



HORTICULTURE: PRICE MONITORING REPORT

Weekly Edition (22 -26 June 2020)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) is a statutory body mandated to regulate and develop the agronomic and horticulture industry in Namibia, in accordance with the Agronomic Industry Act, Act 20 of 1992. In pursuance of our mandate and the strategic objectives pertaining to the provision of efficient information services, the NAB provides weekly monitoring reports for farm gate and retail prices of the following controlled crops: **Potato, Onion, Tomato, Cabbage, Butternuts, English Cucumber, Carrot and Sweet Potato.** It is worth noting that, the provision of weekly commodity average prices is aimed at providing information, guidance and advice to producers and traders of controlled horticultural products and other interested parties. Therefore, this report highlighted the average retail and farm gate prices for the week of 22-26 June 2020.

2. FARM GATE AND RETAIL AVERAGE PRICE

Table 1 indicates the average prices for selected fresh produce for the week of 22-26 June 2020. It also includes last week's price for comparison and to establish the price trends. Therefore, it is evident that butternut prices slightly increased for both retailers and producers. Interestingly, farm gate price for tomatoes, cabbage, carrots, sweet potatoes slightly increased this week relative to last week prices. This could mean that, price monitoring report for last week served as a guiding tool to some producers when attaching prices to their fresh produce.

It is important to note that, the noticeable weekly price changes for the selected fresh

produce could be triggered by various factors which includes erratic supply and demand conditions amongst others. Regrettably, in most cases erratic supply of fresh produce result from factors beyond the producer's control such as weather conditions (e.g. heat stress, frost and pest outbreak). For instance, cucumber production is deterred by cold weather condition and hence the low supply of cucumber during winter. Consequently, cucumber prices may be high during winter months due to erratic supply and low during summer months due to surplus in the market. See table 1 for more details.

TABLE 1: AVERAGE FARM GATE AND RETAIL PRICE FOR SELECTED FRESH PRODUCE					
Products	Unit	15-19 June 2020		22-26 June 2020	
		Farm Gate Price	Retail Price	Farm Gate Price	Retail Price
Potato	N\$/kg	6.70	12.96	6.20	15.00
Onion	N\$/kg	6.80	15.30	6.60	19.39
Tomato	N\$/kg	9.20	29.27	10.17	24.39
Cabbage	N\$/head	10.30	23.24	11.00	22.35
Butternut	N\$/kg	4.90	11.90	5.40	15.24
English cucumber	N\$/fruit	7.80	20.45	6.95	20.51
Carrot	N\$/kg	6.90	22.07	7.58	19.59
Sweet potato	N\$/kg	9.50	34.66	9.60	30.19

Source: NAB,2020

3. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Producers are advised to target produce that satisfy the needs of the market in terms of perceived quality, colour and sizes. For instance, medium onions are preferred in the market compared to large onions, thus emphasis should rather be placed on medium onions. For more guidance please do contact us at 0811421228.

