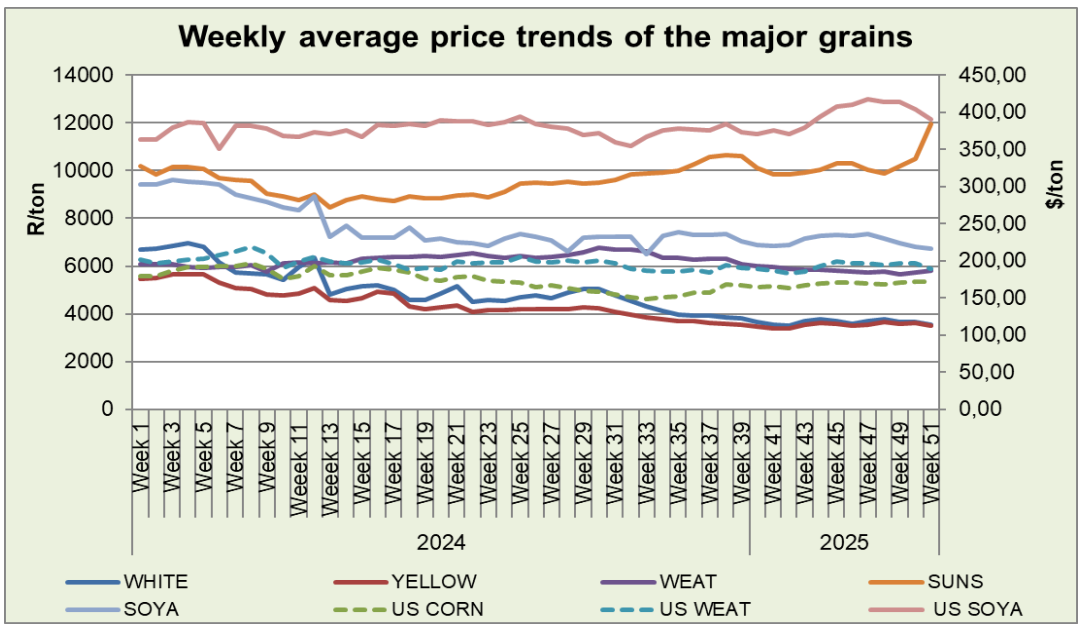
agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Weekly Price Watch: 19 December 2025

Directorate: Statistics & Economic Analysis

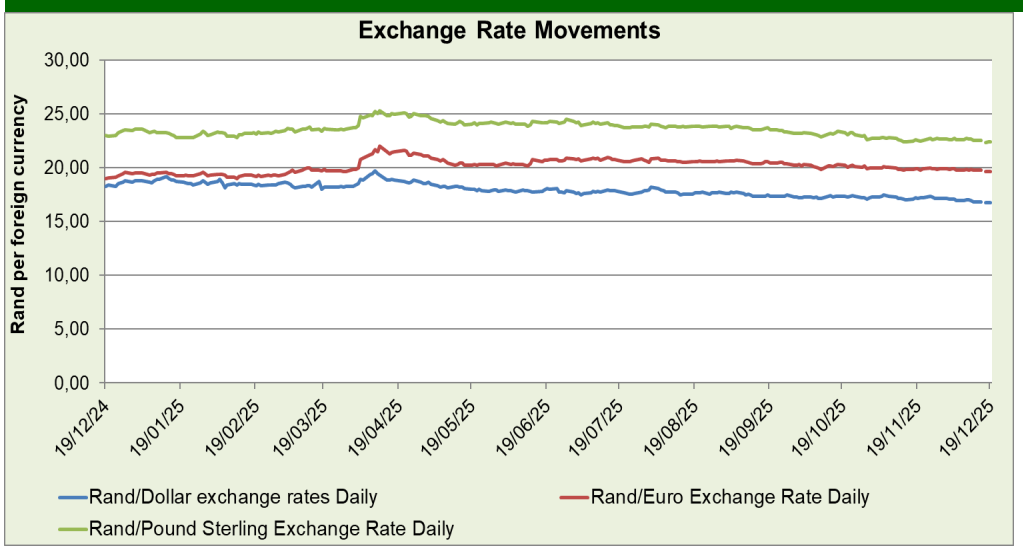
Sub-directorate: Economic Analysis



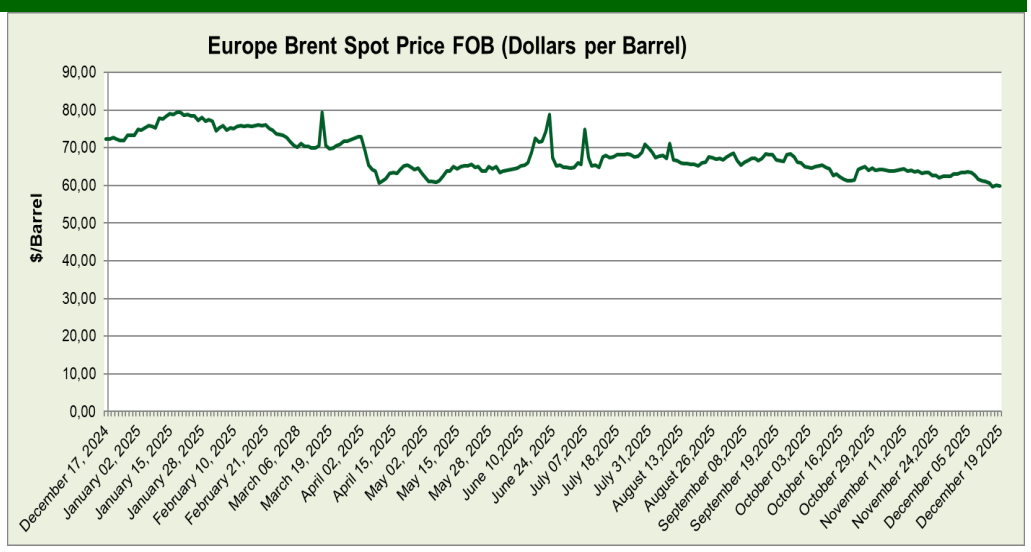
The price of local white and yellow maize decreased by 3.3% and 2.8% respectively due to the high maize output for the 2025 season, while the US maize price increased by 0.3% as usage increased and output outlook remaining the same. The price of local wheat increased by 0.5% as a result of inter-alia; slight downward revision of local wheat outlook, while the US wheat price decreased by 3.9% as the world market remains well supplied. The price of local soybeans decreased by 0.5% due to the high final soybeans output adjustment, while the USA soybeans price decreased by 2.9% as a result of the weaknesses in the global oilseed market pressured the soy complex, interestingly, the local sunflower price increased by 12,4% this week compared to last week. Local sunflower output remained the same.

Spot price trends of major grains commodities

	1 year ago Week 51 (17-12-24 to 20-12-24)	Last week Week 50 (08-12-25 to 12-12-25)	This week Week 51 (15-12-25 to 19-12-25)	w-o-w % change
RSA White Maize per ton	R6 673,75	R 3 651.80	R3 532,50	-3,3%
RSA Yellow Maize per ton	R5 373,25	R 3 608,60	R3 502,75	-2,9%
USA Yellow Maize per ton	$173,83	$ 171.90	$172,49	0,3%
RSA Wheat per ton	R5 740,00	R 5 774.60	R5 805,25	0,5%
USA Wheat per ton	$199,26	$ 196.59	$189,01	-3,9%
RSA Soybeans per ton	R9 184,50	R 6 781.40	R6 745,75	-0,5%
USA Soybeans per ton	$355,79	$ 402.02	$390,37	-2,9%
RSA Sunflower seed per ton	R10 228,75	R 10 623.20	R11 945,00	12,4%
Crude oil per barrel	$ 72,43	$ 61.99	$60,06	-3,1%



The rand appreciated against the dollar, the euro and the pound this week relative to the previous week, appreciating by 1.1% 0.7% and 1%. The South African Rand gained after domestic data showed a rise in the leading business cycle indicator in October compared to September and the Reserve bank adopting a 3% inflation target, a shift welcomed by the markets



The price of oil declined for a second week as concerns over an oversupply outweighed political risks. According to Blomberg; all of the world's biggest traders see the market in a state of oversupply even in their projections for early next year and the market have already priced in the outlook. The crude oil price decreased by 3.1% this week relative to the previous week.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Beef

Week 49 (01/12/2025 to 07/12/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 50 (08/12/2025 to 14/12/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	14 369	74,61	76,59	Class A2	14 521	69,92	76,55
Class A3	522	74,42	78,87	Class A3	642	68,73	77,80
Class C2	1 426	63,99	65,65	Class C2	1 859	62,80	66,34

The units of beef sold this week for class A2, A3 and C2 increased by 1.1%, 23% and 30.4%, while the producer prices decreased by 6.3%, 7.6% and 1.9% respectively compared to the previous week. The market prices decreased for class A2 and A3 by 0.1% and 1.4% while increasing by 1.1% for class C2.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Lamb

Week 49 (01/12/2025 to 07/12/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price	Week 50 (08/12/2025 to 14/12/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Avg Selling Price
Class A2	19 580	109,43	111,56	Class A2	19762	110,86	114,49
Class A3	3 452	107,33	111,34	Class A3	3237	108,33	113,25
Class C2	1 698	82,70	89,96	Class C2	2203	84,22	91,23

The units of lamb traded this week increased for class A2 and C2 by 0.9% and 30%, while decreasing by 6.2% for class A3 compared to the previous week. The producer prices for class A2, A3 and C2 increased by 1.3%, 0.9% and 1.8% ; while the market prices increased 2.6%, 1.7% and 1.4% respectively.

National South African Price information (RMAA) : Pork

Week 49 (01/12/2025 to 07/12/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price	Week 50 (08/12/2025 to 14/12/2025)	Units	Avg Purchase Price
Class BP	3 459	40.34	Class BP	5591	40,14
Class HO	10 377	38.80	Class HO	10480	39,14
Class HP	17 926	38.66	Class HP	17303	38,96

The units of pork traded this week increased for class BP and Class HO by 61.6% and 1% respectively, while class HP units decreased by 3.5% relative to the previous week. The producer prices for class BP decreased by 0.5% while, HO and BP prices increased by 0.9% and 0.8%.

Latest News Developments

The South African Reserve bank plans the biggest overhaul of the nation's cash system in decades, moving to create a cash-management company, roll out white-label ATMs and tighten oversight of how money circulates to make it cheaper and easier to access. The so-called Cash Smart Strategy aims to ensure physical funds remain accessible for low-income and rural communities that have limited digital payment options and often face costs as much as five times higher than wealthier urban users. The reforms are likely to be the largest change in how cash is circulated since ATMs were introduced more than 40 years ago are intended to ease that burden. The central bank expects cash usage to drop by 30% to 40% when the nation reaches digitization levels comparable to India, Brazil and the European Union.

Statistics South Africa data shows that; South Africa's headline consumer inflation slowed to 3.5% year on year in November from 3.6% in October. On a month-on-month terms the Consumer Price Index decreased by 0.1% in November relative to an increase of 0.1% in October. At last month's interest rate meeting the South African Reserve Bank lowered its main lending rate by 25 basis points, citing an improved inflation outlook. The rate cut eased concerns that the new inflation target would prevent the central bank from cutting rates.

According to experts at Ninety-One the nation's top investment firm; Stocks of non-commodity South African companies looks set to rally next year given they trade at a deep discount and trailed the performance of both local bonds and the wider equity gauge in 2025. A credit upgrade by S&P Global Ratings, South Africa's removal from the Financial Action Task Force's dirty-money list and slower inflation amid a 13% gain in the rand to the dollar this year are further evidence of a better trajectory.

The African Development Bank Group (AfDB) and Nedbank Group have announced a landmark financing agreement aimed at improving access to affordable housing in South Africa and expanding trade across Africa. The partnership consists of two components; a R2.5-billion social bond subscription through Nedbank's Sustainable Finance Fundraising Framework and a $60-million trade finance Risk Participation Agreement with Nedbank. The social bond, listed on the JSE, will prioritise funding for affordable housing targeted at women and first-time buyers, as well as green-certified units. The initiative aligns with both institutions' goals of promoting gender equality, climate resilience, and financial inclusion. According to AFD director, the partnership builds on our shared commitment to drive financial access for underserved communities and transform living conditions across South Africa.

Botswana's economy seen shrinking almost 1% in 2025 due to diamond sector woes; Botswana's government now forecasts an economic contraction of almost 1% this year as its key diamond sector continues to struggle, its finance minister said in a budget review. When the main budget was presented in February the country's government had hoped for a 3.3% gross domestic product (GDP) expansion this year, rebounding from last year's 3% contraction.

For more information contact: Directorate Statistics & Economic Analysis (SEA) at DSEA@Nda.gov.za or 0123198454.

Source: SAFEX, Standard bank, Stats SA, Reuters, Red Meat Abattoir Association, FNB, Agbiz and Absa Bank.

Disclaimer: DOA will not be liable for results of actions based on this price watch.