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FOOD INFORMATION BULLETIN

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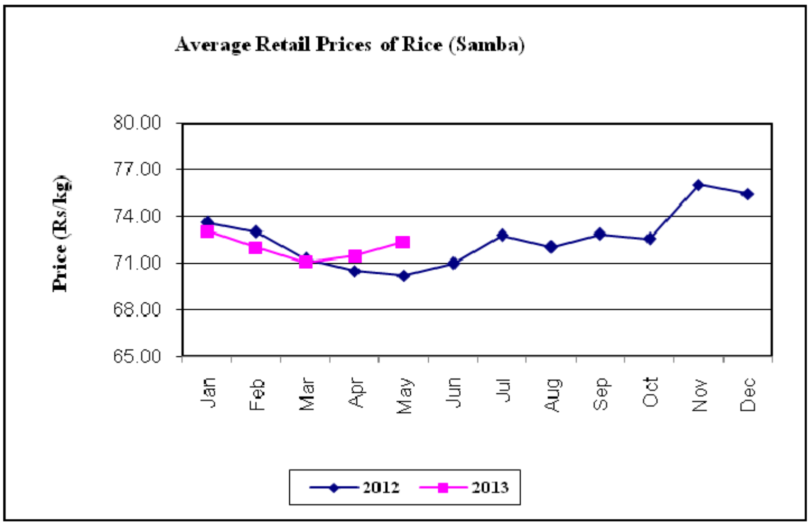
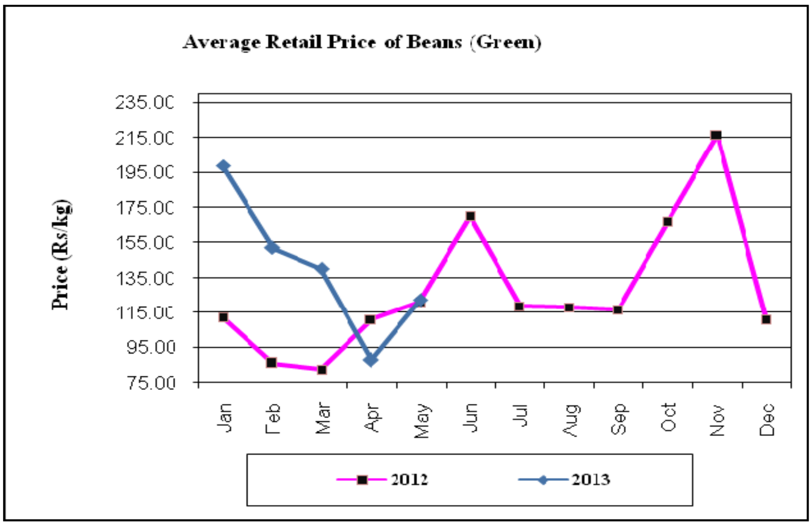
RICE:

The prices of Samba rice have increased nearly by Re.1.00/kg resulting an increase of price of paddy.

VEGETABLES:

With the ending of the *Maha* harvesting season, prices of both up country vegetables and most of the low country vegetables have increased in May, compared to April. However, due to delayed *Maha* season, partial overlapping of *Maha* and *Yala* harvests was observed. It has resulted in lower average wholesale prices this year compared to average prices of 2012.





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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

Early prospects of paddy crop in 2013 *Yala* season were favorable in almost all the major producing areas. Sufficient water availability in all major irrigation tanks as well as minor irrigation tanks and favorable weather conditions caused the progress of paddy cultivation. The highest crops were recorded during the May and the Paddy crop is in seeding stage in most of the major producing areas. According to the crop forecast report of the Department of Agriculture, the cultivation progress of paddy reported up to end of May 2013 is 408,031 ha 81% achievement from the target.The cultivation progress is higher than 15% compared to the same period of the last year. The expected production is 1.624 million tons. Anuradhapura, Ampara, Mahaweli C & H exceeded the targets and Batticaloe, Trincomalee, Polonnaruwa and Kurunegala districts show a high progress. It is expected that the harvesting will commence in mid July in Kurunegala.

Table 1.1: Achievement of Paddy Cultivation 2013 *yala* season
(Up to end of May - 2013)

District/Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent (ha)	Production Forecast (Mt)
Anuradhapura	42,055	45,635	109	171,077
Polonnaruwa	32,166	29,725	92	130,483
Ampara	54,893	56,284	103	264,482
Kurunegala	69,776	54,970	79	210,608
Hambantota	28,396	17,757	63	78,766
Colombo	2,638	1,081	41	2,873
Gampaha	8,200	2,918	36	8,817
Kalutara	14,163	3,120	22	7,900
Galle	12,800	1,618	13	3,745
Matara	16,707	9,899	59	27,353
Ratnapura	14,420	4,968	34	13,948
Kegalle	9,291	5,327	57	15,059
Puttalam	15,791	10,382	66	31,447
Kandy	10,386	3,604	35	10,023
Matale	10,700	9,719	91	35,367
N' Eliya	2,700	59	2	129
Badulla	7,854	4,942	63	19,038
Monaragala	18,686	13,046	70	51,326
Jaffna	-	-	-	-
Kilinochchi	5,284	5,447	103	8,395
Vavniya	7,500	5,248	70	21,828
Mullative	4,524	3,946	87	9,485
Mannar	2,400	2,395	100	5,959
Trincomalee	23,938	22,561	94	100,890
Batticaloa	21,800	21,740	100	78,740
Udawalawa	1,200	11,200	93	60,852
System H	11,336	13,273	117	56,288
System H1	4,600	4,600	100	19,508
System B	18,000	17,384	97	73,722
System C	17,846	20,978	118	88,964
System G	3,600	3,570	99	15,140
System L	365	637	175	2,703
Sri Lanka	**504,815**	**408,033**	**81**	**1,624,916**

Source: Department of Agriculture

Table 1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – May 2013

Commodity	Price Range (Rs/kg)		Average (Rs/kg)			Change Compared to			
	May2013	Apr 2013	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	28.00-31.00	28.00-30.00	29.70	28.90	-	*0.80*	*2.77*	-	-
Polonnaruwa	-				-	-	-	-	-
Kalawewa	31.00-33.00	28.00-35.00	31.96	30.08	28.93	*1.88*	*6.24*	*3.03*	*10.46*
Kurunegala	33.50-36.50	29.50-36.30	35.02	31.14	28.23	*3.88*	*12.45*	*6.79*	*24.05*
Dehiattakandiya	31.00-35.00	28.00-32.00	33.19	30.59	-	*2.60*	*8.49*	-	-
Nikaweratiya	30.00-38.00	30.00-33.00	33.98	31.52	-	*2.46*	*7.79*	-	-
Ampara	31.00-35.00	29.00-32.00	33.23	30.46	-	*2.77*	*9.08*	-	-
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	24.00-30.00	24.00-25.00	28.19	24.50	-	*3.69*	*15.05*	-	-
Polonnaruwa	-	-			-	-	-	-	-
Kalawewa	29.00-31.00	25.00-32.00	29.54	27.00	23.33	*2.54*	*9.40*	*6.21*	*26.61*
Kurunegala	32.00-33.50	27.00-33.50	32.86	28.45	23.69	*4.41*	*15.49*	*9.17*	*38.69*
Dehiattakandiya	29.00-31.00	26.00-28.00	30.33	27.19	-	*3.14*	*11.55*	-	-
Embilipitiya	29.00-30.00	28.00-29.50	29.13	28.70	23.28	*0.43*	*1.48*	*5.85*	*25.11*
Nikaweratiya	28.00-32.00	26.00-30.00	29.63	28.05	-	*1.58*	*5.61*	-	-
Matara	28.00-30.00	27.00-28.00	29.38	27.50	24.00	*1.88*	*6.82*	*5.38*	*22.40*
Hambantota	27.00-28.00	25.00-26.00	27.56	25.50	20.80	*2.06*	*8.09*	*6.76*	*32.51*
Ampara	30.00-32.00	25.50-30.00	30.98	28.13	-	*2.85*	*10.11*	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	25.00-26.00	25.00-25.00	25.25	25.00	22.84	*0.25*	*1.00*	*2.41*	*10.55*
Hambantota	22.00-25.00	22.00-25.00	23.81	23.50	21.84	*0.31*	*1.33*	-	-
Embilipitiya	23.00-25.00	23.00-25.00	24.14	24.30	21.24	*-0.16*	*-0.67*	*2.90*	*13.64*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Producer Prices

Producer prices of all the paddy varieties have shown an increasing trend in all major producing areas during the month. However, this was curtailed in most of the major producing areas by the end of month. Prices of short grain have increased in the range of 3%- 12% with the highest and the lowest increase reported from Kurunegala and Anuradhapura. Prices of long grain white have increased in the range of 2%- 15% with the highest and the lowest increase was from Kurunegala and Embilipitiya.

Farmers have limited releasing paddy to the market because of low production in the last 2012/13 *Maha* season as a result of unfavorable weather prevailed throughout the season. Increase of the arrival of well dried paddy at the market also caused the price increase. However by the end of the month prices of short and long grain paddy varieties have shown a slightly decreasing trend in most of the producing areas due to the impact of ceiling of price. Due to the low prices in Hambanthota and Embilipitiya areas Paddy Marketing Board has recommended the paddy purchasing programme in those areas at the beginning of the month. As a result of the purchasing programme, prices of long grain red paddy have increased gradually in Hambanthota and Embilipitiya during the month. Prices of keeri samba paddy ranged between Rs 39.00-40.00/Kg in Dehiattakandiya. Producer prices of short grain and long grain have ranged between Rs 28.00-38.00/Kg and Rs 24.00-33.50/Kg respectively. The lowest paddy prices for short and long grain white paddy were recorded in Anuradhapura.
The highest price of Rs.32.80/kg was reported for short grain in Kurunegala, while the lowest price of Rs.24.00/kg was reported for long grain white in Dehiattakandiya.Compared to the same period of the last year, the prices of short grain varieties have decreased by less than 4% in most of the major producing areas. Prices of long grain paddy varieties have increased in the range of 1%-9% with the highest decrease in Dehiattakandiya.

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale prices

The rice market started to fully function at the beginning of the month. As the paddy prices started to go up, the prices of all the rice varieties have increased in the range of 4%-8% during the month. The supplies have declined in the latter part of the month due to Vesak festival season as well as due to the demand for samba grade III for Vesak Dansals. Hence the highest price increase (8%) was reported for samba grade III during the week. Market information revealed that the millers who have stored paddy are able to manipulate prices under the condition of increasing paddy prices and ceiling prices. However, small and medium scale millers are facing problems as they have to market rice which was produced under the higher market prices. The highest price of rs.72.66/ kg was reported for samba grade I, while the lowest price of Rs.52.85 /kg was observed for raw red.

Compared to the same period of the last year prices of raw white has increased nearly 29% followed by nadu grade II as 23%. Prices of all other varieties have increased by 10%-17%.

Retail

The prices of both samba grade I and III and raw white have increased by nearly Rs.1.00/kg. Prices of all other rice varieties have increased by less than Rs.1.00/kg. Although a significant price increase could be observed in the wholesale market it could not be seen in the retail market. Market information revealed that the ceiling of prices have obstructed the increase of prices. The availability of grade III samba has increased marginally to meet the requirement of Vesak Dansals. The majority of retail outlets have re-opened and started the business after the Vesak festival season. The highest average price of Rs. 78.99/kg was reported for samba grade I while the lowest average price of Rs.59.11/kg was observed for raw red.

Compared to the same period of the last year, prices of raw white has increased nearly 14% followed by nadu varieties as 11%-12%. Meanwhile the prices of all other rice varieties have increased by 1%-8%.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice – May 2013

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Samba 1	72.66	68.91	66.20	*3.75*	*5.45*	*6.46*	*9.76*
Samba 2	68.78	64.77	62.07	*4.01*	*6.19*	*6.71*	*10.81*
Samba 3	66.76	61.70	57.90	*5.06*	*8.20*	*8.86*	*15.30*
Nadu 1	59.38	55.40	52.24	*3.98*	*7.19*	*7.14*	*13.67*
Nadu 2	56.04	52.14	45.51	*3.90*	*7.47*	*10.53*	*23.14*
Raw red	52.85	50.56	45.09	*2.29*	*4.52*	*7.76*	*17.20*
Raw white	55.42	52.00	42.77	*3.43*	*6.59*	*12.65*	*29.59*
Retail Prices							
Samba 1	78.99	77.65	75.71	*1.34*	*1.73*	*3.28*	*4.33*
Samba 2	70.44	70.13	69.86	*0.31*	*0.44*	*0.58*	*0.83*
Samba 3	67.67	66.67	65.02	*1.00*	*1.50*	*2.65*	*4.08*
Nadu 1	66.78	66.36	59.67	*0.42*	*0.63*	*7.11*	*11.92*
Nadu 2	60.50	60.23	54.46	*0.27*	*0.45*	*6.04*	*11.09*
Raw red	59.11	58.84	54.69	*0.27*	*0.46*	*4.42*	*8.08*
Raw white	59.82	58.71	52.39	*1.11*	*1.89*	*7.43*	*14.18*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop situation

The targeted extent of green chilies of *yala* 2013 was 1040 ha in Anuradhapura, 840 ha in Matale and 800 ha in Puttalum. By the end of May 2013, around 511 ha, 157 ha and 167 ha have been cultivated respectively in those areas. However, the highest cultivated extent was recorded in Anuradhapura followed by Kurunegala (367 ha) by the end of this month. Crops are in deferent stages in main producing areas.

Table 2.1.1: Targeted extent and progress of chillie cultivation by the end of May 2013

Areas	Targeted (ha)	Cultivated progress at the end of May 2013		Expected production (t)
		Extent (ha)	% of the targeted extent	
Anuradhapura	1040	511	49	2458.78
Matale	840	157	19	661.26
Puttalam	800	167	21	986.75
System H	500	92	18	896.08
Kurunegala	468	367	78	586.39
Ampara	434	288	66	704.19
Other areas	4077	1808	44	6580.19
Total	8159	3390	42	12873.64

Source: Crop forecasting Unit, Department of Agr4077iculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Producer prices of green chillies ranged between Rs.55.00-187.00/kg during this month in Dambulla, Hambantota, Embilipitiya, Puttalam and Anuradhapura area and the highest price was recorded in Anuradhapura. In the latter part of the month, the supply of green chilies has increased from Puttalam and Anuradhapura areas. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have decreased by about Rs.6.00/kg and Rs.22.00/kg respectively compared to the previous month. Average wholesale and retail prices of green chilies were Rs.101.11/kg and Rs.210.72/kg respectively and the wholesale price has increased by 3% while the retail price has decreased by 3% respectively compared to the same period of the last year.

The market consisted of only imported dried chillies. A quantity of 3471m t of dried chillies was imported during the month and it was an increase of 621 mt compared to that of the last month. The CIF price was Rs.142.88/kg and it was a decrease of Rs.6.13/kg compared to the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have decreased by Rs.9.00/kg and Rs.4.00/kg respectively due to high imports from India. Compared to the same period of the last year, the wholesale and retail prices of dried chillies have increased by about 17% and 9% respectively

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies May 2013

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price							
Green chillies	101.11	106.88	97.89	*-5.77*	*-5.40*	*3.22*	*3.29*
Dried chillies	175.92	185.02	150.71	*-9.10*	*-4.92*	*25.21*	*16.72*
Retail Price							
Green chillies	210.72	232.57	217.89	*-21.85*	*-9.40*	*-7.17*	*-3.29*
Dried chillies	231.62	235.40	213.42	*-3.78*	*-1.61*	*18.20*	*8.53*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies
Dec 2012 to May 2013

Month	Quantity (t)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
May, 2013	3,471.47	495.99	142.88	231.62	88.74
Apr, 2013	2,850.13	424.70	149.01	235.40	86.39
Mar, 2013	5,315.95	819.52	154.16	239.65	85.49
Feb, 2013	4,060.96	657.26	161.85	244.26	82.41
Jan, 2013	-	-	-	228.04	-
Dec, 2012	-	-	-	231.02	-

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

Table 2.1.4: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – May 2013

Location	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
Dambulla	54.60	97.00	93.75	114.00
Hambantota	75.00	75.00	75.00	120.00
Embilipitiya	113.00	0.00	165.00	167.00
Puttalam	58.00	58.00	80.00	99.00
Anuradhapura	85.00	80.00	70.00	186.67

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

More than 60% of nursery preparation and 13% of cultivation of big onion have been completed by the end of may in Matale district and it could be expected that around 40% of cultivation will take place during the next month. (June). Compared to the previous year, the cultivation of big onion has commenced by about 20 days later during this season in Matale district due to unfavorable weather condition and the scarcity of feeds during the latter part of may 2013. Around 15% decrease of cultivation could be expected during this season. Most of the farmers tend to cultivate paddy as there was non scarcity of water during this season and this also has caused to the decrease of cultivation of big onion. The higher cultivated extent was recorded in Sigiriya area during this month in Matale district.

Table 2.2.1: Targeted Extent and progress of the Big onion cultivation In Matale district for yala 2013

Areas	*Yala* 2012						*Yala* 2013		
	Target (ha)	April	May	June	July	Total	Target (ha)	April	May
Dambulla	1500	-	50	1050	200	1300	1500	-	110
Sigiriya	800	-	460	142	08	610	800	-	180
Galewela	475	10	45	370	-	425	425	12	45
Dewahuwa	335	-	40	222	-	262	275	-	08
Other areas	390	-	21	411	07	439	500	-	112.5
Total	**3500**	**10**	**616**	**2195**	**215**	**3036**	**3500**	**12**	**455.5**

Source: Field Information,MFPAD, HARTI.

The production of big onion will be around 270 mt in July and 10249 mt in August from Matale district. But of the expected production, 50% of July production has been damaged by the unfavorable weather condition and rest of the production will be supplied to the market as leafy onion. The peak harvesting (around 45% of the total expected production) could be expected during the month of September.

In Anuradhapura district, the targeted extent of big onion for yala 2013 was 1586 and only 140 ha of cultivation have been completed by the end of May representing 9% of the targeted extent. Tirappane, Aleyapattuwa, Kebithigollewa, Athakada and Maradankadawala are main big onion cultivation areas in Anuradhapura district.9

The targeted extent of red onion for this yala was 2013 ha in Jaffna out of which around 300 ha were cultivated by the end of May. It represented 15% of the total targeted extent. In the puttalam district, the targeted extent of red onion for the year 2013 was 1045 ha and around 229 ha was cultivated by the end of May 2013 representing 22% of the total targeted extent.

Table 2.2.2: Targeted grant and progress of Red onion Cultivation by the end of May 2013

Areas	Targeted (ha)	Cultivation progress at the end of May 2013		Expected Production (t)
		Extent (ha)	% of the targeted	
Jaffna	2013	300	15	2702.48
Puttalum	1045	229	22	2503.37
Vavunia	490	104	21	1432.61
Other areas	1891	640	34	5597.05
Total	**5439**	**1273**	**23**	**12235.51**

Source: Field Information,MFPAD, HARTI.

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Imported quantity of big onion during the month was about 20475 mt and this was about 2367 mt higher than the imported amount in the last month. Average CIF price was Rs.30.92 /kg and it has decreased by Rs.3.87/kg compared to that of the previous month. However, with the availability of ample stocks of imported big onion in the market which arrived from India, both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion had decreased by about Rs.4.00/kg and Rs.2.00/kg respectively. The gross margin between the CIF and wholesale price of big onion was lower than that of the margin between wholesale and retail prices during this month.

Supplies of both sinnan and vedalan red onions from Jaffna, Puttalam and Trincomalee areas had decreased throughout this month as it was the end of the maha harvesting season. About 1812mt of red onion was imported from India duing this month and it was an increase of 263mt compared to that of the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.80.27/kg and it has decreased by Rs.2.58/kg compared to April.

Wholesale price of sinnan, vedalan and imported red onion had increased by about Rs.47.00/kg, Rs.41.00/kg and Rs.33.00/kg respectively due to limited supplies of local red onions. In line with wholesale prices, retail prices of sinnan, vedalan and imported red onion had increased by about Rs.32.00/kg, Rs.41.00/kg and Rs.14.00/kg respectively. Stocks of sinnan red onion were not available in most of the retail markets.

Compared to the same period of the last year, the retail prices of sinnan and vedalan had increased by about 24% and 83% respectively.

Table 2.2.3: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion (Rs/kg)

Crop	Average Price (Rs/kg)			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
Wholesale Price	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**Rs/kg**	**%**	**Rs/kg**	**%**
Red Onion (Sinnan)	130.22	83.51	57.23	*46.72*	*55.94*	*72.99*	*127.54*
Red Onion (Vedalan)	167.11	125.70	87.53	*41.42*	*32.95*	*79.58*	*90.92*
Red Onion (Imported)	154.58	121.38	77.78	*33.20*	*27.35*	*76.80*	*98.74*
Big Onion (imported)	52.12	55.71	58.68	*-3.59*	*-6.45*	*-6.56*	*-11.19*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices							
Red Onion (Sinnan)	152.50	120.48	123.34	*32.02*	*26.58*	*29.16*	*23.64*
Red Onion (Vedalan)	222.22	180.96	121.42	*41.26*	*22.80*	*100.80*	*83.02*
Red Onion (Imported)	167.81	153.93	-	*13.88*	*9.02*	-	-
Big Onion (imported)	76.42	78.47	79.19	*-2.05*	*-2.61*	*-2.77*	*-3.50*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.4: 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	May, 2013	30.92	52.12	76.42	*21.20*	*24.30*
	Apr, 2013	34.79	55.71	78.47	*20.92*	*22.76*
	May, 2012	23.70	58.68	79.19	*34.98*	*20.51*
Red onion	May, 2013	80.27	154.58	167.81	*74.31*	*13.23*
	Apr, 2013	82.85	121.38	153.93	*38.53*	*32.56*
	May, 2012	39.70	77.78	-	*38.08*	-

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

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

Crop	Quantity (t.)		Value (Rs. Mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2013	Apr 2013
Red Onion	1812.40	1549.76	145.48	128.39	80.27	82.85
Big Onion	20474.50	18107.86	632.98	630.00	30.92	34.79

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.6: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion Dec 2012 to May 2013

Month	Quantity Imported (t)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)
May, 2013	20474.50	30.92	52.12	76.42
Apr, 2013	18107.86	34.79	55.71	78.47
Mar, 2013	21621.14	39.30	59.02	88.13
Feb, 2013	16183.52	50.79	68.78	100.56
Jan, 2013	19933.95	41.02	61.71	90.65
Dec, 2012	15745.82	40.28	85.33	119.87

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent was 3,036 ha for *yala* 2013 which was slightly low compared to *yala* 2012. About 179 ha were cultivated by the end of May. Compared to the same period of *yala* 2012, the cultivated extent by the end May was low due to unfavourable weather conditions. According to the cultivated extent up to now about 3,143 mt of production is expected from this *yala* season. In the Nuwara Eliya district the targeted extent was 850 ha and out of that about 149 ha were cultivated by the end of May representing 18% of the targeted extent. The targeted extent for this *yala* season is 2,171 ha in Badulla district which was about 177 ha lower compared to the last *yala* targets. The cultivation progress was at a very low level by the end of May as the *maha* harvesting potato is still taking place in Badulla district.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivated Extent and Expected Production of Potato (*Yala* 2013)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Estimated Production (mt)
	Yala 2012	*Yala* 2013	*Yala* 2012	*Yala* 2013	*Yala* 2013	
N'Eliya	809	850	190	149	18	2,709
Badulla	2,348	2,171	62	30	1	434
Sri Lanka	**3,173**	**3,036**	**652**	**179**	**6**	**3,143**

Source: Field Information Network, MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No.2, Yala 2013, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 8,609 mt of potato was imported in May which was 3,839 mt lower than that was imported during the previous month. Imports had decreased from May after increasing the tax for imported potato (Rs. 25.00/kg) with effect from 03.05.2013. Compared to May, 2012 (9,767 mt) imports were low in May, 2013. Average CIF price was Rs.17.70/kg in May.

With respect to local varieties, the supply of Welimada potato was lower than that of Nuwara Eliya potato as it was the tail end of the major harvesting period. Hence, the wholesale price of Welimada potato had increased by 3% while the price of Nuwara Eliya potato had decreased by 2%. The monthly average producer price was Rs.61.00/kg for Nuwara Eliya potato. Meanwhile, the wholesale and retail prices of imported potato had increased by 14% and 7% respectively due to low stock position with increasing tax for imported potato. Imported stocks were received from Pakistan and Bangladesh. During the month of May, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya, Welimada and imported potatoes ranged between Rs.65.00-75.00/kg, Rs.55.00-70.00/kg and Rs.43.00-60.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the current wholesale prices of Welimada, Nuwara Eliya and imported potato had increased by 23%, 20% and 8% respectively.

Table 2.3.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes Dec 2012 to May 2013

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
May, 2013	8608.70	152.35	17.70	76.28	*58.58*
Apr, 2013	12448.56	225.80	18.14	71.07	*52.93*
Mar, 2013	13120.37	299.80	22.85	73.97	*51.12*
Feb, 2013	12,892.79	339.78	26.35	82.97	*56.62*
Jan, 2013	17,026.65	518.66	30.46	93.09	*62.63*
Dec, 2012	13,487.34	531.85	39.43	115.45	*76.02*

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

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, Wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – May 2013

Item	Average			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)							
Welimada	57.57	50.80	-	*6.77*	*13.33*	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	61.01	59.40	77.47	*1.61*	*2.71*	*-16.46*	*-21.25*
Imported – CIF	17.70	18.14	22.78	*-0.44*	*-2.44*	*-5.08*	*-22.31*
Wholesale Prices (WP)							
Welimada	-	-	82.50	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	70.39	71.77	87.93	*-1.39*	*-1.93*	*-17.54*	*-19.95*
Imported	55.16	48.39	60.00	*6.76*	*13.98*	*-4.84*	*-8.07*
Retail Prices (RP)							
Welimada	90.00	100.00	-	*-10.00*	*-10.00*	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	109.34	109.71	116.09	*-0.37*	*-0.34*	*-6.75*	*-5.81*
Imported	76.28	71.07	83.94	*5.21*	*7.33*	*-7.66*	*-9.13*
Gross Margin (RP-PP)							
Welimada	32.43	49.20	-	*-16.77*	*-34.09*	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	48.33	50.31	38.62	*-1.98*	*-3.94*	*9.71*	*25.14*
Imported (CIF-RP)	58.58	52.93	61.16	*5.65*	*10.68*	*-2.58*	*-4.21*
Gross Margin (RP -WP)							
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	38.95	37.94	28.17	*1.02*	*2.68*	*10.79*	*38.30*
Imported	21.12	22.68	23.94	*-1.55*	*-6.86*	*-2.82*	*-11.77*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of green gram was 7,819 ha for *yala* 2013 and it was 370 ha higher than the targeted extent for *yala* 2012. About 2,700 ha were cultivated by the end of May representing 34% of the total targeted extent. Compared to the same period of yala 2012, the cultivated extent was low in *yala* 2013. According to the cultivated extent up to now for this *yala* season, the expected production is 3,638 mt of green gram. In the Hambantota district, the targeted extent was 2,545 ha for this *yala* season and it was 1,313 ha lower than the targeted extent for *yala* 2012. In Moneragala and kurunegala districts, about 380 ha and 513 ha were cultivated by the end of May of *yala* 2013.

For cowpea the targeted extent was 8,611 ha for *yala* 2013 and it was about 1,049 ha lower than the targeted extent for *yala* 2012. By the end of May, about 2,837 ha of cowpea were cultivated achieving 33% of the targets. According to the cultivated extent up to now, the expected production is 3,610 mt. In Ampara district, the targeted extent was 4,220 ha and about 1,322 ha were cultivated by the end of May representing 31% of the target. Compared to the same period of the last *yala* season, the cultivated extent was low by the end of May of this *yala* season.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivated Extent and Expected Production of Green gram and Cowpea (*Yala* 2013)

Crop	District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Estimated Production (mt)
		Yala 2012	*Yala* 2013	*Yala* 2012	*Yala* 2013	*Yala* 2013	
Green gram	Hambantota	3,858	2,545	2,607	341	13	497
	Kurunegala	696	1,129	298	513	45	216
	Moneragala	446	562	265	380	68	419
	Sri Lanka	**7,449**	**7,819**	**4,260**	**2,700**	**34**	**3,638**
Cowpea	Ampara	6,065	4,220	2,346	1,322	31	2,008
	Moneragala	796	478	321	378	79	404
	Sri Lanka	**9,660**	**8,611**	**4,239**	**2,837**	**33**	**3,610**

Source: Field Information Network, MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No. 2, Yala 2013, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 852 mt of green gram was imported in May and it had decreased by about 964 mt compared to April. Most of the stocks arrived from Australia and Thailand. The average CIF price was Rs.137.94/kg. Compared to May, 2012 (693 mt), the imports of green gram were high in May, 2013. Both local and imported stocks of green gram were available in the market. The wholesale price of green gram had decreased by 7% and the retail price had not changed significantly. During the month, the wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.220.00-270.00/kg. Compared to the same period of the last year, the wholesale and retail prices of green gram had increased by 17% and 25% respectively.

Wholesale and retail prices of cowpea had decreased by 10% and 1% respectively due to availability of limited supply of local stocks. Availability of imported stocks was higher than that of local stocks. In May, the wholesale price of cowpea ranged between Rs.180.00-230.00/kg. Compared to the same period of the last year, the t wholesale and retail prices of cowpea had increased by 15% and 16% respectively.

Table 2.4.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Green gram Dec 2012 to May 2013

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
May, 2013	852.42	117.58	137.94	296.63	158.69
Apr, 2013	1,816.55	241.14	132.75	296.34	163.59
Mar, 2013	702.31	94.95	135.19	287.94	152.75
Feb, 2013	648.75	84.36	130.04	276.75	146.71
Jan, 2013	3,336.09	421.54	126.36	280.93	154.57
Dec, 2012	1,013.08	128.01	126.36	277.60	151.24

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

Table 2.4.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea- May 2013

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Green gram	252.23	271.48	214.84	-19.25	-7.09	37.39	17.40
Cowpea	203.38	225.30	176.29	-21.92	-9.73	27.09	15.37
Retail Prices							
Green gram	296.63	296.34	238.20	0.29	0.10	58.43	24.53
Cowpea	273.46	275.58	235.98	-2.12	-0.77	37.48	15.88

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	May, 2013	137.94	252.23	296.63	114.29	44.40
	Apr, 2013	132.75	271.48	296.34	138.73	24.86
	May, 2012	116.61	214.84	238.20	98.23	23.36
Cowpea	May, 2013	-	203.38	273.46	-	70.08
	Apr, 2013	-	225.30	275.58	-	50.28
	May, 2012	45.76	176.29	235.98	130.53	59.69

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

2.5 Red dhal

A quantity of 23,483 mt of red dhal was imported in May which was 10,860 mt higher than the quantity imported in April. Most of the stocks were received from Australia and Canada. Compared to May, 2012 (11,936 mt), the imports of red dhal were high in May, 2013. The CIF price was Rs.84.93/kg.
Wholesale price of red dhal had decreased by 4% and the retail price had not changed significantly. The average wholesale price was Rs.143.00/kg in May. Compared to the same period of the last year, the retail price of red dhal had increased by 9%.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal – May 2013

Red Dhal	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	143.08	148.46	130.76	-5.38	-3.62	12.32	9.42
Retail Price	163.31	162.96	149.86	0.35	0.21	13.45	8.98

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

Table 2.5.2: The CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal Dec 2012 to May 2013

Month	Quantity (t)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
May, 2013	23483.15	84.93	143.08	163.31	58.15	20.23
Apr, 2013	12622.81	83.43	148.46	162.96	65.03	14.50
Mar, 2013	12799.35	80.81	140.94	156.76	60.13	15.82
Feb, 2013	6005.81	77.84	126.87	149.38	49.03	22.51
Jan, 2013	22516.90	74.54	129.31	148.16	54.77	18.85
Dec, 2012	3312.86	76.39	122.23	148.20	45.84	25.97

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

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

By the end of May 2013, the total cultivation extent of vegetables was 23,224 ha which consisted 5,909 ha of up country vegetables (accounted for 25% of the total cultivation extent) and 17,315 ha of low country vegetables (accounted for 75% of the total cultivation extent). Up country and low country vegetable cultivation targets were 39% and 61% of the total vegetable cultivation extent at the beginning of the *Yala* season, thus 27% and 52% of the respective targets had been achieved by the end of May 2013. (Crop Forecast *Yala* 2013, DOA).

Table 3.1 Total cultivation extents

	Targeted Extent (ha) Vs. Cultivated Extent by the end of May 2012		Targeted Extent (ha) Vs. Cultivated Extent by the end of May (ha) 2013		Share, out of total extent (ha) by the end of May 2013 (%)		Achievement from the target (%) in 2013	Change in cultivation progress in 2013 (ha) compared to 2012 (%)
	Target (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Target (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Target	Achievement		
Up country	20,940	5,111	21,517	5,909	39	25	27	15.6
Low country	30,939	13,589	33,169	17,315	61	75	52	27
Total	**51,879**	**18,700**	**54,686**	**23,224**	**100**	**100**		

Source: Crop Forecast Yala, 2013- Socio Economic and Planning Center, Department of Agriculture.
Field Information Network – Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI

Even though the commencement of *Maha* season was delayed by about two months, it had not affected the commencement of the *Yala* season in some of the major producing areas such as Kandy and Matale. Therefore, almost all up country vegetables had shown over 20% cultivation progress of their respective targets at the end of May. However, commencement of the *Yala* season has been delayed by one month due to delayed previous *Maha* season, in areas such as Badulla, Welimada and Bandarawela. Further, prevailed rainy weather condition at the early stage of the *Yala* season had positively affected the achievement of high cultivation progress in all the low country producing areas.

Considering up country vegetables, the mostly cultivated vegetable type was tomato (1378ha) followed by capsicum as1090 ha. The highest cultivation progress of the set target at the beginning of the *Yala* season was also recorded for capsicum and tomato as 45.8% and 32.6% respectively, by the end of May. Regarding low country vegetables, the mostly cultivated vegetable variety was brinjal 2686 ha, followed by pumpkin (2652 ha), and okra as 2407 ha. However, the highest cultivation progress was recorded for capsicum as 45.8% of the cultivation target,due to early commencement of the *Yala* in mid country areas such as Kandy and Matale. Further, almost all the low country vegetables had shown over 40% cultivation progress of their respective targets due to prevailed favorable weather condition.

Box 1: Crop situation in Nuwara Eliya and Badulla Districts related to up country vegetables -2013 *Yala* season, by the end of May.

Nuwara Eliya and Badulla districts account for 49% of the targeted total up country vegetable cultivation extents in the *Yala* season of 2013. However, the achieved target up to the end of May was only 27% of the set target.

Nuwara Eliya;

Out of the total upcountry vegetable cultivation extent, 27% was targeted in Nuwara Eliya district for the *Yala* season. By the end of May, the total cultivated extent was recorded as 19% (1,131 ha) of the set targeted area. Mostly cultivated vegetables had been cabbage (198 ha) followed by carrot (183 ha) and (176 ha) beans.

Badulla;

Out of the total upcountry vegetable cultivation extent, 21% was targeted in Badulla for the *Yala* season. By the end of May, the total cultivated extent was only 8% (476 ha) in Badulla district, with an achievement of only 8 % of the set target.

As much of the *Maha* cultivation had taken place in mid January of this year, the following *Yala* season was delayed by one month in the Badulla district. As more farmers had utilized their land for seed potato cultivation this *Yala* season compared to last year, a reduction in vegetable cultivation extent can occur this season. The Mostly cultivated vegetables within the district had been beans (156 ha) followed by tomato (108 ha) by the end of May 2013.

Table: 3.2 Cultivated extents of up- country vegetables in Major producing areas.

Crop	District	*Yala* Targeted Extent (ha) Vs. Cultivated Extent by the end of May (ha) 2012			*Yala* Targeted Extent (ha) Vs. Cultivated Extent by the end of May (ha) 2013			Change in cultivation progress in 2013 (ha) compared to 2012 (%)
		Target 2012	**Cultivated Extent 2012**	**Achievement as a % of the target**	**Target 2013**	**Cultivated Extent 2013**	**Achievement as a % of the target**	
Beans	Badulla	1,568	292	18.6	1,839	156	8.5	-46.6
	N'Eliya	822	146	17.8	653	176	27.0	20.5
	Kandy	470	88	18.7	627	181	28.9	105.7
	Ratnapura	365	113	31.0	395	247	62.5	118.6
	Matale	284	27	9.5	270	44	16.3	63.0
	Sri Lanka	**3,678**	**845**	**23.0**	**3,972**	**960**	**24.2**	**13.6**
Carrot	N'Eliya	886	225	25.4	1,000	183	18.3	-18.7
	Badulla	292	167	57.2	201	25	12.4	-85.0
	Sri Lanka	**1,137**	**454**	**39.9**	**1,469**	**307**	**20.9**	**-32.4**
Leeks	N'Eliya	696	169	24.3	800	147	18.4	-13.0
	Sri Lanka	**879**	**266**	**30.3**	**967**	**172**	**17.8**	**-35.3**
Tomato	Badulla	634	224	35.3	727	108	14.9	-51.8
	N'Eliya	965	125	13.0	900	136	15.1	8.8
	Kandy	539	99	18.4	509	162	31.8	63.6
	Ratnapura	195	46	23.6	140	89	63.6	93.5
	Sri Lanka	**3,814**	**1,103**	**28.9**	**4,222**	**1,378**	**32.6**	**24.9**
Cabbage	N'Eliya	880	72	8.2	992	198	20.0	175.0
	Badulla	557	136	24.4	528	79	15.0	-41.9
	Matale	154	76	49.4	191	106	55.5	39.5
	Kandy	344	42	12.2	350	97	27.7	131.0
	Sri Lanka	**1,924**	**440**	**22.9**	**2,574**	**610**	**23.7**	**38.6**
Beet root	N'Eliya	490	95	19.4	484	95	19.6	0.0
	Badulla	98	22	22.4	177	17	9.6	-22.7
	Matale	1,277	44	3.4	1,000	19	1.9	-56.8
	Kurunegala	235	30	12.8	234	116	49.6	286.7
	Puttalam	194	98	50.5	120	55	45.8	-43.9
	Sri Lanka	**2,585**	**391**	**15.1**	**2,430**	**450**	**18.5**	**15.1**
Capsicum	N'Eliya	221	41	18.6	296	42	14.2	2.4
	Badulla	232	39	16.8	265	25	9.4	-35.9
	Puttalam	217	97	44.7	130	68	52.3	-29.9
	Matale	295	16	5.4	135	117	86.7	631.3
	Kurunegala	230	64	27.8	252	123	48.8	92.2
	Sri Lanka	**2,239**	**806**	**36.0**	**2,382**	**1,090**	**45.8**	**35.2**
Raddish	N'Eliya	467	94	20.1	481	88	18.3	-6.4
	Matale	335	10	3.0	79	26	32.9	160.0
	Badulla	282	50	17.7	273	45	16.5	-10.0
	Kurunegala	205	68	33.2	265	143	54.0	110.3
	Sri Lanka	**2,215**	**589**	**26.6**	**2,180**	**640**	**29.4**	**8.7**
Knolkhol	N'Eliya	299	94	31.4	271	65	24.0	-30.9
	Badulla	207	45	21.7	478	21	4.4	-53.3
	Matale	0	0	N.A	197	88	44.7	N.A
	Sri Lanka	**784**	**219**	**27.9**	**1,321**	**299**	**22.6**	**36.5**

Source: Crop Forecast Yala 2013- Socio Economic and Planning Center, Department of Agriculture
Field Information Network – Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI

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

Crop	District	*Yala* Targeted Extent (ha) Vs. Cultivated Extent by the end of May (ha) 2012			*Yala* Targeted Extent (ha) Vs. Cultivated Extent by the end of May (ha) 2013			Change in cultivation progress in 2013 (ha) compared to 2012 (%)
		Target 2012	Extent 2012	Achievement as a % of the target	Target 2013	Extent 2013	Achievement as a % of the target	
Brinjal	Anuradhapura	2,270	318	14.0	400	337	84.3	6.0
	Moneragala	492	226	45.9	363	328	90.4	45.1
	Hambanthota	274	164	59.9	332	243	73.2	48.2
	Badulla	483	17	3.5	304	61	20.1	258.8
	Ratnapura	185	86	46.5	165	91	55.2	5.8
	Matale	225	88	39.1	151	78	51.7	-11.4
	Sri Lanka	**6,147**	**2,126**	**34.6**	**4,329**	**2,686**	**62.0**	**26.3**
Bitter gourd	Hambanthota	194	141	72.7	285	200	70.2	41.8
	Anuradhapura	170	147	86.5	140	82	58.6	-44.2
	Monaragala	120	85	70.8	88	119	135.2	40.0
	Kurunegala	170	45	26.5	175	96	54.9	113.3
	Sri Lanka	**2,080**	**1,015**	**48.8**	**2,656**	**1,168**	**44.0**	**15.1**
Okra	Anuradhapura	380	144	37.9	375	120	32.0	-16.7
	Kurunegala	285	205	71.9	290	214	73.8	4.4
	Monaragala	291	187	64.3	246	244	99.2	30.5
	Matale	350	101	28.9	279	97	34.8	-4.0
	Ratnapura	190	94	49.5	180	94	52.2	0.0
	Hambanthota	224	172	76.8	295	207	70.2	20.3
	Sri Lanka	**3,496**	**1,766**	**50.5**	**4,122**	**2,407**	**58.4**	**36.3**
Pumpkin	Anuradhapura	2,275	438	19.3	640	575	89.8	31.3
	Monaragala	3,041	1,078	35.4	2,291	512	22.3	-52.5
	Hambanthota	282	198	70.2	456	260	57.0	31.3
	Sri Lanka	**7,104**	**2,363**	**33.3**	**5,484**	**2,652**	**48.4**	**12.2**
Snake gourd	Hambanthota	187	117	62.6	242	179	74.0	53.0
	Kurunegala	170	65	38.2	190	111	58.4	70.8
	Matale	270	52	19.3	207	83	40.1	59.6
	Monaragala	110	66	60.0	83	98	118.1	48.5
	Sri Lanka	**2,105**	**871**	**41.4**	**2,441**	**1,099**	**45.0**	**26.2**
Cucumber	Hambanthota	235	134	57.0	286	198	69.2	47.8
	Monaragala	176	186	105.7	166	228	137.3	22.6
	Matale	326	102	31.3	205	92	44.9	-9.8
	Anuradhapura	125	81	64.8	108	100	92.6	23.5
	Sri Lanka	**1,650**	**889**	**53.9**	**2,518**	**1,447**	**57.5**	**62.8**
Long beans	Hambanthota	348	197	56.6	492	292	59.3	48.2
	Kurunegala	525	319	60.8	560	397	70.9	24.5
	Monaragala	209	116	55.5	203	161	79.3	38.8
	Matale	326	46	14.1	273	75	27.5	63.0
	Sri Lanka	**4,100**	**1,967**	**48.0**	**5,266**	**2,361**	**44.8**	**20.0**

Source: Field Information Network – Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI
Crop Forecast Yala 2013- Socio Economic and Planning Center, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand situation

In line with the annual price behavior, prices had shown a declining trend from February to April with the commencement of *Maha* harvesting period and then, prices had started to show an increasing trend from May. As much of the *Maha* cultivation had taken place in mid January of this year, the following *Yala* season was delayed by three to four weeks especially in areas such as Badulla, Welimada and Bandarawela, On the other hand, the same delay had not affected much for the commencement of the *Yala* season in Kandy and Matale, where lowland *Yala* cultivation is prominent. Stocks from delayed *Maha* season harvest were available up to third week of May while harvest from just commenced *Yala* season had started to arrived at the market from the second week of May, especially from Kandy and

Hanguranketha. This partly overlapping of *Maha* and *Yala* harvest had resulted in lower average wholesale prices this year compared to the average prices of 2012.

With regard to the average wholesale prices of up country vegetables, a considerable price increase (price increase of more than 10%) was observed for beans, carrot, beetroot, knolkhol and raddish, compared to April 2013. Further, reported price increase for cabbage and tomato was less than 5% in May, compared to wholesale prices of April. The highest price increase of 58% observed for beans followed raddish as 47% due to low stocks arriving from Nuwaraeliya, Matale and Badulla compared to April. Meanwhile, price of tomato and cabbage had shown a slight increase during the later part of the month and this trend may continue up to the end of June, until *Yala* harvest is received from Matale and Kandy.

As *Yala* cultivation had commenced in major producing areas like Ambilipitiya, Kurunegala, Hambantota, and Rajanganaya, the stocks received at the market had dropped sharply from these areas, which resulted in price increase in most of the low country vegetables. The highest price increase of 72% was recorded for snake gourd followed by long beans at 60% and luffa at 21%. Further, prices of ladies fingers, brinjal, capsicum, and bitter gourd had increased in a range of 1% - 18% in May compared to April of this year. In addition, the prices of pumpkin, cucumber and ash plantain had decreased in a range of 3% -17%. Meanwhile, the prices of green chillies had decreased further in May by 5% due to availability of high stocks supplied from Puttalam and Chillaw. Compared to the same period of the last year, the wholesale prices of all the vegetables, except for beans, carrot, cabbage and ash plantains had decreased with the highest price decrease of 62% reported for tomato. Retail prices of most of the vegetables hadalso increased in May, according to the price behavior in the wholesale market. With regard to retail prices of up country vegetables, the highest price increase of 39% was observed for beans, followed by leeks at 27%. Prices of other up country varieties had increased in a range of 9%-27%. Next, prices of all the low country varieties had increased except for drumsticks, in the retail market. Among the low country vegetables, the highest price increase of 34% was reported for long beans, followed by brinjal as 22%. Compared to the same period of the last year, the retail prices of most of the vegetables had also decreased with the highest price decrease of 39% observed for tomato.

Table 3.4: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – May 2013

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	73.63	46.72	71.84	*26.91*	*57.60*	*1.79*	*2.49*
Carrot	99.36	90.31	54.68	*9.05*	*10.02*	*44.68*	*81.71*
Leeks	88.03	63.91	113.41	*24.12*	*37.74*	*-25.38*	*-22.38*
Beetroot	79.18	65.32	95.31	*13.86*	*21.22*	*-16.13*	*-16.92*
Knolkhol	40.42	30.63	53.85	*9.79*	*31.96*	*-13.43*	*-24.94*
Radish	36.79	25.00	41.29	*11.79*	*47.16*	*-4.50*	*-10.90*
Cabbage	50.25	48.91	23.91	*1.34*	*2.74*	*26.34*	*110.16*
Tomato	41.78	40.53	109.44	*1.25*	*3.08*	*-67.66*	*-61.82*
Ladies Fingers	33.22	30.63	59.96	*2.59*	*8.46*	*-26.74*	*-44.60*
Brinjal	32.95	28.13	55.13	*4.82*	*17.13*	*-22.18*	*-40.23*
Capsicum	106.70	105.63	120.64	*1.07*	*1.01*	*-13.94*	*-11.56*
Pumpkin	24.88	29.85	24.37	*-4.97*	*-16.65*	*0.51*	*2.09*
Cucumber	19.71	21.88	28.49	*-2.17*	*-9.92*	*-8.78*	*-30.82*
Bitter Gourd	61.89	52.35	86.11	*9.54*	*18.22*	*-24.22*	*-28.13*
Snake Gourd	45.97	26.69	56.74	*19.28*	*72.24*	*-10.77*	*-18.98*
Drumstick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luffa	44.64	37.01	53.81	*7.63*	*20.62*	*-9.17*	*-17.04*
Long Beans	48.67	30.41	56.71	*18.26*	*60.05*	*-8.04*	*-14.18*
Ash Plantain	33.24	34.38	17.68	*-1.14*	*-3.32*	*15.56*	*88.01*
Green Chillies	101.11	106.88	97.89	*-5.77*	*-5.40*	*3.22*	*3.29*
Lime	56.58	33.28	69.25	*23.30*	*70.01*	*-12.67*	*-18.30*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.5: Retail Prices of Vegetables – May 2013

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	122.58	87.79	121.19	*34.79*	*39.63*	*1.39*	*1.15*
Carrot	150.04	130.28	108.99	*19.76*	*15.17*	*41.05*	*37.66*
Leeks	141.87	111.56	164.33	*30.31*	*27.17*	*-22.46*	*-13.67*
Beetroot	151.73	120.08	152.89	*31.65*	*26.36*	*-1.16*	*-0.76*
Knolkhol	116.60	103.28	122.28	*13.32*	*12.90*	*-5.68*	*-4.65*
Radish	91.96	75.63	97.98	*16.33*	*21.59*	*-6.02*	*-6.14*
Cabbage	109.39	100.46	82.33	*8.93*	*8.89*	*27.06*	*32.87*
Tomato	100.27	91.51	164.29	*8.76*	*9.57*	*-64.02*	*-38.97*
Ladies Fingers	92.79	81.87	114.45	*10.92*	*13.34*	*-21.66*	*-18.93*
Brinjal	91.46	74.67	107.67	*16.79*	*22.49*	*-16.21*	*-15.06*
Capsicum	174.64	174.03	173.99	*0.61*	*0.35*	*0.65*	*0.37*
Pumpkin	76.11	74.84	70.38	*1.27*	*1.70*	*5.73*	*8.14*
Cucumber	75.07	69.06	73.79	*6.01*	*8.70*	*1.28*	*1.73*
Bitter Gourd	117.31	112.12	144.42	*5.19*	*4.63*	*-27.11*	*-18.77*
Snake Gourd	93.61	78.79	104.82	*14.82*	*18.81*	*-11.21*	*-10.69*
Drumstick	361.65	450.00	293.06	*-88.35*	*-19.63*	*68.59*	*23.40*
Luffa	104.65	94.25	109.61	*10.40*	*11.03*	*-4.96*	*-4.53*
Long Beans	113.62	84.67	105.64	*28.95*	*34.19*	*7.98*	*7.55*
Ash Plantain	97.46	92.80	78.36	*4.66*	*5.02*	*19.10*	*24.37*
Green Chillies	210.72	232.57	217.89	*-21.85*	*-9.40*	*-7.17*	*-3.29*
Lime	159.72	110.15	190.94	*49.57*	*45.00*	*-31.22*	*-16.35*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of most of the fruits have increased during the month as it was the major fruit season. Demand of fruits also decreased with rainy weather conditions. Hence the wholesale prices of most of the fruits had decreased with the highest price decrease of 78% for mango (betti). Further, the wholesale prices of all the varieties of banana had decreased continuously during the month significantly in the range of 9%-31%. According to market information, further price reduction could be expected for banana during the next month. High stocks of papaw were supplied from Wellawaya, Embilipitiya, Suriyawewa and Rajanganaya areas and wholesale price had declined by 30%. Meanwhile a significant wholesale price increase was recorded only for all the sizes of pineapple in the range of 5%-17%.

Compared to the same period of the last year, wholesale prices of all the fruits had increased except for orange and vilad mango with the highest price increase of 129 % for karthakolomban.

According to the table 4.2, retail prices of most of the fruits had decreased with the highest price decrease by 19%, 31% and 10% respectively due to increased supplies. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of almost all the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 142% for Karthakolomban (mango).

Producer prices of ambul, kolikuttu and papaw had decreased by 45%, 25% and 50% respectively due to increased supply. Meanwhile the producer price of pineapple had increased by 8% in Gampaha and Divulapitiya areas.

Exports/Imports of Fruits

Papaw was the widely exported type of fruit in May and the exported quantity was 80.66 mt. The total value of exported pineapple, papaw, mango and orange was Rs.17.35 mn in May.
The toatal value of imported apple, grapes, oranges and mandarin was Rs.488 mn May.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – May 2013

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	%	Rs./Fruit	%
Plantain							
Ambul (Rs/kg)	33.49	48.20	32.46	*-14.71*	*-30.52*	*1.03*	*3.17*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	84.91	103.87	74.23	*-18.96*	*-18.25*	*10.68*	*14.39*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	41.63	51.29	35.82	*-9.66*	*-18.83*	*5.81*	*16.22*
Anamalu	7.25	8.01	6.68	*-0.76*	*-9.49*	*0.57*	*8.53*
Ambun	10.30	11.56	8.64	*-1.26*	*-10.90*	*1.66*	*19.21*
Pineapple							
Large	102.72	97.55	99.65	*5.17*	*5.30*	*3.07*	*3.08*
Medium	82.85	74.26	79.02	*8.59*	*11.57*	*3.83*	*4.85*
Small	63.75	54.70	58.61	*9.05*	*16.54*	*5.14*	*8.77*
Mango							
Betti	11.48	53.00	7.44	*-41.52*	*-78.34*	*4.04*	*54.30*
Karthakolomban	49.67	113.79	21.71	*-64.12*	*-56.35*	*27.96*	*128.79*
Vilad	13.48	-	14.38	-	-	*-0.90*	*-6.26*
Kohu	11.31	16.25	5.75	*-4.94*	*-30.40*	*5.56*	*96.70*
Papaw (Rs/kg)	38.72	48.14	31.86	*-9.42*	*-19.57*	*6.86*	*21.53*
Passion Fruit	5.01	7.82	4.50	*-2.81*	*-35.93*	*0.51*	*11.33*
Wood Apple	36.60	45.24	32.53	*-8.64*	*-19.10*	*4.07*	*12.51*
Orange	8.77	12.45	13.56	*-3.68*	*-29.56*	*-4.79*	*-35.32*
Avocado	34.75	34.63	18.49	*0.12*	*0.35*	*16.26*	*87.94*
Slime Apple	27.54	38.15	22.75	*-10.61*	*-27.81*	*4.79*	*21.05*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	459.60	442.47	411.83	*17.13*	*3.87*	*47.77*	*11.60*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – May 2013

Items	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	Rs./Fruit	%	Rs./Fruit	%
Plantain							
Ambul (Rs/kg)	70.36	76.60	62.95	*-6.24*	*-8.15*	*7.41*	*11.77*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	149.00	147.90	125.10	*1.10*	*0.74*	*23.90*	*19.10*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	74.59	75.65	64.61	*-1.06*	*-1.40*	*9.98*	*15.45*
Anamalu	12.51	13.16	10.98	*-0.65*	*-4.94*	*1.53*	*13.93*
Ambun	14.72	15.01	11.39	*-0.29*	*-1.93*	*3.33*	*29.24*
Pineapple							
Large	145.59	148.97	136.57	*-3.38*	*-2.27*	*9.02*	*6.60*
Medium	106.89	111.50	106.62	*-4.61*	*-4.13*	*0.27*	*0.25*
Small	75.64	79.68	78.39	*-4.04*	*-5.07*	*-2.75*	*-3.51*
Mango							
Betti	28.36	-	24.50	-	-	*3.86*	*15.76*
Karthakolomban	85.26	157.58	35.22	*-72.32*	*-45.89*	*50.04*	*142.08*
Vilad	44.48	-	29.65	-	-	*14.83*	*50.02*
Kohu	20.17	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	68.99	85.67	57.95	*-16.68*	*-19.47*	*11.04*	*19.05*
Passion Fruit	13.04	18.92	10.61	*-5.88*	*-31.08*	*2.43*	*22.90*
Wood Apple	65.99	63.12	49.97	*2.87*	*4.55*	*16.02*	*32.06*
Orange	28.66	30.93	32.61	*-2.27*	*-7.34*	*-3.95*	*-12.11*
Avocado	60.16	66.91	36.54	*-6.75*	*-10.09*	*23.62*	*64.64*
Slime Apple	53.24	57.16	47.87	*-3.92*	*-6.86*	*5.37*	*11.22*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	743.17	726.09	678.87	*17.08*	*2.35*	*64.30*	*9.47*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits- May 2013

Item	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	%	Rs./kg	%
Ambul	17.45	31.60	24.36	-14.15	-44.78	-6.91	-28.37
Kolikuttu	60.38	80.00	74.00	-19.63	-24.53	-13.63	-18.41
Papaw	16.55	32.87	15.80	-16.32	-49.65	0.75	4.75
Pineapple	50.38	46.50	56.88	3.88	8.33	-6.51	-11.44

Source: Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits
March to May 2013

Type of Fruit	May			April			March		
	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	64.69	9.96	153.89	94.37	11.45	121.35	84.14	10.73	127.50
Papaw	80.66	5.25	65.06	88.42	8.38	94.80	68.32	7.34	107.43
Fresh Mango	4.89	1.91	390.12	0.89	0.42	479.37	0.73	0.11	157.17
Fresh Oranges	1.44	0.23	163.04	0.95	0.06	60.23	1.04	0.26	245.33

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

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits
March to May 2013

Types of Fruit	May			April			March		
	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	2,227.03	317.20	142.43	2,418.46	321.57	132.96	1,449.13	170.14	117.41
Grapes	348.12	100.00	287.27	320.80	87.48	272.69	677.30	172.43	254.58
Oranges	873.55	70.14	80.29	850.70	73.31	86.17	340.63	30.17	88.57
Mandarin	23.67	0.71	29.95	-	-	-	1,834.75	57.27	31.22

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

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

As predicted in the previous month, wholesale prices of all the fresh fish varieties had increased in the range of 14%-54%. Inter monsoon season had affected fishing activities and therefore supplies were limited. This reason had contributed to the price increases. The highest price increase of 54% was reported for balaya followed by kelawalla (43%) and paraw (26%). Prices of other fish varieties, salaya, hurulla, thora, mora, shrimps and thalapath, had increased in the range of 14%-17%. Compared to May 2012, wholesale prices of all the fresh fish varieties except for thalapath had increased with the highest price increase of 23% for hurulla.

In line with the increased wholesale prices, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties had increased in the range of 7%-23%. The highest price increase was reported for salaya (23%) followed by kelawalla (19%) and balaya (18%). Prices of paraw and mora had increased by 17%. Further, prices of hurulla, thora, shrimps and thalapath had increased in the range of 7%-12%. Compared to the same month of the last year, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties had increased with the highest price increase of 42% for balaya.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – May 2013

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices							
Salaya	157.00	133.75	153.70	*23.25*	*17.38*	*3.30*	*2.15*
Hurulla	295.75	254.75	240.92	*41.00*	*16.09*	*54.83*	*22.76*
Balaya	396.00	257.00	349.11	*139.00*	*54.09*	*46.89*	*13.43*
Kelawalla	535.25	374.00	505.84	*161.25*	*43.11*	*29.41*	*5.81*
Thora	989.25	852.00	846.88	*137.25*	*16.11*	*142.37*	*16.81*
Paraw	537.75	427.25	512.80	*110.50*	*25.86*	*24.95*	*4.87*
Mora	427.00	368.25	390.80	*58.75*	*15.95*	*36.20*	*9.26*
Shrimps (small)	714.50	628.50	646.43	*86.00*	*13.68*	*68.07*	*10.53*
Thalapath	529.75	460.00	550.41	*69.75*	*15.16*	*-20.66*	*-3.75*
Retail Prices							
Salaya	248.19	202.32	195.52	*45.87*	*22.67*	*52.67*	*26.94*
Hurulla	388.23	358.23	317.57	*30.00*	*8.37*	*70.66*	*22.25*
Balaya	722.17	609.56	509.52	*112.61*	*18.47*	*212.65*	*41.74*
Kelawalla	838.36	706.66	713.79	*131.70*	*18.64*	*124.57*	*17.45*
Thora	1312.67	1177.37	1058.46	*135.30*	*11.49*	*254.21*	*24.02*
Paraw	899.42	765.52	680.88	*133.90*	*17.49*	*218.54*	*32.10*
Mora	716.09	611.05	515.32	*105.04*	*17.19*	*200.77*	*38.96*
Shrimps (small)	903.89	848.25	745.55	*55.64*	*6.56*	*158.34*	*21.24*
Thalapath	879.35	782.24	783.23	*97.11*	*12.41*	*96.12*	*12.27*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Prices of most of the local and imported varieties had increased by range of 3%-41% due to insufficient stocks with bad weather conditions. The highest price increase of imported maduwa was by about 41%, followed by imported sprats by 26% and local salaya by 12%. The stocks of imported sprats especially from Thailand had decreased this month. According to the Department of customs 2,647 mt of sprats was import in May 2013 and it had increased by 910 mt compared to the last month. The CIF price was Rs. 281.51/kg and it has decreased by Rs.24.66 in the previous month. With regard to the imported stocks, balaya, koduwa and salaya were availabile in the pettah wholesale market. The highest price decrease of imported anguluwa was by about 18%. Compared to the same period of the last year the wholesale prices of most of the varieties had increased with the highest price increase observed for imported sprats (23%).

Prices of all varieties except salaya had increased as a result of to low stocks with high wholesale prices and bad weather conditions. The highest price increase of imported balaya was by about 4% followed by local anguluwa (3%). Imported stocks of sprats had were sufficient compared to the last month with high supply especially from Thailand. The price of salaya had decreased by abou 1% with sufficient stocks. Compared the same period of the last year the prices of all the varieties had increased by range of 3% to 54% with the highest price increase noted for maduwa by 54%.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish– May 2013

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale							
Sprats	648.31	513.54	548.98	*134.76*	*26.24*	*99.32*	*18.09*
Sprats (imported)	466.44	443.27	380.40	*23.17*	*5.23*	*86.04*	*22.62*
Kattawa	696.03	676.13	754.06	*19.90*	*2.94*	*-58.04*	*-7.70*
Kattawa (imported)	630.01	635.89	743.75	*-5.88*	*-0.93*	*-113.74*	*-15.29*
Thora	-	900.00	940.00	-	-	-	-
Thora (imported)	890.85	905.50	940.21	*-14.65*	*-1.62*	*-49.36*	*-5.25*
Mora	705.18	726.90	735.92	*-21.72*	*-2.99*	*-30.74*	*-4.18*
Mora (imported)	673.69	652.94	717.92	*20.75*	*3.18*	*-44.23*	*-6.16*
Balaya	514.48	481.82	491.81	*32.66*	*6.78*	*22.68*	*4.61*
Balaya (imported)	610.70	-	504.83	-	-	*105.87*	*20.97*
Anguluwa	461.25	560.00	515.59	*-98.75*	*-17.63*	*-54.34*	*-10.54*
Anguluwa (imported)	540.57	588.16	484.83	*-47.59*	*-8.09*	*55.73*	*11.50*
Maduwa	394.19	394.02	369.72	*0.17*	*0.04*	*24.46*	*6.62*
Maduwa (imported)	323.93	230.00	277.04	*93.93*	*40.84*	*46.89*	*16.93*
Koduwa	530.83	516.25	515.00	*14.58*	*2.82*	*15.83*	*3.07*
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-		-
Salaya	245.44	263.92	263.03	*-18.47*	*-7.00*	*-17.59*	*-6.69*
Salaya (imported)	-	-	245.06	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail							
Sprats	707.89	706.25	470.90	*1.64*	*0.23*	*236.99*	*50.33*
Kattawa	1008.51	992.25	980.71	*16.26*	*1.64*	*27.80*	*2.83*
Thora	1235.28	1205.11	1190.13	*30.17*	*2.50*	*45.15*	*3.79*
Mora	900.19	886.12	802.41	*14.07*	*1.59*	*97.78*	*12.19*
Balaya	766.35	741.40	700.29	*24.95*	*3.37*	*66.06*	*9.43*
Anguluwa	830.09	806.89	735.02	*23.20*	*2.88*	*95.07*	*12.93*
Maduwa	630.95	615.60	410.00	*15.35*	*2.49*	*220.95*	*53.89*
Koduwa	820.83	803.75	-	*17.08*	*2.13*	-	-
Salaya	515.24	522.49	434.34	*-7.25*	*-1.39*	*80.90*	*18.63*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Eggs

Wholesale price of brown eggs had increased by nearly 1%, while the price of white eggs had decreased by 4%. Supplies of eggs were mainly from Hettipola, Madampe, Marawila and Kuliyapitiya areas. The monthly average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs were Rs.12.32/egg and Rs. 11.02/egg respectively. Compared to May 2012, wholesale prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 61% and 51% respectively.

In line with the decreased wholesale price, retail price of white eggs had decreased by 5%. However, prices of brown eggs had decreased by 3% despite the increased wholesale prices. Consumer demand for eggs had gone down compared to the previous festive month. The monthly average retail prices of brown and white eggs were Rs. 13.11/egg and Rs. 12.06/egg respectively. Compared to the same month of the last year, retail prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 50% and 49% respectively.

Meat

Prices of all varieties except beef and broiler chicken had decreased by around 1% due to low demand with Vesak season. However prices of beef and broiler chicken had increased by around 2% with low demand. Compared to the same period of the last year, retail prices all varieties except pork had increased with the highest price decrease of 17% for curry chicken. However price of pork had decreased by about 7%.

Table 5.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs –May 2013

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	%	Rs.	%
Eggs – Wholesale							
Eggs – Brown (each)	12.32	12.24	7.64	*0.08*	*0.65*	*4.68*	*61.26*
White (each)	11.02	11.46	7.29	*-0.44*	*-3.84*	*3.73*	*51.17*
Eggs – Retail							
Eggs- Brown (each)	13.11	13.56	8.74	*-0.45*	*-3.32*	*4.37*	*50.00*
White (each)	12.06	12.75	8.10	*-0.69*	*-5.41*	*3.96*	*48.89*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.4: Retail Prices of Meat – May 2013

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat							
Beef (without bones)	547.94	541.27	498.43	*6.67*	*1.23*	*49.51*	*9.93*
Chicken (Broiler)	483.27	472.46	420.61	*10.81*	*2.29*	*62.66*	*14.90*
Chicken (curry)	447.66	452.80	384.00	*-5.14*	*-1.14*	*63.66*	*16.58*
Mutton	1172.52	1177.98	1040.95	*-5.46*	*-0.46*	*131.57*	*12.64*
Pork	390.88	395.26	418.93	*-4.38*	*-1.11*	*-28.05*	*-6.70*

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

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

The quantity of wheat grain imports has shown an increase because it was very low in the previous month. Total quantity of 29387 mt, valued at Rs .mn 1308 was imported. The highest average CIF price for wheat grain during this year was reported in March (Rs.51.27/kg) and thereafter it had decreased gradually up to Rs.44.52/kg recording a decrease of cent 54 against the previous month.

Meanwhile the imported quantity of wheat flour also increased considerably by 161% against the previous month. Total quantity of 470 mt, valued at Rs. mn 32 was imported. The average CIF price had increased by 20% when compared to the last month and it was Rs.68.44/kg. But the retail prices of wheat flour had declined by Rs.1.50/kg against the previous month and it had increased by 5% compared to the same period of the last year.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar – May 2013

Items	Average			Change Compared to			
	May 2013	Apr 2013	May 2012	Apr 2013		May 2012	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	97.68	99.18	93.22	*-1.50*	*-1.51*	*4.46*	*4.78*
Sugar	98.67	101.55	*97.78*	*-2.88*	*-2.84*	*0.89*	*0.91*

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Wheat Flour & Grain - Dec 2012 to May 2013

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
May, 2013	470.36	32.19	68.44	97.68	*29.24*
Apr, 2013	180.60	10.28	56.93	99.18	*42.25*
Mar, 2013	27.74	1.86	67.11	98.13	*31.02*
Feb, 2013	79.39	4.79	60.38	99.06	*38.68*
Jan, 2013	1,309.71	80.44	61.42	98.34	*36.92*
Dec, 2012	153.29	8.59	56.05	98.46	*42.41*
Wheat Grain					
May, 2013	29,387.31	1,308.32	44.52	97.68	*53.16*
Apr, 2013	16,194.27	729.71	45.06	99.18	*54.12*
Mar, 2013	43,762.84	2,243.61	51.27	98.13	*46.86*
Feb, 2013	27,082.52	1,127.19	41.62	99.06	*57.44*
Jan, 2013	-	-	-	98.34	-
Dec, 2012	-	-	-	98.46	-

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

Sugar

Imports of sugar were high last month. Hence the quantity had dropped by 31% recording 49456 mt this month. The value of the stock was Rs. mn.3463 while the average CIF price was Rs.70.03/kg, recording an increase of Rs.2.06/kg against the previous month. The retail price of sugar declined by 3% compared to the previous month and it was dropped up to Rs.98.67/kg when compared to the same period of the last year, retail price had increased by 1%.

Table 6.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sugar- Dec 2012 to May 2013

Month	Quantity (t.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
May, 2013	49,455.81	3,463.37	70.03	98.67	*28.64*
Apr, 2013	71,954.27	4,890.95	67.97	101.55	*33.58*
Mar, 2013	42,592.05	3,012.35	70.73	104.20	*33.47*
Feb, 2013	35,245.42	2,433.59	69.05	100.97	*31.92*
Jan, 2013	177,504.14	12,798.19	72.10	102.06	*29.96*
Dec, 2012	7,538.00	597.56	79.27	105.03	*25.76*

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

Table 7: Imports of Selected Food Items - May 2013

Items	Quantity (t)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	May2013	Apr 2013		May2013	Apr 2013		May2013	Apr 2013	
Rice	3437.36	913.84	276.14	345.06	97.89	252.51	100.39	107.12	-6.28
Red Onion	1812.40	1549.76	16.95	145.48	128.39	13.31	80.27	82.85	-3.11
Big Onion	20474.50	18107.86	13.07	632.98	630.00	0.47	30.92	34.79	-11.14
Potato	8608.70	12448.56	-30.85	152.35	225.80	-32.53	17.70	18.14	-2.43
Dried Chillies	3471.47	2850.13	21.80	495.99	424.70	16.79	142.88	149.01	-4.12
Masoor Dhal	23483.15	12622.81	86.04	1994.50	1053.17	89.38	84.93	83.43	1.80
Green Gram	852.42	1816.55	-53.07	117.58	241.14	-51.24	137.94	132.75	3.91
Black gram	314.35	454.93	-30.90	34.48	48.24	-28.52	109.69	106.04	3.44
Garlic	3018.00	1467.00	105.73	294.36	168.13	75.08	97.53	114.61	-14.90
Wheat flour	470.36	180.60	160.44	32.19	10.28	213.10	68.44	56.93	20.22
Wheat grain	29387.31	16194.27	81.47	1308.32	729.71	79.29	44.52	45.06	-1.20
White crystalline cane sugar	49455.81	71954.27	-31.27	3463.37	4890.95	-29.19	70.03	67.97	3.03
Maize (Seed)	198.00	119.96	-	85.84	50.29	-	433.54	419.24	-
Maize (Other)	-	144.00	-	-	11.04	-	-	76.70	-

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – May 2013

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	57.4	84.3	5	6
Badulla	100.4	104	14	10
Bandarawela	141.7	104.2	11	9
Batticaloa	60.4	39.3	4	3
Colombo	404.5	392.4	24	16
Galle	182.3	290.4	23	16
Hambantota	126.5	85.1	11	7
Jaffna	71.9	46.7	4	3
Katugastota	146.7	144	13	11
Katunayaka	523.5	317.6	19	16
Kurunegala	242.9	188.3	14	12
Maha Iluppallama	30	93	6	6
Mannar	23.8	44.7	2	3
Nuwara Eliya	172.6	175.9	18	13
Pottuvil	30.9	35.1	6	na
Puttalam	27.7	84.3	5	7
Ratmalana	258.9	360.6	25	17
Ratnapura	492.3	475.9	25	20
Trincomalee	132.3	50.2	3	4
Vavuniya	108.8	74.8	5	6
Polonnaruwa	108.3	na	7	na
Moneragala	97	na	8	na

Source: Department of Meteorology

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

May 2013

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	61.40	61.80	59.25	61.60	Hanguranketha				
A'pura	28.00	30.00	30.50	30.50	Badulla					N'Eliya	57.60	73.80	81.25	87.80
P'naruwa					Welimada	52.86	61.40	57.50	58.50					
Kalawewa	31.40	32.30	32.13	32.00	**Pulses**					**Beetroot**				
Kurunegala	36.16	36.16	33.81	33.95	**Green Gram**					Hanguranketha				
Dehiattakandiya	32.00	34.00	33.75	33.00	Galgamuwa					N'Eliya	47.60	53.20	57.25	67.40
Ampara					Kalawewa					Dambulla	56.40	63.60	73.50	70.80
Long grain (White)					Embilipitiya	245.00	245.00	243.75	201.00	Kurunegala				
A'pura	24.75	29.00	29.50	29.50	Kurunegala					Welimada				
P'naruwa					A'pura	210.00	210.00			**Knokhol**				
Kalawewa	30.00	29.70	29.25	29.20	**Cowpea**					Hanguranketha				
Kurunegala	33.29	33.31	32.50	32.32	A'pura	128.00	128.00			N'Eliya	26.20	27.80	30.40	31.00
Dehiattakandiya	29.60	30.40	30.50	30.80	Galgamuwa					Welimada				
Embilipitiya	29.10	29.10	29.00	29.30	Nikaweratiya	103.00	145.00	125.00	142.00	**Radish**				
Ampara	30.00	30.90	31.30	31.70	Kalawewa	137.50	145.00			Hanguranketha				
Matara	29.50	29.25	29.25	29.50	Embilipitiya	155.00	155.00	156.25	137.00	N'Eliya	19.60	19.00	22.50	24.20
Hambantota	27.50	27.50	27.50	27.75	Kurunegala					Welimada	7.00	8.00	10.00	
Long grain (Red)					**Maize**					**Cabbage**				
Matara	25.00	25.25	25.25	25.50	A'Pura	30.00	30.00	27.50	27.50	Hanguranketha				
Hambantota	23.00	23.00	24.50	24.75	Kalawewa	30.25	30.00	29.50	29.40	N'Eliya	40.60	42.00	48.00	52.82
Ampara	29.40	31.00	29.30	29.30	**Gingelly**					Welimada	22.00	27.00	32.50	
Embilipitiya	23.70	24.10	24.25	24.50	A'Pura					Hambantota				
Other Food Crops					Kalawewa					Badulla				
Dried Chillies					**Black Gram**					**Tomato**				
A'Pura					Kalawewa					Hanguranketha				
Galgamuwa					**Vegetables (Up Country)**					Welimada	29.00	26.80	37.50	
Kalawewa					**Beans**					Hambantota				
Red Onion					Dambulla	40.60	63.60	75.50	97.00	Dambulla	40.20	58.60	57.75	58.20
Puttalam					Hanguranketha					**Low Country**				
					Welimada	34.60	69.00	61.75		**Ladies Fingers**				
Big Onion					Badulla					A'pura	22.50	22.50		
Dambulla					**Carrot**					Dambulla	31.20	35.00	36.75	22.20
Kalawewa					Hanguranketha					Hambantota	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
A'Pura					N'Eliya	73.60	74.40	81.75	97.60	Embilipitiya	23.20	32.20	28.25	32.20
Kurunegala					Welimada		62.00	65.75		Matara	27.50	38.33	38.33	38.33