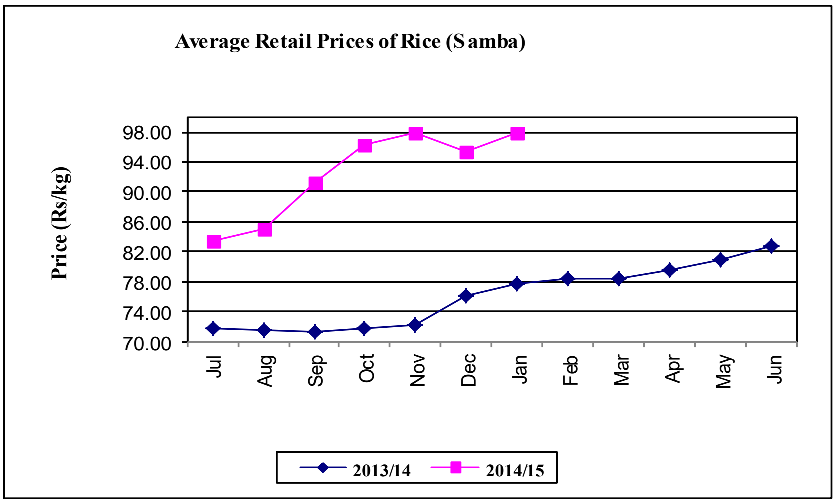
HARTI

FOOD INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol 08 | January - 2015 | No 01

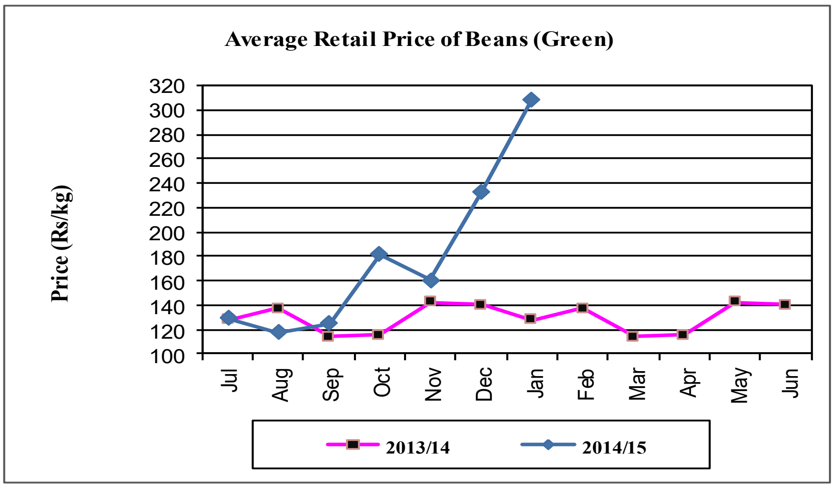
RICE:

Prices of samba has increased due to prevailed limited local stocks as well as the impact of the increased import levy on rice. Meanwhile, the prices of nadu and raw varieties have decreased marginally due to arrival of new harvest from the Eastern province.



VEGETABLES:

Due to weather related setbacks, supply has further declined for both up and low country vegetables, hence prices have moved up by more than 25% for most of the vegetables compared to last month. Prices are expected to move down by 20%-30% in February with the reaching of the *maha* peak harvesting period.



Marketing , Food Policy and Agribusiness Division
Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute
No 114, Wijerama Mawatha , Colombo 07.
Phone: 011-2696981 Fax: 011-2682283 E-mail: mfpa@harti.lk Web:www.harti.gov.lk

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.

Co-ordinator / Head of the Division
Mrs. C.P. Hathurusinghe

Research Team

W.A.N.Wijesooriya	- Paddy
E.A.C. Priyankara	- Rice
Roshini Rambukwella	- Dried chilies and Onion
Ruvini Widanapathirana	- Potato and Pulses
N.P.G. Samantha	- Fruits
W. H. Duminda Priyadarsana	- Dried fish and Meat
P.A.J. Champika	- Vegetables
Indika Edirisinghe	- Fish and Eggs
P.G.A.Rathnasiri	- Wheat flour and Sugar

Compilation of Data and Information
P.G.A. Rathnasiri W.G.N Malkanthi

Data Processing
Upul Arunashantha

Word Processing
I.A. Surangani

Editor
S. Perera

Colombo Field Data Collection Team
1. S.M.C.D.K. Samarakoon
2 D.W.A. Rupasinghe
3. G.A.L.S. Kumari
4. N.A. Rohan Wijesinghe
5. M.W.P. Mahesh
6. U.D.P. Jayaratne
7. D.V.E. Priyadarshana
8. R.D.C. Rathuvithana

Field Data Collection Team

1. H.M.S. Jayarathna	- Nuwara Eliya
2. J.C.K.B. Lional	- Dambulla
3. G.W. Ranatunga	- Matara
4. Sampath Wijeratne	- Kurunegala
5. A.W. Gamini	- Embilipitiya
6. Sarath Nillamulla	- Kandy
7. Jayawardana Kitulagoda	- Meegoda
8. Priyantha Liyanarachi	- Kalutara
9. Lashika Dilrukshi	- Tissamaharama
10. K.A.D. Shanika	- Nikaweratiya
11.Anushka Perera	- Polonnaruwa
12. M.G.P. Abeywickrama	- Puttalama
13. V.K. Lakmali	- Hambantota
14. H. I. Prasad	- Divulapitiya
15. M.T.H.A.I. Chandimali	- Rathnapura
16. Dihani Ekanayake	- Keppetipola
17. Niranjala Premathilaka	- Thambutthegama
18. Pradeepa Nayanakumari	- Anuradhapura
19. W.P.U. Ishara	- Ampara
20. Namal Dissanayake	- Badulla
21. N.P.G. Manohari	- Galle
22. Harshani Iroshika	- Moneragala

1. Paddy

Crop Situation

After the heavy rainy weather prevailed during last month, dry weather gradually developed in most of the major producing areas during this month. It was recorded that the recent flood situation affected the paddy cultivations especially in the North Central and Eastern provinces. However, prospects were somewhat satisfactory in most of the major producing areas. According to the latest assessment issued by the Department of Agriculture, 77,730ha of the paddy cultivated lands of 2014/15 *maha* season were completely damaged due to recent floods. The expected paddy production is 2.622mn mt after the reduction of crop damage.

Harvesting of paddy in the wet zone areas of Kurunegala district and some producing areas in Ampara district commenced in the mid of January. It is expected that new harvest would arrive at the market from all other producing areas of the Eastern province during February.

Table 1.1: Achievement of Paddy Cultivation 2014/15 *maha* season (Up to end of January - 2015)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent (ha)	Production forecast Based on the Progress (mt)	Total effected extent (ha)	Revised Production forecast (tones)
Anuradhapura	94,494	97,576	103	348,557	16668	295,476
Polonnaruwa	34,664	33,993	98	148,284	8515	111,142
Ampara	77,471	76,416	99	340,741	17,036	294,544
Hambantota	79,104	81,570	103	348,086	11,085	305,598
Kurunagala	29,271	27,747	95	139,984	1,465	134,630
Colombo	5,051	3,962	78	11,927	162	11,774
Gampaha	13,902	11,342	82	33,392	886	30,785
Kalutara	16,033	13,864	86	40,018	611	39,460
Galle	16,300	14,123	87	39,186	219	38,970
Matara	16,837	15,889	94	48,066	191	47,620
Ratnapura	13,694	11,631	85	36,863	22	36,842
Kegalle	8,803	6,462	73	21,973	19	21,924
Puttalam	22,930	20,295	89	73,363	3,273	61,532
Kandy	15,138	12,453	82	40,182	1,216	38,175
Matale	22,309	22,093	99	84,399	163	83,964
Nuwara Eliya	6,724	4,041	60	10,389	303	9,902
Badulla	25,850	20,655	80	83,424	237	82,946
Moneragala	37,654	37,373	99	152,568	79	152,368
Jaffna	11,800	10,900	92	21,328	215	21,151
Kilinochchi	22,742	23,174	102	79,048	2,920	72,478
Vavuniya	19,810	14,399	73	50,274	2,829	44,226
Mullaitivu	16,273	15,587	96	40,403	3,455	37,103
Mannar	20,815	18,100	87	89,641	4,565	67,033
Trincomalee	42,204	41,814	99	164,937	23,086	98,915
Batticaloa	61,820	61,761	100	160,714	49,497	62,664
Udawalawa	11,394	12,378	109	65,337	-	65,337
System H	21,759	23,083	106	108,952	1,478	102,590
System H1	10,280	9,235	90	43,589	224	42,793
System B	19,952	19,489	98	91,988	5,444	72,692
System C	23,056	23,948	104	113,035	3,298	101,733
System G	5,611	6,220	111	29,358	160	28,961
System L	1,965	1,564	80	7,382	-	7,382
Sri Lanka	**825,710**	**793,137**	**96**	**30,673,391**	**159,319**	**2,622,709**

Source: Department of Agriculture

Table 1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – January 2015

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	35.00-48.00	47.00-48.00	44.75	47.50	37.46	*-2.75*	*-5.79*	*7.29*	*19.46*
Polonnaruwa	-	-	-	-	38.46	-	-	-	-
Kalawewa	40.00-47.00	45.00-48.00	44.17	46.80	38.79	*-2.63*	*-5.63*	*5.37*	*13.86*
Kurunegala	42.00-45.00	44.00-45.00	44.01	44.59	40.21	*-0.59*	*-1.31*	*3.80*	*9.44*
Dehiattakandiya	43.00-44.00	43.00-44.00	43.63	43.50		*0.13*	*0.29*	-	-
Nikaweratiya	35.00-51.00	40.00-50.00	45.05	48.23	39.41	*-3.18*	*-6.59*	*5.64*	*14.31*
Ampara	-	-	-	-	38.50	-	-	-	-
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	33.00-46.00	45.00-46.00	42.75	45.50	35.38	*-2.75*	*-6.04*	*7.37*	*20.83*
Polonnaruwa	-				36.37	-	-	-	-
Kalawewa	35.00-43.00	42.00-44.00	40.67	42.87	35.79	*-2.20*	*-5.13*	*4.88*	*13.62*
Kurunegala	42.00-43.00	42.25-43.00	42.48	42.55	35.43	*-0.07*	*-0.18*	*7.05*	*19.88*
Dehiattakandiya	42.00-43.00	42.00-43.00	42.60	42.63		*-0.03*	*-0.08*	-	-
Embilipitiya	40.00-44.00	40.00-46.00	42.60	42.60	35.70	*0.00*	*0.00*	*6.90*	*19.33*
Nikaweratiya	30.00-48.00	40.00-46.00	40.75	43.43	36.01	*-2.68*	*-6.16*	*4.74*	*13.16*
Matara	42.00-43.00	42.00-43.00	42.67	42.56	34.44	*0.11*	*0.27*	*8.23*	*23.90*
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	-	-	-	-	35.24	-	-	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	43.00-50.00	46.00-50.00	47.59	48.33	33.31	*-0.75*	*-1.55*	*14.28*	*42.85*
Hambantota	50.00-55.00	50.00-52.00	52.25	51.00	35.00	*1.25*	*2.45*	*17.25*	*49.29*
Embilipitiya	47.00-53.00	47.00-52.00	50.45	48.53	34.10	*1.92*	*3.96*	*16.35*	*47.95*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Producer Prices

Prices of all the paddy varieties remained unchanged in most of the considered major producing areas at the beginning of the month. However, the prices have shown a declining trend from the second week mainly due to the arrival of new paddy harvest from 2014/15 *Maha* season as a result of the commencement of the harvesting in some producing areas of the Eastern province and the Kurunegala district. It was recorded that the prices of old stocks were higher than that of the new harvest of long grain white. In order to stabilize the rice prices the Cooperative Wholesale Establishment (CWE) released imported *ponni* samba and raw white rice varieties at low prices from their outlets in island wide throughout the month.

Prices of short grain and long grain white ranged between Rs.35.00-51.00/kg and Rs.33.00-48.00/kg respectively. The highest and the lowest prices were recorded in Nikaweratiya and Anuradhapura respectively. The highest price range of Rs.43.00-55.00/kg was recorded for the long grain red paddy in producing areas in the Southern province. According to the field information, paddy prices would decline in next month as a result of new harvest arriving to the markets from the Eastern province. Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of short grain have increased in the range of 9%-19% with the highest increase from Anuradhapura. Meanwhile the prices of long grain white have increased in the range of 13%-24% with the lowest increase from Kalawewa. Prices of raw red have increased in the range of 43%-49%.

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale prices

Rice stocks in the Pettah rice market were limited during the month. Meanwhile, the government increased the import levy on rice imports. Hence, the prices of most of rice varieties have moved upward till the third week of this month. However, few stocks of nadu and raw rice production of this *maha* season have started to reach the market from the Eastern province during the latter part of the month. As a result the prices of nadu and raw varieties decreased marginally. The prices of samba rice still kept on increasing. Samba rice production is expected to reach the market from Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa between the end of February and the beginning of March. Rice imports have further increased and about 119,549 mt of rice has been imported during the month of January. However, the price of imported *ponni* samba has risen nearly by 4% and imported raw white by less than 1% due to increase of the import levy by the government. The highest price of Rs.96.00/was reported for samba grade I while the lowest price of Rs.52.00/kg was noted for imported raw white.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the rice varieties had increased in the range of 18-52% and the highest was reported for raw red.

Retail

Prices of nadu, raw red and samba grade I have decreased marginally during the month. However price reduction rate of this month is lower than that of the previous month. It is because the impact of price increases of imported rice due to increase of the import levy on rice. The prices of imported *ponni* samba and raw white have increased by about Rs.1.00/kg during the month. A scarcity of raw red was observed in most of Colombo suburbs as well as outstation markets. As such, the price of raw red remained at a higher position of Rs.85.00-100.00kg. This is the time when the raw red prices reached its highest position. The highest price of Rs.110.00/kg was reported for samba grade I while the lowest price of Rs.60.00/kg was noted for imported raw white.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the rice varieties had increased by 22%-45% recording the highest for raw red.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice – January 2015

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	90.00-96.00	92.03	91.82	77.19	*0.21*	*0.23*	*14.84*	*19.22*
Samba 2	84.00-88.00	86.85	86.51	73.39	*0.34*	*0.39*	*13.46*	*18.34*
Samba 3	82.00-83.00	82.33	-	71.05	-	-	*11.28*	*15.87*
Nadu 1	78.00-85.00	82.58	82.76	64.98	*-0.19*	*-0.23*	*17.60*	*27.09*
Nadu 2	73.00-80.00	78.59	78.74	62.22	*-0.16*	*-0.20*	*16.37*	*26.31*
Raw red	80.00-88.00	86.34	86.56	57.36	*-0.23*	*-0.26*	*28.97*	*50.51*
Raw white	70.00-78.00	75.43	75.94	61.75	*-0.51*	*-0.67*	*13.69*	*22.17*
Ponni Samba (Imported)	69.00-80.00	71.50	67.98	-	*3.52*	*5.18*	-	-
Raw white (imported)	52.00-70.00	61.20	60.86	-	*0.34*	*0.55*	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	95.00-110.00	102.29	103.15	83.66	*-0.86*	*-0.83*	*18.63*	*22.27*
Samba 2	90.00-98.00	93.38	93.12	76.11	*0.26*	*0.28*	*17.27*	*22.69*
Samba 3		-	90.00	73.07	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	85.00-95.00	90.13	90.37	71.22	*-0.24*	*-0.27*	*18.91*	*26.55*
Nadu 2	85.00-88.00	85.97	86.25	64.95	*-0.28*	*-0.32*	*21.02*	*32.36*
Raw red	85.00-100.00	92.21	92.98	63.39	*-0.77*	*-0.83*	*28.82*	*45.46*
Raw white	78.00-95.00	84.76	84.10	64.54	*0.66*	*0.78*	*20.22*	*31.33*
Ponni Samba (Imported)	70.00-85.00	77.71	76.35	-	*1.36*	*1.78*	-	-
Raw white (imported)	60.00-85.00	70.29	69.53	-	*0.76*	*1.09*	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop situation

The targeted extent of chillies in *maha* 2014/15 season was 13,545ha in Sri Lanka and out of that 8,195ha has been cultivated at the end of January 2015 representing 61% of the target. Expected production of green chillies considering the cop damage is 37,134mt and from that 71% of the production will be provided by the Anuradhapura (43%), Puttalam (15%) and Moneragala (13%) districts. The highest cultivated extent (2,722ha) was recorded in the Anuradhapura district that represents 70% of the targeted extent. Compared to the same period of last year, the cultivated extent of green chillies has dropped by about 9% in Sri Lanka due to the prevailed unfavorable weather condition at the beginning of the season.

Table 2.1.1: Cultivation progress of green chillies for *maha* 2014/15

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation progress at the end of January 2015		Available production considering crop damages (mt)	Cultivation progress at the end of January 2014	
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the targeted extent		Extent (ha)	Areas (mt)
Anuradhapura	3,903	2,722	70	15,913	2,564	12,432
Moneragala	1.504	756	50	4,862	787	4,048
Puttalam	1,000	621	62	5,460	560	3,574
Hambantota	369	453	123	1,612	499	1,723
Jaffna	700	518	74	934	505	1,066
Other areas	6,069	3,125	51	8,353	4,051	10,565
Total	**13,545**	**8,195**	**61**	**37,134**	**8,966**	**33,408**

Source: Crop forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supply of green chillies from main producing areas has decreased further due to prevailed unfavorable weather condition during last month. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have increased by about Rs.185.00/kg and Rs.292.00/kg respectively. Average wholesale and retail prices of green chillies were Rs.607.79/kg and Rs.856.75/kg respectively and both prices are higher than that of the imported dried chillies.

A quantity of 3,621mt dried chillies was imported during this month and it was a decrease of 973mt compared to that of the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.185.13/kg and it was a decrease of Rs.5.39/kg compared to last month. However, wholesale price of imported dried chillies has decreased slightly by about Rs.1.00/kg and retail price has not changed significantly. Average wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies were Rs.219.10/kg and Rs.271.85/kg respectively and these prices have increased by about 19% and 17% respectively when compared to the same period of last year.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green chillies	300.00-700.00	607.79	422.53	50.68	*185.26*	*43.85*	*557.11*	*1099.27*
Dried chillies	215.00-225.00	219.10	220.30	183.51	*-1.20*	*-0.54*	*35.59*	*19.40*
Retail Price								
Green chillies	400.00-1200.00	856.75	565.15	161.83	*291.60*	*51.60*	*694.92*	*429.41*
Dried chillies	240.00-300.00	271.85	271.53	232.90	*0.32*	*0.12*	*38.95*	*16.72*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Jan - 2015	3,621.49	670.46	185.13	271.85	86.72
Dec - 2014	4,593.57	875.17	190.52	271.53	81.01
Nov - 2014	4,272.54	787.54	184.32	261.19	76.87
Oct - 2014	3,546.62	605.57	170.75	244.33	73.58
Sep - 2014	4,656.11	792.76	170.26	244.16	73.90
Aug - 2014	3,337.79	549.60	164.66	232.85	68.19

Source: Department of Customs, Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.4: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – January 2015

Location	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
Dambulla	406.00	636.00	620.00	424.00
Hambantota	325.00	400.00	400.00	375.00
Embilipitiya	390.00	578.00	558.00	541.00
Puttalam	400.00	-	560.00	364.00
A'Pura	375.00	525.00	525.00	360.00

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

According to the big onion promotion programme around 700ha in Hambantota, and 150ha in Moneragala have been targeted for big onion cultivation and the total targeted extent was 1,097ha in Sri Lanka. However, at the end of January 2015 around 93ha was cultivated in Sri Lanka representing only 8% of the total targeted extent.

A good progress has been achieved for red onion cultivated in the Jaffna district and it represents 71% of the targeted extent at the end of January 2015. The targeted extent of red onion for *maha* 2014/15 was 1,050ha in Puttalam and around 541ha were cultivated by the end of January representing 51% of the targeted extent. The expected production considering the crop damages of *maha* 2014/15 is 34,892mt and out of that 85% of the production will arrive from Jaffna (55%) and Puttalam (30%) districts.

Table 2.2.1: Cultivation progress of red onion for *maha* 2014/15

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation progress at the end of January 2015		Available production considering crop damages (mt)
		Extent (ha)	% of the target	
Jaffna	2,000	1,419	71	19,022
Puttalam	1,050	541	51	10,518
Trincomalee	686	114	17	1,290
Other areas	1,218	519	43	4,062
Total	**4,954**	**2,593**	**52**	**34,892**

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Only imported big onion was available at the wholesale market and a quantity of 24,573mt of big onion was imported from India and Pakistan during this month. It was an increase of 18,997mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.41.67/kg for imported big onion and it had increased by Rs.13.72/kg compared to that of the last month. The special commodity levy for imported big onion has dropped to Rs.10.00/kg with effect from January 2015. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have decreased by about Rs.26.00/kg and Rs.16.00/kg respectively due to high imports from India and Pakistan. Limited stocks of local big onion were available only at some of the retail markets in the range of Rs.90.00-120.00/kg.

Supply of local red onions from Jaffna and Puttalam districts has decreased further and only stocks of sinnan red onions were available at the market in the range of Rs.70.00-75.00/kg. Vedalan red onion stock was not available at the market. About 2,969mt of red onion was imported during this month and compared to the previous month it has increased by 1,183mt. Average CIF price was Rs.64.04/kg for imported red onion and it has decreased by Rs.13.40/kg compared to last month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have decreased by about Rs.36.07/kg and Rs.18.06/kg respectively due to high imports from India. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have increased by about 12% and 10% respectively.

Table 2.2.3: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion January 2015

Crop	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	70.00-75.00	72.50	77.63	-	*-5.13*	*-6.61*	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	-	-	116.18	90.50	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	60.00-120.00	86.71	122.79	77.35	*-36.07*	*-29.38*	*9.36*	*12.10*
Big Onion (imported)	45.00-95.00	65.48	91.96	55.03	*-26.48*	*-28.80*	*10.45*	*19.00*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	94.99	0.00	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	-	-	175.43	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Imported)	100.00-200.00	144.64	162.70	131.55	*-18.06*	*-11.10*	*13.09*	*9.95*
Big Onion (imported)	60.00-165.00	106.11	122.46	83.40	*-16.35*	*-13.35*	*22.71*	*27.23*
Big Onion (Local)	90.00-120.00	108.34	123.01	0.00	*-14.67*	*-11.93*	-	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.4: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Imported Onion January 2015

Crop	Month	CIF Price	Wholesale Price	Retail Price	Margin (Rs/kg)	
		(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Jan,2015	41.67	65.48	106.11	*23.81*	*40.63*
	Dec,2014	27.95	91.96	122.46	*64.01*	*30.50*
	Jan,2014	31.18	55.03	83.40	*23.85*	*28.37*
Red onion	Jan,2015	64.04	86.71	144.64	*22.67*	*57.93*
	Dec,2014	77.44	122.79	162.70	*45.35*	*39.91*
	Jan,2014	49.72	77.35	131.55	*27.63*	*54.20*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Big Onion and Red Onion January 2015

Crop	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Dec 2014
Red Onion	2968.58	1785.41	190.10	138.25	64.04	77.44
Big Onion	24573.36	5575.96	1024.04	155.85	41.67	27.95

Source: Department of Customs

Table 2.2.6: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
Jan - 2015	24573.36	41.67	65.48	106.11	64.44
Dec - 2014	5575.96	27.95	91.96	122.46	94.51
Nov - 2014	4131.18	32.36	77.27	110.11	77.75
Oct - 2014	37.50	45.64	-	-	-
Sep - 2014	222.24	35.12	67.91	90.70	55.58
Aug - 2014	6267.26	46.75	76.48	98.70	51.95

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2014/15 is 3,153ha and about 2,313ha had been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 73% of the target. During the month, about 575ha of potatoes were cultivated in the country and it was lower than the extent cultivated in December. Compared to the same period of *maha* 2013/14, the cultivated extent up to end of this month of *maha* 2014/15 was at a low level. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of potato is 33,055mt for this *maha* season.

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,095ha and about 602ha of potato has been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 55% of the targeted extent. The targeted extent for this *maha* season is 1,945ha in the Badulla district and about 1,598ha has been cultivated achieving 82% of the target by the end of January. In the Badulla district, about 261ha of potatoes were cultivated during this month which is lower than the extent cultivated in the previous month. Compared to the same period of *maha* 2013/14, the cultivated extent was at a low level in both districts by the end of January.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Potato (*Maha* 2014/15)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production** (mt)
	Maha* 2013/14	***Maha* 2014/15**	***Maha* 2013/14***	***Maha* 2014/15**	***Maha* 2014/15**	
N'Eliya	1,720	1,095	646	602	55	1,604
Badulla	1,943	1,945	1,753	1,598	82	21,793
Sri Lanka	**3,783**	**3,153**	**2,483**	**2,313**	**73**	**33,055**

Source: MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2014/15, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2013/14, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***
*****Excluding crop damages***

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 21,157mt of potato had been imported in January which was 3,591mt higher than that was imported during the previous month as the special commodity levy for imported potato has been reduced up to Rs.10.00/kg with effect from 30/12/2014. Compared to January, 2014 (15,803mt), the imports were at a high level during this month.

With regard to local potato, the stocks of Welimada potato were not available in the market due to end of the harvesting period. Only stocks of Nuwara Eliya potato were available in the market. Due to availability of ample stocks of imported potato in the market, the demand for Nuwara Eliya potato was at a low level. Hence, the wholesale and retail prices of Nuwara Eliya potato have decreased by 20% and 12% respectively. On average, the producer price of Nuwara Eliya potato was Rs.74.00/kg in January. Meanwhile, due to availability of ample stocks of imported potatoes arrived from India, Pakistan, China and Bangladesh, the wholesale price of imported potato has decreased by 29%. During the month, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes ranged between Rs.80.00-110.00/kg and Rs.40.00-70.00/kg respectively. With regard to imported potatoes, stocks of China and Bangladesh varieties fetched low price. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of imported (12%) and Nuwara Eliya (11%) potatoes have increased.

Table 2.3.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes
August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Jan - 2015	21156.60	889.58	42.05	96.24	*54.19*
Dec - 2014	17566.11	886.64	50.47	116.80	*66.33*
Nov - 2014	1084.68	50.23	46.31	110.99	*64.68*
Oct - 2014	59.00	1.00	17.00	87.77	*70.77*
Sep - 2014	759.00	26.42	34.81	81.02	*46.21*
Aug - 2014	14261.16	515.34	36.14	84.16	*48.02*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, Wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	65.00-87.00	74.53	113.33	78.79	*-38.80*	*-34.24*	*-4.26*	*-5.40*
Nuwara Eliya	40.00-80.00	*74.20*	*105.20*	84.85	*-31.00*	*-29.47*	*-10.65*	*-12.55*
Imported – CIF	29.47-53.76	42.05	50.47	34.93	*-8.42*	*-16.68*	*7.12*	*20.38*
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	72.08	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	80.00-110.00	97.14	121.03	87.45	*-23.90*	*-19.74*	*9.68*	*11.07*
Imported	40.00-70.00	55.77	78.26	58.94	*-22.49*	*-28.74*	*-3.16*	*-5.37*
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	93.67	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	110.00-160.00	139.63	159.65	125.68	*-20.02*	*-12.54*	*13.95*	*11.10*
Imported	60.00-120.00	96.24	116.80	86.04	*-20.56*	*-17.60*	*10.20*	*11.85*
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		65.43	54.45	40.83	*10.98*	*20.17*	*24.60*	*60.25*
Imported (CIF-RP)		54.19	66.33	51.11	*-12.14*	*-18.30*	*3.08*	*6.03*
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		42.49	38.62	38.23	*3.88*	*10.04*	*4.27*	*11.16*
Imported		40.47	38.54	27.10	*1.93*	*5.01*	*13.36*	*49.32*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation and progress

The targeted extent of green gram for *maha* 2014/15 is 12,458ha and out of which about 10,574ha were cultivated by the end of this month representing 85% of the total targeted extent. In January, about 677ha of green gram was cultivated in the country. Due to bad weather condition, a total of 917ha of green gram cultivated lands of this *maha* season were affected with floods (Crop Forecast, DOA). Hence, the available production for this *maha* season is estimated as 13,119mt. Compared to the same period of *maha* 2013/14, the cultivated extent of green gram in this *maha* season is at a high level due to high extent cultivated in the Hambantota district. In the Hambantota district, the targeted extent is 3,585ha for *maha* 2014/15 and about 5,107ha was cultivated by the end of January achieving a higher progress. In the Moneragala district, the targeted extent is 1,983ha for this *maha* season and about 1,688ha was cultivated by the end of this month achieving 85% of the targeted extent. In both Hambantota and Moneragala districts, the cultivated extents for this *maha* season were higher than that of last *maha* season.

For cowpea, the targeted extent was 12,318ha for *maha* 2014/15 and about 7,196ha had been cultivated by the end of the month achieving 58% of the total targeted extent. Out of the total cultivated extent of this *maha* season, a total of 988ha of lands were affected with floods. Hence, the available production for this *maha* season is estimated as 8,410mt. The highest targeted extent for cowpea was recorded in the Ampara district as 3,959ha for this *maha* season. In the Moneregala district, the targeted extent was 1,726ha for this *maha* season. By the end of this month, about 2,081ha and 1,540ha were cultivated in the Ampara and Moneragala districts respectively. In Ampara district, the highest extent of 1,729ha was cultivated during this month compared to the previous months of this *maha* season.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Green gram and Cowpea (*Maha* 2014/15)

Crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress	Expected Production** (mt)
		Maha* 2013/14	***Maha* 2014/15**	***Maha* 2013/14***	***Maha* 2014/15**	***Maha* 2014/15**	
Green	Hambantota	2,515	3,585	2,455	5,107	142	7,759
	Moneragala	1,796	1,983	1,627	1,688	85	1,711
	Sri Lanka	**11,589**	**12,458**	**8,147**	**10,574**	**85**	**13,119**
Cowpea	Ampara	3,189	3,959	1,571	2,081	53	3,858
	Moneragala	1,697	1,726	1,575	1,540	89	1,634
	Sri Lanka	**12,542**	**12,318**	**6,777**	**7,196**	**58**	**8,410**

Source:* *MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2014/15, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2013/14, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***
*****Excluding crop damages***

Prices and Supply Demand Situation

The wholesale and retail prices of green gram had increased by 13% and 2% respectively due to high prices recorded for imported green gram. During the month, the wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.200.00-310.00/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of green gram had decreased by 1%.

With regard to cowpea, limited stocks of local cowpea varieties were available in the market. Hence, the wholesale prices of white and red cowpea have increased by 13% and 29% respectively. Also, the retail prices of white and red cowpea have increased by 2% and 4% respectively. During the month, the wholesale prices of white and red cowpea ranged between Rs.165.00-225.00/kg and Rs.180.00-225.00/kg respectively. Imported stocks fetched a high price. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of white and red cowpea had decreased by 10% and 19% respectively.

Table 2.4.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Green gram August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Jan - 2015	-	-	-	297.13	-
Dec - 2014	-	-	-	292.75	-
Nov - 2014	-	-	-	307.21	-
Oct - 2014	110.60	18.33	165.71	319.49	153.78
Sep - 2014	215.00	35.52	165.21	318.72	153.51
Aug - 2014	294.55	50.86	172.66	319.33	146.67

Source: Department of Custom; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea- January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	200.00-310.00	262.57	232.14	274.90	30.43	13.11	-12.33	-4.48
Cowpea (White)	165.00-225.00	206.70	182.80	237.42	23.90	13.07	-30.72	-12.94
Cowpea (Red)	180.00-225.00	210.64	163.72	240.51	46.92	28.66	-29.87	-12.42
Retail Prices								
Green gram	240.00-360.00	297.13	292.75	298.90	4.38	1.50	-1.77	-0.59
Cowpea (White)	160.00-320.00	259.71	248.71	289.65	11.00	4.42	-29.94	-10.34
Cowpea (Red)	180.00-320.00	232.32	214.06	286.97	18.26	8.53	-54.65	-19.04

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.4: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale price (Rs/kg)	Retail price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/Kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Green gram	Jan,2015	-	262.57	297.13	-	34.56
	Dec,2014	-	232.14	292.75	-	60.61
	Jan,2014	156.62	274.90	298.90	118.28	24.01
Cowpea (White)	Jan,2015	-	206.70	259.71	-	53.01
	Dec,2014	-	182.80	248.71	-	65.91
	Jan,2014	-	237.42	289.65	-	52.23
Cowpea (Red)	Jan,2015	-	210.64	232.32	-	21.68
	Dec,2014	-	163.72	214.06	-	50.34
	Jan,2014	-	240.51	286.97	-	46.46

***Source: Department of Customs, Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HART*I**

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 17,735mt of red dhal was imported in January and it was 3,056mt higher than the quantity imported in December. Most of the stocks had been received from Australia and Canada. Compared to January, 2014 (6,289mt), the imports of red dhal were high during this month. The average CIF price was Rs.117.00/kg during the month.

Wholesale price of red dhal has increased by 2%, while the retail price has decreased by 1% during the month. The average wholesale price was Rs.158.00/kg in January. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of red dhal has increased by 6%.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal – January 2015

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	143.00-172.00	158.34	155.78	139.69	2.56	1.64	18.64	13.34
Retail Price	140.00-200.00	169.64	171.27	160.40	-1.63	-0.95	9.24	5.76

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

Table 2.5.2: The CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Jan - 2015	17,734.62	117.45	158.34	169.64	40.88	11.31
Dec - 2014	14,679.07	116.37	155.78	171.27	39.41	15.49
Nov - 2014	10,103.17	102.94	154.86	172.16	51.92	17.30
Oct - 2014	12,913.34	110.39	158.63	174.33	48.23	15.70
Sep - 2014	15,617.24	110.30	149.20	170.83	38.90	21.63
Aug - 2014	11,461.35	113.16	153.81	167.24	40.65	13.43

Source: Department of Customs, Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

Due to weather related setbacks, re-establishment of crops has commenced in all the upcountry producing areas from the first three weeks of this month. In Matale district, of the total cultivated extent, about 90% had been damaged by the end of December. Therefore farmers have started to re-establish the crops in mid-January and the reported cultivated extent was 1.090 ha at the end of January. The cultivation progress was 49% less than the same period of the last year. Meanwhile, *maha* cultivation has continued in the Badulla district after the weather related setbacks experienced in November and December. The cultivation target for beans, tomato and cabbage within the Badulla district was 2,221ha, 861ha and 581ha for the *maha* season, while the achievement was less than 60% of the seasonal target for all the types. Further, cultivation progress of Nuwara Eliya and Kandy districts was affected by continuous dry weather and low water availability in January and the cultivation progress was than 70% and 75% of the seasonal target for the two districts respectively. Approximately, 250ha of extent reported over 50% crop damage at the end of January in Nuwara Eliya district.

Even though the first phase of the *maha* cultivation was affected by heavy rain, cultivation has progressed well with the dry weather experienced in January in all the major producing areas of low country districts such as Anuradhapura, Puttalam, Hambantota, Moneragala and Kurunegala districts. In Anuradhapura, the reported cultivation extent of vegetables by the end of January was 5,555ha with over 96% progress with the highest extent recorded for pumpkin as 1,561 ha. In Hambantota district, the total extent of vegetable cultivation was 3,016ha at the end of January, which recorded a 18% increase compared to the same period of last year due to high water availability. In Ratnapura district, total low country vegetable cultivated extent was reported as 1,240 ha after re-establishing the crops in January.

Prices and supply/Demand situation

Due to continuous weather shocks, limited stocks of exotic vegetables were received from Nuwara Eliya, Welimada, Badulla, Kandy, Ratnapura and Matale areas in January. The total supply from the Matale district was around 1,369mt in January reporting a 60% reduction compared to expected production during the month. The daily supply of vegetables at the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre was around 200mt in January which recorded a 33% reduction compared to December. Due to weather shocks, about 55% of the crops which were at the harvesting stage had been damaged in Matale district. Therefore, supply of stocks from Matale district is expected to reduce by a higher margin in February. Meanwhile, supply from Jaffna has started to reach the Dambulla DEC in January with a daily supply of 12,000kg. This supply is expected to increase by 50% in February.

Considering up country vegetables, prices of all the varieties except for tomato have increased, compared to last month. The highest price increase was reported for cabbage as 40% followed by beans as 39% and knokhol as 33%. Regarding beans, about 80% of the established cultivation in Matale district and about 40%-45% in Badulla district had been severely damaged by a fungus attack by the end of December. On the other hand, prevailed overcast condition during December has supported the higher rate of disease spread. Therefore, supplies have further reduced by around 50% compared to December. However, prices are expected to be reduced in February with the commencement of the harvesting season in Balangoda. Generally, supply of cabbage and beetroot and knokhol is supplied by Nuwara Eliya in lean season. As a result of crop damage due to rain followed by dry weather, supply of Nuwara Eliya had further decreased by about 40% and the prices increased by same margin in January. Prices of all the other exotic varieties increased in the range of 34%-21% in January compared to previous month. Meanwhile, with the receiving of stocks from Welimada, Badulla and Suriyawewa, prices of the tomato had shown a decreasing trend, thus this would continue in February. With the commencement of the harvesting season in Jaffna and Puttalam, the supply is expected to increase by around 30% in February and the prices are expected to decrease by the same margin.

As a result of continuous crop damage, supply of most of the domestic vegetables had further decreased and the prices have further increased compared to December. At wholesale level, the highest price increase of 118% was recorded for cucumber followed by ladies fingers as 73% luffa as 59% and brinjal as 57%. Prices of all the other varieties have increased in the range of 3%-47%. Among the major producing areas of low country vegetables, crop damages have occurred mainly in Matale, Dambulla, Kurunegala and Jaffna. The observed crop damage in those areas was in the range of 20%-30% at the end of January. However, as a low level of crop damage was observed in Embilipitiya, Puttalam, and Hambantota, stocks of low country vegetables have continued to reach the market from these areas in January. In the areas where higher crop damage was experienced, re-establishment of crops have taken place and the supply of these re-established cultivation would start reaching the market from last week of February. Thereby prices are expected to drop by 25% in February.

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of most of the vegetables had increased in January. The highest price increase was reported for cucumber as 55% followed by luffa 50%.

Table 3.1: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	160.00-300.00	211.21	151.91	59.06	*59.30*	*39.04*	*152.15*	*257.62*
Carrot	150.00-230.00	185.29	152.05	58.86	*33.24*	*21.86*	*126.43*	*214.80*
Leeks	150.00-300.00	218.30	175.73	46.49	*42.57*	*24.22*	*171.81*	*369.56*
Beetroot	140.00-260.00	181.46	135.59	51.98	*45.87*	*33.83*	*129.48*	*249.10*
Knokhol	60.00-100.00	81.69	59.51	56.50	*22.18*	*37.27*	*25.19*	*44.58*
Radish	40.00-90.00	67.13	55.60	24.10	*11.53*	*20.74*	*43.03*	*178.55*
Cabbage	70.00-130.00	99.23	70.80	16.05	*28.43*	*40.16*	*83.18*	*518.26*
Tomato	70.00-180.00	127.47	158.20	34.95	*-30.73*	*-19.42*	*92.52*	*264.72*
Ladies Fingers	80.00-160.00	122.00	70.70	45.94	*51.30*	*72.56*	*76.06*	*165.56*
Brinjal	80.00-20.00	150.49	95.93	49.38	*54.56*	*56.87*	*101.11*	*204.76*
Capsicum	300.00-510.00	360.32	250.93	87.28	*109.39*	*43.59*	*273.04*	*312.83*
Pumpkin	30.00-90.00	48.77	33.20	20.16	*15.57*	*46.90*	*28.61*	*141.91*
Cucumber	60.00-130.00	99.02	45.40	33.43	*53.62*	*118.11*	*65.59*	*196.20*
Bitter Gourd	140.00-200.00	163.35	127.40	81.52	*35.95*	*28.22*	*81.83*	*100.38*
Snake Gourd	70.00-150.00	96.09	84.00	34.58	*12.09*	*14.39*	*61.51*	*177.88*
Drumstick	-	-	212.22	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	80.00-150.00	123.88	77.80	65.30	*46.08*	*59.23*	*58.58*	*89.71*
Long Beans	80.00-180.00	123.26	119.65	29.99	*3.61*	*3.02*	*93.27*	*311.00*
Ash Plantain	90.00-140.00	113.37	80.20	50.02	*33.17*	*41.36*	*63.35*	*126.65*
Green Chillies	300.00-700.00	607.79	422.53	50.68	*185.26*	*43.85*	*557.11*	*1099.27*
Lime	30.00-60.00	43.61	85.60	37.76	*-41.99*	*-49.05*	*5.85*	*15.49*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2: Retail Prices of Vegetables – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	200.00-480.00	308.84	233.58	106.05	*75.26*	*32.22*	*202.79*	*191.22*
Carrot	180.00-480.00	303.81	224.76	113.51	*79.05*	*35.17*	*190.30*	*167.65*
Leeks	240.00-480.00	342.33	269.95	101.67	*72.38*	*26.81*	*240.66*	*236.71*
Beetroot	120.00-400.00	303.34	228.40	106.67	*74.94*	*32.81*	*196.67*	*184.37*
Knolkhol	120.00-400.00	229.53	187.88	111.86	*41.65*	*22.17*	*117.67*	*105.19*
Radish	70.00-240.00	149.14	142.94	77.59	*6.20*	*4.34*	*71.55*	*92.22*
Cabbage	120.00-320.00	210.32	157.29	73.98	*53.03*	*33.71*	*136.34*	*184.29*
Tomato	100.00-320.00	208.97	258.32	87.96	*-49.35*	*-19.10*	*121.01*	*137.57*
Ladies Fingers	160.00-320.00	228.86	153.95	96.36	*74.91*	*48.66*	*132.50*	*137.51*
Brinjal	150.00-400.00	237.18	174.04	96.40	*63.14*	*36.28*	*140.78*	*146.04*
Capsicum	280.00-800.00	515.00	366.80	166.97	*148.20*	*40.40*	*348.03*	*208.44*
Pumpkin	50.00-240.00	110.20	86.82	67.27	*23.38*	*26.93*	*42.93*	*63.82*
Cucumber	100.00-180.00	170.31	109.96	83.38	*60.35*	*54.88*	*86.93*	*104.26*
Bitter Gourd	180.00-400.00	283.18	213.42	130.52	*69.76*	*32.69*	*152.66*	*116.96*
Snake Gourd	100.00-320.00	187.30	147.29	83.53	*40.01*	*27.16*	*103.77*	*124.23*
Drumstick	-	-	416.82	-		-	-	-
Luffa	150.00-400.00	271.54	180.69	120.80	*90.85*	*50.28*	*150.74*	*124.78*
Long Beans	120.00-400.00	244.37	196.08	90.98	*48.29*	*24.63*	*153.39*	*168.60*
Ash Plantain	140.00-280.00	194.77	158.17	91.65	*36.60*	*23.14*	*103.12*	*112.52*
Green Chillies	400.00-1200.00	856.75	565.15	161.83	*291.60*	*51.60*	*694.92*	*429.41*
Lime	50.00-400.00	179.96	250.67	159.85	*-70.71*	*-28.21*	*20.11*	*12.58*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of most of the fruits have decreased during the month of January due to off season. Demand of some varieties of fruits also had increased at the beginning of the month due to festive season. Hence, wholesale prices of all the fruits except pineapple and slimeapple had increased with the highest price increase of 148% for mango (kohu). Further, the wholesale prices of all the varieties of mango had increased in the range of 89%-148% due to limited availability in off season. Demand for banana had increased at the beginning of the month due to festive season and wholesale prices of all the varieties of banana had increased in the range of 7%-31%.

Limited supplies of papaw, passionfruit, woodapple and avocado were recorded during the month and wholesale prices had increased by 52%, 33%, 92% and 39% respectively. Wholesale price reductions were recorded only for pineapple and slimeapple due to availability of sufficient stocks at wholesale level. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of all the fruits except pineapple (small) had increased with the highest price increase of 213% for mango (kohu).

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 118% for mango (karthakolomban). Further, the retail prices of all the varieties of banana had increased in the range of 6%-15% due to increased demand as well as low supplies. Further, a price increase for banana could be expected next month too due to low supplies in dry weather. Retail prices of other fruits such as papaw, woodapple and avocado had increased significantly in the range of 35%-42% due to limited availability at retail level. Further, a price increase could be expected for papaw and woodapple in the next month too due to off season. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 135% for karthakolomban.

Producer prices of all the selected fruits had increased in the range of 10%-22% with the highest producer price increase recorded for banana. Compared to the same period of last year, producer prices of all the selected fruits had increased with the highest prices increase of 134% for banana (ambul).

Exports/Imports of Fruits

Fresh pineapple was recorded as the highest export income earning fruit in the month of January. The total income of exporting pineapple, papaw, mango and orange was Rs.41.39mn in January.

Apple was the mostly imported type of fruit in January with the quantity of 1,576mt. The total expenditure of importing apple, grapes, oranges and mandarin were Rs.433.84mn in January.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	40.00-60.00	51.90	39.65	31.94	*12.25*	*30.90*	*19.96*	*62.49*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	80.00-125.00	109.90	86.37	65.95	*23.53*	*27.24*	*43.95*	*66.64*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	30.00-60.00	46.34	42.98	34.81	*3.36*	*7.82*	*11.53*	*33.12*
Anamalu	7.00-14.00	9.92	8.69	7.31	*1.23*	*14.15*	*2.61*	*35.70*
Ambun	10.00-15.00	12.72	11.88	10.93	*0.84*	*7.07*	*1.79*	*16.38*
Pineapple								
Large	90.00-120.00	100.03	101.58	97.75	*-1.55*	*-1.53*	*2.28*	*2.33*
Medium	70.00-85.00	75.88	80.42	74.96	*-4.54*	*-5.65*	*0.92*	*1.23*
Small	40.00-70.00	53.50	59.13	56.09	*-5.63*	*-9.52*	*-2.59*	*-4.62*
Mango								
Betti	9.00-38.00	18.16	9.62	6.27	*8.54*	*88.77*	*11.89*	*189.63*
Karthakolomban	29.00-150.00	74.12	31.57	28.00	*42.55*	*134.78*	*46.12*	*164.71*
Vilad	14.50-47.00	25.55	12.08	9.50	*13.47*	*111.51*	*16.05*	*168.95*
Kohu	14.00-18.00	16.67	6.73	5.33	*9.94*	*147.70*	*11.34*	*212.76*
Papaw (Rs/kg)	80.00-200.00	118.75	78.31	45.20	*40.44*	*51.64*	*73.55*	*162.72*
Passionfruit	6.66-16.00	9.77	7.35	7.43	*2.42*	*32.93*	*2.34*	*31.49*
Woodapple	6.00-30.00	17.73	9.25	15.83	*8.48*	*91.68*	*1.90*	*12.00*
Orange	15.00-35.00	26.63	25.72	21.92	*0.91*	*3.54*	*4.71*	*21.49*
Avocado	30.00-70.00	49.64	35.77	40.79	*13.87*	*38.78*	*8.85*	*21.70*
Slime Apple	15.00-35.00	22.34	28.43	22.12	*-6.09*	*-21.42*	*0.22*	*0.99*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	422.00-666.00	530.24	578.57	501.86	*-48.33*	*-8.35*	*28.38*	*5.65*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	60.00-120.00	84.35	73.26	68.16	*11.09*	*15.14*	*16.19*	*23.75*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	120.00-170.00	155.10	135.00	122.20	*20.10*	*14.89*	*32.90*	*26.92*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	60.00-100.00	80.58	76.28	71.03	*4.30*	*5.64*	*9.55*	*13.45*
Anamalu	10.00-25.00	17.17	14.65	12.28	*2.52*	*17.20*	*4.89*	*39.82*
Ambun	10.00-25.00	17.76	16.06	14.34	*1.70*	*10.59*	*3.42*	*23.85*
Pineapple								
Large	120.00-180.00	147.10	150.61	128.52	*-3.51*	*-2.33*	*18.58*	*14.46*
Medium	80.00-130.00	108.63	111.34	102.33	*-2.71*	*-2.43*	*6.30*	*6.16*
Small	50.00-130.00	68.13	72.09	73.16	*-3.96*	*-5.49*	*-5.03*	*-6.88*
Mango								
Betti	-	-	37.50	18.33	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban	30.00-220.00	108.38	49.83	46.18	*58.55*	*117.50*	*62.20*	*134.69*
Vilad	30.00-200.00	30.00	45.62	-	*-15.62*	*-34.24*	-	-
Kohu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	120.00-240.00	171.66	126.82	76.79	*44.84*	*35.36*	*94.87*	*123.54*
Passionfruit	12.00-33.00	19.08	16.64	15.19	*2.44*	*14.66*	*3.89*	*25.61*
Woodapple	20.00-80.00	40.36	28.24	39.18	*12.12*	*42.92*	*1.18*	*3.01*
Orange	20.00-70.00	49.11	49.66	42.40	*-0.55*	*-1.11*	*6.71*	*15.83*
Avocado	60.00-150.00	102.09	71.43	103.59	*30.66*	*42.92*	*-1.50*	*-1.45*
Slime Apple	30.00-100.00	57.65	67.62	54.50	*-9.97*	*-14.74*	*3.15*	*5.78*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	600.00-1000.00	788.90	773.96	733.33	*14.94*	*1.93*	*55.57*	*7.58*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits - January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	33.00-45.00	39.90	32.60	17.08	7.30	22.39	22.82	133.61
Kolikuttu	55.00-83.00	72.04	63.38	44.63	8.66	13.66	27.41	61.42
Papaw	46.25-96.00	56.87	48.68	52.04	8.19	16.82	4.83	9.28
Pineapple	40.75-45.50	44.16	40.24	42.16	3.92	9.74	2.00	4.74

Source Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits Nov 2014 – Jan 2015

Type of Fruit	Jan - 2015			Dec - 2014			Nov - 2014		
	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 Pineapple	145.69	25.42	174.49	169.35	35.75	211.12	168.72	32.33	191.62
Papaw	151.47	9.93	65.57	157.52	17.98	114.15	316.07	21.33	67.49
Fresh Mango	8.04	6.02	749.67	8.80	6.17	701.43	7.39	1.47	198.90
Fresh Oranges	0.16	0.02	131.05	1.66	0.19	117.09	0.30	0.03	109.37
Fresh Avacado	-	-	-	1.60	0.11	66.58	1.60	0.11	66.19

Source: Sri Lanka Customs(FOB=Free On Board)

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits
Nov 2014 – Jan 2015

Type of Fruit	Jan - 2015			Dec - 2014			Nov - 2014		
	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	1,575.83	216.69	137.51	1,424.27	167.96	117.93	2,096.81	223.30	106.50
Grapes	332.35	115.50	347.54	349.91	125.79	359.50	219.49	65.49	298.36
Oranges	477.64	44.09	92.31	117.38	12.03	102.52	366.63	37.98	103.59
Mandarin	1,519.82	57.56	37.87	1,945.54	73.00	37.52	577.28	30.50	52.83

Source: Sri Lanka Customs
(CIF=Cost Insurance and Freight)

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

As predicted in the month of December, 2014, wholesale prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had increased in the range of 4%-22%. The off season for coastal fisheries in the Eastern coastal belt had resulted limited stocks reaching the market from those areas. Most of the stocks had been supplied to the market from Kalutara, Beruwala, Galle, Gandera, Dondra, Tangalle, Negambo and Chilaw areas. The highest price increase of 22% was noted for salaya. Prices of hurulla and paraw had increased by 7% and 6% respectively. A price increase of 4% was observed for both thalapath and mora. Meanwhile, prices of shrimp, kelawalla, balaya and thora had decreased by 14%, 8%, 7% and 4% respectively. In the month of January, 2015 the monthly average wholesale prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.112.61– 888.65/kg. With the fishing season in the Southern coastal belt, fish prices could decrease in the coming month. Compared to the same period of the previous year, wholesale prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had increased in the range of 3%-31% with the highest price increase noted for shrimp.

In line with the price behaviour at the wholesale market, prices of all the fresh fish varieties except thora and shrimp had increased at the retail level. The highest price increase of 21% was reported for salaya followed by hurulla (11%). Price of mora had increased by 7%, while prices of thalapath and kelawalla had increased by 5%. A price increase of 1% was noted for paraw. Meanwhile, prices of shrimp and thora had decreased by 10% and 4% respectively. In the month of January, 2015 the monthly average retail prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.179.70 – 1,192.86/kg. Compared to the same period of the previous year, retail prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had decreased in the range of 2%-11%with the highest price decrease noted for both thora and paraw.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Salaya	60.00-160.00	112.61	92.34	116.61	*20.27*	*21.95*	*-4.00*	*-3.43*
Hurulla	120.00-320.00	222.75	207.50	211.17	*15.25*	*7.35*	*11.58*	*5.48*
Balaya	220.00-400.00	318.09	341.33	254.08	*-23.24*	*-6.81*	*64.01*	*25.19*
Kelawalla	300.00-550.00	417.12	452.78	486.25	*-35.66*	*-7.88*	*-69.13*	*-14.22*
Thora	600.00-1200.00	888.65	928.14	1122.92	*-39.49*	*-4.25*	*-234.27*	*-20.86*
Paraw	400.00-660.00	504.45	474.72	490.67	*29.73*	*6.26*	*13.78*	*2.81*
Mora	300.00-630.00	517.92	499.26	460.25	*18.66*	*3.74*	*57.67*	*12.53*
Shrimps (small)	650.00-1000.00	852.42	996.31	648.88	*-143.89*	*-14.44*	*203.54*	*31.37*
Thalapath	500.00-680.00	579.03	555.02	606.71	*24.01*	*4.33*	*-27.68*	*-4.56*
Retail Prices								
Salaya	100.00-250.00	179.70	148.34	186.40	*31.36*	*21.14*	*-6.70*	*-3.59*
Hurulla	150.00-450.00	318.29	286.18	303.63	*32.11*	*11.22*	*14.66*	*4.83*
Balaya	300.00-780.00	487.64	485.34	500.36	*2.30*	*0.47*	*-12.72*	*-2.54*
Kelawalla	400.00-1000.00	719.90	686.77	774.34	*33.13*	*4.82*	*-54.44*	*-7.03*
Thora	800.00-1520.00	1192.86	1239.03	1335.58	*-46.17*	*-3.73*	*-142.72*	*-10.69*
Paraw	400.00-1000.00	738.58	730.50	833.43	*8.08*	*1.11*	*-94.85*	*-11.38*
Mora	550.00-950.00	671.90	626.76	617.97	*45.14*	*7.20*	*53.93*	*8.73*
Shrimps (small)	600.00-1400.00	990.29	1095.75	848.86	*-105.46*	*-9.62*	*141.43*	*16.66*
Thalapath	520.00-1200.00	814.84	774.67	848.18	*40.17*	*5.19*	*-33.34*	*-3.93*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supply of both local and imported varieties has decreased with bad weather condition hence, prices of most of the varieties had increased. The highest price inecrease of 10% was observed for imported balaya followed by local koduwa (9%) and local salaya (8%). In addition, price increases of 7% and 4% were noted for local anguluwa and imported thora respectively. However, the levels of decreases were not significant compared to the last few months. Meanwhile, price of imported maduwa had decreased by 16% while a price decrease of 4% was observed for imported anguluwa. Price of local sprats had also decreased with sufficient quantity. However, it was not a significant price change. According to the Department of Customs in the month of January, a quantity of 2,290mt of sprats had been imported to the country spending nearly 556 million rupees. Compared to December, 2014 the imported quantity of sprats had decreased by19mt. CIF price of sprats was Rs.242.57/kg and it has increased by Rs.1.54/kg. Compared to January in 2015, wholesale prices of all the dried fish varieties except for imported sprats had increased with the highest price increase noted for local sprats.

Prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased by less than 3% with increased wholesale prices. The highest price increase was observed for salaya (3%). A price increase of 2% was noted for mora, while prices of sparts, kattawa, koduwa and balaya had increased by around 1%. Meanwhile, prices of maduwa and anguluwa had decreased by 4% and 1% respectively with sufficient quantity. However, the level of decrease was not significant. Compared to January in 2015, retail prices of all the dried fish varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 24% noted for maduwa.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale								
Sprats	550.00-850.00	709.00	731.50	532.50	*-22.50*	*-3.08*	*176.50*	*33.15*
Sprats (imported)	300.00-360.00	339.42	331.18	346.42	*8.24*	*2.49*	*-7.00*	*-2.02*
Kattawa	600.00-750.00	693.28	684.63	668.59	*8.65*	*1.26*	*24.68*	*3.69*
Kattawa (imported)	450.00-700.00	635.50	633.62	596.38	*1.88*	*0.30*	*39.12*	*6.56*
Thora	950.00-1050.00	995.42	1020.67	-	*-25.25*	*-2.47*	-	-
Thora (imported)	900.00-1000.00	959.94	925.83	903.56	*34.11*	*3.68*	*56.38*	*6.24*
Mora	700.00-850.00	759.75	749.82	731.16	*9.93*	*1.32*	*28.59*	*3.91*
Mora (imported)	500.00-780.00	687.03	668.98	664.68	*18.05*	*2.70*	*22.35*	*3.36*
Balaya	430.00-550.00	488.50	494.29	441.17	*-5.79*	*-1.17*	*47.33*	*10.73*
Balaya (imported)	350.00-480.00	502.58	458.27	411.25	*44.32*	*9.67*	*91.33*	*22.21*
Anguluwa	500.00-680.00	595.78	557.39	502.29	*38.39*	*6.89*	*93.48*	*18.61*
Anguluwa (imported)	450.00-600.00	541.25	561.00	520.02	*-19.75*	*-3.52*	*21.23*	*4.08*
Maduwa	420.00-600.00	492.66	483.04	416.50	*9.62*	*1.99*	*76.16*	*18.29*
Maduwa (imported)	320.00-380.00	357.50	425.83	-	*-68.33*	*-16.05*	-	-
Koduwa	350.00-550.00	550.00	504.00	543.33	*46.00*	*9.13*	*6.67*	*1.23*
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	572.00	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	200.00-350.00	279.75	258.54	237.22	*21.21*	*8.20*	*42.53*	*17.93*
Salaya (imported)	-	-	330.00	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail								
Sprats	400.00-1200.00	705.50	698.54	658.85	*6.96*	*1.00*	*46.65*	*7.08*
Kattawa	700.00-1200.00	1013.49	997.57	979.15	*15.92*	*1.60*	*34.34*	*3.51*
Thora	1000.00-1600.00	1266.44	1267.23	1241.42	*-0.79*	*-0.06*	*25.02*	*2.02*
Mora	740.00-1200.00	930.94	909.29	883.19	*21.65*	*2.38*	*47.75*	*5.41*
Balaya	450.00-1000.00	763.45	757.52	706.83	*5.93*	*0.78*	*56.62*	*8.01*
Anguluwa	600.00-1100.00	815.41	818.23	775.26	*-2.82*	*-0.34*	*40.15*	*5.18*
Maduwa	500.00-900.00	674.55	702.03	542.99	*-27.48*	*-3.91*	*131.56*	*24.23*
Koduwa	700.00-1040.00	864.11	853.94	845.51	*10.17*	*1.19*	*18.60*	*2.20*
Salaya	220.00-800.00	517.43	503.84	514.70	*13.59*	*2.70*	*2.73*	*0.53*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sprats – August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Jan - 2015	2290.23	555.53	242.57	705.50	*462.93*
Dec - 2014	2308.97	556.52	241.03	698.54	*457.51*
Nov - 2014	2079.77	481.88	231.70	705.68	*473.98*
Oct - 2014	2149.18	521.29	242.55	694.92	*452.37*
Sep - 2014	2124.35	493.86	232.48	656.78	*424.30*
Aug - 2014	2228.89	536.10	240.52	652.26	*411.74*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

Eggs

Prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 15% and 13% respectively at the wholesale level due to limited farm supply. However, the prices had remained unchanged during the last two weeks of the month. The monthly average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs were Rs.14.38/egg and Rs.13.38/egg respectively. According to the data in previous years, egg supply will improve and therefore, it can be expected that egg prices could decrease in the coming month. Compared to the same period of the previous year, wholesale prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 6% and 7% respectively.

In line with the increased wholesale prices, prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 12% at the retail level. The monthly average retail prices of a brown and a white egg were Rs.15.39 and Rs.14.34 respectively. Compared to the same period of the previous year, retail prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 5%.

Table 5.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	13.50-14.50	14.38	12.50	13.50	*1.88*	*15.04*	*0.88*	*6.52*
White (each)	12.50-13.50	13.38	11.80	12.50	*1.58*	*13.39*	*0.88*	*7.04*
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	14.00-17.00	*15.39*	*13.68*	*14.62*	*1.71*	*12.50*	*0.77*	*5.27*
White (each)	13.00-16.00	*14.34*	*12.75*	*13.65*	*1.59*	*12.47*	*0.69*	*5.05*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Prices of all the meat varieties except pork had increased by less than 2% at the retail market. A price decrease of 2% was noted for broiler chicken, while a price decrease of 1% was noted for both curry chicken and mutton. However, it was not a significant price change. Meanwhile, price of pork had decreased by less than 1%. Compared to January in 2015, retail prices of all the meat varieties had increased with the highest price increase noted for pork (15%).

Table 5.5: Retail Prices of Meat – January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014	Dec 2014		Jan 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	580.00-600.00	600.00	599.41	550.30	*0.59*	*0.10*	*49.70*	*9.03*
Chicken (Broiler)	400.00-500.00	465.58	457.08	434.35	*8.50*	*1.86*	*31.23*	*7.19*
Chicken (curry)	360.00-480.00	426.94	421.52	389.74	*5.42*	*1.29*	*37.20*	*9.54*
Mutton	1250.00-1400.00	1315.00	1304.18	1229.54	*10.82*	*0.83*	*85.46*	*6.95*
Pork	500.00-600.00	570.00	571.80	495.52	*-1.80*	*-0.31*	*74.48*	*15.03*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

The imported quantity of wheat grain has decreased considerably because it was very high in previous month. A total quantity of 98,645mt valued at Rs.4,074mn was imported. The average CIF price was Rs.41.30/kg recording an increase of Rs.1.31/kg against the previous month. Reason for that was due to increase of world prices.

Considering wheat flour imports, the quantity has dropped and was limited to 91mt. The value of the imports was Rs.8.09mn. The average CIF price was Rs.89.01/kg. Further, a considerable increase was reported in world price of wheat flour and it was Rs.19.21/kg when compared to December 2014.

Meanwhile, the retail price of wheat flour remained in the range of Rs.90.00-110.00/kg and the average price was Rs.97.92/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the retail price of wheat flour remained more or less unchanged.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar– January 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Jan 2014		Dec 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	90.00-110.00	97.92	97.45	97.55	*0.47*	*0.48*	*0.37*	*0.38*
Sugar	90.00-110.00	99.97	100.37	*102.49*	*-0.40*	*-0.40*	*-2.52*	*-2.46*

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Wheat Flour & Grain – August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Jan - 2015	90.93	8.09	89.01	97.92	*8.91*
Dec - 2014	679.44	47.42	69.80	97.45	*27.65*
Nov - 2014	67.11	6.27	93.41	98.10	*4.69*
Oct - 2014	823.35	56.44	68.55	97.59	*29.04*
Sep - 2014	530.40	36.18	68.22	97.89	*29.67*
Aug - 2014	681.62	47.59	69.82	97.71	*27.89*
Wheat Grain					
Jan - 2015	98,645.83	4,073.95	41.30	97.92	*56.62*
Dec - 2014	246,451.04	9,854.93	39.99	97.45	*57.46*
Nov - 2014	97,621.10	4,033.59	41.32	98.10	*56.78*
Oct - 2014	159,248.39	6,681.31	41.96	97.59	*55.63*
Sep - 2014	160,836.97	6,486.31	40.33	97.89	*57.56*
Aug - 2014	173,507.95	7,146.01	41.19	97.71	*56.52*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Sugar

The total quantity of 40,107mt of sugar was imported and the value of that was Rs.2,390mn. The highest CIF price was reported in June 2014 and thereafter it has decreased gradually. Decline of imports continued this year too and in turn, the price has decreased by Rs.1.74/kg against the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.59.60/kg.

The retail price of sugar was stable at most of the times and it was Rs.99.97/kg. Further, it remained in the range of Rs.90.00-110.00/kg during January 2015. Compared to the same period of last year, retail price has increased by more than 2%.

Table 6.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sugar- August 2014 to January 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Jan - 2015	40,107.28	2,390.57	59.60	99.97	*40.37*
Dec - 2014	42,943.33	2,634.05	61.34	100.37	*39.03*
Nov - 2014	21,268.04	1,313.09	61.74	100.94	*39.20*
Oct - 2014	39,139.21	2,442.50	62.41	99.61	*37.20*
Sep - 2014	33,936.19	2,182.56	64.31	99.11	*34.80*
Aug - 2014	55,760.64	3,606.69	64.68	99.57	*34.89*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

Table 7: Imports of Selected Food Items - January 2015

Items	Quantity (mt)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Jan 2015	Dec 2014		Jan 2015	Dec 2014		Jan 2015	Dec 2014	
Rice	119548.79	111926.34	6.81	7225.74	6549.80	10.32	60.44	58.52	3.29
Red Onion	2968.58	1785.41	66.27	190.10	138.25	37.50	64.04	77.44	-17.30
Big Onion	24573.36	5575.96	340.70	1024.04	155.85	557.06	41.67	27.95	49.09
Potato	21156.60	17566.11	20.44	889.58	886.64	0.33	42.05	50.47	-16.70
Dried Chillies	3621.49	4593.57	-21.16	670.46	875.17	-23.39	185.13	190.52	-2.83
Masoor Dhal	17734.62	14679.07	20.82	2083.00	1708.21	21.94	117.45	116.37	0.93
Green Gram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black gram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garlic	1943.70	2939.36	-33.87	205.77	306.60	-32.89	105.87	104.31	1.49
Wheat flour	90.93	679.44	-86.62	8.09	47.42	-82.93	89.01	69.80	27.53
Wheat grain	98645.83	246451.04	-59.97	4073.95	9854.93	-58.66	41.30	39.99	3.28
White crystalline cane sugar	40107.28	42943.33	-6.60	2390.57	2634.05	-9.24	59.60	61.34	-2.83
Maize (Seed)	130.10	90.00	-	61.83	38.97	-	475.25	433.04	-
Maize (Other)	7097.55	8477.97	-16.28	237.44	280.44	-15.33	33.45	33.08	1.13

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – January 2015

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	15.8	76.6	4	6
Badulla	24.7	150.2	6	12
Bandarawela	14.1	99.1	8	10
Batticaloa	13.6	203.5	7	11
Colombo	32.7	56.3	3	5
Galle	68.3	82.4	7	8
Hambantota	7.5	53.3	3	5
Jaffna	0.9	67.1	1	4
Katugastota	5.3	76.8	4	6
Katunayaka	6.2	44.3	2	4
Kurunegala	5.9	54.6	1	4
MahaIluppallama	3.3	67.5	2	6
Mannar	0.4	37.5	1	4
NuwaraEliya	1.9	97.4	3	8
Pottuvil	7.0	279.1	2	na
Puttalam	8.0	48.5	3	4
Ratmalana	12.6	67.1	5	5
Ratnapura	93.6	107.5	5	9
Trincomalee	36.2	112.0	9	7
Vavuniya	0.7	81.5	1	6
Polonnaruwa	92.8	na	8	na
Moneragala	25.0	na	5	na
Mattala	0.3	na	1	na

Source: Department of Meteorology