



MONTHLY REPORT ON FOOD PRICE TRENDS

KEY MESSAGES

- International prices of cereals were generally firm in August. Wheat prices increased in response to low production prospects in Europe and stronger buying interest. International prices of rice also increased, underpinned by seasonally tight export availabilities and increasing African demand. Maize price quotations were mixed, with the benchmark US maize values down from the previous month but those from South America went up.
- In East Africa, prices of coarse grains generally declined in August, with some exceptions, the most notable being the Sudan, where prices continued to increase steeply with seasonal patterns compounded by a further depreciation of the country's currency on the parallel market. Price increases were also registered in Somalia, due to unfavourable production prospects and flood-related trade disruptions.
- In Central America, prices of beans declined sharply in August, down from the peaks reached in the previous months, mainly reflecting the beginning of the 2020 first season harvests, which are expected at a good level. Declines were also registered in white maize prices, which were overall lower than a year earlier on account of good domestic availabilities.

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES.....	2
DOMESTIC PRICE WARNINGS.....	3
WEST AFRICA.....	7
SOUTHERN AFRICA.....	9
EAST AFRICA.....	11
EAST ASIA.....	13
CIS - ASIA AND EUROPE.....	15
CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.....	17
SOUTH AMERICA.....	18

Domestic price warnings

Price warning level:  High  Moderate [Based on GIEWS analysis]



Argentina | Food items
Bangladesh | Rice
Brazil | Cereals
Haiti | Staple foods
Kyrgyzstan | Wheat flour
Nigeria | Food items
South Sudan | Staple foods
Sudan | Staple foods
Tajikistan | Wheat flour
Zimbabwe | Food items

Warnings are only included if latest available price data is not older than two months.

Conforms to the UN World map, February 2020

INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES

Export prices of cereals under upward pressure

International prices of **wheat** firmed slightly in August, mostly reflecting the increases in export prices from the European Union for a second consecutive month following the cuts to the production forecast. Support also came from concerns over the production prospects in Argentina. The benchmark US wheat (No.2 Hard Red Winter, f.o.b.) averaged USD 221 per tonne, remaining nearly stable in August and 9 percent higher than the corresponding month in 2019. The downward pressure from the winter and spring crop harvests was offset by strong export demand. By contrast, prices declined in the Black Sea region on account of seasonal pressure and a larger-than-expected output in the Russian Federation, although stronger exports underpinned some price increases towards the end of the month.

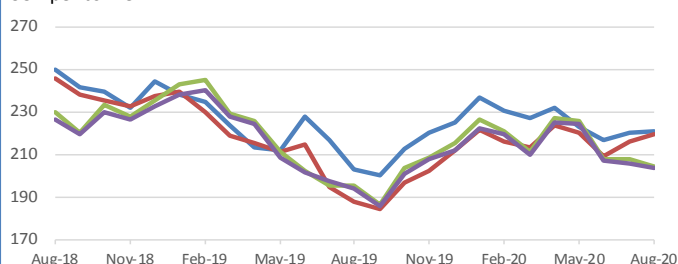
Export prices of **maize** dropped in the United States of America in August, after increasing in July, with the benchmark US maize (No.2, Yellow, f.o.b.) averaging USD 148 per tonne, 2 percent lower than in July and nearly 9 percent below its level in August 2019. Expectations of a bumper crop this year weighed on prices. However, concerns over the weather-induced crop damage and sustained export demand underpinned the price increases in the

second half of the month. Prices also eased in the Black Sea region, while they continued to increase in Argentina driven by strong export demand and concerns over the impact of dry weather on the planting of the 2021 crop. Large exports were also the main trigger of significant price increases in Brazil.

The FAO All **Rice** Price Index (2014-16=100) averaged 113.2 points in August, up 2.7 percent from July and 8.7 percent above its value a year earlier. Among the major Asian exporters, Indica price quotations increased the most in Viet Nam due to an uptick in domestic demand, which coincided with dwindling early summer-autumn arrivals and the execution of offshore sales previously reached. Prices also increased in Thailand, on increasingly tighter availabilities and concerns over water supplies for irrigation. In Pakistan, prices were steady to mildly lower, ahead of the launch of harvesting operations. In India, favourable "Kharif" crop prospects weighed on higher quality Indica values, while increasing African demand drove mild increases in the prices of lower quality rice. In the United States of America, prices subsided from the near seven-year highs held through July, as the 2020 harvest got underway.

International wheat prices

USD per tonne

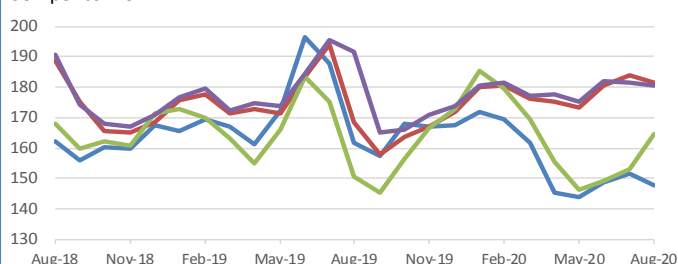


Source(s): International Grains Council; APK-Inform Agency

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change 1M 3M 1Y
United States of America (Gulf), Wheat (US No. 2, Hard Red Winter)	220.75	0.1 -1.0 8.9
European Union (France), Wheat (grade 1)	219.50	1.6 -0.5 16.9
Russian Federation, Wheat (milling, offer, f.o.b., deep-sea ports)	204.50	-1.5 -9.4 4.8
Ukraine, Wheat (milling, offer, f.o.b.)	203.75	-1.1 -9.3 4.9

International maize prices

USD per tonne

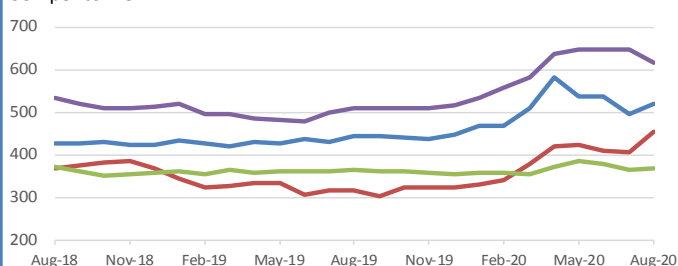


Source(s): USDA; International Grains Council; APK-Inform Agency

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change 1M 3M 1Y
United States of America (Gulf), Maize (US No. 2, Yellow)	147.88	-2.4 2.6 -8.5
Black Sea, Maize (feed)	181.67	-1.1 4.7 7.8
Argentina, Maize (Argentina, Up River, f.o.b.)	164.67	7.6 12.6 9.2
Ukraine, Maize (offer, f.o.b.)	180.75	-0.4 3.3 -5.8

International rice prices

USD per tonne



Source(s): Thai Rice Exporters Association; FAO rice price update

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change 1M 3M 1Y
Thailand (Bangkok), Rice (Thai 100%B)	520.75	4.9 -2.7 17.2
Viet Nam, Rice (25% broken)	455.75	12.1 7.2 43.6
India, Rice (25% broken)	367.50	1.0 -4.4 0.7
United States of America, Rice (US Long Grain 2.4%)	614.50	-4.9 -4.9 21.0

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](https://www.fpmabulletin.com)

DOMESTIC PRICE WARNINGS

Countries where prices of one or more basic food commodity are at abnormal high levels which could negatively impact access to food

Argentina | Food items

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 07/20	Same period average
3 months	-0.6	-0.2
12 months	 1.3	-0.2


Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Argentina, Greater Buenos Aires, Retail, Beef meat

Prices of food items increased in July

Retail prices of food items in July recorded a stronger increase than in the previous two months, mainly as a result of the upward revision of the price ceilings on essential goods authorized by the Government in mid-July. Among the food items, the increase in prices of **fruit, meat and fish** more than offset a decline in prices of **vegetables, tubers and beans**. Retail prices of **wheat products** were also buoyed by trends in the wholesale market of **wheat grain**, where large demand for export and concerns over production prospects supported prices. In general, however, the increase in food prices recorded a significant slowdown since the introduction of the price ceilings in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In late August, the Government further extended the programme until 31 October 2020. Despite the Government's efforts to keep prices in check, food prices remained higher year on year amid overall strong inflationary pressure coupled with the sustained depreciation of the country's currency, which lost more than 35 percent of its value against the United States dollar over the past year.

Bangladesh | Rice

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/20	Same period average
3 months	0.4	0.2
12 months	 2.0	-0.5


Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Bangladesh, Dhaka, Retail, Rice (coarse- BR-8/ 11/ Guti/ Sharna)

Prices of rice went up in August

Prices of **rice** increased in August after softening in the previous months with the 2020 "Boro" and "Aus" harvests, estimated at above-average levels. Despite the good availabilities, concerns about the flood-related crop losses and the COVID-19 pandemic triggered the recent increase. Widespread and severe floods in July and August reportedly affected one-third of the country. Damage to the "Aman" crops has been reported, but with assessments still ongoing, no detailed information on the extent of the damage is yet available. Overall, prices in August were more than 20 percent above their year-earlier levels, after the sharp increases in the February to April period following an upsurge in domestic buying and stockpiling by farmers and traders amid concerns over the pandemic.

Brazil | Cereals

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/20	Same period average
3 months	2.7	0.2
12 months	 2.8	-0.5

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul, Wholesale, Rice (milled, fine long-grain, type 1)



Prices of cereals at levels well above those a year earlier

Prices of **rice** remained relatively stable in August but at levels well above those a year earlier. The high level of prices mainly follows the sharp increase in domestic demand amid the COVID-19 pandemic in the second quarter of the year and large exports, spurred by the depreciation of the country's currency. With regard to **wheat**, seasonal upward pressure on prices in August was exacerbated by concerns over the impact of frost and wet conditions on the 2020 crops at flowering and grain-filling stages in the key producing State of Parana. Concerns over production prospects in Argentina, the country's key supplier, also provided support. Prices remained well above their year-earlier values mainly due to the country's weak currency, despite larger import quantities during the second quarter of 2020 compared to the same period last year. In early July, the Foreign Chamber of Commerce increased the volume of the duty-free wheat import quota for non-Mercosur countries from 750 000 tonnes to 1.2 million tonnes. Prices of yellow **maize** also increased in August despite the ongoing main harvest, due to slow farmer selling and high demand from the feed industry. In spite of the expected record output in 2020, prices were some 50 percent higher year on year due to large exports and a sustained depreciation of the country's currency, which lost more than 35 percent of its value against the United States dollar over the past year.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Haiti | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 07/20	Same period average
3 months	 6.3	-0.7
12 months	 1.2	-0.1


Compound growthrate in real terms.

Refers to: Haiti, Port-au-Prince, Retail, Rice (imported)

Prices of staple foods up on a year earlier

Prices of **maize meal** declined in July with the beginning of the main “spring” harvest but remained higher year on year due to the poor 2019 output and expectations of a reduced harvest in the current main season, after dry weather since March affected crop development in the key growing areas. The resumption of economic activities also weighed on prices, after the application of restrictive measures and trade disruptions amid the COVID-19 pandemic had supported prices in the previous months. By contrast, prices of **black beans**, on the increase since early 2020, continued to rise in July mainly due to tight domestic supplies, exacerbated by the closure of the border with the Dominican Republic. Similarly, prices of **rice**, which is mostly imported, increased in July on account of a decline in imports in the second quarter of 2020 compared to the same period last year. The depreciation of the country’s currency, which lost nearly 20 percent of its value against the United States dollar over the past year, kept prices of rice well above their year-earlier levels.

Kyrgyzstan | Wheat flour

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/20	Same period average
3 months	1.0	0.5
12 months	 2.2	-0.2

Compound growthrate in real terms.

Refers to: Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, Retail, Wheat (flour, first grade)

Prices of wheat flour overall stable but still higher year on year

Retail prices of first grade **wheat flour** remained relatively stable in most markets in August amid improved domestic supplies from the ongoing harvest, with the output expected to recover from the low level of 2019 ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)). Government measures to counter the over-pricing during the COVID-19 pandemic, including temporary ceilings on the prices of food items, a halt on exports and large funds allocated to replenish State reserves, continued to contribute to the softer tone of the past few months. However, prices remained well above their year-earlier values after the steep increases in March and April, which followed an upsurge in consumer demand due to concerns over the pandemic and regional export limitations. The reduced 2019 domestic wheat output and costlier imports linked to the higher prices from Kazakhstan, the country’s key supplier, and to the depreciation of the country’s currency continued to underpin the generally high level of prices.

Nigeria | Food items

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 07/20	Same period average
3 months	 10.2	0.7
12 months	 3.7	-0.7

Compound growthrate in real terms.

Refers to: Nigeria, Lagos, Wholesale, Maize (white)


Steep growth in food prices recorded in July

Prices of **food items** increased significantly in July and reached levels well above those a year earlier in most markets. The steep growth in **cereal** prices was driven by seasonal trends compounded by restrictive measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic, despite some relaxation in July, and strong domestic demand. The situation is further aggravated by the border closure with neighbouring countries, introduced last year to curb the smuggling of imported rice and maize. Stronger price gains were reported in the conflict-related areas of the northeast due to the impact of persistent insecurity. The nearly 20 percent increase in petrol prices in July, which lifted transportation costs and the difficult macro-economic situation due to the depreciation of the country’s currency, a decline in foreign currency reserves and the high general inflation rate, were also key drivers of the elevated level of prices. The annual inflation rate accelerated for the eleventh consecutive month in July and reached its highest level in over two years with the currency losing some 20 percent of its value against the United States dollar over the past year.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

South Sudan | Staple foods


Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/20	Same period average
3 months	2.2	-1.2
12 months	 4.3	-1.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: South Sudan, Juba, Retail, Maize (white)

Food prices at exceptionally high levels despite some declines

In the capital, Juba, prices of **maize** and **sorghum** continued to moderately decline in August from the record highs in May and June, respectively, as the local harvests in the southern bi-modal rainfall areas, coupled with imports from Uganda, the country's main source for cereals, improved market availabilities. The easing of movement restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic contributed to the price declines. Prices of other food staples, **groundnuts** and imported **wheat**, remained relatively stable, while prices of **cassava** declined. Food prices were at exceptionally high levels in August, with those of coarse grains about 60 percent up from their already high year-earlier values and 30 times above those in July 2015, before the currency collapse. Underlying the high food prices is the difficult macro-economic situation, related to low foreign currency reserves and the continued depreciation of the country's currency. More recently, in the first semester of 2020, COVID-19-related disruptions to the local markets and trade, already hampered by the lingering impact of the prolonged conflict, provided further support, as did the lower imports due to the border screening implemented by the Government of Uganda.

Sudan | Staple foods


Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/20	Same period average
3 months	 10.5	0.7
12 months	 7.6	-0.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Sudan, Nyala, Wholesale, Millet

Prices of staple foods continued to soar in August

Prices of locally grown **sorghum** and **millet** continued to surge in August and reached record highs, as seasonal upward pressure was compounded by a further depreciation of the country's currency on the parallel market. Prices of **wheat**, mostly imported, also increased in the capital, Khartoum, to record highs. In general, prices of grains were at exceptionally high levels in August, about three times above the already high values a year earlier. The sustained increasing trend started in late 2017 due to the difficult macro-economic situation, coupled with fuel shortages and the high prices of agricultural inputs inflating production and transportation costs. In 2020, tight supplies following a poor 2019 cereal output and disruptions to the marketing and trading activities, related to the measures implemented to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, provided further upward pressure on prices.

Tajikistan | Wheat flour

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/20	Same period average
3 months	-1.7	0.7
12 months	 2.7	0.0

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Tajikistan, Khujand, Retail, Wheat (flour, first grade)

Prices of wheat flour weakening further or stable in August but still higher year on year

Retail prices of first grade **wheat flour** remained relatively stable or weakened further in August, after falling in June and July with the start of the 2020 harvest and the easing of the COVID-19 restrictive measures. In general, Government price stabilization measures, including a temporary export ban on wheat grain and flour, and the release of produce from its strategic reserves, contributed to the downward pressure. Prices, however, remained above their levels in August last year, following the steep increases in the March to May period due to the upsurge in consumer demand amid concerns over the pandemic, market disruptions and regional export limitations. Further upward pressure was provided by costlier imports, linked to higher prices from Kazakhstan, the country's key supplier, and the depreciation of the country's currency, which lost nearly 10 percent of its value against the United States dollar over the past year.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Zimbabwe | Food items

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 07/20	Same period average
3 months	n.a.	n.a.
12 months	n.a.	n.a.

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Zimbabwe, Harare, Retail, Maize meal

Food prices continued to trend sharply upwards

Prices of **staple cereal foods** continued to climb steeply in July, contributing to an annual inflation rate of nearly 840 percent. The key factor underlying the exceptionally high prices is the persisting depreciation of the country's currency, exacerbated by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to a deep economic recession. Reduced domestic cereal harvests in 2019 and 2020 were additional factors that exerted strong upward pressure on prices, as they led to tighter domestic supplies and caused a substantial increase in import needs that accentuated the effects of imported inflation on domestic food prices. In response to the persisting currency weakness, the Government introduced an auction exchange rate system in June to contain further losses of the value of the currency and narrow the gap between the official and parallel market exchange rates. However, the shortages of foreign currency continued to cause a decline in the exchange rate. In addition, the restrictions on the informal food markets due to the COVID-19 containment measures and consequently local supply shortfalls, supported the high prices in the preceding months. Amid the rapid rise in food prices, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have also resulted in income losses and restricted households' income-generating opportunities, and these conditions have significantly eroded households' ability to afford foods.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

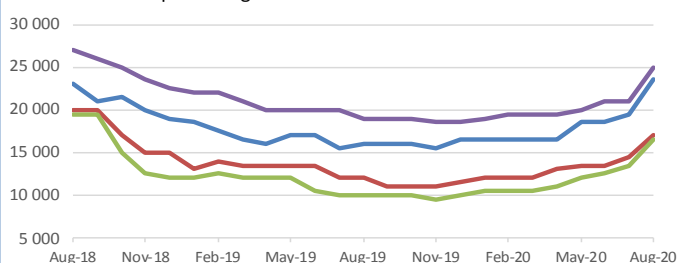
Prices of coarse grains generally on the increase in August and higher year on year

In most countries of the subregion, prices of coarse grains remained stable or increased seasonally in August and were overall well above their year-earlier levels. The effects of the COVID-19 containment measures adding to the impact of persisting insecurity on cross-border trade and internal commodity flows maintained strong upward pressure on food prices and contributed to the higher levels year on year. In **Burkina Faso**, prices of coarse grains increased seasonally in August and were generally above their year-earlier levels. Earlier concerns about the impact of dry spells on the 2020 crop establishment contributed to provide some price support. Similarly, in **Niger**, prices of coarse grains increased in most markets in August, with the seasonal pressure compounded by the closure of Nigeria's border, hampering cross-border commodity flows. By contrast, in **Mali**, prices of coarse grains remained overall stable in August reflecting the good availability of cereals and food assistance programmes, but they were higher than their year-earlier values. In these countries, despite some recent relaxation of the restrictive measures amid the COVID-19 pandemic, internal and regional commodity flows remained limited, providing support to prices and keeping them above those of a year earlier. In addition, insecurity, hampering market availabilities, further contributed to the increase in food prices in the affected areas. In **Senegal**, prices of millet increased in August, after declining in the past two months, and were overall higher year on year, supported by stronger

demand amid the festive period coupled with reduced domestic availabilities. In **Chad**, prices of coarse grains continued to increase in July in most markets with seasonal patterns exacerbated by institutional purchases and by the impact of the market and trade restrictions linked to the pandemic. In some areas, civil insecurity, coupled with the health crisis, provided further upward pressure. In coastal countries along the Gulf of Guinea, in **Ghana**, prices of maize remained relatively stable in August reflecting adequate market availabilities with the newly harvested maize crop already supplying markets in southern and central areas. In **Benin** and **Togo**, prices of maize increased seasonally in July with the new crops to be harvested from October. Stronger demand amid the pandemic exacerbated the seasonal upward pressure. In **Nigeria**, prices of cereals increased steeply in most markets in July with the peak of the lean season and were well above their values in the corresponding month last year. Containment measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic despite some relaxation in July, and strong domestic demand, provided further upward pressure as did an increase in petrol and transport costs. The overall difficult macro-economic situation in the country, driven by the high general inflation rates and the depreciation of the currency against the United States dollar, was an additional trigger of the high level of food prices. Stronger price gains were reported in the conflict-affected areas of the northeast due to the impact of the persistent insecurity situation.

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Burkina Faso

CFA Franc BCEAO per 100 kg

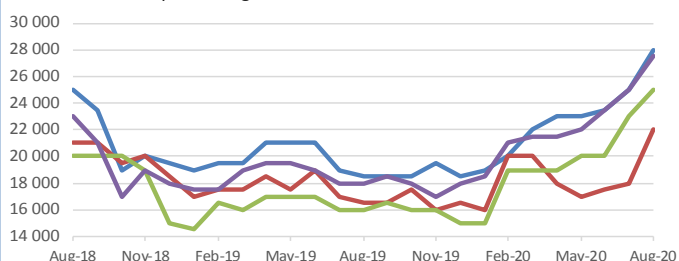


Source(s): Afrique verte

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ Ouagadougou, Millet (local)	23 500.00	20.5	27.0	46.9
■ Ouagadougou, Sorghum (local)	17 000.00	17.2	25.9	41.7
■ Dédougou, Sorghum (local)	16 500.00	22.2	37.5	65.0
■ Dori, Millet (local)	25 000.00	19.0	25.0	31.6

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in the Niger

CFA Franc BCEAO per 100 kg



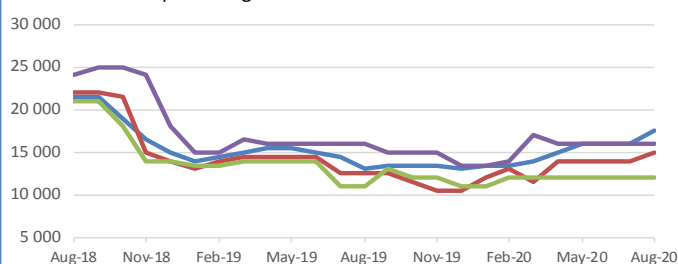
Source(s): Afrique verte

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ Niamey, Millet (local)	28 000.00	12.0	21.7	51.4
■ Niamey, Sorghum (local)	22 000.00	22.2	29.4	33.3
■ Zinder, Sorghum (local)	25 000.00	8.7	25.0	56.3
■ Zinder, Millet (local)	27 500.00	10.0	25.0	52.8

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Mali

CFA Franc BCEAO per 100 kg

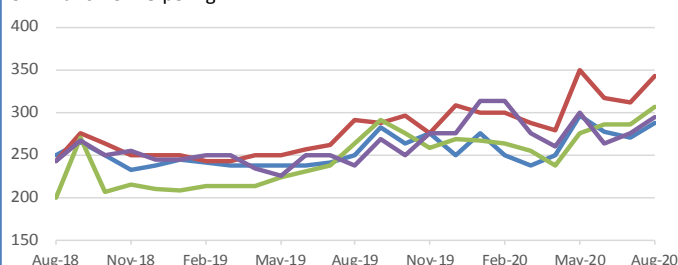


Source(s): Afrique verte

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Bamako, Millet (local)	17 500.00	9.4	9.4	34.6
Bamako, Sorghum (local)	15 000.00	7.1	7.1	20.0
Ségou, Millet (local)	12 000.00	0.0	0.0	9.1
Kayes, Sorghum (local)	16 000.00	0.0	0.0	0.0

Retail prices of millet in Senegal

CFA Franc BCEAO per kg

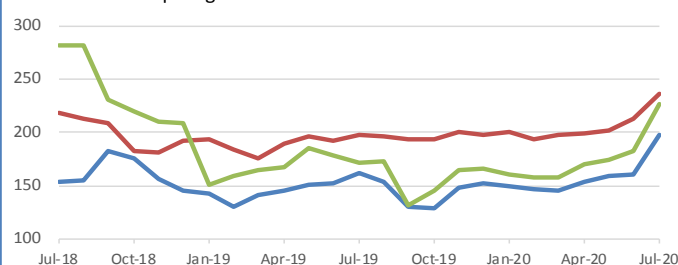


Source(s): Agence Nationale de la Statistique et la Démographie (ANSD)

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Dakar	288.00	6.7	-2.7	15.2
SaintLouis	342.00	10.0	-2.3	17.5
Louga	307.00	7.3	11.6	16.3
Matam	295.00	7.3	-1.7	23.9

Retail prices of white maize in Benin

CFA Franc BCEAO per kg

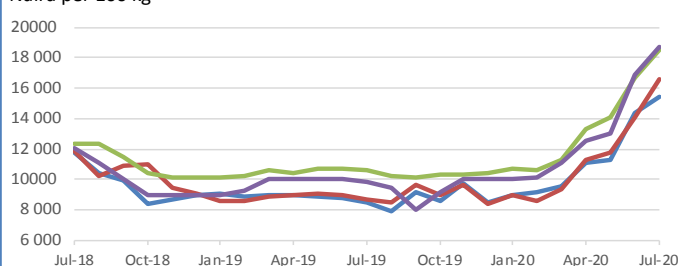


Source(s): Institut National de la Statistique et de l'Analyse Économique (INSAE)

	Latest Price Jul-20	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Natitingou	198.25	23.9	28.9	22.9
Cotonou	236.25	10.9	18.6	19.6
Parakou	227.00	24.0	33.3	32.0

Wholesale prices of maize in Nigeria

Naira per 100 kg



Source(s): FEWSNET

	Latest Price Jul-20	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Kano	15 465.00	7.5	39.9	82.8
Maiduguri	16 625.00	17.7	47.8	91.1
Lagos	18 500.00	10.6	38.6	73.5
Ibadan	18 675.00	10.7	49.4	90.6

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

SOUTHERN AFRICA

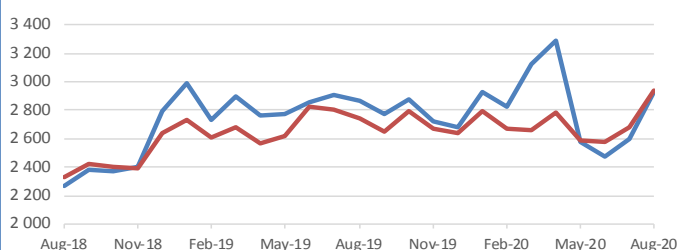
Prices of maize levelled off or started to increase in August

Prices of maize grain stabilized or began to increase in July and August as harvest pressure abated. Prices were lower or around their year-earlier levels in those countries that recorded significant production gains in 2020. In **South Africa**, wholesale prices of maize grain increased for the second consecutive month in August, largely underpinned by robust export demand, particularly for yellow maize from East Asian countries, while significant purchases of white maize by Zimbabwe added to the upward pressure. On a yearly basis, prices were slightly above those in August 2019, as good supplies from the bumper output in 2020 mostly offset the upward pressure from export demand and a weaker currency. Prices of wheat remained relatively stable in August, following strong increases in the previous months, as the market responded to an upturn in domestic production prospects. In **Zambia**, after declining in the previous months, prices of maize grain remained relatively stable in August on account of adequate domestic supplies. Prices, however, were marginally higher on a yearly basis, partly due to inflationary pressure from a weak currency, driven by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, in **Malawi**, prices of maize grain levelled off in July and

August, after the sharp declines from March, but were well below their year-earlier levels. The low prices mainly reflect the effects of an above-average harvest, while a stable currency lessened imported inflation. By contrast, in **Mozambique**, prices of maize continued to rise steadily in July and were up on their year-earlier level, due to the weather-affected harvest in 2020, a weaker currency and trade disruptions with South Africa, its main source of maize grain. Food prices in **Zimbabwe** continued to rise abruptly and the annual inflation rate was at approximately 840 percent in July. The exceptionally high prices mainly result from tight food supplies and severe macro-economic instability, particularly related to the weak value of the country's currency, further aggravated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the import-dependent countries, **Botswana** and **Eswatini**, prices of maize meal increased in July and are expected to come under further upward pressure due to the recent increase in prices in South Africa, the main source of grains of these countries. In **Namibia**, another import dependent country, increases in the prices of maize meal quickened in August as the effects of higher South African grain prices took hold.

Wholesale prices of maize in South Africa

Rand per tonne



Source(s): SAFEX Agricultural Products Division

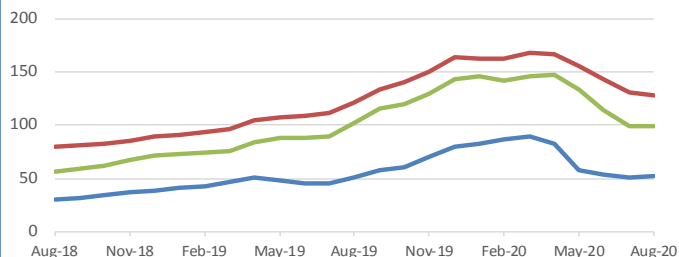
Latest Price
Aug-20

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

Randfontein, Maize (white)	2 931.15	12.9	13.6	2.2
Randfontein, Maize (yellow)	2 936.25	9.6	13.6	7.0

Retail prices of maize in Zambia

Kwacha per 17 kg



Source(s): Central Statistical Office

Latest Price
Aug-20

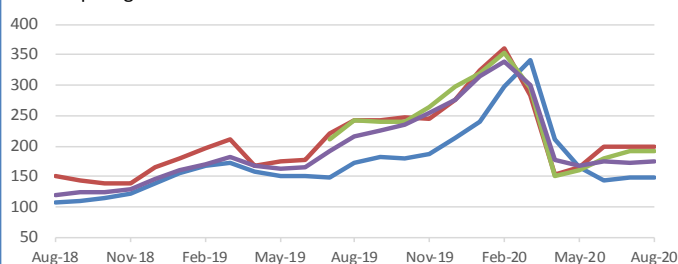
Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

National Average, Maize (white)	51.95	2.1	-10.8	1.9
National Average, Breakfast maize meal	127.81	-2.3	-18.0	5.9
National Average, White roller maize meal	98.74	-0.4	-25.9	-2.5

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Retail prices of maize in Malawi

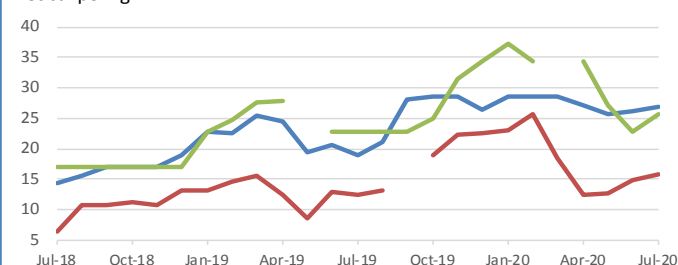
Kwacha per kg



Source(s): Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security/IFPRI

Retail prices of maize in Mozambique

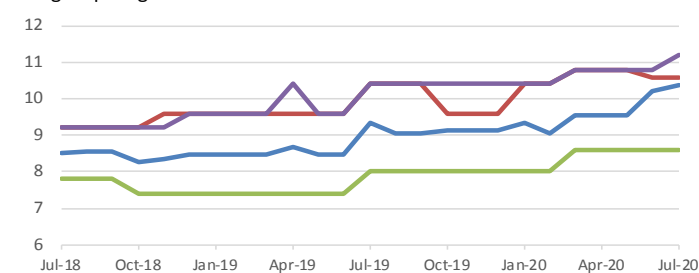
Metical per kg



Source(s): Sistema De Informação De Mercados Agrícolas De Moçambique

Retail prices of maize meal in Eswatini

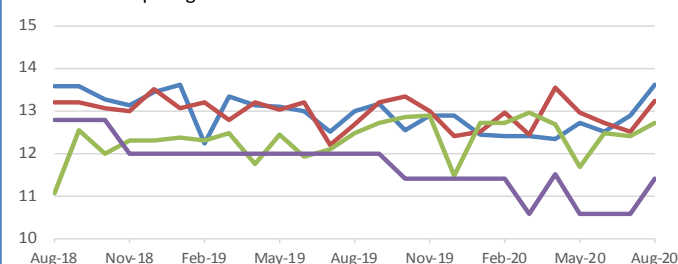
Lilangeni per kg



Source(s): Central Statistical Office (CSO)

Retail prices of maize meal in Namibia

Namibia Dollar per kg



Source(s): Namibia Statistics Agency

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

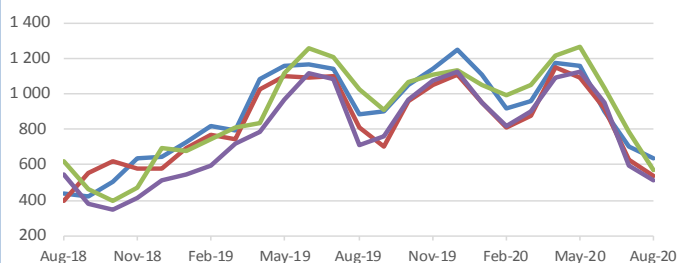
Prices of coarse grains continued to generally decline in August except in the Sudan

Prices of coarse grains declined in August where the newly harvested first season crops and the easing of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictive measures improved domestic availabilities. Further downward pressure resulted from a general decline in the domestic demand, driven by the impact of the pandemic on the economic activities and households' purchasing power. In **Uganda**, prices of maize declined significantly for the third consecutive month in August, as the first season harvest increased market supplies. A decline in the domestic demand and lower exports to Kenya provided additional downward pressure on prices, pushing them down to levels well below those a year earlier. In **Kenya**, prices of maize generally declined in August as traders released stocks ahead of the upcoming "long-rains" harvest, expected at above-average levels. However, in the capital, Nairobi, persisting supply chain disruptions linked to the pandemic led to an increase in prices. Overall, prices in August were down from a year earlier. In **the United Republic of Tanzania**, prices of maize declined in July with the recently-concluded "Masika" harvest and were at levels well below those a year earlier. By contrast, in **Rwanda** and **Burundi**, prices of maize increased seasonally for the second consecutive month in August but remained below their year-earlier

levels on account of adequate domestic availabilities following consecutive above-average harvests. In **Somalia**, prices of white maize showed signs of decline in the key producing areas in August with the start of the main "Gu" harvest, while those of red sorghum recorded increases in some markets due to unfavourable production prospects. Flood-related trade disruptions and subsequent increased transport costs provided support to prices and led to sharp increases in the capital, Mogadishu. In **South Sudan**, prices of maize and sorghum declined further in August as a result of improved market supplies from the local harvests, imports from Uganda, the country's main source for cereals, and the easing of movement restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. By contrast, in **the Sudan**, prices of sorghum and millet continued to surge in August and reached record highs, with seasonal patterns compounded by a further depreciation of the local currency on the parallel market. The exceptionally high level of prices is a result of the tight supply situation following a poor 2019 harvest and a weak currency, coupled with disruptions in market supplies amid the pandemic, fuel shortages and high prices of agricultural inputs inflating production and transportation costs.

Wholesale prices of maize in Uganda

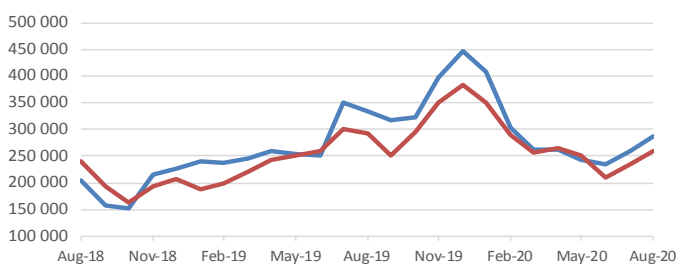
Uganda Shilling per kg



Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

Wholesale prices of maize in Rwanda

Rwanda Franc per tonne

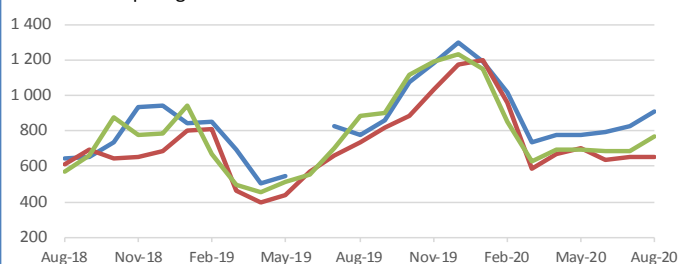


Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Wholesale prices of maize in Burundi

Burundi Franc per kg

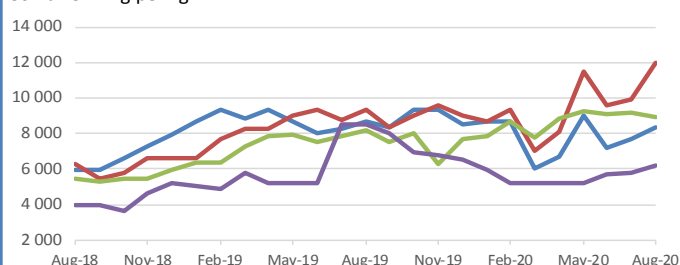


Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
908.89	9.7	16.5	16.9
657.13	0.7	-6.1	-10.9
765.46	11.4	9.7	-13.3

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in Somalia

Somali Shilling per kg

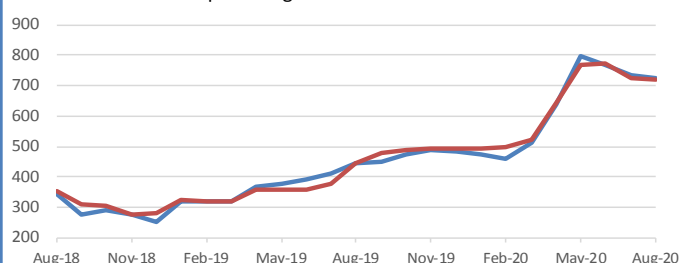


Source(s): Food Security Analysis Unit

Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
8 325.00	8.8	-7.2	-3.8
12 000.00	20.6	4.6	29.0
8 950.00	-2.1	-3.0	8.8
6 220.00	7.2	19.6	-27.3

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in South Sudan

South Sudanese Pound per 3.5 kg

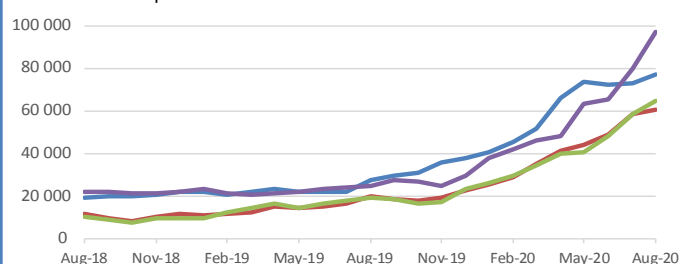


Source(s): Crop & Livestock Market Information System (CLIMIS)

Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
724.00	-1.6	-9.2	62.3
718.00	-1.1	-6.4	62.1

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in the Sudan

Sudanese Pound per tonne



Source(s): Food Security information for Action (SIFSA)

Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
77 000.00	5.3	5.0	181.4
60 500.00	3.8	37.5	207.7
64 487.50	10.1	58.4	233.1
96 580.00	21.1	53.4	295.5

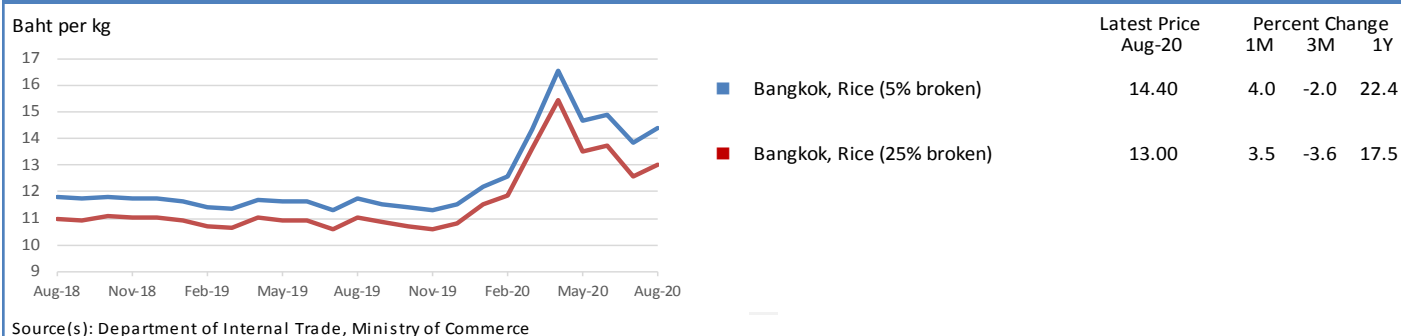
For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Prices of rice and wheat mixed in August

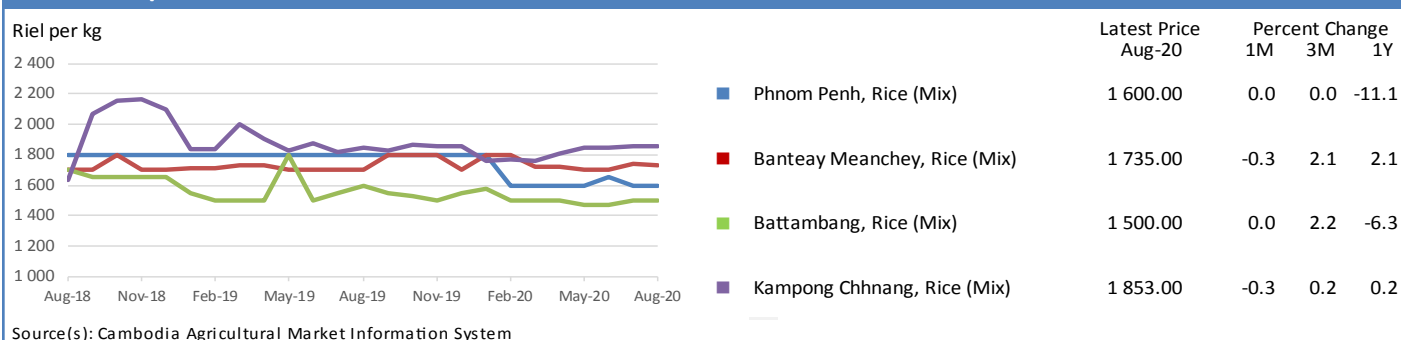
In the key exporting countries of the subregion, domestic prices of rice increased in August and were above their year-earlier levels. Significant price increases were recorded in **Viet Nam**, with seasonal upward pressure compounded by an uptick in domestic demand following a rise in COVID-19 infections and increased purchasing by traders. Similarly, prices of rice increased in **Thailand**, reaching levels about 20 percent higher than in August last year, underpinned by tight domestic supplies due to the reduced 2020 secondary season harvest and concerns over limited water supplies for irrigation. Strong buying by traders amid concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic led to a slight increase in rice prices also in **Myanmar**. In **India**, prices remained broadly stable in August in spite of logistical constraints caused by floods and COVID-19-related movement restrictions. This was as a result of adequate domestic supplies, boosted by the release of rice from the State reserves, which continued to exert downward pressure on prices. Prices remained overall stable in **Cambodia** and owing to large domestic availabilities also in **China (mainland)**. In both countries, prices were around or below their year-earlier levels. In **the Philippines**,

an importing country, average prices of rice remained virtually unchanged in August and close to their year-earlier levels, reflecting adequate market supplies from the 2020 harvests and large imports. A slight decline in the prices of rice was recorded in **Sri Lanka** in August with the onset of the 2020 secondary harvest, while in **Bangladesh**, prices increased after floods damaged crops in late July. As for wheat and wheat flour, prices increased marginally in **China (mainland)** amid concerns over the impact of the July to August floods on the "spring" wheat crops. By contrast, prices weakened in **India**, reflecting the 2020 record output, although large Government procurement limited further decreases. In **Pakistan**, prices of wheat flour decreased in several monitored markets in August, following Government measures to boost domestic availabilities: imports from the private sector were allowed in June and an international tender to buy and import 1.5 million tonnes of wheat was issued in August by the Trading Corporation of Pakistan, under the Ministry of Commerce. In importing countries, prices of wheat flour increased in **Bangladesh**, while they weakened in **Sri Lanka**, and in both countries, prices were lower than their year-earlier values.

Wholesale prices of rice in Thailand



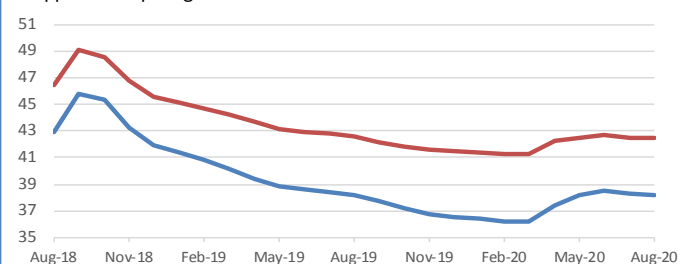
Wholesale prices of rice in Cambodia



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Retail prices of rice in the Philippines

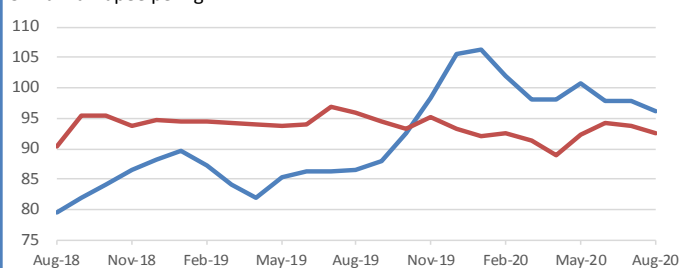
Philippine Peso per kg



Source(s): Bureau of Agricultural Statistics

Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Sri Lanka

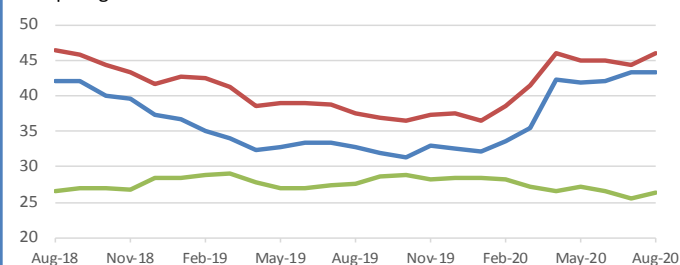
Sri Lanka Rupee per kg



Source(s): Department of Census and Statistics

Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Bangladesh

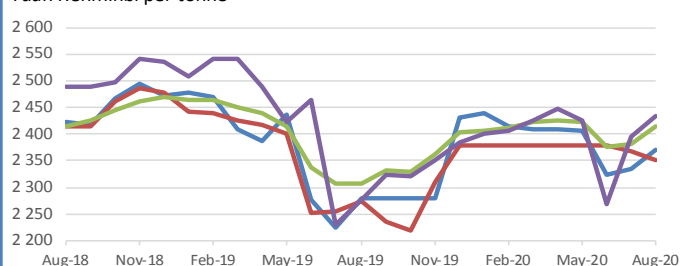
Taka per kg



Source(s): Department of Agriculture Marketing (DAM), Bangladesh

Wholesale prices of wheat in China (mainland)

Yuan Renminbi per tonne



Source(s): CnAgri - China Agriculture Consultant

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

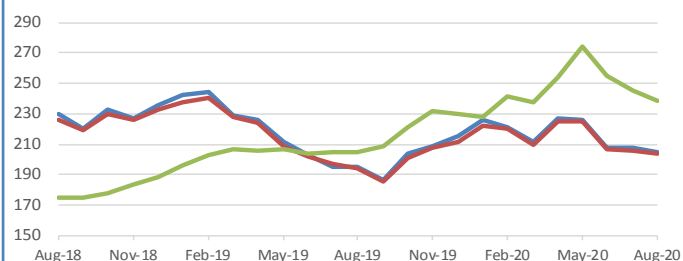
Export prices of wheat continued to decline, while domestic prices remained broadly stable

In the exporting countries of the subregion, export prices of milling wheat decreased for the third consecutive month in August, although slightly, pressured by the ongoing 2020 harvests. Prices, however, remained higher than a year earlier, particularly in **Kazakhstan**, due to reduced domestic availabilities following the below-average wheat output in 2019. In **the Russian Federation**, the upward revision of the 2020 production forecast also contributed to the downward pressure on prices, although this was limited by stronger exports. In **Ukraine**, the decline in prices was limited by the announcement of a cap on the volume of wheat exports to be allowed in the 2020/21 season ([FPMA Food Policies](#)). In the importing countries of the subregion, prices of wheat flour remained overall stable, reflecting improved market supplies from the ongoing 2020 harvests and the relaxation of restrictive measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Prices, however, were generally higher than the corresponding month last year after the significant increases in the previous months. In **Kyrgyzstan** and **Tajikistan**, prices remained overall stable in

August amid adequate market availabilities and the Government's price stabilization measures. Prices were at levels well above those a year earlier following the steep increases in the late March to May period, triggered by an upsurge in consumer demand amid concerns over the pandemic and regional export limitations. Similarly, in **Armenia** and **Georgia**, prices were relatively stable in August but higher year on year. Prices remained virtually unchanged also in **Azerbaijan** and **Belarus** in July, but at levels around or slightly below those a year earlier. With regard to potatoes, another key staple in the subregion, prices continued to generally decrease seasonally in August or held steady, but remained broadly above their levels a year earlier. Prices decreased significantly in **the Russian Federation** and **Kazakhstan** and, by a lesser extent, in **Armenia**, **Tajikistan** and **Kyrgyzstan**. In **Azerbaijan**, prices decreased in July in line with seasonal trends to levels well below those a year earlier, and in **Belarus**, the main exporting country of the subregion, although remaining higher year on year.

Export prices of milling wheat in CIS countries

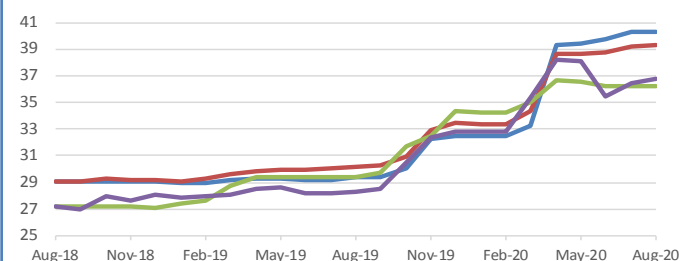
US Dollar per tonne



Source(s): APK-Inform Agency

Retail prices of wheat flour in Kyrgyzstan

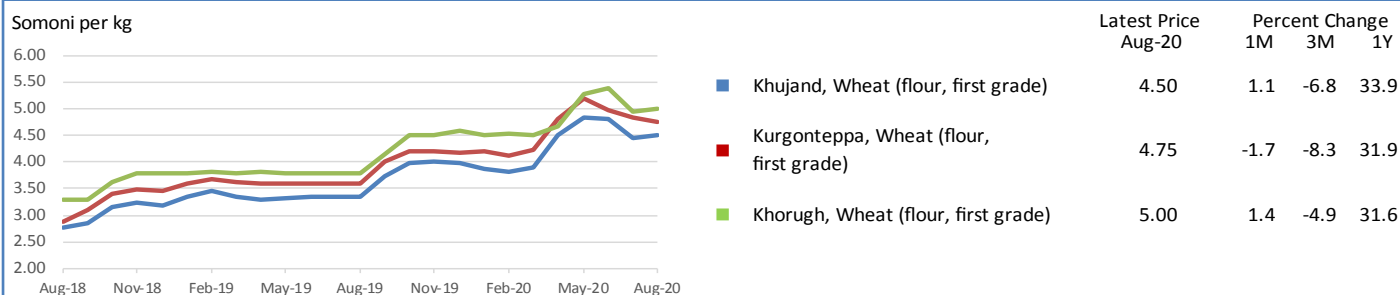
Som per kg



Source(s): National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

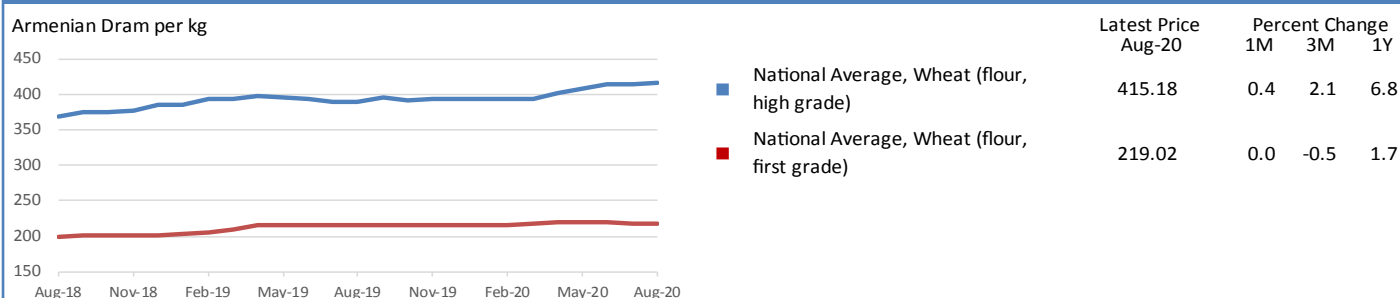
For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Retail prices of wheat flour in Tajikistan



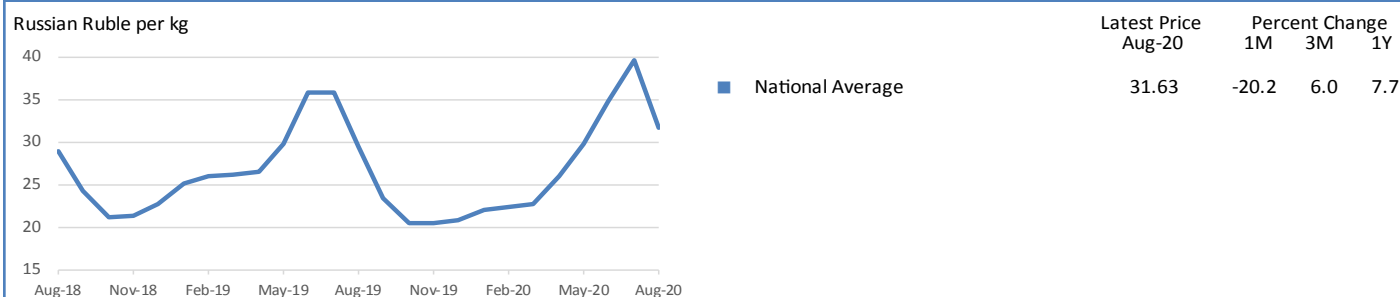
Source(s): Statistical Agency under President of the Republic of Tajikistan

Retail prices of wheat flour in Armenia



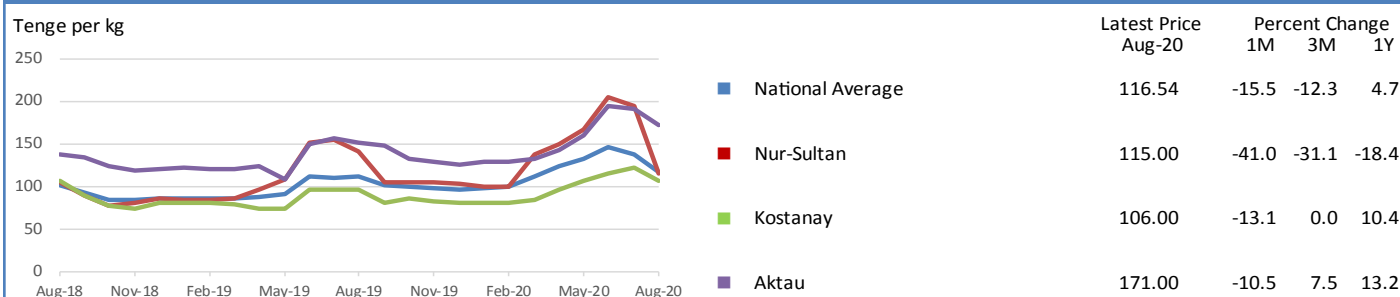
Source(s): National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia

Retail prices of potatoes in the Russian Federation



Source(s): Federal State Statistics Service

Retail prices of potatoes in Kazakhstan



Source(s): Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan - Committee on Statistics

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

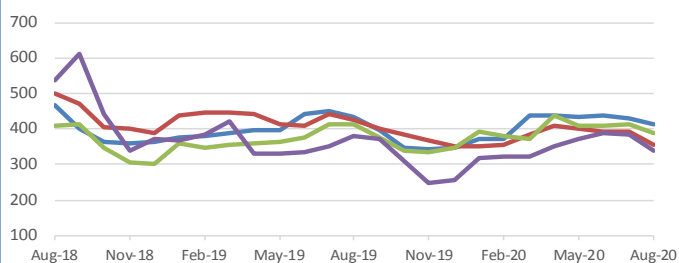
Prices of maize and beans declined seasonally in August

In most countries of the subregion, prices of white maize declined in August with the beginning of the 2020 main season harvest and were overall lower than a year earlier on account of good domestic availabilities. In **Guatemala**, prices of white maize decreased for the second consecutive month in August with large volumes of imports from Mexico continuing to keep markets well supplied. Moreover, in the second half of the month, harvesting in the southern producing areas provided additional downward pressure. Similarly, in **El Salvador**, a steady flow of imports and the beginning of the main season harvest contributed to a further decline in the prices of maize in August. After a slight rebound in July, prices decreased seasonally also in **Honduras**. In **Nicaragua**, good availabilities from the 2019 output and favourable production prospects for the 2020 main harvest, about to start, contributed to a significant decline in prices in August. By contrast, in **Mexico**, prices strengthened, after declining in the previous months, with the minor season harvest and were slightly above those a year earlier. With regard to beans, in **Honduras** and **Nicaragua**, after the sustained increases in the previous months, prices of red beans dropped by nearly 50 percent in August reflecting

the start of the new harvests, which are expected at a good level. Similarly, in **El Salvador**, prices of red beans decreased significantly in August and for the second consecutive month. In **Guatemala**, prices of black beans declined further in August with the downward pressure from adequate domestic supplies compounded by the start of the new harvests in the southeastern procuring areas of the country. A weakening domestic demand since July, after the surge amid the COVID-19 pandemic, also weighed on prices. In **Mexico**, prices of black beans strengthened in August ahead of the start of the main season harvest in October, which is expected to recover from last year's reduced level. In the Caribbean, in **Haiti**, prices of maize meal generally declined in July with the new harvest but remained higher year on year due to the poor 2019 output and expectations of a reduced harvest also this year. The depreciation of the country's currency contributed to sustain the higher year-on-year prices of imported staple foods, including rice. In the **Dominican Republic**, retail prices of black beans, after the sharp increases in the April to June period, weakened for the second consecutive month in August but remained 25 percent higher than a year earlier.

Wholesale prices of white maize in Central America

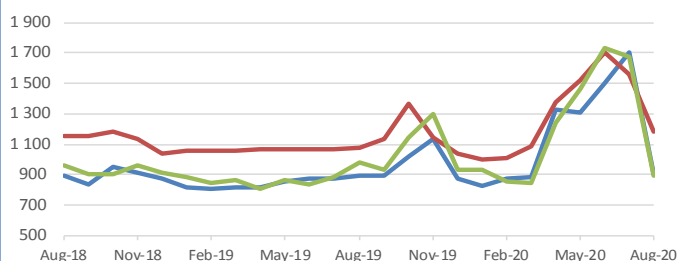
USD per tonne



Source(s): Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación; Dirección General de Economía Agropecuaria, MAG; SIMPAH

Wholesale prices of red beans in Central America

USD per tonne



Source(s): SIMPAH; Dirección General de Economía Agropecuaria, MAG

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

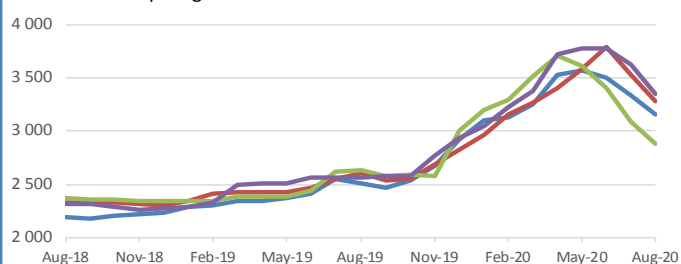
Prices of rice continued to decline in August, while those of wheat generally increased

In most countries of the subregion, the decline in the prices of rice spurred by the 2020 harvests continued into August. Prices, however, were still higher year on year after stronger demand amid the COVID-19 pandemic had underpinned the sharp increases in the March to April period. In some countries, the depreciation of the national currencies against the United States dollar also contributed to sustain the high level of prices. In **Colombia** and **Peru**, prices of rice declined for the third consecutive month in August but remained higher than a year earlier. Similarly, prices decreased in **Uruguay** and were still more than 20 percent higher than a year earlier due to strong export demand in the first half of 2020. Further price declines were also reported in **Ecuador** with the ongoing 2020 minor season harvest. In **Brazil**, prices of rice remained relatively stable in August but well above their values a year earlier after the sharp increases recorded from March, which were mainly driven by strong domestic and export demand. With regard to wheat, prices generally increased in August in line with seasonal trends and were higher than the corresponding month in 2019. In **Argentina**, prices of wheat grain increased in August, with seasonal pressure exacerbated by rising concerns over the impact of dry weather conditions on crop development in the key-producing areas. Large export sales during the season, spurred by the strong depreciation of the country's currency, contributed to keep prices higher year on year. Similarly, in **Brazil**, prices of wheat were under upward pressure in August due to seasonally tight domestic availabilities as well as concerns over crop conditions in the key southern producing areas and in the key supplier, Argentina. Prices increased also in **Chile** in line with historical trends and were nearly 20 percent higher than in August last year.

The high level of prices is due to a reduced 2019 output coupled with lower imports in the first six months of the year compared to the same period in 2019 and a weaker currency. By contrast, in **Uruguay**, prices of wheat decreased in August as favourable weather conditions boosted yields of the 2020 crop, to be harvested in November. Elsewhere in the subregion, prices of wheat flour remained relatively stable in August and were generally around their values a year earlier in **Ecuador** and **Peru** reflecting adequate imports. Prices of wheat flour remained stable in August also in **Colombia** but up on a year earlier mainly due to the depreciation of the country's currency. With regard to maize, in **Argentina**, prices of yellow maize increased for the third consecutive month in August due to abundant exports, coupled with concerns over the impact of dry weather on planting of the 2021 crop. Prices increased also in **Brazil** despite the ongoing main harvest, reflecting slow farmer selling and sustained demand from the feed industry. Large exports and a weak currency continued to provide upward pressure on prices and to keep them well above their year-earlier values. Similarly, in **Peru**, prices of yellow maize increased in August on account of the reduced harvest in the second quarter of 2020 following a contraction in plantings. By contrast, in **Ecuador**, improved market availabilities from the 2020 harvest continued to exert downward pressure on prices. In **Colombia**, prices weakened or remained stable reflecting adequate supplies from the ongoing harvest and increased imports in the second quarter of the year compared to the same period last year. In **Chile**, prices of yellow maize remained virtually unchanged in August with large imports in the first half of the year, mainly from Argentina, offsetting the upward pressure from the record low 2020 output.

Wholesale prices of rice in Colombia

Colombian Peso per kg



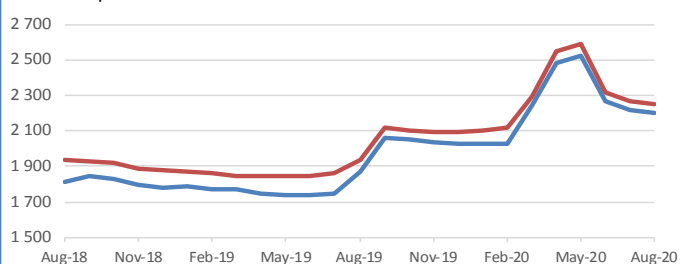
Source(s): Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística (DANE)

	Latest Price Aug-20	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Colombia, Bogotá, Rice (first quality)	3 160.00	-5.3	-11.3	25.8
Colombia, Barranquilla, Rice (first quality)	3 274.33	-7.0	-8.7	25.6
Colombia, Medellín, Rice (first quality)	2 880.00	-6.8	-20.3	9.5
Colombia, Cartagena, Rice (first quality)	3 340.33	-7.6	-11.6	30.6

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Wholesale prices of rice in Peru

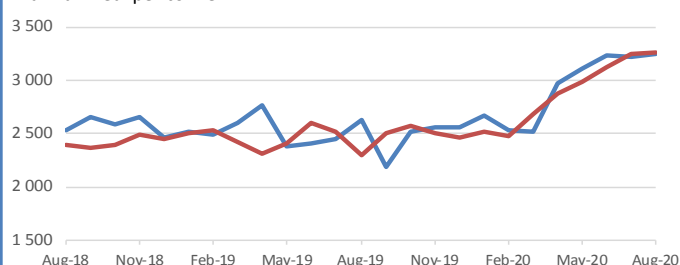
Nuevo Sol per tonne



Source(s): Ministerio de Agricultura y Riego

Wholesale prices of rice in Brazil

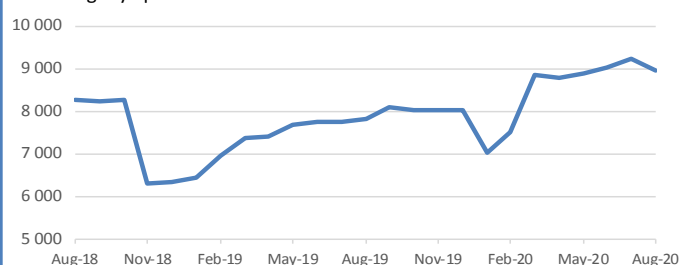
Brazilian Real per tonne



Source(s): Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (Conab)

Wholesale prices of wheat in Uruguay

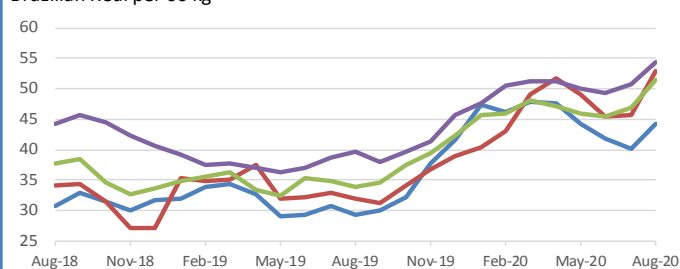
Peso Uruguayo per tonne



Source(s): Instituto Nacional de Estadística, División Estadísticas Económicas, Departamento de Encuestas de Actividad Económica, Sección Encuestas Estructurales de Actividad Económica

Wholesale prices of yellow maize in Brazil

Brazilian Real per 60 kg



Source(s): Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (Conab)

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This bulletin is prepared by the **Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Team** of the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) in the Markets and Trade Division of FAO. It contains latest information and analysis on domestic prices of basic foods mainly in developing countries, complementing FAO analysis on international markets. It provides early warning on high food prices at country level that may negatively affect food security.

This report is based on information available up to early September 2020, collected from various sources.

All the data used in the analysis can be found in the **FPMA Tool** at: www.fao.org/giews/food-prices/tool/public/index.html#/home.

For more information visit the **FPMA Website** at: www.fao.org/giews/food-prices.

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