ZIMBABWE

December 2024



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MARKET UPDATE

Monthly Purchase Comparison YoY



Zimbabwe Historical Volume and Average Price



The above graph shows Zimbabwe's historical volume and average price comparison. A total crop size of 231,737mt was sold for the 2023/24 season.

MARKET: Preparations for the 2024/25 selling season are under way. There was talk of the season possibly starting early this year, but this now looks unlikely due to the lack of rain experienced through most of December.

SHIPPING: Shipments through Beira were affected for a short period due to the situation surrounding the recent election results in Mozambique, but all seems to be running smoothly again.

CROP STATUS

Crop Status	Seedbeds	Transplanting	Topping	Curing	Grading	Buying	Processing
January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
September							
October							
November							
December							

LARGE SCALE UPDATE

CROP PROGRESS: To date the commercial farmers on a whole have planted 2816ha of the contracted 2,829 ha to be planted of FCV. This was over the duration of 120 days.

As of the 3rd of January 2025, 76% of our commercial farmers have commenced reaping. Several commercial farmers have started to barn door grade, and we are expecting to take early deliveries as of the 20th of January 2025.

It is still too early to give indications of the crop quality and yields. We should have our first yield indications/estimates at the end of January 2025. The crop at this stage is well established and has signs of potentially decent yields, but still hinges on rainfall and electricity reliability.

LARGE SCALE UPDATE.....CONT.

WEATHER UPDATE: Rain has fallen in very isolated patterns, and it has been difficult to get accurate forecasts.

The country has experienced an extreme heat wave over the course of 3 weeks in December, only abating after 25th December. Some areas of Mashonaland West received their first decent rainfall for the year as of the 28th of December.

Going forward, on a long-term forecast, rainfall is expected to be normal for the months of January, February and March across the country. This will hopefully fill the dams for the 2025/26 season.

To date, growers have experienced several hails and wind strikes, but only 4 incidents have been of significance.

ELECTRICITY ISSUES: On average, farmers have only been receiving around 6 hours of power a day. They have been forced to use diesel outside of the budgeted amounts on their cashflows.

Long term solutions would be for farmers to invest in solar farms to run their operations and or to structure their cropping program to suit the erratic power supply.

SMALL SCALE UPDATE

WEATHER UPDATE: Rainfall for the 2024/25 season has been quite isolated. There are still areas in each province that are short of rain due to the patchy rainfall, where some areas have received generous amounts of rain and others have received none.

CATEGORIES	MASH WEST	MASH CENTRAL	MASH EAST	SMALL SCALE AVERAGE
Higest Recorded for Current Month	130 mm Banket / Trelawney	125 mm Guruve Northwest / Kachuta	114 mm Marondera North	
Lowest Recorded for Current Month	0 mm Tengwe Southeast	19 mm Mount Darwin Northwest	0 mm Odzi/Burma valley	
Monthly Average	48.6 mm	56.5 mm	61 mm	55.4 mm
Higest Seasonal Total	295 mm Banket / Trelawney	185 mm Centenary South	294 Marondera North	
Lowest Seasonal Total	24 mm Karoi North	54 mm Mount Darwin Northeast and Northwest	40 mm Odzi/Burma Valley	
Progressive Seasonal Average	119 mm	107.4 mm	145 mm	123 mm

CURRENT FARMING ACTIVITIES: December has seen a varied spread of activities depending on the amount of rainfall the areas have received. This ranges from growers continuing to try and manage their seedlings, who have still not received adequate rain for planting, to some growers who are now at topping stage. Most of the growers though have planted and are before topping stage, busy keeping their crop free of weeds and suckers, and applying top dressing and routine sprays. There have been areas which received enough rain for early planting, affected by deaths due to long and hot dry spells and erratic rainfall, and tobacco seedlings have had to be planted in place of those dead plants (gap filling). This is causing pressure in some areas where tobacco seedlings are now in short supply and an uneven crop for those affected growers.

CROP STAGE (PLANTING):

CATEGORIES	MASH WEST	MASH CENTRAL	MASH EAST	SMALLSCALE TOTALS
% AGE OF GROWERS STARTED PLANTING	91.0%	94.2%	98.0%	94.4%
% AGE OF Ha PLANTED	88.0%	94.6%	97.0%	93.2%
% AGE OF GROWERS TOPPED	1.1%	3.5%	3.0%	2.5%
% AGE OF Ha TOPPED	1.3%	3.7%	3.0%	2.7%

INPUT DISTRIBUTION: All inputs have been distributed to growers

FORESTRY: Mashonaland Central has completed their farmers tree seedling distribution and now awaits the distribution of seedlings to schools which will start soon after schools open in January. Mash West and Mash East will start their tree seedling distribution on the 6th of January.

General News

As Zimbabwe enters 2025, the year 2024 has been marked by remarkable achievements that have strengthened foundations for sustained growth and economic reforms. The year 2024 saw Zimbabwe implement bold economic reforms aimed at stabilizing the economy and laying a foundation for sustainable growth. A landmark achievement was the introduction of the Zimbabwe Gold (ZWG) currency by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) in April. This gold-backed currency was a strategic move to restore monetary stability, curb inflation and reduce dependency on the US dollar. This initiative has enhanced public confidence in the financial system and provided a reliable store of value for citizens and businesses.

Meanwhile the 2025 national budget has been debated, agreed, and passed into law.

The nation assumed chairmanship of SADC. Under its chairmanship, Zimbabwe led initiatives to address regional security challenges. Re-engagement with the international community is ongoing.

As the nation enters 2025, the focus will undoubtedly be on consolidating these gains. Key areas such as technological innovation, investment in human capital, and continued reforms in governance will be critical for ensuring long-term stability and prosperity.

The country is forecasting 6% growth this year, which would be the fastest in the region.

Zimbabwe's ZWG monthly inflation rate slowed significantly to 3.7% in December 2024, down from 11.7% in November. The downward trend in inflation is attributed to the stabilization of both prices in US\$ and ZWG, amid tight monetary and fiscal policies.

Month-on-month inflation in US dollar terms increased to 0,6 percent, reversing the previous month's near-zero growth. The annual inflation rate in US dollar terms is at 2.5%, reflecting a modest rise in prices over the year.

Inflation Rate

	Month	Monthly	Annual
Ī	December' 24	3.70 %	2.48 %

Exchange Rate U.S. Dollar against other currencies

Month	U.S. Dollar	Chinese	Zambian	British	Euro	Zimbabwe
December' 24	USD 1.00	RMB 7.33	ZWK 27.81	GBP 0.80	EUR 0.97	ZWG 25.82

End of Report

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