



# AfricaFertilizer

Data-Driven Decisions for African Food Systems

## FERTINEWS

April 2023 Edition



With funding from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, AfricaFertilizer, partnering with Development Gateway, an IREX venture, has been collaborating with national fertilizer industry partners to develop and deploy five additional Visualizing Insights on Fertilizer for African Agriculture (VIFAA) dashboards in Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, and Zambia, after launching three earlier dashboards in [Kenya](#) (September 2020), [Nigeria](#) (June 2021), and [Ghana](#) (September 2021).

The VIFAA dashboard, a one-stop shop for critical fertilizer-related information, seeks to address several challenges in the fertilizer industry, by filling key information gaps; providing data to help policy and investment decisions in the fertilizer sector; and making available up-to-date and comprehensive fertilizer data to help fertilizer industry players respond appropriately to changes in the fertilizer market.

The existing country-specific dashboards have been updated with their links redirecting stakeholders to [AfricaFertilizer's new website](#) to access fertilizer data on trade, production, consumption, and retail prices, fertilizer production capacities, etc for over 18 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.



Click here to watch a [tutorial](#) on how to access our website

## NATIONAL FERTILIZER MARKET COMMENTS

**COTE D'IVOIRE:** No fertilizer shortages were reported in the first quarter of 2023. Importers have continued to mobilize stocks in preparation for the crop year. They are taking advantage of the downward trend in international market prices to replenish their stocks. About 200,000 MT of fertilizers have been imported to Côte d'Ivoire from January to March 2023

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**GHANA:** Businesses in the sector are preparing their books to accept their imports, while others are eagerly anticipating the commencement of the Planting for Food and Job's (PFJ) subsidized fertilizer

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**NIGERIA:** The Federal Government is planning to introduce a fertilizer subsidy program to farmers in the country. This would be done through a program financed by the African Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development ...[read more](#)

**SENEGAL:** Prices are relatively stable, but still high, and very expensive for low-income farmers. Urea and DAP have the highest prices. To buy a 50kg bag, a minimum of 30,000 FCFA is required for urea and at least 35,000 FCFA for DAP ...[read more](#)

**TOGO:** On the supply side, the Togolese government has made arrangements to order a total of 123,500 MT of food crop fertilizers, including 83,500 MT of NPK and 40,000 MT of Urea for the 2023-2024 crop year ...[read more](#)

**TABLE I: AVERAGE FERTILIZER MARKET PRICES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES (US\$/TON)**

Country	Fertilizer	Type (US\$/Ton)	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	% Change Feb-Mar		
International Price	DAP (bulk fob Morocco)	FOB	714	674	637	-5%	⬇️	Low Decrease
International Price	NPK 15-15-15 (fob Morocco)	FOB	684	541	618	14%	↗️	Low Increase
International Price	Urea (granular bulk fob Nigeria)	FOB	428	344	322	-7%	⬇️	Low Decrease
International Price	Urea (prilled bulk fob Black Sea)	FOB	388	307	263	-14%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Cote d'Ivoire	NPK 15-15-15	Com	1,107	1,105	822	-26%	⬇️	Medium Decrease
Cote d'Ivoire	PK 0-23-19 + 6.5S + 5MgO + 10CaO	Com	984	983	822	-16%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Cote d'Ivoire	Urea	Com	1,103	1,102	843	-23%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Ghana	NPK 20-10-10	Com	701	660	746	13%	↗️	Low Increase
Ghana	NPK 23-10-5	Com	801	746	744	0%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Ghana	Urea	Com	958	895	897	0%	↗️	Low Increase
Kenya	DAP	Com	1,022	978	932	-5%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Kenya	NPK 17-17-17	Com	1,024	1,006	962	-4%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Kenya	Urea	Com	996	932	895	-4%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Mozambique	NPK 12-24-12	Com	959	966	935	-3%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Mozambique	NPK 12-24-12	Sub			807			
Mozambique	NPK 23-10-5 +3S + 1Zn	Com	936	945	935	-1%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Mozambique	Urea	Com	1,038	1,031	1,059	3%	↗️	Low Increase
Mozambique	Urea	Sub			887			
Nigeria	NPK 15-15-15	Com	1,145	1,145	1,144	0%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Nigeria	NPK 20-10-10	Com	1,056	1,049	1,046	0%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Nigeria	Urea	Com	922	912	825	-10%	⬇️	Low Decrease
Rwanda	DAP	Com			1,218			
Rwanda	DAP	Sub			665			
Rwanda	NPK 17-17-17	Com			1,200			
Rwanda	NPK 17-17-17	Sub			603			
Rwanda	Urea	Com			1,053			
Rwanda	Urea	Sub			590			
Senegal	DAP	Com	1,192	1,190	1,150	-3%	⬇️	Low Decrease

Country	Fertilizer	Type (US\$/Ton)	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	% Change Feb-Mar		
Senegal	DAP	Sub	496	495	407	-18%	↘	Low Decrease
Senegal	NPK 15-15-15	Com	984	973	881	-9%	↘	Low Decrease
Senegal	NPK 15-15-15	Sub	436	409	407	-1%	↘	Low Decrease
Senegal	Urea	Com	1,187	1,060	1,045	-1%	↘	Low Decrease
Senegal	Urea	Sub		590	529	-10%	↘	Low Decrease
Togo	NPK 15-15-15	Sub	590	590	586	-1%	↘	Low Decrease
Togo	Urea	Sub	590	590	586	-1%	↘	Low Decrease
Zambia	NPK 10-20-10 + 6S	Com	1,040	946	888	-6%	↘	Low Decrease
Zambia	Urea	Com	1,032	971	912	-6%	↘	Low Decrease

↔ No Change, ↘ Low Decrease (0-25%), ↙ Medium Decrease (25-50%), ↓ High Decrease (>50%),  
 ↗ Low Increase (0-25%), ↗ Medium Increase (25-50%), ↑ High Increase (>50%)

**Legend:** FOB – Free On Board, Com – Commercial Market Prices, Sub – Subsidized Prices.  
 All prices have been converted to US\$/Ton with the prevailing exchange rate for the month.

For more prices, visit our [website](#)

**ETHIOPIA:** The government is subsidizing fertilizer in order to alleviate the price increase burden on farmers, due to the Russia-Ukraine war. The Ministry of Agriculture revealed that 15 billion ETB was similarly subsidized last crop season ...[read more](#)

**KENYA:** The National Fertilizer Subsidy Program has been rolled out in 17 counties for the long rain season, as part of government's effort to reduce costs of food production ...[read more](#)

**MALAWI:** The country's stock levels are at the lowest in the agricultural season as the fertilizer application period is now over, therefore, demand is also at its lowest ...[read more](#)

**MOZAMBIQUE:** Fertilizer Association (AMOFERT), the private sector, and NGOs are pushing the government to implement one of the 12 resolutions of the Abuja Declaration in Mozambique where they need to remove taxes and tariffs on fertilizer and raw materials (2.5% duty on fertilizer and 16% VAT on micronutrients) ...[read more](#)

**RWANDA:** The prices of DAP, Urea and NPK dipped from January to February by 8%, 10% and 18% respectively and remained stable into March. In March, the prices per 50kg bag were as follows: RWF 66,100 for DAP, 57,150 for Urea and 65,100 for NPK 17 17 17 on the open market ...[read more](#)

**TANZANIA:** At the start of the year, the government began the implementation of the 2022/2023 subsidy program that was introduced in August 2022. The program is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture with coordination by Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA)

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**UGANDA:** To enhance fertilizer availability in the country, several interventions were put in place by various sectors. The Ministry of Agriculture reported a sizable registration of new fertilizer outlets into the market (especially upcountry) which make it easy for farmers to access fertilizers ...[read more](#)

**TABLE 2: INTERNATIONAL FERTILIZER MARKET PRICES & COMMENTS**

MONTHLY AVERAGE	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	1 month % Change
Urea (prilled bulk fob Black Sea)	388	307	263	-14%
Urea (granular, Middle East-all), fob bulk	404	341	303	-11%
Urea (granular bulk fob Nigeria)	428	344	322	-7%
Ammonia (fob North Africa)	909	719	455	-37%
DAP (bulk fob Morocco)	714	674	637	-5%
DAP (bulk fob Russia Baltic/Black Sea)	648	645	599	-7%
DAP (bulk fob Saudi Arabia) [KSA]	674	642	601	-6%
MAP (Morocco), fob bulk	694	674	642	-5%
TSP (bulk fob Morocco)	545	511	442	-14%
Phosphate rock (69% BPL bulk fob north Africa)	258	258	258	0%
Potash standard MOP (bulk fob Jordan)	638	620	559	-10%
Potash Granular MOP bulk fob Baltic/Black Sea	544	532	403	-24%
SOP (standard, NW Europe) € Fob bulk	911	863	760	-12%
NPK 15-15-15 (fob Morocco)	684	541	618	14%

Prices are FOB and in US\$/Ton.

Source: [Argus Media](#)

## EGYPT

Export prices of urea fell by \$66/t during March, reaching a midpoint of \$333/t FOB as of 31 March. Sluggish demand from key destination markets as well as ample export availability led prices, which had halved over the past five months to fall further. Egypt's producers lost significant market share in Europe throughout March as traders covered demand with around 120,000t of cheaper urea from Nigeria, Middle East, and the US.

## MOZAMBIQUE

Trading firm Swiss Singapore was in the freight market early in March to ship 25,000t of urea to Beira from Qatar. MOP stocks were building in warehouses at Beira port, which would eventually move to Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi once demand emerges.

## GHANA

A freight enquiry kept circulating throughout March, shipment of 8,000t of urea was sought in combination with NPKs in early April from Ust Luga in Russia. There was also an enquiry for 20,000t of Russian CAN, to load from Ust Luga for Tema or Turkey around the same time.

## SOUTH AFRICA

There was a freight enquiry for 35,000t of urea for shipment from Qatar's Mesaieed to Durban and Cape Town. The market remains seasonally sluggish. There were concerns that many importers still sat on high-priced inventories, bought above \$700/t cfr, whereas granular MOP prices were indicated at \$515-530/t cfr. Activity in the Cape region was ongoing, but most importers would return to the market.

## KENYA

There was a multitude of enquiries in the freight market to ship urea from several origins to Kenya between March and April, with the main application season set to begin in April.

## ZAMBIA

The Ministry of Agriculture was scheduled to close a tender on April 3 to buy 120,380t of urea and 120,380t of 10-20-10+6S for the 2023-24 season. The tender seeks delivery between 2 May-31 August 2023.

## NIGERIA

Dangote had one line offline for maintenance in the second half of the month following a technical fault, leaving only Indorama with spot tons for April shipment. Indorama indicated \$330-340/t fob to buyers with bids generally below \$310/t fob. Recent offers for granular MOP have been reported at around \$650/t cfr but such levels were not thought to be acceptable to Nigerian buyers. Senegal Ameropa was in the freight market for 10,000t of MOP from Germany for shipment to Dakar, with loading requested 21- 29 March.

## MOROCCO

Line-up data showed March loadings reached about 780,000t of fertilizers, down from 830,000t in March last year. One shipment of NPS departed for Ethiopia under EABC's 1.3mn tons tender, the first vessel since early January. In total, OCP still had roughly 900,000t to load under the tender, which it usually completes by May.

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## IN THE NEWS

### Nigeria Fertilizer Technical Working Group



*Fertilizer Technical Working Group in Nigeria*

[AfricaFertilizer](#) has begun convening the annual Fertilizer Technical Working Group (FTWG) meetings in West Africa. So far, five workshops have been held in Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, and Nigeria, all in West Africa, with very encouraging participation of key industry actors. More of these meetings are scheduled for the coming months in West Africa as well as East and Southern Africa.

In these workshops, key fertilizer stakeholders from the public sector (the Ministries of Agriculture, Customs, Research Institutions, CountrySTAT); the private sector (fertilizer blenders, producers, suppliers, importers, and exporters); technical partners, donors and civil society organizations participate actively to review and validate the country's fertilizer data, upon which key decisions are then taken across the board.



## Gabon

**King Mohammed VI** of Morocco has donated 2,000 tons of fertilizer to Gabonese farmers... [read more](#)



## Kenya

The Kenyan Government has introduced a fertilizer subsidy program to help farmers access fertilizer at a bit lower price. Under this program, the cost of fertilizer will be reduced from Ksh6,000 per 50kg bag to Ksh3,500.... [read more](#)



## Zimbabwe

Fertilizer prices in Zimbabwe have risen by nearly 30%, with a 50 kg bag of basal fertilizer currently costing an average \$45 and a bag of top-dressing fertilizer about \$60.... [read more](#)



## Africa

Can improved access to fertilizers help boost Africa's agricultural productivity? Yields in Africa's smallholder-based farming system have remained stubbornly below the global average for years.... [read more](#)

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