

## Supply and Demand

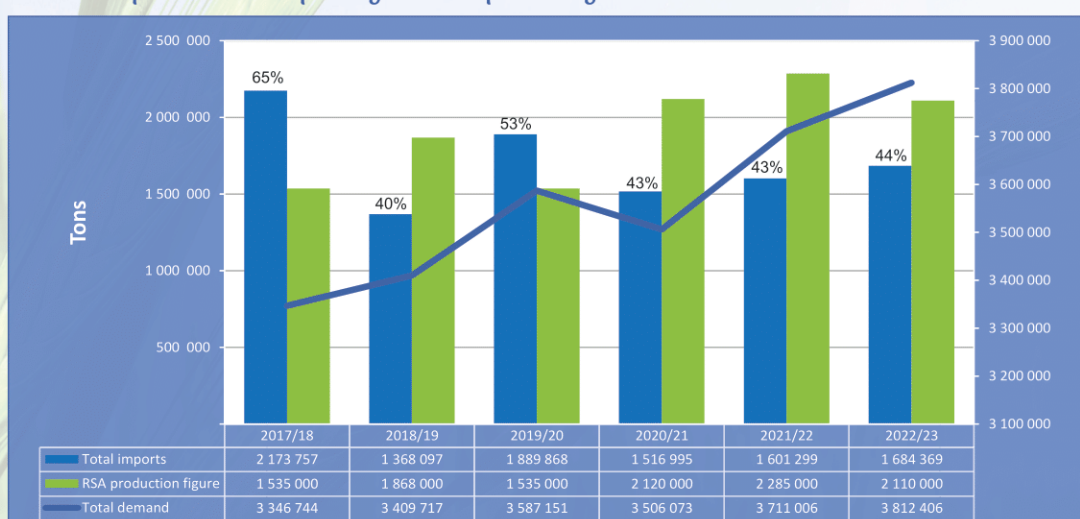
World wheat production for the 2022/23 season is estimated at 789.49 million metric tons according to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report 642 of 9 November 2023*, world production for 2023/24 is projected to be 781.98 million metric tons.

South Africa is a net importer of wheat and relies on imports to supply local demand. Wheat processing demand (human, animal and gristing) during the 2022/23 (3 490 601 tons) and 2021/22 (3 384 445 tons) seasons were the highest and third highest respectively of the last 25 seasons. The ten-year average amount where exceeded by 8% and 5% during these two seasons.

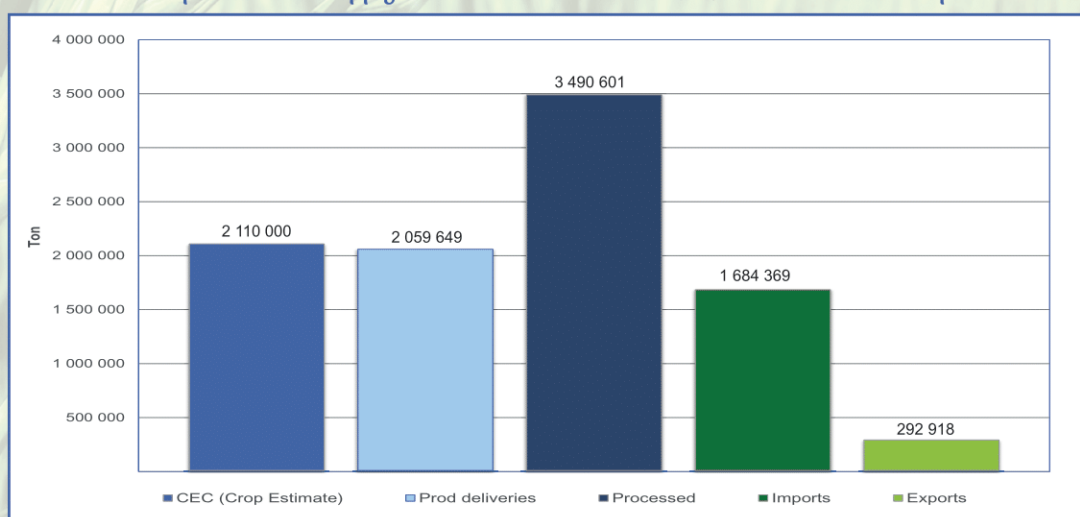
During the 2022/23 season, 1 684 369 tons of wheat were imported. This figure is 5% higher than the amount of wheat imported during 2021/22. The ten-year import average is 1 644 161 tons. 24% of the wheat imported during the 2021/22 season for local consumption, originated in Australia, followed by Lithuania (20%). In 2022/23 the largest amount of wheat was imported from Poland (31%). Please see pages 75 to 86 for the quality of the wheat imported during 2021/22. 271 192 tons of local wheat were exported to countries such as Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia during the corresponding period.

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**



**Graph 6: Wheat supply and demand overview 2022/23 season (Oct - Sep)**



Figures provided by SAGIS, (Publication date: 2023-10-25)