



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

APRIL 2018

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 April 2018 revealed overall volume increase 38 percent while domestic demand pushing overall average price up 4 percent when compared to March 2018.

- Increased domestic demand for most vegetable produce, taro, and ta'amu contributed to the rise in the price index.
- The value of supplies increased 41 percent to \$90,200 from the previous month.
- An average of 271 sellers trading at the Local Market was recorded in the month under review; 3 percent lower than the previous month and 15 percent lower when compared with the same month last year.

Issue: 1/04/18

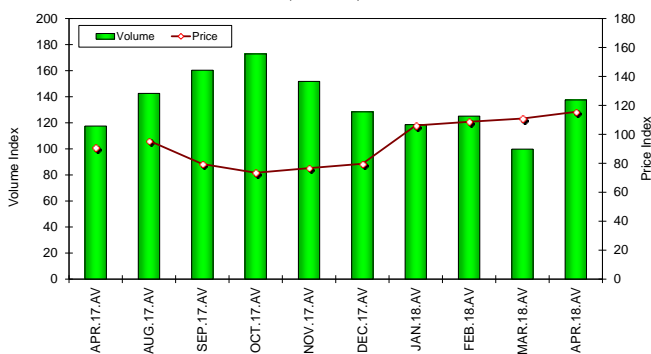
OVERVIEW

The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in April 2018 showed overall volume increase 38 percent from March 2018. Significant increases were recorded for all agricultural produce with the exception of banana, coconut, yam, head cabbage and cucumber. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 17 percent higher. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)

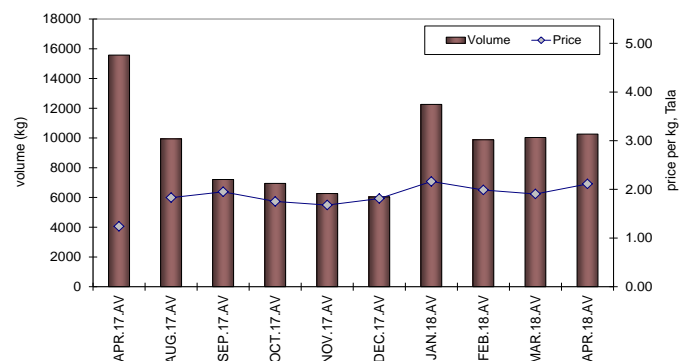
TARO

At 10,264 kilograms, the supply of taro to the market in April 2018 increased 2 percent from the previous month while strong demand led its average price to climb 11 percent (to \$2.11 per kilogram). When compared with April 2017 supply of taro was 34 percent lower while its average price was 70 percent higher (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)

Graph 1
SUPPLY AND PRICE INDICES BY MONTH**
(2014 = 100)



Graph 2
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF TARO**

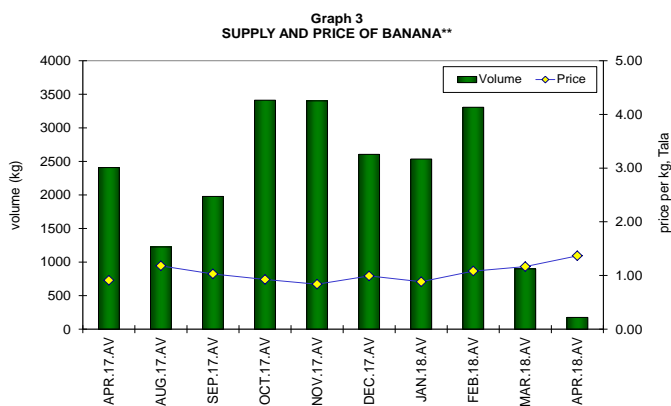


The overall price index increased 4 percent due to significant decreases in the supply of banana and coconut while domestic demand for vegetable produce pushed average prices up from the previous month. When compared with April 2017 the current overall price level was 27 percent higher.

Current supply of taro in the month under review contributed to a 30 percent rise in volume when comparing the twelve months ending April 2018 over the twelve months ending April 2017. Price fell 28 percent.

BANANA

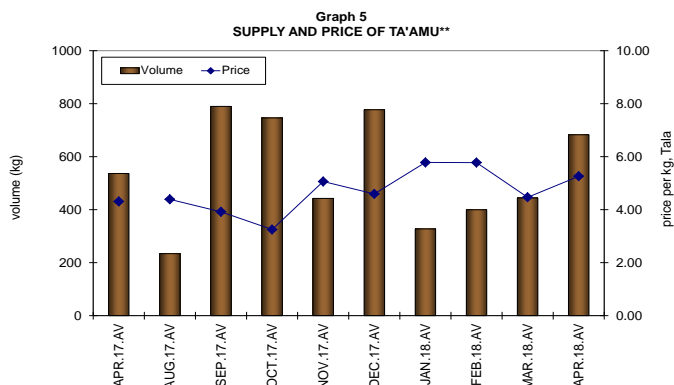
The volume of banana supplied to the Local Markets in April 2018 decreased 81 percent (to 175 kilograms) from March 2018; a level that was 93 percent lower than the same month a year ago. Reduced supply of banana pushed its average price up 17 percent (to \$1.37 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year current price was 50 percent higher. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1 & 2)



When comparing the twelve months ending April 2018 over the twelve months ending April 2017, banana supplies were 6 percent lower while average price also decreased 24 percent.

TA'AMU

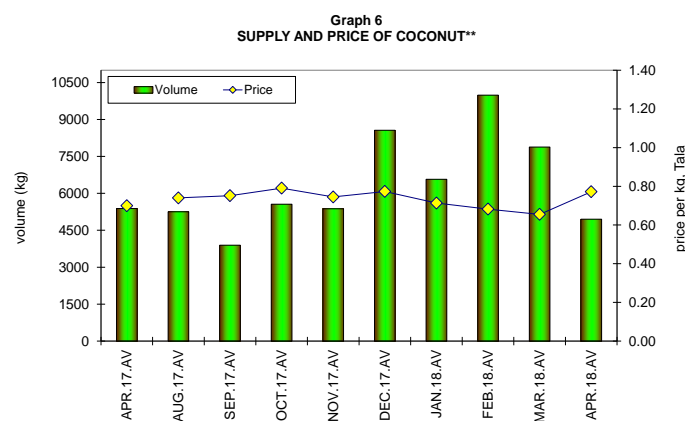
Ta'amu supplies in April 2018 increased 54 percent (to 683 kilograms) from the previous month while strong domestic demand pushed its average price up 18 percent (to \$5.26 per kilogram). Compared to April 2017, current supply of ta'amu was 27 percent higher while its average price was also 22 percent higher. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of ta'amu in the month under review contributed to a 47 percent increase in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending April 2018 over the twelve months ending April 2017 while increased availability pushed its average price down 21 percent.

COCONUT

In the month under review, the supply of coconut dropped 37 percent (to 4,950 kilogram) from March 2018 while limited supply pushed its average price up 18 percent (to \$0.77 per kilogram). Current availability of coconut was 8 percent lower than average availability in April 2017 while average price rose 10 percent over the year. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1 & 2)

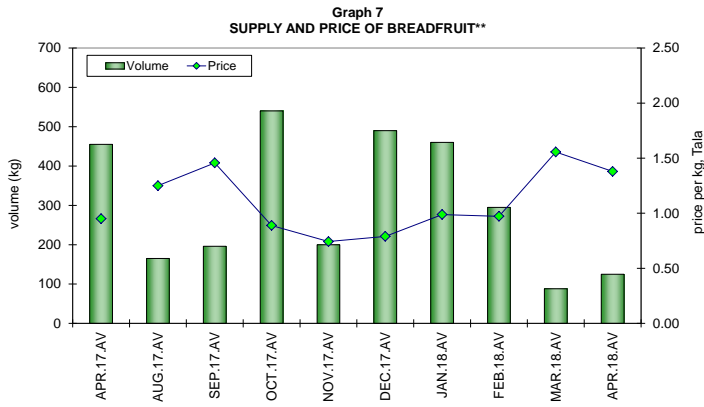


The volume of coconut recorded in the month under review contributed to a 22 percent rise in supply when comparing the twelve month ending April 2018 over the twelve month ending April 2017 while its average price also rose 2 percent.

BREADFRUIT

At an average of 125 kilograms, breadfruit supply in April 2018 rose 42 percent from the previous month. Increased availability to the markets pushed its average price down 11 percent (to \$1.38 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current breadfruit supply was 73 percent lower while its average price was 45 percent higher. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1& 2)

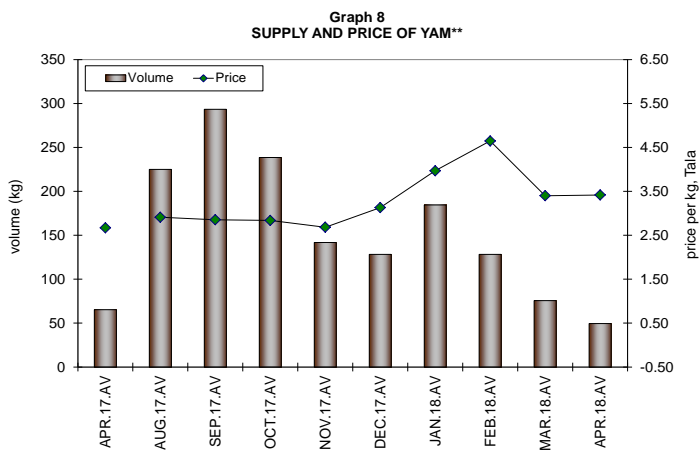
VEGETABLE PRODUCE



When comparing the twelve months ending April 2018 over the twelve months ending April 2017, breadfruit supplies were 23 percent lower while its average price decreased 5 percent.

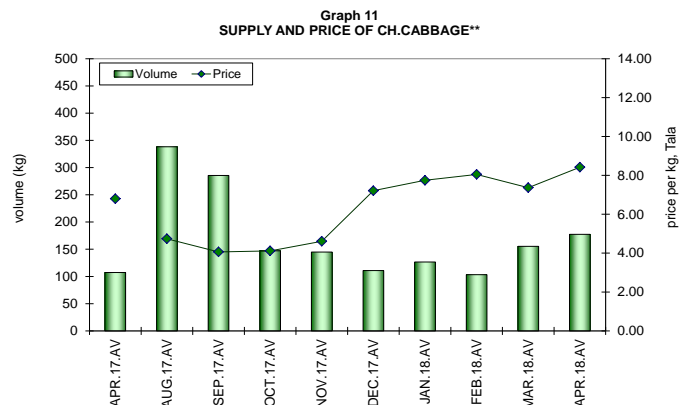
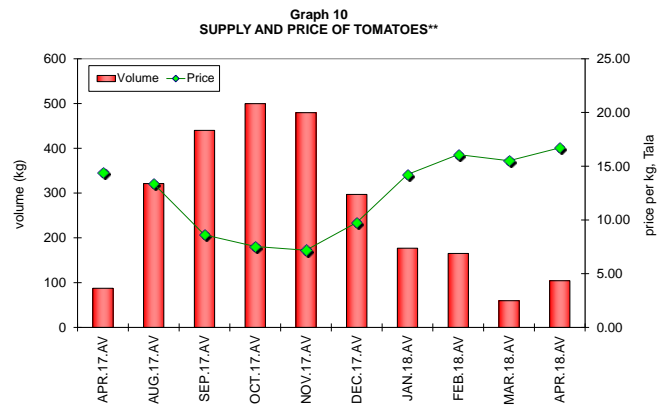
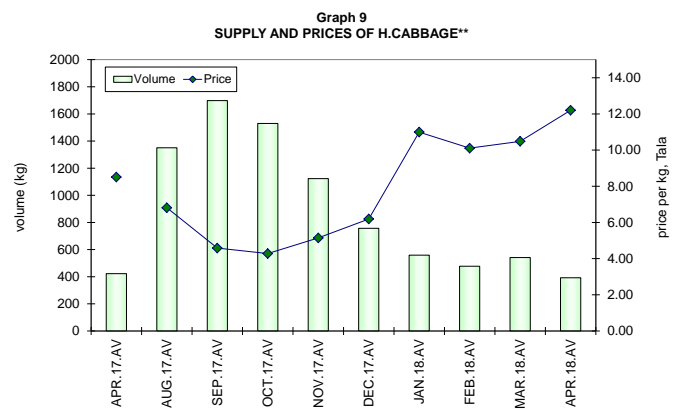
YAM

The supply of yam in the month under review dropped 35 percent (to 50 kilograms) from the previous month while increased availability pushed its average price up 1 percent (to \$3.42 per kilogram). When compared with April 2017, current supply of yam was 24 percent lower while limited supply over the year pushed its average price up 28 percent. (See Graph 8 and Tables 1 & 2)

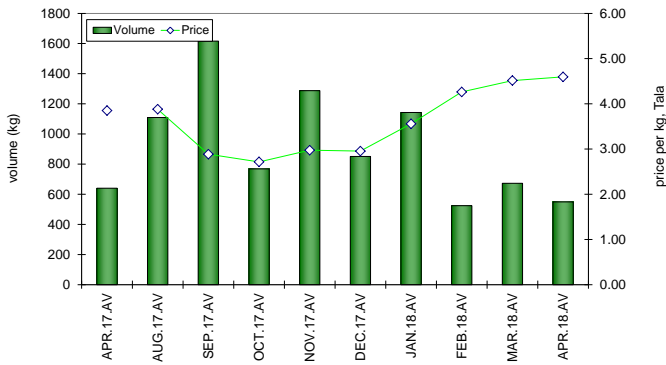


Current supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 1 percent increase in volume in the twelve months ending April 2018 over the twelve months ending April 2017, while its average price fell 8 percent.

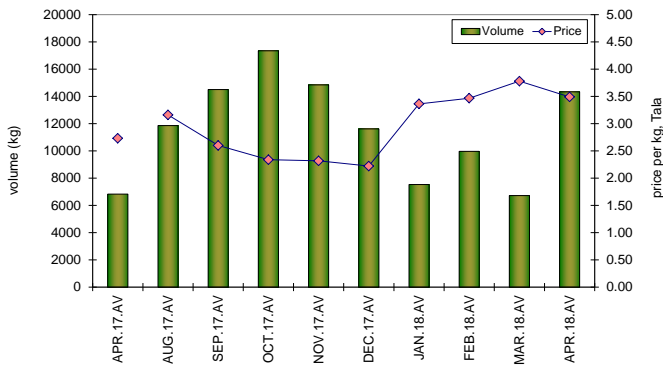
A general overview of all vegetable produce to the Local Markets in April 2018, revealed significant gains in all vegetable supplies with the exception of head cabbage and cucumber whose volume dropped 28 percent (to 392 kilograms) and 18 percent (to 549 kilograms) from the previous month. Pumpkin supplies registered the largest increase more than double its volume (to 14,331 kilograms) from March 2018 followed by tomato supplies increasing 75 percent (to 104 kilograms) while Chinese cabbage supplies also rose 14 percent (to 177 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**

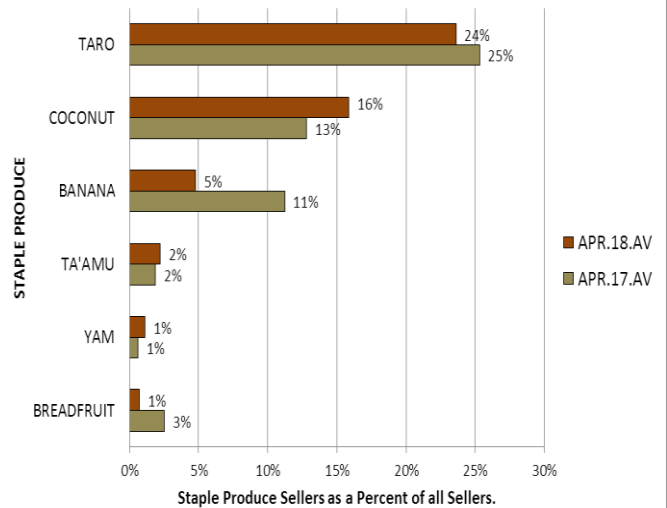


Despite the increase in the supply of most vegetable produce to the Local Markets in the month under review, strong domestic demand pushed average prices up for all vegetable produce with the exception of pumpkin recording a decrease of 8 percent (to \$3.49 per kilogram). Average price for head cabbage recorded a 16 percent increase (to \$12.20 per kilogram) while Chinese cabbage price increased 14 percent (to \$8.42 per kilogram) respectively from the previous month. Driven by demand, average price for tomato rose 8 percent (to \$16.71 per kilogram) while limited supplies of cucumber led to its average price increasing 2 percent (to \$4.60 per kilogram) in that order.

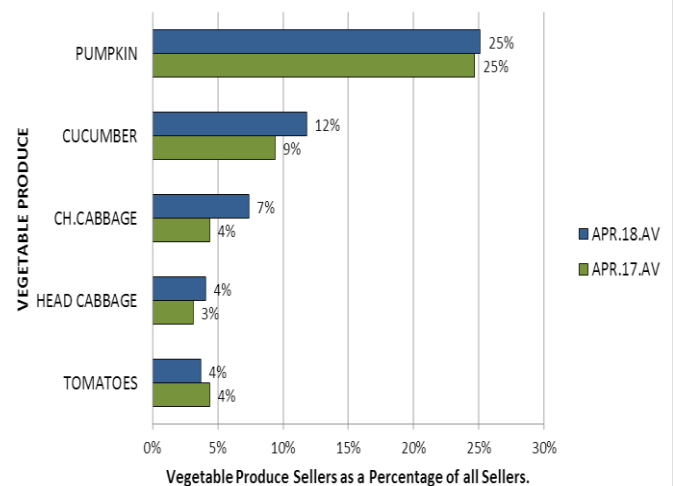
SELLERS

At 271, the number of sellers at the Local Markets on the days surveyed in April 2018 fell 3 percent from the previous month and was also 15 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

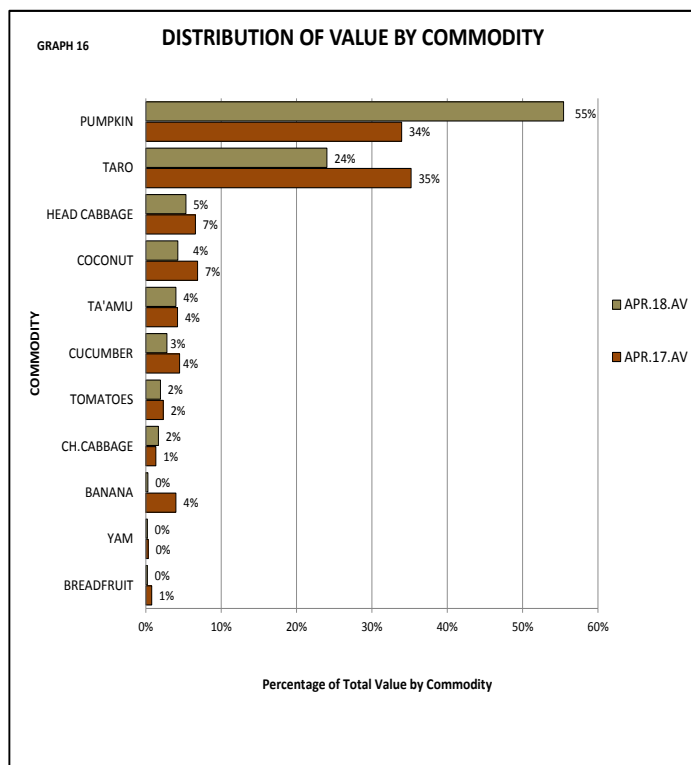


In April 2018, pumpkin sellers at 68 were the largest group at the local markets increasing from 63 in the previous month but were lower than 79 in the same month last year. Taro sellers followed recording a decreasing total of 64 from 65 last month and 81 in the same month a year ago, while coconut sellers decreased to 43 from 53 in the previous month but were higher than 41 a year ago. Cucumber sellers remained at 32 from last month but were higher than 30 in April 2017. Sellers of Chinese cabbage recorded an increasing total of 20 from 17 in the previous month and 14 in the same month a year ago, while sellers of banana recorded a decreasing total of 13 from 16 in March 2018 and 36 in April

2017. Head cabbage sellers followed recording an increasing total of 11 from 10 in the previous month and the same month last year. Sellers of tomato at 10 fell from 13 in the previous month and 14 in the same month a year ago. Ta'amu sellers revealed no change from the previous month and in April 2017, while sellers of yam remained at a total of 3 from March 2018 but were higher than 2 in the same month last year. Total sellers of breadfruit revealed no change from the previous month but were lower than 8 when compared with the same month a year ago.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$90,200 in April 2018 increased 41 percent from the previous month and was 64 percent higher when compared with April 2017.



Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 55 percent in April 2018, a level that was higher than 40 percent in March 2018 and 34 percent in April 2017. Taro supplies followed with a 24 percent contribution to total value decreasing from 30 percent in the previous month and 35 percent when

compared with the same month a year ago. Supplies of head cabbage contributed 5 percent to total value decreasing from 9 percent in the previous month and 7 percent in April 2017. Supplies of coconut and ta'amu both accounted for 4 percent each of total value; with coconut contribution decreasing from 8 percent in March 2018 and 7 percent a year ago while shares of ta'amu increased from 3 percent in the previous month and remained unchanged from April 2017. Supplies of cucumber accounted for 3 percent of total value, decreasing from 5 percent in March 2018 and 4 percent in April 2017. Tomato and Chinese cabbage supplies both accounted for 2 percent each of total value with tomato contribution increasing from 1 percent from the previous month but remained unchanged in the same month last year while share of Chinese cabbage supplies remained unchanged from March 2018 but were higher than 1 percent in April 2017. Lower contributions were recorded for all other commodities 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, Toleafoa, 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 each Friday for urban markets on Upolu and Savaii 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 May 2018 will be available on 25th June 2018.

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SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	APR.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	MAR.18.AV	APR.18.AV	Apr-18	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR17
TARO	7521	15573	9941	7211	6948	6261	6034	12262	9877	10030	10264	2	-34
BANANA	2642	2409	1226	1979	3412	3401	2604	2535	3307	900	175	-81	-93
TA'AMU	816	537	234	790	746	443	777	327	400	444	683	54	27
COCONUT	7993	5382	5250	3894	5556	5372	8560	6570	9986	7882	4950	-37	-8
BREADFRUIT	186	455	165	196	540	200	490	460	295	88	125	42	-73
YAM	129	65	225	293	239	142	128	185	128	76	50	-35	-24
HEAD CABBAGE	811	423	1351	1698	1529	1123	756	559	477	541	392	-28	-7
TOMATOES	256	87	321	440	500	480	297	177	165	60	104	75	19
CH.CABBAGE	129	107	338	285	147	145	111	127	103	155	177	14	65
CUCUMBER	542	640	1109	1616	768	1287	851	1143	524	672	549	-18	-14
PUMPKIN	6217	6821	11855	14501	17345	14844	11611	7529	9962	6719	14331	113	110

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	APR.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	MAR.18.AV	APR.18.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	APR17
TARO	1.48	1.24	1.83	1.95	1.75	1.68	1.81	2.16	1.99	1.91	2.11	11	70
BANANA	0.76	0.91	1.18	1.03	0.93	0.84	0.99	0.88	1.08	1.17	1.37	17	50
TA'AMU	2.78	4.31	4.39	3.92	3.25	5.06	4.59	5.78	5.78	4.47	5.26	18	22
COCONUT	0.62	0.70	0.74	0.75	0.79	0.74	0.77	0.71	0.68	0.65	0.77	18	10
BREADFRUIT	0.94	0.95	1.25	1.46	0.89	0.74	0.79	0.99	0.97	1.56	1.38	-11	45
YAM	3.16	2.67	2.91	2.85	2.84	2.68	3.13	3.97	4.65	3.40	3.42	1	28
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	8.51	6.81	4.58	4.28	5.15	6.19	10.99	10.11	10.48	12.20	16	43
TOMATOES	9.55	14.43	13.36	8.61	7.53	7.19	9.76	14.24	16.09	15.51	16.71	8	16
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	6.80	4.74	4.06	4.12	4.61	7.21	7.75	8.05	7.37	8.42	14	24
CUCUMBER	2.99	3.85	3.88	2.89	2.72	2.97	2.95	3.56	4.26	4.51	4.60	2	19
PUMPKIN	2.61	2.73	3.16	2.60	2.34	2.32	2.22	3.36	3.47	3.78	3.49	-8	28

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	APR.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	MAR.18.AV	APR.18.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	APR17
TARO	126.6	19.3	18.2	14.1	12.2	10.5	10.9	26.5	19.6	19.1	21.7	13	12
BANANA	25.1	2.2	1.5	2.0	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.2	3.6	1.1	0.2	-77	-89
TA'AMU	25.6	2.3	1.0	3.1	2.4	2.2	3.6	1.9	2.3	2.0	3.6	81	55
COCONUT	59.3	3.8	3.9	2.9	4.4	4.0	6.6	4.7	6.8	5.2	3.8	-26	1
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.2	21	-60
YAM	4.7	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.2	-35	0
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	3.6	9.2	7.8	6.5	5.8	4.7	6.1	4.8	5.7	4.8	-16	33
TOMATOES	21.5	1.3	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.5	2.9	2.5	2.7	0.9	1.7	87	38
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	0.7	1.6	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.5	31	104
CUCUMBER	18.4	2.5	4.3	4.7	2.1	3.8	2.5	4.1	2.2	3.0	2.5	-17	2
PUMPKIN	178.3	18.6	37.5	37.7	40.5	34.4	25.8	25.3	34.5	25.4	50.0	97	169
	511.8	54.9	82.3	78.4	76.8	68.2	61.2	75.5	78.3	63.9	90.2	41	64

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	APR.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	MAR.18.AV	APR.18.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR17
TARO	0.25	207	132	96	92	83	80	163	131	133	136	2	-34
BANANA	0.05	91	46	75	129	129	99	96	125	34	7	-81	-93
TA'AMU	0.05	66	29	97	91	54	95	40	49	54	84	54	27
COCONUT	0.12	67	66	49	70	67	107	82	125	99	62	-37	-8
BREADFRUIT	0.004	245	89	105	290	108	263	247	159	47	67	42	-73
YAM	0.01	51	174	227	185	110	99	143	99	59	38	-35	-24
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	52	167	209	189	138	93	69	59	67	48	-27	-7
TOMATOES	0.04	34	125	172	195	187	116	69	65	23	41	74	19
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	83	262	221	114	112	86	98	80	120	137	14	65
CUCUMBER	0.04	118	205	298	142	238	157	211	97	124	101	-18	-14
PUMPKIN	0.35	110	191	233	279	239	187	121	160	108	231	113	110
	1.00	118	143	160	173	152	128	119	125	100	137	38	17

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	APR.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	MAR.18.AV	APR.18.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR17
TARO	0.25	84	124	132	118	113	122	146	134	129	143	11	70
BANANA	0.05	120	155	135	122	110	131	116	142	153	180	17	50
TA'AMU	0.05	155	158	141	117	182	165	208	208	161	189	18	22
COCONUT	0.12	113	119	121	128	120	125	115	110	106	125	18	10
BREADFRUIT	0.004	101	133	155	95	79	84	105	103	166	147	-11	45
YAM	0.01	84	92	90	90	85	99	126	147	108	108	1	28
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	158	126	85	79	95	115	204	187	194	226	16	43
TOMATOES	0.04	151	140	90	79	75	102	149	168	162	175	8	16
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	155	108	93	94	105	165	177	184	168	192	14	24
CUCUMBER	0.04	129	130	97	91	99	99	119	143	151	154	2	19
PUMPKIN	0.35	105	121	100	90	89	85	129	133	145	134	-8	28
	1.00	91	96	80	74	77	80	106	109	111	116	4	27

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	APR.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	MAR.18.AV	APR.18.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR17
TARO	46	81	60	55	51	48	51	63	65	65	64	-2	-21
BANANA	27	36	22	29	44	46	32	31	32	16	13	-19	-64
TA'AMU	7	6	3	8	5	5	5	4	5	6	6	0	0
COCONUT	57	41	42	44	47	45	42	54	57	53	43	-19	5
BREADFRUIT	4	8	3	3	10	8	8	10	5	2	2	0	-75
YAM	5	2	7	8	7	7	4	5	4	3	3	0	50
HEAD CABBAGE	12	10	23	25	19	18	12	11	8	10	11	10	10
TOMATOES	39	14	45	53	54	55	42	31	26	13	10	-23	-29
CH.CABBAGE	13	14	35	27	18	16	11	11	11	17	20	18	43
CUCUMBER	42	30	61	71	40	40	49	50	29	32	32	0	7
PUMPKIN	83	79	188	123	134	133	108	81	89	63	68	8	-14
	337	320	489	445	427	420	362	350	330	280	271	-3	-15

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base