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In the second quarter the volume of fresh fruit and vegetables edged up by 0.1 per cent, whereas the wholesale value decreased by 11.4 per cent compared to last year.

Fruit and Vegetables: Q2/2014

The supply of fresh fruit and vegetables for the second quarter amounted to 12.6 million kilograms, an increase of 0.1 per cent. On the other hand, the wholesale value dropped by 11.4 per cent, from €6.1 million in the second quarter of 2013 to €5.4 million this year.

The volume of fresh vegetables supplied declined by 1.1 per cent to 11.7 million kilograms over the comparative period in 2013. Drops were registered in the supply of Green onions (-44.3 per cent), Tomatoes (-12.8 per cent) and Potatoes (-9.6 per cent). The wholesale value of fresh vegetables registered a decline of 14.2 per cent to €4.2 million in the second quarter this year.

The supply of fresh fruit increased by 18.8 per cent, mainly on account of a rise in the availability of Peaches (+29.4 per cent), Lemons (+26.4 per cent) and Strawberries (+14.0 per cent). Similarly, the wholesale value of fresh fruit increased marginally by 0.2 per cent to €1.2 million (Table 1).

Regional Statistics

Maltese farmers supplied 11.7 million kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables, yielding €4.9 million. Overall Maltese farmers contributed 92.9 per cent of the total amount of fruit and vegetables on the market (Table 2).

Gozitan farmers supplied the remaining 7.1 per cent, or 0.9 million kilograms, of fresh fruit and vegetables. The wholesale value decreased by 10.8 per cent over the comparative period in 2013 (Table 3).

Quarterly Indices

The quarterly 'All Items' fresh fruit price index for the second quarter decreased by 21.71 points (-16.5 per cent) to 109.96 points. In contrast, the fresh fruit volume index increased by 22.33 points (+18.8 per cent) to 141.10 points.

The quarterly 'All Items' fresh vegetables price index decreased by 11.97 points (-12.1 per cent), from 98.52 points in the second quarter of 2013 to 86.55 points in the corresponding quarter this year. Additionally, the fresh vegetables volume index decreased by 1.26 points (-1.1 per cent) to 113.25 points in the second quarter of 2014 (Table 5) ■

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

Item	April-June					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013
Total vegetables and fruit	12,588,391	12,605,445	0.1	6,057,606	5,366,131	-11.4
Total vegetables	11,806,260	11,676,265	-1.1	4,885,918	4,191,947	-14.2
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	172,755	146,343	-15.3	152,486	137,738	-9.7
Broad beans	394,435	481,360	22.0	175,982	127,261	-27.7
Cabbages	778,915	728,421	-6.5	46,301	101,710	119.7
Carrots	447,318	429,365	-4.0	181,746	183,928	1.2
Cauliflowers	885,609	874,901	-1.2	178,555	183,943	3.0
Celery	110,590	96,849	-12.4	26,402	33,065	25.2
Cucumber	197,628	252,562	27.8	185,167	128,280	-30.7
Dry onions	690,196	776,203	12.5	347,912	175,310	-49.6
Eggplant	190,288	166,929	-12.3	118,168	92,054	-22.1
Globe artichokes	63,889	35,313	-44.7	7,811	6,399	-18.1
Green onions	304,306	169,364	-44.3	48,956	23,385	-52.2
Kohlrabi	163,397	183,792	12.5	30,056	34,929	16.2
Lettuce	1,066,379	1,068,343	0.2	255,996	188,120	-26.5
Potatoes	1,347,519	1,217,934	-9.6	414,831	281,789	-32.1
Pumpkins	98,775	118,312	19.8	76,715	59,001	-23.1
Sugar melons	687,239	852,532	24.1	450,851	289,450	-35.8
Tomatoes	1,408,073	1,227,829	-12.8	732,130	839,179	14.6
Vegetable marrows	876,055	940,142	7.3	479,053	331,936	-30.7
Watermelons	808,717	862,819	6.7	353,902	337,885	-4.5
Other vegetables	1,114,179	1,046,953	-6.0	622,897	636,586	2.2
Total fruit	782,130	929,180	18.8	1,171,688	1,174,184	0.2
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	751	44	-94.1	2,366	103	-95.7
Cherry plums	1,796	17,026	848.0	3,465	26,321	659.7
Dry figs	46	197	328.3	250	598	139.1
Early figs	68,329	43,000	-37.1	153,515	129,386	-15.7
Grapes	0	51	-	0	12	-
Lemons	92,881	117,407	26.4	44,217	37,152	-16.0
Nectarines	19,679	29,803	51.4	17,129	15,279	-10.8
Oranges	2,204	2,939	33.3	2,170	2,328	7.3
Peaches	119,940	155,186	29.4	108,142	99,035	-8.4
Pomegranates	13	24	84.6	4	46	1,079.5
Strawberries	444,197	506,190	14.0	801,894	815,613	1.7
Sweet oranges	1,905	23,763	1,147.4	2,275	12,054	429.9
Other fruit	30,389	33,550	10.4	36,263	36,259	0.0

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

Item	April-June					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013
Total vegetables and fruit	11,575,096	11,716,631	1.2	5,540,999	4,905,292	-11.5
Total vegetables	10,845,922	10,883,695	0.3	4,413,323	3,784,604	-14.2
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	152,888	126,416	-17.3	138,828	121,935	-12.2
Broad beans	351,113	428,738	22.1	154,189	112,361	-27.1
Cabbages	738,480	692,874	-6.2	42,223	95,249	125.6
Carrots	443,673	425,582	-4.1	179,896	183,003	1.7
Cauliflowers	852,714	854,371	0.2	170,566	179,163	5.0
Celery	105,541	93,872	-11.1	25,059	31,960	27.5
Cucumber	143,090	205,051	43.3	130,357	95,806	-26.5
Dry onions	588,251	700,352	19.1	329,270	156,339	-52.5
Eggplant	130,106	106,783	-17.9	76,920	55,124	-28.3
Globe artichokes	63,704	35,098	-44.9	7,770	6,317	-18.7
Green onions	276,720	163,482	-40.9	41,742	21,237	-49.1
Kohlrabi	148,916	172,536	15.9	27,113	32,751	20.8
Lettuce	1,020,747	1,036,143	1.5	244,379	181,314	-25.8
Potatoes	1,260,537	1,166,399	-7.5	387,128	268,108	-30.7
Pumpkins	91,078	112,523	23.5	71,686	56,262	-21.5
Sugar melons	640,292	787,299	23.0	422,360	258,406	-38.8
Tomatoes	1,231,977	1,063,179	-13.7	622,241	714,911	14.9
Vegetable marrows	826,135	896,921	8.6	452,512	316,559	-30.0
Watermelons	757,826	844,359	11.4	334,240	330,343	-1.2
Other vegetables	1,022,136	971,717	-4.9	554,844	567,456	2.3
Total fruit	729,174	832,937	14.2	1,127,676	1,120,687	-0.6
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	751	44	-94.1	2,366	103	-95.7
Cherry plums	1,774	16,864	850.6	3,443	26,125	658.9
Dry figs	0	0	-	0	0	-
Early figs	68,035	42,830	-37.0	153,027	128,961	-15.7
Grapes	0	51	-	0	12	-
Lemons	52,094	56,249	8.0	24,080	18,588	-22.8
Nectarines	19,015	29,529	55.3	16,870	15,172	-10.1
Oranges	2,088	2,209	5.8	2,092	1,904	-9.0
Peaches	117,752	153,309	30.2	105,900	97,253	-8.2
Pomegranates	13	24	84.6	4	46	1,079.5
Strawberries	439,017	499,669	13.8	784,569	796,483	1.5
Sweet oranges	448	891	98.9	609	735	20.7
Other fruit	28,187	31,268	10.9	34,716	35,305	1.7

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

Item	April-June					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013
Total vegetables and fruit	1,013,294	888,814	-12.3	516,607	460,839	-10.8
Total vegetables	960,338	792,570	-17.5	472,595	407,343	-13.8
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	19,867	19,927	0.3	13,658	15,803	15.7
Broad beans	43,322	52,622	21.5	21,794	14,900	-31.6
Cabbages	40,435	35,547	-12.1	4,078	6,461	58.4
Carrots	3,645	3,783	3.8	1,849	925	-50.0
Cauliflowers	32,895	20,530	-37.6	7,989	4,780	-40.2
Celery	5,049	2,977	-41.0	1,343	1,105	-17.8
Cucumber	54,538	47,511	-12.9	54,809	32,473	-40.8
Dry onions	101,945	75,851	-25.6	18,642	18,971	1.8
Eggplant	60,182	60,146	-0.1	41,248	36,930	-10.5
Globe artichokes	185	215	16.2	41	83	101.2
Green onions	27,586	5,882	-78.7	7,214	2,148	-70.2
Kohlrabi	14,481	11,256	-22.3	2,944	2,178	-26.0
Lettuce	45,632	32,200	-29.4	11,617	6,806	-41.4
Potatoes	86,982	51,535	-40.8	27,704	13,680	-50.6
Pumpkins	7,697	5,789	-24.8	5,029	2,739	-45.5
Sugar melons	46,947	65,233	39.0	28,491	31,044	9.0
Tomatoes	176,096	164,650	-6.5	109,889	124,268	13.1
Vegetable marrows	49,920	43,221	-13.4	26,540	15,377	-42.1
Watermelons	50,891	18,460	-63.7	19,662	7,542	-61.6
Other vegetables	92,043	75,236	-18.3	68,053	69,131	1.6
Total fruit	52,956	96,243	81.7	44,013	53,496	21.5
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	0	0	-	0	0	-
Cherry plums	22	162	636.4	22	196	789.5
Dry figs	46	197	328.3	250	598	139.1
Early figs	294	170	-42.2	489	425	-13.1
Grapes	0	0	-	0	0	-
Lemons	40,787	61,158	49.9	20,137	18,564	-7.8
Nectarines	664	274	-58.7	259	106	-58.9
Oranges	116	730	529.3	78	424	446.5
Peaches	2,188	1,877	-14.2	2,242	1,782	-20.5
Pomegranates	0	0	-	0	0	-
Strawberries	5,180	6,521	25.9	17,325	19,130	10.4
Sweet oranges	1,457	22,872	1,469.8	1,666	11,318	579.5
Other fruit	2,202	2,282	3.6	1,546	954	-38.3

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
2013				
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
2014				
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				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				

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
2013				
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
2014				
Q1/2014	139.11	76.66	92.41	95.13
Q2/2014	109.96	141.10	86.55	113.25
Q3/2014				
Q4/2014				

Methodological Notes

1. The information 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, 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>