

South African

COMMERCIAL SOYBEAN QUALITY FOR THE 2022/2023 SEASON

Acknowledgements

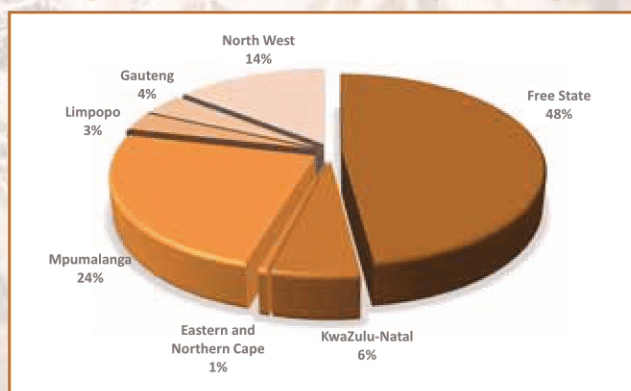
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- South African Grain Information Service (SAGIS) for providing supply and demand figures relating to soybeans.
- The Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) for providing research-based market analysis.
- Precision Oil Laboratories for providing Fatty Acid Profile analyses.

Introduction

The final commercial soybean crop figure of the 2022/23 season, as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC), is 2 770 000 tons. This is the third consecutive all-time high record crop and represents a year on year increase of 24%. The major soybean producing provinces, namely the Free State and Mpumalanga, contributed 72% of the total crop.

Graph 1: Provincial contribution to the production of the 2022/23 soybean crop



Figures provided by the CEC.

During the harvesting season, a representative sample of each delivery of soybeans at the various silos was taken according to the prescribed grading regulations. The sampling procedure for the samples used in this survey is described on page 38. One hundred and seventy-four composite soybean samples, representing the different production regions, were analysed for quality. The samples were graded, milled and analysed for moisture, crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre and ash content. Twenty samples, randomly selected to represent the different production regions, as well as 18 cultivar samples were submitted to Precision Oil Laboratories for fatty acid profile analyses.

This is the twelfth annual soybean crop quality survey performed by The Southern African Grain Laboratory NPC (SAGL). SAGL was established in 1997 on request of the Grain Industry. SAGL is an ISO 17025 accredited testing laboratory and participates in various proficiency testing schemes, both nationally and internationally, as part of our ongoing quality assurance procedures to demonstrate technical competency and international comparability.

The goal of this crop quality survey is the compilation of a detailed database, accumulating quality data collected over several seasons on the national commercial soybean crop, which is essential in assisting with decision making processes. The data reveal general tendencies, highlight quality differences in the commercial soybeans produced in different local production regions and provide important information on the quality of commercial soybeans intended for export when applicable.

The results of this survey are available on the SAGL website (www.sagl.co.za). Hard copy reports are distributed to all Directly Affected Groups and interested parties. The report is also available to read or download from the website.

In addition to the quality information, production figures (obtained from the Crop Estimates Committee (CEC)) relating to hectares planted, tons produced and yields obtained on a national as well as provincial basis, over an eleven season period, are provided in this report. SAGIS (South African Grain Information Service) supply and demand information is provided in table and graph format. Import and export figures over several seasons as well as information on the manufacture, import and export of oil seeds products, are also included.

The 2022/23 Report of the National Soybean Cultivar Trials conducted by the ARC-Grain Crops in Potchefstroom, is included in totality and as received, in this report. The national grading regulations as published in Government Notice NO. R. 370 of 21 April 2017 are also provided.

Production

Soybeans are the most important oilseed crop produced in South Africa, driven mainly by the demand for protein feed in the animal feed industry. Soybeans have benefits to producers in crop rotation programs, especially as part of conservation agriculture, but also due to lower input requirements compared to other commodities for example wheat and maize.

Table 1: Soybean production overview over two seasons							
Province	Type of production	2022/23			2021/22		
		Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha	Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha
Western Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	1 000	3 750	3.75	800	3 000	3.75
	Total	1 000	3 750	3.75	800	3 000	3.75
Free State	Dryland	555 000	1 293 000	2.33	403 000	868 250	2.15
	Irrigation	10 000	37 000	3.70	12 000	44 250	3.69
	Total	565 000	1 330 000	2.35	415 000	912 500	2.20
Eastern Cape	Dryland	4 000	11 800	2.95	2 600	7 670	2.95
	Irrigation	300	1 100	3.67	400	1 330	3.33
	Total	4 300	12 900	3.00	3 000	9 000	3.00
KwaZulu-Natal	Dryland	32 000	112 000	3.50	26 000	93 000	3.58
	Irrigation	12 000	51 000	4.25	13 000	57 000	4.38
	Total	44 000	163 000	3.70	39 000	150 000	3.85
Mpumalanga	Dryland	294 000	632 000	2.15	292 000	680 400	2.33
	Irrigation	11 000	39 000	3.55	8 000	29 600	3.70
	Total	305 000	671 000	2.20	300 000	710 000	2.37
Limpopo	Dryland	4 000	10 400	2.60	4 500	11 700	2.60
	Irrigation	22 000	78 100	3.55	18 000	64 800	3.60
	Total	26 000	88 500	3.40	22 500	76 500	3.40
Gauteng	Dryland	46 000	98 600	2.14	41 500	86 750	2.09
	Irrigation	2 000	7 000	3.50	3 500	12 250	3.50
	Total	48 000	105 600	2.20	45 000	99 000	2.20
North West	Dryland	140 200	343 450	2.45	86 300	220 700	2.56
	Irrigation	14 800	51 800	3.50	13 700	49 300	3.60
	Total	155 000	395 250	2.55	100 000	270 000	2.70
RSA	Dryland	1 075 200	2 501 250	2.33	855 900	1 968 470	2.30
	Irrigation	73 100	268 750	3.68	69 400	261 530	3.77
	Total	1 148 300	2 770 000	2.41	925 300	2 230 000	2.41

Figures provided by the CEC.