

Commerce Today

Monthly Critical Commodities Bulletin

Weeks of March 26- April 26, 2015

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Next Report

Publication Date

March 26, 2015

Data collected by
the Price Analysis
and Marketing
Division

Ministry of Commerce and Industry

The Commerce Today Monthly Critical Commodities Bulletin is a product of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry developed to inform the public on key commodities inventory and pricing on a monthly basis. The data reported is gathered based on assessment of import documents which include commercial invoice, assessment notice, single administrative document, clean report of findings, and targeted market sample surveys.

The below analyzed prices are contingent on inflation, exchange rate, import duties, shipping costs, insurance, licensing and registration fees and other administrative overheads.

Major Commodities Summary

Rice

- **Current Warehouse Stock:** 69,301.225 MT or 2,512,049 (25 kg bags)
- **Current Monthly Consumption:** 29,168.81MT or 1,166,725.50 (25kg bags)
- **Current Annual Consumption:** 350,025.72MT or 14,001,028.80(25kg bags)
- **Imported Stock Duration:** Up to May 25, 2015
- **Retail Price Range:** **Urban:** \$14.50 – \$16.50/25kg, **Rural:** Add average regional transportation cost to retail price (see page 2)
- **Pending Orders (Confirmed):** N/A MT or N/A(25kg bags) currently unloading
- **Pending Orders:** 32,931 MT or 1,317,240 (25kg bags) due March – July, 2015
- **Domestic Production:** TBD by MoA

Petroleum

- **Current Stock: Gasoline (PMS):** 15,582.48 MT (5,453,867gallons); **Diesel (AGO):** 18,005.06MT (5,527,552 gallons); **Jet A-1:** 3,137 MT (1,003,692 gallons)
- **Total Stock Duration:** Average 46 days
- **Current Monthly Consumption: PMS:** 150,000 gallons/day; **AGO:** 100,000 gallons/day; **Jet A-1:** 87,000 gallon/day
- **Retail Price Ceiling: AGO:** \$3.01; **PMS:** \$3.06 **Jet A-1:** US\$3.24
- **Pending Orders (Confirmed): AGO:** 3,000 MT **PMS:** 2,000 MT

Cement

- **Current Stock:** 1,059,159 (50kg bags)
- **Stock Duration:** Local Manufacturer CEMENCO: average production is 23,000 (50kg bags/day)
- **Current Monthly Consumption:** varies (seasonal)
- **Retail Price Range: Urban:** \$8.50 – 8.75/50kg, **Rural:** \$9 - 10 /50kg

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| Petroleum Prices | Wholesale / Retail | Gasoline (PMS) | Fuel Oil (AGO) |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Data based on monthly petroleum circular based on international Platts publication, CBL's end-of-period rate (US\$1 to L\$85) and Liberia's markup regime. | Wholesale Selling Price | US\$2.88 | US\$2.83 |
| | Retail Pump Price | US\$3.06/ LD\$260.00 | US\$3.01/ LD\$260.00 |

| Rice/25KG/Brand | Whole-sale Price | Urban Retail Price | Average Cost of Rural Transportation in USD | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|---|---------|------|------------|
| | | | Central | Eastern | West | South-East |
| Indian Parboiled IR64 5% broken; Brands: Bella Luna, Mario, Peacock, Lion/Blue, and the Pink Bag | 16.00 | 16.50 | 1.31 | 0.79 | 1.66 | 3.78 |
| Indian Parboiled 100% broken, Brands: Anchor, Crown, Finda, Liberty, Lady Noora | 14.00 | 14.50 | 1.31 | 0.79 | 1.66 | 3.78 |

Eastern: Rural Montserrado, Margibi, Bassa and Rivercess Counties

Western: Bomi, Cape Mount and Gbarpolu Counties

Central: Bong, Nimba and Lofa Counties

South East: Grand Gedeh, River Gee, Maryland, Sinoe and Grand Kru Counties

| Other Essential Product | Retail Pricing | | |
|--|----------------|-----------|----------|
| | Low | High | |
| Refined Vegetable Palm Oil (Olein 5lt) | US\$5.65 | US\$25.96 | |
| Wheat Flour 50kg | US\$34.59 | US\$38.04 | |
| Onions (10kg) | 35/50MM | US\$5.84 | US\$6.72 |
| | 60/80MM | US\$6.47 | US\$7.44 |
| Iodized Salt | US\$2.38 | US\$2.84 | |
| Sachet Water/20 sachets per bag | LD75 | LD90 | |
| Engine Oil Virco SAE 50 12X1LT | US\$17.82 | US\$22.27 | |
| Charcoal (bag) | LD300 | LD350.00 | |

Note: Prices are in USD, unless stated otherwise

Local Production - Private Sector Spotlight

| | | |
|----------------|--|----------|
| Company: | Falama Inc | |
| Product | Cassava Chip, and Cassava Flour | |
| Unit | 500G | 350G |
| Price | US\$4.00 | US\$3.00 |
| Summary: | Falama Inc. is a Liberian-owned business involved in the processing and packaging of locally produced cassava chip and cassava flour. The business is a model for MSME development, as highlighted in the Ministry's MSME Directory. | |
| Contact Info.: | Congo Town Cell 0777512940 | |

Transportation Corner

| Broad Street to: | | |
|-------------------------|-----|------|
| Destination in L\$ | Bus | Taxi |
| Duport Road Junction | 25 | 55 |
| Red Light Paynesville | 35 | 60 |
| Vai Town Bushrod Island | 10 | 15 |
| Clara Town | 10 | 15 |
| Freeport | 10 | 20 |
| Jamaica Road Junction | 15 | 25 |
| Logan Town | 15 | 25 |
| Bong Mines Bridge | 20 | 25 |
| Duala | 20 | 35 |
| Monrovia Breweries | 20 | 40 |