

Weekly update on commodity and consumer food prices

27 April to 3 May 2026

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Introduction

The week of 27 April to 3 May 2026 was marked by mixed trends in commodity prices, reflecting adjustments linked to the global economic outlook and geopolitical tensions. Overall, the week reflected a cautious global market, dominated by economic uncertainty.

1. Trends in commodity prices

Commodity price movements during the week under review reveal a mixed picture, dominated by an inflationary surge in the energy sector, where crude oil (Brent and WTI) rose by more than 10%. This energy price surge is accompanied by pressure on imported goods, illustrated by the rise in the price of wheat (+4.73%) and fertilisers (+3.20%), which points to an increase in import costs. Conversely, precious metals such as silver and gold are undergoing a downward correction, whilst export commodities such as cocoa and cotton are showing moderate growth of around 1.8%. This market situation reflects a shift in value towards industrial and energy commodities, at the expense of safe-haven assets and the stability of staple food prices

Table 1: Overview of commodity prices

Commodities	Average price (previous year)	Average price N	Change Y/Y	Highest price	Lowest price	Comments
April	19 to 26 April	27 April to 3 May	%	H	B	
Energy						
Brent crude oil (\$/barrel)	101.74	113.405	+11.47%	120.02	108.42	▲ Strong upward momentum
Crude oil - WTI (\$/barrel)	92.98	102.5575	+10.30%	108.18	96.84	▲ Robust growth in line with Brent
Natural gas (/kWh)	776.05	780.155188	+0.53%	814.74	747.33	▲ Slight increase
Metals						
Gold (\$/g)	152.23	148.26	-2.61%	150.53	146.09	▼ Slight decrease
Silver (\$/kg)	2480.00	2374.68	-4.25%	2427.98	2298.74	▼ Slight decrease
Steel (\$/tonne)	1045.00	1066.20	+2.03%	1084.00	1042.00	▲ Slight increase
Aluminium (\$/tonne)	3,584.95	3,510.15	-2.09%	3,579.75	3,450.50	▼ Slight decrease
Exported products						
Cocoa (\$/tonne)	3,315.00	3,374.60	+1.80%	3,521.00	3,218.00	▲ Slight increase
Cotton (\$/tonne)	28.37	28.89	+1.81%	30.14	28.30	▲ Slight increase
Coffee (\$/tonne)	6,653.55	6693.23	+0.60%	6746.15	6,635.91	▲ Slight increase
Rubber	35.50	33.90	-4.51%	34.40	33.40	▼ Sharp fall
Lumber (\$/1,000 board feet)	323.60	326.75	+0.97%	334.00	324.00	▲ A slight increase

Imported products						
Maize (\$/tonne)	166.92	170.82	+2.33%	172.00	169.42	▲ Slight increase
Soya (\$/tonne)	428.38	434.12	+1.34%	436.40	431.99	▲ Slight increase
Rice (\$/tonne)	403.97	393.29	-2.64%	401.10	388.24	▼ Slight fall
Wheat (\$/tonne)	222.12	232.64	+4.73%	238.88	228.59	▲ Slight increase
Fertiliser (\$/tonne)	3,310.14	3,415.94	+3.20%	13,230.00	13,163.00	▲ Slight increase
Copper (\$/tonne)	13,196.30	13,027.50	-1.28%	13,212.00	12,890.50	▼ Moderate decline

2. Mass-market agricultural products in the two main cities (Yaoundé and Douala)

The market for widely consumed agricultural products remained completely stable across all monitored foodstuffs during the week in question. Products such as tomatoes, cassava and oils (refined and palm) maintained their prices unchanged from the previous week. Whilst red palm oil is benefiting from favourable seasonal availability, the mackerel market remains characterised by a worrying scarcity, despite the price per kilogram remaining between 1,800 and 2,200 CFA francs.

Table 2: Overview of widely consumed agricultural products

Products	Market price in CFA francs (N-1)	Market price in CFA francs (N)	Comment
26 April	19 to 26 April	27 April to 3 May	
Tomatoes (CFA francs/crate)	3,500–4,500	3,500–4,500	Prices stable over the week.
Cassava (F CFA/bag)	9,000–10,000	9,000 – 10,000	Prices stable over the week.
Potato (F CFA/Net)	10,000 - 12,000	10,000–12,000	Prices remained stable over the period observed.
Macabo (CFA francs/net)	18,000 — 20,000	18,000 — 20,000	Prices unchanged.
Onions (CFA francs/100 kg bag)	25,000 — 27,000	25,000 — 27,000	Prices stable over the week.
Garlic (F CFA/100 kg bag)	150,000 - 170,000	150,000 – 170,000	Prices remain stable.
Garoua groundnuts (CFA francs/100 kg bag)	50,000–60,000	50,000–60,000	Prices stable over the week.
Garoua peanuts (F CFA/5-litre bag)	2,500–3,000	2,500–3,000	Prices stable over the week.
Salt (F CFA/bag)	5,000–6,000	5,000–6,000	Prices stable over the week.
Potatoes (CFA francs/15-litre bucket)	5,000–6,000	5,000–6,000	Prices stable over the week.
Sugar (F CFA/kg)	800–1,000	800–1,000	Prices stable over the week.
Mackerel (CFA francs/kg)	1800–2200	1,800–2,200	Prices unchanged, scarce on the market.
Red beans (CFA francs/15-litre bucket)	8,000–9,000	8,000–9,000	Prices stable over the week.
White beans (F CFA/15 L bucket)	13,000–15,000	13,000–15,000	Prices stable over the week.
Refined oil (F CFA/L)	1,400 - 1,500	1,400–1,500	Prices stable on the markets.
Red palm oil (1L)	700–800	700–800	Price stable, supported by improved seasonal availability.
Maize (F CFA/15-litre bucket)	4,000–4,500	4,000–4,500	Prices stable.