



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Syria: Agriculture Input and Commodity Bulletin

December 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. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Syria works on strengthening value chain and food systems by building the capacity of stakeholders, mainly farmers, and expanding their knowledge and understanding of the local situation by sharing useful reports to make agriculture production more sustainable, gender sensitive, market-driven and climate smart. The Organization in Syria releases the “Monthly agriculture input and commodity price bulletin—AICB”, which provides timely insights from 35 districts across Homs, Hama, Aleppo, Tartous, Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus, Al-Hasakeh and Dar’a governorates. The purpose of the bulletin is to inform relevant stakeholders, including the Food Security Sector (FSS) partners supporting agriculture and food security interventions in the country, about the prevailing prices of agriculture inputs and commodities. The bulletin is a useful periodic resource since markets and market information both play an important role in enhancing food security, income generation, resilience and rural-market linkages. Regular dissemination of market information will benefit smallholder farmers in their market-oriented production endeavor.

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. All changes in market prices for the monitored agriculture inputs and commodities are in local Syrian currency (SYP). For further insights and analysis of food prices, WFP also issues regular Syria Price Bulletins on food commodities and these can be found on the Syria Food Security Cluster Food Security Cluster (FSC) website.

Key Highlights

- Findings show that prices of 9 out of 30 monitored agriculture inputs remained constant in December 2021. These mainly include wheat seed (GOSM), Barley seed (GOSM), cottonseed meal, nitrate fertilizer (granular) from local market, nitrate ammonium, insecticides (dust, granules, wettable powders), insecticides (liquid), fungicides (liquid) and herbicides (dust, granules, wettable powders). Furthermore, the prices of 10 out of 30 agriculture inputs witnessed a very slight increase of 1 percent in December 2021. These include Barley seed (local market), maize, soybean, nitrate fertilizer (liquid), phosphate fertilizer (Agriculture Bank and local market), NPK, fungicides (dust, granular or wettable powders), herbicides (liquid) and cattle feed. Moreover, 9 out of 30 monitored agriculture inputs recorded slight to moderate increase, ranging between 2 percent for barley grains and poultry feed for meat production, to 16 percent for wheat straw. The price increases recorded herein can be attributed to the slight weakening of the local Syrian currency versus other foreign currencies. Most farmers rely on the official local Syrian currency as terms of trade (ToT) and some of the aforementioned inputs are imported.
- For food, 15 out of 17 monitored food commodities showed varying price increases in December 2021, ranging between 1 percent for (e.x. flour), 5 percent (e.x. cow meat), and 16 percent for (e.x. milk sheep).
- The delayed onset of rainfall combined with prolonged early season dry spells following onset has caused delay in planting, with a decrease in the cultivated area of wheat and barley crops being already observed, compared to previous seasons. Strengthening the capacities of small-scale farmers, through scaling up the adoption of context-specific Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) and promoting use of drought tolerant crop varieties, including scaling up adoption of more efficient water management techniques is urgently required at this stage. This will ensure the stability of agricultural production and minimize food production loss, especially among vulnerable farmers engaged in crop and livestock production.
- The value of the Syrian pound continues to depreciate in the informal exchange market, ranging between 3 500 / USD to 3 600/ USD during the period November 2021 to December 2021 (https://sp-today.com/en/currency/us_dollar). The continued weakening of the local Syria currency versus the USD is also contributing to the rise in prices for most agriculture inputs, partic

ularly those imported. The FAO market bulletin monitors prices in local Syrian currency and does not specifically analyse the changes in prices in other currency.

- Following the erratic weather conditions experienced during the 2020/2021 agricultural season across most of the Syrian regions, FAO conducted an assessment on agriculture production. The FAO assessment was based on a well-established and recognized global criteria of estimating crop estimates, comparable with previous assessments. The independent 2021 FAO Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission to the Syrian Arab Republic (CFSAM-like) Report also seeks to inform the international community and sector partners on urgent measures to be taken. The full report can be accessed through the following link: <http://www.fao.org/giews/reports/special-reports/en/>.

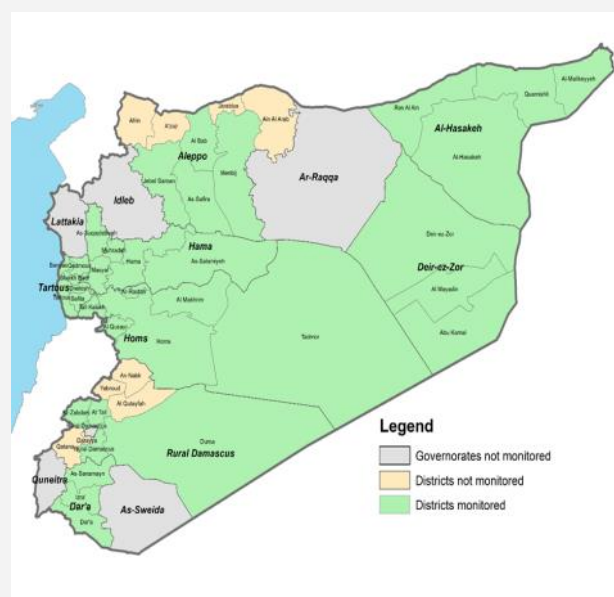


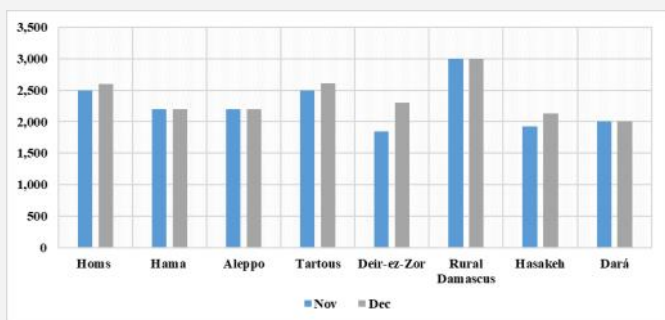
Figure 1: Markets Monitored by FAO on a monthly basis.

- Agriculture Commodity and Input Prices**

Top dressing fertilizer (Urea)

In December 2021, urea was available in the Agriculture Bank across most of the monitored governorates at an average price of 1 514 SYP per kg, this subsidised quantity does not meet 30 percent of farmer's need in most of the monitored districts. Therefore, farmers are left with limited options and have to purchase their unmet requirements from the local market at an average price of 2 397 SYP per kg (5 percent m-o-m increase). The prices for urea witnessed a significant increase in Deir-ez-Zor governorate (24 percent m-o-m) due to the increase in demand during the peak of the winter cropping season. While in Hasakeh, Tartous and Homs governorates the selling prices increased (10, 4 and 4 percent m-o-m), reaching 1 125, 2 608 and 2 600 SYP per kg respectively. The prices in Hama, Aleppo, Rural Damascus and Dará governorates remained constant since November 2021 as highlighted in figure 2.

Figure 2: M-O-M Comparison of Urea Prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



Nitrate Fertilizer (Granular)

The average selling price of **nitrate fertilizer** remained constant in December 2021 at 1 550 SYP per kg. A significant challenge in stocking sufficient quantities of nitrate fertilizer across half of the monitored governorates was generally observed during this reporting period. In Aleppo, Deir-ez-Zor, Hasakeh and Dará governorates, nitrate fertilizer was available and the average selling prices were at 1 700, 2 300, 2 125 and 1 400 SYP per kg respectively (figure 3).

Nitrate Fertilizer (Liquid):

A slight increase was observed for the average selling price of **liquid nitrate fertilizer**, reaching 6 852 SYP per litre in December 2021 (1 percent m-o-m). The prices for liquid nitrate fertilizer remained generally constant in Dar'a (7 500 SYP/lt), Hasakeh (7 500 SYP/lt), Rural Damascus (7 200 SYP/lt), Tartous (5 083 SYP/lt), Aleppo (11 000 SYP/lt), and Hama (4 480 SYP/lt). In Homs governorate, a notable m-o-m increase was observed with the average selling price reaching 5

200 SYP per litre. In December 2021, Nitrate fertilizer (Liquid) was not available in Deir-ez-Zor governorate as highlighted in figure 4.

Figure 3: M-O-M Comparison of Nitrate Fertilizer (Granular) prices in SYP per kg in Local Market

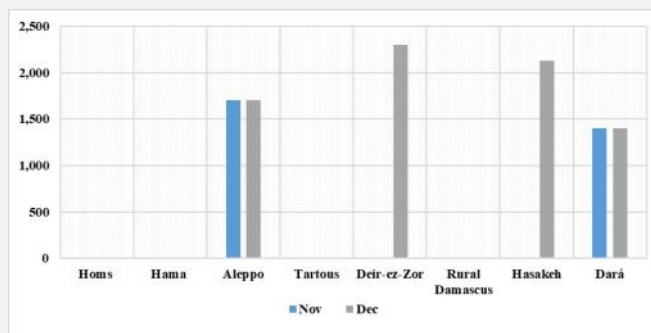
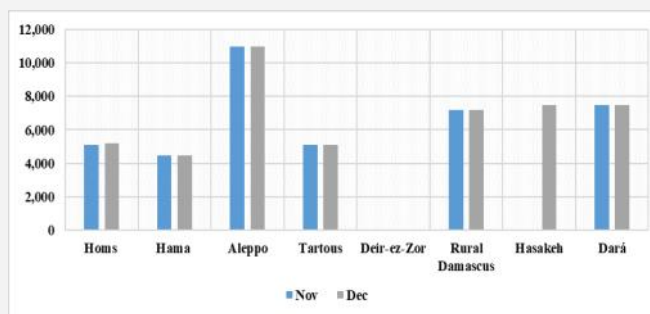


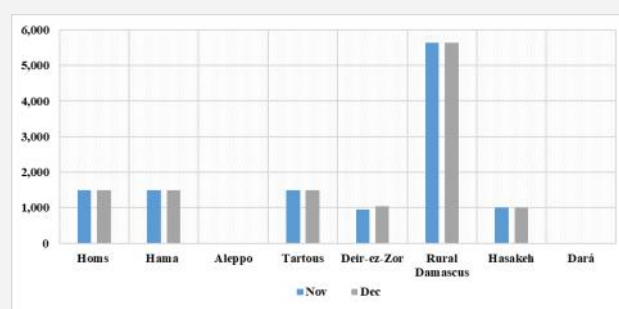
Figure 4: M-O-M Comparison of Nitrate Fertilizer (Liquid) prices in SYP per litre in Local Market



Ammonium Nitrate (Topdressing):

Similar to November 2021, **ammonium nitrate (AN)** was available across most of the monitored governorates except in Dará and Aleppo districts. The average selling price for AN was 2 033 SYP per kg in December 2021. The price remained constant in Hasakeh, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Hama and Homs governorates and no significant changes were observed. Deir-ez-Zor governorate witnessed a moderate increase (11 percent m-o-m) and the price was at 1 050 SYP per kg, as highlighted below (figure 5).

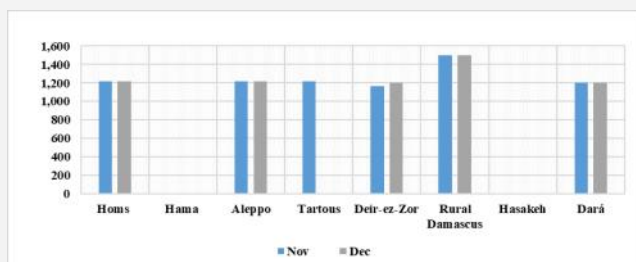
Figure 5: M-O-M Comparison of Ammonium Nitrate prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



Phosphate fertilizers (Basal)

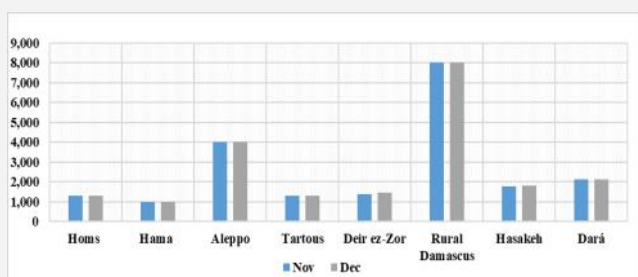
Shortages in **Phosphate fertilizer** at the agriculture bank were observed in Hama and Hasakeh governorates. In Aleppo, the average selling price observed a significant increase (22 percent m-o-m) reaching 1 220 SYP per kg as highlighted in figure 6 below.

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



In general, **phosphate fertilizer** remains generally available in local markets across all monitored locations at an average selling price of 2 617 SYP per kg (1 percent m-o-m increase). The selling price remained constant in Dará, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo, Hama and Homs governorates since November 2021. In Deir ez-Zor and Hasakeh governorates, a slight increase was observed (5 and 3 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price reached 1 438 and 1 800 SYP per kg respectively (figure 7).

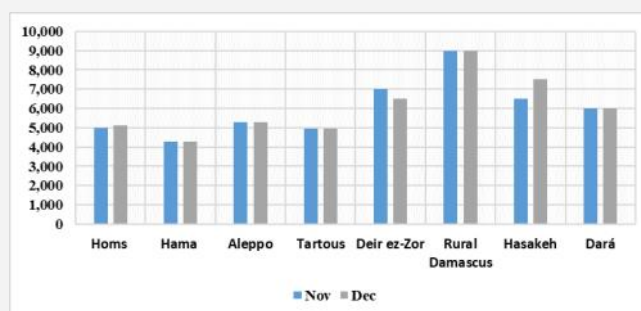
Figure 7: M-O-M Comparison of Phosphate fertilizer (Liquid) prices in SYP per litre in Local Markets



NPK fertilizer (Basal)

NPK fertilizer prices recorded a minimal increase (1 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price was at 6 081 SYP per kg. The prices in Dar'a, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo and Hama governorates remained stable since November 2021. The average selling prices were 6 000, 9 000, 4 967, 5 300 and 4 260 SYP per kg respectively. Deir ez-Zor governorate witnessed a slight decrease (7 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price was 6 500 SYP per kg. Hasakeh governorate observed a moderate increase (15 percent m-o-m) and the price was 7 500 SYP per kg (figure 8). In Homs, the price observed a notable increase; reaching 5 120 SYP per kg and this could be attributed to increased demand during the late planting period.

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 very high 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 or viability and the quality of farm products. 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 pesticides. IPM is an environment friendly strategy that aims at maintaining 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 appropriate IPM practices, where feasible. IPM may offer benefits in terms of long-term pest control, while minimizing the exposure of humans to hazards and avoiding environmental pollution. IPM can increase the resilience of vulnerable farming households, especially due to the prevailing economic situation and 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):

The average selling price of **dust, granular and wettable powder insecticides** was 72 700 SYP per kg. Insecticides are generally available across all the monitored locations. The selling prices remained constant in most of the monitored markets since November 2021 except for Hasakeh and Deir ez-Zor governorates where a minimal decrease (1 percent m-o-m) in both markets was observed. In Homs governorate, a slight decrease (2 percent m-o-m) was observed as highlight in figure 9.

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

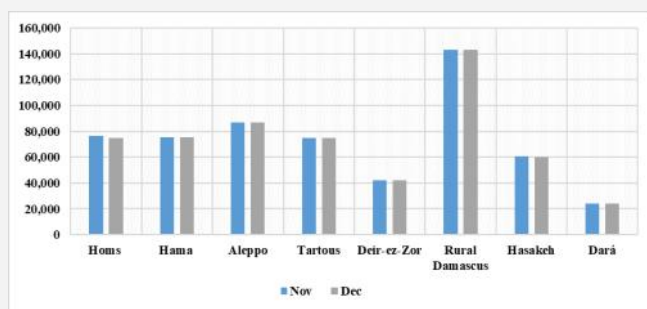
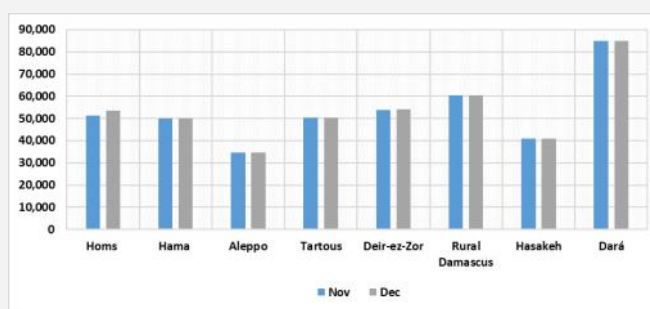


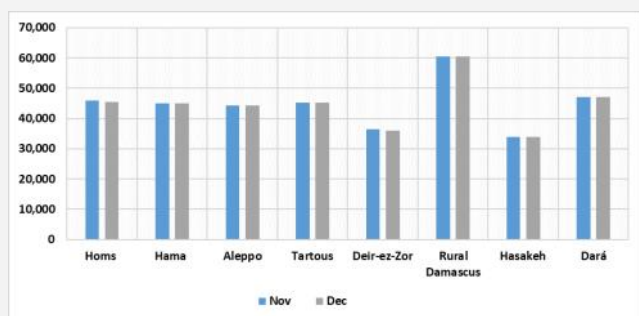
Figure 11: M-O-M comparison of Fungicide (Dusts, Granules or Wettable Powders) prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



*** Liquid Insecticides:**

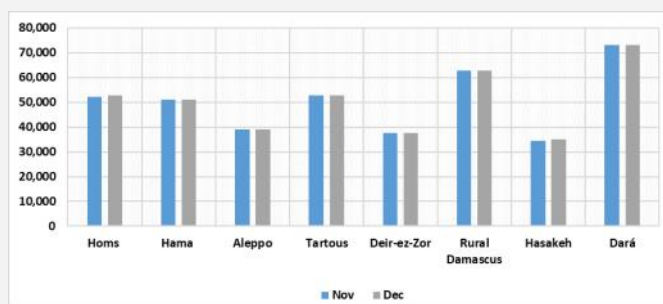
The average selling price of **liquid insecticides** remained constant since November 2021, reaching 44 698 SYP per litre. Liquid insecticides were generally available across all of the monitored markets as illustrated in figure 10.

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



price was recorded in Dar'a governorate since April 2021. Furthermore, the recorded price in Hasakeh was the lowest in December 2021 (figure 12).

Figure 12: M-O-M comparison of Fungicide prices in SYP per litre in Local Market



*** Fungicides**

◆ (Dusts, granules or wettable powders):

Fungicides are generally available across all monitored governorates at an average selling price of 53 604 SYP per kg. The prices in Dar'a, Hasakeh, Rural Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor, Tartous, Aleppo and Hama governorates remained constant since November 2021. In Homs, a slight increase was noticed (4 percent m-o-m) and the price reached 53 400 SYP per kg. Dar'a still recorded the highest selling price for fungicides across all monitored governorates, reaching 85 000 SYP per kg since May 2021 (figure 11).

Liquid Fungicides:

The price of liquid fungicides recorded an average of 50 529 SYP per litre in December 2021. Data from the market survey shows that a slight increase in the selling price of liquid fungicides occurred in Homs and Hasakeh governorates (1 percent m-o-m). While in Dar'a, Rural Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor, Tartous, Aleppo and Hama governorates, the prices remained unchanged since November 2021. The prices were 73 000 (Dar'a), 62 700 (Rural Damascus), 37 625 (Deir-ez-Zor) 52 833 (Tartous), and 51 200 (Hama) SYP per litre. The highest selling

Herbicides

In December 2021, the average price of **herbicides (i.e. dusts, granules or Wettable powders)** was 64 694 SYP per kg. Slight decreases in the selling price of herbicides were recorded in Homs and Deir-ez-Zor (2 and 1 percent m-o-m), reaching 78 800 and 62 250 SYP per kg respectively. Hasakeh governorate witnessed a slight increase (1 percent m-o-m) and the price was 67 000 (figure 13).

The average price of **Liquid herbicides** witnessed a slight increase in December 2021 and the average selling price rose to 45 596 SYP per litre. The recorded price in Dar'a was the lowest at 20 000 SYP per litre and remained constant since November 2021. The prices in Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo and Hama governorates also remained unchanged in December 2021.

Furthermore, Homs, Deir-ez-Zor and Hasakeh governorates witnessed a similar slight increase in the average selling price of liquid herbicides (2,1 and 1 percent m-o-m) and the actual prices recorded were 66 400 , 36 500 and 40 000 SYP per litre respectively (figure 14).

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

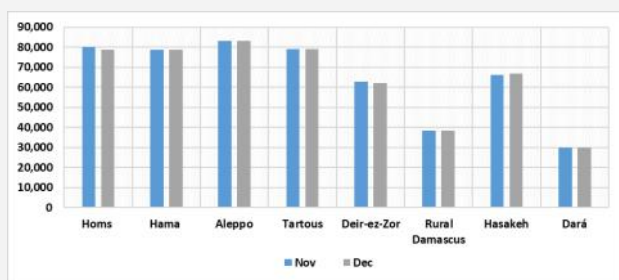
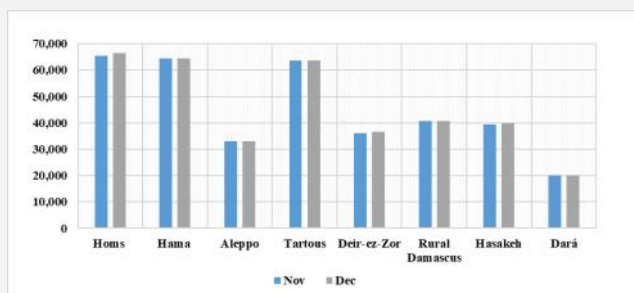


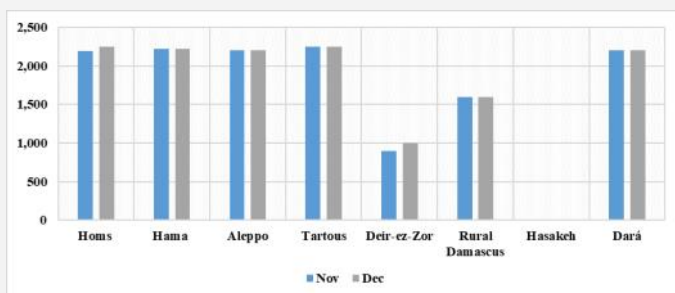
Figure 14: M-O-M Comparison of Herbicide price in SYP per litre in Local Market



Poultry Feed (Egg production):

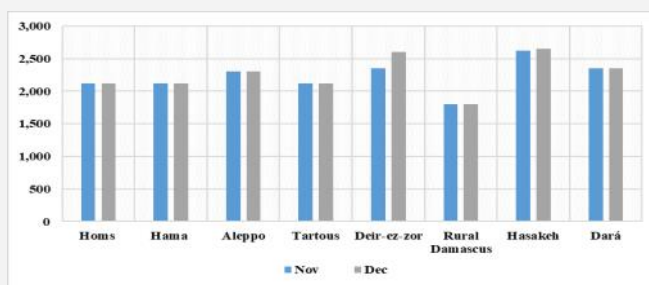
In terms of cost, feed is the most important input for intensive **poultry production**. For maximum performance and good health, poultry needs a steady supply of water, energy, protein, essential amino acids, minerals and vitamins. Tracking poultry feed price dynamics is very vital for poultry value chain actors. In general, the average selling price of poultry feed for egg production (i.e. broilers) recorded was 1 715 SYP per kg (13 percent m-o-m decrease). The prices across all monitored markets remained constant since November 2021.

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



In December 2021, the average selling price of **poultry feed** for **chicken meat** (i.e. broiler) production was 2 257 SYP per kg (2 percent m-o-m). The prices in all monitored governorates except for markets in Deir-ez-Zor remained constant since November 2021. The prices were as follow: 2 120 (Homs), 2 120 (Hama), 2 300 (Aleppo), 2 117 (Tartous), 1 800 (Rural Damascus), 2 650 (Hasakeh) and 2 350 (Dará). A moderate increase in the price of poultry feed for chicken meat

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

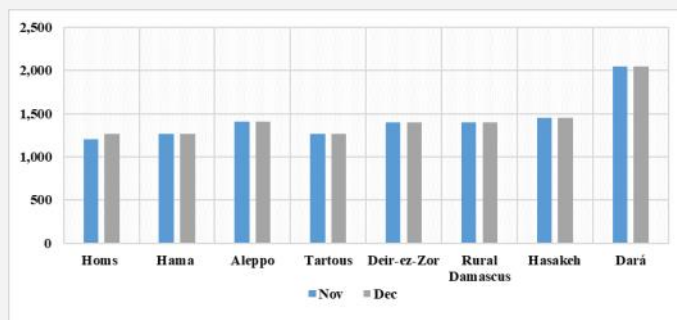


production were recorded in Deir-ez-Zor (11 percent m-o-m) as highlighted in figure 16.

Cattle feed

In December 2021, **Cattle feed** was available within the governorates at an estimated price of 1 438 SYP per kg. The availability of cattle feed was acceptable in the monitored governorates. In Homs governorate, the prices witnessed a slight decrease (1 percent m-o-m). The prices in Hama, Aleppo, Tartous, Deir-ez-Zor, Rural Damascus, Hasakeh and Dará remained constant since November 2021, recording 1 264, 1 270, 1 410, 1 262, 1 400, 1 400, 1 450 and 2 050 SYP per kg respectively. The price in Dará (2 050 SYP per kg), represented the highest selling price for cattle feed since August 2021. While the lowest price was recorded in Tartous governorate. FAO will closely monitor the price trends for cattle feed during the winter and 2021/2022 rainfall season.

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

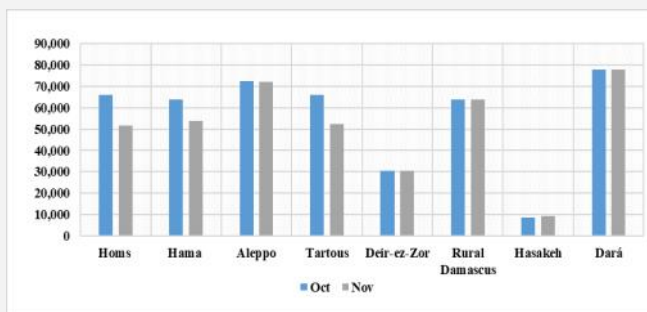


Diesel Fuel

The average selling price of **diesel fuel** witnessed a moderate m-o-m decrease of 11 percent in local markets, reaching 45 863 SYP per 20 litres (figure 18). The prices in Hama and Aleppo governorates remained constant since November 2021. Rural Damascus and Dará governorates witnessed a significant price decrease in diesel fuel for a 20 litre gallon (47 and 23 percent m-o-m) and the prices recorded in December 2021 were 34 000 and 60 000 SYP per 20 litre respectively. This decline compared to the previous month, could be attributed to the increased availability and supply versus demand since supplementary irrigation and other cultivation

demand since supplementary irrigation and other cultivation practices stopped. The price of diesel in Rural Damascus and Dar'a remains generally high despite the declined reported in December 2021. In Deir-ez-Zor, the price decreased slightly reaching 28 750 SYP per 20 litre (6 percent m-o-m). Hasakeh governorate witnessed a notable increase of 14 percent m-o-m and the selling price reached 10 500 SYP per 20 litre. However, the price in Hasakeh represented the lowest price across all the monitored locations (figure 18). Diesel fuel shortages and access restrictions remained a major constraint for agricultural production and thus continues to threaten agriculture-based livelihoods, especially ground water extraction and supplementary irrigation.

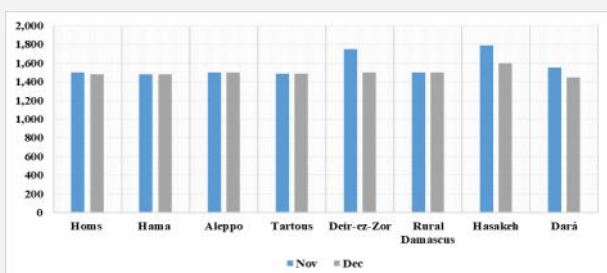
Figure 18: M-O-M Comparison for Diesel Fuel prices in SYP per 20 liters in Local Market



Wheat seed for planting

The official price of **wheat seed** announced by GOSM for the 2021/2022 agricultural season is 1 585 SYP per kg. However, in local markets, the price of wheat seed was around 1 499 SYP per kg (4 percent m-o-m decrease). In Deir-ez-Zor, Hasakeh and Dará governorates, the prices witnessed (14, 10 and 6 percent m-o-m decrease) and the prices were at 1 500, 1 600 and 1 450 SYP per kg respectively. In December 2021, a slight decrease was recorded in Homs 1 percent and the price was at 1 480 SYP per kg. The prices in Hama, Aleppo, Tartous and Rural Damascus remained constant since November 2021. This slight decrease could be attributed to the increased availability/supply of seeds versus low demand from farmers since the planting season for wheat was coming to an end, combined with the unfavourable agro-climatic conditions in the current season.

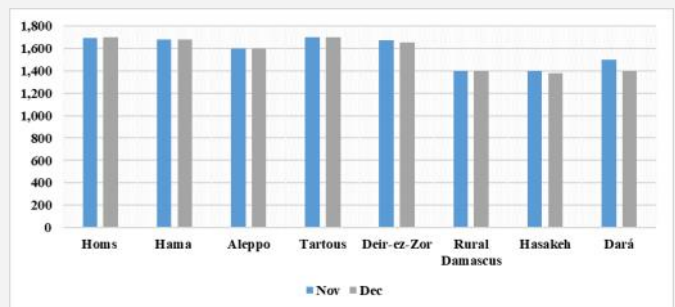
Figure 19: M-O-M Comparison for Wheat seeds prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



Barley seed

The official price of **Barley seed** was announced by GOSM for the upcoming planting season is 1 743 SYP per Kg. **Barley seed** remained available in the local markets at an average selling price of 1 568 SYP per kg (1 percent m-o-m decrease). The prices in Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo, and Hama governorates remained constant in December 2021. In Dará, Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor governorates, the prices witnessed a minimal decrease (7, 2 and 1 percent m-o-m) and the prices were at 1 400 and 1 375 and 1 650 SYP per kg respectively. In December 2021, also Homs governorate observed a minimal increase (1 percent m-o-m) figure 20 below.

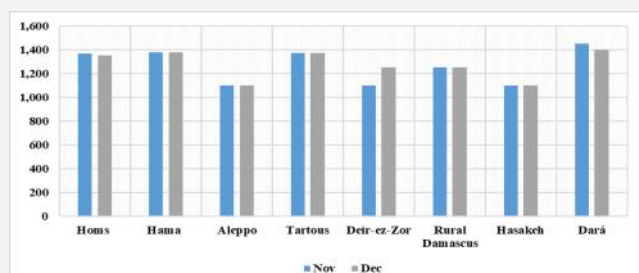
Figure 20: M-O-M comparison of Barely seed prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



Maize grain (Corn)

In December 2021, the price of maize observed a minimal increase (1 percent m-o-m) reaching 1 276 SYP per kg. In Hasakeh, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo and Hama the price remained constant since November 2021. In Deir-ez-Zor, a notable increase was observed (12 percent m-o-m). Dará and Homs governorates witnessed a slight decrease (4 and 1 percent m-o-m) and the prices dropped to 1 400 and 1 350 SYP per kg respectively (figure 21). This could be attributed to the low demand by farmers due to the increase in availability of corn from the current 2021 summer production. Maize grain is commonly used as an important ingredient during the production of most livestock fodder, due to its high nutritional content, especially starch, fibre and protein.

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



Soybean Meal

In general, the price of **Soya bean** reached 2 050 SYP per kg (1 percent m-o-m increase). Soya bean was generally available in seven governorates out of the eight that monitored. In Dará, the price increased 6 percent m-o-m reaching 2 400 SYP per Kg. In Hama, Aleppo, Tartous, and Rural Damascus governorates, the prices remained constant since November 2021. In Homs, the prices observed a slight increase of (1 percent m-o-m) and the price was 1 800 SYP per kg as highlighted in figure 22.

Barley Grain

The average selling price of barley grain decreased slightly 2 percent m-o-m, reaching 1 365 SYP per kg in December 2021. A slight increase of 2 percent m-o-m was observed in Hasakeh, with the price rising to 1 300 SYP per kg. Deir-ez-Zor observed a slight decrease (10 percent m-o-m), and the recorded price was 1 413 SYP per kg. Prices in Dará, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo, Hama and Homs governorates remained unchanged since November 2021 as highlighted in figure 23 below.

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

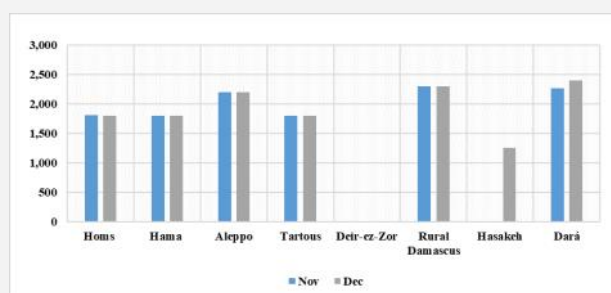
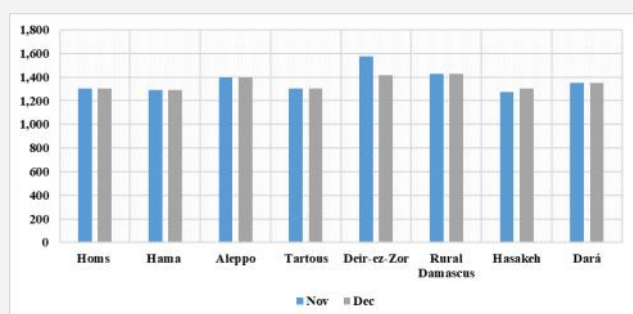


Figure 23: M-O-M Comparison of Barely grain prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



Cottonseed Meal

In December 2021, the average selling price of cotton meal was at 1 779 SYP per kg. **Cottonseed meal** was not available in Hasakeh and Dará governorates during the mentioned monitoring period. The prices remained constant in Hama, Aleppo, Tartous and Deir-ez-Zor governorates since November 2021. Homs governorate witnessed a slight decrease in the average selling price (2 percent m-o-m), reaching 1 780 SYP per kg as shown in figure 24.

Wheat Bran

Wheat bran was generally available across all monitored markets as it is a major by-product of the milling process. The average selling price was 1 059 (3 percent m-o-m increase) in December 2021. Findings showed that the price in Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo, Hama and Homs governorates remained stable since November 2021. While the price in Dará governorate witnessed a slight decrease (5 percent m-o-m), reaching 950 SYP per kg. In Deir-ez-Zor and Hasakeh governorates, the prices increased notably (18 and 13 percent m-o-m) reaching 1 175 and 1 200 SYR per kg respectively and this could be attributed to the limited supply versus the increased demand, following a poor 2020/2021 agricultural season. Another factor could be the increase in the transportation costs (figure 25).

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

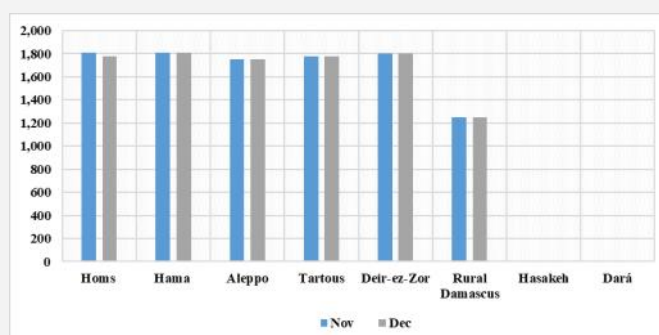
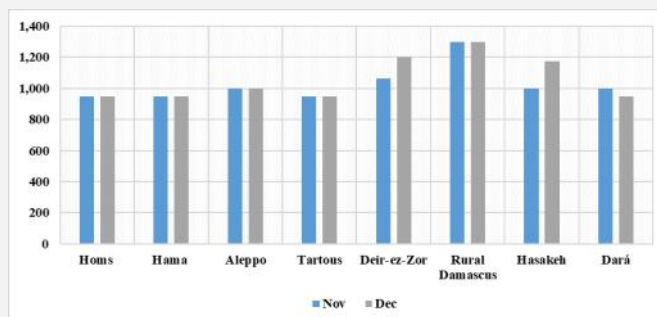


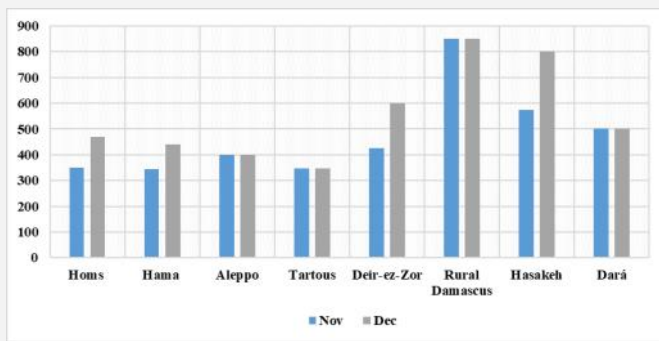
Figure 25: M-O-M Comparison of Wheat Bran prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



Wheat Straw

Wheat straw was generally available across most of the monitored governorates at an average price of 474 SYP per kg (14 percent m-o-m increase). The price of wheat straw increased significantly in Rural Damascus and Aleppo governorates (70 and 23 percent m-o-m respectively) in November 2021 and this can be attributed to the prevailing high demand and diminishing supply. The prices in Hama, Homs, Tartous, Deir-ez-Zor and Dará governorates remained constant since October 2021. In Hasakeh governorate, a notable increase in the price of wheat straw was recorded (10 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price was 575 SYP per kg (figure 26).

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



Hama governorates remained constant since November 2021. In Deir-ez-Zor and Homs governorates, a slight decrease had been observed (5 and 2 percent m-o-m), reaching 1 475 and 1 940 SYP per kg respectively, as highlighted in figure 29. In Dará and Hasakeh governorates, the prices increased slightly (7 and 6 percent m-o-m respectively). This could be explained by the prevailing limited availability of wheat flour at some markets, coupled with high demand, in addition to the government regulations on wheat trade and stocking.

The average selling price of **sugar** across the monitored governorates recorded a slight decrease (3 percent m-o-m), reaching 2 601 SYP per kg. The price of sugar in Rural Damascus governorate increased slightly (11 percent m-o-m). The price in Dará, Tartous, Aleppo Hama and Homs governorates remained unchanged since November 2021. In Hasakeh, the price increased significantly (23 percent m-o-m), reaching 2 700 in December 2021 from 2 200 SYP per kg in November 2021. This could be attributed to limited availability/supply versus the prevailing high demand. Access constraints could also be contributing to the limited supply of sugar due to the barriers that exist across the areas under different control. The price of sugar dropped in Deir-ez-Zor (5 percent m-o-m decrease), reaching 2 575 SYP per kg (figure 30).

In general, the price of **rice** increased slightly in December 2021 (1 percent m-o-m), reaching 3 231 SYP per kg. In Hasakeh, Deir-ez-Zor and Homs governorates, the recorded prices 3 000, 3 000 and 2 620 SYP per kg, representing 3, 3 and 2 percent m-o-m increase respectively. While in Dará, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo and Hama the prices governorates the prices remained constant since November 2021, reaching 3 600, 4 200, 2 625, 4 175 and 2 620 SYP per kg respectively (figure 31).

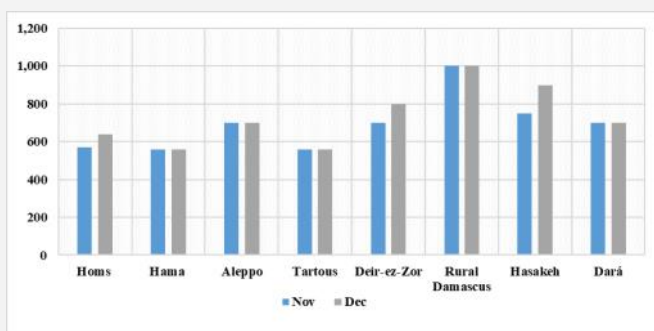
The average selling price across all monitored locations and markets for **eggs** increased slightly in December 2021, reaching 10 618 SYP for a crate or pack. The price in Homs, Aleppo and Tartous governorates remained constant since November 2021. The price in Rural Damascus increased notably or moderately (14 percent m-o-m), reaching 12 000 SYP per pack. This increase could be attributed to the limited supply in the market and an increase in the transportation costs, coupled with the increase in the overall poultry production costs. Dará and Hasakeh governorates witnessed a slight decrease in the price (4 percent m-o-m), for both aforementioned areas. Hama and Deir-ez-Zor governorates showed a slight 9 and 4 percent m-o-m increase respectively, with the price rising to 11 000 SYP per pack for both markets (figure 32).

In general, the selling price of **cow milk** increased slightly in December 2021 (3 percent m-o-m) and the average price reached 1 707 SYP per litre in December 2021. In Deir-ez-Zor, the price observed a notable increase (13 percent m-o-m) reaching 1 350 SYP per litre. Rural Damascus, Hasakeh and Dará governorates witnessed a slight increase (6, 9 and 7 percent m-o-m respectively).

Crop Residues

The average selling price of crop residues increased slightly in December 2021 (6 percent m-o-m), reaching 732 SYP per kg. Deir-ez-Zor and Homs governorates witnessed a notable increase (14 and 12 percent m-o-m) and the prices reached 800 and 640 SYP per kg respectively. Hasakeh governorate witnessed a significant increase in the price, reaching 900 SYP per Kg (20 percent m-o-m). This could be attributed to the increase in demand and the diminishing supply, especially following the devastating agro-climatic conditions which affected pasture growth and crop growth and development. For the prices of crop residues across the monitored governorates, refer to figure 27 below.

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



SECTION B. Food Prices:

The official price of **bread** is 200 SYP per rabta. The average selling price of bread in December 2021 was 341 SYP per rabta (5 percent m-o-m decrease). Transportation costs are having knocking effects on the price of bread, especially in rural areas which are far. Salesmen are also adding other additional related costs just to ensure that they maintain the needed supply, despite the difficult economic situation. Deir-ez-Zor and Homs governorates witnessed a moderate decrease (18 and 13 percent m-o-m) and the prices dropped to 350 (Deir-ez-Zor) and 420 (Homs) SYP per rabta. The price of bread remained constant in most of the monitored markets in December 2021 (figure 28).

The price of **wheat flour** recorded a minimal 1 percent m-o-m increase and the average selling price reached 2 029 SYP per kg. While the prices in Rural Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo and

This slight increase is likely to have occurred due the prevailing limited access (i.e. high cost) and limited supply of fodder. The supply of fodder was significantly affected by the poor pasture growth and production as a result of the erratic rainfall season in 2020/2021. The prices in Hama, Aleppo and Tartous remained constant since November 2021, at 1 750, 1 850 and 1 758 SYP per litre respectively (figure 33).

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

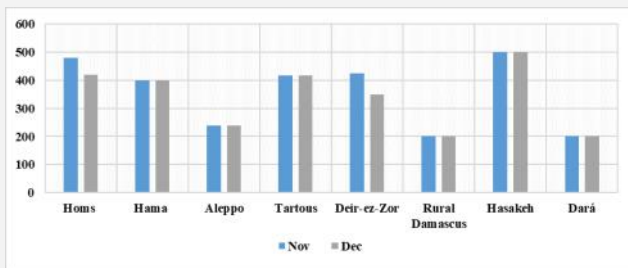


Figure 29 :M-O-M Comparison of Wheat Flour Prices in SYP per kg in Local Market

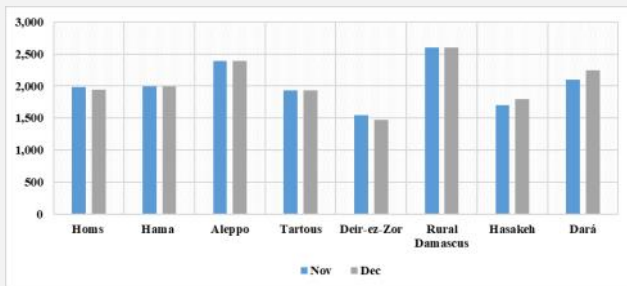


Figure 30: M-O-M Comparison for Sugar Prices in SYP per Kg in Local Market

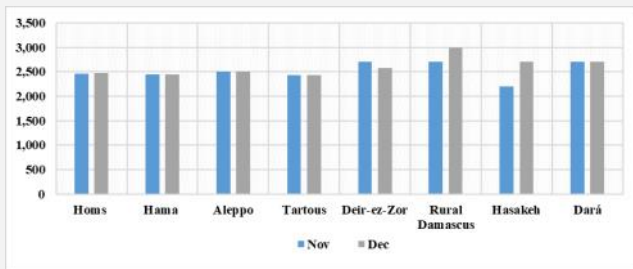


Figure 31: M-O-M Comparison of Rice prices in SYP per kg in Local Market

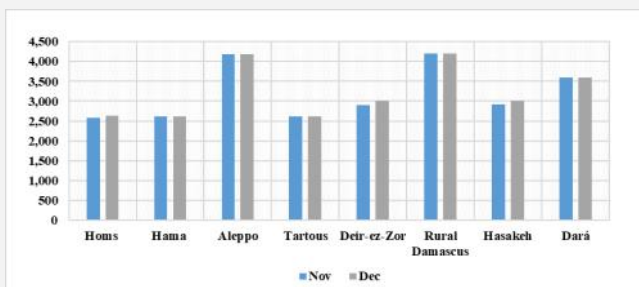


Figure 32: M-O-M Comparison of Egg prices in SYP per (pack of 30 unit) in Local Market

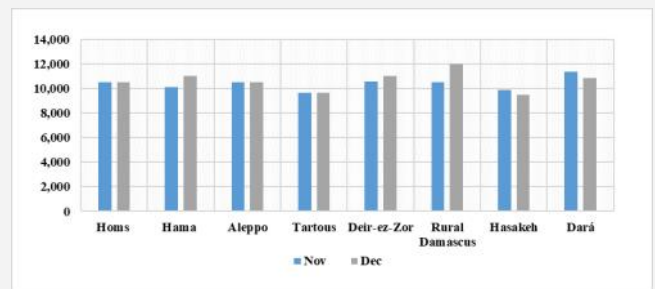
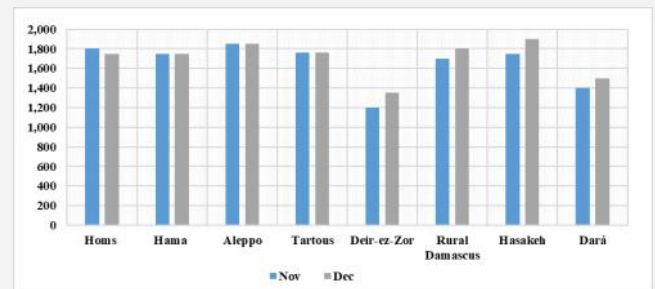


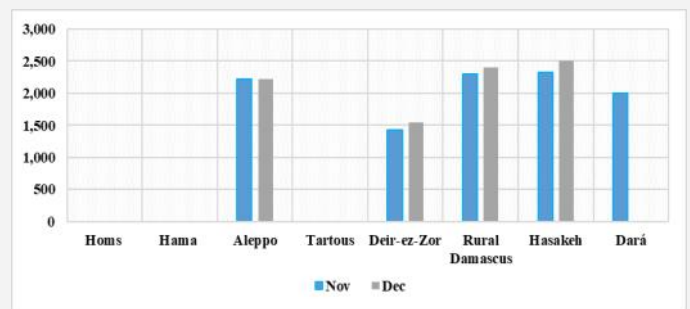
Figure 33: M-O-M Comparison of Cow Milk prices in SYP per litre in Local Market



Sheep milk

The average selling price for **sheep milk** observed a notable decrease in December 2021 (16 percent m-o-m) across the monitored markets, with the average selling price 1 735 SYP per litre. A slight increase was recorded in Deir-ez-Zor, Hasakeh and Rural Damascus governorates (9, 8 and 4 percent m-o-m respectively). This could be attributed to the general increase in the cost of production and the prevailing and prolonged shortage of livestock feed. The price in Aleppo remained constant since November 2021 as shown in figure 34.

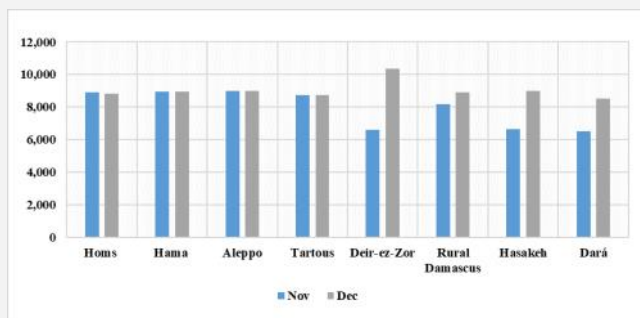
Figure 34: M-O-M Comparison of Sheep Milk prices in SYP per litre in Local Market



For **Chicken meat**, the average selling price reached 9 036 SYP per kg (14 percent m-o-m increase) in December 2021. The highest selling price of 10 375 SYP per kg was recorded in Deir-ez-Zor governorate, with (57 percent m-o-m increase).

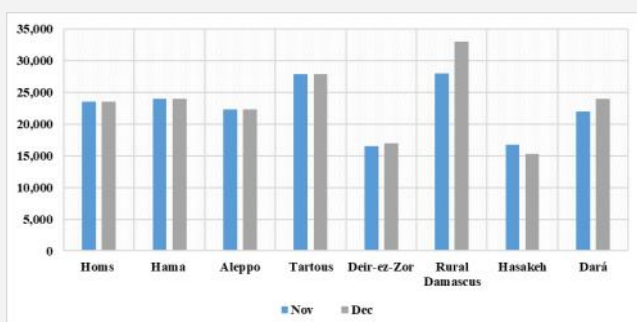
This could be due to high transportation costs as no local production of chicken meat in Deir-ez-Zor. Hasakeh and Dará governorates observed a significant increase of 36 and 31 percent m-o-m, and the prices were at 9 000 and 8 500 SYP per kg respectively. The selling price of chicken meat increased slightly by 9 percent m-o-m in Rural Damascus, but in Homs, the price only increased slightly (1 percent m-o-m decrease), reaching 8 800 SYP per kg. In Hama, Aleppo and Tartous the prices remained constant since November 2021 (figure 35).

Figure 35: M-o-m Comparison of chicken meat prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



The average selling price for **sheep meat** (i.e. mutton) witnessed a slight increase in December 2021 (3 percent m-o-m) to 23 354 SYP per kg. The prices in Rural Damascus, Dará and Deir-ez-Zor increased (18, 9 and 3 percent m-o-m respectively). While the price in Tartous, Aleppo, Hama and Homs governorates remained constant since November 2021 at 27 833 SYP (Tartous), 22 250 SYP (Aleppo), 24 000 SYP (Hama) and 23 500 SYP (Homs) per kg respectively. For Hasakeh governorate, a slight decrease was observed and the average selling prices was 15 250 SYP per kg, as highlighted in figure 36.

Figure 36: M-O-M Comparison of Sheep meat prices in SYP per kg in Local Market

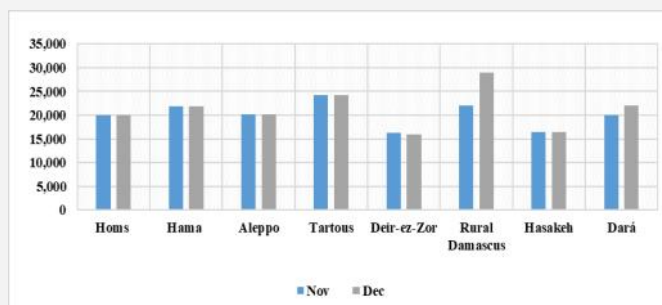


Cow meat

For **cow meat** (i.e. beef), in general, the average selling price observed a slight increase (5 percent m-o-m) and the price was 21 215 SYP per kg. The price in Rural Damascus increased significantly (32 percent m-o-m) and the average selling price raised to 29 000 SYP per kg in December 2021. This could be attributed to high demand shortages in supply chain coupled with fodder high costs. The prices in Homs,

Hama, Aleppo, Tartous, and Hasakeh governorates remained constant since November 2021 as shown in figure 37. The price in Dará governorate witnessed a slight increase (10 percent m-o-m) but in Deir-ez-Zor, the price observed a minimal decrease reaching 16 000 SYP per kg.

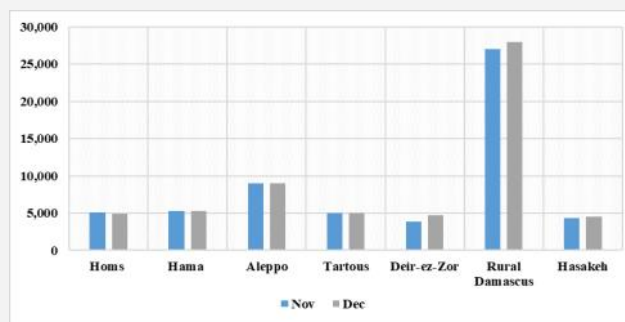
Figure 37: M-O-M Comparison of Cow Meat Prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



The average selling price for **fish** reached 8 779 SYP per kg in December 2021. The prices remained constant since November 2021 in Hama, Aleppo and Tartous markets. The highest price was still recorded in Rural Damascus at 28 000 SYP per kg (4 percent m-o-m increase). The price in Deir-ez-Zor observed a significant increase (23 percent m-o-m) and this could be due to increased demand and consumption of fish meat as an alternative to chicken meat in some areas within this governorate (figure 38).

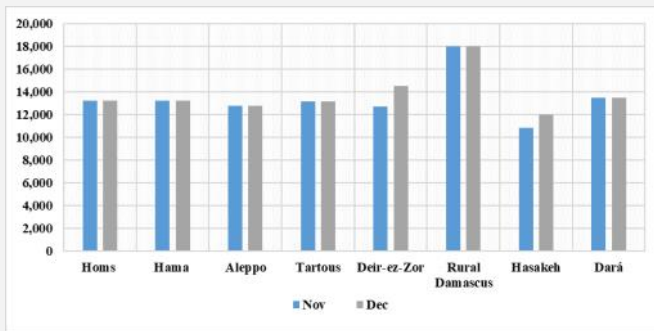
FAO acknowledges the nutritional value of fish and the potential contribution that the fisheries and aquaculture sector may bring to the Syrian economy. The consumption of fish by most families in Syria remains generally low due to the low natural productivity of inland fisheries combined with low purchasing power among most families in Syria.

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



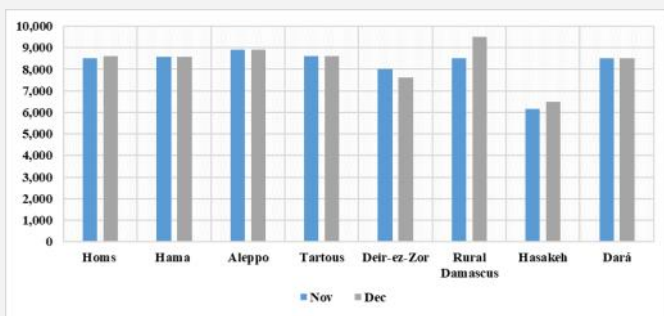
Generally, the average **olive oil** price increased by 3 percent in December 2021 and the average selling price was at 13 790 SYP per litre for the eight monitored governorates. The olive oil price in Deir-ez-Zor and Hasakeh governorates increased (14 and 11 percent m-o-m), reaching 14 500 and 12 000 SYP per litre respectively. The prices in Homs, Hama, Aleppo, Tartous, Rural Damascus and Dará governorates remained constant since November 2021 as shown in figure 39.

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



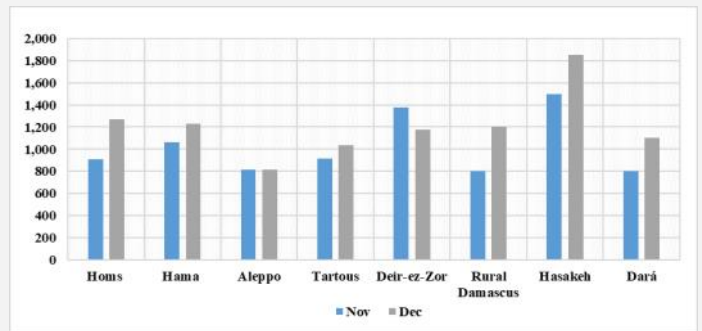
A slight 2 percent m-o-m increase was recorded for the average selling price of **sunflower oil** in December 2021, reaching 8 353 SYP per litre. In Rural Damascus, Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor the prices were 9 500, 6 500 and 7 625 SYP per litre. This represents a moderate 12 percent m-o-m increase in Rural Damascus, 5 percent m-o-m increase in Hasakeh and a 5 percent m-o-m decrease in Deir-ez-Zor. In Tartous, Aleppo and Hama the price for sunflower was 8 600, 8 900 and 8 580 SYP per litre respectively with no observed change since November 2021. The price of sunflower oil in Homs governorates increased slightly to 8 620 SYP per litre (???) (Percent m-o-m increase) as highlighted in figure 40.

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



In general, a moderate 18 percent m-o-m increase was recorded for the average selling price of **tomatoes** across the monitored locations and markets in December 2021. The average selling price reached 1 209 SYP per kg. Sharp and significant increases of 50, 40, 38 and 23 percent m-o-m were recorded in Rural Damascus, Homs, Dará and Hasakeh, resulting in the prices rising to 1 200, 1 270, 1 100 and 1 850 SYP per kg respectively (figure 41). The sharp increase in tomato prices is due to the high cost of production, combined with power and energy shortages, especially fuel. Furthermore, the lack of adequate access to vegetable production inputs, including tomatoes, is affecting supply and hence resulting in the observed price increase. Deir-ez-Zor governorate witnessed a notable or moderate decrease (15 percent m-o-m), and the selling price in Aleppo remained constant since November 2021 at 813 SYP per kg.

Figure 41: M-O-M Comparison of Tomato Prices in SYP per kg Local Market



The average selling price for **potatoes** increased in December 2021, reaching 1 785 SYP per kg. Deir-ez-Zor and Rural Damascus governorates witnessed a significant increase (43 and 24 percent m-o-m respectively). This could be attributed to the high demand with and the general increase in transportation costs. Dará governorate experienced a moderate price decrease of 20 percent m-o-m for potatoes (figure 42). The prices in Hama, Hasakeh and Aleppo governorates remained constant since November 2021.

The average selling price of **eggplants** increased sharply in December 2021 across the monitored markets (42 percent m-o-m), and the price reached 1 424 SYP per kg. The selling price of eggplant in Deir-ez-Zor, Hasakeh, Hama, Rural Damascus, Tartous and Homs governorates increased sharply as well (150, 71, 93, 30, 25 and 23 percent m-o-m), reaching 2 125, 2 050, 1 140, 1 300, 1 000 and 1 080 SYP per kg. This increase in prices is due to the market price volatility due to currency depreciation and diminishing supply. Other contributing factors include the high production costs due to power / energy shortages and the lack of and limited access to quality agricultural inputs. The price of eggplants remained generally stable in Aleppo since November 2021.

Figure 42: M-O-M Comparison of Potato prices in SYP per kg in Local Market

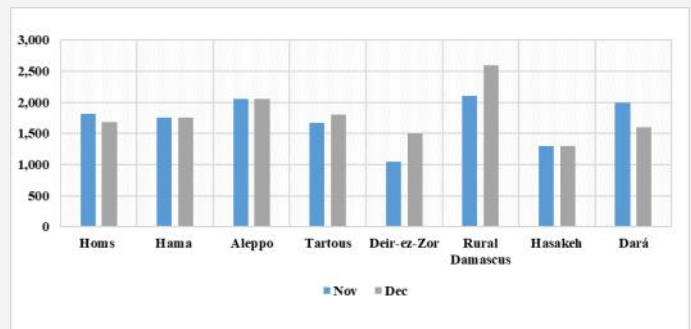
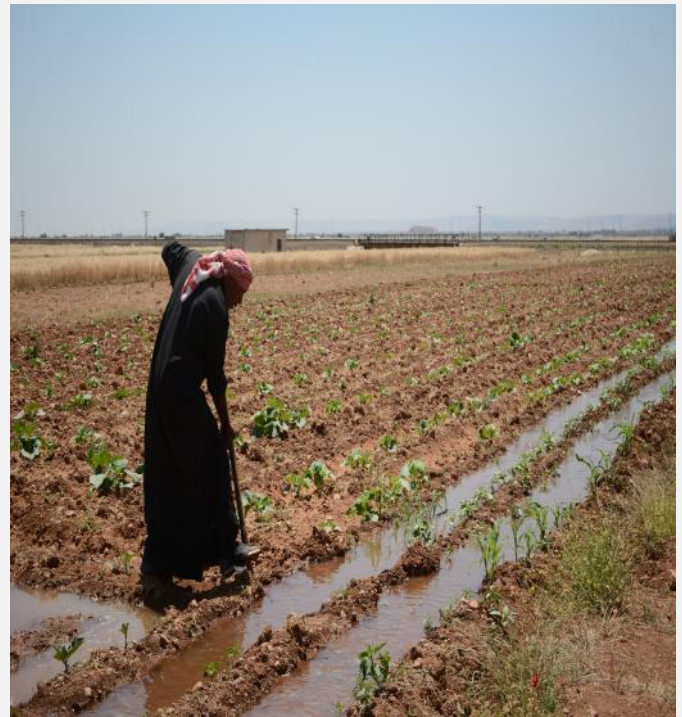
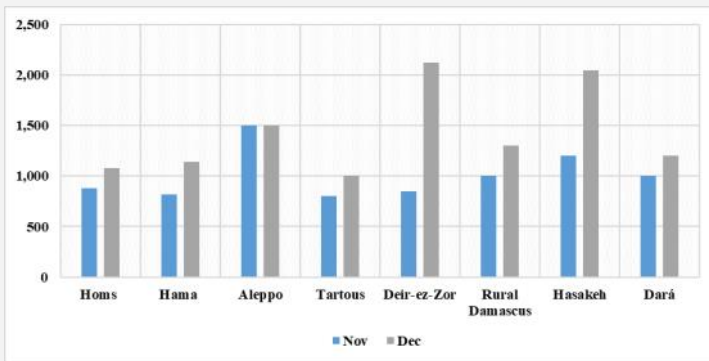


Figure 43: M-O-M Comparison of Eggplant prices in SYP per kg in Local Market



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