



## SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

### LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

#### June 2015

*This report provides a monthly review of selected agricultural produce available at the Local Markets around the Apia town area based on the price data and volume index survey. Corresponding tables are attached for ease of reference.*

#### Key findings:

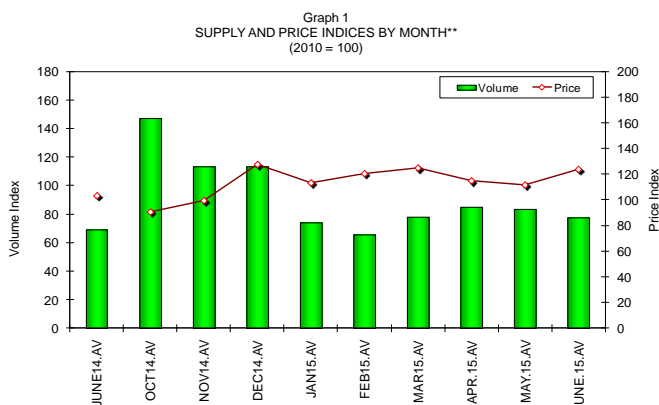
The Local Market Survey in June 2015 showed overall volume decrease 7 percent while limited supply pushed the overall price up 11 percent when compared to May 2015.

- There was a significant reduction in the supplies of breadfruit, ta'amu, taro palagi, and coconut, for staple food and Chinese cabbage, pumpkin, cucumber for vegetable produce contributing to the decline in the volume index.
- Value of supplies declined 2 percent to \$36,400 from the previous month.
- The number of sellers fell 2 percent from 247 in May 2015 to 242 in June 2015.

Issue: 1/06/15

### OVERVIEW

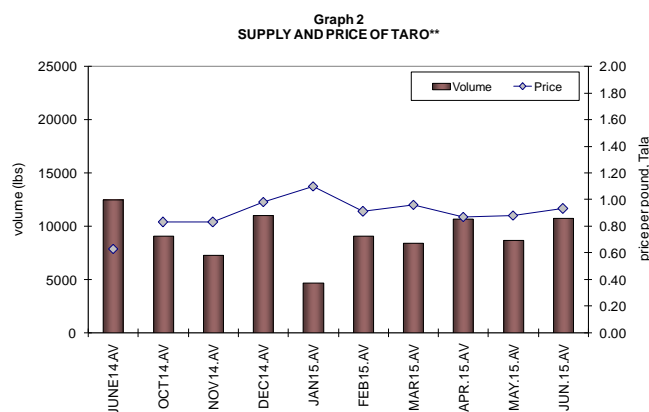
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in June 2015 showed overall volume decrease 7 percent from May 2015. Significant decreases were recorded for all agricultural produce with the exception of taro, banana, yam, head cabbage and tomato supplies. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 13 percent higher. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



Limited availability of most agricultural produce resulted in the overall price level rising 11 percent from the previous month. Higher prices were recorded for all agriculture produce with the exception of taro palagi and yam. When compared with June 2014 the current price level was 20 percent higher.

### TARO

The supply of taro to the Local Market in June 2015 rose 23 percent (to 10,729 pounds) from May 2015; a level that was 14 percent lower than the same month last year. Increased demand for taro pushed its average price up 6 percent to \$0.93 per pound. When compared with June 2014, current price for taro was 48 percent higher. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1 & 2)

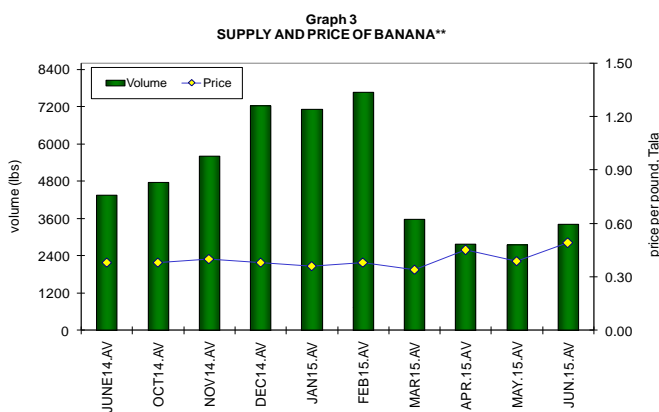


Despite the substantial increase of taro volume in the month under review, current supply contributed to a 51 percent decline in taro volume when comparing the twelve months ending June 2015

over the twelve months ending June 2014. Current price was 26 percent higher.

## BANANA

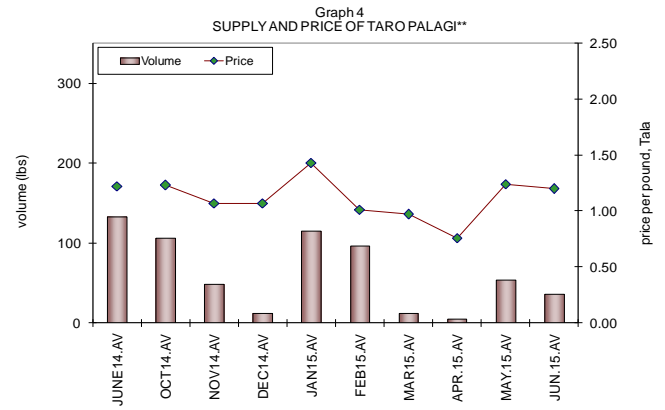
The volume of banana supplied to the markets in June 2015 increased 24 percent (to 3,422 pounds) from May 2015; a level that was 21 percent lower than the same month last year. Driven by domestic demand, the average price of banana surged 26 percent to \$0.49 per pound, a level that was 29 percent higher when compared with June 2014. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1 & 2)



The increase in banana volume in the current month contributed to a 10 percent rise in supply when comparing the twelve months ending June 2015 over the twelve months ending June 2014. Increased availability pushed its average price down 3 percent.

## TARO PALAGI

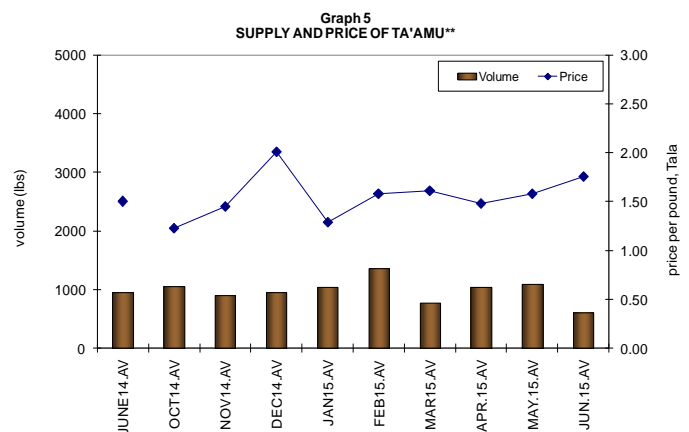
At an average of only 36 pounds, the supply of taro palagi to the market in the month under review dropped 33 percent from the previous month while average price also fell 3 percent to \$1.20 per pound. Current volume of taro palagi was 73 percent lower than the same month last year while its average price was also 2 percent lower. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1 & 2)



The twelve months ending June 2015 revealed taro palagi supplies were 54 percent lower than that of the twelve months ending June 2014 while its average price rose 4 percent.

## TA'AMU

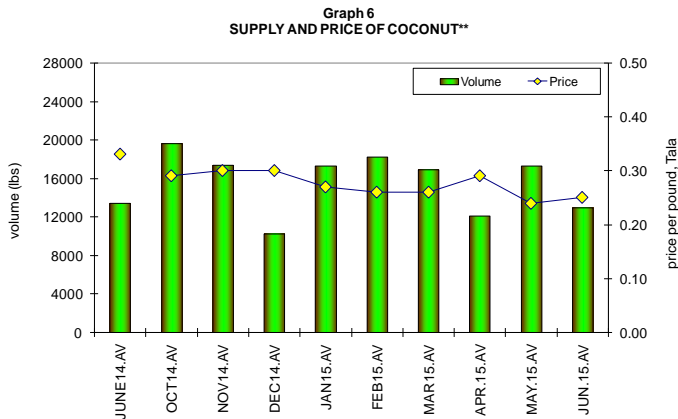
Ta'amu supplies in June 2015 declined 44 percent (to 612 pounds) from the previous month while decreased availability at the markets pushed its average price up 11 percent to \$1.76 per pound marking the highest price level for ta'amu in the first 6 months of the calendar year. When compared with the same month last year current supply of ta'amu was 36 percent lower while limited availability over the year pushed its average price up 17 percent. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1 & 2)



When comparing the twelve months ending June 2015 over the twelve months ending June 2014, ta'amu supplies were 55 percent lower while limited availability pushed its average price up 19 percent.

## COCONUT

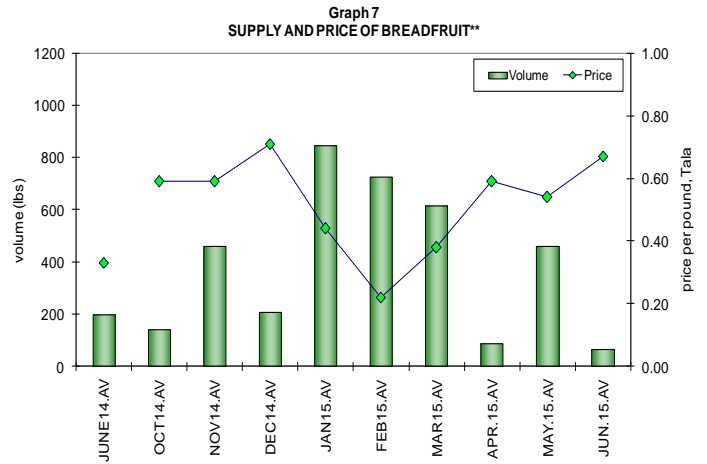
The volume of coconut in June 2015 fell 25 percent (to 12,999 pounds) from the previous month while limited availability pushed its average price up 4 percent to \$0.25 per pound. Current availability of coconut was 4 percent lower than average availability in June 2014 while its price declined 24 percent. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1 & 2)



The lower volume of coconut recorded in the month under review contributed to a 2 percent decrease in supply when comparing the twelve months ending June 2015 over the twelve months ending June 2014, while its average price also fell 20 percent.

## BREADFRUIT

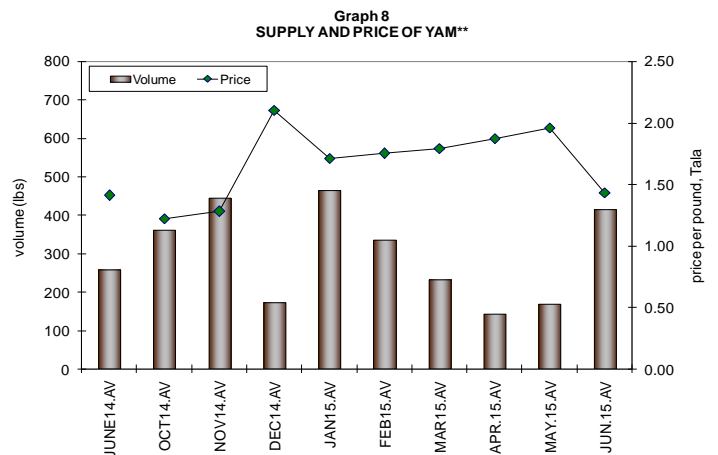
At an average of only 66 pounds, breadfruit supply in June 2015 decreased 86 percent from the previous month. With breadfruit typically not in season this time of year, limited availability pushed its average price up 24 percent to \$0.67 per pound. When compared with the same month last year, current breadfruit supply was 67 percent lower while average price was more than doubled. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)



When comparing the twelve months ending June 2015 over the twelve months ending June 2014, breadfruit supplies were 13 percent higher while its average price fell 3 percent.

## YAM

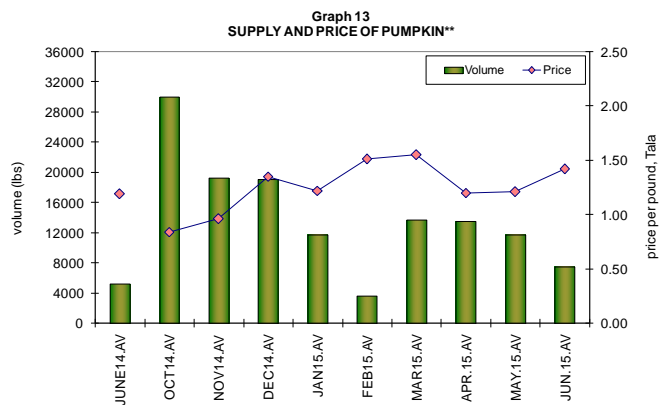
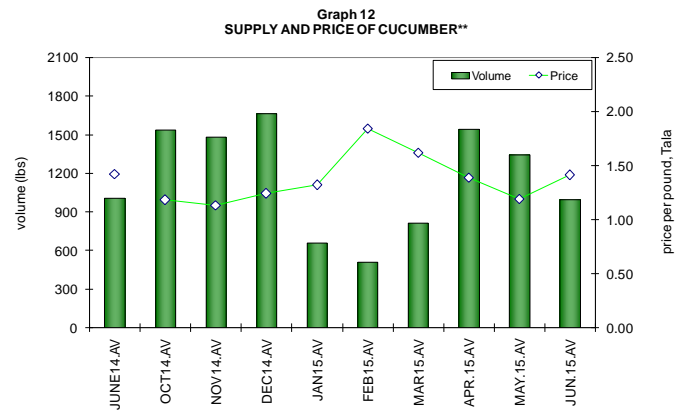
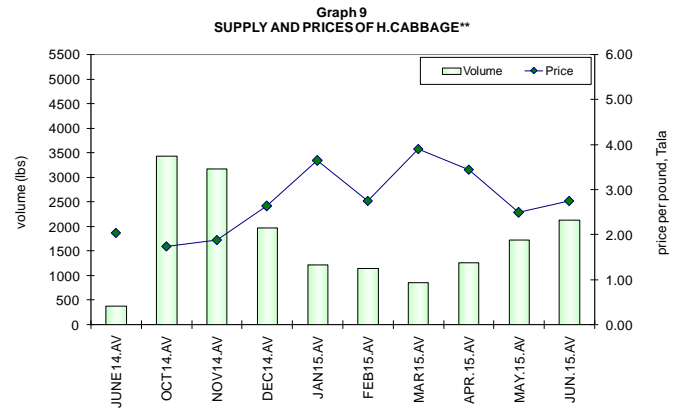
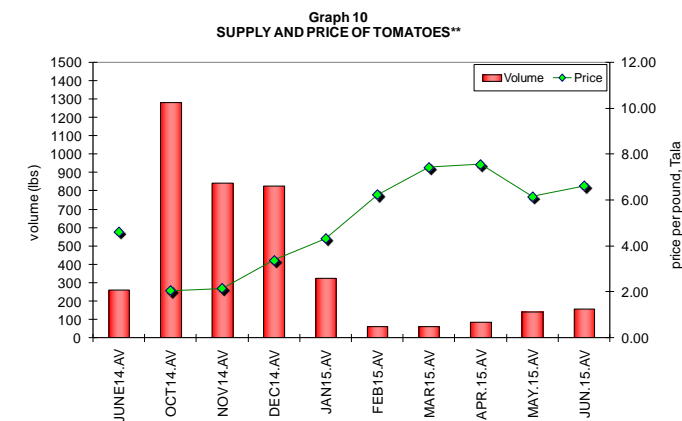
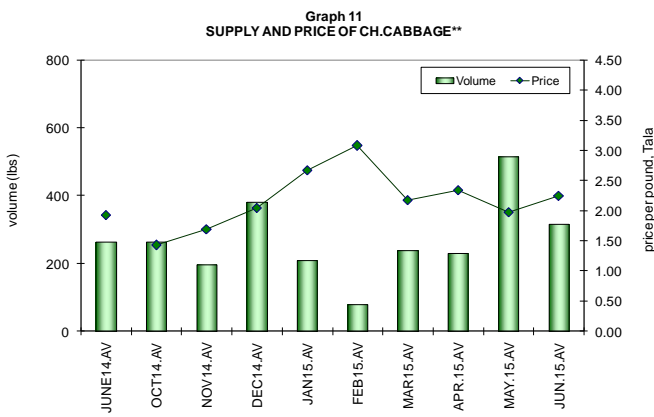
The supply of yam in the month under review increased almost 3 fold (to 416 pounds) from May 2015 while the rise in supply drove its average price down 27 percent to \$1.43 per pound. When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam was 62 percent higher while its average price was also 1 percent higher. (See Graph 8 and Tables 1 & 2)



The rise in the supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 60 percent increase in volume in the twelve months ending June 2015 over the twelve months ending June 2014 while its average price also increased 1 percent higher.

## VEGETABLE PRODUCE

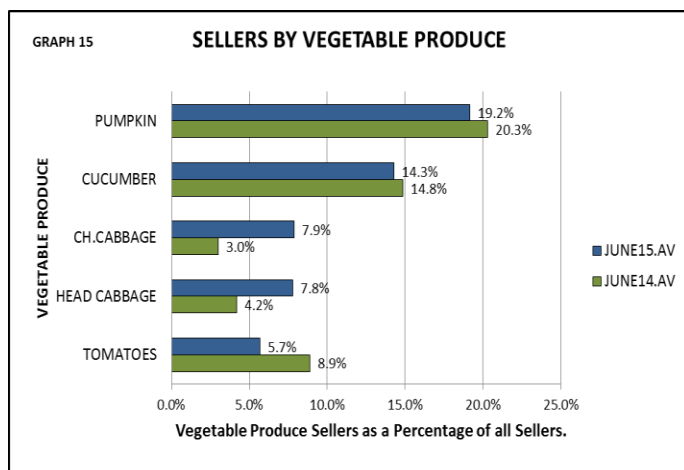
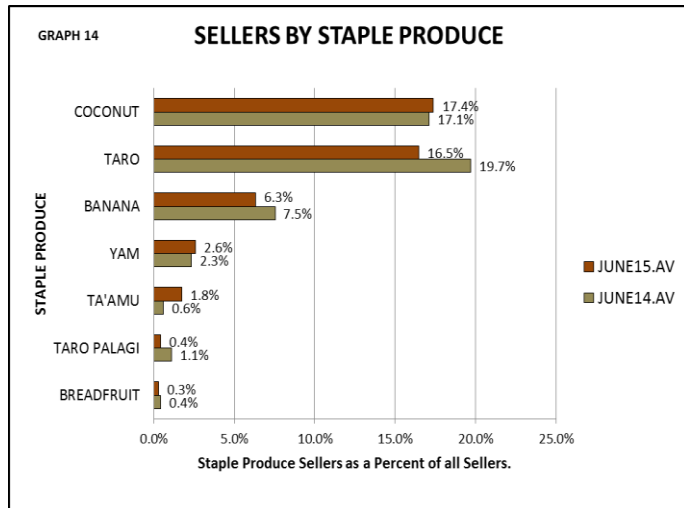
The supply of vegetable produce to the Local Markets in June 2015 experienced significant decreases in all vegetable produce with the exception of head cabbage supplies recording a 24 percent surge (to 2,140 pounds) and tomato supplies recording an 11 percent increase (to 157 pounds) respectively from the previous month. Chinese cabbage supplies fell 38 percent (to 317 pounds) while pumpkin and cucumber supplies decreased 36 percent (to 7,547 pounds) and 26 percent (to 999 pounds) respectively. (See Graphs 9 to 13 and Tables 1 & 2)



Driven by domestic demand and limited supply, average prices for all vegetable produce increased significantly. Cucumber prices registered the largest increase rising 18 percent (to \$1.41 per pound) followed by Pumpkin prices increasing 17 percent (to \$1.42 per pound). Chinese cabbage prices grew 14 percent (to \$2.25 per pound) while average price of Head cabbage and Tomato edged up 10 percent (to \$2.75 per pound) and 8 percent (to \$6.62 per pound) respectively.

## SELLERS

At 242; the number of sellers at the Local Markets on the days surveyed in June 2015 decreased 2 percent from the previous month but was 8 percent higher when compared with the number of sellers in the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 14 and 15 and Table 6)

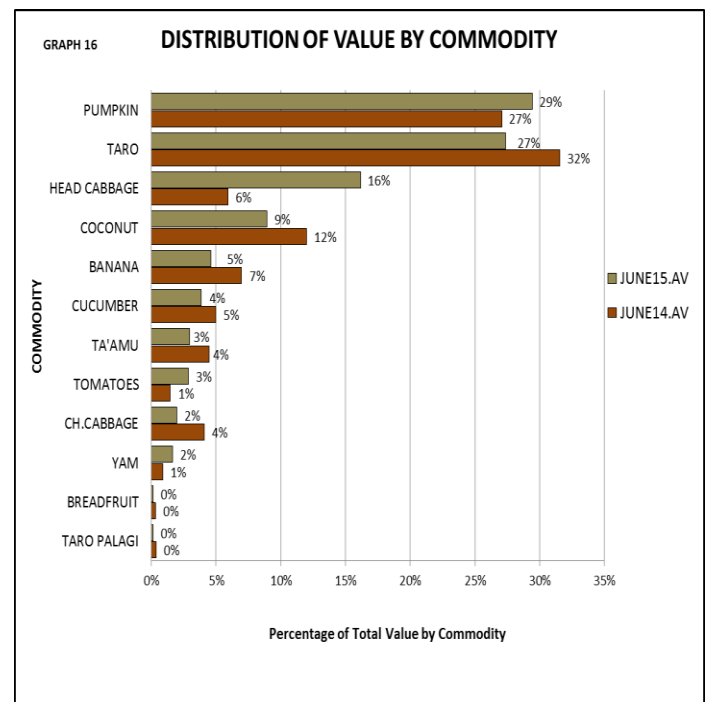


In the month under review, pumpkin sellers at 46 were the largest group at the local markets decreasing from 58 in the previous month but higher than 36 when compared to the same month a year ago. Sellers of coconut at 42 fell from 45 in May 2015 and 44 in June 2014 while sellers of taro at 40 rose from 33 in the previous month and 38 in the same month a year ago. Cucumber sellers followed with a total of 35 in the month under review dropping from 36 in the previous month but was higher than 34 in the same month last year. Head cabbage sellers recorded an increasing total of 19

from 18 in May 2015 and 9 when compared with June 2014. Chinese cabbage sellers also recorded an increasing total of 19 from 17 in May 2015 and 13 a year ago while banana sellers recorded an unchanging total of 15 from May 2015 but was much lower than 21 a year ago. Tomato sellers also recorded an unchanging total of 14 in June 2015 from May 2015 but was lower than 19 in the same month of last year. Sellers of yam recorded an increasing total of 6 from 3 in the previous month and 4 in June 2014. Ta'amu sellers recorded an unchanged total of 4 from the previous month but was lower than 6 in the same month last year. The presence of taro palagi and breadfruit sellers at the local markets was very insignificant in June 2015 recording only 1 seller each.

## VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the market at \$36,400 in June 2015 decreased 2 percent from the previous month but was 39 percent higher when compared with June 2014.



Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 29 percent in June 2015, a level that was lower than 38 percent in May 2015 but higher than 24 percent in

June 2014. Taro supplies followed with a 27 percent share increasing from 21 percent in the previous month but were lower than 30 percent a year ago. Supplies of head cabbage accounted for 16 percent of total value, increasing from 12 percent in the previous month and 3 percent in the same month last year. Coconut supplies contributed 9 percent to total value decreasing from 11 percent in May 2015 and 17 percent in June 2014. Supplies of banana contributed 5 percent to total value rising from 3 percent in May 2015 but were lower than 6 percent in June 2014. Cucumber supplies accounted for an unchanged total of 4 percent from the previous month but were slightly lower than 5 percent in the same month a year ago. Supplies of ta'amu contributed 3 percent to total value, decreasing from 5 percent in May 2015 and June 2014 while supplies of tomato also contributed 3 percent to total value increasing from 2 percent in the previous month but was lower than 5 percent a year ago. Supplies of Chinese cabbage and yam both contributed 2 percent each to total value with Chinese cabbage shares decreasing from 3 percent in May 2015 but remained unchanged when compared with June 2014 while yam supplies edged up 1 percent from the previous month and a year ago in that order. Relatively lower shares were recorded for the rest of the other commodities. (See Graph 16 and Table 3)

***The Local Market Survey Report for July 2015 will be available on the 17 August 2015.***

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*Weights for the selected produce have been revised using 2010 as the base period and have been incorporated starting from January 2010 report.*

*\*\* Data shown reflects the average availability and prices of the selected produce at the Local Markets at Fugalei and Taufusi. This survey is conducted on each Friday (Thursday where Friday is a public holiday) in the months under reference.*

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**SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY**

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

PRODUCE	2010 AVE	JUNE14.AV	OCT14.AV	NOV14.AV	DEC14.AV	JAN15.AV	FEB15.AV	MAR15.AV	APR.15.AV	MAY.15.AV	JUN.15.AV	Jun-15	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from JUNE14
TARO	8422	12499	9123	7278	10997	4687	9112	8435	10717	8714	10729	23	-14
BANANA	6349	4358	4772	5621	7248	7116	7682	3590	2775	2770	3422	24	-21
TARO PALAGI	484	133	106	49	12	115	97	12	5	54	36	-33	-73
TA'AMU	10042	954	1049	907	952	1044	1360	775	1039	1091	612	-44	-36
COCONUT	9964	13475	19647	17408	10293	17345	18227	16902	12142	17290	12999	-25	-4
BREADFRUIT	608	198	141	462	209	847	726	616	88	462	66	-86	-67
YAM	415	257	361	445	173	465	337	233	143	168	416	147	62
HEAD CABBAGE	1531	390	3440	3172	1981	1218	1156	863	1270	1727	2140	24	449
TOMATOES	300	265	1283	844	827	326	62	63	87	142	157	11	-41
CH.CABBAGE	720	264	264	197	382	210	79	240	231	515	317	-38	20
CUCUMBER	978	1006	1538	1481	1663	657	513	815	1545	1347	999	-26	-1
PUMPKIN	7508	5191	29995	19309	19141	11770	3653	13745	13537	11772	7547	-36	45

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

PRODUCE	2010 AVE	JUNE14.AV	OCT14.AV	NOV14.AV	DEC14.AV	JAN15.AV	FEB15.AV	MAR15.AV	APR.15.AV	MAY.15.AV	JUNE.15.AV	Jun-15	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from JUNE14
TARO	1.05	0.63	0.83	0.83	0.98	1.10	0.91	0.96	0.87	0.88	0.93	6	48
BANANA	0.45	0.38	0.38	0.40	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.34	0.45	0.39	0.49	26	29
TARO PALAGI	0.76	1.22	1.23	1.07	1.07	1.43	1.01	0.97	0.76	1.24	1.20	-3	-2
TA'AMU	1.10	1.50	1.23	1.45	2.01	1.29	1.58	1.61	1.48	1.58	1.76	11	17
COCONUT	0.23	0.33	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.29	0.24	0.25	4	-24
BREADFRUIT	0.41	0.33	0.59	0.59	0.71	0.44	0.22	0.38	0.59	0.54	0.67	24	103
YAM	1.34	1.41	1.22	1.28	2.10	1.71	1.75	1.79	1.87	1.96	1.43	-27	1
HEAD CABBAGE	2.86	2.04	1.74	1.88	2.63	3.64	2.75	3.90	3.45	2.49	2.75	10	35
TOMATOES	4.55	4.62	2.06	2.16	3.39	4.33	6.23	7.43	7.56	6.15	6.62	8	43
CH.CABBAGE	2.27	1.93	1.43	1.69	2.05	2.67	3.08	2.18	2.34	1.98	2.25	14	17
CUCUMBER	1.49	1.42	1.18	1.13	1.24	1.32	1.84	1.62	1.39	1.19	1.41	18	-1
PUMPKIN	1.00	1.19	0.84	0.96	1.35	1.22	1.51	1.55	1.20	1.21	1.42	17	19

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

PRODUCE	Total value 2010	JUNE14.AV	OCT14.AV	NOV14.AV	DEC14.AV	JAN15.AV	FEB15.AV	MAR15.AV	APR.15.AV	MAY.15.AV	JUNE.15.AV	Jun-15	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from JUNE14
TARO	103.1	7.9	7.6	6.0	10.8	5.2	8.3	8.1	9.3	7.7	10.0	30	27
BANANA	34.2	1.7	1.8	2.3	2.8	2.6	2.9	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.7	56	1
TARO PALAGI	4.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	-43	-75
TA'AMU	133.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.4	2.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.1	-37	-24
COCONUT	27.2	4.5	5.7	5.2	3.1	4.7	4.7	4.4	3.5	4.2	3.3	-22	-27
BREADFRUIT	2.5	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.0	-84	-43
YAM	6.6	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.6	79	64
HEAD CABBAGE	45.0	0.8	6.0	6.0	5.2	4.4	3.2	3.4	4.4	4.3	5.9	37	636
TOMATOES	11.6	1.2	2.6	1.8	2.8	1.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.0	20	-15
CH.CABBAGE	16.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.7	-30	39
CUCUMBER	15.0	1.4	1.8	1.7	2.1	0.9	0.9	1.3	2.2	1.6	1.4	-12	-1
PUMPKIN	78.0	6.2	25.2	18.5	25.8	14.4	5.5	21.3	16.2	14.2	10.7	-25	73
	477.5	26.1	53.1	44.0	55.7	36.7	29.2	42.6	39.9	37.3	36.4	-2	39

\*on the days surveyed  
@ new weights and base

**Table 4: Volume Index (2010 = 100)**

PRODUCE	2010 Weights	JUNE14.AV	OCT14.AV	NOV14.AV	DEC14.AV	JAN15.AV	FEB15.AV	MAR15.AV	APR.15.AV	MAY.15.AV	JUNE.15.AV	% chng from	% chng from
												prev mnth	JUNE14
TARO	0.22	148	108	86	131	56	108	100	127	103	127	23	-14
BANANA	0.07	69	75	89	114	112	121	57	44	44	54	24	-21
TARO PALAGI	0.01	28	22	10	2	24	20	2	1	11	8	-33	-73
TA'AMU	0.28	9	10	9	9	10	14	8	10	11	6	-44	-36
COCONUT	0.06	135	197	175	103	174	183	170	122	174	130	-25	-4
BREADFRUIT	0.01	33	23	76	34	139	119	101	14	76	11	-86	-67
YAM	0.01	62	87	107	42	112	81	56	34	40	100	147	62
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	25	225	207	129	80	75	56	83	113	140	24	449
TOMATOES	0.02	88	427	281	275	109	21	21	29	47	52	11	-41
CH.CABBAGE	0.03	37	37	27	53	29	11	33	32	71	44	-38	20
CUCUMBER	0.03	103	157	151	170	67	53	83	158	138	102	-26	-1
PUMPKIN	0.16	69	400	257	255	157	49	183	180	157	101	-36	45
	1.00	69	148	114	113	74	66	78	85	84	78	-7	13

**Table 5: Price Index (2010 = 100)**

PRODUCE	2010 Weights	JUNE14.AV	OCT14.AV	NOV14.AV	DEC14.AV	JAN15.AV	FEB15.AV	MAR15.AV	APR.15.AV	MAY.15.AV	JUNE.15.AV	% chng from	% chng from
												prev mnth	JUNE14
TARO	0.22	60	79	79	94	105	87	92	83	84	89	6	48
BANANA	0.07	84	84	89	84	80	84	75	100	87	109	26	29
TARO PALAGI	0.01	160	161	140	140	187	132	127	99	162	157	-3	-2
TA'AMU	0.28	137	112	132	183	117	144	147	135	144	160	11	17
COCONUT	0.06	145	127	131	131	118	114	114	127	105	109	4	-24
BREADFRUIT	0.01	80	143	143	172	107	53	92	143	131	163	24	103
YAM	0.01	105	91	96	157	128	131	134	140	146	107	-27	1
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	71	61	66	92	127	96	136	121	87	96	10	35
TOMATOES	0.02	102	45	48	75	95	137	163	166	135	146	8	43
CH.CABBAGE	0.03	85	63	74	90	118	136	96	103	87	99	14	17
CUCUMBER	0.03	96	79	76	84	89	124	109	94	80	95	18	-1
PUMPKIN	0.16	120	84	96	136	123	152	156	121	122	143	17	19
	1.00	103	90	99	128	113	121	125	115	112	124	11	20

**Table 6: Number of Sellers**

PRODUCE		JUNE14.AV	OCT14.AV	NOV14.AV	DEC14.AV	JAN15.AV	FEB15.AV	MAR15.AV	APR.15.AV	MAY.15.AV	JUNE.15.AV	% chng from	% chng from
												prev mnth	JUNE14
TARO		38	38	29	43	26	37	38	46	33	40	20	4
BANANA		21	28	23	32	36	31	21	17	15	15	0	-27
TARO PALAGI		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	-20	33
TA'AMU		6	5	4	5	2	4	5	4	4	4	6	-29
COCONUT		44	67	43	30	47	56	50	45	45	42	-6	-3
BREADFRUIT		3	1	4	4	8	6	6	0	4	1	-79	-70
YAM		4	6	7	3	5	4	3	3	3	6	108	79
HEAD CABBAGE		9	18	13	17	10	12	8	8	18	19	6	103
TOMATOES		19	76	51	52	23	8	9	14	14	14	0	-26
CH.CABBAGE		13	14	11	13	6	4	7	11	17	19	12	46
CUCUMBER		34	50	46	52	28	22	29	38	36	35	-3	2
PUMPKIN		34	157	100	89	65	34	56	66	58	46	-21	36
		224	460	330	338	258	219	231	252	247	242	-2	8

\*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base

No sellers recorded for some of the weeks on days surveyed.