



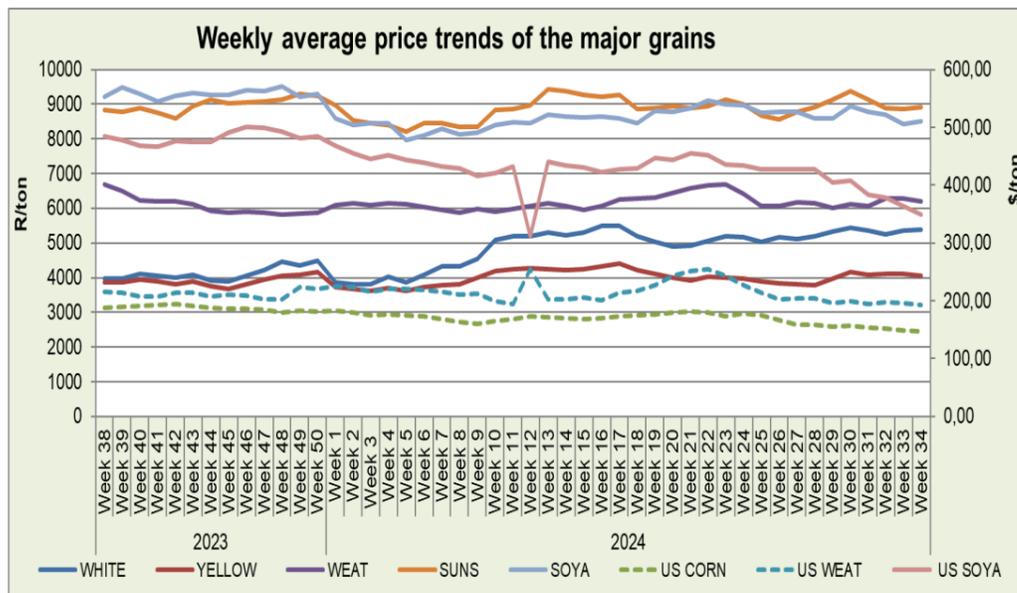
agriculture, land reform & rural development

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

Weekly Price Watch: 23 August 2024

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

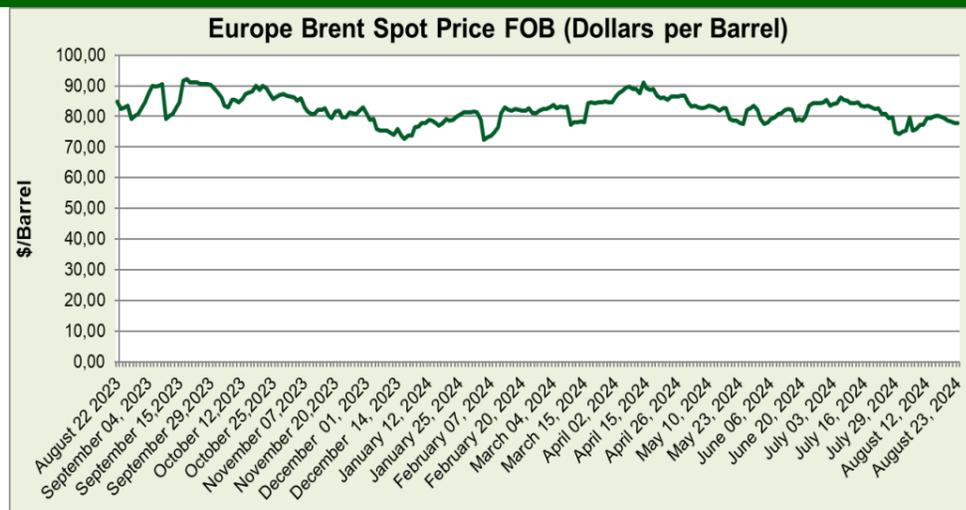
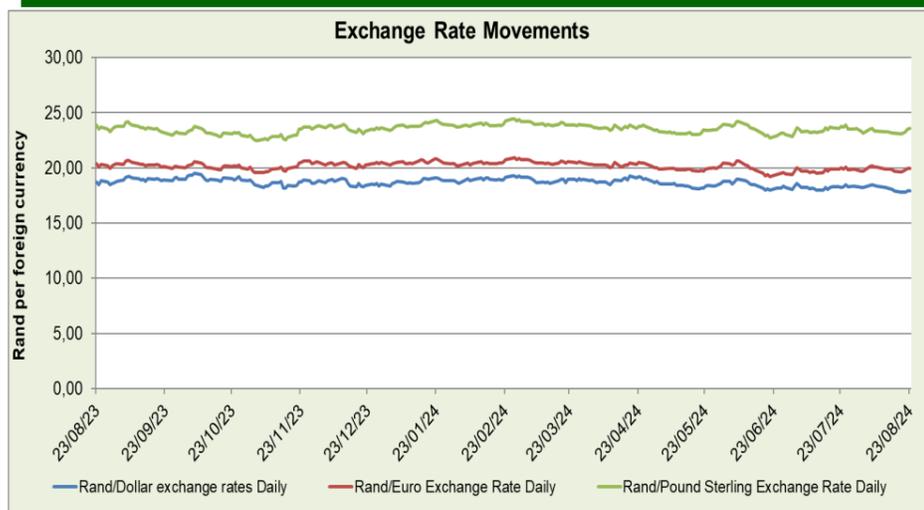
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The local white maize increased by 0.5% and yellow maize decreased by 1.8%, the international maize price decreased by 1.2%. The local price increase is due to the drought in Southern Africa which is expected to result in increased maize exports to neighbouring countries. According to the South African Agricultural Business Chamber, maize exports are forecasted to grow. Because local consumers are expected to use more low cost grain imported from South America as the local produce maize is already destined somewhere. The price of local and international wheat decreased by 1.3% and 1.8% respectively following excess global supply with Russian wheat harvesting also beginning early. The price of local soybean increased by 1.0% & international soybeans decreased by 4.1% and due to high production and lack of demand.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 34 (21-08-23 to 25-08-23)	Last week Week 33 (12-08-24 to 16-08-24)	This week Week 34 (19-08-24 to 23-08-24)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R3 622,40	R 5 371.20	R5 396,80	0.5%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R3 633,60	R 4 123.20	R4 050,00	-1.8%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$186,09	\$ 149,08	\$147,25	-1.2%
RSA Wheat per ton	R6 697,00	R 6 274.00	R6 193,00	-1.3%
USA Wheat per ton	\$222,70	\$ 196.24	\$192,67	-1.8%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R9 505,60	R 8 429.40	R8 512,60	1.0%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$500,37	\$ 364,50	\$349,52	-4.1%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R9 041,40	R 8 872.20	R8 905,20	0.4%
Crude oil per barrel	\$83,56	\$ 79.83	\$77,38	-1.8%



The rand appreciated by 1.3% against the dollar; 0.1% against the euro and depreciated 0.4% against the pound this week relative to the previous week. The rand strengthened after the US Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell signalled lowering USA interest rates next month.

The price of oil decreased by 1.8% compared to the previous week; due to weaker demand in China and worries about the U.S. job market revised downward.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 32 (05/08/2024 to 11/08/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 33 (12/08/2024 to 18/08/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	9 030	55,26	56,41	Class A2	10436	55,03	56,25
Class A3	624	54,87	54,71	Class A3	829	54,89	54,59
Class C2	698	43,47	44,01	Class C2	906	43,34	45,12

The units of beef traded this week increased compared to the previous week, the units of class A2, A3 and C2 beef purchased this week increased by 15.6%; 32.9% and 29.8%. The producer prices decreased for class A2 and C2 by 0.4% and 0.3% while increasing by 0.04% for class A3. The retail prices decreased for class A2 and A3 by 0.3% and 0.2% respectively while rising by 2.4% for class C2

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 32 (05/08/2024 to 11/08/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 33 (12/08/2024 to 18/08/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	13 167	90,35	90,40	Class A2	13728	89,79	90,45
Class A3	1 009	87,52	87,01	Class A3	1302	86,42	87,12
Class C2	982	64,68	69,79	Class C2	930	64,75	71,04

The units of lamb purchased this week increased for class A2 and A3 by 4.3% and 29% while decreasing for class C2 by 5.3%. The producer prices decreased by 0.6% and 1.35% for class A2 and A3 and increased by 0.1% for class C2. The retail prices increased for class A2, A3 and C2 by 0.1%, 0.1% and 1.8%

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 32 (05/08/2024 to 11/08/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 33 (12/08/2024 to 18/08/2024)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	11 284	31,45	Class BP	12353	31,47
Class HO	6 606	31,26	Class HO	5714	30,90
Class HP	5 843	30,94	Class HP	6036	31,00

The units of purchased this week increased for class BP and Hp by 9.5% and 3.3%, while decreasing by 13.5% for class HO. The producer prices increased by 0.1% and 0.2% for class BP and HP while declining by 1.2% for class HO.

Latest News Developments

Agriculture records \$1.47 billion trade surplus in the second quarter of 2024; agricultural exports decreased by 0.1% year-on-year in the second quarter of 2024 to \$3.37 billion. This followed a 6% year-on-year growth rate in the first quarter. The decrease in the second quarter, relative to the second quarter of last year, reflects the moderation in the prices of some agriculture products and a decline in volumes. The top exported products by value in the second quarter were citrus, apples, pears, maize, wine, dates, pineapples, avocados, sugar, grapes, fruit juices, nuts and wool.

Santam stated that it is relooking into its farm insurance ratings ahead of potential La Niña hail season in South Africa. La Niña season brings about more rainstorms in the country, insurance provider Santam is revisiting its ratings for insurance related to the perils associated with the phenomenon. Santam says there has been a significant rise in the occurrence of frost and resultant damage to crops every year since 2014. It adds that hail, frost and fire are the biggest crop risks and have escalated owing to the increased severity and prolonged effects of the dry El Niño and wet La Niña cycles.

Internationally recognised research conducted by Citrus Research International (CRI) and its network of collaborative research associations, is helping to protect Southern Africa's citrus industry against the threats of diseases and pests. CRI says citrus exports contribute about R30 billion a year to the South African economy and support the employment of about 140 000 people on farm level. CRI states that without top level research on a range of technical issues, the industry would falter and export markets would close. The CRI notes that the South African government is currently involved in two historic trade disputes at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) regarding the EU's citrus import regulations.

Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA) stated that African policy leaders must support robust growth in the cold chain for the success of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and to boost prosperity, food supply chain resilience and trade across the continent. At the start of the GCCA Africa conference, the alliance highlighted the publication of a new report which demonstrated the importance of collaboration between national governments across Africa and businesses operating temperature controlled storage and distribution to deliver infrastructure, innovation and skills that are fit for today and for the future.

Minister in the Presidency Khumbudzo Ntshavheni has confirmed that trade and investment relations will be key themes during President Cyril Ramaphosa's State visit to the People's Republic of China from 2 -5 September 2024. The visit follows President Xi Jinping's fourth State Visit to South Africa in 2023.

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