

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA FOOD PRICE BULLETIN

October 2025

This report provides analysis of food price trends for the third quarter (Q3) of 2025, from July to September. The Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) continues to collect prices from major markets despite recurrent logistical challenges to maintain consistent data for capturing, analyzing and informing relevant stakeholders. Due to insufficient data being collected from April to June (collected only for May across all markets and for April in Banz and Kokopo), no second quarter bulletin was published. This report compares prices in Q3 2025 with Q1, Q2 (with the available limited data) of 2025, and Q3 2024 to identify quarterly and year-on-year trends of prices. Prices are reported in PGK per kilogram and represent real prices adjusted for inflation using FAO Consumer Food Price Index (PCI) and price gaps (April to September 2025) filled using a growth rate calculated from the PNG National Statistical Office (NSO) - June quarterly PCI data. This bulletin focuses on selected important staples (sweet potato, taro, cassava, cooking banana and rice), vegetables (aibika, English cabbage, capsicum, carrot, and choko-tips) and fruits (lemon, orange, pawpaw and pineapple). For longer time series data and interactive tools, visit the [IFPRI](https://www.ifpri.org) website and download food price data [here](#).

### Staple crop price trends

Quarter 3 2025 staple crop prices such as sweet potato, taro, and cassava remained relatively stable compared to quarters 1 and 2 in 2025. Cooking banana showed more price movements across markets. Within Q3, average prices across markets increased from July to August for all crops before decreasing in September, resulting in September prices being lower than July for sweet potato, taro and cooking-banana but slightly higher for cassava.

## SUMMARY

Download time series food price data, and build graphs and tables for over 20 different food crops at our food price database webpage:

<https://www.ifpri.org/project/fresh-food-price-analysis-papua-new-guinea>

Staple crops: prices of sweet potato, taro, cassava remain relatively stable in 2025.

Cooking banana showed mixed trends, increasing in August and then stabilizing in September. Compared to Q3 2024, staple prices declined by 6-15 percent, except for cassava (only increased by 1 percent). Prices remained higher in lowland markets than in highland markets.

Rice average price remained stable. Highland markets continued to have lower rice price than lowland markets.

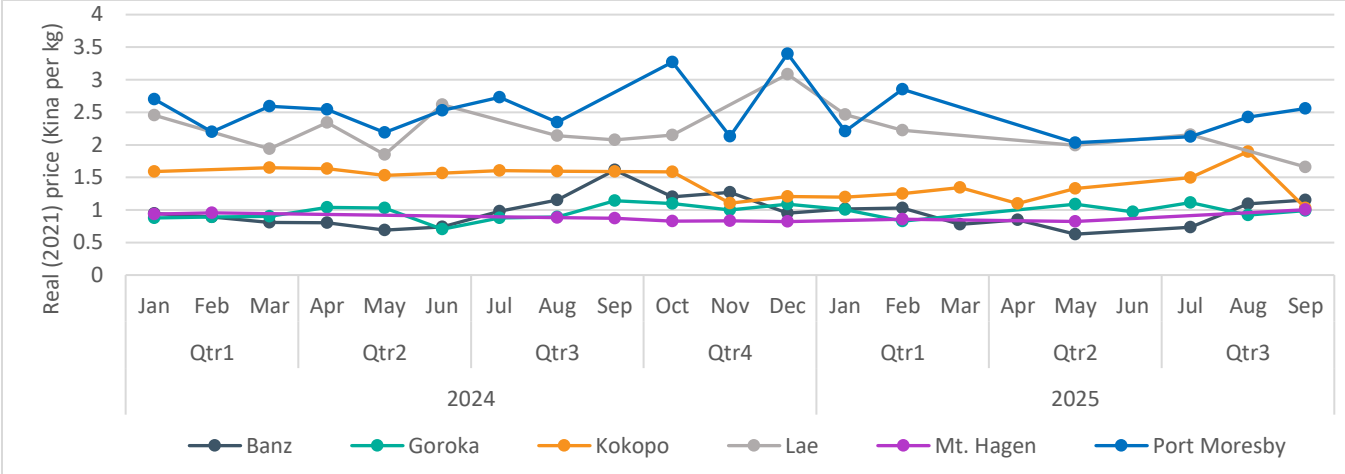
Vegetable prices showed mixed trends.

Average price of most vegetables declined in Q3 2025. Compared to Q3 2024, carrot and choko-tips prices increased by over 30 percent.

Fruit price (orange, pawpaw and pineapple) decreased during Q3 2025, while average price of orange, pawpaw and pineapple decreased, lemon increased slightly. Fruit prices were higher in lowland markets compared to highland markets.

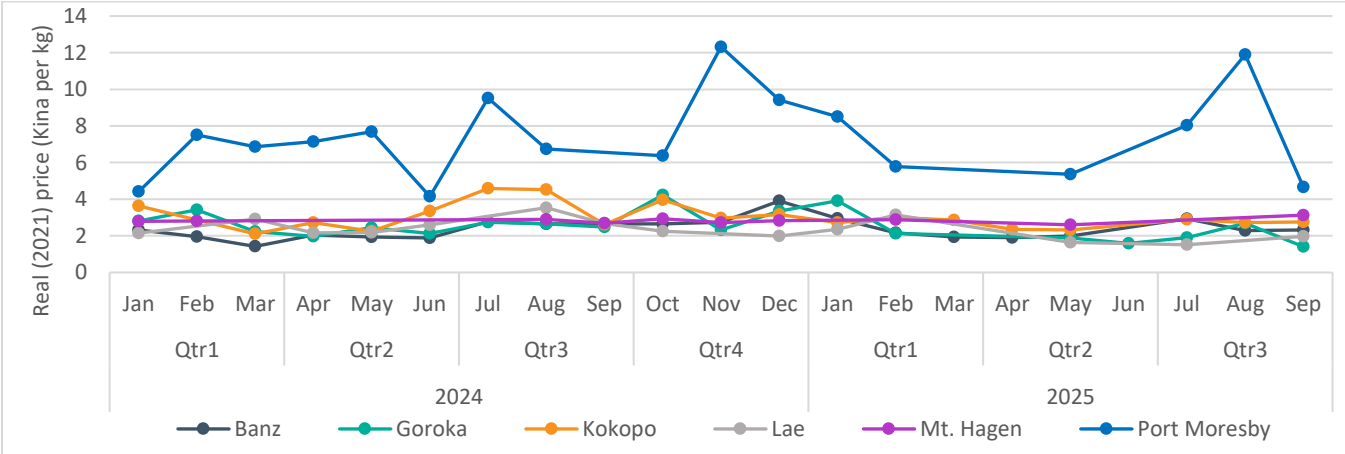
During the last year, most staple crops were more expensive in lowland markets (Lae, Kokopo and Port Moresby) compared to highland markets (Mt Hagen, Goroka and Banz). The average price of cassava in lowland markets was 119 percent higher (1.49 PGK/kg vs 0.68 PGK/kg) than in the highlands, followed by sweet potato at 109 percent (2.01 PGK/kg vs 0.96 PGK/kg) and taro at 64 percent higher (4.32 PGK/kg vs 2.64 PGK/kg). In contrast, cooking banana was 27 percent more expensive in highland markets (2.61 PGK/kg) compared to lowland markets (1.91 PGK/kg).

**Figure 1: Real price of sweet potato across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



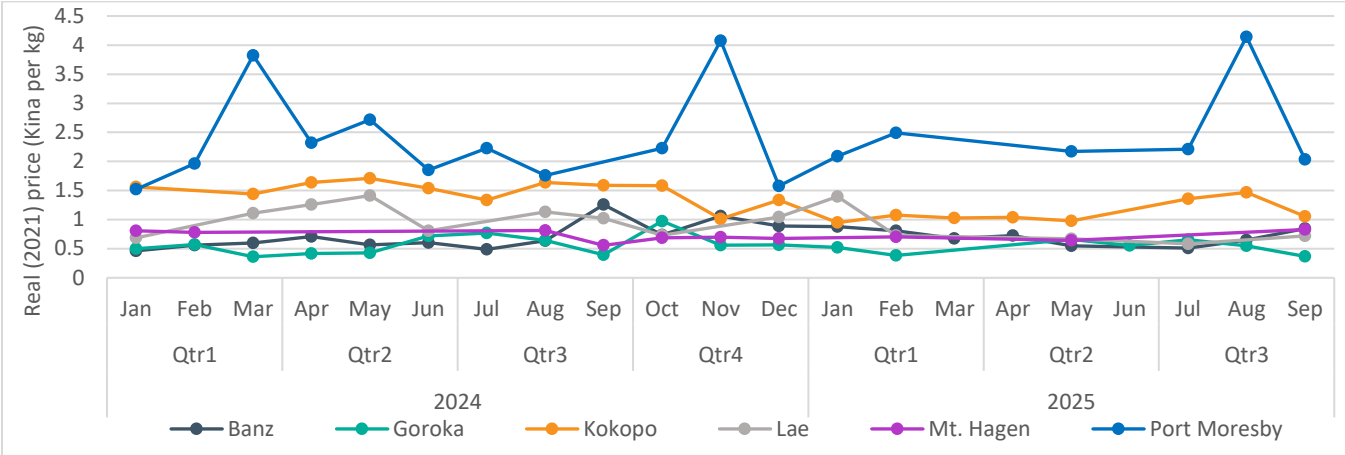
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 2: Real price of taro across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



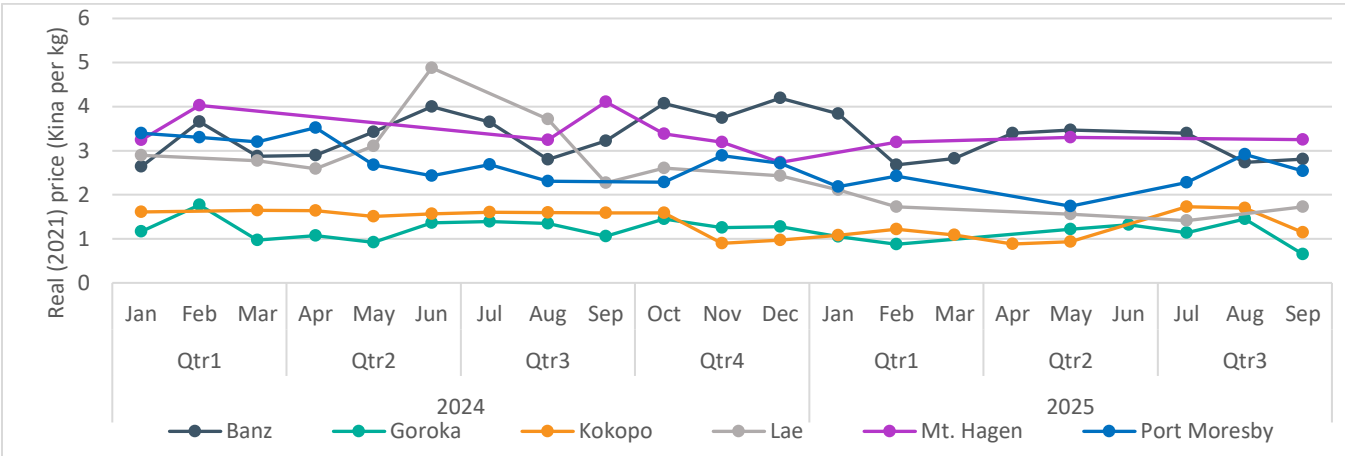
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 3: Real price of cassava across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

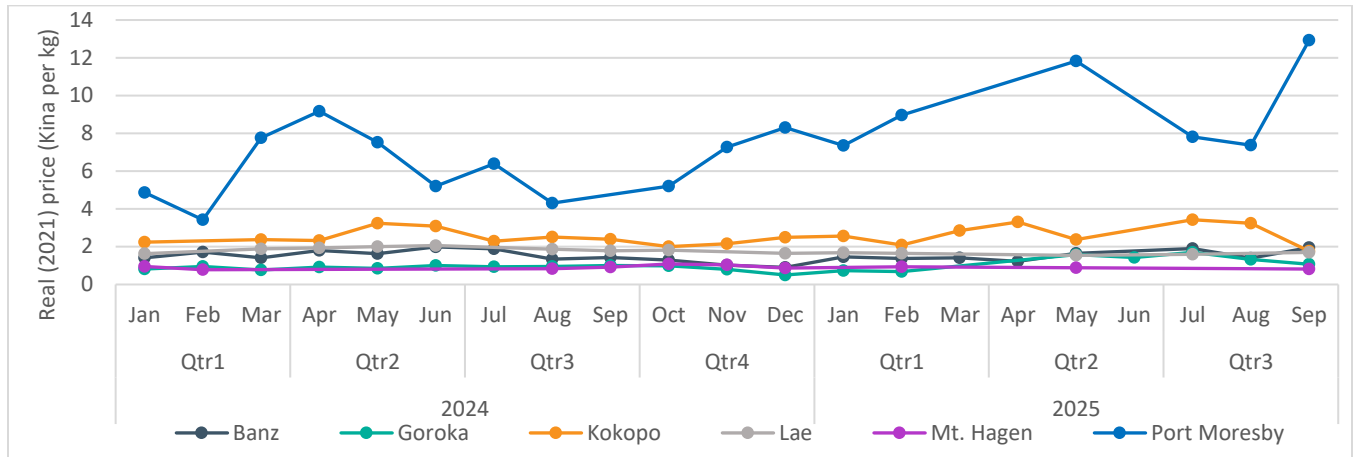
**Figure 4: Real price of cooking banana across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

The price of a 1kg bag of rice remained relatively stable, showing a slight downward trend between Q3 2024 and Q3 2025. The overall average price in Q3 2025 was 4.2 PGK/kg, a decrease of 3 percent from 4.33 PGK/kg in Q3 of 2024. The price of rice in Q3 2025 was 8.2 percent and 10.6 percent lower compared to Q1 and Q2 of 2025, respectively. The highlands markets of Banz and Goroka had lower 1kg bag rice prices than lowlands markets of Port Moresby (Figure 5).

**Figure 5: Real price of rice (1 kilo bag) across 6 FPDA markets**

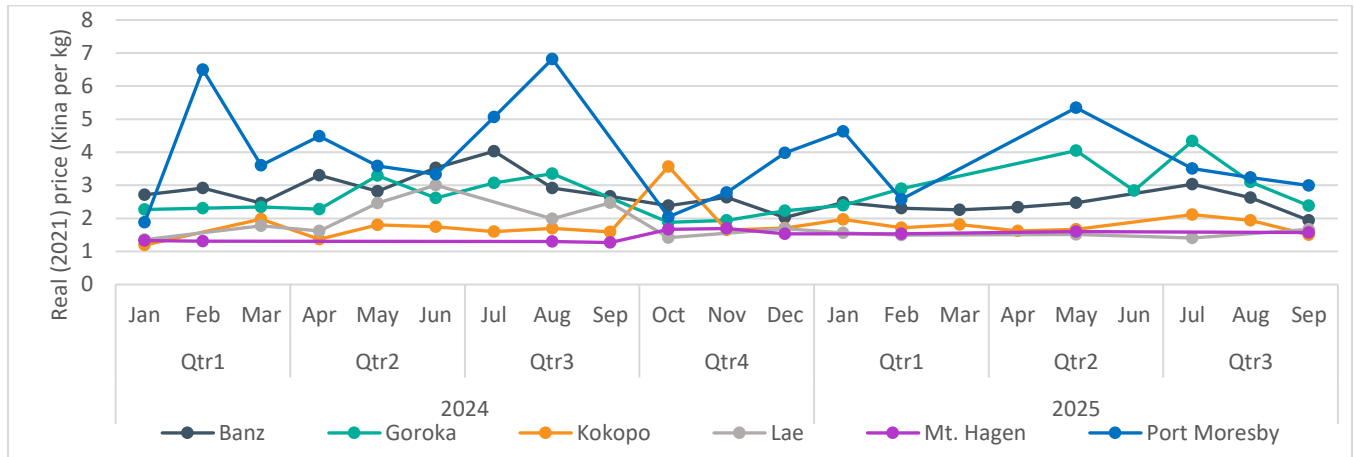


Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

### Vitamin-dense food prices

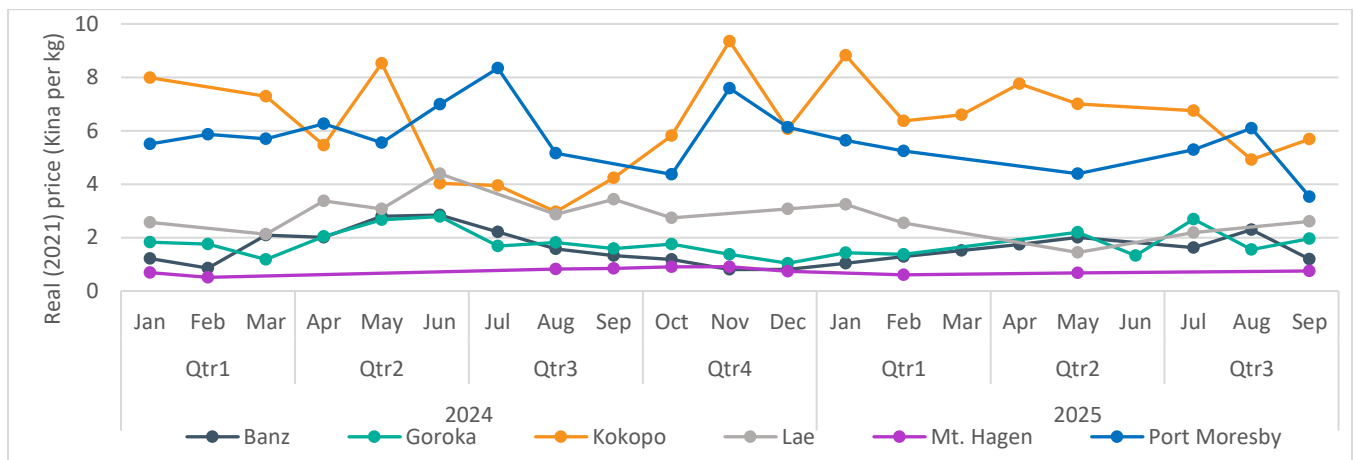
Vegetable prices, as shown in figures 6 through 10, displayed mixed price trends across markets during Q3 2025. From July to September, average prices of aibika, English-cabbage, capsicum and carrot declined by about 33 percent across all markets, while choko tips showed a slight increase. Comparing year-on-year changes between Q3 2024 and Q3 2025, average prices of carrot and choko-tips increased by at least 30 percent from 3.86 PGK/kg to 5.07 PGK/kg and 2.16 PGK/kg to 2.96 PGK/kg, respectively. Since Q3 of 2024, English cabbage prices have remained relatively high in Kokopo market. Similarly, the price of carrots in Kokopo remains relatively high, reflecting the transaction cost margin of shipping domestic carrots from the highlands on the mainland to Kokopo.

**Figure 6: Real price of aibika across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



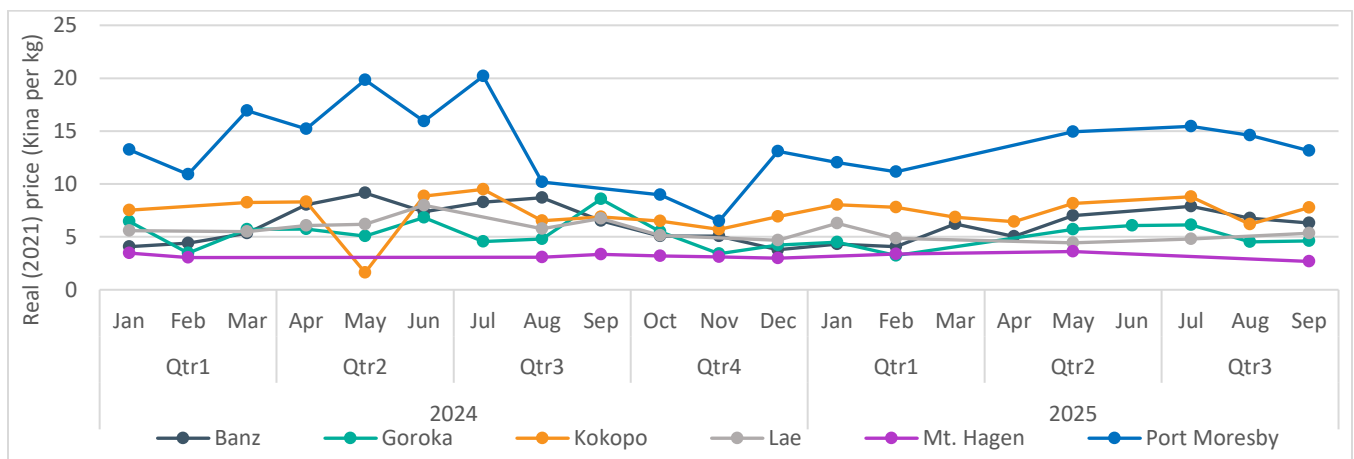
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 7: Real price of English cabbage across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



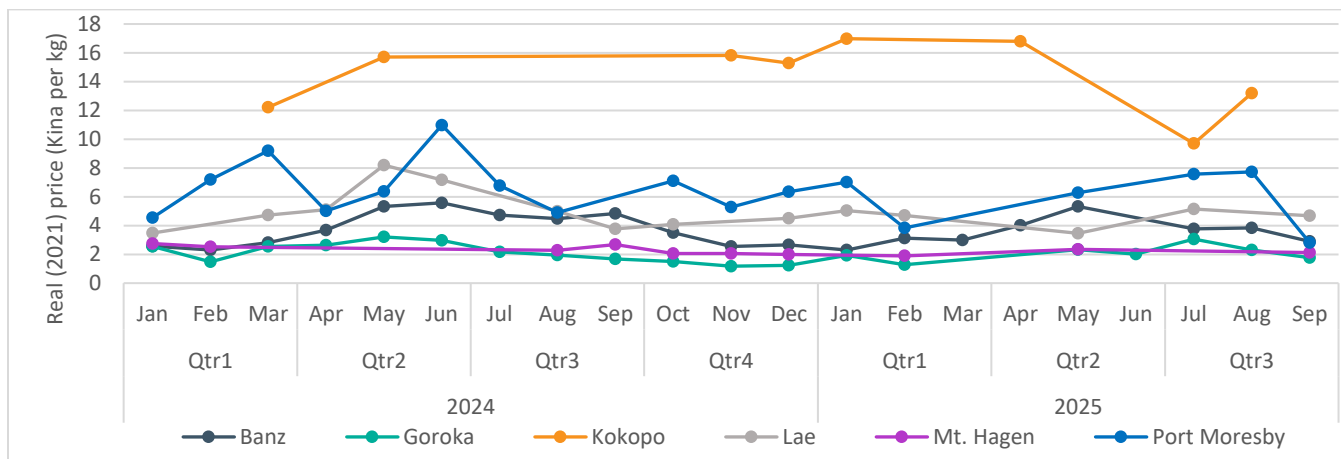
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 8: Real price of capsicum across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



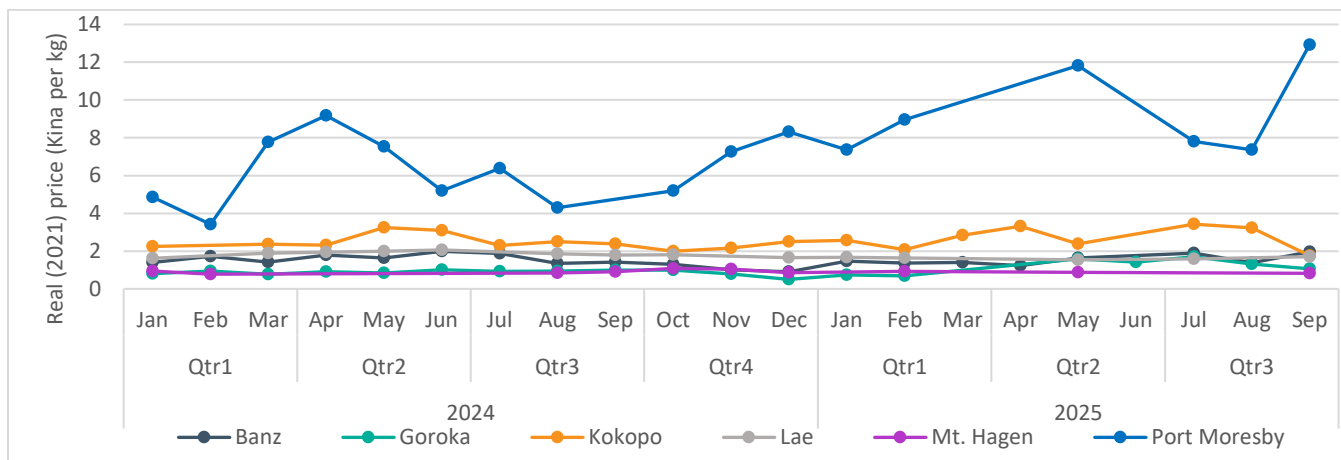
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 9: Real price of carrot across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 10: Real price of choko-tips across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



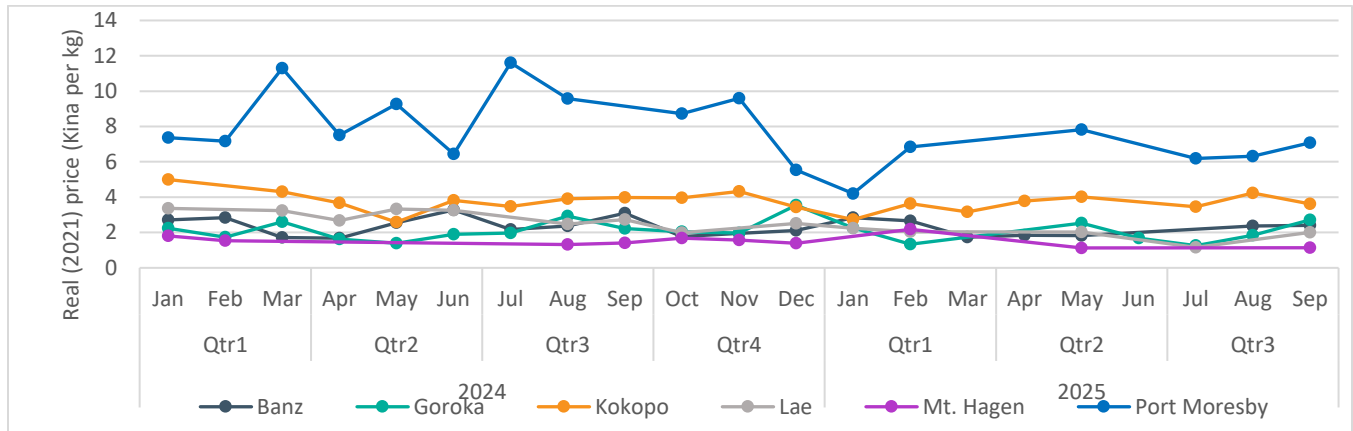
Source: FPDA market retail price database. \*Note: The recorded price of choko-tips for December 2024 was replaced with the 3-month average given the originally collected value was more than 2 times previous and future values. This may be due to limited supply at the market or data collection error.

**Fresh fruit price trends**

In Q3 2025, average prices of orange, pawpaw and pineapple declined by about 16 percent from July to September, while lemon prices increased slightly by 5 percent. Compared to Q2 2025, average fruit prices in Q3 were 14 percent higher overall. Between Q1 and Q3 of 2025, average prices of lemon, orange and pawpaw declined by at least 10 percent, in contrast pineapple prices, which increased by 14 percent.

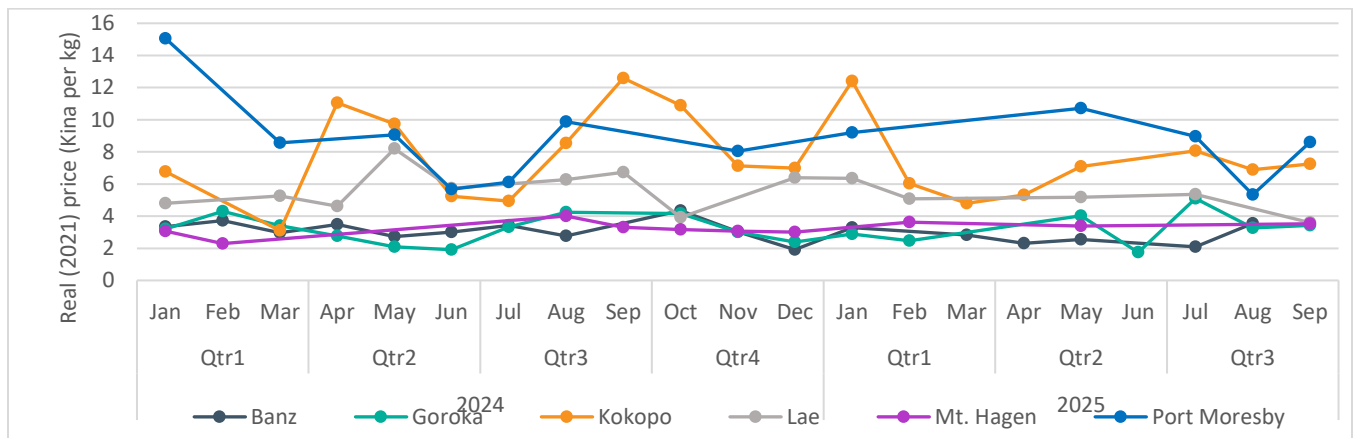
Year-on-year (Q3 2024 to Q3 2025), average fruit prices were generally higher in lowland markets than in highland markets. For instance, the average price of pineapple was 6.56 PGK/kg in lowland markets, which was 226 percent higher than the 2.01 PGK/kg price in highland markets. Further analysis should evaluate production capacity (and challenges of pineapple in the lowlands, given that an important share of pineapple is grown in the lowlands and should have lower market costs assuming less transaction costs from farmgate to market stall.

**Figure 11: Real price of lemon across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



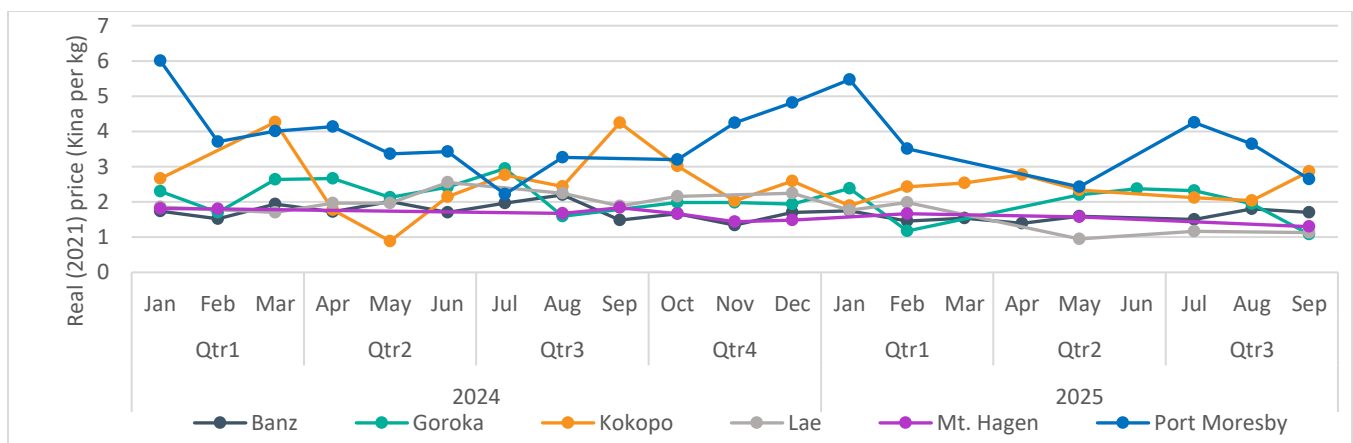
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 12: Real price of orange across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



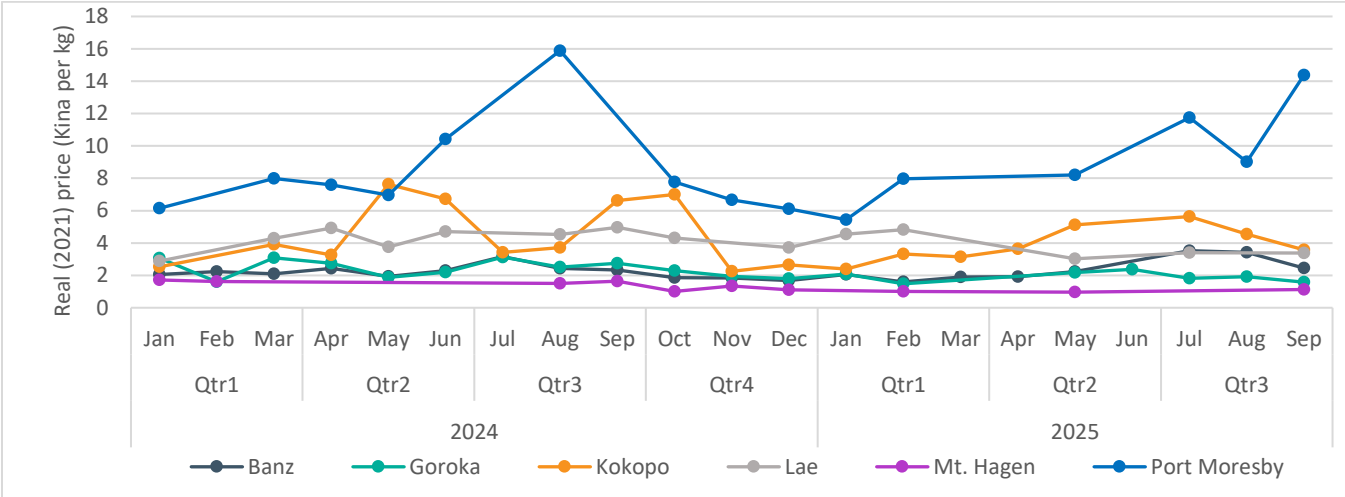
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 13: Real price of pawpaw across 4 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

**Figure 14: Real price of pineapple across 4 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)**



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

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