

MONTHLY FOOD SECURITY BULLETIN OF SOUTH AFRICA: OCTOBER 2012

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Directorate: Statistics and Economic Analysis

Highlights:

- During October 2012 above-normal rainfall conditions were experienced in the northern parts of the country, the eastern and southern coastal regions, as well as isolated parts of the Northern Cape Province.
- The expected wheat crop for 2012 is 1,762 million tons, which is 12,1% less than the previous seasons' crop of 2,005 million tons.
- The projected closing stocks of wheat for the coming 2012/13 marketing year is 641 000 tons, which includes imports of 1,520 million tons.
- Commercial producers intend to plant 2,735 million ha of maize for 2013, which is 1,3% or 35 800 ha more than the 2,699 million ha planted last season.
- The projected closing stocks of maize for the current 2012/13 marketing year is 1,327 million tons, which 33,5% more than the previous year.
- Projected closing stocks of maize for the coming 2013/14 marketing year is 2,233 million tons, which 68,3% more than the previous year.
- The projected closing stocks of sorghum for the current 2012/13 marketing year show a surplus of 56 400 tons, which is 8,3% more than the previous year.
- The projected closing stocks of sorghum for the coming 2013/14 marketing year is 37 700 tons, which is 33,2% less than the previous year.
- The headline CPI (for all urban areas) annual inflation rate in September 2012 was higher at 5,5%.
- The annual percentage change in the PPI was lower at 4,2% in September 2012.
- September 2012 tractor sales of 635 units were significantly lower than the 893 units reported in September 2011.



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1. Weather conditions

1.1 Rainfall for October 2012

During October 2012 above-normal rainfall conditions were experienced in the northern parts of the country, the eastern and southern coastal regions, as well as isolated parts of the Northern Cape Province (Figure 1).

Comparing rainfall totals for October 2012 to the long term average, the central parts of the country, as well as the far western parts and most of the northern parts received near-normal to below-normal rainfall, while the remainder of the country received above-normal rainfall (Figure 2).

Figure 1: Rainfall (mm) for October 2012

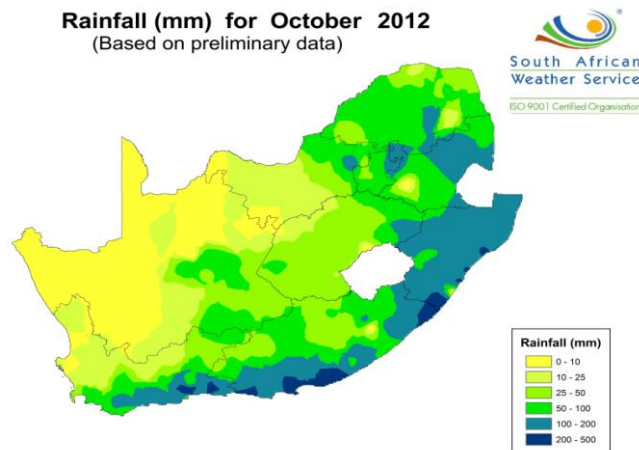
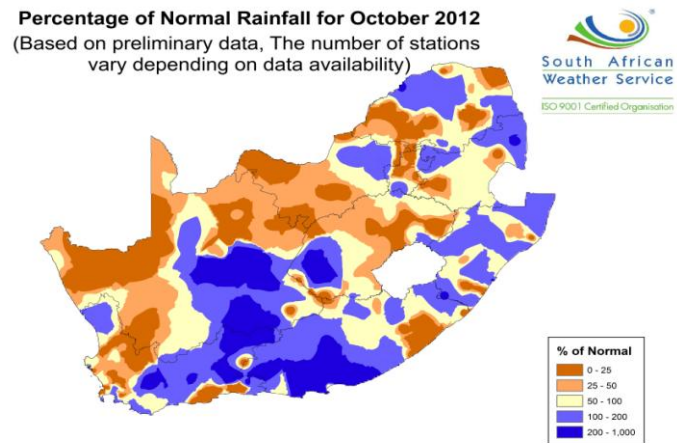


Figure 2: Percentage rainfall for October 2012



1.2 Level of dams

Available information on the level of South Africa's dams on 29 October 2012 indicates that the country has approximately 82% of its full supply capacity (FSC) available, which is 6% less than the same period last year. All provinces show a decrease, except for the Western Cape Province which shows an increase of 12% during the same period. The provincial distribution of South Africa's water supply (including Lesotho) is contained in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Level of dams, 29 October 2012

Province	Net FSC million cubic meters	29/10/2012 (%)	Last Year (%)
Eastern Cape	1 819	82	84
Free State	15 971	86	92
Gauteng	115	90	99
KwaZulu-Natal	4 529	73	81
Lesotho*	2 376	67	83
Limpopo	1 159	68	80
Mpumalanga	2 520	83	90
North West	808	76	84
Northern Cape	146	90	96
Western Cape	1 851	93	83
Total	31 294	82	88

Source: Department of Water Affairs

2. Grain production

2.1 Summer grain crops

The Crop Estimates Committee (CEC) released the intentions of producers to plant commercial summer crops for 2013 on 25 October 2012; and is as follows:

Table 2: Summer crops: Intentions of producers to plant summer crops - 2013

CROP	Intentions	Area planted 2012 Ha	Final estimate	Change %
	2013 Ha		2012 Tons	
	as mid October 2012		as on 26 Sep 2012	
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(A) ÷ (B)
Commercial:				
White maize	1 600 000	1 636 200	6 505 800	-2,2
Yellow maize	1 135 000	1 063 000	4 988 850	+6,8
Maize	2 735 000	2 699 200	11 494 650	+1,3
Sunflower seed	525 000	453 350	527 110	+15,8
Soya-beans	504 000	472 000	646 950	+6,8
Groundnuts	43 000	45 450	60 290	-5,4
Sorghum	64 650	48 550	137 150	+33,2
Dry beans	45 000	39 750	47 695	+13,2
TOTAL	3 916 650	3 758 300	12 913 845	+4,2

Note: Estimate is for calendar year, e.g. production season 2012/13 = 2013

- According to the results of the survey, commercial producers intend to plant 2,735 million ha of **maize** for 2013, which is 1,3% or 35 800 ha more than the 2,699 million ha planted last season.
- The figures show that producers intend to plant 1,600 million ha to **white maize**, which is 36 200 ha (2,2%) less than in the previous season. In the case of **yellow maize**, the expected plantings are 1,135 million ha, which is 72 000 ha (6,8%) more than in the previous season.
- Producers indicated that the main reason for the increase in the intended area to be planted to maize is favourable prices compared with the same period a year ago. Crop rotation practices were also given as a reason for the increase in plantings of the summer crops. However, late rainfall can still influence farmers' decisions to plant other summer grain crops.
- In the case of **sunflower seed**, the expected area planted is estimated at 525 000 ha, which is 15,8% or 71 650 ha more than the 453 350 ha planted last season.
- The intended plantings of **soya-beans** shows an increase of 6,8% compared to the previous season – from 472 000 ha to 504 000 ha.
- The expected plantings of **groundnuts** decreased slightly by 5,4% compared to the previous season - from 45 450 ha to 43 000 ha.
- The intended plantings of **sorghum** and **dry beans** is expected to increase by 33,2% and 13,2%, respectively, compared to the previous season.

At the forthcoming meeting of the Crop Estimates Liaison Committee to be held on 29 November 2012, the size of the summer grain crops for 2012 will be finalised.

2.2 Winter cereal crops

The area estimate and third production forecast for winter cereals for the 2012 production season was also released by the Crop Estimates Committee CEC on 25 October 2012, and is as follows:

Table 3: Commercial winter crops: Area planted estimate and third production forecast - 2012 production season

CROP	Area planted	3 rd forecast	Area planted	Final crop	Change
	2012	2012	2011	2011	
	Ha (A)	Tons (B)	Ha (C)	Tons (D)	% (B) ÷ (D)
Wheat	511 200	1 761 860	604 700	2 005 000	-12,1
Malting barley	84 940	300 662	80 150	312 000	-3,6
Canola	44 100	64 010	43 510	58 800	8,9
Total	640 240	2 126 532	728 360	2 375 800	-10,5

- The expected production of **wheat** is 1,762 million tons, which is 12,1% or 243 140 tons less than the previous seasons' crop of 2,005 million tons, whilst the expected yield is 3,45 t/ha.
- The expected production in the Western Cape is 734 400 tons (42%), in the Free State 383 500 tons (22%) and in the Northern Cape 277 200 tons (16%).
- The area estimate for wheat also remained unchanged at 511 200 ha.
- The production forecast for **malting barley** is 300 662 tons, which is 3,6% or 11 338 tons less than the previous seasons' crop of 312 000 tons. The area planted is estimated at 84 940 ha, while the expected yield is 3,54 t/ha.
- The expected **canola** crop is 64 010 tons, which is 8,9% or 5 210 tons more than the previous season. The area estimate for canola is 44 100 ha, with an expected yield of 1,45 t/ha.
- Please note that the expected production of the winter crops is based on conditions as at the middle of October, but could change due to adverse weather conditions experienced, especially in the Rûens region of the Western Cape Province.

Please note that the fourth production forecast for winter cereals for 2012 will be released on 22 November 2012.

3. Cereal balance sheets

Supply and demand data for September 2012 was released by SAGIS on 24 October 2012. *(Preliminary information is subject to change on a monthly basis.)*

3.1 Winter cereals

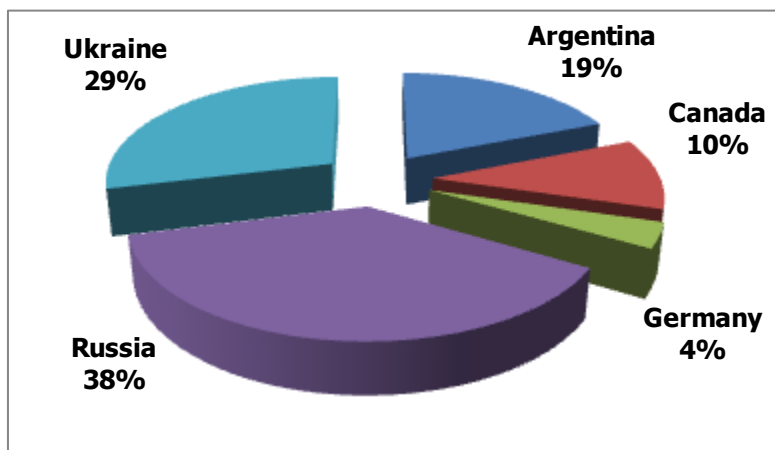
Table 4: Supply and demand for Wheat as at 31 October 2012

Marketing year (October to September) Calendar year	2010/11 2010	2011/12* 2011*	2012/13* 2012*
	1 000 tons	1 000 tons	1 000 tons
Supply			
Opening stocks: 1 October	579	478	659
SAGIS opening stocks	579	478	659
Gross production	1 436	2 014	1 771
Commercial production	1 401	1 976	1 733
Retentions by producers	29	29	29
Non-commercial	6	9	9
Total domestic supply	2 015	2 492	2 430
Plus: Imports	1 649	1 724	1 520
Total supply	3 664	4 216	3 950
Demand			
Commercial consumption	3 001	3 254	3 075
Human	2 944	3 052	2 990
Animal	1	136	20
Retentions by producers	29	29	29
Seed for planting purposes	13	18	20
Other consumption (released to end con's+withdrawn by prod's+retentions)	14	19	16
Non-commercial	6	9	9
Total domestic consumption	3 007	3 263	3 084
Plus: Exports	179	294	225
Products	24	25	23
Whole grain	155	269	202
Total demand	3 186	3 557	3 309
Closing stocks: 30 September	478	659	641
Pipeline requirements (80 days of human consumption)	645	669	655
Domestic shortfall / surplus	-1 637	-1 440	-1 309
Import gap	1 637	1 440	1 309
Surplus above pipeline	-167	-10	-14

*Projection, Source: SAGIS, Directorate: Statistics and Economic Analysis

- The final closing stocks (30 September 2012) of wheat for the 2011/12 marketing year was 659 000 tons, which is 37,9% more than the previous year (478 000 tons).

Graph 1: Major countries of wheat imports for South Africa: 2012/13 marketing year



- The progressive wheat imports from 29 September 2012 to 26 October 2012, stand at 192 388 tons, with the largest quantity (72 666 or 38%) imported from Russia followed by Ukraine (55 563 or 29%), Argentina (36 427 tons or 19%), Canada (20 490 tons or 10%) and Germany (7 242 tons or 4%).
- The total supply of wheat for the 2012/13 marketing year is 3,950 million tons, including projected imports of 1,520 million tons, while the total demand is seen at 3,309 million tons bringing the projected closing stocks (30 September 2013) of wheat for the same year to 641 000 tons, which is 2,7% less than the 659 000 tons of the previous year.

3.2 Summer grains

Table 5: Supply and demand for White Maize as at 31 October 2012

Marketing Year: May – April	2011/12	2012/13*	2013/14*
Calendar Year	2011	2012*	2013*
Supply	1 000 tons	1 000 tons	1 000 tons
Opening Stocks: 1 May	1 609	518	888
SAGIS Opening Stocks	1 609	518	888
Gross Production	6 601	6 935	7 229
Commercial production	6 105	6 410	6 704
Retentions by producers	100	96	96
Non-commercial	396	429	429
Total Domestic Supply	8 210	7 453	8 117
Imports	133	20	
Total Supply	8 343	7 473	8 117
Demand			
Commercial Consumption	5 635	4 956	5 296
Human	4 119	4 100	4 150
Animal	1 202	610	900
Gristing	53	50	50
Retentions by producers	85	80	80
Seed for planting purposes	15	16	16
Other consumption (released to end-con & withdrawn by producers)	161	100	100
Non-commercial	396	429	429
Total Domestic Consumption	6 031	5 385	5 725
Exports	1 794	1 200	1 013
Products	60	50	63
Whole grain	1 734	1 150	950
Total Demand	7 825	6 585	6 738
Closing Stocks: 30 April	518	888	1 379
Pipeline Requirements (45 days of human & animal consumption + gristing)	663	587	629
Domestic Shortfall / Surplus	1 517	1 481	1 763
Surplus/ Shortage above pipeline	- 144	301	750

**Projection, Source: SAGIS, Directorate: Statistics and Economic Analysis*

- Projected closing stocks of white maize for the current 2012/13 marketing year is 888 000 tons, which is 71,4% more than the previous year (518 000 tons). This increase can mainly be attributed to the higher production



figure, as well as the lower projected export figure for 2012 calendar year. The projected export figure of 1,2 million tons is 33,1% less than the 1,794 million tons of the previous year.

- From 1 May up to 26 October 2012, progressive white maize exports stand at 850 087 tons of which 658 449 tons or 77,5% was exported to Mexico. The progressive white maize imports from 1 May to 26 October 2012, stand at 10 017 tons, with Zambia the main source of imports.
- Projected closing stocks of white maize for the coming 2013/14 marketing year is 1,379 million tons, which 55,3% more than the previous year (888 000 tons). This increase can mainly be attributed to the expected increase in the production figure of white maize for the 2013 calendar year.

Table 6: Supply and demand for Yellow Maize as at 31 October 2012

Marketing Year: May – April Calendar Year	2011/12 2011	2012/13* 2012*	2013/14* 2013*
	1 000 tons	1 000 tons	1 000 tons
Supply			
Opening Stocks: 1 May	727	476	440
SAGIS Opening Stocks	727	476	440
Gross Production	4 777	5 197	5 600
Commercial production	4 235	4 693	5 096
Retentions by producers	374	295	295
Non-commercial	168	209	209
Total Domestic Supply	5 504	5 673	6 040
Imports	288	50	
Total Supply	5 792	5 723	6 040
Demand			
Commercial Consumption	4 367	4 835	4 477
Human	393	400	364
Animal	3 160	3 700	3 320
Gristing	14	10	10
Retentions by producers	360	280	280
Seed for planting purposes	14	15	14
Other consumption (released to end-con & withdrawn by producers)	426	430	489
Non-commercial	168	209	209
Total Domestic Consumption	4 535	5 044	4 686
Exports	781	240	500
Products	69	50	50
Whole grain	712	190	450
Total Demand	5 316	5 284	5 186
Closing Stocks: 30 April	476	439	854
Pipeline Requirements (45 days of human & animal consumption + gristing)	440	507	455
Domestic Shortfall / Surplus	529	122	899
Surplus/ Shortage above pipeline	36	-68	399

**Projection, Source: SAGIS, Directorate: Statistics and Economic Analysis*

- Projected closing stocks of yellow maize for the current 2012/13 marketing year is 439 000 tons, which 7,8% less than the previous year (476 000 tons). This increase can mainly be attributed to the increase in the expected animal consumption figure of yellow maize, from 3,2 million tons to 3,7 million tons for the 2012 calendar year.



- From 1 May up to 26 October 2012, progressive yellow maize exports stand at 90 989 tons, with the main destinations being the BLNS countries (68 956 tons or 75,8%). No imports were reported for the mentioned period.
- Projected closing stocks of yellow maize for the coming 2013/14 marketing year is 854 000 tons, which 94,5% more than the previous year (439 000 tons). This increase can mainly be attributed to the expected increase in the production figure of yellow maize for the 2013 calendar year.

Table 7: Supply and demand for Maize as at 31 October 2012

Marketing Year: May – April	2011/12	2012/13*	2013/14*
Calendar Year	2011	2012*	2013*
Supply	1 000 tons	1 000 tons	1 000 tons
Opening Stocks: 1 May	2,336	994	1,328
SAGIS Opening Stocks	2,336	994	1,328
Gross Production	11 378	12 133	12 830
Commercial production	10 340	11 103	11 800
Retentions by producers	474	392	392
Non-commercial	564	638	638
Total Domestic Supply	13 714	13 127	14 158
Imports	421	70	
Total Supply	14 135	13 197	14 158
Demand			
Commercial Consumption	10 002	9 792	9 774
Human	4 512	4 500	4 514
Animal	4 362	4 310	4 220
Gristing	67	60	60
Retentions by producers	445	360	360
Seed for planting purposes	29	32	31
Other consumption (released to end-con & withdrawn by producers)	587	530	589
Non-commercial	564	638	638
Total Domestic Consumption	10 566	10 430	10 412
Exports	2 575	1 440	1 513
Products	129	100	113
Whole grain	2 446	1 340	1 400
Total Demand	13 141	11 870	11 925
Closing Stocks: 30 April	994	1 327	2 233
Pipeline Requirements (45 days of human & animal consumption + gristing)	1 102	1 094	1 084
Domestic Shortfall / Surplus	2 046	1 603	2 662
Surplus/ Shortage above pipeline	-108	233	1 149

**Projection, Source: SAGIS, Directorate: Statistics and Economic Analysis*

- Projected closing stocks of maize for the current 2012/13 marketing year is 1,327 million tons, which is 33,5% more than the previous year (994 000 tons). This increase can mainly be attributed to the increase in the production figure for the 2012 calendar year.



- From 1 May up to 26 October 2012, the progressive grand total of exports is 941 076 tons, with the largest quantity (658 449 tons or 70%) exported to Mexico followed by BLNS countries (237 703 tons or 25,3%), Mozambique (30 770 tons or 3,3%) and Korea (12 152 tons or 1,3%).
- The progressive maize imports from 1 May to 26 October 2012, stand at 10 017 tons, with Zambia being the main source of imports.
- Projected closing stocks of maize for the coming 2013/14 marketing year is 2,233 million tons, which 68,3% more than the previous year (1,327 million tons). This increase can mainly be attributed to the expected increase in the production figure of maize for the 2013 calendar year.

Table 8: Supply and demand for Sorghum as at 31 October 2012

Marketing year: April - March Calendar year	2011/12 2011	2012/13* 2012*	2013/14* 2013*
	1 000 tons	1 000 tons	1 000 tons
Supply			
Opening stocks: 1 April	58,1	52,1	56,4
SAGIS opening stocks	58,1	52,1	56,4
Gross production	187,0	157,8	196,0
Commercial production	163,7	137,2	175,4
Non-commercial	23,3	20,6	20,6
Total domestic supply	245,1	209,9	252,4
Plus: Imports	57,8	75,0	34,2
Total supply	302,9	284,9	286,6
Demand			
Food consumption	182,2	172,0	179,0
Malt	81,3	72,2	80,8
Meal	100,9	99,8	98,2
Brew			
Feed consumption	7,1	6,5	8,0
Pet food	1,1	1,0	1,0
Poultry	5,5	5,0	5,2
Other feed	0,5	0,5	1,8
Total commercial consumption	189,3	178,5	187,0
Other consumption	11,1	8,8	10,2
Balancing item	1,9	1,0	2,0
Non-commercial	23,3	20,6	20,6
Total domestic consumption	225,6	208,9	219,8
Plus: Exports	25,2	19,6	29,1
Exports through border posts	21,4	16,0	25,7
Exports through harbours			
Products to African countries	3,8	3,6	3,4
Total demand	250,8	228,5	248,9
Closing stocks	52,1	56,4	37,7
Pipeline Requirements (45 days of human & animal consumption + gristing)	23,3	22,0	23,1
Domestic surplus / deficit	-3,8	-21,0	9,5
Import gap	3,8	21,0	-9,5
Surplus/ Shortage above pipeline	28,8	34,4	14,6

*Projection, Source: SAGIS, Directorate: Statistics and Economic Analysis

- The projected closing stocks of sorghum for the current 2012/13 marketing year show a surplus of 56 400 tons, which is 8,3% more than the previous year (52 100 tons) and can be attributed to the higher projected imports



figure for 2012. Imports of sorghum for the mentioned year are projected at 75 000 tons, which is 29,8% more than the 57 800 tons of the previous year.

- The projected closing stocks of sorghum for the coming 2013/14 marketing year is 37 700 tons, which is 33,2% less than the previous year (56 400 tons). This decrease can mainly be attributed to the expected decrease in the import figure for the 2013 calendar year.

4. Market information

4.1 Consumer Price Index (CPI)

- The headline CPI (for all urban areas) annual inflation rate in September 2012 was 5,5%. This rate was 0,5% higher than the corresponding annual rate of 5,0% in August 2012. On average, prices increased by 0,9% between August 2012 and September 2012.
- The food and non-alcoholic beverages index increased by 1,8% between August 2012 and September 2012. The annual rate increased to 5,8% in September 2012 from 4,9% in August 2012. The following components in the food and non-alcoholic beverages index increased: Meat (4,2%), vegetables (2,1%), bread and cereals (1,7%), sugar, sweets and desserts (1,5%), other food (1,5%), fish (1,0%) and oils and fats (0,1%). The following components decreased: Fruit (-2,3%), hot beverages (-0,3%) and milk, eggs and cheese (-0,2%).
- The alcoholic beverages and tobacco index increased by 0,1% between August 2012 and September 2012. The annual rate decreased to 7,3% in September 2012 from 7,4% in August 2012.
- The housing and utilities index increased by 0,7% between August 2012 and September 2012, mainly due to a 1,4% increase in actual rentals for housing and a 1,0% increase in owners' equivalent rent. The annual rate increased to 5,9% in September 2012 from 5,8% in August 2012.
- The transport index increased by 1,9% between August 2012 and September 2012, mainly due to a 93c/litre increase in the price of petrol. The annual rate increased to 6,6% in September 2012 from 4,9% in August 2012.
- The recreation and culture index increased by 0,5% between August 2012 and September 2012. The annual rate increased to 1,5% in September 2012 from 1,3% in August 2012.
- The provinces with an annual inflation rate lower than or equal to headline inflation were Free State (5,4%), Gauteng (5,4%), Eastern Cape (5,3%) and Western Cape (5,1%). The provinces with an annual inflation rate higher than headline inflation were North West (6,6%), Mpumalanga (6,3%), Limpopo (6,1%), KwaZulu-Natal (6,0%) and Northern Cape (5,9%).

4.2 Producer Price Index (PPI)

- The Producer Price Index (PPI) for domestic output shows an annual rate of change of 4,2% in September 2012 (i.e. the PPI in September 2012 compared with September 2011). This rate is 0,9% lower than the corresponding annual rate of 5,1% in August 2012.
- This lower rate in September 2012 can be explained by decreases in the annual rate of change in the Producer Price Index for:
 - Electricity: The annual rate decreased from 13,8% in August 2012 to 13,3% in September 2012;
 - Mining and quarrying: The annual rate decreased from 1,7% in August 2012 to -0,1% in September 2012;
 - Other manufactures: The annual rate decreased from 5,8% in August 2012 to 1,3% in September 2012; and
 - Basic metals: The annual rate decreased from -0,4% in August 2012 to -3,2% in September 2012.
- These decreases were counteracted by increases in the annual rate of change for:
 - Products of petroleum and coal: The annual rate increased from 7,4% in August 2012 to 10,4% in September 2012;
 - Food at manufacturing: The annual rate increased from 9,0% in August 2012 to 10,1% in September 2012;
 - Agriculture: The annual rate increased from 4,3% in August 2012 to 5,2% in September 2012; and
 - Wood and wood products: The annual rate increased from 3,2% in August 2012 to 4,0% in September 2012.
- From August 2012 to September 2012 the PPI for domestic output decreased by 4,0%.

- The monthly decrease of 4,0% in the PPI for domestic output was mainly due to monthly contributions from decreases in the price indices of electricity (-4,9%), basic metals (-0,3%) and other manufactures (-0,1%). These decreases were partially counteracted by increases in the price indices of mining and quarrying (0,4%), all other groups (0,3%), agriculture (0,2%), food at manufacturing (0,2%) and products of petroleum and coal (0,2%).

4.3 Future contract prices and the exchange rate

Table 9: Closing prices on Friday, 2 November 2012

	2 November 2012	2 October 2012	% Change
RSA White Maize per ton (Dec. contract)	R2 509,00	R2 427,00	+3,4
RSA Yellow Maize per ton (Dec. contract)	R2 546,00	R2 449,00	+4,0
RSA Wheat per ton (Dec. contract)	R3 680,00	R3 498,00	+5,2
RSA Sunflower seed per ton (Dec. contract)	R6 110,00	R6 020,00	+1,5
RSA Soya-beans per ton (Dec. contract)	R5 580,00	R5 390,00	+3,5
Exchange rate R/\$	R8,68	R8,31	+4,5

Source: SAFEX

4.4 Agricultural machinery sales

- September tractor sales of 635 units were significantly lower than the 893 units reported in September 2011. However, on a year-to-date basis 2012 sales are 13% higher than 2011 sales. September combine harvester sales of 23 units were 21% more than the 19 units sold in September 2011. On a year-to-date basis combine harvester sales are now almost 46% up on last year.
- The apparent sharp downturn in September 2012 sales is not a cause for concern. Average September tractor sales over the past five years were 617 units, almost in line with September sales for 2012. September and October tractor sales during 2011 were at exceptionally high levels, so month-on-month comparisons are being made against these.
- The market for agricultural machinery remains buoyant, with fundamentals in the market continuing to look positive. Commodity prices remain favourable and the recent rains in some summer cropping areas have enabled farmers to start planting there.
- In terms of forecasting the course of agricultural machinery sales for the rest of the year, weather conditions in the latter part of the year will probably be the driving factor. Industry predictions of tractor sales for the 2012 calendar year are between 7 700 and 8 100 units, between 5 and 10% higher than the almost 7 400 units sold in 2011.

Table 10: Agricultural machinery sales

Equipment class	Year-on-year		Percentage Change %	Year-to-date		Percentage Change %
	September			September		
	2012	2011		2012	2011	
Tractors	635	893	-28,9	6 002	5 307	13,1
Combine harvesters	23	19	21,1	283	194	45,9

Source: SAAMA press release, October 2012



5. Acknowledgements

The Directorate: Statistics and Economic Analysis makes use of information sourced from various institutions and organisations within South Africa in order to compile the monthly report on South Africa's Food Security Situation. This report has been compiled with the aid of information and reports sourced from the following institutions and organisations:

- Agfacts
- Department of Water Affairs (DWA)
- Farmer's Weekly
- Grain South Africa (GrainSA)
- IGC Grain Market Report
- National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC)
- South African Agricultural Machinery Association (SAAMA)
- South African Futures Exchange (SAFEX)
- South African Reserve Bank
- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)
- The South African Grain Information Service (SAGIS)
- The South African Weather Service (WeatherSA)
- USDA Foreign Service
- UT Grain Management (Pty) Ltd
- Weekly Price Watch, DAFF