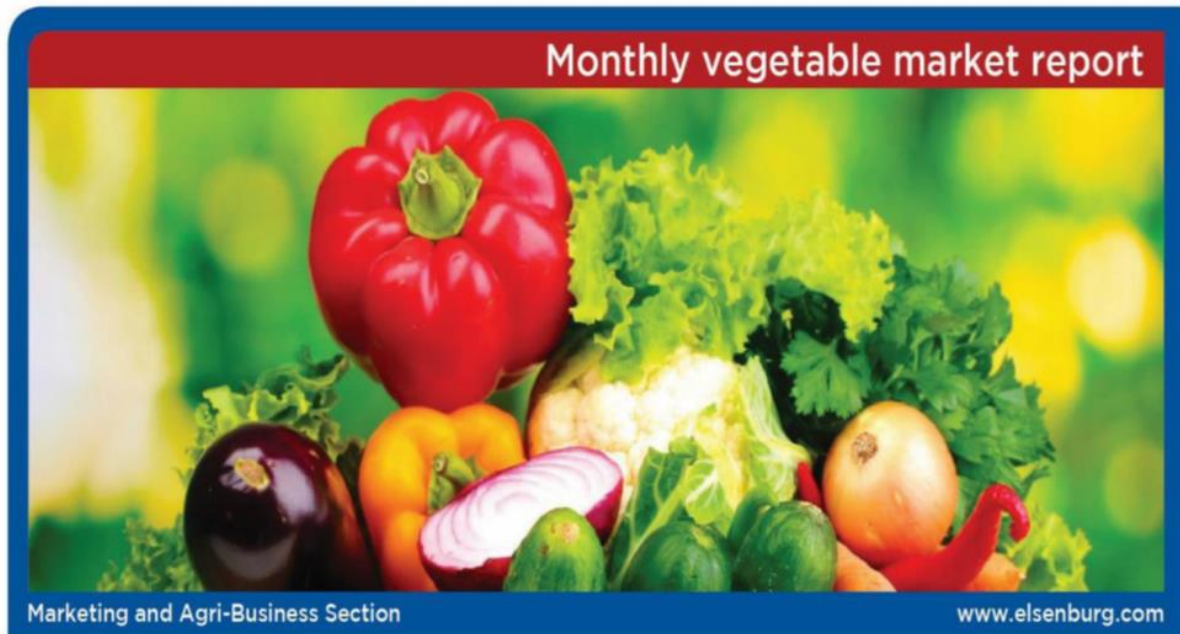


MONTHLY VEGETABLE REPORT



Review period: 01 March 2022 to 01 March 2023

MONTHLY MARKET INFORMATION REPORT: VEGETABLES

Issue: 2023/03

INTRODUCTION

The Cape Town Fresh produce market monthly report aims to bring forth information about the performance of selected vegetable sales in the market during the period under review. At a given month the report looks at the main commodities that are traded in the Cape Town fresh produce market in terms of average volume (tons) and prices (Rand per ton). The report also looks into international and local issues that affect the fresh produce industry.

OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING INFORMATION SYSTEM (AMIS), OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES (DAFF)

The Agricultural Marketing Information Systems (AMIS) is a database interface offered by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF).

The main purpose of the Agricultural Marketing Information System (AMIS) is to provide reliable & updated information to farmers. In order to assist farmers to plan activities relating to production and marketing in a much-informed manner.

Agricultural market information is provided for horticulture, field crops, livestock and industrial products, and includes the following categories:

- marketing prices,
- grading and standard information,
- annual price trends, and
- marketing news (pertaining to the application procedures for import and export permits).

Click on the following website link to access the [DAFF AMIS](http://webapps.daff.gov.za/amis) web application, or alternatively go to the web address: <http://webapps.daff.gov.za/amis> (no subscription fee payable to access system). Cell phone user can send an SMS to ***120*4040#** (charged at standard SMS rates)

Please note that prices are updated at 12h00 a.m on a daily basis.

Vegetable price and volume trend analysis

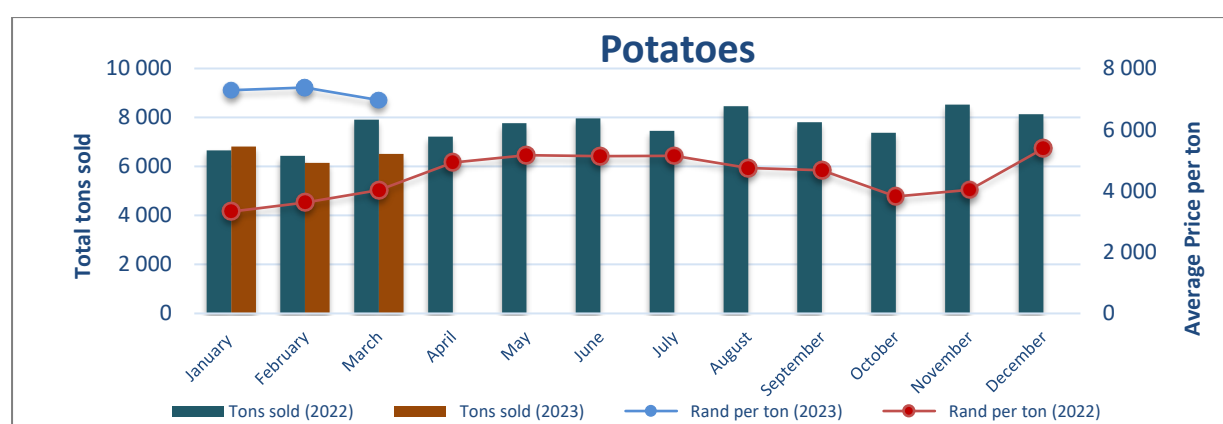
Vegetables are part of important annual crops for the South African agricultural industry. They play a fundamental role in contributing to various agricultural industries who are directly and indirectly involved in the vegetable industry. In return these industries make a significant contribution to employment creation and revenue generation in the Western Cape. At the fresh produce markets trade occurs on the market floors and market forces (i.e. demand and supply) determine prices of vegetables and fruits. The performance of the vegetable industry is largely dependent on climatic conditions and this impact on crop production. This occurs throughout all stages of production until the produce is harvested and ready for the market. Forming part of these climatic conditions is; drought, flood, hail and heat wave. In analyzing the price and volume of traded commodities, factors that impact on crops development and production are taken into consideration. Below are different figures of the main vegetables that are traded in the market in terms of prices and volumes.



1. Potatoes

As illustrated in the figure1, the volume of Potatoes sold at the Cape Town Fresh produce market during the month of March 2023, increased by 6% from 6146.2 tons in February 2023 to 6512.3 tons. This translates to (366.2) ton increase in the tons of potatoes sold at Cape Town Fresh produce market during the month of March 2023. Subsequently, the average market price per ton of potatoes sold decreased by 5.6% (or R411.7) from R7378.1 in February 2023 to R6966.4 in March 2023. Sales on the Cape Town market average market prices traded at remarkable 72.9% y/y per ton higher than the same period last year. The volume of potatoes traded also showed a decrease of 17.6% y/y compared to the same period last year.

Figure 1: Potato prices and quantity traded at Cape Town Fresh Produce market



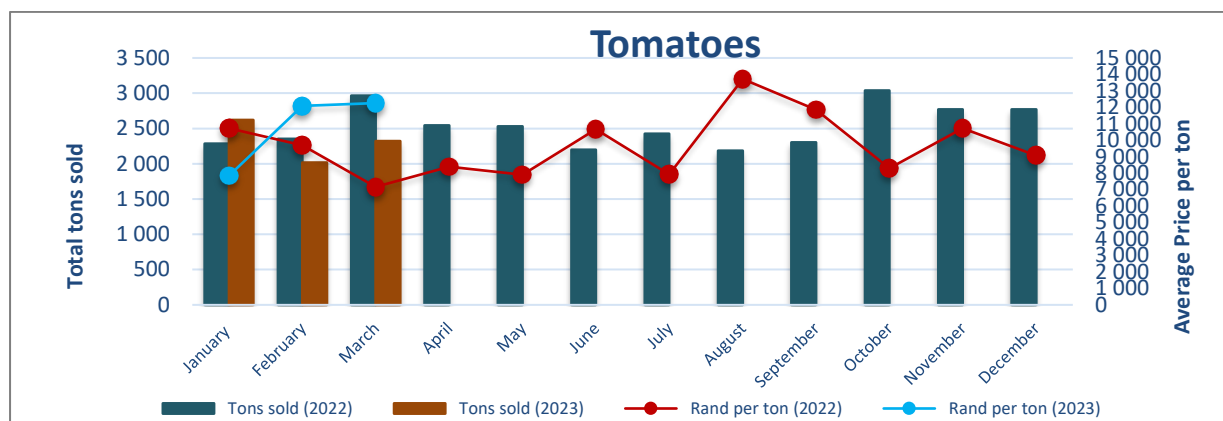
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

2. Tomatoes



The total amount of tomatoes sold during March 2023 was 2321.3 tons, which shows 302.9 (ton) increase from 2018.4 tons recorded in February 2023. Tomatoes were trading at R12259.9 per ton in March 2023.

Figure 2: Tomatoes sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



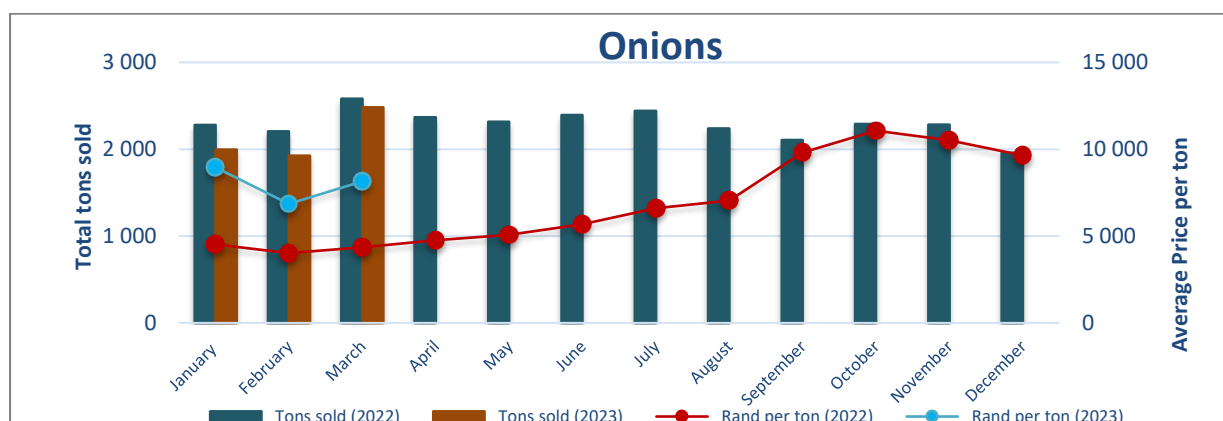
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

3. Onions



In March 2023, the volume of onions traded in the Cape Town fresh produce market was 2481.9 tons, which shows 29% increase from 1924.5 tons recorded in February 2023. Price per ton of onions sold on the market also increased by 18.9% from R6855 in February 2023 to R8151.8 in March 2023.

Figure 3: Onions prices and quantity traded at Cape Town Fresh Produce market



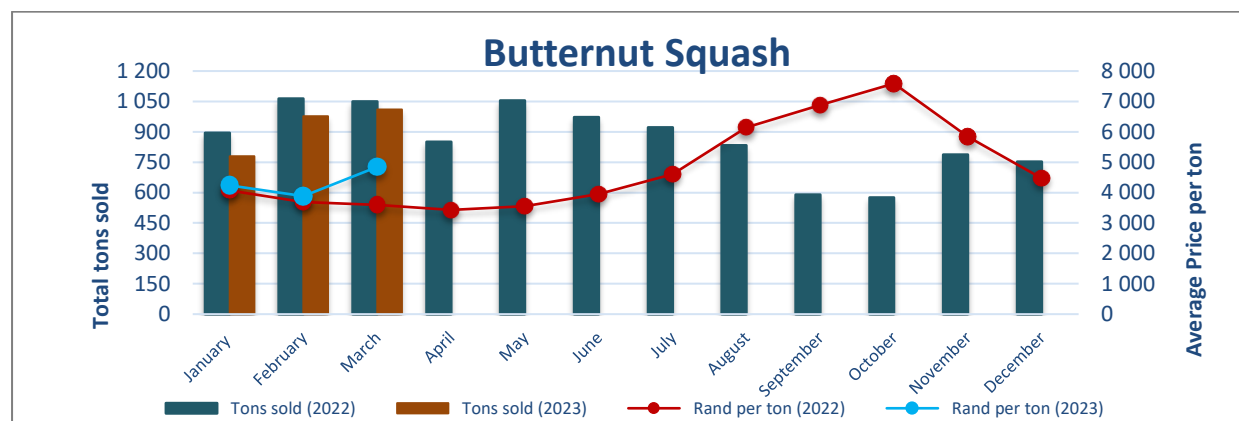
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

4. Butternut Squash



Figure 4 below represents the volume of butternut squash sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market during the month of March 2023. The volume of butternut squash sold increased by 3.3% from 977.6 tons in February 2023 to 1009.7 tons in March 2023. The price per ton of butternut also increased by 24.8% from R3884.1 in February 2023 to R4847.5 in March 2023. On a year to year basis the quantity of butternut squash sold during March 2022 and March 2023 decreased by 3.9% followed by a 35% increase in the price of butternut during the same time period (2022/23).

Figure 4: Butternut squash sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



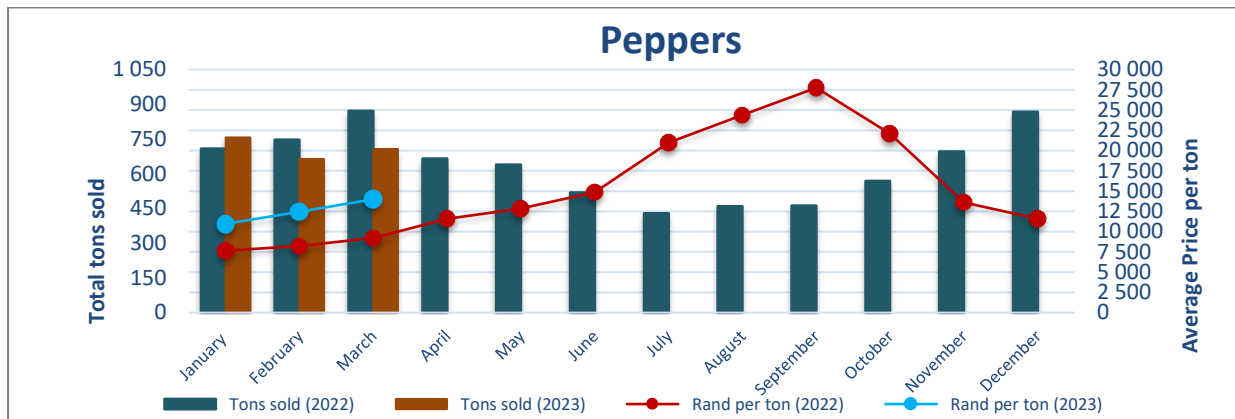
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

5. Peppers



As illustrated in figure 5 below, the total volume of peppers sold during March 2023 increased by 6.4% from 664.1 tons in February 2023 to 706.3 tons in March 2023. The average market price of peppers increased by 12.5% from R12435.2 in February 2023 to R13988.8 in March 2023. On an annual basis, the total volume of peppers sold during the period under review registered a year-on-year decrease of 18.9%. The total volume of peppers sold thus decreased from 871.1 tons of peppers traded in March 2022 to 706.3 tons of peppers traded in March 2023. The average market price per ton on the other hand, increased by a notable 51.8% from R9212.4 in March 2022 to R13988.8 in March 2023.

Figure 5: Peppers sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



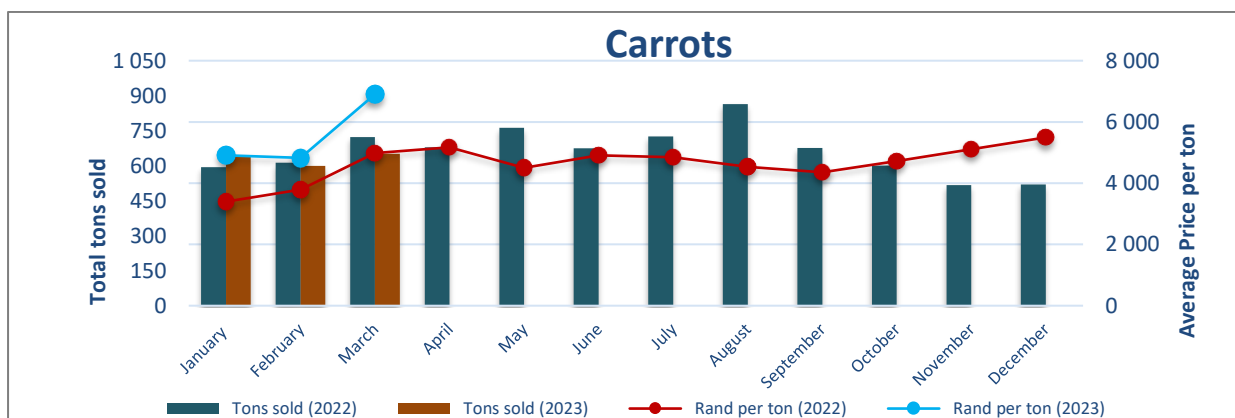
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

6. Carrots



As indicated by Figure 6 below shows the total volume of carrots traded at Cape Town fresh produce market during March 2023. The volume of carrots traded in March 2023, increased month-month by 8.8% from 598.9 tons in February to 651.4 tons in March 2023. When comparing year-on-year, the amount of carrots traded during this period decreased by 9.9% from 723.2 tons in March 2022 to 651.4 tons in March 2023. In March 2023 carrots was trading at R6906.4 per ton, which indicates 43.1% increase in price per ton of carrots between February 2023 and March 2023. The average market price per ton of carrots increased by 38.8% from R4977.5 in March 2022 to R6906.4 in March 2023.

Figure 6: Carrots sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



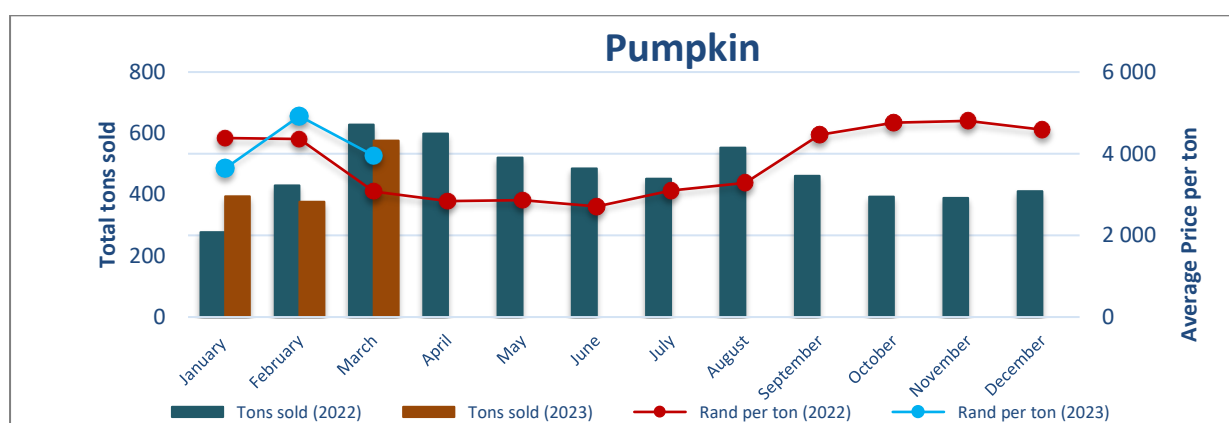
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

7. Pumpkin



A total amount of 575.9 tons of pumpkin was sold at the Cape Town fresh produce markets during March 2023. This presents a remarkable increase of 52.9% or 199.4 tons from the previous month (February) record of 376.6 tons. The average market price on the other hand decreased by 19.7% or R969.8 per ton from R4922.5 in February 2023 to R3952.7 in March 2023. On year and year, basis pumpkin was trading at R3071.3 per ton in March 2022 compared to R3952.7 in March 2023. These results indicate an increase of 28.7% in price per ton of pumpkin between March 2022 and March 2023.

Figure 7: Pumpkin sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



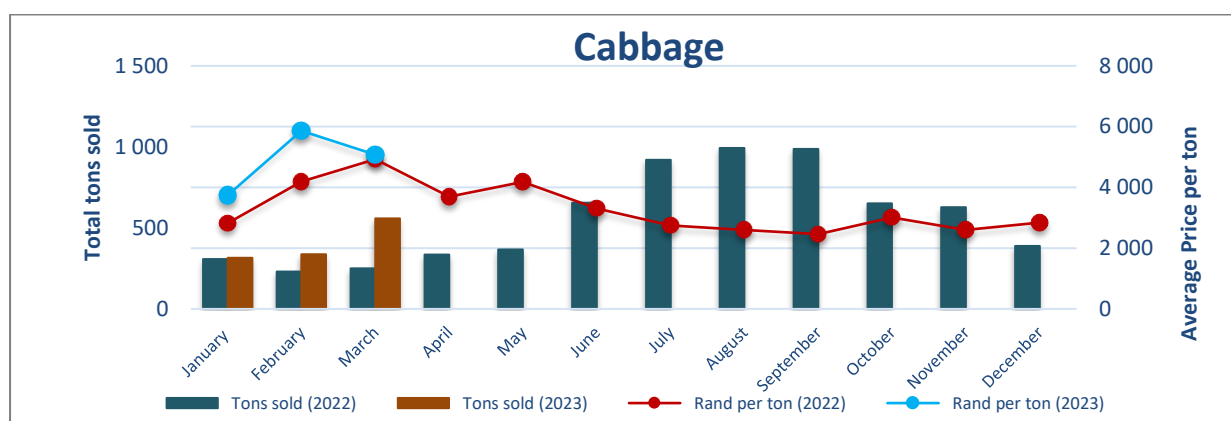
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

8. Cabbages



The total volume of cabbages sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market during March 2023 recorded a month-to-month increase of 65.6% or 221.6 tons. The total volume of cabbages sold therefore increased from 337.8 tons in February 2023 to 559.4 tons in March 2023. The average market price per ton of cabbages on the other hand decreased by 13.4% from R5863.8 in February 2023 to R5080.3 in March 2023. On annual basis, the total volume of cabbages sold increased from 250.8 tons obtained in March 2023 to 559.4 tons obtained in March 2023. This represents a year-on-year increase of 123% that is 308.5 tons, more than the amount registered within the same period last year.

Figure 8: Cabbages sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



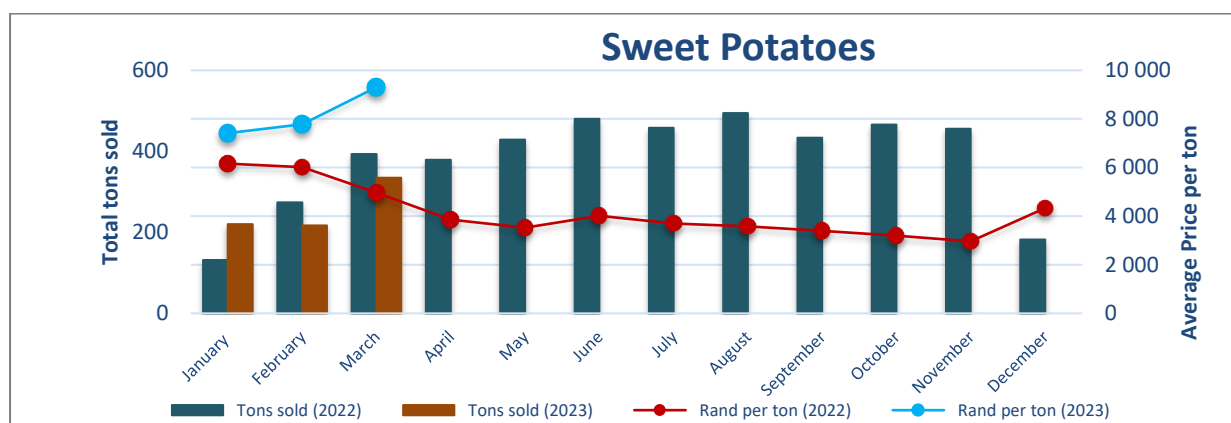
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

9. Sweet potato



The total volume of sweet potatoes sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market increased from 217.3 tons in February 2023 to 334.4 tons in March 2023. This translates to 53.9% month-to-month increase recorded during the month of March 2023. The total volume of sweet potatoes sold decreased year-on-year by 14.9% from 392.9 tons in March 2022 to 334.4 tons in March 2023. Sweet potatoes were trading at R9303.2 during March 2023. On annual basis, the average market price per ton increased by a remarkable 87.5% from R4960.4 in March 2022 to R9303.2 in March 2023.

Figure 9: Sweet potato sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market.



Source: Techno fresh (2023)

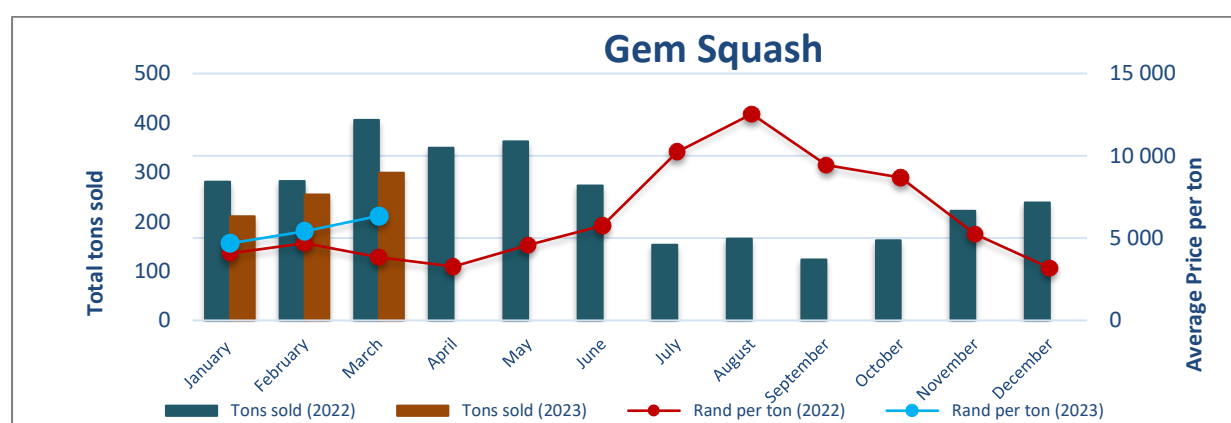
10. Gem squash



Figure 10 bellow shows the total volume of Gem squash sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market in March 2023. The volume of Gem squash sold during March 2023 increased by 17.3% from 255.1 tons in February 2023 to 299.3 tons.

The price per ton of Gem squash also increased by 17.6% from R5405.4 in February 2023 to R6356.9 in March 2023. On annual basis, volume of gem squash sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market decreased by 26.3% during the period under review. As a result, the volume of gem squash sold decreased from 406.3 tons in March 2022 to 299.3 tons in March 2023. The average market price of gem squash on the other hand increased by 66% or R2527.0 per ton from R3830.0 in March 2022 to R6356.9 in March 2023.

Figure 10: Gem squash sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



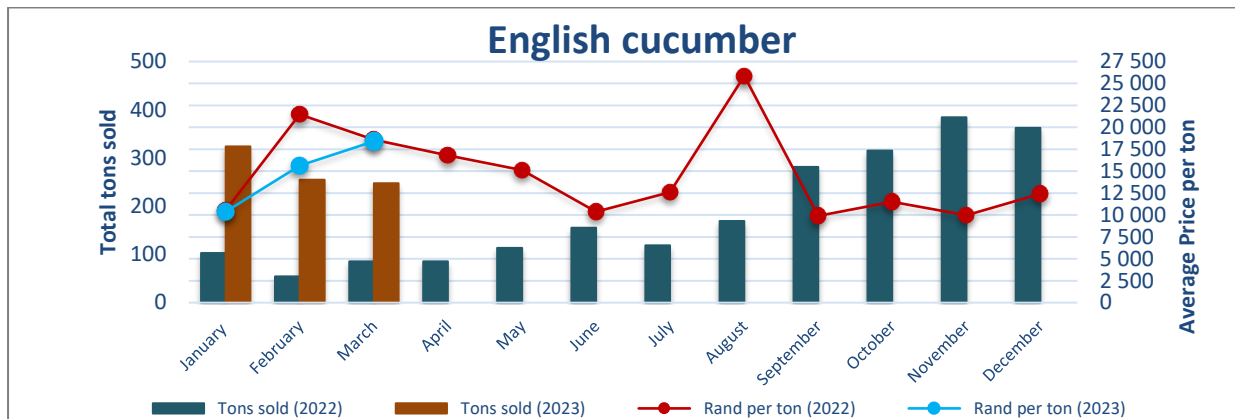
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

1.10. English cucumber



During the period under review (March 2023), the total volume of English cucumber sold amounted to 247.8 tons which is 2.7% or 6.9 tons less than 254.7 tons which was recorded in February 2023. The average market price of English cucumber increased by 17.9% from R15610.6 in February 2023 to R18404.4 in March 2023. On annual basis, the volume of tons of English cucumber increased by an unbelievable 189.2% (or 162.1 tons) from 85.7 tons in March 2022 to 247.8 in March 2023.

Figure 10: English cucumber sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market.



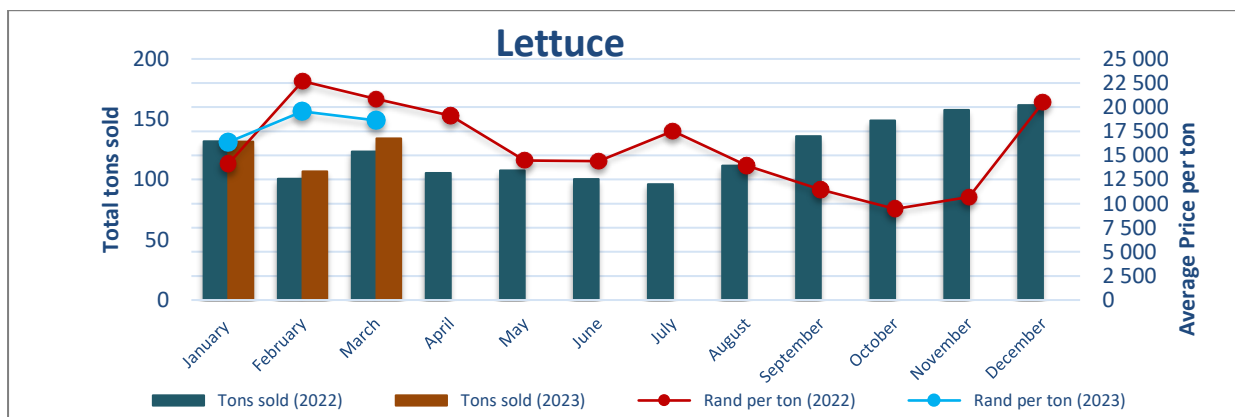
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

12. Lettuce



A total amount of 134.2 tons of lettuce was sold at the Cape Town fresh produce markets during March 2023. This presents 25.9% or 27.6 tons increase from the previous month (February 2023) record of 106.6 tons. The average market price on the other hand, decreased by 4.7% or R925.6 from R19558.4 in January 2023 to R18632.8 in March 2023. On year and year, lettuce was trading at R20827.2 in March 2022 compared to R18632.8 in March 2023. These results indicate a decrease of 10.5% in price per ton of lettuce between March 2022 and March 2023.

Figure 12: Lettuce sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



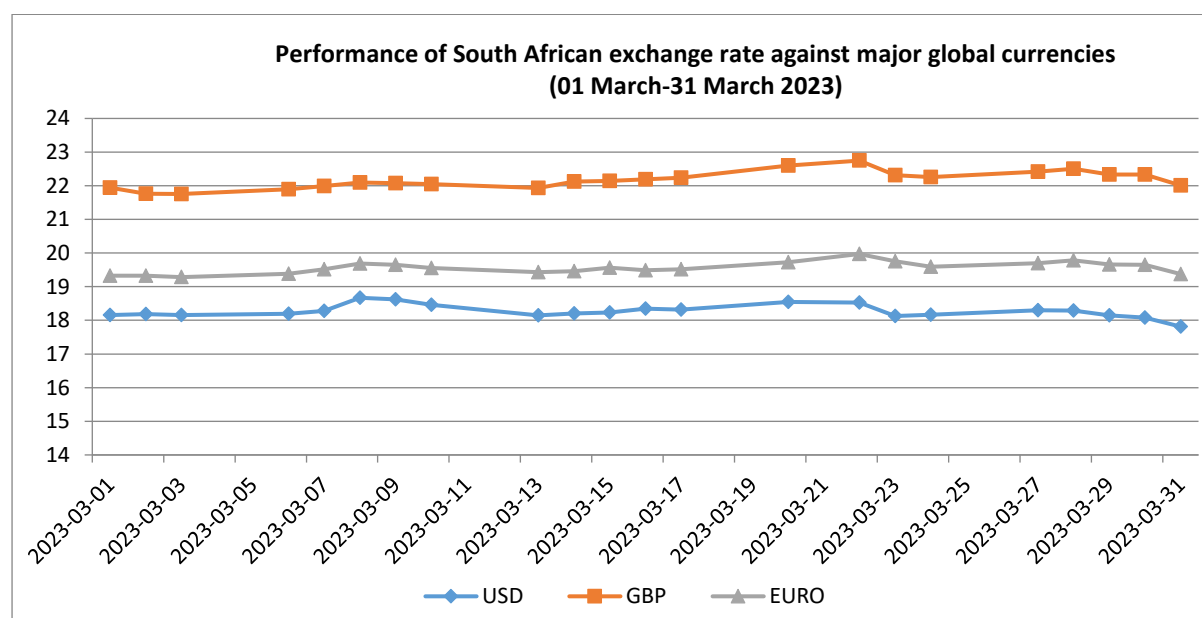
Source: Techno fresh (2023)

Table 1: Trend analysis of niche vegetables traded on the Cape Town Fresh Produce market

Product Name highest to the lowest volumes in March 2023	Average tons March 2023 (Ton)	% change in average tons March 2023 (m/m)	Average Price March 2023 (Rand/ton)	% change in average price March 2023 (m/m)
Beetroot	108.6	-21.3%	8799.6	80.8%
Green beans	83.3	47.4%	20271.1	-4.9%
Cauliflower	78.9	16.3%	17190.4	9.0%
Sweetcorn	65.8	52.4%	19218.0	-10.6%
Brinjals	53.9	-6.2%	17259.4	42.0%
Baby marrow	35.0	64.8%	20458.7	29.7%
Spinach	29.1	33.4%	16214.5	-13.4%
Broccoli	27.5	1.3%	62966.5	41.1%
Spring onion	18.6	-9.0%	33155.3	42.8%
Leeks	15.2	159.7%	9604.4	4.6%
Radish	3.7	125.5%	18987.8	-13.9%
Hubbard squash	3.3	21.4%	3750.8	19.0%
Patty pans	0.8	-50.3%	20801.8	60.3%
Marrows	0.5	100.0%	2808.5	100.0%
Mushrooms	0.4	-71.1%	78253.0	8.6%

Source: Techno fresh (2023)

Exchange Rates



Source: South African Reserve Bank (2023)

During the reporting period 01 March to 31 March 2023, looking at month-to-month average of the Rand weakened against the US Dollar, Great British Pound and Euro. The rand weakened by 38 cents (2.1%) against the U dollar, weakened by 47cents (2.2%) against the

Great British Pound and lastly it weakened by 39 cent (2%) against the Euro. The US dollar was trading at R18.27 in March 2023 compared to R17.89 in February 2023. Great British Pound was trading at R22.16 in March 2023 while the Euro was at trading at R19.56 in March 2023.

Energy

Table 3.1 Basic fuel Price adjustments

Product Description	Numerical adjustment applicable to the coast parts in South Africa	Price adjustment Description	The average price (cents) applicable to the coastal parts of South Africa
Petrol 95 ULP & LRP	127,00	cents per litre increase in the retail price	2230,00
Diesel 0.05% Sulphur	30,38	cents per litre increase in the retail price	2097,210
Illuminating Paraffin (Wholesale)	13,00	cents per litre increase the retail price	1517.758
LPGAS (maximum retail price)	522,00	cents per litre increase in the retail price	3610.00

The Department of Energy has announced fuel price adjustments with effect from 01 Marc 2023. The price of Petrol 95 ULP & LRP increased by 127 cents. The price of diesel (0.05% sulphur) and illuminating paraffin also increased by 30 cents and 13cents respectively. Lastly, LPGAS's maximum retail price also increased by 522 cents during the reporting period.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The below-listed sources are acknowledged, as cited in this publication:

Agricultural Produce Agents Council (APAC): www.apacweb.org.za

Agricultural Research Council (ARC): www.arc.agric.za

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Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF): www.daff.gov.za

Department of Energy (DoE): www.energy.gov.za

Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS): www.dwa.gov.za

Elsenburg (Western Cape Department of Agriculture): www.elsenburg.com

Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC): www.opec.org/opec

Potatoes South Africa: www.potatoes.co.za

South African Government: www.gov.za

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Trading Economics (2018): <https://tradingeconomics.com/south-africa/balance-of-trade>

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