



The Daily

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Farm Product Price Index

August 2005

Prices farmers received for their commodities was 5.0% lower in August compared with the same month a year earlier as crop prices continued to tumble, while prices for livestock increased slightly.

Overall, producers received prices for crops that were 12.7% below levels in August 2004, continuing the downward trend in year-over-year price changes for the 24 consecutive month, according to the Farm Product Price Index (FPPI). Farmers received lower prices for grains, oilseeds, potatoes, special crops and vegetables.

In contrast, prices for livestock and animal products were 2.0% above the year earlier level. The overall livestock and animal products index has increased in six of the eight months this year. It was stronger cattle and calf and dairy prices which supported August's increase as hog prices continued their year-over-year slide that started in May.

On a monthly basis, prices farmers received for their commodities rose 3.3% in August from July, as both the overall crops and livestock and animal products indexes recorded increases.

The FPPI (1997=100) stood at 97.2 in August, up from a revised July index of 94.1. Increasing in four of the last eight months, the index was at its second highest level this year. It had reached a high of 98.2 in February.

The overall crops index was higher in August compared to July, supported by higher potato and fruit prices. The overall potato price was up in August, boosted by the usual new-crop table potatoes coming to market.

Grain and oilseed prices were lower as large supplies, anticipated increased production of oilseeds and the strong Canadian dollar continued to weigh on prices. The average close for the Canadian dollar in August was the highest it has been since November 2004.

Prices for livestock and animal products were up in August from the revised July index, with all commodities recording increases ranging from 0.2% for poultry to 1.8% for hogs.

Hog prices made gains in August after dropping to a seven-month low in July. However, the index remains the second lowest this year. Producers reported a record number of hogs on Canadian farms at July 1.

Cattle and calf prices rose in August, the first full month of live Canadian cattle moving across the US border since the discovery of BSE in May 2003. In July, the preliminary injunction, which had delayed the

March 9 reopening of the US border, was overturned by the US Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals resuming the trade of live cattle. In 2002, the last full year before the border closed in May 2003, 26% of Canadian cattle sold, were exported, with most going to the United States.

Farm Product Price Index

(1997=100)

	August 2004 ^r	July 2005 ^r	August 2005 ^p	August 2004 to August 2005 2005	July to August 2005
	% change				
Farm Product Price Index	102.3	94.1	97.2	-5.0	3.3
Crops	103.7	85.0	90.5	-12.7	6.5
Grains	94.0	68.6	68.3	-27.3	-0.4
Oilseeds	99.5	78.4	73.7	-25.9	-6.0
Specialty crops	102.8	100.1	84.9	-17.4	-15.2
Fruit	104.5	100.7	110.0	5.3	9.2
Vegetables	112.7	110.1	109.9	-2.5	-0.2
Potatoes	215.2	129.2	184.6	-14.2	42.9
Livestock and animal products	101.2	102.0	103.2	2.0	1.2
Cattle and calves	86.5	102.0	102.7	18.7	0.7
Hogs	99.4	84.2	85.7	-13.8	1.8
Poultry	97.8	92.7	92.9	-5.0	0.2
Eggs	109.4	95.8	96.2	-12.1	0.4
Dairy	122.5	123.6	125.3	2.3	1.4

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The August issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 5, no. 8 (21-007-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For general information or to order data, call (1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (613-951-2701; fax: 613-951-3868; gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Natural gas sales

August 2005 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 3 881 million cubic metres in August, up 0.1% from August 2004. Higher sales (+0.8%) in the industrial sector (including direct sales) were almost offset by lower volume of sales in the residential sector (-1.3%) and the commercial sector (-4.1%).

Year-to-date sales at the end of August were down 1.0% from the same period of 2004. All sectors showed lower sales volume, with the commercial sector leading the way (-1.5%) followed by the residential sector (-0.9%), while sales of natural gas to the industrial (including direct sales) sector declined 0.8% so far this year.

Natural gas sales

	August 2005 ^P	August 2004	August 2004 to August 2005
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas sales	3 881 175	3 875 838	0.1
Residential	438 131	443 936	-1.3
Commercial	349 341	364 243	-4.1
Industrial	1 515 168	1 480 554	0.8
Direct	1 578 534	1 587 105	
	year-to-date		
	2005 ^P	2004	2004 to 2005
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas sales	47 336 089	47 800 384	-1.0
Residential	11 510 449	11 619 936	-0.9
Commercial	8 460 805	8 593 307	-1.5
Industrial	12 655 329	12 774 052	-0.8
Direct	14 709 505	14 813 089	

^P Preliminary figures.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, to order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products September 2005

Total cigarettes sold in September by Canadian manufacturers decreased 8.4% from August to 3.2 billion cigarettes, and decreased 3.0% from the level observed in September 2004.

Cigarette production for September increased 1.8% from August to 3.3 billion cigarettes, but decreased 11.1% from the level observed in September 2004.

At 4.8 billion cigarettes, the level of closing inventories for September increased by 3.0% from August, and increased 30.7% over the level recorded in September 2004.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The September issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 34, no. 9 (32-022-XIE, \$6/\$51) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (613-951-9497; 1-866-873-8789; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending October 15, 2005 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 15 totalled 296 845 metric tonnes, up 0.5% from 295 462 tonnes a week earlier and down 6.0% from 315 729 tonnes in the same week of 2004.

The year-to-date total as of October 15 was 12 173 286 tonnes, down 5.3% from 12 849 453 tonnes in the same period of 2004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

August 2005

Data on particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard are now available for August. The data for July have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0058.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2141.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

New products

Farm Product Price Index, August 2005, Vol. 5, no. 8
Catalogue number 21-007-XIE
(free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products,
September 2005, Vol. 34, no. 9
Catalogue number 32-022-XIE (\$6/\$51).

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc.

Retail Trade, August 2005, Vol. 77, no. 8
Catalogue number 63-005-XIE (\$18/\$166).

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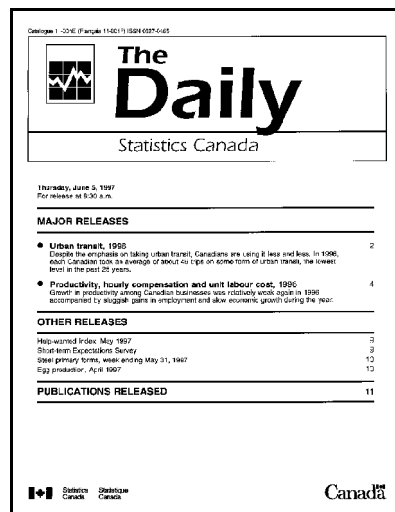
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