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PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS

AUGUST, 1955 (1935-39 = 100)

The All Canada Composite Price Index of Commodities and Services used by Farmers, inclusive of the Farm Living Component, advanced 0.3 per cent, from 225.7 in April to 226.3 in August, reflecting moderate seasonal strength in farm wage rates which outweighed declines in prices of equipment and materials. Compared with the August, 1954 figure of 225.8 the index has advanced 0.2 per cent. The Composite Index, exclusive of the Farm Family Living Component, showed an increase of 0.4 per cent to 241.3 between April and August, and 0.5 per cent over the comparable figure a year ago.

An April-August advance of 2.5 per cent to 465.5 was registered by the All Canada Farm Wage Rate Index, reflecting increases of 3.2 per cent to 499.4 in the western series and 1.9 per cent to 441.6 in the eastern series. The Farm Operating Equipment and Materials Component declined 0.7 per cent from 204.7 in April to 203.3 in August. Decreases of 5.6 per cent and 3.4 per cent respectively in the Seed and Feed sub-groups outweighed sub-group increases of 1.7 per cent for Binder Twine, 1.4 per cent for Building Materials, 0.9 per cent for Machinery and 0.5 per cent for Hardware. Compounded Fertilizer fell 0.5 per cent to 180.6, reflecting a relatively sharp decline of 5.3 per cent in the western regional index. Gasoline, oil and grease remained unchanged at 151.7.

The Farm Family Living Index was unchanged between April and August at 203.8, as an advance of 0.2 per cent for the western series to 206.3 was counterbalanced by a decrease of 0.2 per cent to 201.3 for the eastern series. Contrary movements in Food indexes largely accounted for differences in movement between eastern and western series. At the August level of 203.8 the Index was 0.3 per cent below that of a year ago. Group index movements were narrow, the largest change being a 1.0 per cent decrease for Fuel to 197.2. Health Maintenance moved up 0.4 per cent to 199.2 due to increases in hospital charges.

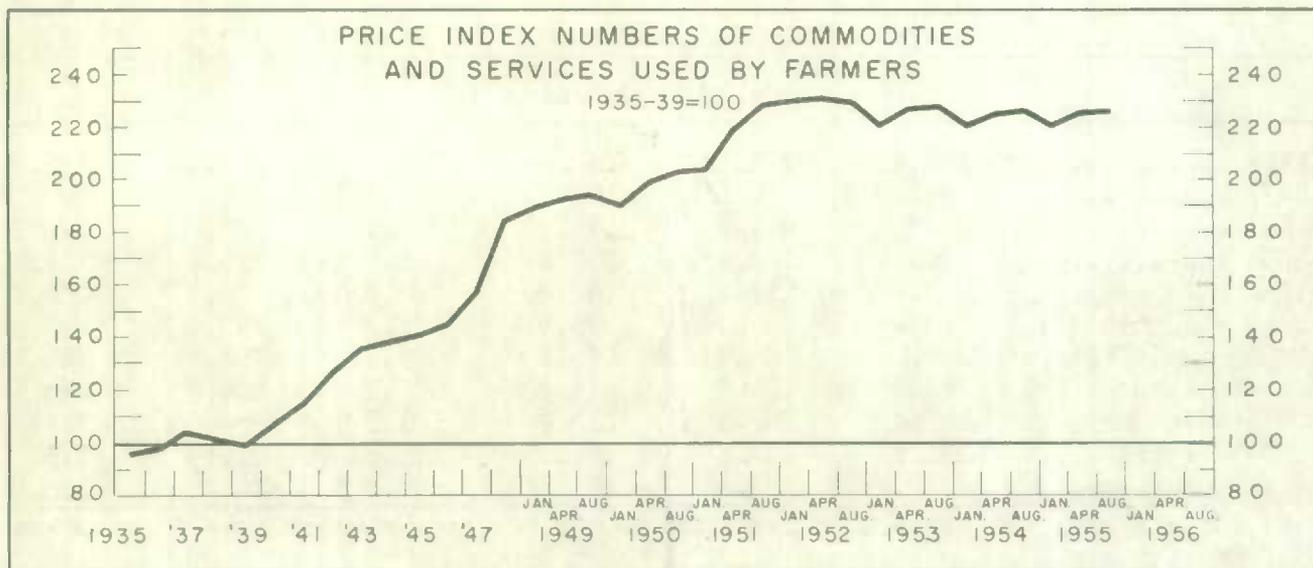


TABLE 1. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY  
FARMERS  
(1935-39 = 100)

|                    | Composite<br>Index<br>Exclusive<br>of Living<br>Component<br>(a) | Equipment<br>and<br>Materials | Taxes and<br>Interest<br>Rates<br>(a) | Farm<br>Wage<br>Rates | Farm<br>Family<br>Living | Composite<br>Index<br>Inclusive<br>of Living<br>Component<br>(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   |
| 1953 .....         | 239.8  | 207.4                         | 168.2                                 | 449.1                 | 203.6                    | 225.3  |
| 1954 .....         | 237.2  | 203.3                         | 174.6                                 | 441.2                 | 204.5                    | 224.2  |
| 1952 - August .... | 245.4  | 212.5                         | 161.4                                 | 471.9                 | 204.5                    | 229.0  |
| 1953 - August .... | 243.6  | 206.3                         | 168.2                                 | 475.8                 | 204.9                    | 228.1  |
| 1954 - April ..... | 239.3  | 204.1                         | 174.6                                 | 450.8                 | 204.2                    | 225.3  |
| August .....       | 240.0  | 201.9                         | 174.6                                 | 463.2                 | 204.5                    | 225.8  |
| 1955 - January ... | 231.8  | 205.8                         | 174.6                                 | 399.4                 | 203.9                    | 220.6  |
| April .....        | 240.3  | 204.7                         | 174.6                                 | 454.2                 | 203.8                    | 225.7  |
| August .....       | 241.3  | 203.3                         | 174.6                                 | 465.5                 | 203.8                    | 226.3  |
| 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   |
| 1953 .....         | 242.3  | 207.5                         | 158.7                                 | 431.5                 | 201.4                    | 225.9  |
| 1954 .....         | 238.8  | 202.4                         | 164.5                                 | 424.1                 | 202.0                    | 224.1  |
| 1952 - August .... | 246.8  | 211.7                         | 152.4                                 | 447.4                 | 202.7                    | 229.2  |
| 1953 - August .... | 244.0  | 205.2                         | 158.7                                 | 447.1                 | 202.4                    | 227.3  |
| 1954 - April ..... | 238.5  | 203.5                         | 164.5                                 | 419.2                 | 201.5                    | 223.7  |
| August .....       | 239.8  | 200.9                         | 164.5                                 | 433.8                 | 202.1                    | 224.7  |
| 1955 - January ... | 238.3  | 205.5                         | 164.5                                 | 412.1                 | 201.8                    | 223.7  |
| April .....        | 242.4  | 205.3                         | 164.5                                 | 433.4                 | 201.7                    | 226.1  |
| August .....       | 242.8  | 203.3                         | 164.5                                 | 441.6                 | 201.3                    | 226.2  |
| 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   |
| 1953 .....         | 237.3  | 207.3                         | 176.3                                 | 474.1                 | 205.8                    | 224.7  |
| 1954 .....         | 235.7  | 204.2                         | 183.2                                 | 465.5                 | 207.0                    | 224.2  |
| 1952 - August .... | 243.9  | 213.2                         | 169.0                                 | 506.8                 | 206.3                    | 228.9  |
| 1953 - August .... | 243.2  | 207.3                         | 176.3                                 | 516.6                 | 207.4                    | 228.9  |
| 1954 - April ..... | 240.2  | 204.7                         | 183.2                                 | 495.7                 | 206.9                    | 226.9  |
| August .....       | 240.2  | 202.8                         | 183.2                                 | 505.1                 | 206.9                    | 226.9  |
| 1955 - January ... | 225.2  | 206.1                         | 183.2                                 | 381.3                 | 206.0                    | 217.5  |
| April .....        | 238.1  | 204.1                         | 183.2                                 | 483.8                 | 205.9                    | 225.2  |
| August .....       | 239.8  | 203.4                         | 183.2                                 | 499.4                 | 206.3                    | 226.4  |

(a) 1955 indexes are subject to revision, since tax and interest rate figures are preliminary.

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

|                    | Farm<br>Machin-<br>ery | Build-<br>ing Mater-<br>ials | Gasoline,<br>Oil,<br>Grease | Feed  | Com-<br>pounded<br>Fer-<br>tilizer | Binder<br>Twine | Seed  | Hard-<br>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         |
| 1953 .....         | 196.7                  | 307.8                        | 150.4                       | 215.7 | 182.1                              | 351.8           | 202.3 | 202.7         |
| 1954 .....         | 197.9                  | 307.0                        | 153.0                       | 205.3 | 182.8                              | 312.2           | 183.2 | 201.7         |
| 1952 - August .... | 194.0                  | 303.9                        | 149.6                       | 221.1 | 184.9                              | 460.7           | 223.7 | 202.7         |
| 1953 - August .... | 198.0                  | 309.7                        | 153.4                       | 210.1 | 182.0                              | 335.1           | 194.3 | 202.7         |
| 1954 - April ..... | 197.8                  | 306.2                        | 153.7                       | 207.5 | 182.7                              | 335.1           | 179.1 | 202.6         |
| August .....       | 198.0                  | 307.7                        | 152.6                       | 204.2 | 182.7                              | 266.3           | 185.3 | 199.8         |
| 1955 - January ... | 198.6                  | 307.7                        | 151.7                       | 215.9 | 181.5                              | 266.3           | 206.5 | 200.0         |
| April .....        | 198.1                  | 307.2                        | 151.7                       | 217.8 | 181.5                              | 241.0           | 201.0 | 199.8         |
| August .....       | 199.8                  | 311.4                        | 151.7                       | 210.4 | 180.6                              | 245.0           | 189.7 | 200.7         |
| 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         |
| 1953 .....         | 194.1                  | 278.3                        | 171.0                       | 214.7 | 183.7                              | 351.8           | 202.0 | 197.6         |
| 1954 .....         | 194.4                  | 278.9                        | 173.7                       | 204.7 | 183.3                              | 312.2           | 178.3 | 196.3         |
| 1952 - August .... | 191.8                  | 276.4                        | 170.7                       | 218.1 | 187.0                              | 460.7           | 226.0 | 197.0         |
| 1953 - August .... | 195.2                  | 279.3                        | 173.8                       | 208.9 | 183.6                              | 335.1           | 189.1 | 198.2         |
| 1954 - April ..... | 194.2                  | 278.2                        | 174.6                       | 207.5 | 183.2                              | 335.1           | 176.4 | 197.8         |
| August .....       | 195.0                  | 279.2                        | 172.9                       | 203.3 | 183.2                              | 266.3           | 176.4 | 192.9         |
| 1955 - January ... | 195.5                  | 279.7                        | 172.3                       | 213.6 | 182.3                              | 266.3           | 196.4 | 193.0         |
| April .....        | 195.1                  | 279.0                        | 172.7                       | 215.5 | 182.3                              | 241.0           | 192.5 | 193.3         |
| August .....       | 197.4                  | 284.5                        | 172.8                       | 206.9 | 182.3                              | 245.0           | 185.2 | 194.1         |
| 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         |
| 1953 .....         | 197.7                  | 338.9                        | 138.5                       | 219.5 | 166.3                              | 351.8           | 202.5 | 208.3         |
| 1954 .....         | 199.2                  | 336.6                        | 141.1                       | 207.4 | 177.4                              | 312.2           | 187.2 | 207.9         |
| 1952 - August .... | 194.9                  | 332.9                        | 137.5                       | 231.8 | 164.9                              | 460.7           | 221.7 | 209.2         |
| 1953 - August .... | 199.1                  | 341.7                        | 141.6                       | 214.6 | 166.9                              | 335.1           | 198.7 | 207.8         |
| 1954 - April ..... | 199.2                  | 335.7                        | 141.7                       | 207.6 | 177.4                              | 335.1           | 181.3 | 208.0         |
| August .....       | 199.2                  | 337.8                        | 141.0                       | 207.5 | 177.4                              | 266.3           | 192.7 | 207.6         |
| 1955 - January ... | 199.8                  | 337.3                        | 139.9                       | 224.1 | 173.6                              | 266.3           | 215.0 | 207.8         |
| April .....        | 199.3                  | 337.0                        | 139.7                       | 226.1 | 173.6                              | 241.0           | 208.1 | 207.1         |
| August .....       | 200.7                  | 339.8                        | 139.6                       | 222.9 | 164.4                              | 245.0           | 193.5 | 208.2         |



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TABLE - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES  
USED IN FARM FAMILY LIVING  
(1935-39 = 100)

|                      | Composite<br>Index | Food  | Clothing | Fuel  | House-<br>hold<br>Equip-<br>ment | Health<br>Main-<br>tenance | Miscel-<br>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              |
| 1953 .....           | 203.6              | 221.1 | 230.3    | 198.7 | 231.0                            | 183.0                      | 124.2              |
| 1954 .....           | 204.5              | 223.0 | 228.3    | 199.2 | 230.5                            | 192.3                      | 124.6              |
| 1952 - August .....  | 204.5              | 228.8 | 229.0    | 194.8 | 230.2                            | 179.2                      | 124.4              |
| 1953 - August .....  | 204.9              | 223.2 | 231.8    | 199.2 | 230.8                            | 186.7                      | 124.2              |
| 1954 - April .....   | 204.2              | 223.0 | 226.8    | 198.4 | 230.7                            | 193.4                      | 124.6              |
| August .....         | 204.5              | 224.6 | 226.4    | 197.8 | 230.0                            | 195.0                      | 124.6              |
| 1955 - January ..... | 203.9              | 221.4 | 226.4    | 199.1 | 230.0                            | 196.2                      | 124.6              |
| April .....          | 203.8              | 219.8 | 227.4    | 199.2 | 229.2                            | 198.4                      | 124.8              |
| August .....         | 203.8              | 220.0 | 227.2    | 197.2 | 229.0                            | 199.2                      | 125.0              |
| 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              |
| 1953 .....           | 201.4              | 223.3 | 229.4    | 183.4 | 221.5                            | 183.0                      | 124.9              |
| 1954 .....           | 202.0              | 223.8 | 228.0    | 181.6 | 221.3                            | 192.3                      | 125.4              |
| 1952 - August .....  | 202.7              | 232.7 | 228.0    | 181.0 | 220.7                            | 179.2                      | 125.0              |
| 1953 - August .....  | 202.4              | 225.0 | 231.0    | 182.2 | 220.9                            | 186.7                      | 124.9              |
| 1954 - April .....   | 201.5              | 223.2 | 226.6    | 180.8 | 220.9                            | 193.4                      | 125.4              |
| August .....         | 202.1              | 224.9 | 226.3    | 179.2 | 222.1                            | 195.0                      | 125.4              |
| 1955 - January ..... | 201.8              | 222.4 | 226.3    | 181.4 | 222.1                            | 196.1                      | 125.5              |
| April .....          | 201.7              | 220.9 | 226.3    | 181.8 | 222.0                            | 198.3                      | 125.6              |
| August .....         | 201.3              | 220.1 | 225.8    | 178.1 | 222.0                            | 199.2                      | 125.8              |
| 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              |
| 1953 .....           | 205.8              | 219.0 | 230.9    | 214.0 | 240.6                            | 183.0                      | 123.5              |
| 1954 .....           | 207.0              | 222.2 | 228.7    | 216.8 | 239.7                            | 192.3                      | 123.8              |
| 1952 - August .....  | 206.3              | 225.0 | 230.1    | 208.7 | 239.6                            | 179.2                      | 123.7              |
| 1953 - August .....  | 207.4              | 221.5 | 232.5    | 216.2 | 240.8                            | 186.7                      | 123.4              |
| 1954 - April .....   | 206.9              | 222.9 | 227.1    | 216.0 | 240.5                            | 193.4                      | 123.8              |
| August .....         | 206.9              | 224.4 | 226.6    | 216.4 | 237.8                            | 195.1                      | 123.8              |
| 1955 - January ..... | 206.0              | 220.4 | 226.6    | 216.8 | 237.8                            | 196.2                      | 123.8              |
| April .....          | 205.9              | 218.6 | 228.4    | 216.5 | 236.4                            | 198.4                      | 123.9              |
| August .....         | 206.3              | 219.9 | 228.6    | 216.4 | 235.9                            | 199.3                      | 124.1              |