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المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

13.1% the Average Decrease in Agricultural Producers' Prices during Mar 2018 Compared with March 2017

The data issued by the Department of Statistics indicates a decrease in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for Mar 2018 by 13.1% compared with Mar 2017. (The Price Index reached 117.5 in Mar 2018 compared with 135.3 in Mar 2017). The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease were potato (28.7%), tomatoes (61.4%), green almond (29.5%), broad beans (27.1%), green sweet pepper (24.8%), eggplants (27.0%), cauliflower (27.3%), lettuce (60.2%), grapes leaves (32.2%) and carrot (25.9%). (the total of their relative importance constituted 64.5% of the total indicator value).

Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of onion, strawberry, cucumber, lemon, fennel, spinach, hot pepper, squash, parsley and cabbage by (90.9%), (20.7%), (13.3%), (36.1%), (120.0%), (71.1%), (31.3%), (15.8%), (88.8%) and (47.0%) respectively (the total of their relative importance constituted 35.5% of the total indicator value).

The report also shows that the Price Index has increased by 12.7% in Mar 2018 as compared with Feb 2018 (the price index reached 117.5 in Mar 2018 compared with 104.2 in Feb 2018). The most significant crops that contributed to this increase (the total of their relative importance constituted 38.4%) were tomatoes (142.3%), hot pepper (213.2%), cauliflower (119.2%), lemon (84.0%), green sweet pepper (33.9%), spinach (64.2%), onion (13.3%), fennel (72.0%) and eggplants (19.7%). Meanwhile, there was a decrease in the price index of green almond, potato, strawberries, broad beans, grape leaves, humous, cucumber, orange, carrot and humous grain by (60.9%), (12.1%),

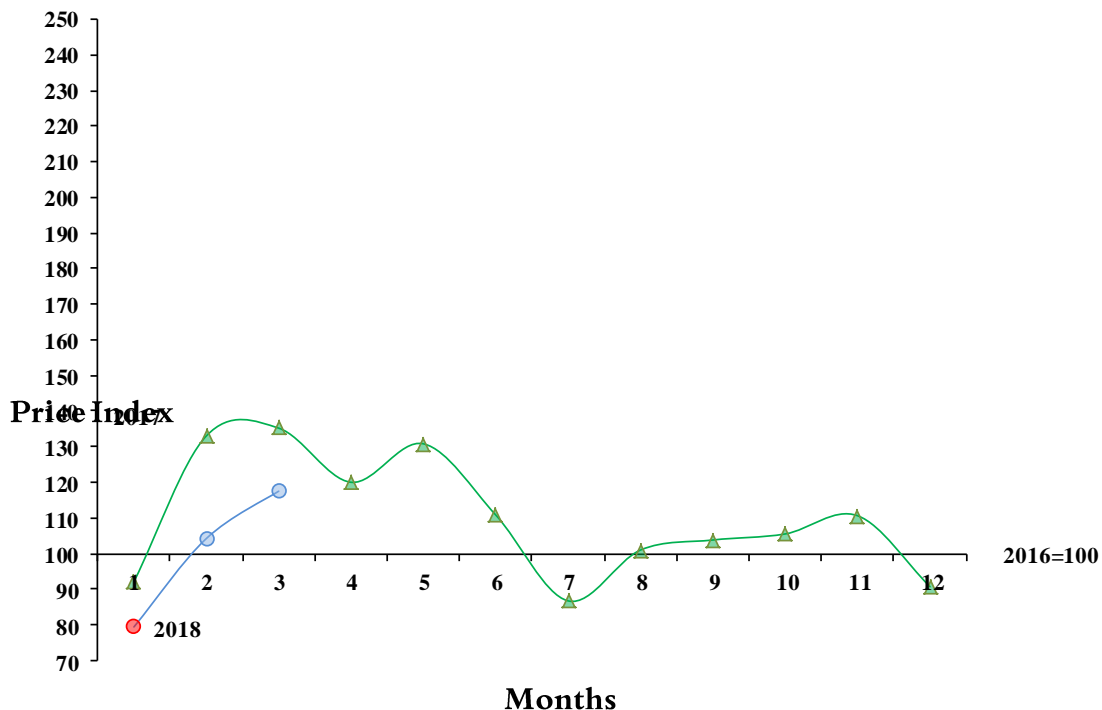
(25.0%), (35.8%), (62.8%), (48.7%), (6.9%), (9.6%), (13.9%) and (16.4%) respectively with a relative importance of 61.6%.

Meanwhile the crops which their prices haven't any change were (mandarin orange and papaya) with very little relative importance.

On the accumulative level, the Price Index of Agricultural Producers has decreased by 16.5% for the first quarter of 2018 as compared with the same period of 2017 (the accumulative price index reached 100.4% for 2018 compared with 120.1 for the same period of 2017). The most significant crops whose Price Index Average contributed to this decrease were tomato by (69.4%), cauliflower (42.8%), eggplants (40.5%), string beans (30.0%), potato (21.6%), squash (18.4%), hot pepper (14.2%) and green sweet pepper (11.1%), whose relative importance constituted 75.6%. Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of colored sweet pepper, banana and cucumber, by (4.9%), (2.8%) and (2.5%) with a relative importance of 24.4%.

The figure below shows the trend of the price index of the Agricultural Producers for 2017 and 2018.

Fig 1: Agricultural producer's Price Index for 2017 & 2018



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 (2002-2010)*. In order to improve the data quality, we rely 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.