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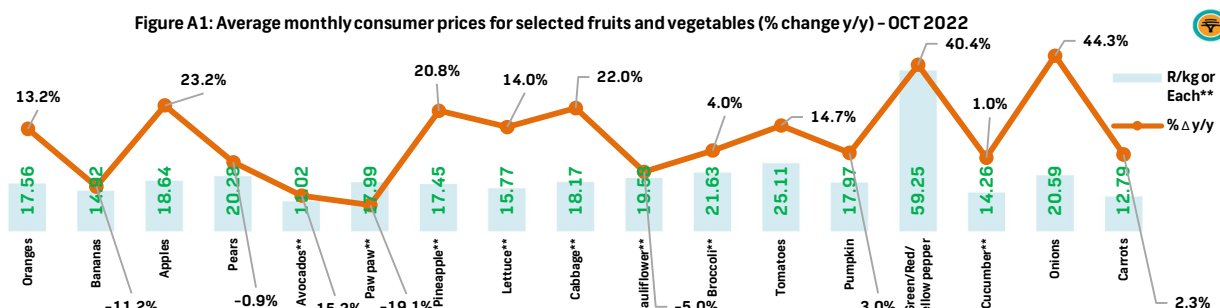
Paul Makube | Tumi Kgasago | Vhutshilo Mabela | 24 NOV 2022

Weekly update – Fruit and Vegetable Markets

A surprise uptick in fruit CPI in OCT 2022 while vegetables decelerated

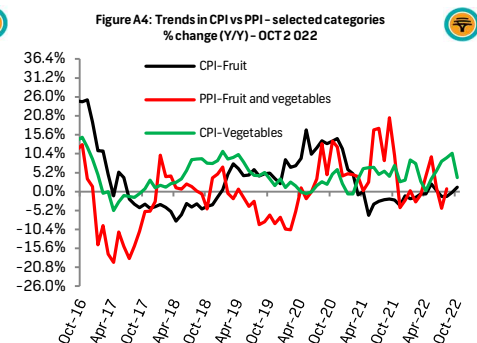
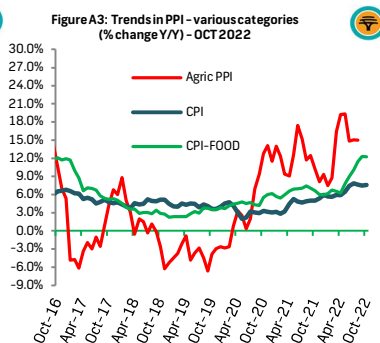
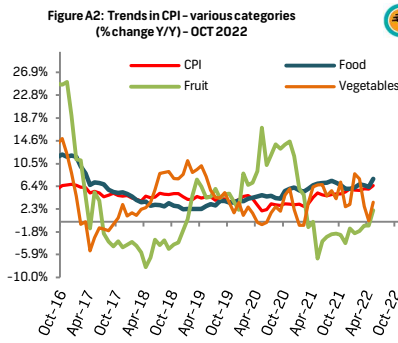
- The recent October 2022 consumer price inflation (CPI) outcome showed a marginal uptick to 7.6% year-on-year (y/y) from 7.5% September but was still off the 2022 peak of 7.8% y/y reached during July, according to recent data from Statistics South Africa (Stats SA).
- Food inflation however steadied at 12.3% y/y but nudged 0.9% higher month-on-month (m/m) and still the highest level since May 2009. Within the food CPI subindex, fruits surprised on the upside by jumping 4.1% m/m and were back in positive territory after decreasing for the past three consecutive months. The vegetables CPI fell by 0.1% m/m and posted a modest slowdown by 6.7 percentage points to 3.9% y/y in OCT 2022 (figures A2-A4).
- A drill down into the fruit consumer data shows strong gains of 13.2%, 20.8%, and 23.2% y/y for apples, pineapples, and oranges which more than offset the decreases for some of the major commodities such as avocados and bananas which fell by 15.2% and 11.2% y/y respectively (figure a1).
- In the vegetable consumer price category, the biggest increase amongst the major commodities was for onions which rose by a whopping 12.5% m/m and 44.3% y/y. They were followed closely by peppers (green, red, yellow), cabbage and tomatoes with increases of 40.4%, 22.0%, and 14.7% respectively y/y. Other big-ticket items such as potatoes however fell by 1.7% m/m and by a whopping 21.1% y/y (figure A1).
- Our analysis of the weekly fresh produce prices at producer level so far shows some declines across most commodities under review except for grapes and mangoes that remain sticky on the upside with average prices for the first three weeks of November 2022 rising by 7% y/y (figure b2). The big-ticket items such as bananas, avocados, and pears saw prices falling sharply by 22.6%, 19.1%, and 13.8% respectively by y/y. This points to a potential reversal in the fruit CPI outcomes.

Figure A1: Average monthly consumer prices for selected fruits and vegetables (% change y/y) – OCT 2022



Source: StatsSA.

- In the vegetable complex, we see a strong rebound in prices across most commodities under review led by onions which surged by a whopping 241.3% y/y for the first three weeks of November 2022. Other major vegetable commodities such as carrots, tomatoes, and potatoes rose by 16.8%, 43.5%, and 55.7% respectively y/y (figure b1). Thus, expectations are for the November vegetable CPI to rebound in the next Stats SA update during December 2022.



Source: StatsSA.

Figure b1: Changes in average monthly vegetable prices on South Africa's major Fresh Produce Markets (% Δ m/m, y/y) Avg for 1st 3 weeks of NOV 2022

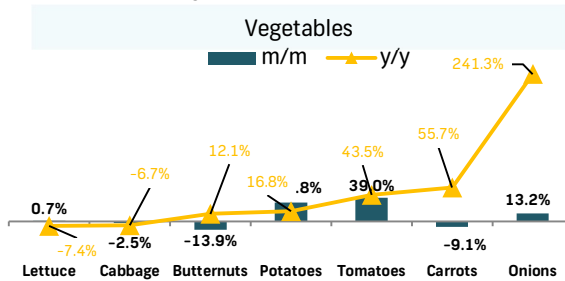
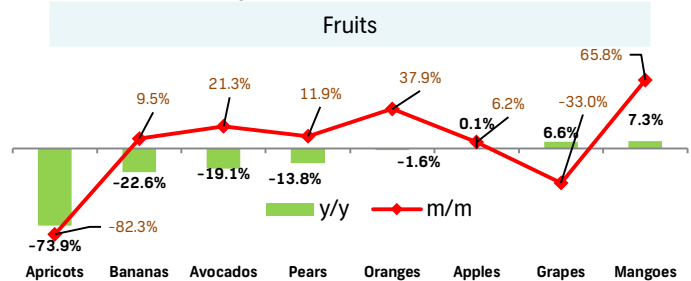


Figure b2: Changes in average monthly fruit prices on South Africa's major Fresh Produce Markets (% Δ m/m, y/y) Avg for 1st 3 weeks for OCT 2022

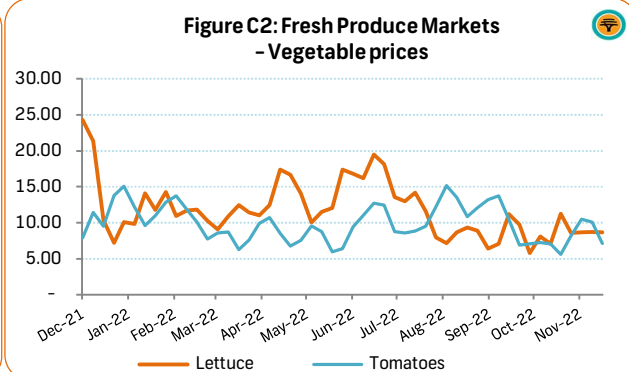
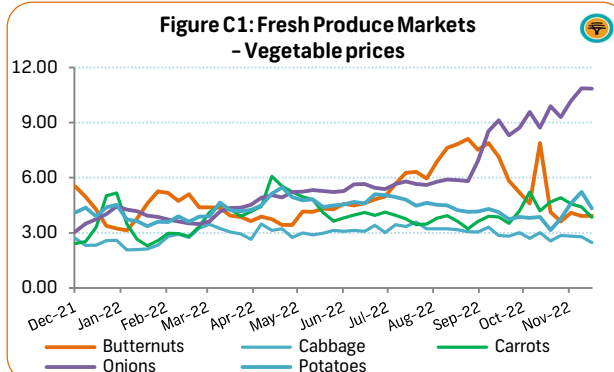


Source: Own calculations from FNB AgriComms.

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

Week ending 18 NOV 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	3.63	-12.0%	-4.1%	1477	18.5%	1.9%
Cabbage	2.46	-11.1%	-12.1%	1,511	0.7%	40.0%
Carrot	3.84	-12.5%	52.4%	2,110	7.6%	-5.4%
Lettuce	8.59	-23.6%	35.9%	264	-21.0%	-31.7%
Onion	10.85	-0.3%	249.4%	4,418	-3.8%	-13.7%
Potato	4.33	-17.1%	38.3%	7,395	1.0%	-11.2%
Tomato	7.09	-29.7%	58.6%	4,568	31.6%	-17.8%

Source: FNB AgriComms



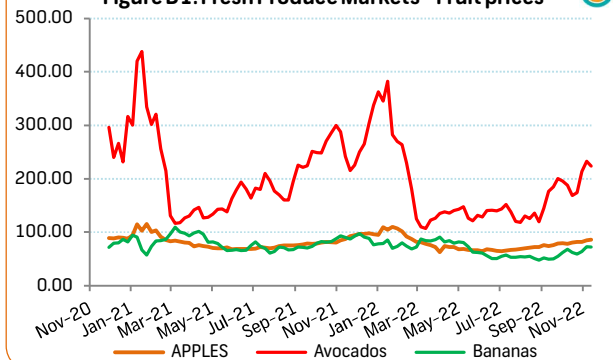
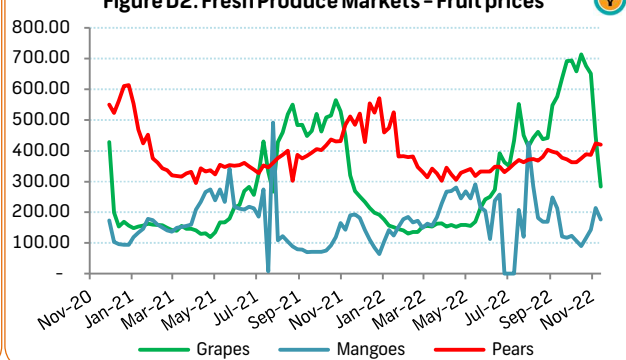
Source: FNB AgriComms

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 18 NOV 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	8.61	1.4%	-1.1%	1,881	-6.7%	-17.7%
Avocados	22.38	-3.9%	-7.3%	326	1.3%	24.0%
Bananas	7.26	-0.7%	-19.5%	5,153	11.6%	62.3%
Grapes	28.45	-36.5%	-11.2%	211	61.3%	3.8%
Mangoes	17.67	-17.4%	-6.9%	72	48.0%	-8.5%
Pears	5.66	12.8%	-6.9%	845	-5.7%	8.5%

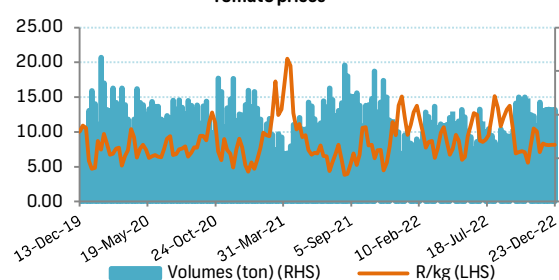
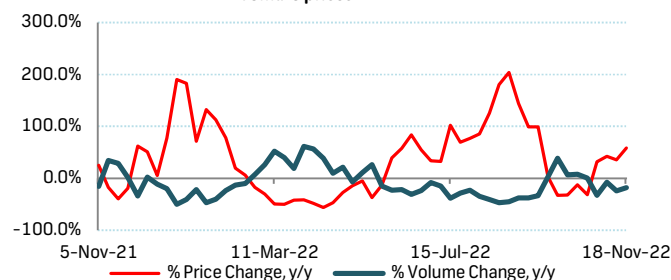
Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure D1: Fresh Produce Markets – Fruit prices**Figure D2: 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 six 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**

Source: FNB AgriComms

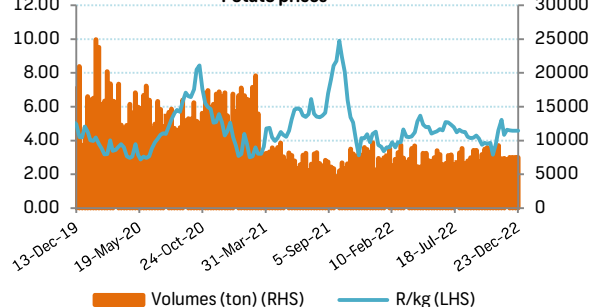
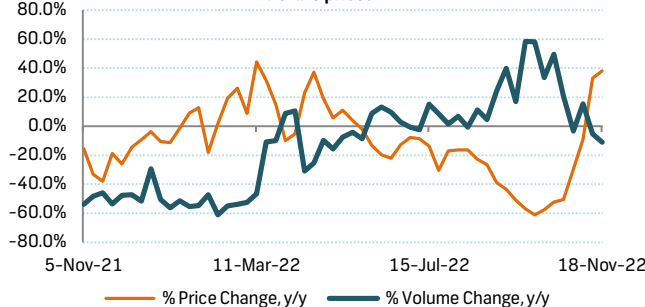
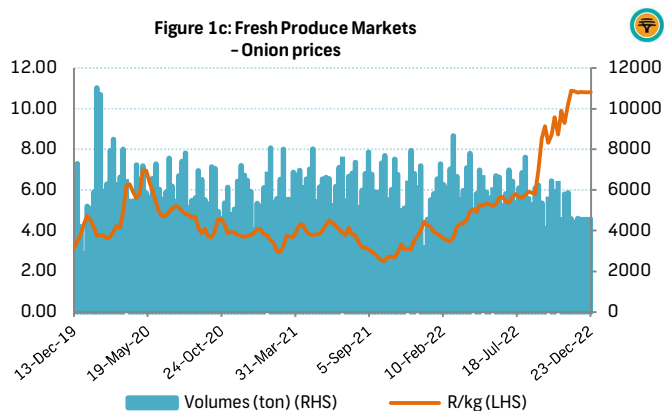
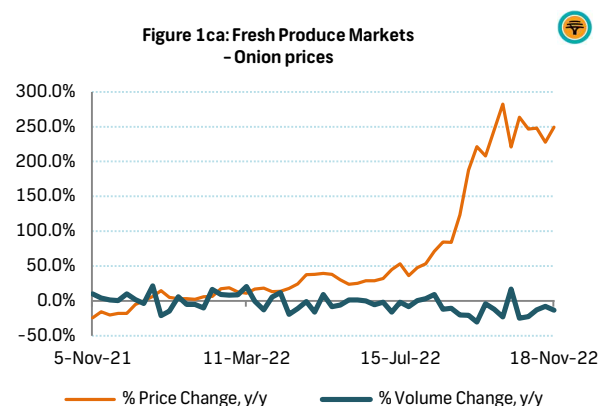
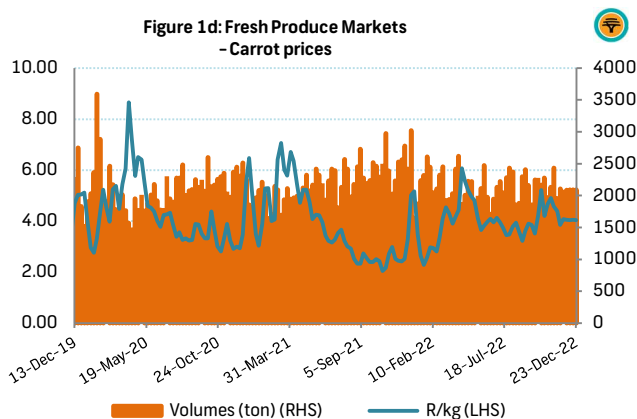
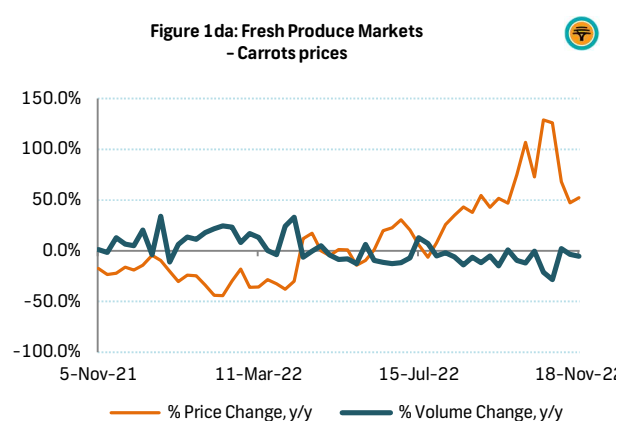
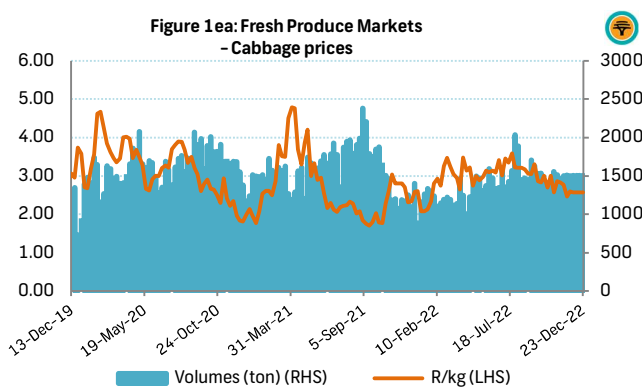
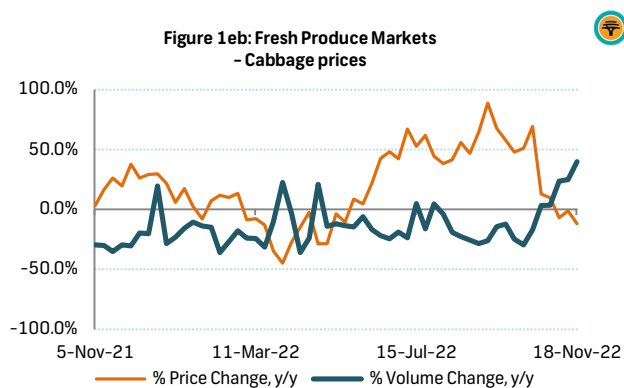
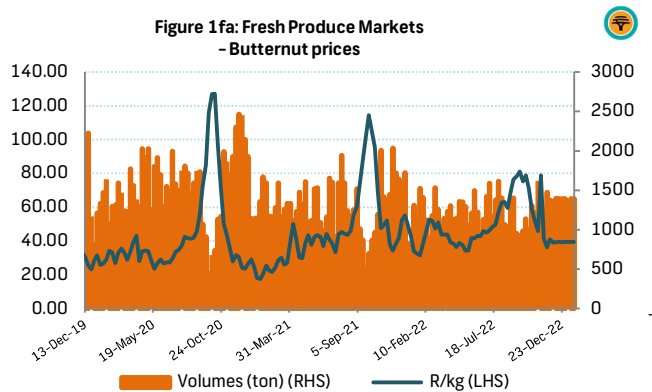
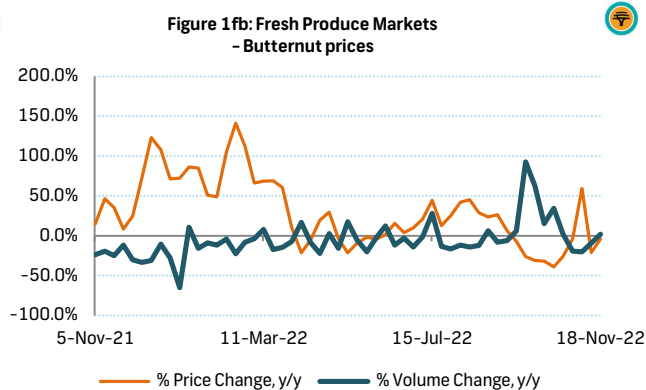
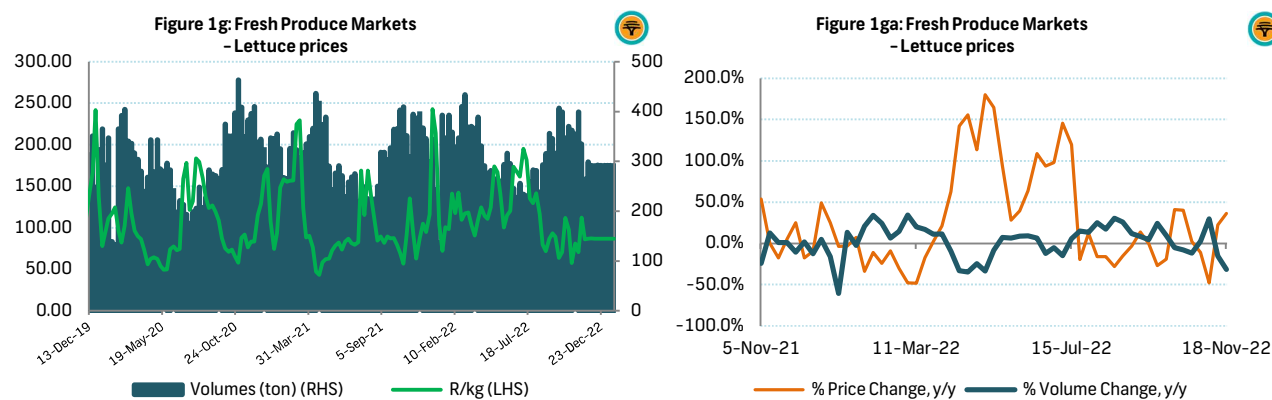
Figure 1b: Fresh Produce Markets – Potato prices**Figure 1ba: Fresh Produce Markets – Potato prices**

Figure 1c: Fresh Produce Markets
- Onion pricesFigure 1ca: Fresh Produce Markets
- Onion pricesFigure 1d: Fresh Produce Markets
- Carrot pricesFigure 1da: Fresh Produce Markets
- Carrots pricesFigure 1ea: Fresh Produce Markets
- Cabbage pricesFigure 1eb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Cabbage prices

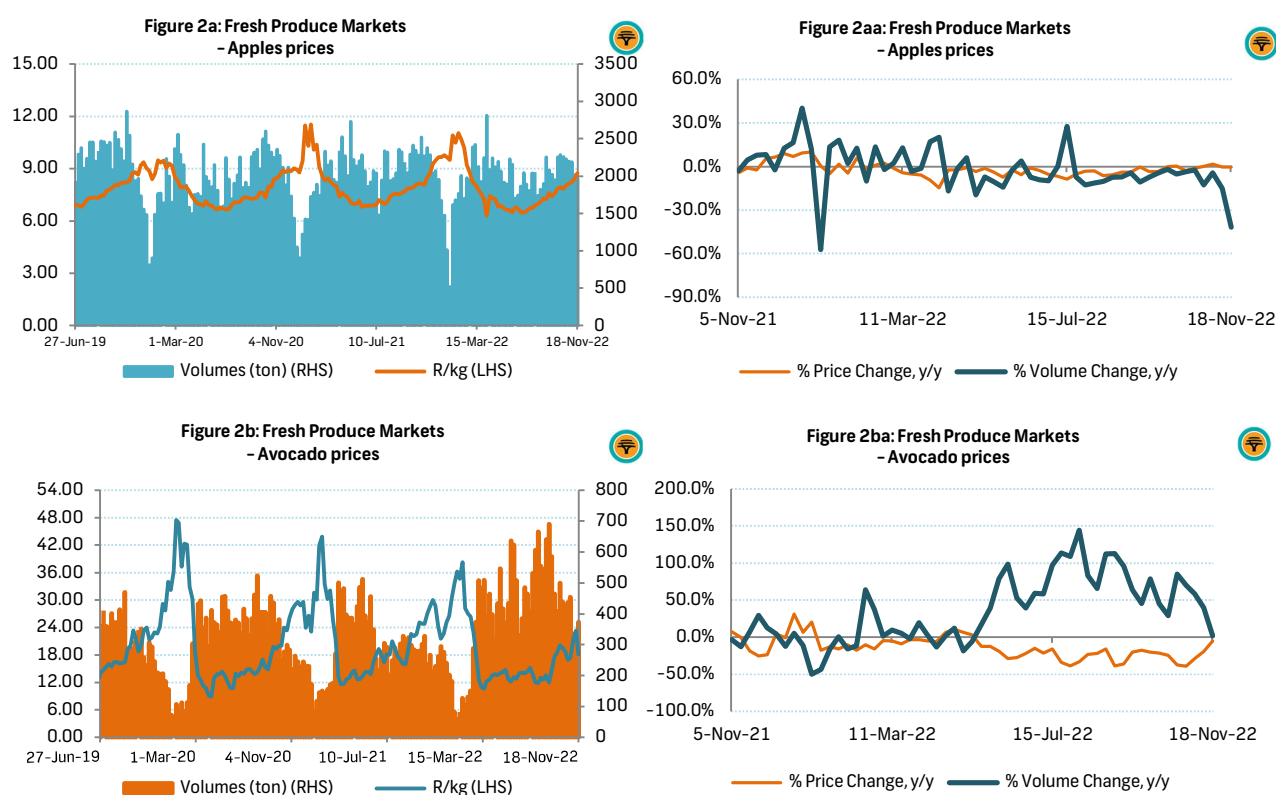
Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure 1fa: Fresh Produce Markets
- Butternut pricesFigure 1fb: Fresh Produce Markets
- Butternut prices

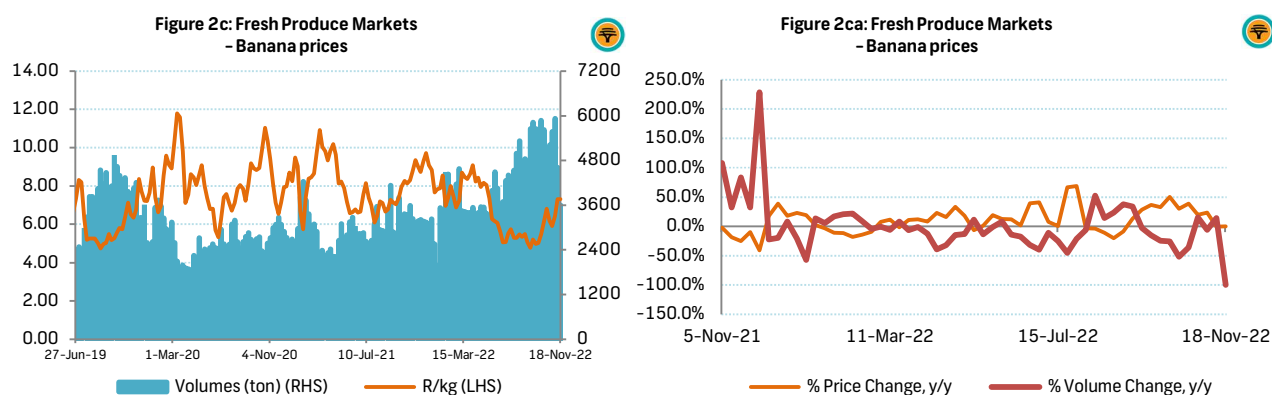


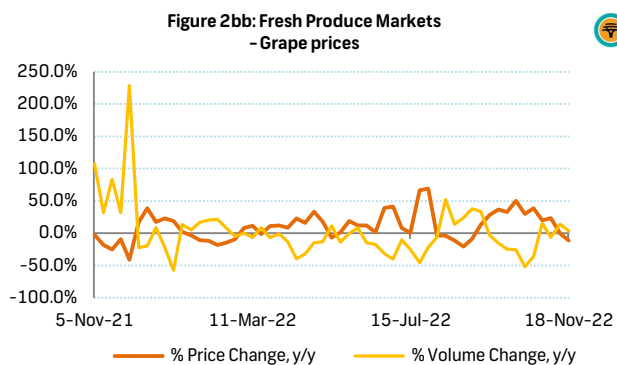
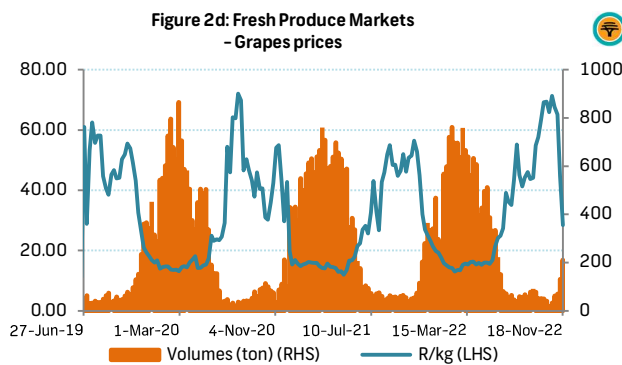
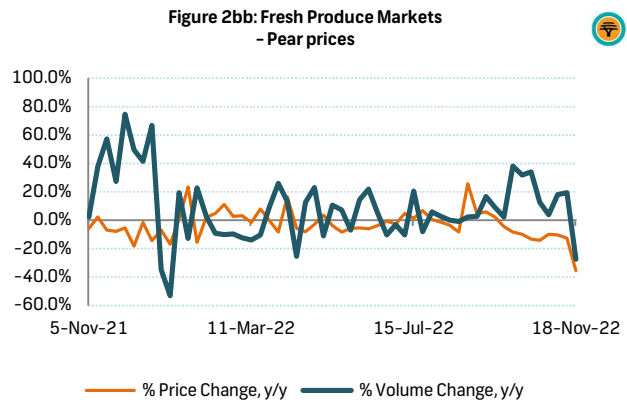
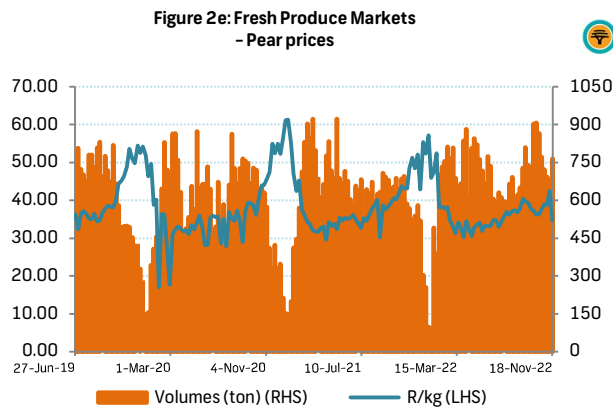
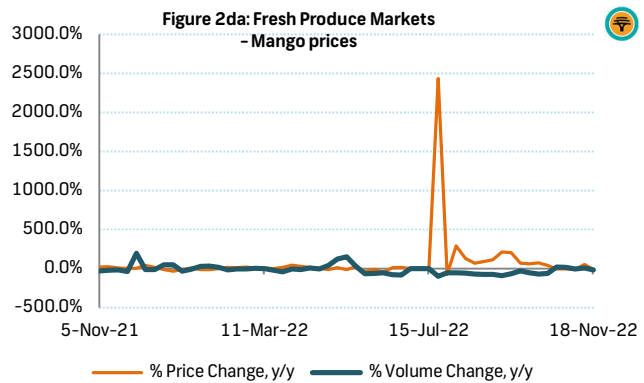
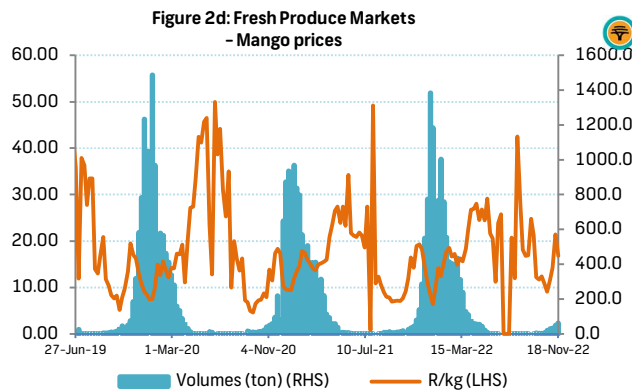
Fruit trends on Major Fresh Produce Markets in SA (figures 2a to 2f)

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



Source: FNB AgriComms





Source: FNB AgriComms.

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