



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY FEBRUARY 2019

This report provides a monthly review of selected agricultural produce available at the Local Markets in Upolu and Savaii based on the price data and volume index survey. Corresponding tables are attached for ease of reference.

Key findings:

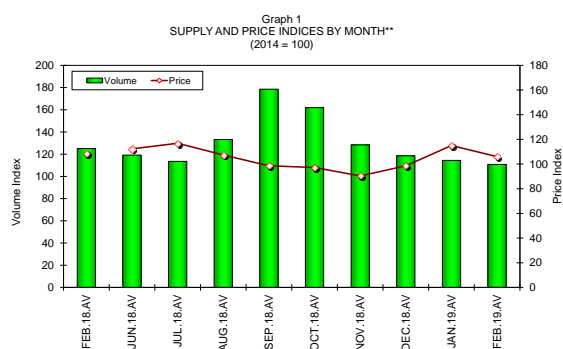
The Local Market Survey in February 2019 revealed overall volume drop 3 percent while weak domestic demand pushed average prices down 8 percent when compared to January 2019.

- There was a significant reduction in the supply of most agricultural produce due to the rainy weather conditions in February 2019.
- The value of supplies fell 11 percent to \$68,800 from the previous month.
- An average of 304 sellers trading at the Local Market were recorded in the month under review; 6 percent lower than the previous month and 8 percent lower when compared with the same month last year.

Issue: 01/02/19

OVERVIEW

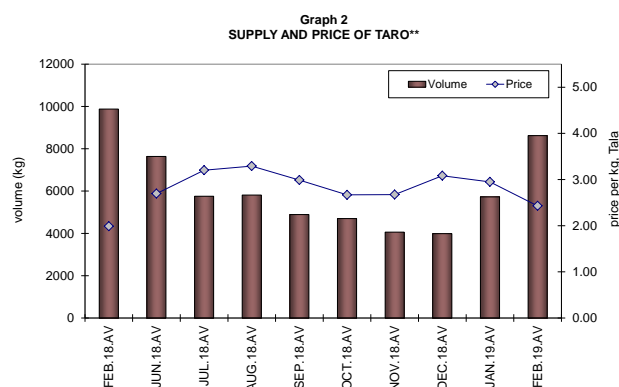
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in February 2019 showed overall volume decrease 3 percent from January 2019. Significant decreases were recorded for all agricultural produce with the exception of taro, banana, coconut and head cabbage. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 11 percent lower. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



Decreased domestic demand for most agricultural produce prompted overall price level to drop 8 percent from the previous month. Lower prices were recorded for all agriculture produce with the exception of tomato, Chinese cabbage and cucumber. When compared with January 2019 the current overall price level was 3 percent lower.

TARO

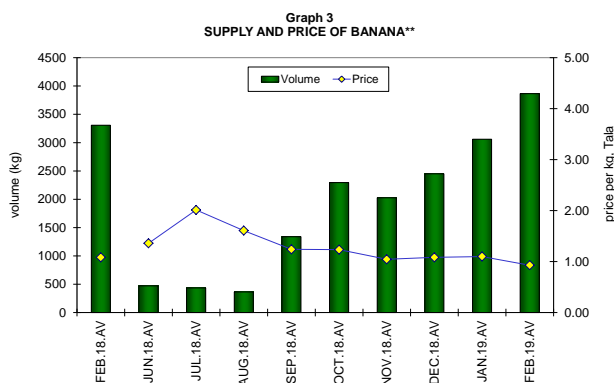
The volume of taro supplies in February 2019 increased 51 percent (to 8,622 kilograms) from January 2019; a level that was 13 percent lower than the same month last year. The average price of taro decreased 18 percent (to \$2.43 per kilogram) due to increase availability. When compared with February 2018, current price of taro was 22 percent higher. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Despite the increase in volume in the month under review, current supply of taro contributed to a 40 percent decline in volume when comparing the twelve months ending February 2019 over the twelve months ending February 2018. Price rose 59 percent.

BANANA

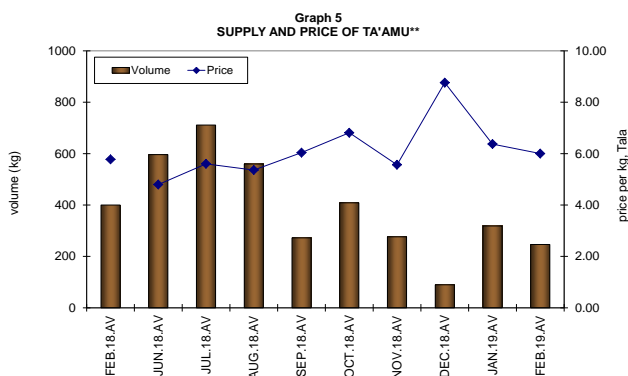
The supply of banana to the Local Markets in February 2019 rose 26 percent (to 3,865 kilograms) from January 2019; a level that was 17 percent higher than the same month last year. The average price of banana fell 15 percent (to \$0.93 per kilogram) due to increase availability. When compared with the same month last year current price was 14 percent lower. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2)



When comparing the twelve months ending February 2019 over the twelve months ending February 2018, banana supplies were 36 percent lower while limited availability pushed its average price up 35 percent.

TA'AMU

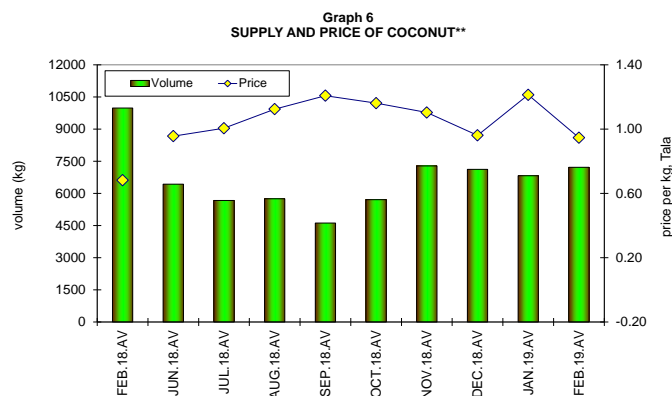
Ta'amu supplies in February 2019 decreased 23 percent (to 247 kilograms) from the previous month, while weak domestic demand pushed its average price down 6 percent (to \$6.00 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of ta'amu was 38 percent lower while its average price was 4 percent higher. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of ta'amu in the month under review contributed to a 13 percent decrease in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending February 2019 over twelve months ending February 2018 while limited availability pushed its average price up 29 percent.

COCONUT

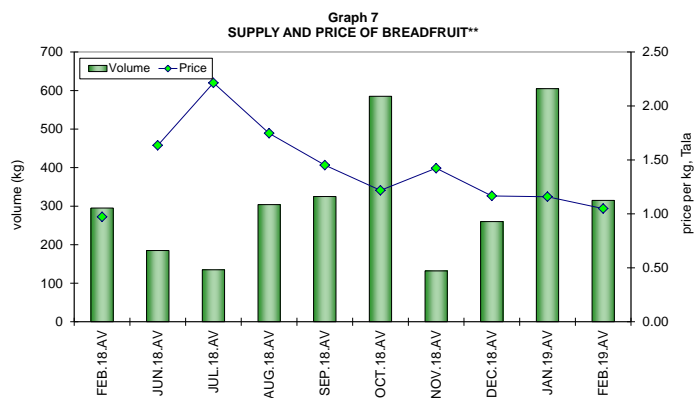
In the month under review coconut supplies increased 6 percent (to 7,219 kilograms) from the previous month while increased availability pushed its average price down 22 percent (to \$0.95 per kilogram). Compared to February 2018, current supply of coconut was 28 percent lower while average price increased 39 percent. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1&2)



Comparing the twelve months ending February 2019 over the twelve months ending February 2018 supply of coconut was 5 percent higher while its average price also rose 40 percent.

BREADFRUIT

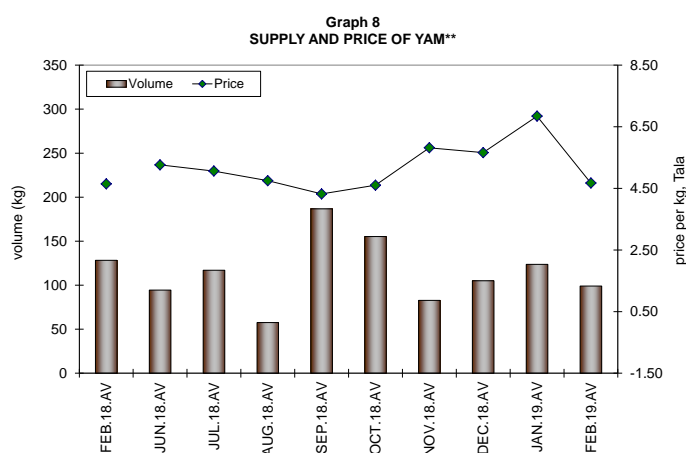
At an average of 315 kilograms, breadfruit supply in February 2019 dropped 48 percent when compared to the previous month, while weakened demand pushed its average price down 9 percent (to \$1.05 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current breadfruit supply was 7 percent higher while strong domestic demand pushed its average price up 8 percent. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1& 2)



Current decline in the supply of breadfruit contributed to a 10 percent decrease in volume when comparing the twelve months ending February 2019 over the twelve months ending February 2018 while its average price increased 43 percent.

YAM

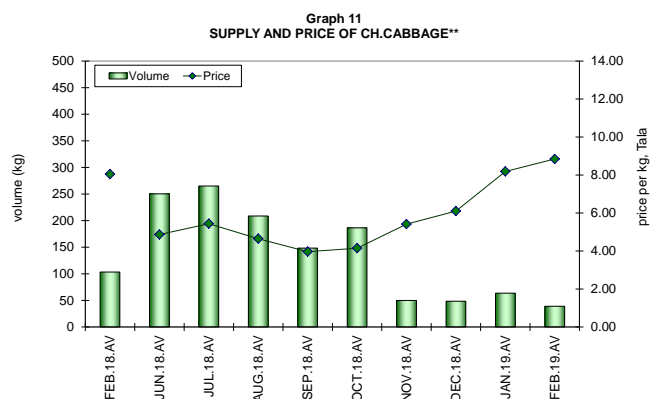
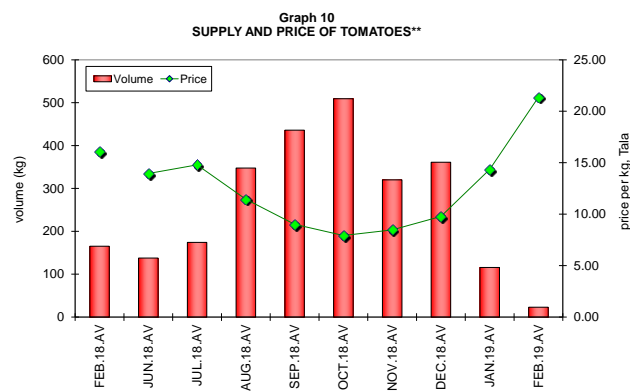
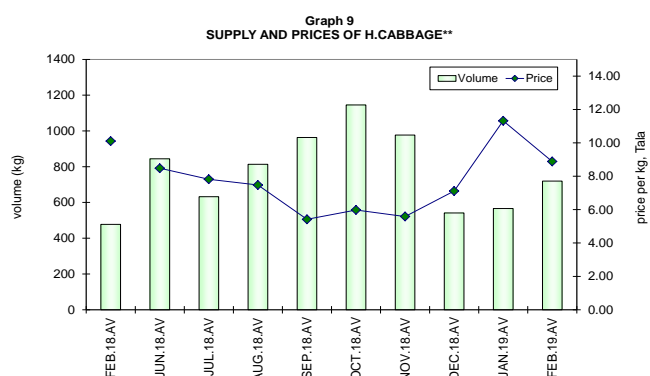
At 99 kilogram, the supply of yam to the Local Markets fell 20 percent from the previous month while weakened domestic demand pushed its average price down 32 percent (to \$4.67 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam was 23 percent lower while limited supply over the year pushed its average price up 1 percent. (See Graph 8 and Tables 1 & 2)



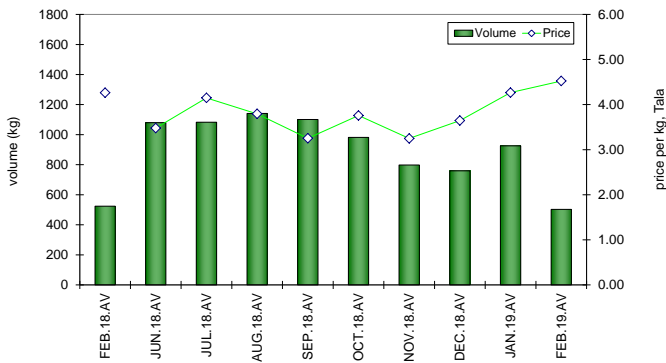
Current supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 43 percent decrease in volume in the twelve months ending February 2019 over the twelve months ending February 2018, while its average price rose 51 percent.

VEGETABLE PRODUCE

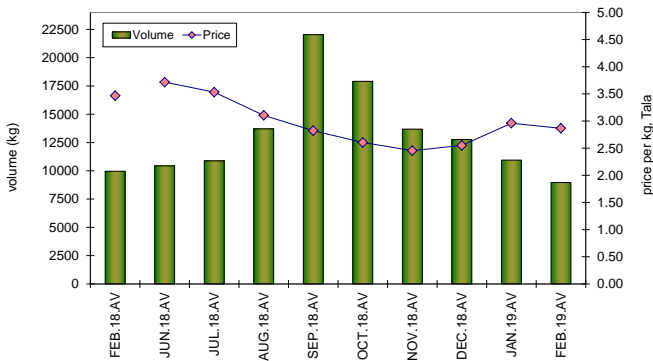
Wet weather conditions in February 2019 affected the supply of vegetable produce to the Local markets resulting in the reduction of the supply of all vegetable with the exception of head cabbage supplies recording a moderate increase of 27 percent (to 719 kilograms) from the previous month. Tomato supplies fell 80 percent (to 23 kilograms) while cucumber volume fell 46 percent (to 503 kilograms). Supplies of Chinese cabbage declined 38 percent (to 39 kilograms) from January 2019 while supplies of pumpkin fell 18 percent (to 8,959 kilograms) when compared to the previous month. (See Graphs 9 to 13 and Tables 1 & 2)



Graph 12
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CUCUMBER**



Graph 13
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF PUMPKIN**

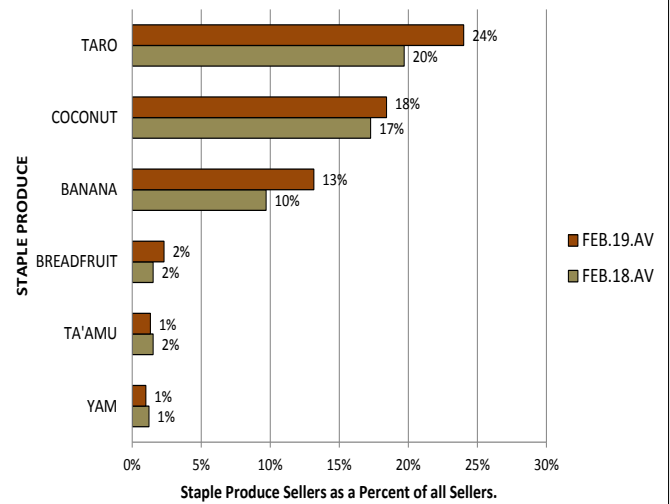


Subsequent to the limited availability of most vegetable produce supplied to the Local Markets in the month under review, average prices for all vegetables increased with the exception of head cabbage prices recording a 22 percent decline (to \$8.88 per kilogram) and pumpkin prices falling 3 percent (to \$2.87 per kilogram). Tomato experienced the largest price increase; up 49 percent (to \$21.37 per kilogram) while Chinese cabbage prices grew 8 percent (to \$8.84 per kilogram) from the previous month, followed by cucumber prices edging up 6 percent (to \$4.52 per kilogram) in that order.

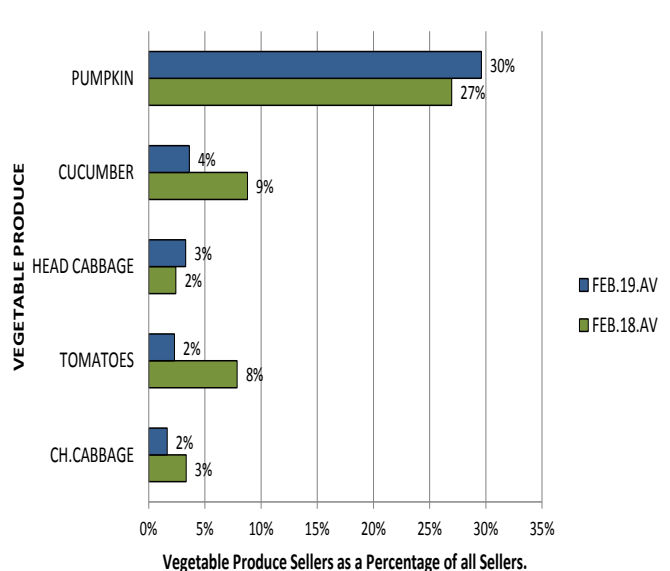
SELLERS

At 304, the number of sellers at the Local Markets on the days surveyed in February 2019 decreased 6 percent from the previous month and was 8 percent lower when compared with the number of sellers in the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 14 and 15 and Table 6).

GRAPH 14
SELLERS BY STAPLE PRODUCE



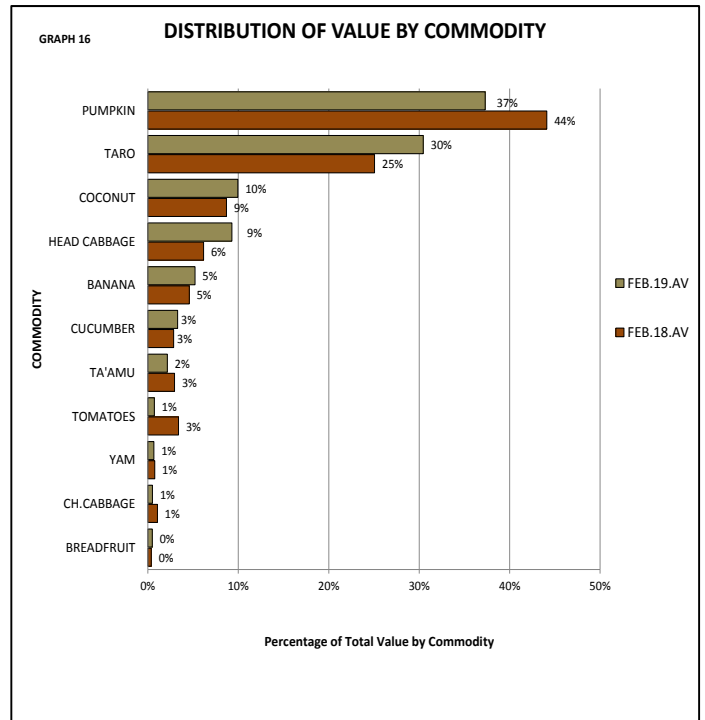
GRAPH 15
SELLERS BY VEGETABLE PRODUCE



In February 2019, pumpkin sellers at 90 were the largest group at the local markets increasing from 89 in the previous month and the same month last year. Taro sellers followed recorded an increasing total of 73 from 66 last month and 65 in the same month a year ago while coconut sellers increased to 56 from 53 in the previous month but were lower than 57 in the same month last year. Sellers of banana recorded a decreasing total of 40 from 41 in January 2019 but were higher than 32 in February 2018 while total sellers of cucumber decreased to 11 from 30 last month and 29 in February 2018. Sellers of head cabbage recorded an increasing total of 10 from 8 in the previous month the same month a year ago. Sellers of breadfruit and tomato both recorded a total of 7 each with breadfruit sellers decreasing from 10 in the previous month but were higher than 5 in the same month last year while tomato sellers also decreasing from 16 in January 2019 and 26 in February 2018. Chinese cabbage sellers followed with a decreasing total of 5 from 7 in the previous month and 11 in the same month a year ago. Sellers of ta'amu recorded an increasing total of 4 from 3 in the previous month but were lower than 5 in the same month a year ago while sellers of yam remained at the total of 3 from last month but were lower than 4 when compared with February 2018.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$68,800 in February 2019 decreased 11 percent from the previous month and was 12 percent lower when compared with February 2018.



Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 37 percent in February 2019, a level that was lower than 42 percent in the previous month and 44 percent in the same month a year ago. Taro supplies followed with a 30 percent contribution to total value increasing from 22 percent in the previous month and 25 percent when compared with the same month a year ago. Supplies of coconut contributed 10 percent of total value decreased from 11 percent last month but were higher than 9 percent in the same month a year ago while supplies of head cabbage contributed 9 percent to total value increased from 8 percent last month and 6 percent the same month last year. Shares of banana accounted for 5 percent of total value increasing from 4 percent in the previous month and remained unchanged when compared with February 2018. Cucumber supplies accounted for 3 percent of total value decreasing from 5 percent last month and remained unchanged in the same month last year. Supplies of ta'amu recorded a 2 percent share in the month under review falling from 3 percent in the previous month and the same month last year. Tomato, yam and Chinese cabbage supplies accounted for 1 percent each of total value while lower relative lower contributions were recorded for breadfruit in the month under review. (See Graph 16 & Table 3)

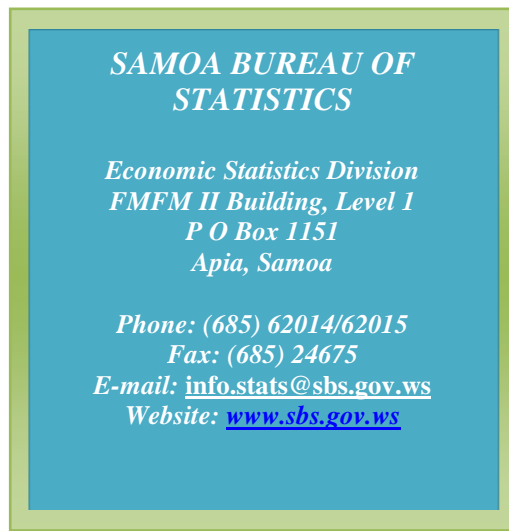
Technical Notes

The Local Market Survey measures the price and volume of selected agricultural produce from the Local Markets at **Fugalei, Taufusi, Vaitele, Afega, Saleimoa, Fasitootai, Savaia, and Salelologa** every month. Prices for selected produce are taken from the Consumer Price Index.

*** Data shown reflects the average availability and prices of selected produce. This survey is conducted on each Thursday for rural markets on Upolu and Savaii and each Friday for urban markets on Upolu in the months under reference.*

Weights for selected produce have been revised using 2014 as the base period and have been incorporated starting from June 2016 report.

The Local Market Survey Report for March 2019 will be available on 13th April 2019.



Taiaopo Faumuina
ACTING GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN/(CEO)

SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.18.AV	JUN.18.AV	JUL.18.AV	AUG.18.AV	SEP.18.AV	OCT.18.AV	NOV.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	Feb-19	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB18
TARO	7521	9877	7639	5757	5812	4891	4698	4057	3985	5727	8622	51	-13
BANANA	2642	3307	471	434	365	1340	2294	2027	2450	3061	3865	26	17
TA'AMU	816	400	596	711	560	272	409	276	89	319	247	-23	-38
COCONUT	7993	9986	6434	5671	5750	4620	5709	7284	7120	6825	7219	6	-28
BREADFRUIT	186	295	185	135	304	325	585	132	260	605	315	-48	7
YAM	129	128	95	117	58	187	155	83	105	124	99	-20	-23
HEAD CABBAGE	811	477	844	632	813	964	1145	977	541	566	719	27	51
TOMATOES	256	165	138	174	348	436	509	320	361	116	23	-80	-86
CH.CABBAGE	129	103	250	265	209	148	186	50	48	63	39	-38	-62
CUCUMBER	542	524	1079	1083	1141	1101	982	798	759	926	503	-46	-4
PUMPKIN	6217	9962	10432	10879	13703	22036	17911	13685	12761	10948	8959	-18	-10

Table 2: Weighted Average Price Per Kilograms (in Tala)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.18.AV	JUN.18.AV	JUL.18.AV	AUG.18.AV	SEP.18.AV	OCT.18.AV	NOV.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	FEB18
TARO	1.48	1.99	2.70	3.20	3.29	2.99	2.67	2.67	3.08	2.95	2.43	-18	22
BANANA	0.76	1.08	1.36	2.01	1.61	1.24	1.23	1.04	1.08	1.10	0.93	-15	-14
TA'AMU	2.78	5.78	4.80	5.60	5.36	6.04	6.81	5.56	8.76	6.37	6.00	-6	4
COCONUT	0.62	0.68	0.96	1.01	1.12	1.21	1.16	1.10	0.96	1.21	0.95	-22	39
BREADFRUIT	0.94	0.97	1.63	2.21	1.75	1.45	1.22	1.42	1.17	1.16	1.05	-9	8
YAM	3.16	4.65	5.26	5.06	4.75	4.32	4.60	5.82	5.66	6.84	4.67	-32	1
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	10.11	8.48	7.82	7.47	5.42	5.98	5.58	7.11	11.32	8.88	-22	-12
TOMATOES	9.55	16.09	13.95	14.79	11.45	9.01	7.92	8.47	9.78	14.36	21.37	49	33
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	8.05	4.87	5.44	4.65	3.97	4.15	5.41	6.10	8.19	8.84	8	10
CUCUMBER	2.99	4.26	3.48	4.15	3.79	3.25	3.76	3.25	3.65	4.27	4.52	6	6
PUMPKIN	2.61	3.47	3.72	3.53	3.10	2.82	2.60	2.45	2.55	2.96	2.87	-3	-17

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	FEB.18.AV	JUN.18.AV	JUL.18.AV	AUG.18.AV	SEP.18.AV	OCT.18.AV	NOV.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	FEB18
TARO	126.6	19.6	20.6	18.4	19.1	14.6	12.5	10.9	12.3	16.9	21.0	24	7
BANANA	25.1	3.6	0.6	0.9	0.6	1.7	2.8	2.1	2.7	3.4	3.6	7	0
TA'AMU	25.6	2.3	2.9	4.0	3.0	1.6	2.8	1.5	0.8	2.0	1.5	-27	-36
COCONUT	59.3	6.8	6.2	5.7	6.5	5.6	6.6	8.0	6.8	8.3	6.8	-17	0
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.3	-53	14
YAM	4.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.5	-46	-23
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	4.8	7.2	4.9	6.1	5.2	6.8	5.5	3.9	6.4	6.4	0	33
TOMATOES	21.5	2.7	1.9	2.6	4.0	3.9	4.0	2.7	3.5	1.7	0.5	-70	-82
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	0.8	1.2	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	-33	-58
CUCUMBER	18.4	2.2	3.8	4.5	4.3	3.6	3.7	2.6	2.8	4.0	2.3	-43	2
PUMPKIN	178.3	34.5	38.8	38.4	42.5	62.2	46.7	33.6	32.6	32.4	25.7	-21	-26
	511.8	78.3	83.9	81.7	87.9	100.3	88.2	67.8	66.5	77.1	68.8	-11	-12

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	FEB.18.AV	JUN.18.AV	JUL.18.AV	AUG.18.AV	SEP.18.AV	OCT.18.AV	NOV.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB18
TARO	0.25	131	102	77	77	65	62	54	53	76	115	51	-13
BANANA	0.05	125	18	16	14	51	87	77	93	116	146	26	17
TA'AMU	0.05	49	73	87	69	33	50	34	11	39	30	-23	-38
COCONUT	0.12	125	81	71	72	58	71	91	89	85	90	6	-28
BREADFRUIT	0.004	159	99	73	163	175	315	71	140	325	169	-48	7
YAM	0.01	99	73	91	45	145	120	64	81	96	77	-20	-23
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	59	104	78	100	119	141	120	67	70	89	27	51
TOMATOES	0.04	65	54	68	136	170	199	125	141	45	9	-80	-86
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	80	194	205	162	115	144	39	38	49	30	-38	-62
CUCUMBER	0.04	97	199	200	211	203	181	147	140	171	93	-46	-4
PUMPKIN	0.35	160	168	175	220	354	288	220	205	176	144	-18	-10
	1.00	125	119	114	133	179	162	128	118	114	111	-3	-11

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	FEB.18.AV	JUN.18.AV	JUL.18.AV	AUG.18.AV	SEP.18.AV	OCT.18.AV	NOV.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB18
TARO	0.25	134	182	216	222	202	180	181	208	199	164	-18	22
BANANA	0.05	142	179	265	211	163	162	137	142	145	122	-15	-14
TA'AMU	0.05	208	173	201	193	217	245	200	315	229	216	-6	4
COCONUT	0.12	110	154	162	181	195	187	178	155	196	153	-22	39
BREADFRUIT	0.004	103	174	236	186	154	130	151	124	123	112	-9	8
YAM	0.01	147	167	160	150	137	146	184	179	217	148	-32	1
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	187	157	145	138	100	111	103	132	210	164	-22	-12
TOMATOES	0.04	168	146	155	120	94	83	89	102	150	224	49	33
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	184	111	124	106	91	95	124	139	187	202	8	10
CUCUMBER	0.04	143	116	139	127	109	126	109	122	143	151	6	6
PUMPKIN	0.35	133	142	135	119	108	100	94	98	113	110	-3	-17
	1.00	109	112	117	107	99	97	90	99	115	106	-8	-3

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.18.AV	JUN.18.AV	JUL.18.AV	AUG.18.AV	SEP.18.AV	OCT.18.AV	NOV.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB18
TARO	46	65	54	47	52	58	49	42	42	66	73	11	12
BANANA	27	32	9	7	7	23	34	29	28	41	40	-2	25
TA'AMU	7	5	7	6	6	3	5	4	1	3	4	33	-20
COCONUT	57	57	33	36	34	33	39	38	41	53	56	6	-2
BREADFRUIT	4	5	4	3	7	6	10	3	12	10	7	-30	40
YAM	5	4	3	3	2	5	4	2	3	3	3	0	-25
HEAD CABBAGE	12	8	18	13	14	20	17	14	19	8	10	25	25
TOMATOES	39	26	29	31	49	56	54	36	27	16	7	-56	-73
CH.CABBAGE	13	11	25	28	27	21	22	9	8	7	5	-29	-55
CUCUMBER	42	29	46	43	49	55	41	41	34	30	11	-63	-62
PUMPKIN	83	89	96	97	108	126	111	107	96	89	90	1	1
	337	330	322	312	356	405	385	326	312	325	304	-6	-8

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base