

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 are also included.

The national sorghum grading regulations as published in the Government Gazette of 8 January 2016 are provided as the last section of the report.

## *Production*

Sorghum is a tropical grass grown primarily in semi-arid regions of the world. Sorghum can grow in areas too dry for maize and is deemed to be the fifth most important grain crop grown in the world (after maize, wheat, rice and barley).

World sorghum production for the 2022/23 season to date, stands at 57.7 million tons with the United States being the largest contributor (4.8 million tons). Please see Table 1a for the world sorghum trade (import and export figures) as well as production and consumption figures in Table 1b.

<b>Table 1a: World Sorghum Trade</b>						
<b>October/September Trade Year, Thousand Metric Tons</b>						
	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23 Mar</b>	<b>2022/23 Apr</b>
<b>Exports</b>						
<b>Argentina</b>	254	426	1 973	1 900	1 700	1 700
<b>Australia</b>	91	102	1 235	2 267	2 200	2 200
<b>Bolivia</b>	18	8	30	5	25	25
<b>China</b>	49	29	4	5	30	30
<b>India</b>	53	31	56	40	50	50
<b>Kenya</b>	53	31	80	50	60	60
<b>Nigeria</b>	100	50	50	50	50	50
<b>Others</b>	306	305	198	208	122	122
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>3 626</b>	<b>4 525</b>	<b>4 237</b>	<b>4 237</b>
<b>United States</b>	<b>2 410</b>	<b>5 404</b>	<b>6 926</b>	<b>7 351</b>	<b>2 250</b>	<b>2 250</b>
<b>World Total</b>	<b>3 334</b>	<b>6 386</b>	<b>10 552</b>	<b>11 876</b>	<b>6 487</b>	<b>6 487</b>
<b>Imports</b>						
<b>China</b>	652	3 709	8 669	10 991	4 800	4 800
<b>Eritrea</b>	60	35	60	95	70	70
<b>Ethiopia</b>	6	61	5	12	50	50
<b>European Union</b>	666	89	13	168	80	80
<b>Japan</b>	449	426	299	258	200	200
<b>Kenya</b>	109	52	181	79	150	150
<b>Mexico</b>	546	567	133	362	200	200
<b>Somalia</b>	85	80	50	50	50	50
<b>South Sudan</b>	26	81	71	55	50	50
<b>Sudan</b>	160	150	125	75	50	50
<b>Others</b>	488	378	351	384	330	335
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3 247</b>	<b>5 628</b>	<b>9 957</b>	<b>12 529</b>	<b>6 030</b>	<b>6 035</b>
<b>Unaccounted</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>- 654</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>451</b>
<b>United States</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>World Total</b>	<b>3 334</b>	<b>6 386</b>	<b>10 552</b>	<b>11 876</b>	<b>6 487</b>	<b>6 487</b>