

Quarterly Market Report

Report No. 5b for Animal Products, October to December 2021

This quarterly market report was developed by researchers at IFPRI Malawi with the goal of providing clear and accurate information on the variation of weekly and monthly retail prices of 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 chicken decreased marginally by 0.7 percent while goat meat prices remained almost constant.
- Overall, egg prices increased by 3 percent during the quarter.
- Fish prices were mostly unstable and increasing during the quarter.

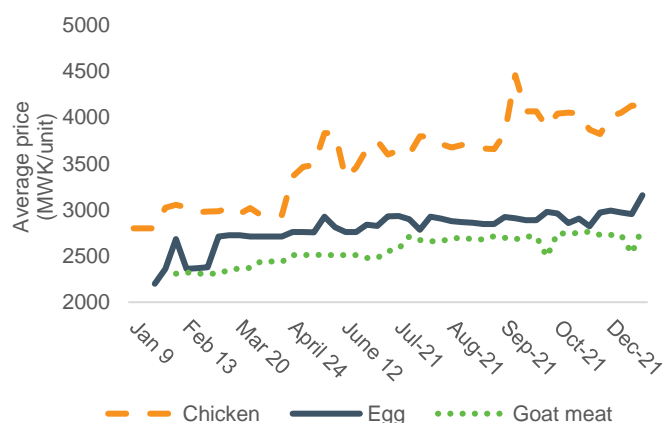
Livestock and Livestock products

Figure 1 presents weekly average retail prices of chicken, egg and goat meat for the year 2021. Chicken prices fluctuated more than egg and goat meat prices throughout the year.

In the last quarter of 2021, retail prices of live chicken decreased marginally by 0.7 while goat meat prices remained almost constant. However, there were variations across the regions; chicken and goat meat retail prices increased in the North and South by 2 to 4 percent (Table 1).

Egg prices (MWK/30 eggs) increased by 3 percent in the last quarter of 2021. When consumers are becoming cash constrained in the lean season, eggs become a relatively inexpensive alternative to meat. This puts pressure on egg prices to go up.

Figure 1. Weekly Livestock and Livestock products retail prices (MWK/unit) for 2021



Note: Chicken is priced per single live chicken; Goat meat is priced per kilogram; Eggs are priced per try (30 eggs)

Table 2. Livestock and Livestock products retail prices (MWK/unit) by region

| | October | November | December | Percentage change Since October | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Chicken | | | | | |
| North | 4423 | 4602 | 4588 | ↑ | 4% |
| Center | 4377 | 3553 | 4011 | ↓ | -8% |
| South | 3395 | 3505 | 3516 | ↑ | 4% |
| All markets | 4065 | 3887 | 4038 | ↓ | -0.7% |
| Egg | | | | | |
| North | 2848 | 2831 | 2979 | ↑ | 5% |
| Center | 2930 | 2893 | 3000 | ↑ | 2% |
| South | 2964 | 2938 | 3064 | ↑ | 3% |
| All markets | 2914 | 2887 | 3014 | ↑ | 3% |
| Goat | | | | | |
| Center | 2617 | 2612 | 2567 | ↓ | -2% |
| South | 2687 | 2788 | 2737 | ↑ | 2% |
| All markets | 2652 | 2700 | 2652 | ↓ | -0.02% |

Note: Number of markets monitored: Chicken = 11; Egg = 13; Goat = 8; Goat meat monitored only in the Center and South

Fish

On average, fresh Mlamba sold highest among the monitored fresh fish in the last quarter of 2021 averaging at MWK24,147 per dozen (Figure 2). This is 33 percent higher than that of the third quarter of 2021. Fresh usipa averaged at MWK11,932 per 5-liter bucket during the quarter, marginally higher than last quarter.

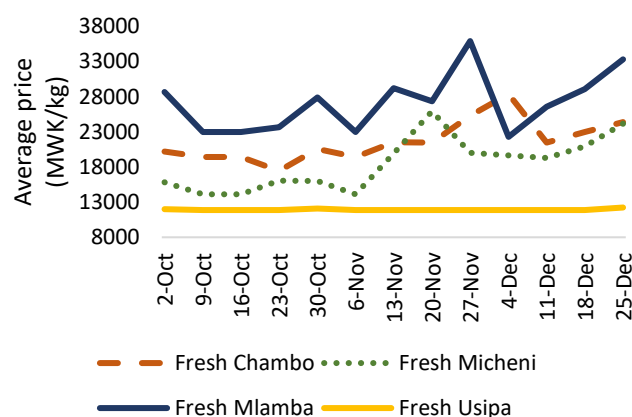
Dried Mlamba was more unstable than the rest of the dried fish and was also selling highest with an average retail price of MWK12,446 per dozen for the quarter, 12 percent higher than last quarter (Figure 3). Dried usipa which is being priced per 5-liter bucket, was the lowest at MWK6,382, 7 percent higher than last quarter.

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.

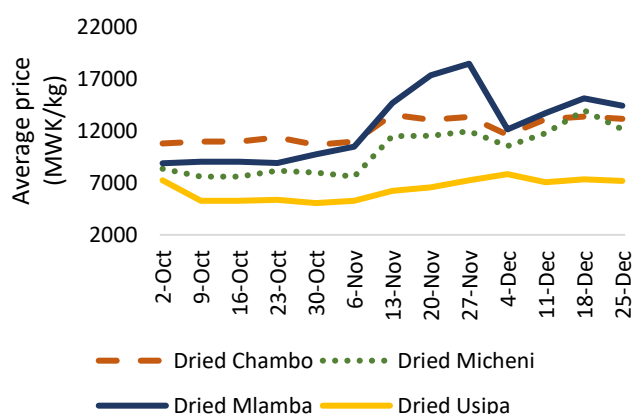
* daily retail prices for maize are available from our [monthly maize market reports](#)

Figure 2. Average weekly retail prices of fresh fish



Note: Chambo, mlamba and micheni (dried and fresh) are priced per dozen; usipa (dried and fresh) is priced per 5-liter bucket

Figure 3. Average weekly retail prices of dried fish



Note: Chambo, mlamba and micheni (dried and fresh) are priced per dozen; usipa (dried and fresh) is priced per 5-liter bucket



For further information contact

Aubrey Jolex (a.jolex@cgiar.org) at IFPRI Malawi.

To learn more about our work, visit <https://massp.ifpri.info> or follow us on Twitter ([@IFPRIMalawi](https://twitter.com/IFPRIMalawi)).