

## DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce



Memorandum

1955 No. 5

Price: \$1.00 per year

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

The index of farm prices of agricultural products for May is estimated at 229.5, slightly above the revised estimate of 228.8 for April. Higher prices for live stock and some grains more than offset lower prices for dairy products and potatoes.

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

Province	Monthly Index			Annual Index		
	May 1955 <u>2/</u>	April 1955 <u>2/</u>	May 1954	1954 <u>3/</u>	1953	1952
Prince Edward Island	302.2	363.9	182.1	196.8	191.5	351.6
Nova Scotia	286.6	281.7	237.0	244.3	237.6	275.1
New Brunswick	290.8	315.4	206.3	211.7	213.2	344.5
Quebec	268.7	265.8	265.1	264.1	272.1	290.2
Ontario	253.4	253.0	254.9	252.7	263.7	286.2
Manitoba	211.3	209.0	231.3	221.9	245.3	266.8
Saskatchewan	180.5	177.4	213.1	200.9	228.7	245.9
Alberta	205.9	204.8	241.4	225.6	247.8	265.3
British Columbia	260.4	254.8	250.9	254.3	266.6	291.4
CANADA <u>1/</u>	229.5	228.8	240.4	233.8	250.5	274.4

1/ Excludes Newfoundland

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

3/ For Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the index is based on initial price only for wheat and initial prices plus interim payments for oats and barley 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. Prices for western grains used in the construction of the index since August 1, 1954 are initial prices only for wheat and initial prices plus interim payments for oats and barley. Any subsequent participation payments made 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 August 1, 1954 prairie farm prices for wheat are initial prices only and amount to \$1.40 per bushel for No.1 Northern, basis Fort William - Port Arthur. Prices for oats and barley are initial prices plus retroactive interim payments. In total the initial and interim payments amount to \$1.06 per bushel for No. 3 C.W. six-row barley and 72 cents per bushel for No. 2 C.W. oats at the Lakehead. 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 payment of 6.4 cents per bushel for the 1953 wheat crop and the interim payments of 7 and 10 cents for the 1954 crops of oats and barley respectively. 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	176.8
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		250.5	191.5	237.6	213.2	272.1	263.7	245.3	228.7	247.8	266.6
1954	January	240.2	172.7	239.2	189.6	268.1	258.2	229.9	212.7	235.5	257.1
	February	241.1	176.7	239.2	194.0	271.5	259.0	230.8	212.7	235.6	255.8
	March	240.1	176.8	236.8	197.2	270.5	256.0	231.4	212.0	237.1	251.1
	April	238.4	179.3	235.5	204.9	265.1	252.3	229.4	212.9	237.3	248.2
	May	240.4	182.1	237.0	206.3	265.1	254.9	231.3	213.1	241.4	250.9
	June	242.0	186.1	242.4	207.0	267.8	256.0	233.9	215.1	241.6	253.2
	July	241.3	186.6	243.5	210.1	269.4	258.2	233.3	212.3	236.0	254.3
	August	232.2	232.6	253.6	240.5	260.9	252.1	217.4	195.7	219.7	264.7
	September	228.3	229.9	244.6	226.9	258.0	248.2	213.7	192.3	216.1	258.5
	October	220.7	199.2	251.0	217.2	253.7	244.5	205.0	180.7	204.7	255.6
	November	220.2	223.4	255.5	228.8	258.1	245.8	202.9	175.4	201.0	253.7
	December	220.7	215.9	253.0	218.0	261.0	247.0	204.1	176.0	201.6	249.0
	AVERAGE	233.8	196.8	244.3	211.7	264.1	252.7	221.9	200.9	225.6	254.3
1955	January	221.7	214.6	251.6	218.8	262.1	246.3	207.4	176.7	202.9	258.9
	February	222.9	227.0	252.0	221.6	263.0	246.2	210.0	178.2	205.5	256.6
	March	221.6	224.5	254.1	225.9	261.8	245.4	208.0	177.3	202.0	257.7
	April	228.8	363.9	281.7	315.4	265.8	253.0	209.0	177.4	204.8	254.8
	May	229.5	302.2	286.6	290.8	268.7	253.4	211.3	180.5	205.9	260.4

1/ Excludes Newfoundland

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