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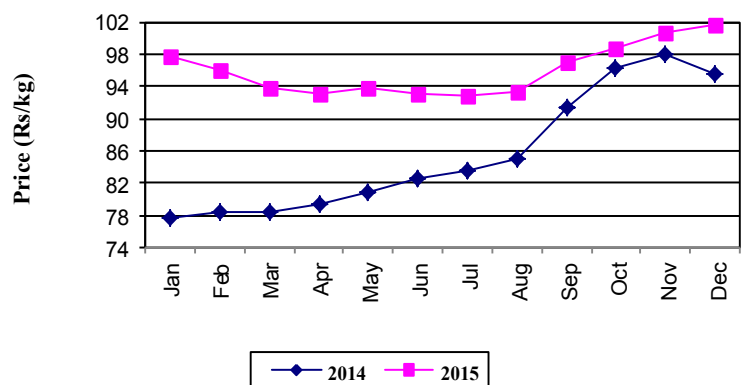
RICE:

Due to the increased paddy prices, prices of most of the rice varieties have increased during this month. The highest price increase of 2% was reported for raw red, nadu grade II and samba grade II.

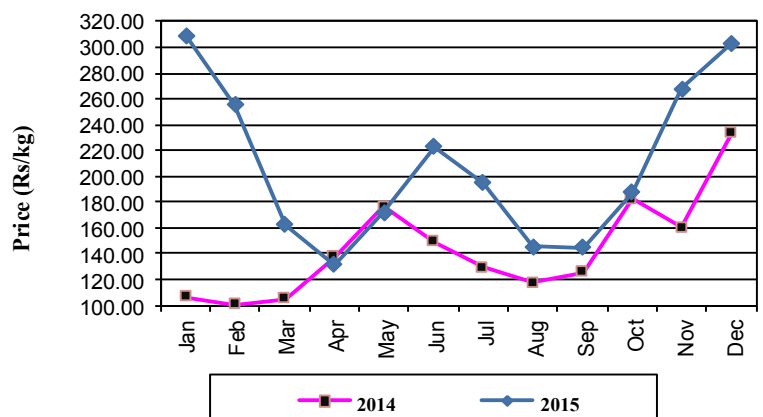
VEGETABLES:

As the off season for vegetables continues, limited supplies have reached the market from both up and lowcountry major producing areas. As a result, prices of most of the upcountry and lowcountry varieties have increased by about 35%. As supplies from early established *Maha* season is expected in January, prices are likely to show a decreasing trend in the coming month.

Average Retail Prices of Rice (Samba)



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

Outstation Markets

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

1. Paddy

Crop Situation

Despite weather related setbacks, prospects of paddy crop in 2015/16 *Maha* season are favourable in most of the major producing areas. Heavy rainy weather was experienced in most of the paddy producing areas during the first part of the month. Tank water levels were satisfactory in all major irrigation schemes. However the paddy sowing activities were delayed in some of the major producing areas like Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura due to the heavy rainy weather. According to the crop forecast report of the Department of Agriculture, targeted extent of paddy cultivation is 838,142 ha and the achievement was 769,011 ha and it was 5 percent higher compared to the average of last three *Maha* seasons. A high cultivation progress was recorded in Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Ampara, Batticaloa, Polonnaruwa and Mahaweli zones. According to the latest assessment issued by the Department of Agriculture nearly 14,149 Ha crop damage was recorded mainly due to the floods especially in Baticaloa district. It is expected that harvesting would commence by the mid February in the producing areas in the Eastern province.

**Table 1.1: Achievement of Paddy Cultivation 2015/16 *Maha* season
(Up to end of December - 2015)**

District	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent (ha)	Production forecast Based on the Progress (mt)	Total Effected Extent (ha)	Expected Production loss for Effected area (mt)	Riversed Production forecast adjusted to flood damage within the season (mt)
Anuradhapura	96,379	91,503	95	322,464	41	124	322,340
Polonnaruwa	34,421	34,138	99	151,135	-		151,135
Ampara	75,622	76,358	101	317,412	999	2,028	315,384
Kurunegala	83,543	84,947	102	353,534	-		353,534
Hambantota	29,114	28,167	97	149,752	5	18	149,734
Colombo	4,933	3,113	63	9,331	-		9,331
Gampaha	13,583	9,039	67	26,973	-		26,973
Kalutara	15,703	11,271	72	33,494	73	140	33,354
Galle	15,082	8,450	56	24,123	23	33	24,090
Matara	16,900	13,670	81	43,558	311	928	42,630
Ratnapura	14,689	10,550	72	35,102	-		35,102
Kegalle	8,715	5,845	67	20,291	-		20,291
Puttalam	22,951	18,736	82	67,411	135	364	67,047
Kandy	15,988	12,029	75	38,919	32	78	38,841
Matale	20,665	21,129	102	82,098	-		82,098
N' Eliya	6,800	1,130	17	2,845	110	150	2,695
Badulla	24,185	17,287	71	71,032	-		71,032
Monaragala	45,745	41,539	91	165,982	17	29	165,953
Jaffna	11,460	10,723	94	22,301	-		22,301
Kilinochchi	23,000	20,148	88	72,492	-		72,492
Vavuniya	19,810	16,433	83	61,740	-		61,740
Mullaitivu	17,067	16,801	98	45,325	-		45,325
Mannar	20,774	20,079	97	103,858	-		103,858
Trincomalee	42,244	41,494	98	163,534	-		163,534
Batticaloa	64,587	62,779	97	144,026	12,502	42,573	101,453
Udawalawa	11,600	11,562	100	61,066	-		61,066
System H	22,500	22,852	102	109,921	-		109,921
System H1	9,500	8,963	94	43,112	-		43,112
System B	19,336	18,771	97	90,291	-		90,291
System C	23,306	22,445	96	107,963	-		107,963
System G	5,318	5,201	98	25,018	-		25,018
System L	472	418	89	5,628	-		5,628
System D	700	270	39	2,011	-		2,011
Rambakanoya	1,450	1,170	81	1,299	-		1,299
Sri Lanka	838,142	769,011	92	2,975,043	14,249	46,465	2,928,576

Source: Department of Agriculture

Producer Prices

Heavy rainy weather was experienced in most of the major producing areas at the beginning of the month. The increasing trend of paddy prices was stable during the latter part of the month in most of the major producing areas. However the prices of short grain paddy remained at a high level in the range of Rs.44.00-49.50/kg in most of the considered major producing areas throughout the month. The highest prices for short grain and long grain white were recorded in Polonnaruwa and Ampara. Open market prices of long grain white were in the range of Rs.32.00-39.00/kg. Prices of long grain red paddy were in the range of Rs.33.00-36.00/kg in producing areas in the Southern Province. Prices of *keeri* samba ranged between Rs.56.00-58.00/kg in Polonnaruwa. It is expected that the prices would further stabilize during the next month.

Compared to last month, the prices of short grain and long grain white varieties have decreased in the range of 1%-5% in most of the producing areas. Meanwhile, the price of long grain red has increased by 4% to 6% in producing areas in the Southern province. Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of short grain, long grain white and red varieties have decreased in the range of 3%-8%, 12%-23% and 28%-30% respectively.

Table1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – December 2015

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	44.00-47.00	43.00-45.00	45.10	44.68	47.50	0.42	0.94	-2.40	-5.05
Polonnaruwa	48.50-49.50	44.00-50.00	49.18	47.36		1.82	3.83	-	-
Kalawewa	44.00-47.00	42.00-46.00	45.25	44.33	46.80	0.92	2.07	-1.55	-3.31
Kurunegala	40.00-44.00	40.00-45.00	41.20	43.36	44.59	-2.16	-4.98	-3.39	-7.60
Dehiattakandiya	-	43.00-45.00	-	44.20	43.50	-	-	-	-
Nikaweratiya	45.00-46.00	45.00-47.00	45.80	46.12	48.23	-0.32	-0.69	-2.43	-5.04
Ampara	47.00-49.00	42.00-49.00	48.08	45.86		2.22	4.83	-	-
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	34.00-37.00	34.00-36.00	35.10	35.12	45.50	-0.02	-0.06	-10.40	-22.86
Polonnaruwa	37.50-38.00	34.50-39.00	38.21	37.29		0.92	2.47	-	-
Kalawewa	35.00-37.00	33.00-37.00	36.00	35.47	42.87	0.53	1.50	-6.87	-16.03
Kurunegala	32.00-35.00	32.00-35.00	33.55	34.45	42.96	-0.90	-2.61	-9.41	-21.90
Dehiattakandiya	-	34.00-36.00	-	34.80	42.62	-	-	-	-
Embilipitiya	37.00-38.00	32.00-38.00	37.40	35.52	42.60	1.88	5.29	-5.20	-12.21
Nikaweratiya	36.00-37.00	35.00-38.00	36.40	36.44	43.43	-0.04	-0.11	-7.03	-16.19
Matara	34.00-37.00	31.00-34.00	34.83	33.00	42.50	1.83	5.54	-7.67	-18.05
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	37.00-39.00	34.00-39.00	38.18	37.30	-	0.88	2.35	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	33.00-35.00	30.00-33.00	33.84	31.93	48.33	1.90	5.96	-14.50	-29.99
Hambantota	35.00-36.00	33.00-36.00	35.60	34.30	51.00	1.30	3.79	-15.40	-30.20
Embilipitiya	33.00-36.00	31.00-36.00	34.88	32.98	48.70	1.90	5.75	-13.83	-28.39

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale prices

Due to the increased paddy prices, the prices of all the local rice varieties have increased at the beginning of the month. But, later on a gradual decrease in most of the local rice varieties was observed as a result of increased rice supply from major rice producing areas. Due to the high demand at the end of month and the festival season, prices of raw white and samba grade I have not changed significantly.

Considering the price behavior this month compared to the last month, the prices of most of the rice varieties have increased. The highest price increase of 2% was reported for raw red, nadu grade II and samba grade II. Furthermore, price of samba grade I has increased by 1% while that of nadu grade I has slightly increased. But, the price of raw white has slightly decreased. According to the statistical data released by the Department of Customs, it was noted a slight decrease of rice imports during this month and the imported amount was 2,524mt. However, the price of imported *ponni* samba has decreased by 5% due to the availability of sufficient stocks.

Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale prices of local samba varieties have increased by 6%, followed by imported *ponni* samba as 57%. The prices of all the other local rice varieties have decreased by 10%-27%.

Retail

In accordance with the wholesale prices, the retail prices of most of the rice varieties have increased. The prices have increased by Rs.2.00/kg for samba grade III and by less than Rs.1.00/kg for all the other local rice varieties. However, the price of imported *ponni* samba has decreased by Rs.2.00/kg. The highest price of Rs.120.00/kg was reported for imported *ponni* samba and the lowest price of Rs.65.00/kg was reported for both raw red and raw white.

Referring to the retail prices of the outstation markets except Colombo, the highest samba price range of Rs.95.00-119.00/kg was reported in Kegalle and Rathnapura markets while the lowest samba price range of Rs.81.00-89.00/kg was reported in Killinochchi market. The highest nadu price range of Rs.80.00-85.00/kg was noted in Kegalle market and the lowest nadu price range of Rs.66.00-70.00/kg was noted in Polonnaruwa and Nuwara Eliya markets. Furthermore, the highest prices of raw red and raw white were reported as Rs.80.00/kg and Rs.75.00/kg respectively in Kegalle market. The lowest price of Rs.60.00/kg for raw red was noticed in Hambantota market and that of Rs.62.00/kg for raw white was noticed in Embilipitiya market.

Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of local samba varieties have increased by 3%-4%, followed by imported *ponni* samba as 56%. The prices of all the other local rice varieties have decreased by 10%-22%.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice – December 2015

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	96.00-98.00	97.00	96.42	91.82	0.58	0.61	5.18	5.65
Samba 2	89.00-95.00	91.42	89.73	86.51	1.69	1.88	4.91	5.68
Samba 3	-	-	86.20	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	73.00-75.00	74.53	74.49	82.76	0.04	0.05	-8.24	-9.95
Nadu 2	69.00-73.00	71.13	70.07	78.74	1.06	1.51	-7.61	-9.66
Raw red	60.00-70.00	63.01	61.65	86.56	1.35	2.19	-23.56	-27.21
Raw white	60.00-69.00	65.36	65.61	75.94	-0.25	-0.38	-10.58	-13.93
Ponni Samba (Imported)	100.00-112.00	106.55	112.25	67.98	-5.69	-5.07	38.58	56.75
Raw white (imported)	-	-	-	46.82	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	100.00-110.00	107.54	106.27	103.15	1.27	1.20	4.39	4.26
Samba 2	90.00-98.00	95.76	94.92	93.12	0.84	0.88	2.64	2.84
Samba 3	90.00-92.00	92.33	90.73	90.00	1.60	1.76	2.33	2.59
Nadu 1	78.00-85.00	81.10	79.77	90.37	1.33	1.67	-9.27	-10.26
Nadu 2	75.00-80.00	75.90	74.92	86.25	0.98	1.31	-10.35	-12.00
Raw red	65.00-82.00	72.33	71.96	92.98	0.37	0.51	-20.65	-22.21
Raw white	65.00-80.00	73.15	71.84	84.10	1.31	1.82	-10.95	-13.02
Ponni Samba (Imported)	110.00-120.00	118.86	120.72	76.35	-1.86	-1.54	42.51	55.68
Raw white (imported)	-	-	-	69.53	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop situation

The targeted extent of chillies in *Maha* 2015/16 was about 11,056 ha and out of that 6,104 ha has been achieved by the end of December 2015, representing 55% of the target and production of 32,152 mt is expected. However, some extent of green chilli cultivated land had been damaged by unfavorable weather condition in *Maha* producing areas. The highest targeted extent (3,081 ha) and the highest cultivated extent (2,092 ha) was reported from Anuradhapura district and cultivation was prominent in Ranorawa, Nochchiyagama, Thirappane areas. Out of the total expected production of green chillies, 67% could be expected from Anuradhapura (39%), Moneragala (14%) and Puttalam (14%) districts.

Table 2.1.1: Targets and Cultivation Progress of Green Chillies for Maha 2015/16

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of December 2015		Expected Production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Anuradhapura	3,081	2,092	68	12,501
Moneragala	1,062	612	58	4,481
Puttalam	867	457	53	4,608
Ampara	600	289	48	756
Jaffna	700	344	49	1,117
Hambantota	276	336	122	1,160
Other areas	4470	1,974	44	7,529
Total	11,056	6,104	55	32,152

Source: Crop forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The supply of green chillies from main producing areas has decreased significantly due to the prevailed unfavorable rainy weather condition. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have increased significantly by about Rs.163.00/kg and Rs.168.00/kg respectively, during this month. Wholesale price of green chillies ranged between Rs.600.00-950.00/kg and Rs.700.00-1,400.00/kg at retail level. Both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies were higher than that of the prices of imported dried chillies. The highest producer price of green chillies was reported from Embilipitiya and it ranged between Rs.714.00-873.00/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, current wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have increased by about 64% and 74% respectively.

A quantity of 4,794 mt of dried chillies was imported during the month and it was an increase of 650 mt compared to that of the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.267.89/kg and it was an increase of Rs.9.38/kg compared to last month. About 83% of the dried chillies was imported from India (3,987 mt), 15% from China (713 mt) and 2% from Bangladesh (80 mt). Both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have decreased by about Rs.8.00/kg and Rs.1.00/kg respectively, and these prices have increased by about 38% and 33% respectively when compared to the same period of last year.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green Chillies	600.00-950.00	692.45	529.70	422.53	162.75	30.72	269.92	63.88
Dried Chillies	280.00-315.00	304.83	312.56	220.30	-7.73	-2.47	84.53	38.37
Retail Price								
Green Chillies	700.00-1400.00	984.54	817.77	565.15	166.77	20.39	419.39	74.21
Dried Chillies	320.00-400.00	362.08	362.89	271.53	-0.81	-0.22	90.55	33.35

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies July to December 2015

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Dec	4,793.83	1,284.23	267.89	362.08	94.19
Nov	4,143.54	1,071.16	258.51	362.89	104.38
Oct	3,564.26	880.04	246.91	335.70	88.79
Sep	4,590.57	1,006.62	219.28	322.19	102.91
Aug	3,900.58	806.71	206.82	284.48	77.66
July	3,986.71	819.85	205.64	275.90	70.26

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

Table 2.1.4: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – December 2015

Location	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
Dambulla	606.00	562.00	796.00	796.00
Hambantota	575.00	575.00	575.00	575.00
Embilipitiya	714.00	732.00	873.00	873.00
Puttalam	598.00	614.00	635.00	635.00
A'Pura	-	-	610.00	610.00

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

The Department of Agriculture has planned to cultivate around 518 ha of big onion for this *Maha* season. According to that, about 125 ha in Hambantota, 85 ha in Moneragala and 81 ha in Matale have targeted cultivating big onion. But at the end of December, only 38 ha of big onion has been cultivated in Sri Lanka representing 7% of the targeted extent.

The targeted extent of red onion for *Maha* 2015/16 was 2,050 ha in Jaffna district and around 498 ha were cultivated by the end of December representing 24% of the targeted extent. About 406 ha were targeted for red onion cultivation in Puttalam and around 401 ha have been grown at the end of December 2015 which was about 99% of the targeted extent. The total expected production of red onion is 17,600 mt and 83% of that production could be expected from Jaffna (33%) and Puttalam (50%) districts.

Table 2.2.1: Targets and Cultivation Progress of Red Onion for *Maha* 2015/16

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of December 2015		Expected Production (mt)
		Extent (ha)	% of the Target	
Jaffna	2,050	498	24	5,858
Puttalam	406	401	99	8,745
Trincomalee	680	41	6	394
Moneragala	114	79	69	754
Other areas	684	211	31	1,849
Total	3,934	1,230	31	17,600

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Only imported big onion were available in the market during this month. A quantity of 23,619 mt was imported during this month and it was an increase of 5,635 mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.81.56/kg for imported big onion and it had decreased by Rs.13.79/kg compared to that of last month. About 98% of the big onion stocks was imported from India (23,124 mt) and 2% from Pakistan (437 mt). With the high imports from India both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have decreased by about 49% and 50% respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have decreased by about 37% and 22% respectively.

Though the supply of red onion from Puttalam and Jaffna districts have decreased, the quality of the stocks were in a very poor condition. Hence, the wholesale prices of sinnan and vedalan have decreased by about Rs.9.00/kg and Rs.1.00/kg respectively. Sinnan stocks were not available at the retail market and retail price of vedalan has increased by about Rs.32.00/kg due to limited stock position. About 1,246 mt of red onion was imported during this month and compared to the previous month it was a decrease of 900 mt. Average CIF price was Rs.109.09/kg for imported red onion and it has increased by Rs.3.19/kg compared to last month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have increased by about Rs.38.00/kg and Rs.55.00/kg respectively due to limited stock position.

Compared to the same period of last year, current retail prices of vedalan and imported red onion have increased by about 15% and 32% respectively.

**Table 2.2.2: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion
December 2015**

Crop	Price Range		Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Prices									
Red Onion (Sinnan)	80.00-90.00	83.00	91.85	77.63	-8.85	-9.63	5.37	6.91	
Red Onion (Vedalan)	115.00-120.00	117.50	118.16	116.18	-0.66	-0.56	1.33	1.14	
Red Onion (Imported)	110.00-230.00	164.36	126.72	122.79	37.64	29.71	41.57	33.86	
Big Onion (imported)	45.00-70.00	58.39	107.25	91.96	-48.86	-45.56	-33.58	-36.51	
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	131.43	94.99	-	-	-	-	
Retail Prices									
Red Onion (Sinnan)			-		-	-	-	-	
Red Onion (Vedalan)	120.00-240.00	201.81	169.84	175.43	31.97	18.82	26.38	15.04	
Red Onion (Imported)	140.00-300.00	215.49	160.49	162.70	55.00	34.27	52.79	32.45	
Big Onion (imported)	60.00-120.00	95.39	145.63	122.46	-50.24	-34.50	-27.07	-22.11	
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	158.72	123.01	-	-	-	-	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.3: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Imported Onion

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Margin (Rs/kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Dec,2015	81.56	58.39	95.39	-23.18	37.00
	Nov,2015	95.35	107.25	145.63	11.90	38.38
	Dec,2014	27.95	91.96	122.46	64.01	30.50
Red onion	Dec,2015	109.09	164.36	215.49	55.27	51.13
	Nov,2015	112.28	126.72	160.49	14.44	33.77
	Dec,2014	77.44	122.79	162.70	45.35	39.91

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

Crop	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015
Red Onion	1246.28	2146.01	135.95	240.94	109.09	112.28
Big Onion	23618.75	17983.59	1926.44	1714.68	81.56	95.35

Source: Department of Custom

**Table 2.2.5: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion
July to December 2015**

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
Dec	23618.75	81.56	58.39	95.39	13.83
Nov	17983.59	95.35	107.25	145.63	50.28
Oct	2780.47	84.78	89.27	117.29	32.51
Sep	4122.62	45.81	70.64	106.67	60.86
Aug	11726.68	48.58	95.57	120.90	72.32
July	19530.12	56.09	70.99	98.64	42.55

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2015/16 is 2,993 ha and about 1,620 ha had been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 54% of the target. About 1,092 ha of potatoes were cultivated in the country in December. Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent during this *maha* season is slightly at a low level. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of potato is 22,625 mt for this *maha* season.

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,200 ha and about 226 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of this month. Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent is at low level during this *maha* season due to prevailed rainy weather condition. The targeted extent for this *maha* season is 1,637 ha in the Badulla district and about 1,257 ha have been cultivated by the end of December achieving 54% of the targeted extent. The cultivated extent during this season is at a low level compared to the same period of last *maha* season. As the *yala* harvesting of potato was over in November, the supply of Welimada potato was low in December.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Potato (*Maha* 2015/16)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
	<i>Maha</i> 2014/15*	<i>Maha</i> 2015/16	<i>Maha</i> 2014/15*	<i>Maha</i> 2015/16	<i>Maha</i> 2015/16	
N'Eliya	1,095	1,200	324	226	19	4,368
Badulla	1,945	1,637	1,337	1,257	77	16,875
Sri Lanka	3,153	2,993	1,738	1,620	54	22,625

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast No.2, Maha 2015/16, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

*Crop Forecast No.2, Maha 2014/15, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 17,712 mt of potato had been imported in December which was 5,820 mt higher than that was imported during the previous month as the Special Commodity Levy for imported potato has been reduced up to Rs.15.00/kg with the Budget proposals 2016. Imported stocks were received from Pakistan, India and China. About 46% and 36% of the imported stocks were received from Pakistan and India respectively during this month. Compared to December, 2014 (17,566 mt), the imports were slightly high during this month. Average CIF price was Rs.35.00/kg in December.

With regard to local potato, the stocks of Welimada potato were not available in the market due to end of the harvesting period and only stocks from Nuwara Eliya were available in the market. Due to availability of ample stocks of imported potatoes, the demand for Nuwara Eliya potato was low. Hence, the wholesale and retail prices of Nuwara Eliya potato have decreased by 3% and 13% respectively. On average, the producer price of Nuwara Eliya potato was Rs.106.00/kg in December. The wholesale and retail prices of imported potato have decreased by 30% and 20% respectively. During the month of December, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya and imported

potatoes ranged between Rs.105.00-140.00/kg and Rs.45.00-80.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya (12%) and imported (19%) potatoes have decreased.

**Table 2.3.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes
July to December 2015**

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Dec	17712.09	625.85	35.33	94.48	59.15
Nov	11891.82	438.31	36.86	118.25	81.39
Oct	3574.86	115.10	32.20	104.57	72.37
Sep	5087.67	156.36	30.73	103.24	72.51
Aug	11141.20	410.81	36.87	103.14	66.27
July	17005.16	628.57	36.96	100.13	63.17

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

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, Wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	67.00-105.00	92.75	96.21	109.00	-3.46	-3.60	-16.25	-14.91
Nuwara Eliya	100.00-110.00	105.70	106.21	105.20	-0.51	-0.48	0.50	0.48
Imported – CIF	26.54-47.36	35.33	36.86	50.47	-1.53	-4.15	-15.14	-30.00
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	-	-	105.36	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	105.00-140.00	115.50	119.36	121.03	-3.86	-3.24	-5.53	-4.57
Imported	45.00-80.00	63.42	90.42	78.26	-27.00	-29.86	-14.84	-18.97
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	-	-	144.67	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	100.00-200.00	140.10	161.86	159.65	-21.76	-13.44	-19.55	-12.25
Imported	60.00-140.00	94.48	118.25	116.80	-23.77	-20.10	-22.32	-19.11
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada	-	-	48.46	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	-	34.40	55.65	54.45	-21.25	-38.19	-20.05	-36.82
Imported (CIF-RP)	-	59.15	81.39	66.33	-22.24	-27.33	-7.18	-10.82
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada	-	-	39.31	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	-	24.60	42.50	38.62	-17.90	-42.11	-14.02	-36.29
Imported	-	31.06	27.83	38.54	3.23	11.60	-7.48	-19.40

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation

The targeted extent of green gram for *maha* 2015/16 is 7,648 ha and out of which about 5,053 ha were cultivated by the end of this month representing 66% of the total targeted extent. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of green gram is 6,542 mt for 2015/16 *maha* season. Compared to the same period of *maha* 2014/15, the cultivated extent in this *maha* season is at a low level as the cultivation was affected with prevailed rainy weather condition. In the Hambantota district, the targeted extent is 860 ha for *maha* 2015/16 and about 1,938 ha was cultivated by the end of this month achieving higher progress. In the Moneragala

and Kurunegala districts, the targeted extents are 1,455 ha and 862 ha for this *maha* season and about 873 ha and 445 ha were cultivated by the end of this month achieving 60% and 52% of the targeted extents. In all districts, the cultivated extents during this *maha* season were at a low level compared to the same period of last *maha* season.

The targeted extent of cowpea was 8,905 ha for *maha* 2015/16 and about 4,140 ha had been cultivated by the end of the month achieving 39% of the total targeted extent. Compared to *maha* 2014/15 season, the cultivated extent during this *maha* season is low. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of cowpea for this *maha* season is 4,475 mt. The highest targeted extent for cowpea was recorded in the Ampara district as 3,440 ha for this *maha* season and only 427 ha was cultivated by the end of December. In the Moneragala and Kurunegala districts, the targeted extents were 1,650 ha and 942 ha for this *maha* season. By the end of December, about 985 ha and 371 ha were cultivated in the respective districts.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Green gram and Cowpea (Maha 2015/16)

Crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
		<i>Maha</i> 2014/15*	<i>Maha</i> 2015/16	<i>Maha</i> 2014/15*	<i>Maha</i> 2015/16		
Green gram	Hambantota	3,585	860	5,075	1,938	225	2,943
	Kurunegala	1,233	862	667	445	52	244
	Moneragala	1,983	1,455	1,658	873	60	911
	Sri Lanka	12,458	7,648	9,897	5,053	66	6,542
Cowpea	Ampara	3,959	3,440	352	427	12	907
	Kurunegala	1,216	942	466	371	39	163
	Moneragala	1,726	1,650	1,502	985	60	1,069
	Sri Lanka	12,318	10,655	4,950	4,140	39	4,475

Source: MFPAD/HARTI

Crop Forecast No.2, Maha 2015/16, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

*Crop Forecast No.2, Maha 2014/15, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply Demand Situation

A quantity of 146 mt of green gram was imported in December and it was 692 mt decrease compared to that of November. The average CIF price was Rs.191.00/kg during this month. About 67% and 33% of the imports were received from Myanmar and Thailand. The wholesale and retail prices of green gram have decreased by 3% and 1% respectively. In December, the wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.160.00-196.00/kg. With the arrival of harvest of mid-season cultivation of green gram, the local stocks fetched low price. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of green gram had decreased by 17%.

A quantity of 503 mt of cowpea was imported in December, which was 163 mt lower than the quantity imported in the previous month. About 58% and 42% of the imports were received from Brazil and Madagascar. The average CIF price was Rs.94.00/kg in December. With regard to cowpea, the wholesale prices of white and red cowpea have decreased by 1% and 4% respectively due to availability of ample stocks of local and imported varieties. Also, the retail prices of white and red cowpea have decreased by 2% and 4% respectively. During the month of December, the wholesale prices of white and red cowpea ranged between Rs.160.00-185.00/kg and Rs.200.00-225.00/kg respectively. Imported stocks fetched high price. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of white and red cowpea had increased by 3% and 21% respectively.

**Table 2.4.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Green gram
July to December 2015**

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Dec	146	27.95	191.45	243.05	51.60
Nov	838	158.48	189.22	246.06	56.84
Oct	802	143.76	179.14	244.34	65.20
Sep	572	100.62	175.91	246.54	70.63
Aug	777	132.59	170.54	239.69	69.15
July	1,506	266.09	176.63	239.67	63.04

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

**Table 2.4.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Cowpea
July to December 2015**

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Dec	502.85	47.12	93.71	257.34	163.63
Nov	666.56	64.11	96.18	262.26	166.08
Oct	1140.62	120.04	105.24	264.23	158.99
Sep	714.77	81.95	114.65	268.49	153.84
Aug	262.74	26.58	101.15	255.63	154.48
July	214.00	25.36	118.52	245.32	126.80

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

Table 2.4.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea- December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	160.00-196.00	183.58	189.40	232.14	-5.82	-3.07	-48.57	-20.92
Cowpea (White)	160.00-185.00	176.04	177.92	182.80	-1.88	-1.06	-6.76	-3.70
Cowpea (Red)	200.00-225.00	208.61	217.71	163.72	-9.09	-4.18	44.89	27.42
Retail Prices								
Green gram	220.00-280.00	243.05	246.06	292.75	-3.01	-1.22	-49.70	-16.98
Cowpea (White)	220.00-300.00	257.34	262.26	248.71	-4.92	-1.88	8.63	3.47
Cowpea (Red)	220.00-300.00	258.84	270.91	214.06	-12.07	-4.46	44.78	20.92

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

**Table 2.4.5: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram
And Cowpea**

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale price (Rs/kg)	Retail price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/Kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Green gram	Dec,2015	191.45	183.58	243.05	-7.88	59.48
	Nov,2015	189.22	189.40	246.06	0.18	56.66
	Dec,2014	-	232.14	292.75	-	60.61
Cowpea (White)	Dec,2015	93.71	176.04	257.34	82.33	81.30
	Nov,2015	96.18	177.92	262.26	81.74	84.34
	Dec,2014	-	182.80	248.71	-	65.91
Cowpea (Red)	Dec,2015	-	208.61	258.84	-	50.23
	Nov,2015	-	217.71	270.91	-	53.20
	Dec,2014	-	163.72	214.06	-	50.34

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

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 21,861 mt (18,030 mt of whole type and 3,831 mt of split type) of red dhal was imported in December and it was 10,390 mt higher than the quantity imported in November. About 58% of the stocks of whole type and 93% of the stocks of split type had been received from Canada. Compared to December, 2014 (14,679 mt), the imports of red dhal were high during this month. The average CIF price was Rs.124.00/kg in December.

Wholesale and retail prices of red dhal have decreased by 4% and 8% respectively. The average wholesale price was Rs.165.00/kg in December. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of red dhal had increased by 3%.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal – December 2015

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	160.00-168.00	164.73	171.17	155.78	-6.44	-3.76	8.95	5.74
Retail Price	168.00-200.00	175.96	191.79	171.27	-15.83	-8.25	4.69	2.74

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

**Table 2.5.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Red dhal
July to December 2015**

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Dec	21861.10	123.71	164.73	175.96	41.02	11.23
Nov	11470.86	260.78	171.17	191.79	-89.61	20.62
Oct	7822.15	126.86	171.78	192.21	44.92	20.43
Sep	10306.06	141.90	178.06	194.74	36.16	16.68
Aug	15090.58	133.07	174.73	190.96	41.66	16.23
July	10858.38	131.45	169.28	188.24	37.83	18.96

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

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

According to the Department of Meteorology data, during the initial period of the north eastern monsoon (December), a slightly above average rainfall has received in most of the up and mid country districts. Therefore, crop establishment has progressed well in the fields where early commencement of the *Maha* season was evident. In Matale district, set target for *Maha* season is 2,768 ha of which 1,039 ha was completed by the end of December, recording a 30% increase in extent, compared to same period of last year. The set target for upcountry varieties in the *Maha* season in Nuwara Eliya district is 5,044 ha of which 42% of the seasonal target was achieved at the end of December. Generally, crop establishment for *Maha* season has progressed well in Kandy districts with the rainy weather experienced in the beginning of the cultivation season. The reported cultivation progress for major vegetable varieties cultivated in the district was 683 ha, recording a 59% achievement of the seasonal target at the end of December. In Ratnapura district, beans cultivation has recorded a 94% progress of the seasonal target, by the end of December. Regarding Badulla district, beans cabbage and tomato cultivation has shown a 47%, 51% and 45% progress respectively of the seasonal target, at the end of December.

Crop establishment commenced well in all the lowcountry major producing areas of low country districts with the received rainfall at the beginning of the cultivation season. As almost all irrigation tanks had fairly good storage, water availability for agriculture was at satisfactory level in December. In Ratnapura district, the set target for lowcountry varieties in the *Maha* season is 1,715 ha of which extent cultivated by the end of December was 1,209 ha, recording a 70% progress. In Hambantota district, early establishment of 2015/2016 *Maha* cultivation has been observed with an extent of 3,266 ha completed by the end of December with the achievement of almost 100% achievement of the seasonal target. Kurunegala, Puttlam, Monaragala and Anuradhapura districts recorded 50%, 61%, 61% and 66% crop progress respectively, for lowcountry vegetables at the end of December.

Prices and supply/Demand situation

As the off season's peak is reached supplies have remained low from all the major producing areas during the month. In December, upcountry vegetables have been supplied mainly from Matale, Puttlam, Nuwara Eliya, Badulla, Kandy and Ratnapura. The total supply of vegetables in the Matale district was around 3,042 mt in December, recorded a 200% increase compared to previous month. The daily supply of vegetables at the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre was around 800 mt in December, recording a 60% increase compared to last month.

Considering upcountry vegetables, prices of all the vegetable varieties, except radish have increased in December, compared to previous month, due to decreasing trend in market supplies. The highest price increase was reported for beetroot as 158% followed by knobhol as 33% and carrot by 32%. Prices of all the other upcountry varieties, except radish have increased in the range of 10% - 27%. Due to heavy rains prevailed in October and November, crop damages were observed and the yield losses for upcountry varieties in Kandy and Nuwara Eliya districts were in the range of 25% - 40% in November. Therefore, normally observed price increases in the off season have aggravated due to crop damages occurred at the early stage of the season.

With the shortening of *Yala* harvesting season due to rain, supply of tomato had decreased considerably during the off season, hence prices have further increased by 30% compared to previous month. Along with tomato, capsicum prices also increased by 16% in December.

The supply of most of the domestic vegetables has also decreased with the off season for vegetable harvesting is reached and thereby prices have increased for most of the lowcountry varieties. The highest prices increase was recorded for luffa as 51% followed by drumsticks as 50% and brinjal as 45%. Prices of other varieties except bittergourd and pumpkin have increased in a range of 1% - 36%, due to low supplies. High intensity rainfall has caused severe crop damage; hence farmers have uprooted the existing crops and started land preparation for *Maha* season in mid October. Therefore, as the *Yala* harvesting season is shortened, low supplies have reached the market hence considerable price increases were observed in December.

Prices of green chilies have started to show an increasing trend in October and it continued further in December by recording a 31% price increase as a result of decreased supply from Puttalam, Jaffna and Anuradhapura in the off season.

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of most of the vegetables had increased in December. The highest price increase was reported for beetroot as 59%.

Table 3.1: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	180.00-300.00	228.13	206.72	151.91	21.41	10.36	76.22	50.17
Carrot	180.00-300.00	221.00	167.10	152.05	53.90	32.26	68.95	45.35
Leeks	80.00-130.00	105.82	83.02	175.73	22.80	27.46	-69.91	-39.78
Beetroot	130.00-200.00	164.40	92.72	135.59	71.68	77.31	28.81	21.25
Knokhol	100.00-160.00	127.81	95.75	59.51	32.06	33.48	68.30	114.77
Radish	50.00-80.00	62.74	71.63	55.60	-8.89	-12.41	7.14	12.84
Cabbage	80.00-150.00	118.17	100.87	70.80	17.30	17.15	47.37	66.91
Tomato	80.00-160.00	132.92	102.06	158.20	30.86	30.24	-25.28	-15.98
Ladies Fingers	80.00-140.00	106.73	78.49	70.70	28.24	35.98	36.03	50.96
Brinjal	60.00-200.00	118.54	81.68	95.93	36.86	45.13	22.61	23.57
Capsicum	250.00-450.00	335.13	288.43	250.93	46.70	16.19	84.20	33.56
Pumpkin	25.00-50.00	36.39	40.18	33.20	-3.79	-9.43	3.19	9.61
Cucumber	50.00-80.00	63.91	49.09	45.40	14.82	30.19	18.51	40.77
Bittergourd	100.00-200.00	150.56	155.02	127.40	-4.46	-2.88	23.16	18.18
Snakegourd	50.00-120.00	85.67	82.30	84.00	3.37	4.09	1.67	1.99
Drumstick	250.00-400.00	327.86	218.16	212.22	109.70	50.28	115.64	54.49
Luffa	60.00-150.00	94.86	62.93	77.80	31.93	50.74	17.06	21.93
Long Beans	100.00-150.00	125.55	124.89	119.65	0.66	0.53	5.90	4.93
Ash Plantain	50.00-80.00	68.29	60.06	80.20	8.23	13.70	-11.91	-14.85
Green Chillies	600.00-950.00	692.45	529.70	422.53	162.75	30.72	269.92	63.88
Lime	60.00-150.00	100.89	364.33	85.60	-263.44	-72.31	15.29	17.86

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2: Retail Prices of Vegetables – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	220.00-400.00	303.08	268.05	233.58	35.03	13.07	69.50	29.75
Carrot	240.00-420.00	321.72	252.61	224.76	69.11	27.36	96.96	43.14
Leeks	120.00-320.00	196.72	166.99	269.95	29.73	17.80	-73.23	-27.13
Beetroot	200.00-400.00	263.88	165.45	228.40	98.43	59.49	35.48	15.53
Knokhol	140.00-320.00	250.42	190.44	187.88	59.98	31.50	62.54	33.29
Radish	80.00-200.00	149.99	162.39	142.94	-12.40	-7.64	7.05	4.93
Cabbage	140.00-320.00	216.45	181.10	157.29	35.35	19.52	59.16	37.61
Tomato	120.00-320.00	212.07	176.49	258.32	35.58	20.16	-46.25	-17.90
Ladies Fingers	120.00-240.00	184.97	150.99	153.95	33.98	22.50	31.02	20.15
Brinjal	100.00-320.00	185.32	150.36	174.04	34.96	23.25	11.28	6.48
Capsicum	360.00-600.00	493.33	411.65	366.80	81.68	19.84	126.53	34.50
Pumpkin	50.00-120.00	94.48	96.64	86.82	-2.16	-2.24	7.66	8.82
Cucumber	80.00-200.00	129.11	115.72	109.96	13.39	11.57	19.15	17.42
Bittergourd	120.00-360.00	236.26	209.91	213.42	26.35	12.55	22.84	10.70
Snakegourd	80.00-240.00	162.44	154.17	147.29	8.27	5.36	15.15	10.29
Drumstick	-	-	507.55	416.82	-	-	-	-
Luffa	80.00-320.00	187.68	148.49	180.69	39.19	26.39	6.99	3.87
Long Beans	120.00-320.00	213.50	197.71	196.08	15.79	7.99	17.42	8.88
Ash Plantain	100.00-200.00	147.32	132.27	158.17	15.05	11.38	-10.85	-6.86
Green Chillies	700.00-1400.00	984.54	817.77	565.15	166.77	20.39	419.39	74.21
Lime	150.00-700.00	350.07	714.39	250.67	-364.32	-51.00	99.40	39.65

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Compared to the last month, the wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties have increased with the highest price increase of 40% was noted for woodapple due to low supply received from major producing areas with end of the harvesting season. The second highest price increase of 38% was noted for avocado due to decreased supplies in off season. Further, the wholesale price of papaw has increased by 34% due to limited supply. The prices of all the sizes of pineapple have increased in the range of 5%-10% due to limited supply received from Gampaha and Giriulla areas. Further, the price of orange has increased by 22% and prices of both passionfruit and mango (karthakolomban) have increased by 15% due to low supply received from major producing areas.

Meanwhile, the highest wholesale price decrease of 11% was reported for grapes (imported) due to increased supply. Wholesale price of slimeapple has decreased by 4% due to availability of low quality and small sized stocks at the market. Further, the prices of banana (kolikuttu and anamalu) have decreased by 4% and 3% respectively. According to market information, wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties are expected to increase during the coming month with low supply. Compared to the same period of last year, the current wholesale prices of most of the fruits have increased with the highest price increase of 126% reported for mango (betti).

According to the table 4.2, retail prices of most of the fruits have increased with the highest price increase of 50% noted for avocado due to low supplies with end of the harvesting season. As a result price of avocado can be expected an increase during next month. The retail price of orange has increased by 24% due to limited supply received from Ampara and Anamaduwa areas. Further, the retail prices of papaw and mango (vilad) have increased by 30% and 27% respectively due to low supply. Meanwhile, the highest retail price decrease of 13% reported for mango (karthakolomban) due to low demand. Further, the prices of pineapple (except small size) have decreased in the range of 1%-4%. Prices of all the banana varieties have increased in the range of 2%-5% except for kolikuttu. According to market information, an increase in retail prices of most of the fruit varieties can be expected during the coming month with low supply. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of most of the fruits have increased with the highest price increase of 66% noted for avocado.

According to the table 4.3, producer price has increased for selected fruit varieties except for banana (kolikuttu) during the December month and the highest price increase was noted for papaw as 27%. Compared to the same period of last year, the producer prices of all the selected fruits except banana (ambul) and papaw have increased with the highest price increase of 63% noted for banana (kolikuttu). According to the acquired information, producers can increase their income in the coming month compared to last month.

Exports/Imports of Fruits

Papaw was the most exported type of fruit in December with the quantity of 277 mt. The total income of exporting pineapple, papaw, mango and avocado was Rs.80.09mn in December. Papaw is expected to be the most imported type of fruits in the coming month.

Apple was the most imported type of fruit in December as usual. The total quantity of 2,405 mt of apple was imported. The value of imports was Rs.248.20mn. The total import expenditure of importing apple, grapes, orange and mandarin was Rs.492.87mn in December. Among imported fruit varieties, the government has to bear the highest expenditure for apple in the coming month.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	20.00-60.00	39.75	37.87	39.65	1.88	4.96	0.10	0.25
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	120.00-160.00	141.81	148.22	86.37	-6.41	-4.32	55.44	64.19
Seeni (Rs/kg)	30.00-55.00	39.92	40.17	42.98	-0.25	-0.62	-3.06	-7.12
Anamalu	6.00-14.00	8.12	8.38	8.69	-0.26	-3.10	-0.57	-6.56
Ambun	8.00-15.00	10.72	10.49	11.88	0.23	2.19	-1.16	-9.76
Pineapple								
Large	110.00-160.00	125.93	120.34	101.58	5.59	4.65	24.35	23.97
Medium	90.00-140.00	105.98	96.41	80.42	9.57	9.93	25.56	31.78
Small	70.00-100.00	78.11	74.07	59.13	4.04	5.45	18.98	32.10
Mango								
Betti	19.23-26.92	21.74	-	9.62	-	-	12.12	125.99
Karthakolomban	30.00-100.00	48.01	41.77	31.57	6.24	14.94	16.44	52.07
Vilad	19.23-35.00	23.48	23.47	12.08	0.01	0.04	11.40	94.37
Kohu	-	-	-	6.73	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	50.00-100.00	67.78	50.46	78.31	17.32	34.32	-10.53	-13.45
Passionfruit	8.33-10.83	9.33	8.08	7.35	1.25	15.47	1.98	26.94
Woodapple	10.00-25.00	15.86	11.35	9.25	4.51	39.74	6.61	71.46
Orange	30.00-60.00	46.56	38.28	25.72	8.28	21.63	20.84	81.03
Avocado	40.00-100.00	58.63	42.50	35.77	16.13	37.95	22.86	63.91
Slime Apple	20.00-50.00	27.13	28.29	28.43	-1.16	-4.10	-1.30	-4.57
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	440.00-555.00	488.84	547.22	578.57	-58.38	-10.67	-89.73	-15.51

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	60.00-100.00	78.52	77.35	73.26	1.17	1.51	5.26	7.18
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	140.00-230.00	194.50	195.80	135.00	-1.30	-0.66	59.50	44.07
Seeni (Rs/kg)	60.00-100.00	79.33	75.59	76.28	3.74	4.95	3.05	4.00
Anamalu	10.00-30.00	17.42	16.54	14.65	0.88	5.32	2.77	18.91
Ambun	12.00-30.00	18.04	17.21	16.06	0.83	4.82	1.98	12.33
Pineapple								
Large	140.00-200.00	174.52	177.09	150.61	-2.57	-1.45	23.91	15.88
Medium	90.00-150.00	129.78	134.72	111.34	-4.94	-3.67	18.44	16.56
Small	70.00-120.00	92.46	92.18	72.09	0.28	0.30	20.37	28.26
Mango								
Betti	30.00-40.00	25.00	48.33	37.50	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban	30.00-100.00	53.86	62.09	49.83	-8.23	-13.25	4.03	8.09
Vilad	30.00-60.00	51.89	40.95	45.62	10.94	26.72	6.27	13.74
Kohu	10.00-15.00	12.50	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	70.00-180.00	111.10	85.23	126.82	25.87	30.35	-15.72	-12.40
Passionfruit	10.00-20.00	15.54	14.55	16.64	0.99	6.80	-1.10	-6.61
Woodapple	20.00-60.00	34.20	30.41	28.24	3.79	12.46	5.96	21.10
Orange	60.00-100.00	74.19	59.91	49.66	14.28	23.84	24.53	49.40
Avocado	80.00-180.00	118.57	79.03	71.43	39.54	50.03	47.14	65.99
Slime Apple	50.00-120.00	72.06	72.78	67.62	-0.72	-0.99	4.44	6.57
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	600.00-900.00	760.71	767.09	773.96	-6.38	-0.83	-13.25	-1.71

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	22.50-45.00	28.74	24.37	32.60	4.37	17.94	-3.86	-11.85
Kolikuttu	80.00-132.00	103.50	104.70	63.38	-1.20	-1.15	40.12	63.30
Papaw	27.50-48.60	34.00	26.79	48.68	7.21	26.91	-14.68	-30.16
Pineapple	49.33-65.00	53.88	53.65	40.24	0.22	0.41	13.64	33.88

Source Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits October – December 2015

Type of Fruit	December			November			October		
	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	119.92	31.32	261.16	102.11	23.06	225.80	136.23	26.76	196.45
Papaw	277.38	33.00	118.98	250.49	27.95	111.59	393.03	47.65	121.24
Fresh Mango	21.29	15.76	740.36	22.47	8.09	360.01	1.81	0.52	286.91
Fresh Oranges	0.04	0.01	341.41	0.03	0.01	243.03	6.00	0.37	61.59
Avocados, fresh	119.92	31.32	261.16	102.11	23.06	225.80	136.23	26.76	196.45

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

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits October – December 2015

Type of Fruit	December			November			October		
	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	2,405.37	248.20	103.18	2,573.45	279.45	108.59	2,485.32	319.99	128.75
Grapes	421.61	168.65	400.02	681.18	245.30	360.11	397.75	134.52	338.21
Oranges	-	-	-	294.87	35.83	121.50	667.07	66.44	99.59
Mandarin	1,771.09	76.02	42.92	600.98	35.74	59.47	687.35	40.95	59.57

Source: Sri Lanka Customs
(CIF=Cost Insurance and Freight)

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Prices of all the fresh fish varieties except shrimp had increased in the range of 3%-13% at the wholesale level. Off season for coastal fisheries in the Eastern coastal belt had resulted in limited stocks reaching the market from the Eastern coastal belt. At the same time, the festive season had created a high consumer demand for fish. These reasons had contributed to these price increases. The highest price increase of 13% was noted for balaya. Price increases of 12% and 11% were observed for kelawalla and salaya respectively. Prices of mora, thora, paraw, and hurulla had increased by 9%, 8%, 7% and 6% respectively. Further, price of thalpath had increased by 3%. Meanwhile, price of shrimp had decreased by 8%. In the month of December, the monthly average wholesale prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.141.33– 1,094.88/kg. According to the data in previous years, fish prices could increase in the coming month also, due to the off season for coastal fisheries in the Eastern coastal belt. Compared to the same period of 2014, wholesale prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had increased in the range of 7%-53% with the highest price increase noted for salaya.

In line with the increased wholesale prices, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties except shrimp had increased in the range of 2%-11%. The highest price increase was reported for balaya and the lowest price increase was for thalpath. Price of mora had increased by 10% while the prices of hurulla, salaya and kelawalla had increased by 9%, 7% and 6% respectively. Further, prices of thora and paraw had increased by 5% and 4% respectively. Meanwhile, price of shrimp had decreased by 4%. In the month of December, the monthly average retail prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.171.65 – 1,323.31/kg. Compared to the same period of 2014, retail prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had increased in the range of 4%-16% with the highest price increase noted for salaya.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to				
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Prices									
Salaya	120.00-180.00	141.33	127.20	92.34	14.13	11.11	48.99	53.05	
Hurulla	250.00-300.00	273.06	257.20	207.50	15.86	6.17	65.56	31.60	
Balaya	240.00-340.00	313.41	276.20	341.33	37.21	13.47	-27.92	-8.18	
Kelawalla	450.00-580.00	484.75	432.20	452.78	52.55	12.16	31.97	7.06	
Thora	950.00-1400.00	1094.88	1011.00	928.14	83.88	8.30	166.74	17.96	
Paraw	480.00-600.00	526.00	493.20	474.72	32.80	6.65	51.28	10.80	
Mora	400.00-520.00	482.86	443.27	499.26	39.59	8.93	-16.40	-3.28	
Shrimp (small)	600.00-750.00	676.37	735.60	996.31	-59.23	-8.05	-319.94	-32.11	
Thalpath	580.00-660.00	625.09	607.67	555.02	17.42	2.87	70.07	12.62	
Retail Prices									
Salaya	140.00-220.00	171.65	160.44	148.34	11.21	6.99	23.31	15.71	
Hurulla	270.00-420.00	314.13	288.64	286.18	25.49	8.83	27.95	9.77	
Balaya	340.00-600.00	402.01	363.45	485.34	38.56	10.61	-83.33	-17.17	
Kelawalla	480.00-1000.00	714.13	674.46	686.77	39.67	5.88	27.36	3.98	
Thora	1000.00-1600.00	1323.31	1254.86	1239.03	68.45	5.45	84.28	6.80	
Paraw	550.00-980.00	756.45	723.73	730.50	32.72	4.52	25.95	3.55	
Mora	500.00-800.00	597.95	543.62	626.76	54.33	9.99	-28.81	-4.60	
Shrimp (small)	700.00-1000.00	797.44	829.72	1095.75	-32.28	-3.89	-298.31	-27.22	
Thalpath	650.00-1000.00	808.60	789.71	774.67	18.89	2.39	33.93	4.38	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Prices of most of the dried fish varieties have increased against the previous month at wholesale level. Among them both imported and local kattawa, local balaya, salaya and sprats were shown a significant price increase. Meanwhile, the prices of imported sprats and imported anguluwa had decreased by a considerable margin. Local stocks of dried fish were mainly supplied from Mannar, Trincomalee, Kalpitiya, Puttalam, Jaffna and Pattipola areas. Imported countries were Dubai, India, Thailand, Maldives, Pakistan and Indonesia. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased in the range of 2%-20%.

Reports of the Department of Customs revealed that the total quantity of 1963 mt dried sprats was imported in December. Total value of the imports was Rs.685mn and the average CIF price was Rs.348.80/kg. Out of the total imports, about 95% was imported from Thailand, while the rest was from India and the United Arab Emirates. The imported quantity had increased by 208 mt against the previous month and the CIF price also increased by about Rs.11.00/kg.

Regarding retail prices, most of the varieties had shown an increase in the prices against the previous month. Among them local sprats, kattawa and balaya were significant. Among the price decreased varieties price of maduwa had decreased by about Rs.40.00/kg. Meanwhile, the prices of other varieties did not change significantly. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased in the range of 2%-11%.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale								
Sprats	650.00-850.00	723.74	697.03	731.50	26.71	3.83	-7.76	-1.06
Sprats (imported)	280.00-500.00	386.80	416.28	331.18	-29.48	-7.08	55.62	16.79
Kattawa	680.00-820.00	767.92	721.40	684.63	46.52	6.45	83.29	12.17
Kattawa (imported)	700.00-800.00	756.25	714.38	633.62	41.87	5.86	122.63	19.35
Thora	1000.00-1100.00	1038.96	989.92	1020.67	49.04	4.95	18.29	1.79
Thora (imported)	950.00-1100.00	1006.80	1006.22	925.83	0.59	0.06	80.98	8.75
Mora	780.00-880.00	820.43	825.70	749.82	-5.27	-0.64	70.61	9.42
Mora (imported)	680.00-800.00	732.55	738.85	668.98	-6.31	-0.85	63.57	9.50
Balaya	400.00-500.00	481.00	444.29	494.29	36.71	8.26	-13.29	-2.69
Balaya (imported)	380.00-550.00	457.00	474.58	458.27	-17.58	-3.70	-1.27	-0.28
Anguluwa	630.00-750.00	671.14	677.20	557.39	-6.06	-0.89	113.75	20.41
Anguluwa (imported)	500.00-730.00	666.50	706.52	561.00	-40.02	-5.66	105.50	18.81
Maduwa	400.00-600.00	516.71	500.86	483.04	15.85	3.16	33.66	6.97
Maduwa (imported)	400.00-460.00	445.31	428.76	425.83	16.55	3.86	19.48	4.57
Koduwa		-	-	504.00	-	-	-	-
Koduwa (imported)		-	-	572.00	-	-	-	-
Salaya	200.00-350.00	266.68	221.90	258.54	44.78	20.18	8.15	3.15
Salaya (imported)		-	-	330.00	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail								
Sprats	400.00-700.00	511.6	896.26	-	263.68	43.64	-	-
Sprats (imported)	700.00-1200.00	867.94	604.26	698.54	7.83	0.76	39.35	3.94
Kattawa	680.00-1300.00	1036.92	1029.09	997.57	44.32	3.55	27.10	2.14
Thora	1100.00-1400.00	1294.33	1250.01	1267.23	44.32	3.55	27.10	2.14
Mora	700.00-1200.00	931.97	950.68	909.29	-18.71	-1.97	22.68	2.49
Balaya	500.00-1000.00	823.77	820.50	757.52	3.27	0.40	66.25	8.75
Anguluwa	520.00-1100.00	909.39	911.55	818.23	-2.16	-0.24	91.16	11.14
Maduwa	600.00-800.00	690.91	732.04	702.03	-41.13	-5.62	-11.12	-1.58
Koduwa		-	800.00	853.94	-	-	-	-
Salaya	350.00-700.00	521.97	527.45	503.84	-5.48	-1.04	18.13	3.60

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sprats - July to December 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Dec	1962.87	684.65	348.80	867.94	519.14
Nov	1754.66	592.63	337.75	604.26	266.51
Oct	1701.40	623.74	366.60	622.31	255.71
Sep	2264.85	904.30	399.28	661.95	262.67
Aug	1649.94	540.63	327.66	617.66	290.00
July	1736.68	453.48	261.12	521.88	260.76

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

Eggs

Prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 20% and 22% respectively at the wholesale level due to the high demand for eggs during the festive season. At the same time, a significant price increase was observed during the first week of the month and thereafter, prices remained unchanged. The monthly average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs were Rs.15.20/egg and Rs.14.20/egg respectively. The high demand prevailed in the festive season will go down in the coming weeks and therefore, it can be expected that egg prices could decrease in the coming month. Compared to the same period of 2014, wholesale prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 22% and 20% respectively.

In line with the increased wholesale prices, price of both brown and white eggs had increased by 14% and 16% respectively at the retail level. The monthly average retail prices of a brown and a white egg were Rs.16.00 and Rs.15.00 respectively. Further, the retail price range of an egg for the month was Rs.13.00 – 17.00. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 16% and 18% respectively.

Table 5.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Novt 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	15.00-15.20	15.20	12.64	12.50	2.56	20.25	2.70	21.60
White (each)	14.20-14.20	14.20	11.64	11.80	2.56	21.99	2.40	20.34
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	14.00-17.00	15.94	13.99	13.68	1.95	13.94	2.26	16.52
White (each)	13.00-16.00	15.01	12.96	12.75	2.05	15.82	2.26	17.73

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Prices remained more or less unchanged. Both the supply and demand were satisfactory. However, the price of beef had increased by Rs.10.00/kg, while the price of pork had decreased by Rs.24.00/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the meat varieties have increased and the highest price increase of 18% was reported for mutton.

Table 5.5: Retail Prices of Meat – December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	700.00-760.00	737.25	727.16	599.41	10.09	1.39	137.84	23.00
Chicken (Broiler)	450.00-560.00	506.49	497.71	457.08	8.78	1.76	49.41	10.81
Chicken (curry)	400.00-540.00	475.84	467.10	421.52	8.74	1.87	54.32	12.89
Mutton	1400.00-1700.00	1533.26	1525.40	1304.18	7.86	0.52	229.08	17.57
Pork	520.00-700.00	609.13	633.07	571.80	-23.94	-3.78	37.33	6.53

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

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

A total quantity of 158,661 mt of wheat grain was imported and the value of the imports was Rs.5648mn. The average CIF price of Rs.35.60/kg showing an increase of Rs.1.42/kg against the previous month. Out of the total imports 65% was imported from Canada, while 35% from Russia. The CIF price ranged between Rs.30.59-38.18/kg during the month and the lowest price was reported from Russia.

Considering wheat flour imports, the quantity has increased in the previous month, but it has slightly decreased during this month. Quantity of 273mn Valued at Rs.18mn was imported. Considering CIF price, it has decreased by Rs.4.36/kg against the previous month recording an average price of Rs.68.17/kg.

Regarding the retail price of wheat flour in local markets, it was in the range of Rs.78.00-90.00/kg in December. It was increased by cents 14/kg against the previous month, while decreased by nearly 12% when compared to the same period of last year.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar– December 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2015	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2014	Nov 2015		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	78.00-90.00	86.43	86.57	97.84	-0.14	-0.16	-11.41	-11.66
Sugar	85.00-95.00	90.86	92.26	100.37	-1.41	-1.52	-9.52	-9.48

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Wheat Flour & Grain - July to December 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Dec	272.70	0.54	66.96	86.43	19.47
Nov	306.91	21.89	71.32	86.57	15.25
Oct	96.51	6.64	68.75	86.90	18.15
Sep	125.81	8.74	69.45	86.49	17.04
Aug	550.80	38.21	69.37	85.99	16.62
July	60.29	4.09	67.83	86.27	18.44
Wheat Grain					
Dec	158661.24	5648.59	35.60	86.43	50.83
Nov	168958.30	5774.68	34.18	86.57	52.39
Oct	105781.50	4023.19	38.03	86.90	48.87
Sep	326790.16	12266.01	37.53	86.49	48.95
Aug	90739.07	3329.48	36.69	85.99	49.30
July	149628.02	5936.53	39.68	86.27	46.59

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

Sugar

The average monthly imported quantity of sugar was about 50,000 mt in year 2015 and imports was limited to 38,591 mt in December. The value of the imports was Rs.2,273mn. Since October 2015, the sugar prices are on an increasing trend at world market. CIF prices ranged between Rs.55.94-91.14/kg in December and the average price was Rs.58.91/kg. The highest price was recorded for sugar imported from Myanmar, while the lowest price was recorded for Indian. Out of the total imports 46% was from Brazil, 38% from India and 13% from Thailand. Rest of the stocks were imported from Myanmar and Korea.

Though the imported price of sugar had increased by Rs.2.71/kg against the previous month, the retail price has decreased by Rs.1.41/kg. The price remained in the range of Rs.85.00-95.00/kg at local markets averaging Rs.90.86/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the price had decreased by 9% at the retail level.

Table 6.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sugar- July to December 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Dec	38590.95	2273.33	58.91	90.86	31.95
Nov	44042.06	2475.18	56.20	92.26	36.06
Oct	55301.09	2862.08	51.75	92.76	41.01
Sep	37559.18	2000.12	53.25	86.67	33.42
Aug	64088.25	3153.43	49.20	81.17	31.97
July	62900.75	3202.16	50.91	82.47	31.56

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

Table 7: Imports of Selected Food Items - December 2015

Items	Quantity (mt)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Dec 2015	Nov 2015		Dec 2015	Nov 2015		Dec 2015	Nov 2015	
Rice	2523.83	2864.74	-11.90	141.82	162.68	-12.82	56.19	56.79	-1.05
Red Onion	1246.28	2146.01	-41.93	135.95	240.94	-43.57	109.09	112.28	-2.84
Big Onion	23618.75	17983.59	31.34	1926.44	1714.68	12.35	81.56	95.35	-14.46
Potato	17712.09	11891.82	48.94	625.85	438.31	42.79	35.33	36.86	-4.13
Dried Chillies	4793.83	4143.54	15.69	1284.23	1071.16	19.89	267.89	258.51	3.63
Masoor Dhal	21861.10	11470.86	90.58	2704.34	1394.02	94.00	123.71	121.53	1.79
Green Gram	146.00	837.55	-82.57	27.96	158.48	-82.36	191.49	189.22	1.20
Cowpea	502.85	666.56	-24.56	47.12	64.11	-26.49	93.71	96.18	-2.56
Garlic	2799.10	1392.46	101.02	498.31	245.04	103.36	178.02	175.98	1.16
Wheat flour	272.70	306.91	-11.15	18.26	21.89	-16.57	66.96	71.32	-6.11
Wheat grain	158661.24	168958.30	-6.09	5648.59	5774.68	-2.18	35.60	34.18	4.16
White crystalline cane sugar	38590.95	44042.06	-12.38	2273.33	2475.18	-8.15	58.91	56.20	4.82
Maize (Seed)	0.24	-	-	0.69	-	-	2823.00	-	-
Maize (Other)	7158.13	6086.39	17.61	269.03	203.83	31.99	37.58	33.49	12.22
Sprates, dreid not salted	1962.87	1754.66	11.87	684.65	592.63	15.53	348.80	337.75	3.27

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

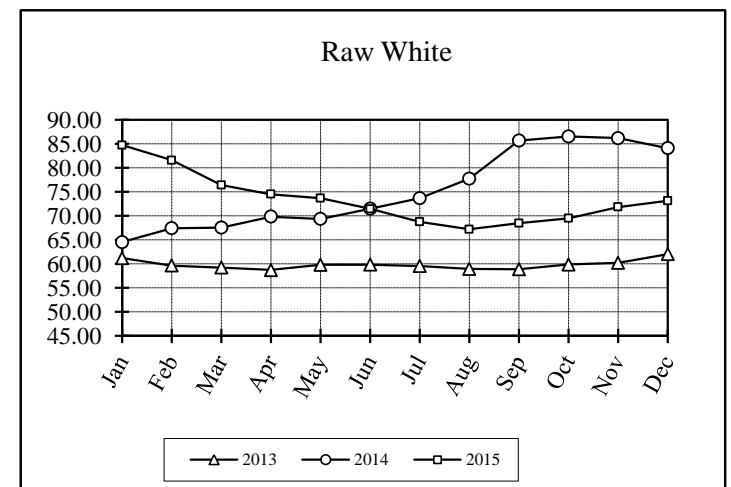
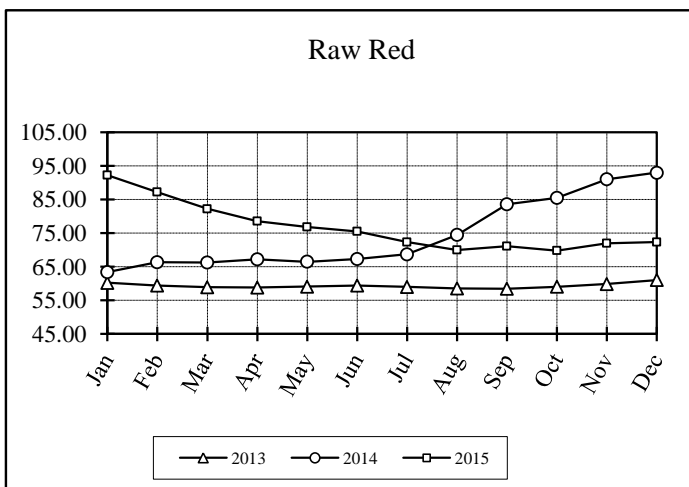
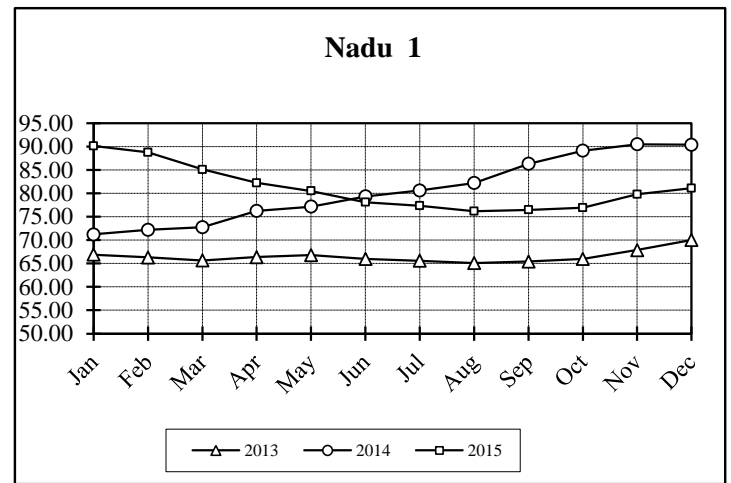
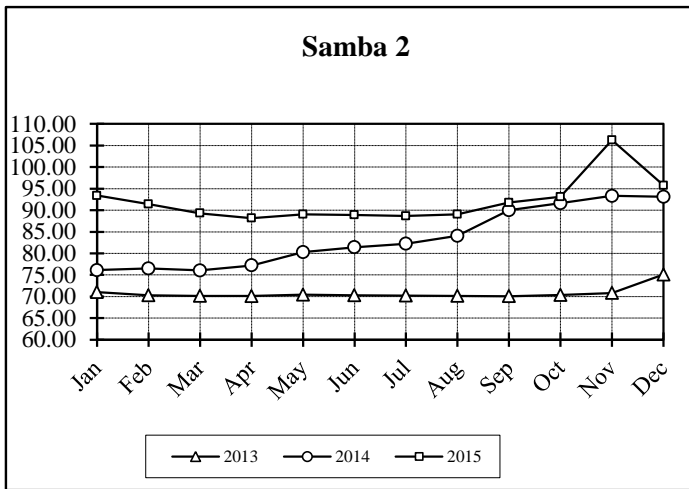
Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – December 2015

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	286.4	210.9	19	14
Badulla	272.5	281.5	23	19
Bandarawela	197.1	186.2	23	16
Batticaloa	342.8	418.5	21	17
Colombo	376.6	175.3	19	10
Galle	95.5	176.9	17	12
Hambantota	125.3	121.1	14	9
Jaffna	379.9	278.2	17	13
Katugastota	266.8	195.7	22	14
Katunayaka	159.1	129.7	16	9
Kurunegala	275.2	149.0	19	11
Mahailuppallama	244.0	230.0	20	14
Mannar	174.2	212.2	19	12
Nuwara Eliya	265.4	196.0	21	15
Pottuvil	358.6	237.1	23	na
Puttalam	284.9	142.7	18	12
Ratmalana	310.6	177.8	20	11
Ratnapura	291.8	235.3	20	14
Trincomalee	311.1	364.5	20	16
Vavuniya	205.1	289.6	16	14
Polonnaruwa	586.8	na	23	na
Moneragala	345.3	na	22	na
Mattala	105.4	na	16	na

Source: Department of Meteorology

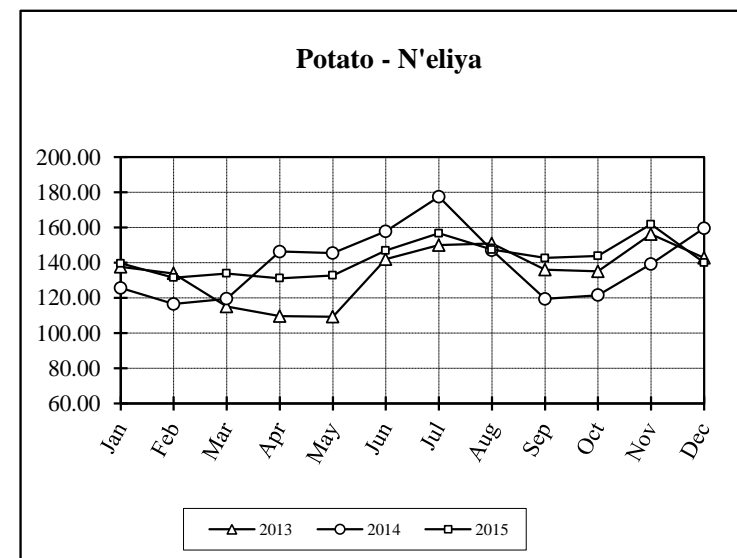
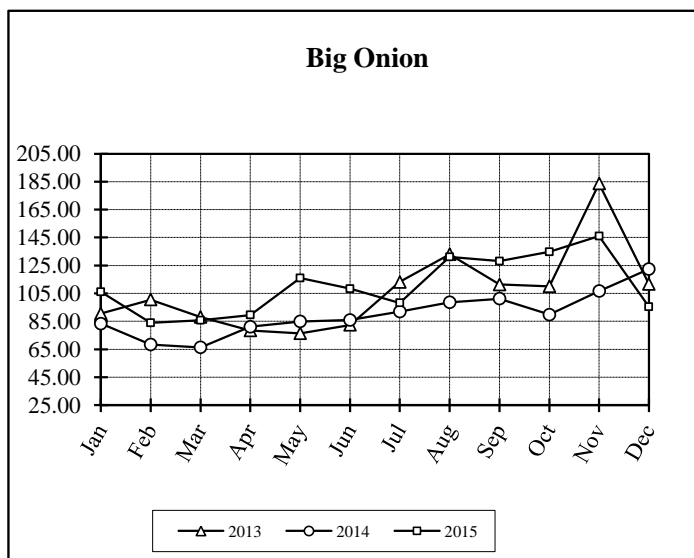
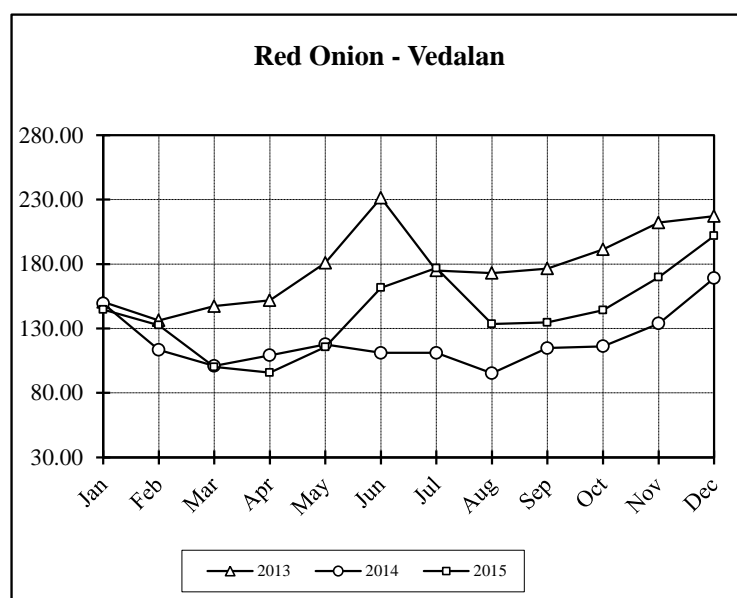
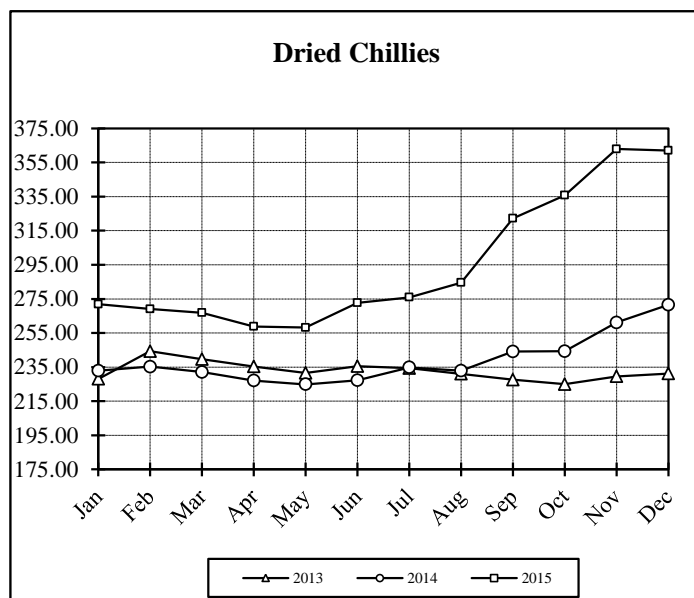
Appendix 01: Retail Price of Rice in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Samba 2			Nadu 1			Raw Red			Raw White		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Jan	71.03	76.11	93.38	66.88	71.22	90.13	60.24	63.39	92.21	61.18	64.54	84.76
Feb	70.28	76.54	91.39	66.29	72.18	88.75	59.44	66.32	87.23	59.64	67.44	81.61
Mar	70.16	76.04	89.30	65.64	72.77	85.09	58.90	66.29	82.21	59.24	67.56	76.40
Apr	70.13	77.22	88.17	66.36	76.26	82.22	58.84	67.23	78.56	58.71	69.84	74.51
May	70.44	80.30	89.04	66.78	77.15	80.50	59.11	66.48	76.85	59.82	69.36	73.70
Jun	70.29	81.44	88.93	65.97	79.33	78.08	59.39	67.30	75.50	59.84	71.50	71.45
Jul	70.23	82.22	88.66	65.59	80.59	77.33	58.99	68.70	72.36	59.55	73.70	68.75
Aug	70.14	84.09	89.04	65.11	82.18	76.16	58.58	74.47	69.99	58.95	77.75	67.22
Sep	70.08	89.99	91.75	65.40	86.30	76.46	58.45	83.61	71.10	58.85	85.68	68.49
Oct	70.39	91.63	93.10	65.97	89.10	76.89	59.04	85.52	69.77	59.87	86.58	69.49
Nov	70.82	93.32	106.27	67.86	90.47	79.77	59.88	91.02	71.96	60.24	86.20	71.84
Dec	75.11	93.12	95.76	70.03	90.37	81.10	61.05	92.98	72.33	62.04	84.10	73.15



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

Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion			Big Onion			Potato - N'eliya		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Jan	228.04	232.90	271.85	150.60	149.35	144.64	90.65	83.40	106.11	137.65	125.68	139.63
Feb	244.26	235.25	269.09	136.24	113.49	132.59	100.56	68.30	83.99	133.91	116.52	131.58
Mar	239.65	232.07	266.95	147.29	101.03	100.10	88.13	66.39	85.73	115.11	119.57	133.91
Apr	235.40	227.14	258.81	151.79	109.14	95.65	78.47	81.18	89.56	109.71	146.34	131.19
May	231.62	224.87	258.15	180.84	117.65	115.55	76.42	84.92	115.99	109.34	145.56	132.82
Jun	235.55	227.29	272.61	231.36	111.07	161.67	82.42	85.92	108.39	142.04	157.84	146.91
Jul	234.40	234.85	275.90	175.04	111.07	176.85	113.22	91.93	98.14	150.04	177.57	156.77
Aug	231.08	232.85	284.48	173.07	95.25	133.51	133.08	98.70	131.16	150.88	147.11	147.47
Sep	227.54	244.16	322.19	176.52	114.80	134.69	111.40	101.20	128.09	136.13	119.46	142.68
Oct	224.92	244.33	335.70	191.41	116.12	144.23	110.02	89.85	134.76	135.05	121.58	143.91
Nov	229.60	261.19	362.89	212.12	133.87	169.84	183.65	106.71	145.93	156.16	139.24	161.86
Dec	231.20	271.53	362.08	217.29	169.07	201.81	111.63	122.46	95.39	142.76	159.65	140.10



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

December 2015

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	103.00	103.00	108.40	108.40	Welimada		95.00		
A'pura	45.00	45.00	45.20	45.20	Badulla					N'Eliya	98.40	98.40	73.00	73.00
P'naruwa	48.95	49.25	49.25	49.25	Welimada	80.60	96.00	94.40	100.00	Beetroot				
Kalawewa	45.00	45.00	45.00	46.00	Pulses					Hanguranketha				
Kurunegala	41.60	41.20	41.20	40.80	Green Gram					N'Eliya	113.00	113.00	137.00	137.00
Dehiattakandiya					Galgamuwa					Dambulla	120.00	126.00	146.00	155.00
Ampara	48.10	48.10	48.50	47.60	Kalawewa					Kurunegala				
Long grain (White)					Embilipitiya	142.00	142.00	142.00	142.00	Welimada	95.00	95.00	115.00	95.00
A'pura	35.00	35.40	35.20	34.80	Kurunegala					Knokhol				
P'naruwa	37.95	38.30	38.30	38.30	A'pura	146.00	146.00	158.00	157.00	Hanguranketha				
Kalawewa	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	Cowpea					N'Eliya	64.00	64.00	104.00	104.00
Kurunegala	33.60	33.40	33.40	33.40	A'pura					Welimada	84.60	111.00	109.00	103.00
Dehiattakandiya					Galgamuwa					Radish				
Embilipitiya	37.40	37.40	37.40	37.40	Nikaweratiya	136.00	136.00	136.00	136.00	Hanguranketha				
Ampara	38.20	38.20	38.80	37.50	Kalawewa					N'Eliya	42.40	42.40	42.00	42.00
Matara	34.33	34.33	35.33	35.33	Embilipitiya	176.00	176.00	176.00	176.00	Welimada	40.00	31.00	37.00	44.00
Hambantota					Kurunegala					Cabbage				
Long grain (Red)					Maize					Hanguranketha				
Matara	33.67	33.67	34.00	34.00	A'Pura	40.00	40.00	49.00	45.00	N'Eliya	105.00	105.00	103.00	103.00
Hambantota	35.50	35.50	35.70	35.70	Kalawewa	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	Welimada	105.00	78.00	91.80	114.00
Ampara			35.50	35.50	Gingelly					Hambantota				
Embilipitiya	35.30	35.30	34.90	34.00	A'Pura	193.00	195.00	193.00	193.00	Badulla				
Other Food Crops					Kalawewa	204.00	205.00	204.00	204.00	Tomato				
Dried Chillies					Black Gram					Hanguranketha				
A'Pura					Kalawewa	164.00	165.00	164.00	164.00	Welimada	134.00	136.00	88.20	95.00
Galgamuwa					A'Pura	147.00	145.00	147.00	147.00	Hambantota				
Kalawewa					Vegetables (Up Country)					Dambulla	141.00	135.00	81.40	71.80
Red Onion					Beans					Low Country				
Puttalam	108.00	116.00	116.00	116.00	Dambulla	158.00	191.00	242.00	202.00	Ladies Fingers				
Big Onion					Welimada	153.00	218.00	246.00	205.00	A'pura			82.00	88.00
Dambulla					Badulla					Dambulla	52.20	65.40	96.00	94.00
Kalawewa					Carrot					Hambantota	62.50	62.50	65.00	65.00
A'Pura					Hanguranketha					Embilipitiya	71.40	82.40	118.60	97.00
Kurunegala					N'Eliya	168.80	168.80	182.00	182.00	Matara	53.33	53.33	56.67	56.67
					Welimada	147.00	166.00	155.00	222.00					

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			82.00	90.00	Dambulla	21.40	32.40	31.80	33.20	Hambantota	140.00	120.00	105.00	105.00
Dambulla	69.20	78.20	93.00	160.00	Hambantota	22.50	22.50	30.00	30.00	Embilipitiya	124.00	124.00	105.00	105.00
Hambantota	45.00	45.00	65.00	65.00	Embilipitiya	42.40	42.40	59.60	57.00	Moneragala			125.00	125.00
Embilipitiya	61.40	74.40	112.40	128.00	Matara			30.00	28.00	Fruits (Rs/Kg)				
Matara	31.25	31.25	50.00	50.00	A'pura					Banana				
Welimada	54.50	79.00	99.00	153.00	Moneragala			35.00	35.00	Ambul				
					Cucumber					Moneragala	22.50	22.50	45.00	45.00
Capsicum					A'pura			24.00	24.00	Embilipitiya	22.60	25.00	28.00	28.00
Welimada	264.00	286.00	294.00	330.00	Dambulla	42.80	39.00	64.80	48.20	Hambantota	26.25	25.00	27.50	27.50
Bitter Gourd					Hambantota	17.50	17.50	27.50	27.50	Kolikuttu				
A'pura			128.00	128.00	Matara					Moneragala	80.00	80.00	90.00	90.00
Dambulla	120.00	150.00	148.00	143.00	Long beans					Embilipitiya	94.00	94.00	104.00	132.00
Hambantota	87.50	105.00	115.00	115.00	Dambulla	124.00	122.00	114.00	89.40	Hambantota	112.50	112.50	112.50	112.50
Embilipitiya	121.60	121.60	92.40	168.00	Hambantota	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	Papaw				
Matara	140.00	140.00	150.00	150.00	Embilipitiya	103.40	124.00	118.40	96.00	Moneragala			25.00	
Snake Gourd					Matara	61.67	61.67	65.00	65.00	Embilipitiya	28.60	31.20	38.00	48.60
Dambulla	54.40	77.40	77.80	89.40	A'Pura			106.00	106.00	Hambantota	27.50	27.50	30.00	30.00
Hambantota	45.00	45.00	55.00	55.00	Ash Plantain					Pineapple				
Embilipitiya	51.80	71.80	83.40	78.00	Hambantota	30.00	30.00	40.00	40.00	Divulapitiya	49.33	49.50	51.67	65.00
Matara	48.33	48.33	48.33	48.33	Embilipitiya	55.40	62.40	72.80	65.40					
A'pura			86.00	86.00	Matara	38.33	38.33	41.67	41.67					
Luffa					Green Chillies									
Dambulla	54.20	93.00	87.40	113.00	Dambulla	606.00	562.00	670.00	796.00					
Hambantota	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	Hambantota	575.00	575.00	575.00	575.00					
Embilipitiya	61.00	75.40	98.60	116.00	Embilipitiya	714.00	732.00	693.00	873.00					
Matara	48.33	48.33	48.33	48.33	Puttalam	598.00	614.00	635.00	635.00					
A'pura			78.00	78.00	A'Pura			560.00	610.00					