

Maize Imports and Exports during the 2015/2016 marketing season

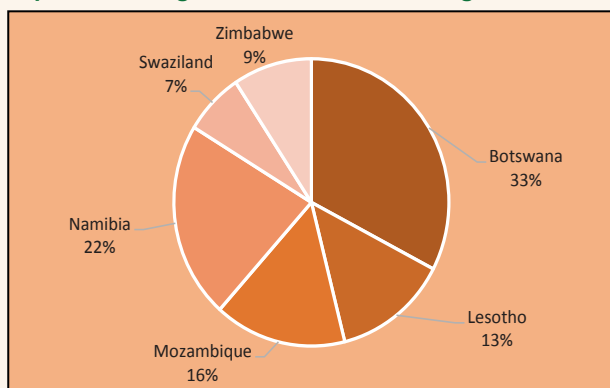
A total of 100 803 tons of white maize and 1 862 807 tons of yellow maize was imported for local use during the period 25 April 2015 to 29 April 2016. Two hundred and forty samples of imported maize were received at the SAGL for quality analyses purposes and of these, eight samples were white maize. 22% of the 240 samples were downgraded to Class Other Maize according to South African grading regulations. More than half of these were downgraded due to the presence of an undesirable odour and most of the remainder as a result of poisonous seeds in excess of the maximum permissible number, namely 1 per 1000 g or 7 per 1000 g.

The results of the quality analyses performed on the imported maize are compared to those of the local maize crop of the corresponding class and grade and period (2014/2015). Please see the summary of results on pages 98 to 103. The 100 kernel mass of the imported maize was higher on average, as were the stress cracks. The kernel sizes were more comparable than in previous seasons, but still smaller. The smaller kernels sizes of the local maize due to the drought conditions played a role. The average protein content of the imported maize was lower than that of the RSA maize, while the average fat content was higher and the starch lower. Multi-mycotoxin analyses were done on 75 composite samples per shipment. The Fumonisin, Deoxynivalenol (DON) and Zearalenone mycotoxin content was on average higher than locally produced maize. Twenty yellow maize samples exceeded the national maximum Fumonisin ($B_1 + B_2$) level for raw maize intended for further processing and six samples Fumonisin B_1 national maximum limits for animal feed.

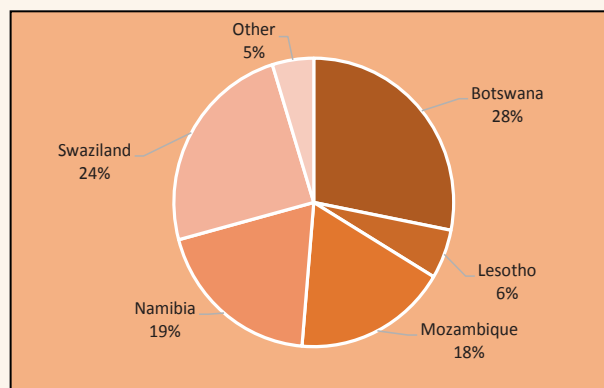
During the season under review, 473 427 tons of local white maize and 220 001 tons of local yellow maize were exported to both Africa and overseas. Please see graphs 59 to 62 below for the major destinations for exports of RSA maize as well as origins of import for local use.

All figures were obtained from SAGIS.

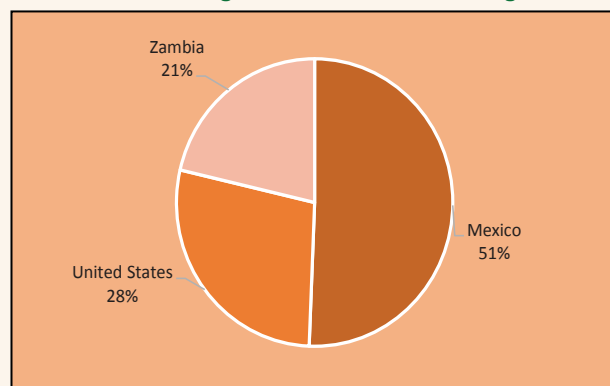
Graph 59: Major destinations for RSA white maize exported during the 2015/2016 marketing season



Graph 60: Major destinations for RSA yellow maize exported during the 2015/2016 marketing season



Graph 61: Country of origin for white maize imports for local use during the 2015/2016 marketing season



Graph 62: Country of origin for yellow maize imports for local use during the 2015/2016 marketing season

