



HARTI

FOOD INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol 12

January - 2019

No 01

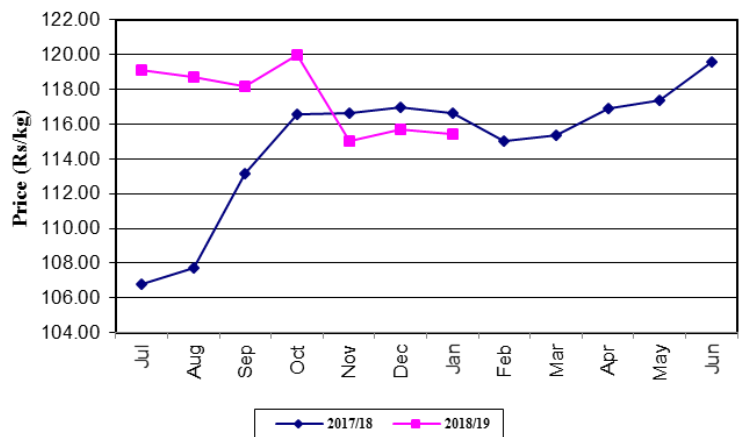
RICE:

Supply and demand of most of the rice varieties were stable during the month. Hence, the prices of most of the rice varieties remained same as last month. Price decreased for most of the local rice varieties could be expected in next month with the commencement of paddy harvesting on major producing areas.

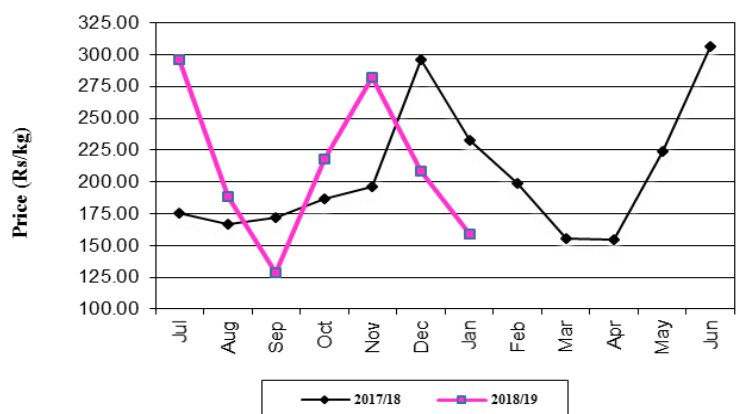
VEGETABLES:

As vegetable harvesting continued, the supplies of both up country and low country vegetables increased in most of the markets. Hence, the prices of all the vegetable varieties further declined. The highest price drop of Rs.157/kg was noted for tomato. Prices are expected decrease further during next month too.

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. Thambuthegama | 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 commenced from the Batticaloa district and the wet zone producing areas of Kurunegala district by the latter part of the month. 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. Around 42,000 ha of cultivated land in Northern and Eastern province was damaged mainly due to floods during early December. According to the latest assessment issued by the Department of Agriculture, the targeted paddy extent of 2018/19 *Maha* season was 832,611 ha. The cultivation progress up to end of January was 755,518 ha and it is 91% of the target. The cultivation progress is 15% higher than that of the average sown extent of last three *Maha* seasons. The expected production based on the reported sown extent up to end of January is 2.89 Million mt, (1.82 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 can be expected from Eastern and North Central provinces. The peak harvesting will be expected in March.

Table 1.1 Progress of paddy cultivation in *maha* 2018/19 season as at end of January 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)	Reversed Production forecast (mt)
Anuradhapura	98,031	85,789	88	325,600			325,600
Polonnaruwa	34,600	34,162	99	155,633			155,633
Ampara	76,019	75,317	99	319,731	320	562	319,169
Kurunegala	92,598	83,712	90	395,122			395,122
Hambantota	28,448	26,458	93	129,489			129,489
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	10,748	85	35,014			35,014
Kegalle	9,391	6,474	69	23,826			23,826
Puttalam	22,516	20,808	92	67,741			67,741
Kandy	13,610	12,066	89	38,855			38,855
Matale	20,325	17,545	86	71,447			71,447
N' Eliya	6,129	2,789	45	5,968			5,968
Badulla	22,083	18,512	84	70,626			70,626
Monaragala	36,367	37,967	104	141,388	16	15	141,373
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	1,301	1,423	109	6,489			6,489
Rambakanoya	917	831	91	3,789			3,789
System L	1,562	1,961	126	8,942			8,942
Sri Lanka	832,611	755,518	91	2,977,964	42,773	86,478	2,891,486

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

Producer Prices

The increasing trend for paddy prices, for all the paddy varieties, prevailed from last couple of months have further continued during the first half of the month due to the limited supplies from all considered major producing areas. Nevertheless, the situation was changed and prices were directed to downwards by the second half of the month, resulting the arrival of new harvest to the market from Baticaloa. Overall, the performance in the paddy market lead to bring the prices down for all types of paddy varieties i.e. short grain, long grain white and long grain red in the range of 6%-19%, 6%-22% and 2% respectively. Particularly, a substantial price drop was noted for long grain white due to the considerable arrival of new harvest to the markets from Batticaloe district. The highest price decrease of 22% (monthly average prices) was recorded for long grain white paddy from Ampara. Further, the highest price drop of 19% for short grain paddy also was recorded in Ampara district. The 2% decrease in long grain red paddy price was observed in Hambantota and Embilipitiya. The unit price of long grain white and short grain paddy ranged as Rs.28.00-48.00/kg, Rs.33.00-54.00/kg respectively in most of the major producing areas while that of long grain red paddy ranged between Rs.37.00-40.00/kg in Hambantota and Embilipitiya (Table 1.2). A substantial increase in new harvest is expected during next month, hence, paddy prices are expected to decrease further.

Table1.2: Producer prices of paddy – January 2019

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	40.00-53.00	50.00-53.00	47.21	50.92	51.44	-3.71	-7.29	-4.23	-8.23
Polonnaruwa	-	-	-	-	53.30	-	-	-	-
Kalawewa	35.00-55.00	51.00-55.00	47.73	52.80	49.85	-5.07	-9.60	-2.12	-4.25
Kurunegala	38.00-53.00	52.00-54.00	47.79	52.80	42.50	-5.01	-9.49	5.29	12.45
Dehiattakandiya	33.00-54.00	53.00-54.00	50.67	53.73	53.70	-3.07	-5.71	-3.03	-5.65
Nikaweratiya	-	-	-	-	43.17	-	-	-	-
Ampara	34.00-52.00	52.00-55.00	42.80	52.98	46.88	-10.18	-19.21	-4.08	-8.69
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	28.00-45.00	40.00-46.00	39.03	43.84	39.90	-4.81	-10.97	-0.87	-2.18
Polonnaruwa	-	-	-	-	45.95	-	-	-	-
Kalawewa	30.00-45.00	43.00-48.00	39.96	45.00	42.07	-5.04	-11.19	-2.11	-5.01
Kurunegala	30.00-48.00	46.00-48.00	40.46	46.67	43.92	-6.21	-13.30	-3.46	-7.87
Dehiattakandiya	31.00-46.00	45.00-46.00	42.67	45.27	35.88	-2.60	-5.74	6.79	18.93
Embilipitiya	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-
Nikaweratiya	-	-	-	-	43.17	-	-	-	-
Matara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	30.00-44.00	46.00-47.00	36.15	46.40	-	-10.25	-22.09	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	-	-	-	-	42.87	-	-	-	-
Hambantota	38.00-40.00	38.00-41.00	39.05	39.92	43.91	-0.87	-2.18	-4.86	-11.07
Embilipitiya	37.00-39.00	37.00-40.00	38.06	38.65	43.40	-0.59	-1.54	-5.34	-12.31

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Compared to the same period of last year, all the paddy varieties have shown a declining trend in most of the considered producing areas. The prices of short grain have decreased by less than 9%. Prices of long grain white have decreased by less than 8% in considered major producing areas

except Dehiattakandiya. Meanwhile the prices of long grain red have decreased by nearly 11% in Hambantota and Embillipitiya (Table 1.2).

Rice Prices Demand/Supply Situation Wholesale Prices

The slight increase of demand of rice which was observed at the end of the last month due to festive season was not continued to the current month. Meanwhile, the supplies of rice marginally increased at the latter part of the month with the commencement of *Maha* harvesting in Batticaloa and Kurunagala area. Hence, the rice market was almost stable during the month. Therefore, only a very negligible price variation which is less than 1% was recorded during the month. Wholesale price of *samba* grade I and II ranged between Rs.105.00-110.00/kg and Rs.96.00-103.00/kg respectively. Nadu grade I was available for Rs. 90.00/kg while that of *nadu* grade II ranged between Rs.80.00-87.00/kg. The average wholesale prices of *samba* grade I and II remained same as last month. Further, the average wholesale prices of *nadu* grade II, raw red and raw white had decreased by less than Rs.1.00/kg (Table 1.3).

A quantity of 3,862Mt of rice had been imported during January 2019. The total expenditure of imported rice was Rs.425.30 million in January.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of all the rice varieties had decreased with the highest price decrease of 10% for raw red.

Retail Prices

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of all the local rice varieties (except raw white) had decreased less than 1%. Price reduction for most of the local rice varieties could be expected in next month due to the peak of *Maha* harvesting season.

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

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	105.00-110.00	107.98	107.99	110.30	-0.01	-0.01	-2.32	-2.10
Samba 2	96.00-103.00	100.36	100.42	105.47	-0.06	-0.06	-5.10	-4.84
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	90.00-90.00	90.00	89.20	-	0.80	0.90	-	-
Nadu 2	80.00-87.00	84.36	85.10	89.53	-0.74	-0.87	-5.17	-5.78
Raw red	68.00-75.00	70.58	70.84	78.66	-0.26	-0.36	-8.08	-10.27
Raw white	76.00-82.00	80.45	80.90	85.30	-0.45	-0.56	-4.85	-5.69
Imported Samba	-	-	141.73	77.28	-	-	-	-
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	66.69	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	71.15	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	108.00-120.00	115.44	115.70	116.65	-0.26	-0.23	-1.21	-1.03
Samba 2	-	-	-	108.80	-	-	-	-
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	90.00-95.00	93.00	93.13	107.10	-0.13	-0.14	-14.11	-
Nadu 2	-	-	86.67	96.35	-	-	-	-
Raw red	80.00-90.00	83.12	83.48	90.96	-0.37	-0.44	-7.84	-8.62
Raw white	85.00-95.00	90.02	89.95	95.24	0.07	0.07	-5.23	-5.49
Imported <i>Ponni</i> Samba	150.00-170.00	160.36	154.75	87.41	5.61	3.62	72.96	83.47
Imported Raw White	-	-	-	77.38	-	-	-	-
Imported Nadu	-	-	-	82.15	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

With reference to outstation markets, retail price of samba grade I ranged between Rs.110.00-126.00/kg and the highest price was recorded from Hambantota while the lowest price was recorded from Kilinochchi. Retail price of nadu grade I ranged between Rs.89.00-90.00/kg and the highest price was recorded from Jaffna while the lowest price was recorded from Vavuniya, Kilinochchi and Trincomalee. Meanwhile, the retail price of raw red ranged between Rs.67.00-88.00/kg in outstation markets and the lowest price was recorded from Embilipitiya and Tissamaharama while the highest price was recorded from Anuradhapura. Further, the retail price of raw white ranged between Rs.78.00-92.00/kg and the lowest price was recorded from Monaragala while the highest price was recorded from Gampaha.

Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of all the local rice varieties had decreased with the highest price decrease of 9% for raw red.

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chilli

Crop Situation

The targeted extent of chilli in *maha* 2018/19 season was 10,768ha in Sri Lanka and out of that 6,747ha have been cultivated as at the end of January 2019 representing 63% of the target. Both the highest targeted extent (3,114ha) and the highest cultivated extent (1,294ha) were recorded in Anuradhapura district and it is representing 42% of the targeted extent in that district. Expected production of green chilli is 31,691mt and of which, 58% will be contributed by Anuradhapura (20%), Monaragala (19%) and Puttalam (19%) districts (Table 2.1.1).

Table 2.1.1: Targets and cultivation progress of green chilli in *maha* 2018/19

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress as at the end of January 2019		Expected Production (mt) (Available)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Anuradhapura	3,114	1,294	42	6,495
Monaragala	876	762	87	5,997
Puttalam	740	644	87	6,118
Jaffna	569	431	76	1,879
Kurunegala	330	259	78	1,232
Hambantota	314	290	92	1,146
Badulla	448	410	92	1,209
Other areas	4,377	2,657	61	7,615
Total	10,768	6,747	63	31,691

Source: Crop Forecasts, 2018/2019 *maha* season, Volume 03, Crop Forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Producer prices of green chilli in all producing areas have shown a downward trend by the end of the month due to commencement of the harvesting season (Table 2.1.4). Supply of green chilli had increased from main producing areas and both wholesale and retail prices of green chilli had decreased by about Rs.171.00/kg and Rs.185.00/kg respectively. Prices will be decreased further during the next month (February) too, due to higher supplies from main producing areas. Average wholesale and retail prices of green chilli were Rs.229.37/kg and Rs.424.03/kg respectively and both prices had increased by about 95% and 44% respectively when compared to the same period of last year (Table 2.1.2).

A quantity of 3,748mt of dried chilli was imported from India during this month and it was a decrease of 1,400mt compared to that of the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.233.81/kg and it was a decrease of Rs.2.78/kg compared to last month.

Wholesale price of imported dried chilli has decreased by about Rs.2.50/kg while the retail price has 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 27% and 25% respectively (Table 2.1.2 and Table 2.1.3).

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

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green Chilli	140.00-300.00	229.37	400.00	117.33	-170.63	-42.66	112.04	95.49
Dried Chilli	260.00-285.00	270.48	273.01	212.09	-2.53	-0.93	58.39	27.53
Retail Price								
Green Chilli	200.00-800.00	424.03	608.87	295.40	-184.84	-30.36	128.63	43.54
Dried Chilli	280.00-380.00	330.31	324.98	263.76	5.33	1.64	66.54	25.23

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

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

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
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
Aug	5,448	1,129.65	207.37	323.56	116.20

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

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

Location	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
Dambulla	192.00	230.00	212.00	176.00
Hambantota	425.00	310.00	268.00	270.00
Embilipitiya	327.50	0.00	295.00	251.67
Puttalam	188.00	220.00	194.00	118.00
A'Pura	205.00	250.00	235.00	192.50

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop Situation

The total targeted extent of red onion for *maha* 2018/19 was 3,906ha and about 2,418ha had been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 62% of the total target. The highest targeted extent (1,900ha) and the highest cultivated extent (1,500ha) was reported from Jaffna district. The targeted extent of red onion in Puttalam district was 640ha and 564ha were cultivated by the end of January 2019 representing 88% of the targeted extent in Puttalam. Red onion cultivation in Mampuri, Nawakkadu, Daluwa, Nirmalapura and Narakkalliya in Puttalam district mainly reserved for the leafy onion. In Norochchalai, Ilanthadiya, Thihaliya, Eththala and Thalawila areas in Puttalam district has been cultivated red onion mainly for the selling in the form of red onion bulb. The expected production of *maha* 2018/19 is 33,498mt and out of that, 90% of the production will be arrived to the market from Jaffna (54%) and Puttalam (36%) districts (Table 2.2.1).

Table 2.2.1: Targets and cultivation progress of red onion in maha 2018/19

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress as at the end of January 2019		Expected Production (mt) (Available)
		Cultivated Extent	% of the target	
Jaffna	1,900	1,500	79	17,979
Puttalam	640	564	88	11,948
Trincomalee	753	119	16	1,258
Other Areas	613	235	38	2,313
Total	3,906	2,418	62	33,498

Source: Crop Forecasts, 2018/2019 maha season, Volume 03, Crop Forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Only imported big onion was available at the market and a quantity of 23,697mt of big onion was imported from India during this month. It was an increase of 528mt compared to previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.40.00 for imported big onion and it had decreased by Rs.4.90/kg compared to that of the last month (Table 2.2.4). Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have decreased by about Rs.12.00/kg and Rs.18.00/kg respectively (Table 2.2.2).

No supply of local red onion was reported from main producing areas. However, at the end of this month limited stocks of red onion has been started to come to the market and supply will be increased during the next month.

About 2,547mt of red onion was imported from India during this month. It was an increase of 381mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.93.80/kg for imported red onion and it was a decreased by Rs.6.37/kg compared to that of the last month (Table 2.2.4). Wholesale price of imported red onion has increased by about Rs.2.00/kg while the retail price has decreased by about Rs.5.00/kg.

Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of both imported red onion and imported big onion have decreased by about 41% (Table 2.2.2).

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

Crop	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	96.08	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	120.00-160.00	137.09	135.53	197.73	1.56	1.15	-60.64	-30.67
Big Onion (imported)	50.00-65.00	56.95	68.88	99.51	-11.93	-17.32	-42.56	-42.77
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	-	-	-	515.82	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	160.00-240.00	202.18	207.27	345.42	-5.08	-2.45	-143.24	-41.47
Big Onion (imported)	70.00-100.00	85.22	102.86	143.32	-17.64	-17.15	-58.10	-40.54
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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	Retail Price	Margin (Rs/kg)	
			(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Jan,2019	40.01	56.95	85.22	16.94	28.27
	Dec,2018	44.91	68.88	102.86	23.97	33.98
	Jan,2018	110.62	99.51	143.32	-11.11	43.81
Red onion	Jan,2019	93.80	137.09	202.18	43.28	65.10
	Dec,2018	100.17	135.53	207.27	35.36	71.74
	Jan,2018	139.17	197.73	345.42	58.56	147.69

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)	
	Jan,2019	Dec,2018	Jan,2019	Dec,2018	Jan,2019	Dec,2018
Red Onion	2,547	2,166	238.9	217.0	93.80	100.17
Big Onion	23,697	23,169	948.1	1,040.5	40.01	44.91

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.5: Quantity imported, CIF price, wholesale and retail price of big onion Aug 2018 to January 2019

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
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
Aug-2018	21,741	49.21	86.70	115.74	66.52

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2018/19 season was 2,969 ha and about 1,706 ha have been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 57% of the target. During this month, about 441 ha of potato was cultivated in the country which was lower than the total extent cultivated in December (754ha). According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of potato is 27,920 mt for this *maha* season (Table 2.3.1).

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent was 1,323 ha and about 623 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of this month (47% progress). During the month, about 240 ha of potatoes were cultivated in Nuwara Eliya district which is higher than the extent cultivated in December (162 ha). 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).

The targeted extent for this *maha* season was 1,502 ha in the Badulla district and 986 ha have been cultivated by the end of January achieving 66% of the targeted extent. In January about 148 ha of potatoes were cultivated in Badulla district which is lower than the extent cultivated in the previous month (552 ha).

The cultivated extent during this season is at a low level compared to the same period of last *maha* season in the district (Table 2.3.1). As the *yala* harvesting of potato was over in November, the supply of Welimada potato was lower in December and January.

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	729	623	47	12,957
Badulla	1,846	1,502	1,035	986	66	15,323
Sri Lanka	3,343	2,969	1,881	1,706	57	27,920

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 21,206 mt of potato had been imported in January which was 3,834 mt higher than that was imported during the previous month, as the Special Commodity Levy for imported potato has been reduced up to Rs.20.00/kg with effect from 03/12/2018. Imported stocks were mainly received from Pakistan (92%) and India (7%). Compared to the quantity imported in January, 2017 (21,851 mt), the imports were slightly low during this month. Average CIF price was Rs.33.00/kg in January (Table 2.3.2).

With regard to local potato, the stocks were not available in the Colombo wholesale market due to end of the harvesting period. Stocks of Nuwara Eliya potato was only available in the retail markets and the price ranged between Rs.180.00-240.00/kg. Wholesale and retail prices of imported potato have decreased by 66% and 28% respectively due to ample stocks available in the market with the decreased tax for imported potato. During the month of January, the wholesale price of imported potato ranged between Rs.43.00-95.00/kg.

Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya (24%) and imported (6%) potatoes have increased (Table 2.3.3). Prices of local potatoes are expected to be increased further till February as the new harvesting will be commenced in February from Badulla and Nuwara Eliya districts.

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

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
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
Aug-2018	15,771	583.58	37.00	112.16	75.16

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

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – January 2019

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	90.00-120.00	104.06	0.00	89.85	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	100.00-125.00	113.75	133.40	98.40	-19.65	-17.27	15.35	13.49
Imported – CIF	31.42-56.50	33.23	45.14	30.83	-11.92	-35.86	2.40	7.21
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	-	-	146.88	114.17	-	-	-	-
Imported	43.00-95.00	53.48	88.60	44.20	-35.12	-65.67	9.28	17.36
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	180.00-240.00	215.71	214.56	163.50	1.15	0.53	52.22	24.21
Imported	70.00-120.00	93.77	120.25	88.25	-26.48	-28.24	5.52	5.89
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	-	101.96	81.16	65.10	20.80	20.40	36.87	36.16
Imported (CIF-RP)	-	60.54	75.11	57.42	-14.57	-24.06	3.12	5.16
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	-	-	67.69	49.33	-	-	-	-
Imported	-	40.29	31.65	44.05	8.64	21.44	-3.76	-9.34

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 43% of its targeted extent in *Maha* 2018/2019 season. According to the table 2.4.1, the extent of the green gram cultivation has been declined by 3,130 ha (46%) in Sri Lanka compared with last year (*Maha* 2017/2018). It was due to the decline of cultivated extent from Hambantota (more than 46%), Monaragala (15%) and Kurunegala (7%) compared to the previous year cultivated areas. Considering the crop damages, the expected production from the island-wide green gram cultivation is 4,584mt which is around 56% of the production compared to the previous year green gram production (Table 2.4.1).

Table 2.4.1: Cultivation progress and expected production of green gram and cowpea-2018/19 maha

crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%) Maha 2018/2019	Expected Production (mt)
		Maha 017/2018	Maha 2018/2019	Maha 2017/2018	Maha 2018/2019		
Green gram	Hambantota	4041	2078	2522	1073	52	1566
	Monaragala	2061	1327	1041	559	42	715
	Kurunegala	615	779	457	229	29	337
	Other districts	4733	4146	2651	1680	41	1966
	Sri Lanka	11450	8330	6671	3541	43	4584
Cowpea	Ampara	4306	4284	1598	358	8	553
	Monaragala	1248	965	1030	684	71	705
	Anuradhapura	716	722	300	423	59	982
	Other districts	4010	3664	2236	2220	61	2536
	Sri Lanka	10280	9635	5164	3685	38	4776

Source Crop Forecast Maha 2018/19 & Maha 2017/18, Volume 03, Socio-economic and Planning Centre/DOA

It has been able to achieve 38% of the targeted extent from cowpea cultivation and the expected production is around 4,776mt. Ampara, Monaragala and Anuradhapura district are the major producing districts for cowpea in 2018/19 *Maha* season and about and those districts will contribute for 47% of the total production. Monaragala and Anuradhapura districts were highlighted better performance while Ampara district progress was 8% of its targets.

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.225/kg and Rs.250/kg with an average of Rs.233/kg in January 2019. The average price has increased by 1% compared to the previous month. Similarly, compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price has increased by 18%. In the meantime, the retail price of green gram ranged between Rs.230/kg and Rs.300/kg with an average of Rs.256/kg. Compared to the previous month, the retail price has not significantly changed. However, compared to the same period of last year, the retail price of this month has been increased to around 6% (Table 2.4.2).

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

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	225-250	233.03	229.90	197.52	3.14	1.37	35.51	17.98
Cowpea (White)	215-235	225.76	225.27	224.73	0.49	0.22	1.03	0.46
Cowpea (Red)	210-225	219.79	217.48	250.98	2.31	1.06	-31.19	-12.43
Retail Prices								
Green gram	230-300	256.53	255.55	243.03	0.98	0.38	13.50	5.55
Cowpea (White)	240-320	273.31	278.22	293.48	-4.90	-1.76	-20.17	-6.87
Cowpea (Red)	240-320	274.91	285.30	300.16	-10.39	-3.64	-25.25	-8.41

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Average wholesale prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.225.76/kg and Rs.219.79/kg, respectively in January 2019. The wholesale price of white cowpea ranged between Rs.215/kg and Rs.235/kg, while that of red cowpea ranged between Rs.210/kg and Rs.225/kg. Compared to the previous month, the wholesale price of white cowpea has not been changed significantly while the price of red cowpea has been increased by 1%. Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price of white cowpea has not significantly changed while red cowpea has decreased by 12 percent (Table 2.4.2).

Meanwhile, average retail prices of white and red cowpea were recorded as Rs.273/kg and Rs.275/kg respectively. The retail prices of both white and red cowpeas ranged between Rs.240/kg and Rs.320/kg. Compared to the previous month, white cowpea and red cowpea have been decreased by 2% and 4% respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of white cowpea and red cowpea have has decreased by 7% and 8% respectively (Table 2.4.2).

A quantity of 1,329mt of green gram had been imported during this month, and it was an increase of 28% compared to the previous month. The average CIF price of imported green gram was Rs.159/kg while the retail price has been increased by one rupee compared with the previous month. The total expenditure of the importation of green gram was recorded as Rs.210.79 million which was an increase by 36% of the total value spent on green gram importation compared to the previous month (Table 2.4.3). Green gram has been imported from several counties. They are Thailand (28%), Argentina (27%), Uzbekistan (14%), Australia (13%), Myanmar (9%), China (5%), Brazil (4%), and India (0.2%).

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

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
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
Aug-2018	2,418	329.79	136.41	246.54	110.13

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

According to table 2.4.4, a quantity of 900mt of white cowpea had been imported during this month which is increase by 47% compared to December 2018. The average CIF price of white cowpea was recorded as Rs.116.28/kg. The total value of the cowpea imports was noted as approximately Rs.105 million, an increase by 48% compared to the previous month. The highest quantity of cowpea was imported from Madagascar (41%), Myanmar (32%) and Brazil (21%), the rest from India (6%).

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

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
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
Aug-2018	307	36.37	118.53	280.45	161.92

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

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale price (Rs/kg)	Retail price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/Kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Green gram	Jan,2019	158.59	233.03	256.53	74.45	23.49
	Dec,2018	150.30	229.90	255.55	79.60	25.65
	Jan,2018	128.10	197.52	243.03	69.42	45.51
Cowpea (White)	Jan,2019	116.28	225.76	273.31	109.48	47.55
	Dec,2018	115.14	225.27	278.22	110.13	52.94
	Jan,2018	133.34	224.73	293.48	91.39	68.75
Cowpea (Red)	Jan,2019	-	219.79	274.91	-	55.12
	Dec,2018	-	217.48	285.30	-	67.82
	Jan,2018	-	250.98	300.16	-	49.18

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.108/kg and Rs.120/kg with an average of Rs.113.50/kg, and the retail price ranged between Rs.120/kg and Rs.140.00/kg with an average of Rs.128.88/kg. Moreover, the difference between the two prices is Rs.15/kg during this month. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale has been increased by 3% while retail price has not significantly changed (Table 2.5.1).

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

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	108.00-120.0	113.50	110.25	110.19	3.25	2.95	3.31	3.01
Retail Price	120.00-140.00	128.88	127.19	129.37	1.69	1.33	-0.49	-0.38

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

During this month, a quantity of 14,543mt of red dhal had been imported and average CIF price was Rs.83.23/kg and CIF price has been increased by 3 percent compared to the previous month. Of the total quantity of red dhal imports, the largest quantity (13,231mt) was of the whole type while the rest (1,313mt) was of the split type. Whole type of red dhal, had been imported from Australia (62%), Canada (34%), India (3%) and the United Arab Emirates (1%). The total value of the whole type of red dhal imports was Rs. 1,054 million, with an average CIF price of Rs.79.68/kg. The split type red dhal, has been imported mainly from Canada (99%) and the United Arab Emirates (1%). The average CIF price of split type was noted as Rs.118.96/kg and the total value of the imports of split type red dhal was Rs.156 million (Table 2.5.2).

**Table 2.5.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of imported red dhal
August 2018 to January 2019**

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
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
Aug-2018	10,097	76.24	97.58	125.77	21.33	28.19

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

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

In most of the up country and low country vegetable producing areas, rain and dry mixed weather condition prevailed while rainy weather condition further continued in Badulla district. The prevailed favourable weather condition contributed to continue both the cultivation and harvesting activities successfully during the month. However, the cost of watering has increased in Puttalam and Nuwara Eliya district due to prevailed dry weather condition. Meanwhile the rainy weather condition which was continued during last couple of months in Dambulla interprising for the crop establishment has been ended by the latter part of the month. Hence, by the end of January, 50% of the target extent had been achieved.

The prospect of both up country and low country vegetable cultivation was at satisfactory level by the end of January. With regard to up country vegetable cultivation, about 74% of the targeted extent had been achieved and carrot (83%), beans (79%), leeks (77%), and cabbage (76%) recorded a highest progress. Regarding the cultivated extent of up country vegetables, beans, cabbage and capsicum were the mostly cultivated vegetables and the cultivated extents were 3,288ha, 1,713ha, and 1,483ha respectively. According to the progress achieved by the end of January the expected production of up country vegetable is 172,565mt and a highest production is expected for cabbage (45,276mt), beans (35,178mt), leeks (20,527mt) and raddish (19,765mt). (Crop forecast, *maha* 2018/2019, vol.03, Department of Agriculture)

With regard to low country vegetables cultivation, about 67% of the target had been achieved and long beans (78%), wing beans (77%), okra (77%) and brinjal (72%) recorded a highest progress. The mostly cultivated low country vegetables were pumpkin (3,308ha), brinjal (3,662ha), long beans (3,529ha), okra (2,928ha) and tomato (2,232ha). According to the progress reported as at the end of January, the expected total low country vegetable is 214,129mt and high production is expected for brinjal (44,801mt), pumpkin (44m195mt) and tomato (31,043mt). (Crop forecast, *maha* 2018/2019, vol.03, Department of Agriculture)

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of vegetables to the most of the market have sharply increased as the harvesting occurred without any interruption. In Nuwara Eliya, stocks of beans, leeks, beetroot, raddish, cabbage and tomato have increased by 50% while the most of other up country vegetable varieties increased by 25% compared to the last month. Further, supplies of up country vegetables have increased by 8%-30% compared to the same period in last year. It was due to the fact that success of most of vegetable crops due to favourable weather condition prevailed in this *maha* season contrast to the crop damages due to heavy rains experienced in previous *maha* season. Daily supplies to the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Center also have increased by 43% and Hanguranketha, Marassana, Puttalam, Polpithigama and Jaffna were the major supplying areas. Supplies of beans, carrot and cabbage have increased to the Keppetipola Dedicated Economic Center too. However, harvesting of tomato has reached to end phase in Badulla and Marassana, hence supplies from those areas will be reduced in next month.

As the supplies have increased in most of the vegetable markets, wholesale prices of vegetables have further decreased during the month. With regard to up country vegetables, prices have come down by 26%-68% and the highest and the lowest price decrease was for tomato and beans respectively. Among low country vegetables, the highest (47%) and the lowest (23%) price drop was noted for brinjals and okra respectively. Furthermore, the price of lime has decreased by 66% while that of green chilli dropped by 43%. Compared to the same period of last year, except tomato, the wholesale prices of all up country vegetables have decreased by a range of 9% (cabbage) and 58% (leeks) (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Wholesale prices of vegetables – January 2019

Item	Price Range		Average		Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	50.00-160.00	94.34	126.67	158.50	-32.32	-25.52	-64.16	-40.48
Carrot	50.00-100.00	72.08	139.67	80.42	-67.58	-48.39	-8.33	-10.36
Leeks	40.00-100.00	70.10	131.04	165.67	-60.93	-46.50	-95.56	-57.68
Beetroot	50.00-160.00	103.69	147.65	106.52	-43.96	-29.78	-2.83	-2.65
Knolkhol	40.00-100.00	65.83	97.37	80.76	-31.54	-32.39	-14.93	-18.48
Radish	15.00-50.00	26.46	56.83	34.25	-30.38	-53.45	-7.79	-22.75
Cabbage	25.00-80.00	41.48	81.97	45.48	-40.48	-49.39	-4.00	-8.79
Tomato	50.00-80.00	59.13	182.67	48.00	-123.53	-67.63	11.13	23.20
Ladies Fingers	50.00-90.00	69.95	65.00	80.00	4.95	7.62	-10.05	-12.56
Brinjal	40.00-120.00	78.76	102.09	99.33	-23.33	-22.85	-20.57	-20.71
Capsicum	120.00-250.00	165.21	261.00	190.68	-95.79	-36.70	-25.47	-13.36
Pumpkin	10.00-30.00	16.85	31.58	38.42	-14.73	-46.65	-21.57	-56.14
Cucumber	30.00-60.00	38.44	32.75	50.25	5.69	17.37	-11.81	-23.51
Bittergourd	80.00-170.00	107.90	166.37	141.05	-58.47	-35.14	-33.15	-23.50
Snakegourd	40.00-60.00	48.33	68.39	78.67	-20.06	-29.33	-30.33	-38.56
Drumstick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	80.00-120.00	97.37	86.83	121.33	10.54	12.14	-23.96	-19.75
Long Beans	30.00=80.00	50.69	50.17	56.50	0.52	1.04	-5.81	-10.28
Ash Plantain	60.00-80.00	66.19	67.50	80.67	-1.31	-1.93	-14.47	-17.94
Green Chilli	140.00-300.00	229.37	400.00	117.33	-170.63	-42.66	112.04	95.49
Lime	50.00-150.00	93.96	299.83	28.50	-205.88	-68.66	65.46	229.68

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

With regard to retail prices of up country vegetables, the highest price decrease of Rs.117.00/kg was recorded for tomato while the lowest price decrease of Rs.40.00/kg was for raddish. The retail price of low country vegetables has also decreased in the range of Rs.8.00/kg-92.00/kg and the highest and the lowest price decrease was for ash plantain and capsicum respectively. Meanwhile, the price of lime has decreased by Rs.307.00/kg while green chilli price reduced by Rs.185.00/kg (Table 3.2).

Compared to the same period of last year, except tomato, the prices of all the up country vegetables have decreased in the range of 6% (cabbage) and 37% (leeks) while low country vegetables reduced by 10%-27%.

Table 3.2: Retail prices of vegetables – January 2019

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	100.-240.00	159.26	208.04	232.39	-48.78	-23.45	-73.13	-31.47
Carrot	100.00-200.00	151.65	237.56	171.24	-85.91	-36.16	-19.59	-11.44
Leeks	100.00-240.00	153.54	224.66	243.52	-71.12	-31.66	-89.98	-36.95
Beetroot	100.00-240.00	166.44	212.98	189.27	-46.53	-21.85	-22.82	-12.06
Knolkhol	80.00-200.00	158.66	206.78	177.59	-48.11	-23.27	-18.92	-10.66
Radish	50.00-160.00	106.98	146.84	121.48	-39.86	-27.15	-14.50	-11.94
Cabbage	60.00-200.00	126.22	179.74	134.35	-53.52	-29.78	-8.13	-6.05
Tomato	80.00-200.00	134.29	290.77	116.59	-156.48	-53.82	17.70	15.18
Ladies Fingers	100.00-200.00	141.99	155.54	157.02	-13.55	-8.71	-15.03	-9.57
Brinjal	80.00-200.00	144.90	176.14	186.64	-31.24	-17.74	-41.74	-22.36
Capsicum	180.00-400.00	265.28	357.79	311.32	-92.51	-25.86	-46.04	-14.79
Pumpkin	40.00-120.00	86.75	106.66	110.67	-19.90	-18.66	-23.91	-21.61
Cucumber	60.00-160.00	100.80	110.88	121.37	-10.08	-9.09	-20.57	-16.95
Bittergourd	120.00-240.00	188.75	245.39	221.28	-56.65	-23.08	-32.53	-14.70
Snakegourd	60.00-200.00	123.24	159.64	168.59	-36.40	-22.80	-45.35	-26.90
Drumstick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	120.00-240.00	174.86	188.07	203.10	-13.20	-7.02	-28.24	-13.90
Long Beans	80.00-200.00	134.84	154.36	155.75	-19.52	-12.65	-20.91	-13.43
Ash Plantain	100.00-180.00	134.17	141.74	148.76	-7.58	-5.35	-14.60	-9.81
Green Chilli	200.00-800.00	424.03	608.87	295.40	-184.84	-30.36	128.63	43.54
Lime	140.00-600.00	328.42	635.18	133.72	-306.76	-48.30	194.70	145.61

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Compared to the prices in December 2018, wholesale prices of all the fruit varieties except banana and slime apple had increased in January 2019. Prices of small, medium and large sized pineapple had increased by 14%, 13% and 7% and the monthly average wholesale prices of small, medium and large sized fruits were Rs.90.87/fruit, Rs.129.23/fruit and Rs.160.42/fruit respectively and the price ranged between Rs.80.00-180.00/fruit. With regard to price of mango, price of Karthakolomban had increased notably by 170% and the recorded price range for a fruit was Rs.30.00-170.00. In addition, prices of other mango varieties namely Kohu, Vilad and Betti had increased by 80%, 51% and 38% respectively. Price of papaw had increased by 12% and the monthly average wholesale price was Rs.160.69/kg and the price ranged between Rs.120.00-200.00/kg. In addition, 80% and 38% price increases were noted for passion fruit and wood apple respectively. Further, prices of avocado, orange and imported grapes had increased by 5%, 4% and 7% respectively (Table 4.1).

However, prices of all the banana varieties had decreased in the range of 1%-16% and prices of Kolikuttu, Ambul and Seeni had decreased by 16%, 2% and 1% respectively and price ranges recorded during the month were Rs.80.00-130.00/kg, Rs.30.00-60.00/kg and Rs.50.00-80.00/kg respectively. In addition, prices of Anamalu and Ambun had decreased by 11% and 7% respectively and prices ranged between Rs.8.00-15.00/fruit and Rs.12.00-20.00/fruit respectively. In addition, as stated earlier price of slime apple had also decreased by 23% (Table 4.1).

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

Compared to the same period in 2018, wholesale prices of banana, pineapple, mango, slime apple and wood apple had decreased with the highest price decrease of 43% for banana variety, Ambul while, prices of papaw, passion fruit, orange, avocado and imported grapes had increased with the highest price increase of 119% recorded for papaw (Table 4.1).

In line with the increased wholesale prices, prices of all the fruit varieties except banana varieties, i.e. Kolikuttu, Anamalu and Ambun and slime apple had increased at the retail level too. Prices of small, medium and large sized pineapple had increased by 10%, 2% and 6% respectively. Further, price range for pineapple was recorded as Rs.90.00-280.00/fruit. Price of mango variety, Karthakolomban had increased substantially by 161% compared to the previous month and price of a fruit was noted as Rs.40.00-300.00. Price of papaw had increased by 8% and the price ranged between Rs.170.00-280.00/kg. Prices of banana varieties, Ambul and Seeni had increased by 5% and 2% respectively and their price ranges were noted as Rs.80.00-130.00/kg and Rs.80.00-140.00/kg respectively. Further, prices of passion fruit, wood apple and avocado had increased by 34%, 28% and 17% respectively. In addition, prices of imported grapes and orange had increased by 4% and 2% respectively (Table 4.2).

However, prices of banana varieties, Ambun, Anamalu and Kolikuttu had decreased by 4%, 2% and 1% respectively and their prices ranged between Rs.18.00-25.00/fruit, Rs.15.00-20.00/fruit and Rs.150.00-240.00/kg respectively. In addition, price of slime apple had decreased by 21% and price of a fruit was noted as Rs.30.00-120.00 (Table 4.2).

Compared to the same period of 2018, retail prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased and the highest price increase was noted for papaw as 87% (Table 4.2).

With reference to the producer prices, producers had received increased prices for banana variety, Ambul and papaw and a decreased price for banana variety, Kolikuttu compared to the prices in December, 2018. Further, the prices had increased by 54% and 11% for papaw and Ambul respectively and it was a 19% of price decrease for Kolikuttu. Producer prices for Ambul, Kolikuttu and papaw during the month ranged between Rs.30.00-45.00/kg, Rs.65.00-113.33/kg and Rs.85.00 - 146.00/kg respectively. At the same time, compared to January, 2018, producer prices had increased for papaw significantly by 120% and it was a price decrease for Ambul by 29% and for Kolikuttu by 24% (Table 4.3).

Exports/Imports of Fruits

According to the Sri Lanka Customs, Sri Lanka had exported 900mt of fresh fruits in January, 2019 to the value of Rs.102mn. Of the exported quantity, 93% were papaw, 5% were fresh mangoes and 2% were fresh pineapple. Further, nearly two metric tons of fresh avocados also had been exported. However, it was less than 1% of the total exported quantity of the month. In the month of December, 2018, the quantity exported was 714mt. Therefore, compared to last month, the exported quantity had increased by 26% (Table 4.4).

With reference to imports, Sri Lanka had imported 2,733mt of fresh fruits during the month and the value was Rs.578mn. Of the imported quantity, 58% were apple, 25% were grapes and 17% were oranges. The main importing countries of apple were China, the United States and Italy. Grapes had been imported mainly from China and India. Egypt was the importing country of oranges. In the month of December, 2018, the quantity imported was 3,047mt. Therefore, compared to last month, the imported quantity had decreased by 10% (Table 4.5).

Table 4.1: Wholesale prices of fruits – January 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	30.00-60.00	46.76	47.90	81.50	-1.14	-2.38	-34.74	-42.62
Kolikuttu (Kg)	80.00-130.00	108.06	129.33	148.50	-21.28	-16.45	-40.44	-27.23
Seeni (Kg)	50.00-80.00	63.93	64.37	85.30	-0.43	-0.68	-21.37	-25.05
Anamalu (Fruit)	8.00-15.00	11.18	12.53	13.97	-1.35	-10.79	-2.79	-19.96
Ambun (Fruit)	12.00-20.00	16.10	17.39	17.40	-1.29	-7.39	-1.30	-7.47
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	150.00-180.00	160.42	149.20	185.01	11.21	7.52	-24.60	-13.29
Medium (Fruit)	120.00-150.00	129.23	114.33	135.45	14.89	13.03	-6.22	-4.59
Small (Fruit)	80.00-120.00	90.87	79.87	100.41	10.99	13.76	-9.54	-9.50
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	20.00-30.00	27.00	19.57	27.33	7.43	37.96	-0.33	-1.22
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	30.00-170.00	85.56	31.70	89.38	53.86	169.89	-3.83	-4.28
Vilad (Fruit)	28.00-45.00	34.39	22.75	34.34	11.64	51.16	0.05	0.15
Kohu (Fruit)	10.00-15.00	12.50	6.93	-	5.57	80.36	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	120.00-200.00	160.69	142.80	73.27	17.89	12.53	87.43	119.33
Passionfruit (Fruit)	15.00-30.00	22.24	12.38	11.33	9.86	79.68	10.91	96.27
Woodapple (Fruit)	10.00-22.00	15.37	11.14	15.70	4.23	37.99	-0.32	-2.07
Orange (Fruit)	30.00-50.00	38.39	37.00	25.15	1.39	3.75	13.24	52.64
Avocado (Fruit)	70.00-140.00	109.26	104.13	86.25	5.12	4.92	23.01	26.67
Slime Apple (Fruit)	20.00-40.00	25.11	32.73	31.27	-7.62	-23.29	-6.16	-19.70
Grapes Imported (Kg)	420.00-788.00	655.02	613.28	571.53	41.74	6.81	83.49	14.61

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail prices of fruits – January 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	80.00-130.00	104.33	99.44	131.91	4.89	4.92	-27.58	-20.91
Kolikuttu (Kg)	150.00-240.00	192.13	194.02	218.52	-1.89	-0.98	-26.39	-12.08
Seeni (Kg)	80.00-140.00	117.00	114.50	131.35	2.50	2.19	-14.35	-10.92
Anamalu (Fruit)	15.00-20.00	17.43	17.88	25.69	-0.45	-2.53	-8.26	-32.16
Ambun (Fruit)	18.00-25.00	21.79	22.64	28.35	-0.85	-3.77	-6.56	-23.14
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	180.00-280.00	219.17	207.59	257.56	11.59	5.58	-38.38	-14.90
Medium (Fruit)	140.00-160.00	153.79	150.56	187.27	3.23	2.15	-33.48	-17.88
Small (Fruit)	90.00-130.00	108.28	98.33	130.83	9.95	10.12	-22.55	-17.24
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	40.00-300.00	145.48	55.70	154.44	89.78	161.20	-8.96	-5.80
Vilad (Fruit)	-	-	45.75	58.57	-	-	-	-
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	170.00-280.00	218.76	202.43	117.15	16.34	8.07	101.61	86.73
Passionfruit (Fruit)	20.00-50.00	33.12	24.62	20.40	8.50	34.50	12.72	62.36
Woodapple (Fruit)	20.00-80.00	49.66	38.90	49.32	10.76	27.67	0.34	0.70
Orange (Fruit)	30.00-80.00	68.91	67.21	42.48	1.70	2.53	26.43	62.22
Avocado (Fruit)	120.00-250.00	218.57	186.63	144.15	31.95	17.12	74.43	51.63
Slime Apple (Fruit)	30.00-120.00	64.60	81.50	81.14	-16.90	-20.74	-16.54	-20.38
Grapes Imported (Kg)	700.00-1000.00	842.78	812.00	800.10	30.78	3.79	42.69	5.34

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer prices of selected fruits – January 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	30.00-45.00	38.10	34.34	53.53	3.75	10.93	-15.43	-28.83
Kolikuttu	65.00-113.33	85.15	105.70	111.44	-20.55	-19.44	-26.29	-23.59
Papaw	85.00-146.00	124.34	80.88	56.43	43.46	53.74	67.91	120.34

Source Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

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

Type of Fruit	Jan - 2019			Dec - 2018			November - 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	19.81	6.80	343.43	41.17	12.62	306.51	39.52	12.25	309.90
Papaw	833.74	73.37	88.00	608.52	58.20	95.64	813.27	64.99	79.91
Fresh Mango	44.22	21.18	478.88	62.85	26.46	421.03	39.64	18.48	466.34
Avocado, fresh	1.83	0.96	521.66	1.11	0.55	493.01	2.12	1.00	469.43

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

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

Type of Fruit	Jan - 2019			Dec - 2018			November - 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	1,578	271.13	171.83	2,314	369.09	159.50	2,902	451.37	155.52
Grapes	685	255.72	373.29	482	165.61	343.90	513	192.18	374.52
Oranges	470	50.94	108.34	251	33.76	134.74	586	70.98	121.19

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

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The wholesale prices of selected fresh fish ranged between Rs.100.00/kg and Rs.1250.00/kg during the month of January. Compared to the preceding month, the price behavior of fresh fish prices was diverse among different fresh fish types during this month. The prices of *Salaya*, *Balaya*, *Thora*, and *Thalapath* decreased by 3%, 19%, 5% and 1% respectively. In contrast, the prices of *Hurulla*, *Kelawalla*, *Paraw*, have increased by 12%, 10%, and 1% respectively while that of *Mora* and *Shrimp* (small) increased by 3%.

However, compared to the same period last year, wholesale prices of all the fresh fish types (except *Mora*) have decreased by 14% - 3% respectively. The price for *Mora* has increased by 1%.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of fresh fish – January 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to				
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Wholesale Prices									
Salaya	100.00-160.00	134.31	138.17	139.43	-3.86	-2.80	-5.12	-3.67	
Hurulla	200.00-300.00	257.23	228.95	293.68	28.28	12.35	-36.45	-12.41	
Balaya	200.00-300.00	257.20	318.69	300.46	-61.49	-19.29	-43.25	-14.40	
Kelawalla	450.00-650.00	549.69	498.47	583.42	51.22	10.28	-33.73	-5.78	
Thora	900.00-1250.00	1062.74	1119.56	1210.67	-56.82	-5.08	-147.93	-12.22	
Paraw	500.00-650.00	565.28	560.42	615.15	4.86	0.87	-49.87	-8.11	
Mora	500.00-650.00	575.83	560.50	568.14	15.33	2.74	7.69	1.35	
Shrimp (small)	750.00-900.00	823.90	803.49	960.33	20.41	2.54	-136.43	-14.21	
Thalapath	650.00-800.00	731.56	738.34	752.80	-6.78	-0.92	-21.24	-2.82	
Retail Prices									
Salaya	180.00-300.00	229.33	230.09	191.54	-0.76	-0.33	37.79	19.73	
Hurulla	300.00-600.00	417.29	387.44	386.08	29.85	7.70	31.21	8.08	
Balaya	480.00-800.00	609.47	612.64	481.86	-3.17	-0.52	127.61	26.48	
Kelawalla	800.00-1200.00	955.20	910.66	837.53	44.54	4.89	117.67	14.05	
Thora	1300.00-1900.00	1496.63	1495.31	1488.60	1.32	0.09	8.04	0.54	
Paraw	880.00-1400.00	1037.87	1008.65	915.47	29.22	2.90	122.40	13.37	
Mora	700.00-1200.00	915.37	934.76	826.77	-19.38	-2.07	88.61	10.72	
Shrimp (small)	900.00-1300.00	1053.98	1035.47	1160.17	18.51	1.79	-106.19	-9.15	
Thalapath	1100.00-1400.00	1184.46	1170.19	1076.84	14.27	1.22	107.63	9.99	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

The retail prices of all the selected fresh fish types ranged between Rs.180.00/kg (*Salaya*) and Rs.1,900.00/kg (*Thora*) during this month. Retail prices of most fresh fish types have increased during the month.

The price increase for one kilo of *Hurulla*, *Kelawalla*, *Paraw*, *Shrimp*(small) and *Thalapath* were Rs.30.00, 45.00, 29.00, 19.00 and 14.00 respectively. However, the prices of *Mora* and *Balaya* decreased by Rs.29.00/kg and 3.00/kg respectively.

Compared to same period of last year, prices of all fish types (except *Shrimp*(small)), have been increased by 8%-26%. The highest price increase was observed for *Balaya*, while the lowest increase was for *Thora*. Small shrimp was the only fresh fish type which reported a price decrease (9%) compared to the same period in the last year.

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Wholesale prices of selected dried fish types ranged between Rs.250.00 /kg and Rs.1300.00 /kg during month. Compared to the previous month, prices of all dried fish types except for *Balaya* and *Maduwa* had increased by 31% or less. The highest price increase of 31% was observed for *Salaya*, while that of lowest increase (less than 1%) was observed for imported *Thora*. In the meantime, wholesale prices *Maduwa* and *Balaya* increased by 3% and 1% respectively.

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

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to				
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Dried fish – Wholesale									
Sprats	1000.00-1200.00	1073.31	963.85	969.15	109.46	11.36	104.17	10.75	
Sprats (imported)	500.00-650.00	577.57	538.98	490.16	38.58	7.16	87.41	17.83	
Kattawa	850.00-950.00	902.50	877.20	814.20	25.30	2.88	88.30	10.85	
Kattawa (imported)	700.00-850.00	799.75	750.93	765.80	48.82	6.50	33.95	4.43	
Thora	-	-	1300.00	1045.37	-	-	-	-	
Thora (imported)	1100.00-1300.00	1200.56	1195.83	1075.27	4.72	0.39	125.29	11.65	
Mora	800.00-950.00	862.00	843.20	822.60	18.80	2.23	39.40	4.79	
Mora (imported)	700.00-900.00	785.50	764.33	761.40	21.17	2.77	24.10	3.17	
Balaya	400.00-550.00	473.50	479.40	395.80	-5.90	-1.23	77.70	19.63	
Balaya (imported)	550.00-650.00	605.56	566.67	433.02	38.89	6.86	172.53	39.84	
Anguluwa	800.00-900.00	845.42	819.54	809.40	25.87	3.16	36.02	4.45	
Anguluwa (imported)	700.00-850.00	785.36	768.58	749.94	16.78	2.18	35.42	4.72	
Maduwa	500.00-600.00	533.26	550.69	517.10	-17.42	-3.16	16.16	3.13	
Maduwa (imported)	350.00-450.00	414.58	382.04	432.76	32.55	8.52	-18.18	-4.20	
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Salaya	250.00-400.00	324.60	248.22	311.87	76.37	30.77	12.72	4.08	
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dried fish – Retail									
Sprats(imported)	600.00-900.00	735.09	718.33	722.90	16.76	2.33	12.19	1.69	
Sprats	1000.00-1600.00	1245.41	1218.95	1167.54	26.45	2.17	77.87	6.67	
Kattawa	1000.00-1500.00	1251.25	1239.67	1149.32	11.57	0.93	101.92	8.87	
Thora	1400.00-2000.00	1650.28	1640.79	1521.82	9.49	0.58	128.46	8.44	
Mora	900.00-1500.00	1149.43	1144.49	1093.34	4.95	0.43	56.09	5.13	
Balaya	600.00-1000.00	878.36	877.80	844.18	0.56	0.06	34.18	4.05	
Anguluwa	900.00-1300.00	1101.19	1091.96	1055.87	9.23	0.85	45.32	4.29	
Maduwa	600.00-850.00	755.00	790.60	680.00	-35.60	-4.50	75.00	11.03	
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Salaya	500.00-800.00	649.05	606.74	635.59	42.31	6.97	13.46	2.12	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of most dried fish types have increased by 3%-40%, and the highest price increase was recorded in imported Balaya. The only price decline reported as 4% by imported Maduwa (Table 5.2).

The retail prices of selected dried fish types ranged between 500.00/kg and Rs.2000.00 /kg during this month. Compared to the previous month, retail prices of most dried fish types have increased during the month. The highest price increase of Rs42.00/kg was observed for Salaya, followed by Sprats, Sprats (imported) and Kattawa as 26.00/kg, 17.00/kg and 12.00/kg respectively. *Maduwa* was the only dry fish type that reduced the retail price during the month and it was about 36.00/kg.

Compared to the same period last year, prices of all dried fish types have increased by 2% - 11% respectively (Table 5.2).

Eggs

Wholesale prices of both brown and white eggs have increased by 3% during this month. Price of a brown egg ranged between Rs.19.50 and Rs.20.00, whilst that of a white egg ranged between Rs.18.50 and Rs.19.00. Compared to the same period of last year, prices of brown and white eggs have increased drastically by 56% and 63% respectively (Table 5.3).

In line with the increased wholesale prices, retail prices of both brown and white egg increased during the month. A brown egg had increased by 0.57 cents while that of white egg increased by 0.60 cents. The retail price of a brown ranged between Rs.20.00 and Rs. 22.00, while that of a white egg ranged between Rs.19.00 and Rs. 21.00 during this month. Average prices of brown and white eggs were recorded as Rs. 21.14 and Rs. 20.14 respectively.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of brown and white eggs have increased significantly by 49% and 56%, respectively (Table 5.3).

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

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	%	Rs	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	19.50-20.00	19.71	19.15	12.65	0.56	2.92	7.06	55.80
White (each)	18.50-19.00	18.71	18.15	11.50	0.56	3.08	7.21	62.68
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	20.00-22.00	21.14	20.57	14.16	0.57	2.79	6.98	49.33
White (each)	19.00-21.00	20.14	19.54	12.92	0.60	3.05	7.22	55.89

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Marginal changes in retail prices was recorded for most types of meat compared to the previous month. Beef (without bones) prices increased by Rs.12.00/kg (1%) followed by pork as Rs.6.00/kg (1%). Meanwhile Mutton price had decreased by Rs.10.00/kg (less than 1%). The highest average price (Rs.1844.80/kg) for meat was observed for Mutton and the lowest price (Rs.549.51/kg) observed for Broiler chicken.

Compared to the same period in previous year prices, the prices of all types of meat had increased by 3%-35%. The highest price increase was noted for pork(36%) followed by curry chicken(24%) (Table 5.4).

Table 5.4: Retail prices of meat – January 2019

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	950.00-1000.00	978.36	966.26	948.33	12.09	1.25	30.02	3.17
Chicken (Broiler)	480.00-670.00	549.51	548.46	511.57	1.05	0.19	37.94	7.42
Chicken (curry)	500.00-750.00	622.32	621.57	500.93	0.75	0.12	121.38	24.23
Mutton	1800.00-2000.00	1844.80	1855.00	1793.33	-10.20	-0.55	51.46	2.87
Pork	680.00-780.00	720.67	714.40	530.00	6.27	0.88	190.67	35.97

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

6. Wheat Grain, Wheat Flour and Sugar

Wheat Grain and Wheat Flour

A quantity of 100,466mt of wheat grain was imported during the month and it was a decrease by 38,916mt (28%) compared to the previous month. The total value of wheat grain import in January was Rs. 5,070mn. Imported stocks of wheat grain were mainly received from Australia (35%) Canada (34%), Pakistan (18%) and the United States (12%). Russian Federation, India and Ukraine had contributed marginally for wheat grain import in January (less than 1% all together). The average CIF price was recorded as Rs.50.47/kg. Compared to the previous month, average CIF price for wheat grain has increased by Rs.2.00/kg (Table 6.2).

A quantity of 581mt of wheat flour was imported during the month, a decrease by 58% compared to the last month. About Rs. 44 million had been spent for wheat flour imports. Imported stocks of wheat flour was manly received from India (96%), and Indonesia (4%).The average CIF was Rs.76.00/kg. Compared to the previous month, average CIF price for wheat flour has increased by Rs.2.00/kg.

Meanwhile, the retail price of wheat flour ranged between Rs.85.00-100.00/kg and the average price was Rs.94.00/kg (Table 6.2). The average retail price of wheat flour has increased by Rs.1.00/kg during the month.

Further, compared to the same period of last year, retail price of wheat flour has increased by 5% (Table 6.1).

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

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2019	Jan 2019	Dec 2018	Jan 2018	Dec 2018		Jan 2018	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	85.00-100.00	94.43	93.63	89.84	0.80	0.85	4.59	5.11
Sugar	95.00-115.00	105.92	107.88	110.18	-1.96	-1.81	-4.26	-3.86

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

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

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
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
Aug-2018	218	15.75	72.16	90.32	18.16
Wheat Grain					
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
Aug-2018	155,322	6,280	40.43	90.32	49.89

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

Sugar

A quantity of 35,030mt of sugar had been imported during the month, which was a decrease by 42% compared to the last month. About Rs.2,228mn had been incurred for importation of sugar during the month. The imported sugar stocks had been mainly received from India (83%) and Thailand (14%). The average CIF price was reported as Rs.64.00/kg. The average CIF price has increased by Rs.4.00/kg compared to the last month (Table 6.3).

With regard to the retail price of sugar for the month of January, the price ranged between Rs.95.00-115.00/kg and the average retail price was Rs.106.00/kg. The average retail price for sugar has decreased by Rs.2.00/kg during the month. Further, compared to the same period of last year retail price of sugar has decreased by 4% (Table 6.1).

Table 6.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of sugar- Aug 2018 to January 2019

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
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
Aug-2018	23,482	1391.7	59.27	104.36	45.09

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

Table 7: Import of selected food items – January 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
	Jan-2019	Dec-2018		Jan-2019	Dec-2018		Jan-2019	Dec-2018	
Rice	3,862	4,295	-10.1	425.3	513.5	-17.2	110.15	119.54	-7.9
Red Onion	2,547	2,166	17.6	238.9	217.0	10.1	93.80	100.17	-6.4
Big Onion	23,697	23,169	2.3	948.1	1040.5	-8.9	40.01	44.91	-10.9
Potato	21,206	17,372	22.1	704.6	784.2	-10.2	33.23	45.14	-26.4
Dried Chillies	3,748	5,149	-27.2	876.2	1218.3	-28.1	233.81	236.59	-1.2
Masoor Dhal	14,543	16,510	-11.9	1210.4	1340.8	-9.7	83.23	81.21	2.5
Green Gram	1,329	1,034	28.5	210.8	155.4	35.6	158.59	150.30	5.5
Cowpea	900	614	46.5	104.6	70.7	48.0	116.28	115.14	1.0
Garlic	2,281	2,700	-15.5	224.3	274.5	-18.3	98.33	101.66	-3.3
Wheat flour	581	1,385	-58.1	43.9	102.5	-57.1	75.66	74.04	2.2
Wheat grain	100,466	139,382	-27.9	5070.0	6652.7	-23.8	50.47	47.73	5.7
White crystalline cane sugar	35,030	59,943	-41.6	2227.6	3626.2	-38.6	63.59	60.49	5.1
Maize	13,147	15,138	-79.7	584.3	671.0	-76.1	44.44	44.33	17.8

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

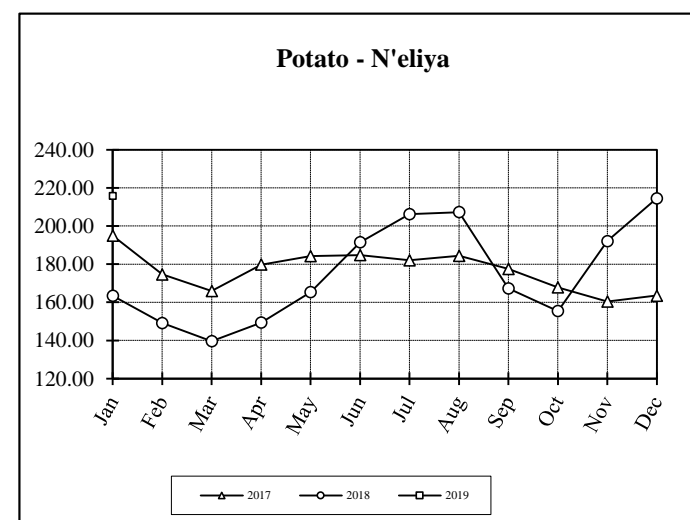
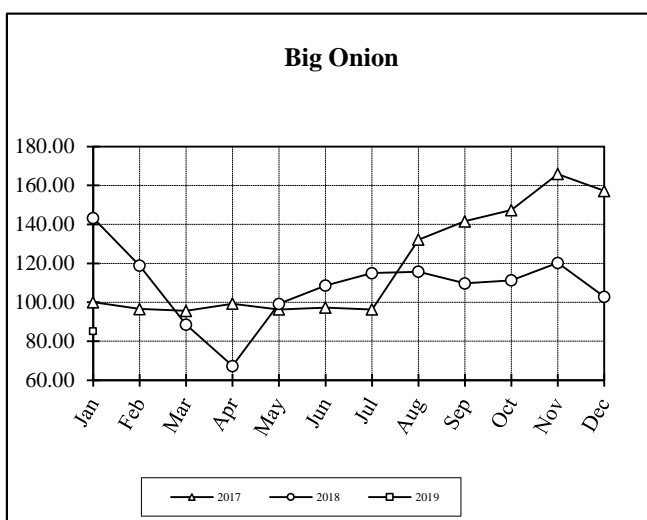
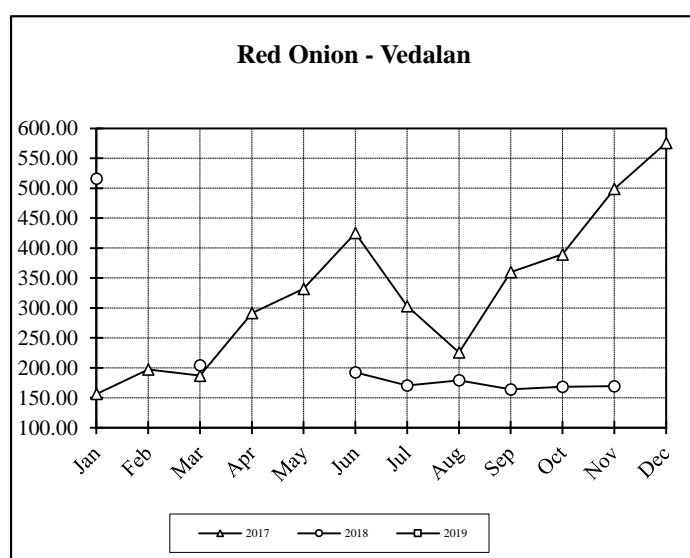
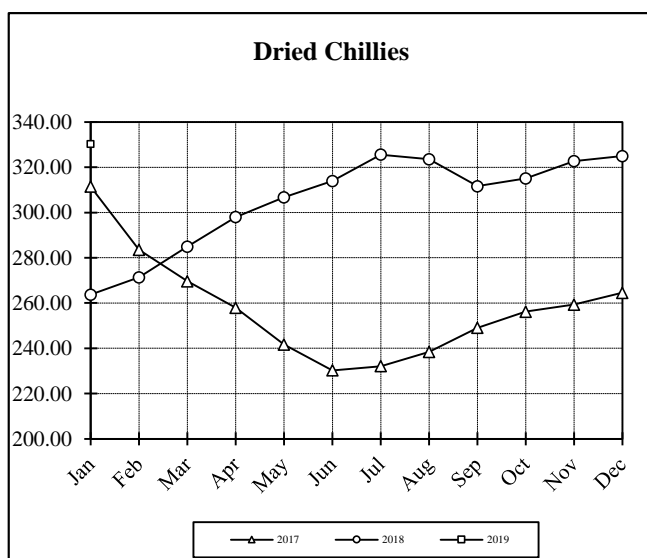
Table 8: Monthly rainfall (mm) – January 2019

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	19.4	76.6	3	6
Badulla	85.5	150.2	6	12
Bandarawela	48.5	99.1	6	10
Batticaloa	24.5	203.5	5	11
Colombo	45.7	56.3	6	5
Galle	11.0	82.4	5	8
Hambantota	22.7	53.3	5	5
Jaffna	14.6	67.1	2	4
Katugastota	20.3	76.8	3	6
Katunayaka	23.8	44.3	3	4
Kurunegala	6.4	54.6	4	4
Mahailuppallama	18.3	67.5	4	6
Mannar	65.2	37.5	3	4
Nuwara Eliya	95.4	97.4	5	8
Pottuvil	129.1	279.1	6	-
Puttalam	11.8	48.5	4	4
Ratmalana	9.5	67.1	2	5
Ratnapura	14.0	107.5	5	9
Trincomalee	12.3	112.0	6	7
Vavuniya	27.7	81.5	5	6
Polonnaruwa	19.1	-	4	-
Moneragala	99.6	-	8	-
Mattala	19.2	-	8	-

Source: Department of Meteorology

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

Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion			Big Onion			Potato - N'eliya		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Jan	311.44	263.76	330.31	156.25	515.82		100.02	143.32	85.22	194.94	163.50	215.71
Feb	283.58	271.41		197.00			96.57	118.86		174.64	149.12	
Mar	269.67	284.90		186.80	204.17		95.60	88.58		165.97	139.65	
Apr	257.93	298.03		291.30			99.33	67.31		179.77	149.37	
May	241.70	306.67		331.70			96.33	99.21		184.26	165.33	
Jun	230.28	313.87		425.19	192.53		97.25	108.62		184.74	191.52	
Jul	232.12	325.59		302.86	170.61		96.33	115.02		182.06	206.17	
Aug	238.44	323.56		225.63	179.06		132.19	115.74		184.34	207.29	
Sep	249.10	311.60		359.93	164.11		141.57	109.70		177.47	167.27	
Oct	256.20	315.11		389.38	168.06		147.37	111.28		167.88	155.45	
Nov	259.31	322.74		498.85	169.23		165.87	120.24		160.43	192.07	
Dec	264.58	324.98		575.43			157.18	102.86		163.52	214.56	



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

January - 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	117.00	123.00	103.00	Welimada		69.67	65.83	
A'pura	50.20	50.17	43.75	44.71	Badulla					N'Eliya	57.00	75.00	52.00	38.00
P'narawa					Welimada	110.63	106.67	98.33	100.63	Beetroot				
Kalawewa	50.67	54.00	50.00	36.25	Pulses					Hanguranketha	70.00	75.00	67.50	51.67
Kurunegala	52.67	52.67	45.33	40.50	Green Gram					N'Eliya	68.00	62.00	62.00	58.00
Dehiattakandiya	53.67	53.67	53.67	41.67	Galgamuwa					Dambulla	105.00	91.67	73.75	42.00
Ampara	51.60	51.60	34.00	34.00	Kalawewa	150.00	150.00	170.00	165.00	Kurunegala				
Long grain (White)					Embilipitiya	175.83		131.67	140.00	Welimada	93.13	83.33	70.83	46.60
A'pura	43.80	40.71	37.89	33.71	Kurunegala			240.00	226.67	Knokhol				
P'narawa					A'pura	167.50	172.50	190.00	175.00	Hanguranketha	51.67		55.00	55.00
Kalawewa	43.33	43.58	42.00	30.94	Cowpea					N'Eliya	53.00	38.00	27.00	23.00
Kurunegala	46.67	46.67	37.00	31.50	A'pura	155.00	148.75	143.75	126.67	Welimada		65.00	42.00	35.60
Dehiattakandiya	45.33	45.33	45.33	34.67	Galgamuwa	93.13	83.33	70.83	46.60	Radish				
Embilipitiya					Nikaweratiya					Hanguranketha	10.00	9.00	10.00	10.00
Ampara	43.40	40.00	30.60	30.60	Kalawewa	175.00	175.00	131.67	140.00	N'Eliya	22.00	13.80	10.40	8.80
Matara					Embilipitiya	167.50		240.00	226.67	Welimada	17.63	14.71	13.00	7.43
Hambantota					Kurunegala			190.00	175.00	Cabbage				
Long grain (Red)					Maize					Hanguranketha	31.67	25.00	37.50	17.67
Matara					A'Pura	50.75	49.71	44.75	42.40	N'Eliya	37.00	37.00	28.00	28.00
Hambantota	39.20	39.33	39.67	38.00	Kalawewa					Welimada	38.75	31.67	21.33	17.33
Ampara	37.20	37.20			Gingelly					Hambantota				
Embilipitiya	37.50		38.33	38.33	A'Pura	245.00	278.33	250.00	243.33	Badulla	56.00	29.00	26.00	19.00
Other Food Crops					Kalawewa	215.00	215.00	172.86	158.00	Tomato				
Dried Chillies					Black Gram					Hanguranketha	41.67	45.00	45.00	25.00
A'Pura					Kalawewa	170.00	170.00	190.00	175.00	Welimada	47.14	49.17	33.83	33.50
Galgamuwa					A'Pura	172.50	168.75	172.86	158.00	Hambantota	55.00	52.50	38.00	53.00
Kalawewa					Vegetables (Up Country)					Dambulla	52.40	62.20	50.40	44.80
Red Onion					Beans					Low Country				
Puttalam	88.00	88.00	88.00	100.00	Dambulla	102.00	100.00	93.20	64.20	Ladies Fingers				
Big Onion					Welimada	115.00	72.14	87.88	42.80	A'pura	80.00	77.50	77.50	60.00
Dambulla					Badulla	115.00	87.00	94.00	66.00	Dambulla	79.80	70.80	73.60	58.20
Kalawewa					Carrot					Hambantota	67.50	67.50	67.50	67.50
A'Pura					Hanguranketha	55.00	45.00	45.00	58.33	Embilipitiya	75.00		74.29	68.14
Kurunegala					N'Eliya	57.00	92.00	48.00	78.00	Matara				
					Welimada	53.13	56.88	38.50	48.83					

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	66.25	92.00	80.00	45.00	Dambulla	12.20	9.00	13.40	11.00	Hambantota	225.00	100.00	90.00	75.00
Dambulla	77.60	89.40	78.80	50.60	Hambantota	42.50	26.67	32.50	35.00	Embilipitiya	170.83		78.57	78.57
Hambantota	65.00	65.00	45.00	45.00	Embilipitiya	25.00		21.75	23.00	Moneragala	87.50	71.67	71.67	36.00
Embilipitiya	81.00		60.83	40.00	Matara					Fruits (Rs/Kg)				
Matara					A'pura	12.50	15.50	10.00	13.60	Banana				
Welimada	71.25	71.67	64.00	49.33	Moneragala	16.00	16.00	15.33	15.33	Ambul				
					Cucumber									
Capsicum					A'pura	30.33	26.25	25.00	28.00	Moneragala	41.67	41.67	43.33	41.67
Welimada	192.50	161.67	151.67	122.50	Dambulla	32.40	27.40	27.40	27.67	Embilipitiya	37.14		32.86	30.71
Bitter Gourd					Hambantota	45.00	42.50	35.00	35.00	Hambantota	45.00	37.50	30.00	37.50
A'pura	95.00	102.00	96.67	92.50	Matara					Kolikuttu				
Dambulla	101.00	100.00	97.00	100.00	Long beans									
Hambantota	155.00	160.00	175.00	175.00	Dambulla	47.00	44.20	49.20	38.60	Moneragala	113.33	93.33	93.33	81.67
Embilipitiya	137.00		150.00	150.00	Hambantota	55.00	47.50	47.50	47.50	Embilipitiya	110.00		79.17	75.83
					Embilipitiya	66.67		61.67	50.83	Hambantota	75.00	75.00	65.00	75.00
Snake Gourd					Matara					Papaw				
Dambulla	37.80	41.00	43.20	38.60	A'Pura	47.50	39.00	43.75	45.00	Moneragala				
Hambantota	52.50	45.00	45.00	45.00	Ash Plantain									
Embilipitiya	54.50		54.50	46.67	Hambantota	47.50	47.50	47.50	47.50	Embilipitiya	111.40		133.00	146.00
Matara					Embilipitiya	53.40		51.40	47.40	Hambantota	85.00	125.00	145.00	125.00
A'pura	50.00	47.00	44.25	41.25	Matara					Pineapple				
Luffa					Green Chillies									
Dambulla	82.20	76.80	69.80	79.80	Dambulla	192.00	230.00	212.00	176.00	Divulapitiya				
Hambantota	75.00	75.00	85.00	85.00	Hambantota	425.00	310.00	268.00	270.00					
Embilipitiya	109.40		103.00	101.40	Embilipitiya	327.50		295.00	251.67					
Matara					Puttalam	188.00	220.00	194.00	118.00					
A'pura	85.00	80.00	75.00	78.75	A'Pura	205.00	250.00	235.00	192.50					