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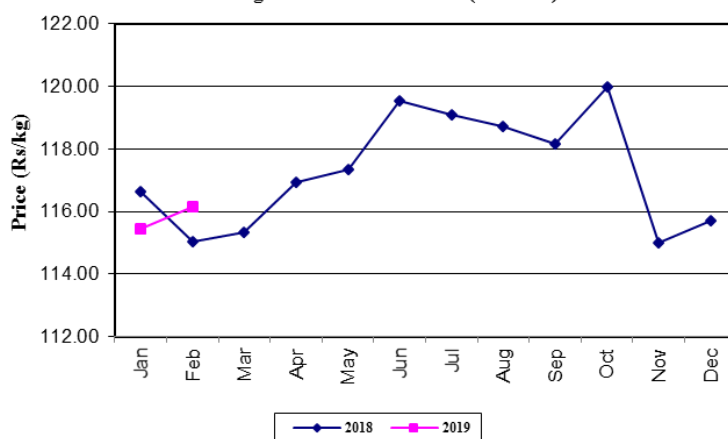
RICE:

With the commencement of maha (2018/19) paddy harvesting in major producing areas, supplies of rice had increased at wholesale level. Hence, wholesale prices of most of the rice varieties had decreased with the highest price decrease of 10% for nadu grade II. Further, price reduction could be expected in next month for most of the rice varieties due to peak harvesting season of paddy.

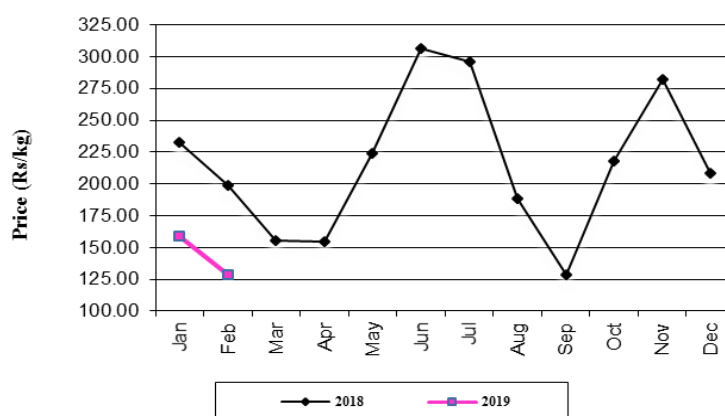
VEGETABLES:

Supplies of both up country and low country vegetables have further increased to the most of the markets. Therefore, prices of most of the vegetables have continued to decrease during this month too. The highest price reduction of Rs.69.00/kg was reported for capsicum.

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 | 5. Peliyagoda | 9. Kirulapone |
| 2. Narahenpita | 6. Kadawatha | 10. Nugegoda |
| 3. Dematagoda | 7. Kiribathgoda | |
| 4. Thotalanga | 8. Wellawatta | |

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

The harvesting of paddy crop in 2018/19 *Maha* season was in progress in major producing areas in the Eastern and North Western provinces. Harvesting was commenced in Anuradhapura district too. Despite the flood situation at the beginning of the season, paddy production outlook of 2018/19 *Maha* season remained satisfactory due to the favorable weather conditions and better water availability in irrigation tanks combined with the continued state fertilizer assistance. According to the latest assessment issued by the Department of Agriculture, the targeted paddy extent of 2018/19 *Maha* season was 832,785 ha. The cultivation progress up to end of February was 759,070 ha and it is 91% of the target. The cultivation progress is 16% higher than that of the average sown extent of last three *Maha* seasons. The expected production based on the reported sown extent up to the end of February is 2.9 Million mt, (1.83 million mt, of rice subject to 68% milling ratio), after the adjustment was made for the crop damages (Table 1.1). The major surplus of paddy received from producing areas in the Eastern province. The peak harvesting will be expected in the latter part of the March from the Producing areas in North Central province.

Table 1.1 Progress of paddy cultivation in *maha* 2018/19 season as at end of February 2019

District/Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent	Production Forecast based on Achievement (mt)	Total Affected Extent (ha)	Expected Production Loss for Affected Area (mt)	Revised Production Forecast (mt)
Anuradhapura	98,031	85,789	88	325,600			325,600
Polonnaruwa	34,600	34,162	99	155,633	496	572	155,062
Ampara	76,019	75,317	99	319,731	2,118	3,196	316,536
Kurunegala	92,598	83,712	90	395,122			395,122
Hambantota	28,448	26,654	94	130,447			130,447
Colombo	3,800						-
Gampaha	12,356						-
Kalutara	13,325						-
Galle	12,300	8,336	68	22,280			22,280
Matara	16,414	13,521	82	45,919	1	1	45,918
Ratnapura	12,672	10,778	85	35,113			35,113
Kegalle	9,334	6,150	66	22,634			22,634
Puttalam	22,516	20,808	92	67,741			67,741
Kandy	13,610	12,403	91	39,940			39,940
Matale	20,325	17,592	87	71,642			71,642
N' Eliya	6,129	3,513	57	7,519			7,519
Badulla	22,314	19,575	88	74,681			74,681
Monaragala	36,367	39,444	108	146,889	16	15	146,874
Jaffna	12,390	11,649	94	25,735	253	553	25,182
Kilinochchi	24,690	24,786	100	85,525	11,671	33,856	51,669
Vavuniya	19,901	19,840	100	84,236	1,201	2,358	81,878
Mullaitivu	17,537	17,456	100	54,400	7,391	15,856	38,543
Mannar	21,425	20,200	94	94,699	658	1,315	93,384
Trincomalee	42,348	41,537	98	172,348	1,666	2,743	169,605
Batticaloa	70,912	72,509	102	175,436	19,597	29,219	146,217
Udawalawa	10,516	10,596	101	52,328			52,328
System H	22,000	21,808	99	104,678			104,678
System H1	8,190	8,670	106	41,616			41,616
System B	19,870	19,982	101	91,118			91,118
System C	22,931	22,888	100	104,369			104,369
System G	5,140	5,179	101	23,616			23,616
System D	917	831	91	3,789			3,789
Rambakanoya	1,562	1,961	126	8,942			8,942
System L	1,301	1,423	109	6,489			6,489
Sri Lanka	832,785	759,070	91	2,990,216	45,067	89,683	2,900,534

Source: Crop Forecast, maha 2018/19, Vol 04, Department of Agriculture

Producer Prices

The decreasing trend for paddy prices, for all the paddy varieties, which was started from the latter part of last month further continued during throughout the month due to the arrival of new harvest from 2018/19 *Maha* season, to the market. Prices of all the paddy varieties declined sharply during the month mainly due to the bumper harvests and the arrival of high moisture paddy to the markets. The prices of short grain, long grain white and long grain red paddy varieties declined in the range of 23%-31%, 16%-24% and 7%-11% respectively. The highest price drop of 31% for short grain paddy recorded in Kalawewa. With regard to price decrease for long grain white paddy, highest price decrease (24%) was recorded from Kurunegala. About 11% and 7% decrease in long grain red paddy price was observed in Hambantota and Embilipitiya respectively. The unit price of long grain white and short grain paddy ranged as Rs.28.00-38.00/kg and Rs.29.00-45.00/kg respectively in most of the major producing areas while that of long grain red paddy ranged between Rs.29.00-40.00/kg in Hambantota and Embilipitiya (Table 1.2). The declining trend for paddy prices will be continued during next month too because the continued harvesting is expected especially from North Central province.

Compared to the same period of last year, Prices of all the paddy varieties had declined in all considered producing areas. The prices of short grain have decreased by 11%-35% with the highest decline from Ampara. Prices of long grain white had decreased by less than 20% in all considered major producing areas. Meanwhile the prices of long grain red have decreased by 5% in Hambantota and 9% in Embilipitiya (Table 1.2).

Table1.2: Producer prices of paddy – February 2019

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	30.00-45.00	40.00-53.00	36.52	47.21	47.29	-10.69	-22.64	-10.77	-22.78
Polonnaruwa	32.00-34.00	-	33.17	-	48.09	-	-	-14.93	-31.04
Kalawewa	30.00-35.00	35.00-55.00	32.92	47.73	46.48	-14.81	-31.03	-13.56	-29.18
Kurunegala	30.00-40.00	38.00-53.00	35.87	47.79	40.25	-11.92	-24.93	-4.38	-10.87
Dehiattakandiya	31.00-40.00	33.00-54.00	36.33	50.67	51.24	-14.33	-28.29	-14.90	-29.09
Nikaweratiya	-	-	-	-	36.38	-	-	-	-
Ampara	29.00-40.00	34.00-52.00	31.99	42.80	49.50	-10.81	-25.25	-17.51	-35.37
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	29.00-37.00	28.00-45.00	32.86	39.03	38.13	-6.17	-15.81	-5.27	-13.83
Polonnaruwa	28.00-33.20	-	30.94	-	35.81	-	-	-4.87	-13.61
Kalawewa	28.00-33.00	30.00-45.00	30.54	39.96	37.32	-9.42	-23.58	-6.78	-18.16
Kurunegala	31.00-38.00	30.00-48.00	30.71	40.46	38.58	-9.75	-24.10	-7.87	-20.41
Dehiattakandiya	-	31.00-46.00	33.21	42.67	35.26	-9.46	-22.17	-2.05	-5.81
Embilipitiya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nikaweratiya	-	-	-	-	36.38	-	-	-	-
Matara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	26.00-38.00	30.00-44.00	29.87	36.15	-	-6.28	-17.38	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hambantota	29.00-40.00	38.00-40.00	34.90	39.05	36.86	-4.15	-10.64	-1.96	-5.32
Embilipitiya	32.00-38.00	37.00-39.00	35.27	38.06	38.79	-2.78	-7.31	-3.52	-9.07

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Rice Prices Demand/Supply Situation

Wholesale Prices

Supplies of all the varieties of rice had increased with the commencement of paddy harvesting of 2018/19 maha season in all most all the major producing areas. Hence, the wholesale prices of all the rice varieties except for nadu grade I had decreased with the highest price decrease of 10% for nadu grade II. Wholesale prices of samba grade I and II ranged between Rs.105.00-110.00/kg and Rs.83.00-100.00/kg respectively. Further, the average prices of samba grade I and II had decreased by 1% and 9% respectively compared to the previous month. Average wholesale price as well as price range of nadu grade I remained same as previous month while the average wholesale price of nadu grade II decreased by 10%. Further, the average wholesale prices of raw red and raw white had decreased by 4% and 8% respectively.

According to the department of customs of Sri Lanka, a quantity of 1,923mt of rice had been imported to Sri Lanka during February 2019. The total expenditure of rice imports was Rs.180.7 million in February. Basmati rice was the mostly imported rice variety during the month.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of samba grade I, II and raw red have decreased with the highest price decrease of 8% for samba grade II. Meanwhile, the wholesale prices of nadu grade I, II and raw white have increased with the highest price increase of 7% for nadu grade I.

Retail Prices

With regards to retail markets, a significant price change was not observed for most of the rice varieties. Retail price of samba grade I and nadu grade I have increased slightly less than 2% compared to the previous month. Price reduction of samba and nadu rice varieties at wholesale level was not reflected at retail level due to the availability of previously purchased stocks at retail level. Meanwhile, the retail prices of raw red and raw white prices have decreased by 1% and 3% respectively in line with the decrease of wholesale prices.

With reference to outstation markets, retail price of samba grade I ranged between Rs.111.00-126.00/kg with the highest price recorded in Hambantota while the lowest price recorded in Dehiattakandiya, Embilipitiya and Hanguranketha. Retail price of nadu grade I ranged between Rs.85.00-94.00/kg in outstation markets with the highest price recorded in Galle while the lowest price recorded in Vavuniya. Retail price of raw red ranged between Rs.65.00-86.00/kg in outstation markets with the highest price recorded in Kurunegala and Anuradhapura while the lowest price recorded in Embilipitiya. Further, the retail price of raw white ranged between Rs.73.00-88.00/kg in outstation markets and the highest price was recorded in Kalutara and Gampaha while the lowest price recorded in Moneragala.

Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of raw red and raw white had decreased by 6% and 3% respectively while the retail price of samba grade I had increased slightly by 1%.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and retail prices of rice –February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	105.00-110.00	106.66	107.98	108.20	-1.32	-1.22	-1.54	-1.42
Samba 2	83.00-100.00	91.14	100.36	98.92	-9.22	-9.19	-7.77	-7.86
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	90.00-90.00	90.00	90.00	83.75	0.00	0.00	6.25	7.46
Nadu 2	70.00-85.00	76.26	84.36	74.01	-8.10	-9.60	2.25	3.03
Raw red	65.00-70.00	67.83	70.58	72.85	-2.76	-3.91	-5.03	-6.90
Raw white	68.00-80.00	74.30	80.45	70.94	-6.15	-7.64	3.36	4.73
Imported Samba	-	-	-	79.77	-	-	-	-
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	66.02	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	70.98	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	112.00-120.00	116.14	115.44	115.03	0.69	0.60	1.11	0.97
Samba 2	100.00-110.00	107.65	-	102.88	-	-	-	-
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	92.00-98.00	94.64	93.00	103.88	1.64	1.77	-9.24	-
Nadu 2	80.00-90.00	88.03	-	88.70	-	-	-	-
Raw red	75.00-90.00	82.07	83.12	87.49	-1.04	-1.25	-5.42	-6.19
Raw white	80.00-95.00	87.74	90.02	90.00	-2.28	-2.53	-2.26	-2.51
Imported <i>Ponni</i> Samba	150.00-175.00	160.91	160.36	88.64	0.55	0.34	72.27	81.54
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	77.10	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	80.68	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chilli

Crop Situation

The targeted extent of green chilli was 10,768ha and 7,588 ha of the target had been achieved by the end of February, 2019. The highest targeted extent (3,114ha) and the highest cultivated extent (1,356ha) was reported from Anuradhapura district. Expected production of green chilli is 35,581mt and of which 59% will be contributed by Anuradhapura (19%), Monaragala (20%) and Puttalam (20%) districts.

Table 2.1.1: Target and cultivation progress of green chilli for maha 2018/19

Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress by the end of February 2019		Expected Production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Anuradhapura	3,114	1,356	44	6,810
Monaragala	876	882	101	6,939
Puttalam	740	745	101	7,076
Jaffna	569	467	82	1,992
Kurunegala	330	281	85	1,342
Hambantota	314	304	97	1,202
Badulla	448	464	104	1,368
Nuwara Eliya	194	161	83	1,038
Other areas	4,183	2,928	70	7,814
Total	10,768	7,588	70	35,581

Source: Crop Forecast, maha 2018/19, Vol.04, Crop Forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Comparatively low producer price for chilli was maintained through the month in Puttalam District. By the last week of the month, producer price was reported as Rs.150.00/kg in Puttalam and it was about 49% lower than the producer price in Embilipitiya.

With the high supplies from main producing areas, both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have decreased by about Rs.60.00/kg and Rs.103.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices of green chilli have increased by about 178% and 67% respectively. A quantity of 4,855mt of dried chilli has been imported from India during this month and compared to the previous month it has increased by about 1,107mt. Average CIF price was Rs.233.62/kg for imported dried chilli and it has not changed significantly compared to the previous month. However, both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chilli have increased by about Rs.5.00/kg.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chilli have increased by about 21% and 23% respectively.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and retail prices of dried chilli and green chilli- February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to				
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Price									
Green Chilli	110.00-120.00	169.58	229.37	61.04	-59.79	-26.07	108.54	177.82	
Dried Chilli	255.00-290.00	275.46	270.48	227.47	4.98	1.84	47.99	21.10	
Retail Price									
Green Chilli	200.00-400.00	320.81	424.03	192.21	-103.21	-24.34	128.61	66.91	
Dried Chilli	300.00-380.00	335.00	330.31	271.41	4.70	1.42	63.59	23.43	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported dried chilli- Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb	4,855	1,134.21	233.62	335.00	101.39
Jan	3,748	876.20	233.81	330.31	96.50
Dec	5,149	1,218.31	236.59	324.98	88.39
Nov	4,020	905.77	225.29	322.74	97.45
Oct	5,034	1,052.59	209.08	315.11	106.03
Sep	3,516	737.02	209.60	311.60	102.00

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

Table 2.1.4: Producer prices of green chilli (Rs/kg) –February 2019

Location	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
Dambulla	178.00	105.00	159.00	176.00
Hambantota	204.00	204.00	245.00	245.00
Embilipitiya	209.17	229.17	339.00	294.00
Puttalam	130.00	120.00	108.00	150.00
A'Pura	246.67	150.00	-	256.67

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Red Onion and Big Onion

Crop situation

By the end of February, the cultivated extent of red onion for maha 2018/19 season was 2,705ha in the country and it represents 69% of the target. In Jaffna district about 1,576ha have been cultivated by the end of this month, which represents 83% of the targeted extent of that district. The targeted extent of red onion in Puttalam district was 640ha and by the end of February and the progress (681ha) has been exceeded the target (106%). The production forecast of red onion for this maha season is 37,868mt and out of that 92% will arrived to the market from Jaffna (50%), Puttalam (38%) and Trincomalee (4%) districts.

Table 2.2.1: Target and cultivation progress of red onion (maha 2018/19)

Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress as at the end of February 2019		Expected Production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the targeted extent	
Jaffna	1,900	1,576	83	18,890
Puttalam	640	681	106	14,431
Trincomalee	753	142	19	1,508
Other Areas	613	306	50	3,039
Total	3,906	2,705	69	37,868

Source: Field Data MFPAD/HARTI

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 19,709mt of big onion had been imported from India during this month. It was a decrease of 3,988mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.33.58/kg for imported big onion and it has decreased by Rs.6.43/kg compared to that of the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have decreased by about Rs.5.00/kg and Rs.4.00/kg respectively. Average wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion were Rs.52.00/kg and Rs.81.33/kg respectively and both prices have decreased by about 19% and 32% respectively when compared to the same period of previous year.

Stocks of local red onion were arrived to the market from Puttalam and Jaffna districts. Wholesale price of sinnan and vedalan were ranged between Rs.80.00-130.00/kg and Rs.90.00-120.00/kg respectively. Stocks of vedalan were not available in most of the retail markets while sinnan red onion stocks were available at the price range of Rs.150.00-200.00/kg.

About 501mt of red onion was imported from India during this month and compared to the previous month it has decreased by about 2,046mt. Average CIF price was Rs.84.86/kg for imported red onion and it has decreased by Rs.8.94/kg compared to the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have decreased by about Rs.20.00/kg and Rs.4.00/kg respectively due to availability of local red onions stocks at the market at competitive price.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have decreased by about 9% and 17% respectively.

Table 2.2.2: Wholesale prices and retail prices of red onion and big onion February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Jan 2018		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	80.00-130.00	108.63	-	110.00	-	-	-1.37	-1.25
Red Onion (Vedalan)	90.00-120.00	102.86	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	100.00-140.00	116.79	137.09	127.65	-20.30	-14.81	-10.86	-8.51
Big Onion (imported)	45.00-60.00	52.07	56.95	64.13	-4.88	-8.57	-12.06	-18.81
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	150.00-200.00	176.36	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	160.00-240.00	190.21	202.18	230.40	-11.97	-5.92	-40.19	-17.44
Big Onion (imported)	60.00-100.00	81.33	85.22	118.86	-3.89	-4.56	-37.53	-31.57
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.3: 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,2019	33.58	52.07	81.33	18.49	29.26
	Jan,2018	40.01	56.95	85.22	16.94	28.27
	Feb,2018	-	-	-	-	-
Red onion	Feb,2019	84.86	116.79	190.21	31.93	73.42
	Jan,2018	93.80	137.09	202.18	43.28	65.10
	Feb,2018	90.07	127.65	230.40	37.58	102.74

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

Table 2.2.4: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported big onion and red onion

Item	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Feb,2019	Jan,2018	Feb,2019	Jan,2018	Feb,2019	Jan,2018
Red Onion	501	2,547	42.5	238.9	84.86	93.80
Big Onion	19,709	23,697	661.8	948.1	33.58	40.01

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.5: Quantity imported, CIF price, wholesale and retail price of big onion Sep 2018 February 2019

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
Feb-2019	19,709	33.58	52.07	81.33	47.75
Jan -2019	23,697	40.01	56.95	85.22	45.21
Dec-2018	23,169	44.91	68.88	102.86	57.95
Nov-2018	18,659	47.64	90.69	120.24	72.60
Oct-2018	14,592	45.94	84.86	111.28	65.33
Sep-2018	11,648	46.80	79.43	109.70	62.90

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2018/19 is 2,969 ha and about 2,046 ha had been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 69% of the target. During this month about 653 ha of potato was cultivated in the country which was higher than the total extent cultivated in January (441 ha) of this *maha* season. However, compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent by the end of February of this *maha* season was lower. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of potato is 34,236 mt for this *maha* season (Table 2.3.1).

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,323 ha and about 847 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of this month (64% progress). Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent is at low level during this *maha* season in the district (Table 2.3.1). During the month about 439 ha of potatoes were cultivated in Nuwara Eliya district which is higher than the extents cultivated in December and January of this *maha* season. According to field information, ‘Granola’ type seed was mostly cultivated in the district. The cost for 50kg of seed was recorded as Rs.16,750.00 for imported seeds and Rs.10,500.00-13,000.00 for local seeds during this *maha* season in the district.

The targeted extent for this *maha* season is 1,502 ha in the Badulla district and 1,102 ha have been cultivated by the end of February achieving 73% of the targeted extent (Table 2.3.1). According to field information, most of the cultivation was taken place in hilly areas of Keppetipola, Bogahakumbura, Boralanda, Ambagasdova, Uvaparaganagama areas of the Welimada DS division. Maha harvesting of potato is expected by the end of February from Welimada area of the Badulla district.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivation progress and expected production of potato (Maha 2018/19)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%) Maha 2018/19	Expected Production (mt)
	Maha 2017/18*	Maha 2018/19	Maha 2017/18*	Maha 2018/19		
N'Eliya	1,296	1,323	1,062	847	64	17,121
Badulla	1,846	1,502	1,180	1,102	73	17,115
Sri Lanka	3,343	2,969	2,359	2,046	69	34,236

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast, Maha 2018/19, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

*Crop Forecast, Maha 2017/18, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 9,802 mt of potato had been imported in February which was 11,404 mt lower than that was imported during the previous month as the Special Commodity Levy for imported potato has been increased up to Rs.50.00/kg from the 1st week of February. Imported stocks were mainly received from Pakistan (92%) and India (8%). Compared to February, 2018 (22,146 mt), the imports were low during this month. Average CIF price was Rs.30.00/kg in February.

With regard to local potato, only stocks of Nuwara Eliya potato were available in the Colombo Wholesale market. The stocks of Welimada potato were not available in the market till the commencement of *maha* harvesting by the end of this month. Stocks of Nuwara Eliya potato was available in the Colombo wholesale market at Rs.90.00/kg. Retail price of Nuwara Eliya potato has decreased by 28%. Wholesale and retail prices of imported potato have increased by 29% and 1% respectively due to low stock position with the increased tax for imported potato. During the month of February, the wholesale price of imported potato ranged between Rs.55.00-100.00/kg.

Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya (12%) and imported (16%) potatoes have increased. Prices of local potatoes are expected to be decreased from March after the commencement of harvesting from Welimada area.

Table 2.3.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported potatoes- Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb-2019	9,802	297.78	30.38	95.19	64.81
Jan-2019	21,206	704.59	33.23	93.77	60.54
Dec-2018	17,372	784.21	45.14	120.25	75.11
Nov-2018	10,681	440.08	41.20	121.79	80.59
Oct-2018	6,329	200.26	31.64	107.24	75.60
Sep-2018	5,643	173.85	30.81	106.06	75.25

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

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, wholesale and retail prices of potato – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to				
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Producer Prices (PP)									
Welimada	75.00-105.00	90.20	104.06	76.31	-13.86	-15.37	13.89	15.40	
Nuwara Eliya	80.00-115.00	99.75	113.75	82.15	-14.00	-14.04	17.60	17.64	
Imported – CIF	29.14-43.73	30.38	33.23	28.29	-2.85	-9.38	2.09	6.87	
Wholesale Prices (WP)									
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nuwara Eliya	90.00-90.00	90.00	-	94.38	-	-	-4.38	-4.86	
Imported	55.00-100.00	74.98	53.48	44.46	21.50	28.67	30.52	40.71	
Retail Prices (RP)									
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nuwara Eliya	160.00-180.00	168.89	215.71	149.12	-46.83	-27.73	19.77	11.71	
Imported	80.00-140.00	95.19	93.77	80.36	1.42	1.49	14.83	15.58	
Gross Margin (RP-PP)									
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nuwara Eliya		69.14	101.96	66.97	-32.83	-47.48	2.17	3.14	
Imported (CIF-RP)		64.81	60.54	52.07	4.27	6.59	12.74	19.66	
Gross Margin (RP -WP)									
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nuwara Eliya		78.89	-	54.74	-	-	24.15	30.61	
Imported		20.21	40.29	35.90	-20.08	-99.34	-15.69	-77.65	

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 46% (3,795ha) of its targeted extent (8,330ha) in Maha 2018/2019 season. According to the table 2.4.1, the extent of the green gram has been declined by 3,162 ha (45%) compared with last year (Maha 2017/2018). It was due to decline of cultivated extent from Hambantota (48%), Monaragala (15%) and Kurunegala (4%) compared to the previous year is progress. After adjustment is made for the crop damages, the expected production from the island-wide green gram cultivation is 4,688 mt which is around 55% of the the previous year production.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivation progress and expected production of green gram and cowpea

crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%) Maha 2018/2019	Expeded Production (mt)
		Maha 2017/2018	Maha 2018/2019	Maha 2017/2018	Maha 2018/2019		
Green gram	Hambantota	4041	2078	2582	1073	52	1566
	Monaragala	2061	1327	1049	573	43	733
	Kurunegala	615	779	457	319	41	386
	Other districts	4733	4146	2869	1830	44	2003
	Sri Lanka	11450	8330	6957	3795	46	4688
Cowpea	Ampara	4306	4284	2971	886	21	1800
	Monaragala	1248	965	1071	733	76	755
	Anuradhapura	716	722	301	426	59	987
	Other districts	4010	3664	821	2290	63	2446
	Sri Lanka	10280	9635	5164	4335	45	5988

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast Maha 2018/19 & Maha 2017/18, Volume 04, Socio-economic and Planning Centre/DOA

It has been able to achieve 45% of the targeted extent from cowpea cultivation and the expected production is around 5,988 mt. Ampara, Monaragala and Anuradhapura district are the major producing districts for cowpea in 2018/2019 Maha and those districts together will contribute for 59% of the total production. Monaragala and Anuradhapura districts shaved better performance while Ampara district progress was as 21% of its targets.

Prices and Supply/ Demand Situation

The wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.225.00/kg and Rs.240.00/kg with an average of Rs.235.00/kg in February 2019. The average price has increased by 2.00/kg compared to the previous month. Similarly, compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price has increased by 19%. In the meantime, the retail price of green gram ranged between Rs.220.00/kg and Rs.280.00/kg with an average of Rs.258.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, the retail price has been increased by around Rs.2.00/kg. However, compared to the same period of last year, the retail price for this month has been increased around 7% (Table 2.4.2).

Table 2.4.2: Wholesale and retail prices of green gram and cowpea – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to				
	February 2019	February 2019	January 2019	February 2018	January 2019		February 2018		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Prices									
Green gram	225-240	234.57	233.03	196.23	1.54	0.66	38.34	19.54	
Cowpea (White)	200-235	220.38	225.76	229.40	-5.39	-2.39	-9.02	-3.93	
Cowpea (Red)	200-230	214.70	219.79	239.75	-5.09	-2.31	-25.05	-10.45	
Retail Prices									
Green gram	220-280	258.21	256.53	240.22	1.68	0.65	17.99	7.49	
Cowpea (White)	240-320	275.49	273.31	289.74	2.18	0.80	-14.25	-4.92	
Cowpea (Red)	240-320	277.79	274.91	298.50	2.89	1.05	-20.70	-6.94	

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Average wholesale prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.220.00/kg and Rs.215.00/kg, respectively. The wholesale price of white cowpea ranged between Rs.200.00/kg and Rs.235.00/kg, while that of red cowpea ranged between Rs.200.00/kg and Rs.230.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, the wholesale price of both white and red cowpea has been declined by 2%. Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price of white cowpea has decreased by 4% while that of red cowpea decreased by 10% (Table 2.4.2).

The average retail prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.276.00/kg and Rs.278.00/kg respectively. The retail price of both white cowpea ranged between Rs.240.00/kg and Rs.320.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, white cowpea and red cowpea had been increased by Rs.2.00/kg and Rs.3.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, retail price of white cowpea has decreased by 5% and 7% has been decreased retail price of the red cowpea (Table 2.4.2).

A quantity of 876 mt of green gram has been imported during this month, which is a decrease by 34% compared to the quantity imported in the previous month. The average CIF price of one kilogram of green gram was Rs.165.00/kg an increase by 4% compared with the previous month. The total expenditure of the importation of green gram was recorded as Rs.144.85 million, decreased by 31% of the total value spent on green gram importation compared to the previous month. Green gram has been imported from several countries, Myanmar (44%), Australia (28%), Brazil (14%), Thailand (6%), Uzbekistan (5%), Argentina (3%), and India (1%).

Table 2.4.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported green gram- Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	876	144.85	165.29	258.21	92.92
January	1,329	210.79	158.59	256.53	97.94
December	1,034	155.43	150.30	255.55	105.25
November	808	120.29	148.80	249.66	100.85
October	1,044	147.26	141.05	244.45	103.41
September	701	92.51	131.93	244.26	112.33

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

According to table 2.4.4, a total quantity of 737 mt of white cowpea had been imported during this month. The imported quantity of cowpea has been decreased by 18% compared to January 2019. The average CIF price of one kilogram of white cowpea was recorded as Rs.114.00/kg. The total expenditure on cowpea imports has been decreased by 20% compared to the previous month. The total value of the cowpea imports was noted as approximately Rs.84 million. The highest quantity of cowpea was imported from India (44%), Myanmar (20%), Brazil (20%) and Madagascar (16%).

Table 2.4.4: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported white cowpea- Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	737	83.96	113.93	275.49	161.56
January	900	104.65	116.28	273.31	157.03
December	614	70.72	115.14	278.22	163.07
November	740	83.30	112.56	279.38	166.82
October	1,095	122.99	112.27	275.27	163.00
September	399	45.03	112.80	277.82	165.02

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 - 2019	165.29	234.57	258.21	69.28	23.64
	Jan - 2019	158.59	233.03	256.53	74.45	23.49
	Feb - 2018	125.68	196.23	240.22	70.55	43.99
Cowpea (White)	Feb - 2019	113.93	220.38	275.49	106.44	55.12
	Jan - 2019	116.28	225.76	273.31	109.48	52.94
	Feb - 2018	136.29	229.40	289.74	93.11	60.34
Cowpea (Red)	Feb - 2019	-	214.70	277.79	-	63.09
	Jan - 2019	-	219.79	274.91	-	55.12
	Feb - 2018	-	239.75	298.50	-	58.75

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

Table 2.4.6: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported green gram-Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb-2019	876	144.85	165.29	258.21	92.92
Jan-2019	1,329	210.79	158.59	256.53	97.94
Dec-2018	1,034	155.43	150.30	255.55	105.25
Nov-2018	808	120.29	148.80	249.66	100.85
Oct-2018	1,044	147.26	141.05	244.45	103.41
Sep-2018	701	92.51	131.93	244.26	112.33

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

Table 2.4.7: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported cowpea- Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb-2019	737	83.96	113.93	275.49	161.56
Jan-2019	900	104.65	116.28	273.31	157.03
Dec-2018	614	70.72	115.14	278.22	163.07
Nov-2018	740	83.30	112.56	279.38	166.82
Oct-2018	1,095	122.99	112.27	275.27	163.00
Sep-2018	399	45.03	112.80	277.82	165.02

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

Table 2.4.8: Wholesale and retail prices of green gram and cowpea – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Jan 2018		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	225.00-240.00	234.57	233.03	196.23	1.54	0.66	38.34	19.54
Cowpea (White)	200.00-235.00	220.38	225.76	229.40	-5.39	-2.39	-9.02	-3.93
Cowpea (Red)	200.00-230.00	214.70	219.79	239.75	-5.09	-2.31	-25.05	-10.45
Retail Prices								
Green gram	220.00-280.00	258.21	256.53	240.22	1.68	0.65	17.99	7.49
Cowpea (White)	240.00-320.00	275.49	273.31	289.74	2.18	0.80	-14.25	-4.92
Cowpea (Red)	240.00-320.00	277.79	274.91	298.50	2.89	1.05	-20.70	-6.94

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.9: 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,2019	165.29	234.57	258.21	69.28	23.64
	Jan,2019	158.59	233.03	256.53	74.45	23.49
	Feb,2018	125.68	196.23	240.22	70.55	43.99
Cowpea (White)	Feb,2019	113.93	220.38	275.49	106.44	55.12
	Jan,2019	116.28	225.76	273.31	109.48	47.55
	Feb,2018	136.29	229.40	289.74	93.11	60.34
Cowpea (Red)	Feb,2019	-	214.70	277.79	-	63.09
	Jan,2019	-	219.79	274.91	-	55.12
	Feb,2018	-	239.75	298.50	-	58.75

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.113.00/kg and Rs.120.00/kg with an average of Rs.116.00/kg, and the retail price ranged between Rs.120.00/kg and Rs.140.00/kg with an average of Rs.131.00/kg. Moreover, the difference between the two prices is Rs.15.00/kg during this month. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale price has been increased by 9% while that of retail price has increased by 3%.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of red dhal – February 2019

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	113.00-120.00	115.54	113.50	105.93	2.04	1.79	9.61	9.08
Retail Price	120.00-140.00	131.22	128.88	127.82	2.34	1.82	3.40	2.66

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

During this month, a quantity of 14,757 mt of red dhal has been imported. Average CIF price of Rs.86.00/kg which was an increased by 3% compared to the previous month. Of the total red dhal imports, the largest quantity (14,493 mt) represented of the whole type while the rest (264 mt) was contributed split type. With regards to the imports of whole type of red dhal Australia (61%), Canada (38%) and India (2%) were major importing countries. 61% from Australia, 38% from Canada, 2% from India and rest from Ukraine have been imported. The total value of the whole type of red dhal imports was Rs. 1,237 million. with an average CIF price of Rs.85.39 per kilo and the split type red dhal, has been imported mainly from Canada (74%) and rest from the India (19%), Ukraine (6%) and United Arab Emirates (1%). The average CIF price of split type was noted as Rs.104.03 per kilo and the total value of the imports of split type was Rs.27.5 million.

Table 2.5.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported red dhal Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Feb-2019	14,757	85.72	115.54	131.22	29.82	15.69
Jan-2019	14,543	83.23	113.50	128.88	30.28	15.38
Dec-2018	16,510	81.21	110.25	127.19	29.04	16.93
Nov-2018	14,866	76.60	103.16	124.13	26.57	20.96
Oct-2018	12,403	76.33	102.88	125.61	26.55	22.73
Sep-2018	8,311	81.97	97.40	124.08	15.43	26.68

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

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

Dry weather condition prevailed in Ratnapura, Thambuttegama, Dambulla, Badulla, Marassana and Puttalm during the month. Nevertheless, Monaragala and Hambantota experienced with rains during the second half of the month, while that of Ampara received rain during the first week of the month. Meanwhile, Nuwara Eliya experienced a 50% reduction of rain fall compared to the February in last year. The prevailed dry weather condition in Nuwara Eliya and Puttalam districts further caused to increase the cost of watering. Dry weather condition prevailed in Walapane and Hanguranketha areas caused to reduce the harvesting interval for tomato to once in a two days during the month. Overall, the prevailed weather condition was favorable for the harvesting the vegetables in most of the producing areas. However, HARTI field information revealed that the germination percentage of newly established carrot crops was at low level due to prevailed dry weather condition, therefore the expected supplies for carrot during the month of April will be reduced by 15% to 20%.

The targeted extent of all vegetables (sum of up country and low country) for 2018/2019 *maha* season was 48,865 ha and about 78% of the target had been achieved as at the end of February. The targeted extent of up country vegetables was about 14,926 ha, and 88% of the target had been achieved. The cultivation progress of up country vegetables ranged between 74%-100% with the highest percentage for carrot and the lowest percentage for capsicum. The mostly cultivated up country vegetables were beans (3,832 ha), cabbage (2,057 ha), capsicum (1,732 ha), carrot (1,726 ha) and radish (1,240 ha). According to the progress achieved by the end of February, the expected total up country vegetable is 204,450mt and the highest production will be received for cabbage (53,731 mt), beans (41,178 mt), tomato (34,454 mt), leeks (24,054 mt), radish (23,415 mt), and carrot (22,815 mt) (Crop Forecast, *Maha* 2018/19, Vol.04, Department of Agriculture)

With regard to low country vegetable cultivation, about 33,939 ha was targeted and 74% of the target had been achieved by the end of February. The cultivation progress of low country vegetables ranged between 60%-87% with the highest for long beans and the lowest for red pumpkin. The mostly cultivated low country vegetables were brinjal (4,051 ha), long beans (3,928 ha), red pumpkin (3780 ha), okra (3,262 ha), and tomato (2,616 ha). The total expected low country vegetable production is 237,203mt. Higher production is expected for pumpkin (49,672 mt), brinjal (49,243mt), okra (31,709 mt), and bitter guard (22,702 mt) (Crop Forecast, *Maha* 2018/19, Vol.04, Department of Agriculture).

Prices and supply/Demand situation

The peak harvesting was occurred in most of the vegetable producing areas during the month. Daily supplies to the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Center (DEC) had increased by more than 60% compared to the preceding month and Jaffna and Puttalam were the major sources of supplies. About 150 mt from Jaffna and 80-100 mt from Puttalam were daily received to the Dambulla DEC. Beetroot and pumpkin farmers faced with selling problem due to sharp price drop for their produces as huge stock received to the Dambulla DEC.

The wholesale prices of all the vegetable varieties have decreased during the month. With regard to up country vegetable wholesale prices, the price reduction was ranged between 2% - 61%. The highest price drop was recorded for beetroot (61%) followed by cabbage (51%) while that of lowest price decrease of 2% was reported for carrot. With regard to low country vegetables, the prices of all the varieties have decreased during the month. The highest price decrease of 43% was noted for brinjal while that of lowest price decrease (2%) was for ash plantain. (Table 3.1).

Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of all the up country vegetables except for tomato, had decreased in the range of 16%-61% while that of low country vegetables had decreased in the range of 13% - 65% (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Wholesale prices of vegetables – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	40.00-100.00	65.83	94.34	133.75	-28.51	-30.22	-67.92	-50.78
Carrot	50.00-90.00	70.83	72.08	71.25	-1.25	-1.73	-0.42	-0.58
Leeks	30.00-70.00	43.44	70.10	130.00	-26.67	-38.04	-86.56	-66.59
Beetroot	15.00-80.00	40.66	103.69	53.63	-63.03	-60.79	-12.97	-24.18
Knolkhol	30.00-60.00	40.63	65.83	54.27	-25.21	-38.29	-13.65	-25.14
Radish	10.00-30.00	17.98	26.46	21.35	-8.48	-32.04	-3.37	-15.80
Cabbage	10.00-40.00	20.47	41.48	28.07	-21.01	-50.66	-7.60	-27.08
Tomato	30.00-50.00	39.27	59.13	37.60	-19.86	-33.59	1.67	4.43
Ladies Fingers	40.00-70.00	44.48	69.95	77.24	-25.47	-36.41	-32.76	-42.42
Brinjal	20.00-80.00	44.75	78.76	59.21	-34.01	-43.18	-14.46	-24.42
Capsicum	80.00-150.00	110.42	165.21	127.68	-54.79	-33.17	-17.26	-13.52
Pumpkin	10.00-30.00	15.88	16.85	45.73	-0.98	-5.79	-29.85	-65.28
Cucumber	25.00-40.00	32.05	38.44	52.29	-6.39	-16.62	-20.24	-38.71
Bittergourd	80.00-150.00	105.38	107.90	103.29	-2.52	-2.34	2.09	2.02
Snakegourd	30.00-70.00	44.68	48.33	61.25	-3.65	-7.56	-16.57	-27.05
Drumstick	160.00-220.00	186.92	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	60.00-100.00	71.46	97.37	100.45	-25.91	-26.61	-28.99	-28.86
Long Beans	20.00-60.00	36.67	50.69	63.35	-14.02	-27.66	-26.68	-42.12
Ash Plantain	60.00-80.00	64.74	66.19	77.50	-1.45	-2.19	-12.76	-16.46
Green Chilli	110.00-120.00	169.58	229.37	61.04	-59.79	-26.07	108.54	177.82
Lime								

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2: Retail prices of vegetables – February 2019

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	80.00-240.00	128.84	159.26	199.11	-30.42	-19.10	-70.27	-35.29
Carrot	80.00-200.00	137.66	151.65	155.30	-13.99	-9.23	-17.65	-11.36
Leeks	60.00-160.00	120.31	153.54	216.56	-33.23	-21.64	-96.26	-44.45
Beetroot	60.00-200.00	109.65	166.44	128.35	-56.79	-34.12	-18.70	-14.57
Knolkhol	60.00-200.00	123.70	158.66	150.88	-34.96	-22.04	-27.18	-18.02
Radish	50.00-160.00	94.20	106.98	100.76	-12.78	-11.95	-6.56	-6.51
Cabbage	50.00-160.00	99.03	126.22	111.60	-27.19	-21.54	-12.57	-11.26
Tomato	50.00-160.00	95.55	134.29	93.34	-38.74	-28.85	2.21	2.37
Ladies Fingers	60.00-160.00	116.77	141.99	139.24	-25.22	-17.76	-22.47	-16.14
Brinjal	80.00-200.00	114.26	144.90	132.67	-30.64	-21.15	-18.41	-13.88
Capsicum	120.00-300.00	196.75	265.28	230.78	-68.54	-25.84	-34.03	-14.75
Pumpkin	50.00-120.00	74.40	86.75	114.34	-12.35	-14.24	-39.93	-34.93
Cucumber	50.00-120.00	91.22	100.80	120.20	-9.58	-9.51	-28.98	-24.11
Bittergourd	120.00-240.00	175.10	188.75	179.47	-13.64	-7.23	-4.37	-2.43
Snakegourd	60.00-200.00	115.84	123.24	134.37	-7.41	-6.01	-18.53	-13.79
Drumstick	200.00-600.00	348.42	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	90.00-240.00	148.91	174.86	179.39	-25.95	-14.84	-30.48	-16.99
Long Beans	70.00-200.00	116.96	134.84	144.57	-17.88	-13.26	-27.61	-19.10
Ash Plantain	80.00-160.00	120.87	134.17	140.00	-13.30	-9.91	-19.13	-13.66
Green Chilli	200.00-400.00	320.81	424.03	192.21	-103.21	-24.34	128.61	66.91
Lime	100.00-300.00	221.93	328.42	120.99	-106.49	-32.42	100.94	83.43

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2 depicts that the behavior of retail prices for both up country and low country vegetables was in line with the wholesale prices during the month of February. The average retail prices of up country vegetables have decreased between Rs.13.00/kg (radish) and Rs.57.00/kg (beetroot). With regard to low country vegetables, the average retail prices have decreased in the range of Rs.7.00/kg- Rs.69.00/kg recording the highest price decrease for capsicum. Meanwhile the average retail price of green chillies and lime have decreased remarkably by Rs.103.00/kg and Rs.106.00/respectively.

Compared to the month of February in previous year, retail prices of most of up country vegetables had decreased by 7%-44% while that of low country vegetable reduced by 2%-35%.

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Compared to the prices in January 2019, wholesale prices of all the banana varieties (except for Ambun), orange, avocado, slime apple and imported grapes had decreased in February 2019 while, prices of pineapple, mango varieties, papaw, passion fruit and wood apple had increased. Accordingly, prices of banana varieties had decreased by 6% - 14% recording the highest price decrease (14%) for Kolikuttu while a 12% price decrease was noted for both Ambul and Seeni. The prices were ranged as Rs.80.00-110.00/kg for Kolikuttu, Rs.30.00-50.00/kg for Ambul and Rs.40.00-70.00/kg for Seeni. In addition, price of Anamalu had decreased by 6% and price ranged between Rs.8.00-12.00/fruit. Price of Ambun had not shown a significant decrease compared to the price in January and price of a fruit was recorded as Rs.14.00-18.00. In addition, as stated earlier, prices of orange, avocado, slime apple and imported grapes had decreased by 24%, 11%, 7% and 4% respectively (Table 4.1).

Prices of small, medium and large sized pineapple had increased by 13%, 10% and 12% respectively and the monthly average wholesale prices were Rs.102.66/fruit, Rs.142.83/fruit and Rs.179.40/fruit respectively. The prices of small sized pineapple to large sized pineapple ranged between Rs.80.00-220.00/fruit. Price of mango variety, Karthakolomban had increased significantly by 63% and price range per fruit was recorded as Rs.70.00-200.00. In addition, prices of other mango varieties, Betti and Vilad had increased by 34% and 7% respectively. Price of papaw had increased by 30% and the monthly average wholesale price was Rs.208.68/kg and the price ranged between Rs.180.00-240.00/kg. Further, 36% price increase was noted for passion fruit while that of wood apple had increased by less than 1% (Table 4.1).

According to the price behavior in previous years, prices of fruit varieties, papaw, passion fruit, pineapple, wood apple and slime apple are expected to be increased in the coming month while, prices of all the banana varieties, mango, avocado and orange are expected to be decreased.

Compared to the same period of 2018, wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 228% recorded for papaw (Table 4.1).

In analyzing the prices at the retail level, it was observed that the prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased. Price of small sized pineapple had increased by 4% while, while that of medium and large sized pineapple had increased by 5%. Further, the price for pineapple was ranged as Rs.80.00-300.00/fruit. Price of mango variety, Karthakolomban had increased by 12% and price of a fruit was noted as Rs.140.00-200.00. Price of papaw had increased by 27% and the price ranged between Rs.220.00-320.00/kg. Further, prices of passion fruit, wood apple and imported grapes had increased by 46%, 7% and 5% respectively (Table 4.2).

However, prices of banana varieties, Ambul, Kolikuttu and Seeni had decreased by 9%, 7% and 5% respectively and their price ranges were noted as Rs.60.00-120.00/kg, Rs.150.00-200.00/kg and Rs.80.00-130.00/kg respectively. Further, prices of banana varieties, Anamalu and Ambun had decreased by less than 1% and their prices ranged between Rs.15.00-22.00/fruit and Rs.18.00-25.00/fruit respectively. In addition, price of avocado, orange and slime apple had decreased by 23%, 16% and 10% respectively (Table 4.2).

Compared to the same period of 2018, retail prices of papaw, passion fruit, wood apple, orange and imported grapes had increased and a remarkable price increase was noted for papaw as 165%. At the same time, prices of pineapple, mango, avocado, slime apple and all the banana varieties had decreased recording the highest price decrease for banana variety, Ambul as 17% (Table 4.2).

With reference to the producer prices, producers had received 22% increased price for papaw and 26% and 13% decreased prices for banana varieties, Ambul and Kolikuttu respectively compared to the prices in January, 2019. Further, producer prices for Ambul, Kolikuttu and papaw during the month ranged between Rs.17.50-41.00/kg, Rs.60.00-83.33/kg and Rs.145.00-162.50/kg respectively. Compared to February, 2018, producer price had increased for papaw significantly by 265%. According to field information, it was due to limited supplies from the major supplying areas due to heavy rains prevailed in November and December 2018. Further, prices of Ambul and Kolikuttu had decreased by 29% and 15% (Table 4.3).

Exports/Imports of Fruits

According to the statistics released by Sri Lanka Customs, Sri Lanka had exported 485mt of fresh fruits worth of Rs.74 mn in February, 2019. Of the exported quantity, 84% were papaw, 10% were fresh mangoes, 5% were fresh pineapple and 1% was fresh avocados. In the month of January, 2019, the quantity exported was 900mt. Therefore, compared to last month, the exported quantity had decreased by 46% (Table 4.4).

Table 4.1: Wholesale prices of fruits – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	30.00-50.00	41.31	46.76	68.30	-5.45	-11.65	-26.99	-39.51
Kolikuttu (Kg)	80.00-110.00	92.44	108.06	121.97	-15.61	-14.45	-29.52	-24.21
Seeni (Kg)	40.00-70.00	56.53	63.93	75.46	-7.40	-11.57	-18.93	-25.08
Anamalu (Fruit)	8.00-12.00	10.48	11.18	13.88	-0.70	-6.24	-3.40	-24.51
Ambun (Fruit)	14.00-18.00	16.08	16.10	17.53	-0.03	-0.16	-1.46	-8.33
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	160.00-220.00	179.40	160.42	178.72	18.98	11.83	0.67	0.38
Medium (Fruit)	120.00-170.00	142.83	129.23	138.20	13.61	10.53	4.63	3.35
Small (Fruit)	80.00-130.00	102.66	90.87	96.30	11.79	12.98	6.36	6.60
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	30.00-40.00	36.31	27.00	49.50	9.31	34.49	-13.19	-26.64
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	70.00-200.00	139.17	85.56	145.91	53.61	62.66	-6.74	-4.62
Vilad (Fruit)	30.00-40.00	36.67	34.39	-	2.28	6.62	-	-
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	12.50	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	180.00-240.00	208.68	160.69	63.67	47.99	29.86	145.02	227.77
Passionfruit (Fruit)	25.00-35.00	30.21	22.24	18.26	7.96	35.81	11.95	65.48
Woodapple (Fruit)	8.00-22.00	15.41	15.37	14.69	0.03	0.23	0.72	4.87
Orange (Fruit)	20.00-40.00	29.14	38.39	20.20	-9.25	-24.10	8.94	44.23
Avocado (Fruit)	70.00-130.00	96.83	109.26	102.35	-12.42	-11.37	-5.52	-5.39
Slime Apple (Fruit)	18.00-30.00	23.39	25.11	26.54	-1.72	-6.85	-3.14	-11.85
Grapes Imported (Kg)	445.00-733.00	631.08	655.02	558.19	-23.94	-3.65	72.89	13.06

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

With reference to imports, Sri Lanka had imported 2,800mt of fresh fruits during the month and the value was Rs.500mn. Of the imported quantity, 58% were apple, 28% were oranges and 14% were grapes. The main importing countries of apple were China, France, Italy and the United States. Egypt was the importing country of oranges. Grapes had been imported from China, South Africa and India. In the month of January, 2019, the quantity imported was 2,733mt. Therefore, compared to last month, the imported quantity had increased by 2% (Table 4.5).

Table 4.2: Retail prices of fruits – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	60.00-120.00	95.03	104.33	115.06	-9.30	-8.92	-20.03	-17.41
Kolikuttu (Kg)	150.00-200.00	177.68	192.13	195.44	-14.45	-7.52	-17.76	-9.09
Seeni (Kg)	80.00-130.00	111.27	117.00	122.29	-5.73	-4.90	-11.02	-9.01
Anamalu (Fruit)	15.00-22.00	17.34	17.43	20.43	-0.09	-0.49	-3.08	-15.09
Ambun (Fruit)	18.00-25.00	21.70	21.79	24.10	-0.09	-0.42	-2.41	-9.99
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	200.00-300.00	230.59	219.17	265.73	11.41	5.21	-35.15	-13.23
Medium (Fruit)	140.00-180.00	162.08	153.79	190.19	8.29	5.39	-28.11	-14.78
Small (Fruit)	80.00-140.00	112.98	108.28	127.98	4.70	4.34	-15.00	-11.72
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	140.00-200.00	163.10	145.48	175.81	17.62	12.11	-12.71	-7.23
Vilad (Fruit)	50.00-60.00	56.00	-	62.83	-	-	-6.83	-10.88
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	220.00-320.00	277.42	218.76	104.86	58.66	26.81	172.56	164.57
Passionfruit (Fruit)	30.00-60.00	48.35	33.12	30.38	15.23	45.99	17.97	59.13
Woodapple (Fruit)	30.00-90.00	53.32	49.66	50.27	3.65	7.36	3.05	6.06
Orange (Fruit)	30.00-80.00	57.83	68.91	36.56	-11.07	-16.07	21.28	58.21
Avocado (Fruit)	100.00-250.00	167.87	218.57	173.75	-50.70	-23.20	-5.88	-3.38
Slime Apple (Fruit)	35.00-120.00	58.24	64.60	64.15	-6.36	-9.84	-5.91	-9.21
Grapes Imported (Kg)	700.00-1000.00	882.58	842.78	804.61	39.80	4.72	77.97	9.69

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer prices of selected fruits – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	17.50-41.00	28.07	38.10	39.58	-10.03	-26.32	-11.51	-29.09
Kolikuttu	60.00-83.33	73.61	85.15	86.53	-11.54	-13.55	-12.92	-14.93
Papaw	145.00-162.50	152.31	124.34	41.77	27.97	22.49	110.54	264.65

Source Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, value and FOB prices of exported fruits -Dec 2018 to January 2019

Type of Fruit	Feb - 2019			Jan - 2019			December - 2018		
	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	23.78	8.99	377.94	19.81	6.80	343.43	41.17	12.62	306.51
Papaw	407.11	41.60	102.19	833.74	73.37	88.00	608.52	58.20	95.64
Fresh Mango	49.40	21.11	427.35	44.22	21.18	478.88	62.85	26.46	421.03
Avocado, fresh	4.33	2.29	529.19	1.83	0.96	521.66	1.11	0.55	493.01

Source: Sri Lanka Customs (FOB=Free On Board)

Table 4.5: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported fruits December 2018 to January 2019

Type of Fruit	Feb - 2019			Jan - 2019			December - 2018		
	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	1,629	273.19	167.73	1,578	271.13	171.83	2,314	369.09	159.50
Grapes	399	149.41	374.74	685	255.72	373.29	482	165.61	343.90
Oranges	772	77.05	99.86	470	50.94	108.34	251	33.76	134.74

Source: Sri Lanka Customs

(CIF=Cost Insurance and Freight)

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The table 5.1 presents wholesale and retail prices of fish for February, 2019. Wholesale prices of the given kinds of fish ranged between Rs.100.00/kg and Rs.1300.00/kg during February, 2019. Average wholesale prices of these kinds of fish varies from Rs.143.00/kg to Rs.1096.00/kg. Compared to last month average wholesale prices, this month's average fish prices have increased for Salaya by 6%, Hurulla by 8%, Thora by 3% and Thalapath by 3%. Average wholesale price decreased relative to last month wholesale price for Balaya by 2%, Kelawalla by 4%, Paraw by 6%, Mora by 3% and Shrimp (small) by 3%. However, compared to the same period of last year, average wholesale prices of this month have decreased for Hurulla, Balaya, Kelawalla, Thora, Paraw and Shrimp (small) by about 8%, 14%, 2%, 3%, 8% and 4% respectively while average wholesale price increase was reported for Salaya by 14%, Mora by 10% and Thalapath by 2%.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of fish – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to				
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Prices									
Salaya	100.00-180.00	142.53	134.31	124.88	8.22	6.12	17.65	14.13	
Hurulla	250.00-320.00	278.61	257.23	301.98	21.38	8.31	-23.37	-7.74	
Balaya	200.00-320.00	252.43	257.20	293.57	-4.78	-1.86	-41.14	-14.01	
Kelawalla	450.00-620.00	529.06	549.69	538.94	-20.63	-3.75	-9.89	-1.83	
Thora	900.00-1300.00	1096.03	1062.74	1132.50	33.29	3.13	-36.47	-3.22	
Paraw	450.00-600.00	533.71	565.28	577.92	-31.57	-5.59	-44.21	-7.65	
Mora	500.00-600.00	558.33	575.83	509.92	-17.50	-3.04	48.42	9.50	
Shrimp (small)	700.00-900.00	801.25	823.90	838.04	-22.65	-2.75	-36.79	-4.39	
Thalapath	700.00-850.00	751.39	731.56	740.28	19.83	2.71	11.11	1.50	
Retail Prices									
Salaya	180.00-300.00	241.84	229.33	189.02	12.51	5.46	52.83	27.95	
Hurulla	340.00-600.00	437.85	417.29	398.68	20.56	4.93	39.17	9.83	
Balaya	500.00-800.00	616.06	609.47	537.05	6.59	1.08	79.01	14.71	
Kelawalla	800.00-1200.00	954.77	955.20	842.27	-0.43	-0.05	112.49	13.36	
Thora	1300.00-1900.00	1503.95	1496.63	1460.72	7.32	0.49	43.23	2.96	
Paraw	800.00-1400.00	1044.23	1037.87	924.73	6.36	0.61	119.50	12.92	
Mora	700.00-1200.00	880.94	915.37	806.69	-34.44	-3.76	74.25	9.20	
Shrimp (small)	900.00-1300.00	1062.67	1053.98	1068.60	8.69	0.82	-5.92	-0.55	
Thalapath	1050.00-1400.00	1187.83	1184.46	1075.55	3.37	0.28	112.28	10.44	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Retail prices of the given fish types ranged between Rs.180.00/kg and Rs.1900.00/kg during this month. Average retail prices of these kinds of fish varieties from Rs.242.00/kg to Rs.1504.00/kg. Comparative to last month average retail prices of these fish types, this month's retail prices have increased for most of fish by less than 6% except Kelawalla and Mora. Price of Mora has decreased by about 4% and that of Kelawalla has not changed. The highest price increase was observed for Salaya and it is about 6%. Compared to average the same period of last year, average retail prices of this month have increased for Salaya, Hurulla, Balaya, Kelawalla, Thora, Mora and Thalapath by about 28%, 10%, 15%, 13%, 3%, 13%, 9%, and 10% respectively.

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Table 5.2 presents wholesale and retail prices of dried fish in February 2019. Wholesale prices of selected dried fish types ranged between Rs.300.00 /kg and Rs.1300.00 /kg during the month. Average wholesale price of dried fish varies from Rs.342.00/kg for salaya to Rs.1231.00/kg for imported Thora.

Compared to the previous month, average wholesale prices of some types of dry fish have increased while those of others have decreased. With regard to price increase, average wholesale prices of Kattawa and imported Thora increased by 2%, local Anguluwa and imported Anguluwa increased by 3%. Further, imported Kattawa and Maduwa increased by 4% and 5% respectively. With regard to price decrease, the highest price decrease was reported for sprats and imported Balaya as about 12% and the lowest price decrease was reported for imported Maduwa as about 2%. Further, average wholesale prices of imported sprats, imported Mora and Balaya have changed by 5%, 2% and 10% respectively.

Compared to average wholesale prices in February 2018, same prices of this month have increased except the price of imported *Maduwa* that was a price decrease of 6%. Prices of other dried fish types have increased and percentages of price increases ranged from 2% to 34%.

Retail prices of dried fish types given in table 5.2 ranged between 500.00/kg and Rs.1800.00 /kg during this month. However, compared to average retail prices of previous month, those prices of Mora, Anguluwa and Salaya have increased between 1%-2%. Price of Kattawa has not changed. Thus, average retail prices of imported sprats, local sprats, Thora, Balaya and Maduwa have decreased by 0.5%, 2.5%, 2.6%, 1.5% and 2.3% respectively.

Compared to average retail prices in February 2018, the prices of all dried fish types have increased during this month. The highest average retail price increase was reported as 10% for Kattawa and the lowest average retail price increase was reported as 0.8% for imported sprats (table 5.2).

Table 5.2: Wholesale and retail prices of dried fish –February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale Price								
Sprats	700.00-1200.00	945.10	1073.31	890.92	-128.21	11.95	54.18	6.08
Sprats (imported)	450.00-650.00	547.19	577.57	507.50	-30.38	-5.26	39.69	7.82
Kattawa	880.00-950.00	924.71	902.50	845.13	22.21	2.46	79.58	9.42
Kattawa (imported)	750.00-900.00	832.72	799.75	759.08	32.97	4.12	73.64	9.70
Thora	1000.00-1250.00	1180.00	-	1043.56	-	-	136.44	13.07
Thora (imported)	1200.00-1300.00	1230.56	1200.56	990.19	30.00	2.50	240.37	24.28
Mora	750.00-920.00	867.30	862.00	824.93	5.30	0.62	42.37	5.14
Mora (imported)	700.00-850.00	770.75	785.50	756.67	-14.75	-1.88	14.08	1.86
Balaya	350.00-500.00	426.85	473.50	410.16	-46.65	-9.85	16.69	4.07
Balaya (imported)	450.00-600.00	533.33	605.56	399.13	-72.22	11.93	134.21	33.63
Anguluwa	800.00-900.00	870.80	845.42	814.00	25.39	3.00	56.80	6.98
Anguluwa (imported)	700.00-850.00	811.16	785.36	755.50	25.80	3.29	55.66	7.37
Maduwa	420.00-650.00	559.56	533.26	522.08	26.30	4.93	37.48	7.18
Maduwa (imported)	350.00-450.00	407.96	414.58	432.55	-6.63	-1.60	-24.59	-5.68
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	300.00-400.00	342.43	324.60	286.39	17.83	5.49	56.04	19.57
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail Price								
Sprats(imported)	600.00-1000.00	731.65	735.09	726.08	-3.44	-0.47	5.57	0.77
Sprats	1000.00-1400.00	1214.20	1245.41	1136.27	-31.21	-2.51	77.93	6.86
Kattawa	1000.00-1600.00	1252.12	1251.25	1141.83	0.88	0.07	110.29	9.66
Thora	1300.00-1800.00	1607.78	1650.28	1504.60	-42.51	-2.58	103.18	6.86
Mora	900.00-1500.00	1157.27	1149.43	1114.51	7.84	0.68	42.77	3.84
Balaya	600.00-1000.00	865.20	878.36	808.24	-13.16	-1.50	56.96	7.05
Anguluwa	950.00-1300.00	1128.03	1101.19	1070.52	26.84	2.44	57.51	5.37
Maduwa	700.00-800.00	737.98	755.00	710.42	-17.02	-2.25	27.56	3.88
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	500.00-800.00	660.83	649.05	648.19	11.78	1.81	12.63	1.95

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Eggs

As depicted in table 5.3, wholesale prices of brown and white eggs have ranged from Rs.17.30 - Rs.19.50 and Rs.16.30 - Rs.18.50 respectively. Average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs were Rs.18.90 and Rs.17.93 respectively. Compared to average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs in the previous year, the prices in this month have decreased by 4%. Compared to average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs in the same period of last year, the prices of this have increased by 36% and 46% respectively.

Retail price of a brown egg ranged between Rs.18.00 and Rs.22.00 while that of a white egg ranged between Rs.17.00 and Rs.21.00 this month. Average prices of a brown and white eggs were recorded as Rs.20.40 and Rs.19.40 respectively. Compared to average prices of brown and white eggs in the previous month, the prices of brown and white eggs have decreased by 3% and 4% respectively. Further, compared to average retail prices of brown and white eggs in the same period of last year, the prices have increased by 38% and 44% respectively (table 5.3).

Table 5.3: Wholesale and retail prices of eggs – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	%	Rs	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	17.30-19.50	18.90	19.71	13.85	-0.81	-4.11	5.05	36.48
White (each)	16.30-18.50	17.93	18.71	12.31	-0.77	-4.14	5.62	45.66
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	18.00-22.00	20.42	21.14	14.82	-0.73	-3.44	5.59	37.74
White (each)	17.00-21.00	19.39	20.14	13.43	-0.75	-3.71	5.96	44.35

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Table 5.4 presents retail prices of meat. The prices of the given meat types vary from Rs.470.00/kg to Rs.2000.00/kg. The highest average retail price of Rs.1860.00/kg observed was for Mutton and the lowest retail price of Rs.567.00/kg was for Broiler chicken. Furthermore, compared to all retail prices of the previous month, this month prices have increased as 3% for broiler chicken and 5% for pork. Prices of beef, curry chicken and mutton have increased by less than 1%. However, compared to retail prices all meats in the previous year, the prices of beef, broiler chicken, curry chicken mutton and pork have increased by about 3%, 10%, 20%, 4% and 42% respectively.

Table 5.4: Retail prices of meat – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	950.00-1000.00	978.86	978.36	950.00	0.50	0.05	28.86	3.04
Chicken (Broiler)	470.00-690.00	566.65	549.51	514.10	17.14	3.12	52.55	10.22
Chicken (curry)	550.00-750.00	625.96	622.32	521.01	3.64	0.58	104.95	20.14
Mutton	1800.00-2000.00	1860.31	1844.80	1793.75	15.52	0.84	66.56	3.71
Pork	700.00-840.00	755.00	720.67	530.00	34.33	4.76	225.00	42.45

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 142,478mt (Rs.7,199mn) of wheat grain had been imported during the month of February. Compared to the previous month, the imported quantity of this month has increased and the increase was about 42,012mt. Wheat grain had been imported mainly from Canada (77%) and the CIF price was Rs.51.00/kg. The second and third highest wheat grain quantities were imported from Pakistan (13,437mt.) and United States (10,912mt.) respectively. In addition, wheat grain had been imported from Australia (5%). Few quantities also had been imported from Russia and India as well. The CIF price of wheat grain ranged between Rs.39.00-65.00/kg and the average CIF price was recorded as Rs.51.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, average CIF price for wheat grain had increased by Rs.1.00/kg during this month.

A total quantity of 754mt. of wheat flour which valued to Rs.55mn had been imported during the month of February. Compared to the previous month, the imported quantity of this month has drastically increased by 173mt. The imported stocks of wheat flour were mainly received from India (58%) followed by Pakistan (14%). Few stocks were also had been received from China. The CIF price for wheat flour for the reporting month ranged between Rs.66.00-76.00/kg and the average

CIF was Rs.73.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, average CIF price for wheat flour has decreased by Rs.3.00/kg. The highest CIF price (Rs.76.00/kg) was reported for the Indian wheat flour stock whilst, the lowest (Rs.66.00/kg) was recorded for the Pakistan stocks.

Meanwhile, the local retail price of wheat flour ranged between Rs.86.00-100.00/kg and the average price was Rs.94.00/kg. The average retail price of wheat flour remained unchanged during the month. Further, compared to the same period of last year, retail price of wheat flour has increased by 5%.

Table 6.1: Open market retail prices of wheat flour and sugar – February 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019	Feb 2018	Jan 2019		Feb 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	86.00-100.00	94.41	94.43	90.23	-0.02	-0.02	4.18	4.63
Sugar	95.00-110.00	105.34	105.92	109.12	-0.58	-0.55	-3.78	-3.46

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of wheat flour & grain-Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Feb-2019	754	55.23	73.20	94.41	21.21
Jan-2019	581	43.93	75.66	94.43	18.77
Dec- 2018	1,385	102.51	74.04	93.63	19.59
Nov-2018	537	38.33	71.44	93.68	22.24
Oct-2018	1,083	74.54	68.84	95.42	26.58
Sep-2018	395	25.78	65.21	95.51	30.30
Wheat Grain					
Feb-2019	142,478	7,199	50.53	94.41	43.88
Jan-2019	100,466	5,070	50.47	94.43	43.96
Dec- 2018	139,382	6,653	47.73	93.63	45.90
Nov-2018	94,907	4,414	46.51	93.68	47.17
Oct-2018	234,819	10,667	45.43	95.42	49.99
Sep-2018	216,611	8,846	40.84	95.51	54.67

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 33,893mt of sugar amounting to Rs.2,053mn had been imported to the country during the month of February. Compared to the previous month, the imported quantity of this month has decreased by 1,137mt. The imported stocks were mainly received from India (86%) and CIF price was Rs.58.00/kg. followed by Thailand (13%). Brazil (1%) and Korea (1%) had been made a marginal contribution for sugar imports. The CIF prices ranged between Rs.58.00-87.00/kg averaging to Rs.61.00/kg. The average CIF price has decreased by Rs.3.00/kg during the month. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, sugar price index averaged just over 184 points in February 2019, up 1.2% from January 2019. This was due to the contraction of sugar production in major producing countries namely, India and Brazil. Hence, world sugar prices are expected to increase in the coming months.

Referring to the local retail price of sugar for the month of February, price ranged between Rs.95.00-110.00/kg and the average retail price was Rs.105.00/kg. Average retail price for sugar has decreased by Rs.1.00/kg during the month. Further, compared to the same period of last year average retail price of sugar has decreased by 3%.

Table 6.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of sugar- Sep 2018 to February 2019

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb-2019	33,893	2052.6	60.56	105.34	44.78
Jan-2019	35,030	2227.6	63.59	105.92	42.33
Dec- 2018	59,943	3626.2	60.49	107.88	47.39
Nov-2018	35,396	2094.5	59.17	107.84	48.67
Oct-2018	32,335	1860.0	57.52	110.63	53.11
Sep-2018	42,366	2393.0	56.48	107.97	51.49

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

Table 7: Import of selected food items – Feb 2019

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-2019	Jan-2019		Feb-2019	Jan-2019		Feb-2019	Jan-2019	
Rice	1,923	3,862	-50.2	180.7	425.3	-57.5	94.00	110.15	-14.7
Red Onion	501	2,547	-80.3	42.5	238.9	-82.2	84.86	93.80	-9.5
Big Onion	19,709	23,697	-16.8	661.8	948.1	-30.2	33.58	40.01	-16.1
Potato	9,802	21,206	-53.8	297.8	704.6	-57.7	30.38	33.23	-8.6
Dried Chillies	4,856	3,748	29.6	1134.5	876.2	29.5	233.64	233.81	-0.1
Masoor Dhal	14,757	14,543	1.5	1265.0	1210.4	4.5	85.72	83.23	3.0
Green Gram	876	1,329	-34.1	144.8	210.8	-31.3	165.29	158.59	4.2
Cowpea	737	900	-18.1	84.0	104.6	-19.8	113.93	116.28	-2.0
Garlic	1,779	2,281	-22.0	209.3	224.3	-6.7	117.69	98.33	19.7
Wheat flour	754	581	29.9	55.2	43.9	25.7	73.20	75.66	-3.3
Wheat grain	142,478	100,466	41.8	7199.3	5070.0	42.0	50.53	50.47	0.1
White crystalline cane sugar	33,893	35,030	-3.2	2052.6	2227.6	-7.9	60.56	63.59	-4.8
Maize	125	13,147	-79.7	13.4	584.3	-76.1	107.13	44.44	17.8

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

Table 8: Monthly rainfall (mm) – February 2019

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	87.5	55.4	4	4
Badulla	166.5	103.1	15	7
Bandarawela	111.8	70.2	13	6
Batticaloa	151.9	128.4	13	7
Colombo	157.0	72.7	6	5
Galle	120.7	70.5	9	6
Hambantota	100.1	47.6	8	4
Jaffna	5.9	39.0	3	2
Katugastota	55.1	74.2	8	5
Katunayaka	19.0	79.8	4	4
Kurunegala	85.3	98.8	4	4
Mahailuppallama	42.8	56.8	6	4
Mannar	63.5	61.8	3	3
Nuwara Eliya	50.1	77.7	11	7
Pottuvil	181.4	163.6	14	Na
Puttalam	122.7	43.1	6	4
Ratmalana	156.7	77.3	9	5
Ratnapura	306.0	137.0	11	9
Trincomalee	126.6	105.4	6	5
Vavuniya	98.9	62.5	8	4
Polonnaruwa	75.9	na	8	na
Moneragala	198.1	na	8	na
Mattala	30.8	na	8	na

Source: Department of Meteorology

Note: na refers to not available

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

February - 2019

Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week	Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week	Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week
Paddy					Potato					Leeks				
Short grain					N'Eliya	112.00	112.00	92.00	83.00	Welimada	38.60	43.20	37.60	63.00
A'pura	39.89	36.00		33.67	Badulla					N'Eliya	38.00	38.00	28.00	28.00
P'naruwa			33.00	33.33	Welimada	100.00	96.00	85.00	79.80	Beetroot				
Kalawewa	34.33	33.67	32.00	31.67	Pulses					Hanguranketha	35.00	15.00	17.50	27.50
Kurunegala	39.00	37.33	35.83	31.33	Green Gram					N'Eliya	37.00	19.20	17.20	17.20
Dehiattakandiya	37.67	37.67	33.67	36.33	Galgamuwa					Dambulla	25.00	13.40	20.20	28.20
Ampara	29.50	29.67	29.40	39.40	Kalawewa	165.00	155.00	155.00	150.00	Kurunegala				
Long grain (White)					Embilipitiya	175.83	175.83	150.00	140.00	Welimada	38.60	33.20	29.20	29.20
A'pura	34.00	32.38		32.20	Kurunegala			213.33	210.00	Knokhol				
P'naruwa			30.50	31.38	A'pura	160.00	160.00	155.00	150.00	Hanguranketha	37.50	27.50	25.00	35.00
Kalawewa	30.00	31.33	29.67	31.17	Cowpea					N'Eliya	22.00	19.60	18.00	18.00
Kurunegala	31.50	31.67	31.17	28.50	A'pura	137.50	143.33		148.33	Welimada	36.60	34.60	32.80	32.80
Dehiattakandiya	33.67	33.67	33.50	32.00	Galgamuwa	38.60	33.20	29.20	29.20	Radish				
Embilipitiya					Nikaweratiya					Hanguranketha	9.00	10.00	9.00	9.00
Ampara	27.00	27.67	27.40	37.40	Kalawewa	140.00	170.00	150.00	140.00	N'Eliya	8.40	8.40	7.80	7.80
Matara					Embilipitiya	167.50	167.50	213.33	210.00	Welimada	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.60
Hambantota					Kurunegala			155.00	150.00	Cabbage				
Long grain (Red)					Maize					Hanguranketha	21.00	14.00	12.50	12.33
Matara					A'Pura	43.50	45.00		44.75	N'Eliya	26.20	18.60	15.40	17.60
Hambantota	38.00	38.33	32.25	31.00	Kalawewa					Welimada	16.20	16.20	13.00	15.40
Ampara		31.80	21.60	34.40	Gingelly					Hambantota				
Embilipitiya	37.67	36.50	34.50	32.43	A'Pura	252.50	264.00		270.00	Badulla	19.00	19.00	14.40	14.40
Other Food Crops					Kalawewa	226.67	215.00		153.33	Tomato				
Dried Chillies					Black Gram					Hanguranketha	17.50	24.00	17.67	19.00
A'Pura					Kalawewa	175.00	155.00	155.00	150.00	Welimada	26.20	28.67	25.25	26.80
Galgamuwa					A'Pura	156.25	164.50		153.33	Hambantota	27.50	18.00	27.50	27.50
Kalawewa					Vegetables (Up Country)					Dambulla	35.80	30.60	26.60	30.00
Red Onion					Beans					Low Country				
Puttalam	96.00	88.00	88.00	58.00	Dambulla	62.40	58.80	62.20	96.00	Ladies Fingers				
Big Onion					Welimada	41.60	43.20	54.80	83.00	A'pura	56.67	31.67		41.25
Dambulla					Badulla	39.00	49.00	59.00	69.00	Dambulla	58.80	52.40	31.60	40.60
Kalawewa					Carrot					Hambantota	65.00	55.00	45.00	42.50
A'Pura					Hanguranketha	46.67	51.67	60.00	50.00	Embilipitiya	53.14	49.14	43.57	47.86
Kurunegala					N'Eliya	57.00	63.00	58.00	63.00	Matara				
					Welimada	45.60	44.80	45.60	48.60					

Appendix 03: contd.....

Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week	Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week	Commodity	1 st Week	2 nd Week	3 rd Week	4 th Week
Brinjals					Pumpkin					Lime				
A'pura	31.25	26.67		63.33	Dambulla	11.20	7.90	15.40	15.80	Hambantota	55.00	65.00	57.50	55.00
Dambulla	27.60	22.40	25.00	57.00	Hambantota	17.50	17.50	21.67	22.50	Embilipitiya	54.57	54.57	50.29	47.14
Hambantota	22.50	22.50	45.00	45.00	Embilipitiya	21.75	21.75	36.25	36.25	Moneragala	41.67	41.67	30.67	35.33
Embilipitiya	23.67	25.33	33.67	46.33	Matara					Fruits (Rs/Kg)				
Matara					A'pura	25.00	28.33		28.60	Banana				
Welimada	37.60	30.17	30.20	38.60	Moneragala	16.00	15.33	16.00	21.67	Ambul				
					Cucumber					Moneragala	41.00	38.33	36.67	36.67
Capsicum					A'pura	28.75	14.25		19.33	Embilipitiya	23.43	23.43	24.86	22.43
Welimada	130.00	117.50	104.00	105.00	Dambulla	20.33	12.40	12.60	19.20	Hambantota	27.50	27.50	17.50	17.50
Bitter Gourd					Hambantota	22.50	16.50	17.50	22.50	Kolikuttu				
A'pura	83.33	71.67		80.00	Matara					Moneragala	81.67	76.67	83.33	83.33
Dambulla	78.80	82.40	68.80	66.40	Long beans					Embilipitiya	75.83	75.83	75.83	75.83
Hambantota	113.33	135.00	155.00	145.00	Dambulla	42.20	34.40	40.40	45.60	Hambantota	65.00	65.00	65.00	60.00
Embilipitiya	93.75	127.14	135.00	119.17	Hambantota	45.00	37.50	47.50	55.00	Papaw				
					Embilipitiya	40.83	40.83	45.83	65.00	Moneragala				
Snake Gourd					Matara					Embilipitiya	162.50	160.00	160.00	146.00
Dambulla	33.20	38.60	31.20	27.60	A'Pura	33.33	38.33		46.25	Hambantota	155.00	145.00	145.00	145.00
Hambantota	42.50	37.50	47.50	47.50	Ash Plantain					Pineapple				
Embilipitiya	42.50	38.67	42.83	46.17	Hambantota	47.50	47.50	47.50	47.50	Divulapitiya				
Matara					Embilipitiya	43.67	43.67	50.33	50.33					
A'pura	30.00	35.00		44.00	Matara									
Luffa					Green Chillies									
Dambulla	42.40	42.60	38.00	43.20	Dambulla	178.00	105.00	159.00	176.00					
Hambantota	75.00	75.00	70.00	65.00	Hambantota	204.00	204.00	245.00	245.00					
Embilipitiya	95.00	66.67	79.17	75.83	Embilipitiya	209.17	229.17	339.00	294.00					
Matara					Puttalam	130.00	120.00	108.00	150.00					
A'pura	43.75	61.67		63.75	A'Pura	246.67	150.00		256.67					