

big story

In relief to consumers, prices of vegetables fall up to 60pc

The prices of vegetables and fruits in Bahrain returned to normal, just days after the end of the holy month of Ramadan, during which the prices had gone extremely high due to high demand



The Manama Central Market

The price of a 10-kilo box of cucumbers has dropped from 3.500 dinars to 900 fils, while the price of cauliflowers dropped from BD3.5 to BD1.5, and the price of cabbage dropped from BD4 to BD1.5

TDI| Manama

Thamer Tayfur

Bringing cheers to middle and lower-income consumers, the retail prices of vegetables and fruits in the Central Market have declined by 60 per cent, a significant fall, after Ramadan.

The prices of vegetables and fruits in Bahrain returned to normal, just days after the end of the holy month of Ramadan, during which the prices had gone extremely high due to high demand.

Daily Tribune visited the Central Market on May 10 (before Ramadan), and on MaY 18 the second day of Ramadan), and on June 20 (after the end of

Ramadan days), to see the price trend in the market.

The price of a 10-kilo box of cucumbers has dropped from 3.500 dinars to 900 fils, while the price of cauliflowers dropped from BD3.5 to BD1.5, and the price of cabbage dropped from BD4 to BD1.5.

The price of a kilo of garlic has fallen from 800 fils to 200 fils, lemon from 800 fils to 500 fils, ginger from 800 fils to 300 fils, and tomatoes from 500 fils to 150 fils.

The price of 3 kilos of pumpkin dropped from BD1 to 800 fils, an eggplant box from BD1.2 to 800 fils, 4 kilos of an onion bag from BD1 to 600 fils, 4 kilos of potato bag from BD1.2 to 800 fils, and a Kilo of carrots from



The prices of vegetables and fruits had gone up extremely high during Ramadan

“We barely sell anything compared to Ramadan sales. Eid expenditures and people’s other commitment is killing our business and these are our prices because the demand is low

HUSSEIN MOHAMMED TRADER

Displayed	before Ramadhan 10/5/2018	in Ramadhan 18/5/2018	After Ramadhan 21/6/2018	Estimated percentages of decrease
1 10 kilos of cucumber	1.500	3.500	0.900	73%
2 Box of cauliflower	1.500	3.500	1.500	62%
3 4kg cabbage	1.500	4.000	1.500	62%
4 3 kgs of pumpkin	0.500	1.000	0.800	20%
5 A box of eggplant	1.000	1.200	0.800	33%
6 A 4kg bag of Onions	0.600	1.000	0.600	40%
7 4kg bag of Potato	0.800	1.200	0.800	33%
8 1Kg of garlic	0.600	0.800	0.200	75%
9 4kgs of carrots	1.000	1.300	1.000	15%
10 1Kg of Lemon	0.500	0.800	0.500	42%
11 1kg of ginger	0.700	0.800	0.300	66%
12 1kg of cabbage	0.300	0.300	0.300	0%
13 1Kg of tomatoes	0.200	0.500	0.150	60%

BD1.3 to one dinar.

“We barely sell anything compared to Ramadan sales. Eid expenditures and people’s other commitment is killing our business and these are our prices because the demand is low,” said trader Hussein Mohammed.

“We do not take advantage of people’s financial conditions. This is an open market. When demand increases, prices increase and when demand drops, prices fall,” he said.

Daily Tribune had reported that vendors destroyed large quantities of fruits and vegetables in order to maintain high prices in Ramadan. Municipal

workers confirmed that on a daily basis at least three large municipal trucks carried discarded tons of fruits and vegetables. “Prices are now within the reach of the poor,” said Sayed Mustafa al-Wadai.

“I feel the prices are normal now. Traders should not take advantage of people’s needs, especially during the month of Ramadan.”

“Prices are now better. We do not accept the idea of linking price rises to supply and demand,” said Haji Hussain.

“The amount of food consumed in Ramadan is also greater and this compensates

the merchants the drop in prices after Ramadan. They have already made a lot of profit.”

Mohammed Hussein said merchants should have good ethics and values.

“We know that this is business but you find merchants who rather throw the food out instead of dropping the prices and this is even religiously unacceptable. It happens all around the world to maintain the market prices but this doesn’t mean there shouldn’t be solutions to these issues. The concerned ministry should monitor what is happening and look out for the public interest.”