

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 NZD\$. 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

Maniota, Taro and Kumara continues to be the most consistently supplied root crop on the market. But compared to the previous month, there was a decline in the supply of Taro by 41%, Maniota by 31% and Kumara by 18%. Tarua is another root crop that was supplied to the market this month by a single vendor. Although, this crop is high in demand, most farmers tend to dislike planting them due to the difficulty in clearing the land after the harvest.

March 2021					February 2021	
Root Crops	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Taro	12	247.5	3.00	742.50	9	417.2
Maniota	11	240.4	3.50	841.40	9	350.5
Kumara	4	175.7	4.70	825.79	3	214.5
Tarua	1	60.7	3.60	218.52		

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL

Fruit Sales

Similar to last month, Watermelon was the most supplied fruit to the market with a total of over two thousand seven hundred kilograms sold. Farmers are selling the last remaining fruits of the harvest as we are heading to off-peak season.

An increase in the supply of fruits like Drinking Nut, Cucumber, Avocado, Mangoes, Eggplants and Pumpkin was noted for this month.

Warmer weather conditions, peak season for tropical fruits are attributed to the increased supply.

Tomatoes, capsicum and lemon had a reduced supply this month but it is encouraging to note that some farmers are diversifying into new fruits like Bitter Melon to meet the customer demand. Other fruits that were supplied to the market in minimal quantities were Sweet Corn, Hog Plum, Starfruit and Passionfruit.

March 2021					February 2021	
Fruits	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Watermelon	9	2,714.7	2.50	6,786.65	7	6,159.4
Cucumber	10	1,354.2	2.00	2,708.40	6	1,065.3
Drinking Nut	26	1,115.9	3.20	3,570.88	22	1,104.1
Banana	24	743.7	3.20	2,379.84	19	592.6
Pawpaw	10	575.5	2.00	1,151.00	11	730.3
Tomatoes	5	546.5	2.80	1,530.20	4	577.3
Mangoes	15	426.7	4.00	1,706.80	2	32.0
Avocado	17	408.4	3.80	1,551.92	12	337.4
Eggplant	2	308.9	3.00	926.70	7	287.0
Dragonfruit	5	295.0	5.00	1,475.00	6	639.3
Capsicum	4	274.3	3.60	987.48	3	315.0
Lemon	15	206.5	3.70	764.05	12	250.8
Beans	5	156.2	4.80	749.76	3	150.7
Pumpkin	4	139.1	3.90	542.49	4	76.7
Bitter Melon	1	116.4	3.70	430.68	1	181.2

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL

Vegetable Sales

Rukau, Watercress, Lettuce, Pak Choi and Spinach continues to be constantly supplied to the market from the beginning of this year but at a reduced quantity. Silver Beet for the first time was another vegetable that was supplied to the market. Since this vegetable is unpopular with locals and is vulnerable to pests and insect's, farmers tend to grow this in minimal quantities.

March 2021					February 2021	
Vegetables	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Rukau	7	190.1	8.50	1,615.85	14	193.5
Watercress	2	59.3	9.50	563.35	1	61.6
Pak Choi	4	16.2	5.90	95.58	1	17.0
Silverbeet	1	14.0	7.10	99.40		
Lettuce	1	4.8	10.00	48.00	1	6.0
Spinach	1	3.5	7.10	24.85	1	1.0

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL