

IDAHO AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

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This report provides a preliminary estimate of Idaho farm and ranch cash receipts for the calendar-year 2000. The 2000 forecast of farm revenue is contrasted to previous years and changes in the various components of revenue are examined. Government payments are omitted from revenue forecast. Crop and livestock revenue is but one side of the farm income picture. Costs of farming, although necessary to estimate income, have not been approximated.

Estimated 1999 farm and ranch revenue is \$3.44 billion, up 3% from last year and breaking the record set in 1996 (Table 1). Revenues are forecast by making forecasts of 2000 year prices to be multiplied by the forecast of 2000 production. Revenue from livestock production comprises 48% of total 2000 farm-gate revenue and crop revenue the remaining 52%. In 1995 farm revenue broke the \$3 billion mark and after a slight dip in 1997 has continued a steady climb. The disastrous revenue declines in milk, beans, onions, sugar beets, and wheat are more than offset by the increase in cattle revenues.

Livestock Revenue

For the year 2000 livestock revenues again topped \$1.6 billion. Livestock revenues are at record heights despite the crash in milk prices.

The 2000 revenue from cattle and calves was estimated at \$760 million, exceeding the 1993 level. Cattle revenues increased 14% over 1999. Cattle production increased 3% from the previous year, and prices shot up 13%.

After setting records for the past two years, Idaho's dairy industry receipts fell by 8% in 2000. The dairy industry's, by \$10 million margin, maintained its position as the top revenue producer for Idaho farmers and ranchers. Idaho milk production was up 14%. A price drop of 19% out weighted the increase in production.

The "other livestock" category in Table I includes eggs, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep and wool. The Idaho trout industry, the nations largest, is not included in Table I.

Crop Revenue

Table I reports crop revenue on a calendar year basis. For storage crops, that means portions of two or more crops are sold in the Jan-Dec calendar year. For example, part of the 1999 potato crop was sold in the summer and fall of 2000, the remainder of the crop will be sold out of storage in the winter, spring and summer of 2001.

Barley revenue was forecast to increase by %12. Barley production and prices increased. Eastern Idaho is the largest producing region. Idaho's crop is split evenly between malting and feed varieties.

Dry bean revenues recorded the largest percentage decrease -- 29%. Bean receipts are at the lowest in over eight years. Bean production fell dramatically in 2000. Magic Valley growers produce nearly three-fourths of Idaho's dry beans.

Idaho's greenhouse & nursery industry continues on a growth trend. Nursery growers market high-quality landscaping plants across western North America.

Hay production continues to be a significant revenue producer. Hay receipts recorded the largest percentage increase (%17) of either crop or livestock. Hay production and prices both increased. Idaho's booming dairy industry is pushing up demand for high-quality hay.

Idaho's onion industry is an important part of southwestern Idaho's agricultural economy. Prices are volatile and receipts dropped by %19.

Idaho's famous potatoes are largest crop revenue for Idaho farmers. Calendar-year 2000 potato revenue is estimated at \$685 million, close to the record of \$694 million set in 1996. Potato production continued to climb, which offset the price decline.

Sugarbeets revenues declined by 7%. Beet revenues are at an eight year low. The culprit in the revenue decline is the slide in sugar prices. Beet production increased in 2000, despite the fact that beets were not harvested under the PIK program.

Wheat revenues continue a three year decline and fell by 2% in 2000. Wheat revenues are now at an eight year low. Prices continued to decline even though production increased. Growers produced 42% of the state's wheat in Eastern Idaho, 22% in the Magic Valley, 10% in Southwestern Idaho and 26% in Northern Idaho.

The "other crops" category in Table I includes apples, cherries, corn, lentils, mint, oats, peaches, peas, plums, prunes and sweet corn as well as grass seed and other crops for which USDA does not estimate Idaho value of production.

Table I. Idaho Cash Receipts

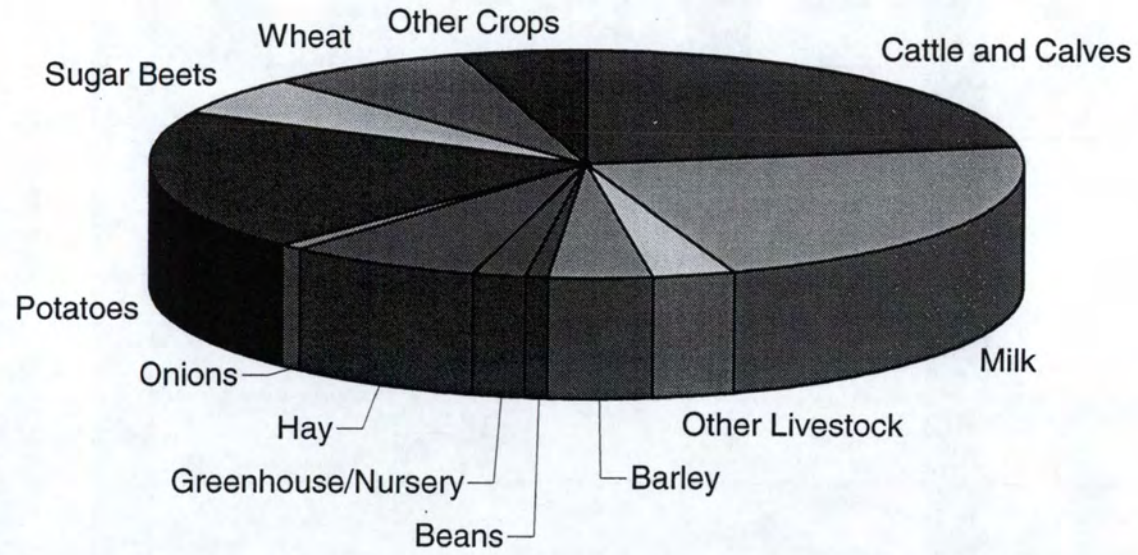
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	%Change
	\$ millions								
LIVESTOCK									
Cattle and Calves	670	652	636	574	663	653	664	760	14%
Milk	388	456	508	653	634	829	834	770	-8%
Other Livestock	88	93	97	107	108	103	105	105	0%
TOTAL LIVESTOCK	1,146	1,201	1,241	1,333	1,405	1,585	1,603	1,635	2%
CROPS									
Barley	125	125	145	157	142	120	121	135	12%
Beans	39	53	39	52	41	40	35	25	-29%
Greenhouse/Nursery	49	38	43	48	61	61	64	65	2%
Hay	190	179	188	199	243	248	213	250	17%
Onions	79	51	42	51	44	63	37	30	-19%
Potatoes	557	573	677	694	521	546	638	685	7%
Sugar Beets	195	213	191	210	212	219	204	190	-7%
Wheat	310	324	399	430	439	269	264	260	-2%
Other Crops	177	178	192	190	189	176	168	165	-2%
TOTAL CROPS	1,721	1,734	1,916	2,031	1,892	1,742	1,744	1,805	3%
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	2,867	2,935	3,157	3,364	3,297	3,327	3,347	3,440	3%

SOURCES:

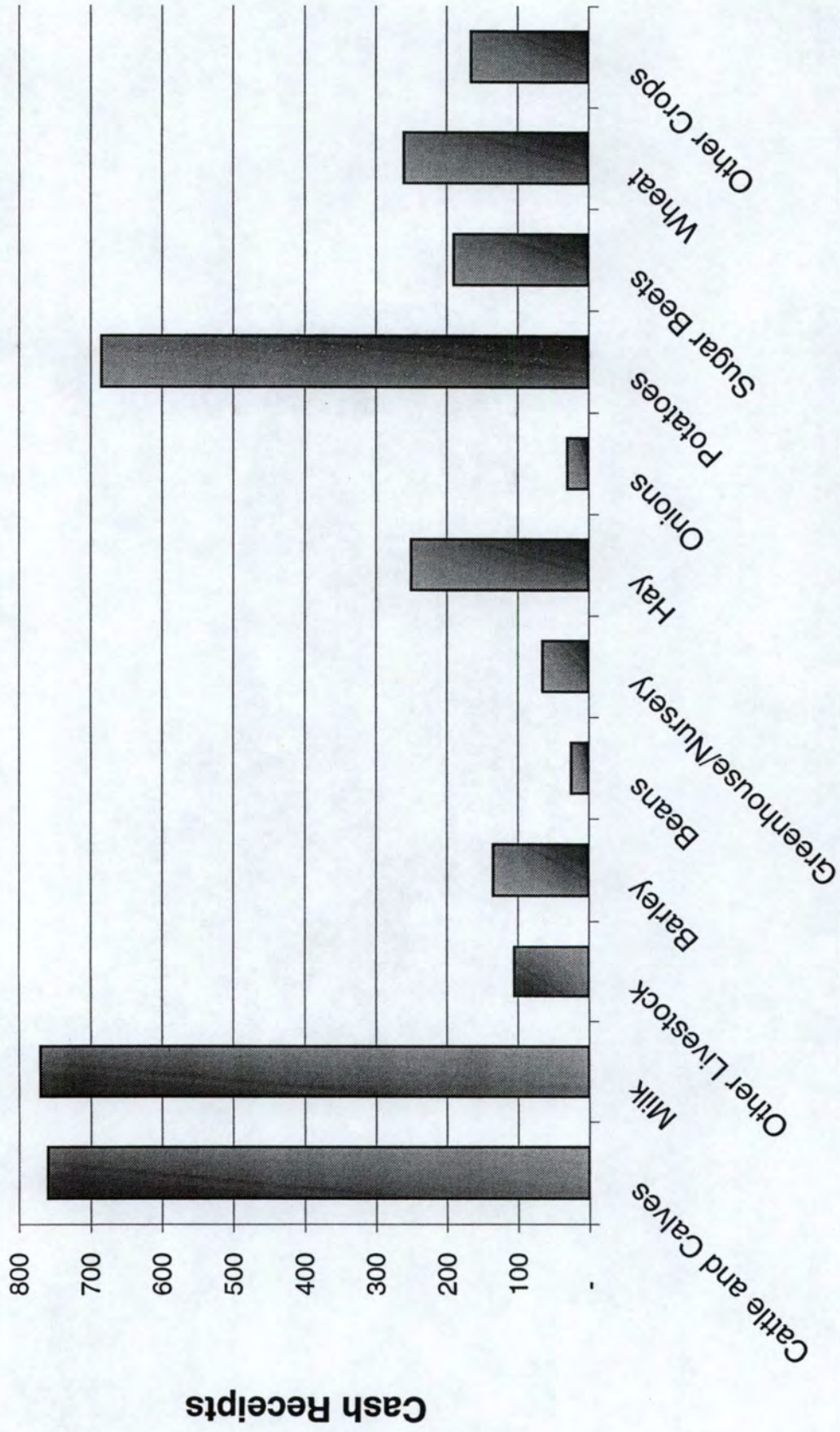
1993-1999: Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service

2000: Forecasted by G Taylor and S Woodall, University of Idaho

2000 Total Cash Receipts



2000 Total Cash Receipts



Total Cash Receipts

