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**Coverage**  
Great Britain  
**Theme**  
Agriculture, Fishing and Forestry

## Coniferous Standing Sales Price Index

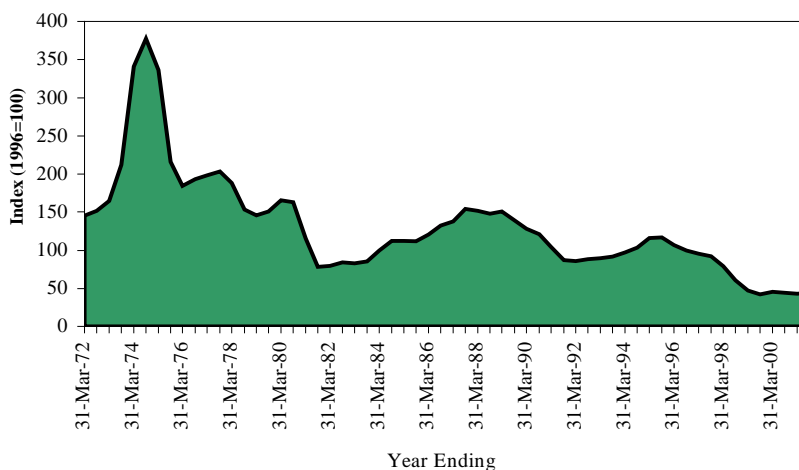
Data for the year to September 2001

This release contains the latest figures for the Coniferous Standing Sales Price Index for Great Britain (1996=100). The Index measures the average price received per cubic metre of standing sales timber from Forest Enterprise sales. The Index is expressed in real terms (1996 prices), and is adjusted for timber size mix using Laspeyres' method (see below).

The main findings are:

- Coniferous standing sales prices in Great Britain were 0.4 per cent higher in real terms in the year to September 2001, compared with the previous year.
- This represents a further increase in timber prices, albeit at a slower rate. (Prices were 3.7 per cent higher in real terms in the year to September 2000, compared with the previous year.) Prices remain 62 per cent below the peak in September 1995.
- The average price per cubic metre overbark standing was £8.32 in nominal terms (£7.37 in 1996 prices) in the year to September 2001.

**Standing Sales Price Index for Great Britain  
(September 1996=100, real terms)**



Percentage change	Nominal terms	Real terms (1996=100)
Year to September 2001	2.3%	0.4%
Year to September 2000	5.7%	3.7%

## Background

The Coniferous Standing Sales Price Index has been published biannually since the 1950s on the basis of Forestry Commission sales by Forest Enterprise.

This is the first time the Standing Sales Price Index has been published as part of National Statistics. National Statistics is the official source for authoritative, accurate and relevant information on the economy and society. It brings together a vast range of statistical information overseen by the National Statistician. The National Statistics logo is your assurance of statistics produced to the highest professional standards. For more information about National Statistics visit [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk).

Price is defined as the average price received per cubic metre overbark standing. The Coniferous Standing Sales Price Index is expressed in real terms (1996 prices) and is deflated using the GDP deflator, which is published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

The base year of the Index is September 1996 (1996=100). A constant size mix of timber has been used to calculate the Standing Sales Index in order to avoid distortions from changes in the size mix of timber sales. For example, greater volumes of larger size, and thus more expensive, timber have been sold in recent years. This in itself has moved the average price of coniferous standing sales upwards, thus distorting any comparison of timber prices over time. The technique whereby the Index reflects the price, in other years, of a particular size mix sold in the base year, is known as the Laspeyres' method. This technique is commonly used to calculate price indices on a consistent basis.

Standing sales timber price data are published every six months on an annual basis, i.e. data for the year to September are published in November, while data for the year to March are published in May. Given the overlapping nature of the data, comparisons of timber prices should be made with the same period a year ago.

Figures for the year to March 2001 will be published in late *May 2001*. Previous real terms standing sales figures may be subject to minor changes depending on revisions to the GDP deflator by ONS. The results will be published on these pages.

Queries on the Index should be directed to:

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**Table 1: Coniferous Standing Sales Prices for Great Britain  
(Per Cubic Metre Overbark)**

<b>Date Year to:</b>	<b>Average Price £</b>	<b>Real Average Price £1996</b>	<b>Nominal Terms (September 1996=100)</b>	<b>Real Terms (1996 Prices, September 1996=100)</b>
30-Sep-72	2.83	20.38	21.00	151.36
31-Mar-73	3.11	21.57	23.76	164.61
30-Sep-73	3.83	25.72	31.48	211.64
31-Mar-74	6.31	40.73	52.75	340.68
30-Sep-74	8.25	49.45	62.88	377.02
31-Mar-75	7.86	42.44	62.32	336.27
30-Sep-75	5.92	28.19	45.33	215.89
31-Mar-76	5.79	24.96	42.75	184.17
30-Sep-76	6.33	25.54	47.84	192.91
31-Mar-77	6.96	26.39	52.22	197.91
30-Sep-77	7.56	26.78	57.35	203.28
31-Mar-78	7.25	24.22	56.32	188.07
30-Sep-78	6.31	19.96	48.35	153.01
31-Mar-79	6.48	19.46	48.40	145.40
30-Sep-79	6.70	18.82	53.71	150.97
31-Mar-80	8.07	20.75	64.22	165.12
30-Sep-80	8.87	20.82	69.34	162.78
31-Mar-81	6.44	14.01	52.95	115.20
30-Sep-81	4.61	9.54	37.72	78.00
31-Mar-82	5.37	10.68	40.01	79.50
30-Sep-82	6.86	13.15	43.87	84.15
31-Mar-83	7.06	13.13	44.63	82.94
30-Sep-83	7.34	13.28	47.21	85.43
31-Mar-84	8.94	15.87	56.25	99.86
30-Sep-84	10.37	17.95	64.98	112.48
31-Mar-85	10.26	17.32	66.70	112.51
30-Sep-85	10.36	17.01	68.13	111.86
31-Mar-86	11.26	18.03	75.40	120.78
30-Sep-86	12.19	19.26	83.97	132.70
31-Mar-87	12.62	19.60	88.70	137.79
30-Sep-87	14.59	22.09	101.76	154.06
31-Mar-88	15.36	22.67	102.71	151.58
30-Sep-88	15.29	21.93	103.14	147.89
31-Mar-89	15.80	21.84	109.08	150.72
30-Sep-89	15.57	20.75	104.10	138.79
31-Mar-90	15.14	19.51	99.38	128.08
30-Sep-90	15.48	19.16	97.98	121.29
31-Mar-91	13.75	16.44	87.33	104.39
30-Sep-91	11.06	12.83	75.30	87.30
31-Mar-92	11.21	12.63	76.40	86.03
30-Sep-92	11.99	13.23	80.00	88.26
31-Mar-93	12.33	13.43	82.23	89.62
30-Sep-93	12.68	13.64	84.88	91.32
31-Mar-94	13.87	14.73	91.51	97.15
30-Sep-94	15.25	16.09	98.23	103.69
31-Mar-95	17.28	18.09	110.85	115.99
30-Sep-95	17.74	18.31	112.88	116.51
31-Mar-96	16.59	16.90	104.60	106.52
30-Sep-96	15.97	15.97	100.00	100.00
31-Mar-97	15.92	15.69	96.77	95.38
30-Sep-97	15.52	15.12	94.53	92.08
31-Mar-98	13.35	12.78	82.33	78.83
30-Sep-98	10.32	9.74	64.10	60.53
31-Mar-99	8.44	7.86	51.13	47.62
30-Sep-99	7.65	7.04	46.21	42.48
31-Mar-00	8.13	7.39	49.75	45.23
30-Sep-00	8.02	7.23	48.85	44.04
31-Mar-01	7.78	6.94	47.78	42.66
30-Sep-01	8.32	7.37	49.95	44.24