

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 is provided in table and graph format. Import and export figures over several seasons as well as information on the manufacture, import and export of oil seeds products, are also included.

The 2020/21 Report of the National Soybean Cultivar Trials conducted by the ARC-Grain Crops in Potchefstroom, is included in totality and as received, in this report. The national grading regulations as published in Government Notice NO. R.370 of 21 April 2017 are also provided.

Production

Soybeans are the most important oilseed crop produced in South Africa, driven mainly by the demand for protein feed in the animal feed industry. Soybeans have benefits to producers in crop rotation programs, especially as part of conservation agriculture, but also due to lower input requirements compared to other commodities for example wheat and maize.

Table 1: Soybean production overview over two seasons							
Province	Type of production	2020/21			2019/20		
		Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha	Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha
Western Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	1 000	3 500	3.50	2 000	7 000	3.50
	Total	1 000	3 500	3.50	2 000	7 000	3.50
Free State	Dryland	353 000	734 700	2.08	304 000	486 750	1.60
	Irrigation	12 000	31 800	2.65	11 000	33 000	3.00
	Total	365 000	766 500	2.10	315 000	519 750	1.65
Eastern Cape	Dryland	2 700	7 850	2.91	1 300	2 300	1.77
	Irrigation	400	1 450	3.63	200	700	3.50
	Total	3 100	9 300	3.00	1 500	3 000	2.00
KwaZulu-Natal	Dryland	20 500	71 500	3.49	22 000	56 000	2.55
	Irrigation	15 500	58 100	3.75	13 000	45 500	3.50
	Total	36 000	129 600	3.60	35 000	101 500	2.90
Mpumalanga	Dryland	282 000	614 550	2.18	252 000	390 000	1.55
	Irrigation	8 000	30 000	3.75	8 000	26 000	3.25
	Total	290 000	644 550	2.22	260 000	416 000	1.60
Limpopo	Dryland	4 000	10 700	2.68	2 700	4 350	1.61
	Irrigation	16 500	61 050	3.70	12 800	43 700	3.41
	Total	20 500	71 750	3.50	15 500	48 050	3.10
Gauteng	Dryland	38 500	92 400	2.40	34 000	63 200	1.86
	Irrigation	3 500	12 600	3.60	2 000	7 000	3.50
	Total	42 000	105 000	2.50	36 000	10 200	1.95
North West	Dryland	57 400	130 500	2.27	30 000	51 000	1.70
	Irrigation	12 100	36 300	3.00	10 000	29 000	2.90
	Total	69 500	166 800	2.40	40 000	80 000	2.00
RSA	Dryland	758 100	1 662 200	2.19	646 000	1 053 600	1.63
	Irrigation	69 000	234 800	3.40	59 000	191 900	3.25
	Total	827 100	1 897 000	2.29	705 000	1 245 000	1.77

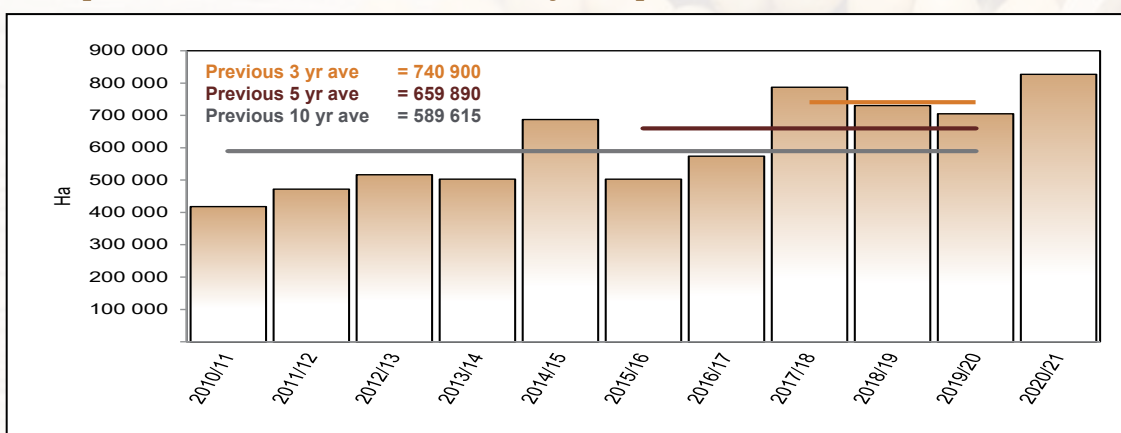
Figures provided by the CEC.

Compared to the 2019/20 production season, the area utilised for commercial soybean crop production increased by just more than 17% (122 100 hectares). Both the area planted as well as the production figures, are the highest figures on record. The average national yield increased by 29% to 2.29 t/ha, also a national record.

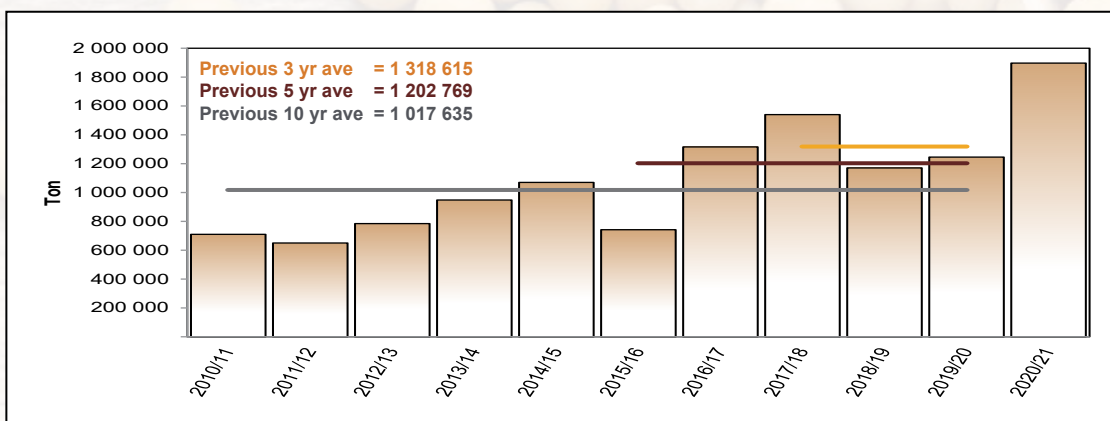
According to *The BFAP Baseline, Agricultural Outlook 2021 – 2030*, the area cultivated to soybeans is projected to continue increasing, expanding by 34% over the ten-year period to 2030. Despite the additional growth in area, yields are also expected to increase by 24% relative to the base period, assuming normal weather patterns as well as the impact of the breeding technology levy, which could incentivise seed companies to make the latest technology available to South African producers. Over the course of the next ten years, soybean production is expected to increase by 260 000 tons from the current year's record crop, an increase of 2.4% per year.

Soybeans account for more than half of the world oilseed production. According to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report (WASDE – 622)* an estimated 366.23 million metric tons of soybeans were produced during the 2020/21 season. Brazil and the United States are by far the biggest contributors to this total. The world soybean production during the 2021/22 season is projected to be 353.80 million metric tons.

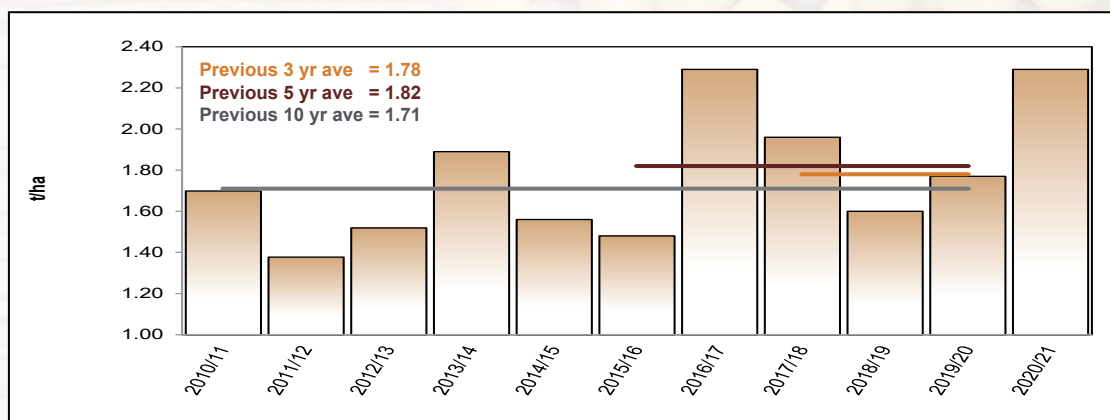
Graph 2: Total RSA area utilised for soybean production from 2010/11 to 2020/21



Graph 3: Soybean production in RSA from 2010/11 to 2020/21

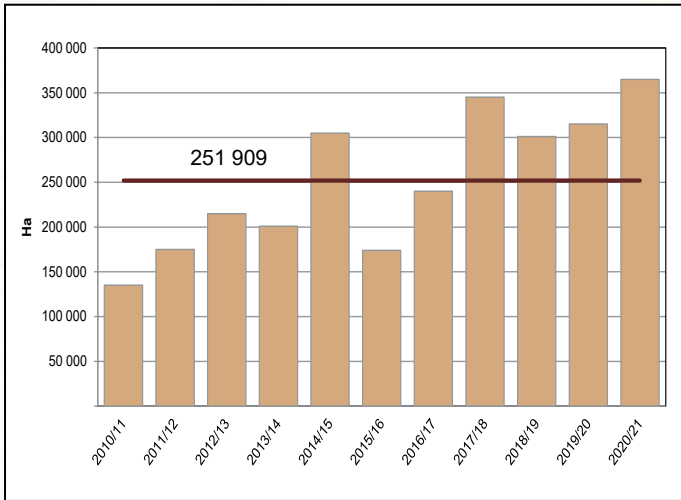


Graph 4: RSA soybean yield from 2010/11 to 2020/21

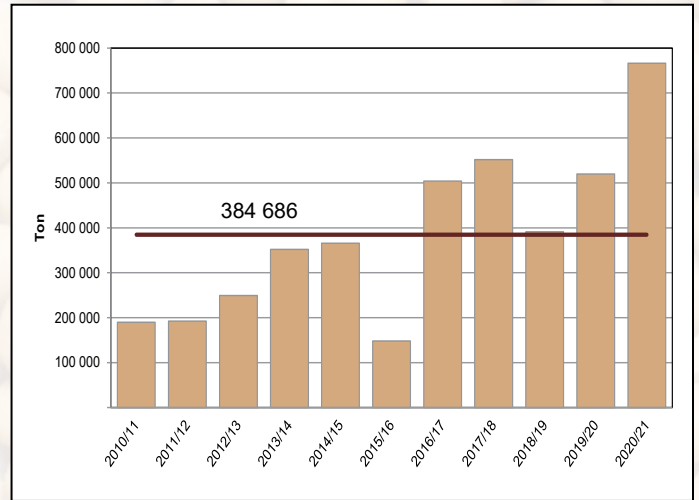


Figures provided by the CEC.

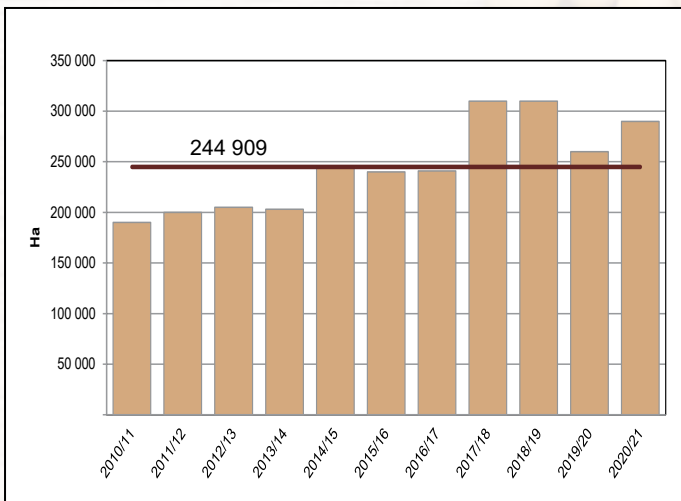
Graph 5: Area utilised for soybean production in the Free State since 2010/11



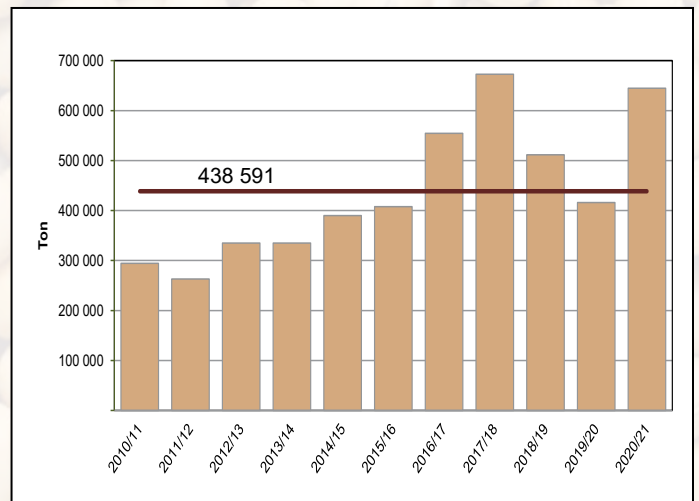
Graph 6: Soybean production in the Free State since 2010/11



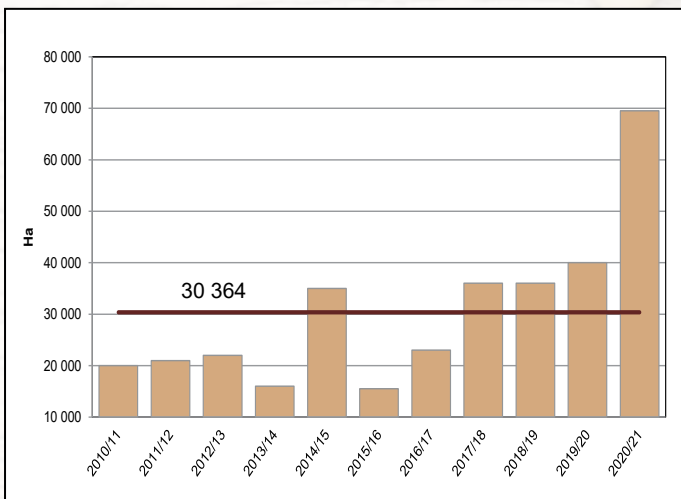
Graph 7: Area utilised for soybean production in Mpumalanga since 2010/11



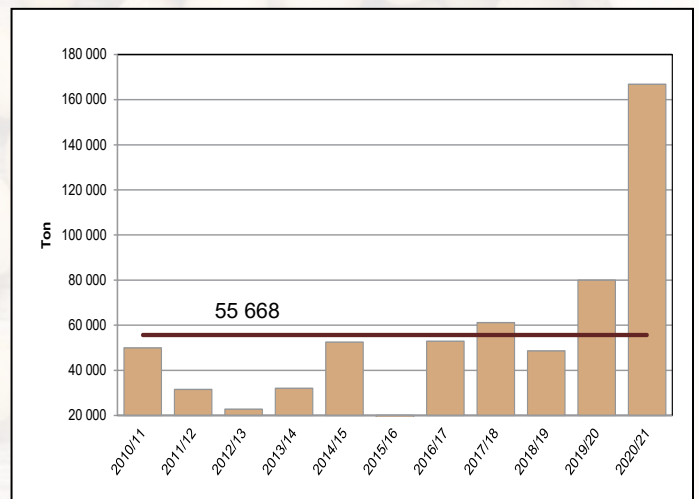
Graph 8: Soybean production in Mpumalanga since 2010/11



Graph 9: Area utilised for soybean production in North West since 2010/11



Graph 10: Soybean production in North West since 2010/11



Figures provided by the CEC.

— Eleven season average