



HARTI

FOOD INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol 14

March - 2021

No 03

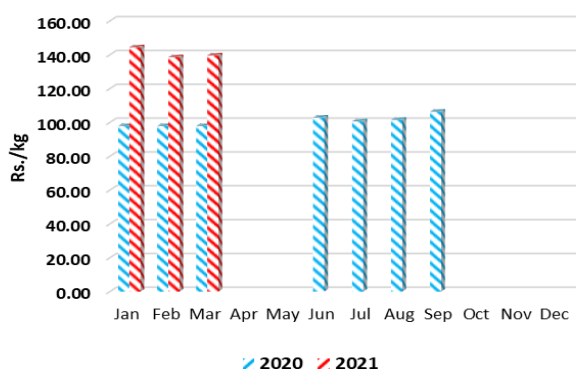
RICE:

Supplies of all most all the rice varieties had been reduced all over the country even through the paddy harvesting of *Maha* 2020/2021 had been reached to its peak during the month. Hence, the wholesale prices of Nadu (grade I and II), raw red and raw white had increased with the highest price increase of 5% for Nadu grade I. Retail prices of most of the rice varieties had decreased by less than 2% compared to the last month despite the increased wholesale prices.

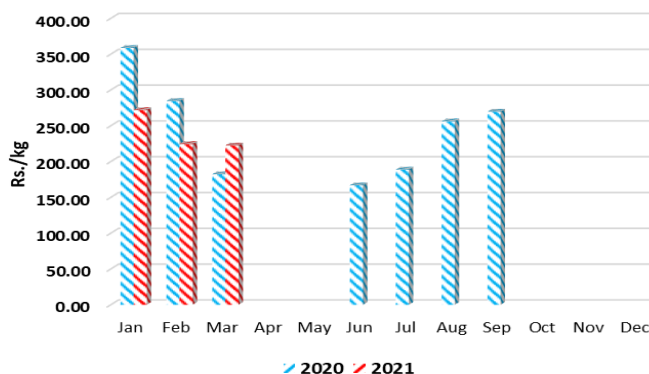
VEGETABLES:

Supplies of most of the low-country as well as up-country vegetables were further increased during the month. Therefore, the retail prices of all most all the vegetables varieties have further decreased by 1%-43%. The highest retail price of Rs.500.00/kg was reported for capsicum while the lowest price of Rs. 40.00/kg was for cucumber.

Average Retail Prices of Rice (Samba I)



Average Retail Prices of Beans (Green)



Marketing , Food Policy and Agribusiness Division

Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute

No 114, Wijerama Mawatha , Colombo 07.

Ministry of Agriculture

Phone: 011-2696981

Fax: 011-2682283

E-mail: mfpaharti@yahoo.com

Web: www.harti.gov.lk

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.

Co-ordinator / Senior Research Officer

Dr. E.A.C. Priyankara

Research Team

W.A.N.Wijesooriya	- Paddy
Dr. N.P.G.Samantha	- Rice
R.N.K. Rambukwella	- Dried Chilli & Onion,
Ruvini Vidanapathirana	- Potato
I.P.P.M.Wijesinghe	- Pulses
Dr. E.A.C.Priyankara	- Vegetables , wheat flour & Sugar
I.K.Edirisinghe	- Fruits
P.A.J.Champika	- Fish , Dried fish , Eggs & Meat

Compilation of Data and Information

W.G.N. Malkanthi D.M.D.S. Premadasa
K.K. Mayumi Apsara

Data Processing

K.A.R. Pathmasiri

Word Processing

I.A. Surangani

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

1. Paddy

Crop Situation

Despite the Covid 19 Pandemic related setbacks and the flood situation occurred at the beginning of the season, farmers tend to cultivate a higher extent of paddy during the 2020/21 *Maha* season. The peak harvesting of paddy crop in 2020/21 *Maha* season is in progress in most of the major producing areas in the Eastern, North central and Northern provinces. The production outlook of the country is satisfactory in most of the major producing areas as a result of the high extent (802, 494ha) of paddy lands were cultivated during the season. According to the Department of Agriculture estimates the expected Paddy Production after the removal of crop damage was 3.12 Million Mt. The reports further revealed that the cultivation progress was exceeded in Kilinochchi, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee, Kalutara, Galle and most of Mahaweli Systems. The new harvest arrives to the markets from major producing areas throughout the month.

Table 1.1 Progress of paddy cultivation in *Maha* season as at end of March 2021

District/Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent	Production Forecast based on Progress (mt)	Total Affected Extent (ha)	Expected Production Loss for Affected Area (mt)	Revised Production Forecast (mt)
Kurunagala	83,450	69,509	83	316,685	-	-	316,685
Anuradhapura	76,710	65,707	86	254,243	110	329	253,914
Batticaloa	76,395	76,346	100	198,106	13,433	23,143	174,963
Trincomalee	42,642	43,427	102	170,494	2,146	4,847	165,646
Monaragala	29,783	27,915	94	118,124	181	395	117,729
Kilinochchi	28,434	28,434	100	99,479	-	-	99,479
Puttalam	21,996	17,907	81	62,756	84	220	62,536
Mannar	21,154	21,254	100	93,613	-	-	93,613
Vavuniya	19,901	20,998	106	93,451	304	750	92,701
Mullativu	19,867	19,610	99	72,991	-	-	72,991
Matale	17,551	15,350	87	66,594	-	-	66,594
Badulla	16,476	15,189	92	57,864	20	62	57,803
Matara	15,670	14,789	94	48,842	214	180	48,662
Kalutara	13,539	13,788	102	44,746	65	85	44,661
Galle	13,405	13,438	100	34,264	-	-	34,264
Gampaha	12,923	11,982	93	36,786	-	-	36,786
Hambantota	12,917	11,263	87	57,880	-	-	57,880
Ratnapura	12,626	11,602	92	39,132	-	-	39,132
Jaffna	11,857	11,781	99	28,917	-	-	28,917
Kandy	9,372	8,779	94	28,663	-	-	28,663
Kegalle	8,368	7,397	88	30,226	-	-	30,226
Ampara	7,067	7,020	99	32,295	55	126	32,169
N' eliya	5,610	5,173	92	11,959	-	-	11,959
Colombo	3,908	3,871	99	11,408	-	-	11,409
System B	21,503	21,317	99	92,823	-	-	92,823
Udawalawa	10,110	11,396	113	55,398	-	-	55,398
System C	22,788	21,710	95	94,534	-	-	94,534
System H1	8,340	8,600	103	37,448	-	-	37,448
System H	21,847	21,777	100	94,826	-	-	94,826
System D	1,495	1,438	96	6,262	-	-	6,262
System L	2,072	2,966	143	12,915	-	-	12,915
Others*	176,383	170,761	101	752,970	2,280	2,839	750,130
Sri Lanka	846,159	802,494	95	3,156,694	18,892	32,976	3,123,718

Source: Crop Forecast, Maha 2020/21, Volume 06(Final), Department of Agriculture

Others* : Inter province areas, System G, Rambakanoya

Producer Prices

The prices of paddy were increased in most producing areas and were generally well above their year-earlier levels. The market arrivals of paddy have increased during the month due to the peak harvesting of paddy crop in 2020/21 *Maha* season in North Central, Northern and Eastern provinces. The government paddy purchasing programme through the Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) was in progress in most of the major producing areas. In addition to the competitive buying behavior of the private sector was recorded in most of the major producing areas. Prevailing dry weather in major producing areas is favorable for paddy drying activities. Hence, the market supply of well-dried newly harvested paddy stocks are increased. The increasing trend of price for both short grain and long grain paddy varieties have observed. It was mainly due to increased competition in the market as a result of government intervention for purchasing paddy at a higher guaranteed price and competitive buying behavior of rice millers.

The average prices of short grain have increased by 1%-24% in most of the considered major producing areas with the highest increase from Polonnaruwa. Prices of long grain white have increased by 2%- 16% with the highest increase also from Polonnaruwa. Meanwhile, the prices of long grain red have decreased by 3% in Embilipitiya. The open market prices of long grain white and short grain ranged between Rs.44.00-60.00/kg and Rs.46.00-66.00/kg respectively. The lowest prices were recorded for high moisture newly harvested paddy. Prices of long grain red paddy ranged Rs.52.00-56.00/kg in producing areas in the Southern Province.

Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of long grain white and short grain varieties have increased significantly in the range of 6%-19%, and 17%-31% respectively. Meanwhile the prices of long grain red have increased by less than 16% in Embilipitiya producing area.

Table1.2: Producer prices of paddy – March 2021

Commodity	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain								
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	45.98	-	-	-	-
Polonnaruwa	53.00-70.00	61.91	50.04	47.33	11.87	23.71	14.58	30.80
Kalawewa	46.00-62.00	55.31	59.77	44.25	-4.46	-7.47	11.06	24.98
Kurunegala	50.00-60.00	54.67	51.81	46.83	2.85	5.51	7.83	16.73
Dehiattakandiya	-	-	-	47.01	-	-	-	-
Nikaweratiya	53.00-62.00	56.80	56.42	45.37	0.38	0.68	11.43	25.20
Ampara	55.00-66.00	58.68	54.67	49.40	4.02	7.35	9.28	18.79
Long Grain White								
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	44.15	-	-	-	-
Polonnaruwa	46.00-60.00	52.67	45.50	45.05	7.17	15.77	7.63	16.93
Kalawewa	44.00-56.50	49.47	48.36	41.67	1.11	2.29	7.80	18.72
Kurunegala	45.00-55.00	49.77	46.56	46.83	3.20	6.88	2.93	6.26
Dehiattakandiya	-	-	-	44.87	-	-	-	-
Embilipitiya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nikaweratiya	48.00-56.00	53.00	47.50	44.36	5.50	11.58	8.64	19.47
Matara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	44.00-56.50	50.97	49.79	48.00	1.18	2.36	2.97	6.18
Long Grain Red								
Matara	52.00-56.00	54.38	-	47.60	-	-	-	-
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A' pura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Embilipitiya	54.00-56.00	54.92	56.40	47.40	-1.48	-2.62	7.52	15.86

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Rice Prices Demand/Supply Situation

Wholesale Prices

Supplies of all most all the rice varieties had been reduced all over the country even through the paddy harvesting of *Maha* 2020/21 had been reached to its peak during the month. Hence, the wholesale prices of *Nadu* (grade I and II), raw red and raw white had increased with the highest price increase of 5 per cent for *Nadu* grade I. A shortage of *Nadu* rice was reported from Colombo wholesale market during the month. The average prices of *Samba* grade II and raw red remained same as last month owing to constant demand and supply.

Compared to the same period of the last year wholesale prices of all the rice varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 29% for *Samba* grade II.

According to the Department of Agriculture, total paddy availability from 2020/21 *Maha* for rice production is 2.9 million mt. It can be produced 1.97 million mt of rice out of 2020/21 *Maha* paddy production which would be adequate to feed the nation for 10.02 months.

Retail Prices

Retail prices of most of the rice varieties had decreased by less than 2 per cent compared to the last month despite the increased wholesale prices. Retail prices of *Samba* grade I and II were ranged between Rs. 135.00-150.00 and Rs. 120.00-135.00/kg respectively. Further, the average retail prices of *Samba* grade I and II were Rs.139.71 and Rs.128.86/kg respectively. Furthermore, prices of all the rice varieties had exceeded the regulated Maximum Retail Price (MRP).

Compared to the same period of the last year, retail prices of all the rice varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 43% for *Samba* grade I.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and retail prices of rice – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	-	-	-	96.90	-	-	-	-
Samba 2	115.00-126.00	121.46	121.63	94.50	-0.17	-0.14	26.96	28.53
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	102.00-110.00	105.87	101.21	96.88	4.66	4.61	9.00	9.29
Nadu 2	95.00-102.00	97.92	95.38	91.15	2.54	2.66	6.77	7.43
Raw red	93.00-95.00	93.96	93.38	85.20	0.58	0.63	8.76	10.28
Raw white	93.00-98.00	95.66	93.39	86.90	2.27	2.43	8.76	10.08
Imported Samba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	135.00-150.00	139.71	138.67	98.00	1.03	0.75	41.71	42.56
Samba 2	120.00-135.00	128.86	130.44	-	-1.58	-1.21	-	-
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	108.00-120.00	113.55	110.43	98.00	3.12	2.82	15.55	15.87
Nadu 2	98.00-110.00	103.75	103.88	-	-0.13	-0.12	-	-
Raw red	95.00-110.00	102.71	105.14	97.55	-2.43	-2.31	5.16	5.29
Raw white	96.00-110.00	103.35	105.34	97.98	-1.98	-1.88	5.37	5.48
Imported <i>Ponni</i> Samba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chilli

Crop Situation

Cultivation progress of green chilli as at the end of Maha season was 7522 ha and it is represented 66% of the total targeted extent. The highest cultivated extent was reported from Anuradhapura district but as at the end of March 2021, it is represented only 51% of the targeted extent in Anuradhapura district. Around 242 ha of green chilli has been damaged in Batticalo district due to flood, pest and diseases. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of green chilli is 35002 Mt for this Maha season in the country with 49% of the supply from Anuradhapura (15%), Puttalam (15%), Monaragala (12%) and Jaffna (7%) districts.

Table 2.1.1: Target and cultivation progress of green chili for Maha 2020/21

Area	Target (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of March 2021		Estimated Production (Mt)
		Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Anuradhapura	2,050	1,052	51	5,405
Anuradhapura IP*	330	220	67	1,163
Puttalam	780	595	76	5,307
Monaragala	1,287	610	47	4,075
Kurunegala	275	257	93	1,398
Jaffna	600	410	68	2,590
Vavuniya	395	305	77	1,130
Other areas	5,662	4,073	72	13,934
Total	11,379	7,522	66	35,002

Source: Crop Forecast, Maha 2020/21, Volume 06, Socio Economic and Planning Centre, Department of Agriculture

**IP – Inter Provincial Areas*

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supply of green chilli from main producing areas has increased during this month. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of green chili have decreased significantly by about Rs.340.00/kg and Rs.426.00/kg respectively. Average wholesale prices of green chilli were ranged between Rs.140.00 – 259.00/kg while average retail prices were ranged between Rs.200.00 – 600.00/kg. Wholesale price of imported dried chili has increased by about Rs.24.00/kg while the retail price has decreased by Rs.20.00/kg. Prices ranged between Rs.490.00 – 510.00/kg at the wholesale level and Rs.540.00 – 700.00/kg at the retail level. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of both green chilli and imported dried chilli have increased by about 34% and 2% respectively.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and retail prices of dried chilli and green chilli – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green Chilli	140.00-250.00	179.20	520.75	114.50	-341.55	-65.59	64.70	56.51
Dried Chilli	490.00-510.00	501.87	477.59	394.57	24.28	5.08	107.30	27.19
Retail Price								
Green Chilli	200.00-600.00	364.61	791.00	272.99	-426.39	-53.90	91.62	33.56
Dried Chilli	540.00-700.00	602.72	623.15	592.69	-20.42	-3.28	10.04	1.69

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Producer prices of green chili (Rs/kg) March 2021

Location	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week	5 th week
Dambulla	158.00	156.00	153.50	144.00	144.00
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-
Embilipitiya	273.00	206.00	249.00	232.00	232.00
Puttalam	-	-	-	-	-
A'Pura	-	-	-	-	-

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

2.2 Red Onion and Big Onion Crop Situation

The targeted extent of red onion for Maha 2020/21 is 3178 ha and about 2537 ha were cultivated in the country by the end of March 2021, achieving 80% of the targeted extent. Around 609 ha of red onion was cultivated during this month in Jaffna district and altogether 1448 ha has been cultivated at the end of March, 2021 representing 76% of the targeted extent. There is no cultivation was recorded in Puttalam district during this month. Around 29 ha of red onion extent has been damaged in Batticaloa district due to flood, pest and diseases. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of red onion is 40325 Mt for this Maha season in the country with 92% of the supply from Jafna (57%), Puttalam (27%) and Trincomalee (8%) districts.

Table 2.2.1: Cultivation Progress of Red Onion for Maha 2020/21

Area	Target (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of March 2021		Estimated Production (Mt)
		Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Jaffna	1,900	1,448	76	22,878
Puttalam	515	525	102	10,956
Trincomalee	280	298	106	3,417
Other Areas	481	266	55	3,074
Total	3,176	2,537	80	40,325

Source: Crop Forecast, Maha 2020/21, Volume 06, Socio Economic and Planning Centre, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Wholesale prices of both Sinnan and Vedalan red onions have decreased by about Rs.176.00/kg and Rs.189.00/kg respectively due to high supply from main producing areas. Both sinnan and Vedalan red onions were available at the retail markets with the price range of Rs.200.00 – 240.00/kg and Rs.200.00 – 360.00/kg respectively. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have decreased by about Rs.158.00 – 258.00/kg respectively due to availability of the sufficient stocks at the market.

Only imported big onion stocks were available at the market. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have decreased by about Rs.28.00/kg and Rs.21.00/kg respectively due to ample stocks at the market. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of both imported red onion and imported big onion have decreased by about 25% and 32% respectively.

Table 2.2.2: Wholesale prices and retail prices of red onion and big onion - March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	130.00-200.00	153.64	330.00	200.78	-176.36	-53.44	-47.13	-23.48
Red Onion (Vedalan)	150.00-225.00	194.59	383.66	-	-189.07	-49.28	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	160.00-200.00	179.58	337.70	215.25	-158.12	-46.82	-35.67	-16.57
Big Onion (imported)	42.00-155.00	81.27	110.14	137.75	-28.87	-26.21	-56.48	-41.00
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	200.00-240.00	225.26	-	325.00	-	-	-99.74	-30.69
Red Onion (Vedalan)	200.00-360.00	291.67	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	190.00-400.00	278.85	537.28	371.19	-258.42	-48.10	-92.34	-24.88
Big Onion (imported)	60.00-200.00	123.19	144.28	182.10	-21.09	-14.62	-58.90	-32.35
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2020/21 is 2,451 ha and about 2,716 ha had been cultivated by the end of the season exceeding the targeted extent by 111%. In March about 184 ha of potato was cultivated in the country. However, compared to last *maha* season, the cultivated extent by the end of this *maha* season was higher. According to the cultivated extent up to end of the *maha* season, the expected production of potato is 44,310 mt for this *maha* season (Table 2.3.1).

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,081 ha and about 957 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of the season (89% progress). During the month only 104 ha of potatoes were cultivated in Nuwara Eliya district which was lower than the last month (Table 2.3.1).

The targeted extent for this *maha* season is 1,365 ha in the Badulla district and 1,647 ha have been cultivated by the end of the season exceeding the targeted extent by 121%. The cultivated extent during this season is at high level compared to last *maha* season in the district. In March, only 80 ha of potatoes were cultivated in Badulla district. According to field information, more harvesting was taken place in Keppetipola, Bogahakumbura, Boralanda, Ambagasdova, Uvaparaganama areas of the Welimada DS division during this *maha* season and the supply will be expected till May for Welimada potato.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Potato up to end of March (Maha 2020/21)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%) Maha 2020/21	Expected Production (mt)
	Maha 2019/20*	Maha 2020/21	Maha 2019/20*	Maha 2020/21		
N'Eliya	1,132	1,081	975	957	89	18,080
Badulla	1,432	1,365	962	1,647	121	24,611
Sri Lanka	2,691	2,451	2,062	2,716	111	44,310

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast, Maha 2020/21, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

*Crop Forecast, Maha 2019/20, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

With regard to local potato, sufficient stocks of Nuwara Eliya and Welimada potatoes were available in the Colombo Wholesale market. In March, the wholesale prices of Welimada and Nuwara Eliya potatoes have decreased by 14% and 13% respectively while the retail price of Nuwara Eliya potato has decreased by 8%. Meanwhile, the wholesale and retail prices of imported potato have decreased by 20% and 11% respectively due to availability of ample stocks. During the month of March, the wholesale prices of Welimada, Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes ranged between Rs.95.00-120.00/kg, Rs.115.00-130.00/kg and Rs.65.00-110.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya (4%) and imported (6%) potatoes have decreased. Prices of local potatoes are expected to be decreased further with the ongoing harvesting season for Welimada potato.

Table: 2.3.2: Producer, wholesale and retail prices of potato – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	91.20-105.00	96.34	107.9	97.50	-11.56	-10.71	-1.16	-1.19
Nuwara Eliya	96.00-108	102.74	115.1	99.90	-12.36	-10.74	2.84	2.84
Imported – CIF	-	-	-	54.17	-	-	-	-
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	95.00-120.00	107.50	125.63	105.50	-18.13	-14.43	2.00	1.90
Nuwara Eliya	115.00-130.00	123.38	142.19	125.63	-18.81	-13.23	-2.25	-1.79
Imported	65.00-110.00	83.75	104.39	85.25	-20.64	-19.77	-1.50	-1.76
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	100.00-180.00	148.88	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	140.00-240.00	188.54	205.92	196.08	-17.39	-8.44	-7.54	-3.85
Imported	90.00-160.00	122.65	138.13	129.89	-15.48	-11.21	-7.24	-5.58
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada		52.54	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		85.80	90.82	96.18	-5.03	-5.53	-10.38	-10.80
Imported (RP-CIF)		-	-	75.72	-	-	-	-
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada		41.38	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		65.16	63.73	70.45	1.43	2.24	-5.29	-7.51
Imported		38.90	33.74	44.64	5.16	15.28	-5.74	-12.87

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation and Progress

Green gram cultivation has been achieved around 88% of its targeted extent as at end of March in *Maha* 2020/21 season. According to the table 2.4.1, the extent of the green gram cultivation has increased by 5445 ha in Sri Lanka compared with last year (*Maha* 2019/20). Considering the crop damages, the expected production from the island-wide green gram cultivation is 4,049 MT which is decreased around 18% of the production compared to the previous year green gram production. It was reported that crop affected area was 449 ha in Sri Lanka. Green gram production in Hambantota and Monaragala districts shows a great achievement in the progress of cultivation. However, Kurunegala district cultivation has been increased compared with other districts. In addition to Puttalm district also shows a great achievement that was cultivated 417 ha in this year.

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

Crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%) Maha	Expected Production (mt)
		<i>Maha</i>	<i>Maha</i>	<i>Maha</i>	<i>Maha</i>		
		2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2021	
Green gram	Hambantota	4432	4607	5839	3042	66.03	777
	Monaragala	658	986	438	680	68.97	700
	Kurunagala	467	250	327	306	122.40	309
	Other Areas	3,851	2789	1862	3582	128.43	2263
	Sri Lanka	9,408	8,632	2,165	7,610	88.16	4,049
Cowpea	Ampara	4400	3698	2823	2,764	74.74	3547
	Monaragala	1234	2109	1028	1,115	52.87	1047
	Anuradhapura	618	430	370	737	171.40	1125
	Other Areas	3,473	3143	2,194	2,440	77.63	2936
	Sri Lanka	9,725	9,380	6,415	7,056	75.22	8,655

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast Maha 2020/21 & 2019/20, Volume 06, Socio-economic and Planning Centre/DOA

It has been able to achieve 75% of the targeted extent from cowpea cultivation and the expected production is around 8,655 Mt in Sri Lanka. It has increased by 12% of production compared with previous year. Ampara, Moneragala and Anuradhapura districts was the major producing districts for cowpea in 2020/21 Maha season and about those districts was contribute for 66% of the total production in the country. Extent of the cowpea cultivation in Sri Lanka has been increased from 641 ha rather than last year. Increased market price for both green gram and cowpea has driven factor to enhancement of the production.

Prices and Supply/ Demand Situation

The wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.550/kg and Rs.800/kg with an average of Rs.707/kg in March 2021. Whole sale price variation of the green gram was high during the March. The average price has increased by 11% compared to the previous month. Similarly, compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price has been increased by 172%. Sudden price enhancement shows in the market due to supply sortage in the market because of government banded the imports of locally produce crops. In addition to, the retail price of green

gram ranged between Rs.640/kg and Rs.1200/kg with an average of Rs.828/kg. Compared to the previous month, the retail price has increased by around 14%. However, compared to the same period of last year, the retail price for this month has been increased to around 175% (Table 2.4.2). This data clearly indicates that local production is still not adequate to cater the demand in the country as a result prices are increasing.

Table 2.4.2: Wholesale and retail prices of green gram and cowpea – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	550.00-800.00	707.26	635.92	259.50	71.33	11.22	447.76	172.55
Cowpea (White)	580.00-620.00	604.31	-	264.25	-	-	-	-
Cowpea (Red)	580.00-620.00	597.13	495.00	276.50	102.13	20.63	320.63	115.96
Retail Prices								
Green gram	640.00-1200.00	827.93	724.11	300.75	103.82	14.34	527.18	175.28
Cowpea (White)	700.00-850.00	741.74	616.67	304.89	125.07	20.28	436.85	143.28
Cowpea (Red)	640.00-800.00	699.56	600.85	308.19	98.72	16.43	391.37	126.99

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Average wholesale prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.604/kg and Rs. 597/kg in March 2021. The wholesale prices of both white and red cowpea ranged between Rs.580/kg and Rs.620/kg. The wholesale price of red cowpea has increased by around 21% comparing with February. Compared with the same period of last year, the wholesale price of red cowpea has been increased by 116% (Table 2.4.2). Government intervention for restrict the importation of the cowpea was the main reason to decrease supply and as a result price has been increased in the market. Price increasing effect in the supply market is slowly happening.

The average retail prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.742/kg and Rs.700/kg respectively. The retail price of white cowpea ranged between Rs.700/kg and Rs.850/kg, and that of red cowpea also ranged between Rs.640/kg and Rs.800/kg. Compared to the previous month, both white and red cowpea has been increased by around 20% and 16% correspondingly. Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of white and red cowpea has been increased by around 143% and 127% correspondingly (Table 2.4.2).

Table 2.4.3: 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	March,2021	-	707.26	827.93	-	120.68
	Feb,2021	-	635.92	724.11	-	88.19
	March,2020	-	259.50	300.76	-	41.26
Cowpea (White)	March,2021	-	604.31	741.74	-	-
	Feb,2021	-	-	616.67	-	-
	March,2020	-	264.25	304.89	-	40.64
Cowpea (Red)	March,2021	-	597.13	699.56	-	102.43
	Feb,2021	-	495.00	600.85	-	105.85
	March,2020	-	276.50	308.19	-	31.69

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.162/kg and Rs.170/kg with an average of Rs.165/kg, and the retail price ranged between Rs.170/kg and Rs.200/kg with an average of Rs.181/kg. Wholesale price has been increased by 5% and the retail price has increased nearly 2% compared with the February 2021. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices have been increased 34% and 26% respectively.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of Red Dhal – March 2021

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	162.00-170.00	165.44	157.66	123.35	7.78	4.93	42.09	34.13
Retail Price	170.00-200.00	180.93	178.18	143.27	2.75	1.54	37.66	26.28

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

Most of major vegetable producing areas experienced with rainy weather situation during the month. According to the statistics released by the Department of meteorology, the majority of vegetable growing areas had received rainfall above 30 years' average. The highest rainfall (308.8mm) reported from Ratnapura (Table 7). The prevailed weather situation during the month was favorable for the cultivation activities of the 2020/2021 *Maha* season.

The cultivation of *Maha* 2020/2021 has been reached to its end phase. Therefore, there was no substantial changes in the targeted areas of vegetable cultivation compared to the previous month. The total target for the *Maha* 2020/2021 season was 51,723ha and 92% of the target had been achieved by the end of March. The total expected vegetable production from the *Maha* 2020/2021 season is 579,272mt. The mostly cultivated vegetables were brinjal (5480ha), pumpkin (5260ha), long beans (5136ha), beans (4306ha), and okra (4302ha). Highest production is expected from cabbage (62,238mt), pumpkin (61,573mt), brinjal (61,280mt), beans (48,998mt), tomato (42,599mt), carrot (40,934mt), and long beans (38,250mt). (Crop Forecast, 2020/2021 *Maha* Season, Vol.06, Scio Economics and Planning Centre, Department of Agriculture).

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of most of the low-country as well as up-country vegetables were further increased during the month. Thus, the wholesale prices of most of the vegetable varieties have further decreased by 9%-59%. The highest price decrease was recorded for binjal, while lowest decrease was for leeks. The highest wholesale price of Rs. 300.00/kg was reported for capsicum while the lowest price was observed for cucumber (Rs.15.00/kg) followed by brinjal (Rs.20.00/kg) and radish (Rs.30.00/kg).

Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale prices of most of the vegetable varieties had increased by 7%-67%. However, a remarkable price increase (158%) was noted for ladies fingers.

The retail prices of all most all the vegetables varieties have further decreased by 1%-43% during the month. Further, except for beans (-1%) and carrot (-13%) the prices of all the other vegetable varieties have decreased over 20% but less than 43%. The highest retail price of Rs.500.00/kg was reported for capsicum while the lowest price of Rs. 40.00/kg was for cucumber.

Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of most of the vegetable varieties had increased by 5%-49%.

Table 3.1: Wholesale prices of vegetables – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	120.00-240.00	163.87	125.25	111.75	38.62	30.84	52.12	46.64
Carrot	100.00-200.00	139.80	153.75	126.50	-13.95	-9.07	13.30	10.51
Leeks	60.00-90.00	76.60	89.00	106.00	-12.40	-13.93	-29.40	-27.74
Beetroot	50.00-130.00	92.32	197.61	73.41	-105.29	-53.28	18.91	25.76
Knolkhol	60.00-120.00	84.00	114.00	51.00	-30.00	-26.32	33.00	64.71
Radish	30.00-100.00	51.00	77.75	39.00	-26.75	-34.41	12.00	30.77
Cabbage	70.00-130.00	101.18	75.30	73.25	25.89	34.38	27.93	38.13
Tomato	60.00-230.00	123.44	188.00	98.00	-64.56	-34.34	25.44	25.96
Ladies Fingers	60.00-100.00	71.67	128.61	27.75	-56.95	-44.28	43.92	158.26
Brinjal	20.00-160.00	69.20	170.42	95.64	-101.22	-59.39	-26.44	-27.65
Capsicum	170.00-300.00	221.60	372.75	132.50	-151.15	-40.55	89.10	67.25
Pumpkin	60.00-100.00	75.73	129.52	78.50	-53.79	-41.53	-2.77	-3.52
Cucumber	15.00-50.00	31.00	38.38	23.14	-7.38	-19.22	7.86	33.99
Bittergourd	100.00-160.00	138.07	210.07	93.25	-72.00	-34.27	44.82	48.07
Snakegourd	60.00-100.00	77.02	120.25	71.83	-43.23	-35.95	5.18	7.22
Drumstick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	60.00-180.00	118.60	161.00	68.50	-42.40	-26.34	50.10	73.14
Long Beans	50.00-100.00	66.20	98.00	81.50	-31.80	-32.45	-15.30	-18.77
Ash Plantain	40.00-80.00	57.90	69.45	72.82	-11.55	-16.64	-14.92	-20.49
Green Chilli	140.00-250.00	179.20	520.75	114.50	-341.55	-65.59	64.70	56.51
Lime	60.00-90.00	75.76	100.75	53.00	-24.99	-24.80	22.76	42.95

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2: Retail prices of vegetables – March 2021

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	150.00-280.00	222.48	224.46	182.33	-1.98	-0.88	40.15	22.02
Carrot	130.00-300.00	211.19	241.47	200.56	-30.28	-12.54	10.64	5.30
Leeks	80.00-200.00	151.43	192.29	180.03	-40.86	-21.25	-28.61	-15.89
Beetroot	80.00-240.00	164.75	284.11	138.92	-119.36	-42.01	25.83	18.59
Knolkhol	100.00-240.00	173.84	245.69	135.80	-71.84	-29.24	38.04	28.01
Radish	60.00-200.00	128.26	181.99	113.55	-53.74	-29.53	14.71	12.95
Cabbage	120.00-240.00	171.21	165.93	150.70	5.29	3.19	20.52	13.62
Tomato	80.00-400.00	202.04	287.70	184.49	-85.66	-29.77	17.55	9.51
Ladies Fingers	100.00-200.00	152.67	230.23	120.38	-77.56	-33.69	32.29	26.83
Brinjal	60.00-240.00	142.97	249.96	157.10	-106.99	-42.80	-14.14	-9.00
Capsicum	200.00-500.00	332.05	531.24	225.33	-199.19	-37.50	106.72	47.36
Pumpkin	80.00-240.00	150.63	221.88	159.24	-71.25	-32.11	-8.61	-5.41
Cucumber	40.00-130.00	98.06	124.52	92.57	-26.46	-21.25	5.49	5.93
Bittergourd	150.00-320.00	237.45	321.29	187.66	-83.84	-26.09	49.80	26.54
Snakegourd	100.00-240.00	162.86	226.58	146.68	-63.72	-28.12	16.18	11.03
Drumstick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	120.00-320.00	213.41	273.33	143.39	-59.92	-21.92	70.02	48.84
Long Beans	80.00-240.00	151.86	211.17	152.17	-59.31	-28.09	-0.31	-0.20
Ash Plantain	70.00-160.00	130.03	153.79	143.97	-23.76	-15.45	-13.94	-9.68
Green Chilli	200.00-600.00	364.61	791.00	272.99	-426.39	-53.90	91.62	33.56
Lime	100.00-360.00	216.59	312.81	151.61	-96.22	-30.76	64.98	42.86

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Compared to the prices in February 2021, wholesale prices of all the fruit varieties except banana variety, Anamalu and imported grapes had increased in March 2021. Accordingly, prices of banana varieties had increased in the range of 3%-10% and their price ranges were noted as Rs.40.00-70.00/kg for Ambul, Rs.60.00-80.00/kg for Seeni, Rs.130.00-180.00/kg for Kolikuttu and Rs.15.00-18.00/fruit for Ambun. Price of small sized pineapple had increased by 18% and it was a 12% price increase for both medium and large sized pineapple. The monthly average wholesale prices of small, medium and large sized fruits were Rs.105.82/fruit, Rs.145.63/fruit and Rs.182.65/fruit respectively and the price ranged between Rs.80.00-220.00/fruit. Prices of mango varieties had also increased; Karthakolomban by 73%, Betti by 42% and Kohu by 15%. Further, price of a Karthakolomban fruit was noted as Rs.80.00-180.00. Price of papaw had increased by 31% and the monthly average wholesale price was Rs.95.38/kg and the price ranged between Rs.50.00-150.00/kg. Further, prices of wood apple, slime apple and passion fruit had increased by 40%, 33% and 16% respectively. In addition, prices of avocado and orange had increased by 4% and 2% respectively (Table 4.1).

However, as stated earlier, prices of banana variety, Anamalu and imported grapes had decreased by 1% in March 2021 and their prices ranged between Rs.12.00-14.00/fruit and Rs.688.00-911.00/kg respectively (Table 4.1).

Compared to the same period of 2020, wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 26% recorded for imported grapes (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 at the retail level too. Accordingly, retail price of banana variety, Kolikuttu had increased by 9% and the price range was noted as Rs.180.00-260.00/kg. A price increase of 2% was noted for both banana varieties, Ambul and Anamalu and the retail price ranges noted for them were Rs.80.00-140.00/kg and Rs.15.00-22.00/fruit respectively. In addition, price of Ambun had increased by 1% and price range was noted as Rs.19.00-28.00/fruit. Price of small sized pineapple had increased by 4% and the price ranged between Rs.100.00-150.00/fruit. Further, price of mango variety, Karthakolomban had increased by 68% and price of a Karthakolomban fruit ranged between Rs.100.00-250.00. Price of papaw had increased by 21% and the monthly average retail price was Rs.169.70/kg and the price ranged between Rs.90.00-240.00/kg. In addition, prices of wood apple, passion fruit and avocado had increased by 25%, 7% and 3% respectively (Table 4.2).

However, prices of medium and large sized pineapple had decreased by 4% and 3% respectively and the price ranged between Rs.150.00-260.00/fruit. Further, prices of slime apple and orange had decreased by 5% and 3% respectively (Table 4.2).

Meanwhile, prices of banana variety, Seeni and imported grapes had not changed significantly and their prices ranged between Rs.100.00-140.00/kg and Rs.900.00-1,300.00/kg respectively (Table 4.2).

Compared to the same period of 2020, retail prices of fruit varieties, banana, mango, wood apple, orange and grapes (imported) had increased with the highest price increase of 33% recorded for wood apple while, prices of fruit varieties, pineapple, papaw, passion fruit, avocado and slime apple had decreased with the highest price decrease of 19% recorded for passion fruit (Table 4.2).

With reference to the producer prices, producers had received increased prices for fruit varieties in March compared to the prices in February, 2021; price increases of 33% for papaw, 18% for banana variety, Ambul and 15% for banana variety, Kolikuttu. Further, producer prices for Ambul, Kolikuttu and papaw during the month were noted as Rs.39.00-48.00/kg, Rs.102.00-147.00/kg and Rs.45.00-75.00/kg respectively. At the same time, compared to March, 2020, producer prices had increased for banana varieties, Ambul by 67% and Kolikuttu by 34%, while price of papaw had decreased by 11% (Table 4.3).

Table 4.1: Wholesale prices of fruits – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	40.00-70.00	54.17	49.38	43.56	4.79	9.70	10.61	24.36
Kolikuttu (Kg)	130.00-180.00	151.00	137.29	123.75	13.71	9.98	27.25	22.02
Seeni (Kg)	60.00-80.00	72.59	67.29	61.06	5.30	7.88	11.53	18.89
Anamalu (Fruit)	12.00-14.00	13.30	13.44	12.42	-0.14	-1.02	0.88	7.11
Ambun (Fruit)	15.00-18.00	16.73	16.17	15.25	0.57	3.51	1.48	9.73
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	160.00-220.00	182.65	162.75	228.78	19.90	12.23	-46.12	-20.16
Medium (Fruit)	120.00-170.00	145.63	130.07	178.01	15.57	11.97	-32.38	-18.19
Small (Fruit)	80.00-130.00	105.82	89.60	134.34	16.22	18.10	-28.53	-21.23
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	20.00-55.00	31.18	21.90	63.00	9.28	42.37	-31.82	-50.51
Karthakolomban(fruit)	80.00-180.00	129.35	74.60	162.50	54.75	73.39	-33.15	-20.40
Vilad (Fruit)	28.00-40.00	34.47	-	65.00	-	-	-30.53	-46.97
Kohu (Fruit)	18.00-22.00	20.17	17.50	-	2.67	15.24	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	50.00-150.00	95.38	72.85	94.29	22.54	30.94	1.10	1.17
Passionfruit (Fruit)	11.00-15.00	12.94	11.10	14.88	1.83	16.50	-1.94	-13.03
Woodapple (Fruit)	30.00-55.00	39.64	28.23	35.21	11.41	40.43	4.43	12.58
Orange (Fruit)	20.00-40.00	29.96	29.37	24.00	0.60	2.03	5.96	24.84
Avocado (Fruit)	38.00-120.00	71.88	69.29	82.32	2.59	3.73	-10.45	-12.69
Slime Apple (Fruit)	10.00-25.00	17.67	13.25	17.64	4.41	33.30	0.02	0.13
Grapes Imported (Kg)	688.00-911.00	806.58	812.98	637.63	-6.40	-0.79	168.96	26.50

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail prices of fruits – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	80.00-140.00	112.86	110.86	99.18	2.01	1.81	13.69	13.80
Kolikuttu (Kg)	180.00-260.00	214.58	197.13	196.48	17.45	8.85	18.10	9.21
Seeni (Kg)	100.00-140.00	124.54	125.19	114.75	-0.65	-0.52	9.79	8.53
Anamalu (Fruit)	15.00-22.00	19.08	18.73	18.15	0.34	1.84	0.92	5.09
Ambun (Fruit)	19.00-28.00	23.70	23.55	22.51	0.14	0.61	1.19	5.28
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	200.00-260.00	226.03	232.18	255.96	-6.15	-2.65	-29.94	-11.70
Medium (Fruit)	150.00-180.00	168.44	174.70	189.65	-6.25	-3.58	-21.21	-11.18
Small (Fruit)	100.00-150.00	134.99	129.47	143.47	5.51	4.26	-8.49	-5.91
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	30.00-40.00	32.50	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban(fruit)	100.00-250.00	186.79	111.45	175.00	75.34	67.60	11.79	6.74
Vilad (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	90.00-240.00	169.70	139.61	198.38	30.09	21.55	-28.69	-14.46
Passionfruit (Fruit)	16.00-33.00	24.39	22.80	30.30	1.59	6.97	-5.91	-19.50
Woodapple (Fruit)	50.00-140.00	90.39	72.19	68.09	18.20	25.21	22.30	32.76
Orange (Fruit)	30.00-80.00	58.33	60.18	48.61	-1.85	-3.07	9.72	20.00
Avocado (Fruit)	60.00-140.00	99.70	96.58	110.00	3.11	3.22	-10.30	-9.37
Slime Apple (Fruit)	30.00-80.00	52.16	54.78	54.67	-2.63	-4.80	-2.51	-4.59
Grapes Imported (Kg)	900.00-1300.00	1105.72	1104.90	960.30	0.83	0.07	145.42	15.14

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer prices of selected fruits – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	39.00-48.00	43.50	37.00	26.00	6.50	17.57	17.50	67.31
Kolikuttu	102.00-147.00	131.00	114.00	98.00	17.00	14.91	33.00	33.67
Papaw	45.00-75.00	63.00	47.50	71.00	15.50	32.63	-8.00	-11.27

Source ;Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

With the onset of the fishing season in the Southern and north western coastal belt, prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had dropped at the wholesale market in March 2021 compared to February 2021. Further, easing of COVID related market disruptions compared to previous month, also contributed to supply increase in March. Fishes had been supplied to the market mainly from Matara, Galle, Nigambo, Kalpitiya and Chillaw. The highest price decrease of 11% was noted for thora. Prices of paraw had dropped by 6%. Prices of all the other fish varieties, except for balaya, salaya mora and shrimp had decreased in the range of 1% - 2%. Of the price increases, the highest was noted for balaya by 23%. Further, prices of shrimp, mora and salaya had increased in the range of 4% - 9%. Compared to the same period of the last year, wholesale prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had decreased, with the highest price decrease noted for thora by 23%.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of fish – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Salaya	150.00-200.00	172.32	166.25	209.00	6.07	3.65	-36.68	-17.55
Hurulla	350.00-480.00	443.46	450.31	467.50	-6.85	-1.52	-24.04	-5.14
Balaya	300.00-480.00	397.45	323.13	327.50	74.33	23.00	69.95	21.36
Kelawalla	400.00-650.00	541.46	547.19	615.00	-5.73	-1.05	-73.54	-11.96
Thora	850.00-1100.00	956.80	1079.69	1237.50	-122.89	-11.38	-280.70	-22.68
Paraw	500.00-650.00	594.35	633.75	598.50	-39.40	-6.22	-4.15	-0.69
Mora	500.00-650.00	578.89	557.50	604.00	21.39	3.84	-25.11	-4.16
Shrimp (small)	900.00-1100.00	986.81	901.25	975.00	85.56	9.49	11.81	1.21
Thalapath	690.00-760.00	720.97	732.81	790.00	-11.85	-1.62	-69.03	-8.74
Retail Prices								
Salaya	180.00-360.00	223.20	225.72	297.80	-2.53	-1.12	-74.60	-25.05
Hurulla	400.00-720.00	516.50	544.35	587.69	-27.85	-5.12	-71.19	-12.11
Balaya	480.00-900.00	678.64	604.96	626.00	73.68	12.18	52.64	8.41
Kelawalla	600.00-1320.00	994.34	1018.72	951.98	-24.37	-2.39	42.36	4.45
Thora	1100.00-1800.00	1436.35	1457.83	1646.56	-21.48	-1.47	-210.21	-12.77
Paraw	800.00-1320.00	1109.37	1139.63	1169.27	-30.26	-2.65	-59.90	-5.12
Mora	800.00-900.00	866.67	1038.75	782.86	-172.08	-16.57	83.81	10.71
Shrimp (small)	1000.00-1400.00	1160.65	1103.48	1215.09	57.17	5.18	-54.44	-4.48
Thalapath	1100.00-1440.00	1251.47	1265.89	1232.50	-14.41	-1.14	18.97	1.54

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

In line with the price behaviour of the wholesale market, prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had dropped in the range of 1%-17% at the retail level. Of the retail prices, the highest price decrease was reported for mora (17%) and the lowest price decrease was observed for salaya, thora and thalpath (1%). Even though the price of salaya had increased at the wholesale level, a price decrease of 1% was observed at the retail level. Compared to the same period of the last year, retail prices of most of the fresh fishes had decreased with the highest price decrease noted for salaya by 25%.

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased with the highest price increase reported for balaya (29%) followed by local mora (12%) at the wholesale level, compared to the previous month. Prices of all the other dried fish varieties, except for anguluwa had increased in the range of 6%-8%. Price increases are mainly due to the supply interruptions during the COVID pandemic. However, price of anguluwa had decreased by 1% compared to February 2021. The main supply areas of the local varieties were Valachchenai, Mannar and Kalpitiya. Compared to the same period of the last year, wholesale prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased with the highest price increase noted for mora by 44%.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and retail prices of dried fish – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale Price								
Sprats	850.00-1100.00	1005.62	933.63	920.50	71.99	7.71	85.12	9.25
Sprats (imported)	350.00-600.00	473.80	442.33	489.50	31.47	7.12	-15.70	-3.21
Kattawa	1100.00-1300.00	1193.56	1129.36	1023.00	64.19	5.68	170.56	16.67
Kattawa (imported)	-	-	986.67	913.00	-	-	-	-
Thora	1300.00-1500.00	1369.64	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thora (imported)	-	-	-	1217.50	-	-	-	-
Mora	1050.00-1300.00	1208.29	1079.31	840.00	128.98	11.95	368.29	43.84
Mora (imported)	-	-	1080.00	794.00	-	-	-	-
Balaya	350.00-700.00	502.08	388.02	505.50	114.07	29.40	-3.42	-0.68
Balaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anguluwa	1000.00-1220.00	1166.51	1180.00	1046.29	-13.49	-1.14	120.23	11.49
Anguluwa (imported)	-	-	1030.00	935.50	-	-	-	-
Maduwa	650.00-800.00	705.61	662.88	570.50	42.73	6.45	135.11	23.68
Maduwa (imported)	-	-	460.00	424.00	-	-	-	-
Salaya	220.00-300.00	273.71	303.93	364.50	-30.22	-9.94	-90.79	-24.91
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail Price								
Sprats(imported)	420.00-900.00	745.90	682.64	681.80	63.26	9.27	64.10	9.40
Sprats	1000.00-1700.00	1093.63	1169.14	1195.45	-75.51	-6.46	-101.83	-8.52
Kattawa	1200.00-2000.00	1478.18	1479.40	1408.56	-1.21	-0.08	69.62	4.94
Thora	1500.00-2200.00	1799.75	1911.31	1805.52	-111.56	-5.84	-5.77	-0.32
Mora	1200.00-1600.00	1395.53	1351.79	1165.37	43.75	3.24	230.16	19.75
Balaya	550.00-1200.00	933.18	916.17	959.50	17.01	1.86	-26.32	-2.74
Anguluwa	1200.00-1500.00	1354.48	1305.80	1208.21	48.67	3.73	146.27	12.11
Maduwa	680.00-1200.00	941.75	-	766.67	-	-	175.08	22.84
Salaya	350.00-800.00	521.10	650.49	599.55	-129.39	-19.89	-78.45	-13.08

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Compared to February 2021, the retail prices of 50% of the varieties had increased with the highest price increase noted for Sprats (imported) (9%) followed by anguluwa (4%) due to low supplies. However, prices of 50% of the varieties including salaya, sprats, thora and kattawa had decreased in the range of 0.1%-20% due to sufficient supplies received at the market. Compared the same period of last year, the current prices of most of the varieties had increased in the range of 5% - 23%.

Eggs

Prices of both brown and white eggs had decreased by 13% and 11% respectively at the wholesale level compared to February 2021. The monthly average wholesale price of brown and white eggs was in the range of 14.50-18.50/egg and 13.50-17.00/ egg respectively. Compared to the same period of the last year, prices of both brown and white eggs had dropped by 18% and 17% respectively. Price drops are mainly due to the decreased demand from industrial sector during the COVID pandemic. In line with the wholesale price behaviour, prices of both brown and white eggs had dropped by 10% and 8% respectively, at the retail level. The monthly average retail prices of a brown and a white egg was in the range of Rs.15.00 -20.00/egg and Rs.14.00-19.00/egg respectively.

Table 5.3: Wholesale and retail prices of eggs – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	%	Rs	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	14.50-18.50	16.07	18.38	19.50	-2.31	-12.54	-3.43	-17.59
White (each)	13.50-17.00	15.29	17.08	18.50	-1.79	-10.51	-3.22	-17.38
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	15.00-20.00	17.25	19.10	20.41	-1.84	-9.66	-3.16	-15.47
White (each)	14.00-19.00	15.93	17.23	19.40	-1.30	-7.57	-3.47	-17.90

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Prices of most of the meat varieties had slightly increased at the retail market, compared to February 2021 due to increased demand as a result of easing of COVID related market disruptions. The highest price increase of 4% was noted for chicken (broiler). Prices of both mutton and pork had increased by 1%. However, prices of Beef (without bones) and Chicken (curry) had dropped in the range of 2% - 3%. Compared to the same period of last year, current retail prices of all varieties except for chicken (curry) had increased with the highest price increase of 21% reported for chicken (broiler).

Table 5.4: Retail prices of meat – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	950.00-1100.00	1,042.67	1,075.00	1,000.00	-32.33	-3.01	42.67	4.27
Chicken (Broiler)	500.00-700.00	630.87	605.13	522.67	25.74	4.25	108.20	20.70
Chicken (curry)	450.00-690.00	616.41	628.32	683.85	-11.91	-1.90	-67.44	-9.86
Mutton	1800.00-2100.00	1,981.39	1,968.90	1,879.17	12.49	0.63	102.22	5.44
Pork	750.00-950.00	833.24	825.00	776.67	8.24	1.00	56.57	7.28

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

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain and Wheat flour

The retail price of wheat flour ranged between Rs.92.00-93.00/kg and the average price was Rs.92.00/kg. The average retail price of wheat flour has not changed significantly compared to the last month, as well as compared to the same period of last year.

With regard to the retail price of sugar for the month of March, the price ranged between Rs.114.00-116.00/kg and the average retail price was Rs.115.00/kg. The average retail price for sugar has increased nearly by 1% during the month. Further, compared to the same period of last year, average retail price of sugar has also increased by 5%.

Table 6.1: Open market retail prices of wheat flour and sugar – March 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	March 2021	March 2021	Feb 2021	March 2020	Feb 2021		March 2020	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	91.95-92.65	92.33	92.75	92.24	-0.42	-0.45	0.09	0.10
Sugar	114.48-116.04	115.33	113.79	109.52	1.54	1.36	5.81	5.31

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

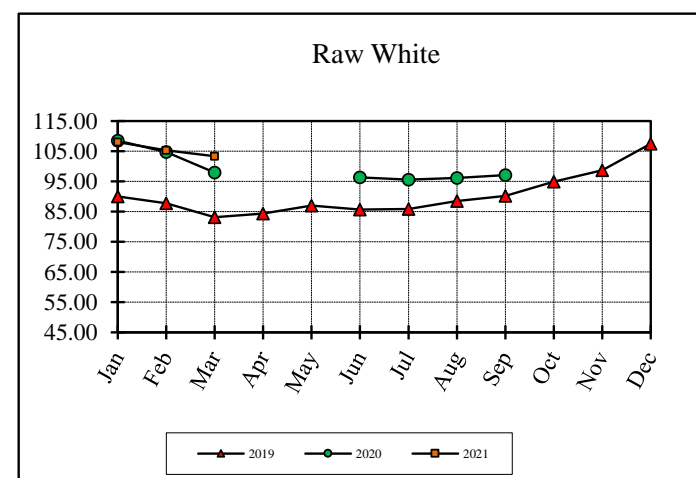
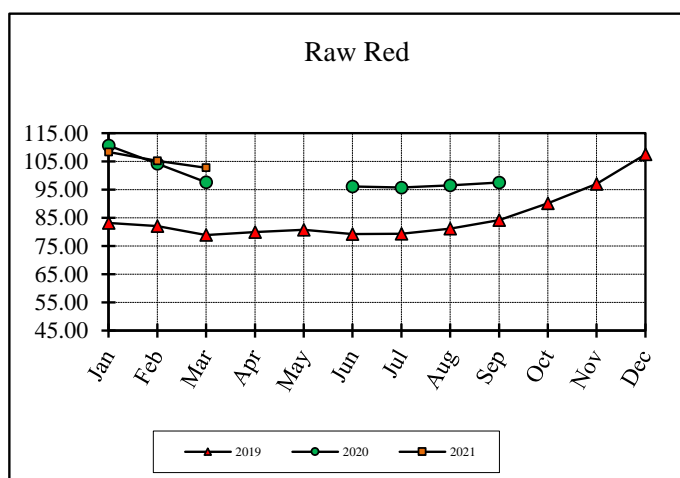
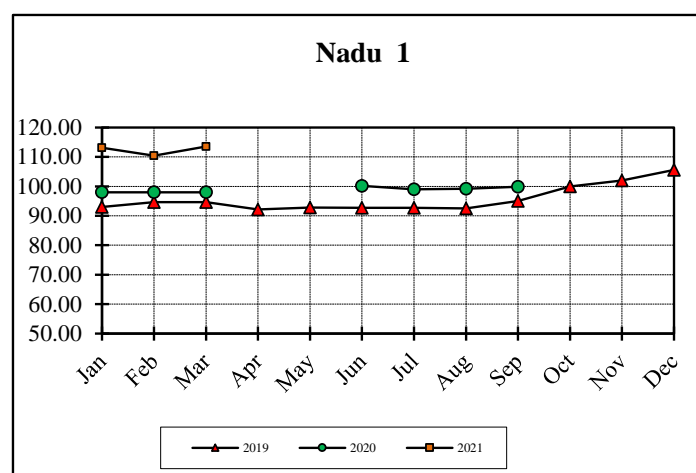
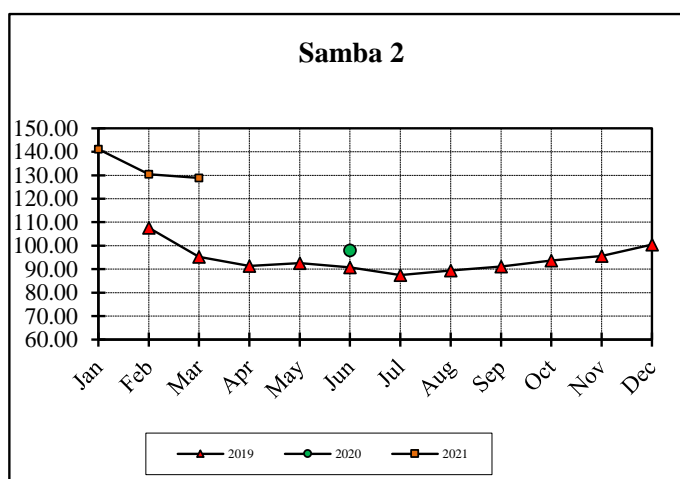
Table 7: Monthly rainfall (mm) – January to March 2021

Station	Total R.F.			30-Avg	Rain Days			30-Avg
	21-Jan	21-Feb	21-Mar	Rainfall	21-Jan	21-Feb	21-Mar	Rain Days
Anuradhapura	168.6	18.8	40.5	68.7	18	4	6	5
Badulla	112.6	67.6	162.4	119.4	23	12	13	9
Bandarawela	112.6	45.4	202.3	112.2	20	13	14	9
Batticaloa		153.4	97.0	89		9	14	6
Colombo	132.4	45.9	148.6	128	16	5	16	9
Galle	195.8	15.4	122.4	111.3	18	6	17	9
Hambantota	75.5	2.3	111.7	65.4	15	3	10	5
Jaffna	317.5	15.3	1.6	25.7	14	2	2	2
Katugastota	143.1	54.6	86.4	71.9	17	8	12	8
Katunayaka	166.4	1.0	209.7	132.9	12	2	14	8
Kurunegala	158.9	3.6	66.6	139.1	15	3	11	8
Maha Iluppallama	166.9	29.6	41.3	84.9	18	5	9	6
Mannar	216.4	25.3	66.5	44.4	16	3	3	3
Nuwara Eliya	91.4	59.2	108.7	71.5	20	11	13	8
Pottuvil	256.5	305.3	193.9	n/a	18	11	14	n/a
Puttalam	96.9	9.9	70.1	67.7	17	1	9	5
Ratmalana	214.7	3.4	206.0	141.5	17	3	16	9
Ratnapura	183.8	72.0	308.8	212.2	17	10	20	14
Trincomalee	229.5	41.4	17.9	55.5	19	6	5	4
Vavuniya	233.0	19.1	11.8	62.9	16	3	5	4
Polonnaruwa	453.6	34.5	78.1	n/a	21	5	9	n/a
Monaragala	193.0	68.1	192.0	n/a	21	6	29	n/a
Mattala		68.1	86.9	n/a		5	14	n/a

Department of Meteorology
Colombo 07

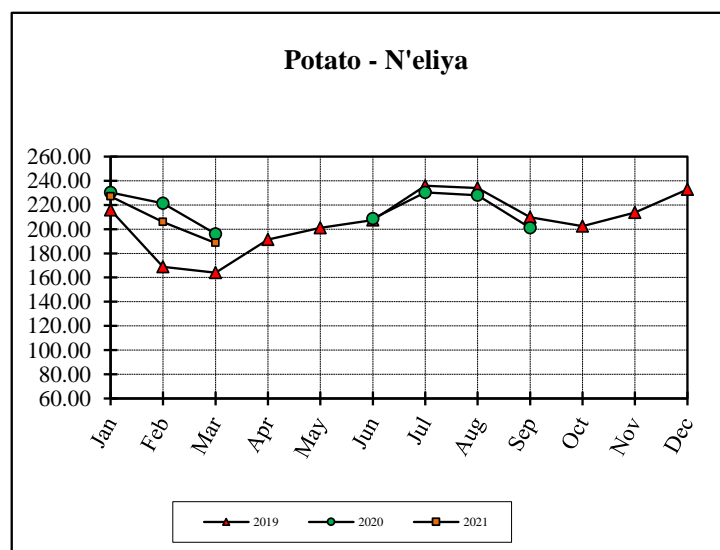
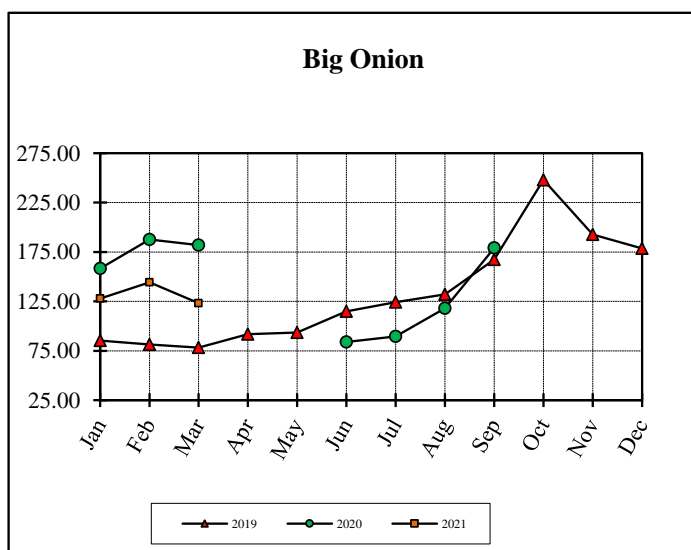
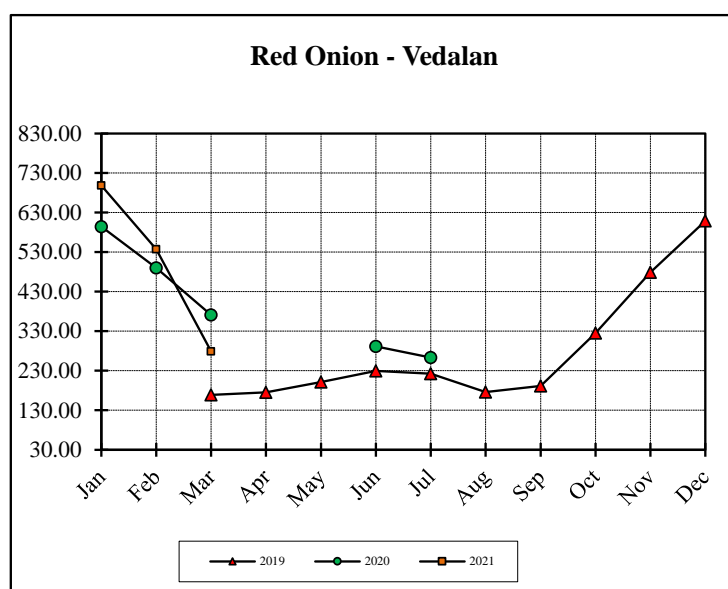
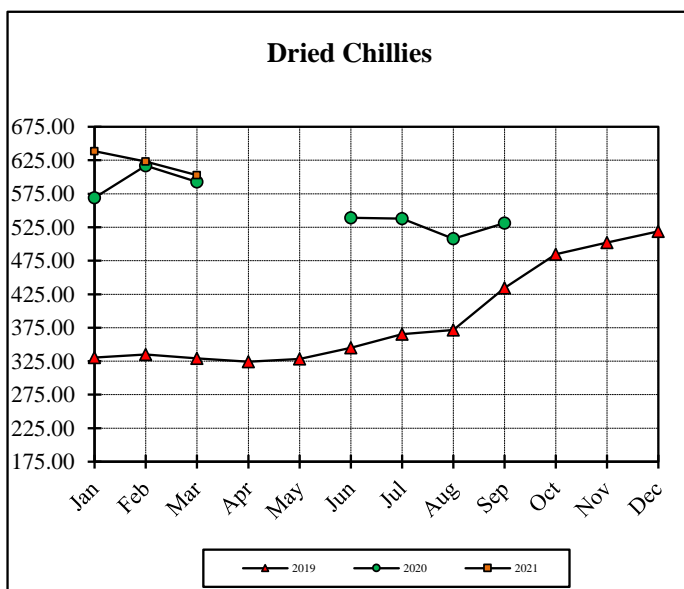
Appendix 01: Retail Price of Rice in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Samba 2			Nadu 1			Raw Red			Raw White		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Jan			141.10	93.00	98.00	113.10	83.12	110.60	108.31	90.02	108.50	108.03
Feb	107.65		130.44	94.64	98.00	110.43	82.07	104.20	105.14	87.74	104.75	105.33
Mar	95.23		128.86	94.63	98.00	113.55	78.87	97.55	102.71	83.14	97.98	103.35
Apr	91.39			92.17			79.92			84.39		
May	92.62			92.83			80.74			87.00		
Jun	90.71	98.00		92.73	100.19		79.19	96.10		85.64	96.36	
Jul	87.49			92.75	98.97		79.31	95.73		85.86	95.59	
Aug	89.38			92.49	99.16		81.14	96.47		88.49	96.13	
Sep	91.08			95.00	99.85		84.14	97.54		90.23	97.08	
Oct	93.68			99.95			90.11			94.88		
Nov	95.57			102.03			96.96			98.70		
Dec	100.42			105.60			107.46			107.48		



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

Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion			Big Onion			Potato - N'Eliya		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Jan	330.31	568.88	638.57		594.62	698.55	85.22	158.34	127.78	215.71	230.30	227.08
Feb	335.00	616.91	623.15		489.95	537.28	81.33	187.64	144.28	168.89	221.45	205.92
Mar	329.23	592.69	602.72	168.97	371.19	278.85	78.17	182.10	123.19	164.00	196.08	188.54
Apr	324.25			175.37			91.75			191.47		
May	328.50			201.43			93.54			200.97		
Jun	345.06	539.23		229.57	291.67		114.91	83.89		207.45	208.57	
Jul	365.35	538.09		222.51	263.40		124.20	89.58		235.89	230.38	
Aug	371.46	507.84		175.95			132.13	118.02		234.10	227.97	
Sep	434.22	531.06		191.81			167.17	179.16		209.86	201.15	
Oct	484.80			325.31			248.02			202.38		
Nov	502.09			478.63			192.69			213.71		
Dec	518.89			608.84			178.67			232.91		



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

Mar-21

Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week	5 th Week	Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week	5 th Week	Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week	5 th Week
Paddy						Potato						Leeks					
Short grain						N'Eliya	110.71	107.80	102.20	96.00	97.00	Welimada	72.80	54.40	57.00	48.80	49.80
A'pura						Badulla	104.00	105.00	96.00	92.00	98.00	N'Eliya	74.43	55.00	57.60	48.00	58.60
P'narawa	53.50	59.00	61.20	67.33	68.50	Welimada	96.00	96.80	92.20	91.20	92.20						
Kalawewa	53.00	54.13	54.69	57.44	57.28	Pulses						Beetroot					
Kurunegala	53.50	53.00	53.00	56.33	57.50	Green Gram						Hanguranketha					
Dehiattakandiya						Galgamuwa						N'Eliya	82.14	54.80	53.00	48.20	46.40
Ampara	56.67	58.00	58.50	61.38	58.88	Kalawewa						Dambulla	67.20	51.00	67.80	60.80	54.00
Long grain (White)						Embilipitiya		555.00	555.00	555.00	697.50	Kurunegala					
A'pura						Kurunegala						Welimada	70.20	54.20	55.20	48.40	47.40
P'narawa	47.00	50.00	53.20	57.33	55.83	A'pura						Knokhol					
Kalawewa	47.75	48.00	49.81	50.50	51.28	Cowpea						Hanguranketha					
Kurunegala	49.50	48.50	48.00	50.33	52.50	A'pura						N'Eliya	75.43	57.80	57.20	52.60	52.40
Dehiattakandiya						Galgamuwa						Welimada	75.00	63.00	58.80	52.20	48.00
Embilipitiya						Nikaweratiya	310.00					Radish					
Ampara	49.33	47.00	51.75	53.63	53.13	Kalawewa	432.50	420.00	420.00	420.00	487.50	Hanguranketha					
Matara						Embilipitiya		515.00	515.00	515.00	545.00	N'Eliya	48.00	48.20	42.00	38.00	37.20
Hambantota						Kurunegala						Welimada	31.20	32.00	20.00	21.60	22.20
Long grain (Red)						Maize						Cabbage					
Matara		55.50	53.00	54.50	54.50	A'Pura						Hanguranketha					
Hambantota						Kalawewa	63.75	57.50	71.25	71.25	71.25	N'Eliya	92.86	117.60	72.40	73.00	66.80
Ampara	50.67	52.50	53.50	55.38	53.13	Gingelly						Welimada	77.60	73.20	60.80	65.60	55.60
Embilipitiya	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	54.60	A'Pura						Hambantota					
Other Food Crops						Kalawewa	418.75	418.75	418.75	418.75		Badulla	68.00	80.00	76.00	76.00	62.00
Dried Chillies						Black Gram						Tomato					
A'Pura						Kalawewa	600.00	537.50	537.50	491.67		Hanguranketha					
Galgamuwa						A'Pura						Welimada	163.00	97.80	77.00	42.20	42.20
Kalawewa						Vegetables (Up Country)						Hambantota					
Red Onion						Beans						Dambulla	148.50	100.00	100.00	54.80	63.20
Puttalam						Dambulla	125.00	105.00	152.00	140.00	155.00	Low Country					
Big Onion						Welimada	97.20	95.60	162.00	156.00	162.00	Ladies Fingers					
Dambulla						Badulla	108.00	92.00	166.00	182.00	156.00	A'pura					
Kalawewa						Carrot						Dambulla	86.20	98.00	80.80	82.00	51.00
A'Pura						Hanguranketha						Hambantota					
Kurunegala						N'Eliya	147.57	121.40	120.80	109.60	107.20	Embilipitiya	73.33	73.33	66.67	54.17	75.00
						Welimada	123.00	86.20	82.20	73.00	94.40	Matara		82.50	65.00	65.00	65.00

