



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY MAY 2021

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:

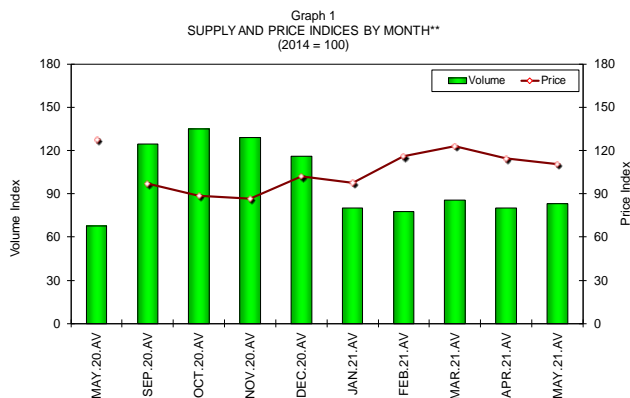
The Local Market Survey in May 2021 showed overall volume increase 4 percent while significant increases in the supply of most vegetable produce pushed average prices down 3 percent when compared to April 2021.

- Significant increases in the supplies of most vegetable produce influenced the decline in the price index.
- The value of supplies rose 4 percent to \$52,100 from the previous month.
- An average of 265 sellers trading at the Local Market was recorded in the month under review, 4 percent higher than the previous month and 15 percent higher when compared with the same month last year.

Issue: 01/04/21

OVERVIEW

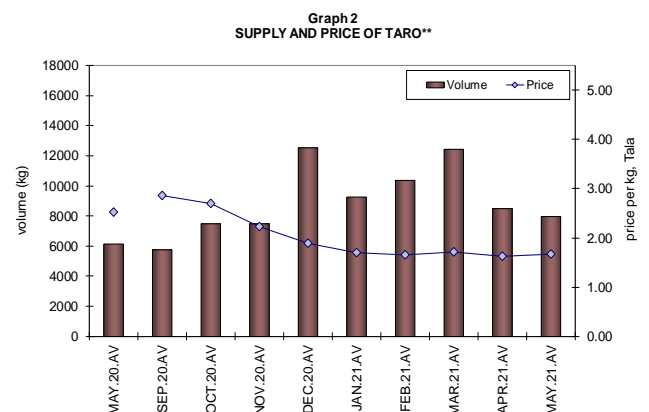
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in May 2021 showed overall volume increase 4 percent from April 2021. Significant increases were recorded for ta'amu and most of vegetable supplies. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 22 percent higher. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



Decreased domestic demand for coconut, breadfruit and yam coupled with significant increase for vegetable produce drove overall price level to slip 3 percent from the previous month. When compared with May 2020, the current overall price level was 13 percent lower.

TARO

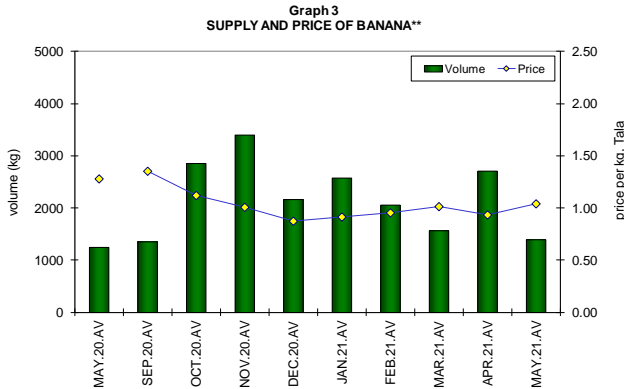
The supply of taro to the Local Markets in May 2021 fell 6 percent (to 7,974 kilograms) from April 2021; a level that was 30 percent higher when compared with the same month last year. The average price of taro increased 3 percent (to \$1.67 per kilogram) due to limited availability. When compared with May 2020, current price was 33 percent lower. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of taro in the month under review contributed to a 21 percent rise in volume comparing the twelve months ending May 2021 over the twelve months ending May 2020. Price fell 13 percent.

BANANA

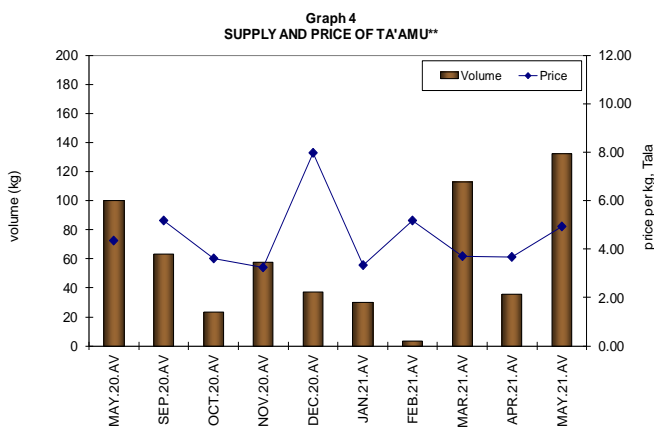
The volume of banana supplied to the Local Markets in May 2021 decreased 49 percent (to 1,387 kilograms) from the previous month; a level that was 12 percent higher than the same month last year. Significant decrease in the supply of banana led to its average price rising 12 percent (to \$1.04 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year current price was 18 percent lower. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2)



When comparing the twelve months ending May 2021 over twelve months ending May 2020, banana supplies were 14 percent lower while its average price dropped 9 percent.

TA'AMU

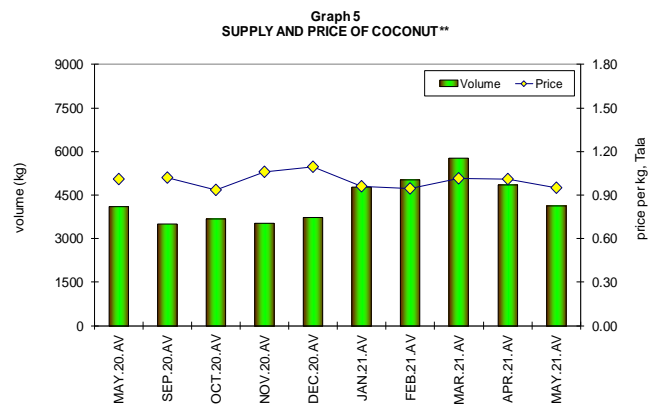
At an average of 133 kilograms, ta'amu supply in May 2021 grew more than threefold from the previous month. Strong domestic demand for ta'amu pushed its average price up 35 percent (to \$4.92 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of ta'amu was 33 percent higher while its average price was also 13 percent higher. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of ta'amu in the month under review contributed to a 71 percent decrease in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending May 2021 over twelve months ending May 2020 while weakened demand pushed its average price down 31 percent.

COCONUT

In the month under review, average volume for coconut fell 15 percent (to 4,135 kilograms) from the previous month, while weakened domestic demand pushed its average price down 6 percent (to \$0.95 per kilogram). Current availability of coconut was 1 percent higher than average availability in May 2020 while average price decreased 6 percent over the year. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)

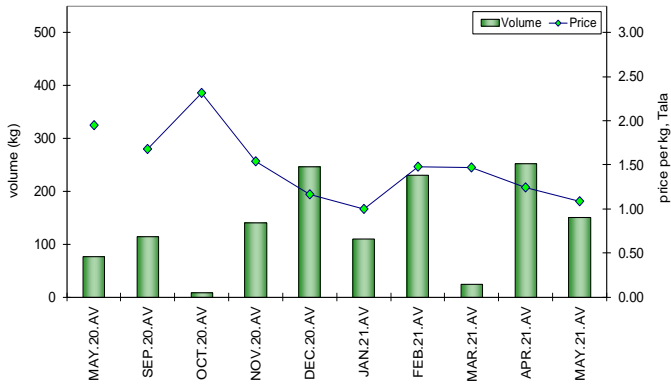


Comparing the twelve months ending May 2021 over the twelve months ending May 2020 supply of coconut was 30 percent lower while its average price increased 2 percent.

BREADFRUIT

At an average of 150 kilograms, breadfruit supply in May 2021 dropped 40 percent from the previous month. Weakened demand pushed its average price down 13 percent (to \$1.09 per kilogram). Current availability of breadfruit supply was 97 percent higher while increased availability pushed its average price down 44 percent. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1&2)

Graph 6
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF BREADFRUIT**

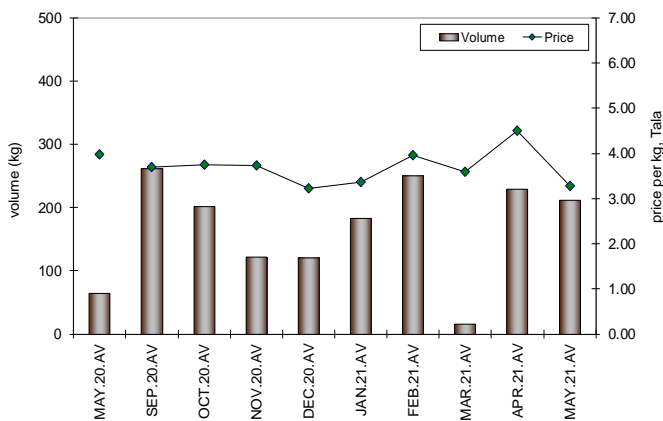


Current supply of breadfruit contributed to a 43 percent decrease in volume when comparing the twelve months ending May 2021 over the twelve months ending May 2020 while its average price increased 2 percent.

YAM

The supply of yam in the month under review fell 7 percent (to 212 kilograms) from the previous month while weekend domestic demand for yam pushed its average price down 27 percent (to \$3.28 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam was more than three times higher while increased availability over the year pushed its average price down 17 percent. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)

Graph 7
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF YAM**

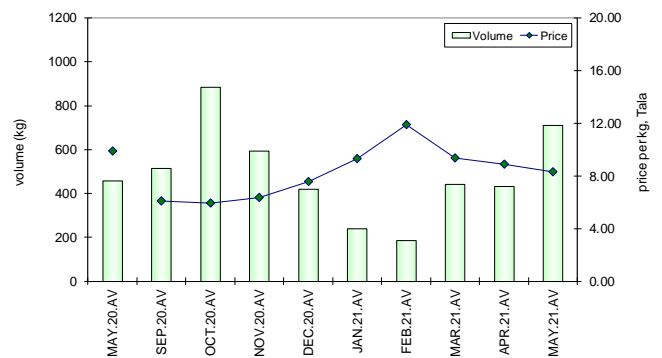


Current supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 13 percent increase in volume in the twelve months ending May 2021 over the twelve months ending May 2020, while its average price fell 15 percent.

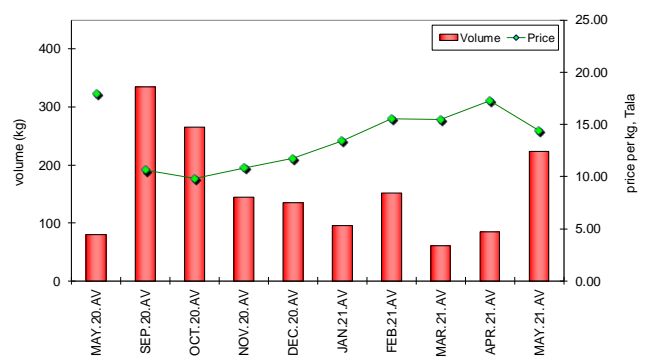
VEGETABLE PRODUCE

A general overview of all vegetable produce to the Local Markets in May 2021 revealed significant gains in all vegetable produce with the exception of cucumber whose volume dropped 1 percent (to 892 kilograms) from the previous month. Tomato supplies registered the largest increase of 165 percent (to 223 kilograms) from April 2021 followed by head cabbage supplies increasing 64 percent (to 711 kilograms) while pumpkin supplies also increased 10 percent (to 4,771 kilograms) and Chinese cabbage supplies increased 8 percent (to 178 kilograms) when compared to the previous month. (See Graphs 8 to 12 and Tables 1 & 2)

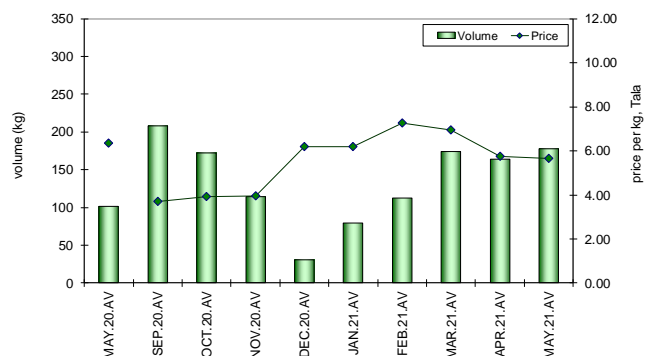
Graph 8
SUPPLY AND PRICES OF H.CABBAGE**



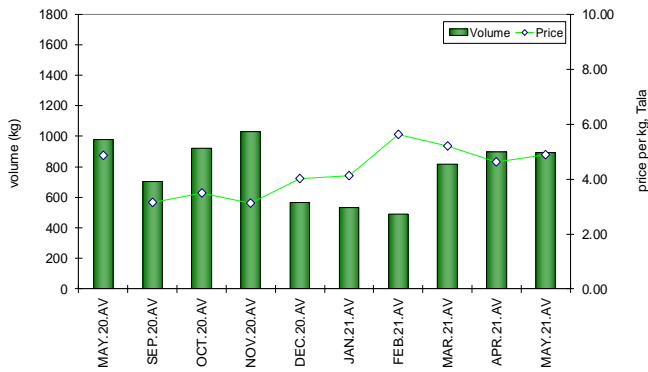
Graph 9
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF TOMATOES**



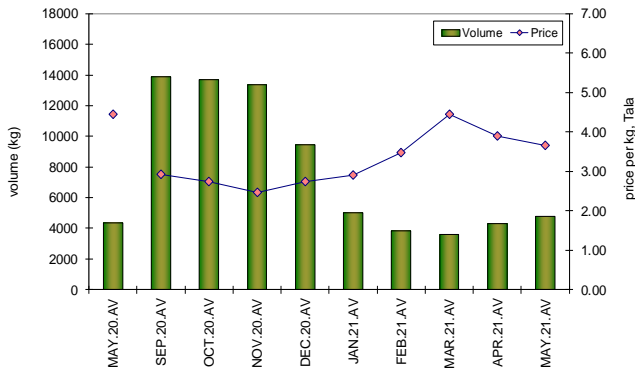
Graph 10
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CH.CABBAGE**



Graph 11
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CUCUMBER**



Graph 12
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF PUMPKIN**

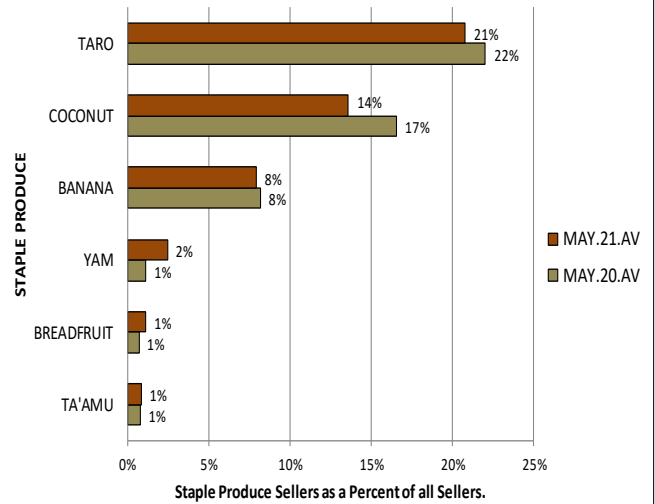


Subsequent to the increase in the supply of all vegetable produce to the Local Markets, average prices in the month under review decreased for all vegetable produce with the exception of cucumber recorded an increase of 6 percent (to \$4.88 per kilogram). Average price for tomato dropped 17 percent (to \$14.41 per kilogram) due to increased availability. An abundance of head cabbage and pumpkin pushed their average prices down 7 percent (to \$8.30 per kilogram) for head cabbage and 6 percent (to \$3.65 per kilogram) for pumpkin, while Chinese cabbage price also decreased 2 percent (to \$5.66 per kilogram) when compared with April 2021.

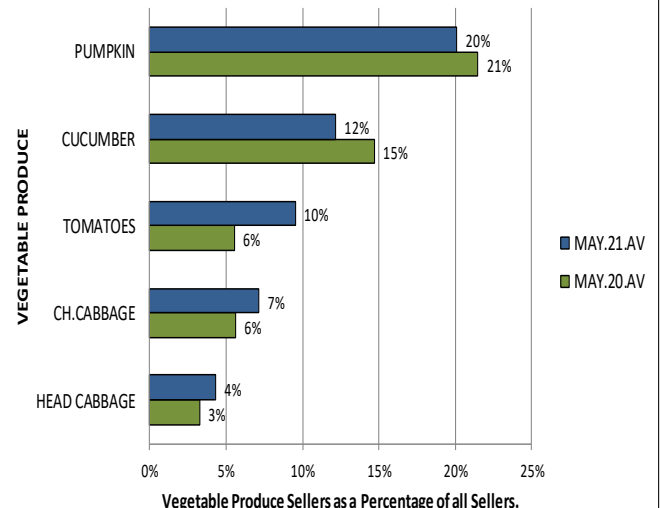
SELLERS

At 265, the number of sellers at the Local Markets on the days surveyed in May 2021 increased 4 percent from the previous month and was 15 percent higher 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



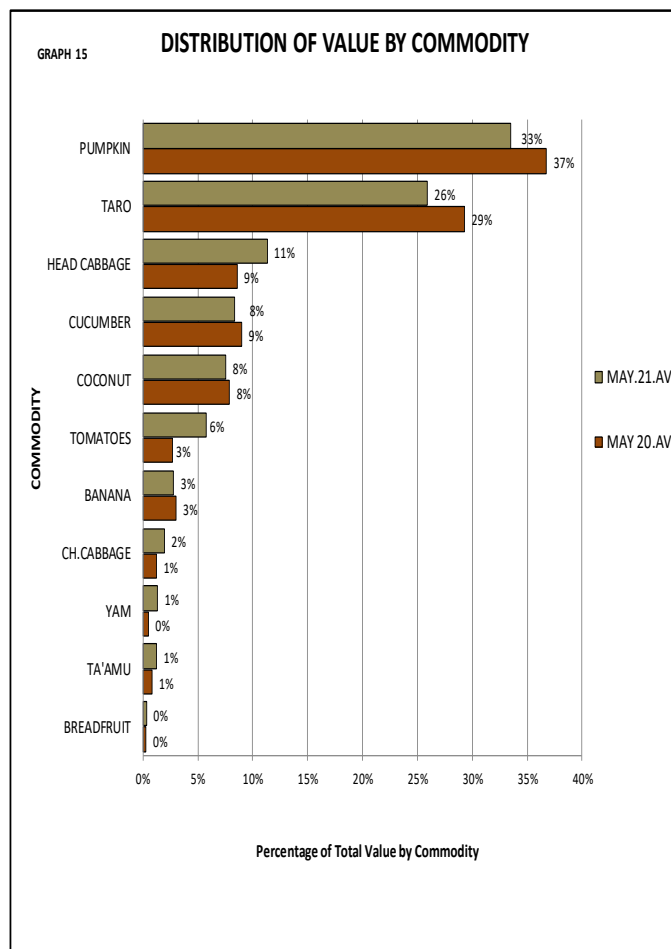
In May 2021, taro sellers at 55 were the largest group at the local markets decreasing from 58 in the previous month but were higher than 51 in the same month last year. Pumpkin sellers followed recording an increasing total of 53 from 44 in the previous month and 49 in the same month a year ago while coconut sellers decreased to 36 from 40 in the previous month and 38 in the same month a year ago. Cucumber sellers recorded a total of 32 decreasing from 34 from the previous month and the same month last year. Sellers of tomato recorded an increasing total of 25 from 14 in the previous month and 13 in the same month a year

ago, while sellers of banana recorded a decreasing total of 21 from 31 in the previous month but were higher than 19 a year ago. Sellers of Chinese cabbage recorded an increasing total of 19 from 16 in the previous month and 13 in the same month last year, while sellers of head cabbage at 12 increased from 7 in the last month and 8 in the same month a year ago. Sellers of yam recorded an increasing total of 7 from 4 in the previous month and 3 in the same month a year ago, followed by breadfruit sellers recorded a decreasing total of 3 from 5 in April 2021 but were higher than 2 in May 2020, while sellers of ta’amu recorded an increasing total of 2 from 1 in the previous month and remained 2 a year ago.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$52,100 in May 2021 increased 4 percent from the previous month and was 1 percent lower when compared with May 2020.

Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 33 percent in May 2021; a level that was lower than 34 percent in the previous month and 37 percent in the same month a year ago. Taro supplies followed with a 26 percent contribution to total value decreasing from 28 percent in the previous and 29 percent in the same month a year ago. Supplies of head cabbage contributed 11 percent to total value increasing from 8 percent last month and 9 percent in the same month a year ago. Supplies of cucumber and coconut both contributed 8 percent each to total value; with cucumber supplies remaining unchanged from last month but were lower than 9 percent in the same month last year while coconut supplies decreased from 10 percent in the previous month and remained unchanged in the same month a year ago. Shares of tomato accounted for 6 percent of total value increasing from 3 percent in the previous month and the same month last year, while share of banana accounted for 3 percent of total value, decreasing from 5 percent in the previous month and remained unchanged in the same month a year ago. Supplies of while Chinese cabbage accounted for 2 percent of total value, remaining unchanged from the previous month but were higher than 1 percent in the same month a year ago. Shares of yam and ta’amu both accounted for 1 percent each of total value while lower shares were recorded for 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, selected urban roadside stalls, Vaitele, Afega, Saleimoa, 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 June 2021 will be available on 14th July 2021.

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SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	OCT.20.AV	NOV.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	JAN.21.AV	FEB.21.AV	MAR.21.AV	APR.21.AV	MAY.21.AV	May-21	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 20
TARO	7521	6148	5775	7473	7506	12545	9259	10383	12434	8496	7974	-6	30
BANANA	2642	1243	1351	2853	3397	2168	2570	2051	1564	2707	1387	-49	12
TA'AMU	816	100	63	23	58	37	30	4	113	36	133	272	33
COCONUT	7993	4109	3515	3677	3539	3728	4768	5025	5763	4854	4135	-15	1
BREADFRUIT	186	76	115	8	140	247	110	230	25	252	150	-40	97
YAM	129	65	261	202	122	120	182	250	16	229	212	-7	226
HEAD CABBAGE	811	456	514	886	594	418	238	186	442	432	711	64	56
TOMATOES	256	80	335	265	145	135	95	151	60	84	223	165	178
CH.CABBAGE	129	102	208	173	115	30	80	112	174	164	178	8	74
CUCUMBER	542	976	705	923	1032	566	532	488	816	899	892	-1	-9
PUMPKIN	6217	4370	13906	13717	13350	9459	5020	3837	3581	4319	4771	10	9

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	OCT.20.AV	NOV.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	JAN.21.AV	FEB.21.AV	MAR.21.AV	APR.21.AV	MAY.21.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	MAY 20
TARO	1.48	2.52	2.85	2.69	2.22	1.89	1.71	1.65	1.72	1.63	1.67	3	-33
BANANA	0.76	1.28	1.36	1.12	1.01	0.87	0.92	0.95	1.02	0.93	1.04	12	-18
TA'AMU	2.78	4.34	5.18	3.62	3.25	7.96	3.35	5.17	3.69	3.66	4.92	35	13
COCONUT	0.62	1.01	1.02	0.93	1.06	1.09	0.96	0.94	1.01	1.01	0.95	-6	-6
BREADFRUIT	0.94	1.94	1.68	2.31	1.54	1.17	1.00	1.47	1.47	1.25	1.09	-13	-44
YAM	3.16	3.97	3.70	3.75	3.73	3.22	3.37	3.96	3.59	4.51	3.28	-27	-17
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	9.90	6.11	5.92	6.38	7.56	9.33	11.89	9.37	8.90	8.30	-7	-16
TOMATOES	9.55	17.92	10.63	9.82	10.81	11.74	13.42	15.56	15.47	17.26	14.41	-17	-20
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	6.35	3.69	3.92	3.96	6.19	6.19	7.27	6.94	5.75	5.66	-2	-11
CUCUMBER	2.99	4.85	3.15	3.48	3.13	4.01	4.11	5.61	5.21	4.62	4.88	6	1
PUMPKIN	2.61	4.44	2.92	2.74	2.46	2.73	2.91	3.47	4.45	3.90	3.65	-6	-18

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	MAY.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	OCT.20.AV	NOV.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	JAN.21.AV	FEB.21.AV	MAR.21.AV	APR.21.AV	MAY.21.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	MAY 20
TARO	126.6	15.5	16.5	20.1	16.7	23.7	15.8	17.2	21.4	13.8	13.4	-3	-14
BANANA	25.1	1.6	1.8	3.2	3.4	1.9	2.4	2.0	1.6	2.5	1.5	-43	-9
TA'AMU	25.6	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.7	400	51
COCONUT	59.3	4.2	3.6	3.4	3.8	4.1	4.6	4.8	5.8	4.9	3.9	-20	-6
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.2	-48	7
YAM	4.7	0.3	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.0	0.1	1.0	0.7	-33	165
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	4.5	3.1	5.2	3.8	3.2	2.2	2.2	4.1	3.9	5.9	53	31
TOMATOES	21.5	1.4	3.6	2.6	1.6	1.6	1.3	2.4	0.9	1.5	3.2	121	123
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.2	0.9	1.0	7	55
CUCUMBER	18.4	4.7	2.2	3.2	3.2	2.3	2.2	2.7	4.3	4.2	4.4	5	-8
PUMPKIN	178.3	19.4	40.6	37.6	32.8	25.9	14.6	13.3	15.9	16.9	17.4	3	-10
	511.8	52.8	73.7	76.9	66.6	63.7	44.3	46.7	55.8	50.0	52.1	4	-1

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	MAY.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	OCT.20.AV	NOV.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	JAN.21.AV	FEB.21.AV	MAR.21.AV	APR.21.AV	MAY.21.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 20
TARO	0.25	82	77	99	100	167	123	138	165	113	106	-6	30
BANANA	0.05	47	51	108	129	82	97	78	59	102	53	-49	12
TA'AMU	0.05	12	8	3	7	5	4	0	14	4	16	272	33
COCONUT	0.12	51	44	46	44	47	60	63	72	61	52	-15	1
BREADFRUIT	0.004	41	62	4	75	133	59	124	13	135	81	-40	97
YAM	0.01	50	202	156	94	93	141	194	12	177	164	-7	226
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	56	63	109	73	52	29	23	55	53	88	64	56
TOMATOES	0.04	31	131	104	56	53	37	59	24	33	87	165	178
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	79	161	134	89	24	62	87	135	127	138	8	74
CUCUMBER	0.04	180	130	170	190	104	98	90	151	166	165	-1	-9
PUMPKIN	0.35	70	224	221	215	152	81	62	58	69	77	10	9
	1.00	68	125	135	129	116	80	78	86	80	83	4	22

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	MAY.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	OCT.20.AV	NOV.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	JAN.21.AV	FEB.21.AV	MAR.21.AV	APR.21.AV	MAY.21.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 20
TARO	0.25	170	193	182	150	128	115	112	116	110	113	3	-33
BANANA	0.05	168	178	148	132	115	120	126	134	123	137	12	-18
TA'AMU	0.05	156	186	130	117	286	120	186	133	132	177	35	13
COCONUT	0.12	163	164	150	171	176	155	152	164	163	153	-6	-6
BREADFRUIT	0.004	207	179	246	163	124	106	157	156	133	116	-13	-44
YAM	0.01	126	117	119	118	102	107	125	114	143	104	-27	-17
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	183	113	110	118	140	173	220	174	165	154	-7	-16
TOMATOES	0.04	188	111	103	113	123	141	163	162	181	151	-17	-20
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	145	84	89	90	141	141	166	158	131	129	-2	-11
CUCUMBER	0.04	162	105	116	105	134	137	188	174	155	163	6	1
PUMPKIN	0.35	170	112	105	94	105	111	133	171	150	140	-6	-18
	1.00	128	97	89	86	102	98	116	123	114	111	-3	-13

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	OCT.20.AV	NOV.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	JAN.21.AV	FEB.21.AV	MAR.21.AV	APR.21.AV	MAY.21.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY 20
TARO	46	51	46	55	65	71	71	57	57	58	55	-6	9
BANANA	27	19	20	34	45	27	37	32	22	31	21	-32	12
TA'AMU	7	2	1	1	1	1	4	0	2	1	2	88	25
COCONUT	57	38	33	34	33	29	44	42	45	40	36	-10	-5
BREADFRUIT	4	2	2	0	3	6	2	5	1	5	3	-42	88
YAM	5	3	7	6	4	3	5	5	1	4	7	81	150
HEAD CABBAGE	12	8	7	11	7	5	3	8	7	7	12	74	51
TOMATOES	39	13	33	31	21	15	15	19	13	14	25	78	97
CH.CABBAGE	13	13	20	15	13	4	8	13	17	16	19	19	46
CUCUMBER	42	34	24	38	41	14	24	21	34	34	32	-6	-5
PUMPKIN	83	49	91	86	81	57	54	41	37	44	53	20	8
	337	230	282	311	312	232	266	242	237	255	265	4	15

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base