South African

COMMERCIAL SOYBEAN QUALITY FOR THE 2021/2022 SEASON

Acknowledgements
With gratitude to:

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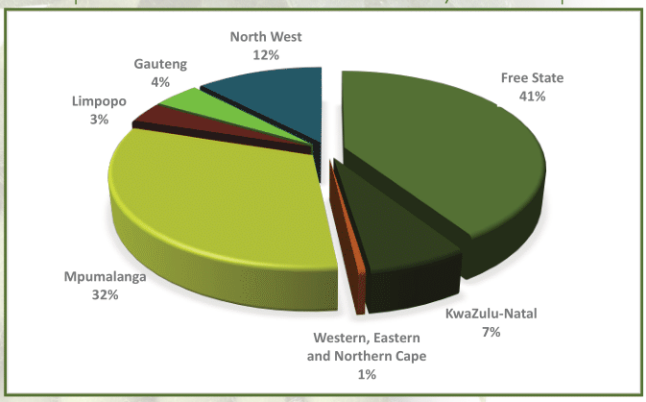
- ***South African Grain Information Service (SAGIS) for providing supply and demand figures relating to soybeans.***
- ***The Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) for providing research-based market analysis.***
- ***Precision Oil Laboratories for providing Fatty Acid Profile analyses.***

Introduction

The final commercial soybean crop figure of the 2021/22 season, as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC), is 2 230 000 tons. This all-time high record crop represents an almost 18% increase year on year. The major soybean producing provinces, namely the Free State and Mpumalanga, contributed 73% of the total crop.

Graph 1: Provincial contribution to the production of the 2021/22 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 36. One hundred and fifty 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-two samples, randomly selected to represent the different production regions, were submitted to Precision Oil Laboratories for fatty acid profile analyses.

This is the eleventh 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 2021/22 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	2021/22			2020/21		
		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	800	3 000	3.75	1 000	3 500	3.50
	Total	800	3 000	3.75	1 000	3 500	3.50
Free State	Dryland	403 000	868 250	2.15	353 000	734 700	2.08
	Irrigation	12 000	44 250	3.69	12 000	31 800	2.65
	Total	415 000	912 500	2.20	365 000	766 500	2.10
Eastern Cape	Dryland	2 600	7 670	2.95	2 700	7 850	2.91
	Irrigation	400	1 330	3.33	400	1 450	3.63
	Total	3 000	9 000	3.00	3 100	9 300	3.00
KwaZulu-Natal	Dryland	26 000	93 000	3.58	20 500	71 500	3.49
	Irrigation	13 000	57 000	4.38	15 500	58 100	3.75
	Total	39 000	150 000	3.85	36 000	129 600	3.60
Mpumalanga	Dryland	292 000	680 400	2.33	282 000	614 550	2.18
	Irrigation	8 000	29 600	3.70	8 000	30 000	3.75
	Total	300 000	710 000	2.37	290 000	644 550	2.22
Limpopo	Dryland	4 500	11 700	2.60	4 000	10 700	2.68
	Irrigation	18 000	64 800	3.60	16 500	61 050	3.70
	Total	22 500	76 500	3.40	20 500	71 750	3.50
Gauteng	Dryland	41 500	86 750	2.09	38 500	92 400	2.40
	Irrigation	3 500	12 250	3.50	3 500	12 600	3.60
	Total	45 000	99 000	2.20	42 000	105 000	2.50
North West	Dryland	86 300	220 700	2.56	57 400	130 500	2.27
	Irrigation	13 700	49 300	3.60	12 100	36 300	3.00
	Total	100 000	270 000	2.70	69 500	166 800	2.40
RSA	Dryland	855 900	1 968 470	2.30	758 100	1 662 200	2.19
	Irrigation	69 400	261 530	3.77	69 000	234 800	3.40
	Total	925 300	2 230 000	2.41	827 100	1 897 000	2.29

Figures provided by the CEC.