

AGRICULTURE MARKET BULLETIN 05/20



Introduction: Our market bulletin helps inform vendors, farmers and consumers of the types of fresh produce grown and sold for the month by its unit, price and total quantity in \$NZ. For further information, contact Ministry of Agriculture (Corporate Services) on phone number 28711 or email us at moa.support@cookislands.gov.ck

Root Crops Sales:

Taro and Maniota continues to be the most consistently supplied root crop at the Punanga Nui Market sold at an average price of \$5.20/kg and \$4.20/kg respectively. Similar to the previous month, Tarua and Kumara were the other root crops that were also supplied at the market. Root crops are always in demand resulting in their consistent supply at the market. In comparison to last month, the supply of these root crops tripled. The easing of the COVID-19 restrictions enabling the markets to reopen on Saturdays has seen more vendors selling their root crops at the market.

Interestingly, a single vendor for the first time this year, managed to supply 44kgs of radish at the market. This is an off-peak season for radish, but the supplier managed to take a risk and was able to harvest this crop which is normally suitable for growing in late winter. As we are now in cooler months, the supply for all the root crops is anticipated to further increase.

Fruit Sales:

An increase in the supply of all the fruits apart from Drinking Nuts and bananas was noted for this month. As previously alluded, the re-opening of the market on Saturday and the reduced demand by hotels has led suppliers to sell their commodities at the market. The outcome of the Agriculture Sector Recovery package further added to the increases in fruits sold at the market. On the other hand, although, the number of vendors supplying drinking nuts and bananas have increased, a decrease in the quantity supplied was noted. A further decrease in the supply for bananas is anticipated in upcoming months. Banana is unsuitable for cooler months as the fingers of the fruit take longer to fill and ripen when compared to summer months. In addition to this, a supply of 321kgs of pineapple was also noted for this month at the market. Although, this is an off-peak season for the fruit, some farmers still managed to grow and harvest the crop.

Vegetable Sales:

Rukau, lettuce and Pak choi were the three main types of vegetables constantly supplied to the market from the beginning of the year. Rukau, a favorite local delicacy, had a 51% increase in supply and was sold for \$12.00/kg. An increase in the supply of vegetables like pak choi and cabbages by 32% and 4% was noted for this month. There was also a reduction in the supply of lettuce and spinach for this month.

Root Crops	May 2020				April 2020	
	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Maniota	9	476.40	4.20	2,000.88	5	111.5
Taro	13	422.20	5.20	2,195.44	8	146.0
Kumara	2	356.00	5.60	1,993.60	2	66.0
Tarua	6	293.60	4.50	1,321.20	2	70.2
Radish	1	44.20	5.70	251.94		

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL

Fruits	May 2020				April 2020	
	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Cucumber	9	1,079.6	2.90	3,130.84	5	327.0
Pawpaw	8	926.6	3.10	2,872.46	12	420.6
Tomatoes	5	606.5	9.50	5,761.75	2	219.5
Drinking Nut	12	603.1	4.20	2,533.02	9	937.0
Eggplant	5	488.5	5.10	2,491.35	2	194.0
Banana	18	408.9	4.80	1,962.72	12	412.3
Beans	5	336.0	4.00	1,344.00	3	209.5
Pineapple	3	321.4	7.10	2,283.49		
Orange	8	251.4	4.90	1,231.86	5	95.5
Dragonfruit	4	173.6	7.60	1,319.36	1	137.9

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL

Vegetables	May 2020				April 2020	
	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Rukau	10	235.2	12.00	2,822.40	11	155.6
Pak Choi	4	105.9	7.10	751.87	2	80.2
Lettuce	5	62.0	11.60	719.20	3	78.3
Spinach	2	36.5	10.80	394.20	1	55.2
Cabbage	1	4.0	12.50	50.00		

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL