



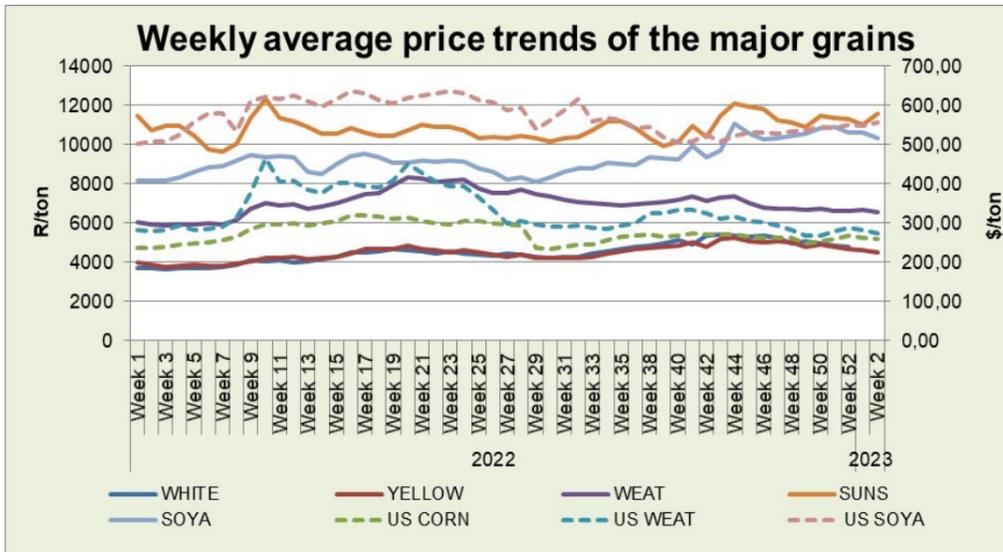
agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 13 January 2023

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

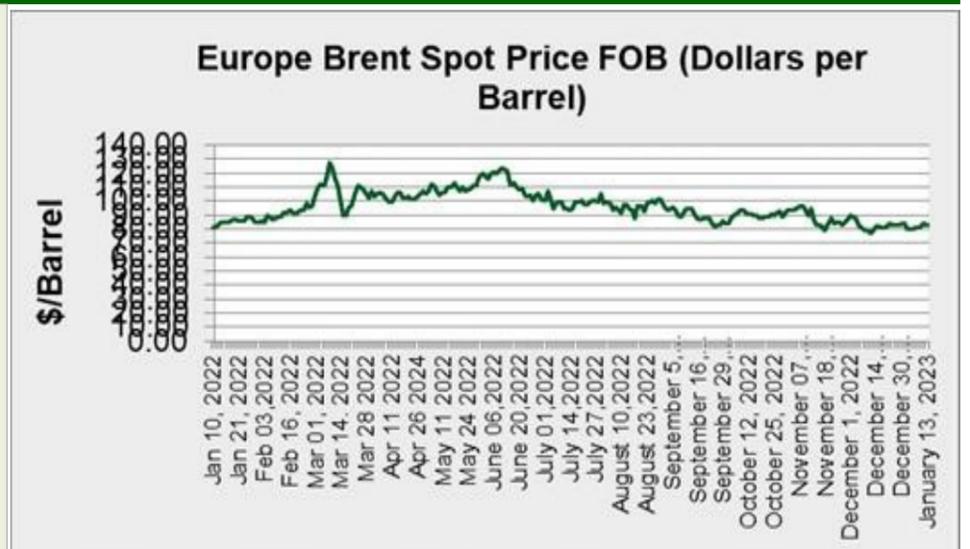
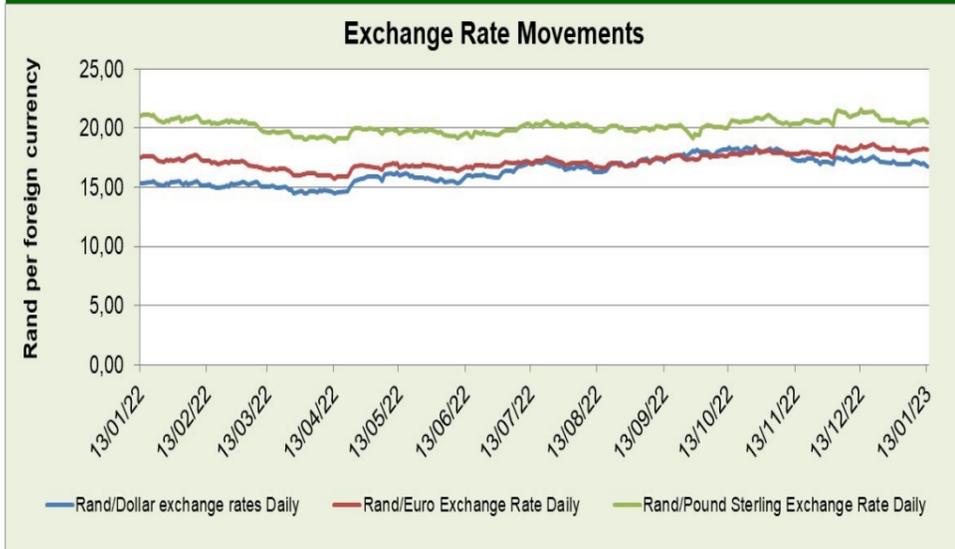
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The International and local market traded marginally weaker this week when compared to the previous week. The prices of domestic grains reported a decrease in the prices of white maize, yellow maize, wheat, and soybeans which decreased by 4.2%, 2.6%, 2.0% and 2.4% respectively, while price of sunflower increased by 4.8% when compared the previous week. Internationally, the grain price of US corn and US wheat decreased by 0.9% and 3.3% respectively, week on week. While Soya increased by 1.6% from week to week. War in Ukraine continues to inject volatility into grain futures.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 2 (10-22 to 14-01-22)	Last week Week 1 (03-01-23 to 06-01-23)	This week Week 2 (09-01-23 to 13-01-23)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R 3 696.20	R 4 742.50	R 4 542.40	-4.2%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R 3 827.80	R 4 582.50	R 4 462.80	-2.6%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$ 235.71	\$ 261.31	\$ 258.93	-0.9%
RSA Wheat per ton	R 5 885.40	R 6 654.50	R 6 518.20	-2.0%
USA Wheat per ton	\$ 278.87	\$ 281.04	\$ 271.79	-3.3%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R 8 131.80	R 10 574.00	R 10 316.00	-2.44%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$ 507.72	\$ 546.67	\$ 555.51	1.6%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R 10 713.00	R 11 017.75	R 11 552.00	4.8%
Crude oil per barrel	\$ 83.11	\$ 81.09	\$ 82.17	1.30%



The South African rand appreciated by 0.5% against the US dollar and depreciated by 1.0% and 0.9% against the Euro and Pound sterling respectively.

Brent crude oil price averaged \$82.17/barrel in the reporting week which is 1.3% higher than \$81.09/barrel reported in the previous week.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 52 (26/12/2022 to 01/01/2023)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 1 (02/01/2023 to 08/01/2023)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Beef							
Class A2	5 522	57,54	64,63	Class A2	3 936	63.89	63.49
Class A3	3004	57,93	62,87	Class A3	2 646	61.94	63.52
Class C2	325	50,50	56,20	Class C2	315	51.92	54.90

Units sold for class A2, A3 and class C2 beef decreased by 28.7%, 11.9% and 3.1% respectively, in the reporting week compared to the previous week. This decrease can be ascribed to the end of the festive season. The weekly average purchase prices for class A2, A3 and C2 beef increased by 11.0%, 6.9% and 2.8 respectively in the reporting week compared to the previous week. The weekly average selling prices for class A2 and class C2 beef decreased by 1.8% and 2.3% respectively in the reporting week compared to the previous week whilst, the weekly average selling price for class A2 beef increased by 1.0% week-on-week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 52 (26/12/2022 to 01/01/2023)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 1 (02/01/2023 to 08/01/2023)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Lamb							
Class A2	13 106	90,43	93,35	Class A2	10 871	90.72	90.92
Class A3	1599	88,97	93,59	Class A3	1 283	90.57	90.07
Class C2	1019	66,92	73,66	Class C2	655	66.51	72.67

Units sold for class A2, class A3 and class C2 lamb decreased by 17.1%, 19.8% and 35.7% respectively in the reporting week compared to the previous week. The end of the festive season was the reason for the decreases. The weekly average purchase prices for class A2 and class A3 lamb increased by 0.3% and 1.8% respectively, while Class C2 decreased by 0.6% in the reporting week compared to the previous week. The weekly average selling prices for class A2, class A3 and class C2 lamb decreased by 2.6%, 3.8% and 1.3% respectively in the reporting week compared to the previous week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 52 (26/12/2022 to 01/01/2023)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 1 (02/01/2023 to 08/01/2023)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Pork					
Class BP	8 569	37,41	Class BP	9 360	37.21
Class HO	4 178	37,11	Class HO	3 692	36.57
Class HP	4 333	36,31	Class HP	4 522	36.75

Units sold for class BP and HP class pork increased by 9.2% and 4.4% respectively in the reporting week compared to the previous week whilst, units sold for class HO pork decreased by 11.6% week-on-week. Meanwhile, the weekly average purchase prices for class BP and HO pork decreased by 0.5% and 1.5% respectively in reporting week compared to the previous week whilst, the weekly average purchase price for class HP pork increased by 1.2% week-on-week.

Latest News Developments

South African farming community's safety is also one of national food security. Thus, agricultural crime is not just a problem that farmers must contend with; it is an issue that affects the entire country. This is why he believes it is imperative for farmers to receive the support they need to safeguard themselves, their families and their workers. Agri Securitas's board of trustees recently approved a R1,9 million disbursement to support rural safety projects. The trust fund was established in 1999, and since its inception it has contributed more than R16 million to rural safety initiatives, thanks to donations from the private sector. "The additional costs to protect themselves and their businesses against criminals has a severe impact on South Africa's farmers, whose profit margins are already paper-thin. And what happens in the Free State happens in the other provinces. "Lawbreaking, violence and corruption cast a very dark shadow over the long-term sustainability of the entire agricultural value chain. The situation can be likened to that of a boa constrictor suffocating its prey slowly yet effectively. There have been cases of farmers becoming so disheartened by this ever-ticking crime time bomb that they have given up farming," says Van Zyl. While the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war have underscored the importance of countries being food self-sufficient, the ever-increasing levels of agricultural crime are progressively threatening the self-sufficiency that South African consumers have come to rely on said Cobus van Zyl, chairperson of the Agri Securitas Trust Fund.

According to Buys, many producers, farmers' associations and agricultural unions have installed security-camera systems in their areas in an effort to mitigate crime. FSA estimates that, so far, the existing camera network has cost the province's farming sector more than R100 million. Buys says that many farmers have also bought drones and use this technology to prevent the theft of their livestock. And while the total cost of this kind of technology is difficult to quantify, it's safe to assume that it runs into millions of rands. The costs that farmers in Free State have incurred so far to erect alarms and other security systems around their houses and properties is also estimated at a total of R100 million. As technology improves, systems must be updated or new ones introduced, which means farmers must spend even more money to protect their lives and livelihoods.

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