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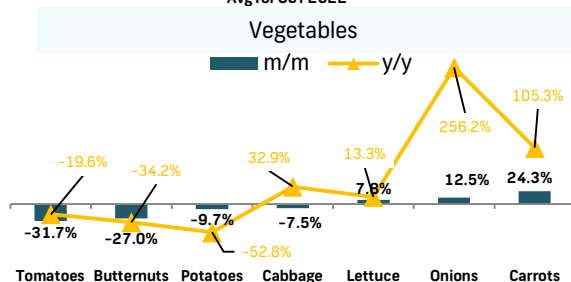
Paul Makube | Tumi Kgasago | Vhutshilo Mabela | 03 NOV 2022

Weekly update – Fruit and Vegetable Markets

A downbeat October for vegetable prices while fruits remain resilient

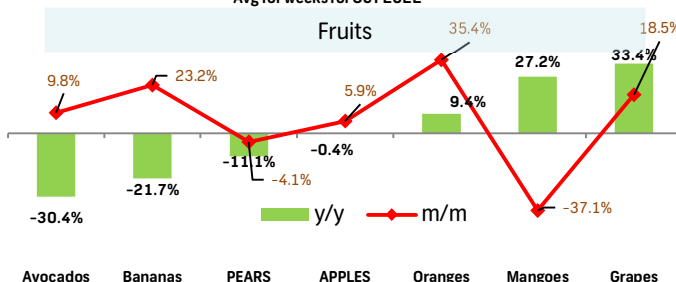
- Despite a significant contraction in volumes on major fresh produce markets during October 2022, vegetables prices weakened on softer uptake across most commodities under review.
- Big-ticket vegetable commodities under review all posted moderate to sharp declines led by tomatoes which fell by 31.7% month-on-month (m/m) and 19.6% year-on-year (y/y) to close at R7.03/kg for OCT. This is way below the YTD average of R9.37/kg for all markets which is 17.4% above the same period in 2021. The YTD estimated total volume of sales of tomatoes on all markets remains on the downside by 12% y/y at 172,885 tons with a gross value of R1.62 billion, up 3% y/y.
- Potatoes remained under pressure and weakened further by 9.7% m/m at R3.65/kg in OCT 2022, which is down by 9.7% y/y. The corresponding volume of sales came in in the upside by 2.1% m/m but were still sharply lower by 16% relative to the OCT 2021 levels. At the current average of R3.65/kg for major markets, potato prices are still lower relative to the R4.75/kg for the YTD. The gross value and volume of sales for the YTD reached R2.1 billion and 515,475 tons which is down 22% and 10.5% respectively y/y.
- In the fruit complex, the price trend remains on the upside across most commodities with oranges leading the pack at R4.04/kg which is up 35% m/m and 9% y/y in OCT. On the export front, the latest data points to a modest increase in volumes shipped with the total number of cartons for the year to week 43 coming in up 9% y/y at 74.62 million 15kg cartons.
- Bananas were the second biggest gainers with a monthly increase of 23% m/m but were still 22% down on the 2021 levels. Grape prices advanced by 19% m/m and a whopping 33% y/y to close at R68.57/kg. Avocados increased by 10% m/m but sharply down by 30% y/y at R18.17/kg.

Figure A1: Changes in average monthly vegetable prices on South Africa's major Fresh Produce Markets (% m/m, y/y)
Avg for OCT 2022



Source: Own calculations from FNB AgriComms.

Figure A2: Changes in average monthly fruit prices on South Africa's major Fresh Produce Markets (% m/m, y/y)
Avg for weeks for OCT 2022



Fruit export volumes relatively strong so far

- The latest data on South Africa's exports shows a good pace in fruit shipments as the season tails off.
- In the citrus category, total volume of shipments for the year to week 43 of the 2022 export season advanced by 7% y/y to 154.96 million cartons with major destinations being Europe (32.7%), the Middle East (19.1%), and South East Asia (15.0%).
- Although North America and Russia so far account for only 8.9% and 7.8% respectively of the total citrus shipped, they recorded the biggest increases of 21% and 10% in volumes relative to the same period in 2021.
- Lemons recorded the biggest annual growth of 14% y/y at 33.74 million cartons with the Europe and the Middle East accounting for 39.3% and 28.9% of total YTD shipments respectively. Interestingly, Africa with a share of just 0.9% saw a massive growth of 52% y/y followed by Asia and the UK with 35% and 17% respectively y/y (figure B5).
- In the case of other citrus namely oranges and soft citrus, shipments for the YTD grew by 9%, and 6% respectively y/y at 74.16 million cartons and 32.07 million cartons respectively (figure). The bulk of oranges went to the EU with a share of 32.5% but volumes to the region fell by 3% y/y which reflects the trade challenges experienced earlier during July due to the brief introduction of new protocols regarding the treatment for False Coddling Moth (FCM).
- Grapefruit was however the exception with volumes falling by 14% y/y to 14.54 million cartons led by North America and the UK with decreases of 20% and 18% respectively y/y. The biggest markets, the E and South East Asia with shares of 34.8% and 30.5% respectively saw their volumes decreasing 15% y/y.
- In the pome market, growth in exports was excellent with total YTD shipments up 10% y/y at 53.51 million cartons. Pears registered the biggest growth of 18% y/y at 18.76 million cartons with the EU (+28% y/y), the Far East & Asia (+31% y/y), and the Middle East (+23% y/y) accounting for 29.7%, 22.4%, and 18.1% of the total respectively.
- Apples saw YTD growth of 7% y/y at 34.75 million cartons led by the Far East & Asia and Africa regions with shares of 30.7% and 24.8% respectively. Decreases of 14% and 13% y/y respectively to Russia (5.4%) and the UK (15.8%) were more than offset by massive gains of 35% and 14% for the Middle East (12.3%) and the Far East & Asia (30.7%).
- In other news, higher international prices in the avocado market seem not to have constrained demand with increased availability from Peru, Mexico, Chile, Columbia, and the Dominican Republic, according to reports on Freshplaza.

Figure B1: Citrus exports – total to week 43 of the 2022 season
[154.96 million 15 kg cartons]

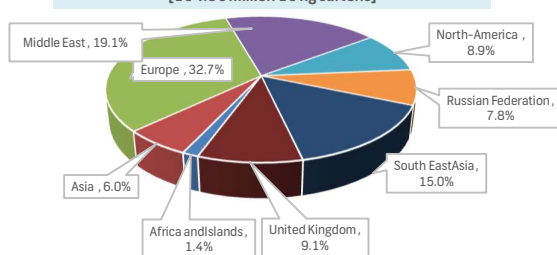


Figure B2: Pome exports – total to week 29 of the 2022 season
[53.51 million 12.5 kg cartons]

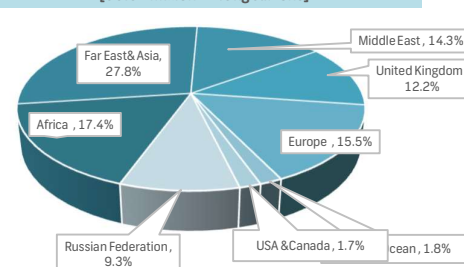


Figure B3: Orange exports – total to week 43 of the 2022 season
[74.62 million 15 kg cartons]

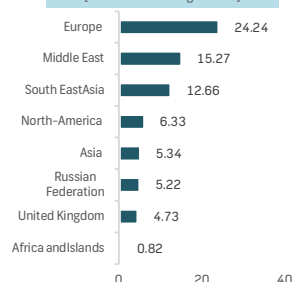


Figure B4: Grapefruit exports – total to week 43 of the 2022 season
[14.54 million 15 kg cartons]

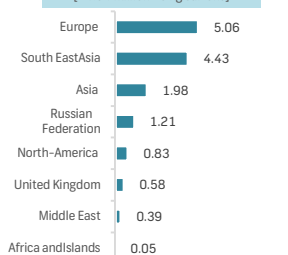


Figure B5: Lemon exports – total to week 29 of the 2022 season
[22.52 million 15 kg cartons]

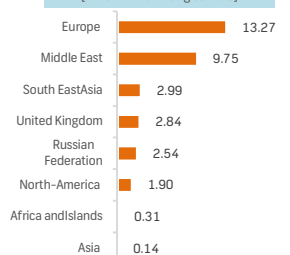
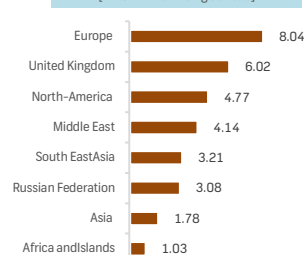


Figure B6: Soft Citrus exports – total to week 29 of the 2022 season
[14.81 million 15 kg cartons]



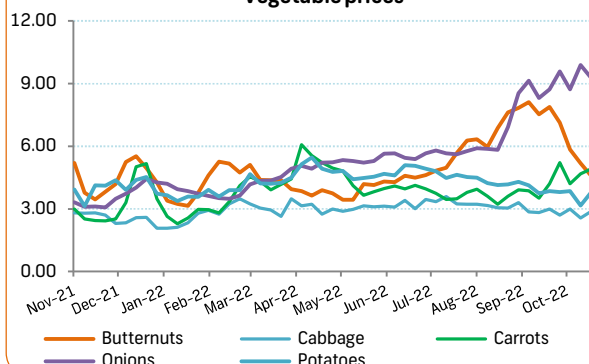
Source: Own calculations – AgriHub data.

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

Week ending 28 OCT 2022	Average Price (R/Kg)	Price change w/w	Price change y/y	Total Volume (t)	Volume change w/w	Volume Change y/y
Butternuts	4.60	-11.4%	-3.7%	1620	33.3%	-19.3%
Cabbage	2.57	-14.5%	12.8%	1,557	12.1%	3.3%
Carrot	4.68	11.3%	128.9%	1,971	-13.5%	-21.2%
Lettuce	8.10	40.1%	-11.0%	360	-0.6%	2.4%
Onion	9.89	13.4%	263.6%	4,534	-29.7%	-24.7%
Potato	3.16	-17.9%	-50.5%	7,951	-9.2%	20.7%
Tomato	5.58	-21.2%	-31.3%	4,746	-1.1%	0.4%

Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure C1: Fresh Produce Markets – Vegetable prices



Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure C2: Fresh Produce Markets – Vegetable prices

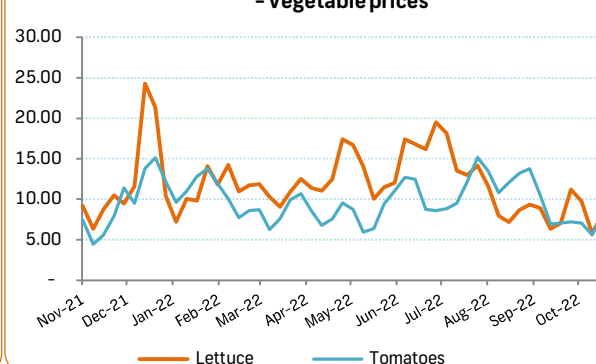
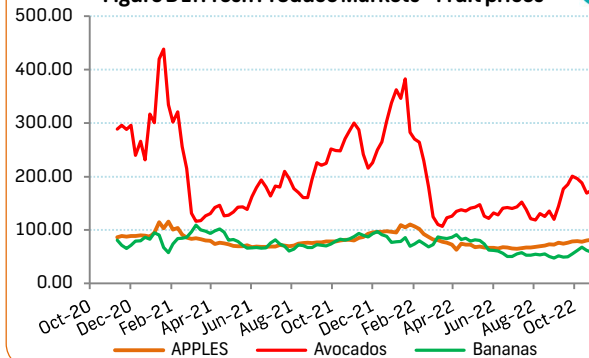


Table 2: Fruit prices – South Africa's Major Fresh Produce Markets – (Average Major Markets: Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban, & other markets)

Week ending 28 OCT 2022	Average Price (R/Kg)	Price change w/w	Price change y/y	Total Volume (t)	Volume change w/w	Volume Change y/y
Apples	8.04	2.5%	-1.3%	2,227	-1.6%	-2.3%
Avocados	16.89	-10.1%	-37.6%	437	3.5%	84.9%
Bananas	6.19	-9.2%	-23.8%	5,212	4.2%	55.9%
Grapes	71.36	8.4%	38.5%	32	72.1%	-35.9%
Mangoes	9.08	-15.1%	-1.2%	21	188.5%	20.1%
Pears	4.08	8.1%	-2.3%	1,195	-21.8%	24.8%

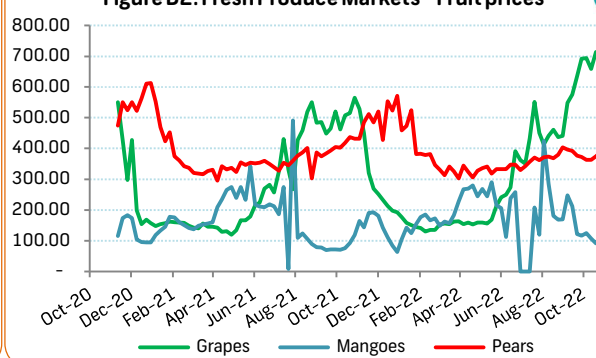
Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure D1: Fresh Produce Markets – Fruit prices



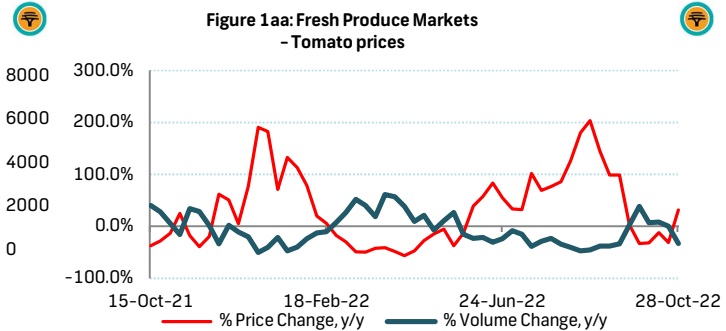
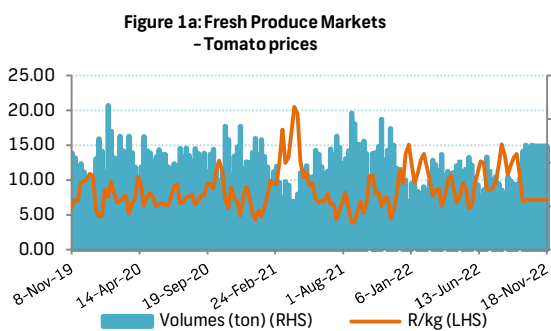
Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure D2: Fresh Produce Markets – Fruit prices



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.*

Source: FNB AgriComms

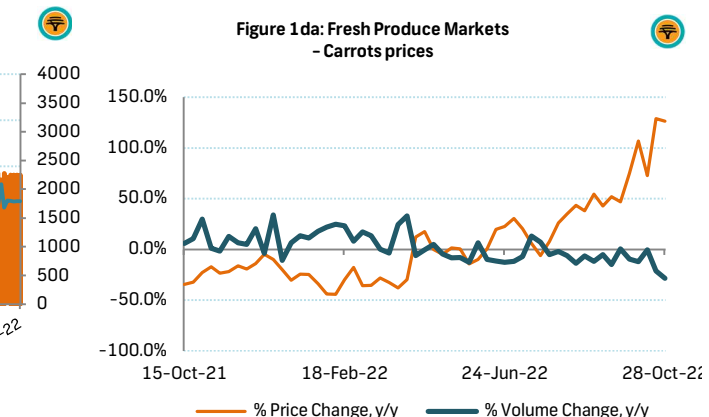
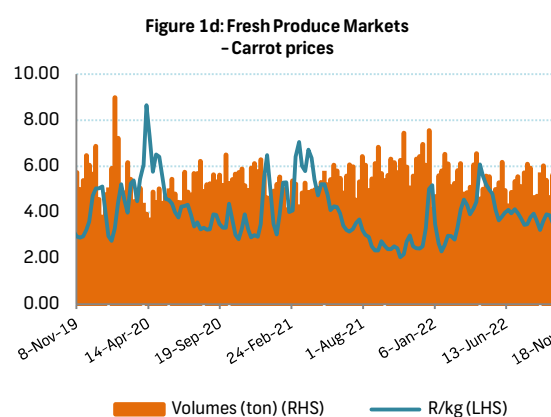
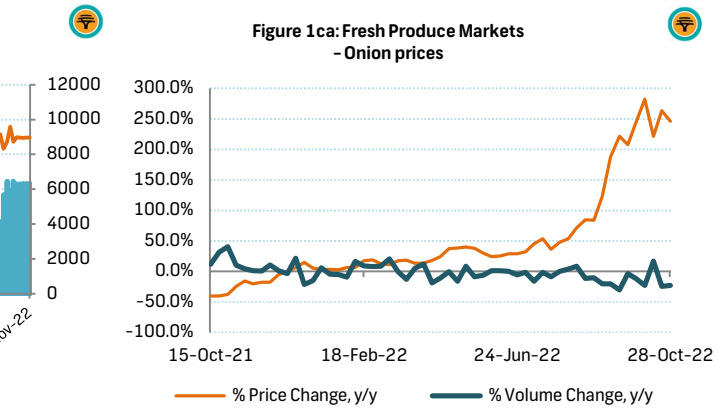
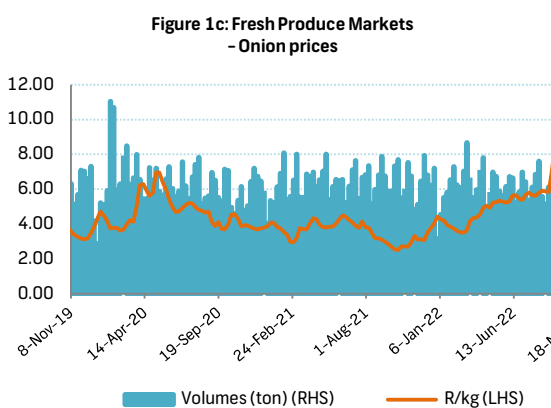
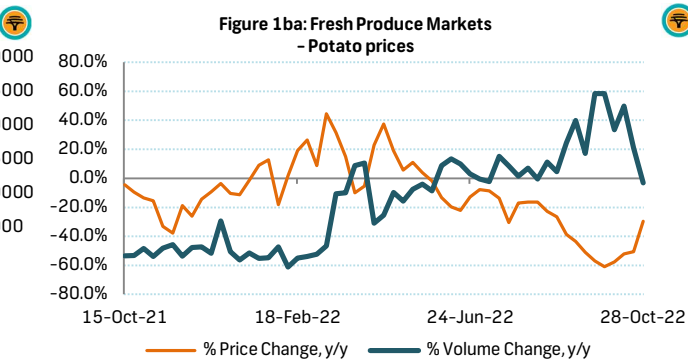
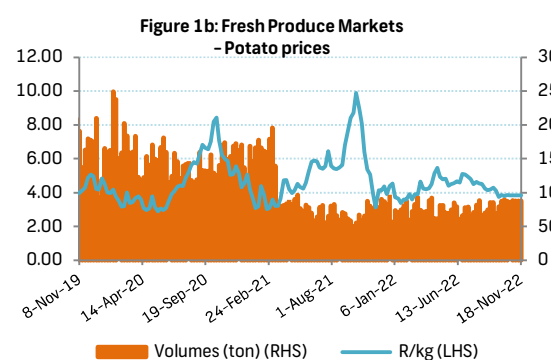
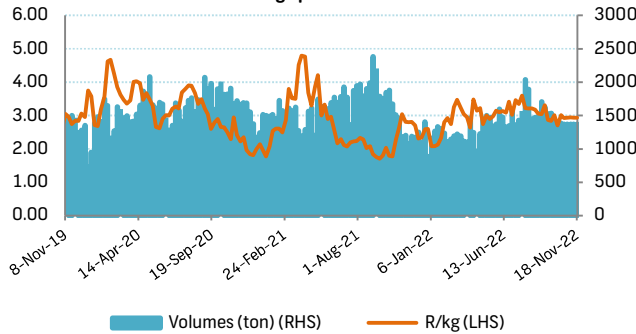
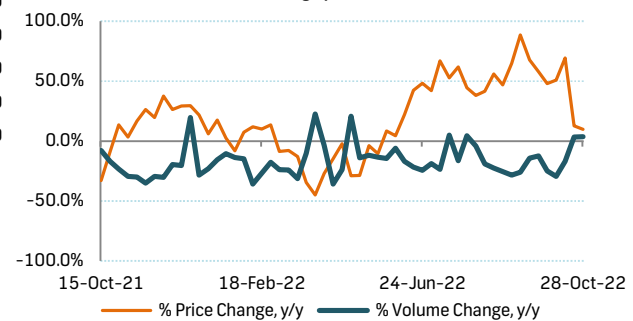
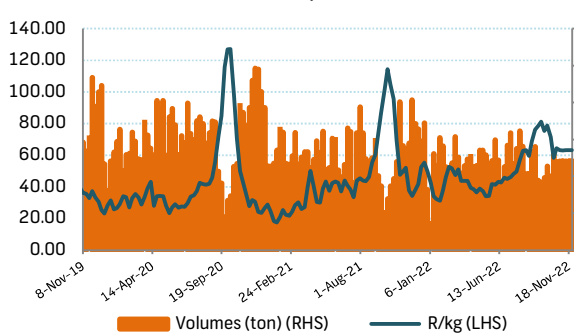
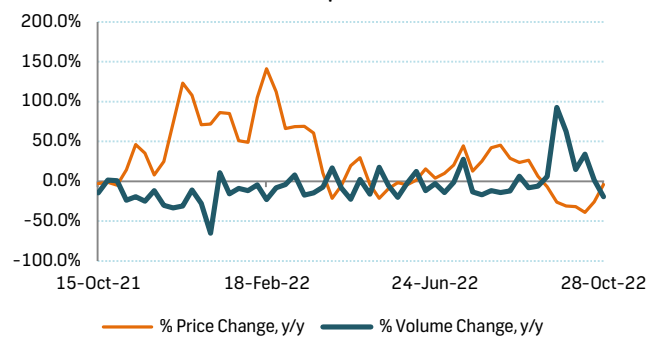
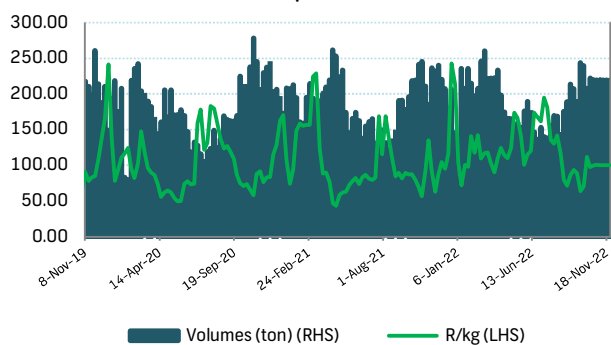
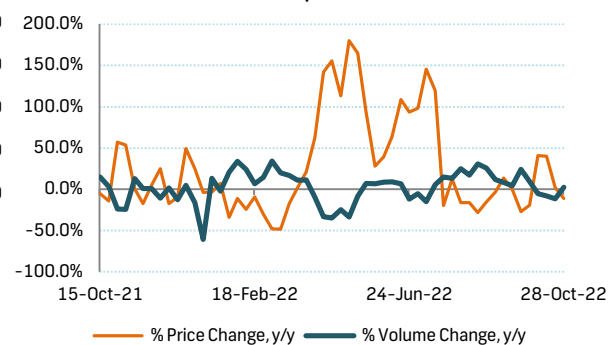


Figure 1ea: Fresh Produce Markets
- Cabbage pricesFigure 1eb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Cabbage prices

Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure 1fa: Fresh Produce Markets
- Butternut pricesFigure 1fb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Butternut pricesFigure 1g: Fresh Produce Markets
- Lettuce pricesFigure 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)

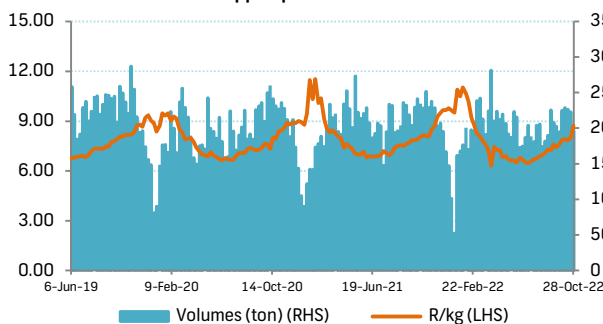
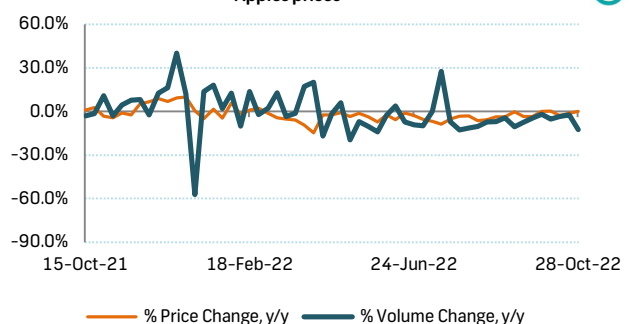
Figure 2a: Fresh Produce Markets
- Apples pricesFigure 2aa: Fresh Produce Markets
- Apples prices

Figure 2b: Fresh Produce Markets
- Avocado prices

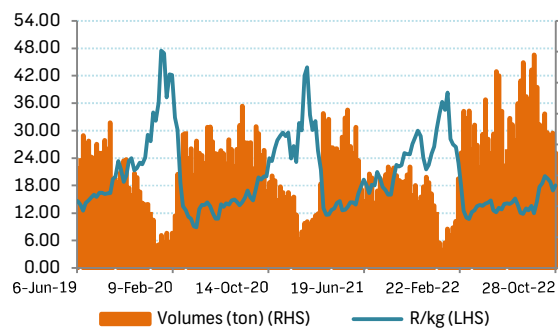
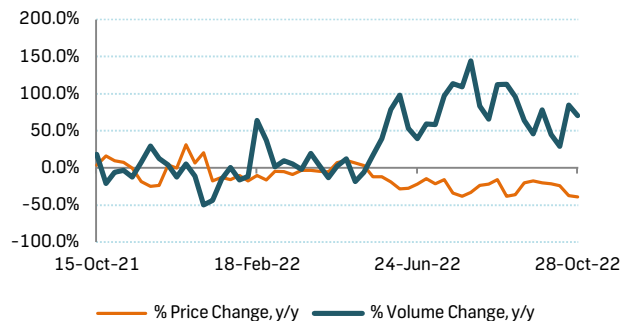


Figure 2ba: Fresh Produce Markets
- Avocado prices



Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure 2c: Fresh Produce Markets
- Banana prices

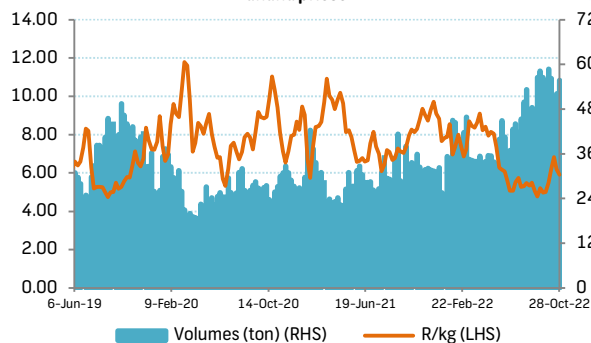


Figure 2ca: Fresh Produce Markets
- Banana prices

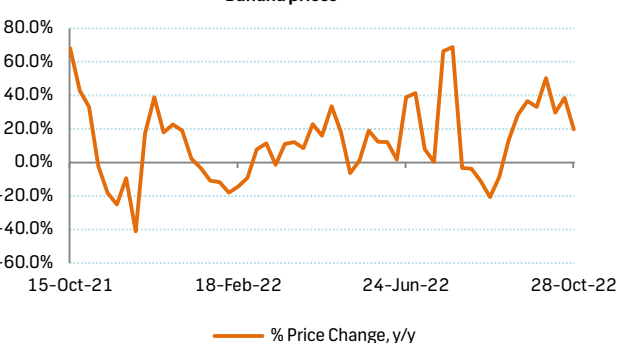


Figure 2d: Fresh Produce Markets
- Mango prices

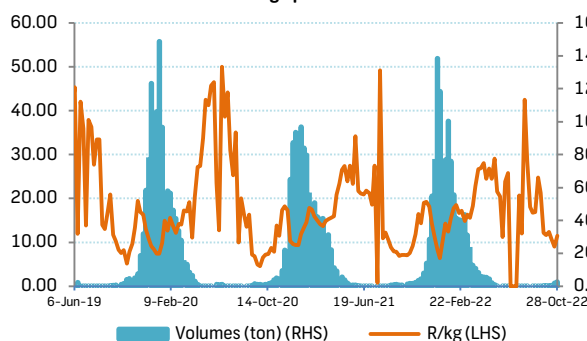


Figure 2da: Fresh Produce Markets
- Mango prices

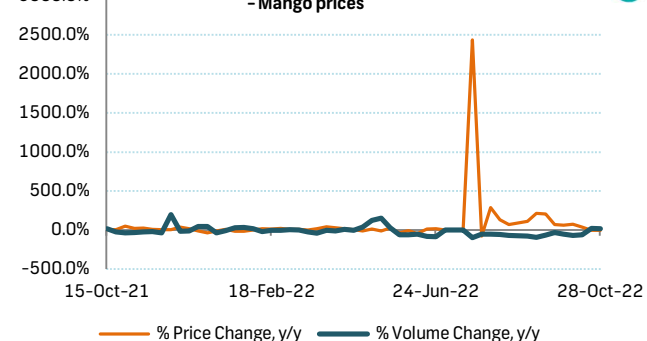


Figure 2e: Fresh Produce Markets
- Pear prices

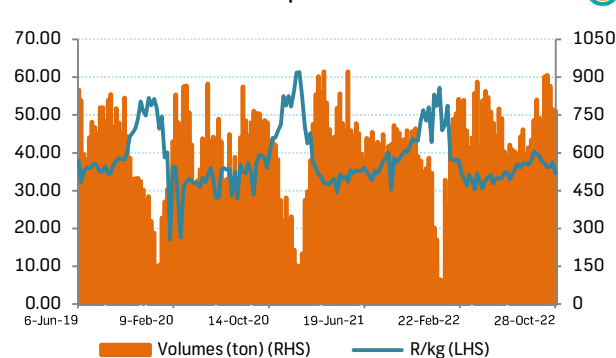


Figure 2bb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Pear prices

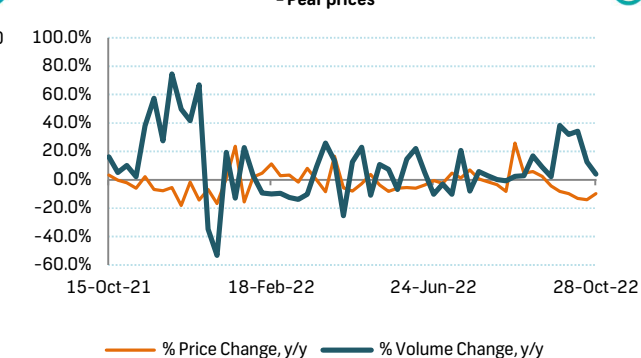
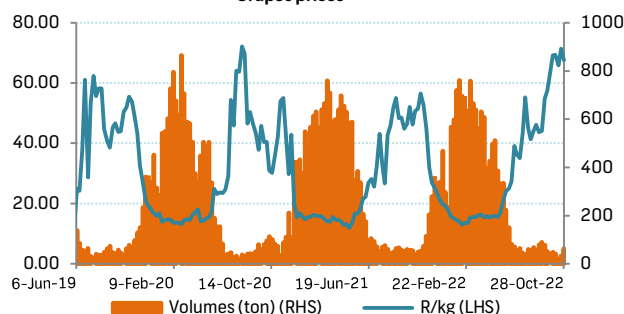
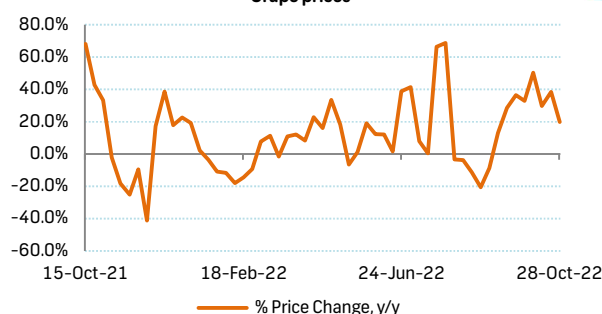


Figure 2d: Fresh Produce Markets
- Grapes pricesFigure 2bb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Grape prices

Source: FNB AgriComms.

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