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The volume and wholesale value of fresh fruit and vegetables decreased by 0.6 and 6.2 per cent respectively in the third quarter this year when compared to the corresponding period in 2013.

## Fruit and Vegetables: Q3/2014

The supply of fresh fruit and vegetables in the third quarter amounted to 12.1 million kilograms, a decrease of 0.6 per cent. Similarly, the wholesale value dropped by 6.2 per cent to €4.5 million this year.

The volume of fresh vegetables increased marginally by 0.2 per cent to 11.5 million kilograms over the comparative period in 2013. Increases were registered in the supply of Cabbages (+13.8 per cent), Cauliflowers (+11.2 per cent) and Watermelons (+8.1 per cent). On the other hand, a shortfall in the supply of Lettuce (-11.6 per cent) and Sugar melons (-9.0 per cent) was recorded. Furthermore, the wholesale value of fresh vegetables decreased by 4.0 per cent to €3.9 million.

The supply of fresh fruit dropped by 13.0 per cent, mainly on account of a decrease in the availability of Strawberries (-61.3 per cent), Babinella (-35.2 per cent) and Grapes (-3.9 per cent). Similarly, the wholesale of fresh fruit declined by 20.0 per cent to €0.5 million (Table 1).

### Regional Statistics

Maltese farmers supplied 10.6 million kilograms of fresh fruit and vegetables, yielding €3.8 million. Their produce accounted to 87.7 per cent of the total supply of fresh fruit and vegetables for the quarter under review (Table 2).

Gozitan farmers supplied the remaining 12.3 per cent of the total supply, amounting to 1.5 million kilograms. The wholesale value declined by 15.9 per cent to €0.6 million (Table 3).

### Quarterly Indices

The quarterly 'All Items' fresh fruit price index for the third quarter fell by 4.89 points (-6.3 per cent) to 73.33 points. Additionally, the fresh fruit volume index dropped by 13.97 points (-13.0 per cent) to 93.71 points.

The quarterly 'All Items' fresh vegetables price index declined by 3.08 points (-3.6 per cent) from 85.62 points in the third quarter of 2013 to 82.54 points in the corresponding quarter this year. In contrast, the fresh vegetables volume index increased marginally by 0.17 points (+0.2 per cent) to 111.14 points (Table 5) ■

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

Item	July-September					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013	2013	2014	±% 2013/2012
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>12,149,587</b>	<b>12,075,916</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>4,770,421</b>	<b>4,473,231</b>	<b>-6.2</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>11,440,482</b>	<b>11,458,815</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>4,098,588</b>	<b>3,936,061</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	281,966	263,624	-6.5	118,959	117,642	-1.1
Broad beans	420	768	82.7	168	506	201.2
Cabbages	683,227	777,282	13.8	131,050	82,874	-36.8
Carrots	122,273	127,546	4.3	59,472	39,401	-33.7
Cauliflowers	116,956	130,020	11.2	36,536	45,634	24.9
Celery	99,400	93,137	-6.3	17,369	17,828	2.6
Cucumber	310,760	280,037	-9.9	221,984	280,824	26.5
Dry onions	631,295	678,284	7.4	126,177	225,034	78.3
Eggplant	291,489	321,756	10.4	91,836	79,790	-13.1
Globe artichokes	0	0	-	0	0	-
Green onions	15,703	16,714	6.4	5,796	5,574	-3.8
Kohlrabi	67,255	63,878	-5.0	15,410	11,882	-22.9
Lettuce	1,182,633	1,046,026	-11.6	296,366	280,824	-5.2
Potatoes	923,046	934,674	1.3	363,574	227,574	-37.4
Pumpkins	99,557	94,906	-4.7	28,203	24,626	-12.7
Sugar melons	1,131,257	1,029,683	-9.0	390,260	324,427	-16.9
Tomatoes	1,564,589	1,490,659	-4.7	526,537	601,188	14.2
Vegetable marrows	756,179	757,645	0.2	510,003	486,012	-4.7
Watermelons	1,968,640	2,127,142	8.1	581,501	472,364	-18.8
Other vegetables	1,193,837	1,225,036	2.6	577,387	612,057	6.0
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>709,105</b>	<b>617,101</b>	<b>-13.0</b>	<b>671,833</b>	<b>537,170</b>	<b>-20.0</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	77,403	50,129	-35.2	87,228	65,880	-24.5
Cherry plums	12,064	11,126	-7.8	14,498	16,261	12.2
Dry figs	8,564	3,060	-64.3	10,589	7,399	-30.1
Early figs	583	174	-70.1	1,713	311	-81.8
Grapes	179,666	172,636	-3.9	114,264	113,833	-0.4
Lemons	51,464	56,646	10.1	42,768	52,866	23.6
Nectarines	31,647	23,802	-24.8	24,355	11,471	-52.9
Oranges	62	200	222.6	31	187	503.2
Peaches	227,906	226,980	-0.4	265,093	191,188	-27.9
Pomegranates	5,644	3,968	-29.7	3,699	2,333	-36.9
Strawberries	14,967	5,788	-61.3	17,407	7,946	-54.3
Sweet oranges	95	44	-53.7	20	12	-38.5
Other fruit	99,042	62,549	-36.8	90,168	67,483	-25.2

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

Item	July-September					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>10,344,762</b>	<b>10,591,101</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>4,020,935</b>	<b>3,842,941</b>	<b>-4.4</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>9,697,007</b>	<b>10,026,346</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3,404,456</b>	<b>3,361,684</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	268,040	256,983	-4.1	112,706	114,417	1.5
Broad beans	227	680	199.3	145	411	184.2
Cabbages	640,832	736,084	14.9	122,095	76,709	-37.2
Carrots	119,627	127,485	6.6	57,869	39,381	-31.9
Cauliflowers	113,671	129,000	13.5	35,237	45,339	28.7
Celery	95,280	89,848	-5.7	16,046	16,754	4.4
Cucumber	222,679	212,713	-4.5	138,198	188,512	36.4
Dry onions	500,380	602,590	20.4	106,068	205,999	94.2
Eggplant	254,786	293,344	15.1	79,835	72,195	-9.6
Globe artichokes	0	0	-	0	0	-
Green onions	10,568	14,754	39.6	4,151	4,806	15.8
Kohlrabi	53,119	58,362	9.9	12,589	10,845	-13.9
Lettuce	1,144,553	1,009,606	-11.8	285,805	269,780	-5.6
Potatoes	835,626	850,449	1.8	332,112	207,981	-37.4
Pumpkins	80,580	80,858	0.3	23,214	21,079	-9.2
Sugar melons	940,926	871,397	-7.4	308,634	266,096	-13.8
Tomatoes	1,350,366	1,328,402	-1.6	447,640	541,704	21.0
Vegetable marrows	696,129	715,089	2.7	462,930	453,287	-2.1
Watermelons	1,468,346	1,683,239	14.6	417,870	361,903	-13.4
Other vegetables	901,272	965,465	7.1	441,311	464,487	5.3
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>647,755</b>	<b>564,756</b>	<b>-12.8</b>	<b>616,479</b>	<b>481,257</b>	<b>-21.9</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	74,593	48,960	-34.4	85,915	64,652	-24.7
Cherry plums	11,297	10,876	-3.7	13,991	15,933	13.9
Dry figs	8,532	3,060	-64.1	10,442	7,399	-29.1
Early figs	534	157	-70.6	1,611	287	-82.2
Grapes	173,759	166,110	-4.4	102,158	98,724	-3.4
Lemons	16,082	20,144	25.3	15,394	21,068	36.9
Nectarines	31,361	23,580	-24.8	24,191	11,361	-53.0
Oranges	30	200	566.7	4	187	4,575.0
Peaches	225,798	226,305	0.2	263,286	190,675	-27.6
Pomegranates	3,193	1,776	-44.4	1,995	1,122	-43.8
Strawberries	14,824	5,533	-62.7	16,755	7,124	-57.5
Sweet oranges	0	0	-	0	0	-
Other fruit	87,754	58,055	-33.8	80,736	62,726	-22.3

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

Item	July-September					
	Quantity (Kgs)			Wholesale value (€)		
	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013	2013	2014	±% 2014/2013
<b>Total vegetables and fruit</b>	<b>1,804,825</b>	<b>1,484,814</b>	<b>-17.7</b>	<b>749,486</b>	<b>630,290</b>	<b>-15.9</b>
<b>Total vegetables</b>	<b>1,743,475</b>	<b>1,432,469</b>	<b>-17.8</b>	<b>694,132</b>	<b>574,377</b>	<b>-17.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bellpepper	13,926	6,641	-52.3	6,253	3,225	-48.4
Broad beans	193	88	-54.4	24	95	306.0
Cabbages	42,395	41,198	-2.8	8,955	6,165	-31.2
Carrots	2,646	61	-97.7	1,604	21	-98.7
Cauliflowers	3,285	1,020	-68.9	1,300	295	-77.3
Celery	4,120	3,289	-20.2	1,322	1,074	-18.8
Cucumber	88,081	67,324	-23.6	83,787	92,312	10.2
Dry onions	130,915	75,694	-42.2	20,109	19,035	-5.3
Eggplant	36,703	28,412	-22.6	12,001	7,596	-36.7
Globe artichokes	0	0	-	0	0	-
Green onions	5,135	1,960	-61.8	1,645	768	-53.4
Kohlrabi	14,136	5,516	-61.0	2,821	1,038	-63.2
Lettuce	38,080	36,420	-4.4	10,560	11,044	4.6
Potatoes	87,420	84,225	-3.7	31,462	19,593	-37.7
Pumpkins	18,977	14,048	-26.0	4,989	3,547	-28.9
Sugar melons	190,331	158,286	-16.8	81,625	58,331	-28.5
Tomatoes	214,224	162,256	-24.3	78,897	59,484	-24.6
Vegetable marrows	60,050	42,556	-29.1	47,073	32,725	-30.5
Watermelons	500,294	443,903	-11.3	163,631	110,462	-32.5
Other vegetables	292,565	259,572	-11.3	136,076	147,569	8.4
<b>Total fruit</b>	<b>61,350</b>	<b>52,346</b>	<b>-14.7</b>	<b>55,354</b>	<b>55,913</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Bambinella	2,810	1,169	-58.4	1,313	1,228	-6.5
Cherry plums	767	250	-67.4	507	327	-35.4
Dry figs	32	0	-100.0	147	0	-100.0
Early figs	49	17	-65.3	103	24	-76.6
Grapes	5,907	6,526	10.5	12,106	15,110	24.8
Lemons	35,382	36,502	3.2	27,374	31,798	16.2
Nectarines	286	222	-22.4	164	110	-33.0
Oranges	32	0	-100.0	27	0	-100.0
Peaches	2,108	675	-68.0	1,807	513	-71.6
Pomegranates	2,451	2,192	-10.6	1,704	1,212	-28.9
Strawberries	143	255	78.3	651	823	26.3
Sweet oranges	95	44	-53.7	20	12	-38.5
Other fruit	11,288	4,494	-60.2	9,432	4,757	-49.6

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

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				
November				
December				

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

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				

## 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 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.
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>