

THE AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS RELEASE FIRST QUARTER 2026

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Introduction

Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) is responsible to collect, compile and disseminate data from different Institutions operating under the territory of Zanzibar. This quarterly agricultural statistics release is the first publication for the year 2026 which start from January to March statistics on agriculture production, forestry products and quantity of construction mining. This report aims to give an overview of the performance of agricultural sector for the first quarter for the year 2026 in Zanzibar and its comparison to its corresponding quarter of 2025. This release presents data on the production of key cash crops, mining and quarrying activities, seaweed harvesting, forest products, the number of inspected and slaughtered livestock, and fish catches.

Fish Catches

In the first quarter of 2026, a total of 18,946.1 tons of fish were caught, with a total value of TZS 146,981.2 million. This represents a 6.7 percent increase compared to the same period in 2025, when 17,764.4 tons were caught, valued at TZS 137,223.9 million.

At district level, Kaskazini A district reported the highest catch, accounting for 13.2 percent of the total (2,505.9 tons) with a value of TZS 19,461.4 million. This was followed by Mkoani, which recorded 2,363.5 tons (12.5 percent), valued at TZS 17,303.4 million and Mjini which recorded 2,353.2 tons (12.4 percent), valued at TZS 21,304.89 million. The lowest fish catch for this quarter was in Chakechake districts, where only 1,128.4 tons (6.0 percent) were caught, valued at TZS 8,385.85 million.

Table 1: Estimated Fish Catches Quantity (tons) and Value (TZS) by District, First Quarter 2022 and 2026

(Value TZS ‘Millions)												
Year	District	Kaskazini "A"	Kaskazini "B"	Kati	Kusini	Mjini	Magharibi A&B	Micheweni	Wete	Chakechake	Mkoani	Total
2026	Quantity	2,505.9	1,949.4	1,444.2	1,633.3	2,353.2	2,059.9	1,707.2	1,801.1	1,128.4	2,363.5	18,946.1
	Value	19,461.4	15,065.0	10,232.5	12,330.9	21,304.9	17,716.0	12,231.7	12,949.6	8,385.9	17,303.4	146,981.2
2025	Quantity	1,830.9	1,480.2	1,423.9	1,719.3	2,541.4	2,294.4	1,607.6	1,400.2	1,246.7	2,219.9	17,764.4
	Value	13,739.9	10,964.2	10,588.2	12,852.7	21,880.2	19,007.0	11,933.2	10,326.5	9,591.8	16,340.1	137,223.9
2024	Quantity	2,187.7	1,489.5	1,493.9	1,817.4	2,839.5	2,384.9	1,731.2	1,472.4	1,241.9	2,194.7	18,853.1
	Value	16,726.6	11,081.1	11,211.4	13,947.3	24,775.6	20,281.5	13,024.7	10,830.5	9,659.9	16,251.2	147,789.8
2023	Quantity	1,896.7	1,404.3	1,448.1	1,719.0	2,720.1	2,190.7	1,508.8	1,318.2	1,190.9	2,157.3	17,554.1
	Value	14,040.8	10,328.0	9,458.2	9,074.9	22,891.0	14,305.6	9,892.8	8,501.7	7,724.6	14,170.1	120,387.5
2022	Quantity	1,563.5	1,376.2	1,551.8	1,891.1	2,630.8	2,125.2	1,657.0	812.7	939.0	2,160.6	16,707.8
	Value	8,046.7	7,083.1	7,986.5	9,733.2	13,539.7	10,937.8	8,528.1	4,182.8	4,832.9	11,119.8	85,990.5
Percentage change 2025/26		36.9	31.7	1.4	-5	-7.4	-10.2	6.2	28.6	-9.5	6.5	6.7

Cash Crops

Cash crops are the agricultural crops which are grown for sale to return a cash profit, they are solely cultivated for the market, it can be local or international. In Zanzibar the main cash crops are seaweed and clove.

Seaweed Production

The total seaweed production for the first quarter 2026 was 2,821 tons with total value of TZS 2,252,467 million, this is equivalent to increase of 3.2 percent compared to the quantity produced in the first quarter of 2025 (2,735 tons). There are no Ulva seaweeds recorded production in this quarter. The price for the E. spinosum and E. cottonii in this quarter was TZS 804 and 200 per kilograms respectively.

Total seaweed production in the first quarter of 2026 reached 2,821 tons, with a total value of TZS 2,252.5 million. This represents an increase of 3.2 percent compared with the 2,735 tons produced during the corresponding quarter of 2025.

The increase in overall seaweed production indicates continued growth in the sector despite the absence of Ulva seaweed production during the reporting period. **Table 2**

Table 2: Quantity and Value of Seaweed Production, First Quarter 2022 and 2026

(Value TZS 000')

Type of Seaweeds	Q1 2026		Q1 2025		Q1 2024		Q1 2023		Q1 2022		Percentage change
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	
E. Spinosum	2,795	2,247	2,735	1,914	2,371	1,501	3,673	3,673,412	2,630	1,578,000	2.2
E. Cottonii	26	5,267	-	-	13.8	25	18.857	39,600	978	1,564,800	NA
Ulva	-	-	-	-	305	244	0	0	0	0	-
Total	2,821	2,252	2,735	1,914,009	2,690	1,769	3,692	3,713,012	3,608	3,142,800	3.2

NA- Not Applicable

- Data not Available

Clove

Overall, clove purchases in the first quarter of 2026 increased by more than 100 percent compared with the corresponding quarter of 2025. During the quarter, a total of 390.2 tons of cloves, valued at TZS 58,208.6 million, were purchased.

The majority of the purchases were recorded in January, amounting to 293.1 tons valued at TZS 43,769.8 million. This was followed by February, during which 65.6 tons worth TZS 9,768.6 million were purchased. March recorded the lowest purchase volume, with 31.5 tons valued at TZS 4,670.2 million. The substantial increase in clove purchases during the first quarter of 2026 reflects stronger market activity compared with the same period in the previous year (Table 3 and Figure 1.1).

Table 3: Clove Purchase – First Quarters 2022- 2026 (Value TZS100,000)

Month	2026		2025		2024		2023		2022	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
January	293.1	43,769.8	2.1	307.6	654.2	9,628.50	59.3	818.6	608.1	8205
February	65.6	9,768.6	0.3	41.2	77.5	1,133.80	17.4	239.9	211.4	2845.6
March	31.5	4,670.2	0.6	82.7	12	177.7	10.1	137.9	43.5	579.3
Total	390.2	58,208.6	3.0	431.5	743.7	10,940.0	86.8	1,196.40	863	11,629.9

Inspected and Slaughtered Animals

The number of animals inspected and slaughtered during the first quarter of 2026 declined compared with the corresponding quarter of 2025. The number of cattle inspected and slaughtered decreased by 59.7 percent, while goats inspected and slaughtered declined by 4.8 percent compared with the first quarter of 2025.

In contrast, the number of chickens inspected and slaughtered increased from 516,938 in the first quarter of 2025 to 575,399 in the first quarter of 2026, representing an increase of 11.3 percent. Similarly, the number of ducks inspected and slaughtered doubled during the period, increasing by 100 percent from 1,758 ducks in the first quarter of 2025 to 3,520 ducks in the corresponding quarter of 2026. (Table 4.)

Table 4: Number of Inspected and Slaughtered Animals, First Quarter 2022 to 2026

Livestock Type	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	Percentage change
Cattle	6,522	16,164	5,915	7,115	5,043	(59.7)
Goat	4,331	4,549	971	2,661	1,483	(4.8)
Chicken	575,399	516,938	277,605	244,467	214,339	11.3
Duck	3,520	1,758	699	701	733	100.2

Fruits and Vegetable Production

The area planted with various fruits and vegetables in the first quarter of 2026 increased by 64.4 percent compared with the corresponding period in 2025, rising from 4,526.6 acres to 7,442.8 acres. This growth was reflected across all fruits and vegetables presented in Table 5.

Data show that watermelon recorded the largest expansion in planted area, increasing from 431.8 acres in the first quarter of 2025 to 1,436.5 acres in the first quarter of 2026, representing a growth of more than 100 percent. This was followed by bitter aubergine, which increased by 96.1 percent. Sweet pepper also recorded substantial growth, with the planted area rising from 394.8 acres to 733.8 acres, an increase of 85.8 percent.

Table 5 presents detailed information on the area planted with fruits and vegetables during the first quarter of 2025 and 2026

Table 5: Area Planted (Acre) with Fruits and Vegetable, Estimated Production and Percentage Change - First Quarter, 202-2026**Acre**

Vegetable	2026		2025		2024		2023		2022		Percentage Change (Acre)
	Planted Area	Production (tons)	Planted Area	Production (tons)	Planted Area	Production (tons)	Planted Area	Production (tons)	Planted Area	Production (tons)	
Tomatoes	1,050.8	3,152.3	723.1	2,169.3	687.3	2,061.8	594.5	1,783.40	498.9	1,496.80	45.3
Bitter aubergine	745.7	1,372.0	380.3	699.7	450.9	829.6	246.6	453.8	149.8	275.5	96.1
Egg Plant	947.0	2,083.4	694.8	1,528.5	647	1,423.40	376.8	828.9	163.3	359.2	36.3
Okra	932.0	1,714.9	677.7	1,247.0	666.3	1,225.90	357.3	657.3	184.8	339.9	37.5
Amaranths	774.4	1,424.8	604.3	1,111.8	720.7	1,326.10	475.3	874.5	286.3	526.7	28.1
Cucumber	822.8	1,645.5	619.7	1,239.4	495.2	990.4	199	398.0	154.8	309.5	32.8
Watermelon	1,436.5	17,238.0	431.8	5,181.1	323.8	3,885.0	314	3,768.0	169	2,028.0	232.7
Sweet pepper	733.8	1,350.2	395	726.9	395.4	727.4	127.8	235.1	93.5	172	85.8
Total	7,442.8		4,526.6		4,386.4		2,691.1		1,700.2		64.4

Forest Resource, Mining and Quarry

The forest wood resources, mining and quarry play an important role in the daily livelihood of the people of Zanzibar. The Zanzibar wood resources are main sources of building materials and fuel for cooking. Data presented in this release are collected from licensed timber cutting from Government Forest plantations and public wood land. Whilst, data on mining and quarry such as sand, stones, gravels are collected with reference from issued permits from respective institution.

The production of mining materials used in the construction, particularly stone and stone bricks, increased during the first quarter of 2026 compared with the same period in the previous year. This growth was driven by rising demand, the production of stone increasing by more than 100 percent to 153,938 tons, valued at TZS 1,001 million, while stone bricks increased by 94.0 percent to 34,270 tons, valued at TZS 21 million.

In contrast, the production of sand and gravel declined compared with the first quarter of the previous year. Sand production decreased by 54.6 percent to 320,309 tons, valued at TZS 2,102 million, while gravel production fell by 15.9 percent to 46,338 tons, valued at TZS 301 million (Table 6).

Table 6: Quantity and Value of Mining Products, First Quarter 2022 and 2026

Year	Unit	Value Million TZS)				
		Stone	Sand	Gravels	Rubbles	Stone Bricks
2026	Quantity (Ton)	153,938	320,309	46,338	11,811	3,247
	Value	1,001	2,102	301	77	21
2025	Quantity (Ton)	60,956	705,174	55,125	414,326	1,674
	Value	396.2	4,596.80	358.3	2,693.10	10.9
2024	Quantity (Ton)	46,374	297,023	32,915	87,943	2,395
	Value	301.4	1,941.10	213.9	571.6	15.6
2023	Quantity (Ton)	41,156	282,527	22,378	86,849	3,483
	Value	268	1,847	145.5	564.5	22.6
2022	Quantity (Ton)	41,316	283,742	19,615	59,720	4,401
	Value	268.6	2,014.40	127.5	388.2	28.6
Percentage quantity change		152.5	-54.6	-15.9	-97.1	94.0

Forest Resources

Data for the first quarter of 2026 indicate an increase in the production of all forestry products compared with the corresponding quarter of 2025. Charcoal recorded the highest growth, increasing by more than 100 percent and reaching a value of TZS 489,484.4 million. This was followed by firewood, which increased by 93.3 percent, and building poles, which rose by 66.0 percent.

Meanwhile, beam production registered a modest increase of 3.4 percent, rising from 524.2 tons valued at TZS 58,894.6 million in the first quarter of 2025 to 542.1 tons valued at TZS 60,904.9 million in the corresponding quarter of 2026 (**Table 7**).

Table 7: Quantity and Value of Forest Products, First Quarter 2022 and 2026

(Value TZS ‘000’)

Description	2026		2025		2024		2023		2022	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Beam (m ³)	542.1	60,904.9	524.2	58,894.6	636.4	71,503.1	559.1	62,819.1	460.2	51,707.9
Building Poles (m ³)	644.7	21,488.5	388.3	12,942.3	620.6	20,686.6	508.8	16,960.0	734.6	24,485.7
Medium Poles (m ³)	630.2	50,412.0	415	33,197.6	618.1	49,448.0	618.4	49,472.0	728.5	58,280.0
Firewood (m ³)	5095.1	356,654.2	2,636.10	84,528.3	5,122.5	358,576.1	6,738.1	471,668.4	6,962.90	47,403.0
Withes (m ³)	326.7	177,999.2	221.8	20,845.5	335.7	182,886.3	331.3	180,494.6	439.8	239,600.0
Charcoal (Tons)	633.4	489584.4	262.5	202,888.9	25.5	19,697.2	571.5	441,795.6	447.6	346,007.2

Vision

To become a “center of Excellence” for statistical production and for promoting a culture of evidence-based policy and decision- making in Zanzibar.

Mission

To coordinating production of official statistics, provide high quality statistical data and information, and promote their use in planning, decision-making, administration, governance, monitoring and evaluation.

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