

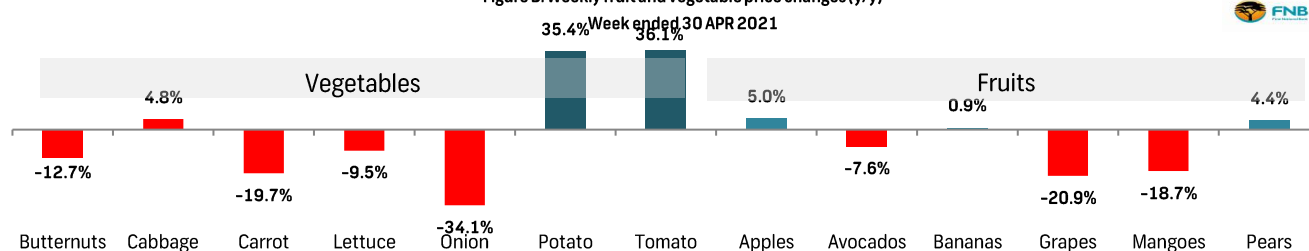


Paul Makube | Tumi Kgasago | Vhutshilo Mabela | 03 MAY 2021

Weekly update – Fruit and Vegetable Markets

- Weekly prices on fresh produce markets ended mixed during month end with most of the vegetable (43%) and fruit (50%) commodities tracked posting good gains.
- The biggest gainers in the vegetable complex were lettuce which jumped by a whopping 35% week-on-week (w/w) but almost 10% below the 2020 level at R5.84/kg. Cabbages and carrots followed closely with weekly gains of 17% and 107% respectively w/w at R3.85/kg and R5.23/kg. At current levels the cabbage prices are 4.8% higher relative to the same week in 2020 while carrots are sharply down by 19.7% year-on-year (y/y). Potatoes saw modest gains on the back of good uptake despite higher volumes at R4.15/kg which is 4.3% higher w/w and 35.4% above last year.
- Tomato extended recent losses as prices corrected to the normal seasonal trends following supply shortages in the past few months due to the heavy rains earlier during the year. Tomato prices fell sharply by 18.4% w/w but still 36% higher y/y at R10.37/kg.
- There were no fireworks in the fruit complex with mangoes posting the highest weekly gain, closing 3.3% higher w/w but still down on last year by 18.7% at R27.42/kg. Pears and avocados posted slight gains of 1.5% and 0.7% respectively w/w at R33.71/kg and R12.75/kg. However, the current pears prices are 4.4% higher y/y while avocados are 7.6% below the 2020 levels.
- The biggest losers were bananas and grapes which finished the month end week down by 1.7% and 9.6% respectively w/w at R8.12/kg and R11.91/kg. Grape prices were however sharply higher by almost 21% relative to last year while bananas were marginally up by 0.9% y/y. Apple prices eased by 1.9% w/w but still 5% higher y/y at R7.32/kg.
- With the rainfall season now behind us in the summer growing areas, the Eastern Cape remains a concern as critical irrigation dams such as the Kouga and Waterdown are entering winter at low levels of 4.6% and 20.3% respectively. Nonetheless, conditions for the rest of the country remain relatively favourable and we expect increased availability in the medium term.

Figure B: Weekly fruit and vegetable price changes (y/y)

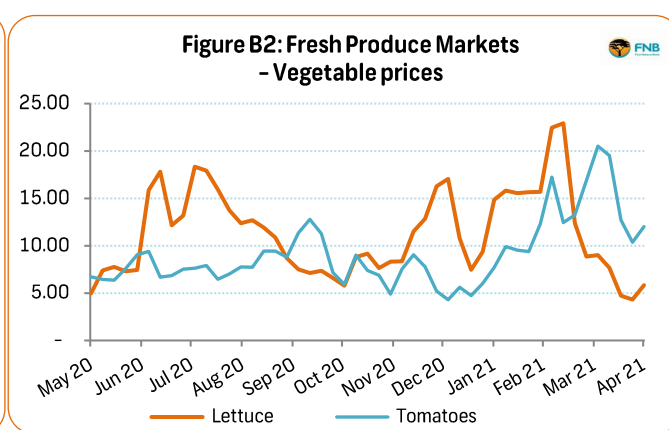
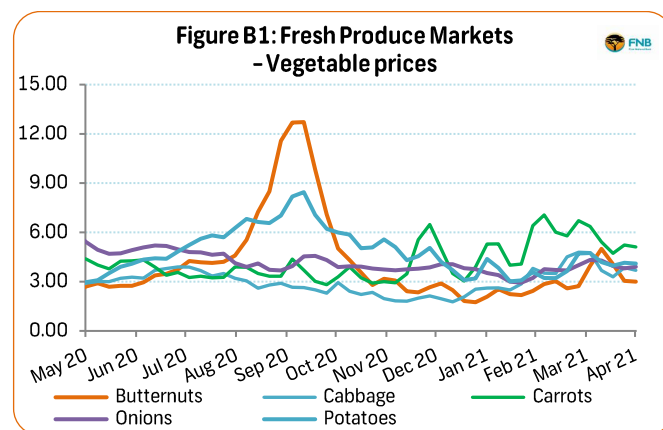


Source: Own calculations from FNB AgriComms.

Table 1: Vegetable prices – South Africa's Major Fresh Produce Markets – (Average Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban)

Week ending 30 APR 2021	Average Price (R/Kg)	Price change w/w	Price change y/y	Total Volume (t)	Volume change w/w	Volume Change y/y
Butternuts	3.00	-1.7%	-12.7%	1324	-10.3%	-30.8%
Cabbage	3.85	17.0%	4.8%	1 204	-25.2%	-31.8%
Carrot	5.23	10.7%	-19.7%	2 124	5.3%	20.0%
Lettuce	5.84	35.2%	-9.5%	374	-11.4%	33.8%
Onion	3.81	-3.8%	-34.1%	7 042	7.7%	8.0%
Potato	4.15	4.3%	35.4%	9 007	9.7%	-36.1%
Tomato	10.37	-18.4%	36.1%	3 407	-3.3%	-25.3%

Source: FNB AgriComms



Source: FNB AgriComms

- On the export front, pear volumes for week 16 of the 2021 export season fell by 17% y/y to 554,396 cartons (15kg). This brought the cumulative year-to-date (YTD) to 8.05 million cartons, which is 5% below the same period in 2020. The EU accounted for the bulk of the shipments with a share of 37% but the total volumes to the region were 6% below last year. The Middle East followed closely with 18% share, but shipments were down 9% y/y. The Far East and Asia accounted for 15% of the total and volumes were up 12% y/y.
- Apple exports for week 16 came in sharply down by 31% y/y at 793,816 cartons but the YTD number was slightly ahead of last year by 1% at 8.42 million cartons. The Far East and Asia has now surpassed Africa, taking 34% of the YTD total but still down 4% y/y. Africa saw a 13% y/y growth in imports from SA with a share of 31% of the total for the YTD.
- Though the citrus export season is still at its infancy, grapefruit volumes jumped 67% y/y to 718,090 cartons for week 16. The YTD volumes increased by a whopping 23% y/y at 953,340 cartons. Europe remains the major beneficiary with volumes up 26% y/y and a share of 47% of the total for the YTD. The South East and Asia had a fantastic growth of 28% y/y for the YTD, accounting for 30% of the total shipments.
- Lemons jumped 75% y/y to 1.57 million cartons for week 16, but the cumulative YTD total fell 12% y/y to 4.93 million cartons. The Middle East has so far accounted for 60% of the total exports although volumes to the region are 15% behind the 2020 levels. Russia so far procured 39% more lemons relative to last year, accounting for 18% of the YTD total. South East Asia so far accounts for 13% of the YTD total and volumes are 33% y/y.
- After a slow start to the export season, orange volumes (navels and valencias) for week 16 increased by 177% y/y to 48,463 cartons which brought the YTD exports to 72,294 cartons but still 43% higher than the levels achieved in 2020. Interestingly, the Middle East now accounts for 73% of the YTD total, which is 52% higher y/y. However, these numbers will keep on changing a lot as it is still too early in the export season.

Table 2: Fruit prices – South Africa's Major Fresh Produce Markets –

(Average Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban)

Week ending 23 APR 2021	Average Price (R/Kg)	Price change w/w	Price change y/y	Total Volume (t)	Volume change w/w	Volume Change y/y
Apples	7.32	-1.9%	5.0%	2 005	-11.8%	16.0%
Avocados	12.75	0.7%	-7.6%	486	14.6%	43.3%
Bananas	8.12	-15.7%	0.9%	2 655	19.8%	30.2%
Grapes	11.91	-9.6%	-20.9%	584	-7.2%	20.2%
Mangoes	27.42	3.3%	-18.7%	39	-32.4%	2470.2%
Pears	33.71	1.5%	4.4%	687	-4.1%	22.2%

Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure C1: Fresh Produce Markets – Fruit prices

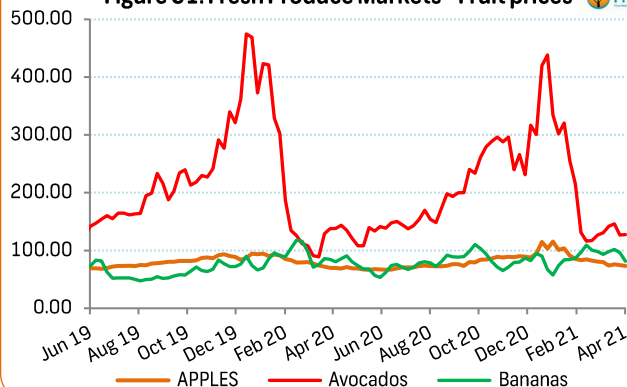
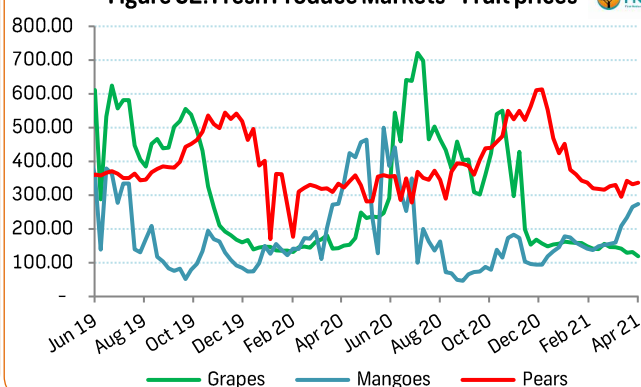


Figure C2: Fresh Produce Markets – Fruit prices



Source: FNB AgriComms

Vegetable trends on 5 Major Fresh Produce Markets in SA (Figures 1a to 1e)

(Average 5 major markets – Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban)

**Note: The last three data points are preliminary for all vegetable prices and quantity graphs.*

Figure 1a: Fresh Produce Markets – Tomato prices

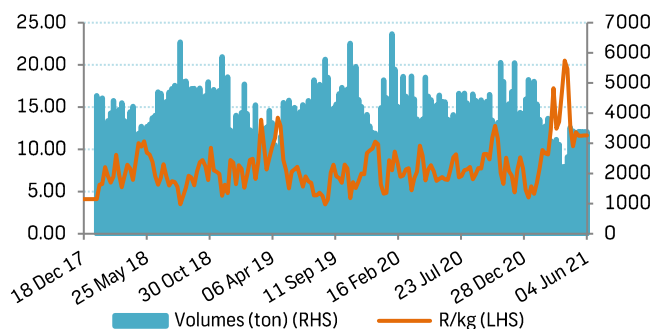


Figure 1aa: Fresh Produce Markets – Tomato prices

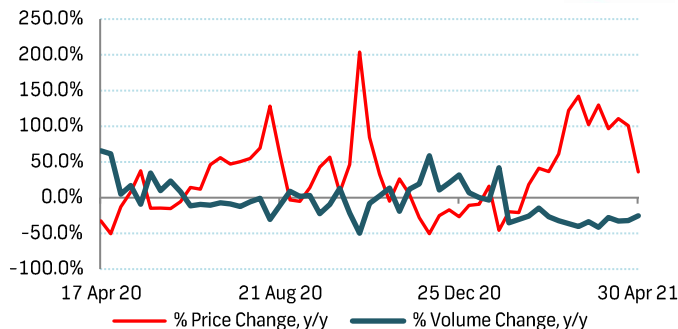


Figure 1b: Fresh Produce Markets – Potato prices

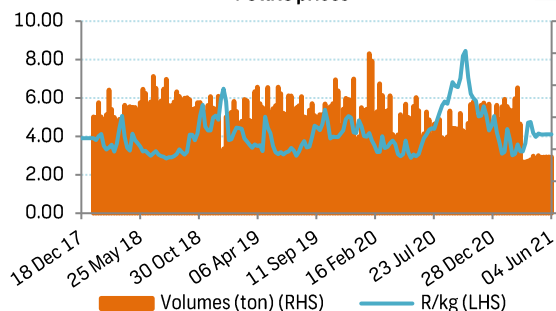


Figure 1ba: Fresh Produce Markets – Potato prices

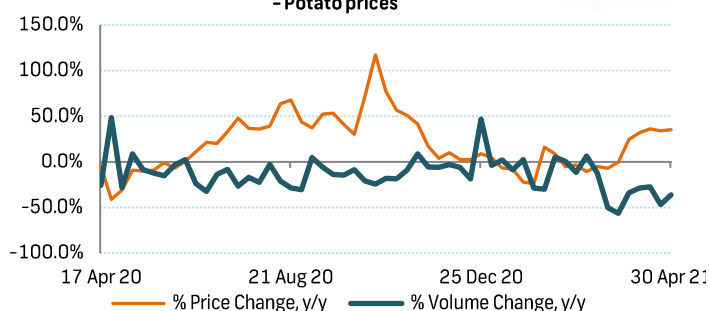


Figure 1c: Fresh Produce Markets
- Onion prices

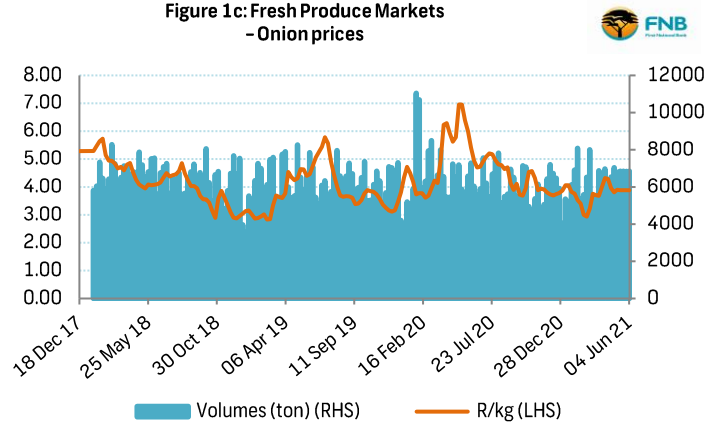


Figure 1ca: Fresh Produce Markets
- Onion prices

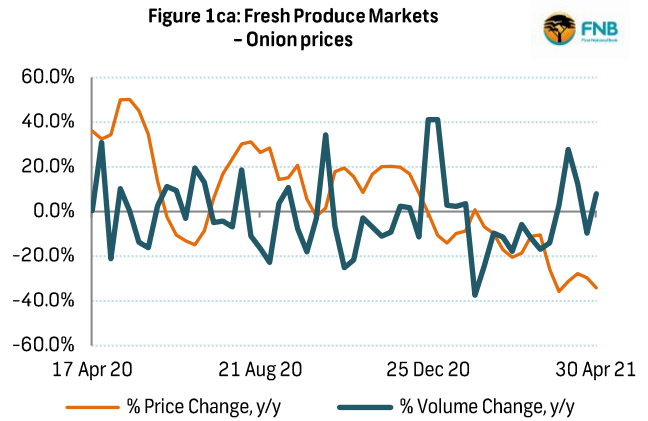


Figure 1d: Fresh Produce Markets
- Carrot prices

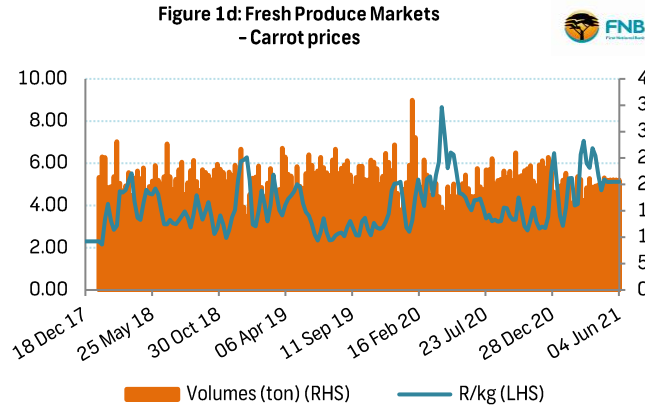


Figure 1da: Fresh Produce Markets
- Carrots prices

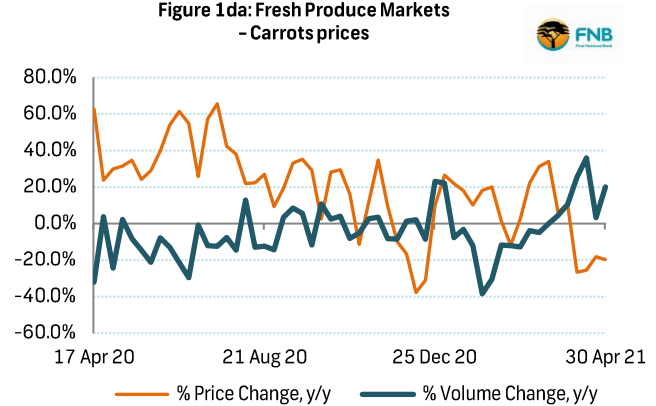


Figure 1ea: Fresh Produce Markets
- Cabbage prices

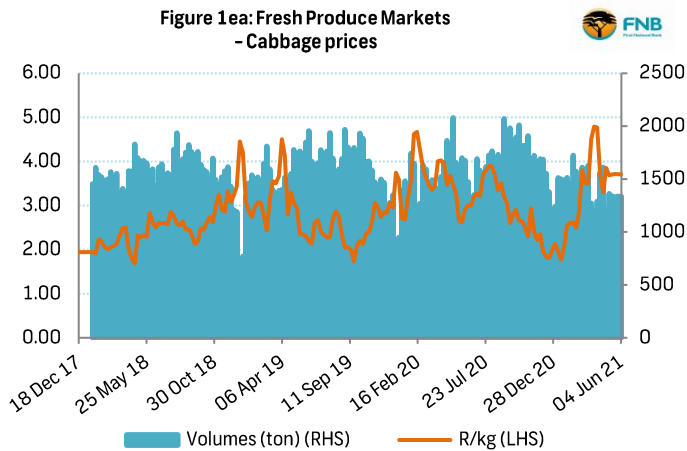


Figure 1eb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Cabbage prices

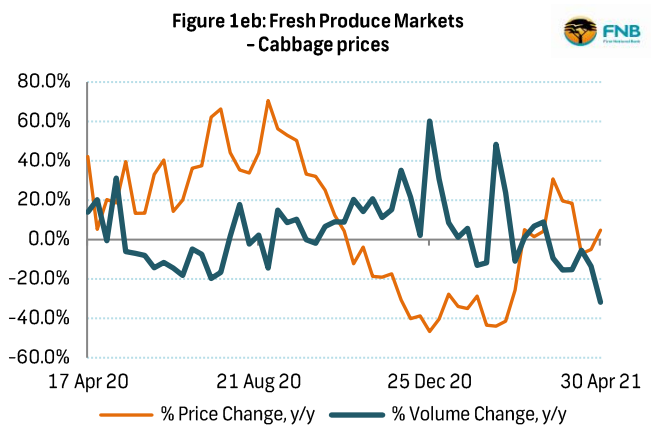


Figure 1fa: Fresh Produce Markets
- Butternut prices

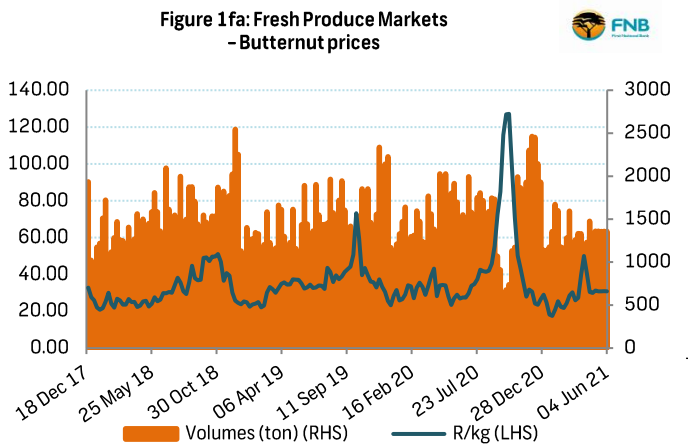


Figure 1fb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Butternut prices

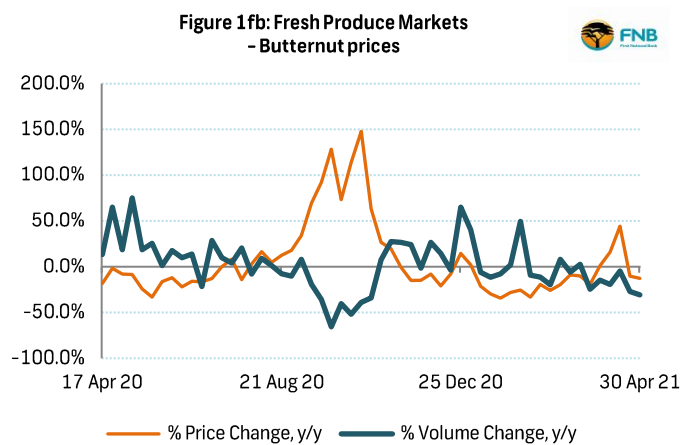


Figure 1g: Fresh Produce Markets
- Lettuce prices

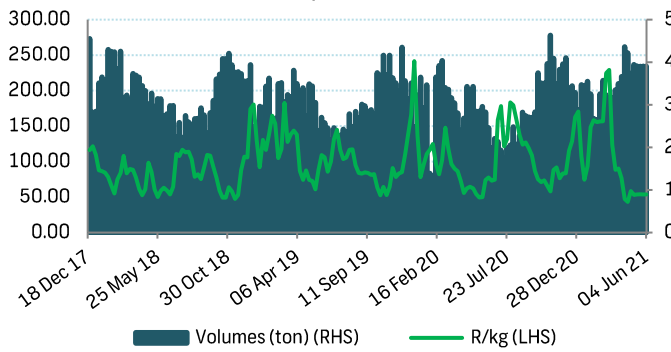
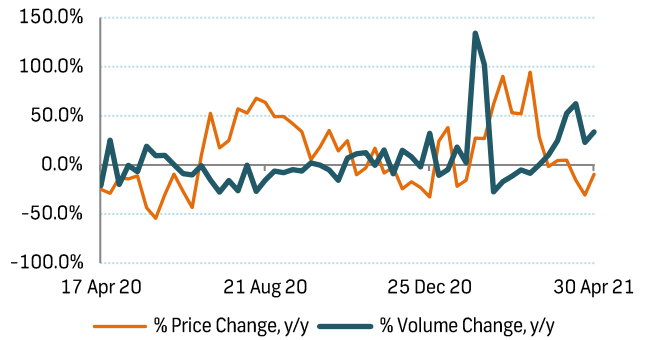


Figure 1ga: Fresh Produce Markets
- Lettuce prices



Source: FNB AgriComms;

Fruit trends on Major Fresh Produce Markets in SA (figures 2a to 2f)

(Average 5 major markets – Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban)

Figure 2a: Fresh Produce Markets
- Apples prices

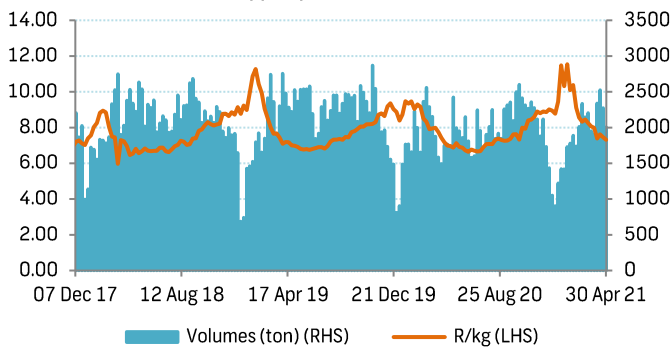


Figure 2aa: Fresh Produce Markets
- Apples prices

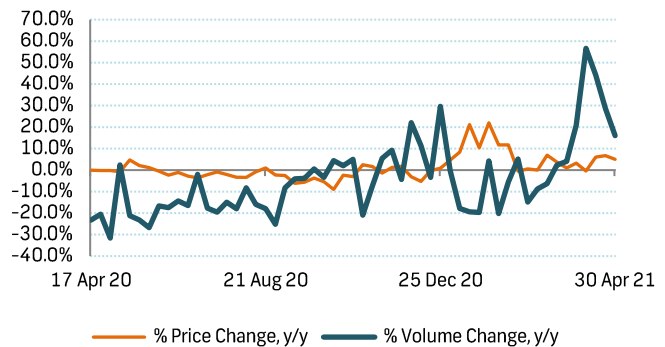


Figure 2b: Fresh Produce Markets
- Avocado prices

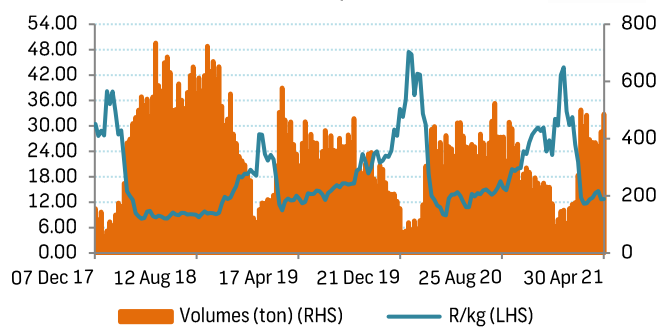


Figure 2ba: Fresh Produce Markets
- Avocado prices

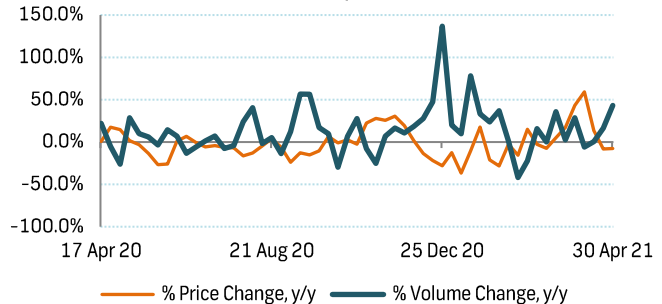


Figure 2c: Fresh Produce Markets
- Banana prices

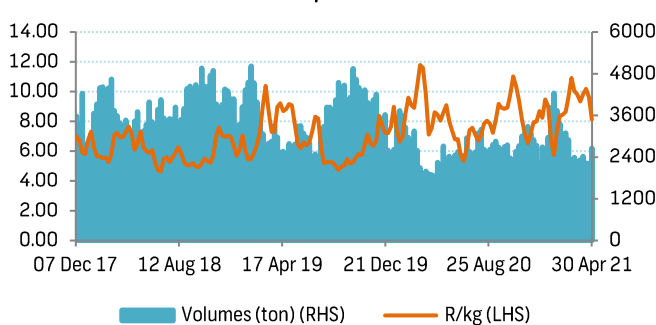
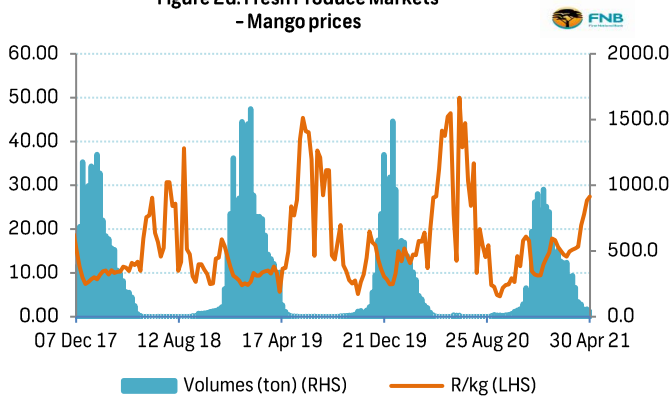
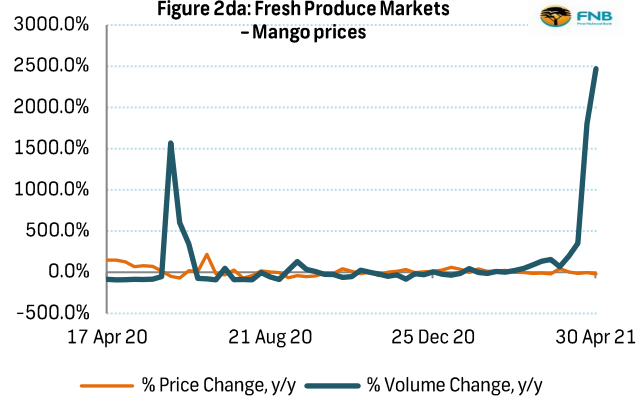
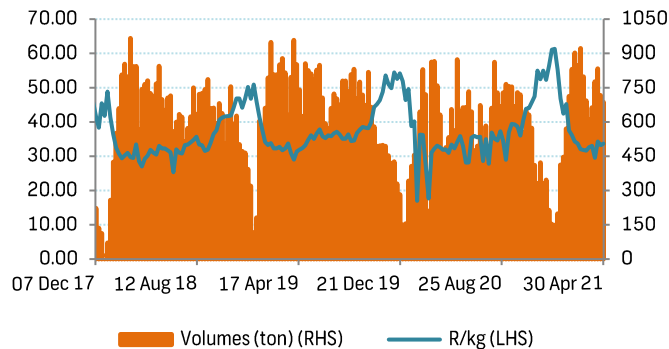
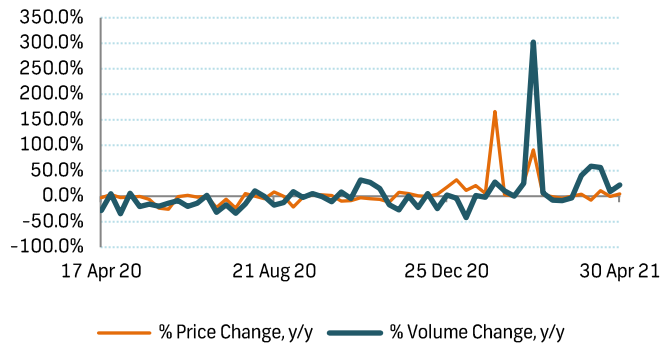
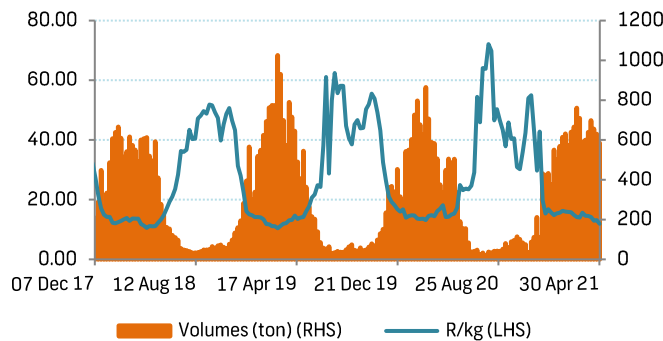


Figure 2ca: Fresh Produce Markets
- Banana prices



Figure 2d: Fresh Produce Markets
- Mango pricesFigure 2da: Fresh Produce Markets
- Mango pricesFigure 2e: Fresh Produce Markets
- Pear pricesFigure 2bb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Pear pricesFigure 2d: Fresh Produce Markets
- Grapes pricesFigure 2bb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Grape prices

Source: FNB AgriComms.

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