



Economic and Social Indicators

Issue No 1926

Producer Price Index - Agriculture

1st Quarter 2026

Released online : 20 May 2026



<https://statsmauritus.govmu.org>



Statistics Mauritius
Ministry of Finance
Port Louis

Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in the Economic and Social indicators and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

Producer Price Index – Agriculture (PPI-A)

First quarter 2026

Index reference period: January 2025 – December 2025 = 100

Weight reference period: Year 2023

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.

In order to reflect changes in the production pattern of agricultural products, a new set of weights has been worked out with year 2023 as weight reference period, the previous one being 2018. The weights for the PPI-A have been worked out based on the results of the Census of Agriculture conducted in 2024 and information about crop productions and livestock obtained from the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries. Table A.1 shows the previous and the new sets of weights. Monthly weights by commodity group and product are given in Table 4.

Conversely, the indices have been computed using monthly base prices for the period, January to December 2025, which implies that the index reference period (Base period) is January to December 2025 =100.

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators which presents PPI-A indices for the months of January, February and March 2026 is based on the new weighting pattern (Year 2023) and new index reference period (January to December 2025=100).

Table 2 presents the monthly indices as well as the quarterly and yearly average for the agricultural sector. Monthly indices for the agricultural sector on the current base period are given in Table 3. However, the new set of indices is not strictly comparable with the previous ones due to changes in the basket between the two base periods.

The methodology for the computation of PPI-A as well as the revision of the weights from base 2018 to that of 2023 are given in the annex of this publication.

2. Changes in production pattern (weights) from 2018 to 2023

The changes in the weights from 2018 to 2023 as well as main explanations for the changes are as follows:

The weight of “Crop products” has increased from 558.9 in 2018 to 587.5 in 2023 while that of “Animal and animal products” has decreased from 441.1 in 2018 to 412.5 in 2023. In the sub group “Crop products”, the increase in weight was attributable to an increase in the weight of “Fresh vegetables” from 209.7 in 2018 to 275.2 in 2023 and “Fruits and nuts” from 67.6 in 2018 to 86.3 in 2023, whilst a decrease in the weight of “Sugarcane” from 212.1 in 2018 to 183.8 in 2023, “Edible roots and tubers” from 39.3 in 2018 to 21.1 in 2023 and “Flowers, ornamental plants” from 9.9 in 2018 to 4.6 in 2023 were also observed. Regarding the sub-group “Animals and animal products”, the fall in the weight from 441.1 in 2018 to 412.5 in 2023 was mainly due to decreases in the weights of “Eggs” from 95.0 in 2018 to 28.7 in 2023 and “Cattle” from 43.7 in 2018 to 20.0 in 2023. On the other hand, increases in the weight of “Poultry” from 283.9 in 2018 to 323.8 in 2023 and “Deer” from 8.8 in 2018 to 24.5 in 2023 were also reported. (Table A.1).

3. Producer Price Index - Agriculture: First Quarter 2026

3.1 Structure of PPI-A

The “overall” 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”. “Other crop products” heavily influences both the “overall” index and that of the sub-group “Crop products”, of which it constitutes 40.4% and 68.7% of the respective weights.

3.2 Changes in the monthly index

PPI-A, which was 97.3 in January 2026, has decreased by 0.4% to reach 96.9 in March 2026. From January to February 2026, PPI-A increased by 0.8% whilst from February to March 2026, it decreased by 1.2%.

The index for the sub-group “Crop products”, which carries 58.7% of the total weight, decreased by 0.6% from 95.3 in January 2026 to reach 94.7 in March 2026. From January to February 2026, this index increased by 1.6% whilst from February to March 2026, it decreased by 2.2%.

3.2.1 Sugar cane

The index for "Sugar cane" for the period January 2026 to March 2026 was 94.5 based on the forecasted price of sugar for the crop year 2025-2026. This index will be revised once the final price is available.

3.2.2 Other crop products

The index for "Other crop products" which was 95.6 in January 2026, has decreased by 0.8% to reach 94.8 in March 2026, mainly due to a decrease of 2.2% in the prices of "fresh vegetables" such as creepers (-22.4%) and cabbage (-24.6%), partly mitigated by a main increase of 12.5% in the prices of some other fresh vegetables. Additionally, this decrease in the prices of "fresh vegetables" was partly mitigated by an increase of 2.2% in the prices of "fruits and nuts" such as pineapple (+11.5%).

From January to February 2026, this sub-index increased by 2.3%, mainly due to an increase of 4.3% in the prices of "fresh vegetables" such as creepers (+5.0%), carrot (+12.6%) and some other fresh vegetables (+4.6%), partly offset by a decrease of 15.5% in the prices of cabbage. Further, the increase in the prices of "fresh vegetables" was partly offset by a decrease of 1.5% in the prices of "fruits and nuts".

From February to March 2026, this sub-index decreased by 3.1%, mainly due to a decrease of 6.2% in the prices of "fresh vegetables" such as creepers (-26.1%) and brinjal (-18.8%), partly mitigated by an increase of 7.5% in the prices of some other fresh vegetables.

3.2.3 Animals and animal products

The index for the sub-group "Animals and animal products" which was 100.1 in January 2026 has decreased by 0.1% to reach 100.0 in March 2026, due to a decrease of 1.7% in the prices of eggs.

From January to February 2026, this Index decreased by 0.1% due to a decrease of 1.7% in the prices of eggs.

From February to March 2026, this index remained unchanged at 100.0.

More details of changes on a month-to-month basis are given in Table 1.

3.3 Quarterly index

The "overall" index in the first quarter of 2026 stood at 97.4.

Note: this figure is not strictly comparable with the figure from the previous and corresponding quarter due to change in the composition of the basket between the two base periods.

**Statistics Mauritius
Ministry of Finance
Port Louis**

20 May 2026

CONTACT PERSONS:

Ms. A.D. Soobhug
Statistician/Senior Statistician
asoobhug@govmu.org
Tel: (230) 6501842

Ms S. Issack
Statistical Officer / Senior Statistical Officer
sissack@govmu.org
Tel: (230) 6501854

Statistics Mauritius
L.I.C Centre
J. Kennedy Street
Port Louis
Telephone: (230) 6501800
Fax: (230) 211 4150

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)

(Index reference period: January 2025 to December 2025=100)

Table 1: Monthly indices by commodity group and product, January 2026 - March 2026

Commodity Group	Weight	2026			Percentage changes from		
		January	February	March	Jan to Feb 2026	Feb to Mar 2026	Jan to Mar 2026
Crop Products	587.5	95.3	96.8	94.7	1.6	-2.2	-0.6
Sugar Cane	183.8	94.5 ¹	94.5 ¹	94.5 ¹	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other crops products	403.7	95.6	97.8	94.8	2.3	-3.1	-0.8
Fresh Vegetables	275.2	95.8	99.9	93.7	4.3	-6.2	-2.2
Beans	4.4	85.9	96.5	112.7	12.3	16.8	31.2
Brinjal	10.6	92.7	101.5	82.4	9.5	-18.8	-11.1
Broccoli	2.8	103.0	101.6	111.2	-1.4	9.4	8.0
Cabbage	8.2	135.6	114.6	102.3	-15.5	-10.7	-24.6
Cauliflower	3.9	109.1	120.1	159.4	10.1	32.7	46.1
Carrot	13.7	85.0	95.7	96.0	12.6	0.3	12.9
Onion	6.8	100.0	...	...	...	...	...
Tomato	31.9	87.2	88.6	89.1	1.6	0.6	2.2
Creepers	51.1	125.7	132.0	97.6	5.0	-26.1	-22.4
Other fresh vegetables	141.8	82.6	86.4	92.9	4.6	7.5	12.5
Fruits and nuts	86.3	97.2	95.7	99.3	-1.5	3.8	2.2
Banana	6.5	100.6	100.6	100.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pineapple	13.6	88.5	98.0	98.7	10.7	0.7	11.5
Other fruits	66.3	98.0	93.4	...	-4.7	...	...
Oilseeds and oleaginous fruits	3.1	88.7	93.0	95.3	4.8	2.5	7.4
Groundnut	1.7	74.0	82.2	88.5	11.1	7.7	19.6
Coconut	1.3	107.2	107.2	107.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Edible roots and tubers	21.1	89.6	88.5	87.3	-1.2	-1.4	-2.6
Potato	13.8	100.0	...	...	...	...	...
Other Root crops	7.3	89.5	88.5	87.3	-1.1	-1.4	-2.5
Stimulant and spices	13.4	90.8	82.8	99.0	-8.8	19.6	9.0
Tea	5.9	100.0 ¹	100.0 ¹	100.0 ¹	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ginger	7.6	64.9	64.1	60.4	-1.2	-5.8	-6.9
Flowers, ornamental plants	4.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Anthurium	0.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rose	1.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other flowers	3.0	100.1	100.1	100.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animals & Animal Products	412.5	100.1	100.0	100.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
Cattle	20.0	103.3	103.3	103.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pigs	7.1	101.2	101.2	101.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goat	6.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deer	24.5	106.1	106.1	106.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poultry	323.8	100.2	100.2	100.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eggs	28.7	92.6	91.0	91.0	-1.7	0.0	-1.7
Milk	2.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Overall Index	1000.0	97.3	98.1	96.9	0.8	-1.2	-0.4

¹ Provisional

...Not applicable

Note: The indices are computed based on the method of variable baskets at product level and with fixed monthly weights at division and group levels; the weight reference period being Year 2023, as explained at paragraph 12 of Annex. The composition of these baskets is shown in Table 4

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Index reference period: January 2025 to December 2025=100)

Table 2: Monthly and Quarterly Price Indices - Agriculture (PPI-A)¹: January 2023 - March 2026

Month	2023	2024	2025	2026³
January	88.8	106.0	96.5	97.3
February	89.8	116.0	99.6	98.1
March	93.3	111.4	106.8	96.9
1st quarter	90.7	111.1	100.9	97.4
April	92.0	105.2	108.5	
May	90.5	102.5	109.7	
June	91.2	98.5	105.8	
2nd quarter	91.2	102.1	108.0	
July	98.6	99.1	96.4	
August	100.0	101.4	98.1	
September	95.6	101.0	99.0	
3rd quarter	98.0	100.5	97.8	
October	92.7	98.5	95.1	
November	96.6	96.7	95.5	
December	97.8	97.4	91.7	
4th quarter	95.7	97.5	94.1	
Yearly average²	93.9	102.7	100.0	
Annual change (%)	14.5	9.3	-2.6	

¹ The indices for January 2023 to December 2025 previously based on 2018=100, have been converted to the new index reference period (January 2025 to December 2025=100) using a linking factor of 1.915

² Weight reference period is Year 2023

³ Provisional

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Index reference period: January 2025 to December 2025=100)

Table 3: Monthly Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)¹: January 2010 - March 2026

Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 ³
January	47.0	45.8	49.8	52.1	54.4	52.3	48.5	51.6	54.3	49.2	56.1	57.7	65.4	88.8	106.0	96.5	97.3
February	49.4	47.5	50.5	52.6	56.2	51.5	50.1	53.9	54.9	51.3	60.7	58.6	73.9	89.8	116.0	99.6	98.1
March	49.3	47.7	51.6	52.3	52.9	53.6	50.8	54.9	55.6	54.6	67.7	61.5	83.2	93.3	111.4	106.8	96.9
April	48.7	48.0	50.8	52.5	53.6	49.9	49.4	55.4	54.0	56.0	66.7	61.5	81.1	92.0	105.2	108.5	
May	46.8	47.6	50.3	53.1	52.2	45.6	49.4	59.5	53.8	51.9	56.8	64.7	75.6	90.5	102.5	109.7	
June	46.6	46.8	50.0	53.1	52.5	47.2	49.7	60.0	50.5	47.2	50.6	64.2	74.3	91.2	98.5	105.8	
July	45.6	50.9	52.6	53.0	48.8	47.1	52.6	50.6	50.0	52.5	54.1	62.6	84.3	98.6	99.1	96.4	
August	45.6	51.1	51.8	53.0	49.9	48.8	52.2	48.5	50.7	56.6	54.6	61.0	87.8	100.0	101.4	98.1	
September	43.9	50.8	50.4	52.7	47.6	48.8	52.1	46.3	51.6	53.5	57.1	62.3	89.9	95.6	101.0	99.0	
October	44.9	49.8	50.7	51.8	45.1	47.4	51.0	48.0	50.1	50.9	56.3	61.6	89.5	92.7	98.5	95.1	
November	45.7	50.0	51.7	51.3	45.9	47.1	51.3	50.5	50.2	50.7	54.7	61.0	88.8	96.6	96.7	95.5	
December	44.2	50.3	51.3	51.6	46.1	47.7	53.5	53.8	50.7	51.4	54.6	64.6	87.5	97.8	97.4	91.7	
Yearly Average ²	46.4	48.8	50.8	52.4	50.3	48.8	51.0	52.7	52.2	52.1	57.5	61.8	82.0	93.9	102.7	100.0	
Annual change (%)	-2.6	5.2	4.0	3.2	-4.1	-3.0	4.5	3.5	-1.0	-0.2	10.3	7.4	32.7	14.6	9.3	-2.6	

¹ The indices for January 2010 to December 2025 previously based on 2018=100, have been converted to the new index reference period (January 2025 to December 2025=100) using a linking factor of 1.915

² Weight reference period is Year 2023

³ provisional

Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)
(Index reference period: January 2025 to December 2025=100)

Table 4: Weight distribution for the base period and its months by commodity group and product

Commodity Group	Weight												
	Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Crop Products	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5	587.5
Sugar Cane	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8	183.8
Other crops products	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7	403.7
Fresh Vegetables	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2	275.2
Beans	4.4	4.3	4.9	4.8	4.3	4.0	4.4	4.9	4.8	5.0	3.9	3.8	4.2
Brinjal	10.6	9.5	9.5	6.4	5.9	9.2	13.1	11.6	11.7	12.9	12.6	13.1	7.7
Broccoli	2.8	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.5	3.7	4.3	5.2	6.2	5.0	1.7	1.5
Cabbage	8.2	6.0	5.1	6.0	5.4	5.4	11.4	12.3	8.6	9.7	8.8	8.2	7.7
Cauliflower	3.9	2.4	2.0	0.9	0.6	1.7	4.6	5.9	6.7	7.5	4.7	3.1	2.9
Carrot	13.7	7.5	8.4	11.6	11.6	10.7	13.6	11.8	11.4	18.6	16.2	18.5	18.2
Onion	6.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.1	14.2	24.2	23.3	6.8
Tomato	31.9	26.2	34.2	68.6	54.7	42.1	42.3	33.0	31.1	17.5	11.6	16.6	24.8
Creepers	51.1	69.2	69.0	61.2	43.2	43.5	57.0	52.6	52.0	47.0	44.7	42.9	48.5
Other fresh vegetables	141.8	149.3	142.0	115.4	149.4	158.1	125.0	138.7	141.4	136.5	143.5	144.1	152.9
Fruits and nuts	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3
Banana	6.5	2.7	11.2	25.4	26.8	25.2	17.4	24.7	27.8	27.7	15.4	3.6	1.4
Pineapple	13.6	8.1	26.3	60.9	54.2	49.7	32.0	43.6	58.5	58.6	36.0	6.3	2.7
Other fruits	66.3	75.5	48.8	0.0	5.3	11.4	36.9	17.9	0.0	0.0	34.8	76.5	82.2
Oilseeds and oleaginous fruits	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Groundnut	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.8
Coconut	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.2
Edible roots and tubers	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1
Potato	13.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	12.1	16.9	16.6	17.5	17.0	12.9
Other Root crops	7.3	20.9	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	20.7	9.0	4.2	4.5	3.6	4.1	8.2
Stimulant and spices	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4
Tea	5.9	9.9	7.0	13.1	12.9	10.8	4.5	5.7	3.5	3.7	4.4	4.0	7.9
Ginger	7.6	3.5	6.4	0.3	0.5	2.7	8.9	7.7	9.9	9.7	9.0	9.4	5.5
Flowers, ornamental plants	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
Anthurium	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Rose	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Other flowers	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Animals & Animal Products	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5	412.5
Cattle	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Pigs	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1
Goat	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1
Deer	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5
Poultry	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8	323.8
Eggs	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7
Milk	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Overall Index	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0

Producer Price Index – Agriculture (PPI-A)

Methodology for the computation of PPI-A

1. Introduction

The analysis of price data involves a comparison between current and past prices. Comparison over time is required to study the price movement in order to understand the past trends and to indicate future outlook. While price relatives of single commodities can be studied in isolation, a 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. Scope

The PPI-A covers agricultural products that are classified according to the latest Central Product Classification (CPC) Ver.2.1. There are two divisions: Division 01 - Crop Products and Division 02 - Animals & Animal Products. "Crop Products" is further divided into 7 Commodity Groups namely:

Group 012: Fresh vegetables

Group 013: Fruit and nuts

Group 014: Oilseeds and oleaginous fruits

Group 015: Edible roots and tubers

Group 016: Stimulant and spices

Group 018: Sugar cane

Group 019: Flowers, ornamental plants

3. Commodity Coverage

The bulk of the products in agriculture, with the exception of forestry, fishing and agricultural services, is taken into account in the producer price index. Thus, about 75% of the gross output of the agricultural sector has been considered.

4. 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 types of observation units are used for different commodities as shown below:

(a) For main commercial crops (sugar cane and tea leaf etc.), the respective marketing agency is the source of the price data.

(b) For vegetables and some fruits, price data are obtained at the National Wholesale Market at Wooton.

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

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

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) at the next stage of the commodity flow.

6. 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, be 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) Prices 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 in these prices.

It is to be noted that only the output price index for different groups of commodities is compiled.

7. 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. Hence, in place of the farm-gate price, the wholesale price of the product is collected at the National Wholesale Market at Wooton. However, adjustments in terms of transport margins are made to the wholesale prices in order to cater for the true definition of "producer" prices.

With regards to 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. Provisional estimates of the price of sugar is provided by Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. This is however revised as soon as the final price is available. The same procedure is applied to 'tea' whereby prices are obtained from National Agricultural Products Regulatory Office (NAPRO).

8. 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 every second and fourth week of a month at the earlier mentioned auction market.
- (ii) For commodities for which prices are fairly stable, data suppliers are contacted on a quarterly basis, but prices are collected for each month of the quarter. For example, crop products – potato, onion etc.
- (iii) For the main commercial crops like sugar cane and tea, 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.

9. Weights

9.1 Weighting scheme and choice of the base period

As price data are associated with a commercial transaction, it is logical to relate prices to sales rather than total production. However, since the value of production for the market (sales) is not available here, the value of the total production is considered as a proxy in the calculation of weights. Furthermore, since meteorological conditions and market forces may generate high fluctuations, the weighted base is taken as the average of the total production for three years.

It may be noted that in the manuals provided by IMF, 'Food and Agriculture Organisation' and 'Eurostat', it is recommended that if the quantity weight base is the average of 3 years, then the reference base for prices should be the middle year. In the new set of indices, the weights have been derived by multiplying the average of production during the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 by the average of unit prices for 2023, implying that the **weight reference period is January to December 2023**. 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 the commodity level, the weights are apportioned within the commodity group on the basis of the production of each product. Additionally, in order to avoid overlapping in indices, the **index reference period is January to December 2025**, that is, the monthly price for this same period have been used to compute the indices,

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

9.2 Evolution of weights from 2018 to 2023

Table A.1: Comparison of weights by commodity group - previous v/s current base periods

Commodity Group	Previous Weight	New weight
	Base period: 2018	Weight reference period: 2023
<u>Crop Products</u>	558.9	587.5
Sugar Cane	212.1	183.8
Other crops products	346.7	403.7
Fresh Vegetables	209.7	275.2
Beans	7.8	4.4
Brinjal	7.7	10.6
Broccoli	---	2.8
Cabbage	11.9	8.2
Cauliflower	3.0	3.9
Carrot	13.6	13.7
Onion	10.9	6.8
Tomato	63.3	31.9
Creepers	60.8	51.1
Other fresh vegetables	30.7	141.8
Fruits and nuts	67.6	86.3
Banana	12.8	6.5
Pineapple	29.4	13.6
Other fruits	25.4	66.3
Oilseeds and oleaginous fruits	5.8	3.1
Groundnut	2.1	1.7
Coconut	3.7	1.3
Edible roots and tubers	39.3	21.1
Potato	30.8	13.8
Other Root crops	8.4	7.3
Stimulant and spices	14.6	13.4
Tea	12.0	5.9
Ginger	2.5	7.6
Flowers, ornamental plants	9.9	4.6
Anthurium	3.0	0.3
Rose	1.1	1.3
Other flowers	5.8	3.0
<u>Animals & Animal Products</u>	441.1	412.5
Cattle	43.7	20.0
Pigs	3.1	7.1
Goat	0.7	6.1
Deer	8.8	24.5
Poultry	283.9	323.8
Eggs	95.0	28.7
Milk	5.9	2.3
Overall Index	1,000.0	1,000.0

Note: The weights at product level may not add up to weight at commodity group level due to unrounded figures used for computation.

--- Not applicable in previous basket

10. Index calculation

The PPI will be calculated according to a 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 index reference period o (2025)
W_i is the weight associated with commodity i (Year 2023)

11. 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 variables, 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.

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 weight structure 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; just the weights vary on a monthly basis.

13. Missing Prices

There is also, in the field of agricultural price observation, the case of missing prices for a product and this must be taken into account so that an index for each respective month can be computed. In these cases, imputation is carried out as per International Monetary Fund's recommendations.

14. Periodicity

The index is calculated 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.

Statistics Mauritius
LIC Centre,
John Kennedy Street,
Port Louis, MAURITIUS
T: +230 208 1800
F: +230 211 4150
W: <https://statsmauritius.govmu.org>
E: statsmauritius@govmu.org

