

Challapata Market Update, 21.6.2014

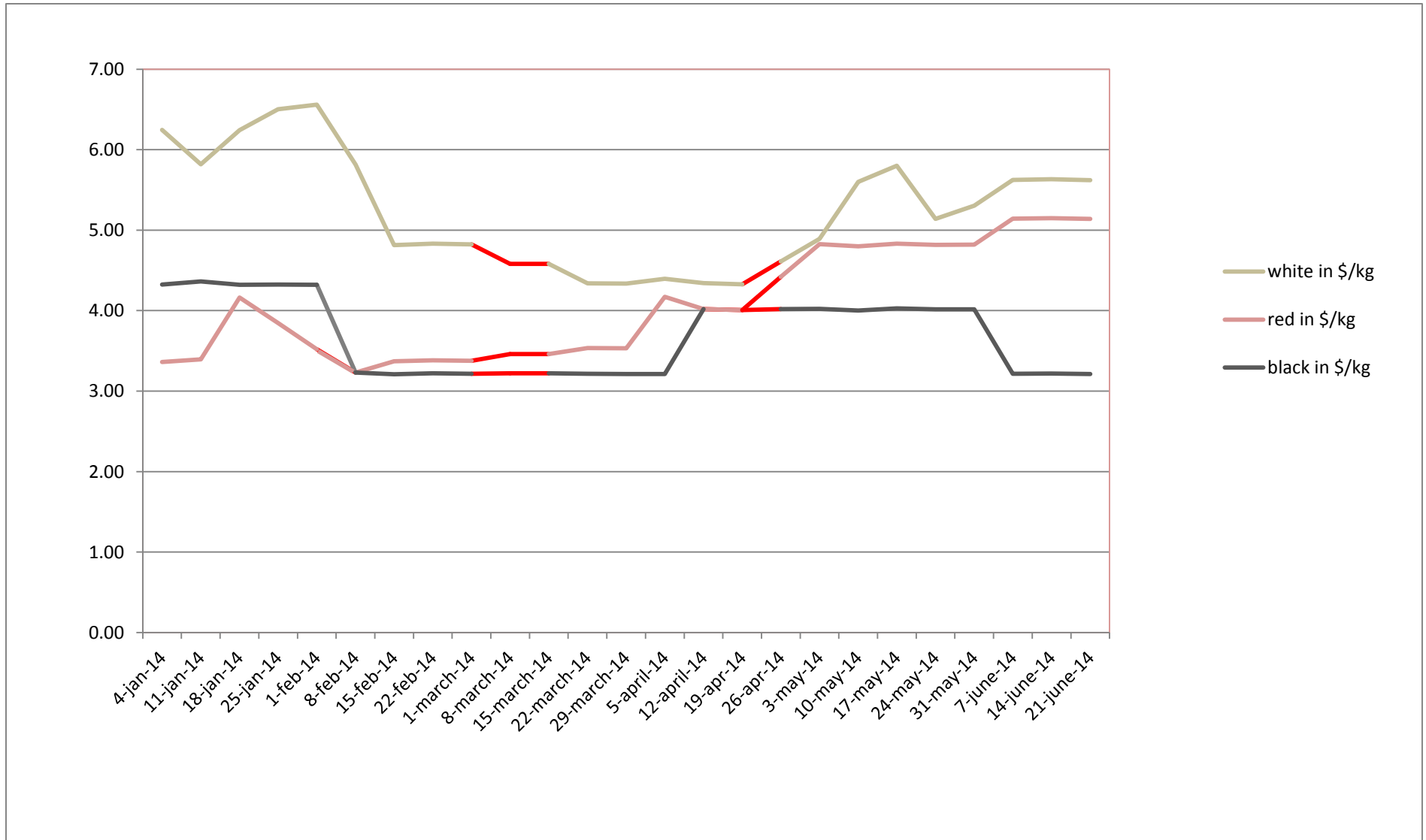
Price Development

On June 21, all quinoa varieties cost the same as the week before. In Challapata, white quinoa is traded for 1,750 Bolivianos per quintal which translates into \$5.62 per kg. Red quinoa is traded for \$5.14 (1,600 Bolivianos per quintal) and black quinoa costs \$3.21 (1,000 Bolivianos per quintal).

Since June 7 the prices have stabilized at that price level. Looking at the price development throughout 2014, the prices are relatively high for white and red quinoa and average for black quinoa.

Please note: The prices indicated with red in the graph below are assumed prices since a weekly record keeping is non-existent. The prices are assumed by deriving the average of the known price the week before and after the blank.





Price Record

Date	Colour	in Bolivianos per quintal (46kg)	in US\$ per kg	Oanda Currency Converter
5-jan-14	white	1,950	6.24	6.7888
	red	1,050	3.36	
	black	1,350	4.32	
12-jan-14	white	1,800	5.82	6.7258
	red	1,050	3.39	
	black	1,350	4.36	
19-jan-14	white	1,950	6.24	6.7906
	red	1,300	4.16	
	black	1,350	4.32	
26-jan-14	white	2,030	6.50	6.7852
	red	1,200	3.84	
	black	1,350	4.33	
2-feb-14	white	2,050	6.56	6.7931
	red	1,100	3.52	
	black	1,350	4.32	
9-feb-14	white	1,800	5.81	6.73
	red	1,000	3.23	
	black	1,000	3.23	
16-feb-14	white	1,500	4.82	6.7718
	red	1,050	3.37	
	black	1,000	3.21	



23-feb-14	white	1,500	4.83	6.7489
	red	1,050	3.38	
	black	1,000	3.22	

2-march-14	white	1,500	4.82	6.7614
	red	1,050	3.38	
	black	1,000	3.22	

22-march-14	white	1,350	4.34	6.763
	red	1,100	3.54	
	black	1,000	3.21	

29-march-14	white	1,350	4.33	6.7705
	red	1,100	3.53	
	black	1,000	3.21	

5-apr-14	white	1,370	4.40	6.7746
	red	1,300	4.17	
	black	1,000	3.21	

12-apr-14	white	1,350	4.34	6.7615
	red	1,250	4.02	
	black	1,250	4.02	

19-apr-14	white	1,350	4.33	6.7833
	red	1,250	4.01	
	black	1,250	4.01	



3-may-2014	white	1,520	4.89	6.7559
	red	1,500	4.83	
	black	1,250	4.02	

10-may-2014	white	1,750	5.60	6.7935
	red	1,500	4.80	
	black	1,250	4.00	

17-may-2014	white	1,800	5.80	6.7477
	red	1,500	4.83	
	black	1,250	4.03	

24-may-2014	white	1,600	5.14	6.7678
	red	1,500	4.82	
	black	1,250	4.02	

31-may-2014	white	1,650	5.30	6.764
	red	1,500	4.82	
	black	1,250	4.02	

7-june-2014	white	1,750	5.64	6.7487
	red	1,600	5.15	
	black	1,000	3.22	

14-june-2014	white	1,750	5.63	6.7549
	red	1,600	5.15	
	black	1,000	3.22	

21-june-14	white	1,750	5.62	6.7673
	red	1,600	5.14	
	black	1,000	3.21	



The Meaning of the Challapata Price

The price figures below give an insight into the market price for Bolivian quinoa as it is determined weekly on the Challapata market in the Bolivian Southern Altiplano. Challapata is the main national open market for quinoa, named “Quinoa Wallstreet” for the consequences its price setting dynamics have on international trade. Every week, producers and traders from all over the country come to the small town to buy and sell quinoa. The price for which the grain is traded is decided weekly and can raise or drop within the day. The Challapata price is determined by supply and demand. It is so important since it is the benchmark for most exporting companies and associations. The price politics of most companies take the Challapata price as a basis and then adds 50, 60 or 100 Bolivianos extra.

At Mercadero, we update the Challapata price every fortnight and explain why the price moves in a certain direction. The price refers to white quinoa, which can be both organic and non-organic but should mainly be sold as non-organic due to the spot market character of the Challapata market (hence, back-tracing is not easily done).



Picture: Women trading in Challapata, March 2013; A. Gabriel

