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|  | CROP ESTIMATES COMMITTEE |  |
| **Van/From:** Rodney D. Dredge**Tel:** 012  319 6507 **Faks/Fax:** 012  319 6211 **E-pos/E-mail:** CDESS@nda.agric.zaWebblad/Web page: [www.nda.agric.za/food](http://www.nda.agric.za/food) security statistics or [www.sagis.org.za/CEC](http://www.sagis.org.za/CEC): Crop EstimatesEMBARGO: 14:00 |

8 May 2008

#### FINAL AREA AND CROP FIGURES OF WINTER CEREALS: 2007 PRODUCTION SEASON

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CROP | **FINAL****AREA PLANTED****2007** | **FINAL****CROP****2007** | AREA PLANTED(CEC February 2008)2007 | FINAL ESTIMATE(CEC February 2008)2007 | DEVIATION OFFINAL ESTIMATEFROM FINAL CROP |
|  | HA(A) | TONS(B) | HA(C) | TONS(D) | %(D) ÷ (B) |
| Wheat | **632 000** | **1  905 000** | 632 000 | 1 843 900 | -3,21 |
| Malting barley | **73 360** | **222 500** | 73 360 | 218 224 | -1,92 |
| Canola | **33 200** | **38 150** | 33 200 | 39 840 | +4,43 |
| Sweet lupines | **14 000** | **13 300** | 14 000 | 13 300 | - |

#### The calculation of the final winter cereal crops for the 2007 production season is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CROP | Total | Producer deliveriesreported by SAGIS1)(Oct 2007 - Mrch 2008) | Estimatedfuture deliveries(April – Sept 2008) | Retentions on farms for own use |
|  | Tons |
| Wheat | 1 905 000 | 1 828 542 | 36 958 | 39 5002) |
| Malting barley | 222 500 | 216 550 | 2 659 | 3 291 |
| Canola | 38 150 | 37 507 | 79 | 564 |

1. SAGIS deliveries relate to the current crop.
2. Based on a survey undertaken by the Directorate: Agricultural Statistics from the Department of Agriculture.

**THE FINAL AREA AND CROP FIGURES OF WINTER CEREALS FOR**

## 2007 PRODUCTION SEASON

At a meeting held on 8 May 2008, which is chaired by the National Agricultural Marketing Council, the Crop Estimates Liaison Committee oversaw the process for the finalisation of the crop sizes of wheat, malting barley and canola for the 2007 production season.

The estimated production figures for wheat were revised, using the published figures of SAGIS of actual deliveries as the basis for the calculation. The figures from the wheat utilisation survey to determine on-farm usage and retentions, which was conducted by the Directorate: Agricultural Statistics of the Department of Agriculture were added to the SAGIS figures to calculate the total figures.

Comparing the re-calculated crop figures with the numbers set by the Crop Estimates Committee (CEC) during February 2008, the CEC has under-estimated the wheat crop by 3,2%, and the malting barley crop by 1,9%, respectively. With regard to canola, the crop was over-estimated by 4,4%.

The aim of the CEC is to set the final estimate within 5% of the final crop. The graph represents the first and final CEC estimates, as well as the final re-calculated crop figures since 1999 for wheat. From the graph it can be seen that the CEC’s final estimates were within the 5% goal for six out of the nine years.