



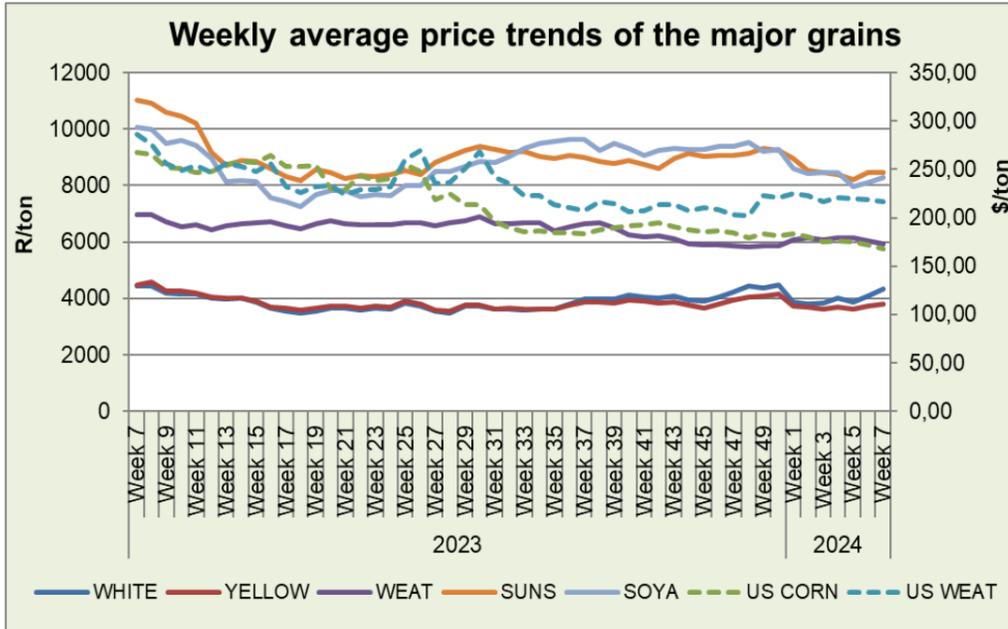
# agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Weekly Price Watch: 16 February 2024

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

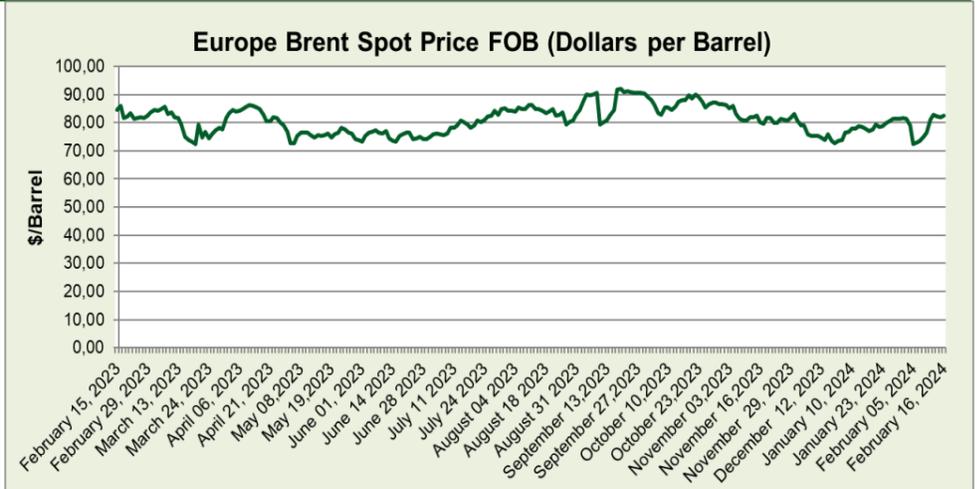
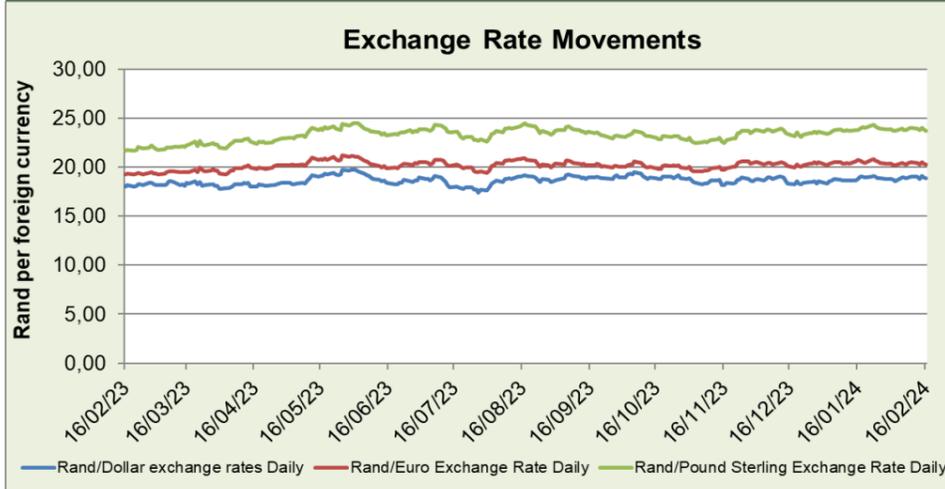
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The price of grains increased again this week relative to the previous week. The price of white and yellow maize increased by 5.7% and 1.7% due to inter-alia; rand weaknesses this week; while the international maize price decreased by 2.7%. The decline in the international maize price is due to the annual USDA Ag Outlook conference reports indicating projections of large maize crop and larger ending stock. The price of local wheat decreased by 1.6%, while the international wheat price decreased by a percentage point. Large global stocks currently caused a downward pressure on global wheat prices. US prices were also affected by the country struggle to find export markets for their wheat. The price of local soybeans increased by 2.3% while the international soybean price decreased by 1.2%. The local soybeans also benefited from the weaker rand, while internationally; the price decreased as the Ag reports showed increased global soybean hectares. The price of sunflower increased by 0.2% relative to the previous week.

### Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 7 (13-02-23 to 17-02-23)	This week Week 6 (05-02-24 to 09-02-24)	This week Week 7 (12-02-24 to 16-02-24)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R4 436,6	R 4 082.80	R4 316	5,7%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R4 470,2	R 3 725.80	R3 790	1,7%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$267,7	\$ 172,53	\$167,85	-2,7%
RSA Wheat per ton	R6 953,8	R 6 041.80	R5 946	-1,6%
USA Wheat per ton	\$286,5	\$ 218.43	\$216,34	-1,0%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R10 058,6	R 8 103.00	R8 292,6	2,3%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$564,0	\$ 438.45	\$433,22	-1,2%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R11 010,6	R 8 443.40	R8 462	0.2%
Crude oil per barrel	\$84,44	\$ 74.08	\$82,15	10.9%



The rand depreciated by 0.2% against the dollar while it remained stable against the euro and the pound. The rand remained steady against the Euro and pound due lack of economic data this week as the market awaits the budget speech in the week ahead.

The price of crude oil increased by 11% this week relative to the previous week. Oil prices settled higher this week as geopolitical tensions in the Middle East offset the International Energy Agency forecast of demand being sluggish.



### National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 05 (29/01/2024 to 04/02/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 06 (05/02/2024 to 11/02/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	8 881	55,01	58,19	Class A2	8 731	55,08	55,81
Class A3	799	54,71	58,88	Class A3	581	54,19	55,88
Class C2	679	47,12	48,15	Class C2	624	47,21	49,45

The quantities of beef sold this week decreased relative to the previous week, the units sold for class A2, A3 and C2 beef decreased by 1.7%;27.3% and 8.1% respectively. The producer prices for class A2 and C3 increased by 0.13% and 0.2% while class A3 price decreased by 1%. The market prices for class C2 increased by 2.7% while the market prices for class A2 and A3 decreased by 4.1% and 5.1% respectively.

### National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 05 (29/01/2024 to 04/02/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 06 (05/02/2024 to 11/02/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	12 580	84,03	84,41	Class A2	12 241	83,61	83,93
Class A3	1 524	82,44	83,17	Class A3	1 308	82,00	82,56
Class C2	1479	59,39	64,28	Class C2	1543	59,11	63,46

The quantities of lamb sold this week decreased for class A2 and A3 by 2.7% and 14.2% respectively, while the class C2 quantities increased by 4.3%. The producer prices for all classes increased by 0,5%; while the market prices decreased by 0.6%;0.7% and 1.3% for class A2, A3 and C2 .

### National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 05 (29/01/2024 to 04/02/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 06 (05/02/2024 to 11/02/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	11 468	32,06	Class BP	10 613	31,77
Class HO	7004	31,91	Class HO	7369	31,14
Class HP	9146	31,90	Class HP	9090	31,17

The quantities sold for pork were mixed this week. The quantities of Class BP and class HO pork decreased by 7.5% and 0.6% while class HO pork units increased by 5.2%. The producer price for class BP, HO and HP decreased by 0.9%, 2.4% and 2.3% repetitively.

## Latest News Developments

Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) has emphasised the significance of maintenance as a proactive measure against further decay of South Africa's infrastructure. The council acknowledges the existing challenges facing the country but is optimistic about addressing them to ensure the resilience and longevity of infrastructure. CEO of Engineering Council of South Africa Dr Bridget Ssamula asserts that there exists a significant capital burden, creating challenges in raising funds for the growth, expansion and maintenance of infrastructure. "One impediment identified is the competition for funding driven by allocations to essential areas like social services and infrastructure, such as supporting university students, healthcare, education and the social grant system. ECSA recognises various factors contributing to infrastructure challenges, such as adverse weather events linked to climate change, corruption and challenges in allocation of maintenance funds.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) said it's in talks to loan South Africa money to upgrade its port and freight-rail infrastructure as its first contribution to a decarbonisation pact known as the Just Energy Transition Partnership. EIB stated that the loan, the size of which the EIB didn't disclose, is part of its €1-billion (\$1.07-billion) commitment to the Just Energy Transition Partnership. The agreement to help South Africa transition away from the use of coal consists of \$8.8-billion in climate finance pledged by the European Union, via the EIB, France, Germany, the US, UK, Netherlands and Denmark.

The Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP) recognises the important role the African Energy Indaba has played over the years as a platform for key conversations on the green energy transition, energy access, new solutions and technologies for the continent. The alliance came out of the recognition that the current pace of change is too slow to meet Net-Zero ambitions set out in the Paris Agreement and too uneven to meet the development needs of the 3.6-billion people who currently live in energy poverty, GEAPP has ambitions to avert 4 Gt of carbon emissions, expand energy access for one billion people, and power 150-million new and improved jobs and sustainable livelihoods. The alliance is present in 19 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

The African Development Bank (AFDB) say Africa's economic growth fell to 3.2% in 2023 from 4.1% in 2022, projecting higher growth this year for all regions except central Africa. The bank cut its regional growth estimates for Central and North Africa, amid a recession in oil producer Equatorial Guinea and the aftermath of devastating flooding in Libya. The bank stated further that the shock effects in African economies since 2020 have damaged growth, with long-term implications. Southern Africa's "sluggish performance reflects the continued economic stagnation in South Africa," the bank said, with the region's largest economy, which holds national elections this year, predicted to grow 1.1%

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