



# The Daily

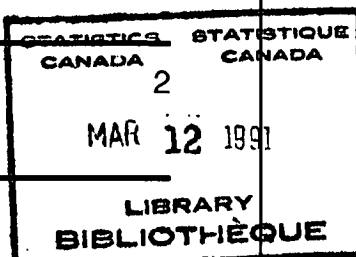
Statistics Canada

Tuesday, March 12, 1991

**NOT FOR LOAN**  
For release at 9:30 a.m.  
**NE S'EMPRUNTE PAS**

## MAJOR RELEASE

- **Farm Product Price Index, January 1991**  
Farm prices were unchanged from December 1990.



## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Shipping in Canada 1989

Cargo traffic at Canadian ports totalled 363 million tonnes in 1989, which was 7% lower than the 1988 record of 390 million tonnes. The poor 1988 Canadian grain harvest had a negative impact on both domestic and international shipping, as the volume of wheat shipped fell by nearly 40% in 1989. Vancouver continued to dominate overall port activity with 64 million tonnes handled. Montreal remained Canada's leading container port in 1989, with five million tonnes of containerized cargo.

*Shipping in Canada* presents a wide range of information pertaining to domestic and international shipping at Canadian ports, from commodity traffic flows to trends in containerization. Also included in this issue are the final results of the 1988 financial survey of Canadian-domiciled marine carriers.

*Shipping in Canada, 1989* (54-205, \$41) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information, contact Michel Cloutier (613-951-8699), Marine Transport Unit, Transportation Division.



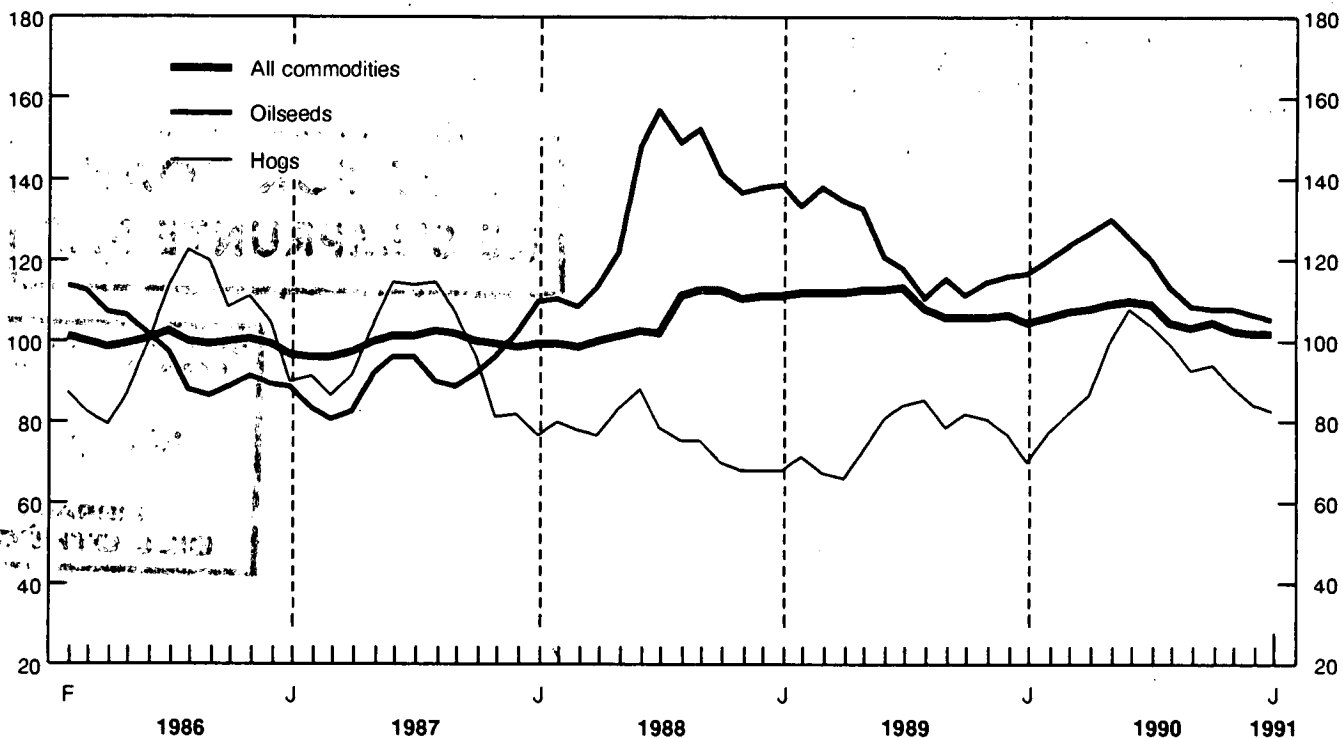
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## MAJOR RELEASE

### Farm Product Price Index (1986 = 100)



### Farm Product Price Index January 1991

The Farm Product Price Index (1986 = 100) for Canada stood at 101.8 in January, unchanged from the revised December level. Both the crops and the livestock and animal products indexes fell 0.1%. The overall index remained 2.6% below the level of 104.5 a year earlier.

Canadian production of the major grains for the 1990-91 crop year (August 1-July 31) was at record levels, 21% above the previous year. World wheat production in 1990 was at record levels, up almost 10% from 1989 levels, while export trade for 1990-91 is projected to fall back to 1987-88 levels. World coarse grain production also increased in 1990, up 4% over 1989 levels.

The percentage changes in the index between December 1990 and January 1991 by province were as follows:

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| ● Newfoundland         | -0.1%  |
| ● Prince Edward Island | -1.6%  |
| ● Nova Scotia          | -0.3%  |
| ● New Brunswick        | -0.7%  |
| ● Quebec               | + 0.2% |
| ● Ontario              | 0.0%   |
| ● Manitoba             | -0.7%  |
| ● Saskatchewan         | -0.4%  |
| ● Alberta              | + 0.1% |
| ● British Columbia     | + 0.9% |
| ● Canada               | 0.0%   |

## Livestock and Animal Products

The livestock and animal products index decreased 0.1% in January to a level of 104.8, as decreases in the hogs, poultry and eggs indexes more than offset an increase in the cattle index.

- The hogs index fell 1.8% to a level of 82.4 in January. The index peaked in June 1990 at 107.4, its highest level since August 1987. But it trended downwards through the second half of 1990 in response to rising hog slaughter in the U.S. The index remained 18.1% above the year-earlier level of 69.8, which was at its lowest level since April 1989.
- The cattle index increased 1.2% to a level of 109.4 in January. Over the last two years, the cattle index has fluctuated in a narrow range, between 105.2 and 109.5. (The 1989 annual average index was 107.5, while in 1990 it was 108.0.) U.S. cattle slaughter in 1990 was 4% below 1989 levels, while in Canada, slaughter fell 8.5%. The index stood 2.8% above its level of one year ago.

## Crops

The crops index was down 0.1% in January to 96.8, as an increase of 1.2% in the potatoes index failed to offset decreases in the cereals and oilseeds indexes. The crops index stood 13.6% below the year-earlier level of 112.1

- The cereals index decreased 0.1% in January to a level of 89.8. The drop was mainly due to lower Canadian Wheat Board prices for wheat in Western Canada, as a result of a smaller proportion of deliveries of Number 1 Canadian Western Red Spring wheat than was seen in December. The index stood 18.0% below the level attained one year ago.
- The oilseeds index fell 0.8% in January to a level of 105.2, as a result of lower prices for soybeans, flax and canola. The index was at its lowest level since December 1987. Canadian canola production in 1990 was at record levels, up 6% from 1989. Flax production recovered from low production levels in 1988 and 1989, jumping 88% in 1990. The index was 9.7% below the year-earlier level.
- The potatoes index increased 1.2% in January to a level of 119.1. This was the first increase in the index in the last nine months. The index stood 26.5% below the level attained one year earlier, as Canadian production increased 4% in 1990.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 176.

The January issue of the *Farm Product Price Index* (62-003, \$7.10/\$71) is scheduled for release on March 18. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Liz Leckie (613-951-2436), Farm Income and Prices Section, Agriculture Division. ■

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending February 21, 1991

#### Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 4.5 million tonnes, an increase of 3.2% over the same period last year.
- Piggyback traffic decreased 8.9% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded increased 0.1% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 1.8% lower than that loaded in the previous year.

**Note:** Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carload traffic. All 1990 figures have been revised.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2484), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

### Construction Type Plywood

January 1991

Canadian firms produced 114 511 cubic metres of construction type plywood during January, a decrease of 36.5% from the 180 212 cubic metres produced during January 1990.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).**

The January 1991 issue of *Construction Type Plywood* (35-001, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jock Dobie (604-666-2671), Pacific Region, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6C 3C9. ■

### Blow-moulded Plastic Bottles

Fourth Quarter 1990

Figures for the fourth quarter of 1990 for blow-moulded plastic bottles are now available.

*Production and Shipments of Blow-moulded Plastic Bottles* (47-006, \$6.75/\$27) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information, on this release, contact Raj Sehdev (613-951-3513), Industry Division. ■

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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**Refined Petroleum Products, November 1990.**

**Catalogue number 45-004**

(Canada: \$18.20/\$182.00; United States: US\$21.80/US\$218.00; Other Countries: US\$25.50/US\$255.00).

**Shipping in Canada, 1989.**

**Catalogue number 54-205**

(Canada: \$41.00; United States: US\$49.00; Other Countries: US\$57.00).

**Imports by Commodity, December 1990.**

**Catalogue number 65-007**

(Canada: \$55.10/\$551.00; United States: US\$66.10/US\$661.00; Other Countries: US\$77.10/US\$771.00).

**The Construction Industry: Residential General Contractors and Developers, 1987.**

**Catalogue number 64-208**

(Canada: \$22.00; United States: US\$26.00; Other Countries: US\$31.00).

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*A national toll-free telephone order service is in operation at Statistics Canada. The toll-free line (1-800-267-6677) can be used by Canadian customers for the ordering of Statistics Canada products and services.*

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