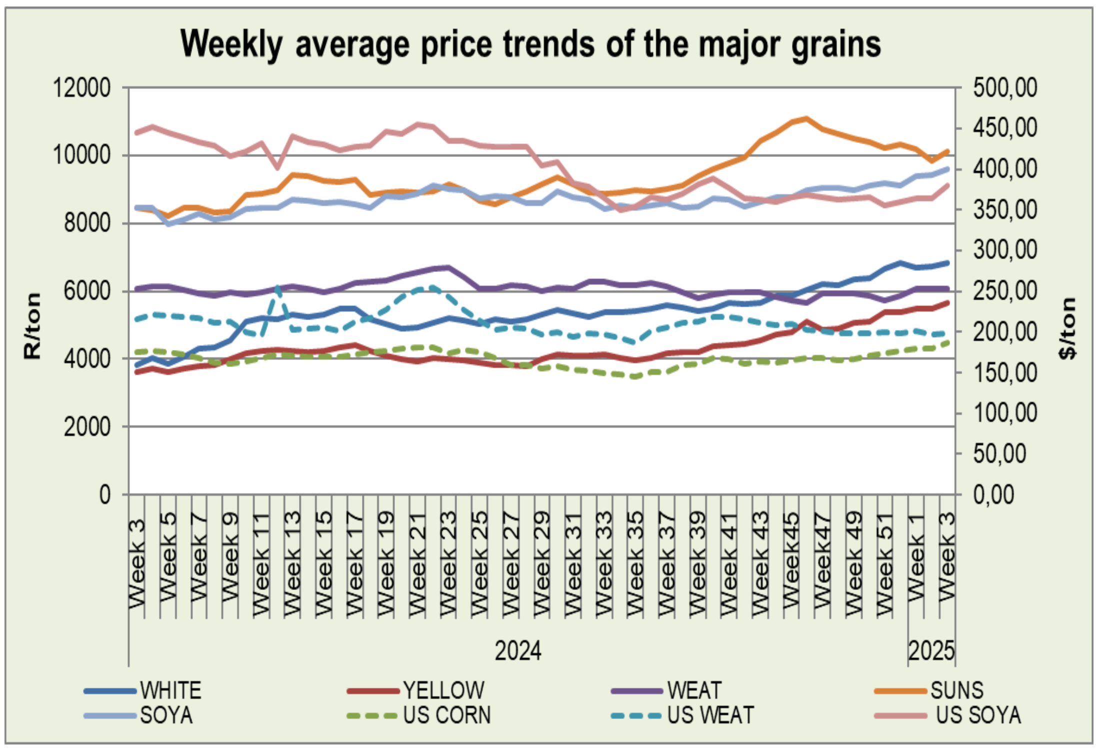
agriculture,
forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 17 January 2025

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

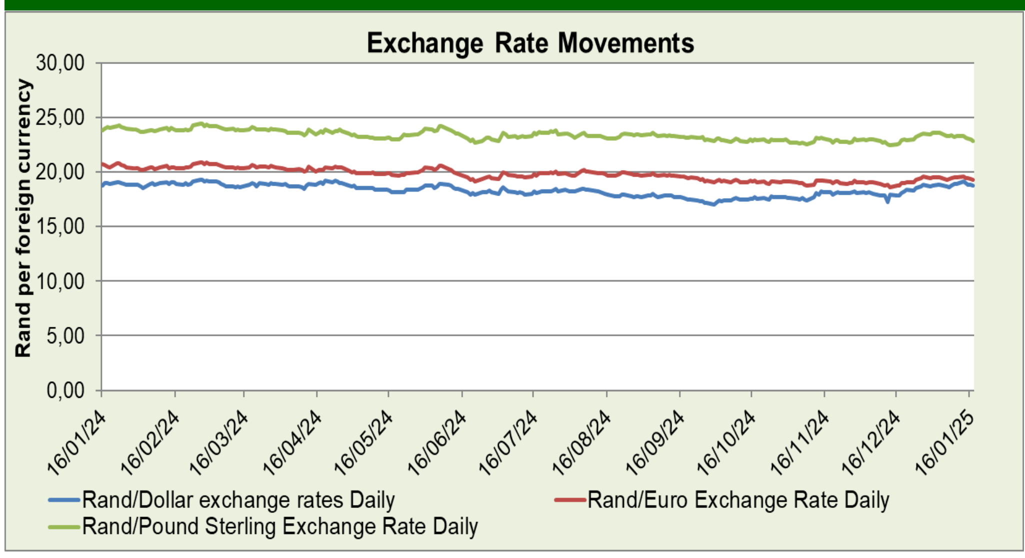
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



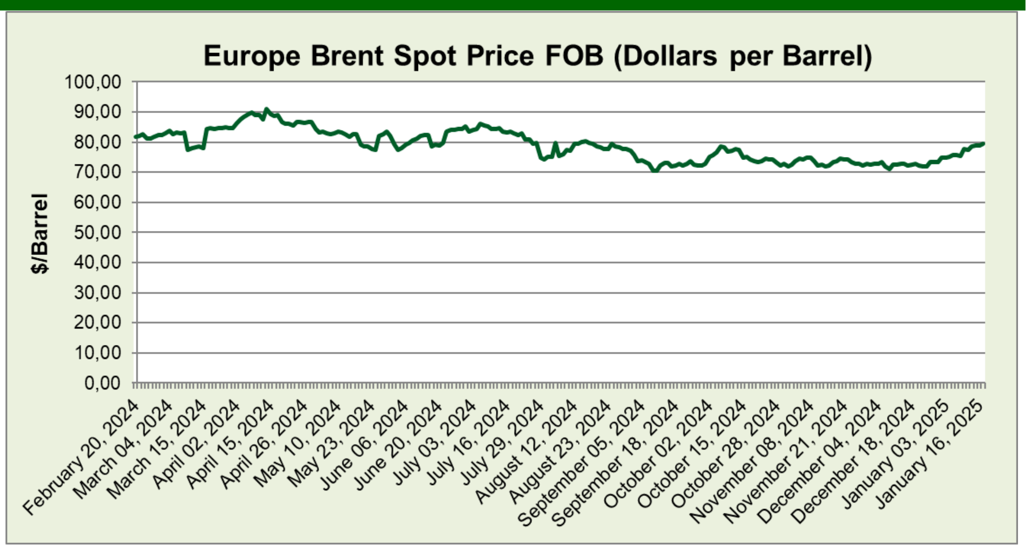
The price of white and yellow maize increased by 1.5% and 3.2%, while it increased by 4.3% internationally. The local price increase as imports rose in SA as supply is needed in drought affected neighbouring countries with strong demand arising from Zimbabwe for white and yellow maize. The World maize price increased as crop estimates are expected to be reduced in Argentina as a result of dryness, also production is expected to reduced in Brazil due to persistent dryness. The price of local wheat decreased by 0.1% and increased by 1% in the US, the local price tracked news by the International Grains Council indicating an expected record World wheat production showing supply will be abundant. The US wheat price tracked the US maize price. The price of soybeans increased by 1.9% locally while the World price increased by 4.3%, as US soybeans production remain uncertain, as producers await direction before planting maize or soybeans. The crop rotation usually favours maize over soybeans. The price of sunflower increased by 2.9% this week, as lower output is anticipated, production is expected to decline by 25%, while local production is lower than it was in the previous year.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 03 (15-01-24 to 19-01-24)	Last week Week 02 (06-01-25 to 10-01-25)	This week Week 03 (13-01-25 to 17-01-25)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R3 818,80	R6 739.80	R6 839	1,5%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R3 614,00	R5 484.80	R5 662	3,2%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	$175,08	$179.22	$187	4,3%
RSA Wheat per ton	R6 089,80	R6 087.00	R4 912	-0,1%
USA Wheat per ton	$216,19	$197.11	$199	1,0%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R8 457,20	R9 414.00	R9 592	1,9%
USA Soybeans per ton	$445,14	$ 363.41	$379	4,3%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R8 460,00	R9 840.80	R10 129	2,9%
Crude oil per barrel	$78,11	$75.97	$78,66	3,5%



The rand depreciated by 0.7% and 0.1% against the Dollar and the Euro, meanwhile rand appreciated by a percentage point against the Pound this week compared to the previous week. The pound appreciated after news that the newly elected US President will delay tariffs.



The price of crude oil increased by 3.5% this week relative to the previous week. This comes as the latest U.S. sanctions on Russian energy trade created further uncertainty about oil supply disruptions. Oil prices were lower on Friday though but on average prices were higher posting the fourth straight weekly gain.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 01 (30/12/2024 to 05/01/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 02 (06/01/2025 to 12/01/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	8212	58,10	60,36	Class A2	8106	58,10	58,13
Class A3	879	58,30	63,24	Class A3	586	56,57	57,22
Class C2	229	49,26	50,00	Class C2	273	47,46	60,00

The quantity of beef traded this week increased for class C2 relative to the previous week, while decreasing for all other classes, the quantity of class C2 beef increased by 19.2% and decreased by 1.3% for class A2 and 33.2% for class A3. The producer prices declined for class A3 and C2 while they were constant for class A2, prices declined by 3% and 3.7% . The market prices declined by 3.7% and 9.5% for class A2 and Class A3 while increasing by 20% for class C2.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 01 (30/12/2024 to 05/01/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 02 (06/01/2025 to 12/01/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	10636	96,34	101,92	Class A2	13014	96,74	98,47
Class A3	1715	97,36	102,69	Class A3	1117	94,58	98,50
Class C2	464	66,80	76,79	Class C2	928	66,19	74,09

The quantity of lamb traded this week increased by 22.4% for class A2 and doubled for class C2, quantities traded for class A3 decreased 35%. The producer prices increased for class A2 by 0.4% while decreasing for class A3 and C2 by 2.9% and 0.9%. The market prices decreased for class A2, A3 and C2 by 3.4%, 4.1% and 3.5%.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 01 (30/12/2024 to 05/01/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 02 (06/01/2025 to 12/01/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	13360	32,21	Class BP	15799	31,93
Class HO	2403	31,49	Class HO	3157	30,25
Class HP	3314	31,86	Class HP	4310	30,30

The quantities of pork traded this week increased for class BP, HO and HP by 18.3%, 31.4% and 30.1%, compared to the previous week. The producer prices for class BP, HO and Hp decreased by 0.9%, 3.9% and 4.9% respectively .

The Presidency has renewed the mandate of the National Logistics Crisis Committee (NLCC) for this year. Southern Africa Freight Forwarders Association (SAAFF) CEO Dr Juanita Maree of logistics industry organisation stated that Progress is being made in improving South Africa's logistics, with a growing political maturity emerging in some critical areas, fostering positive change, boosting confidence and introducing new dynamics. This illustrates that the crisis in logistics continues, emphasising the need for sustained focus on finding solutions through public-private consultation and government's commitment to strategic cross-sector collaboration . South Africa shuts trade route with Botswana after record rains, South Africa's Border Management Authority said Water levels reached a point where it significantly compromises the safe and efficient functioning of the crossing at the Limpopo River. The route is a key crossing used by copper mines in Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo to access South Africa's Durban port.

The National Treasury and the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), which are jointly responsible for overseeing the work of the Group of 20 (G20) Finance Track, will start the first set of technical meetings under the G20 Finance Track this week, with a meeting of the Framework Working Group (FWG) from January 13 to 14. The first day of the meeting will focus on the main headwinds to global growth, ongoing supply and demand risks to inflation, and the main fiscal risks to growth and inflation. It will also discuss the economic outlook for Africa. Further, the second day of the meeting will discuss the draft FWG work plan for 2025, which includes priority areas identified by the South African Presidency. These priorities include enhancing global economic resilience in light of growth risks like fragmentation and macroeconomic imbalances, strengthening macroeconomic foundations and growth reforms in light of climate change and assessing labour productivity, technological development and demographic change.

Trade activity is still in negative territory, according to business organisation the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry's (Sacci's) latest Trade Conditions Survey. poor economic performance at present is preventing trade from reaching its more optimal potential. Trade conditions have slowed down since August and deteriorated even further, with only 35% of respondents experiencing positive conditions in December. However, the outlook for trade in the next six months improved notably, with 65% of respondents in December compared with about 54% of respondents in October being positive. 40% of respondents indicated that present trade conditions were nonetheless better than in December 2023. Boston Consulting Group's survey show that businesses are prioritising AI to drive productivity, AI remains a top priority for business leaders, while their latest survey uncovers a crucial challenge, while 75% of executives rank AI as a top three strategic priority, only a quarter report meaningful value from their AI initiatives. Effective AI adopters have cracked the code on how to achieve meaningful impact by focusing on a targeted set of AI initiatives, scaling them rapidly, transforming core processes, upskilling their teams and systematically measuring operational and financial returns.

For more information contact: Directorate Statistics & Economic Analysis (SEA) at HeidiP@daff.gov.za or 0123198194.

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