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DROUGHT- NATIONAL DISASTER- MAIZE IMPORTS INEVITABLE

Zambian President Hakainde Hchilema declared the drought a national disaster and emergency indicating that it had devastated food production and power generation, as the country struggles to recover a recent cholera epidemic. Like some of its neighbours, this southern African country is suffering from severe drought due to the El Nino phenomenon, which is worsening harsh weather conditions attributed in part to climate change. The President indicated that 84 of the country's 116 districts have been affected by the prolonged drought and that authorities would take food from areas where there is a surplus and distribute it to areas in need.

Zambia plans to increase food imports and mobilizes UN agencies and local businesses to help. He added that the drought has destroyed about 1 million hectares of the 22 million hectares planted in corn, the staple crop. "This drought is having devastating consequences on many sectors such as agriculture, water availability, and energy supply, jeopardizing our national food security and the livelihoods of millions of people. "Drought is expected to continue until March, affecting more than a million of our agricultural households," said Mr. Hchilema.

Electricity production has not been spared, with the country expecting a deficit of around 430 megawatts "potentially reaching 520 megawatts by December", he said, due to the falling level water in the country's main source of hydroelectric power, the Kariba Dam which it shares with its neighbour, Zimbabwe. To cope with this situation, the country will import electricity and ration the supply for its approximately 20 million inhabitants.

Parts of Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana are experiencing the driest February in 40 years, while severe rainfall shortages have been recorded in southern Malawi, eastern Angola, and some parts of Mozambique, WFP said in a bulletin released this week. The United States Agency for International Development, the U.S. government's foreign aid arm, has estimated, through its network of famine early warning systems, that 20 million people in Africa and Australia will need food aid between January and March. According to USAID, many people living in areas of greatest concern, such as Zimbabwe, southern Malawi, parts of Mozambique and southern Madagascar, will not be able to feed themselves until the start of the year 2025 due to El Niño. Source Zambia declares national emergency over drought | Africanews



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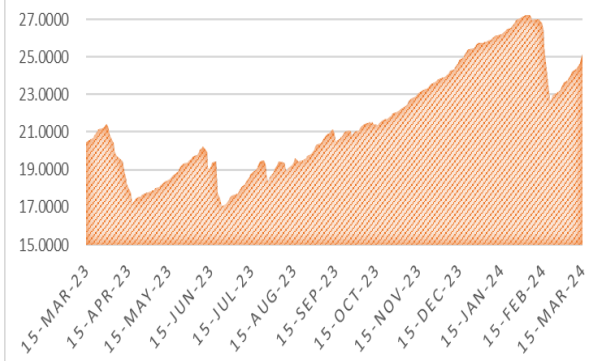
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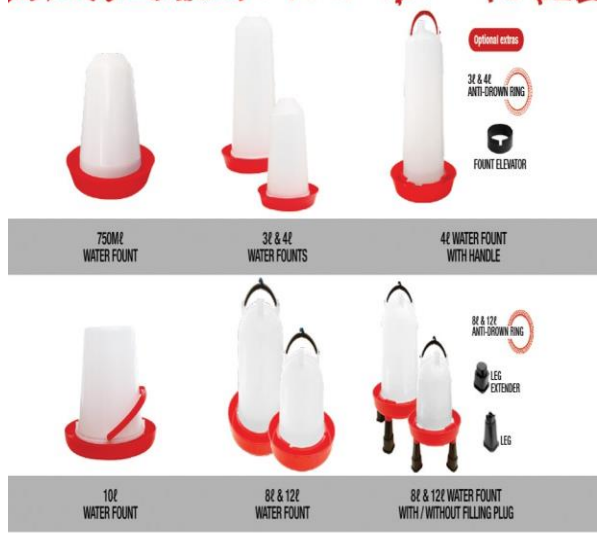
KWACHA ENDS THE WEEK AT ZMK25.47

KWACHA POSTED SOME MINIMAL LOSSES THIS WEEK THE KWACHA ENDED THE WEEK TRADING ABOUT ZMK25.47 COMPARED WITH THE ZMK25.13, THE LOWEST REGISTERED THE PREVIOUS WEEK THE WEAKER KWACHA WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS ON THE SECTOR GIVEN THE FACT THAT IT WILL PLAY A GREATER ROLE IN THE SUPPLY OF MAJOR INPUTS INTO THE POULTRY SECTOR INCLUDING THE LANDING PRICE FOR THE GRAND PARENT STOCK IMPORTED MAIZE AND SOYACAKE AS WELL AS PREMIXES

FIGURE 1: EXCHANGE RATE-KWACHA DOLLAR- MARCH 2024



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DOC BROILER PRICE STABLE

PRICE FOR POINT OF LAY STABLE

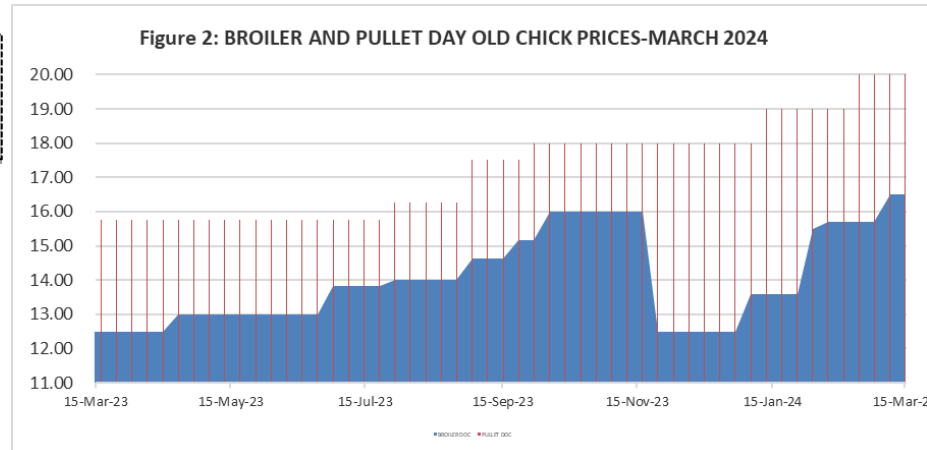
The prices of broiler day-old chicks remained stable during the week. The lowest chick on the market is trading at ZMK16 and the highest is now selling ZMK16.5 per day old chicks, depending on location and supplier. There were no movements on the prices of pullets on the market which are averaging ZMK19 per day old pullet. The price for DoC SASSOL and Kuroilers is trading at ZMK 15 per DOC. The price for the improved free-range such as Black Austropop's, Bushvelds, Kuroilers are selling between ZMK 15 to ZMK35 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 April and May 2024 depending on the volumes and source. **Check Figure 2** for the price trend, courtesy of PAZ.

The prices for the Point of Lay remained stable during the course of the week. The average price is now averaging ZMK150, with the lowest being ZMK145 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.

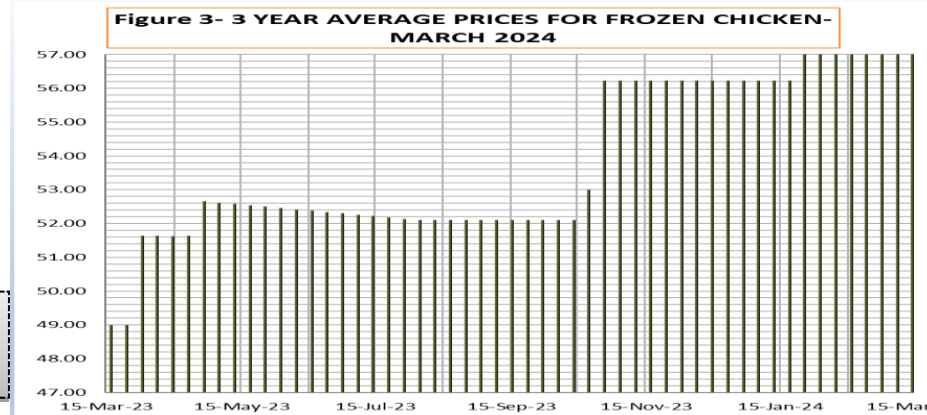
For beginners who are interested in getting battery cages, cage prices range between ZMK6500 to ZMK7500 depending on the capacity and also the sources of the cages. The second-hand refurbished cage price range between ZMK4800 to ZMK 5,500 depending on the quality, capacity, age and source. Quails' cages, 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 ZMK52.99per 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.

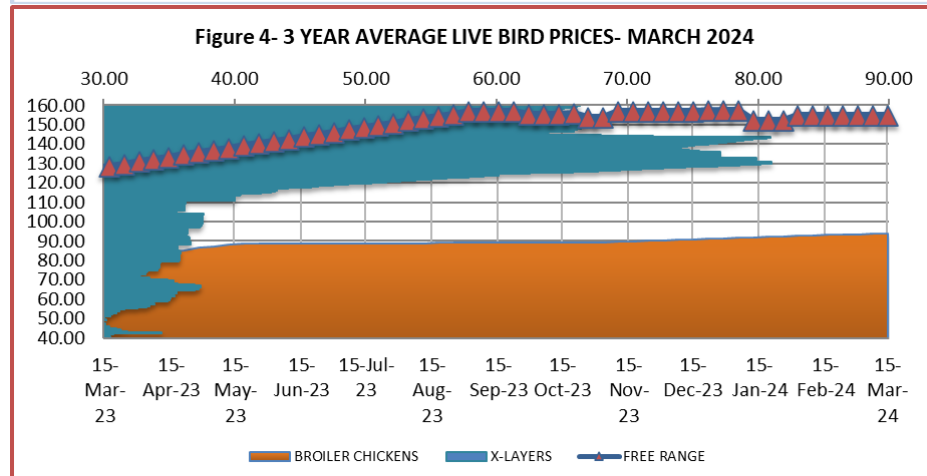


Please note that the prices are obtained from Pick n Pay, Shoprite, Zambeef, Melisa Supermarket, Chopies, and Cheers Stores, Country Choice and Supreme. Different outlets have different pricing models hence the figures displayed is the average price for all the sampled chain stores. It should also be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



LIVE CHICKEN PRICES POSTS SOME MOVEMENTS

The national average prices for the live broiler chickens posted some movements 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 ZMK108 with the lowest price being Lusaka posting ZMK 90.35 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 continues to be on the rise as the market and consumption is now developing. Check figure 4 on the next page, courtesy of PAZ.





NATIONAL EGG PRICE POSTS SOME MOVEMENTS

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 ZMK57.45 to ZMK75.27. Most farm gate prices average ZMK 58 per tray to ZMK 62 per tray depending on the location. The retail prices in some Chain stores 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 ZMK2.5 to ZMK 3 in some markets. For the price, trend refer to figure 5, courtesy of PAZ.

FEED PRICES POSTS SOME UPWARD MOVEMENTS

The national average prices for poultry feed posted some upward movements during the course of the week. Broiler starter is trading at ZMK 587 per 50kg bag up from the prices as obtained last week. Broiler Grower averages ZMK576 while Broiler Finisher also averages ZMK560 per 50kg bag. In the same vain there were some upward movements in the price of the Layer feed. The prices ranges from ZMK557 for pullet starter, ZMK410 for pullet grower, ZMK 395 for pullet developer and ZMK454 for layers mash. For those compounding their ownfeed, ingredients prices have also been on the increase during the week especially #3 meal which is trading between ZMK 5.2 to ZMK7 oer kg as portrayed in the graphs from 6 to 9 below, courtesy of PAZ.

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

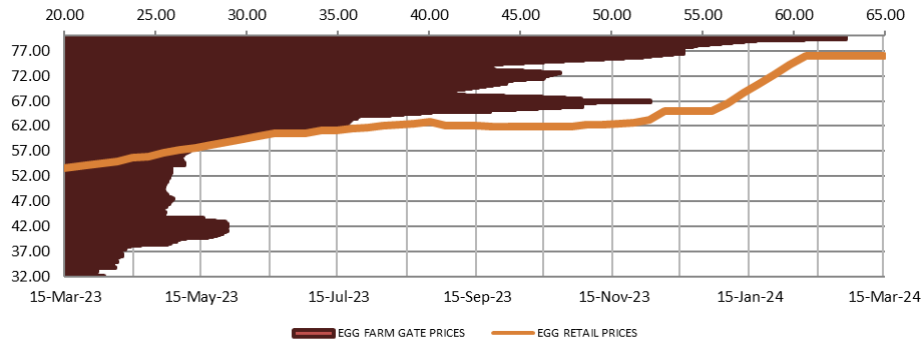


Figure 6: NATIONAL AVERAGE PRICES FOR BROILER FEED- MARCH 2024

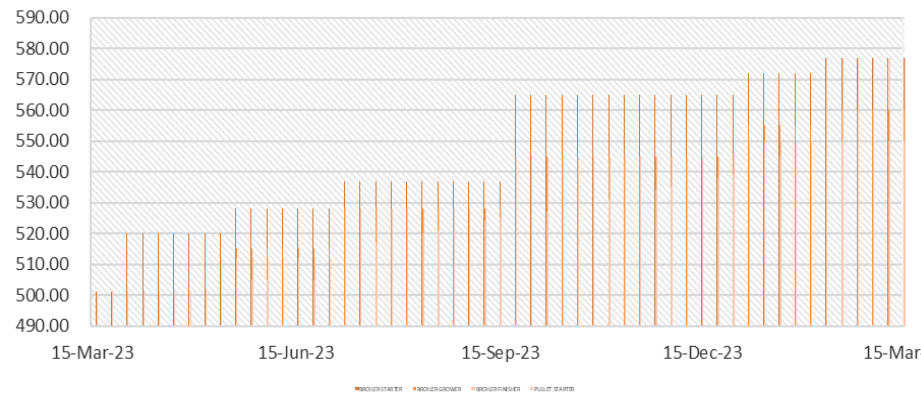


FIGURE7: AVERAGE LAYER FEED- MARCH 2024

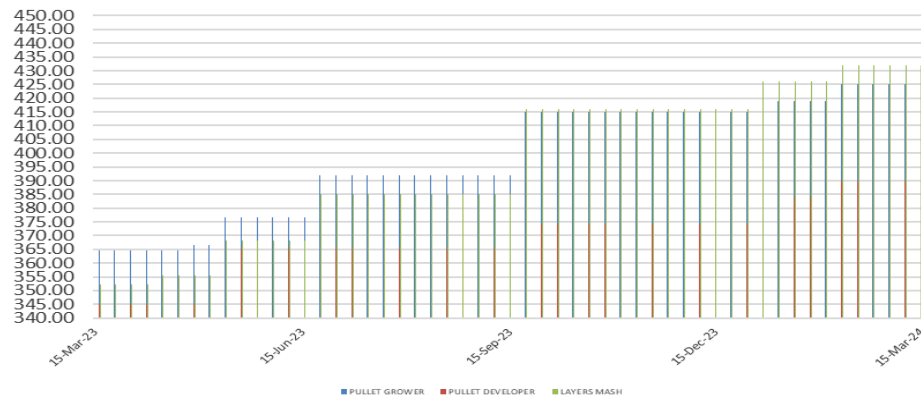
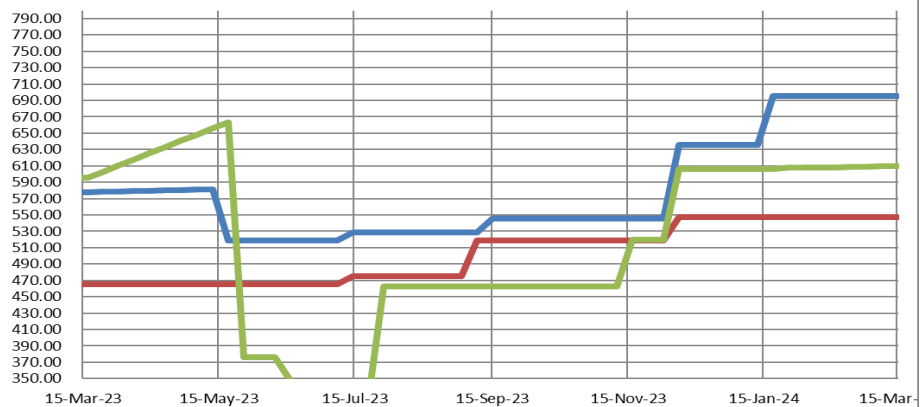


Figure 8: AVERAGE PRICES FOR SOYAMEAL MARCH 2024



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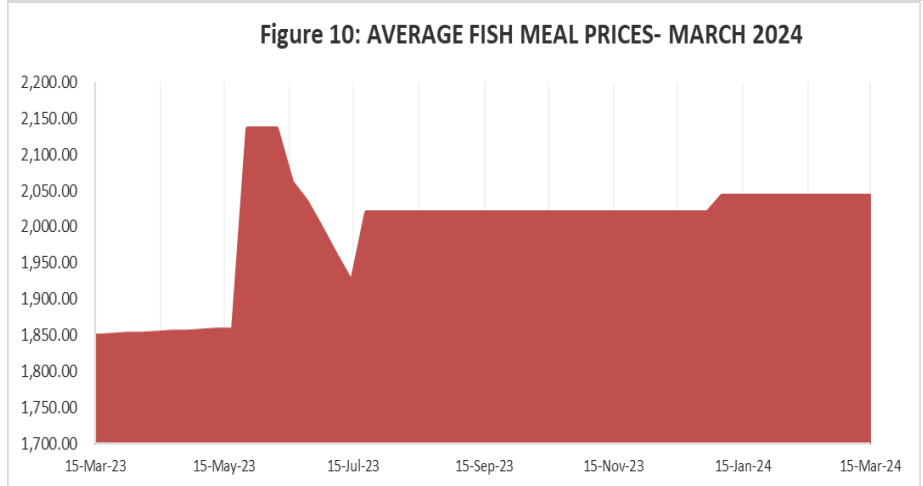
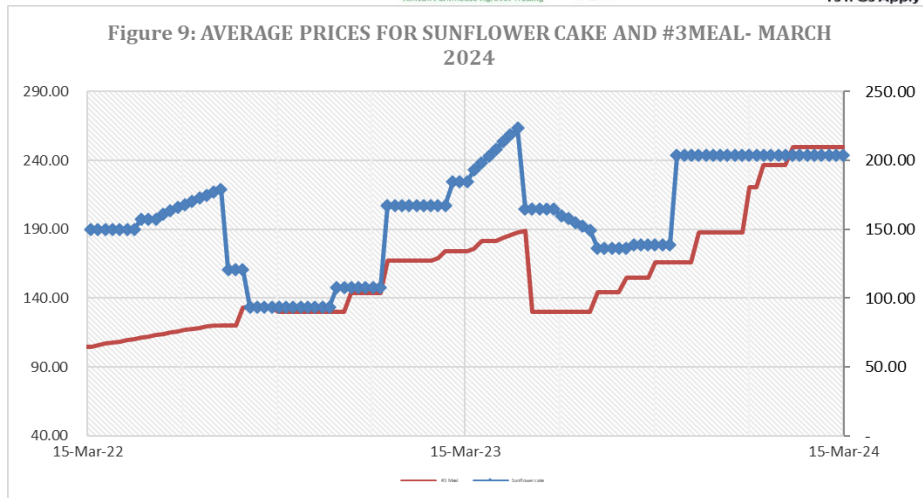
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