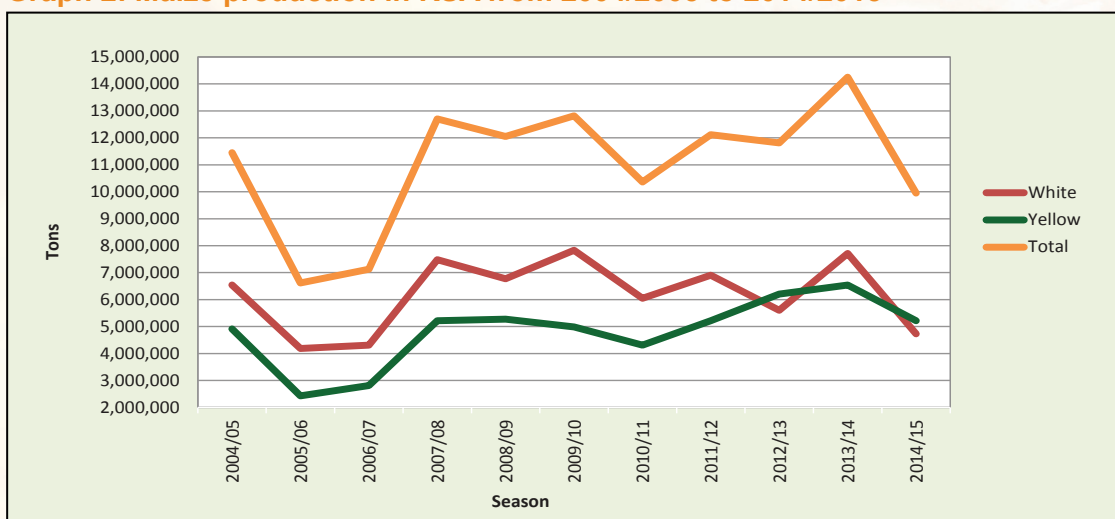


Production

The finalized crop figure for commercial maize for the 2014/2015 season as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC) is 9 955 000 tons. This is the lowest South African maize crop since the 2006/2007 season when 7 125 000 tons of maize were produced and a 30% reduction compared to the previous harvest. White maize's contribution to the total production was 4 735 000 tons (47.6%) and that of yellow maize 5 220 000 tons (52.4%).

The national Crop Estimates Committee's (CEC) estimated total production figures was revised, using as basis for the calculations, the South African Grain Information Services' (SAGIS) published figures of actual deliveries. Figures to determine on-farm usage and retentions from the maize utilization survey, which was conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) and the telephonic survey conducted by the National Crop Statistics Consortium (NCSC), were added to the SAGIS delivery figures to calculate the final crop production figures.

Graph 2: Maize production in RSA from 2004/2005 to 2014/2015



The total area utilized for maize production in the 2014/2015 season was 2 652 850 hectares, a decrease of only 1.3% compared to the previous season, which shows the impact of the drought conditions experienced over large parts of the maize production regions. White maize was planted on 1 448 050 hectares and yellow maize on 1 204 800 hectares (1 551 200 and 1 137 000 hectares respectively in the 2013/2014 season).

Graph 3: Total RSA area utilized for maize production from 2004/2005 to 2014/2015

