

## **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Sector, Q1 2024, Namibia**

### **1. Background**

The sector share to GDP remained relatively stagnant, declining from 6.9% in Q1 of 2023 to 6.2% in Q1 of 2024. Fishing and on-board fish processing emerged as the primary contributor, accounting for 3.14% of GDP. Livestock followed with a 2.35% contribution, while crops and forestry were less significant, contributing 0.44% and 0.31%, respectively.

The country's export earnings from commodities in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing sectors amounted to N\$ 1.3 billion whereas the import bill stood at N\$ 909 million (See Figure 2). During the quarter under review, export earnings from fish products totaled N\$4.1 billion, reflecting a 2.6% increase compared to N\$4.0 billion in the first quarter of 2023. The import bill for fish products for the same period was N\$154.9 million, representing a 7.7% decrease from N\$167.9 million in the corresponding quarter of 2023.

### **2. Analysis**

#### **2.1 Fisheries Products**

Total landings of quota species during the first quarter of 2024 amounted to 97,077 metric tons, a decline of 16.7% compared to 116,471 metric tons recorded in the first quarter of 2023. Horse mackerel had the highest landings with 49,592 metric tons, followed by hake with 44,630 metric tons. In third place was monkfish, with 2,119 metric tons.

Export earnings for 'Fish and crustaceans, molluscs, and other aquatic invertebrates' were N\$4.1 billion, up from N\$4.0 billion in the same quarter last year. Spain was the top destination, making up 29.7% of exports, mainly for frozen hake fillets. Zambia (16.1%) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (14.1%) were the next largest destinations, both receiving horse mackerel.

In the first quarter of 2024, imports of 'Fish and crustaceans, molluscs, and other aquatic invertebrates' totaled N\$154.9 million, down from N\$167.9 million recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2023. South Africa was the biggest supplier, providing 35.0% of the imports, mainly hake. The United States followed with 32.6%, mainly sole, and Spain was third with 9.7%, mainly cuttlefish and squid.

#### **2.2. Livestock Auction**

During the period under review, livestock auctioned rose to 109,783, compared to 76,163 recorded in the same quarter of 2023. The cattle auctions accounted for 81,516 heads, while 14,544 goats and 13,723 sheep were also auctioned.

During the quarter under review, prices for all types of livestock fell. Cattle were priced at N\$26.41 per kg, down by 17.0%. Goats averaged N\$28.89 per kg, marking a 7.8% decrease, while sheep were priced at N\$28.52 per kg, representing an 11.4% drop.

### **2.3 Trade of Selected Horticultural Products**

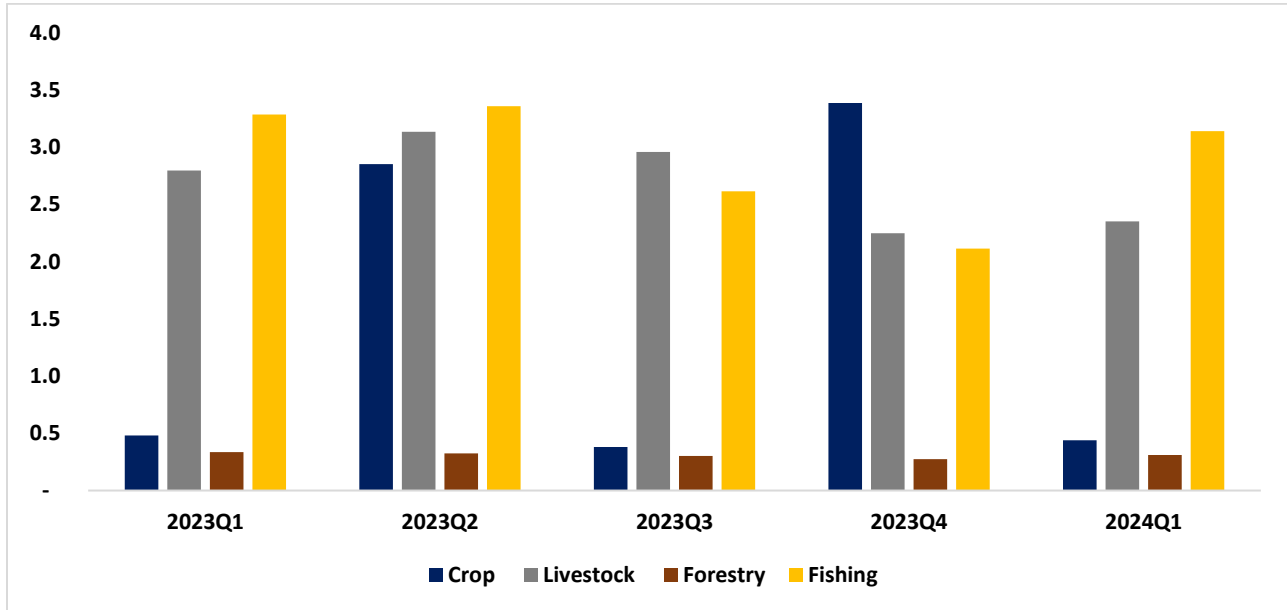
The export of horticultural products was valued at N\$276.1 million in the first quarter of 2024, up from N\$181.9 million in the corresponding quarter of 2023. Grapes were the top exported products, amounting to N\$196.3 million, followed by dates at N\$68.9 million, and pumpkins, squash, and gourds in third place, valued at N\$4.4 million. The United Kingdom was the main export destination for horticultural products, accounting for 27.2% of exports. The Netherlands, South Africa, and Germany followed as the second, third, and fourth largest destinations, accounting for 21.1%, 14.0%, and 10.1%, respectively. The main products exported to the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, South Africa, and Germany were grapes and dates.

For the period under review, the import bill for horticultural products was valued at N\$305.1 million, compared to N\$276.9 million recorded in the same quarter of 2023. Potatoes were the highest imported products, amounting to N\$64.2 million, followed by stimulants, spices, and aromatic crops at N\$58.2 million, apples at N\$26.7 million, vegetable seeds (excluding beet seeds) at N\$15.5 million, and tea leaves at N\$12.8 million. Horticultural products were primarily sourced from South Africa, which accounted for 97.0% of the imports during the period under review.

### **Local purchase of domestically produced fresh produce**

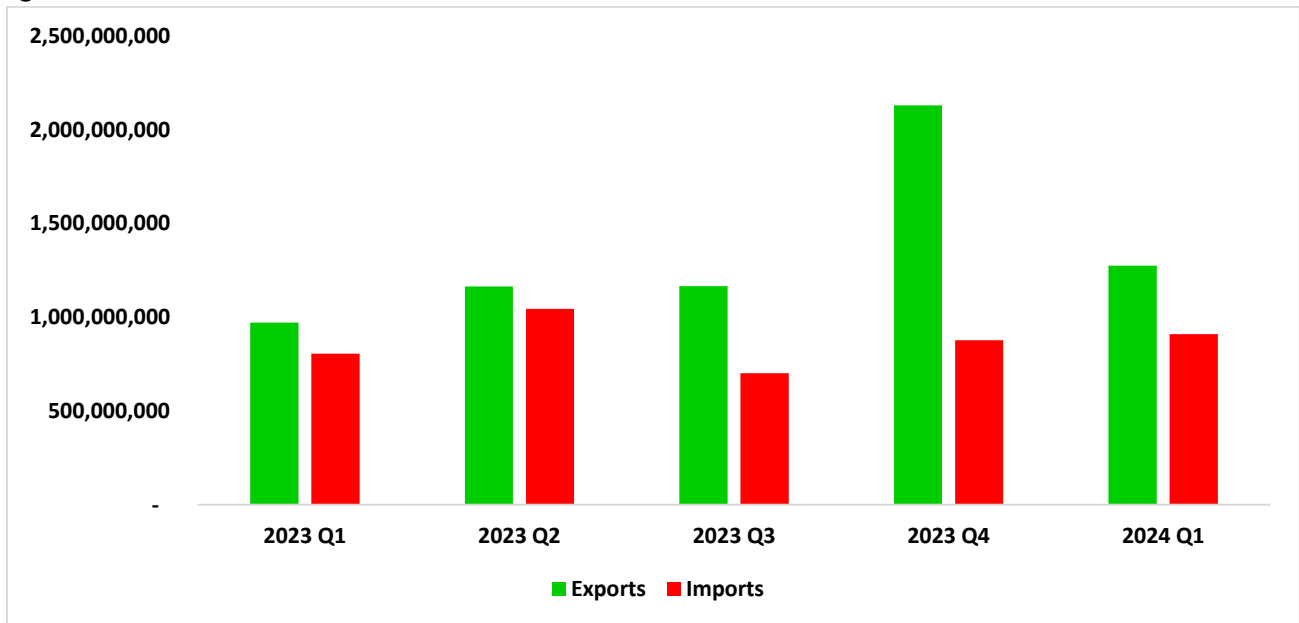
Locally purchased controlled fresh produce was estimated at 5,154 tons, compared to 5,145 tons recorded in the same quarter of 2023. Onions were the most purchased item, with 975 tons, followed by potatoes at 692 tons, and cabbage in third place with 470 tons. Carrots (469 tons) and tomatoes (338 tons) were also among the top six locally purchased produce.

**Figure 1: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Sector % share to GDP, 2023 Q1 – 2024 Q1**



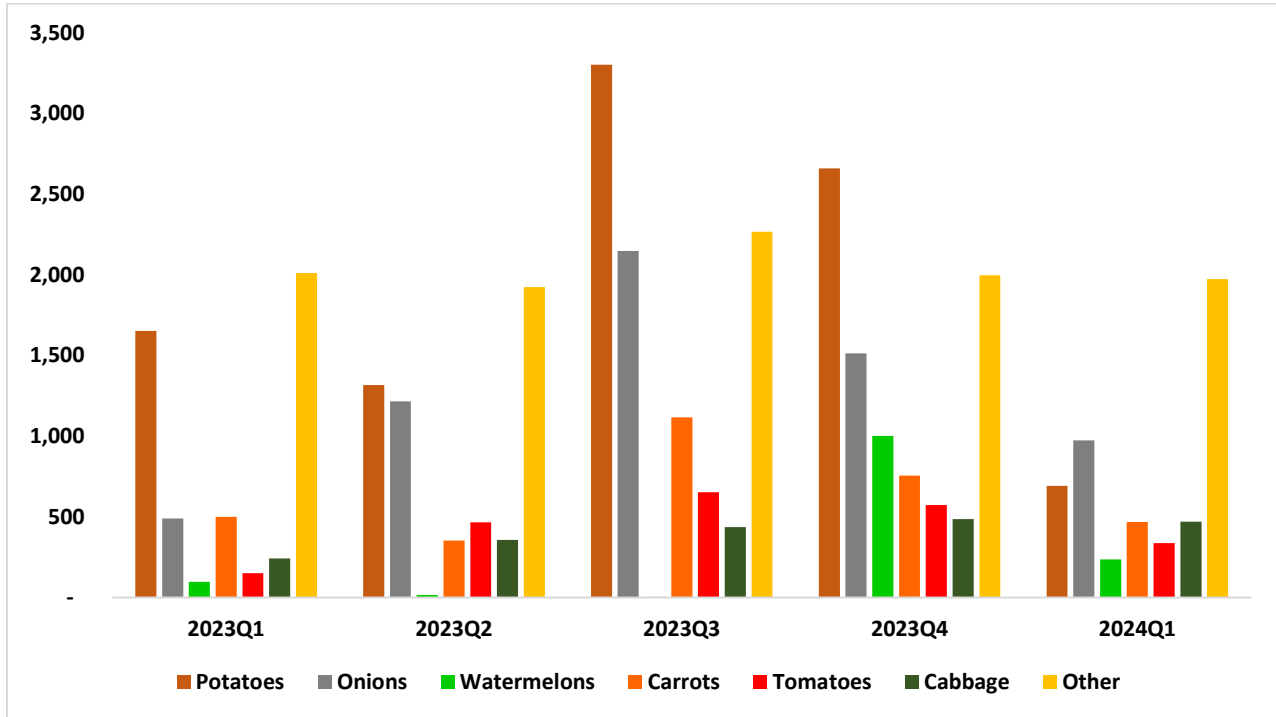
Source: NSA & HEI Research

**Figure 2: Trade Statistics on Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Sector (N\$), 2023 Q1 – 2024 Q1**



Source: NSA & HEI Research

**Figure 2: Locally purchased domestic fresh produce (specially controlled) in tons, 2023 Q1 – 2024 Q1**



Source: NSA & HEI Research