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المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

22.7% is the Average decrease in Agricultural Producers' Prices during March 2021 Compared with March 2020

The monthly report issued by the Department of Statistics indicates a decrease in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for March 2021 by 22.7% compared with March 2020. (The Price Index reached 111.3 in March 2021 compared with 144.1 in March 2020). The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease were tomatoes by 83.9%, green lettuce by 57.2%, green bell pepper by 52.6%, eggplants by 50.7%, cauliflower by 50.6%, string beans by 42.2%, dry onion by 40.9%, hot pepper by 39.2%, squash by 35.5% and peas by 30.0%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 68.8% of the total indicator value).

Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of green garlic by 40.0%, bananas by 26.4%, Mushrooms by 26.0%, red cabbage by 24.0%, green corn by 16.2%, lemon by 13.4%, green almond by 4.0%, colored bell pepper by 3.2%, cucumber by 2.8% and cantaloupe by 2.7%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 31.2% of the total indicator value).

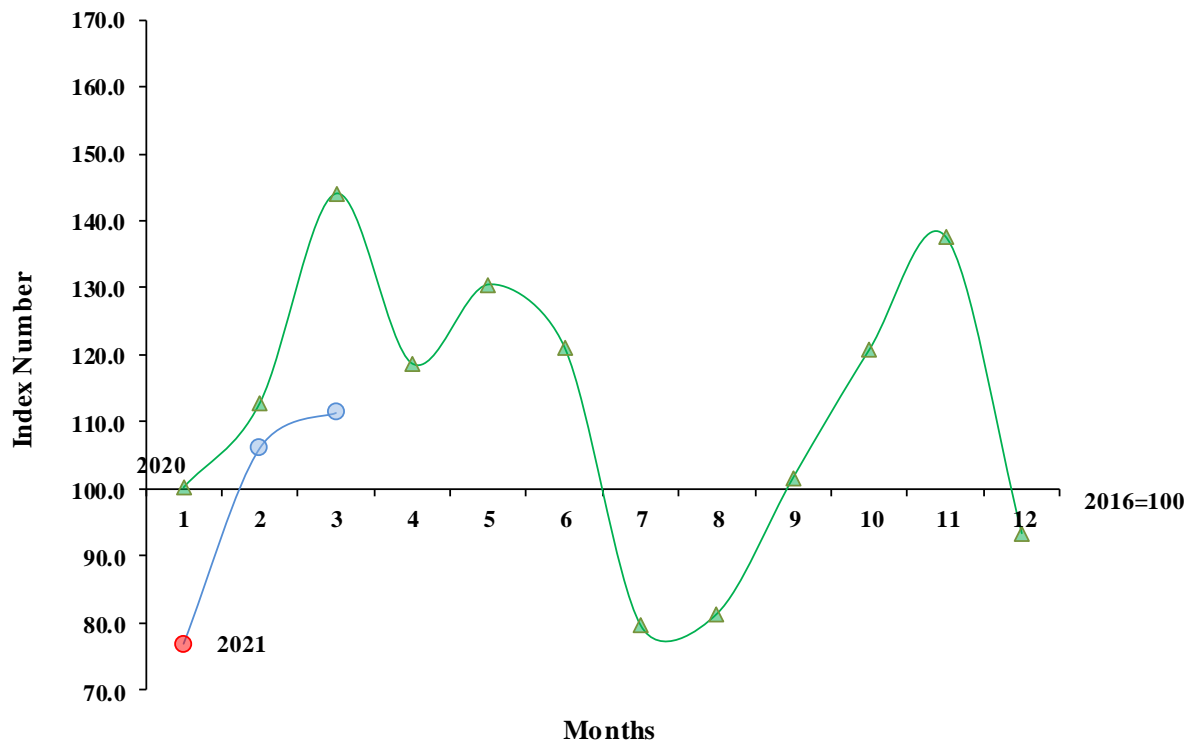
The report also shows that the price index has increased by 4.9% in March 2021 compared with February 2021, reaching 111.3 in March 2021 compared with 106.1 in February 2021. The most significant crops that contributed to this increase (the total of their relative importance constituted 41.1%) were Armenian cucumber by 74.2%, green corn by 55.8%, tomatoes by 34.2%, green cabbage by 32.5%, lemon by 28.0%, cucumber by 27.3%, green lettuce by 14.4%, eggplants by 13.7%, bell pepper by 10.8% and hot pepper by 10.0%. Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of peas by 42.9%,

green beans by 27.8%, grape leaves by 27.7%, dry onion by 22.3%, strawberries by 20.3%, green onion by 16.6 %, squash by 11.2%, cherry tomatoes by 6.3%, potatoes by 6.2% and carrots by 3.3%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 58.9% of the total indicator value).

On the accumulative level the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index indicates a decrease by 17.6% for the first quarter of 2021 compared with the same period of 2020. The accumulative index number has reached 98.1 in 2021 compared with 119.0 for the same period of 2020. The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease were tomatoes by 82.4%, cauliflower by 45.7%, eggplants by 43.7%, string beans by 37.4%, green bell pepper by 35.4%, squash by 28.6%, cucumber by 24.6%, hot pepper by 20.2%, colored bell pepper by 11.8% and potatoes by 5.6% with a relative importance reached 93.5%. Meanwhile, there was an increase in the index number of bananas by 21.5% with a relative importance reached 6.5%.

The figure below shows the trend of the price index of the Agricultural Producers for 2020 and 2021.

Figure 1: Price Index Number of the agricultural producers for 2020 and 2021



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* emanating 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.