

# Boyer P, Blanchot J, The French food sector price and margin surveillance program

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### [FPJ1001E - Boyer P, Blanchot J, The French food sector price and margin surveillance program](#)

Boyer P, Blanchot (2013), The French food sector price and margin surveillance program: economic studies and interprofessional dialogue in French food chains, *Farm Policy Journal*, Vol. 10, No. 1, pp. 25-31, Autumn, Surry Hills, Australia.

The *French Food Sector Price and Margin Surveillance Program*, also called the *observatory*, was created at the end of 2010 in the following context: • increasing price volatility • suspicions expressed by producers and consumers about retail margins • political commitment in favour of enhanced consumer *purchasing power*, of a more market-oriented economy, and raising farmers' concerns. The observatory's mission is to provide analysis of the values collected at various stages of the food chain. After describing the context of the observatory's creation, this paper outlines its organisation and margin calculation methodologies, illustrating them through the use of case studies. The paper also focuses on analysing supermarket food sections' accounts, which traditionally raises suspicions from both producers and consumers. As a supplement to its sectoral analysis, the observatory recently developed a macroeconomic decomposition of food demand into added values, imports and taxes.