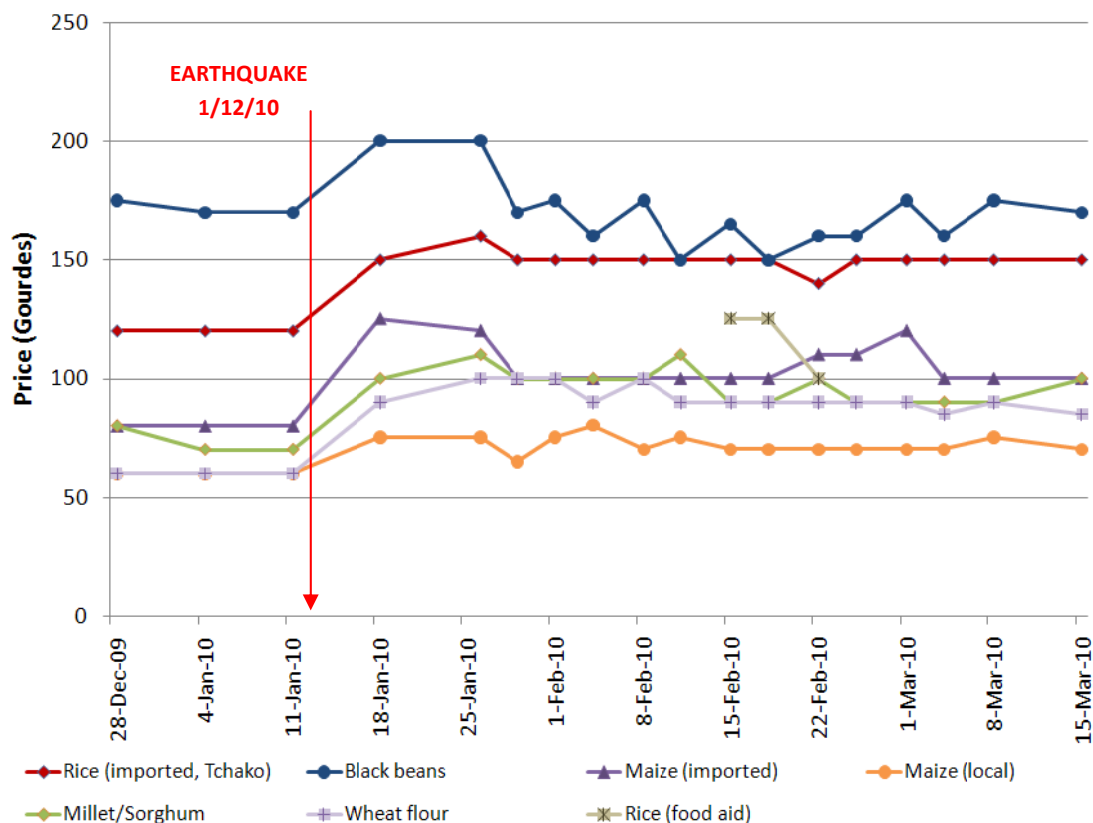


HAITI: Price Update for Port-au-Prince and Jacmel

March 18, 2010

- In the seven regional markets monitored (Port-au-Prince, Cap-Haitien, Les Cayes, Jeremie, Gonaives, Jacmel, Hinche, Port-de-Paix, and Ouanaminthe), the prices of staple foods, either imported or locally produced, remained stable during the March 8 to 15 period. On average, prices are now around 5 percent higher than the immediate pre-quake levels, except for imported local maize, imported rice, and wheat flour prices, which are still 31 percent, 20 percent, and 25 percent higher than on January 11, respectively.
- The Croix-des-Bossales market in Port-au-Prince is well supplied with various food commodities, and the number of traders and buyers is steadily increasing.
- Although the prices of staples in Les Cayes (South Department) significantly increased (30 percent for maize, 36 percent for wheat flour, and 25 percent for sorghum) after flooding from March 5 to 8, they have nearly returned to the same levels of two weeks ago.
- Sea transport from Port-au-Prince to Jeremie, which had stopped after the January 12 earthquake due to damages to a wharf in Port-au-Prince, has resumed, allowing greater flows of supplies to Grand Anse Department. This in turn has led to price decreases in Jeremie.
- Following recent food aid distributions outside Port-au-Prince, some relief food has been seen on markets such as Cap Haitien (North Department) and in the rice-growing Artibonite Valley.

Figure 1. Trends in staple food prices, Croix-des-Bossales market, Port-au-Prince



Source : FEWS NET

Table 1. Recent prices for staple commodities, Croix-des-Bossales market, Port-au-Prince (Gourdes)

Commodity	Price 1/11/10	Price 3/08/10	Price 3/15/10	Percent change, previous price collection to present (3/08 to 3/15)	Percent change, pre- earthquake to present (1/11 to 3/15)
Rice (imported) – 6 lbs	120	150	150	0%	+25%
Rice (local) – 6 lbs	240	200	225	+13%	-6%
Rice (food aid)	-	-			
Red beans – 6 lbs	180	225	250	+11%	+39%
Black Beans – 6 lbs	170	175	170	-3%	0%
Maize (Imported) – 6 lbs	80	100	100	0%	+25%
Maize (local) – 6 lbs	60	75	70	-7%	+17%
Small millet/Sorghum – 6 lbs	70	90	100	+11%	+43%
Wheat flour – 6 lbs	60	90	85	-6%	+42%
Bulgur wheat – 6 lbs	90	100	90	-10%	0%
Salt	20	25	25	0%	+25%
Sugar (white)	130	150	150	0%	+15%
Sugar (unrefined)	120	125	125	0%	+4%
Cooking Oil (Alberto brand) – 1 gal	250	250	250	0%	0%
Cooking Oil (Rika brand) – 1 gal	250	250	250	0%	0%
Spaghetti (imported) - 175 g bag	12	12	12	0%	0%
Charcoal - Large bag	600	600	600	0%	0%

Table 2. Recent prices for staple commodities, Jacmel market, Department of the South-East (Gourdes)

Commodity	Price 1/11/10	Price 3/08/10	Price 3/15/10	Percent change, previous price collection to present (3/08 to 3/15)	Percent change, pre- earthquake to present (1/11 to 3/15)
Rice (imported) – 6 lbs	132	180	180	0%	+36%
Rice (local) – 6 lbs	360	275	300	+9%	-17%
Red beans – 6 lbs	210	270	270	0%	+29%
Black beans – 6 lbs	150	180	180	0%	+20%
Maize (imported) – 6 lbs	90	120	120	0%	+33%
Maize (local) – 6 lbs	60	72	72	0%	+20%
Small millet/Sorghum – 6 lbs	90	120	120	0%	+33%
Wheat flour – 6 lbs	120	120	120	0%	0%
Bulgur wheat – 6 lbs	120	120	120	0%	0%
Salt	45	45	45	0%	0%
Sugar (white)	150	180	180	0%	+20%
Sugar (unrefined)	132	144	144	0%	+9%
Cooking Oil (Alberto brand) – 1 gal	250	275	275	0%	+10%
Cooking Oil (Rika brand) – 1 gal	275	265	265	0%	-4%
Spaghetti (imported) - 175 g bag	13	15	15	0%	+20%
Charcoal - Large bag	300	300	300	0%	0%