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INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

(1935-39=100)

Estimated at 238.0 points, the September index of farm prices of agricultural products increased by almost three points from the revised August estimate of 235.2 points. This increase can be attributed in the main to higher grain, livestock and egg prices. Prairie farmers received higher prices in September than in August for grains and livestock. The higher grain prices in the Prairies can be attributed to the higher average quality of the 1960 crop compared with the previous crop.

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

(1935-39=100)

	Monthly Index			Annual Index		
	Sept. 2/ 1960	Aug. 2/ 1960	Sept. 2/ 1959	1959 3/ 1958	1958	1957
Prince Edward Island	217.2	216.6	237.1	232.7	203.4	197.0
Nova Scotia	222.1	220.4	230.5	226.8	216.8	212.6
New Brunswick	219.6	221.2	237.4	239.5	227.0	219.4
Quebec	271.2	269.8	271.8	272.5	274.8	264.8
Ontario	265.5	264.2	264.9	263.8	266.5	255.4
Manitoba	223.4	222.0	227.0	234.2	236.6	222.4
Saskatchewan	200.8	195.6	201.4	209.2	214.5	201.6
Alberta	222.2	215.8	225.0	231.2	236.4	223.6
British Columbia	259.7	263.7	262.0	262.4	263.2	260.2
CANADA 1/	238.0	235.2	239.8	242.9	245.5	234.2

1/ Excludes Newfoundland.

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.

Prepared in Farm Finance Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION.

Shipments

Table 3 gives details of lumber and tie shipments, by months, for Coast mills and Interior mills separately. Shipments by truck, by rail and waterborne are shown for each Canadian province, to points in the United States, to the United Kingdom and to other countries, for all mills reporting. Total estimated shipments of non-reporting mills are also given. It is to be noted, however, that some lumber originally reported as having been shipped to points in British Columbia may have been re-shipped to other provinces or exported by the purchasers and reported by them also, thereby causing a certain amount of duplication.

Shipments of Coast mills amounted to 232,983 M ft. in August of 1960 and 163,303 M ft. in July, 1960 as compared with 17,699 M ft. in August, 1959 and 79,463 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 244,438 M ft. and 233,062 M ft. in August, 1960 and 1959 and 217,776 M ft. and 244,372 M ft. in July, 1960 and 1959. Of all shipments actually reported for August, 1960, 35.2 p.c. went to points in Canada, 45.5 p.c. to points in United States, 11.4 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 7.9 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 32.4 p.c. of the total, while 40.9 p.c. went by rail, and 26.7 p.c. by truck.

Stocks

Table 4 gives particulars of stocks of lumber and ties at sawmills by months. It distinguishes between stocks sold but not shipped and stocks unsold, and between stocks at Coast and Interior mills, by species. Total stocks at Coast mills in July and August, 1960 amounted to 365,179 M ft. and 362,016 M ft. as compared with 245,024 M ft. and 263,954 M ft. in July and August of 1959. Interior mills stocks increased from 240,167 M ft. in July to 244,199 M ft. in August, 1959 and increased from 348,329 M ft. in July to 375,166 M ft. in August, 1960. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 39.0 p.c. of the total in August, 1960 as compared with 34.7 p.c. in August, 1959 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 91.5 and 91.0.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of July and August, 1959 and 1960 for Coast mills only. Similar information is not collected from Interior mills and no attempt has been made to estimate orders on hand of non-reporting mills on the Coast. Destination and mode of shipments are shown in this table, which also gives total lumber purchases reported by some mills. Total orders on hand at the end of August, 1960 amounted to 336,171 M ft. as compared with 296,675 M ft. in August, 1959. Orders on hand at the end of July, 1960 and 1959 amounted to 317,914 M ft. and 272,816 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 2,205 M ft. in August, 1960 and 722 M ft. in August, 1959 as compared with 2,709 M ft. in July, 1960 and 1,378 M ft. in July, 1959.

Active Mills Reporting

Table 6 gives the number of active mills reporting each month for the Coast and Interior of British Columbia. The mills reporting for August accounted for 79.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1958 compared with 78.6 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for July, 1959 and 1960 were 79.3 and 79.2 respectively. It is hoped that the compilation will eventually include all mills in the 500,000 feet and over classification.

The co-operation of the British Columbia Lumber Manufacturers' Association, Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association and Northern Interior Lumbermen's Association in the collection of these statistics is gratefully acknowledged.

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.
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	238.0	217.2	222.1	219.6	271.2	265.5	223.4	200.8	222.2	259.7

1/ Excludes Newfoundland.

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