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WEEK 13 – 2012

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Groot brandstofprysstygings in April verwag

Petru Fourie (landbou-ekoonoom: Insette en Produksie, Graan SA)

► Volgens die jongste inligting van die Sentrale Energiefonds kan die petrolprys op 4 April 2012 met 64 sent per liter en die dieselprys met 47 sent per liter **STYG**.

Dié verwagte styging is grootliks die gevolg van die huidige hoër internasionale olieprys asook die styging in die algemene brandstofbelasting en die Padongeluksfondsheffing, wat jaarliks in April in werking tree. Die olieprys het in Februarie teen 'n gemiddeld van \$119 per vat verhandel, terwyl dit die afgelope maand teen gemiddeld \$124 per vat beweeg. Die rand het gedurende dieselde tydperk met 1.0% versterk, wat groter stygings in brandstofpryse demp. Die belasting op brandstof styg met 20 sent per liter en die Padongeluksfondsheffing (POF) met 8 sent per liter.

Die afsonderlike sent-per-liter-bydrae van die internasionale brandstofpryse en R/\$-wisselkoers sowel as die heffings tot die brandstofprysstygings vir April, kan onderaan gesien word.

	Petrol 95	Diesel 0.05%
	c/l	c/l
Internasionale brandstofpryse en R/\$	36	19
Heffings	28	28
Totale verwagte styging	64	47

Somergewasse: Tweede produksieskatting bekend gemaak

Petru Fourie (landbou-ekoonom: Insette en Produksie, Graan SA)

► Die **mielie-oes** is op 11,306 miljoen ton geskat wat 399 800 ton laer as die vorige skatting van 11,705 miljoen ton is. Die oesverwagting is verlaag a.g.v. droogtetoestande wat heers en opbrengste negatief beïnvloed. Die skatting van die oppervlakte onder mielies beloop 2,699 miljoen ha, wat 17 000 ha meer as die vorige skatting is. Die verwagte opbrengs is 4,19 t/ha teenoor die 4,36 t/ha van die vorige skatting.

Die produksieskatting vir **sonneblomsaad** is 514 890 ton, wat 25 930 ton minder is as die 540 820 ton van die vorige skatting. Die hersiene oppervlakeskatting vir sonneblomsaad is 453 350 ha, wat 10 050 ha meer is as van tevore. Die verwagte opbrengs is 1,14 t/ha teenoor die 1,22 t/ha van die vorige skatting.

Die produksieskatting van **sojabone** is 720 500 ton, wat 35 450 ton minder is as die 755 950 ton van die vorige skatting. Die geskatte oppervlakte beplant is 472000 ha, terwyl die verwagte opbrengs 1,53 t/ha is teenoor die 1,60 t/ha van die vorige skatting.

Die verwagte **grondbone-oes** is 62 240 ton, wat 4 925 ton minder is as die 67 165 ton van die vorige skatting. Vir grondbone is die oppervlakeskatting 45 450 ha, terwyl the verwagte opbrengs 1,37 t/ha is teenoor die 1,48 t/ha van die vorige skatting.

Die produksieskatting van **sorghum** is 138 825 ton, wat 6 325 ton minder is as die 145 150 ton van die vorige skatting. Die verwagte opbrengs is 2,86 t/ha teenoor die 2,99 t/ha van die vorige skatting.

Gewas	Hersiene oppv	Tweede skatting	Eerste skatting	%Δ tussen 1 ^{ste} en 2 ^{de} produksieskatting	Oppv beplant	Finale oes
	2012	2013	2012		2011	2011
	Ha	ton	ton	% verandering	Ha	ton
Witmielies	1,632,200	6,539,200	6,803,700	-3.9	1,418,300	6,052,000
Geelmielies	1,063,000	4,766,350	4,901,650	-2.8	954,000	4,308,000
Mielies	2,699,200	11,305,550	11,705,350	-3.4	2,372,300	10,360,000
Sonneblomsaad	453,350	514,890	540,820	-4.8	642,700	860,000
Sojabone	472,000	720,500	755,950	-4.7	418,000	710,000
Grondbone	45,450	62,240	67,165	-7.3	55,150	64,250
Sorghum	48,550	138,825	145,150	-4.4	69,200	155,000

Kan daar al met meer sekerheid oor die nuwe seisoen se oeste gepraat word?

Barrett Schoeman (landbou-ekonoom: Markomgewing Graan SA)

► Alhoewel die huidige seisoen oor minder as 5 weke eindig, het die 2012/13 bemarkingsjaar se vraag- en aanbodsituasie alreeds baie onsekerheid opgelewer. Die Nasionale Oesskattings Komitee (NOK) het die mielie-oes aanvanklik op 11.7 miljoen ton geskat. Mid-seisoen droogtetoestande het oeste erg beskadig en gevolglik het die NOK die oes tot 11.3 miljoen ton verlaag.

Teen die verwagte skatting van 11.7 miljoen ton het Graan SA geprojekteer dat eindvoorraadvlakke van mielies 1.3 miljoen ton teen April 2013 kan wees. Indien daar voorsiening vir die tradisionele drie-maande pyplynvoorraad gemaak sou word, sou daar skraps meer as 120 000 ton mielies beskikbaar wees.

Die NOK het in die tweede produksieskatting van somergewasse die witmielie-oes met 264 500 ton en die geelmielie-oes met 135 300 ton verlaag as gevolg van reën wat kol-kol voorgekom het. Die wit- en geelmielie-oes word nou op onderskeidelik 6.5 miljoen ton en 4.7 miljoen ton geskat. Die witmielie-opbrengs word op 4.0ton/ha en die geelmielie-opbrengs op 4.48ton/ha (in vergelyking met 4.17 ton/ha vir witmielies en 4.67 ton/ha vir geelmielies in die eerste produksieskatting) geskat.

Gegewe die hoë uitvoersyfer van oor die 2.3 miljoen ton mielies wat vir die 2011/12 seisoen verwag word, gaan ons die nuwe seisoen in met lae voorraadvlakke. Verwagtinge is dat Suid-Afrika 445 000 ton mielies ingevoer sal hê teen einde April 2012 om in die plaaslike vraag te kan voorsien. Groot hoeveelhede witmielies is veral na lande soos Mexiko uitgevoer en gevolglik is geelmielies weer ingevoer om in die voermark se verbruik te voorsien.

Die huidige situasie dui daarop dat daar weer tot 'n mate wit- en geelmielies ingevoer sal moet word in die komende seisoen. Klein hoeveelhede witmielies sal hoofsaaklik in Mei 2012 vanaf Zambië af ingevoer word, weens die tekortsituasie en laat aanplantings in die westelike produksie gebied. Groter hoeveelhede geelmielies moet ook ingevoer word om die mieliebalans weer in ewewig te bring.

Graan SA verwag dat Suid-Afrika teen die huidige projeksie 'n uitvoerbare surplus van 2.3 miljoen ton gaan hê. Onsekerheid heers nog of dieselfde uitvoere, as die huidige seisoen, na lande soos Mexiko, Taiwan, Italië en Korea gaan realiseer. Daar kan wel met sekerheid gesê word dat Mexiko alreeds 400 000 ton witmielies vanaf RSA bestel het, maar dat die uitvoerperiode nog nie bekend is nie.

Faktore wat die grootste invloed op pryse het

1. Die binnelandse oordragvoorraad van wit- en geelmielies teen April 2012.
2. Die werklike opbrengste van die nuwe seisoen se mielies.
3. Mielie in- en uitvoer situasie.
4. Die internasionale mieliesituasie wat oorheersend op die stadium deur die verwagte mielie en sojaboon aanplantings in die VSA gedryf word.



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Great fuel price increases expected in April

Petru Fourie (agricultural economist: Inputs and Production, Grain SA)



According to the latest information from the Central Energy Fund, the petrol price might **RISE** by 64 cents a litre on 4 April 2012, while the diesel price might **RISE** by 47 cents a litre on the same date.

The anticipated increases may be attributed to the current high international oil price, as well as the increases in the general fuel taxes and Road Accident Fund levies, which will be effective from April 2012. The oil price traded at an average of \$119 per barrel in February, while it traded at an average of \$124 per barrel during the past month. During the same period the rand strengthened by 1.0% which dampens larger increases in fuel prices. The tax on fuel increased by 20 cents per litre and the Road Accident Fund levies by 8 cents per litre.

The individual cents per litre contribution of international fuel prices and the R/\$ exchange rate, as well as the levies to the fuel price increases in April, can be seen below.

	Petrol 95	Diesel 0.05%
	c/l	c/l
International fuel price en R/\$	36	19
Levies	28	28
Total expected increase	64	47

Summer crop: Second production estimate published

Petru Fourie (agricultural economist: Inputs and Production, Grain SA)

► The size of the expected maize crop has been set at 11,306 million tons, which is 399 800 tons lower than the previous forecast of 11,705 million tons. The expected production was reduced due to a prevailing dry spell which affected crop yields negatively. The area estimate for maize is 2,699 million ha, which is 17 000 ha more than the previous estimate. The expected yield is 4,19 t/ha as against the 4,36 t/ha of the previous forecast.

The production estimate of sunflower seed is 514 890 tons, which is 25 930 tons less than the 540 350 tons of the previous forecast. The revised area estimate for sunflower seed is 453 350 ha, which is 10 050 ha more than the previous estimate. The expected yield is 1,14 t/ha against the 1,22 t/ha of the previous forecast.

The production forecast for soya-beans is 720 500 tons, which is 35 450 tons less than the 755 950 tons of the previous estimate. The area estimated is 472 000 ha, while the expected yield is 1,53 t/ha against the 1,60t/ha of the previous forecast.

The expected groundnut crop is 62 240 tons, which is 4 925 tons less than the 67 165 tons of the previous estimate. It is estimated that 45 450 ha have been planted to groundnuts and the expected yield is 1,37 t/ha against the 1,48 t/ha of the last estimate.

In the case of sorghum the production estimate is 138 825 tons, 6 325 tons less than the 145 150 tons of the previous forecast. The expected yield is 2,86 t/ha against the 2,99 t/ha of the previous estimate.

Crop	Revised area	2 nd	1 st	%Δ between 1 st	Area planted	Final crop
	2012	2013	2012	en 2 nd	2011	2011
	Ha	tons	tons	production	Ha	tons
White maize	1,632,200	6,539,200	6,803,700	estimate	1,418,300	6,052,000
Yellow maize	1,063,000	4,766,350	4,901,650	% change	954,000	4,308,000
Maize	2,699,200	11,305,550	11,705,350		2,372,300	10,360,000
Sunflower seed	453,350	514,890	540,820		642,700	860,000
Soybeans	472,000	720,500	755,950		418,000	710,000
Groundnuts	45,450	62,240	67,165		55,150	64,250
Sorghum	48,550	138,825	145,150		69,200	155,000

Can we talk about the new season's harvest with certainty?

Barrett Schoeman (agricultural economist: Market Environment Grain SA)

▶ Although the present season ends in less than five weeks, the supply and demand scenario for the 2012/13 marketing year generated much uncertainty. The National Crop Estimates Committee (CEC) initially estimated maize production at 11.7 million tons. Mid-season drought has severely damaged crops and consequently the CEC reduced the estimated harvest to 11.3 million tons.

After the initial estimate of 11.7 million tons, Grain SA projected the ending stocks of maize at 1.3 million tons by April 2013. If provision is made for the traditional three-month pipeline stock, only 120 000 tons of maize will be available.

The CEC, in their second production forecast for summer crops, reduced the white maize crop by 264 500 tons and the yellow maize crop by 135 300 tons due to the patchy rain that occurred. The white and yellow maize crop is now estimated at 6.5 million tons and 4.7 million tons respectively. The white maize yield is estimated at 4.0 tons/ha, and the yellow maize yield at 4.48 tons/ha (in comparison to the 4.17 tons/ha for white maize and 4.67 tons/ha for yellow maize as in the first production estimate).

The new season will start with low stock levels amid the high export figure of more than 2.3 million tons expected for the 2011/12 season. It is expected that South Africa would have imported 445 000 tons of maize by April 2012 to supply the domestic demand. Large quantities of white maize have been exported to countries such as Mexico and subsequently yellow maize had to be imported to provide for the feed market.

The current situation indicates that white and yellow maize would again have to be imported in the upcoming season. Small quantities of white maize would have to be imported from Zambia in May 2012 due to the shortage situation and the late plantings in the western production regions. Larger quantities of yellow maize would also have to be imported to restore the maize balance.

Grain SA expects that at the current projection, South Africa will have an exportable surplus of 2.3 million tons. There is uncertainty whether the same exports to countries such as Mexico, Taiwan, Italy and Korea will occur. Mexico has already ordered 400 000 tons of white maize from South Africa but the export period is not yet known.

Factors that influence prices the most:

1. The domestic carry-over stocks of white and yellow maize by April 2012.
2. The actual yields of the new season's maize crop.
3. Maize import and export situation
4. The international maize situation, which is mostly driven by the maize and soybean plantings in the US.