



HORTICULTURE: PRICE MONITORING REPORT

Weekly Edition (06-10 July 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.** 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 06-10 July 2020.

2. FARM GATE AND RETAIL AVERAGE PRICE

Table 1 indicates the average prices for selected fresh produce for the week of 06-10 July 2020. In addition, prices for the previous week are included for comparison purposes and to establish price trends. It is evident that, there is no significant price margins between 29 June - 03 July 2020 and 06-10 July 2020, particularly for farm gate prices. Furthermore, retailers' price for some fresh produce decreased and some slightly increased respectively.

It should be noted that fresh produce price changes for some commodities indicated in table 1, could be triggered by various factors which include unpredictable supply and demand conditions amongst others. Unfortunately, the unpredictable supply of fresh

produce could result from several factors beyond the producer's control such as weather conditions (e.g. heat stress, frost and pest outbreak). Therefore, contingency planning is key in reducing crop losses and eventually reduces erratic supply of commodities to the market.

TABLE 1: AVERAGE FARM GATE AND WHK RETAIL PRICE FOR SELECTED FRESH PRODUCE					
Products	Unit	29 June-03 July 2020		06-10 July 2020	
		Farm Gate Price	WHK Retail Price	Farm Gate Price	WHK Retail Price
Potato	N\$/kg	6.5	13.0	6.5	13.0
Onion	N\$/kg	6.6	16.3	6.6	15.3
Tomato	N\$/kg	10.1	23.4	10.9	29.3
Cabbage	N\$/head	12.2	22.1	11.7	23.2
Butternut	N\$/kg	5.5	13.6	5.6	11.9
English cucumber	N\$/fruit	9.3	21.6	9.5	20.5
Carrot	N\$/kg	7.5	17.8	7.6	22.1
Sweet potato	N\$/kg	9.1	31.1	9.4	34.7

Source: NAB,2020

Note: Retail Prices are VAT exclusive and it is for Windhoek (WHK) market only.

3. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Producers are advised to comprehensively understand the market they intend to serve, in terms of perceived quality, colour and sizes. This is to ensure their production is line with the targeted market needs. For instance, the formal market prefers red sweet potatoes, whereas white sweet potatoes are mostly preferred in the informal market.

