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National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2010 Grazing Fee Rates for Montana and the United States

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Grazing fees paid by Montana producers for grazing livestock on privately owned, non-irrigated grazing land were unchanged for cow-calf pairs, but higher for AUM and on a per-head basis in 2010, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Cattle producers paid \$20.20 per cow-calf pair in 2010, unchanged from the previous year. The average fee paid for grazing livestock on an AUM (animal unit month) basis was \$18.40 per month, up \$0.40 from last year. Grazing fee rates charged on a per head basis were \$19.30 per month, up \$0.40 from last year.

In the 17 states that estimate grazing fees in the United States, the AUM grazing rate was \$15.30 per month in 2010, up \$0.70 from the previous year. The cow-calf rate was \$17.90 per month, up \$0.90 from 2009, and the per head rate, at \$16.60 per month, was up \$1.10 from 2009.

All grazing fees are for privately-owned, non-irrigated grazing land. Rates charged for public land, irrigated land, and harvested cropland were excluded. The AUM rate includes reported AUM rates plus reported cow-calf rates that were converted to an AUM basis. The cow-calf rate was converted to AUM basis using the following formula (1 AUM=cow-calf *0.833).

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