

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

Weekly update - Fruit and Vegetable Markets

- Our analysis of the latest trends in prices of fresh produce on major markets shows a sustained downtrend for most commodities in the vegetable complex largely on the back of a rebound in supplies during November 2021.
- Big ticket items such as potatoes, tomatoes, and onions posted sharp decreases of 26%, 14.8%, and 19.7% respectively during November 2021 relative to the 2020 levels (figure A3). The increased volatile in weather patterns continue to influence the availability with occasional heavy rains slowing deliveries while excessive heat impact on product quality and eventually the price the producers receive.
- Nonetheless, the first few days of December started on a stronger note for the vegetable complex on the back of good demand. The average prices for the first four days of the week were mostly higher across most commodities under review with tomatoes posting the biggest gains at R7.5/kg which is 26% ahead of the same period last week.
- As with the counterparts in the fresh produce complex, fruit prices weakened during November with grapes leading the pack by closing 13.6% lower year-on-year (y/y). They were followed by avocados and pears with decreases of 4.7% and 9.3% respectively y/y. Bananas and mangoes however remained on the upside and averaged 15% and 13% higher y/y.
- Early December fruit sales were relatively good which saw prices moving slight to moderately higher across most commodities under review. Bananas retained the recent uptrend with the average for Monday to Thursday this week increasing by 3.4% relative to the same period last week at R9.15/kg.
- The implications of the latest trends point to a potential deceleration in both the fruit and vegetable inflation outcomes for November in the next update. The October 2021 vegetable CPI was sticky on the upside, jumping 6.3% month-on-month (m/m) and 7.2% y/y, while the fruits CPI advanced 2.6% m/m but still down by 2.3% y/y.

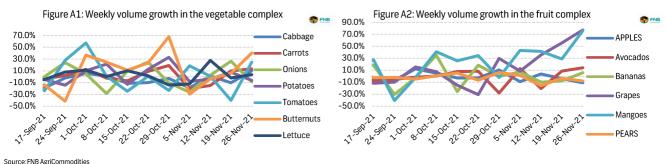
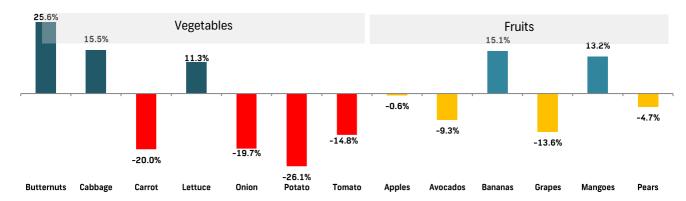


Figure A3: Changes in average monthly fruit and vegetable prices on South Africa's major Fresh Produce Markets (% 4 y/y)
Avg for NOV to week ending 26 NOVEMBER 2021

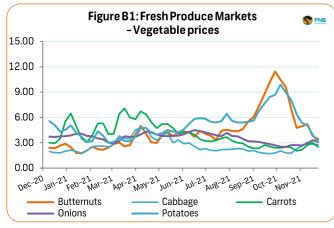


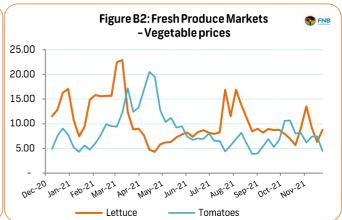


Source: Own calculations from FNB AgriComms.

Week ending	Average Price	Price change	Price change	Total	Volume change	Volume Change
26NOVEMBER2021	(R/Kg)	w/w	y/y	Volume (t)	w/w	y/y
Butternuts**	3.44	-9.0%	8.4%	2035	40.3%	-11.6%
Cabbage	2.81	0.1%	19.5%	1,189	10.2%	-29.7%
Carrot	2.44	-3.2%	-16.2%	2,528	13.3%	6.6%
Lettuce**	8.75	38.5%	5.2%	400	3.5%	1.2%
Onion	3.11	0.3%	-18.1%	6,465	26.3%	0.5%
Potato	4.13	32.0%	-18.8%	7,825	-6.0%	-53.7%
Tomato	5.58	24.8%	-18.9%	4,804	-13.6%	2.0%

Source: FNB AgriComms, ** including all other markets

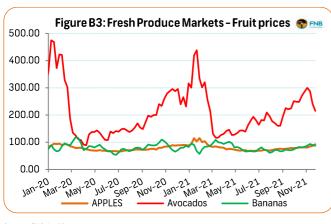


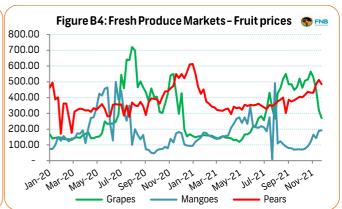


Source: FNB AgriComms

Week ending 26 NOVEMBER 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	9.26	6.5%	5.3%	2,038	-10.8%	8.4%
Avocados	21.55	-10.7%	-25.2%	295	12.1%	29.3%
Bananas	8.74	-3.2%	33.8%	3,209	1.1%	-2.0%
Grapes	26.93	-16.0%	-9.5%	279	37.4%	32.2%
Mangoes	19.26	1.5%	5.4%	140	77.3%	-36.2%
Pears	48.45	-5.4%	-7.6%	538	3.0%	27.5%

Source: FNB AgriComms





Source: FNB AgriComms

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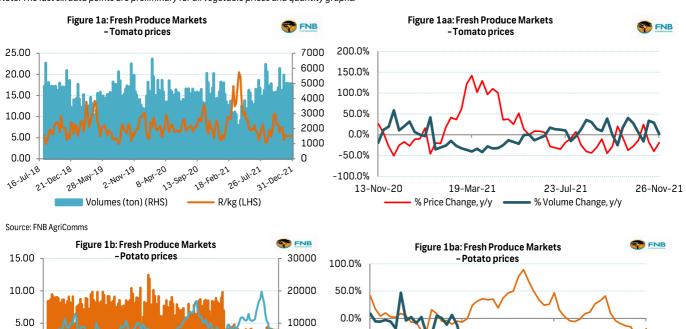
16-Jul-18

21-Dec-18

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 six data points are preliminary for all vegetable prices and quantity graphs.

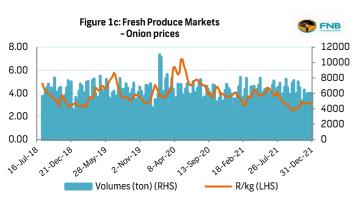


-50.0%

-100.0%

13-Nov-20

0



8-Apr-20

2-Nov-19

Volumes (ton) (RHS)

13-5ep-20

18-Feb-21

26-141-21

R/kg (LHS)

31-Dec-21



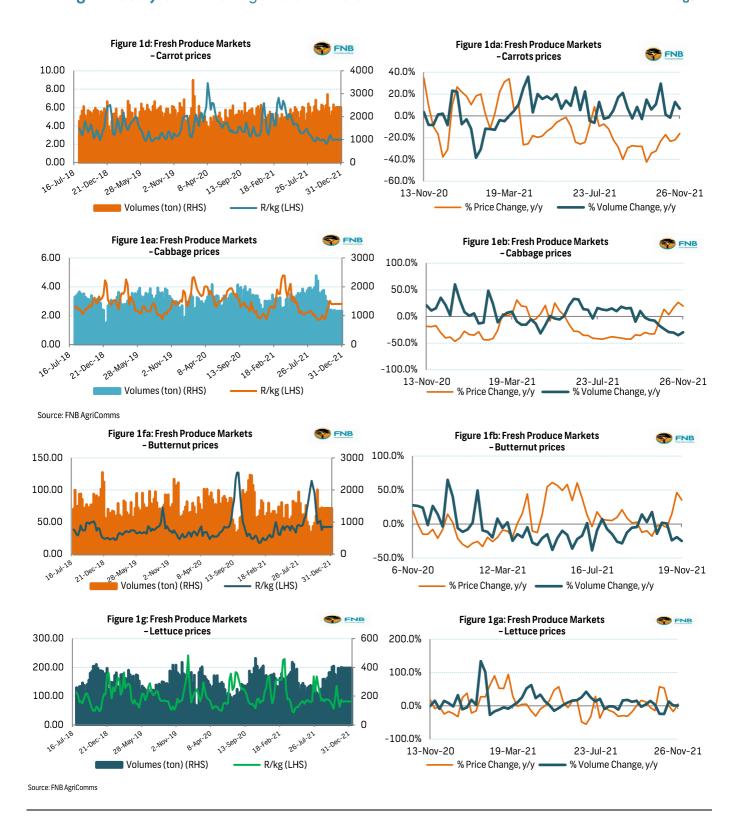
19-Mar-21

% Price Change, y/y

23-Jul-21

% Volume Change, y/y

26-Nov-21

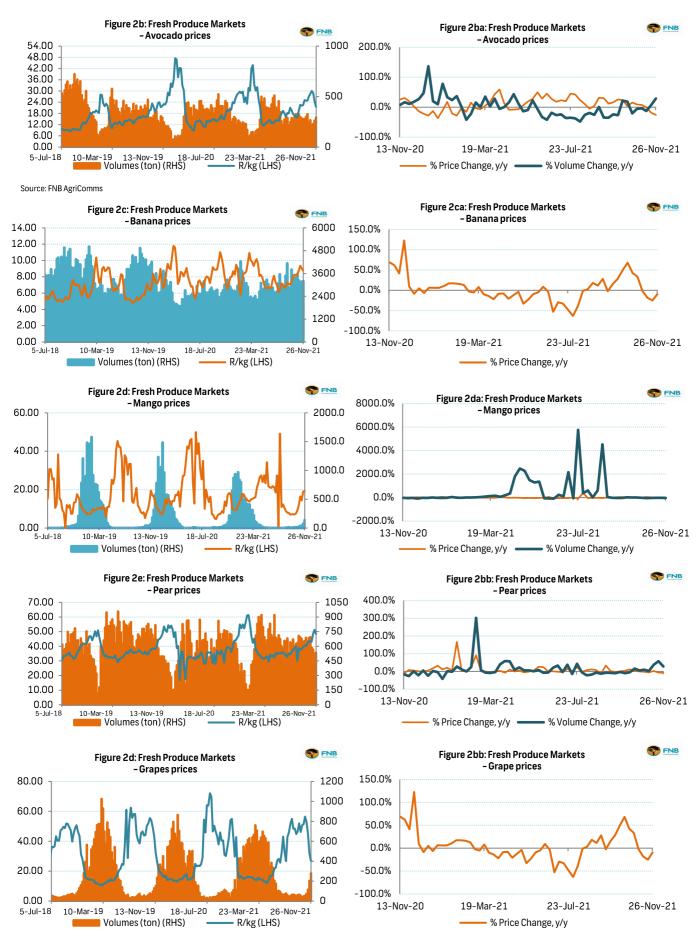


Fruit trends on Major Fresh Produce Markets in SA (figures 2a to 2f)

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







Source: FNB AgriComms.

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To find out more or to speak to one of our agricultural specialists, please contact us.

Name	City	Cell	Email
Grewar, Oosthuizen	Eastern Cape - Port Elizabeth	071 607 6850	grewar.oosthuizen@fnb.co.za
Edmund, De Beer	Eastern Cape - Port Elizabeth	084 656 5634	edebeer1@fnb.co.za
Fred, Terblanche	Eastern Cape - Graaff Reinet	064 500 5880	frederik.terblanche@fnb.co.za
Martin, Louw	Free State - Theunissen	082 784 8880	mlouw1@fnb.co.za
Chris, Bekker	Free State - Bloemfontein	082 560 1894	cbekker@fnb.co.za
Leon, Bergman	Free State - Bethlehem	083 387 7977	leon.bergman@fnb.co.za
Krohn, Jo-Ann	Free State - Bloemfontein	064 542 3548	Jo-Ann.Krohn@fnb.co.za
Humphreys, Freddy	Free State - Bloemfontein	060 975 0273	freddy.humphreys@fnb.co.za
Voutsas, Philip	Gauteng - Sandton	082 820 4202	philip.voutsas@rmb.co.za
Da Silva, Kristin	Gauteng - Sandton	079 693 8268	Kristin.DaSilva@fnb.co.za
Greg, Sparrow	KwaZulu-Natal - Pietermaritzburg	071 684 8420	greg.sparrow@fnb.co.za
Sarah, Collins	KwaZulu-Natal - Pietermaritzburg	082 371 1040	sarah.collins@fnb.co.za
Bertram, July	KwaZulu-Natal - Pietermaritzburg	061 518 7165	bertram.july@fnb.co.za
Strydom, Marc	KwaZulu-Natal - Pietermaritzburg	082 497 4781	mstrydom@fnb.co.za
De Klerk, Arno	Limpopo - Polokwane	082 538 5970	arno.deklerk@fnb.co.za
Moseki, Papi	Limpopo - Polokwane	071 136 4090	papi.moseki@fnb.co.za
Theo, Verwey	Mpumalanga - Emalahleni	082 419 6086	tverwey@fnb.co.za
Gao, Ngakantsi	Mpumalanga - Emalahleni	072 471 6040	gaopalelwe.ngakantsi@fnb.co.za
Du Plessis, Hanro	Mpumalanga - Emalahleni	082 895 1762	hanro.duplessis@fnb.co.za
Pedrie, Van der Merwe	Northern Cape - Kimberley	071 351 3439	pedrie.vandermerwe@fnb.co.za
Johan, De Klerk	North West - Brits	082 776 3477	jdeklerk2@fnb.co.za
Johan, Beukes	Western Cape - Stellenbosch	082 372 4656	johan.beukes@fnb.co.za
Michelle, Swarts	Western Cape - Willowbridge	072 020 5181	michelle.Swarts@fnb.co.za
Andries, Van Zyl	Western Cape - Willowbridge	073 280 8703	andries.vanzyl@fnb.co.za

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