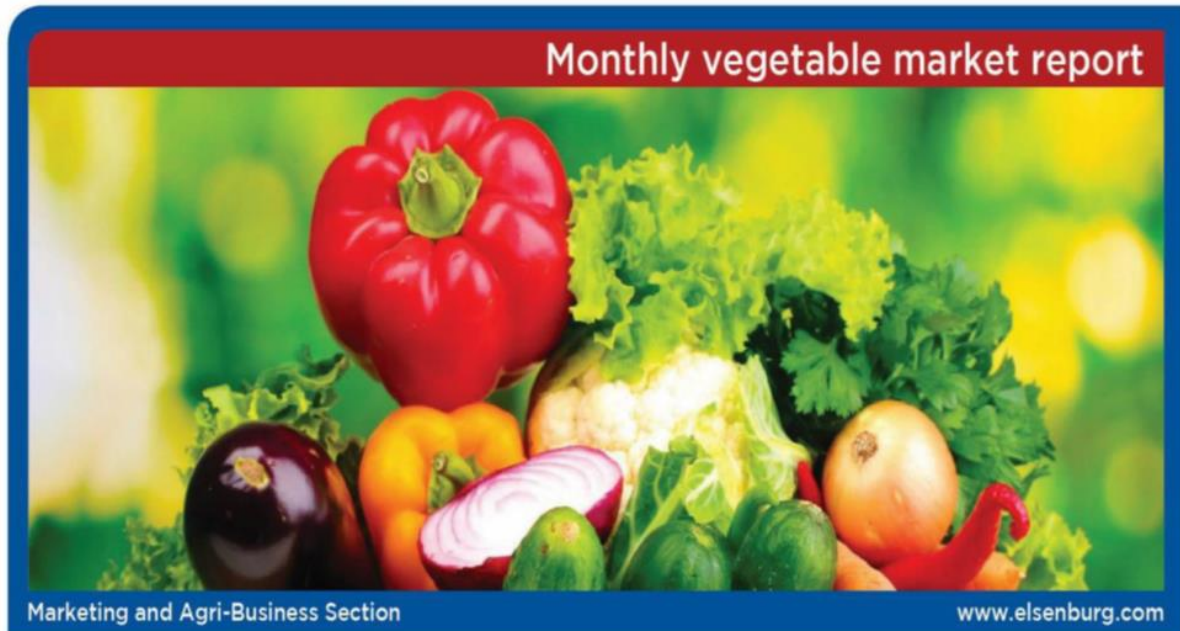


MONTHLY VEGETABLE REPORT



Review period: 01 March 2023 to 01 March 2024

MONTHLY MARKET INFORMATION REPORT: VEGETABLES

Issue: 2024/03

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

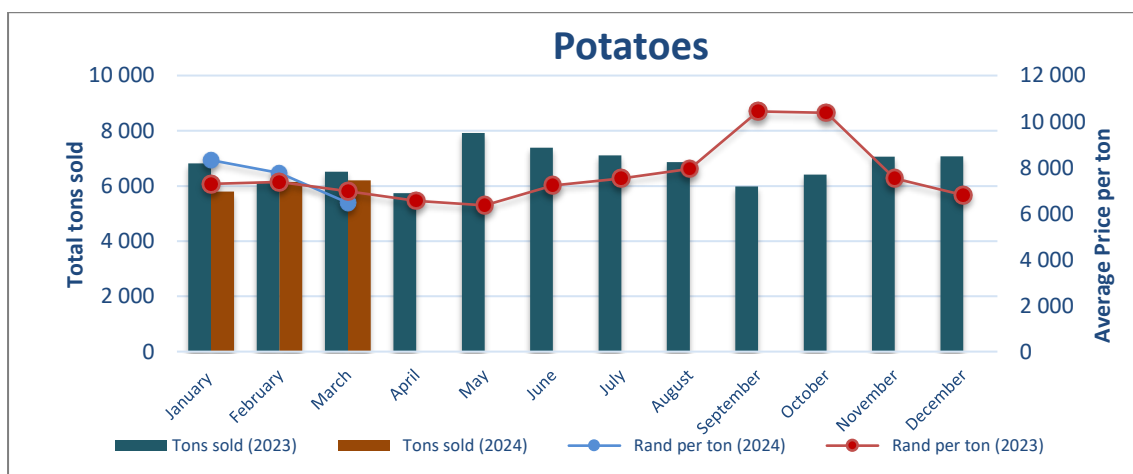
Vegetables are part of important annual crops for the South African agricultural industry. They play a fundamental role in contributing to various agricultural industries who are directly and indirectly involved in the vegetable industry. In return these industries make a significant contribution to 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 figure 1, the volume of Potatoes sold at the Cape Town Fresh produce market during the month of March 2024, increased by 0.9% from 6141.2 tons in February 2024 to 6198.0 tons. This translates to (56.9) ton increase in the tons of potatoes sold at Cape Town Fresh produce market during the month of March 2024. Subsequently, the average market price per ton of potatoes sold decreased by 16.6% (or R1290.4) from R7756.6 in February 2024 to 6466.2 in March 2024. Sales on the Cape Town market traded at 7.2% y/y per ton lower than the same period last year. The volume of potatoes also showed a decrease of 4.8% y/y compared to the same period last year.

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



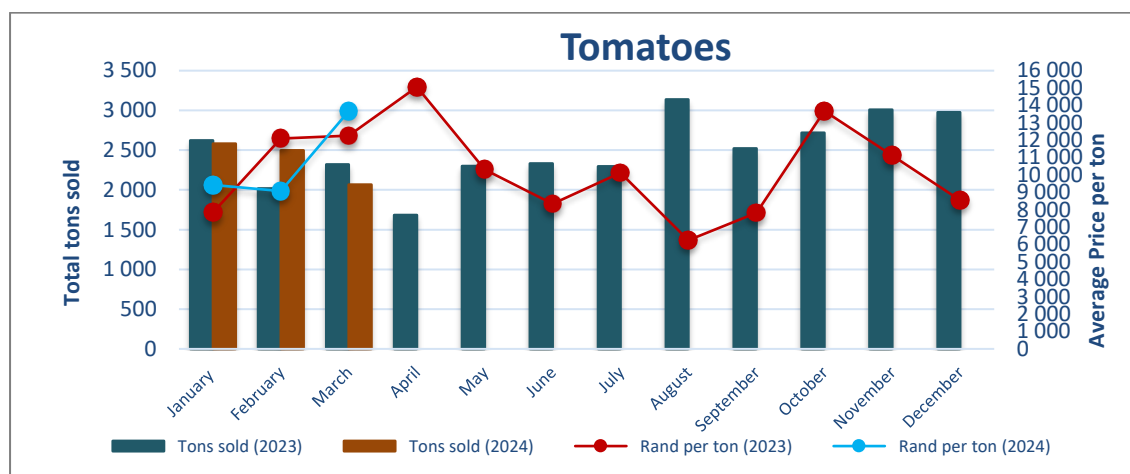
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

2. Tomatoes



The total amount of tomatoes sold during March 2024 was 2065.2 tons, which shows 433(ton) decrease from 2498.3 tons recorded in February 2024. Tomatoes were trading at R13673.5 in March 2024.

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



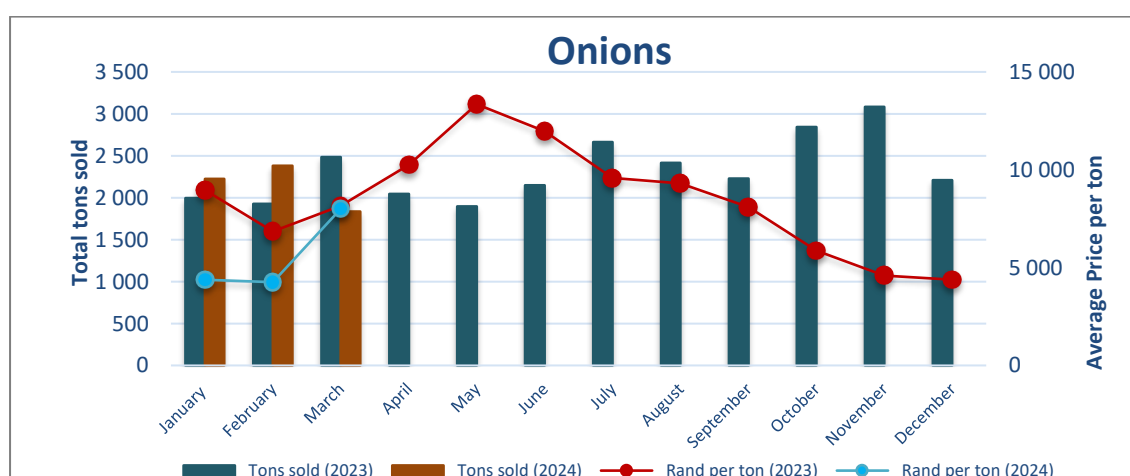
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

3. Onions



In March 2024, the volume of onions traded in the Cape Town fresh produce market was 1835.5 tons, which shows 22.9% decrease from 2380.1 tons recorded in February 2024. Price per ton of onions sold on the market increased by a remarkable 88.1% from R4256.5 in February 2024 to R8005.8 in March 2024.

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



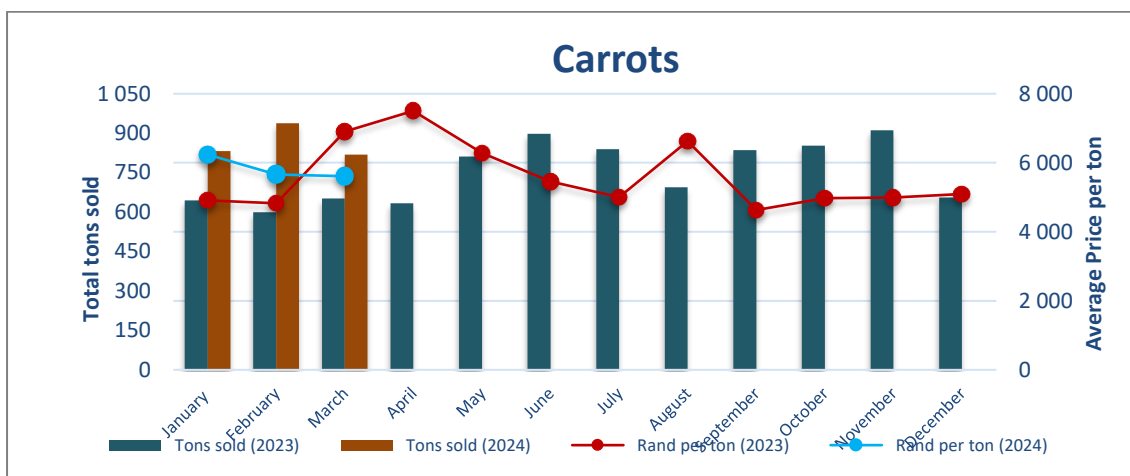
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

4. Carrots



As indicated by Figure 4 below shows the total volume of carrots traded at Cape Town fresh produce market during March 2024. The volume of carrots traded in March 2024, decreased month-month by 12.7% from 937.2 tons in February 2024 to 818.2 tons. When comparing year-on-year, the amount of carrots traded during this period increased by 25.6% from 651.4 tons in March 2023 to 818.2 tons in March 2024. In March 2024 carrots was trading at R5610.0 per ton, which indicates 0.8% decrease in price per ton of carrots between February 2024 and March 2024. The average market price per ton of carrots also decreased by 18.8% y/y from R6906.4 in March 2023 to R5610 in March 2024.

Figure 4: Carrots sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



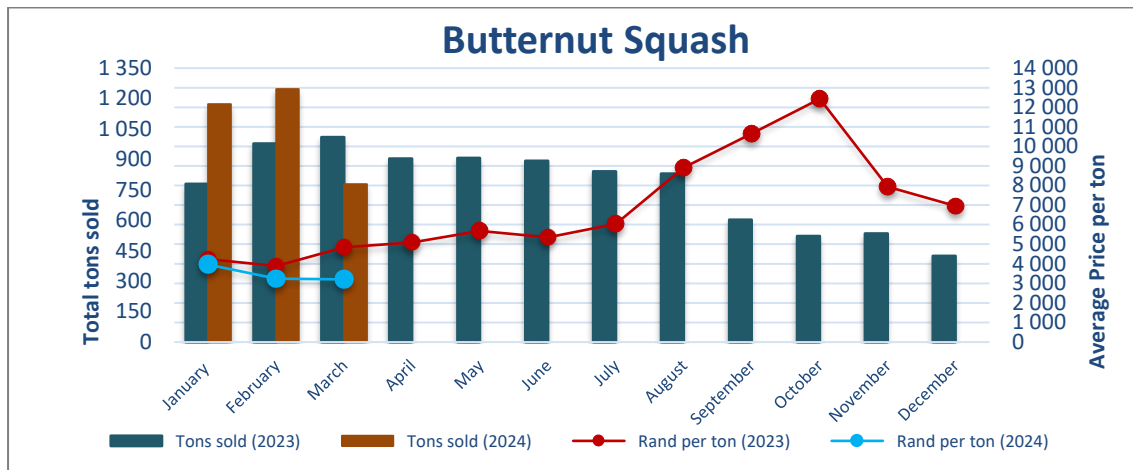
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

5. Butternut Squash



Figure 5 bellow represents the volume of butternut squash sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market during the month of March 2024. The volume of butternut squash sold decreased by 37.6% from 1246.8 tons in February 2024 to 778.4 tons in March 2024. The price per ton of butternut also decreased by 1.4% from R3248.9 in February 2024 to R3204.1 in March 2024. On a year-to-year basis the quantity of butternut squash sold during March 2023 and March 2024 decreased by 22.9% while the price of butternut sold during the same period (2023/24) also decreased by 33.9%.

Figure 5: Butternut squash sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



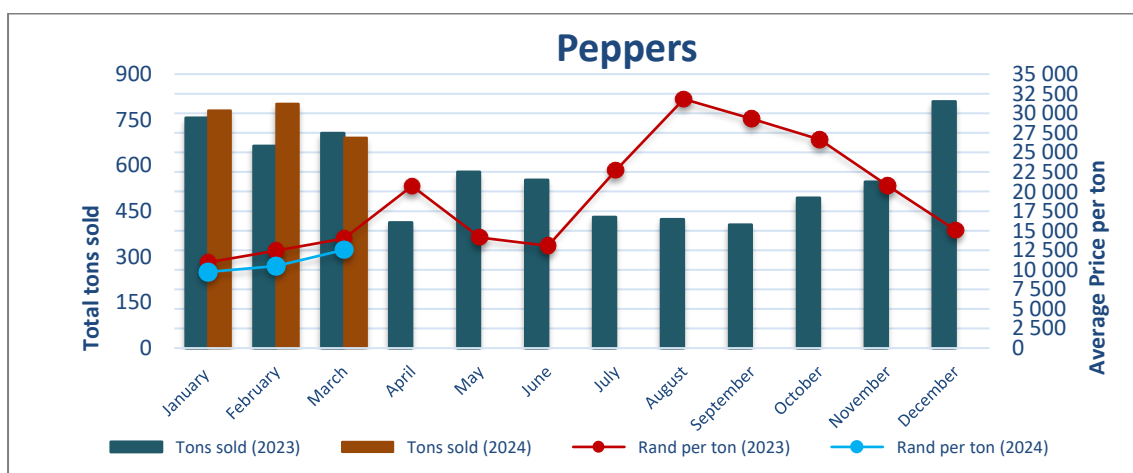
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

6. Peppers



As illustrated in figure 6 below, the total volume of peppers sold during March 2024 decreased by 13.8% from 802.5 tons in February 2024 to 691.8 tons. The average market price of peppers on the other hand, increased by 19.5% from R10507.7 in February 2024 to R12555.4 in March 2024. On annual basis, the total volume of peppers sold during the period under review registered a year-on-year decrease of 2.1%. The total volume of peppers sold thus decreased from 706.3 tons of peppers traded in March 2023 to 691.8 tons of peppers traded in March 2024. The average market price per ton also decreased by 10.2% from R13988.8 in March 2023 to R12555.4 in March 2024.

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



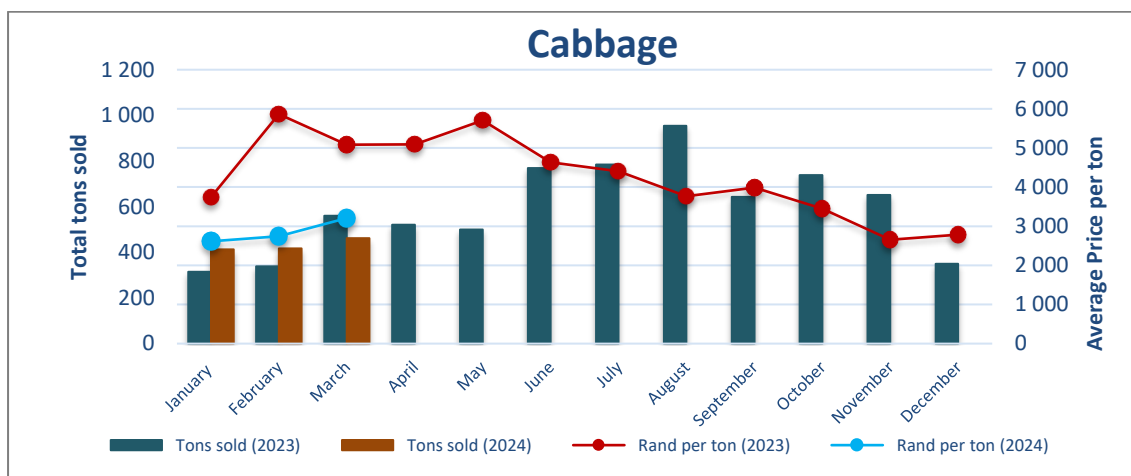
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

7. Cabbages



The total volume of cabbages sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market during March 2024 recorded a month-to-month increase of 10.6% or 44.1 tons. The total volume of cabbages sold therefore increased from 417.5 tons in February 2024 to 461.6 tons in March 2024. The average market price per ton of cabbages also increased by 16.8% from R2746.4 in February 2024 to R3208.0 in March 2024. On annual basis, the total volume of cabbages sold decreased from 559.4 tons obtained in March 2023 to 461.6 tons in March 2024. This represents a year-on-year decrease of 17.5% that is 97.7 tons, less than the amount registered within the same period last year.

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



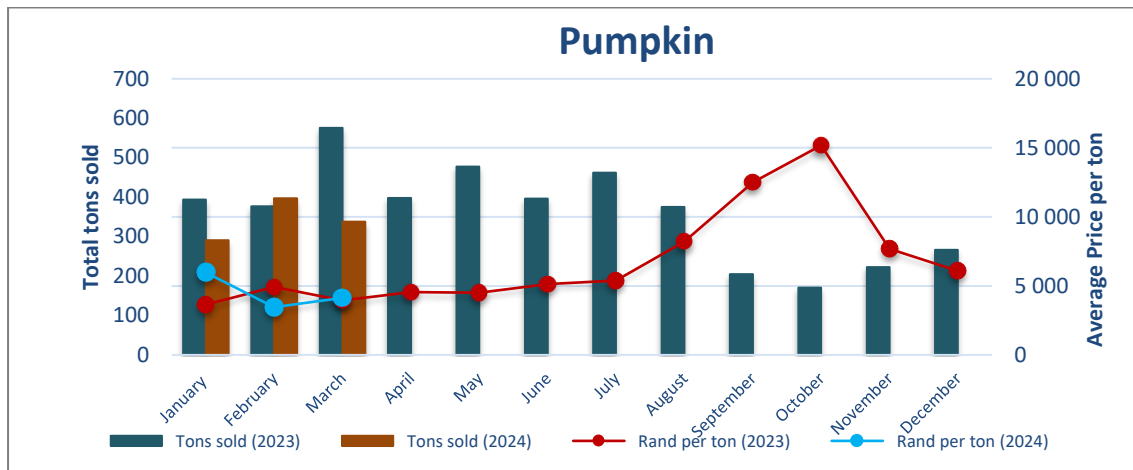
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

8. Pumpkin



A total amount of 337.9 tons of pumpkin was sold at the Cape Town fresh produce markets during March 2024. This presents 15% or 59.4-ton decrease from the previous month (February) record of 397.3 tons. The average market price on the other hand, decreased by 19.9% or R687.5 per ton from R3454.1 in February 2024 to R4141.6 in March 2024. On year and year, basis pumpkin was trading at R3952.7 per ton in March 2023 compared to R4141.6 in March 2024. These results indicate an increase of 4.8 in price per ton of pumpkin between March 2023 and March 2024.

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



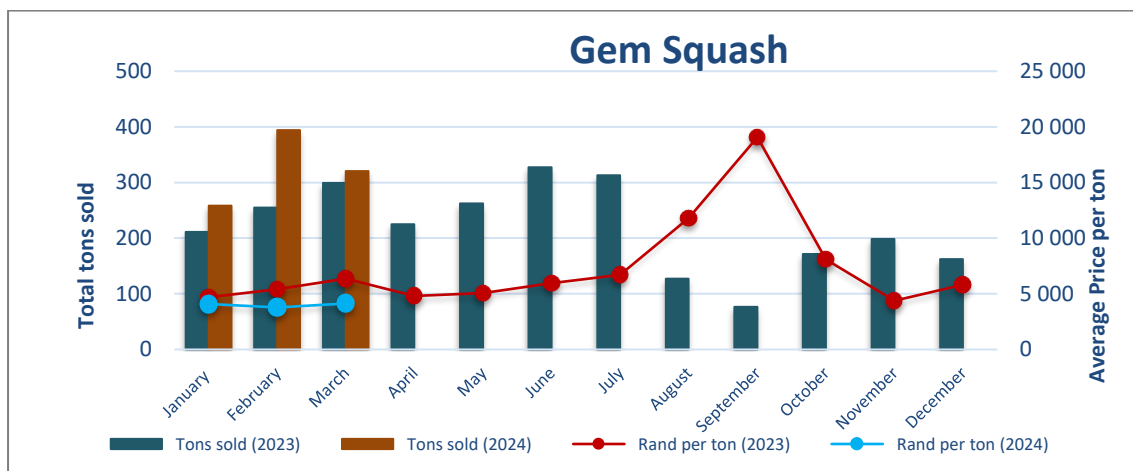
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

9. Gem squash



Figure 9 below shows the total volume of gem squash sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market in March 2024. The volume of gem squash sold during March 2024 decreased by 18.7% from 394.2 tons in February 2024 to 320.5 tons. The price per ton of gem squash on the other hand, increased by 9.4% from R3776.1 in February 2024 to R4132.6 in March 2024. On annual basis, gem squash sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market increased by 7.1% during the period under review. As a result, the volume of gem squash sold increased from 299.3 tons in March 2023 to 320.5 tons in March 2024. The average market price of gem squash decreased by 35% or R2224.3 per ton from R6356.9 in March 2023 to R4132.6 in March 2024.

Figure 9: Gem squash sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market



Source: Techno fresh (2024)

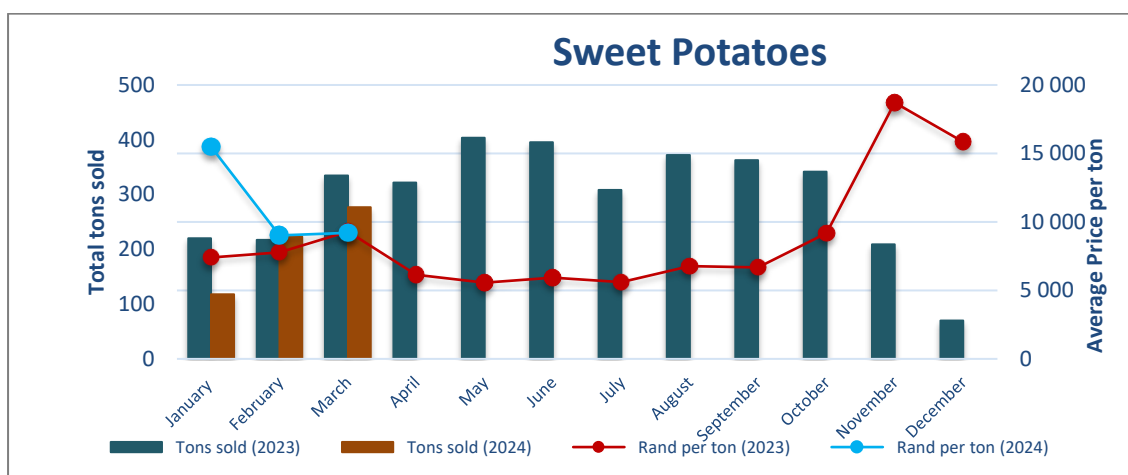
10. Sweet potato



The total volume of sweet potato sold at the Cape Town fresh produce market increased from 222.9 tons in February 2024 to 276.9 in March 2024. This translates to 24.2% month-to-month increase recorded during the month of March 2024.

The total volume of sweet potato sold decreased year-on-year by 17.2% from 334.4 tons in March 2023 to 276.9 in March 2024. Sweet potato was trading at R 9202.3 during March 2024. On annual basis, the average market price per ton decreased by 1.1% from R9303.2 in March 2023 to R9202.3 in March 2024.

Figure 10: Sweet potato sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market.



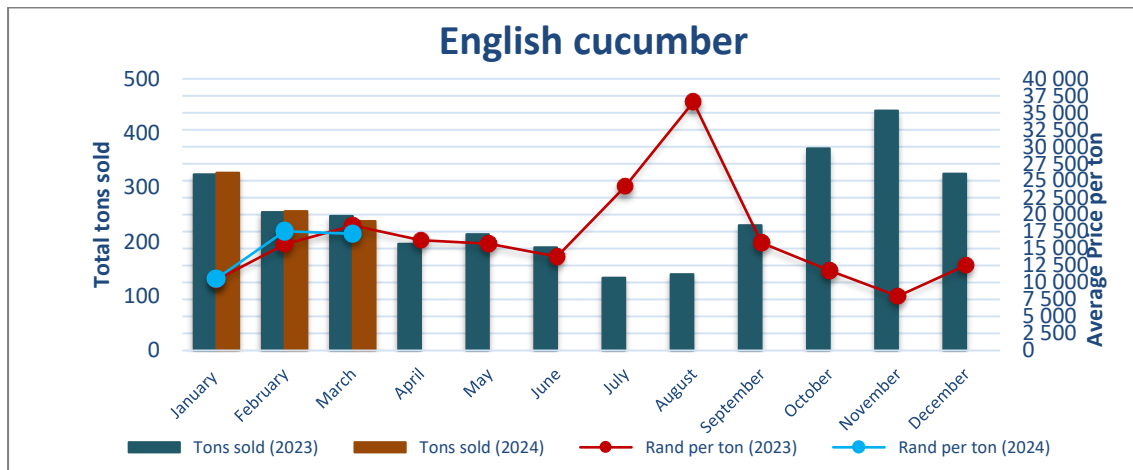
Source: Techno fresh (2024).

11. English cucumber



During the period under review (March 2024), the total volume of English cucumber sold amounted to 238.1 tons which is 7.1% or 18.2 tons less than 256.3 tons which was recorded in February 2024. The average market price of English cucumber also decreased by 2.2% from R17567.8 in February 2024 to R17180.4 in March 2024. On annual basis, the volume of tons of English cucumber decreased by 3.9% (or 9.6 tons) from 247.8 tons in March 2023 to 238.1 tons in March 2024.

Figure 11: English cucumber sales on the Cape Town Fresh Produce Market.



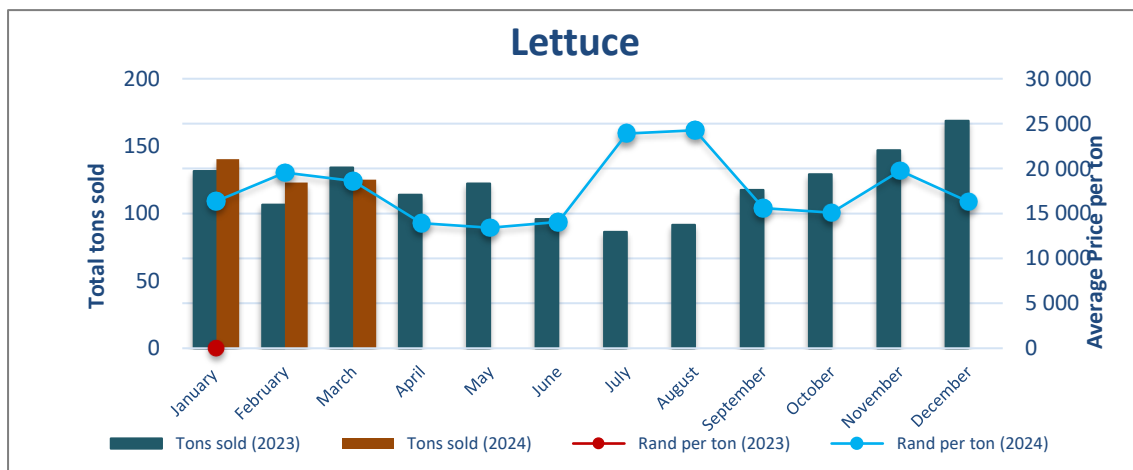
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

12. Lettuce



A total amount of 125.2 tons of lettuce was sold at the Cape Town fresh produce markets during March 2024. This presents 1.9% or 2.3 tons increase from the previous month (February 2024) record of 122.9 tons. The average market price on the other hand, decreased by 5.3% or R1 123.6 from R21 183.5 in February 2024 to R20 059.9 March 2024. On year and year, lettuce was trading at R18632.8 in March 2023 compared to R20 059.9 in March 2024. These results indicate an increase of 7.7% in price per ton of lettuce between March 2023 and March 2024.

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



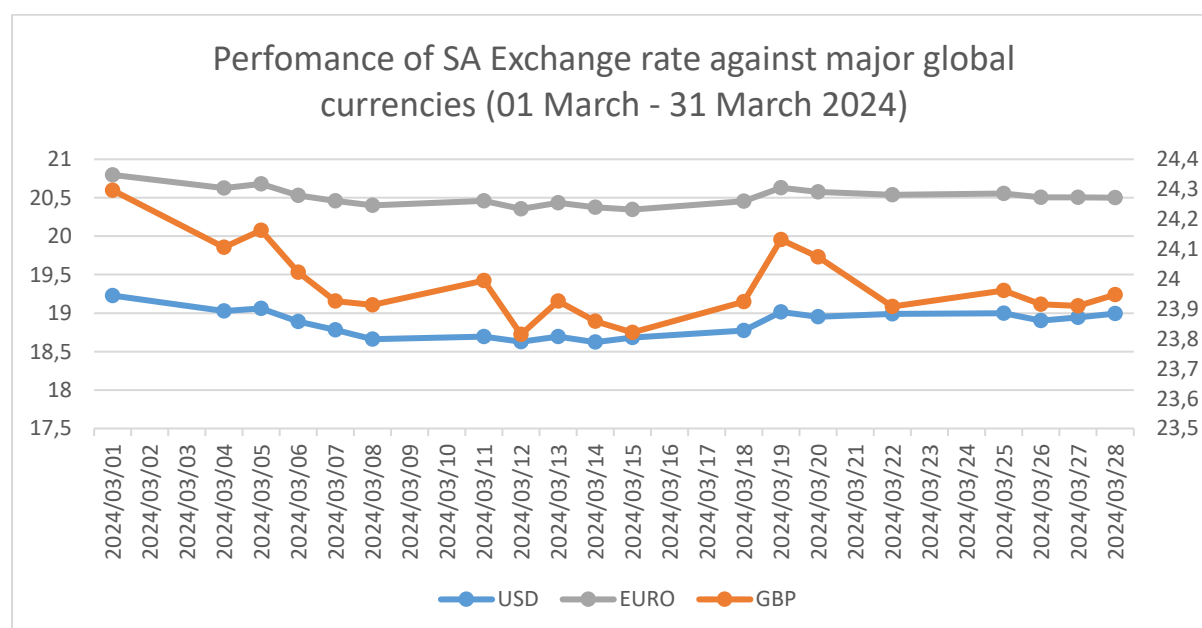
Source: Techno fresh (2024)

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

Product Name highest to the lowest volumes in March 2024	Average tons March 2024 (Ton)	% change in average tons March 2024 (m/m)	Average Price March 2024(Rand/ton)	% change in average price March 2024 (m/m)
Beetroot	119,1	19,1%	8 728,0	18,7%
Baby marrow	90,4	9,3%	18 468,9	8,3%
Green beans	75,8	1,3%	21 215,8	20,3%
Cauliflower	65,5	37,6%	23 711,4	-18,6%
Sweetcorn	51,8	-32,7%	22 286,5	43,5%
Brinjals	46,3	-15,2%	15 259,7	38,2%
Spinach	29,3	13,7%	17 194,5	4,1%
Broccoli	28,4	-16,6%	40 581,6	6,1%
Spring onion	26,3	-19,3%	15 551,9	23,7%
Leeks	15,2	35,4%	13 131,8	-3,3%
Hubbard squash	8,6	-44,9%	3 126,8	45,9%
Radishes	3,5	3,7%	24 730,3	-3,3%
Mushrooms	3,0	40,9%	76 267,3	-1,8%
Patty pans	1,0	-68,5%	18 383,4	0,8%
Marrows	0,8	100%	6 410,6	100%

Source: Techno fresh (2024)

Exchange Rates



Source: South African Reserve Bank (2024)

During the reporting period 01 March -31 March 2024, looking at month-to-month average of the Rand has strengthened against the US Dollar, Great British pound while it weakened against the Euro. The US Dollar was trading at R18.87 in March 2024 compared to R18.99 in February 2024. The Great British pound was trading at R23.97 in March 2024 compared to R23.99 in February 2024. Euro was at trading at R20.51 in March 2024 compared to R20.50 in February 2024.

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	121,00	cents per litre increase in the retail price	2373,00
Diesel 0.05% Sulphur	105,70	cents per litre increase in the retail price	2169,870
Illuminating Paraffin (Wholesale)	64,00	cents per litre increase the retail price	1555,438
LPGAS (maximum retail price)	41,00	cents per litre increase in the retail price	3535,00

The Department of Energy has announced fuel price adjustments with effect from 01 March 2024. The price of Petrol 95 ULP & LRP increased by 121cents, the price of diesel (0.05% sulphur) increased by 105 cents, price of paraffin increased by 64 cents. Lastly, LPGAS's maximum retail price increased by 41 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

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

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

South African Reserve Bank (SARB): <https://www.resbank.co.za/en/home/what-we-do/statistics/key-statistics/selected-historical-rates>

South African Revenue Services (SARS): www.sars.gov.za

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA): www.statssa.gov.za

Techno Fresh CRM: www.technofresh.co.za

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

For more information, contact:

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture

Programme: Agricultural Economic Services

Division: Marketing and Agribusiness

Tel: 021 808 5193 or 7753

E-mail: Tshifhiwa.Labase@westerncape.gov.za

DISCLAIMER: The Western Cape