

This price bulletin was developed by researchers at IFPRI Malawi with the goal of providing clear and accurate information on the variation of weekly 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 for common beans, groundnut and pigeon peas decreased by 3 to 24 percent while soybean retail prices remained constant.
- Average retail prices of cassava increased by 12 percent, Irish potato decreased by 27 percent while sweet potato retail prices decreased by 3 percent.
- Rice retail prices decreased marginally while sorghum retail prices decreased by 18 percent.

## Legumes

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

Market	Common beans					Pigeon pea					Change since Feb 27	
	Feb 27	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27	Feb 27	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27	Bean	P. pea
<b>North</b>												
Jenda	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Karonga-boma	950	950	950	950	950	650	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Mzuzu	1000	950	1000	1000	1000	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
<b>Center</b>												
Chimbiya	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Mchinji	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Mitundu	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
<b>South</b>												
Balaka	1367	1100	1100	1100	1100	750	500	500	500	500	↓ -20%	↓ -33%
Bangula	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Lunzu	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	700	550	550	550	550	→ 0%	↓ -21%
Mangochi	-	-	-	-	-	650	500	500	500	500	-	↓ -23%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	633	500	500	500	500	-	↓ -21%
<b>All markets</b>	<b>1120</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>↓ -3%</b>	<b>↓ -24%</b>

**Note:** - = commodity is not monitored in this market.

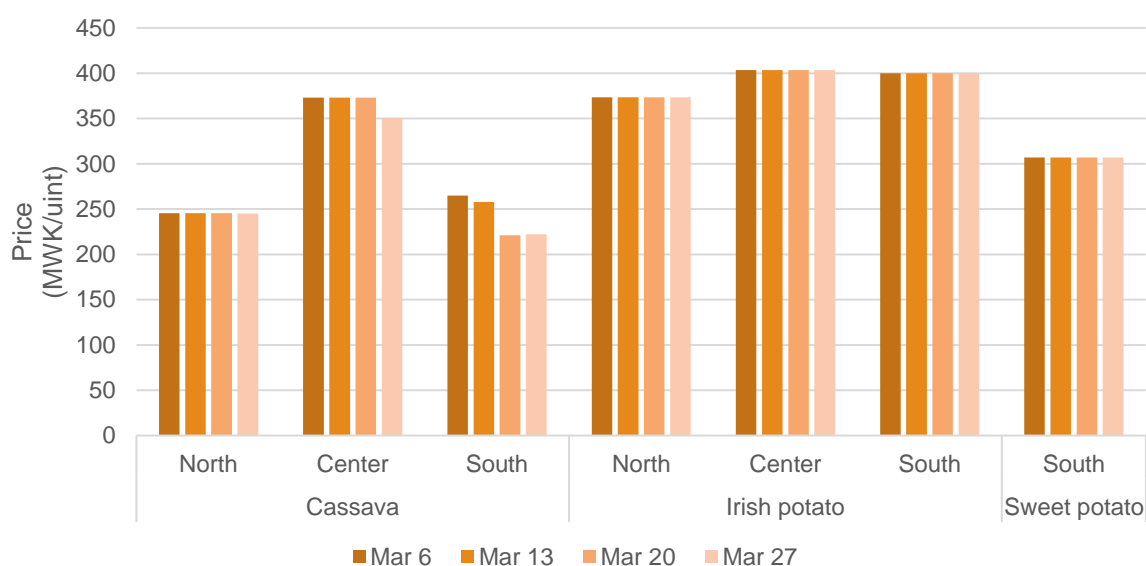
**Table 2.** Retail prices (MWK/kg) of soybean and groundnut by region during March 2021

Market	Soybean					Groundnut					Change since Feb 27	
	Feb 27	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27	Feb 27	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27	Soybean	Groundnut
<b>North</b>												
Jenda	400	400	400	400	400	1000	800	800	800	800	→ 0%	↓ -20%
Karonga-boma	450	450	450	450	450	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	→ 0%	→ 0%
Mzuzu	450	450	450	450	450	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	→ 0%	→ 0%
<b>Center</b>												
Chimbiya	450	450	450	450	450	950	950	950	950	950	→ 0%	→ 0%
Mchinji	375	375	375	375	375	1000	1000	1000	1000	800	→ 0%	↓ -20%
Mitundu	450	450	450	450	450	1000	1000	1000	1000	900	→ 0%	↓ -10%
<b>South</b>												
Balaka	500	500	500	500	500	1200	1000	1000	1000	1000	→ 0%	↓ -17%
Bangula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lunzu	500	500	500	500	500	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Mangochi	450	450	450	450	450	1200	1200	1200	1200	1033	→ 0%	↓ -14%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	1100	1000	1000	1000	900	-	↓ -18%
<b>All markets</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>1048</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>→ 0%</b>	<b>↓ -11%</b>

**Note:** - commodity not monitored in this market.

## Roots and Tubers

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



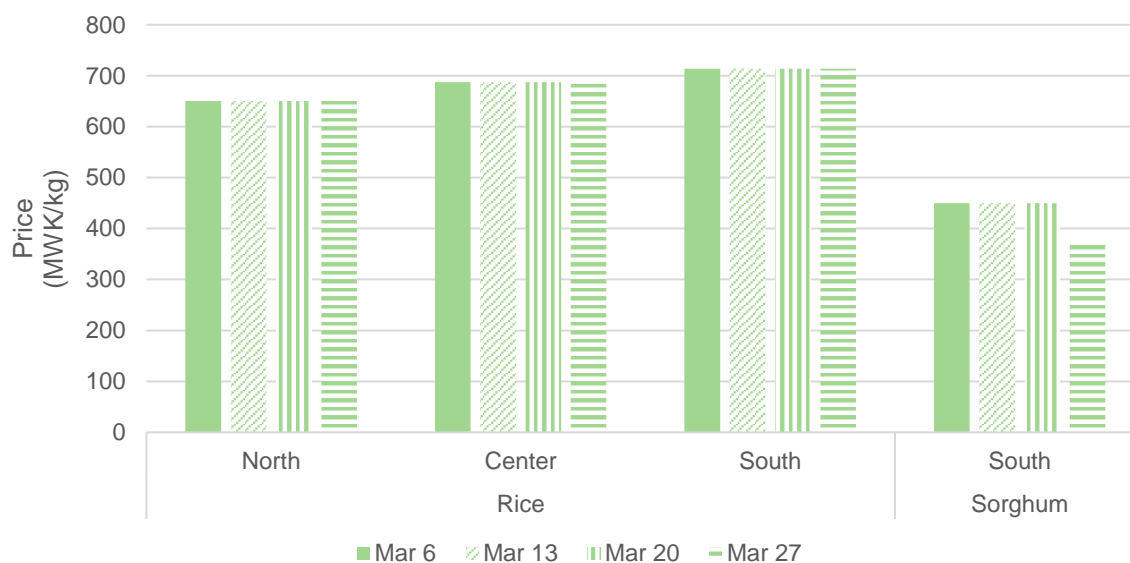
**Table 3.** Retail prices of roots and tubers (MWK/unit) during March 2021

Commodity	Market	Feb 27	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27	Change since Feb 27
<b>Cassava</b>	<b>North</b>						
	Nkhatabay-boma	245	245	245	245	245	→ 0%
	<b>Center</b>						
	Chinkhoma	240	264	264	264	264	↑ 10%
	Kaw amba	240	320	320	320	320	↑ 33%
	Mitundu	368	517	517	517	457	↑ 24%
	<b>South</b>						
	Limbe	235	352	264	264	267	↑ 14%
	Namw era turn-of	229	178	252	252	252	↑ 10%
	<b>All markets</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>292</b>	↑ 12%
<b>Sweet potato</b>	<b>South</b>						
	Bangw e	333	314	314	314	314	↓ -6%
	Chilobw e	333	333	333	333	333	→ 0%
	Chinakanaka	292	322	322	322	322	↑ 10%
	Ndirande	306	250	250	250	250	→ 0%
	Zingw anga	333	333	333	333	333	→ 0%
	<b>All markets</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>307</b>	↓ -3%
<b>Irish potato</b>	<b>North</b>						
	Jenda	500	373	373	373	373	↓ -25%
	<b>Center</b>						
	Lizulu-Lilongw e	530	380	380	380	380	↓ -28%
	Lizulu	530	450	450	450	450	↓ -15%
	Tsangano turn-of	530	380	380	380	380	↓ -28%
	<b>South</b>						
	Blantyre market	600	433	433	433	433	↓ -28%
	Limbe	567	367	367	367	367	↓ -35%
<b>All markets</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>397</b>	↓ -27%	

**Note:** 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 March 2021



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

Commodity	Market	Feb 27	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27	Change since Feb 27	
<b>Rice</b>	<b>North</b>							
	Karonga-boma	500	500	500	500	500	→	0%
	Mzimba-boma	800	800	800	800	800	→	0%
	Nkhatabay-boma	620	620	620	620	620	→	0%
	Pusi	700	700	700	700	700	→	0%
	Wovwe	650	650	650	650	650	→	0%
	<b>Center</b>							
	Nkhotakota-boma	700	700	700	700	700	→	0%
	Salima-kamuzu road	683	683	683	683	683	→	0%
	<b>South</b>							
Chiringa	700	700	700	700	700	→	0%	
Phalombe	800	767	767	767	767	↓	-4%	
Songani	675	675	675	675	675	→	0%	
<b>All markets</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>674</b>	↓	-0.5%	
<b>Sorghum</b>	<b>South</b>							
	Chikwawa	450	450	450	450	350	↓	-22%
	Ngabu	450	450	450	450	400	↓	-11%
	Nsanje	450	450	450	450	400	↓	-11%
<b>All markets</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>370</b>	↓	-18%	

### 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 were phased-in, starting with legumes, root crops and other cereals, and then expanding to include livestock products and fish by the end of 2020. 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](#)



For further information contact

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