

Composite samples were made up per class and grade for each production region and milled on a Bühler MLU 202 laboratory mill. Moisture, protein, ash and colour were determined and a RVA analysis conducted. Rheological tests, namely gluten, mixogram, farinogram, alveogram, extensogram and 100-gram baking tests, were then performed.

The results (as averages per region) are made available weekly on the SAGL website (www.sagl.co.za) as soon as the first samples are received. The hard copy reports are distributed to all Directly Affected Groups and interested parties and are also available for download in a PDF format from the website.

In addition to the quality information compared over a number of seasons, 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 a ten season period, are provided in this report. SAGIS (South African Grain Information Service) supply and demand information over several seasons is presented in table and graph format. The national bread wheat grading regulations as published in the Government Gazette of 17 December 2010 are provided as the last section of the report.

Data on wheat imported for domestic use during the 2013/2014 (previous) season is also included in the report and compared to the quality of the local crop.

The goal of this crop quality survey is to accumulate quality data on the commercial wheat crop on a national level. This valuable data reveals general tendencies and highlights quality differences in the commercial wheat produced in different local production regions. A detailed database containing reliable analytical data collected over several seasons is essential to enable industry to comment on proposed legislative levels and to supply reliable data for targeted research projects.

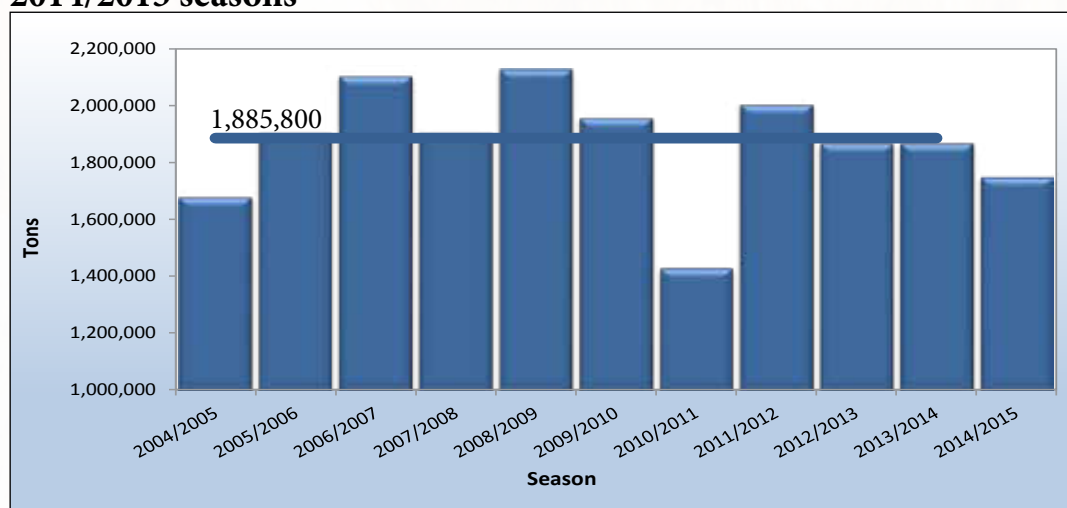
Production

Wheat contributes approximately 80% to the total winter cereal crop production in South Africa. Other winter crops produced are barley for malting purposes and canola.

South Africa (made up of nine provinces) is divided into 36 crop production regions with wheat planted in about 28 of these regions. Please see Figure 1 (RSA Provincial map) and Figure 2 (RSA Crop Production Regional map) on pages 22 and 23.

The national Crop Estimates Committee's (CEC) estimated total production figures was revised, using as basis for the calculations, the South African Grain Information Services' (SAGIS) published figures of actual deliveries. Figures to determine on-farm usage and retentions obtained from a wheat utilization survey conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), were added to the SAGIS delivery figures to calculate the final crop production figures.

Graph 1: Wheat production in the RSA from the 2004/2005 to 2014/2015 seasons



Figures obtained from the CEC.