

National Statistics: Latest agricultural price indices

Updated: Updated to include August 2018 figures, statistic notice and dataset.

The Agricultural Price Index (API) is a monthly publication that measures the price changes in agricultural outputs and inputs for the UK. The output series reflects the price farmers receive for their products, also referred to as farm gate price. Information is collected for all major crops (for example wheat and potatoes) and on livestock and livestock products (for example sheep, milk and eggs). The input series reflects the price farmers pay for goods and services. This is split into two groups: goods and services currently consumed; and goods and services contributing to investment. Goods and services currently consumed refer to items that are used up in the production process, for example fertiliser, or seed. Goods and services contributing to investment relate to items that are required but not consumed in the production process, such as tractors or buildings.

A price index is a way of measuring relative price changes compared to a reference point or base year which is given a value of 100. The year used as the base year needs to be updated over time to reflect changing market trends. In accordance with the standardised methodology agreed across the EU the latest data are now presented with a base year of 2015=100. This replaces the previous data series which used a base year of 2010. Details of this methodology is described in the [Handbook for EU agricultural price statistics](#).

Next update: see the [statistics release calendar](#)

Defra statistics: prices

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You can also contact us via Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DefraStats>

[Statutory guidance: SR2010 No 14: 500t](#)

composting biodegradable waste

Updated: Added to 'details' section: You can apply online for most standard rules environmental permits.

Standard rules guidance to operate a composting activity involving the storage, physical treatment and composting of specified biodegradable wastes in an open or closed (in-vessel) composting system.

You can apply online for most standard rules environmental permits.

[Apply for a standard rules environmental permit.](#)

Statutory guidance: SR2011 No 1 500t: composting biodegradable waste (in open and closed systems)

Updated: Added to 'details' section: You can apply online for most standard rules environmental permits.

Standard rules guidance to operate a composting activity involving the storage, physical treatment and composting of specified biodegradable wastes in either an open or a closed (in-vessel) composting system.

You can apply online for most standard rules environmental permits.

[Apply for a standard rules environmental permit.](#)

Official Statistics: Rural economic bulletin

Updated: Published today, revised version to correct some rural redundancy rates due to an error in original ONS figures.

The indicators currently used are:

- claimant count
- economic activity
- redundancies
- house prices
- business insolvencies

Additional information:

- [older versions of the rural economic bulletins](#)
- [Defra commissioned research on the rural economy](#)

Defra statistics: rural

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[Collection: ACRE: advisory reports on requests to release genetically modified organisms](#)

Updated: Added the advice on a trial of GM *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (18/R51/01).

All requests to release GMOs into the environment, like GM crop trials or clinical tests of GM vaccines, are referred by government to ACRE.

ACRE assesses each request against the possible risks to human health or the environment. If more information is needed to review the application then ACRE will request this from the applicant directly.

Finally ACRE publishes a report that sets out a summary of its findings in each case. This recommends government either approves or denies the request, and may also contain conditions or monitoring measures that ACRE thinks should be included.

The most recent advisory reports from ACRE are: