

Agriculture Prices at a Glance- \$\$\$\$\$

February - March 2011

A-B denotes the difference between 1st preference & second preference and sometimes between wholesale & retail and bulk or small amounts . Trend (H) means Higher over last 30 to 60 day (L) Lower (S) Steady

Prices intend on being farm gate in Belize dollars - usually price per lb

Belize Cattle	T	A	B
Young str. & bulls- 750- 1100 lbs	H	1.00 -1.05	.90 - 1.00
Cows & Heifers for Butcher	H	.70 - .80	(thin).60 - .70
Heifers for breeding 650-900 lbs	S	1.00 - 1.15	.90 - 1.00
Young grass cattle- 350- 650 lbs	H	1.00 - 1.10	.90 - 1.00
U.S price -corn fed- 1000- 1200 lbs	H	1.07/US=2.14/Bz	
U.S price - feeders 600- 800 lbs	H	1.10/US=2.20/Bz	
U.S price- calves 450- 600 lbs	H	1.25/US=2.50/Bz	
U.S price- aged butcher cows	H	50-70/US=80-1.20/Bz	
Belize Hogs			
Weiner pigs- 30 -50 lbs- by the head	S	\$85.00 - \$95.00	
Butcher pigs 125 - 200 lbs	S	1.70 - 1.75	1.65 - 1.70
Belize Sheep			
Butcher lambs	S	2.00 - 2.50	1.75- 2.00
Mature ewes	S	1.70 - 1.75	1.60 - 1.70
Belize Chickens			
Broilers- live per lb	H	1.10- 1.12	1.08- 1.10
Old hens	S	.75 - .76	.73 - .75
Belize Milk			
Pd to farmer per lb	S	contract .46	non contract .31
Special farm items			
Shrimp Retail- Farm Raised	S	6.50 - 8.50	5.50 - 6.50
Pitaya 12-16 oz	S	1.75 - 2.00 each	
Eggs-tray of 30 eggs@ .1372/egg	S	farm price = 4.11 per tray	

Grains, Beans & Rice	T	A	B
Belize yellow corn	H	.26 - .28	.25 - .26
White corn	H	.28 - .30	.27 - .28
Corn/ Local retail (Low volume)	H	.35 - .38	.33 - .35
U.S corn price @ 6.50-up from 3.75	H	Bz 23.20	
Guatemala corn price/Peten	H	.33 - .36	.31 - .33
Belize Milo	H	.23 - .25	.22 - .23
R-K's, little reds & blacks (beans)	H	.92-1.00 farm-retail 1.25-1.75	
Black eyed peas	H	farm-.80-1.00 retail1.25-1.50	
Paddy rice/ from combine	L	30 - 35 -depends on area	
Milled rice per pound	L	whosal .95-.98	Ret 1.15
Citrus			
Oranges per 90 lb box-lb.solid basis	H	\$11.50 Est. 2011 price	
Grapefruit- per 90 lb box	H	\$5.50 Est. 2011 price	
Sugar			
Cane per ton- est. 2010 price	S	\$45.03/ est.	
White sugar- 112 lbs- controlled	S	\$45 per bag	
Brown sugar- 112 lbs- controlled	S	\$39 per bag	
Bananas			
Export @ 40 lb box	S	Jan- Feb. price- \$ 12. - 13.	
Local Wholesale #2 quality- 40 lb	S	\$ 7.00- \$10.00	
Retail #2 @ 8 per sale	S	\$1.00 - \$1.50	
Fruits & Vegetables			
Tomatoes, cabbages, cucumbers	S	whosal/.75-1.75-ret-\$1.00-\$2.50	

***These prices are best estimates only from our best sources and simply provide a range to assist buyers and sellers in negotiations. ***

Dear Ag Readers: Rain- Rain- Where Are You ? We live in a sub- tropical rainforest and now we are thinking of just calling it forest. In my 37 years at Banana Bank, both December & January have sort of set records for minimum. Dec @ .18" and January a bit more with a 1 1/2" shower to help plant around the 20th (very late). Corn prices have increased by some 30% in last 60 days. It's mostly following the U.S surge and a tighter than expected local supply- Our neighbors all around are calling for prices. Cattle marketing issues, citrus admin- confusion, sugar questions and the possible implementation of a killing labor law will all lead to higher costs to producers and eventually higher consumer prices.A friend said this is being caused by personality differences, greed and a refusal to "Do the Right Thing". Please " Love Your Neighbors". All the best, John Carr