

Supply and Demand

World maize production for the 2014/2015 season is estimated at 1 015.6 million tons according to the *International Grains Council Grain Market Report GMR 464 – 1 April 2016*, the major maize producing countries being the USA, China and Brazil. The USA, Brazil, Ukraine and Argentina are the biggest exporters of maize. Maize usage figures are estimated at 112.1, 263.2 and 577.4 million tons respectively for food, industrial and feed purposes. World production for the 2015/2016 season is forecasted at 972.4 million tons.

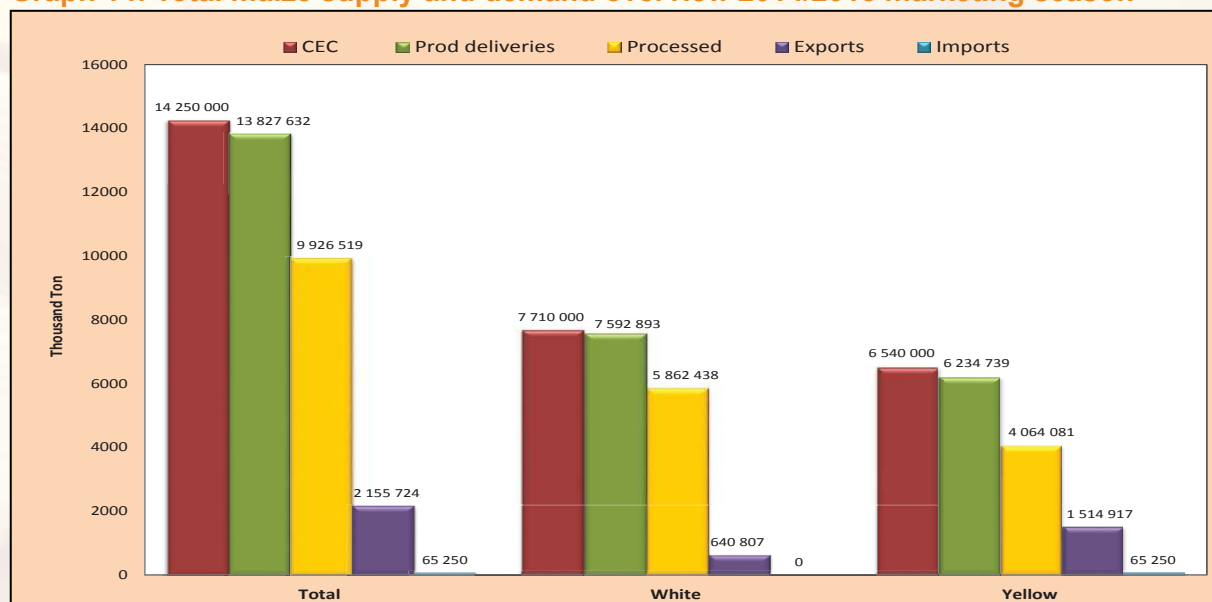
According to the *BFAP Agricultural Outlook 2015 – 2024*, the bulk of maize utilized in South Africa is for animal feed (38.4%) and food (36.1%) products. The remainder is exported and utilized for the production of starch and glucose. South Africa has been a net exporter of maize for several seasons and this position is expected to remain over the next ten years. Exports are however projected to decline from 2.23 million tons in the 2013/2014 season to 1.96 million tons in the 2023/2024 season, with growth in demand for especially yellow maize, slightly exceeding the growth in production.

Feed demand is expected to grow from 4.8 million tons currently, to just over 7 million tons in 2023/2024. Demand for maize-based food products is estimated to have limited growth, increasing by only 90 000 tons by 2023/2024. The smaller domestic crop will necessitate increased imports of maize during 2015 and 2016. The bulk of the imports will supply animal feed factories in especially the coastal regions.

Due to food security concerns, maize is currently excluded as a feed stock within the South African Biofuels Industrial Strategy (BIS) and it is therefore not possible to legitimately produce maize-based ethanol.

Please see local Supply and Demand figures provided by SAGIS in graphs and tables below and on pages 8 to 13.

Graph 14: Total maize supply and demand overview 2014/2015 marketing season



Information provided by SAGIS.