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INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

(1935-39=100)

The index of farm prices of agricultural products for November is estimated at 237.9, less than one point below the revised figure of 238.5 for October and about four points above the estimate of 233.8 for November 1959. Compared with the previous month, November prices for this year were higher for potatoes, dairy products, and poultry and eggs, but lower for livestock and grains; in the case of grains, the reduction in prices was only fractional. Compared with a year ago, November prices were lower for potatoes, but higher for grains, dairy products, livestock, and poultry and eggs; for livestock, only fractional gains were recorded. The fairly substantial increase in grain prices which occurred between November 1959 and November 1960 can be attributed to the higher average quality crop harvested in the Prairie Provinces this year.

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

		Monthly In	Annual Index			
	Nov.2/ 1960	Oct.2/ 1960	Nov. 2/ 1959	1959 3/	1958	1957
Prince Edward Island	217.6	220.3	241.6	232.7	203.4	197.0
Nova Scotia	222.0	223.1	225.7	226.8	216.8	212.6
New Brunswick	238.0	233.1	240.2	239.5	227.0	219.4
Quebec	271.1	276.1	268.1	272.5	274.8	264.8
Ontario	266.5	266.3	264.1	263.8	266.5	255.4
Manitoba	223.3	223.4	218.1	234.2	236.6	222.4
Saskatchewan	199.4	201.0	192.5	209.2	214.5	201.6
Alberta	219.7	218.3	211.2	231.2	236.4	223.6
British Columbia	258.6	259.7	261.5	262.4	263.2	260.2
CANADA 1/	237.9	238.5	233.8	242.9	245.5	234.2

^{1/} Excludes Newfoundland.

Prepared in Farm Finance Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION.

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

^{3/} For Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta the index is based on initial prices only for wheat, oats and barley for the period August to December inclusive.

In comparing current index numbers with those prior to August 1959, the following points should be considered. Western grain prices used in the construction of the index prior to August 1, 1959 are final prices. Since August 1, 1959, only initial prices are available for wheat, oats and barley. Any subsequent participation payments 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.

	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Canada	
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	

For the period August 1959 to date the initial prices to western producers at Fort William - Port Arthur have been on the basis of \$1.40 per bushel for No. 1 Northern wheat, 60 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 Canadian Wheat 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 the 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 final payment of 9.2 cents made on the 1958 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 of 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.

		CANADA	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	QUE.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.
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		236.8	196.1	230.2	211.8	264.3	252.8	227.5	208.7	232.4	249.6
1955		232.7	220.6	220.0	226.0	261.7	249.2	225.6	203.5	223.2	248.5
1956		234.6	240.1	208.7	235.1	258.8	250.5	227.0	208.5	224.0	256.9
1957		234.2	197.0	212.6	219.4	264.8	255.4	222.4	201.6	223.6	260.2
1958		245.5	203.4	216.8	227.0	274.8	266.5	236.6	214.5	236.4	263.2
1959	January	249.8	190.9	221.9	213.9	273.9	270.3	244.9	221.6	242.5	265.6
	February	247.7	179.0	221.5	211.0	274.2	266.5	242.5	219.6	240.9	268.3
	March	245.0	178.5	218.0	212.1	274.4	260.3	241.0	218.4	240.5	261.9
	April	244.7	180.8	220.5	208.7	270.4	260.8	241.1	218.2	240.9	260.3
	May	246.9	277.3	226.2	242.0	271.2	261.2	242.0	216.9	243.1	258.0
	June	247.9	282.3	234.1	259.8	273.9	261.6	240.4	217.1	242.3	263.4
	July	250.3	261.6	237.2	282.9	278.0	265.0	242.0	218.6	242.4	267.9
	August	241.7	299.9	237.9	294.6	274.7	264.8	231.3	199.7	223.1	260.5
	September	239.8	237.1	230.5	237.4	271.8	264.9	227.0	201.4	225.0	262.0
	October	236.4	230.7	226.8	232.9	271.1	265.2	221.3	196.6	216.7	261.9
	November	233.8	241.6	225.7	240.2	268.1	264.1	218.1	192.5	211.2	261.5
	December	230.7	232.5	221.4	238.2	268.2	260.4	218.4	190.3	205.3	257.4
	AVERAGE	242.9	232.7	226.8	239.5	272.5	263.8	234.2	209.2	231.2	262.4
1960	January	229.5	262.8	229.2	257.1	267.5	258.4	214.7	187.8	202.9	255.2
	February	226.4	251.4	229.3	259.5	268.3	253.3	212.6	185.4	198.7	251.9
	March	226.6	263.0	231.4	269.3	265.5	250.8	214.1	187.1	199.7	257.4
	April	233.6	321.4	244.9	309.1	272.8	257.7	218.1	191.9	204.5	259.8
	May	235.3	337.6	252.8	317.7	275.0	260.0	217.7	190.8	206.6	261.5
	June	239.4	340.9	258.5	318.1	278.4	265.7	220.8	193.1	211.2	265.6
	July	241.1	308.6	254.8	303.1	278.2	270.4	223.9	195.2	213.2	264.6
	August	235.2	216.6	220.4	221.2	269.8	264.2	222.0	195.6	215.8	263.7
	September	238.1	217.2	222.5	220.0	271.4	265.7	223.4	200.8	222.2	259.3
	October	238.5	220.3	223.1	233.1	276.1	266.3	223.4	201.0	218.3	259.7
	November	237.9	217.6	222.0	238.0	271.1	266.5	223.3	199.4	219.7	258.6

1/ Excludes Newfoundland.

