Suuq Bulletin

ISSUE 05 · MONTHLY MARKET PRICES · NATIVE MEASURES

26 September – 31 October 2026
Afgooye · Baidoa · Bakaaro

PERIOD	MARKETS	PRICE RECORDS	COLLECTION	CROPS	NEXT ISSUE
26 Sep – 31 Oct 2026	3	1,728	Daily	16	1 Dec

New schedule. From this issue the Suuq Bulletin is monthly, published on the 1st. Issue 05 covers 26 September – 31 October, bridging from the last fortnightly issue. Issue 06 (November) follows on 1 December.

The river's maize held a floor at $18 — then turned up, and the gap to the city closed

Between 26 September and 31 October white maize at Afgooye stayed inside a $7 band — $18 to $25 a Loor — after falling from $55 since 1 August. It touched $18 twice, on 6 October and again on 28 October, and closed the month at $23. Bakaaro came down from $35 to $28.50, so the spread between the river and the capital fell from $15 to $5.50 on the same sack. Baidoa closed dearest of the three at $29. Sesame met in the middle: up 20% on the river, down 40% in Bay, both at $1.20 a kg. This first monthly issue reads the floor, the turn, and who gets paid for waiting.

THE MONTH IN FOUR NUMBERS

$18
THE FLOOR, AFGOOYE
Maize touched $18 a Loor on 6 October and again on 28 October, then closed the month at $23. On 1 August it was $55.

$5.50
THE LOOR SPREAD
Afgooye $23, Bakaaro $28.50 for the same sack on 31 October. On 25 September the gap was $15.

$29
MAIZE, BAIDOA
Bay closed dearest of the three markets, above the capital. In September it was $35, in early October $18.

$1.20
SESAME, BOTH ZONES
Afgooye rose 20% from $1.00, Baidoa fell 40% from $2.00. The two production markets met at the same price.

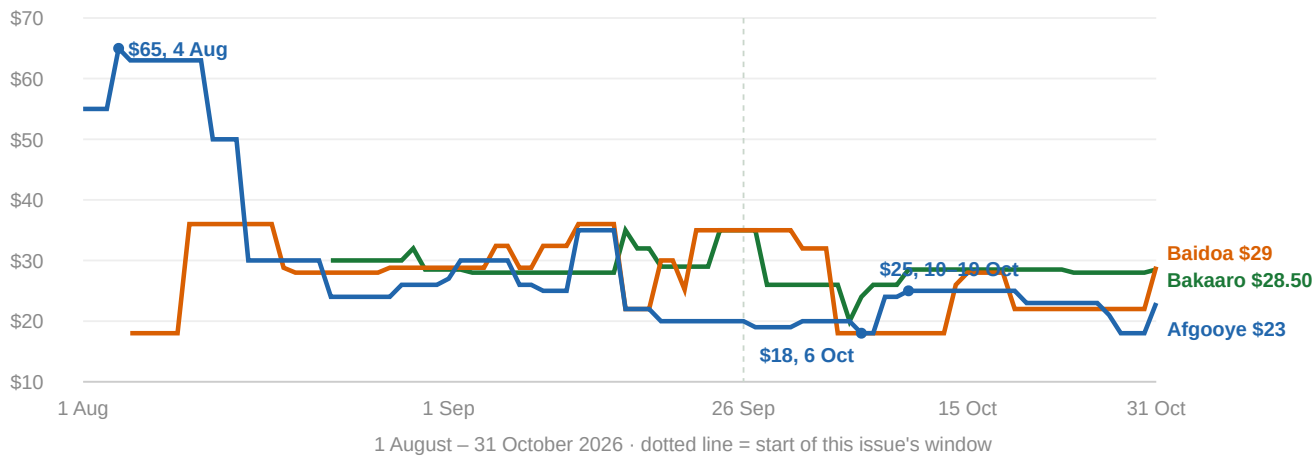

Photo: M-Tacab — Afgooye, Lower Shabelle

Two farmers with their hoes at Afgooye, Lower Shabelle — the riverine zone whose maize is priced on page 3 and whose storers are the subject of page 5.

THE MAIZE LINE

Three months of the Loor: $55 in August, a floor at $18, then the turn

All three markets quote white maize by the Loor, so the lines compare directly. Afgooye (blue) opened collection at $55 on 1 August, touched $65 on the 4th, halved as the Gu harvest came in, and has not been above $35 since mid-September. This window it found a floor and then left it: $20 on 26 September, $18 on 6–7 October, up to $24–25 from 8 to 19 October, back to $18 on 28 October, and $23 on the 31st. Bakaaro (green) held $35 at the start of the window, dropped to $26 on 28 September and $20 on 5 October, climbed back to $28.50 by the 10th and closed there. Baidoa (orange) fell from $35 to $18 on 4 October, held $18 for ten days — the fortnight after fighting in the city — then recovered to $26–28 and closed at $29, the dearest of the three.



Closing price per Loor, US$. Afgooye 1 Aug – 31 Oct; Baidoa 5 Aug – 30 Oct; Bakaaro 22 Aug – 31 Oct. Lines join observed days only.

> ***What the floor means.*** *Afgooye maize spent the month between $18 and $25. A storer who bought at $18 on 6 October could sell at $25 four days later — a 39% gain in under a week, the trade described on page 5. And the month ended with the market rising: Afgooye went $18 to $23 in three days and Baidoa $22 to $29. The spread between the river and the capital, $15 on 25 September, was $5.50 on 31 October.*

BETWEEN MARKETS

SAME DAY, SAME MEASURE · 31 OCTOBER (BAIDOA 30 OCTOBER)

CROP	MEASURE	AFGOOYE	BAIDOA	BAKAARO	READ
Maize (Galleey), white	per Loor	**23.00**	29.00	28.50	Afgooye cheapest, 21% under
Sorghum (Moordi), red	per Loor	23.00	**22.00**	29.50	Baidoa cheapest, 25% under
Cherry tomato (Yaanyo)	per Jirgaan	**9.00**	10.00	**9.00**	two markets level
Cowpea (Digir)	per Koombo	**0.60**	0.80	1.70	Afgooye cheapest, 65% under
Mung bean (Salbuko)	per Koombo	**0.75**	0.80	1.00	Afgooye cheapest, 25% under
Sesame (Sisin)	per kg	**1.20**	**1.20**	2.00	two markets level
Watermelon (Qare)	per piece	**2.00**	**2.00**	2.50	two markets level

A month ago every cereal and pulse was cheapest at Afgooye, and the river sat $15 under the capital on a sack of maize. It is still the cheapest place to buy grain, but by $5.50 now, not $15. Baidoa closed dearest on maize for the first time since collection began. Tomatoes are within $1 across the three markets — there is no margin in moving them.



PRICES THIS PERIOD

First and latest observation inside 26 September – 31 October, plus the full range. Never a period average. All prices US$ in the measure the market actually trades. Three markets, 36 days, 1,728 price records.

AFGOOYE — SUUQA BADARKA · CEREALS & PULSES · 26 SEP – 31 OCT

CROP	MEASURE	FIRST	LATEST	CHANGE	RANGE IN PERIOD
Maize (Galleey), white	Loor	20.00	**23.00**	▲ +15.0%	18.00 – 25.00
Sorghum (Moordi), red	Loor	21.00	**23.00**	▲ +9.5%	17.99 – 24.00
Cowpea (Digir)	Koombo	0.70	**0.60**	▼ −14.3%	0.60 – 0.80
Mung bean (Salbuko)	Koombo	0.80	**0.75**	▼ −6.3%	0.75 – 0.80
Sesame (Sisin)	kg	1.00	**1.20**	▲ +20.0%	1.00 – 1.50
Wheat (Qamadi)	Koombo	0.60	**0.60**	0.0%	0.60 – 0.60

BAIDOA CITY MARKET · CEREALS & PULSES · 26 SEP – 31 OCT

CROP	MEASURE	FIRST	LATEST	CHANGE	RANGE IN PERIOD
Maize (Galleey), white	Loor	35.00	**29.00**	▼ −17.1%	18.00 – 35.00
Sorghum (Moordi), red	Loor	25.00	**22.00**	▼ −12.0%	18.00 – 28.00
Cowpea (Digir)	Koombo	1.00	**0.80**	▼ −20.0%	0.50 – 1.00
Mung bean (Salbuko)	Koombo	0.90	**0.80**	▼ −11.1%	0.80 – 0.90
Sesame (Sisin)	kg	2.00	**1.20**	▼ −40.0%	1.20 – 2.00
Wheat (Qamadi)	Koombo	0.80	**1.00**	▲ +25.0%	0.60 – 1.00

BAKAARO MARKET, MOGADISHU · CEREALS & PULSES · 26 SEP – 31 OCT

CROP	MEASURE	FIRST	LATEST	CHANGE	RANGE IN PERIOD
Maize (Galleey), white	Loor	35.00	**28.50**	▼ −18.6%	20.00 – 35.00
Sorghum (Moordi), red	Loor	25.20	**29.50**	▲ +17.1%	22.00 – 29.50
Cowpea (Digir)	Koombo	0.80	**1.70**	▲ +112.5%	0.70 – 1.70
Mung bean (Salbuko)	Koombo	1.00	**1.00**	0.0%	1.00 – 1.00
Sesame (Sisin)	kg	2.00	**2.00**	0.0%	2.00 – 2.00
Wheat (Qamadi)	Koombo	0.60	**1.00**	▲ +66.7%	0.60 – 1.00

All six cereals and pulses are tabled for all three markets this issue. Sesame was not on sale on 15 of 36 days at Baidoa and 5 of 36 at Bakaaro; those tables show priced days only.

> *Every price in this bulletin is quoted in the measure the market actually trades in — the Loor, the Koombo, the Jirgaan, the Xirmo bac. These are the measures farmers and traders buy and sell in every day, and prices quoted in them compare directly across markets.*



VEGETABLES & FRUIT THIS PERIOD

SELECTED HORTICULTURE · 26 SEP – 31 OCT · THREE MARKETS

CROP	MARKET	MEASURE	FIRST	LATEST	CHANGE
Cherry tomato (Yaanyo)	Afgooye	Jirgaan	9.00	**9.00**	0.0%
Cherry tomato (Yaanyo)	Bakaaro	Jirgaan	9.00	**9.00**	0.0%
Cherry tomato (Yaanyo)	Baidoa	Jirgaan	11.00	**10.00**	▼ −9.1%
Watermelon (Qare)	Afgooye	piece	3.50	**2.00**	▼ −42.9%
Watermelon (Qare)	Baidoa	piece	3.00	**2.00**	▼ −33.3%
Watermelon (Qare)	Bakaaro	piece	4.00	**2.50**	▼ −37.5%
Spinach (Isbinaash)	Baidoa	Xirmo bac	2.50	**1.00**	▼ −60.0%
Spinach (Isbinaash)	Bakaaro	Xirmo bac	2.50	**3.50**	▲ +40.0%
Potato (Baradho)	Baidoa	kg	0.75	**0.65**	▼ −13.3%
Potato (Baradho)	Bakaaro	kg	0.75	**1.00**	▲ +33.3%
Onion (Basal), red	Afgooye	kg	1.25	**0.50**	▼ −60.0%
Onion (Basal), red	Baidoa	kg	0.80	**0.65**	▼ −18.8%
Carrot (Karooto)	Baidoa	Xirmo bac	0.75	**1.50**	▲ +100.0%
Carrot (Karooto)	Bakaaro	Xirmo bac	2.00	**2.50**	▲ +25.0%

▲ green *rose*, ▼ red *fell, first to last day of the window. Watermelon closed at $2 a piece at Afgooye and Baidoa and $2.50 at Bakaaro; red onion fell at both markets tabled.*

THE BASKET



Maize · $23.00 /Loor
Afgooye



Sorghum · $22.00
/Loor Baidoa



Tomato · $9.00
/Jirgaan Afgooye



Sesame · $1.20 /kg
Afgooye



Cowpea · $0.80
/Koombo Baidoa



Banana · $0.10 /piece
all three

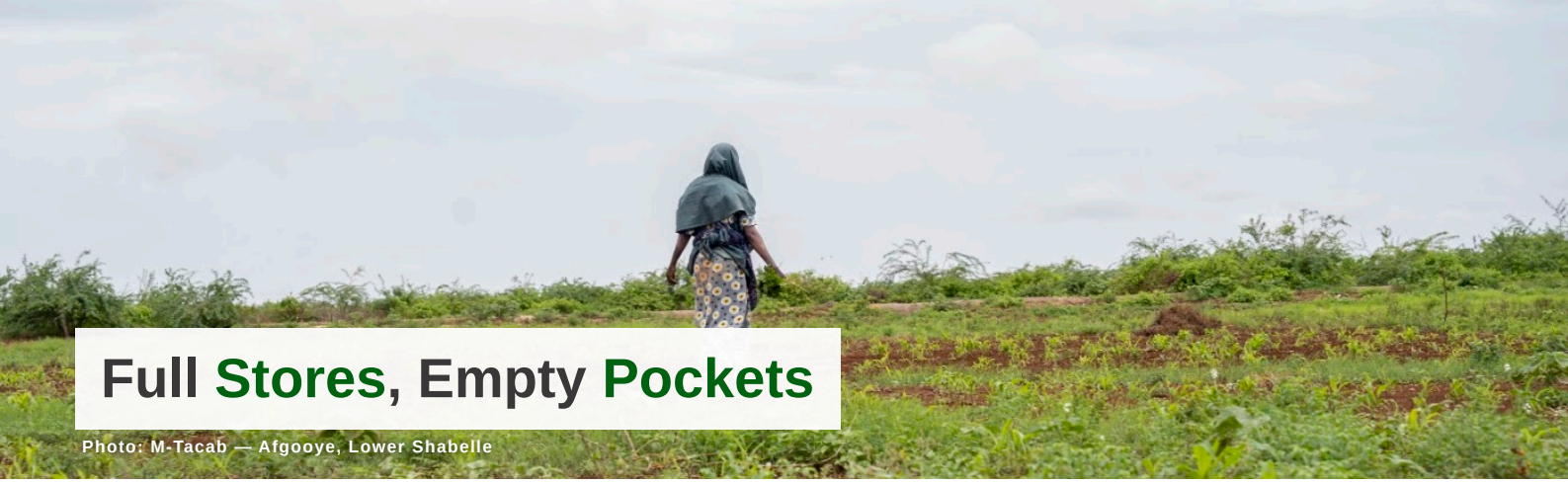
AGAINST LAST YEAR

Reference: Sicirka Suuqa ee Dalaga Beeraha, Warbixin 5.6, FGS Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, 8–14 August 2025 — the last weekly issue published. Grain Loor converted at 75 kg; Jowhar is the riverine reference for Afgooye.

CROP	MARKET (2026)	31 OCT 2026 $/KG	REFERENCE (AUG 2025)	AUG 2025 $/KG	CHANGE
Maize, white	Afgooye	**0.31**	Jowhar	0.43	▼ −28%
Maize, white	Baidoa	**0.39**	Beydhabo	0.27	▲ +44%
Maize, white	Bakaaro	**0.38**	Muqdisho	0.60	▼ −37%
Sorghum, red	Baidoa	**0.29**	Beydhabo	0.24	▲ +21%
Sorghum, red	Bakaaro	**0.39**	Muqdisho	0.60	▼ −35%
Sesame	Afgooye	**1.20**	Jowhar	0.86	▲ +40%
Sesame	Baidoa	**1.20**	Beydhabo	1.30	▼ −8%
Onion, red	Baidoa	**0.65**	Beydhabo	1.00	▼ −35%
Potato	Baidoa	**0.65**	Beydhabo	0.58	▲ +12%
Potato	Bakaaro	**1.00**	Muqdisho	1.00	0%

How to read it — the zone gap has swapped ends

Afgooye maize is 28% under the Jowhar reference, Baidoa 44% above its own and the capital 37% under. Sesame is 40% over the Jowhar reference on the river, 8% under in Bay.



Full Stores, Empty Pockets

Photo: M-Tacab — Afgooye, Lower Shabelle

Afgooye's good Gu harvest is paying the people who can wait, not the people who grew it. The month's prices show who waits and who cannot.

His stores are full. His pockets are not. He is a farmer and trader in Afgooye. He grows maize, and when his own farm is not producing he trades it: he buys from other farmers at the farm gate and sells at Afgooye market. This Gu was a good one: by his account, yields on farms like his tripled, and every place to keep grain around Afgooye is full to the brim. It should feel like a win. It is the start of a squeeze.

The last season was a disaster: up to 90 percent of planted crops failed in Lower Shabelle in the 2025 Deyr (FEWS NET, February 2026). This Gu turned that around — national Gu production is 18 percent above 2025 and 32 percent above the long-term average (FEWS NET). From Daafeed to Dhoobeey the trader sees the same thing: plenty of maize, nowhere safe to keep it. Rain-fed maize keeps badly, so farmers sell fast — just as the harvest pushes prices down.

What the market paid. M-Tacab's recorder at Suuqa Badarka priced white maize at $55 a Loor on 1 August, before the harvest. By 6 October it was $18 — down 67 percent in ten weeks. It rose to $25 by the 10th, fell back to $18 on the 28th, and closed the month at $23. Farmers selling at the farm gate get less: $14 to $16 for the same Loor, by the trader's account.

Who gets what, Loor by Loor. The same 75 kg bag pays more the further it travels, and much more the longer it is held. The farmer spends about 100 days growing and guarding the crop and cannot afford to wait. The trader does not need to: he earns on moving it. The biggest gain goes to the one who waits.

WHO	HOW LONG THEY WAIT	PRICE PER LOOR (75 KG)
Farmer	Sells at harvest, at the farm gate	**$14 – 16**
Trader	Does not wait — buys at the gate, sells at market the same day	**$18 – 25 this month**
***Keedsato* (storer)**	Buys in bulk under $14, holds in *fuusto* drums or a *bakhaar* pit; sells into a rise, or waits for December–January	**$35 – 40 expected**

The people who store. At Afgooye the price moves only on Saturdays and Wednesdays, and only when demand rises or supply runs short. The *Keedsato* watch those days. A $3,000 purchase at about $13 a Loor buys roughly 230 Loor — over 17 tonnes. Sold in December or January at $35 to $40, the same grain fetches $8,000 to $9,200. Not free money — drums, chemicals, pests, damp, cash locked up for months — but the reward is real: in August, white maize at Qoryoley was 88 percent above last year (FEWS NET, September 2026). The farmer who grew it sold at $14 to $16.

Storing is not the problem. Storage carries maize from a harvest glut into the hungry months; a market with grain all year moves towards one price instead of two. The problem is who gets to wait. After 100 days in the field there are debts, food and school fees, and the Deyr is starting. So the farmer sells at the bottom, and the gain from waiting goes to whoever has cash and space.

THE GAP · ISSUE 05

- **What we see.** Afgooye maize fell from $55 to $18 a Loor between 1 August and 6 October, held $18–25 through October, and closed at $23 as the Deyr approached. Storers expect $35–40 by January. The farmer sells at harvest; the gain from waiting goes to whoever can hold the grain.
- **Why it is not solved.** Farmers need cash at harvest. Space is full. Rain-fed maize keeps badly. There is no common way to turn grain in store into cash a farmer can use now.
- **Who could close it.** Cooperatives that pool and store · storage builders and hermetic-bag suppliers · banks and microfinance lending against grain they can count · buyers who commit to a later price · programmes that help the first farmers wait one season.
- **What M-Tacab brings.** A daily price record from the grain market itself, published monthly — the evidence a lender or storage operator needs — and a way to reach and register farmers through the Hormuud network. **Talk to us:** info@mtacab.so · WhatsApp +252 61 999 3719



NEXT MONTH, WATCH

- **Whether the turn holds.** Every market rose in the last days of October — Afgooye $18 to $23, Baidoa $22 to $29. If that is the storers buying before December, November keeps climbing. If it is a one-week blip, prices fall back to $18–20.
- **Whether Baidoa stays above the capital.** Baidoa closed at $29 against Bakaaro's $28.50 — the first time Bay has been the dearest of the three. Fighting in the city on 28 September – 3 October displaced more than 5,600 people (UNHCR, 6 October). Read October's Baidoa prices as a disrupted market, not as the season.
- **The river.** On 17 October SWALIM measured the Shabelle at Jowhar at 5.36 m, above the 5.25 m danger level. Afgooye is on SoDMA's Deyr flood-risk list. If the river comes over the bank in November, it shows in the maize table first.

WHAT TO DO WITH THIS, IF YOU FARM

- **Cereal growers, riverine:** $23 at Afgooye against $28.50 at Bakaaro is a $5.50 gap — a third of what it was in September. A lorry to Mogadishu no longer pays for itself on one sack. Your own market rose $5 in the last three days of October; if you can hold, hold.
- **Cereal growers, Bay:** Baidoa maize went $35 to $18 and back to $29 inside one month. Do not price a decision on one week's quote; wait for two market days in a row at the same level.
- **Sesame growers:** both production markets closed at $1.20 a kg — Afgooye up from $1.00, Baidoa down from $2.00. Bakaaro still pays $2.00. For the first time this season the margin is in moving sesame to the capital, not between the two production zones.
- **Vegetable growers:** tomatoes closed $9, $10 and $9 a Jirgaan across the three markets — no margin in moving them. Whatever goes in now for the Deyr goes in under a flood warning: keep nurseries off the bank.

Based on price observation only. Not agronomic advice; not reviewed by an agronomist. Flood guidance follows SoDMA and SWALIM advisories; monitor official alerts.

WHERE WE ARE IN THE SEASON

FEWS NET (September 2026): Deyr land preparation and dry planting under way in most agro-pastoral areas, while many riverine farmers hold back for fear of floods. ICPAC's outlook for October–December remains wetter than normal over southern Somalia; SoDMA's 1 September alert put some areas above 400 mm for the season. The Gu 2026 harvest is above the long-term average nationally — that is the grain in Afgooye's stores, priced at $23 a Loor at the end of October.

> **Coming next**
>
> Results of the September measurement study — a verified kilogram weight for every measure in the register — follow once the analysis is complete. The full month's price series, by crop, market and day, is available as a spreadsheet on request: info@mtacab.so.



A woman farmer with freshly cut greens at Afgooye — the vegetable rows priced on page 4.



A farmer at Jowhar, Middle Shabelle — the riverine reference market used on page 4. Photo for illustration; not the trader on page 5.

HOW WE MEASURE

Prices are collected daily by M-tacab recorders at Suuqa Badarka Afgooye, Baidoa City Market and Bakaaro Market, Mogadishu, in the measures the markets trade in. Where a trader gave a low–high range, the closing quote is recorded and the range kept. Missing days and days with no supply are recorded as such, never estimated. Comparisons to 2025 use the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation's last published weekly bulletin (Warbixin 5.6, 8–14 August 2025) as the reference; the window mismatch is stated where it applies.

Sources this issue: M-tacab daily collection, 1 August – 31 October 2026 · Wasaaradda Beeraha iyo Waraabka JFS, *Sicirka Suuqa ee Dalaga Beeraha*, 8–14 August 2025 · FEWS NET, Somalia Food Security Outlook, February 2026, and Key Message Update, September 2026 · ICPAC, GHACOF 74 statement, August 2026 · Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), El Niño alert, 1 September 2026 · SWALIM river-level reporting, Jowhar, 17 October 2026 · UNHCR Somalia, Flash Alert #24, 6 October 2026 · interview with a farmer and trader, Afgooye, October 2026.

Photography: M-Tacab field photography, September 2026 (cover, pages 3, 4, 5 and 6). Basket cards: M-Tacab archive.

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