



**Western Cape
Government**

Agriculture

FOR YOU

Western Cape Department of
Agriculture

WESTERN CAPE AGRICULTURAL PRICE TRACKER

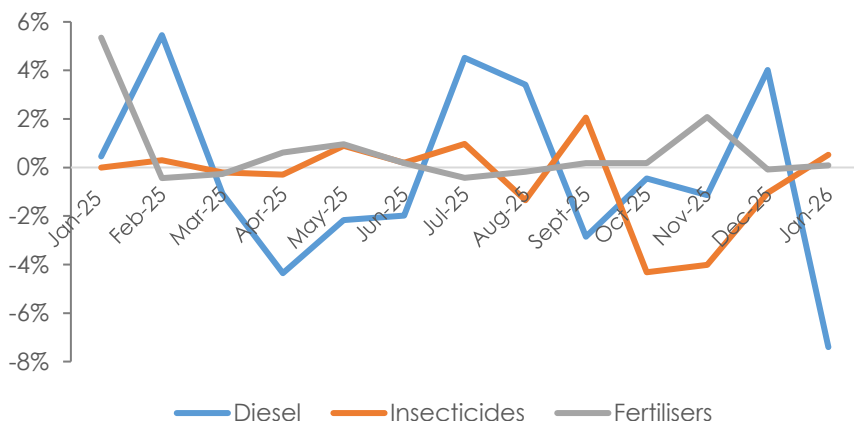
Tracking how global market forces shape local cost pressures across the agricultural value chain

20 April 2026

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- **Market Drivers (*What is driving costs*)**
- **Producer Level (*PPI - How producers are affected*)**
- **Consumer Level (*CPI – Impact on households*)**
- **Trade Movements (*Price and volume trends*)**
- **Concluding Remarks**
- **On the radar (*Week ahead*)**

AGRICULTURAL INPUT COSTS AND FARMGATE PRICE MOVEMENTS (%) (2025–2026)

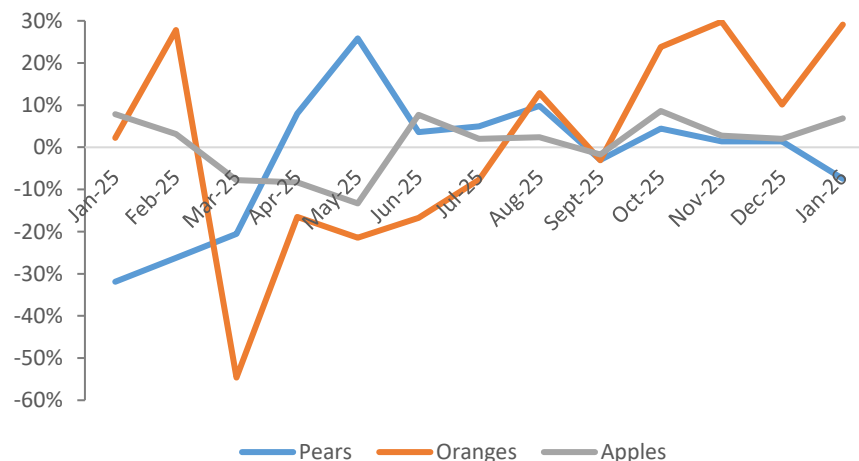


Input Cost Volatility and Farmgate Price Movements Signal Margin Pressure (2025–2026)

- Diesel price volatility, driven by global oil markets and exchange rate movements, continues to shape short-term production costs.
- Fertiliser and insecticide prices remain relatively stable but elevated, reflecting global input cost pressures and seasonal demand patterns.
- Farmgate prices show strong volatility linked to seasonal supply cycles and export market dynamics, creating uneven revenue conditions.

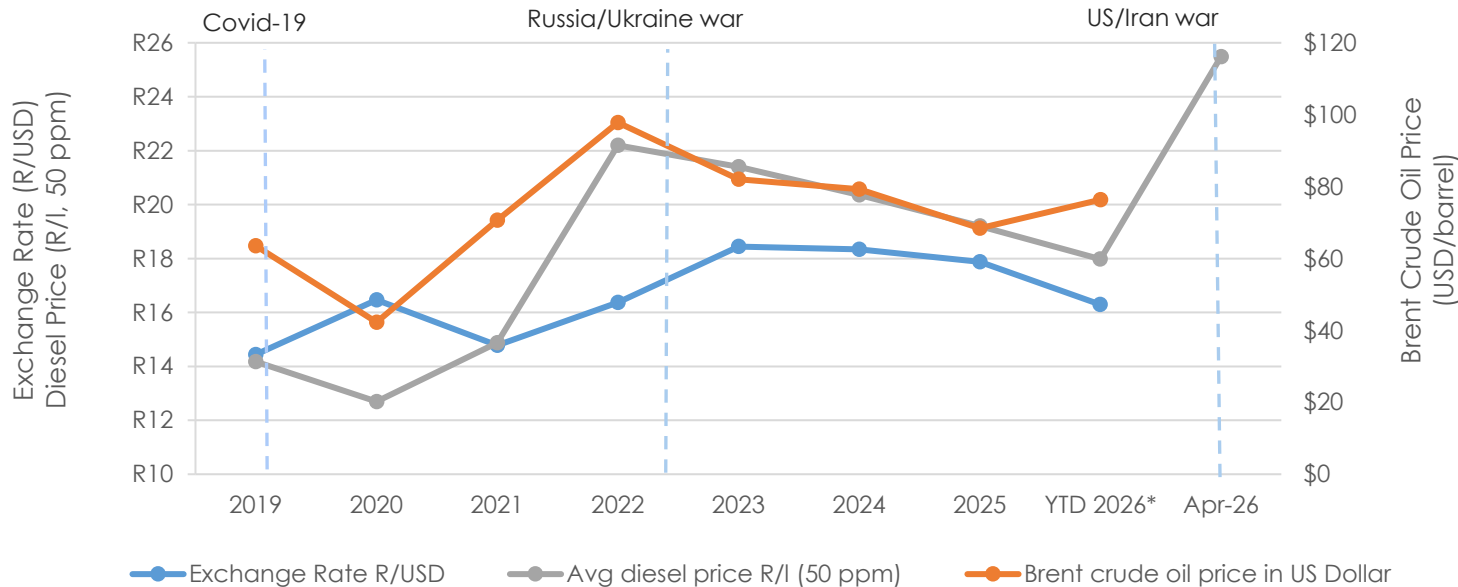
Farmgate Prices Show High Volatility Driven by Seasonal and Export Dynamics (2025–2026)

- Fruit prices exhibit sharp monthly fluctuations, reflecting seasonal harvest patterns and shifting supply conditions.
- Citrus prices, particularly oranges, show pronounced swings linked to export demand changes and logistics constraints.
- Price variability across crops highlights uneven revenue conditions, contributing to uncertainty in farm-level income.



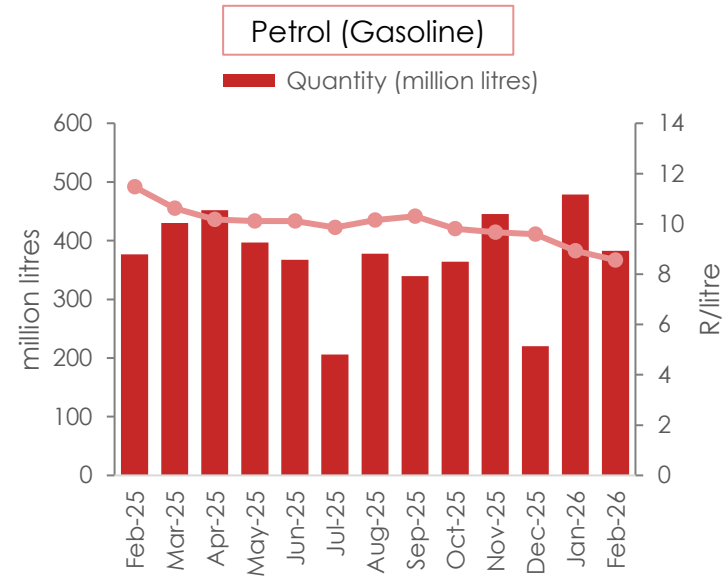
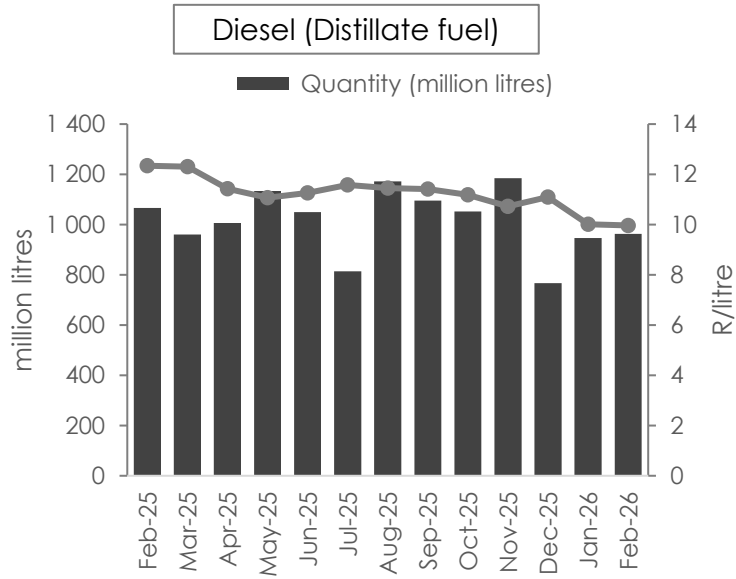
Key Drivers of Diesel Fuel Prices: Oil Price, Exchange Rate and Global Shocks

Diesel prices reflect global oil price dynamics and exchange rate pass-through to domestic fuel costs



- Global events disrupted oil demand and supply since 2019
- Brent crude and diesel prices moved closely during major shocks
- Exchange rate movements amplified local price volatility
- From 1 April 2026 average diesel price (Inland and Coastal) is R25.49/liter

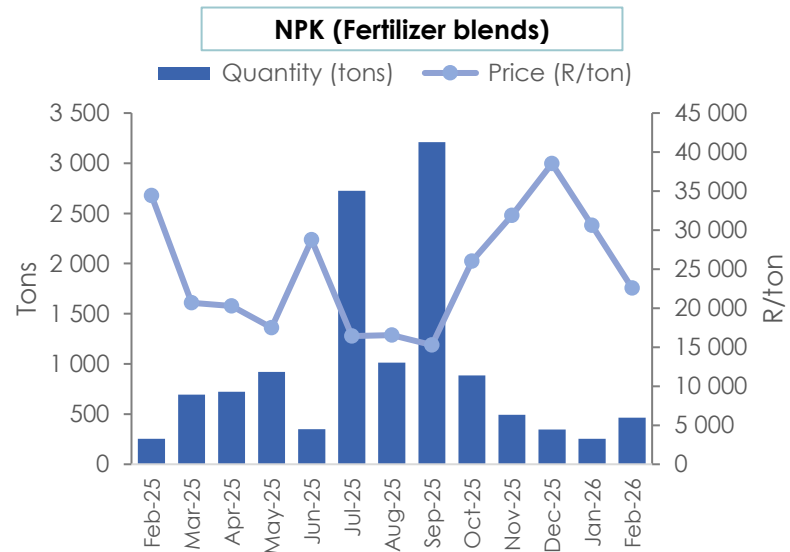
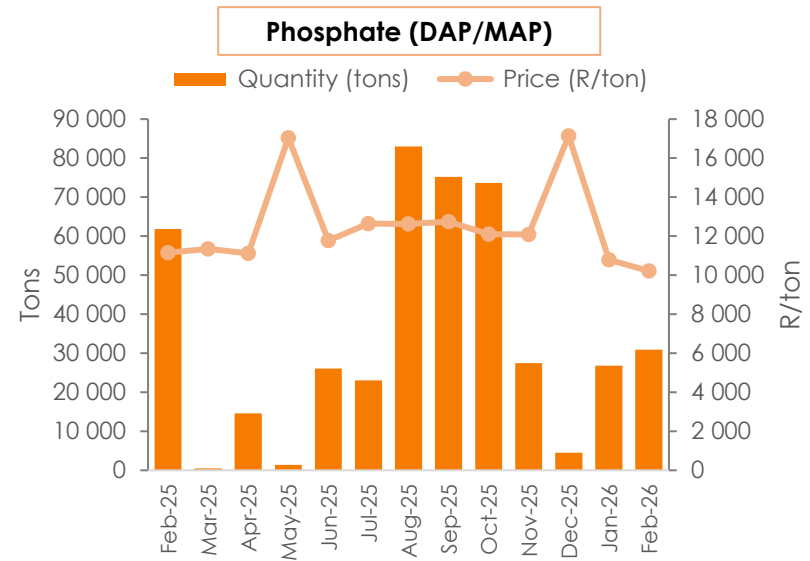
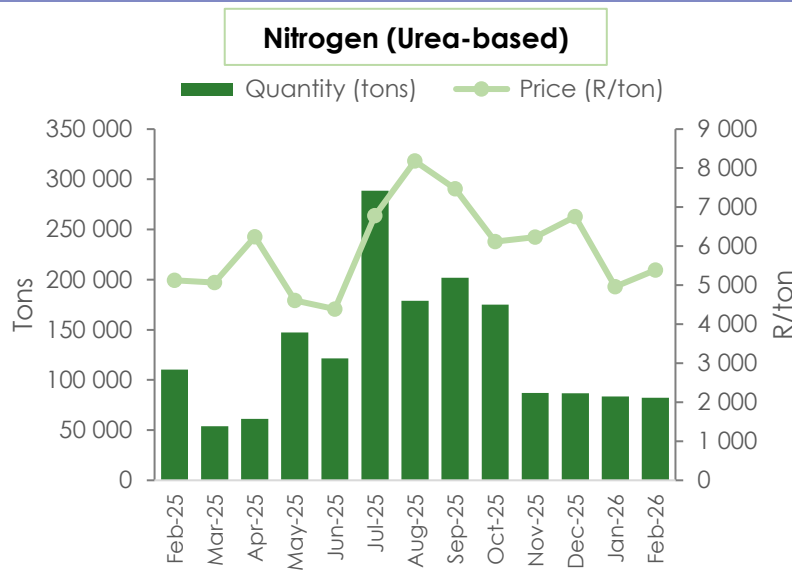
FUEL IMPORTS: MONTHLY IMPORT VOLUMES AND PRICES



Import Price = (International refined fuel price + freight & insurance) × exchange rate

- OPEC+ supply and global demand cycles drove fuel price movements in 2025.
- Exchange rate pressures and shipping disruptions increased import costs, before easing into 2026.

FERTILISER IMPORTS: MONTHLY IMPORT VOLUMES AND PRICES BY FERTILISER TYPE

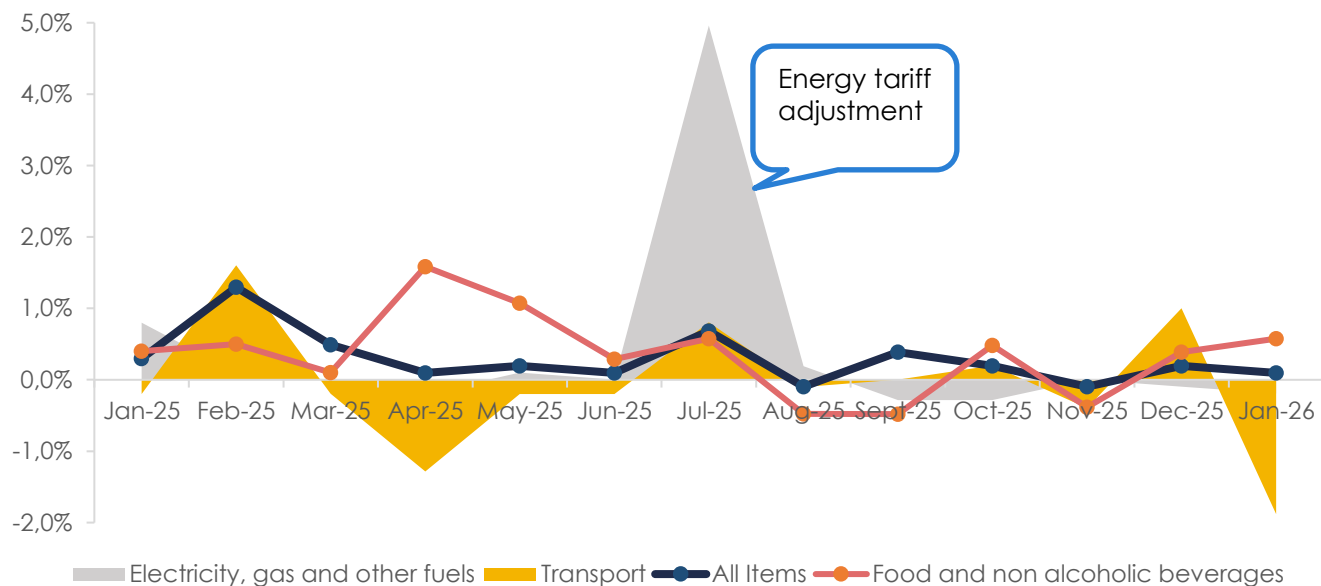


- Import volumes fluctuated with seasonal demand, while prices reflect global input cost pressures.
- Higher volumes in peak months reflect bulk procurement and inventory build-up ahead of planting cycles.

Source: South African Revenue Services

CPI TRENDS AND KEY COST DRIVERS (MOM): JAN 2025 – JAN 2026

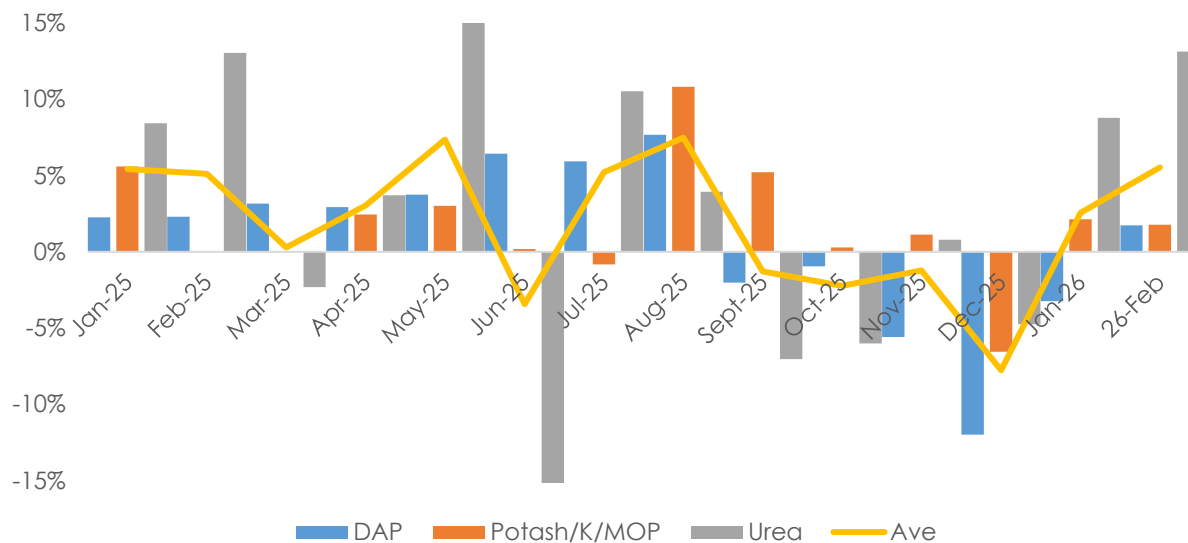
While headline CPI appears stable, persistent cost volatility suggests potential delayed inflationary pressures.



- Headline inflation remained relatively stable over the period, despite noticeable volatility in underlying components
- Energy and transport costs showed sharp month-to-month fluctuations, highlighting ongoing cost-pressure risks for both producers and households
- Food price movements were more moderate but remain critical for consumer impact, with forward monitoring required given recent variability

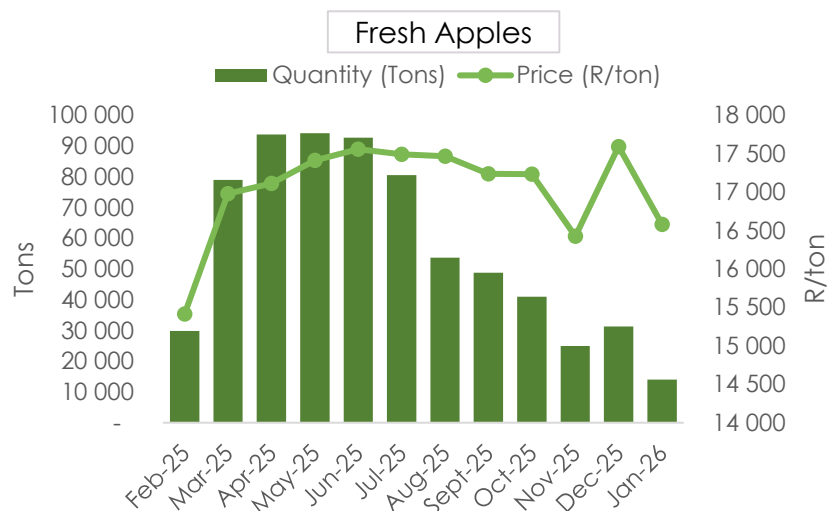
FERTILISER PRICES TO MONITOR: MOM% CHANGE

Fertilizer: MoMΔ Jan 25 - Jan 26

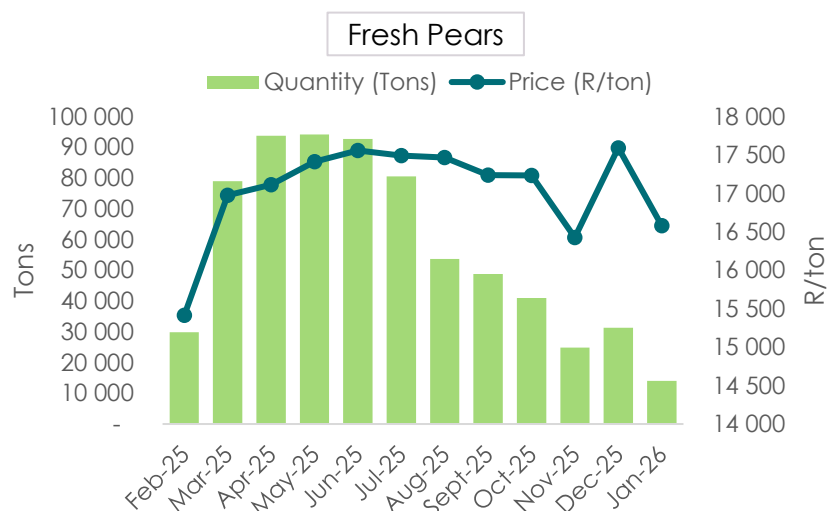


- Urea volatility driven by energy prices and geopolitical supply risks
- DAP price easing reflects demand correction and shifting trade conditions
- Potash showing relative firmness amid tightening global stocks

EXPORT PRICE AND VOLUME TRENDS: FRESH APPLES AND PEARS (ROLLING 12-MONTH)

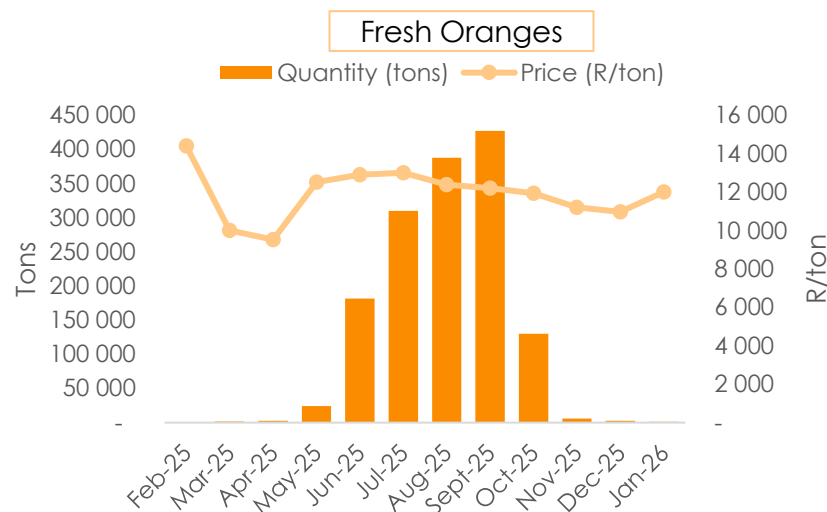
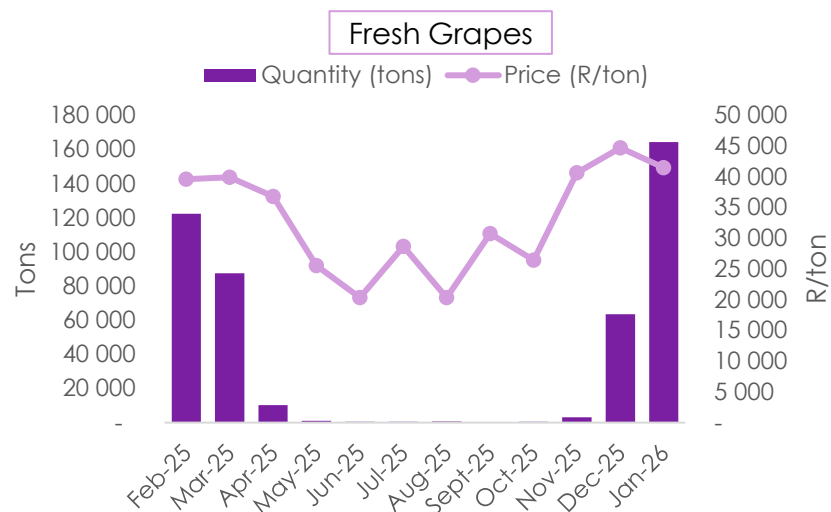


- Peak export volumes (Apr–Jun) align with Western Cape harvest conditions and strong EU/UK seasonal demand cycles
- Mid-year export strength supported by stable global logistics recovery following earlier supply chain disruptions (post-COVID-19 pandemic)
- Late-year volume decline reflects seasonal supply constraints, with additional pressure from rising input costs linked to global energy and fertilizer markets (e.g. Russia–Ukraine war)



- Peak exports (Apr–Jun) coincide with harvest timing and strong Northern Hemisphere demand.
- Stable mid-year prices indicate steady export demand and efficient market absorption.
- Late-season volatility reflects tightening supply and changing export market conditions.

EXPORT PRICE AND VOLUME TRENDS: FRESH GRAPES AND ORANGES (ROLLING 12-MONTH)

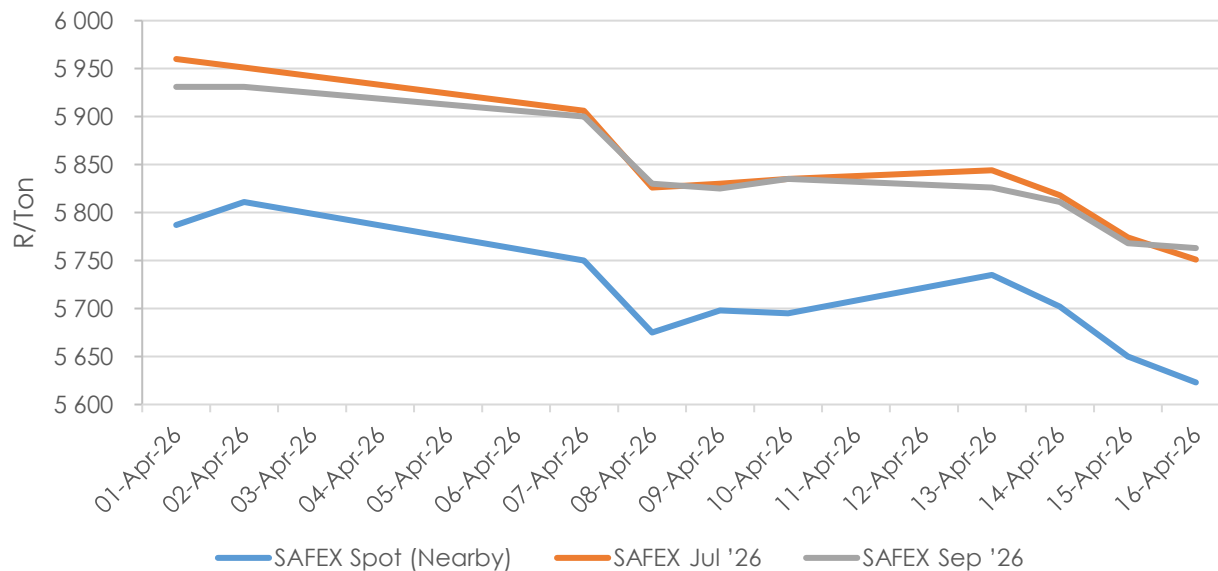


- Early-season export volumes reflect Western Cape harvest timing and strong initial demand from EU and UK markets.
- Price volatility during the season reflects supply timing shifts and sensitivity to export market conditions.
- Late-season volume recovery and price strengthening suggest improved demand conditions and tighter global supply.

- Export peaks align with citrus harvest and strong international demand cycles.
- Stable prices indicate consistent demand and efficient export logistics.
- End-season declines reflect harvest completion, with prices remaining supported.

SAFEX WHEAT PRICES: CURRENT VS FORWARD MARKET (JUL–SEP '26)

1 APRIL 2026 – 16 APRIL 2026



Spot prices reflect current traded wheat values, while July and September contracts indicate forward market expectations.

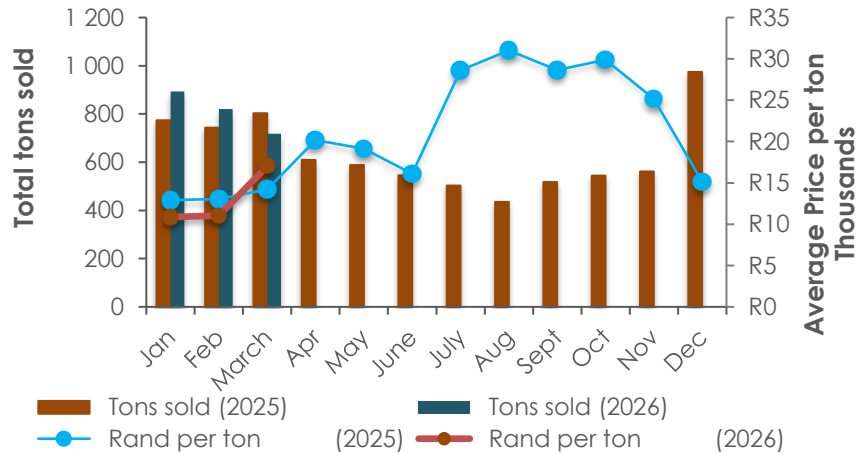
What 'Premium' Indicates



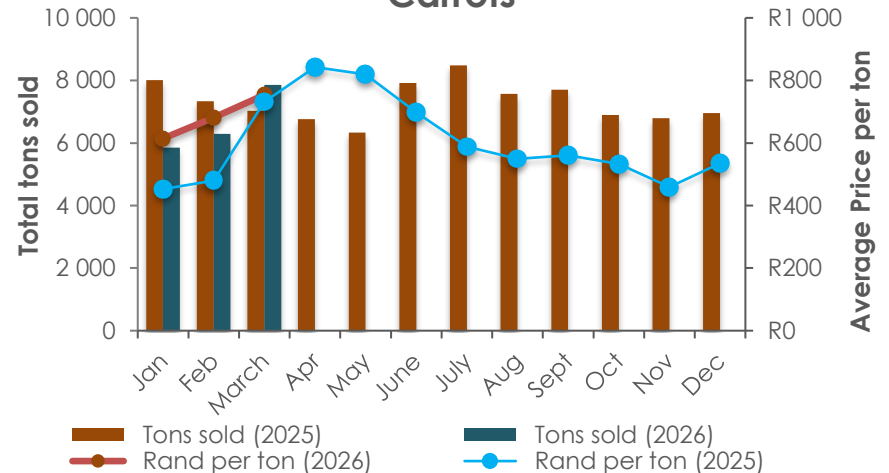
- SAFEX spot (nearby) wheat prices softened slightly over the period.
- Jul–Sep '26 SAFEX futures continued to trade above spot levels, reflecting modest forward premiums rather than strong upside expectations.
- Price movements remained relatively orderly, suggesting stable local trading conditions, while broader global supply and input-cost risks continue to influence forward pricing.

VEGETABLE AVERAGE PRICES

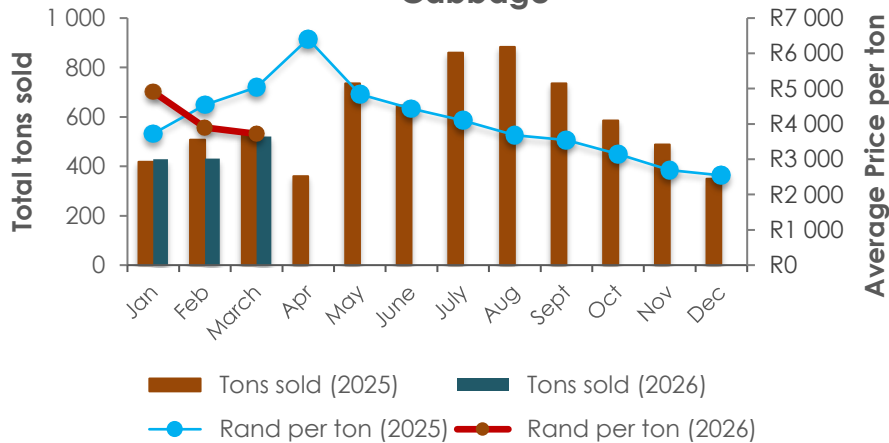
Peppers



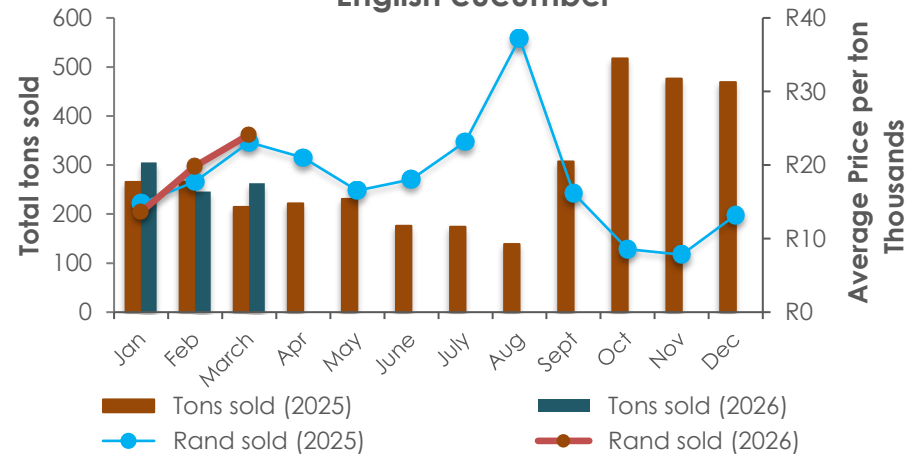
Carrots



Cabbage

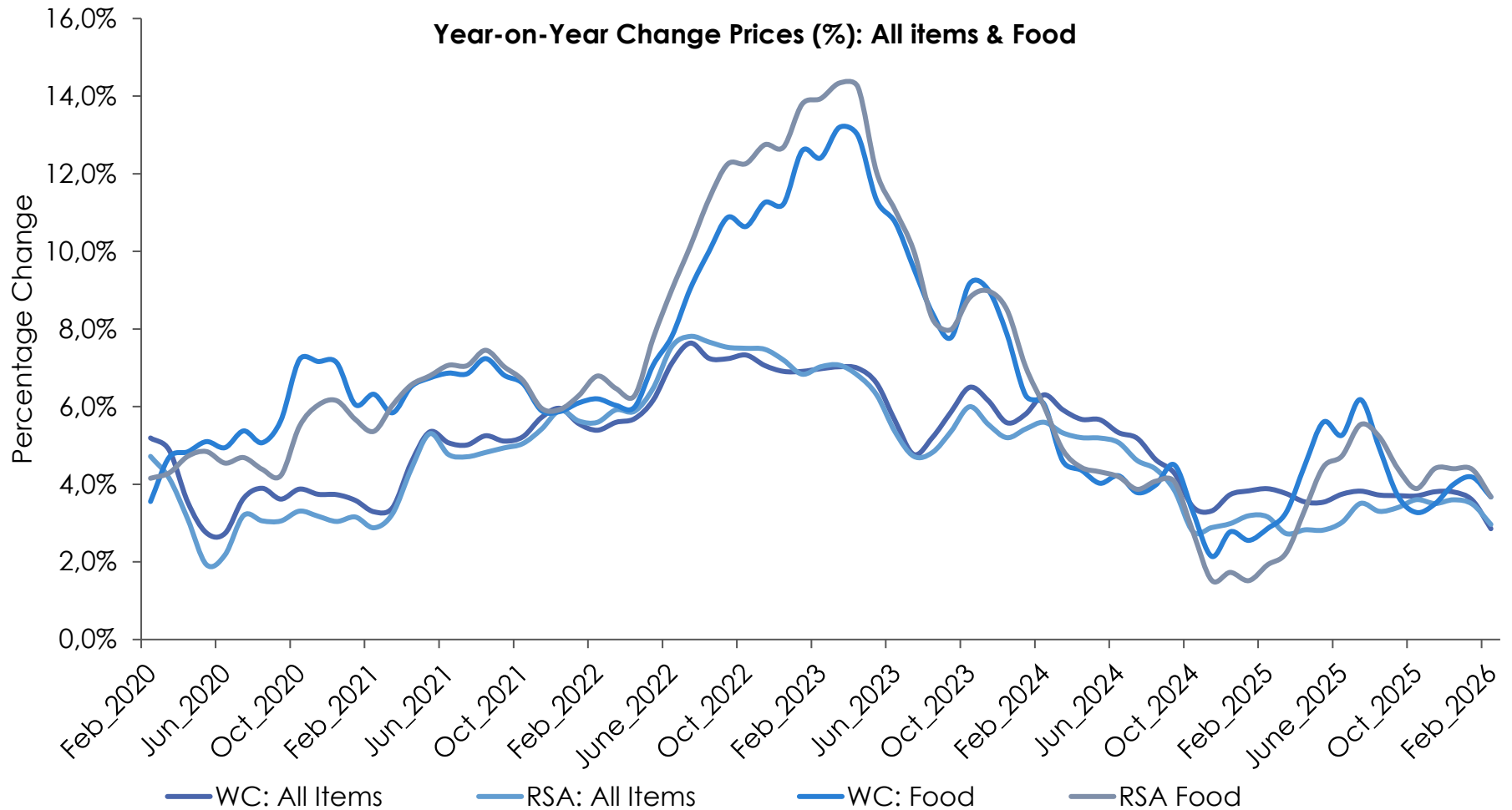


English cucumber

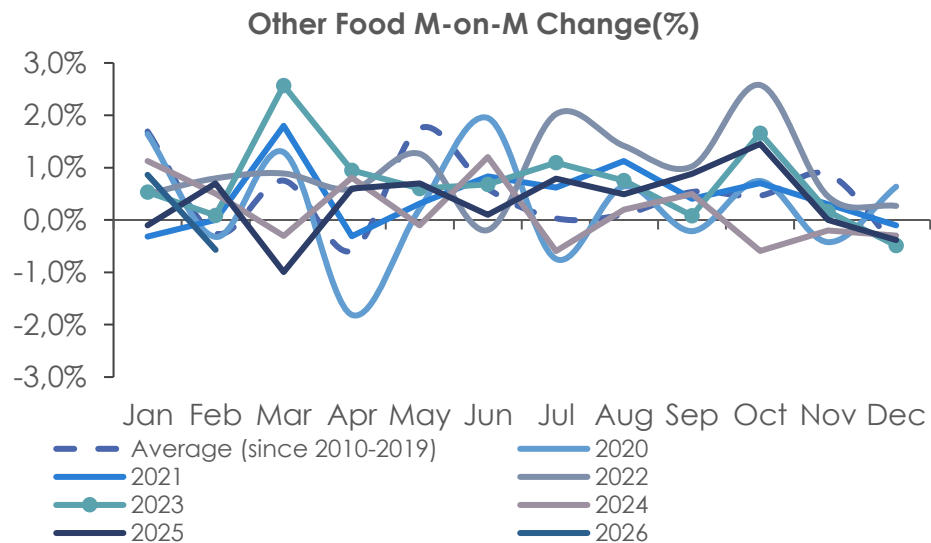
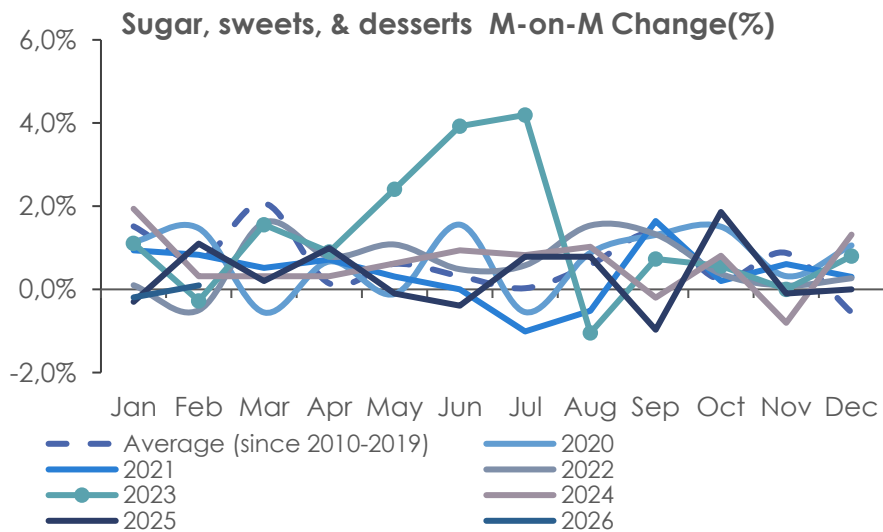
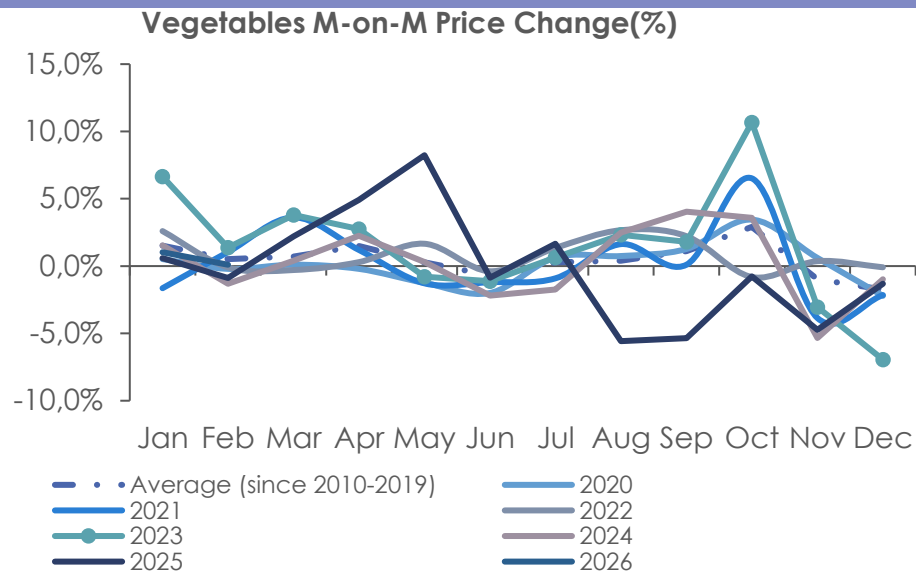
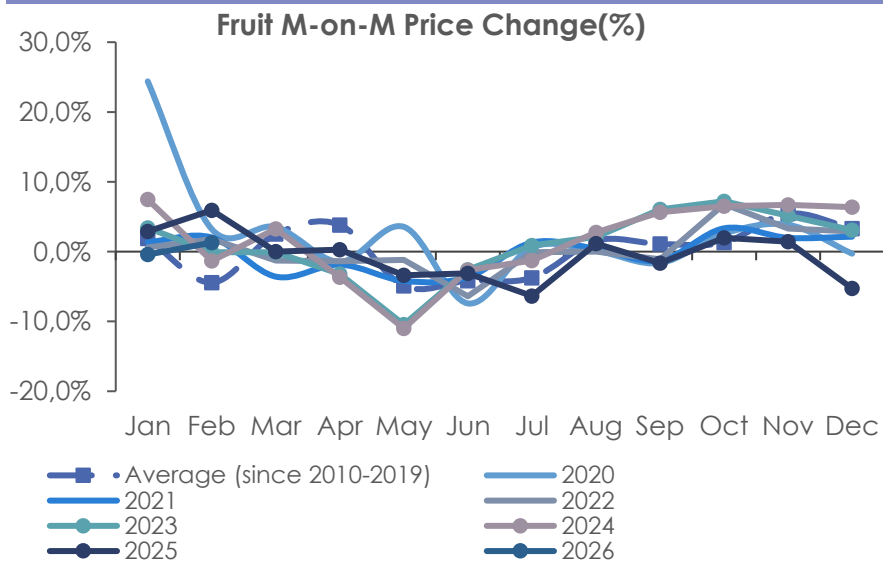


FOOD PRICES

Inflation for all goods and food since 2015

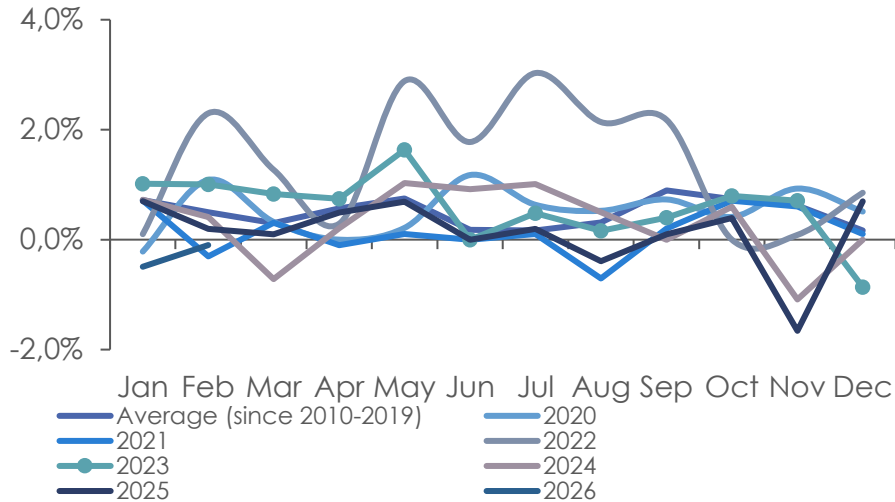


SELECTED PRODUCTS AVERAGE PRICE CHANGES

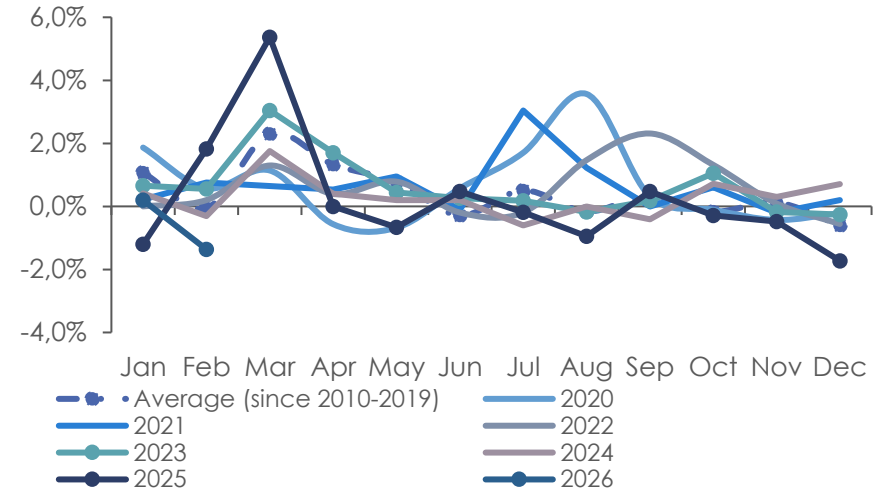


SELECTED PRODUCTS AVERAGE PRICE CHANGES (CONTINUE)

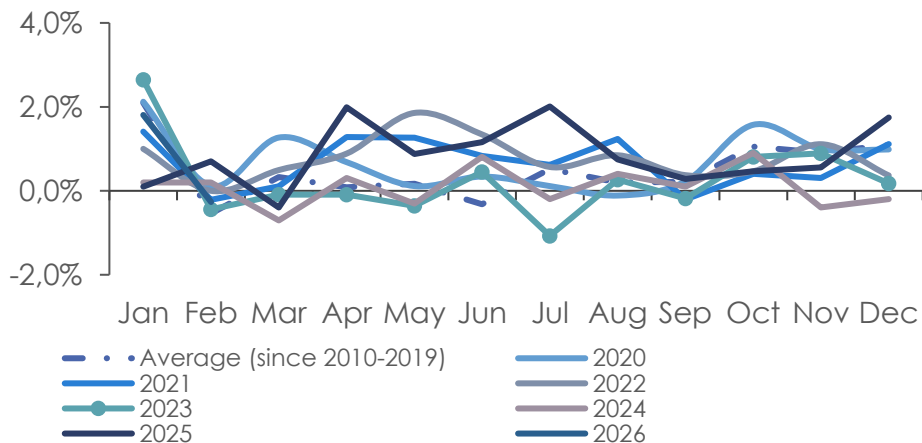
Bread & Cereal M-on-M Change (%)



Wine M-on-M Change (%)



Meat M-on-M Change (%)



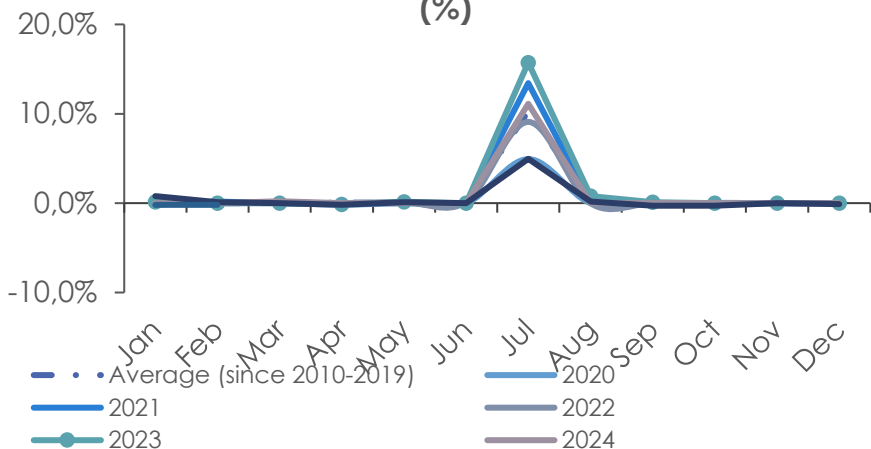
ABSOLUTE PRICES (MONTHLY): ALL URBAN AT NATIONAL LEVEL

FOOD BASKET FOR SOUTH AFRICANS

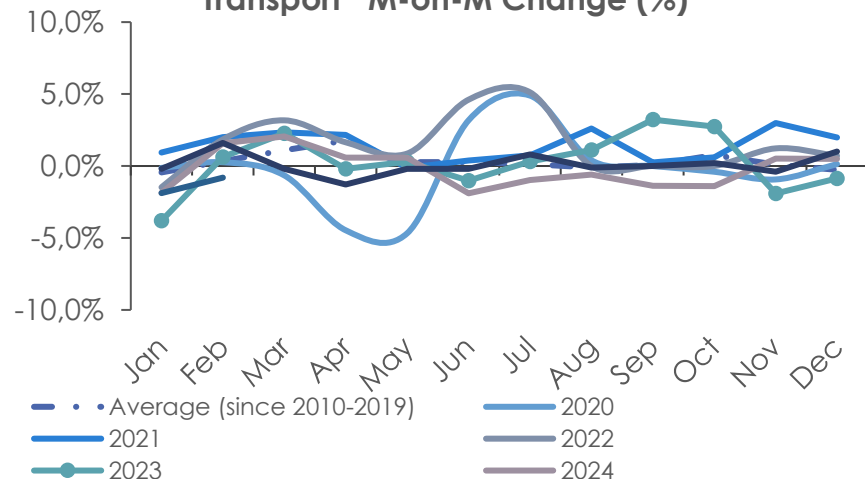
Products Purchased	Unit of Measure	Feb_2025	Jan_2026	Feb_2026	M-on-M (%)	Y-on-Y (%)
Bread flour	2.5 Kilogram	R46.61	R46.65	R46.68	0.1%	0%
Brown bread	700 Gram	R17.52	R17.58	R17.54	-0.2%	0%
IQF Chicken portions	2 Kilogram	R96.32	R102.10	R102.69	0.6%	7%
Eggs	For 18	R68.27	R60.59	R59.61	-1.6%	-13%
Apples - fresh	Per Kilogram	R27.03	R27.51	R28.95	5.2%	7%
Green/red/yellow pepper - fresh	Per Kilogram	R56.77	R61.24	R58.35	-4.7%	3%
Tomatoes - fresh	Per Kilogram	R28.05	R26.15	R26.70	2.1%	-5%
Pumpkin - fresh	Per Kilogram	R14.68	R18.35	R17.32	-5.6%	18%
Onions - fresh	Per Kilogram	R20.46	R20.95	R20.16	-3.8%	-1%
Potatoes - fresh	Per Kilogram	R20.77	R18.05	R17.91	-0.8%	-14%

WESTERN CAPE: ELECTRICITY, GAS, & OTHER FUELS, TRANSPORT, AND ENERGY

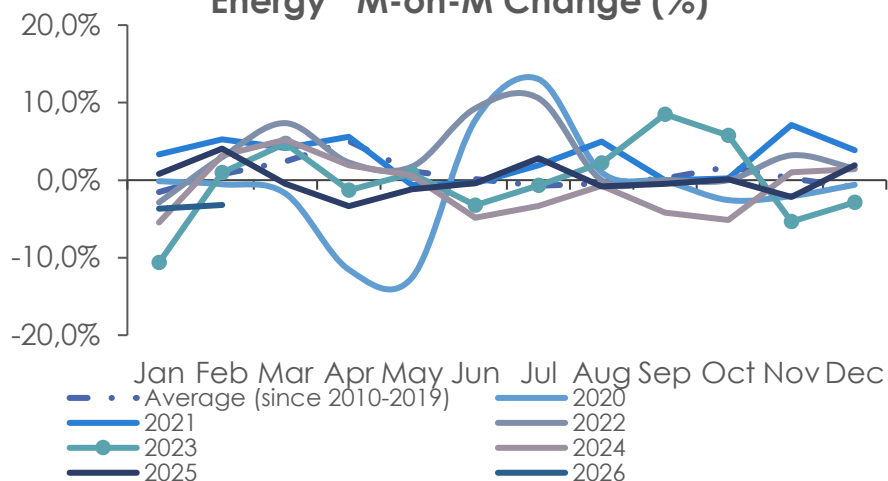
Electricity, gas & other fuels M-on-M Change (%)



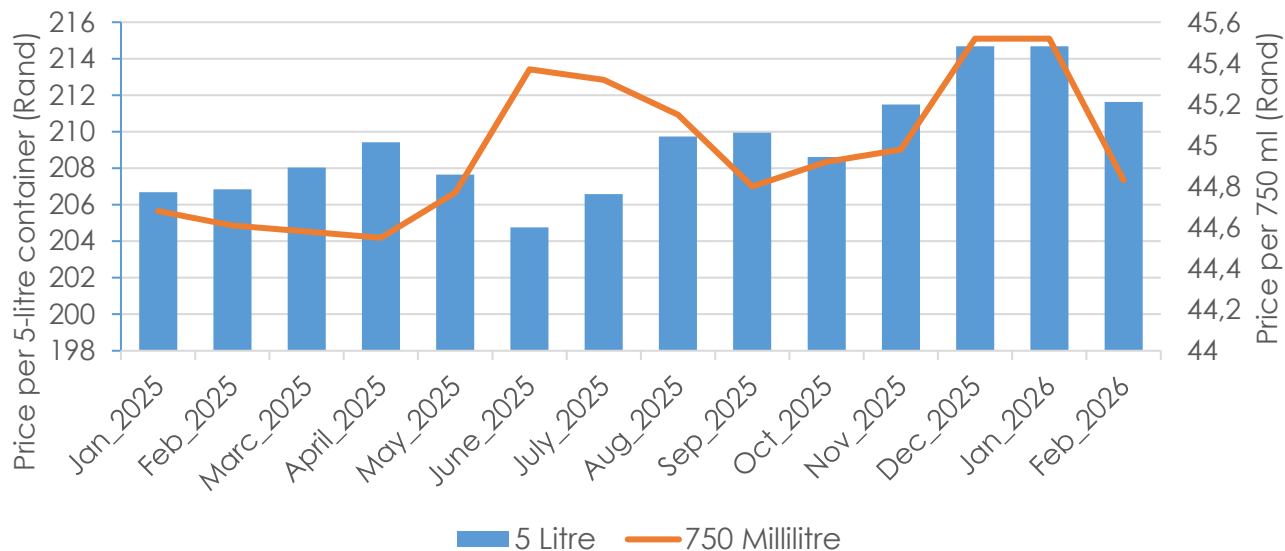
Transport M-on-M Change (%)



Energy M-on-M Change (%)



PARAFFIN PRICES (ALL URBAN): MONTHLY TRENDS BY PACK SIZE JAN 2025 – FEB 2026 | NATIONAL LEVEL



- Around 2–3% of South African households still rely on paraffin as a primary energy source, with usage concentrated among low-income urban and informal households, including in the Western Cape.
- Paraffin prices for a 5-litre container increased from about R207 in early 2025 to around R215 by early 2026, directly raising cooking and heating costs for low-income households in the province.

'TAKE AWAY POINTS'



Cost pressures have eased from 2022–2023 peaks, but price volatility remains elevated across fuel, fertiliser, and imported inputs.



Upstream price movements do not pass through evenly or immediately, implying delayed and uneven impacts on producer margins and consumer food prices.



Agriculture's performance helped cushion broader economic weakness, reinforcing its role as a stabilising sector in periods of slow growth.




Fuel and fertiliser cost movements remain key drivers of agricultural input inflation, with direct implications for production costs and food price dynamics.



Fresh produce prices (e.g. vegetables) show seasonal and volume-driven volatility, with price movements reflecting short-term supply fluctuations rather than underlying cost trends.

ON THE RADAR: WEEK OF 20 APRIL 2026

 **Exchange Rate:** USD/ZAR is trading around R16.3–R16.4, firmer than late March but still amplifying imported input costs, particularly for fuel, fertiliser and agro-chemicals.

 **Oil prices:** Brent crude remains elevated and volatile, trading in the mid-USD 90s per barrel, well above recent historical averages, sustaining pressure on fuel and logistics costs.

 **Fertiliser markets (especially urea):** Urea prices remain high (around USD 700+/t), with supply constraints and elevated natural gas prices continuing to sustain upward pressure on crop input costs.

 **Export demand conditions for horticulture:** Slower economic growth in the EU and UK, combined with shifting demand patterns in Asia and ongoing global shipping constraints, continues to influence export volumes, prices and margins.

 **Weather conditions ahead of the next production cycle:** Early El Niño-related risks and uneven rainfall patterns across South Africa may affect planting conditions, yields and short-term price expectations.

 **Stats SA CPI – March 2026 release** (Wed, 22 April)

Thank you

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