

# South African

COMMERCIAL SOYBEAN QUALITY FOR THE

2018/2019 SEASON

## Acknowledgements

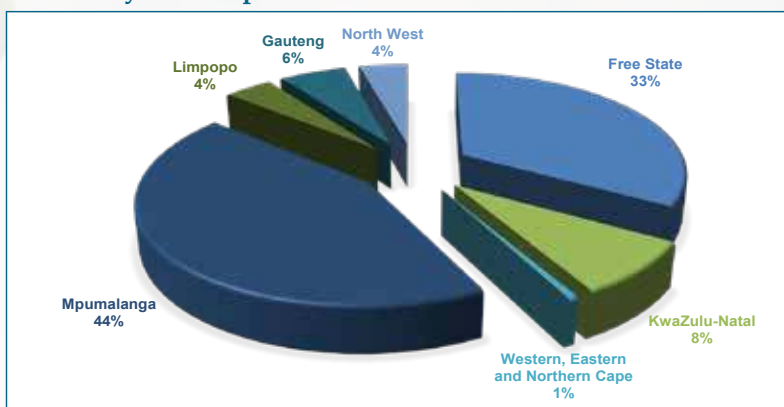
With gratitude to:

- **Agbiz Grain and its members for their cooperation in providing the samples to make the survey possible.**
- **The Crop Estimates Committee (CEC) of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF / DALRRD) for providing production related figures.**
- **South African Grain Information Service (SAGIS) for providing supply and demand figures relating to soybeans.**
- **The Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) for providing research based market analysis.**
- **Precision Oil Laboratories for providing Fatty Acid Profile analyses.**

## Introduction

The final figure for the commercial soybean crop of the 2018/19 season, as overseen by the National Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC), is 1 170 345 tons. The crop decreased by 24% (369 655 tons) year on year. The major soybean producing provinces, namely Mpumalanga and the Free State, contributed 77% of the total crop.

**Graph 1: Contribution of the provinces to the production of the 2018/19 soybean crop**



Figures provided by the CEC.

During the harvesting season, a representative sample of each delivery of soybeans at the various silos was taken according to the prescribed grading regulations. The sampling procedure for the samples used in this survey is described on page 37. One hundred and fifty composite soybean samples, representing the different production regions, were analysed for quality. The samples were graded, milled and analysed for moisture, crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre and ash content. Fifteen randomly selected samples were analysed to quantitatively determine the presence of genetically modified soybeans. Twenty samples, randomly selected to represent the different production regions, were submitted to Precision Oil Laboratories for fatty acid profile analyses.

This is the eighth annual soybean 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 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.

The goal of this crop quality survey is the compilation of a detailed database, accumulating quality data collected over several seasons on the national commercial soybean crop, which is essential in assisting with decision making processes. The data reveal general tendencies, highlight quality differences in the commercial soybeans produced in different local production regions and provide important information on the quality of commercial soybeans intended for export when applicable.

The results of this survey are available on the SAGL website ([www.sagl.co.za](http://www.sagl.co.za)). The hard copy reports are

distributed to all Directly Affected Groups and interested parties. The report is also available for download in a PDF format from the website.

In addition to the quality information, production figures (obtained from the Crop Estimates Committee (CEC)) relating to hectares planted, tons produced and yields obtained on a national as well as provincial basis, over an eleven season period, are provided in this report. SAGIS (South African Grain Information Service) supply and demand information is provided in table and graph format. Import and export figures over several seasons as well as information on the manufacture, import and export of oil seeds products, are also included.

The 2018/19 Report of the National Soybean Cultivar Trials conducted by the ARC-Grain Crops in Potchefstroom, is included in totality and as received, in this report. The national grading regulations as published in Government Notice NO. R.370 of 21 April 2017 are also provided.

## Production

Soybeans are the most important oilseed crop produced in South Africa, driven mainly by the demand for protein feed in the animal feed industry. Soybeans have benefits to producers in crop rotation programs, especially as part of conservation agriculture, but also due to lower input requirements compared to other commodities for example wheat and maize.

Table1: Soybean production overview over two seasons							
Province	Type of production	2018/19			2017/18		
		Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha	Hectares planted, ha	Production, tons	Yield, t/ha
Western Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	100	10	0.10	800	1 200	1.50
	Total	100	10	0.10	800	1 200	1.50
Northern Cape	Dryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Irrigation	1 550	5 425	3.50	3 000	10 500	3.50
	Total	1 550	5 425	3.50	3 000	10 500	3.50
Free State	Dryland	292 800	368 350	1.26	330 500	508 500	1.54
	Irrigation	8 200	22 950	2.80	14 500	43 500	3.00
	Total	301 000	391 300	1.30	345 000	552 000	1.60
Eastern Cape	Dryland	1 150	1 380	1.20	2 400	2 900	1.21
	Irrigation	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1 150	1 380	1.20	2 400	2 900	1.21
KwaZulu-Natal	Dryland	20 000	47 000	2.35	26 300	75 000	2.85
	Irrigation	13 000	52 000	4.00	13 700	49 000	3.58
	Total	33 000	99 000	3.00	40 000	124 000	3.10
Mpumalanga	Dryland	297 000	470 000	1.58	298 000	632 000	2.12
	Irrigation	13 000	41 500	3.19	12 000	40 700	3.39
	Total	310 000	511 500	1.65	310 000	672 700	2.17
Limpopo	Dryland	2 800	4 980	1.78	6 000	10 000	1.67
	Irrigation	13 400	42 000	3.13	14 000	44 000	3.14
	Total	16 200	46 980	2.90	20 000	54 000	2.70
Gauteng	Dryland	28 500	56 550	1.98	27 000	51 000	1.89
	Irrigation	3 000	9 600	3.20	3 000	10 500	3.50
	Total	31 500	66 150	2.10	30 000	61 500	2.05
North West	Dryland	29 200	27 500	0.94	28 000	38 000	1.36
	Irrigation	6 800	21 100	3.10	8 000	23 200	2.90
	Total	36 000	48 600	1.35	36 000	61 200	1.70
RSA	Dryland	671 450	975 760	1.45	718 200	1 317 400	1.83
	Irrigation	59 050	194 585	3.30	69 000	222 600	3.23
	Total	730 500	1 170 345	1.60	787 200	1 540 000	1.96

Figures provided by the CEC.