

GRAAN SA/GRAIN SA

Perspektief

PERSPECTIVE

NUUSBRIEF
NEWSLETTER

[KLIK HIER VIR DIE AFRIKAANSE WEERGAWE](#) | [CLICK HERE FOR ENGLISH VERSION](#)

11/01/2013
WEEK 2 - 2013

In this issue...

- [Fuel prices for February 2013](#)
- [Agricultural conditions for summer grains as at 9 January 2013](#)
- [Crop Estimates project for summer grains soon to be launched](#)

Fuel prices for February 2013

Petru Fourie (economist: Industry Services, Grain SA)

»According to the most recent information from the Central Energy Fund, the petrol price can **INCREASE** on 6 February with 11 cents per litre while the diesel price can **DECREASE** with 16 cents per litre.

[Back to the top](#)

Agricultural conditions for summer grains as at 9 January 2013

Petru Fourie (economist: Industry Services, Grain SA)

»KwaZulu-Natal

Maize is seeding now and generally looks promising. It is currently relatively dry and rains are urgently needed in the coming week to ensure above-average crops.

Mpumalanga

Maize is currently looking very good and the potential exists for above-average crops if adequate follow-up rains occur. The growth stages of maize differ, but most are starting to seed. Soybeans are currently looking better than two weeks ago, but follow-up rains are still essential.

Free State

Eastern Free State

Production conditions are currently looking very promising in the Eastern Free State. Rumours are that above-average yields can be expected for all summer crops. There are currently adequate moisture conditions, but follow-up rains are still essential.

Northwest Free State/Central Free State

In the Northwest Free State and Central Free State conditions are overall appearing to be average. The maize stand is generally not too good and very uneven. Patchy rain occurred, but producers mainly planted their expected hectares as planned. Producers in the Bultfontein/Hoopstad/Bothaville areas experienced severe gerbil and nematode problems which led to many hectares having to be replanted. Producers are still planting sunflower in certain areas, although planting has mostly been completed. Underground moisture is currently average, but follow-up rains are still essential. The Hertzogville area is currently extremely dry.

North West Province

Northern parts of the North West Province

Rain occurred sporadically in the northern parts of the North West Province. Producers in certain areas could not complete their maize plantings due to drought conditions. There are rumours that between 5% and 10% of the maize hectares could not be planted and that an increase in fallow lands or a move to alternative crops can be detected. Sunflower plantings are progressing well and producers are 85% to 90% finished with planting. Crops are appearing as rain has occurred, but the crops that have already emerged are generally looking good. Good, penetrating and widespread rains are needed.

Southern parts of the North West Province

The drought conditions that reigned in the southern parts of the North West Province during planting season caused the planting season to start almost two weeks later than normal. The production conditions in this area are currently looking promising and young crops are generally looking good. Producers are finished with their maize plantings, while between 5% and 10% of sunflowers still have to be planted. The moisture is currently adequate, but good follow-up rains are still necessary.

[Back to the top](#)

Crop Estimates project for summer grains soon to be launched

Petru Fourie (economist: Industry Services, Grain SA)

» The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries' Crop Estimates Committee has appointed the National Crop Estimates Consortium to visit 1 960 producers on their farms in the Free State, Mpumalanga and the North West Province, between 21 January 2013 and 21 February 2013.

Field workers will gather crop estimates information regarding the number of hectares planted with summer grains and expected crop yields.

The Consortium recently compiled a new random sample of grain producers in order to give a break to those producers who have been loyal to the survey for the past few years.

Producers who have been included in the redesigned test checks are therefore urged to give their full cooperation to the field workers.

The field workers will be well-trained and easily recognisable in blue and brown caps with the words Crop Estimates on it. Each field worker will also have an ID card containing his photo and the registration number of his vehicle.

All information that is gathered will be treated 100% confidentially and will only be used for crop estimates purposes.

Remember:

- Accurate crop estimates are in everyone's best interest.
- Producers in the Free State, Mpumalanga and the North West Province will be visited between 21 January 2013 and 21 February 2013.
- Crop Estimates information regarding the number of hectares planted and the expected crop yields will be gathered.

For further information, Mr Rodney Dredge or Me Rona Beukes of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries can be contacted at (012) 319-6507/8032 or RodneyD@daff.gov.za or RonaB@daff.gov.za.

[Back to the top](#)

GRAAN SA • GRAIN SA
Posbus 74087 • PO Box 74087
Lynnwood Ridge 0040,
Suid-Afrika • South Africa

+27 (012) 807-6023 +27 (012) 807-3166
www.grainsa.co.za



Subskripsie-navrae/Subscription enquiries: philip@grainsa.co.za

