

Supply and Demand

World wheat production for the 2021/22 season is estimated at 779.24 million metric tons according to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report 627 of 12 August 2022*, world production for 2022/23 is projected to be 779.60 million metric tons.

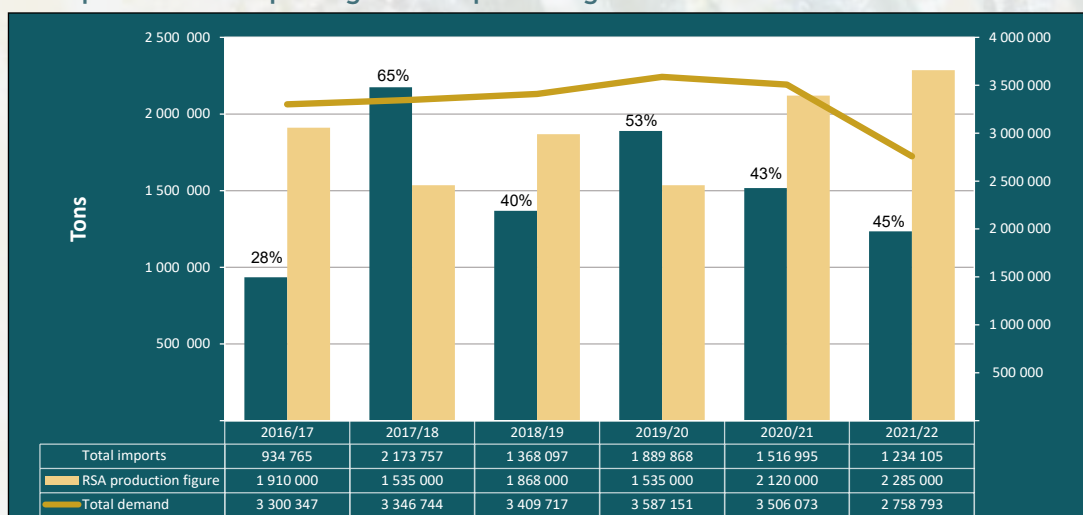
South Africa is a net importer of wheat and relies on imports to supply local demand. Wheat processing demand (human, animal and gristing) in 2020/21 was the second highest of the past 23 seasons (3 355 869 tons) after the 3 437 768 tons of the previous season. Nine months into the 2021/22 season, this figure stands at 2 526 100 tons, 75% of the previous season's total and almost 79% of the ten-year average figure.

During the 2020/21 season, 1 516 995 tons of wheat were imported. This figure is 20% lower than the amount of wheat imported during 2019/20. The ten-year import average is 1 656 432 tons. 30% of the wheat imported during the 2020/21 season for local use, originated in Australia, followed by Lithuania (18%). Please see pages 87 to 104 for the quality of the wheat imported during 2020/21. 91 432 tons of local wheat were exported to countries such as Botswana, Zambia and Namibia during the corresponding period.

The amount of wheat imported for local consumption during the current marketing season (up to 26 August 2022), amounts to 1 454 899 tons according to SAGIS. The majority of this wheat originated in Australia (23%), Lithuania (22%) and Argentina (21%).

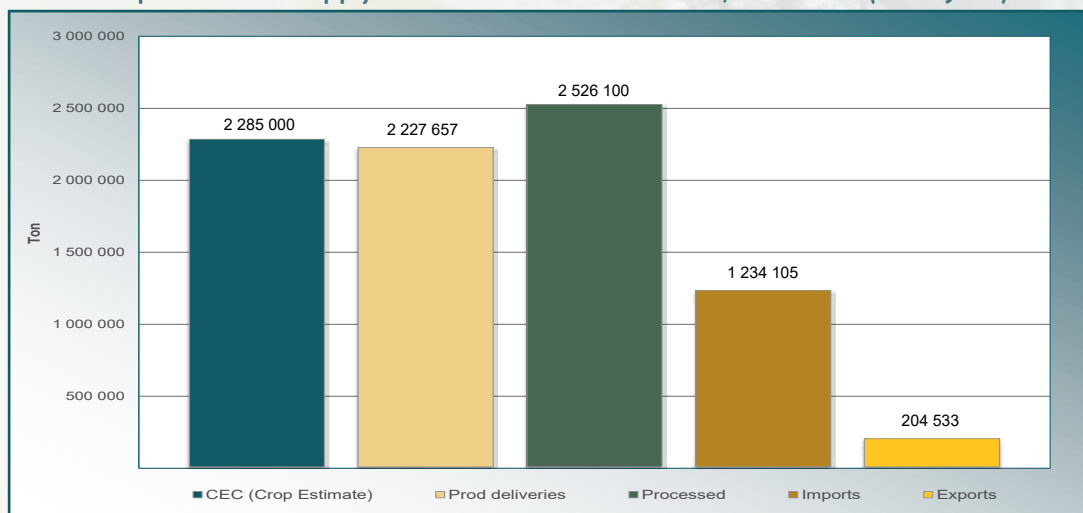
The South African wheat marketing season commences on the 1st of October every year.

Graph 5: Wheat import figures as a percentage of the total demand over six seasons



*2021/22 season figure includes imports and total demand from October to June.

Graph 6: Wheat supply and demand overview 2021/22 season (Oct - June)



Figures provided by SAGIS, (Publication date: 2022-07-26)