

New Maize harvest season expected earlier than usual.

Trading in the market went on as usual although majority of the commodity supply was reduced as compared to last week's delivery. Demand for most commodities was not good because it was observed that there was no corresponding price increase due to reduced supply. The grain market registered an increase in supply because most of the maize held by stockists was pushed to the market due to anticipation of the new maize harvest season. Traders have decided to clear their stock for the new season, which they say, has come sooner than they expected causing a drop in price. The market is receiving two qualities of maize; the old and new stock. However, the quality being delivered is not good as the moisture content is still high and most grain has been attacked by weevils as result of overstocking. The current market price is the lowest this year and a kilo of maize cost between Ush225-220 Kisenyi. There is less demand for maize flour from the neighbouring countries like Southern Sudan and eastern Congo. On the local market, likewise demand is low and this is reflected in the low prices currently offered. Grade one maize flour quality cost Ush.50, 000 off lorry while one and half at Ush.45, 000 a 100 Kg sack. The weather was wet as most areas received a lot of rainfall which had an effect on the stocks supplied to the market due to impassable routes in most rural areas. Prices were expected to hike because of the same effect.

Beans price high:

The demand for Large and Medium size beans (K132 and Rosecoco) was high and this was reflected in the market price. Supply was good though failed to satisfy the market demand in order to force the price low given the fact that it's only the beginning of the season where prices are usually low. Medium sized beans went for UShs.850-900 off lorry Owino and Kisenyi while large beans sold at Shs.900-920. Schools, Institutions and organizations like World. Food. Programme (WFP) continued to stock that in a way reduced supply to markets thus increased market price.

There is good supply of groundnuts to the market from Iganga, Gulu and Hoima. Unsorted G/nuts in Kampala-Owino market went for Ush.1700/kg wholesale while clean and sorted groundnuts went for Ush.1800 per kilogram

There was a decline in supply of Irish potatoes at Nakawa market mainly because of the weather. The usually cheaper duplicate Singo crop went for Ush.47, 000 to Ush.50, 000 a sack weighing 120 kg while Kabale and Singo original sold at Ush.50, 000 – 55,000 a sack weighing the same.

Cassava demand low.

The on going rice season in the Eastern region has brought about a reduction in the supply of Cassava chips mainly because; the source area also produces rice which is more profitable and now being harvested. In that case cassava chips' seasoning has substituted for rice. Flour prices however remain stable at UShs.300-320/kg Super quality and Ushs.250-280 for regular cassava flour in Kisenyi.

Supply of sweet potatoes remained high especially the type from Buganga, which has had an advance effect on demand of fresh items like fresh cassava, Irish, matooke and yams as these

compete with each other. Fresh cassava went for averagely US\$25, 000 a '200' kg sack. Kalerwe received the lowest price at Ush.20, 000 an average 200 kgs sack. Some fresh cassava was off loaded in hips direct from the vehicles. Matooke registered a decline in supply because of the weather; however, market volumes are still high.

District Briefs:

Soroti:

Most areas have reported adequate rains in the past one-week. Farm activities like weeding and planting of sweet potatoes are going on.

Both wholesale and the retail price of matooke remained stable over the week at Ush 467 and Ush 527 per kg respectively. Demand is moderate as consumers now have mangoes and fresh maize at their disposal

Dry cassava chips remained stable at Ush 250/ kg wholesale while the retail prices also remained stable at Ush 300 per kg. The buying price is stable at Ush.150 per kg. For cassava flour, the wholesale prices are stable at Ush.480 per kg, while the retail prices also remained stable at Ush.500 per kg.

The wholesale price for large beans (k132) remained stable at Ush.800 per kg, while the retail prices remained at Ush.900 per kg. For white and other types of beans, both the wholesale and retail prices this week remained stable as indicated in the price sheet

Maize price dropped from Ush.300 to Ush.280 per kg, while the retail price also dropped from Ush.500 to Ush.300 per kg due to emergence of the new crop and schools have got their supplies. The buying price for maize grain has also dropped from Ush.250 to Ush.230 per kg. For maize flour, the wholesale price this week is stable at Ush.580 per kg, while the retail price is also stable at Ush.700 per kg for standard quality.

The wholesale price dropped from Ush.1, 300 to Ush.1, 200 per kg, while the retail prices are also dropped from Ush.1, 400 to Ush.1, 300 per kg. Mill prices are between Ush.1, 000 (Kaiso) and 1,100 per kg for super. There are reports of fresh harvests entering the market from Pallisa and Busoga

Simsim remained stable at Ush.1, 400 per kg, while the retail prices also remained stable at Ush.1, 500 per kg. The buying prices are at Ush.1, 300 per kg.

Sorghum also remained stable at Ush.250 per kg, while the retail prices also remained stable at Ush.300 per kg. The buying prices are at Ush.180 per kg. For sorghum flour, the wholesale prices remained stable at Ush.480 per kg, while the retail prices remained stable at Ush.500 per kg.

The Soya beans wholesale prices increased from Ush.700 to Ush.750 per kg due to increased demand for planting, while the retail prices remained stable at Ush.800 per kg. The buying prices vary between Ush.650 and 680 per kg.

Milk prices are still stable between Ush.600 and Ush.700 per litre.

Beef prices vary between Ush.2, 800 and Ush.3, 000 per kg for cow meat and Ush.3, 000 and Ush.3, 500 per kg for goat and sheep meat

Masindi:

Average amount of rain is being received in most parts of the district. The continued rains are giving the farmers a lot of hardships as the weeds are growing very fast. The maize especially for those who planted early is at the tussling stage. There has also been an increase in supply of fresh maize and beans in the Masindi main market.

Traders are stuck here with maize. It has always been the tradition here that maize for the second season always fetches a higher amount of money. As a result, most of the traders had stocked expecting better prices and this has not been the case. As I send this report, there are traders who purchased maize at Ush.240/= per kg some few months back but now this figure is higher than the Kampala prices.

The district of Masindi received 13 motor bikes for the prosperity for all program last Saturday. 12 are to go to Sub County Chiefs and one to the District Commercial Officer. It was officiated by the Chief Whip, Hon Kabakumba Masiko. The bikes will assist in mobilizing the locals towards SACCO formation as well as collection of market information that is one of the pillars of “Bona Bagagawale”.

Tororo:

This week’s survey registered no changes on the commodity prices as compared to last week, despite continued supply. Reports from traders say that demand for commodities is very low, yet they expect price increase on commodities such as maize, beans and maize flour following the re-opening of schools.

However, the commodities supplied in the markets, e.g. matooke from Mbale, cassava chips/flour from Soroti, Simsim from Lira, rice from Butaleja and Bugiri districts have continued to flow into the district, as very little is supplied within Tororo since harvest has not started.

Meanwhile farmers are very busy weeding and planting due to continued rains despite the delay, which affected the activities as most of them complain that they would be harvesting some commodities now.

Kasese:

The demand for maize flour has dropped due to increased supply of matooke on the market as one substitute the other depending on availability. A sizeable bunch of Matooke is now going for Ush4, 500 while a kilo of maize flour is offered at Ush600/kg at retail.

Beans had a low supply to the market and the price remain stable due to the availability of fresh green beans that have started coming on the market from the mountain slopes of Kilembe, Mahango and Maliba sub-counties of Kasese district. A kilo of Nambaale is currently offered at Ush950/kg wholesale. The price of maize grain dropped to Ush200/kg due to low demand.

You can also have commodities prices via SMS by simply sending text to 198 for subscribers on MTN and Celtel. For example: Maize.