

ZNFU

AGRItech

EXPO

ZAMBIA



FRIDAY BRIEF

WEEK 11, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- No load shedding
- Conciliation dropped as ZFEA/Unions get back to wage Negotiating Table
- Agribusiness Chamber elects new Chair

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IN DETAIL....

NO LOAD SHEDDING

With water levels being positive during the 2017/2018 rainy season, Zesco Limited says Zambia will not experience load shedding.

Zesco limited made the announcement during the ZNFU/Zesco Committee, which sat on Thursday 15th March 2018.

Zesco Limited informed the Committee that while inflows at Lake Kariba have been improving steadily and projected at above average, Kafue is teeming at 93.4 % full. Zesco stated that current Lake levels at Kariba were as good as the levels of June 2017 with inflows still streaming in until June when water starts tapering away, saying there will be no stress on meeting conditions set by the Zambezi River Authority (ZRA).

Zambia's Zesco Limited has been allocated some 17billion cubic metres of water to use for generating power by the ZRA.

Further, Zesco said generation is currently standing at 900MW for Kafue, 105MW for Itezhi Tezhi, 280MW to 300MW for Kariba North Bank and 90MW for Victoria Falls, while Maamba is generating some 264MW.

CONCILIATION DROPPED AS ZFEA/UNIONS GET BACK TO WAGE NEGOTIATING TABLE

The Zambia Farm Employers Association (ZFEA) and Unions have agreed to drop the conciliation process and get back to the negotiating table and approve new wages for farm workers for 2018.

Negotiations are expected to resume within a week's time and both the ZFEA and the Unions are keen to conclude the matter.

ZFEA Chairman Richard Denly says negotiations will resume with the view to reaching an agreement before the end of March 2018.

If negotiations are concluded within the projected timeline, farmers are expected to have a new wage scale by April 2018.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

AGRIBUSINESS CHAMBER ELECTS NEW CHAIR

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ZNFU

The ZNFU Agribusiness Chamber met on Wednesday 14th November for their annual General Meeting. Mr. Simon Burgess- Afrivet Managing Director was elected as Chairperson whilst Mr. Mulamfu C. Simuyuni- Managing Director Agri-Support was elected as his Vice Chairperson. Mr. Peter Whitbread, ATS Agrochemicals MD, was elected as a Council representative for the Agribusiness Chamber.

During the deliberations preceding the AGM, the Agribusiness Chamber members presented several issues to be part of the Union lobby agenda such as;

Eminent fears that the maize value chain could be facing a repeat of last year because while there is still maize in private hands, maize export permits are no longer being issued and there are no buyers for maize posted on Zamace. Therefore, any calls for FRA to offload any maize should be resisted at all cost. The Chamber also bemoaned the policy inconsistencies in the maize industry which has been a deterrent to investment into grain production because of the on-off closing of borders which means grain prices are not consistent with market developments.

Members also requested the Union to lobby and appeal for an amnesty on NAPSA payments as the ZRA amnesty had yielded good results. An appeal was also made to Government to consider removing duty on imported Gypsum which is used in agriculture as this contributes to increased costs for the growers. Members also raised concern over the listeriosis diseases and proposed that this matter should be tackled with the involvement of the whole value chain of affected commodities so that local industries such as the beef, dairy, etc are protected.

CORPORATES CHAIR GIVEN MANDATE TO CONTINUE

The ZNFU Corporate Members unanimously gave Mr. Anthony Barker, Buya Bamba MD, another 1-year mandate as Chairperson while Mr. Seamus Fleming, Wellspring Farms Manager, was re-elected as Vice Chairperson. The other Corporate Members Council representatives are Galaunia Farms, Ellensdale Farms, CMR farms, Livestock Services, Kimabokwe Farm, Zambef Plc, Silver lands and Sable Farms.

The corporate Members applauded ZNFU Secretariat for the strides made in creating a roadmap to reduce the institutions historical financial burden brought about by the exit of the donors and in lobbying and advocating for the farmers successfully. They further pledged their continued support to ZNFU given the strides made through the restructuring process.

Among the issues of concern highlighted are the new costs that will be passed on to farmers because of the new SI issued by WARMA. In this aspect, Government should be made aware that these new costs are straight away passed on to producers which works against the policy pronouncements that agriculture is a priority sector being promoted for diversification.

Corporate members observed that the Union was needed now more than ever to lobby on behalf of farmers hence it was important to galvanize financial support and address all the legacy issues.

COMMODITY UPDATES

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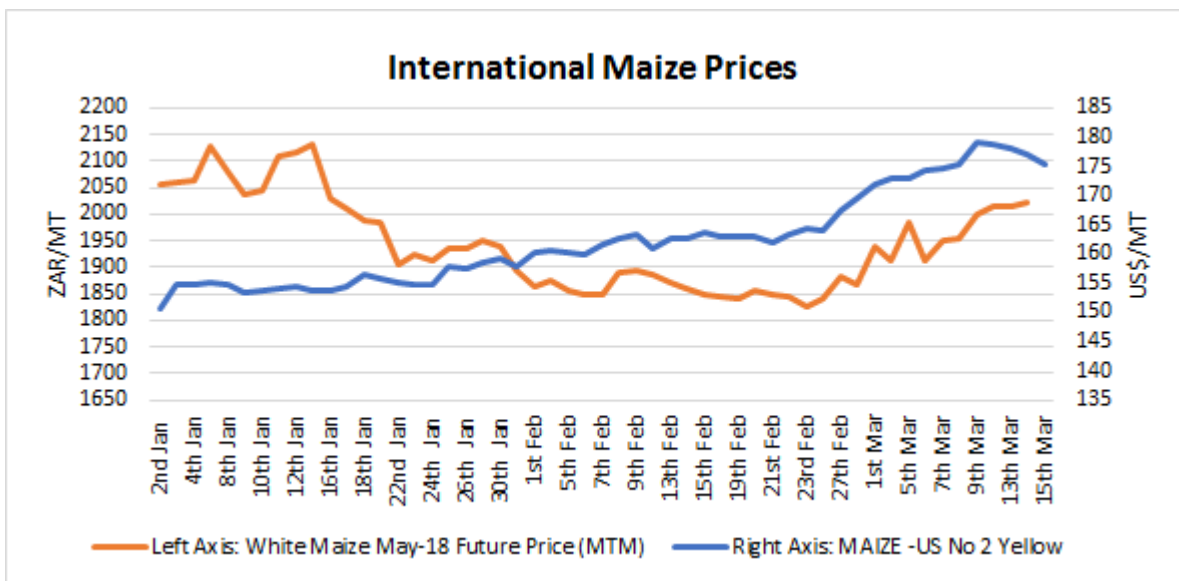
MAIZE UPDATES



- Preliminary indications are that 15% of Zimbabwe's area under maize was affected by fall army worms. The damage by the fall army worms, coupled with the experience of a prolonged dry spell are likely to reduce the anticipated increase in the Southern African State's anticipated harvest and raise its import demand. Last year, Zimbabwe more than doubled its five-year average output to 2.54 million tons in 2017.
- Locally, maize trading has slowed down with no exports currently going through. As at 15th March 2018, millers and other maize off takers were still not bidding for maize on the ZAMACE platform. The only bid recorded was that of 1,100MT of orange maize. The sale offer prices of maize are still in the range of US\$170-200 (≈K1,700 -2,000/MT).

International Price Trends

The U.S gulf spot prices of yellow maize was pegged at US\$175.23/MT on 15th March 2018 while the white maize futures for May delivery on Safex settled at ZAR 1989/MT (≈US\$168.42/MT).



Data Source: Safex, 201

SOYA BEANS UPDATES

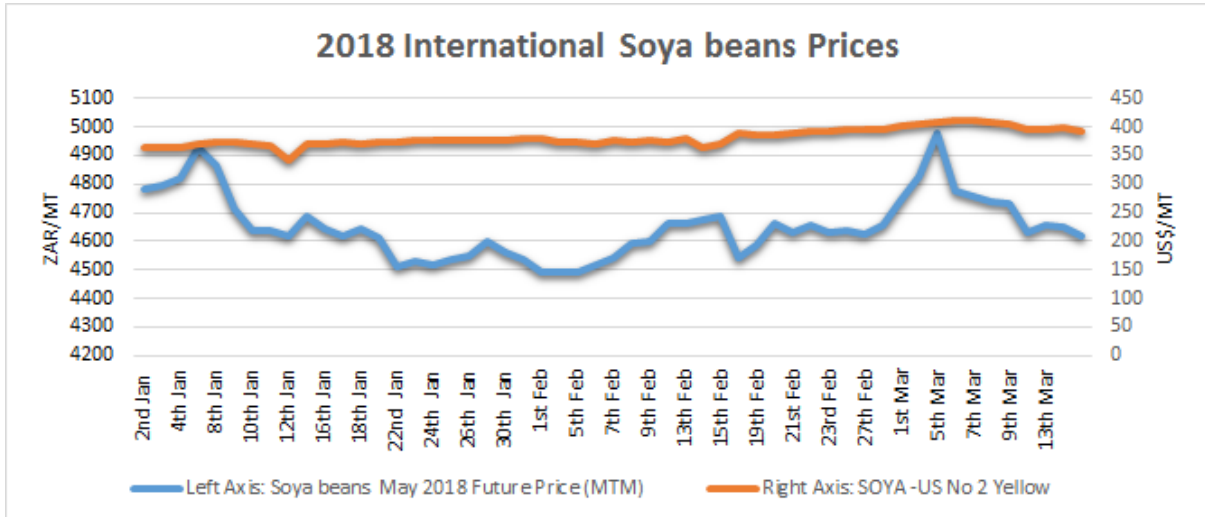
- The March 2018 USDA report on global supply of soya beans has projected a drop to 340.85 million tons in the 2017/18 production year from a production of 351.3 million tons in the 2016/17 year. The drops in the forecasted production by Argentina, India and Uruguay have offset the anticipated increases in the crop from Brazil, China and South Africa. Brazil has in the meantime continued to take advantage of Argentina's reduced exports and has been aggressive in sending out its beans to the world.
- Locally, Trader offer prices for the purchase of the oilseed are hovering around US\$ 410/MT (≈US\$4100/ton).

International Price Trends

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- The International Soya beans prices eased off their steam a little over the last week with the US Gulf prices quoted at US\$393.06/TM on T15th March 2018





Data Source: Safex, 2018

Wheat Updates

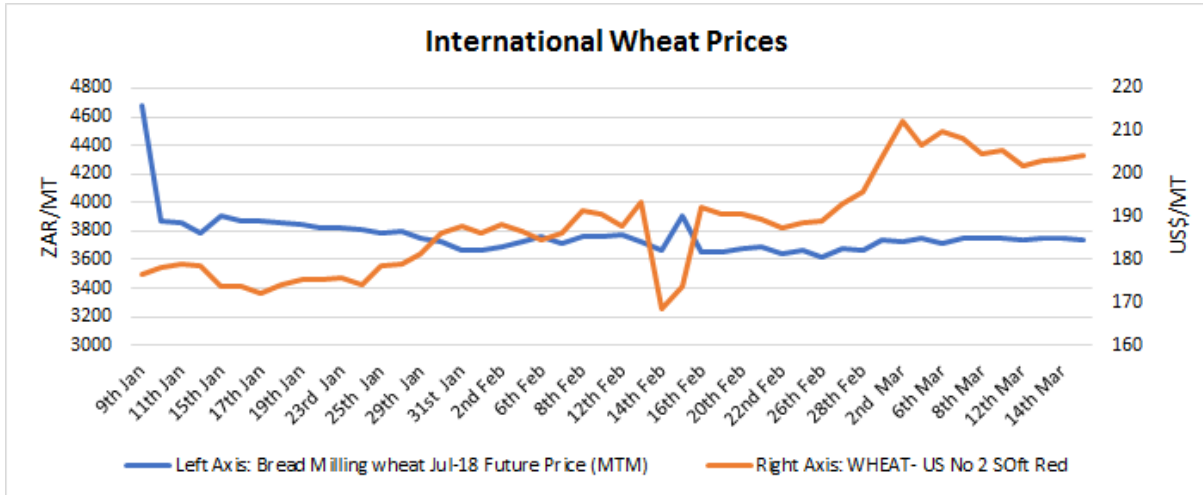
- Australia is forecasting better wheat yields in 2018 after the La Nina brought the much-needed rainfall to the country over the last couple of weeks. Meanwhile USDA has revised upwards its 2017-18 world wheat output to 28.79 million metric tons. Increased output from the EU, Russia and China among others is anticipated to outweigh the reduction in output by the USA and the South American countries.
- Local wheat offer prices are around K4200 -4300/ton (≈US\$420-430/ton). Meanwhile, the millers are currently eyeing the international wheat grain as they await the outcome of their request to import. Farmers' have not opposed the millers' request but have insisted on maintenance of the import duty and that imports should cease by 31st August so as not to affect the local marketing of the 2018 crop.

International Price Trends

The South African bread milling wheat for July delivery averaged ZAR3743MT (≈US\$316.93/ton) on 15th March 2018. The US gulf fob spot prices of soft red wheat where on the other hand hovering around US\$204/ton on the same day.

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Data Source: Safex, 2018

FROM THE EASTERN REGIONS

SOUTHERN

LIVINGSTONE TO HOST 2018 SOUTHERN PROVINCE AGRICULTURE SHOW

The 2018 Southern Province agricultural, commercial and tourism show will be held in Livingstone from 28th June to 1st July 2018. This development was confirmed by the Southern Province agriculture and commercial society vice chairman Mr. Lumamba.

The decision to have the show in Livingstone was arrived at during the provincial show preparatory meeting which was held in Choma on 15th March 2018 where both Southern Province agricultural and commercial show society (SPACS) and Southern Tourism and Commercial Show Society (STACS) met and resolved to hold one provincial show unlike having two separate shows that have been held in the past two years.

The decision to have the show in Livingstone was arrived at because STACS has available land and a bit of infrastructure on which to host the event and also because marketing and selling of services and products both in the agriculture and tourism sectors is easier in Livingstone than Choma.

CHONGWE

KANAKANTAPA FARMERS BEMOAN POOR ROAD NETWORK

Farmers in Kanakantapa area of Chongwe have bemoaned the poor road network in the area. Kanakantapa is known for its supply of tomatoes and other vegetables.



With the rains that have been intense in the past two months, the main road that goes to Chongwe has been extensively damaged such that farmers are having challenges transporting their produce to the nearest market; Chongwe Main Market.

EASTERN

LUNDAZI

CONSERVATION FARMING UNIT LAUNCHES 2018 FIELD DAYS

The conservation farming unit (CFU) – eastern region launched the 2018 field days in Lundazi under the theme; “Conservation Agriculture: enhancing farmer’s livelihood by sustainably increasing farmer’s resilience, ensuring high yields, profitability and food security”

The launch was attended by hundreds of farmers mainly from Kachule Agricultural Camp in Lundazi central block.

This year’s field days are expected to be exciting and very educative because of the new component which has been included called the plant clinic. Under this section farmers will present diseased plant samples from their respective fields for diagnosis and hence forth advice shall be given.

Field days are important events on the farmer’s calendar as they are a platform where farmers learn about how different crop varieties perform, new agricultural technologies, newly introduced farm machinery and many more.

FARMERS’ HOLIDAYS

The following are Public/Farmers’ Holidays coming up during the year and members should observe THOSE MARKED IN YELLOW;

January 1 (Monday) – New Year’s Day

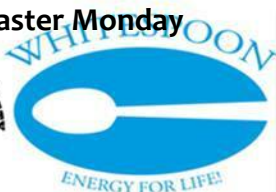
March 8 (Thursday) – International Women’s Day

March 12 (Monday) – Youth Day

March 30 (Friday) – Good Friday

~~March 31 (Saturday)~~ – Easter Saturday

April 2 (Monday) – Easter Monday



May 1 (Tuesday) – Labour Day

May 25 (Friday) – Africa Freedom Day

July 2 (Monday) – Heroes Day

July 3 (Tuesday) – Unity Day

August 6 (Monday) – Farmers’ Day

October 18 (Thursday) – National Prayers’ Day

October 24 (Wednesday) – Independence Day

December 25 (Tuesday) – Christmas Day

Kindly note that the ones **NOT MARKED YELLOW** are **NOT FARMERS’ HOLIDAYS!!!!**

ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS!

SOLID BAMBOO (*oxytenanthera abyssinica*)

For sale;

Suitable for small, medium and large-scale farmers.

Unlike ordinary bamboo, our variety is not hollow hence “solid core bamboo”.

Ideal for tomato staking, fencing posts (droppers) and construction, among other uses.

Posts available at Arulussa Farm in 2m, 2.5m and 3m.

For more details, kindly contact;

John Kimani on +260966849187 or

Malambo Mukwa on +260975174692

ATTENTION SELLERS AND BUYERS!!!

Do you have Soya Beans to sell or want Maize to buy at a competitive rate?

1. ZAMACE has a Bid (Buy) of 5,000MT of Soya Beans in Lusaka.

Sellers are invited to make their offers (SELL)

See locations of offers: www.zamace.co.zm/trading

2. ZAMACE has on offer (Sell) of 32,000MT of maize in Chipata, Petauke, Kalomo and Lusaka.

Buyers are invited to make their bids (Buy)





Contact a registered participant / broker to trade.

or

Contact ZAMACE :

T: +260 963 719 723

M: +260 977 988 897

E: jmwale@zamace.co.zm

info@zamace.co.zm

www.zamace.co.zm

SELLING MAIZE?

Farmers with stocks of maize available for sale should consider placing parcels on the ZAMACE Platform. We have been informed that procedures have been simplified. For more information contact:

Jacob Mwale

Executive Director

ZAMACE Limited

Plot No. 26592 Kafue Road

T: +260 960 432 266

M: +260 977 988 897

E: jmwale@zamace.co.zm

info@zamace.co.zm

In addition, there are millers interested in buying maize. For full details of the millers involved, contact:

Dr. Harrison Banda

Millers Association of Zambia (MAZ)

C/o Harrison & Associates Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors

Tel: +260 211 845 541

Cel: +260 977 654 599 / +260 966 800 606

E-mail: harrison.associates@microlink.zm Website: harrisonandassociates.com

WEATHER

ZAMBIA EVENING WEATHER FORECAST: FRIDAY (16/03/2018)

GENERAL SITUATION

The Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continues to oscillate about the northern parts of Zambia.

RAINFALL REPORTED TODAY AT 08:00 HRS (16/03/2018) IN MILLIMETERS.



ZNFU

Serenje 26, Kawambwa 18, Misamfu 13, Mt Makulu 10, Senanga 8, Mkushi agro and Solwezi 7, Mpika 5, Kasama, Lusaka city airport 4 Isoka and Kabompo 3, Msekera 2, Lundazi, Chinsali FTC and Samfya 1, Kalabo and Choma had less than a millimetre (trace).

FORECAST FOR TONIGHT: FRIDAY (16/03/2018)

North western, Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern, Muchinga and northern districts of Eastern and Western provinces: Cloudy with a chance of rain and thunder in places.

The rest of Zambia: Partly cloudy to cloudy with a chance of rain and thunder in places.

FORECAST FOR WEEKEND SATURDAY & SUNDAY (17 & 18/03/2018)

North western, Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern, Muchinga and northern districts of Eastern and Western provinces: Partly cloudy progressively becoming cloudy with isolated morning rains, afternoon showers and thunderstorms. Nights will have a chance of rain and thunder.

The rest of Zambia: Mostly sunny becoming cloudy with a chance of afternoon showers and thunderstorms. Nights will be mainly clear and mild.

OUTLOOK TO MONDAY (19/03/2018)

Rainfall activities to continue over the northern half of Zambia.

**Produced and compiled by the Zambia Meteorological Department,
Ministry of Transport and Communications.**



12 - 14
APRIL 2018

Presented by
AFGRI

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