

# Trade and Market Headlines North Darfur



## Darfur Development and Reconstruction Agency

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### December 2014 to February 2015

- Cereal prices**, millet in particular, decreased or remained stable in many monitored markets in North Darfur this quarter (December 2014 to February 2015), which is harvest-time. Cereal production was good and the security situation was stable in these markets. In those markets affected by insecurity this quarter – Saraf Omra and Tabit – cereal prices increased, as well as in Malha which is not a cereal producing area. See Figures 1 and 2.

- Livestock prices**, sheep in particular, demonstrated a downward trend in a number of monitored markets in January and February due to insecurity incidents. Looted livestock (cattle, sheep and goats) were supplied to some markets, Kutum, Kebkabiya, Tawila and Saraf Omra in particular. Markets were also supplied with distress sales of livestock as households sold their livestock for fear of looting. See Figures 3 and 4.

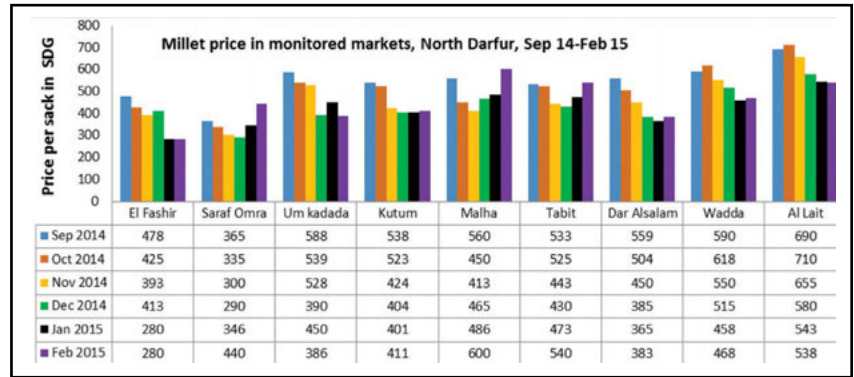


Figure 1: Millet prices in monitored markets, North Darfur, September 2014 to February 2015

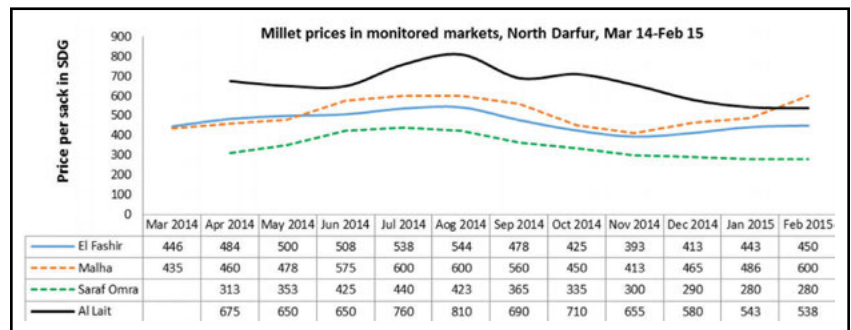


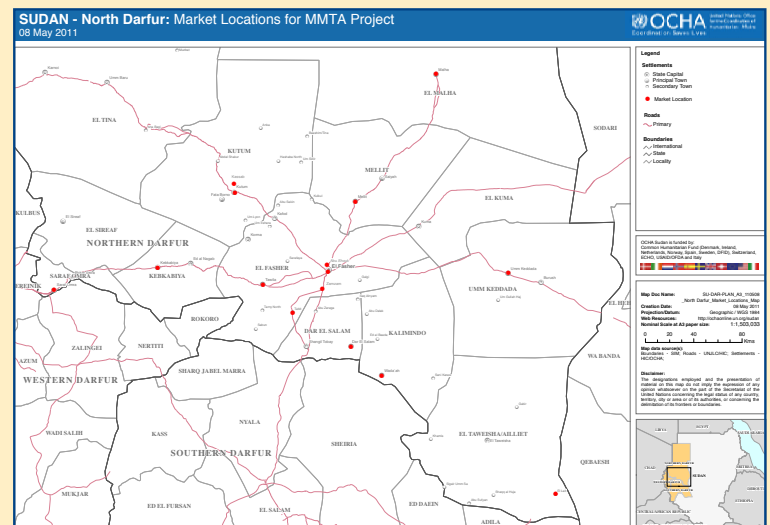
Figure 2: Millet prices in monitored markets, North Darfur, March 2014 to February 2015

### Background and methodology

The goal of this community-based market monitoring initiative is to deepen analysis and understanding of the shifting patterns of trade and markets in Darfur, on an ongoing basis for key agricultural and livestock commodities, to identify how livelihoods and the economy can be supported through trade, and to identify peace-building opportunities through trade. Seven CBOs plus DRA are monitoring 15 markets across North Darfur, including three markets in IDP camps, on a weekly basis. Quantitative data, for example the price of Darfur's main cereals, livestock, cash crops and fruits and vegetables are collected weekly as well as qualitative data, for example on sources of supply. Some data are collected on a monthly basis, for example transport costs, transport routes and the impact of the conflict on flows of commodities. DRA holds quarterly analysis workshops with the CBO enumerators.

### Participating CBOs and the markets they monitor

EVNRHD	El Fashir, Tabit, Tawilla, and Wadda	SAG	Mellit
KEADS	Kutum and Kassab	DWDA	Dar Alsalam
KSCS	Kebkabiya and Saraf Omra	Buzza	Malha
URDP	Um Kadada and El Lait		
DRA	Abu Shook and ZamZam camps		



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- The price of **cash crops**, such as groundnuts and dried okra, showed a gradual upward trend in most monitored markets this quarter. This is normal at this time of year as the harvest season phases out. See Figure 5. The tombac market has remained stable over the last year. See Figure 6.
- The price of **fresh tomatoes** started to rise in February, reflecting the phasing out of the harvest season and decreasing supply. Increased quantities of onions are now coming into North Darfur from Omdurman along the fully paved El Ingaz trade route. This is causing onion prices to fall in some markets, for example in El Fashir, Um Kadada and El Lait, benefiting consumers, but this may put pressure on local onion producers in Darfur. See Figure 7.
- Agricultural activities and brick-making were the main **daily labour** opportunities this quarter, which is normal at this time of year.
- There was some stability on **trade routes** across North Darfur this quarter, despite the insecurity affecting some market flows, mentioned above. The trade route connecting Kebkabiya to El Fashir through Koura reopened in January, and the number of check points reduced along some routes, such as El Fashir to Kutum and El Fashir to Nyala. The impact of the now completed El Ingaz trade route was visible in some markets such as El Fashir, Um Kadada and Wadaa, through the availability of commodities from Omdurman as well as greater stability of prices. These markets reported increasing numbers of trucks coming from Omdurman this quarter compared with previous quarters.

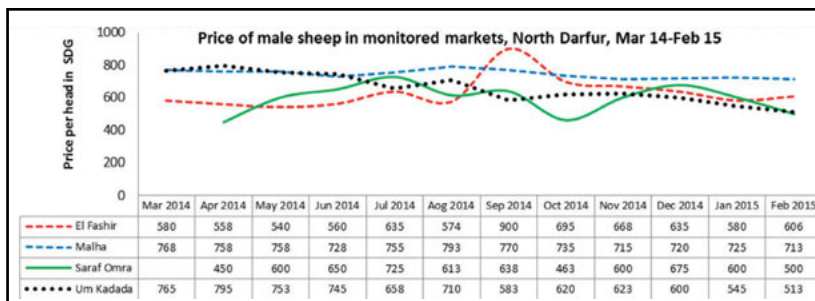


Figure 3: Price of male sheep in monitored markets, North Darfur, March 2014 to February 2015

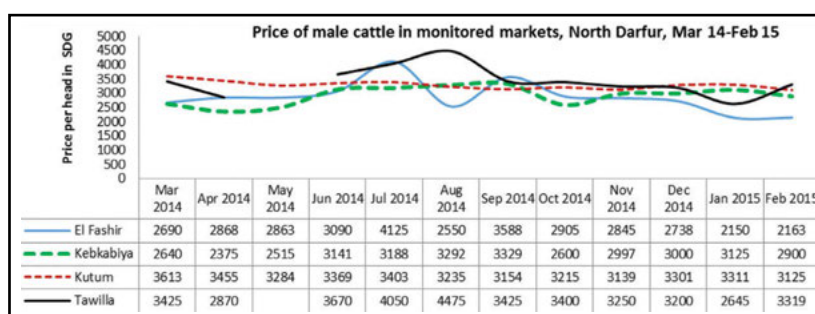


Figure 4: Price of male cattle in monitored markets, North Darfur, March 2014 to February 2015

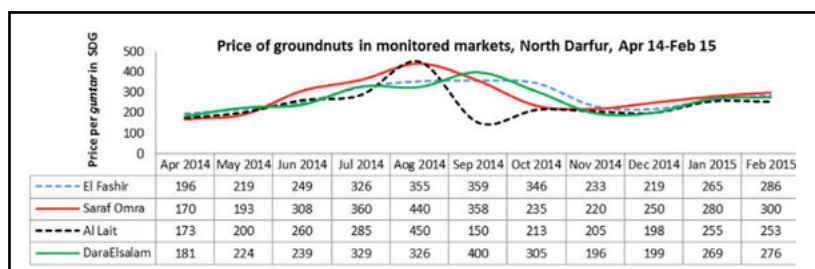


Figure 5: Price of groundnuts in monitored markets, North Darfur, April 2014 to February 2015

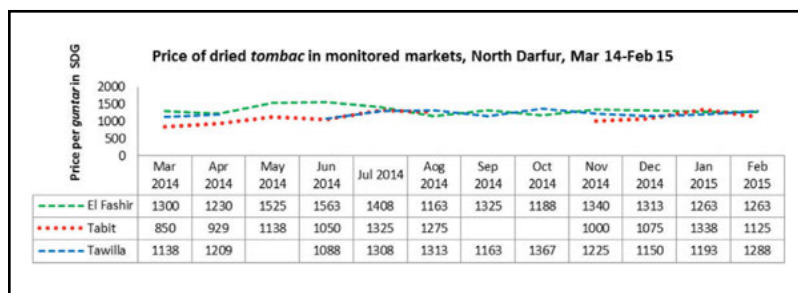


Figure 6: Price of dried tombac in monitored markets, North Darfur, April 2014 to February 2015

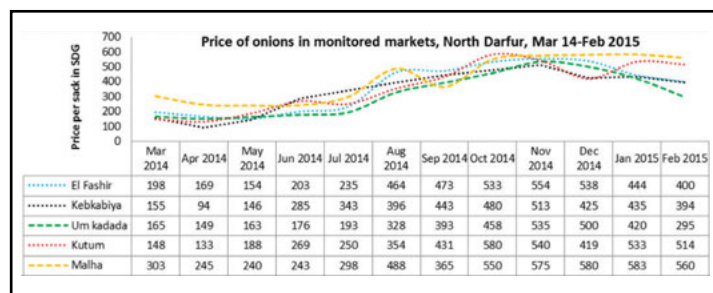


Figure 7: Price of onions in monitored markets, North Darfur, March 2014 to February 2015