

Supply and Demand

World wheat production for the 2019/20 season is estimated at 764.83 million metric tons according to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report 602 of 10 July 2020*, world production for 2020/21 is projected to be 773.43 million metric tons.

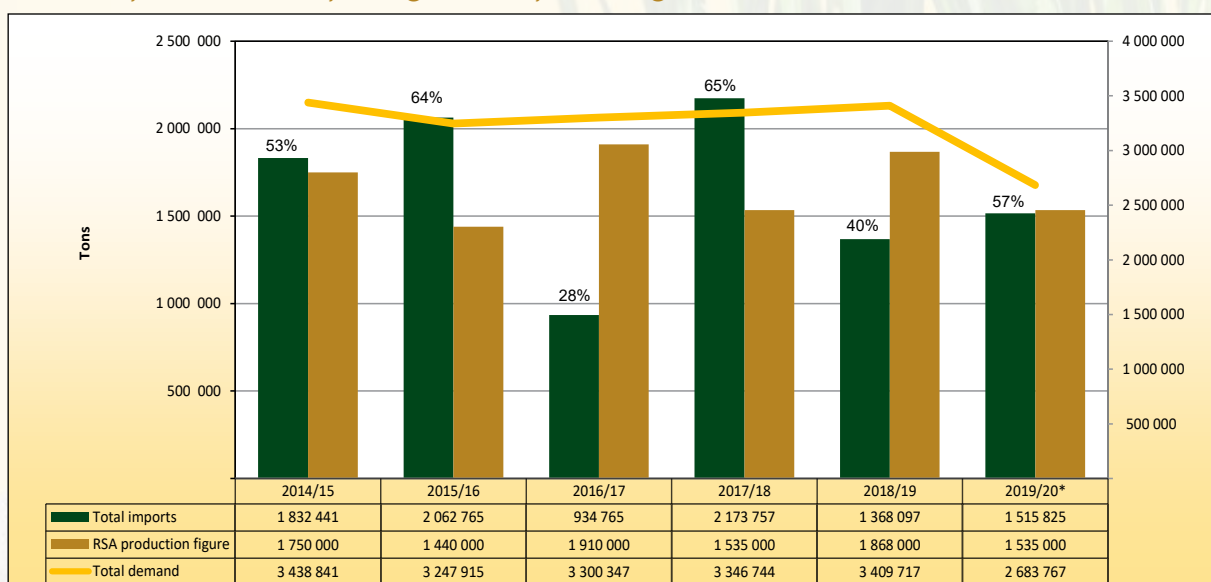
South Africa is a net importer of wheat and relies on imports to supply local demand. Wheat processing demand (human, animal and gristing) in 2018/19 was the highest of the past 21 seasons (3 254 656 tons). Nine months into the 2019/20 season, this figure stands at 2 559 663 tons, 79% of the previous season's figure.

During the 2018/19 season, 1 368 097 tons of wheat were imported. This figure is 37% lower than the amount of wheat imported during 2017/18. The ten-year import average is 1 760 728 tons. 55% of the wheat imported during the 2018/19 season for local use, originated in the Russian Federation (29%) and Germany (26%). Please see pages 88 to 107 for the quality of the wheat imported during 2018/19. 129 189 tons of local wheat were exported to countries such as Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia during the corresponding period.

The amount of wheat imported for local consumption during the current marketing season (up to 17 July 2020), amounts to 1 545 999 tons according to SAGIS. The majority of this wheat originated in Poland (28%), the Russian Federation (19%), Germany (18%) and Lithuania (13%).

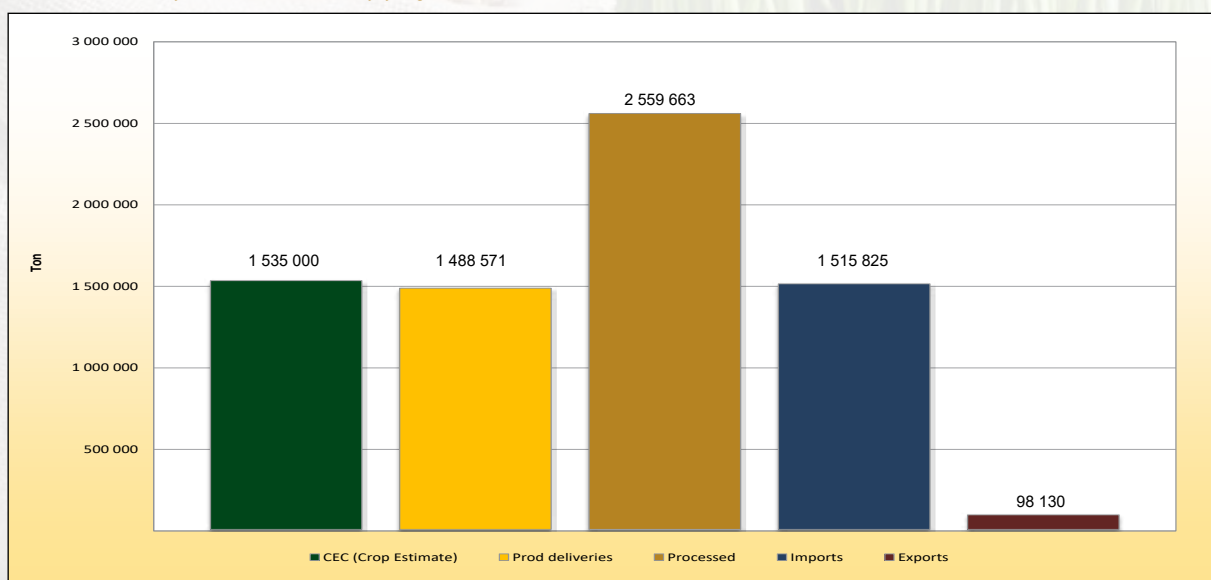
The South African wheat marketing season commences on the 1st of October every year.

Graph 5: Wheat import figures as a percentage of the total demand over six seasons



*2019/20 season figure includes imports and total demand from October to June.

Graph 6: Wheat supply and demand overview 2019/20 season (Oct ~ June)



Figures provided by SAGIS, (Publication date: 2020-07-29)