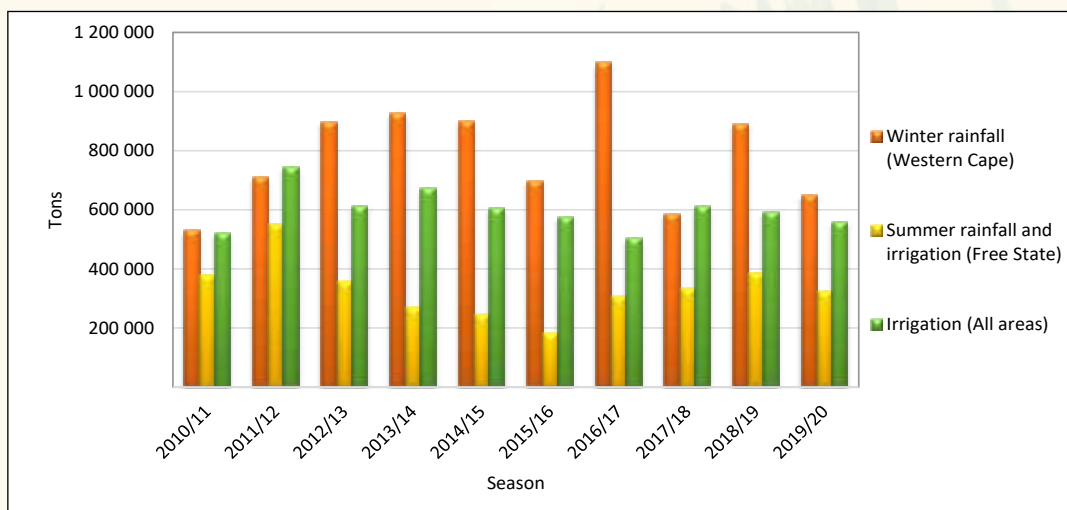


The final production figure of 1 535 000 tons is 13% lower than the ten-year production average of 1 763 600 tons (2009/10 to 2018/19 seasons). The Western Cape produced 650 000 tons of wheat this season, contributing 42.3% of the total crop, compared to the 47.7% of the previous season. The Free State's wheat production (326 000 tons) declined by 15% year on year, but was still the second highest provincial production figure. The irrigation areas of the Northern Cape, the third largest wheat producing area this season, produced 262 500 tons, 32 000 tons (11%) less than last season. The remainder of the wheat was produced mainly in Limpopo with 120 000 tons, representing a decrease of 6% compared to the 2018/19 season and North West, where production decreased by 7% to 79 000 tons. Please see Graphs 1 and 2.

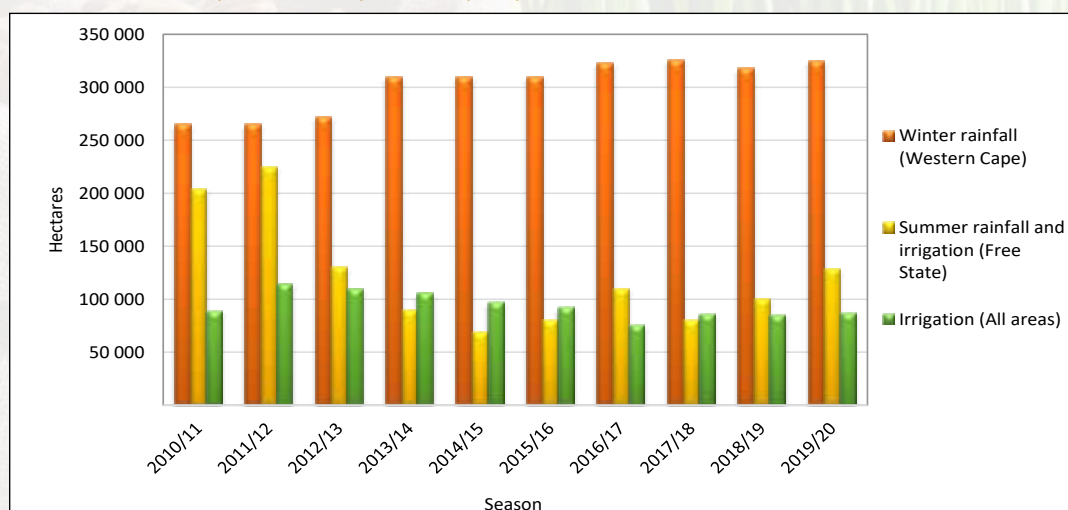
Graph 2: Wheat production figures per production area over ten seasons



Figures provided by the CEC.

The area utilised for wheat production increased by 7.3% to 540 000 hectares from 503 350 hectares in the previous season. Hectares cultivated under wheat in the Western Cape increased by 2.2%, while a 28% increase was observed in the Free State. Nationally, dry land area increased by 7.9% year on year and irrigation area showed an increase of 5.4%. Please see Graph 3.

Graph 3: Area planted per production area over ten seasons



Figures provided by the CEC.

The yield in the main production areas ranged from 2.00 tons per hectare (t/ha) in the winter rainfall area of the Western Cape to 7.00 t/ha for irrigation wheat produced in the Northern Cape. The Free State (summer rainfall and irrigation areas) averaged 2.55 t/ha. The national yield average decreased from 3.71 t/ha in the previous season to 2.84 t/ha this season. Please see Graph 4 as well as Table 1 on the next page.