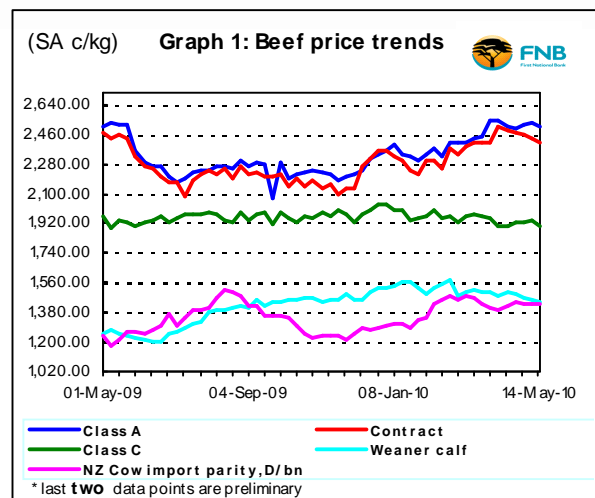


Beef market trends (Graph 1)

- International:** US domestic beef prices maintained a firmer trend on light to moderate demand and supplies. Market activity on imports was reported generally slow early in the week with prices easing lower due to improved supplies. Out of Australia, market indicators for cattle ended mixed with older category increasing on improved export demand while the younger cattle were softer.
- Domestic:** Beef prices ended mostly higher compared to the previous week. Weekly Class A, Class C and Contract Class A prices closed at R25.16/kg, R19.27/kg and R24.63/kg respectively. Weaner calf prices eased modestly lower under pressure due to the seasonal increase in supplies. Demand for weaners was somewhat subdued as *feedlot*ters remained on the sidelines due to concerns over wet conditions on animal performance. Weekly weaner calf prices closed down 2.3% at R14.62/kg live weight.

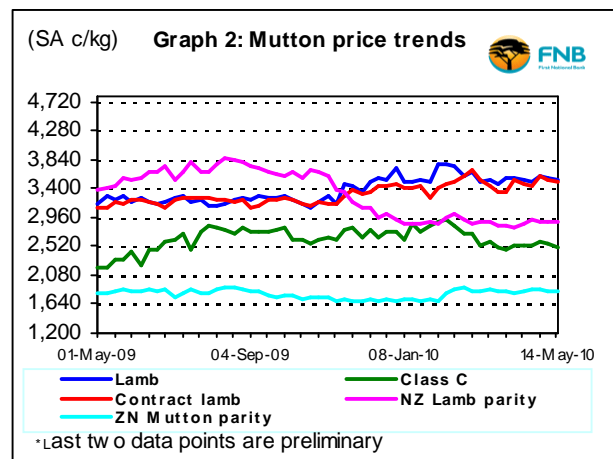


OUTLOOK

Weaner calf prices are expected to remain under pressure in the short to medium term as a result of the seasonal increase in volumes due to weaning.

Mutton market trends (Graph 2)

- International:** New Zealand and Australian prices were higher on improved export demand coupled with tight supplies. The drop in Australian lamb supplies is attributable to improved production conditions and the spill over support from wool market. Lamb supplies for the year to date are reported to be trailing last year's by almost 9%.
- Domestic:** Domestic lamb and mutton prices moved slightly higher on improved month-end demand. Weekly prices for Class A, Class C and Contract Class A beef ended at R35.89/kg, R26.00/kg and R36.00/kg respectively. Feeder lamb prices posted slight gains on the back of reduced supplies, closing up 1.5% week on week at R16.23/kg live weight. Meanwhile the stronger Rand, which advanced by 0.7% against the US dollar, exerted downward pressure on lamb and mutton import parity prices.

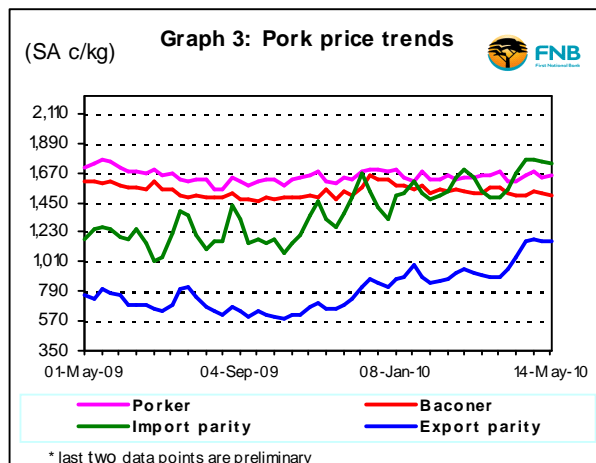


OUTLOOK

Lamb and mutton prices are expected to move sideways in the short term but will strengthen in the medium term due to declining supplies.

Pork market trends (Graph 3)

- **International:** US pork prices maintained a firmer trend due to moderation in supplies and slight improvement in demand. Prices were up across most cuts with the exception of spare ribs which dropped 2% week on week. Pork import parity prices ended firmer on the back of higher international prices despite a stronger Rand/US dollar exchange rate.
- **Domestic:** Weekly prices ended mixed, with porkers continuing to strengthen supported by improved uptake on markets. Weekly prices for porkers and baconers closed at R16.81/kg and R15.25/kg respectively. On the feeding side, the situation is still favourable due to the downward trend in grain prices.

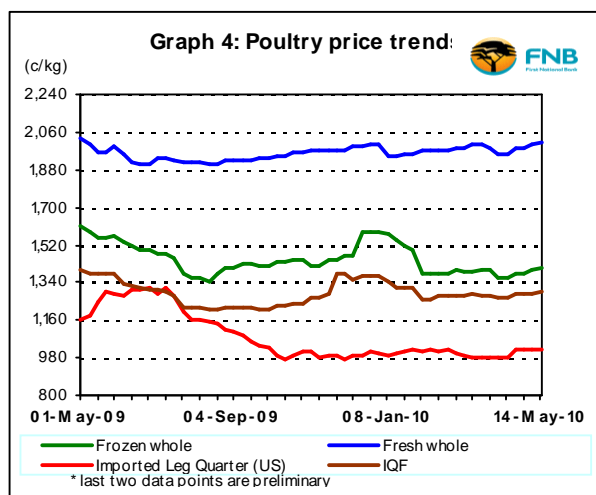


OUTLOOK

Prices are expected to soften during mid-month but will bottom out and strengthen in the medium term on the back of strong demand.

Poultry market trends (Graph 4)

- **International:** US prices ended firmer across the board. Breast and dark meat were light to moderate. Supplies of all sizes were light to heavy to satisfy market requirements. Demand at retail and food service was reportedly light to good ahead of the Mother's day holiday. Weekly US broiler egg sets for the week ending 24-Apr-10 were reported up 2% while chick placements were down 1% compared to the same period last year. The expected number available for marketing during the week ending 05-June-10 is estimated at 156m head, compared to 157.5m a week earlier.
- **Domestic:** Prices moved sideways across all categories under review. Market tone remained steady. Weekly frozen whole birds, fresh birds and IQF ended at R13.82/kg, R19.85/kg and R12.84/kg respectively. This however down 14%, 2% and 8% respectively year on year. Meanwhile, the downward trend in maize prices will help maintain some profitability in the industry due to reduced feeding costs. Import parity prices (LQ) ended firmer on the back of better international prices and a weaker Rand/US dollar exchange rate.



OUTLOOK

Domestic prices are expected to bottom out in the medium term due to bullish demand prospects in the medium term. However competition from cheaper imports will limit further gains.

Producer prices for selected livestock commodities 30 April 2010	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Poultry
Open market: Class A / Porker / Fresh whole birds(R/kg)	25.16	35.89	16.81	19.85
Open market: Class C / Baconer / Frozen whole birds(R/kg)	19.27	26.00	15.10	13.82
Contract: A2/A3* / Baconer/ IQF (*includes fifth quarter) (R/kg)	24.63	36.00	15.25	12.84
Import parity price (R/kg)	14.30	18.52	17.68	10.21
Weaner Calves / Feeder Lambs (R/kg)	14.62	16.23		

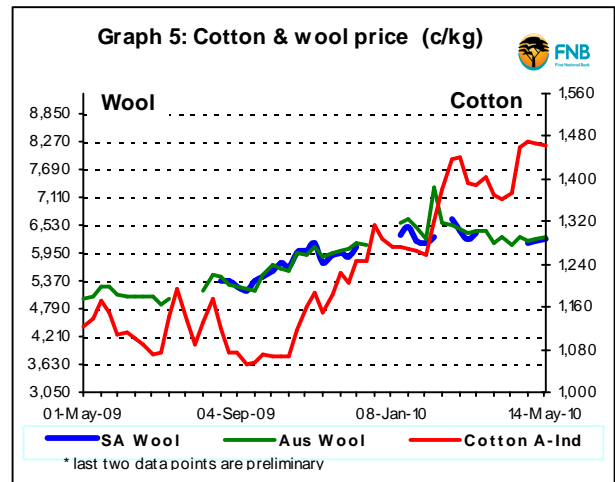


Wool and cotton market trends (Graph 5)

- International:** US cotton prices continued to strengthen due to the spill over gains from other commodities including rising crude oil prices. Weekly US cotton spot transactions were reported at 7,460 bales, down 33% compared to last week and 82% last year. Total cotton spot transactions for the season were pegged at 863,410 bales, down 24% year on year. Weekly cotton futures on ICE (US): Jul-10 was down 2.4% w/w at 84.13USc/lb; Oct-10 increased marginally by 0.7% w/w at 80.03USc/lb; Dec-10 was up 0.7% w/w at 77.97USc/lb; Mar-11 was up 1% w/w at 79.17USc/lb.

Wool: In Australia, the Eastern Market Indicator was almost unchanged from last week at \$8.84/kg clean wool. A total of 41,706 bales were offered with sales reaching 88.2%. The Australian dollar was stronger against major currencies.

- Domestic:** The wool market resumed on a positive note supported by a stronger Rand on the day of sale. The weekly market indicator (Cape Wools Merino) was up 2.6% compared to the previous sale and closed at R61.54/kg clean wool, which is 3.3% and 17% higher than current season's average and the opening sale respectively. Major buyers were G Modiano SA 3263 36.9%; Standard Wool SA 2240 25.3%; Stucken & Co 1661 18.8%; Lempriere SA 1039 11.8%; Segard Masurel SA 496 5.6%; New England Wool SA 5 0.1%. Standard Wool SA with 3,393 bales (30.4%); G Modiano SA with 2,924 bales (26.2%); Stucken & Co with 2,214 bales (19.9%); Lempriere SA with 1,324 bales (11.9%); Segard Masurel SA with 470 bales (4.2%); New England Wool SA with 17 bales (0.2%). Sales reached 98.4% of the volumes offered. The next sale is scheduled for the May 12 with approximately 8,000 bales expected to be on offer.

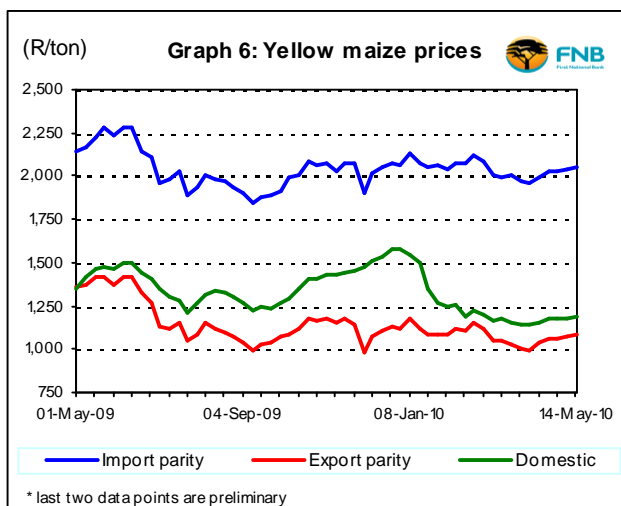


Fibre market prices 30 April 2010	SA prices (R/kg)	Australian prices (R/kg)	Australian futures Jun-10 (AU\$/kg)	Australian futures Oct-10 (AU\$/kg)
Wool market indicator (R/kg)	61.54	61.89		
19µ long length wool (R/kg)	71.26	72.00	9.61	9.41
21µ long length wool (R/kg)	63.36	62.47	8.61	8.41
23µ long length wool (R/kg)	61.05	59.85	7.81	7.61
	SA derived Cotton (R/kg)	New York A-Index (US\$/kg)	New York future Jul-09 (US\$/kg)	New York future Sep-10 (US\$/kg)
Cotton Prices (R/kg)	14.71	1.99	1.85	1.85



Yellow maize market (Graph 6)

- International: US yellow maize prices continued to strengthen on the back of strong export demand and the rally in crude oil. Planting progress was reported at 50% complete, which is above the average for this time of the year. Weekly export sales were pegged at 1,228,700 tons for current year and 202,000 for the year ahead. Elsewhere, China is on the market for maize due to its rising feed requirements for intensive livestock production, increase in ethanol production and strategic reserve requirements.
- Domestic: Yellow maize prices moved sideways on the back of renewed strength on the international market. Yellow maize import parity ended a bit firmer on the back of better international prices despite a stronger Rand. Weekly yellow maize prices closed at R1,172/ton, but were still down 15% year on year. Meanwhile production estimate for maize in South Africa came in at a record of 13.1m tons, which is 1.1% higher than the previous estimate. The yellow maize crop is seen at 5.3m tons, up 1.4% from the previous estimate. Weekly yellow maize Safex futures: Jul-10 was down 0.3% w/w (-R3/t); Sep-10 was up 0.3% w/w (+R3/t); Dec-10 almost unchanged compared to last week; Jul-11 was down 0.4% w/w (-R5/t).



OUTLOOK

Prices are expected to move sideways in the short term but with downward potential in the medium term as harvesting gets into full swing.

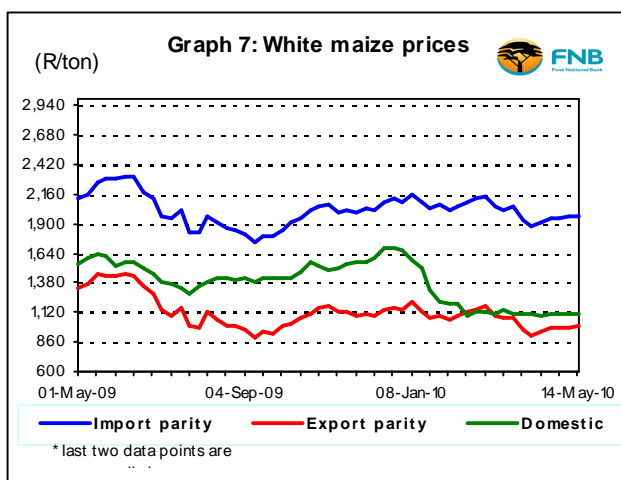
Yellow Maize Futures 30 April 2010	July-10	Sep-10	Dec-10	Mar-11	May-11
CBOT (\$/t)	144.28	147.83	151.06	154.53	159.57
SAFEX (R/t)	1,191	1,224	1,267	1,300	1,306
CHICAGO CORN (R/t)	1,072	-	1,151	1,193	-

Calculated Yellow Maize Options prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)

Jul-10			Sep-10			Dec-10		
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
1,240	77	28	1,260	113	77	1,300	144	111
1,200	52	43	1,220	90	94	1,260	121	128
1,160	33	64	1,180	70	114	1,220	101	148

White maize market trends (Graph 7)

- International: US white maize prices maintained a firmer trend on improved export demand. White maize import parity closed up 1% compared to last week, attributable to higher international prices despite a stronger Rand/US dollar exchange rate, which appreciated by 0.7% from last week. The current import parity prices are however down 8% compared to last year this time.
- Domestic: White maize prices maintained a firmer trend despite a bearish domestic supply outlook due to the spill over strength from the higher international market. Weekly white maize prices remained steady at R1,107/ton, but still down 28% year on year.



The last Crop Estimate Committee report pegged the expected white maize crop at 7.9m tons, up 0.9% compared to the previous estimate. This is 60% of the total expected maize crop. The challenge now is to export the surplus crop as domestic consumption is approximately 9m tons. White maize (WM) futures on Safex: Jul-10 was almost unchanged; Sep-10 was up 0.7% w/w (+R8/t); Dec-10 was down 0.4% w/w (-R5/t).

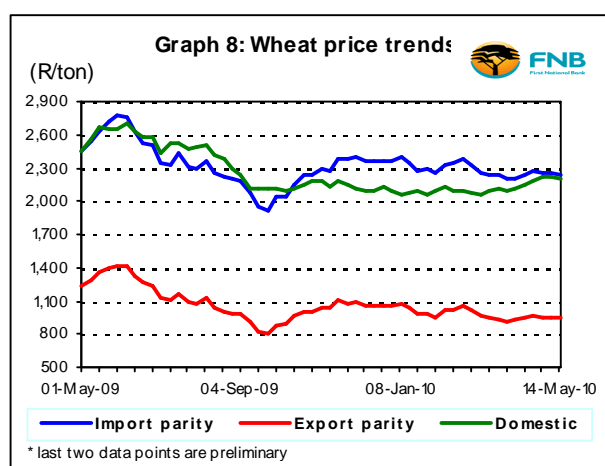
OUTLOOK

It is however still expected that prices will remain under downward pressure in the short to medium term due to a large global and domestic supply outlook.

White Maize Futures 30 April 2010	July-10	Sep-10	Dec-10	Mar-11	May-11			
SAFEX (R/t) WM ₁	1,120	1,155	1,195	1,229	-			
Calculated White Maize Options prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)								
Jul-10			Sep-10			Dec-10		
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
1,160	68	28	1,200	103	58	1,240	126	81
1,120	45	45	1,160	79	74	1,200	103	98
1,080	27	67	1,120	59	94	1,160	82	117

Wheat market trends (Graph 8)

- International:** US wheat prices ended slightly lower for the week. Crop progress was reported at 69% in good excellent condition, attributable to favourable weather conditions. Weekly export sales came in at 173,100 tons for current year and 295,300 tons for year ahead.
- Domestic:** Wheat prices continued to increase despite a slightly stronger Rand. Weekly wheat prices closed up 1.8% compared to last week at R2,222/ton, but still down 15% year on year. Meanwhile the market waits in anticipation for a decision from the authorities regarding the possible increase in the wheat tariff. Weekly wheat futures on Safex: Jul-10 was almost unchanged compared to last week; Sep-10 was slightly firmer (+R3/t); Dec-10 closed down 1.3% w/w (-R29/t).



OUTLOOK

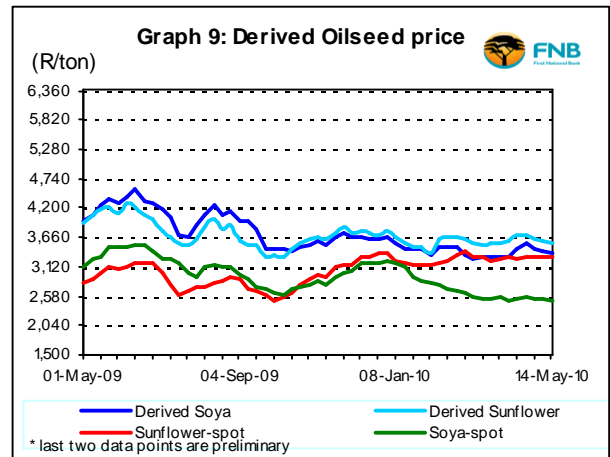
Prices are expected to continue tracking the upward trend on the international market in the short to medium term. The number of hectares to be planted will also influence direction. Production conditions are favourable with a good build up of moisture due to recent rains, but lower prices may still discourage farmers from planting more wheat.

Wheat Futures 30 April 2010	July-10	Sep-10	Dec-10	Mar-11	May-11			
KCBT (\$/t)	189.14	193.36	199.89	206.22	-			
SAFEX (R/t)	2,243	2,284	2,290	2,340	-			
Calculated Wheat Option prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)								
Jul-10			Sep-10			Dec-10		
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
2,280	118	81	2,320	155	119	2,340	192	142
2,240	96	99	2,280	133	137	2,300	170	160
2,200	77	120	2,240	113	157	2,260	149	179



Oilseed market trends (Graph 9)

- **International:** US soybean market ended marginally lower due to lower equity markets. However weakness in the US dollar and higher crude oil prices late in the week limited further losses. Prices were down across the soybean complex with soymeal continuing to drift lower, dropping 3.2% compared to last week. Weekly export sales were reported in line with expectations at 101,000 tons for current year and 691,000 for year ahead.
- **Domestic:** Domestic oilseed market ended mixed with sunflower posting marginal gains while soybeans were a bit lower. Weekly sunflower prices advanced by 0.3% compared to last week and closed at R3,314/ton, up 18% year on year. In the case of soybeans, prices eased lower by 0.6% compared to last week and closed at R2,540/ton, down 18% year on year. Derived soybean and sunflower prices increased, due to the combined influence of a stronger Rand/ US dollar exchange rate and lower international prices. Soybean futures on Safex, near term futures were mostly lower: Jul-10 was down 1.5% w/w (-R40/t); Sep-10 was down 1.1% (-R30/t); Dec-10 was up 1.5% w/w (+R40/t). Sunflower futures on Safex: Jul-10 was up 0.3% w/w (+R11/t); Sep-10 was up 0.8% w/w (+R27/t); Dec-10 was down 0.4% w/w (-R15/t).



OUTLOOK

Domestic oilseed prices are expected to move sideways with limited upward potential in the short term.

Oilseeds Futures 30 April 2010	July-10	Sep-10	Dec-10	Mar-11	May-11			
CBOT Soybeans (US \$/t)	367.07	361.41	-	363.76	363.98			
CBOT Soya oil (US c/lb)	38.93	39.25	39.76	40.26	40.41			
CBOT Soya cake meal (US \$/t)	293.10	286.90	278.40	279.90	279.40			
SAFEX Sunflower seed (R/t)	3,370	3,442	3,525	-	-			
SAFEX Soybean seed (R/t)	2,578	2,620	2,700	-	-			
Calculated Wheat Option prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)								
Jul-10			Sep-10			Dec-10		
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
3,420	198	148	3,480	241	203	3,560	341	306
3,380	176	166	3,440	219	221	3,520	319	324
3,340	155	185	3,400	199	241	3,480	297	342



Vegetable market trends (Graph 10)

• **Tomatoes**

Tomato prices increased due to reduced supplies on markets. Prices increased by 26.5% week on week but decreased by 1.4% year on year, closing at R4,512/ton. Tomato volumes traded were pegged at 3,487 tons, down 14.0% week on week but up 17.6% year on year. Prices are however expected to weaken slightly during mid-month.

• **Potatoes**

Potato prices increased sharply due to higher uptake on markets. Prices were up 10.1% week on week but down 18.3% year on year, closing at R2,505/ton. Volumes traded declined slightly by 0.8% week on week, coming in at 13,152 tons, a year on year increase of 33.3%. Prices are however expected to move sideways with limited upside potential.

• **Onions**

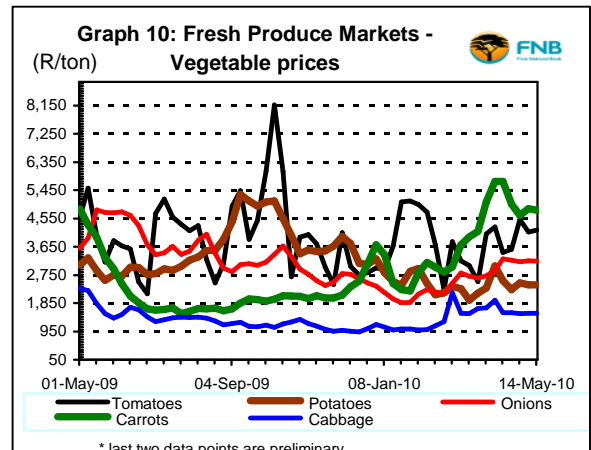
Onion prices declined slightly due to increased supplies on markets. Prices decreased to R3,176/ton, down 1.6% week on week and 11.8% year on year. Volumes traded increased by 15.0% week on week and came in at 4,458 tons, which is 39.4% year on year. Prices are however expected to move sideways with some upward potential.

• **Carrots**

Carrot prices decreased slightly due to a combination of weak uptake on markets and increase in supplies. Prices declined by 7.0% week on week closing at R4,653/ton, which is 4.2% lower year on year. Volumes traded came in at 1,117 tons, up 6.6% week on week and 22.5% year on year. Prices are expected to remain firm due to limited supplies on markets.

• **Cabbages**

Cabbage prices declined due to low uptake on markets. Prices decreased by 1.7% week on week and by 34.8% year on year closing at R1,515/ton. Volumes traded were pegged at 1,407 tons down 3.6% week on week but up 37.6% year on year. Prices are expected to improve somewhat in the short term.



Vegetable prices: Fresh Produce Markets. (Average Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban)						
Week ending 30 April 2010	Average Price (R/t)	w/w	y/y	Total Volume (t)	w/w	y/y
Tomato	4,512	26.5%	-1.4%	3487	-14.0%	17.6%
Potato	2,505	10.1%	-18.3%	13152	-0.8%	33.3%
Onion	3,176	-1.6%	-11.8%	4458	15.0%	39.4%
Carrot	4,653	-7.0%	-4.2%	1117	6.6%	22.5%
Cabbage	1,515	-1.7%	-34.8%	1407	-3.6%	37.6%

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