



crop estimates committee oesskattingskomitee

From/Van: Mr Baldwin Netshifhefhe
Tel: 012 319 8043/32 E-mail/E-pos: BaldwinN@nda.gov.za

Web page/Webblad: [www.nda.gov.za/core business/EDT&M/SEA/Reports/Crop Estimates](http://www.nda.gov.za/core_business/EDT&M/SEA/Reports/Crop%20Estimates) or
www.sagis.org.za/CEC: Crop Estimates EMBARGO: 15:30



agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The area planted estimate and fourth production forecast for summer crops for 2026 is hereby released.
Hiermee word die oppervlakte- en vierde produksieskatting vir somergewasse vir 2026 vrygestel.

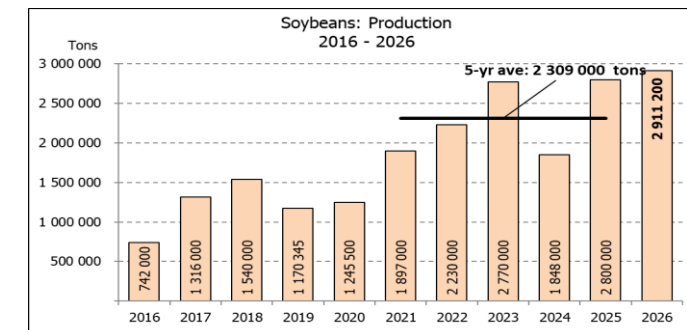
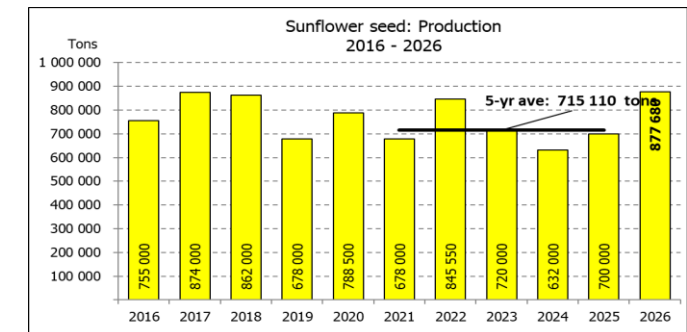
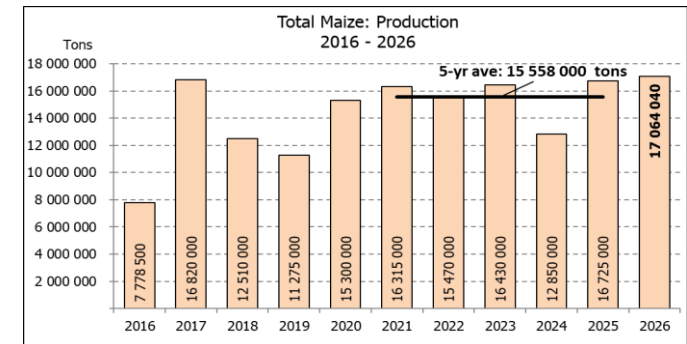
SUMMER CROPS – AREA PLANTED AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST: 2026

SOMERGEWASSE – OPPERVLAKTE- EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026

CROP/GEWAS	Area planted/ Opp beplant 2026 Ha (A)	4 th forecast/ 4 ^{de} skatting 2026 Tons (B)	3 rd forecast/ 3 ^{de} skatting 2026 Tons (C)	Area planted/ Opp beplant 2025 Ha (D)	Final crop/ Finale oes 2025 Tons (E)	Change/ Verandering/ % (B) ÷ (C)
Commercial/Kommersiëel:						
White maize/Witmielies	1 664 700	9 178 690	9 084 650	1 635 000	8 500 000	1,04%
Yellow maize/Geelmielies	1 051 500	7 885 350	7 750 450	1 030 000	8 225 000	1,74%
Total Maize/Totale Mielies	2 716 200	17 064 040	16 835 100	2 665 000	16 725 000	1,36%
Sunflower seed/Sonneblomsaad	570 100	877 680	821 630	555 700	708 635	6,82%
Soybeans/Sojabone	1 212 700	2 911 200	2 808 925	1 154 000	2 800 000	3,64%
Groundnuts/Grondbone	44 650	57 798	69 360	48 750	63 350	-16,67%
Sorghum	45 000	149 053	140 653	41 350	154 000	5,97%
Dry beans/Droëbone	38 920	79 450	79 450	45 620	90 556	-%
TOTAL/TOTAAL	4 627 570	21 139 220	20 755 118	4 510 420	20 541 541	1,85%
Non-Commercial Maize/Nie-Kommersiële Mielies						
Total Maize/Totale Mielies	397 170	695 025	695 025	358 000	621 500	0,00%
Maize/Mielies: Commercial/Kommersiëel + Non-Commercial/Nie-Kommersiëel						
Total Maize RSA/Totaal Mielies RSA	3 113 370	17 759 065	17 530 125	3 023 000	17 346 500	1,31%

Notes: * Estimate is for calendar year, e.g. production season 2025/26 = 2026
* Estimate reflects current conditions to date, assuming the remainder of the season progresses normally.
Notas: * Skatting is vir kalenderjaar, bv. produksie-seisoen 2025/26 = 2026
* Skatting weerspieël die huidige toestande tot op hede, met die aanname dat die res van die seisoen normaal sal verloop.

26 May / Mei 2026



The Crop Estimates Committee comprises officials of the following institutions:

Department of Agriculture, Provincial Departments of Agriculture; various ARC-Institutes (Soil, Climate and Water; Small Grains; and Grain Crops); BFAP and Statistics SA.

WHITE AND YELLOW MAIZE – AREA PLANTED AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST: 2026

WIT- EN GEELMIELIES – OPPERVLAKTE EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026

Province/ Provinsie	Area planted/ Oppervlakte beplant 2026			4 th forecast/ 4 ^{de} skatting 2026			Area planted/ Oppervlakte beplant 2025			Final crop/ Finale oes 2025		
	White/ Wit Ha	Yellow/ Geel Ha	Total/ Totaal Ha	White/ Wit Tons	Yellow/ Geel Tons	Total/ Totaal Tons	White/ Wit Ha	Yellow/ Geel Ha	Totaal/ Total Ha	White/ Wit Tons	Geel/ Yellow Tons	Totaal/ Total Tons
Western Cape/Wes-Kaap	200	4 000	4 200	1 840	38 000	39 840	200	3 500	3 700	1 900	32 525	34 425
Northern Cape/Noord-Kaap	3 000	42 500	45 500	40 500	667 250	707 750	3 000	43 500	46 500	37 950	700 350	738 300
Free State/Vrystaat	840 000	370 000	1 210 000	4 704 000	2 405 000	7 109 000	865 000	360 000	1 225 000	4 238 500	2 520 000	6 758 500
Eastern Cape/Oos-Kaap	6 000	30 000	36 000	43 200	273 000	316 200	6 000	28 000	34 000	43 200	240 800	284 000
KwaZulu-Natal	47 000	72 000	119 000	291 400	640 800	932 200	50 000	66 000	116 000	325 000	617 100	942 100
Mpumalanga	172 000	368 000	540 000	1 032 000	2 704 800	3 736 800	168 000	362 500	530 500	1 142 400	2 918 125	4 060 525
Limpopo	16 000	20 000	36 000	108 800	170 000	278 800	10 000	18 500	28 500	71 000	159 100	230 100
Gauteng	60 500	65 000	125 500	356 950	474 500	831 450	57 500	70 000	127 500	382 375	549 500	931 875
North West/Noordwes	520 000	80 000	600 000	2 600 000	512 000	3 112 000	475 300	78 000	553 300	2 257 675	487 500	2 745 175
Total/Totaal	1 664 700	1 051 500	2 716 200	9 178 690	7 885 350	17 064 040	1 635 000	1 030 000	2 665 000	8 500 000	8 225 000	16 725 000

SUNFLOWER SEED – AREA PLANTED AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST: 2026

SONNEBLOMSAAD – OPPERVLAKTE EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026

Province/ Provinsie	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2026	4 th forecast/ 4 ^{de} skatting Tons 2026	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2025	Final crop/ Finale oes Tons 2025
Western Cape/Wes-Kaap	0	0	0	0
Northern Cape/Noord-Kaap	500	1 150	1 000	2 400
Free State/Vrystaat	309 000	509 850	264 500	383 525
Eastern Cape/Oos-Kaap	500	1 000	700	1 435
KwaZulu-Natal	1 500	3 000	1 000	2 000
Mpumalanga	6 000	9 000	2 500	3 625
Limpopo	96 500	96 500	90 000	90 000
Gauteng	1 100	1 430	1 000	1 400
North West/Noordwes	155 000	255 750	195 000	224 250
Total/Totaal	570 100	877 680	555 700	708 635

SOYBEANS – AREA PLANTED AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST: 2026

SOJABONE – OPPERVLAKTE EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026

Province/ Provinsie	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2026	4 th forecast/ 4 ^{de} skatting Tons 2026	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2025	Final crop/ Finale oes Tons 2025
Western Cape/Wes-Kaap	200	700	0	0
Northern Cape/Noord-Kaap	2 000	7 000	2 000	7 600
Free State/Vrystaat	607 000	1 396 100	568 000	1 306 400
Eastern Cape/Oos-Kaap	7 500	25 500	5 500	16 775
KwaZulu-Natal	44 000	178 200	47 000	183 300
Mpumalanga	314 500	660 450	315 000	771 750
Limpopo	17 500	63 000	16 500	51 975
Gauteng	55 000	126 500	52 000	114 400
North West/Noordwes	165 000	453 750	148 000	347 800
Total/Totaal	1 212 700	2 911 200	1 154 000	2 800 000

GROUNDNUTS – AREA PLANTED AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST: 2026**GRONDBONE – OPPERVLAKTE EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026**

Province/ Provinsie	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2026	4 th forecast/ 4 ^{de} skatting Tons 2026	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2025	Final crop/ Finale oes Tons 2025
Western Cape/Wes-Kaap	0	0	0	0
Northern Cape/Noord-Kaap	2 550	7 139	3 100	8 525
Free State/Vrystaat	16 750	21 775	21 800	29 648
Eastern Cape/Oos-Kaap	0	0	0	0
KwaZulu-Natal	200	420	175	182
Mpumalanga	0	0	0	0
Limpopo	2 650	5 963	1 650	2 970
Gauteng	0	0	0	0
North West/Noordwes	22 500	22 500	22 025	22 025
Total/Totaal	44 650	57 798	48 750	63 350

SORGHUM – AREA PLANTED AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST: 2026**SORGHUM – OPPERVLAKTE EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026**

Province/ Provinsie	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2026	4 th forecast/ 4 ^{de} skatting Tons 2026	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2025	Final crop/ Finale oes Tons 2025
Western Cape/Wes-Kaap	0	0	0	0
Northern Cape/Noord-Kaap	0	0	0	0
Free State/Vrystaat	10 500	32 550	13 000	47 450
Eastern Cape/Oos-Kaap	100	300	200	620
KwaZulu-Natal	100	350	100	375
Mpumalanga	7 400	38 480	9 200	44 620
Limpopo	21 000	58 800	13 000	40 950
Gauteng	550	2 255	850	3 485
North West/Noordwes	5 350	16 318	5 000	16 500
Total/Totaal	45 000	149 053	41 350	154 000

DRY BEANS – AREA PLANTED AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST: 2026**DROëBONE – OPPERVLAKTE EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026**

Province/ Provinsie	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2026	4 th forecast/ 4 ^{de} skatting Tons 2026	Area planted/ Opp beplant Ha 2025	Final crop/ Finale oes Tons 2025
Western Cape/Wes-Kaap	100	200	100	200
Northern Cape/Noord-Kaap	1 000	2 600	950	2 280
Free State/Vrystaat	9 500	14 250	17 500	28 875
Eastern Cape/Oos-Kaap	170	340	200	400
KwaZulu-Natal	1 250	1 875	3 000	5 100
Mpumalanga	1 900	3 040	2 320	4 176
Limpopo	17 700	44 250	11 100	30 525
Gauteng	800	1 520	950	1 900
North West/Noordwes	6 500	11 375	9 500	17 100
Total/Totaal	38 920	79 450	45 620	90 556

CONFIDENTIALITY ISSUES that CEC members are committed to adhere to on the day of the meeting

- Personal items such as laptops, handbags, cell phones, etc. are not allowed in the venue during the meeting
- The embargo time for the release of crop estimates information is 15:30
- No member is allowed to discuss crop estimates information with anyone other than a member of the Committee before the embargo time
- Only the Chairperson, or a member appointed by the Chairperson, may release the figures to the media
- Members must regard the detail of any information that was collected for and/or discussed during the meeting, as confidential
- Individual information received for crop estimate purposes is treated strictly confidential, and is not divulged for any other purposes

**AREA AND FOURTH PRODUCTION FORECAST OF SUMMER CROPS (2026 PRODUCTION SEASON)/
OPPERVLAKTE EN VIERDE PRODUKSIESKATTING VIR SOMERGEWASSE (2026 PRODUKSIE-SEISOEN)**

26 MAY / MEI 2026

Summer field crops – 2025

Please take note: The 2025 figures for planted area and production have been revised based on improved area information and actual producer deliveries over the 12-month period from 1 March to 28 February, as monitored by the South African Grain Information Services (SAGIS).

Summer field crops – 2026

Commercial maize: The size of the expected commercial **maize crop** has been set at 17,064 mill. tons, which is 1,36% or 228 940 tons more than the previous forecast of 16,835 mill. tons. This is the largest maize crop on record. The area estimate for total maize is 2,716 mill. ha while the expected yield is 6,28 t/ha.

The estimated maize crop is 2,03% or 339 040 tons more than the 2025 crop. The three main maize producing areas, namely the Free State, Mpumalanga and North West provinces are expected to produce 82% of the 2026 crop.

The production forecast of **white maize** is 9,179 mill. tons, which is 1,04% or 94 040 tons more than the 9,085 mill. tons of the previous forecast. The area estimate for white maize is 1,665 mill. ha with an expected yield of 5,46 t/ha.

In the case of **yellow maize**, is 7,885 mill. ton, which is 1,74% or 134 900 tons more than the 7,750 mill. tons of the previous forecast. The area estimate for yellow maize is 1,052 mill. ha with an expected yield of 7,50 t/ha.

The yield per ha for the Free State and North West provinces were mainly based on scientific and objective results provided by the ARC.

Other summer crops:

Sunflower seed: The production forecast for sunflower seed is 877 680 tons, which is 6,82% or 56 050 tons more than the previous forecast of 821 630 tons. The area estimate for sunflower seed is 570 100 ha, while the expected yield is 1,54 t/ha.

Other crops: The production forecast for **soybeans** increased by 3,64% or 102 275 tons to 2,911 mill. tons. This is the largest soybean crop on record. The estimated area planted to soybeans is 1 212 700 ha, with an expected yield of 2,40 t/ha.

The expected **groundnut** crop decreased by 16,67% or 11 563 tons from 69 360 tons to 57 798 tons. For groundnuts, the area estimate is 44 650 ha, with an expected yield of 1,29 t/ha.

The production forecast for **sorghum** is 149 053 tons, which represents an increase of 5,97% or 8 400 ton as compared to the 140 653 tons of the previous month. The area estimate for sorghum is 45 000 ha and the expected yield is 3,31 t/ha.

In the case of **dry beans**, the production forecast remained unchanged at 79 450 ton. The area estimate of dry beans is 38 920 ha and the expected yield is 2,04 t/ha.

Please note that the fifth production forecast for summer field crops for 2026 will be released on 25 June 2026.

Information is available on the internet at [http://www.nda.gov.za/core business/EDT&M/SEA/Reports/Crop Estimates](http://www.nda.gov.za/core/business/EDT&M/SEA/Reports/Crop%20Estimates) or www.sagis.org.za/CEC: Crop Estimates, as from 15:30 on the date of the relevant meeting of the Crop Estimates Committee.

Somergewasse – 2025

Neem asb. kennis: Die 2025-syfers vir oppervlakte beplant en produksie is aangepas op grond van verbeterde oppervlakteinligting en werklike produsentelewerings oor die 12-maande tydperk vanaf 1 Maart tot 28 Februarie, soos gemonitor deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Graaninligtingsdiens (SAGIS).

Somergewasse – 2026

Kommersiële mielies: Die grootte van die verwagte kommersiële **mielie-oes** is op 17,064 milj. ton gestel, wat 1,36% of 228 940 ton meer is as die vorige skatting van 16,835 milj. ton. Dit is die grootste mielie-oes op rekord. Die oppervlakteskatting vir totale mielies is 2,716 milj. ha terwyl die verwagte opbrengs 6,28 t/ha is.

Die geskatte mielie-oes is 2,03% of 339 040 ton meer as die 2025-oes. Die drie belangrikste mielieproduserende gebiede, nl. die Vrystaat, Mpumalanga en Noordwes provinsies, gaan na verwagting 82% van die 2026-oes produseer.

Die produksieskatting van **witmielies** is 9,179 milj. ton, wat 1,04% of 94 040 ton meer is as die 9,085 milj. ton van die vorige skatting. Die oppervlakteskatting vir witmielies is 1,665 milj. ha en die verwagte opbrengs is 5,51 t/ha.

In die geval van **geelmielies** is die produksieskatting 7,885 milj. ton, wat 1,74% of 134 900 ton meer is as die 7,750 milj. ton van die vorige skatting. Die oppervlakteskatting vir geelmielies is 1,052 milj. ha en die verwagte opbrengs is 7,50 t/ha.

Die opbrengs-bepaling per ha vir die Vrystaat en Noordwes provinsies is hoofsaaklik gebaseer op wetenskaplike en objektiewe resultate verstrek deur die LNR.

Ander somergewasse:

Sonneblomsaad: Die produksieskatting vir sonneblomsaad is 877 680 ton, wat 6,82% of 56 050 ton meer is as die vorige skatting van 821 630 ton. Die oppervlakteskatting vir sonneblomsaad is 570 100 ha, terwyl die verwagte opbrengs 1,54 t/ha is.

Ander gewasse: Die produksieskatting van **sojabone** is vermeerder met 3,64% of 102 275 ton na 2,911 milj. ton. Hierdie is die grootste sojaboon-oes op rekord. Die geskatte oppervlakte beplant van sojabone is 1 212 700 ha, met 'n verwagte opbrengs van 2,40 t/ha.

Die verwagte **grondbone**-oes is verlaag met 16,67% of 11 563 ton vanaf 69 360 ton na 57 798 tons. Vir grondbone is die oppervlakteskatting 44 650 ha, terwyl the verwagte opbrengs 1,29 t/ha is.

Die produksieskatting van **sorghum** is 149 053 ton, wat 'n toename van 5,97% of 8 400 ton verteenwoordig in vergelyking met die 140 653 ton van die vorige maand. Die oppervlakteskatting vir sorghum is 45 000 ha, en die verwagte opbrengs is 3,31 t/ha.

In die geval van **droëbone** is die produksieskatting onveranderd gelaat op 79 450 ton. Die oppervlakte beplant met droëbone is 38 920 ha en die verwagte opbrengs is 2,04 t/ha.

Neem asseblief kennis dat die vyfde produksieskatting vir somergewasse vir 2026, op 25 Junie 2026 vrygestel sal word.

Inligting is beskikbaar op die internet by [http://www.nda.gov.za/core business/EDT&M/SEA/Reports/Crop Estimates](http://www.nda.gov.za/core/business/EDT&M/SEA/Reports/Crop%20Estimates) of by <http://www.sagis.org.za>, vanaf 15:30 op die dag van die toepaslike vergadering van die Oesskattingstokomitee.

The non-commercial agricultural sectors’ production estimate for maize for 2026 is hereby released. /
Hiermee word die nie-kommersiële landbou-sektor se produksieskatting vir mielies vir 2026 vrygestel.

NON-COMMERCIAL MAIZE – AREA PLANTED AND PRODUCTION ESTIMATE: 2026

NIE-KOMMERSIËLE MIELIES – OPPERVLAKTE- EN PRODUKSIESKATTING: 2026

CROP/GEWAS	Area planted/ Opp beplant 2026 Ha (A)	Production/ Produksie 2026 Tons (B)	Area planted/ Opp beplant 2025 Ha (C)	Final crop/ Finale oes 2025 Tons (D)	Change/ Verandering % (B) ÷ (D)
Non-commercial agriculture/Nie-kommersiële landbou:					
White maize/Witmielies	261 305	390 720	252 030	389 410	+0,3
Yellow maize/Geelmielies	135 865	304 305	105 970	232 090	+31,1
Maize/Mielies	397 170	695 025	358 000	621 500	+11,8

The area planted to maize in the non-commercial agricultural sector is estimated at 397 170 ha, which represents an increase of 10,94%, compared to the 358 000 ha of the previous season. The expected maize crop for this sector is 695 025 tons, which is 11,83% more than the 621 500 tons of last season. It is important to note that about 36,96% of the maize produced in the non-commercial sector, is planted in the Eastern Cape, followed by Limpopo with 31,00% and then KwaZulu-Natal with 21,90%.

Die voorlopige oppervlakte beplant met mielies in die nie-kommersiële landbou-sektor word geskat op 397 170 ha, wat ’n toename van 10,94% verteenwoordig in vergelyking met die 358 000 ha van die vorige seisoen. Die verwagte mielie-oes van dié sektor is 695 025 ton, wat 11,83% meer is as die 621 500 ton van die vorige seisoen. Dit is belangrik om daarop te let dat ongeveer 36,96% van die mielies wat geproduseer word in die nie-kommersiële sektor, in die Oos-Kaap geplant word, gevolg deur Limpopo met 31,00% en dan KwaZulu-Natal met 21,90%.

