

# DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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## Memorandum

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### INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, FEBRUARY 1955 1/- (1935-39 = 100)

The index of farm prices of agricultural products continued to rise when it increased to 222.1 in February, 1.2 points above the revised January estimate of 220.9. Contributing to this gain were higher prices for potatoes, grains and live stock. Partially offsetting these increases were slightly lower prices for dairy products, poultry and eggs.

### INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (1935-39 = 100)

Province	Monthly Index			Annual Index		
	Feb 1955 <u>2/</u>	Jan. 1955 <u>2/</u>	Feb. 1954 <u>3/</u>	1954 <u>4/</u>	1953 <u>5/</u>	1952
Prince Edward Island	226.8	214.6	176.7	196.8	191.5	351.6
Nova Scotia	252.0	251.6	239.2	244.3	237.6	275.1
New Brunswick	221.7	218.8	194.0	211.7	213.2	344.5
Quebec	263.4	262.1	271.5	264.1	272.1	290.2
Ontario	245.8	246.3	259.0	252.7	263.7	286.2
Manitoba	207.2	204.5	227.1	218.6	243.7	266.8
Saskatchewan	177.6	175.5	207.1	197.1	226.3	245.9
Alberta	204.3	201.6	230.7	222.3	245.8	265.3
British Columbia	255.3	258.3	255.6	254.0	266.5	291.4
CANADA <u>1/</u>	222.1	220.9	238.6	232.0	249.5	274.4

1/ Excludes Newfoundland.

2/ Based on initial prices only for wheat, oats and barley in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

3/ Based on initial price plus ten-cent interim payment for wheat in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

4/ For Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the index is based on initial prices plus a ten-cent interim payment for wheat for the period January to July inclusive, and on initial prices only for wheat, oats and barley for the period August to December inclusive.

5/ Based on initial price plus ten-cent interim payment for wheat in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta for the period August to December inclusive.

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Prepared in Research Section. AGRICULTURE DIVISION.

In comparing current index numbers with those prior to August 1954, the following points should be considered. Western grain prices used in the construction of the index prior to August 1, 1954 are final prices for all grains except wheat. For the crop year 1953-54, the western wheat prices used are initial prices plus a ten-cent interim payment. Since August 1, 1954, only initial prices are available for wheat, oats and barley in the Prairie Provinces. Any subsequent participation payments made on the 1953 crop of wheat and on the 1954 crops of wheat, oats and barley will be added to the prices currently used and the index revised upward accordingly. An increase of 10 cents per bushel in the prices of western wheat, oats or barley would result in upward revisions in the indices for each of the Prairie Provinces and Canada approximately as follows, in points:

	<u>Manitoba</u>	<u>Saskatchewan</u>	<u>Alberta</u>	<u>Canada</u>
Wheat.....	6.2	9.3	8.1	4.0
Oats.....	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.5
Barley.....	2.3	0.5	0.4	0.4

Since the first of August 1954, initial prices to producers, basis Fort William--Port Arthur, have amounted to \$1.40 per bushel for No. 1 Northern wheat, 65 cents per bushel for No. 2 C.W. oats and 96 cents per bushel for No. 3 C.W. 6-row barley. In addition to the payments made at the time of delivery producer certificates are issued to the grower covering quantities and grades delivered. These certificates entitle producers to share in any surpluses accumulated by the Board through the sale of these grains delivered to the Board during the crop year 1954-55. Any participation payments made on these grains at a later date will be added to the prices currently used in the price index and the index revised upward accordingly.

Most of the price information used in compiling the index is obtained from reports furnished monthly by volunteer farm correspondents throughout Canada. 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 prices of wheat, oats, barley and flaxseed contain all Canadian Wheat Board payments including the recently announced final payments of 6.3 cents for oats, 9.7 cents for barley, and the interim payment of 10 cents per bushel for wheat. All payments of this kind are included in the year in which earned, not in the year in which paid.

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	103.5
1941		110.2	105.2	117.1	115.5	127.4	120.2	103.7	93.8	102.8	114.4
1942		133.1	156.2	144.1	160.4	153.4	147.0	122.2	110.5	121.7	140.4
1943		157.8	190.3	169.1	181.4	172.6	165.0	151.3	139.9	149.9	175.8
1944		172.4	172.7	173.3	171.9	171.7	169.1	173.1	171.4	176.9	179.5
1945		185.7	196.7	180.8	195.3	179.5	174.6	188.4	192.6	196.2	187.8
1946		204.1	194.2	191.2	207.7	196.9	187.9	209.4	217.3	219.9	199.2
1947		215.8	180.1	184.9	199.6	213.7	202.1	225.9	226.1	231.9	207.1
1948		255.8	236.6	214.1	250.3	265.6	258.6	259.6	247.1	262.9	240.2
1949		255.4	204.1	210.5	220.5	261.3	257.8	262.8	248.8	265.6	245.1
1950		260.8	189.6	206.5	216.8	260.9	265.1	274.4	251.5	276.2	244.3
1951		296.8	236.4	243.2	250.8	305.6	315.0	301.6	268.7	308.0	287.1
1952		274.4	351.6	275.1	344.5	290.2	286.2	266.8	245.9	265.3	291.4
1953		249.5	191.5	237.6	213.2	272.1	263.7	243.7	226.3	245.8	266.5
1954	January	237.8	172.7	239.2	189.6	268.1	258.2	226.2	207.1	230.6	257.0
	February	238.6	176.7	239.2	194.0	271.5	259.0	227.1	207.1	230.7	255.6
	March	237.6	176.8	236.8	197.2	270.5	256.0	227.7	206.4	232.3	250.9
	April	235.9	179.3	235.5	204.9	265.1	252.3	225.7	207.2	232.4	248.0
	May	238.0	182.1	237.0	206.3	265.1	254.9	227.7	207.5	236.5	250.7
	June	239.5	186.1	242.4	207.0	267.8	256.0	230.2	209.4	236.7	253.0
	July	238.8	186.6	243.5	210.1	269.4	258.2	229.6	206.7	231.1	253.6
	August	231.5	232.6	253.6	240.5	260.9	252.1	214.5	194.5	218.5	264.2
	September	227.5	229.9	244.6	226.9	258.0	248.2	210.7	191.1	214.9	258.0
	October	220.0	199.2	251.0	217.2	253.7	244.5	202.1	179.5	203.5	255.1
	November	219.4	223.4	255.5	228.8	258.1	245.8	200.0	174.2	199.8	253.2
	December	219.9	215.9	253.0	218.0	261.0	247.0	201.2	174.8	200.4	248.5
	AVERAGE	232.0	196.8	244.3	211.7	264.1	252.7	218.6	197.1	222.3	254.0
1955	January	220.9	214.6	251.6	218.8	262.1	246.3	204.5	175.5	201.6	258.3
	February	222.1	226.8	252.0	221.7	263.4	245.8	207.2	177.6	204.3	255.3

1/ Excludes Newfoundland.

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