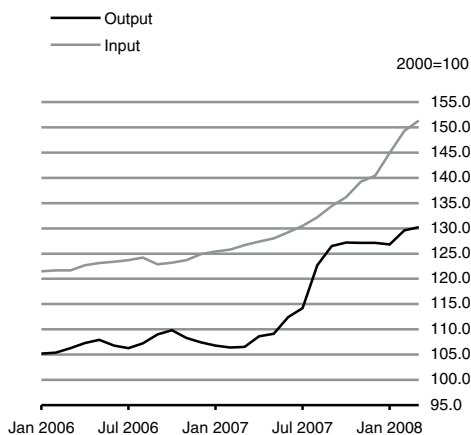




Agricultural Price Indices March 2008

Agricultural price indices Seasonally adjusted



	Seasonally adjusted		
	Output	Input	Terms of trade
	2000 = 100		
Feb 2008	129.6	149.3	86.8
Mar 2008	130.2	151.3	86.1
% change	0.5%	1.3%	-0.8%

Input price index up 1.3% in March

The seasonally adjusted input price index increased by 1.3% in March 2008 compared with February 2008. The seasonally adjusted output price index increased by 0.5%. Thus, the terms of trade index decreased by 0.8% in March. *See Tables 3 & 4 and graph.*

On an annual comparison, the unadjusted agricultural output price index was 131.7 in March 2008, 21.9% higher than in March 2007. The unadjusted agricultural input price index was up 19.4% to 152.0 over the same period. The terms of trade index increased by 2.0%. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

Comparing March 2008 unadjusted sub-indices with March 2007 shows that (*see Tables 1 and 2*):

- ◆ Fertilisers, feeding stuffs, energy, seeds, and veterinary expenses were up 49.4%, 20.4%, 15.6%, 10.7% and 2.1% respectively, while plant protection products were down 0.4%.
- ◆ Cereals, milk, poultry, cattle, vegetables and sheep were up 67.7%, 48.7%, 13.8%, 13.5%, 9.5% and 7.7% respectively, while potatoes were down 40.4%.

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

In the fourth quarter of 2007, the EU output price index increased by 15.8% compared with the same period in 2006. The EU input price index increased by 13.6%.

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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	Potatoes	Vegetables	Total	
2006	107.4	113.5	118.0	107.5	113.2	112.2	108.8	106.9	112.0	90.2	90.3	103.0	110.6	236.3	123.6	133.9	
2007	118.0	111.2	115.2	108.7	111.0	114.9	103.0	112.2	110.4	110.9	110.9	110.6	185.4	218.4	138.1	162.2	
2007	January	108.1	114.4	116.4	107.9	113.8	109.5	104.6	107.3	111.6	92.1	92.3	103.6	110.6	240.7	125.5	135.2
	February	108.1	114.4	117.4	111.7	114.1	115.9	103.2	115.2	112.9	90.2	90.5	103.6	110.6	245.4	124.4	135.5
	March	108.1	113.8	118.1	114.1	113.9	120.1	103.2	109.5	112.8	89.6	89.9	103.3	110.6	250.1	126.4	136.9
	April	109.9	114.5	120.5	114.0	114.9	127.5	99.7	109.1	113.8	92.9	93.1	105.2	110.6	253.6	129.4	138.4
	May	110.5	111.0	118.5	114.9	111.8	117.8	99.8	108.4	110.6	98.4	98.5	105.6	110.6	259.6	131.2	139.9
	June	113.8	111.9	118.7	110.4	112.2	114.8	100.1	113.1	110.8	106.4	106.4	109.0	110.6	267.2	135.8	142.6
	July	113.2	109.0	111.2	105.1	108.6	111.0	99.8	112.7	107.9	111.6	111.5	109.4	110.6	193.5	147.0	136.0
	August	118.9	109.2	112.9	104.4	108.9	114.6	101.6	113.7	108.9	120.8	120.7	113.8	185.4	115.7	145.4	150.2
	September	126.6	109.7	112.5	104.5	109.3	119.0	106.5	118.9	110.7	130.9	130.7	119.0	185.4	267.7	148.3	172.9
	October	125.4	107.4	109.8	101.3	106.6	113.3	107.5	115.0	108.1	133.7	133.4	118.6	185.4	227.1	146.2	166.4
	November	125.5	108.7	110.4	105.1	108.1	110.0	105.9	113.7	108.4	135.6	135.3	119.5	185.4	194.8	146.1	161.7
	December	125.5	110.4	110.2	106.6	109.7	108.4	104.3	111.8	108.9	137.0	136.7	120.4	185.4	170.5	143.0	155.9
2008	January	128.3	121.2	127.2	119.7	121.6	111.5	101.4	112.0	116.9	134.2	134.0	124.0	185.4	162.6	140.9	154.1
	February	131.6	127.5	135.2	125.5	127.7	122.7	101.8	127.8	123.4	134.5	134.3	127.9	185.4	159.7	140.1	153.4
	March	131.7	129.2	138.5	124.8	129.3	129.3	103.4	124.6	125.3	133.2	133.0	128.5	185.4	149.0	138.5	151.3
Mar 08/Feb 08	0.1%	1.3%	2.4%	-0.6%	1.2%	5.3%	1.5%	-2.5%	1.5%	-1.0%	-1.0%	0.4%	0.0%	-6.7%	..	-1.4%	
Mar 08/Mar 07	21.9%	13.5%	17.3%	9.4%	13.5%	7.7%	0.2%	13.8%	11.1%	48.7%	48.0%	24.4%	67.7%	-40.4%	9.5%	10.5%	

¹ Excluding VAT

.. 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 ³		
		Straight	Compound				All	Straight	Compound			All	Motor fuels	Electricity				All energy	
			Calf	Cattle	Pig	Poultry			NPK	PK									
2006	123.1	116.2	107.4	111.2	110.1	109.9	111.1	143.0	129.2	115.9	133.1	120.1	144.1	141.6	143.1	101.7	122.4	124.0	
2007	131.3	134.3	121.9	126.7	122.1	122.4	125.6	146.3	132.3	123.5	136.4	130.8	147.3	157.6	148.1	101.7	126.2	128.9	
2007	January	125.2	123.6	113.1	117.9	116.1	116.0	117.6	143.5	130.0	117.5	133.8	128.4	133.1	159.6	137.2	102.0	124.4	125.6
	February	126.1	126.2	114.7	119.3	116.5	116.2	118.6	144.0	130.1	117.8	134.1	128.4	134.1	159.6	138.1	102.0	124.4	127.2
	March	127.3	126.6	115.8	119.0	117.9	117.1	119.1	145.7	131.2	119.3	135.3	128.4	139.1	159.6	142.0	102.1	126.0	127.9
	April	128.0	127.9	116.3	119.9	117.3	117.2	119.5	145.2	131.2	119.2	135.2	128.4	143.0	159.6	145.2	101.4	126.4	127.8
	May	128.5	128.3	116.2	119.9	118.1	117.2	119.7	145.8	131.7	120.2	135.7	128.4	144.7	159.6	146.5	101.6	126.5	128.1
	June	129.2	128.4	115.9	120.0	117.6	118.3	119.9	145.9	131.7	120.7	135.8	128.4	147.9	159.6	149.2	101.6	126.5	128.6
	July	130.6	131.6	119.9	124.2	121.2	118.6	123.1	146.1	132.0	120.9	136.0	128.4	149.2	159.6	150.3	101.7	126.7	128.8
	August	132.0	136.9	121.9	126.1	125.3	123.2	126.3	146.1	131.9	120.9	136.0	128.4	149.2	159.6	150.4	101.6	126.3	129.5
	September	134.4	141.5	128.7	131.8	127.0	128.3	131.0	146.4	133.0	129.5	137.1	128.4	152.4	159.6	152.9	101.6	126.3	129.6
	October	135.9	145.9	131.7	137.0	129.3	131.3	135.1	146.9	133.2	130.6	137.4	137.3	151.8	159.6	151.4	101.6	126.9	129.6
	November	138.8	146.9	131.9	142.0	129.5	132.0	137.7	148.9	134.4	131.4	138.8	137.3	163.6	147.3	158.9	101.6	126.9	131.7
	December	139.1	148.5	136.2	143.5	129.8	133.4	139.1	151.7	137.3	134.3	141.5	137.3	159.5	147.3	155.6	101.6	126.9	131.7
2008	January	² 144.7	153.0	137.3	144.6	133.7	134.0	141.0	175.4	162.1	152.9	164.7	² 142.1	166.4	147.3	161.2	101.5	125.9	133.9
	February	² 149.5	153.5	141.5	147.6	135.1	133.8	142.8	204.1	194.9	189.7	194.8	² 142.1	162.8	147.3	158.2	101.8	126.4	135.3
	March	152.0	153.6	142.5	148.0	137.0	133.0	143.3	212.6	201.6	207.7	202.2	142.1	170.3	147.3	164.1	101.7	128.6	135.1
Mar 08/Feb 08	1.7%	0.1%	0.7%	0.3%	1.5%	-0.6%	0.3%	4.1%	3.4%	9.5%	3.8%	0.0%	4.7%	0.0%	3.8%	-0.1%	1.8%	-0.1%	
Mar 08/Mar 07	19.4%	21.3%	23.0%	24.4%	16.2%	13.5%	20.4%	46.0%	53.7%	74.1%	49.4%	10.7%	22.5%	-7.7%	15.6%	-0.4%	2.1%	5.7%	

¹ Excluding VAT

² Revised

³ "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	
2007	January	106.8	111.5	114.3	108.0	112.9	107.9	107.5	89.0	262.3	127.7
	February	106.4	110.0	110.7	106.6	114.6	106.1	113.6	89.0	259.5	127.6
	March	106.6	109.3	109.6	108.0	114.1	104.3	109.6	89.4	267.5	129.4
	April	108.6	109.0	109.8	107.6	111.8	102.0	109.1	96.4	258.0	132.0
	May	109.1	106.1	107.4	108.5	106.0	102.2	108.2	101.6	251.8	132.1
	June	112.4	107.0	112.8	107.0	107.9	101.0	112.2	109.0	238.2	138.0
	July	114.2	110.7	115.3	107.7	114.4	98.0	112.7	114.6	177.6	142.5
	August	122.7	113.4	117.8	108.9	121.5	100.3	114.1	123.4	157.7	141.3
	September	126.5	114.5	118.6	108.7	128.5	103.1	118.8	128.5	200.0	144.2
	October	127.2	115.9	119.9	105.4	121.1	103.7	114.7	131.5	221.9	144.4
	November	127.1	113.7	121.5	110.7	117.4	104.2	113.3	132.5	203.5	145.3
	December	127.1	114.8	123.0	113.5	114.9	103.7	114.8	132.7	186.6	143.0
2008	January	126.8	118.1	124.5	119.8	115.4	104.5	112.3	130.0	176.4	143.3
	February	129.6	122.6	127.9	119.9	121.7	104.9	125.9	132.9	168.2	143.8
	March	130.2	124.1	128.7	118.1	123.3	104.8	124.8	133.2	158.2	142.1
Mar 08/Feb 08	0.5%	1.2%	0.6%	-1.5%	1.3%	-0.1%	-0.9%	0.2%	-5.9%	..	

¹ The seasonally adjusted indices are recalculated each month² 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		
2007	January	125.4	122.9	112.5	117.3	115.2	115.7	117.1	140.4	128.5	116.7	131.9
	February	125.8	125.5	113.5	118.0	115.7	116.3	117.8	139.2	126.3	116.3	130.5
	March	126.7	125.7	114.8	118.3	118.1	117.8	118.7	141.7	127.5	117.2	131.7
	April	127.4	127.1	116.0	119.8	118.3	117.3	119.7	142.8	129.3	118.5	133.2
	May	128.0	128.1	116.0	119.8	119.2	117.4	119.9	144.6	130.7	119.6	134.7
	June	129.2	128.1	116.3	120.3	117.9	118.5	120.0	146.7	132.4	120.6	136.4
	July	130.5	131.7	120.8	124.7	122.1	118.7	123.6	148.8	133.8	122.1	138.0
	August	132.2	137.1	122.5	126.8	125.3	123.5	126.8	149.3	134.3	122.1	138.5
	September	134.4	141.8	129.4	132.6	126.5	128.6	131.3	149.4	135.1	130.4	139.3
	October	136.2	146.4	131.9	137.3	128.3	130.8	135.0	149.7	135.2	131.4	139.4
	November	139.2	148.4	132.4	142.5	129.3	131.4	137.8	151.5	136.8	132.7	141.1
	December	140.4	149.9	136.7	143.5	129.9	132.8	139.3	152.8	138.5	135.5	142.6
2008	January	144.9	152.2	136.6	143.9	132.7	133.7	140.4	171.9	160.4	152.0	162.5
	February	149.3	152.7	140.0	146.0	134.2	133.9	141.8	197.5	189.3	187.2	189.7
	March	151.3	152.5	141.2	147.2	137.4	133.9	142.9	207.1	196.1	204.0	197.0
Mar 08/Feb 08	1.3%	-0.1%	0.9%	0.8%	2.4%	0.0%	0.8%	4.9%	3.6%	9.0%	3.8%	

¹ The seasonally adjusted indices are recalculated each month² Excluding VAT

Table 5 Selected agricultural input pricesaverage euro per tonne¹

Category	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Feeding stuffs										
Straight										
Rolled barley	175	185	185	187	188	190	201	187	197	254
Barley meal	183	181	181	179	181	188	204	194	210	265
Soya bean meal	283	234	277	312	310	297	314	278	287	316
Maize meal	213	227	227	245	248	252	263	239	251	303
Maize flaked	344	336	336	342	342	344	355	344	346	399
Pig										
Pig grower	238	228	231	244	249	248	259	253	255	306
Pig fattening meal	242	239	238	255	258	255	263	253	253	284
Sow breeder	238	230	224	238	242	247	255	241	255	296
Sow weaner & bonham meal	251	241	245	264	272	273	282	283	293	338
Cattle										
Cattle fattening nuts & cubes 13-15% protein	195	192	198	209	211	214	220	211	217	253
Calf nuts & cubes 14-15% protein	214	204	213	227	233	237	248	231	227	270
Dairy nuts & cubes 13-15% protein	197	184	188	194	190	189	195	191	203	245
Dairy nuts & cubes 16-18% protein	203	195	201	216	218	219	229	218	223	257
Dairy meal 16-18% protein	202	190	195	209	213	209	214	208	212	245
Calf nuts & cubes 16-18% protein	227	221	227	238	243	244	249	240	244	279
Calf meal 16-18% protein	262	239	232	242	251	250	259	251	255	294
Milk replacer	1,674	1,660	1,669	1,829	1,830	1,829	1,821	1,820	1,816	1,961
Poultry										
Layer mash	260	266	276	283	288	289	301	296	298	326
Chick mash	298	285	292	314	319	329	342	330	338	385
Broiler finisher	311	305	304	318	324	328	343	332	335	373
Broiler starter	333	325	326	343	349	348	360	349	348	385
Fertilizers										
Straight										
Calcium ammonium nitrate 27.5% N	139	143	164	193	188	191	201	218	227	234
Urea 46% N	193	189	201	241	235	240	261	288	310	314
Muriate of potash 50% K	209	209	217	225	222	232	231	230	247	256
Granular superphosphate 16% P	252	261	268	272	268	268	275	278	286	292
Compound										
0-10-20	170	187	192	204	201	206	208	214	226	238
0-7-30	170	186	192	204	201	206	208	213	225	235
10-10-20	213	216	223	249	244	249	253	269	283	288
14-7-14	199	200	207	237	236	239	246	259	276	282
18-6-12	197	198	205	236	231	236	240	255	271	274
24-2.5-10	195	198	206	238	233	238	241	258	274	278
27-2.5-5	191	193	203	235	229	234	238	254	272	276

¹ Including VAT, rounded to nearest euro

Table 6 Selected output prices at livestock martsaverage euro per head¹

Category	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Bullocks										
200-249 kg	386	307	448	456	469	473	484	424	413	423
250-299 kg	422	359	497	503	517	516	555	484	472	470
300-349 kg	469	409	544	534	557	558	614	537	527	535
350-399 kg	510	468	599	580	596	610	661	583	583	599
400-449 kg	556	527	650	632	640	663	713	625	648	652
450-499 kg	609	591	696	681	694	714	752	682	716	714
500-549 kg	667	645	738	724	748	761	804	746	785	780
550+ kg	755	726	824	779	807	817	870	844	900	885
Heifers										
200-249 kg	271	218	301	292	317	325	375	376	362	393
250-299 kg	331	284	363	350	377	382	443	440	431	453
300-349 kg	390	332	426	410	436	443	501	492	497	514
350-399 kg	443	409	491	475	494	506	559	547	563	578
400-449 kg	501	476	554	537	553	567	617	602	636	644
Sheep										
30-39 kg	49	44	48	69	60	59	58	54	54	57
40-49 kg	64	58	64	89	77	77	77	72	73	77
50-59 kg	68	65	73	102	89	85	85	79	82	86

¹ Including VAT, rounded to nearest euro

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 input 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.
- The agricultural terms of trade index is the output price index expressed as a percentage of the input price index.
- Price coverage** The index prices used are before deduction of levies and exclusion of value added tax. Standardised prices are used for milk and cereals 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 are based on the harvest price at 20% moisture 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 2007 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

%

Oct - Dec 2007 / Oct - Dec 2006

Country	Total Outputs	Cattle	Cereals	Pigs	Total Inputs	Energy	Fertilizers	Feeding Stuffs
European Union 27¹	15.8	1.3	63.6	-6.2	13.6	10.8	18.7	25.7
Austria	13.7	2.5	86.8	-5.1	14.2	15.8	8.0	57.3
Belgium	6.4	3.7	48.6	-11.6	11.1	26.0	58.0	5.1
Bulgaria	31.8	-3.4	95.6	-7.2	13.5	6.8	19.5	35.1
Cyprus	-3.5	4.5	0.9	-10.4	19.6	15.2	22.8	27.4
Czech Republic	26.1	-2.9	69.9	-8.3	13.1	9.2	4.8	30.9
Denmark	5.7	-9.9	76.0	-11.7	19.9	6.8	17.9	38.0
Estonia	19.1	1.7	62.3	2.2	15.1	8.1	7.6	27.8
Finland	7.3	4.4	54.6	6.9	10.2	13.3	12.0	21.3
France	17.7	2.5	57.3	-5.8	9.9	11.6	16.1	22.3
Germany	18.1	2.6	65.7	-5.8	15.4	5.9	14.0	44.4
Greece	13.8	-1.2	65.9	1.3	16.0	15.5	6.8	24.8
Hungary	34.6	-9.7	89.9	-10.9	22.3	7.5	14.2	50.2
Ireland	17.5	-2.5	67.6	-6.0	11.8	12.8	4.3	20.8
Italy	11.2	1.6	45.2	-2.2	14.9	13.8	23.1	18.3
Latvia	27.8	-6.7	70.7	2.3	22.4	15.5	22.3	71.1
Lithuania	20.4	7.5	53.2	10.9	19.7	15.0	19.7	25.4
Luxembourg	18.9	1.2	63.6	-7.6	14.8	17.9	22.0	31.7
Malta	8.4	-11.7	..	-5.0	13.5	4.4	-0.8	24.6
Netherlands	4.2	27.7	54.4	-6.5	12.4	3.3	17.0	33.6
Poland	15.2	-4.2	53.7	-2.6	11.4	8.7	10.4	21.7
Portugal	3.2	-7.9	32.6	-11.6	10.2	14.6	20.2	22.7
Romania	28.2	-10.8	105.1	-10.3
Slovakia	10.6	-2.5	51.8	-13.4	10.0	5.5	3.7	24.5
Slovenia	11.0	3.3	66.3	-4.8	22.0	13.2	33.1	44.7
Spain	15.7	-5.6	44.7	-9.0	14.7	12.9	21.3	..
Sweden	16.7	-2.3	65.7	6.2	15.1	4.7	27.5	36.0
United Kingdom	24.6	-0.7	82.3	0.7	15.0	16.8	30.5	27.1

.. Data not available

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

Source: New Cronos database, Eurostat