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● Farm product price index, March 1994

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The index rose 1.9% to 107.6 in March because of increases in both the crops and the livestock and animal products indexes.

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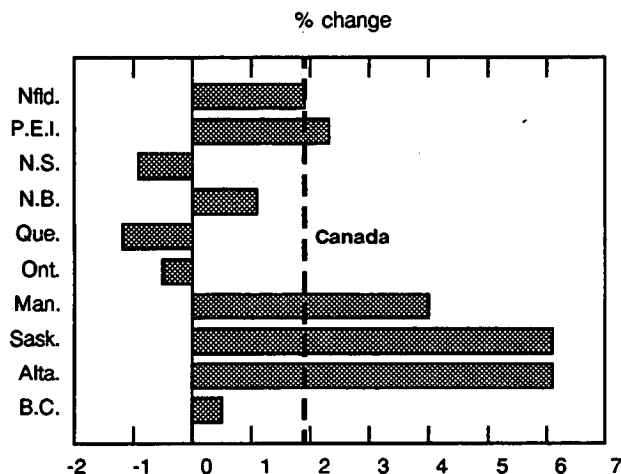
Farm product price index

March 1994

The farm product price index (1986 = 100) for Canada stood at 107.6 in March, up 1.9% from 105.6 in February.

Farm product price index

February to March 1994



After three months of year-over-year decreases, the index rose 0.9% from year-earlier levels. The crops index increased in March by 5.4% to 96.4, with increases in cereal, oilseed and potato prices. The livestock and animal products index rose 0.3% to 114.5 as a 2.3% increase in the cattle and calves index more than offset a decrease in the hogs index.

Crops

The crops index increased 5.4% in March to 96.4 with increases in cereals (+8.9%), oilseeds (+3.8%) and potatoes (+4.2%).

The cereals index increased 8.9% to 76.7 in March. Effective March 18, the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) raised initial payments for most grades of spring and durum wheat by \$5 to \$10 a tonne. This was the second increase for some grades since the beginning of the crop year. The payment on delivery for No. 1 Canada Western Red Spring Wheat with 14.5% protein is now \$183 a tonne, the highest

initial payment in CWB history. Effective March 25, the CWB also increased initial payments of feed-barley by \$5 a tonne. In March the cereals index was 19.6% below its year-earlier level.

The oilseeds index increased 3.8% to 139.7. Soybean, flaxseed and canola prices all rose in most provinces. This was the highest level for the oilseeds index since September 1988. On a year-over-year basis, the index was up 20.8%. Oilseeds have shown year-over-year price increases for the last 22 months.

The potatoes index increased 4.2% to 172.6 in March. Potato prices have shown year-over-year increases since June 1993. In March the potatoes index stood 80.9% above its year-earlier level.

Livestock and animal products

The livestock and animal products index rose 0.3% to 114.5 in March. The index has been above its year-earlier levels since September 1992; in March the index stood 5.2% above its year-earlier level.

The cattle and calves index increased 2.3% to 124.3 in March. Cattle and calf prices have been at record levels since the beginning of 1993. Omaha slaughter steer prices, at US\$73.25 per hundred-weight in March, were 3.3% above February's price (US\$70.94 per hundred-weight). In Canada, cattle and calf slaughter to the end of March was down 4.1% from 1993; the United States reported that slaughter was up 2.3%. In March the cattle and calves index was 4.9% above its year-earlier level.

The hogs index dropped 3.4% to 93.7 in March. This was only the eighth month in the last 26 months that hog prices have declined. To the end of March 1994, hog slaughter in Canada was down 1.0% from a year earlier, while hog slaughter in the United States was down 1.7%. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's *Hogs and pigs report* for March 1, 1994, showed 1.5% fewer hogs on farms than there were on March 1, 1993. In March 1994, the hogs index was 12.9% above its year-earlier level.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 176.

The March 1994 issue of the *Farm product price index* (62-003, \$8/\$76) is scheduled for release on May 17. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Bernie Rosien (613-951-2441), Farm Income and Prices Section, Agriculture Division. □

Farm product price index
1986 = 100

	March 1993	February 1994	March 1994	March 1993 to March 1994	February 1994 to March 1994
				% change	
Total index	106.6	105.6	107.6	0.9	1.9
Crops	102.9	91.5	96.4	-6.3	5.4
Cereals	95.4	70.4	76.7	-19.6	8.9
Oilseeds	115.6	134.6	139.7	20.8	3.8
Potatoes	95.4	165.6	172.6	80.9	4.2
Livestock and animal products	108.8	114.2	114.5	5.2	0.3
Cattle and calves	118.5	121.5	124.3	4.9	2.3
Hogs	83.0	97.0	93.7	12.9	-3.4

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Department store sales by province and metropolitan area

March 1994

Department store sales including concessions totalled \$967.6 million in March 1994, up 11.8% from March 1993. Concession sales totalled \$45.2 million, 4.7% of total department store sales.

Department store sales including concessions

	March 1994	March 1993 to March 1994
	\$ millions	% change
Province		
Newfoundland	12.8	+9.5
Prince Edward Island	3.8	+17.7
Nova Scotia	30.3	+11.0
New Brunswick	21.9	+20.1
Quebec	179.0	+16.0
Ontario	406.2	+12.5
Manitoba	40.6	+8.6
Saskatchewan	28.5	+10.2
Alberta	104.3	+8.5
British Columbia	140.2	+7.8
Metropolitan area		
Calgary	38.3	+10.5
Edmonton	41.7	+1.6
Halifax-Dartmouth	15.8	+13.6
Hamilton	28.8	+12.7
Montréal	100.3	+18.6
Ottawa-Hull	41.8	+8.7
Québec	23.8	+14.6
Toronto	154.4	+9.5
Vancouver	74.3	+8.5
Winnipeg	36.0	+8.9

Data on department store sales and stocks by major commodity lines will be available on May 19.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 111, 112 (series 1, 10-12).

The March 1994 issue of *Department store sales and stocks* (63-002, \$16/\$160) will be available in June.

For further information on this release, contact Diane Lake (613-951-9824) Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. ■

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics

March 1994

In March 1994, pulpwood receipts totalled 3 508 001 cubic metres, up 12.5% from 3 116 880^r (revised) cubic metres in March 1993. Receipts of wood residue totalled 6 281 124 cubic metres, up 1.6% from 6 184 185^r cubic metres in March 1993. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 8 910 118 cubic metres, down 0.2% from 8 928 399^r cubic metres in March 1993. The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue decreased 13.8% to 12 453 545 cubic metres, from 14 443 886 cubic metres a year earlier.

At the end of March 1994, year-to-date receipts of pulpwood totalled 10 618 903 cubic metres, up 1.2% from 10 491 262^r cubic metres a year earlier. Year-to-date receipts of wood residue increased 1.0% to 17 172 312 cubic metres, from the year-earlier 17 009 696^r cubic metres. Year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (26 181 330 cubic metres) was down 0.3% from 26 273 265^r cubic metres a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The March 1994 issue of *Pulpwood and wood residue statistics* (25-001, \$7/\$70) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products,
quarter ended March 1994.

Catalogue number 25-002

(Canada: \$6/\$24; United States: US\$7/US\$28;
other countries: US\$8/US\$32).

Footwear statistics, quarter ended March 1994.

Catalogue number 33-002

(Canada: \$6/\$24; United States: US\$7/US\$28;
other countries: US\$8/US\$32).

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