



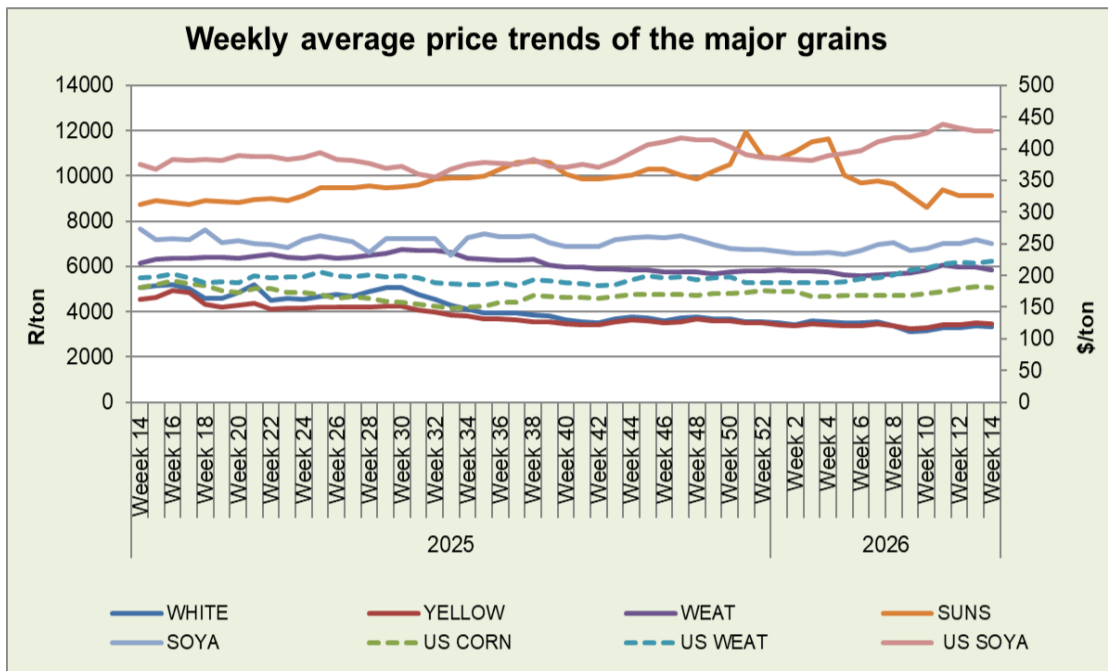
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 2 April 2026

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

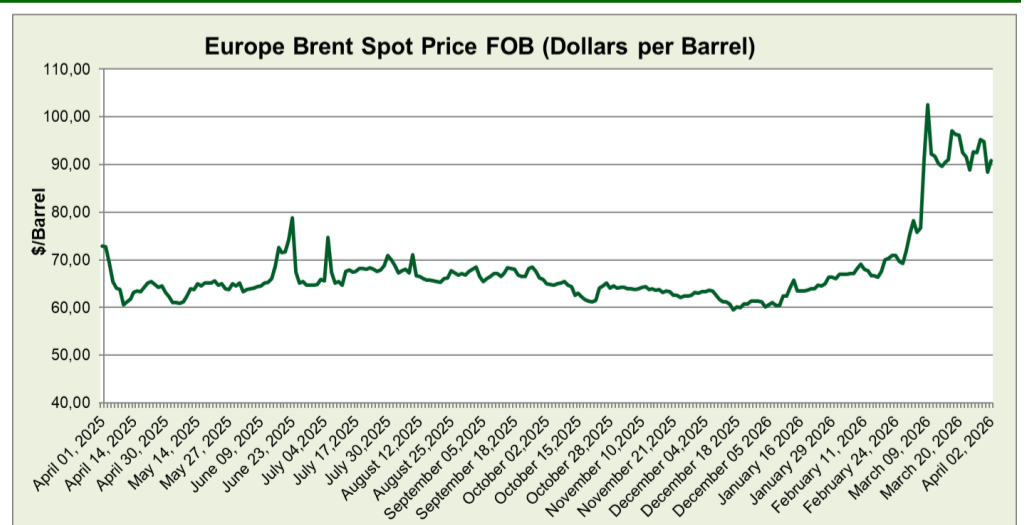
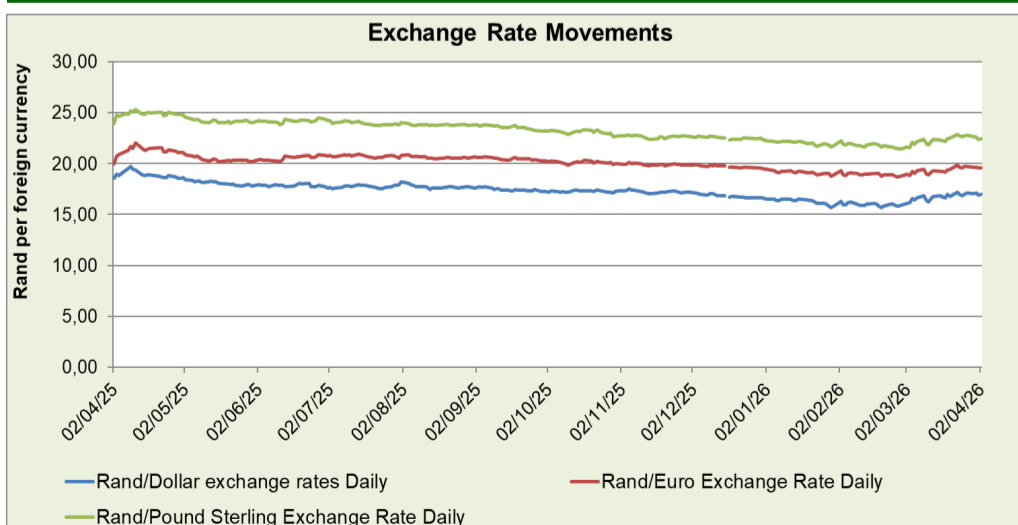
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The International and local market traded lower this week when compared to the previous week. The average prices of domestic white maize, yellow maize, wheat and soya bean decreased by 1.43%, 1.06%, 2.59% and 2.26% respectively, whilst sunflower seed increased by 0.04% week on week. Internationally, the grain prices of US corn and US soybean both decreased by 1.49% and 0.04% respectively, while US wheat increased by 1.90% when compared to the previous week. The US planting season has started under relatively dry conditions, but this is not currently a major concern. Weather forecasts indicate good rainfall over key maize and soybean regions, which may slightly delay planting but is unlikely to significantly impact markets. However, rainfall over the next two to three weeks will be critical for US wheat production. Should these rains fail to materialize, wheat prices could find some short-term support.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 13 (31-03-25 to 04-04-25)	Last week Week 13 (23-03-26 to 27-03-26)	This week Week 14 (30-03-26 to 02-04-26)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R5 057,80	R3 382,00	R3 333,50	-1,43%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R4 553,60	R3 497,00	R3 460,00	-1,06%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$180,09	\$182,78	\$180,05	-1,49%
RSA Wheat per ton	R6 128,60	R5 979,80	R5 825,00	-2,59%
USA Wheat per ton	\$197,00	\$218,66	\$222,81	1,90%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R7 677,80	R7 175,60	R7 013,25	-2,26%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$375,71	\$428,05	\$427,90	-0,04%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R8 757,60	R9 110,80	R9 118,50	0,08%
Crude oil per barrel	\$70,57	\$91,62	\$92,26	0,70%



The SA rand remained unchanged against the US dollar, while appreciated by 0.39% against the Euro and by 0.91% against the Pound sterling when compared to the previous week. Trump's comments on the Iran war help the local currency regain some ground but volatility is likely to continue.

The price of Brent crude oil increased by 0.70% this week compared to the previous week and ended the week at \$92.26 this week from \$91.62 the previous week. A tentative ceasefire in the Gulf led to a sharp decrease in oil prices, reducing the need for safe-haven dollar buying.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 12 (16/03/2026 to 22/03/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 13 (23/03/2026 to 29/03/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	9991	61,26	62,92	Class A2	12795	61,94	64,56
Class A3	735	62,17	64,06	Class A3	1073	62,43	65,25
Class C2	960	57,62	60,12	Class C2	859	57,63	59,69

The units sold for class A2 and A3 beef increased by 28.07% and 45.99% respectively, while class C2 beef decreased by 10.52% when compared to the previous week. The average purchase price for class A2, A3 and C2 beef increased by 1.11%, 0.42% and 0.02% respectively, week on week. The average selling price for class A2 and A3 beef increased by 2.61%, 1.86% respectively, whilst class C2 beef decreased by 0.72% when compared to the previous week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 12 (16/03/2026 to 22/03/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 13 (23/03/2026 to 29/03/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	15202	100,91	102,36	Class A2	16758	99,60	102,92
Class A3	2840	94,41	99,81	Class A3	3185	93,15	99,74
Class C2	1693	79,10	84,68	Class C2	1841	78,18	85,07

The units of lamb traded this week for class A2, A3 and C2 increased by 10.24%, 12.15% and 8.74% respectively, compared to the previous week. The average purchase prices for class A2, A3 and C2 lamb decreased by 1.30%, 1.33% and 1.16% respectively, week on week. The average selling prices for class A3 decreased by 0.07%, whilst class A2 and C2 lamb increased by 0.55% and 0.46% respectively compared to the previous week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 12 (16/03/2026 to 22/03/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 13 (23/03/2026 to 29/03/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	3021	41,21	Class BP	3385	40,94
Class HO	8410	39,85	Class HO	7709	39,86
Class HP	16257	40,15	Class HP	17923	40,01

The quantities of pork traded this week for class BP and HP increased by 12.05% and 10.25% respectively, while class HO pork decreased by 8.34% week on week. The average purchase price for class BP and HP pork decreased by 0.66% and 0.35% respectively, while class HO pork increased by 0.03% when compared to the previous week.

Latest News Developments

The South African Government has announced a temporary reduction in the general fuel levy in a bid to blunt steep April fuel price increases driven by global energy volatility, while signalling further support measures for households and key sectors. A temporary R3/ℓ cut in the general fuel levy comes into effect from 1 April, as government moves to shield consumers and the economy from sharp fuel price hikes linked to escalating conflict in the Middle East. The intervention, announced in a joint statement by Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana and Mineral and Petroleum Resources Minister Gwede Mantashe, will run until 5 May and forms part of a broader short-term relief package. The reduction will see the general fuel levy on petrol drop from R4,10/ℓ to R1,10/ℓ, and on diesel from R3,93/ℓ to R0,93/ℓ for the duration of the measure. Government said the move was aimed at cushioning consumers against what is expected to be a historically large fuel price increase in April, based on data from the Central Energy Fund. The levy relief is expected to cost the fiscus about R6 billion in foregone revenue over the one-month period, although Treasury indicated that mechanisms would be implemented to recover the shortfall within the existing fiscal framework.

The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) confirmed on 1 April that it has released another 20 000 doses of locally produced foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccine to support ongoing vaccination efforts and strengthen animal health across the country. This comes on the back of growing calls from veterinary and industry bodies for government to expedite the formalisation of the Section 10 scheme which will provide for the preventive vaccination of livestock against FMD, which includes private veterinarian participation. In his reaction to the ARC's announcement, the Minister of Agriculture, John Steenhuisen, said he welcomed the development. "The restoration of production capacity at the ARC is well underway with an additional investment into expanding the existing capacity over the medium-term already in progress".

AgriSA and Agbiz have raised concerns over emerging fuel supply constraints in South Africa's rural areas, warning that ongoing rationing could begin to disrupt agricultural operations if not urgently addressed. In a joint statement released on 28 March, the organisations called on the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy to implement an urgent, temporary adjustment to the fuel pricing mechanism, arguing that current conditions are adding to uncertainty and distorting supply behaviour. The warning follows a rapid survey conducted between 24 and 27 March among farmers and fuel retailers, which revealed widespread reports of constrained diesel supply and tightening access across multiple regions. While national fuel supply has officially been described as stable, AgriSA and Agbiz say conditions on the ground suggest otherwise.

Differences over how to manage foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) are testing the alignment between South Africa's livestock industry and veterinary leadership. The management of FMD has become a point of contention within South Africa's livestock sector, highlighting differing views on speed, control and responsibility. Recent developments have brought these differences into sharper focus, with Red Meat Industry Services (RMIS) warning that legal action by private veterinary groups could disrupt urgent disease control measures, while South African Veterinary Association (SAVA) and Ruminant Veterinary Association of South Africa (RuVASA) have mounted a direct challenge to what they describe as an unlawful expansion of RMIS's role.

For more information contact: Directorate Statistics & Economic Analysis (SEA) at DSEA@nda.gov.za, Tel:0123198454

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

Disclaimer: DOA will not be liable for results of actions based on this price watch.