

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION
OTTAWA - CANADA

DEC 1 5 1948

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Minister of Trade and Commerce

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Ottawa, December 14, 1948: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics today issues the regular monthly report on index numbers of prices received by Canadian farmers for agricultural products. The index numbers for the month of October 1948, are initially released and revisions of previously published data are included. 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

October witnessed, for the second successive month, a downward movement of the index of farm prices of agricultural products. Lower prices for livestock and potatoes more than offset gains registered for dairy products, poultry and eggs, to account for a two point drop to a figure of 251.1 (1935-39 = 100). The first significant decline in nearly two years occurred in September of this year when the index eased from a high of 255.8 to 253.1. While the October figure is below that of the preceding month, it is substantially above the 208.6 established in the same month a year ago.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products for Canada 1/
(Base 1935-39 = 100)

Annual Averages			Monthly Averages		
			Month	1947	1948
1935	.....	88.0	January	..... 194.6	231.6
1936	.....	96.9	February	..... 195.1	231.4
1937	.....	119.7	March	..... 197.4	231.2
1938	.....	105.0	April	..... 197.8	233.7
1939	.....	91.8	May	..... 200.0	238.5
1940	.....	96.8	June	..... 203.3	248.5
1941	.....	110.2	July	..... 203.4	250.4
1942	.....	133.1	August	..... 205.7	255.8
1943	.....	157.8	September	..... 208.8	253.1
1944	.....	172.3	October	..... 208.6	251.1
1945	.....	180.7	November	..... 211.8	
1946	.....	192.5	December	..... 217.9	
1947	.....	203.7			

1/ Includes revised data since last report. See table page 3.

The table on the following page presents the annual average of Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products by Provinces for the period 1935-46, and the monthly index numbers for the years 1947-48. The prices used in computing the index are, as closely as can be determined, the prices which are 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.

The amounts paid per bushel on wheat participation certificates are included in the wheat prices up to July 1945. Subsequently, wheat prices include the ten cents per bushel retroactive increase announced on July 30, 1946 and paid on the 1945 crop and the 20 cents retroactive payment to be made on all wheat delivered during the crop years 1945-46, 1946-47 and up to April 1, 1948.

Oats and barley prices include advance equalization payments until their discontinuance on March 18, 1947 and the adjustment payment to be made on deliveries of these grains from August 1 to October 21, 1947 when price ceilings were removed. In addition, barley prices include final equalization payments up to July 1945 and oats prices include these final payments up to July 1947. From August 1, 1946 to March 17, 1947, barley prices include the 10 cents adjustment payment made in respect of barley delivered during that period.

Flax prices include the adjustment payment of 50 cents per bushel made on all deliveries of commercial flaxseed during the 1947-48 crop year.

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 1/
(1935-39 =100)

	CANADA	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask	Alta.	B.C.
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	172.3	172.7	173.3	171.9	171.7	168.7	173.1	171.4	176.9	179.7
1945	180.7	196.7	180.8	195.3	179.5	174.1	181.2	181.6	186.6	187.7
1946	192.5	194.2	191.1	207.7	196.8	187.4	192.1	190.8	197.0	198.4
1947 - January	194.6	155.8	178.9	179.6	206.5	189.6	197.9	193.4	199.1	199.2
February	195.1	155.2	178.1	180.1	205.6	189.4	197.9	194.4	201.9	197.5
March	197.4	165.4	177.6	184.3	206.0	191.9	201.3	196.7	205.0	198.0
April	197.8	166.2	178.9	182.1	204.2	190.5	203.8	197.5	207.5	200.3
May	200.0	168.4	179.7	191.7	205.5	194.5	205.0	198.8	208.9	200.6
June	203.3	175.6	183.1	195.8	208.8	201.8	206.8	199.6	209.3	202.3
July	203.4	179.9	185.7	197.2	209.7	202.1	205.7	198.5	208.6	209.8
August	205.7	211.0	196.0	215.8	212.9	205.3	207.1	198.7	207.7	210.0
September	208.8	196.6	186.0	211.0	220.9	208.3	209.8	200.7	212.4	212.2
October	208.6	183.3	186.9	206.6	222.0	209.9	209.9	200.4	209.8	213.0
November	211.8	194.9	191.3	223.3	223.2	213.2	219.5	201.9	211.2	214.1
December	217.9	211.6	199.3	227.4	229.9	224.4	221.5	205.4	213.8	216.2
AVERAGE	203.7	180.3	185.1	199.6	212.9	201.7	207.2	198.8	207.9	206.1
1948 January	231.6	231.6	204.1	239.7	250.4	241.3	234.9	213.8	227.0	222.3
February	231.4	229.4	203.6	243.4	257.6	241.6	230.2	211.8	225.7	219.2
March	231.2	233.8	207.8	242.2	256.4	240.1	229.5	213.0	226.4	218.4
April	233.7	240.1	210.1	251.2	256.4	242.5	232.4	215.1	229.3	224.9
May	238.5	279.1	216.1	266.4	262.1	246.6	238.1	218.3	233.3	226.9
June	246.5	303.2	224.5	286.7	265.6	266.2	243.3	222.5	240.2	232.3
July	250.4	288.3	233.1	314.1	270.6	264.9	244.9	222.8	242.6	242.5
August	255.8	258.2	232.3	267.2	273.7	279.2	246.3	225.3	249.1	249.1
September	253.1	204.3	216.1	225.7	270.0	273.9	249.1	225.5	252.7	248.9
October	251.1	195.8	207.3	222.3	271.2	272.0	246.8	223.8	249.2	250.6

1/ Includes revised data since last report;

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