

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

FEB 2014

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 days (L) Lower (S) Steady.

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

	T	A	B
BELIZE CATTLE			
Young str. & bulls - 750-1100 lbs	S	1.70 - 1.80	1.60 - 1.70
Cows & heifers for butchers	S	1.45	(thin) 1.40
Heifers for breeding 500-800 lbs	S	1.50	1.35 - 1.45
Young grass cattle - 350-650 lbs	S	strs. 1.80	Heifers 1.45
U.S. CATTLE			
U.S. price - corn fed - 1000-1200 lbs	H	US\$ 1.363	
U.S. price - feeders 600-800 lbs	H	US\$ 1.71	
U.S. price - aged butcher cows	H	US\$ 0.82 - 0.92	
BELIZE HOGS			
Weaner pigs - 25-30 lbs - by the head	S	\$90.00 - \$100.00	
Butcher pigs 160 - 230 lbs	S	1.75 - 1.85	1.65 - 1.75
BELIZE SHEEP			
Butcher Lambs	S	2.00 - 2.25	1.50 - 1.75
Mature Ewes	S	1.75	1.50
BELIZE CHICKEN			
Whole sale dressed	H	2.48	
Broilers - live per lb	S	1.27	
Spent hens	S	.95	
VEGETABLES			
Local Potatoes lb	S/L	1.00 - 1.10	.70 - .75
Local Onions lb	H	1.50 - 2.00	
CITRUS			
Oranges per 90 lb box-lb. solid basis	L	9.0118 (1.5274 Pps) 1st Est. 2014 price	
Grapefruit - per 90 lb box		Price Pending	

	T	A	B
GRAINS, BEANS & RICE			
Belize yellow corn	H	.225 - .25	.215 - .22
White corn	S	.325	
Corn/local retail (low volume)	L	.29	
US corn @ US\$ 4.32- per 56 lb bu	L	\$ BZ 15.43/cwt + 8¢ frt. to BZ	
US non-GMO yellow corn US\$ 4.82 - 5.32/bu	L	\$ BZ 17.21 - 19.00/cwt	
Guatemala corn price/Peten	S	.2250	.21
Belize soy beans	S	.59	.57
US soy beans @ US\$ 12.85 per 60 lb bshl	L	\$ BZ 42.82/cwt + 8¢ frt. to BZ	
Belize milo (none available)			
Red kidney beans	H	2.55 retail price	
Little reds & black beans	S	1.50 - 1.60 farm price	
Black eyed peas	S	.65 - .67 farm price	
Paddy rice per pound		.40 - .53 farm price, dried	
SUGAR/HONEY			
Sugar cane, ton		first estimates 2014 crop: \$53.08	
Bagasse		pending agreement	
Honey per lb (Cayo)	S	2.50 (approximately 12 lbs/gal)	
SPECIAL FARM ITEMS			
Eggs - tray of 30	S	6.75 farm price; retail .30 - .33 per egg	
WD milk per lb to farmer	S	contract .50; non contract .45	
Raw milk (farmer direct sales)	S	8.50 gal (5 gal + 8.00 gal)	
CACAO			
Cacao beans (TCGA) /lb	H	2.65 dried fermented	
Cacao beans (TCGA) /lb	H	1.00 wet beans	
US Cacao beans, New York, metric ton	H	US\$ 2,200.00	

A hefty 15% tax imposed by the Mexicans on cattle being legally exported from Belize into Mexico is still creating an obstacle to cattle movement northward and slightly depressing local cattle prices. GOB is aware of this and plans to address this when they meet with Mexican officials to discuss overall trade between our nations. Rain, rain, rain – from October 2013 til print time (late Jan 2014): Belizeans, especially of the West and North areas, have been heavily inundated with higher than normal rains and flood conditions. Farmers especially in the West suffered delays to planting schedules resulting in some cases in changes in the winter crops (traditionally various beans) planted: drastic reductions (some cases to half) in acreages risked from late planting and some changes (switching from 120 day to 90 day crops {subject to seed availability}). Domestic needs for beans are met first before exports. Headline stories about our unusual drastic weather, Oct 2013 to present, have given consumers and all Belizeans an increased understanding of the challenges and constraints to growing food. Retail market prices for local vegetables have gone through the roof (when they are even available) as vegetable crops suffer various rots and new seeds/plantlets are drowned. Until drier times, keep the sun in your hearts, Beth Roberson.

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