

The Causes of Changes in Food Prices (Supply and Demand)

Look at each of the following events and try to forecast whether they will cause food prices to rise, to fall or to stay roughly the same:

Event	Prices Rise	Prices Fall	No Change
Wheat farmers in the USA discover that most of the wheat has a disease called 'wheat leaf rust'.			
Rice farmers in Indonesia get money to build new irrigation systems to grow more food.			
The government in China needs far more food to feed the growing population and decides to import thousands of tonnes of wheat from North America			
Scientists discover a new fertiliser that increases the amount of maize farmers can grow each year.			
In the Sudan swarms of locusts destroy all the farm crops in the south of the country.			
In Australia, a serious drought causes problems for wheat farmers.			
In Europe, it is an unusually hot summer and the farmers are really pleased with the increased crops they have grown.			
In the USA, the government offers farmers extra money to grow soybeans for making biofuel.			
In China, the government builds many new textile factories to make clothes for European shops – they put in extra large orders for cotton grown on farms in southern Asia.			
In Russia, farmers argue about what crops to grow next year.			



Royal
Geographical
Society
with IBG



