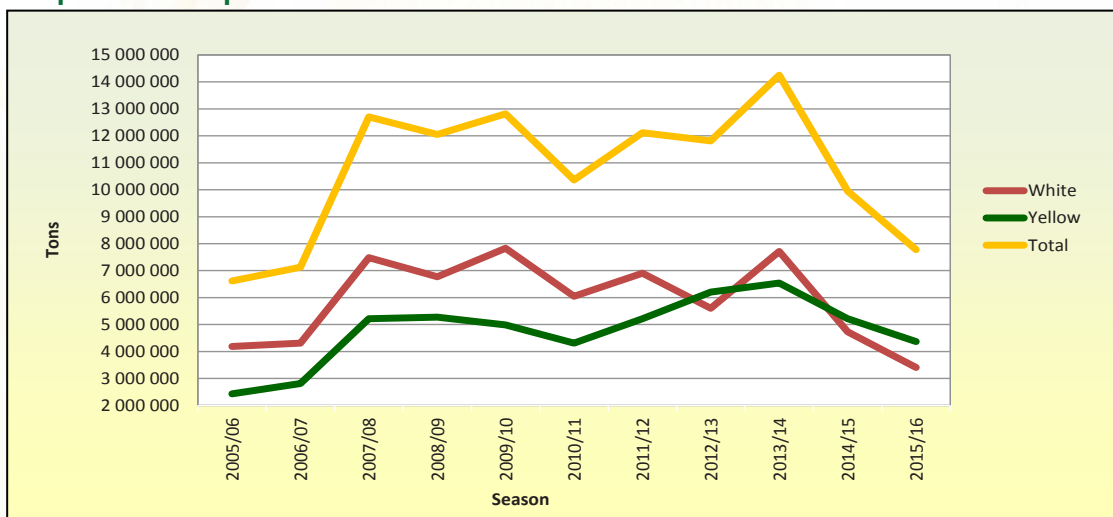


## Production

The finalized crop figure for commercial maize for the 2015/2016 season as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC) is 7 778 500 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 22% reduction compared to the previous harvest. White maize's contribution to the total production was 3 408 500 tons (43.8%) and that of yellow maize 4 370 000 tons (56.2%).

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 2005/2006 to 2015/2016**



The impact of the extreme drought conditions experienced over large parts of the maize production regions, is evident in the 26.6% decrease in total area utilized for maize production compared to the previous season.

The area decreased from 2 652 850 hectares to 1 946 750 hectares. White maize was planted on 1 014 750 hectares and yellow maize on 932 000 hectares (1 448 050 and 1 204 800 hectares respectively in the 2014/2015 season).

**Graph 3: Total RSA area utilized for maize production from 2005/2006 to 2015/2016**

