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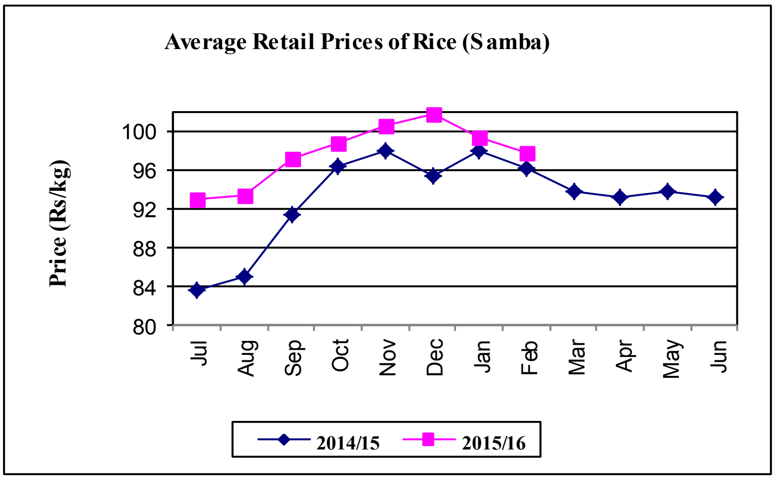
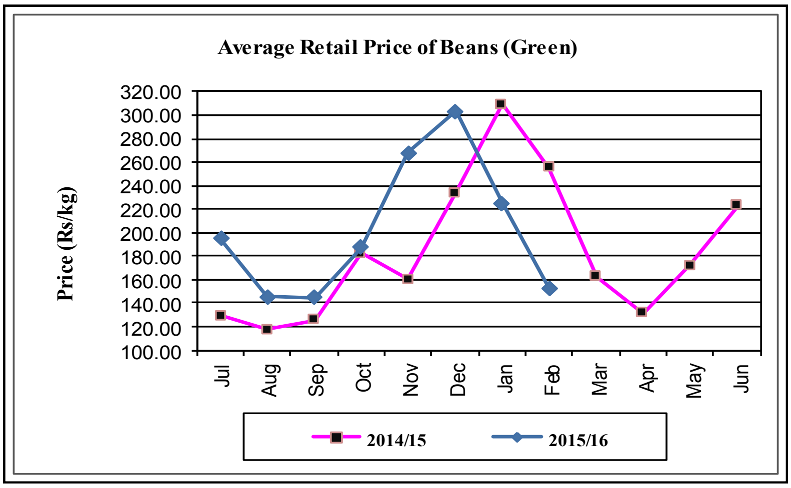
RICE:

As a result of the gradual increase in the rice supply, prices of all the rice varieties have decreased during the month. The highest price decrease of 11% was reported for raw white.

VEGETABLES:

As the peak harvesting period of the *maha* harvesting season approaches, high supplies have started to reach the market in February, from all major producing areas. As a result, prices of most of the up and lowcountry varieties have decreased compared to previous month. An average price decrease recorded for up country varieties were 32% and the same value for low country varieties were 16% compared to January.





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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
2. Narahenpita
3. Dematagoda
4. Thotalanga
5. Peliyagoda
6. Kadawatha
7. Kiribathgoda
8. Wellawatta
9. Kirulapone
10. Nugegoda

Outstation Markets

1. Nuwara Eliya
2. Dambulla
3. Matara
4. Kurunegala
5. Embilipitiya
6. Kandy
7. Meegoda
8. Kalutara
9. Tissamaharama
10. Nikaweratiya
11. Polonnaruwa
12. Puttalama
13. Hambantota
14. Divulapitiya
15. Dehiattakandiya
16. Keppetipola
17. Thambutthegama
18. Anuradhapura
19. Badulla
20. Galle
21. Mannar
22. Trincomalee
23. Batticaloe
24. Jaffna
25. Mullaitivu
26. Kilinochchi
27. Vavuniya
28. Kegalle
29. Ampara
30. Monaragala
31. Ratnapura

1. Paddy

Crop Situation

The prospects of the *maha*, 2015/16 season paddy crop are favorable in most of the major producing areas during the month. Harvesting of paddy crop in 2015/16 *maha* season has commenced in all major producing areas during the month. According to the crop forecast report of the Department of Agriculture, the progress of paddy cultivation was 798,694 ha and it was 95% of the target. The expected production is 2.966 million mt and it was an 8% increase than the average of previous three *maha* seasons. Further, the report reveals that the *maha*, 2015/16 season has recorded the highest ever area cultivated in recent history. According to the latest assessment issued by the Department of Agriculture nearly 47,721 ha crop damage was recorded mainly due to the floods at the beginning of the season especially in the Eastern Province. It is expected that the peak harvesting season is the coming month for the producing areas of the North Central Province.

Table 1.1: Achievement of Paddy Cultivation 2015/16 *Maha* season (Up to end of February 2016)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent (ha)	Production forecast Based on the Progress (mt)	Total Effected Extent (ha)	Expected Production loss for Effected area (mt)	Riversed Production forecast adjusted to flood damage within the season (mt)
Anuradhapura	96,379	93,436	97	329,276	82	247	329,028
Polonnaruwa	34,421	34,138	99	151,135	40	23	151,112
Ampara	75,622	76,791	102	319,212	11600	22,646	296,566
Kurunegala	83,543	85,316	102	355,069	23	49	355,020
Hambantota	29,114	29,301	101	155,790	990	3145	152,645
Colombo	4,933	3,126	63	9,369			9,369
Gampaha	13,583	9,977	73	29,773			29,773
Kalutara	15,703	11,271	72	33,494	435	386	33,108
Galle	15,082	9,963	66	28,442	82	136	28,306
Matara	16,900	13,594	80	43,317			43,317
Ratnapura	14,689	11,571	79	38,499			38,499
Kegalle	8,715	5,845	67	20,291			20,291
Puttalam	22,951	19,399	85	69,799	321	865	68,934
Kandy	15,988	13,876	87	44,895	32	78	44,818
Matale	20,665	21,676	105	84,223			84,223
N' Eliya	6,800	4,641	68	11,683			11,683
Badulla	24,185	21,102	87	86,705			86,705
Monaragala	45,745	45,397	99	181,397			181,397
Jaffna	11,460	10,723	94	22,301			22,301
Kilinochchi	23,000	23,066	100	82,991			82,991
Vavuniya	19,810	18,576	94	69,790			69,790
Mullaitivu	17,067	16,801	98	45,325			45,325
Mannar	20,774	20,220	97	104,587			104,587
Trincomalee	42,244	41,494	98	163,534	3042	7793	155,741
Batticaloa	64,587	62,779	97	144,026	30,909	83,572	60,453
Udawalawa	11,600	12,199	105	64,430			64,430
System H	22,500	23,391	104	112,514			112,514
System H1	9,500	9,144	96	43,984			43,984
System B	19,336	19,295	100	92,812			92,812
System C	23,306	23,193	100	111,561			111,561
System G	5,318	5,269	99	25,345			25,345
System L	472	456	97	6,109			6,109
System D	700	398	57	2,193			2,193
Rambakanoya	1,450	1,270	88	1,914			1,914
Sri Lanka	**838,142**	**798,694**	**95**	**3,085,785**	**47,556**	**118,940**	**2,966,844**

Source: Department of Agriculture

Producer Prices

A declining trend of paddy prices especially for long grain white was observed throughout the month in most of the major producing areas due to the commencement of harvesting of paddy crop in 2015/16 *maha* season in producing areas in the Eastern Province. Newly harvested paddy arrives to the markets from the producing areas in the Eastern and Northern Provinces. Increased arrival of high moisture paddy and millers utilizing their storage paddy also caused the price decline. Prices of long grain white have declined by 3% to 11% with the highest decline from Nikaweratiya. Prices of short grain paddy were in the range of Rs.30.00-47.50/kg in most of the considered major producing areas. The lowest and the highest prices for short grain were recorded in Ampara and Polonnaruwa. Open market prices of long grain white were in the range of Rs.20.00-36.00/kg in most of the major producing areas and the lowest prices were recorded in Ampara and Polonnaruwa. Prices of long grain red paddy were in the range of Rs.27.00-31.00/kg in producing areas in the Southern Province. In order to stabilized the paddy prices government purchasing programme commenced in most of the major producing areas.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of long grain white paddy have decreased by 13%-35% in most of the considered producing areas. Meanwhile, the prices of short grain have decreased by 3%-17% in major producing areas. Prices of long grain red have decreased by 34% in Embilipitiya and 30% in Matara.

Table1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – February 2016

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	32.00-40.00	42.00-47.00	35.80	44.65	36.75	*-8.85*	*-19.82*	*-0.95*	*-2.59*
Polonnaruwa	32.00-47.50	46.50-49.50	40.33	47.74	-	*-7.41*	*-15.52*	-	-
Kalawewa	35.00-42.00	45.00-47.00	36.94	46.00	38.71	*-9.06*	*-19.69*	*-1.77*	*-4.56*
Kurunegala	32.00-42.00	40.00-42.00	37.24	40.80	36.05	*-3.56*	*-8.73*	*1.19*	*3.30*
Dehiattakandiya	34.00-43.00	-	-	-	41.34	-	-	-	-
Nikaweratiya	34.00-35.00	46.00-47.00	34.67	46.20	41.70	*-11.53*	*-24.96*	*-7.03*	*-16.86*
Ampara	30.00-47.00	47.00-48.00	40.32	47.45	-	*-7.13*	*-15.03*	-	-
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	23.00-29.00	30.00-37.00	26.25	34.05	32.88	*-7.80*	*-22.91*	*-6.63*	*-20.16*
Polonnaruwa	22.00-36.00	35.50-38.00	29.99	37.09	-	*-7.10*	*-19.14*	-	-
Kalawewa	23.00-33.00	35.00-37.00	27.75	36.00	33.04	*-8.25*	*-22.92*	*-5.29*	*-16.01*
Kurunegala	22.00-33.00	32.00-35.00	27.76	32.70	32.03	*-4.94*	*-15.11*	*-4.27*	*-13.33*
Dehiattakandiya	23.00-31.00	30.00-31.00	26.31	30.50	40.27	*-4.19*	*-13.73*	*-13.96*	*-34.66*
Embilipitiya	31.00-34.00	34.00-37.00	32.96	35.60	40.15	*-2.64*	*-7.42*	*-7.19*	*-17.91*
Nikaweratiya	24.00-27.00	36.00-37.00	25.50	36.40	35.83	*-10.91*	*-29.96*	*-10.34*	*-28.84*
Matara	29.00-35.00	33.00-36.00	30.87	34.25	40.48	*-3.38*	*-9.87*	*-9.61*	*-23.74*
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	20.00-36.00	36.00-37.50	30.64	37.13	-	*-6.49*	*-17.47*	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
Matara	28.00-32.00	32.00-34.00	29.60	33.00	42.33	*-3.40*	*-10.30*	*-12.73*	*-30.07*
Hambantota	-	30.00-36.00	-	33.38	47.13	-	-	-	-
Embilipitiya	27.00-31.00	31.00-34.00	29.12	32.60	44.48	*-3.48*	*-10.67*	*-15.36*	*-34.53*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale prices

It was reported that the paddy harvesting in 2015/16 *maha* season has been almost completed in most of the major producing areas. As a result of that, rice supply has gradually increased and therefore, the prices of all the rice varieties have decreased during the month. The highest price decrease of 11% was reported for raw white. In addition, the prices have decreased by 10% for both raw red and nadu grade II, by 6% for both samba grade II and nadu grade I and by 4% for samba grade I. According to the statistical data released by the Department of Customs, rice imports have decreased by 50% compared to last month. The imported amount was 1,565mt. But, the price of imported *ponni* samba has decreased by 2% due to the availability of sufficient stocks.

Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale price of samba grade I has increased by 1% while the prices of all the other local rice varieties have decreased by 1%-26%.

Retail

In line with the price behavior in the wholesale market, the retail prices of all the rice varieties have decreased. But, the retail price decrease was not proportionate to the wholesale price. The price of both nadu grade II and samba grade II has decreased by Rs.2.00/kg while the prices of all the other rice varieties have decreased by Rs.1.00/kg. The highest local rice price of Rs.110.00/kg was reported for samba grade I and the lowest price of Rs.60.00/kg was reported for both raw red and raw white.

Referring to the retail prices of the outstation markets except Colombo, the highest samba price range of Rs.94.00-116.00/kg was reported in Kegalle market while the lowest samba price range of Rs.80.00-91.00/kg was reported in Jaffna, Dambulla and Nuwara Eliya markets. The highest nadu price range of Rs.75.00-80.00/kg was noted in Jaffna and Kalutara markets and the lowest nadu price range of Rs.56.00-60.00/kg was noted in Puttalam market. Furthermore, the highest price of raw red was reported as Rs.76.00/kg in Kurunegala market while that of raw white was reported as Rs.72.00/kg in Kegalle market. The lowest prices of raw red and raw white were observed as Rs.53.00/kg and Rs.58.00/kg respectively in Embilipitiya market.

Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of local samba varieties have increased by 1%-2%. The prices of all the other local rice varieties have decreased by 10%-21%.

Table1.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice – February 2016

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	85.00-97.00	92.62	96.12	91.59	*-3.50*	*-3.64*	*1.03*	*1.13*
Samba 2	78.00-90.00	84.01	89.67	84.07	*-5.66*	*-6.31*	*-0.06*	*-0.08*
Samba 3	-	-	-	75.00	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	65.00-75.00	69.30	73.53	77.70	*-4.22*	*-5.74*	*-8.39*	*-10.80*
Nadu 2	58.00-70.00	62.74	69.95	71.58	*-7.21*	*-10.31*	*-8.84*	*-12.35*
Raw red	48.00-70.00	54.36	60.61	73.86	*-6.25*	*-10.31*	*-19.50*	*-26.40*
Raw white	50.00-63.00	55.33	62.40	69.26	*-7.07*	*-11.33*	*-13.93*	*-20.11*
Ponni Samba (Imported)	90.00-110.00	102.17	103.96	76.29	*-1.79*	*-1.72*	*25.88*	*33.92*
Raw white (imported)	-	-	-	46.33	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	98.00-110.00	101.83	103.29	100.90	*-1.46*	*-1.41*	*0.93*	*0.92*
Samba 2	89.00-98.00	93.55	95.20	91.39	*-1.65*	*-1.73*	*2.16*	*2.36*
Samba 3	-	-	-	85.00	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	76.00-85.00	79.87	80.51	88.75	*-0.64*	*-0.79*	*-8.88*	*-10.01*
Nadu 2	66.00-66.00	73.46	75.39	82.06	*-1.93*	*-2.56*	*-8.60*	*-10.48*
Raw red	60.00-80.00	69.32	70.64	87.23	*-1.32*	*-1.87*	*-17.91*	*-20.53*
Raw white	60.00-85.00	70.19	71.61	81.61	*-1.42*	*-1.98*	*-11.42*	*-13.99*
Ponni Samba (Imported)	110.00-120.00	117.78	119.21	82.50	*-1.43*	*-1.20*	*35.28*	*42.76*
Raw white (imported)	-	-	-	69.20	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop situation

The targeted extent of chillies for *maha* 2015/16 was 11,056 ha in Sri Lanka and out of that 8,912 ha have been cultivated by the end of February 2016 representing 81% of the targeted extent. The highest cultivated extent of 2,442 ha was recorded from the Anuradhapura district and it represents 79% of the targeted extent in Anuradhapura. The production forecast of chillies for the season is 44,642 mt and out of that, 61% of the production will be provided from Anuradhapura (33%), Puttlam (15%) and Moneragala (13%) districts.

Table 2.1.1: Cultivation Progress of Green Chillies for *Maha* 2015/16

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of February 2016		Expected Production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Anuradhapura	3,081	2,442	79	14,591
Moneragala	1,062	786	74	5,755
Puttlam	867	662	76	6,681
Jaffna	700	652	93	2,115
Hambantota	276	417	151	1,439
Ampara	600	389	65	1,020
Other areas	4470	3,564	80	13,041
Total	**11,056**	**8,912**	**81**	**44,642**

Source: Crop forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Producer prices of green chillies ranged between Rs.86.00-336.00/kg during this month in Dambulla, Embilipitiya, Puttlam and Anuradhapura areas, with the highest price recorded in Embilipitiya at the first week of the month.

Supply of green chillies from main producing areas has increased during this month and both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have decreased by about Rs.137.00/kg and Rs.197.00/kg respectively. Average wholesale and retail prices of green chillies were Rs.173.19/kg and Rs.333.27/kg respectively and both prices have decreased by about 8% when compared to the same period of last year.

A quantity of 3,764 mt of dried chillies was imported in February 2016 and it was a decrease of 87 mt compared to that of the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.273.55/kg and it was an increase of Rs.8.20/kg compared to last month. About 97% of the dried chillies stocks was imported from India and 3% was imported from China during this month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have increased by about Rs.6.00/kg and Rs.1.00/kg respectively due to limited imports and increased imported prices. Average wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies were Rs.301.40/kg and Rs.360.56/kg respectively and both prices have increased by about 36% and 34% respectively when compared to the same period of last year.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green Chillies	100.00-270.00	173.19	310.65	189.17	*-137.46*	*-44.25*	*-15.98*	*-8.45*
Dried Chillies	275.00-325.00	301.40	295.82	221.33	*5.58*	*1.89*	*80.08*	*36.18*
Retail Price								
Green Chillies	120.00-600.00	333.27	529.89	364.37	*-196.62*	*-37.11*	*-31.10*	*-8.54*
Dried Chillies	320.00-400.00	360.56	359.36	269.09	*1.20*	*0.33*	*91.47*	*33.99*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb 2016	3764	1029.7	273.55	360.56	*87.01*
Jan 2016	3851	1021.9	265.35	359.36	*94.01*
Dec 2015	4794	1284.2	267.89	362.08	*94.19*
Nov 2015	4144	1071.2	258.51	362.89	*104.38*
Oct 2015	3564	880.0	246.91	335.70	*88.79*
Sep 2015	4591	1006.6	219.28	322.19	*102.91*

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

Table 2.1.4: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – February 2016

Location	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
Dambulla	145.00	192.00	158.00	86.40
Embilipitiya	336.00	192.00	238.00	171.00
Puttalam	138.00	169.00	136.00	109.00
A'Pura	-	188.00	188.00	118.00

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

Under the big onion promotion programme around 518 ha was targeted in Sri Lanka for this *maha* season and the highest targeted extent was reported from Hambantota (125 ha). However, only 10 ha were cultivated in Hambantota district at the end of February 2016. At the end of this month, only 97 ha of big onion were cultivated in Sri Lanka representing 19% of the targeted extent.

The cultivated extent of red onion for *maha* 2015/16 season as at the end of February 2016 was 3,230 ha in the country and it represents 82% of the target. A good progress has been achieved for red onion cultivation in Puttlam district and it exceeded the targeted extent (149%) also. In Jaffna district about 1,428 ha have been cultivated at the end of February 2016, which represents 70% of the targeted extent. The production forecast of red onion for this season is 41,252 mt and out of that, 89% of the production will arrive to the market from Jaffna (41%), Puttlam (32%) and Trincomalee (16%).

Table 2.2.1: Cultivation Progress of Red Onion for *Maha* 2015/16

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of February 2016		Expected Production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Target	
Jaffna	2,050	1,428	70	16,815
Puttalam	406	604	149	13,178
Trincomalee	680	665	98	6,474
Other areas	798	533	67	4,785
Total	**3,934**	**3,230**	**82**	**41,252**

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 21268 mt of big onion was mainly imported from India during this month. It was a decrease of 6,663 mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.30.43/kg and it has decreased by Rs.5.19/kg compared to that of the previous month. However, both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion have decreased by about Rs.9.00/kg and Rs.15.00/kg respectively due to availability of sufficient stocks at the market and decreased imported price. Average wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion were Rs.43.70/kg and Rs.68.73/kg and both prices have decreased by about 25% and 18% respectively when compared to the same period of previous year.

A stock of local red onion from Puttlam and Jaffna has arrived to the market. Wholesale price ranged between Rs.40.00-65.00/kg for sinnan and Rs.55.00-85.00/kg for vedalan. Retail price of vedalan ranged between Rs.140.00-160.00/kg while stocks of sinnan were not available at the retail market.

About 2,643 mt of red onion was imported from India during this month and compared to the previous month it has decreased by about 710 mt. Average CIF price was Rs.55.72/kg for imported red onion and it has decreased by Rs.25.26/kg compared to the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have decreased by about Rs.28.00/kg and Rs.47.00/kg due to decreased imported price and availability of local red onion at the market. Compared to the same period of last year, retail price of vedalan has increased by 4%, while the retail price of imported red onion has decreased by 8%.

Table 2.2.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion - February 2016

Crop	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	40.00-65.00	46.67	-	60.21	-	-	*-13.54*	*-22.49*
Red Onion (Vedalan)	55.00-85.00	71.11	-	75.00	-	-	*-3.89*	*-5.19*
Red Onion (Imported)	48.00-85.00	65.56	93.50	76.24	*-27.94*	*-29.88*	*-10.68*	*-14.01*
Big Onion (imported)	35.00-65.00	43.70	52.30	58.45	*-8.60*	*-16.44*	*-14.75*	*-25.24*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	140.00-160.00	145.71	-	140.00	-	-	*5.71*	*4.08*
Red Onion (Imported)	90.00-160.00	121.89	168.42	132.59	*-46.53*	*-27.63*	*-10.70*	*-8.07*
Big Onion (imported)	40.00-100.00	68.73	84.20	83.99	*-15.47*	*-18.37*	*-15.26*	*-18.17*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

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

Crop	Month	CIF Price	Wholesale Price	Retail Price	Margin (Rs/kg)	
		(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	(Rs/kg)	WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Feb,2016	30.43	43.70	68.73	*13.27*	*25.03*
	Jan,2016	35.62	52.30	84.20	*16.68*	*31.90*
	Feb,2015	42.40	58.45	83.99	*16.05*	*25.54*
Red onion	Feb,2016	55.72	65.56	121.89	*9.84*	*56.33*
	Jan,2016	80.98	93.50	168.42	*12.52*	*74.92*
	Feb,2015	65.32	76.24	132.59	*10.92*	*56.35*

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

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

Crop	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016
Red Onion	2643	3353	147.27	271.52	55.72	80.98
Big Onion	21268	27931	647.13	994.96	30.43	35.62

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.5: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
Feb	21268	30.4	43.70	68.73	*38.30*
Jan	27931	35.6	52.30	84.20	*48.58*
Dec	23619	81.6	58.39	95.39	*13.83*
Nov	17984	95.3	107.25	145.63	*50.28*
Oct	2780	84.8	89.27	117.29	*32.51*
Sep	4123	45.8	70.64	106.67	*60.86*

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2015/16 is 2,993 ha and about 2,737 ha had been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 91% of the target. During the month, about 443 ha of potatoes were cultivated in the country and it was lower than the extent cultivated in December and January of this *maha* season. Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent during this *maha* season is slightly at a low level. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of potato is 40,288 mt for this *maha* season.

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,200 ha and about 695 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 58% of the targeted extent. Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent is at low level during this *maha* season in the district due to the rainy weather condition prevailed at the beginning of the season. The targeted extent for this *maha* season is 1,637 ha in the Badulla district and about 1,867 ha have been cultivated by the end of February achieving 114% of the targeted extent. The cultivated extent during this season is at a high level compared to the same period of last *maha* season in Badulla.

According to the field information by the Department of Agriculture, the expected supply of potato to the market in February was 7,257 mt and more stocks are expected in March.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Potato (*Maha* 2015/16)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
	Maha* 2014/15	***Maha* 2015/16**	***Maha* 2014/15***	***Maha* 2015/16**	***Maha* 2015/16**	
N'Eliya	1,095	1,200	845	695	58	13,419
Badulla	1,945	1,637	1,807	1,867	114	25,071
Sri Lanka	**3,153**	**2,993**	**2,768**	**2,737**	**91**	**40,288**

Source: MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2015/16, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2014/15, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 17,228 mt of potato had been imported in February which was 2,825 mt lower than that was imported during the previous month with low Special Commodity Levy for imported potato (Rs.15.00/kg). Imported stocks were received from Pakistan, India and Bangladesh. About 95% of the imported stocks were received from Pakistan during this month. Compared to February, 2015 (15,463 mt), the imports were high during this month. Average CIF price was Rs.24.50/kg in February.

With regard to local potato, only stocks of Nuwara Eliya potato were available in the Colombo Wholesale market. Wholesale price of Nuwara Eliya potato has decreased by 14% with the arrival of *maha* stocks. On average, the producer prices of Nuwara Eliya and Welimada potatoes were Rs.83.00/kg and Rs.74.00/kg in February. The wholesale and retail prices of imported potato have decreased by 3% and 16% respectively due to availability of sufficient stocks. During the month of February, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes ranged between Rs.70.00-110.00/kg and Rs.37.00-70.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya potato (13%) has increased, while the price of imported potato (7%) has decreased.

Table 2.3.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb	17228	422.1	24.50	74.14	*49.64*
Jan	20053	553.6	27.61	87.96	*60.35*
Dec	17712	625.8	35.33	94.48	*59.15*
Nov	11892	438.3	36.86	118.25	*81.39*
Oct	3575	115.1	32.20	104.57	*72.37*
Sep	5088	156.4	30.73	103.24	*72.51*

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

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, Wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	57.00-87.00	73.76	82.75	75.00	*-8.99*	*-10.86*	*-1.24*	*-1.65*
Nuwara Eliya	68.00-95.00	83.08	92.20	77.45	*-9.12*	*-9.89*	*5.63*	*7.27*
Imported – CIF	24.11-32.75	24.50	27.61	31.27	*-3.11*	*-11.26*	*-6.77*	*-21.65*
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	75.20	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	70.00-110.00	96.81	112.60	91.51	*-15.80*	*-14.03*	*5.30*	*5.79*
Imported	37.00-70.00	46.47	48.14	49.85	*-1.67*	*-3.46*	*-3.37*	*-6.77*
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	103.28	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	120.00-180.00	148.75	148.73	131.58	*0.02*	*0.01*	*17.17*	*13.05*
Imported	60.00-120.00	74.14	87.96	79.99	*-13.82*	*-15.71*	*-5.85*	*-7.31*
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		65.67	56.53	54.13	*9.14*	*16.17*	*11.54*	*21.32*
Imported (CIF-RP)		49.64	60.35	48.72	*-10.71*	*-17.75*	*0.92*	*1.89*
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		51.94	36.13	40.07	*15.82*	*43.78*	*11.87*	*29.63*
Imported		27.67	39.82	30.14	*-12.15*	*-30.52*	*-2.48*	*-8.22*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation

The targeted extent of green gram for *maha* 2015/16 is 7,798 ha, out of which about 7,372 ha were cultivated by the end of this month representing 94% of the total targeted extent. During the month, about 1,558 ha of green gram were cultivated in the country, a quantity which was greater than the extents cultivated in the previous months of this *maha* season due to seed distribution programme implemented by the Department of Agriculture. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of green gram is 9,626 mt for 2015/16 *maha* season. Compared to the same period of *maha* 2014/15, the cultivated extent during this *maha* season is at a low level. In the Hambantota district, the targeted extent is 860 ha for *maha* 2015/16 and about 2,506 ha was cultivated by the end of this month achieving a higher progress. In the Moneragala and Kurunegala districts, the targeted extents are 1,455 ha and 862 ha for this *maha* season and about 1,021 ha and 739 ha were cultivated by the end of this month achieving 70% and 86% of the targeted extents. In all districts, the cultivated extents during this *maha* season were at a low level compared to the same period of last *maha* season. *Maha* harvesting for green gram took place in Moneragala and Kurunegala districts.

The targeted extent of cowpea was 10,655 ha for *maha* 2015/16 and about 8,335 ha had been cultivated by the end of the month achieving 78% of the total targeted extent. Compared to *maha* 2014/15 season, the cultivated extent during this *maha* season is low. During the month, about 2,090 ha of cowpea were cultivated in the country. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of cowpea for this *maha* season is 11,670 mt. The highest targeted extent for cowpea was recorded in the Ampara district as 3,440 ha for this *maha* season and about 3,308 ha was cultivated by the end of February achieving 96% of the total targeted extent. In the Moneregala and Kurunegala districts, the targeted extents were 1,650 ha and 942 ha for this *maha* season. By the end of this month, about 1,318 ha and 379 ha were cultivated in the respective districts. In all the major producing districts, the cultivated extents during this *maha* season were at a low level compared to the same period of last *maha* season.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Green gram and Cowpea (*Maha* 2015/16)

Crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
		Maha* 2014/15	***Maha* 2015/16**	***Maha* 2014/15***	***Maha* 2015/16**	***Maha* 2015/16**	
Green gram	Hambantota	3,585	860	5,107	2,506	291	3,805
	Kurunegala	1,233	862	969	739	86	405
	Moneragala	1,983	1,455	1,717	1,021	70	1,066
	Sri Lanka	**12,458**	**7,798**	**11,586**	**7,372**	**94**	**9,626**
Cowpea	Ampara	3,959	3,440	3,666	3,308	96	7,020
	Kurunegala	1,216	942	481	379	40	167
	Moneragala	1,726	1,650	1,560	1,318	80	1,430
	Sri Lanka	**12,318**	**10,655**	**9,112**	**8,335**	**78**	**11,670**

Source:* *MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2015/16, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast No.4, Maha 2014/15, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***

Prices and Supply Demand Situation

A quantity of 805 mt of green gram was imported in February and it was 37 mt higher compared to that of January. The average CIF price was Rs.175.00/kg during this month. Out of the total imports, about 73% of the stocks were received from Myanmar, followed by Thailand (21%) and Australia (3%). Compared to February, 2015 (1,104 mt), the imports were low during this month. In February, the wholesale and retail prices of green gram have increased by 1%. During the month, the wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.170.00-215.00/kg. *Maha* harvesting of green gram has commenced and hence, the prices would decrease in coming months. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of green gram had decreased by 14%.

A quantity of 382 mt of cowpea was imported in February, which was 20 mt higher than the quantity imported in the previous month. Majority of 45% of the stocks were received from Brazil, while the rest of the stocks were received from Madagascar, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Turkey and India. The average CIF price was Rs.96.00/kg in February. With regard to cowpea, the wholesale and retail prices of white cowpea have decreased by 1% due to availability of sufficient stocks of imported potato. Wholesale price of red cowpea has not changed significantly, while the retail price has decreased by 2% due to arrival of local stocks. During the month of February, the wholesale prices of white and red cowpea ranged between Rs.180.00-200.00/kg and Rs.200.00-250.00/kg respectively. Imported stocks fetched a high price. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of white cowpea has decreased by 1%.

Table 2.4.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Green gram September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb	805	140.96	175.17	243.85	*68.68*
Jan	768	133.05	173.24	240.43	*67.19*
Dec	146	27.95	191.45	243.05	*51.60*
Nov	838	158.48	189.22	246.06	*56.84*
Oct	802	143.76	179.14	244.34	*65.20*
Sep	572	100.62	175.91	246.54	*70.63*

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

Table 2.4.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Cowpea September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb	383	36.8	96.14	251.48	*155.34*
Jan	363	32.5	89.68	253.69	*164.01*
Dec	503	47.1	93.71	257.34	*163.63*
Nov	667	64.1	96.18	262.26	*166.08*
Oct	1,141	120.0	105.24	264.23	*158.99*
Sep	715	82.0	114.65	268.49	*153.84*

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

Table 2.4.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea- February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	170.00-215.00	199.79	198.15	239.76	*1.64*	*0.83*	*-39.97*	*-16.67*
Cowpea (White)	180.00-200.00	192.16	193.44	208.96	*-1.27*	*-0.66*	*-16.80*	*-8.04*
Cowpea (Red)	200.00-250.00	203.25	202.89	217.74	*0.36*	*0.18*	*-14.49*	*-6.66*
Retail Prices								
Green gram	220.00-280.00	243.85	240.43	284.50	*3.42*	*1.42*	*-40.65*	*-14.29*
Cowpea (White)	220.00-280.00	251.48	253.69	255.01	*-2.21*	*-0.87*	*-3.53*	*-1.38*
Cowpea (Red)	220.00-300.00	248.04	252.68	247.59	*-4.64*	*-1.84*	*0.45*	*0.18*

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.5: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram And Cowpea

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale price (Rs/kg)	Retail price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/Kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Green gram	Feb,2016	175.17	199.79	243.85	*24.62*	*44.06*
	Jan,2016	173.24	198.15	240.43	*24.91*	*42.28*
	Feb,2015	-	239.76	284.50	-	*44.74*
Cowpea (White)	Feb,2016	96.14	192.16	251.48	*96.02*	*59.32*
	Jan,2016	89.68	193.44	253.69	*103.76*	*60.25*
	Feb,2015	-	208.96	255.01	-	*46.05*
Cowpea (Red)	Feb,2016	-	203.25	248.04	-	*44.79*
	Jan,2016	-	202.89	252.68	-	*49.79*
	Feb,2016	-	217.74	247.59	-	*29.85*

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

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 19,945 mt (16,943 mt of whole type and 3,002 mt of split type) of red dhal was imported in February and it was 2,551 mt lower than the quantity imported in January. About 81% and 18% of the stocks of whole type were received from Canada and Australia respectively, while about 64% and 29% of split type were received from India and Canada respectively. Compared to February, 2015 (16,160 mt), the imports of red dhal were high during this month. The average CIF price was Rs.129.00/kg in February.

In February, the wholesale price of red dhal has decreased by 5%, while the retail price has increased by 2%. The average wholesale price was Rs.176.00/kg in February. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of red dhal had increased by 6%.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal – Febuary 2016

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	150.00-210.00	176.08	184.51	161.68	*-8.43*	*-4.57*	*14.39*	*8.90*
Retail Price	168.00-220.00	182.75	179.96	171.71	*2.79*	*1.55*	*11.04*	*6.43*

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

Table 2.5.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Red dhal
September 2015 to Febuary 2016

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Feb	19945	129.3	176.08	182.75	*46.75*	*6.67*
Jan	22496	127.4	184.51	179.96	*57.09*	*-4.55*
Dec	21861	123.7	161.68	171.71	*37.98*	*10.03*
Nov	11471	260.8	171.17	191.79	*-89.61*	*20.62*
Oct	7822	126.9	171.78	192.21	*44.92*	*20.43*
Sep	10306	141.9	178.06	194.74	*36.16*	*16.68*

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

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

According to the Department of Meteorology data, during the month of February, a below average rainfall has received in most districts. As a result, continuous dry weather prevailed in all the up, mid and low country the major producing areas of the country. In Matale district, the set target for vegetable cultivation in *Maha* season is 2,768 ha of which 1,504 ha was completed by the end of February, recording a 19% increase in extent, compared to the same period of previous year. The set target for upcountry varieties in the *Maha* season in Nuwara Eliya district is 5,044 ha of which about 89% was achieved at the end of February. Generally, crop establishment for *Maha* season has progressed well in Kandy districts with the rainy weather experienced in the beginning of the cultivation season. The reported cultivation progress for major vegetable varieties in the district was 1,256 ha, recording a 77% achievement of the seasonal target at the end of February. Further, in Ratnapura district, beans cultivation has recorded almost 100% progress of the seasonal target, by the end of February.

Crop establishment commenced well in all the lowcountry major producing areas of low country districts with the received rainfall at the beginning of the cultivation season. However, as a result of the prevailed dry weather condition throughout the month of February, water availability for agricultural activities was low, compared to previous month. In Hambantota district, early establishment of 2015/2016 *Maha* cultivation has been observed due to advancement of the monsoonal rain by 3 weeks at the beginning of the season. The set target for lowcountry varieties in the *Maha* season is 3,387 ha of which the cultivation progress was about 4,898 ha, recording a 145% achievement at the end of February in the district. Further, in Anuradhapura and Monaragala districts, 80% and 73% cultivation progress of the seasonal target respectively, was achieved at the end of February. In addition Jaffna and Puttlam district has reported 78% and 90% cultivation progress respectively for lowcountry varieties.

Prices and supply/Demand situation

As the peak harvesting period of the *maha* harvesting season approaches, high supplies have started to reach the market in February, from all the major producing areas, hence prices have begun to show a decreasing trend for both up and low country varieties. Further, due to persistent dry weather, process of ripening has been hastened so that the harvesting interval was shortened, accordingly. Harvesting of leeks in the *maha* season has started in Nuwara Eliya district with the supply of 3,360 mt in February. The total supply of vegetables from Matale district was around 6,624 mt in February, recording a 1% decrease compared to the previous month. However, as a result of the persistent dry weather, 50% crop damage was reported in bean cultivation in the district, which reached the harvesting stage. The daily supply of vegetables at the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre (DEC) was around 1500 mt in February, recoding a 25% increase compared to last month. Further, daily supply from Jaffna district to the Dambulla DEC has increased up to 160 mt recording a 77% increase compared to last month. Main varieties supplied from Jaffna district were cabbage, tomato, capsicum, pumpkin and carrot. In addition, high supplies have reached the market from Puttlam district to the Dambulla DEC with the highest supplies reported for beetroot, cabbage and radish.

Considering upcountry vegetables, prices of all the vegetable varieties, have decreased in February, compared to previous month, due to increased supplies. The highest price decrease was reported for beetroot as 57% followed by radish as 39%. This was observed due to high supplies of beetroot and radish from Jaffna and Puttlam during the whole month of February. Further, prices of beans and knokhol have decreased by 37% and 35% respectively. Prices of all the other upcountry varieties have decreased in the range of 11% - 25%.

As a result of the prevailed dry weather condition throughout the month, harvesting interval of tomato have shortened to 3 - 4 days and thereby high supplies from all the producing areas have reached the market in February. Hence, prices have further decreased by 25%, compared to last month. Along with tomato, prices of capsicum also decreased by 28%.

The supplies of most of the domestic vegetables have also increased with the reaching of peak *maha* harvesting season. The highest prices decrease was recorded for bittergourd as 42% followed by drumsticks as 37% and luffa as 27%. Except pumpkin and cucumber, prices of other lowcountry varieties have decreased in the range of 13%-19% in February. However, prices of pumpkin have further increased by 47% in February, mainly because of the early planting and harvesting of pumpkin in this *maha* season.

Prices of green chilies have further decreased by 44% in February, with the supplies receiving from Puttlam and Jaffna. Further, dry weather has encouraged fruiting of lime, so that the supplies increased and the prices have further decreased by 9% compared to previous month.

In line with the wholesale prices, retail prices of most of the vegetables have decreased in February. The highest price decrease was reported for beetroot as 42% followed by beans as 32%.

Table 3.1: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	50.00-130.00	95.80	152.81	184.99	*-57.01*	*-37.31*	*-89.19*	*-48.21*
Carrot	80.00-250.00	157.97	210.66	124.76	*-52.69*	*-25.01*	*33.21*	*26.62*
Leeks	50.00-100.00	74.03	83.15	153.21	*-9.12*	*-10.97*	*-79.18*	*-51.68*
Beetroot	40.00-160.00	77.37	178.76	93.25	*-101.39*	*-56.72*	*-15.88*	*-17.03*
Knokhol	50.00-120.00	75.99	116.68	73.47	*-40.69*	*-34.87*	*2.52*	*3.43*
Radish	10.00-30.00	20.80	34.03	30.59	*-13.23*	*-38.88*	*-9.79*	*-32.00*
Cabbage	30.00-120.00	69.44	90.42	85.67	*-20.98*	*-23.20*	*-16.23*	*-18.94*
Tomato	20.00-45.00	31.80	42.19	213.18	*-10.39*	*-24.63*	*-181.38*	*-85.08*
Ladies Fingers	50.00-100.00	70.71	95.18	104.00	*-24.47*	*-25.71*	*-33.29*	*-32.01*
Brinjal	30.00-80.00	52.11	81.14	37.04	*-29.03*	*-35.78*	*15.07*	*40.69*
Capsicum	140.00-280.00	207.78	286.72	198.86	*-78.94*	*-27.53*	*8.92*	*4.49*
Pumpkin	40.00-120.00	78.78	53.51	119.02	*25.27*	*47.22*	*-40.24*	*-33.81*
Cucumber	20.00-160.00	28.57	26.04	49.14	*2.53*	*9.72*	*-20.57*	*-41.86*
Bittergourd	50.00-140.00	86.75	149.64	118.92	*-62.89*	*-42.03*	*-32.17*	*-27.05*
Snakegourd	40.00-80.00	57.41	70.92	69.35	*-13.51*	*-19.05*	*-11.94*	*-17.22*
Drumstick	120.00-500.00	251.90	400.00	320.84	*-148.10*	*-37.03*	*-68.94*	*-21.49*
Luffa	50.00-90.00	67.30	91.68	124.16	*-24.38*	*-26.59*	*-56.86*	*-45.80*
Long Beans	40.00-70.00	50.84	62.28	96.59	*-11.44*	*-18.37*	*-45.75*	*-47.37*
Ash Plantain	40.00-70.00	52.82	60.63	101.79	*-7.81*	*-12.88*	*-48.97*	*-48.11*
Green Chillies	100.00-270.00	173.19	310.65	189.17	*-137.46*	*-44.25*	*-15.98*	*-8.45*
Lime	30.00-60.00	45.65	50.08	33.14	*-4.43*	*-8.85*	*12.51*	*37.75*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2: Retail Prices of Vegetables – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	90.00-240.00	153.14	224.92	255.00	*-71.78*	*-31.91*	*-101.86*	*-39.95*
Carrot	120.00-400.00	231.66	282.16	206.58	*-50.50*	*-17.90*	*25.08*	*12.14*
Leeks	80.00-240.00	145.35	162.90	236.00	*-17.55*	*-10.77*	*-90.65*	*-38.41*
Beetroot	80.00-320.00	156.70	269.77	172.63	*-113.07*	*-41.91*	*-15.93*	*-9.23*
Knokhol	80.00-320.00	170.82	217.01	192.40	*-46.19*	*-21.28*	*-21.58*	*-11.22*
Radish	50.00-160.00	94.76	110.59	106.73	*-15.83*	*-14.31*	*-11.97*	*-11.22*
Cabbage	60.00-240.00	139.50	165.40	156.99	*-25.90*	*-15.66*	*-17.49*	*-11.14*
Tomato	50.00-120.00	76.45	100.17	314.65	*-23.72*	*-23.68*	*-238.20*	*-75.70*
Ladies Fingers	70.00-240.00	134.96	161.88	192.08	*-26.92*	*-16.63*	*-57.12*	*-29.74*
Brinjal	60.00-240.00	119.76	153.75	98.64	*-33.99*	*-22.11*	*21.12*	*21.41*
Capsicum	200.00-600.00	329.00	430.95	317.83	*-101.95*	*-23.66*	*11.17*	*3.51*
Pumpkin	80.00-200.00	137.95	99.53	177.38	*38.42*	*38.60*	*-39.43*	*-22.23*
Cucumber	40.00-160.00	87.80	95.03	112.64	*-7.23*	*-7.61*	*-24.84*	*-22.05*
Bittergourd	90.00-320.00	168.94	226.07	218.33	*-57.13*	*-25.27*	*-49.39*	*-22.62*
Snakegourd	70.00-200.00	119.56	140.06	146.39	*-20.50*	*-14.64*	*-26.83*	*-18.33*
Drumstick	170.00-600.00	436.53	-	673.10	-	-	*-236.57*	*-35.15*
Luffa	80.00-280.00	150.81	194.46	226.82	*-43.65*	*-22.45*	*-76.01*	*-33.51*
Long Beans	80.00-240.00	122.65	151.40	177.82	*-28.75*	*-18.99*	*-55.17*	*-31.03*
Ash Plantain	70.00-200.00	121.06	137.56	170.65	*-16.50*	*-11.99*	*-49.59*	*-29.06*
Green Chillies	120.00-600.00	333.27	529.89	364.37	*-196.62*	*-37.11*	*-31.10*	*-8.54*
Lime	60.00-300.00	161.26	191.34	154.11	*-30.08*	*-15.72*	*7.15*	*4.64*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Compared to the last month, wholesale prices of most of the fruit varieties have decreased. Considering the price fluctuation for the entire month, a price decreasing trend in the first two weeks and a price increasing trend in last two weeks could be observed. Among price decreased varieties, the highest price decrease was reported for mango (karthakolomban) as 53%. Then, prices of avocado, orange and banana (ambul) have decreased in the range of 28%-39%. The main reason was for above price decrease is “low quality stocks reaching the market with end of the harvesting season”. In addition, prices of all the varieties of banana (except for ambul) and papaw have decreased by 1%-6% due to low quality stocks received from Embilipitiya, Moneragala and Meegoda areas. Further, prices of all the sizes of pineapple have increased in the range of 8%-12%. And prices of passionfruit, grapes (imported) and woodapple have increased in the range of 6%-11%.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of most of the fruit varieties have decreased and that trend can be seen in the same period of this year also and the highest price decrease was reported for mango (karthakolomban) as 55%.

The above price fluctuation can be seen in the retail market also. Prices of most of the fruit varieties have decreased. The highest price decrease of 37% was noted for passionfruit followed by avocado (29%).

In addition, prices of all the varieties of banana have decreased in the range of 1%-9% and all the sizes of pineapple have increased by 2%-5%.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of most of the fruit varieties have increased and the highest price increase was reported for pineapple (small size) by 54%.

According to table 4.3, producer prices of banana (kolikuttu and ambul) have decreased by 13% and 7% respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the producer's prices of most of the considered fruit varieties have decreased. According to market information, producer prices of most of the fruit varieties will decrease further.

Exports/Imports of Fruits

According to table 4.4, papaw was the most imported fruit in February with the quantity of 189.82 mt. The total export value was Rs.57.79mn for considered fruit varieties and it has been increased by Rs.7.6mn compared to last month.

Considering imports, apple was the most imported type of fruit (1,788.47 mt) in February, from it 71% has been imported from China. Considering grapes, 74% has been imported from India and 93% of mandarin has been imported from Pakistan. The entire import expenditure for fruits was Rs.549.8mn for this month and it has increased by Rs.124.29mn compared to last month.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	20.00-40.00	31.96	44.15	46.11	*-12.19*	*-27.61*	*-14.15*	*-30.69*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	100.00-160.00	124.98	128.16	104.63	*-3.18*	*-2.48*	*20.35*	*19.45*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	25.000-50.00	37.22	38.21	44.66	*-0.99*	*-2.59*	*-7.44*	*-16.66*
Anamalu	6.00-10.00	7.91	8.39	9.49	*-0.48*	*-5.72*	*-1.58*	*-16.65*
Ambun	8.00-15.00	10.54	10.68	11.53	*-0.14*	*-1.31*	*-0.99*	*-8.59*
Pineapple								
Large	120.00-180.00	158.50	141.26	110.39	*17.24*	*12.20*	*48.11*	*43.58*
Medium	100.00-150.00	131.34	119.75	86.22	*11.59*	*9.68*	*45.12*	*52.33*
Small	80.00-130.00	105.00	96.94	60.53	*8.06*	*8.31*	*44.47*	*73.47*
Mango								
Betti	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban	80.00-80.00	80.00	169.26	178.33	*-89.26*	*-52.74*	*-98.33*	*-55.14*
Vilad	-	-	57.00	-	-	-	-	-
Kohu	-	-	26.00	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	70.00-130.00	98.70	100.40	161.05	*-1.70*	*-1.69*	*-62.35*	*-38.71*
Passionfruit	11.00-16.66	13.55	12.17	13.42	*1.38*	*11.34*	*0.13*	*0.97*
Woodapple	15.00-35.00	24.55	23.06	26.48	*1.49*	*6.46*	*-1.93*	*-7.29*
Orange	12.00-22.00	17.49	25.48	17.35	*-7.99*	*-31.36*	*0.14*	*0.81*
Avocado	30.00-80.00	51.45	84.25	54.31	*-32.80*	*-38.93*	*-2.86*	*-5.27*
Slime Apple	15.00-40.00	23.98	28.62	22.45	*-4.64*	*-16.21*	*1.53*	*6.82*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	400.00-666.00	476.69	442.38	486.23	*34.31*	*7.76*	*-9.54*	*-1.96*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	60.00-100.00	76.70	84.00	80.12	*-7.30*	*-8.69*	*-3.42*	*-4.27*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	150.00-220.00	189.70	200.90	151.80	*-11.20*	*-5.57*	*37.90*	*24.97*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	60.00-100.00	77.80	81.92	78.21	*-4.12*	*-5.03*	*-0.41*	*-0.52*
Anamalu	10.00-25.00	17.15	17.52	16.91	*-0.37*	*-2.11*	*0.24*	*1.42*
Ambun	12.00-25.00	17.77	17.95	17.11	*-0.18*	*-1.00*	*0.66*	*3.86*
Pineapple								
Large	170.00-230.00	196.96	187.83	145.61	*9.13*	*4.86*	*51.35*	*35.27*
Medium	140.00-180.00	156.25	150.82	103.51	*5.43*	*3.60*	*52.74*	*50.95*
Small	90.00-130.00	109.42	107.49	70.93	*1.93*	*1.80*	*38.49*	*54.26*
Mango								
Betti		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban		-	165.51	221.67	-	-	-	-
Vilad		-	83.33	-	-	-	-	-
Kohu		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	100.00-200.00	151.10	137.39	202.71	*13.71*	*9.98*	*-51.61*	*-25.46*
Passionfruit	15.00-41.00	30.11	21.77	26.21	*8.34*	*38.31*	*3.90*	*14.88*
Woodapple	20.00-80.00	44.60	40.73	43.21	*3.87*	*9.50*	*1.39*	*3.22*
Orange	25.00-60.00	40.44	64.00	39.15	*-23.56*	*-36.81*	*1.29*	*3.30*
Avocado	50.00-200.00	100.82	142.01	73.34	*-41.19*	*-29.00*	*27.48*	*37.47*
Slime Apple	30.00-100.00	49.74	54.85	45.08	*-5.11*	*-9.32*	*4.66*	*10.34*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	600.00-900.00	758.87	773.22	762.71	*-14.35*	*-1.86*	*-3.84*	*-0.50*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	14.80-45.00	30.40	32.75	31.89	-2.35	-7.18	-1.49	-4.67
Kolikuttu	82.20-103.00	92.52	106.58	76.61	-14.06	-13.19	15.91	20.77
Papaw	52.40-58.00	53.52	52.40	83.98	1.12	2.14	-30.46	-36.27
Pineapple	-	-	61.67	50.13	-	-	-	-

Source Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits Dec 2015 – Feb 2016

Type of Fruit	February			January			December		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)
Fresh Pineapple	138.22	36.02	260.60	105.30	23.89	226.90	119.92	31.32	261.16
Papaw	189.82	21.38	112.65	160.78	16.69	103.78	277.38	33.00	118.98
Fresh Mango	0.64	0.32	502.28	16.97	9.31	548.59	21.29	15.76	740.36
Fresh Oranges	0.03	0.01	393.82	-	-	-	0.04	0.01	341.41
Avocados, fresh	0.80	0.06	73.01	0.40	0.30	760.27	-	-	-

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

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits
Dec 2015 – Feb 2016

Type of Fruit	February			January			December		
	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	1,788.47	237.02	132.53	1,480.68	173.52	117.19	2,405.37	248.20	103.18
Grapes	687	220.06	320.31	304.15	111.52	366.66	421.61	168.65	400.02
Oranges	465.50	36.02	77.37	483.67	48.36	99.98	-	-	-
Mandarin	1,458.54	56.70	38.87	2,257.01	92.56	41.01	1,771.09	76.02	42.92

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 month of January, wholesale prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had decreased in the range of 2%-15%. With the fishing season in the Southern coastal belt, more stocks had been supplied to the market from the Southern coastal belt. However, off season for coastal fisheries in the Eastern coastal belt had resulted in limited stocks reaching the market from the Eastern belt. The highest price decrease of 15% was noted for thora. Prices of salaya and paraw had decreased by 5% and 4% respectively. Further, a price decrease of 2% was observed for both hurulla and balaya. Meanwhile, prices of kelawalla, mora, shrimp and thalapath had increased. Price increases of 24% and 8% were observed for shrimp and mora. Prices of kelawalla and thalapath had increased by 4% and 1% respectively. In the month of February, the monthly average wholesale prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.121.80– 1,024.33/kg. According to the data in previous years, it can be expected that the fish prices could further decrease in the coming month. Compared to the same period of the previous year, wholesale prices of all the fresh fish varieties except shrimp had increased in the range of 10%-59% with the highest price increase noted for salaya.

Though the prices of most of the fresh fish varieties had decreased at the wholesale market, prices of all the fresh fish varieties except balaya, thora and thalapath had increased at the retail market. The highest price increase was reported for shrimp (9%) followed by mora (7%). A price increase of 3% was noted for both hurulla and paraw. Prices of salaya and kelawalla had also increased. However, the level of increase was not significant. Meanwhile, prices of thora and balaya had decreased by 11% and 5% respectively at the retail level while, price of thalapath had decreased by only Rs.1.50/kg. In the month of February, the monthly average retail prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.155.95 – 1,250.91/kg. Compared to the same period of the last year, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties except balaya and shrimp had increased in the range of 1%-17%with the highest price increase noted for hurulla.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Salaya	100.00-140.00	121.80	128.25	76.35	*-6.45*	*-5.03*	*45.45*	*59.53*
Hurulla	200.00-350.00	292.51	297.75	224.39	*-5.24*	*-1.76*	*68.12*	*30.36*
Balaya	260.00-420.00	343.84	350.00	282.69	*-6.16*	*-1.76*	*61.15*	*21.63*
Kelawalla	400.00-620.00	515.02	493.00	429.58	*22.02*	*4.47*	*85.44*	*19.89*
Thora	800.00-1300.00	1024.33	1212.50	860.06	*-188.17*	*-15.52*	*164.27*	*19.10*
Paraw	450.00-650.00	548.19	569.75	475.24	*-21.56*	*-3.78*	*72.95*	*15.35*
Mora	400.00-600.00	500.55	462.50	438.04	*38.05*	*8.23*	*62.51*	*14.27*
Shrimp (small)	650.00-900.00	788.59	637.00	838.20	*151.59*	*23.80*	*-49.61*	*-5.92*
Thalapath	500.00-650.00	597.64	592.25	543.50	*5.39*	*0.91*	*54.14*	*9.96*
Retail Prices								
Salaya	120.00-200.00	155.95	155.40	140.35	*0.55*	*0.35*	*15.60*	*11.12*
Hurulla	200.00-480.00	362.25	350.04	310.33	*12.21*	*3.49*	*51.92*	*16.73*
Balaya	300.00-600.00	410.97	432.02	433.55	*-21.05*	*-4.87*	*-22.58*	*-5.21*
Kelawalla	420.00-1000.00	705.73	702.82	691.34	*2.91*	*0.41*	*14.39*	*2.08*
Thora	980.00-1560.00	1250.91	1398.81	1121.14	*-147.90*	*-10.57*	*129.77*	*11.57*
Paraw	500.00-1000.00	763.47	739.88	705.37	*23.59*	*3.19*	*58.10*	*8.24*
Mora	440.00-850.00	623.58	583.69	615.60	*39.89*	*6.83*	*7.98*	*1.30*
Shrimp (small)	700.00-1000.00	880.08	803.60	1056.82	*76.48*	*9.52*	*-176.74*	*-16.72*
Thalapath	600.00-1000.00	809.24	810.78	790.83	*-1.54*	*-0.19*	*18.41*	*2.33*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Wholesale prices of most of the dried fish varieties have decreased against the previous month. The decrease was 6% for local salaya, around 5% for local sprats and thora, while the it was less than 5% for all the other price decreased varieties. Meanwhile, the price increased varieties such as imported sprats, both local and imported balaya and local maduwa have also increased by less than 5%. Stocks of imported salaya and koduwa were not available this month too. Supplies of local dried fish have increased and the availability of imported stocks was also satisfactory. Local stocks were mainly supplied from Kalpitiya, Negambo, Mannar, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Batticaloa and Puttlam areas. Main imported countries were India, Indonesia, Thailand, Dubai and Oman.

According to the reports of the Department of Sri Lanka Customs, a quantity of 2,135 mt of dried sprats recording an increase of 512 mt against the previous month was imported in February. The total value of the imports was Rs.878mn and the average CIF price was Rs.411.29/kg. The CIF price has increased by Rs.75.61/kg against the previous month.

Out of the total imports, 73% was imported from Thailand and nearby 20% from India. Rest of the stocks from United Arab Emirates, Vietnam and Indonesia. The CIF prices were ranged between Rs.211.52-442.02/kg. Majority of the imports from Thailand fetched the price of Rs.434.77/kg hence the average price was taken high.

Considering at retail level, prices of all the other dried fish varieties except imported sprats have increased. However, the increase was significant for local sprats (13%), maduwa (10%) and anguluwa (5%), while it was less than 3% for other dried fish varieties. The only the price decrease was recorded for imported sprats but, it was also insignificant. Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of all the dried fish varieties had increased in the range of 2%-27%. The increase was over 20% for imported sprats, anguluwa and maduwa.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale								
Sprats	600.00-850.00	739.83	781.52	681.81	*-41.69*	*-5.33*	*58.02*	*8.51*
Sprats (imported)	380.00-630.00	501.44	497.77	311.75	*3.67*	*0.74*	*189.68*	*60.84*
Kattawa	680.00-800.00	763.24	780.61	699.75	*-17.37*	*-2.23*	*63.49*	*9.07*
Kattawa (imported)	600.00-780.00	720.68	736.61	657.36	*-15.93*	*-2.16*	*63.32*	*9.63*
Thora	960.00-1200.00	1086.00	1142.15	928.25	*-56.15*	*-4.92*	*157.75*	*16.99*
Thora (imported)	900.00-1150.00	1011.86	1036.24	927.53	*-24.38*	*-2.35*	*84.33*	*9.09*
Mora	700.00-850.00	794.60	803.83	744.75	*-9.23*	*-1.15*	*49.85*	*6.69*
Mora (imported)	650.00-800.00	734.10	738.65	699.25	*-4.55*	*-0.62*	*34.85*	*4.98*
Balaya	400.00-600.00	529.29	513.39	473.55	*15.90*	*3.10*	*55.75*	*11.77*
Balaya (imported)	400.00-650.00	495.83	475.62	405.25	*20.21*	*4.25*	*90.58*	*22.35*
Anguluwa	500.00-800.00	655.31	672.91	586.81	*-17.60*	*-2.62*	*68.51*	*11.67*
Anguluwa (imported)	450.00-750.00	646.36	658.38	549.00	*-12.02*	*-1.83*	*97.36*	*17.73*
Maduwa	450.00-750.00	553.11	532.00	487.94	*21.11*	*3.97*	*65.18*	*13.36*
Maduwa (imported)	350.00-500.00	458.64	465.26	330.00	*-6.63*	*-1.42*	*128.64*	*38.98*
Koduwa	-	-	-	450.00	-	-	-	-
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	200.00-350.00	261.80	279.66	209.99	*-17.86*	*-6.39*	*51.81*	*24.67*
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail								
Sprats	400.00-800.00	627.91	556.34	-	*71.57*	*12.86*	-	-
Sprats (imported)	800.00-1300.00	881.00	883.28	681.80	*-2.28*	*-0.26*	*199.20*	*20.07*
Kattawa	800.00-1300.00	1085.41	1061.71	992.70	*23.70*	*2.23*	*92.71*	*7.22*
Thora	1100.00-1520.00	1315.68	1279.65	1284.05	*36.03*	*2.82*	*31.63*	*2.46*
Mora	780.00-1200.00	958.81	951.55	909.48	*7.26*	*0.76*	*49.33*	*5.42*
Balaya	580.00-1040.00	847.11	822.91	752.28	*24.20*	*2.94*	*94.83*	*12.61*
Anguluwa	700.00-1100.00	933.13	891.90	764.12	*41.23*	*4.62*	*169.01*	*22.12*
Maduwa	600.00-800.00	719.41	655.85	566.06	*63.56*	*9.69*	*153.35*	*27.09*
Koduwa	-	-	-	756.16	-	-	-	-
Salaya	380.00-700.00	542.94	529.15	515.73	*13.79*	*2.61*	*27.21*	*5.28*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sprats – September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb	2135	878.0	411.29	881.00	*469.71*
Jan	1623	544.8	335.68	556.34	*220.66*
Dec	1963	684.7	348.80	867.94	*519.14*
Nov	1755	592.6	337.75	604.26	*266.51*
Oct	1701	623.7	366.60	622.31	*255.71*
Sep	2265	904.3	399.28	661.95	*262.67*

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

Eggs

As predicted in the month of January, prices of both brown and white eggs had decreased by 2% at the wholesale level. At the same time, egg prices throughout the month show an increasing trend in the first week, decreasing trend in the fourth week and prices remained unchanged in the second and the third weeks of the month. Egg supply had improved in the month of February compared to the previous month. The monthly average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs were Rs.16.04/egg and Rs.15.04/egg respectively. According to the data in previous years, egg supply will further improve from areas such as Hettipola, Madampe, Marawila and Kuliyapitiya and therefore, it can be expected that egg prices could further decrease in the coming month. Compared to the same period of the last year, wholesale prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 14% and 15% respectively.

Though the decreased prices were observed at the wholesale level, prices of both brown and white eggs had increased slightly by 1% at the retail level. The price increases were 16 cents per brown egg and 18 cents per white egg. The monthly average retail prices of a brown and a white egg were Rs.17.31 and Rs.16.35 respectively. Further, the price range per egg at the retail market in the month of February was Rs.15.00-18.50. Compared to the same period of the last year, retail prices of brown eggs had increased by 15% while, the prices of white eggs had increased by 16%.

Table 5.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	15.20-16.20	16.04	16.35	14.05	*-0.31*	*-1.90*	*1.99*	*14.16*
White (each)	14.20-15.20	15.04	15.35	13.09	*-0.31*	*-2.02*	*1.95*	*14.90*
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	16.00-18.50	17.31	17.15	14.98	*0.16*	*0.93*	*2.33*	*15.55*
White (each)	15.00-17.00	16.35	16.17	14.03	*0.18*	*1.11*	*2.32*	*16.54*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Prices of broiler chicken and mutton have slightly decreased while the prices of other meat varieties have slightly increased. Both the supply and demand remained stable therefore the prices changed were insignificant. Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the meat varieties had increased in the range of 1%-25% with the highest price increase reported for beef.

Table 5.5: Retail Prices of Meat – February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	720.00-780.00	751.42	749.23	600.00	*2.19*	*0.29*	*151.42*	*25.24*
Chicken (Broiler)	400.00-520.00	474.85	484.21	469.91	*-9.36*	*-1.93*	*4.94*	*1.05*
Chicken (curry)	400.00-580.00	467.68	464.29	436.63	*3.39*	*0.73*	*31.05*	*7.11*
Mutton	1400.00-1650.00	1520.66	1533.78	1308.33	*-13.12*	*-0.86*	*212.33*	*16.23*
Pork	550.00-660.00	624.40	603.27	570.00	*21.13*	*3.50*	*54.40*	*9.54*

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

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

The imported quantity of wheat grain was very high in the previous month and therefore it has shown a significant decrease. The quantity of imports limited to 74,376 mt valued at Rs.2,557mn was imported. The world price of wheat grain has shown an increasing trend since November 2015. But it has reversed in this month with a decrease of Rs.3.68/kg against the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.34.38/kg.

Out of the total imports of wheat grain, 65% was imported from Russia and fetched the price of Rs.32.01/kg. Another 35% was imported from Canada with the price of Rs.38.80/kg. Only a very few quantity of 93 mt was imported from India and its price was reported as Rs.50.62/kg.

Considering wheat flour imports, only a quantity of 246 mt, valued at Rs.17mn was imported in February. The average CIF price was Rs.67.42/kg and it was a decrease of Rs.4.34/kg against the previous month.

Regarding retail prices, a slight decrease was observed. Prices remained in the range of Rs.78.00-95.00/kg and the average price was Rs.86.72/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, retail price had decreased by less than Rs.1.00/kg.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar– February 2016

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Jan 2016		Feb 2015	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	78.00-95.00	86.72	87.16	87.32	*-0.44*	*-0.50*	*-0.60*	*-0.69*
Sugar	87.00-100.00	97.88	97.05	*87.90*	*0.83*	*0.86*	*9.98*	*11.35*

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Wheat Flour & Grain – September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Feb	246	16.6	67.42	86.72	*19.30*
Jan	201	14.4	71.76	87.16	*15.40*
Dec	273	0.5	66.96	86.43	*19.47*
Nov	307	21.9	71.32	86.57	*15.25*
Oct	97	6.6	68.75	86.90	*18.15*
Sep	126	8.7	69.45	86.49	*17.04*
Wheat Grain					
Feb	74,376	2,556.9	34.38	86.72	*52.34*
Jan	241,020	9,172.1	38.06	87.16	*49.10*
Dec	158,661	5,648.6	35.60	86.43	*50.83*
Nov	168,958	5,774.7	34.18	86.57	*52.39*
Oct	105,782	4,023.2	38.03	86.90	*48.87*
Sep	326,790	12,266.0	37.53	86.49	*48.95*

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

Sugar

The imported quantity of sugar was 38,492 mt and the value of the imports was Rs.2,430mn in February. The increasing trend of world sugar price since October 2015 continued further by showing an increase of Rs.2.26/kg against the previous month. The average CIF price was Rs.63.14/kg. The CIF price ranged between Rs.49.20-59.73/kg during the 2015 and it was over Rs.60.00/kg at the beginning of 2016.

Among the imported stocks, around 63% was imported from India, 20% from Thailand, 17% from Brazil, while another few stocks from United Arabs Emirates and Korea. The CIF price ranged between Rs.61.90-87.75/kg. The lowest price of Rs.61.90/kg was reported for Indian sugar, while the highest price of Rs.87.75/kg for Korean sugar.

As the imported price has increased, the retail price of sugar has also increased by about 1%. Prices ranged between Rs.87.00-100.00/kg and the average price was Rs.97.88/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the retail price of sugar had increased by more than 11%.

Table 6.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sugar- September 2015 to February 2016

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Feb	38,492	2,430.3	63.14	97.88	*34.74*
Jan	22,394	1,363.5	60.88	97.05	*36.17*
Dec	38,591	2,273.3	58.91	90.86	*31.95*
Nov	44,042	2,475.2	56.20	92.26	*36.06*
Oct	55,301	2,862.1	51.75	92.76	*41.01*
Sep	37,559	2,000.1	53.25	86.67	*33.42*

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

Table 7: Imports of Selected Food Items - February 2016

Items	Quantity (mt)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016		Feb 2016	Jan 2016		Feb 2016	Jan 2016	
Rice	1,640	2,818	-42	97.7	154.4	-37	59.56	54.79	9
Red Onion	2,643	3,353	-21	147.3	271.5	-46	55.72	80.98	-31
Big Onion	21,268	27,931	-24	647.1	995.0	-35	30.43	35.62	-15
Potato	17,228	20,053	-14	422.1	553.6	-24	24.50	27.61	-11
Dried Chillies	3,764	3,851	-2	1,029.7	1,021.9	1	273.55	265.35	3
Masoor Dhal	19,945	22,496	-11	2,579.4	2,866.5	-10	129.33	127.42	1
Green Gram	805	768	5	141.0	133.0	6	175.17	173.24	1
Cowpea	383	363	6	36.8	32.5	13	96.14	89.68	7
Garlic	2,022	2,555	-21	480.8	486.5	-1	237.81	190.40	25
Wheat flour	246	201	22	16.6	14.4	15	67.42	71.76	-6
Wheat grain	74,376	241,020	-69	2,556.9	9,172.1	-72	34.38	38.06	-10
White crystalline cane sugar	38,492	22,394	72	2,430.3	1,363.5	78	63.14	60.88	4
Maize (Seed)	25	55	-55	17.0	25.7	-34	680.03	467.64	45
Maize (Other)	13,708	23,200	-41	524.3	876.4	-40	38.24	37.78	1
Sprates, dreid not salted	2,135	1,623	32	877.98	544.77	61	411.29	335.68	23

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

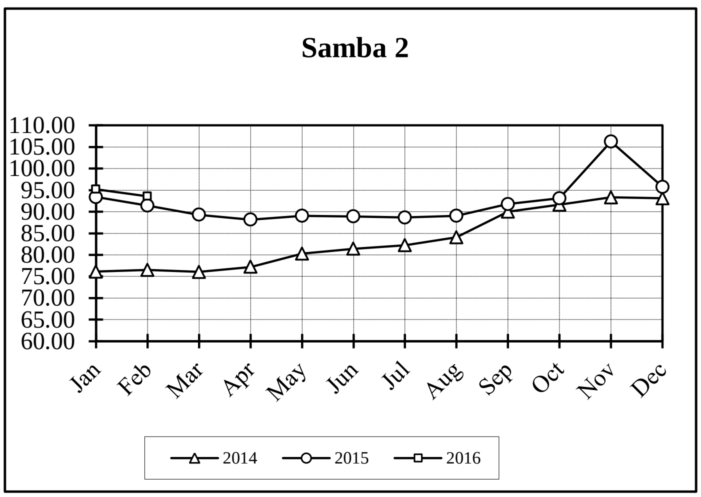
Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – February 2016

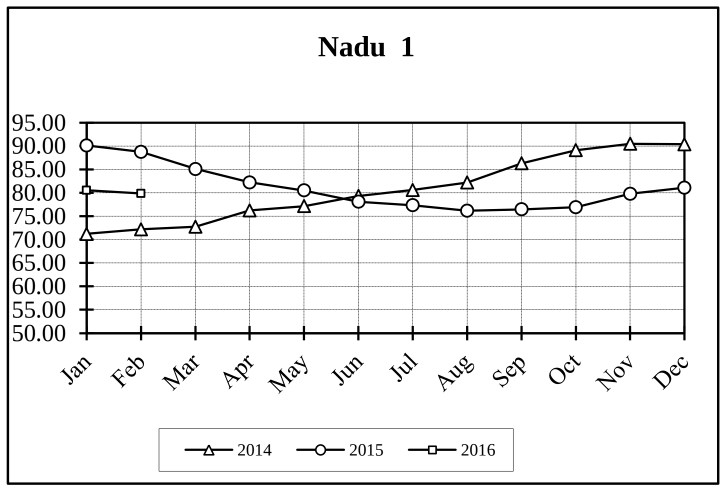
Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	28.5	55.4	4	4
Badulla	80.9	103.1	10	7
Bandarawela	49.6	70.2	7	6
Batticaloa	25.0	128.4	7	7
Colombo	106.7	72.7	6	5
Galle	250.1	70.5	10	6
Hambantota	40.7	47.6	6	4
Jaffna	6.4	39.0	1	2
Katugastota	30.2	74.2	6	5
Katunayaka	101.8	79.8	5	4
Kurunegala	28.7	98.8	4	4
Mahailuppallama	11.8	56.8	6	4
Mannar	1.2	61.8	2	3
Nuwara Eliya	67.9	77.7	8	7
Pottuvil	77.5	163.6	8	na
Puttalam	86.9	43.1	4	4
Ratmalana	68.0	77.3	10	5
Ratnapura	88.9	137.0	10	9
Trincomalee	22.3	105.4	4	5
Vavuniya	17.5	62.5	2	4
Polonnaruwa	52.0	na	6	na
Moneragala	101.9	na	6	na
Mattala	53.1	na	7	na

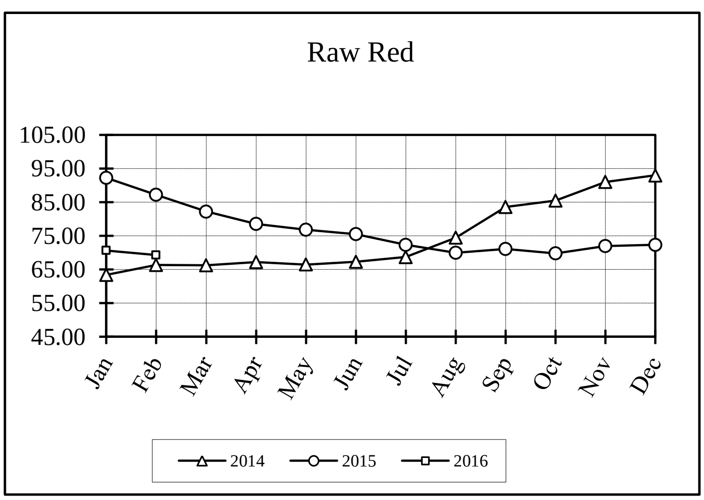
Source: Department of Meteorology

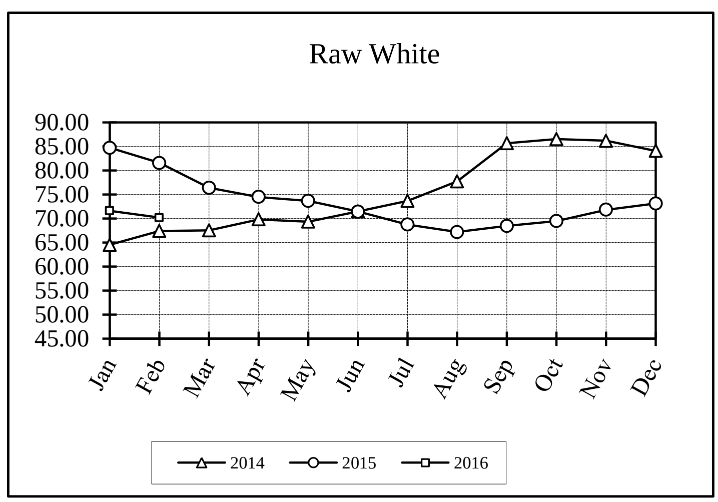
Appendix 01:Retail Price of Rice in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Samba 2			Nadu 1			Raw Red			Raw White		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Jan	76.11	93.38	95.20	71.22	90.13	80.51	63.39	92.21	70.64	64.54	84.76	71.61
Feb	76.54	91.39	93.55	72.18	88.75	79.87	66.32	87.23	69.32	67.44	81.61	70.19
Mar	76.04	89.30		72.77	85.09		66.29	82.21		67.56	76.40	
Apr	77.22	88.17		76.26	82.22		67.23	78.56		69.84	74.51	
May	80.30	89.04		77.15	80.50		66.48	76.85		69.36	73.70	
Jun	81.44	88.93		79.33	78.08		67.30	75.50		71.50	71.45	
Jul	82.22	88.66		80.59	77.33		68.70	72.36		73.70	68.75	
Aug	84.09	89.04		82.18	76.16		74.47	69.99		77.75	67.22	
Sep	89.99	91.75		86.30	76.46		83.61	71.10		85.68	68.49	
Oct	91.63	93.10		89.10	76.89		85.52	69.77		86.58	69.49	
Nov	93.32	106.27		90.47	79.77		91.02	71.96		86.20	71.84	
Dec	93.12	95.76		90.37	81.10		92.98	72.33		84.10	73.15	



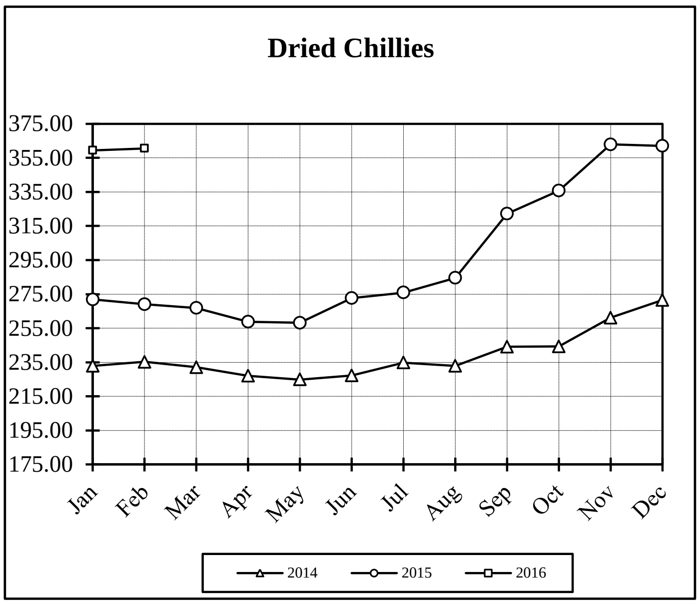


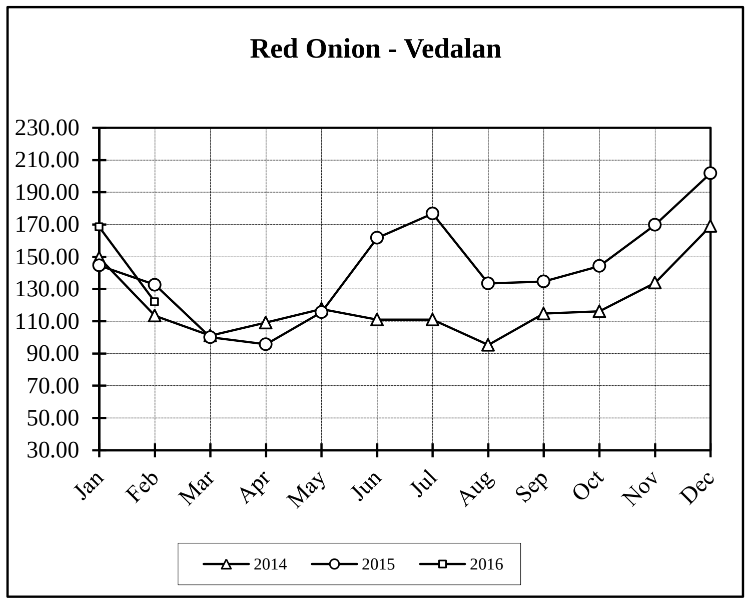


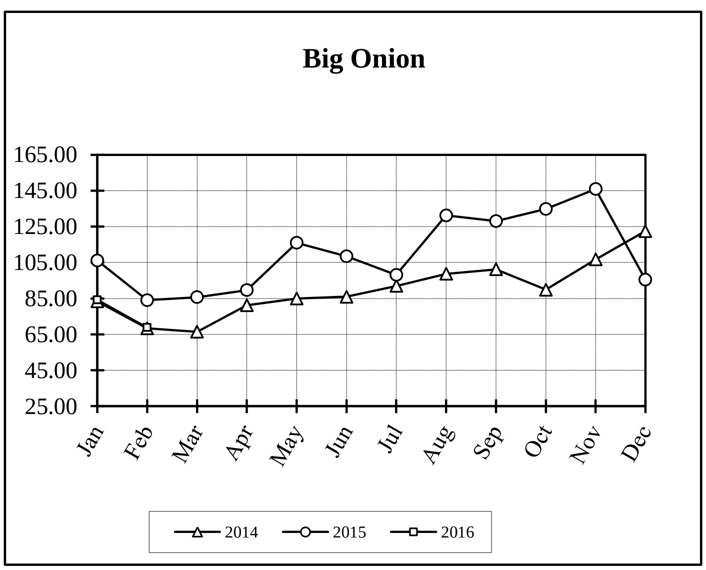


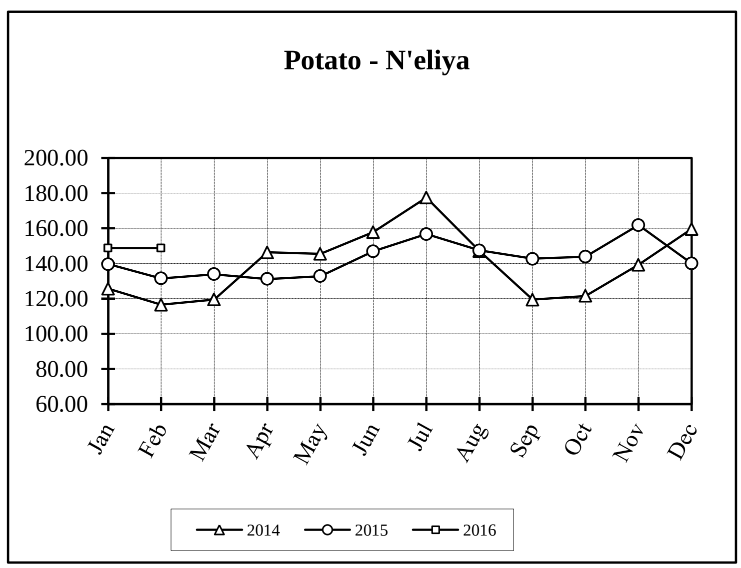
Appendix 02: Retail Pricees of Chillies, Onions & Potato in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion			Big Onion			Potato - N'Eliya		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Jan	232.90	271.85	359.36	149.35	144.64	168.42	83.40	106.11	84.20	125.68	139.63	148.73
Feb	235.25	269.09	360.56	113.49	132.59	121.89	68.30	83.99	68.73	116.52	131.58	148.75
Mar	232.07	266.95		101.03	100.10		66.39	85.73		119.57	133.91	
Apr	227.14	258.81		109.14	95.65		81.18	89.56		146.34	131.19	
May	224.87	258.15		117.65	115.55		84.92	115.99		145.56	132.82	
Jun	227.29	272.61		111.07	161.67		85.92	108.39		157.84	146.91	
Jul	234.85	275.90		111.07	176.85		91.93	98.14		177.57	156.77	
Aug	232.85	284.48		95.25	133.51		98.70	131.16		147.11	147.47	
Sep	244.16	322.19		114.80	134.69		101.20	128.09		119.46	142.68	
Oct	244.33	335.70		116.12	144.23		89.85	134.76		121.58	143.91	
Nov	261.19	362.89		133.87	169.84		106.71	145.93		139.24	161.86	
Dec	271.53	362.08		169.07	201.81		122.46	95.39		159.65	140.10	









Appendix 03: Farmgate\Producer Prices of Food Commodities
in Selected Producing Areas (Rs/Kg)
February 2016

Commodity	1^{St} Week	2^{nd} Week	3^{rd} Week	4^{th} Week	5^{th} Week
Paddy					
Short grain					
A'pura	40.00		35.80	33.60	33.80
P'naruwa	46.75	46.25	42.65	33.50	32.50
Kalawewa			38.33	37.50	35.00
Kurunegala	40.80	40.80	36.20	35.20	33.20
Dehiattakandiya	42.00		40.50	36.50	
Ampara	46.20	46.20	39.20	39.00	39.00
Long grain (White)					
A'pura	25.40		27.40	26.40	25.80
P'naruwa	35.75	35.50	32.65	23.55	22.50
Kalawewa			29.50	27.50	26.25
Kurunegala	32.00	32.00	26.00	25.00	23.80
Dehiattakandiya	27.00	30.50	24.50	23.25	
Embilipitiya	33.60	33.60	33.60	32.40	31.60
Ampara	35.40	34.80	31.20	30.40	21.40
Matara	33.67	31.67	29.67	29.67	29.67
Hambantota					
Long grain (Red)					
Matara	31.00	31.00	28.67	28.67	28.67
Hambantota					
Ampara	33.50	32.80	29.60	29.60	20.60
Embilipitiya	30.40	30.40	28.80	28.40	27.60
Other Food Crops					
Dried Chillies					
A'Pura					
Galgamuwa					
Kalawewa					
Red Onion					
Puttalam	116.00	116.00	75.00	75.00	64.00
Big Onion					
Dambulla					
Kalawewa					
A'Pura					
Kurunegala					

Commodity	1^{St} Week	2^{nd} Week	3^{rd} Week	4^{th} Week	5^{th} Week
Potato					
N'Eliya	92.20	92.20	92.20	69.40	69.40
Badulla	74.00	58.00	64.00	64.00	64.00
Welimada	80.00	73.00	80.00	66.00	69.80
Pulses					
Green Gram					
Galgamuwa					
Kalawewa					
Embilipitiya	142.00	158.00	158.00	158.00	174.00
Kurunegala					
A'pura	180.00	180.00	180.00	164.00	162.00
Cowpea					
A'pura	170.00	160.00	162.00	156.00	155.00
Galgamuwa					
Nikaweratiya				155.00	155.00
Kalawewa					
Embilipitiya	180.00	180.00	180.00	176.00	176.00
Kurunegala					
Maize					
A'Pura	40.00	40.80	41.00	43.60	45.40
Kalawewa					
Gingelly					
A'Pura					
Kalawewa					
Black Gram					
Kalawewa					
A'Pura					
Vegetables (Up Country)					
Beans					
Dambulla	102.00	110.00	90.40	90.00	86.80
Welimada	82.40	77.00	79.00	91.80	85.60
Badulla					
Carrot					
Hanguranketha					
N'Eliya	241.00	241.00	182.00	94.00	63.20
Welimada	141.00	139.00	121.00	81.20	62.00

Commodity	1^{St} Week	2^{nd} Week	3^{rd} Week	4^{th} Week	5^{th} Week
Leeks					
Welimada					
N'Eliya	62.40	62.40	62.40	61.40	46.00
Beetroot					
Hanguranketha					
N'Eliya	72.00	72.00	73.00	52.00	38.20
Dambulla	64.00	69.20	52.80	40.00	50.20
Kurunegala					
Welimada	95.00	88.20	69.00	52.00	50.00
Knokhol					
Hanguranketha					
N'Eliya	62.00	62.00	63.00	37.00	32.00
Welimada	87.40	74.00	57.00	40.00	44.00
Radish					
Hanguranketha					
N'Eliya	14.60	14.60	22.80	7.80	9.40
Welimada	9.40	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Cabbage					
Hanguranketha					
N'Eliya	76.00	76.00	68.00	42.00	37.60
Welimada	69.00	57.60	51.00	31.00	31.00
Hambantota					
Badulla	63.00	54.00	56.00	56.00	22.00
Tomato					
Hanguranketha					
Welimada	32.00	18.60	34.00	29.00	19.50
Hambantota					
Dambulla	36.20	30.60	31.80	22.00	27.00
Low Country					
Ladies Fingers					
A'pura		75.00	74.00	55.00	45.00
Dambulla	92.40	79.20	67.20	46.00	51.60
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	72.40	64.40	64.40	48.00	42.40
Matara	50.00	41.67	50.00	50.00	45.00

Appendix 03: contd…..

Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	5th Week
Brinjals					
A'pura		65.00	60.00	38.00	38.00
Dambulla	72.80	47.40	50.40	32.40	47.60
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	49.40	32.00	30.00	31.40	35.40
Matara	31.25	28.75	31.25	31.25	31.25
Welimada	69.00	53.00	41.00	38.00	34.50
Capsicum					
Welimada	224.00	218.00	200.00	129.00	120.00
Bitter Gourd					
A'pura		93.00	89.00	45.00	45.00
Dambulla	77.60	82.80	65.60	51.60	53.60
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	117.00	110.60	108.20	87.00	81.00
Matara	123.33	48.33	126.67		126.67
Snake Gourd					
Dambulla	44.60	37.20	35.60	30.60	34.00
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	55.40	51.40	47.40	36.40	36.40
Matara	45.00	41.67	48.33	48.33	48.33
A'pura		39.00	35.00	40.00	33.00
Luffa					
Dambulla	64.00	53.40	41.80	30.00	35.60
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	87.00	81.40	78.00	47.40	47.40
Matara	53.33	43.33	48.33	48.33	48.33
A'pura		62.00	63.00	35.00	35.00

Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	5th Week
Pumpkin					
Dambulla	64.60	81.60	64.60	46.00	26.20
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	62.00	97.00	88.00	78.00	58.00
Matara					
A'pura		90.00	90.00	65.00	55.00
Moneragala	60.00	65.00	65.00	65.00	65.00
Cucumber					
A'pura		34.00	32.00	22.00	22.00
Dambulla	23.80	22.80	20.00	25.40	30.40
Hambantota					
Matara					
Long beans					
Dambulla	46.60	47.00	43.20	39.20	47.80
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	62.00	60.40	60.40	62.00	66.00
Matara	36.67	36.67	36.67	36.67	36.67
A'Pura		65.00	65.00	36.00	36.00
Ash Plantain					
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	43.40	38.40	35.00	35.00	35.00
Matara	41.67	41.67	41.67	41.67	41.67
Green Chillies					
Dambulla	145.00	192.00	158.00	86.40	113.00
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	336.00	192.00	238.00	171.00	171.00
Puttalam	138.00	169.00	136.00	109.00	94.00
A'Pura		188.00	188.00	118.00	134.00

Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	5th Week
Lime					
Hambantota					
Embilipitiya	42.40	54.40	54.40	38.00	54.00
Moneragala	47.50	32.50	32.50	32.50	32.50
Fruits (Rs/Kg)					
Banana					
Ambul					
Moneragala	45.00	42.50	42.50	42.50	42.50
Embilipitiya	17.60	17.60	17.60	21.40	14.80
Hambantota					
Kolikuttu					
Moneragala	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00
Embilipitiya	82.20	100.00	98.00	103.00	92.00
Hambantota					
Papaw					
Moneragala					
Embilipitiya	58.00	52.40	52.40	52.40	52.40
Hambantota					
Pineapple					
Divulapitiya					