



AfriCashewSplits

The source of the latest crop and price information

Week 12: March 18 – 24, 2019 – N°07

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The International Cashew Market

The market has continued in a subdued fashion. The cashew kernels market has been steady for the past two weeks with little trade. Processors remain reluctant to offer unless they can buy raw material at the equivalent price of the kernels sold. Roasters remain reluctant to mark up their price ideas as they still have time in which to make a decision and fear a fall in kernels markets. It seems unlikely that either side of the discussion will change their point of view in the short term.

RCN prices have dropped almost everywhere at the farm gate level in the course of the week. International prices have dropped from some origins but not from others, which has further encouraged processors to wait for prices to come in line with the current kernels market. In India and Vietnam, they are focussed on their domestic crops for now. Given the kernels market standoff and some weakness of RCN at the farm gate the most likely outcome would seem to be that RCN prices drift down to kernels parity rather than the other way around.

Caution continues to be the prevailing approach across the market for now. This is not surprising following the problems of last year. However, the time is approaching when RCN buyers will need to cover from West Africa and kernels buyers will need to take their next tranche of cover. This may bring the market to life but seems unlikely to stimulate price volatility.

The Cashew Market in Africa

RCN farm gate price in AFRICA in USD per MT

COUNTRY	1 year ago	1 month ago	1 week ago	Calendar week 12 (18 – 24 March 2019)		This week vs last week		This week vs last month		
				Reported range	Outturn in lbs.	Variation	Trend	Variation	Trend	
NIGERIA	1,563	648	634	471	693	46-48	-9%	↘	-11%	↘
BENIN	1,412	605	690	689	775	46-49	6%	↗	17%	↗
GHANA	1,674	935	754	784	980	46-48	15%	↗	6%	↗
BURKINA FASO	1,600	-	-	646		45-48	-	-	-	-
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	1,177	562	647	646		46-48	-0.2%	↘	13%	↗
SENEGAL	1,883	-	-	1,033		50-52	-	-	-	-

RCN export Cfr prices in AFRICA in USD per MT

COUNTRY	1 year ago	Calendar week 12 (18 – 24 March 2019)		
		US\$ per ton	Outturn in lbs	Remark
NIGERIA	1,750	1,100	46-48	Offered
BENIN	1,900	1,300	49-50	Offered
GHANA	1,980	1,365	48+	Offered
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	1,850	1,300	48	Offered

Worldwide WW320 export FOB prices in USD per lb.

COUNTRY	1 year ago	1 month ago	1 week ago	Calendar week 12 (18 – 24 March 2019)		This week vs last week		This week vs last month	
				Range reported		Variation	Trend	Variation	Trend
				VIETNAM	4.55	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.50
INDIA	4.55	3.55	3.48	3.45	3.55	1%	↗	-1%	↘
Prices ranges traded in:									
NIGERIA				3.45					
BENIN				3.50					
GHANA				3.35					

Country Reports

Nigeria

The reported farm gate price ranges between 170 – 250 NGN per kg (USD 470 – 690 per ton) depending on location in calendar week 12. Average quality is reported at 48lbs, with lower qualities of 46-47lbs. in some areas.

Cfr export price for RCN 47-48 is offered in week 12 at USD 1,100.

Reports believe that as the market remains slow, the RCN price may continue to decrease at farm gate level. In this week this has been observed in centrally located growing areas (Kogi State).

About 20,000 tons are estimated to have been bought by local processors. W320 FOB export price is again quoted this week at USD 3.45 per lb.

Benin

The official minimum farm gate price is set at 400 CFA per kg. This week reports quote a farm gate price of 400-450 CFA per kg (USD 690-775 per ton).

RCN quality is reported to vary between 45 to 51lbs., with RCN from central regions demonstrating the best quality at an average of 49lbs.

First truckloads have arrived in Cotonou, however large buyers remain absent. RCN Cfr export price is offered in this week at USD 1,300.

Sector associations report a quantity of 4,000 tons bought so far by local processors. W320 FOB export price is quoted this week at USD 3.50 per lb.

Ghana

An official 2019 estimate is not expected until end of April. It is reported that farm yields are lower compared to this time last year. However, rains have cause trees to flower again, thus there is an expectation the season will be extended. This week's RCN farm gate price range remains at 4.0 – 5.0 GHC per kg (USD 785 – 980 per ton). Reports describe the outturn currently at 46-49lbs.

It has been reported in this week that 48+ lbs. RCN are offered at USD 1,365 per ton Cfr.

Cashew kernels WW320 are this week in the range of USD 3.35 per lb.

Burkina Faso

The minimum farm gate price is set at 375 CFA per kg (USD 646 per ton) with no reports of a price range this week. In week 12 it is reported that the government has announced the set-up of a National Cashew Council (Conseil Burkinabé de l'Anacarde (CBA)), which shall regulate the local cashew market.

Cote D'Ivoire

Market data remains limited this week as the sector continues to follow the trends elsewhere in the market – limited trade, shortage of pre finance.

There are unconfirmed reports of producers looking for sales even below the minimum price. This may be the last volumes of old crop material, lower quality or inferior material. However, it seems clear that there is a shortage of finance in the sector and farmers are concerned as last year so much product went unsold.

Cfr export price for RCN 48lbs is offered in this week at USD 1300

Senegal

The season is yet to start. First samples report quality expected to be at the lower end of the usual expected range (50-52 lbs.).

Few early crops are being bought by local processors at very high farm gate prices of about 600 CFA per kg (USD 1,033 per ton). These prices will most likely not be sustained. With more supply coming in, lower prices and more interest from exporters are expected.



Thank you to all our network of reporters and analysts for their contribution to this report.
This is a publication of the [African Cashew Alliance](#)