



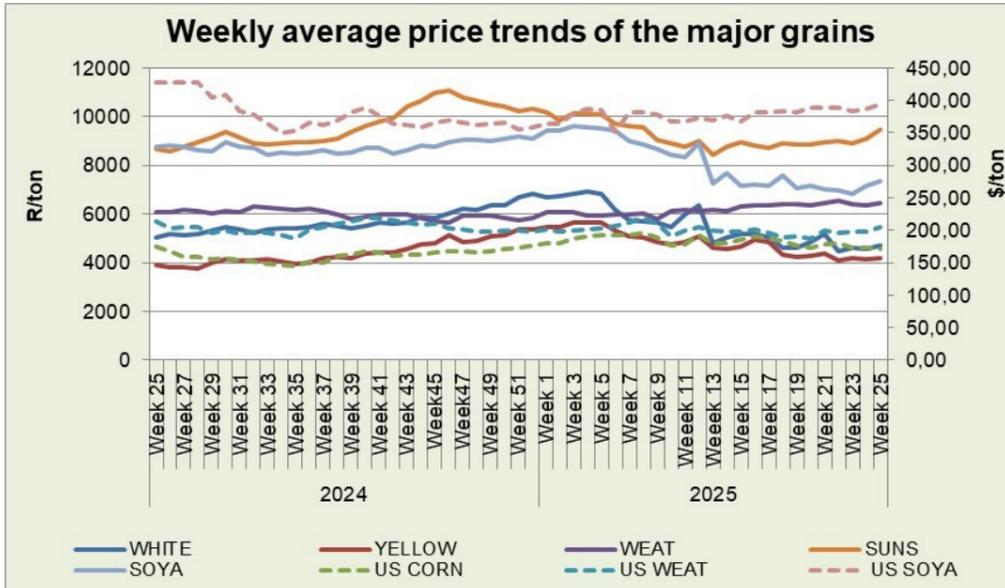
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 20 June 2025

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

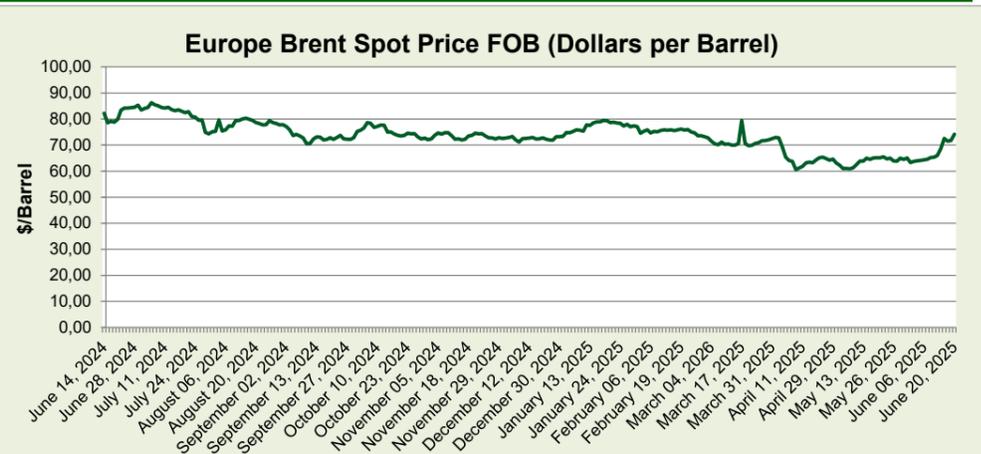
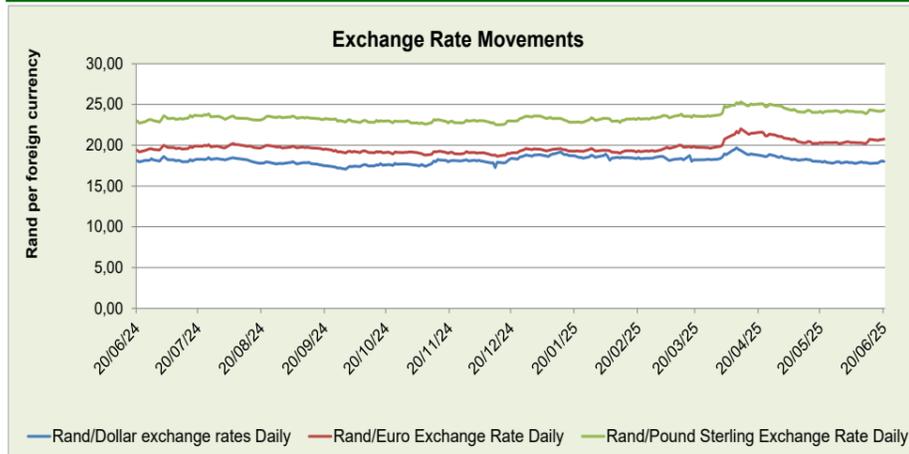
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The domestic grain market showed improvement over the past week compared to the previous week, amid geopolitical tensions, global financial uncertainty, and a challenging trading environment. In this reporting period, the prices of local white and yellow maize rose by 3.2% and 1.0% respectively, as local maize future contracts gained upward momentum relative to the prior week. Similarly, local prices for wheat, soybean, and sunflower seed increased by 1.4%, 2.5%, and 3.8% respectively on a week-on-week basis. On the international front, the price of US yellow maize saw a minor decline of 1.1% week-on-week, as traders awaited the USDA's export report. In contrast, the price of US wheat rose by 3.7% week-on-week, influenced by dry conditions in key global regions like the Southern Plains, where limited rainfall is anticipated. Additionally, US soybean prices rose by 2.0% week-on-week, as the market reacted to robust Chinese import data and expectations of strong US export sales.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 25 (29-04-24 to 21-06-24)	Last week Week 24 (09-06-25 to 13-06-25)	This week Week 25 (17-06-25 to 20-06-25)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R 5 023.00	R 4 543.20	R 4 690.75	3.2%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R 3 905.75	R 4 150.60	R 4 192.25	1.0%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$ 171.51	\$ 172.42	\$ 170.54	-1.1%
RSA Wheat per ton	R 6 069.50	R 6 346.20	R 6 436.25	1.4%
USA Wheat per ton	\$ 213.85	\$ 197.80	\$ 205.19	3.7%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R 8 746.25	R 7 162.80	R 7 343.00	2.5%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$ 428,14	\$ 386.79	\$ 394.34	2.0%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R 8 668.50	R 9 111.80	R 9 455.50	3.8%
Crude oil per barrel	\$ 79.08	\$ 65.94	\$ 72.50	9.9%



The rand depreciated by 0.7% against the US dollar week-on-week, as investors express concerns regarding the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, where the air war between Israel and Iran has now entered its second week, alongside deliberations on possible US involvement. The rand depreciated by 0.6% against the Pound Sterling week-on-week, amid uncertainties surrounding the Israel-Iran conflict that heightened the demand for traditional safe havens. The rand depreciated by 1.5% against the Euro week-on-week, amid the sluggish GDP growth and a weakening labour market.

Brent crude oil recorded an average price of \$72.50 in the reporting week, marking a 9.9% from the previous week's average of \$65.94, as investors evaluated the stability of a ceasefire between Iran and Israel. Additionally, support was bolstered by data indicating that US demand remained relatively robust. The OPEC+ alliance is scheduled to deliberate on a possible supply increase in August, while the American Petroleum Institute estimates that US crude inventories fell by 4.3 million barrels during the reporting week.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 23 (02/06/2025 to 08/06/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 24 (09/06/2025 to 15/06/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Beef							
Class A2	10 027	73,17	81,38	Class A2	8 501	83,11	87,62
Class A3	308	74,21	77,57	Class A3	449	81,95	88,05
Class C2	2 274	57,27	58,97	Class C2	2 160	60,64	63,68

Units sales of class A2 and class C2 beef fell by 15.2% and 5.0%, respectively, in the reporting week compared to the previous week, whereas unit sales of class A3 beef saw a significant increase of 45.8% week-on-week. During the same week, the weekly average purchase price for class A2, A3 and C2 beef rose by 13.6%, 10.4% and 5.9% respectively, in the reporting week compared to the previous week. Similarly, the weekly average selling price for class A2, A3 and C2 beef increased by 7.7%, 13.5% and 8.0%, respectively, compared to the previous week. It is anticipated that carcass prices will remain at high levels over the next three months due to disruptions related to FMD affecting the dynamics of the value chain.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 23 (02/06/2025 to 08/06/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 24 (09/06/2025 to 15/06/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Lamb							
Class A2	12 956	109,34	112,88	Class A2	11 409	107,59	108,66
Class A3	1 620	106,21	111,54	Class A3	1 903	105,31	107,80
Class C2	2 099	72,06	77,85	Class C2	1 249	71,31	76,19

Units sales of class A2 and C2 lamb experienced decreases of 11.9% and 40.5%, respectively, in comparison to the previous week, whereas unit sales of class A3 lamb increased by 17.5% week-on-week. Regarding pricing, the weekly average purchase prices for class A2, A3, and C2 lamb decreased by 1.6%, 0.8%, and 1.0%, respectively, during the reporting week compared to the previous week. Similarly, the weekly average selling prices for class A2, A3, and C2 lamb fell by 3.7%, 3.4%, and 2.1%, respectively, in the reporting week relative to the previous week. Analysts anticipate that lamb prices will rise over the next three months due to enhanced local demand conditions.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 23 (02/06/2025 to 08/06/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 24 (09/06/2025 to 15/06/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Pork					
Class BP	13 178	32,14	Class BP	10 577	32,57
Class HO	5 364	31,22	Class HO	5 158	31,99
Class HP	5 408	31,79	Class HP	4 782	32,59

Units sales of class BP, class HO and class HP pork fell by 19.7%, 3.8% and 11.6%, respectively, during the reporting week compared to the previous week. At the same time, the weekly average purchase price for class BP, class HO and class HP pork increased by 1.3%, 2.5% and 2.5%, respectively, in the reporting week compared to the previous week. Analysts anticipate that pork prices will exhibit a slight upward trend over the next three months, influenced by historical seasonal price patterns indicating that prices tend to rise during the winter months.

Latest News Developments

South Africa's consumer price inflation held steady at 2.8% year-on-year in May, remaining unchanged from April and aligning with market expectations. The main driver was food prices, although increases in housing, utilities, and alcoholic beverages also significantly contributed. Food prices surged. In May, food price inflation rose to 4.4% from 3.3% in April 2025. Prices for food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 4.8% year-on-year in May, propelled by substantial price hikes in meat (4.4% from 3%) and fruits (13.5% from 7.4%). Vegetable prices also experienced a notable rise of 10.3% in May compared to 4.5%. The acceleration in price inflation also encompassed fish, other seafood, oils and fats, fruits, and nuts, which supported the increase. Meanwhile, other products remained relatively stable, while some saw a slowdown in price inflation. Beef was a significant factor, as key issues dominating the news included the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, coupled with rising feed prices that fuelled price increases.

Casey Sprake, an economist at Anchor, pointed out that the beef industry has been especially susceptible, with large feedlots experiencing clusters of infections that have resulted in livestock quarantines, halted exports, and localized supply shortages, thereby increasing pressure on both farmers and consumers. Sprake warned that ongoing increases in food prices, particularly for essential, non-discretionary goods, threaten household spending power and exacerbate inequality. According to Sprake, rising food prices disproportionately impact lower-income households and could diminish real purchasing power if this trend continues. Sprake emphasized that these developments are occurring against a backdrop of a broader easing in inflation indicators, with core CPI remaining stable at 3% year-on-year and durable goods still significantly experiencing deflation, but warned that the path ahead is anything but certain" due to geopolitical risks and trade uncertainties.

South Africa is still facing challenges and may encounter significant food shortages due to a ban on chicken imports from Brazil that has been partially lifted. In May 2025, the Department of Agriculture enacted a ban on food imports from Brazil, following an avian flu outbreak in certain regions of the South American nation. Consequently, South Africa had to halt the trade of live poultry, eggs, and fresh poultry meat, as well as the issuance of new import permits. This ban faced strong opposition from the local food industry, with many expressing concerns about the dire implications such a ban could have on the country's food security. The Association of Meat Importers and Exporters (AMIE) also contributed to the discussion, clarifying that items like chicken offal and mechanically deboned meat (MDM) are not mere luxuries. According to AMIE CEO Imameleng Mothebe, these products are essential for school feeding programs and the production of processed meats, which serve as the most affordable protein sources for low-income families. Mothebe further stated that Brazilian chicken meat accounts for over 400 million poultry-based meals consumed monthly in South Africa. The partial lifting of the import ban will apply to all other states in Brazil, except for the Rio Grande do Sul region, where the avian flu outbreak was identified in mid-May. The South African Meat Processors Association (SAMPA) welcomed this development, noting that it would also assist the manufacturing sector in preserving the hundreds of thousands of jobs that depend on MDM imports. SAMPA emphasized that South Africa does not produce MDM in any substantial amount, necessitating the importation of this commodity.

Standard Bank's chief economist, Goolam Ballim, has stated that the political environment in South Africa, especially the uncertainty surrounding policies, has been the primary obstacle to the nation's economic growth. While numerous analysts attribute South Africa's lackluster economic performance since the late 2000s to issues such as Eskom's difficulties over the last ten years, Transnet's inefficiencies, and high interest rates, Ballim argues that these are mainly symptoms of a political climate that restricts the local economy and hinders the implementation of solutions to these challenges. Ballim further indicated that this uncertainty leads businesses to be reluctant to invest in South Africa, thereby contributing to the country's heightened risk premium.

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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.