



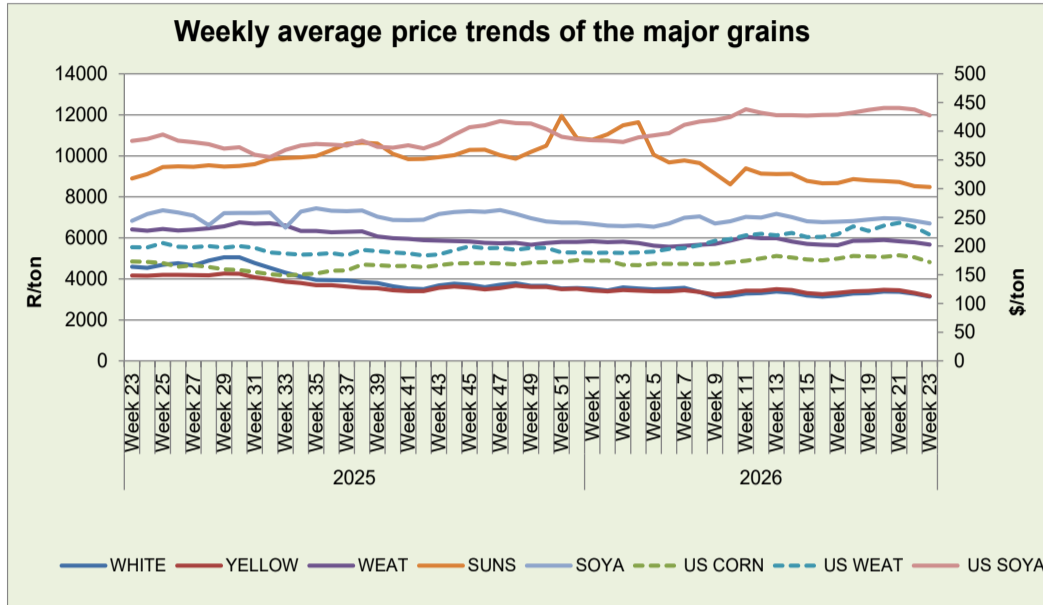
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 05 June 2026

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

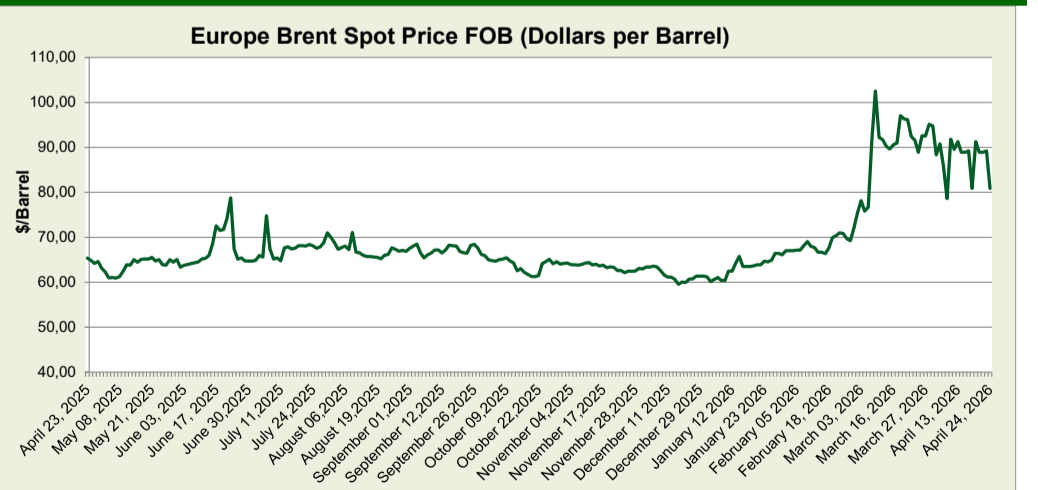
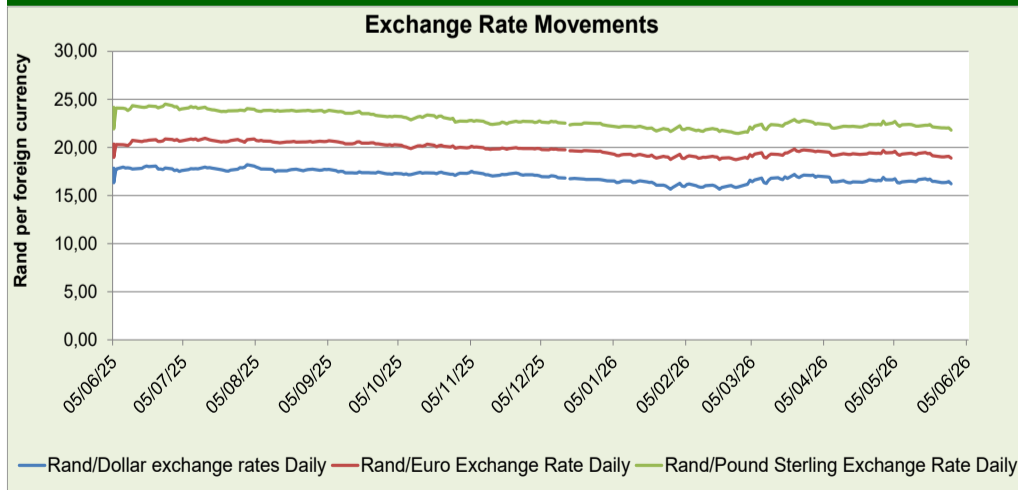
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



Domestic grain prices experienced a significant decline due to the increasing global supplies and favourable crop conditions. Local white and yellow maize, wheat, soybean and sunflower seed prices decreased by 4.2%, 4.7%, 1.9%, 1.9% and 0.4% respectively in the reporting week compared to the previous week. On the international front, the price of US yellow maize decreased by 4.6% from the previous week, as favourable weather conditions throughout the US Corn Belt, along with significant improvements in crop development, continued to bolster expectations for a substantial US corn harvest. The price of US wheat fell by 5.8% compared to the previous week, as the US winter wheat harvest progressed and favourable weather conditions improved crop outlook. Additionally, the price of US soybeans fell by 2.4% compared to the previous week, as favourable weather conditions in major areas improved expectations for a substantial soybean harvest.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

| | 1 year ago Week 23 (02-06-25 to 06-06-25) | Last week Week 22 (25-06-26 to 29-06-26) | This week Week 23 (01-06-26 to 05-06-26) | w-o-w % change |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| RSA White Maize per ton | R4 624,25 | R3 270,20 | R3 132,00 | -4,2% |
| RSA Yellow Maize per ton | R4 179,50 | R3 317,60 | R3 160,00 | -4,7% |
| USA Yellow Maize per ton | \$172,69 | \$180,45 | \$172,18 | -4,6% |
| RSA Wheat per ton | R6 392,25 | R5 781,80 | R5 671,00 | -1,9% |
| USA Wheat per ton | \$198,75 | \$233,26 | \$219,78 | -5,8% |
| RSA Soybeans per ton | R6 830,50 | R6 829,20 | R6 697,60 | -1,9% |
| USA Soybeans per ton | \$383,11 | \$437,87 | \$427,39 | -2,4% |
| RSA Sunflower seed per ton | R8 901,50 | R8 518,40 | R8 482,60 | -0,4% |
| Crude oil per barrel | \$63.91 | \$94,42 | \$96,25 | 1,9% |



The rand appreciated by 0.4% against the US dollar week-on-week, as South African Reserve Bank Governor signalled a highly hawkish monetary policy stance to combat inflation. The rand appreciated by 0.4% against the Pound Sterling week-on-week, while uncertainty surrounding US-Iran negotiations persists in fostering a cautious sentiment within the local market. The rand appreciated by 0.4% against the Euro, following reports indicating that EU inflation has surged to its highest level since 2023.

Brent crude oil averaged \$96.25 during the reporting week, reflecting a 1.9% increase compared to the previous week's average of \$94.42, in light of the continuing US-Iran peace negotiations, which have yet to produce significant advancements in the effort to reopen the vital Strait of Hormuz. US President Donald Trump stated that discussions with Iran were progressing positively, even though Hezbollah, which is supported by Tehran, dismissed a ceasefire agreement mediated by the US between Israel and Lebanon.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

| Week 21 (18/05/2026 to 24/05/2026) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price | Week 22 (25/05/2026 to 31/05/2026) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Class A2 | 10 697 | 62,24 | 64,44 | Class A2 | 11 697 | 63,49 | 66,27 |
| Class A3 | 1 161 | 62,93 | 64,43 | Class A3 | 900 | 64,25 | 67,50 |
| Class C2 | 1 177 | 56,97 | 60,22 | Class C2 | 1 192 | 57,98 | 61,06 |

Surging beef prices are fundamentally altering South African consumer spending patterns across both retail grocery and fast-food sectors, with red meat inflation outbalancing most other food categories. According to the Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP), this pricing surge is primarily driven by critical supply constraints linked to persistent livestock diseases. Specifically, recurring outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) have severely disrupted cattle production and marketing networks, culminating in reduced slaughter volumes and below-average carcass weights. During the reporting week, unit sales for class A2 and C2 beef experienced increases of 9.3% and 1.3%, respectively, compared to the previous week, whereas unit sales of class A3 beef experienced a decline of 22.5% week-on-week. Regarding pricing, the weekly average purchase prices for class A2, class A3, and class C2 beef rose by 2.0%, 2.1%, and 1.8%, respectively, in the reporting week compared to the previous week. Concurrently, the weekly average selling prices for class A2, class A3, and class C2 beef increased by 2.8%, 4.8%, and 1.4%, respectively, week-on-week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

| Week 21 (18/05/2026 to 24/05/2026) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price | Week 22 (25/05/2026 to 31/05/2026) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Class A2 | 15 645 | 110,57 | 115,92 | Class A2 | 14 024 | 111,36 | 114,70 |
| Class A3 | 2 593 | 105,17 | 113,44 | Class A3 | 2 950 | 107,14 | 114,79 |
| Class C2 | 971 | 79,86 | 89,21 | Class C2 | 850 | 78,47 | 87,00 |

The lamb market exhibited diverse reactions during the reporting week compared to the previous week, while the good rainfall occurred in April and May, along with the favourable grazing conditions, could explain why calves are retained for a longer period to achieve greater weaning weights. According to the Red Meat Producers' Organisation, it is anticipated that lamb prices may experience a slight decline in June before increasing in July. During the reporting week, unit sales of class A2 and Class C2 lamb fell by 10.4% and 12.5% respectively in the reporting week compared to the previous week, while unit sales of class A3 lamb increased by 13.8% week-on-week. In terms of pricing, the weekly average purchase prices for class A2 and class A3 lamb increased by 0.7% and 1.9% respectively, in the reporting week compared to the previous week, while the weekly average purchase price for class A3 lamb decreased by 1.7% week-on-week. During the same period, the weekly average selling prices for class A2 and class C2 lamb fell by 1.1% and 2.5% respectively in the reporting week compared to the preceding week, while the weekly average selling prices for class A3 increased by 1.2% week-on-week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

| Week 21 (18/05/2026 to 24/05/2026) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Week 22 (25/05/2026 to 31/05/2026) | Units | Avg Purchase Price |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Class BP | 3 245 | 35,19 | Class BP | 3 717 | 34,20 |
| Class HO | 9 547 | 36,77 | Class HO | 9 365 | 36,25 |
| Class HP | 15 480 | 36,58 | Class HP | 15 016 | 35,44 |

The pork meat market has undergone considerable fluctuations due to the impacts of African Swine Fever (ASF) and Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD). During the reporting week, unit sales for class HO and class HP pork fell by 1.9% and 3.0%, respectively, when compared to the previous week, whereas unit sales for class BP rose by 14.5% week-on-week. Regarding pricing, the average weekly purchase price for class BP, class HO, and class HP pork saw declines of 2.8%, 1.4%, and 3.1%, respectively, in the reporting week relative to the previous week.

Latest News Developments

The poultry industry in South Africa has welcomed Agriculture Minister John Steenhuisen's significant decision to create a regulatory framework for the vaccination against Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). This change in policy marks a departure from the conventional mass culling methods, which have previously led to substantial financial losses, disrupted meat and egg availability, and increased food prices for consumers. With the forthcoming legal amendments, farmers will be able to implement vaccination programs as long as they adhere to stringent state regulations, comprehensive monitoring, and enhanced biosecurity measures. The decision comes after a formal objection was submitted by the South African Poultry Association (SAPA) in accordance with the Animal Diseases Act. The association contended that the current regulations provided poultry producers with insufficient options to address ongoing outbreaks, compelling farmers to cull significant numbers of birds, including healthy flocks, in order to adhere to disease-control protocols. Minister Steenhuisen remarked that by revising the policy, this will empower producers with the legal authority to utilize validated scientific methods to safeguard their farms, preserve agricultural employment, and ensure affordable food for the public. In reaction, SAPA characterized this announcement as a significant achievement for the industry and a product of ongoing collaboration with the government to obtain practical, science-driven solutions for managing avian influenza.

Grain SA and the South African Cereals and Oilseeds Trade Association (Sacota) have initiated legal and administrative action against the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the DTIC) over prolonged delays in executing a revised wheat tariff. The application, originally submitted to the International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC) in June 2024, has languished for two years without finalization. Grain SA contends that the lack of resolution leaves domestic wheat farmers highly vulnerable to heavily subsidized foreign imports. The legal escalation follows the expiration of a June 1 deadline set by a formal letter of demand sent to ITAC, the DTIC Minister, and the Minister of Finance.

South African consumers face compounding financial strain as significant petrol price increases and recent South African Reserve Bank (SARB) interest rate hikes took effect simultaneously this June. While petrol prices went up by R1.43 per litre, diesel users saw a substantial relief, with prices dropping up to R3.25 per litre. In response to these volatile shifts which have been amplified by the ongoing conflict in the Persian Gulf, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) has renewed calls for government intervention through extended Fuel Levy relief to protect workers and the broader economy. Cosatu has warned that the domestic economy, currently constrained by a stagnant 1% growth rate, cannot absorb further petrol price hikes alongside the scheduled termination of fuel levy relief. While acknowledging the marginal relief provided by diesel price drops, the federation emphasized that a July expiration of state interventions will leave commuters and low-income workers highly vulnerable if global oil volatility persists. Consequently, the labour group is advocating for an extension of the levy baseline to prevent a severe erosion of household purchasing power.

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