



AfriCashewSplits

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The International Cashew Market

With most buyers of kernels concentrated on getting their shipments from Asia, the kernels market was slightly weaker in Vietnam this week. The situation is very difficult as port congestion and sailing availability send container freight prices upwards. Elsewhere prices remain firm as buyers look to West Africa to fill the gaps and manage the risk as the shipping position from Asia is likely to take some months to improve. Shipments of cashew kernels from Vietnam continue to break records with all markets continuing to show positive demand trends.

RCN markets are relatively quiet. In West Africa, the crops from Nigeria to Cote d'Ivoire are in the final stages. Buyers are active in picking up the last quantities at the farm gate. Stocks are in exporters hands and shipments continue. Processors have had a difficult time in Cote d'Ivoire this year as farm gate prices surged on export orders from Vietnamese buyers as the RCN market prices reacted before kernels did. Now that kernels prices have moved up processors could compete, but the rawest material has been sold.

Attention will now shift further west to Guinea Bissau, The Gambia and Senegal. A reliable reporter from Guinea Bissau during the ACA GME with Jim Fitzpatrick indicated that production in Guinea Bissau may be like last year. This would be a second poor crop reflecting weather conditions. Exports through the port of Bissau may be lower than last year's 156,000 tonnes. The Gambian and Senegalese crops are reported to be good. Trading activity and RCN export prices are subdued. Indian buyers have time to see how the Indian market performs as the lockdown is relaxed before making decisions but not much. Vietnamese buyers are showing interest and may respond if the news on the coronavirus in their country continues to be positive after the recent scare. They may be misled by import figures that appear to show almost 1 million tonnes imported from Cambodia. If so, the RCN market could be volatile later.

The coming week is likely to be similar but look out for activity on RCN if the easing of restrictions in India continues successfully and Vietnam can ease restrictions again.

ACA Editorial

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 23 (June 7 – 13, 2021)			This week vs last week		This week vs last month	
				Reported range		Outturn in lbs.	Variation	Trends	Variation	Trends
COTE D'IVOIRE	689	557	604	464	742	40-45	0%	↘	8%	↗
MALI	430	729	697	668	788	40 - 47	4%	↗	0%	↘
NIGERIA	564	1,123	966	925	1,010	37 - 46	4%	↗	-11%	↘

RCN FOB export prices offered in USD per MT			
COUNTRY	1 year ago,	Calendar week 23 (June 7 – 13, 2021)	
		US\$ per ton	Outturn in lbs.
BENIN	975	1,200 -1,500	47
COTE D'IVOIRE	1,000	1,250-1,325	48-49

Worldwide WW320 export FOB prices in USD per lb.									
COUNTRY	1 year ago,	1 month ago,	1 week ago,	Calendar week 23 (June 7 – 13, 2021)		This week vs last week		This week vs last month	
				Range reported		Variation	Trend	Variation	Trend
VIETNAM	3.00	3.18	3.23	3.08	3.30	-1%	↘	0%	↗
INDIA	3.30	3.70	3.70	3.60	3.80	0%	→	0%	→
COTE D'IVOIRE	3.15	3.15	3.35	3.35	3.50	2%	↗	8%	↗

Country Reports

Côte d'Ivoire

In Côte d'Ivoire, the cashew market is becoming more cautious due to the scarcity of supplies. At farm gates, stocks are almost finished, and most stocks are held by wholesalers who have been financed by exporters and who are in the process of delivering to the port region to settle the advance financing received.

The quality of the most recent stocks is quite poor (40 – 45 lbs), but paradoxically prices are up from last week (250-400 FCFA per kg/USD 464 – 742 per tonne) because demand remains good.

The rainy season is in full swing and is limiting the drying of residual nuts, pushing the last local buyers who have stocks to sort them out before delivery to the port. At the port, cashew market activities are slowing down because few shipments are currently arriving in the port area, signalling the end of the cashew marketing campaign in Côte d'Ivoire. This season, local processors were able to buy 85 000 tonnes of RCN. It is reported that 418 000 tonnes of RCN have been exported from Côte d'Ivoire this season.

RCN FOB prices are offered between USD1200 – USD1275 per tonne for outturn levels of 46 – 49 lbs.

Locally processed WW320 kernels are sold for USD3.35 - 3.40 per lb.

Mali

It is reported that RCN quality has declined again this week (40 – 47 lbs) in the various cashew regions. This is because of the onset of the rainy season and the nuts' prolonged stay at the local buyers' level.

On the other hand, there have been no changes in the farm gate prices this week (360 – 425 F CFA per kg/USD 668 – 788 per tonne) as producers are out of stocks. These prices are mostly set by producers who are also buying cashews to sell. Consequently, local processors are unable to buy sufficient stocks due to the current price. Since the beginning of the season, they have been able to purchase 40 tonnes of RCN.

This week, there were few exports (108 000 tonnes this season). There are practically no more RCN at the farm gate, only a few exporters have some stocks in the warehouses.

Nigeria

The cashew market in Nigeria is almost quiet now because there are not many activities ongoing. Buyers have reportedly decided to move to other countries where the season has just started.

RCN quality this week has dropped between KOR 37 – 46 lbs. because of rains that have begun to fall.

The volume of exported RCN since the start of the season remains 80 000 tonnes as well as the total volume of RCN purchased by local processors (75 000 tonnes).

This week's farm gate prices of dried cashew nuts range between 400 – 450 Naira per kg (USD 973 - 1,010). The quantity of wet cashew nuts sold at the farm gate at 380 Naira per kg (USD 925 per tonne) has reduced this week.

RCN FOB export price remains USD 1,100 per kg as last week.



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](#)