

South African

COMMERCIAL SOYBEAN QUALITY FOR THE 2020/2021 SEASON

Acknowledgements

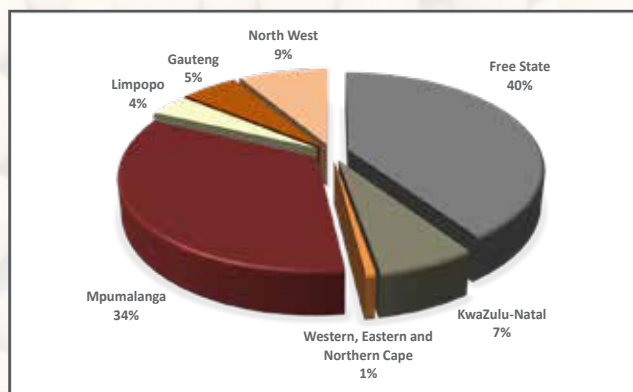
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- Precision Oil Laboratories for providing Fatty Acid Profile analyses.

Introduction

The final commercial soybean crop figure of the 2020/21 season, as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC), is 1 897 000 tons. This all-time high record crop represents a 52% increase (651 500 tons) year on year. The major soybean producing provinces, namely the Free State and Mpumalanga, contributed 74% of the total crop.

Graph 1: Provincial contribution to the production of the 2020/21 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 37. 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. Twenty samples, randomly selected to represent the different production regions, were submitted to Precision Oil Laboratories for fatty acid profile analyses.

This is the tenth 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 various proficiency testing schemes, both nationally and internationally, as part of our ongoing quality assurance procedures to demonstrate technical competency and international comparability.

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.

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