

Table 8: Total wheat imports per country per season for use in the RSA

	Season										Total (Tons)
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22*	
Argentina	98 029	-	59 607	49 516	35 613	132 433	35 519	-	-	298 765	709 482
Australia	189 925	49 780	95 254	38 457	24 816	-	-	-	455 717	338 253	1 192 202
Brazil	234 733	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	242 639	477 372
Canada	48 583	111 289	105 457	102 816	27 841	90 944	85 428	51 001	136 481	-	759 840
Czech Republic	-	-	-	-	144 402	47 904	110 636	52 365	8 965	-	364 272
Eswatini	288	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	288
Finland	-	25 430	-	-	-	-	-	21 860	-	-	47 290
Germany	95 476	179 436	348 385	283 451	237 508	282 312	358 343	274 283	51 461	-	2 110 655
Latvia	-	22 013	61 005	-	17 098	140 007	39 290	54 803	115 250	47 391	496 857
Lesotho	384	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	384
Lithuania	-	40 532	43 791	151 047	-	182 241	124 161	202 656	275 903	312 804	1 333 135
Poland	-	-	91 483	185 036	76 912	17 514	24 998	543 325	220 604	182 714	1 342 586
Romania	-	-	-	-	112 334	101 449	-	-	-	-	213 783
Russian Federation	245 228	800 964	719 784	956 705	182 993	955 697	401 385	536 757	210 399	-	5 009 912
Ukraine	341 976	372 500	279 364	109 350	13 568	135 669	48 210	94 726	7 341	-	1 402 704
Uruguay	99 033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	99 033
USA	42 572	66 468	28 311	186 387	61 680	87 064	140 127	58 092	34 874	32 333	737 908
Total	1 396 227	1 668 412	1 832 441	2 062 765	934 765	2 173 234	1 368 097	1 889 868	1 516 995	1 454 899	16 297 703

*2021/22 season figures include imports up to 26 August 2022.

Quality summary of imported wheat

(Wheat imported from 26 September 2020 to 24 September 2021) (Previous season)

The quality of all wheat imported into South Africa is monitored by the SAGL. A subsample of all samples drawn by inspectors of the South African Agricultural Food, Quarantine and Inspection Services (SAAFIQS) of the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) is forwarded to the SAGL for analysis. To assist with quality comparisons between local and imported wheat, the same scope of analysis is used for both sets of samples. The import quality results are published at the end of each production and marketing season. The results of samples of wheat imported during the current season are updated quarterly and available on the SAGL website.

For grading as well as dough and baking quality results of the imported wheat per country, please refer to pages 87 to 104. This imported wheat quality is compared to a summary of the local crop quality of the corresponding (2020/21) season. To simplify the comparison between the quality of the different countries of import, the average quality per country was summarised in Table 9 on pages 85 and 86. The minimum, maximum and standard deviation per country was also calculated. Please take note of the number of samples analysed when comparing results, the higher the number of samples, the more reliable the average result will be.

A total number of 142 samples of wheat imported from the following nine countries were received (number of samples received in brackets): Australia (36), Canada (19), Czech Republic (3), Germany (4), Latvia (10), Lithuania (28), Poland (23), Russian Federation (14) and the USA (5). Wheat imported for purposes other than bread baking (e.g. soft types for biscuit making) is included in this data set.

Most of the wheat imported to South Africa is blended with local wheat to obtain a certain milling and baking quality as per individual company specifications. Milling companies will blend higher and lower quality wheat to obtain the most cost-effective grist formulation that conforms to a specific quality. The main objective is to supply the most consistent quality of flour to their customers (bakers) as possible, as in the end, consistency is one of the most important quality parameters.