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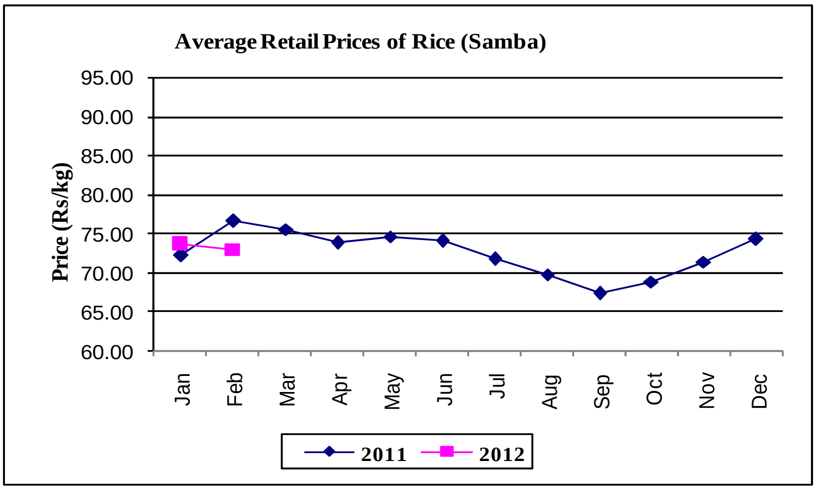
RICE:

Prices of all the rice varieties have decreased due to the arrival of new harvest from Eastern province. Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the varieties have decreased in the range of 3% - 7%.

VEGETABLES:

By the end of February of 2011/12 maha season, the cultivation progress of all the vegetables was more than 65%. Compared to the same period of 2010/11 maha season, the cultivated extent of all the vegetables were high by the end of February of this maha season. Hence, the production of vegetables is high during this maha season. Prices of all the vegetables have decreased further in February with the highest price decrease recorded for tomato. The lower prices were recorded for tomato, cabbage, brinjal and radish.



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.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
T.A. Darmaratne.

Research Team

W.A.N.Wijesooriya	- Paddy/Rice
Roshini Rambukwella	- Dried chilies, Potato, Onion
W. H. Duminda Priyadarsana	- Pulses, Fish and Dried fish
Ruvini Vidanapathirana	- Végétales
N.P.G. Samantha	- Fruits, Eggs, and Meat
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 Team
H.L.Pradeepa Roshani
L.A.P.Gunaratne

Colombo Field Data Collection Team

D.P.Vithanage	N.W.R.. D.Dharmawardana	R.H.A.N.M. Gunawardana
M.S. Palihakkara	C.G. Kaluarachchi	D.K.C. Dileepani
D.M. Bogahawaththa	W.K.M. Fernando	R. P. Pathiranage
K.D.H.R. Chathurani	P.D. Nadeeka Arunashanthi	W. M. M.. Iroshini
K.H.S.P.K. Kumari	P.R.D.M. Chandrasekera	J.K. Rajapaksha
K. Sameera	S.D.S. Priyangani	D.M.A.C. Dissanayaka
J.S. Kumara	U.J.M.J. Chathuranga	L.R.A.P. Gunathilaka
P.H. Menaka Sujith		

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. H. I. Prasad	- Divulapitiya
10. P.D.A.I. Gunathilaka	- Keppetipola
11. H.T.A. Hemala	- Monaragala
12. W.M.C.Suranji	- Nikaweratiya

1. Paddy

Crop Situation

Harvesting of paddy crop in 2011/12 Maha season has commenced in Eastern province and some other major producing areas like Hambanthota, and Anuradhapura during the month. Harvesting in the other areas like Polnnaruwa,and Mahaweli areas was delayed as a result of late issuing of water at the beginning of the season. Peak harvesting can be expected during the first part of March.According to the field information the prospects of the paddy crop was favourable in most of the major producing areas and bumper harvest can be expected. Arrival of new harvest from Akkeraipattu, Kalmunei, Samanturei areas in Ampara and the producing areas in Batticaloe district was recorded during the latter part of the month. According to the latest crop forecast report of Department of Agriculture, the sown extent of paddy reported for *Maha*, 2011/2012 season is 774,828 ha, and the expected Paddy Production is 2.99 Million Mt; highest ever reported over the past.

Table 1.1: Achievement of Paddy Cultivation 2011/12 *Maha* season
(Up to end of February 2012)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the targeted extent	Production Forecast (tonnes)
Anuradhapura	77,000	87,983	114	326,511
Polonnaruwa	34,750	34,337	99	156,520
Ampara	90,506	89,838	99	440,476
Hambantota	83,397	68,813	83	271,123
Kurunagala	29,436	28,529	97	74,014
Colombo	5,615	4,198	75	12,562
Gampaha	13,725	10,900	79	31,807
Kalutara	15,800	14,868	94	42,094
Galle	16,300	16,693	102	41,404
Matara	17,000	15,055	89	44,212
Ratnapura	15,850	13,643	86	38,984
Kegalle	10,179	7,477	73	26,292
Puttalam	22,796	12,490	55	41,700
Kandy	16,310	12,584	77	36,117
Matale	21,620	20,080	93	70,017
Nuwara Eliya	6,884	5,748	83	13,180
Badulla	25,295	23,227	92	84,905
Moneragala	35,397	34,246	97	143,406
Jaffna	11,878	11,078	93	26,208
Kilinochchi	22,584	22,616	100	56,419
Vavuniya	19,438	18,544	95	79,567
Mullaitivu	13,232	12,192	92	50,303
Mannar	20,848	18,381	88	74,372
Trincomalee	40,710	38,736	95	158,049
Batticaloa	60,000	59,897	100	199,671
Udawalawa	13,175	13,447	102	70,306
System H	22,950	22,552	98	108,343
System H1	6,552	6,548	100	31,458
System B	19,500	19,691	101	94,601
System C	22,834	23,237	102	111,637
System G	4,904	5,296	108	25,443
System L	3,649	1,904	52	9,147
Sri Lanka	**820,115**	**774,828**	**94**	**2,990,849**

Source: Department of Agriculture

Table 1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – February 2012

Commodity	Price Range (Rs/kg)		Average (Rs/kg)			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	27.00-32.00	31.00-36.00	29.10	34.05	31.22	*-4.95*	*-14.55*	*-2.12*	*-6.79*
Polonnaruwa	24.00-33.00	32.00-36.00	27.68	34.16	33.03	*-6.48*	*-18.96*	*-5.35*	*-16.20*
Kalawewa	27.00-34.00	33.00-36.00	30.47	35.00	32.13	*-4.53*	*-12.95*	*-1.66*	*-5.17*
Kurunegala	23.50-32.00	30.00-34.50	27.09	32.97	31.92	*-5.88*	*-17.82*	*-4.83*	*-15.13*
Dehiattakandiya	23.00-33.00	32.00-36.00	27.55	34.14	32.85	*-6.59*	*-19.30*	*-5.30*	*-16.14*
Nikaweratiya	23.00-32.00	30.00-35.00	27.30	33.12	31.60	*-5.82*	*-17.57*	*-4.30*	*-13.61*
Ampara	24.00-34.00	33.00-35.00	29.16	34.34	30.90	*-5.18*	*-15.08*	*-1.74*	*-5.63*
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	22.00-26.00	24.00-30.00	23.75	28.33	28.03	*-4.58*	*-16.16*	*-4.28*	*-15.27*
Polonnaruwa	20.00-27.00	26.50-30.50	22.93	28.74	28.89	*-5.81*	*-20.23*	*-5.96*	*-20.63*
Kalawewa	22.00-28.00	27.00-30.00	24.31	29.23	29.66	*-4.92*	*-16.82*	*-5.35*	*-18.04*
Kurunegala	23.50-27.00	26.00-30.50	24.61	28.57	30.44	*-3.96*	*-13.87*	*-5.83*	*-19.15*
Dehiattakandiya	23.00-27.00	26.00-30.50	24.93	28.78	28.83	*-3.85*	*-13.38*	*-3.90*	*-13.53*
Embilipitiya	23.00-27.00	26.00-32.00	24.93	30.00	32.34	*-5.07*	*-16.90*	*-7.41*	*-22.91*
Nikaweratiya	23.00-27.00	26.00-31.00	24.60	28.66	28.63	*-4.06*	*-14.17*	*-4.03*	*-14.08*
Matara	23.00-28.00	28.00-31.00	25.42	29.67	31.83	*-4.25*	*-14.32*	*-6.41*	*-20.14*
Hambantota	24.00-25.00	-	24.67	-	33.50	-	-	*-8.83*	*-26.36*
Ampara	23.00-27.00	26.00-30.50	24.73	28.56	27.90	*-3.83*	*-13.41*	*-3.17*	*-11.36*
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	21.00-25.00	24.00-31.00	22.58	27.88	28.03	*-5.30*	*-19.01*	*-5.45*	*-19.44*
Matara	26.00-29.00	28.00-31.00	27.11	29.87	31.11	*-2.76*	*-9.23*	*-4.00*	*-12.86*
Hambantota	27.00-30.00	29.00-33.00	28.40	30.64	33.50	*-2.24*	*-7.31*	*-5.10*	*-15.22*
Embilipitiya	29.00-30.00	29.00-32.00	29.35	31.08	30.98	*-1.73*	*-5.57*	*-1.63*	*-5.26*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Producer Prices

Prices have shown a decreasing trend due to the commencement of Maha harvesting in producing areas in the Eastern porvince, Supply of new paddy stocks have increased to the market from Akkeraipattu, Kalmunei, Ampara and Batticaloe. Due to the high moisture prices of nadu varieties have decreased considerably in above areas. Meanwhile the Paddy Marketing Board had started to release paddy stocks and millers too released more rice to get storage facilities for new harvest . These factors have caused the price decline. Compared to last month, average producer prices of all the paddy varieties have decreased in all major producing areas. The prices of old paddy stocks are higher than that of the newly harvested paddy. It is expected that the decreasing trend of paddy prices will continue until the end of March.

Compared to the last month, the prices of short grain and long grain white varieties have decreased in the range of 13%-19% and 13%-20% respectively in most of the producing areas. Meanwhile, the price of long grain red has decreased in the range of 6%-19% with the highest decrease in Anuradhapura. The highest price of Rs.34.00/kg was reported for short grain in Kalawewa, while the lowest price of Rs.23.00/kg was reported for long grain white in Dehiattakandiya and Nikeweratiya. Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of short grain, long grain and red varieties have decreased in the range of 5%-16%, 11%-22% and 5%-20% respectively.

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale Prices

In line with decreased paddy prices in major producing areas, the prices of all the rice varieties have decreased during the month. Supply of all the rice varieties have gradually increased due to the favorable weather conditions during the month. Meanwhile, stocks of new harvest have commenced to reach the market from producing areas in Eastern province during the month. Sufficient stocks of all the rice varieties were available in the market throughout the month. Prices of keeri samba and basmathi rice ranged between Rs 85.00-96.00/Kg and Rs 120.00-155.00/Kg.

Compared to the last month, the average prices of all the rice varieties have decreased in the range of 3%-8% with the highest and lowest decrease for nadu grade II and samba grade I. Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of samba, nadu and raw varieties have decreased in the range of 10%-11%, 9%-14% and 10%-16% respectively with the highest decrease for raw white.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice –February 2012

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Samba 1	68.60	70.80	78.00	*-2.20*	*-3.11*	-	-
Samba 2	64.87	67.69	72.46	*-2.82*	*-4.16*	*-7.58*	*-10.46*
Samba 3	61.30	64.81	68.53	*-3.51*	*-5.41*	*-7.23*	*-10.55*
Nadu 1	55.76	57.57	61.03	*-1.81*	*-3.15*	*-5.27*	*-8.63*
Nadu 2	50.21	54.44	58.48	*-4.23*	*-7.78*	*-8.27*	*-14.15*
Raw red	51.86	53.53	57.41	*-1.67*	*-3.12*	*-5.55*	*-9.67*
Raw white	48.00	51.63	57.24	*-3.63*	*-7.02*	*-9.24*	*-16.14*
Imported Parboiled		-		-	-	-	-
Imported Raw White		-		-	-	-	-
Retail Prices							
Samba 1	79.69	80.30	83.56	*-0.61*	*-0.76*	*-3.87*	*-4.63*
Samba 2	70.47	70.92	75.43	*-0.45*	*-0.63*	*-4.96*	*-6.58*
Samba 3	68.85	69.54	70.68	*-0.69*	*-0.99*	*-1.83*	*-2.59*
Nadu 1	60.11	63.37	64.91	*-3.26*	*-5.14*	*-4.80*	*-7.39*
Nadu 2	58.92	59.71	61.14	*-0.79*	*-1.32*	*-2.22*	*-3.63*
Raw red	57.46	59.04	60.50	*-1.58*	*-2.68*	*-3.04*	*-5.02*
Raw white	56.78	58.85	60.22	*-2.07*	*-3.52*	*-3.44*	*-5.71*
Imported Raw White		-		-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Retail Prices

Prices of all the rice varieties have decreased in the range of 1% 5% with the highest and the lowest decrease for nadu grade I and samba grade II. Limited supply of samba grade I can be observed in most of the retail markets due to the impact of ceiling price. Sufficient stocks of all other rice varieties were available in all the retail markets throughout the month. Prices of keeri samba and basmathi rice ranged between Rs 90.00-130.00/Kg and Rs 130.00-160.00/Kg. Sufficient stocks of all the rice varieties can be observed in most of the outstation markets. According to field information, the retail prices will decline further in March as new rice stocks are expected to arrive at the retail market.
When the rice prices during last year are taken into account the highest and the lowest prices were recorded in February and September respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the current prices of all the varieties have decreased in the range of 3%-7% with the highest and the lowest decline for nadu grade I and samba grade III.

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop situation

According to the Department of Agriculture, the targeted cultivated extent of chillies in *maha* 2011/12 has been 11,857ha, out of which 82% has been achieved by the end of February 2012. The highest cultivated extent of 3447ha was recorded in Anuradhapura district and it has exceeded the targeted extent also (105%). The production forecast of chillies for the season is 30464t out of which 66% will be expected from Anuradhapura (13799t), Moneragala (4238t) and Puttalam (2199t) districts. The following table shows the cultivated extent of chillies in main producing areas.

Targeted and progress of chillie cultivation by the end of February 2012 (2011/ 12 *maha*)

Areas	Target (ha)	Cultivation progress at the end of February (2012)		Estimated production (t)
		Extent (ha)	%	
Anuradhapura	3300	3447	105	13799
Monaragala	1198	1113	93	4238
Puttalam	880	596	68	2199
Ampara	756	455	60	1280
Jaffna	701	581	83	1169
Other areas	5022	3466	69	7779
Total	11857	9658	82	30464

Source: Crop forecast, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Producer prices of green chillies ranged between Rs.35.00-123.00/kg during this month in Dambulla, Hambanthota, Embilipitiya and Anuradhapura areas and the highest price was recorded in Embilipitiya. Supplies of green chillies from Puttalam and Nochchiyagama areas have increased during this month and both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have decreased by about Rs.52.00/kg and Rs.84.00/kg respectively. Average wholesale and retail prices of green chillies were Rs.49.65/kg and Rs.141.12/kg respectively and both prices have decreased by 83% and 71% respectively compared to the same period of last year.

The market consisted of only imported dried chillies. A quantity of 4225t of dried chillies was imported during the month and it was an increase of 1029t compared to that of the last month. The CIF price was Rs.147.22/kg and it was a decrease of Rs.9.70/kg compared to the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have decreased by about Rs.17.00/kg and Rs.13.00/kg respectively due to high imports from India. Compared to the same period of last year, the current wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have decreased by 30% and 15% respectively.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies February 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price							
Green chillies	49.65	101.65	298.79	*-52.00*	*-51.16*	*-249.14*	*-83.38*
Dried chillies	172.57	189.17	246.93	*-16.61*	*-8.78*	*-74.36*	*-30.11*
Retail Price							
Green chillies	141.12	225.06	484.62	*-83.94*	*-37.30*	*-343.50*	*-70.88*
Dried chillies	242.28	254.87	284.76	*-12.59*	*-4.94*	*-42.48*	*-14.92*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity (t)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2012	4,225.31	622.05	147.22	242.28	95.06
Jan 2012	3,196.23	501.55	156.92	254.87	97.95
Dec 2011	3,987.03	691.97	173.56	269.80	96.24
Nov 2011	2,600.50	533.78	205.26	279.51	74.25
Oct 2011	4689.88	1034.84	220.65	283.62	62.97
Sep 2011	3153.69	701.39	222.40	285.92	63.52

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

Table 2.1.4: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – February 2012

Location	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
Dambulla	71.00	54.30	37.60	49.00
Hambantota	104.00	85.00	66.00	-
Embilipitiya	123.00	89.00	55.00	72.00
Anuradapura	55.00	45.00	35.00	36.67

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

The cultivated extent of red onion for *maha* 2011/12 season as at the end of February, 2012 was 3648ha in the whole country and it represents 75% of the target. The highest cultivated extent and the highest expected production for 2011/12 *maha* are mainly reported from Jaffna. About 714ha were cultivated by the end of February, 2012 in Puttalam which represented 61% of the target. The production forecast of red onion for the season is 37133t and out of which 76% will be expected from Jaffna (19733t) and Puttalam (8639t). The following table depicts the progress of the red onion cultivation, in 2011/12 *maha* season.

Targeted and Progress of red onion cultivation at the end of February 2012 (2011/12 *maha*)

Areas	Target (ha)	Cultivation progress at the end of February 2012		Estimated production (t)
		Extent (ha)	%	
Jaffna	1892	1783	94	19733
Puttalam	1162	714	61	8639
Trincomalee	699	404	58	4145
Other areas	1102	747	68	4616
Total	4855	3648	75	37133

Source: Crop Forecast, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Only imported big onion was available in the market. A quantity of 17, 270t of big onion was imported in February 2012 and it was a decrease of 126t compared to previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.20.95/kg and it has decreased by Rs.5.20/kg, compared to last month. A slight price increase (by less than Cents 50/kg) was observed for the imported big onion at the wholesale level due fluctuation of the Dollar rate since the second week of the month. However, there were sufficient stocks of big onion which imported from India and Pakistan, available in the market throughout this month and retail price has decreased by about Rs.4.00/kg. The gross margin between the CIF price and wholesale price of imported big onion was higher than the margin between the wholesale price and retail price during this month as well as margin of the previous month.

Market supplies of red onion from Puttalam and Jaffna have increased during this month too. Small quantity of vedalan red onion has also been supplied to the market from Trincomalee area during the latter part of the month. Supplies of local red onion from Jaffna area to the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Center have increased significantly during this month. About 25000kg of red onion has been supplied to the Dambulla DEC per day and it has increased by 23500kg/day when compared to the previous month. About 1414t of red onion was imported during this month, which was about 1377t lower than that imported during the previous month. Average CIF price of imported red onion was Rs.33.14/kg and it has decreased by Rs.7.20/kg, compared to the last month.

Wholesale prices of both sinnan and vedalan varieties have decreased by about Rs.3.00/kg and Rs.22.00/kg respectively due to high supplies from main producing areas. Price of imported red onion has also decreased by about Rs.15.00/kg due to availability of ample stocks of good quality local red onion varieties at the market. In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of sinnan, vedalan and imported red onion have decreased by about Rs.43.00/kg, Rs.8.00/kg and Rs.13.00/kg respectively. The gross margin between the CIF price and wholesale price of imported red onion was lower than those of the previous month as well as margin between the wholesale price and retail price during this month.

Table 2.2.2: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion (Rs/kg)

Crop	Average Price (Rs/kg)			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
Wholesale Price	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**%**	**Rs/kg**	**%**
Red Onion (Sinnan)	48.27	51.67	140.89	*-3.39*	*-6.57*	*-92.62*	*-65.74*
Red Onion (Vedalan)	78.34	100.06	213.89	*-21.71*	*-21.70*	*-135.55*	*-63.37*
Red Onion (Imported)	66.48	81.68	235.46	*-15.20*	*-18.61*	*-168.98*	*-71.77*
Big Onion (imported)	52.24	51.78	65.01	*0.46*	*0.90*	*-12.76*	*-19.63*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices							
Red Onion (Sinnan)	70.00	113.00	117.50	*-43.00*	*-38.05*	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	131.36	139.20	243.96	*-7.84*	*-5.63*	*-112.60*	*-46.16*
Red Onion (Imported)	101.77	114.45	324.53	*-12.68*	*-11.08*	*-222.76*	*-68.64*
Big Onion (imported)	71.33	75.00	85.87	*-3.67*	*-4.89*	*-14.54*	*-16.93*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.3: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Imported Onion

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Margin (Rs/kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Feb,2012	20.95	52.24	71.33	*31.29*	*19.09*
	Jan,2012	26.16	51.78	75.00	*25.62*	*23.22*
	Feb,2011	48.50	65.01	85.87	*16.51*	*20.86*
Red onion	Feb,2012	33.14	66.48	101.77	*33.34*	*35.29*
	Jan,2012	40.35	81.68	114.45	*41.33*	*32.77*
	Feb,2011	114.05	235.46	324.53	*121.41*	*89.07*

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

Table 2.2.4: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop	Quantity (t.)		Value (Rs. Mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Jan 2012	Dec 2011	Jan 2012	Dec 2011	Jan 2012	Dec 2011
Red Onion	1,414.26	2,791.14	46.87	112.63	33.14	40.35
Big Onion	17,269.77	17,396.21	361.76	455.07	20.95	26.16

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.5: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity Imported (t)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)
Feb 2012	17,270	20.95	52.24	71.33
Jan 2012	17,396	26.16	51.78	75.00
Dec 2011	14,863	32.55	61.73	83.45
Nov 2011	9,322	51.50	68.38	87.15
Oct 2011	3267	54.48	66.07	80.21
Sep 2011	358	28.54	47.24	85.35

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop situation

About 1377ha were targeted for potato cultivation in Nuwara Eliya district for this *maha* season and out of which 1157ha were cultivated by the end of February 2012. This was about 84% of the targeted extent. Compared to the previous maha season, the cultivated extent of potato has increased by 310ha representing 37%, in Nuwara Eliya district by the end of February 2012, due to higher producer prices that prevailed and favorable weather conditions, etc. The following table shows the cultivated extent and expected production of potato in Nuwara Eliya district.

Cultivated extent and Expected production of potato in Nuwara Eliya district

Cultivated Extent (ha) *2011/ 12 maha*			Expected production (t) *2011/ 12 maha*		
December	**January**	**February**	**March**	**April**	**May**
168	226	428	3360	4520	8560

Source:HARTI field information

About 2800ha was targeted for potato cultivation in the Badulla district for this *maha* season and 2181ha were cultivated by the end of February 2012, which was about 78% of the targeted extent. The following table shows the cultivation progress of potato during this *maha* season.

Targeted and Progress of potato at the end of February 2012 (2011/12 *maha*)

Areas	Target (ha)	Cultivation progress of end of February 2012		Estimated production (t)
		Extent (ha)	%	
Nuwara Eliya	1377	1157	84	19165
Badulla	2800	2181	78	29985
Others	30	25	83	200
Total	4207	3363	80	49350

Source: Crop forecast, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Market supplies of potato comprised with both imported and local potatoes. Supply of local potato from Nuwara Eliya and Badulla districts have increased during this month due to commencement of the harvesting season. Around 2800t of potato was supplied to the market from Nuwara Eliya district during this month by harvesting 168ha and around 3360t of potato production could be expected during the next month (March). A quantity of 10791t of potato was imported from India and Pakistan during this month which was about 2709t lower than that was imported during the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.20.97/kg and it has decreased by Rs.2.40/kg compared to the last month.

Both wholesale and retail prices of Nuwara Eliya potatoes have decreased by about Rs.18.00/kg and Rs.14.00/kg respectively due to high supply from main producing areas. Stocks of Welimada potato were also available at the market and average wholesale and retail prices of Welimada potato were Rs.65.28/kg and Rs.80.00/kg respectively. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported potatoes have also decreased by about Rs.6.00/kg and Rs.3.00/kg respectively due to availability of sufficient stocks of local potatoes at the market. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes have increased by 5 % and 8% respectively. However, the prices of local potato will be decreased further during the next month too due to higher supplies from main producing areas.

Table 2.3.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2012	10,790.96	226.25	20.97	74.03	*53.06*
Jan 2012	13,499.90	315.61	23.38	76.67	*53.29*
Dec 2011	15,597.14	452.28	29.00	86.60	*57.60*
Nov 2011	9,157.10	277.29	30.28	85.09	*54.81*
Oct 2011	3344.55	103.88	31.06	82.06	*51.00*
Sep 2011	4924.99	175.02	35.54	99.09	*63.55*

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

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, Wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – February 2012

Item	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)							
Welimada	66.54	72.46	54.78	*-5.93*	*-8.18*	*11.76*	*21.46*
Nuwara Eliya	66.05	84.40	63.95	*-18.35*	*-21.74*	*2.10*	*3.28*
Imported – CIF	20.97	23.38	30.75	*-2.41*	*-10.31*	*-9.78*	*-31.80*
Wholesale Prices (WP)							
Welimada	65.28	-	65.76	-	-	*-0.49*	*-0.74*
Nuwara Eliya	78.84	97.18	80.08	*-18.34*	*-18.88*	*-1.25*	*-1.56*
Imported	47.71	53.36	46.88	*-5.65*	*-10.59*	*0.83*	*1.78*
Retail Prices (RP)							
Welimada	80.00	-	97.50	-	-	*-17.50*	*-17.95*
Nuwara Eliya	113.56	127.55	107.92	*-13.99*	*-10.97*	*5.64*	*5.23*
Imported	74.03	76.67	68.47	*-2.64*	*-3.44*	*5.56*	*8.12*
Gross Margin (PP-RP)							
Welimada	13.46	-	42.72	-	-	*-29.26*	*-68.49*
Nuwara Eliya	47.51	43.15	43.97	*4.36*	*10.10*	*3.54*	*8.05*
Imported (CIF-RP)	53.06	53.29	37.72	*-0.23*	*-0.43*	*15.34*	*40.67*
Gross Margin (RP -WP)							
Welimada	14.72	-	31.74	-	-	*-17.01*	*-53.61*
Nuwara Eliya	34.72	30.37	27.84	*4.35*	*14.33*	*6.89*	*24.74*
Imported	26.32	23.31	21.60	*3.01*	*12.91*	*4.73*	*21.89*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Prices and Supply Demand Situation

Quantity of 385 mt of green gram was imported in Februry and it was furthr decreased by about 379 mt compared to that of last month. The CIF price of green gram was Rs.117.35/kg and it was an increase of Rs.5.45/kg compared to that of the previous month. Quantity of 105 mt of cowpea was imported in February and it was an increase by about 09 mt compared to that of the last month. The CIF price of cowpea was Rs.117.62/kg and it was an increase of Rs.12.73/kg compared to that of the previous month.

Wholesale prices of green gram had further increased by around 2% due to insufficient local and imported stocks. But retail price has not changed significantly with availability of sufficient stocks. Imported stocks of green gram from Australia, and Canada were available during the month. The wholesale prices of cowpea had not changed significantly while that of retail prices has increased by around 4% due to quality stocks. The average retail prices of green gram and cowpea were Rs.193.79/kg and Rs.261.62/kg respectively. The wholesale and retail prices of both green gram and had decreased by about 13% and 10% respectivelly while that of both wholesale and retail prices of cowpea have increased by about 28% and 33% respectively, compared to that of February 2011.

Table 2.4.1: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Green gram September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2012	385.25	45.21	117.35	193.79	76.44
Jan 2012	764.45	85.54	111.90	193.10	81.20
Dec 2011	1,131.47	138.74	122.62	189.17	66.55
Nov 2011	155.74	19.30	123.95	183.53	59.58
Oct 2011	370.05	46.88	126.68	180.10	53.42
Sep 2011	403.34	50.41	124.99	184.11	59.12

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

Table 2.4.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Cowpea September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2012	104.86	12.30	117.62	261.62	144.00
Jan 2012	96.02	10.07	104.89	252.88	147.99
Dec 2011	49.88	6.28	125.98	247.86	121.88
Nov 2011	24.00	2.84	118.35	247.62	129.27
Oct 2011	96.30	6.51	67.60	242.60	175.00
Sep 2011	24.00	1.99	83.05	239.93	156.88

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

Table 2.4.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea- February 2012

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Green gram	169.77	173.45	194.78	-3.67	-2.12	-25.01	-12.84
Cowpea	227.17	227.83	177.24	-0.67	-0.29	49.93	28.17
Retail Prices							
Green gram	193.79	193.10	214.37	0.69	0.36	-20.58	-9.60
Cowpea	261.62	252.88	196.44	8.74	3.46	65.18	33.18

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	Feb,2012	117.35	169.77	193.79	52.42	24.02
	Jan,2012	111.90	173.45	193.10	61.55	19.65
	Feb,2011	131.64	194.78	214.37	63.14	19.59
Cowpea	Feb,2012	117.62	227.17	261.62	109.55	34.45
	Jan,2012	104.89	227.83	252.88	122.94	25.05
	Feb,2011	54.07	177.24	196.44	123.17	19.20

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

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Quantity of 2,806 mt was imported during the month and it had decreased by about 556mt.Supply of Red dhal mainly from Australia and Canada. The CIF price was Rs.65.82//kg and it is an increase by Rs.2.05/kg compared to that of the last month. Wholesale price of red dhal had increased by about 4% due to it's good quality, while that of retail price had not changed significantly. The average wholesale and retail prices of red dhal were Rs.107.67/kg and Rs.138.15/kg respectively. Compared to the same month of the last year, the current wholesale and retail prices of red dhal have decreased by about 24% and 18 % respectively.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal – February 2012

Red Dhal	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	107.67	103.43	140.97	4.25	4.10	-33.30	-23.62
Retail Price	138.15	137.73	169.16	0.42	0.30	-31.01	-18.33

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

Table 2.5.2: The CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity (t)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Feb 2012	2806.35	65.82	107.67	138.15	41.85	30.48
Jan 2012	3361.70	63.77	103.43	137.73	39.66	34.30
Dec 2011	8382.98	70.59	100.99	138.25	30.40	37.26
Nov 2011	14065.20	77.46	105.13	138.52	27.67	33.39
Oct 2011	14129.03	51.99	106.94	136.44	54.95	29.50
Sep 2011	12309.29	83.14	107.29	138.41	24.15	31.12

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

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

Cultivation progress of up country vegetables ranged between 65% - 92% with the highest progress recorded for beans by the end of February, *maha* 2011/12. By the end of February, about 4,788 ha of beans and 3,435 ha of tomato were cultivated for this *maha* season. In February, beans (920 ha) was the most commonly cultivated up country vegetable, followed by tomato (531 ha) (table 3.1). Compared to the same period of 2010/11 *maha* season, the cultivated extent of all the up country vegetables, except knolkhol were at a high level by the end of February. During the last *maha* season, the crop damages occurred due to extreme weather conditions and therefore, the production of vegetables is higher during this *maha* season than that of 2010/11 *maha* season.

Cultivation progress of low country vegetables ranged between 73% - 98% with the highest progress recorded for pumpkin. Cultivation progress of low country vegetables show relatively higher progress than that of up country vegetables during this *maha* season. By the end of February, 2011/12 *maha* season, about 8,209 ha of pumpkin was cultivated, followed by brinjal (6,107 ha). During the last *yala* season, pumpkin cultivation was affected with a disease and the production was low which resulted in high prices during the last few months. Hence, the cultivation of pumpkin has increased during this *maha* season. Brinjal (699 ha) was the most commonly cultivated up country vegetable in February, followed by okra (462 ha) (table 3.2). Compared to the same period of 2010/11 *maha* season, the cultivated extent of all the low country vegetables were high by the end February, 2011/12 *maha* season.

Box 1: Crop Situation in Nuwara Eliya and Matale Districts (2011/12 *maha* Season)

Nuwara Eliya:

By the end of February, 2011/12 *maha* season, the cultivation progress ranged between 51% - 111% with the highest progress recorded for radish. Farmers tended to cultivate radish prior to cultivation of potato to make the soil suitable for potato cultivation. Hence, the production of radish was high in February. During the month of February, beans (265 ha) was the mostly cultivated vegetable, followed by tomato (198 ha). Compared to the same period of last year, the cultivated extents of all the vegetables except capsicum were high by the end of February, 2011/12 *maha* season. Due to lack of rains compared to last *maha* season, the cultivation will get affected in coming months.

Matale:

About 3,344 ha of vegetables were cultivated by the end of February. The highest cultivation progress of 109% was recorded for beans by the end of February, 2011/12 *maha* season. However, it was less than 50% for other types of vegetables. Supply of vegetables to Dambulla DEC was 1,000 – 1,200mt per day during last month and it has increased to 1,500 – 1,600mt per day in February. Also, nearly 250 – 300 mt of vegetables were supplied per day from Jaffna to Dambulla DEC.

Table 3.1: Cultivated Extent of Up-country Vegetables in Major Producing Areas

Crop	District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Cultivated Extent by the end of February (ha)		Achievement as a % of the Target
		Maha 2010/11	*Maha* 2011/12	*Maha* 2010/11	*Maha* 2011/12	
Beans	Badulla	1,709	1,805	1,460	1,541	85
	N'Eliya	1,218	1,182	520	706	60
	Matale	852	863	1,034	938	109
	Kandy	690	638	524	595	93
	Ratnapura	380	375	306	392	105
	Sri Lanka	**5,390**	**5,220**	**4,300**	**4,788**	**92**
Carrot	N'Eliya	1,105	1,162	725	840	72
	Badulla	378	383	257	303	79
	Sri Lanka	**1,586**	**1,796**	**1,211**	**1,358**	**76**
Leeks	N'Eliya	787	939	584	669	71
	Sri Lanka	**884**	**1,130**	**694**	**972**	**86**
Tomato	Badulla	616	751	440	606	81
	N'Eliya	614	647	225	480	74
	Kandy	480	512	489	419	82
	Ratnapura	115	190	80	0	0
	Matale	361	384	158	148	39
	Sri Lanka	**3,389**	**4,575**	**2,680**	**3,435**	**75**
Cabbage	N'Eliya	965	881	563	617	70
	Badulla	747	670	516	619	92
	Matale	169	238	82	51	21
	Kandy	416	536	325	324	60
	Sri Lanka	**2,745**	**3,080**	**1,970**	**2,022**	**66**
Beetroot	N'Eliya	520	597	303	383	64
	Badulla	135	123	70	89	72
	Matale	176	173	55	81	47
	Kurunegala	118	185	43	120	65
	Puttalam	200	194	214	232	120
	Sri Lanka	**1,527**	**1,852**	**943**	**1,206**	**65**
Capsicum	N'Eliya	424	423	229	216	51
	Badulla	312	302	165	213	71
	Puttalam	200	217	187	204	94
	Matale	214	219	97	90	41
	Kurunegala	187	158	115	173	109
	Sri Lanka	**2,059**	**2,721**	**1,573**	**2,113**	**78**
Radish	N'Eliya	529	445	370	494	111
	Matale	85	90	53	40	44
	Puttalam	250	241	229	159	66
	Badulla	277	345	197	210	61
	Kurunegala	183	155	140	170	110
	Sri Lanka	**2,088**	**2,148**	**1,624**	**1,896**	**88**
Knolkhol	N'Eliya	192	269	184	209	78
	Badulla	314	77	121	122	158
	Matale	117	118	66	52	44
	Sri Lanka	**735**	**767**	**546**	**515**	**67**

Source: Field Information Network – Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI
Crop Forecast maha 2011/12 – Socio Economic and Planning Centre, Department of Agriculture

Table 3.2: Cultivated Extent of Low country Vegetables in Major Producing Areas

Crop	District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Cultivated Extent by the end of February (ha)		Achievement as a % of the Target
		***Maha* 2010/11**	***Maha* 2011/12**	***Maha* 2010/11**	***Maha* 2011/12**	
Brinjal	Anuradhapura	1,095	2,000	830	1,011	51
	Moneragala	743	710	611	649	91
	Hambanthota	310	351	295	409	117
	Badulla	443	612	217	372	61
	Ratnapura	295	275	181	219	80
	Matale	417	313	165	167	53
	Sri Lanka	**5,505**	**8,350**	**4,830**	**6,107**	**73**
Bittergourd	Hambanthota	266	313	332	308	98
	Anuradhapura	460	400	325	354	89
	Moneragala	201	199	192	146	73
	Kurunegala	194	187	115	168	90
	Sri Lanka	**2,384**	**3,089**	**2,278**	**2,654**	**86**
Okra	Anuradhapura	710	650	517	544	84
	Kurunegala	337	276	257	366	133
	Moneragala	439	438	440	416	95
	Matale	232	348	114	112	32
	Ratnapura	300	260	206	189	73
	Hambanthota	275	325	242	363	112
	Sri Lanka	**4,030**	**5,279**	**3,724**	**4,455**	**84**
Pumpkin	Anuradhapura	2,425	2,800	2,973	2,008	72
	Moneragala	3,337	2,734	2,448	3,936	144
	Hambanthota	417	457	473	473	104
	Sri Lanka	**7,628**	**8,342**	**7,279**	**8,209**	**98**
Snake gourd	Hambanthota	n.a.	274	365	279	102
	Kurunegala	193	178	120	168	94
	Matale	176	179	71	85	47
	Moneragala	123	147	130	127	86
	Sri Lanka	**2,073**	**2,735**	**1,935**	**2,194**	**80**
Cucumber	Hambanthota	290	292	232	285	98
	Moneragala	310	257	273	225	88
	Matale	221	257	74	90	35
	Anuradhapura	225	300	324	381	127
	Sri Lanka	**1,429**	**2,385**	**1,650**	**1,901**	**80**

Source: Field Information Network – Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI
Crop Forecast maha 2011/12 – Socio Economic and Planning Centre, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

According to the annual price behavior, generally the prices of vegetables start to show a declining trend from February with the commencement of major harvesting period. During this *maha* season, the supplies of vegetables are high due to following reasons;

- During this *maha* season, the cultivated extents of vegetables have increased compared to the last *maha* season. During the last *maha* season, due to extreme weather conditions, the crop damages occurred which resulted in high prices of vegetables during February to April, 2011. Hence, the farmers tended to cultivate more vegetables from April last year and therefore there was a shift in the cultivation season of vegetables. During this *maha* season, most of the cultivation took place in November and December. Hence, the supplies of vegetables had increased in February, 2012. Also, due to favourable weather conditions, the yield of vegetables was high and the crop damages were low during this *maha* season.

- Farmers tended to cultivate more vegetables with the expansion of fertilizer subsidy for vegetables.
- With the cultivation of vegetables in home gardens under the *"Divineguma"* programme, the consumer demand has decreased.
- Cultivation of vegetables expanded in North and East provinces of the country from last year and the traders come from those areas to Dambulla DEC. As a result prices of vegetables have decreased by nearly 40%.
- Cultivation has resumed in lands which were abandoned during the war period (eg: Chena cultivation in North Central and Uva provinces of the country).
- Cultivation has taken place in the camps of forces and the supply of vegetables to those camps from Dambulla DEC has dropped by about 85%.

In February, 2012 the prices of all the vegetables had decreased further. With regard to upcountry vegetables, the highest price decrease of 81% was observed for tomato due to arrival of large stocks from Hanguranketha, Walapane, Dambulla, Marassana, Mathurata, Adikarigama and Embilipitiya areas. Nearly 120mt of tomato were supplied per day to Dambulla DEC in February. Due to dry weather conditions in most of the producing areas of tomato in February, the early ripening of fruits was observed and harvesting has taken place at an interval of 2-3 days which resulted in better supply of tomato in February. Compared to the wholesale prices of tomato recorded during the same period of last five years, the lowest average price was recorded in February, 2012. Further, the price of cabbage had decreased by 64% due to arrival of large stocks from Puttalam and Welimada areas. In addition, the wholesale prices of radish and beetroot have decreased by 46% and 42% respectively. Stocks of radish had arrived from Puttalam, Nuwara Eliya and Matale, while stocks of beetroot had arrived from Puttalam Nuwara Eliya, Welimada and Jaffna. In February, among the upcountry vegetables, the highest wholesale price range of Rs.35.00-80.00/kg was recorded for beans, while the lowest range of Rs.8.00-20.00/kg was recorded for radish, followed by tomato (Rs.8.00-30.00/kg). Compared to the same period of last year, the current wholesale prices of all the upcountry vegetables had decreased with the highest price decrease of 86% for tomato. Furthermore, the prices of beans, carrot, beetroot, radish, cabbage and tomato in 2012 were low compared to the same period of last five years.

Supply of low country vegetables had shown a continuous progress in February as well due to high supply from Nochchiyagama, Wadigala, Embilipitiya and Tissamaharama. With regard to low country vegetables, the prices of all the vegetables except cucumber had decreased in February. The highest price decrease of 73% at wholesale level was recorded for brinjal due to arrival of large stocks from Anuradhapura, Thambuththegama, Embilipitiya and Dambulla. Further, the wholesale price of snake gourd had decreased by 50% as the supply from Balangoda and Embilipitiya had increased. In addition, the wholesale prices of capsicum and bittergourd had decreased by 39% and 35% respectively. Meanwhile, the price of green chillies had decreased further by 51% due to arrival of large stocks from Puttalam and Nochchiyagama. Due to dry weather conditions, the harvesting of green chillies was high. Considering the prices recorded during the same period of the last five years, the lowest price was recorded in February, 2012 for brinjal, snake gourd, long beans and green chillies. Compared to the same period of the last year, the current wholesale prices of all the low country vegetables had decreased with the highest price decrease of 90% for brinjal.

According to the price behavior of the wholesale market, the retail prices of all the vegetables had decreased. With regard to upcountry vegetables, the highest price decrease of 65% was recorded for tomato. Further, the retail prices of carrot, beetroot and cabbage had decreased in the range of 34%-35%. Among the low country vegetables, the highest price decrease of 42% was observed for capsicum, followed by brinjal (40%). Compared to the same period of the last year, the current retail prices of all the vegetables had decreased with the highest price decrease of 72% for tomato.

Table 3.3: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – February 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	54.14	64.80	183.34	*-10.66*	*-16.45*	*-129.20*	*-70.47*
Carrot	44.85	71.15	124.28	*-26.30*	*-36.96*	*-79.43*	*-63.91*
Leeks	46.47	49.50	79.09	*-3.03*	*-6.12*	*-32.62*	*-41.24*
Beetroot	45.90	78.82	107.29	*-32.92*	*-41.77*	*-61.39*	*-57.22*
Knolkhol	42.05	58.22	74.78	*-16.17*	*-27.77*	*-32.73*	*-43.77*
Radish	10.26	19.04	47.84	*-8.78*	*-46.11*	*-37.58*	*-78.55*
Cabbage	17.93	50.41	66.64	*-32.48*	*-64.43*	*-48.71*	*-73.09*
Tomato	17.18	89.20	125.17	*-72.02*	*-80.74*	*-107.99*	*-86.27*
Ladies Fingers	38.88	42.26	103.65	*-3.38*	*-8.00*	*-64.77*	*-62.49*
Brinjal	10.87	39.66	104.05	*-28.79*	*-72.59*	*-93.18*	*-89.55*
Capsicum	77.23	127.60	233.84	*-50.37*	*-39.47*	*-156.61*	*-66.97*
Pumpkin	26.54	30.83	57.86	*-4.29*	*-13.92*	*-31.32*	*-54.13*
Cucumber	34.47	32.44	44.55	*2.03*	*6.26*	*-10.08*	*-22.63*
Bitter Gourd	53.86	82.68	127.94	*-28.82*	*-34.86*	*-74.08*	*-57.90*
Snake Gourd	21.56	42.86	88.71	*-21.30*	*-49.70*	*-67.15*	*-75.70*
Drumstick	225.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	47.32	57.69	115.35	*-10.37*	*-17.98*	*-68.03*	*-58.98*
Long Beans	23.90	28.48	108.55	*-4.58*	*-16.08*	*-84.65*	*-77.98*
Ash Plantain	34.84	41.37	72.23	*-6.53*	*-15.78*	*-37.39*	*-51.77*
Green Chillies	49.65	101.65	298.79	*-52.00*	*-51.16*	*-249.14*	*-83.38*
Lime	31.50	40.39	18.92	*-8.89*	*-22.01*	*12.58*	*66.49*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.4: Retail Prices of Vegetables – February 2012

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	85.91	112.24	242.78	*-26.33*	*-23.46*	*-156.87*	*-64.61*
Carrot	87.09	132.62	186.20	*-45.53*	*-34.33*	*-99.11*	*-53.23*
Leeks	85.93	103.03	146.90	*-17.10*	*-16.60*	*-60.97*	*-41.50*
Beetroot	90.31	139.26	174.35	*-48.95*	*-35.15*	*-84.04*	*-48.20*
Knolkhol	106.42	137.27	194.22	*-30.85*	*-22.47*	*-87.80*	*-45.21*
Radish	57.47	71.25	104.13	*-13.78*	*-19.34*	*-46.66*	*-44.81*
Cabbage	67.38	104.23	134.79	*-36.85*	*-35.35*	*-67.41*	*-50.01*
Tomato	53.84	154.15	193.05	*-100.31*	*-65.07*	*-139.21*	*-72.11*
Ladies Fingers	78.71	104.68	174.39	*-25.97*	*-24.81*	*-95.68*	*-54.87*
Brinjal	54.93	91.80	167.98	*-36.87*	*-40.16*	*-113.05*	*-67.30*
Capsicum	131.74	227.35	334.11	*-95.61*	*-42.05*	*-202.37*	*-60.57*
Pumpkin	67.01	79.63	98.88	*-12.62*	*-15.85*	*-31.87*	*-32.23*
Cucumber	68.46	78.17	100.00	*-9.71*	*-12.42*	*-31.54*	*-31.54*
Bitter Gourd	105.82	145.84	195.98	*-40.02*	*-27.44*	*-90.16*	*-46.00*
Snake Gourd	66.59	94.08	148.98	*-27.49*	*-29.22*	*-82.39*	*-55.30*
Drumstick	531.67	120.00	120.00	*411.67*	*343.06*	*411.67*	*343.06*
Luffa	99.27	118.12	190.62	*-18.85*	*-15.96*	*-91.35*	*-47.92*
Long Beans	68.27	88.49	172.90	*-20.22*	*-22.85*	*-104.63*	*-60.51*
Ash Plantain	77.74	95.32	133.29	*-17.58*	*-18.44*	*-55.55*	*-41.68*
Green Chillies	141.12	225.06	484.62	*-83.94*	*-37.30*	*-343.50*	*-70.88*
Lime	114.48	160.05	80.50	*-45.57*	*-28.47*	*33.98*	*42.21*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of most of the fruit varieties had decreased further during the month due to dry weather in most of the major producing areas as well as due to off season. Hence the wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased with the highest price increase recorded for mango (123% for karthakolmban, 102% for betti and 73% for kohu). Only limited supply of mango was recorded from Baticaloa and Polonnaruwa areas as it was the off season.

Further the wholesale price of papaw had increased continuously during the month due to low supply with dry weather and price had increased by 48% compared to the previous month. Further the wholesale prices of passion fruit and avocado had increased by 77% and 79% respectively as it was the off season and further price increase could be expected during the next month too.

Low demand for banana was recorded during the month compared to the previous month after the festive season and wholesale prices of all the varieties of banana had increased in the range of 5% - 24%. Among the banana varieties high supplies of kolikuttu had been recorded from Embilipitiya and Udawalawa areas and wholesale price had decreased by 24%. Further price reduction could be expected during the next month for all the varieties of banana. Further the wholesale price of orange had decreased by 40% due to improved supplies from Nikaweratiya, Anamaduwa and Bibile areas.

Compared to the same period of the last year, current wholesale prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 207% for avocado.

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 142% for mango (karthakolomban). Further the retail prices of papaw, passion fruit and avocado had increased by 33%, 51% and 22% respectively due to limited availability. According to the table 4.2, a significant retail price reduction was recorded only for orange and all the varieties of banana. Compared to the same period of the last year, current retail prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 80% for avocado.

Producer price of papaw had increased further by 56% in Embilipitiya, Hambanthota and Moneragala areas due to decreased supplies during the month. Similarly, the producer price of kolikuttu(banana) had increased by 11%. Compared to the same period of last year, current producer prices of ambul and papaw had increased by 2% and 5% respectively, while the producer price of kolikuttu and pineapple had decreased by 21% and 3% respectively.

Exports/Imports of Fruits

Pineapple was the widely exported fruit in February and the quantity exported was of 55.35t. The total export earnings of pineapple, papaw, mango and orange in February were Rs.million 14.88. Mandarin was the widely imported fruit in February and the quantity imported was 2,502.44t. The total import expenditure of apple, grapes, oranges and mandarin were Rs. million 333.49 in February.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – February 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	%	Rs./Fruit	%
Plantain							
Ambul (Rs/kg)	35.51	42.17	30.42	*-6.66*	*-15.79*	*5.09*	*16.73*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	71.36	93.40	81.30	*-22.04*	*-23.60*	*-9.94*	*-12.23*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	37.55	40.30	30.30	*-2.75*	*-6.82*	*7.25*	*23.93*
Anamalu	6.41	6.78	5.48	*-0.37*	*-5.46*	*0.93*	*16.97*
Ambun	8.82	9.24	7.25	*-0.42*	*-4.55*	*1.57*	*21.66*
Pineapple							
Large	107.00	109.00	128.59	*-2.00*	*-1.83*	*-21.59*	*-16.79*
Medium	83.98	87.23	106.29	*-3.25*	*-3.73*	*-22.31*	*-20.99*
Small	62.07	66.53	86.25	*-4.46*	*-6.70*	*-24.18*	*-28.03*
Mango							
Betti	18.38	9.12	15.00	*9.26*	*101.54*	*3.38*	*22.53*
Karthakolomban	71.23	31.97	89.72	*39.26*	*122.80*	*-18.49*	*-20.61*
Vilad	20.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kohu	11.68	6.75	-	*4.93*	*73.04*	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	71.77	48.51	54.08	*23.26*	*47.95*	*17.69*	*32.71*
Passion Fruit	9.61	5.44	10.51	*4.17*	*76.65*	*-0.90*	*-8.56*
Wood Apple	16.72	13.25	15.39	*3.47*	*26.19*	*1.33*	*8.64*
Orange	15.75	26.12	15.53	*-10.37*	*-39.70*	*0.22*	*1.42*
Avocado	50.05	27.97	16.29	*22.08*	*78.94*	*33.76*	*207.24*
Slime Apple	13.94	12.89	9.22	*1.05*	*8.15*	*4.72*	*51.19*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	448.24	478.08	440.74	*-29.84*	*-6.24*	*7.50*	*1.70*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – February 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	%	Rs./Fruit	%
Plantain							
Ambul (Rs/kg)	68.74	72.93	64.48	*-4.19*	*-5.75*	*4.26*	*6.61*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	131.00	142.80	138.20	*-11.80*	*-8.26*	*-7.20*	*-5.21*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	68.35	70.36	65.10	*-2.01*	*-2.86*	*3.25*	*4.99*
Anamalu	11.46	12.00	10.83	*-0.54*	*-4.50*	*0.63*	*5.82*
Ambun	12.83	13.76	12.70	*-0.93*	*-6.76*	*0.13*	*1.02*
Pineapple							
Large	150.53	149.44	172.35	*1.09*	*0.73*	*-21.82*	*-12.66*
Medium	124.25	122.62	148.26	*1.63*	*1.33*	*-24.01*	*-16.19*
Small	104.80	100.20	109.85	*4.60*	*4.59*	*-5.05*	*-4.60*
Mango							
Betti	50.00	-	35.00	-	-	*15.00*	*42.86*
Karthakolomban	143.87	59.43	146.43	*84.44*	*142.08*	*-2.56*	*-1.75*
Vilad	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kohu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	113.83	85.61	80.49	*28.22*	*32.96*	*33.34*	*41.42*
Passion Fruit	17.23	11.41	17.66	*5.82*	*51.01*	*-0.43*	*-2.43*
Wood Apple	39.53	37.10	35.44	*2.43*	*6.55*	*4.09*	*11.54*
Orange	37.79	44.53	32.95	*-6.74*	*-15.14*	*4.84*	*14.69*
Avocado	93.63	76.96	52.03	*16.67*	*21.66*	*41.60*	*79.95*
Slime Apple	41.60	45.67	33.46	*-4.07*	*-8.91*	*8.14*	*24.33*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	677.92	700.32	680.44	*-22.40*	*-3.20*	*-2.52*	*-0.37*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits- February 2012

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	%	Rs./kg	%
Ambul	25.39	29.26	24.83	-4.43	-15.14	0.56	2.26
Kolikuttu	53.00	60.33	67.20	6.87	11.39	-14.20	-21.13
Papaw	50.64	32.45	30.90	-1.55	-4.78	19.74	63.88
Pineapple	52.81	57.50	54.63	-2.87	-4.99	-1.82	-3.33

Source: Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits October – January 2012

Type of Fruit	January 2012			December 2011			November 2011		
	Qty (t)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (t)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (t)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)
Fresh Pineapple	55.35	5.64	101.88	4.38	1.11	253.23	34.64	6.58	189.98
Papaw	39.14	3.73	95.37	34.01	1.91	56.16	47.81	4.11	85.91
Fresh Mango	2.02	0.63	310.95	0.58	0.11	186.82	1.16	0.42	362.43
Fresh Oranges	39.68	4.88	123.01	4.26	0.73	171.01	34.74	8.60	247.61
Bananas	-	-	-	22.51	1.45	64.34	-	-	-

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

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits November – January 2012

Types of Fruit	January 2012			December 2011			November 2011		
	Qty (t)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (t)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (t)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)
Apple	1,321.86	84.84	64.18	1,738.06	94.08	54.13	1,898.21	98.51	51.90
Grapes	629.76	111.08	176.39	472.30	83.43	176.65	321.82	45.28	140.70
Oranges	352.99	23.02	65.20	243.19	14.69	60.40	222.16	11.64	52.40
Mandarin	2,502.44	114.53	45.77	2,060.93	90.54	43.93	2,724.06	104.52	38.37

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

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and MeatFish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supply of balaya ,kelawallla and thora was high due to favorable weather conditions and undisturbed fishing activities in most of the fishing areas. As a result the wholesale prices of that varieties have decreased with the highest price decrease noted for kelawalla (18%) followed by balaya (17%) and thora (15%). However prices of hurulla, mora and srimps (small)have increased with highest price increase of 28% for hurulla. The current wholesale prices of all of the varieties except salaya and balaya have increased with the highest price increase noted for kelawalla (19%), compared to the same period of the last year.

Tthe retail prices of all the varieties except hurulla and mora have decreased with highest price decrease of 12% for thora followed by balaya, kelawalla and srimps (small) (7%) with direct supplies to most of the retail market from Negambo and Modara area. Prices of hurulla and mora have increased by about 6% and 4% respectively as a result of low supply. The current wholesale prices of most of the varieties have decreased with the highest price decrease noted for salaya (4%), compared to the same period of last year.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – February 2012

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Salaya	83.25	86.93	102.43	*-3.68*	*-4.23*	*-19.18*	*-18.72*
Hurulla	235.00	183.87	207.75	*51.13*	*27.81*	*27.25*	*13.12*
Balaya	204.00	245.40	218.81	*-41.40*	*-16.87*	*-14.81*	*-6.77*
Kelawalla	362.92	442.15	305.58	*-79.23*	*-17.92*	*57.34*	*18.76*
Thora	810.83	953.60	752.52	*-142.77*	*-14.97*	*58.31*	*7.75*
Paraw	425.92	425.71	374.00	*0.21*	*0.05*	*51.92*	*13.88*
Mora	331.42	317.98	312.75	*13.44*	*4.23*	*18.67*	*5.97*
Shrimps (small)	604.08	563.20	600.50	*40.88*	*7.26*	*3.58*	*0.60*
Thalapath	517.25	515.40	438.57	*1.85*	*0.36*	*78.68*	*17.94*
Retail Prices							
Salaya	143.20	146.50	149.14	*-3.30*	*-2.25*	*-5.94*	*-3.98*
Hurulla	306.83	288.86	315.17	*17.97*	*6.22*	*-8.34*	*-2.65*
Balaya	427.92	457.96	428.37	*-30.04*	*-6.56*	*-0.45*	*-0.11*
Kelawalla	632.03	679.99	580.23	*-47.96*	*-7.05*	*51.80*	*8.93*
Thora	1007.58	1151.49	967.63	*-143.91*	*-12.50*	*39.95*	*4.13*
Paraw	688.55	696.11	627.01	*-7.56*	*-1.09*	*61.54*	*9.81*
Mora	526.82	507.77	539.61	*19.05*	*3.75*	*-12.79*	*-2.37*
Shrimps (small)	716.23	766.54	729.47	*-50.31*	*-6.56*	*-13.24*	*-1.82*
Thalapath	731.94	772.53	703.25	*-40.59*	*-5.25*	*28.69*	*4.08*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Dried Fish

Wholesale prices of most of the varieties have further increased with low supply of local and imported stocks. Supply of imported stocks was low in the last few months due to high special commodity levy (100.00/kg). The highest price increase was noted for local salaya (18%) of good quality, followed by imported anguluwa (8%) and imported thora (4%). The prices of a few verities have decreased with the highest price decrease noted for local maduwa (11%). Compared to the same period of the last year the current prices of most of the varieties have increased with the highest price increase observed for local sprats.

The retail prices of all the varieties except balaya and salaya have increased with the highest price increase noted for sparats by about 2%. Compared to the same period of the last year the current prices of all the varieties except salaya have increased with the highest price increase noted for kattawa by 8%.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish– February 2012

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale							
Sprats	466.22	-	277.26	-	-	*188.97*	*68.16*
Sprats (imported)	265.75	257.30	243.43	*8.45*	*3.28*	*22.32*	*9.17*
Kattawa	679.13	672.00	575.53	*7.13*	*1.06*	*103.60*	*18.00*
Kattawa (imported)	643.38	627.21	518.02	*16.17*	*2.58*	*125.35*	*24.20*
Thora	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thora (imported)	811.21	783.20	686.75	*28.01*	*3.58*	*124.46*	*18.12*
Mora	577.63	560.20	523.87	*17.43*	*3.11*	*53.76*	*10.26*
Mora (imported)	519.25	510.43	524.36	*8.82*	*1.73*	*-5.11*	*-0.97*
Balaya	395.00	440.80	345.55	*-45.80*	*-10.39*	*49.45*	*14.31*
Balaya (imported)	-	-	349.95	-	-	-	-
Anguluwa	-	564.00	518.00	-	-	-	-
Anguluwa (imported)	476.44	442.05	486.07	*34.39*	*7.78*	*-9.63*	*-1.98*
Maduwa	376.88	424.00	344.69	*-47.13*	*-11.11*	*32.19*	*9.34*
Maduwa (imported)	284.50	272.40	254.40	*12.10*	*4.44*	*30.10*	*11.83*
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	276.67	-	-		-
Salaya	195.00	164.40	260.33	*30.60*	*18.61*	*-65.33*	*-25.10*
Salaya (imported)	210.31	225.00	255.63	*-14.69*	*-6.53*	*-45.31*	*-17.73*
Dried Fish – Retail							
Sprats	368.19	360.36	352.30	*7.83*	*2.17*	*15.89*	*4.51*
Kattawa	867.22	858.58	803.72	*8.64*	*1.01*	*63.50*	*7.90*
Thora	937.27	927.50	914.84	*9.77*	*1.05*	*22.43*	*2.45*
Mora	723.36	720.12	697.13	*3.24*	*0.45*	*26.23*	*3.76*
Balaya	638.54	639.40	624.10	*-0.86*	*-0.13*	*14.44*	*2.31*
Anguluwa	679.98	668.18	673.20	*11.80*	*1.77*	*6.78*	*1.01*
Maduwa	-	-	465.50	-	-	-	-
Koduwa	-	-	700.00	-	-	-	-
Salaya	374.70	375.64	400.80	*-0.94*	*-0.25*	*-26.10*	*-6.51*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Eggs

Demand for eggs had decreased during the month compared to the previous month after the festive season and prices have decreased by 22% for both brown and white eggs. Supplies of eggs were mainly from Hettipola, Madampe, Marawila and Kuliyapitiya areas during the month. Retail prices also had decreased in line with the wholesale prices and were below Rs. 10.00/egg for both the brown and white eggs. According to the market information this low level of prices for eggs could be expected until the end of the next month. Compared to the same period of last year, current wholesale prices of both brown and white eggs have decreased by 40% and 39% respectively while the retail prices of them have decreased by 33% and 34% respectively.

Meat

Prices of pork and mutton have increased by 8% and 7% respectively compared to the previous month while the prices of other meat varieties have not changed significantly. Compared to the same period of last year, current retail prices of all the meat varieties have increased with the highest price increase of 22% for mutton.

Table 5.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs – February 2012

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	%	Rs.	%
Eggs – Wholesale							
Eggs – Brown (each)	8.00	10.20	13.33	*-2.20*	*-21.57*	*-5.33*	*-39.98*
White (each)	7.80	10.00	12.83	*-2.20*	*-22.00*	*-5.03*	*-39.20*
Eggs – Retail							
Eggs- Brown (each)	9.76	11.47	14.50	*-1.71*	*-14.91*	*-4.74*	*-32.69*
White (each)	9.30	11.01	14.11	*-1.71*	*-15.53*	*-4.81*	*-34.09*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.4: Retail Prices of Meat – February 2012

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat							
Beef (without bones)	463.53	469.86	455.52	*-6.33*	*-1.35*	*8.01*	*1.76*
Chicken (Broiler)	435.49	439.95	373.79	*-4.46*	*-1.01*	*61.70*	*16.51*
Chicken (curry)	387.71	393.44	370.00	*-5.73*	*-1.46*	*17.71*	*4.79*
Mutton	981.33	920.09	806.46	*61.24*	*6.66*	*174.87*	*21.68*
Pork	472.00	435.80	433.92	*36.20*	*8.31*	*38.08*	*8.78*

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

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

The average monthly imported quantity of wheat grain in the year 2011 was 65,000mt and during January, 2012 also the same quantity had been imported. But in February, the imported quantity of wheat grain had decreased by 30% compared to the previous month and the imported quantity was 45177mt. The total expenditure of wheat grain in February was Rs. mn.1889. The CIF price had increased by 10% (Rs.3.85/kg) compared to the last month. When considering the wheat flour, the average monthly imported quantity in the year 2011 was 2425mt and it had decreasd significantly in first two months of the year. The imported quantity of wheat flour in this month was 1171mt and the total expenditure was Rs. mn.32.51. The CIF price of wheat flour had increased by Rs.1.54/kg compared to the previous month and the CIF price was Rs.48.27/kg in February. Compared to the February last year, the retail price of wheat flour had increased by 4%.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar - February 2012

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Feb 2011	Jan 2012		Feb 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	84.75	84.28	81.42	*0.47*	*0.56*	*3.33*	*4.09*
Sugar	93.27	88.35	*100.13*	*4.92*	*5.57*	*-6.86*	*-6.85*

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Wheat Flour & Grain September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Feb 2012	1671.42	32.51	48.27	84.75	*36.48*
Jan 2012	1261.37	58.94	46.73	84.28	*37.55*
Dec 2011	3184.26	152.59	47.92	83.92	*36.00*
Nov 2011	5648.36	256.67	45.44	84.12	*38.68*
Oct 2011	4859.59	216.47	44.54	84.39	*39.85*
Sep 2011	1166.89	48.88	41.89	84.66	*42.77*
Wheat Grain					
Feb 2012	45176.96	1889.26	41.82	84.75	*42.93*
Jan 2012	64750.06	2458.38	37.97	84.28	*46.31*
Dec 2011	58035.85	2585.55	44.55	83.92	*39.36*
Nov 2011	93818.47	3508.39	37.40	84.12	*46.72*
Oct 2011	43373.17	1732.91	39.95	84.39	*44.44*
Sep 2011	74130.08	2866.05	38.66	84.66	*46.00*

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

Sugar

The CIF price of suger had decreased continuously since September last year until January 2012. The CIF price has increased in February by Rs.1.15/kg compared to the previous month. The lowest price was recorded in January and the imported quantity was 49334t in January. Hence, the imported quantity of suger had decreased by 30% during the month. Compared to the same period of last year, current retail price of sugar had decreased by Rs.6.86/kg and the retail price was recorded at Rs.93.27/kg in February.

Table 6.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sugar- September 2011 to February 2012

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2012	34800.14	2543.00	73.07	84.75	*11.68*
Jan 2012	49333.58	3548.16	71.92	88.35	*16.43*
Dec 2011	43698.11	3427.46	78.44	91.04	*12.60*
Nov 2011	54064.53	4364.53	80.73	92.95	*12.22*
Oct 2011	48153.73	3972.08	82.49	94.94	*12.45*
Sep 2011	44773.15	3854.16	86.08	97.14	*11.06*

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

Table 7: Imports of Selected Food Items - February 2012

Items	Quantity (t)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Feb 2012	Jan 2012		Feb 2012	Jan 2012		Feb 2012	Jan 2012	
Rice	7,620.57	2602.96	192.77	558.88	197.48	183.01	73.34	75.87	-3.33
Red Onion	1,414.26	2791.14	-49.33	46.87	112.63	-58.39	33.14	40.35	-17.87
Big Onion	17,269.77	17396.21	-0.73	361.76	455.07	-20.50	20.95	26.16	-19.92
Potato	10,790.96	13499.90	-20.07	226.25	315.61	-28.31	20.97	23.38	-10.31
Dried Chillies	4,225.31	3196.23	32.20	622.05	501.55	24.03	147.22	156.92	-6.18
Masoor Dhal	2,806.35	3361.70	-16.52	184.73	214.39	-13.83	65.82	63.77	3.21
Green Gram	385.25	764.45	-49.60	45.21	85.54	-47.15	117.35	111.90	4.87
Cowpea	104.86	96.02	9.20	12.30	10.07	22.14	117.62	104.89	12.14
Black gram	289.33	357.10	-18.98	32.19	40.09	-19.71	111.27	112.27	-0.89
Garlic	1,779.55	1951.00	-8.79	116.77	101.63	14.90	65.62	52.09	25.97
Wheat flour	1,671.42	1261.37	32.51	80.68	58.94	36.88	48.27	46.73	3.30
Wheat grain	45,176.96	64750.06	-30.23	1889.26	2458.38	-23.15	41.82	37.97	10.14
White crystalline cane sugar	34,800.14	49333.58	-29.46	2543.00	3548.16	-28.33	73.07	71.92	1.60
Maize (Seed)	35.02	-	-	12.29	-	-	350.89	-	-
Maize (Other)	45.00	544.98	-91.74	2.61	17.99	-85.49	57.93	33.01	75.49

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

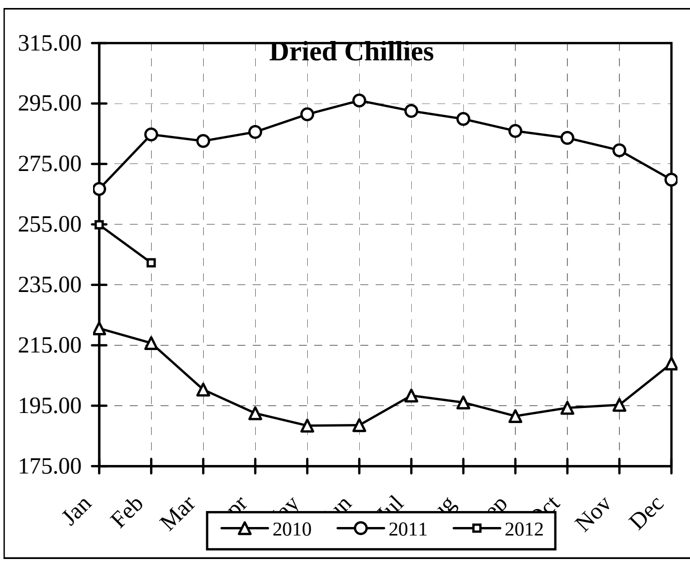
Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – February 2012

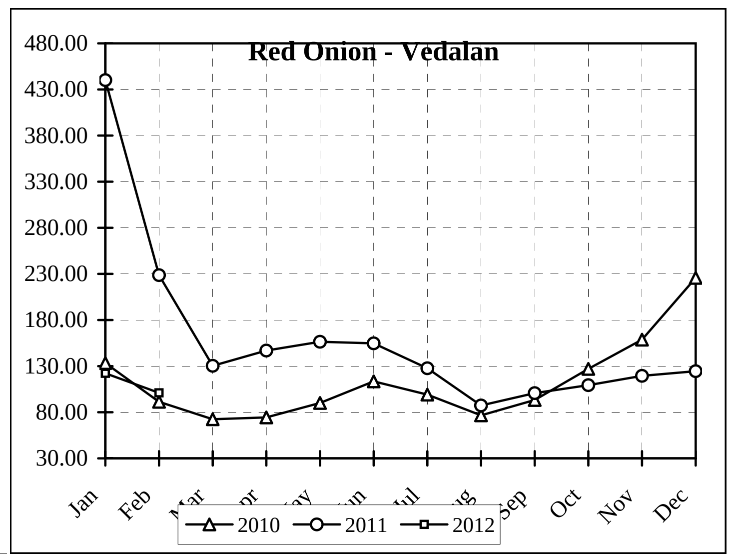
Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	69.3	55.4	07	04
Badulla	105.6	103.1	11	07
Bandarawela	136.1	70.2	09	06
Batticaloa	299.2	128.4	12	07
Colombo	139.3	72.7	09	05
Galle	87.3	70.5	08	06
Hambantota	54.6	47.6	06	04
Jaffna	0.2	39.0	0	04
Katugastota	141.2	74.2	08	05
Katunayaka	124.0	79.8	07	04
Kurunegala	142.4	98.8	08	04
Maha Iluppallama	109.5	56.8	08	04
Mannar	2.2	61.8	02	03
Nuwara Eliya	89.6	77.7	09	07
Pottuvil	344.0	163.6	11	na
Puttalam	28.1	43.1	06	04
Ratmalana	65.4	77.3	10	05
Ratnapura	173.4	137.0	12	09
Trincomalee	156.9	105.4	05	05
Vavuniya	44.4	62.5	06	04
Polonnaruwa	238.3	na	09	na
Moneragala	130.6	na	09	na

Source: Department of Meteorologyna

Appendix 02: Retail Pricees of Chillies, Onions & Potato in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

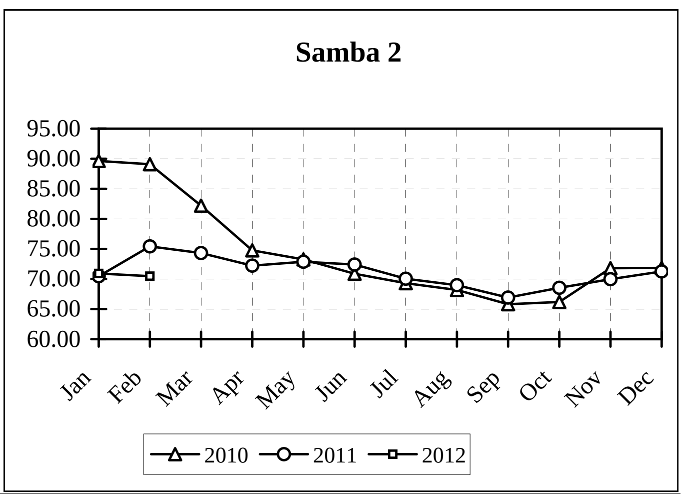
Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion			Big Onion			Potato - N'Eliya		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
Jan	220.61	266.71	254.87	133.30	440.12	122.22	90.74	121.27	75.00	111.71	120.97	141.24
Feb	215.73	284.76	242.28	91.30	228.66	101.04	75.83	85.87	71.33	91.90	107.92	113.56
Mar	200.33	282.59		72.40	130.33		61.34	68.76		85.43	111.54	
Apr	192.51	285.59		74.39	146.88		62.72	59.82		82.41	127.92	
May	188.41	291.43		90.07	156.43		55.28	59.26		103.19	116.97	
Jun	188.56	295.98		113.49	154.69		72.21	57.83		116.55	120.87	
Jul	198.37	292.54		99.13	127.70		57.51	61.71		119.26	129.89	
Aug	196.08	289.88		76.66	87.34		80.83	86.82		110.26	129.83	
Sep	191.56	285.92		93.31	100.72		76.91	81.40		102.04	126.24	
Oct	194.30	283.62		126.99	109.37		98.94	80.76		106.49	113.81	
Nov	195.28	279.51		158.70	119.48		123.82	89.61		121.16	128.84	
Dec	208.97	269.80		225.68	124.52		162.52	87.75		128.62	141.24	

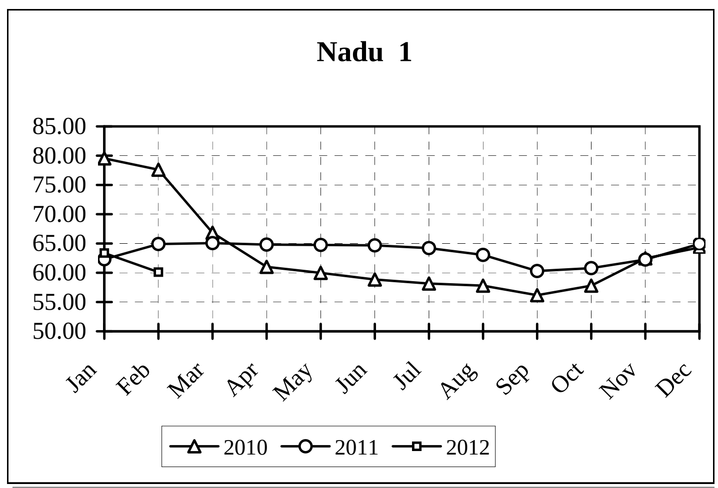




Appendix 01:Retail Price of Rice in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Samba 2			Nadu 1			Raw Red			Raw White		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
Jan	89.63	70.46	70.92	79.54	62.30	63.37	73.46	58.00	59.04	73.97	57.88	58.85
Feb	89.09	75.43	70.47	77.60	64.91	60.11	72.67	60.50	57.46	70.59	60.22	56.78
Mar	82.20	74.32		66.83	65.06		64.05	59.86		57.74	59.76	
Apr	74.76	72.22		61.01	64.81		58.58	59.20		54.76	59.27	
May	73.26	72.87		59.98	64.75		58.31	59.36		54.87	59.32	
Jun	70.87	72.41		58.85	64.68		56.83	59.13		53.52	58.94	
Jul	69.31	70.05		58.16	64.21		55.01	57.59		51.86	57.63	
Aug	68.18	68.97		57.80	63.05		51.77	55.88		49.77	55.93	
Sep	65.81	66.92		56.17	60.30		50.07	53.10		48.93	52.90	
Oct	66.18	68.54		57.80	60.79		52.90	54.92		52.66	54.46	
Nov	71.80	69.97		62.46	62.25		56.85	57.72		57.18	57.04	
Dec	71.85	71.26		64.32	64.93		58.51	59.09		58.89	59.30	





Appendix 03: Farmgate\Producer Prices of Food Commodities
in Selected Producing Areas (Rs/Kg)

February 2012

Appendix 03: contd…..

Commodity	1^{St} Week	2^{nd} Week	3^{rd} Week	4^{th} Week
Brinjals				
A'pura	10.00	7.33	4.67	5.67
Dambulla	22.20	14.50	6.80	10.00
Hambantota	12.00	9.10	6.20	
Embilipitiya	10.00	8.40	6.80	13.40
Matara	15.00	10.33	5.67	5.67
Welimada	14.80	14.80		7.40
Capsicum				
Welimada	89.40	68.80	48.20	53.00
Bitter Gourd				
A'pura	36.33	29.83	23.33	23.00
Dambulla	48.80	41.10	33.40	36.40
Hambantota	72.00	72.00	72.00	
Embilipitiya	96.00	87.00	78.00	62.50
Matara	77.50	70.42	63.33	63.33
Snake Gourd				
Dambulla	12.60	11.50	10.40	12.80
Hambantota	22.00	17.00	12.00	
Embilipitiya	23.00	21.00	19.00	19.00
Matara	32.50	28.75	25.00	25.00
A'pura	11.67	10.83	10.00	10.00
Luffa				
Dambulla	49.80	38.50	27.20	27.80
Hambantota	52.00	52.50	53.00	
Embilipitiya	55.00	55.50	56.00	46.00
Matara		30.00	30.00	30.00
A'pura	30.67	26.50	22.33	20.67

Commodity	1^{St} Week	2^{nd} Week	3^{rd} Week	4^{th} Week
Pumpkin				
Dambulla	19.20	22.60	26.00	23.40
Hambantota	22.00	22.00	22.00	
Embilipitiya	22.20	26.60	31.00	21.60
Matara				
A'pura	14.00	12.33	10.67	12.00
Moneragala	26.40	27.70	29.00	26.00
Cucumber				
A'pura	10.00	9.50	9.00	10.00
Dambulla	22.40	19.30	16.20	12.40
Hambantota	22.00	22.00	22.00	
Matara				
Long beans				
Dambulla	12.00	17.80	23.60	25.60
Hambantota	17.00	17.00	17.00	
Embilipitiya	15.40	23.70	32.00	32.00
Matara	32.50	29.58	26.67	26.67
A'Pura				
Ash Plantain				
Hambantota	27.00	24.50	22.00	
Embilipitiya	32.00	27.10	22.20	22.20
Matara	32.50	27.08	21.67	21.67
Green Chillies				
Dambulla	71.00	54.30	37.60	49.00
Hambantota	104.00	85.00	66.00	
Embilipitiya	123.00	89.00	55.00	72.00
Puttalam				27.50
A'Pura	55.00	45.00	35.00	36.67

Commodity	1^{St} Week	2^{nd} Week	3^{rd} Week	4^{th} Week
Lime				
Hambantota	32.00	27.00	22.00	
Embilipitiya	28.60	25.90	23.20	19.00
Moneragala	38.60	35.20	31.80	26.80
Fruits (Rs/Kg)				
Banana				
Ambul				
Moneragala	31.46	30.68	29.90	25.09
Embilipitiya	28.00	22.80	17.60	17.60
Hambantota	-	-	-	-
Kolikuttu				
Moneragala				
Embilipitiya				
Hambantota	62.00	53.00	44.00	
Papaw				
Moneragala				
Embilipitiya	51.40	50.70	50.00	43.00
Hambantota	47.00	52.50	58.00	
Pineapple				
Divulapitiya	50.00	53.75	57.50	50.00

Appendix 03: Farmgate\Producer Prices of Food Commodities in Selected Producing Areas (Rs/Kg)

February 2012

Commodity	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	Commodity	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	Commodity	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
Paddy					**Potato**					**Leeks**				
Short grain					N'Eliya	81.20	69.00	56.80	60.40	Hanguranketha				
A'pura	31.63	29.69	27.75	28.00	Badulla		66.00	66.00		N'Eliya	46.80	40.80	34.80	31.40
P'naruwa	32.70	29.25	25.80	25.40	Welimada	80.50	73.25	66.00	58.20					
Kalawewa	33.25	31.88	30.50	27.63	**Pulses**					**Beetroot**				
Kurunegala	31.00	28.68	26.35	26.35	**Green Gram**					Hanguranketha				
Dehiattakandiya	32.40	29.40	26.40	26.40	Galgamuwa					N'Eliya	61.00	43.20	25.40	25.40
Ampara					Kalawewa	130.00	131.25	132.50	132.50	Dambulla	55.80	40.10	24.40	22.20
Long grain (White)					Embilipitiya	145.00	145.50	146.00	146.00	Kurunegala				
A'pura	25.00	24.00	23.00	23.50	Kurunegala					Welimada				
P'naruwa	26.74	23.75	20.76	21.20	A'pura					**Knokhol**				
Kalawewa	27.50	25.50	23.50	22.75	**Cowpea**					Hanguranketha				
Kurunegala	26.36	25.05	23.74	24.07	A'pura		135.00	135.00	132.33	N'Eliya				
Dehiattakandiya	26.60	25.15	23.70	23.70	Galgamuwa					Welimada				
Embilipitiya	26.60	25.65	24.70	24.50	Nikaweratiya	135.00	138.50	142.00	141.00	**Radish**				
Ampara	26.40	24.90	23.40		Kalawewa	162.50	157.08	151.67	151.67	Hanguranketha				
Matara	28.00	26.33	24.67	24.67	Embilipitiya	150.00	154.50	159.00	159.00	N'Eliya	21.40	17.10	12.80	12.80
Hambantota					Kurunegala					Welimada		11.80	11.80	
Long grain (Red)					**Maize**					**Cabbage**				
Matara	28.67	27.50	26.33	26.33	A'Pura	30.75	30.00	29.25	29.25	Hanguranketha				
Hambantota	29.40	28.40	27.40		Kalawewa	31.67	30.58	29.50	30.33	N'Eliya	6.40	5.10	3.80	2.80
Ampara					**Gingelly**					Welimada	5.20	5.20		5.60
Embilipitiya	29.70	29.45	29.20	29.20	A'Pura					Hambantota				
Other Food Crops					Kalawewa					Badulla				
Dried Chillies					**Black Gram**					**Tomato**				
A'Pura					Kalawewa					Hanguranketha				
Galgamuwa					**Vegetables (Up Country)**					Welimada	30.20	30.20		9.00
Kalawewa					**Beans**					Hambantota	22.00	14.50	7.00	
Red Onion					Dambulla		51.40	51.40	47.60	Dambulla	21.00	14.65	8.30	9.80
Puttalam					Hanguranketha		80.00	80.00		**Low Country**				
					Welimada	49.40	48.80	48.20	50.60	**Ladies Fingers**				
Big Onion					Badulla					A'pura	13.33	11.67	10.00	12.00
Dambulla					**Carrot**					Dambulla	43.80	34.60	25.40	25.40
Kalawewa	42.00	42.00			Hanguranketha		76.00	76.00		Hambantota	27.00	24.50	22.00	
A'Pura					N'Eliya	49.60	41.80	34.00	34.00	Embilipitiya	44.00	41.00	38.00	38.00
Kurunegala					Welimada		49.00		28.00	Matara	40.00	35.00	30.00	30.00