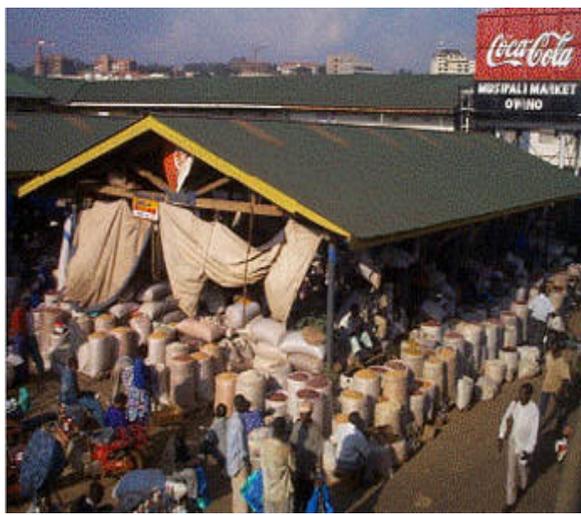


# Market Information Service

*A project funded by the ACDI PL-480*



## Fourth Report

**July 00 - September 00**

*Compiled by A.K. Muganga, G. Okoboi, M.T. Nahamya, M. Namanya*

**Market Information Service  
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture**

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**Highlights of the Fourth quarter**

- Expanded the data collection activities to include various brands of locally produced and imported USA and Canada cooking oils, various brands of locally manufactured wheat flour, and imported rice.
- Now implementing the Micro-MIS project for the selected pilot districts of Iganga, Rakai and Gulu.
- Increased the list of the market information data beneficiaries.
- Relaying market information on Radio Lira in Northern Uganda
- Held a successful workshop about improving the quality, accuracy and timeliness of the market information in Uganda. As part of the workshop, some of the district data collectors were trained and equipped with computer skills on various software packages.
- Facilitated 10 district collectors with a computer and accompanying periphery components to modernise data capture, processing and analysis. The computers have an e-mail connection, which will significantly improve on the communication problem that has been hindering the timely transfer of data for dissemination.

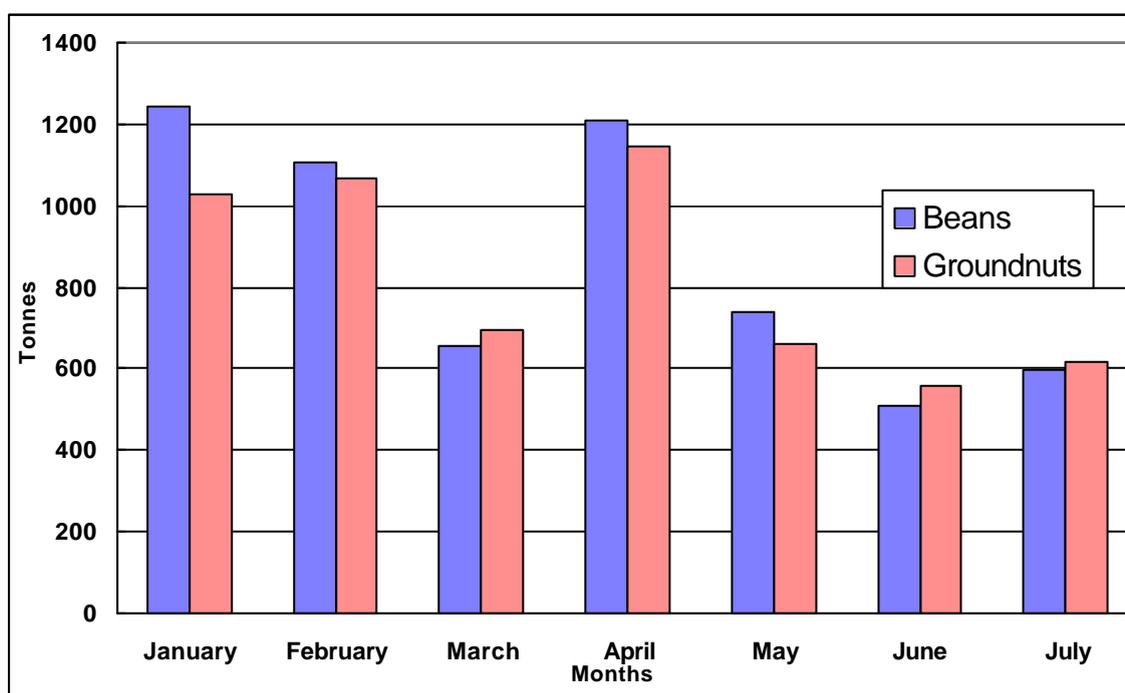
### Price data collection

After a series of meetings between ACIDI-VOCA and IITA-FOODNET-MIS on the need to monitor prices of cooking oils, wheat and rice, it was resolved that the project comes up with an extra module to gather market prices and other information related to these commodities. Consequently it was resolved that the field collaborators be given more tasks of collecting market data on three other categories of commodities on top of the data they were collecting for the project. The commodities include various brands of locally produced and imported USA and Canada vegetable cooking oil, various brands of locally manufactured wheat flour, and imported rice. The prices of the commodities are monitored weekly in 16 districts and some of the data is included in Appendix 4. The rest of the activities remained normal. The prices and other information collected and disseminated in the last quarter are included in Appendix 1 and 3.

### Volumes Traded

The exercise of monitoring volumes traded in Owino market continued though the progress was slow in terms of retrieval of data from the administrative records of the market. Figures 1 to 3 show that beans and groundnuts are traded in high quantities than other crops among the 10 commodities we are tracking. The commodities we are tracking include beans, cassava flour, fresh cassava, groundnuts, maize flour, millet grain, rice, simsim, sorghum grain and soya beans. In July, about 600 tonnes of beans were supplied into Owino market compared to over 1200 tonnes of beans bought in January and April this year.

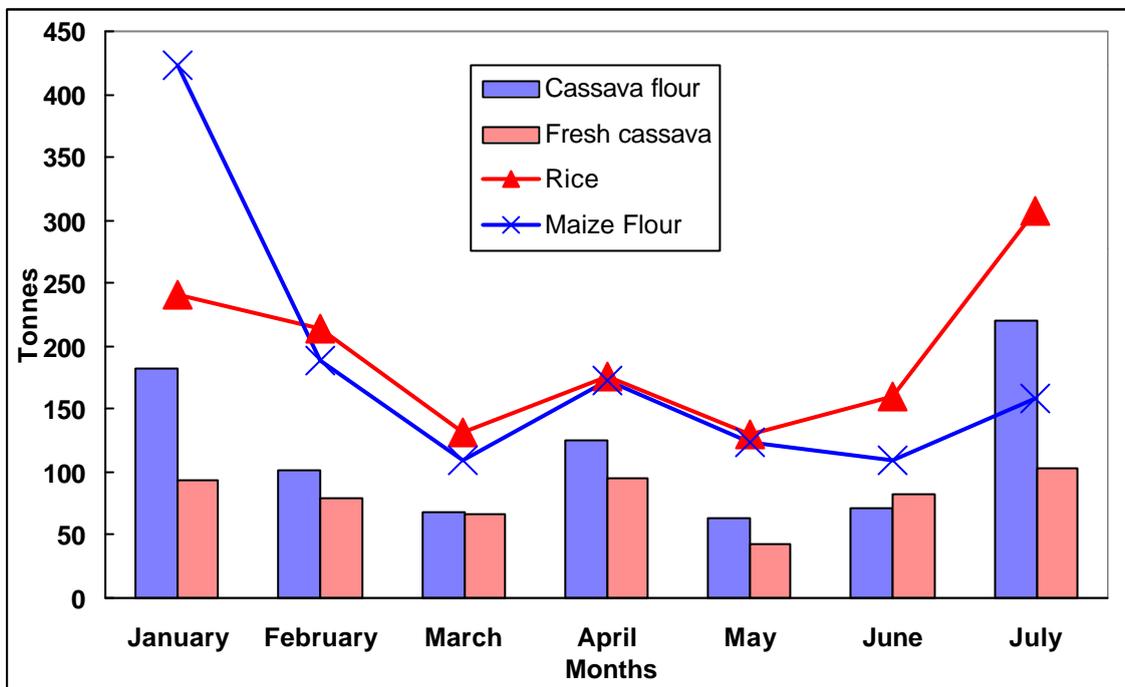
**Figure 1: Volume of beans and groundnuts traded in Owino Market, January - July 2000**



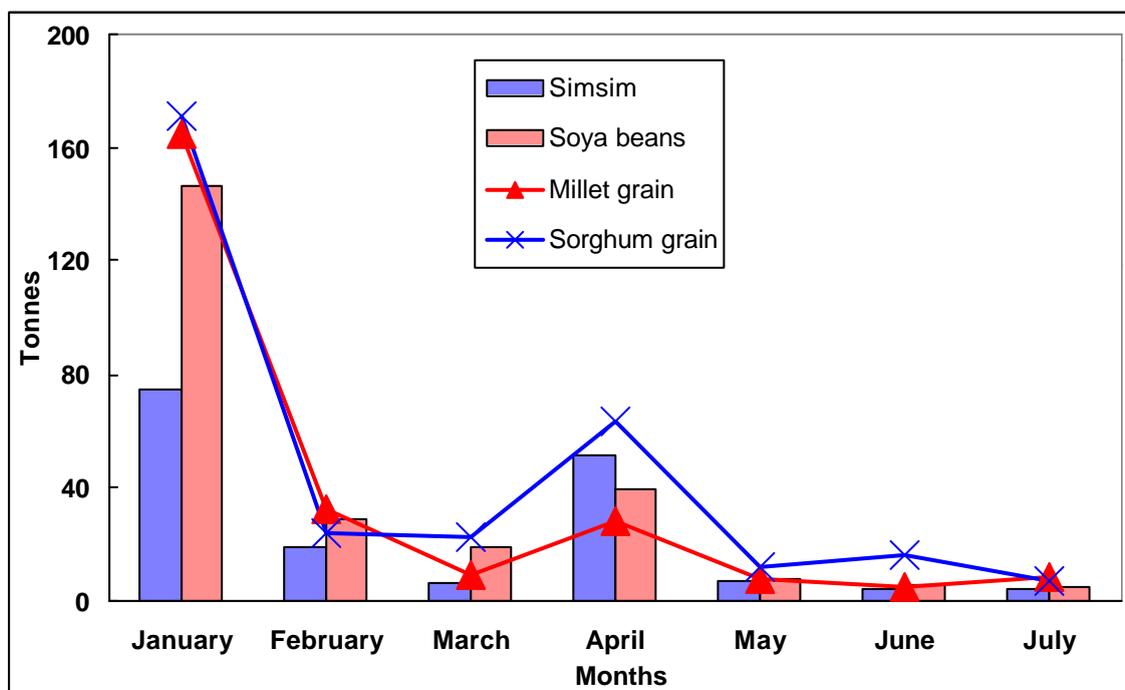
Expansion of data collection activities on volumes traded from Kampala's Owino Market to other major district markets across the country has not been very successful. This exercise will require very different methodologies in the different districts. This is because the management of the markets has changed and most are now run by private companies and organizations with different methods of collecting revenues some of which do not involve taking records on volumes traded. These have not yet appreciated the use of keeping records

on volumes traded. Their main target is to collect as much revenue as possible to be able to pay the districts the required amounts as stipulated in their management contracts.

**Figure 2: Volume of cassava flour, fresh cassava, rice and maize flour traded in Owino Market, January - July 2000**



**Figure 3: Volume of simsim, soyabean, millet and sorghum grain traded in Owino Market, Jan -July 2000**



The collection of data on trade volumes in Owino market was made possible because of the highly organised market administrators who keep records of daily commodity volume inflows into the market. However, most of the markets in other districts do not have organised management and do not have proper records of trade. In addition, in almost all districts, there are numerous small-scale traders who buy and stock produce in their own stores located in different parts of the municipalities other than the main market. These traders also do not keep proper records of their trade. The few traders who have these records are most of the times not willing to give information to the data collectors fearing that the data will be used for purposes of taxation.

In some districts, markets mainly operate as retail food outlets selling to final consumers. The main activity of buying and wholesaling commodities such as grains, legumes and pulses, is done through very many outlets, which has made trade volume monitoring a very difficult venture.

However, we still consider collecting volumes traded data in various markets as an important activity especially in demand and supply analyses. Consequently, in the workshop for data collectors which was conducted from September 11 – 13, 2000, it was resolved that some sort of volume traded data should be collected. The district trade, marketing, cooperative and commercial officers were given a task of drawing up a methodology that would best work in their respective districts to collect data on volumes traded in the main markets and trading outlets.

### **Implementation of the Micro-MIS project**

In the fourth quarter, the Micro-MIS component has moved from the drawing board to the field for actual implementation. This part of the MIS is intended to provide localized market information at grass root level aimed at improving market transparency in three pilot sites in Uganda. The districts are Rakai, Gulu and Iganga/Mbale.

### **Dissemination of market information**

In this fourth quarter, the MIS project has continued to use the now established methods of disseminating the market information. These methods of dissemination include the use of the FOODNET website, e-mail, fax, radio broadcasting, newspaper, progress reports, telephone, workshops, visits of individuals, organisations, etc, to MIS project office.

Since the implementation of the MIS project in September 1999, the quality of the market data has been highly recognised in various government and non-governmental institutions all over the country and outside Uganda. A number of individuals consisting mainly of researchers, organizations and institutions are requesting for market information. These have been included on the e-mail list of beneficiaries of the daily and or weekly market information data and reports. **See appendix 2** for e-mail recipients.

The MIS project has continued to disseminate market information using Radio Uganda and various FM radio station across the country. A detailed array of the radio stations, programs and the time of program relay that the project is using to air its information appear in Table 1. The various radio stations mainly receive the price information and radio scripts through our district data collectors who get it either by e-mail, fax or telephone. However, for the radio stations in Kampala, the MIS staff hand delivers the radio script and data to their offices.

Radio Lira FM based in Lira district is also among the many FM stations that are currently broadcasting MIS market information to various parts of the country. This station broadcasts the market information in Langi, which is the local language that is well understood by the surrounding populace. Further to that, Radio Lira FM and Lira District Farmers Association (LDFA) in conjunction with MIS project also photocopies the weekly district data and radio scripts that are distributed to the traders and farmers within Lira district.

After a concerted effort to publish the MIS project market information in The Monitor Newspaper, a break-through was only realised in this fourth quarter. Taking a queue from the East African newspaper that is publishing the MIS price information data weekly. The Monitor newspaper is now publishing our market information every Thursday in the business column. This is in form of a table showing prices in selected districts and qualitatively by publishing selected parts of the radio scripts as news and analysis. As a competitive move, The New Vision newspaper is also publishing market prices on Thursdays on a few commodities around Kampala markets collected by their correspondent. However, we are still approaching the New Vision newspaper to publish our quality, accurate, low-cost and timely countrywide data on most food items.

### **Information exchange**

Apart from disseminating market information to various stakeholders, the MIS project nationally receives various bi-monthly, monthly, quarterly and annual reports, newsletters, and bulletins from various collaborating organizations such as the Agri-business Development Centre (ADC/IDEA), Famine Early Warning System (FEWSNET), Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), Eastern and Central African Programme for Agricultural Policy Analysis (ECPAPA), World Food Programme (WFP), Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), AVSI and ACIDI-VOCA, e.t.c.

Internationally, the MIS project exchanges data and Market Information Service reports with other organisations mainly through the use of e-mail and Internet. The PASAR project of Rwanda has continued to receive data from us as well as send us data which we are putting on FOODNET website.

Some of the information received from different sources is included in the radio scripts and broadcast on the different radio programs for the benefit of the stakeholders.

### **Summary of the workshop held in September 2000.**

The IITA, ACIDI-VOCA and ADC/IDEA staff facilitated the second workshop of data collectors about improving the quality, accuracy and timeliness of market information in Uganda. Part of this workshop also involved training of some selected data collectors on different computer software packages including MS-Word, Excel and Outlook.

**Table 1. Radio programs broadcasting Market Information**

Radio	Program	Time	Language	Sponsors	Districts Covered
Uganda Red Channel	Farmer's Voice	Tuesday 9:30 PM	English	MIS	All Districts
Central Broadcasting Service (CBS 88.8 FM)	Farmer's Voice	Sunday 7:00 PM	Luganda	MIS	Central, Eastern and Southern Uganda (Kampala, Jinja, Masaka, Mubende, Luwero, Rakai, Kalangala, Iganga, Sembabule,
CBS 88.8 (BUCADEF)	Ssaagala-agalamide	Sunday 8:00 PM	Luganda	MIS	
Paidha	Lunch Time Special	Monday 1:45 PM Saturday 8:00 AM	English Lunyoro	MIS	West Nile Masindi and part of Northern Uganda
Voice of Life			Lugbara Madi & English	Arua District Authority	West Nile (Moyo, Adjumani, Arua, Paidha)
Voice of Teso		Saturday	Iteso	Soroti District Authority	Eastern Uganda (Soroti, Kumi, & Katakwi)
Messiah Radio			Rukonjo Lutoro	Kasese District Authority	Kasese
Radio Lira	Market News	Tuesday 2:15 PM	Luo	Lira District Authority	Northern Uganda (Lira, Apac, Kitgum)
Gulu FM	Food Security And Marketing Program	Friday	Luo	World Vision	Northern Uganda (Lira, Apac, Kitgum)
Radio West	Market Report	Mon - Fri	4Rs	MIS	Western and Central Uganda

Figure 4 and 5: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Arua District

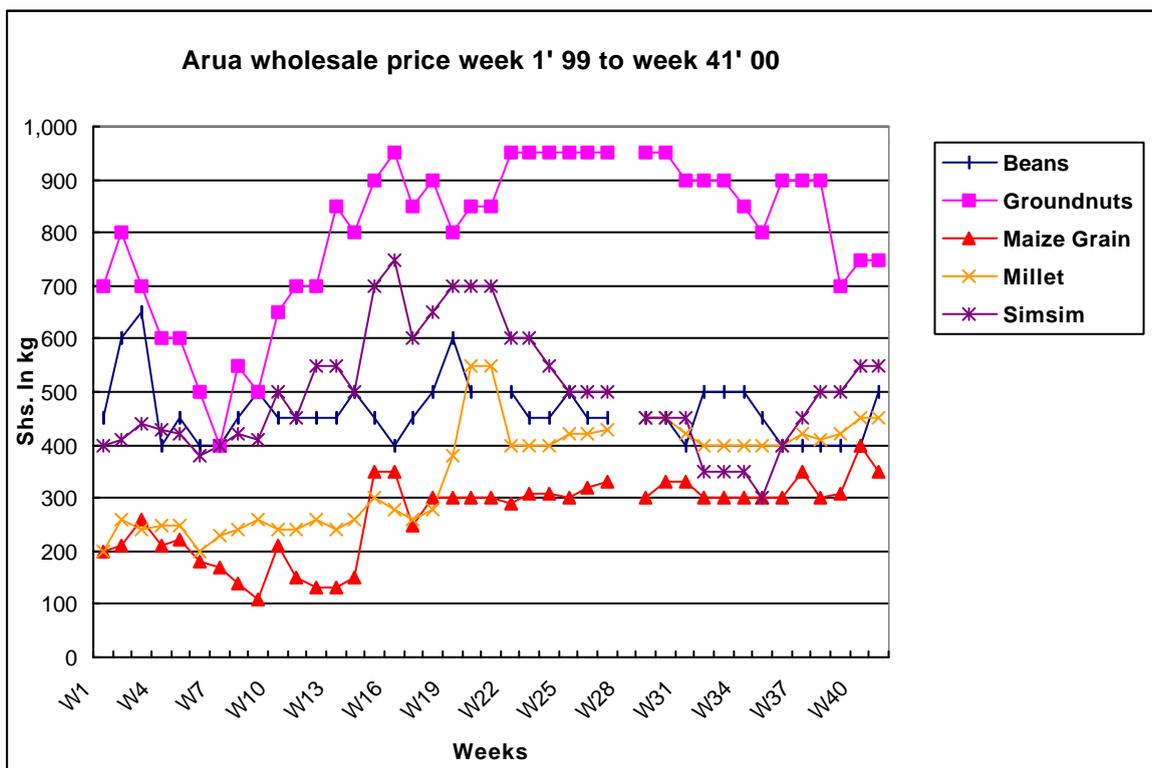
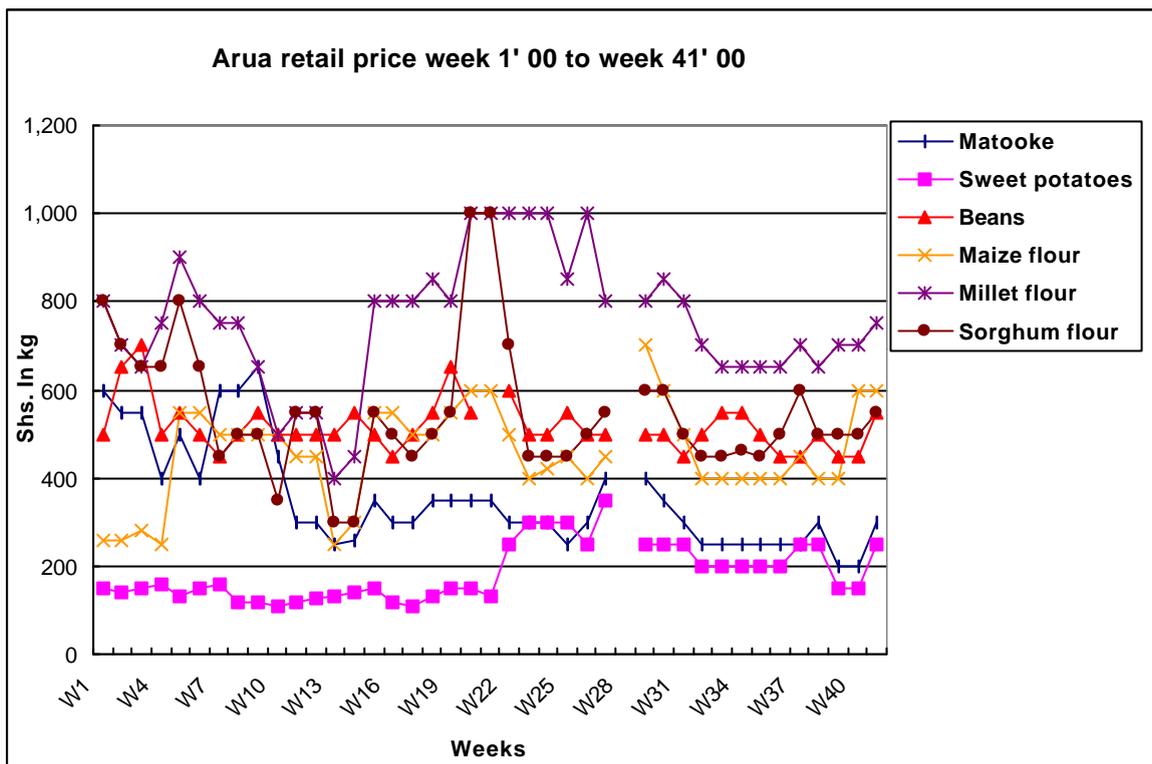


Figure 6 and 7: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Gulu District

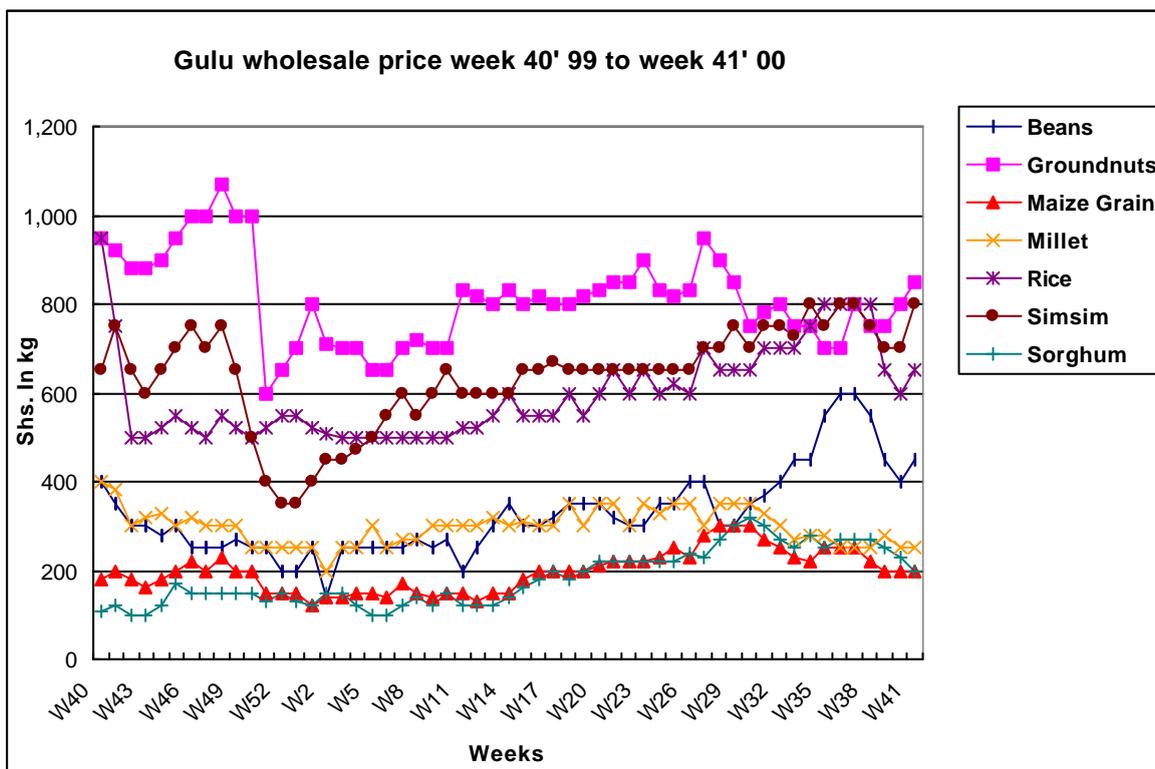
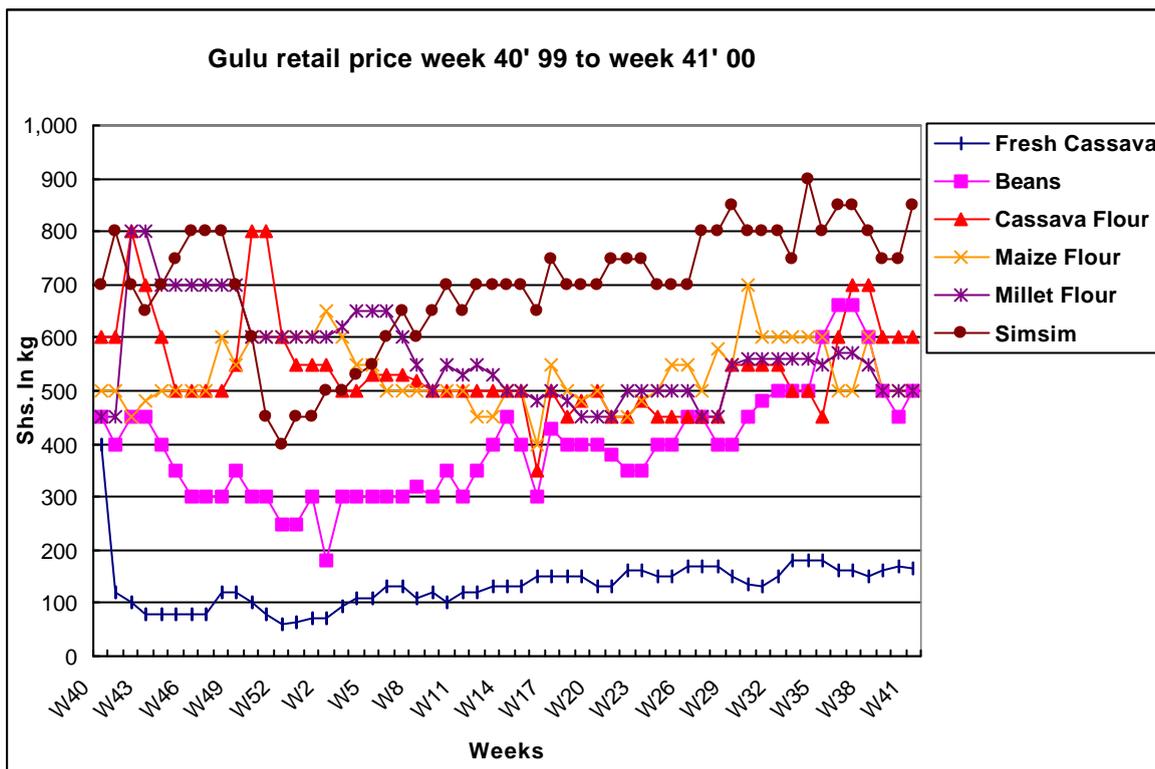


Figure 8 and 9: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Iganga District

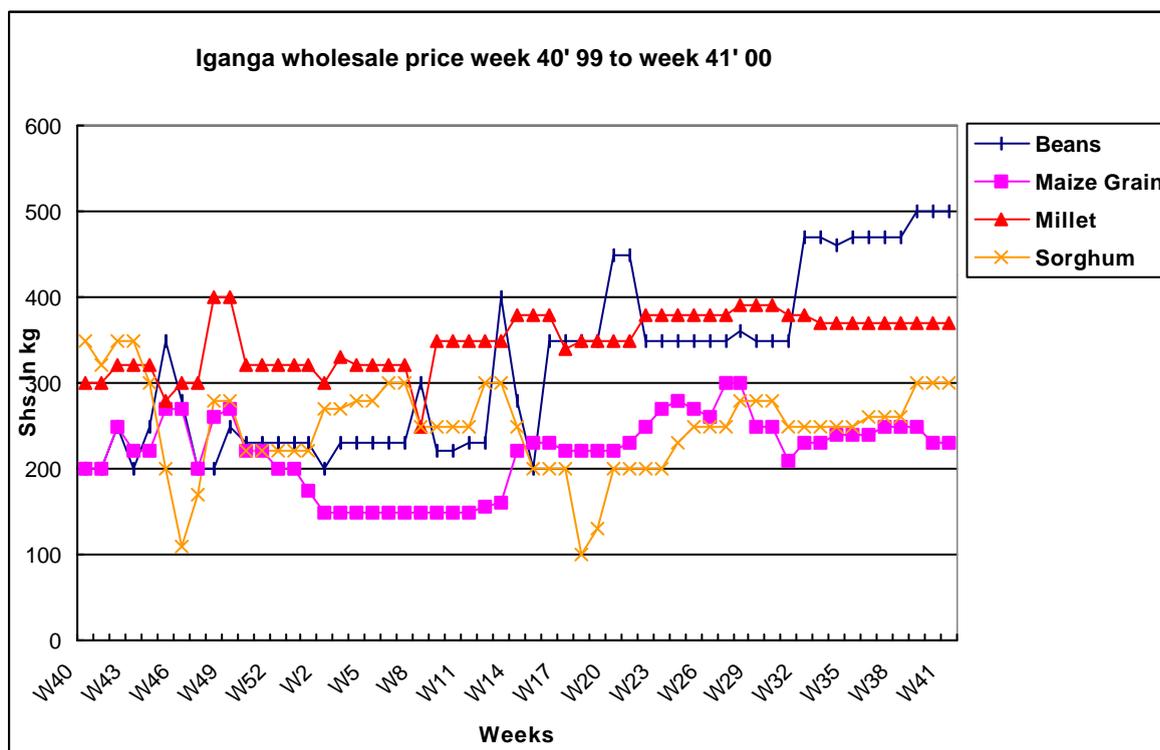
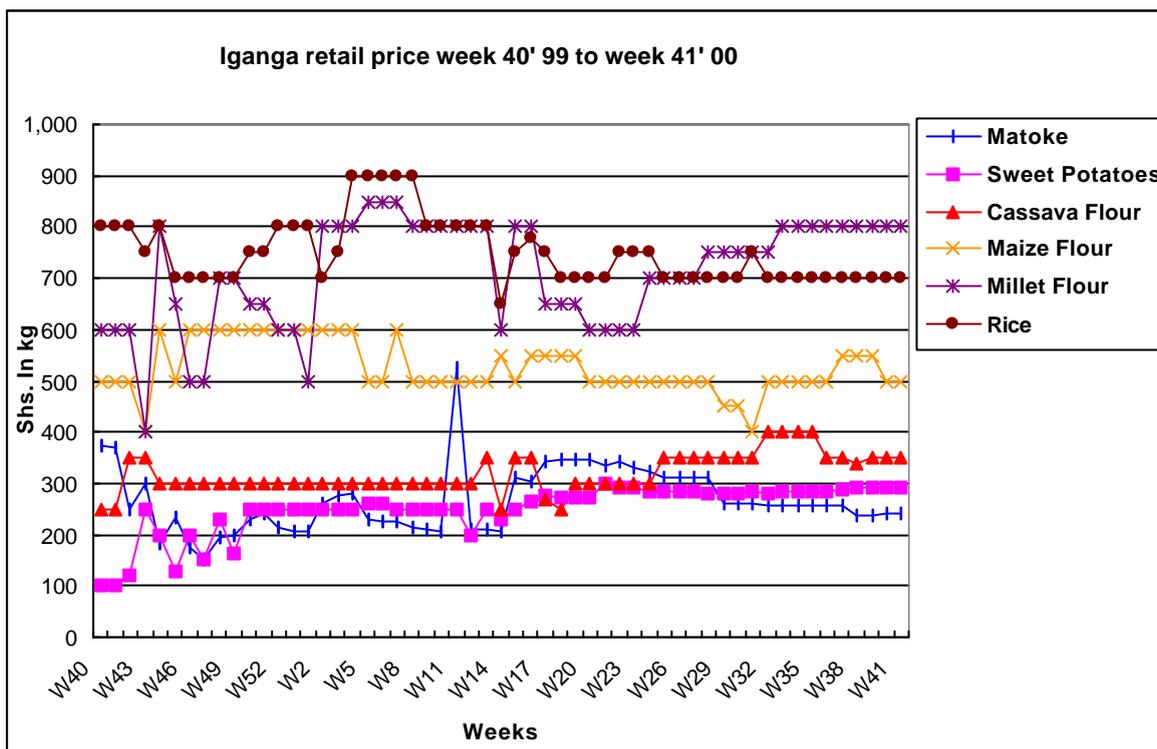


Figure 10 and 11: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Jinja District

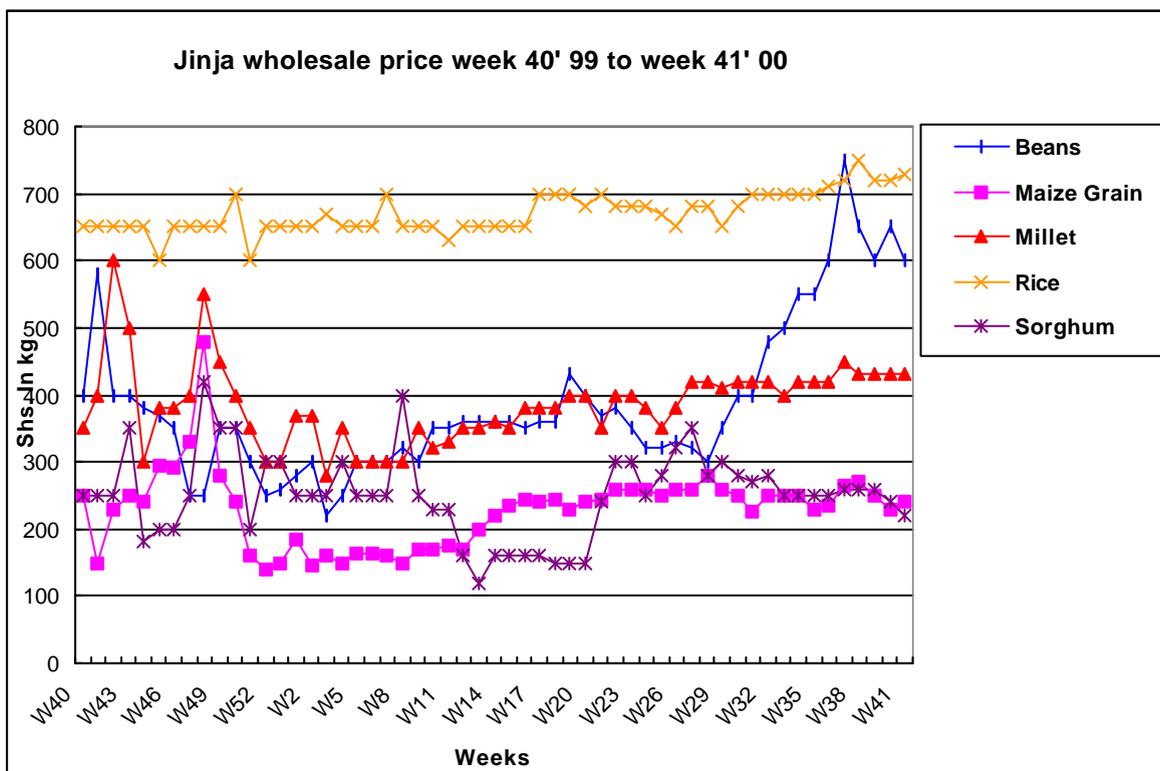
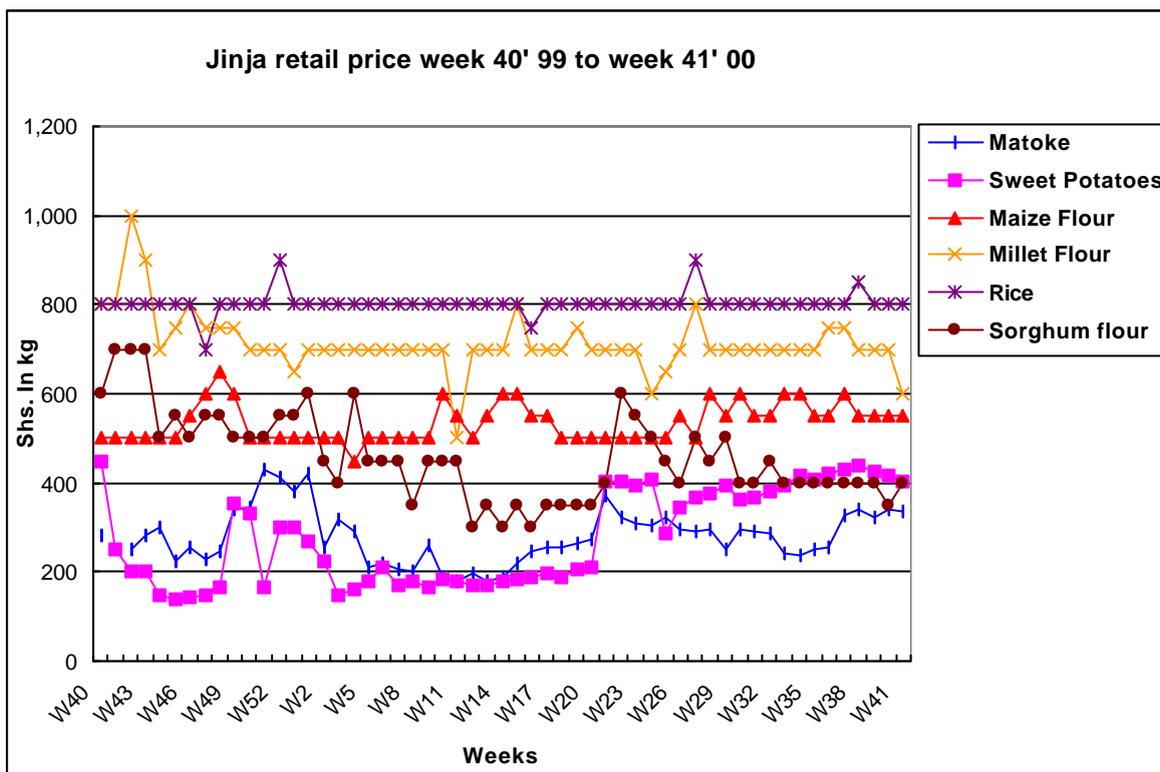


Figure 12 and 13: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Kabale District

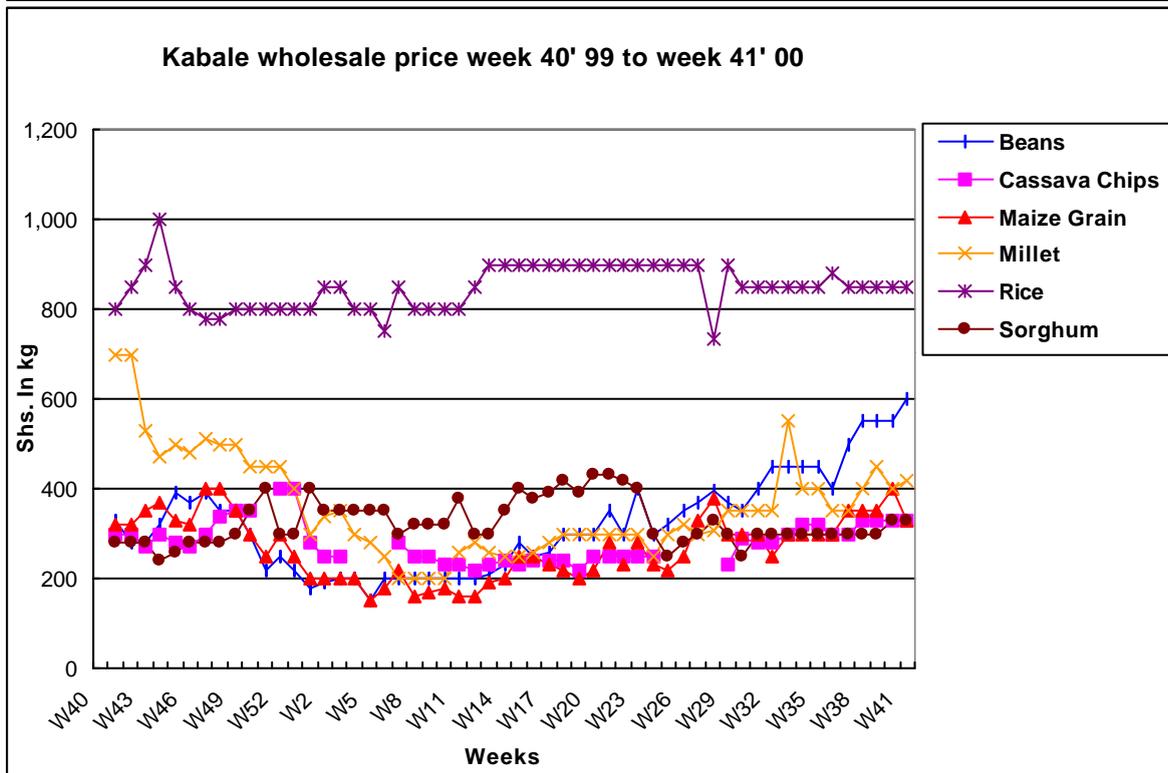
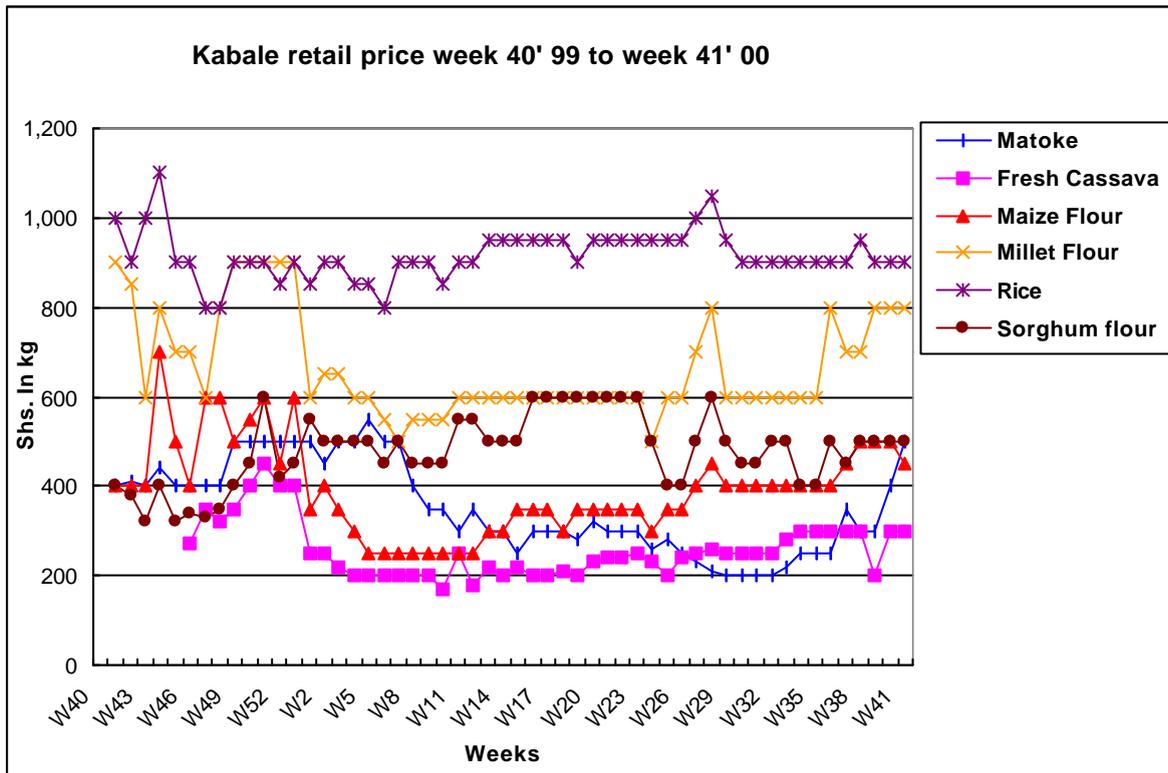


Figure 14 and 15: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Kasese District

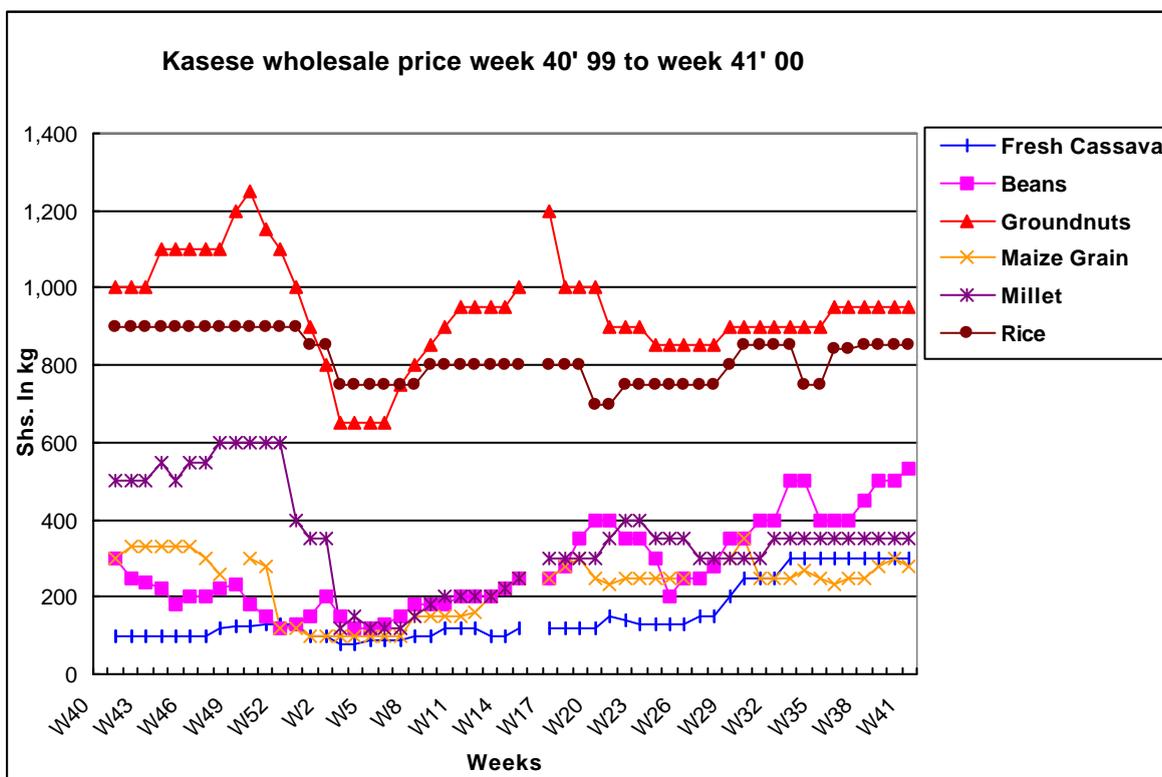
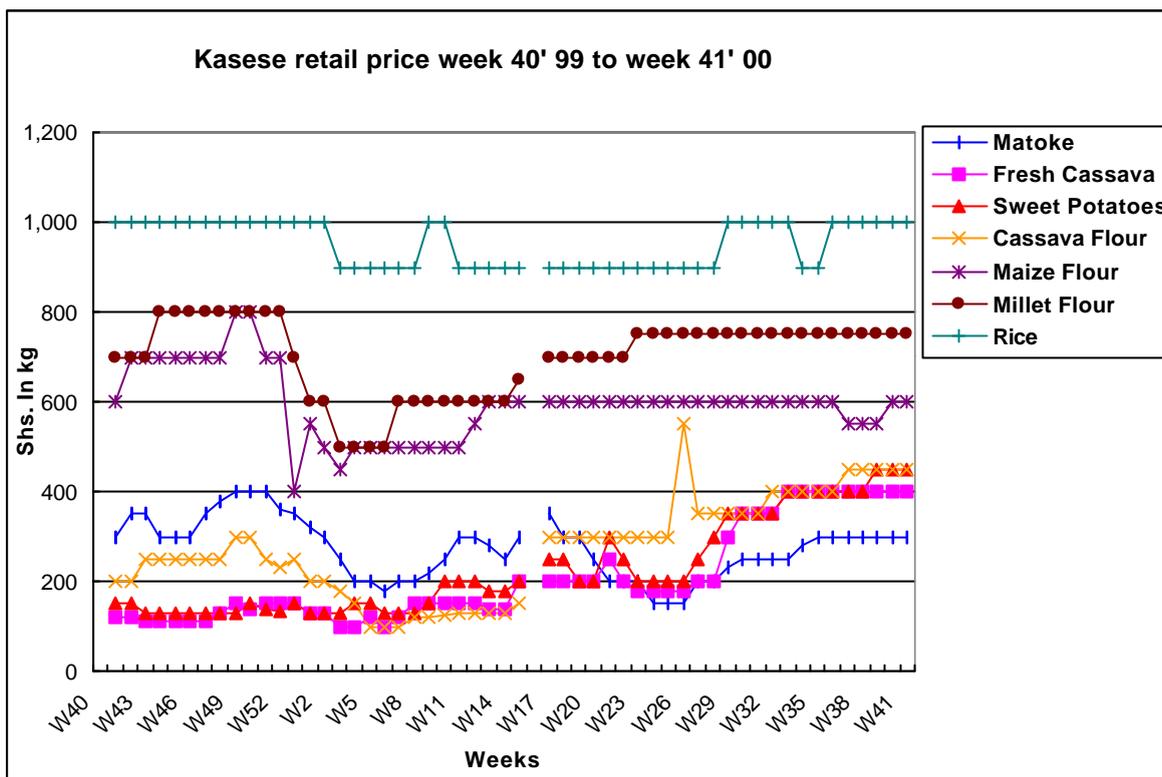


Figure 16 and 17: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Kitgum District

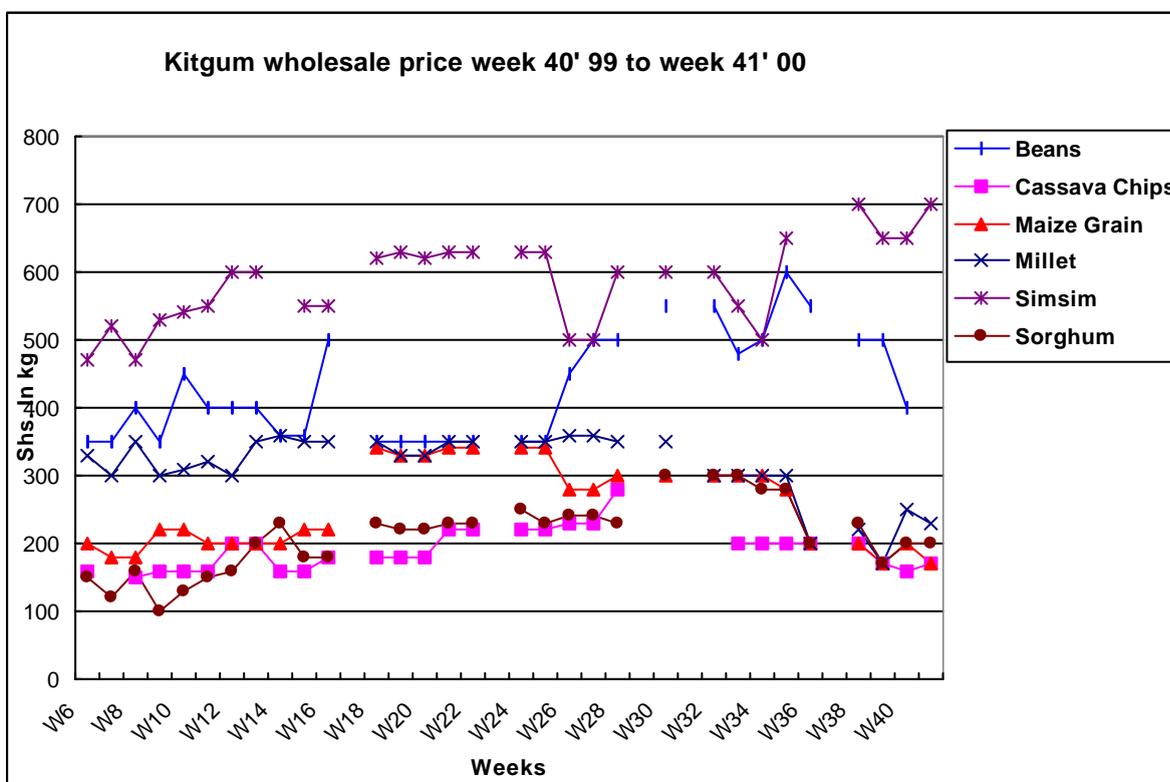
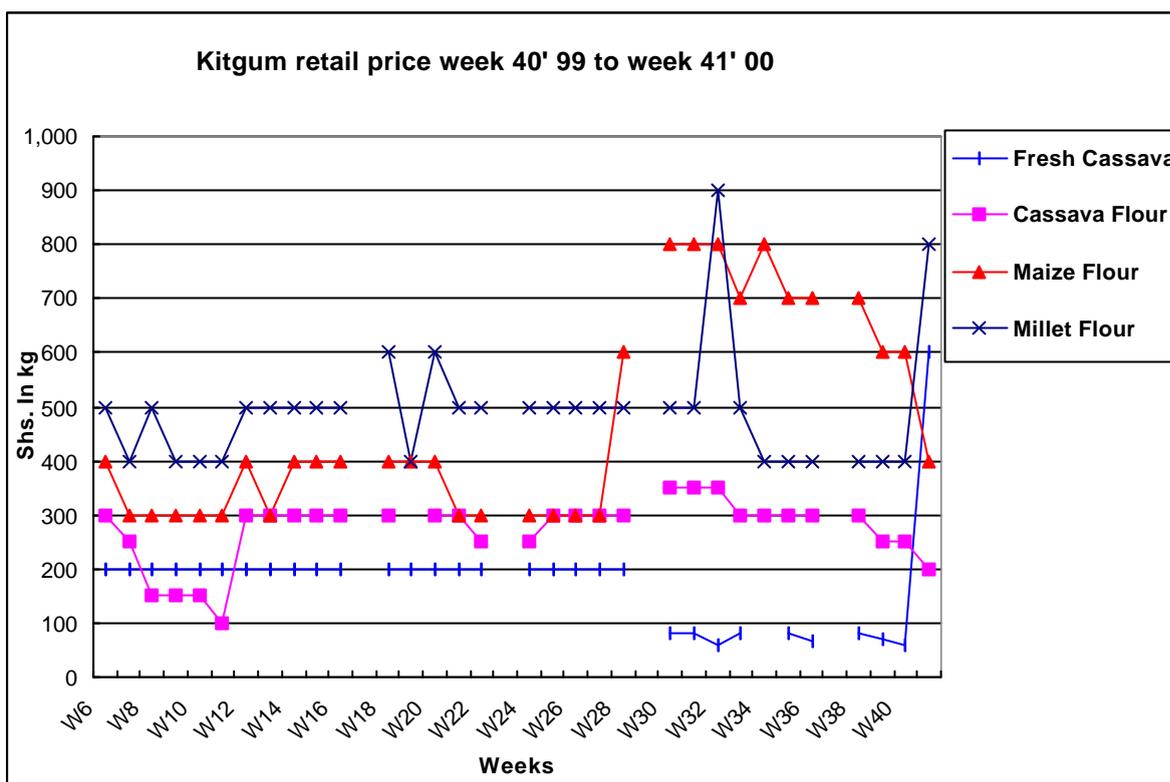


Figure 18 and 19: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Lira District

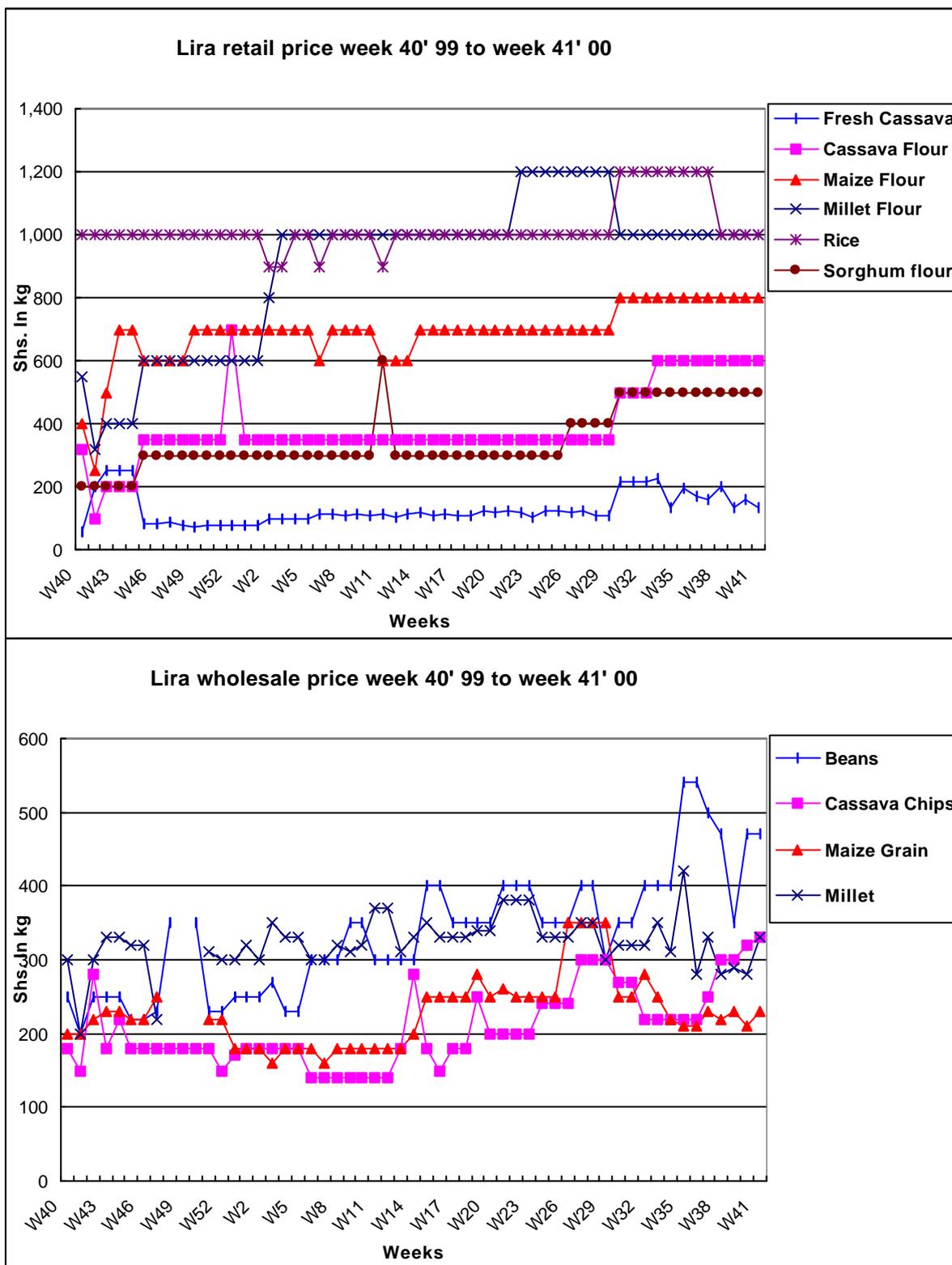


Figure 20 and 21: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Luwero District

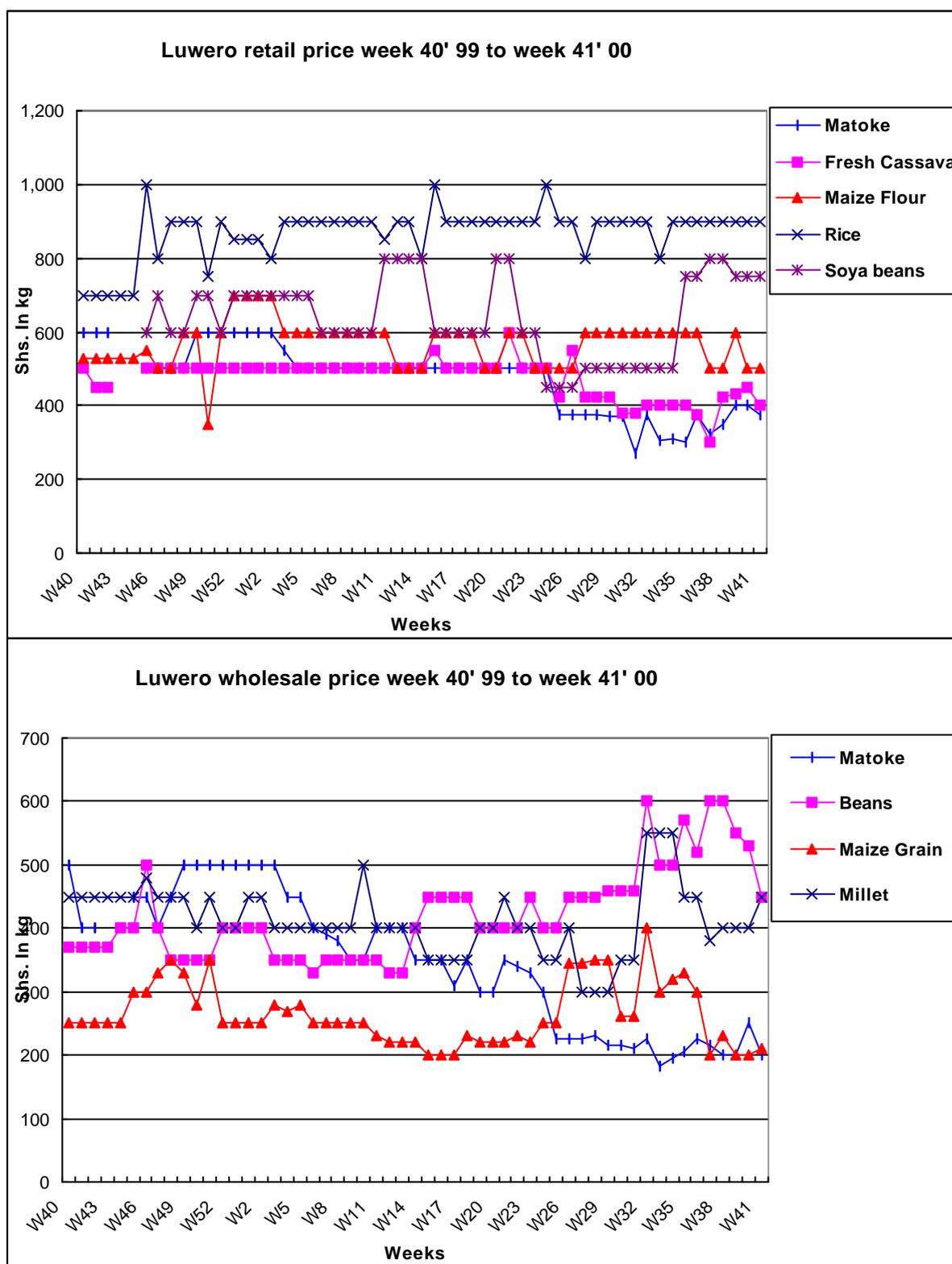


Figure 22 and 23: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Masaka District

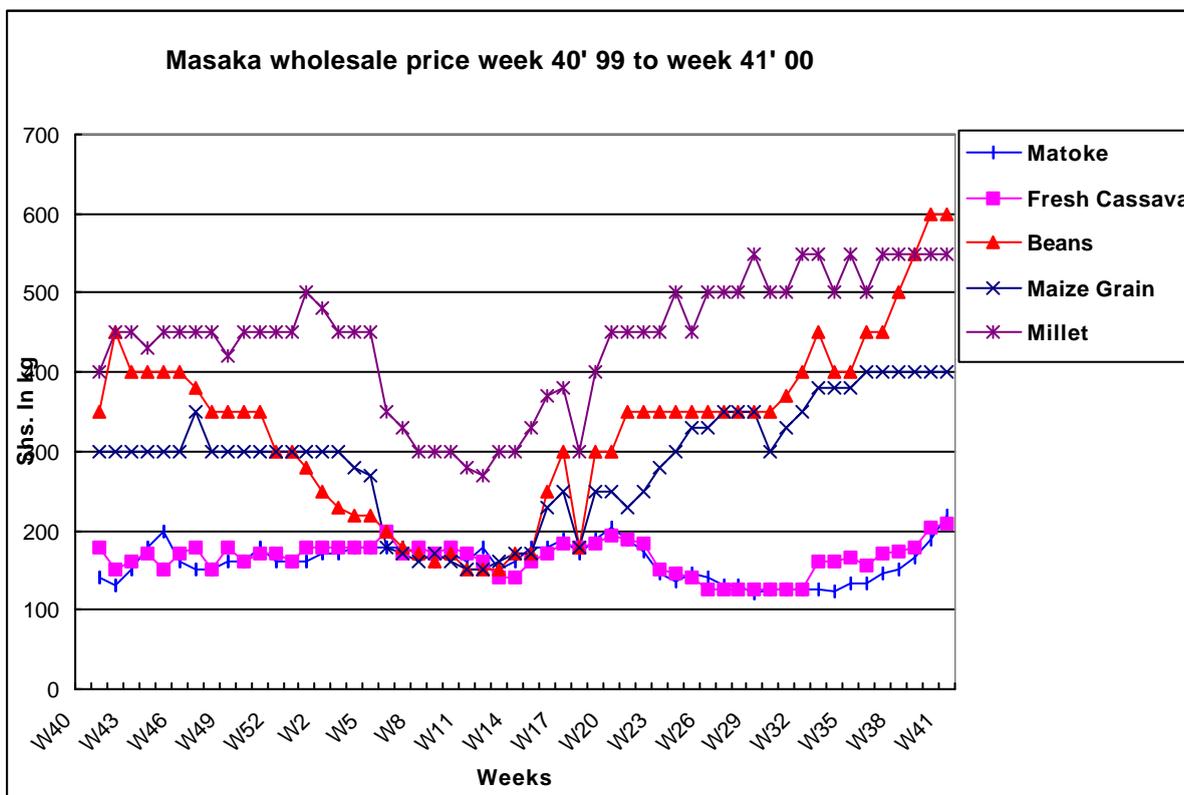
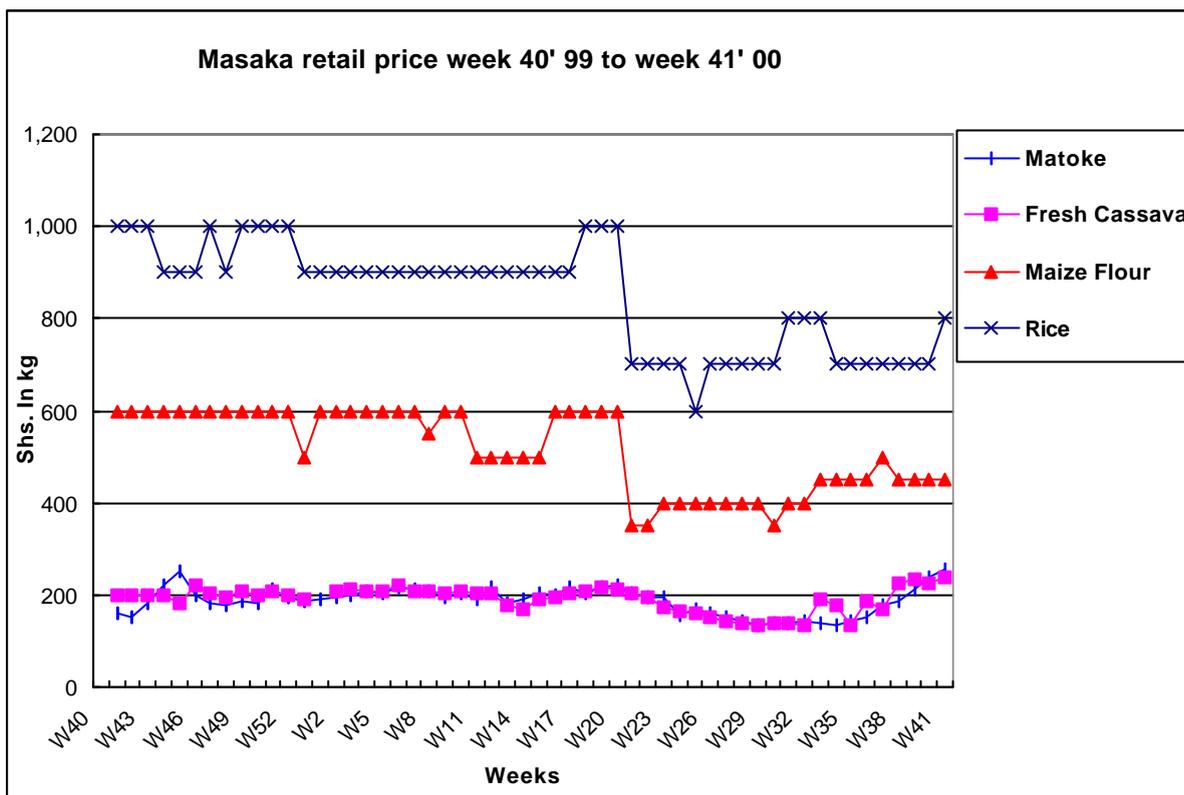


Figure 24 and 25: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Masindi District

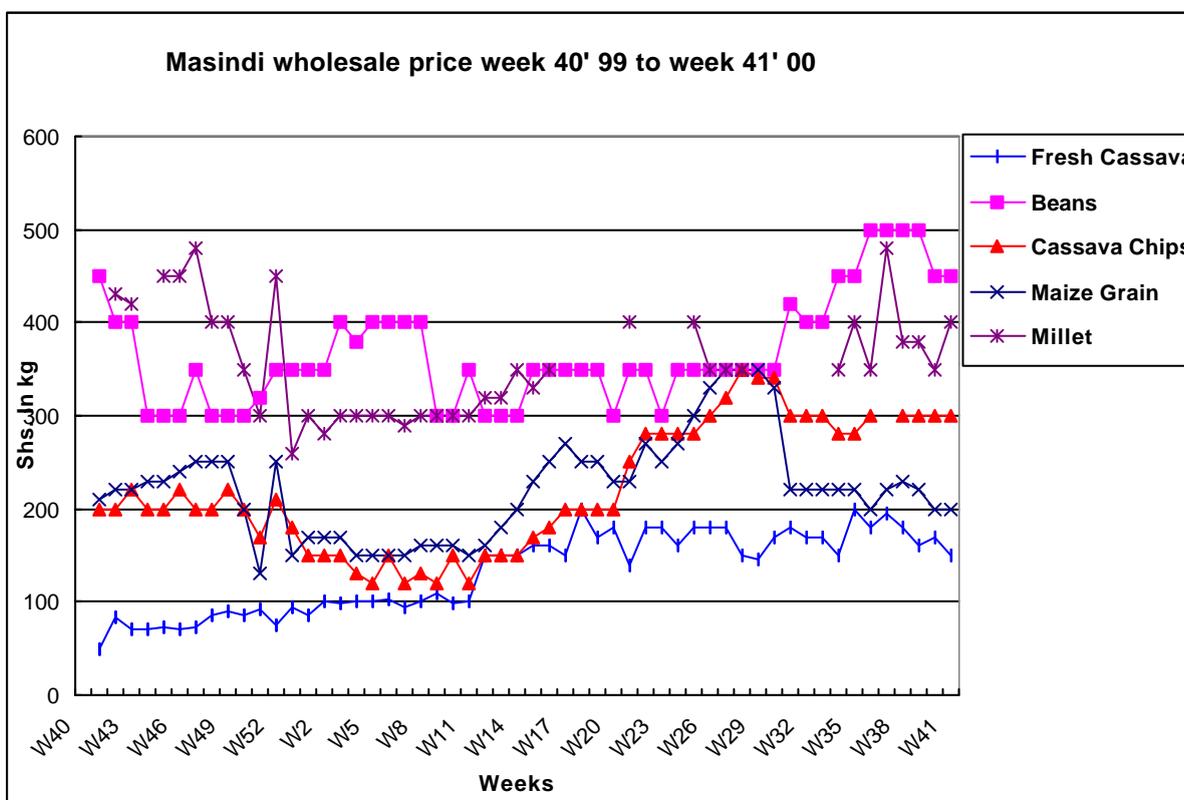
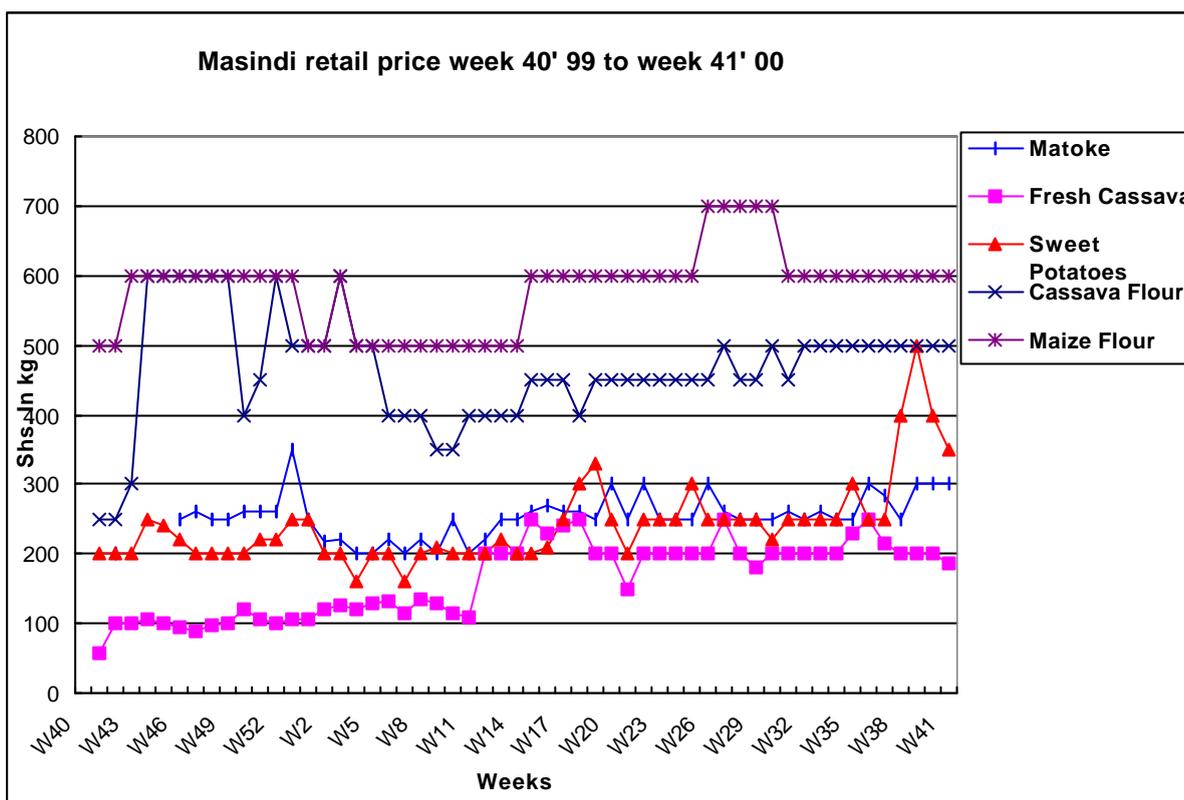


Figure 26 and 27: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Mbale District

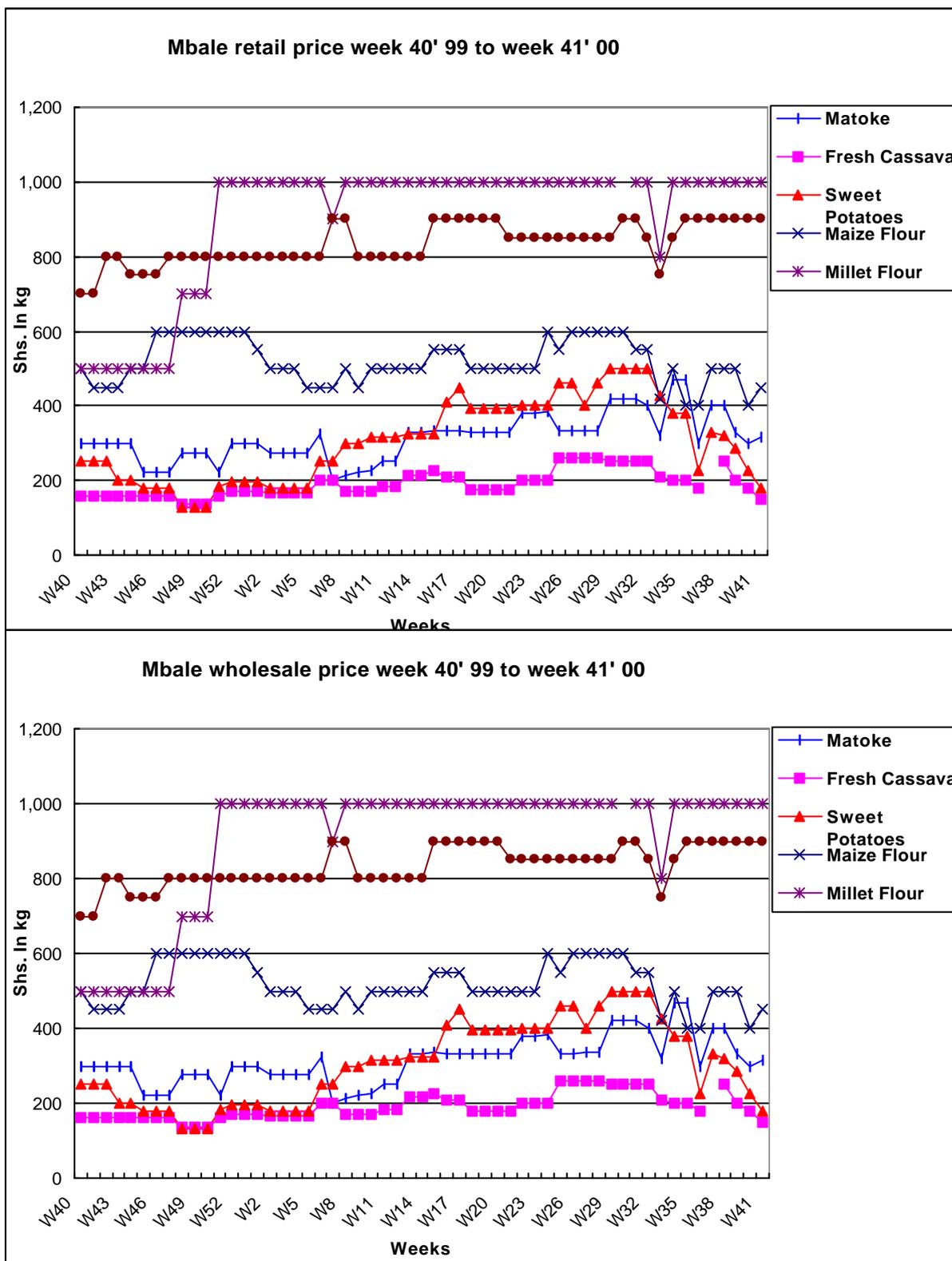


Figure 28 and 29: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Mbarara District

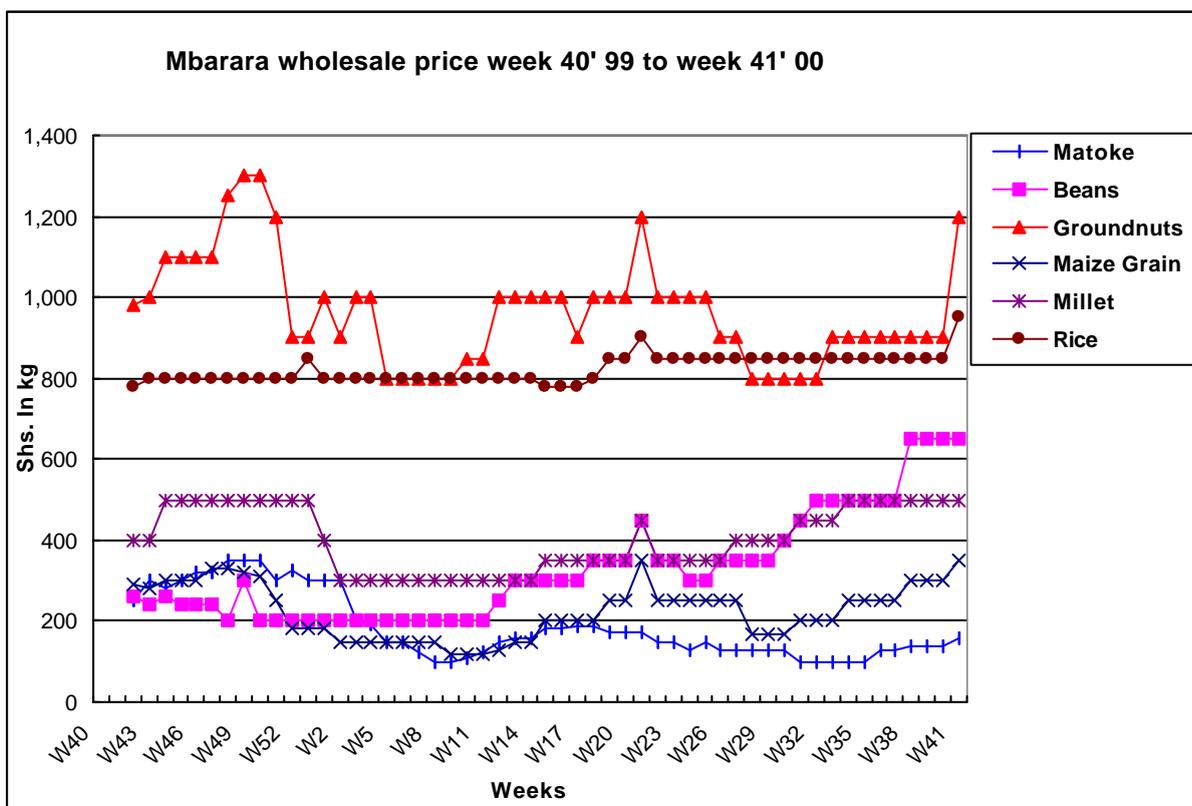
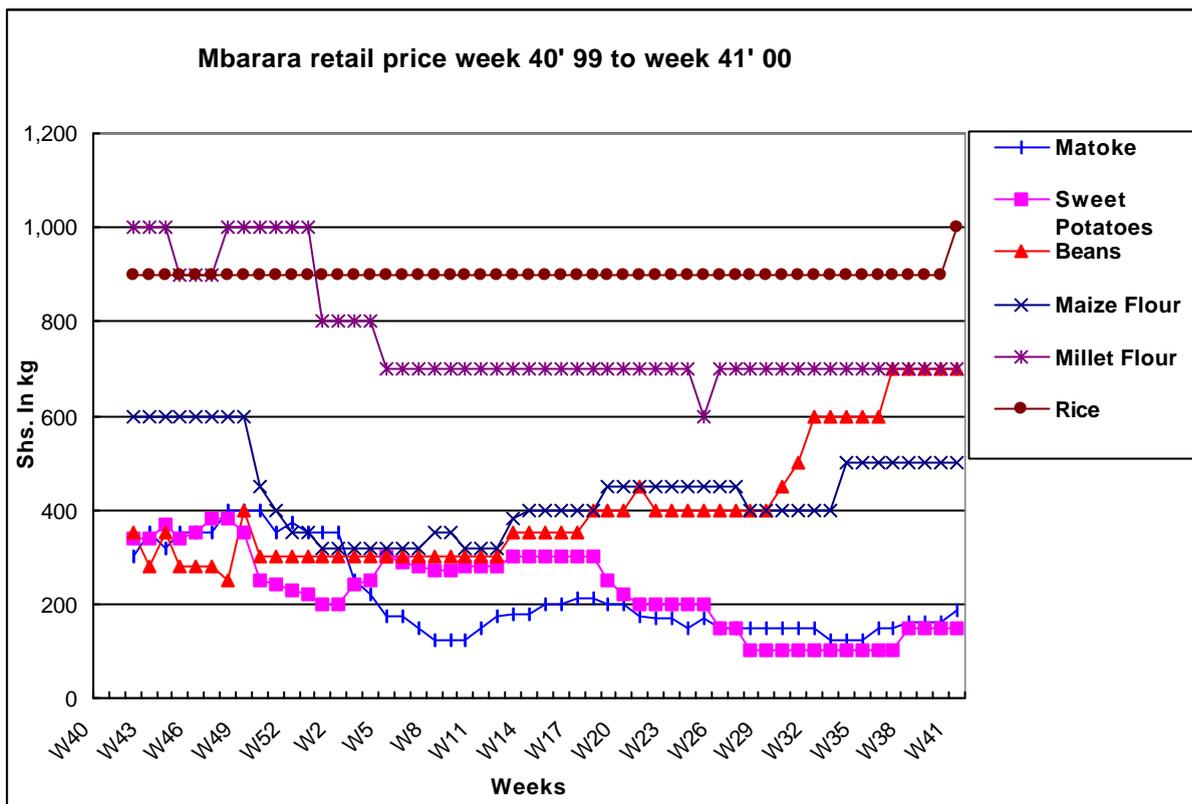


Figure 30 and 31: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Rakai District

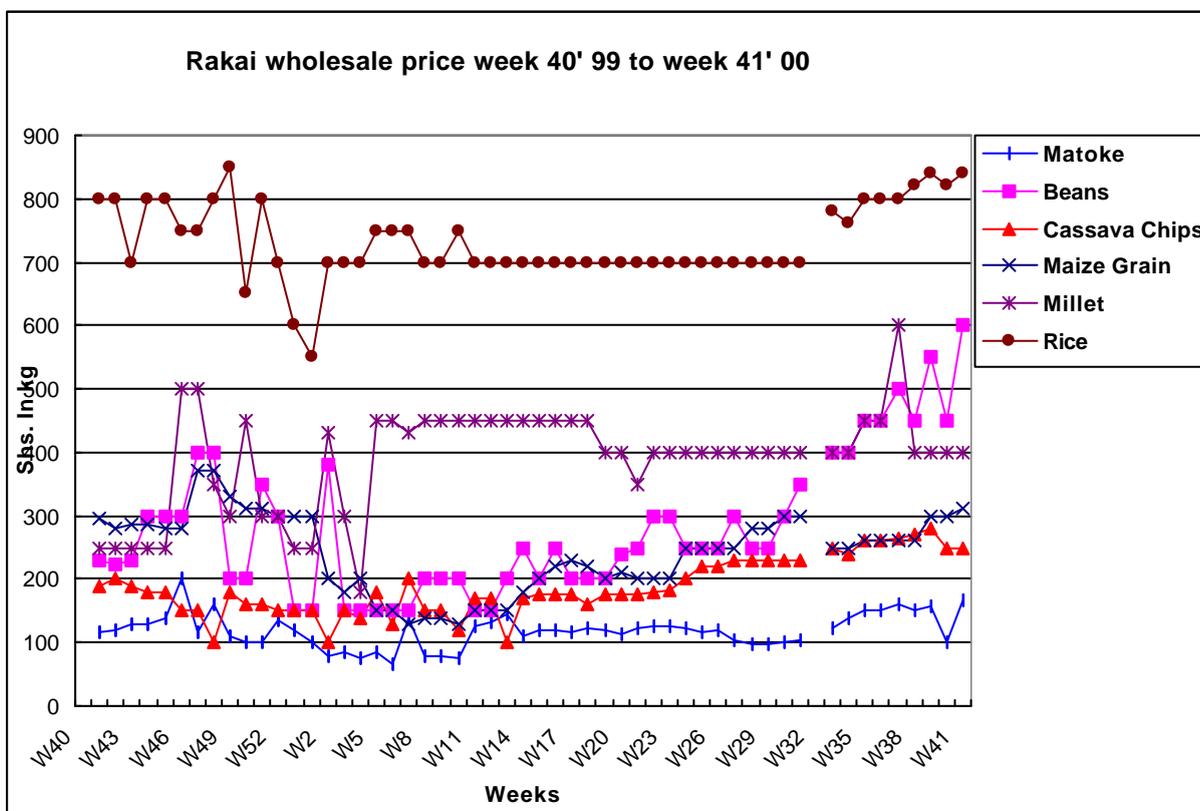
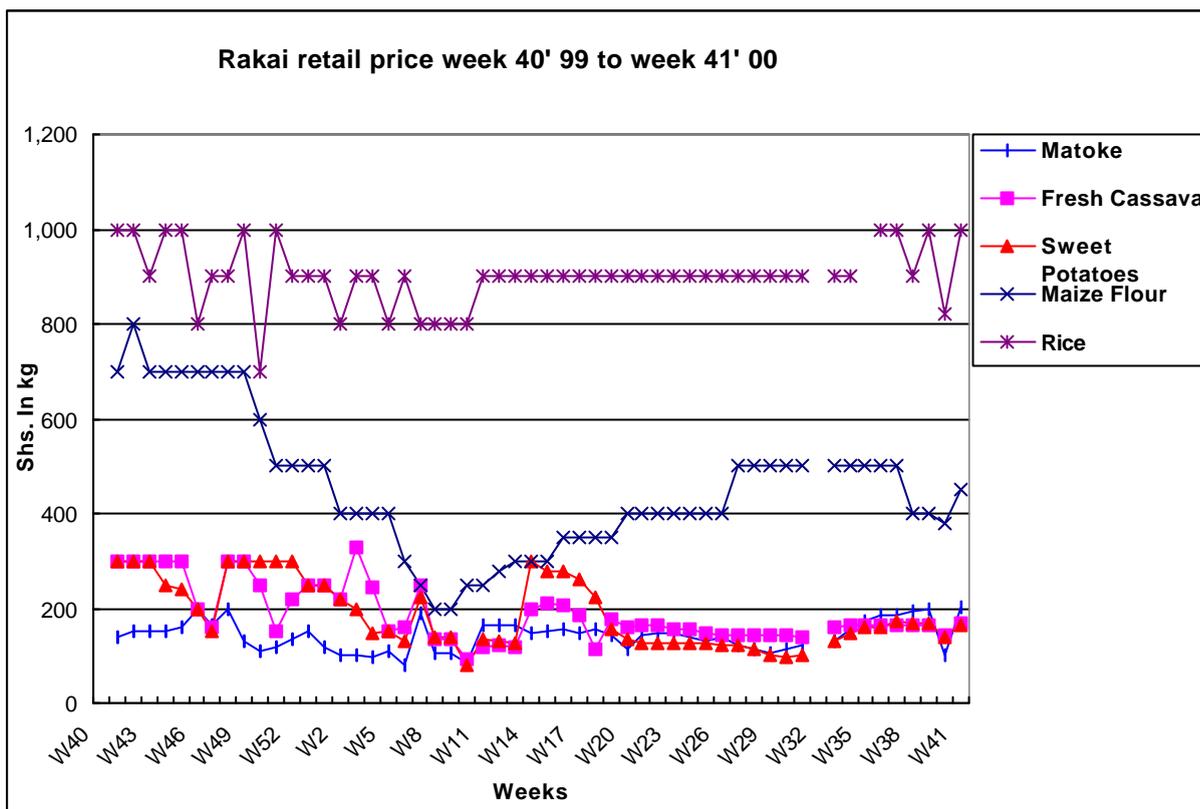


Figure 32 and 33: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Soroti District

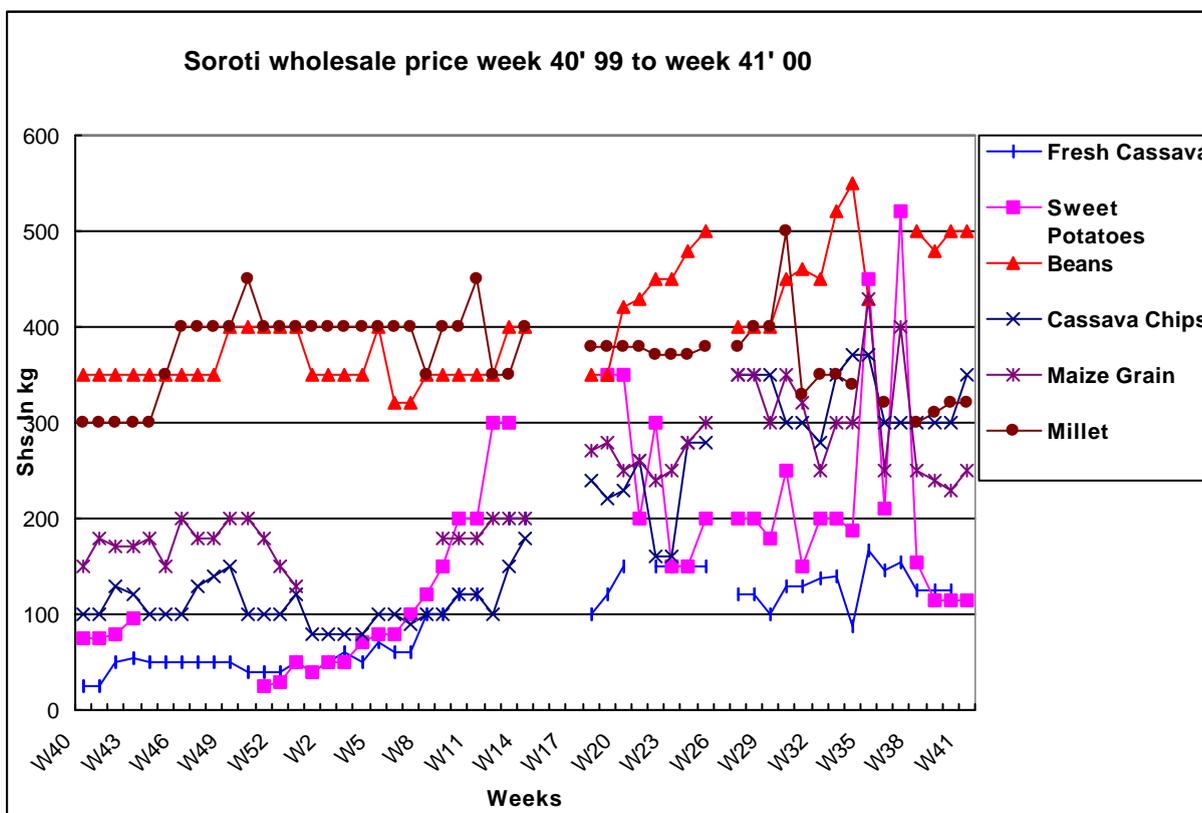
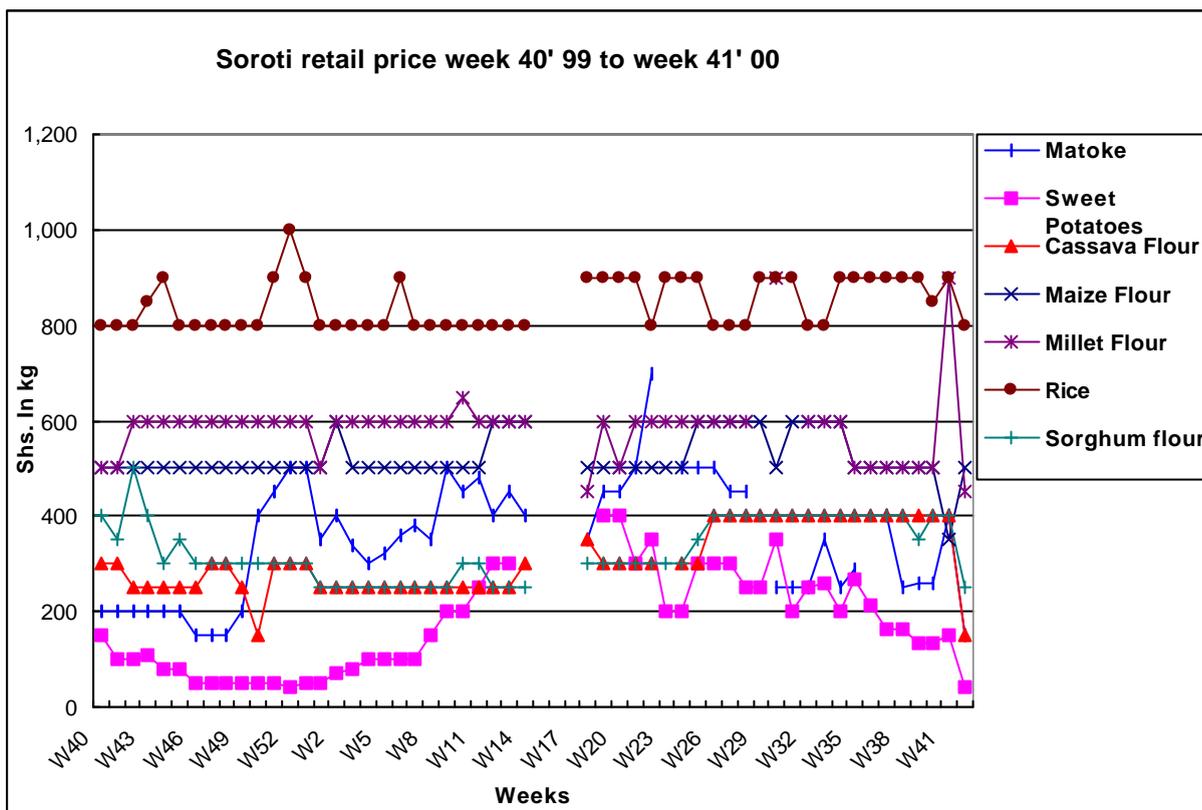
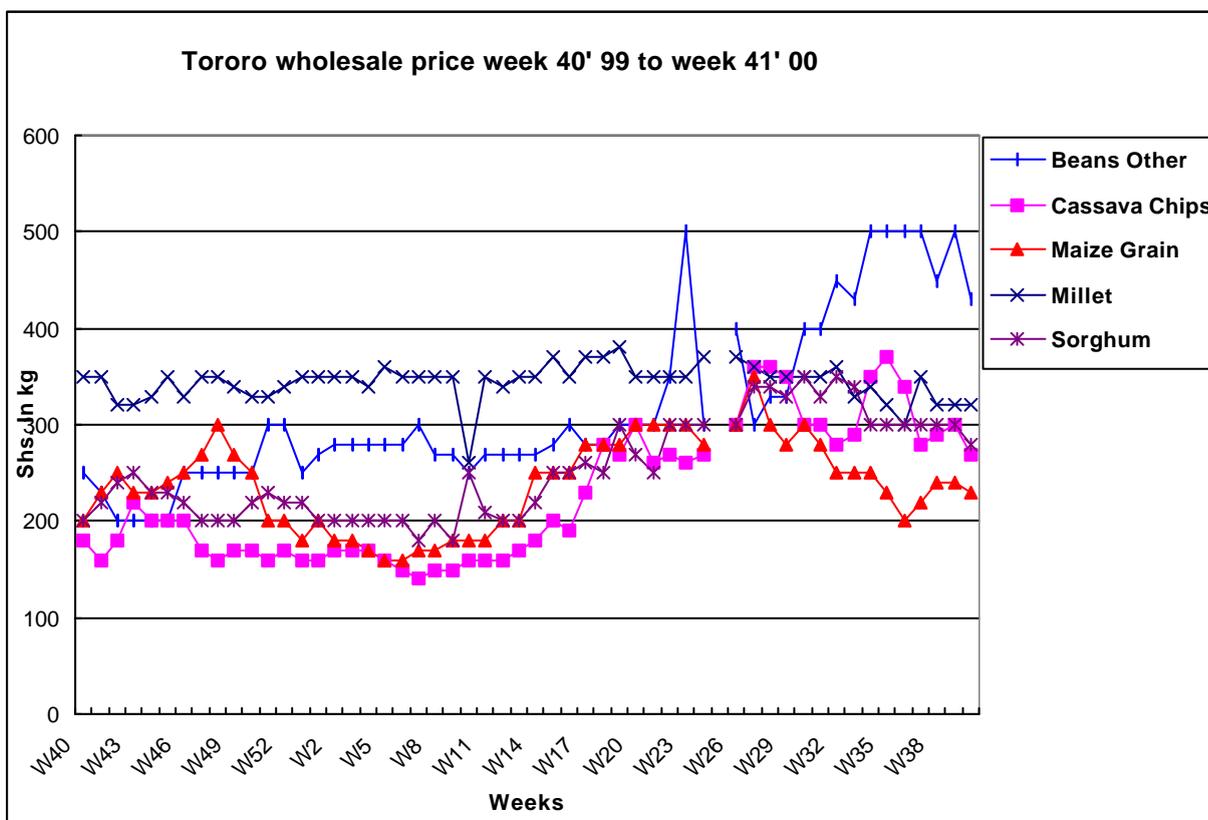
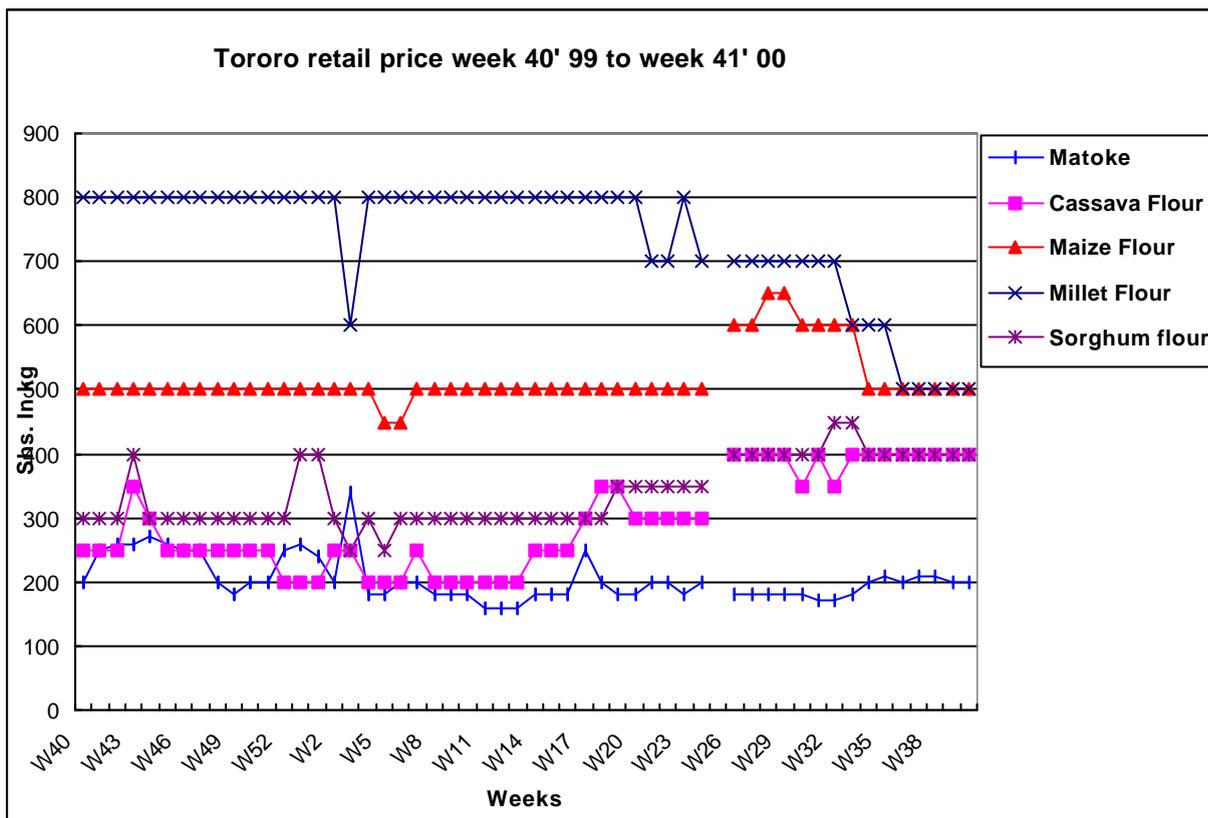


Figure 34 and 35: Retail and Wholesale Prices of Selected Staples in Tororo District



## **Appendix 1: Radio Programs Broadcast in the fourth Quarter**

### **15 Minutes Radio Program The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 28/07/2000  
Author: Nahamya Martin

#### **Introduction.**

Dear Listeners,

We welcome you once again to “**Market News**” which brings you information about new developments from the Marketplace and tells you the latest information about product prices and the factors, which are affecting prices of agricultural products in Uganda. This **Market information service** is brought to you by the FOODNET Project and is funded by USAID.

#### **District news**

##### **Gulu**

Gulu district has registered tremendous price changes for a few major food crops. Beans increased from 350/= per kilo last week to 400/= per kilo this week at wholesale. Maize flour increased from 450/= per kilo last week to 550/= per kilo at wholesale level. Other commodities with a price increase include rice from 700/= per kilo last week to 750/= this week at retail price, cassava chips also registered a price increase from 200/= per kilo at wholesale to 220/=per kilo this week. Most commodities registered a stable trend in the past two weeks. The district is receiving some rains and it is generally wet.

##### **Kitgum**

Kitgum district has registered new foodstuffs in the markets. The demand for beans is very high and this has forced the price for beans to go up. Currently the price of beans at wholesale is 550/= per kilo and that of retail is 600/= per kilo. This is the highest price registered in the country. The demand for millet is generally low and the market is currently receiving new harvest of millet grain. The wholesale price of millet grain is 350/= per kilo and 400/= per kilo at retail. Cassava chips are on high demand in Kitgum district and the price is increasing. This is attributed to the rains that make it difficult to dry the cassava chips and the supply is therefore low. The price for cassava chips at retail is 300/= per kilo.

##### **Masaka**

The prices for most foodstuffs in Masaka has gone up and this is attributed to many traders from other districts especially Kampala flocking the rural areas for the commodities. Among the commodities on demand is matooke which is widely grown in Masaka and a kilo of matooke is at 127/= at whole and 140/= per kilo at retail. The wholesale price for cassava chips, maize grain and groundnuts have generally decreased. This is attributed to the decrease in demand. Maize grain decreased from 350/= per kilo to 300/= per kilo. Groundnuts decreased from 1100/= per kilo at wholesale last week to 1000/= per kilo this week.

### **Kasese**

Kasese is generally hot and dry and this makes it conducive for drying maize grain. Although the harvesting season has started, there is still little maize on the market. It is reported that farmers are hoarding the maize grain for a higher price in the near future since they expect a famine due to the poor harvest. Maize grain price this week is 300/= per kilo at wholesale and 400/= per kilo at retail.

### **Produce Prices**

The following are the wholesale prices for staple food crops around the country.

#### **Cassava chips**

The wholesale price levels for 100kg of cassava chips in some districts are as follows:-

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Kisenyi)	38,000	38,000	no price change
Iganga	20,000	20,000	no price change
Jinja	18,000	15,000	increase 3,000
Lira	27,000	30,000	decrease 3,000
Mbale	32,000	30,000	increase 2,000
Kasese	20,000	20,000	no price change
Arua	40,000	38,000	Increase 2,000
Tororo	30,000	35,000	decrease 5,000
Masindi	34,000	34,000	no price change

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for cassava chips across the country has slightly decreased from 28,200/= the previous week to the current of 28,100/= per 100kg sack.

### **Beans**

The prices of beans are reported to have increased across the country. This is attributed to the low harvest during the past season coupled with a high demand for the commodity.

Currently the ruling wholesale prices for beans per 100kg in select districts are as follows.

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	40,000	40,000	no price change
Iganga	35,000	35,000	no price change
Jinja	40,000	35,000	increase 5,000
Lira	35,000	30,000	Increase 5,000
Mbale	33,000	30,000	Increase 3,000
Kasese	35,000	35,000	no price change
Arua	45,000	45,000	no price change
Masaka	35,000	35,000	no price change
Masindi	35,000	35,000	no price change

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for beans across the country has increased from 36,200/= the previous week to the current of 39,400/= per 100kg sack.

### **Maize Flour**

The following are the current and previous weeks' wholesale market prices from select districts across the country. The maize flour prices are per 100-kilogram sack

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kasese	50,000	50,000	no price change
Iganga	40,000	40,000	no price change
Jinja	43,000	43,000	no price change
Lira	70,000	60,000	decrease 10,000
Mbale	50,000	50,000	no price change
Masaka	55,000	55,000	no price change
Arua	50,000	55,000	increase 5,000
Tororo	60,000	60,000	no price change
Kabale	38,000	38,000	no price change

In general this week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for maize flour across the country has decreased from 61,900/= the previous week to the current of 50,400/= per 100kg sack.

**15 Minutes Radio Program**  
**The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 04/08/2000  
Author: Nahamya Martin

**Introduction.**

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**District news**

**Masindi**

In Masindi district the demand for maize grain is very high especially from near by districts like Arua. This has forced the farmers to pluck the maize grain forcefully from the cobs before they are ready for plucking. The moisture content is therefore very high. This is especially so where the demand for maize grain is very high in the trading centres of Bweyale, Diima and Kigumba. Consequently the wholesale price has fallen from 330/= per kilo last week to 220/= per kilo this week.

An outbreak of foot and mouth disease has been announced and quarantine has been imposed in Kibanda County. Livestock markets of Kididima, Kigumba, Kiryandongo and Masindi port have been closed.

It is reported that rains are being received in most parts of the district and some farmers are currently planting crops.

### **Mbale**

In Mbale district, maize grain and sorghum grain prices have slight fallen. This is attributed to increased supply of these commodities from Busoga and Pallisa. However the fall in price is short lived since Mbale district registered a poor harvest of maize and sorghum, the current wholesale prices of maize grain and sorghum grain are: 265/=and 230/= per kilo respectively. The previous week maize grain was at 290/= while sorghum at 260/= per kilo.

### **Mbarara**

The prices of beans, maize and millet grain have gone up by 50/= per kilo from the ruling prices of last week. The increase is attributed to the poor harvest this season that was brought about by the drought in the region.

Matooke prices have fallen by an approximate unit of 50/= per kilo this week. The fall in price is the normal trend that is expected in the dry season since the matooke tend to ripen leading to more supply on the market. However the current price of matooke is higher than the normal price in the dry season, this is the case due to the long drought in the southwestern part of the country that reduced production.

### **Tororo**

There is a lot of demand for cassava flour and cassava chips in the Tororo market. A lot of cassava flour and chips is being brought into the market. However the wholesale price has been constant at 300/= per kilo. The constant price is as a result of a balanced in demand and supply. Millet flour wholesale price has remained constant at 600 /= per kilo for several weeks due to low demand within the town market.

### **Kampala**

A look at the markets of Owino, Kisenyi and Nakawa in Kampala, most of these markets are registering a good supply of all the commodities. This is counter reacted with a good demand for the same. This has more or less kept the prices for most commodities stable. However the sudden withdrawal of the Kenyan market has brought about an increase in stock and a decrease in the rate of turn over for wholesale traders.

### **Produce Prices**

The following are the wholesale prices for staple food crops around the country.

#### **Cassava chips**

The wholesale price levels for 100kg of cassava chips in some districts are as follows

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Kisenyi)	34,000	38,000	decrease 4,000
Iganga	20,000	20,000	no price change
Jinja	19,000	18,000	increase 1,000
Lira	27,000	27,000	no price change
Mbale	32,000	32,000	no price change
Kasese	20,000	20,000	no price change
Arua	38,000	40,000	decrease 2,000
Tororo	30,000	30,000	no price change
Masindi	30,000	34,000	decrease 4,000

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for cassava chips across the country has more or less been constant with the previous week's price at 27,300/= and the current price at 27,700/= per 100kg sack.

### **Beans**

Currently the ruling wholesale prices for beans per 100kg in select districts are as follows.

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	43,000	40,000	increase 3,000
Iganga	35,000	35,000	no price change
Jinja	40,000	40,000	no price change
Lira	35,000	35,000	no price change
Mbale	33,000	33,000	no price change
Kasese	40,000	35,000	increase 5,000
Arua	40,000	45,000	decrease 5,000
Masaka	37,000	35,000	increase 2,000
Masindi	42,000	35,000	increase 7,000

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for beans across the country has increased from 39,400/= the previous week to the current of 41,200/= per 100kg sack.

### **Maize Flour**

The following are the current and previous weeks' wholesale market prices from select districts across the country. The maize flour prices are per 100-kilogram sack.

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kasese	50,000	50,000	no price change
Iganga	36,000	40,000	decrease 4,000
Jinja	39,000	43,000	decrease 4,000
Lira	70,000	70,000	no price change
Mbale	47,000	50,000	decrease 3,000
Masaka	55,000	55,000	no price change
Arua	45,000	50,000	decrease 5,000
Tororo	50,000	60,000	decrease 10,000
Kampala (Kisenyi)	47,000	47,000	no price change

In general this week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for maize flour across the country has slightly increased from 49,200/= the previous week to the current of 49,5000/= per 100kg sack.

**15 Minutes Radio Program**  
**The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 11/08/2000  
Author: Okoboi Geoffrey

**Introduction.**

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**District news**

**Arua District**

In Arua district, although high prices were registered in the past three months, currently the improved food situation has abated the price rise and as a consequence, food prices are gradually coming down. Arua market is currently having a lot of fresh maize, beans, cassava and even groundnuts. The availability of fresh produce on the market has staved off the high demand for cassava chips and flour leading to the drop in their prices. The district marketing officer of Arua was optimistic that further declines in food prices would be expected if only substantial amounts of rainfall continued. The data received this week as compared to last week indicates that there has been a general decrease in both retail and wholesale prices for most food crops. This week, the wholesale price cassava chips has decreased to 35,000/= per 100kg bag compared to 38,000/= last week. However, this week’s retail price for cassava flour has remained stable as that of last week at 450/= per kilogram. The wholesale price of maize grain in Arua has also decreased to 300,000/= per 100kg from 33,000/= last week. Other commodities with wholesale price reductions are millet grain, from 42,000/= last week to 40,000/= this week and sorghum grain from 40,000/= last week to 35,000/= this week.

**Masaka**

Masaka district is currently having a good supply of matooke. Although the demand for matooke is also high, the wholesale price offered by the traders is considered low. An average bunch of 18-20 kg is currently wholesaling at about 2,500/=. The retail price of fresh cassava and sweet potatoes are even higher than that of matooke because of low supply, which sometimes comes from Mpigi district. A heap of fresh cassava or sweet potatoes weighing an average of 5 kg is sold at 1,000/=.

This week, the wholesale prices of beans, maize grain and millet grain have increased because of high demand compared to the low production registered this season. Particularly, millet grain can only be found in Masaka and Nyendo towns because its supply is from other districts and its demand is mainly concentrated in towns. The wholesale price of beans is now at 400/= per kg while last week it was 370/= per kg. The wholesale price of maize grain has now increased to 350/= per kg from 330/= last week. While the wholesale price of millet grain is now 550/= per kg from 500/= per kg last week.

**Soroti**

In Soroti district, it is harvest time for millet and sorghum grains and the produce traders are busy buying these grains from the villages and storing it to sell later at a profit.

This week, millet grain is wholesaling at 35,000/= per 100kg bag while last week it was at 36,000/=. The wholesale price of sorghum grain has decreased to 25,000/= per 100kg bag from 32,000/= last week.

Although most districts across the country are facing dry conditions, Soroti district has received some rains, which the farmers have taken advantage of to heap potatoes and plant cassava. However, the farmers are facing a shortage of planting materials.

### **Gulu**

In Gulu district, the price of commodities like beans, groundnuts, cassava and smoked fish are said to have increased because of high demand by buyers from the districts of Moyo, Adjuman and Arua. The prices of millet grain and sorghum grain have decreased because of an increase in supply from the local harvests. Sorghum grain is now trading at 270/= per kg at wholesale and millet grain is going at 300/= per kg while last week, sorghum grain was wholesaling at 300/= per kg and millet grain was at 330/= per kg.

### **Produce Prices**

The following are the wholesale prices for staple food crops around the country.

#### **Groundnuts**

The wholesale price levels for 100kg of groundnuts in some districts are as follows

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	110,000	110,000	no price change
Arua	90,000	90,000	no price change
Jinja	100,000	100,000	no price change
Lira	130,000	140,000	Price decrease 10,000
Mbale	100,000	95,000	Price increase 5,000
Kasese	90,000	90,000	no price change
Gulu	80,000	78,000	Price increase 2,000
Tororo	110,000	115,000	Price decrease 5,000
Masindi	80,000	80,000	no price change

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for groundnuts across the country has slightly decreased to 94,800/= up from 95,300/= per 100kg sack last week.

#### **Beans**

Currently the ruling wholesale prices for beans per 100kg in select districts are as follows.

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	55,000	45,000	Price increase 10,000
Arua	50,000	40,000	Price increase 10,000
Jinja	48,000	40,000	Price increase 8,000
Lira	40,000	35,000	Price increase 5,000
Mbale	35,000	33,000	Price increase 2,000
Kasese	40,000	40,000	No price change
Soroti	45,000	45,000	No price change
Masaka	40,000	37,000	Price increase 3,000
Masindi	40,000	42,000	Price decrease 2,000

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for beans across the country has increased from 41,200/= the previous week to the current of 46,200/= per 100kg sack. Generally the price of beans has remained high because there is low supply on the market as result of the low yields from the first season harvests of beans in Uganda.

### **Maize grain**

The following are the current and previous weeks' wholesale market prices from select districts across the country. The maize flour prices are per 100-kilogram sack.

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kasese	25,000	25,000	no price change
Iganga	23,000	21,000	Price increase 2,000
Jinja	25,000	22,500	Price increase 2,500
Lira	28,000	25,000	Price increase 3,000
Mbale	26,000	26,500	Price decrease 500
Masaka	35,000	33,000	Price increase 2,000
Arua	30,000	33,000	Price decrease 3,000
Tororo	25,000	28,000	Price decrease 3,000
Kampala (Kisenyi)	29,000	28,000	Price increase 1,000

In general this week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for maize flour across the country has slightly increased from 26,800/= the previous week to the current of 27,100/= per 100kg sack. The increasing price is also attributed to the low supply given the high demand.

### **15 Minutes Radio Program** **The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 18/08/2000  
Author: Nahamya Martin

### **Introduction.**

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### **District news**

#### **Gulu District**

Gulu district central market has this week realized price changes in agricultural commodities. The prices for cassava fresh, Kanyebwa beans, small beans and maize flour have increased. The traders attribute this to mainly lack of proper drying of the first season harvests leaving

high moisture content in the commodities. There is also a registered low supply of these commodities from neighboring districts. The prices for cassava chips, cassava flour, groundnuts, maize grain, millet grain, simsim and sorghum have dropped. This is due to increased inflow into the market of the first season crops being availed both locally in Gulu district and also from other districts. Gulu district is reported to have received heavy rains during the week.

### **Kasese**

In Kasese district there is scarcity of fresh cassava, sweet potatoes and beans on the market. There are fewer stocks of beans with farmers in the rural Kasese district according to traders. This they say is a result from poor harvests during the past season. The prices of beans are currently at 500/= shs per kg at wholesale and 600/= shs. per kg at retail. Matooke in Kasese district is still coming from Bushenyi district but the traders are meeting stiff competition with traders from Kampala. Kasese has not realized a lot of rains as yet but it is reported to be cool.

### **Lira**

The harvest of crops like maize grain, millet grain, groundnut and sunflower has greatly affected the supply of Matooke in Lira markets. The sudden increase in harvest is due to the fear that the coming rains might affect the crops still in the fields. This also has affected the trend of prices for most commodities reflecting a drop in price. It is reported that most parts of the district are receiving heavy rains.

### **Luwero**

There is a remarkable increase in demand for beans in Luwero district due to the onset of rains in the area. Many farmers are rushing in for the seeds for planting. This has led to an increase in prices for all the varieties. On average it costs 500/= shs. per kg at wholesale and 600/= shs. per kg at retail. The traders anticipate a further increase in prices in the near future. There is also an increase in price for cassava flour and it is mainly due to the rains in the producing areas (Northern Uganda), which have led to a reduced supply of cassava flour on the market. There was a high supply of matooke in the area due to the new inflow of the commodity from the districts of Masaka and Mbarara. This has led an average bunch to cost between 3300/= - 3800/= each.

### **Produce Prices**

The following are the wholesale prices for staple food crops around the country.

#### **Groundnuts**

The wholesale price levels for 100kg of groundnuts in some districts are as follows

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	100,000	110,000	Price decrease 5,000
Arua	90,000	90,000	no price change
Jinja	100,000	100,000	no price change
Lira	120,000	130,000	Price decrease 1,000
Mbale	110,000	100,000	Price increase 1,000
Kasese	90,000	90,000	no price change
Gulu	75,000	80,000	Price decrease 5,000
Tororo	110,000	110,000	no price change
Masindi	80,000	80,000	no price change

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for groundnuts across the country has slightly decreased to 94,000/= up from 95,700/= per 100kg sack last week.

### **Beans**

Currently the ruling wholesale prices for beans per 100kg in select districts are as follows.

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	55,000	55,000	No price change
Arua	50,000	50,000	No price change
Jinja	50,000	48,000	Price increase 2,000
Lira	40,000	40,000	No price change
Mbale	50,000	35,000	Price increase 15,000
Kasese	50,000	40,000	Price increase 5,000
Soroti	52,000	45,000	Price increase 7,000
Masaka	45,000	40,000	Price increase 5,000
Masindi	40,000	40,000	No price change

This week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for beans across the country has increased from 46,200/= the previous week to the current of 46,900/= per 100kg sack. The prices of beans has continued to increase for the past three weeks and this is attributed to the low yields during the past harvest season.

### **Maize grain**

The following are the current and previous weeks' wholesale market prices from select districts across the country. The maize grain prices are per 100-kilogram sack

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kasese	25,000	25,000	No price change
Iganga	23,000	23,000	No price change
Jinja	25,000	25,000	No price change
Lira	25,000	28,000	Price decrease 3,000
Mbale	30,000	26,000	Price increase 4,000
Masaka	38,000	35,000	Price increase 3,000
Arua	30,000	30,000	No price change
Tororo	25,000	25,000	No price change
Kampala (Kisenyi)	27,000	29,000	Price decrease 2,000

In general, this week's wholesale price indicates that the average price for maize grain across the country has slightly increased from 26,900/= the previous week to the current of 27,100/= per 100kg sack. The increasing price is also attributed to the low supply given the high demand.

**15 Minutes Radio Program**  
**The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 25/08/2000  
Author: Okoboi Geoffrey

**Introduction.**

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**District news**

The supply of first season harvests in the major districts markets in Uganda has remained adequate. Particularly, in the districts where harvests of maize, millet and sorghum is ongoing or has just ended, the supply on the market is high leading to a little reduction in the prices. Around the country, the supply of Matooke in the markets especially in central, southern and western Uganda has increased thus reducing the retail price to make it affordable. Matooke from the western and southern Uganda is now being supplied to the markets as far as Mbale, Jinja and Iganga apart from Kampala. However, in Mbale, a number of consumers have avoided Matooke and rice in preference for Irish potatoes from Kapchorwa and Wanale, which are selling cheaply at 150/= to 200/= per kg.

The start of the second season rains in most parts of east and northern Uganda have made farmers more busy with the planting and weeding of the second season crops like maize and beans in Jinja, Iganga and Lira. In Tororo and Soroti, the farmers are busy planting and weeding sorghum and sweet potatoes. The shortages of sweet potato and cassava cuttings in the districts of Jinja, Kumi, Soroti and many others have left farmers bitter about the luck of planting materials.

This indicates that farmers are doing everything possible in their capacity to recoup what they lost in the first season harvests.

In Kabale, it is reported that the traders are doing a brisk business in beans and groundnuts that they are buying and selling to Rwanda. Even the Rwandese traders in Kabale have become the price setters for these commodities hence dominating the market.

**Maize grain Prices**

In Gulu, Masindi and Lira where harvesting of maize is ongoing, the wholesale price of 220/= per kg is the lowest recorded this week in Uganda. While in Masaka district with very low or no harvest of maize at the moment the wholesale price is highest at 380/= per kg followed by Luwero district at 320/= per kg.

In Jinja and Iganga, the first districts to harvest first season maize crop this year are now wholesaling maize grain at 250/= per kg. The price is likely to increase quickly because of dwindling supplies against the persistently high demand. In a number of districts, maize grain

is also wholesaling at 250/= per kg. These include: Mbarara, Rakai and Tororo. In Kampala, Arua, Soroti and Kitgum Districts, maize grain is wholesaling at 300/= per kg because of low supply. Overall, the average wholesale price of maize grain the week is 270/= per kg, recorded in Mbale while minimum of 220/= per kg is recorded in Gulu, Lira and Masindi against the maximum of 380/= per kg recorded in Masaka. Against the background of low

### **Millet grain**

In the millet growing districts of east and northern Uganda, millet is wholesaling lowest in Gulu at 280/= per kg followed by Kitgum at 300/= per kg and Lira at 310/= per kg. Other eastern districts with relatively lower prices are Soroti and Tororo at 340/= per kg. The relatively low prices for millet grain prevailing in these districts is due to high supply by the peasant farmers who sell it to buy the basic necessities of life. In Lira, the commercial hub of northern Uganda, major produce buyers like Afrokai commodities are buying millet, maize and beans in huge quantities destined for Kampala. This week the millet grain prices have been observed to be highest in districts of Luwero and Masaka that do not grow millet. In Luwero the millet grain wholesale price is highest at 550/= per kg while in Masaka it is at 500/= per kg. Mbarara is also having a high wholesale for millet at 500/= per kg because it is not yet a harvest in western Uganda. The districts of Mbale, Iganga and Masindi that neighbour millet producing areas are having fair wholesale price ranges of 350/= to 370/= per kg depending on the distance from the production zone. The Kampala wholesale price for millet this week is 450/= per kg.

### **Beans**

Market surveys in eastern Uganda showed that the most commonly available beans variety on the market in Jinja, Iganga, Mbale and Tororo was Kanye bwa beans. While in Masindi, Gulu and Kitgum yellow variety was mainly available but highly priced. Lira produces mainly small beans in white, black and brown colours, which are relatively low in price.

Currently the ruling wholesale prices for beans per 100kg in select districts are as follows.

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	55,000	55,000	No price change
Arua	50,000	50,000	No price change
Jinja	55,000	48,000	Price increase 7,000
Lira	40,000	40,000	No price change
Mbale	45,000	35,000	Price increase 10,000
Kasese	50,000	40,000	Price increase 10,000
Soroti	55,000	45,000	Price increase 10,000
Masaka	40,000	40,000	No price increase
Masindi	45,000	40,000	Price increase 5,000

This week's wholesale price indicates that across the country the price for beans has either been increasing or remained constant. The average price for beans in the country is at 47,470/= per 100kg bag. Generally the price of beans has remained high and it is likely to increase further because there is low supply on the market as result of the low yields from the first season harvests of beans in Uganda.

**15 Minutes Radio Program**  
**The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 01/09/2000  
Author: Nahamya Martin

**Introduction.**

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**Maize**

Maize prices in Eastern Uganda are gradually falling in most of the districts. In Tororo district maize grain has flooded the markets following the closure of schools. Currently the wholesale price of a 100kg sack is at 23,000/= down from 25,000/= in the past week. A lot of maize is coming into Tororo markets from Mbale district. In Mbale district the price of maize grain fell and this is due to increased supply from Kapchorwa and Iganga districts. The current wholesale price in 100kg sack is 21,000/= in Mbale, while in the previous week a similar sack was costing 27,000/=. Soroti district has also realized a fall in price from 30,000/= per sack the previous week to 27,000/= this week. Soroti is getting most supply of maize from Lira district. According to reports from Iganga, maize is being sold out in the stores at a high rate consequently traders are selling maize with a high moisture content. The districts of Lira and Mbale are currently having the lowest prices of maize at 21,000/= while the districts of Masaka and Luwero are having the highest prices in the country at 38,000/= and 33,000/= respectively.

**District news**

In **Lira district**, the local variety of matooke has this week come back onto the market with a good competitive quality. The supply is mainly from Amach sub county, Lira district. Other varieties mainly from Mbale have slowly declined in supply. There is new stock of soya beans in Lira district; the farmers are busy with harvesting. This has brought down the price on the produce line from 600/= to 500/= per kg but the price in the markets is still steady at 800/= per kg.

In **Luwero district** the price of beans is high, the wholesale price is 570/= per kg while at retail it is 650/=. Beans are highly demanded for the main purposes of planting. Maize flour is highly demanded; the prices vary according to the quality. Ordinary maize flour which is mainly consumed in the rural areas is costing 500/= while superior variety which is mainly consumed in the urban area is costing 600/= per kg. Soya beans supply is quite low; this is due to low supply from the producing areas. Traders purchase it expensively and there by selling it at a high price. The wholesale price is 650/= per kg while the retail is 750/= per kg. Matooke prices are reported to be high and are being supplied from the districts of Mbarara and Masaka. An average bunch costs between 3,300/= and 4000/=.

Arua district is experiencing considerable amounts of rainfall which have encouraged the planting of cassava, sweet potatoes and maize. But on the other hand the rains are affecting the beans, which are due for harvest. Cassava chips are equally affected since it difficult to dry the cassava. This has created a shortage in the market, thus the price has increased. Cassava chips are now wholesaling at 350/= per kg down from 330/= per kg. However the price of cassava flour has remained constant. The Kanyebywa /Nambale type of beans has re-emerged into the market after disappearing for a long period. The variety mainly in Arua is the small sized white or black beans. The price of beans has been constant at 450/= per kg at wholesale and 500/= per kg at retail. This however might change since we expect a price drop in the near future when the harvesting season begins.

In Soroti district, matooke is supplied on Saturdays and Wednesdays from Mbale and consequently the prices tend to be low on those days and gradually rise with time until the next supply. An average branch will cost between 4,500/= to 5,000/= shillings. There is an increased supply of beans from Mbale forcing the price to drop from 550/= to 450/= per kg at wholesale. The groundnuts prices have increased from 1,000/= to 1150/= per kg due to low supply caused by poor harvests. The trend might change since some areas have not yet harvested. The supply of soya beans this week increased mainly from Lira district and Kalaki county; this has brought about a decline in price from 450/= to 400/= for wholesale. The retail price for soya beans is 500/= per kg.

For various prices across the country, please find attached wholesale and retail prices.

### **15 Minutes Radio Program** **The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 08/09/2000  
Author: Okoboi Geofrey

#### **Introduction.**

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#### **Commodity Prices**

Millet grain prices tumble as traders stock. In the districts of Gulu, Kitgum, Lira, Masindi, Soroti and Tororo the wholesale prices of millet grain have continued to fall. For the second consecutive week, Kitgum and Gulu districts have continued to register the lowest wholesale prices for millet grain. This week, millet grain is selling at 200/= per kg in Kitgum while in Gulu it is selling at 250/=. Compared to last week, millet in Kitgum was wholesaling at 300/= per kg while in Gulu was selling at 280/=. This shows how farmers are desperately throwing away their valuable millet grain yields at low prices so as to buy basic necessities.

On the other hand, grain traders in these districts are having a field day buying millet grain even deep in the villages and stocking to sell in the future at higher prices.

Meanwhile in Soroti district, millet grain is wholesaling at 320/= per kg and the district commercial officer reports that the traders are only buying to stock. In Lira district, millet grain is wholesaling at 280/= per kg while in Tororo it is selling at 300/= per kg.

### **Maize grain Prices stabilise**

This week, maize grain prices in the districts of Arua, Gulu, Kampala (Kisenyi market), Iganga and Lira have stabilised to the level recorded last week.

In Iganga the wholesale price of maize grain is 240/= per kg as last week. The price is said to be stable because of low demand from Kenyan traders. In Arua maize grain wholesale price is stable at 300/= per kg and in Gulu it is 250/= per kg. The price is reported to be stable in these districts because of a stable flow of supplies from the farmers. Lira district is wholesaling maize grain at 210/= per kg just like last week. In Kampala (Kisenyi market) the wholesale is at 290/= per kg as that of last week.

In other districts, maize grain prices have continued to plummet further. In Masindi, traders are now buying maize at 200/= per kg compared to 220/= per kg last week. The fall in price is attributed to the increasing supply because of the dry weather conditions that have facilitated drying of maize grain. In Tororo district, there is plenty of maize grain but low demand hence driving the price further down to 200/= per kg compared to 230/= per kg last. The week, Kitgum district has also recorded the lowest price of 200/= per kg because of increased supplies within the district.

Other districts with decreasing prices are Kasese, from 250/= per kg last week to 230/= this week; Luwero, from 330/= per kg to 300/=

### **Maize flour prices remain stable**

Despite the continued reduction in maize grain prices in the past weeks in the various districts of the country, there has hardly been any price reduction in the retail price of maize flour in most district markets. The stability of the retail price of maize flour in the various districts is because of low supply, which matches the low demand of maize flour. In most districts, retail prices for maize flour have been stable for four weeks.

### **This week's retail prices per kg of maize flour in various districts.**

<b>District</b>	<b>Retail Price per kg</b>
Kampala (Owino)	600/=
Arua	400/=
Jinja	550/=
Lira	800/=
Tororo	500/=
Kasese	600/=
Soroti	500/=
Masaka	600/=
Masindi	600/=

### **Beans prices rise**

In a number districts the wholesale price of beans have shown an upward trend, increasing by an average of 50/= per kg from the price quoted last week. In Gulu, Jinja, Masaka, Masindi and Rakai districts, the wholesale price of beans has increased however in the districts of Iganga, Kasese, Lira and Tororo the wholesale price of beans has remained stable as that of last week.

### **The following are the current and previous week's prices per kg in various markets**

<b>District</b>	<b>Current week</b>	<b>Previous week</b>	<b>Price change</b>
Kampala (Owino)	550/=	550/=	No price change
Gulu	600/=	550/=	Price increase 100/=
Jinja	600/=	550/=	Price increase 50/=
Lira	540/=	540/=	No price change
Iganga	470/=	470/=	No price change
Kasese	400/=	400/=	No price change
Rakai	450/=	400/=	No price change
Masaka	450/=	400/=	Price increase 50/=
Masindi	500/=	450/=	Price increase 50/=

### **15 Minutes Radio Program**

### **The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 15/09/2000  
Author: Martin Nahamya

### **Introduction.**

Dear Listeners,

We welcome you once again to “**Market News**” which brings you information about new developments from the Marketplace and tells you the latest information about commodity prices and the factors, which are affecting prices of agricultural products in Uganda. This **Market information service** is brought to you by the FOODNET Project and is funded by USAID.

### **District Market News**

#### **Mbale**

The price of matooke and (cassava chips & flour) fell due to reduced demand caused by availability of cheap Irish potatoes on the market. The wholesale price of 100 kg sack of maize grain rose from 22,500/= last week to 25,000/= at the beginning of this week and to 24,000/= towards the end of the week. This has been caused by a higher price during the previous weeks attracting many traders to stock maize grain in their stalls. Consequently the increased supply on the market has brought down the price.

### **Luwero**

The demand for matooke is moderately high with most people preferring the banana fingers (myera) which cost 500/= per heap while the average bunches cost 3500/= at wholesale but are of poor quality. This size of bunch is most preferred for trade by travelling traders because it fetches more profit than the bigger size. The reason being that more smaller sized matooke can be packed on the lorry than the bigger ones. This matooke is mainly obtained from Masaka and Mbarara districts. Sweet potato supply in Luwero district is low and this is due to poor harvest from the producing areas. The poor harvest is attributed to the drought in the last season. The prices of beans are high due to limited supply as a result of poor harvest in the producing areas. Currently the wholesale price of beans is at 600/= per kilo and 700/= at retail. The demand for maize is low; most people stocked their maize from the previous harvest obtained from Masindi.

### **Masaka**

The prices for foodstuffs increased at both wholesale and retail level. Sweet potato prices have slightly decreased and this is due to decline in demand and a sudden increased supply from Mpigi district. There is an increased demand for maize grain and groundnuts for planting in the district.

### **Kasese**

The price of cassava chips and cassava flour have gone up due to high demand for the cassava chips which go as far as Kampala and Arua according to the traders. The current wholesale price of cassava chips is 250/= per kg and cassava flour is at 350/= per kg. The price of maize grain has gone up due to demand from educational institutions which are stocking for the next coming school term. The price of maize flour has dropped due to an increased supply of maize in the market. The current wholesale price for maize grain is 250/= and that of maize flour is 450/= per kg.

### **Masindi**

Masindi town has had an influx of traders from Kampala and they have been moving from store to store looking for dry maize grain. Consequently, they have created high demand and traders in Masindi have high hopes of increasing the price very soon. Currently the wholesale price of maize grain is 220/= per kg. Maize flour is wholesaling at 400/= per kg and the retail is 450/= per kg.

### **Tororo**

There is a slight increase in the price of maize grain in Tororo markets. The wholesale price for a sack of 100kg is 22,000/= down from 20,000/= the previous week. The cost of a similar bag in Malaba is at 25,000/=. This is so because Kenya has lifted the ban on importation of maize grain from Uganda. Fresh beans are being brought in the market from Bugisu and the cost at wholesale for a 100/=kg sack is between 50,000/= and 52,000/=. The retail cost is at 600/= per kg.

### **Soroti**

There is an increased supply of fresh cassava and sweet potatoes on the market. This has brought down both the wholesale and retail prices. The previous week a sack of 100kg of fresh cassava was costing 14,500/= down to 12,500/= this week. Sweet potatoes the previous week were wholesaling at 21,000/= and are currently at 15,400/= for a sack of 100kgs. Millet flour is in short supply because of low demand. Most traders prefer to stock newly harvested millet and grind it to obtain flour. Millet flour at retail is 500/= per kg. Soya bean prices have dropped from 450/= to 400/= per kg. This is because of increased supply from Otuboi, Kalaki and Lira.

## **Arua**

The food situation in Arua is continuing to worsen with items like cassava chips/flour, sorghum grain/flour, maize grain and flour running out of stock. The stock of items like groundnuts, sim sim are also running down, as this is the sowing season for them. Since cassava chips are not constantly in supply, substitute foodstuffs like sorghum grain/flour, millet grain/flour and maize grain/flour have become expensive. Sorghum grain costs 500/=per kg and sorghum flour costs 550/=, millet grain costs 420/= per kg and flour costs 500/= while maize grain costs 350/= and maize flour costs 400/= at wholesale. Produce buyers are beginning to show up and there is stiff competition expected for maize grain between produce buyers and educational institutions. Accordingly prices are expected to rise in the near future.

**N.B For various commodity prices please check on the spread sheet**

### **15 Minutes Radio Program** **The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 22/09/2000  
Author: Okoboi Geoffrey

#### **Introduction.**

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#### **Commodity Prices**

##### **Cassava in low supply**

The supply of fresh cassava in most district markets has declined. Although the demand for fresh cassava in most district markets across the country is high, its supply is very low. Also dried cassava (chips) is scarce in most of these markets. The scarcity of cassava in the districts is mainly attributed to the lack of adequate cassava cuttings for planting coupled by the erratic rainfall pattern, which does not facilitate proper plant growth in the country at present hence the low supply of the tubers and cassava chips.

The major cassava growing districts of Kumi, Iganga, Soroti, Lira, Gulu and Masindi are faced with limited stocks of both fresh and dried cassava chips. In Kisenyi market (Kampala) most of the cassava chips for making cassava flour is reported to come from the Northern districts of Tanzania, which is being bought at 280/= per kg off the lorry or at 310/= per kg from other traders at wholesale.

In Lira district, it is reported that cassava traders are hunting for both the chips and fresh cassava down deep in the villages but sometimes come back without. At the farm level an average bag of 120kg of fresh cassava is being sold at about 15,000/= while the wholesale price of cassava chips in Lira town is 30,000/= per 100kg bag.

In Tororo district market, there is hardly any fresh cassava on the market however, when a trader brings it, it is even more expensive than Matooke. The cassava chips price in Tororo market is not any better. It is wholesaling at 290/= per kg while cassava flour is wholesaling at 300/= per kg.

The price of cassava chips in other district markets is as follows: In Arua, cassava chips is wholesaling at 380/= per kg, in Soroti and Masindi it is selling at 300/= per kg while in Mbale and Luwero it is wholesaling at 310/= per kg. This week, the record highest wholesale price of cassava chips is in Arua where it is selling at 380/= per kg followed by Mbarara where the price is 350/= per kg. Beans prices increase in western Uganda.

This week, there has been a rise in price of beans in the western and southern districts of Uganda. The increase in price has been attributed to the need for beans and maize as seeds for planting in the rainy season that has began. Also another reason why beans prices are rising is the opening of the third term of schools and other institutions that highly depend on beans for diet.

In Kabale the wholesale price of beans has increased by 50/= from 500/= per kg last week to 550/= per kg this week while in Mbarara the price rose from 500/= per kg a week ago to 650/= per kg this week. In Kasese district, the wholesale price of beans has risen from 400/= per kg recorded last week to 450/= this week and in Masaka beans are selling at 500/= per kg. However, in the districts of Eastern Uganda the wholesale prices of beans have remained stable despite the high demand. In Mbale, the wholesale price of beans has remained stable at 460/= per kg and in Soroti it is at 520/= per kg, a slight appreciation from 500/= last week. In Iganga, beans wholesale price is stable at 470/= per kg. Arua and Masindi district have also reported stable wholesale prices for beans for the past two weeks. In Arua wholesale price is at 400/= per kg while in Masindi, it is at 500/= per kg.

Aside from beans, in Mbarara, the wholesale price of fresh milk has decreased from 300/= per litre to 250/=. The decrease in price is due to the increased production of milk as a result of improved pastures for feeding of cattle. The pastures have improved because of the onset of the rain season.

### **Maize grain**

This week, maize grain prices in the districts of Iganga, Kasese, Masaka, Mbale, Rakai and Soroti have stabilised to the level recorded last week while in Arua, Lira and Gulu, the prices have reduced. On the other hand the wholesale price of maize grain has slightly increased in the districts of Masindi, from 220/= per kg last week to 230/= per kg this week, in Mbarara from 250/= per kg to 300/= per kg and in Tororo, from 220/= per kg as of last week to 240/= per kg this week.

In Iganga, Kasese and Soroti, the wholesale price of maize grain is 250/= per kg. In Gulu, maize grain wholesale price has reduced further to 220/= per kg from 250/= per kg last week. A reduced price for maize grain has also been reported in Lira district where the price is 220/= per kg down from 230/= per kg reported last week.

Of all the districts surveyed this week, Kitgum district has the lowest prices for most of the cereal crops. Maize grain is selling lowest at 200/= per kg while millet grain is wholesaling at 220/= per kg and sorghum grain goes at 230/= per kg. The reason why prices are low in Kitgum is the lack of the major grain buyers from outside the district and the low purchasing power of the local populace. Major grain buyers have not ventured into Kitgum because of the perceived insecurity in the area.

**15 Minutes Radio Program**  
**The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 29/09/2000  
Author: Nahamya Martin

**Introduction.**

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**District Market News**

**Arua**

In Arua district harvesting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> season beans has picked up with the volume of beans on the market gradually increasing. This has not affected the price as yet. The wholesale price for a 100kg sack of beans for the past two weeks has been at 40,000/= and the retail price is at 450/= per kg. This price is one of the lowest countrywide with the lowest wholesale price being 35,000/= from Lira district.

Due to high demand for cassava chips and low supplies, high prices for both cassava chips and cassava flour have continued to be recorded in Lira district. Currently the wholesale price of cassava chips is at 400/= per kg up from 380/= last week. Consequently the wholesale price for cassava flour increased from 400/= per kg last week to the present of 450/=. Supplies of cassava chips continue to come from Nebbi, Kampala and Gulu.

The rains have made it difficult to dry the small quantity of cassava that the local people had grown. Low supplies and high demand for the chips/flour has also affected prices for substitutes like millet, sorghum and maize grains/flour, which have increased in price. Millet grain at wholesale price increased from 410/= per kg to 420/=. Maize grain increased from 300/= to 310/= per kg. Other items in the market registered stable prices during the week.

**Gulu**

Most of the prices in Gulu district have dropped and this is due to increased local supply arising from good accessibility into the rural areas and also increased supply from the neighbouring districts. The good supply from Gulu villages is due to the relatively calm situation that is currently being enjoyed.

### **Jinja**

There has been a drop in maize prices as compared to last week. The wholesale price last week was 270/= per kg and presently maize grain is at 250/= per kg. The drop in price is attributed to increased maize supply from Mbale. But however it's further reported that though prices are lower in Mbale compared to Busoga, the percentage turnover of Busoga maize in the market is high than that of Mbale maize. This is so since Busoga maize is of better quality than that of Mbale.

In Iganga most commodities prices are relatively stable. The most notable price change is soya beans which has gone down from 450/= per kg to 400/= at wholesale. Traders say that this is attributed to the big stocks in lira such that most traders in Iganga are buying soya.

### **Kasese**

The rains in Kasese have brought landslides but have been good for the beans and maize, which were almost drying. Currently there are low supplies of beans that are off-season. At wholesale the price of beans is 500/= per kg and 600/= at retail. The demand for maize grain is increasing from the Education institutions. At wholesale the cost is 280/= per kg.

### **Luwero**

The prices of beans are still high due to relatively low supply from the producing areas. The demand is very high consequently the prices are high. At wholesale the price is in the range of 550/= - 600/= per kg and at retail the price is 700/=. The price of Matooke presently is higher than the price last week. This is attributed to low supply in the market. A 25kg bunch costs between 5,000/= to 6,000/= at retail. The banana fingers (mwera) which are sold in heaps cost 500/=. A sack of 100kg of fresh cassava costs between 26,000/ to 30,000/= and its supply is low, attributed to the low supply from the producing areas in the district. A heap of slightly one and half kg costs 500/= and is expected not to change soon. Sweet potato supply is low and a sack of approximately 100kg costs between 28,000/= to 30,000/=. The low supply is attributed to poor harvest from the producing areas. The demand on the other hand is high.

### **Masaka**

The prices for foodstuffs continue to increase with a major shift in price for Matooke. The problem was aggravated by a storm, which left many plantations on the ground. The price for cassava flour and groundnuts fell due to increased supply from Tanzania. There is low demand for sorghum since there are few people brewing as there is scarcity of Matooke (Mbidde) the variety for brewing. The price of rice has decreased due to increased supply. The prices of beans this remained stable at 550/= per kg wholesale and 600/= retail. There is no more supply of beans at farm level; beans can be got from stockists. This is likely to cause further price increase.

**15 Minutes Radio Program**  
**The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 06/10/2000  
Author: Nahamya Martin

**Introduction.**

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**District Market News**

**Iganga**

Maize grain has dropped in price in the district. In the previous week, maize grain was wholesaling at 250/= per kg and is currently at 230/= per kg. It is reported that traders are selling off their stock in order to join in the coffee business which is more profit making. Prices for most commodities have remained relatively stable over the past week with the wholesale price of beans at 500/= and the retail at 600/=. Cassava flour is shs. 280/= at wholesale and shs. 350/= at retail per kg.

**Jinja**

In Jinja district the price of maize grain has also gone down. Currently the wholesale price of maize grain is at shs. 230/= per kg up from shs.250/= per kg the previous week. It is reported that there is an increased supply of maize grain on the market from Mbale district, which is not matched by an equal demand. Institutions had already stocked maize grain for the term and thus are unable to benefit from the fall in price. For the locally produced maize grain that is from Busoga, traders who had stocked anticipating a rise in price are disappointed and instead have resorted to selling off their stock to switch to coffee business which is just picking up.

**Kasese**

Prices of cassava chips have gone up due to scarcity of chips on the market brought about by the wet conditions, which affect the rate at which cassava fresh dries. Previously the price of cassava chips at wholesale was at shs. 250/= per kg and is currently at shs. 280/= per kg. Consequently wholesale prices of cassava flour have gone up due to a fall in the inflow of cassava flour from the Democratic Republic of Congo and this is due to poor roads affected by the current rains. There is a high demand of maize grain and maize flour forcing the price of maize grain to increase from shs. 280/= per kg to 300/= at wholesale. Maize flour prices increased from shs. 450/= to shs. 460/= per kg at wholesale. The price increase was brought about by a fall in the inflow of maize grain from DRC. Cassava flour is currently being brought in from Busembatya and Mbale.

### **Masaka**

The prices for foodstuffs continue to rise due to scarcity. The prices of beans stabilised at shs. 700/= per kg at retail and shs. 600/= at wholesale. At farm level the supply of beans continues to be very low with stockists controlling the bigger amount of supply on the market. The price of groundnuts at wholesale increased from shs. 950/= to shs.1,000/= but has not affected the retail price which still stands at shs. 1,100/= per kg. The price of rice increased at all level that is both wholesale and retail. At wholesale the price increased from shs. 830/= to shs. 850/= per kg. It is reported that the increase in price was brought about by the increase in transport costs.

### **Mbale**

The price of groundnuts rose from shs. 950/= to shs. 970 per kg at wholesale and this is due to high transport costs from Lira. Dry maize grain from Kapchorwa has entered Mbale market causing the price to fall. Previously the wholesale price of maize was at shs. 240/= and is currently at shs. 220/= per kg. In general there has been a fall in the price of most products due to increased supply of commodities on the market resulting from recent harvests.

### **Soroti**

Most parts of the district received good rainfall during the week under review. This has given hope to the farmers. According to AT (U) Soroti branch, quite a good number of farmers took sunflower, maize and sorghum for 2<sup>nd</sup> season planting. Beans (Kanyebwa) wholesale price has increased from shs. 480/= per kg to shs. 500/= this week. Also retail prices increased from shs. 500/= last week to shs. 600/= per this week. The reason being that there is low supply and high demands especially from schools and institutions. The white beans wholesale price has dropped from shs. 300/= per kg last week to shs. 250/= per kg this week. Also the retail prices have dropped from shs. 400/= per kg last week to shs. 300/= this week. The reasons being that there is increased supply from Lira and low demand as people in Soroti have harvested cowpeas. The wholesale price of cassava chips in Soroti has remained the same this week at shs. 300/= per kg but the retail price has dropped from shs. 400/= per kg last week to shs. 350/= this week. The reason according to the dealers is that the price for sweet potatoes has dropped forcing the price for cassava chips also to drop. The wholesale price for millet grain has increased from shs. 310/= per kg last week to shs. 320/= this week. The reason being that the demand has gone up as businessmen from Busia are buying in big quantities. The wholesale price for simsim has gone up from shs. 750/= per kg last week to shs. 800/= this week and the retail price has also gone up from shs. 800/= last week to shs. 900/= this week. The reason is that there is demand for simsim in Busia and there is also short supply from Lira.

**15 Minutes Radio Program  
The NEW Market Information Service**

Duration: 15 Minutes  
Date: 13/10/2000  
Author: Nahamya Martin

**Introduction.**

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**District Market News**

**Arua**

General prices of foodstuffs kept on increasing during the past week. The wholesale price of beans in Arua last week was in the range of shs. 300/= to shs. 500/= per kg and the most frequent price in the market being shs. 400/=. This week the wholesale price range for beans is shs. 400/= to shs. 600/= and most frequent price in the market this week being shs. 500/= per kg. The price of maize grain has gone down. The wholesale price range for the previous week was at shs. 300/= to shs. 500/= and the most frequent price being at shs. 400/= this week the wholesale price range is shs. 300/= to shs. 400/= and most frequent price being shs. 350/=.

**Iganga**

The wholesale price of maize grain as reported last week is still at shs. 230/= per kg. Traders are still busy selling off their stock at random in order to turn to the coffee business consequently this has led to farmers selling off maize with high moisture content. There has not been much change in the prices as per last week with both weeks having the same price range of shs. 220/= to shs. 240/= per kg. Most commodities registered a steady price the past week.

**Jinja**

Most maize in the district is in the flowering stage and others are approaching harvesting stage. This has generally contributed to a slight drop in price since most stockist fear a further fall in price in the near future. Currently the wholesale price range for maize grain is at shs. 230/= to shs. 240/= with the most frequent price being at shs. 240/=. The wholesale price of beans dropped from shs. 650/= last week to shs. 600/= this week. The price range in the market is at shs. 550/= to shs. 600/=.

**Kitgum**

Supply of simsim to Kitgum is from Kigumba and also from within Kitgum locality. The demand is very high and currently the wholesale price range for simsim is at shs. 650/= to shs. 700/= with the most frequent price at shs. 700/= per kg. The retail price is at shs. 800/=. The best quality simsim comes from within Kitgum locality. Groundnuts are becoming increasingly scarce since it is off-season; the supply is mainly from Gulu and Kitgum districts with a very good quality. The price at retail is shs.1500/= per kg.

### **Lira**

The supply of matooke has been high during the past weekend since it was approaching Uhuru day. A bunch weighing 23 kg was selling at shs. 7,000/= while that of 18kg was at 5,500/= and that of 4kg at shs. 1,500/=. The prices rose up only during Uhuru because the traders new that people had saved for the day. By mid of this week prices had returned to normal with the biggest bunch going for shs. 4,000/= while the smallest at shs. 1,000/=. Traders of sweet potatoes are complaining about the high charges imposed by the district revenue collection officers located on every route into town. A fee of shs. 1,600/= per sack of sweet potatoes is being charged. Currently the traders prefer to wait for the farmers to bring in the potatoes and consequently the price of a sack of sweet potatoes has increased from shs. 13,000/= to shs. 14,000/=. There has been a heavy supply of cassava chips during the past week consequently a fall in price from shs. 15,000/= the previous week to between shs. 7,000/= and shs. 8,000/= this week. Currently a similar bag of 100kg is between shs. 10,000/= to 12,000/=. Generally the price of maize and beans has remained stable. Beans are at shs. 500/= per kg at retail and shs. 470/= at wholesale while maize is shs.250/= at retail and shs. 230/= per kg at wholesale.

### **Mbarara**

The districts of Mbarara and Masaka, which are the biggest producers of matooke, were hit by hailstorms. This destroyed crops and banana plantations forcing the price for Matooke to shift up. Also the number of vehicles ferrying matooke is on the increase. Bean prices are expected to fall in Mbarara district as fresh beans were sighted in the market however a mean full harvest is expected in a fortnight. Currently the wholesale price of beans is at shs. 650/= per kg with a price range of shs. 620/= to shs. 670/= in the market. Maize in most fields is above knee height just before harvesting and the price in the market is at shs. 350/= per kg at wholesale and a price range of shs. 320/= to shs. 370/=.

### **Soroti**

The price of cassava chips for both wholesale and retail have increased this week from shs. 300/= to shs. 350/= per kg at wholesale and shs. 350/= to shs. 400/= per kg at retail. This increase is due to low supplies from the villages due to bad weather and the Uhuru celebrations. This has consequently forced the price of cassava flour to go up from shs. 300/= to shs. 350/= per kg. The price of maize grain has increased due to high demand from Mbale, the wholesale price increased from shs. 230/= to shs. 250/= per kg. This is also attributed to demand from learning institutions. Most maize grain from Soroti is milled in Mbale and returned to Soroti.

**Appendix 2: List of district data agents**

	<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>DATA COLLECTOR</b>	<b>POSTAL ADDRESS</b>	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>	<b>FAX NUMBER</b>
1	Jinja	Muganza James District marketing Office	Box 371, Jinja	043-120711 075-654752	043-121207 043-121322
2	Iganga	Kasubo Sarah Uganda National Chamber of Commerce – Iganga branch.	Box 544 Jinja	043-120936	
3	Tororo	Opio Isaac (Businessman)	Box 364, Tororo		045-45052
4	Mbale	Bumba Wagole (Asst. Marketing Officer)	Box 215	045-34273	041-254576 041-34461
5	Gulu	Oryem Charles, (District Marketing Officer)	Box 2, Gulu	0471-32268	041-250828
6	Masindi	Kasozi Fredrick (District Marketing Officer)	Box 119 Masindi	0465-20495	0465-20411 0465-20100
7	Rakai	Jimm Kava (Deputy Dist Agric Off)	Box 13 Kyotera	0481-20339	
8	Masaka	Wasswa Ssempijja (Min Of Trade)	Box 99, Masaka	C/O Forestry 0481-20089 C/O Kaboine 0481-21440 C/o 077-433395	
9	Mbarara	Niwagaba Justinian District Commercial Officer	Box 1 Mbarara	0485-21138	0485-21304
10	Kabale	Ahimbesibwe Charles (Dist. Co-Op. Off.)	Box 111 Kabale		0486-23200
11	Kasese	Byamukama Martin Senior Marketing Officer	Box 259 Kasese	0483-44032 077-512234	0483-44235 0483-44312
12	Luwero	Kikulwe Enoch Mutebi Luwero Dist. Production Office	P.O Box 62 Luwero	041-610217 C/o Pdn Mgr 077 -467700	041-610132
13	Lira	Taiwo Benson (Lira Dist. Farmers Ass) forward@Swiftuganda.com	Box 798 Lira	0473-20533 0473-20557	0473-20187 041-349729
14	Soroti	Benjamin Adauni Ogunia District commercial Officer - Soroti sddp@infocom.ug.com	BOX 190 Soroti	045-61128 077-511062	04561325
15	Kampala	George Ameny		041-221797	
16	Kitgum	Okema Amic Christopher District Trade Officer	C/o AVSI		
17	Arua	Oboko Ayiga Emmanuel District Marketing Officer	P.O.Box 1 Arua	0476-20201	041-341435
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19	Moroto	C/o Simon Peter Egadu Karamoja Project Implementation Unit			
20	Owino Market	Richard Kayira Owino Market Traders Association		077416674	

**Appendix 2: Weekly mailing list for market information**

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**Appendix 3: Retail and wholesale prices for selected districts in Uganda, July '00 to September '00**

**Appendix 4: Wholesale prices of oils, wheat and rice in selected districts of Uganda**