

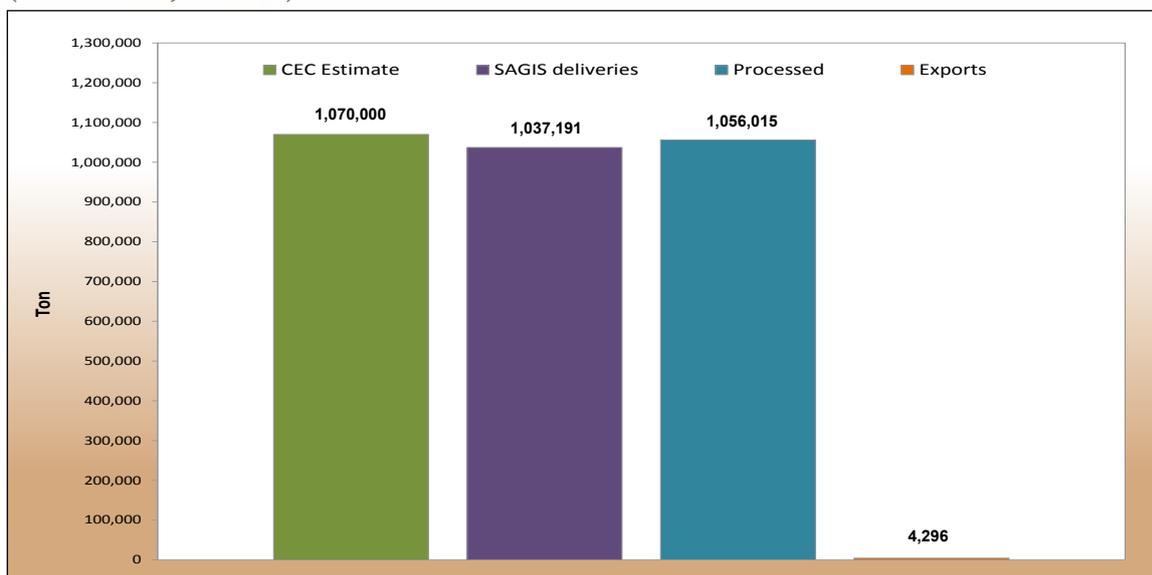
Supply and Demand

The soybean marketing season dates from March to end of February. According to SAGIS supply and demand figures for the 2015/2016 marketing season to date (March 2014 to January 2015), imports increased by more than 20 000 tons to 124 981 tons. South Africa remain a net importer of vegetable oils. Of the 1 056 015 tons of soybeans processed to date, 2.1% was used for human consumption, 10.8% for animal feed as full fat soya and 87.1% was crushed to produce oil or oilcake. The amount of soybeans crushed so far increased with 6.7% (58 083 tons) compared to the 2014/2015 season.

According to *BFAP Baseline*, just over 800 000 tons of soybean oilcake will have been produced locally during 2015, which constitutes 63% of the projected consumption of just over 1.2 million tons. The balance of the demand will be imported. The total crushing capacity derived from dedicated soybean crushers locally is estimated at 1.75 million tons. More than half of the consumed soybean oilcake will have been produced locally for the second successive year (2015). By 2024, domestic soybean oilcake production is projected to exceed 1.6 million tons, which represents 87% of the total projected soybean oilcake consumption of 1.8 million tons. An expansion of 35% in domestic demand over the next decade implies that South Africa will remain a net importer of soybean oilcake despite the increase in local production.

4 296 tons of soybeans/products have been exported so far this season compared to the 576 tons in the previous season. Globally, soybean exports during the 2014/2015 season amounted to 125.88 million metric tons with the United States and Argentina each exporting approximately 40% of this figure. Argentina was the third largest exporter of soybeans (8% of the total). The projected world soybean exports for the 2015/2016 currently stands at 129.85 million metric tons. China remains the largest importer of soybeans followed by the European Union and Japan. Argentina and Brazil are the largest exporters of soybean meal as well as soybean oil (*WASDE*).

Graph 11: Soybean supply and demand overview for the current marketing season (Mar 2015 - Jan 2016)



Information provided by SAGIS.