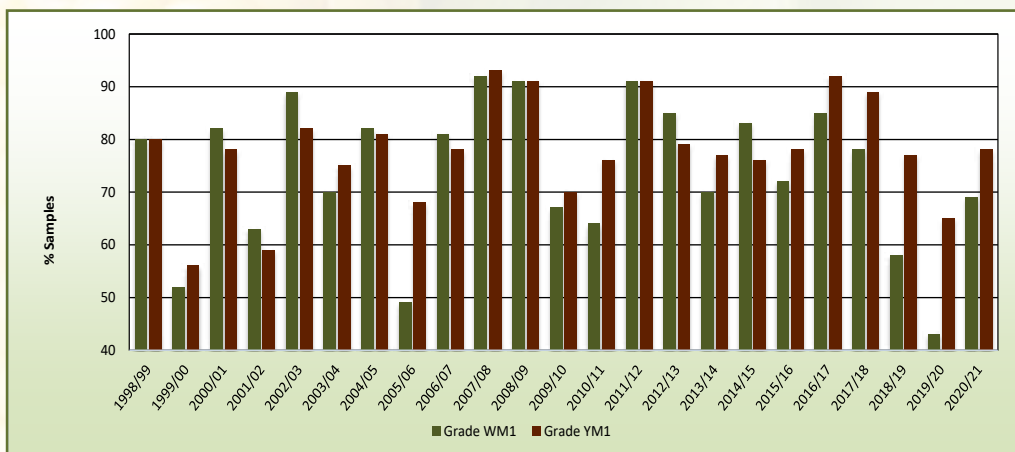


Maize Crop Quality 2020/21 - summary of results

RSA GRADING

The maize crop, the second largest in history, was of better grading quality than the previous two seasons, comparing well with that of the 2013/14 and 2015/16 seasons. 69% of white maize samples received and graded was graded as maize grade one, last season this figure was only 43%. 78% of yellow maize samples received and graded was graded as grade one, compared to the 65% of the previous season. Please see Graph 33 for the percentages of samples (white and yellow) per season graded as grade 1, since commencement of the annual maize crop quality survey in 1998.

GRAPH 33: PERCENTAGE SAMPLES GRADED AS GRADE 1 OVER SEASONS



The percentage total defective kernels above and below the 6.35 mm sieve, 5.1% for white and 4.2% for yellow maize, was respectively 5.0% and 2.4% lower than the previous season. Defective white maize kernels above the 6.35 mm sieve made the largest contribution to the decrease in the percentage total defective kernels, decreasing from 8.1% last season to 3.0% this season. The percentage defective kernels below the 6.35 mm sieve for white maize increased slightly from 2.0% to 2.1% and that of yellow maize decreased slightly from 2.3% to 2.1%. The average percentage Diplodia infected kernels in white and yellow maize equaled the 0% of the previous season. Fusarium infected kernels of white maize equaled the 0.8% of the previous season, while Fusarium infected yellow maize decreased marginally from 0.7% to 0.6%.

The percentage of white maize samples that were downgraded to class other maize as a result of the percentage foreign matter exceeding 0.75%, decreased from 7% (38 samples) to 5% (29 samples) this season. The percentage for yellow maize increased slightly from 4% (14 samples) to 5% (21 samples) this season. One white and four yellow maize sample were downgraded as a result of other colour maize that exceeded 10% and 5% (maximum permissible deviation for grade 3) respectively. The average percentage combined deviations of white maize was 5.6% compared to the 10.7% of the 2019/20 season and that of yellow maize 4.5% compared to 6.9% previously.

Please refer to Tables 3 to 7 and Graphs 34 to 36 on pages 35 to 47.

USA GRADING

Of the 1 000 maize samples graded according to USA grading regulations, 62% were graded US1, 21% US2, 7% US3, 3% US4, 2% US5, while sample grade and class mixed corn represented 3% and 2% respectively. The percentage samples graded as US1 varies substantially over seasons, varying from 30% to 41%, 51%, 71% and 58% over the previous five seasons. The percentage samples graded as US2 compared with the 25% and 27% of the previous two seasons respectively albeit lower. The main reason for downgrading the samples was (as in previous seasons) the percentage total damaged kernels exceeding the maximum limit per grade, followed by broken corn and foreign material. Please see Tables 8 and 9 on pages 48 to 53.

PHYSICAL QUALITY CHARACTERISTICS

Bushel weight/Test weight is applied as a grading factor in the USA grading regulations and is also routinely