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MARCH

Ottawa, May 13, 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 March, 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

While the index numbers of farm prices of agricultural products as of March 15, 1948, were relatively unchanged from those of the same date a month earlier, they were substantially higher than they were in March 1947. When compared with the preceding month, gains in this year's March farm prices for potatoes and livestock were offset by declines in the prices of poultry and eggs. When compared with March prices of a year ago, this year's farm prices displayed substantial gains for almost every class of agricultural produce considered in the index.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products for Canada 1/

(Base 1935-39 = 100)

Annual Averages	Monthly Averages		
	Month	1947	1948
1935	January	194.6	232.0
1936	February	195.2	231.8
1937	March	197.4	232.2
1938	April	198.2	
1939	May	200.0	
1940	June	203.1	
1941	July	203.2	
1942	August	204.8	
1943	September	208.4	
1944	October	208.5	
1945	November	212.2	
1946	December	218.3	
1947			
203.7			

1/ Includes revised data since last report. See table over-leaf.

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The table on the following page presents the annual averages 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.

Advance and final equalization payments on oats and barley are included up to July 1945. From that date the advance payments only are included until their discontinuance on March 18, 1947. The amounts paid per bushel on wheat participation certificates are included in the wheat prices up to July 1945. In the 1945-46 crop year the ten cents per bushel retroactive increase announced on July 30, 1946 is included. From August 1, 1946 to March 17, 1947 barley prices include the 10 cent adjustment payment made in respect of barley delivered during that period.

Flax prices to date include the final payment of 50 cents per bushel to be made on all deliveries of commercial flaxseed during the 1947-48 crop year and wheat prices include the 20 cent retroactive payment to be made on all wheat delivered to the Canadian Wheat Board during the crop years 1945-46, 1946-47 and up to April 1 of the current (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 becomes 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	174.0	181.2	181.6	186.6	187.7
1946	192.3	197.4	191.1	207.7	196.8	187.0	191.9	190.6	196.7	198.4
1947 January	194.6	155.8	178.9	179.6	206.5	190.3	197.7	193.1	198.6	199.1
February	195.2	155.2	178.1	180.1	205.6	190.0	199.2	194.1	201.4	197.4
March	197.4	165.4	177.6	184.3	206.0	192.6	201.0	196.4	204.5	197.9
April	198.2	166.2	178.9	182.1	204.2	192.7	203.5	197.2	207.0	200.4
May	200.0	168.4	179.7	191.7	205.6	195.0	204.8	198.5	208.4	200.5
June	203.1	175.6	183.1	196.5	209.0	201.8	206.6	199.3	208.8	201.0
July	203.2	179.9	185.7	197.9	209.9	202.0	205.4	198.2	208.1	208.9
August	204.8	211.0	196.0	216.5	213.1	204.6	204.2	197.8	206.6	208.1
September	208.4	196.6	192.9	212.0	220.4	207.9	206.9	199.8	211.3	218.8
October	208.5	183.3	193.8	207.6	221.5	209.5	207.9	199.8	209.1	219.5
November	212.2	194.9	198.2	224.2	222.8	213.0	219.6	202.0	211.4	220.7
December	218.3	211.6	206.2	228.4	229.4	224.3	221.6	205.5	214.1	223.7
AVERAGE	203.7	180.3	187.4	200.1	212.8	202.0	206.5	198.5	207.4	208.0
1948 January	232.0	231.6	211.0	240.7	250.0	241.2	234.9	213.9	227.2	228.9
February	231.8	229.4	210.5	244.3	257.2	241.4	230.3	212.0	225.9	225.9
March	232.2	234.1	214.5	243.1	256.9	242.1	229.4	212.8	226.3	225.7

^{1/} Includes revised data since last report.

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