

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

MAY 2023

This report provides a monthly review of selected agricultural produce available at the Local Markets in Upolu and Savaii based on the price data and volume index survey. Corresponding tables are attached for ease of reference.

Key findings:

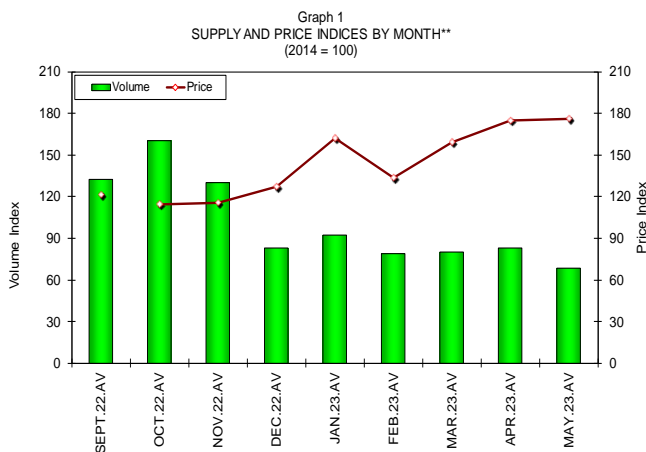
The Local Market Survey in May 2023 showed that the overall supply decreased by 17 percent while the overall price rose 1 percent when compared to April 2023.

- Significant reduction in the supply of pumpkin and banana led to the overall decline in the volume index.
- The total value of supply decreased 3 percent to \$78,200 from the previous month.
- The total number of sellers fell 4 percent to 189 in May 2023 from the 198 recorded in April 2023.

Issue: 01/05/23

OVERVIEW

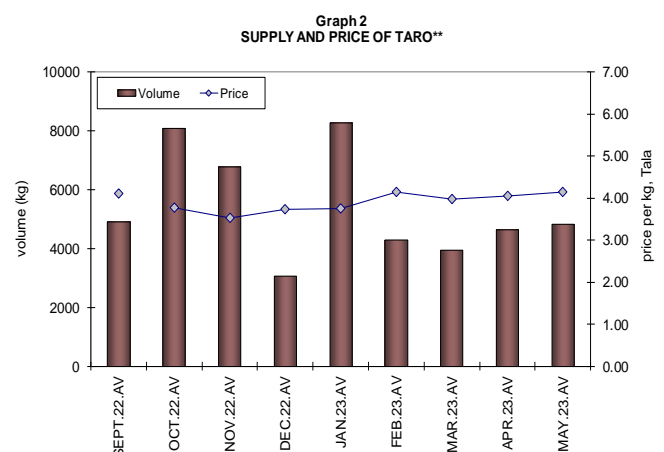
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the local markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in May 2023 showed that overall volume decreased 17 percent from April 2023. This was due to the decline in the supply of pumpkin, banana and yam to the markets. When compared to May 2022, current supply also fell 24 percent. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



The overall price index rose 1 percent from the previous month and further went up 52 percent when compared to May 2022.

TARO

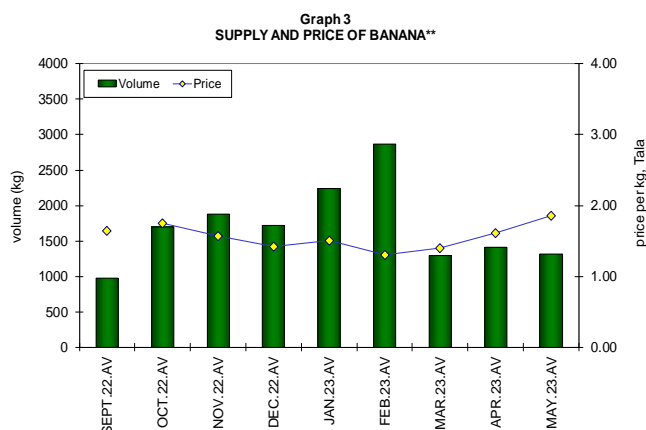
At 4,813 kilograms, the supply of taro increased 4 percent from the previous month, while its average price increased by 2 percent (to \$4.14 per kilogram). When compared to May 2022, the supply of taro fell 14 percent while its average price increased 24 percent. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Taro supply increased by 2 percent in the twelve-month period ending May 2023 in comparison to the twelve-month period ending May 2022. Its price also increased 33 percent.

BANANA

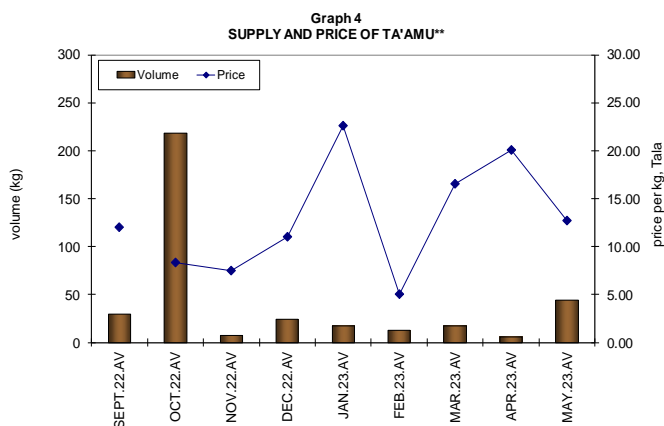
The supply of banana to the local markets in May fell 7 percent (to 1,311 kilograms) from April 2023 while its average price went up by 15 percent (to \$1.86 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of banana fell 30 percent while its average price increased 31 percent. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2).



Annually, banana supplies decreased 4 percent compared to the year ended May 2022 while its average price increased 23 percent.

TA'AMU

At an average of 44 kilograms, ta'amu supply in May 2023 was more than seven times higher than its supply in the previous month while increased supply at the markets pushed its average price down by 37 percent (to \$12.74 per kilogram). In comparison to the same month last year current supply of ta'amu fell 27 percent while its average price went up by 48 percent. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1&2)

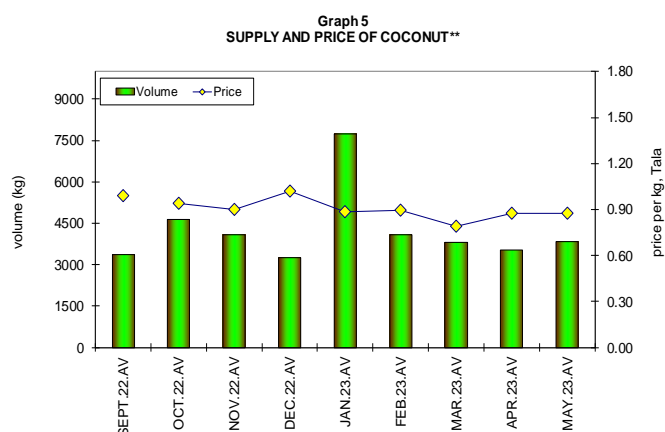


In the year ending May 2023, volume of ta'amu supplied to the markets decreased 32 percent while its price increased more than two times in

comparison to its supply and price in the year ending May 2022.

COCONUT

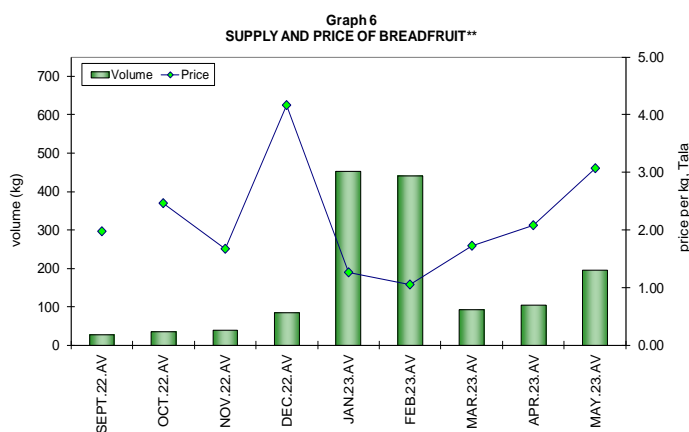
Coconut supply at 3,845 kilograms increased 9 percent from April 2023 while its average price remained unchanged. In comparison to May 2022, current supply of coconut fell 12 percent while its average price increased by 8 percent. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



In the twelve months ending May 2023, supply of coconut was 4 percent lower while its average price rose 8 percent when compared to the twelve months ending May 2022.

BREADFRUIT

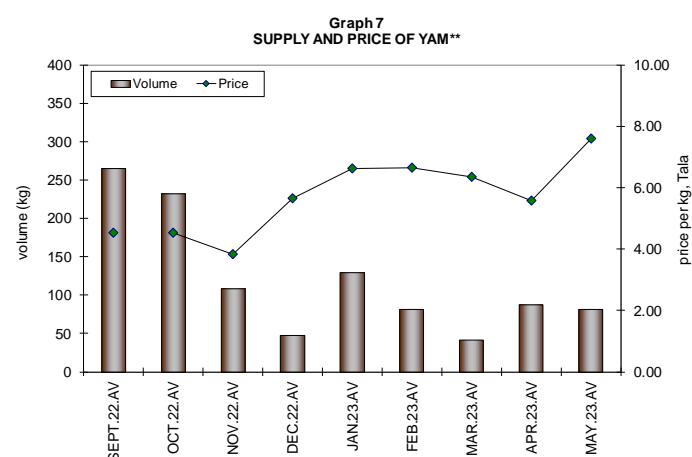
The supply and price of breadfruit in May 2023 increased 86 percent (to 1,195 kilograms) and 48 percent (to \$3.07 per kilogram) from the previous month respectively. When compared to May 2022, current supply of breadfruit revealed no change while its average price rose 44 percent. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1&2)



Annually, supply of breadfruit fell 12 percent while its average price has more than doubled over the year ended May 2022.

YAM

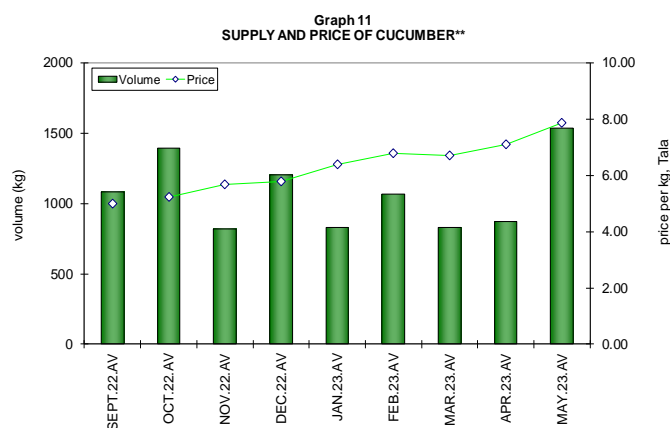
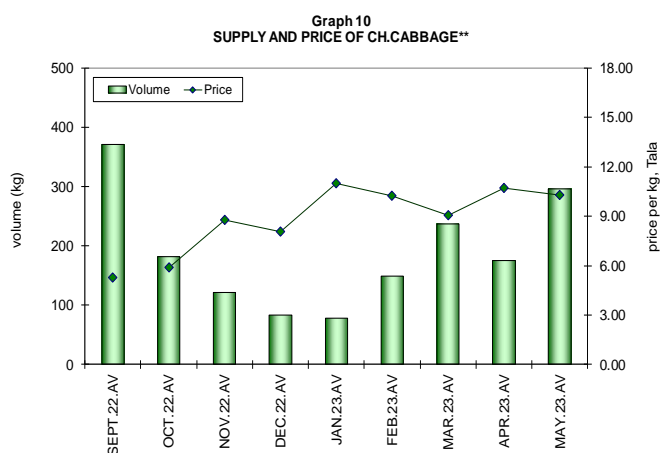
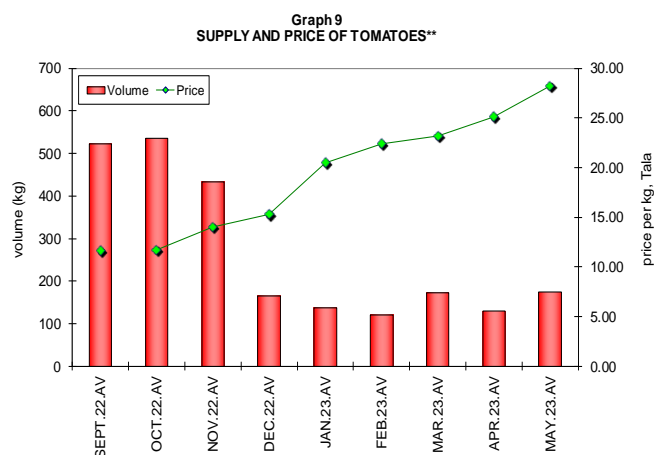
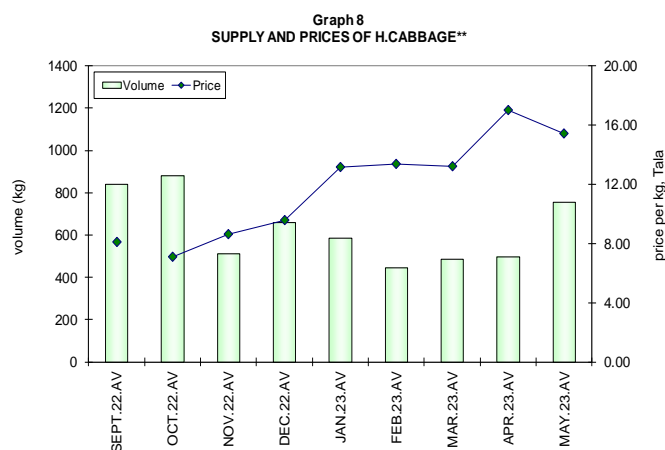
Yam supply at 81 kilograms decreased 8 percent from the previous month while its average price increased by 36 percent (to \$7.61 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of yam was 20 percent lower while its average price increased by 63 percent. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)

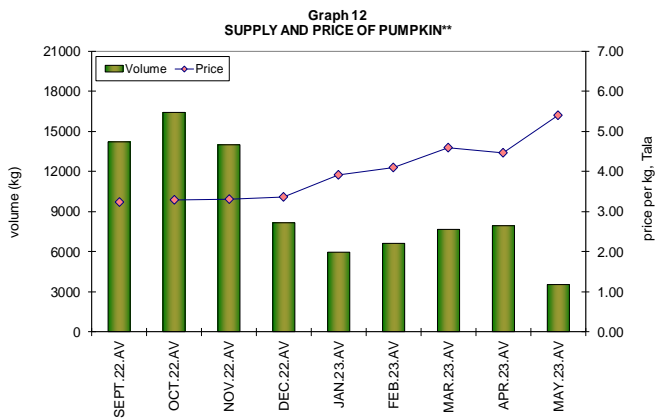


Supply of yam in the twelve months ending May 2023 increased 23 percent in comparison to the twelve months ending May 2022. Its average price rose 32 percent.

VEGETABLE PRODUCE

Most of the of vegetable produce supplied to the local markets increased in May 2023 with the exception of pumpkin which dropped 56 percent (to 3,523 kilograms) from the previous month. Cucumber registered the largest increase of 77 percent (to 1,535 kilograms), followed by Chinese cabbage increasing 69 percent (to 296 kilograms) and head cabbage increasing 51 percent (to 753 kilograms). Tomato supply also rose 34 percent (to 174 kilograms) when compared to the previous month. (See Graphs 8 to 12 and Tables 1 & 2)

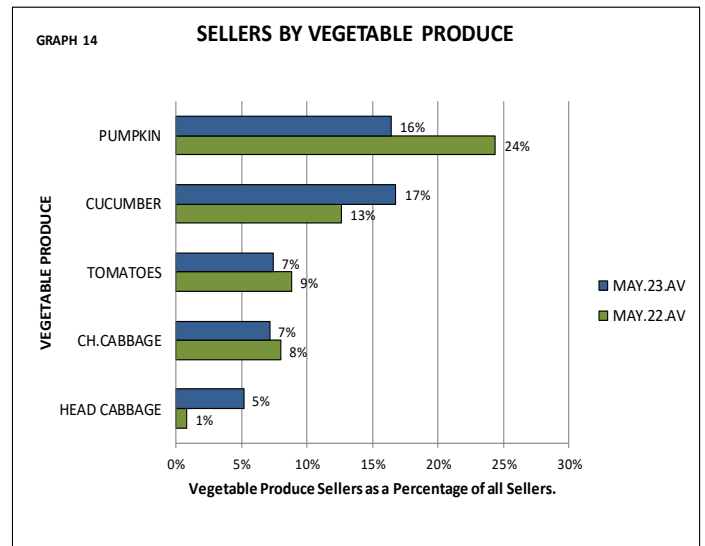
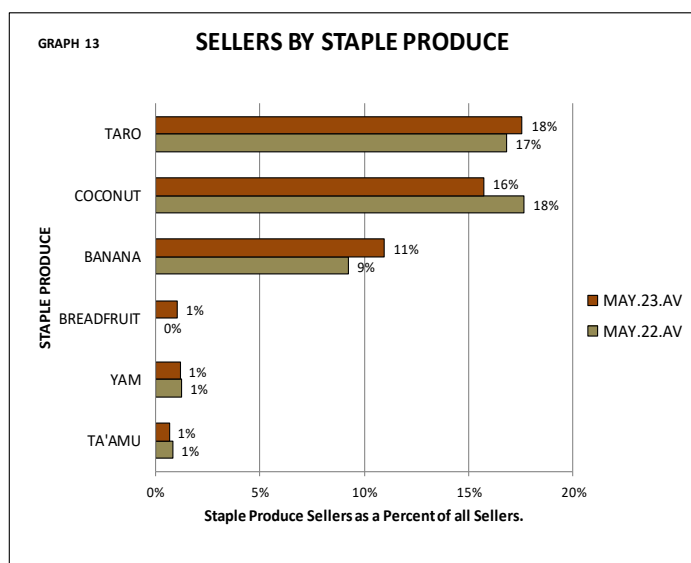




Despite the increase in the supply of most of vegetable produce to the local markets in the month under review, strong domestic demand pushed average prices up for both tomato and cucumber; recording increases of 13 percent (to \$28.25 per kilogram) and 11 percent (to \$7.85 per kilogram) respectively. However limited pumpkin supply led to the 21 percent increase in price (to \$5.41 per kilogram). Average price for head cabbage decreased 9 percent (to \$15.41 per kilogram) and Chinese cabbage average price also went down by 4 percent (to \$10.30 per kilogram) when compared to May 2022.

SELLERS

At 189, the number of sellers at the local markets on the days surveyed in May 2023 decreased by 4 percent from the previous month and down 20 percent when compared with the number of sellers in the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 13 and 14 and Table 6).



In May 2023, taro sellers at 33 were the largest group at the local markets, decreasing from the 34 in the previous month and 40 in the same month last year. Cucumber sellers followed with a total of 32 increasing from the 25 last month and 30 in the same month a year ago.

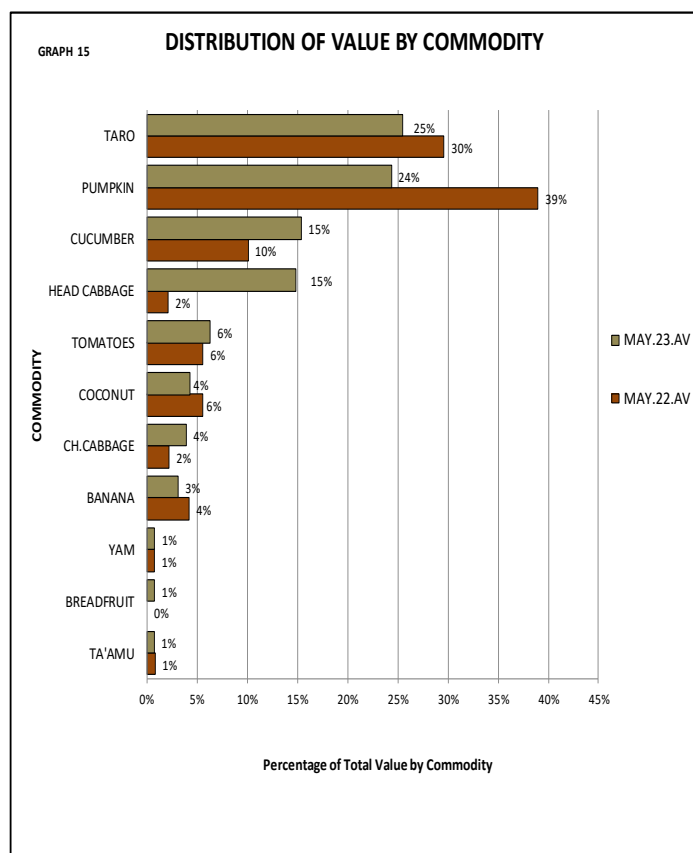
Pumpkin sellers recorded a total of 31, down from the 56 in the previous month and the 58 in the same month a year ago. The number of coconut sellers was 30, remained unchanged from the previous month but were lower than the 42 in the same month a year ago. Banana sellers recorded a total of 21, increasing from the 18 in the previous month but were lower than the 22 in the same month a year ago.

Sellers of tomato and Chinese cabbage both recorded a total of 14 each with tomato sellers increasing from the 13 in the previous month but were lower than 21 in the same month last year, while Chinese cabbage sellers increased from the 12 in April 2023 but were lower than the 19 in May 2022.

Head cabbage sellers at 10, increased from the 9 and 2 in the previous month and the same month a year ago. Breadfruit and yam sellers both recorded a total of 2; with breadfruit increasing from 1 in April 2023 and May 2022, while yam remained unchanged from the previous month but were lower than 3 in the same month a year ago. Ta'amu sellers recorded a total of 1 remaining unchanged from the previous month but were lower than the 2 in the same month a year ago.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the local markets in May 2023 stood at \$78,200, decreasing 3 percent from the previous but went up by 24 percent from May 2022.



Supplies of coconut and Chinese cabbage both contributed 4 percent each to total value, with coconut shares remained unchanged from last month and were lower than the 6 percent in the same month last year. Banana contributed 3 percent to total value, remaining unchanged in the previous month but were lower than 4 percent in the same month last year. Yam, breadfruit and ta'amu all contributed 1 percent each to the total value in the month under review. (See Graph 15 & Table 3)

Taro supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce supplied to the markets with a share of 25 percent in May 2023; a level that was higher than the 23 percent in the previous but were lower than the 30 percent in the same month a year ago. Pumpkin supplies followed with a 24 percent of total value, decreasing from the 44 percent in the previous month and 39 percent in the same month a year ago.

Supplies of cucumber and head cabbage both contributed 15 percent each to total value with cucumber supplies increasing from the 8 percent in the previous month and 10 percent in the same month a year ago, while head cabbage shares went up from the 11 percent in April 2023 and 2 percent in May 2022. Tomato shares rose to 6 percent from the 4 percent in the previous month but remained unchanged when compared with the same month a year ago.

Technical Notes

The Local Market Survey measures the price and volume of selected agricultural produce from the Local Markets at **Fugalei, Taufusi, Vaitele, Lotopa, Ululoloa, Afega, Saleimoa, Savaia, Vaoala, Faatoia and Salelologa** every month. Prices for selected produce are taken from the Consumer Price Index.

*** Data shown reflects the average availability and prices of selected produce. This survey is conducted on each Thursday for rural markets on Upolu and Savaii and each Friday for urban markets on Upolu in the months under reference.*

Weights for selected produce have been revised using 2014 as the base period and have been incorporated starting from June 2016 report.

The Local Market Survey Report for June 2023 will be available on 21st July 2023.

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SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	May-23	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY22
TARO	7521	5585	4901	8082	6784	3069	8268	4286	3942	4639	4813	4	-14
BANANA	2642	1877	976	1696	1879	1721	2235	2865	1297	1407	1311	-7	-30
TA'AMU	816	60	30	218	7	24	18	13	17	6	44	633	-27
COCONUT	7993	4364	3364	4634	4079	3258	7747	4090	3796	3540	3845	9	-12
BREADFRUIT	186	0	28	35	40	85	453	440	92	105	195	86	0
YAM	129	101	265	232	108	47	129	81	41	88	81	-8	-20
HEAD CABBAGE	811	118	839	882	511	661	584	443	487	498	753	51	540
TOMATOES	256	214	523	535	433	166	138	121	173	130	174	34	-19
CH.CABBAGE	129	210	370	182	121	84	78	149	237	175	296	69	41
CUCUMBER	542	1193	1084	1395	821	1202	832	1063	830	870	1535	77	29
PUMPKIN	6217	8191	14218	16411	13983	8143	5941	6626	7660	7932	3523	-56	-57

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	MAY22
TARO	1.48	3.35	4.11	3.78	3.53	3.73	3.74	4.15	3.97	4.04	4.14	2	24
BANANA	0.76	1.41	1.64	1.75	1.57	1.42	1.50	1.31	1.40	1.61	1.86	15	31
TA'AMU	2.78	8.62	12.01	8.35	7.51	11.05	22.60	5.04	16.51	20.11	12.74	-37	48
COCONUT	0.62	0.81	0.99	0.94	0.90	1.02	0.88	0.90	0.79	0.88	0.88	0	8
BREADFRUIT	0.94	1.44	1.98	2.46	1.67	4.17	1.27	1.06	1.72	2.07	3.07	48	113
YAM	3.16	4.66	4.54	4.52	3.84	5.66	6.64	6.65	6.34	5.58	7.61	36	63
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	11.40	8.10	7.08	8.64	9.58	13.16	13.36	13.23	17.02	15.41	-9	35
TOMATOES	9.55	16.54	11.62	11.72	14.06	15.31	20.49	22.41	23.21	25.08	28.25	13	71
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	6.68	5.25	5.90	8.75	8.05	10.98	10.22	9.06	10.69	10.30	-4	54
CUCUMBER	2.99	5.34	4.99	5.22	5.67	5.77	6.38	6.77	6.70	7.09	7.85	11	47
PUMPKIN	2.61	3.01	3.23	3.28	3.32	3.37	3.91	4.11	4.59	4.47	5.41	21	80

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	MAY.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	MAY22
TARO	126.6	18.7	20.1	30.5	24.0	11.5	31.0	17.8	15.7	18.8	19.9	6	7
BANANA	25.1	2.7	1.6	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.4	3.7	1.8	2.3	2.4	7	-8
TA'AMU	25.6	0.5	0.4	1.8	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.6	367	8
COCONUT	59.3	3.5	3.3	4.4	3.7	3.3	6.9	3.7	3.0	3.1	3.4	9	-5
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.6	173	0
YAM	4.7	0.5	1.2	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.6	27	32
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	1.3	6.8	6.2	4.4	6.3	7.7	5.9	6.4	8.5	11.6	37	766
TOMATOES	21.5	3.5	6.1	6.3	6.1	2.5	2.8	2.7	4.0	3.3	4.9	51	39
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	1.4	1.9	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.9	1.5	2.2	1.9	3.1	63	118
CUCUMBER	18.4	6.4	5.4	7.3	4.7	6.9	5.3	7.2	5.6	6.2	12.1	95	89
PUMPKIN	178.3	24.6	46.0	53.9	46.4	27.4	23.2	27.2	35.1	35.5	19.0	-46	-23
	511.8	63.2	92.8	115.5	93.7	62.0	82.9	70.8	74.5	80.2	78.2	-3	24

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	MAY.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY22
TARO	0.25	74	65	107	90	41	110	57	52	62	64	4	-14
BANANA	0.05	71	37	64	71	65	85	108	49	53	50	-7	-30
TA'AMU	0.05	7	4	27	1	3	2	2	2	1	5	628	-27
COCONUT	0.12	55	42	58	51	41	97	51	48	44	48	9	-12
BREADFRUIT	0.004	0	15	19	22	46	244	237	49	56	105	86	0
YAM	0.01	78	205	180	84	37	100	63	32	68	63	-8	-20
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	15	103	109	63	82	72	55	60	61	93	51	541
TOMATOES	0.04	84	204	209	169	65	54	47	67	51	68	34	-19
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	163	287	141	94	65	61	116	184	136	230	69	41
CUCUMBER	0.04	220	200	257	151	222	153	196	153	160	283	77	29
PUMPKIN	0.35	132	229	264	225	131	96	107	123	128	57	-56	-57
	1.00	90	133	161	130	83	93	79	80	83	69	-17	-24

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	MAY.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY22
TARO	0.25	226	277	255	239	252	253	280	268	273	280	2	24
BANANA	0.05	186	216	230	207	187	198	172	185	212	244	15	31
TA'AMU	0.05	310	432	301	270	398	813	181	594	723	458	-37	48
COCONUT	0.12	131	159	152	145	164	143	145	128	141	141	0	8
BREADFRUIT	0.004	153	211	262	177	443	135	112	183	221	327	48	113
YAM	0.01	147	144	143	121	179	210	210	201	177	241	36	63
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	211	150	131	160	177	244	247	245	315	285	-9	35
TOMATOES	0.04	173	122	123	147	160	215	235	243	263	296	13	71
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	152	120	135	200	184	251	233	207	244	235	-4	54
CUCUMBER	0.04	178	167	175	190	193	213	226	224	237	262	11	47
PUMPKIN	0.35	115	124	126	127	129	150	157	176	171	207	21	80
	1.00	116	121	114	116	128	162	134	159	175	176	1	52

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	MAY.22.AV	SEPT.22.AV	OCT.22.AV	NOV.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from MAY22
TARO	46	40	35	50	49	32	45	41	37	34	33	-1	-17
BANANA	27	22	14	24	29	22	32	37	20	18	21	17	-6
TA'AMU	7	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	67	-38
COCONUT	57	42	23	38	33	26	42	37	34	30	30	1	-29
BREADFRUIT	4	0	1	1	2	1	9	7	2	1	2	100	0
YAM	5	3	6	5	2	1	3	3	1	2	2	29	-25
HEAD CABBAGE	12	2	20	17	11	13	18	10	8	9	10	11	388
TOMATOES	39	21	48	53	54	22	15	16	17	13	14	8	-33
CH.CABBAGE	13	19	19	15	7	11	8	12	14	12	14	15	-29
CUCUMBER	42	30	36	34	27	36	22	28	24	25	32	30	6
PUMPKIN	83	58	78	88	76	70	66	54	54	56	31	-44	-47
	337	238	279	324	291	234	262	245	212	198	189	-4	-20

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base