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Prices received and paid by Mississippi farmers and index of seasonal variation in farm prices, 1910-1955

Thomas E. Tramel

D. W. Parvin

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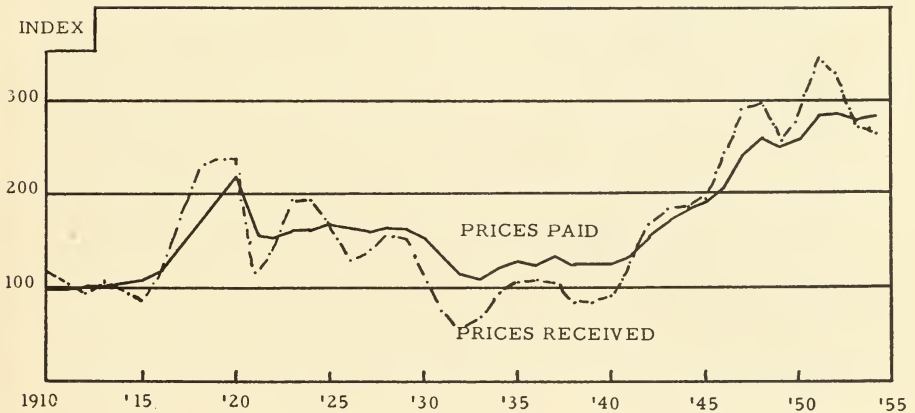
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Prices Received and Paid By Mississippi Farmers and Index of Seasonal Variation In Farm Prices 1910-1955



INDEX OF PRICES PAID BY FARMERS AND INDEX PRICES RECEIVED BY MISSISSIPPI FARMERS, 1910-54. (1910-14 = 100)

Both prices paid by farmers and prices received by Mississippi farmers have fluctuated widely during the period 1910-54. However, prices received by Mississippi farmers have been subject to the wider fluctuations. In periods of low prices, prices received by Mississippi farmers have fallen more than prices paid. In periods of high prices the reverse has been true.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The primary purpose of this publication is to serve as a ready reference for price information. Monthly prices will be published in a later bulletin by the Mississippi Experiment Station in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. Vocational agricultural teachers and others desiring to keep their file of price information up to date can do so by consulting the article entitled "Mississippi Farm Price and Outlook Situation" in each monthly issue of the "Mississippi Farm Research."

Mr. James F. Abel and Mr. J. E. Betts, students in the Department of Agricultural Economics, did most of the tabulation and computation. Mrs. Lois Ann Smith and Mrs. Mary Lou Moffett prepared the charts.

SUMMARY

During the 1910 - March, 1955 period, prices of farm products produced in Mississippi have been subject to extreme fluctuations. In addition, price relationships between commodities have undergone considerable change.

A comparison of the lowest monthly prices for the entire period with the highest monthly prices for the period showed the following percentage increases: Beef cattle, 1,236; butterfat, 627; calves, 1,045; chickens, 327; corn, 635; cotton, 650; cottonseed, 1,011; eggs, 787; hay, 405; hogs, 717; lambs, 755; milk, 500; milk cows, 1,024; oats, 353; potatoes, 500; sheep, 477; soybeans, 331; sweet potatoes, 1,238; turkeys, 444; and wool, 1,328.

In 1954 a given amount of all farm commodities would have exchanged in the market place for an average of 6 percent less than during the base period 1910-14. However, a given amount of sweet potatoes, milk cows, calves, hogs, lambs, and wool would have exchanged for more than during the 1910-14 period. The purchasing power of cotton was the same as during the base period while that of the other major farm commodities (cottonseed, corn, oats, hay, soybeans, potatoes, milk, butterfat, beef cattle, chickens, eggs, turkeys, and sheep) was less.

Egg prices showed the greatest seasonal variation. The usual change in egg prices from the low month to the high month for the same year was 76 percent. The usual change in sweet potato and potato prices was 46 and 41 percent, respectively. Wool and milk cows showed much less seasonal variation in prices, and increase of 5 and 6 percent, respectively, from the low month to the high month.

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Prices Received and Paid By Mississippi Farmers and Index of Seasonal Variations In Farm Prices, 1910-1955.

By

Thomas E. Tramel and David W. Parvin

During the past 45 years there has been considerable variation in prices received for Mississippi farm commodities, both within years and between years. There is little if anything that the individual farmer can do towards controlling these variations. However, knowledge of variations which have occurred in the past form some basis for planning for the future. In addition, knowledge of the usual price relationships which have existed in the past should be very helpful. Briefly, the purpose of this publication is to provide historical information on prices which will enable farmers to make intelligent decisions regarding what to produce and when to market. Agricultural workers and farmers who wish to keep a current file on Mississippi farm prices may do so by consulting a monthly article published in the "Mississippi Farm Research."

Sources of Data

Monthly prices for Mississippi farm commodities were obtained from three sources: (1) "Prices of Farm Products Received by Producers," U.S.D.A. Statistical Bulletin No. 16, (2) "Crops and Markets," a monthly publication of the U.S.D.A. from 1925 through 1942, and (3) "Agricultural Prices," a monthly publication of the U.S.D.A. since 1942. The index of prices paid by farmers, the index of prices received by farmers, and the parity ratio for farmers of the United States were from the latter source also. Farm income data were taken from "The Farm Income Situation," monthly publication of the U.S.D.A.

Definitions

Price Relative. A price relative is the price of one commodity reduced to a percentage of its price during a designated base period. For example, a price relative of 120 for cotton means that the price of cotton is 20 percent higher at that particular time than it was in the base period. It is difficult to make comparisons of price changes when one commodity is quoted in cents per pound, another in dollars per ton, another in cents per bushel, and another in dollars per hundredweight. Price relatives facilitate a comparison.

Index Number of Farm Prices. An index number of farm prices is the prices of a group of farm commodities reduced to a percentage of their prices during a designated base period. For example, a price index number of 90 means that farm prices as a group are 10 percent lower than they were during the base period. Index numbers of farm prices facilitate the study of the relationship of the prices paid by farmers to the prices received for farm products, and of the relationship of prices of individual farm commodities to the level of prices for all farm products.

Parity Ratio. Parity ratio, or the ratio of prices received to prices paid, expresses the purchasing power of a specified amount of farm commodities as a percentage of what they would purchase during a designated base period. For example, a parity ratio of 110 means that a specified amount of farm products will purchase 10 percent more of the items farmers ordinarily

buy during the period under consideration than it would in the base period. Parity ratio is used as a measure of the well-being of farmers in terms of unit prices. Farmers are said to be in a favorable price position when the parity ratio is above 100 and in an unfavorable price position when the parity ratio is below 100.

Index Number of Purchasing Power.

An index number of purchasing power expresses the purchasing power of one unit of a specified product as a percentage of what it would purchase during a designated base period. For example, an index of purchasing power of 75 for milk means that 100 pounds of milk would buy 25 percent less of the items farmers ordinarily buy at that particular time than it would in the base period. These index numbers facilitate comparison of changes in the relative purchasing power of various farm commodities.

Index Number of Seasonal Variation.

This index number expresses the average price for each month as a percentage of the annual average price. For example, an index of 112 for the price of eggs in January means that the average price of eggs during January for the period under consideration (1946-1954) was 12 percent above the annual average. Likewise an index of 79 for the price of eggs in May means that the average price for that month was 21 percent below the annual average. Index numbers of seasonal variation are used to show the usual or average fluctuations in prices from month to month. They should be taken into consideration in planning production and marketing.

Coefficient of Variation. This measure is used to compare fluctuations away from the average prices for two or more commodities. The commodity having the largest coefficient of variation is subject to larger variations away from the average price for the period than commodities having a

smaller coefficient of variation. Conversely, the price for commodities having a low coefficient of variation is more stable than for commodities having a high coefficient of variation.

Methods of Construction

Price Relatives and Index Numbers.

January 1910 - December 1914 was used as the base period. This period is the base period used by the U.S.D.A. for computing price relatives and index numbers for the United States. Thus, the figures for Mississippi and for the United States are comparable in this respect.

Weights used in the computation of the index of prices received by Mississippi farmers for 1910-1950 were based on the contribution of each commodity to the total farm income of the State during 1945-1949. (See Table 54.) For the period 1951 - March 1955, rice was included in the determination of the index in accordance with its contributions to farm income since 1951. For examples of calculations of price relatives and index numbers of prices received see Table 53.

Parity Ratio. Parity ratios for Mississippi farmers were obtained by dividing the index of prices received by Mississippi farmers by the index of prices paid by farmers and multiplying the resulting figure by 100. The following calculation serves as an example:

Index prices received by Mississippi farmers, 1954 = 265

Index of prices paid by farmers, 1954 = 281

Parity ratio, 1954 = $\frac{265}{281} \times 100 = 94.$

Index Numbers of Purchasing Power.

The index of purchasing power of the different farm commodities was calculated by dividing the price relative for a commodity by the index of prices paid by farmers and multiplying the resulting figure by 100. The following

calculation for cotton for 1954 serves as an example:

Price relative for cotton = 280

Index of prices paid by farmers = 281

Index number of purchasing power

280

of cotton = $\frac{280}{281} \times 100 = 100.$

281

Index Numbers of the Average Seasonal Variation. The procedure for calculating this index is much too long

to be presented here. It is fairly simple, however, and a very good description of the procedure can be found in "Elementary Statistics" by Morris Myer Blair, published by Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1952.

Coefficient of Variation. Calculation of the coefficient of variation is too complicated for presentation in a publication of this type. However, for those who are interested in the procedure see the reference quoted immediately above.

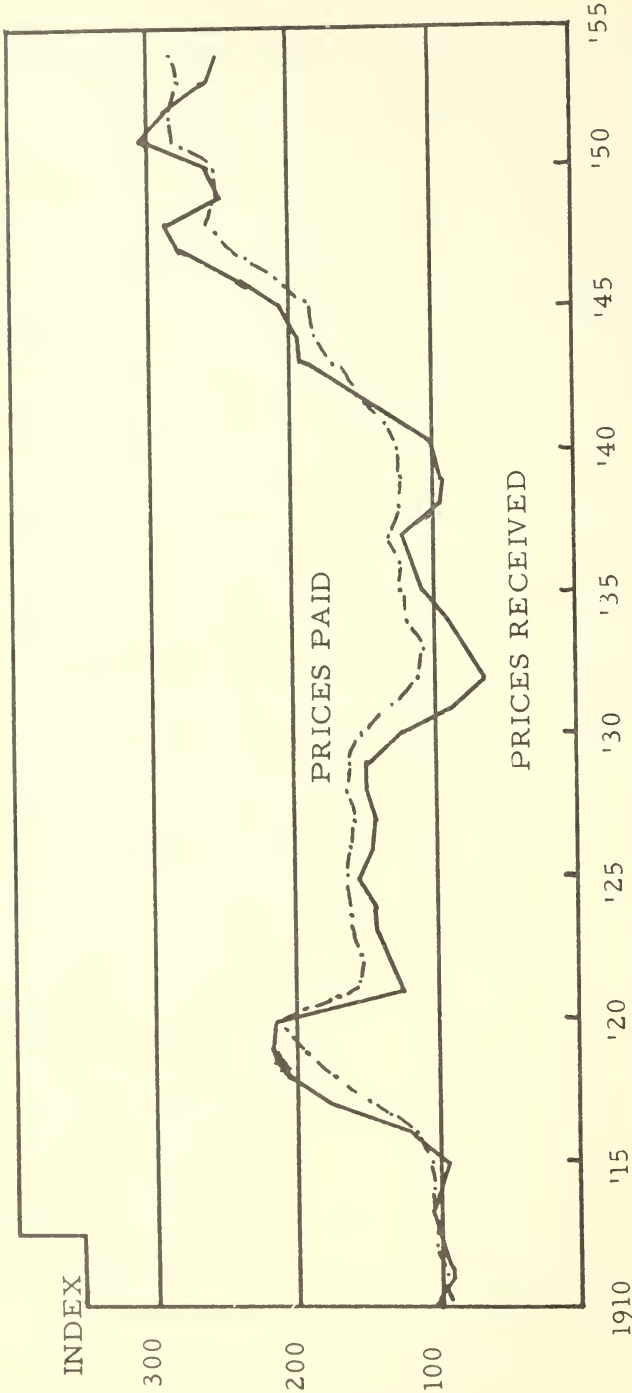


Figure 1. INDEX OF PRICES PAID BY FARMERS AND INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, U. S., 1910-54 (1910-14 = 100)

Prices received by farmers of the nation as a whole have fluctuated more than prices paid. Generally, prices received fell to lower levels in periods when all prices were low but rose to higher levels when all prices rose than did prices paid by farmers.

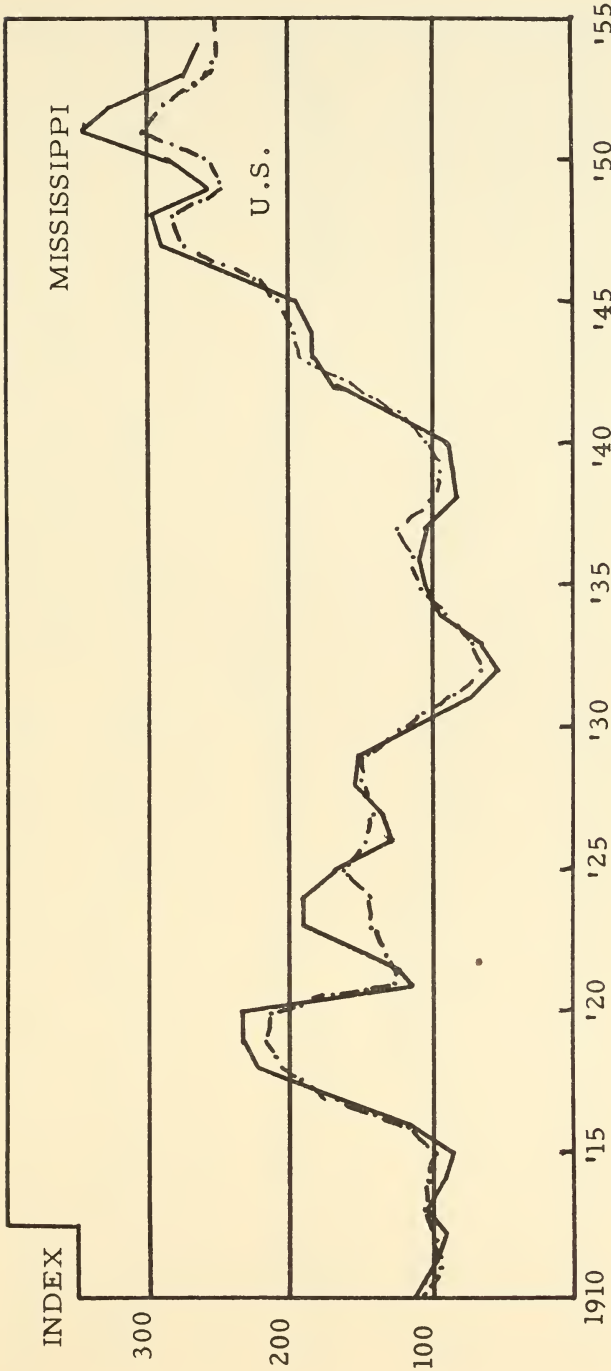


Figure 2. INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, during the period 1910-54 than did prices received by farmers of the nation as a whole. This was brought about primarily by the price of cotton fluctuating more than the average for all commodities produced in the United States.

Prices received by Mississippi farmers fluctuated more

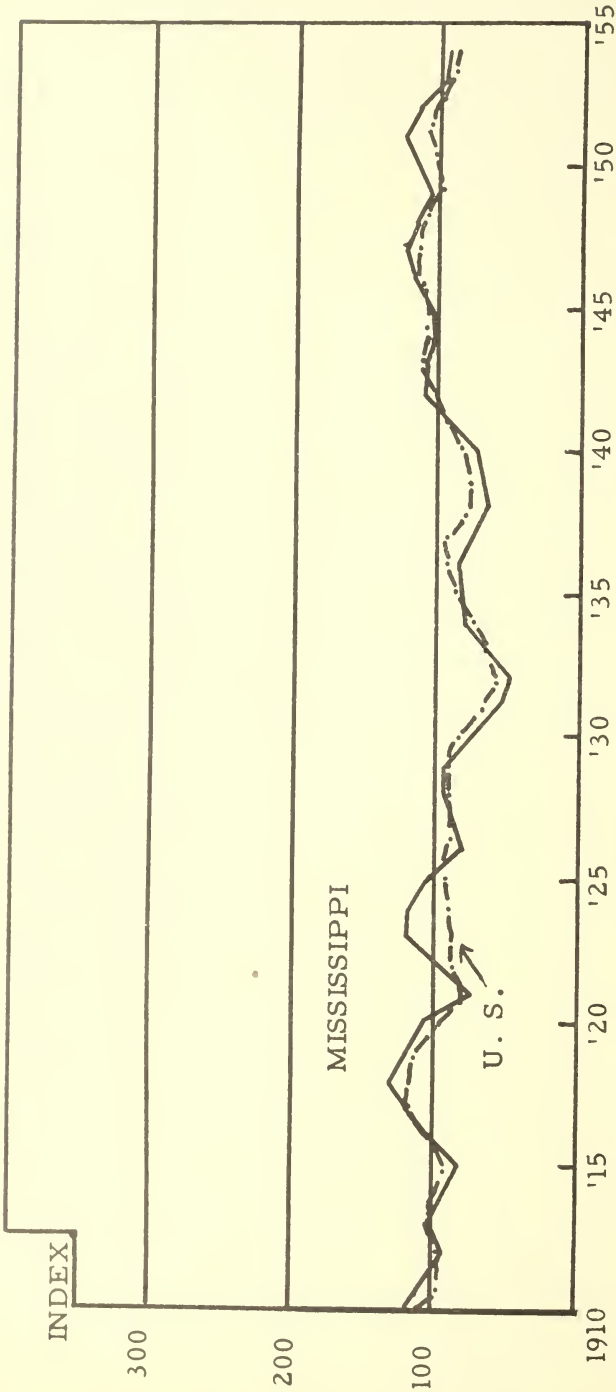


Figure 3. PARITY RATIO, MISSISSIPPI AND U. S., 1910 - 54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

Since prices received by farmers and prices paid by farmers tend to move in the same direction, the parity ratios of high prices, but 1953 and 1954 are exceptions.

have not fluctuated nearly as much as either prices received or prices paid. This ratio generally has been below 100 in periods of low prices and above 100 in periods of high prices, but 1953 and 1954 are exceptions.

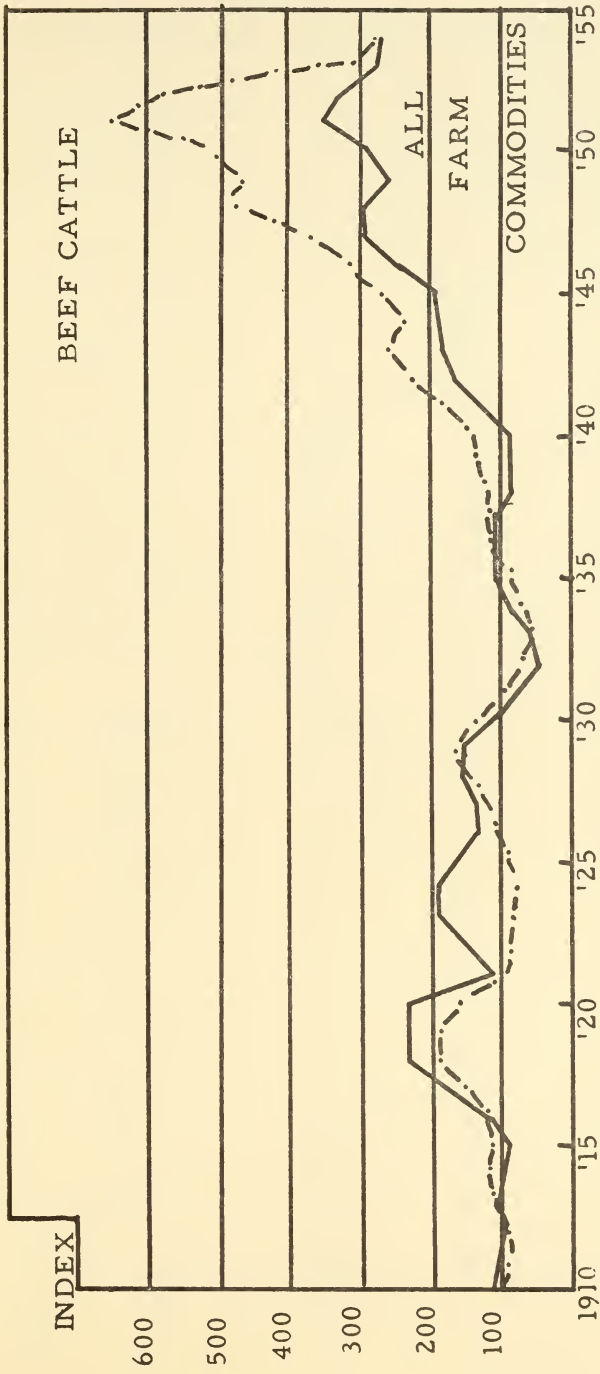


Figure 4. INDEX OF BEEF CATTLE PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910 - 54. (1910-14 = 100)

produced by Mississippi farmers. Up until that time they were more stable. Compared to the base period relationship, beef cattle prices were low until 1928 and high since 1936. During World War II and until 1951, prices of beef cattle increased almost twice as much as the average for all farm commodities. By 1954 the relationship was almost the same as during the base period 1910-14.

Since 1936 beef cattle prices have been subject to much wider fluctuations than the average of all commodities

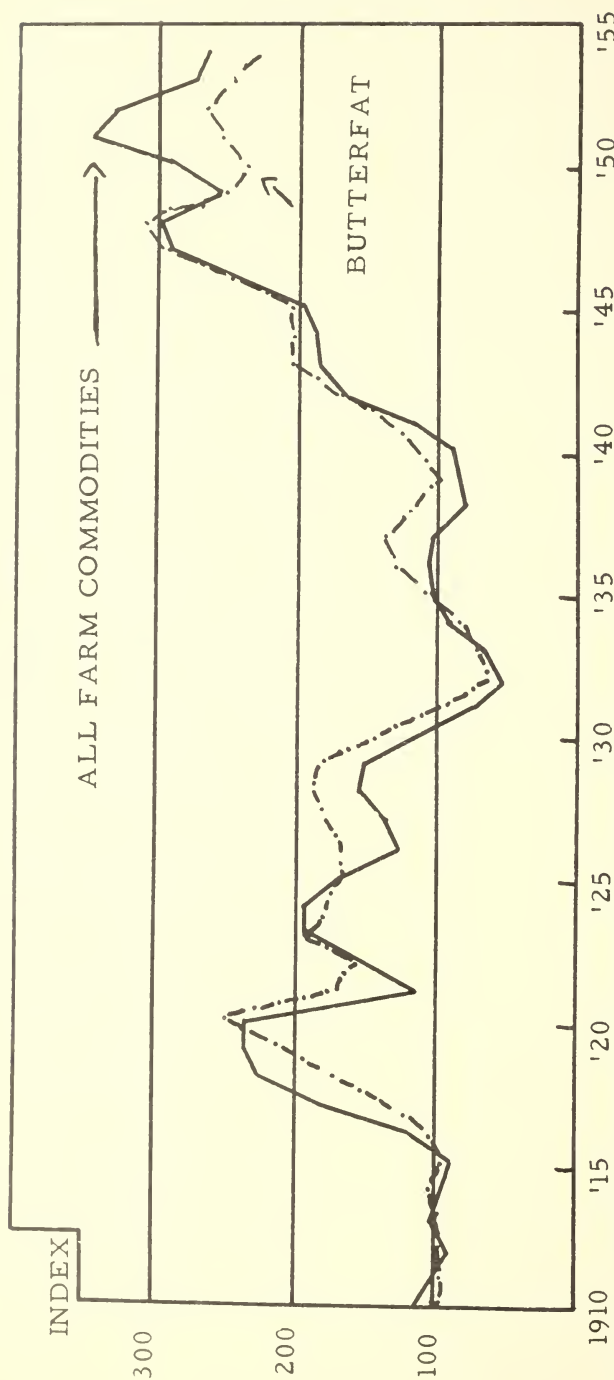


Figure 5. INDEX OF BUTTERFAT PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910 - 54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

Prices received by Mississippi farmers for butterfat compared to prices received for all farm commodities have generally been more favorable during periods of falling prices and periods of relatively low prices than periods of high prices. Since 1949, butterfat prices have been relatively unfavorable. Fluctuations in butterfat prices have been about the same as the average for all farm commodities.

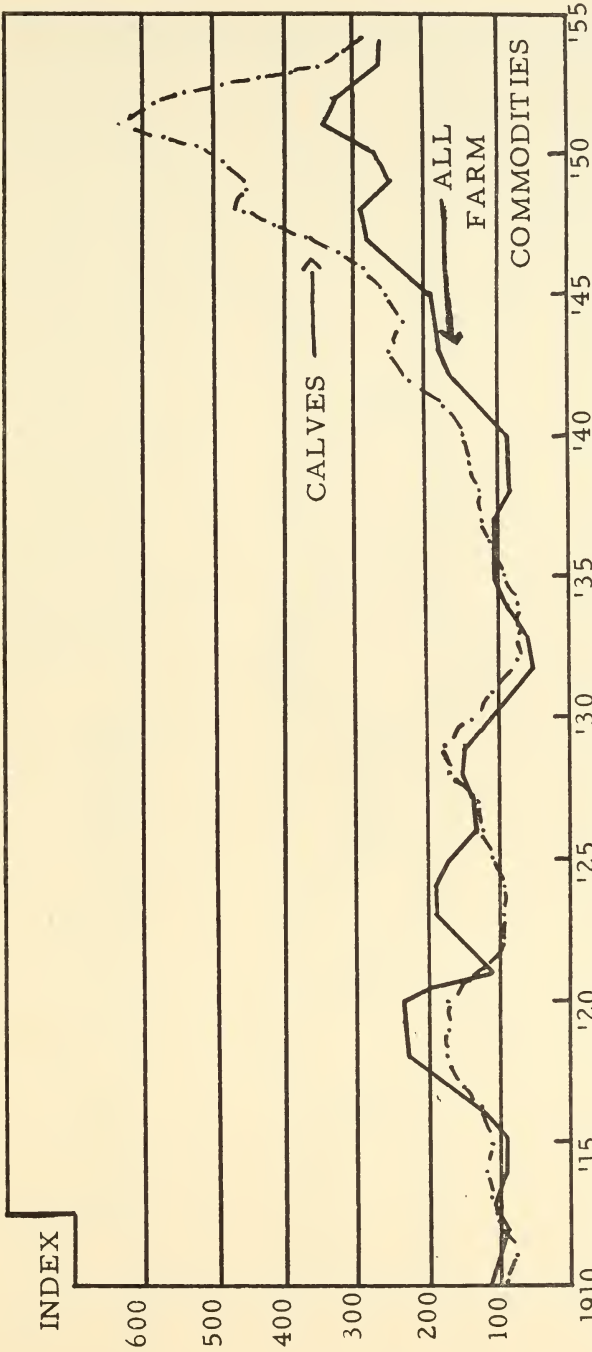


Figure 6. INDEX OF CALF PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

for calves fluctuated less than the average for all commodities. Since 1936 they have fluctuated more. During World War II and until 1951 prices of calves rose almost twice as much as the average for all commodities. By 1954 the relationship was almost the same as during the base period 1910-14.

From 1910 to 1936 prices received by Mississippi farmers

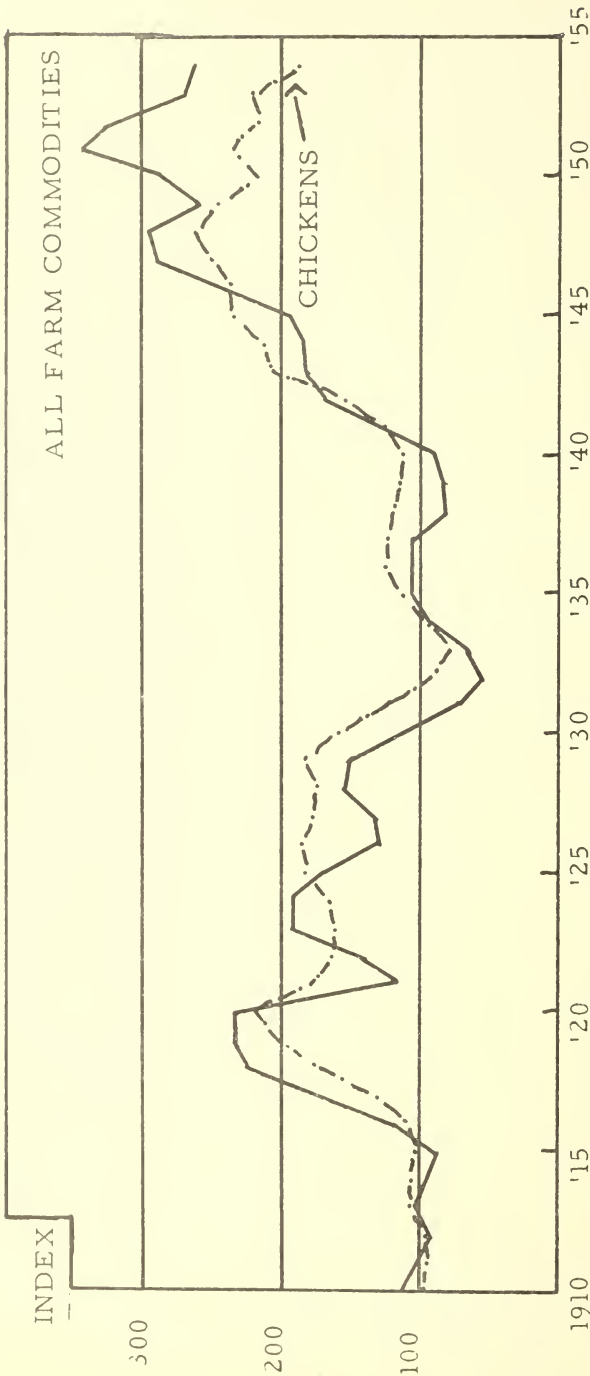


Figure 7. INDEX OF CHICKEN PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910 - 54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

period as prices of all commodities taken together. Generally, when compared to prices of all farm commodities, chicken prices have been more favorable in periods of falling prices and in periods of relatively low prices than in periods of rising prices or periods of relatively high prices.

Chicken prices did not vary as much during the 1910 - 54

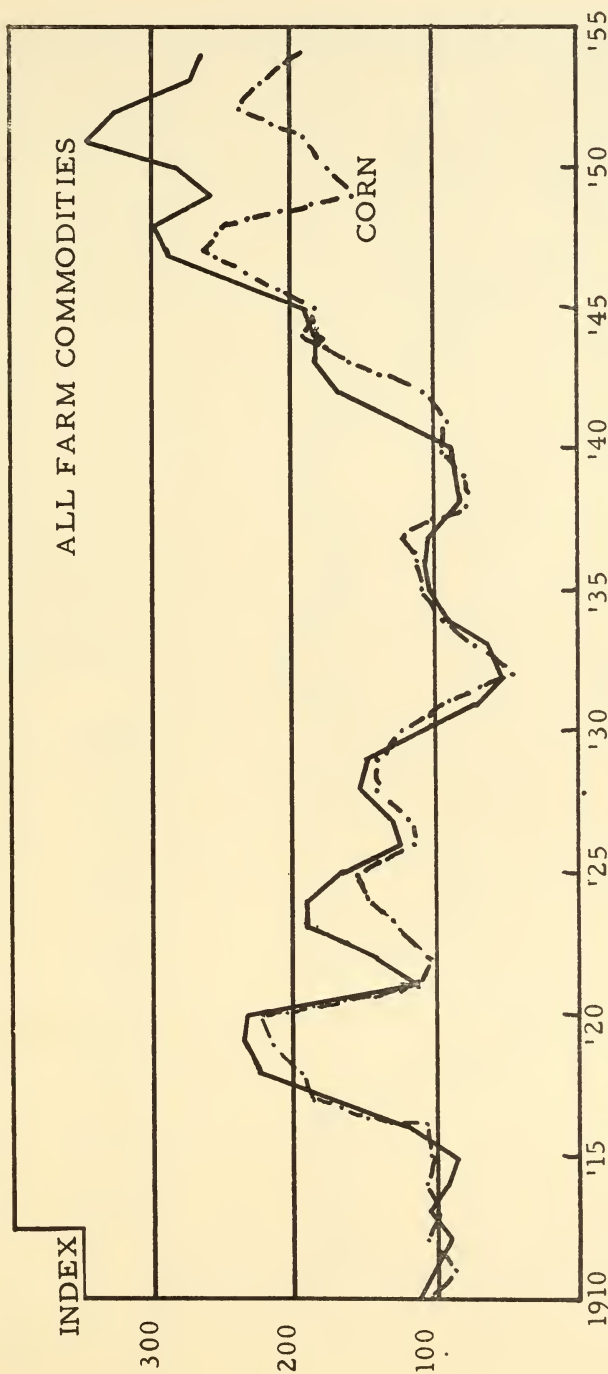


Figure 8. INDEX OF CORN PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

prices of all farm commodities during the 1910-54 period. From 1910 to 1940 corn prices just about kept pace with changes in the index of prices received for all farm commodities. Since 1940, the rise in corn prices has not been as great as the rise in the average prices of all farm commodities.

Corn prices were subject to about the same variability as

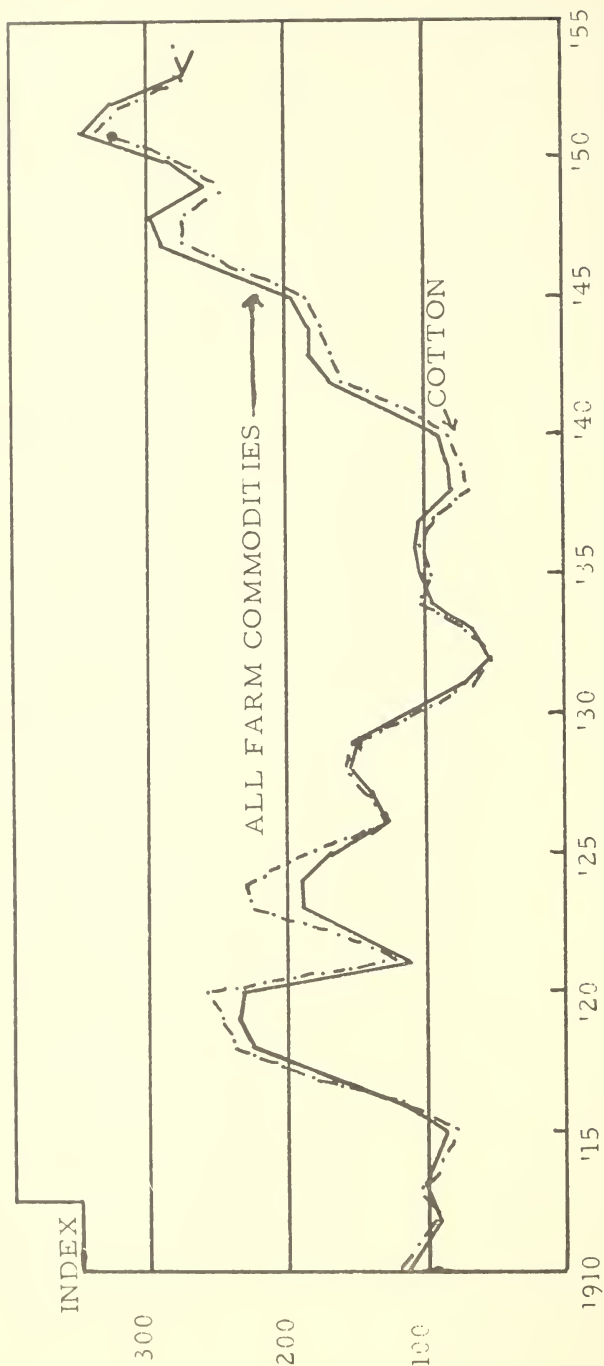


Figure 9. INDEX OF COTTON PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, 1910 - 54. (1910-1914 = 100)

Prices of cotton, the most important farm commodity in Mississippi, have usually moved in the same direction and

to about the same extent as the average for all commodities. Cotton prices are weighted over 6 times as heavily in calculating the average for all commodities as any other single commodity. This helps to explain the closeness of the two indexes over the 1910-54 period. From 1935 to 1953 cotton prices were below their base period relationship to the prices of all Mississippi farm commodities.

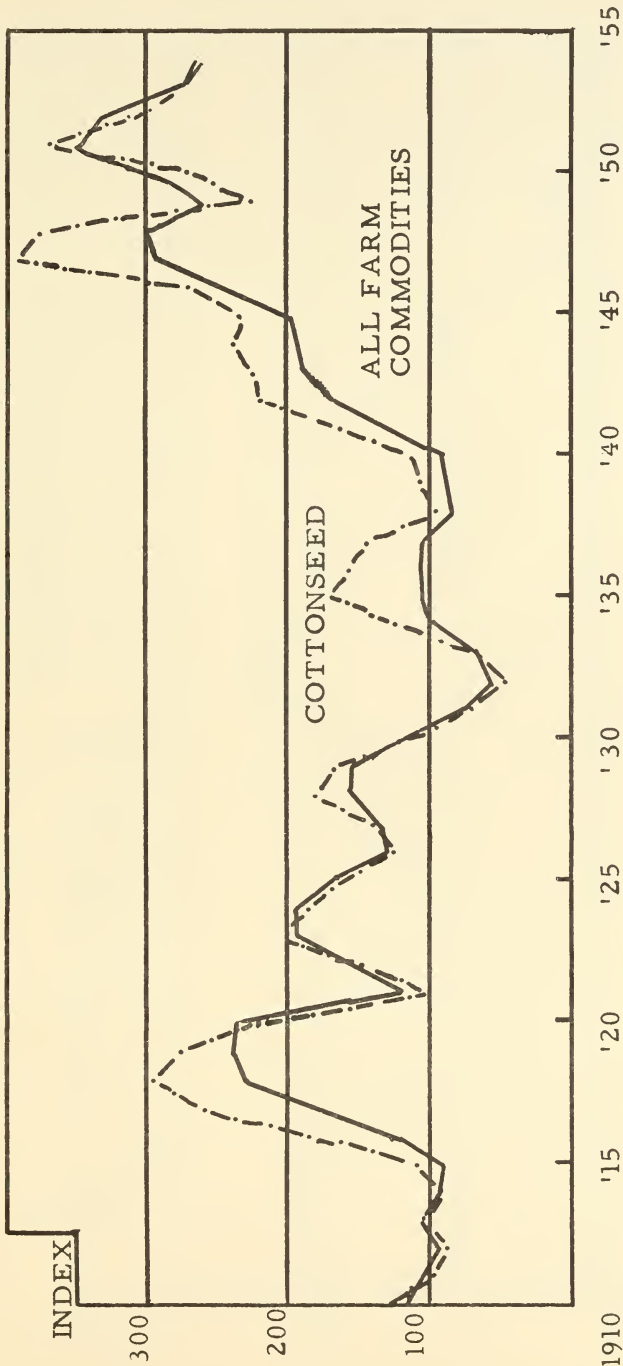


Figure. 10. INDEX OF COTTONSEED PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

Year-to-year changes in cottonseed prices have in most instances been greater than the average for all farm commodities. In general, in periods of rising prices, cottonseed prices have been above their 1910-14 relationship to the prices of all farm commodities.

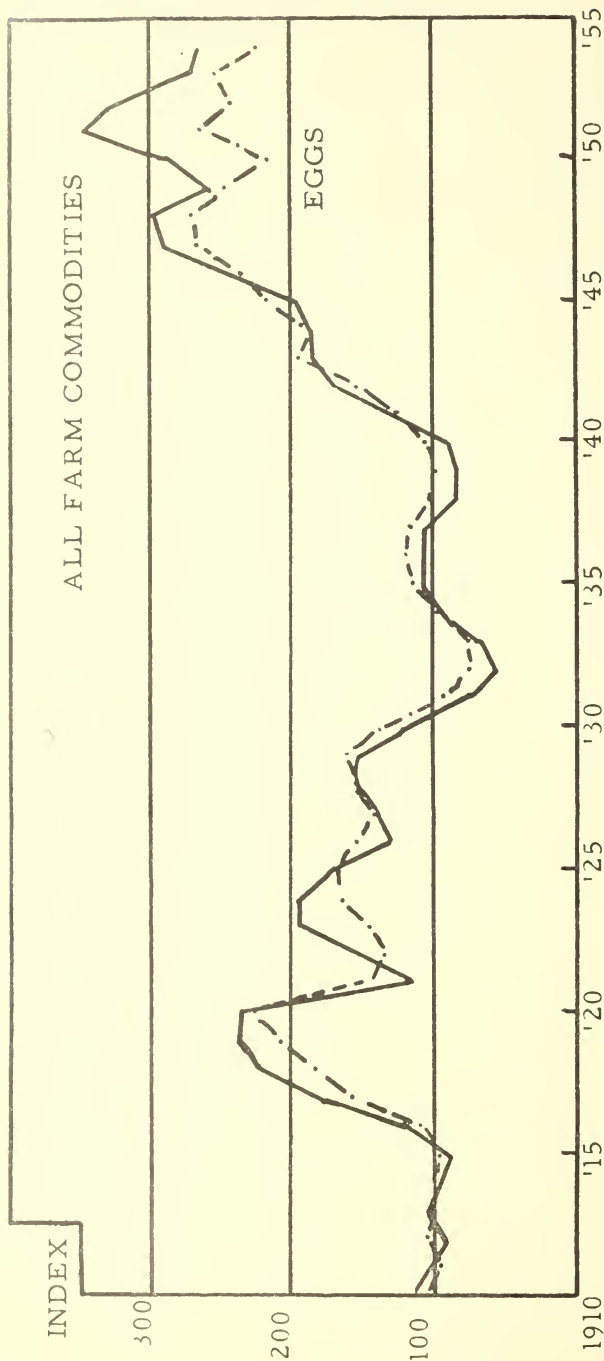


Figure 11. INDEX OF EGG PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

Year-to-year changes in egg prices were slightly less than

changes in the average price of all farm commodities. Departures from the 1910-14 relationship were of minor importance up to 1949. Since that time egg prices have been unfavorable compared to the 1910-14 relationship to the prices of all farm commodities taken together.

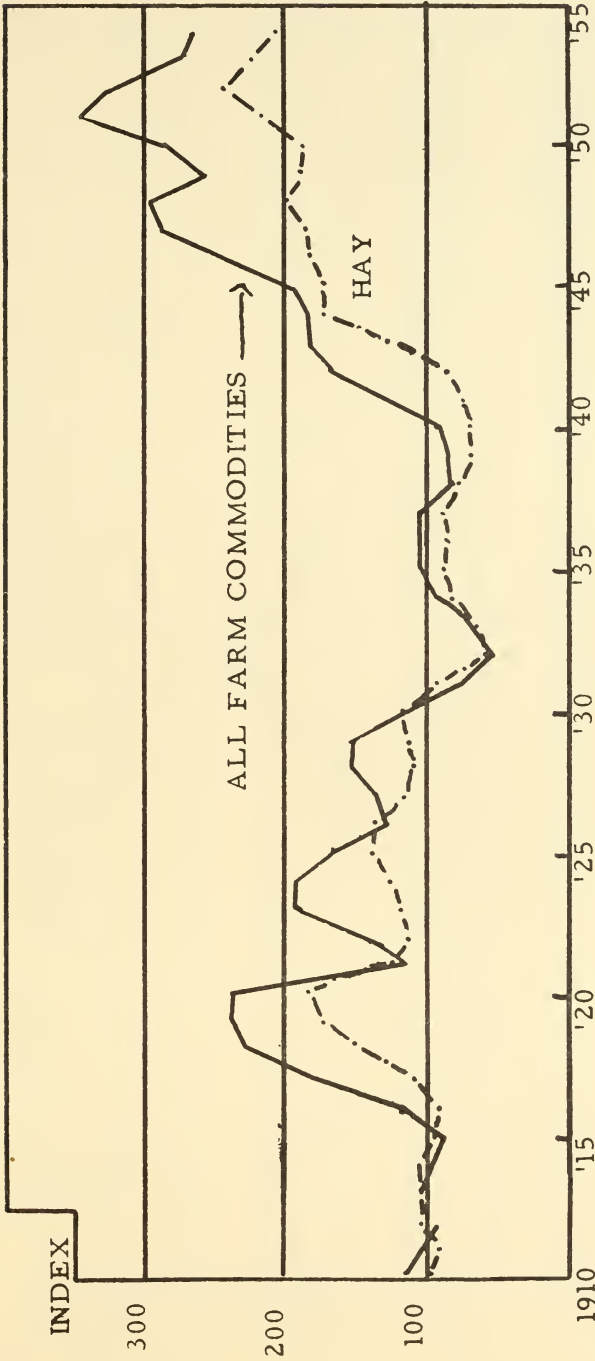


Figure 12. INDEX OF HAY PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

In periods of rising prices, hay prices have usually lagged behind the rise in prices of all Mississippi farm commodities. Since 1933 hay prices have been below their 1910-14 relationship to prices of all farm commodities. For most of the period 1916 to 1930 the same situation was true.

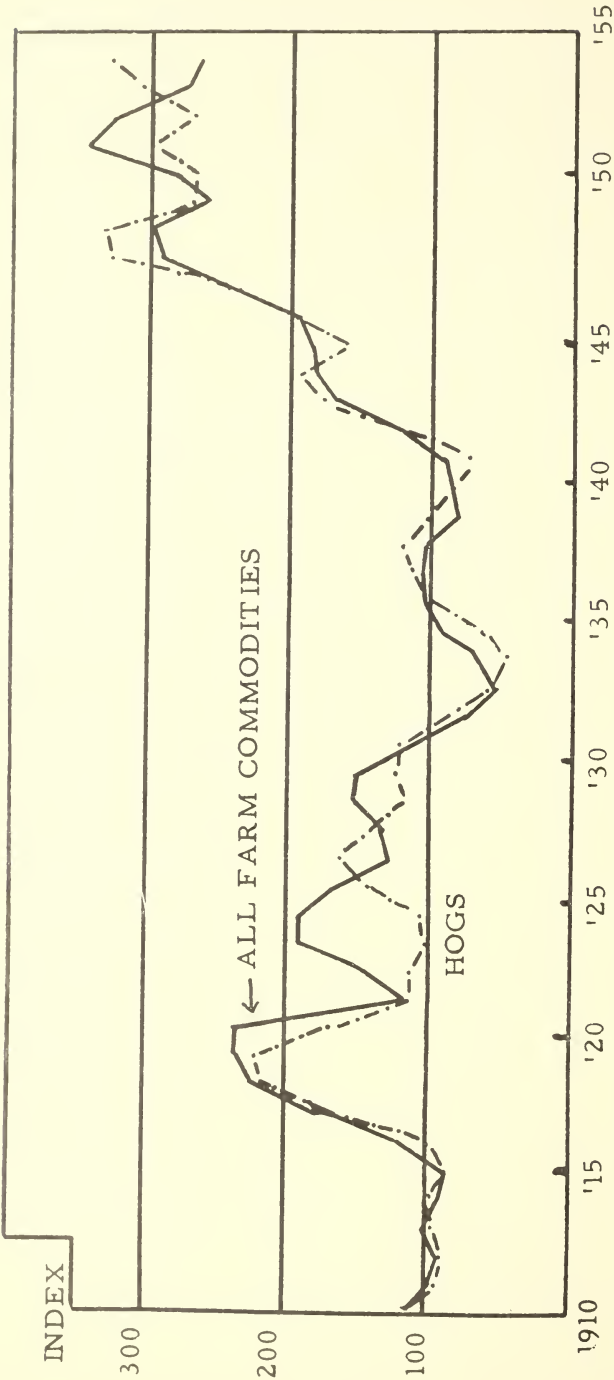


Figure 13. INDEX OF HOG PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

In general, hog prices have been high when prices of all farm commodities have been high. However, year-to-year changes have sometimes been in opposite directions. Hog prices fluctuated slightly more than the all commodity index during the 45-year period.

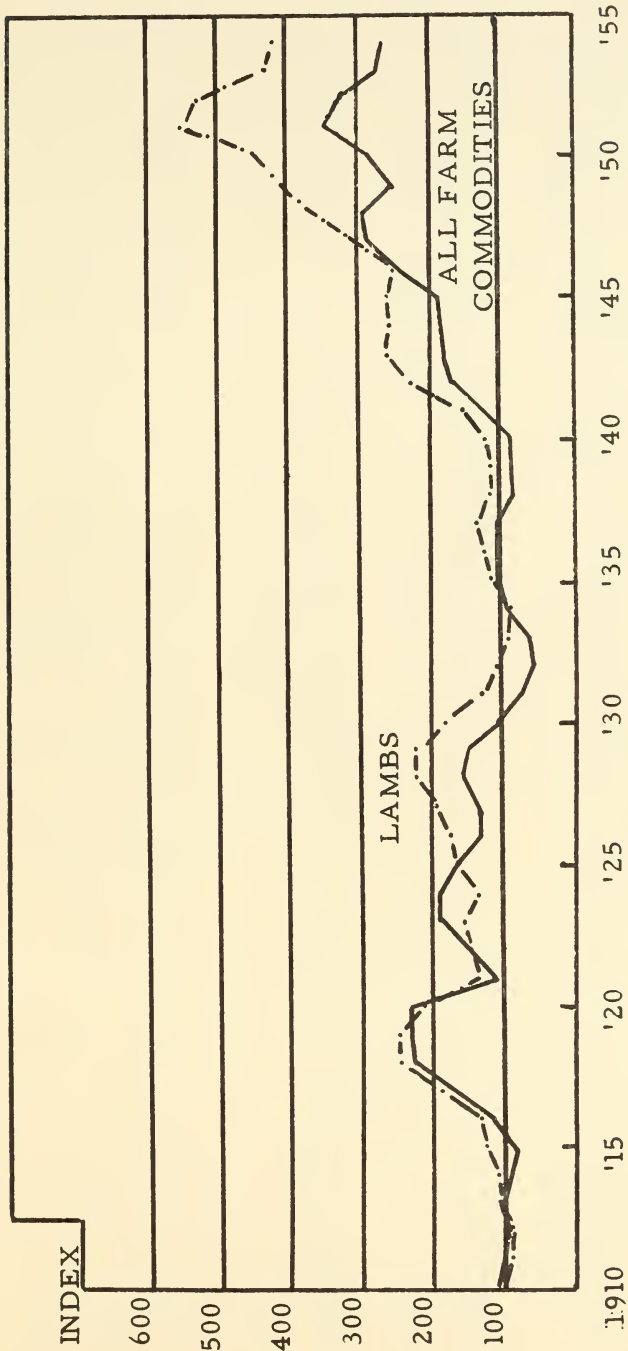
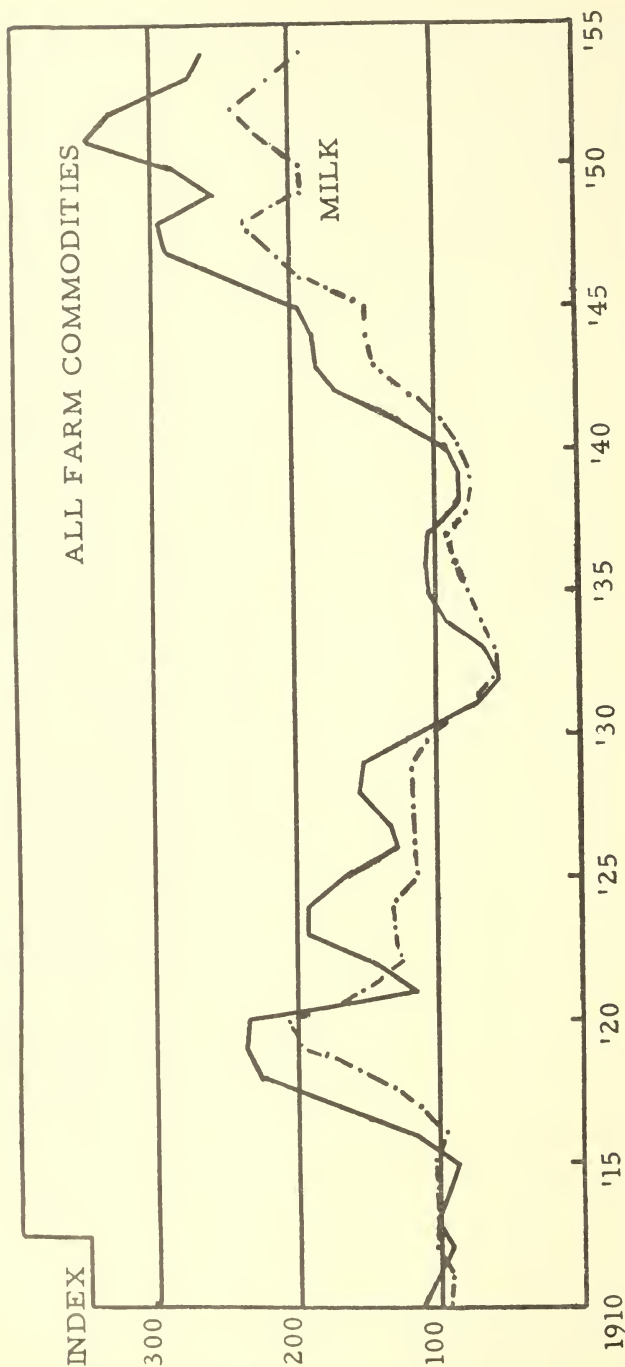


Figure 14. INDEX OF LAMB PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

Lamb prices have generally been more favorable than the average price for all farm commodities since the 1910-14 base period than during this period. Since 1946, Lamb prices have tended to become relatively even more favorable.



Milk prices have been more stable than the average of all farm prices during the 45-year period. From 1916 to 1933 prices of milk were generally below the 1910-14 relationship to the average of all farm prices. Since 1933 milk prices have been consistently below this relationship.

Figure 15. INDEX OF MILK PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

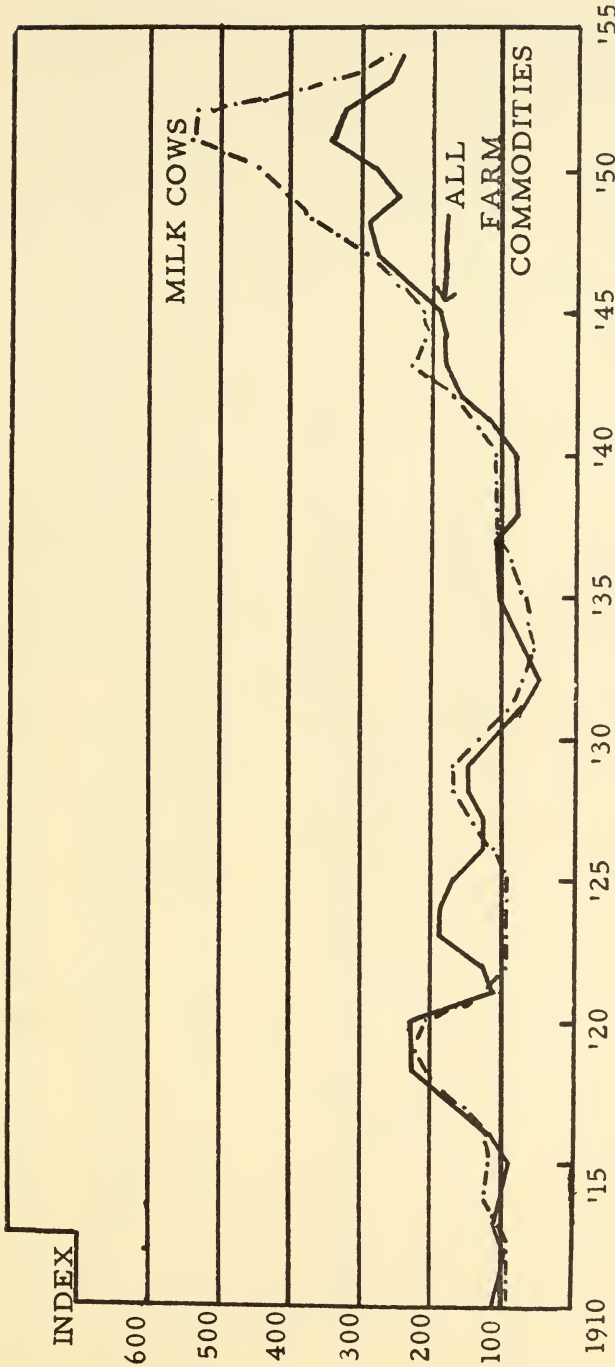


Figure 16. INDEX OF MILK COW PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910 - 54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

farm commodities taken together. However, following the agricultural depression of 1921, milk cow prices did not recover when prices of all farm commodities rose. Also, milk cow prices continued to rise while the average price of all farm commodities declined in 1949. The decline in milk cow prices from 1952 to 1954 was sharper than the decline for the all farm commodities index.

Generally, prices received by farmers for milk cows have moved in the same direction as prices of all Mississippi

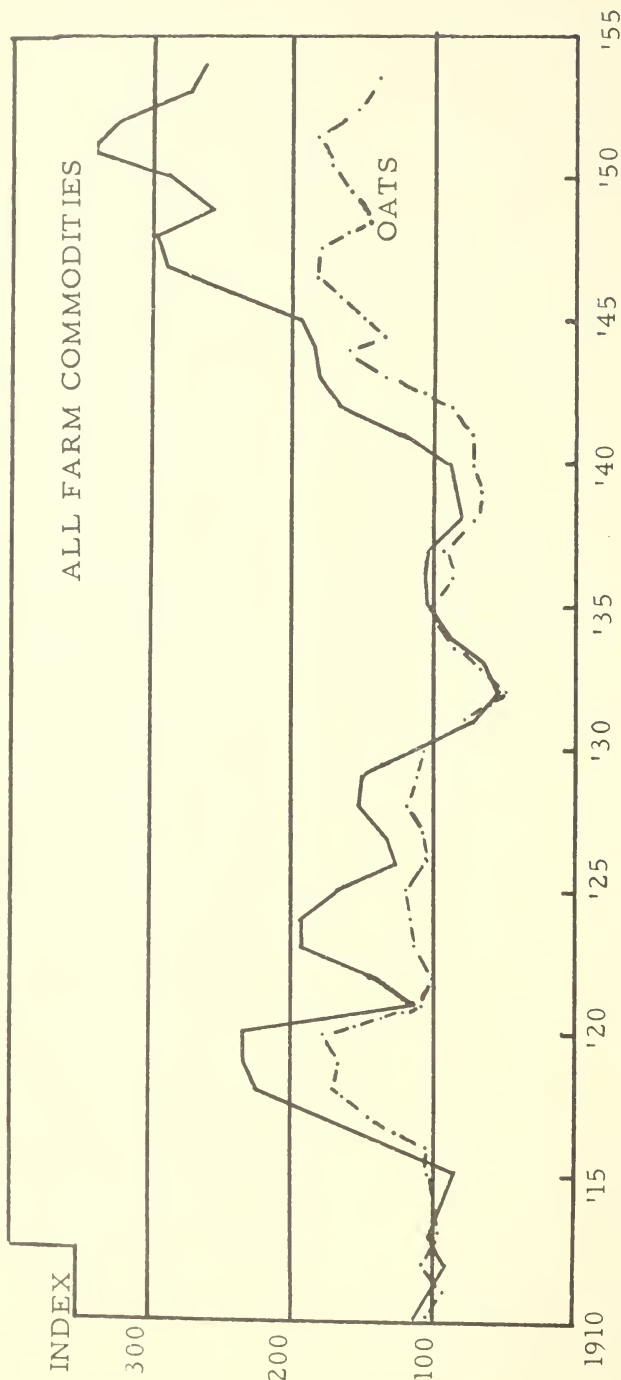


Figure 17. INDEX OF OAT PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

During the depression of the "thirties" and during the agricultural depression of 1920 were the only times for

the 45-year period that oat prices have had their 1910-14 relationship to prices of all commodities. The balance of the time oat prices have been below their 1910-14 relationship to other farm prices. Price changes from one year to the next have generally been much less for oats than for the average of all farm commodities.

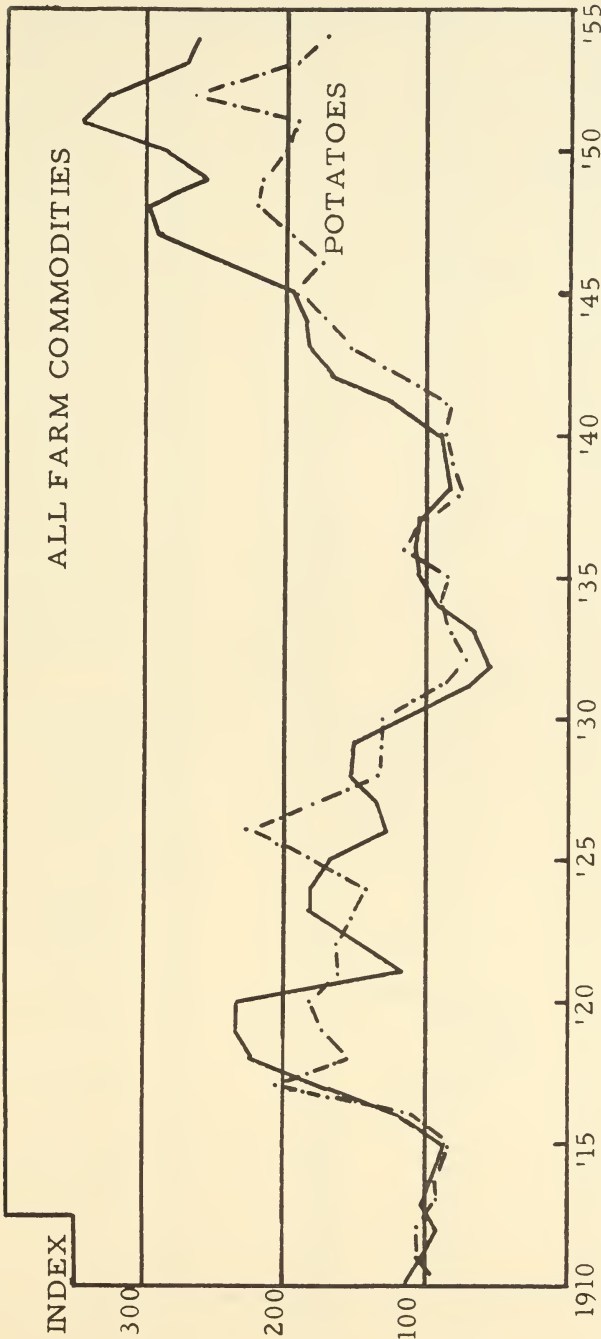


Figure 18. INDEX OF POTATO PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

From 1917 to 1930 potato prices failed to follow at all closely the general level of prices received by farmers. Since 1930, price changes have generally been in the same direction, but for the latter part of the period (since 1940) potato prices have become more and more unfavorable compared to the base period relationship.

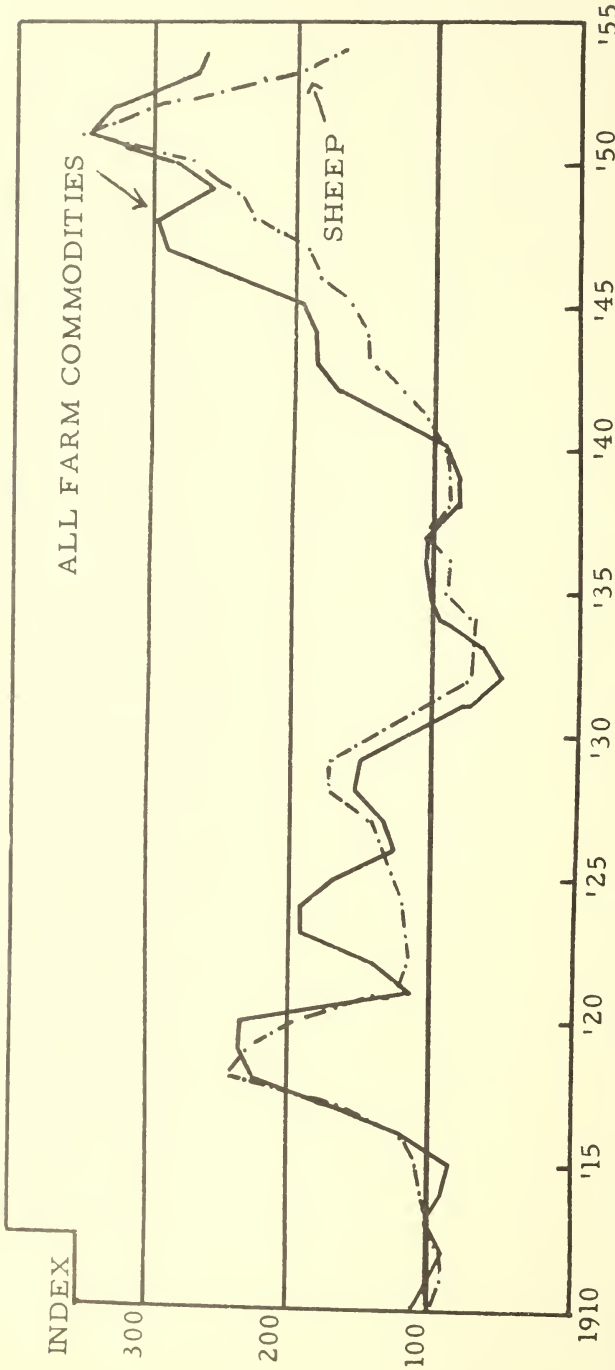


Figure 19. INDEX OF SHEEP PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

Fluctuations in sheep prices have been of about the same

extent as fluctuations in the prices of all farm commodities taken together. During World War II sheep prices rose slower than farm prices in general. However, they continued to rise when other farm prices fell in 1949. Sheep prices have fallen much faster than farm prices in general since both reached their peak in 1951.

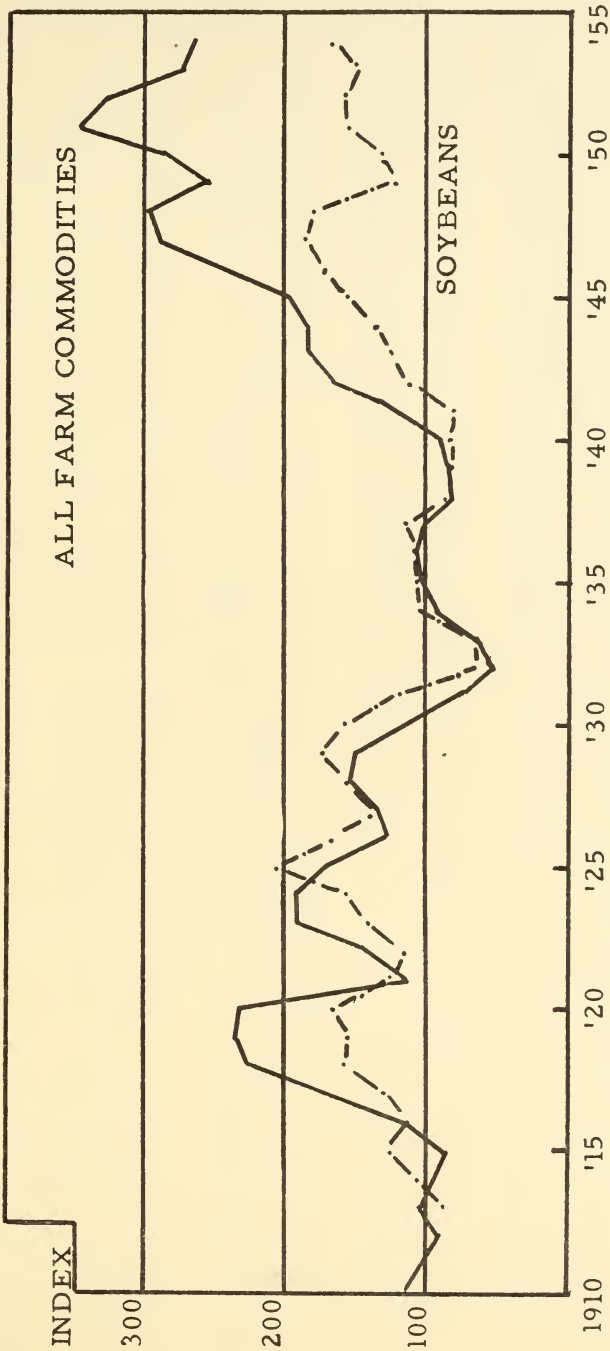


Figure 20. INDEX OF SOYBEAN PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1913-54. (1913 - 14 = 100)

year period than farm prices in general. Price changes have usually been in the same direction, but the extent of the change has been less for soybeans. Since 1940, the price of soybeans has been unfavorable compared to the base period relationship.

Soybean prices have fluctuated much less during the 42-

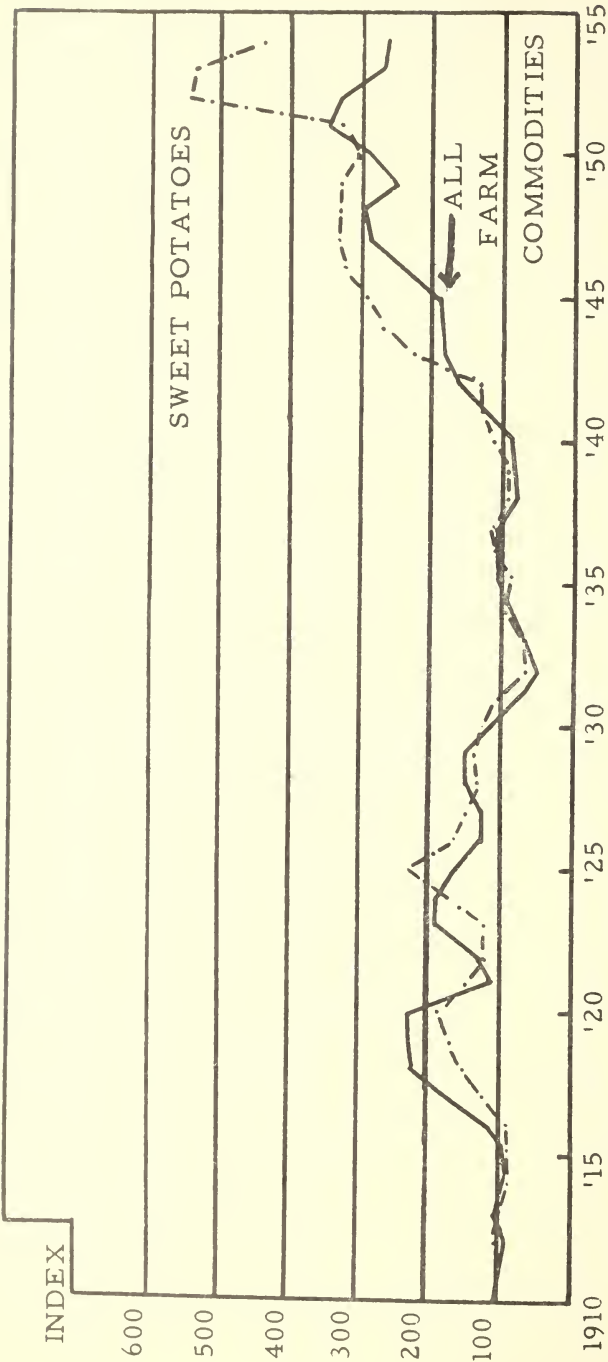


Figure 21. INDEX OF SWEET POTATO PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910 - 54. (1910-14 = 100)

Prices of sweet potatoes fluctuated more during the 45-year period than all farm commodities taken together.

In general the price of sweet potatoes has been high when the general level of farm prices was high and low when the general level of farm prices was low. Since 1942, compared to the base period relationship the level of sweet potato prices has been higher than the level of prices for all farm commodities taken together.

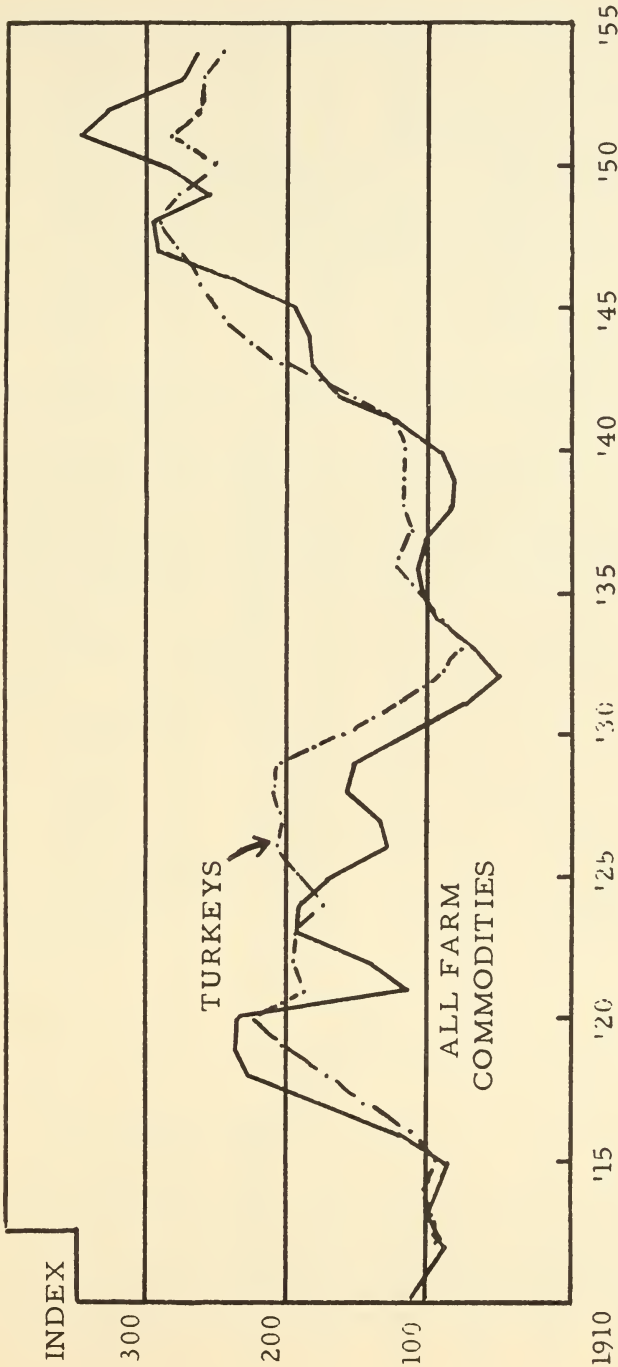


Figure 22. INDEX OF TURKEY PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1912-54. (1912 - 14 = 100)

eral level of all farm commodities during the 43-year period. Prices of turkeys have not followed too closely the general level of farm prices, but generally relatively high prices have been received when the index for all farm commodities was relatively high and vice versa.

Turkey prices were slightly more stable than the gen-

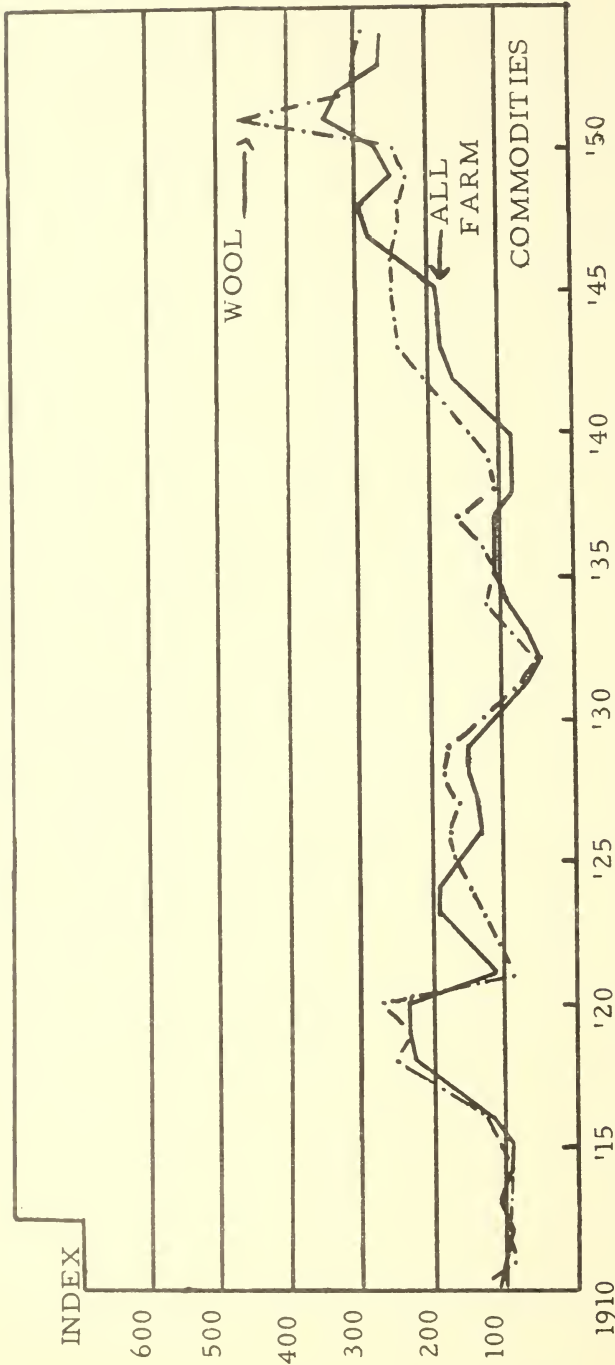


Figure 23. INDEX OF WOOL PRICES COMPARED WITH INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES, MISSISSIPPI, 1910-54. (1910 - 14 = 100)

Wool prices were subject to about the same degree of variability during the 45-year period as the index of prices received for all farm commodities. During most of the period wool prices were relatively more favorable than during the base period.

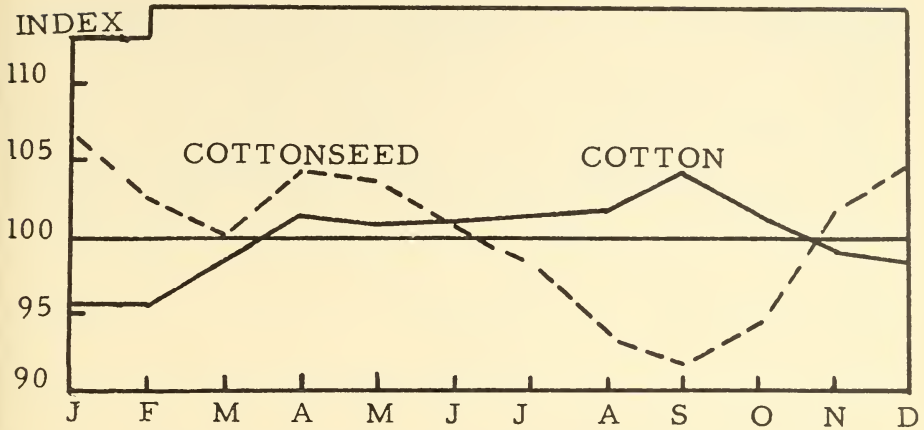


Figure 24. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF COTTON AND COTTONSEED, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Cotton prices peaked in September and were lowest in January. The exact opposite was true of cottonseed prices. Cottonseed prices changed more, percentage-wise, during the year than did cotton prices—16 percent from the low month to the high month compared to only 9 percent for cotton.

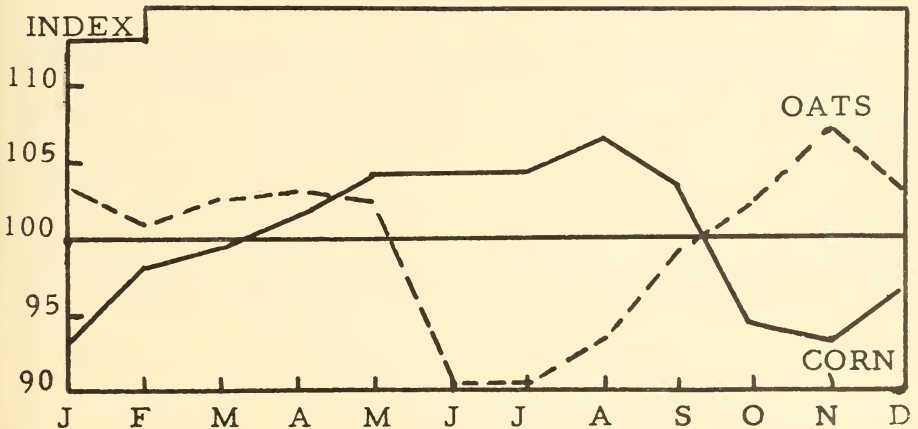


Figure 25. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF OATS AND CORN, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Prices of corn and oats varied in opposite directions within the same year. When the price of one was higher than the average for the year the other was lower than the average. Oat prices usually reached their high for the year in November and the low for the year in June or July, shortly after harvest time. Corn prices usually reached a peak in August (just before harvest) and a low in November (just after harvest). Percentage-wise, the change in prices from the low month to the high month was about the same for corn and oats—14 percent and 19 percent.

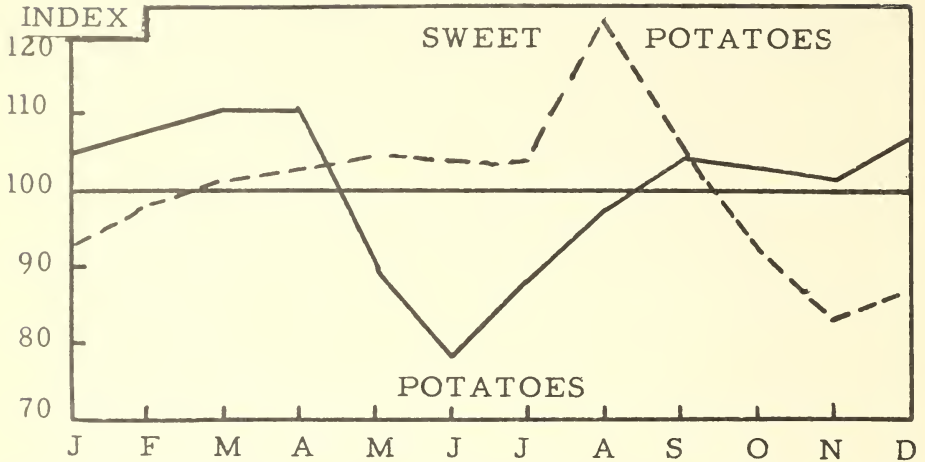


Figure 26. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF SWEET POTATOES AND POTATOES, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Both sweet potato and potato prices usually varied considerably during the year. Sweet potato prices usually decreased about 32 percent from the high month (August, when the early ones begin hitting the market) to the low month (November, just after the bulk of the crop is harvested). Potato prices usually decreased by about 29 percent from March to June.

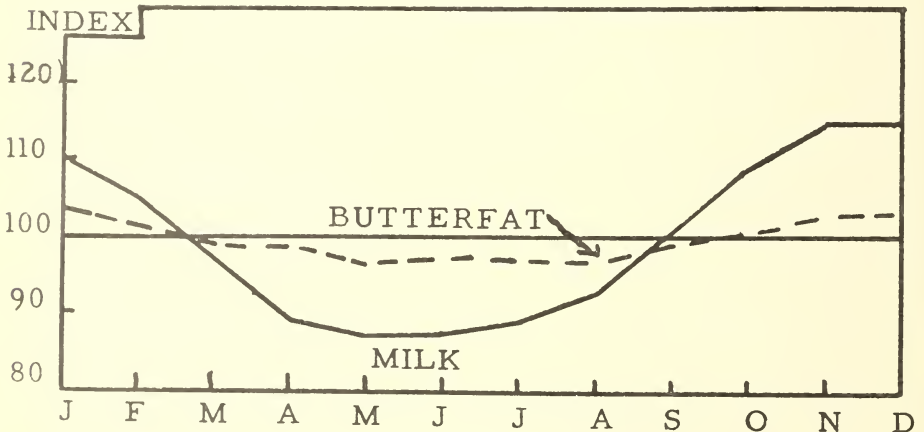


Figure 27. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF MILK AND BUTTERFAT, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Butterfat prices were fairly stable within a given year compared to milk prices. The percentage change from the low month to the high month was only about 7 percent for butterfat compared to 32 percent for milk. Both butterfat and milk reached a seasonal low in May or June and a seasonal high in November or December.

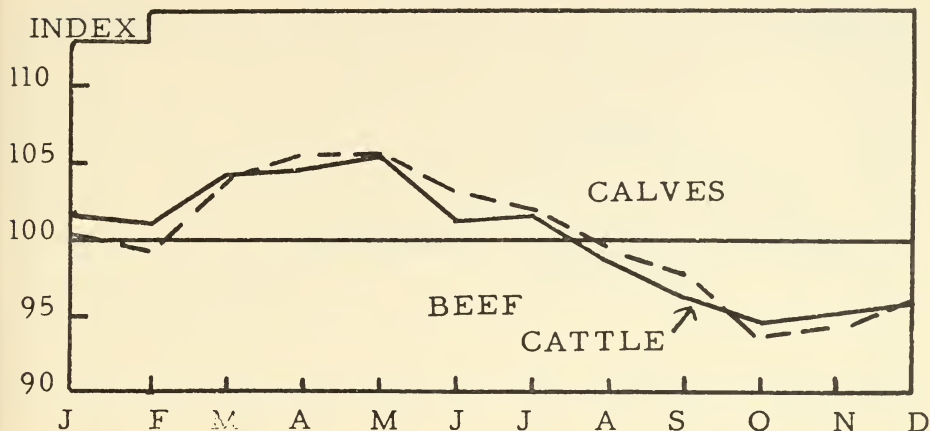


Figure 28. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF CALVES AND BEEF CATTLE, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Prices of beef cattle and calves followed similar seasonal patterns. Both were highest in May, and lowest in October when marketings are heaviest. Beef cattle prices usually decreased about 10 percent from May to October and prices of calves usually decreased by about 11 percent.

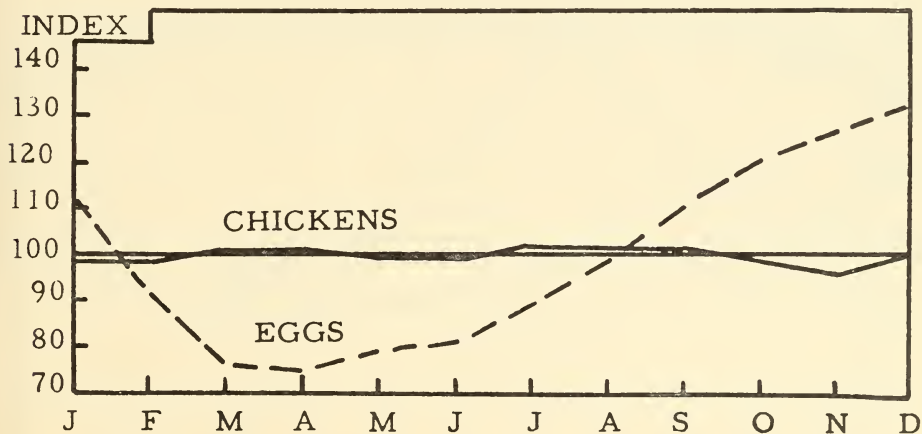


Figure 29. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF CHICKENS AND EGGS, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Compared to the seasonal variation in egg prices, prices of chickens were relatively stable. Chicken prices usually increased by only 7 percent from the low month (November) to the high month (July). Egg prices generally increased by about 76 percent from the low month to the high month. Prices of eggs were usually lowest in March or April and highest in December.

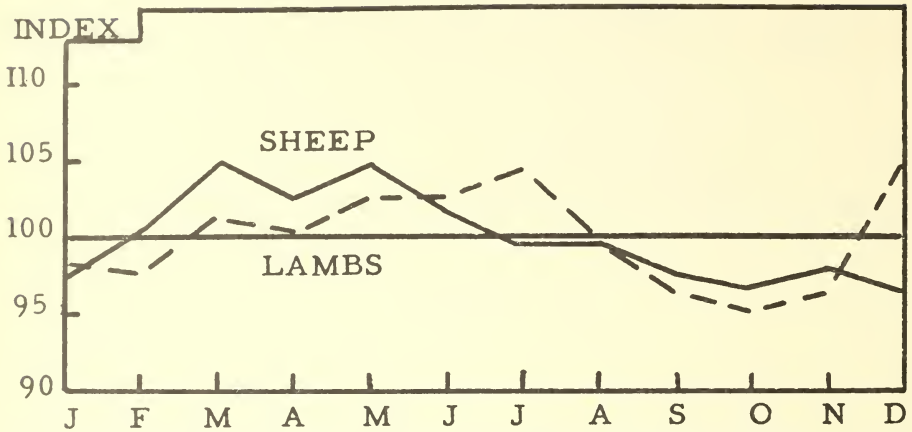


Figure 30. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF SHEEP AND LAMBS, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Sheep prices were usually highest during March, April and May and lowest during October. The decline in prices from March to October was about 8 percent.

Lamb prices showed two seasonal highs, July and December. The seasonal low came at the same time as for sheep, October. Prices of lambs averaged about 10 percent higher in July and December than in October.

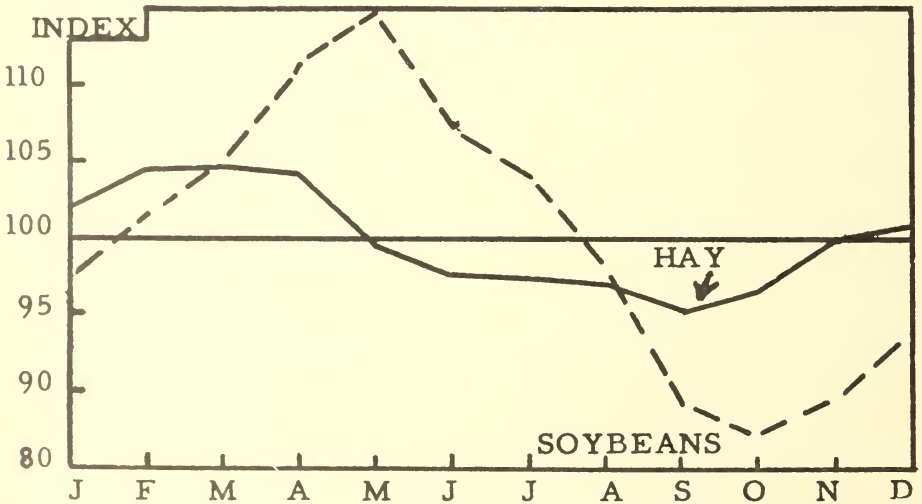


Figure 31. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF HAY AND SOYBEANS, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Hay prices were usually at their seasonal high during February, March, and April and at their seasonal low during September. The usual decline in price was about 9 percent during this period.

Soybean prices were usually highest during May and lowest during October. The decline in soybean prices during this period averaged about 24 percent.

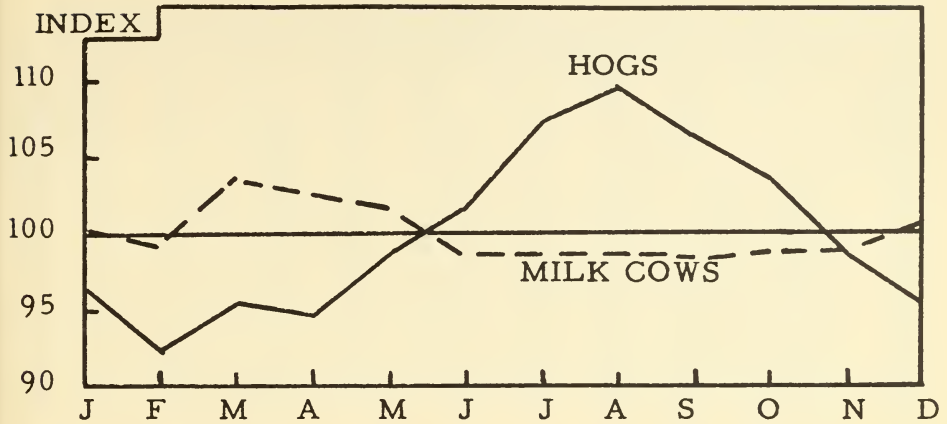


Figure 32. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN PRICES OF HOGS AND MILK COWS, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Hog prices were usually lowest in February and highest in August, increasing by 18 percent during this period.

Milk cow prices were generally stable for the latter half of the year. Prices were usually highest in March. On the average, prices decline by only about 5 percent from March to September.

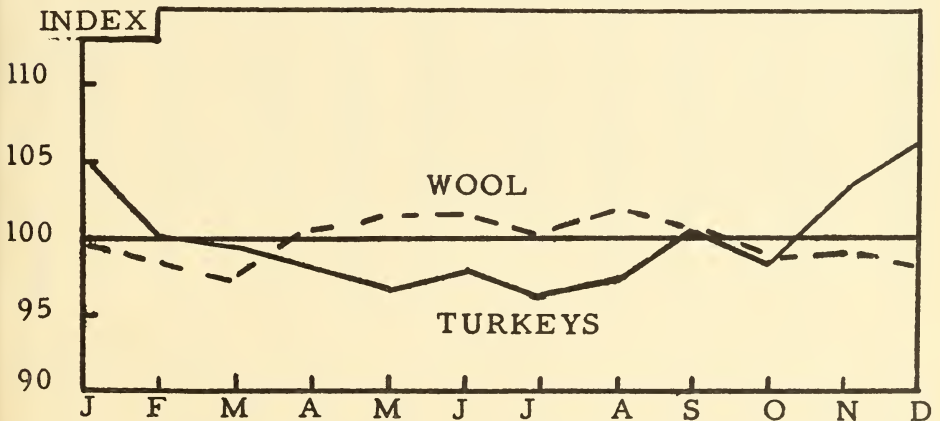


Figure 33. INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATION IN WOOL AND TURKEY PRICES, MISSISSIPPI, 1946-54.

Wool prices were usually fairly stable during the year, increasing by only about 5 percent from the low month (March) to the high month (August).

Prices of turkeys reached a seasonal low in July and a seasonal high in December, increasing by about 10 percent during this period. Turkey prices were also relatively high during November and January.

PRICES AND INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN FARM PRICES

Table 1. Index numbers of prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)												Ave.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1910-14	103	102	103	103	105	104	103	100	96	95	94	94	100
1915-19	154	150	150	154	159	162	167	172	177	190	196	196	169
1920-24	184	184	178	180	180	178	177	171	167	170	168	166	175
1925-29	146	144	144	147	148	149	149	148	158	152	142	139	147
1930-34	82	82	81	82	83	81	82	79	80	77	78	76	80
1935-39	96	96	96	97	96	96	97	94	94	94	93	94	95
1940	93	93	91	93	91	89	89	88	87	89	90	91	90
1941	92	93	94	100	108	117	127	135	160	152	149	152	124
1942	158	161	162	169	170	163	165	154	160	173	175	173	167
1943	175	176	179	182	183	184	185	185	187	186	179	180	182
1944	180	182	184	182	182	181	182	182	189	192	190	191	185
1945	192	187	187	187	190	191	195	194	199	207	210	211	196
1946	205	203	197	205	210	223	257	265	283	304	273	276	242
1947	272	275	288	290	285	287	298	292	285	289	300	318	290
1948	317	293	287	306	315	312	307	295	297	288	286	280	299
1949	266	256	251	265	264	260	257	256	262	253	254	245	258
1950	240	249	251	256	265	269	294	309	335	322	338	344	289
1951	357	362	369	371	368	359	346	312	316	326	348	353	348
1952	351	343	338	339	327	333	326	332	329	314	302	296	328
1953	288	282	282	276	277	266	268	266	268	266	261	262	272
1954	264	268	267	267	266	263	261	263	271	271	261	259	265
1955	264	267	266										

Prices received by farmers have on the average been higher than during the 1910-14 period since May 1941. The highest recorded for the entire period was during April 1951. At that time prices received by Mississippi farmers averaged 271 percent higher than during the base period 1910-14. See cover chart and Figure 2 for graphic presentations.

Table 2. Index numbers of prices received by farmers, United States, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)												Ave.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1910-14	101	101	101	101	100	100	99	99	100	100	100	99	100
1915-19	152	152	154	160	163	162	164	167	169	173	175	176	164
1920-24	156	155	153	153	153	151	150	148	147	149	146	143	150
1925-29	148	148	148	147	148	147	148	147	149	148	148	147	148
1930-34	91	89	89	89	88	86	87	87	89	86	87	84	87
1935-39	108	109	109	109	106	105	107	106	108	107	106	107	107
1940	99	103	102	101	101	97	98	95	98	100	102	103	100
1941	106	106	107	114	115	120	126	129	139	137	137	142	123
1942	148	150	150	153	153	153	156	160	163	167	170	175	158
1943	181	184	191	195	193	193	191	191	192	195	195	198	192
1944	198	196	199	199	196	194	193	191	194	196	198	202	196
1945	204	202	204	207	204	209	209	207	202	206	211	213	206
1946	212	212	214	215	216	221	243	247	242	268	262	262	234
1947	256	260	278	274	267	267	273	272	285	285	287	301	275
1948	306	279	283	288	288	292	297	289	287	273	267	266	285
1949	265	255	258	256	253	249	246	244	247	242	237	233	249
1950	235	237	237	241	247	247	263	267	272	268	276	286	256
1951	300	313	311	309	305	301	294	292	291	296	301	305	301
1952	300	289	288	290	293	292	295	295	288	282	277	269	288
1953	268	264	264	259	263	257	260	255	257	249	249	254	258
1954	259	258	256	257	258	248	247	251	246	242	244	239	250
1955	244	245	244										

Prices received by farmers of the United States as a whole have averaged higher than during the 1910-14 base period since November 1940. The highest recorded for the entire period 1910 - March 1955 was for February 1951. At that time prices received by farmers averaged 213 percent higher than during the 1910-14 period. See Figures 1 and 2 for graphic presentations.

Table 3. Index numbers of prices paid by farmers, United States, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)												Ave.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1910-14													100
1915-19													148
1920-24													168
1925-29			162			162			161			160	161
1930-34			126			124			125			122	124
1935-39			125			125			125			125	125
1940	124	124	125	125	125	123	123	123	123	123	123	124	124
1941	125	125	126	128	129	130	133	134	137	138	139	141	132
1942	143	145	147	149	150	151	152	153	154	156	158	159	152
1943	161	164	166	168	170	171	172	172	172	175	175	176	170
1944	178	179	180	181	182	182	182	183	183	183	184	184	182
1945	186	184	188	189	190	190	190	189	189	191	191	192	189
1946	193	195	196	197	199	202	210	213	212	219	224	223	207
1947	227	229	234	237	236	237	239	241	245	247	248	253	240
1948	261	257	257	260	261	262	262	260	259	257	257	256	259
1949	255	252	255	254	253	252	250	249	248	246	245	246	250
1950	248	248	250	250	253	254	256	257	260	261	263	265	255
1951	272	276	280	283	283	282	282	282	282	283	284	284	281
1952	287	288	288	289	289	287	286	287	286	284	282	281	286
1953	284	281	282	280	280	277	278	279	277	276	277	278	279
1954	282	282	283	283	284	282	280	282	280	279	279	279	281
1955	283	283	284										

Prices paid by farmers have averaged higher than during the 1910-14 period each year since that time, but in periods of relatively high prices have not risen as much as prices received by farmers. On the other hand, in periods of relatively low prices, prices paid by farmers have not fallen as much as prices received. Prices paid by farmers reached their highest peak for the 1910 - March 1955 period in April and May of 1952. At that time farmers paid, on the average, prices which were 189 percent above prices paid during the 1910-14 period. See cover chart and Figure 1 for graphic presentations.

Table 4. Parity ratios, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)												Ave.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1910-14													100
1915-19													114
1920-24													104
1925-29			89			92			98			87	91
1930-34			64			65			64			62	65
1935-39			77			77			75			75	76
1940	75	75	73	74	73	72	72	72	71	72	73	73	73
1941	74	74	75	78	84	90	95	101	117	110	107	108	94
1942	110	111	110	113	113	108	109	101	104	111	111	109	110
1943	109	107	108	108	108	108	108	108	109	106	102	102	107
1944	101	102	102	101	100	99	100	99	103	105	103	104	102
1945	103	102	99	99	100	101	103	103	105	108	110	110	104
1946	106	104	101	104	106	110	122	124	133	139	122	124	117
1947	120	120	123	122	121	121	125	121	116	117	121	126	121
1948	121	114	112	118	121	119	117	113	115	112	111	109	115
1949	104	102	98	104	104	103	103	103	106	105	104	100	103
1950	97	100	100	102	105	106	115	120	129	123	129	130	113
1951	131	131	132	131	130	127	123	111	112	115	123	124	124
1952	122	119	117	117	113	116	114	116	115	111	107	105	115
1953	101	100	100	99	99	96	96	95	97	96	94	94	97
1954	94	95	94	95	94	93	93	93	97	97	94	93	94
1955	93	94	94										

The parity ratio for Mississippi farmers has generally been below 100 in periods of relatively low prices and above 100 in periods of relatively high prices. The years 1953 and 1954 have been exceptions. When the parity ratio is equal to 100, the purchasing power of farm commodities is, on the average, the same as during the designated base period. The highest parity ratio recorded for the 1910 - March 1955 period was 132 in March of 1951. See Figure 3 for graphic presentation.

Table 5. Parity ratios, United States, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)												Ave.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1910-14													100
1915-19													111
1920-24													89
1925-29													92
1930-34													70
1935-39													86
1940	80	83	91	81	81	91	80	77	86	81	83	83	81
1941	85	85	85	89	89	92	95	96	101	99	99	101	93
1942	103	103	102	103	102	101	103	105	106	107	108	110	104
1943	112	112	115	116	114	113	111	111	112	111	111	112	113
1944	111	109	111	110	108	107	106	104	106	107	108	110	108
1945	110	108	109	110	107	110	110	110	107	108	110	111	109
1946	110	109	109	109	109	109	116	116	114	122	117	117	113
1947	113	114	119	116	113	113	114	113	116	115	116	119	115
1948	117	109	110	111	110	111	113	111	111	106	104	104	110
1949	104	101	101	101	100	99	98	98	100	98	96	95	100
1950	95	96	95	96	98	97	103	104	105	103	105	108	100
1951	110	113	111	109	108	107	104	104	103	105	106	107	107
1952	105	100	100	100	101	102	103	103	101	99	98	96	101
1953	94	94	94	92	94	93	94	91	93	90	90	91	92
1954	92	91	90	91	91	88	88	89	88	87	87	86	89
1955	86	87	86										

The parity ratio for the United States reached its highest level for the 1910-March, 1955 period on March 1947 and again in December of the same year. During these two months, a given amount of farm commodities would buy, on the average, 19 percent more than the same amount would have bought during the 1910-14 base period. See Figure 3 for graphic presentation.

Table 6. Index of purchasing power of farm commodities, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)										
	Cotton	Cotton-seed	Corn	Oats	Hay	Soy-beans	Pota-toes	Sweet potatoes	Milk	Butter-fat	Milk cows
1910-14	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915-19	112	149	108	94	83	96	100	86	88	95	109
1920-24	116	102	83	73	78	85	106	94	88	112	72
1925-29	95	95	83	69	73	104	106	106	72	109	87
1930-34	62	67	69	64	65	81	76	75	57	71	66
1935-39	70	105	79	68	65	79	75	81	65	94	76
1940	65	89	77	57	56	68	71	92	65	91	90
1941	88	121	68	55	57	62	64	95	73	105	104
1942	105	142	70	59	57	76	79	86	77	112	117
1943	99	131	93	78	76	75	89	133	83	120	136
1944	96	130	106	88	96	75	94	151	82	112	114
1945	97	122	97	72	92	83	102	157	79	108	114
1946	114	130	108	77	88	83	85	155	93	117	123
1947	115	162	109	76	78	79	83	140	90	123	122
1948	105	143	96	70	77	70	85	127	90	119	143
1949	98	88	63	58	76	50	87	131	78	99	162
1950	111	104	69	63	75	52	78	118	77	92	176
1951	120	131	69	61	78	56	69	116	80	90	192
1952	112	107	84	63	86	55	94	193	84	93	188
1953	98	99	80	55	108	53	70	193	77	87	128
1954	100	93	70	50	73	57	61	156	69	79	101

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Table 6—(Continued). Index of purchasing power of farm commodities, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)								
	Beef cattle	Calves	Hogs	Chickens	Eggs	Turkeys	Sheep	Lambs	Wool
1910-14	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915-19	103	105	105	95	99	98	115	126	118
1920-24	58	68	72	105	95	119	80	94	75
1925-29	77	88	86	112	95	128	94	121	108
1930-34	63	71	60	86	73	87	74	95	77
1935-39	89	95	83	95	88	93	75	97	100
1940	110	117	58	89	84	93	76	98	116
1941	130	134	88	98	95	95	81	120	139
1942	149	151	114	103	101	103	80	149	143
1943	150	151	113	122	115	120	87	156	144
1944	128	130	88	116	103	127	82	142	137
1945	139	138	104	124	115	132	84	138	135
1946	150	143	118	114	113	126	87	123	124
1947	155	156	137	104	110	115	81	128	102
1948	186	182	129	102	103	113	89	142	94
1949	184	183	108	98	99	111	98	164	93
1950	200	197	105	85	85	100	107	173	100
1951	232	227	107	85	94	101	125	195	166
1952	202	197	94	76	84	92	107	188	105
1953	111	125	111	79	92	94	75	157	108
1954	93	104	117	67	79	88	58	149	105

The index of purchasing power at any given time indicates the percentage of the purchasing power that the commodity had during the 1910-14 period that it had at the specified time. For example, in 1954 a bushel of oats would buy only one-half as much of the things farmers usually buy as one bushel would have bought during the base period 1910-14. On the other hand, a bushel of sweet potatoes would have bought 56 percent more during 1954 than during the 1910-14 base period.

Table 7. Relative prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)									
	Cotton	Cotton-seed	Corn	Oats	Hay	Soy-beans	Pota-toes	Sweet potatoes	Milk	Butter-fat
1910-14	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915-19	173	224	162	138	122	138	148	129	131	143
1920-24	196	171	142	124	131	186	181	136	149	187
1925-29	152	153	133	111	118	167	171	170	116	174
1930-34	78	84	88	81	82	103	95	55	72	91
1935-39	87	131	99	86	82	99	94	101	81	117
1940	81	110	95	71	70	84	88	114	81	113
1941	116	160	90	73	75	82	84	126	96	139
1942	160	216	107	89	87	115	120	131	117	170
1943	168	222	158	132	129	127	152	226	141	204
1944	174	236	193	160	175	137	171	275	149	204
1945	183	230	183	137	173	156	193	297	150	204
1946	235	269	223	159	183	171	176	321	192	243
1947	275	389	262	183	186	189	198	335	216	296
1948	273	370	249	181	200	181	221	329	234	309
1949	245	221	157	146	191	124	217	327	194	248
1950	284	264	177	160	190	133	200	300	196	235
1951	336	368	193	171	219	158	195	327	224	252
1952	320	307	240	181	246	158	269	551	241	265
1953	274	277	222	154	221	149	195	533	216	243
1954	280	261	196	140	204	160	171	433	195	222

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PRICES AND INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN FARM PRICES

Table 7—(Continued). Relative prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Year	(1910 - 14 = 100)								
	Beef cattle	Calves	Hogs	Chickens	Eggs	Turkeys	Sheep	Lambs	Wool
1910-14	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915-19	152	154	160	142	149	146	174	188	178
1920-24	98	115	122	177	161	197	136	158	128
1925-29	124	141	138	180	153	206	150	194	172
1930-34	80	91	76	108	93	177	93	119	94
1935-39	111	119	105	118	111	117	94	122	128
1940	137	145	72	110	104	115	94	122	144
1941	172	177	116	129	126	126	107	159	183
1942	227	230	173	157	154	156	121	227	217
1943	255	257	192	207	195	204	148	265	244
1944	233	237	160	212	188	231	149	259	250
1945	263	260	196	235	217	250	158	261	256
1946	310	296	244	237	234	261	181	255	256
1947	371	374	329	250	265	276	194	306	244
1948	481	471	334	263	268	293	230	368	244
1949	461	457	271	245	247	278	244	411	233
1950	509	503	269	216	216	254	272	442	256
1951	651	637	300	238	264	283	351	548	467
1952	579	564	269	217	241	262	305	537	300
1953	311	349	309	220	256	261	208	437	300
1954	261	291	328	187	221	247	162	420	294

Price relatives are a means whereby price changes from same base period may be compared for several different commodities. For example, in 1954, oat prices were only 40 percent higher than during the 1910-14 period while lamb prices were 320 percent higher. For comparisons of price relatives of individual commodities with the index of prices received for all commodities, see Figures 4-23.

Table 8. Beef cattle: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Dollars per cwt.												Ave.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1910-14	3.46	3.48	3.68	3.70	3.98	3.80	3.64	3.68	3.66	3.72	3.62	3.44	3.66
1915-19	5.12	5.18	5.38	5.66	5.98	5.88	6.00	5.68	5.62	5.42	5.24	5.38	5.55
1920-24	3.70	3.80	3.98	3.96	3.88	3.70	3.62	3.52	3.40	3.34	3.16	3.10	3.60
1925-29	4.12	4.34	4.26	4.48	4.74	4.72	4.54	4.62	4.66	4.82	4.72	4.60	4.55
1930-34	3.13	3.19	3.29	3.33	3.35	3.20	2.85	2.70	2.66	2.63	2.52	2.47	2.94
1935-39	3.67	3.79	3.94	4.13	4.18	4.18	4.15	4.08	4.21	4.11	4.09	4.03	4.05
1940	4.80	4.80	5.10	5.40	5.30	5.20	5.00	4.90	4.95	4.90	4.80	4.80	5.00
1941	5.10	5.60	5.60	6.00	6.25	6.30	6.70	6.70	7.00	6.90	6.70	6.70	6.29
1942	7.30	7.70	8.00	8.50	8.60	8.40	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.50	8.80	8.80	8.29
1943	9.20	9.80	10.00	10.20	10.50	10.30	10.20	9.50	8.60	7.90	7.50	8.40	9.34
1944	8.30	9.00	10.00	9.80	9.50	8.80	8.10	8.00	7.70	7.40	7.50	8.10	8.52
1945	8.60	9.10	9.70	10.20	10.20	10.00	10.00	9.60	9.50	9.50	9.60	9.60	9.62
1946	9.60	10.00	10.40	11.00	11.20	11.20	13.00	12.40	11.40	12.00	12.40	11.70	11.36
1947	11.70	12.40	13.90	13.70	13.10	13.70	13.70	13.70	13.50	14.20	14.40	14.90	13.57
1948	16.30	15.60	15.60	17.10	18.20	18.50	19.00	19.20	19.20	17.50	17.80	17.20	17.60
1949	17.50	17.00	18.00	18.10	18.00	17.80	17.10	16.10	16.10	15.30	15.50	16.00	16.88
1950	15.70	17.00	17.10	17.20	18.20	18.60	19.70	20.50	20.00	19.30	19.80	20.50	18.63
1951	22.50	23.60	25.40	25.40	24.70	23.30	24.00	23.40	23.40	24.00	23.00	23.40	23.84
1952	24.20	24.50	23.90	24.30	25.70	23.70	21.20	20.80	18.40	16.60	16.40	16.50	21.18
1953	16.50	15.00	14.50	13.50	13.00	9.50	10.20	10.00	8.70	8.40	8.40	9.00	11.39
1954	10.00	10.40	11.20	10.90	10.20	9.60	8.90	8.90	8.60	9.20	8.20	8.50	9.55
1955	9.60	10.10	10.30										

Beef cattle prices reached their peak for the 1910 - March 1955 period in March and April of 1951. The average price received by farmers at this time was \$25.40 per cwt. For the entire year of 1951 beef cattle prices averaged \$23.84 per cwt. The lowest average price for the period was \$1.90 per cwt. in December 1932 and January 1933. The higher price is almost thirteen times as high as the lower prices. For year-to-year price changes see Table 30. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 28.

Table 9. Broilers, commercial: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, May 1952-April 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Cents per pound												
1952					24.0	27.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	29.0	31.0	29.0	28.8
1953	27.0	27.0	27.5	27.5	27.5	26.5	27.5	27.0	27.0	28.0	26.0	25.0	27.0
1954	24.5	23.0	23.0	23.5	23.0	23.0	25.0	25.5	23.0	21.5	19.5	18.0	22.7
1955	22.0	23.5	29.5	28.0									

Prices received by farmers for commercial broilers have been reported separately from other chickens only since May, 1952. From that time through March 1955, broiler prices ranged from an average of 18 cents per pound in December 1954 to an average of 31 cents per pound in November 1952.

Table 10. Butterfat: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Cents per pound												
1910-14	24	23	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	23	23	24	23
1915-19	34	32	32	31	31	30	30	30	32	34	37	40	33
1920-24	51	49	49	47	40	37	38	38	40	41	44	46	43
1925-29	41	42	43	42	40	38	38	37	39	40	41	42	40
1930-34	21	21	21	22	20	19	19	20	21	22	22	21	21
1935-39	29	29	28	28	26	25	25	26	26	27	28	29	27
1940	27	27	26	25	25	24	24	24	25	25	26	29	26
1941	28	28	27	29	30	32	33	33	35	35	37	38	32
1942	36	38	38	39	36	34	35	37	41	44	44	44	39
1943	45	48	46	47	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	47	47
1944	47	47	47	46	46	46	46	45	46	47	48	49	47
1945	48	47	47	46	46	45	45	46	47	47	47	48	47
1946	48	48	48	48	48	48	55	57	59	65	80	74	56
1947	70	63	65	65	62	61	62	66	74	71	76	80	68
1948	79	76	73	73	70	71	72	71	69	65	64	65	71
1949	65	60	60	60	59	57	54	54	54	54	55	55	57
1950	54	54	53	52	51	50	52	54	54	56	57	57	54
1951	58	58	57	57	59	58	58	58	58	58	60	62	58
1952	63	64	62	60	60	60	61	60	61	61	61	61	61
1953	59	57	56	54	54	54	54	53	55	56	57	57	56
1954	55	54	52	48	48	49	49	51	51	53	54	53	51
1955	50	52	51										

Prices received by farmers for butterfat reached an average of 80 cents per pound in November 1946 and again in December 1947. The lowest average price recorded for the 1910 - March 1955 period was 11 cents per pound in July 1932. Percentage-wise, the change in prices from the lowest to the highest for the 45-year period was 627 percent. For year-to-year price changes see Table 31. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 27.

Table 11. Calves: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Dollars per cwt.												
1910-14	4.52	4.74	5.00	4.60	4.74	4.64	4.70	4.76	4.84	4.74	4.58	4.54	4.70
1915-19	6.74	6.82	6.92	7.30	7.82	7.48	7.86	7.16	7.08	7.28	6.98	7.22	7.22
1920-24	5.56	5.66	6.04	6.04	5.80	5.40	5.44	5.14	5.00	5.20	4.88	4.66	5.40
1925-29	6.10	6.30	6.52	6.66	6.80	6.74	6.64	6.84	7.06	6.96	6.70	6.50	6.65
1930-34	4.75	4.62	4.53	4.67	4.71	4.54	4.23	4.00	3.82	3.90	3.75	3.54	4.26
1935-39	5.12	5.28	5.57	5.66	5.77	5.71	5.68	5.62	5.82	5.76	5.58	5.60	5.60
1940	6.60	6.60	6.80	7.00	7.10	7.00	6.80	6.60	6.70	6.90	6.80	6.90	6.82
1941	7.20	7.50	7.50	7.70	8.30	8.30	8.80	8.80	9.30	9.10	8.70	8.80	8.33
1942	10.00	10.20	10.30	10.90	10.90	10.80	11.00	11.00	10.90	11.00	11.00	11.50	10.79
1943	11.60	12.10	12.50	12.80	13.10	12.70	12.70	12.30	12.20	11.50	10.60	10.60	12.06
1944	10.50	11.00	11.50	11.60	11.40	11.40	10.80	11.10	11.20	11.20	10.90	11.30	11.16
1945	11.40	11.70	12.10	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.70	12.50	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.21
1946	12.60	13.00	13.40	13.60	14.00	14.00	15.20	15.00	13.80	14.20	14.50	14.30	13.93
1947	14.80	15.20	17.70	17.50	17.30	18.30	18.10	17.50	18.20	18.40	18.90	19.00	17.57
1948	20.90	19.50	19.50	21.00	22.00	22.50	25.00	24.70	24.40	21.80	22.50	21.60	22.15
1949	22.70	21.80	22.50	23.00	22.80	22.60	21.60	20.40	20.70	19.20	19.70	20.50	21.46
1950	20.80	21.50	22.00	22.00	23.40	23.60	24.80	25.10	25.90	23.80	25.00	25.50	23.62
1951	27.30	29.70	31.20	31.50	31.20	30.40	30.80	29.80	29.70	30.50	28.50	28.90	29.96
1952	30.00	30.70	30.70	30.00	29.80	28.50	26.50	25.20	23.10	21.20	20.90	21.30	26.49
1953	20.70	19.40	19.00	18.50	18.50	15.40	16.10	15.40	13.50	12.80	13.30	14.00	16.38
1954	15.00	15.30	15.50	15.50	15.50	14.30	13.00	12.50	12.50	12.30	11.10	11.90	13.70
1955	14.00	14.50	15.00										

The average price received for calves ranged from a low of \$2.75 per cwt. in December 1932 to a high of \$31.50 per cwt. in April 1951. The latter price is almost eleven and one-half times as great as the former. For year-to-year price changes see Table 32. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 28.

Table 12. Chickens: Average price received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Cents per pound													
1910-14	11.7	11.7	11.6	11.7	11.9	12.2	12.3	12.1	12.2	12.5	12.2	11.8	12.0
1915-19	14.8	15.2	15.6	16.8	17.2	18.7	18.3	17.1	17.9	18.2	17.8	17.5	17.1
1920-24	19.4	20.1	20.5	21.3	22.7	23.8	22.9	20.8	21.4	21.8	20.5	19.3	21.2
1925-29	20.0	20.3	20.9	22.1	23.9	24.0	22.3	21.2	21.5	22.0	21.3	20.3	21.6
1930-34	12.7	13.0	13.0	13.7	14.1	14.1	13.3	12.3	12.5	12.8	12.6	11.9	13.0
1935-39	13.1	13.3	13.8	14.4	14.9	15.2	14.7	13.8	14.5	14.7	14.4	13.7	14.2
1940	12.3	12.3	12.6	13.1	13.6	14.0	14.0	13.4	13.5	13.5	13.3	12.8	13.2
1941	13.2	13.1	13.6	14.7	15.9	16.2	16.4	16.4	16.6	16.7	16.4	16.6	15.5
1942	16.6	17.2	17.4	17.7	19.0	19.4	19.2	19.1	19.3	20.1	20.2	20.2	18.8
1943	20.1	20.8	22.2	24.9	26.9	27.0	27.0	26.9	26.9	25.6	24.7	25.3	24.9
1944	25.4	24.6	24.8	24.8	26.0	26.2	26.3	26.5	26.0	25.1	25.1	25.1	25.5
1945	25.1	25.4	26.3	27.3	29.0	30.0	30.7	30.3	29.6	29.1	28.3	27.4	28.2
1946	26.8	27.1	26.1	26.5	28.0	29.0	31.0	30.8	30.0	30.0	28.0	28.0	28.4
1947	26.5	27.0	29.0	30.0	31.0	32.0	33.0	31.0	31.0	30.0	29.0	30.0	30.0
1948	30.0	30.0	29.0	31.3	33.2	32.6	33.7	32.0	32.0	32.5	30.5	32.3	31.6
1949	32.1	30.4	30.8	32.2	30.8	28.8	28.5	28.5	27.0	27.0	29.7	26.5	29.4
1950	23.5	23.6	26.7	26.9	25.9	25.2	26.2	28.2	28.5	26.1	25.0	24.5	25.9
1951	27.4	28.6	30.5	29.2	27.8	29.4	29.4	30.2	29.5	26.9	26.8	27.8	28.6
1952	29.2	28.9	27.4	25.0	24.1	25.0	24.5	23.5	24.5	24.0	28.9	27.7	26.1
1953	26.3	26.2	27.1	27.1	26.9	26.1	27.0	26.6	26.5	27.3	25.3	24.7	26.4
1954	24.3	23.0	22.5	23.4	22.8	22.7	24.6	25.1	22.6	20.0	19.6	17.9	22.4
1955	21.8	23.1	28.6										

Prices of chickens reached their highest point for the period 1910 - March 1955 in July 1948 and their lowest point in March 1933. The highest average price was 33.7 cents per pound compared to the lowest price, 7.9 cents per pound. From the lowest price to the highest price represents an increase of 327 percent. For year-to-year price changes see Table 33. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 29.

Table 13. Corn: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per bu.													
1910-14	.75	.77	.79	.81	.86	.88	.88	.88	.84	.79	.73	.72	.81
1915-19	1.08	1.14	1.23	1.32	1.40	1.44	1.50	1.51	1.39	1.26	1.22	1.23	1.31
1920-24	1.06	1.10	1.16	1.22	1.26	1.29	1.32	1.29	1.17	1.06	.96	.95	1.15
1925-29	1.04	1.08	1.09	1.12	1.15	1.16	1.17	1.15	1.11	1.03	.96	.94	1.08
1930-34	.64	.66	.69	.72	.74	.78	.80	.80	.74	.68	.62	.61	.71
1935-39	.72	.74	.78	.82	.85	.88	.91	.89	.87	.79	.69	.67	.80
1940	.69	.73	.77	.81	.85	.86	.88	.85	.79	.69	.65	.64	.77
1941	.66	.68	.72	.75	.76	.78	.78	.78	.76	.72	.67	.68	.73
1942	.72	.75	.82	.86	.89	.91	.92	.91	.91	.92	.89	.91	.87
1943	.95	1.00	1.05	1.20	1.25	1.28	1.38	1.46	1.48	1.45	1.42	1.42	1.28
1944	1.46	1.49	1.52	1.53	1.60	1.63	1.63	1.66	1.64	1.58	1.52	1.52	1.56
1945	1.54	1.52	1.54	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.53	1.50	1.45	1.37	1.36	1.35	1.48
1946	1.35	1.39	1.44	1.49	1.59	1.92	2.40	2.45	2.10	1.92	1.86	1.83	1.81
1947	1.77	1.77	1.85	2.00	2.00	2.05	2.27	2.37	2.50	2.36	2.23	2.26	2.12
1948	2.32	2.25	2.25	2.29	2.30	2.27	2.24	2.13	1.92	1.63	1.33	1.28	2.02
1949	1.29	1.26	1.32	1.32	1.35	1.34	1.32	1.30	1.27	1.18	1.17	1.13	1.27
1950	1.16	1.20	1.26	1.41	1.52	1.58	1.73	1.73	1.67	1.40	1.24	1.25	1.43
1951	1.35	1.46	1.54	1.54	1.59	1.59	1.61	1.59	1.57	1.54	1.63	1.68	1.56
1952	1.81	1.87	1.89	1.97	1.99	2.01	1.96	2.01	1.97	1.95	1.88	1.91	1.94
1953	1.91	1.93	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.92	1.93	1.86	1.76	1.59	1.48	1.52	1.80
1954	1.59	1.60	1.60	1.62	1.64	1.63	1.59	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.52	1.51	1.59
1955	1.51	1.59	1.54										

During the period 1910 - March 1955 corn prices ranged from an average of 34 cents per bushel to an average of \$2.50 per bushel. The lowest price was for December 1932 and the highest was for September 1947. The change from the lowest to the highest amounted to 635 percent. For year-to-year price changes see Table 34. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 25.

Table 14. Cotton: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Cents per pound													
1910-14	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.7	12.9	12.9	12.8	12.2	11.5	11.1	10.9	10.9	12.1
1915-19	18.4	17.8	17.9	18.4	19.0	19.8	20.6	21.5	22.5	24.2	25.2	24.9	20.9
1920-24	24.9	25.0	23.9	24.4	24.4	24.3	24.2	23.3	22.8	23.1	22.5	22.2	23.7
1925-29	18.3	18.0	18.1	18.5	18.5	18.7	18.9	18.7	20.5	19.0	17.3	16.7	18.4
1930-34	9.5	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.8	9.5	9.9	9.4	9.4	9.0	9.0	8.6	9.4
1935-39	10.6	10.6	10.7	10.8	10.7	10.6	11.0	10.5	10.3	10.2	10.1	10.2	10.5
1940	10.2	10.2	10.1	10.2	9.8	9.7	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.7	9.8	9.6	9.8
1941	9.8	9.8	10.1	10.8	12.0	13.2	14.5	15.9	19.3	17.5	17.1	17.5	14.0
1942	18.6	19.0	19.0	19.9	20.0	19.0	19.5	19.0	19.6	20.0	20.0	19.5	19.4
1943	19.8	19.9	20.3	20.3	20.3	20.7	20.7	20.6	21.0	21.0	20.0	19.5	20.3
1944	19.9	20.3	20.4	20.5	20.4	20.7	21.1	20.9	22.1	22.8	22.0	21.8	21.1
1945	21.8	21.0	21.1	20.8	21.2	21.3	21.8	21.6	22.6	24.0	24.5	24.5	22.2
1946	23.5	23.5	22.7	23.8	24.2	26.0	30.4	31.8	36.0	38.2	29.8	30.8	28.4
1947	30.8	31.5	32.9	33.3	33.7	34.2	35.8	34.5	32.4	31.5	33.5	36.0	33.3
1948	35.2	32.2	32.2	35.0	36.0	34.5	33.0	31.6	32.3	32.0	31.4	30.4	33.0
1949	28.6	28.5	27.6	30.5	30.4	30.0	30.0	29.9	31.0	30.6	29.5	28.0	29.6
1950	28.0	29.3	29.6	30.5	31.3	32.0	35.2	36.9	40.8	38.9	40.4	40.4	34.4
1951	42.2	42.5	43.2	43.8	43.7	42.8	41.0	35.0	35.2	36.5	41.0	41.8	40.7
1952	41.2	40.1	40.1	40.5	38.2	39.3	39.1	39.9	40.1	37.6	34.9	33.8	38.7
1953	32.3	32.4	33.2	32.7	33.0	33.0	33.2	33.2	34.3	33.7	33.0	32.7	33.1
1954	32.5	33.4	33.4	33.5	33.5	33.8	33.9	34.5	35.7	35.3	33.7	33.1	33.9
1955	33.8	34.3	34.1										

For the period 1910 - March 1955 the average price received for cotton ranged from 4.8 cents per pound in June 1932 to 36.0 cents per pound in May 1948. The higher price is almost eight times as great as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 35. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 24.

Table 15. Cottonseed: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per ton													
1910-14	23.90	23.92	24.56	23.98	25.04	24.74	23.80	22.82	19.86	20.05	19.74	21.52	22.83
1915-19	49.20	49.06	48.82	49.56	49.48	48.48	49.30	49.38	47.64	55.62	58.74	58.96	51.19
1920-24	40.78	41.66	41.50	43.68	44.58	42.86	39.78	36.80	30.92	32.74	36.02	36.68	39.00
1925-29	33.38	34.70	36.44	37.11	38.48	38.24	37.00	34.92	33.60	32.72	31.10	31.00	34.89
1930-34	18.04	18.22	18.62	19.52	20.22	19.46	20.04	20.10	19.30	18.34	19.42	20.06	19.28
1935-39	31.78	32.10	32.20	32.76	32.74	31.28	30.12	26.64	26.36	27.22	27.40	27.92	29.88
1940	25.70	26.70	27.00	28.00	27.80	24.90	24.80	23.50	20.40	21.90	24.00	26.00	25.06
1941	26.00	25.50	26.30	27.00	29.00	33.30	34.70	37.40	49.80	52.30	48.90	48.60	36.57
1942	48.60	49.20	51.00	53.20	53.00	48.00	48.00	47.00	47.80	48.70	48.80	48.40	49.31
1943	48.80	47.80	48.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	53.00	54.00	54.00	53.00	54.00	50.72
1944	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	53.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	53.92
1945	53.00	52.00	51.00	51.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	53.00	53.00	53.00	54.00	54.00	52.50
1946	53.00	52.00	48.00	51.00	52.00	56.00	59.00	57.00	58.00	68.00	92.00	92.00	61.50
1947	91.00	90.00	93.00	97.00	87.00	81.00	82.00	79.00	80.00	95.00	92.00	99.00	88.83
1948	100.00	93.00	88.00	92.00	93.00	100.00	95.00	78.00	71.00	66.00	68.00	70.00	84.50
1949	67.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	54.00	50.00	47.30	47.00	45.00	43.50	43.30	43.00	50.43
1950	43.50	43.50	43.50	47.00	50.00	50.00	53.00	60.00	75.00	77.00	90.00	92.00	60.38
1951	96.00	98.00	98.00	98.00	99.00	94.00	75.00	68.00	69.00	70.00	72.00	72.00	84.08
1952	73.00	71.00	69.00	68.00	67.00	67.00	69.00	67.00	72.00	72.00	73.00	72.00	70.00
1953	72.00	72.00	72.00	70.00	68.00	66.00	62.00	59.00	53.00	54.00	54.50	55.00	63.13
1954	55.00	56.00	56.00	60.00	62.00	60.00	59.00	55.00	62.00	63.00	63.00	64.00	59.58
1955	63.00	63.00	64.00										

Cottonseed prices reached their peak for the 1910-54 period in June 1948. At that time cottonseed sold for an average of \$100.00 per ton. The lowest average price recorded for the 45-year period was \$9.00 per ton in September 1931 and July 1932. The higher price is a little over eleven times as great as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 36. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figures 24.

Table 16. Eggs: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Cents per dozen												
1910-14	24.0	20.2	17.2	15.2	14.6	15.2	14.8	16.0	18.8	20.6	22.6	25.4	18.7
1915-19	33.8	27.6	20.6	22.2	22.2	22.0	21.6	24.2	28.2	32.8	36.4	42.8	27.9
1920-24	40.4	31.6	25.6	20.6	20.4	21.0	22.8	26.4	31.0	35.0	40.4	45.8	30.1
1925-29	37.0	28.6	20.8	20.6	21.0	20.8	22.6	25.2	31.0	35.0	38.0	42.2	28.6
1930-34	23.2	16.3	12.4	13.0	12.6	12.8	13.4	15.9	19.3	21.4	22.4	24.9	17.3
1935-39	23.1	19.4	15.1	15.7	15.9	16.3	17.4	19.6	23.5	25.6	26.7	29.7	20.7
1940	22.9	26.1	13.8	14.1	14.4	14.9	16.0	18.1	19.9	21.9	23.4	27.4	19.4
1941	21.8	16.9	14.6	16.0	17.3	19.1	22.0	23.8	28.4	29.4	34.7	39.8	23.6
1942	29.9	23.5	20.7	21.2	22.5	23.6	24.9	27.4	33.7	37.4	39.4	41.7	28.8
1943	38.0	32.4	30.4	30.4	30.9	30.6	32.0	33.4	39.3	44.7	47.3	48.5	36.5
1944	46.2	32.7	27.0	24.5	25.3	26.2	28.4	31.3	37.3	44.2	48.0	50.9	35.2
1945	48.4	36.3	29.6	30.0	31.4	33.1	35.5	39.4	44.3	49.0	53.0	56.0	40.5
1946	55.0	36.7	29.3	29.3	31.4	34.7	40.2	45.2	52.0	56.0	58.0	58.0	43.8
1947	54.0	44.0	37.2	36.5	38.3	40.3	45.8	48.0	56.0	63.0	63.7	68.1	49.6
1948	60.0	55.0	39.5	37.9	39.5	41.2	42.8	46.7	55.0	58.4	60.8	64.1	50.1
1949	52.0	44.2	35.6	35.4	38.1	38.1	40.4	46.0	53.4	56.6	57.8	56.0	46.1
1950	39.5	31.8	29.8	29.5	28.3	29.7	36.0	41.9	46.8	48.0	51.2	71.0	40.3
1951	51.0	48.0	37.6	38.2	39.3	42.5	43.8	47.4	54.5	57.8	63.4	68.4	49.3
1952	50.4	40.2	32.9	32.5	33.1	36.7	41.0	48.2	52.2	54.7	59.2	60.0	45.1
1953	56.9	43.0	38.5	38.5	39.9	41.0	43.8	47.9	52.8	55.5	57.0	60.0	47.9
1954	57.0	48.0	37.0	34.0	34.5	36.0	37.0	41.5	43.0	42.0	45.0	45.0	41.4
1955	40.0	40.0	36.0										

The highest average price received by farmers for eggs during the 1910 - March 1955 period was 71 cents per dozen in December 1950. The lowest was 8 cents per dozen in March and April of 1933. The higher price is almost 9 times as high as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 37. For seasonal price movements see Figure 29.

Table 17. Hay: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Dollars per ton												
1910-14	11.95	12.53	12.67	12.47	12.65	12.71	12.47	12.21	11.99	12.04	12.14	12.21	12.34
1915-19	14.72	14.99	15.25	15.63	15.57	15.50	15.15	14.60	14.21	14.68	15.27	15.75	15.11
1920-24	16.10	16.62	17.02	17.46	17.48	17.48	16.84	15.65	15.21	14.54	15.00	14.91	16.19
1925-29	14.42	14.80	15.36	15.44	15.38	15.18	14.56	13.98	13.64	13.84	14.26	13.78	14.55
1930-34	10.08	10.30	10.40	10.64	10.90	10.80	10.38	10.10	9.80	9.70	9.56	9.32	10.17
1935-39	10.28	10.60	10.98	11.10	10.92	10.20	10.02	9.20	9.40	9.52	9.38	9.62	10.10
1940	8.50	9.00	9.00	9.50	9.80	9.50	8.50	8.00	7.90	7.90	8.00	8.50	8.68
1941	8.50	8.90	9.40	10.00	10.30	9.30	9.80	9.00	9.00	8.90	9.10	9.50	9.31
1942	10.50	10.50	11.10	11.40	11.30	10.70	10.00	10.00	10.40	10.60	11.00	12.00	10.79
1943	13.00	14.10	14.80	14.80	14.70	14.40	13.60	14.00	17.00	19.20	20.50	21.50	15.97
1944	22.20	23.00	24.00	23.50	23.00	21.00	20.00	20.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	21.80	21.54
1945	22.80	23.00	23.08	22.50	22.00	21.50	21.50	21.50	19.00	18.50	20.00	21.20	21.38
1946	21.20	22.20	22.20	22.20	22.50	21.00	24.50	22.50	21.00	23.50	24.50	24.00	22.61
1947	24.50	24.00	23.50	23.50	22.50	21.50	19.90	22.50	22.50	22.50	24.00	24.00	22.91
1948	25.50	26.50	26.50	28.00	27.00	26.20	24.30	23.00	22.60	22.30	22.00	22.50	24.70
1949	23.00	23.00	23.90	24.10	23.10	22.70	25.70	23.70	23.80	23.70	23.40	22.90	23.58
1950	22.90	22.90	23.00	23.00	23.30	23.30	22.40	23.10	23.50	24.10	24.30	25.30	23.43
1951	25.90	27.00	28.00	27.70	27.10	26.80	26.00	25.10	26.10	26.10	29.10	29.50	27.03
1952	30.90	30.50	30.60	30.60	29.70	29.00	28.00	29.80	31.30	30.70	31.50	31.80	30.37
1953	32.30	32.00	30.80	30.20	27.70	27.40	26.30	24.10	24.00	23.50	23.80	25.40	27.29
1954	24.80	25.60	26.30	26.10	25.40	23.80	24.00	24.40	24.50	24.60	26.40	26.20	25.18
1955	27.30	26.70	26.90										

During the period 1910 - March 1955 hay prices ranged from an average of \$6.40 per ton in December 1932 to an average of \$32.30 per ton in January 1953. The higher price is about five times as high as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 38. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 31.

Table 18. Hogs: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per cwt.													
1910-14	6.48	6.30	6.52	6.54	6.34	6.48	6.40	6.68	6.76	6.72	6.54	6.38	6.51
1915-19	9.60	9.30	9.72	10.12	10.40	10.34	10.62	11.00	11.04	11.12	10.74	10.92	10.41
1920-24	8.24	8.04	8.21	8.03	7.94	7.52	7.50	7.96	8.04	8.28	8.08	7.62	7.96
1925-29	8.70	8.74	8.84	8.72	8.70	8.34	9.16	9.24	9.42	9.42	9.36	9.18	8.99
1930-34	5.18	5.07	4.94	4.98	4.95	4.90	4.77	4.81	5.07	4.94	4.96	4.78	4.95
1935-39	6.54	6.50	6.64	6.66	6.44	6.60	6.64	7.10	7.32	7.42	7.06	6.78	6.81
1940	4.70	4.40	4.20	4.20	4.60	4.50	4.65	4.65	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.66
1941	5.50	5.70	5.70	6.20	6.90	7.20	8.30	8.80	9.20	9.20	8.80	8.90	7.53
1942	9.20	9.60	10.10	10.80	10.90	11.20	11.70	12.00	12.00	12.30	12.50	12.50	11.23
1943	12.80	12.80	13.20	13.30	12.90	12.30	12.20	12.40	12.40	12.40	12.00	11.20	12.49
1944	10.20	10.20	10.20	10.10	9.80	10.00	9.40	9.70	10.70	11.10	11.50	11.90	10.40
1945	11.90	11.90	11.90	12.30	12.50	12.70	13.00	13.00	13.30	13.30	13.50	13.60	12.74
1946	13.60	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.90	16.20	18.10	15.70	18.50	20.10	20.30	15.87
1947	18.20	19.30	23.70	21.60	19.20	20.40	20.40	21.60	23.40	23.70	22.50	22.90	21.41
1948	23.70	19.90	20.00	19.40	19.00	21.00	24.00	24.60	25.00	22.40	21.20	21.00	21.77
1949	19.40	17.50	18.00	17.40	17.00	18.40	18.60	18.60	18.60	17.30	16.00	14.80	17.63
1950	14.40	15.00	14.90	14.80	16.70	17.30	21.50	20.90	20.60	18.10	18.00	17.90	17.51
1951	19.00	20.00	20.00	19.50	19.50	19.50	20.40	20.50	19.50	20.00	18.40	17.70	19.50
1952	17.60	16.80	16.10	15.90	18.20	18.90	18.80	19.80	18.30	17.60	16.30	15.90	17.52
1953	16.80	17.30	18.30	18.60	21.30	21.50	22.60	21.40	22.30	20.70	19.50	21.30	20.13
1954	22.20	23.70	23.40	24.70	24.60	22.90	21.60	20.10	18.80	18.20	18.40	17.50	21.34
1955	16.80	16.20	14.90										

The highest average price received by farmers for hogs for the 1910 - March 1955 period was recorded for February 1954. Hog prices at that time averaged \$23.70 per cwt. compared to an average of \$2.90 in February 1933, the lowest recorded for the period. The February 1954 price is almost eight times as high as the February 1933 price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 39. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 32.

Table 19. Lambs: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per cwt.													
1910-14	4.14	4.64	5.00	4.56	4.32	4.70	4.42	4.18	4.80	4.44	4.12	4.22	4.46
1915-19	7.14	7.90	8.40	8.36	8.78	8.58	9.00	8.66	7.90	8.80	8.16	8.78	8.37
1920-24	7.32	7.66	7.62	7.26	7.64	7.48	7.42	6.62	6.64	6.72	6.28	5.98	7.05
1925-29	8.06	8.72	8.64	8.48	9.06	8.72	9.40	9.04	8.34	7.88	8.90	8.42	8.64
1930-34	5.45	5.91	5.51	5.58	5.64	5.38	5.61	5.22	5.03	4.72	4.85	4.45	5.32
1935-39	5.28	5.32	5.39	5.36	5.54	5.26	5.30	5.44	5.44	5.94	5.40	5.58	5.44
1940	5.20	5.20	5.50	5.50	5.60	5.60	5.40	5.50	5.70	5.50	5.30	5.50	5.46
1941	6.30	6.00	6.20	6.20	7.00	7.30	7.40	7.70	7.80	7.70	7.70	8.00	7.11
1942	8.50	8.70	8.70	9.00	9.70	10.50	11.40	11.30	10.90	10.50	11.00	11.20	10.12
1943	11.20	11.40	11.70	12.00	12.40	12.30	12.30	11.80	11.70	11.70	11.20	12.00	11.81
1944	12.00	12.20	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.00	10.60	11.00	11.30	11.30	11.30	11.56
1945	11.30	12.00	12.80	12.80	12.30	11.80	11.80	11.50	10.70	10.80	10.80	11.00	11.63
1946	10.20	10.20	10.20	10.50	10.90	12.90	12.00	11.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	12.80	11.39
1947	12.80	12.50	13.00	12.50	12.50	13.00	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.00	15.00	15.00	13.65
1948	15.00	14.00	13.50	15.00	16.50	16.50	18.00	18.00	18.00	17.50	17.50	17.50	16.42
1949	17.50	17.50	18.70	19.90	20.50	19.00	17.90	17.90	17.90	17.00	17.50	18.50	18.32
1950	17.80	18.50	19.00	18.80	18.80	19.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	22.00	22.50	19.70
1951	22.50	24.00	26.00	26.50	25.00	25.00	24.50	24.50	23.50	23.50	23.50	25.00	24.46
1952	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	24.00	21.50	21.00	21.00	23.96
1953	21.00	20.00	19.80	19.50	21.50	22.00	21.50	19.50	18.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	19.48
1954	18.00	18.50	19.50	21.00	22.00	21.50	18.50	17.80	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	18.73
1955	18.00	18.40	18.40										

Lamb prices reached their peak for the 1910 - March 1955 period in April of 1951. At that time prices received by farmers for lambs averaged \$26.50 per cwt. compared to a low of \$3.10 in August 1910. The higher price is almost nine times as high as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 40. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 30.

Table 20. Milk, wholesale: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per cwt.													
1910-14	2.47	2.41	2.36	2.20	2.05	2.01	2.03	2.11	2.17	2.27	2.40	2.49	2.25
1915-19	3.00	2.92	2.83	2.77	2.70	2.65	2.67	2.77	2.94	3.28	3.42	3.47	2.95
1920-24	3.69	3.60	3.47	3.41	3.20	3.10	3.12	3.18	3.35	3.44	3.38	3.21	3.35
1925-29	2.81	2.71	2.59	2.49	2.39	2.33	2.38	2.44	2.60	2.76	2.83	2.84	2.60
1930-34	1.80	1.72	1.64	1.52	1.48	1.49	1.48	1.54	1.60	1.74	1.81	1.77	1.63
1935-39	2.01	1.97	1.87	1.72	1.62	1.62	1.66	1.74	1.81	1.90	1.97	2.03	1.83
1940	2.00	1.95	1.85	1.80	1.70	1.65	1.70	1.70	1.75	1.85	1.95	2.05	1.83
1941	2.00	1.95	1.95	1.90	1.90	1.95	2.05	2.10	2.30	2.50	2.65	2.70	2.16
1942	2.70	2.65	2.55	2.50	2.45	2.30	2.30	2.40	2.65	2.90	3.05	3.20	2.64
1943	3.05	3.00	2.95	2.95	3.00	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.45	3.50	3.70	3.18
1944	3.60	3.50	3.35	3.20	3.10	3.05	3.20	3.25	3.35	3.40	3.60	3.70	3.36
1945	3.55	3.45	3.25	3.25	3.20	3.15	3.15	3.20	3.30	3.50	3.60	3.80	3.37
1946	3.60	3.50	3.35	3.25	3.35	3.60	4.35	4.60	4.90	5.60	6.00	5.90	4.33
1947	5.30	5.10	4.85	4.55	4.30	4.00	4.15	4.35	4.70	5.25	5.75	5.90	4.86
1948	5.70	5.45	5.10	4.80	4.80	4.80	5.00	5.20	5.40	5.55	5.70	5.75	5.27
1949	5.10	4.80	4.20	3.95	3.80	3.80	3.80	4.00	4.25	4.65	5.00	4.90	4.36
1950	4.65	4.45	4.20	3.75	3.80	3.90	3.95	4.15	4.50	4.85	5.30	5.35	4.40
1951	5.25	5.10	4.85	4.65	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.75	5.25	5.60	5.85	5.85	5.05
1952	5.80	5.65	5.40	4.95	4.75	4.75	4.80	5.05	5.50	6.05	6.30	6.05	5.42
1953	5.90	5.50	4.90	4.40	4.20	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.80	5.15	5.25	5.25	4.85
1954	5.05	4.80	4.35	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.85	4.00	4.40	4.80	5.00	5.05	4.38
1955	4.85	4.65	4.35										

During the period 1910 - March 1955, prices of milk ranged from an average of \$1.05 per cwt. in July and August of 1932 to an average of \$6.30 in November 1952. The November 1952 price is six times as high as the July and August 1932 price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 41. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 27.

Table 21. Milk cows: Average price received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per head													
1910-14	30.68	30.74	32.32	31.86	33.14	32.50	32.70	32.92	32.60	33.10	32.48	31.76	32.23
1915-19	48.26	48.46	50.48	51.50	52.90	53.26	54.76	53.26	54.20	53.34	51.98	54.30	52.23
1920-24	40.28	41.06	41.02	41.96	42.00	42.30	39.28	39.84	37.80	38.34	36.66	33.84	39.53
1925-29	41.06	43.90	43.46	43.64	45.40	45.10	45.26	44.90	45.58	47.08	48.26	47.92	45.13
1930-34	29.60	29.40	29.80	30.80	30.20	28.80	25.00	25.20	24.40	24.40	24.40	23.60	27.13
1935-39	28.80	29.40	30.20	30.80	31.40	31.00	31.00	30.80	31.60	31.60	31.60	31.40	30.80
1940	35.00	35.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	36.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	36.00	36.00
1941	37.00	39.00	39.00	42.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	45.00	48.00	50.00	48.00	49.00	44.08
1942	50.00	53.00	54.00	56.00	59.00	58.00	58.00	58.00	60.00	59.00	62.00	62.00	57.42
1943	66.00	68.00	76.00	81.00	84.00	82.00	81.00	75.00	71.00	74.00	70.00	69.00	74.75
1944	68.00	68.00	70.00	72.00	72.00	69.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	65.00	64.00	65.00	67.08
1945	65.00	65.00	67.00	70.00	70.00	69.00	72.00	70.00	69.00	71.00	74.00	74.00	69.67
1946	77.00	77.00	77.00	81.00	81.00	81.00	83.00	82.00	84.00	85.00	90.00	89.00	82.25
1947	88.00	89.00	95.00	95.00	96.00	92.00	92.00	90.00	95.00	98.00	102.00	103.00	94.58
1948	106.00	106.00	106.00	115.00	115.00	116.00	123.00	129.00	129.00	129.00	128.00	129.00	119.25
1949	132.00	132.00	135.00	135.00	133.00	129.00	125.00	121.00	129.00	129.00	130.00	133.00	130.25
1950	134.00	134.00	136.00	137.00	139.00	143.00	143.00	153.00	158.00	155.00	152.00	154.00	144.83
1951	164.00	166.00	174.00	175.00	177.00	171.00	177.00	170.00	172.00	179.00	181.00	183.00	174.08
1952	180.00	189.00	191.00	183.00	184.00	184.00	175.00	170.00	165.00	161.00	151.00	150.00	173.58
1953	150.00	135.00	135.00	130.00	120.00	100.00	105.00	110.00	100.00	96.00	100.00	105.00	115.50
1954	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	95.00	92.00	85.00	86.00	81.00	86.00	84.00	84.00	91.08
1955	83.00	83.00	88.00										

Average prices received by farmers for milk cows sold ranged from a low of \$17.00 per head in February 1933 to a high of \$191.00 per head in March 1952. The higher price is a little more than eleven times as high as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 42. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 32.

Table 22. Oats: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per bushel													
1910-14	.63	.64	.63	.63	.63	.63	.63	.63	.63	.62	.61	.61	.63
1915-19	.82	.84	.85	.86	.87	.88	.86	.87	.88	.89	.89	.89	.87
1920-24	.79	.81	.78	.76	.77	.79	.81	.78	.77	.77	.74	.73	.78
1925-29	.70	.74	.71	.70	.69	.70	.69	.69	.68	.72	.70	.73	.70
1930-34	.51	.53	.51	.50	.49	.50	.50	.49	.52	.52	.53	.53	.51
1935-39	.56	.58	.59	.58	.55	.51	.50	.49	.51	.53	.53	.52	.54
1940	.47	.48	.51	.52	.51	.44	.39	.39	.40	.43	.45	.45	.45
1941	.45	.44	.45	.48	.45	.40	.40	.42	.47	.51	.51	.54	.46
1942	.55	.55	.56	.57	.57	.53	.52	.54	.56	.58	.58	.60	.56
1943	.64	.68	.69	.76	.79	.75	.79	.82	.94	.97	1.02	1.08	.83
1944	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	.95	.94	.92	.94	1.01	.98	1.01	1.01
1945	1.01	1.01	1.01	.98	.95	.71	.73	.75	.75	.78	.78	.81	.86
1946	.81	.86	.91	.91	.94	1.01	1.13	1.10	1.11	1.05	1.10	1.10	1.00
1947	1.02	1.04	1.10	1.10	1.15	1.01	1.06	1.13	1.23	1.28	1.35	1.36	1.15
1948	1.37	1.25	1.30	1.35	1.32	1.09	1.05	1.02	.98	1.05	.96	.98	1.14
1949	.99	.87	.98	.98	.91	.87	.83	.86	.87	.94	1.00	.90	.92
1950	.90	.90	.90	1.01	1.03	.97	.98	.99	1.05	1.06	1.15	1.15	1.01
1951	1.05	1.13	1.05	1.10	1.04	1.04	.95	1.01	1.04	1.14	1.19	1.18	1.08
1952	1.18	1.19	1.17	1.17	1.19	1.00	.97	1.05	1.20	1.25	1.21	1.13	1.14
1953	1.20	1.10	1.05	1.04	.98	.80	.77	.89	.94	.98	.99	.95	.97
1954	.95	.94	.94	.94	.93	.71	.76	.78	.83	.85	.93	.95	.88
1955	.95	.95	.95										

Oat prices reached their peak for the period 1910 - March 1955 in December 1947. At that time the average price received by farmers was \$1.36 per bushel compared to a low of 30 cents per bushel in July and August of 1932. From the lower price to the higher price represents a change of 353 percent in oat prices. For year-to-year price changes see Table 43. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 25.

Table 23. Potatoes: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per bushel													
1910-14	1.08	1.16	1.22	1.21	1.13	1.05	1.02	1.09	1.11	1.04	.99	1.01	1.09
1915-19	1.49	1.80	2.01	1.91	1.69	1.52	1.45	1.40	1.46	1.52	1.52	1.58	1.61
1920-24	1.87	2.03	2.29	2.33	2.21	2.03	1.91	1.91	1.76	1.83	1.75	1.74	1.97
1925-29	1.89	1.95	2.10	2.11	2.13	1.96	1.69	1.64	1.68	1.61	1.88	1.68	1.86
1930-34	1.05	1.16	1.20	1.22	1.19	.90	.86	.96	1.03	.99	.98	.96	1.04
1935-39	1.06	1.17	1.21	1.14	.96	.79	.89	.99	1.02	1.00	1.00	1.06	1.02
1940	1.10	1.15	1.20	1.20	.80	.68	.80	.85	.90	.90	.95	.95	.96
1941	1.00	1.05	1.10	1.10	.50	.61	.60	.70	1.00	1.05	1.15	1.20	.92
1942	1.30	1.45	1.60	1.65	1.10	.85	1.24	.95	1.25	1.40	1.40	1.50	1.31
1943	1.50	1.55	1.60	1.75	1.60	1.50	1.50	1.60	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.66
1944	2.00	2.15	2.20	2.20	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.80	2.00	2.00	2.15	2.40	1.86
1945	2.30	2.40	2.65	2.50	1.45	1.40	1.65	1.90	2.15	2.35	2.20	2.25	2.10
1946	2.30	2.35	2.30	2.20	1.15	1.35	1.50	1.70	1.95	2.20	2.05	2.05	1.92
1947	2.05	2.15	2.35	2.35	2.35	1.25	1.60	1.85	2.25	2.50	2.60	2.65	2.16
1948	2.60	2.60	2.70	2.70	2.70	1.85	2.10	2.30	2.30	2.40	2.25	2.40	2.41
1949	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.25	2.10	2.25	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.30	2.40	2.35	2.36
1950	2.45	2.50	2.50	2.35	1.60	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.30	2.15	2.10	2.20	2.18
1951	2.15	2.25	2.30	2.30	2.00	1.65	1.75	2.00	2.20	2.25	2.25	2.50	2.13
1952	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.50	3.60	3.00	3.30	3.35	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.93
1953	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.80	1.00	1.20	1.80	1.90	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.13
1954	2.00	NR*	NR*	NR*	1.55	1.45	1.50	1.85	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	1.86
1955	NR*	NR*	NR*										

*Not reported.

Potatoes are becoming relatively less and less important as a source of farm income in Mississippi. And, accordingly, the United States Department of Agriculture no longer reports potato prices each month. For the period 1910-54 the highest average price received for potatoes was \$3.60 per bushel in June 1952 and the lowest was 60 cents per bushel in July 1932. The higher price is six times as high as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 44. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 26.

PRICES AND INDEX OF SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN FARM PRICES

Table 24. Rice: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1951 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Dollars per cwt.												
1951	5.65	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	4.90	4.20	4.70	4.90	5.00	5.30
1952	5.10	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.30	5.30	5.60	5.80	5.90	5.45
1953	6.30	6.30	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.00	5.50	4.75	5.10	4.75	4.85	5.86
1954	4.85	4.85	5.00	4.90	4.75	4.00	3.80	3.80	4.00	4.20	4.20	4.10	4.37
1955	4.10	4.05	4.15										

Rice has become an important source of farm income in Mississippi only in the post war years. Prices received by farmers for rice have been reported only since January 1951. From that time through March 1955, rice prices have ranged from \$3.80 per cwt. to \$6.70 per cwt.

Table 25. Sheep: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Dollars per cwt.												
1910-14	3.44	3.54	3.82	3.66	3.96	3.98	3.86	3.46	3.86	3.56	3.64	3.40	3.68
1915-19	5.50	6.02	6.48	6.54	6.98	6.60	7.10	6.36	6.24	6.42	6.08	6.44	6.40
1920-24	5.36	5.46	5.18	5.29	5.48	5.04	4.82	4.74	4.70	5.12	4.50	4.46	5.01
1925-29	5.26	5.84	5.56	5.64	5.84	5.38	5.46	5.38	5.76	5.26	5.60	5.40	5.53
1930-34	3.66	3.76	3.66	3.77	3.66	3.49	3.62	3.56	3.26	3.06	3.04	2.78	3.44
1935-39	3.39	3.55	3.51	3.41	3.42	3.32	3.34	3.35	3.41	3.57	3.43	3.64	3.45
1940	3.20	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.60	3.65	3.60	3.50	3.30	3.50	3.45
1941	3.50	3.80	3.80	3.80	4.15	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.05	4.05	4.10	4.10	3.95
1942	4.40	4.40	4.65	4.45	4.75	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.00	4.40	5.00	4.44
1943	5.00	5.10	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.00	5.00	5.90	5.45
1944	5.90	5.70	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
1945	5.50	5.90	6.20	6.20	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.60	5.60	5.70	5.81
1946	5.70	6.00	6.00	6.40	6.60	6.60	7.80	6.90	6.90	7.50	6.90	6.80	6.67
1947	6.80	6.80	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.70	6.70	7.00	7.00	7.70	8.00	8.00	7.14
1948	8.00	7.50	7.50	8.00	8.50	8.50	8.50	9.00	9.50	8.80	9.00	9.00	8.48
1949	9.00	9.00	9.80	10.00	10.00	8.50	8.50	9.00	8.80	8.20	8.30	8.50	8.97
1950	8.50	9.50	10.00	9.20	9.50	10.20	10.20	10.20	10.20	10.50	11.00	11.00	10.00
1951	11.30	12.50	13.50	13.50	13.20	13.20	13.00	13.00	12.80	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.92
1952	13.00	13.00	12.70	12.40	12.40	12.40	11.40	10.40	10.00	9.20	9.00	9.00	11.24
1953	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.50	8.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.00	6.50	6.00	6.00	7.67
1954	6.00	6.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.98
1955	5.50	5.50	5.50										

Sheep prices reached their highest peak for the 1910 - March 1955 period in 1951 and 1952. An average price of \$13.00 per cwt. was recorded for July, August, October, November, and December of 1951 and for January and February 1952. The lowest average price recorded for the period was \$2.25 per cwt. in April and December of 1933 and January 1934. The higher price is almost six times as high as the lower price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 45. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 30.

Table 26. Soybeans: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
	Dollars per bushel												
1910-14	2.00 ¹	2.08 ¹								1.55 ²	1.73 ²		1.77
1915-19	2.34	2.41								2.41 ³	2.49 ⁴	2.58	2.44
1920-24	2.51 ⁵	2.59								2.15	2.54	2.58	3.30
1925-29	2.80	2.71	2.82	3.11	3.36	3.25	3.29	3.01	2.88	2.84	2.74	2.60	2.95
1930-34	1.77	1.79	1.85	1.99	2.08	2.14	1.98	2.07	1.76	1.45	1.45	1.47	1.82
1935-39	1.64	1.74	1.83	2.01	2.01	1.98	1.98	1.78	1.75	1.56	1.41	1.44	1.76
1940	1.35	1.45	1.60	1.70	1.85	1.80	1.70	1.50	1.45	1.20	1.10	1.15	1.49
1941	1.15	1.40	1.40	1.60	1.70	1.60	1.55	1.30	1.30	1.50	1.50	1.55	1.46
1942	1.75	2.05	2.30	2.30	2.45	2.30	2.30	1.95	1.90	1.80	1.60	1.65	2.03
1943	1.65	1.85	2.05	2.35	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.30	2.20	2.10	2.25	2.25	2.25
1944	2.35	2.50	2.55	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.50	2.30	2.30	2.35	2.15	2.15	2.42
1945	2.25	2.50	3.10	3.20	3.40	3.20	3.20	2.95	2.60	2.35	2.10	2.25	2.76
1946	2.45	2.65	2.85	3.15	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.05	2.75	2.55	2.85	2.85	3.02
1947	2.90	3.10	3.40	3.65	3.85	3.75	3.65	3.65	2.95	3.00	3.00	3.25	3.35
1948	3.65	3.00	4.00	4.00	4.10	4.00	4.00	3.00	2.25	2.15	2.10	2.25	3.20
1949	2.65	2.35	2.35	2.55	2.30	2.25	2.10	2.15	2.10	2.00	1.94	2.10	2.20
1950	2.20	2.35	2.35	2.50	2.70	2.45	2.50	2.35	2.25	1.95	2.30	2.40	2.36
1951	2.70	2.95	3.05	3.00	3.10	3.00	2.80	2.60	2.50	2.40	2.70	2.70	2.79
1952	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.85	2.75	2.95	2.85	2.90	2.75	2.75	2.70	2.70	2.79
1953	2.65	2.70	2.80	2.90	2.90	2.80	2.65	2.50	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.64
1954	2.70	2.85	3.10	3.35	3.35	3.10	2.85	2.70	2.60	2.35	2.50	2.55	2.83
1955	2.60	2.75	2.70										

¹One year, 1914.

²Two year average, 1913-14.

³Four year average, 1916-19.

⁴Three year average, 1915, 1917, and 1919.

⁵Four year average, 1920-22 and 1924.

Soybean prices were not reported each month until 1925. Since 1925, the average price received by farmers for soybeans has ranged from a low of 95 cents per bushel in January and February 1933 to a high of \$4.10 per bushel in May 1948. Percentagewise, this change amounted to 344 percent. For year-to-year changes see Table 46. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 31.

Table 27. Sweet Potatoes: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910-March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Dollars per bushel													
1910-14	.72	.76	.78	.83	.88	.84	.81	.83	.81	.75	.62	.63	.77
1915-19	.81	.93	1.07	1.05	1.03	1.00	.98	1.14	1.08	1.99	.87	.87	.99
1920-24	1.04	1.11	1.20	1.25	1.28	1.34	1.36	1.36	1.24	1.25	1.01	1.02	1.20
1925-29	1.18	1.31	1.41	1.42	1.44	1.52	1.50	1.54	1.38	1.17	.98	.90	1.31
1930-34	.65	.70	.74	.76	.78	.79	.77	.90	.82	.70	.57	.59	.73
1935-39	.70	.75	.77	.78	.81	.79	.85	.97	.87	.74	.66	.68	.78
1940	.75	.85	.85	.90	.90	.90	.90	1.00	1.00	.85	.80	.85	.88
1941	.95	.95	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.00	1.00	1.15	.90	.90	.80	.80	.97
1942	.85	.90	.95	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.00	1.10	1.15	1.05	1.00	1.00	1.01
1943	1.10	1.10	1.25	1.50	1.55	1.45	2.50	2.50	2.45	2.15	1.65	1.65	1.74
1944	1.85	1.85	1.95	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.30	2.00	1.95	2.12
1945	2.00	2.05	2.20	2.20	2.10	2.10	2.95	2.95	2.55	2.25	2.15	2.00	2.29
1946	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.50	2.50	2.40	2.40	3.50	2.85	2.45	2.05	2.20	2.47
1947	2.30	2.40	2.55	2.50	2.50	2.60	2.75	3.25	3.05	2.60	2.20	2.20	2.58
1948	2.30	2.50	2.50	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.60	3.15	2.70	2.55	2.10	2.20	2.53
1949	2.35	2.35	2.50	2.45	2.65	2.45	2.90	3.35	2.70	2.25	2.10	2.15	2.52
1950	2.25	2.25	2.45	2.50	2.60	2.50	2.50	2.75	2.40	1.95	1.60	1.90	2.31
1951	2.00	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.25	2.25	2.20	2.50	2.75	3.15	3.15	3.35	2.52
1952	3.75	3.75	4.10	4.35	4.35	4.50	4.50	4.95	4.50	4.00	3.95	4.20	4.24
1953	4.60	4.60	4.80	5.00	5.20	4.40	3.80	4.00	4.00	3.20	2.90	3.15	4.14
1954	3.35	3.45	3.40	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.30	2.95	3.00	3.37
1955	3.20	3.50	3.35										

For the 1910 - March 1955 period the average price received by farmers for sweet potatoes reached its highest point in August 1952. Sweet potato prices at that time were \$4.95 per bushel compared to a low of 37 cents per bushel in January 1933. The higher price is a little over thirteen times as high as the lower price. For year-to-year changes see Table 47. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 26.

Table 28. Turkeys: Average price received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
Cents per pound													
1910-14	13.9*									13.7**	13.6**	13.5**	13.7
1915-19	18.0									19.6	20.2	22.3	20.0
1920-24	27.8									27.4	26.2	26.6	27.0
1925-29	28.3									27.6	28.2	28.4	28.2
1930-34	16.2									14.8	15.4	14.8	24.2
1935-39	16.4	16.0	15.6	15.6	15.2	15.6	15.4	15.2	16.0	16.0	17.2	17.4	16.0
1940	16.0	16.0	15.0	15.0	16.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	16.0	17.0	17.0	15.7
1941	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	18.0	18.0	19.0	20.0	17.2
1942	20.0	20.0	20.0	21.0	20.3	20.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	24.6	26.5	21.4
1943	26.5	25.0	25.0	27.0	28.0	28.0	28.0	27.0	27.0	28.0	32.0	34.0	28.0
1944	34.3	32.0	32.0	31.0	31.0	29.0	29.0	29.0	31.0	31.0	34.5	36.0	31.6
1945	34.5	32.0	32.0	33.0	34.0	35.0	34.0	35.0	34.0	35.0	36.0	36.5	34.2
1946	35.0	34.0	34.0	32.0	34.0	35.0	36.0	37.0	35.0	37.0	40.0	41.0	35.8
1947	38.0	35.0	37.0	37.0	36.0	37.0	38.0	36.0	39.0	38.0	40.0	42.5	37.8
1948	42.5	39.5	38.0	38.0	39.0	39.0	39.0	38.0	38.0	38.0	43.0	49.0	40.1
1949	44.0	42.0	42.0	40.0	37.0	37.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	37.0	38.5	38.1
1950	38.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	34.0	36.0	34.0	39.0	39.0	34.8
1951	39.0	38.0	38.0	39.0	39.0	38.0	38.0	39.0	40.0	38.0	39.0	40.0	38.8
1952	40.0	35.0	38.0	36.0	34.0	36.0	34.0	35.0	36.0	36.0	33.0	38.0	35.9
1953	35.0	37.0	37.0	36.0	35.0	35.0	33.0	35.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	37.0	35.7
1954	37.0	37.0	35.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	33.0	33.0	33.0	33.0	32.0	32.0	33.9
1955	31.0	32.0	32.0										

*Two year average, 1913-14.

**Three year average, 1912-14.

Turkey prices have been reported each month only since 1933. From that time through March 1955 the average prices received by farmers for turkeys has ranged from a low of 9 cents per pound in January 1933 to a high of 49 cents per pound in December 1948. From the lower price to the higher price represents an increase of 444 percent in turkey prices. For year-to-year price changes see Table 48. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 33.

Table 29. Wool: Average prices received by farmers, Mississippi, 1910 - March, 1955.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
1910-14	.19	.19	.19	.16	.18	.18	.18	.19	.16	.16	.17	.16	.18
1915-19	.30	.29	.31	.31	.32	.33	.34	.35	.33	.34	.34	.35	.32
1920-24	.23	.23	.22	.23	.23	.24	.24	.23	.23	.23	.22	.20	.23
1925-29	.31	.30	.30	.30	.31	.31	.32	.32	.33	.33	.31	.33	.31
1930-34	.19	.19	.18	.17	.16	.16	.17	.18	.17	.17	.17	.17	.17
1935-39	.21	.21	.21	.21	.22	.23	.23	.24	.24	.24	.24	.23	.23
1940	.25	.24	.24	.24	.25	.25	.27	.27	.28	.28	.27	.27	.26
1941	.28	.28	.28	.28	.30	.33	.34	.35	.38	.38	.38	.38	.33
1942	.38	.38	.39	.39	.39	.39	.40	.40	.40	.40	.40	.40	.39
1943	.41	.43	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44
1944	.43	.43	.43	.43	.43	.45	.47	.47	.48	.46	.45	.45	.45
1945	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.46	.48	.50	.49	.47	.46
1946	.45	.45	.45	.46	.46	.46	.46	.47	.47	.49	.49	.45	.46
1947	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44	.44
1948	.44	.43	.43	.44	.44	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.44
1949	.44	.43	.43	.43	.43	.41	.41	.41	.41	.41	.40	.41	.42
1950	.41	.41	.41	.42	.42	.45	.46	.46	.48	.50	.50	.55	.46
1951	.70	.75	.85	1.00	.95	1.00	.95	.90	.75	.75	.75	.70	.84
1952	.70	.65	.60	.57	.55	.55	.50	.50	.48	.48	.48	.48	.54
1953	.48	.48	.49	.58	.59	.59	.59	.57	.55	.52	.51	.51	.54
1954	.52	.52	.51	.54	.54	.54	.54	.53	.53	.53	.52	.52	.53
1955	.52	.54	.54										

An average price of \$1.00 per pound for wool was recorded for April and June of 1951. The lowest average price recorded during the 1910 - March 1955 period was 7 cents per pound in July 1932. The April and June 1951 price is a little over fourteen times the July 1932 price. For year-to-year price changes see Table 49. For seasonal price movements see Tables 51 and 52 and Figure 33.

Table 30. Year-to-year changes in prices received for beef cattle, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per cwt.)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than .20	3	3	7*	7
.20 - .49	6	4	10	17
.50 - .99	6	4	10	27
1.00 - 1.99	7	3	10	37
2.00 - 2.99	2	2	4	41
3.00 or more	2	1	3	44
Total	26	17	44	

Greatest change: from 1952 to 1953 a decrease of \$9.79 per hundred pounds.

*No change 1 year.

Beef cattle prices averaged within 50 cents per hundred pounds of the price for the year before in 17 years and within \$1.00 per hundred pounds in 27 years out of a total of 44. In only 3 years did the average price per hundred pounds differ from the average for the previous year by as much as \$3.00.

Table 31. Year-to-year changes in prices received for butterfat, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per pound)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 5	12	7	24*	24
5 - 9	11	4	15	39
10 - 14	1	3	4	43
15 or more	0	1	1	44
Total	24	15	44	

Greatest change: from 1920 to 1921 a decrease of 18 cents per pound.

*No change 5 years.

The change in butterfat prices from one year to the next was less than 5 cents per pound in 24 years out of 44, and less than 10 cents per pound in 39 years out of 44. In only 1 year out of 44 did the average price per pound differ from the average price for the year before by as much as 15 cents.

Table 32. Year-to-year changes in prices received for calves, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per cwt.)	No. years changes occurred			Cumulative total number years
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	
Less than .50	7	6	13	13
.50 - .99	7	4	11	24
1.00 - 1.99	8	3	11	35
2.00 - 2.99	2	2	4	39
3.00 - 3.99	1	1	2	41
4.00 or more	2	1	3	44
Total	27	17	44	

Greatest change: from 1952 to 1953 a decrease of \$10.11 per hundred pounds.

The average price of calves per hundred pounds was within \$1.00 of the average for the year before in 24 years out of 44, and within \$3.00 of the previous year's average in 39 of the 44 years. In only 3 years was the average price more than \$4.00 per hundred pounds above or below the price for the year before.

Table 33. Year-to-year changes in prices received for chickens, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per pound)	No. years changes occurred			Cumulative total number years
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	
Less than 1.0	7	8	16*	16
1.0 - 1.9	7	3	10	26
2.0 - 2.9	5	2	7	33
3.0 - 3.9	3	2	5	38
4.0 - 4.9	1	3	4	42
5.0 or more	1	1	2	44
Total	24	19	44	

Greatest change: from 1942 to 1943 an increase of 6.1 cents per pound.

*No change 1 year.

Chicken prices averaged within 2 cents per pound of the previous year's average in 26 years out of 44 and within 4 cents per pound of the previous year's average in 38 years out of 44. In only 2 years out of 44 did chicken prices differ from the average for the year before by as much as 5 cents per pound.

Table 34. Year-to-year changes in prices received for corn, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per bushel)	No. years changes occurred			Cumulative total number years
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	
Less than 5	5	3	8	8
5 - 14	9	7	16	24
15 - 24	7	1	8	32
25 - 34	3	3	6	38
35 - 44	2	1	3	41
45 or more	1	2	3	44
Total	27	17	44	

Greatest change: from 1920 to 1921 a decrease of 90 cents per bushel.

Corn prices for the year averaged within 15 cents per bushel of the previous year's average in 24 years and within 25 cents of the previous year's average in 32 years of a total of 44. In 3 of the 44 years corn prices differed from those of the year before by 45 cents or more.

Table 35. Year-to-year changes in prices received for cotton, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per pound)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 1.0	6	3	9	9
1.0 - 1.9	6	6	12	21
2.0 - 2.9	2	1	3	24
3.0 - 3.9	1	2	3	27
4.0 - 4.9	4	2	6	33
5.0 - 5.9	1	2	3	36
6.0 - 6.9	4	0	4	40
7.0 or more	2	2	4	44
Total	26	18	44	

Greatest change: from 1920 to 1921 a decrease of 18.4 cents per pound.

Cotton prices averaged within 2 cents per pound of the average for the year before in 21 years and within 5 cents per pound of the previous year's average in 33 years out of a total of 44. In 4 years of the 1910-54 period the average cotton prices differed from that of the previous year by 7 cents or more.

Table 36. Year-to-year changes in prices received for cottonseed, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per ton)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 3.00	5	5	10	10
3.00 - 5.99	3	6	9	19
6.00 - 9.99	4	5	9	28
10.00 - 14.99	6	4	10	38
15.00 - 19.99	2	0	2	40
20.00 or more	3	1	4	44
Total	23	21	44	

Greatest change: from 1948 to 1949 a decrease of \$34.07 per ton.

The average cottonseed price for the year was within \$6.00 per ton of the average price for the year before in 19 years and within \$10.00 per ton of the average for the year before in 28 years of the 1910-54 period. In 4 years of the 44 the average price per ton differed by \$20.00 or more from the average price for the previous year.

Table 37. Year-to-year changes in prices received for eggs, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per dozen)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 1.0	5	5	10	10
1.0 - 2.9	6	6	12	22
3.0 - 4.9	8	3	11	33
5.0 - 6.9	3	3	6	39
7.0 or more	3	2	5	44
Total	25	19	44	

Greatest change: from 1920 to 1921 a decrease of 15.1 cents per dozen.

The average price per dozen for eggs was within 3 cents of the average price for the preceding year in 22 years of the 1910-54 period. In 33 years of the period the average price per dozen was within 5 cents of the average price for the year before. In only 5 years of the 44 years did the average price per dozen differ by as much as 7 cents from the average of the year before.

Table 38. Year-to-year changes in prices received for hay, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per ton)	No. years changes occurred			Cumulative total number years
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	
Less than .25	2	3	5	5
.25 - .49	6	1	7	12
.50 - .99	4	4	8	20
1.00 - 1.99	6	5	11	31
2.00 - 4.99	6	2	8	39
5.00 or more	3	2	5	44
Total	27	17	44	

Greatest change: from 1953 to 1954 a decrease of \$12.11 per ton.

The average price farmers received for hay differed from the average of the year before by less than \$1.00 per ton in 20 years of the period 1910-54. In another 11 years the difference was only between \$1.00 and \$2.00. In only 5 years out of the total of 44 did the average price of hay differ from the previous year's average by as much as \$5.00 per ton.

Table 39. Year-to-year changes in prices received for hogs, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per cwt.)	No. years changes occurred			Cumulative total number years
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	
Less than .50	8	3	11	11
.50 - .99	3	4	7	18
1.00 - 1.99	4	7	11	29
2.00 - 3.99	8	3	11	40
4.00 or more	2	2	4	44
Total	25	19	44	

Greatest change: from 1946 to 1947 an increase of \$5.54 per hundred pounds.

Hog prices averaged within \$1.00 per hundred pounds of the previous year's price in 18 years out of 44. In 29 of the 44 years the average price for the year was within \$2.00 per hundred pounds of the average for the year before. In only 4 years did the average price of hogs differ from the year before by as much as \$4.00 per hundred pounds.

Table 40. Year-to-year changes in prices received for lambs, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per cwt.)	No. years changes occurred			Cumulative total number years
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	
Less than .50	10	8	18	18
.50 - .99	3	5	8	26
1.00 - 1.99	7	2	9	35
2.00 - 2.99	4	1	5	40
3.00 or more	2	2	4	44
Total	26	18	44	

Greatest change: from 1950 to 1951 an increase of \$4.76 per hundred pounds.

Lamb prices averaged within 50 cents per hundred pounds of the average for the year before in 18 years of the 1910-54 period, and within \$1.00 per hundred pounds in 26 of the 44 years. In 4 years the average price for the year was more than \$3.00 above or below the average price for the previous year.

Table 41. Year-to-year changes in prices received for milk, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per cwt.)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 5	4	2	9*	9
5 - 19	9	3	12	21
20 - 49	7	5	12	33
50 - 89	4	3	7	40
90 or more	2	2	4	44
Total	26	15	44	

Greatest change: from 1920 to 1921 a decrease of \$1.11 per cwt.

*No change 3 years.

Milk prices averaged within 20 cents per hundred pounds of the average price for the year before in 21 years of the 1910-54 period. In another 12 years milk prices were only between 20 and 50 cents per hundred pounds different from that for the previous years. In only 4 years of the 44 did the difference from the year before amount to a much as 90 cents per hundred pounds.

Table 42. Year-to-year changes in prices received for milk cows, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per head)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 1.00	5	3	8	8
1.00 - 4.99	7	3	10	18
5.00 - 9.99	7	4	11	29
10.00 - 19.99	8	2	10	39
20.00 or more	2	3	5	44
Total	29	15	44	

Greatest change: from 1952 to 1953 a decrease of \$58.08 per head.

Milk cow prices averaged within \$5.00 per head of the previous year's average in 18 years of the period 1910-54 and within \$10.00 per head in 29 years. For 5 years of the 44 the difference amounted to \$20.00 or more per head.

Table 43. Year-to-year changes in prices received for oats, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per bushel)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 3	6	3	9	9
3 - 7	7	5	12	21
8 - 14	7	4	11	32
15 - 24	4	5	9	41
25 or more	2	1	3	44
Total	26	18	44	

Greatest change: from 1920 to 1921 a decrease of 44 cents per bushel.

The average price of oats changed from the year before by less than 7 cents per bushel in 21 years of the 1910-54 period and by less than 15 cents per bushel in 32 years. The change was greater than 25 cents per bushel in only 3 years of the 44-year period.

Table 44. Year-to-year changes in prices received for potatoes, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per bushel)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 5	3	3	7*	7
5 - 19	5	9	14	21
20 - 39	10	3	13	34
40 - 69	1	4	5	39
70 or more	3	2	5	44
Total	22	21	44	

Greatest change: from 1920 to 1921 a decrease of \$1.32 per bushel.

*No change 1 year.

The average price for potatoes was within 20 cents per bushel of the average for the year before in 21 years out of 44, and within 40 cents per bushel in 34 years. In 5 years of the 1910-54 period the average price of potatoes differed from the average for the previous year by 70 cents or more per bushel.

Table 45. Year-to-year changes in prices received for sheep, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (dollars per cwt.)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than .50	17	6	24*	24
.50 - .99	5	2	7	31
1.00 - 1.99	4	5	9	40
2.00 - 2.99	2	1	3	43
3.00 or more	0	1	1	44
Total	28	15	44	

Greatest change, from 1952 to 1953 a decrease of \$3.57 per hundred pounds.

*No change 1 year.

In 24 years of the period 1910-54 the average price received for sheep was less than 50 cents per hundred pounds different from the average for the year before. In another 7 years the difference was only between 50 cents and \$1.00 per hundred pounds. In only 1 year of the 44 was the average price for the year as much as \$3.00 per hundred pounds above or below the price for the year before.

Table 46. Year-to-year changes in prices received for soybeans, Mississippi, 1913-54.

Size of change (cents per bushel)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 5	3	1	6*	6
5 - 24	6	5	11	17
25 - 49	11	3	14	31
50 - 74	3	3	6	37
75 or more	1	3	4	41
Total	24	15	41	

Greatest change: from 1931 to 1932 a decrease of \$1.04 per bushel.

*No change 2 years.

Soybean prices averaged within 25 cents per bushel of the average price for the year before 17 years out of a total of 41. For another 14 years the difference was between 25 and 50 cents per bushel. In 4 years of the 41 the difference amounted to 75 cents or more per bushel.

Table 47. Year-to-year changes in prices received for sweet potatoes, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per bushel)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 5	4	8	12	12
5 - 19	8	7	15	27
20 - 39	6	5	11	38
40 - 69	2	1	3	41
70 or more	2	1	3	44
Total	22	22	44	

Greatest change: from 1951 to 1952 an increase of \$1.72 per bushel.

The average price for sweet potatoes was within 20 cents per bushel of the average for the year before in 27 years of the 1910-54 period. In another 11 years the difference was between 20 and 40 cents per bushel. In 3 of the 44 years the difference was 70 cents or more per bushel.

Table 48. Year-to-year changes in prices received for turkeys, Mississippi, 1912-54.

Size of change (cents per pound)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 1.0	4	7	11	11
1.0 - 2.9	12	5	17	28
3.0 - 4.9	7	5	12	40
5.0 or more	1	1	2	42
Total	24	18	42	

Greatest change: from 1929 to 1930 a decrease of 6.7 cents per pound.

Turkey prices averaged within 3 cents per pound of the average for the year before in 28 years of the period 1912-54. The change from one year to the next exceeded 5 cents per pound in only 2 years of the 42-year period.

Table 49. Year-to-year changes in prices received for wool, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Size of change (cents per pound)	No. years changes occurred			
	Increases over previous year	Decreases from previous year	Total number years	Cumulative total number years
Less than 5	12	8	24*	24
5 - 9	9	5	14	38
10 - 14	2	2	4	42
15 or more	1	1	2	44
Total	24	16	44	

Greatest change: from 1950 to 1951 an increase of 38 cents per pound.

*No change 4 years.

Average prices for wool varied from the average of the year before by less than 5 cents per pound in 24 years out of a total of 44 and by less than 10 cents in 38 years. In 2 years of the 1910-54 period prices for the year differed by more than 15 cents per pound from the average for the year before.

Table 50. Variations in annual prices of farm commodities, Mississippi, 1910-54.

Commodity	Unit	Average price	Standard deviation	Coefficient of variation
Beef cattle	\$	6.95	5.31	76.46
Calves	\$	9.24	6.57	71.15
Milk cows	\$	57.99	39.39	67.92
Sweet potatoes	\$	1.44	.92	63.68
Lambs	\$	9.34	5.42	58.05
Hogs	\$	10.22	5.53	51.46
Cotton	¢	19.72	9.59	48.63
Wool	¢	31.58	14.58	46.17
Sheep	\$	5.45	2.36	43.32
Hay	\$	15.93	6.61	41.51
Milk	\$	2.94	1.16	39.39
Corn	\$	1.14	.44	38.57
Butterfat	¢	37.84	14.60	38.51
Eggs	¢	29.18	10.90	37.46
Potatoes	\$	1.60	.59	36.56
Turkeys	¢	24.44*	8.85	36.21
Chickens	¢	19.35	6.32	32.69
Cottonseed	\$	63.91	19.64	30.72
Oats	\$.75	.22	30.00
Soybeans	\$	2.34**	.60	25.56
All commodities	Index	159.07	66.26	41.65

*1912-54 average.

**1913-54 average.

The twenty commodities listed above are listed in order of variability in prices as measured by the coefficient of variation. According to this measure prices of beef cattle have been the most variable for the 1910-54 period and soybeans the least variable. This measure should be used, however, to study variability over long time periods only. See Tables 30-49 for year-to-year price changes.

Table 51. Index numbers of the average seasonal variation in prices of farm commodities, (Mississippi, 1946-54.)

Commodity	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Crops:												
Cotton	95.8	95.5	98.5	101.4	100.9	101.0	101.5	101.8	104.1	101.6	99.2	98.7
Cottonseed	106.5	102.8	100.0	104.4	103.7	100.5	98.4	93.8	91.9	94.5	101.7	104.4
Corn	93.3	98.0	99.6	101.6	104.1	104.1	104.8	106.8	103.6	94.1	93.4	96.6
Oats	103.2	101.0	102.7	103.4	102.5	90.8	90.4	93.5	99.4	102.4	107.3	103.4
Hay	102.1	104.7	104.6	104.1	99.6	97.9	97.5	97.2	95.1	96.5	100.0	100.7
Soybeans	97.5	101.5	104.9	111.4	114.9	107.2	104.2	98.3	89.6	87.3	89.7	93.5
Potatoes	104.6	107.3	110.7	110.5	89.6	78.3	88.1	97.2	103.9	102.5	101.3	106.0
Sweet Potatoes	92.9	98.0	101.1	102.5	104.4	103.5	103.8	122.4	106.3	93.7	83.8	87.6
Livestock:												
Milk	110.1	105.6	97.5	89.2	87.8	87.2	88.9	92.9	101.7	109.2	115.0	114.9
Butterfat	103.5	101.7	99.4	98.1	96.6	97.6	97.2	97.6	99.9	101.3	103.3	103.8
Beef Cattle	101.6	101.0	104.2	104.8	105.3	101.2	101.6	98.9	96.1	94.8	95.0	95.5
Calves	100.4	99.2	104.1	105.2	105.5	103.0	102.0	99.1	97.8	93.7	94.2	95.8
Hogs	96.3	92.4	95.2	94.8	98.8	101.6	107.3	109.4	106.1	103.7	98.5	95.9
Chickens	98.9	98.0	101.1	101.3	99.9	99.3	102.8	102.2	102.3	98.3	96.2	99.7
Eggs	112.3	93.0	77.6	75.4	79.2	81.8	89.4	99.6	112.6	120.6	125.7	132.8
Turkeys	105.4	100.3	99.6	98.2	96.8	98.0	96.1	97.3	100.6	98.3	103.3	106.1
Sheep	97.6	100.4	105.0	102.5	104.7	101.6	99.7	99.8	97.8	96.8	97.9	96.2
Lambs	98.5	97.8	101.3	100.4	102.6	102.8	104.4	99.7	96.2	95.1	96.4	104.8
Wool	99.8	98.7	97.5	100.8	101.8	101.8	100.8	101.9	100.8	98.8	99.0	98.3
Milk Cows	100.2	99.3	103.8	102.8	101.6	98.7	98.7	98.7	98.3	98.8	98.9	100.2

The best time to have some commodity ready for market is not always at the time when prices are usually the highest. If the commodity is a storable commodity, a cost for storage is usually involved in carrying the commodity forward. If the commodity is perishable or semi-perishable, extra costs of production and/or lower yields are usually involved. However, the above information regarding seasonal price movements should be an aid in determining the best time to have some commodity ready for market.

Table 52. A comparison of the high and low average monthly prices of farm commodities, (Mississippi, 1946-54.)

Commodity	Low month		High month		Percentage increase from low to high month
	Month	Percent of average annual price	Month	Percent of average annual price	
Eggs	Apr.	75.4	Dec.	132.8	76
Sweet potatoes	Nov.	83.8	Aug.	122.4	46
Potatoes	June	78.3	Mar.	110.7	41
Soybeans	Oct.	87.3	May	114.9	32
Milk	June	87.2	Nov.	115.0	32
Oats	July	90.4	Nov.	107.3	19
Hogs	Feb.	92.4	Aug.	109.4	18
Cottonseed	Sept.	91.9	Jan.	106.5	16
Corn	Jan.	93.3	Aug.	106.8	14
Calves	Oct.	93.7	May	105.5	13
Beef cattle	Oct.	94.8	May	105.3	11
Hay	Sept.	95.1	Feb.	104.7	10
Turkeys	July	96.1	Dec.	106.1	10
Lambs	Oct.	95.1	Dec.	104.8	10
Cotton	Feb.	95.5	Sept.	104.1	9
Sheep	Dec.	96.2	Mar.	105.0	9
Butterfat	May	96.6	Dec.	103.8	7
Chickens	Nov.	96.2	July	102.8	7
Milk cows	Sept.	98.3	Mar.	103.8	6
Wool	Mar.	97.5	Aug.	101.9	5

The commodities in the table above are listed in order of variability in prices within years for the period 1946-54. This period was used instead of the entire period 1910-54 because of changes in seasonal movements of prices during the longer period. Egg prices are by far the most variable within years, increasing on the average by 76 percent from the low month to the high month. Prices of sweet potatoes, the next most variable, increased on the average only by 46 percent from the low month to the high month. Wool prices were most stable within a given year of all the commodities listed above.

Table 53. Computation of price relatives and the index number of prices received by farmers for March, 1954.

Commodity	Unit	Average price 1910 - 14 (1)	Price March 1954 (2)	Price relative* March 1954 (3)	Weights (4)	Col. (3) X Col. (4) (5)
Cotton	¢	12.1	34.1	282	60.43	17,041
Beef cattle	¢	3.66	10.30	281	9.34	2,625
Cottonseed	¢	22.83	64.00	280	8.44	2,363
Milk	¢	2.25	4.20	187	7.24	1,354
Hogs	¢	6.51	14.90	229	3.92	898
Chickens	¢	12.0	28.6	238	3.27	778
Eggs	¢	18.7	36.0	193	3.01	581
Corn	¢	.81	1.54	190	1.48	281
Rice	¢	1.81	4.05	224	1.07	240
Soybeans	¢	1.77	2.70	153	.72	110
Sweet potatoes	¢	.77	3.35	435	.56	244
Oats	¢	.63	.95	151	.52	79
Total					100.00	26,594
Index number for March**						266

* Column (2) X 100.
Column (1)

** Total of column (5) divided by 100.

Table 54. Calculations of weights used in computing index number of prices received by farmers, Mississippi.

Commodity ¹	Average cash farm income 1945 - 49 (1)	Weights 1910 - 50 ⁴ (2)	Weights 1951 - 55 ⁵ (3)
(1,000 dollars)			
Cotton	245,400	61.09	60.43
Cattle and calves ²	37,911	9.44	9.34
Cottonseed	34,270	8.53	8.44
Dairy products ²	29,397	7.32	7.24
Hogs	15,939	3.97	3.92
Chickens	13,272	3.30	3.27
Eggs	12,231	3.04	3.01
Corn	6,012	1.50	1.48
Soybeans	2,919	.73	.72
Sweet potatoes	2,260	.56	.56
Oats	2,102	.52	.52
Rice	4,357 ³	.00	1.07
Total	406,070		100.00
Total not including rice	401,713	100.00	

¹ These commodities made up 93.07 percent of the total cash farm receipts for 1945-49.

² Weights calculated for cattle and calves and for dairy products were used for milk and beef cattle, respectively.

³ Average for 1950-53.

⁴ Obtained by dividing each figure in column (1) by 401,713 and multiplying the result by 100.

⁵ Obtained by dividing each figure in column (1) by 406,070 and multiplying the result by 100.