

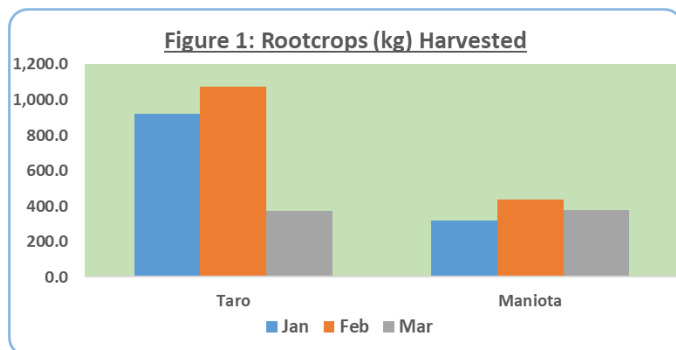
# AGRICULTURE MARKET BULLETIN



**Introduction:** Our market bulletin helps inform vendors, farmers and consumers of the types of fresh produce grown and sold for the months of January, February, March by units, average price and total quantity in NZD\$. For further information, contact Ministry of Agriculture on phone number 28711 or email us at [moa.support@cookislands.gov.ck](mailto:moa.support@cookislands.gov.ck)

## MARCH QUARTER 2024

### Root Crops Sales



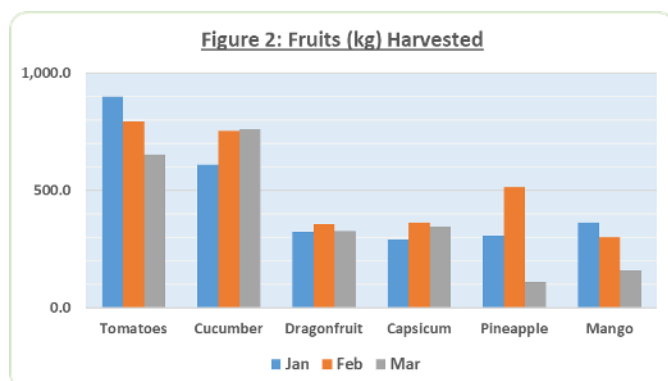
In the first quarter of this year, Taro and Maniota remain the most common and consistent root crops supplied on the market. From January to March, our local vendors sold an average of 2,361.5kgs of Taro and an average of 1,133.3kgs of Maniota. The total value of both root crops sold during that period was \$23,094.29, with its availability being highest in February. Price wise, taro was just \$0.90 more than maniota per kilo. Several highly promising root crops were also harvested and sold on the market, but only in limited quantities. These crops include Tarotaru, Turmeric, white and red Radish, Carrot, and Ginger. Maniota has also been reported as a particularly valuable product that is available in different forms such as grated, pudding (poke), and as in basic food sales.

**Table 1: Quantities of rootcrops harvested**

Rootcrops	Total Average Weights (kg)			1st Quarter Total	Average price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)
	Jan	Feb	Mar			
Taro	918.4	1,072.7	370.4	2,361.5	6.90	16,294.49
Maniota	320.0	434.9	378.4	1,133.3	6.00	6,799.80

*Note: Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL*

### Fruits Sales



Various fruits were sold on the market and in roadside food stalls throughout the same months above. Fruits with an average weight above 100kg were calculated, and the results are

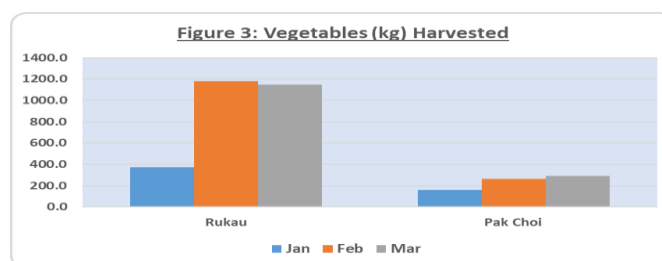
presented in Figure 2 and Table 1. Watermelon was the most commonly harvested fruit, with an average total weight of 7,568.7 kgs and a total market value of \$42,944.72. This was followed by drinking nuts at 4,439kgs and pawpaw at 3,099.4kgs. Bananas, tomatoes, and cucumbers were all over 2,000kgs on average, whereas dragonfruit and capsicum averaged just over 1,000kgs. Pineapple and mango averaged to 933.7kgs and 823.1 kgs, respectively. Watermelon and Pineapples all showed significant increases by 95% and 54% throughout the three months.

**Table 2: Quantities of fruits harvested**

Fruits	Total Average Weights (kg)			1st Quarter Total	Average price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)
	Jan	Feb	Mar			
Watermelon	2,818.9	2,521.6	2,328.2	7,668.7	5.60	42,944.72
Drinking Nut	1,040.1	1,420.2	1,978.7	4,439.0	4.90	21,751.30
Pawpaw	899.1	1,135.1	1,025.2	3,059.4	5.20	15,918.41
Banana	741.8	988.1	669.6	2,399.5	6.10	14,637.07
Tomatoes	898.8	793.1	654.0	2,345.9	4.80	11,263.19
Cucumber	608.7	753.6	761.2	2,123.5	3.70	7,864.15
Dragonfruit	325.0	357.8	328.6	1,011.4	6.20	6,270.68
Capsicum	291.7	362.0	346.5	1,000.2	7.40	7,401.18
Pineapple	308.6	512.9	112.2	933.7	7.60	7,096.12
Mango	362.9	298.8	161.4	823.1	6.20	5,103.22

*Note: Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL*

### Vegetables Sales



There has been a decline in the production of vegetables in Rarotonga over the last three months, possibly due to dry weather. Rukau taro and pak choi were the highest-producing crops on the market during the first quarter of this year, with rukau averaging a total of 2,696.1 kgs and pak choi following close behind with an average of 712.2 kgs. Other vegetables that farmers offered on the market, in small amounts, included cabbages, watercress, lettuce, and saladeer.

**Table 3: Quantities of green vegetables harvested**

Vegetables	Total Average Weights (kg)			1st Quarter Total	Average price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)
	Jan	Feb	Mar			
Rukau	372.4	1,179.0	1,144.7	2,696.1	10.56	28,469.66
Pak Choi	160.6	262.6	289.0	712.2	6.89	4,906.18

*Note: Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgINTEL*