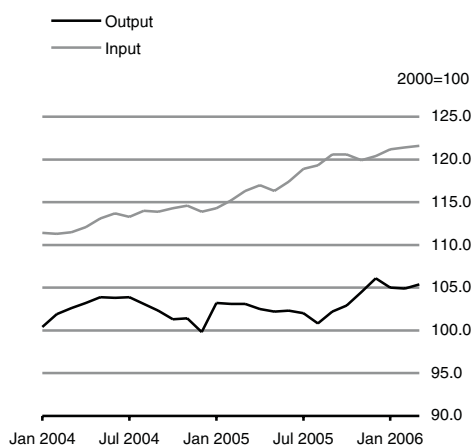




Agricultural Price Indices March 2006

Agricultural price indices Seasonally adjusted



	Seasonally adjusted		
	Output	Input	Terms of trade
	2000 = 100		
Feb 2006	104.9	121.4	86.4
Mar 2006	105.4	121.6	86.7
% change	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%

Output price index up 0.5% in March

The seasonally adjusted output price index increased by 0.5% in March 2006 compared with February 2006, while the seasonally adjusted input price index increased by 0.2%. Thus the terms of trade index increased by 0.3% in March. See Tables 3 & 4 and graph.

Comparing March 2006 unadjusted agricultural price indices with the corresponding March 2005 indices shows that (see Tables 1 and 2):

- ◆ Potatoes, cows for slaughter, vegetables, finished cattle and pigs were up 172.4%, 6.4%, 4.9%, 2.2% and 0.4% respectively, while poultry, cereals, milk, store cattle and sheep were down 6.3%, 4.3%, 3.5%, 2.0% and 1.5%.
- ◆ Energy, fertilizers, veterinary expenses, seeds and feeding stuffs were up 13.6%, 4.2%, 4.1%, 3.6% and 1.1% respectively, while plant protection products were down 1.5%.

Annual changes in EU output and input price indices for selected items are shown at the back of this release.

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Table 1 Agricultural Output Price Index¹

Base year 2000=100

Period	Total outputs index	Livestock								Livestock products		Livestock and livestock products	Crop products					
		Finished cattle	Cows for slaughter	Store cattle	Total cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Poultry	Total	Milk	Total		Cereals	Sugar beet	Potatoes	Vegetables	Total	
2004	101.8	101.9	103.2	112.3	103.2	117.7	103.3	111.6	105.5	95.3	95.6	101.4	100.9	103.8	97.6	110.7	104.4	
2005	102.3	105.6	107.1	104.5	105.6	109.6	101.5	108.1	105.6	93.4	93.6	100.6	96.6	103.7	145.5	116.1	112.0	
2005	January	104.6	108.9	108.1	109.3	108.8	115.2	98.4	114.0	108.4	100.0	100.1	105.0	100.9	103.8	81.1	110.2	102.0
	February	104.9	111.7	114.2	112.4	112.0	111.5	99.9	109.4	110.1	98.0	98.2	105.1	100.9	103.8	87.4	111.2	103.2
	March	105.1	112.8	116.5	113.7	113.1	113.4	102.1	110.9	111.4	96.5	96.7	105.3	100.9	103.8	84.1	112.7	103.6
	April	103.9	113.4	117.9	113.6	113.9	121.7	98.9	109.4	112.4	92.2	92.4	104.1	100.9	103.8	75.7	113.1	102.5
	May	103.8	113.0	117.8	109.9	113.2	120.2	96.3	110.3	111.4	91.4	91.6	103.2	100.9	103.8	104.5	116.1	107.7
	June	104.2	112.1	110.3	109.8	111.4	119.2	100.0	106.8	110.4	91.1	91.3	102.5	100.9	103.8	159.9	113.8	114.8
	July	101.3	102.8	98.7	102.6	102.1	107.7	104.8	111.3	103.8	90.5	90.8	98.4	100.9	103.8	170.8	120.2	118.6
	August	98.1	96.2	98.2	97.9	96.7	101.6	103.0	108.3	99.0	90.5	90.8	95.6	96.6	103.8	145.8	119.8	113.4
	September	101.3	95.3	98.3	96.7	95.9	98.6	104.4	109.2	98.3	94.1	94.3	96.7	96.6	103.7	265.1	115.8	129.1
	October	100.1	95.6	93.8	97.8	95.6	98.8	104.5	106.8	98.0	94.2	94.3	96.5	96.6	103.7	206.5	119.7	122.0
	November	102.5	102.5	98.4	96.9	101.2	101.8	103.0	106.6	101.9	95.0	95.2	99.1	96.6	103.7	214.2	118.3	122.7
	December	105.0	108.0	105.0	96.6	106.3	103.8	103.4	102.1	105.3	97.4	97.5	102.1	96.6	103.7	212.4	119.8	122.9
2006	January	106.4	112.2	116.1	102.9	111.6	103.6	100.8	107.6	108.9	96.3	96.4	103.7	96.6	103.7	214.9	118.4	122.8
	February	² 106.6	112.7	119.1	108.6	112.8	105.6	100.8	² 106.2	² 109.8	94.8	95.0	² 103.7	96.6	103.7	228.4	117.5	124.4
	March	107.4	115.2	123.9	111.4	115.5	111.6	102.5	104.0	112.4	93.2	93.4	104.5	96.6	103.7	229.1	118.2	124.8
Mar 06/Feb 06		0.7%	2.2%	4.0%	2.5%	2.4%	5.6%	1.7%	-2.1%	2.4%	-1.7%	-1.7%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	..	0.3%
Mar 06/Mar 05		2.2%	2.2%	6.4%	-2.0%	2.1%	-1.5%	0.4%	-6.3%	0.9%	-3.5%	-3.4%	-0.8%	-4.3%	-0.1%	172.4%	4.9%	20.4%

¹ Excluding VAT

² Revised

.. Comparison not valid

Table 2 Agricultural Input Price Index¹

Base year 2000=100

Period	Total inputs index	Feeding stuffs						Fertilizers					Seeds	Energy			Plant protection products	Veterinary expenses (incl. AI)	Other inputs ²
		Straight	Compound				All	Straight	Compound		All	Motor fuels		Electricity	All energy				
			Calf	Cattle	Pig	Poultry			NPK	PK									
2004	113.1	110.4	110.1	111.7	109.8	109.7	110.8	122.1	112.2	106.2	115.1	116.1	110.2	125.7	112.6	103.2	115.8	116.9	
2005	118.0	110.3	106.4	108.9	109.5	108.5	109.0	133.2	121.2	110.0	124.5	115.7	131.7	135.7	131.7	102.7	117.6	121.0	
2005 January	114.3	108.3	105.9	108.5	109.5	109.3	108.7	132.6	121.0	109.8	124.1	115.7	112.0	135.7	115.7	103.6	114.6	118.2	
February	115.6	109.2	106.8	108.7	109.8	108.7	108.9	137.6	125.0	110.5	128.1	115.7	114.6	135.7	117.8	103.5	114.7	119.8	
March	116.8	109.0	106.9	108.9	107.1	108.8	108.4	137.8	124.2	111.1	127.7	115.7	122.9	135.7	124.4	103.4	117.1	119.9	
April	117.4	107.6	106.0	108.2	107.9	108.3	108.0	133.7	121.7	110.1	124.8	115.7	130.6	135.7	130.7	102.5	117.9	120.0	
May	116.8	109.9	106.6	109.2	108.4	108.5	108.9	132.3	120.7	110.1	123.8	115.7	124.1	135.7	125.6	102.5	117.9	120.9	
June	117.3	111.1	105.8	108.7	109.6	109.0	109.1	130.3	119.0	110.4	122.1	115.7	128.5	135.7	129.1	102.4	117.9	121.6	
July	118.7	110.9	105.2	108.5	109.1	109.0	108.8	129.3	118.3	109.3	121.3	115.7	139.4	135.7	137.8	102.4	118.4	121.7	
August	119.1	111.3	105.9	108.6	111.4	109.2	109.4	130.7	119.0	109.4	122.2	115.7	139.0	135.7	137.6	102.4	118.4	121.7	
September	120.4	111.4	106.5	109.0	110.9	108.1	109.4	132.5	120.1	109.8	123.5	115.7	147.2	135.7	144.2	102.4	118.3	121.7	
October	120.5	111.1	107.0	109.0	109.2	107.5	108.9	132.7	121.2	109.8	124.5	115.3	147.9	135.7	144.8	102.4	118.8	121.9	
November	119.4	111.3	107.3	109.2	109.3	107.8	109.1	133.8	121.6	109.8	125.2	115.3	137.9	135.7	136.9	102.4	118.7	122.3	
December	119.6	112.3	106.9	109.6	111.3	108.3	109.8	135.5	122.5	110.0	126.3	115.3	136.5	135.7	135.8	102.4	118.7	122.5	
2006 January	² 121.2	113.5	107.7	110.7	109.9	106.7	109.9	140.9	126.0	114.6	130.5	² 119.9	140.4	141.6	140.0	101.8	119.8	122.3	
February	² 121.8	113.1	107.3	110.6	109.9	106.7	109.9	142.7	129.2	114.7	133.0	² 119.9	140.4	141.6	140.3	101.8	119.8	123.4	
March	122.1	115.6	107.3	110.2	108.5	106.8	109.6	142.6	129.4	114.8	133.0	119.9	141.9	141.6	141.4	101.8	121.9	123.6	
Mar 06/Feb 06	0.3%	2.2%	0.0%	-0.4%	-1.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.8%	0.1%	1.8%	0.1%	
Mar 06/Mar 05	4.6%	6.1%	0.5%	1.2%	1.3%	-1.9%	1.1%	3.4%	4.2%	3.3%	4.2%	3.6%	15.5%	4.4%	13.6%	-1.5%	4.1%	3.1%	

¹ Excluding VAT

² Revised

² "Other inputs" includes maintenance and repairs, services other than veterinary and miscellaneous materials

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Agricultural Output Price Index²

Base year 2000=100

Period	Total outputs index	Finished cattle	Cows for slaughter	Store cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Poultry	Milk	Potatoes	Vegetables	
2005	January	103.2	107.0	108.7	109.0	115.4	102.0	112.9	96.1	91.0	112.7
	February	103.1	108.4	108.6	108.3	108.9	101.4	109.4	95.7	96.9	112.8
	March	103.1	109.0	108.4	109.3	104.2	100.7	111.1	95.4	95.5	112.9
	April	102.5	109.0	108.4	107.7	106.9	98.5	109.2	94.9	79.3	113.4
	May	102.2	108.4	106.4	105.5	106.6	96.1	109.5	93.8	107.4	116.2
	June	102.3	106.3	101.4	105.4	114.0	100.1	107.1	93.5	137.3	115.9
	July	102.0	102.0	97.2	103.1	114.2	102.3	112.7	93.2	149.7	121.4
	August	100.8	97.8	100.1	100.7	109.8	104.0	109.3	93.0	210.8	115.8
	September	102.2	100.4	103.5	101.8	106.9	104.5	110.1	93.6	191.2	112.5
	October	102.9	103.1	104.2	103.0	108.7	103.8	108.7	93.6	195.6	117.3
	November	104.5	108.4	113.1	102.2	109.3	102.2	107.9	93.3	211.6	118.3
	December	106.1	112.0	120.1	100.1	109.8	103.1	97.9	94.8	222.4	120.8
2006	January	105.0	110.1	116.6	102.9	104.0	104.6	106.5	92.5	242.8	121.1
	February	104.9	109.3	112.8	104.6	103.2	102.3	106.3	92.6	254.4	119.7
	March	105.4	111.3	114.8	107.0	102.9	101.1	104.2	92.0	262.7	118.8
Mar 06/Feb 06	0.5%	1.8%	1.8%	2.3%	-0.3%	-1.2%	-2.0%	-0.6%	3.3%	..	

¹ The seasonally adjusted indices are recalculated each month

² Excluding VAT

.. Comparison not valid

Table 4 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Agricultural Input Price Index²

Base year 2000=100

Period	Total inputs index	Feeding stuffs					Fertilizers					
		Straight	Compound			All	Straight	Compound		All		
			Calf	Cattle	Pig			Poultry	NPK		PK	
2005	January	114.3	108.3	105.8	108.5	109.2	109.6	108.7	128.7	119.0	108.8	121.6
	February	115.2	109.5	106.3	108.4	109.4	109.1	108.7	131.9	120.7	109.4	123.5
	March	116.3	108.3	106.2	108.6	107.7	109.2	108.5	133.1	120.5	110.3	124.1
	April	117.0	107.0	105.7	108.1	108.4	108.6	108.2	130.9	119.7	109.9	122.7
	May	116.3	109.5	106.0	109.0	108.8	108.3	108.7	131.3	120.0	110.1	123.0
	June	117.4	110.9	105.4	108.3	109.5	108.7	108.7	131.1	119.9	110.9	123.0
	July	118.9	110.7	105.2	108.2	109.2	108.8	108.6	133.1	120.2	110.2	123.7
	August	119.3	111.3	106.1	108.4	111.2	108.8	109.2	134.9	121.6	110.4	125.2
	September	120.6	111.4	107.0	109.4	110.6	108.2	109.4	136.3	122.7	110.4	126.4
	October	120.6	111.8	107.4	109.3	109.0	107.0	109.0	136.6	123.5	110.2	127.2
	November	119.9	112.1	108.0	110.0	109.3	107.9	109.7	136.3	123.5	110.3	127.1
	December	120.4	112.8	107.7	110.2	111.3	108.4	110.2	135.7	123.5	109.6	126.9
2006	January	121.2	113.5	107.6	110.7	109.7	107.0	110.0	136.5	123.9	113.5	127.9
	February	121.4	113.5	106.9	110.3	109.5	107.2	109.7	136.6	124.7	113.4	128.2
	March	121.6	114.9	106.8	109.9	109.3	107.2	109.7	137.6	125.5	114.0	129.2
Mar 06/Feb 06	0.2%	1.2%	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	

¹ The seasonally adjusted indices are recalculated each month

² Excluding VAT

Table 5 Selected agricultural input prices

average euro per tonne¹

Category	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Feeding stuffs										
Straight										
Rolled barley	204	190	175	185	185	187	188	190	200	189
Barley meal	210	196	183	181	181	179	181	188	203	197
Soya bean meal	290	324	283	234	277	312	310	297	312	283
Maize meal	263	242	213	227	227	245	248	252	262	239
Maize flaked	360	355	344	336	336	342	342	344	354	343
Pig										
Pig grower	262	257	238	228	231	244	249	248	259	253
Pig fattening meal	261	248	242	239	238	255	258	255	262	252
Sow breeder	253	251	238	230	224	238	242	247	253	242
Sow weaner & bonham meal	267	259	251	241	245	264	272	273	283	283
Cattle										
Cattle fattening nuts & cubes 13-15% protein	217	207	195	192	198	209	211	214	217	211
Calf nuts & cubes 14-15% protein	251	232	214	204	213	227	233	237	248	230
Dairy nuts & cubes 13-15% protein	219	210	197	184	188	194	190	189	195	192
Dairy nuts & cubes 16-18% protein	224	216	203	195	201	216	218	219	228	218
Dairy meal 16-18% protein	228	219	202	190	195	209	213	209	213	207
Calf nuts & cubes 16-18% protein	248	240	227	221	227	238	243	244	249	240
Calf meal 16-18% protein	270	269	262	239	232	242	251	250	259	252
Milk replacer	1,716	1,681	1,674	1,660	1,669	1,829	1,830	1,829	1,819	1,821
Poultry										
Layer mash	267	261	260	266	276	283	288	289	301	296
Chick mash	301	303	298	285	292	314	319	329	343	329
Broiler finisher	327	319	311	305	304	318	324	328	344	332
Broiler starter	340	336	333	325	326	343	349	348	361	349
Fertilizers										
Straight										
Calcium ammonium nitrate 27.5% N	163	150	139	143	164	193	188	191	201	218
Urea 46% N	217	208	193	189	201	241	235	240	261	288
Muriate of potash 50% K	214	211	209	209	217	225	222	232	231	230
Granular superphosphate 16% P	256	253	252	261	268	272	268	268	275	278
Compound										
0-10-20	181	173	170	187	192	204	201	206	208	214
0-7-30	181	173	170	186	192	204	201	206	208	213
10-10-20	229	218	213	216	223	249	244	249	253	269
14-7-14	220	211	199	200	207	237	236	239	246	259
18-6-12	216	205	197	198	205	236	231	236	240	255
24-2.5-10	216	205	195	198	206	238	233	238	241	258
27-2.5-5	211	201	191	193	203	235	229	234	238	254

¹ Including VAT, rounded to nearest euro

Table 6 Selected output prices at livestock martsaverage euro per head¹

Category	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 ²	2001 ²	2002	2003	2004	2005
Bullocks										
200-249 kg	444	402	386	307	448	456	469	473	484	424
250-299 kg	476	455	422	359	497	503	517	516	555	484
300-349 kg	518	507	469	409	544	534	557	558	614	537
350-399 kg	563	558	510	468	599	580	596	610	661	583
400-449 kg	611	601	556	527	650	632	640	663	713	625
450-499 kg	662	649	609	591	696	681	694	714	752	682
500-549 kg	719	696	667	645	738	724	748	761	804	746
550+ kg ³	818	783	755	726	824	779	807	817	870	844
Heifers										
200-249 kg ³	338	304	271	218	301	292	317	325	375	376
250-299 kg	388	359	331	284	363	350	377	382	443	440
300-349 kg	441	422	390	332	426	410	436	443	501	492
350-399 kg	487	476	443	409	491	475	494	506	559	547
400-449 kg	544	530	501	476	554	537	553	567	617	602
Sheep										
30-39 kg	60	61	49	44	48	69	60	59	58	54
40-49 kg	70	74	64	58	64	89	77	77	77	72
50-59 kg	79	84	68	65	73	102	89	85	85	79

¹ Including VAT, rounded to nearest euro² 2000 and 2001 data incorporates small differences in methodology³ Revised

Background Notes

- Introduction** This release presents estimates of Agricultural Input and Output Price Indices. The indices monitor trends in prices paid to farmers for their produce and in prices paid by farmers for purchases of goods and services. The methodology is harmonised throughout the EU. The estimates are given to Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities. Preliminary annual indices, based on around nine months data, are also published each November.
- Methodology** The agricultural output price indices are intended to measure trends in the price of agricultural produce sold by farmers. The agricultural price indices are designed to measure trends in the price of farm inputs purchased for current consumption (i.e. non-capital materials and services). Traditionally both indices were compiled on the basis of the “national farm” concept. The weights used to combine the changes in prices of the individual commodities relate to the value of sales off farms or to the expenditure by farmers on input purchases. The old methodology excluded both the value of inter-farm sales and the value of own produce consumed in farm households. The new methodology includes the value of all sales of crop products between farms. The Laspeyres index formula, involving the use of fixed base year weights, has been used in the compilation of the monthly index numbers for all commodity groupings except vegetables. Because of the highly seasonal nature of vegetables, variable monthly baskets are used.
- Monthly price series are used except for seasonal products, such as seeds, where prices are only available at certain times during the year. In these cases, the monthly prices returned during the last selling period are continued unchanged until the product can be priced again. The monthly sub-indices are weighted by the value of sales off farms and the expenditure on farm inputs to derive overall monthly total input and total output indices. The annual indices are obtained either as a simple or weighted arithmetic mean of the corresponding monthly indices. From 1995, in line with EU recommendations, the annual input indices are calculated as simple arithmetic averages of the monthly indices.
- Price coverage** The index prices used are before deduction of levies and exclusion of value added tax with the exception of sugar beet where the A and B levies are deducted. Standardised prices are used for milk, cereals and sugar beet to ensure that products of identical quality are priced in successive periods. In the case of milk, this means pricing at a fixed butterfat and protein content and excluding special bonuses paid in respect of some deliveries to creameries. Standardised cereal prices take account of moisture content. Sugar beet prices are standardised at a fixed sugar content.
- Data sources** The indices are compiled from a wide variety of sources, including direct CSO surveys and administrative data from the Department of Agriculture and Food. The actual sources are described more fully in the Agricultural Price Indices 1995-2003 release published on the 30 April 2004.
- Livestock auction mart prices and export factory slaughterings prices are used for both cattle and sheep. Representative licensed export premises prices are used for pigs. Poultry prices at livestock auction marts and approved processing premises are used. For milk, the CSO collects prices from creameries. Feeding stuffs and fertilizers prices are collected through a CSO survey of merchants and co-operatives.
- Seasonal adjustment** As many agricultural products follow a seasonal production pattern, seasonally adjusted monthly series for the total indices and selected sub-indices are also published. The use of standardised prices for some commodities reduces the seasonality of these prices.
- Rebasing** The series are normally rebased every five years. This release shows monthly indices from January 2005 with base 2000=100. A rebased series covering the period 1995-2003, published on 30 April 2004, contains a full note on methodology.
- References** Agricultural Price Indices, Preliminary Estimates, annual CSO release.
Eurostat Statistics in Focus - Agricultural Price trends in the EU.
Agricultural Price Indices 1995-2003 release.

Annual changes in EU output and input indices

%

Dec 2005 / Dec 2004

Country	Total Outputs	Cattle	Cereals	Sheep and Goats	Total Inputs	Energy	Fertilizers	Feeding Stuffs
European Union 25¹	1.8	8.5	-0.3	10.2	2.6	6.7	6.1	0.5
Austria	1.3	7.6	-1.1	0.0	1.1	8.6	7.4	-2.7
Belgium	9.2	23.7	2.5	5.7	3.1	3.4	5.0	5.8
Cyprus	-13.4	-13.2	-8.6	17.3	1.4	16.7	8.2	-5.4
Czech Republic	-4.1	6.1	-10.0	-19.7	1.2	8.7	10.3	-9.8
Denmark	2.8	18.0	1.0	-13.2	1.3	16.1	8.1	-1.7
Estonia	0.5	13.9	-2.6	..	4.8	14.3	5.4	1.5
Finland	0.3	4.8	-0.7	29.8	5.7	19.9	8.7	-1.6
France	-0.4	2.1	4.9	0.5	3.2	18.2	5.2	-0.9
Germany	2.7	11.1	1.9	9.3	2.5	11.2	8.1	-3.1
Greece	4.2	8.8	0.3	9.3	4.4	15.2	6.2	-1.1
Hungary	9.4	22.5	-2.6	4.4	5.2	9.1	6.8	1.2
Ireland	6.1	13.3	-4.3	-4.3	5.5	16.7	9.1	1.0
Italy	-2.5	8.1	2.4	-2.6	5.6	9.3	3.8	6.5
Latvia	103.8	57.1	-0.7	71.0	8.5	16.0	15.9	6.3
Lithuania	20.2	20.6	-3.4	-5.7	10.1	23.9	11.0	-5.5
Luxembourg	-1.5	6.1	11.2	0.3	4.1	21.4	0.8	3.0
Malta	-9.2	11.3	..	0.0	4.8	18.8	24.0	0.0
Netherlands	5.7	15.7	4.3	0.9	2.7	23.2	-0.8	-2.4
Poland	..	3.2	..	25.1	-0.5	0.1	1.3	-7.5
Portugal	0.4	9.7	-8.0	2.3	4.1	11.0	4.2	-0.8
Slovakia	-1.4	3.1	-8.5	9.5	2.1	13.2	3.5	-9.2
Slovenia	3.3	7.0	-4.4	-2.5	3.4	11.6	1.1	-1.9
Spain	2.3	10.2	10.6	29.6	5.2	16.2	6.4	3.5
Sweden	4.7	25.2	4.1	-0.1	1.9	14.1	3.0	-2.3
United Kingdom	1.8	9.0	-0.1	-6.7	2.1	15.4	10.6	-0.1

.. Data not available

¹European Union figure includes Eurostat estimates for member states where data is not currently available

Source: New Cronos database, Eurostat