

News Release



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Compiled by:
Agriculture & Fisheries Unit
e-mail: agric.nso@gov.mt
Tel: 25997529

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Agriculture Statistics

Input/Output agricultural price indices: Q4/2006

An increase in producer output and input prices were registered during the fourth quarter of 2006.

The producer price index of agricultural output rose by 2.77 per cent during the fourth quarter of 2006 when compared to the same period last year. The Animals index and Animal products index, driven by higher rabbit meat (+1.16 per cent) and milk prices (+3.82 per cent) were responsible for this increase.

The Fresh vegetables price index rose by 2.88 per cent in 2006 over the comparative period in 2005. This was due to an increase in the prices of cauliflowers (+26.89 per cent), dry onions (+9.22 per cent) and mushrooms (+5.68 per cent). Producer prices for fresh fruit increased by 10.09 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2006 over 2005, reflecting higher prices, mainly for citrus fruit (+11.26 per cent), while agricultural producers also received higher prices for potatoes (+15.68 per cent).

The input price index for agriculture rose by 1.6 per cent on an annual basis in the fourth quarter of 2006. This was due to an increase in the index of goods and services consumed in agriculture by 1.6 per cent and an increase in the machinery and investment index by 1.51 per cent.

Annual

The annual average producer price index for 2006 stood at 97.62, a slight decrease of 0.15 per cent from the annual average of 2005.

This resulted from a decrease in the producer price index of fresh vegetables (-2.69 per cent) and animals products (-2.80 per cent). On the other hand, the producer price index of potatoes, fruit and animals slaughtered registered an increase of 13.20 per cent, 2.65 per cent and 0.99 per cent respectively.

The annual average input price index for 2006 increased by 3.83 per cent from 106.31 points in 2005 to 110.38 points in 2006. The increase in motor fuels (+10.55 per cent) was mainly behind the rise in the good and services consumed in agriculture index by 3.86 per cent. Over the comparative period, the machinery and investment index rose slightly by 1.73 per cent ■

European statistics comparable to data in this News Release are available at:

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Agriculture and Fisheries/Data](http://europa.eu.int/press/pr060316.htm)

- >Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 - >Agriculture
 - >Agricultural prices and price indices
 - >Price Indices of agricultural products
 - >Price Indices of agricultural products, base 2000=100

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National Statistics Office
Library & Information Unit
Lascaris, Valletta CMR 02, Malta
Tel: (+356) 25997219
Fax: (+356) 25997205
e-mail: nso@gov.mt
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

Table 1. Price indices in agriculture (2000 = 100)

Item	Fourth quarter							% change	
	Weight	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2005/2004	2006/2005	
Output index at producer prices	100.00	108.71	111.07	98.01	96.71	99.39	-1.33	2.77	
Input index at purchase prices	100.00	102.03	99.44	103.33	107.46	109.18	4.00	1.60	
<i>Output prices by type of product:</i>									
Forage	4.35	92.31	55.94	63.08	63.08	63.08	-	-	
Potatoes	3.67	130.45	147.99	61.67	115.10	133.14	86.62	15.68	
Fresh vegetables	17.19	136.55	166.13	111.91	101.30	104.22	-9.48	2.88	
Tomatoes	1.95	115.58	282.09	134.67	126.79	103.19	-5.85	-18.62	
Cauliflowers	1.72	91.18	158.45	99.56	63.77	80.92	-35.95	26.89	
Dry onions	0.46	181.17	202.19	185.67	140.75	153.72	-24.20	9.22	
Vegetable marrows	2.04	192.92	214.73	135.04	104.56	104.44	-22.57	-0.11	
Sugar melons	0.24	136.65	122.37	101.62	78.02	83.58	-23.22	7.12	
Water melons	0.15	107.55	69.32	119.20	75.99	162.90	-36.25	114.37	
Mushrooms	6.91	140.77	135.81	99.83	103.51	109.39	3.69	5.68	
Fruit	2.13	116.87	127.83	81.56	96.11	105.81	17.84	10.09	
Fresh Fruit (excluding citrus and grapes)	0.22	139.91	177.37	158.84	161.62	202.22	1.75	25.12	
Citrus Fruit	1.75	110.54	122.50	72.57	88.33	98.28	21.73	11.26	
Grapes	0.12	174.37	129.05	78.15	108.66	59.90	39.04	-44.87	
Olives	0.02	98.11	73.90	69.21	36.96	55.28	-46.59	49.57	
Animals	48.11	101.31	96.77	98.97	99.46	100.88	0.50	1.42	
Bulls	3.51	85.58	91.11	90.96	98.03	104.33	7.78	6.42	
Cows	1.45	54.79	66.65	77.56	90.10	107.82	16.17	19.66	
Pigs	19.02	90.27	81.75	81.75	81.75	81.75	-	-	
Poultry	10.04	95.90	91.81	91.81	89.76	89.76	-2.23	-	
Rabbits	13.81	129.25	125.54	132.09	132.02	133.54	-0.06	1.16	
Animal products	24.54	102.70	103.36	99.47	91.38	93.93	-8.14	2.79	
Milk	17.15	109.31	112.75	107.19	95.60	99.25	-10.81	3.82	
Eggs	7.39	87.39	81.58	81.58	81.58	81.58	-	-	
<i>Input prices by type of expenditure:</i>									
Goods and services consumed in agriculture	98.59	102.06	99.43	103.36	107.60	109.32	4.10	1.60	
Motor fuels	5.98	113.15	111.48	143.27	174.58	166.57	21.86	-4.59	
Animal feedingstuffs	58.32	99.20	95.39	96.14	96.14	96.14	-	-	
Maintenance of materials	8.94	99.39	96.68	102.77	103.30	107.27	0.52	3.85	
Maintenance of buildings	4.61	100.50	100.52	102.91	104.61	105.70	1.66	1.04	
Veterinary services	1.98	111.06	111.06	117.81	131.31	135.77	11.45	3.40	
Other goods and services	10.52	108.16	115.24	123.85	132.49	134.74	6.98	1.70	
Machinery and investment	1.41	99.48	100.26	101.36	98.21	99.69	-3.11	1.51	
Machinery and other equipment	1.31	98.32	98.58	99.76	96.23	97.83	-3.54	1.66	
Transport equipment	0.10	113.98	121.26	121.26	122.88	122.88	1.34	-	

Table 2. Price indices in agriculture (2000 = 100)

Item	Year							
	Weight	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% change	
							2005/2004	2006/2005
Output index at producer prices	100.00	108.54	103.88	98.81	97.77	97.62	-1.05	-0.15
Input index at purchase prices	100.00	99.86	97.49	103.07	106.31	110.38	3.14	3.83
<i>Output prices by type of product:</i>								
Forage	4.35	92.31	55.94	63.08	63.08	63.08	-	-
Potatoes	3.67	125.68	122.17	92.43	97.53	110.41	5.52	13.20
Fresh vegetables	17.19	125.96	133.62	106.30	108.98	106.05	2.52	-2.69
Tomatoes	2.36	93.25	151.95	94.09	120.17	94.00	27.72	-21.78
Cauliflowers	1.01	72.48	154.36	114.79	76.47	88.87	-33.38	16.22
Dry onions	0.39	237.00	138.55	213.33	166.42	129.95	-21.99	-21.92
Vegetable marrows	1.48	133.93	171.21	106.05	138.16	114.58	30.27	-17.07
Sugar melons	0.94	143.01	81.38	116.38	69.94	125.32	-39.90	79.17
Water melons	0.87	137.24	88.83	90.50	88.69	96.76	-2.00	9.10
Mushrooms	6.29	131.39	134.67	106.32	107.19	112.82	0.82	5.25
Fruit	2.13	117.51	125.61	97.25	90.09	92.48	-7.36	2.65
Fresh Fruit (excluding citrus and grapes)	1.30	115.88	123.09	95.58	95.22	91.41	-0.37	-3.99
Citrus Fruit	0.41	101.09	121.55	85.03	68.65	95.24	-19.26	38.72
Grapes	0.27	122.08	125.26	71.51	83.58	57.92	16.89	-30.70
Olives	0.00	104.22	86.20	71.06	43.31	51.07	-39.05	17.91
Animals	48.11	105.15	96.70	98.48	99.31	100.29	0.85	0.99
Bulls	3.51	89.55	88.11	91.26	95.25	102.49	4.37	7.60
Cows	1.45	85.45	57.92	73.32	84.44	98.70	15.17	16.89
Pigs	19.02	95.13	81.75	81.75	81.75	81.75	-	-
Poultry	10.04	97.95	91.81	91.81	89.76	89.76	-2.23	-
Rabbits	13.81	130.26	126.94	130.73	132.85	132.89	1.63	0.03
Animal products	24.54	102.51	101.01	101.63	93.75	91.12	-7.75	-2.80
Milk	17.15	106.03	109.39	110.28	99.00	95.24	-10.23	-3.80
Eggs	7.39	94.35	81.58	81.58	81.58	81.58	-	-
<i>Input prices by type of expenditure:</i>								
Goods and services consumed in agriculture	98.59	99.87	97.45	103.10	106.43	110.53	3.23	3.86
Motor fuels	5.98	107.52	107.01	128.70	158.89	175.65	23.46	10.55
Animal feedingstuffs	58.32	99.20	95.39	96.14	96.14	96.14	-	-
Maintenance of materials	8.94	99.40	97.74	99.61	103.28	105.99	3.69	2.62
Maintenance of buildings	4.61	100.10	100.52	102.89	104.31	104.70	1.37	0.38
Veterinary services	1.98	111.06	111.06	117.25	130.18	135.40	11.03	4.01
Other goods and services	10.52	106.46	111.64	122.77	127.19	132.89	3.61	4.47
Machinery and investment	1.41	99.50	100.32	101.42	97.71	99.40	-3.65	1.73
Machinery and other equipment	1.31	98.30	98.64	99.72	95.69	97.52	-4.05	1.91
Transport equipment	0.10	114.43	121.26	122.47	122.88	122.88	0.33	-

Methodological Notes

1. Agricultural price indices are calculated for input and output prices, having as base year 2000 = 100, with reference to the quarter just elapsed.
2. Output price indices provide information about the developments in the prices of fruit, vegetables, animals, and animal products over a particular period, whereas input price indices monitor changes in the purchase prices of raw and auxiliary materials and services from other industries. Output price indices are calculated using '*producer prices*', which are prices obtained by farmers, **excluding subsidies**. Input price indices are calculated using purchase prices of raw and auxiliary materials and services. Both the output and input prices used in the calculation of output and input indices are calculated net of VAT.
3. Administrative sources are mainly used in the compilation of the output price index, whilst major retail outlets specializing in the provision of agricultural products used for intermediate consumption provide monthly data on input prices.
4. Agricultural price indices are calculated on the basis of the Laspeyres formula, where a fixed weighting structure is representative of the base year. A slight variation lies in the compilation of the index for fruit and vegetables due to the seasonality. The composition of each monthly basket of fruit and vegetables differs due to availability. Due to this, only a comparison of the indices for one period with the same period is meaningful.
5. The data in this release are considered as final and are not normally subject to revisions.
6. The data are compiled and published by the NSO and can be directly obtained from the NSO website <http://www.nso.gov.mt>