The Livestock marketed index, which is regarded as a proxy for the performance of the agriculture sector (ceteris paribus) stood at 50 points in April; representing a decline of 62.0 per cent when compared to 132.0 point recorded in the same month of 2013.

Month-on-month, livestock marketed declined by 24.0 per cent; representing a decrease of 16.0 points when compared to the 66.0 points posted during March 2014.

(Chart 2) The index of both cattle and Small stock exported on hoof to Angola and South Africa stood at 199.0 and 78.0 points, respectively; representing an increase of 86 points and 16 points on a month to month basis. On a yearly basis, these sub-sectors recorded a decline of 65.0 per cent, and an increase of 34.0 per cent, respectively.

The composite livestock marketing index consists of four components: cattle and small stock sold to export abattoirs and butchers, cattle and Small Stock exported on-the-hoof and pigs.