



AfricashewSplits

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The Cashew Market in West Africa

Nigeria

There is no more cashew at the producer level in Kwara and Ogbomosho states. However, there is still good availability at the farm gate in Kogi State where foreign buyers are still present at the border with Benin. In general, RCN prices remained in the same range for the past two weeks due to a slowdown in RCN arrivals from producers as well as a decline in RCN quality.

In Kogi State, the RCN farm gate price remains between 550 and 570 NGN/kg (1.74-1.8 USD/kg) with an average RCN Outturn of 40-44lbs, while the warehouse price decreased from 590 NGN/kg

recorded last week to currently between 560 and 580 NGN/kg (1.77-1.84 USD/kg).

In Kwara State, the RCN warehouse price remains between 570 and 600 NGN/kg (1,809-1,904 USD/MT) with an average RCN Outturn of 46-48lbs. Deliveries to Lagos are being made this week for between 600 and 650 NGN/kg (1,904-2,063 USD/MT) depending on the origin and the quality.

Source: Market Analysts Mr. Azeez Ayodele and Mr. Alfred Mákhuoga Friday

Côte d'Ivoire

The cashew market is slowing down in Cote d'Ivoire. This year the rains are still quite irregular compared to last year, which is of greater concern to farmers. In general RCN prices have decreased in all production areas due to a sharp decrease in RCN quality and availability.

RCN farm gate prices are currently between 700 and 850 FCFA/kg (1.19-1.45 USD/kg) compared to 775-900 FCFA/kg recorded the previous week. RCN warehouse prices are between 725 and 875 FCFA/kg (1.23-1.49 USD/kg) compared to 875-925 FCFA/kg recorded last week. Deliveries to the Port are being

made for between 890 and 900 FCFA/kg (1,521-1,538 USD/MT) compared to the 915-960 FCFA/kg recorded last week. FOB prices range between 1,000 and 1,100 FCFA/kg (1,709-1,880 USD/MT) compared to 1,100-1,200 FCFA/kg recorded last week. RCN Cfr prices declined from 1,200-1,35 FCFA/kg last week to 1,100-1,200 FCFA/kg (1,880-2,051 USD/MT) this week with an average RCN Outturn of 44-46lbs. At the export level, shipment operations are intensifying however, many trucks are driven back from the port due to a moisture content of more than 10%.

Source: Mr. Kamate Issoufou from K.R Organisation

Ghana

The cashew season in Ghana is almost coming to a close as supplies continue to be limited at the farmer level especially in the Brong Ahafo production zones. At the trader level, RCN availability is still good but for higher price range as compared to last week.

The weather is generally hot across the country. The major rain season has begun and production zones located in the middle belt have experienced heavy rains; although, no rains have been recorded in the past week.

The farm gate price for RCN is still between 4.00 and 4.50 GHS/kg (0.92-1.03 USD/kg) in Wenchi, Techiman, and the surrounding production zones. The RCN price at the trader level is between 6.5 and 7.0 GHS/kg (1,501-1,616 USD/MT) for an average RCN Outturn of 46-48lbs. The difference in the prices is attributed to the availability of RCN at the trader level and the short in supply at the farmer level.

The Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA) has disclosed that, cashew nut exports amounted to \$196.78 million, accounting for 53% of the agricultural products in 2016. According to GEPA, they had adopted cashew as their focus non-traditional export (NTE) crop for 2017 in view of the enormous potential that the crop held, yielding more proceeds per ton than cocoa beans. In that regard, the GEPA has set up a desk to provide comprehensive support for the

production and export of cashew nuts. The Deputy CEO of GEPA has said that the GEPA would later sign a memorandum of understanding with the sector associations, while the Ministry of Food and Agriculture had a program to support cashew production and processing in the country.

Source: Cyril Alormene from MoFA

Guinea Conakry

In Guinea Conakry, the marketing season is coming to an end. RCN availability is currently limited at both the trader and producer level. The first rains have begun and the cashew crop is almost finished. This week, RCN availability at the trader level has also decreased as compared to last week.

The RCN price increased this week due to a sharp decrease in RCN arrivals as well as a strong demand from both local and foreign buyers.

This week, RCN farm gate prices in Boké and Kankan are between 13,200 and 14,800 GNF/kg (1.45-1.62 USD/kg), compared to 12,500-13,500 GNF/kg recorded last week.

RCN Exports started on May 12th and according to Mr. Mohamed Saloum Traoré, the General Secretary of the National Federation of Cashew Producers in Guinea (FENAPAC), the RCN FOB price is currently between 1,676 and 1,776 USD/MT depending on quality and the quantity.

Source: Mme Clarisse BANGOURA from AGUIPEX

The Gambia

The cashew market is still very active in the Gambia with more purchases occurring at the border levels. RCN availability is very limited in all producing regions.

This week we observed an increase in RCN prices due to the limited availability of RCN and the controls undertaken by the government of Guinea Bissau to avoid cashew smuggling at the border with Senegal.

In the North Bank Region (close to the border with Senegal), the RCN farm gate price increased from 70-

75 for the last two weeks to around 100 GMD/kg (2.24 USD/kg) this week.

In Lower River and West Coast regions, the RCN farm gate price is currently between 90-95 GMD/kg (2.02-2.13 USD/kg), while the RCN warehouse price in Greater Banjul is around 100 GMD/kg (2,249 USD/MT).

Source: Mr. ALPHA O JALLOW from CAG

Senegal

Currently there is a cashew market slowdown in Senegal due to decreased availability of RCN and Guinea Bissau's ban of smuggling cashew across the Senegalese border.

Presently in Senegal, middlemen and traders are busy finalizing transfers of purchased cashew nut stocks from Ziguinchor to Banjul for export. This week we observed a decrease in RCN prices in Casamance due to the current downward trend of the cashew market at the international level. The first harvest in Sokone ended in April and the second crop is expected in June.

The RCN farm gate price in Ziguinchor is currently between 800-900 FCFA/kg (1.3-1.5 USD/kg) against 1,150 FCFA/kg recorded last week. RCN warehouse price range between 1,050 and 1,100 FCFA/kg (1,794-1,880 USD/MT) for an average RCN Outturn of 50-52 while in Sokone the RCN warehouse is between 1,175 and 1,200 FCFA/kg (2,000-2,051 USD/MT) for an average RCN Outturn of 52-54lbs. This week, RCN FOB price remains around 2,250 USD/MT for an average RCN Outturn of 50-54lbs.

Source: Mr. Lamine Sene from FNDASP

The International Cashew Market

The market has become quieter than in previous weeks. Prices have fallen back a little as a result although they remain at very high levels. There is much concern that prices will have a negative impact on demand. This is being seen in major consuming markets such as India and Europe. It may be seen later in the USA.

As crops continue but at a slower pace the season looks like being a good one on the continent of Africa and throughout the World with the exception of Vietnam where the crop was disappointing. Overall production could be up by 7-9% if Cote D'Ivoire and Guinea Bissau crops are finalised at the forecast levels.

The very high prices are difficult to explain as we have written here previously. For the moment, it looks like prices may ease down a little but high kernels prices will be with us for some time to come. There is some concern on RCN prices as Vietnams stocks are now quite high and the pressure to buy has eased. Vietnamese and Indian processors do need further stocks but both have reasons to wait and watch for the time being. Vietnamese due to stocks and slow sales and Indian processors due to fears that demand will react negatively to the introduction of sales tax on cashews. For the coming week we do not expect major moves but as always the market needs to be closely followed.

Source: Mr. JIM FITZPATRICK, INGREDIENT SOURCING SOLUTIONS

Cashew kernels FOB			
Description	Grade	Price USD/lb	Recent changes
Whole White 240 kernels/lb	WW240	5.30 - 5.40	Slight decrease
Whole White 320 kernels/lb	WW320	4.95-5.05	Stable
Splits	FS/WS	3.95	Stable
Broken	LWP/LP	3.45	Stable

Raw Cashew Nut FOB Africa and CFR India/Vietnam			
Origin	Outturn	Price USD/MT	Recent changes
West Africa CFR price (April Shipment)	44-53	1,500-2,350	Firm
Cote d'Ivoire CFR	45-47	1,830-2,079	Slight increase
Benin CFR	47	1,900 -1,950	Firm

Currency

Exchange Rate: 1 USD= ?		This Week	Last Week	Exchange Rate : 1 USD= ?		This Week	Last Week		
West Africa	Franc CFA	XOF	585	593	East Africa	Tanzanian Shilling	TZS	2230	2230
	Nigerian Naira	NGN	315	315		Kenyan Shilling	KES	103	103.25
	Ghanaian Cedi	GHS	4.33	4.3		Mozambican Metical	MZN	59.5	70.44
	Gambian Dalasi	GMD	44.45	44.97	Asia	Indian Rupee	INR	64.7	64.04
	Franc Guinéén	GNF	9092	9021		Vietnam Dong	VND	22679	22681

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