



10.4% the Average Decrease in Agricultural Producers' Prices during May 2021 Compared with May 2020

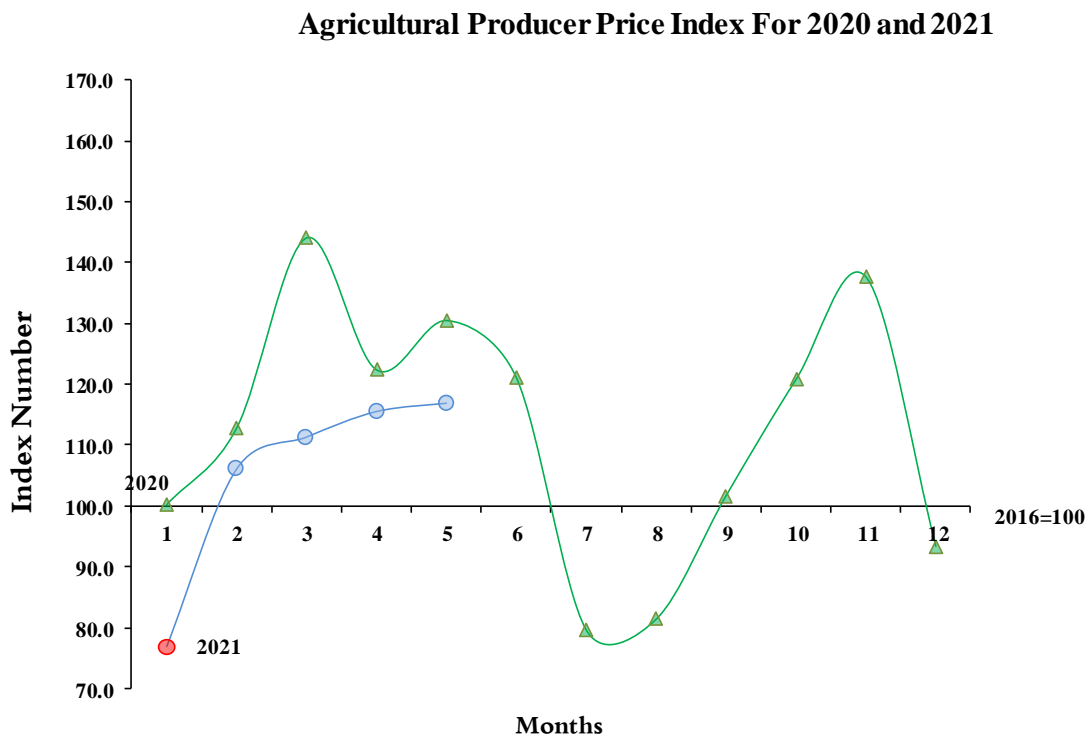
The monthly report issued by the Department of Statistics indicates a decrease in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for May 2021 by 10.4% compared with May 2020. (The Price Index reached 116.9 in May 2021 compared with 130.5 in May 2020). The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease were Tomatoes by 55.5%, Jews mallow by 39.2%, Green Onions by 39.1%, Colored Bell Pepper by 33.9%, Cherry Tomatoes by 26.3%, Maize by 23.7%, Cauliflower by 23.6%, Water Melon by 21.5%, Green Cabbage by 18.6% and Squash by 18.0%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 64.8% of the total indicator value).

Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of Lettuce by 278.9%, Dry Garlic by 62.1%, Green Garlic by 48.3%, Sweet Pepper by 22.9%, Hot Pepper by 20.6%, Eggplants by 20.3%, Grapes by 19.9%, Chick peas by 19.5%, Loquat by 11.7% and Green String Beans by 11.1%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 35.2 % of the total indicator value).

The report also shows that the Price Index has increased by 1.2% in May 2021 as compared with April 2021 (the price index reached 116.9 in May 2021 compared with 115.5 in April 2021). The most significant crops that contributed to this increase (the total of their relative importance constituted 10.7%) were Dry Garlic by 156.0%, Spinach by 52.4%, Dates by 42.8%, Cauliflower by 37.0%, Bananas by 15.5%, Green Garlic by 13.6%, Red Cabbages by 9.5%, Chinese Lettuce by 8.1%, Green String Beans by 6.3% and Strawberries by 0.6%. Meanwhile there was a decrease in the price index of Jews mallow by 59.4%, Jews mallow Leaves by 50.6%, Hot Pepper by 47.3%, Water Melon by 46.2%, Green Cabbages by 42.3%, Melon by 38.9%, Sweet Pepper by 38.2%, Snake Cucumber by 38.1%, Chick peas by 37.7% and Colored Bell Pepper by 37.5%. (The total of their relative importance constituted 89.3%).

On the accumulative level the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index indicates a decrease for the first five months of 2021 by 13.7% compared with the same period of 2020. The accumulative price number reached 105.3 in 2021 compared with 122.0 for the same period of 2020. The most significant crops that contributed to this average decrease were Tomatoes by 75.2 %, Cauliflower by 41.8%, Eggplants by 34.3%, String Beans by 27.8%, Squash by 22.5%, Sweet Pepper by 19.1%, Colored Bell Pepper by 18.0%, Cucumber by 16.0% and Potatoes by 0.5%. (the total of their relative importance constituted 90.1). Meanwhile there was an increase in the price index of Bananas by 7.5% and Hot Pepper by 0.9 % with a relative importance by 9.9%.

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