



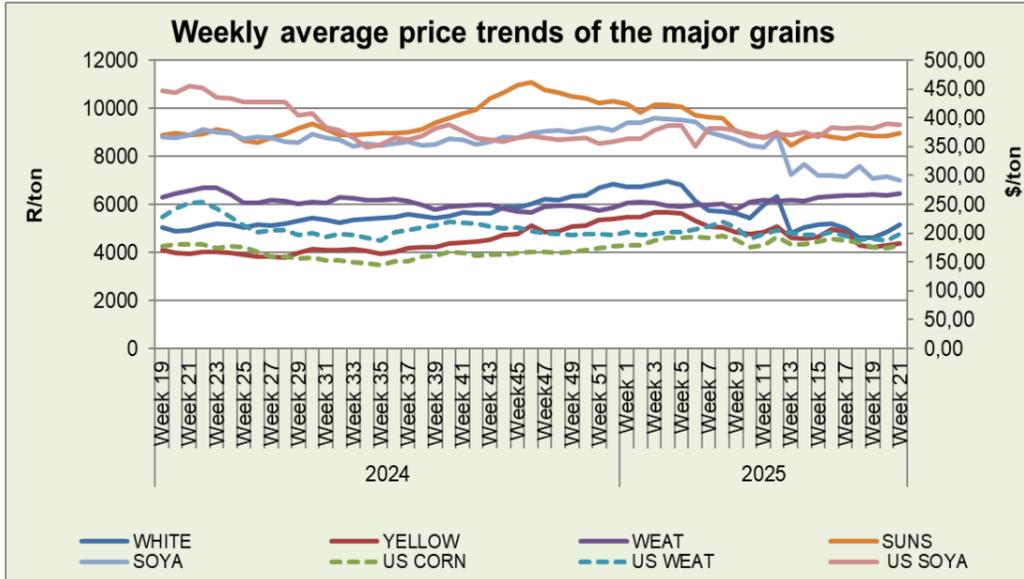
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 23 May 2025

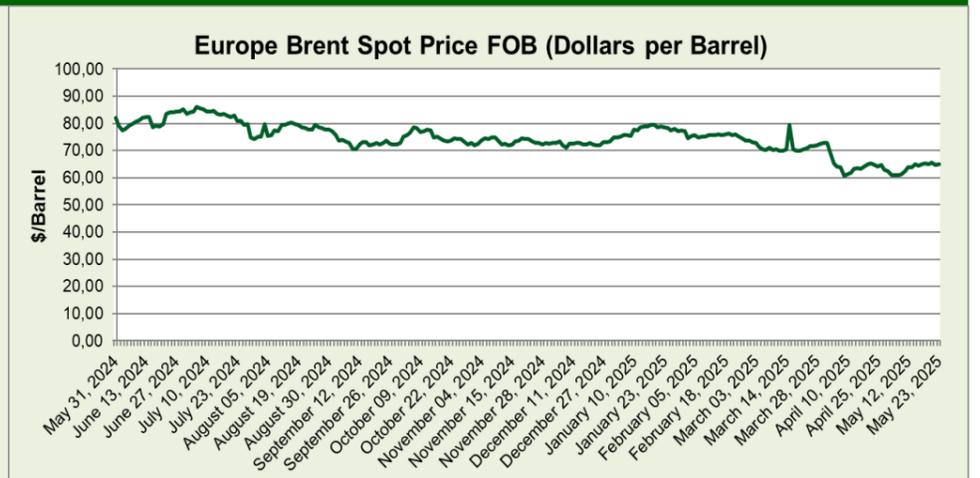
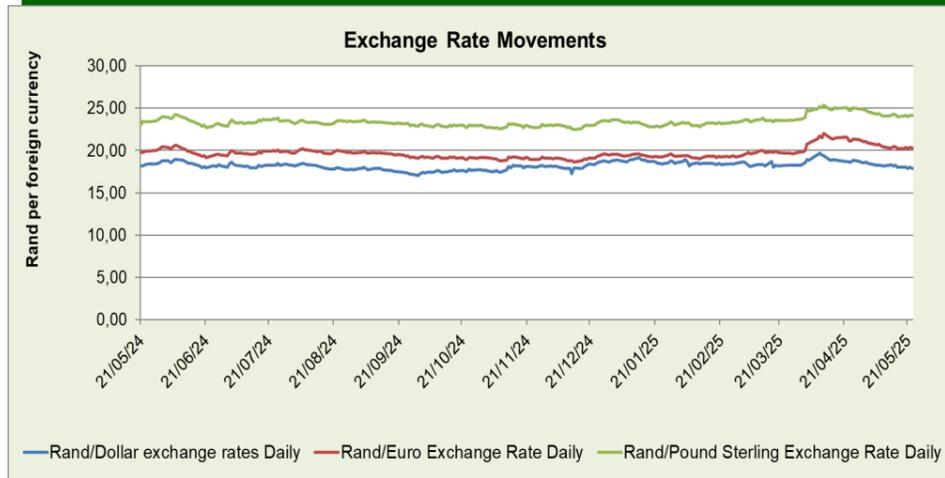
Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



The price of maize increased this week relative to the previous week. The price of local white and yellow maize increased by 6.7% and 1.8% respectively, while the US maize price increased by 3%. News of Chinese reserve purchases and Argentine flooding boosted maize prices. The price of local and international wheat increased by 1.4% and 5.8% relative to the previous week. As a result of frost damage in southern Russia, parts of Ukraine, extreme heat in parts of China; dryness across northern Europe and Australia, and uncertainty of US crop condition. The price of local soybeans decreased by 2% while the US soybeans price decreased by 0.2%. The price of sunflower increased by 1.3% this week relative to the previous week.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities				
	1 year ago Week 21 (20-05-24 to 24-05-24)	Last week Week 20 (12-05-25 to 16-05-25)	This week Week 21 (19-05-25 to 23-05-25)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R4 936,40	R 4 848,20	R5 173,6	6,7%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R3 927,20	R 4 292,60	R4 369,0	1,8%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	\$180,78	\$173,57	\$178,7	3,0%
RSA Wheat per ton	R6 570,40	R 6 374,20	R6 463,0	1,4%
USA Wheat per ton	\$251,93	\$187,86	\$198,8	5,8%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R8 880,40	R 7 150,40	R 7004,60	-2,0%
USA Soybeans per ton	\$455,06	\$389,15	\$388,28	-0,2%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R8 902,80	R 8 842,40	R8 961,6	1,3%
Crude oil per barrel	\$78,31	\$64,45	\$65,02	0,9%



The rand appreciated against the dollar, the euro and the pound respectively by 1.3%; 0.2% and 0.3%. Head of emerging-market research at Society Generale SA was surprised by the rand's resilience, particularly after the dramatic White House confrontation between SA and US. The SA Rand was at a five-month high early on Wednesday, hours before the finance minister was due to present a new budget and SA/USA meeting.

The price of oil increased by 0.9% this week relative to the previous week. The oil price increased following a CNN report that new US intelligence suggests Israel is preparing for a potential strike on Iranian nuclear facilities.



National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 19 (05/05/2025 to 11/05/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 20 (12/05/2025 to 18/05/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	8022	68,24	70,51	Class A2	8544	68,24	71,06
Class A3	249	67,86	69,69	Class A3	364	68,73	69,75
Class C2	1395	51,93	53,74	Class C2	861	50,66	50,44

The units of beef traded this week increased by 6.5%, 46.2% and decreased by 38.3% for class A2, A3 and C2 respectively, relative to the previous week. The purchase prices remained constant for class A2, while increasing by 1.3% for class A2 and decreasing by 2.4% for class C2. The market prices of class A2 and A3 increased by 0.8% and 0.1% while decreasing by 6.1% for class A2, A3 and C2.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 19 (05/05/2025 to 11/05/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 20 (12/05/2025 to 18/05/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	12744	102,56	106,26	Class A2	9390	101,74	105,28
Class A3	2027	101,85	106,47	Class A3	1630	98,90	106,46
Class C2	1336	65,91	72,17	Class C2	1340	67,23	72,94

The units of lamb traded this week decreased for class A2 and A3 by 26.3% and 19.6% while increasing by 0.3% for class C2. The producer prices decreased by 0.8% and 2.9% while increasing by 2% for class C2. The market prices for class A2 decreased by 0.9% and increased by 1.1% for class C2 remaining stable for class A3.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 19 (05/05/2025 to 11/05/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 20 (12/05/2025 to 18/05/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	13331	31,92	Class BP	13934	31,88
Class HO	4084	30,98	Class HO	4154	31,23
Class HP	4067	31,38	Class HP	4484	31,47

The units of pork traded this week increased by 4.5%, 1.7% and 10.3% respectively relative to the previous week. The Producer prices decreased by 0.1% for class A2 and increased by 0.8% and 0.3% for class A3 and C2.

Latest News Developments

The 2025 Budget is an investment in South Africa's future. It proposes medium-term investments of over R1 trillion in roads, rail, energy and water infrastructure. As global growth has faltered, South Africa's economic outlook has also weakened, with GDP expected to grow by only 1.4 per cent in 2025. Global risk and economic weakness reinforce the need for us to put our fiscal house in order.

The fiscal strategy remains on course so that government can spend less on debt-service costs and more on critical public services. As per our commitment, government debt will stabilise in 2025/26 at 77.4 per cent of GDP. For the first time since the 2000s, government is consistently running a primary surplus, where revenue exceeds non-interest expenditure.

Industry body SA Canegrowers says it welcomes the decision by Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana not to enact any further increases in the Health Promotion Levy (or sugar tax) in the latest Budget, which he presented to Parliament on May 21. Introduced in 2018, the association says the sugar tax cost 16 000 jobs and R2-billion in revenue in the first year of implementation alone, according to independent research by the National Economic Development and Labour Council (Nedlac).

South African Poultry Association (SAPA) Broiler Organisation CEO Izaak Breitenbach says that South African poultry producers have the capacity to make up for the loss of Brazilian chicken meat imports due to the outbreak of the avian influenza or bird flu in Brazil. The local industry is currently producing about 21.5-million chickens a week and has the capacity to increase this by about another one-million birds a week. Mr Breitenbach further stated that as the winter months are a period of lower demand for chicken, the additional supply should be sufficient to ensure that there are no shortages of chicken meat or price increases because of shortages as a result of lower imports from Brazil.

PROJECT Zambian Fertilizer Project; The heavy lifting processes is expected to contribute to the completion of the Zambian Fertiliser Project and ensure that it meets the target of increasing crop yields by 30% to 50%. Leading heavy lifting solutions provider Sarens continues its involvement in the Zambian Fertiliser Project – where it aims to further develop the Zambian agricultural industry by contributing its expertise and machinery to carry out heavy lifting and transport tasks until project completion in 2027.

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