



PRESS/ Mar. 2017 Date/ 21. May.2017 The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

35% the Average increase in Agricultural Producers' Prices during March 2017 compared with March 2016

The Data issued by the Department of Statistics indicates an increase in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for Mar 2017 by 35.2% compared with Mar 2016. (The Price Index reached 135.2 in Mar 2017 compared with 100.0 for Mar 2016). The most significant crops that contributed to this increase were potatoes 24.7%, cucumber 16.8%, almond 75.3%, strawberries 41.6%, tomatoes 300.6%, broad beans 54.9%, sweet green pepper 25.3%, squash 54.0%, eggplants 49.4%, cauliflower 40.7%, carrot 13.4%, hot pepper 66.5%, string beans 55.8%, grape leaves 38.6%, chick-pea 32.3% and lettuce 0.9% (the total of their relative importance constituted 75.6% of the total indicator value).

Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of onion, orange, banana, lemon, jew's mallow, spinach by 21.2%, 12.8, 1.5%, 17.7%, 31.3 and 28.0% respectively (the total of their relative importance constituted 24.4 of the total indicator value).

The report also shows that the Price Index has increased by 1.7% in Mar 2017 as compared with Feb 2017 (the price index reached 135.2 in Mar 2017 compared with 133.0 in Feb 2017) The most significant crops that contributed to this increase (the total of their relative importance constituted 75.5%) were onion 4.0%, tomatoes 4.6%, banana 0.6%, sweet green pepper 88.5%, lemon 3.4%, cauliflower 56.2%, hot pepper 18.2% and lettuce 8.3, Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of potatoes, cucumber, strawberries, broad beans, orange, squash, eggplants, carrot, string beans, grape leaves, spinach, chick-pea and colored sweet pepper by 5.8%, 33.2%, 5.5%, 44.9%, 0.6%, 39.8%, 16.6%, 2.2%, 14.2%, 41.8%, 37.2%, 32.9% and 1.5% respectively with a relative importance reached 25.5%.

On the accumulative level, the Price Index of Agricultural Producers has increased by 20.1% for the first quarter of 2017 as compared with the same period of 2016, while the accumulative price index reached 120.1 for 2017 compared with 100.0 for the same period of 2016. The most significant crops whose Price Index Average contributed to this increase were tomatoes by 179.9%, squash 68.9%, eggplants 56.7%, hot pepper 45.8%, potatoes 26.5%, string beans 25.1%, cauliflower 22.0%, cucumber 21.6% and sweet green pepper 17.5%, Whose relative importance constituted 91.0%. Meanwhile, there was decrease in the price index of banana, colored sweet pepper by 3.1% and 1.1% respectively with a relative importance of 9.0%.

The figure below shows the trend of the price index of the Agricultural Producers for 2016 and 2017(2016= base year).

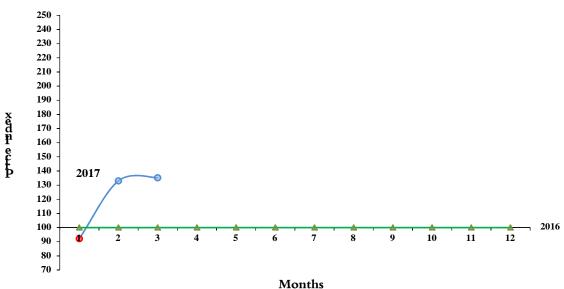


Fig 1: Agricultural Producers Price Index for 2016 & 2017

It is worthy to mention that the Department of Statistics (DOS) had reviewed the methodology of agricultural prices data collection through specialized technical committee from DOS and Ministry of Agriculture upon recommendations of Permanent Agricultural Statistics Expert Committee emergent of National Agricultural Strategy (2002-2010). In order to improve the data quality they relied on the data on agricultural prices for all corps coming from the central markets each month. (2016 is the base year) (100=2016) using (Laspeure) formula to derive the price index.