



TABLE CONTENT

1. EU FARMERS PROTESTS
2. LOCAL CURRENCY- MINIMUM STATUTORY RESERVE REVISED UPWARDS
3. DAY-OLD CHICK PRICE ADJUST UPWARDS
4. BROILER CHICKEN PRICE STABLE
5. FROZEN CHICKEN POSTS SOME ADJUSTMENTS
6. EGG PRICES STABLE
7. POINT OF LAY PRICES STABLE
8. FEED PRICES PSOTS SOME MINIMAL ADJUSTMENTS

EU FARMERS PROTEST

The French government on Wednesday sent armoured vehicles to protect a wholesale food market in Paris in a sign of escalating tensions as farmers blocked highways in France and Belgium and protests spread elsewhere in Europe, reported Reuters. Spanish and Italian farmers said they were joining the protest movement which has also hit Germany, aiming to press governments to ease environmental rules and shield them from rising costs and cheap imports.

With all eyes on a summit of EU leaders set for Thursday, the bloc's executive Commission made proposals to limit farm imports from Ukraine and loosen some green regulations. But that was unlikely to be enough to quell the anger of farmers who said they would continue to block highways and ports until all their demands were met. Farmers in Belgium, Italy and beyond said they would rally in Brussels for the summit.

"We plan - as farmers - to go to Brussels and set up barricades because the (leaders) are meeting on Thursday," Belgian farmer Eddy Dewite said on the side of a highway blocked by tractors. Another Belgian farmer, 26-year-old Luca Mouton, said: "Time is up. [EU leaders must] think of the farmers. Talk to the farmers rather than about the farmers, discuss what is possible. We are open to dialogue." While the farmers' crisis is not officially on the agenda of the EU summit, it is bound to be discussed, at least on the margins. Farmers say they are not being paid enough, are choked by taxes and green rules and face unfair competition from abroad. [READ MORE ON EU farmers step up protests against rising costs, green rules | The Pig Site](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS- FEED PRICE INCREASE AS FARMS CALL FOR HELP FROM PAZ

..... PAZ is completely doing nothing to help farmer's in Zambia. Where are trainings being held? Come on it's high time you change and balance up things. Business is a two way thing. Hatcheries need us, feed companies need us, as we also need them.

..... the whole entire value chain is needed unfortunately the long the chain, the smaller the profit margins

.....: We have breeders farms, hatcheries, feed millers, farmers, traders, consumers and other service providers... all these have a share in that small profit we all want to get.....i like prospers i dear that we as farmers we have to start focusing on clientele development, if possible also value addition. if all of us continue selling live chicken in the same problematic market, we shall continue facing the same challenges we are facing today (which was also faced by the farmers in 1990)

....."Mayb we are mis-understanding what PAZ is who is in it....PAZ is not the secretariat where only three people operate from but its the whole entire poultry value chain. When Ross Conducts the seminars who helps to organise? when Hybrid , Zamhatch , Tiger organises the trainings seminars who is behind the trainings? i just thot of sharing that

.....the questions of where the trainings have been conducted-- PAZ is now present in 44 districts and each district has had other three to four trainings on a yearly basis. For Lusaka, most of the trainings are held in the showgrounds and last year we had over 7 trainings focusing on different issues.....

.....I totally agree with you feed accounts for 70 % of total production unfortunately the inputs of feed are politically sensitive. I strongly believe if the maize farmers were to get a cost reflective price for their maize and soyabean, the feed prices could not have been where it is now.

Perhaps this is where we should as a country start the discussions of improving productivity for both maize and soyabeans. Look at South Africa... maize yield per ha averages 10-12 tonnes (here we are still slightly under 1.7 tonnes per ha) similarly soyabean in SA averages about 8 tonnes compared to our output of 1.5 tonnes per ha.) unfortunately this is where the problem starts from.... all the sectors which uses these two products are ending up paying high prices

i totally agree with your point for farmers to actively engaged in the operations at the market that can help in some way to manage that challenge. We also need to understand that the chicken business is not different from the tomatoe business, there are times when a box of tomatoe would cost zmk500 in other times a box would cost as low as zmk30 a box. what determines the price in both ways is the market forces of demand and supply. the more farmers supply in the same market the lower the price. secondly farmers like working in isolation especially when you are at the market, because you are targeting the same traders you endup dancing to the tune of the trader. the other issue i wanted to clarify is that we need to look at the bigger picture which it comes to prices of feed which most of us farmers always like blaming the millers that they increase the prices every time they fee like- which is not true... what constitute the poultry feed are the following --- maize priced in kwacha (2022 the price of maize was averaging zmk3.4 per kg. In 2023 the same kg at the beginning of the marketing season was zmk 5.8 per kg. This is January 2024, a kg of maize is averaging zmk 8.4 per kg. with such high input prices, feed prices may not go down any time soon: Source: feed whatsapp group discussions [NOT THAT THESE ARE THE VIEWS OF THE FARMERS AND DOESN'T REPRESENTS THE POSITION OF THE POULTRY ASSOCIATION]

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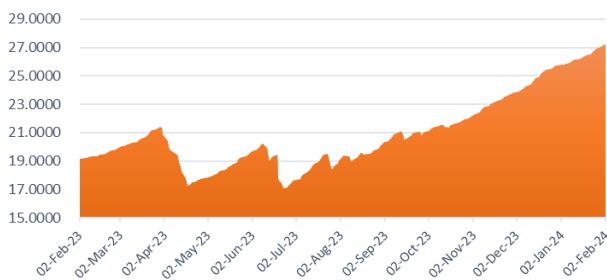


MINIMUM STATUTORY RESERVES REVISED UPWARDS

LUSAKA, Feb 2 (Reuters) - Zambia's Central Bank will raise the minimum amount of local and foreign currency deposits commercial banks must keep with it from next week in an effort to curb the depreciation of the local kwacha currency ZMW the bank said on Friday.

The minimum statutory reserve ratio on both local and foreign currency deposits, including government deposits and vostro account deposits will from Monday be increased to 26% from 17%, the central bank said in a notice. "The increase in the statutory reserve ratio is necessitated by persistently high demand pressures in the foreign exchange market, which are contributing to inflation," it said. The bank already raised the statutory reserve ratio twice in November last year, giving similar reasons. Kwacha is now trading between zmk27.45 to zmk27.67 per US dollar. *Source: Zambia central bank raises reserve ratio to fight kwacha fall | Nasdaq*

Figure 1: EXCHANGE RATE- FEBRUARY 2024



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DOC BROILER PRICE ADJUSTS UPWARDS

PRICE FOR POINT OF LAY ADJUSTS UPWARDS

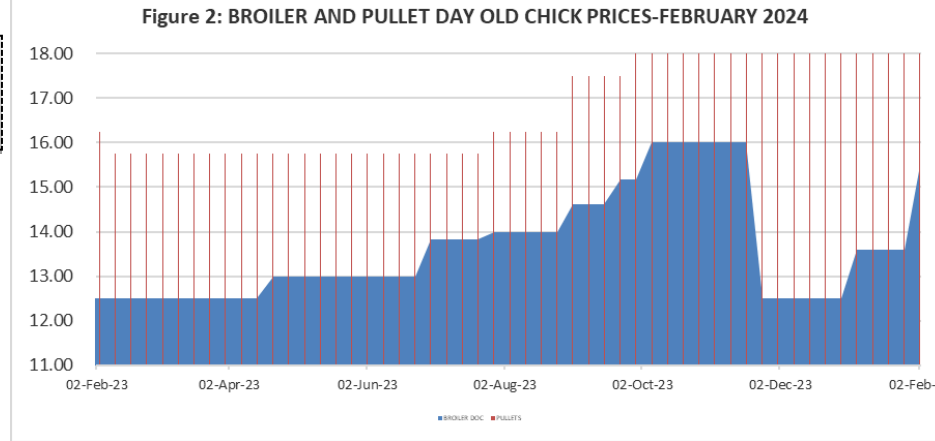
The prices of broiler day-old chicks posted some upward during the week. The lowest chick on the market is trading at ZMK14 and the highest is now selling ZMK16 per day old chicks, depending on location and supplier. There were no movements on the prices of pullets on the market which are averaging ZMK18 per day old pullet. The price for DoC SASSOL and Kuroilers is trading at ZMK 14 per DOC. The price for the improved free-range such as Black Austropop's, Bushvelds, Kuroilers are selling between ZMK 15 to ZMK25 depending on the age. The graph captures the national average price trend for the day-old broiler chicks. For the pullets, most of the bookings are open for February and March 2024 depending on the volumes and source. Check Figure 2 for the price trend, courtesy

The prices for the Point of Lay adjusted upwards during the course of the week. The average price is now averaging ZMK145, with the lowest being ZMK140 per bird for bulk consignments and the highest being ZMK155 per bird for small volumes depending on the supplier and location. The bookings for March and April 2024 are available.

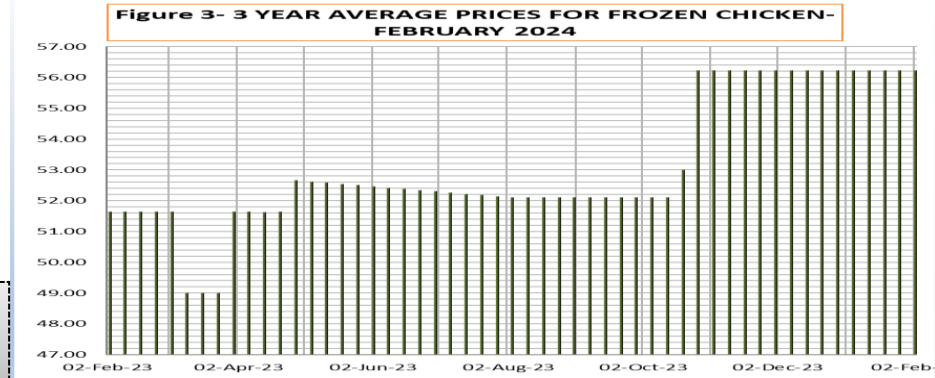
For beginners who are interested in getting battery cages, cage prices range between ZMK6500 to ZMK9000 depending on the capacity and also the sources of the cages. The second-hand refurbished cage price range between ZMK4800 to ZMK 5,500 depending on the quality, capacity, age and source. Quails' cages, Rabbit Cages as well as first hand layers cages are all available on the market with different prices depending on the source and location.

WHOLE DRESSED CHICKEN PRICES REMAINED STABLE

The prices for the frozen chicken remained stable during the course of the week. The average price for the whole frozen chicken in Lusaka traded at about ZMK 56.67 per kg same price as obtained last week. The lowest price in some chainstores is still trading at ZMK52.99 per kg (promotion) while the highest is trading at ZMK65. per kg. The chicken sizes are ranging between 1.1kg to 2.4kg in different stores.

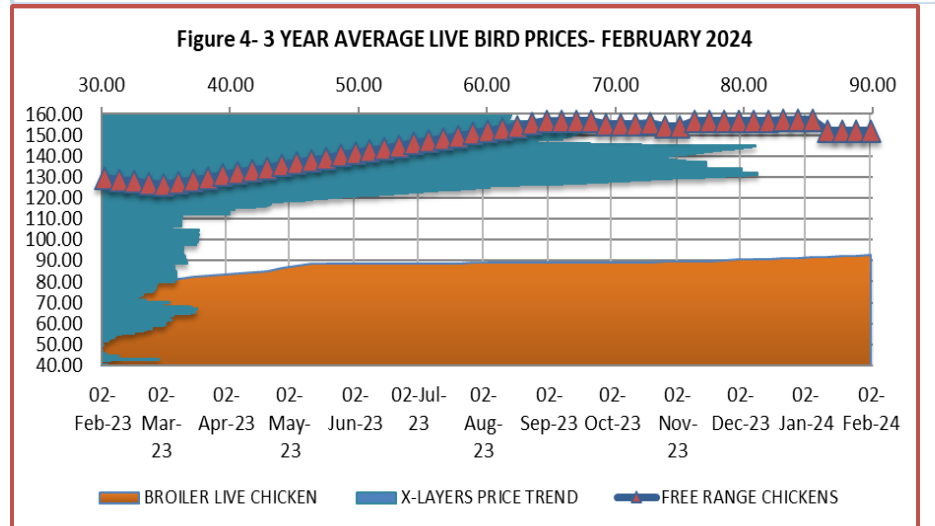


Please note that the prices are obtained from Pick n Pay, Shoprite, Zambeef, Melisa Supermarket, Chopies, and Cheers Stores, Country Choice and Supreme. Different outlets have different pricing models hence the figures displayed is the average price for all the sampled chain stores. It should also be noted that these are Lusaka prices only. For the price trend, check figure3 courtesy of PAZ



LIVE CHICKEN PRICES POST SOME MOVEMENTS

The national average prices for the live broiler chickens registered some upward movement in the open markets during the course of the week. However, there were no movements on prices for the x-layers as well as the free-range chickens. The national live broiler bird prices averaged ZMK95.25 with the lowest price being Lusaka posting ZMK 85.35 per Live Chicken and the highest being ZMK120. The x-layers have also averaged ZMK 62.22 per bird, while the free-range price is averaging ZMK 140. The demand for broiler chicken is now on a steady increase as the market and consumption is now developing. Check figure 4 on the next page, courtesy of PAZ.





NATIONAL EGG PRICE STABLE

The egg prices in the domestic and export market continued to adjust upwards. The adjustments observed in the market are mainly attributed to the weaker kwacha, which is pushing the prices of inputs upwards and also making the Zambian eggs much cheaper in the export markets. The retail prices in open markets are ranging between ZMK55.45 to ZMK75.27. Most farm gate prices average ZMK 55 per tray to ZMK 58 per tray depending on the location. Further, retail prices in some Chain stores also register any movement with the prices averaged between ZMK65.99 to ZMK89.99 per tray of 30 eggs depending on the supplier, packaging and chain stores. Most of the traders in the open market are now selling an egg between ZMK2 to ZMK 2.5 in some markets. For the price, trend refer to figure 5, courtesy of PAZ.

FEED PRICES POSTS SOME MINIMAL ADJUSTMENT DURING THE WEEK

The national average prices for poultry feed posted some minimal upward movements during the course of the week. Broiler starter is trading at ZMK 575 per 50kg bag up compared with the prices obtained last week. Broiler Grower averages ZMK566 while Broiler Finisher also averages ZMK547 per 50kg bag. In the same vain there were some minimal upward price movements registered on the Layer feed. The prices ranges from ZMK537 for pullet starter, ZMK392 for pullet grower, ZMK 375 for pullet developer and ZMK434 for layers mash. For those compounding their ownfeed, ingredients prices have also been stable during the week especially #3 meal which is trading between ZMK 4.83 to ZMK7 per kg as portrayed in the graphs from 6 to 9 below, courtesy of PAZ.



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Figure 5: 3 YEAR AVERAGE ANNUAL EGG PRICES- FEBRUARY 2024

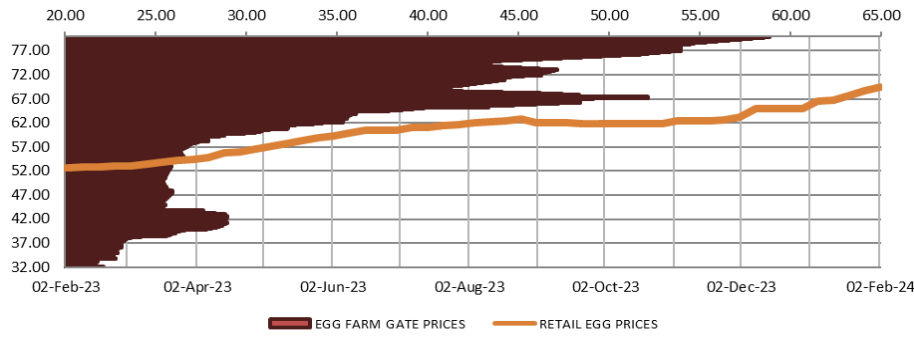


Figure 6: NATIONAL AVERAGE PRICES FOR BROILER FEED- FEBRUARY 2024

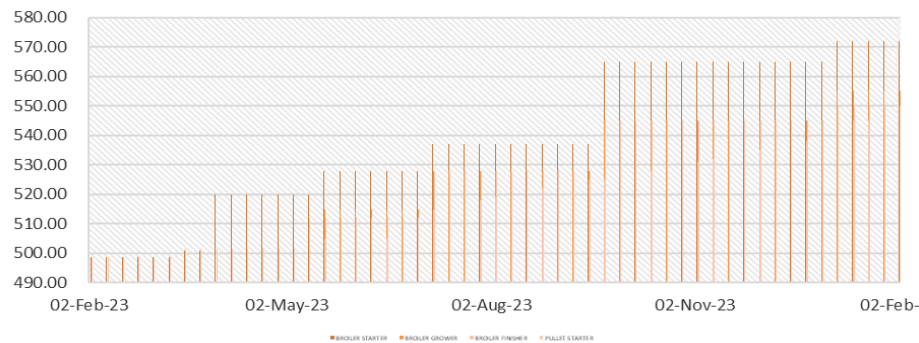


FIGURE7: AVERAGE LAYER FEED- FEBRUARY 2024

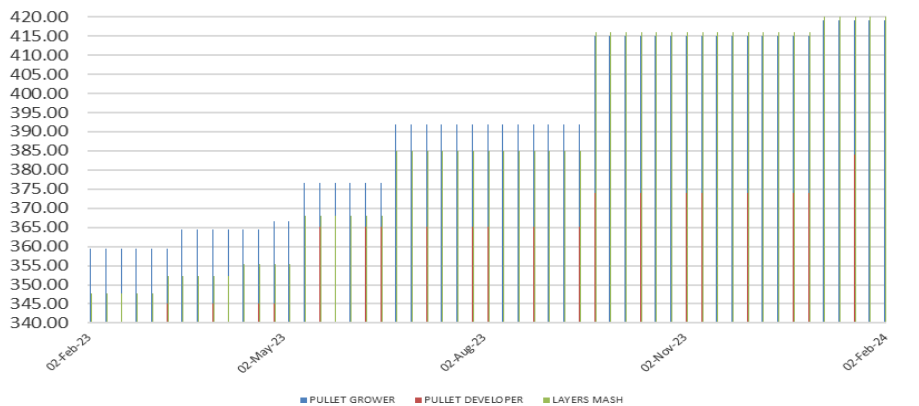
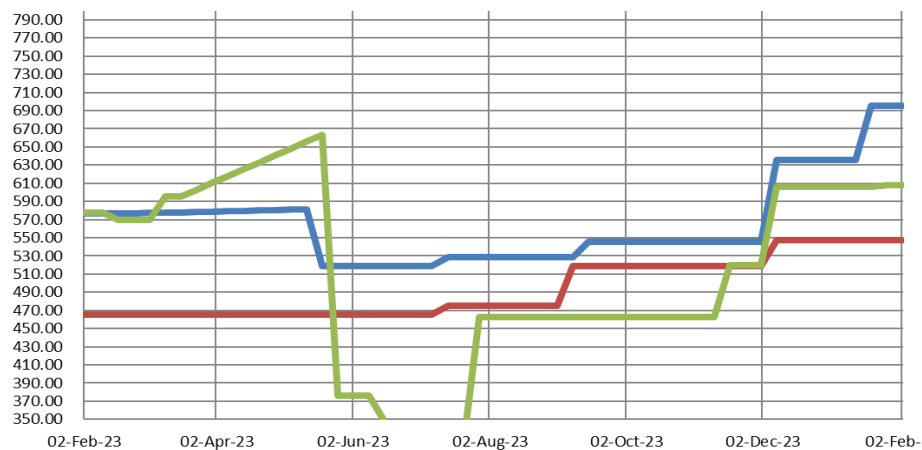


Figure 8: AVERAGE PRICES FOR SOYAMEAL FEBRUARY 2024





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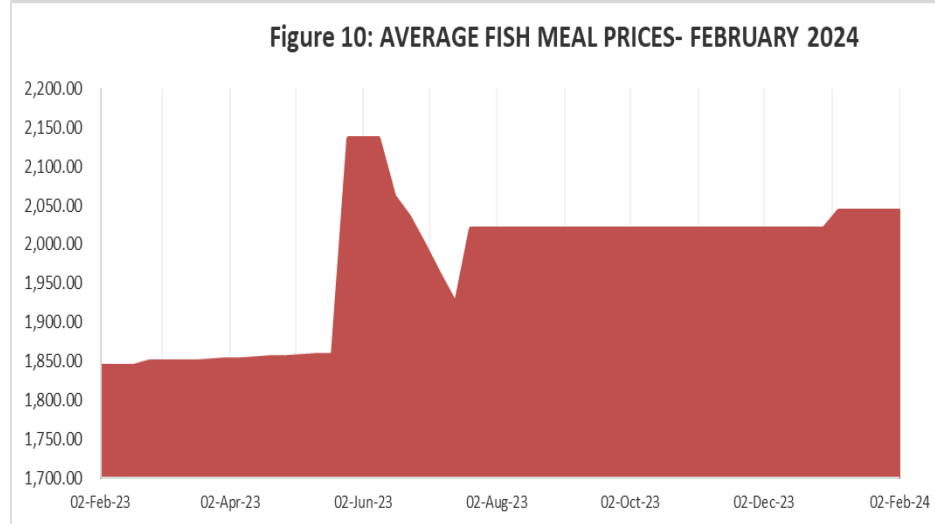
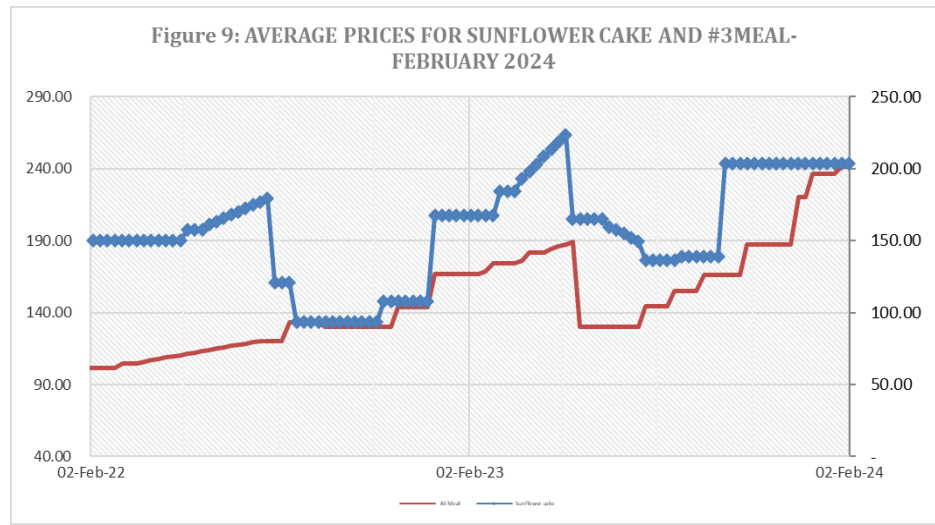
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ISSUE- 3

2ND FEBRUARY 2024

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