

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

MAY 2014

A-B denotes the difference between 1st preference & 2nd 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
<b>BELIZE CATTLE</b>			
Young str. & bulls - 750-1100 lbs	H	1.85	1.60 - 1.70
Cows & heifers for butchers	L	1.40	(thin) 1.30
Heifers for breeding 500-800 lbs	H	1.60	1.35 - 1.45
Young grass cattle - 350-650 lbs	S	steers 1.80	heifers 1.45
<b>U.S. CATTLE</b>			
U.S. price - corn fed - 1000-1200 lbs	H	US\$ 1.46	
U.S. price - feeders 600-800 lbs	H	US\$ 1.7857	
U.S. price - aged butcher cows	H	US\$ 0.90 - 0.97	
<b>BELIZE HOGS</b>			
Weaner pigs - 25-30 lbs - by the head	S	\$90.00 - \$100.00	
Butcher pigs 160 - 230 lbs	H	1.85 - 2.00	1.75 - 1.85
<b>BELIZE SHEEP</b>			
Butcher Lambs	S	2.00 - 2.25	1.50 - 1.75
Mature Ewes	S	1.75	1.50
<b>BELIZE CHICKEN</b>			
Whole sale dressed	L	2.41	
Broilers - live per lb	L	1.23	
Spent hens	L	.50	
<b>CITRUS</b>			
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
<b>GRAINS, BEANS &amp; RICE</b>			
Belize yellow corn	S	.225 - .25	.215 - .22
White corn	S	.32	
Corn/local retail (low volume)	S	.29	
US corn @ US\$ 5.61- per 56 lb bu	H	\$ BZ 20.04/cwt + 8¢ frt. to BZ	
US non-GMO yellow corn US\$ 5.82 - 5.32/bu	H	\$ BZ 21.82/cwt	
Guatemala corn price/Peten	H	.23 - .24	.22 - .23
Belize soy beans	S	.59	.57
US soy beans @ US\$ 15.46 per 60 lb bshl	H	\$ BZ 51.53/cwt + 8¢ frt. to BZ	
Belize milo (none available)			
Red kidney beans		1.75 farm price	
Little reds & black beans	L	1.25 - 1.30 farm price	
Black eyed peas	S	.60 - .65 farm price	
Paddy rice per pound	S	.40 - .53 farm price, dried	
<b>SUGAR/HONEY</b>			
Sugar cane, ton	H	first estimates 2014 crop: \$60.13	
Bagasse		pending agreement	
Honey per lb (Cayo)	S	2.50 (approximately 12 lbs/gal)	
<b>SPECIAL FARM ITEMS</b>			
Eggs - tray of 30		5.25 farm price; retail .30 - .33 per egg	
WD milk per lb to farmer	H	contract .53; non contract .53	
Raw milk (farmer direct sales)	S	8.50 gal (5 gal + 8.00 gal)	
<b>CACAO</b>			
Cacao beans (TCGA) /lb	H	2.75 dried fermented	
Cacao beans (TCGA) /lb	H	1.10 wet beans	
US Cacao beans, New York, metric ton	H	US\$ 2,912.00	

It's a great time to be a farmer in Belize, as prices on many commodities are moving up. Cattle prices resume their upward climb. US cattle prices are up as well, coinciding with the lowest US national herd since 1951. Milk prices have risen 6% since our February page and non-contract milk price is now equal to the contract price, as demand is greater than supply. A temporary glut of eggs has caused many spent hens to enter the market, creating a substantial drop in price. Chicken prices have dropped a bit as well. Corn prices remain fairly steady approaching corn planting season. We were surprised to see Belize Non GMO corn meal advertised on an international trading site at a premium price: \$13-14USD/50 lbs. Bean prices should remain strong as there is a world shortage expected to continue through the year. Lime prices soared in Belize, Mexico and the US recently; other Belizean citrus prices are lacking. See citrus article on pg. 11. Sugar cane's estimated price is up 13%, but the bagasse price is still in negotiation. World cacao is up considerably; TCGA has increased prices to its members as well. Honey remains stable but specialty varieties (single nectar honeys) are bringing a 50% premium. B. Roberson

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