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In the fourth quarter of 2014, the volume and wholesale value of fresh fruit and vegetables increased by 2.8 and 9.9 per cent respectively over the comparative period in 2013.

## Fruit and Vegetables: Q4/2014

The volume of fresh fruit and vegetables that passed through official markets amounted to 8.5 million kilograms, yielding €4.3 million. This represented an increase of 2.8 per cent in weight and a 9.9 per cent growth in the wholesale value over the corresponding period in 2013.

The supply of fresh vegetables went up by 2.9 per cent to 8.1 million kilograms over the comparative quarter in 2013. Increases were registered in the supply of Potatoes (+52.3 per cent), Bellpepper (+22.5 per cent) and Eggplant (+22.4 per cent). The wholesale value of fresh vegetables rose by 9.1 per cent to €4.0 million.

Fresh fruit supplied advanced by 1.2 per cent mainly on account of a rise in the availability of Grapes (+163.1 per cent) and Oranges (+13.3 per cent). Similarly, the wholesale value of fresh fruit increased by 19.1 per cent to €0.4 million (Table 1).

### Regional Statistics

Maltese farmers supplied 7.8 million kilograms of fruit and vegetables; an increase of 3.4 per cent over the corresponding period in 2013. During the quarter under review, the wholesale value of fresh fruit and vegetables went up by 10.7 per cent to €3.9 million. This produce represented 92.1 per cent of the total supply of fresh fruit and vegetables (Table 2).

Gozitan farmers supplied 0.7 million kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables or 7.9 per cent of the total supply. The volume of fresh fruit and vegetables declined by 3.0 per cent, while the wholesale value increased by 3.5 per cent over the comparative quarter of 2013 (Table 3).

### Quarterly Indices

The quarterly 'All Items' fresh fruit price index for the fourth quarter of 2014 increased by 13.35 points (+18.6 per cent) to 85.30 points. Furthermore, the fresh fruit volume index rose by 1.2 per cent to 51.72 points.

Compiled by:

**Unit B3: Agriculture and  
Environment Statistics**

**Directorate B: Business  
Statistics**

Further information on data:

**Mr Ronald TANTI**  
T. +356 2599 7333  
E. ronald.tanti@gov.mt

In the quarter under review, the 'All Items' fresh vegetables price index increased by 5.92 points (+5.3 per cent) to 117.06 points. Additionally, the fresh vegetables volume index went up by 2.24 points (+2.9 per cent) to 79.05 points (Table 5) ■

Table 1. Total quantity and wholesale value of agricultural products sold through official markets

Item	October-December					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	% change 2014/2013	2013	2014	% change 2014/2013
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>8,255,664</b>	<b>8,490,049</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3,954,819</b>	<b>4,345,237</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>7,919,101</b>	<b>8,149,461</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3,659,854</b>	<b>3,993,839</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	122,066	149,501	22.5	135,283	146,386	8.2
Broad beans	1,171	2,462	110.2	869	2,299	164.7
Cabbages	935,377	885,359	-5.3	97,318	71,652	-26.4
Carrots	218,457	193,888	-11.2	83,019	73,873	-11.0
Cauliflowers	1,121,258	1,211,333	8.0	272,539	264,004	-3.1
Celery	106,040	105,386	-0.6	27,295	29,937	9.7
Cucumber	146,504	151,571	3.5	151,160	195,212	29.1
Dry onions	702,025	720,535	2.6	162,439	354,320	118.1
Eggplant	163,562	200,175	22.4	113,856	101,277	-11.0
Globe artichokes	6,104	17,591	188.2	6,703	16,615	147.9
Green onions	140	1,510	978.6	22	192	766.7
Kohlrabi	249,533	226,075	-9.4	51,531	51,793	0.5
Lettuce	852,629	684,340	-19.7	204,719	224,887	9.9
Potatoes	329,888	502,379	52.3	159,896	169,223	5.8
Pumpkins	165,263	162,492	-1.7	42,546	43,248	1.6
Sugar melons	6,993	3,746	-46.4	2,186	1,348	-38.3
Tomatoes	909,133	964,772	6.1	844,052	867,755	2.8
Vegetable marrows	603,612	706,918	17.1	578,198	631,635	9.2
Watermelons	35,190	20,841	-40.8	8,744	14,633	67.4
Other vegetables	1,244,157	1,238,587	-0.4	717,478	733,550	2.2
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>336,563</b>	<b>340,589</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>294,965</b>	<b>351,398</b>	<b>19.1</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	0	0	-	0	0	-
Cherry plums	0	8	-	0	12	-
Dry figs	842	0	-	2,211	0	-
Early figs	0	88	-	0	46	-
Grapes	7,245	19,065	163.1	6,111	16,961	177.5
Lemons	59,723	46,261	-22.5	30,861	40,866	32.4
Nectarines	0	108	-	0	26	-
Oranges	70,863	80,318	13.3	47,227	54,171	14.7
Peaches	81	585	622.2	93	991	971.0
Pomegranates	63,126	61,628	-2.4	45,481	53,930	18.6
Strawberries	11,254	14,972	33.0	82,459	106,910	29.7
Sweet oranges	97,795	89,523	-8.5	56,789	50,617	-10.9
Other fruit	25,635	28,033	9.4	23,735	26,868	13.2

Table 2. Quantity and wholesale value of agricultural products sold through official markets by Maltese farmers

Item	October-December					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	% change 2014/2013	2013	2014	% change 2014/2013
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>7,567,768</b>	<b>7,823,127</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3,524,261</b>	<b>3,899,710</b>	<b>10.7</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>7,402,701</b>	<b>7,642,981</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3,337,686</b>	<b>3,668,985</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	107,300	139,640	30.1	118,371	134,325	13.5
Broad beans	1,101	2,028	84.2	796	1,962	146.5
Cabbages	905,722	848,924	-6.3	92,118	66,594	-27.7
Carrots	217,132	191,305	-11.9	82,407	73,304	-11.0
Cauliflowers	1,058,378	1,138,577	7.6	253,252	244,851	-3.3
Celery	103,874	104,076	0.2	26,541	29,492	11.1
Cucumber	121,998	121,620	-0.3	120,863	153,536	27.0
Dry onions	687,109	713,032	3.8	159,180	351,833	121.0
Eggplant	140,869	169,810	20.5	83,243	78,221	-6.0
Globe artichokes	6,076	17,499	188.0	6,617	16,355	147.2
Green onions	110	1,510	1,272.7	20	192	852.5
Kohlrabi	235,491	215,305	-8.6	48,473	49,336	1.8
Lettuce	820,213	651,537	-20.6	198,142	213,928	8.0
Potatoes	314,358	476,313	51.5	153,084	161,370	5.4
Pumpkins	147,179	138,888	-5.6	37,396	36,902	-1.3
Sugar melons	1,918	3,055	59.3	466	1,200	157.6
Tomatoes	831,905	898,050	8.0	774,733	807,402	4.2
Vegetable marrows	553,139	638,724	15.5	531,578	567,575	6.8
Watermelons	26,681	17,582	-34.1	6,627	12,918	94.9
Other vegetables	1,122,149	1,155,506	3.0	643,778	667,686	3.7
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>165,066</b>	<b>180,146</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>186,575</b>	<b>230,725</b>	<b>23.7</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	0	0	-	0	0	-
Cherry plums	0	8	-	0	12	-
Dry figs	1	0	-	5	0	-
Early figs	0	88	-	0	46	-
Grapes	7,034	19,065	171.0	5,903	16,961	187.3
Lemons	30,233	23,166	-23.4	15,787	20,390	29.2
Nectarines	0	108	-	0	26	-
Oranges	36,440	44,704	22.7	24,024	28,189	17.3
Peaches	81	585	622.2	93	991	971.0
Pomegranates	40,259	38,140	-5.3	29,680	33,380	12.5
Strawberries	11,052	14,524	31.4	80,966	103,522	27.9
Sweet oranges	23,715	22,948	-3.2	14,537	10,976	-24.5
Other fruit	16,252	16,810	3.4	15,581	16,234	4.2

Table 3. Quantity and wholesale value of agricultural products sold through official markets by Gozitan farmers

Item	October-December					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	% change 2014/2013	2013	2014	% change 2014/2013
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>687,897</b>	<b>666,922</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>430,557</b>	<b>445,526</b>	<b>3.5</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>516,400</b>	<b>506,479</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>322,168</b>	<b>324,854</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	14,766	9,861	-33.2	16,912	12,060	-28.7
Broad beans	70	434	520.0	73	337	364.3
Cabbages	29,655	36,435	22.9	5,199	5,058	-2.7
Carrots	1,325	2,583	94.9	613	570	-7.0
Cauliflowers	62,880	72,756	15.7	19,287	19,153	-0.7
Celery	2,166	1,310	-39.5	754	445	-41.0
Cucumber	24,506	29,951	22.2	30,297	41,675	37.6
Dry onions	14,916	7,503	-49.7	3,259	2,488	-23.7
Eggplant	22,693	30,365	33.8	30,613	23,056	-24.7
Globe artichokes	28	92	228.6	86	260	201.9
Green onions	30	0	-	2	0	-
Kohlrabi	14,042	10,770	-23.3	3,058	2,456	-19.7
Lettuce	32,416	32,803	1.2	6,577	10,959	66.6
Potatoes	15,530	26,066	67.8	6,812	7,853	15.3
Pumpkins	18,084	23,604	30.5	5,150	6,346	23.2
Sugar melons	5,075	691	-86.4	1,720	148	-91.4
Tomatoes	77,228	66,722	-13.6	69,320	60,352	-12.9
Vegetable marrows	50,473	68,194	35.1	46,620	64,060	37.4
Watermelons	8,509	3,259	-61.7	2,116	1,714	-19.0
Other vegetables	122,008	83,081	-31.9	73,700	65,864	-10.6
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>171,497</b>	<b>160,443</b>	<b>-6.4</b>	<b>108,390</b>	<b>120,672</b>	<b>11.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	0	0	-	0	0	-
Cherry plums	0	0	-	0	0	-
Dry figs	841	0	-	2,206	0	-
Early figs	0	0	-	0	0	-
Grapes	211	0	-	208	0	-
Lemons	29,490	23,095	-21.7	15,074	20,476	35.8
Nectarines	0	0	-	0	0	-
Oranges	34,423	35,614	3.5	23,203	25,982	12.0
Peaches	0	0	-	0	0	-
Pomegranates	22,867	23,488	2.7	15,801	20,550	30.1
Strawberries	202	448	121.8	1,492	3,388	127.0
Sweet oranges	74,080	66,575	-10.1	42,252	39,641	-6.2
Other fruit	9,383	11,223	19.6	8,154	10,634	30.4

**Table 4. Monthly 'All Items' Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Index**

Month	Fresh Fruit Index (2010 = 100)		Fresh Vegetables Index (2010 = 100)	
	Price Index	Volume Index	Price Index	Volume Index
<b>2013</b>				
January	112.19	62.17	113.27	103.38
February	207.91	37.47	109.29	87.70
March	186.29	58.91	96.21	92.16
April	126.91	126.68	92.80	116.34
May	159.30	83.89	109.49	114.05
June	108.80	145.73	93.26	113.15
July	106.74	115.29	83.47	133.25
August	71.25	129.88	84.63	110.82
September	56.66	77.86	88.75	88.82
October	56.78	38.59	91.26	88.15
November	74.26	49.06	110.79	67.59
December	84.79	65.67	131.38	74.69
<b>2014</b>				
January	112.37	66.86	84.56	99.39
February	154.25	65.03	84.12	90.48
March	150.70	98.09	108.55	95.52
April	128.65	124.22	91.78	96.56
May	117.21	129.07	92.80	107.76
June	84.02	170.00	75.08	135.44
July	86.25	97.91	76.92	137.47
August	70.05	102.63	80.23	101.95
September	63.70	80.58	90.46	94.02
October	73.34	39.19	112.71	84.89
November	85.73	46.70	125.94	71.41
December	96.83	69.27	112.55	80.84

**Table 5. Quarterly 'All Items' Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Index**

Quarter	Fresh Fruit Index (2010 = 100)		Fresh Vegetables Index (2010 = 100)	
	Price Index	Volume Index	Price Index	Volume Index
<b>2013</b>				
Q1/2013	168.80	52.85	106.25	94.42
Q2/2013	131.67	118.77	98.52	114.51
Q3/2013	78.22	107.68	85.62	110.97
Q4/2013	71.95	51.11	111.14	76.81
<b>2014</b>				
Q1/2014	139.11	76.66	92.41	95.13
Q2/2014	109.96	141.10	86.55	113.25
Q3/2014	73.33	93.71	82.54	111.14
Q4/2014	85.30	51.72	117.06	79.05

## Methodological Notes

1. The information included in this news release is collected from the four official markets (Pitkali Malta, Co-op Malta, Pitkali Gozo, and Co-op Gozo) where all farmers deposit their produce for sale to licensed hawkers, through private middlemen. The information is compiled on a daily basis and data is forwarded to the NSO on a monthly basis.
2. Data are recorded by crop where quantities and value are kept, together with average unit price.
3. Unit volume and prices are used in the compilation of monthly volume and price indices for each agricultural product. The indices are used to monitor developments in price and volume movements over a particular period. The price and volume indices have 2010 as the base year. Price indices are calculated using the Laspeyres method with variable monthly baskets. These indices are not comparable month by month, and can only be compared with values for the corresponding month in previous years.
4. Regional data are derived at source where every consignment at the official markets is classified by the residence of the farmer.
5. The Fruit and Vegetables News Release is being presented to show the main types of produce. A full list of all produce passing through the official markets will be made available upon request.
6. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:  
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>  
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=15>