



### **11.0% the Average Increase in Agricultural Producers' Prices during September 2020 Compared with September 2019**

The monthly report issued by the Department of Statistics indicates an increase in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for September 2020 by 11.0% compared with September 2019. (The Price Index reached 101.7 in September 2020 compared with 91.6 in September 2019). The most significant crops that contributed to this Increase were Cherry Tomatoes by 111.0%, Grapefruit by 92.8%, Bell pepper by 92.3%, colored Bell pepper by 89.3%, Lettuce by 80.7%, Tomatoes by 79.4%, Cauliflower by 65.8%, Hot pepper by 57.0%, Squash by 21.8% and Apples by 21.3% . (The total of their relative importance constituted 73.9% of the total indicator value).

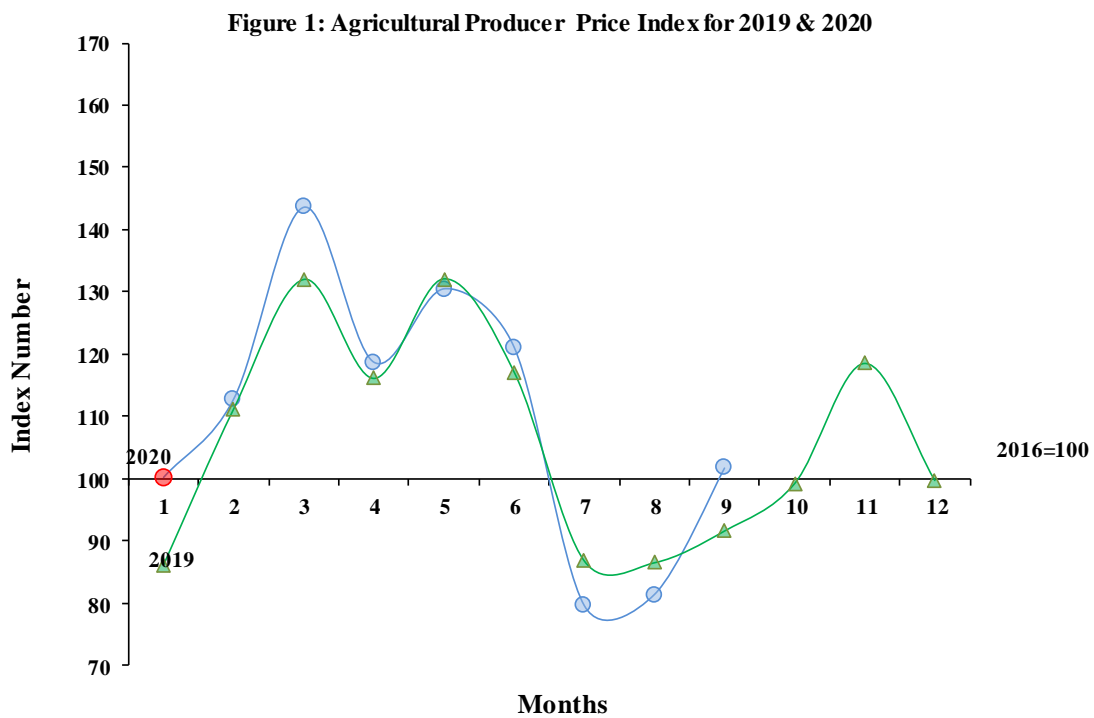
Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of dry onion by 40.2%, Potatoes by 38.5%, Green Beans by 35.6%, String Beans by 33.7%, Okra by 26.8%, Jew's mallow by 23.9% , Spring Onions by 23.1%, Jew's mallow leaves by 21.7%, Red Cabbage by 16.7%, and Mushrooms by 16.1%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 26.1% of the total indicator value.)

The report also shows that the Price Index has increased by 24.9% in September 2020 as compared with August 2020 (the price index reached 101.7 in September 2020 compared with 81.4 in August 2020). The most significant crops that contributed to this Increase (the total of their relative importance constituted 51.6%) were Red Cabbage by 99.5%, Lettuce by 74.7%, Cucumber by 70.8%, Cauliflower by 47.8%, Colored Bell Pepper by 37.9%, Grapefruits by 37.4%, Jew's mallow by 29.7%, Green Cabbage by 24.9%, Dry Onion by 23.3% and Cherry Tomatoes by 22.7%. Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of Thyme by 19.2%, Spinach by 15.2%, Apples by 13.7%, Grapes by 12.4%, Jew's Mallow leaves by 9.5%, Mushrooms by 8.4%, potatoes by 8.2%, Guava by 1.1%, Okra by 0.5% and pomegranates by 0.5% with a relative importance reached 48.4%.

On the accumulative level the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index indicates an increase for the first nine months of 2020 by 3.1% compared with the same period of 2019. The accumulative price number reached 109.9 in 2020 compared with 106.6 for the same period of 2019. The most significant crops that contributed to this average increase were squash by 18.8%, bananas by 16.5%, String Beans by 16.2%, Cucumber by 8.8%, cauliflower by 7.0%, Tomatoes by 6.5% and Eggplants by 0.1%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 64.9%).

Meanwhile there was a decrease in the price index of potatoes by 27.8%, hot pepper by 11.1%, colored Bell pepper 7.9% and green Bell pepper by 5.5% with a relative importance of 35.1%.

**The figure below shows the trend of the price index of the Agricultural Producers for 2019 and 2020 and 2020**



It is worthy to mention that the Department of Statistics (DOS) had reviewed the Methodology of agricultural prices data collection through a specialized technical committee from DOS and the Ministry of Agriculture upon recommendations of the *Permanent Agricultural Statistics Expert Committee* emanated from the *National Agricultural Strategy*. In order to improve the data quality, we rely on the data on agricultural prices for all crops coming from the central markets each month, (2016 is the base year, 100 = 2016) using (Laspeure) formula to derive the price index.