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FRIDAY BRIEF

WEEK 14, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Stalemate on discussions over new Water Statutory Instruments (SIs) Introduced By WARMA
- Foot and Mouth Disease breaks out in Chisamba
- ZNFU president meets Western Region DFAS
- Termites invade Kaoma Cassava fields

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- 5 Agritech in Offing



IN DETAIL....

STALEMATE ON DISCUSSIONS OVER NEW WATER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS (SIs) INTRODUCED BY WARMA

The discussions between the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection and the ZNFU on the new Statutory Instrument 18 on water fees & charges and 20 on groundwater & borehole management resumed today. In a spirit of dialogue, the meeting recognized that there was need;

- To reopen consultations because the farming community were not adequately consulted.
- For ZNFU representation on the WARMA Board and that this was an omission which should be rectified.
- To revisit the fee structure including the impact assessment.
- For the establishment of the catchment councils and water users associations through legislation.
- For the formation of a WARMA/ZNFU Committee to facilitate consultations at technical level.

Despite making progress through joint recognition of the need to revisit the identified gaps by both parties, the way forward ended in a stalemate. The Union submission remains that the Statutory Instruments should be suspended, subjected to further consultations then re-issued. Present at the meeting were the Minister and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection and the ZNFU team was led by the President, 1st Vice President, Acting E/Director and farmers (from Choma/Kalomo, Mazabuka, Chisamba & Mkushi) including ZEGA (Growers & Exporters of cut flowers, fruits and vegetables).

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE BREAKS OUT IN CHISAMBA

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) has broken out in Chisamba area. This has prompted the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock to place a ban on the movement of livestock into Chisamba, and from Chisamba.

The ban was announced on Thursday 5th April 2018 by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, through the National Agriculture and Information Services (NAIS).

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The ban has also been spread to fish, which by virtue of coming into contact with people may also be affected and also dairy products from Chisamba area.



ZNFU PRESIDENT MEETS WESTERN REGION DFAS

Zambia National Farmers' Union (ZNFU) president Jervis Zimba on Thursday 5th April 2018 met the seven (7) Western Region District Farmers' Associations (DFA)s executive in a bid to strengthen interface and listen to the challenges that they have been faced with during the just ended agriculture season and the 2017/2018 farming window.

Mr. Zimba reminded the Council members of their role as drivers of the Union and asked them to submit their challenges and ideas that would make fortify the Union. He said it is submissions that would be collected from the various DFAs that would make the core set targets which the Secretariat would implement as part of its strategy to redirect the Union.

The ZNFU president also took time to unveil a 20-pointer success score, which the Union has achieved over the past 12 months and restated that this came about due to the support at Council level.

The DFA thanked the ZNFU president for having made time to visit the region and pledged to support growth of the Union, even in adversity.

Some of the challenges brought out included the sloppy e-voucher, late payment to farmers and the duping of farmers by some agrodealers.

The meeting was attended by the DFA chairpersons from Itezhi Tezhi, Mongu, Kaoma, Nkeyema, Mumbwa and Kalabo. Lukulu was not represented.

Earlier, the ZNFU team paid a courtesy call on the Kaoma District Commissioner Kennedy Mubanga, who was impressed with the work ZNFU was doing.

The ZNFU president was accompanied by the second vice president Austin Shinachize, who is also Mumbwa DFA chairperson.

TERMITES INVADE KAOMA CASSAVA FIELDS

An outbreak of termites in Kaoma is threatening to devour hundreds of hectares of cassava fields.

The disclosure was made by Kaoma DFA Chairperson Joseph Mungandi during the second regional council with the ZNFU president Jervis Zimba and the second vice president Austin Shinachize.

Mr. Mungandi mused that if something is not done urgently, the DFA may lose some of the crop, which has been contracted by Premium Cone Starch, a mineral processing firm based in Solwezi.



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About 500 outgrowers have been contracted to grow cassava, which will be uplifted by Premium Cone Starch. These 500 outgrowers, once established, are expected to pass the cassava seed to other farmers so that the numbers of outgrowers could increase and so the supply.

Cassava is also on high demand in neighbouring Angola, whose buyers have been offering US\$100 per 50kg bag.

The Kaoma DFA has appealed for help to control and curb the spread of the pests.

5TH AGRITECH IN OFFING

The ZNFU hosts the fifth Agritech Expo in Chisamba from 12th to 14th April at the Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (GART).

His Excellency Edgar Chagwa Lungu, is expected to grace the official opening of the **Agritech Expo Zambia** outdoor farming exhibition. The event is expected to attract more than 22-thousand visitors this year and will feature some 270 local and international agri equipment and services suppliers. The theme of the President's address during the opening ceremony on Friday, 13 April, will be: *"Resilience part of Zambian nature: Applauding every step forward towards the modernisation of Zambian agriculture"*. Mr Lungu will be joined by the Hon. Kampamba Mulenga, Zambia's Minister of Fisheries and Livestock as well as the Hon. Michael Katambo, Minister in Zambia's Ministry of Agriculture.

Meanwhile, Mr Jervis Zimba, president of the Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) and the owners of **Agritech Expo Zambia**, says while farmers have been through a difficult period recently "it is time to put the challenges behind us and have a fresh start."

He adds: "the ZNFU is in the process of producing a Marshall Plan for short term, medium term and long term agricultural plans that, if adopted, could help propel the sector to a whole new level. As ZNFU, we have an open-door policy and are open to discussions. We would like to share our ideas and plans with government and other stakeholders, and hence platforms like Agritech Expo."

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Agricultural Commodity Prices Took an Upswing in March -FAO

Stronger international prices of cereals and dairy were mostly behind the increase in the FAO March food price index to 172.8 points, 1.1% higher than the February Index. According to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), meat prices rose slightly whilst prices of sugar and vegetable oils fell. Cereal prices have been on the rise in the



past few months on the backdrop of poor weather in key producing countries such as Brazil, the United States and European Union. On the dairy front, Lower than anticipated milk production in New Zealand and continued strong global import demand led to higher butter, cheese and Whole Milk Powder prices, while continued pressure from global stocks and higher production pushed down SMP prices. FAO further highlighted that a weaker Brazilian Real and relaxed export rules from India, allowing millers to sell overseas until end of the current season, were factors boosting sugar shipments from both countries and resulting in more subdued international price quotations.

COMMODITY UPDATES

Maize Updates

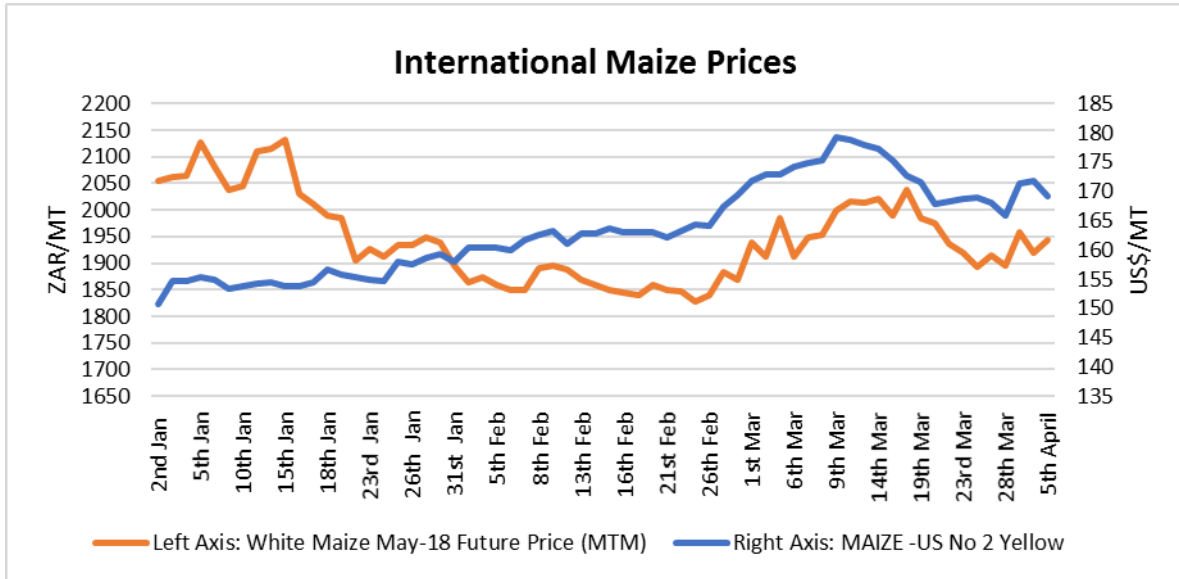
- According to RATIC, Tanzania and Uganda's maize whole prices were about US\$133.31-US\$173.31/ton and US\$179.78-185.23/ton respectively on 6th April 2018. The Prices in Kenya, Rwanda and Burundi on the other hand were pegged at US\$380.34/MT, US\$307.84/MT and US\$400-487/MT respectively
- Despite the huge crop recorded in the 2017/18 agricultural season, traders locally have expressed concern on the bureaucratic bottlenecks in the issuance of export permit. This has affected the local markets with processors offering the small scale into mill prices of as low as K65/50Kg bag for small supplies at a time of the year when maize prices are expected to hit their pick. Customs data shows that maize exports were about 3,500MT and 2000MT in February and March 2018 respectively. Historically, Zambia's maize exports have hit as high as 66,000MT in a month.
- Meanwhile, more maize offers were recorded on Zamace last week with no new bids. The maize sale offer prices were in the range of US\$161-190 (≈K1,610 -1,875/MT).

International Price Trends

The U.S gulf spot prices of yellow maize was pegged at US\$190.05/MT on 5th April 2018 while the white maize futures for May delivery on Safex settled at ZAR 1943/MT (≈US\$163.27/MT).

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Data Source: Safex, 2018

Soya beans updates

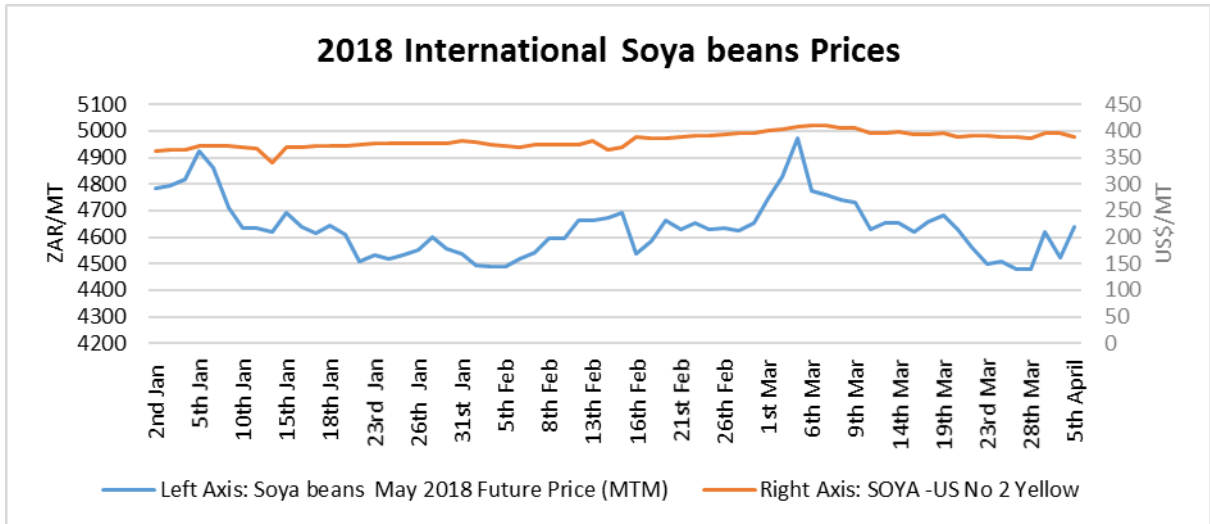
- The trade war between China and the USA has finally hit soya beans with the Chinese government proposing import tariff of 25% on U.S soya beans. This will crush the U.S soya beans market as China buys about half of the U.S soya. Being a heavy consumer of the oilseed, China will most likely look to alternative sources such and Brazil is most likely to be the greatest beneficiary as the U.S looks for alternative markets. Other agricultural commodities affected by the trade embargo are beef, maize, wheat and cotton.
- Locally, Soya beans prices are on an upswing were were in the range of US\$400-430/ton. The new crop however has just started coming in and this might curtail the upward thrust in prices.

International Price Trends

- The US Gulf soya beans prices were quoted at US\$388.65/TM on 5th April 2018 while South African prices for May delivery were pegged at ZAR 4639/MT (≈US\$389.83/MT).

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Data Source: Safex, 2018

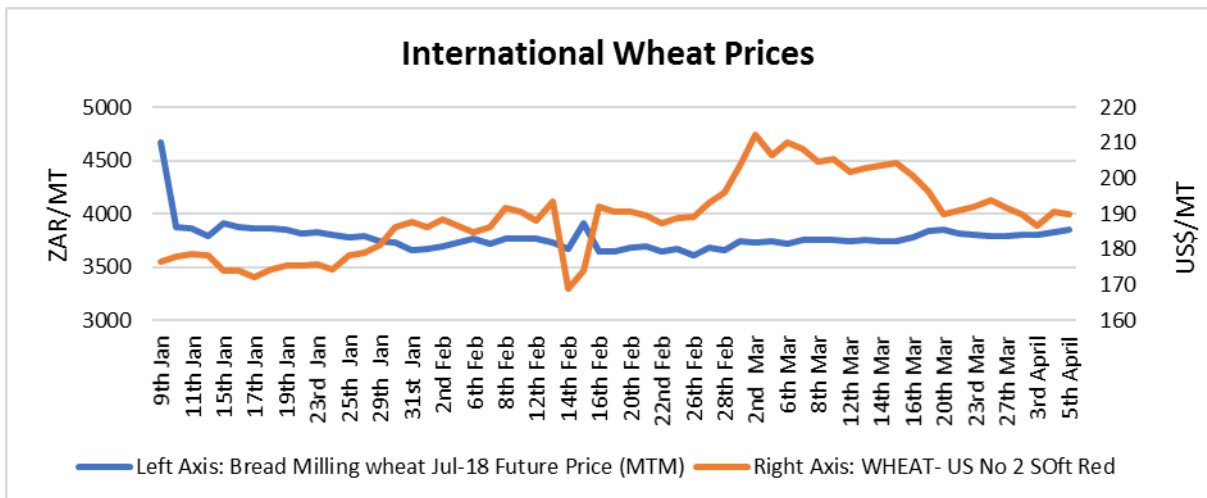
Wheat

Russia’s wheat exports have grown by about 40% over the last year. With only 3 more months to go before the end of its 2017/18 marketing season on 30th June, the country has exported in excess of 39 million tons of wheat. Prices (fob) for 12.5% protein for April delivery were estimated at US\$208/ton by the Russian Institute for Agricultural Market Studies (IKAR)

- Local wheat offer prices are still about US\$430/ton.

International Price Trends

The South African bread milling wheat for July delivery averaged ZAR3846MT (≈US\$323.19/ton) on 5th April 2018. The US gulf fob spot prices of soft red wheat were on the other hand hovering around US\$190.05/ton on the same day.



Data Source: Safex, 2018



ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS!

TOLL GATE ALERT

The ZNFU in partnership with NRFA have come up with the following measures to ensure the smooth flow of traffic at the Katuba Toll plaza;

- With the help from ZP and RTSA, some motor vehicles will be filtered from the built-up traffic and directed to the empty toll booths. This will be done when the traffic builds up occurs on the single lane before vehicles get to the Toll plaza platform which has 4 lanes.
- Further, the Agency will allocate more toll booths when the traffic builds up is at the plaza platform to allow for a quick flow of traffic. This will be done either way depending on the direction where there is a traffic build up. Currently there are 4 lanes on either direction and 5 lanes will be assigned from the direction which has a traffic build up, which is an addition of 1 lane extra.

Please note that the Frequent user rates are automatically charged when a particular vehicle passes through the same toll plaza for at least 10 times in a calendar month, and these are **only applicable** to motor vehicles in the 1st and 2nd categories on the NRFA Toll chat (Category 1, [GVM 0 – 3,500] and Category 2, [GVM 3,501 – 6,500])

All the Road users are expected to follow the Road traffic regulations and should only act otherwise when asked to do so by the traffic officers (ZP and RTSA) who will be assigned at the Toll Plaza at the time.

20% DISCOUNT ON AGRO- EQUIPMENT

Shacman is offering 20% discount on all of its agro-equipment currently available in stock.

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Malambo Mukwa on +260975174692

WEATHER

ZAMBIA EVENING WEATHER FORECAST: FRIDAY (06/04/2018)

GENERAL SITUATION

Moderate and relatively moist airflow from the South East will be affecting most parts of Zambia. However during this period the disturbance in the lower atmosphere may cause an increase in showery activities over the Northern and Western parts of the country.

RAINFALL REPORTED TODAY AT 08:00 HRS (06/04/2018) IN MILLIMETERS

⁴Sesheke 42, Mansa Met 40, Kabwe Agro 35, Senanga 34, Mongu 27,
Livingstone 26, Kabwe Met 25, Kasempa 23, Isoka 22, Samfya 20,



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Kawambwa 18, Kalabo 15, Serenje 11, Kafironda 9, Choma 8, Magoye 5, Lundazi, Zambezi and Ndola 4, Lusaka City Airport, Mkushi Agro, Mpika, and Kaoma 3, Petauke 2, Kafue Polder 1, Solwezi and Kasama had less than a millimetre (trace).

VOLUNTARY RAINFAL STATIONS

Malawo 13, Bulanda 8, Mulumbu 6.

FORECAST FOR TONIGHT: FRIDAY (06/04/2018)

Lusaka, Southern, Western, North-western, Copperbelt, Luapula, and western districts of Central Province: Cloudy with isolated rain and thunder.

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

FORECAST FOR THE WEEKEND: SATURDAY (07/04/2018) & SUNDAY (08/04/2018)

Eastern, Muchinga and eastern districts of Lusaka and Central Province: partly cloudy, slightly windy with a chance of afternoon showers and thunderstorms.

The rest of Zambia: Mostly cloudy with a chance of morning rains, isolated afternoon showers and thunderstorms.

OUTLOOK TO MONDAY: (09/04/2018)

Similar weather to continue over most parts of the country.

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



**12 – 14
APRIL 2018**

Presented by



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