

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 4 to 16 percent while those of common beans decreased by 3 percent.
- Average retail prices of cassava increased by 6 percent while average retail prices of sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes decreased by 6 and 3 percent respectively.
- Average retail price of rice changed marginally (3 percent) while sorghum retail prices remained constant.

## Legumes

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

Market	Common beans					Pegionpea					Change since July 31	
	July 31	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	July 31	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	Bean	P. pea
<b>North</b>												
Jenda	850	867	850	800	817	-	-	-	-	-	↓ -4%	-
Karonga-boma	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	421	-	447	-	500	→ 0%	↑ 19%
Mzuzu	1042	1042	1042	1042	908	-	-	-	-	-	↓ -13%	-
<b>Center</b>												
Chimbiya	1050	1050	1050	1050	1050	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Mchinji	1200	1200	1200	1200	1100	-	-	-	-	-	↓ -8%	-
Mitundu	1050	1050	1100	1100	1100	-	-	-	-	-	↑ 5%	-
<b>South</b>												
Balaka	1267	1067	1133	1200	1350	373	450	463	525	500	↑ 7%	↑ 34%
Bangula	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Lunzu	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	440	390	390	500	500	→ 0%	↑ 14%
Mangochi	-	-	-	-	-	600	600	600	600	600	-	→ 0%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	400	400	400	425	425	-	↑ 6%
<b>All markets</b>	<b>1042</b>	<b>1015</b>	<b>1029</b>	<b>1024</b>	<b>1015</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>↓ -3%</b>	<b>↑ 16%</b>

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

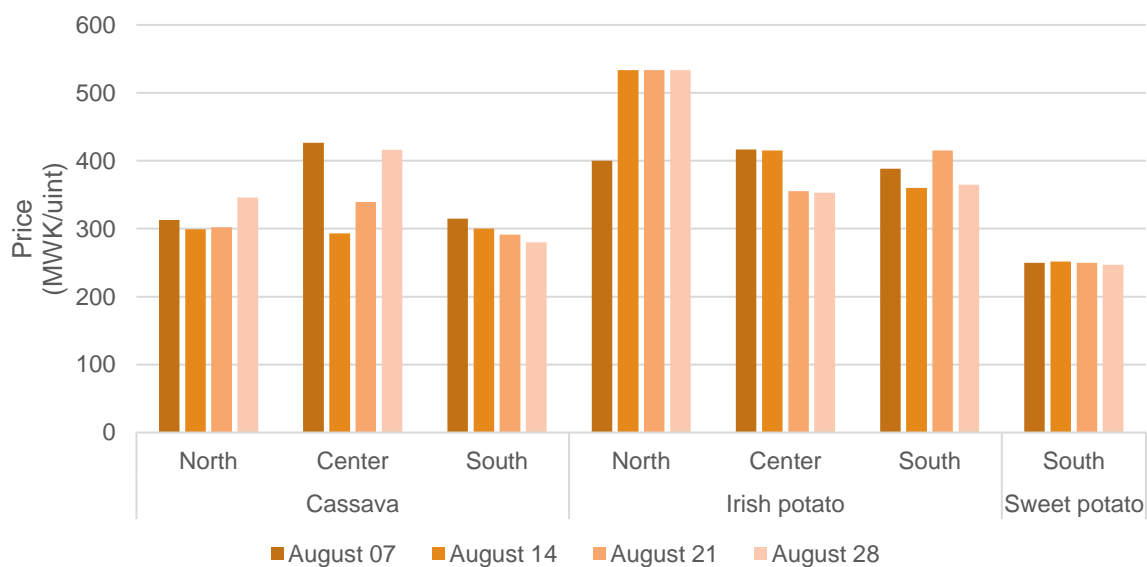
**Table 2.** Retail prices (MWK/kg) of soybean and groundnut by region during August 2021

Market	Soybean					Groundnut					Change since June 26	
	July 31	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	July 31	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	Soybean	Groundnut
<b>North</b>												
Jenda	-	-	-	-	-	700	723	790	773	790	-	↑ 13%
Karonga-boma	717	717	717	717	725	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	↑ 1%	→ 0%
Mzuzu	550	550	550	550	550	800	800	800	850	867	→ 0%	↑ 8%
<b>Center</b>												
Chimbiya	567	567	567	567	567	853	847	840	833	860	→ 0%	↑ 1%
Mchinji	800	800	850	850	850	1000	1100	1100	1100	1150	↑ 6%	↑ 15%
Mitundu	600	600	600	800	800	900	900	1000	950	950	↑ 33%	↑ 6%
<b>South</b>												
Balaka	525	750	675	650	700	1117	1117	1033	1100	1110	↑ 33%	↓ -1%
Bangula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lunzu	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mangochi	550	550	550	550	550	800	800	800	800	800	→ 0%	→ 0%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	875	900	900	950	950	-	↑ 9%
<b>All markets</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>↑ 8%</b>	<b>↑ 4%</b>

**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 August 2021



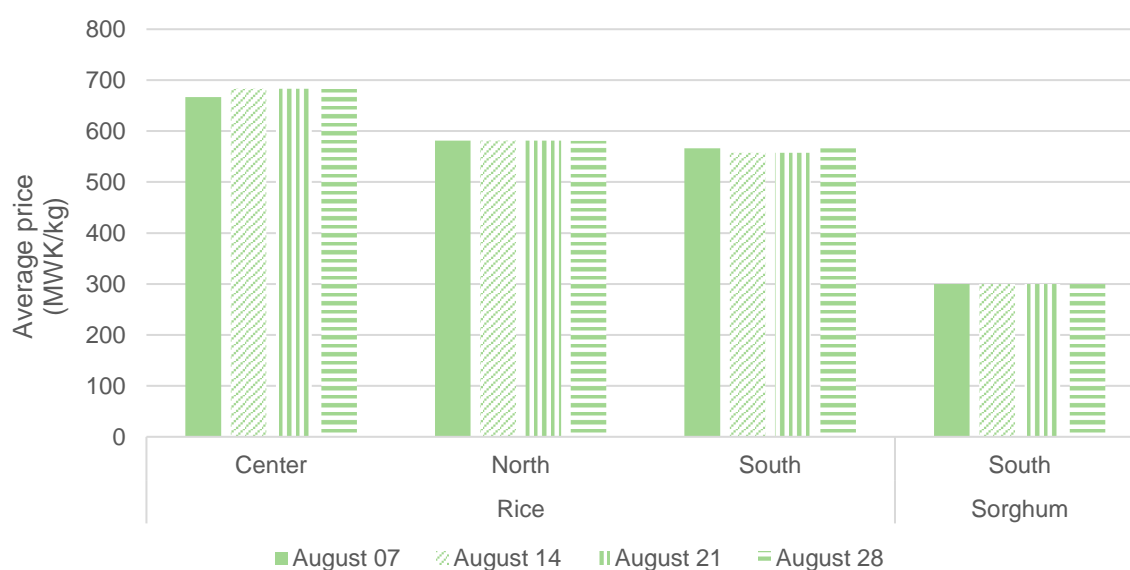
**Table 3.** Retail prices of roots and tubers (MWK/unit) during August 2021

Commodity	Market	July 31	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	Change since July 31
<b>Cassava</b>	<b>North</b>						
	Mpamba	150	320	232	235	235	→ 0%
	Mzuzu	294	310	344	347	420	↑ 21%
	Nkhatabay-boma	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Center</b>						
	Chinkhoma	293	427	293	339	416	↑ 42%
	Kawamba	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Mitundu	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>South</b>						
Limbe	395	315	315	303	288	↓ -27%	
Namwera turn-off	270	315	256	256	256	↓ -5%	
<b>All markets</b>		<b>309</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>↑ 6%</b>
<b>Sweet potato</b>	<b>South</b>						
	Bangwe	200	200	200	200	200	→ 0%
	Chilobwe	250	250	250	250	250	→ 0%
	Chinakanaka	307	307	307	307	307	→ 0%
	Ndirande	238	238	250	238	200	↓ -16%
	Zingwanga	333	-	-	-	-	-
<b>All markets</b>		<b>262</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>↓ -6%</b>
<b>Irish potato</b>	<b>North</b>						
	Jenda	383	400	533	533	533	↑ 39%
	<b>Center</b>						
	Lizulu-Lilongwe	400	400	400	360	360	↓ -10%
	Lizulu	400	400	380	380	373	↓ -7%
	Tsangano turn-off	425	450	475	328	328	↓ -23%
	<b>South</b>						
	Blantyre market	430	377	320	430	430	→ 0%
Limbe	400	400	400	400	300	↓ -25%	
<b>All markets</b>		<b>406</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>↓ -3%</b>

**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 August 2021



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

Commodity	Market	July 31	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	Change since July 31
<b>Rice</b>	<b>North</b>						
	Karonga-boma	400	400	400	400	450	↑ 13%
	Mzimba-boma	800	800	800	800	800	→ 0%
	Nkhatabay-boma	600	600	600	600	600	→ 0%
	Pusi	650	650	650	650	650	→ 0%
	Wowwe	600	600	600	600	538	↓ -10%
	<b>Center</b>						
	Nkhotakota-boma	700	700	700	700	700	→ 0%
	Salima-kamuzu road	650	650	675	675	675	↑ 4%
	<b>South</b>						
	Chiringa	500	500	500	500	550	↑ 10%
	Phalombe	575	575	575	575	575	→ 0%
	Songani	550	590	580	580	580	→ 0%
	<b>All markets</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>↑ 1%</b>
<b>Sorghum</b>	<b>South</b>						
	Chikwawa	300	300	300	300	300	→ 0%
	Ngabu	300	300	-	-	-	→ 0%
	Nsanje	300	300	-	300	300	→ 0%
	<b>All markets</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>→ 0%</b>

**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](#)



For further information contact

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