



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

## SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

# LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

### APRIL 2020

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:

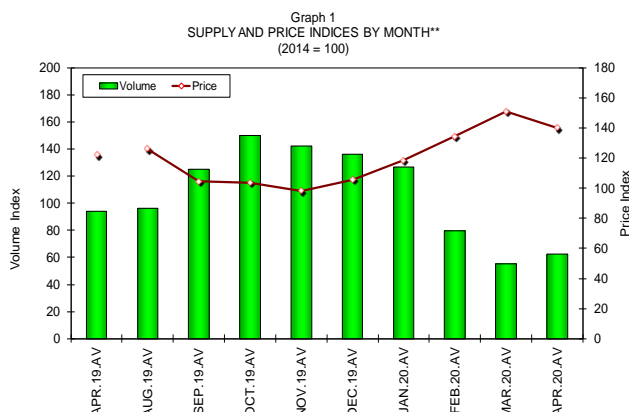
The Local Market Survey in April 2020 showed overall volume increase 13 percent while increased availability pushed average prices down 7 percent when compared to March 2020.

- Significant increases in the supply of most agricultural produce to the Local Markets strongly contributed to the decline in the price index.
- The value of supplies rose 9 percent to \$47,400 from the previous month.
- An average of 214 sellers trading at the Local Market was recorded in the month under review; 11 percent higher than the previous month but 19 percent lower when compared with the same month last year.

Issue: 01/04/20

## OVERVIEW

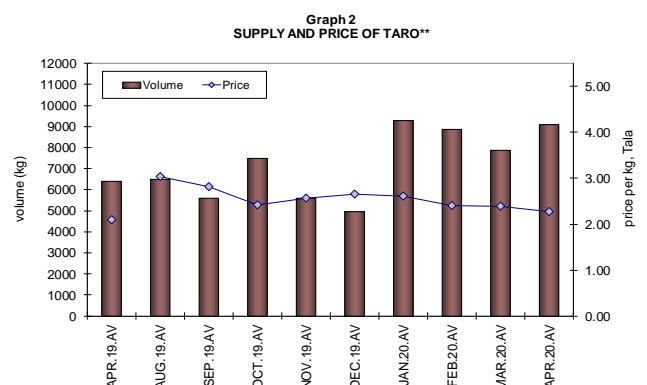
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in April 2020 showed overall volume increase 13 percent from March 2020. Significant increases were recorded for all agricultural produce with the exception of ta'amu coconut, breadfruit, yam and cucumber supplies. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 34 percent lower. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



Due to the increased availability of most agricultural produce, overall price level declined 7 percent from the previous month. When compared with April 2019, the current overall price was 15 percent higher.

## TARO

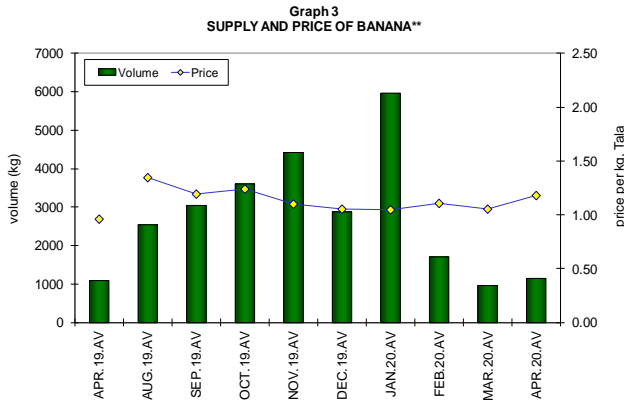
At 9,082 kilograms, the supply of taro in April 2020 rose 15 percent from the previous month increase availability pushed its average price down 5 percent (to \$2.27 per kilogram). When compared with the April 2019 supply of taro was 42 percent higher while its average price was 9 percent higher. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of taro in the month under review contributed to an 8 percent increase in volume when comparing the twelve months ending April 2020 over the twelve month ending April 2019. Price fell 4 percent.

## BANANA

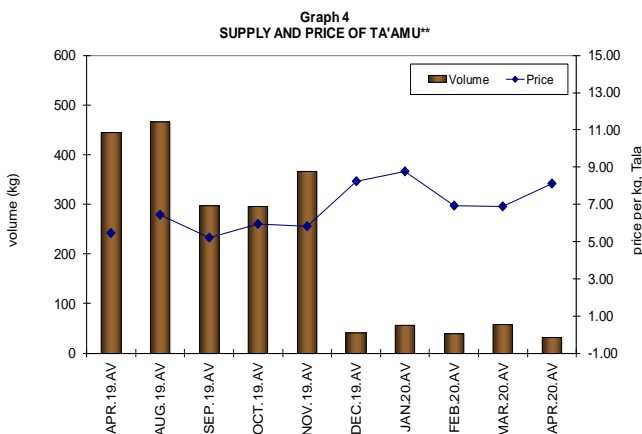
The volume of banana supplied to the Local Markets in April 2020 rose 18 percent (to 1,144 kilograms) from March 2020; a level that was 6 percent higher than the same month a year ago. Strong domestic demand pushed its average price up 12 percent (to \$1.18 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current price was 23 percent higher. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2)



When comparing the twelve months ending April 2020, banana supplies were 57 percent higher while increased availability pushed its average price down 8 percent.

## TA'AMU

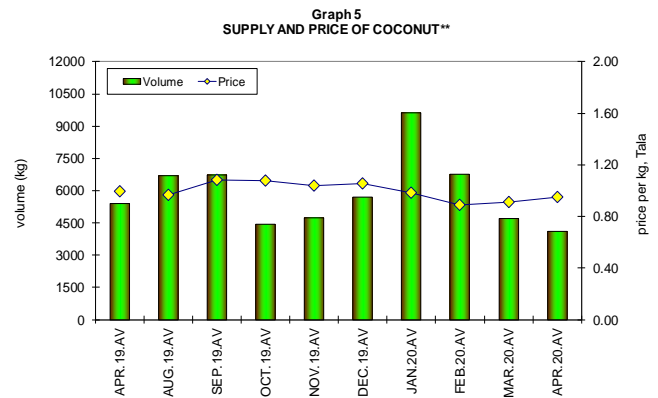
At an average of 32 kilograms, ta'amu supplies in April 2020 decreased 45 percent while limited availability pushed its average price up 18 percent (to \$8.12 per kilogram). When compared with April 2019, current supply of ta'amu was 93 percent lower while its average price was 49 percent higher. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of ta'amu in the month under review contributed to a 38 percent decrease in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending April 2020 over twelve months ending April 2019 while limited availability pushed its average price up 14 percent.

## COCONUT

Coconut supplies in April 2020 dropped 13 percent (to 4,106 kilograms) from the previous month while limited availability pushed its average price up 4 percent (to \$0.95 per kilogram). Current availability of coconut was 24 percent lower than average availability in April 2019 while average price fell 5 percent over the year. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



Comparing the twelve months ending April 2020 over the twelve months ending April 2019 supply of coconut revealed no change while its average price fell 5 percent.

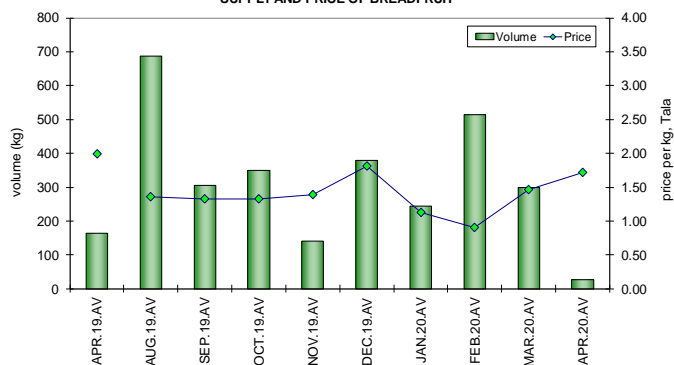
## BREADFRUIT

In the month under review, the supply of breadfruit declined 91 percent (to 27 kilograms) from March 2020, while limited availability pushed its average price up 18 percent (to \$1.72 per kilogram). When compared with April 2019, current breadfruit supply was 83 percent lower while its average price is 14 percent lower. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1 & 2)

## VEGETABLE PRODUCE

A general overview of all vegetable produce to the Local Markets in April 2020 revealed significant gains in all vegetable supplies with the exception of cucumber recording a 21 percent decline (to 415 kilograms). Tomato supplies registered the largest increase in volume in a factor of four (to 49 kilograms) while Chinese cabbage supplies also increased 39 percent (to 91 kilograms) followed by pumpkin supplies with a 30 percent increase in volume (to 3,341 kilograms) when compared to the previous month. Supplies of head cabbage increased 29 percent (to 78 kilograms) from March 2020. (See Graphs 8 to 12 and Tables 1 & 2)

Graph 6  
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF BREADFRUIT\*\*

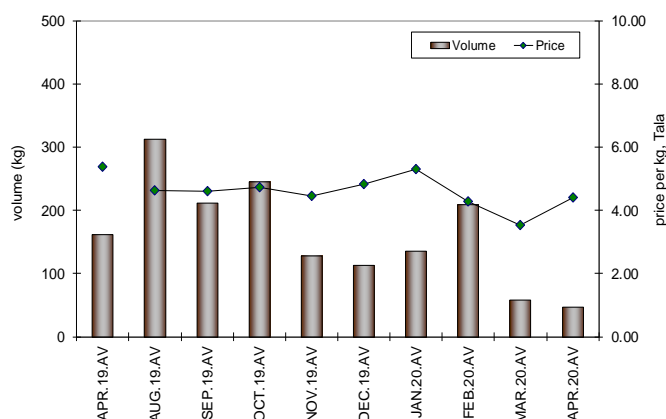


Current supply of breadfruit contributed to a 9 percent increase in volume when comparing the twelve months ending April 2020 over the twelve months ending April 2019 while its average price decreased 4 percent.

## YAM

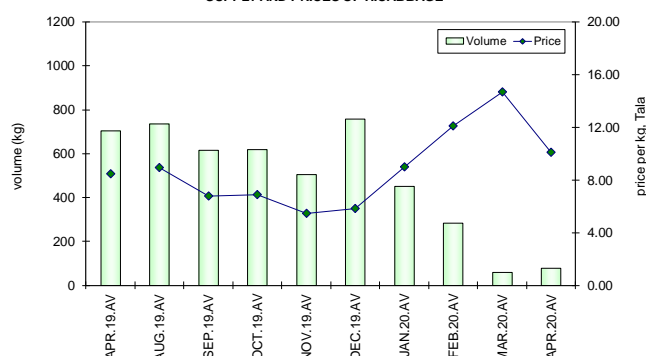
The supply of yam in the month under review fell 19 percent (to 47 kilograms) from the previous month while limited availability pushed its average price up 24 percent (to \$4.40 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam was 71 percent lower while weakened demand over the year pushed its average price down 18 percent. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)

Graph 7  
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF YAM\*\*

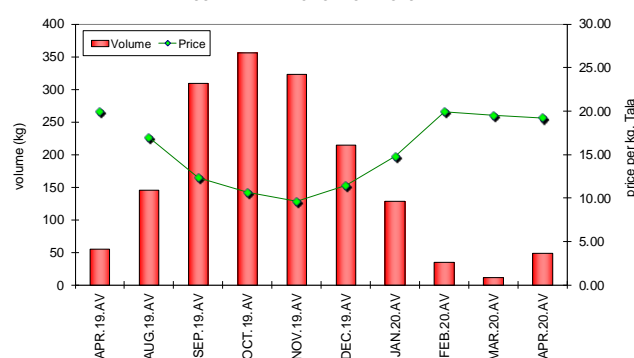


Current supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 64 percent increase in volume in the twelve months ending April 2020 over the twelve months ending April 2019, while its average price fell 12 percent.

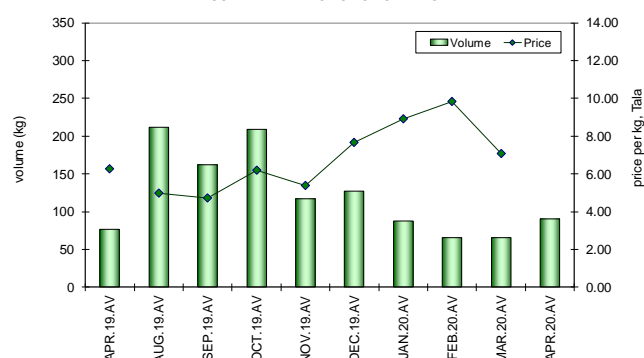
Graph 8  
SUPPLY AND PRICES OF H.CABBAGE\*\*



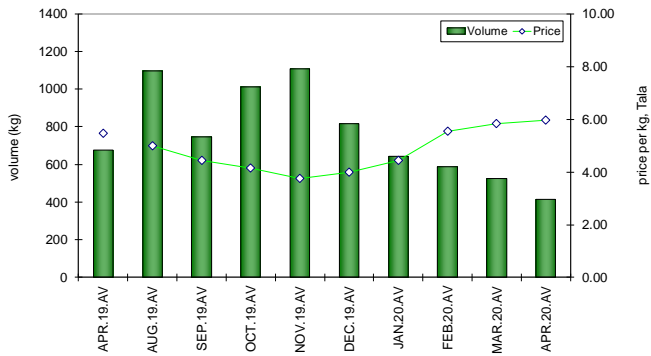
Graph 9  
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF TOMATOES\*\*



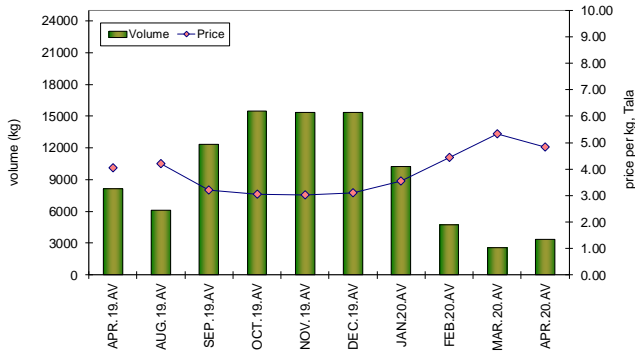
Graph 10  
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CH.CABBAGE\*\*



Graph 11  
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CUCUMBER\*\*



Graph 12  
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF PUMPKIN\*\*

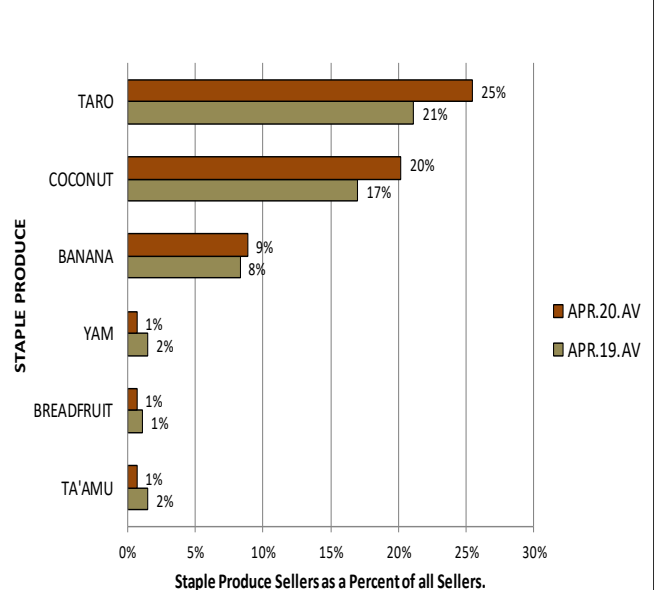


Subsequent to the increase in the supply of most vegetable produce supplied to the Local Markets average prices in the month under review decreased for all vegetable with the exception of cucumber recording an increase of 2 percent (to \$5.97 per kilogram) due to limited availability. Average prices for head cabbage fell 31 percent (to \$10.09 per kilogram) while Chinese cabbage prices declined 28 percent (to \$7.09 per kilogram). Average prices for pumpkin fell 9 percent (to \$4.84 per kilogram) from the previous month followed by tomato prices decreasing 2 percent (to \$19.20 per kilogram).

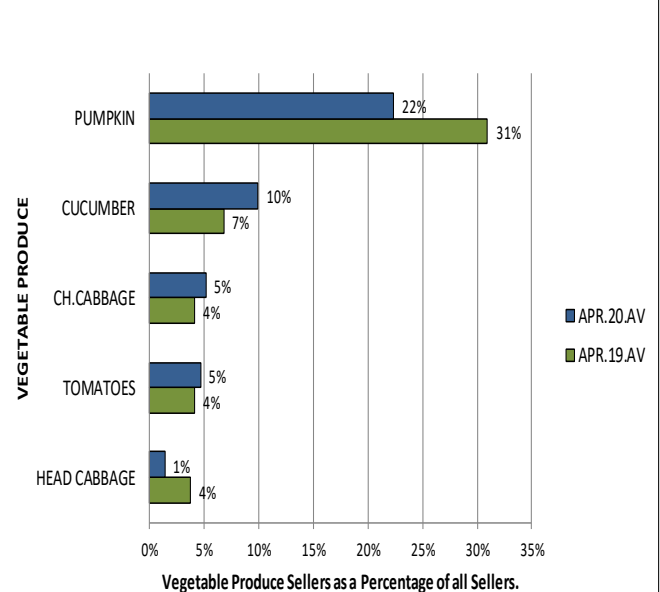
## SELLERS

Despite restriction of time for the closing of the local markets during the State of Emergency the number of sellers on the days surveyed in April 2020 increased 11 percent to 214 sellers from the previous month and was 19 percent lower when compared with the number of sellers in the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 13 and 14 and Table 6).

GRAPH 13  
SELLERS BY STAPLE PRODUCE



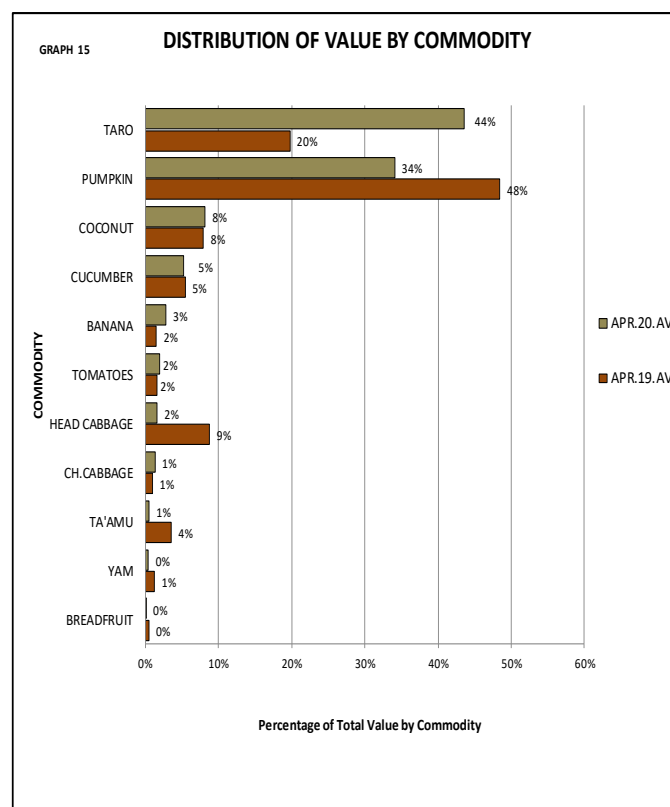
GRAPH 14  
SELLERS BY VEGETABLE PRODUCE



In April 2020, taro sellers at 55 were the largest group at the local markets increasing from 51 in the previous month but were lower than 56 in the same month last year. Pumpkin sellers followed recording an increasing total of 48 from 37 last month but were lower than 82 in the same month a year ago while coconut sellers increased to 43 from 42 in the previous month but were lower than 82 in the same month a year ago. Cucumber sellers recorded a total of 21 decreasing from 23 last month but were higher than 18 in the same month last year. Sellers of banana recorded an increasing total of 19 from 16 in March 2020 but were lower than 22 in April 2019, while total sellers of Chinese cabbage remained at 11 from last month and a year ago. Tomato sellers recorded a total of 10 increasing from 4 in the previous month but were lower than 11 in April 2019, while total sellers of head cabbage increased to 3 from 2 in March 2020 but were lower than 10 in the same month last year. Ta’amu, breadfruit and yam sellers all recorded a total of 2 each with ta’amu sellers increasing from 1 in March 2020 but were lower than 4 in April 2019 while total sellers of breadfruit fell from 5 last month and 3 in the same month last year followed by sellers of yams remaining unchanged from the previous month but were lower than 4 when compared with April 2019.

## **VALUE OF SUPPLIES**

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$47,400 in April 2020 increased 9 percent from the previous month and was 30 percent lower when compared with April 2019.



Taro supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 44 percent in April 2020; a level that was higher than 43 percent in March 2020 and 20 percent in April 2019. Pumpkin supplies followed with a 34 percent contribution to total value increasing from 31 percent in the previous month but were lower than 48 percent when compared with a year ago. Supplies of coconut contributed 8 percent of total value decreasing from 10 percent last month and remained unchanged in the same month last year while supplies of cucumber accounted for 5 percent of total value, decreasing from 7 percent last month and revealed no change in the same month last year. Banana supplies accounted for 3 percent of total value increasing from 2 percent last month and the same month last year. Shares of tomato and head cabbage both accounted for 2 percent each to total value with tomato supplies increasing from 0.5 percent from the previous month and remained unchanged when compared with April 2019, while head cabbage supplies remaining unchanged from March 2020 but were lower than 9 percent in the same month a year ago. Shares of Chinese cabbage and ta’amu supply both accounted for 1 percent each of total value while lower shares were recorded for yam and breadfruit in the month under review. (See Graph 15 & 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.

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**The Local Market Survey Report for May 2020 will be available on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**

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GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN (CEO)**

## SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

**Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)**

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	APR.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	SEP.19.AV	OCT.19.AV	NOV.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	JAN.20.AV	FEB.20.AV	MAR.20.AV	APR.20.AV	Apr-20	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR 19
TARO	7521	6399	6484	5594	7491	5610	4959	9294	8862	7878	9082	15	42
BANANA	2642	1084	2552	3053	3596	4414	2886	5964	1707	968	1144	18	6
TA'AMU	816	445	466	297	296	366	41	57	39	57	32	-45	-93
COCONUT	7993	5410	6699	6717	4443	4753	5702	9611	6750	4708	4106	-13	-24
BREADFRUIT	186	165	688	305	350	140	380	245	515	300	27	-91	-83
YAM	129	162	313	212	245	128	113	135	209	59	47	-19	-71
HEAD CABBAGE	811	703	737	615	618	506	758	452	283	60	78	29	-89
TOMATOES	256	55	145	309	356	323	215	128	35	11	49	348	-11
CH.CABBAGE	129	76	212	162	209	117	128	88	66	66	91	39	19
CUCUMBER	542	675	1098	745	1010	1109	817	643	587	526	415	-21	-38
PUMPKIN	6217	8116	6133	12327	15484	15346	15385	10263	4722	2579	3341	30	-59

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	APR.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	SEP.19.AV	OCT.19.AV	NOV.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	JAN.20.AV	FEB.20.AV	MAR.20.AV	APR.20.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	APR 19
TARO	1.48	2.09	3.03	2.82	2.42	2.56	2.65	2.60	2.41	2.39	2.27	-5	9
BANANA	0.76	0.96	1.34	1.19	1.24	1.10	1.06	1.05	1.11	1.06	1.18	12	23
TA'AMU	2.78	5.45	6.41	5.20	5.92	5.83	8.25	8.78	6.91	6.89	8.12	18	49
COCONUT	0.62	1.00	0.97	1.09	1.07	1.04	1.06	0.98	0.89	0.91	0.95	4	-5
BREADFRUIT	0.94	1.99	1.36	1.33	1.33	1.39	1.81	1.12	0.90	1.46	1.72	18	-14
YAM	3.16	5.37	4.62	4.62	4.74	4.44	4.84	5.30	4.28	3.54	4.40	24	-18
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	8.47	8.93	6.77	6.87	5.48	5.84	9.02	12.11	14.71	10.09	-31	19
TOMATOES	9.55	19.93	17.01	12.38	10.66	9.63	11.50	14.82	19.92	19.56	19.20	-2	-4
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	9.02	6.28	4.97	4.73	6.20	5.37	7.67	8.91	9.82	7.09	-28	-21
CUCUMBER	2.99	5.46	5.00	4.43	4.15	3.75	3.98	4.45	5.55	5.84	5.97	2	9
PUMPKIN	2.61	4.04	4.21	3.19	3.06	3.01	3.10	3.56	4.43	5.32	4.84	-9	20

**Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)**

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	APR.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	SEP.19.AV	OCT.19.AV	NOV.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	JAN.20.AV	FEB.20.AV	MAR.20.AV	APR.20.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	APR 19
TARO	126.6	13.4	19.6	15.8	18.1	14.4	13.2	24.2	21.4	18.8	20.6	10	54
BANANA	25.1	1.0	3.4	3.6	4.5	4.9	3.1	6.2	1.9	1.0	1.4	32	30
TA'AMU	25.6	2.4	3.0	1.5	1.8	2.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	-33	-89
COCONUT	59.3	5.4	6.5	7.3	4.8	5.0	6.0	9.4	6.0	4.3	3.9	-9	-28
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.1	-89	-85
YAM	4.7	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.2	0.2	0	-76
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	6.0	6.6	4.2	4.2	2.8	4.4	4.1	3.4	0.9	0.8	-11	-87
TOMATOES	21.5	1.1	2.5	3.8	3.8	3.1	2.5	1.9	0.7	0.2	0.9	348	-15
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	0.7	1.3	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	-7
CUCUMBER	18.4	3.7	5.5	3.3	4.2	4.2	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.1	2.5	-19	-33
PUMPKIN	178.3	32.8	25.8	39.4	47.3	46.3	47.7	36.5	20.9	13.7	16.2	18	-51
	511.8	67.7	76.6	81.1	91.3	84.1	82.3	87.4	59.8	43.7	47.4	9	-30

\*on the days surveyed  
@ new weights and base

**Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)**

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	APR.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	SEP.19.AV	OCT.19.AV	NOV.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	JAN.20.AV	FEB.20.AV	MAR.20.AV	APR.20.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR 19
TARO	0.25	85	86	74	100	75	66	124	118	105	121	15	42
BANANA	0.05	41	97	116	136	167	109	226	65	37	43	18	6
TA'AMU	0.05	55	57	36	36	45	5	7	5	7	4	-45	-93
COCONUT	0.12	68	84	84	56	59	71	120	84	59	51	-13	-24
BREADFRUIT	0.004	89	370	164	188	75	204	132	277	161	15	-91	-83
YAM	0.01	126	243	164	190	99	87	105	162	45	37	-19	-71
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	87	91	76	76	62	93	56	35	7	10	29	-89
TOMATOES	0.04	22	57	121	139	126	84	50	14	4	19	348	-11
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	59	164	126	162	91	99	68	51	51	70	39	19
CUCUMBER	0.04	125	203	137	186	205	151	119	108	97	77	-21	-38
PUMPKIN	0.35	131	99	198	249	247	247	165	76	41	54	30	-59
	1.00	94	96	125	150	142	136	127	79	55	62	13	-34

**Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)**

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	APR.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	SEP.19.AV	OCT.19.AV	NOV.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	JAN.20.AV	FEB.20.AV	MAR.20.AV	APR.20.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR 19
TARO	0.25	141	205	191	163	173	179	176	163	161	154	-5	9
BANANA	0.05	126	177	157	163	145	139	138	146	139	155	12	23
TA'AMU	0.05	196	231	187	213	210	297	316	249	248	292	18	49
COCONUT	0.12	161	156	175	173	168	171	158	143	147	153	4	-5
BREADFRUIT	0.004	212	145	141	141	148	192	120	96	156	183	18	-14
YAM	0.01	170	146	146	150	141	153	168	135	112	139	24	-18
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	157	165	125	127	101	108	167	224	272	187	-31	19
TOMATOES	0.04	209	178	130	112	101	120	155	209	205	201	-2	-4
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	206	143	113	108	142	123	175	204	224	162	-28	-21
CUCUMBER	0.04	182	167	148	139	125	133	149	186	195	200	2	9
PUMPKIN	0.35	155	161	122	117	115	119	136	170	204	185	-9	20
	1.00	122	126	105	103	98	106	119	134	151	140	-7	15

**Table 6: Number of Sellers**

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	APR.19.AV	AUG.19.AV	SEP.19.AV	OCT.19.AV	NOV.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	JAN.20.AV	FEB.20.AV	MAR.20.AV	APR.20.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from APR 19
TARO	46	56	49	46	60	51	47	57	64	51	55	7	-3
BANANA	27	22	28	31	33	46	35	35	31	16	19	19	-14
TA'AMU	7	4	3	3	4	3	1	1	1	1	2	200	-63
COCONUT	57	45	43	39	32	51	43	61	62	42	43	3	-4
BREADFRUIT	4	3	13	6	5	3	8	4	8	5	2	-71	-50
YAM	5	4	9	5	5	4	2	3	5	2	2	-33	-63
HEAD CABBAGE	12	10	10	10	10	16	9	9	5	2	3	50	-70
TOMATOES	39	11	23	37	44	45	28	21	9	4	10	186	-9
CH.CABBAGE	13	11	23	23	25	16	17	10	8	11	11	2	0
CUCUMBER	42	18	39	36	44	49	41	29	28	23	21	-6	18
PUMPKIN	83	82	62	103	111	113	91	81	50	37	48	29	-42
	337	265	301	338	371	396	320	310	270	193	214	11	-19

\*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base