Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)

(January 1993 - June 1996)

Introduction

The Producer Price Index (Agriculture) measures the average change in the selling prices which producers receive for their agricultural products. The methodology for its construction is described in the annex. This issue of the Economic Indicators provides monthly and quarterly indices of agricultural producer prices for the period January 1993 to June 1996 and annual indices for 1993, 1994 and 1995. It is to be noted that the quarterly and annual indices are not simple (unweighted) averages of the monthly indices, but have been calculated using weights for the base year (1993).

2 Changes in the PPI-A

2.1 Changes in the monthly index

The evolution of the monthly index during the period January 1993 to June 1996 is shown in Table 1 and depicted in Chart 1. The table gives details of the index by commodity groups as well as individual products, while the chart shows separate graphs for the overall index and certain commodity groups.

The overall index as well as the "crop products" index are heavily affected by sugar cane which constitutes 82.6% of the weight of the sub-group "crop products" and 71.9% of the total weight. The price of sugar cane itself is available in final form only at the end of the crop year and this price is taken to have prevailed during every month of the crop year. To give a clearer picture of changes affecting crop products other than sugar cane, a separate graph is included in Chart 1.

It is observed that the overall monthly index has increased by 40.1% during the three-and-a-half-year period ending June 1996. (from 96.6 in January 1993 to 135.3 in June 1996). The index for "all crop products" has followed the same trend as the overall index since, as mentioned earlier both are dominated by sugar cane. The price index for sugar cane shows an increase of 48.6% from 94.0 in January 1993 to 139.6 in June 1996.

The index for crop products excluding sugar cane has its own pattern of change: price increases are noted in the early months of the year when production tends to be lower mainly because of unfavourable climatic conditions. Thus, in 1993 a dry period in January was followed by heavy rainfall particularly in March, while cyclonic conditions were prevalent in the early months of 1994, 1995 and 1996. On the other hand, lower prices are registered during the middle and later months when crop production is relatively more abundant.

The index for the sub-group "animals and animal products" which was 94.9 in January 1993 followed a slightly increasing trend during the whole of the review period to attain 114.7 in June 1996, which represents an increase of 20.9%. The changes are mostly attributable to the upward movement in the prices of poultry and eggs which together have a weight of 70.3% of this sub-group. The small seasonal increase observed during the winter months of each year is attributable to higher prices of eggs because of reduced production.

Month to month changes in the index by commodity groups and products are shown in Table 2 in percentage terms.

The overall index for each month compared with that of the same month of the previous year shows increases which were between 5.4% and 21.1% for the period under review (Table 3).

Table 4 shows the net contribution of the commodity groups and products that have affected the index from month to month during the period from February 1993 to June 1996.

2.2 Changes in the quarterly index

Table 5 gives the evolution of the quarterly Producer Price Index. Excepting the 2nd quarter of 1993 and 4th quarter of 1993 and 1995, the overall index recorded consistent increases during the period under review. Table 6 shows percentage changes in the quarterly index by commodity groups and products.

The increases of 10.8%, 10.3% and 4.1% in the overall index recorded in the 3rd quarter of 1993, 1994 and 1995, respectively, are largely attributable to new prices of sugar cane which take effect at the beginning of each crop year.

The increase of 6.1% in the overall index observed in the first quarter of 1994 is due mainly to a sharp increase in the price of fresh vegetables resulting from the adverse effects of cyclone Hollanda which struck Mauritius severely in February, 1994; price increases of fruits also contributed to a lesser extent.

The 4.3% decrease in the 2nd quarter of 1993 is attributable mainly to declines in the prices of fresh vegetables while the 1.2% fall in the 4th quarter of 1993 is due to decreases in the prices of fresh vegetables as well as eggs. The 1.7% decrease in the 4th quarter of 1995 is the result of the combined effect of price declines in fruits, fresh vegetables and eggs.

Table 7 shows percentage changes in the quarterly indices from the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

The net contribution of commodity groups and products that have affected the index from quarter to quarter during the period from 2nd quarter 1993 to 2nd quarter 1996 are given in Table 8.

2.3 *Changes in the annual index*

The weighted average monthly index for the twelve months of 1994 and 1995 works out to 116.1 and 125.9, showing annual increases of 16.1% and 8.4% respectively. Sub-indices for different commodity groups and products as well as the net contribution of the latter to the annual changes are shown in Table 9.

Central Statistical Office
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development
PORT LOUIS

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Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 1: Monthly indices by commodity groups and products , January 1993 - June 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	1993											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Crop Products	**871.0**	**96.9**	**98.3**	**102.6**	**95.2**	**92.6**	**93.1**	**103.5**	**104.8**	**105.8**	**104.1**	**104.2**	**102.6**
Cereal	1.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Root Crops	16.0	91.8	96.7	146.8	112.0	73.0	97.8	98.8	100.4	106.1	100.1	101.4	100.1
Fruits	21.9	103.9	109.4	102.9	98.2	96.2	105.7	97.7	100.5	96.2	111.4	109.5	90.4
Fresh vegetables	68.2	124.0	139.8	184.9	100.7	77.9	74.7	83.6	97.7	110.3	84.1	86.1	71.7
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	102.5	99.6	96.3	95.7	94.7	94.4	96.8	98.4	102.0	108.8	105.0	105.9
Sugar Cane	719.3	94.0	94.0	94.0	94.0	94.0	94.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0
Tea	21.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Tobacco	11.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**94.9**	**96.3**	**97.4**	**98.5**	**99.3**	**99.8**	**103.6**	**103.4**	**103.4**	**101.4**	**100.5**	**101.0**
Cattle	5.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pigs	7.0	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3
Goat	4.0	92.4	92.4	92.4	92.4	92.4	92.4	105.6	105.6	105.6	105.6	105.6	105.6
Sheep	0.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Deer	6.4	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	103.6	103.6	103.6
Poultry	56.9	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	101.7	101.7	101.7	101.7	101.7	101.7
Eggs	33.8	87.9	93.1	97.5	101.7	104.6	105.7	107.4	106.3	106.3	98.1	94.6	96.8
Milk	14.7	93.3	93.3	93.3	93.3	93.3	93.3	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7
Honey	0.4	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.1	100.9	100.9	102.6	102.6	99.1	99.1	99.1
Overall Index	**1,000.0**	**96.6**	**98.0**	**101.9**	**95.6**	**93.5**	**94.0**	**103.5**	**104.6**	**105.5**	**103.8**	**103.7**	**102.4**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 1: Monthly indices by commodity groups and products , January 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	1994											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Crop Products	**871.0**	**102.9**	**110.9**	**121.2**	**114.8**	**112.9**	**108.1**	**124.8**	**124.9**	**123.8**	**124.6**	**127.0**	**126.2**
Cereal	1.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Root Crops	16.0	101.6	130.8	98.5	96.4	101.0	92.8	101.6	102.9	101.4	100.4	102.4	102.6
Fruits	21.9	103.2	124.1	148.7	176.1	176.7	173.1	182.6	177.3	172.2	187.2	189.4	169.0
Fresh vegetables	68.2	71.6	158.4	290.7	201.2	176.0	117.7	106.0	108.5	95.6	100.1	130.8	127.5
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	106.1	115.7	110.7	110.0	107.8	108.4	110.0	110.9	112.0	119.2	114.8	114.8
Sugar Cane	719.3	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8
Tea	21.2	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3
Tobacco	11.3	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**102.0**	**102.8**	**103.5**	**105.0**	**107.3**	**105.8**	**108.2**	**109.0**	**107.2**	**102.8**	**102.7**	**101.7**
Cattle	5.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pigs	7.0	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	103.7	103.7	116.9	116.9	116.9	116.9	116.9	116.9
Goat	4.0	105.6	105.6	105.6	105.6	113.5	113.5	113.5	113.5	113.5	113.5	113.5	113.5
Sheep	0.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2
Deer	6.4	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6
Poultry	56.9	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	106.3	106.3	106.3	106.3	106.3	106.3
Eggs	33.8	98.1	101.1	103.6	109.6	116.5	110.9	111.9	114.8	108.1	91.2	90.8	87.0
Milk	14.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7
Honey	0.4	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	107.8	107.8
Overall Index	**1,000.0**	**102.8**	**109.9**	**118.9**	**113.5**	**112.2**	**107.8**	**122.7**	**122.8**	**121.7**	**121.8**	**123.9**	**123.0**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 1: Monthly indices by commodity groups and products, January 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	1995											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Crop Products	**871.0**	**124.5**	**125.2**	**131.9**	**132.9**	**126.8**	**124.4**	**132.5**	**133.8**	**133.5**	**132.4**	**130.9**	**131.6**
Cereal	1.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Root Crops	16.0	104.3	115.6	146.8	111.3	146.0	131.7	111.5	110.0	110.1	105.8	106.9	107.3
Fruits	21.9	147.5	127.9	134.6	137.5	134.6	131.4	132.2	157.2	151.4	135.7	108.7	100.4
Fresh vegetables	68.2	110.3	123.9	200.2	220.7	134.5	109.0	82.2	91.3	88.1	79.4	70.4	81.8
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	112.3	106.7	103.7	107.1	107.6	105.9	106.2	106.5	109.3	115.7	108.0	106.2
Sugar Cane	719.3	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	139.6	139.6	139.6	139.6	139.6	139.6
Tea	21.2	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6
Tobacco	11.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**100.9**	**100.9**	**104.1**	**105.1**	**107.4**	**106.6**	**107.9**	**107.9**	**106.6**	**103.5**	**103.1**	**104.0**
Cattle	5.5	100.0	100.0	127.0	127.0	127.0	127.0	117.4	117.4	117.4	117.4	117.4	117.4
Pigs	7.0	116.9	116.9	116.9	116.9	116.9	92.3	92.3	92.3	92.3	92.3	92.3	92.3
Goat	4.0	113.5	113.5	118.8	118.8	118.8	118.8	118.8	118.8	118.8	118.8	118.8	118.8
Sheep	0.3	104.2	104.2	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3
Deer	6.4	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	107.4	107.4	107.4	107.4	107.4	107.4	107.4
Poultry	56.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	108.8	108.8	108.8	108.8	108.8	108.8
Eggs	33.8	83.0	82.9	90.2	93.9	102.5	104.0	107.2	107.1	102.2	90.5	89.0	92.5
Milk	14.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7
Honey	0.4	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8	113.1	114.8	120.7	120.7	120.7	115.5	113.7	113.7
Overall Index	**1,000.0**	**121.5**	**122.1**	**128.3**	**129.3**	**124.3**	**122.1**	**129.3**	**130.5**	**130.0**	**128.7**	**127.3**	**128.0**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

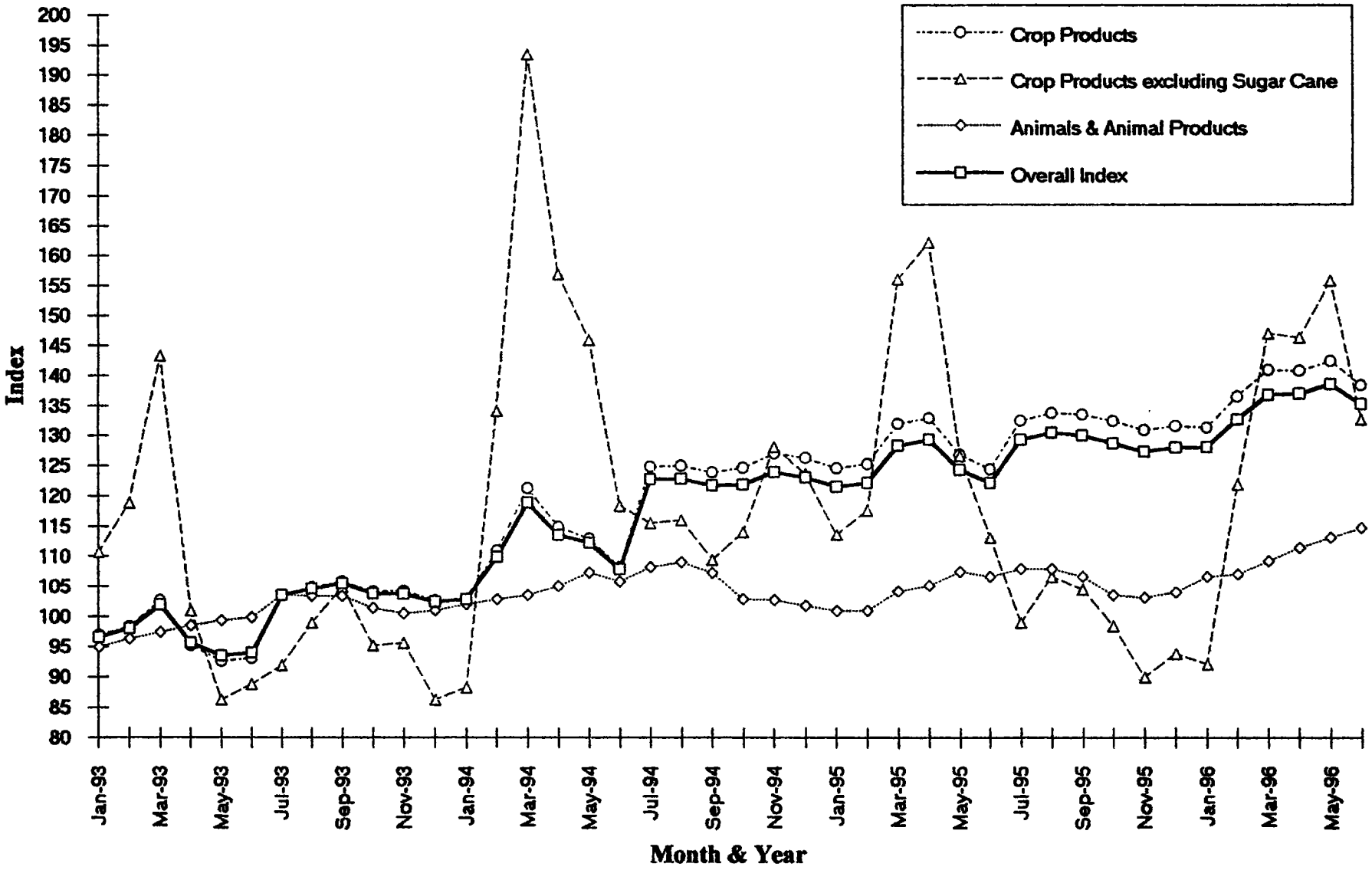
Table 1: Monthly indices by commodity groups and products, January 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	1996 [1]					
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Crop Products	**871.0**	**131.3**	**136.5**	**140.9**	**140.8**	**142.4**	**138.4**
Cereal	1.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Root Crops	16.0	107.6	148.1	137.8	140.6	161.0	139.8
Fruits	21.9	105.2	122.1	152.1	147.0	142.7	150.1
Fresh vegetables	68.2	76.8	126.7	176.0	175.7	193.0	144.0
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	103.7	112.2	108.9	106.8	109.1	110.4
Sugar Cane [2]	719.3	139.6	139.6	139.6	139.6	139.6	139.6
Tea [2]	21.2	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6
Tobacco [2]	11.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**106.6**	**107.0**	**109.2**	**111.4**	**113.1**	**114.7**
Cattle	5.5	117.4	117.4	117.4	117.4	117.4	117.4
Pigs	7.0	92.3	92.3	92.3	85.5	85.5	85.5
Goat	4.0	124.1	124.1	124.1	124.1	124.1	124.1
Sheep	0.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3
Deer	6.4	107.4	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	109.6
Poultry	56.9	110.5	110.5	110.5	110.5	111.6	111.6
Eggs	33.8	98.9	100.1	108.5	118.3	123.0	128.6
Milk	14.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7
Honey	0.4	111.1	112.0	112.0	112.0	112.0	128.3
Overall Index	**1,000.0**	**128.1**	**132.7**	**136.8**	**137.0**	**138.6**	**135.3**

[1] Provisional

[2] Based on last available final price

Chart 1 - Monthly indices for broad commodity groups, January 1993 - June 1996



Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 2: Percentage change from previous month by commodity groups and products, February 1993 - June 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from										
		Jan 93 to Feb 93	Feb 93 to Mar 93	Mar 93 to Apr 93	Apr 93 to May 93	May 93 to Jun 93	Jun 93 to Jul 93	Jul 93 to Aug 93	Aug 93 to Sep 93	Sep 93 to Oct 93	Oct 93 to Nov 93	Nov 93 to Dec 93
Crop Products	**871.0**	**1.4**	**4.4**	**-7.2**	**-2.7**	**0.5**	**11.2**	**1.3**	**1.0**	**-1.6**	**0.1**	**-1.5**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	5.3	51.8	-23.7	-34.8	34.0	1.0	1.6	5.7	-5.7	1.3	-1.3
Fruits	21.9	5.3	-5.9	-4.6	-2.0	9.9	-7.6	2.9	-4.3	15.8	-1.7	-17.4
Fresh vegetables	68.2	12.7	32.3	-45.5	-22.6	-4.1	11.9	16.9	12.9	-23.8	2.4	-16.7
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-2.8	-3.3	-0.6	-1.0	-0.3	2.5	1.7	3.7	6.7	-3.5	0.9
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tea	21.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**1.5**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**0.8**	**0.5**	**3.8**	**-0.2**	**0.0**	**-1.9**	**-0.9**	**0.5**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goat	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sheep	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0
Poultry	56.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eggs	33.8	5.9	4.7	4.3	2.9	1.1	1.6	-1.0	0.0	-7.7	-3.6	2.3
Milk	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.0	-3.4	0.0	0.0
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**1.4**	**4.0**	**-6.2**	**-2.2**	**0.5**	**10.1**	**1.1**	**0.9**	**-1.6**	**-0.1**	**-1.3**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 2: Percentage change from previous month by commodity groups and products, February 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from											
		Dec 93 to Jan 94	Jan 94 to Feb 94	Feb 94 to Mar 94	Mar 94 to Apr 94	Apr 94 to May 94	May 94 to Jun 94	Jun 94 to Jul 94	Jul 94 to Aug 94	Aug 94 to Sep 94	Sep 94 to Oct 94	Oct 94 to Nov 94	Nov 94 to Dec 94
Crop Products	**871.0**	**0.3**	**7.8**	**9.3**	**-5.3**	**-1.7**	**-4.3**	**15.4**	**0.1**	**-0.9**	**0.6**	**1.9**	**-0.6**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	1.5	28.7	-24.7	-2.1	4.8	-8.1	9.5	1.3	-1.5	-1.0	2.0	0.2
Fruits	21.9	14.2	20.3	19.8	18.4	0.3	-2.0	5.5	-2.9	-2.9	8.7	1.2	-10.8
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-0.1	121.2	83.5	-30.8	-12.5	-33.1	-9.9	2.4	-11.9	4.7	30.7	-2.5
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	0.2	9.0	-4.3	-0.6	-2.0	0.6	1.5	0.8	1.0	6.4	-3.7	0.0
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tea	21.2	-1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**1.0**	**0.8**	**0.7**	**1.4**	**2.2**	**-1.4**	**2.3**	**0.7**	**-1.7**	**-4.1**	**-0.1**	**-1.0**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goat	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sheep	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poultry	56.9	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eggs	33.8	1.3	3.1	2.5	5.8	6.3	-4.8	0.9	2.6	-5.8	-15.6	-0.4	-4.2
Milk	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.0
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**0.4**	**6.9**	**8.2**	**-4.5**	**-1.1**	**-3.9**	**13.8**	**0.1**	**-0.9**	**0.1**	**1.7**	**-0.7**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 2: Percentage change from previous month by commodity groups and products , February 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change (%) from											
		Dec 94 to Jan 95	Jan 95 to Feb 95	Feb 95 to Mar 95	Mar 95 to Apr 95	Apr 95 to May 95	May 95 to Jun 95	Jun 95 to Jul 95	Jul 95 to Aug 95	Aug 95 to Sep 95	Sep 95 to Oct 95	Oct 95 to Nov 95	Nov 95 to Dec 95
Crop Products	**871.0**	**-1.3**	**0.6**	**5.4**	**0.8**	**-4.6**	**-1.9**	**6.5**	**1.0**	**-0.2**	**-0.8**	**-1.1**	**0.5**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	1.7	10.8	27.0	-24.2	31.2	-9.8	-15.3	-1.3	0.1	-3.9	1.0	0.4
Fruits	21.9	-12.7	-13.3	5.2	2.2	-2.1	-2.4	0.6	18.9	-3.7	-10.4	-19.9	-7.6
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-13.5	12.3	61.6	10.2	-39.1	-19.0	-24.6	11.1	-3.5	-9.9	-11.3	16.2
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-2.2	-5.0	-2.8	3.3	0.5	-1.6	0.3	0.3	2.6	5.9	-6.7	-1.7
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tea	21.2	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**-0.8**	**0.0**	**3.2**	**1.0**	**2.2**	**-0.7**	**1.2**	**0.0**	**-1.2**	**-2.9**	**-0.4**	**0.9**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	27.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-7.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-21.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goat	4.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sheep	0.3	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poultry	56.9	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eggs	33.8	-4.6	-0.1	8.8	4.1	9.2	1.5	3.1	-0.1	-4.6	-11.4	-1.7	3.9
Milk	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	1.5	5.1	0.0	0.0	-4.3	-1.6	0.0
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**-1.2**	**0.5**	**5.1**	**0.8**	**-3.9**	**-1.8**	**5.9**	**0.9**	**-0.4**	**-1.0**	**-1.1**	**0.5**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 2: Percentage change from previous month by commodity groups and products, February 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from					
		Dec 95 to Jan 96	Jan 96 to Feb 96	Feb 96 to Mar 96	Mar 96 to Apr 96	Apr 96 to May 96	May 96 to Jun 96
Crop Products	**871.0**	**-0.2**	**4.0**	**3.2**	**-0.1**	**1.1**	**-2.8**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	0.3	37.6	-7.0	2.0	14.5	-13.2
Fruits	21.9	4.8	16.1	24.6	-3.4	-2.9	5.2
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-6.1	65.0	38.9	-0.2	9.8	-25.4
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-2.4	8.2	-2.9	-1.9	2.2	1.2
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tea	21.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**2.5**	**0.4**	**2.1**	**2.0**	**1.5**	**1.4**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-7.4	0.0	0.0
Goat	4.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sheep	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
Poultry	56.9	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
Eggs	33.8	6.9	1.2	8.4	9.0	4.0	4.6
Milk	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	-2.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.6
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**0.1**	**3.6**	**3.1**	**0.1**	**1.2**	**-2.4**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 3: Percentage change from corresponding month of previous year by commodity groups and products, January 1994 - June 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from											
		Jan 93 to Jan 94	Feb 93 to Feb 94	Mar 93 to Mar 94	Apr 93 to Apr 94	May 93 to May 94	Jun 93 to Jun 94	Jul 93 to Jul 94	Aug 93 to Aug 94	Sep 93 to Sep 94	Oct 93 to Oct 94	Nov 93 to Nov 94	Dec 93 to Dec 94
Crop Products	**871.0**	**6.2**	**12.8**	**18.1**	**20.6**	**21.9**	**16.1**	**20.6**	**19.2**	**17.0**	**19.7**	**21.9**	**23.0**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	10.7	35.3	-32.9	-13.9	38.4	-5.1	2.8	2.5	-4.4	0.3	1.0	2.5
Fruits	21.9	-0.7	13.4	44.5	79.3	83.7	63.8	86.9	76.4	79.0	68.0	73.0	86.9
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-42.3	13.3	57.2	99.8	125.9	57.6	26.8	11.1	-13.3	19.0	51.9	77.8
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	3.5	16.2	15.0	14.9	13.8	14.8	13.6	12.7	9.8	9.6	9.3	8.4
Sugar Cane	719.3	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.6
Tea	21.2	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7
Tobacco	11.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**7.5**	**6.7**	**6.3**	**6.6**	**8.1**	**6.0**	**4.4**	**5.4**	**3.7**	**1.4**	**2.2**	**0.7**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	7.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	4.1	4.1	17.4	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6
Goat	4.0	14.3	14.3	14.3	14.3	22.8	22.8	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Sheep	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2
Deer	6.4	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poultry	56.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Eggs	33.8	11.6	8.6	6.3	7.8	11.4	4.9	4.2	8.0	1.7	-7.0	-4.0	-10.1
Milk	14.7	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	3.5	8.8	8.8
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**6.4**	**12.1**	**16.7**	**18.7**	**20.0**	**14.7**	**18.6**	**17.4**	**15.4**	**17.3**	**19.5**	**20.1**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 3: Percentage change from corresponding month of previous year by commodity groups and products , January 1994 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from											
		Jan 94 to Jan 95	Feb 94 to Feb 95	Mar 94 to Mar 95	Apr 94 to Apr 95	May 94 to May 95	Jun 94 to Jun 95	Jul 94 to Jul 95	Aug 94 to Aug 95	Sep 94 to Sep 95	Oct 94 to Oct 95	Nov 94 to Nov 95	Dec 94 to Dec 95
Crop Products	**871.0**	**21.0**	**12.9**	**8.8**	**15.8**	**12.3**	**15.1**	**6.2**	**7.1**	**7.8**	**6.3**	**3.1**	**4.3**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	2.7	-11.6	49.0	15.5	44.6	41.9	9.7	6.9	8.6	5.4	4.4	4.6
Fruits	21.9	42.9	3.1	-9.5	-21.9	-23.8	-24.1	-27.6	-11.3	-12.1	-27.5	-42.6	-40.6
Fresh vegetables	68.2	54.1	-21.8	-31.1	9.7	-23.6	-7.4	-22.5	-15.9	-7.8	-20.7	-46.2	-35.8
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	5.8	-7.8	-6.3	-2.6	-0.2	-2.3	-3.5	-4.0	-2.4	-2.9	-5.9	-7.5
Sugar Cane	719.3	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.6	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Tea	21.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Tobacco	11.3	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**-1.1**	**-1.8**	**0.6**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.8**	**-0.3**	**-1.0**	**-0.6**	**0.7**	**0.4**	**2.3**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4
Pigs	7.0	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6	12.7	-11.0	-21.0	-21.0	-21.0	-21.0	-21.0	-21.0
Goat	4.0	7.5	7.5	12.5	12.5	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Sheep	0.3	4.2	4.2	8.3	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9
Deer	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
Poultry	56.9	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Eggs	33.8	-15.4	-18.0	-12.9	-14.3	-12.0	-6.2	-4.2	-6.7	-5.5	-0.8	-2.0	6.3
Milk	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	10.2	11.9	17.6	17.6	17.6	12.6	5.5	5.5
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**18.2**	**11.1**	**7.9**	**13.9**	**10.8**	**13.3**	**5.4**	**6.3**	**6.8**	**5.7**	**2.7**	**4.1**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 3: Percentage change from corresponding month of previous year by commodity groups and products, January 1994 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from					
		Jan 95 to Jan 96	Feb 95 to Feb 96	Mar 95 to Mar 96	Apr 95 to Apr 96	May 95 to May 96	Jun 95 to Jun 96
Crop Products	**871.0**	**5.5**	**9.0**	**6.8**	**5.9**	**12.3**	**11.3**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	3.2	28.1	-6.1	26.3	10.3	6.2
Fruits	21.9	-28.7	-4.5	13.0	6.9	6.0	14.2
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-30.4	2.3	-12.1	-20.4	43.5	32.1
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-7.7	5.2	5.0	-0.3	1.4	4.2
Sugar Cane	719.3	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Tea	21.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**5.6**	**6.0**	**4.9**	**6.0**	**5.3**	**7.6**
Cattle	5.5	17.4	17.4	-7.6	-7.6	-7.6	-7.6
Pigs	7.0	-21.0	-21.0	-21.0	-26.9	-26.9	-7.4
Goat	4.0	9.3	9.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Sheep	0.3	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.4	3.7	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	2.0
Poultry	56.9	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	4.4	4.4
Eggs	33.8	19.2	20.7	20.3	26.0	20.0	23.7
Milk	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	3.1	3.9	3.9	3.9	-1.0	11.8
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**5.4**	**8.7**	**6.6**	**6.0**	**11.5**	**10.8**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 4: Net contribution of commodity groups and products that have affected the index from month to month, February 1993 - June 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	Jan 93 to Feb 93	Feb 93 to Mar 93	Mar 93 to Apr 93	Apr 93 to May 93	May 93 to Jun 93	Jun 93 to Jul 93	Jul 93 to Aug 93	Aug 93 to Sep 93	Sep 93 to Oct 93	Oct 93 to Nov 93	Nov 93 to Dec 93
Crop Products	**871.0**	**1.25**	**3.70**	**-6.41**	**-2.22**	**0.39**	**9.05**	**1.09**	**0.90**	**-1.48**	**0.06**	**-1.41**
Cereal	1.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Root Crops	16.0	0.08	0.80	-0.56	-0.62	0.40	0.02	0.03	0.09	-0.10	0.02	-0.02
Fruits	21.9	0.12	-0.14	-0.10	-0.04	0.21	-0.19	0.07	-0.09	0.33	-0.04	-0.42
Fresh vegetables	68.2	1.08	3.08	-5.74	-1.55	-0.22	0.59	0.97	0.86	-1.79	0.12	-0.98
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-0.03	-0.04	-0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.08	-0.04	0.01
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tea	21.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	0.00
Tobacco	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**0.18**	**0.15**	**0.14**	**0.10**	**0.06**	**0.49**	**-0.03**	**0.00**	**-0.26**	**-0.12**	**0.07**
Cattle	5.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pigs	7.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goat	4.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sheep	0.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deer	6.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
Poultry	56.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eggs	33.8	0.18	0.15	0.14	0.10	0.04	0.06	-0.03	0.00	-0.28	-0.12	0.07
Milk	14.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Honey	0.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	**1,000.0**	**1.43**	**3.85**	**-6.27**	**-2.12**	**0.45**	**9.54**	**1.06**	**0.90**	**-1.74**	**-0.06**	**-1.34**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 4: Net contribution of commodity groups and products that have affected the index from month to month, February 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Dec 93 to Jan 94	Jan 94 to Feb 94	Feb 94 to Mar 94	Mar 94 to Apr 94	Apr 94 to May 94	May 94 to Jun 94	Jun 94 to Jul 94	Jul 94 to Aug 94	Aug 94 to Sep 94	Sep 94 to Oct 94	Oct 94 to Nov 94	Nov 94 to Dec 94
Crop Products	**871.0**	**0.28**	**6.96**	**8.96**	**-5.56**	**-1.63**	**-4.18**	**14.55**	**0.06**	**-0.95**	**0.70**	**2.12**	**-0.72**
Cereal	1.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Root Crops	16.0	0.02	0.47	-0.52	-0.03	0.08	-0.13	0.14	0.02	-0.02	-0.02	0.03	0.00
Fruits	21.9	0.28	0.46	0.52	0.59	0.01	-0.08	0.23	-0.13	-0.08	0.33	0.05	-0.47
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-0.01	5.92	9.02	-6.11	-1.70	-3.98	-0.80	0.16	-0.86	0.31	2.09	-0.25
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	0.00	0.11	-0.06	-0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.08	-0.05	0.00
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tea	21.2	-0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tobacco	11.3	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**0.12**	**0.10**	**0.08**	**0.20**	**0.29**	**-0.19**	**0.31**	**0.09**	**-0.20**	**-0.57**	**-0.01**	**-0.14**
Cattle	5.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pigs	7.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goat	4.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sheep	0.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deer	6.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poultry	56.9	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eggs	33.8	0.04	0.10	0.08	0.20	0.24	-0.19	0.04	0.09	-0.20	-0.57	-0.01	-0.14
Milk	14.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Honey	0.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	**1,000.0**	**0.40**	**7.06**	**9.04**	**-5.36**	**-1.34**	**-4.37**	**14.86**	**0.15**	**-1.15**	**0.13**	**2.11**	**-0.86**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 4: Net contribution of commodity groups and products that have affected the index from month to month, February 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Dec 94 to Jan 95	Jan 95 to Feb 95	Feb 95 to Mar 95	Mar 95 to Apr 95	Apr 95 to May 95	May 95 to Jun 95	Jun 95 to Jul 95	Jul 95 to Aug 95	Aug 95 to Sep 95	Sep 95 to Oct 95	Oct 95 to Nov 95	Nov 95 to Dec 95
Crop Products	**871.0**	**-1.47**	**0.62**	**5.82**	**0.92**	**-5.34**	**-2.06**	**7.08**	**1.15**	**-0.32**	**-0.93**	**-1.31**	**0.59**
Cereal	1.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Root Crops	16.0	0.04	0.18	0.50	-0.58	0.57	-0.23	-0.32	-0.02	0.00	-0.07	0.02	0.01
Fruits	21.9	-0.45	-0.43	0.15	0.06	-0.06	-0.07	0.02	0.55	-0.13	-0.34	-0.60	-0.18
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-1.15	0.93	5.20	1.40	-5.86	-1.74	-1.83	0.62	-0.22	-0.59	-0.63	0.78
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-0.02	-0.06	-0.03	0.04	0.01	-0.02	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.07	-0.10	-0.02
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tea	21.2	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tobacco	11.3	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**-0.08**	**0.00**	**0.42**	**0.12**	**0.30**	**-0.10**	**0.17**	**0.00**	**-0.17**	**-0.40**	**-0.05**	**0.12**
Cattle	5.5	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pigs	7.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goat	4.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sheep	0.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deer	6.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poultry	56.9	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eggs	33.8	-0.11	0.00	0.25	0.12	0.30	0.05	0.11	0.00	-0.17	-0.40	-0.05	0.12
Milk	14.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Honey	0.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	**1,000.0**	**-1.55**	**0.62**	**6.24**	**1.04**	**-5.04**	**-2.16**	**7.25**	**1.15**	**-0.49**	**-1.33**	**-1.36**	**0.71**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 4: Net contribution of commodity groups and products that have affected the index from month to month, February 1993 - June 1996 (Continued)

Commodity Group	Weight	Dec 95 to Jan 96	Jan 96 to Feb 96	Feb 96 to Mar 96	Mar 96 to Apr 96	Apr 96 to May 96	May 96 to Jun 96
Crop Products	**871.0**	**-0.26**	**4.52**	**3.82**	**-0.11**	**1.42**	**-3.51**
Cereal	1.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Root Crops	16.0	0.00	0.65	-0.16	0.04	0.31	-0.34
Fruits	21.9	0.11	0.37	0.66	-0.11	-0.09	0.16
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-0.34	3.40	3.36	-0.02	1.17	-3.34
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-0.03	0.10	-0.04	-0.02	0.03	0.01
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tea	21.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tobacco	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**0.34**	**0.05**	**0.28**	**0.28**	**0.22**	**0.21**
Cattle	5.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pigs	7.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.00
Goat	4.0	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sheep	0.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deer	6.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Poultry	56.9	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00
Eggs	33.8	0.22	0.04	0.28	0.33	0.16	0.19
Milk	14.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Honey	0.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Total	**1,000.0**	**0.08**	**4.57**	**4.10**	**0.17**	**1.64**	**-3.30**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 5: Quarterly indices [1] by commodity groups and products, 1st Quarter 1993 - 2nd Quarter 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	1993				1994				1995				1996	
		1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr	2nd Qr
Crop Products	**871.0**	**98.8**	**93.6**	**104.7**	**103.5**	**110.5**	**111.7**	**124.5**	**125.8**	**126.7**	**127.7**	**133.3**	**131.4**	**135.2**	**140.4**
Cereal	1.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Root Crops	16.0	94.8	94.5	101.3	100.6	103.1	95.9	102.2	101.9	107.0	130.6	110.5	106.7	111.3	145.8
Fruits	21.9	105.2	100.2	98.1	97.6	113.5	175.2	177.3	176.2	141.0	134.3	146.7	106.4	114.6	146.7
Fresh vegetables	68.2	147.1	83.5	97.7	80.5	164.2	162.0	103.3	119.7	141.3	150.9	87.4	77.2	122.1	169.7
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	99.5	94.9	99.1	106.6	110.8	108.7	111.0	116.3	107.6	106.9	107.3	110.0	108.3	108.8
Sugar Cane	719.3	94.0	94.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	139.6	139.6	139.6	139.6
Tea	21.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6
Tobacco	11.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**96.2**	**99.2**	**103.5**	**101.0**	**102.7**	**106.0**	**108.1**	**102.4**	**102.0**	**106.3**	**107.4**	**103.5**	**107.6**	**113.0**
Cattle	5.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	109.0	127.0	117.4	117.4	117.4	117.4
Pigs	7.0	99.6	99.6	100.1	100.3	100.3	102.6	116.9	116.9	116.9	108.7	92.3	92.3	92.3	85.5
Goat	4.0	92.4	92.4	105.6	105.6	105.6	110.9	113.5	113.5	115.3	118.8	118.8	118.8	124.1	124.1
Sheep	0.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	104.2	104.2	104.2	105.6	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3
Deer	6.4	97.0	98.3	100.8	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	104.9	107.4	107.4	108.0	108.7
Poultry	56.9	98.3	98.3	101.7	101.7	103.1	103.1	106.3	106.3	106.9	106.9	108.8	108.8	110.5	111.2
Eggs	33.8	92.8	104.0	106.7	96.5	100.9	112.3	111.6	89.7	85.4	100.1	105.5	90.7	102.5	123.3
Milk	14.7	93.3	93.3	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7
Honey	0.4	99.1	99.7	102.0	99.1	102.6	102.6	102.6	106.1	107.8	111.9	120.7	114.3	111.7	117.4
Overall Index	**1,000.0**	**98.5**	**94.3**	**104.5**	**103.2**	**109.5**	**111.0**	**122.4**	**122.8**	**123.5**	**124.9**	**130.0**	**127.8**	**131.6**	**136.9**

[1] using data for base period as weights, and not a simple average of the monthly indices

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI - A)

(Base period: Year 1993=100)

Table 6: Percentage change from previous quarter by commodity groups and products, 2nd Quarter 1993 - 2nd Quarter 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from												
		1st Qr 93 to 2nd Qr 93	2nd Qr 93 to 3rd Qr 93	3rd Qr 93 to 4th Qr 93	4th Qr 93 to 1st Qr 94	1st Qr 94 to 2nd Qr 94	2nd Qr 94 to 3rd Qr 94	3rd Qr 94 to 4th Qr 94	4th Qr 94 to 1st Qr 95	1st Qr 95 to 2nd Qr 95	2nd Qr 95 to 3rd Qr 95	3rd Qr 95 to 4th Qr 95	4th Qr 95 to 1st Qr 96	1st Qr 96 to 2nd Qr 96
Crop Products	**871.0**	**-5.3**	**11.9**	**-1.1**	**6.8**	**1.1**	**11.5**	**1.0**	**0.7**	**0.8**	**4.4**	**-1.4**	**2.9**	**3.8**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	-0.3	7.2	-0.7	2.5	-7.0	6.6	-0.3	5.0	22.1	-15.4	-3.4	4.3	31.0
Fruits	21.9	-4.8	-2.1	-0.5	16.3	54.4	1.2	-0.6	-20.0	-4.8	9.2	-27.5	7.7	28.0
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-43.2	17.0	-17.6	104.0	-1.3	-36.2	15.9	18.0	6.8	-42.1	-11.7	58.2	39.0
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-4.6	4.4	7.6	3.9	-1.9	2.1	4.8	-7.5	-0.7	0.4	2.5	-1.5	0.5
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.0	12.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tea	21.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**3.1**	**4.3**	**-2.4**	**1.7**	**3.2**	**2.0**	**-5.3**	**-0.4**	**4.2**	**1.0**	**-3.6**	**4.0**	**5.0**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	16.5	-7.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	7.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	2.3	13.9	0.0	0.0	-7.0	-15.1	0.0	0.0	-7.4
Goat	4.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	5.0	2.3	0.0	1.6	3.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.0
Sheep	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	1.3	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.4	1.3	2.5	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	2.4	0.0	0.6	0.6
Poultry	56.9	0.0	3.5	0.0	1.4	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.8	0.0	1.6	0.6
Eggs	33.8	12.1	2.6	-9.6	4.6	11.3	-0.6	-19.6	-4.8	17.2	5.4	-14.0	13.0	20.3
Milk	14.7	0.0	14.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	0.6	2.3	-2.8	3.5	0.0	0.0	3.4	1.6	3.8	7.9	-5.3	-2.3	5.1
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**-4.3**	**10.8**	**-1.2**	**6.1**	**1.4**	**10.3**	**0.3**	**0.6**	**1.1**	**4.1**	**-1.7**	**3.0**	**4.0**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 7: Percentage change from corresponding quarter of previous year by commodity groups and products, 1st Quarter 1994 - 2nd Quarter 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Change from									
		1st Qr 93 to 1st Qr 94	2nd Qr 93 to 2nd Qr 94	3rd Qr 93 to 3rd Qr 94	4th Qr 93 to 4th Qr 94	1st Qr 94 to 1st Qr 95	2nd Qr 94 to 2nd Qr 95	3rd Qr 94 to 3rd Qr 95	4th Qr 94 to 4th Qr 95	1st Qr 95 to 1st Qr 96	2nd Qr 95 to 2nd Qr 96
Crop Products	**871.0**	**11.8**	**19.3**	**18.9**	**21.5**	**14.7**	**14.3**	**7.1**	**4.5**	**6.7**	**9.9**
Cereal	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	8.8	1.5	0.9	1.3	3.8	36.2	8.1	4.7	4.0	11.6
Fruits	21.9	7.9	74.9	80.7	80.5	24.2	-23.3	-17.3	-39.6	-18.7	9.2
Fresh vegetables	68.2	11.6	94.0	5.7	48.7	-13.9	-6.9	-15.4	-35.5	-13.6	12.5
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	11.4	14.5	12.0	9.1	-2.9	-1.7	-3.3	-5.4	0.7	1.8
Sugar Cane	719.3	12.8	12.8	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.6	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Tea	21.2	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**6.8**	**6.9**	**4.4**	**1.4**	**-0.7**	**0.3**	**-0.6**	**1.1**	**5.5**	**6.3**
Cattle	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	27.0	17.4	17.4	7.7	-7.6
Pigs	7.0	0.7	3.0	16.8	16.6	16.6	5.9	-21.0	-21.0	-21.0	-21.3
Goat	4.0	14.3	20.0	7.5	7.5	9.2	7.1	4.7	4.7	7.6	4.5
Sheep	0.3	0.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	5.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	2.6	0.0
Deer	6.4	6.8	5.4	2.8	0.0	0.0	1.3	3.7	3.7	4.2	3.6
Poultry	56.9	4.9	4.9	4.5	4.5	3.7	3.7	2.4	2.4	3.4	4.0
Eggs	33.8	8.7	8.0	4.6	-7.0	-15.4	-10.9	-5.5	1.1	20.0	23.2
Milk	14.7	14.4	14.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honey	0.4	3.5	2.9	0.6	7.1	5.1	9.1	17.6	7.7	3.6	4.9
Overall Change	**1,000.0**	**11.2**	**17.7**	**17.1**	**19.0**	**12.8**	**12.5**	**6.2**	**4.1**	**6.6**	**9.6**

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 8: Net contribution of commodity groups and products that have affected the index from quarter to quarter, 2nd Quarter 1993 - 2nd Quarter 1996

Commodity Group	Weight	1st Qr 93 to 2nd Qr 93	2nd Qr 93 to 3rd Qr 93	3rd Qr 93 to 4th Qr 93	4th Qr 93 to 1st Qr 94	1st Qr 94 to 2nd Qr 94	2nd Qr 94 to 3rd Qr 94	3rd Qr 94 to 4th Qr 94	4th Qr 94 to 1st Qr 95	1st Qr 95 to 2nd Qr 95	2nd Qr 95 to 3rd Qr 95	3rd Qr 95 to 4th Qr 95	4th Qr 95 to 1st Qr 96	1st Qr 96 to 2nd Qr 96
Crop Products	**871.0**	-4.53	9.99	-1.07	6.11	1.06	11.14	1.16	0.79	0.87	4.66	-1.66	3.29	4.55
Cereal	1.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Root Crops	16.0	0.00	0.10	-0.01	0.04	-0.12	0.10	0.00	0.06	0.36	-0.31	-0.07	0.07	0.56
Fruits	21.9	-0.12	-0.05	-0.01	0.34	1.35	0.05	-0.02	-0.77	-0.15	0.28	-0.90	0.16	0.72
Fresh vegetables	68.2	-4.35	0.96	-1.15	5.69	-0.15	-4.00	1.12	1.47	0.65	-4.32	-0.71	3.06	3.26
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	-0.06	0.05	0.10	0.05	-0.02	0.03	0.06	-0.10	-0.01	0.00	0.03	-0.02	0.01
Sugar Cane	719.3	0.00	8.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.21	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tea	21.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tobacco	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	0.37	0.55	-0.28	0.23	0.43	0.27	-0.74	-0.06	0.56	0.19	-0.51	0.52	0.71
Cattle	5.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.10	-0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pigs	7.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.10	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-0.10	0.00	0.00	-0.05
Goat	4.0	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
Sheep	0.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deer	6.4	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poultry	56.9	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.10	0.04
Eggs	33.8	0.36	0.09	-0.30	0.15	0.39	-0.02	-0.74	-0.15	0.50	0.20	-0.51	0.40	0.72
Milk	14.7	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Honey	0.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	**1,000.0**	-4.16	10.24	-1.35	6.34	1.49	11.41	0.42	0.73	1.43	5.05	-2.16	3.81	5.26

Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 9: Annual indices , Annual change (%) and Net contribution of commodity groups and products to the change, 1993 - 1995

Commodity Group	Weight	Annual Index [1]			Percentage Change from		Net Contribution from	
		1993	1994	1995	1993 to 1994	1994 to 1995	1993 to 1994	1994 to 1995
Crop Products	**871.0**	**100.0**	**117.8**	**129.0**	**17.8**	**9.5**	**15.5**	**9.9**
Cereal	1.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root Crops	16.0	100.0	102.0	108.5	2.0	6.4	0.0	0.1
Fruits	21.9	100.0	158.9	122.5	58.9	-22.9	1.3	-0.7
Fresh vegetables	68.2	100.0	132.8	108.5	32.8	-18.3	2.2	-1.7
Flowers,Ornamental plants	11.2	100.0	111.7	107.9	11.7	-3.4	0.1	0.0
Sugar Cane	719.3	100.0	116.4	133.2	16.4	14.4	11.9	12.1
Tea	21.2	100.0	98.3	100.6	-1.7	2.3	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	11.3	100.0	102.6	108.3	2.6	5.6	0.0	0.1
Animals & Animal Products	**129.0**	**100.0**	**104.9**	**104.8**	**4.9**	**-0.1**	**0.6**	**-0.1**
Cattle	5.5	100.0	100.0	117.5	0.0	17.5	0.0	0.1
Pigs	7.0	100.0	109.7	101.8	9.7	-7.2	0.1	-0.1
Goat	4.0	100.0	111.4	118.1	11.4	6.0	0.0	0.0
Sheep	0.3	100.0	103.0	107.5	3.0	4.4	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.4	100.0	103.6	105.8	3.6	2.1	0.0	0.0
Poultry	56.9	100.0	104.7	107.9	4.7	3.1	0.3	0.2
Eggs	33.8	100.0	103.6	95.4	3.6	-7.9	0.1	-0.3
Milk	14.7	100.0	106.7	106.7	6.7	0.0	0.1	0.0
Honey	0.4	100.0	103.5	113.7	3.5	9.9	0.0	0.0
Total	**1,000.0**	**100.0**	**116.1**	**125.9**	**16.1**	**8.4**	**16.1**	**9.8**

[1] using data for base period as weights, and not a simple average of the monthly indices

ANNEX

Technical Note

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)

Methodology for the Construction of the PPI-A

1. Introduction

The analysis of price data implies comparison of current and past prices. Comparison over time is required to study the price movement in order to understand the history and to indicate future outlook. While price relatives of single commodities can be studied in isolation, general conclusion can only be derived from averages, covering a given set or class of commodities. The indicators of average price changes are the price indices.

2. Purpose of the agricultural price indices

The purpose of the price indices is to provide information on trends in producer prices of agricultural products and purchase prices of the means of agricultural production.

The selling prices of agricultural products and the purchase of the means of production have a decisive influence on farmers' income. It would, therefore, seem useful to have indicators showing how agricultural revenue and expenditure are influenced by their price component.

The agricultural price indicators are of two types:-

(i) Price received by farmers represent the producer prices of agricultural products (output prices)

(ii) Prices paid by farmers are the purchase prices of agricultural requisites (input prices)

The two classes of prices mentioned above, are considered important in the context of economic analysis and agricultural policy decisions. Index numbers based on them show the average changes of these prices.

3. Uses of agricultural price indices

The construction of agricultural price index numbers may serve various purposes as shown below:-

(i) Economic analysis, in particular the estimation of general price trends and their relationship with other pertinent variable, e.g. the study of domestic price changes in relation to prices observed in external markets or the movement of agricultural production.

(ii) Monitoring the implementation of agricultural price policy decisions such as the introduction or modification of support prices.

(iii) Forecasting price movements in connection with market studies or business cycle research.

(iv) Compilation of national accounts at constant prices. In order to estimate the growth of the real product of the agricultural sector, deflator indices are needed. They are appropriately weighted indices of agricultural commodities or input items.

4. Frame for a system of agricultural price indices for Mauritius

It is the intention of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) to construct a battery of agricultural price indices from both the input as well as the output side. However, in the first instance, only the output price index for different groups of commodities has been compiled. Later on, an input price index will be constructed, and in the long run, it is proposed to have separate output price indices for sales on the local as well as the export market. It is to be noted that the index for the export market will refer to that part of production sold by the producer directly on the export market without going through local wholesale buyers who may subsequently export their purchases. At present, only a negligible proportion of agricultural products (mainly flowers) is exported directly by the producer without going through local wholesalers.

It is to be noted that international recommendations insist on a sharp line being drawn between sectors. In this respect, it must be mentioned that all sugarcane, which is a product of the agricultural sector, is sold on the local market although the bulk of sugar, which is produced by the manufacturing sector, is exported.

5. Definition of prices

A price is a pure price when the same amount of money refers to what the buyer pays and what the seller receives. Since the price series form the basis for calculation, the index of the output prices must be representative of what the farmer actually receives.

The prices must be recorded at a point in the marketing of the product which is as close as possible to the farmer. This means that the selling prices should be recorded at the farm-gate or (if this is not possible or advisable) at the next stage of the commodity flow.

In addition, as the prices must be representative of what the farmer actually receives, taxes and subsidies directly linked to the products must be taken into account. In Mauritius, there are no taxes on agricultural products. On the other hand, subsidies paid to the seller by the buyer are included (e.g. Agricultural Marketing Board for potatoes). It is to be noted that taxes on sugar, which is a product of the manufacturing sector, are not to be considered as taxes on sugarcane.

6. Price received by agricultural producers

As mentioned earlier, the prices for the index should be farm-gate prices, but this is not possible in many cases. Thus, farm-gate prices of vegetables are extremely difficult to obtain, not only because of the enormous resources to be mobilised but also because of the inexistence of

a list of planters. Hence, in lieu of the farm-gate price, the wholesale price of the produce is recorded at the two auction markets located in Vacoas and Port Louis.

As regards sugarcane, there is no actual market price for the product. The final price for a crop is only available after the crop year to which it refers. The solution has been found in such a way that for all months the last available final price per tonne is used which, however, is corrected afterwards as soon as the final price is available. The same procedure is applied to tea and tobacco.

7. Weighting Scheme and Choice of the base period

As price data are associated with commercial transaction, it is logical to relate prices to sales rather than total production. However, since value of production for the market (sales) is not available here, the value of total production is considered as a proxy in calculation of weights. The same method is used in several countries like Australia, Austria and Norway etc. Furthermore, since meteorological conditions and market forces may generate high fluctuations, the weight base is taken as the average of the total production for several years.

It may be noted that 'FAO' and 'Eurostat' recommend that if the quantity weight base is the average of 3 years, then the reference base for prices should be the middle year. However, we are using 1990 - 1991 - 1992 as the quantity weight base because this is the latest period for which production data are available whilst 1993 is the earliest year for which price data can be collected. The discrepancy which is methodologically regrettable is mitigated by the fact that only the quantities for the weights are taken from the period 1990-92 and they are valued at average prices of 1993. Thus, at least as to the value component of the weights, there will be no big discrepancy. The procedure allows us to have an index as from 1993, otherwise the starting point would be 1995.

The base weights are derived by multiplying the average production for 1990-92 by the average unit price in 1993. The weight assigned to each commodity group is on the basis of total production (as a proxy for sales) pertaining to each group. At commodity level, the weights are apportioned within the commodity group on the basis of production of each product.

8 Type of Index

The PPI will be calculated according to a modified Laspeyres formula:

$$I_t = \frac{\sum Wi\,(Pti/Poi)}{\sum Wi} \times 100$$

Where :

I_t is the index for the current period t
Pti is the price of commodity i in the current period t
Poi is the price of the commodity i in the reference period o (1993)
Wi is the weight associated with commodity i

9. Commodity Coverage

The bulk of the products in agriculture, with the exception of forestry and fishing, is covered by the output price index. Thus, almost 95% of the total value of agricultural production is covered.

10. Observation Units

There are essentially three types of observation units for collecting producer prices (i) producers (ii) purchasers and (iii) markets. However, in the context of Mauritius, different type of observation units are used for different commodities as shown below:

(i) For main Commercial crops (sugarcane, tea leaf and tobacco leaf etc) the respective marketing agency is the source of the price data.

(ii) For vegetables, price data are obtained mainly at the two auction markets which are situated at Vacoas and Port Louis respectively.

(iii) For fruits, prices are recorded from different sources such as planters and first middlemen.

(iv) For animals and animal products, price data are available at sources varying from marketing agencies to producers.

11. Frequency of Price Collection

The frequency of price collection varies from weekly for some commodities to only once a year in others. Broadly speaking, the frequency of price collection is as follows:-

(i) For vegetables, price data are collected once a week at the two auction markets.

(ii) For commodities for which prices are fairly stable, data suppliers are visited on a quarterly basis, but prices are collected for each month of the quarter.

Example of such commodities are:-

(a) Crop products - potato, onion and garlic etc.

(b) Animals & Animal products - cattle, pigs and cow's milk etc.

(iii) For the main Commercial crops like Sugarcane, tea leaf and tobacco leaf, the reported prices are normally fixed for the crop year by the respective marketing agency.

(iv) For the remaining type of items not mentioned above, the price data are collected on a monthly basis.

12. Seasonality

Prices and quantities of many agricultural commodities show seasonal variations. As vegetables and fruits are extremely seasonal products, it is therefore decided to use the method of variable baskets with fixed monthly weights in the base year.

There are 12 monthly baskets of representative products. The composition of these baskets varies each month. Certain products whose marketing period covers the whole year appear in all 12 monthly baskets, while others, which are more seasonal, appear only in some of them. However, the composition of the basket for a given month is fixed over time.

13. Missing Prices

There is also in the field of agricultural price observation the case of missing prices for a product which must be taken into account because there is an index weight for the respective month. In such a case, it is recommended that a fictitious price be used; the least bad way, which is to make use of the last real price, has been adopted.

14. Periodicity

It is proposed to calculate the index on a monthly, quarterly as well as on an annual basis. While quarterly and annual price indices can normally be calculated as the simple (unweighted) average of the monthly indices, it is recommended that the monthly sales figures for the base year be used as weights to calculate the quarterly and annual indices. If sales figures are not available, total production can be used as a proxy when most of the production is available for sales. Such is the case in Mauritius and the values of total production have been used as weights.