



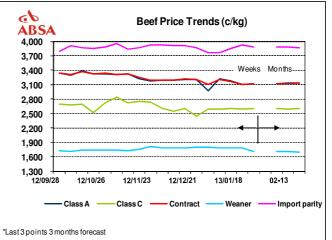
25 January 2013

## Worldwide Land Grabbing - real or myth?

Food security stays an important topic? The world's population is passing 7 billion people and with food prices spiking every now and again. Fresh water supplies are deteriorating all over the world. In South Africa about 60% of available water is being used by the Agricultural sector. A recent study showed that Arab Sheiks, prominent world Companies and Chinese state corporations have started to buy land in developing countries. We all know that water and fertile soil is a major problem in the Middle East. Is this just another form of land grabbing or is it governments/companies that looking after their people's welfare to acquire and protect soil and water resources? It became more prominent since the massive surge in grain prices back in 2007. Quite a lot of land, up to 1,75%, of the world is grabbed over the last couple of years, according to a big new study published in the "Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences" this week. According to the study big purchasers of foreign farmland include Britain, the United States, China, and the United Arab Emirates to name a few. African and Asian land, particularly in countries such as Congo, Sudan, Indonesia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Ethiopia and even Australia are being sort after due to their potential. The question is, does our government and big companies do enough to protect and also to develop our land? Does our government realize how important land and agricultural resources are and will be in the future with food prices on the increasing?

### **Beef Market Trends**

**International:** The US market prices traded lower during the week compared to the previous week. In the US, beef traded as follows: Top inside traded 4,21% lower at \$ 208,49/cwt, Rump traded 4,88% lower at \$ 320,88/cwt and Strip loin traded 3,20% lower at \$ 490,18/cwt. Chuck traded 1,35% lower at \$ 224,07/cwt, Brisket traded 0,95% lower at \$ 194,41/cwt which gave us on average a decrease of 2,37% in the carcass price of \$ 269,16/cwt. Steers and cows traded lower at Nz 386 c/kg (1,03%) and Nz 309 c/kg (1,59%) respectively. The mood in beef markets has taken a turn



in the past week and prices have declined. Large volumes of beef were imported into the US late last year and good money was paid for it in expectation of higher prices in the New Year, but demand for beef is poor so far. This has been linked to reduced consumer spending power due to tax changes, as well as stiff competition from other and cheaper proteins. The weaker demand means US importers are generally adequately stocked, while NZ offerings remain strong. The Japanese beef market is also set to get tougher in the short term. The easing of decade-long post-BSE trade restrictions in US beef means competition is likely to increase. Australia greatest export is the quality of its delicious halal meat. With around 16% of Australia's beef exports to the Middle East and North African region destined to the Kingdom and an increase in demand for high-quality grain-fed beef, it seems Saudi Arabia does not get enough of this quality product.

• **Domestic**: Local beef prices traded higher during the past week compared to the previous week following the international market. The prices of the different meat classes were as follows: Class



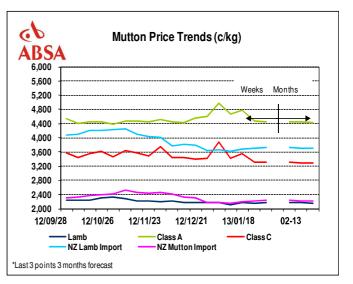
A prices increased by 0,35% to R31,20/kg, Class C prices increased by 0,62% to R26,00/kg and Contract prices increased by 0,39% closing at R31,15/kg. The weaner prices traded lower during the last week at R17,18/kg which was 4,08% lower. Hide prices traded higher at R11,64/kg for the week compared to last week's R11,14/kg. The landed imported price of beef trimmings from Namibia and Botswana traded the same at R43,55/kg week-on-week.

#### Outlook

Internationally, beef prices are expected to move downwards in the short term and sideways movement in the medium term due to lower market demand. Locally, the price of beef will move slightly upwards in the short term due higher demand, with a sideways movement in the medium term due to lower demand. Weaner prices will move sideways in the short term due to lower demand this time of the year with a sideways movement in the medium term due to lower supplies.

#### **Mutton Market Trends**

**International:** The New Zealand lamb and mutton prices traded the same this week compared to last week. New Zealand lamb closed the week the same at NZ\$ 4,75/kg for 15kg and other lamb weights were also the same while New Zealand ewe also closed the same at NZ\$ 2,48/kg for the week. Import parity for lamb increased by 0,58% and mutton increased by 0,54% due to a weaker exchange rate against the New Zealand dollar despite of the fact that the prices stayed the same as the previous week. Generally there is a stable trend in most overseas lamb markets. China is buying huge volumes at this point, with the current focus on chilled production



which helped reduce the pressure on frozen leg values into the UK. Middle cut prices continued to decline, as companies work through a build up of inventory. At the farm-gate, market lamb prices have been steady to lower. Results from recent ewe fairs are somewhat symptomatic of the reduced confidence currently in NZ's sheep industry, with replacement ewe prices down. Meanwhile, lamb auction are holding firm in the short term, supported by the upcoming Easter chill production. Saudi Arabia is also the largest destination for Australian mutton in the region, accounting for 27 percent of shipments. The lamb market crisis is undermining confidence throughout the sheep sector, according to members of the NFU council. Live weight lamb prices are at their lowest level since October 2009 and have fallen by about 2 % on the exceptionally high levels of 2012. The drop in lamb prices is blamed on the weather and high feed costs.

• **Domestic**: The mutton price traded lower during the week compared to the previous week. The Class A2 prices closed the week on R 44,55/kg which was 0,11% lower than the previous week. Class C2 prices closed on R 33,10/kg or 0,21% lower, while contract prices closed higher on R 43,85/kg or 0,20% lower during the past week. The price of lamb traded higher at R 21,81/kg or 1,21% higher for the week. The average price for a dorper skin traded lower at R 61,67 per skin compared to the previous week while the price of a merino skin traded the same at R 67,10 per skin. The landed imported price of mutton rib from Australia and New Zealand traded the same at R 29,75/kg compared to the previous week but mutton shoulder's traded the same at R 40,05/kg according to AMIE.



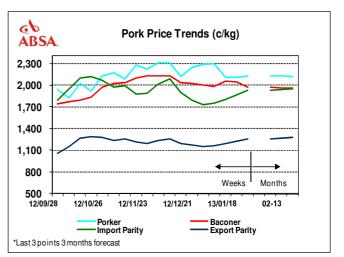


### Outlook

Internationally, prices will move sideways in the short term with a lower movement into the medium term due to lower demand. Locally, the prices of mutton will decrease in the short term with a sideways movement the medium term due to lower demand with the lamb price moving slightly higher due to lower supplies.

#### Pork Market Trends

- International: US pork prices traded mixed during the week compared to last week's prices. Carcass prices traded 1,06% higher at US\$ 84,68/cwt, Loin traded 0,91% lower at US\$ 87,81/cwt, Rib traded 2,35% higher at US\$ 126,05/cwt and Ham traded 2,16% higher at US\$ 65,12/cwt. There were 57,38 loads of pork meat sold on Friday compared to 68,71 loads the previous week, which was a decrease of 16,49% in supplies.
- **Domestic:** Local pork prices traded mixed during the past week compared to the previous week. The



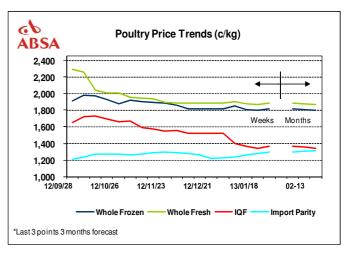
price of Porkers traded higher at R 21,32/kg (0,99%), and the price of Baconers traded lower at R 19,74/kg (3,19%) and Contract traded lower at R 20,53/kg (1,06%). According to AMIE, the landed price of imported loin from Canada and the US traded the same at R 30,85/kg week-on-week.

#### Outlook

Internationally, prices are expected to move sideways in the short term with a sideways movement in the medium term due to lower demand. Locally, the prices are expected to move downwards in the short term with a sideways movement in the medium term due to lower higher supplies.

# **Poultry Market Trends**

International: The poultry prices in the US traded mixed again during the past week compared to the previous week. Whole bird prices traded 3,11% lower and closed at 98,08c/lbs due to lower demand. Breasts traded 1,12% higher and closed at 135,5 c/lbs, while leg quarters traded the same and close at 49,5/lbs compared to last week. The estimated number of broiler available for slaughtering the week ending 26-Jan-13 was 146,4 million chickens compared to 154.1 million chickens slaughtered the same week last vear. The estimated U.S.



slaughter this week is 148,7 million chickens or 2,3 million chickens more than estimated available. For the week of 02-Feb-13 the estimated available is 151,9 million chickens. Prices





were trending steady to weak in all areas for whole broiler. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate entering the weekend as inclement weather moves into the Northeast. Offerings were light to heavy, mostly light to moderate for current trade needs. Floor stocks were balanced to light. Market activity was slow to moderate while trucking issues remains a challenge for most producers, especially in regard to availability, limited backhaul opportunities, new inspection regulations, and additional cost. In the parts structure, movement improved slightly under normal weekend demand but was still noted as light to moderate overall. Prices were trending steady to firm for breast items and wings, and mostly steady for the balance of items. Supplies were light to moderate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed, but noted as mostly desirable. Ukraine poultry producer, Agromars, will over two years increase the annual production of poultry to 300,000 tons. An international animal nutrition and feed company, Nutreco, has expressed interest in investing in Ghana's poultry and aquaculture feed industry.

• **Domestic:** Poultry prices traded higher during this week compared to the previous week. Frozen birds traded 1,11% higher at R 18,18/kg compared to the previous week. Whole fresh medium bird prices traded higher at R 18,88/kg or 1,07% and IQF traded 1,56% higher at R 13,63/kg for the week compared to the previous week. The landed price of Brazilian imported chicken leg quarters traded the same at R 16,40/kg, with grillers traded the same at R24,00/kg week-on-week according to AMIE.

## Outlook

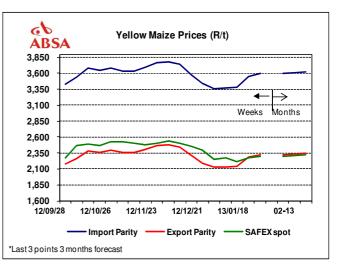
Internationally, prices will trade sideways in the short term with a sideways movement in the medium term due to lower demand. Locally, the market is expected to trade sideways in the short term due to lower demand with a sideways movement in medium term due to high stocks.

Livestock Prices (R/kg) 25 January 2013	Beef		Mutton		Pork		Poultry	
	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Week	Previous Week
Class A / Porker / Fresh birds	31,20	31,09	44,55	44,60	21,32	21,11	18,88	18,68
Class C/ Baconer / Frozen birds	26,00	25,84	33,17	33,10	19,74	20,39	18,18	17,98
Contract / Baconer/ IQF	31,15	31,03	43,85	43,94	20,53	20,75	13,63	13,42
Import parity price	38,89	39,30	22,38	22,26	19,26	18,62	12,97	12,80
Weaner Calves / Feeder Lambs/	17,18	17,91	21,81	21,55	-	-	-	-
Specific Imports: Beef trimmings 80vl/b/Mutton Shoulders/Loin b/in /chicken leg1/4	43,55	43,55	40,05	40,05	30,85	30,85	16,40	16,40



## Yellow Maize Trends

International: The average yellow • maize prices increased week-onweek. The average US yellow maize spot price closed the week 0.3% or US\$ 1,03/ton lower compared to the previous week. Compared to last week, grain and soybean bids traded mixed. The first trading day of the week started on Tuesday due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday on Monday. Maize had slight losses as some pressure mounted from the sell-off in the other grains. Maize had a quiet session for the most part o and failed to generate any buying interest. Weekly export sales for maize were bearish totalling 189,300



tons. The killer was weekly US export sales data which, yet again, showed maize disappointing investors, with a figure of 190,000 tonnes, old crop and new, well below the 250,000 tonnes or so expected. Weekly maize sales continue but US offers are too expensive which is an easy argument to win as global origination points have maize and feed wheat offered at cheaper and/or competitive prices.

Domestic: The local maize market didn't follow the international market and traded on average 1,2% or R28,00/ton higher during the past week, and is 17,4% lower than an year ago. The average exchange rate for the week was weaker at R 8,94/US\$ compared to R 8,79/US\$ the previous week, which was 1,71% weaker. Safex futures traded lower during the week: Mar-13 traded 0,52% (R12/t) lower, May-13 traded 1,11% (R24/t) lower, Jul-13 traded 0,91% (R19/t) lower, Sep-13 traded 0,52% (R11/t) lower but Dec-13 traded higher 0,28% (R6/t) higher from the previous week.

#### Outlook

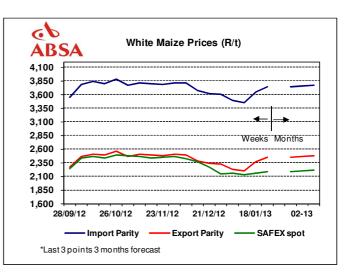
Internationally, prices will continue to move upwards in the short term with an upwards in the medium term due to possible lower production Argentina and higher demand for exports. Locally, the market is expected to trade upwards in the short term due to concerns of a lack of rain in certain areas with the normal mid-summer drought on our doorsteps. A weaker exchange rate will also help the prices.

Yellow Maize Futures 25 January 2013		Mar-13	1	May-13	Jul-13	Sep-13	0	Dec-13
CBOT (\$/t)		283,69	284,47		282,27	240,93	2	232,35
SAFEX (R/	/t)	2,305		2,135	2,080	2,113		2,161
Mar-13			May-13		Jul-13			
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
2,340	86	51	2,180	134	89	2,120	160	120
2,300	64	69	2,140	112	107	2,080	138	138
2,260	45	90	2,100	92	127	2,040	118	158



### White Maize Trends

- International: The US white maize spot market traded higher by 1,3% or US\$ 4,13/ton in the past week compared to the previous week. The local import parity of white maize traded 2,6% higher compared to the previous week due to higher prices and a weaker exchange rate. The rand: dollar exchange rate weakened from R 8,79/US\$ last week to R8,94/US\$ this week.
- Domestic: The local average white maize spot price traded 1,6% (R39,87/ton) higher compared to the previous week, with white maize trading



previous week, with white maize trading 19,9% lower than the same time a year ago. Week-onweek white maize future contracts also traded higher this week. Mar-13 traded 0,64% (R14/t) higher, May-13 traded 0,92% (R19/t) higher, Jul-13 traded 0,24% (R5/t) higher, Sept-13 traded 0,29% (R6/t) higher and Dec-13 traded 1,04% (R22/t) higher compared to last week.

### Outlook

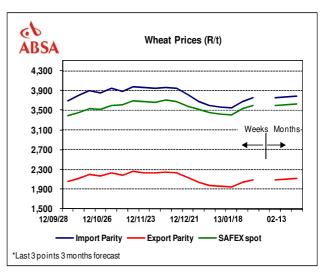
Internationally, the white maize price will move upwards in the short term following the world yellow maize prices with an upwards movement in the medium term due to possible lower production yields in Latin America. Locally, prices will move upwards in the short term with a sideways movement and a upwards movement the medium term depending on rain during the normal dry mid-summer period.

Fu	e Maize tures uary 2013	Mar-1	3	May-13	Jul-13	Sep-13		Dec-13
SAFE	EX (R/t)	2,167	,	2,090	2,051	2,080		2,137
Mar-13		May-13			Jul-13			
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
2,200	84	51	2,140	151	101	2,100	185	136
2,160	62	69	2,100	129	119	2,060	162	153
2,120	44	91	2,060	108	138	2,020	141	172



### Wheat Market Trends

International: The average weekly wheat spot price traded 00,6% or \$1,78/ton higher compared the previous week. Soft red wheat traded 1,1% (\$3,44/t) higher, while hard red wheat traded the same. Import parity traded 2,0% higher due higher prices and a weaker exchange rate. Wheat was lower as demand remains slow and selling interest prevailed, along with spillover pressure from other grains. Wheat posted a solid rally at all three exchanges as support came from a weaker dollar index and dry conditions in the Southern Plains. Wheat had export sales totalling 647,500 tons. Wheat, which has been



the butt of short wheat, long maize/soybean spreads, outperforming its fellow grain, and rebuilding something of a premium. The grain's weekly US export sales data were considerably more encouraging, in coming in above 650,000 tonnes, well above expectations. Global demand for wheat continues to pop up, which should allow the US to continue the current pace of exports, if adding that "more demand is going to be needed to begin to cut into ample supplies. Furthermore, fears over the drought in US hard red winter wheat country failed to get reassurance from weather forecasts, with US Wheat Associates flagging that some (yet-to-be-sown) hard red spring wheat country looked in danger too.

• **Domestic:** The average SAFEX wheat spot price traded 1,7% or R61,00/ton higher this week compared to the previous week. These prices were driven by higher international prices and a weaker exchange rate. Safex future prices traded higher during the past week compared to last: Mar-13 traded also 0,41% (R15/t) higher, May-13 traded 0,24% (R9/t) higher, Jul-13 traded 0,27% (R10/t) higher and Dec-13 traded 0,26% (R9/t).

#### Outlook

Internationally, the market prices will upwards in the short term with an upward movement in the medium term due to the continued weaker growing conditions in the US. Locally, the market will continue to follow the international market prices in an upwards movement in the short term with a possible upward movement into medium term due to higher prices and a possible exchange rate.

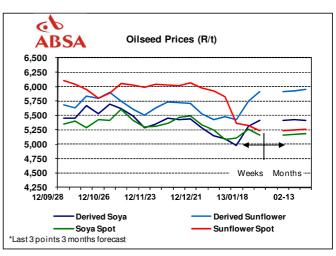
Wheat F 25 Janua		Mar-13	May-13	3	Jul-13	Sep-13	3	Dec-13
SAFEX	(R/t)	3,640	3,703		3,730	3,500		3,640
CME	(\$/t)	297,99	292,92		289,69	285,28	;	297,99
	Mar-13		May-13		Jul-13			
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call
3,680	114	74	3,740	188	151	3,760	231	201
3,640	92	92	3,700	166	169	3,720	209	219
3,600	73	113	3,660	146	189	3,680	189	239





# **Oilseed Market Trends**

International: US soybean prices traded week-on-week on average 0,9% or \$5,23/ton higher compared to the previous week due to a higher prices. Soy meal traded 0,8% lower, while soy oil traded 2,3% higher compared to a week ago. Soybeans saw slight gains from concerns of dry conditions in Brazil. However, timely rains in South America later in the week and sharply lower crude oil limit the gains. Soybeans and wheat closed the week higher while maize failed to post a rally and closed lower on Friday. Soybeans had strong weekly export sales totalling 978,300



tons. The oilseed was helped by US weekly export sales of nearly 1m tonnes, old crop and new, marginally ahead of forecasts, which allowed it to benefit more than maize from continued South American wheat uncertainty. There is a system moving through Argentina tonight. That has capped rallies, but the outlook generally looks warm and dry over the next two weeks. February is going to be a critical month as the soil moisture has been depleted and the key reproductive stages have started and will stretch through the next month.

• **Domestic:** The average soybean spot prices traded 1,9% or R98,30/ton lower compared to the previous week. These lower prices were despite of a weaker rand: US dollar exchange rate and higher international prices. The rand traded on average 1,71% weaker against the US dollar at R8,94/ US\$ compared to last week's R8,79/US dollar. The soybean futures prices traded mixed during the past week: Mar-13 traded 0,41% (R20/t) higher, May-13 traded 0,13% (R6/t) higher, Jul-13 traded 0,22% (R10/t) higher and Dec-13 traded 0,10% (R5/t) lower compared to the previous week. The average sunflower spot prices for the week traded 1,9% or R99,20/t lower than the previous week. This is still 18,6% higher than the same time a year ago. The sunflower futures prices closed higher compared to the previous week: Mar-13 traded 5,74% (R270/t) higher, Jul-12 traded 4,59% (R220/t) higher, Sep-13 traded 3,45% (R220/t) higher and Dec-13 traded 2,73% (R131/t) compared to the previous week. Sorghum futures for Mar-13 traded the same compared to last week at R3,200/t.

### Outlook

Internationally, soybean markets will continue to move sideways in the short term due to higher supplies and upwards in the medium term due to higher demand. Locally, the soybean prices will follow international prices and move sideways in the short term with an upwards movement into the medium term due to higher demand.

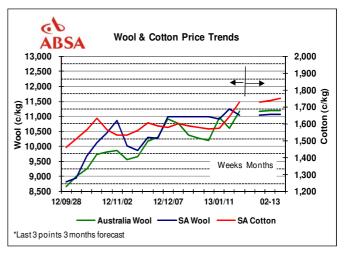
Oilseeds Futures 25 January 2013	Mar-13	May-13	Jul-13	Sep-13	Dec-13
CBOT Soybeans (US \$/t)	529,48	523,97	523,97	493,25	478,77
CBOT Soy oil (US c/b)	52,10	52,48	52,73	52,60	52,26
CBOT Soy cake meal (US \$/t)	416,40	411,60	406,50	396,20	380,40
SAFEX Soybean seed (R/t)	4,800	4,535	4,600	4,820	0
SAFEX Sunflower seed (R/t)	5,090	4,975	5,010	4,975	4,936
Safex Sorghum (R/t)	3,200				
Sunflower Calculated Option Prices (R/t) Absa Capital Trading Desk: 011 – 895 5524					



	Mar-13		May-13			Jul-13			
Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	Ask	Put	Call	
5,120	162	132	5,020	299	254	5,040	413	383	
5,080	141	151	4,980	277	272	5,000	391	401	
5,040	122	172	4,940	256	291	4,960	370	420	

### Fibres Market Trends

International: The Australian market • traded lower than the previous sale in 2013. The Australian wool market closed the week 25 Jan 2013 on Au 1099c/kg. This was lower than the previous closing price of Au 1103c/kg. Doubt among forecasters, equity and commodity markets have lifted in the first half of January. Retail clothing sales have also been positive. In the first part of the Autumn/Winter season. retail sales have been reasonably good in the US, the UK, Japan and China, although they have been subdued in continental Europe. If this continues for the rest of the Autumn/Winter, then orders for 2013



Autumn/Winter could be better than expected. This could help sustain a rally in wool prices into the first half of 2013. The cotton price increased 5,24% from last week to close on US 75,26 c/kg. The total cotton sales for the week were 107,918 bales compared to 119,712 bales last week and 54,412 bales reported a year ago. Total spot transactions for the season were 1,301,740 bales, compared to 570,674 bales the corresponding week a year ago.

• **Domestic:** The second auction for 2013 took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2013. The local market did follow the Australian market and the market indicator closed 1,80% higher this week at R 110,46/kg. The wool market came under pressure at this week's sale with the Cape Wools Merino indicator decreased by 1,8% on last week. The market emerged to be without direction while resistance to the high price levels may also have contributed to the lower prices. Wool receivables at brokers' stores to date increased almost by 10% on the corresponding period last season. It was a large sale with 9,836 bales on offer of which 99,1% was sold. The rand traded stronger at R 8,88 against the US dollar. The next sale is scheduled for the 29<sup>nd</sup> January 2013 with approximately 8,000 bales on sale.

#### Outlook

International wool prices will move sideways in the short term with a slight upward movement in the medium term due to higher demand in China. Cotton prices will move upwards in the short term with a sideways movement into the medium term due to higher demand. Locally, wool will follow world prices and move upwards movement in the short term and sideways into medium term. Cotton prices will follow the wool prices in an upward movement the short term and a sideways movement into medium term.

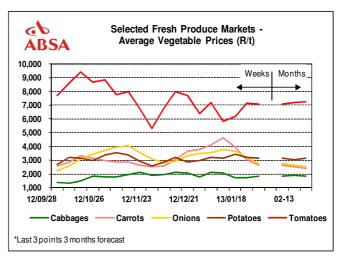




Fibres Market Trends Week ending 25 January	/ 2013				
Wool prices	SA prices (R/kg)	Australian prices (R/kg)	Australian Future Mar - 2013 (AU\$/kg)	Australian Future Jul – 2013 (AU\$/kg)	
Wool market indicator	11,046	10,298	-	-	
19µ micron	11,884	12,156	12,50	11,60	
21µ micron	11,101	11,266	11,70	11,65	
23µ micron	10,269	10,954	10,50	10,25	
Cotton prices	SA derived Cotton (R/kg)	New York A-Index (US\$/kg)	New York future Mar-2013 (US\$/kg)	New York future May-2013 (US\$/kg)	
Cotton Prices	17,30	1,94	1,83	1,81	

## Vegetables Market Trends

- **Cabbages:** Cabbage prices increased this week by 4,6% w/w and traded 1,4% higher y/y for the same week last year under review but 39,8% higher than two years ago. The prices increased due to a decrease of 1,5% in volumes on a w/w basis. Prices are expected to increase in the short term to medium term due to lower supplies due to the exceptional high temperatures.
- **Carrots:** Carrot prices decreased by 14,3% w/w but traded 21,4% higher y/y and traded 31,0% higher than two years ago. The price decrease was due to an 5,7% increase in the



volumes of carrots. Prices are expected to move downwards in the short term with a sideways movement into the medium term due to higher supplies but excessive rain can prevent timeous harvesting.

- **Onions**: Onion prices decreased by 15,0% w/w but traded at 47,4% higher y/y and 44,2% higher compared to the same week two years ago. The price decrease was due to a 20,6% increase in volumes compared to the previous week. Prices are expected to move downwards in the short term due to higher supplies with a sideways movement in the medium term.
- **Potatoes:** Potato prices decreased by 2,4% w/w, but traded 22,9% higher y/y and again 46,7% higher than the same week two years ago. The decrease in prices was due to an increase of 2,4% in volumes compared to the previous week. Prices are expected to move downwards in the short term due to higher supplies with a sideways movement in the medium term due to lower demand.
- **Tomatoes:** Tomato prices decreased by 0,9% w/w and traded 82,4% higher y/y as well as 81.9% higher than two years ago. The decrease in prices was despite of a decrease of 0,8% in volumes during the past week. Prices are expected to move downwards in the short term due to higher supplies can be higher due to excessive rains. Prices will therefore move sideways in the medium term because of lower or normal supplies.



Vegetable Prices: Fresh Produce Market (Averages on the Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban markets)						
Week ending 25 January 2013	This week's Average Price (R/t)	Previous week's Average Price (R/t)	This week's Total Volumes (t)	Previous week's Total Volumes (t)		
Cabbages	1,810	1,731	1,187	1,205		
Carrots	2,614	3,049	1,547	1,459		
Onions	2,734	3,217	4,996	4,142		
Potatoes	3,126	3,204	13,060	12,751		
Tomatoes	7,068	7,132	2,705	2,726		

<b>Disclaimer:</b> Although everything has been done to ensure the accuracy of the information, Absa Bank	
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