

## South Dakota Agricultural Land Market Trends, 1991 – 2016: Results from the 2016 SDSU South Dakota Farm Real Estate Survey

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### Summary

The 2016 SDSU Farm Real Estate Market Survey report contains information on current agricultural land values and cash rental rates by land use in different regions of South Dakota. The key findings and comparisons to values from earlier years are highlighted below.

- **Agricultural land value changes in the past year reflect the sharp declines in crop prices and returns compared to prices and returns for beef cattle.**

From 2015 to 2016, all agricultural land values decreased by 2.4%, compared to an increase of 1.4% from the year before and increases varying from 6% to 33.6% for the prior three years. Cropland values decreased by 4% this past year compared to a decrease of 4.8% from 2014 to 2015. Annual increases varied from 5.4% to 37.8% in the prior three years. In 2016 rangeland and pasture values increased by 2.9%. This was down from the double digit increases in rangeland and pasture values in previous years.

- **Cash rental rates for cropland and hayland declined in several regions statewide, while cash rental rates for pasture/rangeland increased in many regions.**

From 2015 to 2016, average statewide cash rental rates decreased \$4.00 per-acre for cropland, increased \$2.15 for hayland, and decreased \$1.88 for rangeland. Cash rental rates for pasture/rangeland increased in the Southeast, East-central, Northeast, North-central, and Central regions. Pasture rental rates in the Western regions decreased. Cropland cash rental rates declined

in all regions, except the North-central which increased \$9.36 per-acre.

- **Current average rates of return on agricultural land in South Dakota remain very low.**

For 2016 the average ratio of gross cash rent to current land value was 2.7% for all agricultural land, 3.3% for cropland, 3.3% for hayland and 2.4% for rangeland. During the 1990s, the same ratios were 7.4% for all agricultural land, 8.0% for cropland, and 6.8% for rangeland.

- **Agricultural land values and average cash rental rates differ greatly by region and land use.**

Per-acre values and cash rental rates in each region were highest for irrigated land, followed by non-irrigated cropland, hayland, tame pasture, and native rangeland. For each land use, per-acre land values and cash rental rates were highest in the East-central or Southeast regions and lowest in the western regions of South Dakota.

The average value of non-irrigated all agricultural land (as of February 2016) in South Dakota was \$2,444 per-acre. Non-irrigated agricultural land varies from \$5,069 per-acre in the East-central region to \$827 per-acre in the Southwest region. Average non-irrigated cropland values varied from \$6,116 per-acre in the East-central to \$1,187 per-acre in the Northwest region.

Within each region, differences in land productivity and land use accounted for substantial differences in per-acre values. In 2016 rangeland value varied from \$2,781 per-acre in the East-central to \$715 per-acre in the Southwest.

The highest non-irrigated cropland values and cash rental rates continued to occur in the Minnehaha-Moody county cluster where the average value of cropland in 2016 is \$8,262 per-acre and average cash rental rate for cropland is \$288 per-acre. Cropland values average \$6,684 per-acre and cropland cash rental rates average \$233 per-acre in the Clay-Lincoln-Turner-Union county cluster.

At the regional level, average cash rental rates per-acre for non-irrigated cropland in 2016 vary from \$201 in the East-central region to \$43 in the Southwest region. Average rangeland and pasture rental rates vary from \$81 per-acre in the Southeast region to \$14.31 per-acre in the Southwest region.

- **The longer-term trends in land values, cash rental rates, and cash rates of return are closely related to key economic factors affecting demand for agricultural land. These factors include economies of size, net farm income, agricultural productivity, and land as an investment. Specific factors important in South Dakota include:**

1. technology changes in agriculture that expanded the geographic range of corn and soybean production, along with the rapid development of ethanol production in South Dakota,
2. sharp declines in farm mortgage interest rates from early 2001 to late 2004 and continued relatively low mortgage interest rates,
3. general economic conditions of low inflation rates in most years,
4. persistence of farm expansion, through land purchases or leasing, as the major response to pervasive economies of size in production agriculture,
5. continued use of crop insurance for yield or revenue protection along with other federal farm program provisions.

From 1991 to 2014, agricultural land values increased more rapidly than the rate of general price inflation in all regions of South Dakota. Continued increases in cash rental rates

provided underlying support for increases in land values. These basic economic factors, along with relatively low mortgage interest rates, attracted investors in farmland and farmers expanding their own operations. During the past year, 2015 to 2016, land values and cash rental rates by land use were greatly affected by the sharp declines in commodity prices.

- **Farm expansion and investment potential continue to be cited as the major reasons for purchasing farmland. The major reasons for selling farmland are realizing gains from high sale prices, settling estates, and retirement from farming.**

Low mortgage interest rates, high livestock prices, and relatively good crop yields were the three most cited positive factors in the farmland market. Declining crop prices dominated the negative factors influencing the farm real estate market. Rising input costs and economic uncertainty, including interest rate risks, were other negative factors.

- **The booming market psychology of recent years, especially for cropland, has been replaced by concerns on adjusting cash rents and land purchase prices to declining crop prices and prospective returns. Respondents remain somewhat more optimistic about rangeland markets.**

More than half of respondents forecast decreases in cropland values for next year, while one-half of respondents forecast increases in rangeland values. There is a lot of concern that cropland values and cash rental rates will decline further. For rangeland values and cash rental rates respondents forecast prices will remain the same or decrease slightly

## South Dakota Farmland Market Trends, 1991 - 2016

### Introduction

The 2016 SDSU Farm Real Estate Market Survey is the 26th annual survey of agricultural land values and cash rental rates by land use and quality in different

regions of South Dakota. Reported are results of the survey and a discussion of factors influencing buyer/seller decisions and positive/negative factors impacting farmland markets. The publication of the survey findings was in response to numerous requests by farmland owners, renters, appraisers, lenders, buyers, and others for detailed information on South Dakota farmland markets.

The 2016 estimates are based on reports from 196<sup>1</sup> responses to the 2016 SDSU survey. Responses are from agricultural lenders, Farm Service Agency officials, rural appraisers, assessors, realtors, professional farm managers, and Extension field specialists. All are familiar with farm real estate market trends in their localities. The number of responses for 2016 are the lowest total responses during the past 26 years.

Copies of the SDSU survey were mailed in February and March 2016. The surveys requested information on cash rental rates and agricultural land values as of February 2016. Response characteristics and estimation procedures are discussed in Appendix I.

Results are presented in a format similar to SDSU farmland market reports published in prior years (1991 to 2015). Regional information on land values and cash rent by land use (crop, hay, range, and pasture)<sup>2</sup> is emphasized in each of these SDSU reports. Current-year findings are compared to those of earlier years. This report contains an overview and may or may not reflect actual land values or cash rental rates unique to specific localities or properties. Readers should use this report as a general reference and rely on local sources for more specific details.

Most renters, buyers, and sellers of farmland continue to be local area residents, although there is considerable outside interest in recent years. Land market trends are influenced by changing conditions in agriculture and the general economy and strongly influenced by land market participants' expectations of

future trends and availability of debt or equity financing.

## South Dakota Agricultural Economic Conditions

The agricultural commodity price trends continue to be a major economic factor influencing in recent years South Dakota agricultural land market conditions. From 2012 to 2016 cash prices received for corn decreased approximately 52%, while farm-level soybean and wheat prices each decreased more than 40%. Calf prices are down over \$1.00 per cwt from their peak in 2015. Crop input costs have decreased slightly from their peak in 2013. The sharp decreases in crop prices and slower decrease in crop input prices have continued to pressure crop production margins and farm profitability. South Dakota crop farmers and ranchers have experienced declines in net farm income. The reduction in crop production margins and livestock profitability is reflected in this year's demand for land. (USDA-NASS, 2015).

Favorable weather conditions and record crop yields in 2015 caused grain commodity prices to continue their retreat from the highs of 2012. From August 2012 to August 2015, farm-level corn prices decreased more than 52%, soybeans fell approximately 42%, and wheat was off more than 40%. Cattle prices have decreased from their highs in 2015 and are similar to prices received in 2012. If farm profitability continues to decline land values could see continued decreases into 2017 and beyond. This year's survey results are a reflection of the decreased farm profits.

A negative factor influencing farmland and cash rent values has been recent agricultural credit conditions. According to the Minneapolis Federal Reserve (Agricultural Credit Conditions Survey, July 2015), farm mortgage interest rates remain low – generally less than 5.2% for fixed term loans and 4.7% for variable rate loans. Surveyed lenders expect renewals and collateral requirements to increase in 2016, while farm incomes and capital spending decreased in 2015.

<sup>1</sup> Responses are the number of survey schedules completed for one or two counties. A growing number of respondents completed separate survey schedules for different counties. Each completed survey schedule was treated as a survey response. More details are provided in Appendix 1.

<sup>2</sup> A major purpose of this survey is to report land values and cash rental rates by major uses of privately owned agricultural land, excluding farm building sites. The major non-irrigated land uses reported are crops, hay, tame pasture, and rangeland. Rangeland is native grass pasture while tame pasture is seeded to introduce grasses. Agricultural land typically used for production of alfalfa hay, other tame hay, or native hay is considered hayland in this report. Cropland is agricultural land typically used for crop production other than hay production. Irrigated crop/hayland values and cash rental rates are also reported in selected regions. These major land uses comprise nearly 98% of privately owned land in farms in South Dakota (Janssen, 1999).

South Dakota’s economy has continued to recover from the national recession with unemployment rates declining from 5.2% in January 2010 to 2.5% in May 2016. Personal income in the state was unchanged from 2014 to 2015. Farm earning declines have contributed to zero personal income growth. Further information about the South Dakota general economy can be obtained from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce – Bureau of Economic Analysis and U.S. Dept. of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## South Dakota Agricultural Land Values, 2016

### Procedures to estimate and report land values

Respondents to the 2016 South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey estimated the per-acre value of non-irrigated cropland, hayland, rangeland, tame pastureland, and irrigated land in their county, and the percent change in value from the previous year. Responses for non-irrigated land uses are grouped into eight agricultural regions (Figure 1). The six regions in eastern and central South Dakota correspond with USDA Agricultural Statistics Districts. In western South Dakota, farmland values and cash rental rates are reported for the Northwest and Southwest regions. Land values and cash rental rates are reported only for privately owned land and should not be considered as estimated values for tribal lands or federal lands.

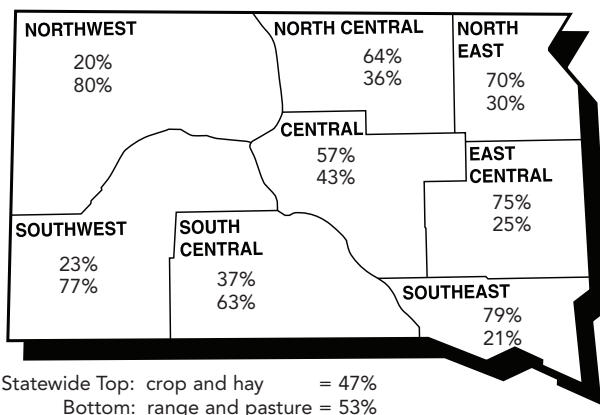
Irrigated land is only one percent of farmland acres in South Dakota. Responses for irrigated land values

and rental rates are only reported in regions where a sufficient number of reports are available. Irrigated land values and cash rents from the South-central, Southwest, and Northwest regions are reported as the “western” region.

The average value per-acre and percent change in value were obtained for each agricultural land use in each region. Regional and statewide all-land (non-irrigated land) value estimates are weighted averages based on the relative acreage and value of each non-irrigated agricultural land use in each region of South Dakota. In this report, land use acreage weights for each region and statewide were developed from data reported in the 2002 Census of Agriculture and related sources (Appendix I). These land-use acreage weights have considerable impact on regional and statewide estimates of all non-irrigated land values.

Regional differences in all-agricultural land values are primarily related to major differences in: 1) agricultural land productivity among regions, 2) per-acre values of cropland and rangeland in each region, and 3) the proportion of cropland and rangeland in each region. More than 80% of farmland acreage in each region is cropland or rangeland and most of the remainder is tame pasture or hay. Native rangeland is the dominant land use in western South Dakota, while most agricultural land in eastern South Dakota is non-irrigated cropland or hay (Figure 1).

Statewide, an estimated 47% of privately owned farmland acres are cropland or hayland and 53% is rangeland or tame pasture (Figure 1). In summary, statewide cropland values are greatly influenced by values estimated in the North-central and the three eastern regions, while statewide rangeland values are heavily influenced by values reported in regions west of the Missouri River. The reduced number of responses in the three regions west of the Missouri River (South-central, Southwest and Northwest) continues to make it difficult to provide land value and cash rental rate estimates in these regions.



**Figure 1. Nonirrigated agricultural land use patterns in South Dakota, statewide and regional.**

Source: Compiled from land use data in 2002 Census of Agriculture and related surveys

### All-agricultural land value estimates, 2016

All agricultural land value estimates for 2016 reflect the divergence in the crop and livestock (beef cattle) prices and returns that prevailed this past year. Land

value declines have occurred for cropland throughout the state. While areas in the Central and Northwest experienced increases for rangeland values.

As of February 2016, the average value of all agricultural land in South Dakota was \$2,444 per-acre, a 2.4% decrease in value from February 2015 (Figure 2 and Table 1). Great variation in all agricultural land values occurred throughout the state. In the Southwest all Agricultural land had a negative 14.2% change compared to 2015 values. In the Northwest there was a positive 13.4% increase in all agricultural land values.

The all agricultural land average values are highest in the East-central and Southeast regions with per-acre values of \$5,069 and \$4,752, respectively (Table 1 and Figure 2). This represents a decline of 2.3% and 4.9%, respectively. In the other regions east of the Missouri River, per-acre values of all-agricultural land varied from \$3,661 in the Northeast to \$3,080 per-acre in the central region with percentage changes varying from -7.1% to +1.5% compared to 2015 values.

Agricultural land values are much lower in regions west of the Missouri River than in the eastern and central regions of South Dakota. The average value per-acre

varies from \$1,584 in the South-central region to \$836 per-acre in the Northwest region (Table 1).

The Southeast and East-central regions contain the most productive land in South Dakota, with 75% or more of farmland acres used as cropland or hayland. In the other regions east of the Missouri River, the proportion of cropland and hayland varies from 57% in the central region to 70% in the Northeast region. Rangeland and pasture are the dominant agricultural land uses in all regions west of the Missouri River.

Since 2000 all-agricultural land values increased, with the exception of 2016. This year all agricultural land decreased by 2.4 percent. Overall, agricultural land values in South Dakota have more than doubled since 2010 and increased approximately seven-fold from 2000 (Appendix Table 2).

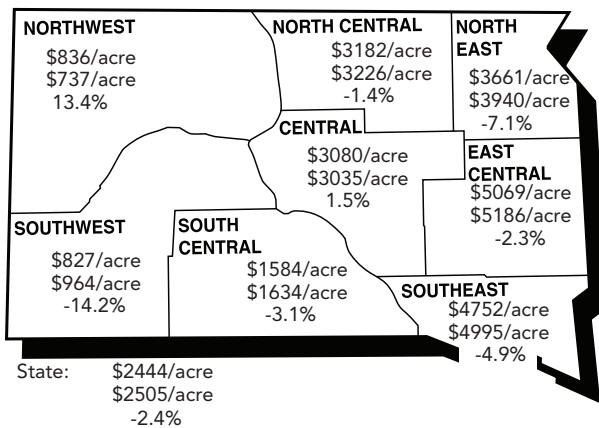
### Land Values and Value Changes by Type of Land and Region

In each region, per-acre values are highest for irrigated land, followed by non-irrigated cropland, hayland, tame pasture, and native rangeland. For each non-irrigated land use, per-acre land values are highest in the three eastern regions and lowest in the three regions west of the Missouri River - Northwest, Southwest, and South-central regions (Figures 3 and 4; Table 1). These regional differences in land values by land use have remained consistent over time and are closely related to climate patterns, soil productivity differences, and crop/forage yield differences across the state.

For 2016, cropland values declined statewide and in all regions, while rangeland, values increased in the central and Northwest regions. Pasture land values increased in the Northwest and East-central regions. Hayland values are stable or up slightly in East-central, Northeast, Central and Northwest in 2016. Per-acre values of all types of agricultural land increased by 13.4% in the Northwest region, and a slight increase in the Central region, with all other regions showing a decrease.

### Cropland values

The weighted average value of South Dakota's non-irrigated cropland (as of February 2016) is \$4,094 per-acre, a 4% decrease from 2015 (Table 1). This is the



**Figure 2. Average value of South Dakota agricultural land, February, 2015 and 2016, and percent change from one year ago.**

Regional and statewide average values of agricultural land are the weighted averages of dollar value per acre and percent change by proportion of acres of each non-irrigated land use by region.

Top: Average per-acre value – February 1, 2016  
Middle: Average per-acre value – February 1, 2015  
Bottom: Annual percent change in per-acre land value

Source: 2016 South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey, SDSU.

Table 1. Average reported value and annual percentage change in value of South Dakota agricultural land by type of land by region, February 2011-2016.

Type of Land	South-east	East-Central	North-east	North-Central	Central	South-Central	South-west	North-west	STATE
	dollars per acre								
<b>All Agricultural Land (nonirrigated)</b>									
Average value, 2016	4752	5069	3661	3182	3080	1584	827	836	2444
Average value, 2015	4995	5186	3940	3226	3035	1634	964	737	2505
Average value, 2014	5385	5763	3962	3319	2931	1461	620	512	2470
Average value, 2013	4954	5504	3684	3217	2678	1294	606	536	2328
Average value, 2012	4014	3890	2587	2325	2257	917	461	369	1742
Average value, 2011	2900	3332	2274	1720	1450	781	459	342	1374
Annual % change 16/15	-4.9%	-2.3%	-7.1%	-1.4%	1.5%	-3.1%	-14.2%	13.4%	-2.4%
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>									
Average value, 2016	5653	6116	4613	4177	3843	2168	1264	1187	4094
Average value, 2015	5887	6329	5066	4275	3895	2283	1347	1193	4265
Average value, 2014	6331	7114	5291	4614	3953	2087	820	870	4478
Average value, 2013	5903	6828	4843	4562	3580	1994	900	792	4249
Average value, 2012	4817	4734	3369	3026	2946	1348	677	496	3084
Average value, 2011	3402	4024	2918	2301	1866	1115	625	483	2389
Annual % change 16/15	-4.0%	-3.4%	-8.9%	-2.3%	-1.3%	-5.0%	-6.2%	-0.5%	-4.0%
<b>Rangeland (native)</b>									
Average value, 2016	2566	2781	2028	1957	2219	1330	715	760	1222
Average value, 2015	2719	2727	2136	1758	2100	1338	851	630	1187
Average value, 2014	2698	2861	1859	1600	1828	1187	571	436	987
Average value, 2013	2308	2765	1759	1473	1636	994	529	444	909
Average value, 2012	1930	2108	1345	1387	1493	724	401	341	737
Average value, 2011	1589	1779	1217	950	1011	634	409	309	611
Annual % change 16/15	-5.6%	2.0%	-5.1%	11.3%	5.7%	-0.6%	-16.0%	20.6%	2.9%
<b>Pasture (tame, improved)</b>									
Average value, 2016	2811	2988	2309	2067	2320	1431	712	802	1704
Average value, 2015	2945	2908	2545	2224	2557	1500	943	769	1820
Average value, 2014	2968	3098	2244	1958	2220	1309	596	483	1603
Average value, 2013	2721	3176	2074	1778	2222	1129	571	523	1542
Average value, 2012	2275	2371	1678	1550	1772	844	431	373	1218
Average value, 2011	1726	2082	1494	1161	1179	762	465	344	1011
Annual % change 16/15	-4.6%	2.8%	-9.3%	-7.1%	-9.3%	-4.6%	-24.5%	4.3%	-6.4%
<b>Hayland</b>									
Average value, 2016	3597	4226	2921	2293	3125	1733	1005	951	2469
Average value, 2015	4030	4220	2675	2687	2755	1843	1166	917	2535
Average value, 2014	4762	4598	2466	2458	2525	1630	640	590	2458
Average value, 2013	4196	4003	2639	2223	2552	1453	678	610	2285
Average value, 2012	3337	3008	1638	1905	2143	1039	559	407	1758
Average value, 2011	2401	2742	1590	1301	1300	854	552	400	1377
Annual % change 16/15	-10.7%	0.1%	9.2%	-14.7%	13.4%	-6.0%	-13.8%	3.7%	-2.6%

Type of Land	South-east	East Central	North-east	North Central	Central	Western
	dollars per acre					
<b>Irrigated land</b>						
Average value, 2016	6717	6350	6143	5250	4314	2688
High Productivity	9050	8500	***	8150	5200	3115
Low Productivity	6035	4940	***	5500	3260	1806
Average value, 2015	7330	6750	***	7000	4380	2450
Average value, 2014	7940	7190	6250	6340	4430	1490
Average value, 2013	7514	7589	6200	6753	4469	1875
Average value, 2012	6341	4239	4140	4372	***	1483
Average value, 2011	4212	3952	***	2895	2711	***
Annual % change 16/15	-8.4%	-5.9%	***	-25.0%	-1.5%	9.7%

Source: 2016 and earlier South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Surveys  
 Statewide average land values are based on 2002 land use weights

second time in the 26 year history of the survey that average cropland values have declined.

Regional cropland values tend to cluster in three groups. The highest cropland values are found in the East-central and Southeast regions with average values of \$6,116 and \$5,653 per-acre, respectively. The second cropland value cluster consists of the Northeast, North-central, and central regions with average cropland values varying from \$4,613 to \$3,843 per-acre. Cropland values are considerably lower in the third cluster which contains the three regions west of the Missouri River. As of February 2016, per-acre cropland values averaged \$2,168 in the South-central region, \$1,264 in the Southwest and \$1,187 in the Northwest region (Table 1 and Figure 3).

Cropland values from 2015 to 2016 decreased by at least \$6 per-acre in the Southwest and Northwest regions compared to declines of more than \$200 per-acre in the Southeast and East-central regions. Overall, cropland values declined in all regions throughout the state (Table 1).

Regional differences in cropland values reflect differences in cropland intensity and crop mix. The three eastern regions contain 45% of South Dakota's cropland, while the North-central and central regions contain 33% of South Dakota's cropland acres. Corn and soybeans are the major crops in most counties in the eastern regions compared to corn, soybeans,

sunflowers, and wheat in most counties of the North-central and central regions. The three regions west of the Missouri River contain 22% of the state's cropland acres. Wheat, corn, and grain sorghum are important crops in the South-central region, while wheat is the dominant crop in the two western regions.

The highest rates and dollar amounts of decline in per-acre cropland values occurred in the major corn and soybean production areas of the State.

### Hayland values

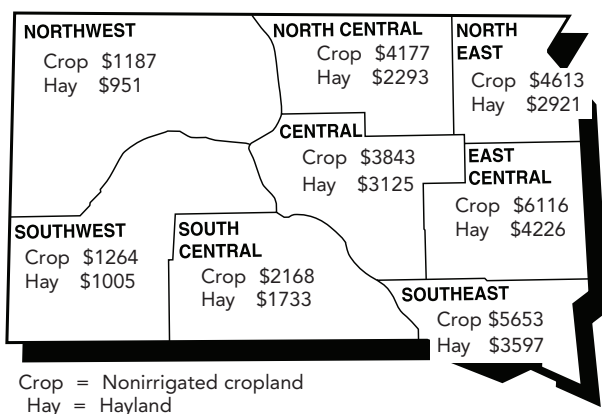
South Dakota hayland values averaged \$2,469 per-acre as of February 2016, a 2.6% decrease from the previous year (Table 1). Hayland values decreased in the Southeast, North-central, South-central and Southwest regions and increased in all other regions of South Dakota. The strongest increases were in the central region. Statewide, hayland values have doubled since 2010 and increased seven times since 2000 (Appendix Table 2).

Average hayland values also cluster into three regional groups. The highest average values are in the East-central and Southeast regions, with per-acre values of \$4,226 and \$3,597, respectively. Hayland values are considerably lower in the other regions east of the Missouri River, varying from \$2,921 in the Northeast region to \$2,293 per-acre in the North-central region (Table 1).

Substantially lower values of hayland are found in all regions west of the Missouri River, varying from \$1,733 in the South-central region to \$951 per-acre in the Northwest region (Figure 3 and Table 1). Alfalfa hay is the most common hay in the eastern regions, while native hay is more common in the central and western regions.

### Pasture and rangeland values

In February 2016, the value of South Dakota native rangeland averaged \$1,222 per-acre, a 2.9% increase from 2015. The average value of tame pasture was \$1,704 per-acre, this is a decrease of 6.4% in the past year (Table 1). Native rangeland is heavily concentrated in the western and central regions of South Dakota, while tame pasture is not concentrated in any particular region.



**Figure 3. Average value of South Dakota cropland and hayland, by region, February 2016, dollars per acre.**

Source: 2016 South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey, SDSU.

During the past year (February 2015 to February 2016), the statewide average rangeland values per-acre increased 2.9%, compared to decreases in land values in all other areas including tame pasture and non-irrigated cropland. Rangeland and pasture values have increased more than 10% annually for 10 of the past 13 years, with this year being one of the exceptions.

Rangeland and pasture values also clustered into three regional groups. Average rangeland values are highest in the East-central and Southeast regions (\$2,781 and \$2,566 per-acre, respectively). Rangeland values in the next regional cluster (Northeast, North-central and central regions) are considerably lower and relatively close to each other with per-acre values varying from \$2,219 in the Central region to \$1,957 per-acre in the North-central region. The lowest rangeland values per-acre occur in the western side of the state varying from \$1,330 in the South-central region, \$715 in the Southwest region, and \$760 in the Northwest region (Figure 4 and Table 1).

Tame pasture values followed a similar regional pattern as rangeland values. Across the state, average values of tame pasture varied from 4% increase to a 24% decrease (Table 1). In the Northeast, North-central, Central, and Northwest regions, the values of tame pasture had decreases of 9%, 7%, 9% and an increase of 4% respectively. The wide variation in the change in land values for pasture could be due in part to an economic adjustment occurring in the market following

the large increases in values that occurred in the 2014-2015 years.

### Irrigated land values

Irrigated land values for 2016 are estimated for six regions, including a combined western region (Table 1). We continue to caution readers that irrigated land value data are less reliable than data on land values reported for other agricultural land uses. Irrigated land is not common (less than 1% of total acres) in most regions, and there are few sales of irrigated land tracts.

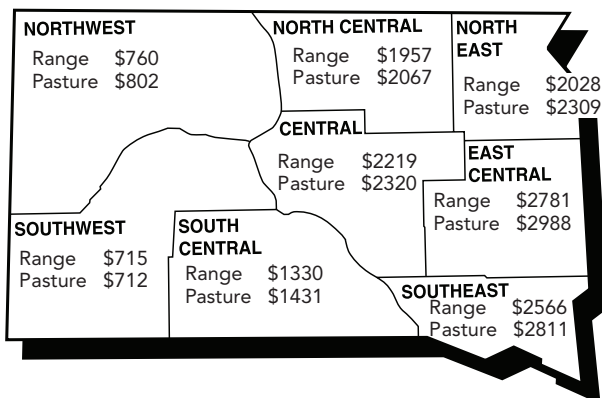
There is a wide variation in irrigated land values. Irrigated land values are much lower in the central region averaging \$4,314 per-acre and in western South Dakota where the average value is \$2,688 per-acre. In the Eastern and North-central region, the value for irrigated land was reported for center pivot irrigation systems, excluding the value of the center pivot.

### Variation in Land Values by Land Productivity and County Clusters

Within each region and for each non-irrigated agricultural land use, there is considerable variation in land values. In this section we report the February 2016 per-acre values of average productivity, high-productivity, and low-productivity cropland, hayland and rangeland by region and by county clusters within several regions (Table 2).

A county cluster is a group of counties within the same region that have similar agricultural land use and value characteristics. Three county clusters are identified in each of the following regions: Southeast, East-central, Northeast, North-central and Central. During each of the past 26 years, land values (and cash rental rates) have not been reported for county clusters in the South-central, Southwest and Northwest regions because there are too few reports. This survey is not designed to reflect the substantially higher land values in or near the Black Hills.

Substantial variation in per-acre land values occur by degree of land productivity for each land use in each region. For example, 2016 cropland values in the East-central region vary from an average of \$3,688 (in the Sanborn, Davison, Hanson and Kingsbury cluster) per-acre for low-productivity cropland to



**Figure 4. Average value of South Dakota rangeland and tame pasture, by region, February 2016, dollars per acre.**

Source: 2016 South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey, SDSU.



almost \$9,510 (Minnehaha Moody cluster) per-acre for high-productivity cropland. At the other extreme, the average value of low productivity cropland in the Northwest region is \$985 compared to \$1,435 per-acre for high-productivity cropland (Table 2).

Rangeland values in the East-central region varied from an average of \$1,883 (Brookings, Lake, McCook cluster) per-acre for low-productivity rangeland to \$3,988 (Minnehaha Moody cluster) per-acre for high productivity rangeland. In the Northwest region, at the other extreme, the average value of low-productivity rangeland is \$629 per-acre, compared to \$979 per-acre for high-productivity rangeland (Table 2).

In 2016, average non-irrigated cropland values were \$8,262 per-acre in the Minnehaha, Moody county cluster compared to \$6,684 per-acre in the Clay, Lincoln, Turner, Union (CLTU) county cluster and \$6,119 per-acre in the Brookings, Lake, McCook county cluster. Average cropland values in the remaining county clusters varied from \$3,512 per-acre in the Aurora, Beadle and Jerauld cluster to \$4,983 per-acre in the Brown, Spink county cluster (Table 2).

Similar patterns, but much lower values, also occur for rangeland across county clusters in the same regions. The highest average values occur in the Sanborn, Davison, Hanson, Kingsbury, Miner and Minnehaha, Moody clusters averaging \$2,667 and \$3,253 per-acre, respectively. The lowest average rangeland values of \$1,125 and \$1,893 per-acre, respectively, were reported for the Campbell, Potter, Walworth and

Edmund, Faulk, McPherson county clusters.

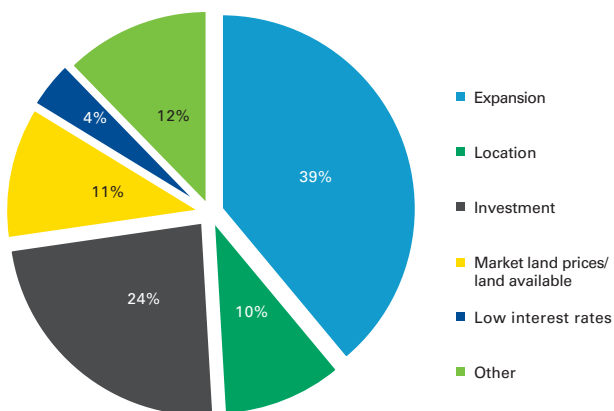
Average hayland values are also highest in the Minnehaha-Moody cluster at \$6,136 per-acre and in the Clay, Lincoln, Turner, Union cluster at \$4,000 per-acre. For the remaining four county clusters in the Southeast and East-central regions, average hayland values vary between \$3,225 (Charles-Mix Douglas) and \$3,688 (Brookings, Lake, McCook) per-acre. Across the other county clusters located in the Northeast, North-central and central regions, average hayland values vary from \$2,018 (Campbell, Potter, Walworth) to \$3,700 (Coddington, Deuel, Hamlin cluster) per-acre (Table 2).

For regions west of the Missouri River, average land values for each land use are highest in the South-central region and lowest in the Northwest or Southwest region. Average land values vary from \$715 per-acre for rangeland in the Southwest region to \$2,168 per-acre for non-irrigated cropland in the South-central region (Table 2). In all cases, average land values in these regions are lower than corresponding average land values in any region east of the Missouri River.

### Major Reasons for Purchase and Sale of Farmland

Survey respondents were asked to provide a list of major reasons for buying and selling agricultural real estate in their localities. Most (over 90%) of the 2016 respondents provided one or more reasons for the purchase or sale of real estate.

**Figure 5. The Most Important Reasons Among Buyers for Purchasing Land in the Area 2016**



**Figure 6. The Most Important Reasons for Sellers Offering Land for Sale in the Area 2016**

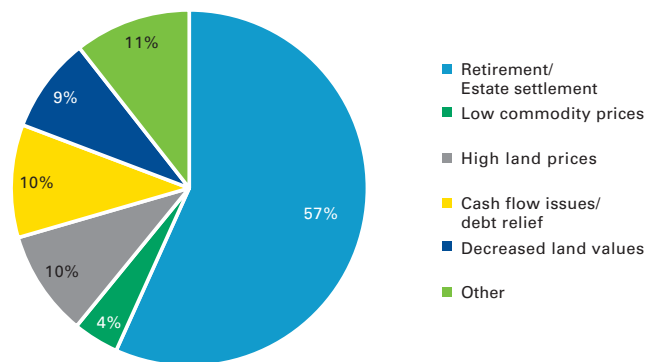


Table 2. Average reported value per acre of agricultural land by South Dakota region, county clusters, type of land, and land productivity, February 2011 - 2016.

Agricultural Land Type and Productivity	All	Southeast			All	East Central		
		Clay Lincoln Turner Union	Bon Homme Hutchinson Yankton	Charles Mix Douglas		Minnehaha Moody	Brookings Lake McCook	Sanborn Davison Hanson Kingsbury Miner
dollars per acre								
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>								
Average 2016	5653	6684	5089	4563	6116	8262	6119	4788
High Productivity	8709	12454	6368	5433	7791	9510	7686	6794
Low Productivity	4469	5271	3925	3867	4468	5663	4534	3688
Average 2015	5886	7138	5326	4580	6329	7837	6330	4912
Average 2014	6331	7470	5800	4800	7114	8592	6823	5793
Average 2013	5903	7248	4794	3893	6828	8347	6666	5204
Average 2012	4817	5844	4068	3254	4734	6116	4717	3621
Average 2011	3402	4567	3106	2487	4024	5197	3672	3007
<b>Rangeland (native)</b>								
Average 2016	2566	2567	2573	2550	2781	3253	2506	2667
High Productivity	3319	3700	3236	3150	3407	3988	3086	3256
Low Productivity	2003	2167	2005	1850	2150	2488	1883	2115
Average 2015	2720	3500	2581	2264	2728	3233	2376	2556
Average 2014	2698	2873	2640	2500	2861	3135	2652	2719
Average 2013	2308	2713	2057	1950	2765	3093	2395	2748
Average 2012	1930	2252	1765	1677	2108	2344	1950	2105
Average 2011	1589	1993	1458	1388	1779	2084	1651	1632
<b>Hayland</b>								
Average 2016	3597	4000	3579	3225	4226	6136	3688	3439
High Productivity	4419	4912	4524	3750	5187	7429	4581	4243
Low Productivity	2784	3400	2500	2650	3361	4386	3163	2876
Average 2015	4031	5742	3941	2569	4219	5975	3336	3407
Average 2014	4762	5647	4448	3536	4598	6200	3829	3811
Average 2013	4196	5343	3299	2829	4003	4935	3364	3380
Average 2012	3337	4046	2888	2445	3008	4117	2680	2472
Average 2011	2401	3531	2125	1717	2742	3633	2561	2078

Source: South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey, SDSU, 2016 and earlier.

Irrigation land values are not reported in this table, due to insufficient number of reports in most county clusters

\*\* Insufficient number of reports to make estimates by county cluster.

Table 2. (continued)

Agricultural Land Type and Productivity	All	Northeast			All	North Central		
		Codington Deuel Hamlin	Grant Roberts	Clark Day Marshall		Brown Spink	Edmund Faulk McPherson	Campbell Potter Walworth
dollars per acre								
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>								
Average 2016	4613	4673	4969	4300	4177	4983	3604	3273
High Productivity	6356	6744	6354	5907	6168	7811	4920	4436
Low Productivity	3160	3325	3400	2805	3008	3472	2617	2573
Average 2015	5066	5093	**	**	4274	5548	3007	3525
Average 2014	5291	5466	5467	4914	4614	5593	3303	3736
Average 2013	4843	5217	5000	4250	4562	5846	3068	**
Average 2012	3369	3793	3629	2867	3026	3479	2320	**
Average 2011	2918	3250	2721	2570	2301	2980	1467	1831
<b>Rangeland (native)</b>								
Average 2016	2028	2167	1900	1944	1957	2354	1893	1125
High Productivity	2567	2698	2264	2600	2347	2827	2250	1375
Low Productivity	1480	1592	1386	1406	1442	1748	1350	875
Average 2015	2136	2270	**	2004	1758	2363	1343	1283
Average 2014	1859	2033	1746	1723	1600	1972	1197	1236
Average 2013	1759	1823	1761	1671	1473	1824	1079	**
Average 2012	1345	1356	1383	1168	1387	1575	1190	**
Average 2011	1217	1389	1136	1038	950	1116	815	792
<b>Hayland</b>								
Average 2016	2921	3700	2520	2033	2293	2644	2073	2018
High Productivity	3532	4375	3040	2667	2969	3620	2600	2409
Low Productivity	2064	2500	1960	1367	1611	1800	1420	1564
Average 2015	2675	**	**	**	2688	3432	1757	**
Average 2014	2466	3036	2258	2044	2458	3007	1725	2200
Average 2013	2639	2994	2600	2127	2223	2623	1632	**
Average 2012	1638	1883	1633	1456	1905	2311	1357	**
Average 2011	1590	1679	1725	1333	1301	1755	900	991

Table 2. (continued)

Agricultural Land Type and Productivity	All	Central			South Central	South West	North West
		Aurora Beadle Jerauld	Buffalo Brule Hand Hyde	Hughes Sully	All***	All***	All***
		dollars per acre					
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>							
Average 2016	3843	3512	4267	3600	2168	1264	1187
High Productivity	5267	5186	5742	4467	2873	1500	1435
Low Productivity	2835	2680	3160	2467	1727	1059	985
Average 2015	3895	4180	3947	3545	2283	1348	1193
Average 2014	3953	4286	4133	3379	2087	820	870
Average 2013	3580	3833	**	3519	1994	900	792
Average 2012	2946	**	2742	**	1348	677	496
Average 2011	1866	2010	1744	1830	1115	625	483
<b>Rangeland (native)</b>							
Average 2016	2219	2528	2035	1750	1330	715	760
High Productivity	2871	3244	2550	2800	1786	944	979
Low Productivity	1729	2089	1550	1000	1005	572	629
Average 2015	2101	2230	2313	**	1338	852	630
Average 2014	1828	1914	2079	1438	1187	571	436
Average 2013	1636	2050	**	1128	994	529	444
Average 2012	1493	**	1400	**	724	401	341
Average 2011	1011	1120	1100	822	634	409	309
<b>Hayland</b>							
Average 2016	3125	3167	3091	**	1733	1005	951
High Productivity	3663	3733	3605	**	2083	1164	1141
Low Productivity	2615	2656	2582	**	1267	818	780
Average 2015	2755	**	3124	**	1844	1166	917
Average 2014	2525	3135	2632	**	1630	640	590
Average 2013	2552	2975	**	2060	1453	678	610
Average 2012	2142	**	1870	**	1039	559	407
Average 2011	1300	1470	1378	**	854	552	400

\*\*\*No county clusters are reported for the south-central, southwest, and northwest region.

From Figure 5, farm expansion was the top reason for purchasing farmland. Of the total responses, 39% indicated farm expansion as a key reason for purchasing land. Buying land as a form of investment also accounted for 24% of responses. Market land prices and land availability accounted for 11%. Location of agricultural land accounted for 10% of respondent reasons for purchasing land. Farm expansion has consistently been the top reason for buying land.

Retirement and estate settlement of farmers and ranchers emerged as the top reason for selling land, accounting for 57% of the total responses (Figure 6). High land prices accounts for 10% of the reasons for selling land. Decreasing land values accounted for 9% of land sales. Another important reason for land sales include debt and cash flow accounting for 10% of reasons for sales. The top reason for selling land deviated from the previous year findings.

### Cash Rental Rates of South Dakota's Agricultural Land

Nearly two-fifths of South Dakota's agricultural land acres are in cash, share, or other lease arrangements (SD Census of Agriculture, 2012). The cash rental market provides important information on returns to agricultural land. Three-fourths of South Dakota's farmland renters are involved in one or more cash leases for agricultural land. The majority of farmland leases (57%) were fixed cash rate leases and five-eighths of cash leases were annual renewable agreements (Janssen and Xu, 2003).

Respondents were asked about average cash rental rates per-acre in their locality for non-irrigated cropland, irrigated land, hayland and pasture / rangeland. Respondents were also asked to report cash rental rates in their locality for high-productivity and low-productivity land for these different land uses. Cash rental rates by land use by region are summarized in Figure 7 and Table 3. The same information for cropland, hayland, and pasture/ rangeland is summarized by region and county cluster in Table 4. In some cases, there were too few reports to make cash rental rate estimates at the county cluster level. Also, there were too few reports to make regional estimates of rangeland rental rates per AUM (Animal Unit Month)

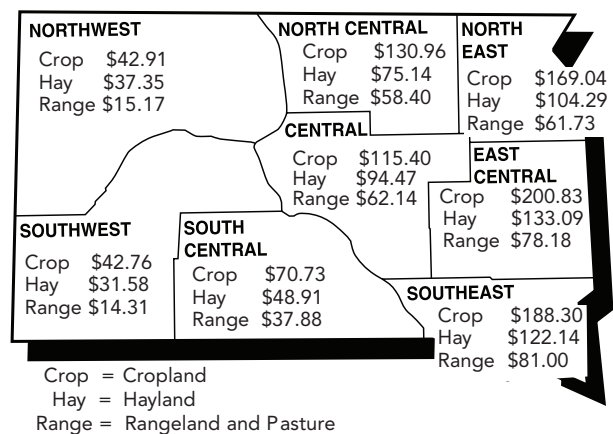
Cash rental rates differ greatly by region and by land use. For non-irrigated land uses, cash rental rates per-acre are highest in the Southeast and East-central regions and lowest in Northwest and Southwest regions of South Dakota. In every region, cash rental rates are highest for cropland and lowest for rangeland and pasture (Figure 7 and Table 3).

The statewide change in cash rental rates per-acre from 2015 to 2016 was negative for cropland and rangeland (-\$4.10 for cropland and -\$1.88 for rangeland) and a positive for hayland (\$2.15 increase). The corresponding percentage change in statewide cash rental rates was - 3.0% for cropland, +3% hayland and - 6% for pasture / rangeland (Table 3).

Cropland cash rental rates increased in the North-central region with all other regions decreasing. Rangeland rental rates decreased in the South-central, Southwest, and Northwest regions with an increase in all other regions. Hayland average cash rental rates showed declines in the Southeast, Southwest, Northwest, and Southcentral regions, with all other regions showing either a slight increase or staying the same.

### 2016 cash rental rates – non-irrigated cropland

Average cash rental rates in 2016 for non-irrigated cropland varied from \$42.76 to \$200.83 per-acre in the Southwest and East-central regions (Figure 7 and Table 3). For the third consecutive year, average cash rental



**Fig. 7. Average cash rental rate of South Dakota non-irrigated cropland, hayland, and rangeland, by region, February 2016, dollars per acre.**

Source: 2016 South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey, SDSU.

rates for cropland exceeded \$100 per-acre in all five regions east of the Missouri, and equaled \$200 per-acre in the East-central region.

Average cash rental rates for cropland are highest at \$288 per-acre in the Minnehaha-Moody county cluster and \$233 per-acre in the Clay, Lincoln, Turner, Union cluster (Table 4). The third highest cash rental rates average \$183 per-acre in the Brookings, Lake, McCook county cluster. Cash rental rates for high-productivity cropland in these same three county clusters vary from \$251 (Brookings, Lake, McCook) to \$309 (Minnehaha Moody) per-acre.

In 2016, average cropland cash rental rates vary from \$155 (Charles-Mix, Douglas) to \$176 (Bonne-Homme, Hutchinson, Yankton) per-acre across county clusters in the three eastern regions of South Dakota. Within the same five clusters, average cash rental rates for high-productivity cropland vary from an average of \$204 (Charles Mix-Douglas) to \$243 (Codington, Deuel, Hamlin) per-acre.

Cash rental rates are generally lower across county clusters in the North-central and central region. Average cash rental rates for cropland in these county clusters vary from \$102 per-acre in the Hughes, Sully county cluster to \$149 per-acre in the Brown, Spink cluster (Table 4). Cash rental rates for high-productivity cropland vary from \$142 in Hughes, Sully to \$230 in Brown, Spink.

Average cash rental rates for cropland are much lower in all regions west of the Missouri River, varying from \$43 per-acre in the Southwest region to \$71 per-acre in the South-central region (Table 4). Average cash rental rates for high productivity cropland vary from \$55 per-acre in the Northwest region to \$100 per-acre in the South-central region.

Within each region and county cluster, cash rental rate averages for low-productivity cropland are usually much lower than those reported for high-productivity cropland. For example, reported average cash rent for non-irrigated cropland in the East-central region is \$126 per-acre for low-productivity cropland and \$262 per-acre for high-productivity cropland (Table 3). In the Southwest region, the average cash rent for low-

productivity cropland is \$34 per-acre compared to \$55 per-acre for high-productivity cropland.

### 2016 cash rental rates – hayland and irrigated land

Cash rental rates for hayland are highest in the southeast and East-central regions, with average cash rents around \$122 (Southeast) and \$133 (East-central) per-acre. The Northeast region was third highest with an average rate of \$104 per-acre. Cash rental rates were in the Central region were \$94 and cash rental rates in the North-central region were \$75 per-acre. West of the Missouri River, hayland cash rental rates in 2016 vary from an average of \$32 per-acre in the Southwest region to \$49 per-acre in the South-central region (Figure 7 and Table 3).

Within each region there are considerable differences in average cash rental rates for low-productivity and high productivity hayland. For example, the average rental rates for low and high productivity hayland in the Southeast region are \$92 and \$182 per-acre, respectively, compared to \$23 and \$38 per-acre in the Southwest region (Table 3). In many regions, lower cash rental rates are reported for native hayland, while higher rates are quoted for alfalfa.

In 2016, hayland cash rental estimates were only made for 14 of 15 county clusters (Table 4). The highest average cash rental rates of hayland were reported in Minnehaha, Moody at \$194, followed by \$188 per-acre in the Clay, Lincoln, Turner, Union county cluster. The lowest average hayland rental rates at the county cluster level were \$65 per-acre in the Edmunds, Faulk, McPherson county cluster.

Cash rental rates for irrigated land averaged above \$190 per-acre in all three eastern regions and the North-central region, varying from an average of \$299 in the Southeast region to \$192 per-acre in the North-central region. The average per-acre irrigated land rental rates was \$187 in the central region and \$105 per-acre in the western regions.

### 2016 cash rental rates - rangeland and pasture

Nearly three-eighths of South Dakota's 26.2 million acres of rangeland and pasture acres are leased to farmers and ranchers. Several million acres of rangeland in western and central South Dakota are

Table 3. Reported cash rental rates of South Dakota agricultural land by type of land by region, 2011-2016.

Type of Land	South-east	East Central	North-east	North-Central	Central	South-Central	South-west	North-west	State
	dollars per acre								
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>									
Average 2016 rate	188.30	200.83	169.04	130.96	115.40	70.73	42.76	42.91	141.00
High Productivity	244.90	262.32	238.08	195.12	195.90	99.55	54.80	54.78	
Low Productivity	137.70	126.04	122.50	87.65	98.07	45.00	33.52	33.39	
Average 2015 rate	195.55	204.25	191.70	121.60	118.70	76.60	43.60	45.05	145.10
Average 2014 rate	209.20	220.95	193.15	128.25	117.10	75.65	28.60	40.10	150.10
Average 2013 rate	193.20	214.75	187.00	128.65	105.10	76.15	37.05	37.35	144.30
Average 2012 rate	166.10	184.60	137.25	109.55	95.55	64.10	34.05	31.15	121.50
Average 2011 rate	131.60	152.70	119.40	89.20	69.80	53.05	30.80	28.70	98.90
<b>Hayland</b>									
Average 2016 rate	122.14	133.09	104.29	75.14	94.47	48.91	31.58	37.35	84.30
High Productivity	181.43	166.60	145.36	99.77	121.05	65.54	38.16	45.59	
Low Productivity	92.00	91.28	70.00	56.98	63.16	31.82	23.16	28.82	
Average 2015 rate	132.40	133.50	98.20	66.50	73.50	52.30	34.10	38.80	82.15
Average 2014 rate	169.40	145.25	87.50	67.10	60.90	52.45	22.50	26.10	84.40
Average 2013 rate	143.20	119.40	100.85	64.40	66.55	49.30	28.40	29.50	79.30
Average 2012 rate	123.00	105.35	56.30	61.15	57.80	42.65	25.45	23.10	65.85
Average 2011 rate	91.30	102.45	69.25	48.40	47.70	32.70	22.90	21.10	57.10
<b>Pasture/Rangeland</b>									
Average 2016 rate	81.00	78.18	61.73	58.40	62.14	37.88	14.31	15.17	29.52
High Productivity	100.00	103.94	85.96	82.13	91.90	53.13	17.38	20.78	
Low Productivity	57.00	74.94	38.85	40.04	39.05	25.63	10.54	11.11	
	67.60	76.50	60	51.15	52.90	45	18.30	18.95	31.40
Average 2014 rate	67.90	73.80	57.05	49.75	44.90	33.15	14.00	17.10	28.40
Average 2013 rate	58.15	67.70	52.65	46.65	45.20	32.50	14.35	15.00	26.65
Average 2012 rate	57.95	61.95	46.95	42.25	40.40	22.30	11.65	12.55	22.60
Average 2011 rate	52.50	57.65	45.65	38.35	31.25	23.30	10.95	11.35	20.70

Type of Land	South-east	East-Central	North-east	North-Central	Central	Western
	dollars per acre					
<b>Irrigated land</b>						
Average 2016 rate	298.50	194.50	216.25	192.22	187.50	105.00
High Productivity	323.00	272.00	308.13	270.56	281.25	158.57
Low Productivity	219.00	153.70	173.75	154.44	137.50	73.57
Average 2015 rate	260.90	216.25	227.50	192.70	167.30	89.3
Average 2014 rate	298.90	217.60	225.70	202.75	222.00	***
Average 2013 rate	269.75	248.60	237.05	180.90	194.20	82.80
Average 2012 rate	229.00	177.85	***	180.90	***	91.25
Average 2011 rate	197.30	160.60	***	138.30	144.40	***

\*\*\* Insufficient number of reports to make regional estimates

Source: South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Surveys, SDSU, 2016 and earlier year reports.

Statewide average rental rates are based on 2002 regional land use weights

Table 4. Reported cash rental rates of South Dakota agricultural land use by region and county clusters, February, 2011 - 2016 rates.

	All	Southeast			All	East Central		
		Clay Lincoln Turner Union	Bon Homme Hutchinson Yankton	Charles Mix Douglas		Minnehaha Moody	Brookings Lake McCook	Sanborn Davison Hanson Kingsbury Miner
dollars per acre								
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>								
Average 2016 rate	188.30	233.00	176.30	155.42	200.83	287.89	183.10	160.78
High Productivity	244.90	293.33	234.57	204.17	262.32	308.95	251.43	241.78
Low Productivity	137.70	181.67	128.91	99.58	126.04	151.84	132.86	106.25
Average 2015 rate	195.55	240.00	170.70	156.30	204.25	243.90	202.60	167.20
Average 2014 rate	209.20	245.30	188.90	157.90	220.95	264.90	211.60	185.95
Average 2013 rate	193.20	231.90	170.40	125.00	214.75	249.20	221.05	167.40
Average 2012 rate	166.10	190.50	152.20	111.35	184.60	220.90	197.15	136.45
Average 2011 rate	131.60	170.85	122.50	90.30	152.70	180.05	153.90	119.70
<b>Hayland</b>								
Average 2016 rate	122.14	188.33	117.37	91.50	133.09	194.17	112.14	112.14
High Productivity	181.43	375.00	152.11	121.00	166.6	241.67	139.29	141.9
Low Productivity	92.00	143.33	86.32	72.00	91.28	140.00	78.57	71.90
Average 2015 rate	132.40	202.50	122.4	80.80	133.50	187.00	**	101.25
Average 2014 rate	169.40	218.55	157.05	100.45	145.25	205.85	102.50	104.20
Average 2013 rate	143.20	191.90	134.00	80.00	119.40	173.50	85.40	87.40
Average 2012 rate	123.00	144.60	121.85	66.25	105.35	149.70	99.25	78.65
Average 2011 rate	91.30	128.60	90.75	54.65	102.45	139.30	102.95	73.50
<b>Pasture/Rangeland</b>								
Average 2016 rate	81.00	111.11	73.00	70.91	78.18	89.33	76.00	74.19
High Productivity	100.00	107.78	94.00	104.55	103.94	114.00	102.50	100.00
Low Productivity	57.00	72.22	52.50	52.73	74.94	160.67	48.5	50.52
Average 2015 rate	67.60	64.20	**	63.90	76.50	81.3	76.50	72.20
Average 2014 rate	67.95	72.25	65.35	64.45	73.80	76.95	71.45	72.50
Average 2013 rate	58.15	69.40	52.85	45.00	67.70	73.75	60.60	68.25
Average 2012 rate	57.95	66.25	53.20	47.00	61.95	65.25	63.15	58.85
Average 2011 rate	52.50	61.90	47.05	45.70	57.65	60.80	60.20	52.10

Irrigated cropland rental rates per acre and rangeland rental rates per AUM are not reported in this table, due to insufficient number of reports in most county clusters.

Source: South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Surveys, SDSU, 2015 and earlier reports.



Table 4. (continued)

	All	Northeast			All	North Central		
		Codington Deuel Hamlin	Grant Roberts	Clark Day Marshall		Brown Spink	Edmund Faulk McPherson	Campbell Potter Walworth
dollars per acre								
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>								
Average 2016 rate	169.94	172.29	175.38	158.33	130.86	148.87	113.67	119.23
High Productivity	238.08	243.13	226.54	240.00	195.12	230.04	172.00	160
Low Productivity	122.50	120.63	122.31	125.67	87.65	99.78	81	73.85
Average 2015 rate	191.70	193.00	**	**	121.60	150.70	105.70	89.20
Average 2014 rate	193.15	199.45	203.00	174.10	128.25	151.25	104.40	96.45
Average 2013 rate	187.00	202.05	190.00	164.80	128.65	150.60	109.35	**
Average 2012 rate	137.25	161.65	142.15	114.00	109.55	122.60	92.25	**
Average 2011 rate	119.40	130.25	108.65	109.55	89.20	106.50	71.35	68.40
<b>Hayland</b>								
Average 2016 rate	104.29	133.33	93.00	65.00	75.14	85.00	65.07	73.64
High Productivity	145.36	183.33	126.00	101.67	99.77	113.82	89.00	92.73
Low Productivity	70.00	88.33	64.00	43.33	56.98	69.71	48.33	49.09
Average 2015 rate	133.50	**	**	**	66.50	79.70	56.10	**
Average 2014 rate	87.50	**	**	**	67.10	78.60	54.05	**
Average 2013 rate	100.85	114.20	**	79.00	64.40	77.25	53.00	**
Average 2012 rate	56.30	71.65	**	50.55	61.15	69.50	48.75	**
Average 2011 rate	69.25	84.05	**	57.75	48.40	54.10	43.80	43.25
<b>Pasture/Rangeland</b>								
Average 2016 rate	61.73	64.17	62.69	57.00	58.40	65.21	56.73	50.38
High Productivity	85.96	90.63	85.77	78.67	82.13	96.48	76.00	67.69
Low Productivity	38.85	38.75	38.46	39.33	40.04	46.16	41.00	30.00
Average 2015 rate	60.00	63.80	**	**	51.15	56.70	51.60	39.00
Average 2014 rate	57.05	57.40	58.35	55.05	49.75	55.00	47.20	38.35
Average 2013 rate	52.65	56.45	46.45	51.25	46.65	51.80	44.35	**
Average 2012 rate	46.95	52.40	42.10	44.55	42.25	44.90	41.85	**
Average 2011 rate	45.65	51.15	36.50	44.65	38.35	42.65	38.10	31.00

Table 4. (continued)

	All	Central			South Central All **	South West All**	North West All**
		Aurora Beadle Jerauld	Buffalo Brule Hand Hyde	Hughes Sully			
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>							
Average 2016 rate	115.40	122.22	114.58	102.50	70.73	42.76	42.91
High Productivity	176.20	192.22	175.42	142.50	99.55	54.80	54.78
Low Productivity	79.44	88.33	75.92	70.00	45.00	33.52	33.39
Average 2015 rate	118.70	126.30	124.8	98.50	76.60	43.60	45.05
Average 2014 rate	117.10	129.30	116.05	102.10	75.65	28.60	40.10
Average 2013 rate	105.15	116.75	**	97.80	76.15	37.05	37.35
Average 2012 rate	95.55	106.10	91.55	**	64.10	34.05	31.15
Average 2011 rate	69.80	81.90	68.35	61.40	53.05	30.80	28.70
<b>Hayland</b>							
Average 2016 rate	94.47	112.22	78.50	**	48.91	31.58	37.35
High Productivity	121.05	145.56	99.00	**	65.64	38.16	45.59
Low Productivity	63.16	72.78	54.50	**	31.82	23.16	28.82
Average 2015 rate	73.50	**	75.60	**	52.30	34.10	38.80
Average 2014 rate	60.90	72.00	57.60	**	52.45	22.50	26.10
Average 2013 rate	66.55	72.50	**	**	49.30	28.40	29.50
Average 2012 rate	57.80	60.70	55.90	**	42.65	25.45	23.10
Average 2011 rate	47.70	60.00	**	35.25	32.70	22.95	21.10
<b>Pasture/Rangeland</b>							
Average 2016 rate	62.14	62.22	64.50	50.00	37.88	14.31	15.17
High Productivity	91.90	93.33	93.00	80.00	53.13	17.38	20.78
Low Productivity	39.05	41.67	38.50	30.00	25.63	10.54	11.11
Average 2015 rate	52.90	61.00	52.90	39.20	45.00	18.30	18.95
Average 2014 rate	44.90	53.50	40.35	**	33.15	14.00	17.10
Average 2013 rate	45.20	52.50	50.00	30.15	32.50	14.35	15.00
Average 2012 rate	40.40	48.90	40.90	**	22.30	11.65	12.55
Average 2011 rate	31.20	45.00	29.90	21.40	23.30	10.90	11.35

\*\* insufficient number of reports to make estimates at the county cluster level

No county clusters are reported for the south-central, southwest, and northwest regions.

controlled by federal, state, or tribal agencies and are leased to ranchers using cash leases or grazing permits. A majority of leased rangeland and almost all leased pasture are cash rented from private landlords (Janssen and Xu, 2003). Respondents were asked to report 2016 cash rental rates per-acre and per AUM on privately owned rangeland and pastureland in their locality.

Average cash rental rates per-acre reflect regional differences in productivity and carrying capacity of pasture and rangeland tracts. Fluctuations in the commodity markets and potential profits are affecting cash rental rates.

Average cash rental rates vary from \$14 per-acre in the Southwest region to \$81 per-acre in the Southeast region (Figure 7 and Table 3). Typical cash rental rates for low-productivity and high-productivity pasture and rangeland vary from \$10.50 to \$17.50 per-acre in the Southwest region, and from \$75 to \$104 per-acre in the East-central region (Table 3).

Estimates of per-acre cash rental rates for rangeland / pasture were made for all county clusters since sufficient reports were available (Table 4). At the county cluster level, cash rental rate averages for rangeland and pasture vary from \$71 (Charles-Mix, Douglas) to \$89 (Minnehaha, Moody) per-acre across county clusters in the Southeast and East-central regions. Average cash rental rates vary from \$50 (Hughes, Sully) to \$64 (Coddington, Deuel, Hamlin) per-acre across county clusters in the Northeast, North-central, and Central regions.

### Rates of Return to South Dakota's Agricultural Land

The gross rate of return (gross cash rent as a percent of land value) is used to estimate current rates of return to land. It is calculated from respondent's reported average cash rental rates and their estimated values of leased land. This is a measure of the gross rate of return obtained by landlords, before deduction of property taxes and other landlord expenses. The 1991 to 2016 trend in the gross cash rent-to-value ratio is depicted in Figure 8.

In 2016, the statewide average gross rates of return

(rent-to-value ratio) differed somewhat across land use categories: 2.4% for rangeland, 3.3% for hayland, 3.3% for non-irrigated cropland and 2.7% for all-agricultural land. The annual average gross cash rates of return for all-land, rangeland and hayland are the lowest calculated over the past 26 years. The gross rate of return for cropland is the second lowest in the past 26 years.

This is the seventh consecutive year that gross rates of return for all-agricultural land has been 4.0% or lower, compared to an average of 5.5% from 2000 – 2009 and 7.4% during the 1990's (Table 5).

Respondents were also asked to estimate the current net rate of return (percent) that landowners in their locality could expect given current land values. Appraisers refer to this measure as the market-derived capitalization rate, which is widely used in the income approach to farmland appraisal. The net rate of return is a return to agricultural landownership after deducting property taxes, real estate maintenance, and other ownership expenses from gross cash rent (or other gross rental income measures). In 2016, the average percent net rates of return are approximately 2.5% for cropland and for hayland the average net rate of return is 2.4%, compared to 2.3% for rangeland. The median net rate of return varies from 2.7% for cropland to 2.5% for hayland and only 2.2% for rangeland.

### Longer Term Perspective on Farmland Market Changes, 1991 – 2016

Longer-term historical data from annual SDSU surveys of agricultural land values and cash rental rates in South Dakota from 1991 to 2016 are located in Appendix Tables 2 and 3 of this report. Long-term trends in average annual cash rates of return are shown in Figure 8. Recent annual reports have emphasized similarities and differences that have occurred across different regions, land uses, and specific time periods. In this report and in the 2015 report, we focus on the major economic supply and demand factors that led to the patterns of changes over time in land values and cash rental rates.

From 1991 to 2016, agricultural land values in South Dakota, and in most other major agricultural production states, have generally appreciated each year. In 2016

Table 5. Estimated rates of return to South Dakota agricultural land by type of land and by region, 1991 - 2016

Type of land-statewide	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	Average 2000-2009	Average 1991-1999
	GROSS rate of return (%) <sup>a</sup>								
All agricultural land	2.7	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.8	3.9	4.0	5.5	7.4
Nonirrigated cropland	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.5	4.2	4.3	4.4	6.2	8.0
Rangeland & pasture	2.4	2.6	3.3	3.0	3.4	3.6	3.6	5.0	6.8
Hayland	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.5	3.7	4.1	4.3	6.0	8.0

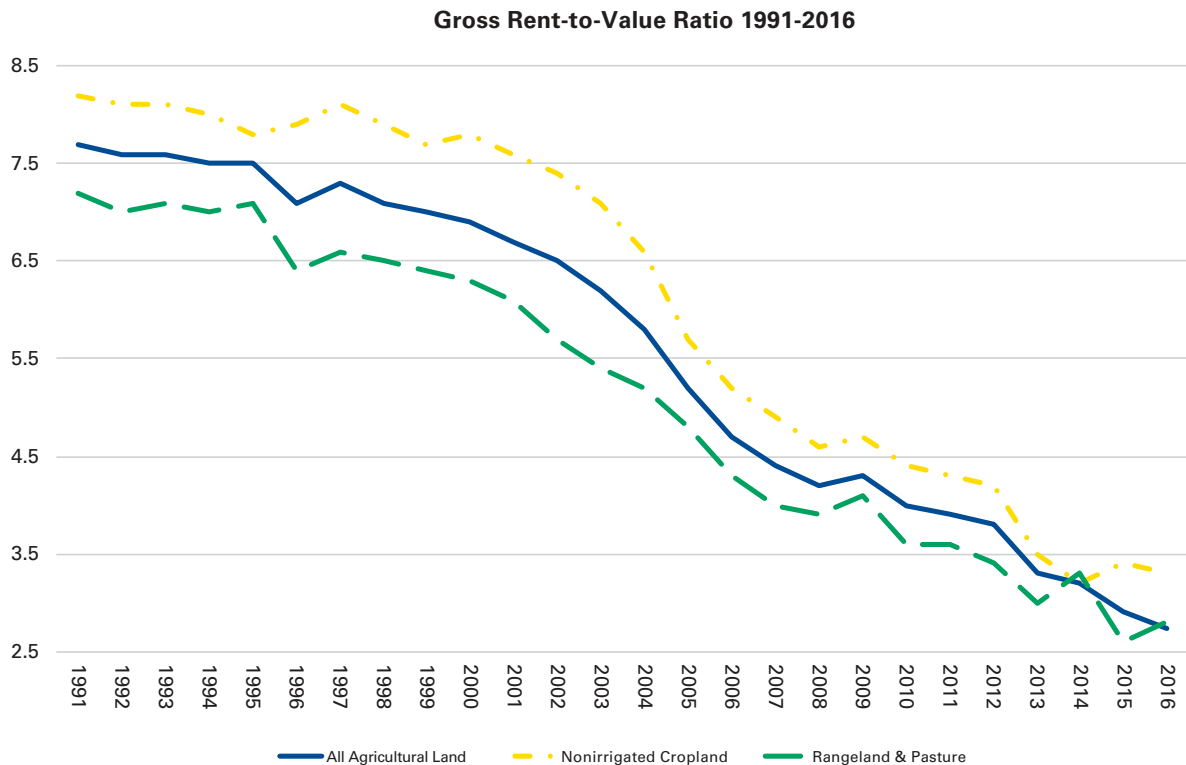
Region <sup>d</sup>	GROSS rate of return								
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	Average 2000-2009	Average 1991-1999
Southeast	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.7	4.2	5.8	7.4
East-Central	3.1	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.6	3.7	3.8	5.4	7.6
Northeast	3.4	3.5	2.8	3.6	4.0	3.9	4.2	6.0	8.1
North-Central	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.6	4.0	4.2	5.9	7.9
Central	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.7	3.9	5.5	7.7
South-Central	2.9	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.3	5.4	6.9
Southwest	2.3	2.4	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.8	3.3	5.0	6.7
Northwest	2.3	2.8	4.1	3.6	4.7	4.4	4.4	5.4	7.1

<sup>a</sup>GROSS rate of return (percent) is calculated by dividing the average gross cash rental rate by reported value of rental land.

<sup>d</sup>Regional level GROSS rate of return estimates are calculated by weighting the rate of return estimates for each land use by proportion of the region agricultural acres in each land use.

<sup>e</sup>Statewide estimates are calculated by weighting the rate of return estimates for each land use by proportion of the region agricultural acres in each land use.

Source: South Dakota Farm Real Estate Survey, SDSU, 2016 and earlier reports.



all classes of land decreased except rangeland, which had a statewide increase of 2.9 percent (Table 1). Since the amount of land devoted to production agriculture has changed little during this 26-year period, the supply of land is considered as relatively fixed. As a result, changes in demand for land are the main factors driving its value and market price. Many factors influence the demand for agricultural land in states such as South Dakota, and the next several sections of this bulletin address these relationships.

### Factors Affecting Demand for Farmland

According to MacDonald, Korb, and Hoppe (2013), cropland in the U.S. has been shifting from medium-sized farms to larger operations. The reasons for this structural change are complex, but some relate to economic efficiencies captured from size and scale increases. These authors report that the estimated midpoint acreage for U.S. cropland was 589 acres in 1982 and 1,105 acres in 2007. This midpoint is the size at which half of all cropland is on farms with more acres than the midpoint, and half are on farms having less acres than the midpoint. However, they also report a recent growth in the number of small-sized farms. As a result, average farm size in the United States has changed little over the past few decades.

Similar changes have also affected the average size, distribution, and number of South Dakota farms and ranches. While many unique factors influence a decision to farm or ranch, other variables influence operation size. One factor influencing the latter is called economies of size.

### Economies of Size

Economies of size are achieved when a farm or ranch manager reduces cost per unit of production by expanding operation size. For example, buying or renting more land, holding other fixed costs constant, achieves economies of size because the fixed costs held constant are now spread over more acres. This expansion increases profit per-acre because total costs per-acre are decreased. Even if an increase in farm or ranch size results in an increase in fixed costs (such as increased depreciation expense from use of larger equipment and machinery), economies of size are still achieved if an acreage expansion is proportionally

greater than the increase in fixed costs per-acre.

Economies of size clearly affect farm expansion decisions for both purchase and rental of additional land. Farm expansion has been the first or second leading reason listed by respondents for purchasing South Dakota farmland in all 26 years of this annual survey.

Thus, economies of size reflect powerful forces that influence operation size in agriculture as well as in other industries. Another factor that affects the demand for agricultural land is net income.

### Net Farm Income

The value of a capital asset – such as real estate – is positively correlated with the asset’s earning potential. For agricultural land, net farm income is one measure of returns and recent strength in crop and livestock prices has pushed net farm income to historically high levels. According to data from USDA - ERS, net farm income in South Dakota increased from \$1 billion in 1990 to nearly \$4.7 billion in 2013. This increase over time occurred while the number of South Dakota farms and ranches decreased. Clearly, gains in commodity prices have increased farm and ranch income which in turn affected demand for agriculture land, both rental and purchase demand. Major spikes in commodity prices during the past 26 years have led to increases in net farm income and demand for farmland. In addition to increases in net farm income, productivity gains also affect land values and cash rents. However, the projection for net farm income for 2015 and 2016 are downward primarily due to lower commodity prices.

### Agricultural Productivity

As U.S. agricultural productivity has grown, so has the value of land. An increase in productivity makes an input – such as land - more valuable because more units of output are produced per unit of input. For cropland, rangeland, and pastureland higher productivity means increased livestock and crop production per-acre of land. To measure agriculture productivity, USDA uses total factor productivity (TFP), which accounts for changes in output with respect to all inputs used in the production process. TFP has grown consistently in U.S. production agriculture. For example, from 1948 to 2011 the U.S. average

annual growth rate of TFP was 1.42 percent. In other words, annual output growth increased 1.42 percent on average during this period, holding input levels constant.

The primary source of productivity increases in U.S. and South Dakota agriculture has been technological advances. Farmers and ranchers have benefited from greater mechanization and from technological advances that have occurred in many fields of science such as chemistry, biology, genetics, engineering, and management.

### Land as an Investment

When investors consider whether to include a particular asset class in their investment portfolio, they compare the potential returns from each class. For example, an investment in land offers returns such as net farm income or economic rent. The appreciating value of land also represents an investment gain. Other investment classes such as equities (stocks) and bonds offer returns that can be compared to returns from owning land. When various investments are ranked, those with the highest expected returns are preferred. Analysts will also compare potential returns of an investment to expected inflation – essentially comparing the investment to cash. Ignoring risk, investments that outperform inflation are preferred to holding cash.

For much of the U.S. and in South Dakota, the value of agriculture land has been growing faster than inflation. In fact, land prices in South Dakota have increased faster than the rate of general price inflation in almost all of the past 26 years. For example, South Dakota agricultural land values have increased 10% annually (on average) between 1991 and 2016. During the same time period, the U.S. annual inflation rate has seldom exceeded four percent and has often been less than two percent. Clearly, farmers and other investors purchasing agricultural land as a hedge against inflation have benefited from that decision.

The rapidly growing use of subsidized revenue crop insurance along with increased availability of yield-increasing and more drought-tolerant crop varieties has likely reduced perceived risk of producing selected crops in South Dakota. This combination of (modest)

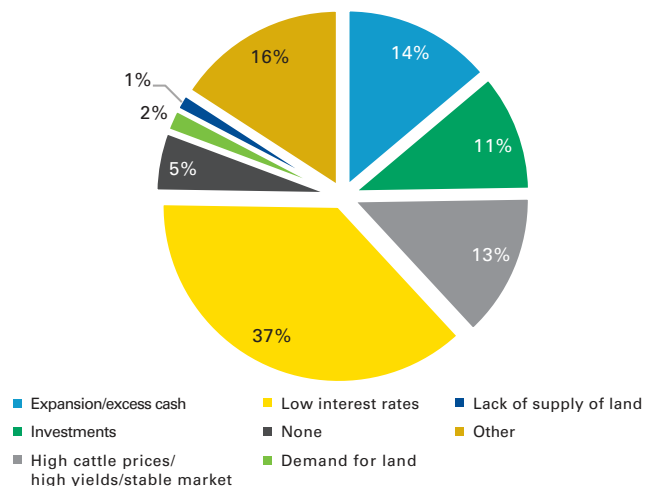
risk reduction and increased profit potential has also contributed to increased cash rents and values.

Furthermore, sharp declines in farm mortgage interest rates from early 2001 to late 2004 and continued relatively low mortgage interest rates (and low general price inflation rates) has also affected land investment decisions. It has helped lower the investment “hurdle rate” for cost of capital. However, lower interest rates have also led to reductions in the ratio gross (and net) cash return as a percent of land price (Figure 8). During the 1990’s, cash rental rates and land values increased at similar rates. However, since the major reductions in long-term interest rates (starting in 2001) cash rental rates have increased at a slower rate than land values, which has reduced the rent-to-value ratio for all agricultural land from an average of 7.4% in the 1990’s to less than 4% since 2010.

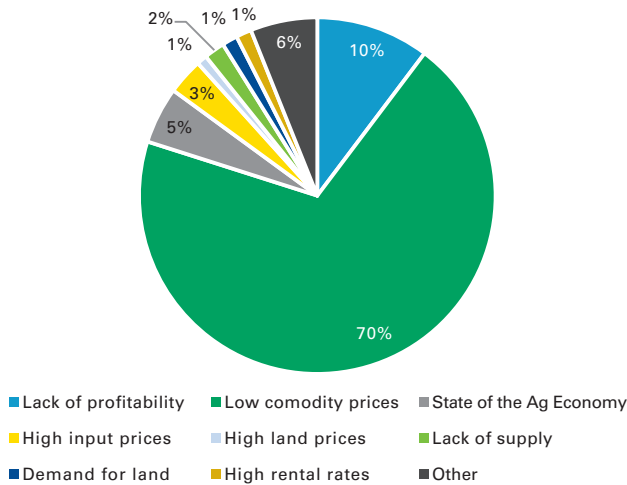
### Respondents’ Assessment of Factors Influencing Farmland Markets in South Dakota

Respondents to the 2016 annual survey were asked to list major positive and negative factors affecting the farm real estate markets in their localities. These factors play important roles in explaining the changes that occurred in the amount of farmland sold in the past year. Also it explains the direction of changes in rental rates and sale prices of farmland. Seventy eight percent of the survey respondents listed one to three positive reasons, and 4.5% indicated there was nothing positive in the market when asked. Eighty nine percent

**Figure 9. Positive Factors Currently Impacting the Farm Real Estate Market 2016**



**Figure 10. Negative Factors Currently Impacting the Farm Real Estate Market**



of the total respondents listed one to three negative reasons affecting the real estate market (Figure 9).

Low interest rates was the most frequently listed positive factor affecting agriculture real estate values (37% of responses). Expansion and excess cash were listed as the second most positive market factor affecting farm market real estate purchases, at 14 percent. Commodity prices, especially livestock prices, were listed as the next major reason cited with 13% of responses. Investment made up 11% of the responses and other reasons being 16% (Figure 9).

The decline in commodity prices dominated the negative factors in the real estate market at 70% of the total responses. Lack of profitability was the next most frequent response with 10 percent, followed, by other reasons (5%) and input costs (5%) (Figure 10).

### Agricultural Land Market Expectations: Past and Prospective

In each survey, respondents were asked to estimate the percentage change in land values during the previous year and to forecast percentage changes in land values for the forthcoming year. Nearly 80% of respondents provided their perception of previous year cropland value changes, compared to 69% for rangeland and 60% for hayland. Almost the same percentage of respondents, in each land use category, projected land value changes for next year (2017).

Compared to prior years, a fair percentage of

respondents reported decreases in land values, especially for cropland. This year, 28% of respondents reported declines in cropland values from 2015 to 2016, 26% reported declines in hayland values, and 26% reported declines in rangeland / pasture values.

Increasing cropland values from 2015 to 2016 were reported by 17% of respondents, compared to 16% and 25%, respectively, reporting increasing hayland values and rangeland values. As a comparison more than 80% of respondents reported increasing land values across all land uses in 2014, while 94% of respondents reported increasing land values in 2012 and 2013. This continues the trend from 2015 of declining values for agricultural land.

Forecasts of future land price changes are lower than forecasts made in recent years. This year, only 10% of cropland responses, 11% of hayland responses, and 12% of rangeland / pasture responses forecast increasing land values for next year. By comparison, decreasing land values for next year are forecast by 60% of cropland responses, 22% of hayland responses, and 48% of pasture / rangeland responses.

The forecast percentage change in land values from winter 2015 to 2016 had an average of -2% for cropland, -1% for hayland, and +0.1% for rangeland.

There were not a lot of regional differences this year in terms of respondent perception of past year changes and forecasts for next year. In general, responses for past year and forecasted land values were negative for crop and hayland, with slightly positive perceptions for this year and slightly negative perceptions for next year for rangeland.

Overall, respondents to the 2016 survey are even less optimistic (compared to 2015 respondents) about farmland market conditions for the following year. The ratio of positive to negative forecasts is 1:2.5 for cropland, 1:2.5 for hayland, and 1:1 for rangeland. In other words, there is a lot more concern that cropland and hayland values may decline compared to rangeland. The prevailing view is that lower crop prices, compared to crop prices in 2012 and 2013, will remain for some time and “force” cropland cash rents downward along with declines in cropland values.

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\*\* Reference citations for annual SDSU farm real estate survey reports from 2001 through 2011 are not listed above but were published in print and electronic format. These reports were published as SDSU Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) Circulars 266, 267, 268 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 275, 276, and 278. Annual reports from 1991 through 2000 were only published in print format. Dr. Janssen and Dr. Pflueger, often in collaboration with an SDSU Economics student, were the co-authors of each annual report from 1991 through 2013.

## Appendix I: Survey Methods and Response Characteristics

The primary purpose of the 2016 South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey was to obtain regional and statewide information on 2016 per-acre agricultural land values and cash rental rates by land use and land productivity. In addition, we obtained respondents' assessments of positive and negative factors influencing their local farm real estate market and motivations for buyer/seller decisions.

Copies of this survey were mailed to 559 potential respondents at the end of February 2016 with a follow-up mailing the end of March. Potential respondents were persons employed in one of the following occupations: 1) agricultural lenders (senior agricultural loan officers of commercial banks or Farm Credit Service), 2) loan officers or county directors of the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), 3) Extension Service agricultural field specialists, and 4) licensed appraisers and assessors. Some appraisers were also realtors or professional farm managers, while some lenders were also appraisers.

Respondents were asked to report land values and cash rental rate information for non-irrigated cropland, hayland, rangeland, improved pasture, and irrigated land in their locality. Nearly one-third of respondents reported land market information for at least two counties. The number of responses exceeded the number of respondents as some persons (primarily appraisers and lenders) completed multiple survey schedules providing different land value and cash rental data for different counties in their trade territory. Overall, a total of 196 respondents provided 268 useable responses.

While 196 surveys were received and used there was only location data available for 191. The distribution of 191 responses is summarized by location and reported by occupation in appendix Table 1. Fifty-three percent of responses are from the three eastern regions of South Dakota, approximately 24% were from the central and North-central regions, and 23% were from the South-central and western regions. The low number of responses from the South-central and western regions is a major concern in continuing

to provide land value and rental rate estimates for regions west of the Missouri River. The low number of responses is also affecting the ability to make land value or cash rental rate estimates for several land uses in selected county clusters in regions east of the Missouri River.

Nearly 62% of responses are from agricultural lenders or FSA officials, and approximately 30% of responses are from appraisers. The remaining responses are from Extension field specialist and assessors. Over the past several years, the proportion of responses from agricultural lenders and appraisers has increased relative to other respondent categories.

Land value and cash rental rate information on cropland were provided by most survey respondents. Nearly four-fifths of responses provided land value and cash rental rate information for rangeland, while only 61% provided information on per-acre tame pasture values. Hayland values were reported by roughly 73% of survey respondents, while 69% provided hayland cash rental rates.

Slightly more than one-fourth provided data on irrigated land values and cash rental rates, compared to 21% providing data on AUM (animal unit months) rental rates.

Regional average land values by land use are simple average (mean) values of usable responses. Statewide average land values by land use are weighted by the relative number of acres in each region in the same land use. All-agricultural land values, regional and statewide, are weighted by the proportion of acres in each agricultural land use. Thus all-agricultural land values in this report are weighted average values by region and land use. This weighted average approach is analogous to the cost (inventory) approach of estimating farmland values in rural land appraisal.

This approach has important implications in the derivation of statewide average land values and regional all-land values. For example, the two western regions of South Dakota with the lowest average land values have nearly 61% of the state's rangeland acres, 39% of all-agricultural land acres, and only 16% of cropland acres. Our approach increases the relative

importance of western South Dakota land values in the final computations and results in lower statewide average land values.

The weighting factors used to develop statewide average land values are based on estimates of non-irrigated agricultural land use for privately owned farmland in South Dakota. It excludes agricultural land (mostly rangeland) leased from tribal or federal agencies, which is mostly located in the western and central regions of the state. Irrigated land is also excluded from regional and statewide all-land values. The land-use weighting factors were developed from county-level data in the 2002 South Dakota Census of Agriculture and other sources.

Regional average rental rates by land use are simple average (mean) values of useable responses.

Statewide average cash rental rates for each land use are weighted by 1) the relative number of acres in each land use and 2) the proportion of farmland acres leased in each region based on 2002 Census of Agriculture data.

Appendix Table 1. Selected characteristics of responses, 2015.  
Number of responses = 196

Responses:							
	Reporting location	N	%		Primary Occupation	N	%
	Southeast	34	17.8%		Banker/loan officer	84	47.2%
	East-Central	39	20.4%		Farm Service Agency	26	14.6%
	Northeast	29	15.2%		Assessor	9	5.1%
	North-Central	27	14.1%		Appraiser/realtor	53	29.8%
	Central	18	9.4%		Extension educators	6	3.4%
	South-Central	13	6.8%			178	100.0%
	Southwest	15	7.9%				
	Northwest	16	8.4%				
		191	100.0%				

Response rates:							
	Land values	N	%		Cash Rental Rates	N	%
	Nonirrigated cropland	188	98.4%		Nonirrigated cropland	171	89.5%
	Irrigated cropland	57	29.8%		Irrigated cropland	50	26.2%
	Hayland	139	72.8%		Hayland	132	69.1%
	Rangeland (native)	158	82.7%		Rangeland (acre)	149	78.0%
	Pastureland (tame)	117	61.3%				

Source: 2016 South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Survey

Appendix Table 2. Average reported value and annual percentage change in value of South Dakota agricultural land by type of land by region, February, 1991-2016.

Type of Land	South-east	East-Central	North-east	North-Central	Central	South-Central	South-west	North-west	STATE
<b>All Agricultural Land (nonirrigated)</b>	<b>dollars per acre</b>								
Average value, 2016	4752	5069	3661	3182	3080	1584	827	836	2444
Average value, 2015	4995	5186	3940	3226	3035	1634	964	737	2505
Average value, 2014	5385	5763	3962	3319	2931	1461	620	512	2470
Average value, 2013	4954	5504	3684	3217	2678	1294	606	536	2328
Average value, 2012	4014	3890	2587	2325	2257	917	461	369	1742
Average value, 2011	2900	3332	2274	1720	1450	781	459	342	1374
Average value, 2010	2447	2712	2006	1487	1268	648	411	329	1179
Average value, 2009	2355	2634	1863	1270	1246	690	413	307	1121
Average value, 2008	2168	2473	1714	1179	1152	642	378	295	1041
Average value, 2007	1768	1946	1422	945	899	521	322	285	850
Average value, 2006	1583	1643	1174	849	803	462	286	256	743
Average value, 2005	1372	1427	1029	736	711	414	275	211	650
Average Value, 2004	1147	1162	779	629	594	377	223	192	541
Average value, 2003	1017	903	641	549	522	309	200	177	461
Average value, 2002	930	875	560	501	424	313	202	150	421
Average value, 2001	893	785	519	450	373	284	167	143	384
Average value, 2000	794	673	492	404	352	286	167	131	352
Average value, 1999	740	644	452	378	345	273	166	122	331
Average value, 1998	772	610	452	353	346	280	155	117	328
Average value, 1997	665	591	432	323	302	241	139	111	298
Average value, 1996	643	522	414	294	296	217	126	115	280
Average value, 1995	633	473	419	279	264	222	130	103	268
Average value, 1994	567	497	393	293	255	191	112	94	250
Average value, 1993	548	498	399	254	233	199	111	90	241
Average value, 1992	519	474	368	259	223	186	104	89	231
Average value, 1991	526	466	362	227	225	177	97	84	223
Av annual % change 16/91	9.2%	10.0%	9.7%	11.1%	11.0%	9.2%	9.0%	9.6%	10.1%
Annual % change 16/15	-4.9%	-2.3%	-7.1%	-1.4%	1.5%	-3.1%	-14.2%	13.4%	-2.4%
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>	<b>dollars per acre</b>								
Average value, 2016	5653	6116	4613	4177	3843	2168	1264	1187	4094
Average value, 2015	5887	6329	5066	4275	3895	2283	1347	1193	4265
Average value, 2014	6331	7114	5291	4614	3953	2087	820	870	4478
Average value, 2013	5903	6828	4843	4562	3580	1994	900	792	4249
Average value, 2012	4817	4734	3369	3026	2946	1348	677	496	3084
Average value, 2011	3402	4024	2918	2301	1866	1115	625	483	2389
Average value, 2010	2841	3291	2560	1945	1644	967	560	474	2030
Average value, 2009	2741	3155	2305	1673	1577	1007	596	428	1900
Average value, 2008	2510	2894	2076	1532	1450	904	502	399	1733
Average value, 2007	1999	2244	1762	1187	1086	702	426	367	1375
Average value, 2006	1817	1914	1448	1088	986	612	387	342	1211
Average Value, 2005	1556	1659	1255	967	871	568	383	316	1064
Average Value, 2004	1315	1346	973	822	705	541	318	294	882
Average value, 2003	1156	1040	793	716	631	443	290	281	743
Average value, 2002	1057	1019	691	665	524	445	311	244	684
Average value, 2001	1023	911	652	592	456	423	245	223	626
Average value, 2000	910	785	620	520	436	417	248	208	567
Average value, 1999	866	756	565	488	435	402	246	202	534
Average value, 1998	903	728	564	452	434	399	241	200	534
Average value, 1997	777	699	535	412	386	348	217	188	486
Average value, 1996	751	613	514	372	371	317	214	191	455
Average value, 1995	732	555	522	353	332	326	237	185	437
Average value, 1994	661	590	488	382	331	289	218	169	426
Average value, 1993	655	595	497	326	305	302	197	163	412
Average value, 1992	616	574	460	342	300	287	196	167	400
Average value, 1991	623	554	450	294	300	272	185	153	384
Av annual % change 16/91	9.2%	10.1%	9.8%	11.2%	10.7%	8.7%	8.0%	8.5%	9.9%
Annual % change 16/15	-4.0%	-3.4%	-8.9%	-2.3%	-1.3%	-5.0%	-6.2%	-0.5%	-4.0%

Source: South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Surveys, SDSU, 2016 and earlier.  
 Statewide values by land use are based on 2002 regional land use weights

Appendix Table 2. (continued)

Type of Land	South-east	East-Central	North-east	North-Central	Central	South-Central	South-west	North-west	STATE
<b>Rangeland (native)</b>	dollars per acre								
Average value, 2016	2566	2781	2028	1957	2219	1330	715	760	1222
Average value, 2015	2719	2727	2136	1758	2100	1338	851	630	1187
Average value, 2014	2698	2861	1859	1600	1828	1187	571	436	987
Average value, 2013	2308	2765	1759	1473	1636	994	529	444	909
Average value, 2012	1930	2108	1345	1387	1493	724	401	341	737
Average value, 2011	1589	1779	1217	950	1011	634	409	309	611
Average value, 2010	1339	1536	1070	875	865	514	365	296	540
Average value, 2009	1258	1458	1125	755	898	570	358	277	530
Average value, 2008	1239	1539	1100	714	836	544	339	271	508
Average value, 2007	1073	1293	889	634	708	448	295	265	448
Average value, 2006	925	1055	751	548	599	397	255	234	386
Average value, 2005	781	844	667	458	552	346	241	185	332
Average value, 2004	684	764	465	396	456	312	196	167	283
Average value, 2003	609	580	389	345	397	257	176	153	246
Average value, 2002	538	543	353	297	325	260	172	127	221
Average value, 2001	488	478	315	270	284	232	143	124	198
Average value, 2000	456	417	297	253	265	235	143	111	187
Average value, 1999	405	386	276	241	255	220	143	102	177
Average value, 1998	408	346	274	226	256	231	130	98	172
Average value, 1997	364	354	268	204	214	197	116	92	155
Average value, 1996	336	311	250	194	214	177	100	97	147
Average value, 1995	354	303	247	184	197	180	101	83	140
Average value, 1994	319	283	228	184	190	149	85	80	128
Average value, 1993	283	276	232	169	175	157	89	76	125
Average value, 1992	271	267	209	163	159	145	80	74	117
Average value, 1991	268	271	205	147	163	137	74	69	112
Av annual % change 16/91	9.5%	9.8%	9.6%	10.9%	11.0%	9.5%	9.5%	10.1%	10.0%
Annual % change 16/15	-5.6%	2.0%	-5.1%	11.3%	5.7%	-0.6%	-16.0%	20.6%	2.9%
<b>Pasture (tame, improved)</b>	dollars per acre								
Average value, 2016	2811	2988	2309	2067	2320	1431	712	802	1704
Average value, 2015	2945	2908	2545	2224	2557	1500	943	769	1820
Average value, 2014	2968	3098	2244	1958	2220	1309	596	483	1603
Average value, 2013	2721	3176	2074	1778	2222	1129	571	523	1542
Average value, 2012	2275	2371	1678	1550	1772	844	431	373	1218
Average value, 2011	1726	2082	1494	1161	1179	762	465	344	1011
Average value, 2010	1480	1629	1178	991	1061	650	429	320	854
Average value, 2009	1378	1802	1373	827	1042	571	429	314	857
Average value, 2008	1365	1675	1304	795	943	571	384	307	809
Average value, 2007	1167	1461	987	698	760	524	303	297	684
Average value, 2006	1085	1166	843	598	711	425	283	282	596
Average Value, 2005	937	1018	730	465	610	397	291	227	519
Average Value, 2004	754	818	517	424	518	337	217	198	420
Average value, 2003	683	710	448	389	493	294	191	163	372
Average value, 2002	639	607	391	327	345	287	193	156	327
Average value, 2001	564	522	342	301	332	258	176	153	297
Average value, 2000	516	481	334	289	303	268	167	144	279
Average value, 1999	453	437	314	266	290	240	161	125	256
Average value, 1998	461	406	297	264	302	272	161	120	254
Average value, 1997	416	373	299	236	265	222	138	114	230
Average value, 1996	379	358	279	231	258	188	127	115	217
Average value, 1995	385	346	262	218	214	214	117	102	206
Average value, 1994	371	335	251	200	224	194	109	93	196
Average value, 1993	326	333	249	194	194	193	104	98	188
Average value, 1992	328	306	257	194	190	176	100	88	182
Average value, 1991	315	325	252	170	199	163	92	94	179
Av annual % change 16/91	9.1%	9.3%	9.3%	10.5%	10.3%	9.1%	8.5%	9.0%	9.4%
Annual % change 16/15	-4.6%	2.8%	-9.3%	-7.1%	-9.3%	-4.6%	-24.5%	4.3%	-6.4%

Appendix Table 2. (continued)

Type of Land	South-east	East Central	North-east	North Central	Central	South-Central	South-west	North-west	STATE
<b>Hayland</b>	<b>dollars per acre</b>								
Average value, 2016	3597	4226	2921	2293	3125	1733	1005	951	2469
Average value, 2015	4030	4220	2675	2687	2755	1843	1166	917	2535
Average value, 2014	4762	4598	2466	2458	2525	1630	640	590	2458
Average value, 2013	4196	4003	2639	2223	2552	1453	678	610	2285
Average value, 2012	3337	3008	1638	1905	2143	1039	559	407	1758
Average value, 2011	2401	2742	1590	1301	1300	854	552	400	1377
Average value, 2010	2158	2074	1581	1202	1121	681	473	391	1195
Average value, 2009	2098	2116	1387	962	1109	720	488	373	1142
Average value, 2008	1871	2127	1347	939	1050	649	450	334	1079
Average value, 2007	1659	1637	1028	750	815	525	356	327	875
Average value, 2006	1383	1371	831	640	758	499	346	300	758
Average value, 2005	1312	1203	780	515	612	451	324	270	675
Average value, 2004	1008	992	586	432	516	391	265	245	549
Average value, 2003	932	770	488	379	486	310	228	227	474
Average value, 2002	863	770	412	352	375	325	238	204	439
Average value, 2001	844	735	359	332	337	281	201	181	406
Average value, 2000	722	577	330	317	310	293	203	175	365
Average value, 1999	619	562	317	278	293	294	194	163	340
Average value, 1998	668	504	330	265	295	291	178	149	335
Average value, 1997	553	507	316	262	253	258	169	150	307
Average value, 1996	568	451	314	219	273	232	156	146	293
Average value, 1995	562	365	336	213	229	230	164	145	279
Average value, 1994	489	409	279	235	237	204	137	124	263
Average value, 1993	435	398	275	188	205	204	140	121	244
Average value, 1992	416	336	237	179	197	193	135	119	226
Average value, 1991	461	358	252	169	190	197	126	122	233
Av annual % change 16/91	8.6%	10.4%	10.3%	11.0%	11.9%	9.1%	8.7%	8.6%	9.9%
Annual % change 16/15	-10.7%	0.1%	9.2%	-14.7%	13.4%	-6.0%	-13.8%	3.7%	-2.6%

Appendix Table 3. Reported cash rental rates of South Dakota agricultural land by type of land use by region, 1991-2016.

Type of Land	South-east	East Central	North-east	North-Central	Central	South-Central	South-west	North-west	State
	dollars per acre								
<b>Nonirrigated Cropland</b>									
Average 2016 rate	188.30	200.83	169.04	130.96	115.40	70.73	42.76	42.91	141.00
Average 2015 rate	195.55	204.25	191.70	121.60	118.70	76.60	43.60	45.05	145.10
Average 2014 rate	209.20	220.95	193.15	128.25	117.10	75.65	28.60	40.10	150.10
Average 2013 rate	193.20	214.75	187.00	128.65	105.10	76.15	37.05	37.35	144.30
Average 2012 rate	166.10	184.60	137.25	109.55	95.55	64.10	34.05	31.15	121.50
Average 2011 rate	131.60	152.70	119.40	89.20	69.80	53.05	30.80	28.70	98.90
Average 2010 rate	116.95	133.20	106.40	75.40	66.55	38.10	26.60	24.30	86.65
Average 2009 rate	114.50	129.00	97.00	72.60	66.50	42.60	27.50	24.25	83.90
Average 2008 rate	101.90	109.00	87.80	65.70	62.10	37.05	24.50	24.20	74.70
Average 2007 rate	92.30	91.65	77.85	56.75	48.95	32.70	23.35	21.80	64.80
Average 2006 rate	89.25	82.60	70.50	53.85	46.35	34.00	24.70	21.45	60.95
Average 2005 rate	87.20	82.60	65.70	49.40	45.80	31.50	24.90	22.90	58.90
Average 2004 rate	83.70	78.80	64.50	47.60	43.40	34.10	23.10	21.40	56.80
Average 2003 rate	78.80	74.70	59.50	44.90	40.60	29.20	22.00	21.00	53.25
Average 2002 rate	76.50	69.80	57.50	42.20	35.95	29.40	22.60	20.40	50.65
Average 2001 rate	72.95	64.60	52.20	37.80	35.30	27.20	20.10	17.50	47.00
Average 2000 rate	67.50	56.40	49.30	36.20	31.90	30.00	18.70	18.70	43.70
Average 1999 rate	63.20	56.00	46.20	36.00	33.20	27.00	19.50	16.90	42.30
Average 1998 rate	65.20	55.00	45.30	34.70	30.90	25.90	19.00	17.90	41.75
Average 1997 rate	57.40	49.20	44.70	32.70	29.30	23.60	19.10	19.30	38.70
Average 1996 rate	54.70	45.30	41.50	28.70	26.30	21.60	17.00	16.00	35.50
Average 1995 rate	52.50	42.10	40.40	27.60	25.10	21.00	17.60	15.90	34.05
Average 1994 rate	51.90	45.10	40.30	29.80	25.00	22.10	17.60	14.90	34.85
Average 1993 rate	51.80	47.10	40.30	26.60	24.20	22.80	16.60	14.60	34.40
Average 1992 rate	48.00	45.70	39.70	25.50	22.70	21.40	17.70	15.10	33.00
Average 1991 rate	49.30	43.20	38.50	24.50	23.20	22.20	15.90	13.50	32.40
<b>Hayland</b>									
Average 2016 rate	122.14	133.09	104.29	75.14	94.47	48.91	31.58	37.35	84.00
Average 2015 rate	132.35	133.50	98.20	66.50	73.50	52.30	34.10	38.80	82.15
Average 2014 rate	169.40	145.25	87.50	67.10	60.90	52.45	22.50	26.10	84.40
Average 2013 rate	143.20	119.40	100.85	64.40	66.55	49.30	28.40	29.50	79.30
Average 2012 rate	123.00	105.35	56.30	61.15	57.80	42.65	25.45	23.10	65.85
Average 2011 rate	91.30	102.45	69.25	48.40	47.70	32.70	22.95	21.10	57.10
Average 2010 rate	92.40	83.50	64.60	43.40	43.30	26.00	21.00	18.60	51.50
Average 2009 rate	87.50	88.70	58.50	40.60	39.80	27.50	21.00	18.70	50.15
Average 2008 rate	81.70	80.90	58.50	42.60	38.40	28.00	17.75	20.00	47.40
Average 2007 rate	74.00	67.55	47.40	34.25	31.35	25.70	18.80	18.40	41.60
Average 2006 rate	72.90	60.50	40.20	30.20	34.60	27.30	19.55	18.15	39.80
Average 2005 rate	71.60	56.40	38.70	28.90	29.80	22.20	17.60	18.80	37.20
Average 2004 rate	68.50	53.40	36.80	27.10	28.40	24.80	18.50	17.70	36.05
Average 2003 rate	67.20	49.40	34.60	26.20	27.50	19.80	17.80	19.80	34.15
Average 2002 rate	63.70	49.20	31.00	23.40	21.10	20.40	15.50	17.50	31.70
Average 2001 rate	61.20	47.60	28.90	21.00	23.30	18.10	15.90	14.70	30.20
Average 2000 rate	57.80	40.10	28.80	20.30	21.10	19.40	15.10	14.30	28.45
Average 1999 rate	48.50	40.10	22.80	20.40	20.60	19.60	14.80	15.40	26.40
Average 1998 rate	51.40	40.50	24.60	19.40	20.90	18.90	14.20	13.60	27.10
Average 1997 rate	46.10	36.80	28.20	18.70	19.90	16.70	14.90	14.60	25.40
Average 1996 rate	41.50	32.30	26.00	17.00	18.60	15.20	12.60	11.20	22.70
Average 1995 rate	43.80	28.20	25.30	16.70	16.10	14.90	11.10	11.10	21.90
Average 1994 rate	39.50	31.40	23.60	17.00	17.80	15.50	11.90	11.30	21.90
Average 1993 rate	35.60	32.10	22.00	14.70	16.40	16.00	11.30	9.50	20.60
Average 1992 rate	33.30	25.90	20.00	14.20	15.60	15.60	11.40	12.10	19.20
Average 1991 rate	38.50	30.90	22.30	14.20	15.70	14.80	12.10	10.40	20.70

Source: South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Surveys, SDSU, 2016 and earlier year reports.

Statewide rental rates based on 2002 land use weights

Appendix Table 3. (continued)

Type of Land	South-east	East Central	North-east	North-Central	Central	South-Central	South-west	North-west	State
dollars per acre									
<b>Pasture/Rangeland</b>									
Average 2016 rate	81.00	78.18	61.73	58.40	62.14	37.88	14.31	15.17	31.13
Average 2015 rate	67.60	76.50	63.00	51.15	52.90	45.00	18.30	18.90	31.40
Average 2014 rate	67.95	73.80	57.05	49.75	44.90	33.15	14.00	17.10	28.40
Average 2013 rate	58.15	67.70	52.65	46.65	45.20	32.50	14.35	15.00	26.65
Average 2012 rate	57.95	61.95	46.95	42.25	40.40	22.30	11.65	12.55	22.60
Average 2011 rate	52.50	57.65	45.65	38.35	31.20	23.30	10.90	11.35	20.70
Average 2010 rate	50.40	50.70	41.95	34.05	31.60	16.10	11.00	10.45	18.60
Average 2009 rate	45.60	49.60	39.60	33.40	33.20	21.40	14.30	10.40	19.80
Average 2008 rate	45.60	47.15	38.30	31.30	32.25	17.90	10.75	11.00	18.50
Average 2007 rate	44.00	42.80	34.95	28.50	26.85	16.90	11.60	9.95	17.10
Average 2006 rate	42.10	40.00	31.35	25.90	26.30	19.60	10.70	9.25	16.50
Average 2005 rate	40.55	36.05	29.80	24.60	24.95	14.85	10.70	9.75	15.60
Average 2004 rate	37.40	35.90	27.20	22.20	23.90	17.30	10.00	7.90	14.60
Average 2003 rate	35.20	32.40	25.30	20.30	23.00	16.40	8.60	7.70	13.65
Average 2002 rate	33.70	32.00	23.70	18.70	19.70	15.60	8.90	7.20	12.90
Average 2001 rate	30.90	30.40	21.00	17.50	20.80	12.90	8.60	6.60	11.95
Average 2000 rate	31.00	26.80	20.60	17.40	18.50	15.40	8.00	6.80	11.95
Average 1999 rate	26.80	24.80	19.70	16.60	17.80	14.70	7.70	6.20	11.20
Average 1998 rate	28.10	24.40	19.40	16.40	17.50	14.90	7.30	6.70	11.30
Average 1997 rate	25.70	23.60	19.50	15.20	16.80	13.00	6.60	6.80	10.70
Average 1996 rate	21.20	22.10	18.80	14.70	16.30	12.00	5.60	6.10	9.80
Average 1995 rate	21.90	21.60	18.60	14.90	14.80	11.20	6.10	6.30	9.75
Average 1994 rate	20.30	20.90	18.60	13.40	16.30	11.20	5.40	5.60	9.25
Average 1993 rate	20.30	20.10	17.00	12.70	15.20	10.10	5.60	5.10	8.70
Average 1992 rate	18.00	19.60	16.50	12.00	13.50	9.50	5.30	4.90	8.20
Average 1991 rate	19.20	18.60	16.30	12.50	13.80	9.90	5.30	4.40	8.10

\*\*\* Insufficient number of reports

Source: South Dakota Farm Real Estate Market Surveys, SDSU, 2016 and earlier year reports.