

South African

COMMERCIAL SOYBEAN QUALITY FOR THE

2018/2019 SEASON

Acknowledgements

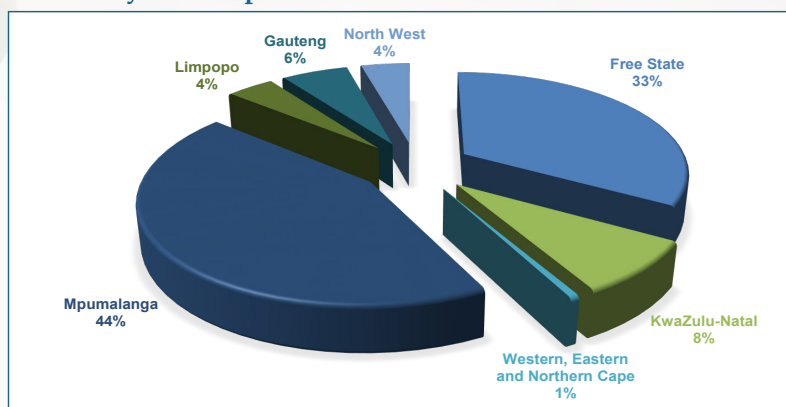
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- The Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) for providing research based market analysis.
- Precision Oil Laboratories for providing Fatty Acid Profile analyses.

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). The hard copy reports are