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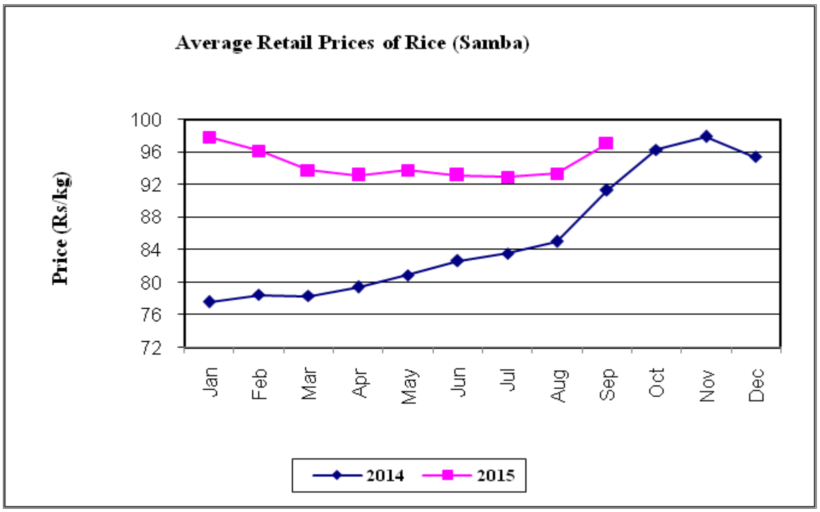
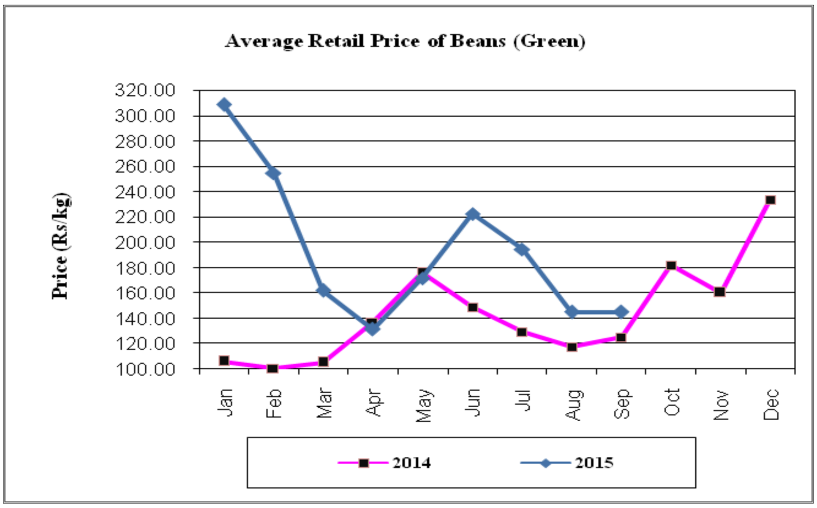
RICE:
Due to the impact of government paddy purchasing programme, paddy prices have stabilized in most of the major producing areas. Also, an increase in the arrival of quality rice to the market was seen. As a result, prices of all the rice varieties have increased during this month.

VEGETABLES:
High rainfall has caused a huge damage to standing and harvested crops hence the quality of supplied upcountry vegetables remained low during the last two weeks. As a result of the rainfall, land preparation for upcoming *Maha* season was advanced and thereby the supply of domestic vegetables dropped and prices increased by 25%. As the *Yala* harvesting season was shorter than expected, prices are expected to increase further in October.





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EXPLANTATORY NOTE

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

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

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1. Paddy

Crop Situation

Harvesting of 2015 *Yala* season successfully ended with a bumper harvest of paddy release in the market. The prospects of the paddy harvest in all major producing districts were quite satisfactory. Prevailed favorable weather, better water availability in irrigation tanks and low pest and deceases caused a progress in paddy cultivation. According to the crop forecast report of the Agriculture Department, the cultivated extent was 503,017 ha and it is already above 23% when compared to the average of previous five *Yala* seasons. The expected production was 1.934 million mt. There was an increase of paddy production recorded in Mahaweli Zones, Anuradhapura, Ampara, and Polonnaruwa districts. Field information revealed that the average yield of paddy crop was satisfactory in all major producing areas. It was recorded that the rainy weather prevailed in the latter part of the month obstructed the harvesting of paddy crop in Hambantota, Dehiattakandiya, Embilipitiya and Polonnaruwa areas.

Table 1.1: Achievement of Paddy Cultivation 2015 *yala* season
(Up to end of September - 2015)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent (ha)	Production forecast Based on the Progress (mt)
Anuradhapura	46,883	53,879	115	184,396
Polonnaruwa	32,166	32,378	101	132,005
Ampara	55,534	57,136	103	259,537
Kurunegala	67,440	64,124	95	224,111
Hambantota	28,458	27,850	98	117,586
Colombo	2,970	1,515	51	3,690
Gampaha	7,172	4,730	66	12,573
Kalutara	11,195	7,774	69	18,536
Galle	12,800	5,745	45	12,707
Matara	16,600	15,598	94	40,733
Ratnapura	10,389	8,218	79	25,411
Kegalle	8,254	5,177	63	13,376
Puttalam	16,285	15,156	93	48,804
Kandy	11,285	9,802	87	28,127
Matale	16,240	11,005	68	41,101
N' Eliya	3,660	1,406	38	2,772
Badulla	9,540	8,674	91	32,936
Monaragala	20,742	18,415	89	68,757
Jaffna	-	-	-	-
Kilinochchi	6,535	6,928	106	28,568
Vavniya	7,454	7,912	106	32,615
Mullative	6,410	6,070	95	23,768
Mannar	2,762	2,762	100	11,800
Trincomalee	24,130	23,321	97	98,641
Batticaloa	25,598	24,466	96	91,448
Udawalawa	10,807	12,426	115	62,008
System H	12,216	18,923	155	76,036
System H1	6,200	5,464	88	25,663
System B	18,000	19,266	107	90,486
System C	19,000	21,959	116	103,134
System G	4,800	4,393	92	20,632
System L	365	545	149	2,560
Sri Lanka	**521,890**	**503,017**	**96**	**1,934,517**

Source: Department of Agriculture

Table1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – September 2015

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	40.00-43.00	36.00-43.00	40.80	40.47	42.60	*0.33*	*0.83*	*-1.80*	*-4.23*
Polonnaruwa	38.00-41.00	31.00-43.00	39.88	37.93	47.38	*1.95*	*5.14*	*-7.51*	*-15.84*
Kalawewa	39.00-42.00	36.00-42.00	40.50	39.80	44.66	*0.70*	*1.76*	*-4.16*	*-9.31*
Kurunegala	38.00-42.00	34.00-43.00	39.75	39.24	44.64	*0.51*	*1.30*	*-4.89*	*-10.95*
Dehiattakandiya	38.00-42.00	37.00-42.00	40.00	40.34	42.07	*-0.34*	*-0.84*	*-2.07*	*-4.92*
Nikaweratiya	42.00-43.00	38.00-43.00	42.40	40.80	44.00	*1.60*	*3.92*	*-1.60*	*-3.64*
Ampara	39.00-41.50	34.00-41.00	40.40	36.34	-	*4.06*	*11.17*	-	-
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	29.00-32.00	22.00-31.00	30.05	28.59	41.60	*1.46*	*5.11*	*-11.55*	*-27.76*
Polonnaruwa	26.00-29.00	26.00-31.50	28.06	28.31	47.88	*-0.25*	*-0.87*	*-19.82*	*-41.39*
Kalawewa	28.00-31.00	24.00-31.00	29.67	28.15	43.00	*1.52*	*5.39*	*-13.33*	*-31.00*
Kurunegala	30.00-40.00	25.00-34.00	31.60	28.60	42.50	*3.00*	*10.49*	*-10.90*	*-25.65*
Dehiattakandiya	27.00-32.00	23.00-31.00	29.55	26.90	43.32	*2.65*	*9.85*	*-13.77*	*-31.79*
Embilipitiya	34.00-35.00	29.00-33.00	34.80	30.80	44.18	*4.00*	*12.99*	*-9.38*	*-21.23*
Nikaweratiya	32.00-33.00	26.00-33.00	32.40	29.68	41.92	*2.72*	*9.16*	*-9.52*	*-22.71*
Matara	30.00-31.00	30.00-33.00	30.67	31.53	44.52	*-0.86*	*-2.73*	*-13.85*	*-31.11*
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	31.50-33.00	27.00-33.00	32.23	30.40	-	*1.83*	*6.00*	-	-
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	30.00-31.00	30.00-31.00	30.25	30.26	44.52	*-0.01*	*-0.05*	*-14.27*	*-32.05*
Hambantota	28.00-32.00	25.00-32.00	30.00	28.70	43.90	*1.30*	*4.53*	*-13.90*	*-31.66*
Embilipitiya	30.00-33.00	28.00-32.00	31.85	30.08	43.44	*1.77*	*5.88*	*-11.59*	*-26.68*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Producer Prices

The open market prices of all the paddy varieties especially for long grain white were in low level in some of the major producing areas at the beginning of the month due to the heavy surplus that reached the market as a result of peak harvesting season of 2015 *Yala* season. However, the prices of all the paddy varieties were stable in most of the major producing areas during the latter part of the month due to the impact of the government paddy purchasing programme. The average price of long grain white has increased by more than Rs.1.00/Kg in most of the considered major producing areas. As a result of increased guaranteed prices and bumper harvest received in 2015 *Yala* season, farmers tend to supply more stocks to the Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) purchasing centers in all major producing areas. The paddy Marketing Board purchased short grain paddy for Rs.50.00/kg and long grain for Rs.45.00/kg. The open market prices of long grain white and short grain were in the range of Rs.26.00-40.00/kg and Rs.38.00-43.00/kg respectively in most of the major producing areas. The lowest prices for long grain white were recorded in Polonnaruwa and Dehiattakandiya. Prices of long grain red paddy were in the range of Rs.28.00-33.00/kg in producing areas in the Southern Province. As a result of the continuous purchasing programme by the PMB, It is expected that paddy prices will stabilize and an increasing trend during the next month.

Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the paddy varieties have shown a declining trend. Prices of short grain have decreased in the range of 4%-16% with the highest decline from Polonnaruwa. Prices of long grain white have decreased in the range of 21%-41% with the highest decline recorded from Polonnaruwa. Meanwhile the prices of long grain red have decreased in the range of 27%-32% with the highest decline recorded in Matara.

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale prices

Due to the impact of government paddy purchasing programme, paddy prices have stabilized in most of the major producing areas like Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Ampara, Hambantota and Kurunegala. Also, an increase of arrival of quality rice to the market was seen. As a result, prices of all the local rice varieties have increased during this month. The highest price increase of 6% was reported for nadu rice. Furthermore, prices have increased by 5% for raw white, by 4% for samba grade I and III, by 3% for samba grade II and by 1% for raw red. According to the statistical data released by the Department of Customs, rice imports have been raised by two fold compared to the last month. It was reported as 4,120mt. Imported *ponni* samba stocks were less among those stocks and therefore the price has increased by 8%.

Compared to the same period of last year, the wholesale prices of samba grade I and III have increased by 1%-2%, followed by imported *ponni* samba as 50%. The prices of all the other local rice varieties have decreased by 1%-29%.

Retail

In accordance with the price increases in the wholesale market, the retail prices of all the rice varieties have increased. The prices have increased by Rs.5.00/kg for samba grade I, by Rs.3.00/kg for samba grade II and III while the prices of all the other local rice varieties have increased by less than Rs.1.00/kg. Also, the price of imported *ponni* samba has increased by Rs.9.00/kg. The highest price of Rs.120.00/kg was reported for imported *ponni* samba and the lowest price of Rs.57.00/kg was reported for raw white.

Referring to the retail prices of the outstation markets except Colombo, the highest price range of Rs.90.00-108.00/kg for samba varieties was reported in Kegalle and Ratnapura markets while the lowest price range of Rs.74.00-81.00/kg was reported in Kilinochchi and Nikaweratiya markets. The highest price range of Rs.72.00-80.00/kg for nadu rice has noted in Gampaha and Kalutara markets and the lowest price range of Rs.57.00-61.00/kg was noted in Puttalam market. Also, the highest price of Rs.78.00/kg for raw red was reported in Kegalle market and that of Rs.72.00/kg for raw white was reported in Jaffna market. The lowest price of Rs.57.00/kg for both raw red and raw white was noted in Embilipitiya and Trincomalee markets respectively.

Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of local samba varieties have increased by 2%-3%, followed by imported *ponni* samba as 40%. The prices of all the other local rice varieties have decreased by 11%-20%.

Table1.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice – September 2015

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	88.00-96.00	92.22	89.09	90.70	*3.13*	*3.52*	*1.52*	*1.67*
Samba 2	83.00-87.00	84.53	82.17	85.44	*2.36*	*2.87*	*-0.91*	*-1.07*
Samba 3	80.00-83.00	81.57	78.25	81.00	*3.32*	*4.25*	*0.57*	*0.71*
Nadu 1	65.00-70.00	67.61	63.93	82.54	*3.68*	*5.75*	*-14.93*	*-18.09*
Nadu 2	62.00-65.00	63.64	59.94	-	*3.71*	*6.19*	-	-
Raw red	57.00-61.00	59.35	58.79	78.92	*0.56*	*0.95*	*-19.57*	*-24.80*
Raw white	55.00-60.00	57.97	55.25	81.46	*2.72*	*4.92*	*-23.49*	*-28.84*
Ponni Samba (Imported)	105.00-115.00	108.13	100.56	72.24	*7.57*	*7.53*	*35.89*	*49.68*
Raw white (imported)	-	-	-	49.45	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	100.00-110.00	102.45	97.69	99.01	*4.76*	*4.87*	*3.44*	*3.47*
Samba 2	85.00-95.00	91.75	89.04	89.99	*2.71*	*3.04*	*1.76*	*1.96*
Samba 3	80.00-89.00	87.67	84.19	85.00	*3.48*	*4.13*	*2.67*	*3.14*
Nadu 1	70.00-80.00	76.46	76.16	86.30	*0.30*	*0.39*	*-9.84*	*-11.40*
Nadu 2	60.00-74.00	70.16	69.01	84.62	*1.15*	*1.67*	*-14.46*	*-17.09*
Raw red	61.00-80.00	71.10	69.99	83.61	*1.11*	*1.59*	*-12.51*	*-14.96*
Raw white	57.00-75.00	68.49	67.22	85.68	*1.27*	*1.89*	*-17.19*	*-20.06*
Ponni Samba (Imported)	100.00-120.00	115.58	106.72	82.31	*8.86*	*8.30*	*33.27*	*40.42*
Raw white (imported)	-	-	-	81.19	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop situation

Table 2.1.1: Cultivation progress of green chillies by the end of September 2015

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation progress at the end of September 2015		Expected production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the targeted extent	
Anuradhapura	791	731	92	10,358
Puttalam	850	484	57	3,438
Monaragala	406	413	102	2,563
Hambantota	493	344	70	1,230
Matale	371	226	61	1,177
Ampara	324	243	75	627
Kandy	313	202	65	1,035
Other areas	3,618	2,571	71	7,286
Total	**7,166**	**5,214**	**73**	**27,714**

Source: Crop forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Cultivation progress of chillies in *yala* 2015 was at a satisfactory level in major producing areas and by the end of September, around 5,214 ha had been cultivated, representing 73% of the targeted extent in Sri Lanka. Cultivation of chillies in *maha* 2015/16 has also commenced in some of the areas in major producing districts. The above table depicts the cultivation progress of chillies in *yala* 2015. Anuradhapura, Puttalam and Monaragala provide 59% of the national green chillies production.

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Supplies of green chillies from major producing areas have increased during this month too and the producer prices of green chillies ranged between Rs.63.00-148.00/kg in Dambulla, Hambantota, Embilipitiya, Puttalam and Anuradhapura areas. With the high supplies from main producing areas both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have decreased by Rs.39.00/kg and Rs.51.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, both wholesale and retail prices of green chillies have increased by about 38% and 30% respectively.

A quantity of 4,591 mt of dried chillies was imported from India during the month of September and it has increased by about 690 mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.219.28/kg and it has also increased by Rs.12.46/kg compared to the previous month. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have increased by about Rs.40.00/kg and Rs.38.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale and retail prices of imported dried chillies have increased by about 38% and 32% respectively.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green chillies	70.00-130.00	98.16	137.33	71.35	*-39.17*	*-28.52*	*26.81*	*37.58*
Dried chillies	245.00-300.00	278.00	238.30	202.18	*39.70*	*16.66*	*75.82*	*37.50*
Retail Price								
Green chillies	80.00-300.00	238.89	290.02	183.34	*-51.13*	*-17.63*	*55.55*	*30.30*
Dried chillies	260.00-380.00	322.19	284.48	244.16	*37.71*	*13.26*	*78.03*	*31.96*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

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

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	4,590.57	1,006.62	219.28	322.19	102.91
Aug	3,900.58	806.71	206.82	284.48	77.66
July	3,986.71	819.85	205.64	275.90	70.26
June	2,923.47	593.87	203.14	272.61	69.47
May	4,082.94	754.08	184.69	258.15	73.46
Apr	3,215.57	584.85	181.88	258.81	76.93

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

Table 2.1.4: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – September 2015

Location	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
Dambulla	96.00	94.00	89.40	106.00
Hambantota	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00
Embilipitiya	95.00	148.00	138.00	142.00
Puttalam	77.00	63.00	77.00	108.00
A'Pura	-	100.00	100.00	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

No cultivation of big onion took place during this month in Matale district and more than 60% of the harvest was over by the end of September 2015. Around 14,061 mt of big onion had been supplied to the market during this month and this represents 40% of the total expected production of the Matale district, while another 16,389 mt will be expected during October. The peak harvesting will take place during the next month (October) due to the cultivation delay at the beginning of the season. The cultivation progress of big onion in Anuradhapura district and system H_1 was at a satisfactory level and 1,727 ha and 1,682 ha have been cultivated respectively by the end of September. Total big onion production for *yala* 2015 was estimated at nearly 92,430 mt and out of that 90% was supplied from Matale (39%), Anuradhapura (30%) and system H_1 (21%).

Table 2.2.1: Cultivation Progress of Big Onion at the end of September 2015

Areas	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation progress at the end of September 2015		Expected production (mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the target	
Matale	3,500	1,779.5	51	35,590
Anuradhapura	2,395	1,727	72	27,806
System H_1	1,500	1,682	112	19,896
System H	450	328	73	3,880
Other areas	1,352	413.5	31	5,258
Total	**9,197**	**5,930**	**64**	**92,430**

The cultivated extent of red onion for *yala* 2015 at the end of this month was 3705 ha in the whole country and it represents 68% of the target. Cultivation of red onion for *maha* 2015/16 had commenced in some of the areas in major producing districts and more than 80% of the *yala* harvest had been over in those areas. Jaffna, Puttalam and Vavuniya provide 76% of the national red onion production.

Table 2.2.2: Cultivation Progress of Red Onion at the end of September 2015

Areas	Target Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of September 2015		Expected Production (mt)
		Extent (ha)	% of the target	
Jaffna	2,000	1,647	82	21,203
Puttalam	1,100	607	55	8,184
Trincomalee	244	130	53	1,824
Vavuniya	490	305	62	3,836
Mullaitivu	430	196	46	2,157
Monaragala	280	246	88	2,255
Other areas	931	574	62	4,467
Total	**5,475**	**3,705**	**68**	**43,926**

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The market supply of local big onion from main producing areas had increased continuously during this month. According to the field information, about 14,061 mt of big onion had arrived to the market from Matale district during this month and it represents 40% of the total expected production of the district. A quantity of 4,123 mt of big onion was imported from Pakistan (3,260 mt – 79%), China (673 mt – 16%), Egypt (84 mt – 2%), India (77 mt – 2%) and Thailand (28 mt – 1%) in September and it was a decrease of 7,604 mt compared to previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.45.81/kg and it was a decrease of Rs.2.77/kg compared to last month. The wholesale price of local big onion has decreased by about Rs.5.00/kg due to high supplies from Matale and Anuradhapura areas and the stocks were available at the retail market with the price range of Rs.100.00-160.00/kg. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion had decreased by about Rs.25.00/kg and Rs.14.00/kg respectively, due to availability of sufficient stocks of local big onion at the market. According to the field information, about 16,389 mt of big onion will arrive to the market from the Matale district during next month (October). This represents 46% of the total expected production of the district, and thereby a drop in local big onion prices during the next month as well.

Supply of both sinnan and vedalan has decreased from Puttalam, Jaffna and Trincomalee areas during this month. Hence, both wholesale and retail prices of vedalan have increased slightly by about Rs.1.00/kg, while the price of sinnan has decreased by Rs.5.00/kg due to availability of low quality stocks at the market. Stocks of sinnan were not available at the retail markets. A quantity of 321 mt of red onion was imported from India during this month and it was a decrease of 75 mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.101.66/kg and it has increased by Rs.27.46/kg than the last month. However, with availability of low quality stocks, the wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have decreased by about Rs.1.00/kg and Rs.10.00/kg respectively.

Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of vedalan, imported big onion and local big onion have increased by about 17%, 18% and 33% respectively.

Table 2.2.3: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion
September 2015

Crop	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	50.00-75.00	62.74	67.79	51.32	*-5.05*	*-7.45*	*11.42*	*22.24*
Red Onion (Vedalan)	70.00-100.00	86.06	85.41	76.85	*0.65*	*0.76*	*9.21*	*11.99*
Red Onion (Imported)	65.00-95.00	77.98	79.35	47.00	*-1.38*	*-1.74*	*30.98*	*65.91*
Big Onion (imported)	50.00-90.00	70.64	95.57	67.91	*-24.92*	*-26.08*	*2.73*	*4.03*
Big Onion (Local)	70.00-110.00	91.32	96.02	67.54	*-4.70*	*-4.90*	*23.78*	*35.21*
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	100.00-160.00	134.69	133.51	114.80	*1.18*	*0.88*	*19.89*	*17.33*
Red Onion (Imported)	80.00-140.00	113.52	123.22	-	*-9.70*	*-7.87*	-	-
Big Onion (imported)	80.00-140.00	106.67	120.90	90.70	*-14.23*	*-11.77*	*15.97*	*17.61*
Big Onion (Local)	100.00-160.00	128.09	131.16	96.41	*-3.07*	*-2.34*	*31.68*	*32.86*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.4: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Imported Onion

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Margin (Rs/kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Sep,2015	45.81	70.64	106.67	*24.83*	*36.03*
	Aug,2015	48.58	95.57	120.90	*46.98*	*25.33*
	Sep,2014	35.12	67.91	90.70	*32.79*	*22.79*
Red onion	Sep,2015	101.66	77.98	113.52	*-23.68*	*35.54*
	Aug,2015	74.20	79.35	123.22	*5.16*	*43.87*
	Sep,2014	100.20	47.00	-	*-53.20*	-

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

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

Crop	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015
Red Onion	321.39	396.50	32.67	29.42	101.66	74.20
Big Onion	4122.62	11726.68	188.87	569.72	45.81	48.58

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.6: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion April to September 2015

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
Sep	4122.62	45.81	70.64	106.67	60.86
Aug	11726.68	48.58	95.57	120.90	72.32
July	19530.12	56.09	70.99	98.64	42.55
June	22393.78	52.59	82.29	108.39	55.80
May	22288.23	45.53	91.21	115.99	70.46
Apr	17614.60	44.27	62.85	89.56	45.29

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *yala* 2015 is 3,076 ha and about 2,994 ha were cultivated by the end of the season achieving 97% of the total targeted extent. During the month, about 304 ha of potatoes were cultivated in the country which was lower compared to the extent cultivated in August. According to the cultivated extent up to end of the season, the expected production of potato for this *yala* season is 47,605 mt. Compared to *yala* 2014, the cultivated extent in *yala* 2015 has increased.

In the Nuwara Eliya district, about 752 ha of potato was cultivated by the end of this *yala* season, achieving 87% of the targeted extent. In September, only few extents of potatoes were cultivated in the district due to the prevailed bad weather condition.

In the Badulla district, the targeted extent is 2,214 ha for this *yala* season and about 2,202 ha was cultivated by the end of the season achieving 99% of the targeted extent. During the month, about 304 ha of potato were cultivated in the district. Compared *yala* 2014, the cultivated extent is at a high level in *yala* 2015 in the district due to favourable weather condition. The *yala* harvesting of potato has commenced in mid-August and the harvesting is expected to continue till November.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Potato (*Yala* 2015)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
	Yala 2014*	*Yala* 2015	*Yala* 2014*	*Yala* 2015	*Yala* 2015	
N'Eliya	900	860	725	752	87	13,185
Badulla	2,198	2,214	1,840	2,202	99	34,420
Sri Lanka	**3,098**	**3,076**	**2,565**	**2,994**	**97**	**47,605**

***Source:* MFPAD/HARTI**
Crop Forecast No.6, Yala 2015, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast No.6, Yala 2014, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 5,087 mt of potato had been imported in September which was 6,053 mt lower than that was imported during the previous month as the Special commodity levy for imported potato has been increased up to Rs.40.00/kg with effect from 08/09/2015. Imported stocks were received from Pakistan, India, China and Bangladesh. About 75% of the imported stocks were received from Pakistan during this month. Compared to September, 2014 (759 mt), the imports were high during this month. Average CIF price was Rs.31.00/kg in September.

With regard to local potato, sufficient stocks of the *yala* harvest were available in the market. Hence, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya and Welimada potatoes have decreased by 14% and 9% respectively. Also, the retail prices have decreased by 16% and 5% respectively. On average, the producer price of Nuwara Eliya potato was Rs.83.00/kg in September. Meanwhile, the wholesale price of imported potato has increased by 2% due to low stock position. During the month, the wholesale prices of Welimada, Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes ranged between Rs.70.00-95.00/kg, Rs.90.00-110.00/kg and Rs.60.00-90.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya (19%) and imported (27%) potatoes have increased.

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

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	5087.67	156.36	30.73	103.24	*72.51*
Aug	11141.20	410.81	36.87	103.14	*66.27*
July	17005.16	628.57	36.96	100.13	*63.17*
June	11972.16	369.73	30.88	110.13	*79.25*
May	5965.66	132.55	22.22	108.23	*86.01*
Apr	12471.59	302.80	24.28	90.97	*66.69*

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

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, Wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	65.08	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	78.00-92.00	83.60	95.95	68.88	*-12.35*	*-12.87*	*14.72*	*21.37*
Imported – CIF	27.85-40.34	30.73	36.87	34.81	*-6.14*	*-16.65*	*-4.08*	*-11.71*
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	70.00-95.00	85.42	99.61	72.38	*-14.19*	*-14.24*	*13.04*	*18.02*
Nuwara Eliya	90.00-110.00	98.89	109.35	81.04	*-10.47*	*-9.57*	*17.85*	*22.02*
Imported	60.00-90.00	73.98	75.37	55.11	*-1.38*	*-1.84*	*18.87*	*34.23*
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	100.00-130.00	108.06	124.05	109.77	*-15.99*	*-12.89*	*-1.71*	*-1.56*
Nuwara Eliya	120.00-160.00	142.68	147.47	119.46	*-4.79*	*-3.25*	*23.22*	*19.44*
Imported	80.00-140.00	103.24	103.14	81.02	*0.10*	*0.10*	*22.22*	*27.43*
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		59.08	51.52	50.58	*7.56*	*14.67*	*8.50*	*16.81*
Imported (CIF-RP)		72.51	66.27	46.21	*6.24*	*9.41*	*26.30*	*56.91*
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada		22.64	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		43.79	38.12	38.42	*5.68*	*14.89*	*5.37*	*13.99*
Imported		29.26	27.77	25.91	*1.48*	*5.35*	*3.35*	*12.94*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea

Crop Situation

The targeted extent of green gram for *yala* 2015 is 10,710 ha and out of which about 7,174 ha were cultivated by the end of the season representing 67% of the total targeted extent. Compared to *yala* 2014, the cultivated extent in *yala* 2015 is low due to increased extent of paddy in most of the producing areas with favourable weather condition. According to the cultivated extent up to end of the season, the expected production of green gram is 10,175 mt for this *yala* season. In the Hambantota district, the targeted extent is 3,537 ha for this *yala* season and only 1,309 ha was cultivated by the end of the season. In Kurunegala and Moneragala districts, the targeted extents were 1,250 ha and 880 ha respectively and about 1,025 ha and 1,001 ha were cultivated by the end of the season achieving 82% and 114% of the targeted extents. Compared to *yala* 2014, the cultivated extents were low in Hambantota district, while it was high in Kurunegala and Moneragala districts during this *yala* season.

The targeted extent of cowpea was 8,414 ha for *yala* 2015 and about 4,575 ha was cultivated by the end of the season achieving 54% of the targeted extent. The highest targeted extent of 3,584 ha was recorded in the Ampara district for this *yala* season and about 2,361 ha was cultivated by the end of the season achieving 66% of the targeted extent. In Kurunegala and Moneragala districts, the targeted extents were 1,250 ha and 584 ha respectively and about 335 ha and 575 ha were cultivated by the end of the season achieving 27% and 98% of the targeted extents. Compared to *yala* 2014, the cultivated extents of cowpea in all the districts were at a low level during this *yala* season due to increased cultivation of paddy during this *yala* season.

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

Crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
		Yala 2014*	*Yala* 2015	*Yala* 2014*	*Yala* 2015	*Yala* 2015	
Green gram	Hambantota	4,690	3,537	4,835	1,309	37	1,873
	Kurunegala	720	1,250	924	1,025	82	772
	Moneragala	618	880	553	1,001	114	1,285
	Sri Lanka	**12,556**	**10,710**	**10,800**	**7,174**	**67**	**10,175**
Cowpea	Ampara	4,222	3,584	3,391	2,361	66	4,008
	Kurunegala	814	1,250	420	335	27	235
	Moneragala	709	584	775	575	98	613
	Sri Lanka	**8,542**	**8,414**	**6,593**	**4,575**	**54**	**6,416**

***Source:* MFPAD/HARTI**
Crop Forecast No.6, Yala 2015, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast No.6, Yala 2014, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***

Prices and Supply Demand Situation

A quantity of 572 mt of green gram was imported in September and it was a 205 mt decrease compared to that of August. The average CIF price was Rs.176.00/kg in September. About 71% of the imports were received from Australia and the rest was imported from Myanmar and Argentina. Compared to September, 2014 (215 mt), the imported quantity of green gram was higher during this month. Wholesale and retail prices of green gram have increased by 8% and 3% respectively due to limited local stocks in the market. During the month, the wholesale price of green gram ranged between Rs.185.00-200.00/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of green gram had decreased by 23%.

A quantity of 715 mt of cowpea was imported in September, which was 453 mt lower than the quantity imported in the previous month. About 51% of the imports were received from Myanmar and the rest was imported from Brazil and India. The average CIF price was Rs.115.00/kg in September. Wholesale and retail prices of white cowpea have increased by 3% and 5% respectively. Also, the wholesale and retail prices of red cowpea have increased by 12% and 6% respectively. During the month, the wholesale prices of white and red cowpea ranged between Rs.170.00-240.00/kg and Rs.200.00-225.00/kg respectively. Imported stocks fetched high price. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of white cowpea (9%) and red cowpea (22%) have increased.

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

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	572	100.62	175.91	246.54	70.63
Aug	777	132.59	170.54	239.69	69.15
July	1,506	266.09	176.63	239.67	63.04
June	1,551	264.00	170.21	249.99	79.78
May	697	122.00	175.04	258.41	83.37
Apr	1,497	268.00	179.02	268.51	89.49

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

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

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
September	714.77	81.95	114.65	268.49	153.84
August	262.74	26.58	101.15	255.63	154.48
July	214.00	25.36	118.52	245.32	126.80

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

Table 2.4.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea- September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	185.00-200.00	193.51	178.56	254.54	14.95	8.37	-61.04	-23.98
Cowpea (White)	170.00-240.00	218.93	213.39	188.20	5.55	2.60	30.73	16.33
Cowpea (Red)	200.00-225.00	254.83	228.30	149.78	26.53	11.62	105.05	70.14
Retail Prices								
Green gram	200.00-280.00	246.54	239.69	318.72	6.85	2.86	-72.18	-22.65
Cowpea (White)	200.00-300.00	268.49	255.63	244.40	12.86	5.03	24.09	9.86
Cowpea (Red)	220.00-300.00	273.67	258.20	223.66	15.47	5.99	50.01	22.36

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	Sep.2015	175.91	193.51	246.54	17.60	53.03
	Aug.2015	170.54	178.56	239.69	8.02	61.13
	Sep.2014	165.21	254.54	318.72	89.33	64.18
Cowpea (White)	Sep.2015	114.65	218.93	268.49	104.28	49.56
	Aug.2015	101.15	213.39	255.63	112.23	42.24
	Sep.2014	-	188.20	244.40	-	56.20
Cowpea (Red)	Sep.2015	-	254.83	273.67	-	18.84
	Aug.2015	-	228.30	258.20	-	29.90
	Sep.2014	-	149.78	223.66	-	73.88

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

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 10,306 mt (6,418 mt of whole type and 3,888 mt of split type) of red dhal was imported in September and it was 4,784 mt lower than the quantity imported in August as the Special Commodity Levy for red dhal has increased up to Rs.2.00/kg with effect from 08/09/2015. About 66% and 34% of the stocks of whole type had been received from Canada and Australia, while 44% and 23% of split type had been received from the United Arab Emirates and Canada. Compared to September, 2014 (15,617 mt), the imports of red dhal were low during this month.

Wholesale and retail prices of red dhal have increased by 2% each. The average wholesale price was Rs.178.00/kg in September. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail price of red dhal has increased by 14%.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal – September 2015

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	168.00-190.00	178.06	174.73	149.20	3.32	1.90	28.86	19.34
Retail Price	170.00-220.00	194.74	190.96	170.83	3.78	1.98	23.91	14.00

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

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

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
Sep	10306.06	141.90	178.06	194.74	36.16	16.68
Aug	15090.58	133.07	174.73	190.96	41.66	16.23
July	10858.38	131.45	169.28	188.24	37.83	18.96
June	13169.48	129.29	177.47	193.97	48.18	16.50
May	10190.51	120.63	184.48	196.02	63.85	11.55
Apr	13848.16	122.90	165.69	176.96	42.79	11.27

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

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

According to the Department of Meteorology data, a below average rainfall was received in most of the up and mid country districts during the latter stage of the southwest monsoon period. However, Badulla and Matale districts have received a high intensity rainfall during the season. In Matale district, the set target for *Yala* season was 4,363 ha of which 2,076 ha was completed by the end of September. High intensity rainfall has slowed down the cultivation progress during the latter stage of the season. The calculated cultivation progress in the district was 48% of the seasonal target by the end of September. Regarding the Badulla district, the reported cultivation progress for upcountry varieties at the end of September was 74% of the seasonal target. In Nuwara Eliya district, the set target for upcountry varieties in the *Yala* season is 5,433 ha of which 5,149 ha was completed by the end of September, recording an achievement of 95% of the seasonal target. Generally, crop establishment for *Yala* season has progressed well in Kandy districts with the rainy weather experienced in the beginning of the cultivation season. However, during the month, Kandy district has experienced dry weather and it lessened the second - round cultivation of vegetables. The reported cultivation progress for major vegetables in the district was 93% at the end of September. In Ratnapura district, beans cultivation has recorded a 90% progress of the seasonal target, by the end of September.

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, an above average rainfall received as short duration afternoon showers in September, caused crop damage in some lowcountry districts. As almost all irrigation tanks in the country had fairly good storage, water availability for agriculture was at a satisfactory level in September. In Ratnapura district, the set target for lowcountry varieties in the *Yala* season is 1,400 ha of which the extent cultivated by the end of September was 1,050 ha. In the meantime, 2015/2016 *Maha* season has been advanced by about two weeks in Puttalam district reporting the highest cultivation extent for long beans as 75 ha. In Hambantota district, early establishment of 2015/2016 *Maha* cultivation has been observed with an extent of 663 ha completed by the end of September. In Anuradhapura district, *Yala* season was completed by the second week of September, with the achievement of

2,654 ha, recording a 92% cultivation progress. Land preparation for upcoming *Maha* season was in progress during the last two weeks of the month.

Prices and supply/Demand situation

As the latter stage of the *Yala* harvesting period is continuing in some up and mid country districts, supply from those areas remained high in September. High supplies have reached the market from upcountry districts such as Nuwara Eliya, Badulla, Matale and Ratnapura in September. The total supply of vegetables in the Matale district was around 7,795 mt in August, and recorded a 33% decrease compared to previous month. The highest supply from the district was recorded for tomato and sweet potato as 1,000 mt for each, within the month of September. The daily supply of vegetables at the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre was around 2,200 - 2,500 mt in August, recoding a 20% increase compared to last month.

Considering upcountry vegetables, prices of all the vegetable varieties, except beans have decreased in September, compared to previous month, due to increasing trend in market supplies. The highest price decrease was reported for cabbage as 31% followed by carrot as 29% and leeks as 28%. Prices of all the other upcountry varieties, except beans have decreased in the range of 20% - 17%. Low quality supplies received from upcountry areas in the last two weeks of the month caused the observed price decreases during the month of September. High stocks of low quality cabbage and leeks reaching the market from upcountry producing caused a considerable price decreases in September. High intensity rain prevailed for the last two weeks of the month caused widespread damage to standing and harvested crops. Therefore early uprooting and selling at premature state was widely practiced in most of the upcountry areas. As the quality of the stocks were at low level, prices received at wholesale market also remained low in last two weeks. As the *Yala* harvesting season was shorter than expected, prices are expected to show an increasing trend in October.

With the reaching of *Yala* harvesting season, there has been an upward trend in supply of tomato since the second week of the August. However, unfavorable weather has affected the crop production hence, the supply started to drop in the last two weeks of September and it caused a price increase of 7.5% compared to last month. Prices of capsicum have decreased by 10% in September due to reaching of low quality stocks to the market.

The supply of most of the domestic vegetables has decreased due to the effect of the unfavorable weather and thereby prices have increased except for bittergourd. The highest prices increase was recorded for luffa as 65% followed by cucumber as 45% and snakegourd as 30%. Prices of other varieties have increased in a range of 3% - 23%, due to low supplies. As the *Yala* harvesting season was shorter than expected, prices are expected to increase further in October.

Regarding lime, a price increase of 75% was experienced in September, compared to previous month, due to decreased supply following rainy weather. Meanwhile, prices of green chilies have started to show a decreasing trend in September by 29 % due to increased supply of low quality chillies.

Retail prices of most of the vegetables had decreased in September. The highest price decrease was reported for carrot as 20% followed by capsicum as 18%.

Table 3.1: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	60.00-120.00	97.83	84.63	91.93	*13.20*	*15.60*	*5.90*	*6.42*
Carrot	40.00-70.00	61.61	86.82	55.00	*-25.21*	*-29.04*	*6.61*	*12.02*
Leeks	25.00-45.00	32.55	45.47	69.50	*-12.92*	*-28.41*	*-36.95*	*-53.17*
Beetroot	20.00-60.00	38.48	48.33	47.70	*-9.85*	*-20.38*	*-9.22*	*-19.33*
Knolkhol	30.00-60.00	39.13	43.74	25.89	*-4.61*	*-10.54*	*13.24*	*51.14*
Radish	15.00-30.00	20.76	25.03	18.55	*-4.27*	*-17.06*	*2.21*	*11.91*
Cabbage	15.00-40.00	28.49	41.46	45.49	*-12.97*	*-31.28*	*-17.00*	*-37.37*
Tomato	30.00-80.00	49.43	45.98	25.81	*3.45*	*7.50*	*23.62*	*91.51*
Ladies Fingers	30.00-50.00	41.47	29.53	38.12	*11.94*	*40.43*	*3.35*	*8.79*
Brinjal	40.00-70.00	53.79	44.41	47.60	*9.38*	*21.12*	*6.19*	*13.00*
Capsicum	60.00-100.00	83.26	92.10	61.47	*-8.84*	*-9.60*	*21.79*	*35.45*
Pumpkin	30.00-50.00	39.58	38.44	25.45	*1.14*	*2.97*	*14.13*	*55.52*
Cucumber	25.00-40.00	31.56	21.80	23.17	*9.76*	*44.77*	*8.39*	*36.21*
Bittergourd	40.00-120.00	76.62	78.75	35.50	*-2.13*	*-2.70*	*41.12*	*115.83*
Snakegourd	40.00-70.00	55.17	42.55	33.87	*12.62*	*29.66*	*21.30*	*62.89*
Drumstick	60.00-130.00	95.15	77.33	34.68	*17.82*	*23.04*	*60.47*	*174.37*
Luffa	60.00-110.00	79.74	48.31	45.63	*31.43*	*65.06*	*34.11*	*74.75*
Long Beans	40.00-70.00	52.06	50.82	52.00	*1.24*	*2.44*	*0.06*	*0.12*
Ash Plantain	40.00-60.00	54.53	53.40	58.28	*1.13*	*2.12*	*-3.75*	*-6.43*
Green Chillies	70.00-130.00	98.16	137.33	71.35	*-39.17*	*-28.52*	*26.81*	*37.58*
Lime	100.00-300.00	181.13	103.37	85.09	*77.76*	*75.22*	*96.04*	*112.87*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2: Retail Prices of Vegetables – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	100.00-200.00	145.02	145.31	125.20	*-0.29*	*-0.20*	*19.82*	*15.83*
Carrot	100.00-180.00	126.24	158.30	96.39	*-32.06*	*-20.25*	*29.85*	*30.97*
Leeks	60.00-160.00	96.63	113.86	107.62	*-17.23*	*-15.13*	*-10.99*	*-10.21*
Beetroot	60.00-160.00	99.06	107.01	95.62	*-7.95*	*-7.43*	*3.44*	*3.60*
Knokhol	60.00-160.00	115.22	123.08	98.20	*-7.86*	*-6.39*	*17.02*	*17.33*
Radish	50.00-120.00	89.22	91.18	78.13	*-1.96*	*-2.15*	*11.09*	*14.19*
Cabbage	60.00-140.00	94.49	102.25	99.05	*-7.76*	*-7.59*	*-4.56*	*-4.60*
Tomato	60.00-160.00	102.57	107.93	69.39	*-5.36*	*-4.97*	*33.18*	*47.82*
Ladies Fingers	60.00-160.00	103.02	95.58	87.18	*7.44*	*7.78*	*15.84*	*18.17*
Brinjal	60.00-200.00	109.07	102.40	99.50	*6.67*	*6.51*	*9.57*	*9.62*
Capsicum	70.00-250.00	140.39	171.63	116.48	*-31.24*	*-18.20*	*23.91*	*20.53*
Pumpkin	50.00-120.00	83.99	86.39	66.41	*-2.40*	*-2.78*	*17.58*	*26.47*
Cucumber	40.00-120.00	83.20	75.71	68.35	*7.49*	*9.89*	*14.85*	*21.73*
Bittergourd	60.00-160.00	127.11	132.88	97.42	*-5.77*	*-4.34*	*29.69*	*30.48*
Snakegourd	60.00-160.00.	110.41	103.55	89.55	*6.86*	*6.62*	*20.86*	*23.29*
Drumstick	70.00-300.00	172.33	143.97	97.66	*28.36*	*19.70*	*74.67*	*76.46*
Luffa	70.00-200.00	138.72	124.66	106.77	*14.06*	*11.28*	*31.95*	*29.92*
Long Beans	70.00-200.00	119.10	128.17	105.45	*-9.07*	*-7.08*	*13.65*	*12.94*
Ash Plantain	70.00-200.00	122.46	115.63	114.20	*6.83*	*5.91*	*8.26*	*7.23*
Green Chillies	80.00-300.00	238.89	290.02	183.34	*-51.13*	*-17.63*	*55.55*	*30.30*
Lime	120.00-500.00	332.66	249.61	205.21	*83.05*	*33.27*	*127.45*	*62.11*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

The wholesale prices of most of the fruits had decreased with the highest price decrease of 33% for woodapple due to increased supply with the commencement of the harvesting season. A high supply of woodapple was recorded from Tangalle, Beliatta, Wellawaya and surrounding areas. The second highest price decrease was reported for papaw by 26%. The wholesale prices of all the sizes of pineapple had decreased in the range of 2%-3%. Further, the wholesale prices of all the varieties of banana (except kolikuttu) had decreased in the range of 1%-6% due to low demand with the rainy weather condition.

Meanwhile, the highest wholesale price increase of 41% was recorded for slimeapple due to limited supplies with the off season. A low supply of slimeapple was recorded from Anuradhapura and Puttalam areas. The wholesale price for banana (kolikuttu) had decreased by 15%.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 134% for mango (vilad).

According to the Table:4.2 retail prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 49% for slimeapple due to low supplies with end of the harvesting season. Price increase for slimeapple could be expected during the next month too. The retail prices of all the varieties of banana (except anamalu) had increased in the range of 1%-12% due to low supply. Further, the retail prices of all the sizes of pineapple had increased in the range of 1%-4%.

Meanwhile, the retail prices of woodapple had decreased by 20% due to increased supplies with the commencement of the harvesting season. The prices of passionfruit and papaw had decreased by 5% and 2% respectively. The retail price of mango (vilad) had decreased by 3% due to availability of small sizes and low quality stocks at the retail level.

Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of most of the fruits had increased with the highest price increase of 70% for slimeapple.

According to the Table:4.3, producer price of papaw had decreased significantly by 32% compared to the previous month. High supplies of papaw were recorded from Vavuniya and Anuradhapura areas. The producer price of banana (ambul) had increased by 6%. Compared to the same period of last year, producer prices of all the selected fruits except banana (kolikuttu) had increased with the highest price increase of 18% for papaw.

Exports/Imports of Fruits

Papaw was the most exported type of fruit in September with the quantity of 262 mt. The total income of exporting pineapple, papaw and avocado was Rs.0.38mn in September.

Apple was the most imported type of fruit in September as usual. The total quantity of 1,191 mt of apple was imported. The value of imports was Rs.151.77mn. Out of the total imports, 66% were imported from China, 25% from America and the rest from South Africa, New Zealand and Italy. The total import expenditure of importing apple, grapes, orange and mandarin was Rs.403.83mn in September.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	25.00-80.00	50.47	50.81	51.17	*-0.34*	*-0.67*	*-0.70*	*-1.37*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	120.00-190.00	162.50	140.87	122.70	*21.63*	*15.35*	*39.80*	*32.44*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	25.00-60.00	44.91	47.84	45.24	*-2.93*	*-6.12*	*-0.33*	*-0.73*
Anamalu	5.00-12.00	8.49	8.88	8.60	*-0.39*	*-4.39*	*-0.11*	*-1.28*
Ambun	8.00-15.00	12.13	12.72	12.54	*-0.59*	*-4.64*	*-0.41*	*-3.27*
Pineapple								
Large	130.00-160.00	151.33	156.60	135.27	*-5.27*	*-3.37*	*16.06*	*11.87*
Medium	100.00-160.00	127.16	129.50	116.65	*-2.34*	*-1.81*	*10.51*	*9.01*
Small	80.00-120.00	101.21	104.09	95.90	*-2.88*	*-2.77*	*5.31*	*5.54*
Mango								
Betti	-	-	40.00	20.21	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban	90.00-200.00	152.40	153.51	83.08	*-1.11*	*-0.72*	*69.32*	*83.44*
Vilad	46.00-76.00	61.59	60.57	26.32	*1.02*	*1.68*	*35.27*	*134.00*
Kohu	-	-	18.33	13.74	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	30.00-80.00	56.73	76.72	87.00	*-19.99*	*-26.06*	*-30.27*	*-34.79*
Passionfruit	6.00-10.00	8.59	8.71	8.77	*-0.12*	*-1.38*	*-0.18*	*-2.05*
Woodapple	10.00-25.00	15.04	22.37	9.23	*-7.33*	*-32.77*	*5.81*	*62.95*
Orange	15.00-30.00	20.56	20.60	16.26	*-0.04*	*-0.19*	*4.30*	*26.45*
Avocado	16.00-30.00	22.37	21.68	19.98	*0.69*	*3.18*	*2.39*	*11.96*
Slime Apple	50.00-100.00	71.68	50.91	36.18	*20.77*	*40.80*	*35.50*	*98.12*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	414.00-644.00	496.94	489.46	494.46	*7.48*	*1.53*	*2.48*	*0.50*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	70.00-120.00	85.43	83.73	80.40	*1.70*	*2.03*	*5.03*	*6.26*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	150.00-250.00	203.50	182.40	154.10	*21.10*	*11.57*	*49.40*	*32.06*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	70.00-100.00	80.89	80.31	77.76	*0.58*	*0.72*	*3.13*	*4.03*
Anamalu	10.00-25.00	17.39	17.46	14.82	*-0.07*	*-0.40*	*2.57*	*17.34*
Ambun	12.00-25.00	18.89	18.45	16.34	*0.44*	*2.38*	*2.55*	*15.61*
Pineapple								
Large	160.00-230.00	199.66	192.59	180.34	*7.07*	*3.67*	*19.32*	*10.71*
Medium	130.00-180.00	157.07	152.22	147.08	*4.85*	*3.19*	*9.99*	*6.79*
Small	100.00-140.00	112.11	110.84	111.03	*1.27*	*1.15*	*1.08*	*0.97*
Mango								
Betti	-	-	56.67	45.19	-	-	-	-
Karthakolomban	150.00-300.00	221.50	210.93	151.96	*10.57*	*5.01*	*69.54*	*45.76*
Vilad	50.00-150.00	83.87	86.90	55.79	*-3.03*	*-3.49*	*28.08*	*50.33*
Kohu	-	-	-	23.75	-	-	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	80.00-160.00	115.71	118.37	126.38	*-2.66*	*-2.25*	*-10.67*	*-8.44*
Passionfruit	10.00-20.00	14.20	14.89	15.95	*-0.69*	*-4.63*	*-1.75*	*-10.97*
Woodapple	30.00-60.00	39.13	48.83	23.46	*-9.70*	*-19.86*	*15.67*	*66.79*
Orange	30.00-60.00	43.25	43.05	40.37	*0.20*	*0.46*	*2.88*	*7.13*
Avocado	25.00-80.00	48.01	47.85	44.97	*0.16*	*0.33*	*3.04*	*6.76*
Slime Apple	40.00-150.00	105.27	70.49	61.77	*34.78*	*49.34*	*43.50*	*70.42*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	700.00-900.00	768.90	773.34	754.53	*-4.44*	*-0.57*	*14.37*	*1.90*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	27.50-42.00	33.66	31.70	34.31	1.96	6.18	-0.65	-1.90
Kolikuttu	80.00-140.00	108.11	102.20	83.20	5.91	5.78	24.91	29.94
Papaw	23.80-49.40	37.65	55.49	46.10	-17.84	-32.15	-8.45	-18.33
Pineapple	65.33-68.50	66.87	68.50	79.70	-1.63	-2.37	-12.83	-16.09

Source Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits July – September 2015

Type of Fruit	September			August			July		
	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	111.61	0.11	176.29	89.26	14.90	166.96	100.53	20.91	207.97
Papaw	262.43	0.26	90.97	350.44	29.38	83.84	296.69	27.43	92.46
Fresh Mango	-	-	-	2.15	1.30	602.54	5.60	2.90	518.23
Fresh Oranges	-	-	-	6.16	0.50	81.70	-	-	-
Avocados, fresh	8.80	0.01	56.81	6.40	0.41	63.51	-	-	-

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

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits July – September 2015

Type of Fruit	September			August			July		
	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	1,191.40	151.77	127.39	786.95	98.95	125.74	1,730.16	244.12	141.09
Grapes	523.89	170.39	325.24	457.04	140.15	306.66	347.99	104.16	299.31
Oranges	665.96	59.56	89.44	726.53	67.77	93.27	1085.05	103.31	95.21
Mandarin	328.03	22.11	67.40	72.34	4.80	66.38	241.78	15.54	64.27

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

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

As predicted in the previous month, prices of all the fresh fish varieties except shrimp had decreased in the range of 1%-20% at the wholesale level. The highest price decrease was reported for kelawalla (20%) followed by thora (18%). Price decreases of 17%, 14% and 13% were noted for balaya, hurulla and mora respectively. In addition, prices of paraw, thalapath and salaya had decreased by 6%, 4% and 1% respectively. Fishing season in the areas of Kalmunai, Jaffna, Trincomalee, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Killinochchi and Batticaloa had contributed to these price decreases. However, a price increase of 6% was noted for shrimp. In the month of September, the monthly average wholesale prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.140.33 – 991.25/kg. According to the data in previous years, it can be expected that the prices of fish could further decrease in the coming month due to the fishing season in the Eastern coastal belt. Compared to September in 2014, wholesale prices of all the fresh fish varieties except salaya and hurulla had decreased in the range of 1%-28% with the highest price decrease observed for balaya.

In line with the decreased prices at the wholesale market, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties except shrimp had decreased in the range of 2%-22%. The highest price decrease was reported for balaya (22%) followed by hurulla (19%) and mora (12%). A price decrease of 10% was noted for salaya, kelawalla and thora. In addition, prices of paraw and thalapath had decreased by 7% and 2% respectively. Meanwhile, price of shrimp had increased by 1% with the increased wholesale price. In the month of September, the monthly average retail prices of selected fresh fish varieties ranged between Rs.170.89 – 1,292.85/kg. Compared to September in 2014, retail prices of all the fresh fish varieties except hurulla had decreased in the range of 3%-28%with the highest price decrease noted for balaya.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Salaya	120.00-170.00	140.33	141.33	130.07	*-1.00*	*-0.71*	*10.26*	*7.89*
Hurulla	170.00-250.00	226.31	264.47	226.06	*-38.16*	*-14.43*	*0.25*	*0.11*
Balaya	190.00-350.00	252.75	305.60	350.87	*-52.85*	*-17.29*	*-98.12*	*-27.96*
Kelawalla	350.00-600.00	452.83	569.11	479.56	*-116.28*	*-20.43*	*-26.73*	*-5.57*
Thora	800.00-1300.00	991.25	1203.75	1087.64	*-212.50*	*-17.65*	*-96.39*	*-8.86*
Paraw	450.00-600.00	511.75	542.09	516.14	*-30.34*	*-5.60*	*-4.39*	*-0.85*
Mora	320.00-500.00	414.75	478.00	507.22	*-63.25*	*-13.23*	*-92.47*	*-18.23*
Shrimp (small)	650.00-800.00	735.25	694.75	968.81	*40.50*	*5.83*	*-233.56*	*-24.11*
Thalapath	480.00-650.00	562.75	589.18	602.38	*-26.43*	*-4.49*	*-39.63*	*-6.58*
Retail Prices								
Salaya	140.00-280.00	170.89	189.65	193.37	*-18.76*	*-9.89*	*-22.48*	*-11.63*
Hurulla	250.00-400.00	300.38	370.59	286.77	*-70.21*	*-18.95*	*13.61*	*4.75*
Balaya	300.00-680.00	359.69	461.73	501.00	*-102.04*	*-22.10*	*-141.31*	*-28.21*
Kelawalla	550.00-900.00	670.14	743.30	736.25	*-73.16*	*-9.84*	*-66.11*	*-8.98*
Thora	1200.00-1700.00	1292.85	1441.34	1344.27	*-148.49*	*-10.30*	*-51.42*	*-3.83*
Paraw	550.00-920.00	711.79	767.98	798.08	*-56.19*	*-7.32*	*-86.29*	*-10.81*
Mora	450.00-800.00	536.58	608.60	642.91	*-72.02*	*-11.83*	*-106.33*	*-16.54*
Shrimp (small)	750.00-1000.00	849.90	843.83	1133.38	*6.07*	*0.72*	*-283.48*	*-25.01*
Thalapath	580.00-1000.00	785.57	799.14	807.99	*-13.57*	*-1.70*	*-22.42*	*-2.77*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Sufficient stocks of local and imported varieties of dried fish were available at wholesale level. Hence the prices of most of the varieties had decreased. Among the price decreased varieties, imported thora and balaya as well as local and imported maduwa were significant. However the prices of local and imported sprats, local mora, local and imported anguluwa had increased. Specially the supply of local sprats from Mannar area were low and the high priced sprats imported from Thailand caused the price increase. Compared to the same period of last year, prices of most of the dried fish varieties had increased and the highest price increase of 44% was reported for imported sprats. During the month, local stocks were mainly supplied from Mannar, Jaffna, Trincomalee, Kalpitiya, Beruwala and Negombo areas. Main imported countries were Dubai, India, Thailand, Maldives, Pakistan and Indonesia.

According to the reports of the Department of Customs, a quantity of 2,265 mt of dried sprats was imported in September. Out of that 89% was imported from Thailand, while the rest was from Vietnam, India and United Arab Emirates. Total value of the imports was Rs.904.30mn. The average CIF price was Rs.399.28/kg.

Considering retail prices, most had increased against the previous month. Price increase was significant for koduwa, balaya and sprats. Meanwhile, the prices of kattawa and thora had decreased significantly. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of koduwa and salaya had decreased, while the prices of all the other varieties had increased. There was a comparatively higher demand for local dried fish than the imported. But regarding imported, a higher demand was observed for dried fish varieties which were imported from Maldives and Thailand.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale								
Sprats	400.00-800.00	664.36	643.67	658.80	*20.70*	*3.22*	*5.56*	*0.84*
Sprats (imported)	300.00-570.00	483.68	449.45	336.50	*34.23*	*7.62*	*147.18*	*43.74*
Kattawa	630.00-800.00	712.22	723.14	702.42	*-10.92*	*-1.51*	*9.80*	*1.40*
Kattawa (imported)	600.00-720.00	689.72	693.20	665.90	*-3.48*	*-0.50*	*23.82*	*3.58*
Thora	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thora (imported)	950.00-1100.00	971.96	1013.33	954.00	*-41.37*	*-4.08*	*17.96*	*1.88*
Mora	700.00-900.00	814.42	829.71	782.20	*-15.29*	*-1.84*	*32.22*	*4.12*
Mora (imported)	700.00-800.00	764.00	758.80	708.53	*5.20*	*0.69*	*55.47*	*7.83*
Balaya	400.00-600.00	474.82	482.00	525.82	*-7.19*	*-1.49*	*-51.00*	*-9.70*
Balaya (imported)	350.00-600.00	474.25	514.80	-	*-40.55*	*-7.88*	-	-
Anguluwa	500.00-700.00	642.03	604.00	610.93	*38.03*	*6.30*	*31.09*	*5.09*
Anguluwa (imported)	500.00-720.00	615.50	604.60	589.47	*10.90*	*1.80*	*26.03*	*4.42*
Maduwa	400.00-680.00	493.69	516.32	433.32	*-22.62*	*-4.38*	*60.38*	*13.93*
Maduwa (imported)	400.00-480.00	431.25	452.81	-	*-21.56*	*-4.76*	-	-
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	150.00-280.00	221.30	229.80	208.41	*-8.50*	*-3.70*	*12.88*	*6.18*
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail								
Sprats	800.00-1200.00	942.45	957.91	0.00	*44.29*	*7.17*	*5.17*	*0.79*
Sprats (imported)	400.00-800.00	661.95	617.66	656.78	*29.20*	*2.73*	*100.52*	*10.08*
Kattawa	780.00-1300.00	1097.71	1068.51	997.19	*-72.76*	*-5.33*	*58.07*	*4.70*
Thora	1000.00-1600.00	1293.02	1365.78	1234.95	*-72.76*	*-5.33*	*58.07*	*4.70*
Mora	800.00-1200.00	964.32	961.81	929.20	*2.51*	*0.26*	*35.12*	*3.78*
Balaya	480.00-1000.00	838.23	803.15	825.58	*35.08*	*4.37*	*12.65*	*1.53*
Anguluwa	640.00-1200.00	897.75	876.69	840.58	*21.06*	*2.40*	*57.17*	*6.80*
Maduwa	400.00-800.00	714.91	717.76	654.43	*-2.85*	*-0.40*	*60.48*	*9.24*
Koduwa	700.00-1000.00	875.00	797.86	934.72	*77.14*	*9.67*	*-59.72*	*-6.39*
Salaya	350.00-700.00	535.53	519.92	545.56	*15.61*	*3.00*	*-10.03*	*-1.84*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sprats - April to September 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	2264.85	904.30	399.28	661.95	*262.67*
Aug	1649.94	540.63	327.66	617.66	*290.00*
July	1736.68	453.48	261.12	521.88	*260.76*
June	2469.09	616.35	249.62	424.61	*174.99*
May	1928.86	465.93	241.56	627.67	*386.11*
Apr	2058.17	509.38	247.49	625.94	*378.45*

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

Eggs

Compared to August, prices of both brown and white eggs had decreased by 9% and 10% respectively at the wholesale market. Of the month, decreased prices were observed in the second week, while the prices remained unchanged during the first, third and fourth weeks. Most of the stocks had been supplied from Hettipola, Madampe, Marawila and Kuliyapitiya areas. The monthly average wholesale prices of brown and white eggs were Rs.14.25/egg and Rs.13.25/egg respectively. Compared to September in 2014, wholesale prices of brown eggs had increased by 36% while, prices of white eggs had increased by 34%.

Prices of both brown and white eggs had decreased by 9% at the retail level with the decreased wholesale prices. The monthly average retail price of a brown egg was Rs.15.49 and it was Rs.14.57 per white egg. Further, the price range of an egg for the month was Rs.14.50 – 17.00. Compared to September in 2014, retail prices of both brown and white eggs had increased by 27% and 29% respectively.

Table 5.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	14.00-15.00	14.25	15.70	10.50	*-1.45*	*-9.24*	*3.75*	*35.71*
White (each)	13.00-14.00	13.25	14.70	9.90	*-1.45*	*-9.86*	*3.35*	*33.84*
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	15.50-17.00	15.49	17.06	12.17	*-1.57*	*-9.20*	*3.32*	*27.28*
White (each)	14.50-16.00	14.57	16.06	11.32	*-1.49*	*-9.28*	*3.25*	*28.71*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Prices of all the other meat varieties, except curry chicken had increased due to insufficient supply. Price of beef had increased by Rs.36.00/kg, while the prices of mutton and pork had increased by Rs.56.00/kg and Rs.50.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, prices of all the meat varieties had increased in the range of 14%-35% with the highest increase reported for curry chicken.

Table 5.5: Retail Prices of Meat – September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	700.00-760.00	742.73	706.81	593.46	*35.92*	*5.08*	*149.27*	*25.15*
Chicken (Broiler)	500.00-580.00	549.02	545.85	440.00	*3.17*	*0.58*	*109.02*	*24.78*
Chicken (curry)	500.00-590.00	539.62	544.19	400.43	*-4.57*	*-0.84*	*139.19*	*34.76*
Mutton	1400.00-1600.00	1484.85	1429.29	1304.55	*55.56*	*3.89*	*180.30*	*13.82*
Pork	500.00-700.00	611.33	561.44	538.57	*49.89*	*8.89*	*72.76*	*13.51*

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

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

A total quantity of 326,790 mt of wheat grain recording the highest quantity during the last few years was imported. The value of the imports was Rs.12,666mn. The average CIF price has increased slightly against the previous month and it was Rs.37.53/kg. Reports of the Department of Customs revealed that out of the total imports 68% was imported from Canada, 20% from USA 8%, from Russia and 4% from Australia. The CIF price ranged between Rs.29.66-39.60/kg. The majority of the imports from Canada fetched the CIF price of Rs.38.40/kg, while the lowest price of Rs.29.66/kg was reported from Russia.

Considering wheat flour, the high imports were reported in the previous month and dropped again this month. The imported quantity was limited to 126 mt, valued at Rs.8.74mn. The average CIF price was Rs.69.45/kg. Meanwhile, the retail price of wheat flour remained in the range of Rs.76.00-90.00/kg. The average price was Rs.86.49/kg recording an increase of cents 50.00/kg against the previous month. Compared to the same period of last year, the retail price of wheat flour had decreased by nearly 12%.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar– September 2015

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Sep 2015	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015		Sep 2014	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	76.00-90.00	86.49	85.99	97.89	*0.50*	*0.58*	*-11.40*	*-11.65*
Sugar	73.00-95.00	86.67	81.17	*99.11*	*5.50*	*6.78*	*-12.44*	*-12.55*

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Wheat Flour & Grain - April to September 2015

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
Sep	125.81	8.74	69.45	86.49	*17.04*
Aug	550.80	38.21	69.37	85.99	*16.62*
July	60.29	4.09	67.83	86.27	*18.44*
June	470.63	33.51	71.20	86.29	*15.09*
May	26.00	1.40	53.80	85.98	*32.18*
Apr	656.70	44.47	67.72	86.56	*18.84*
Wheat Grain					
Sep	326790.16	12266.01	37.53	86.49	*48.95*
Aug	90739.07	3329.48	36.69	85.99	*49.30*
July	149628.02	5936.53	39.68	86.27	*46.59*
June	255707.48	9517.17	37.22	86.29	*49.07*
May	188998.88	7444.26	39.39	85.98	*46.59*
Apr	115469.80	4619.23	40.00	86.56	*46.56*

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

Sugar

The imported quantity has shown a slight decrease owing to high imports reported in last two months. A total quantity of Rs.37,559 mt, valued at Rs.2,000mn was imported. Among the imports 44% was from Brazil, 34% from India, 21% from Thailand and the rest was from Colombia, Korea and Belize. The CIF price ranged between Rs.47.44-85.24/kg. Brazil sugar fetched the price of Rs.49.85/kg, while the Indian sugar was Rs.51.73/kg. The lowest price of Rs.47.44/kg was reported for the sugar which imported from Belize. However, the overall average CIF price was Rs.53.25/kg. The world prices of sugar has increased by reversing the decreasing trend prevailed until the previous month. The CIF price has increased by Rs.4.05/kg against the previous month.

In line with the world prices, the retail price of sugar has also increased by Rs.5.50/kg against the previous month. Prices ranged between Rs.75.00-90.00/kg during the month and the average price was Rs86.67/kg. Compared to the same period of last year, retail price had decreased by nearly 13%.

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

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Sep	37559.18	2000.12	53.25	86.67	*33.42*
Aug	64088.25	3153.43	49.20	81.17	*31.97*
July	62900.75	3202.16	50.91	82.47	*31.56*
June	47223.46	2541.97	53.83	83.61	*29.78*
May	34063.19	1886.09	55.37	84.37	*29.00*
Apr	59400.18	3315.79	55.82	85.65	*29.83*

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

Table 7: Imports of Selected Food Items - September 2015

Items	Quantity (mt)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Sep 2015	Aug 2015		Sep 2015	Aug 2015		Sep 2015	Aug 2015	
Rice	4119.69	2239.77	83.93	358.69	130.39	175.09	87.07	58.22	49.56
Red Onion	321.39	396.50	-18.94	32.67	29.42	11.05	101.66	74.20	37.01
Big Onion	4122.62	11726.68	-64.84	188.87	569.72	-66.85	45.81	48.58	-5.70
Potato	5087.67	11141.20	-54.33	156.36	410.81	-61.94	30.73	36.87	-16.65
Dried Chillies	4590.57	3900.58	17.69	1006.62	806.71	24.78	219.28	206.82	6.03
Masoor Dhal	10306.06	15090.58	-31.71	1462.40	2008.15	-27.18	141.90	133.07	6.63
Green Gram	572.00	777.43	-26.42	100.62	132.59	-24.11	175.91	170.54	3.14
Cowpea	714.77	262.74	172.05	81.95	26.58	208.36	114.65	101.15	13.35
Garlic	3108.80	3122.48	-0.44	439.58	401.71	9.43	141.40	128.65	9.91
Wheat flour	125.81	550.80	-77.16	8.74	38.21	-77.13	69.45	69.37	0.11
Wheat grain	326790.16	90739.07	260.14	12266.01	3329.48	268.41	37.53	36.69	2.29
White crystalline cane sugar	37559.18	64088.25	-41.39	2000.12	3153.43	-36.57	53.25	49.20	8.23
Maize (Seed)	110.40	550.20	-79.93	53.28	337.52	-84.21	482.65	613.45	-21.32
Maize (Other)	19998.17	8198.77	143.92	683.38	299.12	128.46	34.17	36.48	-6.34

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – September 2015

Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	147.1	74.0	14	6
Badulla	200.6	119.8	19	9
Bandarawela	193.9	121.8	18	10
Batticaloa	24.4	67.0	5	5
Colombo	631.4	245.4	23	15
Galle	474.1	255.8	24	18
Hambantota	300.8	75.2	20	8
Jaffna	46.7	63.3	8	4
Katugastota	142.1	155.2	19	13
Katunayaka	340.4	224.1	22	14
Kurunegala	125.0	165.3	14	13
MahaIluppallama	227.3	90.7	9	6
Mannar	83.7	40.6	7	2
Nuwara Eliya	234.5	178.8	24	15
Pottuvil	77.9	44.8	8	na
Puttalam	65.6	67.8	10	5
Ratmalana	599.7	254.9	23	16
Ratnapura	397.2	421.4	24	20
Trincomalee	255.6	99.6	8	6
Vavuniya	174.1	107.3	13	6
Polonnaruwa	262.7	na	12	na
Moneragala	80.0	na	14	na
Mattala	136.9	na	21	na

Source: Department of Meteorology