Supply and Demand

The sorghum marketing season dates from March to February. According to the 2025/26 marketing season figures (March 2025 to February 2026) provided in the SAGIS supply and demand table, Table S1 on page 8, opening stock increased by almost 58% compared to the previous marketing season, and is also almost 29% higher than the ten-year average.

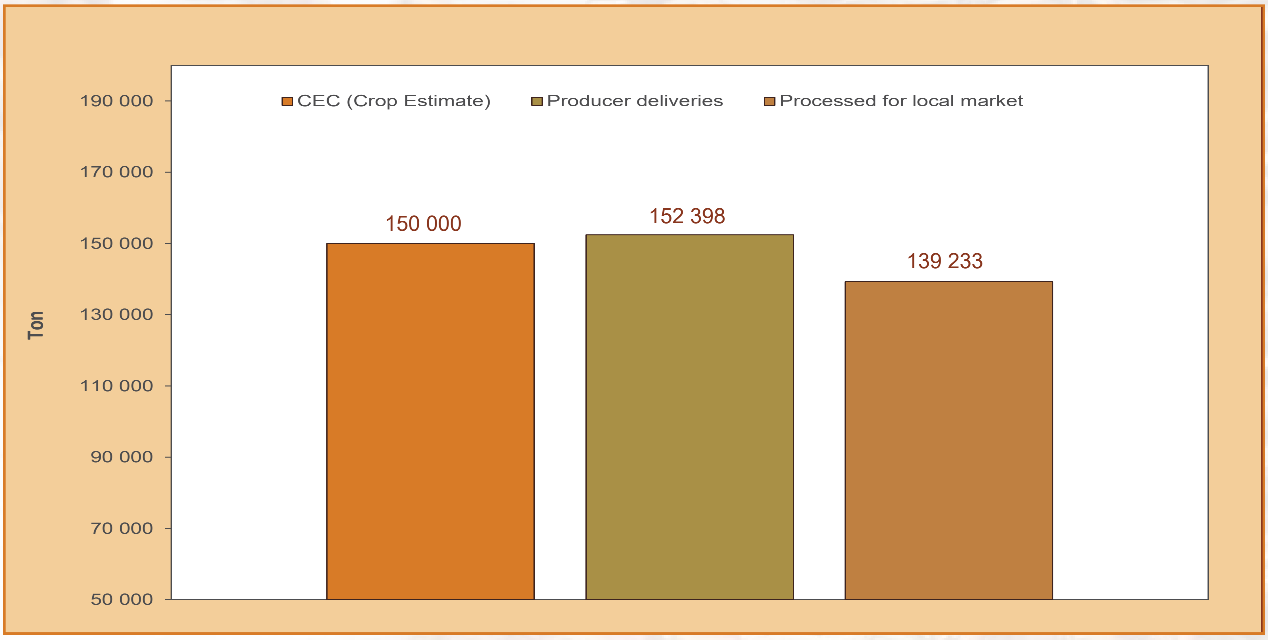
Only 24 tons of sorghum were imported during the 2025/26 season compared to the 99 146 tons and 83 049 tons imported during the previous two seasons respectively (see Graph 13). The ten-year import average is 46 375 tons. China is the main importer of sorghum in the world and imported 7.5 million tons (77% of world imports) during the 2025/26 season *(United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS), April 2026 report).*

Of the 139 233 tons of sorghum processed for the local market in 2025/26 season, 38% was used for malting purposes and of this 31% was indoor malting and 69% floor malting. Sorghum processed as meal, rice and grits amounted to 54%. The remainder of the sorghum was processed for pet food, as well as poultry and livestock feed. The previous season 143 478 tons of sorghum were processed. The ten-year average is 157 940 tons.

Local exports amounted to 5 797 tons, compared to 19 519 tons last season and the ten-year average of 12 961 tons. Globally, the USA was the largest exporter of sorghum with 5.4 million tons (55% of the total amount of 9.7 million tons) followed by Australia and Argentina with 2.6 and 1.3 million tons respectively *(USDA FAS, April 2026 report).*

Refer to Tables S2 – S5 on page 10 for South African imports and exports per country and harbour.

Graph 11 provides a supply and demand overview for the 2025/26 marketing season.



Graph 11: Sorghum supply and demand overview for the current marketing season (Mar 2025 - Feb 2026)

Information provided by SAGIS.