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AGRICULTURE STATISTICS

Input/output agricultural price indices - March 2004

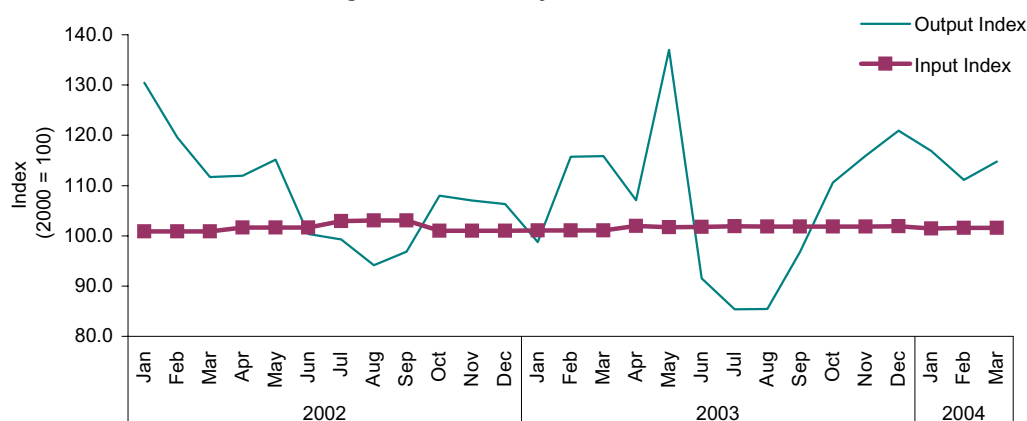
In March 2004, the Producer Price Index for agriculture, stood at 114.79. When compared to the same month last year, the output index registered a decrease of 1.06 points (-0.9%). This decrease in producer prices resulted from a number of fluctuations in the average prices of fresh vegetables and fresh fruit.

On average, fresh vegetables prices decreased by 39.82 points (-22.7%) from 175.54 points in March 2003 to 135.72 points in March 2004. This drop was a result of a decline in the average prices of Tomatoes (-19.3%), Cauliflowers (-30.8%) and Vegetable Marrows (-60.7%). Fresh fruit also decreased by 4.49 points (-3.3%) from 136.42 points in 2003 to 131.93 points in 2004 and this was mainly due to decreases in the average prices of Strawberries (-6.8%) and Lemons (-14.9%).

On the other hand, when compared to the same month in 2003, the producer price indices for potatoes and slaughtered animals registered an increase of 87.06 points (+101.0%) and 1.13 points (+1.3%) respectively. This was a result of an increase in the average prices of potatoes (+101.0%), bulls (+ 6.8%) and cows (+26.3%). The average price for milk, pushed up the producer price index for animal products by 5.7 points (+5.8%) from 98.07 points in March 2003 to 103.73 points in March 2004.

In March 2004, the Input index for agriculture, stood at 101.59. Comparing March 2004 to March 2003, the input index increased marginally by 0.53 points (+0.52%) from 101.06. The input index rose as a result of increases in both the 'goods and services consumed in agriculture' index and the 'machinery and investment' index. The goods and services consumed in agriculture index rose slightly by 0.53 points (+0.52%) from 101.17 points in March 2003 to 101.70 points in March 2004, while the machinery and investment index increased by 0.90 points (+0.96%) from 93.43 points in March 2003 to 94.33 points in March 2004.

Chart 1. 'All Items' producer price and input price index for agriculture: January 2002 - March 2004



The monthly calendar of NSO News Releases may be consulted on the Office's website at www.nso.gov.mt

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Table 1. Output and Input index for agriculture

Year	Output Index	Input Index
2000	100.00	100.00
2001	109.38	100.67
2002	110.29	101.73
2003	106.10	101.75
2002		
January	130.48	100.85
February	119.60	100.85
March	111.67	100.85
April	111.94	101.62
May	115.13	101.64
June	100.37	101.64
July	99.28	102.94
August	94.17	103.06
September	96.82	103.06
October	108.01	100.99
November	107.05	100.99
December	106.34	100.99
2003		
January	98.76	101.07
February	115.74	101.07
March	115.85	101.06
April	107.06	101.95
May	136.97	101.74
June	91.53	101.76
July	85.40	101.88
August	85.46	101.85
September	96.79	101.85
October	110.62	101.84
November	115.93	101.87
December	120.90	101.87
2004		
January	116.90	101.42
February	111.09	101.58
March	114.79	101.59

Table 2. Producer price index for agriculture by type of product (2000 = 100)

Year	Potatoes	Fresh vegetables	Fresh fruit	Animals	Other animal products	All Items
2000	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
2001	141.34	115.29	119.87	101.52	100.79	109.38
2002	138.67	122.65	112.07	99.55	102.13	110.29
2003	117.01	127.42	127.53	89.80	100.35	106.10
2002						
January	197.94	179.74	78.31	102.17	102.91	130.48
February	191.37	131.28	142.05	102.23	101.89	119.60
March	122.38	129.09	106.08	102.29	103.79	111.67
April	161.80	120.36	83.50	102.36	103.33	111.94
May	163.90	129.35	103.60	102.36	102.38	115.13
June	73.92	104.94	98.11	102.16	103.18	100.37
July	78.85	103.88	127.09	97.62	99.81	99.28
August	92.81	79.19	125.71	97.56	100.73	94.17
September	91.17	87.83	136.31	97.41	101.36	96.82
October	105.95	129.65	121.60	95.73	101.76	108.01
November	119.91	123.56	107.62	95.54	101.92	107.05
December	117.45	120.22	114.20	95.94	101.74	106.34
2003						
January	91.99	115.59	89.69	89.84	98.70	98.76
February	107.59	161.91	135.37	89.84	105.21	115.74
March	86.24	175.54	136.42	89.84	98.07	115.85
April	130.59	135.18	87.43	89.56	97.89	107.06
May	121.56	243.47	138.38	89.61	98.21	136.97
June	72.28	88.76	129.30	89.72	98.70	91.53
July	75.56	61.72	140.04	89.72	99.79	85.40
August	98.56	54.39	134.28	89.41	100.96	85.46
September	132.23	85.39	131.32	90.00	100.96	96.79
October	159.33	129.59	113.14	90.15	102.95	110.62
November	149.59	153.71	115.51	90.08	101.89	115.93
December	114.12	181.90	136.97	90.08	101.34	120.90
2004						
January	119.91	165.41	124.41	90.57	102.02	116.90
February	124.84	137.20	158.43	90.58	100.82	111.09
March	173.30	135.72	131.93	90.97	103.73	114.79

Table 3. Input price index for agriculture by type (2000 = 100)

Year	Goods and services consumed in agriculture	Machinery and Investment	All Items
2000	100.00	100.00	100.00
2001	100.69	99.16	100.67
2002	101.76	99.50	101.73
2003	101.77	100.32	101.75
2002			
January	100.98	92.30	100.85
February	100.98	92.30	100.85
March	100.98	92.30	100.85
April	101.75	92.94	101.62
May	101.77	92.94	101.64
June	101.77	92.94	101.64
July	103.10	92.62	102.94
August	103.22	92.62	103.06
September	103.22	92.62	103.06
October	101.11	92.60	100.99
November	101.11	92.60	100.99
December	101.11	92.60	100.99
2003			
January	101.18	93.43	101.07
February	101.19	93.43	101.07
March	101.17	93.43	101.06
April	102.08	93.44	101.95
May	101.86	93.44	101.74
June	101.89	93.44	101.76
July	102.01	93.33	101.88
August	101.97	93.33	101.85
September	101.97	93.33	101.85
October	101.96	93.33	101.84
November	101.99	93.33	101.87
December	102.00	93.33	101.87
2004			
January	101.52	94.33	101.42
February	101.68	94.33	101.58
March	101.70	94.33	101.59

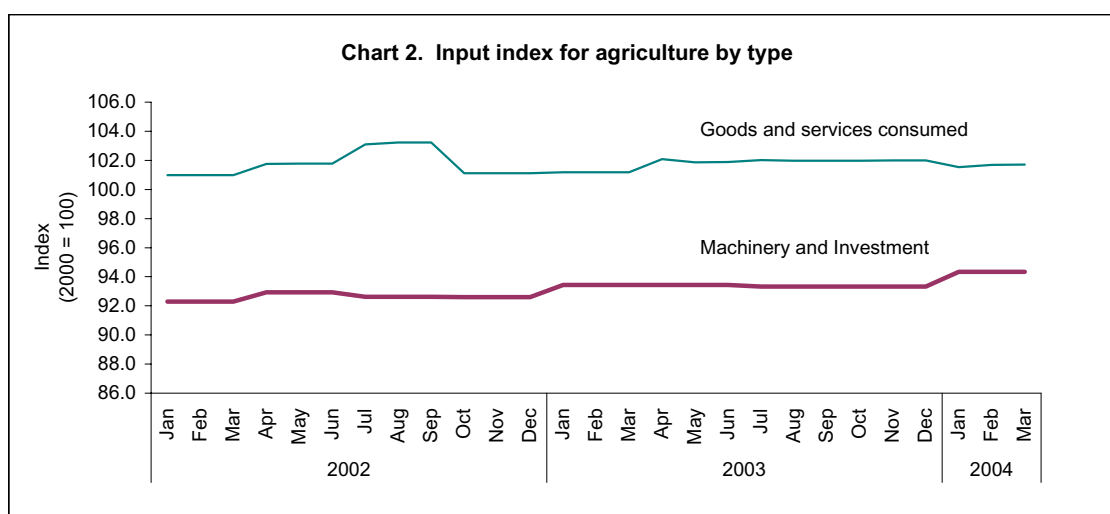


Table 4. Price indices for agriculture - yearly and monthly changes

Item	Yearly change			
	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Points change	% change
Output Price Index	115.85	114.79	-1.06	-0.91
Input Price Index	101.06	101.59	0.53	0.52
Item	Monthly change			
	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Points change	% change
Output Price Index	111.09	114.79	3.70	3.33
Input Price Index	101.58	101.59	0.01	0.01

Table 5. Producer price index for agriculture by type of product - yearly and monthly changes

Item	Yearly change			
	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Points change	% change
Potatoes	86.24	173.30	87.06	101.00
Fresh Vegetables	175.54	135.72	-39.82	-22.68
Fresh Fruit	136.42	131.93	-4.49	-3.29
Animals	89.84	90.97	1.13	1.26
Animals Products	98.07	103.73	5.66	5.77
Item	Monthly change			
	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Points change	% change
Potatoes	124.84	173.30	48.46	38.82
Fresh Vegetables	137.20	135.72	-1.48	-1.08
Fresh Fruit	158.43	131.93	-26.50	-16.73
Animals	90.58	90.97	0.39	0.43
Animals Products	100.82	103.73	2.91	2.89

Table 6. Input price index for agriculture by type of product - yearly and monthly changes

Item	Yearly change			
	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Points change	% change
Goods and services consumed in agriculture	101.17	101.70	0.53	0.52
Machinery and Investment	93.43	94.33	0.90	0.96
Item	Monthly change			
	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Points change	% change
Goods and services consumed in agriculture	101.68	101.70	0.02	0.02
Machinery and Investment	94.33	94.33	0.00	0.00