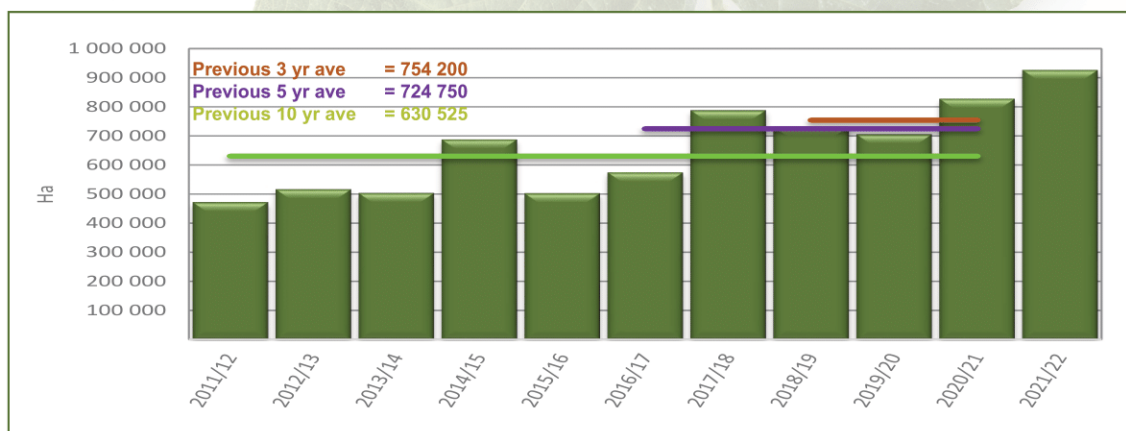


Compared to the 2020/21 production season, the area utilised for commercial soybean crop production increased by 12% (98 200 hectares). Both the area planted as well as the production figures, are the highest figures on record for the second consecutive year. The average national yield increased by 5% from 2.29 t/ha to 2.41 t/ha, again a national record.

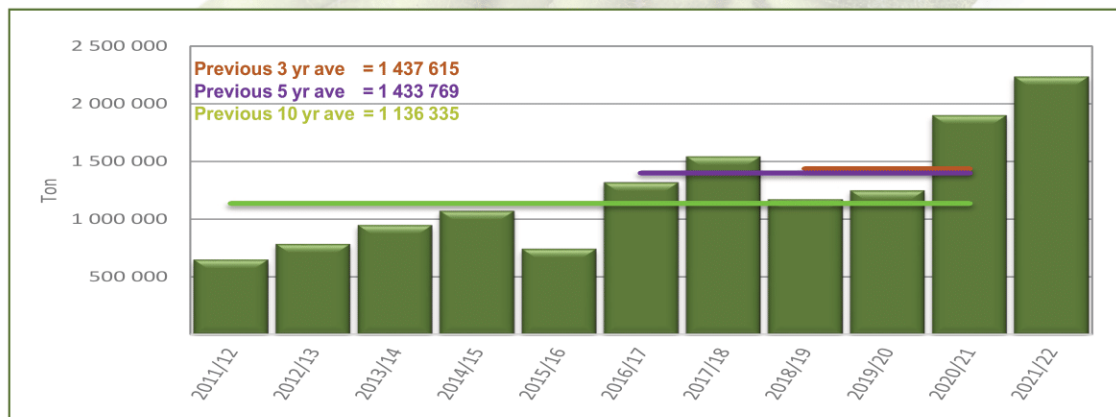
According to *The BFAP Baseline, Agricultural Outlook 2022 – 2031*, the area planted to soybeans is expected to increase by a further 41% compared to the average between 2019 to 2021. Soybean area could exceed a million hectares in 2023 and is expected to remain above a million hectares for most of the projection period to 2031. Over the same period, moderate yield gains of 14% are expected, supported by the release of the latest seed technologies (improved germplasm and GM traits), following the introduction of the breeding technology levy.

Soybeans account for half of the world oilseed production. According to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report (WASDE – 634)* an estimated 358.14 million metric tons of soybeans were produced during the 2021/22 season. Brazil (36%) and the United States (34%) are by far the biggest contributors to this total. The world soybean production for the 2022/23 season is projected to be 375.15 million metric tons.

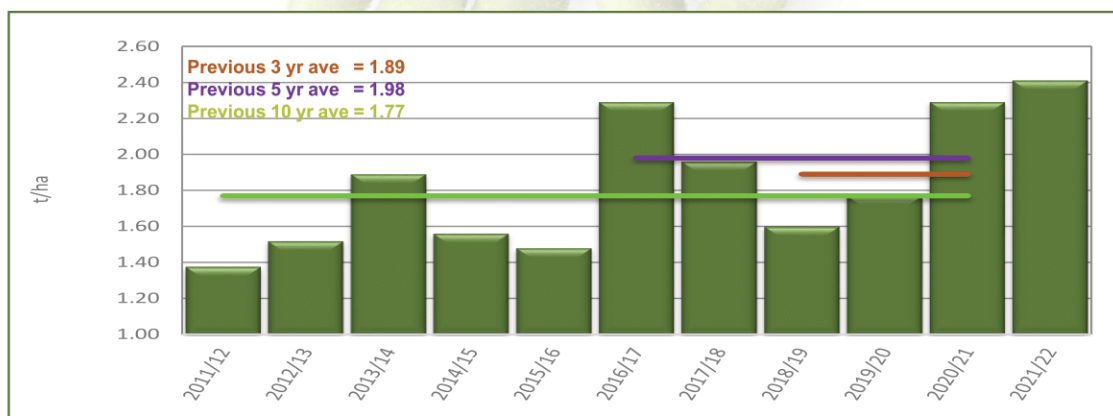
Graph 2: Total RSA area utilised for soybean production from 2011/21 to 2021/22



Graph 3: Soybean production in RSA from 2011/12 to 2021/22



Graph 4: RSA soybean yield from 2011/12 to 2021/22



Figures provided by the CEC.