



AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AUTHORITY

NUTS AND OIL CROPS DIRECTORATE

NUTS AND OIL CROPS VALIDATED STATISTICAL REPORT 2020

Dated: 20th March 2021

a) Macadamia Nuts

Table 1: Area under Macadamia nuts, Production and the Value 2019-2020

COUNTY	Area (Acres)		Quantity in Metric tons (MT)		Values (Kshs) millions	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
BARINGO	202	205	481	481	67,312	21,645
BUSIA	184	184.6	0.7	1.1	91	30
EMBU	2,811	2,813	6,802	6,801	884,273	342,770
KIRINYAGA	1,731	1,734	3,960	3,912	593,940	215,177
MACHAKOS	335	337	810	821	109,283	47,630
NYANDARUA	322	325	726	722	90,763	34,661
MERU	2,823	2,827	6,711	6,614	973,124	390,226
MURANGA	4,670	4,673	11,057	10,823	1,547,980	692,672
KIAMBU	2,046	2,051	4,981	4,711	757,158	306,222
NYERI	1002	1,005	2,068	2,011	285,398	100,565
TAITA TA-VETA	179	181	429	446	69,055	24,095
THARAKA NITHI	594	597	1,413	1,390	203,486	73,654
MAKUENI	101	102	42	45	5,502	2,115
TRANZ-NZOIA	121	123	56	59	7,168	3,009
ELGEYO MARAKWET	106	108	39	41	5,070	2,050

UASIN-GISHU	92	95	37	44	5,106	2,420
OTHERS	270	281	202	211	26,866	11,605
TOTAL	17,589	17,642	39,815	39,134	5,633.59 2	2,270.54 5

Source: AFA-Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

In the last ten years, the area under macadamia has been on an upward trend buoyed by better farm gate prices as more and more farmers become interested in macadamia farming. The interest in the crop is also as a result of dwindling coffee fortunes in the traditional growing zones hence a shift to alternative cash crops. Production areas have therefore multiplied more than fivefold crossing the 15,000 acres' mark in 2015. In the year 2020 the area under macadamia was estimated to be 17,642 acres, which is a marginal increase from 17, 589 acres recorded in the previous year (2019). The expansion is being reported across the country in the traditional growing zones as intercropping intensifies. The crop is also gaining traction in non-traditional growing zones where the crop is being introduced as a new enterprise.

The total annual production of raw nuts in shell (RNI) of macadamia decreased by 1.7% from 39,814.9 MT recorded in 2019 to 39,134 MT recorded in the year 2020. The slight reduction in production is attributed to reduced farm activities, delayed harvesting storage losses during the year under review. During the year, most processors kept off new purchases due to uncertainties in the consumer markets, some exporters were stuck with crop from the previous season.

Productivity (yield per tree) is still low relative to the yield potential of about 70-100 kg/tree per year. In the year 2020 the average productivity was estimated at 38kg per tree per year from the mature bearing trees and 19 kgs per tree per year from the recently established trees.

In terms of prices, the year 2020 was sluggish as a result of the effects of Covid 19 pandemic. Reduced global demand for the macadamia kernels has driven processors

away from the field leaving only a few brokers who were buying the nuts for as low as Ksh 50/Kg down from an average of Ksh 150/Kg prevailing in 2019. Consequently, the value of macadamia nuts reduced by more than a half from Ksh5.6 billion to Ksh 2.7 billion as a result of the low farm gate prices. There was a marked reduction in export volumes during the year 2020 by more than half of the export volumes reported in 2019. Market access was constrained by lockdowns and travel bans across the globe necessitating a decline in demand from traditional consumers such as airlines and the hospitality industry.

The sound kernel recovery (i.e. the recovery of useful kernel from in-shell nuts) in Kenya averaged 18% during the year 2020 as compared to over 15% recovery rate recorded in 2019. This improved quality is attributed to delayed harvesting when compared to the other years when there was a rush to meet buyers' demand resulting in premature harvesting.

b) Coconut

Table 2: Area under coconut, Production and Value 2019-2020

COUNTY	AREA (Ha)		Quantity(MT)		Value (Ksh.) Millions	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
KILIFI	41,432	41,470	52,853	52,913	2,219.8	2,384.0
KWALE	31,358	31,384	46,227	46,240	2,126.4	2,139.0
LAMU	10,713	10,722	6,771	6,792	304.7	322.0
MOMBASA	156	158	2,344	2,361	103.1	122.0
TAITA TA-VETA	99	102	873	858	37.5	36.1
TANA RIVER	1,066	1,070	822	849	37.0	35.3
TOTAL	84,824	84,906	109,889	110,013	4,828.5	5,038

Source: AFA-Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

Kenya's annual coconut production of mature nuts has significantly increased from 180 million nuts in 2007 to 260 million nuts reported in 2013 to more than 300 million nuts in 2020 in addition to the other two main coconut products i.e. toddy and tender nuts. 2020. During the year under review, the area under coconut slightly increased from 84,824 hectares to 84,906 hectares. This expansion was reported in the coconut traditional growing counties of Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, Lamu, Tana River and Taita Taveta County. The acreage increased as a result of new plantings being undertaken by farmers on their own initiative in response to favorable prices for coconut products for home use, industrial and export markets. Additionally, the favorable weather conditions experienced last year and farmer sensitization on replanting and use of quality coconut tree seedlings to replace the aged and senile trees motivated farmers to dedicate more land for coconut expansion.

There are over 10 million trees out of which an estimated 1.3 Million trees are below ten years of age, 6.5 million are bearing and 2.6 million are above 60 years of age and therefore considered senile with very low production volumes. The average yield in 2019 was reported to be of 36 nuts per tree and increase from 34 nuts per tree reported in 2019. Generally, the improved yield resulted in an overall increased total quantity produced. The increased productivity is attributed to the above average rainfall received in the coastal region during the year. It's Imperative to note however that the yield is still much lower than recommended resulting from poor agronomic practices.

Farm gate prices registered a marginal increase from an average of KES 15 in 2019 to an average of KES 16 in 2020.

c) Cashewnuts

Table 3: Area under cashew nuts, production and value trends 2019-2020

COUNTY	Area (Ha)		Quantity (MT)		Values (Ksh) Millions	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
KILIFI	9,460	9,445	4,779.40	4,704.30	244.36	211.694
KWALE	7,020	7,025	3,759.40	3,671.90	292.81	165.236
LAMU	5,438	5,450	3,754.00	3802.8	288.62	190.14
TANA RIVER	185	186	173.5	155.4	13.78	6.216
TAITA TAVETA	430.14	428.22	258.6	245.7	5.76	9.5823
Others	153.22	155.44	76.8	87.6	5.76	4.38
Total	22,686	22,690	12,801.70	12,667.70	583.1	587.25

Source: AFA-Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

The population of Cashewnuts trees in the coastal part of Kenya faced a mix of fortunes in the recent past. Whereas there have been interventions to replant and top work the existing trees for rejuvenation, the trees are at the same time under threat as they are felled for firewood and charcoal burning. This is especially the case for the old unproductive trees dotted across all counties in the coastal region. In terms of market access, the COVID 19 pandemic has simply worsened the cashew export market. This declined has been exacerbated by pests and a disorganized free- for all market that has dampened supplies for cashew processors. In 2020, farmers were largely hoarding the previous year's harvest in anticipation of better prices due to a highly compromised cashewnuts quality. The low quality is attributed to poor crop husbandry; thanks to the low price the crop has been fetching denying farmers the capacity to profitably commercialize the value chain

In the year 2020 the total estimated area under cashew was reported to be 22,690 ha, which is a slight increment from the 22,686 ha reported in the year 2019. The paltry increment of less than 5ha was as result of new planting especially in Lamu and Kwale t County government efforts. Similar replanting efforts in Kilifi and Kwale county were however negated by rampant tree felling for firewood, the overall effect being diminished area under the crop.

Farm gate prices for raw cashew nuts(RCN) were not as impressive as they were pre Covid. The highest farm gate prices were reported in Lamu County where they averaged Ksh 55 for most parts of the year. Other counties recorded lower farm gate prices averaging Ksh 50 in Kwale county and in Kilifi Counties. The market price for Kernel has remained stable in the last two years and averaged Ksh 1000/Kg at cottage factory level across the production belt. It is however important to note that the farm gate prices are in most instances lower than those reported due to the high number of intermediaries who tend to share profits which would otherwise be available to farmers.

In conclusion, the cashew industry faces a bleak future as a result of uncertainties stemming from poor quality and dwindling volumes. Whereas most processors reported poor quality nut deliveries, a few others have suspended their operations as the available quantities are too low to sustain their businesses beyond the breakeven point.

d) Peanuts (Ground nuts)

Table 4: Area, Area under Peanuts, production and the value 2019-2020

COUNTY	Area (Ha)		Quantity(MT)		Value (Ksh) Million	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
BARINGO	75	52	66.8	45.8	8.9	6.18
BUNGOMA	644	591	716.2	665.2	88.8	86.48
BUSIA	670	515	745	601	100.6	78.13
ELGEYO MARAKWET	5,109	5,002	5,679	5,872	709.9	822.08
HOMABAY	4,132	3,923	3,677	3,461	514.8	460.31
KAKAMEGA	1,322	1,377	1,176.60	1,231.6	162.4	158.88
KISII	201	196	124.1	179.1	16.4	24.72
KISUMU	932	902	690.6	660.6	86.3	92.48
KWALE	53	61	47.17	56.17	6.4	8.03
LAMU	89	67	87.9	67.9	10.9	9.37
MERU	529	412	522.6	405.6	66.4	52.73
MIGORI	814	972	804.2	962.2	113.4	134.71
SIAYA	520	671	467.4	619.4	62.6	86.72
TAITA TAVETA	26	22	19.3	14.3	2.6	2.06
TANA RIVER	11	9	10	19	1.4	2.85
THARAKA NITHI	96	121	94.8	58.8	12.3	8.35
TRANS-NZOIA	56	67	49.8	41.8	6.6	5.73

VIHIGA	560	496	346	420	47.7	60.90
WEST POKOT	72	81	77.7	168.7	10.0	22.44
Others	54	61	61	54	8.5	8.10
TOTAL	15,965	15,598	15,463	15,604.2	2,036.9	2,131.24

Source: AFA-Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

Whereas the demand for peanut has been on the increase, production has been on the decline over the last couple of years. A larger proportion of Kenya's consumption is supplemented by imports from neighboring countries such as Uganda and Malawi. During the 2020 season, the area under the crop reduced by more than 467 ha from 15,965 ha reported in 2019 to 15,598 reported in 2020. The reduction is attributed lack of readily available seed for planting. Most farmers in the Western part of the country rely on community seed producers when sourcing for seed, there had been low seed uptake in the previous season which discouraged them to produce in 2020 hence the scarcity. Overall production increased marginally by more than 140 Metric tons which was as a result of increased productivity by unit area in Busia, Kakamega, Migori and Siaya Counties. This increment was as a result of farmers own initiatives to increase their volumes in order take advantage of the ready demand in the local markets for cottage processing and household consumption. Industry players are concerned that the soils in traditional production zones are being depleted due to continuous cultivation on diminishing land sizes.

Farm gate prices ranged between Ksh130/Kg and Ksh150/Kg Prices in Western and Coastal regions respectively on the other hand the prices. Market prices recorded an improvement to range between Ksh 170/Kg and Ksh 210/Kg for improved varieties such as Kenya Fedha and Red Valencia.

e) Bambara Groundnuts

Table 5: Area under Bambara, Production and Value 2019-2020

COUNTY	Area (Ha)		Quantity (Mt)		Value (Ksh.) Millions	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
KWALE	6.9	5.5	25	21	12.2	7.35
BUNGOMA	9.3	8.2	43	37	19.5	11.54
VIHIGA	10.4	7.6	36.3	32	21	10.24
KAKAMEGA	87.2	61.1	517.5	477	173.1	143.58
LAMU	10.1	7.2	50	44	16.8	12.76
BUSIA	230.21	197.2	1,057.20	956	610	345.12
Total	354.1	286.8	2,729	1,567	852.6	530.59

Source: AFA-Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

Bambara groundnuts production has been on the decline of the last few years and currently the area under the crop is estimated at 286.8 hectares down from 354.18 hectares reported in the year 2019. The crop is predominant in Western Kenya specifically in Busia, Kakamega, Vihiga and Bungoma Counties. Pockets of the crop are however grown at the coast in Lamu and Kwale counties. Busia remains the major production zone despite the crop's dwindling fortunes. Bambara production may however increase going forward as a result of consumer awareness on its nutritional benefits and promotional campaigns especially if the challenge of seed availability is adequately addressed. In 2020 Overall productivity reduced from 7.7 tones reported in 2019 to 5.3 tones reported in 2020 attributed mainly to the diminishing total area under the crop and productivity per unit area. The farm gate prices ranged between Ksh 290/Kg and Ksh 350/Kg in most parts of the producing counties. The market prices were reported to be between Ksh 320 /Kg and Ksh 430/Kg across various market outlets in the country.

f) Sesame (Sim sim)

Table 6: Area under Sesame, production and value 2019 -2020

COUNTY	Area (Ha)		Quantity (MT)		Values (Ksh) Millions	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
BUNGOMA	12	10.0	10.2	11.5	0.99	1.15
BUSIA	490	502.0	363	370.0	39.9	40.70
HOMABAY	5	4.7	3.7	4.1	0.51	0.51
KAKAMEGA	7	6.8	5.7	5.3	0.77	0.74
LAMU	11,480	11,539.0	9,924	10,029.0	871.3	902.61
MANDERA	230	258.0	204	220.0	22.3	20.90
SIAYA	98	83.0	70.1	64.0	7.12	6.02
TANA RIVER	138	122.0	77.1	69.0	7.6	5.87
Total	14,479	12,525.5	10,657.80	10,772.9	950.49	978.50

Source: AFA-Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

Generally, Sesame production has had an upward trajectory in the two years with major production taking place in Lamu county where farmers are producing targeting the export market. Acreage under the crop reduced by marginally by more than 2000 hectares from 14,339 ha reported in 2019 to 12,525.5 ha reported in 2020, this was a 13% reduction overall. However, productivity per unit area improved marginally by 0.1 metric tons per hectare. Consequently, the production volumes increased from 10,657.8 tons valued at KES 950.49 million to 10,772 tons valued at KES 978.5 million reported the previous year. Increased productivity is attributed to expansion of the cultivated area into virgin land in both Lamu and Mandera counties where most of the production was reported.

g) Canola

Table 7: Area under Canola, Production and value 2019 -2020

County	Area (Ha)		Qty(MT)		Value Ksh (Millions)	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Nakuru	1,115	1135	3902.5	3915.6	156,100	176,202
Meru	405	504	1417.5	520.1	56,700	20,804
Elgeyo/Mkwet	123	98	430.5	402.2	17,220	16,088
Narok	243	259	850.5	870.7	34,020	39,182
Laikipia	1,072	1100	3752	3790	150,080	170,550
Baringo	162	140	567	598	22680	23,920
Trans -Nzoia	202.5	144	708.75	643.7	28,350	28,323
Uasin Gishu	203	163	710.5	560.4	28,420	24,097
Nyandarua	165	122	577.5	520.2	23,100	23,409
Samburu	162	132	567	504.3	22,680	21,181
Bungoma	81	45	283.5	160.7	11,340	6,589
Nyeri	121.5	149	425.25	470.3	17,010	19,753
Total	4,055	3, 991	14,192.5	12,956	567,700	570,096

Canola is now becoming a mainstream crop in areas with optimal temperatures between 15 to 20 degrees Celsius like Timau, Endebess and Mau Narok. It is estimated that there are more than 300 canola farmers in Kenya mainly growing it as a rotational crop. Canola is mainly grown by large-scale maize, wheat and barley farmers. The crop yielded 12,956 tons in 2020 from the 14192.5 tonnes reported in 2019 which is a 9% reduction mainly

attributed to the reduced acreage under the crop. The acreage reduced from 4055 hectares reported in 2019 to 3991 hectares reported in 2020, this is decrease of more than 60 hectares. The farm gate prices remained unchanged during the year 2020 and ranged between Ksh 40 and Ksh 45. The prices offered are offered by the main processing company which contracts farmers hence the uniformity across the country.

h) Exports

Table 8: Exports of Nuts and Oil Crop Products

Product	Export Quantity(MT)		Export Value Ksh (Millions)		Major Destination Markets
	2019	2020	2019	2020	
Macadamia Nuts	5,189.47	3,196.13	5,189.47	3,907.90	U.S.A, Germany, Netherlands, Japan China, U.K, U.A.E
Macadamia oil	744.89	546.69	343.46	222.98	
Coconut products	289.72	139.67	832.12	511.73	Tanzania, Egypt, Rwanda, USA,
Cashewnuts	854	163.190	854	81.50	U.S.A Canada, U.K, Nigeria, Japan, U.S.A and U.A.E
Groundnuts	35.2	29.6	5.7	4.4	Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan
Sesame seed	1,712	1,563	246.7	202.9	China, Japan, Yemen, Somalia, India
Sesame oil	19.4	13.73	4.9	3.7	
Total	8,844.68	5,652.01	7,476.35	4,935.11	

Source: Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

The export volume for nuts and oil crops reduced by 3,192 tons from 8,844 tons reported in the year 2019 to 5,652 tons recorded in 2020 within the export basket of Macadamia, cashew, peanuts and sesame products. The drop in export quantities was more depressed for macadamia and cashewnuts kernels as compared to the other commodities. The lower export volumes were as a result of Market access challenges due to lockdowns and travel bans across the globe. The Covid 19 restrictions led to an exponential decline in demand

from tradition consumers of nuts such as airlines and the hospitality industry. Netherlands, a major trans-shipment importer of Kenyan nuts reported a stock pile from the previous year's stock. Since very little or no sales were happening, it became very difficult for buyers to place new orders for stock replenishment. Similarly, the value of exports reduced drastically from KES 7.4 Billion to KES 4.9 billion as a result of lower export quantities and depressed prices arising from low demand.

i) Imports

Table 8: Imports of nuts and oil crops Products

Product	Import Quantity(MT)		Import Value Ksh (Millions)		Origin Countries
	2019	2020	2019	2020	
Macadamia Nuts	543	118.44	74.19	14.20	Australia, Zambia, South Africa, Tanzania
Coconut Oil	174	73.91	19.8	8.71	India, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines
Coco peat	107	52	2.66	1.65	India, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines
Coconut products	3,721	1,456	713.4	221.87	India, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines
Groundnuts	2,013	1,540	284.75	195.32	Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda
Cashewnuts	432	119	394.9	83.4	India, Tanzania, Mozambique, Brazil
Total	6,990	3,359.4	1,489.7	525.15	

Source: Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate

Kenya is a net exporter of nuts however the country imports some nuts for local consumption and also to bridge the raw materials deficit in her processing facilities. In terms of coconut products, Kenya has a narrow product base, the country imports finished coconut products such as cosmetics and coconut oil for consumption. In most cases the imports are cheaper than our locally produced coconut products hence the high import levels.

The year 2020 registered reduced imports in terms of volume and value across all the import commodity range from 6990 tons valued at KES 3.3 Million in 2019 to 3,359 tons valued at KES 525 Million realized in 2020. This reduction is a reflection of the general business environment all over the world which experienced a slowdown a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. During the year, most businesses remained shut and minimal trading activities were taking place.