**Price Series and Quantity Information**

Barley: Rated at same price at “Corn.”

Bacon: Rated at same price as “Pork.”

Bar Iron: From 1767 to 1774, prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. Before that year, prices are taken from the table below. This table was prepared by using the prices from Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861: Statistical Supplement*. The prices quoted were those for Philadelphia bar iron; however, many quotations did not cover a full year. The number below is the average of all quotations for a given year. For 1744, there were no quotations, so the bracketed figure is the average of the quotations for 1743 and 1745.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Estimated Philadelphia Price (/ton) |
| 1725 |  |
| 1726 |  |
| 1727 |  |
| 1728 |  |
| 1729 |  |
| 1730 |  |
| 1731 |  |
| 1732 |  |
| 1733 |  |
| 1734 |  |
| 1735 |  |
| 1736 |  |
| 1737 |  |
| 1738 | 30.0 |
| 1739 | 30.0 |
| 1740 | 28.33 |
| 1741 | 28.75 |
| 1742 | 27.5 |
| 1743 | 25.0 |
| 1744 | [24.5] |
| 1745 | 24.0 |
| 1746 | 19.5 |
| 1747 | 23.3 |
| 1748 | 21.92 |
| 1749 | 25.67 |
| 1750 | 26.4 |
| 1751 | 25.0 |
| 1752 | 25.25 |
| 1753 | 24.0 |
| 1754 | 23.0 |
| 1755 | 22.13 |
| 1756 | 22.74 |
| 1757 | 22.5 |
| 1758 | 23.0 |
| 1759 | 26.5 |
| 1760 | 32.6 |
| 1761 | 34.0 |
| 1762 | 34.38 |
| 1763 | 27.0 |
| 1764 | 25.5 |
| 1765 | 26.35 |
| 1766 | 25.75 |
| 1767 | 24.06 |
| 1768 | 23.71 |
| 1769 | 23.35 |
| 1770 | 23.17 |
| 1771 | 24.07 |
| 1772 | 27.07 |
| 1773 | 26.43 |
| 1774 | 26.12 |
| 1775 | 24.26 |

Beans: Rated at same price as “Corn.”

Beef: Assumed that the Pennsylvania barrel and the Maryland/Virginia barrels contained the same quantity. Assumed that there were 200 pounds per barrel. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. For the years below, Bezanson gave no quotation; the average prices below are from Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861: Statistical Supplement*. Many of the years below have limited quotations.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Estimated Philadelphia Price (s/bbl) |
| 1726 | 30.0 |
| 1727 | 32.0 |
| 1729 | 32.0 |
| 1730 | 30.0 |
| 1732 | 30.33 |
| 1733 | 36.86 |

Beeswax:

Biscuit: Assumed it was the same price as “Ship’s Bread.”

Boards: Assumed same as “Plank. Assume a “piece” is 10 feet long.

Boat Boards: Assumed same as “Plank.”

Brazilleto:

Bread: Assumed “Middling” if undifferentiated. Assumed 200 pounds per barrel. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Brown Sugar: Assumed to be “Muscovado Sugar.”

Calves Skins:

Cash: Assumed the amount reported in Virginia or Maryland currency, unless otherwise specified.

Cheese:

Chocolate: One box contained 50 pounds.

Clayed Sugar: Used “Loaf Sugar” prices and assumptions.

Coffee:

Convicts: see “Servants.”

Corn Meal:

Corn: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Cotton Wool: see “Cotton.”

Cotton: One pocket contained 120 pounds. (Zupko) Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Deer Skins:

Flaxseed: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 2, “Average Monthly Wholesale Prices of Flaxseed in Philadelphia, 1734-1775,” 416.

Flour: Assumed 200 pounds per barrel. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Furs and :

Hams: Rate at same price as “Pork.”

Handspikes:

Heading: Assumed same prices as “Staves.” If unspecified, assumed to be hogshead.

Hides:

Hoops:

Hundredweight: Assume 112 pounds for Pennsylvania. For Virginia and Maryland, sugar is reported at 112 pounds per hundredweight (See York NOSLs); iron is 112 pounds per hundredweight (see ???)

Inch Plank: Assumed to be the same as “Plank.”

Indian Meal:

Indigo: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Leather:

Linen:

Loaf Sugar: Use “Pennsylvania Loaf Sugar” price. Assume one hogshead contained 500 pounds, one tierce contained 340 pounds, and one barrel contained 125 pounds. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Mahogany:

Molasses: One hogshead contained 101 gallons. Assume 29 gallons per barrel and 61 gallons per tierce. Assume “cask” contained same as “tierce.” (From McCusker, 818-821, 829) Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Muscovado Sugar: (From McCusker, 782-798)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Period | Hogshead | Tierce | Barrel |
| 1725-1734 | 1306 | 1077 | 392 |
| 1735-1744 | 1336 | 995 | 336 |
| 1745-1754 | 1365 | 1046 | 336 |
| 1755-1764 | 1416 | 1096 | 336 |
| 1765-1774 | 1449 | 1109 | 336 |

Oak Planks:

Oats: Rated at same price as “Corn.”

Pease: Rated at same price as “Corn.”

Pig Iron: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. Pig Iron prices are not quoted in Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861: Statistical Supplement*. To obtain prices for years before1767 and for 1775, the ratio of the average of pig iron prices to bar iron prices for 1767-1774 (.3334) was multiplied by the price of bar iron for that year.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Estimated Philadelphia Price (/ton) |
| 1725 |  |
| 1726 |  |
| 1727 |  |
| 1728 |  |
| 1729 |  |
| 1730 |  |
| 1731 |  |
| 1732 |  |
| 1733 |  |
| 1734 |  |
| 1735 |  |
| 1736 |  |
| 1737 |  |
| 1738 | 10.00 |
| 1739 | 10.00 |
| 1740 | 9.45 |
| 1741 | 9.59 |
| 1742 | 9.17 |
| 1743 | 8.34 |
| 1744 | 8.17 |
| 1745 | 8.00 |
| 1746 | 6.50 |
| 1747 | 7.77 |
| 1748 | 7.31 |
| 1749 | 8.56 |
| 1750 | 8.80 |
| 1751 | 8.34 |
| 1752 | 8.42 |
| 1753 | 8.00 |
| 1754 | 7.67 |
| 1755 | 7.38 |
| 1756 | 7.58 |
| 1757 | 7.50 |
| 1758 | 7.67 |
| 1759 | 8.84 |
| 1760 | 10.87 |
| 1761 | 11.34 |
| 1762 | 11.46 |
| 1763 | 9.00 |
| 1764 | 8.50 |
| 1765 | 8.79 |
| 1766 | 8.59 |
| 1767 | 9.20 |
| 1768 | 8.20 |
| 1769 | 7.92 |
| 1770 | 7.77 |
| 1771 | 8.00 |
| 1772 | 8.15 |
| 1773 | 8.35 |
| 1774 | 8.42 |
| 1775 | 8.09 |

Pimento: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 6, “Average Wholesale Monthly Prices of Pimento in Philadelphia, 1734-1775,” 419

Pine Planks: Rated same as “Planks.”

Pine Boards: Rated same as “Planks.”

Pitch: Assume Pennsylvania barrel and Maryland/Virginia barrel contained the same quantity. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Plank: The mean ratio of the price of inch plank to the price of hogshead staves in Charlestown, South Carolina for the years for which there was price data for both, between 1749 to 1775, was 0.0780. It was assumed that the rounded ratio (0.08) applied to Philadelphia prices. The price for hogshead staves was multiplied by 0.08 to give the price in shilling of 100 feet of plank. Assumed 1 piece equaled 10 feet.

Pork: Assume Pennsylvania barrel and Maryland/Virginia barrel contained the same quantity. Assume 200 pounds per barrel. Assume 2 barrels per hogshead. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Potatoes:

Refined Sugar: Use “Loaf Sugar” prices and assumptions.

Rice: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. For those years where Bezanson does not have a quotation, the price is the unweighted average of the monthly quotations for that year given in Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861: Statistical Supplement*. Many of the years below have a limited number of quotations.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Estimated Philadelphia Price (s/cwt) |
| 1726 | 22.0 |
| 1727 | [20.57] |
| 1728 | 19.14 |
| 1730 | 16.0 |
| 1732 | 15.33 |
| 1733 | 13.5 |
| 1734 | 18.0 |
| 1758 | 13.17 |
| 1759 | 19.48 |

Rum: All rum evaluated at “West Indian” prices. Assume 101 gallons per hogshead. Barbadoes and other apparently entered at a traditional 90 gallons per hogshead. (ANNA NOSL and Galloway-Maxcy-Markoe. Assume one tierce contained 61 gallons. Assume one barrel contained 29 gallons. Assume one puncheon contained 100 gallons. Assume “cask” contained same amount as “tierce.” Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Rye: Rate at same price as “Corn.”

Rye Meal:

Rye Flour:

Salt: Use average price of coarse and fine, or either fine or coarse, whichever quotation exists. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Scantling: Rated at same price as “Plank.”

Servants: The average ratio of slave to servant values from 1700 to 1720 was 2.75. The price of a slave is divided by this number to get the value of a servant. Ratio from Russell R. Menard, “From Servants to Slaves: the Transformation of the Chesapeake Labor System,” *Southern Studies* (1977) 16:372, Table 7, “Prices of Servants and Slaves, 1641-1720.”

Shingles:

Ship Bread: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Skins:

Slaves: Uses prices from *Historical Statistics* Z165-168. Prices quoted in Sterling for British America.

Spirits: Value as if “Rum.”

Staves: Assume one M equals 1000. When unspecified, use “Hogshead Staves” price. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. For 1724-1734, where there are no quotations for staves, assumed prices at the 1724 level, i.e., Barrel 22.50 shillings/M; Hogshead 2.25/M; and Pipe 3.00/M.

Staves and Heading: Value as if “Staves” only.

Sugar: If undifferentiated, assume Muscovado.

Tar: Assume the Pennsylvania barrel and Maryland/Virginia barrel contained the same quantity. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. Data are missing for 1725-1727. The average ratio of Pitch prices to Tar prices, for which data exist, from 1720 to 1739, was 1.302. The price of pitch for the missing years was divided by this ratio to give an interpolated price for tar as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Interpolated Tar Price (s/bbl) |
| 1725 | 14.15 |
| 1726 | 14.74 |
| 1727 | 14.13 |

Tea: Used Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 9, “Average Monthly Wholesale Prices of Bohea Tea in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 421.

Tobacco: Hogshead sizes evaluated at average Maryland and Virginia weights from Walsh (also used in Chapter 2). Assume one hogshead contained 4 tubs, 2 casks, or 1.33 tierces. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. For those years which Bezanson gives no price quotation, the Pennsylvania price is the average of tobacco price quotations in Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861: Statistical Supplement* for that particular year. For the years below, many quotations are missing. For 1723, the bracketed price is a straight line interpolation between those for 1722 and 1724. For 1773 through 1775, the Maryland farm price was multiplied by the ratio of the average Philadelphia price from 1768 to 1772 and the average Maryland farm price from 1768 to 1772 (???). Maryland farm prices are from *Historical Statistics of the United States*, series Z ???, 2:???

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Estimated Philadelphia Price (s/cwt) |
| 1723 | [16.08] |
| 1724 | 21.9 |
| 1730 | 14.0 |
| 1733 | 15.13 |
| 1734 | 19.5 |
| 1773 |  |
| 1774 |  |
| 1775 |  |

Turpentine: Assume the Pennsylvania barrel and Maryland/Virginia barrel contained the same quantity. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424. Data are missing for 1723 to 1732. The average ratio of pitch prices to turpentine prices, in years for which data exist, from 1720 to 1739, was 0.630. The price of pitch for the missing years was divided by this ratio to give an interpolated price for turpentine as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Interpolated Turpentine Price (s/bbl) |
| 1723 | 20.05 |
| 1724 | 24.61 |
| 1725 | 29.25 |
| 1726 | 30.47 |
| 1727 | 29.21 |
| 1728 | 20.82 |
| 1729 | 19.18 |
| 1730 | 23.82 |
| 1731 | 22.72 |
| 1732 | 21.83 |

Wheat: Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.

Wine: Rate all wine at Madeira prices. One pipe contained 2 hogsheads or 4 quarter casks. Assumed that unspecified “cask” was a quarter cask. Prices from Bezanson, *Prices in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Table 10, “Average Annual Wholesale Prices of Commodities in Philadelphia, 1720-1775,” 422-424.