

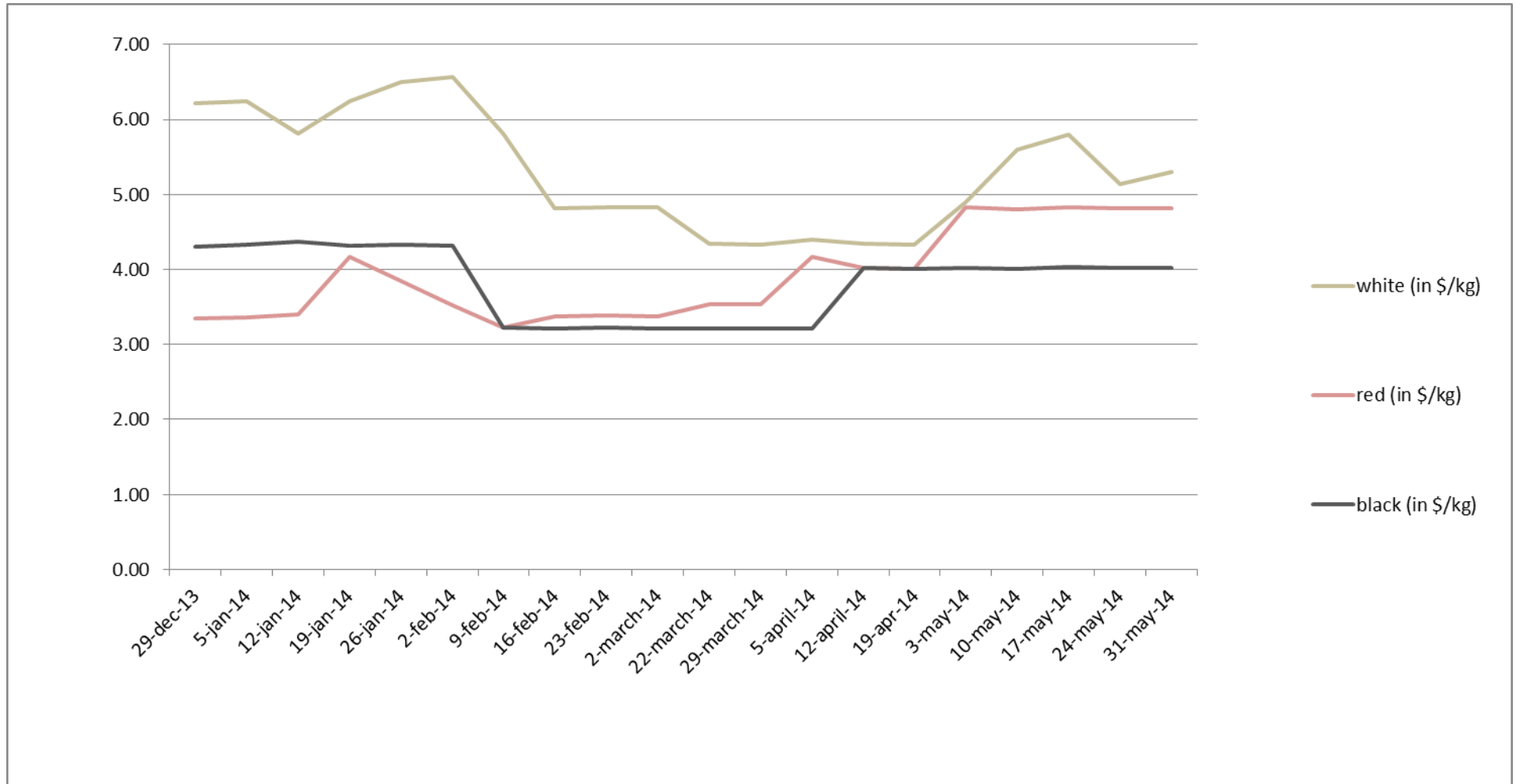
## **Challapata Market Update, 31.5.2014**

### **Price Development**

After the unexpected drop in the quinoa price last week (24.5.2014), the price has "recovered" again. Farmers were paid 1,650 Bolivianos for their quintals which translates into \$5.30/kg. That is not the peak price of \$5,80, which was reached on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May. The price for red quinoa stays stable at \$4,82 as well as black quinoa which costs \$4,02.

During a market day in Challapata, prices vary and can be higher or lower than the price we mention here. The prices in the table below are average prices, composed by the numbers mentioned by farmers and/or middlemen within one day.





## Price Record

Date	Colour	in Bolivianos/quintal (46kg)	in \$/kg	Oanda converter
<b>29-dec-13</b>	white	1,950	6.21	6.824
	red	1,050	3.34	
	black	1,350	4.30	
<b>5-jan-14</b>	white	1,950	6.24	6.7888
	red	1,050	3.36	
	black	1,350	4.32	
<b>12-jan-14</b>	white	1,800	5.82	6.7258
	red	1,050	3.39	
	black	1,350	4.36	
<b>19-jan-14</b>	white	1,950	6.24	6.7906
	red	1,300	4.16	
	black	1,350	4.32	
<b>26-jan-14</b>	white	2,030	6.50	6.7852
	red	1,200	3.84	
	black	1,350	4.33	
<b>2-feb-14</b>	white	2,050	6.56	6.7931
	red	1,100	3.52	
	black	1,350	4.32	
<b>9-feb-14</b>	white	1,800	5.81	6.73
	red	1,000	3.23	
	black	1,000	3.23	



<b>16-feb-14</b>	white	1,500	4.82	6.7718
	red	1,050	3.37	
	black	1,000	3.21	
<b>23-feb-14</b>	white	1,500	4.83	6.7489
	red	1,050	3.38	
	black	1,000	3.22	
<b>2-march-14</b>	white	1,500	4.82	6.7614
	red	1,050	3.38	
	black	1,000	3.22	
<b>22-march-14</b>	white	1,350	4.34	6.763
	red	1,100	3.54	
	black	1,000	3.21	
<b>29-march-14</b>	white	1,350	4.33	6.7705
	red	1,100	3.53	
	black	1,000	3.21	
<b>5-apr-14</b>	white	1,370	4.40	6.7746
	red	1,300	4.17	
	black	1,000	3.21	
<b>12-apr-14</b>	white	1,350	4.34	6.7615
	red	1,250	4.02	
	black	1,250	4.02	
<b>19-apr-14</b>	white	1,350	4.33	6.7833
	red	1,250	4.01	
	black	1,250	4.01	



<b>3-may-2014</b>	white	1,520	4.89	6.7559
	red	1,500	4.83	
	black	1,250	4.02	
<b>10-may-2014</b>	white	1,750	5.60	6.7935
	red	1,500	4.80	
	black	1,250	4.00	
<b>17-may-2014</b>	white	1,800	5.80	6.7477
	red	1,500	4.83	
	black	1,250	4.03	
<b>24-may-2014</b>	white	1,600	5.14	6.7678
	red	1,500	4.82	
	black	1,250	4.02	
<b>31-may-2014</b>	white	1,650	5.30	6.764
	red	1,500	4.82	
	black	1,250	4.02	

### **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).





**Quinoa farmers and their produce in Challapata,  
Picture: Annika Gabriel, March 2013.**

