

# News Release



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## Agriculture

### Fruit and Vegetables - June Quarter 2006

A total of 13.8 million kilograms of fruit and vegetables passed through the markets in June quarter 2006, up by 1.37 million kilograms (+11.0 per cent), from 12.5 million kilograms of the corresponding period last year. The increase in volume brought about an increase of Lm0.2 million (+8.9 per cent) in the wholesale value which increased from Lm2.2 million in the second quarter of 2005 to Lm2.4 million in the corresponding period this year.

During the first six months of 2006, the volume of fruit and vegetables passing through the markets increased by 2.98 million kilograms (+14.7 per cent) from 20.2 million kilograms in 2005 to 23.2 million kilograms in the corresponding period this year. This produce netted an increase of Lm0.1 million (+2.83 per cent) from Lm4.0 million in the first six months of 2005 to Lm4.1 million in the same period this year.

### Regional Statistics

During the period covered by the report, Maltese farmers marketed a total of 12.6 million kilograms of fresh produce or 90.7 per cent of the total market share. When compared to the same period last year, the supply of fresh produce increased by 1.41 million kilograms (+12.6 per cent) from 11.2 million kilograms. The increase in volume netted an increase of 0.19 million liri (+9.6 per cent) from 1.96 million liri in 2005 to 2.15 million liri in 2006.

Gozitan farmers' share of fruit and vegetables declined marginally by 3.5 per cent from 1.25 million kilograms in June quarter 2005 to 1.21 million kilograms in the second quarter this year. On the other hand, the wholesale value of fruit and vegetables increased by 0.01 million liri (+3.1 per cent) over the comparative period.

### Indices

The 'All Items' vegetables price index for the month of June stood at 85.26 points, a drop of 4.51 points (-5.0 per cent) over the same month in 2005. The overall decline was mainly due to a drop in the average price of tomatoes (-26.21 per cent) and melons (-41.55 per cent). The 'All Items' vegetables volume index rose from 146.25 points in June 2005 to 163.42 points in June 2006, a rise of 17.77 points (+11.7 per cent) when compared to June 2005. The rise in the volume index was the result of higher volumes in most horticultural products, the most notable increases being water melons (+30.0 per cent) and potatoes (+26.44 per cent).

The 'All Items' fruit price index increased by 7.43 points (+8.0 per cent) from 92.77 points in June 2005 to 100.2 points in June 2006. The rise was mainly due to an increase of average unit prices of cherry plums (+91.86 per cent) and figs (+42.83 per cent). The volume index increased by 84.49 points (+35.02 per cent) from 241.26 points in June 2005 to 325.75 points in June 2006. The substantial increase in the volume of peaches (+113.04 per cent) and plums (+37.44 per cent) were responsible for this increase ■

**Theme:**  
**Agriculture and Fisheries**

**Compiled by:**

**Agriculture & Fisheries Unit**  
**e-mail: [agric.nso@gov.mt](mailto:agric.nso@gov.mt)**  
**Tel: 25997529**

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**National Statistics Office**  
**Library & Information Unit**  
Lascaris, Valletta CMR 02, Malta  
Tel: (+356) 25997219  
Fax: (+356) 25997205  
e-mail: [nso@gov.mt](mailto:nso@gov.mt)  
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

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

MALTA														
Item	2005		2005		2006									
	April/June		January/June		April		May		June		April/June		January/June	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>12,458,295</b>	<b>2,196,139</b>	<b>20,187,274</b>	<b>3,960,315</b>	<b>3,541,734</b>	<b>729,486</b>	<b>4,249,230</b>	<b>794,360</b>	<b>6,038,124</b>	<b>868,241</b>	<b>13,829,088</b>	<b>2,392,087</b>	<b>23,163,814</b>	<b>4,072,281</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>11,666,016</b>	<b>1,801,175</b>	<b>19,027,875</b>	<b>3,468,944</b>	<b>3,377,374</b>	<b>611,007</b>	<b>4,097,624</b>	<b>676,015</b>	<b>5,380,481</b>	<b>628,245</b>	<b>12,855,480</b>	<b>1,915,266</b>	<b>21,920,854</b>	<b>3,482,549</b>
<i>of which:</i>														
Artichokes Globe	87,291	4,220	338,170	82,388	99,566	3,530	860	37	-	-	100,426	3,568	385,845	90,684
Beans Broad	606,375	73,879	667,414	110,313	391,501	53,495	115,767	20,530	4,369	852	511,637	74,877	614,844	118,455
Bellpepper	185,636	60,215	258,489	109,085	26,398	13,206	64,343	22,707	109,455	21,316	200,196	57,229	272,768	95,548
Cabbages	557,740	50,038	1,232,444	119,785	181,662	22,751	185,048	20,025	161,045	10,803	527,755	53,579	1,298,376	92,459
Carrots	287,620	64,778	698,816	105,676	102,590	21,102	138,588	26,822	129,267	26,601	370,445	74,525	858,562	144,927
Cauliflowers	956,447	68,952	2,285,719	207,128	249,302	44,376	312,562	28,662	190,989	12,681	752,853	85,718	2,219,201	206,705
Celery	106,364	10,231	231,421	22,358	34,626	3,520	29,360	4,204	35,233	3,208	99,219	10,931	228,088	22,251
Cucumber	267,998	38,444	333,942	85,797	32,016	16,225	76,523	22,098	101,125	23,363	209,664	61,686	273,599	108,065
Eggplant	167,937	38,985	215,808	76,119	16,301	6,293	37,429	12,178	83,536	13,061	137,266	31,532	187,475	57,321
Kohlrabi	210,963	17,294	583,649	44,891	74,898	8,001	96,491	7,409	53,277	2,518	224,666	17,928	586,591	40,351
Lettuce	732,697	62,259	1,092,076	145,121	251,530	20,712	291,158	24,674	293,337	29,702	836,025	75,088	1,335,310	153,388
Marrows Vegetable	874,407	211,099	1,369,711	515,923	322,504	80,535	452,306	53,291	313,547	44,549	1,088,357	178,376	1,734,413	496,274
Melons Sugar	758,792	120,829	759,823	121,098	40	40	103,415	55,273	588,334	119,536	691,789	174,849	692,283	174,976
Melons Water	894,234	134,770	894,237	134,771	-	-	48,414	16,603	1,133,655	94,036	1,182,069	110,639	1,182,069	110,639
Onions Dry	414,370	56,830	747,333	154,447	231,637	33,011	241,715	33,389	298,973	28,765	772,325	95,165	1,514,778	183,496
Onions Green	427,801	27,543	456,785	29,485	153,207	6,560	137,268	5,631	21,868	734	312,343	12,925	350,623	14,540
Potatoes	1,822,611	163,163	2,732,920	261,838	478,812	70,208	891,743	90,426	880,498	68,185	2,251,053	228,819	3,242,187	351,673
Pumpkins	119,127	32,490	314,723	51,155	52,845	7,298	48,845	6,657	33,383	3,841	135,073	17,797	329,593	35,615
Tomatoes	1,281,050	381,305	1,923,584	670,056	353,542	136,232	515,617	159,082	679,826	75,621	1,548,985	370,934	2,463,776	607,336
Other vegetables	906,557	183,851	1,890,812	421,511	324,397	63,912	310,172	66,317	268,765	48,873	903,334	179,102	2,150,474	377,846
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>792,279</b>	<b>394,964</b>	<b>1,159,400</b>	<b>491,371</b>	<b>164,360</b>	<b>118,480</b>	<b>151,605</b>	<b>118,345</b>	<b>657,643</b>	<b>239,996</b>	<b>973,608</b>	<b>476,821</b>	<b>1,242,960</b>	<b>589,732</b>
<i>of which:</i>														
Figs Dry	51	13	103	48	14	10	10	13	50	10	74	33	167	92
Figs Early	161,108	43,152	161,108	43,152	-	-	1,411	1,431	181,150	69,302	182,561	70,733	182,561	70,733
Grapes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lemons	83,894	6,632	141,845	10,494	28,559	5,037	30,733	5,941	24,753	5,910	84,045	16,887	148,563	25,505
Nectarines	33,535	13,260	33,535	13,260	-	-	5,820	2,560	60,811	17,162	66,631	19,722	66,631	19,722
Oranges Sweet	15,317	3,223	223,639	40,182	1,027	372	59	17	79	9	1,165	398	114,857	39,217
Peaches	132,606	58,732	132,606	58,732	-	-	29,598	10,792	270,678	78,829	300,276	89,621	300,276	89,621
Plums Cherry	61,869	13,401	61,869	13,401	-	-	729	587	34,263	14,009	34,992	14,596	34,992	14,596
Pomegranates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Strawberries	274,938	244,579	297,603	287,069	128,325	111,723	78,226	95,653	52,936	39,834	259,487	247,210	289,196	297,133
Other fruit	28,961	11,971	107,092	25,033	6,435	1,338	5,019	1,351	32,925	14,931	44,379	17,620	105,719	33,112

Table 2. Wholesale value and quantity of agricultural products sold through official markets

MALTA														
Item	2005		2005		2006									
	April/June		January/June		April		May		June		April/June		January/June	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>11,209,046</b>	<b>1,960,782</b>	<b>17,873,472</b>	<b>3,400,003</b>	<b>3,238,939</b>	<b>650,088</b>	<b>3,904,961</b>	<b>714,913</b>	<b>5,480,025</b>	<b>784,361</b>	<b>12,623,925</b>	<b>2,149,362</b>	<b>21,091,519</b>	<b>3,583,562</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>10,505,103</b>	<b>1,590,679</b>	<b>17,049,762</b>	<b>2,977,724</b>	<b>3,098,223</b>	<b>540,483</b>	<b>3,778,993</b>	<b>607,209</b>	<b>4,868,549</b>	<b>559,791</b>	<b>11,745,765</b>	<b>1,707,483</b>	<b>20,097,176</b>	<b>3,077,526</b>
<i>of which:</i>														
Artichokes Globe	81,718	3,563	318,906	75,468	98,566	3,398	825	35	-	-	99,391	3,432	370,345	85,945
Beans Broad	528,795	65,167	584,553	97,690	337,882	45,256	98,063	17,462	4,256	834	440,201	63,552	539,252	104,617
Bellpepper	150,498	47,245	192,116	75,262	19,080	9,996	55,259	19,703	98,881	19,586	173,220	49,285	223,873	76,150
Cabbages	519,060	45,640	1,131,724	108,630	173,310	21,630	174,365	18,640	154,311	10,038	501,986	50,307	1,231,780	85,497
Carrots	270,423	61,354	665,840	99,823	98,497	20,393	130,818	25,522	125,544	25,809	354,859	71,724	828,509	139,593
Cauliflowers	899,072	63,328	2,102,447	183,780	236,850	40,562	302,399	27,148	190,455	12,575	729,704	80,285	2,070,010	183,105
Celery	99,788	9,064	210,803	19,412	31,454	3,171	27,422	3,790	33,197	2,871	92,073	9,832	216,077	20,401
Cucumber	171,826	20,019	199,898	39,996	20,054	9,502	56,514	14,905	74,976	15,557	151,544	39,963	188,261	65,560
Eggplant	119,718	24,526	144,297	42,638	6,638	2,752	21,753	7,104	62,695	10,494	91,086	20,350	114,275	32,227
Kohlrabi	196,269	15,487	542,978	39,731	71,289	7,044	94,226	6,888	51,750	2,356	217,265	16,288	556,706	36,168
Lettuce	685,117	55,799	1,006,356	129,528	237,654	18,845	273,067	22,246	272,655	25,922	783,376	67,012	1,252,433	139,289
Marrows Vegetable	771,674	182,696	1,148,700	415,555	274,028	69,049	416,431	47,609	290,400	41,429	980,859	158,088	1,539,483	433,881
Melons Sugar	723,170	115,770	723,850	115,979	40	40	101,341	54,224	539,611	109,533	640,992	163,797	641,212	163,835
Melons Water	873,564	132,897	873,567	132,898	-	-	47,124	16,076	1,030,608	85,988	1,077,732	102,064	1,077,732	102,064
Onions Dry	271,790	43,718	587,023	135,682	228,117	32,422	209,665	29,439	185,625	16,406	623,407	78,267	1,350,082	164,223
Onions Green	401,556	25,354	426,090	26,833	146,916	6,050	127,036	4,751	21,868	734	295,820	11,535	331,633	12,995
Potatoes	1,683,813	149,842	2,518,740	239,904	448,777	64,767	850,580	85,267	834,260	63,887	2,133,617	213,921	3,069,810	328,720
Pumpkins	101,882	28,131	278,527	45,034	48,808	6,758	45,468	6,249	28,314	3,215	122,590	16,222	305,594	33,011
Tomatoes	1,151,906	346,609	1,702,664	592,269	317,944	122,197	453,348	140,302	614,740	68,233	1,386,032	330,732	2,186,756	534,047
Other vegetables	803,465	154,470	1,690,685	361,612	302,319	56,650	293,289	59,852	254,403	44,326	850,011	160,827	2,003,354	336,198
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>703,943</b>	<b>370,103</b>	<b>823,710</b>	<b>422,279</b>	<b>140,716</b>	<b>109,605</b>	<b>125,967</b>	<b>107,704</b>	<b>611,476</b>	<b>224,570</b>	<b>878,160</b>	<b>441,879</b>	<b>994,343</b>	<b>506,036</b>
<i>of which:</i>														
Figs Dry	51	13	103	48	14	10	10	13	50	10	74	33	167	92
Figs Early	159,002	42,386	159,002	42,386	-	-	1,411	1,431	179,382	68,551	180,793	69,982	180,793	69,982
Grapes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lemons	47,976	3,490	86,059	5,845	17,197	2,948	15,587	2,915	11,540	2,694	44,324	8,556	82,724	13,525
Nectarines	32,208	12,863	32,208	12,863	-	-	5,820	2,560	58,395	16,544	64,215	19,104	64,215	19,104
Oranges Sweet	227	67	20,965	4,095	53	30	-	-	-	-	53	30	14,693	4,473
Peaches	124,164	55,636	124,164	55,636	-	-	27,616	10,216	258,253	74,993	285,869	85,209	285,869	85,209
Plums Cherry	59,252	12,810	59,252	12,810	-	-	729	587	32,436	13,357	33,165	13,943	33,165	13,943
Pomegranates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Strawberries	258,052	232,873	279,053	272,279	117,404	105,369	69,858	88,666	48,178	37,396	235,440	231,431	262,413	277,624
Other fruit	23,011	9,967	62,904	16,317	6,048	1,249	4,936	1,317	23,244	11,025	34,228	13,591	70,306	22,084

Table 3. Wholesale value and quantity of agricultural products sold through official markets

GOZO														
Item	2005		2005		2006									
	April/June		January/June		April		May		June		April/June		January/June	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm	Kg	Lm
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>1,249,249</b>	<b>235,357</b>	<b>2,313,802</b>	<b>560,312</b>	<b>302,795</b>	<b>79,398</b>	<b>344,269</b>	<b>79,446</b>	<b>558,099</b>	<b>83,880</b>	<b>1,205,163</b>	<b>242,725</b>	<b>2,072,294</b>	<b>488,719</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>1,160,913</b>	<b>210,496</b>	<b>1,978,112</b>	<b>491,220</b>	<b>279,151</b>	<b>70,524</b>	<b>318,631</b>	<b>68,806</b>	<b>511,933</b>	<b>68,454</b>	<b>1,109,715</b>	<b>207,783</b>	<b>1,823,678</b>	<b>405,023</b>
<i>of which:</i>														
Artichokes Globe	5,573	657	19,264	6,919	1,000	133	35	3	-	-	1,035	136	15,500	4,739
Beans Broad	77,580	8,712	82,861	12,623	53,619	8,239	17,704	3,069	113	18	71,436	11,326	75,592	13,838
Bellpepper	35,138	12,970	66,373	33,822	7,318	3,210	9,084	3,004	10,574	1,730	26,976	7,944	48,895	19,399
Cabbages	38,680	4,398	100,720	11,155	8,352	1,121	10,683	1,386	6,734	765	25,769	3,272	66,596	6,962
Carrots	17,197	3,424	32,976	5,853	4,093	709	7,770	1,300	3,723	793	15,586	2,802	30,053	5,334
Cauliflowers	57,375	5,624	183,272	23,348	12,452	3,814	10,163	1,514	534	106	23,149	5,434	149,191	23,600
Celery	6,576	1,167	20,618	2,946	3,172	349	1,938	414	2,036	337	7,146	1,099	12,011	1,850
Cucumber	96,172	18,425	134,044	45,801	11,962	6,723	20,009	7,193	26,149	7,806	58,120	21,722	85,338	42,505
Eggplant	48,219	14,459	71,511	33,481	9,663	3,541	15,676	5,074	20,841	2,567	46,180	11,182	73,200	25,094
Kohlrabi	14,694	1,807	40,671	5,159	3,609	957	2,265	521	1,527	162	7,401	1,639	29,885	4,182
Lettuce	47,580	6,460	85,720	15,594	13,876	1,867	18,091	2,428	20,682	3,780	52,649	8,076	82,877	14,099
Marrows Vegetable	102,733	28,402	221,011	100,367	48,476	11,486	35,875	5,682	23,147	3,120	107,498	20,288	194,930	62,393
Melons Sugar	35,622	5,059	35,973	5,119	-	-	2,074	1,049	48,723	10,003	50,797	11,052	51,071	11,141
Melons Water	20,670	1,873	20,670	1,873	-	-	1,290	528	103,047	8,048	104,337	8,575	104,337	8,575
Onions Dry	142,580	13,112	160,310	18,765	3,520	589	32,050	3,950	113,348	12,359	148,918	16,898	164,696	19,273
Onions Green	26,245	2,190	30,695	2,652	6,291	510	10,232	880	-	-	16,523	1,390	18,990	1,544
Potatoes	138,798	13,321	214,180	21,934	30,035	5,441	41,163	5,159	46,238	4,298	117,436	14,898	172,377	22,953
Pumpkins	17,245	4,359	36,196	6,122	4,037	540	3,377	408	5,069	627	12,483	1,575	23,999	2,604
Tomatoes	129,144	34,696	220,920	77,787	35,598	14,035	62,269	18,779	65,086	7,388	162,953	40,202	277,020	73,289
Other vegetables	103,092	29,380	200,127	59,899	22,078	7,262	16,883	6,465	14,362	4,547	53,323	18,274	147,120	41,647
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>88,336</b>	<b>24,861</b>	<b>335,690</b>	<b>69,092</b>	<b>23,644</b>	<b>8,874</b>	<b>25,638</b>	<b>10,641</b>	<b>46,167</b>	<b>15,426</b>	<b>95,449</b>	<b>34,941</b>	<b>248,617</b>	<b>83,696</b>
<i>of which:</i>														
Figs Dry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Figs Early	2,106	766	2,106	766	-	-	-	-	1,768	751	1,768	751	1,768	751
Grapes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lemons	35,918	3,143	55,786	4,648	11,362	2,089	15,146	3,026	13,213	3,216	39,721	8,331	65,839	11,980
Nectarines	1,327	397	1,327	397	-	-	-	-	2,416	618	2,416	618	2,416	618
Oranges Sweet	15,090	3,156	202,674	36,086	974	342	59	17	79	9	1,112	368	100,164	34,745
Peaches	8,442	3,097	8,442	3,097	-	-	1,982	577	12,425	3,836	14,407	4,413	14,407	4,413
Plums Cherry	2,617	592	2,617	592	-	-	-	-	1,827	652	1,827	652	1,827	652
Pomegranates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Strawberries	16,886	11,707	18,550	14,789	10,921	6,355	8,368	6,987	4,758	2,438	24,047	15,779	26,783	19,509
Other fruit	5,950	2,004	44,188	8,716	387	89	83	34	9,681	3,906	10,151	4,029	35,413	11,028

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

Month	Fresh Fruit Index (2000 = 100)		Fresh Vegetables Index (2000 = 100)	
	Price Index	Volume Index	Price Index	Volume Index
<b>2003</b>				
January	92.55	51.33	117.69	81.57
February	138.38	27.86	159.32	65.50
March	152.77	26.92	185.40	70.22
April	100.22	55.44	176.90	92.60
May	102.47	75.80	162.24	100.55
June	134.17	163.39	95.62	148.56
July	152.49	125.38	71.57	164.90
August	133.46	173.02	81.71	130.95
September	124.99	145.26	120.07	104.57
October	118.10	55.29	178.59	68.16
November	117.16	63.05	168.08	61.24
December	134.40	83.90	199.86	67.09
<b>2004</b>				
January	122.28	30.51	198.24	67.32
February	153.71	14.47	143.87	72.08
March	145.57	26.94	149.71	85.79
April	77.82	71.71	124.03	102.44
May	106.00	72.56	86.65	109.36
June	107.56	222.79	66.29	137.61
July	127.14	179.14	74.21	187.35
August	94.12	256.24	70.09	155.81
September	71.08	197.85	77.94	113.85
October	89.39	64.95	81.60	89.31
November	85.38	69.30	125.84	80.43
December	75.89	82.45	142.06	71.61
<b>2005</b>				
January	59.49	88.96	144.86	80.68
February	113.33	48.79	165.02	60.31
March	146.10	44.10	129.00	82.61
April	97.69	73.33	140.93	98.88
May	92.07	77.86	139.24	109.19
June	92.77	241.26	89.77	146.25
July	98.12	165.47	71.13	160.63
August	81.09	254.77	75.06	154.18
September	76.77	148.54	97.89	103.34
October	103.07	43.95	106.35	83.56
November	100.56	68.94	102.52	63.97
December	88.67	92.59	96.40	84.65
<b>2006</b>				
January	96.36	68.94	100.08	93.88
February	133.61	33.94	94.98	84.20
March	139.72	30.54	122.08	97.26
April	85.31	81.41	124.19	102.58
May	108.87	75.09	118.30	124.45
June	100.20	325.75	85.26	163.42

## Methodological Notes

1. The information is collected from the four official markets namely; Pitkali Malta, Co-op Malta, Pitkali Gozo, 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, Monday and Thursdays being the busiest days. The data is forwarded to the NSO on a monthly basis.
2. The data is recorded by crop where quantities and value are kept, together with average unit price.
3. The 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 2000 as the base year. Price indices are calculated using the Laspayres method with variable monthly baskets. Price indices from one month to another are not comparable and can only be compared to the same month in previous years.
4. The regional data are derived at source where every consignment at the official markets are classified by the residence of the farmer.
5. The data in this release are not normally subject to revision.
6. The Fruit and Vegetable News Release is being presented to show the dominant produce. A full list of all produce passing through the official markets will be made available upon request.
7. These statistics are published and disseminated by the National Statistics Office and can also be found on the NSO website <http://www.nso.gov.mt>