

STATISTICAL UPDATE: **PORT VILA CENTRAL MARKET SURVEY**

SEPTEMBER 2020

The Port Vila Central Market Survey summarises selected agricultural produces sold at the main wet market based on the Supply and Price of commodities. Data is collected on a fortnightly basis and published as a quarterly average.

Summary of Findings:

The Port Vila Market Survey of September quarter of 2020 showed an overall Volume increase of 70 kilograms on the supply of commodities and the average price increased by 20 percent compared to the previous quarter.

- ◆ The volume of all commodities increased in this quarter compared to the previous quarter and this is attributed to the increase of market vendors after the completion of the central market renovations around the end of July 2020.
- ◆ The value of commodities increased from VT110,900 to VT548,070 compared to previous quarter.
- ◆ An average of 195 sellers were recorded for the quarter under review. This is 154 sellers higher compared to the previous quarter.

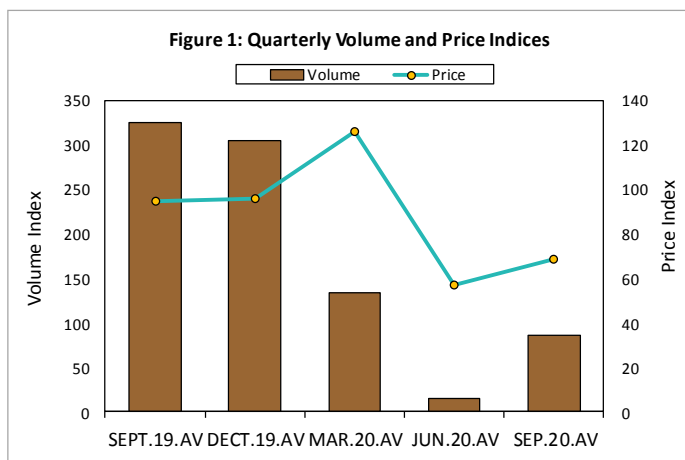
OVERVIEW

The Port Vila Market Survey in September quarter 2020 showed an overall volume increase of 70 kilograms compared to the previous quarter. Kumala increased by 829 kilograms followed by White bowl cabbage at 551 kilograms, Cucumber at 429 kilograms, tomato at 334 kilograms and the rest falls below 200 kilograms difference. When compared to the corresponding quarter of previous year, the overall quantity supplied decreased by -74 percent. (Refer to table 4).

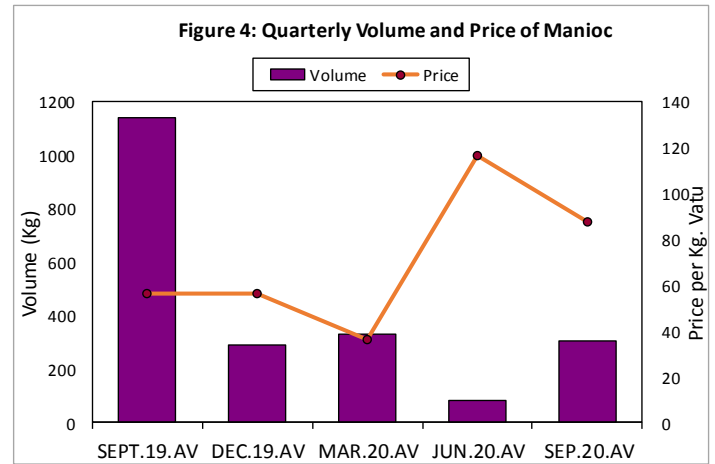
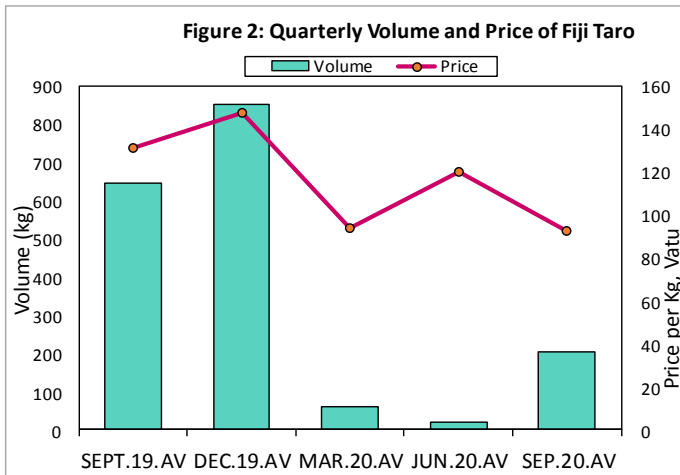
each and Kumala, Island cabbage and Lettuce increased by 18 percent, 12 percent and 5 percent respectively. Compared to September quarter of 2019, the current overall price level is lower by -28 percent. (Refer to table 5).

FIJI TARO

At an average of 205 Kilograms, the supply of Fiji Taro increase significantly by 187 kilograms from the previous quarter which pushes average price per kilogram down by -23 percent. Compared to September 2019, the supply of Fiji Taro decreased by -68 percent and price also declined by -29 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



The overall price increased by 20 percent compared to the previous quarter. The average price per kilogram of Pawpaw and Ripe banana increased by VT34 and VT16

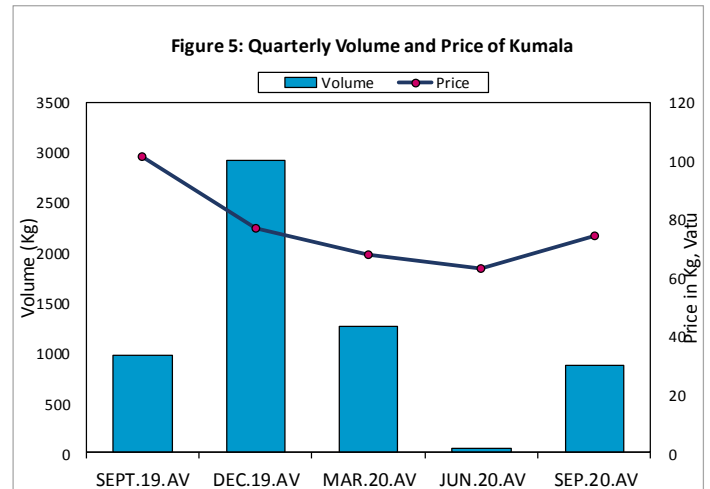
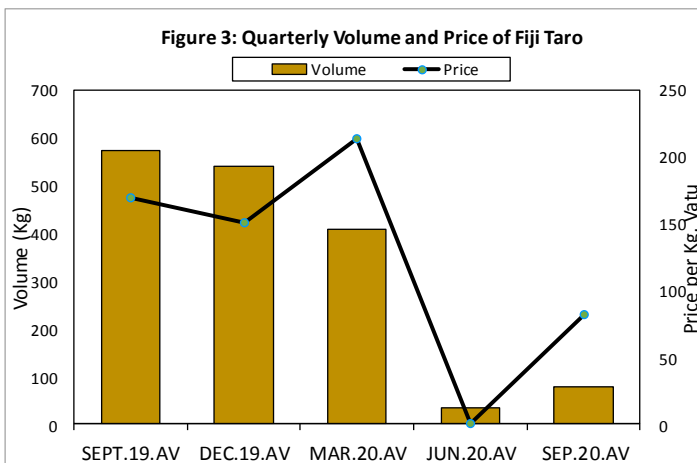


ISLAND TARO

The volume of Island Taro supplied to Port Vila Central Market in September 2020 increased by 42 kilograms compared to previous quarter and price also increased by 82 kilograms in the same period. Compared with September 2019, the volume of Island Taro was -87 percent lower and its average price also decreased by -52 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

KUMALA (SWEET POTATO)

Kumala or Sweet Potato recorded a rise in average quantity supplied of 829 kilograms compared to the previous quarter. Even with the increased availability, the average price also increased by 18 percent. Compared with same quarter of previous year, the volume of Kumala decreased by -11 percent and average price decreased by -27 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2)

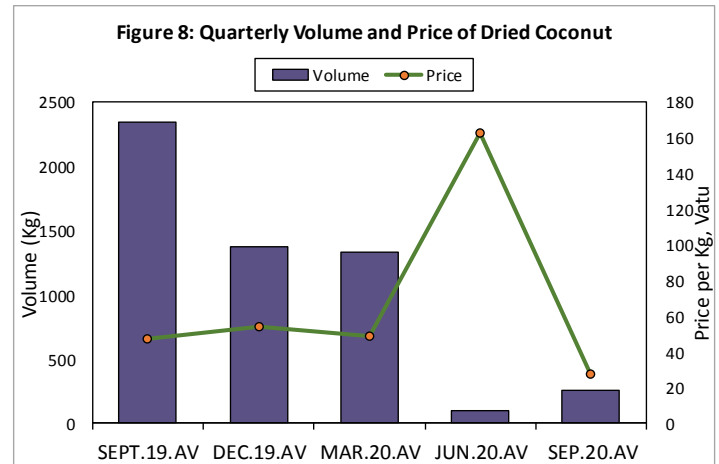
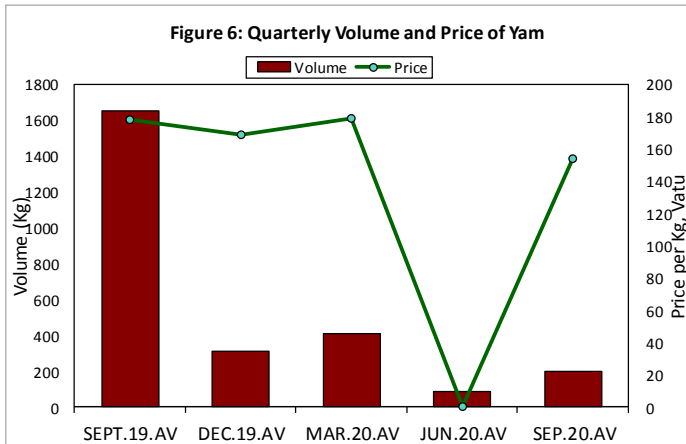


MANIOC

The current supply of Manioc in the quarter under review increased by 225 kilograms compared to June quarter of 2020 and the average price also decreased by -25 percent. When compared with September of 2019, the volume of Manioc decreased by -73 percent while average price is 57 percent higher. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

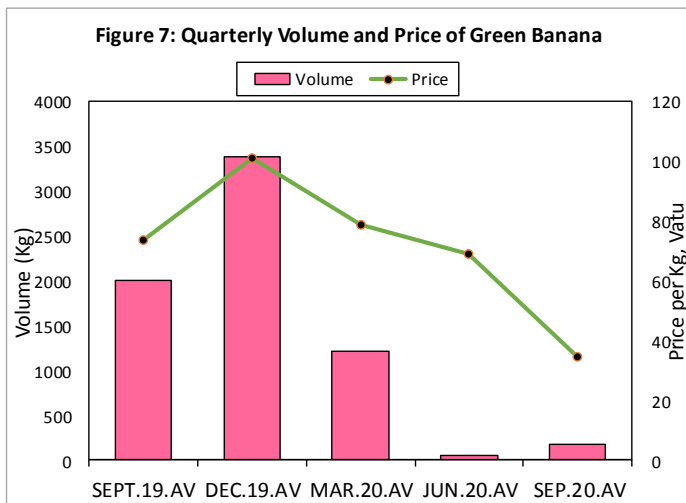
YAM

The supply of Yam in the quarter under review increased by 110 kilograms compared with June quarter of 2020. Average price also increased by VT154 per kilogram in this period. However, the current availability of Yam decreased by 88 percent in the same quarter of previous year and average price also fell by -14 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



GREEN BANANA

September 2020 recorded an average supply of 164 kilograms of Green Banana. This is an increase of 113 kilograms compared with the previous quarter. The availability of this commodity pushes average price down by -50 percent. Compared with September of 2019, the quantity of Green Banana supplied to Port Vila Market decreased by -92 percent and average price also declined by -53 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

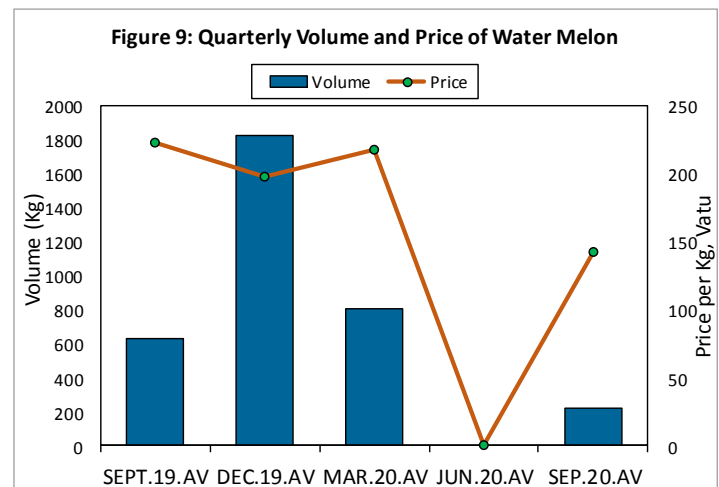


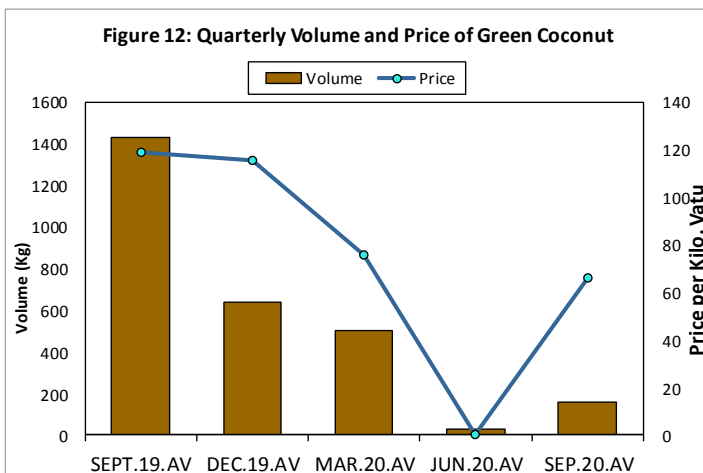
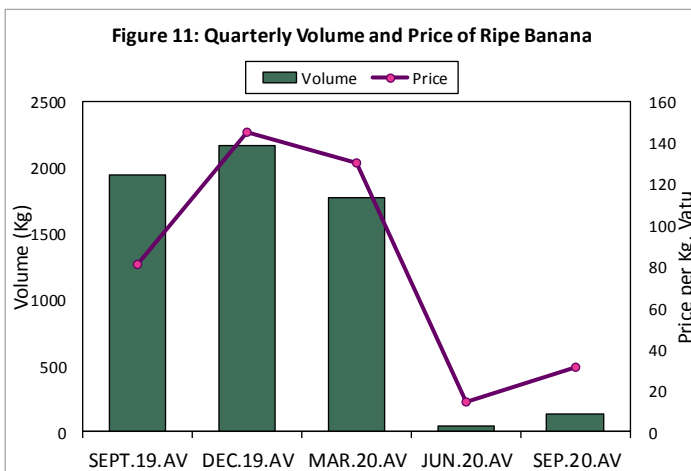
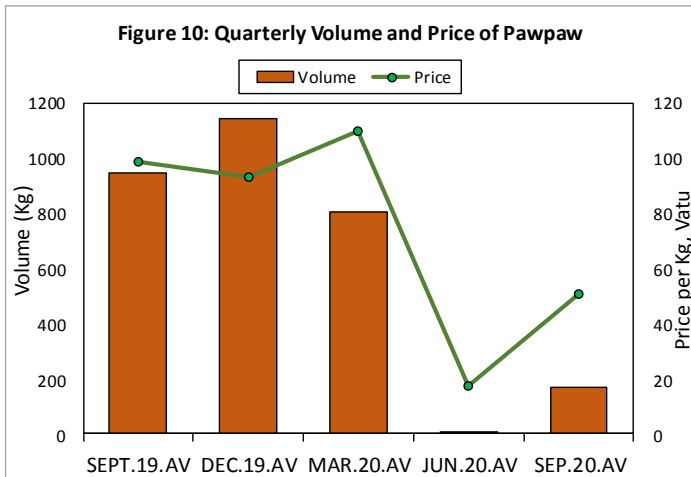
DRIED COCONUTS

Dried Coconut supply increased by 163 kilograms compared with the previous quarter while average price decreased by -84 percent. Current availability was -89 percent lower in September quarter of 2019 and average price also decreased by -43 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

FRUITS

An overview of Fruits supplied to Port Vila Central Market in the third quarter of 2020 showed an increase of Ripe banana at 99 kilograms, Pawpaw at 159 kilograms, Watermelon at 222 kilograms and Green coconut at 134 kilograms compared to the previous quarter. Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the supply of fruits that decreased were Ripe banana at -93 percent, Green coconut at -89 percent, Pawpaw at -82 percent and Watermelon at -65 percent. (Refer to table 1.





All fruits recorded an increase in the average price per kilogram in the previous quarter which includes Watermelon at VT142, Green coconuts by VT66, Pawpaw by VT34 and Ripe banana by VT16. When compared with September quarter of 2019, the price of Ripe banana decreased by -62 percent, Pawpaw at -48 percent, Green coconut at -45 percent and Watermelon at -36 percent. (Refer to table 2).

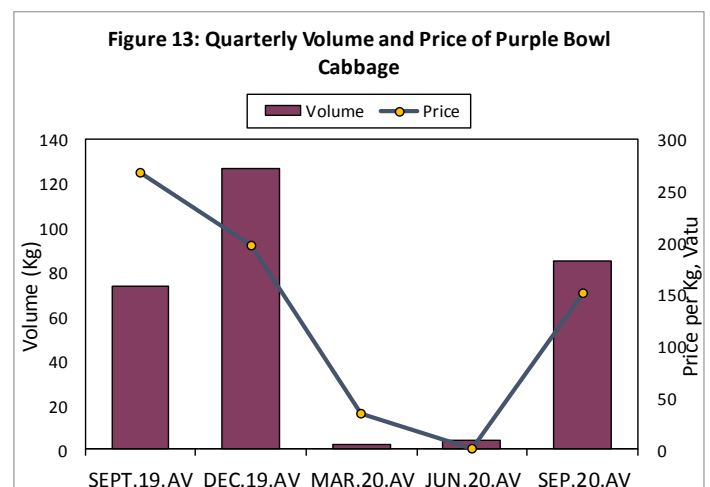
VEGETABLE PRODUCES

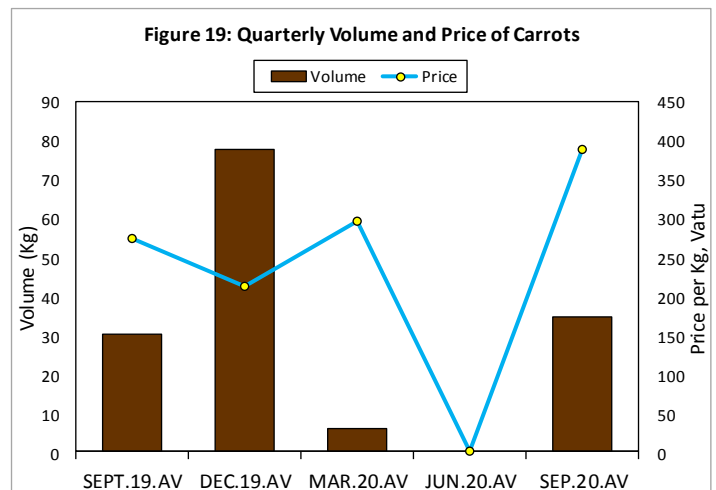
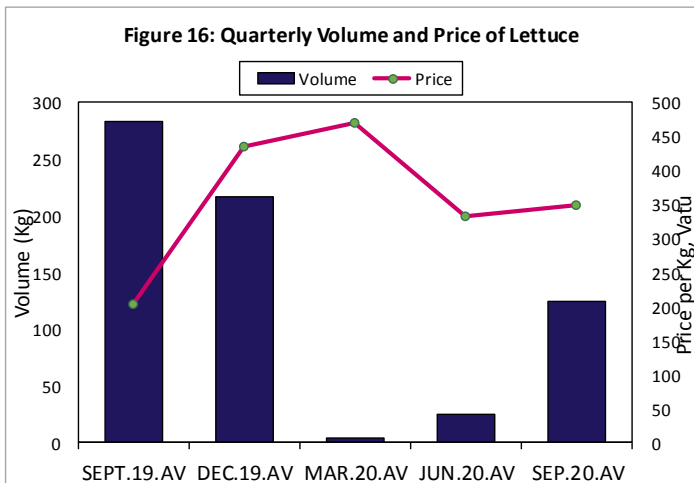
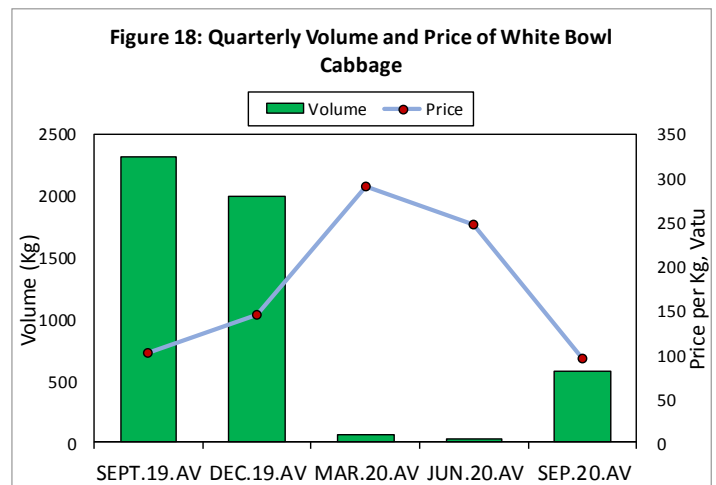
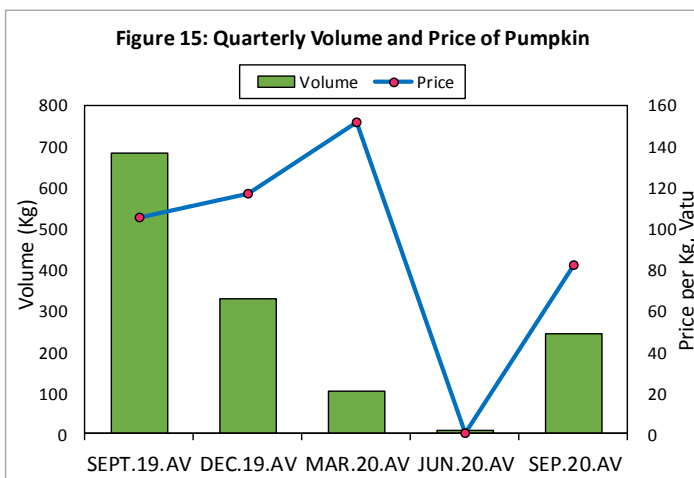
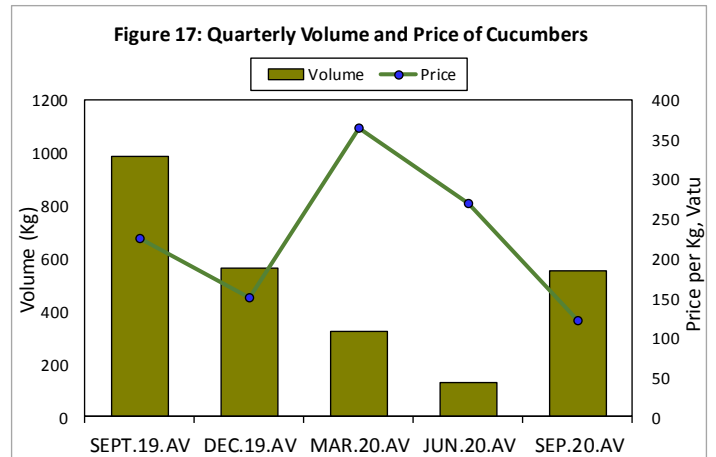
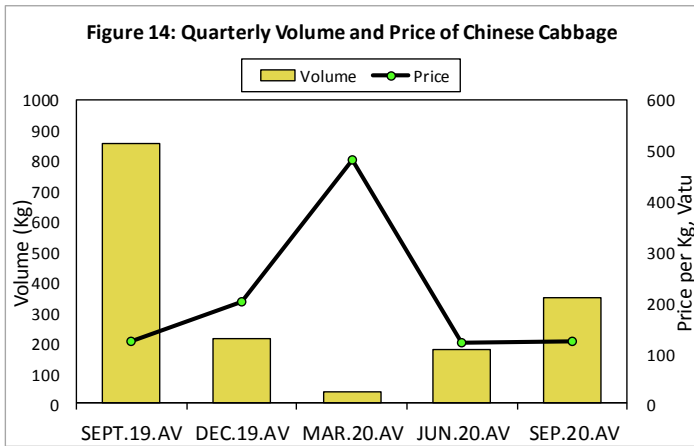
Vegetable summary in the quarter under review showed that the volume of all vegetable increased compared to previous quarter. Volume increase was recorded for White bowl cabbage by 551 kilograms, Cucumber by 429 kilograms, Tomato at 334 kilograms, Pumpkin by 236 kilograms, Chinese cabbage by 169 kilograms, Lettuce by 101 kilograms, Purple bowl cabbage by 81 kilograms, Carrot by 35 kilograms and Island cabbage by 9 kilograms.

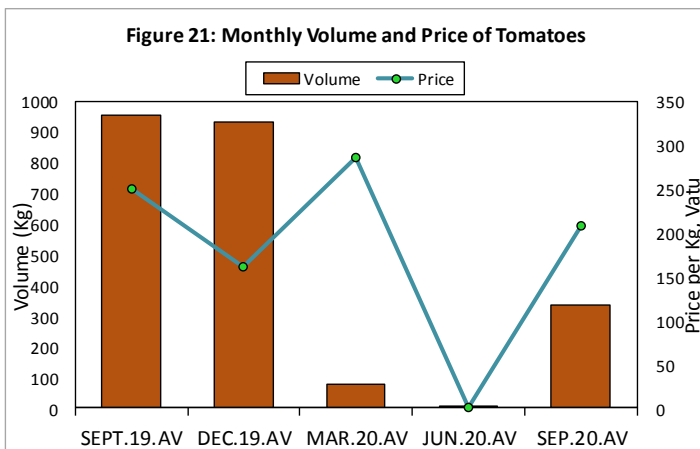
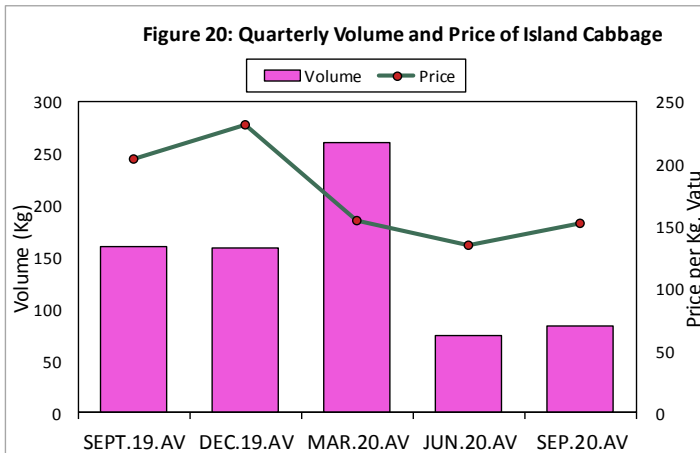
Compared to September 2019, the volume of Purple bowl cabbage and Carrot increased by 16 percent and 14 percent respectively. On the other hand, White bowl cabbage declined by -75 percent, Tomato and Pumpkin decreased by -65 percent each, Chinese cabbage by -60 percent, Lettuce by -56 percent, Island cabbage and Cucumber by -48 percent and -44 percent respectively. (Refer to table 1).

The average price per kilograms compared to previous quarter decreased for White bowl cabbage at -62 percent and Cucumber at -56 percent. The average price of commodities that increased were Carrot at VT389, Tomato at VT207, Purple bowl cabbage at VT150, Pumpkin at VT82, Lettuce at VT18, Island cabbage at VT17 and Chinese cabbage at VT2 per kilograms.

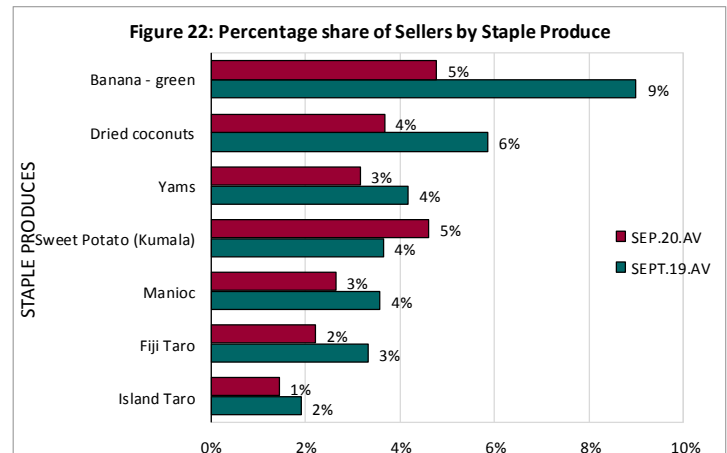
The average price of vegetables compared with the corresponding quarter of 2019 recorded increases for Lettuce at 73 percent, Carrot at 41 percent and Chinese cabbage at 1 percent. Vegetable prices that declined were cucumber at -47 percent, Purple bowl cabbage at -44 percent, Island cabbage at -26 percent, Pumpkin at -22 percent, Tomato at -17 percent and White bowl cabbage -7 percent. (Refer to table 2).







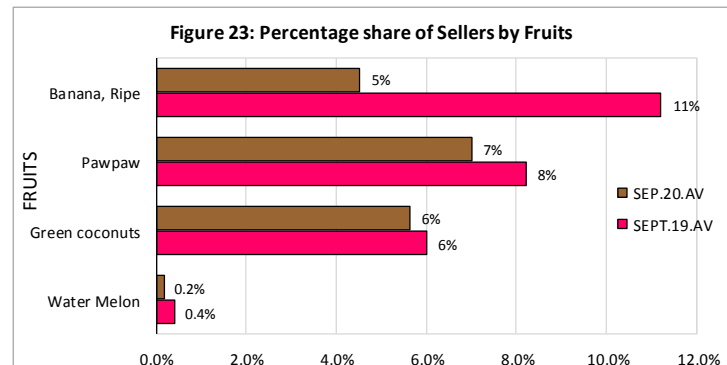
2020. Compared to September of 2019, Pawpaw sellers and White bowl cabbage both declined by 33 and 25 sellers each. Island cabbage, Green coconut and Lettuce contributed 6 percent share of sellers. Lettuce increased by 10 sellers, Island cabbage by 8 sellers and Green coconut by 4 sellers compared to previous quarter. When compared to same quarter of previous year, Green coconut sellers decreased by -23 sellers, Lettuce by -18 sellers and Island cabbage at 7 sellers. The rest of the commodities recorded 5 percent and less of market vendors in the quarter under review.



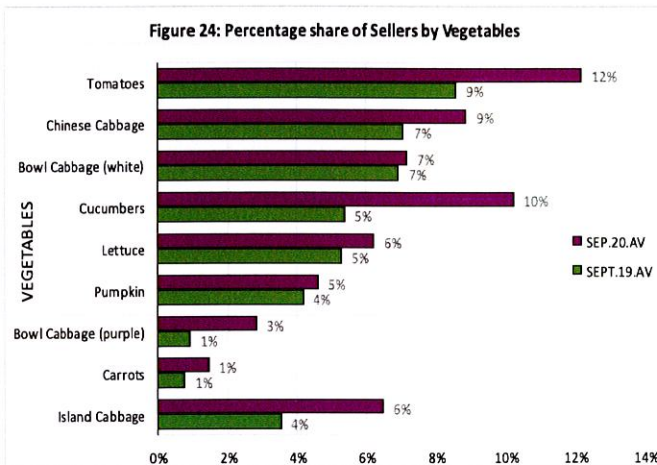
SELLERS PER PRODUCE

September quarter of 2020 recorded 195 sellers¹ at the Port Vila Central Market. This increased by 154 sellers from previous quarter and decreased by 372 sellers when compared to September quarter of 2019. (Refer to table 6).

Sellers per produce recorded Tomato sellers to be the highest in September quarter of 2020 with 12 percent share. This is an increase of 23 sellers and decrease of 25 sellers in June 2020 and September 2019 correspondingly. The second largest share of sellers were Cucumber at 10 percent which is an increase of 17 sellers compared to previous quarter and a decrease of 11 sellers compared to same quarter of last year. Chinese cabbage shared 9 percent of market sellers and increased by 11 sellers compared previous quarter and decreased by 23 sellers compared with same quarter of last year. Pawpaw and White bowl cabbage shared 7 percent each towards the total number of sellers. White bowl cabbage increased by 13 sellers and Pawpaw by 12 sellers compared to June



¹ This is the total number of sellers at the market. However, one seller can sell more than 1 type of produce hence the analysis by sellers per produce



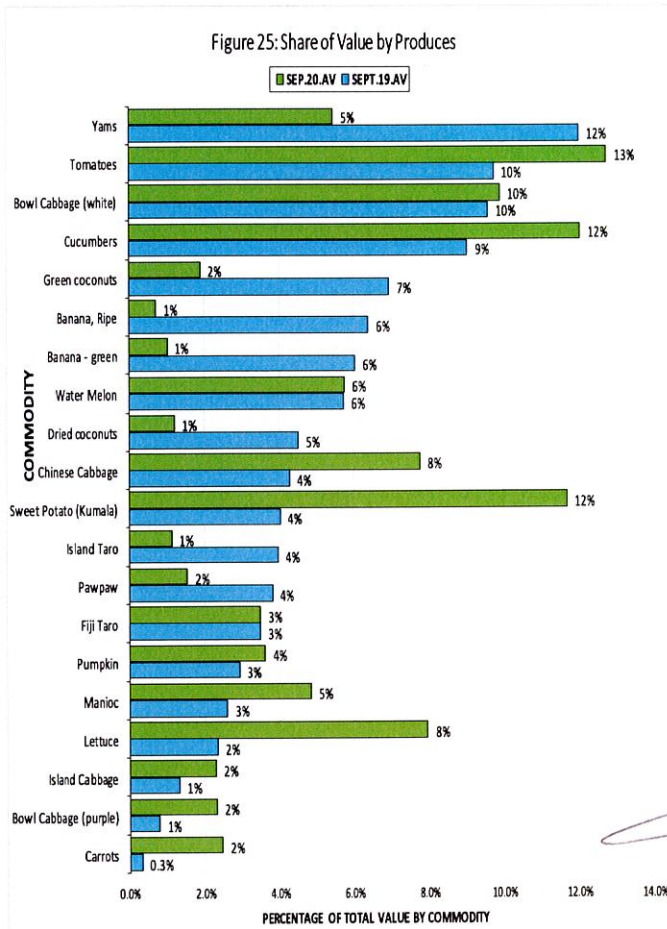
previous quarter and same quarter of previous year. Kumala and Cucumber share 12 percent each of commodity value. This increased by VT62,000 and VT33,000 each compared to June 2020 and declined by VT155,000 and VT34,000 respectively compared with September quarter of 2019. The share of White bowl cabbage contributed 10 percent which increased by VT48,000 in June 2020 and fell by VT180,000 in September 2019. Chinese cabbage and Lettuce contributed 8 percent each both increased by VT21,000 and VT36,000 in that order. Watermelon shared a value of 6 percent in September of 2020, an increase of VT32,000 and decline of VT109,000 compared to previous quarter and same quarter of 2019 respectively. The rest of the commodities recorded a 5 percent share or less of market produce value in September of 2020.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of commodities at the Port Vila Market in the referenced quarter is VT548,070, an increase of VT437,170 percent over June quarter of 2020 but decreased by close to VT2 million compared to same quarter of last year. (Refer to table 3).

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

The Port Vila Market Survey was instigated to measure the price and volume of specific agricultural produces in the main market. The survey is conducted on a fortnightly basis.



The data analysed in this report shows quarterly average supply and prices of the commodities under study. Weights are based on 2016 using HIES 2010 and Agriculture Census 2007 and were used henceforth.

NEXT UPDATE (QUARTERLY) RELEASE DATE

December 2020 16th April, 2021

PROVINCIAL STATISTICS OFFICES

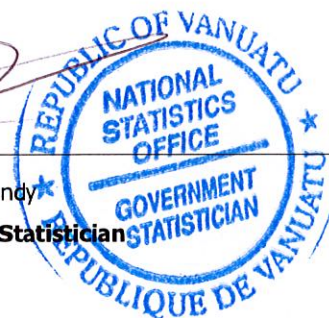
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Mr. KAP Calo Andy

Government Statistician



The value of Tomato at 13 percent share increased by VT70,000 and decreased by 169,000 compared to

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2016.AVG	SEPT.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	Sep-20	
							% chng from prev qtr	% chng from SEP19
Fiji Taro	74	647	855	58	19	205	999	-68
Island Taro	550	572	539	407	34	77	123	-87
Manioc	534	1138	287	326	79	304	286	-73
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	954	971	2920	1254	34	863	2433	-11
Yams	250	1651	308	404	85	195	129	-88
Banana - green	255	2004	3385	1209	51	164	221	-92
Banana, Ripe	435	1941	2163	1772	32	131	304	-93
Pawpaw	568	944	1141	803	7	167	2150	-82
Water Melon	448	628	1828	803	0	222	0	-65
Bowl Cabbage (white)	309	2312	1991	60	27	578	2063	-75
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	53	73	126	2	4	85	1969	16
Carrots	78	30	78	6	0	35	0	14
Chinese Cabbage	543	857	212	36	177	346	96	-60
Cucumbers	343	987	562	321	123	552	348	-44
Pumpkin	45	683	328	101	6	242	3954	-65
Island Cabbage	171	160	159	261	74	83	13	-48
Lettuce	45	284	216	3	24	125	415	-56
Tomatoes	198	952	933	79	4	338	9378	-65
Dried coconuts	650	2344	1369	1323	87	250	189	-89
Green coconuts	309	1430	637	500	23	158	578	-89

Table 2: Weighted Average Price Per Kilograms (in Vatu)

PRODUCE	2016.AVE	SEPT.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	% chng	
							from prev qtr	from SEP19
Fiji Taro	137.18	131	148	94	121	93	-23	-29
Island Taro	185.86	169	151	214	0	82	0	-52
Manioc	55.14	56	56	36	116	88	-25	57
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	73.13	101	77	68	63	74	18	-27
Yams	224.09	178	169	179	0	154	0	-14
Banana - green	118.47	74	101	79	69	34	-50	-53
Banana, Ripe	128.86	81	145	130	14	31	115	-62
Pawpaw	78.85	99	93	110	17	51	195	-48
Water Melon	184.57	223	197	218	0	142	0	-36
Bowl Cabbage (white)	218.28	102	144	290	247	94	-62	-7
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	209.97	267	198	35	0	150	0	-44
Carrots	164.80	275	213	297	0	389	0	41
Chinese Cabbage	133.48	122	201	481	121	123	2	1
Cucumbers	200.67	224	149	364	269	120	-56	-47
Pumpkin	145.18	105	117	152	0	82	0	-22
Island Cabbage	218.16	204	231	155	135	152	12	-26
Lettuce	521.80	202	435	470	332	350	5	73
Tomatoes	312.23	250	162	286	0	207	0	-17
Dried coconuts	56.00	47	54	49	163	27	-84	-43
Green coconuts	133.09	119	115	75	0	66	0	-45

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Vatu thousands)

PRODUCE	Total Value 2016	SEPT.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	% chng	
							from prev qtr	from SEP19
Fiji Taro	38.6	85	127	5	2	19	749	-78
Island Taro	422.4	97	81	87	0	6	0	-94
Manioc	113.8	64	16	12	9	27	190	-58
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	281.1	98	224	85	2	64	2882	-35
Yams	216.0	294	52	72	0	30	0	-90
Banana - green	130.3	148	343	95	4	6	60	-96
Banana, Ripe	256.3	156	314	231	0	4	770	-97
Pawpaw	206.0	93	106	88	0	8	6431	-91
Water Melon	315.7	140	361	175	0	32	0	-77
Bowl Cabbage (white)	184.1	235	287	17	7	54	724	-77
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	61.4	20	25	0	0	13	0	-35
Carrots	65.8	8	17	2	0	14	0	62
Chinese Cabbage	309.5	105	43	17	21	43	99	-59
Cucumbers	269.5	221	84	117	33	66	99	-70
Pumpkin	27.5	72	38	15	0	20	0	-72
Island Cabbage	166.4	33	37	40	10	13	27	-61
Lettuce	95.3	57	94	2	8	44	443	-24
Tomatoes	241.9	238	151	22	0	70	0	-71
Dried coconuts	150.8	110	74	64	14	7	-53	-94
Green coconuts	168.2	170	73	38	0	10	0	-94
	3720.4	2444	2547	1185	111	548	394	-78

Table 4: Volume Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	SEPT.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from SEP19
Fiji Taro	0.01	871	1151	79	25	277	999	-68
Island Taro	0.11	104	98	74	6	14	123	19
Manioc	0.03	213	54	61	15	57	286	286
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0.08	102	306	131	4	90	2433	-11
Yams	0.06	660	123	161	34	78	129	-80
Banana - green	0.04	786	1328	474	20	64	221	221
Banana, Ripe	0.07	447	498	408	7	30	304	-93
Pawpaw	0.06	166	201	141	1	29	2150	1192
Water Melon	0.08	140	408	179	0	50	0	0
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0.05	748	644	19	9	187	2063	-75
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0.02	138	238	4	8	159	1969	1328
Carrots	0.02	39	100	8	0	44	0	0
Chinese Cabbage	0.08	158	39	7	32	64	96	-60
Cucumbers	0.07	287	164	94	36	161	348	21
Pumpkin	0.01	1518	729	225	13	538	3954	-65
Island Cabbage	0.04	93	93	153	43	49	13	-48
Lettuce	0.03	635	484	8	54	280	415	-35
Tomatoes	0.07	481	471	40	2	170	9378	-65
Dried coconuts	0.04	360	211	203	13	38	189	-89
Green coconuts	0.05	462	206	162	8	51	578	25
	1.00	325	305	133	15	86	462	-74

Table 5: Price Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	SEPT.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from SEP19
Fiji Taro	0.01	96	108	68	88	68	-23	-29
Island Taro	0.11	91	81	115	0	44	0	-52
Manioc	0.03	101	101	65	211	159	-25	57
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0.08	138	105	93	86	102	18	-27
Yams	0.06	79	75	80	0	69	0	-14
Banana - green	0.04	62	85	67	58	29	-50	-53
Banana, Ripe	0.07	63	113	101	11	24	115	-62
Pawpaw	0.06	125	118	139	22	64	195	-48
Water Melon	0.08	121	107	118	0	77	0	-36
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0.05	47	66	133	113	43	-62	-7
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0.02	127	94	17	0	71	0	-44
Carrots	0.02	167	129	180	0	236	0	41
Chinese Cabbage	0.08	91	151	360	91	92	2	1
Cucumbers	0.07	112	74	182	134	60	-56	-47
Pumpkin	0.01	72	80	104	0	56	0	-22
Island Cabbage	0.04	93	106	71	62	69	12	-26
Lettuce	0.03	39	83	90	64	67	5	73
Tomatoes	0.07	80	52	92	0	66	0	-17
Dried coconuts	0.04	84	96	87	291	48	-84	-43
Green coconuts	0.05	89	87	57	0	49	0	-45
	1.00	95	96	126	57	68	20	-28

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2016 AVE	SEPT.19.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from SEP19
Fiji Taro	3	19	12	3	1	4	333	-77
Island Taro	3	11	9	3	1	3	183	-74
Manioc	8	20	8	8	2	5	158	-75
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	11	21	25	17	1	9	980	-56
Yams	4	24	8	8	2	6	270	-74
Banana - green	9	51	51	46	3	9	195	-82
Banana, Ripe	15	64	68	65	2	9	430	-86
Pawpaw	14	47	57	43	2	14	811	-71
Water Melon	1	2	4	6	0	0	0	-86
Bowl Cabbage (white)	4	39	22	2	1	14	1300	-64
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	2	5	11	1	0	6	1550	6
Carrots	1	4	7	1	0	3	0	-35
Chinese Cabbage	16	40	9	3	6	17	181	-57
Cucumbers	10	31	24	13	4	20	471	-34
Pumpkin	2	24	13	3	1	9	1250	-62
Island Cabbage	11	20	21	30	5	13	181	-37
Lettuce	4	30	14	0	2	12	508	-59
Tomatoes	7	49	45	13	1	24	2283	-51
Dried coconuts	10	33	21	19	2	7	231	-78
Green coconuts	5	34	36	21	7	11	61	-68
	138	567	464	304	41	195	376	-66