

South African

Commercial Wheat Quality of the 2024/2025 Season

Acknowledgements

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- The Crop Estimates Committee (CEC) of the Department of Agriculture (NDA) for providing production related figures.
- South African Grain Information Service (SAGIS) for providing supply and demand figures relating to wheat and wheat products.

Summary

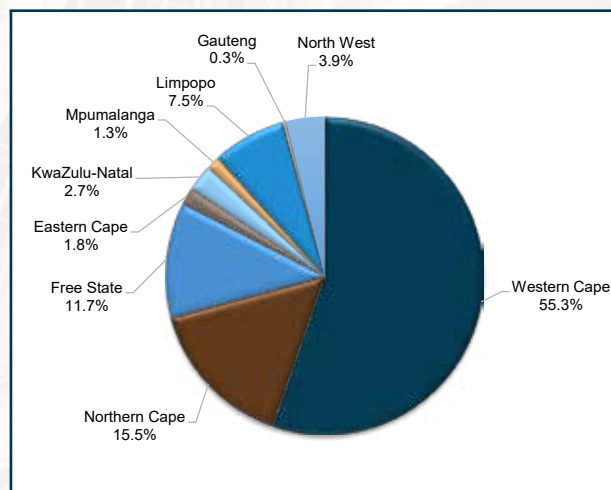
The 2024/25 season's commercial wheat crop was set at 1 930 000 tons, almost 6% lower than the previous season. A total area of 505 300 hectares was utilised for wheat production during this season and the average yield was 3.82 tons per hectare (Figures obtained from the CEC).

The whole wheat protein average of 11.6% decreased by 0.2% compared to the previous season. The percentage samples from this crop survey with a protein content equal or higher than 12.5% (minimum protein content for Super Grade) was 28% (28% and 44% during the previous two seasons respectively). The hectoliter mass averaged 80.3 kg/hl, 0.4 kg/hl lower than the previous season. 7% of the samples reported values below the minimum requirement of 76 kg/hl for Super Grade, Grade 1 and Grade 2. The ten-year national average is 80.3 kg/hl.

The average falling number this season was 371 seconds. Only 2% (5) of the samples analysed gave falling number values below 250 seconds and of these two samples were below 220 seconds. The average mixogram peak time was 3.2 minutes compared to the 3.1 minutes of the previous season. The ten-year average is 3.0 minutes.

Introduction

This report provides the results of the twenty-seventh annual wheat crop quality survey performed by the Southern African Grain Laboratory NPC (SAGL). SAGL was established in 1997 on request of the Grain Industry. SAGL is an ISO 17025 accredited testing laboratory and



Graph 1: Provincial contribution to the production of the 2024/25 wheat crop

participates in a number of proficiency testing schemes, both nationally and internationally as part of our ongoing quality assurance procedures to demonstrate technical competency and international comparability.

During the harvesting season (October to December for the southern production regions and November to January for the northern production regions), a representative sample of each delivery of wheat was taken according to the prescribed wheat regulation by the commercial grain storage companies.

A sub-sample of each of these grading samples was collected in a container according to class and grade per silo/bin/bag/bunker/dam at each depot. This composite sample was then divided and a 3 kg sample was forwarded to SAGL for the