

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1936-1937
(1926=100)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, fell from 85.2 to 84.7 during the week ending May 14 as another wave of selling swept world commodity markets. Among the more important products to show reductions were grains, cocoa, livestock, raw cotton and several of the base metals.

Vegetable Products dropped from 89.2 to 87.8. Milled products and vegetable oils were weaker while the grain index touched 91.5, close to the low for the year. Cocoa prices slumped also as the estimate of the Gold Coast crop was again revised upward, turning what had appeared to be a serious shortage into a bumper crop. Animal Products declined from 76.9 to 76.4. Fish prices were higher but livestock, fresh meats, milk products and eggs receded. Exports of livestock were much smaller this week and totals are now trailing behind those of last year. Reductions in raw cotton and raw silk offset an increase in raw wool to maintain the index for Textiles at 73.6, while Non-Ferrous Metals slipped from 85.5 to 84.8 when an advance in copper failed to outweigh decreases in lead, tin and zinc. Non-Metallic Minerals firmed to 85.6 while Wood, Iron and Chemicals remained unchanged at 78.3, 104.2 and 82.2 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products dropped from 88.4 to 86.5. The decrease in grains was mainly responsible for lowering the index of Field Products from 89.9 to 87.4 while Animal Products declined from 85.8 to 85.0 when reductions in livestock and eggs proved of more consequence than an increase in wool.

	No. of	1936	1937			
	Price			Series: May	April	April
				15	23	30
						May
						7
						14
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	71.9	85.8	85.1	85.2	84.7
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	66.0	90.4	88.8	89.2	87.8
(grains, fruits, etc.)						
II. Animals and Their Products	76	68.8	77.4	77.2	76.9	76.4
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	69.1	73.6	73.5	73.6	73.6
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	68.3	78.4	78.3	78.3	78.3
V. Iron and Its Products	44	87.8	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	68.2	87.4	84.9	85.5	84.8
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.4	85.4	85.5	85.5	85.6
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	77.2	82.6	82.4	82.2	82.2
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	64.7	89.7	88.1	88.4	86.5

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