



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

## SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

# LOCAL MARKET SURVEY MAY 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:

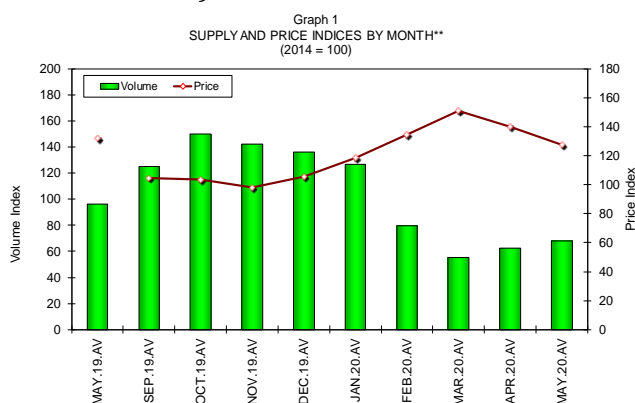
The Local Market Survey in May 2020 showed overall volume increase 9 percent while increased availability pushed average prices down 9 percent when compared to April 2020.

- Significant increases in the supply of vegetable largely impacted the overall rise in the volume index and the 9 percent decline in the price index.
- The value of supplies rose 11 percent to \$52,800 from the previous month.
- An average of 230 sellers trading at the Local Market was recorded in the month under review; 7 percent higher than the previous month but 16 percent lower when compared with the same month last year.

Issue: 01/05/20

## OVERVIEW

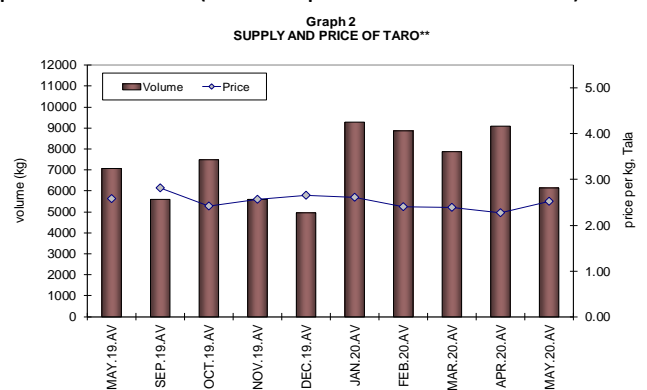
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in May 2020 showed overall volume increase 9 percent from April 2020. Significant increases were recorded for all agricultural produce with the exception of taro supplies. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 29 percent lower. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



With increased volume in the month under review the overall price level declined 9 percent from the previous month. Lower prices recorded for all vegetable produce impacted the most to the decrease in the price index. When compared with May 2019, the current overall price was 4 percent lower.

## TARO

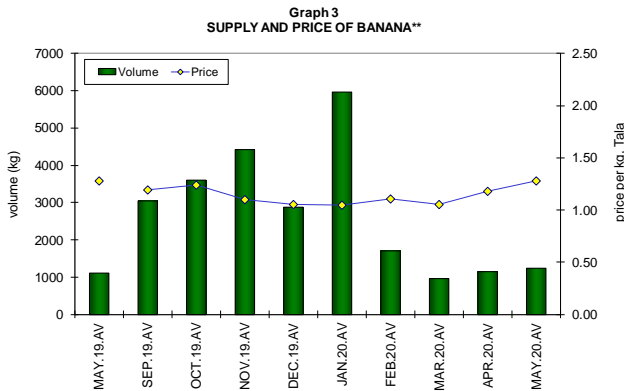
The volume of taro in May 2020 declined 32 percent (to 6,148 kilograms) from April 2020; a level that was 13 percent lower than the same month last year. Limited taro in the Local Markets pushed its average price up 11 percent (to \$2.52 per kilogram). When compared with May 2019 current price was 2 percent lower. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of taro in the month under review contributed to a 9 percent increase in volume when comparing the twelve months ending May 2020 over the twelve month ending May 2019. Price fell 5 percent.

## BANANA

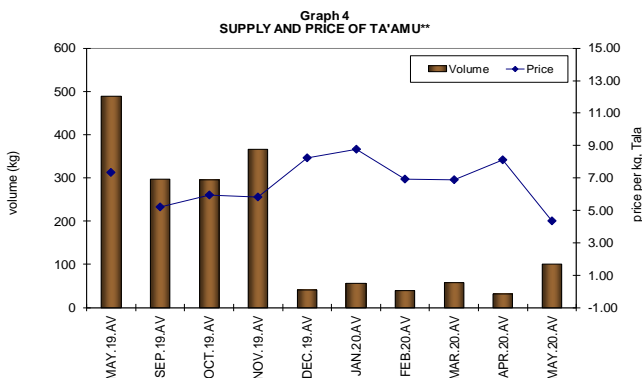
The supply of banana to the Local Markets in May 2020 rose 9 percent (to 1,243 kilograms) from April 2020; a level that was 12 percent higher than the same month a year ago. Strong domestic demand pushed its average price up 8 percent (to \$1.28 per kilogram). Current price for banana revealed no changed when compared with the same month last year. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2)



When comparing the twelve months ending May 2020 over twelve months ending May 2019, banana supplies were 51 percent higher while increased availability pushed its average price down 4 percent.

## TA'AMU

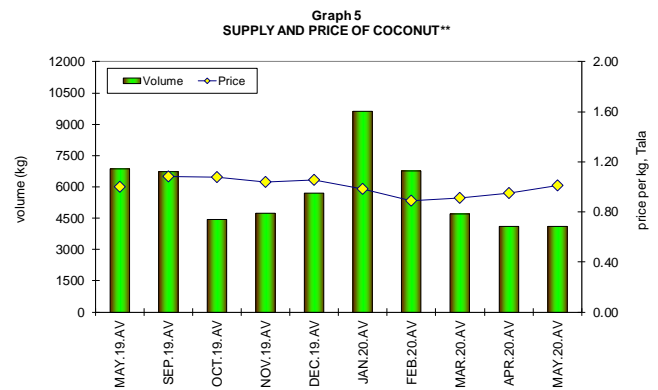
At an average of 100 kilograms, ta'amu supplies in May 2020 was more than tripled while increased availability pushed its average price down 47 percent (to \$4.34 per kilogram). This is the highest volume recorded for ta'amu since December 2019. When compared with May 2019, current supply of ta'amu was 80 percent lower while its average price was 41 percent lower. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of ta'amu in the month under review contributed to a 42 percent decrease in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending May 2020 over twelve months ending May 2019 while limited availability pushed its average price up 8 percent.

## COCONUT

Coconut supplies in May 2020 remained unchanged from the previous month while its average price increased 7 percent (to \$1.01 per kilogram). Current availability of coconut was 40 percent lower than average availability in May 2019 while average price increased 1 percent over the year. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



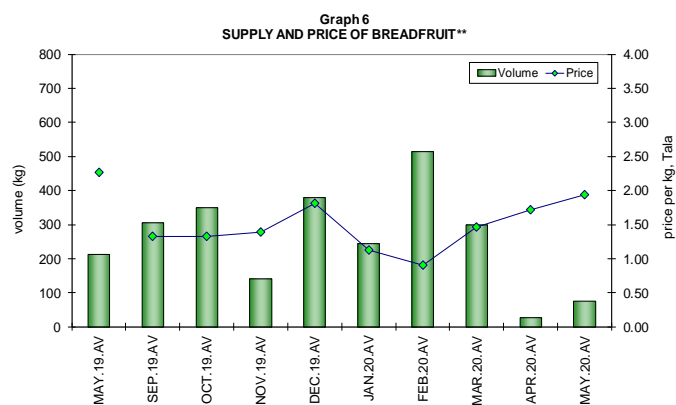
The volume of coconut recorded in the month under review contributed to a 5 percent decrease when comparing the twelve months ending May 2020 over the twelve months ending May 2019 while its average price also fell 6 percent.

## BREADFRUIT

At an average of 76 kilograms, breadfruit supply in May 2020 was more than doubled from April 2020. Increase demand to the markets pushed its average price up 13 percent (to \$1.94 per kilogram). When compared with May 2019, current breadfruit supply was 64 percent lower while its average price was 14 percent lower. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1& 2)

## VEGETABLE PRODUCE

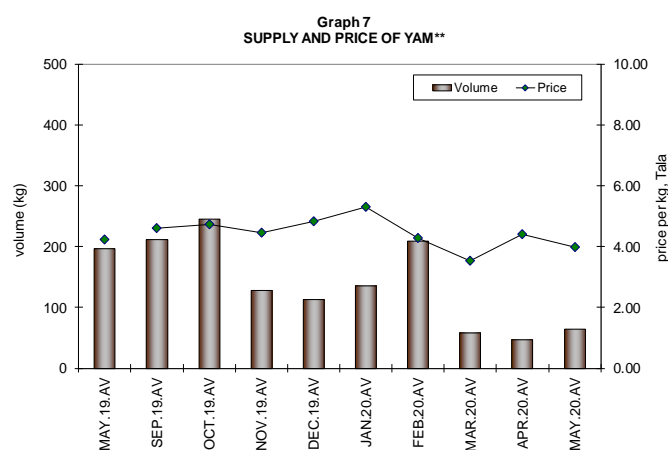
A general overview of all vegetable produce to the Local Markets in May 2020 revealed significant gains in all vegetable supplies. Head cabbage supplies registered the largest increase of fivefold (to 456 kilograms) from April 2020 followed by cucumber supplies increasing more than double (to 976 kilograms) while tomato supplies also rose 63 percent (to 80 kilograms) when compared to the previous month. Chinese cabbage supplies increased 12 percent (to 102 kilograms) while pumpkin supplies rose 31 percent (to 4,370 kilograms) from April 2020. (See Graphs 8 to 12 and Tables 1 & 2)



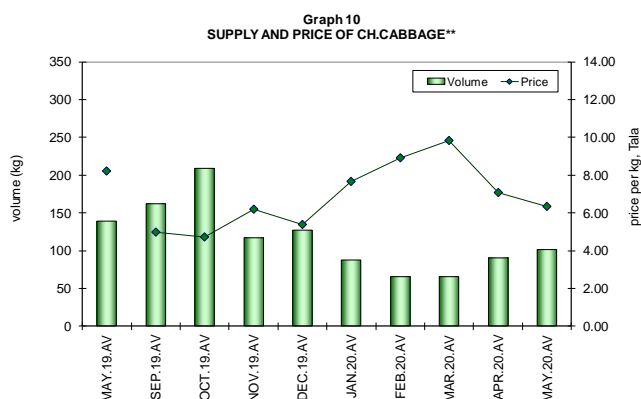
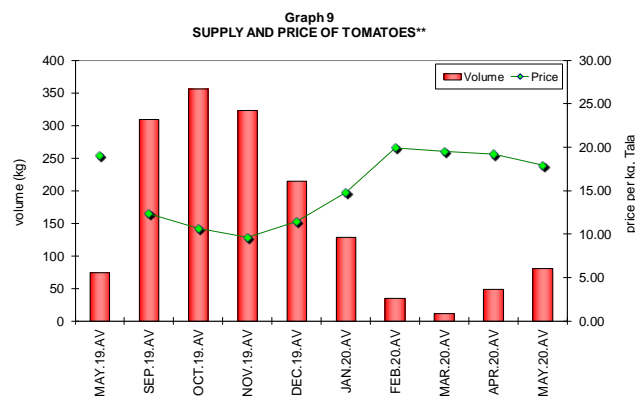
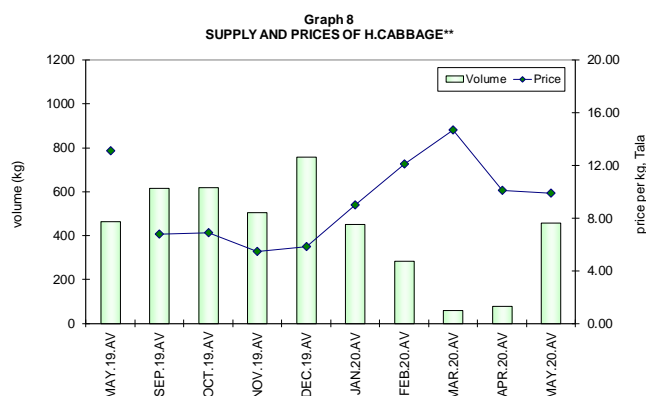
Current supply of breadfruit contributed to a 3 percent increase in volume when comparing the twelve months ending May 2020 over the twelve months ending May 2019 while its average price decreased 7 percent.

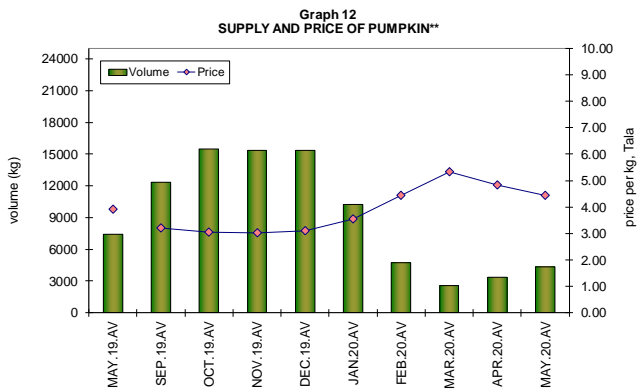
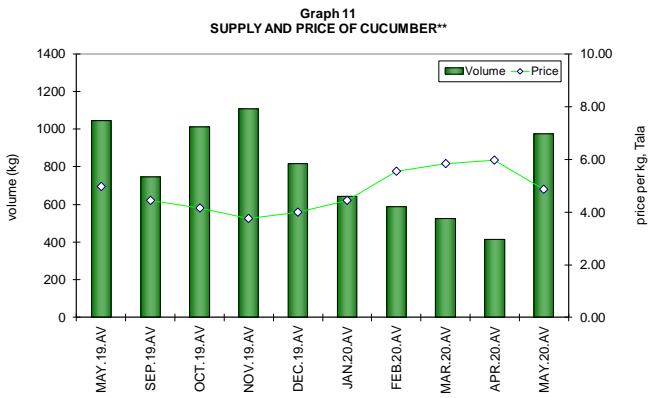
## YAM

The supply of yam in the month under review increased 37 percent (to 65 kilograms) from the previous month while increased availability pushed its average price down 10 percent (to \$3.97 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam was 67 percent lower while weakened demand over the year pushed its average price down 6 percent. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)



Current supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 41 percent increase in volume in the twelve months ending May 2020 over the twelve months ending May 2019, while its average price fell 13 percent.

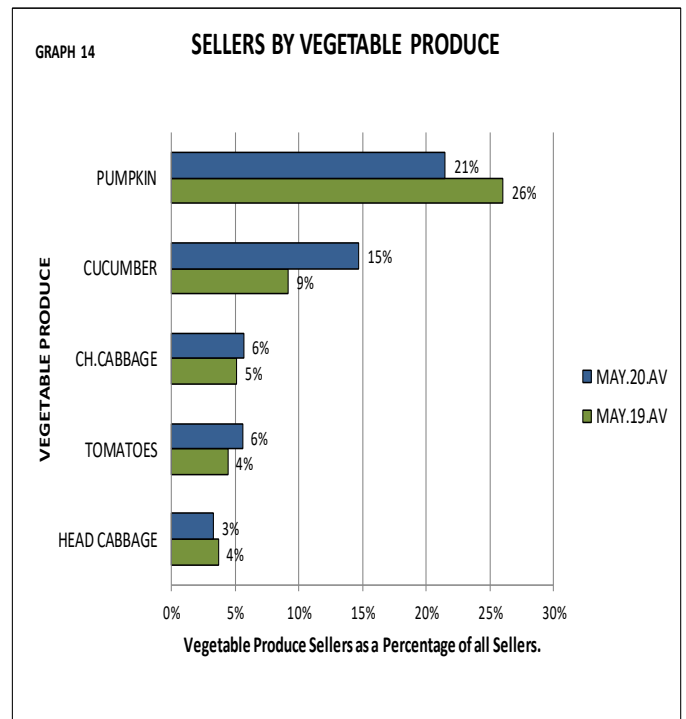
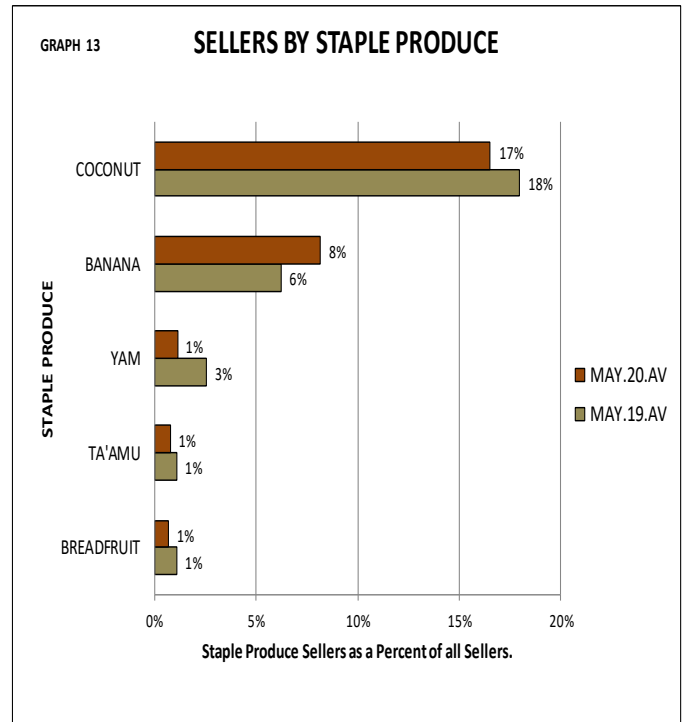




Subsequent to the increase in the supply of all vegetable produce supplied to the Local Markets average prices in the month under review decreased for all vegetable. Average prices for cucumber fell 19 percent (to \$4.85 per kilogram) while Chinese cabbage prices declined 11 percent (to \$6.35 per kilogram) from the previous month. Average prices for pumpkin fell 8 percent (to \$4.44 per kilogram) followed by tomato prices decreasing 7 percent (to \$17.92 per kilogram) while head cabbage prices declined 2 percent (to \$9.90 per kilogram).

## SELLERS

Despite the time restriction imposed by the SOE for the closing of the local markets the number of sellers on the days surveyed in May 2020 increased 7 percent to 230 sellers from the previous month and was 16 percent lower when compared with the number of sellers in the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 13 and 14 and Table 6).



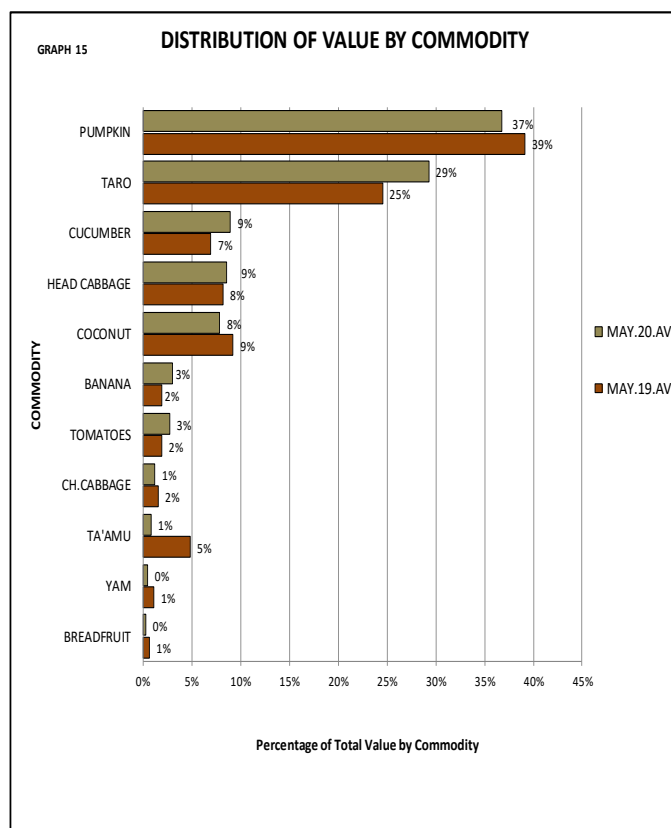
In May 2020, taro sellers at 51 were the largest group at the local markets decreasing from 55 in the previous month but were lower than 62 in the same month last year. Pumpkin sellers followed recording an increasing total of 49 from 48 last month but were lower than 71 in the same month a year ago while coconut sellers decreased to 38 from 43 in the previous month 49 a year ago. Cucumber sellers recorded a total of 34 increasing from 21 last month and 25 in the same month last year. Sellers of

banana remained at the total of 19 from April 2020 but were higher than 17 in May 2019. Sellers of Chinese cabbage and tomato both recorded a total of 13 each with Chinese cabbage sellers increasing from 11 in the previous month but were lower than 14 in the same month last year while tomato sellers also increasing from 10 in April 2020 and 12 in the same month a year ago. Sellers of head cabbage recorded an increasing total of 8 from 3 but were lower than 10 in the same month last year. Sellers of yam recorded an increasing total of 3 from 2 in April 2020 but were lower than 7 in May 2019. Ta'amu and breadfruit sellers both recorded a total of 2 each both remained unchanged from April 2020 but were lower than 3 in May 2019.

Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 37 percent in May 2020; a level that was higher than 34 percent in April 2020 but were lower than 39 percent in May 2019. Taro supplies followed with a 29 percent contribution to total value decreasing from 44 percent in the previous month but were higher than 25 percent when compared with the same month a year ago. Supplies of cucumber and head cabbage both contributed 9 percent each to total value; with cucumber supplies increasing from 5 percent last month and 7 percent in the same month last year while head cabbage supplies also increasing from 2 percent in the previous month and 8 percent in the same month a year ago. Shares of coconut accounted for 8 percent of total value remaining unchanged from the last month but were lower than 9 percent when compared with May 2019. Supplies of banana and tomato accounted for 3 percent each of total value with banana shares remaining unchanged from the previous month but were higher than 2 percent in the same month last year, while tomato supplies increased from 2 percent in April 2020 and May 2019. 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)

## VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$52,800 in May 2020 increased 11 percent from the previous month and was 29 percent lower when compared with May 2019.



### **Technical Notes**

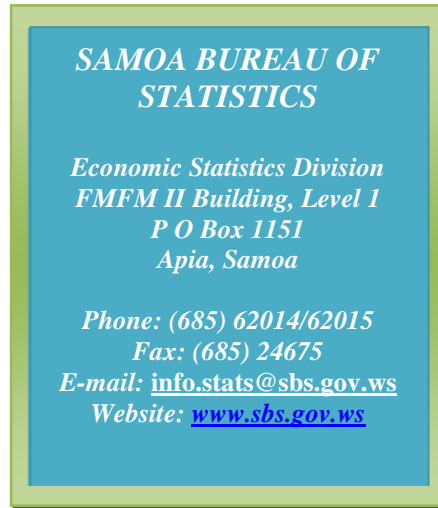
The Local Market Survey measures the price and volume of selected agricultural produce from the Local Markets at **Fugalei, Taufusi, Vaitele, Afega, Saleimoa, Fasitootai, Savaia, and Salelologa** every month. Prices for selected produce are taken from the Consumer Price Index.

\*\* 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 June 2020 will be available on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**



**Aliimuamua Malaefono TauāT-Faasalaina**  
**GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN (CEO)**

## SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.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	MAY.20.AV	May-20	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 19
TARO	7521	7079	5594	7491	5610	4959	9294	8862	7878	9082	6148	-32	-13
BANANA	2642	1112	3053	3596	4414	2886	5964	1707	968	1144	1243	9	12
TA'AMU	816	489	297	296	366	41	57	39	57	32	100	217	-80
COCONUT	7993	6860	6717	4443	4753	5702	9611	6750	4708	4106	4109	0	-40
BREADFRUIT	186	212	305	350	140	380	245	515	300	27	76	179	-64
YAM	129	196	212	245	128	113	135	209	59	47	65	37	-67
HEAD CABBAGE	811	464	615	618	506	758	452	283	60	78	456	488	-2
TOMATOES	256	75	309	356	323	215	128	35	11	49	80	63	7
CH.CABBAGE	129	139	162	209	117	128	88	66	66	91	102	12	-27
CUCUMBER	542	1043	745	1010	1109	817	643	587	526	415	976	135	-6
PUMPKIN	6217	7427	12327	15484	15346	15385	10263	4722	2579	3341	4370	31	-41

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.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	MAY.20.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	MAY 19
TARO	1.48	2.58	2.82	2.42	2.56	2.65	2.60	2.41	2.39	2.27	2.52	11	-2
BANANA	0.76	1.28	1.19	1.24	1.10	1.06	1.05	1.11	1.06	1.18	1.28	8	0
TA'AMU	2.78	7.33	5.20	5.92	5.83	8.25	8.78	6.91	6.89	8.12	4.34	-47	-41
COCONUT	0.62	1.00	1.09	1.07	1.04	1.06	0.98	0.89	0.91	0.95	1.01	7	1
BREADFRUIT	0.94	2.27	1.33	1.33	1.39	1.81	1.12	0.90	1.46	1.72	1.94	13	-14
YAM	3.16	4.24	4.62	4.74	4.44	4.84	5.30	4.28	3.54	4.40	3.97	-10	-6
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	13.12	6.77	6.87	5.48	5.84	9.02	12.11	14.71	10.09	9.90	-2	-25
TOMATOES	9.55	19.02	12.38	10.66	9.63	11.50	14.82	19.92	19.56	19.20	17.92	-7	-6
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	8.23	4.97	4.73	6.20	5.37	7.67	8.91	9.82	7.09	6.35	-11	-23
CUCUMBER	2.99	4.96	4.43	4.15	3.75	3.98	4.45	5.55	5.84	5.97	4.85	-19	-2
PUMPKIN	2.61	3.92	3.19	3.06	3.01	3.10	3.56	4.43	5.32	4.84	4.44	-8	13

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

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	MAY.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	MAY.20.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	MAY 19
TARO	126.6	18.3	15.8	18.1	14.4	13.2	24.2	21.4	18.8	20.6	15.5	-25	-15
BANANA	25.1	1.4	3.6	4.5	4.9	3.1	6.2	1.9	1.0	1.4	1.6	18	12
TA'AMU	25.6	3.6	1.5	1.8	2.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	65	-88
COCONUT	59.3	6.9	7.3	4.8	5.0	6.0	9.4	6.0	4.3	3.9	4.2	7	-39
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	200	-69
YAM	4.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.3	24	-69
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	6.1	4.2	4.2	2.8	4.4	4.1	3.4	0.9	0.8	4.5	479	-26
TOMATOES	21.5	1.4	3.8	3.8	3.1	2.5	1.9	0.7	0.2	0.9	1.4	53	1
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	2	-43
CUCUMBER	18.4	5.2	3.3	4.2	4.2	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.1	2.5	4.7	91	-8
PUMPKIN	178.3	29.1	39.4	47.3	46.3	47.7	36.5	20.9	13.7	16.2	19.4	20	-33
	511.8	74.4	81.1	91.3	84.1	82.3	87.4	59.8	43.7	47.4	52.8	11	-29

\*on the days surveyed  
@ new weights and base

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

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	MAY.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	MAY.20.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 19
TARO	0.25	94	74	100	75	66	124	118	105	121	82	-32	-13
BANANA	0.05	42	116	136	167	109	226	65	37	43	47	9	12
TA'AMU	0.05	60	36	36	45	5	7	5	7	4	12	217	-80
COCONUT	0.12	86	84	56	59	71	120	84	59	51	51	0	-40
BREADFRUIT	0.004	114	164	188	75	204	132	277	161	15	41	179	-64
YAM	0.01	152	164	190	99	87	105	162	45	37	50	37	-67
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	57	76	76	62	93	56	35	7	10	56	488	-2
TOMATOES	0.04	29	121	139	126	84	50	14	4	19	31	63	7
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	108	126	162	91	99	68	51	51	70	79	12	-27
CUCUMBER	0.04	192	137	186	205	151	119	108	97	77	180	135	-6
PUMPKIN	0.35	119	198	249	247	247	165	76	41	54	70	31	-41
	1.00	96	125	150	142	136	127	79	55	62	68	9	-29

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

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	MAY.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	MAY.20.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 19
TARO	0.25	174	191	163	173	179	176	163	161	154	170	11	-2
BANANA	0.05	168	157	163	145	139	138	146	139	155	168	8	0
TA'AMU	0.05	264	187	213	210	297	316	249	248	292	156	-47	-41
COCONUT	0.12	162	175	173	168	171	158	143	147	153	163	7	1
BREADFRUIT	0.004	241	141	141	148	192	120	96	156	183	207	13	-14
YAM	0.01	134	146	150	141	153	168	135	112	139	126	-10	-6
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	243	125	127	101	108	167	224	272	187	183	-2	-25
TOMATOES	0.04	199	130	112	101	120	155	209	205	201	188	-7	-6
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	188	113	108	142	123	175	204	224	162	145	-11	-23
CUCUMBER	0.04	166	148	139	125	133	149	186	195	200	162	-19	-2
PUMPKIN	0.35	150	122	117	115	119	136	170	204	185	170	-8	13
	1.00	132	105	103	98	106	119	134	151	140	128	-9	-4

**Table 6: Number of Sellers**

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.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	MAY.20.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 19
TARO	46	62	46	60	51	47	57	64	51	55	51	-7	-18
BANANA	27	17	31	33	46	35	35	31	16	19	19	-1	11
TA'AMU	7	3	3	4	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	20	-40
COCONUT	57	49	39	32	51	43	61	62	42	43	38	-12	-22
BREADFRUIT	4	3	6	5	3	8	4	8	5	2	2	7	-47
YAM	5	7	5	5	4	2	3	5	2	2	3	73	-63
HEAD CABBAGE	12	10	10	10	16	9	9	5	2	3	8	153	-24
TOMATOES	39	12	37	44	45	28	21	9	4	10	13	28	7
CH.CABBAGE	13	14	23	25	16	17	10	8	11	11	13	18	-7
CUCUMBER	42	25	36	44	49	41	29	28	23	21	34	59	35
PUMPKIN	83	71	103	111	113	91	81	50	37	48	49	3	-30
	337	273	338	371	396	320	310	270	193	214	230	7	-16

\*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base