



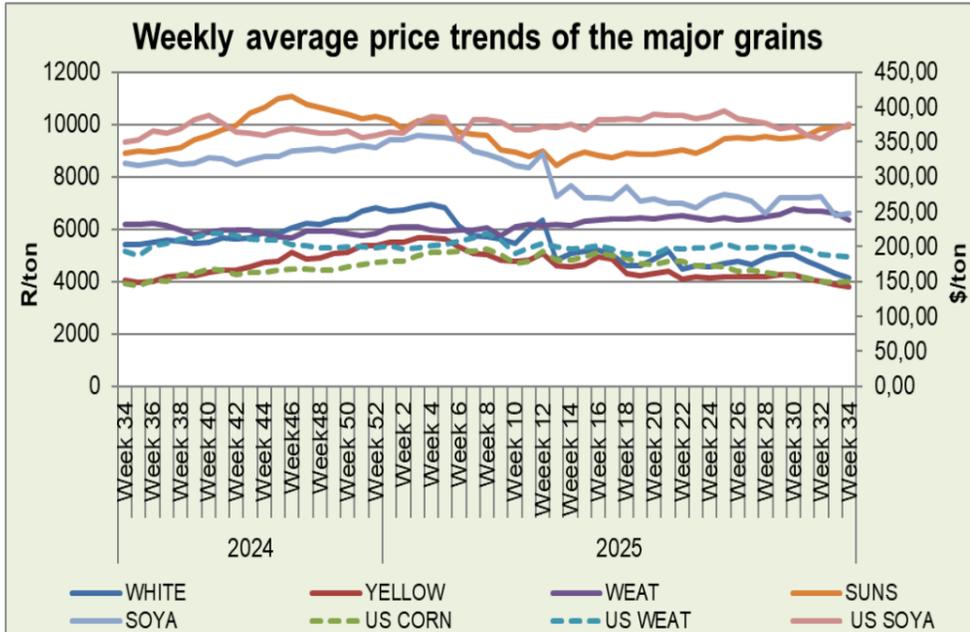
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 22 August 2025

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

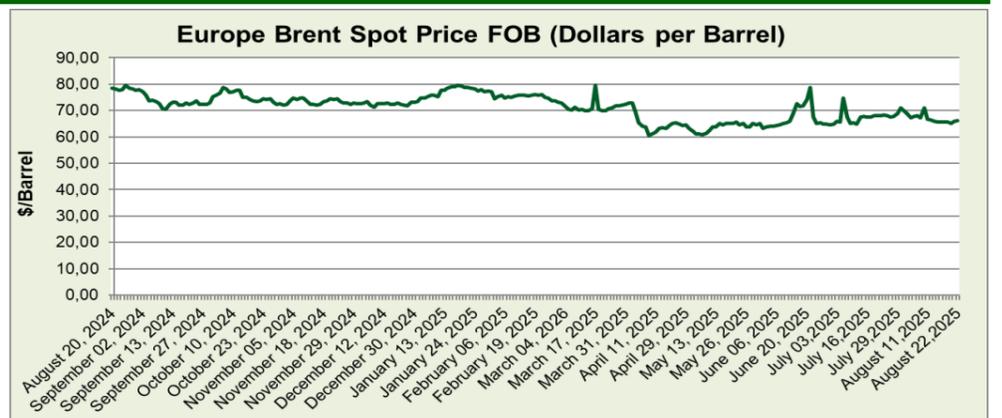
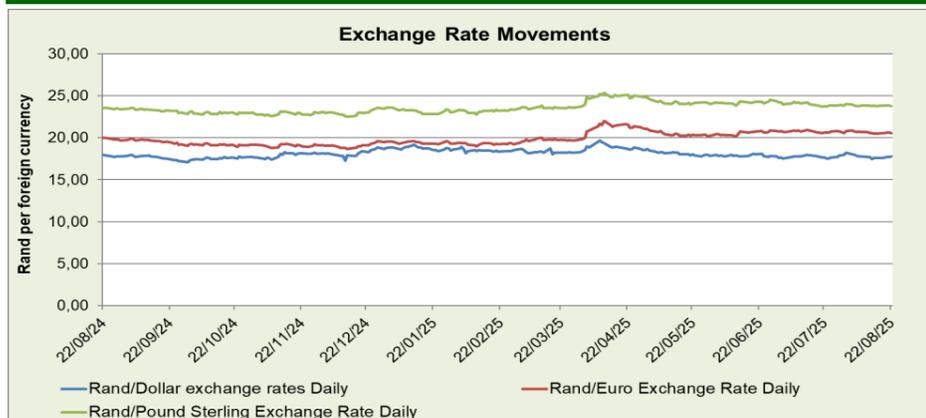
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The International and local market traded lower this week when compared to the previous week. The average prices of domestic white maize, yellow maize, soya bean and wheat decreased by 4.3%, 1.7%, 0.1% and 4.0% respectively, whilst prices for sunflower seed increased by 0.3% respectively, week on week. Tracy Davids, director at BFAP, noted that the 2025/26 grain season would see bumper crops globally. The US has expanded the area planted to grain and Brazil is expecting a record crop. Australia's and the Black Sea region's crops are also looking good, although it's unclear whether grain from the latter will be exported, considering the ongoing conflict in the area. Internationally, the grain prices of US wheat decreased by 1.0%, whilst US corn and US soybean increased by 1.3% and 2.1%, respectively when compared to the previous week.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 34 (19-08-24 to 23-08-24)	Last week Week 33 (11-08-25 to 15-08-25)	This week Week 34 (18-08-25 to 22-08-25)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R5 396,80	R4 300,40	R4 114,80	-4,3%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R4 050,00	R3 861,20	R3 795,00	-1,7%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$147,25	\$148,65	\$150,64	1,3%
RSA Wheat per ton	R6 193,00	R6 607,20	R6 341,60	-4,0%
USA Wheat per ton	\$192,67	\$187,03	\$185,17	-1,0%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R8 512,60	R7253,20	R6 619,60	-0,1%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$349,52	\$367,39	\$375,17	2,1%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R8 905,20	R9 895,40	R9 925,40	0,3%
Crude oil per barrel	\$78,38	\$66,13	\$65,71	-0,6%



The SA rand depreciated by 0.36% against the US dollar, by 0.16% and against the Euro by 0.05% against the Pound sterling when compared to the previous week. Bank of America forecasts the South African rand will weaken against the U.S. dollar during the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) rebalancing.

Brent crude oil price averaged \$65.71/barrel in the reporting week which is 0.6% lower than \$66.13/barrel week on week. U.S. President Donald Trump's trade advisor Peter Navarro on Monday called on India to stop buying Russian crude oil, accusing the Asian giant of undermining international efforts to isolate Vladimir Putin's war economy.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 32 (04/08/2025 to 10/08/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17/08/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	9949	73,70	78,83	Class A2	7970	71,83	73,31
Class A3	410	71,38	78,36	Class A3	403	69,34	75,02
Class C2	662	58,10	64,51	Class C2	1733	60,06	61,98

The units sold for class A2 and A3 beef decreased by 19.9% and 1.7% respectively, while class C2 beef increased by 161.8% when compared to the previous week. The average purchase price for class A2 and A3 beef decreased by 2.5% and 2.9% respectively, while class C2 beef increased by 3.4% week on week. The average selling price for class A2, A3 and C2 beef decreased by 7.0, 4.3% and 3.9% respectively, when compared to the previous week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 32 (04/08/2025 to 10/08/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17/08/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	10729	106,52	109,92	Class A2	12108	107,46	111,44
Class A3	1731	105,37	108,61	Class A3	1193	105,34	109,12
Class C2	1029	81,50	90,26	Class C2	1235	83,00	90,51

The units of lamb traded this week for class A2 and C2 increased by 12.9% and 20.0% respectively, whilst class A3 lamb decreased by 31.1% week on week. The average purchase prices for class A2 and C2 lamb increased by 0.9% and 1.8% respectively, whilst class A3 lamb decreased by 0.03% when compared to the previous week. The average selling prices for class A2, A3 and C2 lamb increased by 1.4%, 0.5% and 0.3% respectively week on week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 32 (04/08/2025 to 10/08/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17/08/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	13573	33,79	Class BP	14770	34,89
Class HO	4936	33,91	Class HO	4494	34,18
Class HP	4572	33,79	Class HP	4409	33,99

The quantities of pork traded this week for class BP increased by 8.8%, while class HO and HP pork decreased by 9.0% and 3.6% respectively, week on week. The average purchase price for class BP, HO and HP pork increased by 3.3%, 0.8% and 0.6% respectively, when compared to the previous week.

Latest News Developments

Higher meat and vegetable prices push food inflation up. Headline consumer inflation climbed to 3,5% in July, up from 3,0% the previous month. This was its highest rate since September 2024, when it was 3,8%, Statistics South Africa reported. Annual inflation for food and non-alcoholic beverages rose to 5,7%, compared with 5,1% in June. Sharp increases in beef and vegetable prices the main drivers, highlighting pressure points in South Africa's agricultural value chain. Beef price inflation stood out, with prices rising 28,8% year-on-year (y/y). Stewing beef increased from R94,80/kg in July 2024 to R123,87/kg in July 2025, while beef mince went from R102,95/kg to R126,79/kg. Vegetable price inflation increased to 14,6% y/y in July, up from 13,6% y/y in June. Carrots (up by 20,7% y/y), lettuce (up by 17,5% y/y), and tomatoes (up by 13,7% y/y) were among the biggest contributors to the rise. Carrots, however, saw an 8,8% price decline between June and July. Dairy and eggs remained in deflation, with eggs and some milk categories cheaper than a year ago, although cheese prices continued to rise (Gouda: up 7,2% y/y; Cheddar: up 5,5% y/y). Dawie Maree, head of agriculture information and marketing at FNB, said while the consumer price index (CPI) didn't necessarily have a direct impact on the agriculture sector, it reflected consumer demand, which in turn impacted producers.

The new Plant Breeders' Rights Act, 2018 (Act 12 of 2018) marks a significant shift in how intellectual property is managed in South African agriculture. While it brings the country in line with international conventions and promises to drive innovation, its impact on commercial farming practices, especially where the saving of seed is concerned, will likely spark further debate. Ensuring that small-scale producers remain protected while also encouraging private-sector breeding will be key to the Act's long-term success. After several years of deliberation, the National Department of Agriculture (NDA) announced in June that the new Act had officially commenced. President Cyril Ramaphosa signed the proclamation following the approval of the regulations by Minister of Agriculture, John Steenhuisen. The Act replaces the Plant Breeders' Rights Act, 1976 (Act 15 of 1976). The NDA added that this Act will contribute to the South African government's objectives and priorities by promoting innovation in plant breeding and agriculture. Through the protection of new plant varieties, the Act plays a vital role in enhancing food security, increasing agricultural productivity and supporting rural development. Additionally, the new Act will encourage investment in plant breeding, foster job creation, and support economic development. The publication of the Act was welcomed by the country's seed breeders. Dr Mieke Human, science and policy manager at the South African National Seed Organisation (Sansor) said: South Africa has a long history of variety protection. This has resulted in producers having excellent choices when deciding which crops and cultivars to plant. The new Act positions South Africa very well internationally and continues to support innovation. Intellectual property protection is the foundation from which innovation becomes possible. The seed industry in South Africa has been able to grow because of the variety protection put in place by the NDA.

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