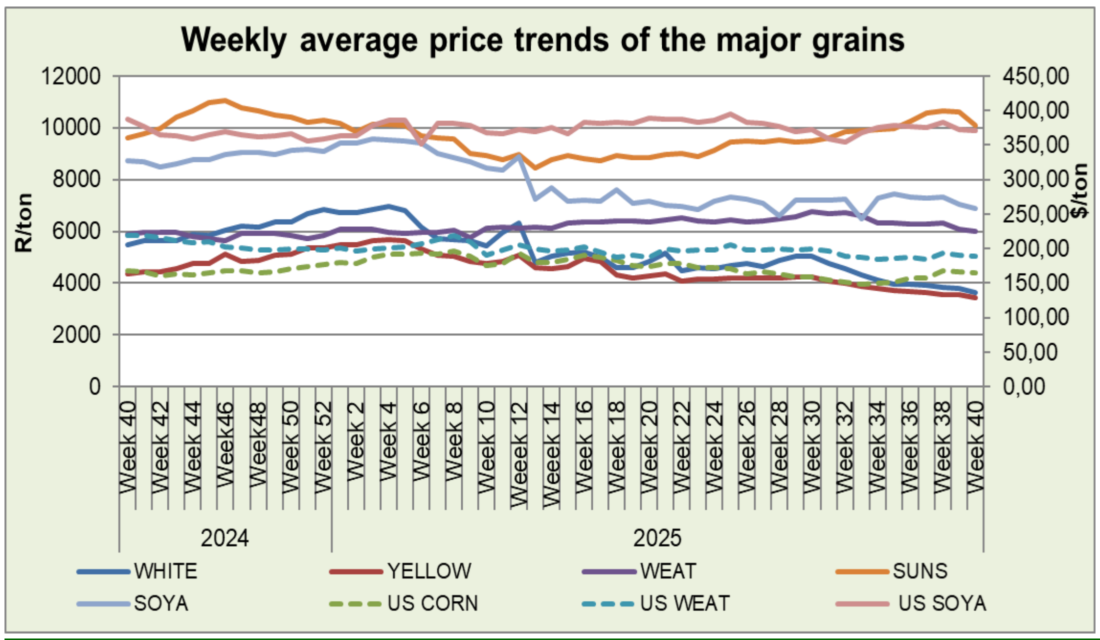
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 03 October 2025

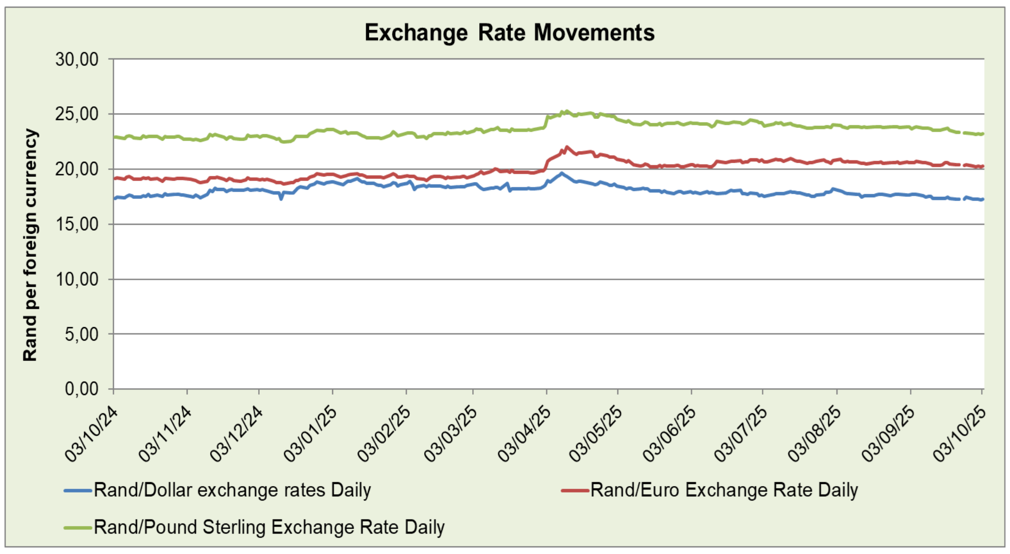
Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis



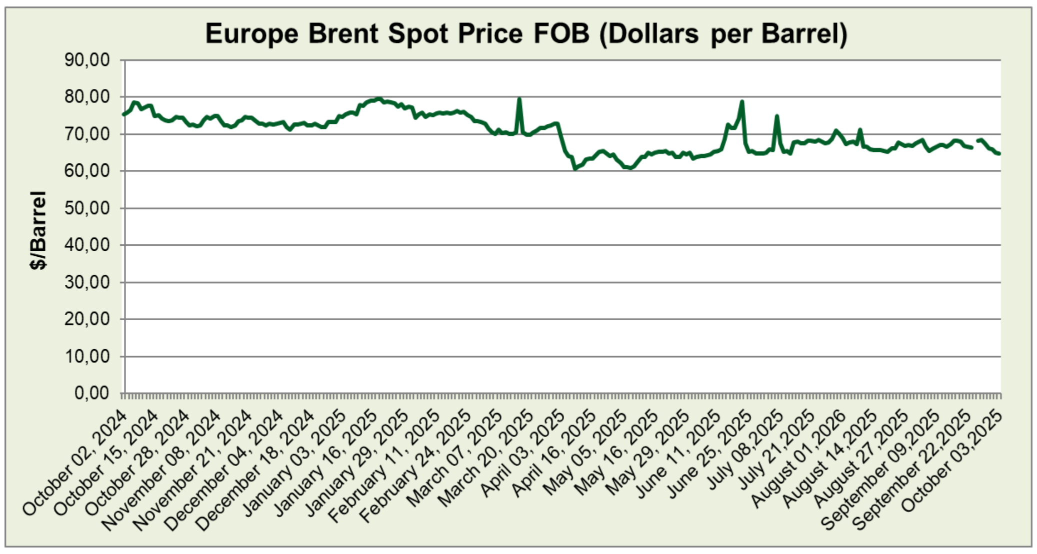
Both International and local market traded lower this week when compared to the previous week. The average prices of domestic white maize, yellow maize, wheat, soya bean and sunflower seed all decreased by 4.1%, 2.7%, 1.3%, 2.4% and 4.8% respectively, week on week. During the same period, the US grain prices of corn and wheat decreased by 1.1% respectively, whilst soybean prices fall by 0.4%. Grain markets remain under pressure from global supply, shifting demand, and geopolitical risks. Soybeans have taken the spotlight, while maize prices show some resilience thanks to strong export demand. Wheat and sunflower remain vulnerable to Black Sea developments, and local planting conditions will be key in early 2026.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago **Week 40** **(30-09-24 to 04-10-24)**	**Last week** **Week 39** **(22-09-25 to 26-09-25)**	**This week** **Week 40** **(29-09-25 to 03-10-25)**	**w-o-w % change**
RSA White Maize per ton	R5 493,00	R3 801,25	R3 644,00	-4,1%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R4 368,00	R3 545,75	R3 451,20	-2,7%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	$167,88	$166,86	$165,10	-1,1%
RSA Wheat per ton	R5 891,60	R6 069,5	R5 988,80	-1,3%
USA Wheat per ton	$219,11	$191,01	$188,92	-1,1%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R8 731,00	R7 035,25	R6 868,60	-2,4%
USA Soybeans per ton	$388,14	R372,73	R371,15	-0,4%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R9 597,40	R10 602,25	R10 093,80	-4,8%
Crude oil per barrel	$75,09	R67,41	R65,90	-2,2%



The SA rand appreciated by 0.4% against the US dollar, by 0.6% against the Euro and by 0.5% against the Pound sterling when compared to the previous week. The South African rand was steady on last week, while investors awaited news on whether the United States' flagship trade initiative with Africa, which expired will be renewed.



Brent crude oil price averaged $65.90/barrel in the reporting week which is 2.2% lower than $67.41/barrel week on week. Global oil stocks are expected to build by an average 2.6 million b/d in the fourth quarter of 2025 and remain elevated throughout 2026, putting downward pressure on prices, the EIA said in its October Short-Term Energy Outlook.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 38 (15/09/2025 to 21/09/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 39 (22/09/2025 to 28/09/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	9061	70,88	73,09	Class A2	9793	72,46	75,62
Class A3	429	69,82	74.11	Class A3	458	71,01	75,72
Class C2	1264	59,88	63,81	Class C2	1455	60,19	63,81

The units sold for class A2, class A3 and class C2 beef increased by 8.1%, 6.8% and 15.1% respectively, when compared to the previous week. The average purchase price for class A2, class A3 and class C2 beef also increased by 2.2%, 1.7% and 0.5% respectively, week on week. The average selling price for class A2 and class A3 beef increased by 3.5% and 2.2% respectively, while class C2 beef remains unchanged, when compared to the previous week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 38 (15/09/2025 to 21/09/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 39 (22/09/2025 to 28/09/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	11832	109,90	111,31	Class A2	12319	109,38	110,98
Class A3	1692	105,78	107,60	Class A3	1863	105,92	110,45
Class C2	1157	82,46	88,02	Class C2	1480	83,75	89,54

The units of lamb traded this week for class A2, A3 and C2 increased by 4.1%, 10.1% and 27.9% respectively, week on week. The average purchase prices for class A3 and C2 lamb increased by 0.1% and 1.6% respectively, whilst class A2 lamb decreased by 0.5% when compared to the previous week. The average selling prices for class A3 and C2 lamb increased by 2.6% and 1.7% respectively, whilst class A2 lamb decreased by 0.3% week on week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 38 (15/09/2025 to	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 39 (22/09/2025 to	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	14936	35,70	Class BP	16522	35,78
Class HO	10967	36,06	Class HO	10657	36,00
Class HP	2411	35,26	Class HP	1381	36,89

The quantities of pork traded this week for class BP increased by 10.6%, while class HO and HP pork decreased by 2.8% and 42.7% respectively, when compared to the previous week. During the same period the average purchase price for class BP and HP pork increased by 0.2% and 4.6% respectively, while class HO pork decreased by 0.2% week on week.

Latest News Developments

The South African Weather Service (SAWS) released its summer seasonal forecast, cautioning farmers to prepare for a wetter-than-usual summer as the country moves towards a weak La Niña event. The forecast, issued on 30 September at a media briefing with SAWS in collaboration with the National Press Club at Court Classique Hotel in Pretoria, showed that most parts of the country were likely to receive above-normal rainfall from late spring through to midsummer, especially in the north-eastern regions. La Niña, a climate pattern linked to cooler ocean temperatures in the Pacific Ocean, is known to influence rainfall patterns across South Africa. Speaking at the briefing, SAWS scientist Cobus Olivier said this could bring welcome relief for many farmers, with the potential to boost crop and livestock production. He explained that while forecasts earlier in the year suggested neutral conditions, recent changes now point to a weak La Niña forming, and this increases the likelihood of rainy weather. The forecast suggests that areas that usually receive most of their rain in late spring and summer, such as parts of Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Free State and North West, are likely to experience above-normal rainfall up until midsummer. Olivier urged farmers to take proactive measures, such as establishing proper drainage systems, to safeguard against floods and prevent drownings, injuries, and hypothermia. However, he said, farmers in parts of Mpumalanga and Limpopo should prepare for the opposite. The forecast warns that these provinces may receive below-normal rainfall, raising concerns about dry spells and possible drought stress. Olivier urged agricultural bodies to advise farmers in these areas to adopt measures such as conserving soil moisture, harvesting and storing water, improving drainage systems to manage excess rain in wetter regions, and using farming practices that safeguard crops and livestock against climate uncertainty.

Fuel price recoveries are kicking off the new month on the front foot, putting motorists in good standing for the coming weeks, and sparking hope for petrol price cuts in November. Early data from the Central Energy Fund (CEF) shows that both petrol and diesel prices are starting the new month with over-recoveries. Petrol prices are showing a significant over-recovery of between 38 and 42 cents per litre, while diesel prices have a slimmer over-recovery of around 5 cents per litre. While the start of the month is far too soon to make any definite calls for fuel price movements a month away, they do give a solid indication of direction. Starting off with over-recoveries means that sustained market conditions are likely to lead to cuts in November. If the rand weakens or oil prices rise significantly in the coming weeks, then the fortunes could reverse but the month is starting off positively for drivers. The opposite could also be true, and market conditions could continue to improve, leading to even bigger cuts. This trend was evident in September, where the month began with negative recoveries in fuel prices. However, a stronger rand and range-bound oil prices led to an improvement week on week. While petrol prices ended up with a small increase in October, this was due to wage increases for forecourt workers. October also marks the start of a new quarter, where other price adjustments come into effect, complicating the typical two-factor analysis of rand strength and oil prices.

For more information contact: Directorate Statistics & Economic Analysis (SEA) at HeidiP@dalrrd.gov.za or 0123198194.

Source: SAFEX, Standard bank, Stats SA, Engineering news, Reuters, Red Meat Abattoir Association, FNB, Agbiz and Absa Bank.
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