

FRIDAY BRIEF

WEEK 34, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- MAIZE PRICE KEEPS DROPPING
- FARMERS BEGIN TO AGGREGATE THEIR MAIZE
- FARMERS DECRY POOR MAIZE PRICES

IN DETAIL....

MAIZE PRICE KEEPS DROPPING

The price of maize in Chongwe has continued to tumble as most grain buyers are refusing to offer more than the FRA Maize Market price.

Private buyers are now buying at K48 per 50 kg bag of maize, which translates into 0.96K per kg.

The development has worried farmers who now say are concerned with the prospect of farmers failing to make investments in maize during the coming season. Farmers are saying that it is sad that crops that are supposed are no supposed to earn them income are now fetching low prices on the market.

FARMERS BEGIN TO AGGREGATE THEIR MAIZE

In their quest to secure better prices for their produce, farmers in Kasama and Mungwi met yet again for a follow up meeting which was aimed at ascertaining the quantities of maize farmers have even as they search for better priced buyers. This is after an initial meeting which they had two weeks ago in which they sort consensus on how they were to proceed in light of the poor maize price effected by FRA. The meeting attended by 192 cooperative chairpersons from across the two districts reported a total of 350,000 bags by 50Kg of maize being held in various cooperatives of which will bulking is to commence. Moving forward, a buyer has been identified and modalities will soon be put in place to actualize farmers' resolve for a better maize price.

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FROM THE REGIONS

CENTRAL

FARMERS DECRY POOR MAIZE PRICES

Small Scale farmers in Mkushi are vexed with this season's marketing pattern with many saying the price that has been offered by FRA is far below breakeven levels.

The farmers say this year's marketing season has not favoured. Most farmers have opted to give their produce to their animals instead of selling at the current price which they say does not make economic sense. Farmers have complained that they sold soya beans at very low prices due to some economic pressures and hoped for some bargain on maize but only for FRA to disappoint them. Some farmers are even failing to shell their maize, let alone bag the grain due to added costs.

Farmers are appealing to government to try and revisit the market price for maize. They have also complained of lack of information for them to consider exports.

Currently in the district maize is going at K 1 and K 1.25/kg and soya beans between K1.7 and K 2.2/kg.

EASTERN

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK HOLDS A CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH STAKEHOLDERS

The Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock held a consultative meeting on the livestock development policy which the government wants to formulate in the livestock sub-sector. The policy is being formulated to give guidance to effective implementation of activities and programs in the livestock sub-sector.

The consultative meeting was held in Chipata attracted various stakeholders in the agricultural sector who presented their views on what the policy should include in order for it to address challenges that farmer's encounter such as disease prevalence, poor extension service delivery, poor breeding stock, lack of livestock research and development in the livestock sub-sector. The meeting also proposed that the policy should be streamlined together with the Seventh National Development Plan and the Vision 2030.

NOW NORTH-WEST FARMERS SELL MAIZE TO FRA

Having no alternative market for their maize produce, some farmers in north Western Province have started taking their maize to the Agency.

A check conducted by ZNFU found farmers weighing their maize though some farmers talked to said the FRA pricing mechanism this season because farmers were going to incur huge losses. A lot of





farmers have resorted to selling their produce to private buyers at the same price of K60 while others have resolved to keep their produce and only dispose it during rainy season.

NORTHERN

FRA; IT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL

Despite the poor maize market price, it is business as usual in Mungwi. So far, the FRA has managed to bag in 47, 500 bags by 50Kgs of maize and over 5,000 bags of Soya beans. This has, however, disappointed the Mungwi District Farmers Association chairperson, Mr. David Ngandu.

Mr. N'gandu said that farmers who are doing so are frustrating the efforts already under way to push for better prices. He has since warned farmers that are doing so not to complain if they won't be able to purchase farming inputs this coming farming season due to the low prices as they may not make a profit. He has urged farmers to be united, resilient and patient even as various stakeholders are considering last farming seasons purchase prices.

ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS!

ZAMACE ACCEPTING WHEAT DEPOSITS

ZAMACE certified storage facilities in Lusaka, Mpongwe and Mkushi have started accepting will Wheat deposits on ZAMACE warehouse receipts.

For further details, kindly contact :0960283604 for storage in Lusaka and 0965872082 for Mpongwe and Mkushi facilities.

ZAMACE contact number: +260 960 432 266

ZFEA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017

Zambia Farm Employers' Association (ZFEA) to submit a list of all paid up members and has cautioned the ZFEA that only paid up members are eligible to use the ZFEA Collective Agreement. The ZFEA is therefore reminding all farmers that use its Collective Agreement and have not paid membership for 2017 to do so. The ZFEA has been given up to the end of August 2017 to submit the list for paid up members to the Labour Commissioner's office. Membership fees should be paid either through the ZNFU District Offices or ZNFU Head Office.

RED SUNNHEMP SALE

Red Sunnhemp Seed for sale. K18/kg (recommend 25kg/ha). Significant Discounts for orders over 1 tonne. Excellent for legume rotation. Improves soil organic matter, adds nitrogen, suppresses weeds





and nematodes, breaks soil pans, cools soil temperatures. Contact Andrew Moffat. 096 689 8939 or a.and.c.moffat@gmail.com

ULTRAVETIS TO HOLD TRAINING FOR POULTRY FARMERS

ULTRAVETIS will be hosting a training on poultry production for farmers in September, tentatively 30th September 2017. ULTRAVETIS is now inviting interested farmers to attend this training AT ZERO COST.

Those interested can call Dr. Mzota Lungu on 0968 222 976.

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AT THE WORLD EXPORT DEVELOPMENT FORUM

The Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry wishes to inform business entities, including farmers, that the International Trade Centre (ITC) of the United Nations will be hosting the 17th World Export Development Forum (WEDF) in Budapest, Hungary from 24th to 25th October 2017.

The Forum will involve policy discussions, practical workshops and facilitated Business To Business (B2B) meetings, which gathers farmers, manufacturers, exporters, importers, wholesalers, retailers and investors.

If interested, kindly follow the link the below to complete registration and obtain more information; <http://www.intracen.org/WEDF-2017-Business-to-Business-meetings-24-and-25-October-2017/> Kindly note that the cost of participation will be covered by the entity wishing to participate.

For further details contact Ms. Zungaye Phiri or Ms. Lina Mutandwa in the Department of foreign Trade on +260 211 224 115.

INTELECTAUL PROPERTY AND GENTIC RESOURCES – INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

On behalf of the Swedish International Development Corporation Agency (SIDA), the Embassy of Sweden in Zambia is inviting Zambians to nominate candidates for the INTELECTAUL PROPERTY AND GENTIC RESOURCES – INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME, scheduled for 12th to 1st December 2017 in Sweden, and a regional follow up in one of the participating countries in June 2018.

Closing date for applications is 4th September 2017.

Members that are interested should send their applications (including an extra copy) to:

The Embassy of Sweden
Haile Selassie Avenue
Opposite Ndeke House
P.O Box 50264, RW
LUSAKA

ZABS CALLS FOR COMMENTS ON FRESH GREEN BEANS & REFRIGERATED TRANSPORT STANDARDS



ZNFU

The Zambia Bureau of Standards is inviting comments on the draft standards, which its Technical Committee on Legumes and Derived Products has developed.

The standards include;

- DZS1068 Fresh Green Beans Specifications
- DZS 1067 Storage and refrigerated transport

The comments should be submitted to the Zambia Bureau of Standards on SDF 008 by 3rd October 2017. Suggestions entailing amendment to the text should include the wording preferred and the relevant clause number quoted against comments.

KASEMPA AGM GEARS UP ...

The Kasempa District Farmers Association is set to hold its annual general meeting scheduled for 28/08/2017.

WEATHER

AS COMPILED BY THE ZAMBIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

ZAMBIA WEATHER FORECAST:

FRIDAY (25/08/2017)

GENERAL SITUATION;

Moderate to strong airflow from the southeast is advancing into Zambia.

FORECAST FOR TONIGHT: FRIDAY(25/08/2017)

All areas: Clear and warm to mild

FORECAST FOR THE WEEKEND: SATURDAY & SUNDAY(26&27/08/2017)

Lusaka, Muchinga, Eastern and eastern districts of Central Province: Sunny, windy and cool to mild developing few clouds and warm to hot in the afternoon

The Rest of Zambia: Sunny, windy, hazy and cool to mild becoming warm to hot in the afternoon

OUTLOOK TO MONDAY(28/08/2017)

Similar weather

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FORECAST MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURE IN DEGREES CELSIUS (°C) FOR

SATURDAY(26/08/2017)



ZNFU

STATION	MAXIMUM (25/08/2017)	MINIMUM (25/08/2017)	MAXIMUM (26/08/2017)	MINIMUM (26/08/2017)
CHIPATA	32	14	31	13
CHOMA	31	07	30	10
CHINSALI	31	12	30	10
KASAMA	31	10	29	09
KABWE	-	-	30	09
LUSAKA	30	15	29	12
LIVINGSTONE	33	06	31	07
MANSA	31	13	30	11
MFUWE	37	14	35	12
MONGU	34	14	33	13
NDOLA	31	12	29	11
SOLWEZI	31	-	31	12

As produced by the Zambia Meteorological Department, Ministry of Transport and Communication

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