

Supply and Demand

The sorghum marketing season dates from March to February. According to the 2024/25 marketing season figures (March 2024 to February 2025) in the SAGIS supply and demand table on page 8, opening stock increased by 17% compared to the previous marketing season, but is however still 18% lower than the ten-year average.

99 146 tons of sorghum were imported, compared to the 83 049 tons of the previous season (see Graph 13). The ten-year import average is 46 375 tons. China is the main importer of sorghum in the world and imported 5 500 thousand metric tons (78% of all imports) during the 2024/25 season (*United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS), September 2025 report*).

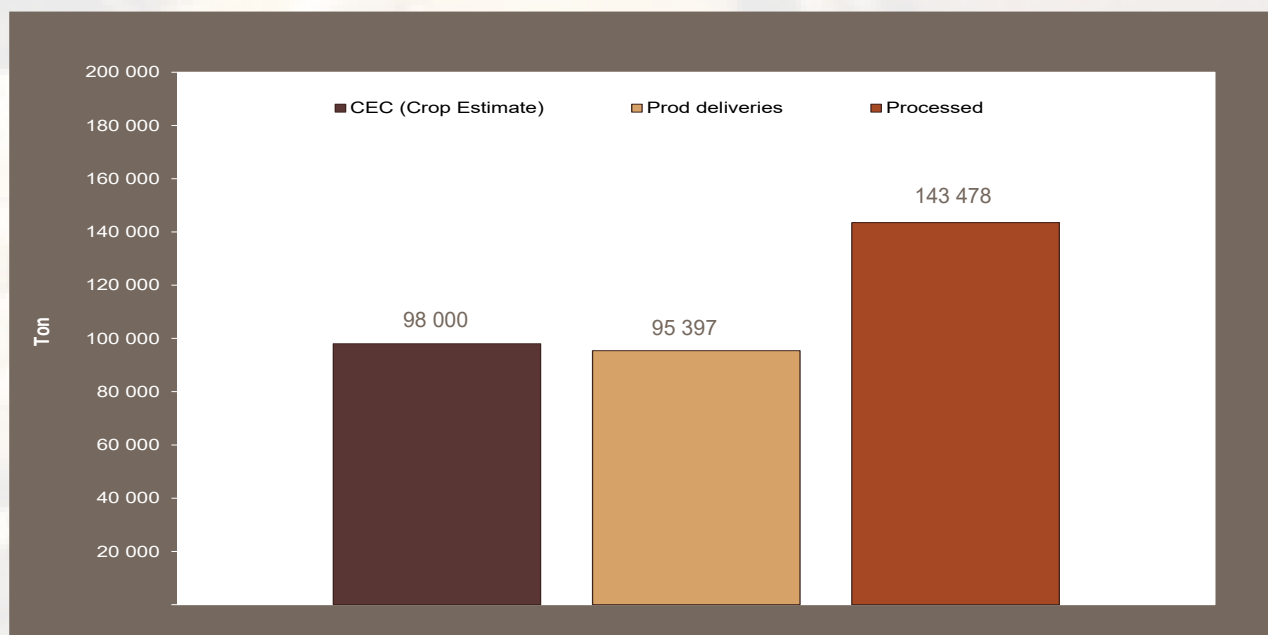
Of the 143 478 tons of sorghum processed in South Africa during the 2024/25 season, 42% was used for malting purposes and of this 24% was indoor malting and 76% floor malting. Sorghum processed as meal, rice and grits amounted to 52%. The remainder of the sorghum was processed for pet food, as well as poultry and livestock feed. The previous season 147 283 tons of sorghum were processed. The ten-year average is 157 940 tons.

Local exports amounted to 19 519 tons, compared to 12 395 tons last season and the ten-year average of 12 961 tons. Globally, Australia was the largest exporter of sorghum with 2 700 thousand metric tons (38% of the total amount of 7 037 thousand metric tons) followed by the USA and Argentina with 2400 and 1400 thousand metric tons respectively (*USDA FAS, September 2025 report*).

Refer to Table S2 on page 10 for South African imports and exports per country and harbour.

Graph 11 provides a supply and demand overview for the 2024/25 marketing season.

Graph 11: Sorghum supply and demand overview for the current marketing season
(Mar 2023 - Feb 2024)



Information provided by SAGIS.