



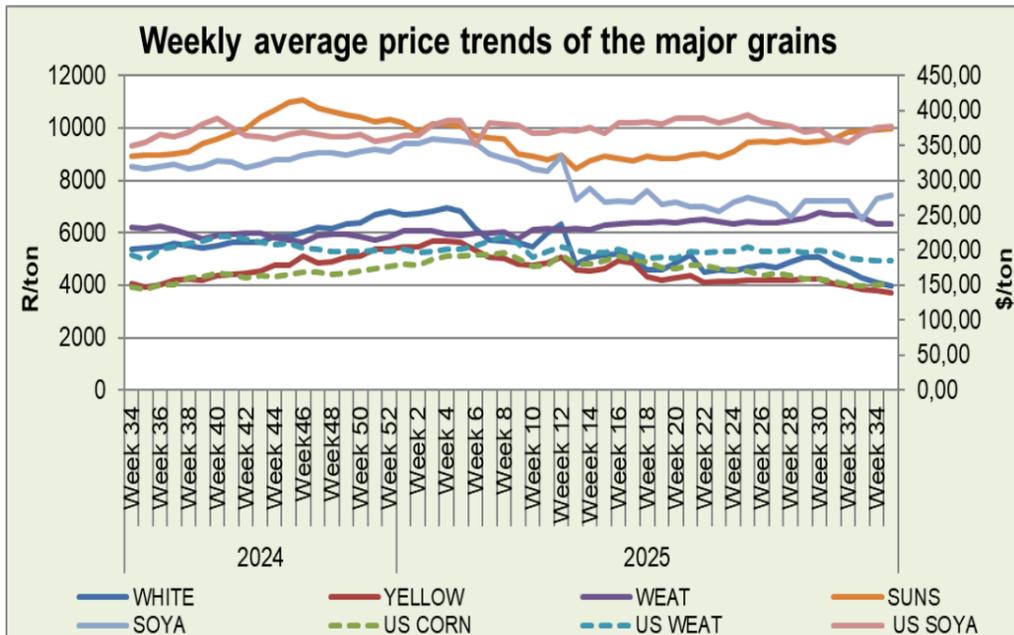
# agriculture

Department:  
Agriculture  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## Weekly Price Watch: 29 August 2025

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

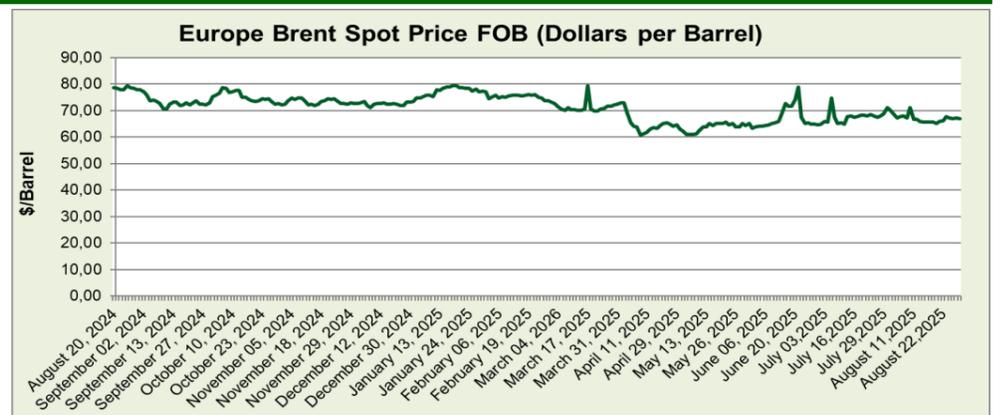
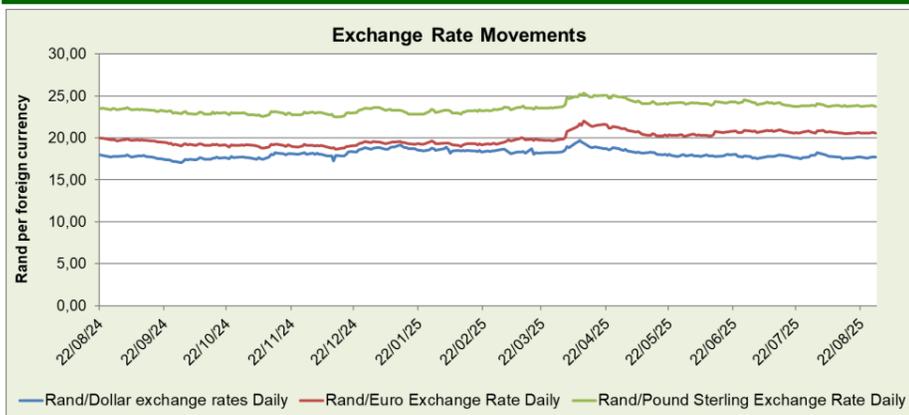
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



This week's grain markets reflected a mixed performance both locally and internationally. In South Africa, domestic white maize and yellow maize prices declined by 3.9% and 2.6%, respectively, while wheat eased slightly by 0.1%. By contrast, soybeans increased by 2.1% and sunflower seed increased by 0.6% on a week-on-week basis. Internationally, US maize increased by 1.0%, US wheat rose by 0.4%, and US soybeans increased by 0.7%. For South Africa, maize prices remain weighed down by expectations of strong global supplies, particularly from the US and Brazil. Local maize prices are strongly influenced by domestic supply conditions. Good yields domestically ease price pressure.

### Spot price trends of major grains commodities

|                            | 1 year ago<br>Week 35<br>(26-08-24 to 30-08-24) | Last week<br>Week 34<br>(18-08-25 to 22-08-25) | This week<br>Week 35<br>(25-08-25 to 29-08-25) | w-o-w % change |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| RSA White Maize per ton    | R5 425,40                                       | R4 114,80                                      | R3 954,20                                      | -3,9%          |
| RSA Yellow Maize per ton   | R3 952,00                                       | R3 795,00                                      | R3 698,20                                      | -2,6%          |
| USA Yellow Maize per ton   | \$144,37  | \$150,64                                       | \$152,17                                       | 1,0%           |
| RSA Wheat per ton          | R6 185,60                                       | R6 341,60                                      | R6 336,20                                      | -0,1%          |
| USA Wheat per ton          | \$187,22  | \$185,17                                       | \$185,85                                       | 0,4%           |
| RSA Soybeans per ton       | R8 456,40                                       | R7 282,40                                      | R7 436,60                                      | 2,1%           |
| USA Soybeans per ton       | \$353,55  | \$375,17                                       | \$3 77,92                                      | 0,7%           |
| RSA Sunflower seed per ton | R8 972,00                                       | R9 925,40                                      | R9 986,60                                      | 0,6%           |
| Crude oil per barrel       | \$78,38   | \$65,71  | \$67,15  | 2,2%           |



The South African rand showed modest gains, appreciating by 0.31% against the US dollar, 0.25% against the euro, and 0.24% against the pound sterling compared to the previous week. This improvement highlights a firmer performance supported by stable global market conditions and resilient domestic trade activity.

During the reporting week, Brent crude oil prices climbed to an average of \$67.15 per barrel, a 2.2% increase from \$65.71 per barrel in the previous week. Escalating tensions and intensified airstrikes in the Russia-Ukraine conflict raised concerns about potential disruptions to Russian oil output.



### National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

| Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17 /08/2025) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price | Week 34 (18/08/2025 to 24 /08/2025) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Class A2                            | 7970  | 71,83              | 73,31             | Class A2                            | 8027  | 72,32              | 74,92             |
| Class A3                            | 403   | 69,34              | 75,02             | Class A3                            | 356   | 69,5               | 80,47             |
| Class C2                            | 1733  | 60,06              | 61,98             | Class C2                            | 1612  | 57,59              | 63,09             |

The beef market showed mixed trends during the week under review. Class A2 recorded a modest increase, with units traded up by 0.7%, while both the average purchase and selling prices increased by 0.7% and 2.2%, respectively. In contrast, Class A3 volumes dropped sharply by 11.7%, although prices strengthened, with the average purchase price up by 0.2% and the selling price increased by 7.3%. For Class C2, the number of units traded declined by 7.0%, the average purchase price decreased by 4.1%, while the average selling price still increased by 1.8% compared to the previous week.

### National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

| Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17 /08/2025) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price | Week 34 (18/08/2025 to 24 /08/2025) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Avg Selling Price |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Class A2                            | 12108 | 107,46             | 111,44            | Class A2                            | 9064  | 109,07             | 113,08            |
| Class A3                            | 1193  | 105,34             | 109,12            | Class A3                            | 1384  | 107,14             | 111,38            |
| Class C2                            | 1235  | 83                 | 90,51             | Class C2                            | 826   | 82,85              | 89,52             |

The lamb market showed mixed performance during the week under review. Class A2 volumes traded declined sharply by 25.1%, though both the average purchase and selling prices increased by 1.5% each. Class A3 recorded stronger activity, with units sold up by 16.0%, while the average purchase price rose by 1.7% and the selling price by 2.1%. Class C2 registered a significant drop in units traded of 33.1%, accompanied by a slight decrease of 0.2% in the average purchase price and a 1.1% decline in the selling price compared to the previous week.

### National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

| Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17 /08/2025) | Units | Avg Purchase Price | Week 34 (18/08/2025 to 24 /08/2025) | Units | Avg Purchase Price |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| Class BP                            | 14770 | 34,89              | Class BP                            | 13826 | 35,1               |
| Class HO                            | 4494  | 34,18              | Class HO                            | 4447  | 34,49              |
| Class HP                            | 4409  | 33,99              | Class HP                            | 4662  | 34,78              |

The pork market performance for class BP trade volumes fell by 6.4%, although its average purchase price increased slightly by 0.6%. Class HO also recorded a modest decline in units traded of 1.0%, with prices strengthening by 0.9%. In contrast, Class HP showed notable resilience, with volumes rising by 5.7% and the average purchase price increasing by 2.3% compared to the previous week.

## Latest News Developments

The Agbiz Agribusiness Confidence Index dipped in Q3, with uncertainty over new US tariffs on agricultural products and ongoing animal health issues weighing on sentiment. The Agbiz/IDC Agribusiness Confidence Index (ACI) fluctuated between 38 and 58 in 2024 before climbing sharply to 70 in the first quarter of 2025. It then eased to 65 in Q2 and 63 in Q3. According to Dawie Maree, Head of Agriculture Marketing and Information at FNB, the recent dip can largely be attributed to uncertainty surrounding foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and the introduction of new US trade tariffs. However, both challenges are expected to ease as the rollout of the FMD vaccine advances and the true impact of tariffs becomes clearer. Maree noted that while the tariffs pose a risk, they are not as severe as initially feared, with producers already adapting to mitigate their effects. Despite the decline, overall sentiment remains stronger than levels recorded between 2022 and 2024. Confidence is being supported by political stability following the formation of the Government of National Unity, improved port operations, over 100 consecutive days without load-shedding, lower interest rates, and favourable rainfall. General agricultural conditions weakened, falling 13 points to 67 due to persistent animal health challenges. Nonetheless, this remains a relatively positive level, underpinned by strong summer rainfall in 2024/25 and excellent winter rainfall boosting prospects for the 2025/26 crop season.

The sugar industry has welcomed the 13 August Government Gazette, in which Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Parks Tau, approved a block exemption allowing growers, millers, retailers, and food and beverage manufacturers to consult on procuring more than 90% of local sugar without contravening the Competition Act (No. 89 of 1998). The exemption, which will remain in effect for five years, is aimed at protecting approximately 65,000 jobs in the industry and sustaining over one million livelihoods connected to sugar cane farming. It also seeks to support small-scale and black farmers while boosting economic development in rural communities across KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga. The South African Sugar Association (SASA) has expressed full support for the initiative, noting that it provides a solid platform for product diversification, transformation, and long-term sustainability. The exemption further enables collaboration among stakeholders to identify and advance diversification projects, ensuring that the industry adapts to evolving market demands while safeguarding its social and economic contributions.

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