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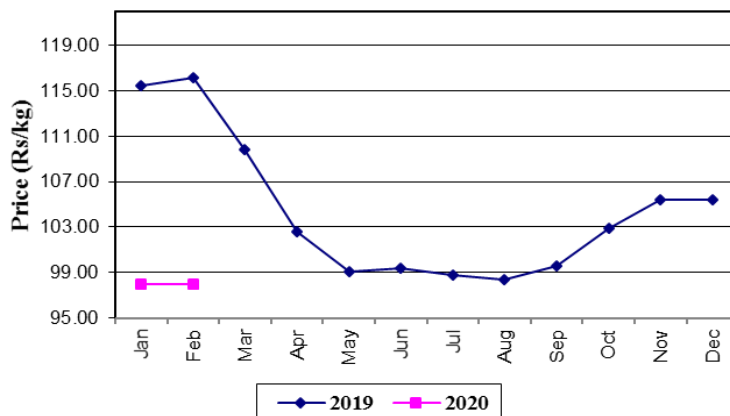
RICE:

Wholesale prices of all the varieties of rice had decreased compared to the previous month with the highest price decrease of Rs.13.89/kg for raw red. Retail prices of *Samba* and *Nadu* remained unchanged at the regulated maximum retail price (Rs. 98.00/kg) which was announced by the Government on December 19, 2019.

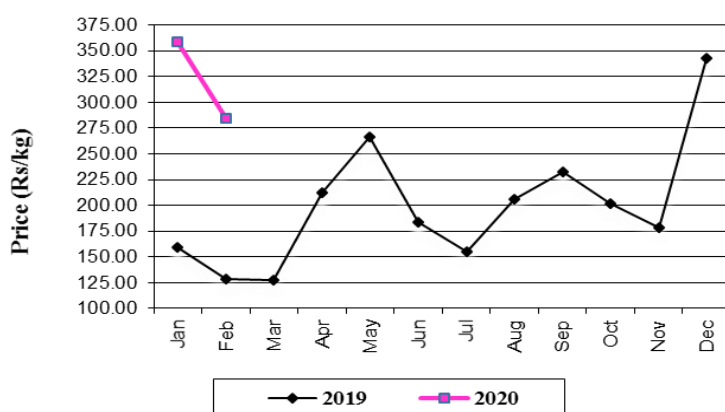
VEGETABLES:

The harvesting of vegetables of *Maha* (2019/20) season has been commenced. Therefore, supplies of vegetables to the most of the market have been increased during this month. The retail prices of all the up-country vegetable varieties have decreased by 5%-30% followed the low-country varieties as 6%-28%. The downward trend for vegetable price is expected for coming months.

Average Retail Prices of Rice (Samba I)



Average Retail Price of Beans (Green)



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EXPLANTATORY NOTE

The Food Information Bulletin is a monthly publication containing information relating to producer, wholesale and retail prices of selected food commodities in selected markets in and around Colombo and main markets in the major producing areas. Data on extent, production and imports are also available in the bulletin.

The information is analyzed and presented as, prevailing prices, price ranges, averages and comparison of monthly prices. The changes in prices reported are always in relation to price, which prevailed during the previous month unless otherwise stated.

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Data Collection Areas:

Colombo and suburb Markets

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Pettah | 4. Thotalanga | 7. Kiribathgoda |
| 2. Narahenpita | 5. Peliyagoda | 8. Maharagama |
| 3. Dematagoda | 6. Kadawatha | 9. Nugegoda |

Outstation Markets

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Nuwara Eliya | 12. Puttalam | 23. Batticaloa |
| 2. Dambulla | 13. Hambantota | 24. Jaffna |
| 3. Matara | 14. Divulapitiya | 25. Mullaitivu |
| 4. Kurunegala | 15. Dehiattakandiya | 26. Kilinochchi |
| 5. Embilipitiya | 16. Keppetipola | 27. Vavuniya |
| 6. Kandy | 17. Thambutthegama | 28. Kegalle |
| 7. Meegoda | 18. Anuradhapura | 29. Ampara |
| 8. Kalutara | 19. Badulla | 30. Moneragala |
| 9. Tissamaharama | 20. Galle | 31. Ratnapura |
| 10. Nikaweratiya | 21. Mannar | |
| 11. Polonnaruwa | 22. Trincomalee | |

1. Paddy

Crop Situation

Despite the crop damage due to the flood situation occurred in producing areas in the Eastern province and the Mannar district at the beginning of the 2019/20 *Maha* season, the production outlook is satisfactory in most of the major producing areas. High extents (776, 962ha) of paddy lands were cultivated during the season. Harvesting of paddy crop was in progress in Kurunegala district and producing areas in the Eastern province during the month and new harvest arrives to the markets from those areas. Dry weather was experienced in most of the major producing areas and it was favorable for the harvesting activities. According to the latest crop forecast report of Department of Agriculture, the reported progress of sown extent is 63% higher than that of the average sown extent of last three *Maha* seasons. The expected paddy Production after the removal of crop damage was 3.04 million mt. The peak harvesting will be expected during the latter part of the March.

Producer Prices

With compared to the same period of last year, more than 30% increase of the farm gate prices of long grain paddy varieties was recorded in almost all the major producing areas mainly due to the introduction of new guaranteed prices and purchasing strategy. The prices of all the paddy varieties has shown a declining trend during the first part of the month in most of the major producing areas mainly due to the progress of harvesting and the arrival of high moisture paddy to the markets from the producing areas in the Eastern province. The monthly average prices of long grain white paddy have declined by 8% -16% in most of the major producing areas. However, the prices of long grain white paddy have increased by nearly 1% in Ampara district, a major long grain white paddy producing area of the country. The government has introduced the new Guaranteed Price as Rs 50.00/Kg for both short and long grain paddy varieties during 2019/20 *Maha* season. During the latter part of the month, Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) started to purchase paddy in major producing areas. At the outset a dual pricing policy was introduced by the government for newly harvested wet paddy and well dried (14% moisture) paddy in order to stabilize the farm gate prices. Prices of long grain white were ranged between Rs.35.00-50.00/Kg in major producing areas. Prices of short grain were ranged between Rs.36.00-53.00/Kg in major producing areas and the highest prices were recorded in Polonnaruwa. The price range of Rs 41.00-51.00/Kg was recorded for the long grain red paddy in producing areas in the Southern province. It is expected to that paddy prices will be stable during next month mainly due to the progress of government paddy purchasing programme.

Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of short grain, long grain white and long grain red have increased considerably in the range of 21%-44%, 28%-44% and 35%-37% respectively.

Table 1.1 Progress of Paddy Cultivation : maha 2019/20 As at end of January - 2020

District/Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent (ha)	Production forecast Based on the Progress (mt)	Total Efected Extent (ha)	Expexted Production loss for Efected area (mt)	Revised Production forecast (mt)
Anuradhapura	97,803	92,175	94	364,662	1,018	2,374	362,288
Polonnaruwa	34,598	34,589	100	155,130	814	2,858	152,272
Ampara	74,977	74,026	99	336,648	2,776	8,341	328,307
Kurunegala	87,161	87,580	100	430,893	-	-	430,893
Hambantota	28,641	26,532	93	133,522	428	693	132,829
Colombo	3,908	3,104	79	9,102	-	-	9,102
Gampaha	12,743	10,495	82	32,561	-	-	32,561
Kalutara	12,940	8,942	69	29,025	-	-	29,025
Galle	11,526	10,081	87	25,640	-	-	25,640
Matara	15,689	12,111	77	40,827	177	211	40,616
Ratnapura	12,722	10,326	81	35,898	-	-	35,898
Kegalle	8,080	5,847	72	23,117	-	-	23,117
Puttalam	22,926	20,583	90	71,207	1,052	3,289	67,918
Kandy	13,528	12,141	90	39,335	-	-	39,335
Matale	19,923	21,164	106	90,406	-	-	90,406
N' Eliya	5,762	4,198	73	9,982	-	-	9,982
Badulla	21,913	17,678	81	67,168	-	-	67,168
Monaragala	36,941	33,100	90	136,888	-	-	136,888
Jaffna	11,500	10,372	90	26,416	451	412	26,004
Kilinochchi	24,921	24,921	100	85,392	125	154	85,238
Vavniya	19,901	19,333	97	86,827	93	319	86,508
Mullative	17,537	17,378	99	62,797	626	1,407	61,390
Mannar	20,775	20,675	100	94,360	3,243	14,801	79,559
Trincomalee	42,371	40,387	95	164,710	-	-	164,710
Batticaloa	71,071	64,447	91	165,523	22,937	35,572	129,951
Udawalawa	10,113	10,943	108	53,577	-	-	53,577
System H	22,000	22,382	102	88,096	-	-	88,096
System H1	7,775	8,269	106	32,547	-	-	32,547
System B	17,808	20,585	116	83,493	-	-	83,493
System C	22,552	22,598	100	91,657	-	-	91,657
System G	4,629	4,537	98	18,402	-	-	18,402
System D	780	1,059	136	4,033	-	-	4,033
Rambakanoya	2,783	2,885	104	10,132	-	-	10,132
System L	1,523	1,520	100	6,165	-	-	6,165
Sri Lanka	819,821	776,962	95	3,106,137	33,738	70,433	3,035,704

Source: Crop Forecast, maha 2019/20 , Department of Agriculture

Table1.2: Producer prices of paddy – February 2020

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	36.00-50.00	35.00-53.00	44.02	45.32	36.52	-1.30	-2.87	7.50	20.53
Polonnaruwa	40.62-53.10	39.06-53.90	44.29	51.13	33.17	-6.85	-13.39	11.12	33.52
Kalawewa	37.00-48.00	38.00-53.00	42.75	47.31	32.92	-4.56	-9.65	9.83	29.87
Kurunegala	37.00-50.00	36.00-55.00	44.50	48.66	35.87	-4.16	-8.54	8.63	24.04
Dehiattakandiya	40.00-51.60	40.63-52.00	45.98	49.22	36.33	-3.24	-6.58	9.65	26.55
Nikaweratiya	38.00-50.00	38.00-56.00	43.53	51.36	-	-7.83	-15.25	-	-
Ampara	40.00-48.00	40.00-58.00	45.92	47.03	31.99	-1.11	-2.36	13.93	43.53
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	36.00-45.00	35.00-55.00	42.19	45.77	32.86	-3.58	-7.82	9.33	28.41
Polonnaruwa	39.06-48.50	36.71-53.51	43.30	49.47	30.94	-6.17	-12.46	12.36	39.96
Kalawewa	36.00-46.00	35.00-55.00	40.71	47.97	30.54	-7.26	-15.14	10.17	33.29
Kurunegala	37.00-48.00	36.00-55.00	44.25	48.61	30.71	-4.36	-8.98	13.54	44.10
Dehiattakandiya	39.00-50.00	35.16-52.00	44.00	48.17	33.21	-4.17	-8.67	10.79	32.49
Embilipitiya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nikaweratiya	37.00-46.00	37.00-56.00	43.00	51.05	-	-8.05	-15.77	-	-
Matara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	35.00-49.00	35.00-58.00	45.29	44.77	-	0.52	1.15	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	43.00-50.00	50.00-58.00	46.83	54.10	0.00	-7.27	-13.43	-	-
Hambantota	41.00-50.00	40.00-55.00	47.17	51.00	34.90	-3.83	-7.52	12.27	35.16
Embilipitiya	47.00-51.00	52.00-60.00	48.25	57.08	35.27	-8.83	-15.46	12.98	36.79

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Rice Prices Demand/Supply Situation

Wholesale Prices

Harvesting of paddy (2019/20 Maha season) had been commenced in most of the producing areas at the beginning of February, 2020. Hence, the supplies of all the varieties of rice had increased compared to the previous month. As a result of increased supply, wholesale prices of all the varieties of rice had decreased with the highest price decrease of Rs.13.89/kg for raw red. Wholesale prices of raw red ranged between Rs. 85.00 - 98.00/kg at Colombo wholesale market during February 2020. Further, the wholesale price of raw white had decreased by Rs. 8.93/kg due to increased supplies. Furthermore, wholesale prices of *Nadu II* and *Samba II* had decreased slightly by 4% and 2% respectively compared to the previous month.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of most of the rice varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 31% for raw red. Further, the wholesale prices of *Nadu II* and raw white rice had increased by 19% compared to the same period of last year.

A quantity of 2,847 mt of rice had been imported during February 2020. The total expenditure on importing rice in February was Rs. 264.3 million. *Basmathi* was the widely imported rice during the month.

Retail Prices

Though the wholesale prices of all the varieties of rice tend to be decreased, the retail prices of *Samba* and *Nadu* remained unchanged at the regulated maximum retail price (Rs. 98.00/kg) which was announced by the Government on December 19, 2019. However, the average retail prices of raw red and raw white rice had decreased by Rs. 6.40/kg and Rs. 3.76/kg respectively. Retail prices of raw red and raw white ranged between Rs.90.00-110.00/kg and Rs.95.00-110.00/kg respectively during the month.

Compared to the same period of the last year, retail prices of most of the rice varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 27% for raw red followed by 19% for raw white.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and retail prices of rice – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	96.00-97.00	96.07	-	106.66	-	-	-10.60	-9.93
Samba 2	90.00-95.00	93.18	94.60	91.14	-1.43	-1.51	2.03	2.23
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	96.00-97.00	96.07	-	90.00	-	-	6.07	6.74
Nadu 2	88.00-93.00	90.98	94.66	76.26	-3.68	-3.89	14.72	19.30
Raw red	85.00-98.00	89.00	102.89	67.83	-13.89	-13.50	21.18	31.22
Raw white	85.00-95.00	88.63	97.55	74.30	-8.93	-9.15	14.33	19.28
Imported Samba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	98.00-98.00	98.00	98.00	116.14	0.00	0.00	-18.14	-15.62
Samba 2	-	-	-	107.65	-	-	-	-
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	98.00-98.00	98.00	98.00	94.64	0.00	0.00	3.36	3.55
Nadu 2	-	-	-	88.03	-	-	-	-
Raw red	90.00-110.00	104.20	110.60	82.07	-6.40	-5.79	22.12	26.96
Raw white	95.00-110.00	104.75	108.50	87.74	-3.76	-3.46	17.01	19.38
Imported <i>Ponni</i> Samba	-	-	-	160.91	-	-	-	-
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chilli

Crop Situation

The target extent of chilli for *Maha* 2019/20 season was 1,048 ha and 6,399ha of the target had been achieved by the end of January 2020. The highest targeted extent (2,986 ha) and the highest cultivated extent (1,471 ha) was reported from Anuradhapura district. Expected production of green chilli is 31,188 mt and of which 51% will be contributed by Anuradhapura (24%), Puttalam (14%) and Monaragala (13%) districts.

Table 2.1.1: Target and cultivation progress of green chilli for Maha 2019/20

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress by the end of January 2020		Expected Production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Anuradhapura	2,986	1,471	49	7,560
Puttalam	835	499	60	4,413
Monaragala	790	612	77	4,092
Jaffna	568	254	45	1,578
Badulla	429	358	83	1,156
Ampara	499	314	63	1,001
Batticaloa	374	313	84	1,329
Kurunegala	254	205	81	1,110
Other Areas	3,746	2,373	63	8,949
Total	10481	6,399	61	31,188

Source: Crop Forecast, Maha 2019/20, Vol. 03, Socio Economics & Planning Centre, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supply of green chili from main producing areas has increased during this month. Producer prices of green chili have shown a decreasing trend from the second week of the month because of increased supply. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of green chili have decreased by about Rs. 76.00/kg and Rs. 91.00/kg respectively. Average wholesale and retail prices of green chili were Rs. 162.25/kg and Rs.341.46/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale price of green chili has decreased by about 4% while the retail price has increased by about 6%.

Around 5,131mt of dried chilli had been imported from India, during this month. It has increased by 2,051mt compared to the previous month (January 2020). Average CIF price of imported big ~~one~~ dried chilli was Rs.387.33/Kg and it has not changed significantly when compared to the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chilli have increased by about Rs.22.16/kg and Rs.48.03/kg respectively. Average wholesale price of imported dried chilli was Rs.520.10/kg while the average retail price was recorded as Rs.616.91/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chilli have increased by about 89% and 84% respectively.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and retail prices of dried chilli and green chilli - February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green Chilli	100.00-250.00	162.25	238.00	169.58	-75.75	-31.83	-7.33	-4.32
Dried Chilli	420.00-600.00	520.10	497.94	275.46	22.16	4.45	244.64	88.81
Retail Price								
Green Chilli	140.00-500.00	341.46	432.08	320.81	-90.62	-20.97	20.64	6.43
Dried Chilli	540.00-700.00	616.91	568.88	335.00	48.03	8.44	281.91	84.15

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported dried chilli - Sep 2019 to Feb 2020

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2020	5,131	1,987.4	387.33	616.91	229.58
Jan 2020	3,080	1,192.4	387.11	568.88	181.77
Dec 2019	5,178	1,906.7	368.21	518.89	150.68
Nov 2019	4,700	1,700.5	361.82	502.09	140.27
Oct 2019	4,053	1,456.9	359.50	484.80	125.30
Sep 2019	5,086	1,672.2	328.77	434.22	105.46

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.4: Producer prices of green chilli (Rs/kg) February 2020

Location	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
Dambulla	164.00	146.50	110.00	113.00
Hambantota	275.00	275.00	-	-
Embilipitiya	281.00	277.00	178.00	175.00
Puttalam	205.00	138.00	110.00	128.00
A'Pura	276.67	240.00	130.00	100.00

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Red Onion and Big Onion

Crop Situation

By the end of January, the cultivated extent of red onion for *Maha* 2019/20 season was 2,150 ha in the country and it represents about 55% of the target. In Jaffna district, about 1,340 ha has been cultivated by the end of January 2020, which represents about 71% of the targeted extent of that district. The targeted extent of red onion in Puttalam district was 710 ha and by the end of January, 61% has been achieved. The production forecast of red onion for this *Maha* season is 31,983 mt and out of that, 86% will be arrived to the market from Jaffna (58%) and Puttalam (28%) districts.

Table 2.2.1: Target and cultivation Progress of Red Onion for Maha 2019/20 season

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress by the end of January 2020		Expected Production (Mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Jaffna	1,900	1,340	71	18,580
Puttalam	710	433	61	9,039
Trincomalee	753	163	22	1,872
Mullaithivu	83	54	65	669
Other areas	489	160	33	1,823
Total	3,935	2,150	55	31,983

Source: Crop Forecast, Maha 2019/20, Vol. 03, Socio Economics & Planning Centre, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The market comprised with only imported big onion. Around 16,421mt of big onion was imported from Pakistan during this month and it has dropped by 6,213mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.91.81/kg for imported big onion and it has decreased by Rs.4.32/kg compared to the last month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have increased by about Rs.40.00/kg and Rs.29.00/kg respectively. Average wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion were Rs.140.63/kg and Rs.187.64/kg and both prices have increased by about 170% and 131% respectively when compared to the last year.

Supply of red onion from Jaffna and Puttalam areas has increased during this month. Hence, wholesale price of Sinnan has decreased by about Rs.18.00/kg. Average wholesale and retail prices of Vedalan were reported as Rs. 376.67/kg and Rs.589.00/kg respectively. Sinnan onion stocks were not available at the retail market.

Around 1,134mt of red onion was imported from Thailand during the month of February 2020 and it has increased by 521mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price of imported red onion was Rs.227.44/kg and it has decreased by Rs.38.19/kg compared to the last month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have decreased by about Rs.92.00/kg and Rs.105.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have increased by about 180% and 158% respectively.

Table 2.2.3: Wholesale prices and retail prices of red onion and big onion - February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average Price				Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Prices									
Red Onion (Sinnan)	250.00-420.00	321.72	340.00	108.63	-18.28	-5.38	213.09	196.16	
Red Onion (Vedalan)	340.00-420.00	376.67	-	102.86	-	-	273.81	266.20	
Red Onion (Imported)	280.00-430.00	326.54	418.88	116.79	-92.33	-22.04	209.75	179.60	
Big Onion (imported)	70.00-250.00	140.63	100.21	52.07	40.42	40.33	88.56	170.08	
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Retail Prices									
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	-	176.36	-	-	-	-	
Red Onion (Vedalan)	560.00-600.00	589.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Red Onion (Imported)	360.00-600.00	489.95	594.62	190.21	-104.67	-17.60	299.74	157.58	
Big Onion (imported)	120.00-280.00	187.64	158.34	81.33	29.30	18.50	106.31	130.71	
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.4: Monthly average CIF, and gross margin of wholesale and retail prices for imported onion

Item	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price	Retail Price	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
			(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Feb 2020	91.81	140.63	187.64	48.81	47.02
	Jan 2020	96.13	100.21	158.34	4.08	58.14
	Feb 2019	33.58	52.07	81.33	18.49	29.26
Red onion	Feb 2020	227.44	326.54	489.95	99.10	163.41
	Jan 2020	265.63	418.88	594.62	153.25	175.74
	Feb 2019	84.86	116.79	190.21	31.93	73.42

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.5: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported big onion and red onion

Item	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Feb, 2020	Jan, 2020	Feb, 2020	Jan, 2020	Feb, 2020	Jan, 2020
Red Onion	1,134	1,655	257.9	439.6	227.44	265.63
Big Onion	16,421	22,634	1,507.7	2,175.7	91.81	96.13

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

**Table 2.2.6: Quantity imported, CIF price, wholesale and retail price of big onion
Sep 2019 to Feb 2020**

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
Feb 2020	16,421	91.81	140.63	187.64	95.83
Jan 2020	22,634	96.13	100.21	158.34	62.22
Dec 2019	29,000	101.53	126.44	178.67	77.15
Nov 2019	25,961	83.78	125.63	192.69	108.91
Oct 2019	20,928	91.48	179.63	248.02	156.54
Sep 2019	5,171	109.24	155.81	167.17	57.92

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *Maha* 2019/20 is 2,686 ha and about 1,330 ha had been cultivated by the end of January achieving 50% of the target. In January about 371 ha of potato was cultivated in the country. Compared to the same period of last *Maha* season, the cultivated extent by the end of January of this *Maha* season was lower. According to the cultivated extent up to end of January, the expected production of potato is 21,415 mt for this *Maha* season.

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,132 ha and about 349 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of January (31% progress). Compared to the same period of last *Maha* season, the cultivated extent is at low level during this *Maha* season in the district with prevailed bad weather condition for new cultivation. During the month, about 101 ha of potatoes were cultivated in the Nuwara Eliya district.

The targeted extent for this *Maha* season is 1,432 ha in the Badulla district and 856 ha have been cultivated by the end of January achieving 60% of the targeted extent. The cultivated extent during this season is at a low level compared to the same period of last *maha* season in the district. In January, about 235 ha of potatoes were cultivated in Badulla district. According to field information, most of the cultivation was taken place in hilly areas of Keppetipola, Bogahakumbura, Boralanda, Ambagasdova, and Uvaparagam areas of the Welimada DS division. *Maha* harvesting of potato has been commenced by the end of February from Welimada area of the Badulla district.

**Table 2.3.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Potato up to end of January
(Maha 2019/20)**

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%) <i>Maha</i> 2019/20	Expected Production (mt)
	<i>Maha</i> 2018/19*	<i>Maha</i> 2019/20	<i>Maha</i> 2018/19*	<i>Maha</i> 2019/20		
N'Eliya	1,323	1,132	623	349	31	6,598
Badulla	1,502	1,432	986	856	60	12,905
Sri Lanka	2,964	2,686	1,706	1,330	50	21,415

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast, Maha 2019/20, Vol.03, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

*Crop Forecast, Maha 2018/19, Vol.03, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 16,999 mt of potato had been imported in February which was 2,348 mt higher than that was imported during the previous month as the special commodity levy on imported potatoes has been reduced from Rs.50.00/kg to Rs.25.00/kg with effect from 25/12/2019. Imported stocks were mainly received from Pakistan (72%) and India (28%). Compared to February, 2019 (9,802 mt), the imports were high during this month. Average CIF price was Rs.52.00/kg in February.

With regard to local potato, sufficient stocks of Nuwara Eliya potato and few stocks of Welimada potato were available in the Colombo wholesale market. Monthly average wholesale price of Welimada potato in the Colombo wholesale market was Rs.118.00/kg. In February, the wholesale and retail prices of Nuwara Eliya potatoes have decreased by 19% and 4% respectively due to availability of ample stocks in the market. Meanwhile, the wholesale price of imported potato has increased by 1%, while the retail price has not changed significantly. During the month of February, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes ranged between Rs.120.00-165.00/kg and Rs.75.00-120.00/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya (24%) and imported (31%) potatoes have increased. Prices of local potatoes are expected to be decreased from March after the commencement of harvesting from Welimada area.

Table 2.3.1: Producer, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Potatoes – February -2020

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb - 2020	Feb - 2020	Jan- 2020	Feb - 2019	Jan- 2020		Feb - 2019	
Producer Prices (PP)	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Welimada	-	-	-	90.20	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	100.00-135.00	116.30	149.00	99.75	-32.70	-28.12	16.55	14.23
Imported – CIF	100.00-110.00	104.38	-	90.20	-	-	14.18	13.58
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	100.00-145.00	118.13	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	120.00-165.00	147.50	175.42	90.00	-27.92	-18.93	-	-
Imported	75.00-120.00	95.70	94.34	74.98	1.36	1.42	20.72	21.65
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	180.00-280.00	221.45	230.30	168.89	-8.84	-3.99	52.56	23.74
Imported	100.00-180.00	138.17	137.70	95.19	0.48	0.34	42.98	31.11
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		105.15	81.30	69.14	23.86	22.69	36.01	34.25
Imported (RP-CIF)		33.80	-	4.99	-	-	28.81	85.24
Gross Margin (RP-WP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		73.95	54.88	-	19.07	25.79	-	-
Imported		42.47	43.36	20.21	-0.88	-2.08	22.26	52.42

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI

Table 2.3.2: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Potato – Sep 2019 - Feb – 2020

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin
					(Rs/kg)
Feb - 2020	16,999	887.45	52.21	138.17	85.97
Jan - 2020	14,651	815.84	55.69	137.70	82.01
Dec - 2019	14,946	927.49	62.06	159.39	97.34
Nov - 2019	9,697	517.68	53.39	139.86	86.47
Oct - 2019	7,550	391.41	51.84	133.94	82.10
Sep - 2019	10,490	505.32	48.17	134.36	86.19

Source: Department of Customs and Marketing Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation and Progress

Green gram cultivation has been achieved around 87% of its targeted extent as at end of January in *Maha* 2019/20 season. According to the table 2.4.1, the extent of the green gram cultivation has increased by 4,596 ha in Sri Lanka compared with last year (*Maha* 2018/19). Considering the crop damages, the expected production from the island-wide green gram cultivation is 4,521 mt, which is increased around 4% of the production compared to the previous year green gram production. However, crop damages in the Hambantota district was reported as 4,458 ha due to heavy rainfall conditions for third season cultivation in Ambalantota, Thissamarama and Bandagiriya aras and received yield only from 1,329 ha in Hambantota.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of a Green gram and Cowpea

Crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)Maha 2019/20	Expected Production (mt)
		Maha 2018/19	Maha 2019/20	Maha 2018/19	Maha 2019/20		
Green gram	Hambantota	2,078	4,432	1,073	5,787	131	1,980
	Monaragala	1,327	658	559	424	64	437
	Kurunegala	779	467	279	326	70	321
	Other districts	4,146	3,842	1,630	1,600	42	1,783
	Sri Lanka	8,330	9,399	3,541	8,137	87	4,521
Cowpea	Ampara	4,284	4,400	358	536	12	705
	Monaragala	965	1,234	684	862	70	862
	Anuradhapura	722	618	423	352	57	653
	Other districts	3,664	3,473	2,220	2,044	59	2,125
	Sri Lanka	9,635	9,725	3,685	3,794	39	4,345

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast *Maha* 2019/20 & 2018/19, Volume 03, Socio Economic and Planning Centre/DOA

It has been able to achieve 39% of the targeted extent from cowpea cultivation and the expected production is around 4,345 mt in Sri Lanka. Ampara, Monaragala and Anuradhapura districts are the major producing districts for cowpea in 2019/20 *Maha* season and about those districts will contribute for 51% of the total production. Monaragala and Anuradhapura districts were highlighted a better performance while progress of Ampara district was lowered as 12% of its target.

Prices and Supply/ Demand Situation

The wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.255/kg and Rs.290/kg with an average of Rs.272/kg in February 2020. The average price has decreased by 3% compared to the previous month. Similarly, compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price has been increased by 16%. In the meantime, the retail price of green gram ranged between Rs.280/kg and Rs.340/kg with an average of Rs.300/kg. Compared to the previous month, the retail price has decreased by around Rs. 2.00/kg. However, compared to the same period of last year, the retail price for this month has been increased to around 16% (Table 2.4.2).

Table 2.4.2: Wholesale and retail prices of green gram and cowpea – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	255.00-290.00	272.38	281.75	234.57	-9.38	-3.33	37.81	16.12
Cowpea (White)	250.00-270.00	257.38	246.31	220.38	11.07	4.49	37.00	16.79
Cowpea (Red)	250.00-285.00	271.68	238.25	214.70	33.43	14.03	56.98	26.54
Retail Prices								
Green gram	280.00-340.00	300.45	302.03	258.21	-1.58	-0.52	42.24	16.36
Cowpea (White)	280.00-340.00	303.00	297.64	275.49	5.36	1.80	27.51	9.98
Cowpea (Red)	280.00-340.00	305.51	300.76	277.79	4.75	1.58	27.72	9.98

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Average wholesale prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.257/kg and Rs.272/kg respectively in February 2020. The wholesale price of white cowpea ranged between Rs.250/kg and Rs.270/kg, while that of red cowpea ranged between Rs.250/kg and Rs.285/kg. Compared to the previous month, the wholesale price of white cowpea has increased by around 4% and red cowpea has increased by around 14%. Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price of white cowpea has been increased by 17% and the wholesale price of the red cowpea has increased by around 26% (Table 2.4.2).

The average retail prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.303/kg and Rs.306/kg respectively. The retail price of both white cowpea red cowpea ranged between Rs.280/kg and Rs.340/kg. Compared to the previous month, both white and red cowpea has been increased by around 2%. Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of white and red cowpea has been increased by around 10% (Table 2.4.2).

A total of 2,716 mt of green gram has been imported during this month, and it has increased around 121% compared to the green gram quantity imported in the previous month. The average CIF price of green gram was Rs.190.83/kg, which was increased by about 4% compared with the previous month. The total expenditure of the importation of green gram was recorded as Rs.518.28 million, which has increased by 130% compared to January 2020. Green gram has been imported from several countries which are Myanmar (82%), Thailand (4%), Uzbekistan (4%), South Africa (4%), Argentina (3%) and Kenya (3%).

Table 2.4.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported green gram- Sep 2019 to Feb 2020

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2020	2,716	518.28	190.83	300.45	109.62
Jan 2020	1,229	225.41	183.35	302.03	118.67
Dec 2019	723	123.29	170.53	282.54	112.01
Nov 2019	752	123.76	164.56	287.93	123.37
Oct 2019	1,163	194.53	167.34	282.16	114.82
Sep 2019	1,103	182.71	165.59	281.26	115.67

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

According to table 2.4.4, a total of 495 mt of white cowpea have been imported during this month. The imported quantity of cowpea has been increased by 20% compared to the imported quantity of January 2020. The average CIF price of white cowpea was recorded as Rs.155/kg. The total expenditure on cowpea imports has been increased by 31% compared to the previous month. The total value of the cowpea imports was noted as approximately Rs.76.79 million. The highest quantities of cowpea were imported from Myanmar (62%), India (24%) and Madagascar (14%).

Table 2.4.4: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported white cowpea- Sep 2019 to Feb 2020

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2020	495	76.79	155.17	303.00	147.83
Jan 2020	413	58.56	141.81	297.64	155.82
Dec 2019	510	69.28	135.91	285.97	150.05
Nov 2019	1,067	144.65	135.57	292.20	156.63
Oct 2019	1,371	178.03	129.81	289.84	160.02
Sep 2019	797	100.74	126.35	281.73	155.39

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.5: Monthly average CIF, wholesale and retail prices of green gram and cowpea

Item	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale price (Rs/kg)	Retail price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/Kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Green gram	Feb 2020	190.83	272.38	300.45	81.55	28.07
	Jan 2020	183.35	281.75	302.03	98.40	20.28
	Feb 2019	165.29	234.57	258.21	69.28	23.64
Cowpea (White)	Feb 2020	155.17	257.38	303.00	102.21	45.63
	Jan 2020	141.81	246.31	297.64	104.49	51.33
	Feb 2019	113.93	220.38	275.49	106.45	55.12
Cowpea (Red)	Feb 2020	-	271.68	305.51	-	33.83
	Jan 2020	-	238.25	300.76	-	62.51
	Feb 2019	-	214.70	277.79	-	63.09

Source: Department of Customs, Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The wholesale price of red dhal ranged between Rs.123/kg and Rs.130/kg with an average of Rs.126/kg, and the retail price ranged between Rs.135/kg and Rs.160/kg with an average of Rs.143/kg. Moreover, the difference between the two prices is Rs.17/kg during this month. Wholesale price has decreased around 2% and the retail price has increased by 2% compared with the January 2020. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices have been increased by 9%.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of red dhal – February 2020

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	123.00-130.00	126.08	128.22	115.54	-2.14	-1.67	10.54	9.12
Retail Price	135.00-160.00	143.07	140.11	131.22	2.97	2.12	11.85	9.03

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

During this month, a total of 11,183 mt of red dhal has been imported at an average CIF price of Rs.84.83/kg and CIF price has been increased around 5% compared to the previous month. Imported total quantity was decreased by 14% compared to previous month. Total quantity was of the whole type of red dhal. From the whole type of red dhal quantity, 68% from Australia and 32% from Canada have been imported. The total value of the whole type of red dhal imports was Rs. 949 million.

**Table 2.5.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported red dhal
Sep 2019 to Feb 2020**

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Feb 2020	11,183	84.83	126.08	143.07	41.24	17.00
Jan 2020	13,016	80.53	128.22	140.11	47.69	11.89
Dec 2019	19,642	76.23	115.28	133.37	39.04	18.10
Nov 2019	22,041	74.42	108.08	128.54	33.66	20.47
Oct 2019	18,707	76.60	107.15	128.15	30.55	21.00
Sep 2019	9,372	80.11	106.71	127.23	26.61	20.52

Source: Department of Customs, Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

The total targeted extent including both up-country and low-country vegetables was 47,384 ha and 66% of the target had been achieved by the end of January-2019. The target for up-country vegetables was 14,890ha and 64% of the target had been achieved. The mostly cultivated up-country vegetables were beans (2,972ha), capsicum (1,502ha), cabbage (1,342ha) and carrot (1,233ha). Among up-country vegetables, highest production is expected from cabbage (36,363 mt), beans (30,848 mt), and carrot (25,278 mt). The target for low-country vegetable cultivation was 32,494 ha and 68% of the target had been achieved by the end of January-2019. Brinjals (4,041ha), long beans (3,709 ha), okra (2,964 ha), and pumpkin (2,872ha) were the mostly cultivated low-country vegetables. Among low-country vegetables, the highest production is expected from brinjals

(48,633mt), pumpkin (40,275mt), tomato (35,513 mt), and long beans (34,323mt) (Crop Forecast, *Maha* 2019/20, Vol.03, Socio Economics & Planning Centre/DOA).

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The harvesting of vegetables of *Maha* (2019/20) season has been commenced in most of the vegetable producing areas. Therefore, compared to the last month, supplies of vegetables to the most of the market have been increased during this month. As a result, the wholesale prices of all the up-country vegetables have decreased considerably by 7%-33%. The highest price decrease (33%) and the lowest price decrease (7%) were recorded for beetroot and cabbage respectively. Further, except for cabbage, the wholesale prices of the rest of up-country vegetables have decreased within the range of 24%-33%. The highest wholesale price of Rs.420.00/kg was reported for carrot while the lowest wholesale price of Rs.50.00/kg was observed for knolkhol and radish. With regard to the low-country vegetable varieties, except for pumpkin, wholesale prices of all the vegetables have decreased by 2%-52% recording the highest for cucumber and the lowest for ash plantain. It was further noticed that wholesale prices of the majority of low-country vegetables recorded over 10% decrease. However, the production of pumpkin has not yet arrived to the market, hence the wholesale price has further increased by 103% and the price ranged between Rs.100.00/kg and 180.00/kg. Among low-country vegetables, the highest price (Rs.390.00/kg) and the lowest price (Rs.20.00/kg) was recorded for tomato and cucumber respectively.

Table 3.1: Wholesale prices of vegetables – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	130.00-300.00	199.20	268.00	65.83	-68.80	-25.67	133.37	202.59
Carrot	120.00-420.00	251.00	365.50	70.83	-114.50	-31.33	180.17	254.35
Leeks	100.00-250.00	190.25	278.00	43.44	-87.75	-31.56	146.81	337.99
Beetroot	80.00-180.00	130.09	195.09	40.66	-65.01	-33.32	89.42	219.93
Knolkhol	50.00-160.00	107.75	144.25	40.63	-36.50	-25.30	67.13	165.23
Radish	50.00-80.00	60.41	80.00	17.98	-19.59	-24.49	42.42	235.94
Cabbage	60.00-140.00	103.13	111.36	20.47	-8.24	-7.40	82.66	403.80
Tomato	120.00-390.00	257.25	288.25	39.27	-31.00	-10.75	217.98	555.07
Ladies Fingers	40.00-170.00	109.75	177.00	44.48	-67.25	-37.99	65.27	146.74
Brinjal	70.00-130.00	97.60	153.82	44.75	-56.21	-36.54	52.85	118.11
Capsicum	120.00-300.00	213.75	291.75	110.42	-78.00	-26.74	103.33	93.58
Pumpkin	100.00-180.00	149.00	73.38	15.88	75.63	103.07	133.13	838.58
Cucumber	20.00-70.00	35.31	73.05	32.05	-37.74	-51.66	3.26	10.16
Bittergourd	90.00-190.00	139.49	173.79	105.38	-34.30	-19.74	34.11	32.37
Snakegourd	80.00-140.00	106.00	128.50	44.68	-22.50	-17.51	61.32	137.25
Drumstick	-	-	-	186.92	-	-	-	-
Luffa	70.00-160.00	115.00	149.75	71.46	-34.75	-23.21	43.54	60.93
Long Beans	90.00-160.00	127.75	150.25	36.67	-22.50	-14.98	91.08	248.41
Ash Plantain	80.00-100.00	92.50	94.00	64.74	-1.50	-1.60	27.76	42.87
Green Chilli	100.00-250.00	162.25	238.00	169.58	-75.75	-31.83	-7.33	-4.32
Lime	30.00-50.00	37.00	42.16	65.83	-5.16	-12.24	-28.83	-43.80

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of all the up-country vegetables had increased by 165%-404%, recording the highest for cabbage and the lowest for knolkhol. The wholesale prices of low-country vegetables also have increased between 10% (cucumber) and 839% (pumpkin).

The price behavior in the wholesale market was more or less similar in the retail market too. The retail prices of all the up-country vegetable varieties have decreased by 5%-30% recording the highest for beetroot and the lowest for cabbage. Among up-country vegetables, the highest retail price (Rs.580.00/kg) was reported for carrot, while the lowest price (Rs.90.00/kg) was observed for radish. The retail prices of most of the low-country varieties have decreased by 6%-28% recording the highest for brinjal and the lowest for tomato. However, the price of pumpkin has increased by 71%. Among the low country vegetables, the highest retail price of Rs.600.00/kg was recorded for tomato while the lowest price of Rs.50.00/kg was observed for cucumber. Vegetable prices will be further decreased during coming month too.

Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of all the up-country vegetables had increased by 51%-154%, while that of low-country vegetables have increased by 29%-298%.

Table 3.2: Retail prices of vegetables – February 2020

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	180.00-400.00	284.59	358.71	128.84	-74.12	-20.66	155.75	120.88
Carrot	200.00-580.00	350.12	448.07	137.66	-97.95	-21.86	212.47	154.35
Leeks	180.00-420.00	289.32	401.36	120.31	-112.03	-27.91	169.02	140.49
Beetroot	120.00-360.00	216.46	307.38	109.65	-90.92	-29.58	106.81	97.41
Knolkhol	120.00-320.00	215.47	257.90	123.70	-42.43	-16.45	91.77	74.19
Radish	90.00-200.00	142.11	173.11	94.20	-31.00	-17.91	47.91	50.86
Cabbage	120.00-280.00	198.16	209.40	99.03	-11.23	-5.37	99.14	100.11
Tomato	150.00-600.00	380.51	404.41	95.55	-23.90	-5.91	284.96	298.25
Ladies Fingers	100.00-320.00	205.86	278.22	116.77	-72.37	-26.01	89.08	76.29
Brinjal	100.00-240.00	173.22	240.38	114.26	-67.17	-27.94	58.96	51.60
Capsicum	180.00-480.00	328.00	404.17	196.75	-76.18	-18.85	131.25	66.71
Pumpkin	160.00-320.00	239.53	140.27	74.40	99.25	70.76	165.13	221.94
Cucumber	50.00-180.00	117.37	151.37	91.22	-34.00	-22.46	26.15	28.67
Bittergourd	140.00-340.00	249.89	296.52	175.10	-46.63	-15.72	74.79	42.71
Snakegourd	120.00-240.00	190.50	218.88	115.84	-28.37	-12.96	74.67	64.46
Drumstick	-	-	-	348.42	-	-	-	-
Luffa	120.00-320.00	216.01	260.05	148.91	-44.04	-16.93	67.10	45.06
Long Beans	140.00-300.00	211.54	244.52	116.96	-32.98	-13.49	94.58	80.86
Ash Plantain	120.00-200.00	160.37	173.12	120.87	-12.74	-7.36	39.50	32.68
Green Chilli	140.00-500.00	341.46	432.08	320.81	-90.62	-20.97	20.64	6.43
Lime	60.00-220.00	147.22	178.46	221.93	-31.24	-17.51	-74.71	-33.67

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Compared to the prices in January 2020, wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased in February 2020. Accordingly, prices of small, medium and large sized pineapple had increased by 2%, 4% and 5% respectively and the monthly average wholesale prices of small, medium and large sized fruits were Rs.121.65/fruit, Rs.163.45/fruit and Rs.204.00/fruit respectively and the price ranged between Rs.100.00-240.00/fruit. Price of mango variety, Karthakolomban had increased significantly by 77% and price range recorded for a fruit was Rs.150.00-200.00. Price of papaw had also increased significantly by 82% and the monthly average wholesale price was Rs.117.50/kg and the price ranged between Rs.70.00-200.00/kg. Further, 46%, 21%, 11% and 10% price increases were noted for avocado, wood apple, grapes (imported) and slime apple respectively. In addition, price of banana variety, Kolikuttu had also increased by 7% and price ranged between Rs.100.00-170.00/kg (Table 4.1).

However, prices of banana varieties, Seeni and Ambul had recorded 3% and 2% price decreases respectively and their price ranges recorded during the month were Rs.40.00-70.00/kg and Rs.30.00-60.00/kg respectively. In addition, price of Ambun had decreased by 2% and price ranged between Rs.13.00-18.00/fruit. Price of Anamalu had not shown a significant price change compared to the price in January and price of a fruit was recorded as Rs.10.00-14.00. Further, prices of passion fruit and orange had decreased by 34% and 16% respectively (Table 4.1).

Compared to the same period of 2019, wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties had decreased with the highest price decrease of 44% recorded for papaw (Table 4.1).

In analysing the prices at the retail level, it was observed that the prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased. Prices of banana varieties, Seeni, Anamalu and Ambun had increased by 6%, 3% and 2% respectively and their price ranges were noted as Rs.80.00-140.00/kg, Rs.16.00-22.00/fruit and Rs.20.00-28.00/fruit respectively. Prices of small, medium and large sized pineapple had increased by 1%, 3% and 2% respectively. Further, price range recorded for pineapple was Rs.120.00-300.00/fruit. Price of papaw had increased by 63% and the price ranged between Rs.120.00-260.00/kg. In addition, prices of wood apple and avocado had increased by 25% and 13% respectively and prices of slime apple and imported grapes had increased by 11% (Table 4.2).

However, prices of passion fruit and orange had decreased by 10% and 7% respectively and prices of banana varieties, Kolikuttu and Ambul had also decreased by 2% and 1% respectively (Table 4.2).

Compared to the same period of 2019, retail prices of most of the fruit varieties had decreased and the highest price decrease was noted for avocado as 39% (Table 4.2).

With reference to the producer prices, producers had received 22% price increase for papaw and 21% and 15% price decreases for banana varieties, Ambul and Kolikuttu respectively compared to the prices in January, 2020. Further, producer prices for Ambul, Kolikuttu and papaw during the month ranged between Rs.26.00-65.00/kg, Rs.40.00-133.00/kg and Rs.43.00-97.00/kg respectively. At the same time, compared to February, 2019, producer price had decreased for papaw by 59%. However, price increases for Ambul by 23% and for Kolikuttu by 32% were noted (Table 4.3).

Table 4.1: Wholesale prices of fruits – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	30.00-60.00	46.04	47.08	41.31	-1.04	-2.21	4.73	11.44
Kolikuttu (Kg)	100.00-170.00	127.42	118.57	92.44	8.85	7.46	34.98	37.84
Seeni (Kg)	40.00-70.00	57.29	58.96	56.53	-1.67	-2.83	0.76	1.34
Anamalu (Fruit)	10.00-14.00	12.13	12.17	10.48	-0.04	-0.34	1.64	15.68
Ambun (Fruit)	13.00-18.00	14.92	15.29	16.08	-0.38	-2.45	-1.16	-7.21
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	180.00-240.00	204.00	193.27	179.40	10.73	5.55	24.60	13.71
Medium (Fruit)	150.00-180.00	163.45	156.75	142.83	6.70	4.28	20.62	14.44
Small (Fruit)	100.00-150.00	121.65	119.47	102.66	2.18	1.83	18.99	18.50
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	-	-	-	36.31	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	150.00-200.00	175.00	98.92	139.17	76.08	76.92	35.83	25.75
Vilad (Fruit)	-	-	-	36.67	-	-	-	-
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	70.00-200.00	117.50	64.48	208.68	53.02	82.23	-91.18	-43.69
Passionfruit (Fruit)	13.00-25.00	17.81	26.94	30.21	-9.12	-33.87	-12.40	-41.04
Woodapple (Fruit)	20.00-40.00	29.03	24.00	15.41	5.03	20.97	13.63	88.44
Orange (Fruit)	15.00-30.00	22.77	27.02	29.14	-4.24	-15.71	-6.36	-21.84
Avocado (Fruit)	38.00-133.00	69.62	47.64	96.83	21.98	46.13	-27.22	-28.11
Slime Apple (Fruit)	12.00-30.00	18.98	17.17	23.39	1.81	10.54	-4.41	-18.87
Grapes Imported (Kg)	480.00-1067.00	692.26	622.72	631.08	69.54	11.17	61.17	9.69

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Exports/Imports of Fruits

According to the Sri Lanka Customs, Sri Lanka had exported 954mt of fresh fruits in February, 2020 to the value of Rs. 111mn. Of the exported quantity, 93% were papaw, 5% were fresh pineapple and 1% each were fresh mangoes and fresh avocados. In the month of January, 2019, the quantity exported was 1,068mt. Therefore, compared to last month, the exported quantity had decreased by 11% (Table 4.4).

With reference to imports, Sri Lanka had imported 3,161mt of fresh fruits during the month and the value was Rs. 646mn. Of the imported quantity, 58% were apple, 23% were grapes and 20% were oranges. The main importing countries of apple were China, South Africa, France and the United States. Grapes had been imported from India, South Africa and China. Australia was the importing country of oranges. In the month of January, 2020, the quantity imported was 3,171mt. Therefore, compared to last month, the imported quantity had not changed significantly (Table 4.5).

Table 4.2: Retail prices of fruits – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	60.00-140.00	104.16	104.81	95.03	-0.65	-0.62	9.13	9.61
Kolikuttu (Kg)	160.00-240.00	196.35	200.95	177.68	-4.60	-2.29	18.66	10.50
Seeni (Kg)	80.00-140.00	115.17	108.78	111.27	6.39	5.87	3.90	3.50
Anamalu (Fruit)	16.00-22.00	18.67	18.10	17.34	0.58	3.19	1.33	7.67
Ambun (Fruit)	20.00-28.00	23.07	22.64	21.70	0.43	1.88	1.37	6.32
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	200.00-300.00	239.39	235.59	230.59	3.79	1.61	8.80	3.82
Medium (Fruit)	160.00-200.00	178.34	172.93	162.08	5.42	3.13	16.27	10.04
Small (Fruit)	120.00-160.00	136.23	134.74	112.98	1.49	1.11	23.26	20.58
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	-	-	142.47	163.10	-	-	-	-
Vilad (Fruit)	-	-	-	56.00	-	-	-	-
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	120.00-260.00	193.92	118.62	277.42	75.30	63.48	-83.50	-30.10
Passionfruit (Fruit)	20.00-50.00	35.92	40.09	48.35	-4.16	-10.38	-12.42	-25.70
Woodapple (Fruit)	30.00-90.00	58.12	46.45	53.32	11.68	25.14	4.81	9.02
Orange (Fruit)	25.00-70.00	46.07	49.42	57.83	-3.35	-6.78	-11.77	-20.35
Avocado (Fruit)	70.00-150.00	101.98	90.16	167.87	11.82	13.11	-65.89	-39.25
Slime Apple (Fruit)	30.00-80.00	56.21	50.64	58.24	5.57	11.00	-2.03	-3.48
Grapes Imported (Kg)	800.00-1300.00	984.54	889.76	882.58	94.78	10.65	101.96	11.55

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer prices of selected fruits – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	26.43-65.00	34.62	44.07	28.07	-9.45	-21.44	6.55	23.34
Kolikuttu	40.00-133.33	97.17	114.10	73.61	-16.93	-14.84	23.56	32.00
Papaw	43.33-97.00	61.91	50.78	152.31	11.13	21.91	-90.40	-59.35

Source; Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, value and FOB prices of exported fruits - Dec 2019 to Feb 2020

Type of Fruit	Feb - 2020			Jan - 2020			Dec - 2019		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)
Fresh Pineapple	51.78	25.71	496.57	37.58	14.40	383.33	25.11	11.34	451.56
Papaw	886.26	75.82	85.55	943.74	74.47	78.91	985.37	133.19	135.17
Fresh Mango	11.04	7.30	661.02	31.24	17.31	554.07	45.50	30.20	663.69
Avocado, fresh	5.00	2.67	533.55	4.77	2.41	506.17	5.12	2.49	485.66

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.5: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported fruits – Dec 2019 to Feb 2020

Type of Fruit	Feb - 2020			Jan - 2020			Dec - 2019		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)
Apple	1,820	275.64	151.45	2,180	352.67	161.80	1,800	250.50	139.19
Grapes	724	298.39	411.99	483	182.49	378.08	716	251.24	350.86
Oranges	617	72.05	116.81	508	63.75	125.40	337	52.25	155.08

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of most of the fish varieties have increased during the month. Therefore, wholesale prices of fish have decreased during the month by 1%-9%. The highest price increase of 9% was noted for Thora due to increase the supplies from Northern Province. The supplies of Thalapath Balaya, and Kelawalla have increased mainly from Southern province, and Paraw from Northern Province, therefore prices have decreased by 6%. In contrast, the wholesale price of Hurulla has increased by 15% because of reduce the supplies mainly from Kalpitiya and Mullathivu. Stocks of Shrimps(small) also has limited from Jaffna and the price has increased by 7%.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of most of the fish varieties had increased by 7%-91%.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of fish – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to				
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Prices									
Salaya	150.00-300.00	217.50	213.25	142.53	4.25	1.99	74.97	52.60	
Hurulla	400.00-600.00	533.00	464.00	278.61	69.00	14.87	254.39	91.31	
Balaya	250.00-450.00	353.75	376.00	252.43	-22.25	-5.92	101.32	40.14	
Kelawalla	400.00-650.00	523.00	560.25	529.06	-37.25	-6.65	-6.06	-1.14	
Thora	900.00-1400.00	1228.75	1353.75	1096.03	-125.00	-9.23	132.72	12.11	
Paraw	450.00-750.00	587.50	623.75	533.71	-36.25	-5.81	53.79	10.08	
Mora	500.00-700.00	606.25	615.00	558.33	-8.75	-1.42	47.92	8.58	
Shrimp (small)	800.00-1000.00	927.50	863.75	801.25	63.75	7.38	126.25	15.76	
Thalapath	750.00-900.00	801.25	856.25	751.39	-55.00	-6.42	49.86	6.64	
Retail Prices									
Salaya	240.00-500.00	307.39	303.24	241.84	4.15	1.37	65.55	27.10	
Hurulla	480.00-800.00	634.34	584.79	437.85	49.55	8.47	196.49	44.88	
Balaya	520.00-840.00	659.87	656.26	616.06	3.61	0.55	43.82	7.11	
Kelawalla	800.00-1320.00	983.87	986.09	954.77	-2.22	-0.23	29.10	3.05	
Thora	1300.00-1860.00	1606.34	1641.42	1503.95	-35.08	-2.14	102.39	6.81	
Paraw	800.00-1400.00	1143.57	1118.66	1044.23	24.91	2.23	99.34	9.51	
Mora	600.00-1040.00	786.89	852.08	880.94	-65.20	-7.65	-94.05	-10.68	
Shrimp (small)	1000.00-1400.00	1194.87	1183.75	1062.67	11.12	0.94	132.19	12.44	
Thalapath	1100.00-1400.00	1242.56	1254.08	1187.83	-11.52	-0.92	54.72	4.61	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

The retail prices of Kelawalla, Thora, Mora, and Thalpath have decreased within the range of 1%-8%. The highest price decrease of 8% was reported for Mora. The highest retail price range (Rs.1300.00-1860.00/kg) for fish during this month was noted for Thora while the lowest price range (Rs.240.00-500.00/kg) was observed for Salaya. Compared to the same period of last year, prices of most of the fish varieties had increased by 3%-45%.

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Table 5.2: Wholesale and retail prices of dried fish – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale Price								
Sprats	800.00-1000.00	924.50	958.50	945.10	-34.00	-3.55	-20.60	-2.18
Sprats (imported)	440.00-580.00	512.81	501.00	547.19	11.81	2.36	-34.38	-6.28
Kattawa	950.00-1100.00	1000.00	985.25	924.71	14.75	1.50	75.29	8.14
Kattawa (imported)	800.00-950.00	894.41	902.00	832.72	-7.59	-0.84	61.69	7.41
Thora	1200.00-1300.00	1276.67	-	1180.00	-	-	96.67	8.19
Thora (imported)	1200.00-1300.00	1277.50	1306.25	1230.56	-28.75	-2.20	46.94	3.81
Mora	780.00-950.00	849.00	833.00	867.30	16.00	1.92	-18.30	-2.11
Mora (imported)	740.00-900.00	787.64	777.25	770.75	10.39	1.34	16.89	2.19
Balaya	440.00-550.00	497.75	543.69	426.85	-45.94	-8.45	70.90	16.61
Balaya (imported)	-	-	-	533.33	-	-	-	-
Anguluwa	860.00-1200.00	1077.00	1085.57	870.80	-8.57	-0.79	206.20	23.68
Anguluwa (imported)	700.00-1100.00	932.17	897.75	811.16	34.42	3.83	121.01	14.92
Maduwa	500.00-650.00	575.50	570.00	559.56	5.50	0.96	15.94	2.85
Maduwa (imported)	380.00-460.00	424.75	416.75	407.96	8.00	1.92	16.79	4.12
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	280.00-440.00	345.25	363.00	342.43	-17.75	-4.89	2.82	0.82
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail Price								
Sprats(imported)	500.00-900.00	701.05	728.10	731.65	-27.05	-3.72	-30.60	-4.18
Sprats	1000.00-1600.00	1192.15	1206.16	1214.20	-14.00	-1.16	-22.05	-1.82
Kattawa	1000.00-1600.00	1389.23	1380.84	1252.12	8.39	0.61	137.10	10.95
Thora	1400.00-2200.00	1840.98	1847.21	1607.78	-6.23	-0.34	233.20	14.50
Mora	900.00-1400.00	1173.08	1168.45	1157.27	4.63	0.40	15.81	1.37
Balaya	600.00-1200.00	946.76	923.65	865.20	23.11	2.50	81.56	9.43
Anguluwa	1000.00-1600.00	1211.35	1206.92	1128.03	4.43	0.37	83.32	7.39
Maduwa	500.00-900.00	735.57	740.48	737.98	-4.91	-0.66	-2.41	-0.33
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	500.00-900.00	615.90	633.32	660.83	-17.43	-2.75	-44.93	-6.80

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Supplies of both local and imported dried fish varieties have further limited during this month too. Therefore, the wholesale prices of most of the dried fish varieties have increased by 1%-4%. The highest price increase of 4% was reported for imported Anguluwa due to limited supplies from Oman and Pakistan. Meanwhile, the supplies of local Balaya, Salaya, sprats and imported Thora have increased during the month and their wholesale prices have decreased by 8%, 5%, 4%, and 2% respectively. The highest wholesale price range of Rs.1200.00-1300.00/kg and the lowest price range of Rs.280.00/kg-440.00/kg were reported for Thora (local and imported) and Salaya respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased by 1%-24%.

The retail prices of Kattawa, Mora, Balaya, and Anguluwa have increased within the range of 1%-2%, while that of the rest of varieties have decreased by 1%-4%. The highest price range of Rs.1400.00-2200.00/kg was reported for Thora, while the lowest price range of Rs.500.00-900.00/kg was observed for Salaya, Maduwa, and imported sprats. Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased by 1%-14%.

Eggs

Supplies of both brown egg and white egg were as usual as in the previous month. Therefore, wholesale prices of both brown egg and white egg have remained unchanged while retail prices show only a marginal increase (less than 1%). The retail price of brown egg and white egg ranged between Rs.20.00-22.00/each and Rs.19.00-21.00/each during the month. Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale prices had increased by 3% while the retail price increased by 1%.

Table 5.3: Wholesale and retail prices of eggs – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	%	Rs	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	19.50-19.50	19.50	19.50	18.90	0.00	0.00	0.60	3.18
White (each)	18.50-18.50	18.50	18.50	17.93	0.00	0.00	0.57	3.15
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	20.00-22.00	20.65	20.46	20.42	0.19	0.92	0.23	1.15
White (each)	19.00-21.00	19.62	19.43	19.39	0.19	0.98	0.23	1.18

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

The price of curry chicken has increased by 3% while the price of pork decreased by 2%. There were no significant price changes recorded for the rest of the meat varieties. The highest price (Rs.1800.00-2100.00/kg) was reported for mutton while the lowest price (Rs.440.00-660.00/kg) was observed for broiler chicken. Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of broiler chicken had decreased by 6% while that of curry chicken increased by 5%. The price of rest of the meat varieties had increased by less than 2%.

Table 5.4: Retail prices of meat – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	950.00-1100.00	997.36	996.25	978.86	1.11	0.11	18.50	1.89
Chicken (Broiler)	440.00-660.00	530.29	530.16	566.65	0.14	0.03	-36.36	-6.42
Chicken (curry)	600.00-750.00	658.42	637.53	625.96	20.89	3.28	32.46	5.19
Mutton	1800.00-2100.00	1889.70	1881.49	1860.31	8.21	0.44	29.38	1.58
Pork	700.00-880.00	767.08	785.50	755.00	-18.42	-2.34	12.08	1.60

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain and Wheat flour

A total quantity of 90,250mt worth of Rs.4, 267mn wheat grain had been imported during the month of February. Compared to the previous month, quantity of this month has slightly increased and it was 859mt in terms of quantity. Wheat grain for the month of February had been mainly imported from Canada (36%) and Russia (36%) and the CIF prices were Rs.47.00/kg and Rs.45.00/kg respectively. Further, wheat grain quantities were imported from the United States (15%) and Australia (13%) respectively. Few quantities were also imported from India as well. The CIF price of wheat grain ranged between Rs.45.00-52.00/kg and the average CIF price was recorded as Rs.47.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, average CIF price for wheat grain has increased by only Rs.1.00/kg during the month.

A total quantity of 4,560mt of wheat flour worth of Rs. 296mn had been imported during the month of February. Compared to the previous month, quantity of this month has increased by nearly twice in terms of quantity. Wheat flour for the month of February had been mainly imported from Turkey (84%) and the CIF price was Rs.62.00/kg. Wheat flour has also been imported from United Arab Emirates (6%) and India (3%). Few quantities were imported from Singapore as well. The CIF price of wheat flour ranged between Rs.62.00-86.00/kg and the average CIF price was recorded as Rs.77.00/kg (Based on the prices of three major importing countries).

According to the World Food and Agriculture Organization, cereal price index averaged to 168 points in February 2020, down by nearly 1% from January 2020 of all major cereals. Wheat prices were generally lower, in part due to continued well-supplied markets while the negative impact on demand resulting from the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Meanwhile, the local retail price of wheat flour ranged between Rs.87.00-100.00/kg and the average price was Rs.93.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, the average retail price of wheat flour remained unchanged during the month. However, compared to the same period of last year, retail price of wheat flour has decreased by 2%.

Table 6.1: Open market retail prices of wheat flour and sugar – February 2020

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Jan 2020		Feb 2019	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	87.00-100.00	92.55	92.17	94.41	0.38	0.42	-1.86	-1.97
Sugar	95.00-115.00	108.30	107.20	105.34	1.10	1.03	2.96	2.81

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of wheat flour & grain- Sep 2019 to Feb 2020

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Feb 2020	4,560	296.41	65.00	92.55	27.55
Jan 2020	2,735	184.43	67.44	92.17	24.73
Dec 2019	929	71.66	77.12	93.20	16.08
Nov 2019	1,273	96.21	75.58	95.31	19.73
Oct 2019	564	41.30	73.19	93.37	20.18
Sep 2019	1,362	98.25	72.13	94.42	22.29
Wheat Grain					
Feb 2020	90,250	4,267	47.28	92.55	45.27
Jan 2020	89,391	4,139	46.31	92.17	45.86
Dec 2019	137,220	6,423	46.81	93.20	46.39
Nov 2019	276,039	12,582	45.58	95.31	49.73
Oct 2019	188,638	8,825	46.79	93.37	46.58
Sep 2019	147,317	7,185	48.77	94.42	45.65

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Note: Retail price of wheat grains means the retail price of wheat flour.

Sugar

A total quantity of 56,492mt worth of Rs. 3,824mn of sugar had been imported to the country during the month of February. Compared to the previous month, quantity of this month has increased and it was 10,927mt in terms of quantity. Sugar for the month of February had been mainly imported from India (90%) and its CIF price was Rs.66.00/kg. The second highest sugar quantity was imported from Korea (10%). In addition, few quantities were also imported from United Arab Emirates as well. The CIF prices ranged between Rs.66.00-97.00/kg and the average CIF price was reported as Rs.68.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, average CIF price for sugar has increased by Rs.4.00/kg during the month. According to the World Food and Agriculture Organization, sugar price index averaged to 210 points in February2020, up by 5% from January 2020.The latest increase is mostly reflected by the prospects of lower production in India, the world's second largest sugar producer, as well as in Thailand due to protracted drought.

Referring to the local retail price of sugar for the month of February, price ranged between Rs.95.00-115.00/kg and the average retail price was Rs.108.00/kg. Compared to the previous month the average retail price of sugar has increased by only Rs.1.00/kg during the month. Further, compared to the same period of last year average retail price of sugar has also increased by 3%.

Table 6.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of sugar- Sep 2019 to Feb 2020

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2020	56,492	3824.0	67.69	108.30	40.61
Jan 2020	45,565	2933.3	64.38	107.20	42.82
Dec 2019	29,602	1890.4	63.86	106.50	42.64
Nov 2019	50,187	3110.2	61.97	107.02	45.05
Oct 2019	48,249	3092.9	64.10	106.95	42.84
Sep 2019	44,868	2936.5	65.45	107.00	41.55

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 7: Import of selected food items – February 2020

Item	Quantity (mt)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Feb 2020	Jan 2020		Feb 2020	Jan 2020		Feb 2020	Jan 2020	
Rice	2,847	3,648	-22	264.3	392.1	-33	92.86	107.50	-14
Red Onion	1,134	1,655	-31	257.9	439.6	-41	227.44	265.63	-14
Big Onion	16,421	22,634	-27	1507.7	2175.7	-31	91.81	96.13	-4
Potato	16,999	14,651	16	887.4	815.8	9	52.21	55.69	-6
Dried Chillies	5,131	3,080	67	1987.4	1192.4	67	387.33	387.11	0
Masoor Dhal	11,183	13,016	-14	948.7	1048.2	-9	84.83	80.53	5
Green Gram	2,716	1,229	121	518.3	225.4	130	190.83	183.35	4
Cowpea	495	413	20	76.8	58.6	31	155.17	141.81	9
Garlic	1,641	2,673	-39	407.3	668.4	-39	248.18	250.04	-1
Wheat flour	4,560	2,735	67	296.4	184.4	61	65.00	67.44	-4
Wheat grain	90,250	89,391	1	4267.4	4139.3	3	47.28	46.31	2
White crystalline cane sugar	56,492	45,565	24	3824.0	2933.3	30	67.69	64.38	5
Maize	2,308	25,193	-91	113.91	1095.68	-90	49.34	43.49	13

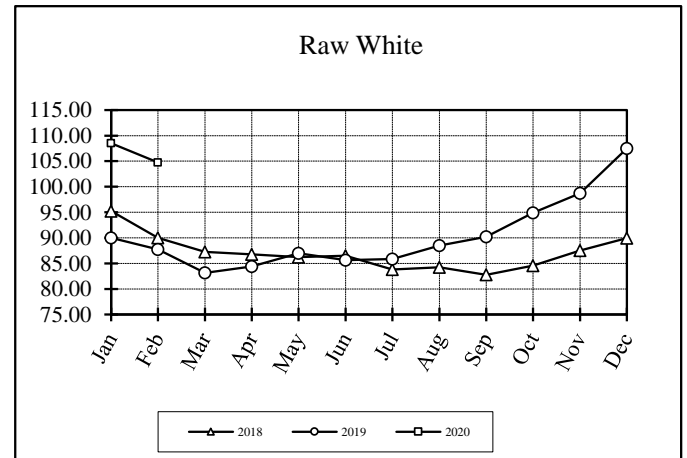
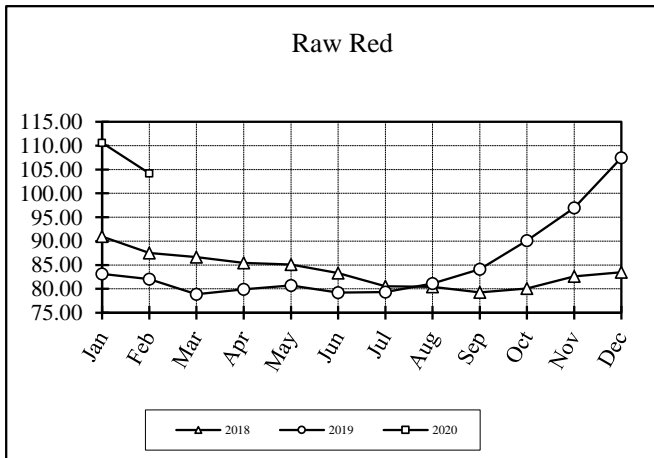
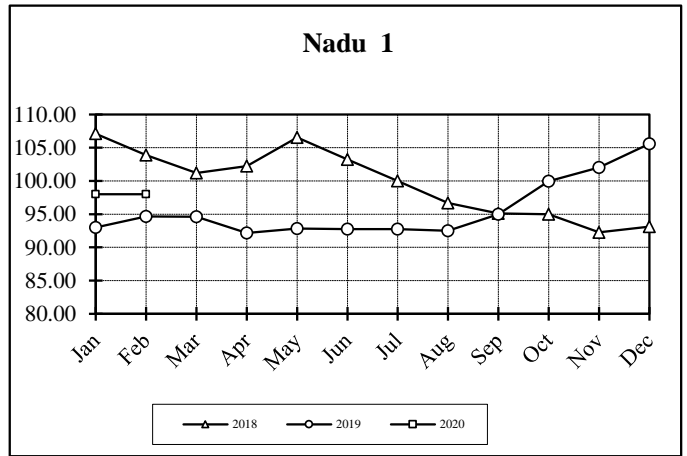
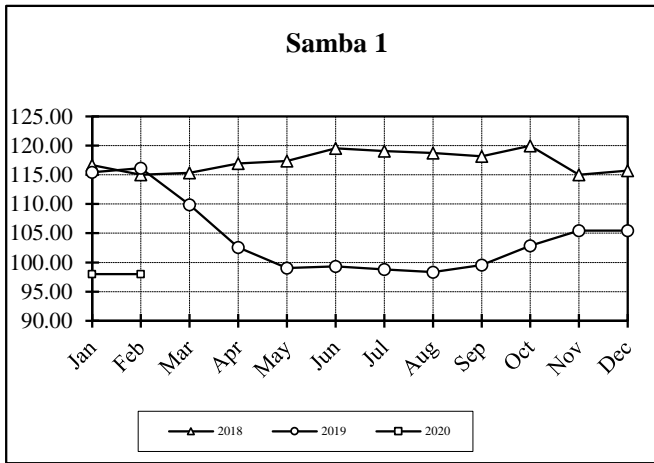
Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 8: Monthly rainfall (mm) –February 2020

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	35.6	55.4	2	4
Badulla	45.5	103.1	7	7
Bandarawela	13.8	88.2	4	7
Batticaloa	54.2	128.4	2	7
Colombo	0.1	72.7	na	5
Galle	27.4	70.5	5	6
Hambantota	29.2	47.6	5	4
Jaffna	17.6	39.0	1	2
Katugastota	3.8	74.2	3	5
Katunayaka	0.0	79.8	na	4
Kurunegala	0.6	98.8	1	4
Mahailuppallama	5.2	56.8	1	4
Mannar	2.7	61.8	1	3
Nuwara Eliya	39.6	77.7	7	7
Pottuvil	71.5	n/a	6	na
Puttalam	0.4	43.1	1	4
Ratmalana	1.0	77.3	1	5
Ratnapura	21.4	137.0	6	9
Trincomalee	19.4	105.4	2	5
Vavuniya	15.6	62.5	1	4
Polonnaruwa	15.3	na	6	na
Moneragala	18.1	na	5	na
Mattala	7.4	na	4	na

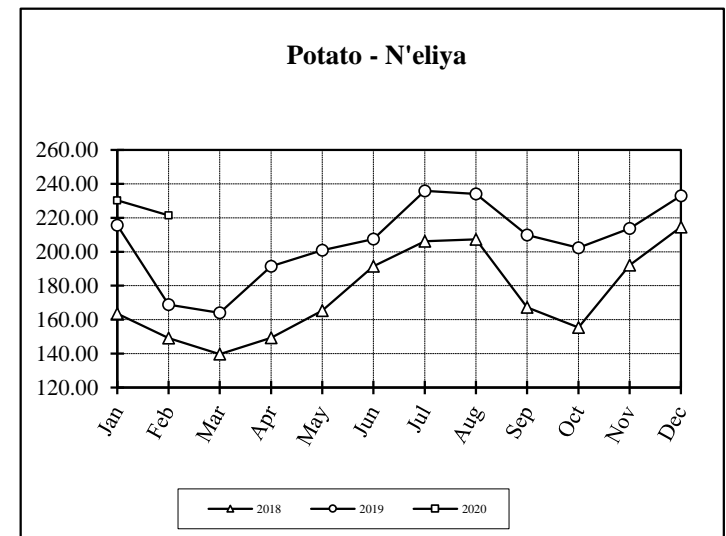
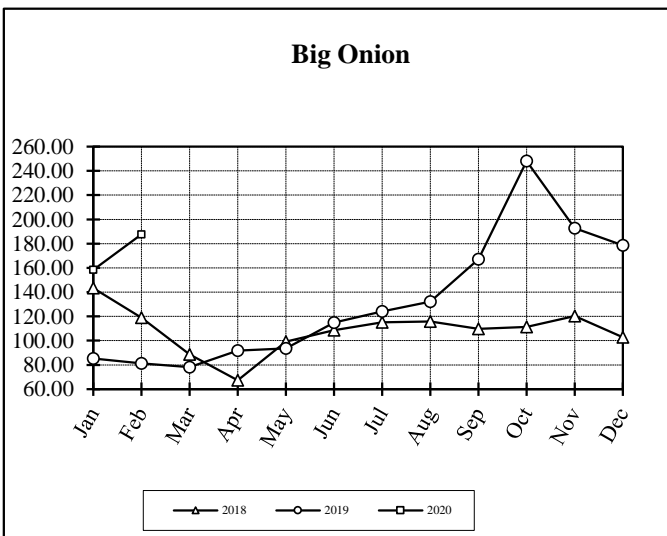
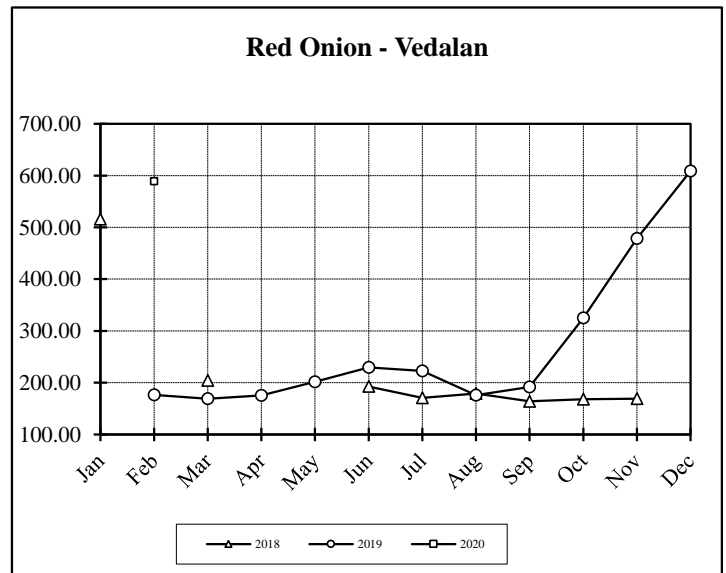
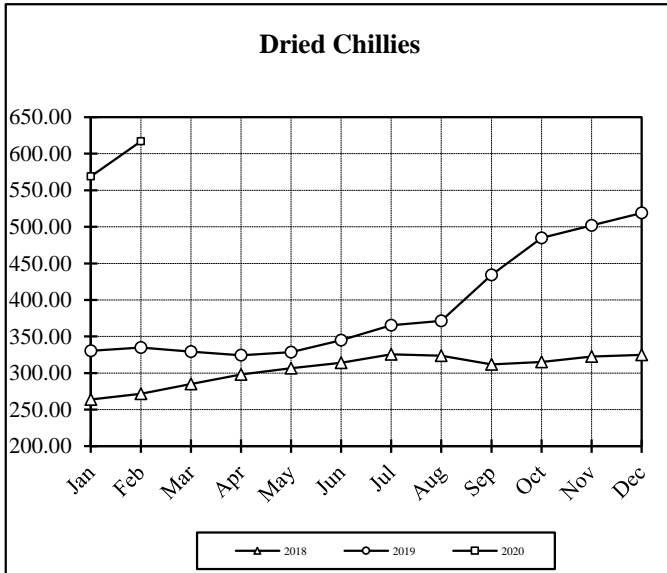
Appendix 01: Retail Price of Rice in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Samba 1			Nadu 1			Raw Red			Raw White		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Jan	116.65	115.44	98.00	107.10	93.00	98.00	90.96	83.12	110.60	95.24	90.02	108.50
Feb	115.03	116.14	98.00	103.88	94.64	98.00	87.49	82.07	104.20	90.00	87.74	104.75
Mar	115.34	109.87		101.20	94.63		86.63	78.87		87.25	83.14	
Apr	116.93	102.58		102.24	92.17		85.43	79.92		86.74	84.39	
May	117.36	99.05		106.56	92.83		85.08	80.74		86.25	87.00	
Jun	119.56	99.33		103.22	92.73		83.32	79.19		86.52	85.64	
Jul	119.08	98.81		99.99	92.75		80.52	79.31		83.80	85.86	
Aug	118.72	98.35		96.68	92.49		80.42	81.14		84.25	88.49	
Sep	118.15	99.58		95.11	95.00		79.26	84.14		82.76	90.23	
Oct	119.98	102.86		94.97	99.95		80.08	90.11		84.54	94.88	
Nov	115.02	105.46		92.27	102.03		82.65	96.96		87.55	98.70	
Dec	115.70	105.46		93.13	105.60		83.48	107.46		89.95	107.48	



Appendix 02: Retail Prices of Chillies, Onions & Potato in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion (Vedalan)			Big Onion			Potato - N'Eliya		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Jan	263.76	330.31	568.88	515.82			143.32	85.22	158.34	163.50	215.71	230.30
Feb	271.41	335.00	616.91		176.36	589.00	118.86	81.33	187.64	149.12	168.89	221.45
Mar	284.90	329.23		204.17	168.97		88.58	78.17		139.65	164.00	
Apr	298.03	324.25			175.37		67.31	91.75		149.37	191.47	
May	306.67	328.50			201.43		99.21	93.54		165.33	200.97	
Jun	313.87	345.06		192.53	229.57		108.62	114.91		191.52	207.45	
Jul	325.59	365.35		170.61	222.51		115.02	124.20		206.17	235.89	
Aug	323.56	371.46		179.06	175.95		115.74	132.13		207.29	234.10	
Sep	311.60	434.22		164.11	191.81		109.70	167.17		167.27	209.86	
Oct	315.11	484.80		168.06	325.31		111.28	248.02		155.45	202.38	
Nov	322.74	502.09		169.23	478.63		120.24	192.69		192.07	213.71	
Dec	324.98	518.89			608.84		102.86	178.67		214.56	232.91	



**Appendix 03: Farmgate/Producer Prices of Food Commodities
in Selected Producing Areas (Rs/Kg)**

February - 2020

Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
Paddy					Potato					Leeks				
Short grain					N'Eliya	122.00	132.00	108.20	103.00	Welimada			155.00	98.75
A'pura	41.78	43.00	45.63	45.67	Badulla			112.50	112.50	N'Eliya	185.00	168.00	142.00	112.00
P'narawa	43.12	43.12	43.12	47.78	Welimada			106.25	102.50					
Kalawewa	41.88	41.13	44.00	44.00	Pulses					Beetroot				
Kurunegala	42.17	44.50	44.50	46.83	Green Gram					Hanguranketha				
Dehiattakandiya	45.33	45.69	46.13	46.78	Galgamuwa					N'Eliya	72.60	79.00	79.00	52.00
Ampara	40.83	47.50	47.67	47.67	Kalawewa					Dambulla	123.00	101.00	74.00	69.20
Long grain (White)					Embilipitiya	207.00	207.00	207.00	207.00	Kurunegala				
A'pura	42.09	42.00	42.13	42.56	Kurunegala					Welimada			83.75	60.00
P'narawa	42.50	42.26	43.13	45.34	A'pura	190.00	225.00	230.00	225.00	Knokhol				
Kalawewa	40.88	39.88	40.67	41.42	Cowpea					Hanguranketha		115.00	95.00	47.50
Kurunegala	42.17	44.33	44.33	46.17	A'pura	175.00	160.00	155.00	160.00	N'Eliya	76.00	92.00	72.00	54.00
Dehiattakandiya	42.32	44.99	44.00	44.67	Galgamuwa					Welimada			98.33	45.00
Embilipitiya					Nikaweratiya	207.50	207.50	207.50	207.50	Radish				
Ampara	36.67	47.50	48.50	48.50	Kalawewa					Hanguranketha	50.00	42.50	35.00	32.50
Matara					Embilipitiya	209.25	209.25	209.25	209.25	N'Eliya	27.00	32.00	28.00	28.00
Hambantota					Kurunegala					Welimada			27.50	21.25
Long grain (Red)					Maize					Cabbage				
Matara	46.50	45.50	47.67	47.67	A'Pura	45.36	42.50	46.50	50.40	Hanguranketha	100.00		85.00	
Hambantota	44.50	46.50	48.67	49.00	Kalawewa	51.67	48.75	48.75	46.00	N'Eliya	97.00	113.00	72.00	62.00
Ampara	37.00	48.50	47.50	47.50	Gingelly					Welimada			57.50	52.50
Embilipitiya	50.40	47.60	47.60	47.40	A'Pura	480.00	533.33	600.00	660.00	Hambantota				
Other Food Crops					Kalawewa					Badulla	94.00	88.00	54.00	54.00
Dried Chillies					Black Gram					Tomato				
A'Pura					Kalawewa					Hanguranketha	340.00		190.00	
Galgamuwa					A'Pura	251.25	263.75	282.86	267.50	Welimada			146.25	135.00
Kalawewa					Vegetables (Up Country)					Hambantota	315.00	215.00	180.00	
Red Onion					Beans					Dambulla	308.00	236.00	137.00	110.00
Puttalam					Dambulla	266.00	192.00	114.00	114.00	Low Country				
Big Onion					Welimada			132.00	108.00	Ladies Fingers				
Dambulla					Badulla	246.00	212.00	118.00	96.00	A'pura	146.67	110.00	86.67	50.00
Kalawewa					Carrot					Dambulla	161.50	149.50	96.00	58.80
A'Pura					Hanguranketha	270.00	275.00	135.00	135.00	Hambantota	160.00	115.00	113.33	
Kurunegala					N'Eliya	322.00	272.00	114.00	136.00	Embilipitiya	123.00	95.00	75.83	39.17
					Welimada			110.00	116.00	Matara	175.00	125.00	115.00	

