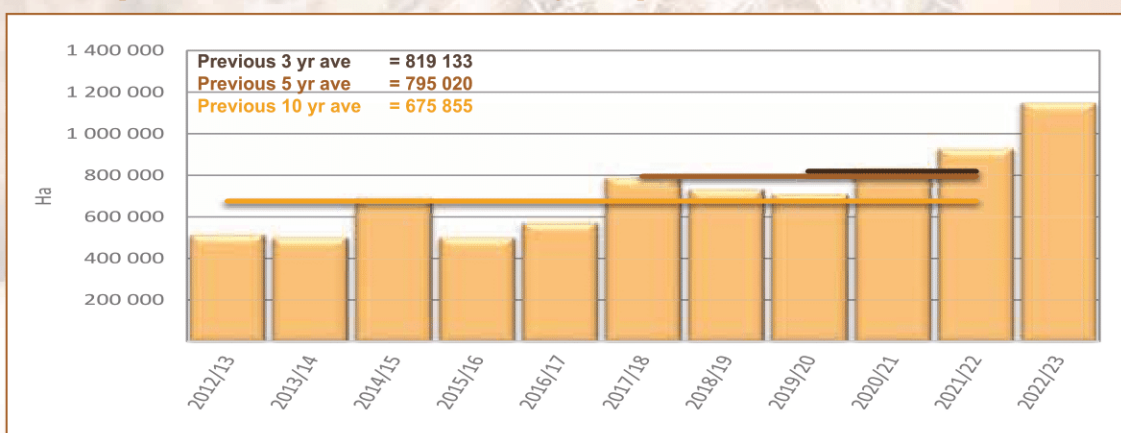


Compared to the 2021/22 production season, the area utilised for commercial soybean crop production increased by 24% (223 000 hectares). The area planted is also the highest figure on record for the third consecutive year. The average national yield equaled the 2.41 t/ha of the previous season which was a national record.

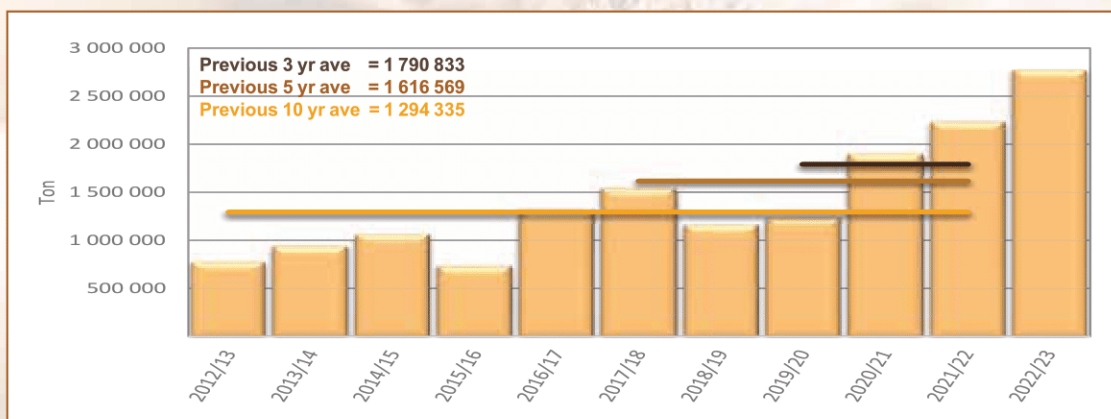
According to *The BFAP Baseline, Agricultural Outlook 2023 – 2032*, the area planted to soybeans is expected to be 1.1 million hectares by 2032. Soybean yields are expected to continue the rapid gains achieved in recent years, despite area expansion, reflecting the release of the latest seed technologies (improved germplasm and GM traits) following the introduction of the breeding technology levy. Planting of varieties most suited to specific areas has been instrumental to the improved performance of soybeans in the drier western parts of the country and producers have refined production practices, unlocking significant potential.

Soybeans account for half of the world's oilseed production. According to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report (WASDE – 646)* an estimated 378.06 million metric tons of soybeans were produced during the 2022/23 season. Brazil (43%) and the United States (31%) are by far the largest contributors to this total. The world soybean production for the 2023/24 season is projected to be 396.85 million metric tons.

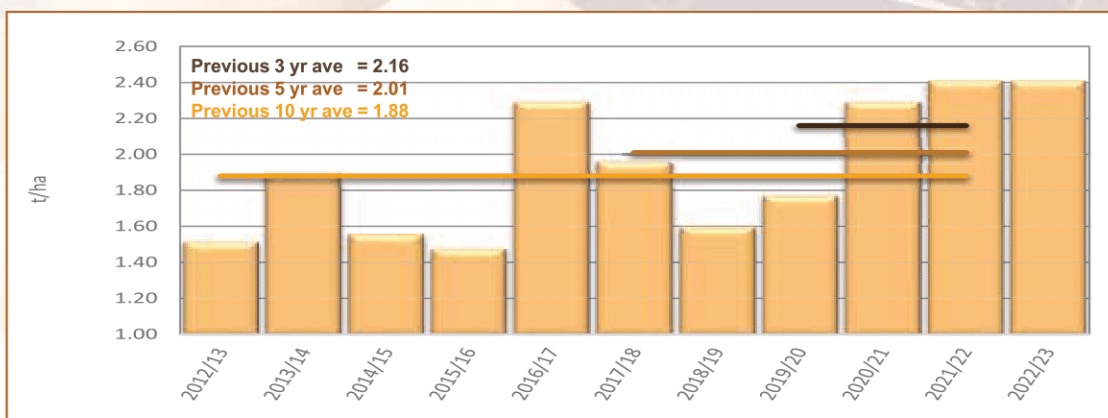
Graph 2: Total RSA area utilised for soybean production from 2012/13 to 2022/23



Graph 3: Soybean production in RSA from 2012/13 to 2022/23



Graph 4: RSA soybean yield from 2012/13 to 2022/23



Figures provided by the CEC.