A Standard and Economic Study of the Impact of Several Variables on the Fluctuation of White Meat Prices Globally for the Period (2004-2024)

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ABSTRACT

The research aims to analyse the factors affecting the prices of white meat in the global market during the period (2004-2024) by building a standard model based on the self-regression distributed lag (ARDL) model. The results indicate a long-term equilibrium relationship among white meat prices, global production, imports, per capita meat consumption, and population. Global production had the largest impact on prices, with a reverse effect in the short and long term, reflecting the crucial role of global supply in determining prices. On the other hand, imports have been shown to raise prices in the short term, while their impact becomes immaterial in the long term; per capita consumption has not shown a significant impact in either term. As for the population, it had a clear positive relationship with prices, indicating the impact of population growth on increasing global demand for white meat. Diagnostic tests have also shown the suitability of the model and that it is free from self-correlation problems and heterogeneity of variation, as well as the stability of coefficients despite some limited structural changes. Accordingly, the model provides reliable estimates that can be relied upon to explain price behaviour and make decisions about future food production and policies. The study recommended strengthening market monitoring by periodically tracking the movements of import prices and quantities, with the aim of intervening quickly when supply imbalances arise.

Keywords: Import; production; consumption;

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world population; white meat; price fluctuations.

INTROUCTION

White meat is one of the most important protein commodities after red meat. Due to the increase in the world population, which leads to high consumption of food commodities, including white meat, there are several variables that affect the prices of white meat, as the high price of producers tends to increase production toobtain profits. However, when prices are low, the producer tends to reduce production of white meat, and prices are affected by increased consumption, which increases when consumption increases and decreases when consumption decreases. The two primary goals of agricultural price policy are to receive maximum possible revenue in available resource, production and consumption are the primary determinants of price. The agricultural economic policy most significant is agricultural price policy and the global consumption of white meat is growing at a comparatively low rate, owing to the increasing demand of the product owing to the increasing population, its reliance as a fundamental commodity and the variety of the forms it can be consumed. The role of the import in determining the prices of the white meat is significant because when the import is high the supply is also high causing low prices and low volatility in the prices, and when the imports are low the supply is also low leading to high prices.

IMPRTANCE OF RESEARCH

White meat is one of the elements rich in protein and is included in many aspects of the food industry. It has economic importance, as it provides great financial resources to exporting countries. These products are major commodities in international trade, and their importance and price fluctuations in international trade have significant effects on the trade balance and national income of importing countries. Therefore, the influences on the change in the prices of white meat must be studied.

RESEARCH PROBLEM

The lack of food and population inflation is one of the most important problems in the world, as the global population explosion leads to an increasing trend in the demand for food and the lack of white meat production, which is one of the most important products T White meat and the lack of production with the rise of members of the population and a high increase in consumption threatens many countries from the lack of food affects the increase in white meat prices in global markets, hence the main problems arise: in the changes in white meat prices globally for the period (2004-2024).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The research aims to study the independent variables that affect the volatility of white meat prices during the period (2004-2024) and provide recommendations to improve white meat prices.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research is based on a standard analysis using the ARDL model to estimate the relationship between independent variables and white meat prices during the period (2004-2024), and the Eviews 12 software was used to extract the results and verify the co-integration, the stability of the chains, and the suitability of the model.

First: Agricultural price policy.

Prices are one of the most important factors affecting consumption, production and import and vice versa in the consumer and productive market economy. Some agricultural products are characterised by

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high price volatility due to the lack of price elasticity of demand and supply (4).

Second - Principles of Price Policy (10).

1- Using price policy as a tool to make quantitative indicators into monetary indicators, that is, coordination between the quantitative side and the financial side in full and based on the foundations. Hence, prices lead to the achievement of general consumption and productivity goals.

2- The price policy works by changing the prices of goods and services from their cost, although prices are inherently correlated.

3- Price stability is one of the basic principles and is a reflection of the economic balance to increase the standard of living of citizens.

Third: Objectives of the Agricultural Price Policy

1-Encourages the growth of agricultural production in line with the expected increase in demand without the need to provide many subsidies for production(4).

2- Determining the prices of products for consumers so that they do not exceed a previously known limit in real terms in any year(9).

3- Achieving convergent prices between the prices of products for producers for each product separately, and between variable supply and demand, including changes in world market prices, within a specific range of price stability (9).

4-Providing incentives that lead to increased production, as this goal is linked to other goals such as reducing imports of agricultural food commodities (2).

Fourth: Fluctuations in the prices of agricultural crops, their causes and types

1- Long-term fluctuations. These fluctuations occur due to a change in the population, a change in the technology of agricultural production factors, as well as a change in the real income of individuals, and these factors are slow in nature, and the difference in habits and purchasing power are among the factors affecting long-term fluctuations (1).

2- Some agricultural crop prices are subject to regular fluctuation that usually occurs due to the lack of parity between agricultural production and the prevailing production price in the market (5).

Fifth: Factors affecting the prices of agricultural products (12).

1-The supply conditions of raw materials affect the prices of food products as well as the production decisions of farms, such as weather, diseases, area of land harvested, and imports of food, and low productivity of agricultural crop products will lead to a reduction in the quantities offered in the target markets, resulting in higher prices later and vice versa(3).

2- Demand conditions Demand conditions, including income, general prices, consumer tastes, pollution and exports, affect the prices of food commodities and crops, especially if demand for the supply of agricultural commodities rises.(12)

3-The impact of the food marketing sector on the prices of food products through the range of food activities through the range of marketing and service activities, which add some costs and benefits to the food variety of the crop, leading to an increase in its price, especially in the absence of alternatives provided to the target consumer(12).

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4-The government's decisions can affect agricultural prices by following the policy of price support, regulating the quantities offered of the commodity, or following the policy of restricted trade by imposing some additional fees. There are also many factors affecting the prices of agricultural crops, the most important of which are the purchasing capacities available to buyers, the quantities offered of the variety, in addition to the distribution system followed and the length or shortness of the distribution channels used(9).

Sixth: The Impact of Imports on Prices

The balance between local production and imports can only be achieved through a price policy that makes imports an integral part of local production by making the prices of imported goods higher than the prices of local production. At a time when the Importing countries(China, Japan, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, South Africa, South Korea, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France) seeks to provide sufficient quantities of consumer and production goods to cover the local need, whether through local production or importation, the price of the importer must increase from the price of the local product, in addition to the foreign currencies it provides by reducing imported consumer goods through the price balance between import and local production and can be used in the activity of investments and for the purposes of increasing productivity (3).

The reality of white meat prices (2004-2024)

Table (1) shows the general average prices of white meat in the world during the period (2004-20 24), reaching (1930.052) dollar, and the prices of white meat ranged from an upper limit of (1940.916) dollar in (2006) due to the high cost of corn and soybean feed (which are widely used in poultry feed), which increased the cost of poultry production. Because fodder constitutes the largest part of the cost of production, and a minimum of (98.2609472) dollar in (2018) There are several reasons, including a significant increase in global production of white meat by the United States, Brazil, the European Union, China in 2017–2018, which led to an increase in supply more than required, which led to a decline in white meat prices globally, a decline in fodder prices in 2017–2018, weak demand for white meat with an abundance of production that leads to a decline in prices and strong competition among major global exporters. Figure 1 shows the general trend of white meat prices in the world.

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Table (1) White meat prices in the world for the period (2004-2024)

dispute	White meat prices (ton *$)
2004	**For 896.**
2005	**814.**
2006	**916**
2007	**717.**
2008	**1937.**
2009	**991.**
2010	**1936.**
2011	**837**
2012	**.036**
2013	**1932.**
2014	**.771**
2015	**1915.**
2016	**989**
2017	**717.**
2018	**629!**
2019	**1924.**
2020	**1921.**
2021	**1924.**
2022	**1923.**
2023	**1922.**
2024	**For 896.**
General average	**.052**
M.HIGH	**916**
M.LOW	**629!**

Source: FAO www.faostat.org

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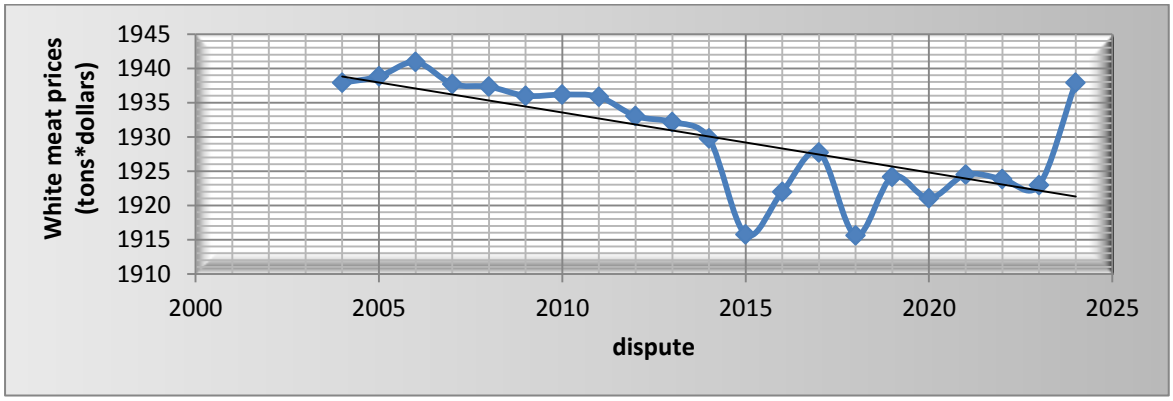

Figure (1) The general trend of white meat prices in the world for the period(2004-202 4).
Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the data in Table 1.

Description of the standard model I used for the global prices of white meat in the world for the period (2004-2024):

The linear function was adopted because it gave the best results, and the general formula for it is as follows:

Y = f(X1, X2, X3, X4)

Y = world white meat prices (ton *$)

X1 = Global White Meat Production Quantity (Ton)

X2 = Quantity of imports of white meat (tons)

X3 = white meat consumption per capita (kg/capita/year)

X4 = Population (thousand people)

First: Testing the root of the unit for the stability of time series of variables using the Phillips-Perron (PP) method.

The unit root test is to check the characteristics of time series of each of the variables of the functions in question to check the stability of the economic time series and to find out the integration rank of each of the variables. Unit root is a statistic, which shows that the time series is not stable and the shocks to this time series have a permanent effect (6). Therefore the series does not revert back to some fixed average. Table (2) Phillips Perron (pp) shows the variables under study, as the results using the (pp) test indicate the stability of the time series of the variables (X4) at the level, at the level of probability (5%), as for the variables (X3, X2,X1, Y) of the function under study has stabilized at the first difference I(1), at the level of probability(1%) and(5%), and we observe based on the above that the variables differ in the extent of stability and that we must abandon remembering that the normal least squares model (OLS) can not be used when the variables under analysis are dissimilar in the rank of stability and also because the Autoregressive Model of Distributed Slowdown (ARDL) model is assumed to have the variables of equal rank of integration (that is, they are all stable at the same level) and to avoid the blurry results that will be produced under the OLS method, etc.

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Table (2) Unit root testing for the stability of time series of variables using the Phillips-Pyron (PP) method.

UNIT ROOT TEST RESULTS TABLE (PP)						
At Level		Y	X1	X2	X3	X4
With Constant	t-Statistic	-1.8529	-1.5995	-2.5725	-0.5764	-0.7324
	Prob.	0.3528	0.4783	0.0831	0.8693	0.8321
		n0	n0	*	n0	n0
With Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	-1.7044	-3.3230	-1.9542	-3.2098	-6.4303
	Prob.	0.7407	0.0697	0.6171	0.0896	0.0000
		n0	*	n0	*	***
Without Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	-0.0071	5.0184	2.8742	1.0546	11.8619
	Prob.	0.6775	1.0000	0.9989	0.9227	1.0000
		n0	n0	n0	n0	n0
At First Difference		d(Y)	d(X1)	d(X2)	d(X3)	d(X4)
With Constant	t-Statistic	-8.9443	-12.7064	-10.1690	-9.0792	-23.340
	Prob.	0.0000	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0001
		***	***	***	***	***
With Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	-8.9999	-14.5832	-11.1447	-9.0747	-25.273
	Prob.	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0001
		***	***	***	***	***
Without Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	-9.0000	-9.0000	-9.0000	-9.0000	-9.0000
	Prob.	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
		***	***	***	***	***
(*)Significant at the 10%; (**)Significant at the 5%; (***) Significant at the 1% and (no) Not Significant						

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the outputs of the program. (Eviews12)

Second: The standard and economic estimate of the impact of the study variables on the rate of white meat prices in the world for the period (2004-202 4).

The model of the impact of variables on the rate of white meat prices in the world is estimated through the model of error correction and self-regression of the distributed slowdown (ARDL) with the following steps:

1-Preliminary estimate of the ARDL model for the impact of the study variables on the average prices of white meat in the world for the period (2004-2024).

Once the time series of variables is stable; which we determine by applying stability tests on the dependent variable, we first estimate the ARDL model with the help of the statistical program, EViews 12. We observe with Table 3 that the corrected determination coefficient (Adjusted R2) =0.89, implying that the independent

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variables that are included into the estimated model are used to explain approximately 89% of the variation in the dependent variable. This means that the factors that were interpreted are the most influential in the function. In the case of (11%), they can be not accounted by the variables left out of the model and their random variable effect can be consumed. The (F)-test value is calculated as (85.039) and the probability level is calculated as (0.0000), which is not more than (0.05) and not even more than (0.01). This implies that the estimated model is important in totality and can be trusted in the future planning and forecasting process.

Table (3) The preliminary estimate of the ARDL model for the impact of the study variables on the prices of white meat in the world for the period (2004-202 4).

Dependent Variable: Y				
Method: ARDL				
Date: 11/16/25 Time: 19:17				
Sample (adjusted): 2004 2024				
Included observations: 83 after adjustments				
Maximum dependent lags: 1 (Automatic selection)				
Model selection method: Akaike info criterion (AIC)				
Dynamic regressors (1 lag, automatic): X1 X2 X3 X4				
Fixed regressors: C				
Number of models evalulated: 16				
Selected Model: ARDL(1, 1, 1, 0, 1)				
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.*
Y(-1)	0.725037	0.083951	8.636460	0.0000
X1	-2.53E-06	4.46E-07	-5.665216	0.0000
X1(-1)	1.45E-06	5.20E-07	2.811267	0.0063
X2	3.29E-06	1.36E-06	2.422542	0.0179
X2(-1)	-2.23E-06	1.39E-06	-1.607016	0.1123
X3	0.621319	0.573178	1.083900	0.2819
X4	7.51E-05	1.76E-05	4.269067	0.0001
X4(-1)	-4.22E-05	1.94E-05	-2.175469	0.0328
C	383.3284	129.3010	2.964620	0.0041
R-squared	0.901898	Mean dependent var		1929.958
Adjusted R-squared	0.891293	S.D. dependent var		7.815852
S.E. of regression	2.576949	Akaike info criterion		4.833181
Sum squared resid	491.4094	Schwarz criterion		5.095465
Log likelihood	-191.5770	Hannan-Quinn criter.		4.938552
F-statistic	161.3226	Durbin-Watson stat		1.778509
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the outputs of the program.(Eviews12)

2-Joint integration testing using boundary testing (bounds testing) for the impact of study variables on white meat prices for the period (2004-2024).

To ensure that there is a common integration, which refers to the long-term equilibrium relationship between the variables and prices of white meat,

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common integration will be tested using a boundary test on the white meat price model. Boundary testing is a statistical method within the framework of the self-regression model of distributed slowdown (11), and is used to verify the existence of a long-term equilibrium relationship. This test is based on the challenge of the existence or absence of common integration, and depends on the F-Statistic test, as we reject the null hypothesis (H0:b=0) that there is a common integration between the variables of the model against the alternative hypothesis (H1:b ²0) that there is a common integration between the variables, and it is clear from Table (4) that the calculated value of F) has reached (1.919), which is the largest tabular (F) at the two limits (minimum and maximum), and this means that we reject the nihilism hypothesis (H0:b=0) and accept the alternative hypothesis (H1:b ²0), that is, the existence of a long-term equilibrium relationship (co-integration) between the variables of the variable model of white meat prices.

Table (4) Co-integration test using boundary testing (bounds testing) for the effect of study variables on the variable of white meat prices for the period (2004-2024).

Null Hypothesis: No linear relationship		F-Bounds Test			
Test Statistic		Value	Signif.	I(0)	I(1)
F-statistic		1.919845		Asymptotic: n=1000	
k		4	10%	2.2	3.09
			5%	2.56	3.49
			2.5%	2.88	3.87
			1%	3.29	4.37

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the outputs of the program. (Eviews12)

3- Estimating and interpreting the short- and long-term relationship model according to the (ARDL) model for the impact of the study variables on the prices of white meat for the period (2004-202 4).

We note through Table (5) in the short term that the coefficient of the independent variable of the global production of white meat (1X) has reached (2.53-), and this means that there is an inverse relationship between the amount of global production of white meat and white meat prices, that is, increasing the amount of global production of white meat by (1%) will lead to a decrease in white meat prices by (2.53-%). This variable was significant at the level of probability (5%), and this makes economic sense, as the increase in the amount of global production of white meat is in Increase in supply, which leads to a decrease in price, but in the long term, the factor of the independent variable of the global production of white meat (1X) has reached (3.88-), and this means that there is an inverse relationship between the amount of global production of white meat and white meat prices, that is, an increase in the amount of global production of white meat by (1%) will lead to a decrease in white meat prices by (2.53-%). This variable was significant at the level of probability (5%), and this makes economic sense, as the increase in the amount of global production of white meat is increasing the supply, which lowers the price in the long run.

It was found that the parameter of the variable affected by the decrease in imports (X2) reached (3.29) In the short term, this means that there is a positive relationship between imports and the scientific price of white meat production, as increasing imports by (1%) leads to a

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rise in white meat prices by (3.29%) This is due to the lack of interest in the production of white meat from most developing countries and the increase in its importation of meat and its high prices, which affects prices in general for all countries, and this is in line with the economic logic and that this variable was significant at the level of probability (5%), but in the long term, although the relationship between imports and prices of white meat remains positive, but it is not significant at the level of (5%) due to the presence of other factors that affect prices in the long term, such as wars, security instability or international transport.

It turned out that the parameter of the independent variable, per capita consumption of white meat (3X), was immaterial in the long and short term because the size of the global market for white meat is very large.

The coefficient of the independent variable population number (4X) was found to be positive reaching (7.5) in the short term and this implies that there is a positive relationship between the population and prices of white meat, and this implies that when the increases in inflation is (1%), the prices of white meat increases by (7.5%), and this is an economical result, as its independent variable population number (4X) was found to be positive in the long term with a coefficient of (7.5).

Table (5) Estimating and interpreting the short- and long-term relationship model according to the (ARDL) model for the impact of the study variables on white meat in the world for the period (2004-202 4).

Conditional Error Correction Regression				
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	383.3284	129.3010	2.964620	0.0041
Y(-1)*	-0.274963	0.083951	-3.275283	0.0016
X1(-1)	-1.07E-06	3.99E07	-2.675399	0.0092
X2(-1)	1.06E-06	6.40E-07	1.655237	0.1021
X3**	0.621319	0.573178	1.083990	0.2819
X4(-1)	3.29E-05	1.33E-05	2.472490	0.0157
D(X1)	-2.53E-06	4.46E-07	-5.665216	0.0000
D(X2)	3.29E-06	1.36E06	2.422542	0.0179
D(X4)	7.51E-05	1.76E-05	4.269067	0.0001
Case 2: Restricted Constant and No Trend				
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
X1	-3.88E-06	9.44E-07	-4.113498	0.0001
X2	3.85E-06	2.04E-06	1.892855	0.0623
X3	2.259649	2.006772	1.126012	0.2638
X4	0.000120	3.52E-05	3.399648	0.0011
c	1394.111	160.1804	8.703381	0.0000
EC = Y - (-0.0000*X1 + 0.0000*X2 + 2.2596*X3 + 0.0001*X4+ 1394.1115)				

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the outputs of the program (Eviews12)

Table (6) shows that the error correction parameter had the value of (0.27 4-), and moral at the level of (1%), and therefore it fulfilled the necessary and sufficient condition, and this implies that imbalance

(imbalance in the short run) in the prices of white meat can be corrected towards the long-term equilibrium relationship, 3.64= 1/0.274 = ECM, which will take three and a half years to reach the equilibrium situation.

Table (6): The error correction parameter of the ARDL model for the effect of the study variables on the variables of white meat prices in the world for the period (2004-202 4).

ARDL Error Correction Regression				
Dependent Variable: D(Y)				
Selected Model: ARDL(1, 1, 1, 0, 1)				
Case 2: Restricted Constant and No Trend				
Date: 11/16/25 Time: 19:37				
Sample: 2004 2024				
Included observations: 83				
ECM Regression				
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
D(X1)	-2.53E-06	4.19E-07	-6.031002	0.0000
D(X2)	3.29E-06	1.25E-06	2.624667	0.0105
D(X4)	7.51E-05	1.62E-05	4.639054	0.0000
CointEq(-1)*	-0.274963	0.078409	-3.506763	0.0008
R-squared	0.358472	Mean dependent var		0.0000
Adjusted R-squared	0.334110	S.D. dependent var		3.056377
S.E. of regression	2.494067	Akaike info criterion		4.712700
Sum squared resid	491.4094	Schwarz criterion		4.829270
Log likelihood	-191.5770	Hannan-Quinn criter.		4.759531
Durbin-Watson stat	1.778509			

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the outputs of the program(Eviews12)

4- Diagnostic tests for the impact of the study variables on the prices of white meat in the world for the period (2004-2024).

Once the short-term and long-term relationship has been acquired regarding the effect of the variables on the white meat prices using the ARDL model, we will then test the study model to determine the efficiency of the model employed, using diagnostic tests, where Table (7) indicates that we have a test, (Breusch-Godfrey Serial Correlation LM) used to test whether we have the presence of self-correlation. The test is rooted in the estimation of an auxiliary model, to test the significance of limits, and, in which the F statistic is not significant, this observes the presence of no subjective correlation (13) that the model is not afflicted by the problem of subjective correlation, since the value of the (F) statistic was reached(.036)at a probability level of), which is a probability level greater than(5%), of which we can accept the null hypothesis that there is no problem of heterogeneity. Using the Ramsey reset test, it is evident that the (F) value of (5.64) at a probability level of (0.02), which is a

probability level greater than(5%), has been exceeded and thus the model is acceptable and as a result, the null hypothesis of the model not being the victim of the inappropriateness of the deltoid form can be accepted.

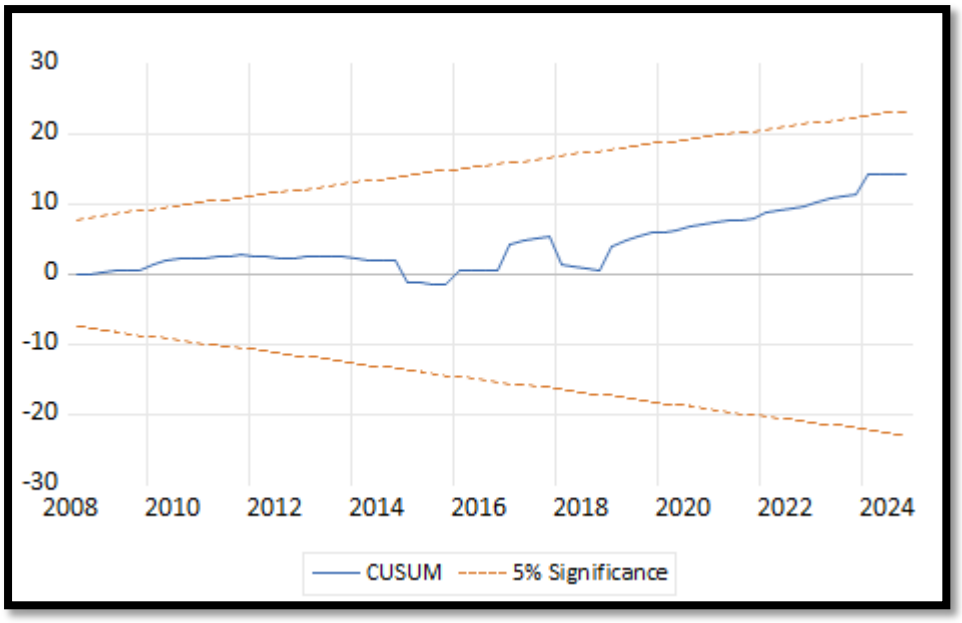
Table (7) Diagnostic tests of the impact of the study variables on world white meat prices for the period (2004-202 4).

Breusch-Godfrey Serial Correlation LM Test:					
F-statistic		1.832157	Prob. F(1, 73)		0.1800
Obs*R-squared		2.032135	Prob. Chi-Square(1)		0.1540
Heteroskedasticity Test: Breusch-Pagan-Godfrey					
F-statistic		0.036909	) Prob. F(1,80		0.8481
Obs*R-squared		0.037814	Prob. Chi-Square(1)		0.8458
Ramsey RESET Test , Equation: UNTITLED					
	Value	df		Probability	
t-statistic	2.375437	73			0.0202
F-statistic	5.642701	(1, 73)			0.0202

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the outputs of the program(Eviews12)

5- The CUSUM Squares test, CUSUM, was used as the stability test of the model estimated. The impact of the study variables to the white meat prices in (2004-202 4).

One of the most significant tests in this field is the structural stability test of the ARDL model estimated both in the short-term and long-term relationship, using the cum cum residual test, and the cum sum of squares, since they indicate two significant things, namely, that the data used in the study is free of any structural changes, and that the short-term parameters are consistent with the long-term parameters, which was clearly indicated in Figure(2) the cumulative total of the remaining, that the graph fell within the critical limits at the significant level (5%), and this indicates structural changes in the price.



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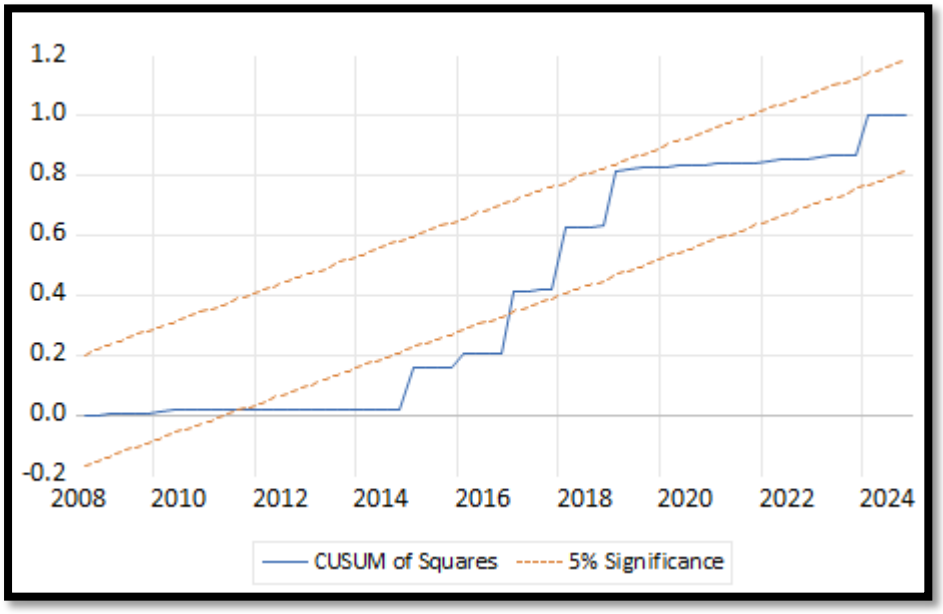

Figure (3) Estimated model stability test using CUSUM and CUSUM Squares test for the effect of study variables on white meat prices in the world for the period (2004-2024).

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the outputs of the program(Eviews12)

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CONCLUSIONS AND REC0MMENDATIONS

1.

The statistics indicate that the meat prices White are experiencing evident fluctuations due to the fluctuating supply and demand in the market. It indicates that there is usually oversupply of in periods of high imports, which is manifested in the short run through low prices.

2. Importation plays a major role in the attainment of price balance; the higher the level of imports, the higher the capability of the market to cover the gap between local production, which restricts the occurrences of the high levels of immense price rises.

3. The price movement is highly sensitive to such input costs as feed, energy, and transportation. These costs in turn rise directly to final costs to the consumers even when the quantity of production remains constant.

4. The government policies are important For countries (China, Japan, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, South Africa, South Korea, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France) in regulating the market either with feed subsidies or by controlling importation. Any change of these policies causes certain changes in the degree and stability of prices.

5. The statistics also show that domestic demand remains rather stable, still the season aspects (holidays, occasions) influence domestic demand, which grows temporarily due to the influence of seasonal factors before stabilizing.

6. The external influences including world price changes and international supply chains are pointed out and this may impose further strain on the local market and increase the price level despite the production availability.

7. Generally speaking, the price equilibrium seems to be correlated to three primary axes which are the amount of imports, the cost of production, and government policies. Any imbalance in any of these axes is directly indicated in the price fluctuations.

RECOMMENDATION

1.

Increase market surveillance by making regular follow-ups on the price trend and quantity of imports and in the process the intervention measures which would be taken on a short notice where any imbalance in the supply and demand would be experienced.

2. Expanding the sources of imports will minimize the risks associated with global changes and maintain the supply of meat at constant prices at all times of the year.

3. Promote production inputs in the country like feed and energy, to cut down high prices that are directly translated into meat prices.

4. Formulate elastic importation policies which will enable them to increase the amount of imports during times of high seasonal demand which will maintain market stability and protect the consumer.

5. Promoting the development of the poultry and white meat industry through the issuance of soft loans and production bonuses to expand the industry.

6. Enhance supply chain and cold storage facilities to minimize wastage and costs of transportation which can lead to low end prices.

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7. Enabling awareness campaigns among consumers regarding food substitutes and cheaper sources of protein, in order to decrease the strain on some forms of meat.

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