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## Weekly update – Fruit and Vegetable Markets

*Fruit and vegetables prices posted good gains as inclement weather knocked volumes early in July 2023*

- Our analysis of price trends of fresh produce on domestic markets shows moderate to sharp increases across the fruit and vegetable complex early in July 2023 ahead of the freezing week which saw snow falls in parts of the country. Inclement weather across the producing areas may place a significant upward pressure on prices of fresh produce as damages and the challenges of moving product curtail supplies to markets. On the demand side, activity on markets continues to wane as consumers huddle indoors to escape the freezing weather conditions.
- Of the big-ticket commodities in the vegetable market, cabbages were the biggest gainers with a week-on-week (w/w) jump of 20% (+R0.51/kg) to average R3.04/kg on the back of a 16% contraction in volumes on major markets in last week's trade (see table 1). Tomatoes were next in line with a whopping 15.6% (+R1.25/kg) w/w increase to R9.81/kg which is 14.3% (+1.23/kg) higher relative to the same week in 2022. The constrained supply situation underpinned the recent upswing in tomato prices. Carrots were however the exception as higher volumes and diminished demand placed downward pressure on prices. This saw average carrot prices falling by 5.5% (-R0.20/kg) post month end week at R3.45/kg, which is still 13% lower (-R0.50/kg) year-on-year (y/y).
- The trend in the fruit market was upwards across most commodities under review with grapes soaring by 12.6% (+R7.80/kg) and were up by a whopping 99% (+R34.97/kg) at R69.95/kg. Apples and pears saw modest weekly gains of 3.8% (+R0.33/kg) and 3.1% (+R1.28/kg) respectively at R8.98/kg and R42.01/kg. Avocados and banana prices moved sideways while mangoes were the only exception after posting a weekly decrease of 9.2% (-R2.74/kg) on limited demand on markets (table 1).
- Meanwhile, June 2023 enjoyed adequate supplies of fresh produce which saw prices posting sharp decreases from May across most commodities which has positive implications for the fruit and vegetable inflation at consumer level (fig. A1-2).

Figure A1: Changes in monthly vegetables prices  
(Δ m/m, y/y), JUNE 2023

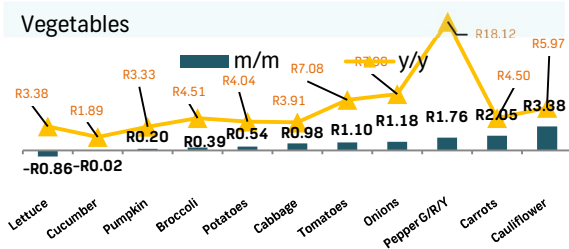
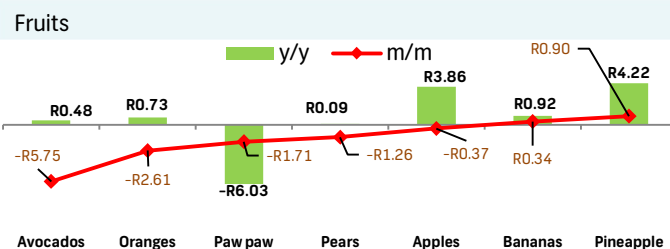


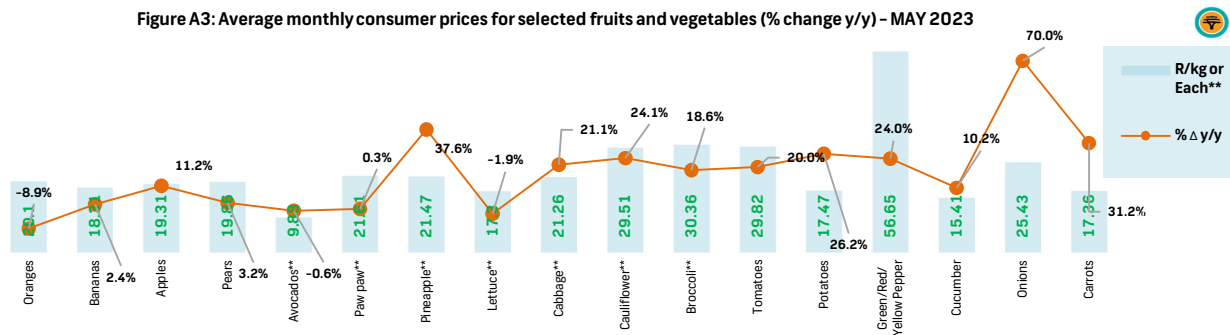
Figure A2: Changes in monthly fruit prices  
(Δ m/m, y/y), JUNE 2023



Source: StatsSA

- Fruit CPI for May 2023 remained in negative territory following a further monthly decrease of 7.9% month-n-month (m/m) and was 3.3% lower y/y. However, vegetables were sticky on the upside although decelerating by 2.1 percentage points (ppts) to 0.2% m/m and further slowing by 2.2ppts to a whopping 20.8% y/y in May 2023. Statistics South Africa's monthly update on consumer inflation is due next week.
- At individual commodity level, consumer prices of big-ticket items such as cabbages, tomatoes, and potatoes decreased by 2%, 3.5%, and 1.6% respectively m/m at R21.26/ head, R29.82/kg, and R17.47/kg. However, they were all over 20% higher y/y in May 2023.
- In the fruit category, decreases were recorded across most commodities with oranges, bananas, apples, and avocados falling by 14.5% (-R3.41/kg), 4% (-R0.81/kg), 3% (-R0.67/kg), 3% (-R0.26 each) respectively m/m at R20.10/kg, R18.31/kg, R19.31/kg, and R9.88 each. The annual trend was mixed with oranges and avocados falling by 9% (-R1.97/kg) and 1% (-R0.06 each) respectively y/y while bananas and apples were on the upside by 2% (+R0.43/kg) and 11% (+R1.95/kg) respectively y/y (figure A3).

Figure A3: Average monthly consumer prices for selected fruits and vegetables (% change y/y) - MAY 2023



Source: StatsSA.

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

Week ending	Average Price	Price change	Price change	Price change	Price change	Total	Volume change	Volume Change
07 JUL 2023	(R/Kg)	(% Δ w/w)	(R/kg) Δ w/w	(% Δ y/y)	(R/kg) Δ y/y	Volume (t)	w/w	y/y
Butternuts	5.52	-9.4%	-R 0.57	19.5%	R 0.90	1136	-4.3%	-28.4%
Cabbage	3.04	20.0%	R 0.506	-12.0%	-R 0.42	1,639	-15.6%	20.7%
Carrot	3.45	-5.5%	-R 0.20	-12.7%	-R 0.50	2,487	8.3%	11.8%
Lettuce	18.22	6.0%	R 1.04	-6.5%	-R 1.28	255	-7.6%	9.2%
Onion	9.04	-0.7%	-R 0.06	59.5%	R 3.37	7,339	4.7%	14.2%
Potato	7.63	4.4%	R 0.32	54.5%	R 2.69	8,123	8.2%	2.5%
Tomato	9.81	14.6%	R 1.25	14.3%	R 1.23	3,638	-0.5%	-1.4%

Source: FNB AgriComms

Figure E1: Fresh Produce Markets - Vegetable prices

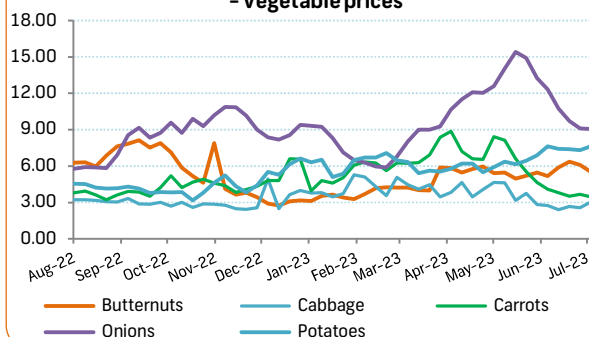
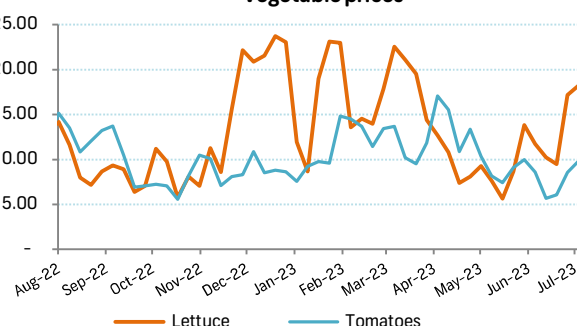


Figure E2: Fresh Produce Markets - Vegetable prices

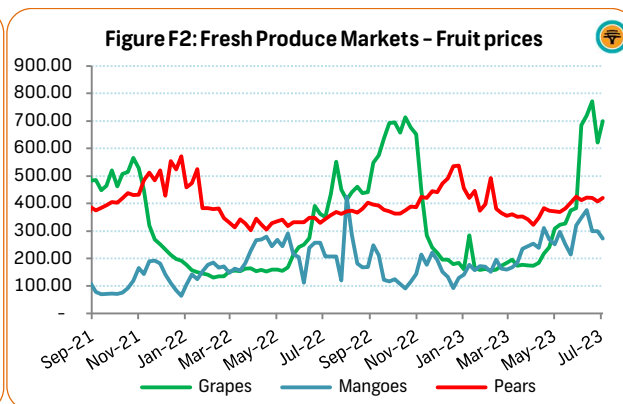
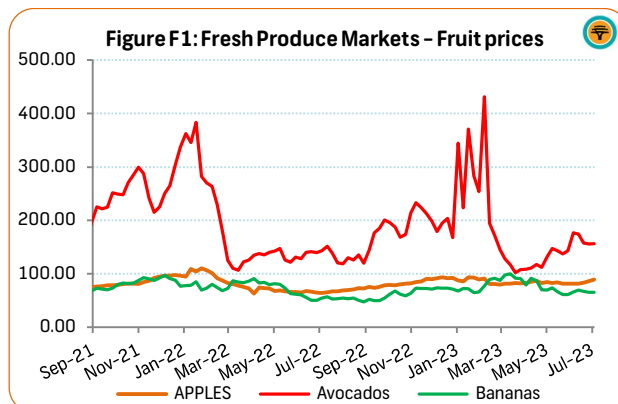


Source: FNB AgriComms

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

Week ending	Average Price	Price change	Price change (R/kg)	Price change	Price change (R/kg)	Total	Volume change	Volume Change
07 JUL 2023	(R/Kg)	(% Δ w/w)	Δ w/w	(% Δ y/y)	(Δ y/y)	Volume (t)	(% Δ w/w)	(% Δ y/y)
Apples	8.96	3.8%	R0.33	38.5%	R2.49	1,832	1.8%	-10.3%
Avocados	15.60	0.1%	R0.01	8.7%	R1.25	431	-6.1%	-7.1%
Bananas	6.57	0.1%	R0.01	19.0%	R1.05	4,530	15.6%	2.8%
Grapes	69.95	12.6%	R7.80	99.4%	R34.87	37	4.9%	-41.7%
Mangoes	27.19	-9.2%	-R2.74	-	-	2	-41.1%	-
Pears	42.01	3.1%	R1.28	22.5%	R7.72	422	-22.9%	-31.1%

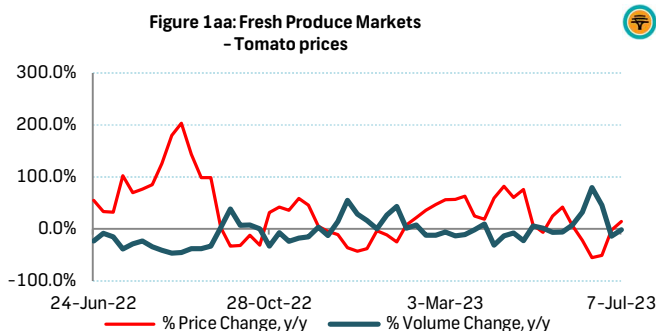
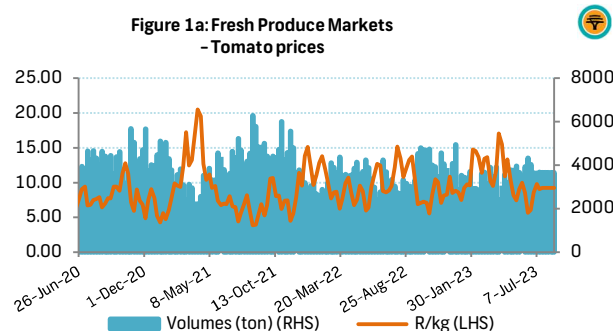
Source: FNB AgriComms



Source: FNB AgriComms

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

(Average five 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

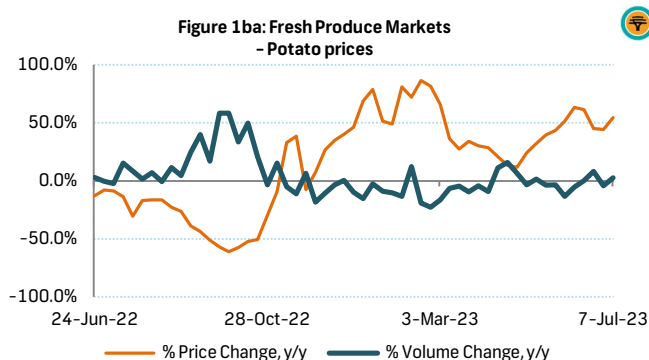
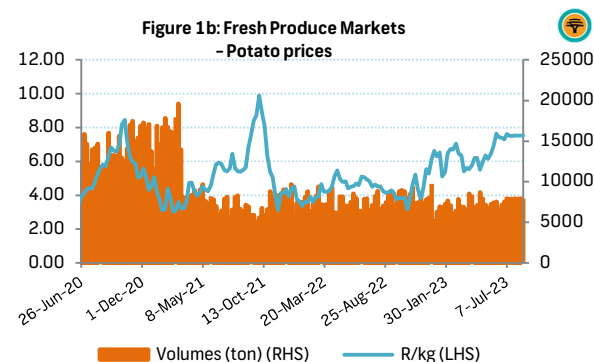
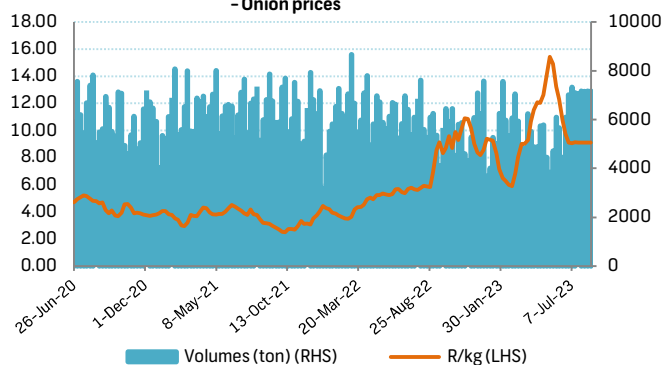
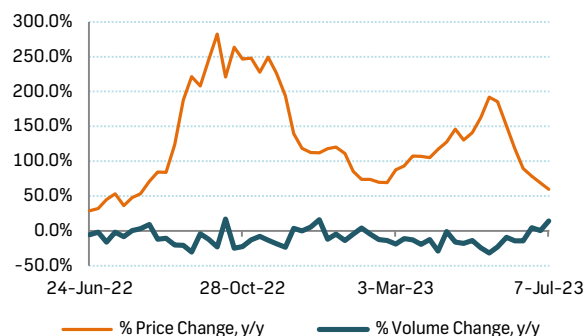
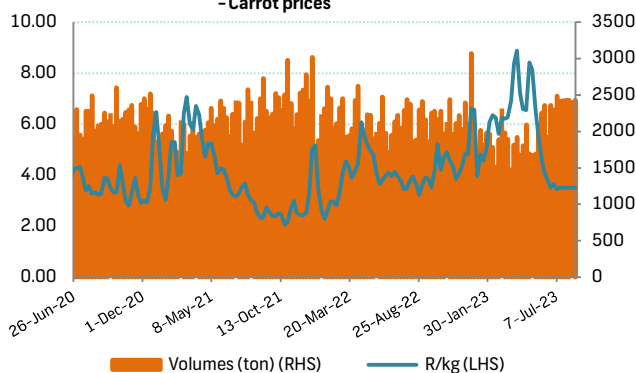
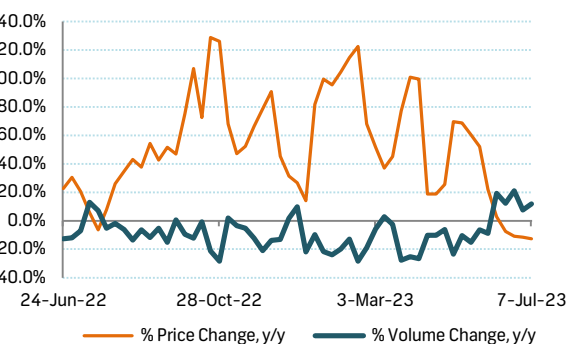
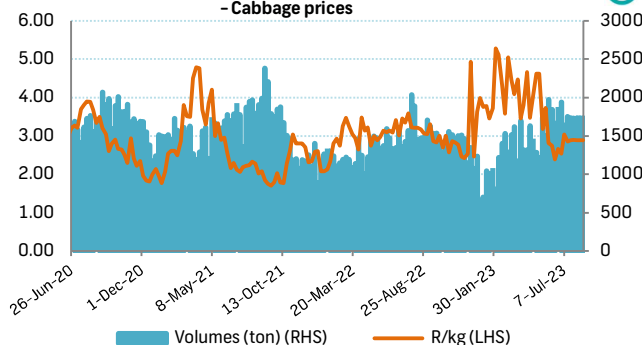
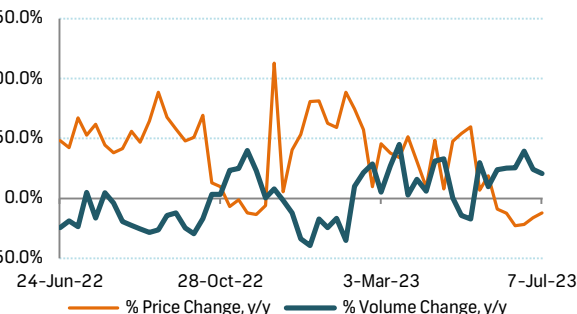
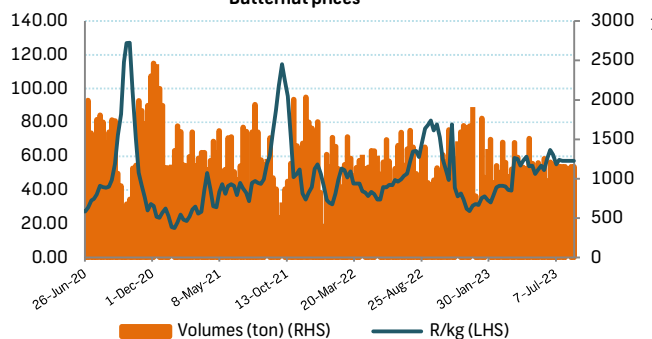
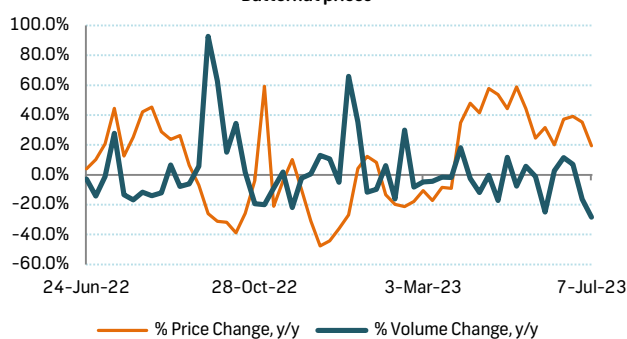
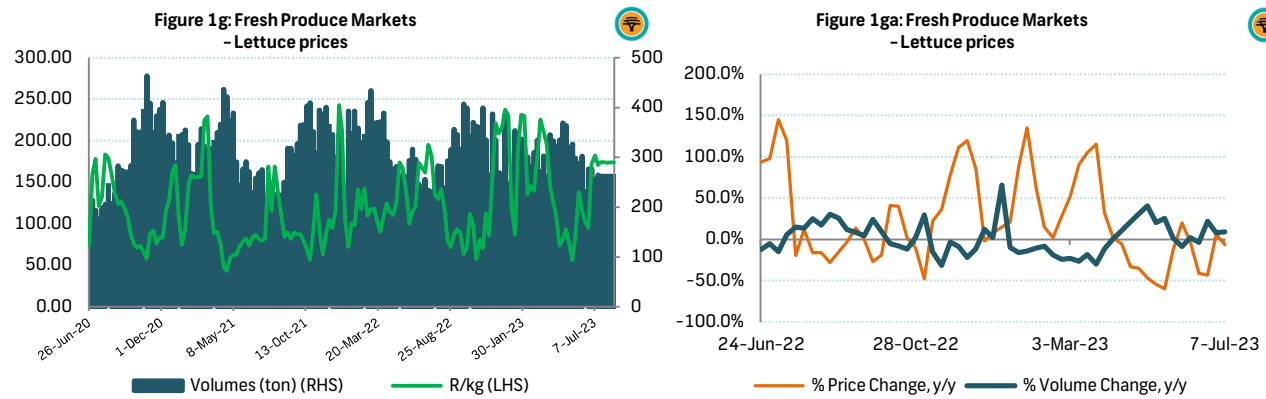


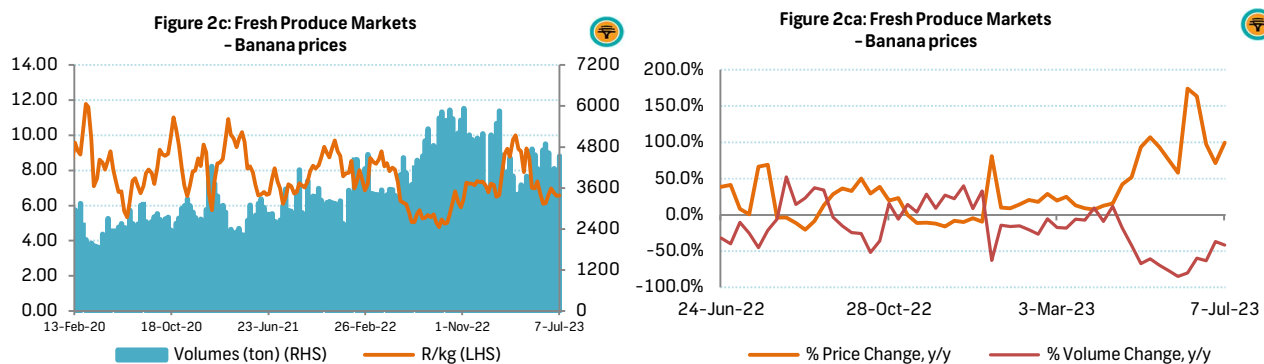
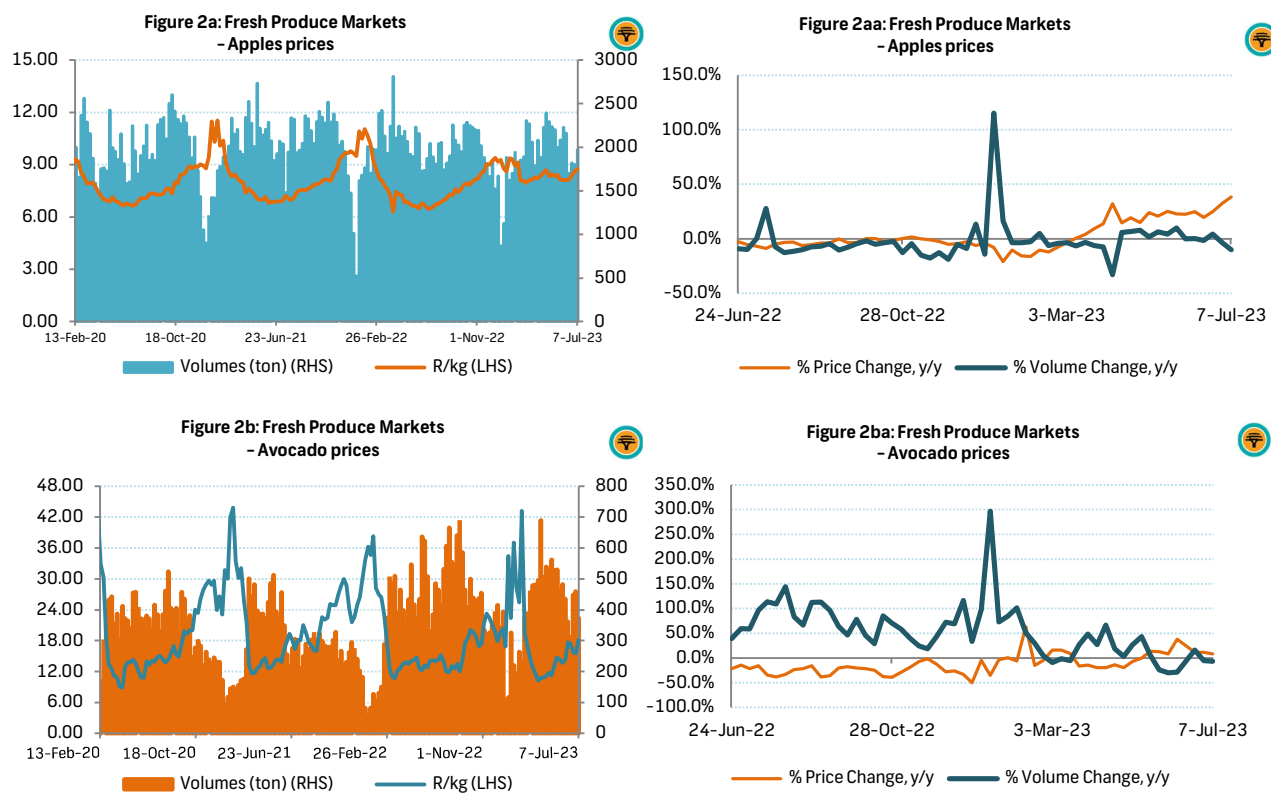
Figure 1c: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Onion pricesFigure 1ca: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Onion pricesFigure 1d: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Carrot pricesFigure 1da: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Carrots pricesFigure 1ea: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Cabbage pricesFigure 1eb: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Cabbage prices

Source: FNB AgriComms

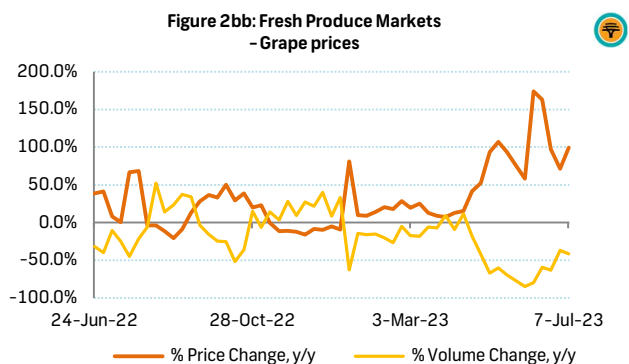
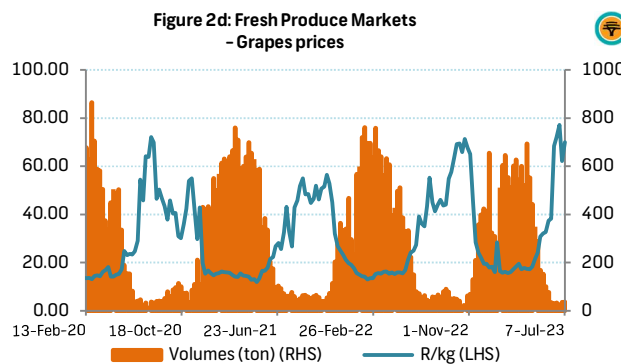
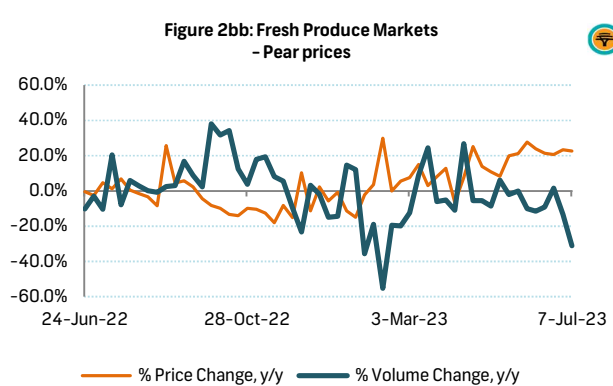
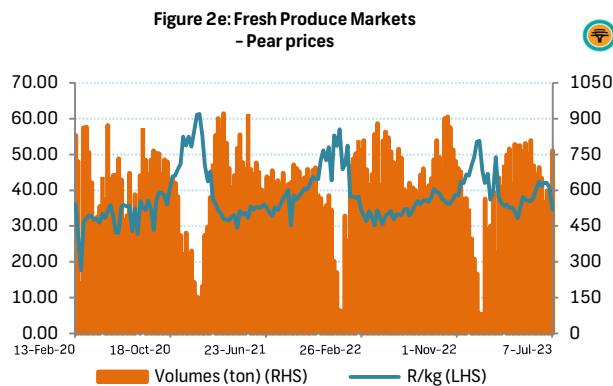
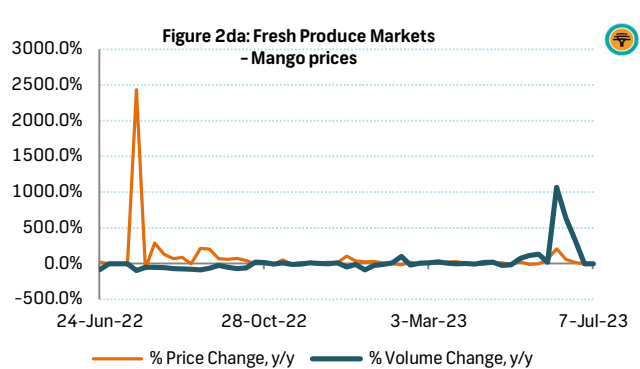
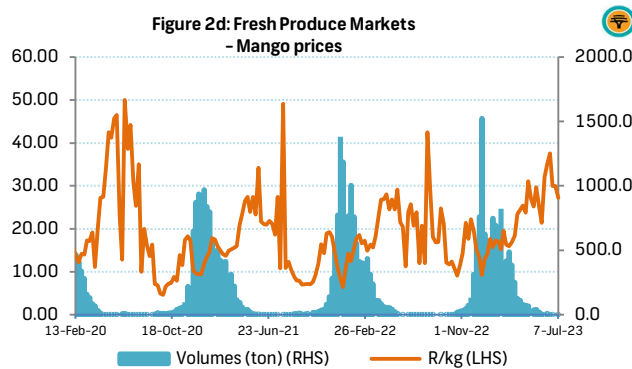
Figure 1fa: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Butternut pricesFigure 1fb: Fresh Produce Markets  
- Butternut prices



**Fruit trends on Major Fresh Produce Markets in SA (figures 2a to 2f)**  
(Average five major markets – Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban)







Source: FNB AgriComms.

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