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**Title of the Paper**

**Agricultural Statistics: The Sri Lankan Experiences of  
Developing Agricultural Marketing Information Service  
for  
Small Farmers  
(Commodity Price Reporting System).**

**Paper submitted By**

**T.A. Dharmaratne  
Research Fellow**

**Agrarian Research and Training Institute  
114, Wejerama Mawatha, Colombo.  
Sri Lanka.**

**E-Mail: [tadharma@yahoo.com](mailto:tadharma@yahoo.com)**

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## **Abstract**

### **Agricultural Statistics: The Sri Lankan Experiences of Developing Agricultural Marketing Information Service For Small Farmers (Commodity Price Reporting System).**

In the context of economic liberalization and globalization, that has seen increased interest in the provision of market information. Efficient market information has benefits for farmers, traders and policy makers. **Market Information Services\* (MIS)** in Sri Lanka initially started in 1980's and **"Market Intelligence and Food Information System project"** was established in 1996, with the assistance of USAID, UNDP and FAO. **"Food Commodities Bulletin"**, weekly and **"Food Information Bulletin"**, monthly, are the two major agricultural statistics documents that prepared by project, which provide price statistics and information to government, farmers, traders, consumers and necessary clients. Periodicals played vital role, in connection to the allocation of resources, improving bargaining position, reducing transaction cost, making awareness of farmers and traders, supporting consumers to bargaining and given valuable statistics for policy makers to safeguarding food securities.

Despite of considerable benefits, there are significant amount of problems and constraints. Some of the problems and constraints are administrative and management. Except for managing harms and limitations, this paper will only examine, review and highlighted the strengths, weakness, and challenges of the "method of agricultural prices data collections, processing, transmission, dissemination and utilizations, in association to the agricultural statistics. Qualitative and descriptive analysis are given priority for technique of presentations, duplication of activities, political and other interference, accuracy and reliability, and timely disseminations. Paper will attempt to prove that large percentages of works on MIS are primarily data gathering exercises, and even this is done inadequately. Data and information are not arriving at farmers' level, due to various reasons. Communication and presentation techniques should have many difficulties. Completed the donor project, MIS has faced financial crisis, because they are frequently operated by government officials who lack of commercial approach, and sustainability of the system is questionable. Hence, researchers, statisticians, analysts and policy makers have responsible to correct its.

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- **Market Information Services\* (MIS) and "Market Intelligence and Food Information System project in Sri Lanka , are operated by the Marketing and Food Policy Division of the Agrarian Research and Training Institute, (ARTI) which is the pioneer socio-economic research organization of the government of Sri Lanka. Author of this paper, is worked in this institute as a Research Fellow.**

# Agricultural Statistics: The Sri Lankan Experiences of Developing Agricultural Marketing Information Service for Small Farmers

## Introduction

What is statistics? Essentially statistics is the study of numerical data. The word “statistics” is derived from the Latin word “**Statis**” which means a “**Political state**”. Clearly, statistics is closely linked with the administrative affairs of a state such as facts and figures, regarding defense force, population, housing, financial resources, health etc. What is true about a government is also true about industrial administration units, and even one’s personal life. The statistics has several meaning and definitions. American Heritage Dictionary defines statistics as “**The mathematics of the collection and interpretation of numerical data, specially the analysis of population characteristics from sampling**”. The Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary definition is “**A branch of mathematics dealing with collection, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of masses of numerical data**”. Therefore, we can say, **what is statistics? Statistics** is the set of methods for obtaining, organizing, summarizing, presenting and analyzing data.

- Describing data
- Collecting data
- drawing conclusions from data

Our data come from characteristics measured on **individuals** or **units**. These can be people, animals, things, places, etc. These characteristics of statistics are:

- Aggregate of facts
- Affected by multiplicity
- Numerically expressed
- Estimated according to reasonable standards of accuracy
- Collected in a systematic manner
- Collected for a predetermined purpose
- Place in relation to each other

Further, these definitions clearly points out five stages in statistical investigation, namely:

1. Collection of data
2. Analysis of data
3. Presentation of data
4. Interpretation of data
5. Organization of data

Base on theses theoretical and conceptual ground, statistics provide crucial guidance in determining what information is reliable and which can be trusted. They often help search for clues to the solution of a scientific mystery, and keep investigators from being misled by false impressions. Statistics work in a variety of fields, including **agriculture, industries, medicine, government, education, business and law**. Agriculture Statistics is the collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of a broad range of agricultural commodity statistics. Also included are the conduct of specialized sample surveys, cost of production surveys and agriculture censuses. Thus, this paper examines and reviews the “**Agricultural Statistics**” specially in relation to the collection, analyzing and dissemination on “**agricultural commodity price data and marketing information**”

system in Sri Lanka, that are highlighting their perspectives and prospective. In doing so, the paper has four segments. The first part of the paper is review the role of the market information system in the country, and second section of the paper is dealing with the setting up market information service, and third part of the paper is analyzing the experiences of market information services in Sri Lanka, during last twenty five years. Last part of the paper is provided the conclusion.

## **Part 1: The Role of Marketing Information System**

What is marketing information system? The **FAO**<sup>1</sup> definition is as follows.

*“A service, usually operated by the public sector, which involves the collection on a regular basis of information on prices and, in some case, quantities of widely traded agricultural products from rural assembly markets, wholesale and retail markets, as appropriate, and dissemination of this information on a timely and regular basis through various media to farmers, traders, government officials, policy makers and others, including consumers”.*

Moreover, as **Kotler's**<sup>2</sup> definition says, a marketing information system is more than a system of data collection or a set of information technologies:

*"A marketing information system is a continuing and interacting structure of people, equipment and procedures to gather, sort, analyze, evaluate, and distribute pertinent, timely and accurate information for use by marketing decision makers to improve their marketing planning, implementation, and control".*

The Asian and Pacific region is still largely agricultural, but traditional farming is rapidly being transformed into a commercial enterprise which produces mainly for marketing. The dissemination of accurate and timely marketing information is vital in helping farmers make good marketing decision. Marketing information not only helps farmers make profitable decision in the short term on when and where to market produce, and what price to expect. It also has another vital function, of helping farmers decide what to produce. Since there may be a time delay of months or year between investing in a crop or herd and getting a profit, farmers who understand market trends and market opportunities have a better chance of succeeding than those who do not. In fact, marketing information system plays a vital role in the whole market, by regulating the competitive marketing process. By helping ensure that produce goes to markets where there is a demand, it shortens marketing channels and cuts down on transport costs. It helps ensure that each marketing transaction is a fair one, and that all participants share the risks and benefits. However, this does not happen if marketing information is distributed unequally, as is generally the case when many small-scale farmers in Asia are selling to a relatively few large-scale dealers. The farmers then end up bearing the greater part of the risk, while the dealers end up with the greater part of the profits. Recent advances in information technology are making it more feasible to provide small-scale

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<sup>1</sup> **Market Information Services: Theory and Practice**, by Andrew W. Shepherd, **FAO Agricultural services Bulletin 125, 1997, Rome**

<sup>2</sup> **Kotler, P., (1988) Marketing Management: Analysis Planning and Control, Prentice-Hall p. 102.**

farmers with the marketing information they need. However, farmers may not benefit from sophisticated facilities, if the system is poorly managed or not designed for their needs. It is not enough for marketing information to be collected; it must also be disseminated in a form accessible to farmers and adapted to their needs.

The essential data of marketing information are price data. Agricultural price data are based on thousand or millions of transactions, many of them on a small scale, that are taking place every day all over the countries. Collecting an adequate sample and making sure that these are representative enough to be useful is not an easy task. In each country, the central government office is linked to numerous reporting stations in the provinces or districts which report regularly on the local prices of a range of commodities. The role of information plays in development of agriculture in many countries is becoming more crucial than even before. Market information is an important facilitating function in the agricultural marketing systems. It facilitates marketing decisions, regulates the competitive market process and simplifies marketing mechanisms. Regular, timely and reliable market information is needed by farmers in planning production and marketing, as well as by other market participants in arriving at optimal trading decisions. Developing countries, where more than 90 per cent agricultural producers are small and marginal farmers, marketing information service should ideally be available to all. Removal of some restrictions on storage and movement of agricultural production in the country demand existence of complete and accurate marketing information service to farmers to facilitate better realization of prices for the produce marketed. Use of computers can improve the availability and delivery of information in a user-friendly manner to farmers and other market participants.

It is useful to distinguish between “**Market Information System**”<sup>3</sup> and “**Agricultural Marketing Information Services**”<sup>4</sup> which are one referring in this document. The first one being a much wider concept which is likely to include details on potential market channels, payment requirements, packaging, quality and a whole host of information required by a producer to make a successful sale including market information. We have also avoided the word “system” as this conveys a rather abstract data gathering exercise which is not necessarily oriented to providing a ‘service’ to farmers and traders.

The latter, a “Market Information Service” is seen as providing “transparency” to the market, for example, a full awareness of all parties of prevailing market prices and other relevant information. This, in turn, can contribute to “arbitrage”, for example, the act of buying at a lower price and selling at a higher price. In theory, when a marketing system functions efficiently prices at different markets are influenced by arbitrage activities of traders, i.e., “spatial arbitrage” takes place. Traders take advantage of price differences until these differences decrease to the level of transaction costs. “Temporal arbitrage” is the storing of product in order to take advantage of expected higher prices later in the

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<sup>3</sup> **Market Information Services: Theory and Practice**, by Andrew W. Shepherd, **FAO Agricultural services Bulletin 125, 1997, Rome, Page 3.**

<sup>4</sup> **Market Information Services: Theory and Practice**, by Andrew W. Shepherd, **FAO Agricultural services Bulletin 125, 1997, Rome, page3.**

season or, in some cases, in subsequent years. Based on the above border vision, FAO have identifying the benefits and impacts of “Marketing Information Services” as follows.

- “Market Information, that can be facilitate to efficient allocation of productive resources in agriculture; and the bargaining position of farmers with traders can be improved; in the process of buying and selling
- Information reduces transaction costs (the costs of selling the produce” by reducing risks. Farmers with timely and reliable information and the ability to interpret it can decide to which market they should send their produce to maximize returns or, indeed, whether to send their produce to market at all;
- Lack of information is an entry barrier to both production and trade, where farers have had access to information; shifts in cropping patterns to higher value produce have been noted. In the area of trade individuals find it difficult to begin trading without information, so reducing competition within markets;
- Market information can be particularly valuable where countries are changing over from a state-controlled marketing system to one of private enterprise, in that farmers and small traders are made more aware of market opportunities;
- By contributing to more efficient marketing, particularly improved spatial distribution, market information should be beneficial for consumers as well as farmers and traders. Information on retail prices may also under certain circumstances, assist consumers to bargain;
- This essence of a good Market Information Service is that it should provide commercially useful information on a timely basis. Information produced by Market Information System is, however, also useful to policy makers. This should, in the long run, improve policy formulation as the functioning of markets comes to be better understood.
- Market information is also an important component of early warning system for food security at it can assist in identifying areas of possible shortage and can highlight whether prices are above or below normal seasonal trends’<sup>5</sup>.

Different countries have developed different marketing information systems, with variations only partly related to the amount of money invested in the systems. Agricultural marketing information system is a national government service which receives regular government funding. They are also related to planning priorities and the type of commodity produced. These information systems are usually run by the Ministry of Agriculture, or its equivalent organizations or some times several ministries. While most of the countries in Asia, operating a marketing information services with the express aim of promoting efficient marketing and raising farm income. The form it takes varies according to the level of economic development, and especially the extent to which agriculture has changed from subsistence to commercial farming.

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<sup>5</sup> **Market Information Services: Theory and Practice**, by Andrew W. Shepherd, FAO Agricultural services Bulletin 125, 1997, Rome Page 3-4.

## **Part 2: Setting Up a Marketing Information Service in Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka is essentially an agrarian economy as society and basically depends on agricultural production. It is therefore; essentially that the "Agricultural Information" thrust should lay grater emphasis on the transfer of production and marketing information from the relevant institutions to its actual users. However, Sri Lanka was one of the first among developing country, which implemented a far reaching of economic reforms since late 1970. Liberalization of agricultural markets is the pioneer reform program under the economic reforms as a result the government of Sri Lanka introduced Marketing system in 1980s. Therefore, within the framework of economic liberalization marketing information system is much important and played an essential role for the system of production and marketing. To full filling this requirement, the government of Sri Lanka introduced agricultural marketing information system in 1979 under the support of USAID. This was the "Marketing and Food Policy Division (MFPD) of Agrarian Research and Training Institute" (ARTI), which was implemented in 1980. The main role of that division is collection, analysis, complication, and determination of market statistics for policy markers in the government, farmers, traders' academician and others. However, in Sri Lanka, there are three organization are mainly involved in collection of Marketing Statistics, that are namely.

1. Agrarian Research and Training Institute (ARTI).
2. Department of Census and Statistics (DCS).
3. Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

The Department of Census and statistics (DCS) is the central government agency (national) responsible for the collection, compilation analysis and dissemination of the all kinds of data requirement of the government and other users. Meanwhile, there is a country wide data collection system under Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) under this subject, Central Bank collects. Producer, wholesale and retail prices of major food commodities from 100 centers. However, it is obvious note that, these two organizations are not providing the market information, but they provide some partial market information to the government and others. Therefore, this papaw is not providing details and not analysis the workers done by DCS and CBS in connection of MIS. The paper only concerns the, Market Information System that function by the Agrarian Research and Training Institute (ARTI) under the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Services in government of Sri Lanka.

Agrarian Research and Training Institute, which is the primer government socio economic research institute, establish by the government of Sri Lanka with the assistance of FAO and UNDP in 1960. The Marketing and Food Policy Division of the Agrarian Research and Training Institute, which is implemented the marketing information systems in 1979. The mechanism for collection of market information was developed as new project 1995 under the financial and technical assistance from FAO and UNDP. The project provided an advisor and some amount of hardware, such as computers and other data transmission equipments. However, Marketing and Food Policy Division's mandate, basic structure and normal operating procedure in tact, though expand in coverage. The main development activities of the project, is as follows.

1. Increased geographical coverage of the price collection and monitoring system.
2. Frequent broadcasting of prevailing producer, wholesale and retail prices.
3. Publication of two bulletins "Weekly Food Commodity Bulletin" which describes recent Prices behavior and "Monthly Food Information Bulletin" which analyzes the recent food Supply situation in countries and
4. Provision of information to public sector decision markers on specific operational and Policy issues regarding the marketing of food crops.

The ultimate goal was to increase rural incomes of farmers through their use of this information in negotiating price and identifying better market opportunities. The project objectives were to improve transparency and increase competition in the markets through the provision of price and market information to farmers, traders, and consumers. The most important fact that the entire assignment activity based on the simple electronic trade information systems, in use of fax, telephone, computers and net works facilities, internet, televisions, radios and other simple communication techniques, in the framework of e-commerce and marketing. Benefits from that agricultural marketing information system should include.

- (A) Improved bargaining position for farmers, exporters and other agribusinesses that become well informed of current prices and market conditions.
- (B) Competitive pressures among traders should bid-up farm gate prices.
- (C) More orderly marketing of commodities should lessen surpluses, which contribute to Post harvest losses.
- (D) Better balance of supply and demand between deficit and surplus locations and in- and off-season marketing periods.
- (E) Improved recognition of profitable sales there by providing timely incentives and alteration to supplies conditions.

To achieve these benefits, the information system must provide relevant, reliable timely accessible and responsive information to the farmers. The project calls "Market Intelligence and Food Information" project which consisting and expending" two broad areas of;

(1). **Marketing Information System (MIS)** is weekly information system, published by the "Food Commodity Bulletin", which is released every Friday and preparation of the bulletin is done in Agrarian Research and Training Institute office in Colombo. The major outlook and some of the key indicators of prices of the bulletin are viewed in annexure 1. Description statistics such as range and average are worked out ad price comparisons and made as compared to last seek and last year for he corresponding period. The coverage of marketing statistics was limited. Retail prices were gathered from ten principle cities plus Colombo, capital of the Sri Lanka, which includes 10 retail markets. Wholesale prices collection was carried out Colombo market and producer prices were collected from major producing areas within the disgusted major producing areas. The prices (wholesale, retail and producer) and mainly collected from the commodities of rice, chilies, onions, potatoes, vegetables, fruits, egg, fish and dried fish. Finally the Food Commodities Bulletin weekly, provide agricultural prices and market



information to the National Food Policy Committee (NFPC) and the Cost of Living Review Committee (CLRC) with makes policy decisions with reformation to production and marketing of agricultural commodity. The bulletin also distributed to the other ministries of the government, departments, state and private banks, foreign donor and other institutes, Embassies, private trading companies and traders, Non governmental organizations, news papers, media agencies, electronic medias and local farmers.

**(2). Food Information System (FIS)** is monthly information system published by the "Food Information Bulletin" which related in end of the every month. It is one of major product of the project on "Market Intelligence and Food Information". The major outlook and brief summary of the key indicators of prices, production, crop situation and food stocks, are in the bulletin viewed in annexure 2. This is also major publication done by Marketing and Food Policy Division of the Agrarian Research and Training Institute office in Colombo. The bulletin provide the over role food marketing situation of the country with averages and absolute statistics of retail prices, wholesale prices, producer prices in major crop areas and quantity of food imports and their values, CIF prices and countries that are food imports in Sri Lanka. Further, the information on crop stage in major producing areas, cultivation extents, and target crop growing extents, actual crop extents, achievements, water levels of major irrigation tanks (schemes), rainfalls and climate conditions and patterns and if their some droughts, floods or any other causes are leading to occurring crop damages are key indicators and information that are available of the monthly bulletin. The politicians and policy makers of the government were the leading beneficiary of the monthly "Food Information bulletin" and other clients or customers of this bulletin is also same as "weekly Food Commodity Bulletin" and there is no significant difference.

In addition to that, there are number of other activities were planned by the project. An introduction of Marketing Extension Service (MES) and Marketing Advisory Service (MAS), Dissemination of Daily prices: wholesale, Retail and Producers prices by the print and electronic medias, price forecasting and conducting the marketing research studies and training programs for farmers, traders and official of the extension service were become some of leading activities in the project. The majority of the activities put into practice in the project period, while the withdrawn of donor supports on financial and technical, most of activities and program have been stooped or stagnated. Information service was turn into the more unworkable activities and inefficiency of the system lead to the lack of financial resources from the government. The lacks of resources were generating the more complicated environment and the expectation of the project was far below than the achievements. However, it is better to point out that there are some benefits and few positive impacts of the project. Policy makers of the ministries and department in the government, academicians and other officials were received the benefits and very few traders are get some remuneration. The data gathering exercises have developed a better data base on prices of many agricultural commodities. Disappointment of the marketing information services in Sri Lanka and many other countries, has raise question of "why, failure of information system, is it defective policy implementation or malfunctioning of the project implementation?" There should be a research study that will be answers to these questions and the experiences realized by the project are discussed in the next section.

### **Part 3: Experiences of Marketing Information Service in Sri Lanka**

Many empirical evidences have confirmed that the developing and implementing of efficient and sustainable agricultural marketing information systems are not easy task on the process of agricultural transformation. The benefits of such systems shows that are debatable and failure to operate timely, accurate, reliable data and statistics to those who are need market information. Experiences of marketing information systems (services) that are implemented in many other developing countries, including Sri Lanka, are analysis and studied by the FAO and provided the following explanation as concluding remarks.

“It is however, a big leap from identifying a need for information provision to actually meeting that need. In recent years, many countries have experienced great difficulties in marking that leap, and relatively few developing countries presently have market information services that offer commercially useful information on a timely basis. Public- sector MIS suffer from all of the problems faced by bureaucracies in poor countries. They nearly all face staffing constraints. Most lack of resources to carry out day-to-day operations and this trends to lower staff motivation. While the weaknesses of bureaucracies are often not particularly visible to the outsider, the failures of MIS are there for all to see. Notice boards which are rarely updated and have not been given a coat of paint in a decade, newspaper columns which do not appear and daily radio broadcasts which suddenly become weekly broadcasts are all obvious evidence of problems. Once an MIS begins to go downhill it becomes very difficult to reverse the direction and many MIS are now services in name only”.

*(Market Information Services: Theory and Practice, by Andrew W. Shepherd, FAO Agricultural services Bulletin 125, 1997, Rome. Page -53).*

In comparison to the above understanding of the FAO, practices, implementations, impacts and benefits of the marketing information system of Sri Lanka has not significant differences. However, in Sri Lanka, problems and restrictions with operating and implementing system of marketing information are numerous. Problems of data collections, data processing and transmission, dissemination of information, utilization of data and information, duplication of data collection activities, charging for market information and political interference and bureaucratic intervention were the prime problems of the marketing information system that is implementing in Sri Lanka. Except for these problems, there are several fundamental questions that are leading to the failure of the marketing information system. There are two major questions;

- (1) Why Sri Lankan farmers are fail to use of market information? Use of market information by the small frames is very limited, because they cannot use this data for planning or bargaining or any other purpose at the market, due the statistics and data are only few types of prices and production figures. That information is not enough for making right decisions on what to produce, how to

produce, when to produce and where to produce and bargaining to commodities prices. Sri Lankan farmers have to struggle with costs and prices in other countries. Therefore, farmers in Sri Lanka have need to more compressive, trouble-free and detail information on marketing and production in international markets. Prevailing local marketing information is not enough for making correct decisions in agriculture.

- (2) Why and what is the reasons for malfunction to many “Marketing Information Projects” that were introduced by the national governments and donor agencies in many developing countries, as in Sri Lanka. The fact that surveyed and highlighted by the FAO as “..... Adopting very understanding criteria as to what constitutes an acceptable service, we managed, from a survey of 120 countries, to identify only 53 functioning Marketing Information Services. Moreover, from the information received, the utility of many of those services that meet our criteria must be open to some question. “.....However, problems with operating MIS are numerous. The main constraints appear to stem from lack of resources, not so much to establish an MIS, where donors are often prepared to assist, but to maintain it in efficient operation after the donors have left. Particularly in day and age when governments are under pressures to cut expenditures, it is often difficult to maintain political support for services with few visible benefits.”<sup>6</sup>

Judging by the above Sri Lankan experiences, it is understood that the agricultural information systems (service) paradigm provides a framework for discussing the agricultural marketing information processes. Before one embarks on establishing an information system, it is important to realize that information is not equivalent to “date and statistics” Therefore, it is clear to note that the Agricultural Marketing Information System in Sri Lanka, is generated in much “date and statistics’ on marketing, but it is not adequately and effectively analysis and interpretations to generate “information” that will be useful to “farmers, traders, and rural communities to make their decisions on crop production and marketing. It has not helping farmers to improve their bargaining power at the rural markets, while reducing cheating by middlemen and other intermediary agents. Although, the use of marketing information on the some other parties in the country such as government, policy makers, academicians, and specially politicians are significant. The actual benefits and remuneration of the market information system, are not properly receiving to millions of small farmers those who are living in remote rural agricultural areas. The agricultural traders are also getting fewer benefits from the system, since some of the inherited problems and constraints in marketing system. Therefore, the poor performances are the results of several causes of the production and marketing system that are directly relation to the asymmetry of information in micro-economics. The benefits to farmers are relatively limited. Distributing of marketing information at a grass root level is not adequate to meet the needs of farmers. The information distributing trends to be raw price data often averaged over the country, which is little use to farmers.

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<sup>6</sup> **Market Information Services: Theory and Practice**, by Andrew W. Shepherd, FAO Agricultural services Bulletin 125, 1997, Rome, Page 17.

#### **Part 4: conclusion.**

The general tone of the conclusion of this paper is neither particularly optimistic nor particularly pessimistic. There are major obstacles to improving “agricultural marketing statistics”, but also many opportunities. The main message is perhaps a questioning of whether the right balance of strategies has been found for “agricultural Marketing information systems”. In developing countries agricultural decisions are taken by the small farmers based on the local level market information. This is in spite of the fact that in the process of economic liberalization and globalizations, agricultural markets in many countries have been linked, integrated and influenced by the global market. Thus, empirical evidences show that the individual farmer decisions are not helpful in managing their economic efficiency and profitability without information on production and marketing in their own countries as well as of the international market. To be effective individual farmers in a small developing country like Sri Lanka should not take decisions regarding production and marketing without considering the situation in the international market like the cost of production, supply trends, international prices etc to avoid marketing problems.

Free imports and exports are prime policy instrument and strategy for the development of agricultural markets in liberalized economies that we found in almost all countries. Therefore, farmers can not take any decisions on “what to produce, how to produce, where to produce and when to produce without sufficient information. Due to lack of information farmers will not be in a position to plan their production in line with market demand and schedule their harvest so that they have the price advantage in providing produce to the market at off-peak times, unable to decide to which niche markets they should cater their produce and have the bargaining power to negotiate on a more even footing with traders. Sri Lanka experiences confirm the situation of this asymmetry of marketing information that hinders their ability to change from subsistence orientation to market orientation.

Sri Lanka is a unique country that the cost of production in most of agricultural commodities is higher than many other countries in the South Asia as well as in some of countries in East Asia. When compared to the cost of production of Indian farmers, Sri Lanka farmers spent twice or more for cultivation of potatoes, rice, chilies onions and some variety of pluses. In comparing production cost, this holds for many other countries in the region. It is important to note that the Sri Lanka has already been entirely liberalized and allow free imports and exports of agricultural commodities. Therefore, it is imperative that Sri Lankan farmers should have fuller access basic agricultural marketing information at the regional as well as global level. Without such information they cannot make correct decisions on what to produce, how to produce, when and where to produce. It is understood that the marketing information are not only few of “prices and production date” but it has many facets. Thus Sri Lanka should have a marketing information system including “agricultural statistics.” Such an “agricultural statistics” system, marketing information should cater for the need for international comparison of cost of production, prices by crop, and timing of availability, demand etc. Such information should be available widely and shared by partnering countries to benefit

equally and reach common development objectives. Therefore, researchers, statisticians, academicians and policy makers have to play a major role in creation and dissemination of market information. In this light, one would recommend rethinking and restructuring of agricultural marketing information systems which are applicable for economic and agricultural globalization.

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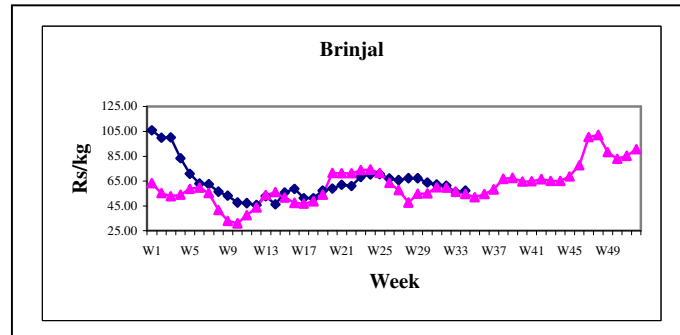
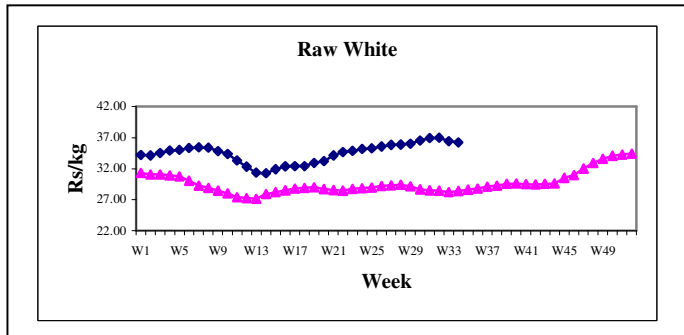
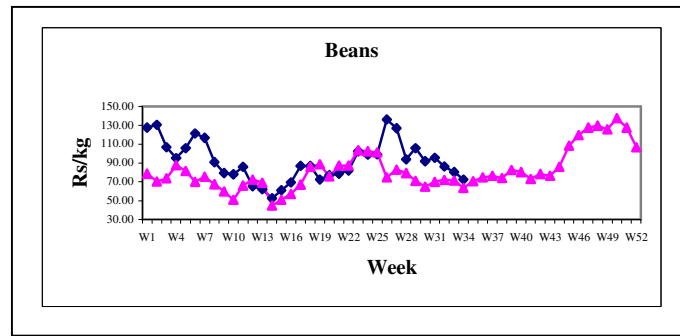
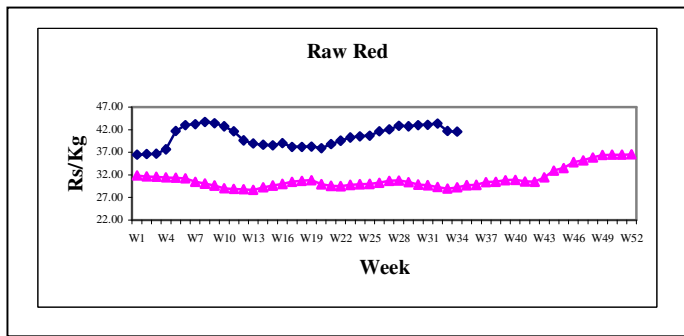
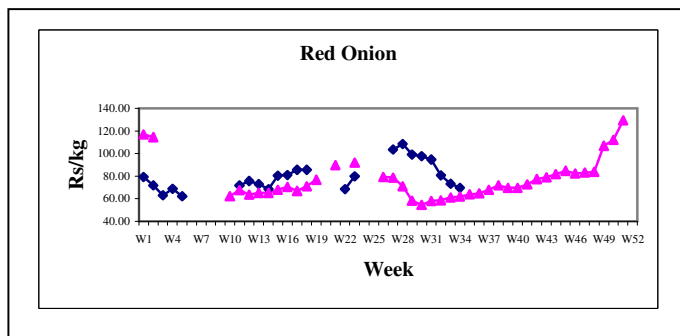
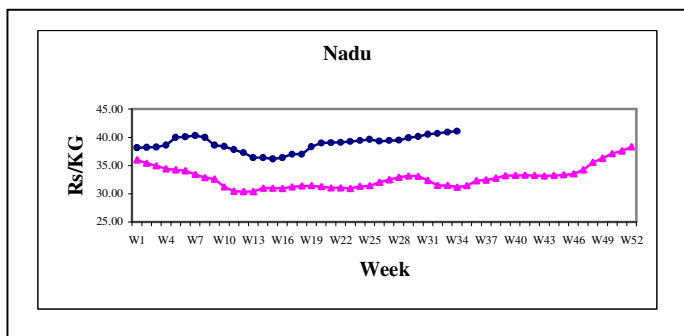
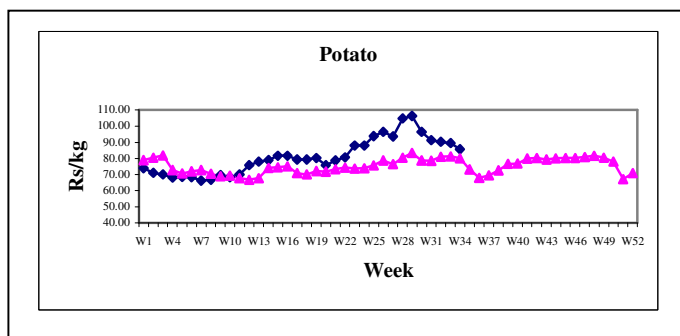
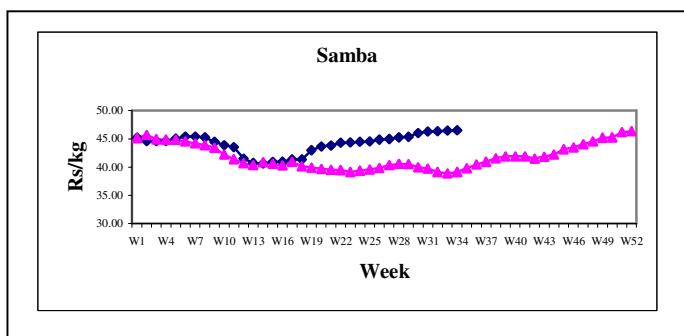
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**Table 12 - Pettah Market: Wholesale prices (Rs/kg or Rs/Piece)**

**Week 34: 17 - 23 August 2007**

| COMMODITY              | Range           | Average Price |           |           | Change Compared to |              | COMMODITY              | Range           | Average Price |           |           | Change Compared to |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|                        |                 | this week     | last week | last year | last week(%)       | last year(%) |                        |                 | this week     | last week | last year | last week%         | last year(%) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Rice</b>            |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Samba 1                | 39.22 - 40.98   | 39.80         | 39.00     | 31.86     | 1.01               | 24.93        | <b>Fruit</b>           |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Samba 2                | 37.70 - 39.22   | 38.30         | 37.44     | 30.32     | 1.14               | 26.33        | <b>Plantain</b>        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Samba 3                | 36.54 - 37.70   | 36.99         | 36.03     | 28.91     | 1.31               | 27.94        | Ambul                  | 2.75 - 3.00     | 2.90          | 2.78      | 2.33      | 2.11               | 24.46        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nadu 1                 | 35.00 - 35.50   | 35.17         | 35.43     | 26.25     | -0.37              | 33.97        | Kolikuttu              | 7.00 - 9.00     | 8.00          | 8.00      | 6.30      | 0.00               | 26.98        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nadu 2                 | 34.00 - 34.50   | 34.17         | 34.23     | 25.25     | -0.09              | 35.31        | Seeni                  | 2.00 - 2.75     | 2.54          | 2.50      | 1.68      | 0.79               | 51.19        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Raw (red)              | 34.00 - 38.50   | 36.21         | 36.47     | 25.21     | -0.36              | 43.63        | Anamalu                | 5.00 - 7.00     | 6.42          | 5.50      | 3.90      | 7.72               | 64.62        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Raw (white)            | 32.00 - 33.50   | 32.47         | 32.58     | 24.58     | -0.17              | 32.11        | Ambun                  | 7.00 - 9.00     | 8.10          | 6.40      | 5.00      | 11.72              | 62.00        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported Ponne (Samba) | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | Papaw (Rs/Kg)          | 35.00 - 45.00   | 40.63         | 37.50     | 26.10     | 4.01               | 55.67        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported Raw (white)   | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | Passion Fruit          | 6.00 - 6.60     | 6.30          | 6.30      | 3.63      | 0.00               | 73.55        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported Raw red       | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | Pineapple Large        | 100.00 - 130.00 | 115.00        | 104.00    | 68.57     | 5.02               | 67.71        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported Nadu          | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | Pineapple Medium       | 80.00 - 100.00  | 90.00         | 84.00     | 60.72     | 3.45               | 48.22        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Dried Chillies</b>  |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported               | 155.00 - 160.00 | 157.25        | 158.00    | 171.75    | -0.24              | -8.44        | Pineapple Small        | 60.00 - 80.00   | 70.00         | 64.00     | 50.72     | 4.48               | 38.01        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local                  | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | <b>Mango</b>           |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Onions</b>          |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sinnan                 | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | Betti                  | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vedalan                | 45.00 - 58.00   | 50.10         | 50.75     | 48.67     | -0.64              | 2.94         | Karthakolomban         | 46.00 - 48.00   | 47.25         | 45.75     | 43.86     | 1.61               | 7.73         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported               | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | Vilad                  | 16.00 - 20.00   | 18.25         | 16.75     | 16.14     | 4.29               | 13.07        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Big Onion</b>       |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported               | 42.00 - 48.00   | 44.00         | 44.64     | 34.83     | -0.72              | 26.33        | Kohu                   | 7.75 - 8.00     | 7.92          | 7.83      | -         | 0.57               | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local                  | 38.00 - 44.00   | 41.00         | 41.00     | 28.11     | 0.00               | 45.86        | <b>Other</b>           |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Potato</b>          |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Welimada               | 50.00 - 64.00   | 57.75         | 57.25     | 53.69     | 0.43               | 7.56         | Wood Apple             | 10.00 - 18.00   | 13.90         | 13.00     | 6.80      | 3.35               | 104.41       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N'Eliya                | 60.00 - 65.00   | 63.17         | 67.44     | 60.58     | -3.28              | 4.27         | Orange                 | 20.00 - 25.00   | 21.00         | 21.25     | 12.89     | -0.59              | 62.92        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imported               | 36.00 - 52.00   | 42.25         | 38.02     | -         | 5.28               | -            | Avocado                | 12.00 - 20.00   | 15.70         | 17.11     | 11.00     | -4.30              | 42.73        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Pulses</b>          |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Green Gram             | 95.00 - 105.00  | 101.82        | 102.45    | 96.33     | -0.31              | 5.70         | Slime Apple            | 5.00 - 8.00     | 6.18          | 6.36      | 6.22      | -1.44              | -0.64        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cowpea                 | 100.00 - 104.00 | 101.80        | 100.73    | 94.00     | 0.53               | 8.30         | Grapes(Imported,Rs/Kg) | 420.00 - 440.00 | 426.25        | 426.25    | 308.89    | 0.00               | 37.99        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Red Dhall              | 92.00 - 99.00   | 95.33         | 95.08     | 61.67     | 0.13               | 54.59        | King coconut           | 15.00 - 17.00   | 15.80         | 14.84     | 11.57     | 3.13               | 36.56        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Vegetable</b>       |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beans (butter)         | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            | <b>Sea Fish</b>        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beans (green)          | 35.00 - 50.00   | 40.56         | 47.78     | 44.50     | -7.22              | -8.85        | Salaya                 | 110.00 - 120.00 | 115.00        | 105.00    | 112.00    | 4.55               | 2.68         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carrot                 | 35.00 - 45.00   | 40.00         | 43.75     | 27.60     | -3.75              | 44.93        | Hurulla                | 180.00 - 200.00 | 188.00        | 184.00    | 142.00    | 1.08               | 32.39        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Leeks                  | 35.00 - 40.00   | 36.67         | 36.25     | 25.80     | 0.42               | 42.13        | Balaya                 | 160.00 - 190.00 | 177.00        | 168.00    | 138.00    | 2.61               | 28.26        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beetroot               | 13.00 - 16.00   | 14.89         | 18.00     | 33.70     | -3.11              | 55.82        | Kelawalla              | 240.00 - 280.00 | 261.00        | 253.00    | 218.00    | 1.56               | 19.72        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Knolkhol               | 10.00 - 15.00   | 13.22         | 17.63     | 11.10     | -4.41              | 19.10        | Thora                  | 500.00 - 600.00 | 552.00        | 528.00    | 575.00    | 2.22               | -4.00        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Raddish                | 10.00 - 18.00   | 11.89         | 16.25     | 10.70     | -4.36              | 11.12        | Paraw                  | 320.00 - 350.00 | 344.00        | 337.00    | 309.00    | 1.03               | 11.33        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cabbage                | 10.00 - 20.00   | 16.00         | 15.50     | 28.00     | 0.50               | 42.86        | Mora                   | 260.00 - 290.00 | 274.00        | 260.00    | 186.00    | 2.62               | 47.31        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tomato                 | 35.00 - 40.00   | 37.78         | 27.22     | 18.60     | 10.56              | 103.12       | Shrimps (small)        | 430.00 - 480.00 | 455.00        | 455.00    | 447.00    | 0.00               | 1.79         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ladies Fingers         | 15.00 - 25.00   | 19.44         | 24.44     | 13.10     | -5.00              | 48.40        | Thalapath              | 320.00 - 350.00 | 332.00        | 328.00    | 324.00    | 0.61               | 2.47         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brinjal                | 15.00 - 25.00   | 20.56         | 20.63     | 24.60     | -0.07              | 16.42        | <b>Inland Fish</b>     |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capsicum               | 30.00 - 35.00   | 32.00         | 31.25     | 28.80     | 0.75               | 11.11        | Thilapiya              | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pumpkin                | 15.00 - 20.00   | 16.11         | 14.13     | 10.30     | 1.98               | 56.41        | Theppeli               | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cucumber               | 10.00 - 16.00   | 12.70         | 12.88     | 7.50      | -0.18              | 69.33        | <b>Eggs</b>            |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bitter Gourd           | 25.00 - 35.00   | 29.44         | 22.00     | 28.30     | 7.44               | 4.03         | Brown                  | 7.40 - 7.60     | 7.50          | 7.60      | 5.15      | -0.66              | 45.63        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Snake Gourd            | 10.00 - 12.00   | 10.80         | 10.40     | 12.30     | 0.40               | 12.20        | White                  | 7.10 - 7.30     | 7.20          | 7.30      | 4.45      | -0.69              | 61.80        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drumstick              | 45.00 - 60.00   | 51.11         | 78.75     | 28.00     | -27.64             | 82.54        | <b>Dried Fish</b>      |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Luffa                  | 15.00 - 25.00   | 19.00         | 26.88     | 17.50     | -7.88              | 8.57         | Sprats                 | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Long Beans             | 15.00 - 25.00   | 20.56         | 22.50     | 24.00     | -1.94              | 14.33        | Sprats(imported)       | 160.00 - 220.00 | 189.58        | 171.36    | 152.82    | 5.05               | 24.06        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ash Plantain           | 40.00 - 50.00   | 42.50         | 36.88     | 33.57     | 5.62               | 26.60        | Kattawa                | -               | -             | 480.00    | -         | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Green Chillies         | 20.00 - 40.00   | 31.13         | 32.50     | 33.00     | -1.37              | 5.67         | Kattawa(imported)      | 370.00 - 420.00 | 401.25        | 403.33    | 372.27    | -0.26              | 7.78         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lime                   | 30.00 - 40.00   | 34.17         | 23.00     | 44.44     | 11.17              | 23.11        | Thora                  | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Root Crops</b>      |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sweet Potatoe          | 12.00 - 18.00   | 15.25         | 16.80     | 16.00     | -1.55              | 4.69         | Thora(imported)        | 400.00 - 480.00 | 447.50        | 453.75    | 359.00    | -0.69              | 24.65        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manioc                 | 8.00 - 10.00    | 9.75          | 10.00     | 9.14      | -0.25              | 6.67         | Mora                   | -               | -             | -         | 161.25    | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              | Mora(imported)         | 300.00 - 360.00 | 333.50        | 328.00    | 331.25    | 0.83               | 0.68         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              | Balaya                 | 240.00 - 300.00 | 267.22        | 254.44    | 165.00    | 2.45               | 61.95        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              | Balaya(imported)       | 190.00 - 300.00 | 257.50        | 248.18    | 180.00    | 1.84               | 43.06        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              | Anguluwa               | -               | -             | -         | -         | -                  | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        |                 |               |           |           |                    |              | Anguluwa(imported)     | 170.00 - 260.00 | 212.92        | 212.08    | 182.27    | 0.20               | 16.81        |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table 13 - Colombo & suburbs: Retail prices (Rs/kg or Rs/Piece)**
**Week 34: 17 - 23 August 2007**

| COMMODITY              | Range           | Average Price |           |               | Change Compared to |               | COMMODITY                     | Range           | Average Price   |           |               | Change Compared to |               |               |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                        |                 | this week     | last week | last year     | last week          | last year (%) |                               |                 | this week       | last week | last year     | last week          | last year (%) |               |
| <b>Rice</b>            |                 |               |           |               |                    |               | <b>Fruit</b>                  |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Samba 1                | 44.00 - 48.00   | 46.55         | 46.50     | <b>39.13</b>  | 0.05               | <b>18.96</b>  | <b>Plantain</b>               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Samba 2                | 40.00 - 43.00   | 41.42         | 41.35     | <b>36.00</b>  | 0.07               | <b>15.06</b>  | Ambul                         | 3.00 - 5.60     | 4.48            | 4.37      | <b>3.01</b>   | 0.11               | <b>48.84</b>  |               |
| Samba 3                | 38.00 - 39.00   | 38.83         | 38.80     | <b>33.03</b>  | 0.03               | <b>17.56</b>  | Kolikuttu                     | 8.00 - 12.00    | 10.96           | 10.70     | <b>8.67</b>   | 0.26               | <b>26.41</b>  |               |
| Nadu 1                 | 39.00 - 45.00   | 41.08         | 40.95     | <b>31.44</b>  | 0.13               | <b>30.66</b>  | Seeni                         | 2.25 - 4.60     | 3.69            | 3.43      | <b>2.65</b>   | 0.26               | <b>39.25</b>  |               |
| Nadu 2                 | 36.00 - 39.00   | 37.86         | 37.69     | <b>28.59</b>  | 0.17               | <b>32.42</b>  | Anamalu                       | 7.00 - 12.00    | 9.59            | 9.30      | <b>7.45</b>   | 0.29               | <b>28.72</b>  |               |
| Raw (red)              | 36.00 - 48.00   | 41.59         | 41.67     | <b>29.20</b>  | -0.08              | <b>42.43</b>  | Ambun                         | 8.00 - 12.00    | 10.23           | 9.59      | <b>8.15</b>   | 0.64               | <b>25.52</b>  |               |
| Raw (white)            | 33.00 - 38.00   | 36.23         | 36.44     | <b>28.40</b>  | -0.21              | <b>27.57</b>  | Papaw (Rs/Kg)                 | 45.00 - 70.00   | 64.56           | 59.37     | <b>45.41</b>  | 5.19               | <b>42.17</b>  |               |
| Imported (Ponne Samba) | -               | -             | -         | -             | -                  | -             | Passion Fruit                 | 8.00 - 12.00    | 10.00           | 9.57      | <b>6.22</b>   | 0.43               | <b>60.77</b>  |               |
| Imported Raw white     | -               | -             | -         | -             | -                  | -             | Pineapple Large               | 120.00 - 150.00 | 135.26          | 132.11    | <b>98.68</b>  | 3.15               | <b>37.07</b>  |               |
| Imported Raw red       | -               | -             | -         | -             | -                  | -             | Pineapple Medium              | 100.00 - 130.00 | 114.00          | 112.35    | <b>78.05</b>  | 1.65               | <b>46.06</b>  |               |
| Imported Nadu          | -               | -             | -         | -             | -                  | -             | Pineapple Small               | 80.00 - 110.00  | 93.53           | 91.76     | <b>55.70</b>  | 1.77               | <b>67.92</b>  |               |
| <b>Dried Chillies</b>  |                 |               |           |               |                    |               | <b>Mango</b>                  |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Imported               | 175.00 - 220.00 | 193.07        | 195.71    | <b>188.72</b> | -2.64              | <b>2.31</b>   | Betti                         | -               | -               | 25.00     | <b>20.00</b>  | -                  | -             |               |
| Local                  | -               | -             | -         | -             | -                  | -             | Karthakolomban                | 60.00 - 90.00   | 76.52           | 69.25     | <b>66.76</b>  | 7.27               | <b>14.62</b>  |               |
| <b>Onions</b>          |                 |               |           |               |                    |               | <b>Other Fruits</b>           |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Sinnan                 | -               | -             | -         | -             | -                  | -             | -                             | Wood Apple      | 10.00 - 35.00   | 21.63     | 21.49         | <b>22.14</b>       | 0.14          | <b>-2.30</b>  |
| Vedalan                | 60.00 - 80.00   | 69.73         | 73.22     | <b>62.02</b>  | -3.49              | <b>12.43</b>  | Orange                        | 25.00 - 40.00   | 31.36           | 32.93     | <b>26.21</b>  | -1.57              | <b>19.65</b>  |               |
| Imported               | -               | -             | 65.50     | <b>70.11</b>  | -                  | -             | Avocado                       | 20.00 - 40.00   | 25.74           | 26.14     | <b>16.62</b>  | -0.40              | <b>54.87</b>  |               |
| <b>B'Onion</b>         |                 |               |           |               |                    |               | <b>Grapes(Imported,Rs/Kg)</b> |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Imported               | 50.00 - 70.00   | 58.15         | 60.20     | <b>47.62</b>  | -2.05              | <b>22.11</b>  | -                             | Slime Apple     | 10.00 - 35.00   | 18.21     | 19.33         | <b>20.78</b>       | -1.12         | <b>-12.37</b> |
| Local                  | 48.00 - 60.00   | 54.74         | 51.44     | <b>44.00</b>  | 3.30               | <b>24.41</b>  | King Coconut                  | 20.00 - 25.00   | 24.17           | 22.65     | <b>15.29</b>  | 1.52               | <b>58.08</b>  |               |
| <b>Potato</b>          |                 |               |           |               |                    |               | <b>Sea Fish</b>               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Welimada               | 65.00 - 80.00   | 69.50         | 70.50     | <b>72.30</b>  | -1.00              | <b>-3.87</b>  | -                             | Salaya          | 110.00 - 160.00 | 131.00    | 130.14        | <b>122.91</b>      | 0.86          | <b>6.58</b>   |
| N'Eliya                | 75.00 - 95.00   | 85.73         | 89.54     | <b>80.06</b>  | -3.81              | <b>7.08</b>   | Hurulla                       | 200.00 - 280.00 | 245.71          | 238.95    | <b>179.50</b> | 6.76               | <b>36.89</b>  |               |
| Imported               | 45.00 - 65.00   | 56.53         | 58.32     | <b>54.12</b>  | -1.79              | <b>4.45</b>   | Balaya                        | 200.00 - 400.00 | 320.00          | 311.30    | <b>232.50</b> | 8.70               | <b>37.63</b>  |               |
| <b>Pulses</b>          |                 |               |           |               |                    |               | <b>Inland Fish</b>            |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Green Gram             | 100.00 - 140.00 | 122.29        | 123.11    | <b>114.66</b> | -0.82              | <b>6.65</b>   | -                             | Thilapiya       | -               | -         | -             | -                  | -             |               |
| Cowpea                 | 110.00 - 130.00 | 117.69        | 120.62    | <b>106.45</b> | -2.93              | <b>10.56</b>  | Thelappeli                    | -               | -               | 44.00     | -             | -                  | -             |               |
| Red Dhal               | 98.00 - 120.00  | 106.74        | 106.30    | <b>72.15</b>  | 0.44               | <b>47.94</b>  | <b>Eggs</b>                   |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| <b>Vegetable</b>       |                 |               |           |               |                    |               | <b>Dried Fish</b>             |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Beans (butter)         | -               | -             | -         | -             | -                  | -             | Sprats                        | 240.00 - 350.00 | 287.78          | 276.15    | <b>233.33</b> | 11.63              | <b>23.34</b>  |               |
| Beans (green)          | 60.00 - 120.00  | 72.35         | 80.20     | <b>70.74</b>  | -7.85              | <b>2.28</b>   | Kattawa                       | 480.00 - 600.00 | 566.40          | 591.16    | <b>511.18</b> | -24.76             | <b>10.80</b>  |               |
| Carrot                 | 60.00 - 120.00  | 79.41         | 78.03     | <b>55.32</b>  | 1.38               | <b>43.55</b>  | Thora                         | 580.00 - 800.00 | 646.67          | 659.58    | <b>554.29</b> | -12.91             | <b>16.67</b>  |               |
| Leeks                  | 50.00 - 100.00  | 73.18         | 72.41     | <b>53.19</b>  | 0.77               | <b>37.58</b>  | Mora                          | 440.00 - 500.00 | 478.40          | 464.40    | <b>432.50</b> | 14.00              | <b>10.61</b>  |               |
| Beetroot               | 25.00 - 80.00   | 53.00         | 54.09     | <b>65.76</b>  | -1.09              | <b>-19.40</b> | Balaya                        | 360.00 - 480.00 | 423.20          | 420.00    | <b>317.50</b> | 3.20               | <b>33.29</b>  |               |
| Knolkhol               | 30.00 - 80.00   | 57.75         | 59.71     | <b>42.25</b>  | -1.96              | <b>36.69</b>  | Anguluwa                      | 320.00 - 480.00 | 419.17          | 395.60    | <b>331.76</b> | 23.57              | <b>26.35</b>  |               |
| Raddish                | 25.00 - 80.00   | 46.76         | 47.29     | <b>34.06</b>  | -0.53              | <b>37.29</b>  | Maduwa                        | 250.00 - 300.00 | 272.00          | 284.29    | <b>246.67</b> | -12.29             | <b>10.27</b>  |               |
| Cabbage                | 25.00 - 80.00   | 52.27         | 52.44     | <b>60.32</b>  | -0.17              | <b>-13.35</b> | Koduwa                        | -               | -               | -         | -             | -                  | -             |               |
| Tomato                 | 55.00 - 100.00  | 70.74         | 58.09     | <b>48.78</b>  | 12.65              | <b>45.02</b>  | Salaya                        | 280.00 - 350.00 | 317.27          | 295.00    | <b>254.67</b> | 22.27              | <b>24.58</b>  |               |
| Ladies Fingers         | 40.00 - 80.00   | 60.24         | 55.97     | <b>39.17</b>  | 4.27               | <b>53.79</b>  | <b>Meat</b>                   |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Brinjal                | 30.00 - 100.00  | 57.32         | 56.14     | <b>52.11</b>  | 1.18               | <b>10.00</b>  | Beef(without bones)           | 250.00 - 300.00 | 270.00          | 306.67    | <b>275.56</b> | -36.67             | <b>-2.02</b>  |               |
| Capsicum               | 40.00 - 160.00  | 78.97         | 79.72     | <b>56.14</b>  | -0.75              | <b>40.67</b>  | Chicken (Broiler)             | 230.00 - 300.00 | 263.33          | 297.00    | <b>262.50</b> | -33.67             | <b>0.32</b>   |               |
| Pumpkin                | 25.00 - 60.00   | 43.12         | 38.91     | <b>34.67</b>  | 4.21               | <b>24.37</b>  | Chicken (curry)               | 220.00 - 280.00 | 247.50          | 280.00    | <b>250.56</b> | -32.50             | <b>-1.22</b>  |               |
| Cucumber               | 25.00 - 60.00   | 40.48         | 42.53     | <b>31.39</b>  | -2.05              | <b>28.96</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Bitter Gourd           | 35.00 - 120.00  | 67.42         | 62.61     | <b>61.68</b>  | 4.81               | <b>9.31</b>   |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Snake Gourd            | 20.00 - 80.00   | 45.94         | 41.18     | <b>37.22</b>  | 4.76               | <b>23.43</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Drumstick              | 70.00 - 200.00  | 110.00        | 173.00    | <b>60.20</b>  | -63.00             | <b>82.72</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Luffa                  | 35.00 - 80.00   | 58.18         | 63.25     | <b>47.44</b>  | -5.07              | <b>22.64</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Long Beans             | 40.00 - 100.00  | 63.47         | 65.09     | <b>55.69</b>  | -1.62              | <b>13.97</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Ash Plantain           | 50.00 - 100.00  | 78.39         | 75.81     | <b>63.43</b>  | 2.58               | <b>23.59</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Green Chillies         | 50.00 - 150.00  | 93.24         | 98.50     | <b>80.00</b>  | -5.26              | <b>16.55</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Lime                   | 45.00 - 100.00  | 85.16         | 75.19     | <b>98.82</b>  | 9.97               | <b>-13.82</b> |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| <b>Root Crops</b>      |                 |               |           |               |                    |               |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Sweet Potatoe          | 25.00 - 80.00   | 47.60         | 47.63     | <b>37.93</b>  | -0.03              | <b>25.49</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| Manioc                 | 18.00 - 40.00   | 31.22         | 32.35     | <b>26.93</b>  | -1.13              | <b>15.93</b>  |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |
| <b>Leafy Vegetable</b> |                 |               |           |               |                    |               |                               |                 |                 |           |               |                    |               |               |



**Table 14: Farmgate Prices of Food Commodities in Selected Producing areas (Rs/Kg)**

Week 34: 17 - 23 August 2007

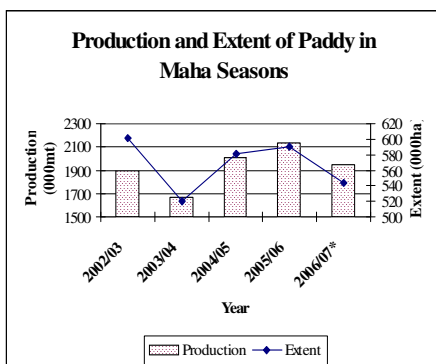
| Commodity                 | Range           | Average Price | Commodity                      | Range         | Average Price | Commodity                | Range         | Average Price |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Paddy</b>              |                 |               |                                |               |               |                          |               |               |
| <b>Short grain</b>        |                 |               | <b>Vegetables (Up Country)</b> |               |               | <b>Snake Gourd</b>       |               |               |
| A'pura                    | 18.50 - 19.00   | 18.83         | <b>Beans</b>                   |               |               | Dambulla                 | 9.00 - 11.00  | 10.20         |
| P'naruwa                  | 18.00 - 19.25   | 18.70         | Dambulla                       | -             |               | Hambantota               | 7.00 - 12.00  | 9.40          |
| Kalawewa                  | -               |               | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | Embilipitiya             | 12.00 - 14.00 | 13.00         |
| Kurunegala                | 17.75 - 18.85   | 18.53         | Welimada                       | 35.00 - 40.00 | 38.60         | Matara                   | -             |               |
| Dehiattakandiya           | 16.50 - 16.50   | 16.50         | Badulla                        | 30.00 - 35.00 | 32.50         | A'pura                   | 8.00 - 10.00  | 9.00          |
| Ampara                    | 17.00 - 17.50   | 17.25         | <b>Carrot</b>                  |               |               | <b>Luffa</b>             |               |               |
| <b>Long grain (White)</b> |                 |               | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | Dambulla                 | 18.00 - 20.00 | 19.40         |
| A'pura                    | 17.50 - 18.00   | 17.83         | N'Eliya                        | 48.00 - 49.00 | 48.40         | Hambantota               | 10.00 - 14.00 | 11.75         |
| P'naruwa                  | 18.50 - 19.15   | 18.83         | Welimada                       | 40.00 - 44.00 | 41.20         | Embilipitiya             | 15.00 - 18.00 | 16.33         |
| Kalawewa                  | -               |               | <b>Leeks</b>                   |               |               | Matara                   | 14.00 - 20.00 | 17.3          |
| Kurunegala                | 17.65 - 18.80   | 18.48         | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | A'pura                   | 16.00 - 18.00 | 17.33         |
| Dehiattakandiya           | 15.00 - 15.00   | 15.00         | N'Eliya                        | 30.00 - 32.00 | 31.40         | <b>Green Chillies</b>    |               |               |
| Embilipitiya              | 17.00 - 17.50   | 17.33         | <b>Beetroot</b>                |               |               | Dambulla                 | 35.00 - 38.00 | 37.00         |
| Ampara                    | 16.00 - 17.00   | 16.63         | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | Hambantota               | 25.00 - 32.00 | 28.75         |
| Matara                    | 16.00 - 16.00   | 16.00         | N'Eliya                        | 15.00 - 16.00 | 15.60         | Embilipitiya             | 40.00 - 45.00 | 42.33         |
| Hambantota                | 17.00 - 19.00   | 17.80         | Dambulla                       | 8.50 - 10.00  | 9.30          | Puttalam                 | -             |               |
| <b>Long grain (Red)</b>   |                 |               | Kurunegala                     | -             |               | A'Pura                   | 35.00 - 38.00 | 37.00         |
| Matara                    | 18.00 - 18.00   | 18.00         | Welimada                       | 25.00 - 25.00 | 25.00         | <b>Pumpkin</b>           |               |               |
| Hambantota                | 18.00 - 20.00   | 18.90         | <b>Knokhol</b>                 |               |               | Dambulla                 | 10.00 - 11.00 | 10.40         |
| Ampara                    | 18.00 - 18.50   | 18.25         | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | Hambantota               | 9.00 - 12.00  | 10.25         |
| Embilipitiya              | 18.50 - 19.00   | 18.67         | N'Eliya                        | 13.00 - 15.00 | 13.80         | Embilipitiya             | 12.00 - 15.00 | 13.50         |
| <b>Other Food Crops</b>   |                 |               | Welimada                       | 17.00 - 20.00 | 19.00         | Matara                   | -             |               |
| <b>Dried Chillies</b>     |                 |               | <b>Radish</b>                  |               |               | A'pura                   | 14.00 - 16.00 | 15.00         |
| A'Pura                    | 125.00 - 128.00 | 126.50        | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | Moneragala               | 15.00 - 25.00 | 20.00         |
| Galgamuwa                 | -               |               | N'Eliya                        | 8.00 - 10.00  | 9.00          | <b>Cucumber</b>          |               |               |
| Kalawewa                  | -               |               | Welimada                       | 8.00 - 10.00  | 8.80          | A'pura                   | 8.00 - 10.00  | 9.00          |
| <b>Red Onion</b>          |                 |               | Hambantota                     | 10.00 - 15.00 | 11.80         | Dambulla                 | 9.00 - 10.00  | 9.20          |
| Puttalam                  | -               |               | <b>Cabbage</b>                 |               |               | Hambantota               | 8.00 - 12.00  | 10.00         |
| <b>Big Onion</b>          |                 |               | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | Matara                   | 10.00 - 14.00 | 11.33         |
| Dambulla                  | 24.00 - 38.00   | 30.33         | N'Eliya                        | 16.00 - 19.00 | 17.60         | <b>Long beans</b>        |               |               |
| Kalawewa                  | -               |               | Welimada                       | 15.00 - 18.00 | 16.80         | Dambulla                 | 18.00 - 23.00 | 21.20         |
| A'Pura                    | -               |               | Badulla                        | 16.00 - 18.00 | 17.00         | Hambantota               | 12.00 - 18.00 | 14.40         |
| Kurunegala                | -               |               | <b>Tomato</b>                  |               |               | Embilipitiya             | 20.00 - 25.00 | 22.33         |
| <b>Potato</b>             |                 |               | Hanguranketha                  | -             |               | Matara                   | 18.00 - 22.00 | 20.00         |
| N'Eliya                   | 54.00 - 56.00   | 54.60         | Welimada                       | 35.00 - 40.00 | 38.40         | A'Pura                   | 18.00 - 21.00 | 19.67         |
| Badulla                   | -               |               | Hambantota                     | 25.00 - 34.00 | 30.20         | <b>Ash Plantain</b>      |               |               |
| Welimada                  | 48.00 - 50.00   | 49.00         | Dambulla                       | 25.00 - 28.00 | 26.00         | Hambantota               | 20.00 - 28.00 | 24.50         |
| <b>Pulses</b>             |                 |               | <b>Low Country</b>             |               |               | Embilipitiya             | 35.00 - 38.00 | 36.50         |
| <b>Green Gram</b>         |                 |               | <b>Ladies Fingers</b>          |               |               | Matara                   | 20.00 - 24.00 | 22.00         |
| Galgamuwa                 | -               |               | A'pura                         | 16.00 - 17.00 | 16.67         | <b>Lime</b>              |               |               |
| Kalawewa                  | -               |               | Dambulla                       | 15.00 - 17.00 | 16.40         | Hambantota               | 27.00 - 35.00 | 31.75         |
| Embilipitiya              | -               |               | Hambantota                     | 8.00 - 12.00  | 9.60          | Embilipitiya             | 38.00 - 40.00 | 39.00         |
| Kurunegala                | -               |               | Embilipitiya                   | 22.00 - 25.00 | 23.67         | Matara                   | -             |               |
| A'pura                    | -               |               | Matara                         | 22.00 - 24.00 | 22.67         | <b>Fruits (Rs/fruit)</b> |               |               |
| <b>Cowpea</b>             |                 |               | <b>Brinjals</b>                |               |               | <b>Banana</b>            |               |               |
| A'pura                    | -               |               | A'pura                         | 16.00 - 17.00 | 16.67         | <b>Ambul</b>             |               |               |
| Galgamuwa                 | -               |               | Dambulla                       | 11.00 - 15.00 | 12.80         | Moneragala               | 1.90 - 2.00   | 1.94          |
| Nikaweratiya              | 85.00 - 90.00   | 87.50         | Hambantota                     | 8.00 - 10.00  | 8.80          | Embilipitiya             | -             |               |
| Kalawewa                  | -               |               | Embilipitiya                   | 15.00 - 18.00 | 16.33         | Hambantota               | 1.00 - 2.80   | 2.12          |
| Embilipitiya              | -               |               | Matara                         | 18.00 - 22.00 | 20.00         | <b>Kolikuttu</b>         |               |               |
| Kurunegala                | -               |               | Welimada                       | 15.00 - 18.00 | 16.60         | Moneragala               | -             |               |
| <b>Maize</b>              |                 |               | <b>Capsicum</b>                |               |               | Embilipitiya             | 3.00 - 5.00   | 4.25          |
| A'Pura                    | 17.00 - 18.00   | 17.50         | Badulla                        | -             |               | Hambantota               | 3.50 - 4.00   | 3.66          |
| Kalawewa                  | 21.00 - 23.00   | 22.00         | Welimada                       | 33.00 - 38.00 | 35.20         | <b>Papaw (Rs/Kg)</b>     |               |               |
| <b>Gingelly</b>           |                 |               | <b>Bitter Gourd</b>            |               |               | Moneragala               | 20.00 - 25.00 | 23.20         |
| A'Pura                    | 40.00 - 45.00   | 42.50         | A'pura                         | 35.00 - 36.00 | 35.33         |                          |               |               |

# Monthly Food Information Bulletin

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January 2007

No.01



## Highlights

Estimated paddy production of *maha* 2006/07 has declined by 8.71% compared to the actual paddy production of previous *maha*.

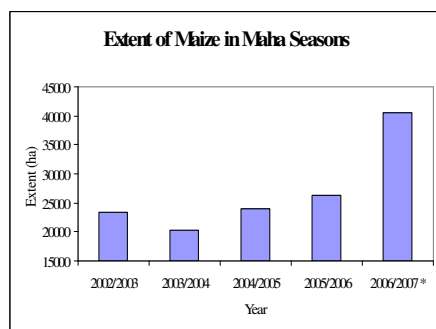
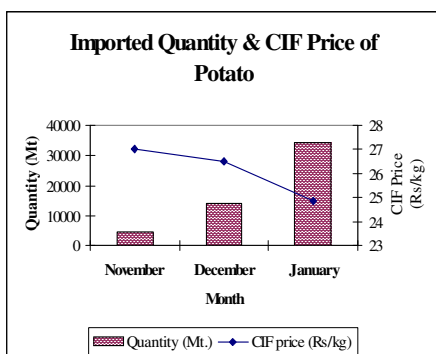
The highest decline of paddy cultivation was noted for rain fed farming (14%) followed by major irrigation (7%).

The highest price increase of paddy (18%) was reported in Embilipitiya and Hambantota.

The extent of potato cultivation has decreased in Nuwara Eliya while that of Badulla has increased.

Expected production of vegetables from Nuwara Eliya would be low in coming months.

The extent of maize cultivation in *maha* 2006/2007 was exceeded 40,000ha and this was recorded the highest extent in the recent past.



Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division  
 Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute  
 114, Wijerama Mawatha, Colombo 07.

**Farmgate Prices of Paddy and Subsidiary Food Crops in Selected Producing Areas (Rs/Kg)**

June 2007

| Commodity                        | Range           | Average    |            |           | Change     |       |           |        |  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-------|-----------|--------|--|
|                                  |                 | This Month | Last Month | Last Year | Last Month |       | Last Year |        |  |
|                                  |                 |            |            |           | Rs/Kg      | %     | Rs/Kg     | %      |  |
| <b><u>Paddy</u></b>              |                 |            |            |           |            |       |           |        |  |
| <b><u>Short grain</u></b>        |                 |            |            |           |            |       |           |        |  |
| A'pura                           | 15.00 - 17.00   | 16.42      | 15.05      | 13.51     | 1.37       | 9.07  | 2.91      | 21.52  |  |
| P'naruwa                         | 15.60 - 17.25   | 16.50      | 15.38      | 12.29     | 1.12       | 7.28  | 4.21      | 34.21  |  |
| Kalawewa                         | 16.75 - 18.00   | 17.41      | 15.93      | 13.47     | 1.48       | 9.26  | 3.94      | 29.21  |  |
| Kurunegala                       | 15.80 - 17.70   | 17.15      | 16.11      | 13.51     | 1.04       | 6.42  | 3.64      | 26.92  |  |
| Dehiattakandiya                  | 16.00 - 17.00   | 16.50      | 15.41      |           | 1.09       | 7.09  | -         | -      |  |
| Ampara                           | 16.00 - 17.00   | 16.54      | 15.69      | 13.02     | 0.86       | 5.46  | 3.52      | 27.06  |  |
| <b><u>Long grain (White)</u></b> |                 |            |            |           |            |       |           |        |  |
| A'pura                           | 15.00 - 16.50   | 15.96      | 14.84      | 11.98     | 1.11       | 7.50  | 3.98      | 33.18  |  |
| P'naruwa                         | 15.75 - 17.25   | 16.73      | 15.32      | 11.97     | 1.41       | 9.21  | 4.76      | 39.72  |  |
| Kalawewa                         | 16.50 - 17.55   | 17.08      | 15.35      | 12.46     | 1.73       | 11.26 | 4.62      | 37.04  |  |
| Kurunegala                       | 15.40 - 17.50   | 16.58      | 15.79      | 12.71     | 0.79       | 4.99  | 3.87      | 30.43  |  |
| Dehiattakandiya                  | 16.00 - 16.50   | 16.13      | 15.08      |           | 1.04       | 6.91  | -         | -      |  |
| Embilipitiya                     | 18.00 - 20.00   | 19.11      | 16.22      | 12.38     | 2.89       | 17.79 | 6.73      | 54.32  |  |
| Ampara                           | 15.75 - 18.00   | 16.94      | 15.00      | 12.56     | 1.94       | 12.91 | 4.38      | 34.85  |  |
| Matara                           | 15.00 - 16.67   | 15.92      | 14.83      | 12.00     | 1.09       | 7.32  | 3.92      | 32.65  |  |
| Hambantota                       | 18.00 - 21.00   | 19.35      | 16.56      | 11.75     | 2.79       | 16.85 | 7.60      | 64.68  |  |
| Puttalam                         | -               |            |            | -         | -          | -     | -         | -      |  |
| <b><u>Long grain (Red)</u></b>   |                 |            |            |           |            |       |           |        |  |
| Ampara                           | 18.00 - 19.00   | 18.58      | 17.50      | 12.69     | 1.08       | 6.19  | 5.89      | 46.44  |  |
| Mathara                          | 15.00 - 18.50   | 17.17      | 14.87      | 11.50     | 2.30       | 15.43 | 5.67      | 49.28  |  |
| Hambantota                       | 18.00 - 21.00   | 19.50      | 16.70      | 11.44     | 2.80       | 16.77 | 8.06      | 70.45  |  |
| Embilipitiya                     | 20.00 - 22.00   | 20.86      | 16.64      | 12.50     | 4.21       | 25.31 | 8.36      | 66.84  |  |
| <b><u>Dried Chillies</u></b>     |                 |            |            |           |            |       |           |        |  |
| A'Pura                           | 120.00 - 122.50 | 122.50     |            |           | -          | -     | -         | -      |  |
| Kalawewa                         | 120.00 - 120.00 | 120.00     |            | 135.84    | -          | -     | -15.84    | -11.66 |  |
| <b><u>Potato</u></b>             |                 |            |            |           |            |       |           |        |  |
| N'Eliya                          | 62.00 - 75.00   | 70.00      | 54.70      | 55.55     | 15.30      | 27.97 | 14.45     | 26.01  |  |
| Welimada                         | 60.00 - 78.00   | 67.85      | 54.90      | 51.65     | 12.95      | 23.59 | 16.20     | 31.36  |  |
| Badulla                          | -               |            |            |           | -          | -     | -         | -      |  |

**Pettah Market: Wholesale prices (Rs/kg or Rs/Piece)**

June 2007

| COMMODITY                   | Average Price |            |           | Change Compared to |              | COMMODITY                 | Average Price |            |           | Change Compared to |              |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|
|                             | This Month    | Last Month | last year | last Month(%)      | last year(%) |                           | This Month    | Last Month | last year | last Month(%)      | last year(%) |
| <b><u>Rice</u></b>          |               |            |           |                    |              | <b><u>Fruit</u></b>       |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Samba 1                     | 37.85         | 37.34      | 31.82     | 0.68               | 18.97        | <b><u>Plantain</u></b>    |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Samba 2                     | 36.12         | 35.75      | 30.20     | 0.52               | 19.63        | Ambul                     | 2.30          | 2.23       | 1.61      | 1.55               | 42.86        |
| Samba 3                     | 34.55         | 34.38      | 28.74     | 0.25               | 20.23        | Kolikuttu                 | 6.73          | 6.83       | 5.37      | -0.74              | 25.33        |
| Nadu 1                      | 34.44         | 32.99      | 26.38     | 2.15               | 30.52        | Seeni                     | 1.82          | 2.01       | 1.53      | -4.96              | 18.95        |
| Nadu 2                      | 32.70         | 31.13      | 25.25     | 2.45               | 29.49        | Anamalu                   | 5.54          | 4.18       | 3.83      | 13.99              | 44.65        |
| Raw (red)                   | 37.68         | 34.13      | 25.74     | 4.94               | 46.40        | Ambun                     | 5.73          | 5.20       | 4.63      | 4.85               | 23.76        |
| Raw (white)                 | 31.38         | 29.69      | 24.88     | 2.75               | 26.11        | Papaw (Rs/Kg)             | 29.71         | 19.18      | 20.43     | 21.54              | 45.42        |
| Imported Ponne Samba        |               |            |           |                    |              | Passion Fruit             | 5.51          | 5.86       | 3.20      | -3.08              | 72.19        |
| Imported Raw White          |               |            |           |                    |              | Pineapple Large           | 64.88         | 63.96      | 50.13     | 0.71               | 29.42        |
| <b><u>Dried Chilies</u></b> |               |            |           |                    |              | Pineapple Medium          | 51.85         | 51.42      | 40.45     | 0.42               | 28.18        |
| Imported                    | 153.33        | 151.44     | 157.98    | 0.62               | -2.94        | Pineapple Small           | 41.67         | 38.87      | 31.14     | 3.48               | 33.82        |
| Local                       |               |            | 152.22    |                    |              | <b><u>Mango</u></b>       |               |            |           |                    |              |
| <b><u>Onions</u></b>        |               |            |           |                    |              | Betti                     | 4.83          | 4.87       | 9.53      | -0.41              | -49.32       |
| Simnan                      |               |            | 43.95     |                    |              | Karthakolomban            | 15.69         | 16.48      | 31.56     | -2.46              | -50.29       |
| Vedalan                     | 63.67         |            | 60.72     |                    | 4.85         | Vilad                     | 6.17          | 6.91       | 14.00     | -5.66              | -55.93       |
| Imported                    | 51.02         | 47.86      | 62.38     | 3.20               | -18.22       | Kohu                      | 3.81          | 3.87       | 7.10      | -0.78              | -46.34       |
| <b><u>Big Onion</u></b>     |               |            |           |                    |              | <b><u>Other</u></b>       |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Imported                    | 48.60         | 36.97      | 33.15     | 13.59              | 46.62        | Wood Apple                | 18.43         | 11.57      | 7.17      | 22.87              | 157.04       |
| Local                       |               |            |           |                    |              | Orange                    | 24.60         | 10.23      | 11.40     | 41.26              | 115.79       |
| <b><u>Potato</u></b>        |               |            |           |                    |              | Avocado                   | 16.84         | 10.30      | 11.81     | 24.10              | 42.59        |
| Welimada                    |               | 54.14      | 58.36     |                    |              | Slime Apple               | 8.50          | 6.80       | 4.66      | 11.11              | 82.40        |
| N'Elia                      | 78.57         | 63.63      | 64.07     | 10.51              | 22.64        | Grapes(Imported,Rs/Kg)    | 334.75        | 326.89     | 301.01    | 1.19               | 11.21        |
| Imported                    | 56.75         | 39.67      | 55.37     | 17.71              | 2.50         | King coconut              | 16.58         | 12.70      | 11.95     | 13.25              | 38.74        |
| <b><u>Pulses</u></b>        |               |            |           |                    |              | <b><u>Sea Fish</u></b>    |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Green Gram                  | 106.29        | 107.86     | 97.99     | -0.74              | 8.47         | Salaya                    | 97.25         | 94.33      | 84.08     | 1.52               | 15.66        |
| Cowpea                      | 91.30         | 86.78      | 78.61     | 2.54               | 16.14        | Hurulla                   | 184.25        | 198.08     | 134.40    | -3.62              | 37.09        |
| Red Dhall (Small)           | 85.23         | 85.52      | 63.00     | -0.17              | 35.28        | Balaya                    | 188.00        | 209.00     | 121.73    | -5.29              | 54.44        |
| <b><u>Vegetable</u></b>     |               |            |           |                    |              | Kelawalla                 | 276.50        | 292.42     | 191.27    | -2.80              | 44.56        |
| Beans (butter)              |               |            |           |                    |              | Thora                     | 516.60        | 525.67     | 454.94    | -0.87              | 13.55        |
| Beans (green)               | 74.78         | 46.44      | 57.75     | 28.34              | 29.49        | Paraw                     | 326.50        | 330.00     | 271.69    | -0.53              | 20.17        |
| Carrot                      | 37.66         | 33.96      | 68.20     | 3.70               | -44.78       | Mora                      | 263.24        | 236.67     | 184.79    | 5.31               | 42.45        |
| Leeks                       | 41.66         | 34.50      | 41.70     | 7.16               | -0.10        | Shrimps (small)           | 539.00        | 520.33     | 423.26    | 1.76               | 27.34        |
| Beetroot                    | 36.61         | 28.75      | 60.50     | 7.86               | -39.49       | Thalapath                 | 335.50        | 331.67     | 264.82    | 0.57               | 26.69        |
| Knolkhol                    | 32.24         | 19.57      | 30.42     | 12.67              | 5.98         | <b><u>Inland Fish</u></b> |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Raddish                     | 19.06         | 13.13      | 20.58     | 5.93               | -7.39        | Thilapiya                 |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Cabbage                     | 14.10         | 14.54      | 35.99     | -0.44              | -60.82       | Theppeli                  |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Tomato                      | 31.88         | 15.11      | 71.60     | 16.77              | -55.47       | <b><u>Eggs</u></b>        |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Ladies Fingers              | 26.58         | 20.98      | 26.00     | 5.60               | 2.23         | Brown                     | 6.06          | 6.15       | 6.08      | -0.74              | -0.33        |
| Brinjal                     | 29.44         | 27.84      | 29.92     | 1.60               | -1.60        | White                     | 5.76          | 5.85       | 5.57      | -0.78              | 3.41         |
| Capsicum                    | 99.30         | 69.11      | 82.70     | 30.19              | 20.07        | <b><u>Dried Fish</u></b>  |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Pumpkin                     | 17.53         | 9.21       | 9.76      | 8.32               | 79.61        | Sprats                    | 155.00        |            | 151.00    |                    | 2.65         |
| Cucumber                    | 15.69         | 19.94      | 11.02     | -4.25              | 42.38        | Sprats(imported)          | 160.75        | 150.88     | 154.60    | 3.17               | 3.98         |
| Bitter Gourd                | 38.66         | 31.91      | 33.12     | 6.75               | 16.73        | Kattawa                   |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Snake Gourd                 | 24.79         | 27.86      | 22.86     | -3.07              | 8.44         | Kattawa(imported)         | 378.25        | 382.86     | 345.84    | -0.61              | 9.37         |
| Drumstick                   | 39.38         | 46.77      | 39.00     | -7.39              | 0.97         | Thora                     |               |            | 280.00    |                    |              |
| Luffa                       | 26.67         | 28.12      | 33.12     | -1.45              | -19.47       | Thora(imported)           | 415.38        | 400.33     | 357.79    | 1.84               | 16.09        |
| Long Beans                  | 40.64         | 33.18      | 38.02     | 7.46               | 6.89         | Mora                      | 145.00        |            |           |                    |              |
| Ash Plantain                | 39.90         | 32.95      | 31.31     | 6.95               | 27.44        | Mora(imported)            | 334.79        | 327.79     | 303.62    | 1.06               | 10.27        |
| Green Chilies               | 114.98        | 54.62      | 54.57     | 60.36              | 110.70       | Balaya                    | 160.57        | 166.90     | 186.67    | -1.93              | -13.98       |
| Lime                        | 34.00         | 20.56      | 22.68     | 13.44              | 49.91        | Balaya(imported)          | 188.32        | 201.15     | 181.10    | -3.29              | 3.99         |
| <b><u>Root Crops</u></b>    |               |            |           |                    |              |                           |               |            |           |                    |              |

**Colombo & suburbs: Retail prices (Rs/kg or Rs/Piece)**

**June 2007**

| COMMODITY              | Average Price |            |           | Change Compared to |              | COMMODITY              | Average Price |            |           | Change Compared to |              |
|------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|
|                        | This Month    | Last Month | last year | last Month         | last year(%) |                        | This Month    | Last Month | last year | last Month         | last year(%) |
| <b>Rice</b>            |               |            |           |                    |              | <b>Fruit</b>           |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Samba 1                | 44.59         | 43.49      | 39.66     | 1.10               | 12.43        | <b>Plantain</b>        |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Samba 2                | 39.92         | 39.09      | 36.20     | 0.83               | 10.28        | Ambul                  | 3.69          | 3.61       | 2.73      | 0.08               | 35.16        |
| Samba 3                | 37.30         | 36.60      | 33.19     | 0.70               | 12.38        | Kolikuttu              | 9.56          | 8.73       | 8.06      | 0.83               | 18.61        |
| Nadu 1                 | 39.32         | 38.79      | 32.05     | 0.53               | 22.68        | Seeni                  | 3.29          | 3.18       | 2.50      | 0.11               | 31.60        |
| Nadu 2                 | 36.26         | 35.68      | 28.88     | 0.58               | 25.55        | Anamalu                | 7.94          | 7.51       | 6.81      | 0.43               | 16.59        |
| Raw (red)              | 40.82         | 38.32      | 30.15     | 2.50               | 35.39        | Ambun                  | 8.32          | 8.56       | 7.61      | -0.24              | 9.33         |
| Raw (white)            | 35.22         | 33.44      | 29.01     | 1.78               | 21.41        | Papaw (Rs/Kg)          | 45.37         | 38.63      | 40.69     | 6.74               | 11.50        |
| Imported Pomme Samba   |               |            |           |                    |              | Passion Fruit          | 8.18          | 7.89       | 6.25      | 0.29               | 30.88        |
| Imported Raw White     |               |            |           |                    |              | Pineapple Large        | 85.25         | 89.98      | 68.27     | -4.73              | 24.87        |
| <b>Dried Chillies</b>  |               |            |           |                    |              | Pineapple Medium       | 70.60         | 69.75      | 50.59     | 0.85               | 39.55        |
| Imported               | 186.71        | 186.02     | 181.43    | 0.69               | 2.91         | Pineapple Small        | 54.58         | 50.09      | 36.42     | 4.49               | 49.86        |
| Local                  |               |            | 175.25    |                    |              | <b>Mango</b>           |               |            |           |                    |              |
| <b>Onions</b>          |               |            |           |                    |              | Betti                  | 11.87         | 11.28      | 16.83     | 0.59               | -29.47       |
| Sinnan                 |               |            | 70.24     |                    |              | Karthakolomban         | 26.64         | 25.36      | 45.33     | 1.28               | -41.23       |
| Vedalan                | 80.00         |            | 83.41     |                    | -4.09        | Vilad                  | 17.24         | 16.49      | 23.13     | 0.75               | -25.46       |
| Imported               | 73.56         | 67.10      | 78.99     | 6.46               | -6.87        | Kohu                   | 7.50          |            |           |                    |              |
| <b>B'Onion</b>         |               |            |           |                    |              | <b>Other Fruits</b>    |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Imported               | 61.69         | 50.66      | 43.38     | 11.03              | 42.21        | Wood Apple             | 23.50         | 20.82      | 18.19     | 2.68               | 29.19        |
| Local                  |               |            |           |                    |              | Orange                 | 29.68         | 22.32      | 19.47     | 7.36               | 52.44        |
| <b>Potato</b>          |               |            |           |                    |              | Avocado                | 22.63         | 21.93      | 18.95     | 0.70               | 19.42        |
| Welimada               |               | 70.00      | 71.61     |                    |              | Slime Apple            | 19.87         | 19.01      | 18.74     | 0.86               | 6.03         |
| N'Eliya                | 91.56         | 78.32      | 75.71     | 13.24              | 20.94        | Grapes(Imported,Rs/Kg) | 473.79        | 477.17     | 436.11    | -3.38              | 8.64         |
| Imported               | 70.43         | 55.44      | 69.03     | 14.99              | 2.03         | King Coconut           | 23.37         | 19.12      | 18.83     | 4.25               | 24.11        |
| <b>Pulses</b>          |               |            |           |                    |              | <b>Sea Fish</b>        |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Green Gram             | 124.15        | 124.37     | 115.09    | -0.22              | 7.87         | Salaya                 | 106.30        | 112.74     | 111.56    | -6.44              | -4.71        |
| Cowpea                 | 117.69        | 114.64     | 89.29     | 3.05               | 31.81        | Hurulla                | 222.09        | 242.01     | 180.27    | -19.92             | 23.20        |
| Red Dhall (Small)      | 95.76         | 93.72      | 74.11     | 2.04               | 29.21        | Balaya                 | 311.06        | 317.12     | 224.80    | -6.06              | 38.37        |
| <b>Vegetable</b>       |               |            |           |                    |              | Kelawalla              | 414.16        | 412.47     | 294.86    | 1.69               | 40.46        |
| Beans (butter)         |               |            |           |                    |              | Thora                  | 651.98        | 669.56     | 548.07    | -17.58             | 18.96        |
| Beans (green)          | 109.06        | 76.03      | 88.05     | 33.03              | 23.86        | Paraw                  | 432.89        | 476.07     | 401.75    | -43.18             | 7.75         |
| Carrot                 | 80.32         | 65.93      | 98.71     | 14.39              | -18.63       | Mora                   | 321.69        | 316.86     | 277.03    | 4.83               | 16.12        |
| Leeks                  | 82.75         | 72.98      | 80.87     | 9.77               | 2.32         | Shrimps (small)        | 615.13        | 611.58     | 473.51    | 3.55               | 29.91        |
| Beetroot               | 79.69         | 66.74      | 96.02     | 12.95              | -17.01       | Thalapath              | 472.36        | 489.02     | 410.90    | -16.66             | 14.96        |
| Knolkhol               | 77.56         | 68.62      | 70.83     | 8.94               | 9.50         | <b>Inland Fish</b>     |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Raddish                | 55.78         | 49.29      | 53.48     | 6.49               | 4.30         | Thilapiya              |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Cabbage                | 58.87         | 52.53      | 75.81     | 6.34               | -22.35       | Theppeli               |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Tomato                 | 65.56         | 42.35      | 115.31    | 23.21              | -43.14       | <b>Eggs</b>            |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Ladies Fingers         | 64.96         | 59.70      | 59.60     | 5.26               | 8.99         | Brown                  | 7.04          | 7.14       | 6.68      | -0.10              | 5.39         |
| Brinjal                | 69.61         | 59.51      | 63.04     | 10.10              | 10.42        | White                  | 6.60          | 6.73       | 6.18      | -0.13              | 6.80         |
| Capsicum               | 161.38        | 120.08     | 118.96    | 41.30              | 35.66        | <b>Dried Fish</b>      |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Pumpkin                | 45.30         | 36.96      | 34.15     | 8.34               | 32.65        | Sprats                 | 257.22        | 228.06     | 232.79    | 29.16              | 10.49        |
| Cucumber               | 48.89         | 48.07      | 40.24     | 0.82               | 21.50        | Kattawa                | 549.05        | 544.55     | 470.82    | 4.50               | 16.62        |
| Bitter Gourd           | 81.70         | 71.68      | 70.71     | 10.02              | 15.54        | Thora                  | 631.50        | 609.21     | 509.42    | 22.29              | 23.96        |
| Snake Gourd            | 57.52         | 54.78      | 49.66     | 2.74               | 15.83        | Mora                   | 444.87        | 423.65     | 395.68    | 21.22              | 12.43        |
| Drumstick              | 100.29        | 154.94     | 94.12     | -54.65             | 6.56         | Balaya                 | 389.70        | 345.97     | 274.42    | 43.73              | 42.01        |
| Luffa                  | 62.39         | 60.33      | 67.25     | 2.06               | -7.23        | Anguluwa               | 400.59        | 377.93     | 304.73    | 22.66              | 31.46        |
| Long Beans             | 85.10         | 69.78      | 72.47     | 15.32              | 17.43        | Maduwa                 | 261.02        | 247.62     | 252.34    | 13.40              | 3.44         |
| Ash Plantain           | 77.18         | 68.86      | 65.10     | 8.32               | 18.56        | Koduwa                 |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Green Chillies         | 200.51        | 104.05     | 110.83    | 96.46              | 80.92        | Salaya                 | 285.48        | 259.75     | 236.22    | 25.73              | 20.85        |
| Lime                   | 93.58         | 74.10      | 68.15     | 19.48              | 37.31        | <b>Meat</b>            |               |            |           |                    |              |
| <b>Root Crops</b>      |               |            |           |                    |              | Beef(without bones)    | 299.44        | 289.63     | 268.60    | 9.81               | 11.48        |
| Sweet Potatoe          | 55.95         | 47.50      | 47.70     | 8.45               | 17.30        |                        |               |            |           |                    |              |
| Manioc                 | 32.31         | 32.46      | 26.40     | -0.15              | 22.39        |                        |               |            |           |                    |              |
| <b>Leafy Vegetable</b> |               |            |           |                    |              |                        |               |            |           |                    |              |

**Retail price of Rice at Colombo & Suburbs Market (Rs/kg)**

| Month | Samba 2 |       |       | Nadu 1 |       |       | Raw Red |       |       | Raw White |       |       |
|-------|---------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|
|       | 2005    | 2006  | 2007  | 2005   | 2006  | 2007  | 2005    | 2006  | 2007  | 2005      | 2006  | 2007  |
| Jan   | 50.74   | 43.04 | 40.91 | 39.78  | 35.03 | 38.65 | 43.24   | 31.67 | 37.82 | 38.43     | 31.07 | 34.57 |
| Feb   | 49.67   | 41.79 | 40.72 | 37.94  | 33.24 | 39.75 | 40.18   | 30.36 | 43.30 | 33.55     | 29.18 | 35.24 |
| Mar   | 42.95   | 38.87 | 38.90 | 33.45  | 30.62 | 37.49 | 35.75   | 28.84 | 40.72 | 29.78     | 27.48 | 32.85 |
| Apr   | 39.89   | 37.24 | 37.78 | 32.54  | 31.09 | 36.50 | 33.07   | 30.24 | 38.60 | 29.87     | 28.66 | 32.00 |
| May   | 38.38   | 36.59 | 39.09 | 32.05  | 31.32 | 38.79 | 31.77   | 30.17 | 38.32 | 28.94     | 28.85 | 33.44 |
| Jun   | 38.28   | 36.20 | 44.59 | 32.35  | 32.05 | 39.32 | 31.16   | 30.15 | 40.82 | 28.52     | 29.01 | 35.22 |
| Jul   | 37.77   | 37.02 |       | 30.94  | 32.60 |       | 29.55   | 30.28 |       | 27.87     | 29.02 |       |
| Aug   | 37.15   | 36.35 |       | 30.32  | 31.61 |       | 28.61   | 29.30 |       | 27.45     | 28.42 |       |
| Sep   | 39.36   | 37.99 |       | 31.03  | 32.92 |       | 28.96   | 30.37 |       | 27.55     | 29.20 |       |
| Oct   | 41.09   | 38.77 |       | 31.08  | 33.20 |       | 30.02   | 31.47 |       | 28.79     | 29.66 |       |
| Nov   | 42.65   | 39.31 |       | 32.82  | 34.93 |       | 30.60   | 34.12 |       | 30.09     | 31.62 |       |
| Dec   | 44.43   | 40.78 |       | 36.30  | 37.83 |       | 31.94   | 36.30 |       | 31.92     | 34.10 |       |

