



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Syria: Agriculture Input and Commodity Bulletin

August 2021





## Background and Introduction

Agriculture, including crop and animal husbandry, forestry; fisheries and agro-processing with post-harvest handling and marketing, constitutes the basis of socio-economic lives of most smallholder farmers in the Syrian Arab Republic. FAO works on strengthening the value chain and food systems by empowering the involved stakeholders' capacity, mainly farmers, and expanding their knowledge and understand of the surrounding situation by sharing useful reports to make agriculture production sustainable, considers gender aspects and climate smart. The Organization in Syria releases the **"Monthly agriculture input and commodity price bulletin"** that provides timely insights from 35 districts across Homs, Hama, Aleppo, Tartous, Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus, Al-Hasakeh and Dar'a governorates, to inform relevant stakeholders, the Food Security Sector (FSS) and partners supporting agriculture and food security interventions in the country about the prevailing prices of agriculture inputs and commodities. This bulletin is a useful publication since markets and market information both play an important role in food security, income generation, resilience and rural-market linkages. Regular dissemination of market information will benefit smallholder farmers in their market-oriented production endeavors.

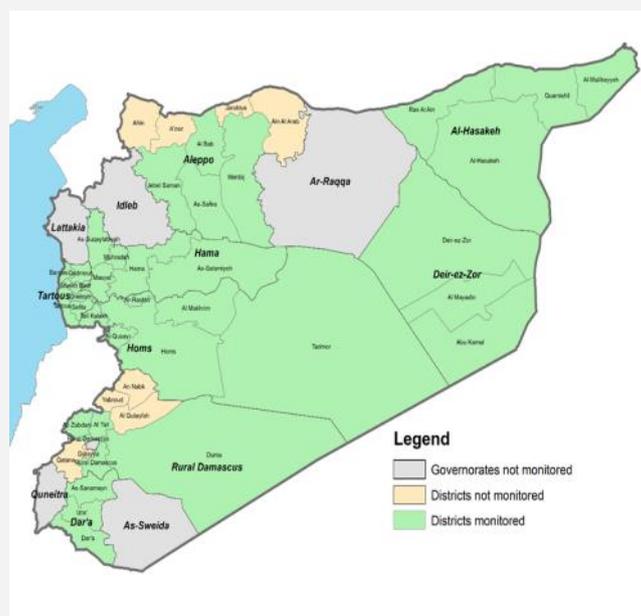
**DISCLAIMER:** The information in this bulletin comes from monthly market surveys conducted informally by FAO field staff. While FAO Syria strives to provide accurate and timely market information, there may be slight unintended technical or factual inaccuracies. Decisions based on information contained herein are the sole responsibility of the reader. For further insights and analysis of food prices, WFP also issues Syria Price Bulletins regularly and these can be access through the Syria Food Security Cluster FSC website here <https://fscluster.org/search?>

## Key Highlights

- Agriculture inputs and Food prices in the monitored governorates continue to rise, exerting more pressure on most Syrian families. Findings show that out of 28 monitored agriculture inputs, 25 of these inputs showed an increase ranging between 1 percent for wheat bran and 45 percent for soya bean meal. In terms of food items, 15 out of the 16 monitored food items showed varied increases in price in August 2021. The most significant average price increase recorded was for tomato at 59 percent, potato 62 percent and fish 21 percent m-o-m in August 2021. The average price of bread also increased by an estimated 13 percent m-o-m across the monitored governorates and this will further result in limited access to subsidized bread among most Syrian families, considering that bread is the most important staple food in Syria.
- Fuel shortages continue to persist in most governorates and this has presented challenges to farmers who also rely on fuel for land preparation, irrigation, transportation and other agriculture value chain activities for the coming winter season. The fuel shortages and supply constraints are putting financial pressure on farmers since this is having knock-on effects on overall production costs. In August 2021, there was a 30 percent increase in the average price of diesel fuel month on month (m-o-m). The high cost of diesel fuel will continue to reduce income from agriculture viability.
- The shortage of cattle and sheep fodder due to the absence of natural rangelands, emanating from the erratic season in 2020/2021, and limited availability of pastures and green feed, has resulted in a sharp increase in livestock feed prices. The limited access to livestock fodder has become significant burden for livestock keepers. Because of the aforementioned crisis, most herders are adopting negative coping strategies related to the distress selling of livestock assets. Unfortunately, this will subsequently have detrimental effects on most household's consumption of livestock products and dietary diversity.
- Security incidents in southern Syria, specifically in Dará Al-balad, affected the smooth movement of different agriculture inputs and commodities. The disturbances in Dar'a had an effect on accessibility and availability of different agriculture inputs, preventing farmers from con-

tinuing their normal agriculture activities as the surrounding yards became inaccessible. Based on observations, livestock herders are the most affected groups due to the population movement and displacement. The insecurity in Dar'a, which occurred mostly in July 2021 and August 2021, threatened some agricultural operations and there is need for sector partners to assess the impact and prevailing situation.

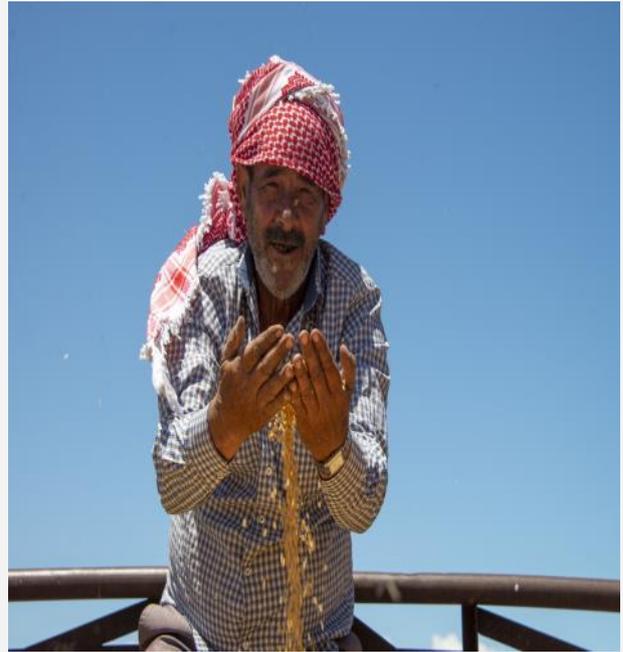
- By 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, the Syrian pound continued to depreciate in the informal market with a continued fall to just above 3,350 SYP / USD, while the official exchange rate remained pegged at SYP 2,500/USD. This will most likely result in the continued increase in agriculture input prices, especially for those that are imported and sold in the local markets.



**Figure 1:** Markets Monitored by FAO on a monthly basis.

## Key Highlights

- The COVID-19 pandemic continues to add another layer of challenges among Syrian families. According to WHO regular updates, reports show that the number of people confirmed by the Ministry of Health (MoH) to have COVID-19 as of 16th August 2021 are 1, 677 (this includes 64 fatalities, 417 recoveries). The areas of concern are densely populated areas, notably Damascus / Rural Damascus, Aleppo and Homs, and those living in camps and informal settlements in NES, collective shelters throughout the country, as well as other areas including Deir-Ez-Zor, and where hostilities may be ongoing making sample collection more challenging. All groups are susceptible; however, the elderly and people with underlying health conditions are particularly at risk; as are vulnerable IDP and refugee populations and healthcare workers with inadequate personal protective equipment (PPE). Farmers and sector partners are encouraged to continue practicing Covid-19 preventative measures that include wearing of masks, sanitizing of hands and maintaining social distancing as we engage in various agriculture-based emergency and livelihood activities.



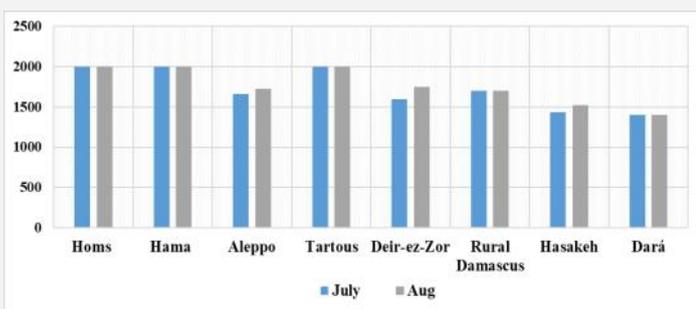
- Agriculture Commodity and Input Prices**

**Top dressing fertilizer (Urea)**

The Agriculture Bank continues to provide farmers in Aleppo, Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus and Dará with urea at 1 400 SYP. In August 2021, shortages of urea are still being observed in Homs, Hama, Tartous and Hasakeh governorates. Due to the significant challenge of urea availability, farmers are forced to purchase their requirements from the local market at an average price of 1 763 SYP per kg (2 percent m-o-m increase). In Homs, Hama, Tartous, Rural Damascus and Dará governorates, prices remained constant and no significant changes were observed in August 2021 (figure 2). The selling price increased slightly in Aleppo (4 percent), Deir-ez-Zor (9 percent), Hasakeh (6 percent) governorates and the average selling prices were at 1 725 , 1 750 and 1 525 SYP per kg respectively.

**Figure 2: M-O-M Comparison of Urea Prices in SYP per Kg in**

**Local Market**



**Nitrate Fertilizer (Granular)**

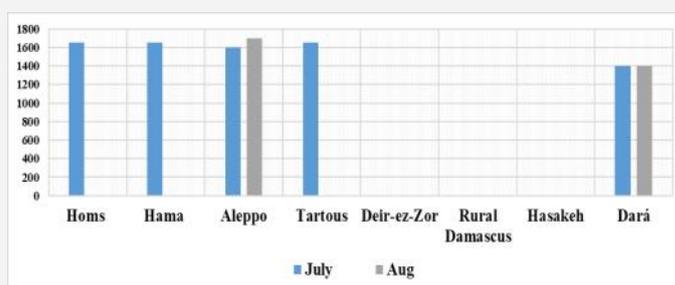
In August 2021, significant challenges in stocking sufficient quantities of nitrate fertilizer across most of the governorates is being noticed, especially in Hasakeh, Tartous, Homs, Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus and Hama. The average selling price of granular nitrate fertilizer was 1 550 SYP per kg in August 2021 (3 percent m-o-m decrease). The average selling price of granular nitrate fertilizer witnessed a slight increase in Aleppo (6 percent m-o-m increase) and the average selling price was 1 700 SYP per kg. In Dará governorate granular nitrate fertilizer is readily available and the price remained constant since June 2021 and the average selling price was pegged at 1 400 SYP per kg (figure 3).

**Nitrate Fertilizer (Liquid):**

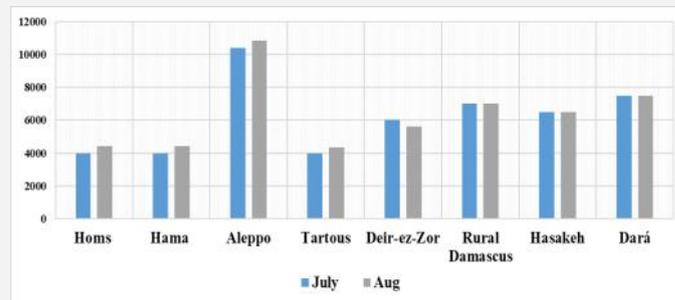
The average selling price of liquid nitrate fertilizer was 6 324 SYP per liter in August 2021 (2 percent m-o-m increase). The prices remained constant in Rural Damascus, Hasakeh and Dará governorates, pegged at 7000, 6 500, and 7 500 SYP

per litre respectively. In Deir-ez-Zor, a slight m-o-m decrease was observed with the average selling price reaching 5 625 SYP per liter. The average selling price in Homs and Hama governorates increased slightly, reaching 4 400 SYP per litre for both locations (10 percent m-o-m), and increased negligibly in Aleppo and Tartous governorates (4 and 8 percent m-o-m respectively) as highlighted in figure 4.

**Figure 3: M-O-M comparison of Nitrate Fertilizer (Granular) prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



**Figure 4: M-O-M Comparison of Nitrate Fertilizer (Liquid) prices in SYP per liter in Local Market**

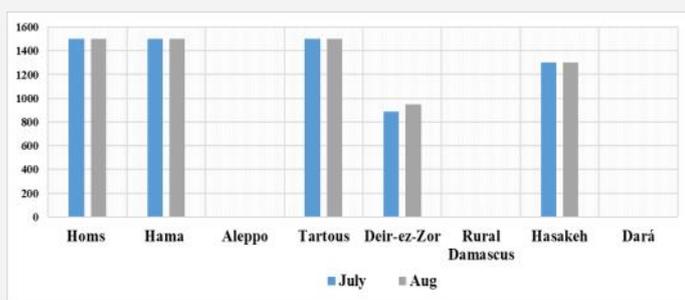


**Ammonium Nitrate (Topdressing):**

Ammonium nitrate promotes vegetative growth in cops, increases yield and better tolerance and resistance to adverse factors. Ammonium Nitrate was generally available in Homs ,Hama, Tartous, Deir-ez-Zor and Hasakeh governorates in August 2021.The farmers were able to cover their needs through supplies within local markets in their respective areas at an average selling price of 1 380 SYP per kg (3 percent m-o-m increase).

Ammonium nitrate was not available in Aleppo, Rural Damascus and Dará governorates in August 2021 from the local market. In the monitored markets where ammonium nitrate was available, the prices remained constant. No significant changes for ammonium nitrate fertilizer were observed in August 2021 except in Deir-ez-Zor governorate where a slight increase (7 percent m-o-m) was noted, with the price rising to 950 SYP per kg (figure 5).

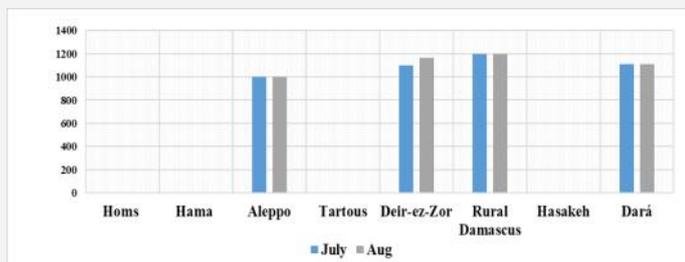
**Figure 5: M-o-m comparison of Ammonium Nitrate prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



### Phosphate fertilizers (Basal)

With the prevailing demand for phosphorous for plant nutrition, root growth, flowering, seed setting and crop productivity, most farmers faced challenges in obtaining granular Phosphate fertilizers during August 2021 across four monitored governorates due to shortages observed in Homs, Hama, Tartous and Hasakeh. The selling price was at 1 120 SYP per kg (2 percent m-o-m increase). In Deir-ez-Zor governorate, the new price of granular phosphate fertilizer reached 1 166 SYP per kg (6 percent m-o-m increase) as highlighted in **figure 6**.

**Figure 6: M-O-M Comparison of Phosphate Fertilizer prices in SYP per Kg in Local Markets**



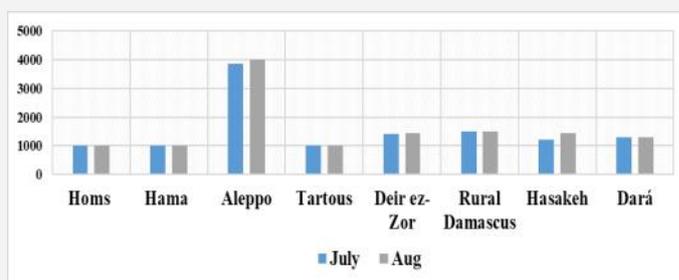
in August 2021, phosphate fertilizer (Liquid type) is still generally available at a price of 1 530 SYP per kg (4 percent m-o-m increase) across most monitored locations. The average selling price remained constant in Homs, Hama, Rural Damascus, Dará and Tartous governorates. Aleppo and Deir ez-Zor witnessed a minimal increase in August 2021 (4 and 2 percent m-o-m), with the average selling price reaching 4 000 and 1 433 SYP per litre respectively. The selling price of liquid phosphate fertilizer in Aleppo was highest price across all the monitored governorates in August 2021. Hasakeh governorate recorded a significant increase (21 percent m-o-m) and the average selling prices reached 1 450 SYP per litre (**figure 7**).

### NPK fertilizer (Basal)

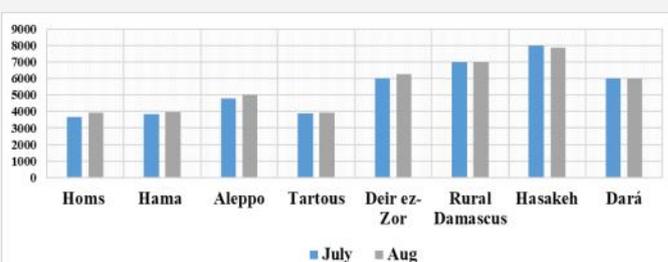
Nitrogen (N), Phosphorous (P) and Potassium (K) are considered the most important macronutrients nutrients that ensure optimal growth of crops and the good quality of the harvested plant products. The mentioned macronutrients are

all fundamental nutrients in plant nutrition. In August 2021, NPK fertilizer prices recorded a very minimal increase (2 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price was at 5 492 SYP per kg across the eight monitored governorates. The prices in Rural Damascus and Dará governorates remained constant since July 2021 and the average selling prices were 7 000 and 6 000 SYP per kg respectively. Hasakeh witnessed a slight decrease (2 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price was 7 875 SYP per kg. A 4 percent m-o-m increase was recorded in Hama, Aleppo and Deir ez-Zor governorates and the prices reached 3 960, 5 000 and 6 250 SYP per kg respectively. Tartous and Homs governorates also recorded a slight increase and the selling prices were at 3 933 and 3 920 SYP per kg respectively (**figure 8**).

**Figure 7: M-O-M Comparison of Phosphate fertilizer (Liquid) prices in SYP per Litre in Local Markets**



**Figure 8: M-O-M Comparison of NPK Prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



### Pesticides

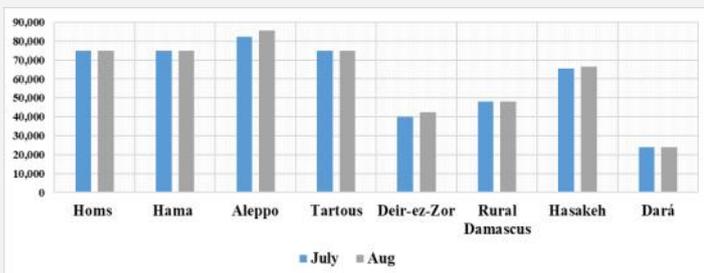
Crop-protection agro-chemicals (i.e. pesticides), which mainly include insecticides, fungicides and herbicides, remain available across all monitored governorates. In general, the average prices of pesticides remain expensive and out of reach for most farmers. It is important to note that the price of pesticides continues to limit access for most vulnerable farmers and this tends to affect the application rates, leading to a greater risk of pest and disease incidences and prevalence. This will ultimately affect production, productivity and the quality of produce of vegetables and fruits. FAO continues to advise sector partners and stakeholders supporting the agriculture sector, to scale-up context-specific Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches and tactics to minimize the reliance on expensive synthetic or inorganic pesticides. IPM is an environmentally friendly strategy that aims to maintain pest populations below economic damaging levels and reducing the use of toxic synthetic chemicals (i.e. pesticides). The farmers and the Food and Agriculture Sector (FAS) partners are encouraged to adopt context-specific and

and appropriate IPM practices, where feasible. This may offer ways to achieve effective long-term pest control while mitigating hazards to humans and the environment, with possibility of increasing the resilience of farming households, including helping farmers cope with the lack of price stability for various pesticides. Furthermore, most available pesticides in the local market are coming from unknown and unofficial sources, hence the quality and efficacy is difficult to verify.

\* **Insecticides (dusts, granules, wettable powders):**

In general, the average selling price of dust, granular and wettable powder insecticides was at 61 447 SYP per kg (1 percent m-o-m increase) in August 2021 and available across the monitored locations. The average selling price remained constant in Homs, Hama, Tartous, Rural Damascus and Dará governorates since July 2021. The lowest selling price was recorded in Deir-ez-Zor governorate at 42 375 SYP per kg despite a 6 percent m-o-m increase. Hasakeh and Aleppo governorates recorded a slight increase (2 and 4 m-o-m respectively), and the price in Aleppo was at 85 700 SYP per kg representing the highest selling price across the monitored markets (figure 9).

**Figure 9: M-O-M Comparison of Insecticide (Dusts, Granules, Wettable Powder) prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



\* **Liquid Insecticides:**

The liquid insecticides average prices increased in August 2021 (4 percent m-o-m), with the average selling price reaching 42 958 SYP per litre. Liquid insecticides were generally available across all of the monitored markets. The prices of liquid insecticide increased slightly in Deir-ez-Zor, Homs, Hama, Tartous and Aleppo governorates (10, 9, 6, 5 and 4 m-o-m respectively). While the prices in Dara' and Rural Damascus governorates remained constant m-o-m at 47 000 and 55 000 SYP per litre respectively, since July 2021 as shown in figure 10.

\* **Fungicides**

◆ **(Dusts, granules or wettable powders):**

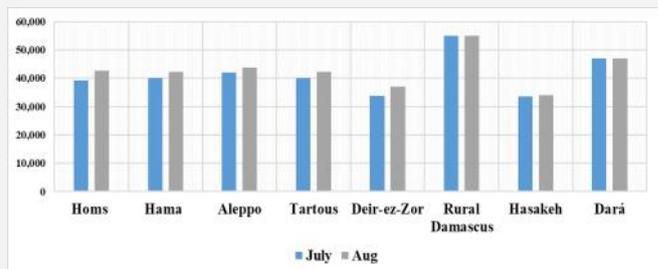
Fungicides are generally available across the monitored governorates at an average selling price of 50 766 SYP per kg (4 percent m-o-m increase). In Tartous, the

increase in the average price was the highest recorded among the monitored governorates, with a selling price of 45 000 SYP per kg (11 percent m-o-m). The selling prices in Aleppo, Hama and Homs 34 100 SYP per kg (8 percent m-o-m increase), 45 000 SYP per kg (8 percent m-o-m increase) and 45 500 SYP per kg (5 percent m-o-m increase). In Deir-ez-Zor and Hasakeh, governorates the average price increased slightly by 2 and 1 percent m-o-m respectively (figure 11).

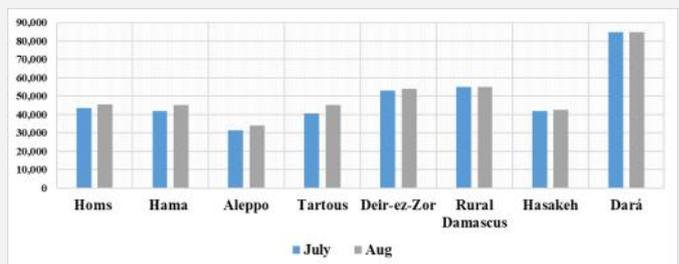
◆ **Liquid Fungicides:**

In general, the average price of liquid fungicide was 49 021 SYP per litre (3 percent m-o-m increase) in August 2021. An increase in the selling prices of liquid fungicide was recorded m-o-m in Tartous (9 percent), Hama (6 percent), Aleppo (4 percent), Hasakeh (3 percent) and Homs (2 percent). While in Rural Damascus and Dará governorates, the prices remained constant since July 2021, and the prices were at 57 000 and 73 000 SYP per kg respectively. The highest selling price was again recorded in Dará governorate (73 000 SYP per kg) since April 2021 (figure 12).

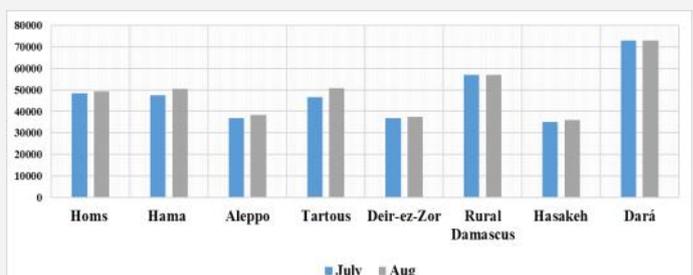
**Figure 10: M-O-M Comparison of Insecticide (Liquid) prices in SYP per Litre in Local Market**



**Figure 11: M-O-M comparison of Fungicide (Dusts, Granules or Wettable Powders) prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



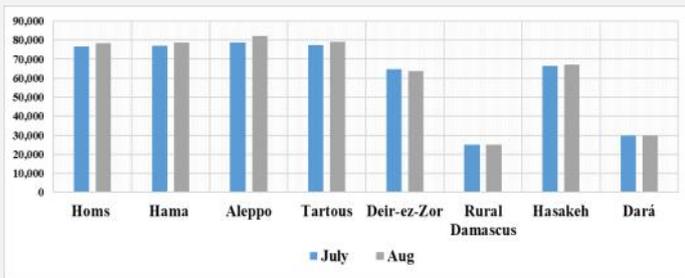
**Figure 12: M-O-M comparison of liquid Fungicide prices in SYP per Litre in Local Market**



\* **Herbicides**

The average price of **herbicides (i.e. dusts, granules or Wettable powders)** was 62 931 SYP per kg (2 percent m-o-m increase). An increase in the selling price of herbicides was recorded in Aleppo (4 percent) and in Homs, Tartous and Hama (2 percent). While in Deir-ez-Zor governorate, a 2 percent m-o-m decrease was recorded, with the price reaching 63 500 SYP per kg (**figure 13**).

**Figure 13 : M-O-M Comparison of dusts, granules or wettable powder Herbicide prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



The **liquid herbicides** recorded a 2 percent m-o-m increase with an average selling price of 41 358 SYP per litre. The highest selling price was recorded in Homs governorate at 59 600 SYP per litre. The price recorded in Dará was the lowest at 20 000 SYP per litre and this was constant since July 2021. Aleppo and Homs governorates witnessed an increase in the average selling price (4 percent m-o-m) and the actual prices recorded in the mentioned locations was 32 800 and 59 600 SYP per litre respectively. In Hama and Tartous, a slight increase was also observed (3 percent m-o-m). The price in Deir-ez-Zor, Rural and Damascus remained constant since July 2021 as highlighted in **figure 14**.

Some herbicides are produced in the country and others are imported and considered more effective. For instance, in Homs and Hama governorate, the most commonly used herbicides are **Treflan** and **Afalon**, while you commonly find **Topac**, **agri Combi** and **Atlantis** in Aleppo governorate. In Damascus and South area, **Granstar**, **Agri Combi** and **Tredolan** are the most commonly used herbicides among many others. It is important to note that various herbicides continue to find their way onto the local market, but are regulated by the government of Syria (GoS) regulations and procedures for importing agro-chemicals.

**Poultry Feed (Egg production):**

The average selling price of poultry feed for egg production recorded in August 2021 is 1 994 SYP per kg. This month for the first time since January 2021, Deir-ez-Zor recorded a price of 1 000 SYP per kg in August 2021 for poultry feed, representing the lowest price across the monitored markets. Despite this, there is still an observed shortage of eggs in Deir-ez-Zor and this is due to the limited supply compared to

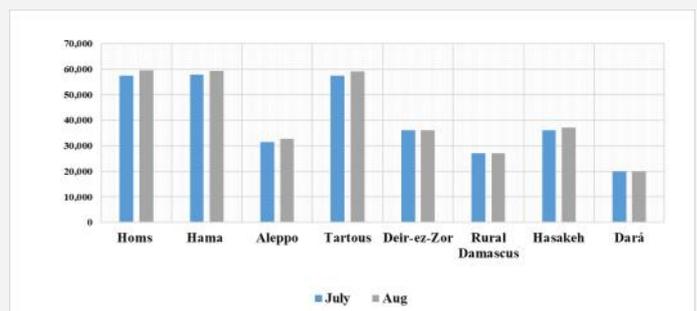
the high demand. Most families are relying on other governorates to cover their requirements for eggs. Some families also obtain eggs from neighbouring countries through illegal trading routes with unverified quality and standards of eggs.

The highest selling price of poultry feed for egg production was recorded in Tartous and Dará governorates at 2 100 SYP per kg. Tartous and Hama governorates both recorded a significant increase (34 percent m-o-m). Homs also observed a significant increase (30 percent m-o-m) and the price reached 2 050 SYP per kg and this can be attributed to the shortage and lack of poultry feed that is sometimes entering into the country illegally. The price in Dará governorate rose to 2 100 SYP per kg in August 2021 from 1 800 SYP per kg in July (17 percent m-o-m increase). In Rural Damascus, the price remained constant since July 2021 at 1 600 SYP per kg (**figure 15**).

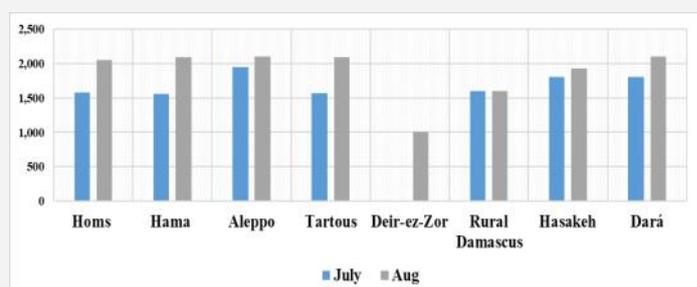
The average selling price of the poultry feed for poultry meat production (i.e. Broilers) recorded 2 127 SYP per kg. Hasakeh governorate recorded the highest selling price at 2 500 SYP per kg (8 percent m-o-m increase), while Rural Damascus recorded the lowest selling price at 1 800 SYP per kg across the monitored markets (**figure 16**).

The recorded selling price for poultry feed in Dará governorate increased by 15 percent m-o-m and reached 2 300 SYP per kg from 2 000 SYP per kg in July 2021. In Deir-ez-Zor, a slight decrease was recorded in the poultry feed selling price, reaching 2 375 SYP per kg (5 percent m-o-m). Moreover, the selling price in Rural Damascus remained constant since July 2021 at 1 800 SYP per kg (figure 16).

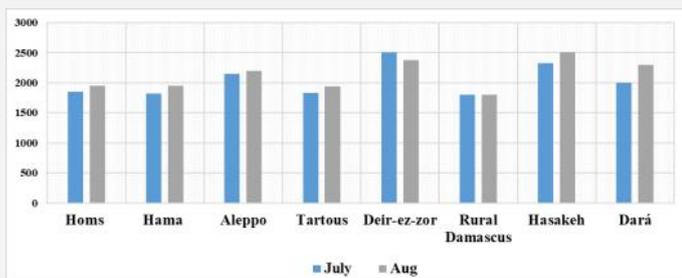
**Figure 14: M-O-M Comparison of liquid Herbicide Prices in SYP per Litre in Local Market**



**Figure 15: M-O-M Comparison of Poultry Feed prices for egg production in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



**Figure 16: M-O-M Comparison in Poultry Feed prices for meat production in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



### Cattle feed

The availability of cattle feed was generally acceptable in August 2021 in the monitored sites but access remains a challenge for most vulnerable livestock keepers due to increase in livestock feed prices, resulting in the prevailing high costs. In August 2021, price increases in livestock prices are still being observed, including for cattle feed. The general increase in cattle feed prices can be attributed to high demand combined with poor pasture conditions due to the prevailing drought-like conditions and erratic 2020/2021 season. The poor agricultural season has resulted in a general increase in cattle feed prices across Syria.

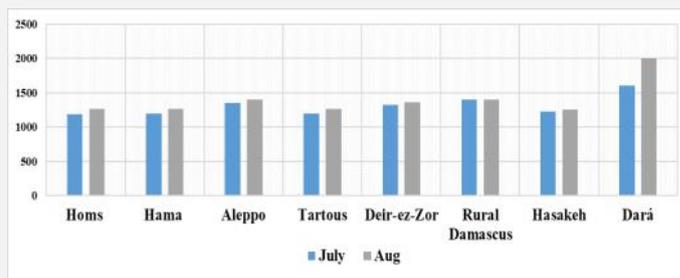
Cattle feed sold within the local markets and from farmer-to-farmer is already difficult to afford for most vulnerable livestock keepers, considering the prevailing economic difficulties.

The highest selling price for cattle feed was observed in Dará at 2 000 SYP per kg (25 percent m-o-m increase), while the lowest price was recorded in Hasakeh governorate at 1 250 SYP per kg (2 percent m-o-m increase). In Rural Damascus governorate, the price remained constant since July 2021, recording 1 400 SYP per kg. In general, cattle feed was available within the monitored governorates at an estimated price of 1 400 SYP per kg (7 percent m-o-m increase) **figure17**.

Limited access to animal feed is considered the main challenge affecting crisis-affected livestock breeders and this is further eroding their resilience. Animal feed constitutes about 70 percent of the total costs for livestock production. The limited supply of green livestock feed due to the erratic 2020/2021 rainfall distribution, combined with high temperatures and poor pasture conditions, has made the situation dire for livestock keepers. The prevailing economic and financial hardships are also adding another layer of challenges. Furthermore, the exorbitant prices and lack of stability in livestock feed prices, is significantly limiting access by most livestock breeders.

There is urgent need for sector partners to support emergency livelihoods interventions that protect livestock assets, particularly activities that result in increased availability and production of fodder, combined with interventions that build the resilience of livestock breeders.

**Figure 17: M-O-M Comparison of Cattle feed prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



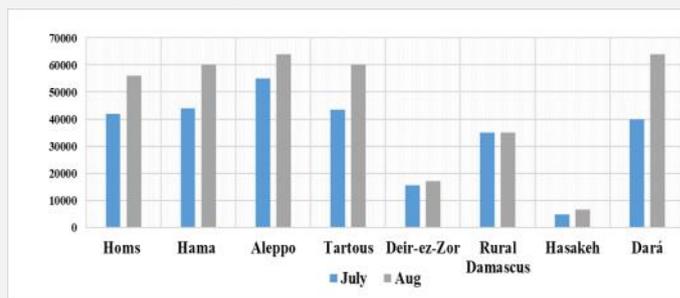
### Diesel Fuel

Diesel fuel is a key input and energy source for most agricultural field operations and other human activities, especially in a context where there is lack of public electricity. There was a significant m-o-m increase of 30 percent in the average diesel fuel price within the monitored local markets, reaching 45 313 SYP for 20 litres (**figure 18**).

Aleppo and Hama governorates witnessed a significant increase in diesel fuel price for a 20-litre gallon (ranged between 38 and 36 percent m-o-m) and the selling price for diesel in August 2021 for the above-mentioned locations was 64 000 and 60 000 SYP for 20 litres respectively. In August 2021, Dará governorate also witnessed a sharp increase of 60 percent m-o-m and the selling price reached 64 000 SYP for 20 litres and this represents the highest price across all monitored locations, together with Aleppo governorate. While in Rural Damascus, the price remained constant since July 2021 at 35 000 SYP for 20 litres.

Hasakeh and Homs governorates both recorded a 33 percent m-o-m increase (figure 18). The continued shortage of and limited access to diesel fuel is still affecting agricultural production and threatening agriculture-based livelihoods especially water extraction and irrigation activities. Furthermore, the price increases observed for diesel can also be attributed to the limited supply versus the high demand. Furthermore, the new local policy regarding the weekly allocation per family is worsening the situation since the allocation is not adequate to run the electric generators. As the onset of the 2020/2021 season approaches, the availability of and access to diesel will need to be closely monitored as this could have a bearing on land preparation.

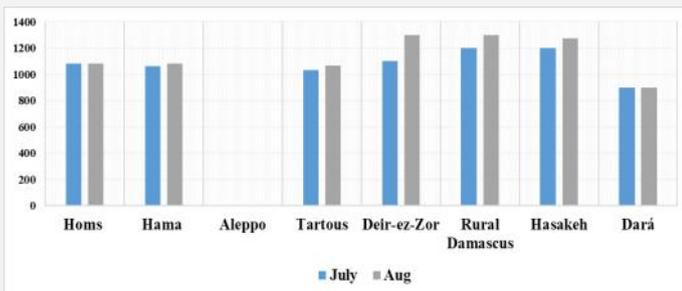
**Figure 18: Month-on-month Comparison for Diesel Fuel prices in SYP per 20 Litre in Local Market**



### Wheat seed for planting

In August 2021, wheat seed remained available in most monitored local markets at 1 143 SYP per kg (6 percent m-o-m increase). In Deir-ez-Zor, a notable increase was recorded (18 percent m-o-m increase) and the price was at 1 300 SYP per Kg. Price increases were recorded in Rural Damascus (8 percent m-o-m) and Hasakeh (6 percent m-o-m) with the price reaching 1 300 and 1 275 SYP per kg respectively. The major reason why the price of wheat seed is showing a gradual increase in the local market is the poor 2020/2021 production season that resulted in low yield and supply. Furthermore, there is an anticipated shortage of high quality wheat seed varieties for the upcoming season. The government restrictions regarding wheat trade in the aforementioned areas could also be a contributing factor. In Homs and Dará governorates, the prices remained constant since July 2021 at 1 080 and 900 SYP per kg respectively (figure 19).

**Figure 19: M-O-M Comparison for Wheat seed prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**

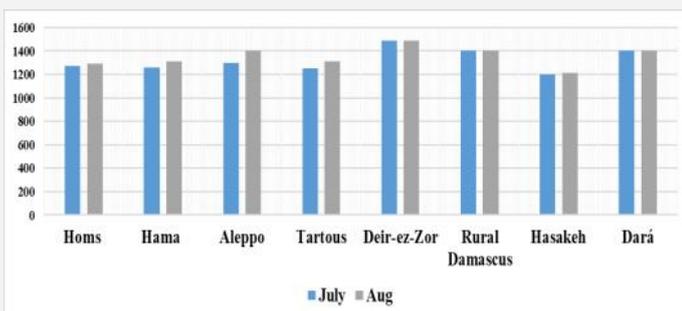


### Barley seed

In August 2021, barley seed remained generally available in the local markets at an average selling price of 1 351 SYP per kg (2 percent m-o-m increase). The prices in Aleppo, Tartous and Hama governorates witnessed a slight increase (8, 5 and 4 percent m-o-m respectively) and the prices recorded are 1 400, 1 308 and 1 310 SYP per kg respectively.

The prices in Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus and Dará remained constant since July 2021, while in Homs and Hasakeh governorates a slight increase of 2 and 1 percent m-o-m was observed respectively as highlighted in figure 20 below.

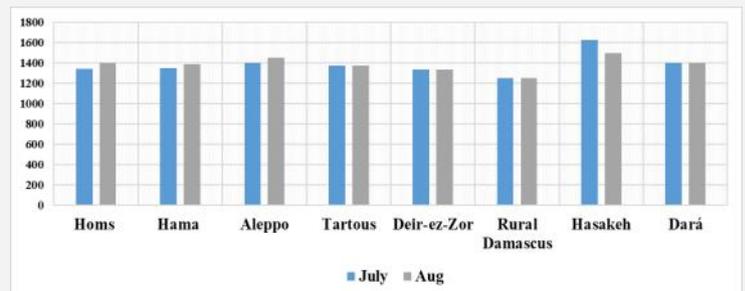
**Figure 20: M-O-M comparison of Barley seed prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



### Maize grain (Corn)

The price of maize grain remained constant in Tartous, Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus and Dará governorates since July 2021. A slight m-o-m increase in the selling price for maize grain was observed in Homs (4 percent), Aleppo (4 percent) and Hama (3 percent) governorates. In contrast to the above-mentioned governorates, Hasakeh witnessed a slight decrease (8 percent m-o-m) and the price dropped to 1 500 SYP per kg. This could be attributed to the low demand by farmers following increased availability of corn, either from own production or from farmer-to-farmer sales, during the current summer season. The price may however shift in the coming months if most farmers deplete maize grain from their own stock and demand increases. Maize grain is commonly used as a component in the production of most livestock fodder, as well as poultry feed mixes, and used as green feed for livestock and hay and silage making due to its high nutritional value, which makes it an important animal feed (figure 21)

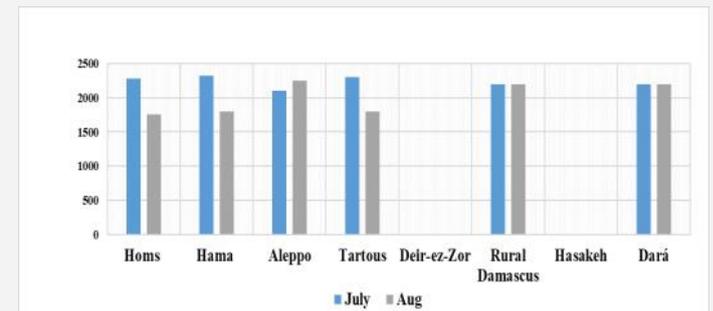
**Figure 21: M-O-M Comparison of Maize grain prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



### Soybean Meal

Soya bean was generally available in six governorates out of eight in August 2021 and the average selling price reached 2 002 SYP per kg (10 percent m-o-m decrease). The price in Rural Damascus and Dará governorates remained constant since July 2021. The lowest price of 1 800 SYP per kg was recorded in Aleppo and Hama governorates. Homs, Hama and Tartous governorates witnessed a significant decrease (23, 22 and 22 percent m-o-m respectively). This could be attributed to a decrease in demand since the onset of the 2021/2022 agricultural season is approaching. In contrast, Aleppo governorate witnessed a slight increase (7 percent m-o-m), with the price reaching 2 250 SYP per kg (figure 22).

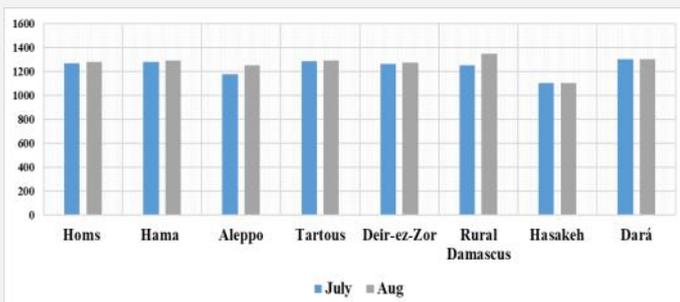
**Figure 22: M-O-M Comparison of Soybean Prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



## Barley Grain

In general, the average selling price of barley grain increased slightly (2 percent m-o-m), reaching 1 267 SYP per kg in August 2021. In Deir-ez-Zor, a slight increase of 1 percent m-o-m was observed with the price reaching 1 275 SYP per kg. Rural Damascus and Aleppo governorates also witnessed a slight increase of 8 and 6 percent m-o-m respectively. A slight 1 percent m-o-m increase was also observed in Homs, Hama and Tartous governorates in August 2021. The prices in Hasakeh and Dará governorates remained stable and constant since July 2021, at 1 100 SYP per kg in Hasakeh and 1 300 SYP per kg in Dar'a as highlighted in **figure 23** below:

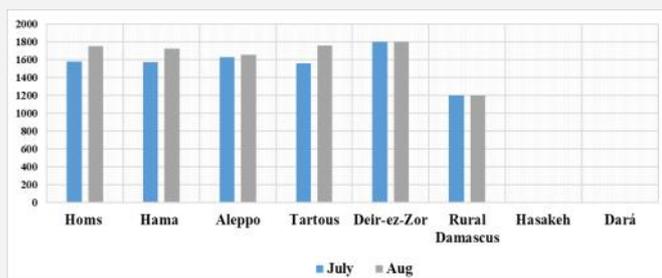
**Figure 23: M-O-M Comparison of Barley grain prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



## Cottonseed Meal

Cottonseed was unavailable in Hasakeh and Dará governorates since June 2021. In general, the average selling price was at 1 646 SYP per kg (6 percent m-o-m increase), across locations where cottonseed was available. In Homs, Tartous and Hama governorates, a notable increase in the average selling price was observed (11, 13 and 10 percent m-o-m-respectively). The prices remained generally constant at 1 200 SYP per kg in Rural Damascus and 1 800 SYP per kg in Deir-ez-Zor as shown in **figure 24**.

**Figure 24: M-O-M Comparison of Cottonseed Meal Prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**

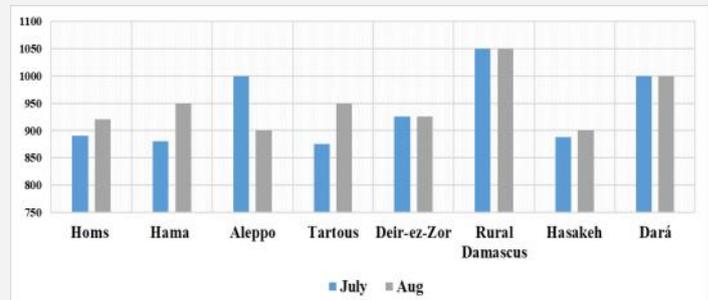


## Wheat Bran

A slight 1 percent m-o-m increase was observed for wheat bran in August 2021 and wheat bran remained available across eight monitored governorates at 949 SYP per kg. The price in Dará, Rural Damascus and Deir-ez-Zor governorates remained stable since July 2021. Tartous, Hama and Homs governorates witnessed a minimal increase (9, 8 and 3 percent m-o-m respectively). In contrast, Aleppo governorate witnessed a slight decrease (10 percent m-o-m) with the average selling price dropping to 900 SYP per kg (**figure 25**). This decrease is partly attributed to the intervention by

government, where it is distributing subsidized wheat bran to livestock owners. In some locations, livestock breeders are changing their mixture of feed by using cheaper components that they can afford and unfortunately, this will compromise animal nutrition and health.

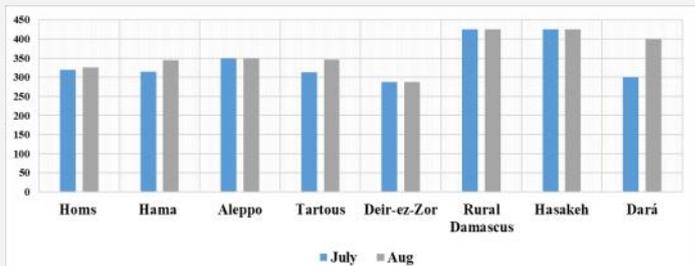
**Figure 25: M-O-M Comparison of Wheat Bran prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



## Wheat Straw

In general, the price of wheat straw increased slightly (6 percent m-o-m) in August 2021 and this can be attributed to the prevailing high demand and diminishing supply. Wheat straw was fairly available across most of monitored governorates at an average price of 363 SYP per kg. In Dará, governorate a significant increase in the price of wheat straw was recorded (33 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price was 400 SYP per kg. This is could be attributed to the erratic 2020/2021 season, water scarcity and the drought-like conditions which resulted in significant crop production losses, particularly for winter crops. In Tartous and Hama governorates, there was an observed 11 and 10 percent m-o-m increase in the selling price respectively, reaching 346 SYP per kg in Tartous and 345 SYP per kg in Hama. In Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus and Hasakeh governorates, the prices remained stable and constant since July 2021 as highlighted in **figure 26** below.

**Figure 26: M-O-M Comparison of Wheat straw prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**

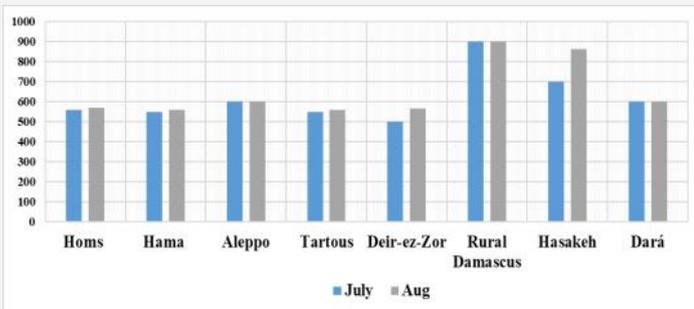


## Other Crop Residues

The average selling price of crop residues increased slightly in August 2021 (5 percent m-o-m), with the average selling price reaching 652 SYP per kg from 620 per kg in July 2021. Deir-ez-Zor, recorded a slight increase of 13 percent m-o-m, while Hasakeh governorate recorded a significant increase of 23 percent m-o-m. This could be attributed to the diminishing supply and limited availability of crop residues and the erratic 2020/2021 season as mentioned earlier, especially for legume crops, which were adversely affected by the poor season performance. The selling price remained stable and constant

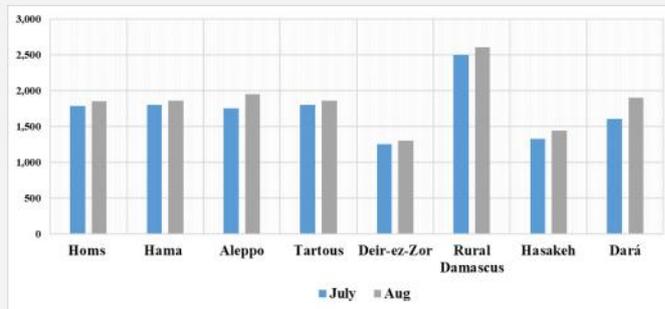
constant in Dará, Aleppo and Rural Damascus governorates, with the average selling price pegged at 600, 600 and 900 SYP per kg respectively, in the aforementioned locations (**figure 27**).

**Figure 27: M-O-M Comparison of Crop Residues prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



(2 percent) governorates, reaching 1 860, 1 850, 1 858 and 1 438 SYP per kg respectively, as highlighted in **figure 29**.

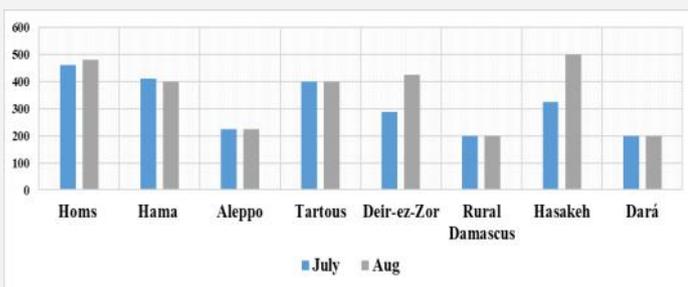
**Figure 29 :M-O-M Comparison of Wheat Flour Prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



**SECTION B. Food Prices:**

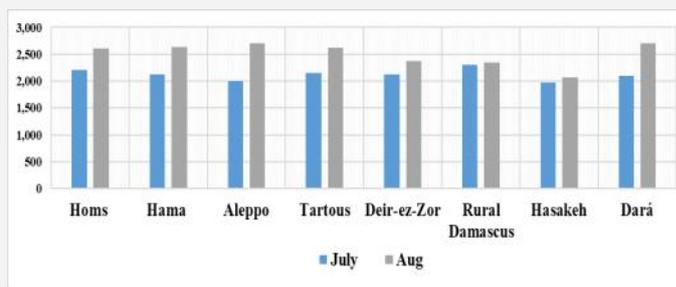
In general, the price of bread increased slightly in August 2021 (17 percent m-o-m) reaching 354 SYP per rabta. In Deir-ez-Zor and Hasakeh governorates, the price of bread increased significantly (48 and 54 percent m-o-m). This is due to unavailability of subsidized bread under different Non-State authorities (NSAs). While in Aleppo, Tartous, Rural Damascus and Dará the prices remained constant and stable since July 2021. The bread subsidy system remains in place but with a slight increase due to increased production costs and wheat shortage. Homs recorded a slight (i.e. minimal increase) in the price of bread (4 percent m-o-m) and the price reached 480 SYP per rabta. Hama governorate is the only governorate, which observed a slight decrease in the price of bread, and the price became 400 SYP after it was 410 SYP per rabta in July 2021 as highlighted in **figure 28**.

**Figure 28: M-O-M Comparison of Bread Prices in SYP per pack (i.e. Rabta) in Local Market**



The average selling price of **sugar** across the monitored governorates recorded a notable increase (18 percent m-o-m), reaching 2 506 SYP per kg. The price of sugar in Aleppo, Dará, Hama and Tartous governorates increased significantly (35, 29, 23 and 22 percent m-o-m respectively). The monopoly being practiced by some traders has caused intermittent shortages of sugar in some markets. This is subsequently having knock-on effects on the stability of sugar prices. A slight increase was recorded in Homs and Deir-ez-Zor governorates (18 and 12 percent m-o-m respectively), with the price rising to 2 600 in Homs and 2 375 in Deir-ez-Zor. A notable increase in sugar prices was observed in Rural Damascus and Hasakeh governorates, reaching 2 350 and 2 075 SYP per kg respectively, as highlighted in **figure 30**.

**Figure 30: M-O-M Comparison for Sugar Prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**

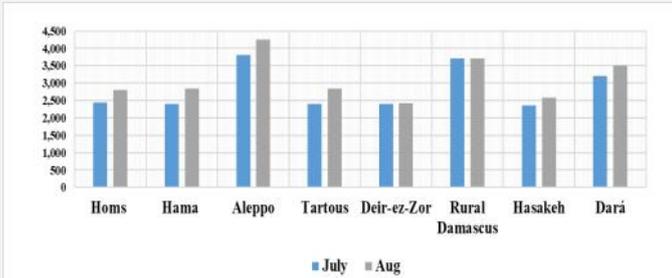


The price of **wheat flour** recorded a minimal 1 percent m-o-m decrease and the average selling price reached 1 844 SYP per kg. The prices in Rural Damascus, Dará and Deir-ez-Zor remained constant in August 2021. Aleppo governorate recorded a slight decrease (3 percent m-o-m), with the selling price reaching 1 950 SYP per kg. Some varied m-o-m increases in the selling price of wheat flour were recorded in Hama (9 percent), Homs (8 percent), Tartous (7 percent) and Hasakeh

For rice, Aleppo governorate recorded 4 250 SYP per kg, representing the highest recorded price across the all monitored locations in August 2021 (12 percent m-o-m increase). The new shipping costs recently issued, are contributing to a general increase in the selling prices of imported food commodities such as sugar and others. The price of sugar remained stable and constant in Rural Damascus governorate since July 2021 at 3 700 SYP per kg. In Hama and Tartous governorates, a 19 and 18 percent m-o-m

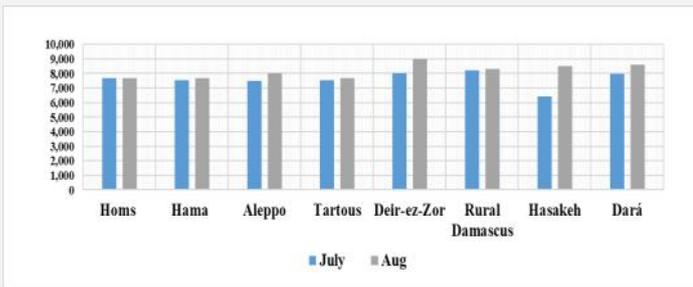
increase was recorded, with the prices reaching 2 850 and 2 842 SYP per kg respectively. Hasakeh and Dará governorates recorded a slight m-o-m increase, just below 11 percent, with the selling price reaching 2 575 and 3 500 SYP per kg respectively (figure 31).

**Figure 31: M-O-M Comparison of Rice prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



Generally, the average selling prices of **eggs** showed a minimal increase in August 2021 (8 percent m-o-m), reaching 8 178 SYP for a crate or pack. Hasakeh witnessed a significant 33 percent m-o-m increase and the average selling price reached 8 504 SYP per pack. The increase in transportation costs due to the new announced price of fuel in areas under KSA, which resulted in fuel prices increasing from 150 to 410 SYP per litre, could be contributing to the increase in egg prices in Hasakeh. In Deir-ez-Zor, a slight 13 percent m-o-m increase was observed for eggs and the price rose to 9 000 SYP per pack, representing the highest price across the monitored locations. Dará and Aleppo governorates observed 8 and 7 percent m-o-m increase, with the average selling price reaching 8 600 and 8000 SYP per pack respectively as shown in figure 32.

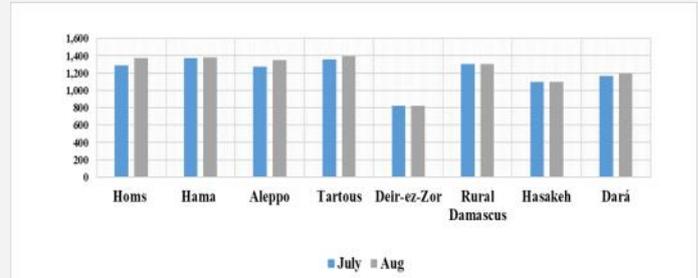
**Figure 32 : M-O-M Comparison of Egg prices in SYP per Pack in Local Market**



In general, the selling price of **cow milk** increased slightly (2 percent m-o-m) in August 2021 and the average price reached 1 240 SYP per litre. The prices in Rural Damascus, Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor remained constant since July 2021 at 1 300, 1 100 and 825 SYP per litre respectively. Aleppo, Homs and Dará governorates recorded 6, 6 and 3 percent m-o-m increase and the price reached 1 350, 1 370 and 1 200 SYP per litre respectively. The price of milk in Hama and Tartous governorates witnessed a slight increase (1 and 2 percent m-o-m), with prices reaching 1 380 and 1 392 SYP per litre

respectively (figure 33). A generally stability in the prices of cow milk was observed in August 2021. However, there will be need to closely monitor the ensuing price trends for milk in the coming months since cattle feed prices are increasing significantly.

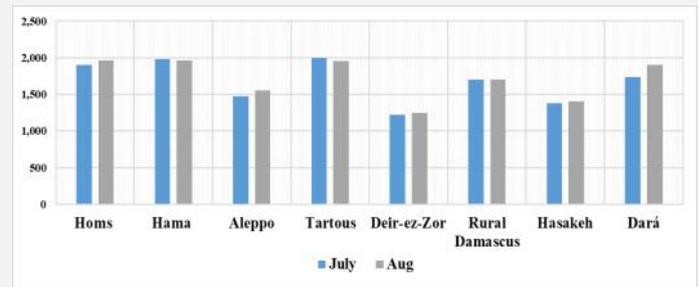
**Figure 33: M-O-M Comparison of Cow Milk prices in SYP per Litre in Local Market**



The average selling price for **sheep milk** increased slightly (2 percent m-o-m) across the monitored markets, with the average selling price increasing to 1 709 SYP per litre. A slight decrease was recorded particularly in Tartous and Hama governorates (3 and 1 percent m-o-m respectively). The selling price of sheep milk in Aleppo, Homs, Deir-ez-Zor and Hasakeh governorates increased slightly (5, 3, 2 and 2 percent m-o-m respectively).

The selling price of sheep milk remained stable and constant in Rural Damascus since July 2021 at 1 700 SYP per litre. However, the selling price for sheep milk in Dar'a rose from 1 700 SYP per litre to 1 900 SYP per litre as shown in figure 34 and this could be attributed to the knock-on effects of the recent disturbances and insecurity.

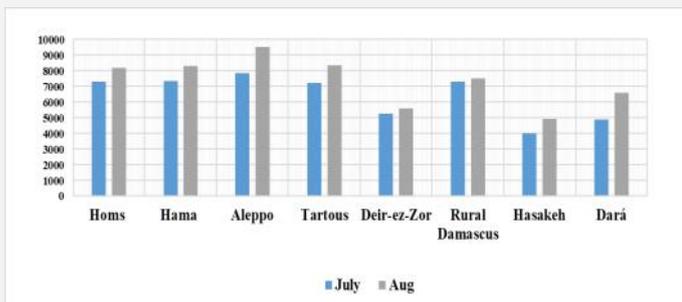
**Figure 34: M-O-M Comparison of Sheep Milk prices in SYP per Litre in Local Market**



For **Chicken meat**, the average selling price reached 7 370 SYP per kg (15 percent m-o-m increase) in August 2021. The highest selling price of 9 500 SYP per kg being recorded in Aleppo governorate, and there was a significant increase of 21 percent m-o-m in the aforementioned location. The lowest selling price for chicken meat was still observed in Hasakeh at 4 925 SYP per kg since June 2021 but with a 23 percent m-o-m increase. This significant increase could be attributed to the volatile political situation in northeast Syria, which is affecting both poultry and crop production locally.

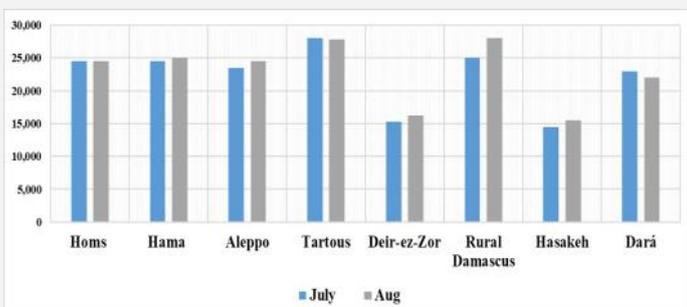
This is also coupled with the erratic 2020/2021 agricultural season and prevailing water scarcity, which are both having knock-on effects on poultry production. The selling price of chicken meat increased significantly in Dará governorate (35 percent m-o-m), reaching 6 600 SYP per kg and the insecurity and resultant impact on supply chains, could be contributing to this rise. In Deir-ez-Zor and Rural Damascus governorates, the price of chicken meat increased slightly at 5 600 and 7 500 SYP per kg respectively. While in Tartous, Hama and Homs a notable increase was also observed and the prices reached 8 333, 8 300 and 8 200 SYP per kg respectively (figure 35).

Figure 35: M-O-M Comparison of Chicken Meat prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market



The average selling price of **sheep meat** (i.e. mutton) increased slightly in August 2021 (3 percent m-o-m) to 22 948 SYP per kg. Dará and Tartous governorates also witnessed a slight decrease m-o-m in the average selling price of sheep meat, reaching 22 000 and 27 833 SYP per kg in August 2021 respectively. For Rural Damascus governorate, a slight increase was also observed and the average selling price reached 28 000 SYP per kg. The price of sheep meat in Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor recorded a notable increase (7 percent m-o-m) for both locations. No changes in the mutton selling prices were observed in Homs governorate since July 2021 as highlighted in figure 36.

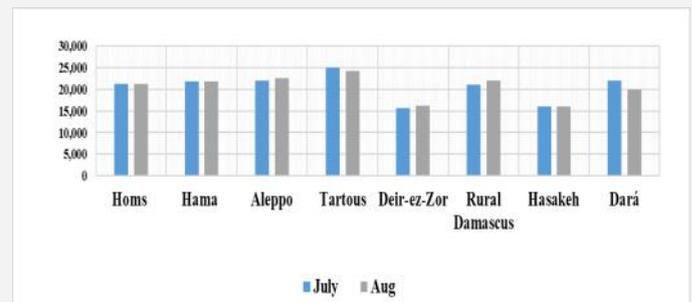
Figure 36: M-O-M Comparison of Sheep Meat (i.e. Mutton) prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market



For **cow meat** (i.e. beef), the prices in Dará and Tartous governorates decreased slightly (9 and 3 percent m-o-m) and the selling prices recorded for August 2021 in these two locations is 20 000 and 24 167 SYP per kg respectively. The 9

percent m-o-m decrease in Dará could be due to increase in fodder price that forced herders to sell livestock assets. The price in Tartous was the highest across all the monitored locations. The prices for beef in Hasakeh, Homs and Hama governorates remained stable and constant since July 2021. Rural Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor and Aleppo governorates also recorded slight increases (5, 4 and 2 percent m-o-m) and the average selling prices reached 22 000, 16 250 and 22 500 SYP per kg respectively (figure 37).

Figure 37: M-O-M Comparison of Cow Meat Prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market

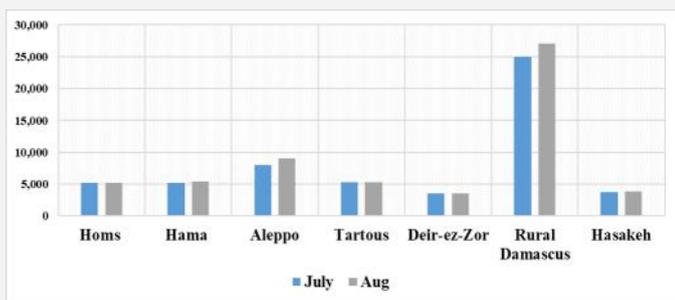


The average selling price for **fish** reached 8 473 SYP per kg (6 percent m-o-m increase) in August 2021. The highest price was still recorded in Rural Damascus at 27 000 SYP per kg though there was an observed 8 percent m-o-m increase. In Deir-ez-Zor, Tartous and Homs governorates, the prices for fish remained generally constant since July 2021. In Aleppo governorate, the price recorded a slight increase (13 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price of fish reached 9 000 per kg in August 2021 as highlighted in figure 38 below.

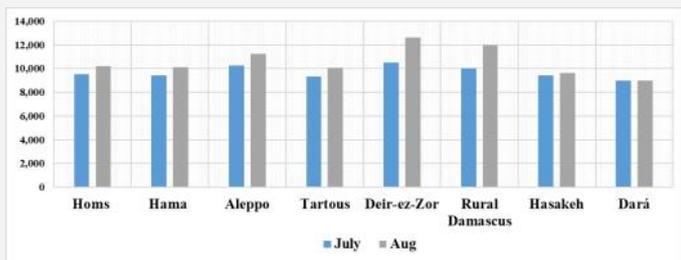
Due to the low natural productivity of inland fisheries combined with low purchasing power among most families in Syria, coupled with the high cost of fishmeal and other fish production inputs, the consumption of fish by most families in Syria remains generally low. FAO acknowledges the nutritional value of fish and the potential contribution that the fisheries and aquaculture sector may bring to the Syrian economy. The price of fish remains generally high in Rural Damascus and this can be attributed to increase in demand and transportation cost.

In general, **olive oil** prices increased by 9 percent in August 2021 and the average selling price reached 10 607 SYP per litre across the eight monitored governorates. The olive oil prices remained generally stable and constant in Dará governorate at 9 000 SYP per litre respectively. Deir-ez-Zor and Rural Damascus governorates witnessed a significant increase in the selling price (20 percent m-o-m), reaching 12 625 and 12 000 SYP per litre respectively in August 2021. A slight increase was observed in Aleppo, Tartous, Hama and in Homs governorates (10, 8, 7 and 7 percent m-o-m respectively) as shown in figure 39.

**Figure 38: M-O-M Comparison of Fish prices in SYP per KG in Local Market**



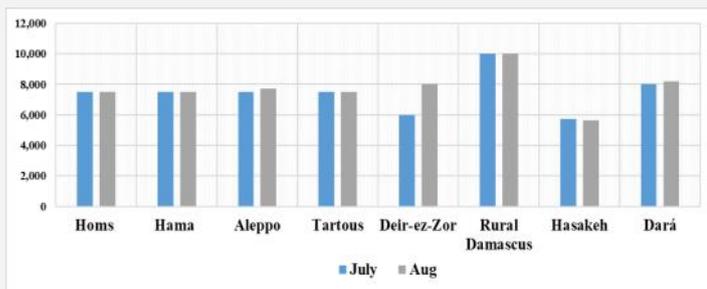
**Figure 39: M-O-M Comparison of Olive Oil Prices in SYP per Litre in Local Market**



The increase in demand compared to limited supply of olive oil resulted in a general increase in the price of olive oil across the monitored locations. Furthermore, there is an anticipation that olive production for this year will not be that good due to the prevailing water scarcity and a poor 2020/2021 rainfall season.

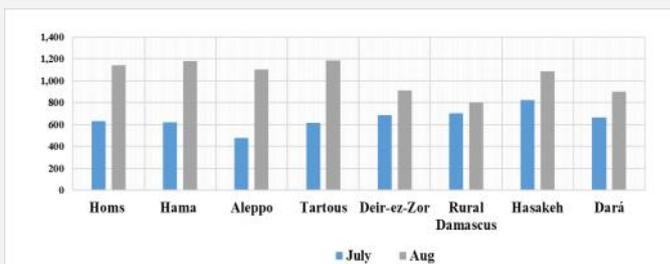
A slight 5 percent m-o-m increase was recorded for the average selling price of **sunflower oil** in August 2021, reaching 7 761 SYP per litre. In Homs, Hama and Tartous the prices remained constant at 7 500 SYP per litre and in Rural Damascus at 10 000 SYP per Litre. The price of sunflower oil in Deir-ez-Zor governorate increased significantly to 8 025 SYP per litre (34 percent m-o-m). This could be attributed to the continued rise in transportation costs due to fuel shortages and the high cost of petrol and diesel. In Hasakeh governorate, the selling price decreased slightly (1 percent m-o-m), reaching 5 663 SYP per litre and this still the lowest price across all monitored markets since June 2021 (figure 40).

**Figure 40: M-O-M Comparison of Sunflower Prices in SYP per Litre in Local Market**



The average selling price for **tomatoes** increased significantly (59 percent m-o-m) across the monitored locations and markets and the average selling price reached 1 038 SYP per kg in August 2021. Sharp increases were recorded across all governorates except for Rural Damascus. The price increases ranged between 32 percent in Hasakeh and 132 percent in Aleppo (figure 41). The sharp rise in tomato prices could be attributed to the low supply compared to high demand, since the peak harvest season ended in July 2021, though some harvest is still ongoing. The recent security incidences in southern Syria adversely affected the transportation costs and general supply of tomato from the surrounding areas.

**Figure 41: M--O-M Comparison of Tomato Prices in Local Market**

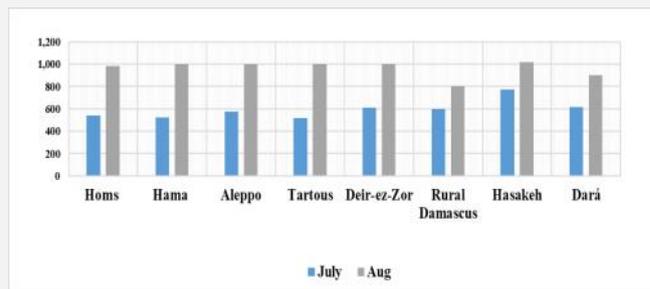


In general, the average selling price of **potatoes** recorded a significant increase across most of the monitored locations (64 percent m-o-m), reaching 962 SYP per kg. Hama and Tartous governorates specifically recorded a significant increase (94 and 92 percent m-o-m), with the price reaching 1 000 SYP per kg for the aforementioned markets.

All other remaining governorates observed a significant increase, ranging between 81 percent m-o-m in Homs governorate and 74 percent m-o-m in Aleppo governorate.

This is attributed to the low production of potato during the June / July2021 production season. Furthermore, the current supply of potatoes in the market is from stored potatoes, and this tends to increase the price of commodities because of the additional cost of storage combined with the high transportation costs.

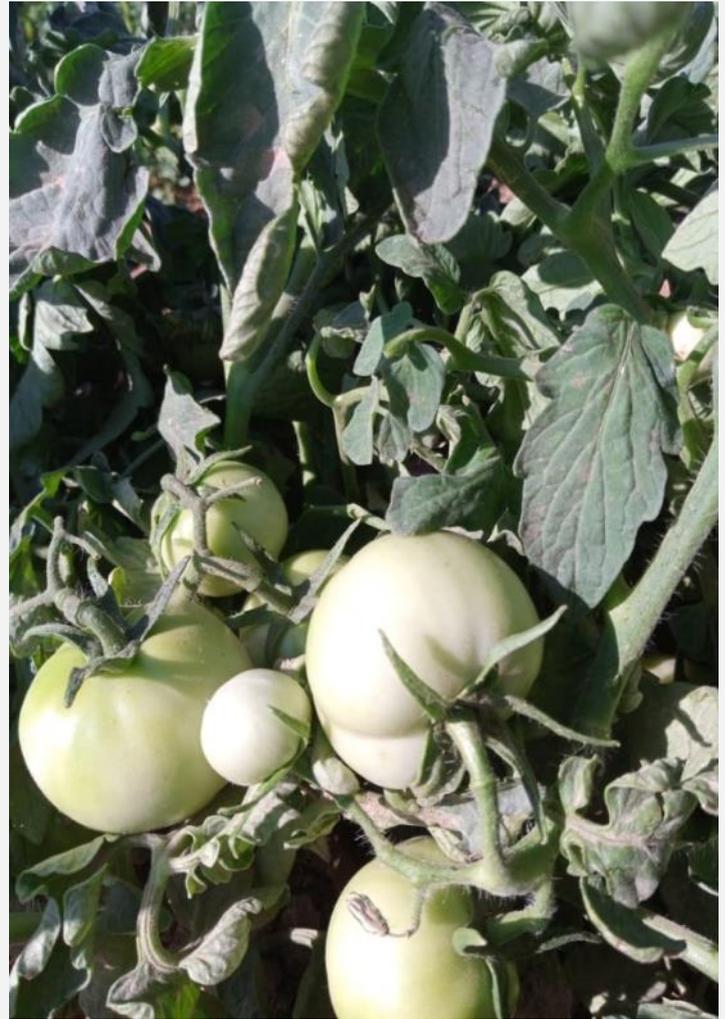
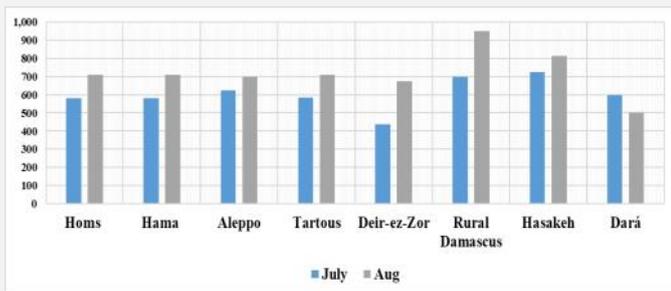
**Figure 42: M-O-M Comparison of Potato Prices in Local Market**



The average price of **eggplants** increased significantly in August 2021 across the monitored markets, and the price reached 721 SYP per kg (20 percent m-o-m increase) from 604 SYP per kg in July 2021. The selling price of eggplant in Dará decreased slightly (17 percent m-o-m), reaching 500 SYP per kg. Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus Homs and Hama governorates also witnessed a significant m-o-m increase (54, 36, 22 and 22 percent respectively). The prices reached 675 SYP per kg in Deir-ez-Zor, 950 SYP per kg in Rural Damascus, 710 SYP per kg in Homs and 710 SYP per kg in Hama (figure 43).

The price increase for eggplants in the aforementioned locations is most likely due to increased demand and limited supply experienced in in July to August 2021. The effect of the prevailing water scarcity, the high cost of fuel and limited availability of quality inputs for vegetable production, especially seed and agro-chemicals, could also be affecting the production of various vegetables and the subsequent increase in vegetable prices.

**Figure 43: M-O-M Comparison of Eggplant prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market**



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