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Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
MAY 13 1947
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Ottawa, May 12, 1947: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics today issues a report on index numbers of prices received by Canadian farmers for the month of March 1947. Most of the price information used in compiling this index is obtained from reports furnished monthly by a corps of volunteer farm price correspondents throughout Canada.

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Prices received by Canadian farmers for agricultural products at March 15 averaged higher than at the corresponding date in 1946. The index number of prices received for all products at 188.0 (1935-39 = 100) was 7.5 points above the index number of 180.5 a year ago.

By provinces, considerable variation exists in comparison with March of last year. The index numbers for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia are lower than a year ago, due principally to marked declines in prices received for potatoes, fruits, vegetables and poultry and eggs. The index numbers for Quebec, Ontario and the three Prairie Provinces have registered increases from March last year. Higher prices for live stock and dairy products are chiefly responsible for the increases in the index for each of these provinces. Grain prices, generally, remain at levels similar to those prevailing last year. The quality of the 1946 western field crops was lower than in 1945, and this factor has been chiefly responsible for some decreases in the price of grains in the Prairie Provinces. However, these decreases are largely offset by somewhat higher grain prices in Ontario and Quebec.

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FOR CANADA

(Base 1935-39 = 100)

Annual Average			1946		1947			
1935	88.0	January	.....	178.9	January	.....	184.8
1936	96.9	February	.....	180.2	February	.....	185.9
1937	119.7	March	.....	180.5	March	.....	188.0
1938	105.0	April	.....	182.7			
1939	91.8	May	.....	184.7			
1940	96.8	June	.....	186.7			
1941	110.2	July	.....	188.0			
1942	133.1	August	.....	187.2			
1943	157.8	September	.....	183.7			
1944	171.8	October	.....	183.2			
1945	176.6	November	.....	183.9			
1946	183.7	December	.....	184.6			

The prices used in computing the index are, as closely as can be determined, the prices which were actually received by farmers. Thus the storage, transportation, processing and handling charges which are not actually received by farmers are not included. On the other hand subsidies, bonuses and premiums which can be attributed to specific products are all included to date, as well as equalization payments on oats and barley, and payments on wheat participation certificates in so far as they are available.

Advance and final equalization payments on oats and barley are included up to July 1945, from which date the advance payments only are included. The amounts paid per bushel on wheat participation certificates are included in the wheat prices up to July 1944. In subsequent crop years the following amounts per bushel are included: 1944-45 sixteen cents and 1945-46 the ten cents per bushel retroactive increase announced on July 30, 1946. Each cent of revision necessary when the actual amounts of the payments since August 1944 are obtainable would change the Canada index by 0.4 points and the index of the western provinces by about 0.8.

In compiling the index the fixed base weighted aggregative method has been used. Each commodity has been weighted by the annual average amounts sold in the five-year base period, 1935-39. No adjustments for seasonal variation of the prices have been made. The index is based upon prices for about 50 farm products which contributed approximately 90 per cent to the total cash income received by farmers from the sale of farm products during the base period. The series is subject to revision as more complete data become available.

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

(1935-39 = 100)

	CANADA	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
1935	88.0	81.4	92.6	80.8	90.1	93.2	85.6	83.1	84.3	92.7
1936	96.9	118.0	103.5	110.2	98.6	98.8	94.0	93.4	93.8	100.4
1937	119.7	103.7	99.3	100.1	104.1	108.7	129.9	136.4	131.4	107.1
1938	105.0	92.4	101.4	97.4	107.0	104.0	104.9	107.6	105.6	100.1
1939	91.8	104.6	107.6	111.4	100.4	99.2	85.6	79.9	84.9	98.8
1940	96.8	101.6	99.6	110.1	103.7	104.2	92.8	86.5	90.6	103.6
1941	110.2	105.2	117.1	115.5	127.4	120.2	103.7	93.8	102.8	114.5
1942	133.1	156.2	144.1	160.4	153.4	147.0	122.2	110.5	121.7	140.6
1943	157.8	190.3	169.1	181.4	172.6	165.0	151.3	139.9	149.9	175.9
1944	171.8	172.7	173.3	171.8	171.7	168.7	172.4	170.3	176.0	179.6
1945	176.6	196.7	179.5	195.3	179.4	174.0	175.1	172.2	178.6	187.4
1946 January	178.9	196.2	183.5	209.5	188.1	180.7	173.8	169.1	175.7	193.6
February	180.2	202.9	183.5	208.9	188.2	182.4	174.9	169.8	177.4	195.3
March	180.5	205.5	187.1	216.4	188.1	182.2	175.6	169.7	177.6	196.0
April	182.7	210.4	188.5	218.3	190.3	184.5	178.1	171.1	180.6	197.2
May	184.7	216.2	193.8	221.8	194.1	187.5	179.3	172.4	181.1	197.2
June	186.7	214.4	195.8	232.0	197.4	189.2	181.2	173.3	183.2	200.1
July	188.0	217.1	197.2	229.1	199.7	190.4	181.5	173.8	184.0	206.9
August	187.2	237.1	202.0	224.1	201.2	189.4	180.7	172.8	183.1	197.9
September	183.7	176.5	184.0	193.1	197.6	187.9	179.5	171.3	182.0	190.0
October	183.2	166.7	179.5	181.2	200.2	188.3	179.6	171.6	179.3	188.6
November	183.9	161.5	177.6	179.9	202.0	190.0	180.1	171.9	179.4	189.7
December	184.6	161.7	175.9	176.0	203.4	189.9	180.7	173.2	180.8	191.8
1946 AVERAGE	183.7	197.2	187.4	207.5	195.9	186.9	178.8	171.7	180.4	195.4
1947 January	184.8	155.0	175.8	178.9	205.9	187.4	183.0	174.0	182.1	191.9
February	185.9	154.3	174.9	179.8	205.0	188.6	184.6	175.0	185.0	190.4
March	188.0	164.4	174.2	183.4	205.7	190.7	186.3	177.2	188.0	190.7

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