



# HARTI

## FOOD INFORMATION BULLETIN

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No. 02

### Highlights

#### Paddy/Rice

- Improved market supply of newly harvested short-grain and long-grain paddy varieties due to ongoing harvesting in major producing areas.
- Increased supply has led to a decrease in wholesale rice prices by 1% to 6% compared to the previous month.
- Retail prices for most rice varieties have decreased by 1% to 5%.
- Keeri samba rice remains scarce at retail level, priced between Rs. 360.00 and Rs. 390.00/kg, significantly above the regulated maximum retail price (MRP).

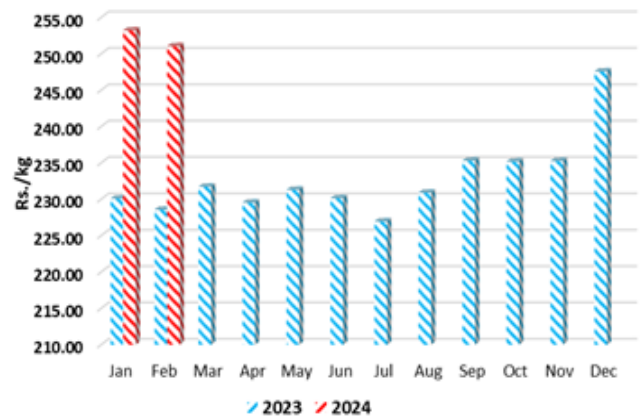
#### Vegetables

- Vegetable prices have decreased due to higher supply from main producing areas.
- Retail vegetable prices dropped by 5% to 43%.
- The highest price decrease was noted for brinjal at Rs. 308.00/kg.
- Capsicum had the highest average price at Rs. 1,086.00/kg, while cucumber had the lowest at Rs. 206.00/kg.

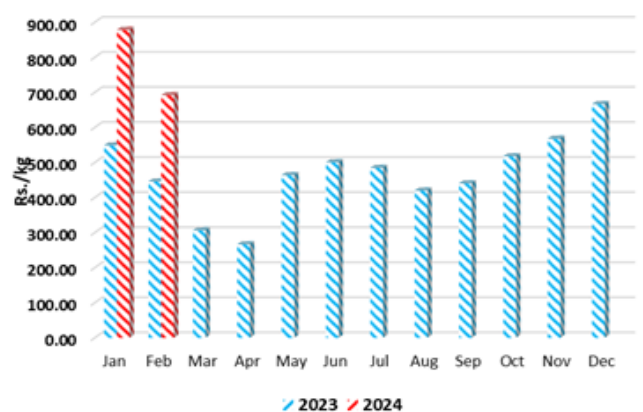
#### Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs, and Meat

- Prices of most fish varieties have declined at the wholesale market due to high supply during the peak season from the southern and western coastal areas, supported by favorable weather conditions.
- The Eastern coastal belt also saw increased supply during the lean season.
- Low availability of imported, low-priced eggs has led to an increase in egg prices in February.

Average Retail Prices of Rice (Samba I)



Average Retail Prices of Beans (Green)



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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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##### **Colombo and suburb markets**

- |                |               |                 |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Pettah      | 4. Thotalanga | 7. Kiribathgoda |
| 2. Narahenpita | 5. Peliyagoda | 8. Maharagama   |
| 3. Dematagoda  | 6. Kadawatha  | 9. Nugegoda     |

##### **Outstation Markets**

- |                     |                     |                      |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Nuwara Eliya     | 16. Keppetipola     | 31. Rathnapura       |
| 2. Dambulla         | 17. Thambuththegama | 32. Embilipitiya     |
| 3. Matara           | 18. Anuradhapura    | 33. Maradagahamula   |
| 4. Kurunegala       | 19. Badulla         | 34. Galenbindunuwewa |
| 5. Bandarawela      | 20. Galle           | 35. Rilkillagaskada  |
| 6. Kandy            | 21. Mannar          | 36. Matale           |
| 7. Meegoda          | 22. Trincomalee     |                      |
| 8. Kalutara         | 23. Batticaloa      |                      |
| 9. Weeravila        | 24. Jaffna          |                      |
| 10. Nikaweratiya    | 25. Mullativu       |                      |
| 11. Polonnaruwa     | 26. Kilinochchi     |                      |
| 12. Puttalam        | 27. Vavuniya        |                      |
| 13. Hambanthota     | 28. Kegalle         |                      |
| 14. Veyangoda       | 29. Ampara          |                      |
| 15. Dehiattakandiya | 30. Monaragala      |                      |

## 1. Paddy/Rice

### Crop Situation

According to the Crop Forecast (Volume 3, Maha 2023/24) by the Department of Agriculture, paddy area target for the Maha 2023/24 season is 869,990 ha. Cultivation target has almost been realized at major producing areas. Paddy production forecast based on the reported sown extent as at the end February 2024 is 2.64 million metric tons, accounting for crop losses. Maha 2023/24 production would be sufficient to feed the national rice requirement up to 8 months (August 2024). Paddy harvesting has almost been completed in Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Kilinochchi and Jaffna districts while over 75% been completed in Anuradhapura, Kurunegala and Hambantota at the end of February 2024.

**Table 1.1: Producer prices of Paddy –February 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
		Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	January 2023	Feb 2024		Feb 2024
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%
<b>Short Grain</b>								
<b>Anuradhapura</b>	105.00-120.00	111.75	126.16	100.50	-14.41	-11.42	11.25	<b>11.19</b>
<b>Polonnaruwa</b>	101.00-132.00	117.04	122.42	105.17	-5.37	-4.39	11.88	<b>11.29</b>
<b>Kalawewa</b>	100.00-120.00	110.58	127.01	98.98	-16.44	-12.94	11.60	<b>11.72</b>
<b>Kurunegala</b>	105.00-126.00	114.85	124.28	101.27	-9.43	-7.59	13.58	<b>13.41</b>
<b>Dehiattakandiya</b>	115.00-125.00	121.10	119.45	99.63	1.65	1.38	21.47	<b>21.55</b>
<b>Nikaweratiya</b>	100.00-122.00	111.45	123.73	97.98	-12.28	-9.92	13.47	<b>13.75</b>
<b>Ampara</b>	115.00-125.00	118.75	124.42	105.46	-5.67	-4.55	13.29	<b>12.60</b>
<b>Long Grain White</b>								
<b>Anuradhapura</b>	90.00-110.00	98.80	113.92	96.30	-15.12	-13.27	2.50	<b>2.60</b>
<b>Polonnaruwa</b>	85.00-132.00	100.88	106.88	102.48	-6.01	-5.62	-1.60	<b>-1.57</b>
<b>Kalawewa</b>	88.00-110.00	99.59	114.99	95.52	-15.40	-13.39	4.07	<b>4.26</b>
<b>Kurunegala</b>	85.00-114.00	101.95	111.61	97.23	-9.66	-8.65	4.72	<b>4.86</b>
<b>Dehiattakandiya</b>	86.00-112.50	105.21	102.97	96.92	2.24	2.18	8.29	<b>8.56</b>
<b>Nikaweratiya</b>	85.00-112.00	100.62	111.05	97.98	-10.42	-9.38	2.64	<b>2.70</b>
<b>Long Grain Red</b>								
<b>Matara</b>	85.00-95.00	91.56	100.75	92.92	-9.19	-9.12	-1.35	<b>-1.46</b>
<b>Hambantota</b>	92.00-100.00	94.94	99.85	95.33	-4.91	-4.92	-0.39	<b>-0.41</b>
<b>Embilipitiya</b>	94.00-100.00	96.20	98.66	92.45	-2.46	-2.49	3.75	<b>4.06</b>
<b>Keeri Samba</b>								
<b>A'pura</b>	120.00-140.00	131.25	150.70	112.25	-19.45	-12.91	19.00	<b>16.93</b>
<b>Polonnaruwa</b>	117.00-148.00	135.96	150.20	117.44	-14.24	-9.48	18.52	<b>15.77</b>
<b>Kalawewa</b>	115.00-145.00	130.21	150.11	106.85	-19.90	-13.26	23.36	<b>21.86</b>
<b>Kurunegala</b>	115.00-145.00	133.90	150.95	110.00	-17.05	-11.30	23.90	<b>21.73</b>
<b>Dehiattakandiya</b>	<b>140.00-156.25</b>	<b>148.94</b>	<b>147.27</b>	<b>110.67</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>38.27</b>	<b>34.58</b>

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

### Producer Prices

Market supply of newly harvested short grain and long grain paddy varieties improved due to ongoing harvesting in all the major producing areas. Hence, producer prices of all the paddy varieties have decreased across all most all the major producing areas compared to the previous month. As a result, producer prices of short grain paddy have decreased by 4-13% in all the producing areas except Dehiattakandiya. The highest producer price decrease for short grain paddy was recorded from Kalawewa followed by Anuradhapura.

Producer prices for long grain white paddy ranged between Rs.78.00 -114.00/kg in the major producing areas and the price has dropped by 6-13% in all the producing areas except Dehiattakandiya compared to the previous month. The largest price drop for long grain white was recorded in Kalawewa and Anuradhapura due to ongoing harvesting. Producer prices for long grain red ranged from Rs.92.00-100.00/kg in Hambantota, Matara, and Embilipitiya. Furthermore, producer price of keerisamba ranged between Rs.115.00-156.00/kg and price has dropped by 5% and 9-14% in all most all the major producing areas.

Compared to the same period last year, producer prices for short grain, long grain white, and keeri samba have increased across all most all price collection areas, with keeri samba recording the highest price increase of 16-35%.

**Table 1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice - February 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to		Change Compared to	
		Feb-24	Feb-24	Jan-24	Feb-23	Jan-24		Feb-23
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
<b>Wholesale Prices</b>								
<b>Samba 1</b>	235.00-240.00	236.91	240.12	212.3	-3.21	-1.34	24.61	11.59
<b>Samba 2</b>	225.00-232.00	228.98	233.24	205.98	-4.26	-1.83	23	11.17
<b>Keeri Samba</b>	315.00-335.00	324.38	337.7	227.34	-13.33	-3.95	97.03	42.68
<b>Nadu 1</b>	195.00-205.00	199.65	210.66	187.35	-11.02	-5.23	12.3	6.56
<b>Nadu 2</b>	190.00-195.00	191.41	204.61	178.7	-13.2	-6.45	12.7	7.11
<b>Raw red</b>	165.00-180.00	173.38	179.67	171.6	-6.29	-3.5	1.78	1.03
<b>Raw white</b>	185.00-200.00	193.29	202.74	173.18	-9.44	-4.66	20.12	11.62
<b>Imported Samba</b>	250.00-280.00	261.05	276.46	193.98	-15.41	-5.57	67.07	34.58
<b>Retail Price</b>								
<b>Samba 1</b>	230.00-270.00	251.06	253.23	228.58	-2.17	-0.86	22.48	9.83
<b>Samba 2</b>				217.9				
<b>Keeri Samba</b>	360.00-390.00	377.58	368.99	254.05	8.59	2.33	123.53	48.62
<b>Nadu 1</b>	220.00-230.00	223.59	224.25	218.61	-0.65	-0.29	4.98	2.28
<b>Nadu 2</b>			220	205.48				
<b>Raw red</b>	190.00-220.00	202.86	205.6	198.52	-2.73	-1.33	4.34	2.19
<b>Raw white</b>	210.00-220.00	214.99	216.55	197.12	-1.56	-0.72	17.87	9.07
<b>Imported Ponne Samba</b>	280.00-300.00	294.56	311.18	217.07	-16.62	-5.34	77.49	35.7
<i>Source: Data Management Division/HARTI</i>								

## Rice Prices Demand/Supply Situation

### Wholesale Prices

Supplies of all the rice varieties had increased during the month due to ongoing harvesting in all the major paddy producing areas. Hence, the wholesale prices for all the rice varieties have decreased by 1-6% compared to the previous month. The highest decrease of 6% was recorded for Nadu 1 followed by Nadu 2 due to increased supply. The price for Keeri Samba ranged between Rs. 315.00-335.00/kg and price has dropped by 4. Wholesale prices for Samba Grade I and II ranged between Rs. 235.00-240.00 and Rs. 225.00-232.00/kg, respectively, with average prices decreasing by less

than 2%. Wholesale prices for raw white and raw red also have decreased by 5% and 4% respectively due to improved supplies.

Compared to the same period last year, wholesale prices for all rice varieties increased by 01-43%, with Keeri Samba showing the highest rise of Rs.93.00/kg.

### Retail Prices

In line with wholesale prices, retail prices for most of the rice varieties decreased by 1-5% compared to the previous month. Keeri Samba was hardly available at retail level and price ranged between Rs.360.00-390.00 recording far higher the MRP. Furthermore, the average retail prices of Samba Grade 1, nadu grade 1, and Keeri Samba exceeded the government-regulated maximum retail price (MRP). Compared to the same month last year, retail prices for most rice varieties increased by 2-44%, with keeri samba showing the highest rise. In contrast, the retail price of raw red rice decreased by Rs. 8.00/kg compared to the same period last year.

## 2. Other Field Crops

### 2.1 Chilli

#### Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent for green chilli cultivation in the Maha 2023/24 season was 10,064 ha. By the end of February, 6,743 ha had been cultivated, reaching 67% of the target. Anuradhapura district recorded the largest cultivated area (621 ha) by the end of the month, with the highest projected yield of 3,012 mt. The total estimated green chilli production for this Maha season is 33,917 mt, with approximately 45% of this output expected from Anuradhapura (8%), Puttalam (8%), Jaffna (8%), Monaragala (6%), Batticaloa (7%), and Inter-Provincial DDA areas (8%).

**Table 2.1.1: Target and Cultivation progress of green Chilli for Maha 2023/24**

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation progress by the end of February 2024		Expected Production (Mt)
		Cultivated extent (ha)	% of the targeted extent	
Anuradhapura	1,283	621	48	3,012
Puttalam	1,303	355	27	2,660
Monaragala	629	496	79	2,169
Batticaloa	590	504	85	2,323
Jaffna	588	485	82	2,624
Kurunegala	451	353	78	2,134
Badulla	401	406	101	2,516
Kilinochchi	485	241	50	1,084
Interprovincial DDA areas	765	601	78	2,871
Mahaweli areas	515	392	76	1,790
Other areas	2,997	2,289	76	10,734
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,064</b>	<b>6,743</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>33,917</b>

Source: Crop Forecast, Maha 2023/24, Volume 03, Department of Agriculture

#### Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The supply of green chilli from major producing areas increased this month, resulting in significant price drops at both wholesale and retail levels, with reductions of approximately Rs.198.00/kg and Rs.309.00/kg, respectively. The average wholesale and retail prices of green chilli were Rs.724.25/kg and Rs.1,166.46/kg, respectively. Compared to the same period last year, wholesale and retail prices have risen by about 165% and 143%.

In February 2024, 3,486 mt of dried chilli was imported, 261 mt less than the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.679.07/kg, a decrease of Rs.49.50/kg compared to the previous month. Consequently, both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies dropped by around Rs.104.00/kg and Rs.60.00/kg, respectively. Prices ranged from Rs.800.00–980.00/kg at the wholesale level and Rs.1,000.00–1,400.00/kg at retail. Compared to the same period last year, wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chilli have increased by about 25%.

**Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies – February, 2024**

Item	Price Range		Average Price		Change Compared to		Change Compared to	
	Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Feb 2023	Feb 2023
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
<b>Wholesale Prices</b>								
Green chillies	400.00-1100.00	724.25	922.60	273.41	-198.35	-21.50	450.84	164.90
Dried chillies	800.00-980.00	883.13	987.53	1177.50	-104.41	-10.57	-294.38	-25.00
<b>Retail Price</b>								
Green chillies	500.00-1600.00	1166.46	1475.86	479.55	-309.40	-20.96	686.91	143.24
Dried chillies	1000.00-1400.00	1218.47	1278.28	1625.09	-59.81	-4.68	-406.62	-25.02

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

**Table 2.1.3: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – February 2024**

Location	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
Dambulla	930.00	622.00	500.00	372.00
Embilipitiya	980.00	880.00	578.00	632.00
Puttalam	790.00	716.67	487.50	340.00
A'Pura	1020.00	920.00	670.00	490.00

Source: Data Management Division /HARTI

**Table 2.1.4: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies (Feb 2024 – Sepetmber 2023)**

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs/mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb-2024	3486.08	2367.30	679.07	1218.47	539.40
Jan-2024	3747.22	2730.12	728.57	1278.28	549.71
Dec-2023	3445.19	2665.32	773.63	1298.39	524.75
Nov-2023	3321.30	2572.92	774.67	1327.24	552.57
Oct-2023	4651.15	3640.91	782.80	1331.20	548.40
Sept-2023	2347.54	1748.34	744.75	1319.49	574.74

Source: Department of Customs and Data Management Division /HARTI

## 2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

### Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted land extent for red onion cultivation in the Maha 2023/24 season was 3,085 ha, of which 2,184 ha had been cultivated by the end of February 2024, achieving 71% of the target for Sri Lanka. In Jaffna, the targeted extent was 1,920 ha, and 1,821 ha (95%) was cultivated by the end of February. Meanwhile, in the Puttalam district, cultivation reached 35% of the targeted extent by the same period. The total estimated production of red onion for this Maha season is 26,052 mt, with approximately 93% of the output expected from Jaffna (84%) and Puttalam (9%).

**Table 2.2.1: Cultivation progress of Red Onion for Maha 2022/24**

Area	Targeted Extent (Ha)	Cultivation progress by the end of February 2024		Expected Production (Mt)
		Cultivated extent (ha)	% of the targeted extent	
Jaffna	1920	1,821	95	21,870
Puttalam	455	159	35	2,225
Trincomalee	307	40	13	330
Other area	403	164	41	1,627
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,085</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>26,052</b>

Source: Crop Forecast, maha 2023/24, Volume 03, Department of Agriculture

### Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The market supply of big onions this month consisted solely of imports. A total of 10,601 mt of big onions was imported in February 2024, which was 10,310 mt less than the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.246.28/kg, reflecting an increase of Rs.54.09/kg from the previous month. However, wholesale and retail prices of imported big onions decreased by about Rs.18.00/kg and Rs.53.00/kg, respectively. The average wholesale and retail prices of imported big onions were Rs.338.26/kg and Rs.428.49/kg, showing increases of approximately 204% and 170%, respectively, compared to the same period last year.

The supply of local red onions increased slightly from major producing areas this month, leading to limited stocks of vedalan red onions in the wholesale market, priced between Rs.230.00 – 240.00/kg. In February, 5,184 mt of red onions were imported from India, 612 mt less than in the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.151.39/kg, a decrease of Rs.76.66/kg from the previous month. Consequently, wholesale and retail prices of imported red onions dropped by about Rs.84.00/kg and Rs.121.00/kg, respectively. Compared to the same period last year, the retail price of imported red onions has decreased by about 24%.

**Table: 2.2.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion (Rs/kg) February 2024**

Crop	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to Jan 2024		Change Compared to Feb 2023	
		Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
<b>Wholesale Price</b>								
Red Onion (Sinnan)				290.00				
Red Onion (Vedalan)	230.00-240.00	235.00		380.00			-145.00	-38.16
Red Onion (Imported)	200.00-270.00	225.63	309.18	285.50	-83.55	-27.02	-59.88	-20.97
Big Onion (imported)	270.00-390.00	338.26	356.39	111.20	-18.14	-5.09	227.06	204.19
<b>Retail Price</b>								
Red Onion (Vedalan)				532.96				
Red Onion (Imported)	300.00-480.00	374.83	495.78	491.57	-	-24.40	-116.75	-23.75
Big Onion (imported)	350.00-500.00	428.49	481.26	158.70	-52.77	-10.97	269.80	170.01

Source: Source: Data Management Division /HARTI

### 2.2.3: Monthly Average CIF Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Imported Big Onions

Crop	Month	CIF Price	Wholesale Price	Retail Price	Margin (Rs/kg)	
		(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Feb,2024	246.28	338.26	428.49	91.98	90.23
	Jan,2024	192.19	356.39	481.26	164.20	124.87
	Feb,2023	73.34	111.20	158.70	37.86	47.50
Red onion	Feb,2024	151.39	225.63	374.83	74.24	149.20
	Jan,2024	231.05	309.18	495.78	78.13	186.61
	Feb,2023	128.34	285.50	491.57	157.16	206.07

*Source: Department of Customs and Data Management Division/HARTI*

### 2.2.4: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Big Onions and Red Onions

Crop	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Million)		CIF Price (Rs/Kg)	
	Feb,2024	Jan,2024	Feb,2024	Jan,2024	Feb,2024	Jan,2024
Red Onion	5184.07	5796.36	784.79	1339.24	151.39	231.05
Big Onion	10600.61	20910.77	2610.70	4018.85	246.28	192.19

*Source: Department of Customs and Data Management Division/HARTI*

### 2.2.5: Quantity Imported, CIF Prices, Wholesale Prices, Retail Prices of Imported Big onions (February 2024– September,2023)

Month	Quantity	CIF Price	Wholesale	Retail	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/Kg)
	Imported		Price	Price	
	(Mt)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/Kg)	(Rs/Kg)	
Feb-24	10,600.61	246.28	338.26	428.49	182.21
Jan-24	20,910.77	192.19	356.39	481.26	289.07
Dec-23	15,956.33	181.49	339.96	421.39	239.91
Nov-23	18,603.76	135.69	201.47	298.16	162.46
Oct-23	20,520.86	104.85	190.61	259.39	154.53
Sep-23	21,310.34	88.92	135.98	222.62	133.70

*Source: Department of Customs and Data Management Division/HARTI*

## 2.3 Potato

### Crop Situation

The targeted extent for potato cultivation in the Maha 2023/24 season is 2,923 ha, lower than last year's target of 3,202 ha. By the end of February, 1,311 ha had been cultivated, reaching 45% of this season's target. However, compared to the same period in the previous Maha season, the cultivated extent this season represents 105% of last year's level by February's end. Despite this, overall progress remains below the targeted extent for the 2023/24 season.

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,361 ha, with 513 ha cultivated by the end of February, achieving 37% of the target. In the Badulla district, the target is 1,451 ha, with 798 ha cultivated by the end of February, reaching 54% of the target.



## Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

In February, 17,952 mt of potatoes were imported, an increase of 1,707 mt compared to the previous month and 3,694 mt more than the same period last year. The average CIF price in February was Rs.71/kg (Table 2.3.1).

**Table 2.3.1: Quantity, value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes –Sep-Feb 2024**

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb-2024	17,952	1,282.97	71.47	198.99	127.52
Jan-2024	16,245	1,173.16	72.22	196.64	124.43
Dec-2023	19,400	1,445.47	74.51	226.75	152.24
Nov-2023	9,269	678.05	73.15	224.32	151.17
Oct-2023	8,280	513.21	61.98	222.31	160.33
Sept-2023	9,903	692.93	69.97	212.75	142.78

Source: Department of Customs; Data Management Division/HARTI

In the Colombo wholesale market, sufficient stocks of Nuwara Eliya potatoes and limited stocks of Welimada potatoes were available. The average producer prices were Rs.279/kg for Nuwara Eliya potatoes and Rs.244/kg for Welimada potatoes. In February, wholesale and retail prices for Nuwara Eliya potatoes showed a slight decrease compared to January 2024, while the wholesale price of imported potatoes dropped by 22%. Wholesale prices for Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes ranged from Rs.300.00–350.00/kg and Rs.110.00–220.00/kg, respectively. Compared to the same period last year, current retail prices for Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes have risen by 13% and 8%, respectively (Table 2.3.2).

**Table: 2.3.2: Producer, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Potato – February 2024**

Item	Price Range		Average		Change Compared to			
	May 2023	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	April 2023		May 2022	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
<b>Producer Prices (PP)</b>								
Welimada	200.00-270.00	243.75	258.40	170.25	-14.65	-5.67	73.50	43.17
Nuwara Eliya	260.00-295.00	278.67	295.00	218.75	-16.33	-5.54	59.92	27.39
Imported – CIF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Wholesale Prices (WP)</b>								
Welimada				215.00			-	-
Nuwara Eliya	300.00-350.00	318.26	328.50	255.00	-10.24	-3.12	63.26	24.81
Imported	110.00-220.00	151.41	173.58	134.26	-22.17	-12.77	17.15	12.77
<b>Retail Prices (RP)</b>								
Welimada	-	-		279.25	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	380.00-440.00	409.60	414.09	361.86	-4.49	-1.08	47.73	13.19
Imported	180.00-240.00	198.99	196.64	185.01	2.35	1.19	13.97	7.55
<b>Gross Margin (RP-PP)</b>								
Welimada								
Nuwara Eliya		130.93	119.09	143.11	11.84	9.94	-12.18	-8.51
Imported (RP-CIF)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Gross Margin (RP -WP)</b>								
Welimada								
Nuwara Eliya		91.33	85.59	106.86	5.74	6.71	-15.53	-14.53
Imported		47.58	23.06	50.75	24.51	106.30	-3.17	-6.25

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

## 2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

### Crop Situation

The cultivated extent of cowpea reported over 80% progress toward its target, while green gram reached 56% of its target. In contrast, potato cultivation progress remains lower than the targeted extent for the 2023/24 Maha season. Major producing areas for green gram include Hambantota, Moneragala, Kurunegala, and Ampara, while Ampara, Moneragala, and Kurunegala are key production areas for cowpea.

### Prices and Supply/ Demand Situation

Wholesale and retail prices of green gram ranged from Rs.950–1,200/kg and Rs.1,100–1,400/kg, respectively. Retail prices for white and red cowpeas were between Rs.1,200–1,300/kg and Rs.1,100–1,300/kg, respectively. Compared to the previous month, green gram prices have risen by 5%.

**Table 2.4.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea – Feb 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price				Change Compared to		Change Compared to	
		May 2023	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	April 2023		May 2022	
		Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
<b>Wholesale Prices</b>									
<b>Green gram</b>	950.00-1200.00	1035.83	997.33	1407.54	38.50	3.86	-371.70	-26.41	
<b>Cowpea (White)</b>	750.00-1050.00	888.75	1096.67	968.99	-207.92	-18.96	-80.24	-8.28	
<b>Cowpea (Red)</b>	650.00-950.00	819.58	972.33	981.46	-152.75	-15.71	-161.87	-16.49	
<b>Retail Price</b>									
<b>Green gram</b>	1100.00-1400.00	1249.69	1183.62	1525.45	66.07	5.58	-275.76	-18.08	
<b>Cowpea (White)</b>	1200.00-1300.00	1220.21	1244.89	1345.59	-24.69	-1.98	-125.39	-9.32	
<b>Cowpea (Red)</b>	1100.00-1300.00	1214.54	1242.34	1342.16	-27.80	-2.24	-127.62	-9.51	

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

## 2.5 Red dhal

### Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The wholesale price of red dhal ranged from Rs.290–300/kg, with an average of Rs.295/kg, while retail prices ranged from Rs.300–360/kg, averaging Rs.338/kg. Compared to the previous month, wholesale and retail prices remained unchanged. However, compared to the previous year, there was a slight increase of 12% in wholesale prices and 9% in retail prices.

**Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and retail prices of Red Dhal (small) – Feb 2024**

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average				Change Compared to			
		May 2023	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	April 2023		May 2022	
		Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	290.00-300.00	295.63	295.47	337.78	0.16	0.05	-42.15	-12.48	
Retail Price	300.00-360.00	338.79	339.30	372.70	-0.52	-0.15	-33.91	-9.10	

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

### 3. VEGETABLES

#### Crop Situation

The cultivation progress for up-country and low-country vegetables is recorded at 77% (14,183 ha) and 80% (22,246 ha), respectively. Notably, carrot, radish, brinjal, ash plantain, kekiri, and winged bean have all reported progress exceeding 80% of their respective targets. However, the cultivated area for all vegetables is lower than the average extent observed in the past three Maha seasons. Additionally, 146 hectares of up-country vegetables and 91 hectares of low-country vegetables have been affected by floods, pests, and diseases (Crop Forecast, Vol. 03, Maha 2023/2024, Socio Economics & Planning Center/Department of Agriculture).

#### Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Prices for most vegetables have decreased due to increased supply from major producing areas. Wholesale prices for up-country vegetables have fallen by 9% to 46%, with the most significant decrease reported for carrots, which are priced at Rs.450.00/kg, ranging from Rs.350.00 to Rs.1,000.00/kg. Prices for beetroot, radish, and cabbage also decreased by 20%.

In the case of low-country vegetables, wholesale prices have decreased by 4% to 57%, except for capsicum, pumpkin, cucumber, and ash plantain. Capsicum recorded the highest price at Rs.759.00/kg, while cucumber had the lowest at Rs.88.00/kg. Conversely, the price of tomatoes increased by 41% due to reduced supply from producing areas.

Compared to the same period last year, wholesale prices for most vegetable varieties have risen by 11% to 707%, with cabbage showing the highest price increase. However, prices for green chili and lime have decreased by 22% and 35%, respectively.

**Table 3.1: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – February 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to				
		Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024		Feb 2023	
		Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
<b>Beans (green)</b>	300.00-700.00	513.00	579.60	328.00	-66.60	-11.49	185.00	56.40	
<b>Carrot</b>	350.00-1000.00	539.50	988.97	107.50	-449.47	-45.45	432.00	401.86	
<b>Leeks</b>	230.00-450.00	312.75	344.60	174.25	-31.85	-9.24	138.50	79.48	
<b>Beetroot</b>	300.00-700.00	399.50	509.06	149.52	-109.56	-21.52	249.98	167.19	
<b>Knolkhol</b>	180.00-350.00	240.75	283.20	137.00	-42.45	-14.99	103.75	75.73	
<b>Radish</b>	80.00-150.00	107.50	134.80	55.46	-27.30	-20.25	52.04	93.83	
<b>Cabbage</b>	300.00-450.00	382.25	482.40	47.39	-100.15	-20.76	334.86	706.67	
<b>Tomato</b>	550.00-850.00	680.25	484.20	187.25	196.05	40.49	493.00	263.28	
<b>Ladies Fingers</b>	150.00-300.00	222.25	273.60	198.75	-51.35	-18.77	23.50	11.82	
<b>Brinjal</b>	100.00-450.00	211.50	486.40	146.25	-274.90	-56.52	65.25	44.62	
<b>Capsicum</b>	500.00-1000.00	758.75	698.00	533.75	60.75	8.70	225.00	42.15	
<b>Pumpkin</b>	200.00-280.00	252.25	142.60	65.25	109.65	76.89	187.00	286.59	
<b>Cucumber</b>	60.00-120.00	88.25	79.00	127.25	9.25	11.71	-39.00	-30.65	
<b>Bitter Gourd</b>	200.00-400.00	330.50	374.20	270.50	-43.70	-11.68	60.00	22.18	
<b>Snake Gourd</b>	200.00-280.00	235.25	273.80	141.75	-38.55	-14.08	93.50	65.96	
<b>Drumstick</b>									

<b>Luffa</b>	200.00-350.00	267.25	333.00	228.50	-65.75	-19.74	38.75	16.96
<b>Long Beans</b>	150.00-300.00	223.25	233.00	142.00	-9.75	-4.18	81.25	57.22
<b>Ash Plantain</b>	250.00-320.00	282.50	276.80	211.00	5.70	2.06	71.50	33.89
<b>Green Chillies</b>	400.00-1100.00	724.25	922.60	273.41	-198.35	-21.50	450.84	164.90
<b>Lime</b>	120.00-160.00	140.25	215.00	102.50	-74.75	-34.77	37.75	36.83

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

In conjunction with the increase in wholesale prices, retail prices for most vegetable varieties have also decreased, with reductions ranging from 5% to 43%. The highest price decrease was observed for brinjal, which is now priced at Rs.308.00/kg. Capsicum reported the highest average retail price at Rs.1,086.00/kg, while cucumber had the lowest price at Rs.206.00/kg.

Conversely, prices for tomatoes and pumpkins have increased by 32% and 34%, respectively. Additionally, the price of lime has decreased by 32%. Compared to the same period last year, retail prices for most vegetable varieties have risen by 35% to 285%, with cabbage experiencing the highest price increase.

**Table 3.2: Retail Prices of Vegetables - February 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price				Change Compared to			
		Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024		Feb 2023	
		Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	Rs./kg	%	Rs./kg	%
<b>Beans (green)</b>	400.00-1000.00	692.34	878.60	446.33	-186.27	-21.20	246.01	55.12	
<b>Carrot</b>	440.00-1600.00	779.77	1229.05	231.10	-449.28	-36.56	548.67	237.42	
<b>Leeks</b>	300.00-860.00	524.61	574.31	298.72	-49.70	-8.65	225.89	75.62	
<b>Beetroot</b>	340.00-860.00	567.28	868.54	275.63	-301.26	-34.69	291.65	105.82	
<b>Knolkhol</b>	240.00-700.00	476.47	580.89	264.80	-104.43	-17.98	211.67	79.94	
<b>Radish</b>	140.00-420.00	264.50	310.77	161.64	-46.27	-14.89	102.86	63.64	
<b>Cabbage</b>	400.00-800.00	573.75	733.01	149.11	-159.26	-21.73	424.64	284.79	
<b>Tomato</b>	580.00-1200.00	940.62	711.34	303.88	229.28	32.23	636.73	209.53	
<b>Ladies Fingers</b>	220.00-660.00	408.94	458.44	295.08	-49.49	-10.80	113.86	38.59	
<b>Brinjal</b>	200.00-700.00	402.72	710.57	269.05	-307.85	-43.32	133.67	49.68	
<b>Capsicum</b>	550.00-1400.00	1086.08	1012.30	737.01	73.78	7.29	349.07	47.36	
<b>Pumpkin</b>	240.00-480.00	371.56	276.80	165.95	94.76	34.23	205.62	123.90	
<b>Cucumber</b>	100.00-340.00	205.87	218.90	218.10	-13.03	-5.95	-12.24	-5.61	
<b>Bitter Gourd</b>	300.00-760.00	537.13	621.92	398.60	-84.79	-13.63	138.53	34.75	
<b>Snake Gourd</b>	250.00-650.00	416.33	466.47	293.64	-50.15	-10.75	122.69	41.78	
<b>Drumstick</b>									
<b>Luffa</b>	260.00-660.00	478.99	544.72	385.85	-65.73	-12.07	93.14	24.14	
<b>Long Beans</b>	240.00-520.00	389.93	442.36	283.78	-52.44	-11.85	106.15	37.40	
<b>Ash Plantain</b>	300.00-560.00	404.27	424.25	299.51	-19.98	-4.71	104.75	34.97	
<b>Green Chillies</b>	500.00-1600.00	1166.46	1475.86	479.55	-309.40	-20.96	686.91	143.24	
<b>Lime</b>	200.00-560.00	349.05	513.43	308.84	-164.38	-32.02	40.21	13.02	

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

## 4. Fruits

### Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

In February, wholesale prices for all fruit varieties increased, except for bananas, passion fruit, oranges, and slime apples. Prices for all sizes of pineapples rose by 17% to 20% due to low stock levels resulting from decreased cultivation in the Gampaha district. The monthly average wholesale prices were Rs.759.00 for large pineapples, Rs.587.00 for medium, and Rs.469.00 for small sizes. Among mango varieties, only the Karthakolomban was available, and due to low stock levels following the end of the harvesting period, its price surged by 176%.

For banana varieties, prices decreased for kolikuttu (26%), ambul (26%), ambun (10%), seeni (9%), and anamalu (5%). During the month, wholesale prices ranged from Rs.200.00 to Rs.300.00/kg for kolikuttu, Rs.800.00 to Rs.1,500.00/kg for ambul, Rs.80.00 to Rs.150.00/kg for seeni, Rs.28.00 to Rs.38.00/fruit for ambun, and Rs.25.00 to Rs.34.00/fruit for anamalu.

Among other fruit varieties, wood apple saw the highest price increase at 92% due to off-season conditions. Prices for avocado, imported grapes, and papaw also increased by 37%, 26%, and 6%, respectively, due to low stock levels. Additionally, prices for orange and slime apple decreased by 52% and 45%, respectively (Table 4.1).

Compared to the same period last year, wholesale prices for all fruit varieties have increased, with the highest rise of 93% reported for avocado (Table 4.1).

**Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – February, 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
		Feb-24	Feb-24	Jan-24	Feb-23	Jan-24		Feb-23
					Rs	%	Rs	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	80.00-150.00	111.78	150.38	175.42	-38.61	-25.67	-63.64	-36.28
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	200.00-300.00	233.54	317.50	339.48	-83.96	-26.44	-105.94	-31.21
Seeni (Rs/kg)	80.00-150.00	116.14	127.00	132.54	-10.86	-8.55	-16.40	-12.38
Anamalu (Fruit)	25.00-34.00	28.07	29.53	22.88	-1.46	-4.95	5.20	22.71
Ambun (Fruit)	28.00-38.00	32.41	36.23	27.85	-3.82	-10.54	4.56	16.37
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	650.00-850.00	759.18	647.75	452.22	111.43	17.20	306.96	67.88
Medium (Fruit)	500.00-660.00	586.66	497.75	376.59	88.91	17.86	210.07	55.78
Small (Fruit)	400.00-540.00	468.88	391.25	298.69	77.63	19.84	170.19	56.98
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)				58.65				
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	250.00-260.00	255.00	92.45	249.97	162.55	175.84	5.03	2.01
Vilad (Fruit)		80.12						
Kohu (Fruit)								
Papaw (Rs/kg)	100.00-220.00	163.13	153.67	203.68	9.46	6.16	-40.55	-19.91
Passion Fruit (Fruit)	80.00-150.00	100.31	102.37	68.07	-2.05	-2.01	32.24	47.36
Wood Apple (Fruit)	65.00-85.00	75.40	39.24	45.08	36.16	92.14	30.31	67.23
Orange (Fruit)	35.00-70.00	46.96	97.66	37.11	-50.70	-51.92	9.85	26.53
Avocado (Fruit)	240.00-320.00	287.01	209.67	148.44	77.34	36.89	138.58	93.36

<b>Slime Apple (Fruit)</b>	17.00-28.00	21.20	38.37	19.81	-17.18	-44.76	1.39	7.03
<b>Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)</b>	1550.00-2000.00	1772.77	1402.86	1957.29	369.91	26.37	-184.52	-9.43

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

According to the price behavior observed in the wholesale market, retail prices for most fruit varieties increased in February. All sizes of pineapples saw a price rise of 17% to 19%, with prices ranging from Rs.430.00 to Rs.900.00/fruit in Colombo suburb markets. Regarding banana varieties, prices decreased for ambul (13%), kolikuttu (12%), anamalu (9%), and ambun (8%) bananas. During the month, prices ranged from Rs.280.00 to Rs.500.00/kg for kolikuttu, Rs.150.00 to Rs.280.00/kg for ambul bananas, and Rs.120.00 to Rs.260.00/kg for seeni bananas in Colombo and surrounding markets.

For other fruit varieties, retail prices increased for wood apple (52%), avocado (18%), and passion fruit (17%), while prices for orange (51%) and slime apple (12%) decreased, reflecting trends in the wholesale market. Compared to the same period last year, retail prices for all fruit varieties have risen, with the highest increase of 59% reported for papaw (Table 4.2).

**Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – February, 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
		Feb-24	Feb-24	Jan-24	Feb-23	Jan-24		Feb-23
					Rs	%	Rs	%
<b>Plantain</b>								
<b>Ambul (Rs/kg)</b>	150.00-280.00	208.27	239.21	247.66	-30.94	-12.93	-39.39	-15.91
<b>Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)</b>	280.00-500.00	404.55	462.14	442.30	-57.58	-12.46	-37.74	-8.53
<b>Seeni (Rs/kg)</b>	120.00-260.00	203.38	215.88	211.25	-12.51	-5.79	-7.87	-3.73
<b>Anamalu (Fruit)</b>	25.00-42.00	33.31	36.44	30.00	-3.13	-8.59	3.31	11.04
<b>Ambun (Fruit)</b>	33.00-55.00	44.38	48.28	37.81	-3.90	-8.08	6.58	17.40
<b>Pineapple</b>								
<b>Large (Fruit)</b>	680.00-900.00	796.24	680.80	560.12	115.44	16.96	236.12	42.16
<b>Medium (Fruit)</b>	550.00-780.00	674.99	566.62	477.13	108.37	19.13	197.86	41.47
<b>Small (Fruit)</b>	430.00-650.00	551.41	463.87	376.48	87.55	18.87	174.94	46.47
<b>Mango</b>								
<b>Betti (Fruit)</b>								
<b>Karthakolomban (Fruit)</b>			159.58	351.32	-159.58			
<b>Papaw (Rs/kg)</b>	100.00-200.00	141.76	136.53	89.11	5.23	3.83	52.66	59.09
<b>Passion Fruit (Fruit)</b>	680.00-900.00	796.24	680.80	560.12	115.44	16.96	236.12	42.16
<b>Wood Apple (Fruit)</b>	80.00-160.00	116.84	76.758	93.46	40.08	52.22	23.38	25.02
<b>Orange (Fruit)</b>	50.00-160.00	86.19	176.7	79.60	-90.51	-51.22	6.59	8.28
<b>Avocado (Fruit)</b>	260.00-300.00	280.00	238.05	191.41	41.95	17.62	88.59	46.28
<b>Slime Apple (Fruit)</b>	30.00-100.00	68.50	77.987	75.94	-9.48	-12.16	-7.44	-9.80
<b>Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)</b>	1700.00-2600.00	2169.52	2054	2446.07	115.56	5.63	-276.55	-11.31

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

## Exports/Imports of Fruits

According to Sri Lanka Customs, Sri Lanka exported 1,565 mt of fresh fruits in February 2024, valued at Rs.194 million. Notably, 96% of the exported quantity consisted of papaw. This represents an increase in exported quantity compared to February 2023, when 660 mt were exported (Table 4.3).

Regarding imports, Sri Lanka imported 684 mt of fresh fruits during the same month, with a total value of Rs.294 million. Grapes were the most imported fruit, accounting for 307 mt, followed by apples at 197 mt. This reflects a decrease in imported quantity compared to February 2023, when 709 mt were imported (Table 4.4).

**Table 4.3: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits – December, 2023 to February, 2024**

Type of Fruit	Feb-24			Jan-24			Dec-23		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)
Papaw (fresh)	1505.4	124.6	82.8	1414.6	122.6	86.6	1387.8	139.2	100.3
Fresh Mango, Guava, Mangosteen	39.4	49.0	1244.0	68.7	77.8	1133.1	41.9	50.3	1200.4
Avocados (fresh)	2.5	2.5	1017.6	1.8	1.4	742.6	0.9	0.8	887.9
Pineapples (fresh)	18.4	16.9	914.5	23.6	15.7	665.8	23.9	9.4	392.9

Source: Sri Lanka Customs

**Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits – December, 2023 to February, 2024**

Type of Fruit	Feb-24			Jan-24			Dec-23		
	Qty(mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty(mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty(mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)
Apple	197.50	73.30	371.15	231.72	92.92	400.99	525.93	184.27	350.37
Grapes	307.20	177.23	576.93	200.16	125.86	628.80	251.54	142.70	567.32
Oranges	179.42	43.60	242.98	77.22	19.03	246.51	25.91	9.43	364.00

Source: Sri Lanka Customs

## 5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

### Fish

#### Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

**Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish - February 2024**

Item	Price Range		Average Price				Change Compared to			
	Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2023		
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%	
<b>Wholesale Prices</b>										
Salaya	200.00-450.00	310.00	297.00	386.75	13.00	4.38	-76.75	-19.84		
Hurulla	450.00-750.00	556.98	560.86	692.50	-3.88	-0.69	-135.52	-19.57		
Balaya	450.00-900.00	676.25	771.40	653.50	-95.15	-12.33	22.75	3.48		
Kelawalla	950.00-1450.00	1242.50	1165.80	1161.00	76.70	6.58	81.50	7.02		
Thora	1700.00-2500.00	1993.75	2205.00	2052.50	-211.25	-9.58	-58.75	-2.86		
Paraw	1000.00-1550.00	1330.50	1306.00	1145.75	24.50	1.88	184.75	16.12		
Mora	600.00-1250.00	984.75	989.80	907.62	-5.05	-0.51	77.13	8.50		
Shrimps (small)	1400.00-2000.00	1708.50	1691.60	1507.00	16.90	1.00	201.50	13.37		
Thalapath	1500.00-2400.00	1822.50	1847.00	1542.50	-24.50	-1.33	280.00	18.15		
<b>Retail Prices</b>										

<b>Salaya</b>	300.00-720.00	553.49	536.97	559.03	16.52	3.08	-5.54	-0.99
<b>Hurulla</b>	550.00-1400.00	929.65	870.02	985.80	59.63	6.85	-56.15	-5.70
<b>Balaya</b>	600.00-1600.00	998.30	1202.26	1267.51	-203.97	-16.97	-269.21	-21.24
<b>Kelawalla</b>	1100.00-2600.00	2041.52	2055.25	1842.53	-13.73	-0.67	198.99	10.80
<b>Thora</b>	1900.00-4000.00	3042.55	3173.63	3039.22	-131.08	-4.13	3.33	0.11
<b>Paraw</b>	1200.00-2800.00	2095.43	2178.48	1966.06	-83.04	-3.81	129.37	6.58
<b>Mora</b>	1050.00-1400.00	1183.33		1512.22			-328.89	-21.75
<b>Shrimps (small)</b>	1800.00-2400.00	2045.58	2036.58	1841.88	8.99	0.44	203.70	11.06
<b>Thalapath</b>	1700.00-3000.00	2702.30	2739.78	2373.35	-37.48	-1.37	328.94	13.86

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

Headline inflation, measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI, 2021=100), decelerated to 5.9% in February 2024, down from 6.4% in January 2024. Food inflation accelerated to 3.5% in February 2024, compared to 3.3% in January, while non-food inflation decreased to 7.0% in February from 7.9% in January.

In line with a slight deflation in food prices, most fish varieties experienced a further decrease in wholesale prices due to abundant supplies from the Southern and Western Coastal areas, driven by favorable dry and non-windy weather conditions. Additionally, the Eastern coastal belt saw heightened supply during the lean season, supported by good fishing weather.

In February, wholesale prices for most fish varieties, except for salaya, kelawalla, paraw, and small shrimp, declined. The most significant price drop was recorded for balaya, which fell by 12%, followed by thora at a decrease of 10%. High supplies of deep-sea fish varieties such as balaya and thora were noted across all fishing districts due to the favorable fishing conditions. Other fish varieties, apart from salaya, kelawalla, paraw, and small shrimp, dropped by less than 2%. Conversely, prices for salaya, kelawalla, paraw, and small shrimp increased slightly, ranging from 1% to 7%.

Compared to the same period last year, wholesale prices for most fresh fish varieties increased, with rises between 3% and 18%. The most notable increase was seen in thalapath, which rose by 18%. Reflecting variations in the wholesale market, retail prices for most fish varieties, except for salaya, hurulla, and small shrimp, decreased. The largest retail price drop was for balaya at 17%, followed by thora and paraw at 4%. In comparison to the previous year, retail prices for most fresh fish varieties also fell, with the most significant decline recorded for balaya at 21%.

## **Dried Fish**

### **Prices and Supply/Demand Situation**

In February 2024, prices for most dried fish varieties experienced a slight decline at the wholesale level. The largest drop was recorded for imported sprats, which fell by 8%, followed by balaya at 7%, and sprats at 4%. However, the prices of other dried fish varieties increased by less than 6%, with the only notable rise being a 6% increase for salaya during the month. Compared to the same period last year, wholesale prices for most dried fish varieties increased, with sprats seeing the highest rise at 20%.



Reflecting the variations in wholesale prices, retail prices for most dried fish varieties also saw a slight decrease. The most significant retail price drop was for imported sprats at 9%. Additionally, prices for all other fish varieties, except for sprats, kattawa, and salaya, dropped by less than 4%. In contrast, retail prices for salaya and sprats increased by 3% and 2%, respectively. Compared to the same period last year, retail prices for most dried fish varieties fell, with the most significant decreases reported for imported sprats and kattawa, both dropping by 9%.

**Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish - February 2024**

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024		Feb 2023	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
<b>Dried Fish -Wholesale</b>								
<b>Sprats</b>	1250.00-1800.00	1471.50	1535.80	1226.25	-64.30	-4.19	245.25	20.00
<b>Sprats (imported)</b>	780.00-1100.00	929.38	1006.50	920.63	-77.13	-7.66	8.75	0.95
<b>Kattawa</b>								
<b>Kattawa (imported)</b>	1250.00-1450.00	1345.50	1342.40	1714.67	3.10	0.23	-369.17	-21.53
<b>Thora</b>								
<b>Thora (imported)</b>								
<b>Mora</b>	1650.00-1900.00	1777.75	1828.20	1690.50	-50.45	-2.76	87.25	5.16
<b>Mora (imported)</b>								
<b>Balaya</b>	750.00-1100.00	910.50	979.60	870.75	-69.10	-7.05	39.75	4.57
<b>Balaya (imported)</b>								
<b>Anguluwa</b>								
<b>Anguluwa (imported)</b>	1350.00-1600.00	1460.78	1511.67	1660.54	-50.88	-3.37	-199.75	-12.03
<b>Maduwa</b>	1300.00-1450.00	1385.00	1393.98	1234.00	-8.98	-0.64	151.00	12.24
<b>Maduwa (imported)</b>								
<b>Salaya</b>	400.00-600.00	496.25	466.83	778.75	29.42	6.30	-282.50	-36.28
<b>Salaya (imported)</b>								
<b>Dried Fish -Retail</b>								
<b>Sprats (imported)</b>	1000.00-1400.00	1221.91	1342.62	1336.44	-120.72	-8.99	-114.53	-8.57
<b>Sprats</b>	1800.00-2400.00	2102.29	2057.38	1780.81	44.92	2.18	321.48	18.05
<b>Kattawa</b>	2000.00-2600.00	2210.52	2198.12	2436.13	12.40	0.56	-225.61	-9.26
<b>Thora</b>								
<b>Mora</b>	2000.00-2600.00	2316.67	2394.86	2342.16	-78.19	-3.27	-25.49	-1.09
<b>Balaya</b>	1400.00-2000.00	1653.77	1703.85	1464.53	-50.07	-2.94	189.25	12.92
<b>Anguluwa</b>	1800.00-2800.00	2435.83	2439.09	2368.99	-3.26	-0.13	66.85	2.82
<b>Maduwa</b>				1750.00				
<b>Salaya</b>	1000.00-1400.00	1118.88	1081.55	1191.29	37.32	3.45	-72.42	-6.08

Source: Data Management Division/HARTI

## Eggs Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

**Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs - February 2024**

Item	Price Range		Average Price				Change Compared to	
	Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024		Feb 2023	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	%	Rs	%
Wholesale Prices								
Eggs - Brown (each)	58.00-60.00	59.06	53.45	45.88	5.61	10.50	13.19	28.75
Eggs - White(each)	56.00-58.00	56.72	51.08	43.81	5.64	11.05	12.91	29.46
Retail Prices								
Eggs - Brown (each)	60.00-62.00	60.60	55.70	46.50	4.89	8.79	14.10	30.32
Eggs - White (each)	58.00-60.00	58.34	52.97	45.68	5.37	10.14	12.66	27.72

Due to the low availability of imported, low-priced eggs, prices began to rise in February. Both brown and white eggs saw an increase of 11%, with average prices recorded at Rs. 59.00 for brown eggs and Rs. 56.70 for white eggs. Consequently, retail prices for both types of eggs also rose, by 9% for brown eggs and 10% for white eggs. By February, the average retail prices had increased to Rs. 60.60 for brown eggs and Rs. 58.30 for white eggs.

When compared to the same period last year, the retail prices for both brown and white eggs increased significantly, by 30% and 28%, respectively.

## Meat Prices and Supply/Demand

**Table 5.4: Retail Prices of Meat - February 2024**

Item	Price Range		Average Price				Change Compared to	
	Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024		Feb 2023	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	2300.00-2500.00	2,405.83	2,378.81	2214.05	27.02	1.14	191.79	8.66
Chicken (Broiler)	1150.00-1300.00	1,228.86	1,280.69	1211.64	-51.83	-4.05	17.23	1.42
Chicken (curry)	1100.00-1400.00	1,292.74	1,149.95	1418.89	142.79	12.42	-126.15	-8.89
Mutton	3100.00-3500.00	3,282.78	3,261.61	2983.33	21.17	0.65	299.44	10.04
Pork	1250.00-1300.00	1,277.50	1,276.00	1755.12	1.50	0.12	-477.62	-27.21

*Source: Data Management Division/HARTI*

In February, prices for most meat varieties experienced a slight increase in the retail market compared to January. The most significant rise was observed in chicken (curry), which saw a 12% increase. Both beef (without bones) and mutton also saw a modest increase of 1%. However, chicken (broiler) experienced a price drop of 4% during the month. Compared to the same period last year, prices for most meat varieties rose, with mutton recording the highest increase at 10%.

## 6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

### Wheat grain and Wheat flour

**Table 6.1: Open market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar –February 2024**

Items	Price Range		Average		Change Compared to			
	Feb 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Feb 2023	Jan 2024		Feb 2023	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	209.80-212.04	211.15	212.05	242.92	-0.90	-0.42	-31.77	-13.08
Sugar	287.71-296.87	291.26	301.01	234.13	-9.75	-3.24	57.13	24.40

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

**Table 6.2: Quantity, value and CIF prices of wheat flour & grain- September 2023 to February 2024**

Month	Quantity	Value	CIF Price	Retail Price	Gross Margin
	(Mt)	(Rs.mn)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
February - 2024	7,463.36	882.26	118.21	211.15	92.94
January - 2024	8,424.16	1032.80	122.60	212.05	89.45
December - 2023	16,242.01	1957.33	120.51	210.46	89.95
November - 2023	7,831.71	995.04	127.05	210.00	82.95
October - 2023	8,732.46	1124.95	128.82	208.27	79.45
September - 2023	5,160.26	658.67	127.64	212.09	84.45
Wheat Grain					
February - 2024	1,499.12	153.99	102.72	211.15	108.43
January - 2024	31,414.40	3,389.33	107.89	212.05	104.16
December - 2023	35,256.28	3,689.38	104.64	210.46	105.82
November - 2023	30,628.73	3,268.13	106.70	210.00	103.30
October - 2023	54,264.31	4,944.54	91.12	208.27	117.15
September - 2023	168,606.01	17,396.28	103.18	212.09	108.91

Source: Department of Customs; Data Management Division/HARTI

Note: Retail price of wheat grains means the retail price of wheat flour.

### Sugar

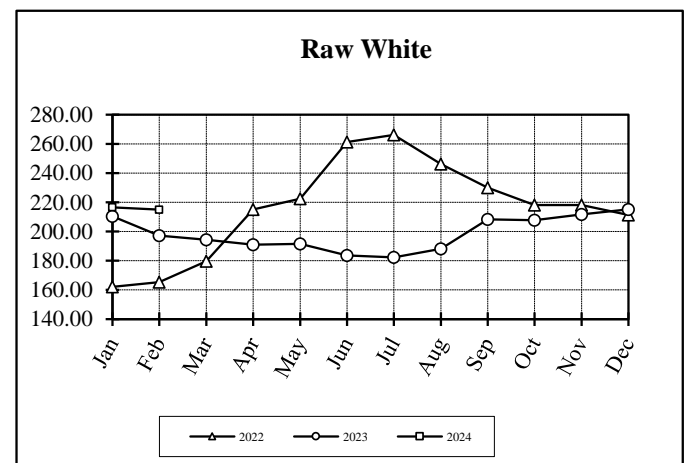
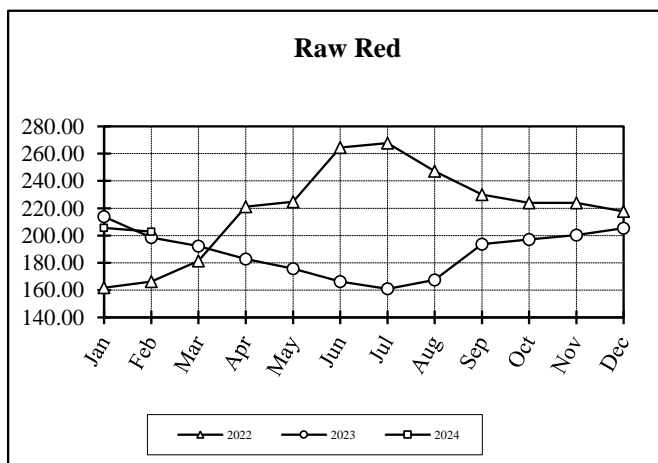
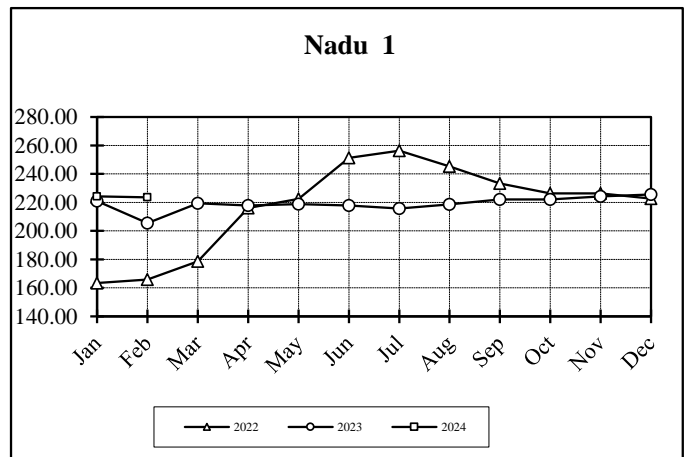
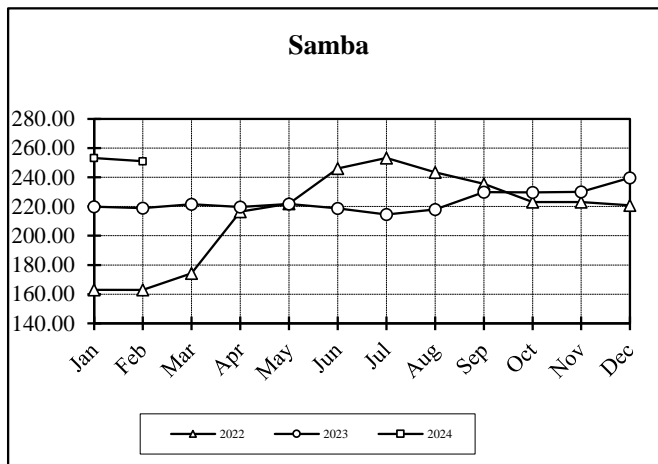
**Table 6.3: Quantity, value and CIF prices of sugar- September 2023 to February 2024**

Month	Quantity (Mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February - 2024	31502.80	7187.53	228.16	291.26	63.10
January - 2024	31,036.12	7491.82	241.39	301.01	59.62
December- 2023	48,892.20	12525.07	256.18	314.35	58.17
November- 2023	32,534.18	8213.61	252.46	308.68	56.22
October- 2023	49,627.96	12366.69	249.19	271.99	22.80
September- 2023	32,835.10	7828.25	238.41	270.59	32.18

Source: Department of Customs; Data Management Division/HARTI

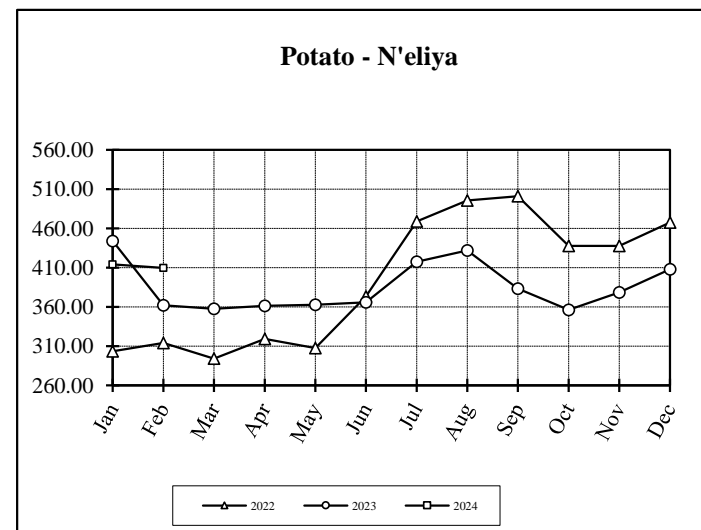
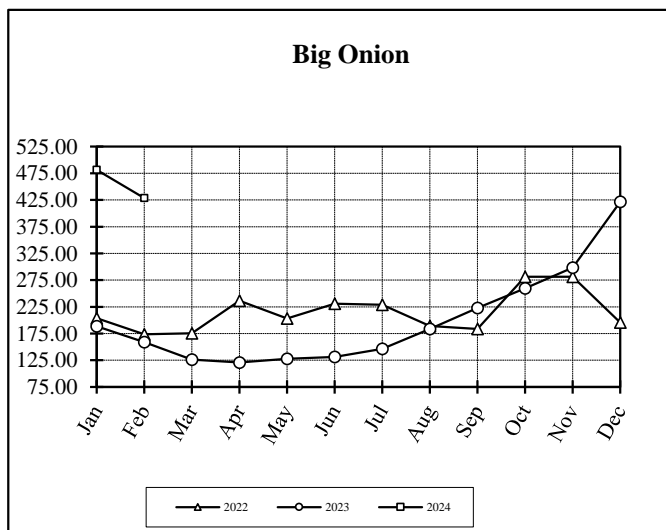
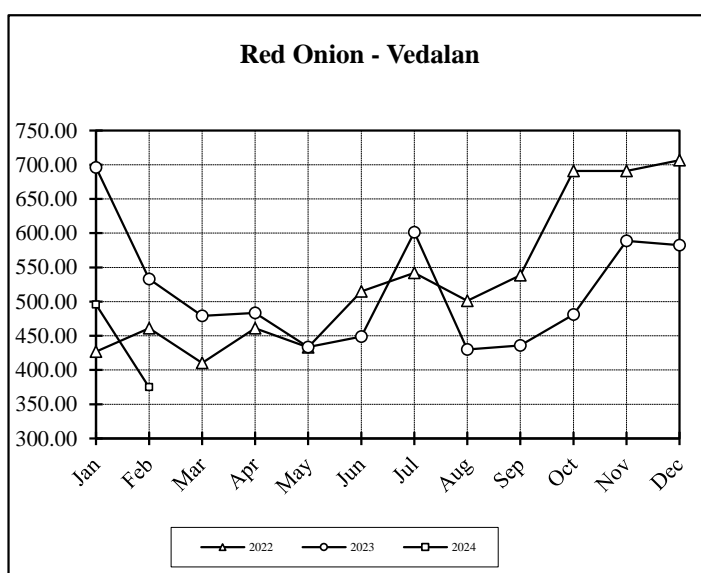
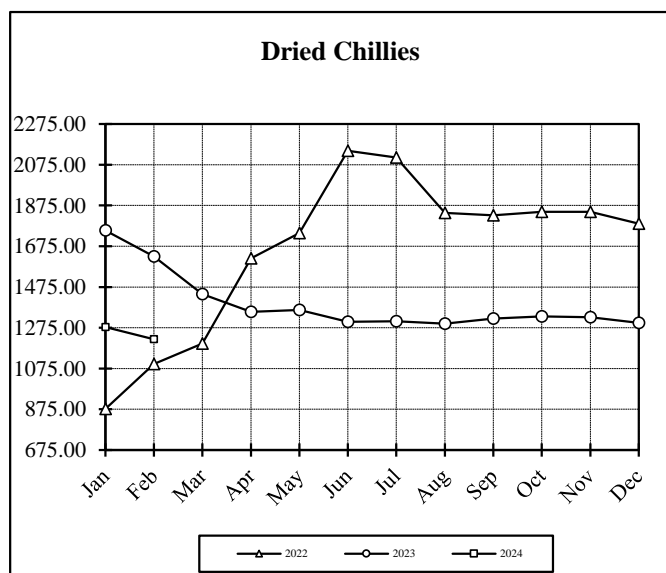
**Appendix 01: Retail Price of Rice in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)**

Month	Samba			Nadu 1			Raw Red			Raw White		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Jan	163.05	219.81	253.23	163.43	220.92	224.25	161.74	213.83	205.60	162.13	210.47	216.55
Feb	162.91	218.90	251.06	165.94	205.48	223.59	166.21	198.52	202.86	165.39	197.12	214.99
Mar	174.23	221.53		178.69	219.37		181.30	192.21		179.60	194.29	
Apr	216.46	219.71		216.03	217.91		221.05	182.80		215.19	191.02	
May	221.87	221.71		222.47	218.80		224.78	175.69		222.45	191.48	
Jun	246.00	218.83		251.20	217.79		264.53	166.19		261.37	183.70	
Jul	253.30	214.56		256.35	215.78		267.75	160.92		266.15	182.31	
Aug	243.37	218.05		245.23	218.62		247.19	167.50		246.15	188.16	
Sep	235.46	229.85		233.33	222.08		230.02	193.71		229.95	208.29	
Oct	223.04	229.65		226.45	222.17		224.05	197.08		218.10	207.77	
Nov	223.04	230.00		226.45	224.19		224.05	200.36		218.10	211.66	
Dec	220.88	239.69		222.77	225.59		217.65	205.36		211.26	215.19	



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

Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion			Big Onion			Potato - N'eliya		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Jan	876.68	1752.35	1278.28	426.78	696.10	495.78	203.69	188.50	481.26	303.42	443.97	414.09
Feb	1096.90	1625.09	1218.47	461.00	532.96	374.83	173.63	158.70	428.49	314.05	361.86	409.60
Mar	1197.17	1439.94		410.30	479.02		175.30	126.33		294.04	357.69	
Apr	1615.64	1352.77		461.12	483.63		236.52	120.91		319.03	361.12	
May	1739.46	1361.98		433.13	433.52		203.29	127.64		307.54	362.70	
Jun	2143.50	1303.59		514.80	448.76		230.89	131.09		373.16	365.72	
Jul	2110.93	1307.02		541.94	601.36		228.96	146.26		468.93	417.37	
Aug	1838.64	1295.06		501.24	430.04		189.33	183.45		495.71	431.92	
Sep	1827.19	1319.49		538.53	435.98		183.42	222.62		500.91	383.36	
Oct	1843.52	1331.19		690.99	480.95		281.28	259.39		437.60	356.19	
Nov	1843.52	1327.24		690.99	588.73		281.28	298.16		437.60	378.31	
Dec	1785.38	1298.39		706.59	582.53		195.56	421.39		467.45	407.86	

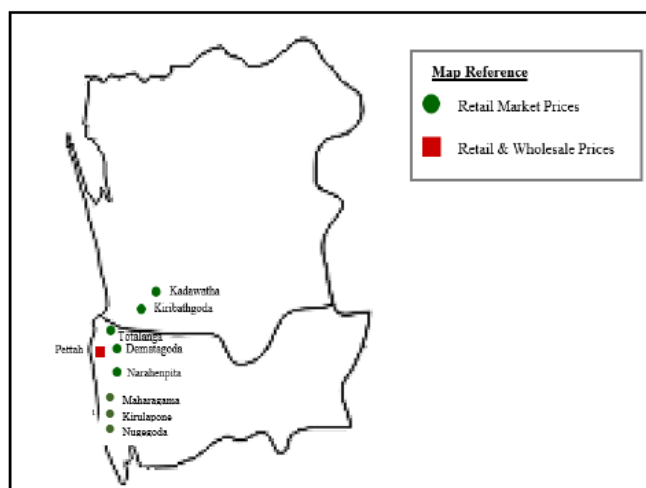
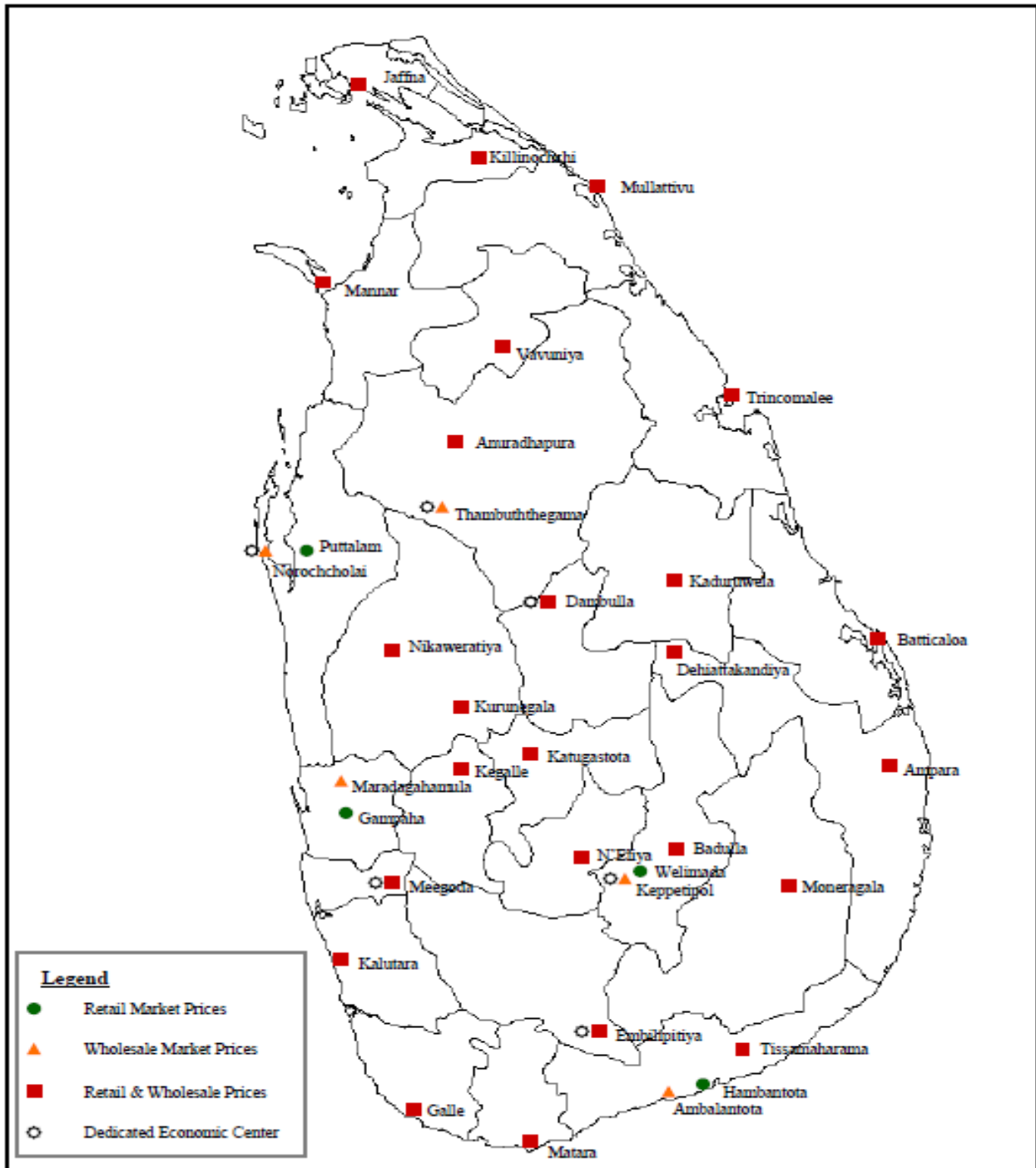




**Appendix 03: contd.....**

<b>Commodity</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Week</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Week</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Week</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week</b>	<b>Commodity</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Week</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Week</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Week</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week</b>	<b>Commodity</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Week</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Week</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Week</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week</b>
<b><u>Brinjals</u></b>					<b><u>Pumpkin</u></b>					<b><u>Lime</u></b>				
A'pura	308.00	208.00	108.00	108.00	Dambulla	208.00	248.00	229.00	234.00	Hambantota				
Dambulla	290.00	128.00	138.00	104.00	Hambantota	205.00	207.50	224.00	176.00	Embilipitiya	110.00	110.00	110.00	132.00
Hambantota					Embilipitiya	210.00	242.50	242.50	232.00	Moneragala	84.00	84.00	108.00	88.00
Embilipitiya	335.00	138.00	104.00	104.00	Matara		216.67	215.00	200.00	<b><u>Fruits (Rs/Kg)</u></b>				
Matara	375.00		112.50	107.50	A'pura	178.00	208.00	228.00	208.00	<b><u>Banana</u></b>				
Welimada	266.00	168.00	126.00	126.00	Moneragala	168.00	194.00	188.00	158.00	<b><u>Ambul</u></b>				
					<b><u>Cucumber</u></b>					Moneragala	92.00	94.00	84.00	74.00
<b><u>Capsicum</u></b>					A'pura	74.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	Embilipitiya	64.00	61.67	58.33	51.67
Welimada	736.00	658.00	488.00	458.00	Dambulla	51.00	52.00	62.80	53.80	Hambantota	102.50	102.50	105.00	65.00
<b><u>Bitter Gourd</u></b>					Hambantota	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	<b><u>Kolikuttu</u></b>				
A'pura	408.00	376.00	348.00	308.00	Matara	53.75	52.50	51.67		Moneragala	262.00	262.00	248.00	216.00
Dambulla	383.33	310.00	320.00	234.00	<b><u>Long beans</u></b>					Embilipitiya	200.00	200.00	184.00	184.00
Hambantota					Dambulla	226.00	246.00	129.00	140.00	Hambantota				
Embilipitiya	428.00	422.00	390.00	368.00	Hambantota	125.00	97.50	135.00	170.00	<b><u>Papaw</u></b>				
					Embilipitiya	268.00	228.00	210.00	210.00	Moneragala	116.00	108.00	112.00	108.00
<b><u>Snake Gourd</u></b>					Matara	207.50	172.50	177.50	165.00	Embilipitiya	150.00	127.50	158.00	158.00
Dambulla	216.00	186.50	171.50	170.50	A'Pura	228.00	208.00	188.00	168.00	Hambantota	125.00	125.00	125.00	110.00
Hambantota	208.00	208.00	208.00	198.00	<b><u>Ash Plantain</u></b>					<b><u>Pineapple</u></b>				
Embilipitiya	285.00	212.00	194.00	194.00	Hambantota					Divulapitiya				
Matara	246.67	226.67	220.00	210.00	Embilipitiya	164.00	164.00	152.00	158.00					
A'pura	258.00	208.00	208.00	188.00	Matara	161.25	161.25	161.25	160.00					
<b><u>Luffa</u></b>					<b><u>Green Chillies</u></b>									
Dambulla	183.50	212.50	198.00	152.50	Dambulla	930.00	622.00	500.00	372.00					
Hambantota	265.00	265.00	257.50	180.00	Hambantota									
Embilipitiya	310.00	310.00	276.00	200.00	Embilipitiya	980.00	880.00	578.00	632.00					
Matara				220.00	Puttalam	790.00	716.67	487.50	340.00					
A'pura	268.00	238.00	228.00	208.00	A'Pura	1020.00	920.00	670.00	490.00					

# Price Collecting Areas







HARTI



Ministry of Agriculture

**Food Systems and Marketing Research Division & Data Management Division  
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**දෛනික චිළචිඵ තොග මිල, ජංගම දුරකථනයෙන්**

හෙක්ටර් කොච්චෑකඩුව ගොවි කටයුතු පර්යේෂණ හා පුහුණුධර්මේ ආයතනය අනුමුතයෙන්

**මොබිටෙල් ජංගම මිල දර්ශනය**

ජාතික ජංගම දුරකථන ජාලයෙන්

**6666** අමතන්න.

මොබිටෙල් අද මිල - අඟ පහ

මොබිටෙල් ජංගම දුරකථන ජාලයෙන් ඵද්වඵි ගොග මිල දැනගන්න.

ඵනාඵියයාට රු.2/-

ඵනාඵි ගොග මිල දැනගැනීමට ඵනාඵියයාට රු.2/-