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Highlights

Paddy

Crop establishment activities for paddy cultivation in 2022/23 *Maha* season progressed in all major producing areas. Official information reveals that among the major paddy producing areas an above normal rainfall was recorded in North-western, and Southern provinces and Mannar, Vauniya and Anuradhapura districts. Producer prices of all paddy varieties have further stable in most of the major producing areas during the month mainly due to abundance of imported and local rice varieties in the markets.

Rice

Retail prices of all local rice varieties had decreased in the range of 1-3% due to increased supplies. Compared to the same month of last year, retail prices of all varieties had increased in the range of 40 -79%, and the highest price increase was recorded for raw red.

Red dhal

The wholesale price of red dhal ranged between Rs. 348.00 and 392.00 /kg with an average of Rs. 354.00 /kg, and the retail price ranged between Rs. 360.00 and 400.00 with an average of Rs.376/kg.

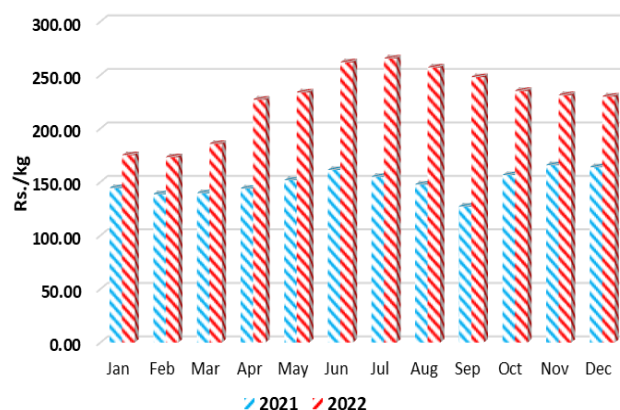
Vegetables

Prices of most of the up-country vegetables have increased and prices of most of the low-country vegetables have decreased. The highest price of Rs.896.00/kg was observed for capsicum while the lowest price of Rs.158.00/kg was for cucumber. Highest price decrease of 36% was recorded for tomatoes. However, vegetable prices are expected to decline further in the coming month.

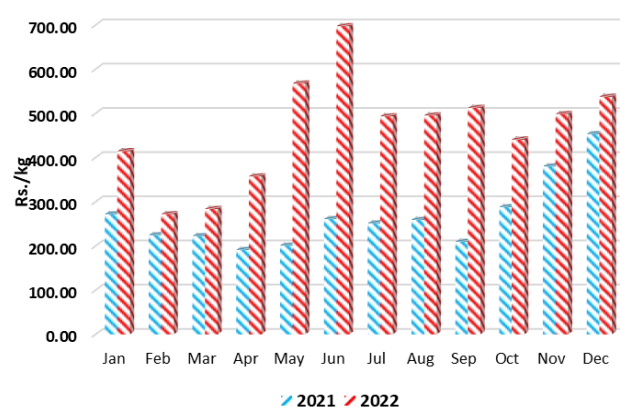
Fish, Egg & Meat

Prices of most fish varieties increased slightly at both wholesale and retail levels due to high demand during the festival season. Further, prices of chicken (broiler) and both types of eggs had also increased due to a surge in demand.

Average Retail Prices of Rice (Samba I)



Average Retail Prices of Beans (Green)



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EXPLANTATORY NOTE

The Food Information Bulletin is a monthly publication containing information relating to producer, wholesale and retail prices of selected food commodities in selected markets in and around Colombo and main markets in the major producing areas. Data on extent, production and imports are also available in the bulletin.

The information is analyzed and presented as, prevailing prices, price ranges, averages and comparison of monthly prices. The changes in prices reported are always in relation to price, which prevailed during the previous month unless otherwise stated.

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Colombo and suburb markets

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Pettah | 4. Thotalanga | 7. Kiribathgoda |
| 2. Narahenpita | 5. Peliyagoda | 8. Maharagama |
| 3. Dematagoda | 6. Kadawatha | 9. Nugegoda |

Outstation Markets

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Nuwara Eliya | 16. Keppetipola | 31. Rathnapura |
| 2. Dambulla | 17. Thambuththegama | 32. Embilipitiya |
| 3. Matara | 18. Anuradhapura | 33. Maradagahamula |
| 4. Kurunegala | 19. Badulla | 34. Galenbindunuwewa |
| 5. Bandarawela | 20. Galle | 35. Rilkillagaskada |
| 6. Kandy | 21. Mannar | 36. Matale |
| 7. Meegoda | 22. Trincomalee | |
| 8. Kalutara | 23. Batticaloa | |
| 9. Weeravila | 24. Jaffna | |
| 10. Nikaweratiya | 25. Mullativu | |
| 11. Polonnaruwa | 26. Kilinochchi | |
| 12. Puttalam | 27. Vavuniya | |
| 13. Hambanthota | 28. Kegalle | |
| 14. Veyangoda | 29. Ampara | |
| 15. Dehiattakandiya | 30. Monaragala | |

1. Paddy/Rice

Crop Situation

Crop establishment activities for paddy cultivation in 2022/23 *Maha* season progressed in all major producing areas. Official information reveals that among the major paddy producing areas an above normal rainfall was recorded in North-western, and Southern provinces and Mannar, Vauniya and Anuradhapura districts. Better water availability was recorded in most of the major and minor irrigation tanks. The government takes measures to ensure the urea fertilizer availability in all producing areas. According to the latest assessment issued by the Department of Agriculture the targeted paddy, extent of 2022/23 *Maha* season is 852,894 ha and the cultivated extent is 756,538 ha. The expected production based on the reported sown extent up to end of December is 2.69 Million Mt, considering the crop damages. Major surplus of paddy is expected from the Eastern and North Central provinces. The first harvest is expected to reach the market from the latter part of the January from Batticaloa and the rain fed cultivations of Kurunegala.

Table 1.1 Target and Sown Extent as at End Dec 2022 and production forecast of Maha

District/Area	Area target for the season (ha)	Sown area as at end December 2022 (ha)	Cultivation Progress as a % from target	**Production forecast based on progress (Mt)	Total affected extent (ha)	Revised production forecast (Mt)
Colombo	4,197	4,345	104	12,040	-	12,040
Gampaha	13,277	12,492	94	38,332	-	38,332
Kalutara	14,722	13,310	90	39,167	-	39,167
Galle	14,048	12,564	89	32,448	-	32,448
Matara	15,276	13,556	89	36,496	419	36,194
Ratnapura	11,958	9,954	83	36,467	-	36,467
Kegalle	8,336	7,039	84	26,836	-	26,836
Kurunagala	83,507	76,756	92	300,117	68	300,017
Puttalam	22,745	18,228	80	55,778	27	55,694
Kandy	9,816	6,772	69	21,888	-	21,888
Matale	18,289	14,414	79	61,831	45	61,731
Neliya	6,628	1,208	18	2,846	-	2,846
Badulla	16,594	7,316	44	25,496	-	25,496
Monaragala	29,732	23,418	79	94,781	-	94,781
Jaffna	13,000	12,973	100	32,004	-	32,004
Kilinochchi	28,779	28,779	100	86,573	-	86,573
Vavuniya	22,394	23,568	105	85,831	-	85,831
Mullativu	21,899	21,950	100	77,455	-	77,455
Mannar	21,694	20,647	95	83,586	-	83,586
Anuradhapura	79,196	64,338	81	233,839	-	233,839
Trincomalee	42,498	41,572	98	145,214	10	145,179
Batticaloa	74,333	71,189	96	193,522	-	193,522
Ampara	7,303	7,302	100	28,951	-	28,951
Hambantota	13,016	10,351	80	48,654	-	48,654
Udawalawa	11,810	12,557	106	57,423	-	57,423
System H	21,755	21,061	97	76,157	-	76,157
System H1	8,199	5,797	71	20,962	-	20,962
System B	20,745	20,321	98	74,456	-	74,456
System C	22,960	22,178	97	81,260	-	81,260
System G	5,948	5,242	88	20,003	-	20,003
System D	1,559	1,920	123	7,035	-	7,035
Rambakanoya	1,050	957	91	3,162	-	3,162
Sri Lanka	852,894	756,538	89	2,700,592	569	2,699,969

Source: Crop forecast, Maha 2022/23, Volume 03, Department of Agriculture

Producer Prices

Producer prices of all paddy varieties have further stabilized in most of the major producing areas during the month mainly due to abundance of imported and local rice varieties in the markets. The monthly average prices of long-grain white and short grain paddy have decreased by less than Rs2.00/kg, in most of the producing areas. Meanwhile, the price of long grain red paddy has decreased by less than Rs 5.00/kg in Hambantota and Embilipitiya. The prices of short grain and long grain white paddy ranged between Rs.84.00-110.00/kg, and the prices of long grain red paddy ranged Rs. 102.00-120.00/kg respectively. The prices of *Keeri* samba ranged between Rs.85.00-111.00/kg.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all paddy varieties except for the *Keeri* samba have increased significantly in all major producing areas. The prices of short grain and long grain white paddy have increased by 18%-25% and 21%-35% respectively. Meanwhile, the prices of long grain red paddy have increased by nearly 60% in producing areas in the Southern province.

Table1.2: Producer prices of Paddy – December 2022

	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to				
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	90.00-107.00	98.15	99.55	78.45	-1.40	-1.41	19.70	25.11	
Polonnaruwa	100.00-109.50	104.88	107.71	86.69	-2.83	-2.63	18.19	20.98	
Kalawewa	88.00-110.00	98.70	100.70	82.60	-2.00	-1.99	16.10	19.49	
Kurunegala	95.00-110.00	103.38	104.54	82.56	-1.16	-1.11	20.81	25.21	
Dehiattakandiya	84.00-104.00	95.83	103.08	81.25	-7.25	-7.03	14.58	17.95	
Nikaweratiya	90.00-110.00	101.79	101.69	-	0.09	0.09	-	-	
Ampara	-	-	102.50	77.50	-	-	-	-	
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	85.00-107.00	97.20	98.40	72.00	-1.20	-1.22	25.20	35.00	
Polonnaruwa	97.00-109.50	102.53	103.48	81.23	-0.95	-0.92	21.30	26.23	
Kalawewa	85.00-110.00	96.65	98.02	75.90	-1.37	-1.39	20.75	27.34	
Kurunegala	92.00-108.00	101.44	101.90	77.56	-0.46	-0.45	23.88	30.78	
Dehiattakandiya	84.00-104.00	94.50	99.42	77.75	-4.92	-4.95	16.75	21.54	
Embilipitiya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nikaweratiya	90.00-110.00	101.79	101.69	-	0.09	0.09	-	-	
Ampara	-	-	102.50	-	-	-	-	-	
Long Grain Red									
A' pura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Matara	105.00-120.00	110.56	117.75	70.92	-7.19	-6.11	39.64	55.90	
Hambantota	105.00-120.00	110.65	117.25	69.56	-6.60	-5.63	41.08	59.06	
Embilipitiya	102.00-120.00	112.90	118.70	70.34	-5.80	-4.89	42.56	60.51	
Keeri Samba									
A'pura	85.00-107.00	97.20	101.85	108.00	-4.65	-4.57	-10.80	-10.00	
Polonnaruwa	96.00-111.50	103.19	104.28	122.43	-1.10	-1.05	-19.24	-15.72	
Kalawewa	90.00-110.00	100.44	102.69	107.00	-2.25	-2.19	-6.56	-6.13	
Kurunegala	-	-	-	112.00	-	-	-	-	
Dehiattakandiya	-	96.08	103.25	118.58	-7.17	-6.94	-22.50	-18.97	

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Rice Prices Demand/Supply Situation

Wholesale Prices

Wholesale prices of all local rice varieties had decreased further by 2-4% due to increased supplies. The highest price decrease of Rs. 9.41/kg was recorded for Keeri Samba followed by raw red. Prices of Samba grade 1 and 2 ranged between Rs. 210.00-220.00 and Rs. 195.00-210.00 and prices had decreased by less than 3% compared to the previous month.

However, wholesale prices of all imported rice varieties had increased in the range of 4-6% due to limited supplies.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of all varieties had increased by 6-78% with the highest price increase of 78% being recorded for raw red rice.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and Retail prices of Rice – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	210.00-220.00	213.25	218.00	145.84	-4.75	-2.18	67.41	46.22
Samba 2	195.00-210.00	205.24	211.00	143.13	-5.76	-2.73	62.12	43.40
Keeri Samba	215.00-230.00	222.84	232.25	210.93	-9.41	-4.05	11.92	5.65
Nadu 1	195.00-210.00	199.76	207.80	133.30	-8.04	-3.87	66.46	49.85
Nadu 2	190.00-200.00	194.43	201.55	128.41	-7.13	-3.54	66.02	51.41
Raw red	190.00-200.00	196.83	204.45	110.87	-7.63	-3.73	85.96	77.53
Raw white	180.00-200.00	190.25	194.70	127.05	-4.45	-2.29	63.20	49.74
Imported Samba	185.00-216.00	200.71	188.53	119.85	12.19	6.46	80.86	67.47
Imported Raw White	155.00-175.00	164.58	158.28	104.28	6.30	3.98	60.30	57.83
Imported Nadu	160.00-185.00	173.45	166.85	115.95	6.60	3.96	57.50	49.59
Retail Prices-								
Samba 1	220.00-240.00	229.85	231.24	163.89	-1.40	-0.60	65.96	40.24
Samba 2	210.00-230.00	220.88	223.04	153.68	-2.16	-0.97	67.21	43.73
Keeri Samba	245.00-270.00	258.92	260.73	234.76	-1.81	-0.69	24.16	10.29
Nadu 1	210.00-230.00	222.78	226.45	142.58	-3.67	-1.62	80.20	56.25
Nadu 2	200.00-220.00	213.62	218.10	134.43	-4.48	-2.05	79.19	58.91
Raw red	200.00-230.00	217.65	224.05	121.40	-6.40	-2.86	96.25	79.28
Raw white	200.00-220.00	211.26	218.10	135.35	-6.84	-3.14	75.91	56.08
Imported <i>Ponni</i> Samba	200.00-230.00	210.26	207.31	146.38	2.95	1.42	63.88	43.64
Imported Raw White	170.00-200.00	181.28	180.07	120.48	1.21	0.67	60.80	50.46
Imported Nadu	180.00-210.00	197.72	193.30	134.90	4.41	2.28	62.82	46.56

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Retail Prices

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of all local rice varieties had decreased in the range of 1-3% compared to the previous month due to increased supplies. Retail prices of samba grade 1 and 2 ranged between Rs. 220.00-240.00 and Rs. 210.00-230.00. Compared to the same month of last year, retail prices of all varieties had increased in the range of 40 -79%, and the highest price increase was recorded for raw red.

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chilli

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of land for green chilli cultivation in maha 2022 /23 was 11,278 ha. The extent of lands cultivated with green chilli was 5,164 ha by the end of December and it was 46% of the target. Both the highest targeted extent (1776ha) and cultivated extent (608ha) were recorded from the Anuradhapura district at the end of this month. However, the cultivation progress in Anuradhapura and Puttalam districts was below 50% of the targeted extent. The total estimated production of green chilli during this Maha season is 25,316 mt and out of that around 51% of the production will be supplied from Anuradhapura (13%), Puttalam (10%), Batticaloa (11%), Monaragala (10%), and Kurunegala (7%).

Table 2.1.1: Cultivation Progress of Green Chilli for Maha 2022/23 Season

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of December 2022		Expected Production (Mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Target	
Anuradhapura	1,776	608	34	3,198
Puttalam	1,770	362	20	2,650
Batticaloa	588	528	90	2,798
Jaffna	770	263	34	1,383
Kurunegala	440	310	70	1,740
Badulla	415	352	85	1,485
Monaragala	683	539	79	2,515
Interprovincial DDA areas	815	30	4	142
Mahaweli areas	515	363	70	1,710
Other areas	3,506	1,809	52	7,695
Total	11,278	5,164	46	25,316

Source: Crop forecast, Maha 2022/23, Volume 03, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supply of green chilli from main producing areas decreased during this month. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of green chilli have increased by about Rs.27.00/kg and Rs.46.00/kg respectively. The average wholesale and retail prices of green chilli were Rs.189.50/kg and Rs.418.51/kg respectively. Prices of green chilli are expected to increase in the coming months too with the supply from main producing areas. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices of green chilli have decreased by about 71% and 54% respectively.

A quantity of 4,063 mt of dried chilli was imported in December 2022, a quantity higher than 103 mt compared to previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.885.21/kg and it has decreased by Rs.16.00/kg compared to previous month. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have decreased by about Rs.116.00/kg and Rs.58.00/kg respectively. Prices ranged between Rs.1350.00-1550.00/kg at the wholesale level and Rs.1550.00 – Rs. 1900.00/kg at the retail level. Compared to the same period last year, both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chilli have increased by about 129% and 155% respectively.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies – Dec 2022

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green Chilli	140.00-260.00	189.50	162.75	664.25	26.75	16.44	-474.75	-71.47
Dried Chilli	1350.00-1550.00	1451.46	1567.13	632.57	-115.67	-7.38	818.89	129.45
Retail Price								
Green Chilli	200.00-700.00	418.51	372.18	901.49	46.33	12.45	-482.98	-53.58
Dried Chilli	1550.00-1900.00	1785.38	1843.52	700.81	-58.14	-3.15	1084.57	154.76

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) December 2022

Location	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
Dambulla	173.00	142.00	298.00	194.50
Embilipitiya	128.33	180.00	242.00	404.00
Puttalam	70.00	100.00	180.00	180.00
A'Pura	124.00	138.00	188.00	268.00

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

2.2 Red Onion and Big Onion

Crop situation and Progress

The targeted extent of land for red onion for maha 2022/23 season was 3575ha, of which 632ha has been cultivated by the end of December 2022. It represented only 18% of the targeted extent of red onion in Sri Lanka. The targeted extent of land cultivation with red onion was about, 1900 ha in Jaffna and 337ha of the target (18%) was grown at the end of December 2022. The cultivation progress of red onion was at a low level in the Puttalam district too (19%). The total estimated production of red onion during this maha season is 7886 mt and out of that around 84% of the production will be supplied from Jaffna (53%), and Puttalam (31%).

Table 2.2.1: Cultivation Progress of Red Onion for Maha 2022/23 Season

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of Dec 2022		Expected Production (Mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the target	
Jaffna	1900	337	18	4,179
Puttalam	900	173	19	2,439
Other area	775	122	16	1,268
Total	3575	632	18	7,886

Source: Crop forecast, Maha 2022/23, Volume 03, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The market supply of big onion consisted of only imported and big onions during this month. A quantity of 25,501mt of big onion was imported in December, 2022 and this quantity was higher than the 5,789 mt compared to the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.88.27/kg and it has decreased by Rs.3.75/kg compared to previous month. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onions have decreased by about Rs.69.00/kg and Rs.86.00/kg respectively. The average wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion were Rs.157.60/kg and Rs.195.56/kg

respectively and both prices have decreased by about 13% and 7% respectively when compared to the same period of last year.

Supply of local red onion has decreased from the main producing areas during this month. Hence, local red onion stocks were not available at most of the wholesale markets during this month. Limited stocks of vedalan red onion were available at the retail markets in the range of Rs.620.00 – 750.00/kg. A quantity of 1094mt of red onion was imported from India during this month and it was a decrease of 253 mt compared to that of last month. The average CIF price was Rs.144.14/kg and it has increased slightly by Rs. 0.98/kg compared to the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have increased by about Rs.22.00/kg and Rs.69.00/kg due to limited imports as well as limited local stock position. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of vedalan and imported red onion have increased by about 94% and 93% respectively.

Table 2.2.2: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion - Dec 2022

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	-	-	573.01	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	460.00-620.00	544.81	523.27	-	21.54	4.12	-	-
Big Onion (imported)	135.00-200.00	157.60	226.13	181.13	-68.53	-30.30	-23.53	-12.99
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	294.29	202.69	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	491.25	315.59	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	620.00-750.00	706.59	690.99	364.32	15.60	2.26	342.27	93.95
Red Onion (Imported)	520.00-800.00	676.47	607.08	350.14	69.39	11.43	326.34	93.20
Big Onion (imported)	150.00-260.00	195.56	281.28	211.24	-85.72	-30.47	-15.68	-7.42
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	333.21	258.66	-	-	-	-

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.3: Monthly average CIF and gross margin of Wholesale and Retail prices for Imported Onions, December 2022

Item	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price	Retail Price	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
			(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	December,2022	88.27	157.60	195.56	69.33	37.96
	November,2022	92.02	226.13	281.28	134.10	55.15
	December,2021	88.01	181.13	211.24	93.12	30.11
Red onion	December,2022	144.14	544.81	676.47	400.67	131.67
	November,2022	143.16	523.27	607.08	380.10	83.82
	December,2021	151.76	299.33	350.14	147.57	50.81

Source: Department of Customs; Data Management Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.4: Quantity Imported, CIF price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onions (July 2022 to December 2022)

Month	Quantity Imported (Mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
December-2022	25,501.24	88.27	157.60	195.56	107.29
November-2022	19,712.16	92.02	226.13	281.28	189.26
October-2022	12,950.79	83.42	202.30	233.69	150.28
September-2022	16,368.03	80.70	136.48	183.42	102.72
August-2022	27,516.83	100.31	146.72	189.33	89.01
July-2022	22,231.23	80.57	175.33	228.96	148.39

Source: Department of Customs and Data Management Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.5: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Big Onions and Red Onions

Item	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Dec,2022	Nov,2022	Dec,2022	Nov,2022	Dec,2022	Nov,2022
Red Onion	1093.58	1347.06	157.63	192.85	144.14	143.16
Big Onion	25501.24	19712.16	2250.90	1813.98	88.27	92.02

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2022/23 season is 3,202 ha which is higher than the targeted extent of *maha* 2021/22 season. About 956 ha had been cultivated by the end of December achieving 30% of the target. Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent during this *maha* season by the end of December was at same level even though the targeted extend was recorded high compared to last year. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of potato is 14,400 mt for this *maha* season. In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,526 ha and about 208 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of December (13.63% progress). The targeted extent for this *maha* season is 1,533 in the Badulla district and 731 ha have been cultivated by the end of December achieving 47.68% of the targeted extent. As the *yala* harvesting of potato concluded in November, the supply of Welimada and Nuwaraeliya potato was lower in December.

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 15,182 mt of potato had been imported in December, which was 3,147mt higher than that was imported during the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs. 79.00 in December. However, the average CIF price was Rs.73.00/kg in year December, 2021. With regard to local potato, the supply has dropped due to end of the peak harvesting season in major producing areas. Limited stocks of Welimada potato were available in the market. On average, the producer prices of Nuwara Eliya and Welimada potatoes were Rs.389.00/kg and Rs.364.00/kg respectively. Wholesale prices of Welimada and Nuwara Eliya potatoes have increased by 1% and 23% respectively in December. Also, the retail prices of Nuwara Eliya potatoes have increased by 7%. Wholesale prices of imported potato have increased by 1%. However, retail prices of imported potato have decreased by and 3% respectively. During the month of December, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya, and Welimada potatoes ranged between Rs. 350.00-415.00/kg, Rs. 345.00-390.00/kg respectively.

Compared to the same period of last year the year-on-year retail price increase was recorded as 50%, and 24% for Nuwaraeliya, and imported potatoes respectively.

Table 2.3.1: Quantity, value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes –July to December 2022

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
December-2022	15,183	1199.30	78.99	232.61	153.61
November-2022	12,035	883.04	73.37	239.85	166.48
October-2022	12,788	965.08	75.47	233.55	158.08
September-2022	11,101	831.97	74.94	300.32	225.37
August-2022	13,414	1205.26	89.85	224.06	134.21
July-2022	13,747	1124.96	81.83	256.99	175.15

Source: Department of Customs; Data Management Division/HARTI

Table: 2.3.2: Producer, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Potato – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	345.00-390.00	364.25	310.25	207.30	54.00	17.41	156.95	75.71
Nuwara Eliya	350.00-415.00	389.50	339.75	233.75	49.75	14.64	155.75	66.63
Imported – CIF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	-	-	310.00	234.58	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	380.00-450.00	427.50	346.25	257.50	81.25	23.47	170.00	66.02
Imported	130.00-315.00	188.13	186.00	164.23	2.13	1.14	23.90	14.55
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	-	-	363.21	258.10	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	400.00-500.00	467.45	437.60	311.55	29.85	6.82	155.90	50.04
Imported	170.00-360.00	232.61	239.85	186.66	-7.24	-3.02	45.94	24.61
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada		-	52.96	50.80	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		77.95	97.85	77.80	-19.90	-20.34	0.15	0.19
Imported (RP-CIF)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada		-	53.21	23.52	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		39.95	91.35	54.05	-51.40	-56.27	-14.10	-26.09
Imported		44.48	53.85	22.43	-9.37	-17.40	22.05	98.27

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation

The targeted cultivated extent and production of Green gram and Cowpea are relatively high when compared to the last cultivation season. The target extent of production for Green Gram and Cowpea were 13,525 ha and 11,916 ha respectively. It was recorded that the Moneragala, Hambantota, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala and Putthalam districts are the major producing areas for the Green gram cultivation while Ampara, Anuradapura, and Moneragala are for Cowpea.

Black gram reported above 60% progress from the target cultivation extent. However, the cultivated progress is lower for almost all other OFCs when compared with the total cultivated extent of at Maha 21/22 season.

Prices and Supply/ Demand Situation

The wholesale and retail prices of green gram ranged from Rs. 1,040.00-1,150.00/kg and 1,100.00-1,400.00/kg respectively. Compared to last year prices both wholesale and retail prices of green gram increased by 160% and 126% respectively. Meanwhile the retail prices of both White and Red Cowpea ranged between Rs 1,100.00-1,400.00 /kg and Rs. 1,200.00-1,400.00/kg respectively. When compared to the previous month, the December prices have increased by 14% for Red Cowpea and by 9% for White Cowpea.

Table 2.4.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to		Change Compared to	
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	1040.00-1150.00	1083.78	1036.50	417.48	47.28	4.56	666.31	159.60
Cowpea (White)	1100.00-1300.00	1204.38	970.80	582.40	233.57	24.06	621.97	106.79
Cowpea (Red)	1150.00-1350.00	1248.75	1032.43	393.54	216.32	20.95	855.21	217.32
Retail Price								
Green gram	1100.00-1400.00	1275.08	1231.15	563.21	43.94	3.57	711.88	126.40
Cowpea (White)	1100.00-1400.00	1273.50	1172.99	647.66	100.50	8.57	625.84	96.63
Cowpea (Red)	1200.00-1400.00	1327.64	1157.86	435.84	169.78	14.66	891.80	204.62

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The wholesale price of red dhal ranged between Rs. 348.00 and 392.00 /kg with an average of Rs. 354.00 /kg, and the retail price ranged between Rs. 360.00 and 400.00 with an average of Rs.376/kg. The retail prices decreased by 3% while wholesale price remained unchanged.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of Red Dhal – December 2022

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	348.00-392.00	353.77	355.48	244.85	-1.71	-0.48	108.92	44.48
Retail Price	360.00-400.00	375.65	387.49	266.57	-11.85	-3.06	109.07	40.92

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

According to the Crop Forecast, Vol.03, Maha 2022/2023, Socio Economics & Planning Center/Department of Agriculture, cultivation progress of up-country and low-country vegetables are recorded as 47% (9,655ha) and 51% (14,244ha) respectively. Cultivation of beans, carrot, pumpkin, long bean, ladies fingers and brinjal reported above 50% progress from their targets. However, cultivated area of vegetables were lower than that of Maha 21/22 season, except for beans, beetroot, cabbage, carrot, knol-khol, leeks and radish.

Table 3.1 :Cultivation Progress of Vegetables for Maha 2022/23 Season

Crops	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of December 2022		Expected Production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Target	
Up-Country Vegetables				
Bean	4,340	2302	53	23,322
Beet	1,703	620	36	6,885
Cabbage	2,608	1257	48	31,087
Capsicum	2,501	1137	45	9,665
Carrot	1,995	1043	52	21,331
Knol-khol	498	242	49	2,437
Leeks	1,333	603	45	8,614
Tomato	3,421	1565	46	20,055
Radish	2,020	886	44	17,885
Total	20,420	9,655	47	141,280
Low – country Vegetables				
Pumpkin	3,774	2520	67	33,964
Snake gourd	1,779	784	44	9,778
Cucumber	1,723	740	43	10,497
Bitter gourd	2,293	942	41	11,065
Okra	4,241	2153	51	23,371
Brinjal	5,306	2811	53	35,053
Ash plantain	449	97	22	1,401
Luffa	1,903	798	42	9,101
Long Bean	5,092	2824	55	24,951
Winged bean	809	352	44	3,479
Kekiri	484	223	46	2,660
Total	27,853	14,244	51	165,320
Grand Total	48,273	23,900	50	306,600

Source: Crop Forecast, Maha 2022/23, volume 03, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Prices of most of the vegetable varieties have decreased due to increase market supply. The wholesale prices of up-country vegetables have decreased by 6%-45% except beans, leeks, beetroot and khol khol. The highest price increase was reported for beetroot (32%). The highest price of Rs.374.00/kg was recorded for beans while the lowest price of Rs.97.00/kg was observed for radish. With regard to the low-country vegetables, the wholesale prices have decreased by 1%-46% except long bean and ash plantain. The highest price of Rs 669.00/kg was recorded for capsicum while the lowest of Rs.50.00/kg was for cucumber. Further, prices of lime was decreased by 55%.

Table 3.2: Wholesale prices of Vegetables – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	150.00-600.00	374.00	349.25	372.00	24.75	7.09	2.00	0.54
Carrot	220.00-380.00	271.50	335.75	349.25	-64.25	-19.14	-77.75	-22.26
Leeks	280.00-360.00	333.00	270.25	274.50	62.75	23.22	58.50	21.31
Beetroot	300.00-380.00	342.24	259.71	268.42	82.53	31.78	73.83	27.50
Knolkhol	200.00-280.00	229.50	208.25	230.63	21.25	10.20	-1.13	-0.49
Radish	60.00-130.00	97.00	128.80	166.25	-31.80	-24.69	-69.25	-41.65
Cabbage	90.00-220.00	143.25	152.25	294.75	-9.00	-5.91	-151.50	-51.40
Tomato	100.00-200.00	164.00	301.58	328.50	-137.58	-45.62	-164.50	-50.08
Ladies Fingers	80.00-150.00	124.00	142.25	166.25	-18.25	-12.83	-42.25	-25.41
Brinjal	140.00-300.00	196.25	349.50	289.75	-153.25	-43.85	-93.50	-32.27
Capsicum	600.00-750.00	668.75	760.25	622.50	-91.50	-12.04	46.25	7.43
Pumpkin	60.00-130.00	96.25	116.75	53.63	-20.50	-17.56	42.63	79.49
Cucumber	30.00-70.00	50.25	52.25	112.50	-2.00	-3.83	-62.25	-55.33
Bittergourd	280.00-380.00	317.00	378.75	311.75	-61.75	-16.30	5.25	1.68
Snakegourd	180.00-280.00	227.25	286.59	248.38	-59.34	-20.71	-21.13	-8.51
Drumstick	-	-	250.00	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	160.00-260.00	205.50	206.50	203.25	-1.00	-0.48	2.25	1.11
Long Beans	130.00-300.00	242.25	218.25	244.25	24.00	11.00	-2.00	-0.82
Ash Plantain	160.00-250.00	203.75	191.25	65.86	12.50	6.54	137.89	209.35
Green Chillies	140.00-260.00	189.50	162.75	664.25	26.75	16.44	-474.75	-71.47
Lime	90.00-200.00	138.50	307.50	194.50	-169.00	-54.96	-56.00	-28.79

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Retail prices of most of the low-country vegetables have decreased during the month. With regard to up-country vegetables, only the retail prices of carrot, radish, cabbage and tomatoes had decreased by 11%-36%. The highest price of Rs.895.00/kg was noted for capsicum while the lowest price of Rs.158.00/kg was observed for cucumber. In addition, price of green chilli has increased by 13% and price of lime has decreased by 36%.

Table 3.3: Retail prices of Vegetables – December 2022

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	240.00-800.00	537.45	498.69	453.47	38.76	7.77	83.98	18.52
Carrot	280.00-480.00	398.66	478.56	431.98	-79.90	-16.70	-33.31	-7.71
Leeks	320.00-600.00	449.42	400.84	388.95	48.58	12.12	60.47	15.55
Beetroot	350.00-600.00	483.28	402.34	406.27	80.94	20.12	77.01	18.96
Knolkhol	280.00-600.00	410.37	388.29	316.10	22.08	5.69	94.27	29.82
Radish	120.00-280.00	222.70	259.64	253.54	-36.94	-14.23	-30.84	-12.16
Cabbage	160.00-400.00	294.57	331.38	430.29	-36.81	-11.11	-135.73	-31.54
Tomato	160.00-440.00	276.79	428.85	450.44	-152.05	-35.46	-173.65	-38.55
Ladies Fingers	150.00-320.00	243.12	266.96	280.60	-23.85	-8.93	-37.48	-13.36
Brinjal	200.00-480.00	338.15	470.73	385.72	-132.58	-28.16	-47.57	-12.33
Capsicum	650.00-1000.00	895.50	1004.58	792.06	-109.09	-10.86	103.43	13.06
Pumpkin	120.00-280.00	197.37	230.47	118.66	-33.10	-14.36	78.71	66.33
Cucumber	80.00-240.00	157.66	155.66	181.92	2.01	1.29	-24.26	-13.33
Bittergourd	300.00-600.00	482.59	536.42	464.54	-53.84	-10.04	18.05	3.89
Snakegourd	280.00-480.00	388.63	410.16	348.71	-21.54	-5.25	39.92	11.45
Drumstick	-	-	436.98	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	240.00-480.00	358.12	367.50	325.44	-9.38	-2.55	32.68	10.04
Long Beans	280.00-480.00	378.62	383.11	354.63	-4.50	-1.17	23.99	6.76
Ash Plantain	200.00-400.00	298.61	285.63	138.04	12.97	4.54	160.57	116.32
Green Chilli	200.00-700.00	418.51	372.18	901.49	46.33	12.45	-482.98	-53.58
Lime	150.00-500.00	351.90	552.28	427.83	-200.38	-36.28	-75.93	-17.75

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

In December, the wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties have increased. Considering the prices of banana varieties, prices of all varieties except for *ambul* and *kolikuttu* banana have increased further with the highest price increase of 7% was reported for *seeni* and *ambun* banana, followed by *anamalu* (6%). During the month, the wholesale prices ranged between Rs.300.00-400.00/kg (*kolikuttu*), Rs.120.00-200.00/kg (*ambul*), Rs.100.00-150.00/kg (*seeni*), Rs.19.00-25.00/fruit (*ambun*) and Rs.16.00-20.00/fruit (*anamlu*).

Prices of all the sizes of pineapple have increased in the range of 27%-43% due to lean harvesting season for pineapple in Gampaha district. Monthly average wholesale prices were Rs.600.00/fruit (large), Rs.508.00/fruit (medium) and Rs.410.00/fruit (small) sizes of fruits respectively (Table 4.1). Considering the other types of fruit varieties, the price of avocado has increased by 46% due to off season. Further, the prices of wood apple has increased by 37%.

With the arrival of some stocks of mango to the market from this month, the wholesale prices of *karthakolomban* (22%) and *vilad* (17%) mangoes have decreased. During the month, the highest price range of Rs.60.00-150.00/fruit was recorded for *karthakolomban* mango. In addition, the prices of orange (23%) and papaw (17%) have decreased due to availability of sufficient stocks.

Compared to the same period of last year, the current wholesale prices of all the fruit varieties have increased with the highest price increase of 189% reported for *ambul* banana (Table 4.1).

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	120.00-200.00	149.17	151.67	51.67	-2.50	-1.65	97.50	188.71
Kolikuttu (Kg)	300.00-400.00	352.90	359.76	133.33	-6.86	-1.91	219.56	164.67
Seeni (Kg)	100.00-150.00	123.33	115.51	62.50	7.82	6.77	60.83	97.33
Anamalu (Fruit)	16.00-20.00	18.44	17.44	11.13	1.00	5.74	7.31	65.73
Ambun (Fruit)	19.00-25.00	22.02	20.53	13.58	1.49	7.25	8.44	62.12
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	500.00-660.00	599.70	472.73	284.34	126.98	26.86	315.36	110.91
Medium (Fruit)	430.00-560.00	508.03	379.95	215.50	128.08	33.71	292.53	135.74
Small (Fruit)	300.00-460.00	409.58	287.23	149.50	122.35	42.60	260.08	173.97
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	10.00-15.00	11.54	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban(fruit)	60.00-150.00	89.65	114.54	37.07	-24.89	-21.73	52.58	141.86
Vilad (Fruit)	40.00-60.00	49.92	60.23	21.00	-10.31	-17.11	28.92	137.72
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	100.00-360.00	205.10	246.68	125.72	-41.58	-16.85	79.38	63.14
Passionfruit (Fruit)	25.00-55.00	35.23	37.21	12.60	-1.97	-5.30	22.63	179.54
Woodapple (Fruit)	16.00-34.00	23.14	16.88	16.27	6.26	37.05	6.87	42.22
Orange (Fruit)	40.00-120.00	74.02	96.20	54.27	-22.19	-23.06	19.75	36.38
Avocado (Fruit)	90.00-220.00	142.52	97.74	127.43	44.78	45.81	15.09	11.84
Slime Apple (Fruit)	28.00-68.00	38.39	38.24	42.98	0.15	0.39	-4.59	-10.68
Grapes Imported (Kg)	1400.00-1700.00	1480.83	1508.33	813.48	-27.50	-1.82	667.36	82.04

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

According to the price behaviour of the wholesale market, the retail prices of all the fruit varieties except for *vilad* mango and slime apple have increased in December. Accordingly, the prices of all the types of banana have increased in the range of 3-9% with the highest price increase reported for *anamalu* banana. During the month, the prices ranged between Rs.380.00-500.00/kg for *kolikuttu* and Rs.140.00-280.00/kg for *ambul* banana in Colombo and suburb markets. Prices of all the sizes of pineapple have increased in the range of 7%-20% due to increased wholesale prices and the prices ranged between Rs.350.00-700.00/fruit in Colombo suburbs markets. Considering the other types of fruits, the retail prices of avocado (23%), papaw (15%) and wood apple (13%) have increased in line with the increased wholesale prices. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of all the fruit varieties have increased with the highest price increase of 139% reported for passion fruit (Table 4.2).

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	140.00-280.00	204.47	192.49	114.68	11.98	6.23	89.79	78.29
Kolikuttu (Kg)	380.00-500.00	442.83	431.67	212.30	11.16	2.58	230.53	108.59
Seeni (Kg)	140.00-240.00	187.24	179.96	125.68	7.28	4.05	61.56	48.98
Anamalu (Fruit)	20.00-34.00	26.74	24.91	19.12	1.82	7.32	7.62	39.83
Ambun (Fruit)	21.00-40.00	32.79	30.02	23.97	2.77	9.21	8.82	36.82
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	520.00-700.00	627.17	583.71	324.53	43.46	7.45	302.64	93.25
Medium (Fruit)	440.00-670.00	544.32	478.80	254.05	65.52	13.68	290.27	114.26
Small (Fruit)	350.00-550.00	462.27	383.78	194.11	78.50	20.45	268.17	138.15
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban(fruit)	80.00-200.00	148.46	137.79	64.65	10.67	7.74	83.81	129.63
Vilad (Fruit)	50.00-100.00	74.33	85.87	-	-11.54	-13.44	-	-
Kohu (Fruit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	250.00-450.00	373.37	325.50	217.62	47.86	14.70	155.75	71.57
Passionfruit (Fruit)	33.00-83.00	57.21	53.07	23.95	4.14	7.79	33.26	138.88
Woodapple (Fruit)	30.00-80.00	53.82	47.659	50.46	6.16	12.93	3.36	6.67
Orange (Fruit)	80.00-200.00	133.18	127.99	92.26	5.20	4.06	40.92	44.35
Avocado (Fruit)	100.00-250.00	178.42	144.85	184.33	33.57	23.17	-5.92	-3.21
Slime Apple (Fruit)	40.00-140.00	90.84	132.15	78.34	-41.31	-31.26	12.49	15.95
Grapes Imported (Kg)	1600.00-2500.00	2082.73	2051	1243.36	31.75	1.55	839.37	67.51

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of selected Fruits – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	44.00-112.50	87.83	83.25	32.75	4.58	5.51	55.08	168.19
Kolikuttu	138.00-300.00	221.00	219.88	98.88	1.13	0.51	122.12	123.50
Papaw	104.00-195.00	144.17	108.25	58.00	35.92	33.18	86.17	148.56

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Exports/Imports of Fruits

According to the Sri Lanka Customs, Sri Lanka had exported 1,175 mt of fresh fruits in December, 2022 to the value of Rs.297 mn. Of the exported quantity, 90% were papaw, 6% were fresh mangoes, avocados and mangosteen and 4% were fresh pineapple. Compared to December 2021 (1,104 mt), the exported quantity had slightly increased during this year (Table 4.3).

With reference to imports, Sri Lanka had imported 488 mt of fresh fruits during the month and the value was Rs.216 mn. Apple was the mostly imported fruit type with the quantity of 444 mt, followed by grapes (215 mt). Compared to the month of December, 2021 (2,566 mt), the imported quantity had significantly decreased during this year (Table 4.4).

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits – October to December 2022

Type of Fruit	December - 2022			November - 2022			October- 2022		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)
Fresh Papaw	1057.25	201.56	190.64	1148.12	231.33	201.49	1689.64	336.43	199.11
Fresh Mango, Guava, Mangosteen	67.81	63.54	937.05	47.43	48.12	1014.55	40.35	38.46	953.09
Fresh Avocado	1.37	2.08	1514.78	2.14	2.62	1222.56	7.74	8.09	1045.81
Pineapple, fresh	48.59	29.03	597.43	38.25	15.82	413.69	39.51	30.88	781.43

Source: Sri Lanka Customs

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Fruits – October to December 2022

Type of Fruit	December - 2022			November - 2022			October- 2022		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)
Apple	244.54	89.59	366.36	477.79	176.99	370.44	408.58	156.83	383.84
Grapes	214.92	116.47	541.90	121.47	64.06	527.39	161.02	87.35	542.50
Oranges	29.07	9.64	331.73	49.92	15.97	319.97	499.25	140.78	281.98

Source: Sri Lanka Customs

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Though the year-on-year food inflation rate decreased further to 59.3% in December 2022, prices of most of the fish varieties, except for salaya, kelawalla and thalapath has increased, at the wholesale level, compared to previous month due to high demand during the festival season.

As previously noted, the ongoing increase in the cost of living, combined with the loss of income, has compelled consumers to cut back on the consumption of high-value foods, such as fish and meat. Meanwhile, the shift in demand from high-value fish varieties to low-value ones, such as hurulla, has led to a significant price increase for these varieties compared to the previous year. Additionally, the deep-sea fish catch has been on a downward trend since the fuel price hike. The high costs associated with deep-sea fishing have resulted in fewer fishing trips, reduced fishing efforts, and lower supply.

Among all the fresh fish varieties, the largest price increase was observed for balaya as 16%, followed by mora as 14%, and thora as 7%. Conversely, prices for most of the remaining fish varieties, with the exception of salaya, kelawalla, and thalapath, had increased within the range of 4% to 6%. In comparison to the same period in the previous year, wholesale prices for most fresh fish varieties had increased substantially, ranging from 18% to 81%, with the most notable increase seen in the price of salaya as 81%.

As a result of the wholesale price changes, the retail prices for all fish varieties have increased in comparison to the previous month. The most significant price increase was reported for mora as 24%. Furthermore, the prices of balaya and thora had risen by 10% and 6%, respectively. Conversely, except for salaya and thalapath, the prices for the remaining fish varieties had risen

by less than 3%. When compared to the same period of the previous year, retail prices for all fresh fish varieties have increased substantially, with the most significant increase noted for salaya at 76%.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Salaya	150.00-650.00	398.52	420.75	220.17	-22.23	-5.28	178.35	81.01
Hurulla	500.00-850.00	658.00	630.50	457.20	27.50	4.36	200.80	43.92
Balaya	380.00-1000.00	722.50	622.06	445.43	100.44	16.15	277.07	62.20
Kelawalla	850.00-1800.00	1132.25	1184.25	833.58	-52.00	-4.39	298.67	35.83
Thora	1000.00-3200.00	2060.00	1925.00	1500.49	135.00	7.01	559.51	37.29
Paraw	750.00-1600.00	1146.00	1076.72	781.56	69.28	6.43	364.44	46.63
Mora	680.00-1500.00	901.73	790.46	703.33	111.27	14.08	198.39	28.21
Shrimp (small)	1250.00-1800.00	1474.81	1478.75	1117.98	-3.94	-0.27	356.84	31.92
Thalapath	1000.00-2500.00	1659.72	1838.75	1398.15	-179.03	-9.74	261.57	18.71
Retail Prices								
Salaya	320.00-800.00	539.00	583.07	305.67	-44.07	-7.56	233.34	76.34
Hurulla	650.00-1100.00	881.46	818.30	557.69	63.16	7.72	323.77	58.06
Balaya	500.00-2000.00	1296.46	1179.28	941.15	117.19	9.94	355.31	37.75
Kelawalla	1200.00-3000.00	2077.64	2074.33	1479.48	3.32	0.16	598.16	40.43
Thora	1800.00-3800.00	3015.03	2847.47	2100.08	167.56	5.88	914.96	43.57
Paraw	1200.00-2800.00	2022.18	1970.71	1509.96	51.47	2.61	512.21	33.92
Mora	1400.00-1800.00	1596.18	1290.60	1149.00	305.58	23.68	447.18	38.92
Shrimp (small)	1400.00-2500.00	1785.94	1764.18	1244.34	21.76	1.23	541.60	43.53
Thalapath	1700.00-3600.00	2651.44	2678.21	2079.16	-26.77	-1.00	572.27	27.52

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Following last month's decline in fresh fish prices, prices of most local dried fish varieties have also continued to fall, and the trend sustained in December, 2022. However, the average prices of imported dried fish varieties remained high due to the depreciation of the Sri Lankan rupee against the US dollar. Meanwhile, the average prices of local dried fish varieties remained high due to the low supply of fresh fish and the high cost of production.

The highest price drop at wholesale level was recorded for mora as 10% due to low fresh fish prices. Next, the prices of salaya and maduwa had dropped by 3% and 2.5% respectively. However, prices of sprats had increased slightly, by 7%. Following the wholesale price movements, prices of all the dried fish varieties had dropped, except for maduwa. The highest price drop was reported for both sprats (imported) and sprats (local) as 14%. In addition, prices of the remaining dried fish varieties had dropped in the range of Prices of maduwa and sprats (local) had dropped in the range of 2%-8%. Yet, price of maduwa had increased by 11%, compared to last month. Compared to the same period of the last year, retail prices of all the dried fish varieties had increased significantly, with the highest price increase noted for maduwa as 114%.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail prices of Dried fish – December 2021

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale Price								
Sprats	850.00-1350.00	1173.59	1101.77	997.64	71.82	6.52	175.95	17.64
Sprats (imported)	800.00-1100.00	933.54	979.34	566.26	-45.80	-4.68	367.28	64.86
Kattawa	-	-	-	1253.81	-	-	-	-
Kattawa (imported)	1600.00-1780.00	1685.45	1695.25	-	-9.80	-0.58	-	-
Thora	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thora (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mora	1400.00-1800.00	1621.00	1796.75	1318.81	-175.75	-9.78	302.19	22.91
Mora (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balaya	650.00-900.00	802.25	800.25	619.82	2.00	0.25	182.43	29.43
Balaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anguluwa	-	-	-	1346.25	-	-	-	-
Anguluwa (imported)	1650.00-1800.00	1733.96	1736.98	-	-3.02	-0.17	-	-
Maduwa	950.00-1300.00	1163.25	1193.11	828.67	-29.86	-2.50	334.58	40.38
Maduwa (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	650.00-880.00	742.57	762.27	366.59	-19.70	-2.58	375.98	102.56
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail Price								
Sprats(imported)	1000.00-1600.00	1337.30	1549.42	725.68	-212.12	-13.69	611.62	84.28
Sprats	1200.00-2400.00	1762.18	2058.98	1245.55	-296.81	-14.42	516.63	41.48
Kattawa	2000.00-3000.00	2530.65	2581.20	1576.69	-50.55	-1.96	953.97	60.50
Thora	-	-	3540.00	2155.00	-	-	-	-
Mora	2000.00-2800.00	2428.09	2608.39	1610.78	-180.30	-6.91	817.31	50.74
Balaya	1000.00-1800.00	1417.36	1545.95	990.90	-128.59	-8.32	426.46	43.04
Anguluwa	2200.00-3000.00	2527.79	2589.48	1515.84	-61.69	-2.38	1011.95	66.76
Maduwa	1800.00-2600.00	2155.36	1940.28	1008.73	215.08	11.08	1146.62	113.67
Salaya	800.00-1600.00	1131.02	1185.09	632.83	-54.06	-4.56	498.19	78.72

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Eggs

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Increasing cost of production and demand substitution effect had led to price hike in eggs in June-August period. To curtail the increasing egg prices, a gazette notification followed by verbal agreement was made between egg producers and the Consumer Affairs Authority to sell both types of eggs at maximum retail price of Rs.50.00. Following the agreement, egg prices seemed to stabilize around Rs. 50.00 at wholesale level in October and November.

As predicted, slim wholesale margins had created a supply chain instability and shortage of supply in December. During the festival season in mid-December, there was a shortage of egg supply, which led to a price hike of 10% and 8% for brown and white eggs respectively at the wholesale level. Consequently, the retail prices had increased by 5% and 7% respectively for brown and white eggs. This increase was a deviation from the stabilized prices of Rs. 50.00 per egg that had been agreed upon between egg producers and the Consumer Affairs Authority earlier in the year. Recorded average retail price was Rs. 54.00 per egg for both brown and white eggs. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices of an egg had increased by more than 110%.

Table 5.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	%	Rs	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	50.00-60.00	55.00	50.00	25.44	5.00	10.00	29.56	116.22
White (each)	49.00-62.00	53.59	49.56	24.22	4.03	8.13	29.38	121.29
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	50.00-62.00	54.39	51.89	25.79	2.51	4.84	28.61	110.93
White (each)	49.00-62.00	54.16	50.46	24.52	3.69	7.32	29.64	120.85

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Meat

Compared to November, prices of most of the meat varieties had remained same at retail market. The only notable price increase was reported for chicken (broiler) by 9%, due to high demand during the festival season. Except for 1% price drop reported for beef (without bones), prices of remaining meat varieties stayed the same, compared to last month. Compared to last year, prices of all the meat varieties had increased with the highest was reported for chicken (curry) as 116%.

Table 5.4: Retail prices of Meat – December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	2000.00-2200.00	2,074.17	2,087.50	1224.11	-13.33	-0.64	850.06	69.44
Chicken (Broiler)	1120.00-1350.00	1,263.26	1,159.68	785.75	103.58	8.93	477.51	60.77
Chicken (curry)	1500.00-1700.00	1,558.93	1,551.98	721.52	6.94	0.45	837.41	116.06
Mutton	2700.00-3200.00	2,967.22	2,982.08	1997.22	-14.86	-0.50	970.00	48.57
Pork	1450.00-2000.00	1,728.75	1,720.83	855.50	7.92	0.46	873.25	102.07

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain and Wheat flour

Total quantity of wheat grain imported in December was around 30,514mt worth 4,824mn. Compared to the previous month, the quantity imported this month had decreased by around 68,722mt. Wheat grain was mainly imported from Romania at a CIF price of Rs.157.98/kg and the quantity was 99% of the total imported quantity of this month. Remaining quantity was imported from Italy(1%). CIF price of wheat grain ranged from Rs.157.98 to Rs.172.91/kg and average CIF price was Rs.158.09/kg this month. Compared to the previous month, average CIF price has decreased by Rs.2.08/kg. The highest CIF price was for wheat grain imported from Italy whilst the lowest CIF price was for wheat grain imported from Romania.

Total Quantity of wheat flour imported in this month was 29,357 mt worth 5,787mn. Compared to the previous month, this month quantity has decreased by around 33,008mt. The highest quantity of wheat flour has imported from Turkey at a CIF price of Rs.196.77/kg and that was 80% of the total quantity of wheat flour imported in December. Remain quantity has imported from UAE (11%), India(5%), Russia(3.5%) and small quantities from China, Nepal, Singapore, Thailand,

France and Ukraine. Average CIF price of wheat flour imported in this month was Rs.197.14/kg and compared to the previous month it has increased by Rs.1.78/kg.

Meanwhile, the local retail price of wheat flour ranged from Rs.259.13-266.67/kg and the average price was Rs.263.58/kg. Compared to last month, the average retail price of wheat flour has decreased by 6% and compared to the same period of last year, price has increased by 94%.

Table 6.1: Open market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar –December 2022

Item	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Dec 2022	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	Nov 2022		Dec 2021	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	259.13-266.67	263.58	280.84	135.92	-17.26	-6.14	127.66	93.92
Sugar	231.45-236.23	234.10	247.28	143.45	-13.18	-5.33	90.65	63.19

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of wheat flour & grain- July to December 2022

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
December-2022	29,356.97	5787.48	197.14	263.58	66.44
November-2022	62,365.07	12183.59	195.36	280.84	85.48
October-2022	35,870.81	6972.66	194.38	374.18	179.80
September-2022	9,442.75	1462.50	154.88	431.79	276.91
August-2022	16,508.94	2,421.32	146.67	304.11	157.44
July-2022	15,742.06	2,369.22	150.50	292.64	142.14
Wheat Grain					
December-2022	30,514.41	4,824.02	158.09	263.58	105.49
November-2022	99,236.54	15,482.21	156.01	280.84	124.83
October-2022	36,999.93	6,923.99	187.14	374.18	187.04
September-2022	20,993.62	3,073.22	146.39	431.79	285.40
August-2022	53,384.73	8,325.34	155.95	304.11	148.16
July-2022	5,318.24	743.84	139.87	292.64	152.77

Source: Department of Customs; Data Management Division/HARTI

Note: Retail price of wheat grains means the retail price of wheat flour.

Sugar

Total quantity of sugar imported this month was 10,100mt worth 2,151mn and it has increased by around 1,942mt when compared to previous month. The largest quantity of sugar was mainly imported from India and that was 72.5% of the total quantity. Rest of quantity has imported from Thailand (21.5%), Malaysia (5%) and South Korea (1%). The average CIF price was Rs.213.00/kg and compared to the previous month and it has increased by Rs.1.45/kg. The highest CIF price was paid for sugar imported from Thailand (Rs.263.80/kg) while the lowest was paid for sugar imported from India (Rs.195.84/kg).

Referring to the local retail price of sugar for the month, price ranged from Rs.231.45-236.23/kg and the average retail price was Rs.234.10/kg. Compared to last month, the average retail price has decreased by 5% and compared to the same period of last year the price has increased by 63%.

Table 6.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of sugar- July 2022 to December 2022

Month	Quantity (Mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs./kg)	Retail Price (Rs./kg)	Gross Margin (Rs./kg)
December-2022	10,099.85	2151.23	213.00	234.10	21.10
November-2022	8,157.59	1725.73	211.55	247.28	35.73
October-2022	11,369.84	2541.37	223.52	274.64	51.12
September-2022	28,072.12	5908.40	210.47	287.58	77.11
August-2022	36,120.67	7,501.31	207.67	314.99	107.32
July-2022	15,863.62	3,072.55	193.69	339.65	145.96

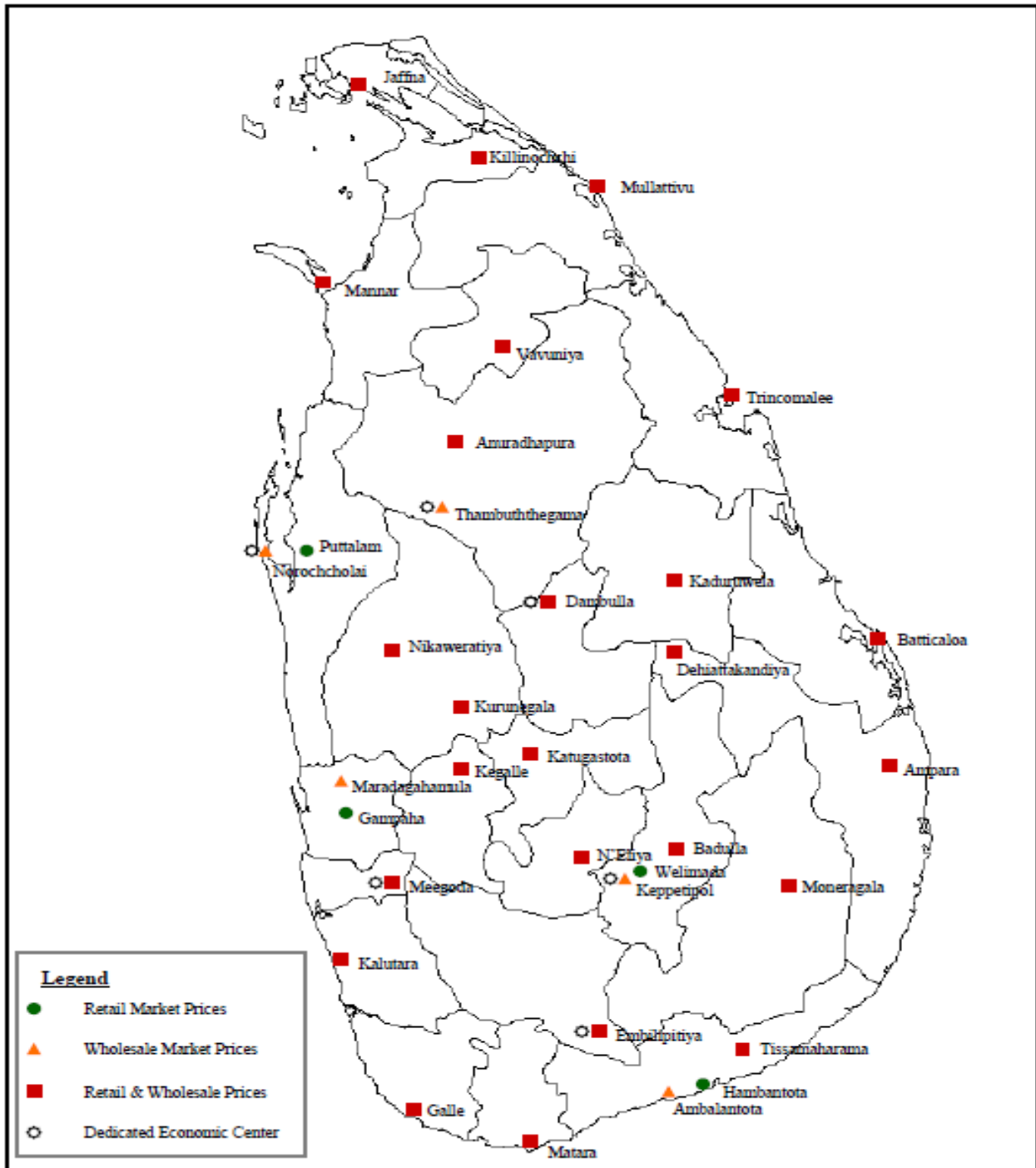
Source: Department of Customs; Data Management Division/HARTI

Table 7: Import of selected food items – December 2022

Item	Quantity (mt)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Dec 2022	Nov 2022		Dec 2022	Nov 2022		Dec 2022	Nov 2022	
Rice	23017.1	30506.5	(25)	3017.8	3874.5	(22)	131.1	127.0	3
Red Onion	1093.6	1347.1	(19)	157.6	192.9	(18)	144.1	143.2	1
Big Onion	25501.2	19712.2	29	2250.9	1814.0	24	88.3	92.0	(4)
Potato	15182.7	12035.3	26	1199.3	883.0	36	79.0	73.4	8
Maysoor Dhal	7177.0	13381.7	(46)	1828.4	3669.2	(50)	254.8	274.2	(7)
Garlic	2951.6	2127.0	39	731.8	522.1	40	247.9	245.5	1
Wheat flour	29357.0	62365.1	(53)	5787.5	12183.6	(52)	197.1	195.4	1
Wheat grain	30514.4	99236.5	(69)	4824.0	15482.2	(69)	158.1	156.0	1
Sugar & sugar confectionery	10099.9	8157.6	24	2151.2	1725.7	25	213.0	211.5	1
Maize (Other)	60291.5	24715.3	144	7927.6	3205.1	147	131.5	129.7	1

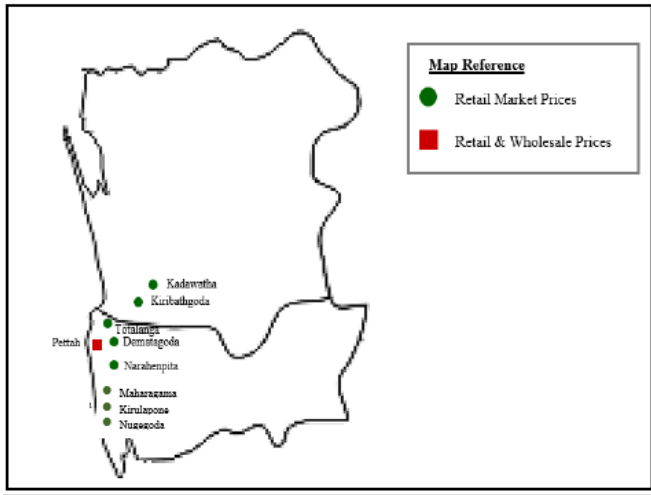
Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs, HARTI

Price Collecting Areas



Legend

- Retail Market Prices
- ▲ Wholesale Market Prices
- Retail & Wholesale Prices
- Dedicated Economic Center





HARTI



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දෛනික චිළචිචි තොග මිල, ජංගම දුරකථනයෙන්

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මොබිටෙල් ජංගම දුරකථන ජාලයෙන් චිළචිචි තොග මිල දර්ශනය.

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