more negative fundamental news than positive, but strength from the soybean market and export demand was enough to lift values. The USDA's December Supply Demand report placed the 2008-2009 wheat carryout at 623 million bushels, up from 603 million for November. This forecast was above trade expectations and helped to keep a lid on values. Carryout numbers for the World Supply Demand report also had an increase. Due to larger crops for the US and Canada, the world carryout was increased to 147.35 million metric tonnes, up from the 145.25 mmt estimate from November 2008. In the same Supply Demand report, the USDA did show an increase for the Canadian Wheat crop. Their estimate was increased from 27.3 mmt in November to 28.6 mmt in December. Though last year's export pace was very good, this year US shipments are running behind that pace. From the Grains Inspected and Weighed for Export report for the week ending December 25, 2008, there had been 654 million bushels shipped, compared to 785 million last year. The US export market had been slow in November, but began to pick up in early December. Though many believed US wheat was priced too high, the sharp decline in ocean freight could make them competitive. Also, positive news late in December was the concern with the wheat crop in Argentina. Due to hot and dry weather conditions their crop has been under stress. Late in December the Agriculture representatives in Argentina acknowledged their growing crop would be smaller than earlier estimates. The Illinois wheat crop was in relatively good shape in December. From the Illinois Ag Statistics Service, their report placed 67% of the Illinois wheat crop in Good to Excellent shape, with 30% Fair and only 3% Poor. Cash bids to producers at country elevators in southern Illinois locations increased 83 to 86 cents this month to range from 4.67-4.86. New crop bids to producers at country elevators in central Illinois ended December at 4.98-5.04 and in southern Illinois bids were up 79 cents for the month to 5.14-5.34. New crop bids to producers at the Illinois River terminals south of Peoria ended 81 to 83 cents higher for the month ranging from 5.28-5.39, with basis up 2 to 4 cents to range from -106N to -95N.

Eastern Cornbelt Direct Feeder Cattle

Compared to last month, Eastern Cornbelt (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio) feeder cattle sold mostly 4.00 to 11.00 lower. December's limited feeder cattle movement resulted from continued concerns about the US economy along with holiday shortened weeks. Demand and offerings light. December's supply was made up 24% steers; 12% heifers; 64% Holsteins; with 62% over 600 lbs.

Confirmed sales for the month: 4072 head

Monthly weighted averages:

Feeder steers: Medium and Large 1: 550-600 lbs 95.00;
600-650 lbs 92.25; 650-700 lbs 94.50; 700-750 lbs 82.50;
800-850 lbs 97.50; 900-950 lbs 88.00.
Medium and Large 1-2: 750-800 lbs 85.50.

Holstein steers: Large 3: 800-850 lbs 59.60.

Feeder Heifers: Medium and Large 1: 500-550 lbs 86.50;
650-700 lbs 81.00; 700-750 lbs 81.00; 750-800 lbs 84.00.

Eastern Cornbelt Direct Sheep

Compared to last month Eastern Cornbelt slaughter lambs sold steady to 4.00 higher. Slaughter ewes sold unevenly steady. Feeder lambs were lightly tested. Slaughter goats sold steady to 3.50 higher. Trade and demand mostly moderate. Offerings light to moderate. December's supply was made up 70% lambs; and 30% ewes. Total monthly sales were 2970 head of lambs and ewes, with an additional 4,793 head of goats.

Monthly weighted averages:

Woolled Slaughter Lambs:
Choice and Prime 2-3: 90-110 lbs 91.54; 110-130 lbs 95.25.
Good and Choice 1-2: 70-80 lbs 110.00.
Shorn Slaughter Lambs:
Choice and Prime 2-3: 130-150 lbs 84.00.
Woolled Feeder Lambs:
Medium and Large 1-2: 60-90 lbs 85.00.
Slaughter Ewes: Utility and Good 1-3: 27.92.
Cull and Utility 1-2: 23.67.

Slaughter Goats (cwt.):

Kids: Selection 1: 40-60 lbs 115.00; 60-80 lbs 110.00.
Selection 2: 40-60 lbs 108.33; 60-80 lbs 93.13;
80-100 lbs 80.00.
Yearlings: Not Tested.
Does/Nannies: Selection 2: 70-100 lbs 37.00.
Selection 3: 70-100 lbs 32.50.
Bucks/Billies: Selection 2: 100-150 lbs 58.00.

Eastern Cornbelt Hogs

Barrows and gilts in the Eastern Cornbelt on a carcass basis traded 3.20 lower from 39.50-49.25, with a weighted average price of 48.09. In Illinois on a live basis barrows and gilts sold from 32.00 to 35.00 in the month of December, mostly steady to 2.00 higher than last month. The pork carcass cutout value was 3.16 lower at 55.32. Year to date slaughter figures at the end of December totaled 115,470,000 head compared to 108,770,000 head last year.

For the month sows sold 8.50 to 11.00 higher. Slaughter boar prices were steady to firm. Trade was light to moderate throughout December. At the beginning of the month demand for light weight sows mostly moderate and very good for heavy weight sows. End of month demand light to moderate. Offerings were light to moderate.

Sows: US 1-3 300-400 lbs 35.95; 400-500 lbs 39.17;
500-600 lbs 46.14; over 600 lbs 48.10.

Boars: under 300 lbs 20.43; over 300 lbs 7.50.

Illinois Livestock Auction Monthly Weighted Averages

	Greenville		Congerville		Shelbyville		Walnut	
	Dec	Nov	Dec	Nov	Dec	Nov	Dec	Nov
Monthly Receipts Slaughter Cattle	2,349	4,860	449	1,142	2,253	2,118	2,145	2,218
C 2—3 Strs								
1100-1300 lbs	83.94	87.25	86.22	87.73	84.49	88.73	82.71	86.94
1300-1500 lbs	83.71	87.74	85.78	87.86	84.78	88.59	83.38	88.10
SE/C 2—3 Strs								
1100-1300 lbs	81.49	85.02	80.71	83.82	81.12	85.15	79.33	85.21
1300-1500 lbs	80.60	85.07	--	82.53	80.79	85.37	79.97	--
C 2—3 Hol. Strs								
1300-1500 lbs	71.89	79.41	--	--	75.80	83.36	72.50	78.38
1500-1800 lbs.	73.04	78.22	--	--	76.13	84.59	71.24	79.62
SE/C 2-3 Hol Strs								
1300-1500 lbs	68.05	76.78	--	--	71.14	81.35	--	--
1500-1800 lbs	68.79	75.77	--	--	71.83	79.34	--	--
C 2-3 Hfrs								
1000-1200 lbs	83.29	86.89	84.88	88.70	84.53	88.92	83.27	88.38
1200-1300 lbs	82.83	86.94	85.24	88.37	84.01	88.56	83.86	88.36
SE/C 2-3 Hfrs								
1000-1200 lbs	80.89	84.76	--	--	80.64	84.78	78.56	83.05
1200-1300 lbs	80.72	84.32	--	--	81.46	84.03	--	--
Cows								
70-75% Lean	--	--	54.71	--	--	--	46.22	--
75-80% Lean	41.72	41.63	41.80	47.05	43.25	44.99	42.52	45.38
80-85% Lean	40.69	44.20	36.81	45.36	45.98	51.38	38.40	41.96
85-90% Lean	36.11	41.28	35.69	42.96	39.13	42.07	37.52	41.32
YG 1 Bulls	45.26	49.46	48.03	55.96	44.93	50.90	45.31	52.86
Feeder Cattle Steers	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 2	Md/Lg 2	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 2	Md/Lg 2
400-450	87.00	98.19	--	101.27	--	92.89	--	100.86
450-500	93.75	97.45	84.00	--	--	91.57	--	--
500-550	85.75	94.24	--	--	83.14	88.01	--	95.32
550-600	96.00	93.27	--	--	79.12	84.10	78.58	87.55
600-650	78.29	87.39	81.74	90.98	--	87.76	78.00	--
650-700	79.07	91.83	77.75	95.00	--	88.65	82.58	--
700-750	--	85.82	--	87.29	--	--	--	--
750-800	--	87.91	--	90.24	--	--	--	--
Heifers	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 2	Md/Lg 2	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 1	Md/Lg 2	Md/Lg 2
400-450	84.38	94.61	79.24	104.00	--	81.74	--	--
450-500	86.76	89.17	--	93.52	78.58	84.44	--	--
500-550	79.08	89.03	78.25	94.06	--	81.60	76.50	92.00
550-600	--	88.47	--	93.81	77.70	82.78	--	86.65
600-650	--	85.74	71.75	86.69	72.80	77.68	--	--
650-700	--	82.55	--	83.97	72.97	76.90	75.96	--
700-750	--	80.20	--	--	--	--	75.00	--
750-800	--	80.23	--	--	--	--	--	81.28
Bred Cows Medium / Large								
2nd Stage Young								
1100-1300	933.73	683.32	600.00	--	602.50	742.50	700.00	570.00
1300-1500	875.29	775.00	--	685.00	722.96	--	--	--
2nd Stage Mid-Age								
1100-1300	601.61	700.23	--	824.19	644.17	660.83	625.00	625.77
1300-1500	705.73	705.25	750.00	814.51	670.00	651.27	600.00	--
3rd Stage Young								
1100-1300	1057.77	--	--	1000.00	--	618.00	--	--
1300-1500	1140.12	--	590.00	--	--	--	--	--
3rd Stage Mid-Age								
1100-1300	650.51	641.49	--	--	555.00	590.00	--	--
1300-1500	734.67	800.00	--	890.00	686.36	--	--	--
Cow Calf Pairs Medium/Large 1-2								
Young								
1100-1300	1027.01	--	--	1083.55	600.00	850.00	--	--
1300-1500	1259.23	--	--	1210.00	--	825.61	--	--
Mid-Age								
1100-1300	--	--	--	950.00	600.00	745.00	--	--
1300-1500	781.01	800.00	950.00	--	820.00	672.50	--	--

Holstein Feeder Steers sold at Greenville: Large 3 Holstein Steers: 600-650 lbs 56.23; 750-800 lbs 55.76.

Special Feeder Cattle Sale at Galesburg 12/12/08. Receipts: 1454. Fdr steers: Medium and Large 1: 350-375 lbs 104.00-108.00; 400-450 lbs 103.50-104.00; 450-500 lbs 95.00-100.00; 500-550 lbs 84.00-89.00, 94.00-98.00 value added; 550-600 lbs 83.00-89.50 value added; 600-650 lbs 85.50-90.00, 87.50-95.00 value added; 650-700 lbs 85.50-90.00, value added; 700-800 lbs 78.00-85.50 value added. Fdr heifers: Medium and Large 1: 500-550 lbs 88.00, 79.00-81.00 value added; 550-600 lbs 78.50-83.00 value added; 600-700 lbs 77.00-81.00 value added.

Carthage Livestock Auction at Carthage IL. 12/04/08. Receipts: 847. 2nd Annual Greater Midwest Hereford Influenced Feeder Cattle Sale. All cattle either purebred or Hereford cross. All cattle were on the same complete health program. Fdr steers: Medium and Large 1-2: 300-350 lbs 115.00; 400-450 lbs 90.00-93.25; 450-500 lbs 101.00; 500-550 lbs 91.50-95.00; 550-600 lbs 85.00-96.00; 650-700 lbs 83.75-87.50; 750-800 lbs 84.00-84.25; 850-900 lbs 79.00. Fdr heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: 450-500 lbs 82.50-85.25; 550-600 lbs 81.00; 700-750 lbs 72.75.

Estimated Hide & Offal Value

The average value from a 1,275 pound slaughter steer for the 5-day period ended:

Dec. 24	6.29
Dec. 18	5.99
Dec. 11	6.01
Dec. 4	7.19

Estimated Carcass Value Based On Fabricated Beef Cuts

Value based on fabricated beef cuts from Choice 2-3 600-900 lbs. beef carcass.

	Choice	Select
Dec. 24	144.46	134.60
Dec. 19	141.89	135.43
Dec. 12	141.22	132.39
Dec. 5	143.15	136.00

Pork Carcass Cutout Value

Gross cutout values of 200 lbs. 53-54% lean hog carcasses based on carlot prices of pork cuts and yields from USDA cutting tests - FOB Omaha basis

Dec. 24	56.29
Dec. 19	57.92
Dec. 12	60.04
Dec. 5	61.77

Eastern Cornbelt Direct Feeder Pigs

All pigs sold on a per head basis, picked up at the sellers farm. Prices are a weighted average for estimated 50-54% lean at slaughter wt. Receipts for the 3 wks, ended 12-19-08 totaled 86,685 head for three weight groups.

Week ended	10 lbs.	40 lbs.	50 lbs.
Dec. 19	43.33	52.70	---
Dec. 12	39.22	46.58	---
Dec. 5	40.08	46.23	49.31

Estimated Weekly Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection

Week ended	Cattle	Hogs	Sheep
Dec. 27	450,000	1,760,000	35,000
Dec. 20	592,000	2,379,000	47,000
Dec. 13	607,000	2,335,000	47,000
Dec. 6	618,000	2,373,000	50,000

Meat Production

Total slaughter under Federal inspection (million lbs.) and Average live weights.

Week ended	Beef	Pork
Dec. 27	352.8-1307	357.2-271
Dec. 20	466.2-1306	478.8-272
Dec. 13	474.8-1306	473.4-272
Dec. 6	481.9-1303	480.6-272

Eastern Cornbelt Direct Hogs

Hot Carcass Values, Plant Delivered (185 lb. carcass, head off packer style)

Percent Lean	49-50%	51-52%	53-54%
10th rib backfat	.90-.99"	.75-.89"	.60-.74"
Dec. 26	43.00-53.52	43.00-54.43	45.50-56.25
Dec. 19	47.00-55.78	47.00-56.73	49.50-58.63
Dec. 12	44.00-57.90	44.00-58.89	46.50-60.86
Dec. 5	45.50-58.01	45.50-58.99	48.00-60.97

Feedstuffs (wholesale prices, dollars per ton, bulk)

Feedstuffs	12/30/08	12/2/08	1/2/08
Soybean Meal 48%			
Chicago	309.00	261.60	342.10
St. Louis	316.00	279.00	349.00
Decatur	299.00	251.60	332.10
Meat Meal 50%			
St. Louis	250.00	268.50	321.00
Gluten Feed			
IL Prod. Pts.	86.50	79.00	132.50
St. Louis	110.50	90.00	160.00
Gluten Meal 60%			
IL Prod. Pts.	402.50	385.70	542.50
St. Louis	422.50	432.50	572.50
Hominy Feed			
IL Prod. Pts.	82.50	114.00	116.50
St. Louis	108.50	145.00	120.50
Wheat Middlings			
Chicago	127.50	140.00	143.75
St. Louis	125.50	129.00	142.50
Alfalfa Meal Deh. 17%			
Toledo	292.50	295.00	280.00
Cottonseed Meal 41%			
Solvent			
St. Louis	260.00	245.00	242.50
Distillers Dried Grains			
Central Illinois	107.50	114.00	160.00
Lawrenceburg, IN	115.00	115.00	N/A

St. Louis Cash Grain Bids to Producers Delivered to St. Louis

Grain	12-31-08	12-4-08	1-3-08
	-dollars per bushel-		
Corn	4.03-4.09	2.80-2.89	4.58-4.71
Soybeans	9.91-10.18	8.11-8.14	12.34-12.43
Soft Wheat	4.88-4.89	3.31-3.32	8.74-8.75
Sorghum	3.31-3.32	2.10-2.11	4.75-4.76

Chicago Cash Grain 30 Day Delivery Time* (Average Price)

	12-31-08	12-4-08	1-3-08
Wheat	4.80 1/4	3.26	8.77 1/2
Corn			
Terminals	3.74 1/2	2.93	4.33 1/2
Processors	3.88	3.09	4.55 1/2
Soybeans	9.59 3/4	7.86	12.19 1/2

*Truck or Rail

Central Illinois Soybean Processor Bids and Offers (Average Price)

	12-31-08	12-4-08	1-3-08
Crude Soybean Oil	31.67	28.00	48.93
Soybean Meal			
48% FOB Plant Rail	301.50	253.00	341.60
48% FOB Plant Truck	307.00	252.50	347.60
#1 Soybean	9.78 3/4	8.08 1/2	12.24

River Barge Bids to Producers

Grain	12-31-08	12-4-08	1-3-08
South of St. Louis (Mississippi River)			
Corn	3.94-4.00	2.75-3.00	4.52-4.61
Soybeans	9.90-9.98	8.03-8.24	12.30-12.39
Soft Wheat	4.84-5.07	3.45-3.63	9.05-9.20
North of St. Louis (Illinois River)			
Corn	3.87-3.89	2.82-2.90	4.41-4.47
Soybeans	9.74-9.83	8.04-8.07	12.16-12.21
Soft Wheat	N/A	N/A	N/A

Average Country Elevator Bids

				4-Wk Average
Grain	12-31-08	12-4-08	1-3-08	
Corn	3.74	2.93	4.36	3.40
Soybeans	9.53	7.84	12.07	8.60
Soft Wheat	4.78	3.50	8.87	4.20
Sorghum	2.91	2.26	4.47	2.64

Hay Market Report as of Jan 1, 2009

All hay prices quoted dollars per ton FOB the farm, small square bales unless otherwise noted. Straw quoted in dollars per bale and by the ton. This report was based on the sale of 2775 tons.

The demand for Illinois hay was light to moderate, as sales activity was slow to moderate and prices were steady to weak. Hay sales this month have been slower due to holiday schedules and the sellers wanting to wait for the new tax year. The winter weather conditions have made the delivery of hay a challenge due to snow, ice and mud. The premium and good quality hays have kept their value this month; however, some of the lower qualities have lost some of their value. Demand for straw was moderate to good, with most of the interest coming from the livestock interests.

Northern: Northern Illinois hay trading was slow to moderate with prices steady to weak. Demand was light to moderate with moderate to heavy offerings. Straw prices were steady, with moderate demand and moderate offerings. Premium Alfalfa 160-200, 185-225 in big squares; Good Alfalfa 160-180, 175-190 in big squares, 100-120 in big rounds; Fair Alfalfa 120-140, 120-150 in big squares, 80-100 in big rounds; Utility Alfalfa 80-100, 100 in big squares. Premium Mix 160-180, 165-180 in big squares; Good Mix 140-170, 140-160 in big squares, 100-120 in big rounds; Fair Mix 120, 110 in big squares, 80-100 in big rounds; Utility 80-100, 80-100 in big squares, 60-80 in big rounds. Premium Grass 160-180; 140-180 in big squares; Good Grass 120-140, 120-140 in big squares and 80-100 in big rounds; Fair Grass 100-120, 100-120 in big squares, 80-100 in big rounds; Utility 80-100, 80-100 for big squares and 50-75 in big rounds. Straw prices were 2.00-2.50 per bale in small squares, 100-120 per ton in small squares, with large squares 70-90 and large rounds at 55.

Central: Central Illinois hay sales were slow to moderate with prices steady to weak. Demand was light to moderate with moderate to heavy offerings. Straw prices were steady, with moderate demand and light to moderate offerings. Premium Alfalfa 180-220, 185-225 in big squares, 130-150 in big rounds; Good Alfalfa 180-210, 170-195 in big squares, 120-130 in big rounds; Fair Alfalfa 120-150, 80-100 in big rounds; Utility Alfalfa 80-100, 80-100 in big squares, and 70-80 in big rounds. Premium Mix 180-210, 160-180 in big squares; Good Mix 160-190, 160 in big squares, 100-120 in big rounds; Fair Mix 120, 120 in big squares, 100 in big rounds; Utility Mix 60-80, 80 in big rounds. Premium Grass 120-160, 140-160 in big squares, 100-130 in big rounds; Good Grass 120-140, 120-150 in big squares, 80-100 in big rounds; Fair Grass 100-120, 100 in big squares and 60-80 in big rounds; Utility 60-80, 80 in big squares, 65 in big rounds. Straw was steady to firm with moderate to good demand. Prices were 2.00-2.50 per bale, 100-120 per ton in small squares and 70-90 in big squares and 45-65 in big rounds.

Southern: Southern Illinois producers reported hay trading was slow to moderate with light to moderate demand and prices were steady to weak. Supplies were moderate to heavy. Straw prices were steady, with moderate demand and light to moderate offerings. Premium Alfalfa was 200-240, 185-205 in big squares; Good Alfalfa 180-200, 170-185 in big squares, 120-140 in big rounds; Fair Alfalfa 140-160, 130-150 big squares, 90-100 in big rounds; Utility Alfalfa 80-100, 100 in big squares and 60-80 in big rounds. Premium Mix 180-200, 160-180 big squares; Good Mix 160-180, 140-160 in big squares, 100-120 in big rounds; Fair Mix 120-140, 120 in big squares; Utility Mix 80-100, 70 in big rounds. Premium Grass 160-200, 135-160 in big squares and 105 in big rounds; Good Grass 120-160, 120-140 in big squares, 80-110 in big rounds; Fair Grass 100-120, 80 in big rounds, 100 in big squares; Utility Grass 60-80, 30-50 in big rounds. Straw was 2.00-2.50 per bale; 60-90 per ton in big squares, with 100-115 in small squares.

INTERIOR IL GRAIN PRICES, CENTS/BUSHEL DELIVERED TO COUNTRY ELEVATOR

Area and Commodity	12/31/2008		12/24/2008		12/18/2008		12/11/2008		1/3/2008	
	Cash	Contract**	Cash	Contract**	Cash	Contract**	Cash	Contract**	Cash	Contract*
NORTHERN										
#2 Corn	3.61-3.72	3.82-3.91	3.48-3.60	3.71-3.81	3.39-3.50	3.64-3.75	2.95-3.08	3.26-3.36	4.23-4.34	4.36-4.41
#1 Soybeans	9.34-9.44	9.27-9.42	8.71-8.87	8.66-8.76	8.38-8.42	8.30-8.37	8.27-8.32	8.03-8.08	11.85-11.98	10.77-10.86
WESTERN										
#2 Corn	3.60-3.70	3.75-3.88	3.47-3.59	3.64-3.79	3.40-3.48	3.61-3.72	2.98-3.09	3.20-3.33	4.22-4.32	4.31-4.41
#1 Soybeans	9.52-9.61	9.19-9.28	8.88-9.01	8.53-8.61	8.49-8.54	8.12-8.21	8.29-8.39	7.80-7.91	11.92-12.02	10.80-10.91
N. CENTRAL										
#2 Corn	3.70-3.77	3.73-3.83	3.60-3.71	3.62-3.72	3.49-3.55	3.53-3.65	3.10-3.14	3.12-3.25	4.31-4.41	4.39-4.50
#1 Soybeans	9.52-9.60	9.37-9.56	8.88-9.00	8.71-8.90	8.47-8.51	8.15-8.32	8.33-8.42	7.91-8.08	12.05-12.12	11.08-11.26
#2 Soft Wheat										
S. CENTRAL										
#2 Corn	3.73-3.87	3.71-3.93	3.66-3.76	3.67-3.77	3.57-3.65	3.62-3.70	3.12-3.25	3.20-3.47	4.33-4.43	4.46-4.54
#1 Soybeans	9.51-9.65	9.40-9.52	8.94-9.01	8.71-8.86	8.47-8.56	8.37-8.50	8.30-8.37	8.13-8.23	12.03-12.13	11.11-11.23
#2 Soft Wheat		4.98-5.04		4.70-4.77		4.47-4.67		3.84-4.04		7.25-7.35
WABASH										
#2 Corn	3.77-3.85	3.89-4.02	3.70-3.81	3.76-3.92	3.59-3.70	3.70-3.85	3.18-3.26	3.31-3.47	4.38-4.49	4.42-4.51
#1 Soybeans	9.48-9.56	9.17-9.32	8.91-9.01	8.50-8.66	8.45-8.54	8.02-8.17	8.23-8.37	7.93-8.13	12.13-12.18	10.97-11.06
#2 Soft Wheat	4.83-4.86	5.14-5.19	4.48-4.60	4.85-4.90	4.42-4.51	4.75-4.82	3.58-3.73	4.00-4.19	8.80-8.93	6.96-7.05
#2 Sorghum										
WEST SOUTHWEST										
#2 Corn	3.73-3.76	3.75-3.91	3.55-3.64	3.65-3.70	3.42-3.52	3.48-3.62	3.01-3.12	3.09-3.24	4.34-4.38	4.35-4.42
#1 Soybeans	9.50-9.62	8.91-9.06	9.00-9.09	8.30-8.44	8.57-8.64	7.96-7.97	8.38-8.46	7.72-7.73	12.06-12.14	10.84-10.90
#2 Soft Wheat	4.67-4.74	5.20-5.34	4.44-4.52	4.91-5.05	4.28-4.41	4.78-4.92	3.70-3.77	4.18-4.33	8.61-8.80	6.85-6.97
#2 Sorghum	2.72-2.83		2.60-2.73		2.52-2.66		2.27-2.50		4.48-4.54	
LITTLE EGYPT										
#2 Corn	3.73-3.86	3.84-4.00	3.70-3.78	3.85-3.90	3.57-3.70	3.74-3.83	3.19-3.30	3.37-3.44	4.40-4.47	4.44-4.51
#1 Soybeans	9.55-9.58	9.12-9.22	8.99-9.01	8.64-8.76	8.49-8.55	8.07-8.20	8.37-8.43	7.83-7.96	12.17-12.18	11.00-11.07
#2 Soft Wheat	4.76-4.81	5.20-5.34	4.47-4.57	4.83-4.96	4.31-4.47	4.81-4.90	3.67-3.71	4.17-4.19	9.01-9.08	7.00-7.07
#2 Sorghum	2.96-3.15		2.90-3.10		2.84-3.01		2.44-2.63		4.41-4.46	

* Contract Soft Wheat bids for January 09 delivery and new crop corn and soybean delivery
 ** Contract bid for New Crop 09 delivery

Grains: Inspections for Export
(1,000 Bushels)

Grain	Week Ended	Season To Date		This Year	Last Year
	12/25/08	12/18/08	12/27/07		
Wheat	3,547	12,049	11,699	654,476	785,017
Rye	0	0	0	0	0
Oats	8	0	16	325	271
Barley	189	239	49	10,440	23,537
Flaxseed	0	0	0	213	999
Corn	22,412	32,926	40,234	514,767	824,011
Sorghum	460	1,776	4,792	53,190	114,675
Soybeans	30,593	30,174	25,998	493,323	440,837
Sunflower	0	0	0	0	0
Total	57,209	77,164	82,788	1,726,734	2,189,347

Crop marketing years begin June 1 for wheat, rye, oats, barley and flaxseed; September 1 for corn, sorghum and sunflower seeds.



Automated Market Information Service Automated Market Information System (AMIS) is available from the Illinois Department of Agriculture. It is possible for the caller to select from a variety of market information. By dialing (217) 782-2055, using a touchtone telephone, the caller can select any of the following reports just by punching the number of the report:

1. Illinois direct hog prices
2. Illinois direct cattle prices
3. Futures prices from the Chicago Board of Trade and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange
4. Grain prices received at country elevators

**Market News
Toll Free Hotline
1-888-458-4787**

Prepared by the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Market News Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

Visit us on the web at
www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketnews