

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce

Vol. 12 No. 1

Price: 10¢ per copy

PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS

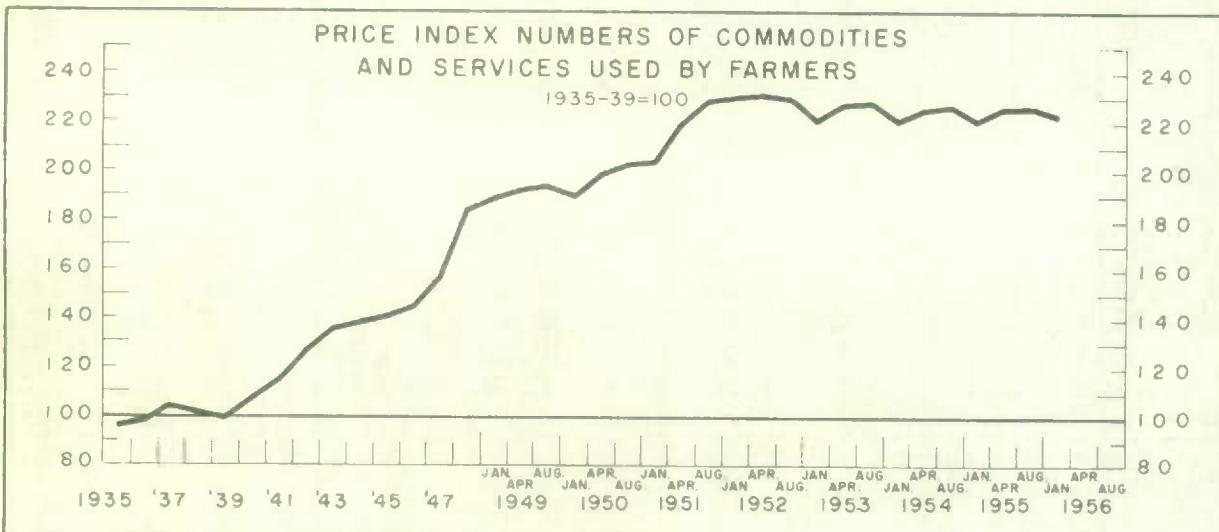
JANUARY, 1956 (1935-39 = 100)

Between August 1955 and January 1956, seasonal recessions in farm wage rates and declines in prices of foods purchased for farm family living outweighed advances in prices of farm equipment and materials to lower the All Canada Composite Price Index of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers 1.8 per cent, from 226.3 to 222.3. Compared with January 1955, however, the index had advanced 0.8 per cent. Exclusive of Farm Family Living, the index showed a decrease of 2.6 per cent between August and January and an increase of 1.4 per cent over the level of January 1955.

The All Canada Farm Wage Rate index moved down 11.2 per cent to 413.4 between August and January. Regional differences were notable, the eastern index decreasing 3.3 per cent to 427.0 while the western series recorded a drop of 21.1 per cent to 394.0. Compared with January 1955 levels, indexes for both East and West showed increases of slightly more than 3 per cent.

The Farm Operating Equipment and Materials Component advanced 1.5 per cent, from 203.3 in August to 206.3 in January. With the exception of Feed, all sub-groups participated in the general upward movement. The largest percentage rise occurred in Farm Machinery, up 5.4 per cent, followed by Seed, up 4.6 per cent, Binder Twine, 3.6 per cent, Hardware, 1.0 per cent, Gasoline, oil and grease, 0.5 per cent, Building Materials, 0.4 per cent and Compounded Fertilizer 0.3 per cent. The latter increase was due solely to higher price quotations in the West. The Feed index receded 3.6 per cent to 202.9.

The Farm Family Living Component declined 0.3 per cent, from 203.8 in August to 203.2 in January. This was 0.3 per cent below the January 1955 level of 203.9. Easier prices for Foods outweighed increases in Fuel and Health Maintenance. The Miscellaneous index was unchanged at 125.0. Clothing and Household Equipment indexes, which are computed only twice a year, stood nominally at August 1955 levels of 227.2 and 229.0 respectively. Higher price tendencies for Fuel were noted in the East as the Fuel index for this region moved up 2.4 per cent against a rise of 0.4 per cent for the western series.



8002-509-16

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

	Composite Index Exclusive of Living Component (a)	Equipment and Materials	Taxes and Interest Rates (a)	Farm Wage Rates	Farm Family Living	Composite Index Inclusive of Living Component (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
1953 - January	233.1	207.7	168.2	408.0	202.6	202.9
1954 - January	232.4	204.0	174.6	409.5	204.8	221.4
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
1956 - January	235.0	206.3	177.4	413.4	203.2	222.3
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
1953 - January	239.6	208.9	158.7	413.4	200.5	224.0
1954 - January	238.1	202.9	164.5	419.2	202.5	223.9
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
1956 - January	241.6	204.7	168.6	427.0	200.8	225.3
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
1953 - January	226.6	206.6	176.3	400.4	204.8	217.9
1954 - January	226.6	205.1	183.2	395.8	207.2	218.8
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
1956 - January	228.5	207.9	185.0	394.0	205.7	219.4

(a) 1955 and 1956 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 Machin- ery	Build- ing Mater- ials	Gaso- line, 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
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
1953 - January	194.0	305.3	148.4	219.7	182.2	360.2	209.2	203.0
1954 - January	197.8	307.1	152.7	204.1	183.0	335.1	185.1	202.8
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
1956 - January	210.6	312.7	152.4	202.9	181.1	253.8	198.4	202.7
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
1953 - January	191.9	276.9	169.7	218.7	184.0	360.2	211.9	197.2
1954 - January	194.1	279.4	173.7	203.2	183.6	335.1	182.2	198.1
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
1956 - January	208.3	286.5	173.4	200.5	182.3	253.8	196.3	196.4
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
1953 - January	194.8	335.2	136.1	223.4	165.0	360.2	207.0	209.5
1954 - January	199.2	336.2	140.6	207.2	177.4	335.1	187.6	208.1
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
1956 - January	211.5	340.4	140.3	211.6	169.5	253.8	200.1	209.8

1010735873

- 4 -

TABLE 3. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES
USED IN FARM FAMILY LIVING
(1935-39 = 100)

	Composite Index	Food	Clothing	Fuel	Household Equipment	Health Maintenance	Miscellaneous
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
1953 - January	202.6	220.2	229.0	198.2	230.2	179.3	124.5
1954 - January	204.8	221.4	231.8	201.4	230.8	188.4	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
1956 - January	203.2	216.6	227.2	199.8	229.0	200.8	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
1953 - January	200.5	222.6	228.0	183.7	220.7	179.3	125.2
1954 - January	202.5	223.4	231.0	184.8	220.9	188.4	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
1956 - January	200.8	216.5	225.8	182.3	222.0	200.7	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
1953 - January	204.8	217.9	230.1	212.6	239.6	179.3	123.8
1954 - January	207.2	219.4	232.5	217.9	240.8	188.4	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
1956 - January	205.7	216.8	228.6	217.3	235.9	200.8	124.1