



## MONTHLY REPORT ON FOOD PRICE TRENDS

### KEY MESSAGES

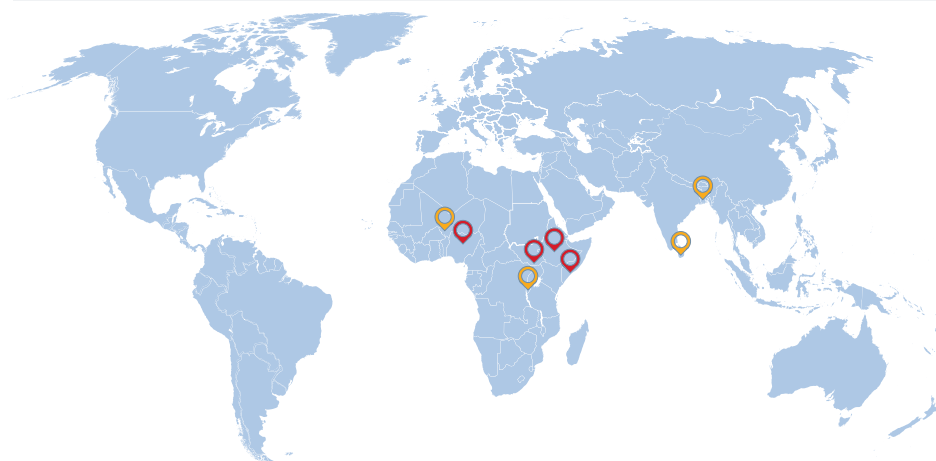
- International prices of wheat dipped in August, after increasing in the past few months, following an upturn in production prospects in the Black Sea region which improved the 2017 global supply outlook. Maize quotations also fell on improved weather conditions and abundant global supplies. International prices of rice were relatively stable, although price movements were mixed across the different rice market segments.
- In East Africa, prices of cereals generally continued to decline with the new harvests. The main exception was Ethiopia, where prices increased further at a fast pace, underpinned by the poor performance of the secondary season harvest and concerns over the main season crop, soon to be gathered.
- In Asia, domestic prices of rice decreased or remained relatively stable in August, amid generally favourable prospects for the 2017 paddy crops, about to be harvested, and a slowdown in demand. In Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, despite recent decreases, prices remained higher than a year earlier, mainly due to weather-related losses of main season crops, gathered earlier in the year.

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### Domestic price warnings

Price warning level:  High  Moderate [Based on GIEWS analysis]



Warnings are only included if latest available price data is not older than two months.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory or sea area, or concerning the delimitation of frontiers.

**Bangladesh** | Rice

**Burundi** | Maize

**Ethiopia** | Grains

**Niger** | Coarse grains

**Nigeria** | Staple foods

**Somalia** | Coarse grains

**South Sudan** | Staple foods

**Sri Lanka** | Rice

# INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES

## Export prices of wheat and maize generally declined in August, those of rice mostly stable

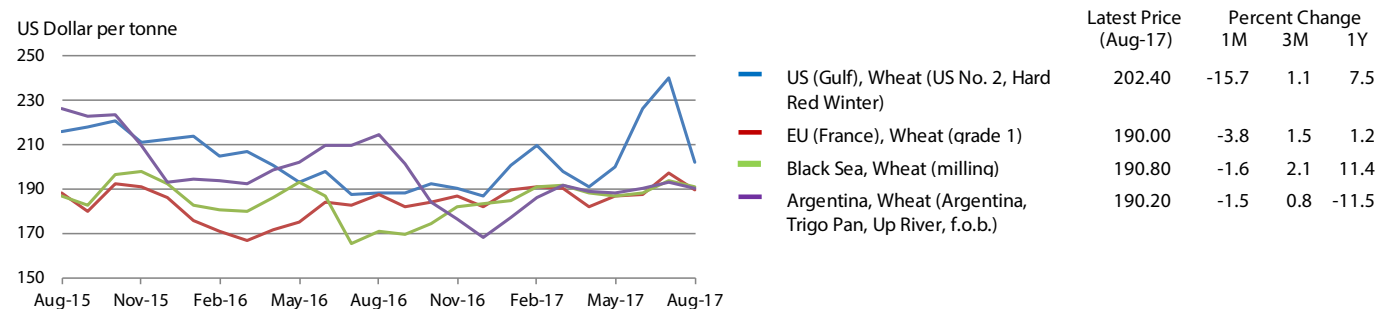
International prices of **wheat** decreased in August. The benchmark US wheat (No.2 Hard Red Winter, f.o.b.) price fell sharply, after increasing for three consecutive months, and averaged USD 202 per tonne, nearly 16 percent lower than in July, but still about 8 percent above its level in the corresponding month last year. Harvest pressure and the favourable global supply outlook, particularly as a result of higher production expectations in the Black Sea region, pushed prices down in spite of concerns about reduced availabilities of high-quality grain. In Argentina, despite a downward revision of the area planted, prices remained about 12 percent below the same time last year.

International prices of **maize** also generally decreased in August, with the benchmark US maize (No.2, Yellow, f.o.b.) price averaging USD 148 per tonne, almost 7 percent down from July and slightly below its level in the corresponding month in 2016. Aside from ample global supplies, improved rains and cooler temperatures during the month benefited crop conditions and weighed further on prices. In South America, quotations decreased with the ongoing 2017 harvest, although slow farmer selling limited the decline in prices. In Ukraine, maize prices increased moderately on account

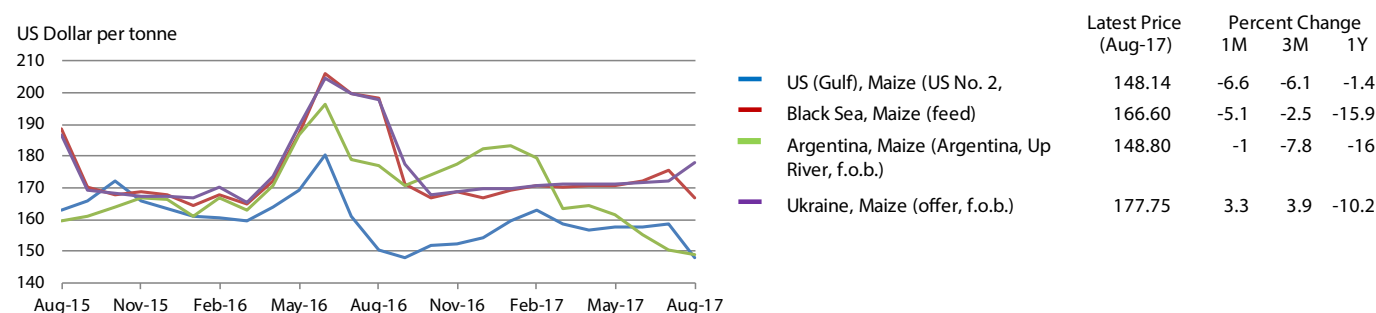
of seasonal trends exacerbated by sustained demand and concerns over less than ideal weather conditions.

The FAO All Rice Price Index (2002-04=100) averaged 211 points in August, slightly above its value in July. Price movements were mixed across the various rice market segments. Quotations of higher and lower quality Indica rice declined, while those of Japonica rice strengthened. In the Aromatica segment, although a slow pace of trade depressed basmati quotations, these reductions were largely offset by stronger prices of Thai fragrant rice. The slow demand weighed on export quotations across much of Asia last month. This was especially the case in Thailand, where new crop arrivals added downward pressure, and in Pakistan following efforts to liquidate stocks ahead of the harvests. Prices also weakened in Viet Nam and India, although in the former partial support was lent by a July sale to the Philippines, while currency movements tended to limit the falls in India. In the Americas, prices were stable in most South American origins, but they continued to increase in the United States of America, influenced by a smaller crop expected in 2017.

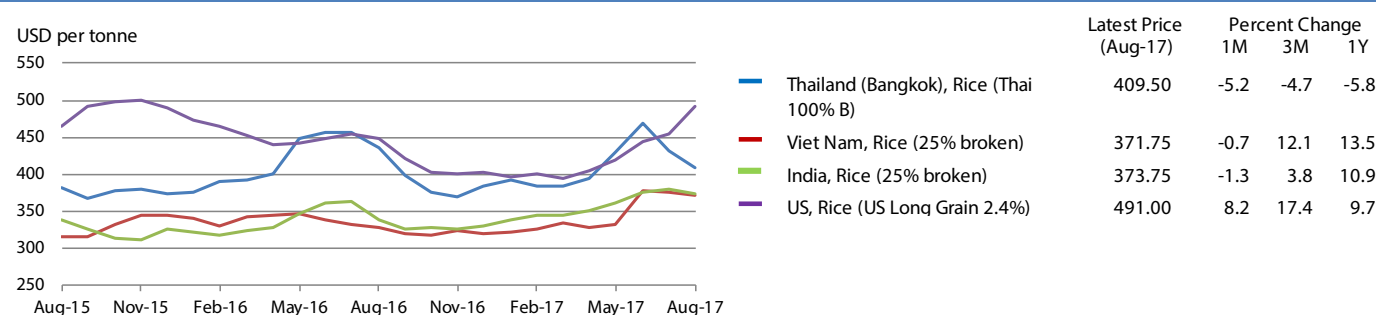
### International wheat prices



### International maize prices



### International rice prices




For more information visit the FPMA website [here](http://www.fpmabulletin.com)

# DOMESTIC PRICE WARNINGS

Countries where prices of one or more basic food commodity are at abnormal high levels which could negatively impact access to food

## Bangladesh | Rice

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/17	Same period average
3 months	-2.8	1.4
12 months	 1.6	-0.3

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Bangladesh, Dhaka, Retail, Rice (coarse- BR-8/11/ Guti/ Sharna)

### Prices of rice decreased further in August but still higher year-on-year

Prices of **coarse rice** decreased for the second consecutive month in August, 10 percent down from the record highs in June, reflecting improved market availabilities from the minor 2017 *aus* harvest and increased imported supplies, which benefited from successive relaxations in import rules ([FPMA Food Policies](#)). The expectations of additional imports in the coming months also contributed to the downward pressure. However, quotations remained more than 25 percent above their year-earlier levels after strong increases since the beginning of the year when losses to the 2017 main *boro* crop due to floods in March and April, combined with some localized pest problems, exacerbated the already tight domestic availabilities following reduced production and imports in 2016.

## Burundi | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/17	Same period average
3 months	-1.7	0.3
12 months	 1.9	0.4



Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Burundi, Bujumbura, Wholesale, Maize

### Prices of maize at high levels

Prices of **maize** eased further in August after declining in the past month with a satisfactory 2017B main season harvest. However, prices were still more than 40 percent higher than their year-earlier levels reflecting an overall tight supply situation due to a reduced 2017A harvest, gathered earlier in the year, and lower imports from neighbouring United Republic of Tanzania and Rwanda. A weak currency and low foreign currency reserves hampering trade, coupled with fuel shortages leading to higher transport costs, also contributed to the high level of prices.

## Ethiopia | Grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/17	Same period average
3 months	 7.2	3.1
12 months	 3.7	-0.4

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Ethiopia, Jimma, Wholesale, Maize


### Prices of grains strengthened further in August and reached record highs

Prices of **maize** rose further in August to record highs. The recent sharp increases reflect concerns over the outlook of the 2017 cereal output, after erratic rains negatively affected the secondary season *belg* harvest and concerns raised over the impact of the Fall Armyworm infestation on the main 2017 *meher* crop, to be harvested from October. Similarly, prices of **teff**, an important staple in the local diet, strengthened in most monitored markets in recent months and in August they were at near-record to record levels. Prices of **wheat**, partly imported and mainly consumed in urban areas, increased in most markets and were generally higher than a year earlier.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

## Niger | Coarse grains


Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/17	Same period average
3 months	1.4	1.8
12 months	 1.6	0.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.  
Refers to: Niger, Zinder, Wholesale, Millet (local)

### Prices of coarse grains remain at record or near-record levels

Prices of **coarse grains** showed mixed trends across the country in August, increasing moderately in several markets, while remaining relatively stable or weakening in others. In general, the overall good outlook for the 2017 harvests, coupled with a decline in domestic demand and Government subsidized cereal sales, contributed to keep markets well supplied and limit seasonal increases. However, prices remained at record or near-record levels after increasing in the past months due to large institutional purchases, lower imports from Nigeria and localized production shortfalls in 2016. In addition, civil insecurity in some areas continued to hamper normal market functioning.

## Nigeria | Staple foods


Growth Rate (%)		
	to 07/17	Same period average
3 months	0.5	1.9
12 months	 1.9	0.8

Compound growth rate in real terms.  
Refers to: Nigeria, Lagos, Wholesale, Maize (white)

### Food prices stable or declining in July but still at record or near-record highs

Prices of **coarse grains** and other food staples, including **white gari** (a staple food made from cassava) and **rice**, continued to remain relatively stable or declined somewhat in July. The recent trends mainly reflect the stabilization of the currency and of the macroeconomic situation in general. Inflation continued to ease in July and fell to 16.1 percent after reaching an all-time high of 18.7 percent in January. The 2017 agricultural season is progressing well in most of the country and early harvests are contributing to put downward pressure on prices. However, despite the recent patterns, food prices remained at record or near-record highs after the sustained increases of the previous months due to the substantial depreciation of the local currency over the past year and civil insecurity in the northeast areas. The high level of food prices reflects in the annual food inflation, which rose to 20.3 percent in July, the highest level since 2009.

## Somalia | Coarse grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/17	Same period average
3 months	 0.1	-2.2
12 months	1.9	0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.  
Refers to: Somalia, Marka, Retail, Maize (white)

### Prices of coarse grains still well above their year-earlier levels

In several markets of the sorghum belt, prices of **sorghum** and **maize** continued to seasonally decline in August as a result of the improved market availabilities from the 2017 *gu* harvest which is, however, estimated at about 40 percent below average due to poor rains. In Marka, the main maize-producing area of the Lower Shabelle Region, where production prospects are poorer, with up to 85 percent of the crop land affected by drought, prices remained firm despite the harvest. Overall, prices of coarse grains were up to twice their levels in August last year, underpinned by an overall tight supply situation. Prices of **livestock** recently increased due to the limited availability of saleable animals and increased demand with the festive season but, nevertheless, in August were lower than a year earlier in most markets as a result of the drought-induced animal emaciation. By contrast, prices of **milk** were higher due to reduced availabilities. In Galkayo, one of the main livestock markets in the Horn of Africa in the Mudug Region, prices of **goats** and **camels** in July were 14 and 30 percent lower than a year earlier, respectively, while prices of **camel milk** were 24 percent higher. Prices of imported commodities were generally stable although some increase was reported in north and central regions.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

## South Sudan | Staple foods


Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/17	Same period average
3 months	 3.1	0.1
12 months	-5.1	1.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.  
Refers to: South Sudan, Juba, Retail, Wheat (flour)

### Food prices declined further in August but still exceptionally high

In the capital, Juba, prices of **maize** and **groundnuts** declined for the second consecutive month in August, while those of **sorghum** eased somewhat. By contrast, prices of **cassava** and **wheat flour** increased in August. The recent price declines mainly reflect the subsidized sales of basic food commodities, as the Government established, in May, a trading company to import and sell five basic food items (sugar, wheat flour, maize flour, beans and cooking oil) in 35 shops in Juba. The prices of these subsidized food items are 25-45 percent lower than the market prices. In addition, the import duty on basic food commodities was lifted for three months. The availability of recently-harvested first season crops, although estimated at well below-average levels, contributed, to some extent, to the price declines. Food prices in August were more than twice their levels in August last year and up to 13 times higher than in the corresponding period two years earlier, in nominal terms, underpinned by the depreciation of the local currency, tight domestic supplies, high fuel costs and marketing disruptions due to insecurity.

## Sri Lanka | Rice

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 08/17	Same period average
3 months	 1.0	-0.7
12 months	0.9	0.0

Compound growth rate in real terms.  
Refers to: Sri Lanka, Colombo, Retail, Rice (white)

### Prices of rice weakened in August but still higher than a year earlier

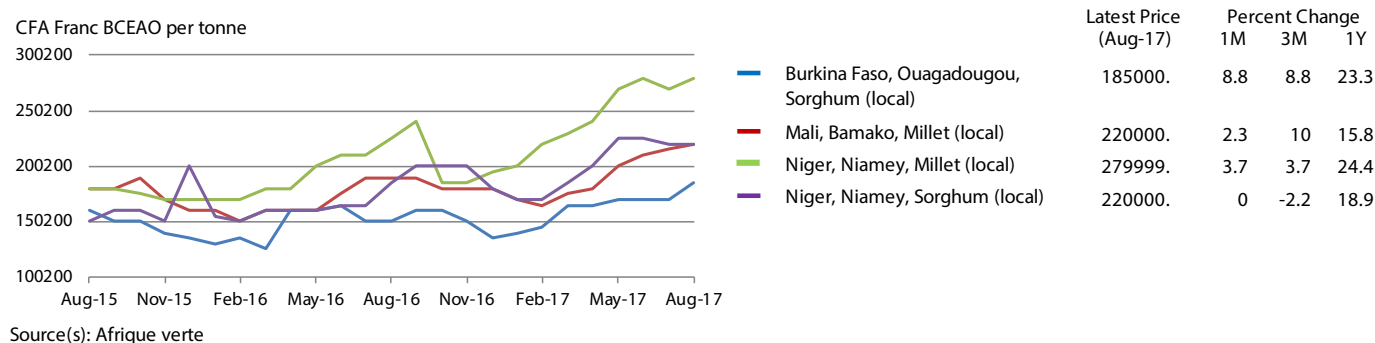
Prices of **rice** declined moderately in August but were still almost 20 percent above their year-earlier levels. The weakening in prices reflects the onset of the 2017 secondary *yala* crop, which is, however, expected to be reduced due to tight water supplies and shortages of seeds. Expectations of additional imports in the coming months also contributed to the downward pressure. The high level of prices reflects the anticipation of a significant decline in the 2017 aggregate rice output, forecast to decrease by almost 40 percent compared to last year's production and the lowest output level since 2002, due to a severe drought in 2016 and early 2017 ([Sri Lanka, GIEWS Special Report](#)). In an effort to boost imports and lower prices, the Government has reduced taxes on imported rice ([FPMA Food Policies](#)) and started to deliver rice to the state-owned *Lanka Sathosa* distribution centres, which sell at subsidized prices.

## Prices of coarse grains strengthened seasonally in most countries of the subregion

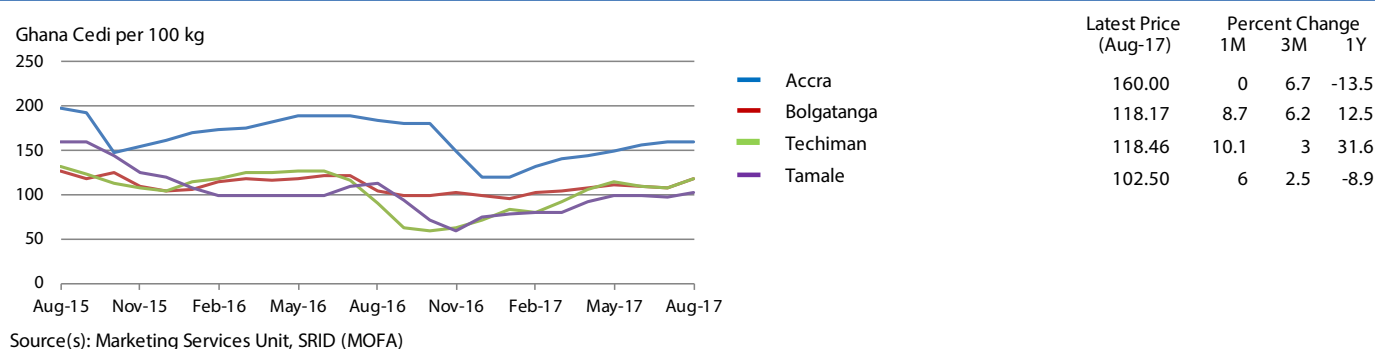
In the Sahel, prices of coarse grains strengthened further in August following seasonal patterns and were generally above their year-earlier levels. In **Mali**, prices of millet and sorghum increased in most markets, while some declines were reported in the north of the country with the free distribution of grains from the Commissary for Food Security. In **Burkina Faso**, prices of coarse grains also rose, reaching levels above those a year earlier. In these countries, strong demand from neighbouring countries contributed to the upward pressure on prices. In **Niger**, prices of coarse grains followed similar patterns reaching record or near-record highs mainly due to reduced imports from Nigeria following the restrictions imposed by the Government. In **Chad**, prices of coarse grains declined sharply in most markets in July and were overall lower than their year-earlier levels, reflecting adequate domestic supplies from the above-average 2016 harvest, a drawdown in large institutional stocks and the early harvests in some areas. In **Senegal**, prices of sorghum and maize

remained relatively stable in July and around their year-earlier levels mainly reflecting significant volume of imports, while those of millet generally increased and were higher than in July last year due to the reduced output in 2016 and lower imports. In coastal countries, in **Ghana**, prices of maize strengthened in most markets in August reflecting uncertain prospects for the 2017 cropping season due to widespread crop pest attacks. The Government is, however, making efforts to combat the infestation, which was reportedly diminishing in August. In **Togo**, maize prices increased seasonally in several markets in August but remained overall below their year-earlier levels, reflecting the above average crop in 2016 as well as favourable prospects for the 2017 harvest. In **Nigeria**, cereal prices remained relatively stable or declined in July, reflecting favourable prospects for the new cropping season and a more stable macro-economic situation. Prices, however, remained well above their year-earlier levels due to the lingering effects of a weak currency and civil insecurity.

### Wholesale prices of coarse grains in selected West African countries



### Wholesale prices of maize in Ghana



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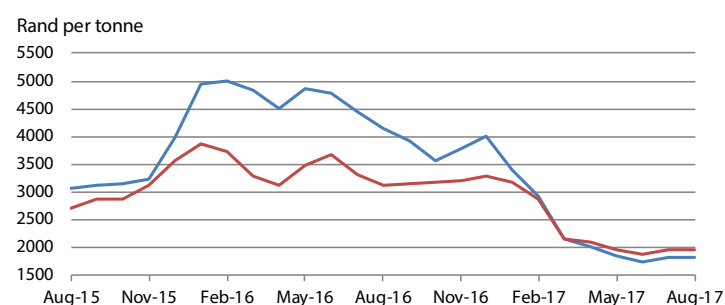
# SOUTHERN AFRICA

## Prices of maize remain under downward pressure and down from a year earlier

Prices of maize remained stable or weakened further in August and were generally well below their levels a year earlier, reflecting the significantly-improved supply situation. In **South Africa**, despite a further upward revision to the maize production estimate, prices remained virtually unchanged. The impact of the record high 2017 output had already been factored during the past months; in addition, strong demand, notably from Asia and East Africa, contributed to keep prices stable. In **Zambia**, prices of maize grain and maize products declined sharply in August and fell to levels more than 10 percent lower than those a year earlier as a result of the ample supplies from the bumper 2017 harvest. A downward revision of fuel prices in early August contributed to put further downward pressure on prices, particularly in the deficit-producing areas of the country. In the net importing country,

**Swaziland**, prices of maize meal declined in July and were below their year-earlier levels, due to the large domestic harvest and reduced prices in South Africa, the main source of the imported grain, while in **Namibia** prices remained relatively stable and closer to their year-earlier levels. In **Mozambique**, despite some recent strengthening, and in **Malawi**, prices of maize remained around half their values a year earlier due to the much-improved domestic supply situation. In **Zimbabwe**, prices of maize meal fell in July and were close to their low levels of the previous year. Rice prices in **Madagascar** were stable, as large import volumes and the arrival of the 2017 harvest augmented market supplies. However, reflecting a cut in the 2017 output compared to the previous year, prices in the main urban centres were above their year-earlier levels.

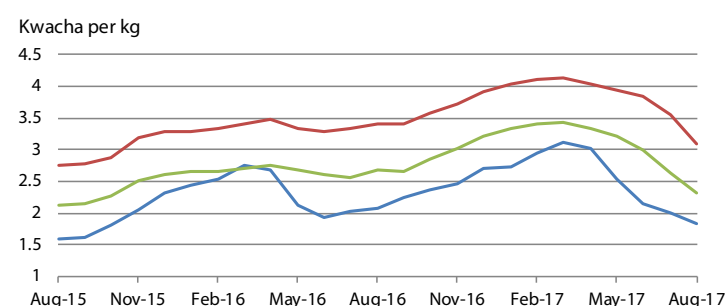
### Wholesale prices of maize in Randfontein, South Africa



Source(s): SAFEX Agricultural Products Division

Latest Price (Aug-17)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
Maize (white)	-0.2	-0.9	-56
Maize (yellow)	0	0.1	-37.8

### Retail prices of maize in Zambia



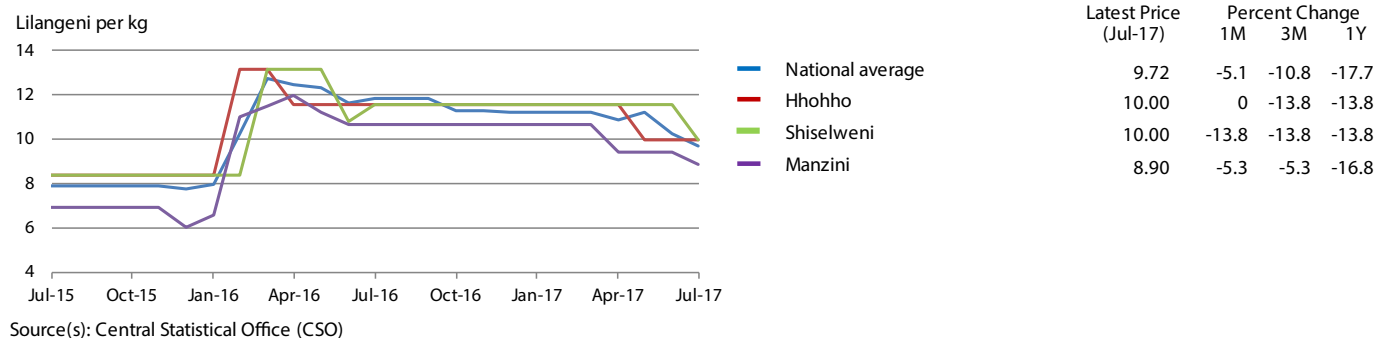
Source(s): Central Statistical Office

Latest Price (Aug-17)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
National Average, Maize (white)	-8.5	-27.4	-11.2
National Average, Breakfast maize meal	-12.8	-21.8	-9.1
National Average, White roller maize meal	-12.3	-28.3	-13.6

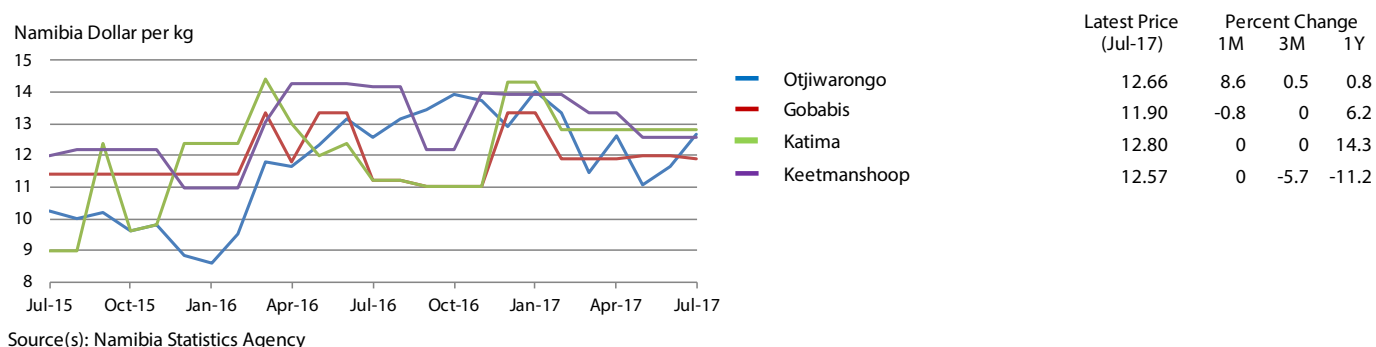
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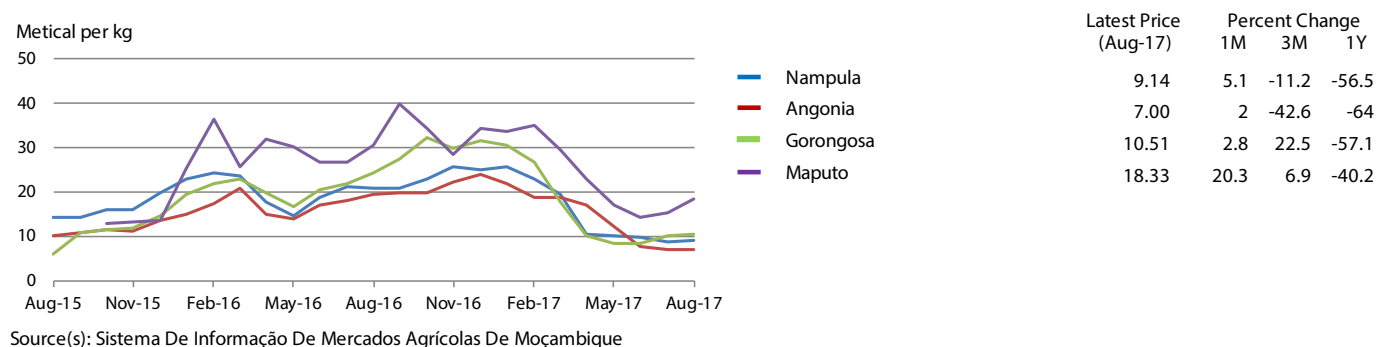
## Retail prices of maize meal in Swaziland



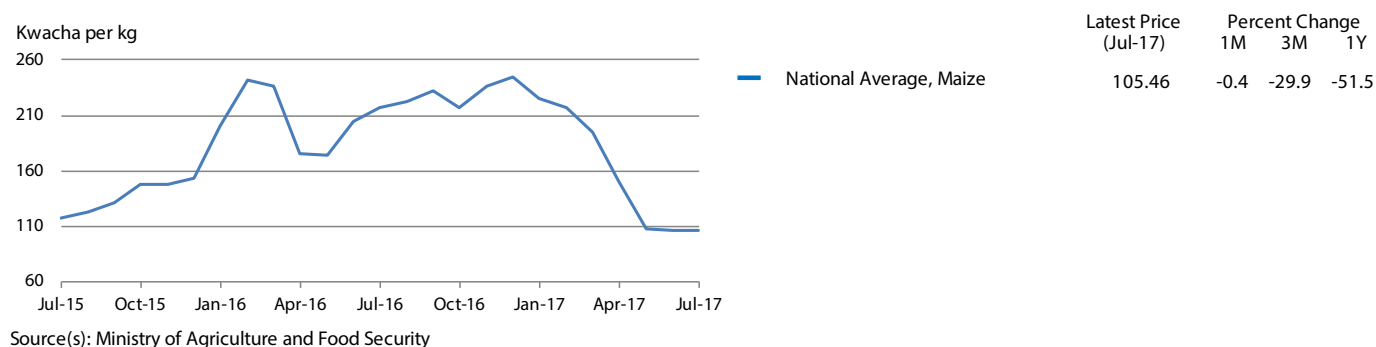
## Retail prices of maize meal in Namibia



## Retail prices of white maize in Mozambique



## Retail prices of maize in Malawi



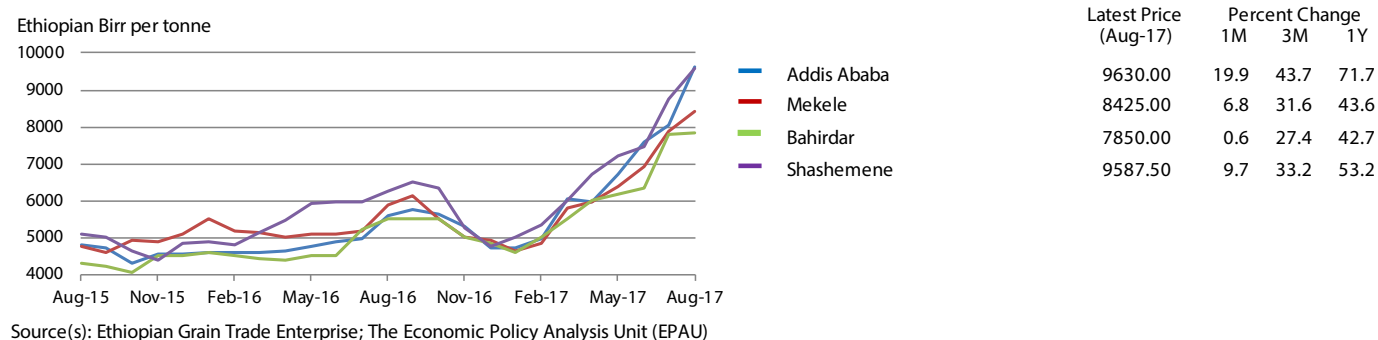


## Prices of grains surging to record levels in Ethiopia, declining or stable elsewhere

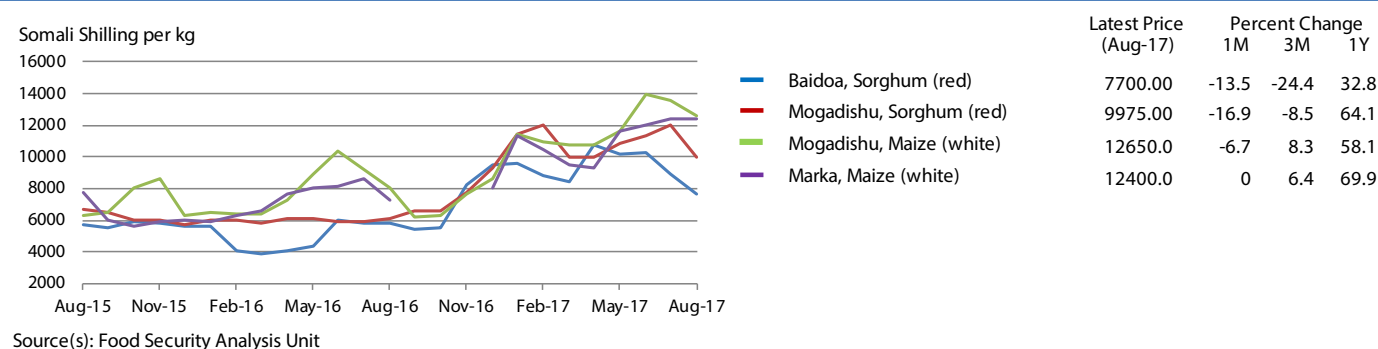
In most countries of the subregion, prices of coarse grains in August continued the declining trend of recent months with the ongoing or recently-completed harvests. Prices, however, remained overall at high levels, after the increases in the previous months, due to tight supplies following the drought-reduced 2016 second season crops and concerns over the 2017 harvests, affected by poor rains and crop pests. The main exception to the general trend was **Ethiopia**, where prices of maize continued to surge in August and reached record highs, as a result of the poor performance of the secondary season *belg* harvest, recently commenced after a delay of about two months. In addition, concerns over the impact of Fall Armyworm infestations on the main *meher* crop, to be harvested from October provided further support to prices. In **Somalia**, prices of locally-produced maize and sorghum continued to decline in several markets in August with the completion of the 2017 *gu* harvest, which is however estimated to be reduced. Prices remained well above their year-earlier levels due to an overall tight supply situation. In **the United Republic of Tanzania**, prices of maize decreased for the third consecutive month in August as a result of increased supplies from the *msimu* and *masika* harvests. In **Uganda**, prices of maize also weakened further or remained stable in August after declining sharply in recent months with new supplies from

the recently-concluded first season harvest. In **Kenya**, prices continued to decline mainly reflecting sustained imports, which benefited from an extension of the duty waiver, initially set to end on 31 July, and then extended until 30 September. Subsidized sales also contributed to the decline in prices, which however remained above their year-earlier values. In **South Sudan**, prices of maize and sorghum continued to decline in August in the capital, Juba, as the first season harvest, recently completed in southern bi-modal areas, increased market supplies. Subsidized sales of basic food commodities also contributed to the downward pressure. Prices, however, remained at exceptionally high levels, mainly underpinned by the weak local currency and insecurity. In **Burundi**, maize prices weakened in August following the completion of the 2017B main harvest, but were above their values a year earlier due to a reduced 2017A crop, lower imports and a weak local currency, while in **Rwanda**, prices of maize showed some seasonal increase, after declining in previous months. In **the Sudan**, prices of coarse grains continued to increase in August but at faster rates than in the previous month as seasonal patterns were compounded by market disruptions caused by floods. Despite the recent sharp increases, prices of sorghum in August were still around their year-earlier levels due to adequate domestic availabilities from the above-average 2016 harvest.

### Wholesale prices of maize in Ethiopia

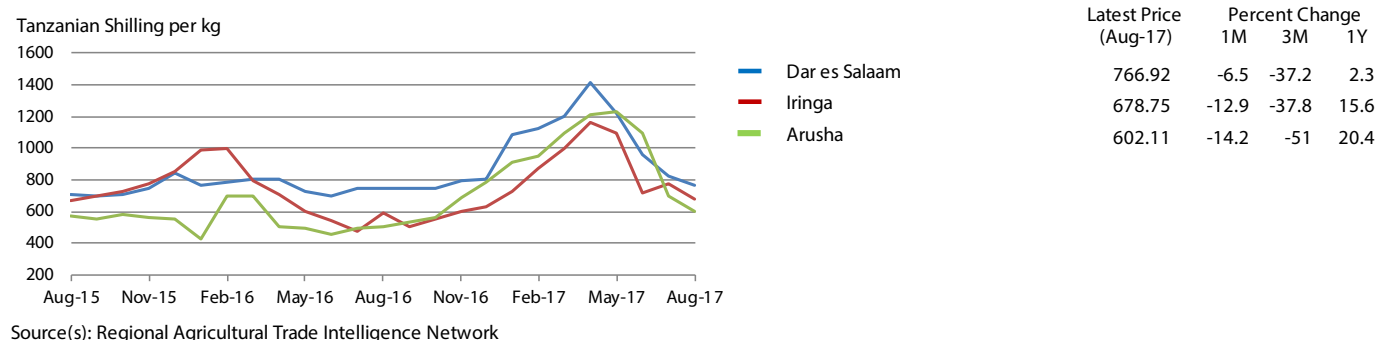


### Retail prices of maize and sorghum in Somalia

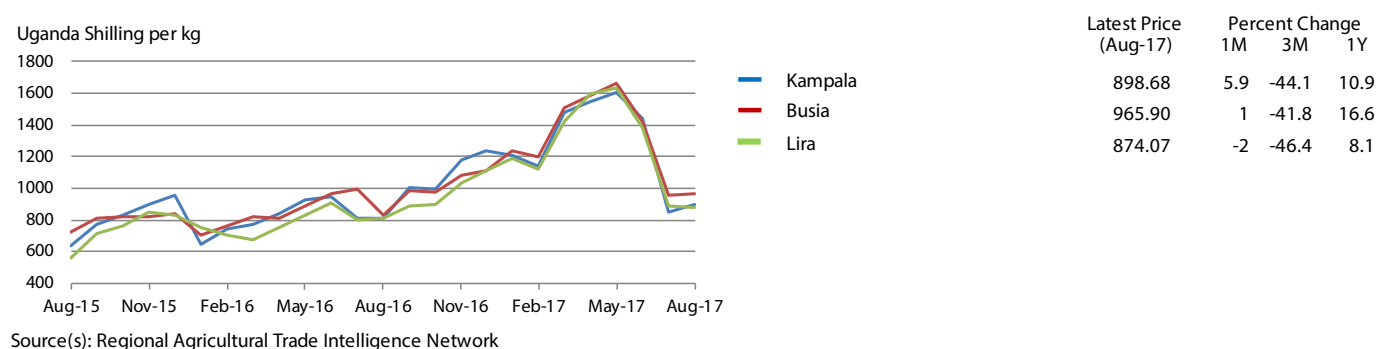


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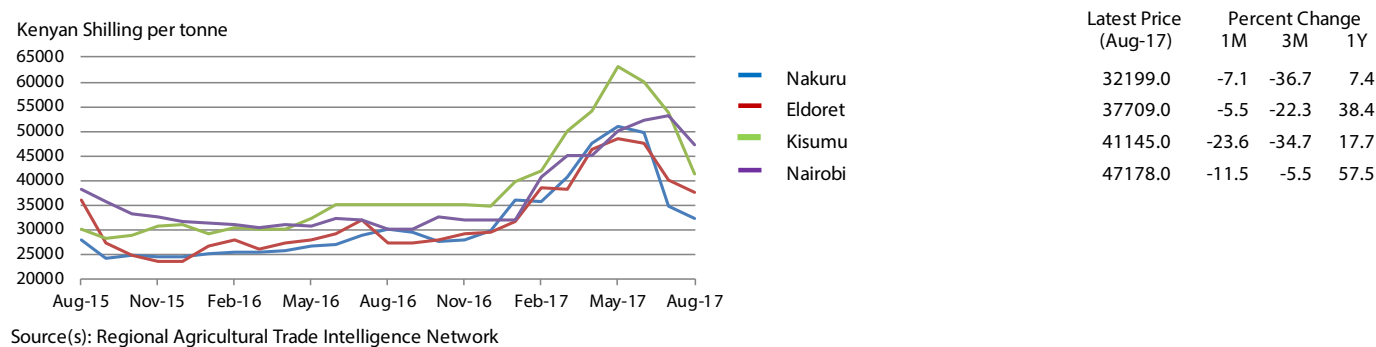
## Wholesale prices of maize in the United Republic of Tanzania



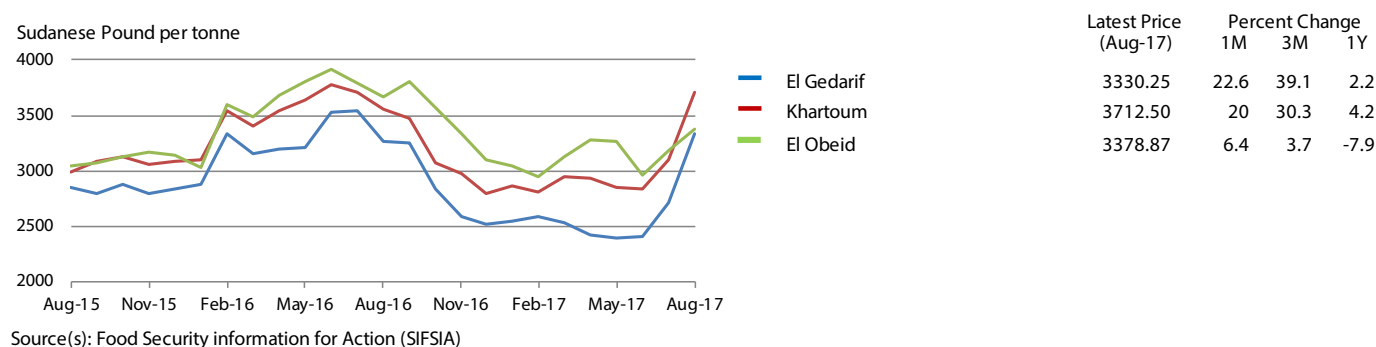
## Wholesale prices of maize in Uganda



## Wholesale prices of maize in Kenya



## Wholesale prices of sorghum in the Sudan

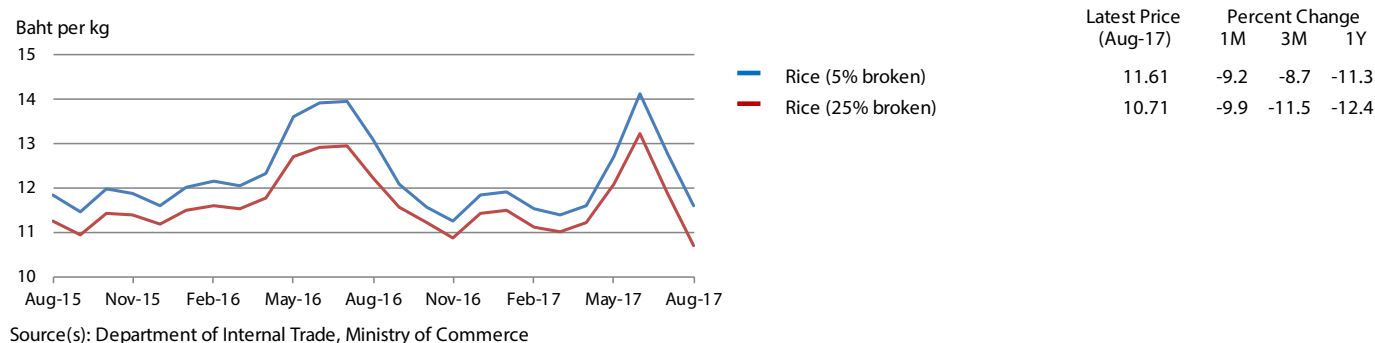


## Prices of rice declining or stable, while those of wheat showed mixed trends

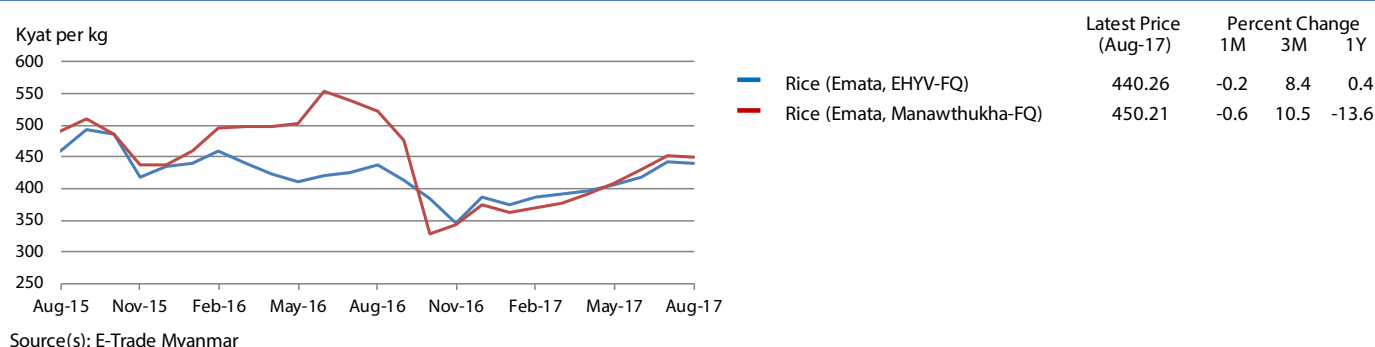
Domestic prices of rice decreased or remained relatively stable in August, amid mostly favourable prospects for the 2017 paddy crops, about to be harvested, and a slowdown in demand. The largest declines were recorded in **Thailand**, where prices decreased sharply for the second consecutive month, following the onset of the 2017 main season harvest, anticipated at a good level, but also due to a lack of major sales. Weak buying interest was also behind a slight decrease in prices in **Viet Nam**, although they remained higher than a year earlier, after the sustained increases of the past months due to the tight availabilities from the reduced 2017 main crop output, harvested earlier in the year, and strong demand. In exporter, **Myanmar**, wholesale prices of *emata* rice, the most consumed variety, also softened in August after increasing steadily since the beginning of the year on account of high exports, mainly to China. In **India**, seasonal tightness ahead of the 2017 main season harvest from late September provided some support to prices of rice, which, however, remained, in general, relatively stable on a monthly basis. Retail prices of rice remained virtually unchanged in **China** as a result of good availabilities from the 2017 first and second season harvests and abundant imports. In **Cambodia**, prices were also relatively stable, although a significant increase was reported in the capital, Phnom Penh, in August. In **Bangladesh** and in **Sri Lanka**, rice prices weakened, after the strong increases in the previous months, with the onset of the 2017 minor harvests and the arrival of contracted imports. Expectations of additional imports in the coming months, also as a result of the Government's efforts to boost them, added to the downward pressure. However, in these countries, prices remained above their year-earlier

levels, underpinned by reduced domestic availabilities. In importer, **Indonesia**, prices of rice remained virtually unchanged and around their levels a year earlier reflecting good supplies from the 2017 main season harvest, gathered earlier in the year, and the ongoing harvest of the off-season crops. The good output anticipated this year has led to a substantial decline in the import forecast for the current calendar year. In **the Philippines**, average retail prices of regular and well-milled rice strengthened somewhat in August in line with seasonal trends, ahead of the 2017 main season harvest, and were around their year-earlier levels. As for wheat and wheat flour, prices showed mixed trends. They were relatively stable in **India** and **China**, reflecting good market availabilities from the bumper 2017 outputs, harvested earlier in the year. In **Sri Lanka**, prices eased somewhat in August and were around their year-earlier values as a result of the high volumes of imports in the previous months, which benefited from the Government's measures to boost them and to keep prices in check. In **Bangladesh**, reduced domestic availabilities of wheat have pushed the country to increase imports. This has led to a softening of retail prices of wheat grain in August; although quotations of *atta* (loose wheat flour) continued to strengthen. In importer, **Indonesia**, prices of wheat flour also increased in August but remained close to year-earlier levels. In **Pakistan**, ample availabilities from successive bumper crops continued to weigh on prices of wheat grain and wheat flour, keeping them below their levels a year earlier. In **Afghanistan**, prices of wheat grain and wheat flour remained stable or weakened in August, following the completion of the 2017 second season harvest and imports from Pakistan and Kazakhstan.

### Wholesale prices of rice in Bangkok, Thailand

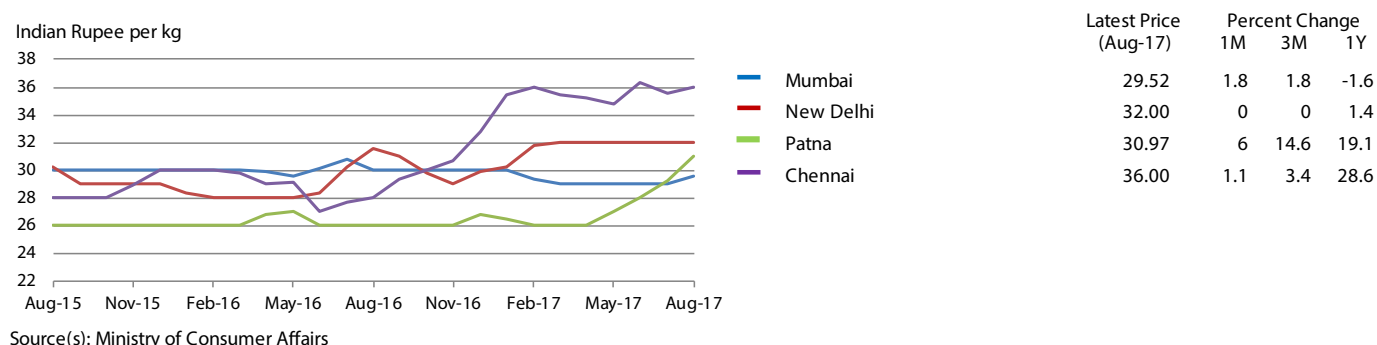


### Wholesale prices of rice in Yangon, Myanmar

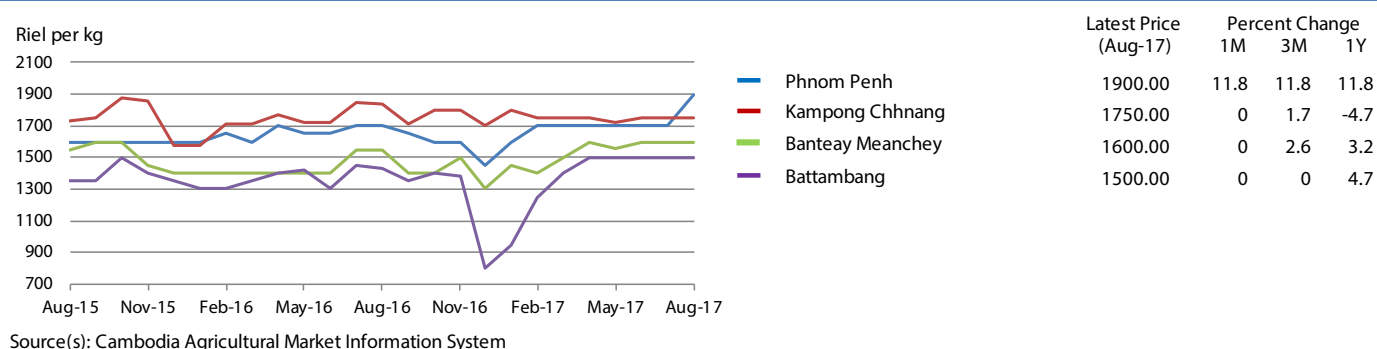


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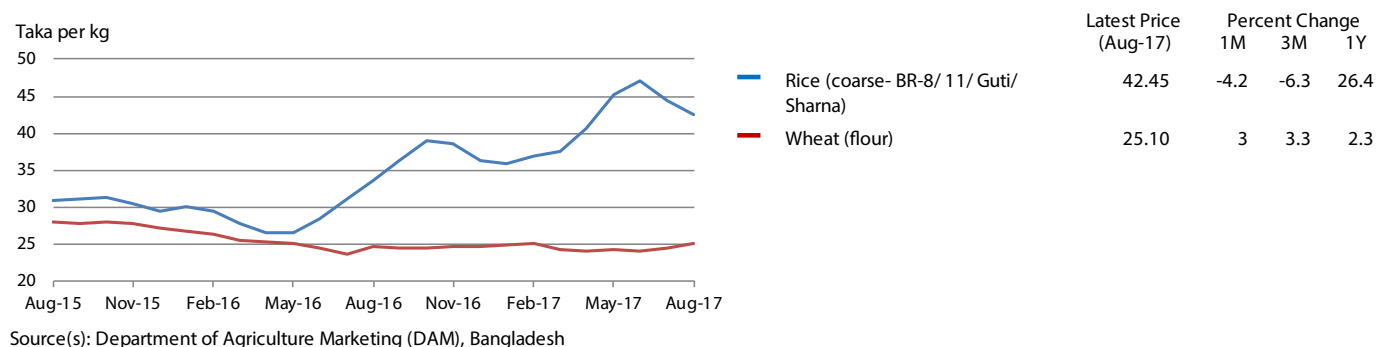
## Retail prices of rice in India



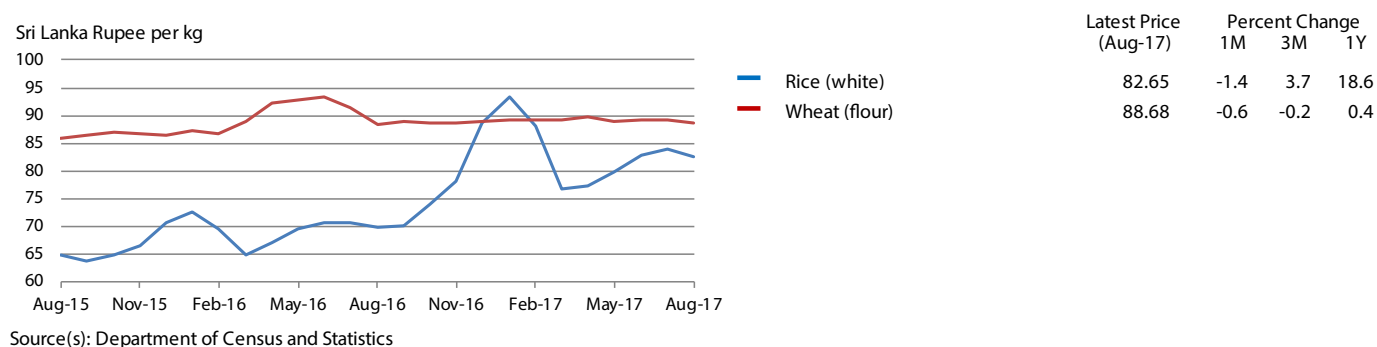
## Wholesale prices of rice in Cambodia



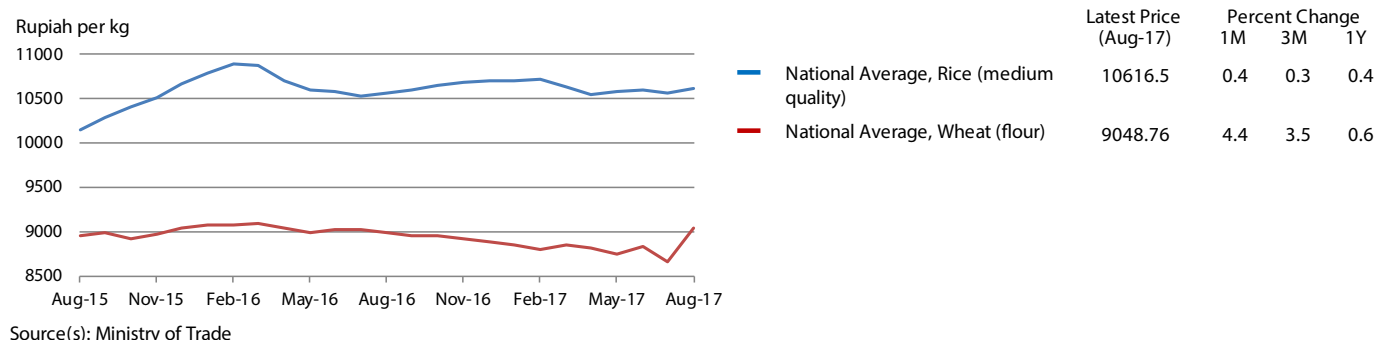
## Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Dhaka, Bangladesh



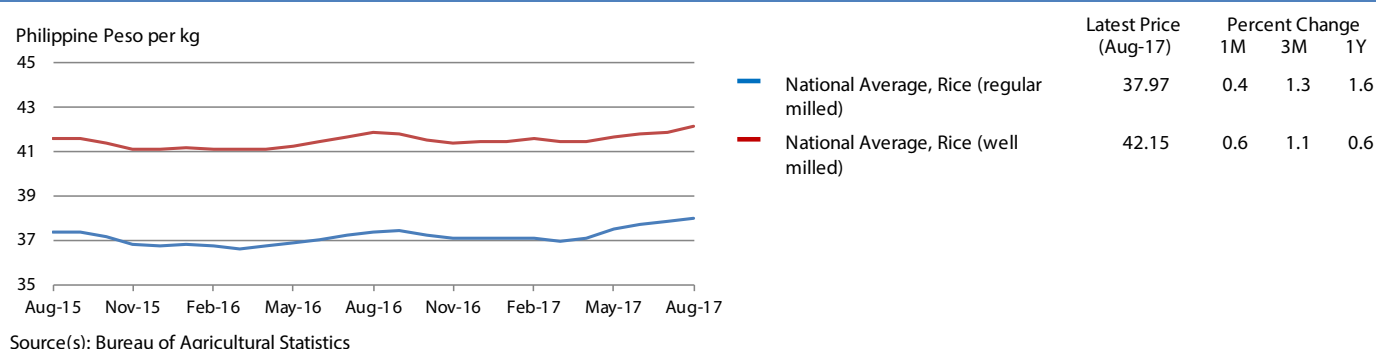
## Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Colombo, Sri Lanka



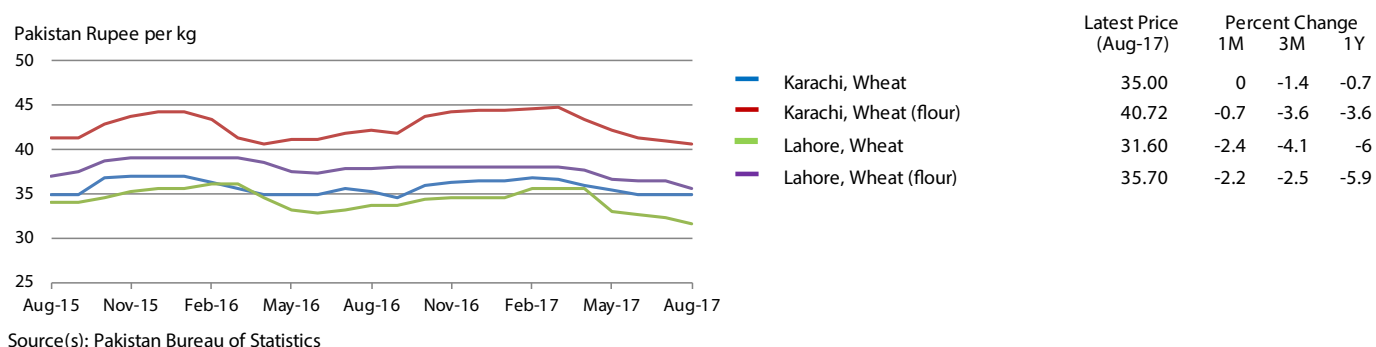
## Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Indonesia



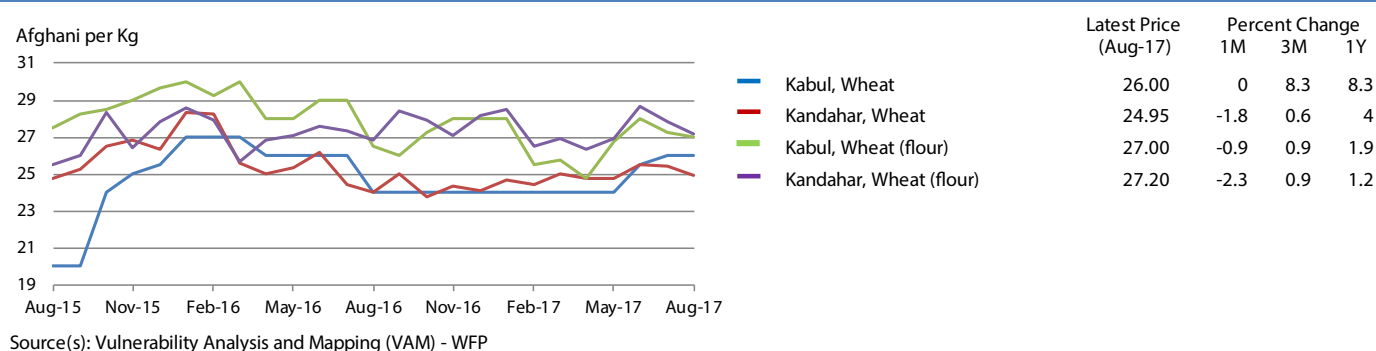
## Retail prices of rice in the Philippines



## Retail prices of wheat and wheat flour in Pakistan



## Retail prices of wheat and wheat flour in Afghanistan

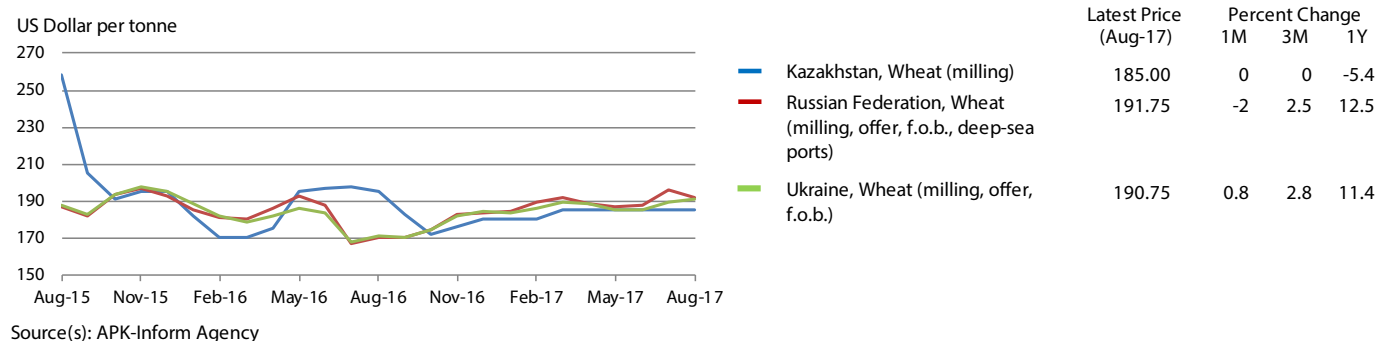


## Prices of wheat grain and wheat flour generally stable in August; those of potatoes declined further

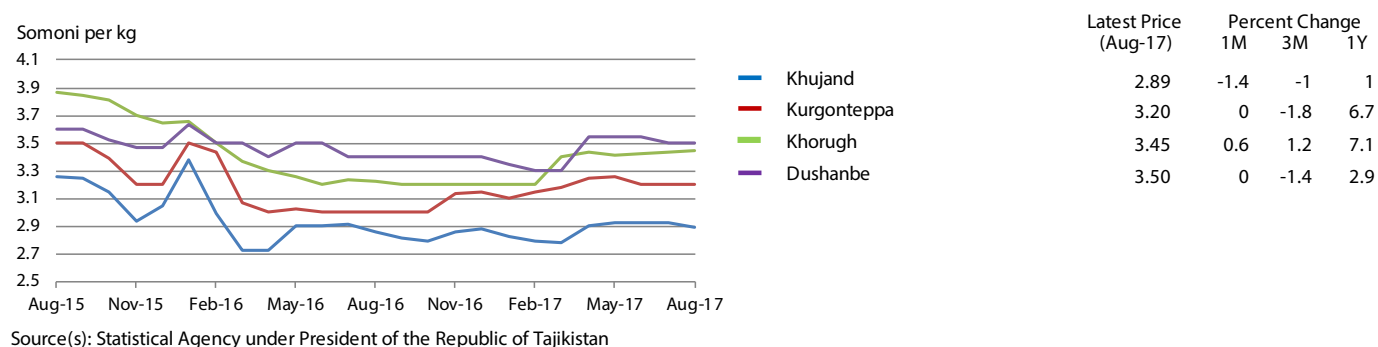
In the exporting countries, export prices of milling wheat remained relatively stable in August. In **Kazakhstan**, the main exporter of the subregion, wheat export quotations remained at the same level of the past several months, mainly reflecting low trade activity ahead of the arrival of the new supplies from the 2017 main harvest, which has recently started and is expected at a good level. In **the Russian Federation**, export and domestic prices of wheat grain and wheat flour declined in August following the start of the harvest. The estimate for this year's production has been revised upwards recently after beneficial rains further boosted yield expectations. In **Ukraine**, prices of wheat were stable or strengthened somewhat in August due to slow farmer selling and concerns about reduced availabilities of high-quality grain. In importing countries of the subregion, prices of wheat flour were also overall stable. In **Tajikistan**, prices of wheat flour remained virtually unchanged in August and somewhat higher than a year earlier, mainly as a result of the weak local currency and high fuel costs, which were some 20 percent higher year-on-year. In **Kyrgyzstan**, prices of wheat flour were stable or declined somewhat and were, in general, lower

than a year earlier, pressured by good local production and imports. Prices remained unchanged also in **Armenia**, while they strengthened in **Georgia**. In **Azerbaijan**, prices of wheat flour were relatively stable in July, but the weak local currency kept prices above their values a year earlier. As for potatoes, the ongoing harvests continued to weigh on prices, which continued to decline in August from their record or near record levels of June, although they were still above their values a year earlier. In **the Russian Federation**, prices declined by nearly 30 percent in August and were more than one-third lower than their records in June. However, expectations of a 20 percent reduction in output, adding to the already low 2016 output, kept prices 13 percent above year-earlier levels. In **Belarus**, the main exporter of the subregion, prices declined by more than 10 percent in July with the start of the new harvest, which is forecast at an above-average level. Sharp declines were also reported in the import-dependent countries of the subregion. However, with few exceptions, concerns over reduced crops and lower availabilities of high-quality potatoes in the export markets kept prices generally well above their levels in August last year, particularly in **Tajikistan**.

### Export prices of milling wheat in CIS countries

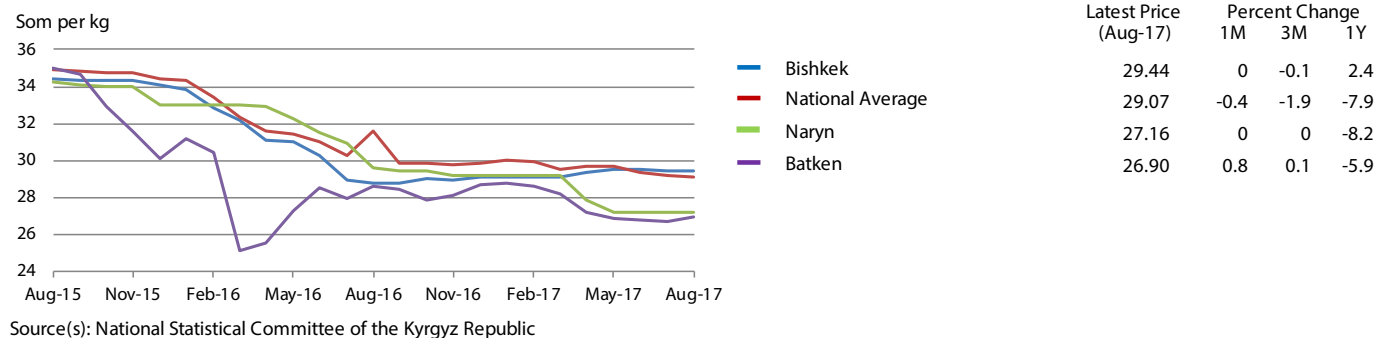


### Retail prices of wheat flour in Tajikistan

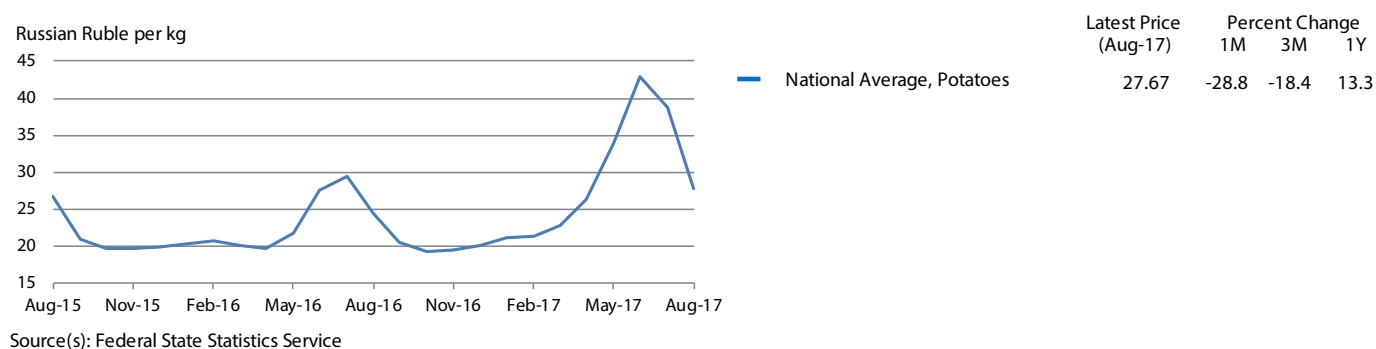


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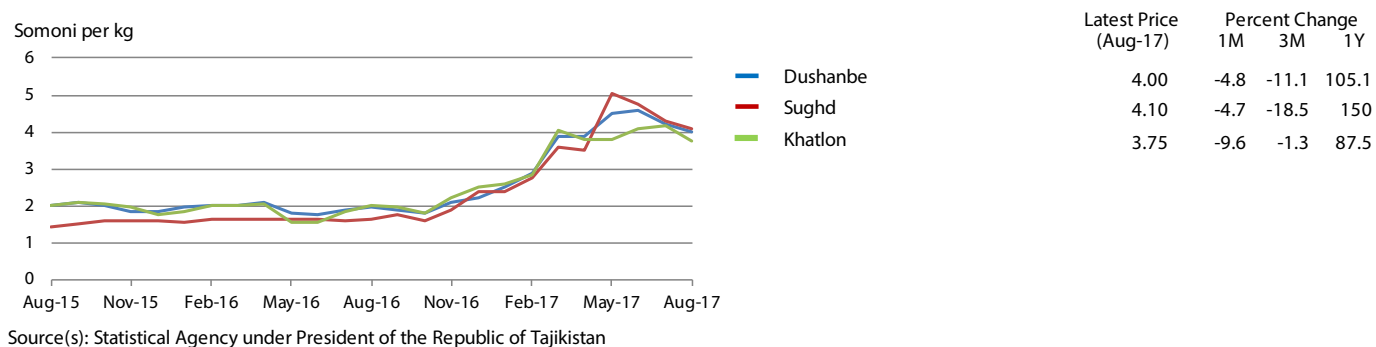
## Retail prices of wheat flour in Kyrgyzstan



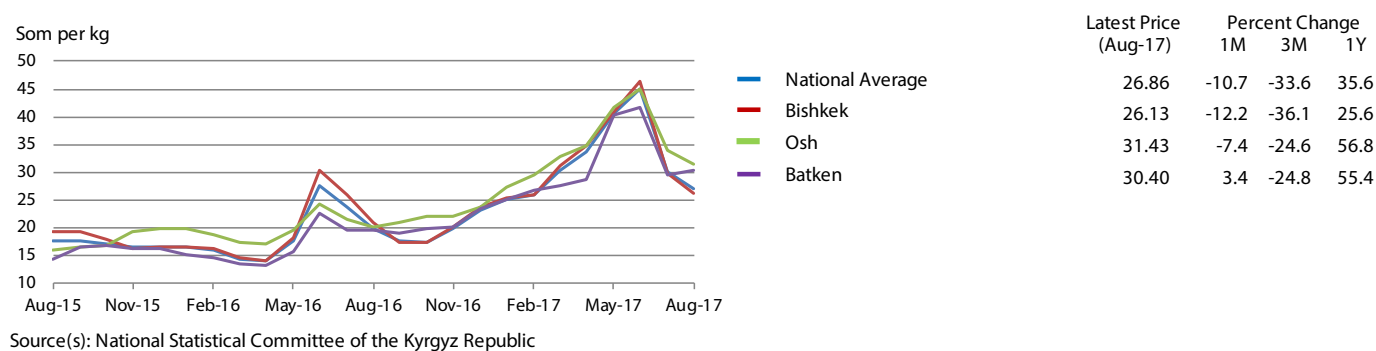
## Retail prices of potatoes in the Russian Federation



## Retail prices of potatoes in Tajikistan



## Retail prices of potatoes in Kyrgyzstan





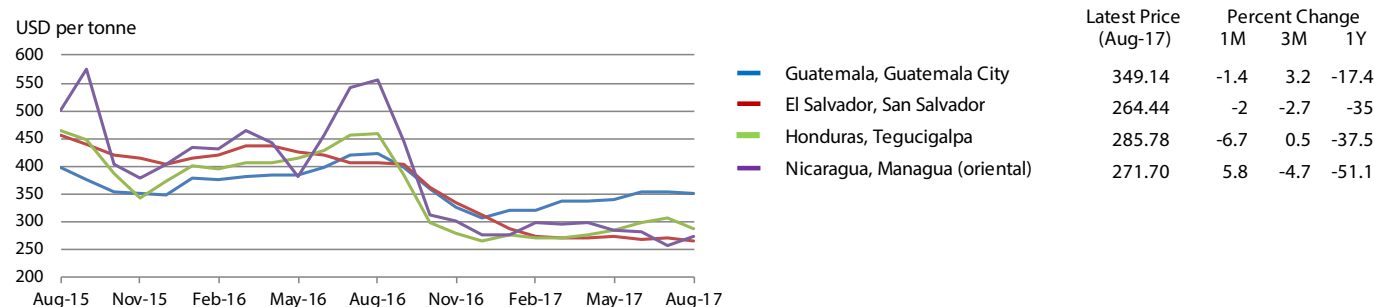
# CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## Prices of maize and beans weakened in August with the beginning of the new main harvest

In most countries of the subregion, prices of white maize eased in August with the beginning of the 2017 main season harvest, anticipated to be good, and were significantly below their year-earlier levels pressured by ample availabilities from the 2016 harvests and imports. In **Honduras** and **El Salvador**, white maize prices declined slightly with the start of the new harvest, expected to conclude in October, and were more than one-third below their levels in August last year. In **Guatemala**, prices weakened and were 20 percent lower year-on-year and also in **Costa Rica**, retail prices followed similar trends. In **Nicaragua**, white maize prices averaged higher than in July but started to decline towards the end of the month with the beginning of the harvest and were some 50 percent below their year-earlier levels. In **Mexico**, prices of maize and maize *tortillas* were relatively stable in August and overall lower than a year earlier. In the Caribbean countries, maize prices also generally declined in August with the new harvest. However, in **Haiti**, an anticipated reduced season output, due to dry conditions, kept prices unchanged and above their year-earlier levels in most markets. Prices of staple red beans also declined in most countries of the subregion with

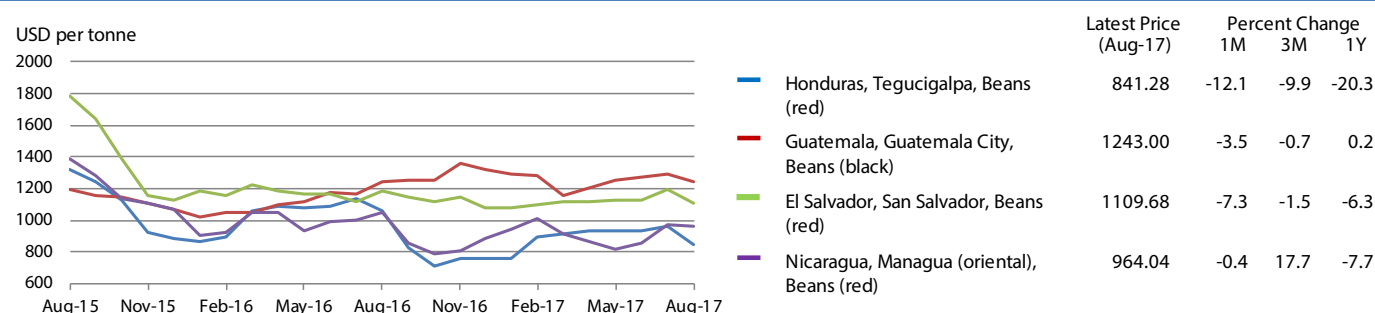
the beginning of the harvests and were well below their year-earlier levels. In key producer, **Nicaragua**, prices in August averaged only slightly lower than in July, but the decline in prices was significant late in the month reflecting the start of the new harvest. In **Honduras**, prices declined sharply in August in line with seasonal trends and were nearly 20 percent lower than a year earlier. In main importer, **El Salvador**, prices declined in August on account of harvest pressure and import flows. In **Guatemala**, where black beans are the variety mostly consumed and produced, prices declined in August and were down from a year earlier as a result of improved supplies from the new harvest and imports from Mexico and China. In **Costa Rica**, prices of black and red beans strengthened in August due to seasonal pressure with the new harvest yet to start. In the **Dominican Republic** and **Haiti**, prices of beans declined further or remained relatively stable with the completion of the harvests. In **Mexico**, prices increased in August and were above their values a year earlier underpinned by reduced domestic supplies and expectations of a reduced output of the *spring/summer* crop to be harvested from late October, due to a decline in plantings.

### Wholesale prices of white maize in Central America



Source(s): Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación; Dirección General de Economía Agropecuaria, MAG; SIMPAH

### Wholesale prices of beans in Central America



Source(s): SIMPAH; Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación; Dirección General de Economía Agropecuaria, MAG

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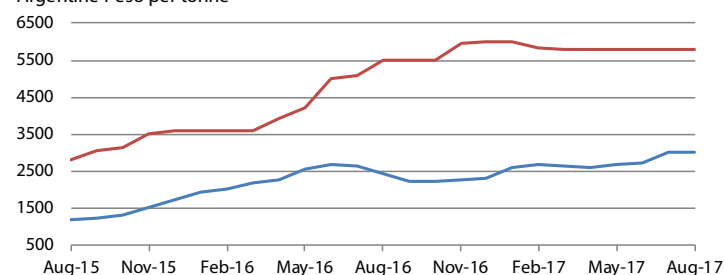
## Prices of wheat remained relatively stable in August, those of maize generally declined

Prices of wheat grain and wheat flour remained relatively unchanged or increased slightly in August in line with seasonal trends and were generally below their year-earlier levels as a result of the 2016 bumper outputs and adequate levels of imports. The main exception to the general trend was **Argentina**, the key producer and exporter of the subregion, where although prices of wheat grain and wheat flour were unchanged in August, they remained well above their values a year earlier, mainly due to strong exports. In **Brazil**, prices of wheat grain and wheat flour increased moderately, but the bumper 2016 output and ample imports kept them well below their year-earlier levels. In **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**, prices of domestic and imported wheat flour were overall stable and down from a year earlier mainly on account of abundant imports, mostly from Argentina. In **Chile**, prices of wheat grain strengthened further in August but remained down from a year earlier as a result of the significant volumes of crop imported in the past several months. In **Colombia** and **Peru**, prices of wheat flour also increased somewhat and were slightly above their levels a year earlier, while in **Ecuador**, they remained relatively unchanged and lower than in August last year. In **Paraguay**, cool and dry weather in the past two months affected prospects for the new crop and put upward pressure on prices of wheat products. With respect to maize, the bumper crops

expected this year continued to put downward pressure on prices. In main producers, **Brazil** and **Argentina**, prices declined and were lower than a year earlier, particularly in Brazil, where quotations averaged nearly half their values a year earlier. In **Bolivia**, prices declined sharply in August in the key producing Department of Santa Cruz and were well below their year-earlier levels reflecting the recently-completed 2017 main season harvest, which is estimated above last year's reduced level, despite earlier concerns over crop yields. Prices of yellow maize in **Peru** and prices of maize cob in **Ecuador** seasonally decreased in August and were lower than a year earlier. In **Colombia**, maize prices followed mixed trends across the markets in the country but remained down from a year earlier. Prices of staple rice weakened or remained relatively stable in August. In **Brazil**, prices of paddy declined moderately and were more than 15 percent lower than in August last year, reflecting good availabilities from the 2017 harvest, which recovered from the reduced level of last year. Prices seasonally decreased also in **Colombia** and were well below their values in August last year, with production in 2017 anticipated at a high level for the second consecutive year. By contrast, in **Peru**, an estimated decline in output kept rice prices above their year-earlier values. In **Ecuador** and **Bolivia**, prices remained relatively unchanged in August and generally lower or around their levels in the same month last year.

### Wholesale prices of wheat and wheat flour in Argentina

Argentine Peso per tonne

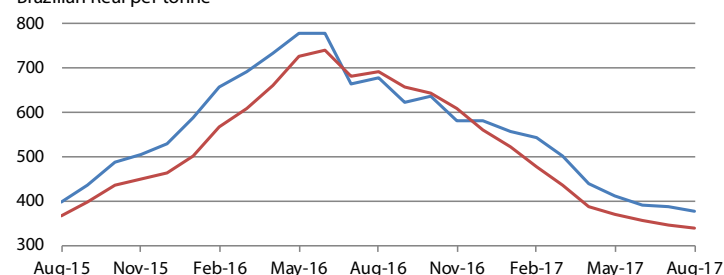


Source(s): Bolsa de Cereales

Latest Price (Aug-17)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
3019.90	0.1	13.3	24.3
5800.00	0	0	5.5

### Wholesale prices of yellow maize in Brazil

Brazilian Real per tonne



Source(s): Agrolink

Latest Price (Aug-17)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
376.58	-2.8	-8.6	-44.6
340.07	-1.4	-8	-50.8

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This bulletin is prepared by the **Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA)** Team of the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) in the Trade and Markets Division of FAO. It contains latest information and analysis on domestic prices of basic foods mainly in developing countries, complementing FAO analysis on international markets. It provides early warning on high food prices at country level that may negatively affect food security.

This report is based on information available up to early September 2017.

All the data used in the analysis can be found in the **FPMA Tool** at: [www.fao.org/giews/food-prices/tool/public/index.html#/home](http://www.fao.org/giews/food-prices/tool/public/index.html#/home)

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