

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA



Memorandum

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

1956 No. 2

Price: \$1.00 per year

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, FEBRUARY 1956 1/-
(1933-39 = 100)

A preliminary estimate places the index of farm prices for February at 218.3, fractionally above the revised figure of 218.1 for January. Somewhat higher prices for grains, livestock and potatoes slightly offset lower prices for dairy products, and poultry and eggs.

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

	Monthly Index			Annual Index		
	Feb 2/ 1956	Jan 2/ 1956	Feb 3/ 1955	4/ 1955	5/ 1954	1953
Prince Edward Island	170.9	168.6	226.1	220.9	196.1	191.5
Nova Scotia	205.9	201.1	226.2	225.3	230.2	234.8
New Brunswick	197.5	198.5	221.7	226.1	211.8	213.2
Quebec	254.7	253.7	263.4	262.0	264.3	272.1
Ontario	238.5	239.5	246.2	249.6	252.8	263.8
Manitoba	209.8	208.1	216.2	214.0	224.5	245.3
Saskatchewan	188.3	189.1	185.5	187.6	204.0	228.7
Alberta	199.1	197.1	212.0	200.3	228.4	247.8
British Columbia	253.9	255.2	250.1	254.2	251.2	265.7
CANADA 1/	218.3	218.1	225.4	226.2	234.8	250.4

- 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 interim payment for wheat in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.
 4/ For Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the index is based on the initial price plus 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/ For Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the index is based on the initial price plus interim payment for wheat for the period August to December inclusive.

5504-502-26

Prepared in Research Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION.

In comparing current index numbers with those prior to August 1954 the following points should be considered. Prices for western grains used in the construction of the index prior to August 1, 1954 were final prices. For the period August 1, 1954 to July 31, 1955 western wheat prices were initial prices plus an interim payment. Since August 1, 1955 only initial prices have been available for wheat, oats and barley. Any subsequent participation payments made on the 1954 crop of wheat and the 1955 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, 1955, initial prices to producers at Fort William - Port Arthur, have been on the basis of \$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. six-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. 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 announced to date including the recently announced interim payment on the 1954 wheat crop. 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 revisions 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	250.4	191.5	234.8	213.2	272.1	263.8	245.3	228.7	247.8	265.7
1954 August	235.5	232.0	245.3	240.6	261.2	252.3	223.5	203.1	226.3	264.7
September	230.8	229.2	218.8	227.1	258.4	248.2	219.7	199.7	222.6	252.1
October	223.3	198.6	225.2	217.3	254.1	244.5	211.1	188.1	211.3	249.3
November	222.7	222.7	229.8	229.0	258.5	245.8	209.0	182.8	207.6	247.4
December	223.2	215.3	227.3	218.2	261.4	247.1	210.3	183.4	208.2	242.9
AVERAGE	234.8	196.1	230.2	211.8	264.3	252.8	224.5	204.0	228.4	251.2
1955 January	224.2	213.7	225.9	218.9	262.5	246.3	213.7	184.1	209.3	252.3
February	225.4	226.1	226.1	221.7	263.4	246.2	216.2	185.5	212.0	250.1
March	224.1	223.6	228.3	226.0	263.3	245.4	212.7	184.5	208.3	251.3
April	231.0	363.0	255.9	315.6	266.7	253.0	213.5	184.2	210.6	247.7
May	232.0	301.2	261.0	291.3	270.4	254.1	215.9	187.1	211.6	253.8
June	232.4	243.3	245.2	262.4	270.8	256.4	219.0	188.2	214.5	259.5
July	232.4	241.4	233.7	247.3	268.4	257.0	219.0	189.7	215.9	260.5
August	226.0	201.4	217.1	201.4	263.2	254.6	212.7	183.0	209.2	257.1
September	226.3	169.6	205.2	181.0	260.1	251.2	214.1	193.4	211.9	255.1
October	220.7	150.9	202.5	176.6	251.2	245.2	211.3	189.9	205.0	253.0
November	220.2	156.0	201.2	186.5	251.0	243.7	209.5	190.9	202.6	256.0
December	219.5	160.2	201.6	184.1	253.4	241.6	210.0	190.8	201.1	254.4
AVERAGE	226.2	220.9	225.3	226.1	262.0	249.6	214.0	187.6	209.3	254.2
1956 January	218.1	168.6	201.1	198.5	253.7	239.5	208.1	189.1	197.1	255.2
February	218.3	170.9	205.9	197.5	254.7	238.5	209.8	188.3	199.1	253.9
March	219.4									

1/ Excludes Newfoundland.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHEQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010719697