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INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (1961=100)

APRIL 1972

The index for April continues the trend of higher prices in 1972 over the respective months in 1971. The April index is also up from the March 1972 figure with six provinces showing slight gains. The decline in the index for Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick was caused in part by lower prices for potatoes in April.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products(1)

(1961=100)

	M	lonthly index	Land Carlo	Annual index			
	Apr.(2) 1972	Mar.(2) 1972	Apr.(2) 1971	1971(2)	1970(3)	1969	
Prince Edward Island	135.1	145.7	116.8	130.1	146.4	122.4	
Nova Scotia	128.3	127.9	119.6	121.7	123.7	122.6	
New Brunswick	128.2	135.2	120.3	123.6	136.0	116.8	
Quebec	146.7	145.7	130.6	134.1	129.3	131.1	
Ontario	138.4	133.7	126.4	129.5	128.6	130.7	
Manitoba	104.9	104.0	97.3	97.8	99.8	103.4	
Saskatchewan	94.0	94.1	89.2	89.7	91.7	94.7	
Alberta	117.2	116.9	107.3	107.5	108.0	111.7	
British Columbia	131.3	129.3	123.4	123.7	122.1	124.7	
Canada	122.3	120.8	112.3	114.1	114.1	116.3	

(1) Excludes Newfoundland.

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

Agriculture Division
Farm Income and Prices Section

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⁽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 1970, the following points should be considered. Prices of all Western grains used in the construction of the index prior to August 1, 1970 are final prices. From August 1, 1970 to date the Western grain prices used in the index are initial prices 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 indexes for each of the Prairie Provinces and Canada approximately as follows, in points.

	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Canada
Wheat	2.2	3.9	1.9	1.4
Oats	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.2
Barley	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.3

For the period August 1970 to July 1971, the initial prices to Western producers at Thunder Bay were on the basis of \$1.50 per bushel for No. 1 Northern wheat, and 60 cents per bushel for No. 2 C.W. oats. The initial price for No. 3 C.W. six-row barley was on the basis of 91 cents per bushel from August 1970 to February 1971, and \$1.01 per bushel from March to July 1971. For the period August 1971 to date, initial prices to Western producers were on the basis of \$1.46 per bushel for No. 1 C.W. Red Spring wheat, 60 cents per bushel for No. 2 C.W. oats, and 91 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 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 at the farm level. Subsidies, bonuses and premiums which can be attributed to specific products are all included in the prices, whereas storage, transportation, processing and handling charges which are not actually received by farmers are excluded. In reporting prices to the bureau each month, price correspondents are asked to report the average prices prevailing in their neighbourhood, taking into account the various grades of each commodity marketed. Thus, average prices reported by these correspondents may differ from month to month as a result of changes in price, changes in quality marketed or a combination of both. In effect, this index is not a measure of pure price change but a measure of the change in returns to farmers per unit of product marketed.

The prices of wheat, oats, barley and flaxseed contain all Canadian Wheat Board payments announced to date. All payments of this kind are included in the year in which earned, not in the year in which paid.

This index was first published in August 1946 on a time and weight base of 1935-39=100. In September 1969 it was republished on a weight base of 1960-62=100 and a time base of 1961=100. In each case the Laspeyre's formula was used in its preparation. Thus the resultant index expressed the current farm prices as a percentage of prices prevailing in the base period. For the years 1935 to 1956 inclusive, the index was based upon the prices of those products which accounted for about 90 per cent of total cash receipts received by farmers from the sale of farm products during the five-year base period 1935-39. For the period 1957 to date, the index is based upon those products which accounted for about 95 per cent of total cash receipts during the new weight base period of 1960-62. No adjustments for seasonal variations of the prices has been made. The series is subject to revisions as more complete and up-to-date data become available. This accounts for any changes between the indexes published in earlier reports and those appearing in the current publication.

	Canada	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.
										TE BE
960	96.1	128.3	100.0	120.8	100.8	100.3	92.8	89.0	91.8	99.
961	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.
962	104.3	100.2	101.8	97.8	100.9	102.6	105.6	105.8	108.2	103.
963	102.9	106.9	101.2	101.8	100.3	102.6	102.6	103.0	105.4	102.
964	101.3	118.9	98.3	111.6	101.4	100.5	99.8	101.7	102.0	99.
965	107.8	153.7	107.4	139.1	111.9	110.1	103.9	101.6	106.0	108
966	117.0	134.0	113.9	122.5	125.2	122.0	110.9	108.1	115.9	115.
967	116.0	115.0	110.9	111.4	125.2	123.0	109.5	106.9	113.9	111
968	114.0	123.2	114.0	116.9	126.0	124.0	105.2	99.1	109.6	118
969	116.3	122.4	122.6	116.8	131.1	130.7	103.4	94.7	111.7	124
709	110.3	122.4	122.0	110.0	131.1	150.7	103.4	24.7	LLL.	124
970 - January	116.8	135.2	128.0	135.7	131.7	132.4	102.1	93.9	110.8	123.
February	118.0	143.6	129.2	138.7	133.6	131.9	103.9	94.9	114.0	125
March	118.0	147.7	127.3	139.8	133.1	133.0	103.7	95.0	112.8	124.
April	117.2	148.8	124.8	137.1	133.5	132.3	101.9	94.4	111.0	122
May	116.7	166.7	123.6	148.1	131.1	131.6	101.3	94.1	110.3	122
June	115.8	170.6	123.9	151.1	129.0	130.2	101.5	93.7	109.4	122
July	114.6	167.5	123.4	153.8	127.2	129.2	100.4	92.8	107.8	121
August	111.6	164.9	122.0	142.8	127.4	126.2	96.7	88.9	103.6	120
September	110.4	132.3	118.2	118.1	126.3	124.6	96.7	88.5	104.5	120
October	108.9	125.4	121.2	119.9	123.8	122.7	95.9	87.6	102.8	120
November	110.4	126.8	122.3	122.9	126.6	124.4	96.3	87.9	104.5	121
December	110.9	127.7	121.0	123.9	128.8	124.3	96.8	88.5	104.7	122
AVERAGE	114.1	146.4	123.7	136.0	129.3	128.6	99.8	91.7	108.0	122
	***	106.0	101 0	100 /	107.0	10/ 2	05 0	88.6	1.05.2	100
971 - January	110.9	136.0	121.3	123.4	127.8	124.3	95.9		105.3	122
February	113.4	128.9	120.6	123.4	130.7	129.5	97.2	89.6	107.2	122
March	112.5	120.4	119.5	120.5	130.8	126.6	98.0	89.7	107.0	122
April	112.3	116.8	119.6	120.3	130.6	126.4	97.3	89.2	107.3	123
May	112.6	135.0	119.2	132.0	131.3	126.6	97.1	89.3	106.6	123
June	112.6	123.7	119.3	130.0	130.9	126.5	97.0	89.6	107.1	123
July	113.6	129.5	121.0	119.5	131.8	129.9	97.3	89.8	106.5	123
August	114.9	145.8	123.6	126.5	134.7	131.9	98.1	89.4	107.2	122
September	115.1	127.0	122.7	120.3	139.3	131.9	98.1	89.3	106.5	122
October	115.9	123.0	123.8	117.8	138.2	133.4	98.6	89.9	107.8	125
November	117.3	140.6	124.6	124.1	140.7	133.3	99.3	90.8	110.7	126
December	117.9	134.6	125.4	125.2	142.2	134.1	100.2	90.9	110.9	127
AVERAGE	114.1	130.1	121.7	123.6	134.1	129.5	97.8	89.7	107.5	123
072 - January	118.9	141.1	126.4	129.7	143.2	135.6	100.9	92.0	111.2	126
72 - January							102.5	92.9	115.0	129
February	120.6	142.4	126.1	133.9	143.7	136.8	1			
March	120.8	145.7	127.9	135.2	145.7	133.7	104.0	94.1	116.9	129
April	122.3	135.1	128.3	128.2	146.7	138.4	104.9	94.0	117.2	131

⁽¹⁾ Excludes Newfoundland.

