

While Statistics Canada and Agriculture Canada do not treat transportation and storage of agricultural products on their way to markets as farm input costs, many of the witnesses raised issues relating to the costs of these functions. Accordingly, the Committee has examined some aspects of how government programs can be altered to help control input costs as well as those coming under the category of farm operating expenses.

TABLE 1.1

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF MAJOR INPUT COSTS AND SOURCES OF TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS BY REGION, CANADA, 1986

Item	Maritime Provinces	Central Provinces	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia
	- per cent -			
Property Taxes	1.3	1.3	3.1	2.2
Gross Farm Rent	1.2	2.1	7.8	2.5
Wages to Agricultural Labour	16.6	12.9	7.6	22.2
Interest on Indebtedness	10.0	12.1	15.1	17.6
Total Machinery Expenses	15.0	12.8	20.4	14.3
Fuel	6.7	5.4	9.4	6.5
Repairs	8.3	7.4	11.1	7.8
Fertilizer and Lime	7.9	7.4	13.0	4.5
Fertilizer	7.1	7.2	13.0	4.3
Lime	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.2
Other Crop Expenses	6.8	8.1	10.4	5.4
Pesticides	3.4	3.1	7.4	1.9
Feed	26.6	22.3	5.7	15.8
Other Livestock Expenses	3.0	6.4	2.7	2.9
Repairs to Buildings	2.3	2.5	1.7	2.1
Electricity and Telephone	3.0	3.3	2.5	3.3
Miscellaneous	6.2	8.8	10.0	7.2
Total Operating Expenses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	- per cent -			
Principal Sources of Cash Receipts				
Crops	29.3	27.8	62.5	32.3
Livestock and Livestock Products	66.1	66.6	33.0	62.5

Source: Statistics Canada, *Agriculture Economic Statistics* (21-603), Ottawa, 1986.