



crop estimates committee oesskattingskomitee



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
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FINAL AREA PLANTED AND CROP PRODUCTION FIGURES OF COMMERCIAL MAIZE, SUNFLOWER SEED, SOYBEANS, GROUNDNUTS AND SORGHUM FOR 2014

At a meeting held on 13 February 2015, the Crop Estimates Liaison Committee (CELC) oversaw the process for the finalisation of the crop production figures of commercial white and yellow maize, sunflower seed, soybeans, groundnuts and sorghum for 2014.

The estimated total production figures as released by the national Crop Estimates Committee (CEC) were revised, using the published figures of the South Africa Grain Information Services (SAGIS) of actual deliveries as the basis for the calculations. The figures from the maize utilisation survey to determine on-farm usage and retentions, which was conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) and the telephonic survey conducted by the National Crop Statistics Consortium (NCSC), were added to the SAGIS delivery figures to calculate the final crop production figures.

Comparing the final calculated crop figures with the numbers set by the CEC during September 2014, the size of the commercial maize crop is now 14,250 mill. tons, which is 57 050 tons or 0,40% less than the final crop estimate figure of 14,307 mill. tons. For white maize, the recalculated crop size is 7,710 mill. tons, which is 0,16% or 12 650 tons higher than the final crop estimate figure, and for yellow maize the recalculated crop size is 6,540 mill. tons, which is 1,05% or 69 700 tons less than the final crop estimate figure.

The 2014 maize crop, which is 14,250 mill. tons, is the largest maize crop in South Africa since 1981, when it was 14,656 mill. tons. Furthermore, given the favourable weather and climatic conditions during 2014, the highest ever yields for maize and sorghum were obtained.

In the case of commercial sunflower seed, the final calculated crop figure was adjusted downward by 2,50% or 21 325 tons, from 853 325 tons to 832 000 tons. Sorghum and groundnuts were also adjusted downward by 1,46% (or 3 920 tons) and 4,60% (or 3 590 tons), respectively. However, soybeans was adjusted upward, from 944 340 tons to 948 000 tons, which is 0,39% or 3 660 tons.

CELC accepted the final recalculated crop production figures for 2014 (please refer to the figures in the accompanying tables).

The CEC would like to thank all producers and industry role-players who provided information on a regular basis to improve the accuracy of the crop estimates. Producers, who do not participate in the Department's monthly survey, are requested as a matter of urgency to make an effort to contribute to the crop estimates process.

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SUMMARY: FINAL AREA PLANTED AND CROP PRODUCTION FIGURES OF COMMERCIAL SUMMER CROPS FOR 2014:

CROP	FINAL AREA PLANTED 2014 HA (A)	FINAL CROP 2014 TONS (B)	CEC AREA PLANTED SEP 2014 HA (C)	CEC FINAL ESTIMATE ¹⁾ SEP 2014 TONS (D)	FINAL CROP vs FINAL ESTIMATE % (B) ÷ (D)
White Maize	1 551 200	7 710 000	1 551 200	7 697 350	+0,16
Yellow Maize	1 137 000	6 540 000	1 137 000	6 609 700	-1,05
Total Maize	2 688 200	14 250 000	2 688 200	14 307 050	-0,40
Sunflower seed	598 950	832 000	598 950	853 325	-2,50
Soybeans	502 900	948 000	502 900	944 340	+0,39
Groundnuts	52 125	74 500	52 125	78 090	-4,60
Sorghum	78 850	265 000	78 850	268 920	-1,46

1) As estimated by the CEC on 30 September 2014

COMMERCIAL MAIZE and SORGHUM:

CROP	Total Tons	Producer deliveries reported by SAGIS ²⁾ (Mar-Dec 2014) Tons	Projected deliveries ³⁾ (Jan 2015 - Feb 2015) Tons	Retentions on farm for own use/ seed Tons
White Maize	7 710 000	7 434 990	137 763	137 247
Yellow Maize	6 540 000	6 027 584	130 012	382 404
Total Maize	14 250 000	13 462 574	267 775	519 651
Sorghum	265 000	258 984	3 016	3 000

COMMERCIAL SUNFLOWER SEED, SOYBEANS and GROUNDNUTS:

CROP	Total Tons	Producer deliveries reported by SAGIS ²⁾ (Mar-Dec 2014) Tons	Projected deliveries ³⁾ (Jan 2015 - Feb 2015) Tons	Retentions on farm for own use/ direct sales, etc. Tons
Sunflower seed	832 000	828 361	3 639	-
Soybeans	948 000	910 675	7 325	30 000
Groundnuts	74 500	70 817	183	3 500

2) SAGIS producer deliveries relates to the current crop

3) Projected deliveries are based on the historic trend of producer deliveries, as recorded by SAGIS