

The results are available on the SAGL website ([www.sagl.co.za](http://www.sagl.co.za)). The hard copy reports are posted to all the Directly Affected Groups and interested parties. The report is also available for download in a PDF format from the website.

In addition to the quality information, production figures (obtained from the Crop Estimates Committee (CEC)) relating to hectares planted, tons produced and yields obtained on a national as well as provincial basis, over an eleven season period, are provided in this report. SAGIS (South African Grain Information Service) supply and demand information over several years is provided in table and graph format.

The report of the Evaluation of sunflower cultivars: 2013/2014 season conducted by the ARC-Grain Crops Institute in collaboration with Agricol, Capstone, Pannar, Pioneer and Syngenta is also included in this report, as is the national grading regulations as published in the Government Gazette of 8 May 2009.

## Production

Sunflower seed production is very suitable for South African climatic conditions. Sunflower is the fourth largest grain crop produced in South Africa after maize, wheat and soybeans.

The area utilized for sunflower production increased by almost 19% from 504 700 hectares in the previous season to 598 950 hectares this season. The yield increased from 1.10 t/ha to 1.39 t/ha.

The world oilseed production increased significantly during 2013/2014. Soya bean production played the largest role in this increase, but sunflower and canola crops were also noticeably bigger. The increased oilseed production can be attributed to an increase in area utilized for oilseed production but also to good yields obtained.

According to The Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) Baseline, Agricultural Outlook 2014 – 2023, sunflower yields are expected to increase gradually over time to reach a national average of almost 1.6 tons per hectare over the next ten years. Production should remain constant due to this increase in yield even though the total area under production is expected to decrease to below 500 000 hectares.

**Table 1: World Sunflower Seed Production**

Season	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 (Revised)	2014/15 (Forecast)
<i>Area Harvested (1,000 Ha)</i>	24,250	23,923	25,856	25,470	26,235	25,495
<i>Yield (MT/Ha)</i>	1.36	1.40	1.53	1.40	1.63	1.56
<i>Production (1,000 MT)</i>						
Argentina	2,650	3,665	3,775	2,850	2,250	2,650
European Union	7,001	6,975	8,323	7,018	9,029	8,907
China	1,650	1,710	1,700	1,730	1,750	1,750
Russia	6,600	5,820	9,500	8,000	10,000	9,000
Ukraine	7,300	8,000	9,500	8,387	11,051	10,000
United States	1,377	1,241	925	1,264	922	1,005
India	1,000	650	620	615	580	530
Turkey	790	1,020	940	1,100	1,450	1,200
Other	3,425	4,113	4,226	4,783	5,655	5,393
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,171</b>	<b>33,572</b>	<b>39,509</b>	<b>35,747</b>	<b>42,687</b>	<b>40,435</b>

2014 U.S. Sunflower Crop Quality Report compiled by the National Sunflower Association.