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In the fourth quarter, the volume of fresh fruit and vegetables increased by 1.5 per cent, while the wholesale value declined by 3.1 per cent, over the comparative period in 2012.

## Fruit and Vegetables: Q4/2013

The volume of fresh fruit and vegetables that passed through official markets amounted to 8.3 million kilograms, yielding €4.0 million. This represents an increase of 1.5 per cent in weight and a 3.1 per cent decline in the wholesale value over the corresponding period in 2012.

The supply of fresh vegetables went up by 1.9 per cent to 7.9 million kilograms over the comparative quarter. Increases were registered in the supply of Carrots (+18.1 per cent), Cabbages (+8.2 per cent) and Dry onions (+5.3 per cent). On the other hand, the wholesale value of fresh vegetables decreased by 2.8 per cent to €3.7 million.

Fresh fruit supplied decreased by 7.2 per cent mainly on account of a decline in the availability of Sweet Oranges (-10.1 per cent) and Oranges (-1.5 per cent). Similarly, the wholesale value of fresh fruit fell by 6.3 per cent, to €0.3 million.

### Regional Statistics

Maltese farmers supplied 7.6 million kilograms of fruit and vegetables; an increase of 2.2 per cent over the corresponding period in 2012. During the quarter under review, the wholesale value of fresh fruit and vegetables declined by 2.0 per cent to €3.5 million. This produce represented 91.7 per cent of the total supply of fresh fruit and vegetables.

Gozitan farmers supplied 0.7 million kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables or 8.3 per cent of the total supply. The volume of fresh fruit and vegetables declined by 5.6 per cent. Likewise, the wholesale value dropped by 11.0 per cent over the comparative quarter of 2012.

### Quarterly Indices

The quarterly 'All Items' fresh fruit price index for the fourth quarter of 2013 decreased slightly by 0.04 points (-0.1 per cent) to stand at 71.95 points. Furthermore, the fresh fruit volume index declined by 7.2 per cent to 51.11 points.

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In the quarter under review, while the 'All Items' fresh vegetables price index declined by 6.0 points (-5.1 per cent) to 111.14 points, the 'All items' fresh vegetables volume index increased by 1.41 points (+1.9 per cent) to 76.81 points ■

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

Item	October-December					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2012	2013	±% 2013/2012	2012	2013	±% 2013/2012
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>8,136,089</b>	<b>8,255,664</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>4,080,346</b>	<b>3,954,819</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>7,773,438</b>	<b>7,919,101</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>3,765,574</b>	<b>3,659,854</b>	<b>-2.8</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	110,435	122,066	10.5	135,269	135,283	0.0
Broad beans	1,609	1,171	-27.2	1,058	869	-17.9
Cabbages	864,111	935,377	8.2	133,871	97,318	-27.3
Carrots	184,968	218,457	18.1	73,188	83,019	13.4
Cauliflowers	1,118,243	1,121,258	0.3	261,941	272,539	4.0
Celery	103,988	106,040	2.0	31,924	27,295	-14.5
Cucumber	164,547	146,504	-11.0	122,527	151,160	23.4
Dry onions	666,435	702,025	5.3	359,278	162,439	-54.8
Eggplant	189,026	163,562	-13.5	86,042	113,856	32.3
Globe artichokes	6,317	6,104	-3.4	6,708	6,703	-0.1
Green onions	141	140	-0.7	23	22	-4.7
Kohlrabi	260,176	249,533	-4.1	56,252	51,531	-8.4
Lettuce	833,475	852,629	2.3	219,291	204,719	-6.6
Potatoes	339,827	329,888	-2.9	164,891	159,896	-3.0
Pumpkins	158,855	165,263	4.0	40,175	42,546	5.9
Sugar melons	7,855	6,993	-11.0	2,161	2,186	1.2
Tomatoes	940,950	909,133	-3.4	817,909	844,052	3.2
Vegetable marrows	601,376	603,612	0.4	617,421	578,198	-6.4
Watermelons	46,171	35,190	-23.8	8,378	8,744	4.4
Other vegetables	1,174,935	1,244,157	5.9	627,267	717,478	14.4
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>362,651</b>	<b>336,563</b>	<b>-7.2</b>	<b>314,773</b>	<b>294,965</b>	<b>-6.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	0	0	-	0	0	-
Cherry plums	0	0	-	0	0	-
Dry figs	465	842	81.1	1,985	2,211	11.4
Early figs	0	0	-	0	0	-
Grapes	12,987	7,245	-44.2	9,833	6,111	-37.8
Lemons	54,721	59,723	9.1	30,854	30,861	0.0
Nectarines	0	0	-	0	0	-
Oranges	71,977	70,863	-1.5	57,807	47,227	-18.3
Peaches	293	81	-72.4	586	93	-84.2
Pomegranates	66,411	63,126	-4.9	45,526	45,481	-0.1
Strawberries	12,125	11,254	-7.2	69,618	82,459	18.4
Sweet oranges	108,826	97,795	-10.1	73,440	56,789	-22.7
Other fruit	34,846	25,635	-26.4	25,124	23,735	-5.5

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

Item	October-December					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2012	2013	±% 2013/2012	2012	2013	±% 2013/2012
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>7,407,654</b>	<b>7,567,768</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>3,596,491</b>	<b>3,524,261</b>	<b>-2.0</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>7,227,680</b>	<b>7,402,701</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3,415,784</b>	<b>3,337,686</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	95,627	107,300	12.2	115,713	118,371	2.3
Broad beans	1,517	1,101	-27.4	993	796	-19.8
Cabbages	827,226	905,722	9.5	125,254	92,118	-26.5
Carrots	181,925	217,132	19.4	71,901	82,407	14.6
Cauliflowers	1,054,883	1,058,378	0.3	244,135	253,252	3.7
Celery	97,934	103,874	6.1	29,621	26,541	-10.4
Cucumber	133,199	121,998	-8.4	84,619	120,863	42.8
Dry onions	662,704	687,109	3.7	357,535	159,180	-55.5
Eggplant	160,522	140,869	-12.2	62,625	83,243	32.9
Globe artichokes	5,909	6,076	2.8	5,973	6,617	10.8
Green onions	141	110	-22.0	23	20	-13.3
Kohlrabi	241,384	235,491	-2.4	51,725	48,473	-6.3
Lettuce	802,849	820,213	2.2	210,260	198,142	-5.8
Potatoes	326,158	314,358	-3.6	157,941	153,084	-3.1
Pumpkins	144,115	147,179	2.1	36,563	37,396	2.3
Sugar melons	5,633	1,918	-66.0	1,474	466	-68.4
Tomatoes	857,676	831,905	-3.0	751,135	774,733	3.1
Vegetable marrows	529,353	553,139	4.5	550,424	531,578	-3.4
Watermelons	43,118	26,681	-38.1	7,996	6,627	-17.1
Other vegetables	1,055,809	1,122,149	6.3	549,875	643,778	17.1
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>179,974</b>	<b>165,066</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>180,707</b>	<b>186,575</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	0	0	-	0	0	-
Cherry plums	0	0	-	0	0	-
Dry figs	7	1	-85.7	69	5	-92.8
Early figs	0	0	-	0	0	-
Grapes	12,867	7,034	-45.3	9,735	5,903	-39.4
Lemons	35,074	30,233	-13.8	18,469	15,787	-14.5
Nectarines	0	0	-	0	0	-
Oranges	39,731	36,440	-8.3	30,377	24,024	-20.9
Peaches	293	81	-72.4	586	93	-84.2
Pomegranates	36,844	40,259	9.3	25,003	29,680	18.7
Strawberries	11,894	11,052	-7.1	68,212	80,966	18.7
Sweet oranges	21,094	23,715	12.4	12,992	14,537	11.9
Other fruit	22,170	16,252	-26.7	15,264	15,581	2.1

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

Item	October-December					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2012	2013	±% 2013/2012	2012	2013	±% 2013/2012
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>728,434</b>	<b>687,897</b>	<b>-5.6</b>	<b>483,855</b>	<b>430,557</b>	<b>-11.0</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>545,758</b>	<b>516,400</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>349,789</b>	<b>322,168</b>	<b>-7.9</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	14,808	14,766	-0.3	19,556	16,912	-13.5
Broad beans	92	70	-23.9	66	73	10.7
Cabbages	36,885	29,655	-19.6	8,617	5,199	-39.7
Carrots	3,043	1,325	-56.5	1,286	613	-52.4
Cauliflowers	63,360	62,880	-0.8	17,806	19,287	8.3
Celery	6,054	2,166	-64.2	2,303	754	-67.3
Cucumber	31,348	24,506	-21.8	37,908	30,297	-20.1
Dry onions	3,731	14,916	299.8	1,743	3,259	87.0
Eggplant	28,504	22,693	-20.4	23,417	30,613	30.7
Globe artichokes	408	28	-93.1	735	86	-88.3
Green onions	0	30	-	0	2	-
Kohlrabi	18,792	14,042	-25.3	4,526	3,058	-32.4
Lettuce	30,626	32,416	5.8	9,030	6,577	-27.2
Potatoes	13,669	15,530	13.6	6,950	6,812	-2.0
Pumpkins	14,740	18,084	22.7	3,613	5,150	42.6
Sugar melons	2,222	5,075	128.4	687	1,720	150.6
Tomatoes	83,274	77,228	-7.3	66,774	69,320	3.8
Vegetable marrows	72,023	50,473	-29.9	66,997	46,620	-30.4
Watermelons	3,053	8,509	178.7	383	2,116	452.7
Other vegetables	119,126	122,008	2.4	77,392	73,700	-4.8
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>182,677</b>	<b>171,497</b>	<b>-6.1</b>	<b>134,066</b>	<b>108,390</b>	<b>-19.2</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	0	0	-	0	0	-
Cherry plums	0	0	-	0	0	-
Dry figs	458	841	83.6	1,916	2,206	15.1
Early figs	0	0	-	0	0	-
Grapes	120	211	75.8	98	208	111.5
Lemons	19,647	29,490	50.1	12,384	15,074	21.7
Nectarines	0	0	-	0	0	-
Oranges	32,246	34,423	6.8	27,430	23,203	-15.4
Peaches	0	0	-	0	0	-
Pomegranates	29,567	22,867	-22.7	20,523	15,801	-23.0
Strawberries	231	202	-12.5	1,406	1,492	6.2
Sweet oranges	87,732	74,080	-15.6	60,448	42,252	-30.1
Other fruit	12,676	9,383	-26.0	9,861	8,154	-17.3

**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>2012</b>				
January	90.68	76.17	159.20	80.05
February	136.05	47.61	167.57	65.93
March	179.66	54.85	129.34	88.14
April	51.66	224.65	114.81	95.47
May	125.68	83.97	100.69	99.79
June	90.05	176.49	73.28	122.38
July	80.33	147.78	71.42	150.55
August	58.69	172.14	79.03	115.30
September	51.36	78.24	95.56	77.72
October	51.93	44.93	96.71	87.50
November	76.27	62.69	122.34	73.75
December	87.76	57.59	132.36	64.95
<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

**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>2012</b>				
Q1/2012	135.46	59.54	152.04	78.04
Q2/2012	89.13	161.70	96.25	105.88
Q3/2012	63.46	132.72	82.00	114.52
Q4/2012	71.99	55.07	117.14	75.40
<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

## Methodological Notes

1. The information is collected from the five official markets (Pitkali Malta, Co-op Malta, Pitkali Gozo, Co-op Gozo and Ta' Qali Producers Group) where all farmers deposit their produce for sale to licensed hawkers, through private middlemen. The information is compiled on a daily basis, with Monday and Thursday being the busiest days. Data are 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 data in this release are not normally subject to revision.
6. The Fruit and Vegetable 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.
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>