

Agri-Weekly

18 April 2014

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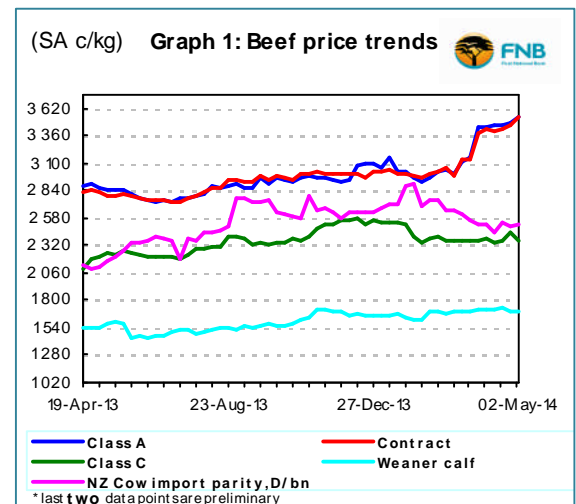
Beef market trends (Graph 1)

International:

- US manufacturing beef market extended recent losses on weaker demand and moderate supplies.
- The weaker retail and food service demand as well as heavier than expected inventories continued to weigh heavily on prices.
- The US import market slowed down on weak domestic prices and subdued demand at food service.
- At wholesale level, US Boxed beef cutout values continued to trend lower with the weekly Choice beef prices falling by 1% w/w but up by 18% y/y at US\$224.27/cwt. The Select beef prices were almost unchanged w/w but up by 16% y/y at \$214.06/cwt.
- In the cattle market, the CME Feeder Cattle Index was almost unchanged at \$178.95/cwt but still up by 33% y/y.
- Weekly US Cattle Slaughter number came in at an estimated 568,000 head, down by 8% y/y. The estimated year to date slaughter was reported at 8.9m head, down by 8% y/y.
- In the USDA's latest World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report, beef production for 2014 was increased as lower forecast slaughter in the first quarter was more than offset by higher slaughter in the second half. According to the report, the larger forecast second-half slaughter reflects larger placements of cattle during the first half.
- The USDA further raised its expectations of beef imports in 2013 as demand for processing-grade beef remains strong. The export forecast was raised on continued strong sales to Asian markets. Cattle prices for 2014 have also been raised from the March report, reflecting continued price strength for fed cattle.
- In Australia, the cattle markets continued to trend higher on supply tightness due to improved production conditions in the producing areas. This saw Eastern Young Cattle Indicator (EYCI) gaining 2% w/w and 15% y/y at AU\$3.55/kg.

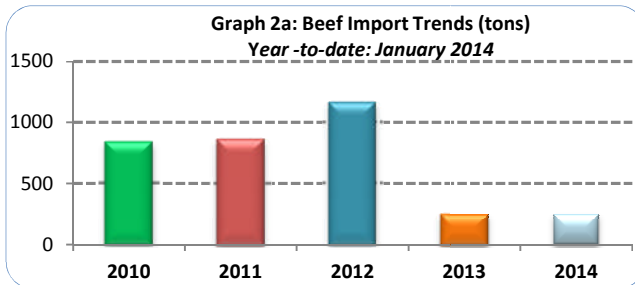
Domestic:

- The beef market trended firmer in a short trading week approaching the Easter weekend. Supplies have been relatively tight recently due to improved pasture conditions.
- Weekly Class A beef prices moved sideways to settle at R34.67 per kg, which is up 20% y/y.
- Contract Class A beef prices ended a bit firmer at R34.29 per kg, up by 1% w/w and 21% y/y.
- Class C beef prices were firmer at R23.62 per kg, which is 12.4% higher y/y.
- In the weaner market, the market continued to strengthen on the back of tight supplies. Weekly weaner calf prices finished up 1% w/w and 12% y/y to close at R17.24 per kg live weight.

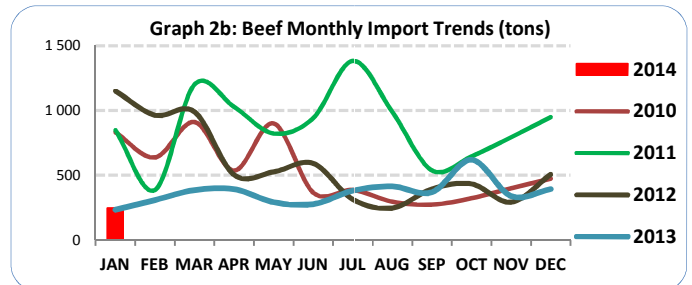


OUTLOOK

It is expected that prices will carry the current momentum in the short term on good demand. There is however a significant downside for beef prices when supplies return to the market ahead of the winter period.



Source: SARS, Own Calculations


Mutton market trends (Graph 2)
International:

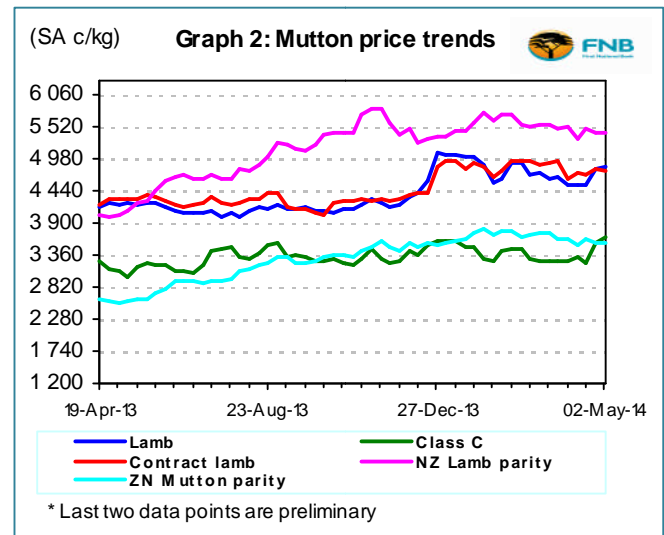
- In New Zealand (NZ), weekly producer prices were mostly steady with the 17.5kg lamb closing at NZ\$91.90/ head which is up by 22% y/y.
- NZ exports saw modest growth during March on the back of good Easter demand. The lift in volumes occurred despite stiff competition from Australia. Agrifax reports NZ exports to have reached 41,475 tons, up 6% y/y and were the highest March export volume since 2007.
- Although export volumes to the UK declined 10%, exports to the EU rose by 3% y/y at 16,400 tons. Lamb exports to China were pegged at a record high of 13,445 tons in March, up 14% y/y.
- The Middle East procured a record high of 4,488 tons since June 2012, up 49% y/y. However, other markets such as the US, Hong Kong and Southeast Asia saw a decline in exports due to increased competition from the NZ's neighbours Australia.
- In Australia, the lamb and mutton markets continued to post good gains with the Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator (ESTLI) settling up 2% w/w and 51% at AU\$5.89/cwt. On exports, AU Lamb exports are reported to have surged during March, with large volumes again directed to the US, China and the Middle East.
- In the US, the Lamb Carcass Cutout prices eased to settle at US\$335.89/cwt, down by 1% w/w but up by 31% y/y. The estimated number of sheep for slaughter were down 7% w/w at 43,000 head, but up by 13% y/y. The estimated year-to-date sheep slaughtered reached 621,000 head, which is up 2% y/y.

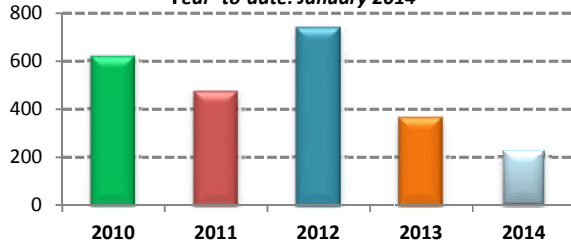
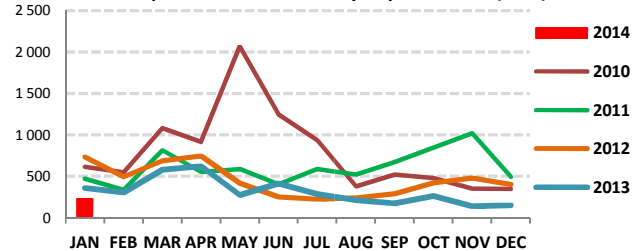
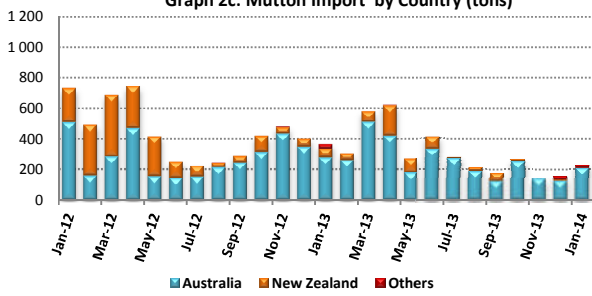
Domestic:

- The domestic lamb and mutton markets saw slight losses in a short trading week.
- Weekly Class A lamb prices were almost unchanged w/w at R45.43 per kg, but up by 9% y/y.
- Class A lamb prices softened by 1% w/w to settle at R46.96 per kg, but up by 12% y/y.
- Mutton prices finished down 2% w/w and almost unchanged y/y at R32.37 per kg.
- Weaner lamb prices fell on limited uptake across markets. Weekly weaner lamb prices were down by 1.5% w/w but still up 11% y/y at R21.77 per kg live weight.

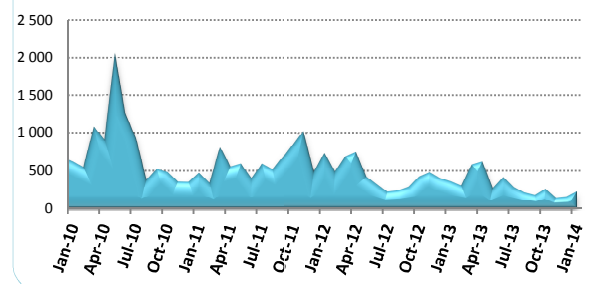
OUTLOOK

It is expected that prices will bottom out and strengthen on improved demand during the coming holidays.



Graph 2a: Mutton Import Trends (tons)
 Year-to-date: January 2014

Graph 2b: Mutton Monthly Import Trends (tons)

Graph 2c: Mutton Import by Country (tons)


Source: SARS, Own Calculations

Graph 2d: Mutton Imports (TONS)


Pork market trends (Graph 3)

International:

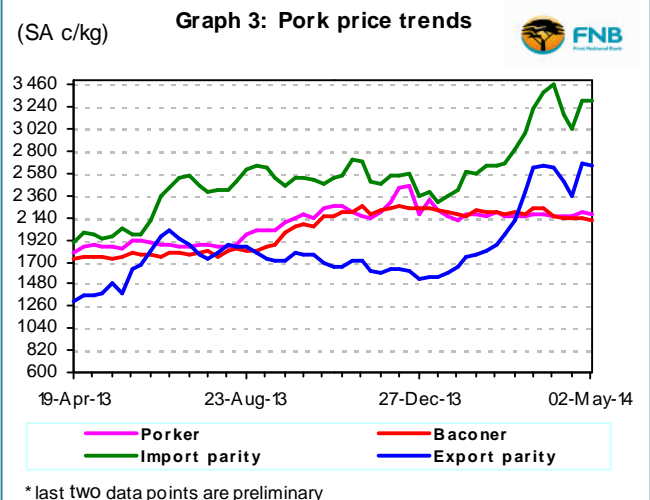
- The US Pork Carcass (FOB Plant) Cutout prices lost ground and finished down 4% w/w but still 46% higher y/y at US\$121.74/cwt.
- The number of pigs for slaughter in the US was marginally down on last week at 2.01m head, which is down by 6% y/y.
- The cumulative year to date number of pigs slaughtered reached 32.6m head, which is 4% lower y/y.
- The latest news on the Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea virus (PEDv) is that Japan is also reportedly affected with nearly 186,000 cases reported of in just over 250 farms in 19 prefectures since October last year. Total casualties are estimated to go up to 40,000 head, according to reports.
- Other countries with reported cases include the USA, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, China, South Korea, and Taiwan.

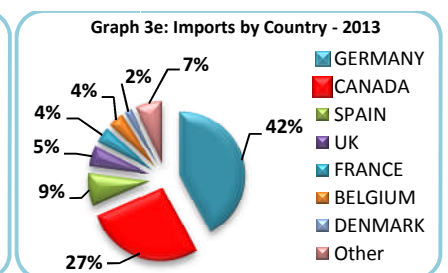
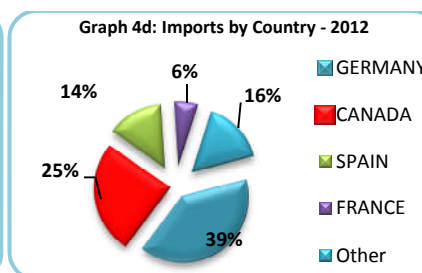
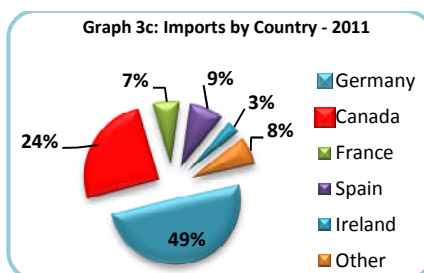
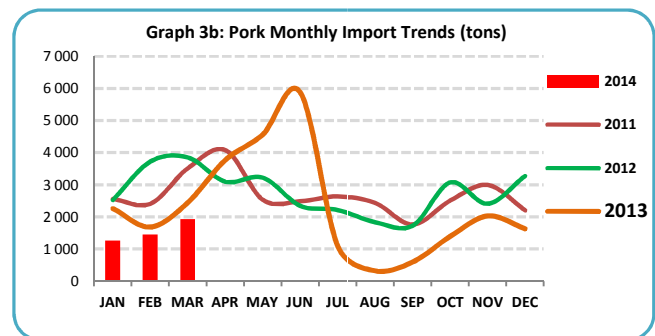
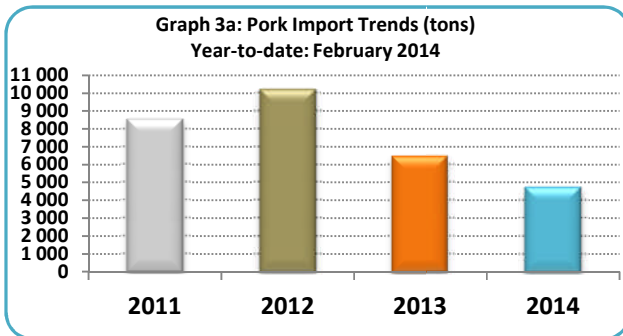
Domestic:

- Prices recovered somewhat on improved uptake in a short slaughter week.
- Weekly porker prices were a bit firmer at R21.60 per kg, but up by 20% y/y.
- Baconers bottomed out and settled at R21.40 per kg, up by 1% w/w and 23% y/y.
- Import parity prices weakened further mainly due to lower international prices. Weekly pork import parity prices were down by 5% w/w but up by 59% y/y.
- Import sales continued to trend higher with the March figure coming in at 1,934 tons, up by 33.6% m/m but still far behind last year's by 20.9%. On a year to date basis, total pork imports for 2014 were down by 31.3% y/y and reached 4,644 tons.
- Major import sources were Germany which accounted for 43.2% in March and 49.8% year to date, Canada (30.2% and 21.3% yr-date), Spain (9.7% and 7.3% yr-date), and France (6.3% and 6.3% yr-date).

OUTLOOK

It is expected that prices will trend sideways to firmer in the short term on improved demand.





Source: SAPPO, SARS, Own Calculations

Poultry market trends (Graph 4)

International:

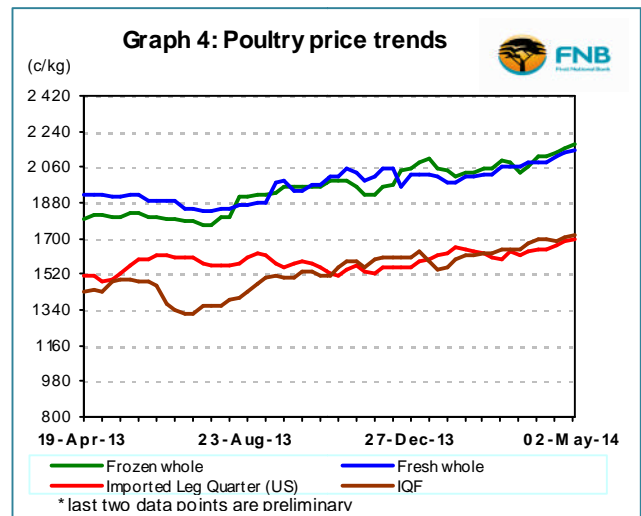
- US prices ended mixed with gains in leg quarters on improved uptake.
- Demand into all channels was reportedly moderate to good approaching the Easter holiday weekend.
- Weekly whole bird prices were almost unchanged from last week at US106.92c/lb but up by 4.1% y/y.
- Leg quarters saw slight gains, finishing up 1% w/w at US54.33c/lb but down by 2% y/y.
- Breast cut prices settled at US116.17c/lb, up by 2% w/w and y/y.
- Wings were a bit softer compared to last week at US136.83c/lb, which is down by 14% y/y.
- Drumstick prices also softened, finishing down by 2% w/w and 1% y/y at US70.33c/lb.
- In the weekly US Broiler Hatchery report, egg sets for the week ended 12 April 2014 were up 1% y/y at 212m. Average hatchability for chicks remains at 83.0%. The broiler chick placement was down 1% y/y at 169m head. Cumulative broiler placements from December 29, 2013 through April 12, 2014 came in slightly down y/y at 2.6 billion head.

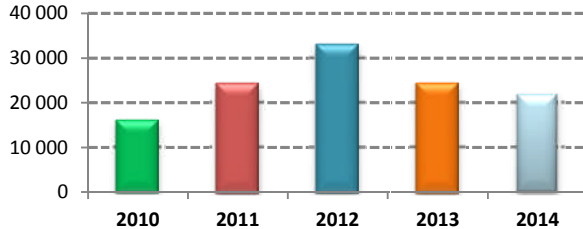
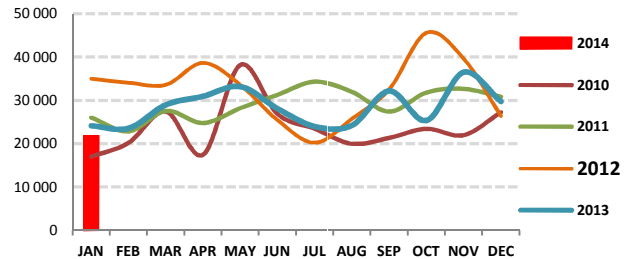
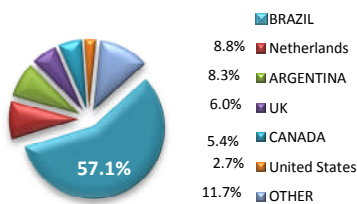
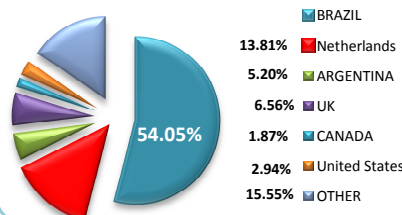
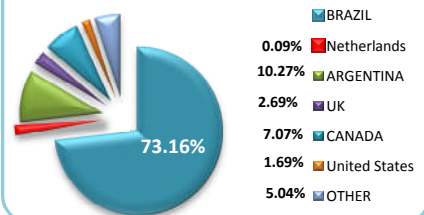
Domestic:

- Prices recovered slightly in a short trading week leading into the Easter weekend.
- Weekly fresh whole bird prices gained 1% w/w and 10% y/y at R21.10 per kg.
- Frozen whole bird prices were up 1% w/w and 19% y/y at R21.35 per kg.
- Individually Quick Frozen portions (IQF) were the exception, easing to R16.88 per kg but still 18% higher y/y.

OUTLOOK

Prices are expected to retain the current momentum in the short term with upside potential on good demand ahead of the holidays.



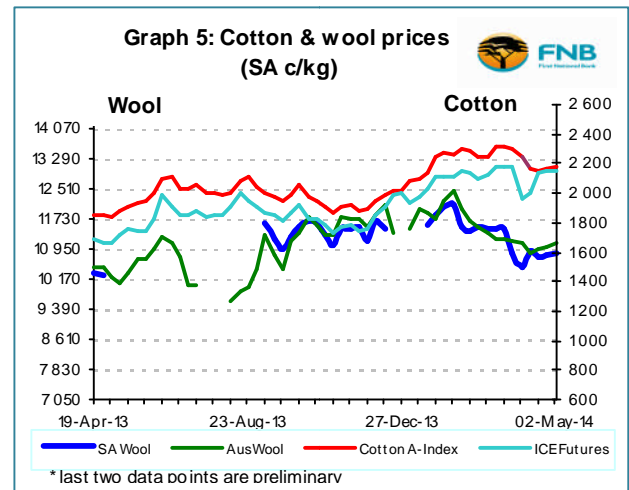
Graph 4a: Poultry Import Trends
 Year-to-date: January -2014

Graph 4b: Poultry Monthly Import Trends (tons)

Graph 4d: Imports by Country - 2011

Graph 4e: Imports by Country - 2012

Graph 4c: Imports by Country - 2013


Source: SARS, Own Calculations

Producer prices for selected livestock commodities 18 April 2014	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Poultry
Open market: Class A / Porker / Fresh whole birds(R/kg)	34.67	45.43	21.60	21.10
Open market: Class C / Baconer / Frozen whole birds(R/kg)	23.62	32.37	21.15	21.35
Contract: A2/A3* / Baconer/ IQF (*includes fifth quarter) (R/kg)	34.29	46.96	21.40	16.88
Import parity price (R/kg)	25.31	36.20	30.15	16.67
Weaner Calves / Feeder Lambs (R/kg)	17.24	21.77		

Wool and cotton market trends (Graph 5)
International:

- The world cotton indicator price, Cotlook "A" Index, continued to weaken and finished down 1% w/w but still 1% higher y/y at US93c/lb.
- Demand concerns as the Chinese economy continued to slowdown added to the weaker tone. China's economic growth slowed to 7.4% in the 1stQ2014, down from 7.7% in the 4thQ2013 and 7.8% in the 3rdQ2013.
- The decision by the government in China to reportedly release some of its supplies to millers at competitive prices provided further downward pressure on international cotton prices.
- World cotton ending stocks projections for 2013/14 were raised by 8% y/y to reach 97m bales in the latest WASDE report. This is largely due to increased production as a result of better prices.
- According to the USDA, Policies in China are the major driver of the global stock build-up. For 2013/14, ending stocks in China are projected at a record 58.8 million bales, the third consecutive season of rising stocks.
- With stocks in the United States declining and those in the rest of the world about unchanged, China is forecast to hold a record 61 percent of global stocks by the end of 2013/14. However, the uncertainty surrounding the retention and disposal of these stocks has supported world cotton prices as global free supplies have declined in recent marketing years
- Wool market: In Australia, the wool market extended recent gains on the back of good demand. This saw the weekly AWEX EM Indicator gaining 3% w/w and 4% y/y to settle at AU\$10.48/kg clean wool. A total of 35,192 bales were offered with sales reaching 90.8 percent.



Domestic:

- There was no sale for the week. The last wool sale saw gains on the domestic market with the weekly Cape Wools Merino indicator settling up 3.8% w/w and 8% y/y at R108.70/ kg clean wool.
- At this level, the indicator was down by 4.4% compared to the current season's average but still 7% higher than the opening sale of the 2013/14 season.
- Major buyers were Standard Wool SA with 1,643 bales (27.8%), Lempriere SA with 1,574 bales (26.6%), and Stucken & Co with 1,063 bales (18.0%).

Fibre market prices 18 April 2014	SA prices (R/kg)	Australian prices (R/kg)	Australian futures May-14 (AU\$/kg)	Australian futures Jul-14 (AU\$/kg)
Wool market indicator (R/kg)	107.42	99.68		
19 μ long length wool (R/kg)	-	114.14	11.70	11.10
21 μ long length wool (R/kg)	-	111.00	11.40	10.80
23 μ long length wool (R/kg)	-	104.63	10.20	9.60
Fibre market prices 18 April 2014	SA derived Cotton (R/kg)	New York A-Index (US\$/kg)	Cotton Futures Jul-14 (US\$/kg)	Cotton Futures Oct-14 (US\$/kg)
Cotton Prices (R/kg)	21.56	2.05	2.03	1.81

Cotton Futures on the InterContinental Exchange (ICE);

Yellow maize market (Graph 6)
International:

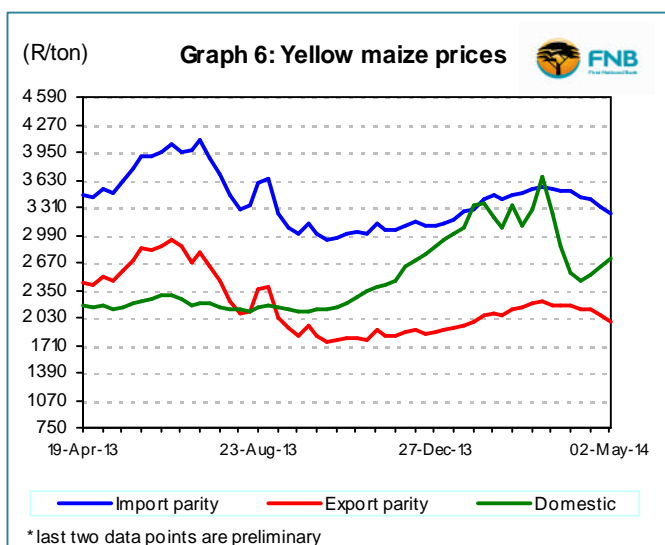
- US maize prices moved marginally lower for the week. Planting progress has been slow due to adverse weather conditions that led to a late planting season. As a result, planting progress was reported at 3% planted.
- Meanwhile, the weekly US Energy Information Administration's (EIA) ethanol processing data was considered positive for prices as it came in higher than expected and ethanol stocks were lower.
- Ethanol production was pegged at 939,000 barrels per day, which was sharply higher compared to last week's figure of 896,000 bpd. This reportedly represents about 3m tons of maize processing per week and was the largest since the week ending 8 December 2013.
- On the back of strong export demand, USDA trimmed US ending stocks by 3.2m to 33.8m tons.
- World maize production was raised by 6.4m tons with a 2m ton increase for Brazil and 1m ton increases for both South Africa and Russia. For Brazil, favourable precipitation in March and early April has supported the developing safrinha maize crop with yields now expected just below last year's levels in the areas where this second-season crop is grown.

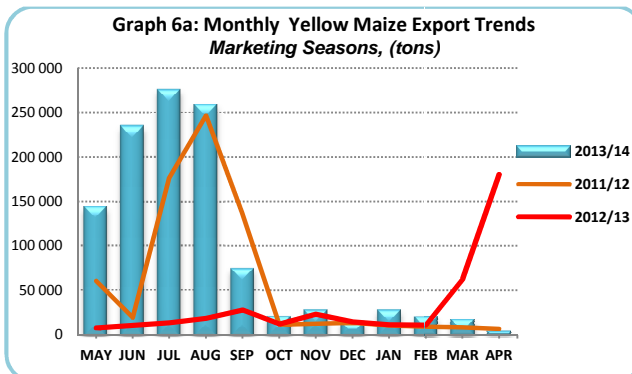
Domestic:

- There was a slight rebound on the domestic market mainly due to the renewed Rand weakness. Gains were however limited due to the bullish domestic supply outlook.
- Weekly yellow maize prices finished up 3% w/w and 20% y/y to close at R2,532 per ton.
- Yellow maize import sales for the week ended 11 March were pegged at 29,201 tons and 70,583 tons for the season to date, with Ukraine being the main supplier (According to Sagis, the 29 201 tons of yellow maize imported for the week 5 - 11 Apr 2014 were erroneously reported to SAGIS as imported from Russia instead of the Ukraine. It has been subsequently adjusted).
- Export sales were pegged at 2,402 tons and 1.12m tons for the season to date.
- So far, major export destinations for YMZ are Japan (53%), Taiwan (15%), and Korea (13%).

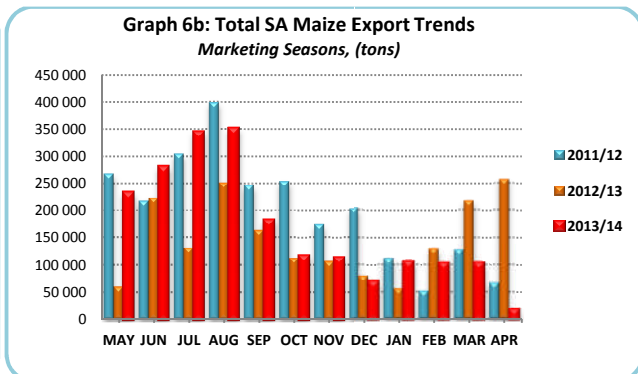
OUTLOOK

With a bumper crop in sight and the relatively stronger Rand, prices will come under increased downward pressure as harvesting gains momentum in the medium term.





Source: SAGIS



Yellow Maize Futures 18 April 2014	Jul-14	Sep-14	Dec-14	Mar-15	May-15
CBOT (\$/t)	197.16	196.29	195.66	198.73	201.02
JSE (R/t)	2 204	2 243	2 289	2 293	-
CHICAGO CORN (R/t)	2 116	2 127	2 151	-	-

Calculated Yellow Maize Options prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)								
Jul-14			Sep-14			Dec-14		
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
2 240	125	89	2 280	182	145	2 320	209	178
2 200	103	107	2 240	160	163	2 280	187	196
2 160	84	128	2 200	139	182	2 240	166	215

White maize market trends (Graph 7)

International:

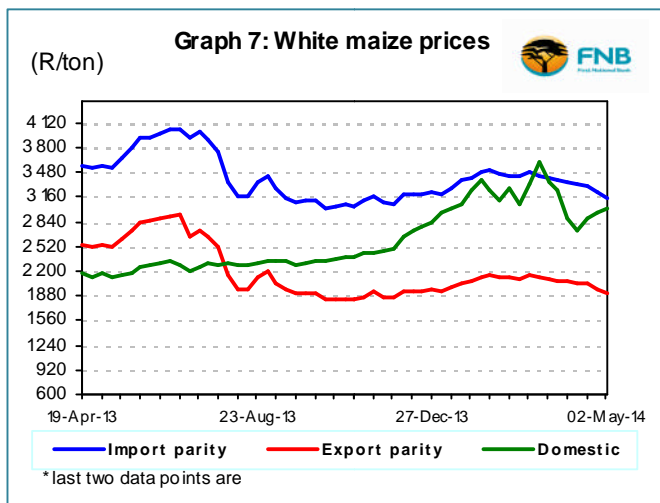
- US white maize ended a bit softer with the improved weather outlook in the week ahead for the major production areas of Midwest, which should allow for additional planting progress into late April.
- Weekly white maize prices were softer at US\$193/ton, but still 34% lower y/y.

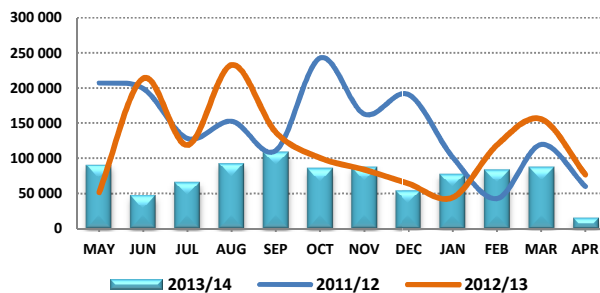
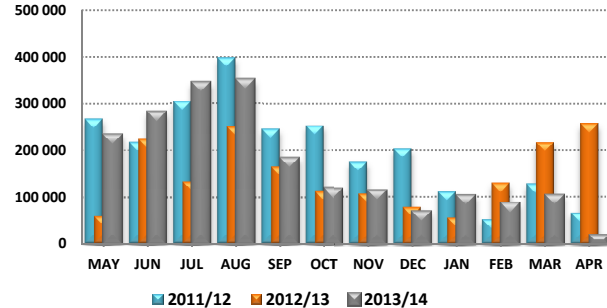
Domestic:

- The South African white maize prices bottomed out and finished modestly higher with the weaker Rand being the main driver.
- Weekly white maize prices finished up 6% w/w and 35% higher y/y at R2,881 per ton.
- Weekly white maize export sales for the week ended 11 March were pegged at 15,251 tons and 897,706 tons for the season to date, according SAGIS. Almost 99% of the total white maize exports are destined for the neighbouring countries.
- Total maize export sales (WMZ and YMZ) reached 2.02m tons. Major destinations so far are Japan (30%), and Zimbabwe (14%), Botswana (10%), and Mexico (9%).

OUTLOOK

With a bumper crop in sight and the relatively stronger Rand, prices will come under increased downward pressure as harvesting gains momentum in the medium term.



Graph 7a: Monthly White Maize Export Trends (tons) Marketing Seasons

Graph 7b: Total Monthly SA Maize Exports (tons) Marketing Seasons


Source: SAGIS;

White Maize Futures 18 April 2014	Jul-14	Sep-14	Dec-14	Mar-15	May-15				
JSE (R/t) WM ₁	2 095	2 140	2 200	2 222	-				
Calculated White Maize Options prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)									
	Jul-14		Sep-14			Dec-14			
	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
	2 140	117	72	2 180	171	131	2 240	199	159
	2 100	94	89	2 140	149	149	2 200	177	177
	2 060	75	110	2 100	128	168	2 160	156	196

Wheat market trends (Graph 8)
International:

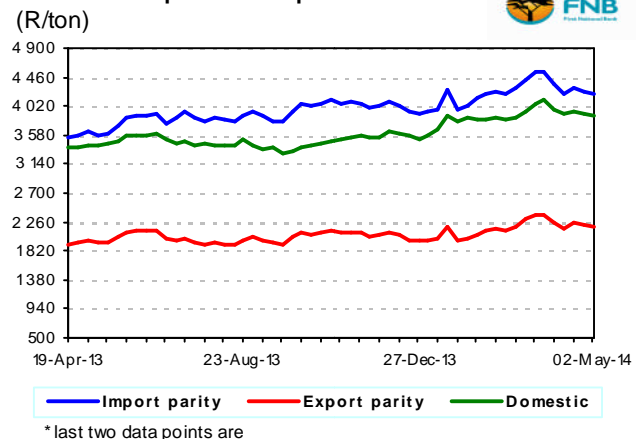
- US wheat prices posted a slight recovery on concerns of potential crop damage due to inclement weather conditions in the Southern Plains.
- The wheat crop ratings declined another percentage point to 34% in good to excellent condition.
- Ukraine exports are expected to reach about 2m tons of wheat for the remaining three months of the current marketing year, according to reports. Exports continue to flow despite current political tensions in the region.
- According to the latest WASDE report, US wheat ending stocks for 2013/14 were projected 0.7m tons higher with lower imports more than offset by a reduction in feed and residual use.
- Wheat feeding was lowered by 0.8m tons after the small negative feed/residual calculation seen during the last quarter.
- World 2013/14 wheat supplies were raised by half a million tons with higher projected beginning stocks, mostly because of reductions in European Union and Ukraine consumption for 2012/13.

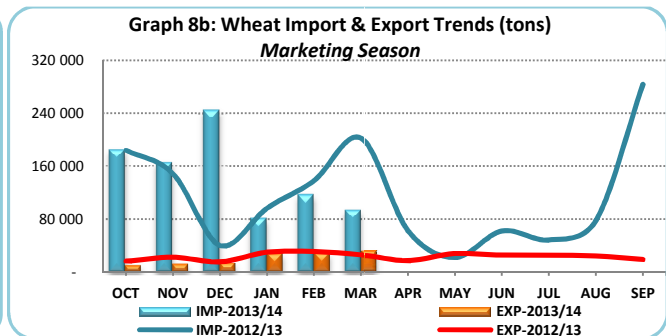
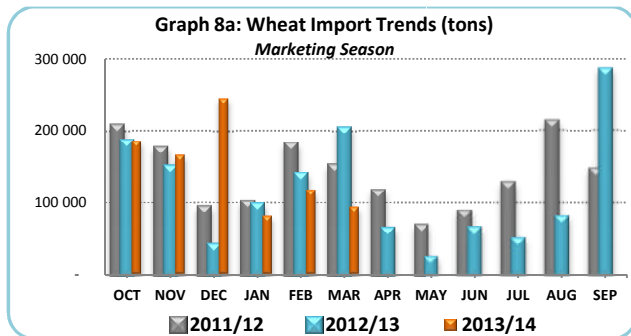
Domestic:

- Wheat prices bottomed out and strengthened on the back of renewed Rand weakness and the spill over gains from the international market.
- Weekly wheat prices gained 1% w/w and 9% y/y to close at R3,936 tons.

OUTLOOK

The world supply outlook remains bullish and prices are therefore expected to come under downward pressure in the short to medium term.

Graph 8: Wheat price trends




Source: SAGIS;

Wheat Futures 18 April 2014	Jul-14	Sep-14	Dec-14	Mar-15	May-15			
KCBT (\$/t)	281.09	283.44	286.97	288.07	284.91			
JSE (R/t)	3 999	3 948	3 799	3 829	-			
Calculated Wheat Option prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)								
Jul-14			Sep-14			Dec-14		
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
4 040	162	121	3 980	177	145	3 840	218	177
4 000	141	140	3 940	156	164	3 800	196	195
3 960	121	160	3 900	136	184	3 760	176	215

Oilseed market trends (Graph 9)

International:

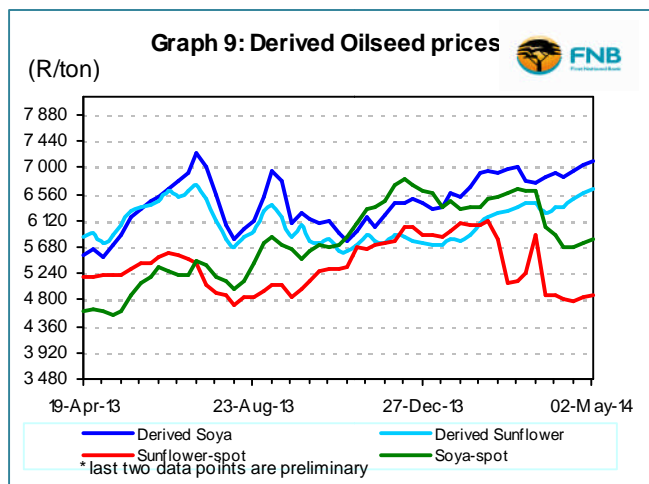
- US prices continued to strengthen with support coming from a positive National Oil Processors Association (NOPA) crush report which was way higher than expected at 4.2m tons during March.
- The tight stock situation provided added support with nearby futures moving to a new high.
- In the case of sunflower, USDA's March Grain Stocks Report showed US sunflower stocks down 33% y/y which will see a very tight supply situation at harvest time.
- The Argentine harvest is reportedly around 14% complete, which is behind the average pace for this time of year of 24% normal. In Brazil, harvest progress was estimated at 86% complete, with sales reportedly at 60% of the crop.
- In the latest WASDE report, the soybean export total was increased by 1.4m to 43m tons, a jump reflecting record year-to-date shipments and large outstanding sales.
- World oilseed production for 2013/14 was projected to increase marginally from the previous month to reach 505m tons, with lower soybean production mostly offsetting increases for other crops.
- World soybean production was projected at 284m tons, down 1.4m from last month but still a record high.
- In Brazil, the soybean output is seen at 88m tons, down 1m tons from last month with higher harvested area more than offset by lower yields. Lower yields primarily reflect the effect of warm temperatures and limited rainfall through mid-February in the south.

Domestic:

- Oilseeds traded on the JSE continued to trend lower on the back of improved harvest outlook.
- Weekly soybean prices were almost unchanged w/w but still 22% higher y/y at R5,666 per ton.
- Sunflower prices were marginally down by 1% w/w and 3% y/y at R4,775 per ton.

OUTLOOK

The improved production outlook will continue to place downward pressure on the oilseed market in the medium term.



Oilseeds Futures 18 April 2014	Jul-14	Sep-14	Dec-14	Mar-15	May-15
CBOT Soybeans (US \$/t)	551.96	477.01	-	458.56	459.74
CBOT Soya oil (US c/lb)	43.66	43.17	42.66	42.86	42.99
CBOT Soya cake meal (US\$/t)	526.90	461.43	425.71	425.16	425.16
JSE Sunflower seed (R/t)	4 930	5 048	5 130	5 160	-
JSE Soybean seed (R/t)	5 763	5 815	5 890	-	-

Calculated Sunflower Option prices (R/ton) RMB commodity desk (Tel: 011 269 9005)

Jul-14			Sep-14			Dec-14		
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
4 980	229	179	5 080	247	215	5 180	308	258
4 940	207	197	5 040	226	234	5 140	286	276
4 900	186	216	5 000	206	254	5 100	265	295

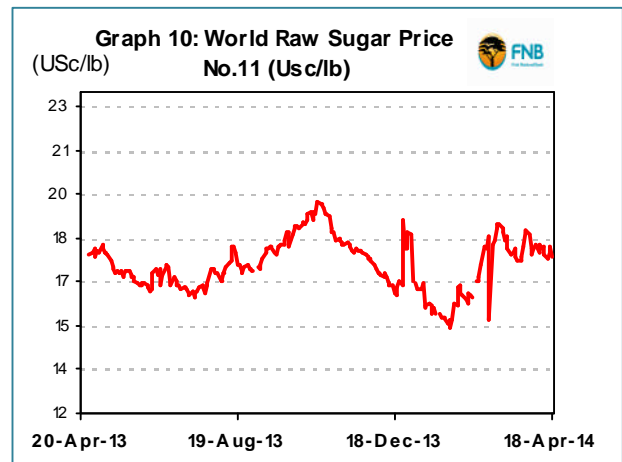
Sugar market trends (Graph 15)

International:

- International Raw Sugar prices continued to weaken on demand concerns and the bullish world supply outlook.
- Weekly world raw sugar prices on ICE (InterContinental nearby futures, No.11 contract) averaged US17.45c/lb, down by 1% w/w and 2% y/y.
- Futures however recovered late in the week with the May-15 contract closing firmer at US18.71c/lb as concerns about the potential adverse weather conditions in Australia and Brazil did the rounds.
- In Australia, there were concerns about a development of a cyclone in the cane areas after the storm damage in the first quarter. While in Brazil, the potential development of the El Nino weather pattern might hurt yields and disrupt the harvest later in the year.
- WASDE projected a m/m decrease of 73,000 short tons, raw value (STRV), of US sugar supply for fiscal year 2013/14 as a result of lower production and slightly lower beginning stocks.
- Sugar production was projected down 71,000 STRV, based on processor reports, with 41,000 of the decline from beet sugar and 30,000 from cane sugar. The 2,000 STRV reduction in 2013/14 beginning stocks reflects minor adjustments to estimated 2012/13 cane sugar production and deliveries for food.
- Projected 2013/14 use is unchanged from March indications. The net reduction in projected 2013/14 ending stocks of 73,000 STRV brings the stocks-to-use ratio down to 13%, from 14% projected in March.
- The 2012/13 supply and use estimates for Mexico for and the projections for 2013/14 remained unchanged. (WASDE).

Domestic:

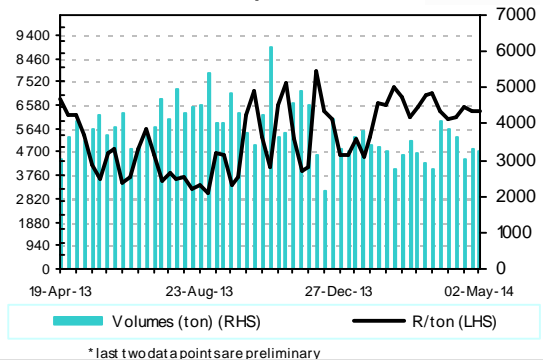
- The RV price in respect of cane delivered in April 2014 for 2014/15 was declared at R3,299.07 per ton, up R161.20 compared to the final prices of the 2013/14 season. According to the Cane Growers Association, the increase was due to the inflation-related domestic sugar price increase that came into effect in early March 2014, the 7,343 ton increase in the LMDE, the 39,244 tons reduction in sugar production and the improved sugar:RV ratio (94.11% vs 93.39%).
- However, the decline in the world market weighted average sugar price (US18.01c/lb vs. US18.28c/lb) and the stronger spot Rand/US\$ exchange rate (10.48 vs.10.72) helped limit the price increase.
- Export availability in the 2014/15 season is reportedly estimated at 687,063 tons. Thus far 233,220 tons has been allocated for marketing and pricing, and to date a total of 177,399 tons have been priced at an average of US17.47c/lb.



ICE Sugar Futures 18 April 2014	Oct-14	Mar-15	May-15	Jul-15	Oct-15
Sugar No.11 (US c/lb)	18.02	18.81	18.72	18.59	18.71
% Change w/w	-0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%

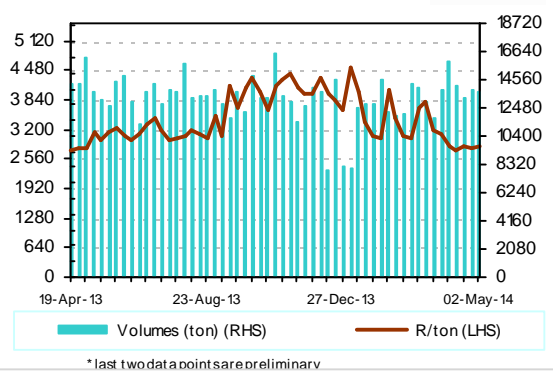
Vegetable Market Trends (Graphs 11 to 15)
Tomatoes

Tomato prices extended gains on reduced supplies across markets. Weekly tomato prices increased by 7% w/w at R6,485 per tons but still down by 5% y/y. Volumes of tomatoes traded reached 3,050 tons, down by 16% w/w and almost unchanged y/y. It is however expected that prices will soften somewhat in short term on volume pressure.

Graph 11: Fresh Produce Markets - Tomato prices

Potatoes

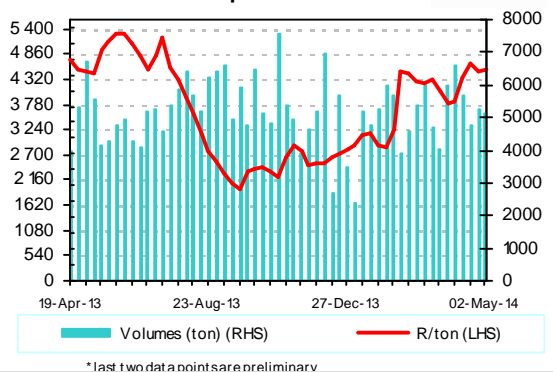
There was a modest rebound in prices in the potato market as demand improved and supplies tightened. Weekly potato prices settled at R2,838 per ton, up by 3% w/w and 4% y/y. Volumes of potatoes traded came in at 13,272 tons, down by 6% w/w and 7% y/y.

Prices are however expected to trend sideways with limited upward potential on volume pressure.

Graph 12: Fresh Produce Markets - Potato prices

Onions

Onion prices continued to post strong gains on the back of improved uptake and reduced volumes on markets. Weekly onion prices settled at R4,651 per ton, up by 7% w/w but slightly down y/y by 1.8%. Volumes of onions traded were pegged at 4,787 tons, falling by 15% w/w but still up by 20% y/y.

Prices are expected to ease somewhat in the short to medium term as volumes improve.

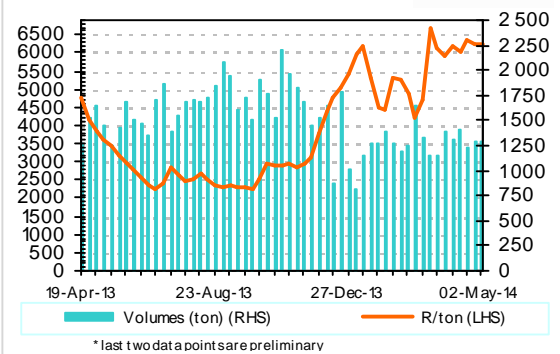
Graph 13: Fresh Produce Markets - Onion prices


Carrots

Carrot prices rebounded strongly due to a substantial decline in supplies across markets. Weekly carrot prices settled at R6,334 per ton, up by 5% w/w and 34% y/y. Volumes of carrots traded reached 1,239 tons, which is a drop of 12% w/w and 2% y/y.

It is expected that prices will trend sideways with limited upward potential in the short term.

Graph 14: Fresh Produce Markets - Carrot prices

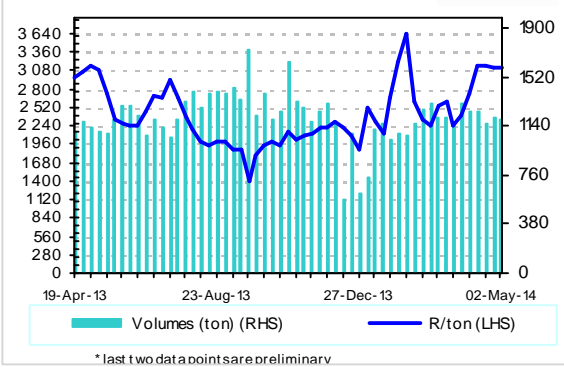


Cabbages

Cabbage prices ended a bit firmer finding support from lower volumes on markets. Weekly cabbage prices were up by 1% w/w and 7% y/y at R3,165 per ton. Volumes traded reached 1,164 tons, down by 8% w/w but still up by 6.6% y/y.

Prices are however expected to trend sideways in the short to medium term with volume pressure preventing upward pricing.

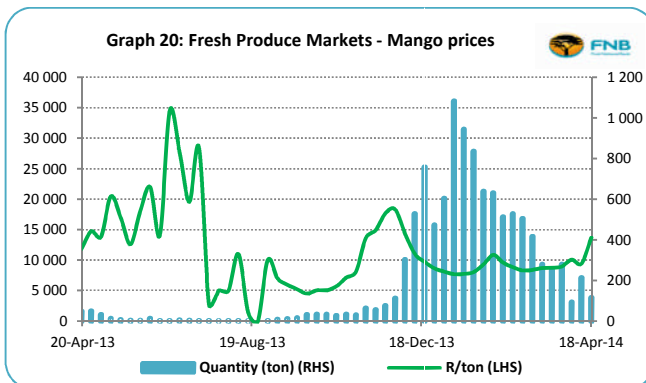
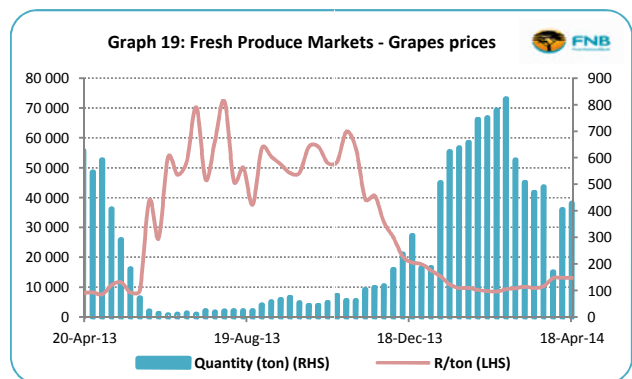
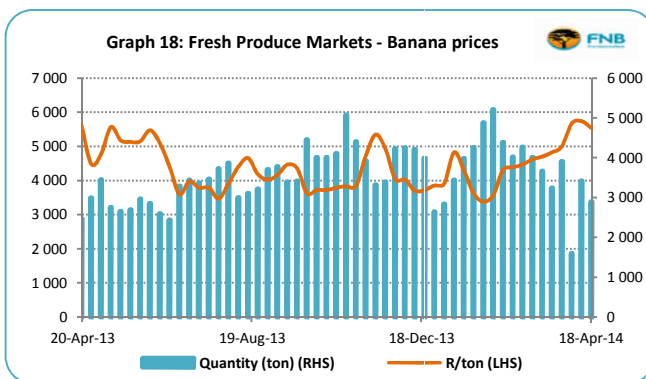
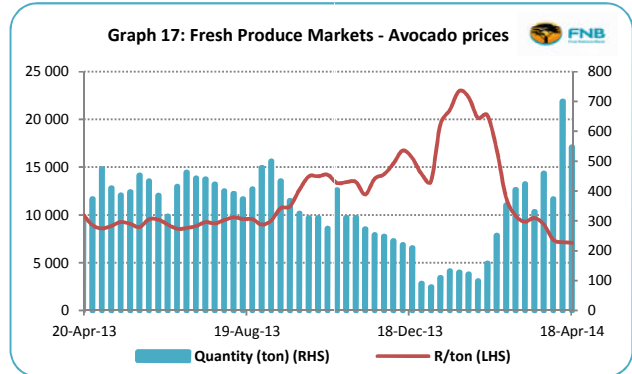
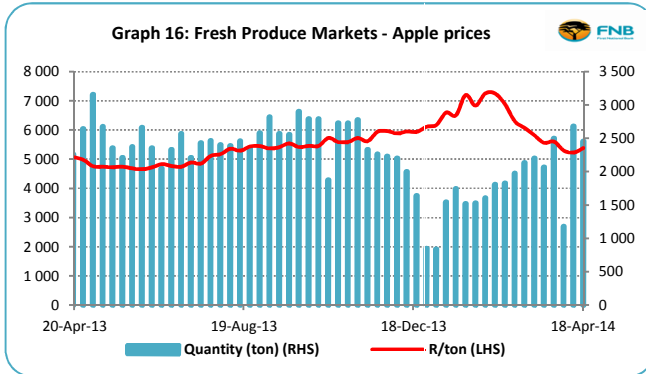
Graph 15: Fresh Produce Markets - Cabbage prices



**Vegetable prices: South Africa's Major Fresh Produce Markets.
(Average Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban)**

Week ending 18 April 2014	Average Price (R/t)	w/w	y/y	Total Volume (t)	w/w	y/y
Tomato	6 485	6.6%	-4.9%	3050	-16.2%	0.3%
Potato	2 838	2.8%	3.6%	13272	-6.0%	-7.0%
Onion	4 651	6.9%	-1.8%	4787	-15.3%	19.8%
Carrot	6 334	5.0%	33.5%	1239	-12.1%	-2.0%
Cabbage	3 165	0.8%	7.0%	1164	-7.6%	6.6%

* Daily prices also available at <https://www.fnbagricomms.co.za>

The Fruit Market Trends – Major Fresh Produce Markets in SA (Graphs 16 to 20)

FRUIT PRICES: Major FPM. (Average Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban)

Week ending 18 April 2014	Average Price (R/t)	w/w	y/y	Total Volume (t)	w/w	y/y
Apples	5 378	3.0%	6.0%	2452	-8.5%	8.6%
Avocados	7 101	-0.6%	-29.2%	547	-21.9%	74.7%
Bananas	5 541	-3.4%	-1.1%	2885	-15.5%	17.4%
Grapes	13 128	0.5%	62.8%	428	6.0%	-31.6%
Mangoes	13 697	45.3%	15.9%	114	-46.1%	145.7%

* Daily prices also available at <https://www.fnbagricomms.co.za>

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