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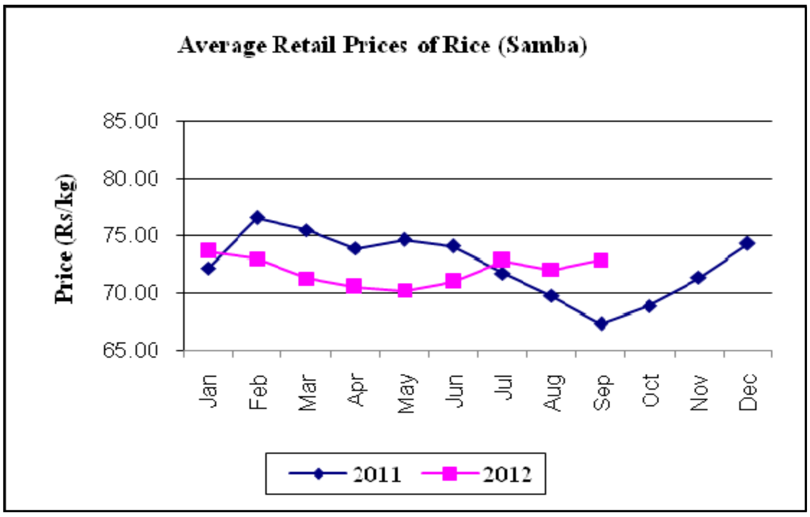
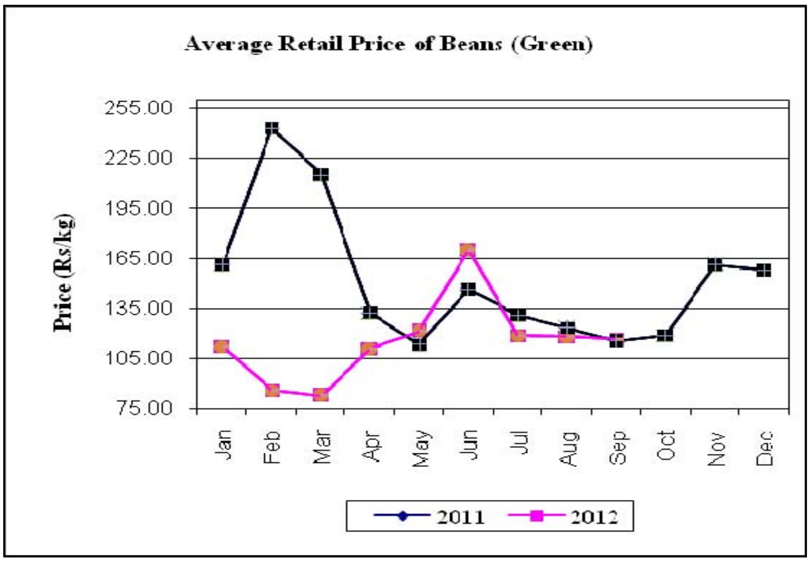
RICE:

Prices of all the varieties have increased in the range of 1%-5%. Usually, prices in the month of September come down compared to the August. However prices of this September have increased due to production loss in yala season.

VEGETABLES:

The cultivations progress in both low and up country vegetables was 38758 ha. By end of September 81% from the upcountry vegetable cultivation target and 71% from the low country vegetable cultivation target have been achieved. Compared to last month the cultivation progress was not significant. Lower prices were observed for most of the vegetables due to continuation of receiving of stocks from major producing areas. Prices of most of the vegetables were higher this year due to lower production as a result of dry weather conditions which prevailed this year.





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EXPLANTATORY NOTE

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

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

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1. Paddy

Crop Situation

The harvesting of 2012 *yala* season ended with a low harvest of paddy release to the market. The prospects of the paddy harvest in most of the major cultivation districts were not satisfactory. Delayed monsoons in early stages, low water availability in irrigation tanks and prolonged drought conditions experienced throughout the season caused the low progress of paddy production. Heavy crop damages were reported in most of the major producing areas like Kurunegala, Puttalam, Mahaweli H, Moneragala, Batticaloa and Polonnaruwa According to the latest crop forecast report of Department of Agriculture nearly 48,000 ha of paddy land have been affected and the revised production is 1.213 million tones. Compared to the sown extent of *Yala* 2011 the cultivated extent and production is lower by 19% and 35% respectively. It is expected that the paddy cultivation would commence during the next month for 2012/13 *maha* season. According to the Ministry of Agriculture the indicative targeted extent is 774,120 ha and the expected production is 3.067 million tones.

Table 1.1: Achievement in Paddy Cultivation 2012 *Yala* season
(Up to end of Sep 2012)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the targeted extent	Production Forecast (tonnes)
Anuradhapura	28,040	29,927	107	112,199
Polonnaruwa	26,700	25,807	97	113,284
Ampara	68,239	65,698	96	308,721
Hambantota	70,016	53,851	77	206,321
Kurunagala	25,823	22,774	88	101,033
Colombo	3,701	824	22	2,190
Gampaha	8,410	3,413	41	10,312
Kalutara	14,382	6,190	43	15,673
Galle	12,800	4,383	34	10,148
Matara	16,000	11,686	73	32,291
Ratnapura	14,750	7,883	53	22,132
Kegalle	9,780	1,794	18	5,072
Puttalam	17,578	5,921	34	17,932
Kandy	12,104	5,955	49	16,560
Matale	14,340	5,678	40	20,661
Nuwara Eliya	3,898	966	25	2,105
Badulla	8,002	7,155	89	27,562
Moneragala	17,511	17,013	97	66,935
Jaffna	-	-	-	-
Kilinochchi	4,676	4,872	104	7,509
Vavuniya	7,500	1,233	16	5,128
Mullaitivu	3,182	2,980	94	7,163
Mannar	2,825	3,359	119	8,358
Trincomalee	23,579	18,569	79	83,039
Batticaloa	21,800	21,780	1 00	78,885
Udawalawa	12,762	11,351	89	61,672
System H	8,730	12,888	148	54,655
System H1	3,654	219 9	60	9,326
System B	18,500	18,207	98	77,212
System C	21,286	21,317	100	90,401
System G	4,050	81	2	345
System L	380	150	39	634
Sri Lanka	**504,996**	**393,705**	**78**	**1,575,458**

Source: Department of Agriculture

Table 1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – Sep 2012

Commodity	Price Range (Rs/kg)		Average (Rs/kg)			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	32.00-35.00	32.00-35.00	34.17	33.00	26.82	*1.17*	*3.54*	*7.35*	*27.39*
Polonnaruwa	32.80-37.80	31.64-34.30	36.34	33.15	26.23	*3.19*	*9.62*	*10.11*	*38.54*
Kalawewa	33.50-36.50	31.50-36.00	34.34	33.54	27.88	*0.79*	*2.37*	*6.46*	*23.16*
Kurunegala	36.50-38.00	36.50-37.50	37.27	37.16	27.25	*0.11*	*0.30*	*10.02*	*36.76*
Dehiattakandiya	32.00-36.50	30.00--35.00	34.33	32.27	25.95	*2.07*	*6.40*	*8.38*	*32.31*
Nikaweratiya	-	-	-	-	27.73	-	-	-	-
Ampara	32.00-33.00	29.00-32.00	32.40	30.27	24.85	*2.13*	*7.05*	*7.55*	*30.38*
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	28.00-30.00	26.00-29.00	29.30	27.20	23.38	*2.10*	*7.72*	*5.92*	*25.32*
Polonnaruwa	28.10-33.20	23.40-28.10	30.82	26.27	23.33	*4.56*	*17.35*	*7.49*	*32.12*
Kalawewa	27.50-31.00	24.00-28.00	29.13	26.19	24.07	*2.94*	*11.21*	*5.06*	*21.01*
Kurunegala	30.50-32.50	29.75-30.50	31.55	30.23	23.91	*1.33*	*4.38*	*7.64*	*31.95*
Dehiattakandiya	25.00-29.00	25.00-28.00	27.30	25.90	23.40	*1.40*	*5.41*	*3.90*	*16.67*
Embilipitiya	28.00-30.00	25.00-27.00	28.77	25.83	25.25	*2.94*	*11.39*	*3.52*	*13.93*
Nikaweratiya	-	-	-	-	24.38	-	-	-	-
Matara	28.00-32.00	24.00-25.00	29.44	24.11	25.42	*5.33*	*22.12*	*4.02*	*15.83*
Hambantota	29.50-30.00	-	29.80	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	25.00-27.00	23.00-28.00	26.00	24.73	22.85	*1.27*	*5.12*	*3.15*	*13.79*
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	22.00	-	-	-	-
Matara	28.00-31.00	24.00-25.00	28.94	24.11	24.92	*4.83*	*20.05*	*4.02*	*16.14*
Hambantota	33.50-34.50	-	33.90	-	24.23	-	-	*9.67*	*39.91*
Embilipitiya	28.00-28.50	23.00-26.00	28.20	24.75	24.80	*3.45*	*13.94*	*3.40*	*13.71*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Producer Prices

Low marketable surplus as a result of heavy crop damage create huge competition for purchasing paddy in major producing areas. Despite soon harvesting of paddy crop in 2012 Yala season a significant price decline cannot be observed. Paddy prices of all the varieties have gone up during the month. Prices of short grain and long grain paddy have increased in most of the major producing areas in the range of 2%-10% and 4%-22% respectively. Prices of raw red have increased by nearly Rs 4.00/Kg in Matara and Embilipitiya areas. Prices of short grain ranged between Rs 32.00-38.00/Kg in major producing areas and the highest prices were recorded in Polonnaruwa and Kurunegala. The lowest price range of Rs 25.00-27.00/kg for long grain white was recorded in Ampara while the highest range of Rs 28.30-33.20/Kg recorded in Polonnaruwa. According to the field information it is expected that increasing trend of paddy prices will continue during next month.

Compared to the same period of last year, the prices of short grain have increased in the range of 23%-38% with the highest increase from Polonnaruwa which was the main rice processing area. Meanwhile the prices of long grain have increased in the range of 14%-32% with the highest increase also from Polonnaruwa. Prices of raw red have increased in the range of 14%-16% and the highest price range of Rs 33.50-34.50/Kg was recorded in Hambanthota.

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale prices

Prices of rice have started to go up. Compared to the month of August prices of most of the varieties have increased in the range of 1%-11%. The highest price increase of Rs.5.41/kg was recorded for raw white. The average price of raw white was Rs.54.00/kg during the month. Price increase can be expected during the next month because the harvesting of yala season has been already completed. The highest price of Rs.70.68/kg was noted for samba grade I while the lowest price of Rs.51.97/kg was observed for raw red.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the rice varieties have increased in the range of 9%-23% recording the highest for raw white.

Retail

Price behavior in wholesale market was reflected in the retail market too and prices have increased in the range of 1%-4%. Compared to the seasonal price index of past five years usually prices of rice came down in September compared to the month of August. However prices of this September have increased due to the production loss of yala season. Rice prices will be higher during the next month too.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the rice varieties have further increased in the range of 5%-11% recording the highest for samba grade I and raw white.

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

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Samba 1	70.68	70.65	65.10	*0.03*	*0.04*	*5.58*	*8.57*
Samba 2	67.48	66.51	60.57	*0.97*	*1.46*	*6.91*	*11.41*
Samba 3	65.28	62.76	55.04	*2.51*	*4.00*	*10.23*	*18.59*
Nadu 1	58.10	56.28	52.04	*1.82*	*3.23*	*6.06*	*11.64*
Nadu 2	55.56	52.69	48.11	*2.88*	*5.46*	*7.46*	*15.50*
Raw red	51.97	48.31	46.56	*3.66*	*7.58*	*5.41*	*11.62*
Raw white	54.04	48.63	43.92	*5.41*	*11.12*	*10.13*	*23.05*
Imported Parboiled	70.68	70.65	65.10	*0.03*	*0.04*	*5.58*	*8.57*
Imported Raw White	67.48	66.51	60.57	*0.97*	*1.46*	*6.91*	*11.41*
Retail Prices							
Samba 1	79.93	79.41	72.31	*0.52*	*0.65*	*7.62*	*10.54*
Samba 2	70.78	70.33	66.92	*0.45*	*0.64*	*3.86*	*5.77*
Samba 3	67.82	66.31	62.76	*1.51*	*2.28*	*5.06*	*8.06*
Nadu 1	63.12	60.45	60.30	*2.67*	*4.42*	*2.82*	*4.68*
Nadu 2	59.75	57.36	56.48	*2.39*	*4.17*	*3.27*	*5.79*
Raw red	57.91	56.16	53.10	*1.75*	*3.12*	*4.81*	*9.06*
Raw white	58.78	57.63	52.90	*1.15*	*2.00*	*5.88*	*11.12*
Imported Raw White	79.93	79.41	72.31	*0.52*	*0.65*	*7.62*	*10.54*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop situation

Cultivation of chillies for maha 2012/2013 has commenced in Anuradhapura and Kurunegala districts. Small extent of harvesting of yala has come to closing stages in most of the producing areas at the end of September.

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The supply of green chillies to the market has increased in the main producing areas such as Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Dambulla and Monaragala. Hence, the prices of green chillies have decreased by about Rs.13.00/kg at the wholesale level and Rs.15.00/kg at the retail level. Average wholesale and retail prices of green chillies were Rs.36.63/kg and Rs.131.46/kg respectively. The wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have decreased by about 53% and 23% respectively compared to the same period of last year.

About 2901 t of dried chillies were imported during the month which was about 596 t lower than the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.145.03/kg and it was lower by Rs.5.67/kg compared to the last month. However, wholesale price of imported dried chillies has decreased by about Rs.2.00/kg due to availability of sufficient stocks while the retail price of imported dried chillies has not changed significantly. When considering the prices of the corresponding period of last year, the current wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have decreased by about 30% and 21% respectively. The gross margin between the CIF price and retail price of imported dried chillies was higher during this month than in the previous month.

Table 2.1.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies Sep 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price							
Green chillies	36.63	49.43	78.00	*-12.80*	*-25.90*	*-41.37*	*-53.04*
Dried chillies	175.51	177.96	249.51	*-2.45*	*-1.38*	*-74.01*	*-29.66*
Retail Price							
Green chillies	131.46	146.33	170.99	*-14.87*	*-10.16*	*-39.53*	*-23.12*
Dried chillies	225.50	225.89	285.92	*-0.39*	*-0.17*	*-60.42*	*-21.13*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.2: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies April to September 2012

Month	Quantity (t)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	2,900.77	420.71	145.03	225.50	80.47
Aug	3,497.00	527.00	150.70	225.89	75.19
July	3,326.69	493.07	148.22	231.18	82.96
Jun	2,718.63	385.51	141.80	220.35	78.55
May	2,356.63	296.89	125.98	213.42	87.44
Apr	2,014.64	278.89	138.43	231.68	93.25

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

Table 2.1.3: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – Sep 2012

Location	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
Dambulla	52.00	39.80	43.60	59.40
Embilipitiya	63.00	63.00	52.20	58.00
Anuradapura	47.60	41.00	39.00	39.00
Hambantota	-	-	-	40.60

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

There was no big onion cultivation during this month in Matale district and more than 60% of the harvesting was over by the end of September. Around 25420 t of big onion had been supplied to the market during this month which represents around 47% of the total expected production of Matale district. Another 20,030 t of big onion will be expected during October. Stocks of big onion released to the market from the Matale district during this month were good in quality due to prevailed dry weather conditions. According to the field information, around 800 t-1000 t of big onion stocks were supplied to the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Center per day from main producing areas during this month. More than 95% of the big onion harvest has been over in Anuradhapura district by the end of September.

The cultivated extent of red onion for yala 2012 by the end of September was 719 ha in Puttalam district and it represents 89% of the target. However, more than 80% of the harvest of red onion has been over in major producing areas by the end of September.

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supply of local big onion from main producing areas gradually increased and a significant increase was recorded during September due to peak harvesting season in Matale district. However, the market supply of big onion consisted of only local big onion and no imported stock was recorded during this month. Both wholesale and retail prices of local big onion have decreased by about Rs.12.00/kg and Rs.6.00/kg respectively due to high supplies from main producing areas. Average wholesale and retail prices of local big onions were Rs.46.75/kg and Rs.75.75/kg and both prices have decreased by Rs.14% and 2% respectively when compared to the same period of last year.

Only local red onion was available at the market during this month too. Though the supply of both sinnan and vedalan continue during this month too from Puttalam and Jaffna areas, the market supply of red onion from those areas have started to decrease from 1st week of September as the harvesting stage was over in most of the producing areas. Hence, wholesale price of both sinnan and vedalan have increased by about Rs.8.00/kg and Rs.10.00/kg respectively. In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of both sinnan and vedalan also have increased by about Rs.6.00/kg and Rs.5.00/kg respectively.

Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of sinnan and vedalan have decreased by about 6% and 21% respectively.

Table 2.2.1: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion (Rs/kg)

Crop	Average Price (Rs/kg)			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
Wholesale Price	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**%**	**Rs/kg**	**%**
Red Onion (Sinnan)	50.81	42.71	56.24	*8.10*	*18.95*	*-5.43*	*-9.66*
Red Onion (Vedalan)	67.83	57.99	86.98	*9.84*	*16.97*	*-19.14*	*-22.01*
Red Onion (Imported)		-		-	-	-	-
Big Onion (imported)	-	60.58	47.24	-	-	-	-
Big Onion (Local)	46.75	58.52	54.59	*-11.77*	*-20.12*	*-7.84*	*-14.35*
Retail Prices							
Red Onion (Sinnan)	78.89	72.50	84.21	*6.39*	*8.81*	*-5.32*	*-6.32*
Red Onion (Vedalan)	93.07	87.96	117.23	*5.11*	*5.81*	*-24.16*	*-20.61*
Red Onion (Imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Big Onion (imported)	-	84.20	85.35	-	-	-	-
Big Onion (Local)	75.75	81.71	77.45	*-5.96*	*-7.29*	*-1.70*	*-2.19*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.2: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Imported Onion

Crop	Month	CIF Price	Wholesale Price	Retail Price	Margin (Rs/kg)	
		(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Sep,2012	-	-	-	-	-
	Aug,2012	26.07	60.58	84.20	*34.51*	*23.62*
	Sep,2011	28.54	47.24	85.35	*18.70*	*38.11*
Red onion	Sep,2012	-	-	-	-	-
	Aug,2012	-	-	-	-	-
	Sep,2011	69.38	-	-	-	-

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

Table 2.2.3: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop	Quantity (t.)		Value (Rs. Mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2012	Aug 2012
Red Onion	-	-	-	-	-	-
Big Onion	-	5,814.00	-	151.58	-	26.07

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.4: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion April to September 2012

Month	Quantity Imported (t)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)
Sep	-	-	-	-
Aug	5814	26.07	60.58	84.20
July	15031	26.76	63.68	82.67
Jun	20231	25.52	76.53	93.63
May	16754	23.70	58.68	79.19
Apr	17,842	24.74	68.12	84.06

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

For *yala* 2012, about 3,173 ha is the targeted extent and about 2,633 ha had been cultivated by the end of the season. The expected production is 37,893 mt for *yala* 2012. In Nuwara Eliya district, the cultivated extents had exceeded the targeted extent and by the end of this *yala* season it was recorded as 105%. In Nuwara Eliya district. About 175 ha were cultivated in September. In Badulla district, the cultivation progress was 76% by the end of *yala* 2012 and intense cultivation had taken place in July of this *yala* season. Compared to the same period of *yala* 2011, the cultivated extent by the end of this *yala* season was high in Nuwara Eliya district, while it was low in Badulla district.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivated Extent and Expected Production of Potato (*Yala* 2012)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
	Yala 2011	*Yala* 2012	*Yala* 2011	*Yala* 2012	*Yala* 2012	*Yala* 2012
N'Eliya	798	809	700	848	105	14,013
Badulla	2,348	2,348	2,041	1,785	76	23,880
Sri Lanka	**3,148**	**3,173**	**2,741**	**2,633**	**83**	**37,893**

Source: Field Information Network, MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No. 3, Yala 2012, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 4,172 mt of potato was imported during the month of September and there was a decrease of 10,817 mt compared to August. The special commodity levy for potato was increased again by Rs.50.00/kg with effect from 18th September, 2012 due to arrival of ample stocks of local potato. Hence, the imports had decreased considerably in September. Most of the imported stocks had arrived from Pakistan and China. Also, compared to September, 2011 (4,925 mt) the import of potato was low in September, 2012. Average CIF price was Rs.26.02/kg and it has decreased by around Rs.1.00/kg compared to last month.

With respect to local varieties, both Nuwara Eliya and Welimada potato were available in the market during the month of September and ample stocks had arrived from Welimada. The monthly average producer prices were Rs.43.00/kg for Welimada potato and Rs.59.00/kg for Nuwara Eliya potato. Both wholesale prices of Welimada and Nuwara Eliya potato had decreased by nearly 21%. The retail price of Nuwara Eliya potato also had declined by 18%. During the month of September, the wholesale price of Nuwara Eliya and Welimada potatoes ranged between Rs.57.00-85.00/kg and Rs.50.00-75.00/kg respectively, while the price of imported potato ranged between Rs.45.00-70.00/kg. Considering the imported varieties, the prices of China varieties were lower than those of Pakistan varieties. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Welimada and Nuwara Eliya potato had decreased by 20% and 15%, while the price of imported potato had decreased by 23%.

A further price drop of local potato could be expected during the next month due to high supplies from main producing areas.

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

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	4,172.33	108.55	26.02	76.03	*50.01*
Aug	14,989.00	404.87	27.01	77.61	*50.60*
July	12,895.57	386.05	29.94	85.06	*55.12*
Jun	9,043.74	234.62	25.94	99.29	*73.35*
May	9,767.45	222.46	22.78	83.94	*61.16*
Apr	7,828.60	174.85	22.33	83.67	*61.34*

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

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

Item	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)							
Welimada	43.00	-	81.25	-	-	*-38.25*	*-47.08*
Nuwara Eliya	59.27	85.90	80.20	*-26.63*	*-31.00*	*-20.93*	*-26.10*
Imported – CIF	26.02	27.01	35.54	*-0.99*	*-3.68*	*-9.52*	*-26.80*
Wholesale Prices (WP)							
Welimada	66.45	84.44	84.44	*-17.99*	*-21.31*	*-17.99*	*-21.30*
Nuwara Eliya	76.26	96.25	96.32	*-20.00*	*-20.78*	*-20.06*	*-20.83*
Imported	56.48	53.86	79.02	*2.62*	*4.87*	*-22.54*	*-28.53*
Retail Prices (RP)							
Welimada	89.86	-	112.67	-	-	*-22.81*	*-20.24*
Nuwara Eliya	107.14	131.58	126.24	*-24.44*	*-18.57*	*-19.10*	*-15.13*
Imported	76.03	77.61	99.09	*-1.58*	*-2.04*	*-23.06*	*-23.27*
Gross Margin (PP-RP)							
Welimada	46.86	-	31.42	-	-	*15.44*	*49.14*
Nuwara Eliya	47.87	45.68	46.04	*2.19*	*4.79*	*1.83*	*3.97*
Imported (CIF-RP)	50.01	50.60	63.55	*-0.59*	*-1.16*	*-13.54*	*-21.30*
Gross Margin (RP -WP)							
Welimada	23.41	-	28.23	-	-	*-4.82*	*-17.08*
Nuwara Eliya	30.88	35.33	29.92	*-4.44*	*-12.58*	*0.96*	*3.22*
Imported	19.55	23.75	20.07	*-4.20*	*-17.69*	*-0.52*	*-2.58*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

According to the Department of Agriculture, about 9,662 ha of green gram and 8,379 ha of cowpea had been cultivated by the end of September of this *yala* season. This represents 130% and 87% of the targeted extents. Compared to *yala* 2011, the cultivated extents of green gram and cowpea were high in *yala* 2012 and it had increased by 28% for green gram and by 29% for cowpea. During *yala* 2012, the cultivation of green gram was high in Hambantota and the cultivation of cowpea was high in Ampara compared to other producing areas. The major harvesting of green gram and cowpea could be expected from October.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivated Extent and Expected Production of Green gram and Cowpea (*Yala* 2012)

Crop	District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production
		Yala 2011	*Yala* 2012	*Yala* 2011	*Yala* 2012	*Yala* 2012	(mt) *Yala* 2012
Green gram	Hambantota	n.a.	3,858	4,667	6,220	161	8,489
	Monergala	390	446	536	320	72	390
	Sri Lanka	**4,679**	**7,449**	**7,527**	**9,662**	**130**	**12,948**
Cowpea	Ampara	5,002	6,065	4,724	5,909	97	8,655
	Moneragala	985	796	387	372	47	403
	Anuradhapura	455	343	191	189	55	223
	Sri Lanka	**9,232**	**9,660**	**6,499**	**8,379**	**87**	**11,287**

Source: Field Information Network, MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No. 3, Yala 2012, Socio-econoimics & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 475 mt of green gram was imported in September and it had increased by about 357 mt compared to August. Most of the stocks arrived from Australia. The average CIF price was Rs.116.76/kg. The wholesale and retail prices green gram had increased by 8% and 4% respectively. During the month, the wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.240.00-265.00/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale and retail prices of green gram had increased by 79% and 42% respectively.

Wholesale price of cowpea had decreased by 29% due to arrival of local varieties. Only local stocks were available in the market which arrived mainly from Middeniya and Padiyathalawa. In September, wholesale price of local cowpea ranged between Rs.117.00-230.00/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale and retail prices of cowpea had decreased by 27% and 11% respectively.

Table 2.4.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Green gram April to September 2012

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	475.00	55.46	116.76	261.25	144.49
Aug	118.00	13.70	116.10	251.83	135.73
July	378.00	44.29	117.17	236.31	119.14
Jun	665.75	80.40	120.77	235.36	114.59
May	693.50	80.87	116.61	238.20	121.59
Apr	956.70	108.71	113.63	235.91	122.28

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

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

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Green gram	250.19	231.48	139.66	18.71	8.08	110.52	79.14
Cowpea	147.53	207.43	201.58	-59.90	-28.88	-54.05	-26.81
Retail Prices							
Green gram	261.25	251.83	184.11	9.42	3.74	77.14	41.90
Cowpea	214.43	197.32	239.93	17.11	8.67	-25.50	-10.63

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	Sep,2012	116.76	250.19	261.25	133.43	11.06
	Aug,2012	116.10	231.48	251.83	115.38	20.35
	Sep,2011	124.99	139.66	184.11	14.67	44.45
Cowpea	Sep,2012	-	147.53	214.43	-	66.90
	Aug,2012	-	207.43	197.32	-	-10.11
	Sep,2011	83.05	201.58	239.93	118.53	38.35

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

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 8,834 mt of red dhal was imported in September which was 3,135 mt lower than the quantity imported in August. Most of the stocks were received from Australia and Canada. Compared to September, 2011 (12,309 mt), the imports of red dhal were low in September, 2012. The CIF price was Rs.81.39/kg.

Wholesale price of red dhal had decreased by 4% while the retail price had not changed significantly. The average wholesale price was Rs.122.00/kg in September. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of red dhal had increased by around 4% as the imports were low in September, 2012.

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

Red Dhal	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	122.26	127.35	107.29	-5.10	-4.00	14.97	13.96
Retail Price	143.39	144.06	138.41	-0.67	-0.47	4.98	3.60

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

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

Month	Quantity (t)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Sep	8833.98	81.39	122.26	143.39	40.87	21.13
Aug	11969.00	80.46	127.35	144.06	46.89	16.71
July	8532.32	80.64	125.72	148.49	45.08	22.77
Jun	10618.74	81.31	125.90	148.10	44.59	22.20
May	11935.99	77.37	130.76	149.86	53.39	19.10
Apr	6016.23	75.61	134.88	149.15	59.27	14.27

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

3. Vegetables

By end of September 2012 the total vegetable cultivation was 38,758 ha which consisted of 16, 909 ha of up country vegetables and 21,849 ha of low country vegetables. 81% of the yala season up country vegetable cultivation target and 71% of yala season low country vegetable cultivation target was achieved by end of September 2012. (crop forecast yala 2012).

Table 3.1 : Total cultivation Extents

	Target (ha) 2012	Achievement (ha) 2012	% in 2012		Achievement from the target (%) in 2012
			Target	Achievement	
Up country	20,943	16,909	40	44	81
Low country	30,837	21,849	60	56	71
Total	**51,780**	**38,758**	**100**	**100**	**75**

Source: Crop Forecast Yala 2012- Socio Economic and Planning Center, Department of Agriculture

The up country vegetables cultivation had reached the end of yala season. Therefore no significant extent increase was observed compared to last month (only 4% increase in extent). The mostly cultivated vegetable variety was beans at 4016 ha followed by tomato at 2968 ha and cabbages at 2109 ha. For beans 108% of the yala season cultivation target was achieved and it was the highest for the entire season. For leeks 100% achievement of the target was observed while for carrot 99% of the target was achieved. For knolkhol 90% achievement was observed. However for all other vegetables the achievement of the target is less than 80%. The dry weather condition prevailed during this yala season has resulted in reduction of the cultivation extents.

Situation for low country vegetables was same as for up country vegetables and no significant cultivation progress was observed in this month compared to last month. This was due to the end of the yala season. The mostly cultivated vegetable variety was brinjal but the achievement of the cultivation target was 75%. For pumpkin second highest cultivation extent was recorded but achievement of the cultivation target was 51%. None of the low country vegetables had reached their respective yala season cultivation targets and the highest was recorded for cucumber at 80%. The dry weather condition prevailed in this yala season has prevented achieving the yala season cultivation targets.

Crop situation in Nuwara Eliya and Matale Districts (2012 yala season).

Nuwara Eliya.
By end of September 2012 the total cultivation extent in Nuwara Eliya district was 3721 h. This was 61% achievement of the district cultivation target. The mostly cultivated vegetable type was carrot (648 ha). Cultivation of beans, cabbages and leeks above 450 ha extents were recorded. Compared to last month 17% increase was recorded in cultivation progress of all the vegetables.

Compared to end of yala season 2011 by end of yala season 2012 reduction in cultivation progress could be observed due to the dry weather condition prevailed this year specially in Hanguranketha and Walapane area.

Matale :
By the end of September the total cultivation extent in Matale district was 1665 ha. This was a 29% achievement of the yala season district cultivation target.

The mostly cultivated vegetable type was bitter gourd and the extent cultivated was 160 ha. For tomato and cucumber about 150 has extents were recorded.

Due to the dry weather conditions prevailed during this year yala season reductions in achieving the target of vegetable cultivation extents could be observed.

Table 3.2 Cultivated extents of Up- Country vegetables in Major Producing areas

Crop	District	Yala Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivated Extent by the end of Sep. (ha)	Achivement as a % of the Target in 2012
		Yala 2012	Yala 2012	
Beans	Badulla	1,568	2,269	145
	N'Eliya	822	486	59
	Kandy	470	363	77
	Ratnapura	365	305	84
	Matale	284	113	40
	Sri Lanka	**3,725**	**4,016**	**108**
Carrot	N'Eliya	886	648	73
	Badulla	292	552	189
	Sri Lanka	**1,428**	**1,414**	**99**
Leeks	N'Eliya	696	492	71
	Sri Lanka	**879**	**881**	**100**
Tomato	Badulla	634	1,056	167
	N'Eliya	965	411	43
	Kandy	539	350	65
	Ratnapura	195	132	68
	Sri Lanka	**3,969**	**2,968**	**75**
Cabbage	N'Eliya	880	461	52
	Badulla	557	984	177
	Matale	154	148	96
	Kandy	344	305	89
	Sri Lanka	**2,791**	**2,109**	**76**
Beet root	N'Eliya	490	311	64
	Badulla	98	174	178
	Matale	1,277	60	5
	Kurunegala	236	128	54
	Puttalam	110	189	172
	Sri Lanka	**2,644**	**1,156**	**44**
Capsicum	N'Eliya	221	141	64
	Badulla	232	297	128
	Puttalam	118	202	171
	Matale	295	41	14
	Kurunegala	232	121	52
	Sri Lanka	**2,399**	**1,810**	**75**
Radish	N'Eliya	467	297	64
	Matale	335	22	6
	Puttalam	249	105	42
	Badulla	282	678	240
	Kurunegala	205	42	20
	Sri Lanka	**2,285**	**1,813**	**79**
Knolkhol	N'Eliya	299	249	83
	Badulla	207	251	121
	Matale	0	0	0
	Sri Lanka	**824**	**741**	**90**

Source: Crop Forecast Yala 2012- Socio Economic and Planning Center, Department of Agriculture

Table 3.3 Cultivated extents of Low- Country vegetables in Major Producing areas.

Crop	District	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivated extent by end of September (ha)		Achievement as a % of the Target
		Yala 2012	Yala 2011	Yala 2012	
Brinjal	Anuradhapura	490	535	409	83
	Moneragala	492	334	305	62
	Hambanthota	274	292	240	87
	Badulla	483	284	318	66
	Ratnapura	185	150	133	72
	Matale	225	134	125	56
	Sri Lanka	**4,948**	**4,065**	**3,728**	**75**
Bitter gourd	Hambanthota	194	154	182	94
	Anuradhapura	150	189	168	112
	Monaragala	120	110	109	91
	Kurunegala	172	227	91	53
	Sri Lanka	**2,376**	**1,978**	**1,637**	**69**
Okra	Anuradhapura	380	286	180	47
	Kurunegala	285	282	310	109
	Monaragala	291	230	248	85
	Matale	350	99	142	41
	Ratnapura	190	149	160	84
	Hambanthota	224	252	260	116
	Sri Lanka	**3,799**	**3,211**	**2,908**	**77**
Pumpkin	Anuradhapura	1,000	787	593	59
	Monaragala	3,041	2,545	1,130	37
	Hambanthota	283	247	267	94
	Sri Lanka	**6,219**	**5,052**	**3,202**	**51**
Snake gourd	Hambanthota	187	177	175	94
	Kurunegala	171	153	102	60
	Matale	270	107	103	38
	Monaragala	110	88	92	83
	Sri Lanka	**2,312**	**1,727**	**1,554**	**67**
Cucumber	Hambanthota	235	193	201	86
	Monaragala	176	153	218	124
	Matale	326	174	153	47
	Anuradhapura	140	166	120	86
	Sri Lanka	**1,746**	**1,460**	**1,395**	**80**

Source: Crop Forecast Yala 2012- Socio Economic and Planning Center, Department of Agriculture

Prices and supply/Demand situation

Compared to the month of August most of the vegetables prices had decreased in September as stocks have started to arrive from major producing areas.

All the up country vegetables prices had decreased for except beans and raddish. The highest price decrease was recorded for tomato. From the beginning of the month a slight price decrease of tomato was observed but towards end of month significant price decrease was observed. This was due to higher yields received in Kandy, Hanguranketha and Balangoda areas. Dry weather condition has favour the tomato cultivations. However at the end of month a slight increase in the prices was observed. Compared to last month 26% price drop of cabbages was observed. Until the third week of the month decreasing trend of prices could be observed due to increased supply from Nuwara Eliya and Badulla area. However due to reduction in stock supply by end of the month an increasing trend of prices could be observed. 17% price reduction of carrot and leeks could be observed compared to last month. For beans 7% price increase could be observed. When considering the price behaviour of beans in the second week of the month price drop was observed due to availability of poor quality stocks from Welimada and Balangoda area. Afterwards increasing trend of prices could be observed due to reduction of stocks from Balangoda and Badulla areas as it was the end of harvesting season and certain disease conditions which infected the bean cultivations.

Compared to same period of the last year, except raddish and tomato, prices of other vegetables had increased this year. Reduction of production in this yala season due to dry weather condition had been the reason for the above situation.

Prices of most low country vegetables had increased during the month. The highest price increase was recorded for lime. Beginning of the off season for lime in Moneragala, Bibila and Embilipitiya areas, has resulted in reduced supply and increased prices. For luffa 30% price increase could be observed this month. The price behaviour of luffa showed an increasing trend due to low supply from Anuradhapura and Kurunegala areas. However, by the end of month a slight price reduction could be observed. For ladies fingers 19% price increase could be observed compared to last month. An increasing trend of ladies fingers prices could be observed. Reduction in stock supply from Embilipitiya and Dambulla areas due to ending of yala harvesting season had been the reason for above situation. The highest price decrease was observed for drumsticks and it was 75%. At the beginning of the month a significant drumstick price reduction was observed due to increased supply from many producing areas such as Mannar, Embilipitiya, Anuradhapura and Wellawaya. However when moving towards end of month a decreasing trend in price reduction could be observed due to limited supply from major producing areas. 29% price reduction of capsicum was observed up to the second week of the month. Reduction in capsicum prices was observed due to increased supply from Wellawaya area. However, afterwards increases in prices were observed due to reduction in supply and improved quality of the stocks.

Compared to same period of the last year prices of most of the vegetables were higher during this season due to prevailed dry weather condition.

Table 3.4: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – Sep 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	79.50	74.00	77.00	*5.50*	*7.43*	*2.50*	*3.25*
Carrot	73.71	89.78	48.53	*-16.07*	*-17.90*	*25.18*	*51.89*
Leeks	56.75	68.50	18.09	*-11.75*	*-17.15*	*38.66*	*213.71*
Beetroot	60.29	63.93	20.54	*-3.64*	*-5.69*	*39.75*	*193.52*
Knolkhol	25.59	30.19	22.65	*-4.60*	*-15.24*	*2.94*	*12.98*
Radish	16.98	16.69	24.39	*0.29*	*1.74*	*-7.41*	*-30.38*
Cabbage	37.86	51.02	16.37	*-13.16*	*-25.79*	*21.49*	*131.28*
Tomato	26.29	47.69	27.83	*-21.40*	*-44.87*	*-1.54*	*-5.53*
Ladies Fingers	24.63	20.66	54.06	*3.97*	*19.22*	*-29.43*	*-54.44*
Brinjal	54.42	49.70	34.89	*4.72*	*9.50*	*19.53*	*55.98*
Capsicum	65.36	92.25	34.92	*-26.89*	*-29.15*	*30.44*	*87.17*
Pumpkin	37.90	45.88	36.04	*-7.98*	*-17.39*	*1.86*	*5.16*
Cucumber	22.54	21.30	26.56	*1.24*	*5.82*	*-4.02*	*-15.14*
Bitter Gourd	58.16	58.88	58.25	*-0.72*	*-1.22*	*-0.09*	*-0.15*
Snake Gourd	40.28	37.75	29.88	*2.53*	*6.70*	*10.40*	*34.81*
Drumstick	21.56	86.40	56.98	*-64.84*	*-75.05*	*-35.42*	*-62.16*
Luffa	46.05	35.48	39.06	*10.57*	*29.79*	*6.99*	*17.90*
Long Beans	38.41	42.68	35.76	*-4.27*	*-10.00*	*2.65*	*7.41*
Ash Plantain	27.25	25.71	33.88	*1.54*	*5.99*	*-6.63*	*-19.57*
Green Chillies	36.63	49.43	78.00	*-12.80*	*-25.90*	*-41.37*	*-53.04*
Lime	291.11	153.41	190.42	*137.70*	*89.76*	*100.69*	*52.88*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.5: Retail Prices of Vegetables – Sep 2012

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to	
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012	Sep 2011

	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	116.69	118.08	115.61	*-1.39*	*-1.18*	*1.08*	*0.93*
Carrot	123.02	146.85	90.23	*-23.83*	*-16.23*	*32.79*	*36.34*
Leeks	113.09	133.04	65.55	*-19.95*	*-15.00*	*47.54*	*72.52*
Beetroot	110.66	113.53	71.99	*-2.87*	*-2.53*	*38.67*	*53.72*
Knolkhol	98.26	95.75	81.66	*2.51*	*2.62*	*16.60*	*20.33*
Radish	70.10	69.89	64.86	*0.21*	*0.30*	*5.24*	*8.08*
Cabbage	92.29	99.28	60.28	*-6.99*	*-7.04*	*32.01*	*53.10*
Tomato	73.52	94.96	61.05	*-21.44*	*-22.58*	*12.47*	*20.43*
Ladies Fingers	83.05	77.32	98.71	*5.73*	*7.41*	*-15.66*	*-15.86*
Brinjal	108.20	100.79	79.64	*7.41*	*7.35*	*28.56*	*35.86*
Capsicum	129.36	161.86	88.94	*-32.50*	*-20.08*	*40.42*	*45.45*
Pumpkin	83.89	85.29	70.78	*-1.40*	*-1.64*	*13.11*	*18.52*
Cucumber	66.68	63.75	64.41	*2.93*	*4.60*	*2.27*	*3.52*
Bitter Gourd	115.81	132.75	110.71	*-16.94*	*-12.76*	*5.10*	*4.61*
Snake Gourd	91.01	93.97	71.29	*-2.96*	*-3.15*	*19.72*	*27.66*
Drumstick	86.87	155.97	125.22	*-69.10*	*-44.30*	*-38.35*	*-30.63*
Luffa	105.70	101.95	88.59	*3.75*	*3.68*	*17.11*	*19.31*
Long Beans	98.14	102.59	84.59	*-4.45*	*-4.34*	*13.55*	*16.02*
Ash Plantain	84.19	81.11	79.38	*3.08*	*3.80*	*4.81*	*6.06*
Green Chillies	131.46	146.33	170.99	*-14.87*	*-10.16*	*-39.53*	*-23.12*
Lime	457.34	290.56	346.90	*166.78*	*57.40*	*110.44*	*31.84*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of most of the fruits had increased during the month with the commencement of harvesting season. Hence the wholesale prices of most of the fruits had decreased with the highest wholesale price decrease of 53% reported for wood apple. High supplies of wood apple was recorded from Wellawaya, Suriyawewa, Hambantota and Moneragala areas as it was the harvesting season. Further price decrease of wood apple could be expected during the next month too. Wholesale price of all the varieties of banana had decreased in the range of 1%-15% due to increased supplies from Embilipitiya, Suriyawewa and Monaragala areas. Further the supplies of mango had increased with the commencement of harvesting season and wholesale prices had decreased by 36% and 28% respectively for Karthakolomban and vilad. Supplies of papaw had improved significantly compared to the previous month due to rainy weather condition in producing areas and wholesale price had deceased by 48%. Meanwhile the wholesale prices of all the sizes of pineapple had increased in the range of 12%-24% due to low supplies from Gampaha, Kuliyapitiya and Giriulla areas. Further the wholesale prices of orange and slim apple had increased by 11% and 9% respectively due to low supplies. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 94% for orange.

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of most of the fruits had decreased with the highest price decrease of 35% reported for wood apple. Further the retail prices of papaw, passion fruit and avocado had decreased by 25%, 22% and 20% respectively due to increased supplies. Meanwhile the retail prices of all the sizes of pineapple had increased in the range of 4%-8% due to low availability at retail level. Further the retail price of slime apple had increased by 14% compared to previous month. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of most of the fruits had increased. The highest price increase of 31% was for orange.

Producer price of papaw had deceased significantly by 84% compared to the previous month in Embilipitiya, Hambantota and Monaragala areas due to increased supplies. Meanwhile the producer price of pineapple had increased by 8% in Gampaha area due to low supplies. Compared to he same period of last year, producer price of most of the fruits had deceased with he highest price decrease of 39% recorded for papaw.

Exports/Imports of Fruits

Papaw was the widely exported type of fruit in September and the quantity exported was 67 mt. The total export earnings of pineapple, papaw, mango, orange and banana was Rs.28.64 million in September. A quantity of 520.51 mt orange was imported in September. The total expenditure on importing apple, grapes, oranges and mandarin was Rs.188 million in September.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – Sep 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	%	Rs./Fruit	%
Plantain							
Ambul (Rs/kg)	44.03	51.56	41.00	*-7.53*	*-14.60*	*3.03*	*7.39*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	128.93	134.14	106.88	*-5.21*	*-3.88*	*22.05*	*20.63*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	43.59	48.69	36.00	*-5.10*	*-10.47*	*7.59*	*21.08*
Anamalu	9.06	9.16	6.53	*-0.10*	*-1.09*	*2.53*	*38.74*
Ambun	11.38	13.28	8.63	*-1.90*	*-14.31*	*2.75*	*31.87*
Pineapple							
Large	116.35	103.74	116.46	*12.61*	*12.16*	*-0.11*	*-0.09*
Medium	96.82	83.00	96.59	*13.82*	*16.65*	*0.23*	*0.24*
Small	75.92	61.05	76.25	*14.87*	*24.36*	*-0.33*	*-0.43*
Mango							
Betti	-	21.80	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban	49.47	77.14	62.43	*-27.67*	*-35.87*	*-12.96*	*-20.76*
Vilad	18.72	26.07	21.00	*-7.35*	*-28.19*	*-2.28*	*-10.86*
Kohu	6.57	-	5.00	-	-	*1.57*	*31.40*
Papaw (Rs/kg)	38.88	75.08	40.25	*-36.20*	*-48.22*	*-1.37*	*-3.40*
Passion Fruit	5.49	8.39	4.80	*-2.90*	*-34.56*	*0.69*	*14.38*
Wood Apple	9.89	20.92	10.95	*-11.03*	*-52.72*	*-1.06*	*-9.68*
Orange	26.37	23.82	13.61	*2.55*	*10.71*	*12.76*	*93.75*
Avocado	16.49	19.22	10.25	*-2.73*	*-14.20*	*6.24*	*60.88*
Slime Apple	33.44	30.73	26.42	*2.71*	*8.82*	*7.02*	*26.57*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	447.88	424.50	397.23	*23.38*	*5.51*	*50.65*	*12.75*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – Sep 2012

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to	
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012	Sep 2011

	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	%	Rs./Fruit	%
Plantain							
Ambul (Rs/kg)	75.85	77.65	72.00	*-1.80*	*-2.32*	*3.85*	*5.35*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	170.90	165.30	157.10	*5.60*	*3.39*	*13.80*	*8.78*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	76.42	76.98	69.69	*-0.56*	*-0.73*	*6.73*	*9.66*
Anamalu	15.01	15.32	11.94	*-0.31*	*-2.02*	*3.07*	*25.71*
Ambun	15.73	15.98	14.08	*-0.25*	*-1.56*	*1.65*	*11.72*
Pineapple							
Large	151.43	142.41	160.17	*9.02*	*6.33*	*-8.74*	*-5.46*
Medium	125.03	116.18	129.11	*8.85*	*7.62*	*-4.08*	*-3.16*
Small	94.80	90.94	103.12	*3.86*	*4.24*	*-8.32*	*-8.07*
Mango							
Betti	-	21.67	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban	110.83	130.26	128.62	*-19.43*	*-14.92*	*-17.79*	*-13.83*
Vilad	47.76	50.94	49.08	*-3.18*	*-6.24*	*-1.32*	*-2.69*
Kohu	-	30.00	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	72.65	96.99	74.65	*-24.34*	*-25.10*	*-2.00*	*-2.68*
Passion Fruit	11.61	14.79	11.40	*-3.18*	*-21.50*	*0.21*	*1.84*
Wood Apple	33.47	51.80	35.06	*-18.33*	*-35.39*	*-1.59*	*-4.54*
Orange	45.27	48.64	34.45	*-3.37*	*-6.93*	*10.82*	*31.41*
Avocado	35.09	44.07	35.77	*-8.98*	*-20.38*	*-0.68*	*-1.90*
Slime Apple	65.94	57.99	63.08	*7.95*	*13.71*	*2.86*	*4.53*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	683.84	643.27	578.35	*40.57*	*6.31*	*105.49*	*18.24*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits- Sep 2012

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	%	Rs./kg	%
Ambul	32.00	32.75	26.25	-0.75	-2.86	5.75	21.90
Kolikuttu	74.00	-	81.25	-	-	-7.25	-8.92
Papaw	14.65	34.75	24.05	-20.10	-83.58	-9.40	-39.09
Pineapple	49.50	45.63	51.25	3.87	7.55	-1.75	-3.41

Source: Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits
July – Sep 2012

Type of Fruit	September 2012	August 2012	July 2012

	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	60.71	9.74	160.35	-	-	-	14.00	2.92	208.90
Papaw	67.32	11.20	166.37	-	-	-	0.63	0.27	418.70
Fresh Mango	3.34	0.56	168.29	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fresh Oranges	46.33	7.08	152.86	-	-	-	13.78	1.94	140.81
Bananas	0.31	0.06	189.31	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits
July – Sep 2012

Types of Fruit	September 2012			August 2012			July 2012		
	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	480.56	67.01	139.44	699.77	72.88	104.15	39.12	4.83	123.60
Grapes	189.69	48.68	256.65	579.77	119.18	205.56	269.51	58.15	215.77
Oranges	520.51	49.96	95.98	446.84	37.48	83.87	805.24	70.14	87.11
Mandarin	357.91	22.34	62.42	89.51	4.73	52.89	108.36	7.99	73.73

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

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Wholesale prices of all the fresh fish varieties had decreased and the highest decrease of 17% was noted for balaya. Prices of kelawalla and hurulla had decreased by 16% and 14% respectively. Prices of paraw and mora had decreased by 6% while, the price of thora had decreased by 5%. Price decrease of 4% for salaya and thalapath were noted. However, price of shrimps had decreased by less than 1%. It was noted that the ample amounts of stocks supplied from Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, Mannar, Chillaw and Southern coastal areas due to favourable weather conditions had resulted this price decreases. The highest monthly average price was noted for thora (Rs.926.00) followed by shrimps (Rs. 674.00) and thalapath (Rs. 566.00). Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the fresh fish varieties except hurulla and balaya had increased and the highest price increase of 65% was noted for shrimps.

In line with the decreased wholesale prices, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties except shrimps had decreased. The highest price decrease of 14% was reported for balaya followed by paraw (7%). Prices of hurulla, kelawalla, thora and thalapath had decreased by 4%. Prices of mora and salaya had decreased by 2% and 1% respectively. However, price of shrimps had increased by nearly 3% due to availability of limited stocks. The highest monthly average price was noted for thora (Rs. 1,160.00) followed by shrimps (Rs. 819.00) and thalapath (Rs. 813.00). Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties had increased and the highest price increase of 20% was noted for mora.

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

Items	Average			Change Compared to	
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012	Sep 2011

	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Salaya	136.00	141.56	118.25	*-5.56*	*-3.93*	*17.75*	*15.01*
Hurulla	169.09	197.81	190.50	*-28.72*	*-14.52*	*-21.41*	*-11.24*
Balaya	242.20	293.72	247.00	*-51.52*	*-17.54*	*-4.80*	*-1.94*
Kelawalla	422.38	503.78	413.25	*-81.40*	*-16.16*	*9.13*	*2.21*
Thora	925.75	972.57	760.75	*-46.82*	*-4.81*	*165.00*	*21.69*
Paraw	458.88	488.33	443.00	*-29.45*	*-6.03*	*15.88*	*3.58*
Mora	326.09	348.40	310.75	*-22.31*	*-6.40*	*15.34*	*4.94*
Shrimps (small)	673.84	674.91	409.21	*-1.07*	*-0.16*	*264.63*	*64.67*
Thalapath	565.67	591.22	501.77	*-25.55*	*-4.32*	*63.90*	*12.73*
Retail Prices							
Salaya	200.45	203.31	175.09	*-2.86*	*-1.41*	*25.36*	*14.48*
Hurulla	276.42	289.51	261.41	*-13.09*	*-4.52*	*15.01*	*5.74*
Balaya	487.83	569.50	436.53	*-81.67*	*-14.34*	*51.30*	*11.75*
Kelawalla	717.26	751.31	636.02	*-34.05*	*-4.53*	*81.24*	*12.77*
Thora	1160.27	1205.82	1153.75	*-45.55*	*-3.78*	*6.52*	*0.57*
Paraw	712.88	769.16	644.30	*-56.28*	*-7.32*	*68.58*	*10.64*
Mora	548.13	557.35	457.28	*-9.22*	*-1.65*	*90.85*	*19.87*
Shrimps (small)	819.44	799.02	735.00	*20.42*	*2.56*	*84.44*	*11.49*
Thalapath	813.39	849.23	709.53	*-35.84*	*-4.22*	*103.86*	*14.64*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Dried Fish

Supplies of most of the imported and local varieties had increased with favorable weather condition. Hence the wholesale prices of most of the varieties have decreased. The highest price decrease noted for local balaya (20%) followed by local and imported balaya (15%) and local maduwa (13%). However the prices of imported sprats, thora and maduwa have increased with the highest price increase of sprats.(7%) The prices of local anguluwa and salaya have increased with the highest price increase of anguluwa by 13% with low supply. With demand for the local varieties was high compared to the imported varieties because of good quality of the former. Compared to the same period of last year the prices of all the varieties except imported kattawa and local balaya had increased and the highest price increase was observed for local sprats (40%).

The retail prices of most of the varieties had not changed significantly due to availability of sufficient stocks with low wholesale prices. However the prices of koduwa and maduwa have increased by 3% and 2% respectively because of low supply. Compared the same period of last year the current prices of all the varieties have increased with the highest price increase noted for thora which was 39%.

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

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%

Dried fish – Wholesale							
Sprats	486.48	492.63	346.73	*-6.15*	*-1.25*	*139.75*	*40.31*
Sprats (imported)	307.85	288.58	249.89	*19.27*	*6.68*	*57.96*	*23.19*
Kattawa	680.71	756.69	678.89	*-75.98*	*-10.04*	*1.83*	*0.27*
Kattawa (imported)	639.67	649.02	661.33	*-9.36*	*-1.44*	*-21.67*	*-3.28*
Thora	-	827.50	-	-	-	-	-
Thora (imported)	927.87	877.94	674.54	*49.93*	*5.69*	*253.33*	*37.56*
Mora	648.81	668.25	524.04	*-19.44*	*-2.91*	*124.77*	*23.81*
Mora (imported)	618.48	650.18	495.48	*-31.70*	*-4.88*	*123.00*	*24.82*
Balaya	363.08	455.15	401.20	*-92.06*	*-20.23*	*-38.11*	*-9.50*
Balaya (imported)	370.81	435.33	-	*-64.53*	*-14.82*	-	-
Anguluwa	600.00	530.00	-	*70.00*	*13.21*	-	-
Anguluwa (imported)	427.42	452.08	422.33	*-24.66*	*-5.45*	*5.09*	*1.21*
Maduwa	358.80	414.48	270.96	*-55.68*	*-13.43*	*87.85*	*32.42*
Maduwa (imported)	267.04	259.91	226.58	*7.13*	*2.74*	*40.45*	*17.85*
Koduwa	-	625.00	-	-	-	-	-
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-		-
Salaya	185.56	183.57	165.56	*1.99*	*1.08*	*20.00*	*12.08*
Salaya (imported)	188.73	189.88	181.25	*-1.14*	*-0.60*	*7.48*	*4.13*
Dried fish – Retail							
Sprats	457.06	451.37	354.07	*5.69*	*1.26*	*102.99*	*29.09*
Kattawa	962.29	962.17	845.80	*0.12*	*0.01*	*116.49*	*13.77*
Thora	1260.23	1261.23	906.14	*-1.00*	*-0.08*	*354.09*	*39.08*
Mora	860.60	851.75	713.28	*8.85*	*1.04*	*147.32*	*20.65*
Balaya	766.49	775.13	642.95	*-8.64*	*-1.11*	*123.54*	*19.21*
Anguluwa	740.75	736.17	665.42	*4.58*	*0.62*	*75.33*	*11.32*
Maduwa	565.22	553.91	439.14	*11.31*	*2.04*	*126.08*	*28.71*
Koduwa	847.37	823.54	-	*23.83*	*2.89*	-	-
Salaya	444.63	442.05	352.90	*2.58*	*0.58*	*91.73*	*25.99*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Eggs

Wholesale as well as retail prices of both brown and white eggs had increased significantly. Wholesale prices of brown eggs had increased by 39% while the retail prices had increased by 37%. Wholesale and retail prices of white eggs had increased by 42% and 40% respectively. The monthly average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs were Rs. 13.30/egg and Rs. 12.70/egg respectively. The monthly average retail prices of brown and white eggs were Rs. 14.40/egg and Rs. 13.80/egg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, current wholesale and retail prices of both brown and white eggs had increased. Wholesale prices of brown eggs had increased by 38% and retail prices by 32%. For white eggs it was 39% (wholesale) and 32% (retail).

Meat

Prices of beef mutton and pork had not changed significantly, with availability of sufficient stocks. However prices of chicken had increased by around 2%. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of chicken and pork have decreased with the highest price decrease of 32% was noted for broiler chicken.

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

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	%	Rs.	%
Eggs – Wholesale							

Eggs – Brown (each)	13.26	9.56	9.64	*3.70*	*38.70*	*3.62*	*37.55*
White (each)	12.70	8.94	9.14	*3.76*	*42.06*	*3.56*	*38.95*
Eggs – Retail							
Eggs- Brown (each)	14.38	10.50	10.90	*3.88*	*36.95*	*3.48*	*31.93*
White (each)	13.81	9.85	10.44	*3.96*	*40.20*	*3.37*	*32.28*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.4: Retail Prices of Meat – Sep 2012

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat							
Beef (without bones)	508.38	507.19	458.50	*1.19*	*0.23*	*49.88*	*10.88*
Chicken (Broiler)	407.94	399.82	484.48	*8.12*	*2.03*	*-76.54*	*-15.80*
Chicken (curry)	369.95	362.72	429.53	*7.23*	*1.99*	*-59.58*	*-13.87*
Mutton	1100.00	1099.38	863.67	*0.62*	*0.06*	*236.33*	*27.36*
Pork	418.75	418.75	430.00	*0.00*	*0.00*	*-11.25*	*-2.62*

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

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

The quantity of imports has decreased by 40% against the previous month, because the imports were very high in the previous month. Total quantity of 54711mt, valued at Rs. mt 2309 of wheat grain was imported in September. The average CIF price was Rs.42.21/kg and there was a decrease of cents 98/kg when compared to last month.

Wheat flour imports had dropped gradually since April and it had continued in September too. Quantity of only 61.34mt was imported in September and the value of the stock was Rs.mn 3.28. The CIF Price has increased gradually up to July and thereafter it had declined gradually. The average CIF price of wheat flour in July was Rs. 59.41/kg and it had dropped to Rs.53.47/kg recording a decrease of Rs. 5.94/kg. The retail price of wheat flour was Rs.93.24/kg and it had not changed significantly against the previous month. When Compared to the same month of last year, current price of wheat flour had increased by 10%.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar – Sep 2012

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012	Sep 2011	Aug 2012		Sep 2011	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	93.24	93.33	84.66	*-0.09*	*-0.10*	*8.58*	*10.13*
Sugar	106.68	106.29	*97.14*	*0.39*	*0.37*	*9.54*	*9.82*

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

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

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value	CIF price	Retail Price	Gross Margin

		(Rs.mn)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Sep	61.34	3.28	53.47	93.24	*39.77*
Aug	155.00	8.58	55.35	93.33	*37.98*
July	568.78	33.79	59.41	93.27	*33.86*
Jun	598.86	34.65	57.86	93.32	*35.46*
May	650.78	36.78	56.51	93.22	*36.71*
Apr	1,329.95	72.46	54.49	84.57	*30.08*
Wheat Grain					
Sep	54,711.18	2,309.12	42.21	93.24	*51.03*
Aug	91,199.00	3,938.81	43.19	93.33	*50.14*
July	12,272.56	637.89	51.98	93.27	*41.29*
Jun	53,518.77	2,143.65	40.05	93.32	*53.27*
May	100,220.19	4,366.44	43.57	93.22	*49.65*
Apr	62,799.05	2,675.21	42.60	84.57	*41.97*

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

Sugar

In September 36,514mt was imported costing Rs.mn 3,072. The average CIF price had also increased by 5% and the quantity had gone up by 13% when compared to previous month and it was Rs.84.13/kg the highest price in year 2012. The retail price had not significantly changed against the previous month. When Compared to the same month of last year, the price of sugar has increased by nearly 10%.

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

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	36,514.00	3,071.89	84.13	106.68	*22.55*
Aug	32,327.00	2,583.04	79.90	106.29	*26.39*
July	39,981.05	2,992.24	74.84	102.86	*28.02*
Jun	45,052.91	3,422.09	75.96	97.52	*21.56*
May	45,843.25	3,621.83	79.00	97.78	*18.78*
Apr	35,318.80	2,917.26	82.60	98.90	*16.30*

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

Table 7: Imports of Selected Food Items - Sep 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
	Sep 2012	Aug 2012		Sep 2012	Aug 2012		Sep 2012	Aug 2012	
Rice	1116.00	3903.00	-71.41	112.93	348.37	-67.58	101.20	89.26	13.38
Red Onion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Big Onion	-	5814.00	-	-	151.58	-	-	26.07	-
Potato	4172.33	14989.00	-72.16	108.55	404.87	-73.19	26.02	27.01	-3.68
Dried Chillies	2900.77	3497.00	-17.05	420.71	527.00	-20.17	145.03	150.70	-3.76
Masoor Dhal	8833.98	11969.00	-26.19	718.97	963.00	-25.34	81.39	80.46	1.15
Green Gram	475.00	118.00	302.54	55.46	13.70	304.81	116.76	116.10	0.56
Black gram	238.20	216.00	10.28	33.55	27.46	22.19	140.86	127.13	10.80
Garlic	1606.00	2486.00	-35.40	195.86	352.12	-44.38	121.95	141.64	-13.90
Wheat flour	61.34	155.00	-60.42	3.28	8.58	-61.77	53.47	55.35	-3.41

Wheat grain	54711.18	91199.00	-40.01	2309.12	3938.81	-41.38	42.21	43.19	-2.28
White crystalline cane sugar	36514.00	32327.00	12.95	3071.89	2583.04	18.93	84.13	79.90	5.29
Maize (Seed)	334.71	280.00	19.54	104.88	112.79	-7.01	313.35	402.82	5.29
Maize (Other)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – September 2012

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	16.2	74.0	3	6
Badulla	103.1	119.8	8	9
Bandarawela	109.5	121.8	7	10
Batticaloa	74.2	67.0	4	5
Colombo	180.0	245.4	21	15
Galle	310.4	255.8	23	18
Hambantota	134.2	75.2	11	8
Jaffna	135.4	63.3	7	4
Katugastota	28.5	155.2	12	13
Katunayaka	110.2	224.1	19	14
Kurunegala	26.7	165.3	9	13
Maha Iluppallama	15.6	90.7	3	6
Mannar	51.2	40.6	4	2
Nuwara Eliya	45.5	178.8	17	15
Pottuvil	192.8	44.8	7	na
Puttalam	44.2	67.8	3	5
Ratmalana	243.5	254.9	23	16
Ratnapura	272.6	421.4	22	20
Trincomalee	231.8	99.6	12	6
Vavuniya	43.6	107.3	4	6
Polonnaruwa	32.4	na	3	na
Moneragala	70.1	na	6	na

Source: Department of Meteorologyna