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PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS

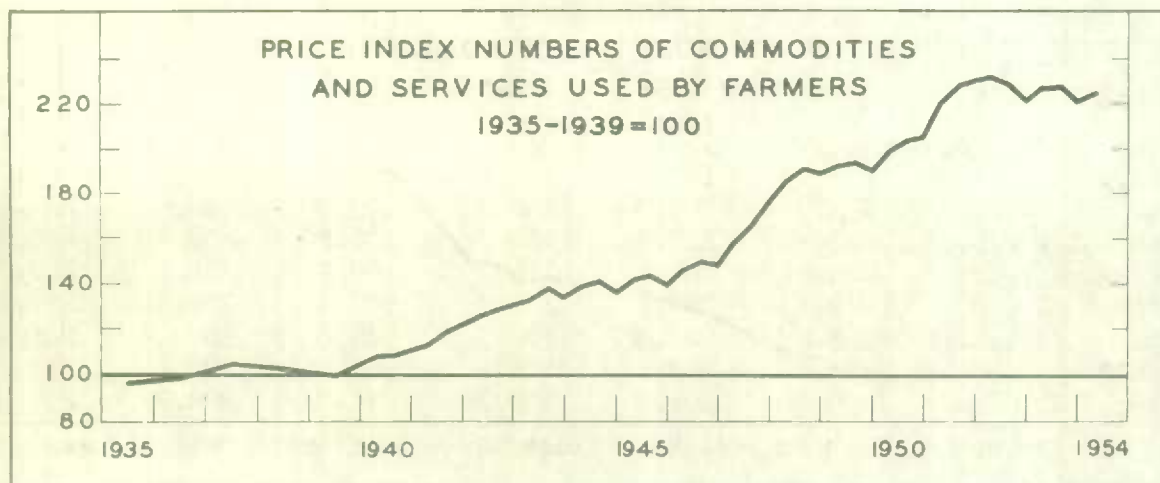
APRIL, 1954 (1935-39 = 100)

The Dominion composite price index for commodities and services used by farmers, inclusive of farm living costs, advanced 1.8 per cent from 220.6 in January to 224.5 in April, due almost entirely to higher farm wage rates for Western Canada. However, the current index is 1.1 per cent below the level of a year ago. The composite index, exclusive of living costs rose 3.0 per cent to 238.0 between January and April but registered a decline of 1.9 per cent from the comparable index a year ago.

The All Canada index for farm wage rates moved up 10.1 per cent from 409.5 for January to 450.8 in April. The Western wage rate series rose 25.2 per cent to 495.7 while the Eastern series was unchanged at 419.2, as an increase in Ontario wage rates was offset by decreases in other Eastern provinces.

Farm operating equipment and materials rose .05 per cent to 204.1 between January and April reflecting increases of 1.7 per cent for feed and 0.7 per cent for petroleum products. These outweighed a drop of 3.2 per cent in seed and minor decreases in building materials, fertilizer and hardware. Farm machinery and binder twine were unchanged at 197.8 and 335.1 respectively. Regional differences were insignificant with the exception of feed, which advanced 2.1 per cent in the East as against only 0.2 per cent in the West.

Farm family living costs at 204.2 for April were 0.3 per cent below January but 0.4 per cent above the April 1953 level. The January-April decrease reflected lower prices for clothing, fuel, food in Eastern Canada and household equipment, which offset advances in Western food prices and health maintenance costs. Miscellaneous items were unchanged at 124.6.



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TABLE 1. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS AND FARM FAMILY LIVING COSTS  
(1935-39 = 100)

	Composite Index Exclusive of Living Costs (a)	Equipment and Materials	Taxes and Interest Rates (a)	Farm Wage Rates	Farm Family Living Costs	Composite Index Inclusive of Living Costs (a)
ALL CANADA						
1926 .....	130.6	119.9	135.5	164.5	121.1	126.8
1939 .....	99.3	95.7	101.1	110.3	99.5	99.4
1949 - August .....	206.5	180.2	138.7	388.1	174.5	193.7
1950 - August .....	218.6	194.3	144.3	401.2	180.7	203.4
1951 - August .....	237.8	207.5	151.8	457.3	214.7	228.6
1952 - August .....	245.4	212.5	161.4	471.9	204.5	229.0
1953 - January .....	233.1	207.7	168.2	408.0	202.6	220.9
April .....	242.7	208.2	168.2	463.5	203.4	227.0
August .....	243.6	206.3	168.2	475.8	204.9	228.1
1954 - January .....	231.0(r)	204.0	168.2	409.5	204.8	220.6
April .....	238.0	204.1	168.2	450.8	204.2	224.5
EASTERN CANADA						
1926 .....	129.5	122.8	128.4	151.1	120.2	125.8
1939 .....	98.7	94.8	99.2	110.6	99.5	99.0
1949 - August .....	210.2	183.0	126.1	376.4	172.6	195.2
1950 - August .....	220.4	196.1	131.2	382.3	178.3	203.6
1951 - August .....	241.4	208.0	142.0	441.5	212.8	230.0
1952 - August .....	246.8	211.7	152.4	447.4	202.7	229.2
1953 - January .....	239.6	208.9	158.7	413.4	200.5	224.0
April .....	243.3	208.4	158.7	434.0	201.4	226.5
August .....	244.0	205.2	158.7	447.1	202.4	227.3
1954 - January .....	237.0(r)	202.9	158.7	419.2	202.5	223.2
April .....	237.4	203.5	158.7	419.2	201.5	223.1
WESTERN CANADA						
1926 .....	131.8	117.1	141.6	183.5	121.9	127.8
1939 .....	99.8	96.6	102.7	109.9	99.5	99.7
1949 - August .....	202.7	177.5	149.4	404.7	176.3	192.1
1950 - August .....	216.8	192.5	155.4	428.0	183.1	203.3
1951 - August .....	234.3	207.0	160.2	479.7	216.6	227.2
1952 - August .....	243.9	213.2	169.0	506.8	206.3	228.9
1953 - January .....	226.6	206.5	176.3	400.4	204.8	217.9
April .....	242.1	208.1	176.3	505.4	205.3	227.4
August .....	243.2	207.3	176.3	516.6	207.4	228.9
1954 - January .....	225.1	205.1	176.3	395.8	207.2	217.9
April .....	238.6	204.7	176.3	495.7	206.9	225.9

(a) 1954 indexes are subject to revision, since tax and interest rate figures are preliminary.

(r) revised.



TABLE 2. - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS USED BY FARMERS  
(1935-39 = 100)

	Farm Machin- ery	Build- ing Mater- ials	Gasoline, Oil, Grease	Feed	Com- pounded Fer- tilizer	Binder Twine	Seed	Hard- ware
ALL CANADA								
1926 .....	97.6	114.0	127.7	136.4	129.4	184.6	130.2	104.0
1939 .....	103.6	108.1	96.2	80.5	100.2	93.8	79.4	101.6
1949 - August .....	158.6	236.5	139.4	211.3	141.3	304.7	204.8	165.8
1950 - August .....	166.4	279.9	146.4	232.7	147.7	298.0	225.4	170.9
1951 - August .....	189.2	301.8	149.2	224.6	168.3	364.6	223.3	202.6
1952 - August .....	194.0	303.9	149.6	221.1	184.9	460.7	223.7	202.7
1953 - January .....	194.0	305.3	148.4	219.7	182.2	360.2	209.2	203.0
April .....	198.0	308.5	149.3	217.4	182.0	360.2	203.3	202.3
August .....	198.0	309.7	153.4	210.1	182.0	335.1	194.3	202.7
1954 - January .....	197.8	307.1	152.7	204.1	183.0(r)	335.1	185.1	202.8
April .....	197.8	306.2	153.7	207.5	182.7	335.1	179.1	202.6
EASTERN CANADA								
1926 .....	97.0	114.0	136.6	134.9	129.4	184.6	121.4	101.9
1939 .....	104.3	108.1	100.1	81.0	100.1	93.8	82.4	102.1
1949 - August .....	158.2	223.6	153.5	209.3	143.0	304.7	200.3	163.3
1950 - August .....	164.5	244.5	160.2	232.3	148.6	298.0	215.7	169.5
1951 - August .....	186.5	274.5	170.4	220.9	169.0	364.6	226.7	198.3
1952 - August .....	191.8	276.4	170.7	218.1	187.0	460.7	226.0	197.0
1953 - January .....	191.9	276.9	169.7	218.7	184.0	360.2	211.9	197.2
April .....	195.2	278.8	169.4	216.6	183.6	360.2	204.9	197.5
August .....	195.2	279.3	173.8	208.9	183.6	335.1	189.1	198.2
1954 - January .....	194.1	279.4	173.7	203.2	183.6(r)	335.1	182.2	198.1
April .....	194.2	278.2	174.6	207.5	183.2	335.1	176.4	197.8
WESTERN CANADA								
1926 .....	97.8	114.0	122.6	141.6	129.4	184.6	137.5	106.3
1939 .....	103.3	108.1	93.9	78.7	101.3	93.8	76.9	101.0
1949 - August .....	158.7	250.1	131.3	218.6	125.3	304.7	208.6	168.6
1950 - August .....	167.1	317.2	138.5	234.0	139.3	298.0	233.5	172.5
1951 - August .....	190.2	330.6	137.0	237.9	161.8	364.6	220.5	207.4
1952 - August .....	194.9	332.9	137.5	231.8	164.9	460.7	221.7	209.2
1953 - January .....	194.8	335.2	136.1	223.4	165.0	360.2	207.0	209.5
April .....	199.1	339.8	137.7	220.4	166.9	360.2	201.9	207.6
August .....	199.1	341.7	141.6	214.6	166.9	335.1	198.7	207.8
1954 - January .....	199.2	336.2	140.6	207.2	177.4	335.1	187.6	208.1
April .....	199.2	335.7	141.7	207.6	177.4	335.1	181.3	208.0

(r) revised

TABLE 3. - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS OF CANADIAN FARM FAMILY LIVING COSTS  
(1935-39 = 100)

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	Composite Index	Food	Clothing	Fuel	Household Equipment	Health Main- tenance	Miscel- laneous
ALL CANADA							
1926 .....	121.1	134.0	136.5	125.3	107.7	95.8	102.3
1939 .....	99.5	96.0	100.7	99.5	101.1	100.9	100.5
1949 - August .....	174.5	200.9	193.3	163.8	186.6	144.2	115.5
1950 - August .....	180.7	220.2	193.3	168.7	189.0	147.2	118.1
1951 - August .....	214.7	252.4	256.8	178.9	230.8	162.9	122.0
1952 - August .....	204.5	228.8	229.0	194.8	230.2	179.2	124.4
1953 - January .....	202.6	220.2	229.0	198.2	230.2	179.3	124.5
April .....	203.4	219.9	230.0	198.7	232.1	183.0	123.9
August .....	204.9	223.2	231.8	199.2	230.8	186.7	124.2
1954 - January .....	204.8	221.4	231.8	201.4	230.8	188.4	124.6
April .....	204.2	223.0	226.8	198.4	230.7	193.4	124.6
EASTERN CANADA							
1926 .....	120.2	136.1	134.8	119.5	108.0	95.8	102.3
1939 .....	99.5	96.3	100.2	98.9	100.9	100.8	100.6
1949 - August .....	172.6	204.5	194.0	145.3	178.0	144.2	115.8
1950 - August .....	178.3	222.7	193.5	152.4	179.9	147.2	118.5
1951 - August .....	212.8	257.4	256.1	165.8	219.8	162.9	122.4
1952 - August .....	202.7	232.7	228.0	181.0	220.7	179.2	125.0
1953 - January .....	200.5	222.6	228.0	183.7	220.7	179.3	125.2
April .....	201.4	222.2	229.3	184.2	222.8	183.0	124.6
August .....	202.4	225.0	231.0	182.2	220.9	186.7	124.9
1954 - January .....	202.5	223.4	231.0	184.8	220.9	188.4	125.4
April .....	201.5	223.2	226.6	180.8	220.9	193.4	125.4
WESTERN CANADA							
1926 .....	121.9	131.9	138.1	131.2	107.4	95.8	102.4
1939 .....	99.5	95.7	101.1	100.2	101.2	100.9	100.5
1949 - August .....	176.3	197.2	192.6	182.3	195.2	144.2	115.1
1950 - August .....	183.1	217.7	193.2	184.9	198.1	147.2	117.6
1951 - August .....	216.6	247.4	257.6	192.0	241.8	162.9	121.5
1952 - August .....	206.3	225.0	230.1	208.7	239.6	179.2	123.7
1953 - January .....	204.8	217.9	230.1	212.6	239.6	179.3	123.8
April .....	205.3	217.6	230.2	213.2	241.4	183.0	123.2
August .....	207.4	221.5	232.5	216.2	240.8	186.7	123.4
1954 - January .....	207.2	219.4	232.5	217.9	240.8	188.4	123.8
April .....	206.9	222.9	227.1	216.0	240.5	193.4	123.8