

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)

(July - September 2002)

1. Introduction

The Producer Price Index-Agriculture (PPI-A) gives a measure of the average change in the selling prices which producers receive for their agricultural products. It covers about 90% of total agricultural production, excluding forestry and fishing.

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents monthly PPI-A indices for the months of July, August and September 2002 as well as figures for preceding months updated in the light of additional information that have now become available.

A technical note on the construction of the PPI-A is annexed.

2. Producer Price Index - Agriculture : 3rd Quarter 2002

2.1 Structure of the PPI-A (Base period: 1997=100)

The PPI-A covers two sub-groups, namely "Crop Products" and "Animals and Animal Products". "Crop Products" is further subdivided into "Sugar Cane" and "Other Crop Products". Sugar cane heavily influences both the "overall" index and that of sub-group "Crop Products", of which it constitutes 69.6% and 82.2% respectively. The price of sugar cane itself becomes available in final form only at the end of the crop year (July to June) and this price is assumed to have prevailed during the whole of the crop year.

2.2 Changes in the monthly index

The PPI-A stood at 112.5 at the end of September 2002, following a decrease of 2.0% in July and then increases of 0.5% and 0.6% in August and September respectively. Compared to 113.5 in June 2002, this represents a fall of 0.9% or 1 point (Table 1).

The index for the sub-group "Crop Products", which carries 84.6% of the total weight, declined by 0.7% or 0.8 points from 113.1 in June 2002 to 112.3 in September 2002.

The index for the sub-group "Other Crop Products" declined by 11.9% or 16.4 points from 137.6 in June 2002 to 121.2 in July 2002. This was heavily influenced by a decrease of 21.3% in the prices of fresh vegetables. On the other hand, the index went up by 3.5% in August and 6.4% in September following increases of 5.3% and 13.0% in the prices of fresh vegetables for these two consecutive months.

The index for the sub-group "Animal and Animal Products" registered an increase of 0.7% in July, followed by decreases of 0.2% and 2.4% in August and September. These changes were due to fluctuations in the prices of eggs as follows: an increase of 2% in July, followed by decreases of 4% in August and 7.4% in September.

More details of changes on a month to month basis are given in Table 2 and changes over the corresponding month of the previous year in Table 3.

2.3 Changes in the quarterly index

Table 4 gives the evolution of the Producer Price Index-Agriculture on a quarterly basis. The overall index for the third quarter of 2002 showed a drop of 1.5% over the previous quarter but a small increase of 0.6% over the corresponding quarter of 2001.

Percentage changes on a quarterly basis and the net contributions of commodity groups and products to the change are presented in Table 5.

2.4 Annual index

The annual indices for the years 2001 and 2002, annual changes and the net contributions of commodity groups and products to the change are presented in Table 6.

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Monthly Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Base period:Year 1997=100)

Table 1: Monthly indices by commodity groups and products, January 2000 - September 2002

Commodity Group	Weight	2002								
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
Crop Products	846.2	116.8	124.6	127.8	116.8	111.3	113.1	110.2	110.9	112.3
Sugar cane	695.9	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8 ₂	107.8 ₂	107.8 ₂
Other crop products	150.3	158.2	202.5	220.4	158.4	127.7	137.6	121.2	125.4	133.4
Root Crops	13.2	139.7	164.2	179.2	142.2	170.2	160.0	157.3	155.9	157.7
Fruits	18.7	156.8	137.1	125.5	135.9	134.5 ₁	138.1 ₁	146.0	153.2	143.9
Fresh vegetables	89.4	171.3	246.3	277.8	177.4	121.7	139.2	109.6	115.4	130.4
Flowers, Ornamental plants	14.2	114.2	113.7	106.7	102.5	104.2 ₂	104.3 ₂	108.6 ₂	108.9 ₂	109.4 ₂
Tea ²	8.8	137.3	137.3	137.3	137.3	137.3	137.3	137.3	137.3	137.3
Tobacco ²	6.0	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3
Animals & Animal Products	153.8	109.7	112.2	112.3	113.2	115.2	115.9	116.7	116.5	113.7
Cattle	4.2	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8
Pigs	6.2	106.8	117.3	117.3	117.3	117.3	129.8	129.8	129.8	129.8
Goat	1.4	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2
Deer	6.2	128.9	128.9	128.9	128.9	128.9	130.3	130.3	130.3	130.3
Poultry	86.2	106.5	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.3	106.3	106.3	106.3
Eggs	43.2	117.5	124.5	125.0	128.0	135.1	136.6	139.3	138.8	128.5
Milk	6.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Overall Index	1,000.0	115.7	122.7	125.4	116.2	111.9	113.5	111.2	111.8	112.5

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Table 1 (Cont'd) : Monthly indices by commodity groups and products, January 2000 - September 2002

Commodity Group	Weight	2001											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Crop Products	846.2	98.2	100.6	98.1	101.6	104.5	106.1	111.8	109.7	107.8	109.6	108.2	111.9
Sugar cane	695.9	97.2	97.2	97.2	97.2	97.2	97.2	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8
Other crop products	150.3	102.9	116.1	102.3	122.2	138.4	147.4	130.5	118.4	107.9	118.0	110.0	130.7
Root Crops	13.2	118.4	101.5	96.4	113.6	114.2	121.1	140.6	140.5	140.8	140.2	140.3	141.0

Deer	6.2	114.7	114.7	114.7	114.7	114.7	119.7	119.7	119.7	120.6	120.6	120.6	120.6
Poultry	86.2	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.3	106.3
Eggs	43.2	93.9	93.3	92.6	102.1	113.0	123.8	130.3	130.2	115.5	97.8	95.7	103.5
Milk	6.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Overall Index	1,000.0	102.4	112.7	112.7	106.5	106.3	104.2	101.0	102.3	101.1	99.1	97.9	97.6

Monthly Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Base period:Year 1997=100)

Table 2 : Percentage changes from previous month by commodity groups and products , October 2001 - September 2002

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage changes from											
		Sept 01 to	Oct 01 to	Nov 01 to	Dec 01 to	Jan 02 to	Feb 02 to	Mar 02 to	Apr 02 to	May 02 to	June 02 to	July 02 to	Aug 02 to
		Oct 01	Nov 01	Dec 01	Jan 02	Feb 02	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	June 02	July 02	Aug 02	Sep 02
Crop Products	846.2	1.7	-1.3	3.4	4.4	6.7	2.6	-8.6	-4.7	1.6	-2.6	0.6	1.3
Sugar cane	695.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other crop products	150.3	9.4	-6.8	18.8	21.0	28.0	8.8	-28.1	-19.4	7.8	-11.9	3.5	6.4
Root Crops	13.2	-0.4	0.1	0.5	-0.9	17.5	9.1	-20.6	19.7	-6.0	-1.7	-0.9	1.2
Fruits	18.7	45.4	-23.4	18.2	17.1	-12.6	-8.5	8.3	-1.1	2.6	5.7	4.9	-6.1
Fresh vegetables	89.4	10.6	-5.3	30.0	31.9	43.8	12.8	-36.1	-31.4	14.4	-21.3	5.3	13.0
Flowers,Ornamental plants	14.2	-13.1	-2.6	1.7	1.5	-0.4	-6.2	-3.9	1.4	0.0	4.1	0.3	0.5
Tea	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	153.8	-2.4	-1.8	-0.1	-2.1	2.3	0.1	0.8	1.8	0.6	0.7	-0.2	-2.4
Cattle	4.2	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	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-5.7	9.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goat	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poultry	86.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eggs	43.2	-7.1	-5.9	-0.2	-6.2	6.0	0.4	2.4	5.5	1.1	2.0	-0.4	-7.4
Milk	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
Overall Change	1,000.0	1.0	-1.4	2.8	3.4	6.1	2.2	-7.3	-3.7	1.4	-2.0	0.5	0.6

Monthly Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Base period:Year 1997=100)

Table 3 : Percentage changes from corresponding month of previous year by commodity groups and products , Oct 2000 - Sep 2002

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage changes from											
		Oct 00 to	Nov 00 to	Dec 00 to	Jan 01 to	Feb 01 to	Mar 01 to	Apr 01 to	May 01 to	Jun 01 to	Jul 01 to	Aug 01 to	Sep 01 to
		Oct 01	Nov 01	Dec 01	Jan 02	Feb 02	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	Jun 02	Jul 02	Aug 02	Sep 02
Crop Products	846.2	11.3	11.3	16.1	18.9	23.9	30.3	15.0	6.5	6.6	-1.4	1.1	4.2
Sugar cane	695.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other crop products	150.3	13.0	13.3	41.3	53.7	74.4	115.4	29.6	-7.8	-6.6	-7.1	5.9	23.6
Root Crops	13.2	13.5	15.7	15.6	18.0	61.8	85.9	25.2	49.0	32.1	11.9	11.0	12.0
Fruits	18.7	40.7	-15.3	8.1	20.2	21.7	52.7	63.3	53.8	59.1	67.6	69.3	41.4
Fresh vegetables	89.4	11.1	28.7	80.9	95.3	111.6	175.0	33.8	-23.5	-19.4	-20.4	-0.7	36.7
Flowers,Ornamental plants	14.2	-0.4	0.2	2.2	4.6	5.4	2.9	4.8	6.8	3.8	-12.1	-13.4	-16.2
Tea	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tobacco	6.0	10.4	10.4	10.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	153.8	11.6	10.1	7.4	1.3	0.1	1.1	1.3	1.7	-1.9	-2.8	-2.8	-2.9
Cattle	4.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	6.2	43.8	43.8	32.9	24.9	30.3	23.9	8.7	8.7	20.3	14.7	14.7	14.7
Goat	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	6.2	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Poultry	86.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eggs	43.2	36.3	31.1	21.1	0.0	-4.6	-0.9	1.5	2.4	-8.0	-9.8	-9.3	-10.5
Milk	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
Overall Change	1,000.0	11.3	11.1	14.7	15.9	19.8	25.3	12.6	5.7	5.1	-1.7	0.4	3.0

Quarterly Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Base period:Year 1997=100)

Table 4: Quarterly indices ¹ by commodity groups and products, 4th Quarter 2000 - 3rd Quarter 2002

Commodity Group	2000	2001				2002		
	4th Qr	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr
Crop Products	97.6	99.2	104.4	109.8	109.8	122.3	113.4	111.2
Sugar cane	97.2	97.2	97.2	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8	107.8 ₃
Other crop products	99.4	108.4	138.0	119.0	118.8	189.7	139.6	126.7
Root Crops	122.0	114.8	117.9	140.7	140.6	145.6	159.3	157.1
Fruits	123.9	118.2	85.8	93.3	130.4	146.6	136.2	147.5
Fresh vegetables	81.3	100.4	157.9	116.5	110.8	225.9	143.1	118.5
Flowers,Ornamental plants	111.5	106.9	98.4	126.7	112.2	111.5	103.7 ²	109.0 ₃
Tea	137.3	137.3	137.3	137.3 ³	137.3 ³	137.3 ³	137.3 ³	137.3 ₃
Tobacco	129.8	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3 ³	143.3 ³	143.3 ₃
Animals & Animal Products	102.9	110.5	114.4	119.0	112.8	111.4	114.8	115.6
Cattle	82.1	82.1	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8	84.8
Pigs	80.9	90.1	107.9	113.2	113.2	113.8	121.5	129.8
Goat	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2
Deer	120.6	120.6	122.9	127.4	128.9	128.9	129.4	130.3
Poultry	106.2	106.3	106.3	106.3	106.4	106.6	106.6	106.3
Eggs	99.0	124.7	135.5	150.3	128.0	122.3	133.2	135.5
Milk	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Overall Index	98.4	100.9	105.9	111.2	110.3	120.6	113.6	111.9

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

² Revised

³ Provisional

Quarterly Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Base period:Year 1997=100)

Table 5: Quarterly changes (%) and Net Contributions of commodity groups and products to the change, 3rd Quarter 2001 - 3rd Quarter 2002

Commodity Group	Weight	Percentage Changes from previous quarter				Percentage Changes from corresponding quarter of previous year					Net Contributions from		
		3rd Qr 01	4th Qr 01	1st Qr 02	2nd Qr 02	4th Qr 00	1st Qr 01	2nd Qr 01	3rd Qr 01	3rd Qr 01	4th Qr 01	1st Qr 02	2nd Qr 02
		to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to
		4th Qr 01	1st Qr 02	2nd Qr 02	3rd Qr 02	4th Qr 01	1st Qr 02	2nd Qr 02	3rd Qr 02	4th Qr 01	1st Qr 02	2nd Qr 02	3rd Qr 02
Crop Products	846.2	0.0	11.4	-7.3	-2.0	12.7	23.3	8.6	1.3	-0.03	10.65	-7.54	-1.94
Sugar cane	695.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.9	10.9	10.9	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other crop products	150.3	-0.2	59.7	-26.4	-9.2	21.0	75.0	1.2	6.5	-0.03	10.65	-7.54	-1.94
Root Crops	13.2	-0.1	3.6	9.4	-1.4	15.2	26.8	35.1	11.7	0.00	0.07	0.18	-0.03
Fruits	18.7	39.8	12.4	-7.2	8.3	5.2	24.0	58.6	58.1	0.69	0.30	-0.20	0.21
Fresh vegetables	89.4	-4.9	103.9	-36.7	-17.2	36.3	125.0	-9.4	1.7	-0.51	10.29	-7.40	-2.20
Flowers,Ornamental plants	14.2	-11.4	-0.6	-7.3	5.1	0.6	4.3	5.1	-14.0	-0.21	-0.01	-0.12	0.08
Tea	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tobacco	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Animals & Animal Products	153.8	-5.2	-1.2	3.1	0.7	9.6	0.8	0.3	-2.9	-0.94	-0.23	0.52	0.13
Cattle	4.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pigs	6.2	0.0	0.5	6.8	6.8	39.9	26.3	12.6	14.7	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.05
Goat	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deer	6.2	1.2	0.0	0.4	0.7	6.9	6.9	5.3	2.3	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
Poultry	86.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.01	0.02	0.00	-0.03
Eggs	43.2	-14.8	-4.5	8.9	1.7	29.3	-1.9	-1.7	-9.8	-0.96	-0.25	0.47	0.10
Milk	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	1,000.0	-0.8	9.3	-5.8	-1.6	12.3	19.5	7.3	0.6	-0.97	10.42	-7.02	-1.81

Annual Producer Price Index -Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Base period:Year 1993=100)

Table 6 : Annual indices, Annual changes (%) and Net contributions of commodity groups and products to the change, 1997 - 2000

Commodity Group	Weight	Annual Index ¹				Percentage Changes from			Net Contributions from		
		1997	1998	1999	2000	1997 to	1998 to	1999 to	1997 to	1998 to	1999 to
						1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000
Crop Products	871.0	143.1	150.6	153.0	144.5	5.2	1.6	-5.6	6.52	2.11	-7.40
Sugar cane	719.3	147.5	153.1	155.9	145.8	3.8	1.8	-6.5	4.03	2.01	-7.26
Other crop products	151.7	122.4	138.8	139.4	138.5	13.4	0.4	-0.6	2.49	0.10	-0.14
Cereal	1.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	90.2	0.0	0.0	-9.8	0.00	0.00	-0.02
Root Crops	16.0	152.1	159.9	169.8	191.9	5.1	6.2	13.0	0.12	0.16	0.35
Fruits	21.9	132.0	126.0	135.5	158.6	-4.5	7.5	17.0	-0.13	0.21	0.51
Fresh vegetables	68.2	115.0	149.2	143.2	127.1	29.7	-4.0	-11.2	2.33	-0.41	-1.10
Flowers, Ornamental plants	11.2	109.3	110.2	117.6	118.9	0.8	6.7	1.1	0.01	0.08	0.01
Tea	21.2	131.6	134.0	136.2	137.5	1.8	1.6	1.0	0.05	0.05	0.03
Tobacco	11.3	106.5	116.2	116.8	123.9	9.1	0.5	6.1	0.11	0.01	0.08
Animals & Animal Products	129.0	112.5	125.0	122.3	116.9	11.1	-2.2	-4.4	1.62	-0.37	-0.69
Cattle	5.5	112.9	98.7	94.8	94.4	-12.6	-4.0	-0.4	-0.08	-0.02	0.00
Pigs	7.0	115.3	139.7	107.3	88.2	21.2	-23.2	-17.8	0.17	-0.23	-0.13
Goat	4.0	131.8	147.9	147.9	147.9	12.2	0.0	0.0	0.06	0.00	0.00
Sheep	0.3	116.3	116.7	116.7	116.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deer	6.4	116.2	123.3	130.2	137.0	6.1	5.6	5.2	0.05	0.04	0.04
Poultry	56.9	112.6	127.0	128.1	118.5	12.8	0.9	-7.5	0.82	0.06	-0.55
Eggs	33.8	105.7	122.8	116.3	114.5	16.2	-5.3	-1.5	0.58	-0.22	-0.06
Milk	14.7	118.9	120.0	120.0	120.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.02	0.00	0.00
Honey	0.4	128.1	134.8	146.8	164.3	5.2	8.9	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.01
Total	1,000.0	139.2	147.3	149.0	140.9	5.8	1.2	-5.4	8.14	1.74	-8.09

Technical Note

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)

Methodology for the construction of the PPI-A

Weighting scheme

The weights are derived by multiplying the average of production during 1996, 1997 and 1998 by the average of unit prices in 1997, the reference period. The weight is assigned to each commodity group on the basis of total production (as a proxy for sales) pertaining to the particular group. At commodity level, the weights are apportioned within the commodity group on the basis of production of each product.

Quarterly and annual indices have been computed using a weighting system based on the production value for the base period.

Price collection

In principle, prices collected should refer to farm-gate prices, but it is extremely difficult to obtain such prices for vegetables, not only because of the enormous resources to be mobilised but also because of the unavailability 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 (Vacoas and Port-Louis) once a week.

In the case of 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.

Prices of the main commercial crops like sugarcane, tea leaf and tobacco leaf, which are normally fixed for the crop year, are supplied by the respective marketing agencies.

Index calculation

The PPI-A is calculated according to a modified Laspeyres formula:

$$I_t = \frac{\sum W_i (P_{ti}/P_{oi})}{\sum W_i} \times 100$$

where :

I_t is the index for the current period t

P_{ti} is the price of commodity i in the current period t

P_{oi} is the price of the commodity i in the reference period o (1997)

W_i is the weight associated with commodity i