

South African COMMERCIAL SOYBEAN QUALITY FOR THE 2017/2018 SEASON



Acknowledgements

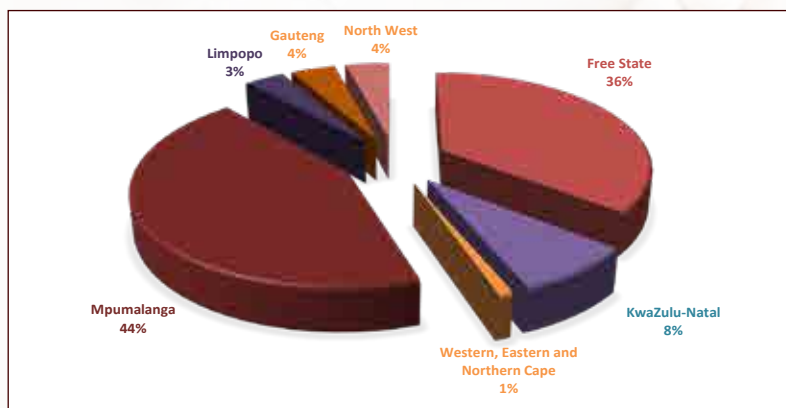
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Introduction

The final figure for the commercial soybean crop of the 2017/2018 season, as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC), is 1 540 000 tons. The final calculated crop figure was adjusted downward slightly by 0.70% or 10 800 tons. This is the second consecutive year that an all-time high record crop has been harvested.

Graph 1: Contribution of the provinces to the production of the 2017/2018 soybean crop



Figures provided by the CEC.

During the harvesting season, a representative sample of each delivery of soybeans at the various silos was taken according to the prescribed grading regulations. The sampling procedure for the samples used in this survey is described on page 28. One hundred and fifty composite soybean samples, representing the different production regions, were analysed for quality. The samples were graded, milled and analysed for moisture, crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre and ash content. Fifteen randomly selected samples were analysed to quantitatively determine the presence of genetically modified soybeans.

The goal of this crop quality survey is the compilation of a detailed database, accumulating quality data collected over several seasons on the national commercial soybean crop, which is essential in assisting with decision making processes. The data reveal general tendencies, highlight quality differences in the commercial soybeans produced in different local production regions and provide important information on the quality of commercial soybeans intended for export when applicable.

This is the seventh annual soybean crop quality survey performed by The Southern African Grain Laboratory NPC (SAGL). SAGL was established in 1997 on request of the Grain Industry. SAGL is an ISO 17025 accredited testing laboratory and participates in a number of proficiency testing schemes, both nationally and internationally, as part of our ongoing quality assurance procedures to demonstrate technical competency and international comparability.

The results of this survey are available on the SAGL website (www.sagl.co.za). The hard copy reports are distributed to all Directly Affected Groups and interested parties. The report is also available for download in a PDF format from the website.