

This price bulletin was developed by researchers at IFPRI Malawi with the goal of providing clear and accurate information on the weekly variation of retail prices for selected agricultural commodities that are important for food security and nutrition in Malawi. The reports are intended as a resource for those interested in agricultural markets in Malawi.

Highlights

- Average retail prices of soybeans, pigeon peas and groundnuts increased by 1 to 15 percent while those of common beans decreased marginally by 0.4 percent.
- Average retail prices of cassava and Irish potatoes decreased by 1 and 17 percent respectively while sweet potatoes increased by 16 percent.
- Average retail price of rice increased by 12 percent while sorghum retail prices remained constant.

Legumes

Table 1. Retail prices (MWK/kg) of common beans and pigeon pea by region during September 2021

Market	Common bean					Pigeon pea					Change since August 28	
	Aug 28	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	Aug 28	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	Bean	P. pea
North	908	908	909	916	897						↔ -1%	-
Jenda	817	817	775	800	800	-	-	-	-	-	↓ -2%	-
Karonga-boma	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	500	-	-	-	-	↔ 0%	-
Mzuzu	908	908	908	908	888	-	-	-	-	-	↓ -2%	-
Center	1080	1080	1075	1075	1133						↑ 5%	-
Chimbiya	1050	1050	1050	1050	1200	-	-	-	-	-	↑ 14%	-
Mchinji	1100	1100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	↔ 0%	-
Mitundu	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	-	-	-	-	-	↔ 0%	-
South	1175	1100	1188	1150	1150	490	499	484	560	563	↓ -2%	↑ 15%
Balaka	1350	1300	1375	1300	1300	500	-	-	600	600	↓ -4%	↑ 20%
Bangula	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	-	-	-	-	-	↔ 0%	-
Lunzu	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	500	500	500	500	500	↔ 0%	↔ 0%
Mangochi	-	-	-	-	-	600	600	600	600	600	-	↔ 0%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	425	466	439	550	498	-	↑ 17%
All markets	1015	993	1020	1014	1012	492	499	484	560	563	↓ -0.4%	↑ 15%

Note: - = commodity not monitored or prices not reported in this market.

Table 2. Retail prices (MWK/kg) of soybean and groundnut by region during September 2021

Market	Soybean					Groundnut					Change since August 28	
	Aug 28	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	Aug 28	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	Soybean	Groundnut
North	667	667	683	725	725	886	888	857	857	907	↑ 9%	→ 2%
Jenda	-	-	-	-	-	790	750	700	700	650	-	↓ -18%
Karonga-boma	725	725	725	725	725	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	→ 0%	→ 0%
Mzuzu	550	550	600	-	-	867	867	867	867	983	↑ 9%	↑ 13%
Center	670	670	625	650	625	936	924	870	883	867	↓ -7%	↓ -7%
Chimbiya	567	567	567	600	567	860	840	843	850	850	→ 0%	↓ -1%
Mchinji	850	850	-	-	-	1150	1150	-	-	-	→ 0%	→ 0%
Mitundu	800	800	800	800	800	950	950	950	950	900	→ 0%	↓ -5%
South	625	583	700	700	700	984	905	1000	1040	1020	↑ 12%	↑ 4%
Balaka	700	650	750	750	750	1110	820	1100	1200	1150	↑ 7%	↑ 4%
Bangula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lunzu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mangochi	550	550	600	600	600	800	800	800	800	800	↑ 9%	→ 0%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	950	1000	1000	1000	1000	-	↑ 5%
All markets	654	645	665	683	672	925	902	905	923	937	↑ 3%	↑ 1%

Note: - = prices not reported from this market; soybean and groundnut are priced per kilogram

Roots and Tubers

Figure 1. Regional average retail prices (MWK/unit) of cassava, Irish potato, and sweet potato during September 2021

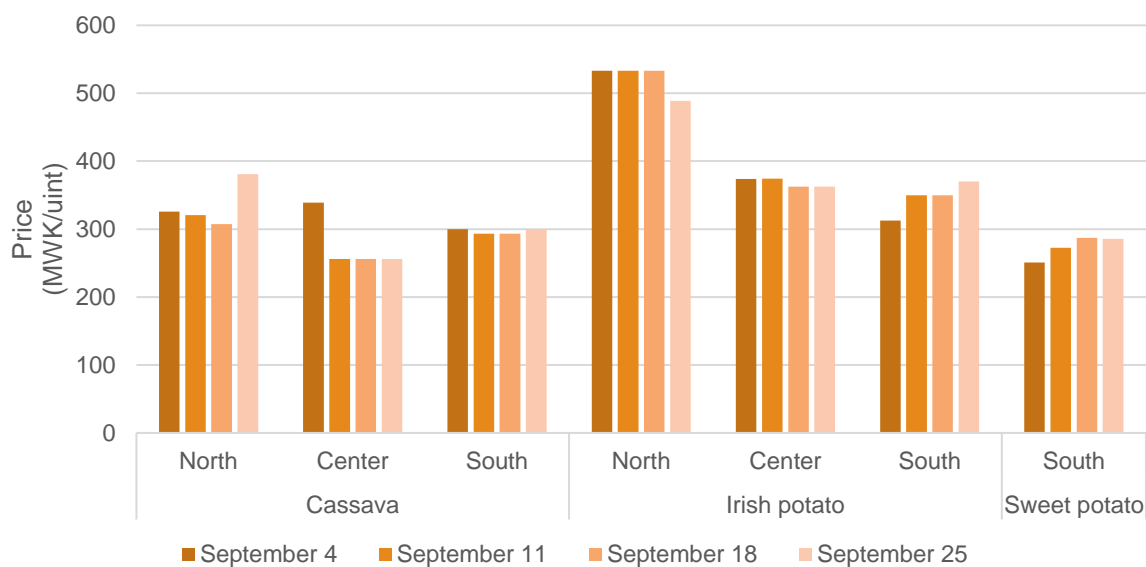


Table 3. Retail prices of roots and tubers (MWK/unit) during September 2021

Commodity	Market	Aug 28	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	Change	
							since August 28	
Cassava	North	346	326	321	307	381	↑	10%
	Mpamba	235	235	235	197	-	↓	-16%
	Mzuzu	420	387	378	381	381	→	0%
	Nkhatabay-boma	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Center	416	339	256	256	256	↓	-38%
	Chinkhoma	416	339	256	256	256	↓	-38%
	Kawamba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Mitundu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	South	280	300	293	293	300	↑	7%
	Limbe	288	315	312	312	315	↑	9%
Namwera turn-off	256	256	256	256	256	→	0%	
All markets	327	317	304	297	325	↓	-1%	
Sweet potato	South	247	251	272	287	286	↑	16%
	Bangwe	200	200	200	200	183	↓	-8%
	Chilobwe	250	250	333	305	333	↑	33%
	Chinakanaka	307	307	307	389	389	↑	27%
	Ndirande	200	238	238	238	238	↑	19%
	Zingwanga	-	265	-	-	-	-	-
	All markets	247	251	272	287	286	↑	16%
Irish potato	North	533	533	533	533	489	↓	-8%
	Jenda	533	533	533	533	489	↓	-8%
	Center	353	374	374	363	363	↑	3%
	Lizulu-Lilongwe	360	410	410	450	450	↑	25%
	Lizulu	373	373	375	350	350	↓	-6%
	Tsangano turn-off	328	350	350	317	317	↓	-3%
	South	365	313	350	350	370	↑	1%
	Blantyre market	430	325	350	350	400	↓	-7%
	Limbe	300	300	350	350	350	↑	17%
All markets	392	317	304	297	325	↓	-17%	

Note: - = prices not reported from this market; cassava and Irish potatoes are priced per kilogram; sweet potatoes are priced per heap.

Other Cereals

Figure 2. Regional average retail prices (MWK/kg) of rice during September 2021

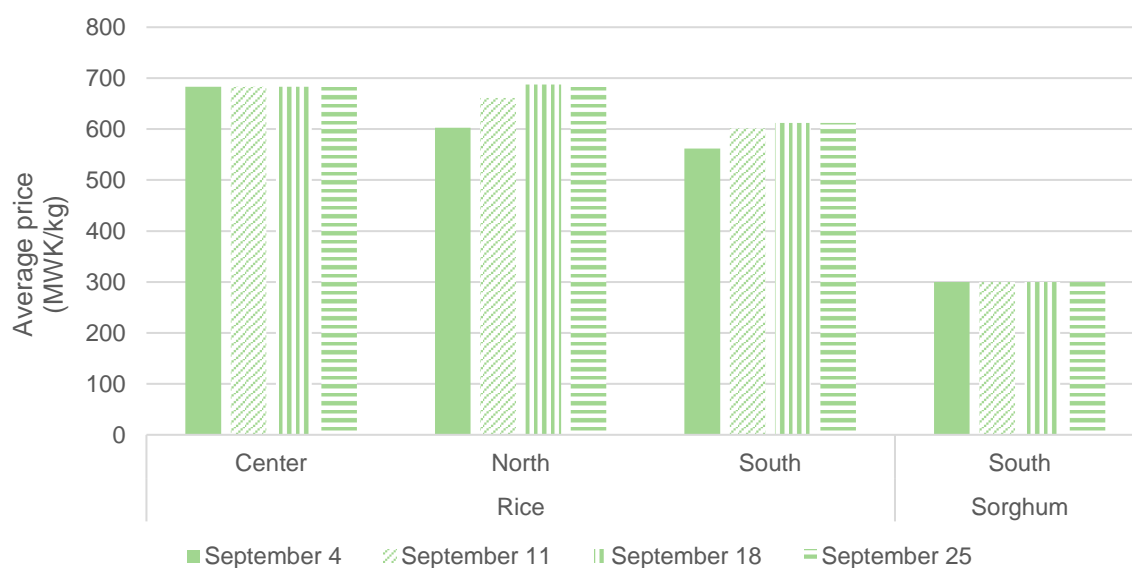


Table 4. Retail prices of other cereals (MWK/kg) during September 2021

Commodity Market		Aug 28	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	Change since August 28	
Rice	North	581	625	661	688	688	↑	18%
	Karonga-boma	450	450	650	650	650	↑	44%
	Mzimba-boma	800	800	800	800	800	→	0%
	Nkhatabay-boma	600	638	638	688	688	↑	15%
	Pusi	650	700	700	650	650	→	0%
	Wowwe	538	538	600	-	-	↑	12%
	Center	683	683	683	683	683	↑	0%
	Nkhotakota-boma	700	700	700	700	700	→	0%
	Salima-kamuzu road	675	675	675	675	675	→	0%
	South	566	562	602	612	612	↑	8%
	Chiringa	550	550	600	650	650	↑	18%
	Phalombe	575	575	625	625	625	↑	9%
	Songani	580	558	558	510	510	↓	-9%
	All markets	594	605	648	663	663	↑	12%
Sorghum	South	300	300	300	300	300	→	0%
	Chikwawa	300	300	300	300	300	→	0%
	Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Nsanje	300	300	300	300	300	→	0%
	All markets	300	300	300	300	300	→	0%

Note: - = prices not reported from this market; rice and sorghum are priced per kilogram

How data were collected

With financial support from the European Union, IFPRI Malawi began monitoring retail prices of selected legumes, roots and tubers, and non-maize cereals* in selected markets in October 2020. Currently, prices are collected from 44 markets across the country, with monitoring occurring once per week. Three monitors report prices from each market. Data is collected by means of automated short message service (SMS) with follow-ups made by telephone the next day if needed. The commodities monitored are being phased-in, starting with legumes, root crops and other cereals, and then expanding to include livestock products and fish by the end of March 2021. Note that the number of markets monitored vary by commodity because major markets are targeted in areas where these commodities are widely produced.

* daily retail prices for maize are available from our [monthly maize market reports](#)



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