



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY FEBRUARY 2023

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:

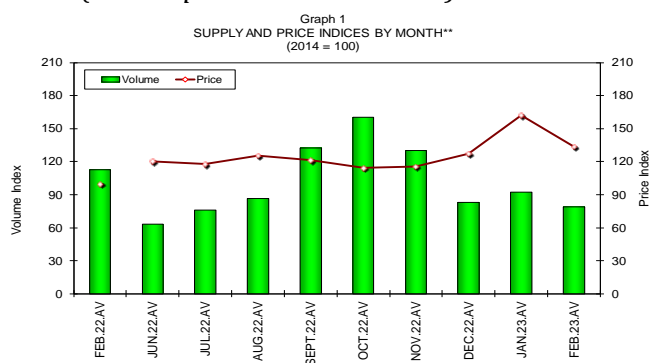
The Local Market Survey in February 2023 showed that the overall volume decreased 14 percent while weak domestic demand pushed average prices down to 18 percent when compared to January 2023.

- Significant reduction in the supplies of some agricultural produce strongly contributed to the decline in the volume index.
- The value of supplies fell 15 percent to \$70,800 from the previous month.
- The total number of sellers fell 7 percent to 245 in February 2023 from the 262 recorded in January 2023.

Issue: 01/02/23

OVERVIEW

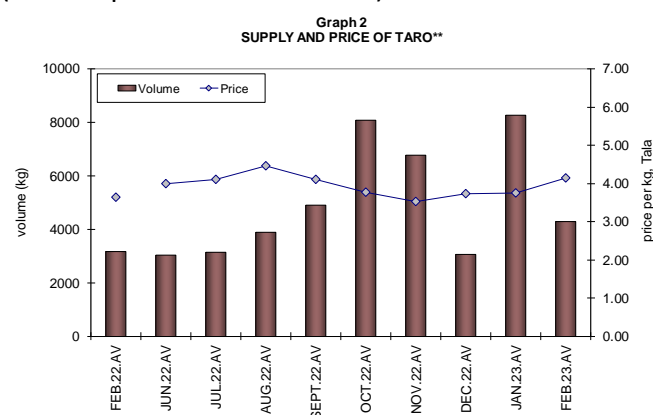
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the local markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in February 2023 showed a 14 percent decrease in the overall volume from January 2023. This was due to the significant reductions of some agricultural produce supplied to the markets such as taro, ta'amu, coconut, yam, head cabbage and tomato. When compared to February 2022, current supply further decreased by 30 percent. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



The decrease in domestic demand for some of the major agricultural produce such as banana, ta'amu, breadfruit and Chinese cabbage prompted overall price level to fall 18 percent from the previous month. When compared with February 2022, the current overall price level rose 33 percent.

TARO

The supply of taro to the local markets in February 2023 fell 48 percent to 4,286 kilograms from January 2023; a level that was 35 percent higher than its supply in the same month last year. The average price of taro increased 11 percent (to \$4.11 per kilogram) when compared to January 2023 also further increased 14 percent over its price in February 2022. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)

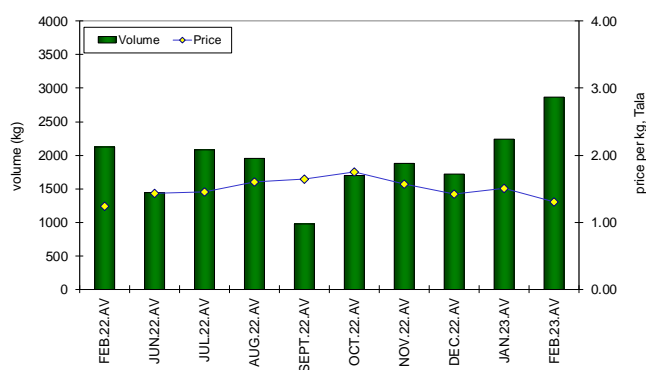


Taro supply dropped 8 percent in the twelve-month period ending February 2023 in comparison to the twelve-month period ending February 2022. However, its price rose by 48 percent.

BANANA

Banana supplies in the month under review increased 28 percent (to 2,865 kilograms) from January 2023 while its average price fell 13 percent (to \$1.31 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of banana and its average price increased 35 percent and 5 percent respectively. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2).

Graph 3
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF BANANA**

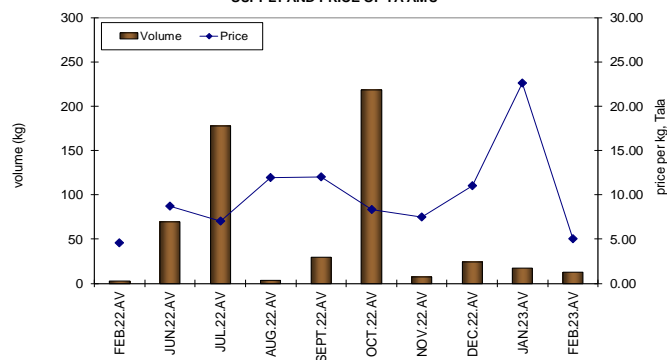


Annually, banana supplies were 4 percent lower compared to the year ended February 2022. However, its average price increased 31 percent.

TA'AMU

Ta'amu supply in February 2023 decreased 28 percent while its average price fell 78 percent (to \$5.04 per kilogram) from the previous month. Current supply of ta'amu was more than fourth times its supply in February 2023 while average price increased by 11 percent over its price in February 2022. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1&2)

Graph 4
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF TA'AMU**

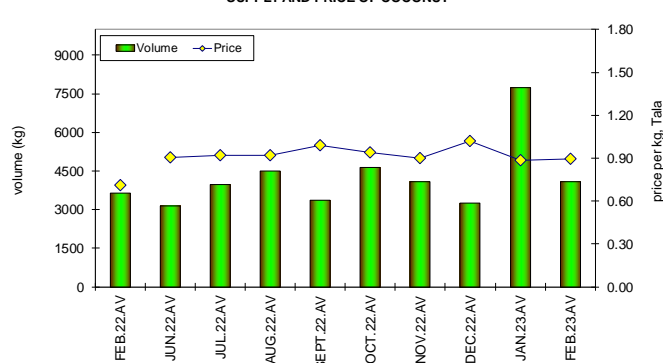


In the year ending February 2023, volume of ta'amu supplied to the markets decreased 40 percent while its price increased more than two times in comparison to its price in the year ending February 2022.

COCONUT

In the month under review, coconut supply increased more than twice (to 7,747 kilograms) while increased availability led to the decline in prices by 13 percent (to 0.88 per kilogram). In comparison to January 2022, current supply and price of coconut increased by 41 percent and by 13 percent respectively. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)

Graph 5
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF COCONUT**

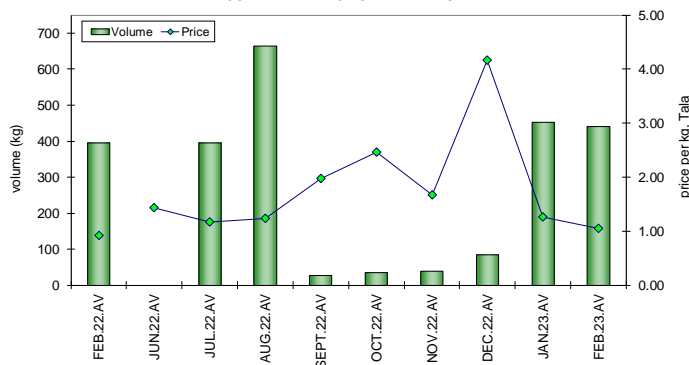


In the twelve months ending February 2023, supply of coconut and its average price fell 7 percent and 4 percent respectively when in comparison to the twelve months ending January 2022.

BREADFRUIT

The volume of breadfruit supply in February 2023 dropped 3 percent (to 440 kilograms) from the previous month while its average price fell 17 percent (to \$1.06 per kilogram). When compared to February 2022, current supply of breadfruit increased 11 percent while its average price rose 14 percent. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1&2)

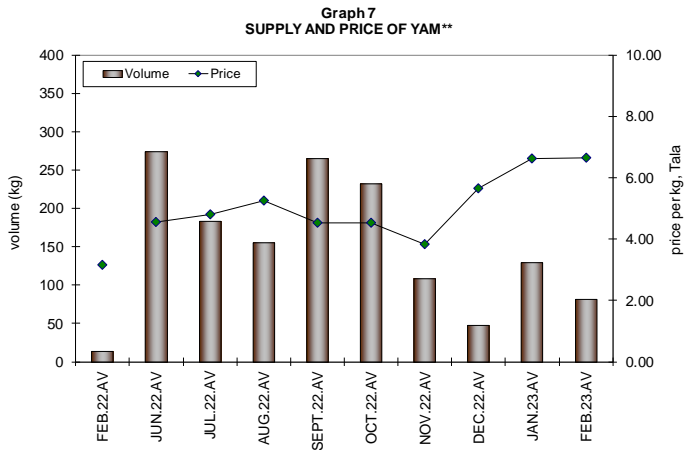
Graph 6
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF BREADFRUIT**



Annually, supply of breadfruit fell 11 percent while its average price rose 24 percent over the year ended February 2022.

YAM

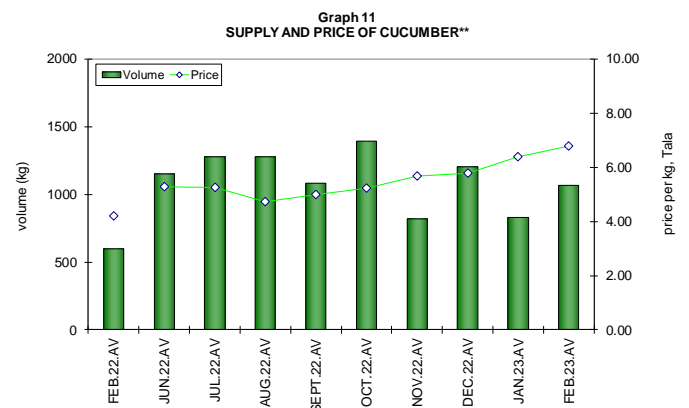
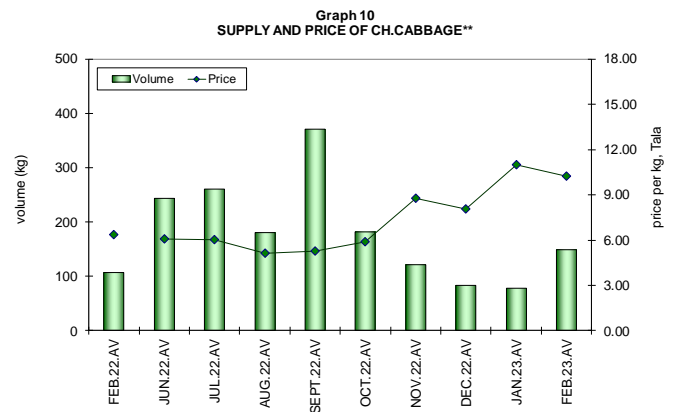
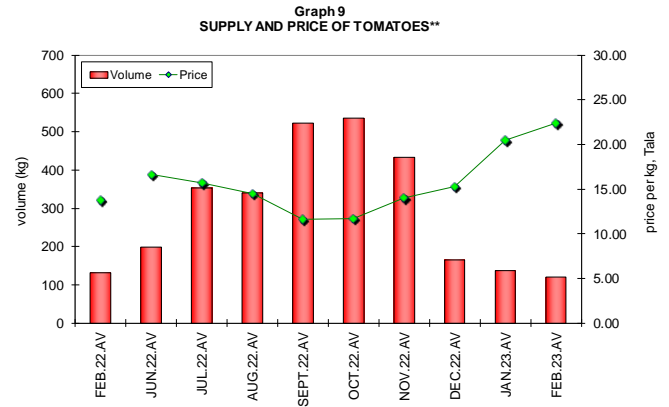
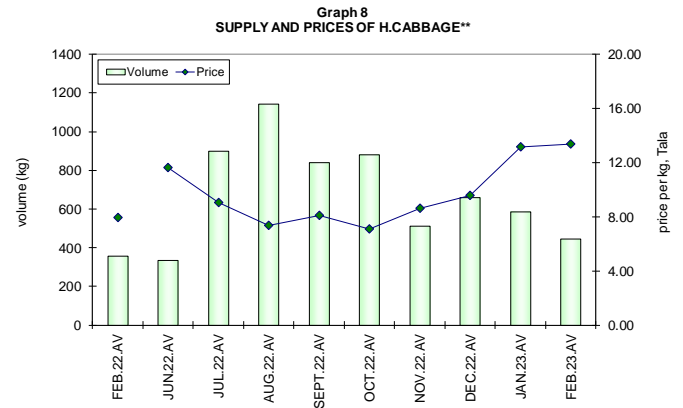
Yam supplies at 81 kilograms decreased 37 percent from the previous month, while its average price remained unchanged. When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam increased more than five times while its average price was more than doubled. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)

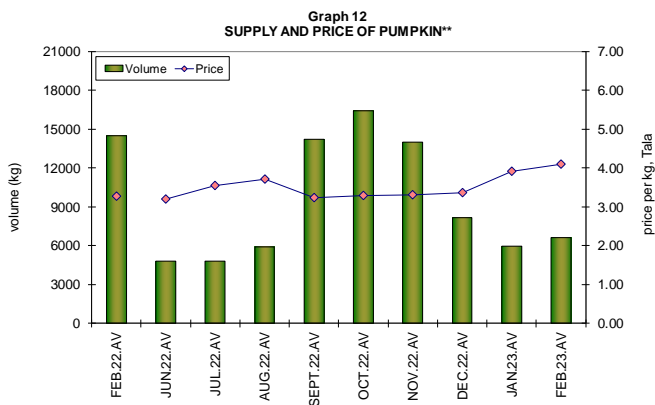


Supply of yam in the twelve months ending February 2023 increased 9 percent in comparison to the twelve months ending February 2022, while its average price rose 33 percent.

VEGETABLE PRODUCE

The supply of vegetable produce to the Local Markets in February 2023 experienced significant increases for the majority of the produce with the exception of head cabbage and tomato which declined by 24 percent (to 443 kilograms) and 12 percent (to 121 kilograms) in that order. Chinese cabbage registered the largest increase of 91 percent (to 149 kilograms) followed by cucumber supplies increasing 28 percent (to 1,063 kilograms) while pumpkin increased by 12 percent (to 6,626 kilograms) when compared to the previous month. (See Graphs 8 to 12 and Tables 1 & 2)



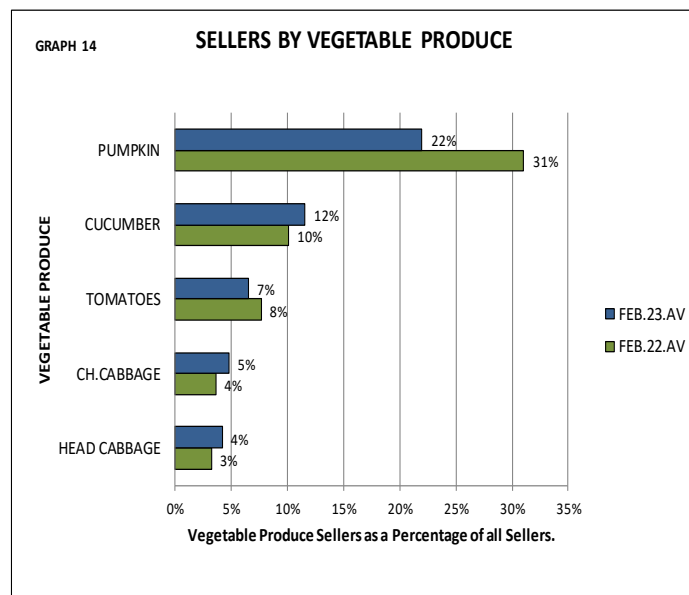
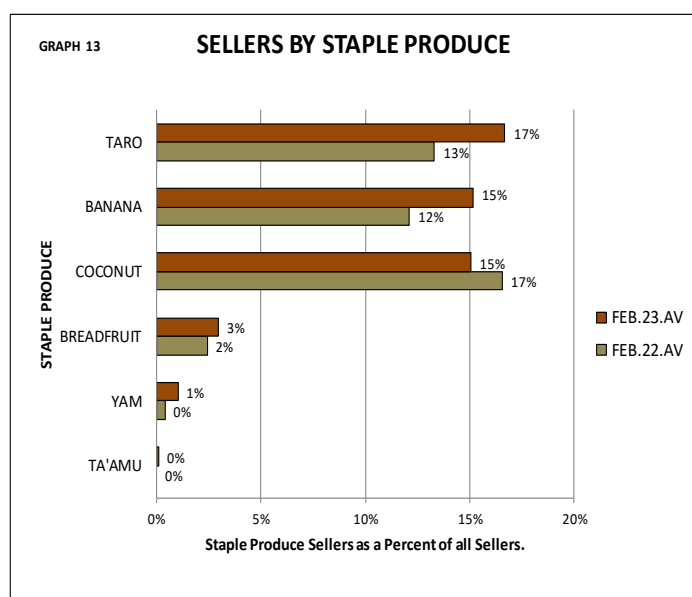


Subsequent to the increases of most of the vegetable produce available at the local market in the month under review, their average prices also increased with the exception of Chinese cabbage which fell 7 percent (to \$10.22 per kilogram). Tomato price recorded an increase of 9 percent (to \$22.41 per kilogram) followed by cucumber price increasing by 6 percent (to \$6.77 per kilogram) and pumpkin price rising 5 percent (to \$4.11 per kilogram). Price for head cabbage slightly increased 1 percent (to \$13.36 per kilogram) when compared with January 2023.

SELLERS

At 245, the number of sellers at the local markets on the days surveyed in February 2023 decreased by 7 percent from the previous month and 1 percent when compared with the number of sellers in the same month a year ago.

(See Graphs 13 and 14 and Table 6).



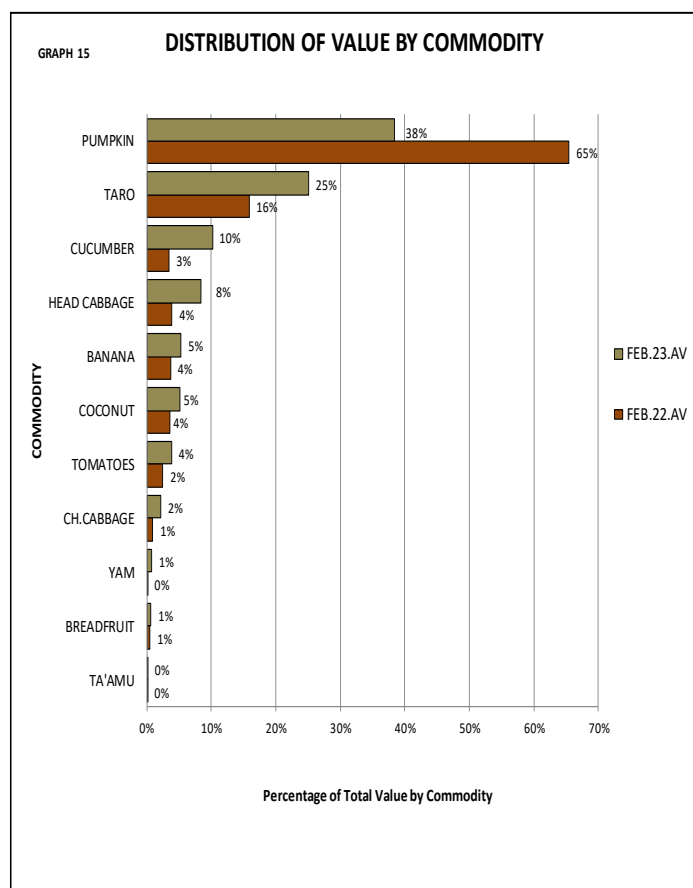
In February 2023, pumpkin sellers at 54 were the largest group at the local markets, decreasing from the 66 in the previous month and the 77 in the same month last year. Taro sellers followed with a total of 41 decreasing from the 45 last month but were higher than 33 in the same month a year ago. Coconut sellers recorded a total of 37, down from the 42 in the previous month and the 41 in the same month a year ago. Banana and coconut sellers both recorded a total of 37 each, with banana sellers increasing from the 32 and 30 in the previous month and the same month a year ago, while coconut sellers decreased from the 42 in January 2023 and 41 in February 2022. The number of cucumber sellers was 28, increasing from the 22 in the previous month and 25 in the same month a year ago.

Tomato sellers of 16 recorded an increase from the 15 in the previous month but were lower than 19 in the same month a year ago. Chinese cabbage with a total number of sellers at 12 rose from the 8 in the previous month and the 9 in the same month a year ago.

Head cabbage sellers at 10, decreased from the 18 in the previous month but were higher than the 8 in the same month a year ago. Breadfruit sellers recorded a total of 7, decreasing from the 9 in January 2023 but were higher than 6 in February 2022. Yam sellers recorded a total of 3 whilst ta'amu has no seller in the month under review.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the local markets in February 2023 stood at \$70,800, decreasing 15 percent from the previous month and 2 percent from February 2022.



Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce supplied to the markets with a share of 38 percent in February 2023; a level that was higher than the 28 percent in the previous month but were lower than the 65 in the same month a year ago.

Taro contributed 25 percent decreasing from the 37 percent last month but were higher than 16 percent in the same month a year ago. Cucumber contributed 10 percent to total value increasing from 6 percent in the previous month and 3 percent in the same month a year ago. Head cabbage shares fell to 8 percent from the 9 percent in the previous month but were higher than 4 percent the same month a year ago.

Shares of banana and coconut both contributed 5 percent each of total value, with banana supplies increasing from the 4 percent in the previous month and the same month last year, while coconut supplies

decreased by 8 percent from January 2023 but were higher than 4 percent in the same month a year ago. Tomato which accounted for 4 percent of total value increased from the 3 percent and 2 percent in the previous month and the same month last year.

Chinese cabbage with a contribution of 2 percent rose from the 1 percent in January 2023 and in February 2022. Yam and breadfruit contributed 1 percent each to total value, while ta'amu recorded the least shares in the month under review. (See Graph 15 & Table 3)

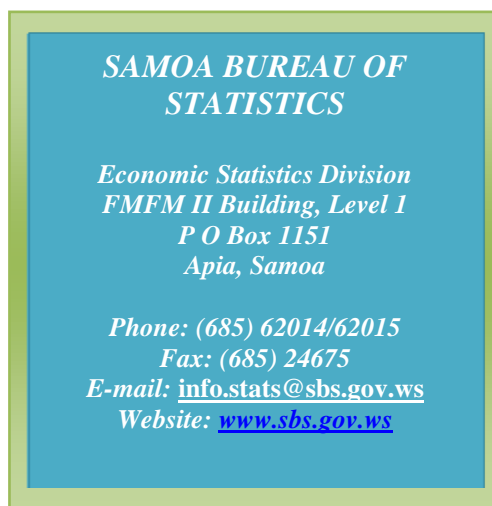
Technical Notes

The Local Market Survey measures the price and volume of selected agricultural produce from the Local Markets at **Fugalei, Taufusi, Vaitele, Lotopa, Ululoloa, Afega, Saleimoa, Savaia, Vaoala, Faatoia 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 March 2023 will be available on 31th April 2023.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leota'.

Leota Aliielua Salani
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN / (CEO)

SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	JUL.22.AV	AUG.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	Feb-23	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB 22
TARO	7521	3168	3030	3136	3882	4901	8082	6784	3069	8268	4286	-48	35
BANANA	2642	2127	1445	2080	1951	976	1696	1879	1721	2235	2865	28	35
TA'AMU	816	3	70	178	4	30	218	7	24	18	13	-28	410
COCONUT	7993	3651	3133	3964	4489	3364	4634	4079	3258	7747	4090	-47	12
BREADFRUIT	186	395	0	396	665	28	35	40	85	453	440	-3	11
YAM	129	14	275	184	155	265	232	108	47	129	81	-37	500
HEAD CABBAGE	811	357	335	898	1142	839	882	511	661	584	443	-24	24
TOMATOES	256	131	198	353	339	523	535	433	166	138	121	-12	-8
CH.CABBAGE	129	107	243	261	181	370	182	121	84	78	149	91	39
CUCUMBER	542	598	1153	1279	1276	1084	1395	821	1202	832	1063	28	78
PUMPKIN	6217	14488	4789	4804	5907	14218	16411	13983	8143	5941	6626	12	-54

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	JUL.22.AV	AUG.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	FEB 22
TARO	1.48	3.64	3.99	4.11	4.46	4.11	3.78	3.53	3.73	3.74	4.15	11	14
BANANA	0.76	1.24	1.43	1.45	1.60	1.64	1.75	1.57	1.42	1.50	1.31	-13	5
TA'AMU	2.78	4.55	8.69	7.00	11.90	12.01	8.35	7.51	11.05	22.60	5.04	-78	11
COCONUT	0.62	0.71	0.90	0.92	0.92	0.99	0.94	0.90	1.02	0.88	0.90	1	26
BREADFRUIT	0.94	0.93	1.44	1.17	1.24	1.98	2.46	1.67	4.17	1.27	1.06	-17	14
YAM	3.16	3.16	4.56	4.81	5.26	4.54	4.52	3.84	5.66	6.64	6.65	0	110
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	7.95	11.64	9.05	7.36	8.10	7.08	8.64	9.58	13.16	13.36	1	68
TOMATOES	9.55	13.79	16.64	15.70	14.50	11.62	11.72	14.06	15.31	20.49	22.41	9	63
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	6.38	6.09	6.04	5.15	5.25	5.90	8.75	8.05	10.98	10.22	-7	60
CUCUMBER	2.99	4.19	5.28	5.24	4.73	4.99	5.22	5.67	5.77	6.38	6.77	6	62
PUMPKIN	2.61	3.27	3.20	3.55	3.71	3.23	3.28	3.32	3.37	3.91	4.11	5	25

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	FEB.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	JUL.22.AV	AUG.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	FEB 22
TARO	126.6	11.5	12.1	12.9	17.3	20.1	30.5	24.0	11.5	31.0	17.8	-43	54
BANANA	25.1	2.7	2.1	3.0	3.1	1.6	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.4	3.7	11	41
TA'AMU	25.6	0.0	0.6	1.3	0.0	0.4	1.8	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	-85	500
COCONUT	59.3	2.6	2.8	3.7	4.1	3.3	4.4	3.7	3.3	6.9	3.7	-46	41
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.5	-21	24
YAM	4.7	0.0	1.3	0.9	0.8	1.2	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.5	-37	1250
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	2.8	3.9	8.1	8.4	6.8	6.2	4.4	6.3	7.7	5.9	-23	108
TOMATOES	21.5	1.8	3.3	5.5	4.9	6.1	6.3	6.1	2.5	2.8	2.7	-4	49
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	0.7	1.5	1.6	0.9	1.9	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.9	1.5	78	122
CUCUMBER	18.4	2.5	6.1	6.7	6.0	5.4	7.3	4.7	6.9	5.3	7.2	36	188
PUMPKIN	178.3	47.5	15.3	17.0	21.9	46.0	53.9	46.4	27.4	23.2	27.2	17	-43
	511.8	72.5	48.9	61.1	68.4	92.8	115.5	93.7	62.0	82.9	70.8	-15	-2

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base
@ revised figures

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	FEB.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	JUL.22.AV	AUG.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB 22
TARO	0.25	42	40	42	52	65	107	90	41	110	57	-48	35
BANANA	0.05	81	55	79	74	37	64	71	65	85	108	28	35
TA'AMU	0.05	0	9	22	0	4	27	1	3	2	2	-28	403
COCONUT	0.12	46	39	50	56	42	58	51	41	97	51	-47	12
BREADFRUIT	0.004	212	0	213	358	15	19	22	46	244	237	-3	11
YAM	0.01	10	213	142	120	205	180	84	37	100	63	-37	500
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	44	41	111	141	103	109	63	82	72	55	-24	24
TOMATOES	0.04	51	77	138	133	204	209	169	65	54	47	-12	-8
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	83	188	202	140	287	141	94	65	61	116	91	39
CUCUMBER	0.04	110	213	236	235	200	257	151	222	153	196	28	78
PUMPKIN	0.35	233	77	77	95	229	264	225	131	96	107	12	-54
	1.00	113	63	76	86	133	161	130	83	93	79	-14	-30

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	FEB.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	JUL.22.AV	AUG.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB 22
TARO	0.25	246	270	278	301	277	255	239	252	253	280	11	14
BANANA	0.05	164	188	191	211	216	230	207	187	198	172	-13	5
TA'AMU	0.05	164	313	252	428	432	301	270	398	813	181	-78	11
COCONUT	0.12	115	146	149	148	159	152	145	164	143	145	1	26
BREADFRUIT	0.004	99	153	125	132	211	262	177	443	135	112	-17	14
YAM	0.01	100	144	152	166	144	143	121	179	210	210	0	110
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	147	215	168	136	150	131	160	177	244	247	1	68
TOMATOES	0.04	144	174	164	152	122	123	147	160	215	235	9	63
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	146	139	138	117	120	135	200	184	251	233	-7	60
CUCUMBER	0.04	140	177	175	158	167	175	190	193	213	226	6	62
PUMPKIN	0.35	125	123	136	142	124	126	127	129	150	157	5	25
	1.00	100	120	118	126	121	114	116	128	162	134	-18	33

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	JUL.22.AV	AUG.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB 22
TARO	46	33	32	32	33	35	50	49	32	45	41	-9	23
BANANA	27	30	20	21	26	14	24	29	22	32	37	16	23
TA'AMU	7	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	-63	0
COCONUT	57	41	34	33	35	23	38	33	26	42	37	-13	-10
BREADFRUIT	4	6	0	1	5	1	1	2	1	9	7	-22	21
YAM	5	1	6	5	3	6	5	2	1	3	3	-6	150
HEAD CABBAGE	12	8	8	10	18	20	17	11	13	18	10	-43	28
TOMATOES	39	19	19	20	32	48	53	54	22	15	16	4	-16
CH.CABBAGE	13	9	18	18	16	19	15	7	11	8	12	47	31
CUCUMBER	42	25	29	31	37	36	34	27	36	22	28	28	13
PUMPKIN	83	77	49	46	61	78	88	76	70	66	54	-19	-30
	337	248	214	218	265	279	324	291	234	262	245	-7	-1

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base