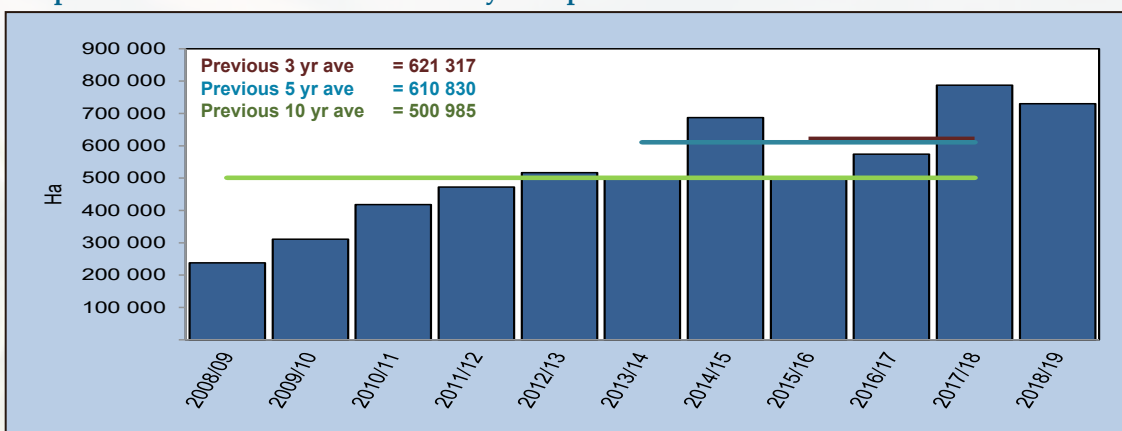


Compared to the 2017/18 production season, the commercial soybean crop production and area planted decreased by 24% and 7% respectively. Although both figures decreased, compared to the previous season, the area planted is still the second and the production figure the third highest figures on record. The average national yield decreased by 18% to 1.60 t/ha.

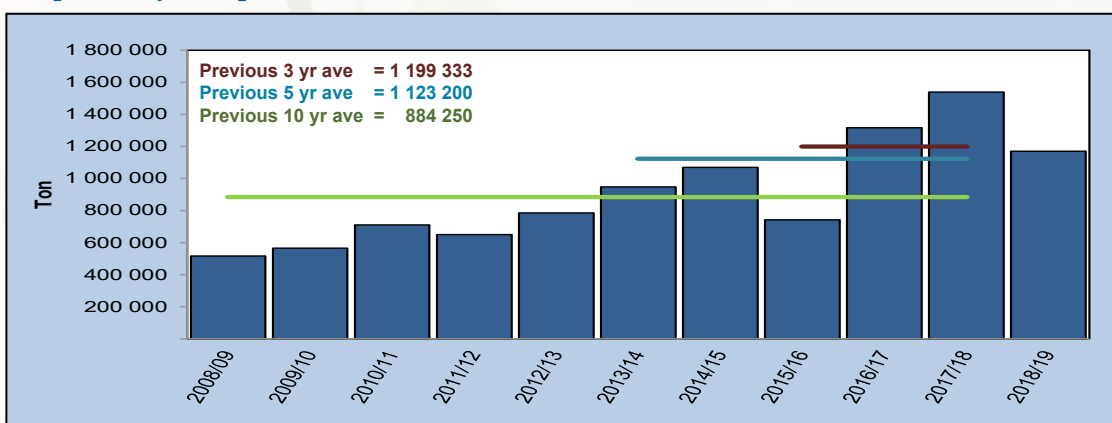
According to the BFAP Baseline, Agricultural Outlook 2019 – 2028, the area cultivated to soybeans is projected to continue increasing, expanding by 68% over the ten-year period to 2028. Where area expansion is substantial, particularly for soybeans, yield gains are less, as the expansion rate implies that some of the more marginal areas will enter production. Yield gains are based on the assumption of stable rainfall and continuously improving cultivars. The introduction of improved soybean cultivars is expected to accelerate, following the introduction of the breeding technology levy.

Soybeans account for more than half of the world oilseed production. According to the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report (WASDE – 598)* an estimated 358.65 million metric tons of soybeans were produced during the 2018/19 season. The United States, Brazil and Argentina are the biggest contributors to this total. The world soybean production during the 2019/20 season is projected to be 341.76 million metric tons.

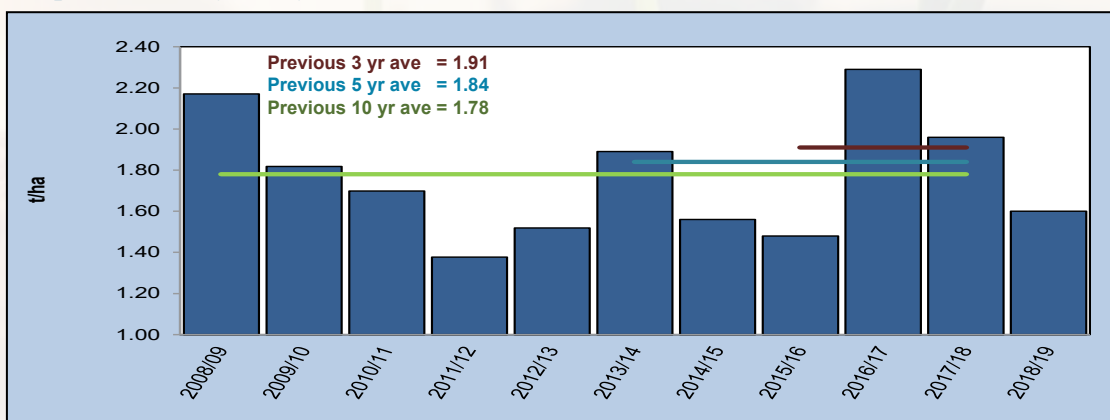
Graph 2: Total RSA area utilised for soybean production from 2008/09 to 2018/19



Graph 3: Soybean production in RSA from 2008/09 to 2018/19



Graph 4: RSA soybean yield from 2008/09 to 2018/19



Figures provided by the CEC.