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The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

## **16.8% the Average decrease in Agricultural Producers' Prices during August 2018 Compared with August 2017**

The data issued by the Department of Statistics indicates a decrease in the Average Agricultural Producers' Price Index for August 2018 by 16.8% compared with August 2017. (The Price Index reached 84.0 in August 2018 compared with 101.0 in August 2017). The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease were tomatoes (61.2%), cucumbers (29.5%), grapes (23.5%), okra (31.1%), watermelon (53.6%), string beans (51.7%), figs (51.6%), dates (33.1%), paprika (48.7%) and eggplants (22.8%).

( the total of their relative importance constituted 74.0% of the total indicator value).

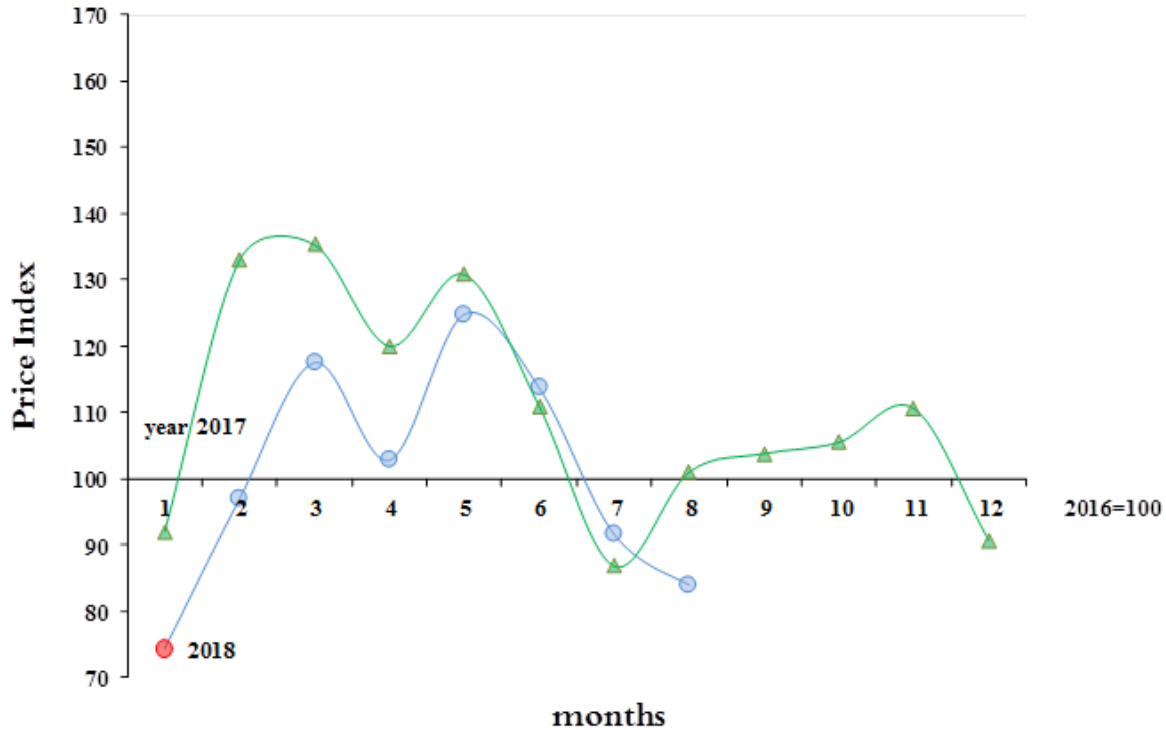
Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of onions, potato, plum, parsley, jewsmallow , Apples , colored sweet pepper ,peppermint ,wheat and pear by 59.0%, 16.0%, 38.1%, 102.3%, 25.4%, 6.6%, 25.9%, 77.5%, 3.5% and 8.6% respectively (the total of their relative importance constituted 25.7% of the total indicator value ) .

The report also shows that the Price Index has decreased by 8.3% in August 2018 as compared with July 2018 (the price index reached 84.0 in August 2018 compared with 91.6 in July 2018). The most significant crops that contributed to this decrease (the total of their relative importance constituted 62.7%) were tomatoes 64.1%, guava 18.7%, dates 33.6%, water melon 45.1%, grapes 5.8% , cantaloupe 37.6%, string beans 23.7%, peach 4.3%, pomegranate 17.5% and green cabbage 33.5%, Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of potato, squash, onions, Chinese lettuce, cucumber, apples, green lettuce, hot pepper, paprika and plum by (28.3%), (31.0%), ( 27.0%), (79.3%), (8.3%), (9.8%), (30.5%), (29.8%), (14.7%) and (8.9%) respectively with a relative importance reached 37.3%.

On the accumulative level, the Price Index of Agricultural Producers has decreased by 11.4% for the first eight months of 2018 as compared with the same period of 2017 (the accumulative price index reached 100.7% for 2018 compared with 113.7 for the same period of 2017). The most significant crops whose Price Index Average contributed to this decrease were tomato by (50.9%), paprika (18.3%), eggplants (15.6%), potatoes (14.7%), hot pepper (9.1%) and beans (8.0%), whose their relative importance constituted 65.7%. Meanwhile, there was an increase in the price index of colored sweet pepper, cucumber, squash, cauliflower and banana by 23.7% ,21.1%, 14.4%, 11.6% and 1.7% respectively with a relative importance of 34.3%.

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

fig 1:Agricultural Producer 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.

