|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | CROP ESTIMATES | Private Bag X246  PRETORIA  0001 |
|  | COMMITTEE |  |
| **From:** Rodney D. Dredge  **Tel:** 012  319 6507 **Fax:** 012  319 6211 **E-mail:** CDESS@nda.agric.za  Web page: [www.doa.agric.za/links/crop](http://www.doa.agric.za/links/crop) estimates or [www.sagis.org.za/CEC](http://www.sagis.org.za/CEC): Crop Estimates  EMBARGO: 14:00 | | |

7 May 2009

**THE FINAL AREA PLANTED AND CROP FIGURES OF WINTER CEREALS FOR THE 2008 PRODUCTION SEASON**

At a meeting held on 7 May 2009, which was chaired by a member of 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 2008 production season.

The estimated production figure for wheat was 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 size of the crop.

Comparing the numbers set by the Crop Estimates Committee (CEC) during February 2009, with the final calculated crop figures, the figure for wheat was estimated slightly lower (1,9%) than the final crop figure of 2,13 mill. tons. With regard to the malting barley and canola crops, these crops were over-estimated by 1,2% and 4,9%, respectively.

The final calculated crop production figures are attached. A schedule containing the split between dry land and irrigation areas planted to wheat for the 2008 production season, is also attached.

The CEC would like to thank all producers and industry role-players who provide 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 make a contribution to the crop estimation process.

This information is also available on the Internet at [http://www.doa.agric.za/links/crop estimates](http://www.doa.agric.za/links/crop) or <http://www.sagis.org.za/CEC>: Crop Estimates.

#### FINAL AREA PLANTED AND CROP FIGURES OF WINTER CEREALS FOR THE 2008 PRODUCTION SEASON

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CROP | **FINAL**  **AREA PLANTED**  **2008** | **FINAL**  **CROP**  **2008** |
|  | **HA** | **TONS** |
| Wheat | **748 000** | **2 130 000** |
| Malting barley | **68 245** | **192 000** |
| Canola | **34 000** | **30 800** |

#### THE CALCULATION OF THE FINAL WINTER CEREAL CROPS FOR THE 2008 PRODUCTION SEASON IS AS FOLLOWS:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CROP | Producer deliveries  reported by SAGIS1)  (Oct 2008 - March 2009) | Estimated  future deliveries  (April – Sept 2009) | Retentions on farms for own use | Final crop |
|  | Tons | | | |
| Wheat | 2 054 304 | 33 696 | 42 0002) | 2 130 000 |
| Malting barley | 188 885 | 1 195 | 1 920 | 192 000 |
| Canola | 30 468 | 24 | 308 | 30 800 |

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

#### WHEAT: SPLIT BETWEEN DRY LAND AND IRRIGATION AREA PLANTED FOR THE 2008 PRODUCTION SEASON

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Province | Dry land | Irrigation | Total | Dry land | Irrigation |
|  | Hectares | | | Percentage | |
| Western Cape | 347 200 | 2 800 | 350 000 | 99,2 | 0,8 |
| Northern Cape | 2 500 | 47 500 | 50 000 | 5,0 | 95,0 |
| Free State | 240 000 | 40 000 | 280 000 | 85,7 | 14,3 |
| Eastern Cape | 3 575 | 1 925 | 5 500 | 65,0 | 35,0 |
| KwaZulu-Natal | 450 | 7 050 | 7 500 | 6,0 | 94,0 |
| Mpumalanga | 500 | 7 500 | 8 000 | 6,2 | 93,8 |
| Limpopo | 3 000 | 17 000 | 20 000 | 15,0 | 85,0 |
| Gauteng | 300 | 1 700 | 2 000 | 15,0 | 85,0 |
| North West | 2 475 | 22 525 | 25 000 | 9,9 | 90,1 |
| Total | 600 000 | 148 000 | 748 000 | 80,2 | 19,8 |