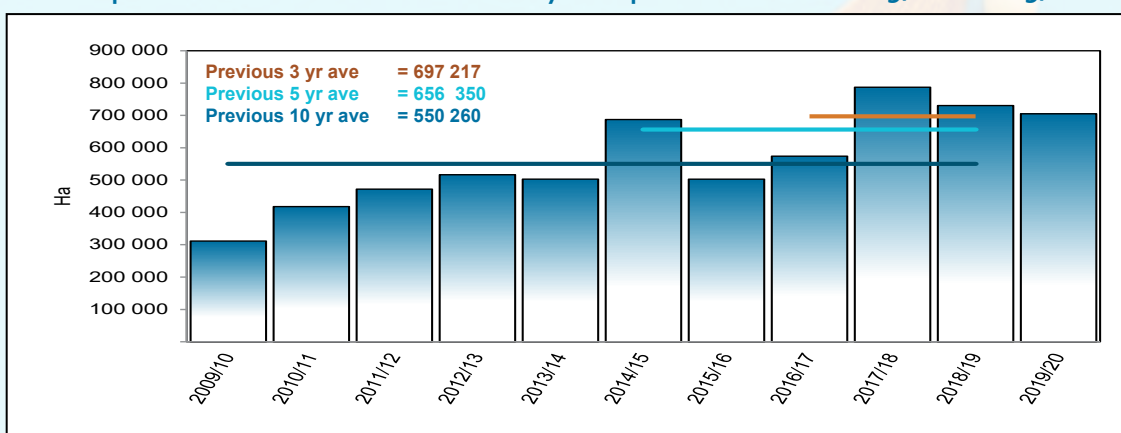


Compared to the 2018/19 production season, the area utilised for commercial soybean crop production decreased by just more than 3% (25 500 hectares). Both the area planted as well as the production figure, are the third highest figures on record. The average national yield increased by almost 11% to 1.77 t/ha.

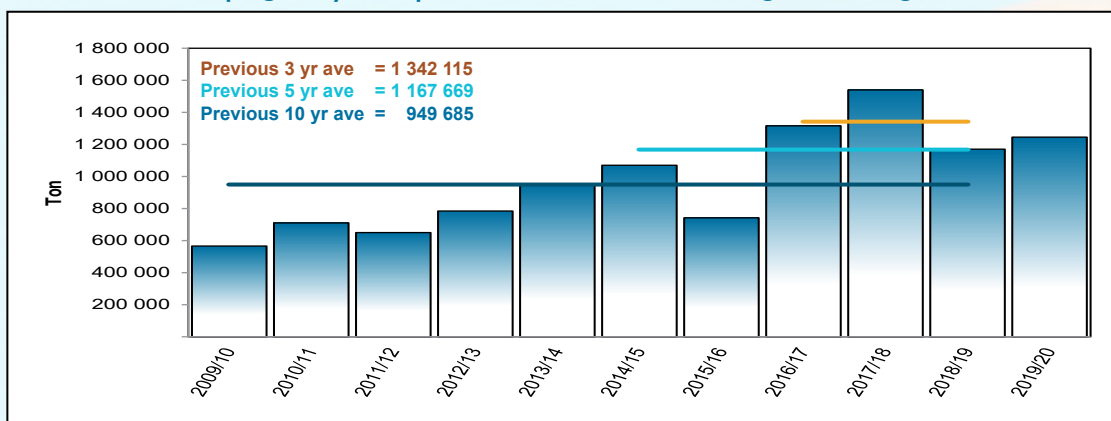
According to the *BFAP Baseline, Agricultural Outlook 2020 – 2029*, the area cultivated to soybeans is projected to continue increasing, expanding by 47% over the ten-year period to 2029. A substantial share of further area expansion is expected in the western regions, traditionally considered to be more marginal with regards to soybean production. The national average yield is nevertheless still projected to increase by 13% relative to the base period, as the introduction of the breeding technology levy, is expected to incentivise seed companies to make the latest technology available to South African producers.

Soybeans account for more than half of the world oilseed production. According to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report (WASDE – 610)* an estimated 339.00 million metric tons of soybeans were produced during the 2019/20 season. Brazil, the United States and Argentina are the biggest contributors to this total. The world soybean production during the 2020/21 season is projected to be 361.82 million metric tons.

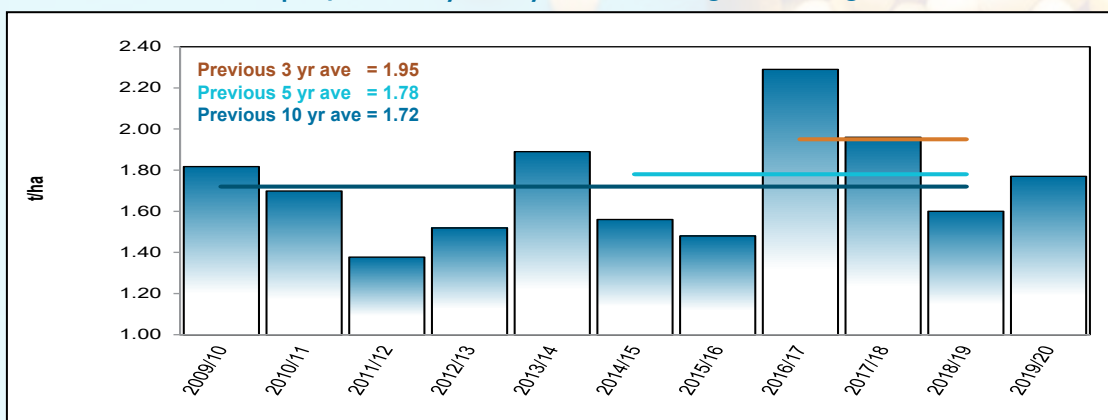
**Graph 2: Total RSA area utilised for soybean production from 2009/10 to 2019/20**



**Graph 3: Soybean production in RSA from 2009/10 to 2019/20**



**Graph 4: RSA soybean yield from 2009/10 to 2019/20**



Figures provided by the CEC.