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In the second half of 2016, the volume of fresh fruit and vegetables declined by 10.9 per cent, whereas the wholesale value increased by 4.9 per cent over the comparative period in 2015.

Fruit and Vegetables: July-December 2016

The volume of fresh fruit and vegetables sold through official markets amounted to 17.6 million kilograms, yielding €10.3 million. This represented a drop of 10.9 per cent in weight and a 4.9 per cent growth in wholesale value over the corresponding period in 2015.

Fresh vegetable supply went down by 8.7 per cent to 17.0 million kilograms over 2015. Decreases were registered in most of the supply of vegetables mainly, vegetable marrows (27.3 per cent), potatoes (24.9 per cent), watermelons (25.1 per cent) and lettuce (14.9 per cent). In contrast, the wholesale value of fresh vegetables increased by 9.1 per cent to €9.5 million.

The supply of fresh fruit declined by 46.8 per cent, reflecting drops in all fruit under review, with the exception of pomegranates, which increased by 1.4 per cent. This was mainly the result of a drop in the amount of rainfall during the year. The wholesale value of fresh fruit decreased by 28.8 per cent to €778,933 (Table 1).

Regional statistics

The volume of fresh fruit and vegetables supplied by Maltese farmers registered a decrease of 8.4 per cent over the corresponding period in 2015. Maltese farmers supplied 16.2 million kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables or 92.0 per cent of the total supply. The wholesale value of such produce went up by 6.4 per cent, from €8.7 million to €9.2 million (Table 2).

Gozitan farmers contributed 1.4 million kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables or 8.0 per cent of the total supply. In volume terms, this produce decreased by 31.8 per cent, while the wholesale value went down by 6.9 per cent over 2015 (Table 3) ■

Compiled by:

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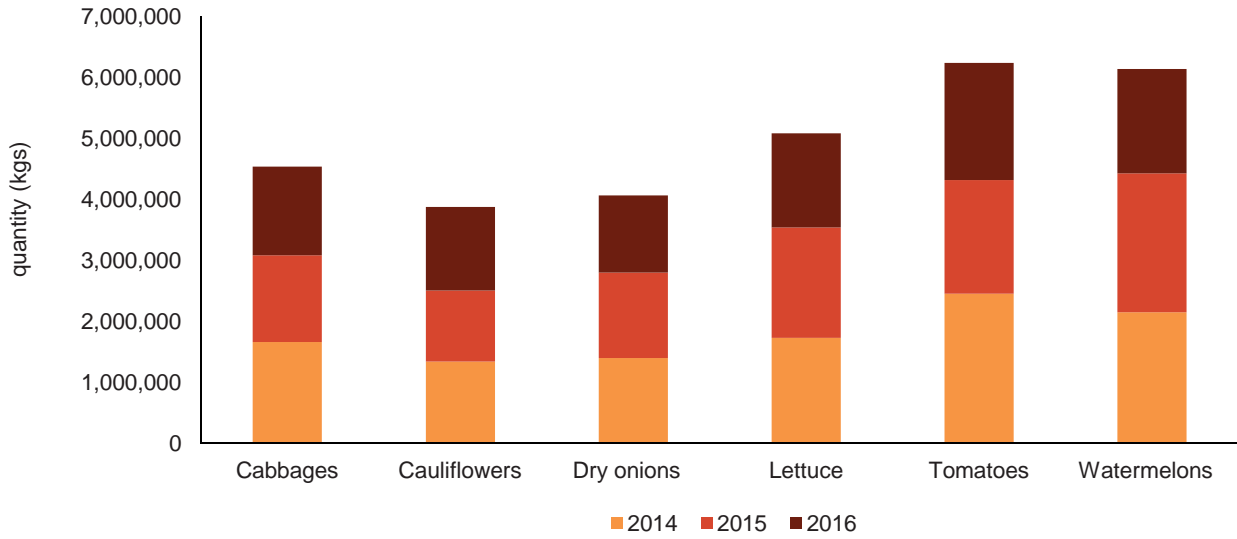
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Table 1. Total quantity and wholesale value of agricultural products sold through official markets

Item	July-December							
	Quantity (Kgs)				Wholesale value (€)			
	2014	2015	2016	% change 2016/2015	2014	2015	2016	% change 2016/2015
Total vegetables	19,608,275	18,647,123	17,023,872	-8.7	7,929,899	8,701,079	9,492,461	9.1
<i>of which:</i>								
Bellpepper	413,125	402,838	379,747	-5.7	264,028	334,981	335,067	0.0
Broad beans	3,230	3,013	938	-68.9	2,806	3,630	1,502	-58.6
Cabbages	1,662,641	1,419,480	1,453,753	2.4	154,526	311,429	259,613	-16.6
Carrots	321,434	353,569	365,163	3.3	113,274	165,723	151,276	-8.7
Cauliflowers	1,341,353	1,164,122	1,371,961	17.9	309,639	307,420	346,562	12.7
Celery	198,523	197,503	175,275	-11.3	47,765	55,646	45,300	-18.6
Cucumber	431,607	445,295	536,613	20.5	476,035	504,922	381,857	-24.4
Dry onions	1,398,819	1,402,339	1,266,495	-9.7	579,355	707,666	868,149	22.7
Eggplant	521,931	511,005	495,199	-3.1	181,067	210,644	261,541	24.2
Globe artichokes	17,591	18,445	6,503	-64.7	16,615	18,235	7,292	-60.0
Green onions	18,224	36,415	121,717	234.2	5,766	13,601	80,867	494.5
Kohlrabi	289,953	269,293	296,748	10.2	63,675	63,227	66,071	4.5
Lettuce	1,730,366	1,812,115	1,541,762	-14.9	505,711	475,199	456,373	-4.0
Potatoes	1,437,053	1,241,338	932,325	-24.9	396,797	437,952	436,828	-0.3
Pumpkins	257,398	244,731	268,934	9.9	67,874	76,529	96,893	26.6
Sugar melons	1,033,429	976,997	779,650	-20.2	325,775	287,771	446,257	55.1
Tomatoes	2,455,431	1,860,768	1,921,533	3.3	1,468,942	1,624,385	1,565,066	-3.7
Vegetable marrows	1,464,563	1,540,135	1,120,032	-27.3	1,117,646	1,193,080	1,494,261	25.2
Watermelons	2,147,983	2,281,486	1,708,675	-25.1	486,997	509,549	747,135	46.6
Other vegetables	2,463,624	2,466,237	2,280,851	-7.5	1,345,607	1,399,491	1,444,551	3.2
Total fruit	957,690	1,122,402	596,827	-46.8	888,568	1,093,919	778,933	-28.8
<i>of which:</i>								
<i>Bambinella</i>	50,129	61,985	44,429	-28.3	65,880	76,448	79,618	4.1
Cherry plums	11,134	28,493	3,396	-88.1	16,273	29,390	4,873	-83.4
Early figs	262	7,913	706	-91.1	357	16,530	738	-95.5
Grapes	191,701	150,608	66,787	-55.7	130,794	127,855	72,143	-43.6
Lemons	102,907	97,367	68,694	-29.4	93,732	81,791	78,195	-4.4
Nectarines	23,910	49,202	3,203	-93.5	11,497	25,199	3,109	-87.7
Oranges	80,518	101,396	90,207	-11.0	54,358	67,719	71,760	6.0
Peaches	227,565	308,827	59,852	-80.6	192,179	244,141	81,311	-66.7
Pomegranates	65,596	68,645	69,587	1.4	56,263	58,054	70,817	22.0
Strawberries	20,760	33,318	21,519	-35.4	114,857	187,601	158,449	-15.5
Sweet oranges	89,567	81,878	77,961	-4.8	50,629	42,990	47,095	9.5
Other fruit	93,642	132,772	90,488	-31.8	101,750	136,201	110,826	-18.6
Total vegetables and fruit	20,565,965	19,769,526	17,620,698	-10.9	8,818,468	9,794,998	10,271,394	4.9

**Chart 1. Main vegetables sold through official markets:
July-December 2016**



**Chart 2. Main fruit sold through official markets:
July-December 2016**

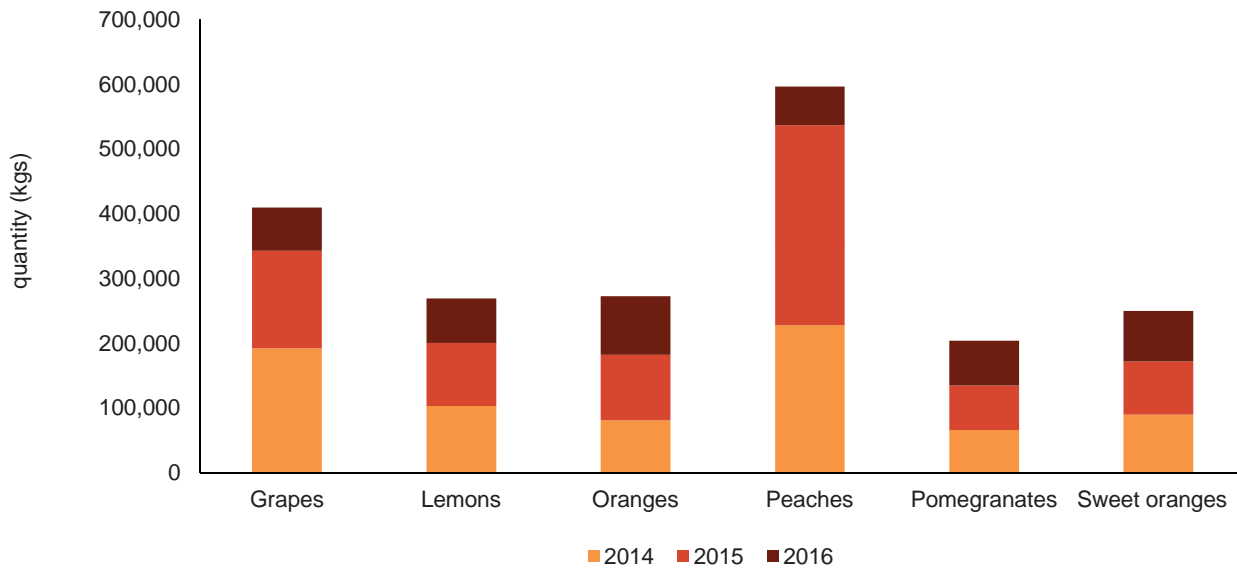


Table 2. Total quantity and wholesale value of agricultural products sold through official markets by Maltese farmers

Item	July-December							
	Quantity (Kgs)				Wholesale value (€)			
	2014	2015	2016	% change 2016/2015	2014	2015	2016	% change 2016/2015
Total vegetables	17,669,327	16,830,721	15,811,098	-6.1	7,030,669	7,770,660	8,623,562	11.0
<i>of which:</i>								
Bellpepper	396,623	379,181	357,748	-5.7	248,743	310,699	311,459	0.2
Broad beans	2,708	2,678	863	-67.8	2,373	3,304	1,367	-58.6
Cabbages	1,585,008	1,395,011	1,436,346	3.0	143,302	304,090	255,858	-15.9
Carrots	318,790	350,997	364,741	3.9	112,684	164,879	151,177	-8.3
Cauliflowers	1,267,577	1,104,197	1,335,661	21.0	290,191	290,038	334,260	15.2
Celery	193,924	192,465	170,185	-11.6	46,246	53,758	43,784	-18.6
Cucumber	334,333	372,244	440,269	18.3	342,048	374,984	278,980	-25.6
Dry onions	1,315,622	1,318,555	1,221,756	-7.3	557,832	681,403	846,687	24.3
Eggplant	463,154	456,282	458,609	0.5	150,416	177,365	223,276	25.9
Globe artichokes	17,499	18,179	6,503	-64.2	16,355	17,688	7,292	-58.8
Green onions	16,264	31,308	118,561	278.7	4,999	12,183	79,576	553.2
Kohlrabi	273,667	253,422	291,492	15.0	60,181	59,597	64,824	8.8
Lettuce	1,661,143	1,744,335	1,480,297	-15.1	483,708	452,772	429,037	-5.2
Potatoes	1,326,762	1,162,984	897,809	-22.8	369,351	411,233	422,400	2.7
Pumpkins	219,746	215,598	238,515	10.6	57,981	67,650	86,545	27.9
Sugar melons	874,452	800,188	660,634	-17.4	267,296	231,959	347,296	49.7
Tomatoes	2,226,452	1,683,126	1,740,492	3.4	1,349,106	1,470,375	1,436,431	-2.3
Vegetable marrows	1,353,813	1,416,989	1,068,937	-24.6	1,020,862	1,099,100	1,423,353	29.5
Watermelons	1,700,821	1,813,675	1,422,555	-21.6	374,821	398,655	578,792	45.2
Other vegetables	2,120,971	2,119,308	2,099,127	-1.0	1,132,174	1,188,928	1,301,171	9.4
Total fruit	744,901	874,806	402,911	-53.9	711,983	904,069	605,368	-33.0
<i>of which:</i>								
<i>Bambinella</i>	48,960	60,798	43,588	-28.3	64,652	75,424	78,483	4.1
Cherry plums	10,884	27,893	3,181	-88.6	15,945	28,992	4,658	-83.9
Early figs	245	7,874	528	-93.3	333	16,467	661	-96.0
Grapes	185,175	144,822	61,374	-57.6	115,684	115,153	59,539	-48.3
Lemons	43,310	39,307	31,425	-20.1	41,458	31,682	35,017	10.5
Nectarines	23,688	48,876	3,203	-93.4	11,387	25,036	3,109	-87.6
Oranges	44,904	39,421	41,808	6.1	28,376	25,796	34,383	33.3
Peaches	226,890	307,190	59,792	-80.5	191,666	242,950	81,272	-66.5
Pomegranates	39,916	40,070	42,974	7.2	34,502	33,279	43,409	30.4
Strawberries	20,057	32,774	21,368	-34.8	110,646	184,229	157,912	-14.3
Sweet oranges	22,948	17,191	18,361	6.8	10,976	9,708	10,052	3.6
Other fruit	77,925	108,592	75,311	-30.6	86,359	115,354	96,874	-16.0
Total vegetables and fruit	18,414,228	17,705,528	16,214,008	-8.4	7,742,652	8,674,730	9,228,930	6.4

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

Item	July-December							
	Quantity (Kgs)				Wholesale value (€)			
	2014	2015	2016	% change 2016/2015	2014	2015	2016	% change 2016/2015
Total vegetables	1,938,948	1,816,402	1,212,774	-33.2	899,231	930,418	868,899	-6.6
<i>of which:</i>								
Bellpepper	16,502	23,657	21,999	-7.0	15,285	24,282	23,608	-2.8
Broad beans	522	335	75	-77.6	433	326	135	-58.6
Cabbages	77,633	24,469	17,407	-28.9	11,224	7,339	3,755	-48.8
Carrots	2,644	2,572	422	-83.6	590	844	99	-88.3
Cauliflowers	73,776	59,925	36,300	-39.4	19,448	17,382	12,302	-29.2
Celery	4,599	5,038	5,090	1.0	1,519	1,888	1,516	-19.7
Cucumber	97,275	73,051	96,344	31.9	133,988	129,938	102,877	-20.8
Dry onions	83,197	83,784	44,739	-46.6	21,523	26,263	21,461	-18.3
Eggplant	58,777	54,723	36,590	-33.1	30,652	33,279	38,266	15.0
Globe artichokes	92	266	-	-	260	547	-	-
Green onions	1,960	5,107	3,156	-38.2	768	1,419	1,291	-9.0
Kohlrabi	16,286	15,871	5,256	-66.9	3,494	3,630	1,248	-65.6
Lettuce	69,223	67,780	61,465	-9.3	22,003	22,427	27,337	21.9
Potatoes	110,291	78,354	34,516	-55.9	27,446	26,719	14,428	-46.0
Pumpkins	37,652	29,134	30,419	4.4	9,893	8,879	10,348	16.5
Sugar melons	158,977	176,809	119,016	-32.7	58,479	55,812	98,961	77.3
Tomatoes	228,978	177,642	181,042	1.9	119,836	154,010	128,635	-16.5
Vegetable marrows	110,750	123,146	51,095	-58.5	96,784	93,980	70,908	-24.5
Watermelons	447,162	467,811	286,120	-38.8	112,176	110,894	168,343	51.8
Other vegetables	342,652	346,929	181,724	-47.6	213,433	210,563	143,380	-31.9
Total fruit	212,789	247,596	193,916	-21.7	176,585	189,850	173,565	-8.6
<i>of which:</i>								
<i>Bambinella</i>	1,169	1,187	841	-29.1	1,228	1,024	1,135	10.9
Cherry plums	250	600	215	-64.2	327	398	215	-46.0
Early figs	17	39	178	356.4	24	63	77	23.4
Grapes	6,526	5,786	5,413	-6.4	15,110	12,702	12,604	-0.8
Lemons	59,597	58,060	37,269	-35.8	52,275	50,109	43,178	-13.8
Nectarines	222	326	-	-	110	163	-	-
Oranges	35,614	61,975	48,399	-21.9	25,982	41,923	37,377	-10.8
Peaches	675	1,637	60	-96.3	513	1,191	39	-96.7
Pomegranates	25,680	28,575	26,613	-6.9	21,761	24,775	27,409	10.6
Strawberries	703	544	151	-72.2	4,211	3,373	536	-84.1
Sweet oranges	66,619	64,687	59,600	-7.9	39,653	33,283	37,043	11.3
Other fruit	15,717	24,180	15,177	-37.2	15,391	20,847	13,951	-33.1
Total vegetables and fruit	2,151,737	2,063,998	1,406,690	-31.8	1,075,816	1,120,268	1,042,464	-6.9

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 is recorded by crop where quantities and values are kept, together with average unit price.
3. Regional data is derived at source where every consignment at the official markets is classified by the residence of the farmer.
4. The main types of produce are shown in this release. A full list of items that pass through the official markets may be made available on request.
5. 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>