

Weekly update on commodity and consumer food prices

30 March to 3 April 2026

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Introduction

The period from 30 March to 3 April was marked by a predominantly bullish trend, largely driven by soaring energy prices (Brent crude up 5.5%) and precious metals (gold and silver up 4%), signalling increased market nervousness. Whilst industrial metals and certain commodities such as rice and cocoa are following this inflationary trend, the agricultural sector nevertheless offers some pockets of relief with notable falls in coffee (-4.47%) and maize (-1.95%). As a result, economies are facing direct pressure on production and transport costs, despite a more mixed picture for everyday consumer goods.

1. Trends in commodity prices

Commodities	Average price P-1	Average price N	Variation N/N-1 %	Highest price H	Lowest price B	Observation
April 206	23 to 27	30 March to 3 April	%			
Energy						
Brent crude oil (\$/barrel)	104.77	110.535	5.50%	118.31	100.33	▲ High intra-week volatility with a peak at \$118.31. Geopolitical tensions led to a temporary disruption in supply.
Metals						
Gold (\$/g)	143.60	149.65	4.21%	153.0	145.0	▲ A steady upward trend with a peak at \$153, reflecting its status as a 'safe haven' for investors
Silver (\$/kg)	2258.49	2357.49	4.38%	2416.1	2250.8	▲ Sharp rise
Steel (\$/tonne)	1030.20	1048.33	1.76%	1,049	1,048	▲ Moderate increase
Aluminium (\$/ tonne)	2,824.00	2,900.00	2.69%	2,900	2900	▲ A 2.69% increase that has stabilised at its peak (\$2,900)
Exported products						
Cocoa (\$/ tonne)	3,175.40	3,266.67	2.87%	3,345	3,155	▲ Moderate rises in line with the overall trend in commodities
Cotton (tonne)	25.06	25.85	3.13%	26.1	25.73	▲ Moderate increases
Coffee (\$/ tonne)	6,838.74	6,533.03	-4.47%	6569.8	6459.5	▼ Significant decline
Rubber	33.60	32.67	-2.78%	33.60	32.20	▼ Share price falls to near its low of \$32.20.
Wood	314	315.25	0.40%	318.00	311.00	▲ Slight increase
Imported products						
Butter (\$/ tonne)	170.45	167.13	-1.95%	168.7	166.1	▼ Moderate decline: An exception in the grain basket that could offer a lifeline to the poultry sector
Soya (\$/tonne)	428.24	428.40	0.04%	430.9	427.6	▲ Small price fluctuations appear to have reached a temporary equilibrium
Rice (\$/tonne)	405.51	415.63	2.49%	416.9	412.9	▲ More pronounced rise This could affect local consumption costs.
Wheat (\$/ tonne)	219.92	222.53	1.19%	227.1	219.8	▲ Moderate increase

Fertiliser (\$/tonne)	3,461.11	3,480.07	0.55%	3477.4	3,436.9	▲ Slight increase
Copper (\$/tonne)	12,011.70	12,189.00	1.48%	12,270.0	12,137.0	▲ A moderate rise, driven by industrial demand.

This week has been marked by a sharp rise in production costs, driven by the energy, metals and fertiliser sectors. The correlation between the surge in Brent crude and that in precious metals betrays a certain nervousness in the financial markets. However, whilst the fall in coffee and maize prices benefits buyers, it undermines local producers, whose earnings struggle to reflect the scale of their efforts. Finally, the rise in the price of staple cereals, such as rice and wheat, confirms persistent inflationary pressure on basic necessities.

2. Mass-market agricultural products

Products	Market price in CFA francs (N)	Market price in CFA francs (N)	Observations
April 2026	23 to 27	30 March to 3 April	
Tomatoes (CFA francs/crate)	2,500–3,500	3,000–4,000	Upward trend
Cassava (F CFA/bag)	10,000 – 12,000	10,000 – 12,000	Stable
Potato (CFA francs/net)	10,000 – 12,000	10,000 – 12,000	Stable
Macabos (CFA francs/net)	18,000 – 22,000	18,000–20,000	Slight decrease
Onions (CFA francs/100 kg bag)	29,000–32,000	28,000–30,000	Slight decrease
Garlic (CFA francs/100 kg bag)	170,000–180,000	150,000–170,000	Slight fall
Garoua groundnuts (CFA francs/100 kg bag)	60,000 – 70,000	75,000 – 92,000	Price increase due to high demand and transport costs, the Ramadan period
Salt (CFA francs/bag)	5,000 – 6,000	5,000–6,000	Stable
Potatoes (CFA francs/15-litre bucket)	4,000 – 4,500	5,000–6,000	Slight increase
Sugar (CFA francs/kg)	800–1000	800–1000	Stable
Mackerel (F CFA/kg)	1,800–2,200	1,800 – 2,200	Stable
Red beans (CFA francs/15-litre bucket)	8,000–9,500	8,000–9,000	Stable
White beans (F CFA/15L bucket)	17,000–18,500	13,000–15,000	Sharp fall
Refined oil (F CFA/L)	1,400–1,500	1,400–1,500	Stable
Red palm oil (1L)	800 – 1,000	900–1,000	Stable
Maize (F CFA/ 15L bucket)	3,500–4,000	3,500–4,000	Stable