



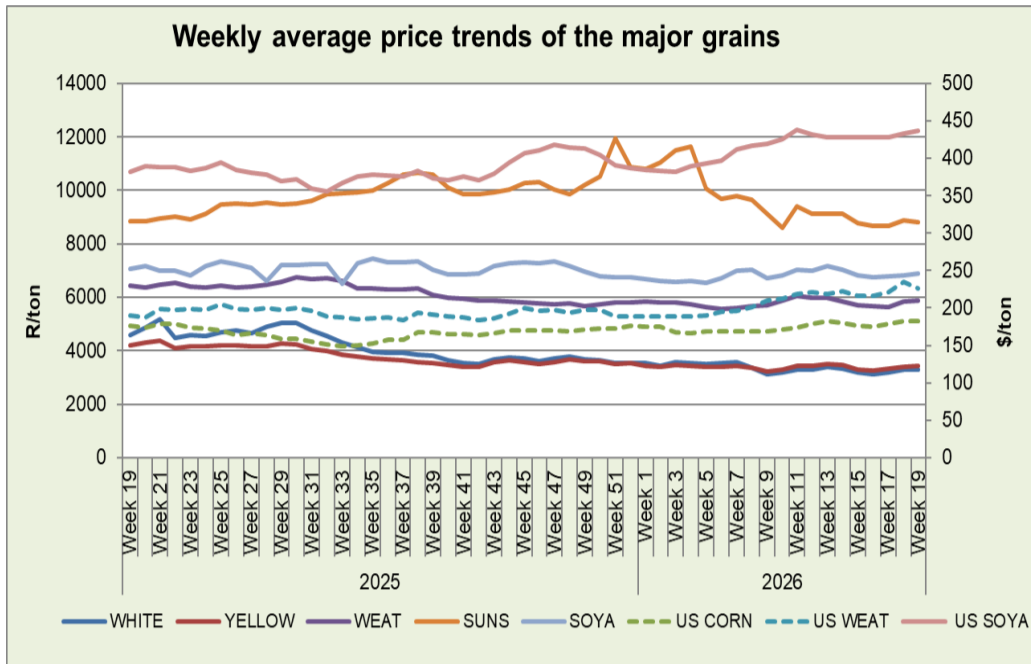
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 08 May 2026

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

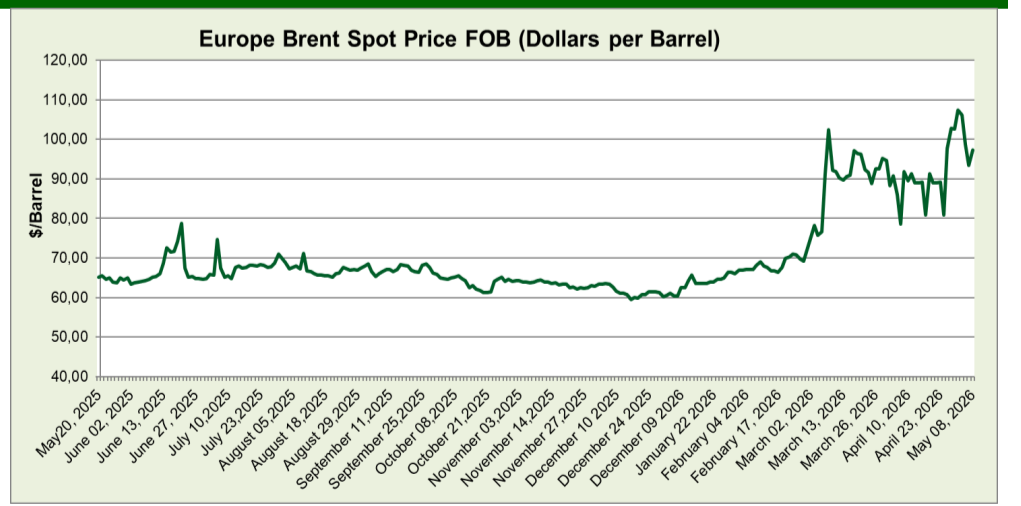
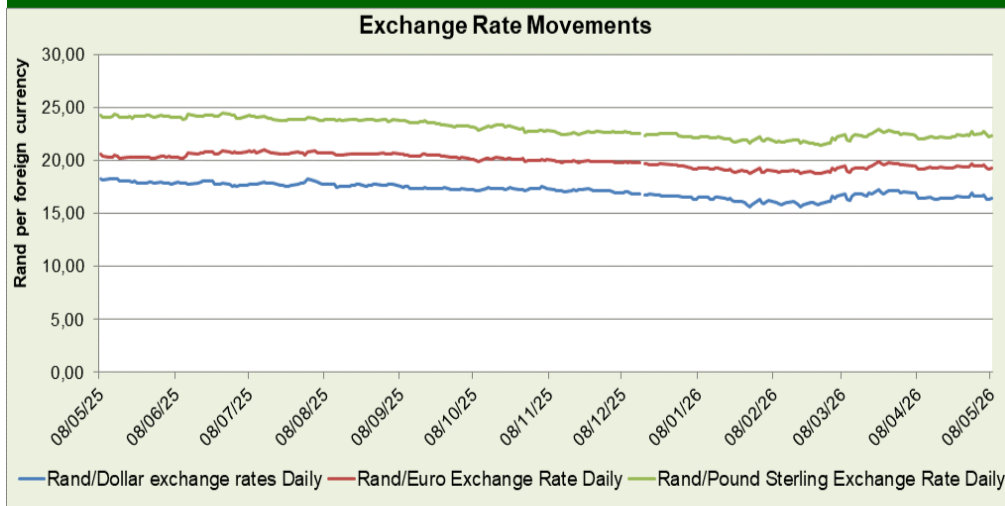
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The white and yellow maize price increased by 0.8% and 0.7% compared to the previous week, while the US maize price decreased by 0.3%. The rise in local maize prices came as a result of inter-alia; mounting fears of the growing likelihood an El Niño dry spell will collide with the start of South Africa's summer planting season in October and also fears of fuel increases due to the US/Iran conflicts. US maize sales were lower week to week amid ample global supplies. The price of local wheat decreased by 0.3%, while the USA wheat price decreased by 3.4%. Global wheat remains in good condition as French wheat crop remains in solid condition at around 80% good to excellent and fears of frost in the US Plains didn't occur as predicted. The price of local soybeans increased by 1.1% while the US soybeans price increased by 2%. Soybeans price recovered as crude oil stabilised during the week and buyers emerged at lower levels. The price of local sunflower decreased by 0.8%.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 19 (05-04-25 to 09-05-25)	Last week Week 18 (27-04-26 to 01-05-26)	This week Week 19 (04-05-26 to 08-05-26)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R5 034,60	R3 280,67	R3 307,40	0,8%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R4 103,00	R3 395,33	R3 419,20	0,7%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$176,81	\$182,69	\$182,07	-0,3%
RSA Wheat per ton	R6 306,00	R5 852,00	R5 869,20	0,3%
USA Wheat per ton	\$227,69	\$234,26	\$226,18	-3,4%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R8 811,60	R6 820,33	R6 895,00	1,1%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$446,33	\$428,50	\$437,00	2,0%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R8 901,20	R8 870,00	R8 797,40	-0,8%
Crude oil per barrel	\$61,33	\$101,03	\$101,39	0,4%



The Rand appreciated against the dollar, euro and pound relative to the previous week, the rand appreciated by 0.9%, 0.4% and 0.1 % respectively. South African rand gained on weaker dollar as a result of optimism over potential US-Iran deal. The South African rand gained against a weaker dollar during the week, as investors remained optimistic about a potential US-Iran peace deal.

The Brent crude oil price increased by 0.4% this week relative to the previous week. Brent crude and WTI recorded gains amid supply concerns. The oil price surged following a clash between US and Iranian forces near the Strait of Hormuz. The conflict created fears of disruptions in the waterway, while Libya's largest refinery halted operations.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 16 (13/04/2026 to 19/04/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 17(27/04/2026 to 03/05/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	10189	61,09	61,77	Class A2	9237	61,33	63,65
Class A3	602	60,84	64,11	Class A3	818	61,33	64,93
Class C2	1368	56,99	59,27	Class C2	724	56,88	60,17

The units of beef traded this week decreased for class A2 and C2 by 9.3% and 47.1% compared to the previous week, while increasing for class A3 by 35.9%. The purchase prices for class A2 and A3 beef increased by 0.4% and 0.8%, while decreased by 0.2% for class C2. The market prices for class A2, A3 and C2 increased by 3%, 1.3% and 1.5 % respectively.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 16 (13/04/2026 to 19/04/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 17(27/04/2026 to 03/05/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	13612	100,59	98,46	Class A2	13186	100,94	102,87
Class A3	2749	93,09	98,32	Class A3	2055	97,08	99,48
Class C2	1105	76,16	81,53	Class C2	662	72,10	82,31

The units of lamb traded this week decreased compared to the previous week, the units of lamb traded fell by 3.1%, 25.2% and 40.1% respectively. The purchase prices for lamb increased by 0.35% and 4.3% while decreasing by 5.3% for class C2. The market prices of lamb increased for class A2, A3 and C2 by 4.5%, 1.2% and by a percentage point for class C2.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 16 (13/04/2026 to 19/04/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 17(27/04/2026 to 03/05/2026)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	3547	40,61	Class BP	2790	39,44
Class HO	9063	39,23	Class HO	6336	38,78
Class HP	16214	39,39	Class HP	10539	38,76

The units of pork traded this week decreased for all classes, the unit of BP,HO and HP decreased by 21.3%, 30.1% and 35% respectively. The purchase prices for class BP, HO and HP decreased by 2.8%, 1.1% and 1.6%.

Latest News Developments

Mr Maximo Torero, Chief Economist, at the FAO stated that for the third consecutive month, the FAO Food Price Index has increased. The increase this month of April is 1.6 percent higher with compared to March and 2 percent higher on a year-on-year basis. He stated that this means that prices of the inputs costs are starting to be transmitted to the commodity prices but at a very low pace. The major increase is happening on vegetable oils which is linked to bio-fuels with a 5.9 percent increase with respect to the previous month and a very slight increase in the wheat price and also in the maize price; maize has increased by 0.7 percent.

Mr Torero further stated that with regards to increased fuel costs, the problem is of the significant increase in inputs costs, urea is 70 percent higher, natural gas 40 to 50 percent higher, the same with oil and sulphur is that farmers will have to make choices. Farmers will have to plan with less inputs and that will reduce yields or to switch to biofuels or to switch to commodities, which can fix more nitrogen.

Farmer-led initiative FMD Response South Africa stated that; Government's Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) eradication approach is most likely to fail owing to the vaccination rollout being fundamentally inadequate and slow at farm-level. The organisation deem it between 90% and 95% probable that government's current approach to vaccination will not mathematically achieve the herd immunity required by World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

FMD Response SA spokesperson Andrew Morphew says that while the organisation appreciates government's commitment to South African farmers and the acquisition of superior vaccines to control the outbreak of FMD, the only way to stop the disease spreading is to ensure the country's 14-million cattle are vaccinated within a tight time frame of six to eight weeks to ensure immunity to the virus.

Agricultural Business Chamber Chief Economist Wandile Sihlobo stated that; South African farmers pinched by mounting costs from the Iran war now face the added risk of an El Niño-induced drought, with implications for lower agricultural output and higher food prices. Agbiz warned of the growing likelihood an El Niño dry spell will collide with the start of South Africa's summer planting season in October. South African farms face El Niño drought risk on top of Iran war.

2026 is a very good year for South African wines, South African Wine Industry Body which is the representative body for the industry, reports that the national grape harvest for this year is estimated at 1.37-million tons, which is moderately higher than the amount harvested last year. This is despite the fact that the growing season is marked by significant changes in the weather, ranging from dry conditions to heavy rainfall. South Africa Wine CEO Rico Basson stated that the challenge in the current market is protecting value in an environment where global oversupply and pricing pressure are driving increased competition.

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