

# AGRICULTURAL PRICE TRENDS IN THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES IN 1999

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## Statistics in focus

### AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

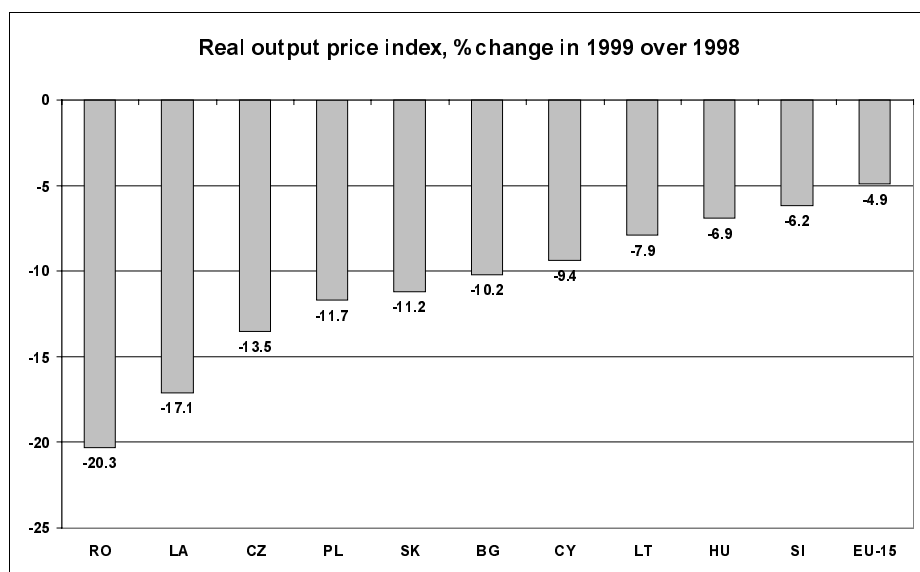
THEME 5 – 5/2001

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The annual index of the producer prices of agricultural products declined in real (i.e. deflated) terms in 1999 compared to 1998, for those Candidate Countries for which data were available to Eurostat. Agricultural output prices in the European Union decreased (-4.9%) and steeper price falls were seen in all Candidate Countries for which data were available, especially in Bulgaria (-10.2%), Slovak Republic (-11.2%), Poland (-11.7%), Czech Republic (-13.5%), Latvia (-17.1%) and Romania (-20.3%). More moderate but still marked declines in the total output price index were seen in Slovenia (-6.2%), Hungary (-6.9%) and Lithuania (-7.9%).

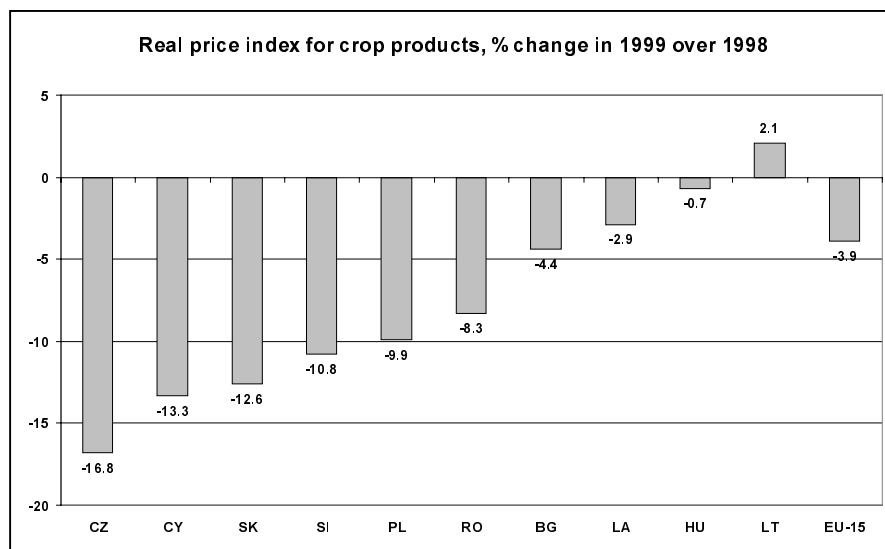
The marked producer price decreases overall in the Candidate Countries were mainly due to steep price falls for animals and animals products and more moderate but still notable price declines for crop products. A similar pattern was seen in the European Union but with smaller price changes.

On the input side, price indices for goods and services for current consumption in agriculture were available in 1999 for four Candidate Countries: price declined in Cyprus (-8.0%) and in the Slovak Republic (-6.7%), but rose in Poland (+2.9%) and Lithuania (+6.3%).



## Crop products

Concerning the producer prices of crop products, the declines in most cases have already been noted (see graph and Table 1). Moderate price declines were seen in Hungary (-0.7%), Latvia (-2.9%) and Bulgaria (-4.4%) but steep falls were observed elsewhere: Romania (-8.3%), Poland (-9.9%), Slovenia (-10.8%), Slovak Republic (-12.6%), Cyprus (-13.3%) and Czech Republic (-16.8%). In contrast, a moderate crop price rise was seen in Lithuania (+2.1%). A price decline for crop products in the European Union was reported (-3.9%).



Concerning selected crop products (see Table 2), price trends both upwards and downwards (but more often downwards) were seen for different products in different countries. Indeed, large changes of opposite sign were often seen for the same products in neighbouring countries. The real price index for cereals and rice declined in Latvia (-2.1%), Poland (-12.8%), the Slovak Republic (-14.5%), the Czech Republic (-20.3%) and Slovenia (-21.3%). However, the price index was almost unchanged

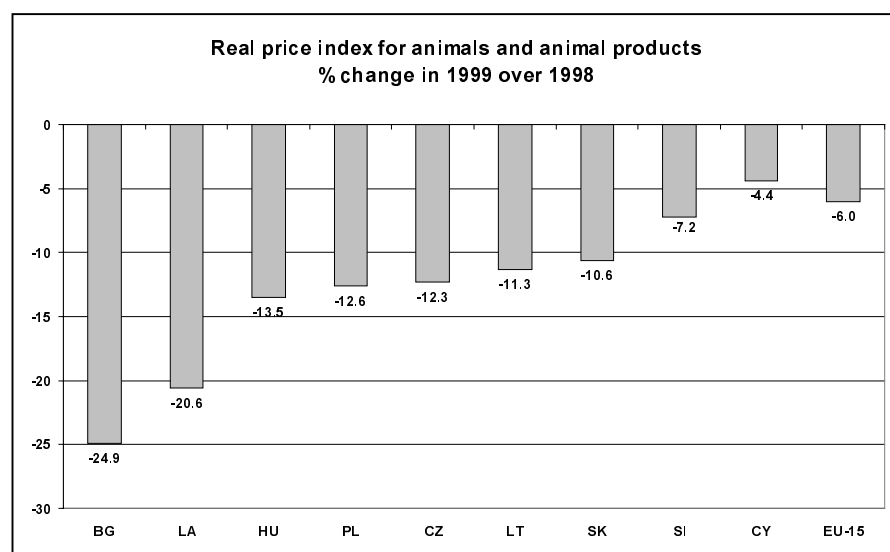
in Cyprus (+0.2%) and rose in Bulgaria (+3.4%), the Hungary (+8.7%) and Lithuania (+16.6%). In the European Union, the real price index for cereals and rice declined moderately (-3.5%).

For potatoes for consumption, there were very steep price falls in Hungary (-10.8%), Bulgaria (-20.6%), Cyprus (-22.2%), the Czech Republic (-24.5%), Romania (-27.8%) and Lithuania (-37.6%). In contrast, prices rose in the Slovak Republic (+3.1%) and strongly so in

Latvia (+10.4%), and Poland (+14.1%). The real price index for potatoes declined moderately in the European Union (-0.8%).

Concerning fresh vegetables, price declines were seen in most cases, notably Slovenia (-0.9%), Poland (-2.9%) the Czech Republic (-6.0%), Hungary (-9.0%), Romania (-12.4%), the Slovak Republic (-17.2%) and Lithuania (-21.6%). In the European Union, the real price index for fresh vegetables declined moderately (-4.3%).

## Animals and animal products



The real price index for animals and animal products declined steeply in all the Candidate Countries where data were available (see graph and Table 1): Cyprus (-4.4%), Slovenia (-7.2%), the Slovak Republic (-10.6%), Lithuania (-11.3%), the Czech Republic (-12.3%), Poland (-12.6%), Hungary (-13.5%), Latvia (-20.6%) and Bulgaria (-24.9%). A decline of smaller magnitude was seen in the European Union (-6.0%).

Concerning selected animals and animal products (see Table 3) price declines usually severe were seen for cattle excluding calves, milk and pigs in the Candidate Countries. For cattle excluding calves in the

European Union, a price decrease was seen (-3.8%). Amongst Candidate Countries, such cattle prices also fell: Poland (-2.6%), the Slovak Republic (-7.3%), Hungary (-14.2%), Lithuania (-14.6%), Bulgaria (-26.0%), Latvia (-29.5%) and Romania (-39.2%).

The price of milk declined

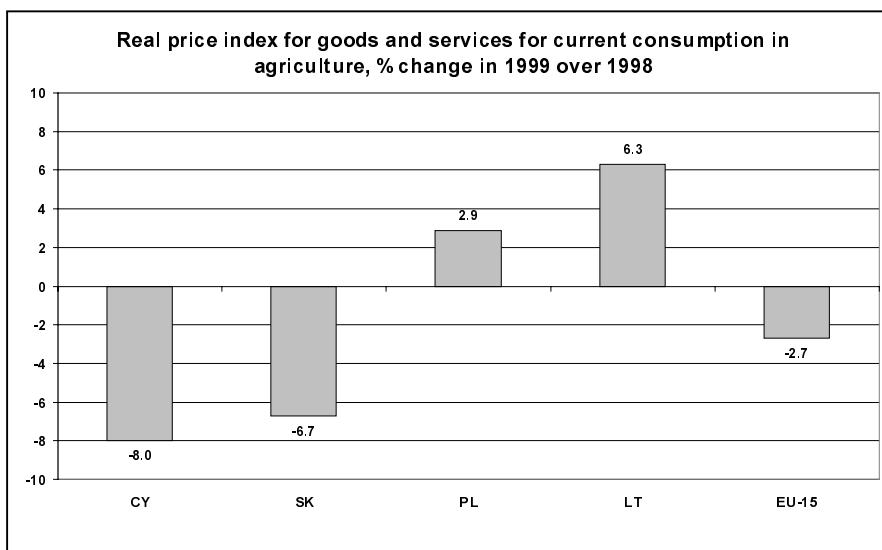
moderately in Hungary (-2.5%) and Latvia (-3.8%), but steeply in Poland (-6.6%), Lithuania (-9.0%), the Slovak Republic (-9.3%), the Czech Republic (-10.1%), Romania (-14.6%) and Bulgaria (-24.7%). However, the milk price in Cyprus rose notably (+6.6%). In the European Union, the milk price declined (-4.9%).

A steep price decline for pigs was seen in the European Union (-9.4%), but even steeper in the Candidate Countries: the Slovak Republic (-11.1%), Poland (-18.2%), the Czech Republic (-22.2%), Lithuania (-22.4%), Cyprus (-22.8%), Hungary (-23.5%), Latvia (-29.5%), Bulgaria (-32.1%) and Romania (-39.3%).

## Means of production

Fewer data were available for input prices than for output prices. Concerning the real price index for goods and services for current consumption in agriculture (see graph and Table 4), the price decrease in Cyprus and the Slovak Republic and the increases in Poland and Lithuania have already been noted. In the European Union, a moderate price decrease was observed (-2.7%).

Concerning the prices of selected inputs, steep price declines were observed for animal feedingstuffs in all countries for which data were available: Slovenia (-6.0%), Poland (-6.8%), the Slovak Republic (-12.9%), the Czech Republic (-15.5%) and Cyprus (-18.6%). A notable price decrease was also seen in the European Union (-6.9%). For fertilizers and soil improvers price falls were also seen in most countries: Poland (-1.9%), The



Czech Republic (-3.1%), Slovenia (-5.4%), Hungary (-5.6%), the Slovak Republic (-6.5%) and Lithuania (-8.6%). A comparable price decline was also observed in the European Union (-5.2%). However, a slight price increase was seen in Cyprus (+0.7%).

In contrast to the other current inputs, price rises were usually observed for energy and lubricants: Hungary (+0.9%), Cyprus (+2.3%), Slovenia (+6.5%) and Poland (+7.6%). The Slovak Republic was an exception and a small price decline was seen (-0.5%).

## ➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

**Type of index:** The price indices received from the different Candidate Countries are usually Laspeyres type indices with various base years or chain indices (Bulgaria: Paasche type index). To enable comparisons to be made, Eurostat has re-referenced all the indices to 1995=100. However, because of the methodological differences, the indices from different countries are not fully comparable.

**Deflation:** The rate of inflation can be quite different from one country to another. Thus, to improve comparability, Eurostat has deflated each agricultural price index using the consumer price index for the country in question. The terms “deflated” and “real” are used synonymously in this report.

**Table 1**  
**Real index of producer prices of agricultural products**

1995=100	Deflated index					Annual rate of change %			
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	96/95	97/96	98/97	99/98
<b>Total</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	121.7	105.1	89.3	80.3	21.7	-13.6	-15.0	-10.2
Cyprus	100.0	95.9	100.1	99.4	90.1	-4.1	4.3	-0.7	-9.4
Czech Republic	100.0	99.6	94.5	87.3	75.5	-0.4	-5.1	-7.6	-13.5
Hungary	100.0	108.2	100.0	90.0	83.8	8.2	-7.6	-9.9	-6.9
Latvia	100.0	95.9	84.3	75.3	62.4	-4.1	-12.2	-10.6	-17.1
Lithuania	100.0	96.2	83.4	74.2	68.3	-3.8	-13.3	-11.0	-7.9
Poland	100.0	101.8	97.3	85.7	75.6	1.8	-4.4	-12.0	-11.7
Romania	100.0	99.8	92.0	80.2	63.9	-0.2	-7.8	-12.8	-20.3
Slovak Republic	100.0	99.6	99.2	92.7	82.3	-0.4	-0.5	-6.5	-11.2
Slovenia	100.0	102.3	102.5	95.3	89.4	2.3	0.2	-7.0	-6.2
European Union	100.0	97.4	93.9	89.9	85.4	-2.6	-3.5	-4.3	-4.9
<b>Crop Products</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	150.3	122.1	100.4	96.0	50.3	-18.7	-17.8	-4.4
Cyprus	100.0	94.8	104.0	100.0	87.5	-5.2	9.8	-3.0	-13.3
Czech Republic	100.0	107.3	102.1	87.3	72.7	7.3	-4.8	-14.5	-16.8
Hungary	100.0	117.3	99.1	83.8	83.1	17.3	-15.5	-15.5	-0.7
Latvia	100.0	121.0	95.4	78.5	76.2	21.0	-21.2	-17.7	-2.9
Lithuania	100.0	105.3	82.7	64.2	65.5	5.3	-21.5	-22.4	2.1
Poland	100.0	110.4	96.3	86.9	78.3	10.4	-12.8	-9.7	-9.9
Romania	100.0	97.9	91.3	67.4	61.8	-2.1	-6.8	-26.2	-8.3
Slovak Republic	100.0	103.9	104.0	91.5	80.0	3.9	0.2	-12.1	-12.6
Slovenia	100.0	110.0	101.2	90.8	80.9	10.0	-8.0	-10.3	-10.8
European Union	100.0	96.2	91.3	91.3	87.8	-3.7	-5.2	0.1	-3.9
<b>Animals and animal products</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	82.4	90.8	82.9	62.3	-17.6	10.1	-8.7	-24.9
Cyprus	100.0	97.7	96.0	97.6	93.3	-2.3	-1.7	1.7	-4.4
Czech Republic	100.0	96.6	91.4	87.3	76.6	-3.4	-5.3	-4.5	-12.3
Hungary	100.0	96.9	101.1	97.9	84.7	-3.1	4.3	-3.1	-13.5
Latvia	100.0	90.1	81.7	74.6	59.2	-9.9	-9.3	-8.7	-20.6
Lithuania	100.0	93.3	83.8	78.2	69.3	-6.7	-10.2	-6.7	-11.3
Poland	100.0	96.9	97.3	84.6	73.9	-3.1	0.3	-13.1	-12.6
Romania									
Slovak Republic	100.0	96.5	96.3	93.3	83.3	-3.5	-0.2	-3.2	-10.6
Slovenia	100.0	99.4	100.5	97.0	90.1	-0.6	1.1	-3.4	-7.2
European Union	100.0	98.6	96.6	88.5	83.2	-1.5	-1.9	-8.4	-6.0

**Table 2**  
**Real index of producer prices of certain crop products**

1995=100	Deflated index					Annual rate of change %			
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	96/95	97/96	98/97	99/98
<b>Cereals and rice</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	197.1	160.5	88.4	91.4	97.1	-18.6	-44.9	3.4
Cyprus	100.0	97.9	94.7	97.1	97.3	-2.1	-3.3	2.6	0.2
Czech Republic	100.0	125.2	130.8	104.8	83.5	25.2	4.5	-19.9	-20.3
Hungary	100.0	153.8	107.8	75.4	82.0	53.8	-29.9	-30.0	8.7
Latvia	100.0	127.2	100.8	75.2	73.6	27.2	-20.8	-25.4	-2.1
Lithuania	100.0	114.6	87.7	56.9	66.3	14.6	-23.5	-35.1	16.6
Poland	100.0	133.4	105.4	85.7	74.8	33.4	-21.0	-18.7	-12.8
Romania									
Slovak Republic	100.0	110.0	113.2	99.2	84.8	10.0	2.9	-12.4	-14.5
Slovenia	100.0	116.9	102.5	92.4	72.7	16.9	-12.4	-9.8	-21.3
European Union	100.0	95.5	84.6	76.7	74.0	-4.6	-11.4	-9.3	-3.5
<b>Potatoes for consumption</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	102.6	127.0	142.2	112.8	2.6	23.8	11.9	-20.6
Cyprus	100.0	71.7	104.5	97.5	75.8	-28.3	45.8	-6.7	-22.2
Czech Republic	100.0	59.3	31.8	47.6	35.9	-40.7	-46.3	49.5	-24.5
Hungary	100.0	55.5	45.3	67.1	59.8	-44.5	-18.3	47.9	-10.8
Latvia	100.0	67.7	42.6	43.3	47.8	-32.3	-37.1	1.6	10.4
Lithuania	100.0	37.2	38.5	61.1	38.1	-62.8	3.3	58.8	-37.6
Poland	100.0	62.3	65.2	55.3	63.0	-37.7	4.7	-15.3	14.1
Romania	100.0	82.0	47.6	55.9	40.4	-18.0	-42.0	17.5	-27.8
Slovak Republic	100.0	53.0	46.6	52.8	54.4	-47.0	-12.1	13.3	3.1
Slovenia									
European Union	100.0	53.1	47.7	69.3	69.9	-46.9	-10.2	45.3	0.8
<b>Fresh vegetables</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	131.0	161.3	67.4	72.8	31.0	23.1	-58.2	8.1
Cyprus	100.0	102.5	111.9	109.7		2.5	9.1	-1.9	
Czech Republic	100.0	77.7	80.5	75.3	70.8	-22.3	3.7	-6.5	-6.0
Hungary	100.0	106.6	109.2	96.5	87.9	6.6	2.4	-11.6	-9.0
Latvia	100.0	130.4	118.5	110.7	111.3	30.4	-9.2	-6.6	0.6
Lithuania	100.0	89.9	93.3	141.7	111.1	-10.1	3.8	52.0	-21.6
Poland	100.0	106.8	105.0	89.4	86.8	6.8	-1.7	-14.8	-2.9
Romania	100.0	105.6	118.5	72.3	63.3	5.6	12.2	-39.0	-12.4
Slovak Republic	100.0	97.6	104.0	103.5	85.7	-2.4	6.6	-0.5	-17.2
Slovenia	100.0	88.4	79.9	114.7	113.6	-11.6	-9.6	43.6	-0.9
European Union	100.0	100.6	101.7	102.0	97.6	0.5	1.1	0.3	-4.3

**Table 3**

**Real index of producer prices of certain animals and animal products**

1995=100	Deflated index					Annual rate of change %			
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	96/95	97/96	98/97	99/98
<b>Cattle excluding calves</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	62.1	85.6	69.5	51.5	-37.9	38.0	-18.8	-26.0
Cyprus									
Czech Republic									
Hungary	100.0	83.7	75.3	84.0	72.1	-16.3	-10.3	11.5	-14.2
Latvia	100.0	91.2	82.4	99.1	69.9	-8.8	-9.6	20.3	-29.5
Lithuania	100.0	95.0	82.4	82.4	70.4	-5.0	-13.3	0.0	-14.6
Poland	100.0	94.5	79.9	70.0	68.2	-5.5	-15.4	-12.4	-2.6
Romania	100.0	96.6	79.1	112.1	68.2	-3.4	-18.1	41.7	-39.2
Slovak Republic	100.0	92.1	87.6	85.2	79.0	-7.9	-4.9	-2.7	-7.3
Slovenia									
European Union	100.0	85.1	84.4	84.1	80.9	-14.9	-0.8	-0.3	-3.8
<b>Milk</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	78.0	79.4	85.6	64.5	-22.0	1.9	7.8	-24.7
Cyprus	100.0	100.8	98.1	101.5	108.2	0.8	-2.6	3.5	6.6
Czech Republic	100.0	97.7	93.4	82.5	83.2	-2.4	-4.3	-1.0	-10.1
Hungary	100.0	100.3	107.5	116.9	113.9	0.3	7.2	8.7	-2.5
Latvia	100.0	98.9	91.1	68.3	65.7	-1.0	-8.0	-25.0	-3.8
Lithuania	100.0	91.1	81.1	78.2	71.1	-8.9	-11.0	-3.5	-9.0
Poland	100.0	96.4	95.9	88.7	82.8	-3.6	-0.5	-7.5	-6.6
Romania	100.0	119.2	93.2	85.4	73.0	19.2	-21.8	-8.3	-14.6
Slovak Republic	100.0	94.1	96.2	95.1	86.3	-5.9	2.2	-1.2	-9.3
Slovenia									
European Union	100.0	97.5	94.2	92.8	88.3	-2.6	-3.4	-1.4	-4.9
<b>Pigs</b>									
Bulgaria	100.0	75.1	119.3	86.5	58.8	-24.9	58.9	-27.5	-32.1
Cyprus	100.0	99.6	98.5	100.6	77.6	-0.4	-1.1	2.2	-22.8
Czech Republic	100.0	92.3	82.1	84.0	65.4	-7.7	-11.1	2.2	-22.2
Hungary	100.0	82.3	89.9	82.4	63.0	-17.8	9.3	-8.4	-23.5
Latvia	100.0	91.2	82.4	99.1	69.9	-8.8	-9.6	20.3	-29.5
Lithuania	100.0	95.8	94.1	77.4	60.1	-4.2	-1.8	-17.7	-22.4
Poland	100.0	97.2	106.6	87.0	71.2	-2.8	9.7	-18.4	-18.2
Romania	100.0	98.8	86.7	79.4	48.2	-1.2	-12.2	-8.4	-39.3
Slovak Republic	100.0	96.6	97.8	94.2	83.7	-3.4	1.3	-3.7	-11.1
Slovenia									
European Union	100.0	108.3	108.1	76.9	69.7	8.4	-0.3	-28.8	-9.4

**Table 4**  
**Real index of purchase prices of the means of agricultural production**

1995=100	Deflated index					Annual rate of change %			
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	96/95	97/96	98/97	99/98
<b>Intermediate consumption</b>									
Cyprus	100.0	101.8	105.4	100.1	92.1	1.7	3.6	-5.1	-8.0
Czech Republic									
Estonia	100.0	30.6	41.9	55.9		-69.4	37.0	33.5	
Hungary									
Lithuania	100.0	101.7	94.9	84.8	90.1	1.7	-6.7	-10.7	6.3
Poland	100.0	99.3	99.6	99.1	101.9	-0.7	0.3	-0.5	2.9
Slovak Republic	100.0	98.6	105.0	101.6	94.8	-1.4	6.5	-3.3	-6.7
Slovenia									
European Union	100.0	101.5	100.1	95.2	92.6	1.6	-1.5	-4.9	-2.7
<b>Animal feedingstuffs</b>									
Cyprus	100.0	103.5	106.9	99.9	81.3	3.5	3.3	-6.6	-18.6
Czech Republic	100.0	105.8	118.5	106.5	90.0	5.8	12.0	-10.2	-15.5
Estonia	100.0	38.1	39.1	47.8		-61.9	2.7	22.2	
Hungary									
Lithuania									
Poland	100.0	109.6	105.7	96.5	89.9	9.6	-3.6	-8.6	-6.8
Slovak Republic	100.0	96.3	118.4	103.6	90.2	-3.7	22.9	-12.5	-12.9
Slovenia	100.0	124.5	124.6	109.6	103.0	24.5	0.1	-12.0	-6.0
European Union	100.0	102.9	100.7	92.0	85.6	2.8	-2.1	-8.7	-6.9
<b>Fertilizers and soil improvers</b>									
Cyprus	100.0	100.2	103.2	99.6	100.3	0.2	3.0	-3.5	0.7
Czech Republic	100.0	101.7	103.9	96.4	93.4	1.7	2.1	-7.2	-3.1
Estonia	100.0	22.6	43.2	46.6		-77.4	91.2	7.8	
Hungary	100.0	110.5	101.8	92.2	87.1	10.5	-7.8	-9.5	-5.6
Lithuania	100.0	103.6	87.0	64.5	58.9	3.6	-16.1	-25.9	-8.6
Poland	100.0	93.9	90.4	87.0	85.3	-6.1	-3.8	-3.8	-1.9
Slovak Republic	100.0	95.8	97.0	94.5	88.3	-4.3	1.3	-2.6	-6.5
Slovenia	100.0	98.5	90.0	83.9	79.4	-1.5	-8.6	-6.8	-5.4
European Union	100.0	102.0	96.2	91.2	86.5	2.0	-5.6	-5.3	-5.2
<b>Energy and lubricants</b>									
Cyprus	100.0	99.4	105.6	100.4	102.8	-0.6	6.2	-4.9	2.3
Czech Republic									
Estonia	100.0	19.4	46.7	62.1		-80.6	140.4	33.0	
Hungary	100.0	108.3	110.7	110.7	111.7	8.3	2.2	0.0	0.9
Lithuania									
Poland	100.0	98.7	100.7	99.7	107.3	-1.3	2.0	-1.0	7.6
Slovak Republic	100.0	95.2	97.1	97.7	97.2	-4.8	2.0	0.6	-0.5
Slovenia	100.0	98.5	106.7	114.7	122.2	-1.5	8.3	7.5	6.5
European Union	100.0	104.7	105.5	97.7	101.4	4.8	0.7	-7.3	3.7

# Further information:

## ➤ Databases

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