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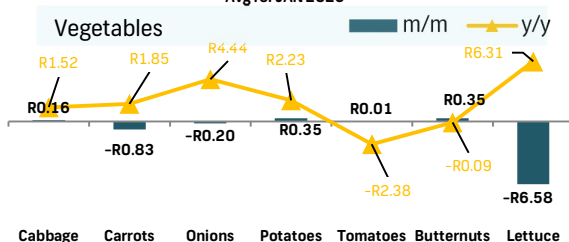
Paul Makube | Tumi Kgasago | Vhutshilo Mabela | 09 FEB 2023

Weekly update – Fruit and Vegetable Markets

A softer start to 2023 for fresh produce prices on seasonal weakness in demand

- Our analysis of price trends of fresh produce on domestic markets shows a modest downside during January 2023 with lettuce and carrots in the vegetable complex posting the biggest losses of 29.6% (-R6.58/kg) and 15.2% (-R0.83/kg) respectively month-on-month (m/m) at R15.68/kg and R4.60/kg.
- In the fruit market, oranges and pears fell sharply by 20% (-R1.26/kg) and 15% (-R7.19/kg) respectively m/m and were 56% (-R6.50/kg) and 8% (R3.59/kg) below the 2022 levels at R5.09/kg and R42.40/kg. On the upside were avocados which surged by 62% (+R11.68/kg) at R30.57/kg but still down by 11% year-on-year (y/y). Mangoes followed closely with a monthly increase of 15% (+R2.16/kg) at R16.19/kg which is 23% higher y/y (+R3.05/kg).
- The first week of February 2023 however saw a rebound in fresh produce prices supported by the renewed uptake amid tight supplies of big-ticket items such as tomatoes, cabbages, mangoes, and pears (table 1 & 2).
- Recent negative news includes the proliferation of the potato tuber moth due to the unfavourably higher temperatures in some areas and infrequent irrigation due to loadshedding. Quality issues and availability may become a frequent feature for this market should the situation persist. Nonetheless, the recent good rains bode well for alleviating pressure on the industry.
- On the export front, the debacle regarding the European Union rules implemented last July to contain the potential spread of the false codling moth (FCM) in the region has not yet been resolved as the South Africa export season draws nearer. This has serious cost implications for farmers and may curtail export volumes as in the case of Valencia which fell from 41% in 2021 to 38% in 2022. Nonetheless, positive developments on exports are increases in shipments to Russia despite the challenges as well as the strong upswing in lemon volumes to China following the implementation of the new lemon protocol.

Figure A1: Changes in average monthly vegetable prices on South Africa's major Fresh Produce Markets (% m/m, y/y) Avg for JAN 2023



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 JAN 2023

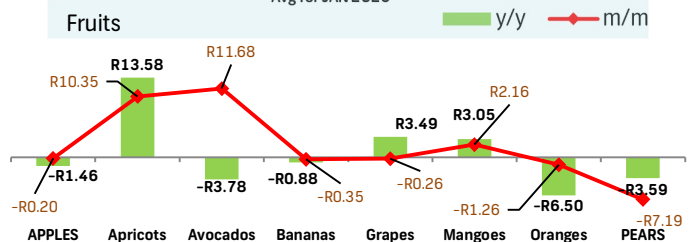
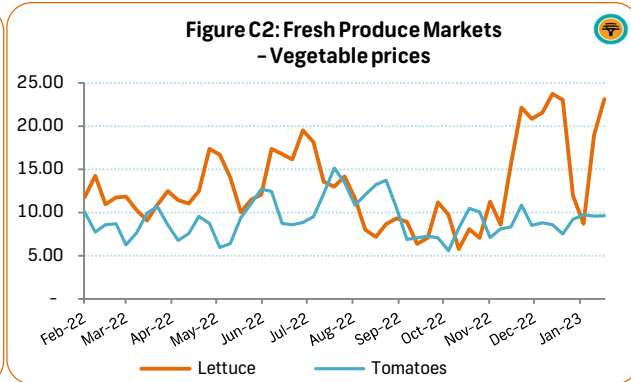
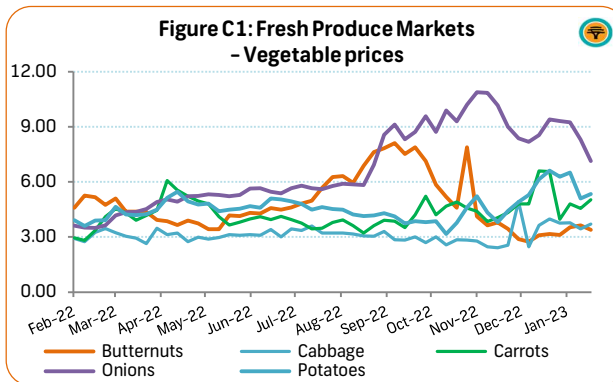


Table 1: Vegetable prices – South Africa's Major Fresh Produce Markets – (Average Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban)

Week ending 03 FEB 2023	Average Price (R/Kg)	Price change w/w	Price change y/y	Total Volume (t)	Volume change w/w	Volume Change y/y
Butternuts	3.28	-3.7%	-13.3%	1498	8.9%	6.1%
Cabbage	5.28	42.1%	88.7%	804	-25.8%	-35.1%
Carrot	6.08	20.8%	104.5%	1,961	-1.2%	-19.9%
Lettuce	22.97	-0.6%	63.0%	320	-4.7%	-10.6%
Onion	6.49	-9.2%	73.8%	7,573	21.3%	4.1%
Potato	6.49	21.1%	81.0%	7,652	5.8%	-13.1%
Tomato	14.80	54.6%	7.5%	2,929	-20.9%	1.6%

Source: FNB AgriComms

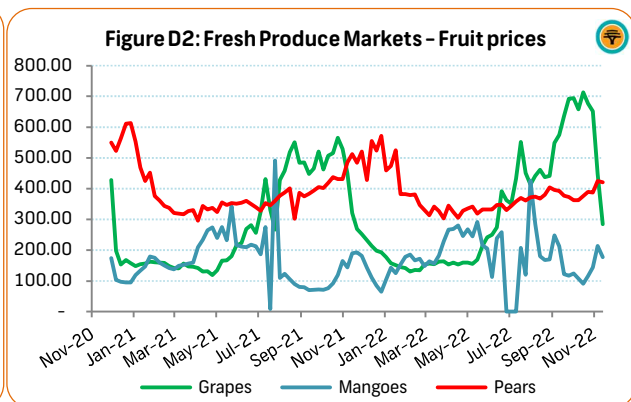
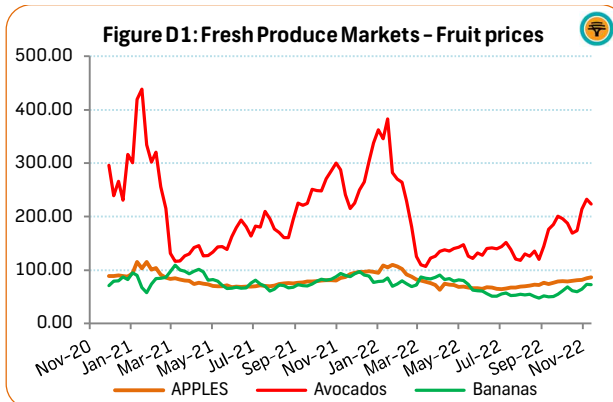


Source: FNB AgriComms

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 03 FEB 2023	Average Price (R/Kg)	Price change w/w	Price change y/y	Total Volume (t)	Volume change w/w	Volume Change y/y
Apples	8.95	-3.9%	-16.1%	1,954	14.8%	-2.6%
Avocados	25.42	-10.4%	-6.0%	263	35.7%	101.3%
Bananas	6.60	1.6%	-10.5%	5,856	6.7%	32.1%
Grapes	16.12	1.9%	14.1%	646	6.7%	-15.1%
Mangoes	17.05	-1.2%	-3.9%	618	-11.0%	11.2%
Pears	10.19	421.9%	-25.5%	480	-71.5%	68.2%

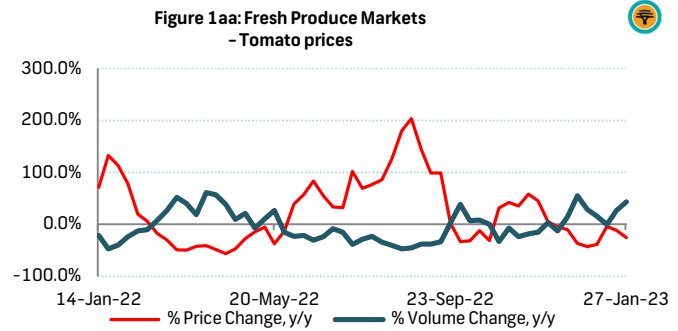
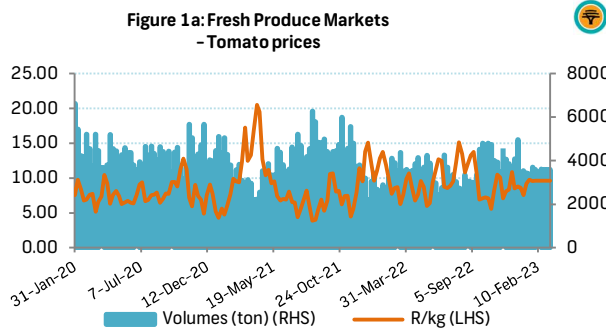
Source: FNB AgriComms



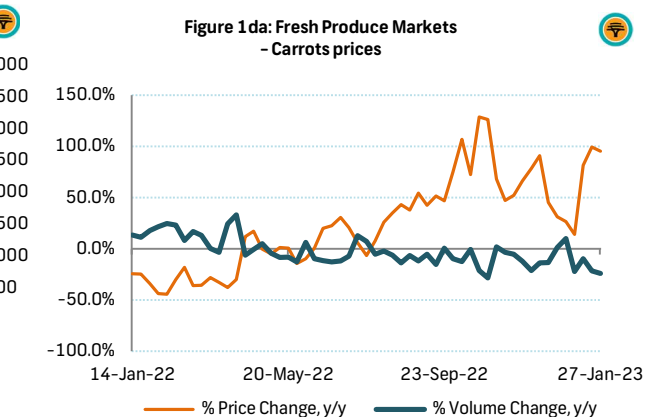
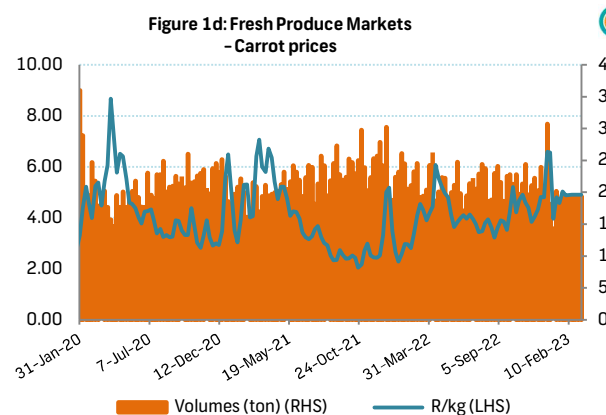
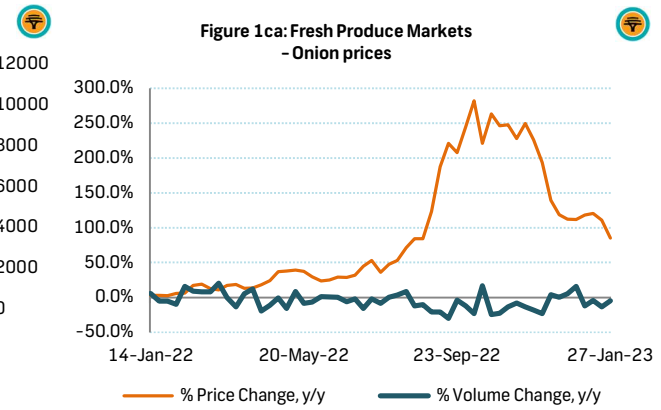
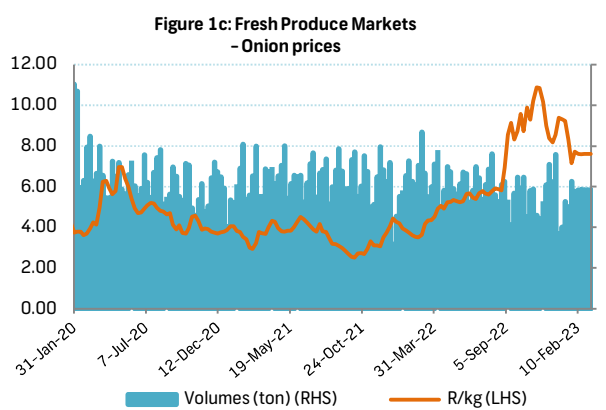
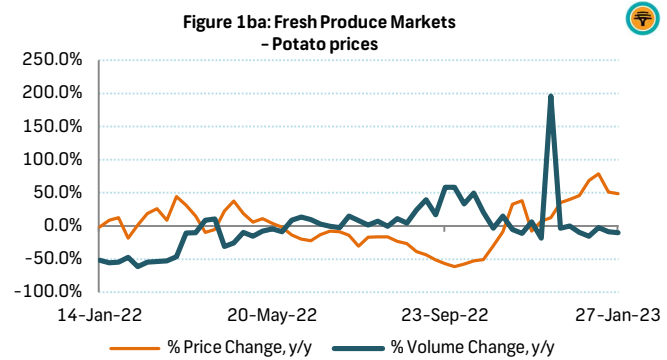
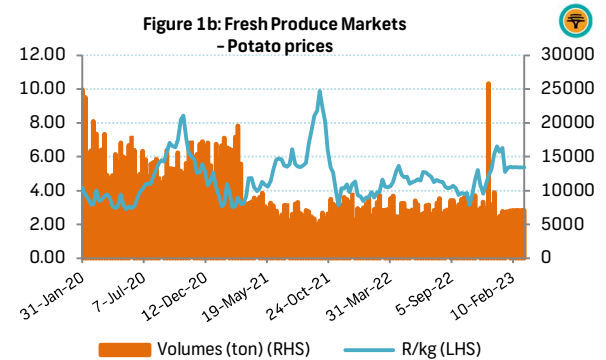
Source: FNB AgriComms

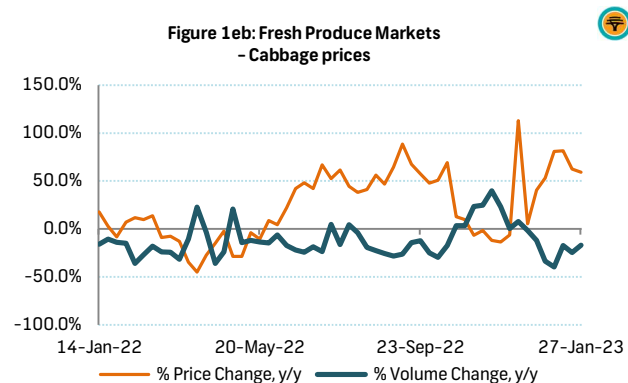
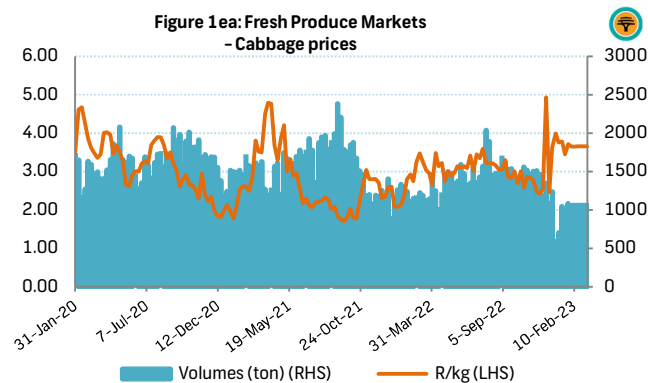
Vegetable trends on 5 Major Fresh Produce Markets in SA (Figures 1a to 1e)

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

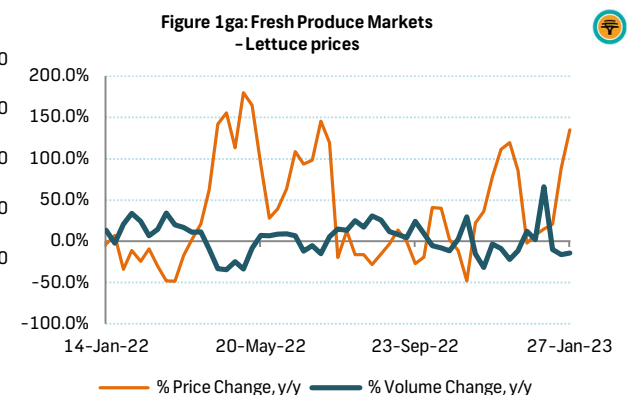
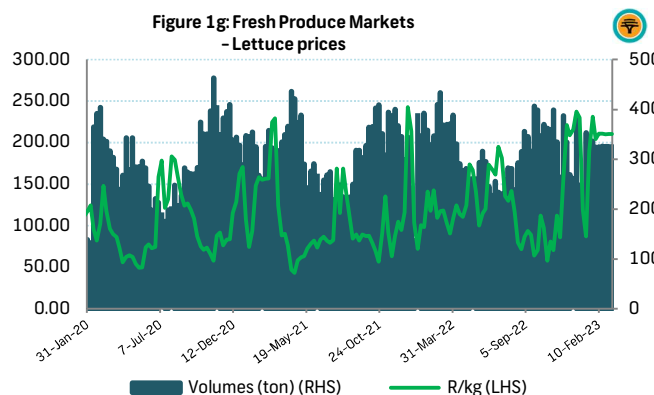
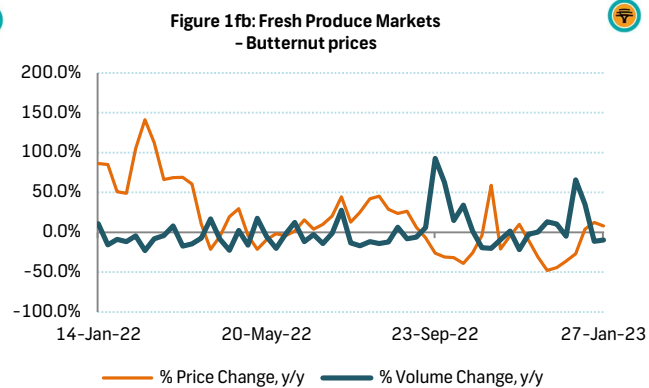
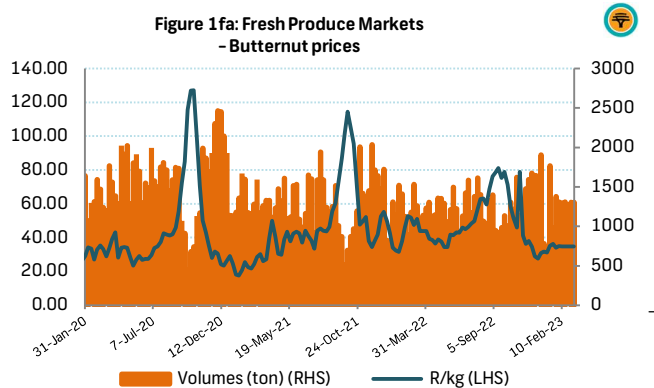
**Note: The last six data points are preliminary for all vegetable prices and quantity graphs.*

Source: FNB AgriComms





Source: FNB AgriComms



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)

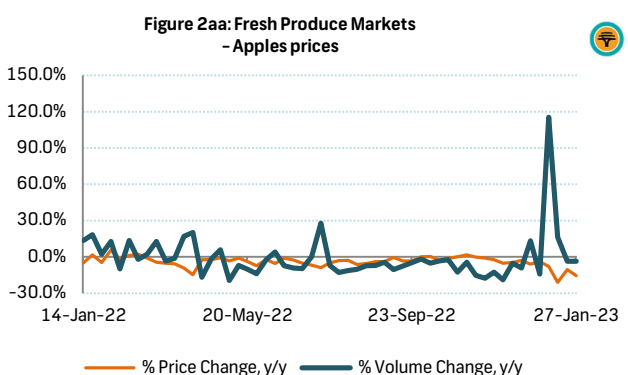
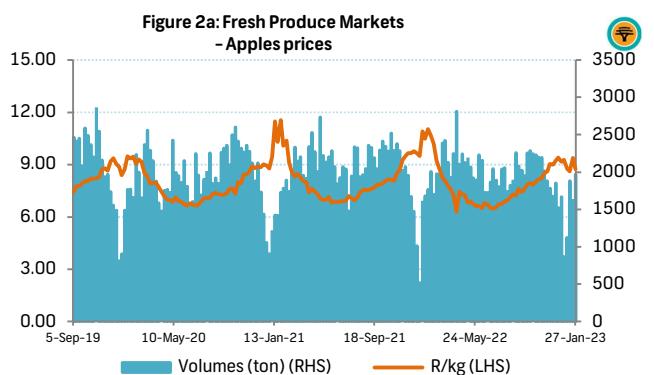


Figure 2b: Fresh Produce Markets
- Avocado prices

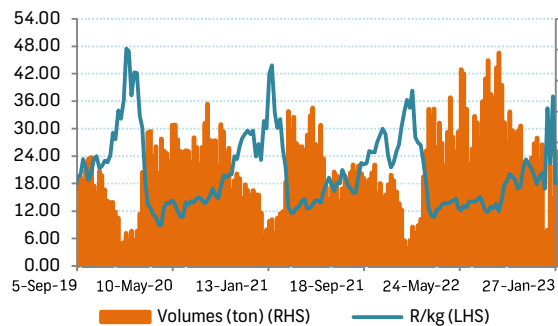
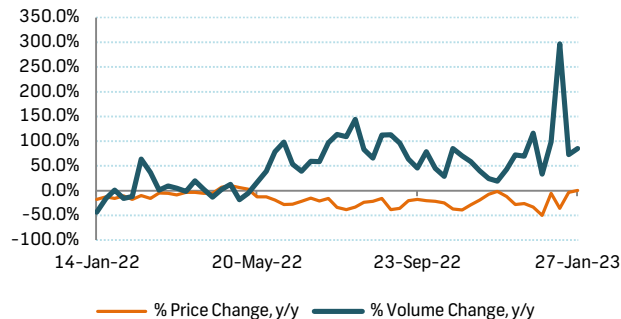


Figure 2ba: Fresh Produce Markets
- Avocado prices



Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure 2c: Fresh Produce Markets
- Banana prices

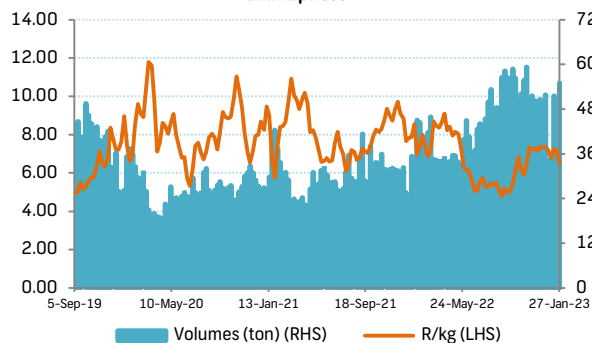


Figure 2ca: Fresh Produce Markets
- Banana prices

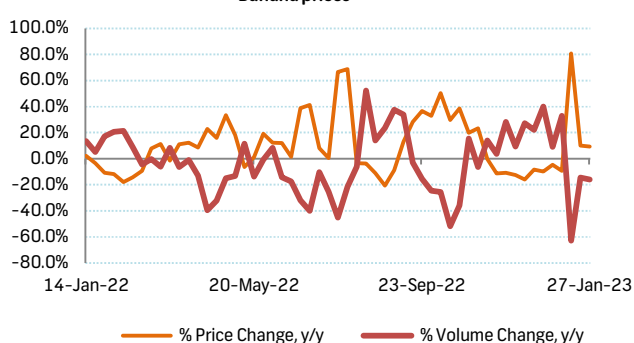


Figure 2d: Fresh Produce Markets
- Mango prices

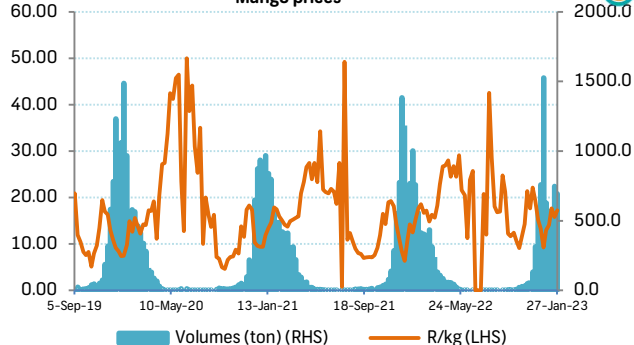


Figure 2da: Fresh Produce Markets
- Mango prices

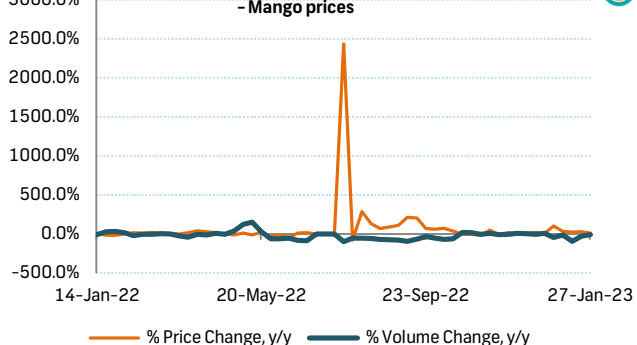


Figure 2e: Fresh Produce Markets
- Pear prices

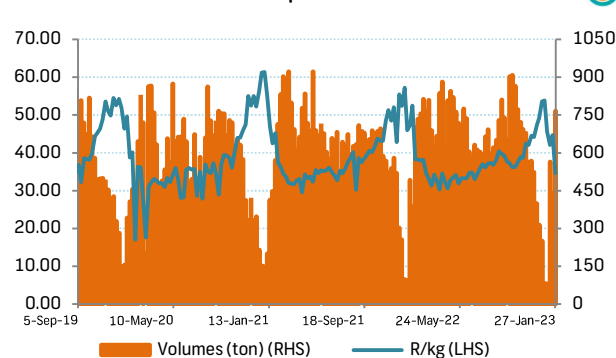
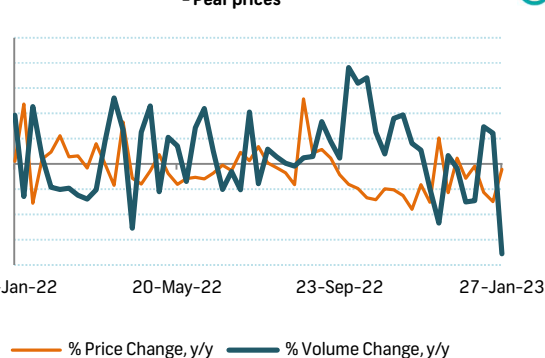
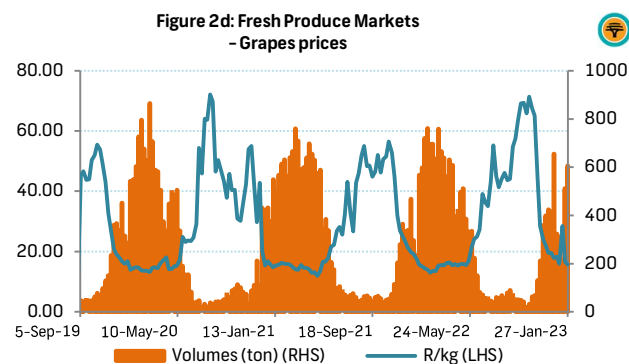
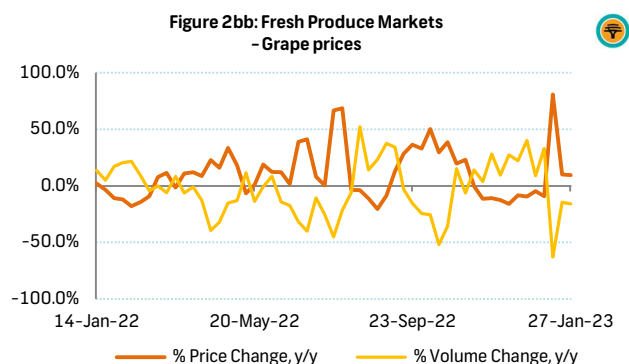


Figure 2bb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Pear prices





Source: FNB AgriComms.

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