



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA
SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY
AUGUST 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:

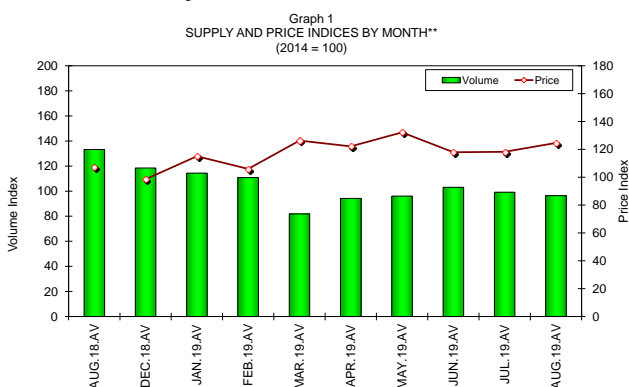
The Local Market Survey in August 2019 showed overall volume decrease 3 percent while limited supply pushed overall price up 5 percent when compared to July 2019.

- Significant reduction in the supply of pumpkin, coconut and ta'amu largely impacted the overall decline in the volume index and the 6 percent rise in the price index.
- The value of supplies rose 6 percent to \$76,600 from the previous month.
- An average of 301 sellers trading at the Local Markets was recorded in the month under review, 2 percent higher than the previous month but 15 percent lower when compared with the same month last year.

Issue: 01/08/19

OVERVIEW

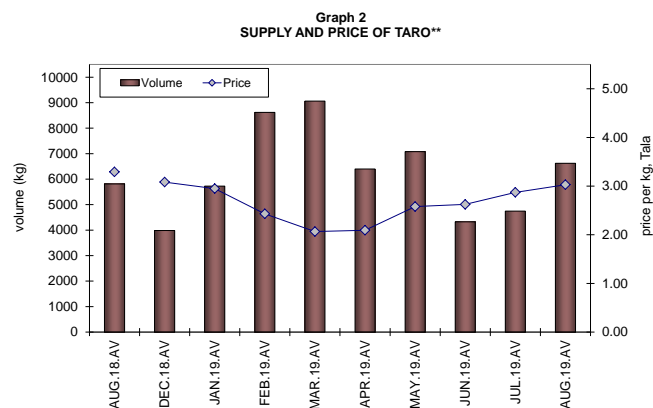
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in August 2019 showed overall volume decrease 3 percent from July 2019. Significant decreases were recorded for all agricultural products with the exception of taro banana, breadfruit, head cabbage and cucumber supplies. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 28 percent lower. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



Decline in the overall supply of most agricultural produce pushed the price index up 6 percent with average prices of all produce increasing with the exception of banana, ta'amu, breadfruit, tomato, head cabbage and cucumber. When compared with August 2018 the current overall price level was 17 percent higher.

TARO

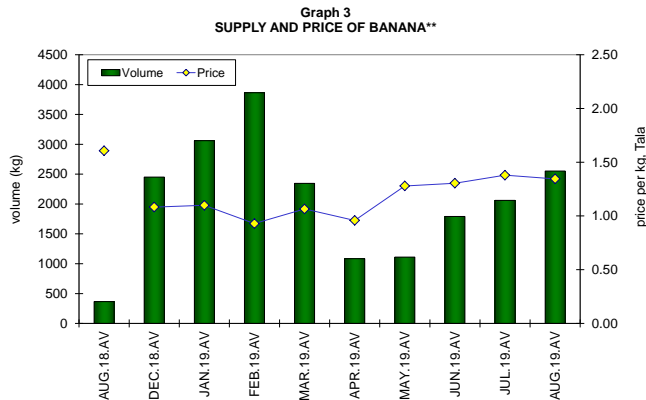
At 6,484 kilograms, the supply of taro to the market in August 2019 increased 37 percent from the previous month while strong demand led its average price to climb 5 percent (to \$3.03 per kilogram). When compared with August 2018 supply of taro was 12 percent higher while its average price was 8 percent lower. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Despite the increase in taro volume in the month under review, current supply contributed to a 27 percent decline in volume when comparing the twelve months ending August 2019 over the twelve month ending August 2018. Price rose 19 percent.

BANANA

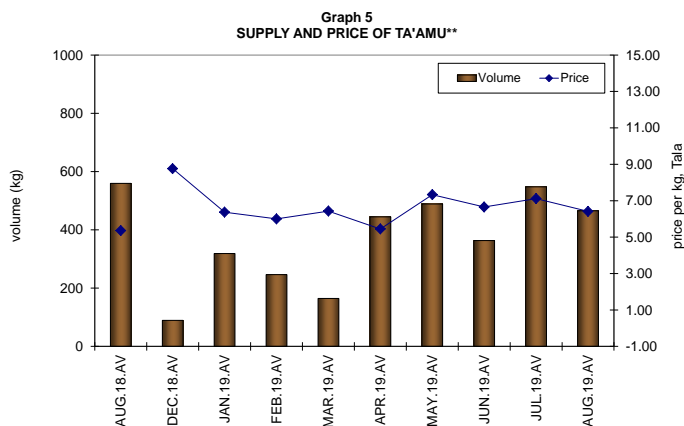
The supply of banana to the Local Markets in August 2019 rose 24 percent (to 2,552 kilograms) from July 2019; a level that was seven times higher than the same month a year ago. Increased supply of banana pushed its average price down 3 percent (to \$1.34 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year current price was 16 percent lower. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2)



When comparing the twelve months ending August 2019 over the twelve months ending August 2018, banana supplies were 32 percent higher while increased availability pushed its average price down 7 percent.

TA'AMU

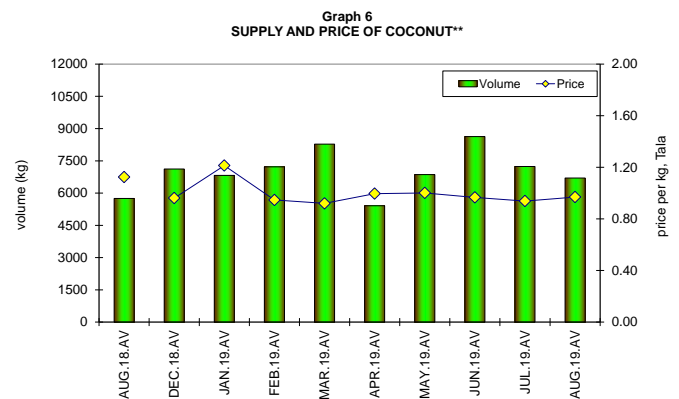
Ta'amu supplies in August 2019 declined 15 percent (to 466 kilograms) from the previous month while weakened demand pushed its average price down 10 percent (to \$6.41 per kilogram). Compared to August 2018, current supply of ta'amu was 17 percent lower while its average price was 20 percent higher. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of ta'amu in the month under review contributed to a 44 percent decrease in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending August 2019 over twelve months ending August 2018 while limited availability pushed its average price up 32 percent.

COCONUT

In the month under review, the supply of coconut declined 7 percent (to 6,699 kilograms) from July 2019 while limited supply pushed its average price up 3 percent (to \$0.97 per kilogram). Current availability of coconut was 16 percent higher than average availability in August 2018 while average price fell 14 percent over the year. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1&2)

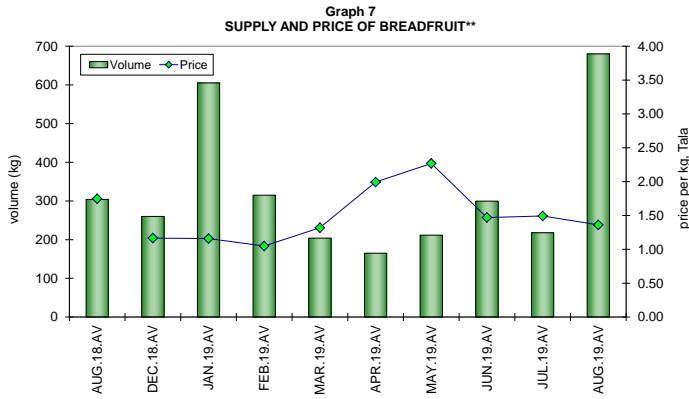


Comparing the twelve months ending August 2019 over the twelve months ending August 2018 supply of coconut was 7 percent higher while its average price also rose 26 percent.

BREADFRUIT

At an average of 680 kilograms, breadfruit supply in August 2019 was more than tripled from the previous month. Increased availability of breadfruit to the markets pushed its average price down 9 percent (to \$1.36 per kilogram). When compared with August 2018, current availability of breadfruit supply was more than doubled while its average price was 22 percent lower. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1&2)

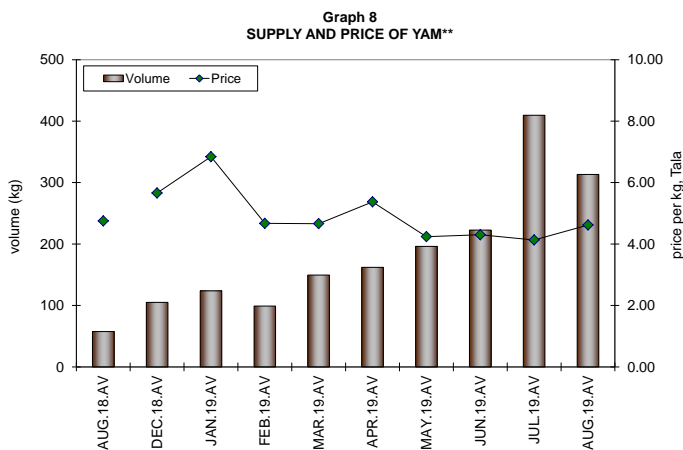
VEGETABLE PRODUCE



Current supply of breadfruit contributed to a 26 percent increase in volume when comparing the twelve months ending August 2019 over the twelve months ending August 2018 while its average price also increased 6 percent.

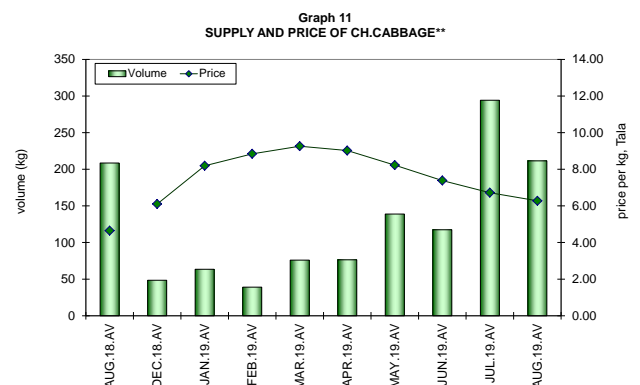
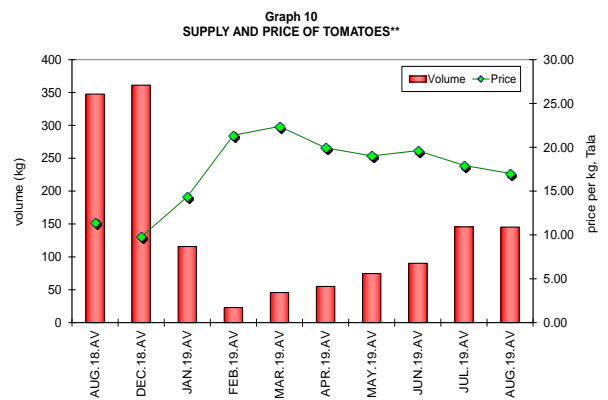
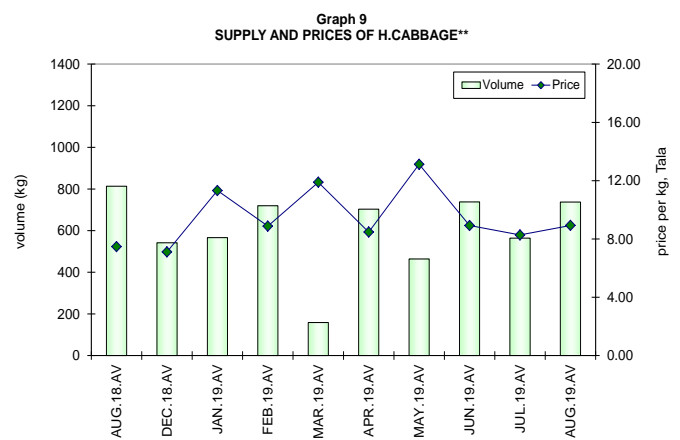
YAM

The supply of yam in the month under review fell 24 percent (to 313 kilograms) from the previous month while limited availability pushed its average price up 12 percent (to \$4.62 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam was more than five times higher while increased availability over the year pushed its average price down 3 percent. (See Graph 8 and Tables 1 & 2)

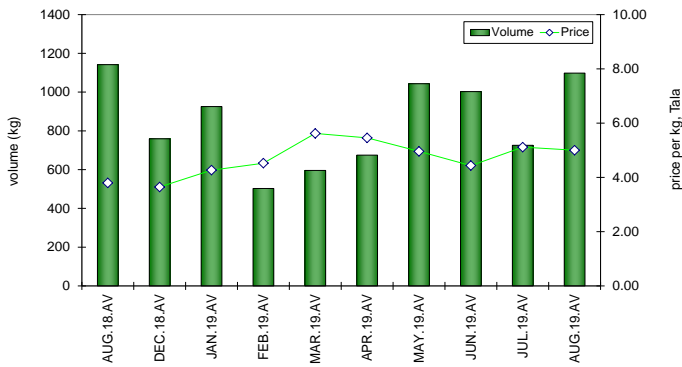


Current supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 40 percent increase in volume in the twelve months ending August 2019 over the twelve months ending August 2018, while its average price rose 29 percent.

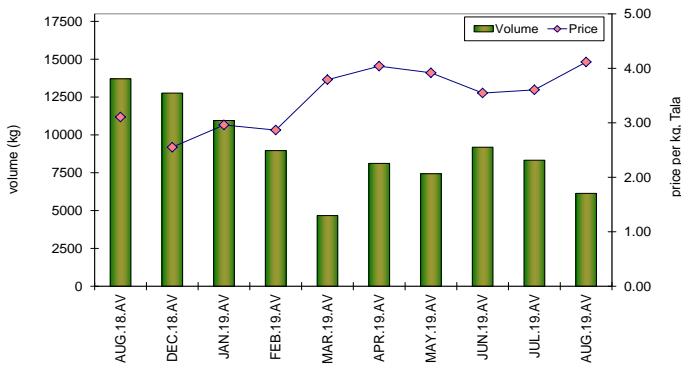
A general overview of all vegetable produce to the Local Markets in August 2019 revealed significant gains in all vegetables supplies with the exception of Chinese cabbage and pumpkin whose volume dropped 28 percent (to 212 kilograms) and 26 percent (to 6,133 kilograms) respectively from the previous month. Cucumber supplies registered the largest increase at 51 percent (to 1,098 kilograms) from July 2019 followed by head cabbage supplies increasing 31 percent (to 737 kilograms) while tomato supplies remained unchanged 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**

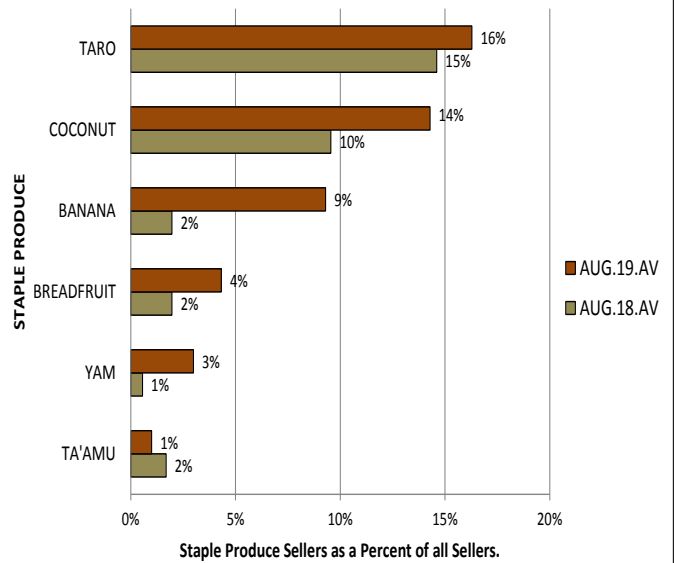


Subsequent to the increase in the supply of most vegetable produce to the Local Markets, average prices in the month under review decreased for all vegetable produce with the exception of pumpkin and head cabbage recording an increase of 17 percent (to \$4.12 per kilogram) due to limited availability of pumpkin and 8 percent (to \$8.93 per kilogram) due to strong domestic demand for head cabbage. Average price for Chinese cabbage fell 7 percent (to \$6.28 per kilogram) while price for tomato declined 5 percent (to \$17.01 per kilogram). An abundance of cucumber pushed its average price down 2 percent (to \$5.00 per kilogram) from the previous month.

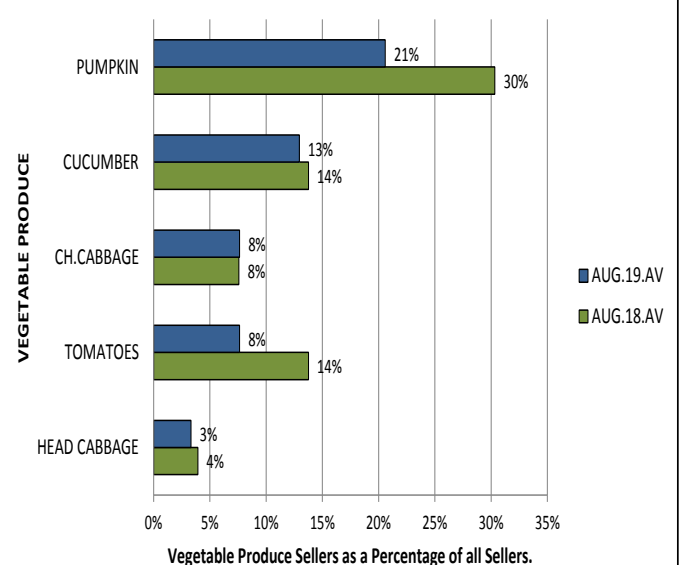
SELLERS

At 301, the number of sellers at the Local Markets on the days surveyed in August 2019 increased 2 percent from the previous month and was 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



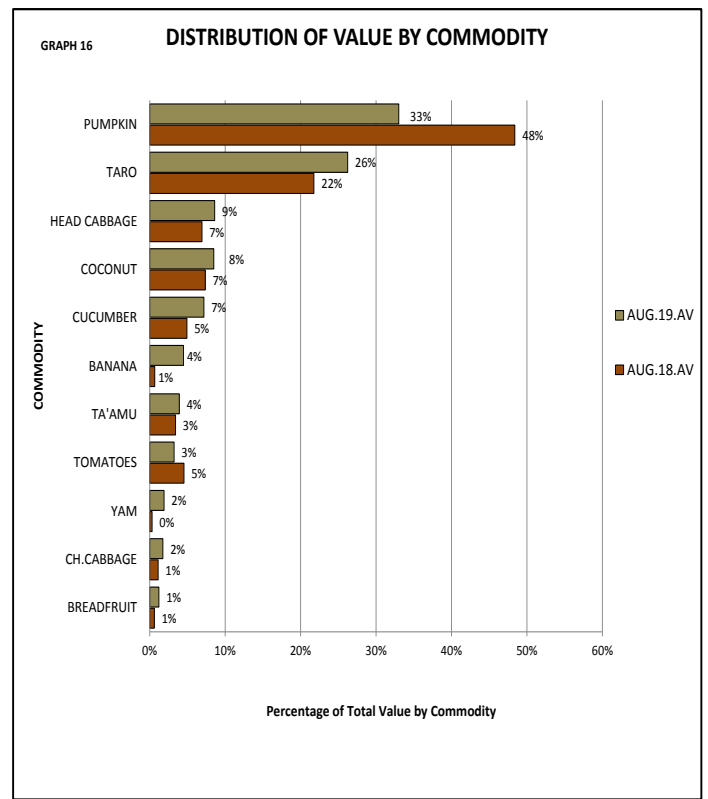
GRAPH 15
SELLERS BY VEGETABLE PRODUCE



In August 2019, pumpkin sellers at 62 were the largest group at the local markets decreasing from 79 in the previous month and 108 in the same month last year. Taro sellers followed recorded an increasing total of 49 from 44 last month but were lower than 52 in the same month a year ago while coconut sellers fell to 43 from 44 in the previous month but were higher than 34 in the same month last year. Sellers of cucumber recorded an increasing total of 39 from 33 in July 2019 but were lower than 49 in August 2018 while total sellers of banana rose to 28 from 22 last month and 7 in August 2018. Tomatoes and Chinese cabbage recorded an average of 23 each with tomato sellers increasing from 21 in the previous month but were lower than 49 in the same month last year, and Chinese cabbage sellers increased from 22 in July 2019 but were lower than 27 in August 2018. Sellers of breadfruit recorded an increasing total of 13 from 5 in the previous month and 7 a year ago; while sellers of head cabbage recorded a decreasing total of 10 from 12 in the previous month and 14 in the same month last year. Sellers of yam recorded a decreasing total of 9 from 10 in the previous month but were higher than 2 when compared with August 2018. Sellers of ta'amu recorded a decreasing total of 3 from 5 in July 2019 and 5 in the same month last year.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$76,600 in August 2019 increased 6 percent from the previous month and was 13 percent lower when compared with August 2018.



Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 33 percent in August 2019, a level that was lower than 42 percent in the previous month and 48 percent in the same month a year ago. Taro supplies followed with a 26 percent contribution to total value increasing from 19 percent in the previous month and 22 percent when compared with the same month last year. Supplies of head cabbage contributed 9 percent of total value increasing from 6 percent last month and 7 percent in the same month a year ago while shares of coconut contributed 8 percent to total value decreasing from 9 percent last month but were higher than 7 percent in the same month last year. Shares of cucumber accounted for 7 percent of total value increasing from 5 in the previous month and the same month a year ago. Banana and ta'amu supplies both accounted for 4 percent each of total value with banana contributions remaining unchanged from last month but were higher than 1 percent in the same month last year while ta'amu contributions decreased from 5 percent in the previous month but were higher than 3 percent in the same month last year. Yam and Chinese cabbage supplies both accounted for 2 percent each of total value while lower shares 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 September 2019 will be available on 13th October 2019.

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

*Economic Statistics Division
FMFM II Building, Level 1
P O Box 1151
Apia, Samoa*

Phone: (685) 62014/62015

Fax: (685) 24675

E-mail: info.stats@sbs.gov.ws

Website: www.sbs.gov.ws



Taiaopo Faumuina

ACTING GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN/(CEO)

SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	AUG.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	MAR.19.AV	APR.19.AV	MAY.19.AV	JUN.19.AV	JUL.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	Aug-19	
												% chng from prev mnt	%chng from AUG 18
TARO	7521	5812	3985	5727	8622	9064	6399	7079	4327	4747	6484	37	12
BANANA	2642	365	2450	3061	3865	2346	1084	1112	1791	2062	2552	24	599
TA'AMU	816	560	89	319	247	165	445	489	363	548	466	-15	-17
COCONUT	7993	5750	7120	6825	7219	8279	5410	6860	8629	7237	6699	-7	16
BREADFRUIT	186	304	260	605	315	204	165	212	300	218	680	212	124
YAM	129	58	105	124	99	149	162	196	223	410	313	-24	444
HEAD CABBAGE	811	813	541	566	719	158	703	464	738	564	737	31	-9
TOMATOES	256	348	361	116	23	46	55	75	90	146	145	0	-58
CH.CABBAGE	129	209	48	63	39	76	76	139	117	294	212	-28	1
CUCUMBER	542	1141	759	926	503	596	675	1043	1002	726	1098	51	-4
PUMPKIN	6217	13703	12761	10948	8959	4663	8116	7427	9188	8327	6133	-26	-55

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	AUG.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	MAR.19.AV	APR.19.AV	MAY.19.AV	JUN.19.AV	JUL.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnt	AUG 18
TARO	1.48	3.29	3.08	2.95	2.43	2.07	2.09	2.58	2.62	2.87	3.03	5	-8
BANANA	0.76	1.61	1.08	1.10	0.93	1.06	0.96	1.28	1.30	1.38	1.34	-3	-16
TA'AMU	2.78	5.36	8.76	6.37	6.00	6.43	5.45	7.33	6.65	7.12	6.41	-10	20
COCONUT	0.62	1.12	0.96	1.21	0.95	0.92	1.00	1.00	0.97	0.94	0.97	3	-14
BREADFRUIT	0.94	1.75	1.17	1.16	1.05	1.32	1.99	2.27	1.47	1.49	1.36	-9	-22
YAM	3.16	4.75	5.66	6.84	4.67	4.66	5.37	4.24	4.30	4.13	4.62	12	-3
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	7.47	7.11	11.32	8.88	11.89	8.47	13.12	8.92	8.27	8.93	8	19
TOMATOES	9.55	11.45	9.78	14.36	21.37	22.39	19.93	19.02	19.62	17.94	17.01	-5	49
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	4.65	6.10	8.19	8.84	9.26	9.02	8.23	7.39	6.72	6.28	-7	35
CUCUMBER	2.99	3.79	3.65	4.27	4.52	5.62	5.46	4.96	4.43	5.11	5.00	-2	32
PUMPKIN	2.61	3.10	2.55	2.96	2.87	3.79	4.04	3.92	3.55	3.60	4.21	17	35

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	AUG.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	MAR.19.AV	APR.19.AV	MAY.19.AV	JUN.19.AV	JUL.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnt	AUG 18
TARO	126.6	19.1	12.3	16.9	21.0	18.7	13.4	18.3	11.4	13.6	19.6	44	3
BANANA	25.1	0.6	2.7	3.4	3.6	2.5	1.0	1.4	2.3	2.8	3.4	21	481
TA'AMU	25.6	3.0	0.8	2.0	1.5	1.1	2.4	3.6	2.4	3.9	3.0	-23	0
COCONUT	59.3	6.5	6.8	8.3	6.8	7.6	5.4	6.9	8.3	6.8	6.5	-4	0
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.9	182	75
YAM	4.7	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.7	1.5	-14	437
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	6.1	3.9	6.4	6.4	1.9	6.0	6.1	6.6	4.7	6.6	41	8
TOMATOES	21.5	4.0	3.5	1.7	0.5	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.6	2.5	-5	-38
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	1.0	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.9	2.0	1.3	-33	37
CUCUMBER	18.4	4.3	2.8	4.0	2.3	3.4	3.7	5.2	4.5	3.7	5.5	48	27
PUMPKIN	178.3	42.5	32.6	32.4	25.7	17.7	32.8	29.1	32.6	30.0	25.8	-14	-39
	511.8	87.9	66.5	77.1	68.8	55.5	67.7	74.4	72.1	72.2	76.6	6	-13

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	AUG.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	MAR.19.AV	APR.19.AV	MAY.19.AV	JUN.19.AV	JUL.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from AUG 18
TARO	0.25	77	53	76	115	121	85	94	58	63	86	37	12
BANANA	0.05	14	93	116	146	89	41	42	68	78	97	24	599
TA'AMU	0.05	69	11	39	30	20	55	60	45	67	57	-15	-17
COCONUT	0.12	72	89	85	90	104	68	86	108	91	84	-7	16
BREADFRUIT	0.004	163	140	325	169	110	89	114	161	117	366	212	124
YAM	0.01	45	81	96	77	116	126	152	173	317	243	-24	444
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	100	67	70	89	20	87	57	91	70	91	31	-9
TOMATOES	0.04	136	141	45	9	18	22	29	35	57	57	0	-58
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	162	38	49	30	59	59	108	91	228	164	-28	1
CUCUMBER	0.04	211	140	171	93	110	125	192	185	134	203	51	-4
PUMPKIN	0.35	220	205	176	144	75	131	119	148	134	99	-26	-55
	1.00	133	118	114	111	82	94	96	103	99	96	-3	-28

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	AUG.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	MAR.19.AV	APR.19.AV	MAY.19.AV	JUN.19.AV	JUL.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from JULY 18
TARO	0.25	222	208	199	164	140	141	174	177	194	205	5	-8
BANANA	0.05	211	142	145	122	140	126	168	172	182	177	-3	-16
TA'AMU	0.05	193	315	229	216	231	196	264	239	256	231	-10	20
COCONUT	0.12	181	155	196	153	148	161	162	156	151	156	3	-14
BREADFRUIT	0.004	186	124	123	112	140	212	241	156	159	145	-9	-22
YAM	0.01	150	179	217	148	148	170	134	136	131	146	12	-3
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	138	132	210	164	220	157	243	165	153	165	8	19
TOMATOES	0.04	120	102	150	224	234	209	199	205	188	178	-5	49
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	106	139	187	202	211	206	188	169	153	143	-7	35
CUCUMBER	0.04	127	122	143	151	188	182	166	148	171	167	-2	32
PUMPKIN	0.35	119	98	113	110	145	155	150	136	138	161	17	36
	1.00	107	99	115	106	126	122	132	118	118	126	6	17

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	AUG.18.AV	DEC.18.AV	JAN.19.AV	FEB.19.AV	MAR.19.AV	APR.19.AV	MAY.19.AV	JUN.19.AV	JUL.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from JULY 18
TARO	46	52	42	66	73	66	56	62	46	44	49	11	-6
BANANA	27	7	28	41	40	26	22	17	24	22	28	27	300
TA'AMU	7	6	1	3	4	3	4	3	4	5	3	-40	-50
COCONUT	57	34	41	53	56	60	45	49	53	44	43	-2	26
BREADFRUIT	4	7	12	10	7	5	3	3	5	5	13	160	86
YAM	5	2	3	3	3	3	4	7	7	10	9	-10	350
HEAD CABBAGE	12	14	19	8	10	5	10	10	15	12	10	-17	-29
TOMATOES	39	49	27	16	7	7	11	12	16	21	23	10	-53
CH.CABBAGE	13	27	8	7	5	9	11	14	19	22	23	5	-15
CUCUMBER	42	49	34	30	11	13	18	25	30	33	39	18	-20
PUMPKIN	83	108	96	89	90	56	82	71	92	79	62	-22	-43
	337	356	312	325	304	252	265	273	310	296	301	2	-15

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base