

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Agricultural Economic Fact Sheet

Country: South Africa - Republic of

Post: Pretoria

Report Category: Agriculture in the Economy, National Plan, Policy and Program
Announcements

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Report Highlights:

The South African Agricultural Fact Sheet has been updated to include calendar year 2019. Bilateral agricultural trade between the United States and South Africa is expected to reach record levels of more than US\$750 million in 2019. Major agricultural products traded between the two countries include, poultry, wheat, planting seeds, citrus, nuts and wine.



South Africa

Agricultural Economic Fact Sheet

Foreign Agricultural Service
United States Embassy in South Africa
(Updated November 2019)

General

- ❖ Covering 1.2-million square kilometers of land, South Africa is **one-eighth the size of the United States** and has seven climatic regions, from Mediterranean to subtropical to semi-desert.
- ❖ South Africa has a **highly diversified** agricultural sector which includes the production and value-added activities of all the major grains (except rice), oilseeds, deciduous and subtropical fruits, sugar, citrus, wine, most vegetables, cattle, dairy, pigs, sheep, broilers, ostriches and eggs.
- ❖ The agricultural sector consists of about **35,000 commercial farmers, 200,000 smallholder farmers** and **two million subsistence farmers**.
- ❖ South Africa is the largest agricultural producer on the African continent and is also a **net food exporter**.
- ❖ South Africa has **14 million hectares of arable land** available (13% of total land area) of which about 1.5 million hectares or 10% is under irrigation.
- ❖ The **greatest limitation** to the agricultural sector is the **availability of water**, with uneven and unreliable rainfall and regular occurrences of drought.
- ❖ South Africa is the **biotechnology leader on the Africa continent** and the **ninth largest producer** of Genetically Engineered (GE) crops in the world with 2.7 million hectares. About 90 percent of corn, 95 percent of soybean and all cotton are grown from GE seeds.

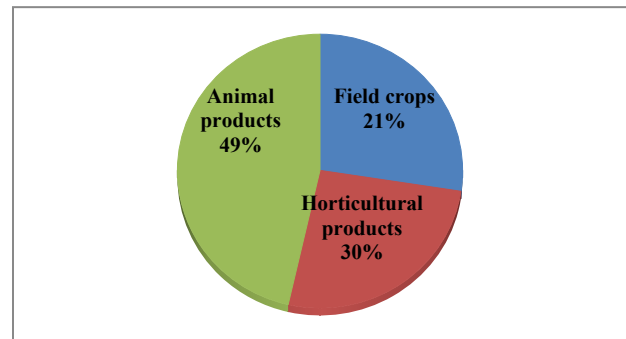
Economic Facts

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019*</u>
Population (millions)	57	58	59
GDP current values (billions)	\$349	\$368	\$359
GDP/capita	\$6,120	\$6,350	\$6,100
Real GDP growth	1.4%	0.8%	0.7%
Ag % of GDP	2.6%	2.4%	2.5%
CPI inflation	5.3%	4.6%	4.4%
Food inflation	7.0%	3.3%	3.7%
Per capita expenditure on food	\$774	\$777	\$781
Unemployment rate	27.5%	27.1%	29.1%
Ag employment ('000)	932	915	950
% of total employment	5.7%	5.5%	5.8%
Average exchange rate	R13.32/\$1	R13.25/\$1	R14.42/\$1
Prime overdraft rate	10.25%	10.0%	10.0%

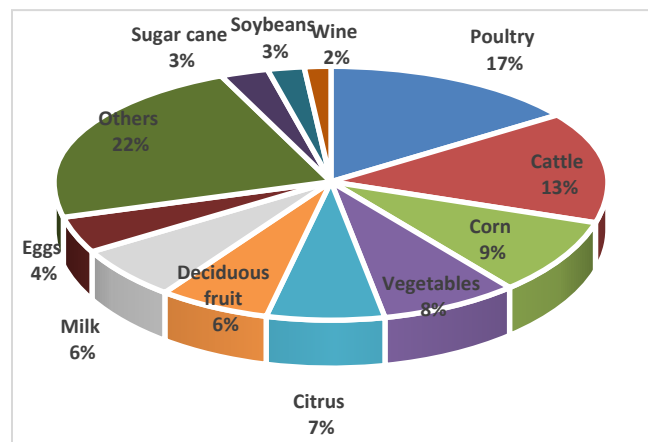
Agricultural Economic Facts

(US\$ billions)	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019*</u>
Gross value of Ag production	\$18.6	\$19.5	\$19.2
Value of capital assets	\$32.6	\$33.8	\$35.6
Farming debt	\$11.0	\$11.7	\$12.6
Gross income from field crops	\$4.6	\$4.2	\$3.9
Gross income from horticulture	\$5.0	\$5.4	\$5.8
Gross income from animals	\$8.7	\$9.8	\$9.5
Net income of producers	\$6.7	\$7.0	\$6.2
Expenditure on inputs	\$9.5	\$10.1	\$10.7
Consumer expenditure on food	\$44.1	\$45.1	\$46.4

Sector Distribution of SA Agricultural Production:

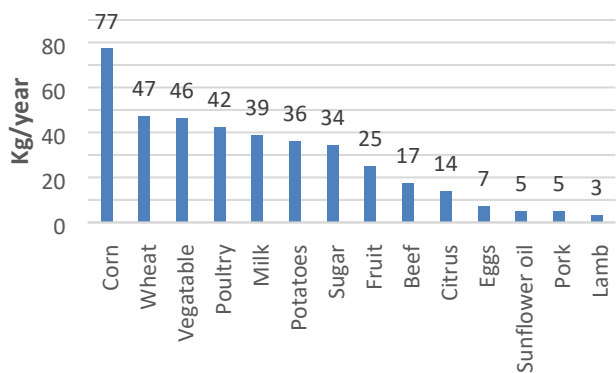


Gross Value by Commodities:



*Estimates

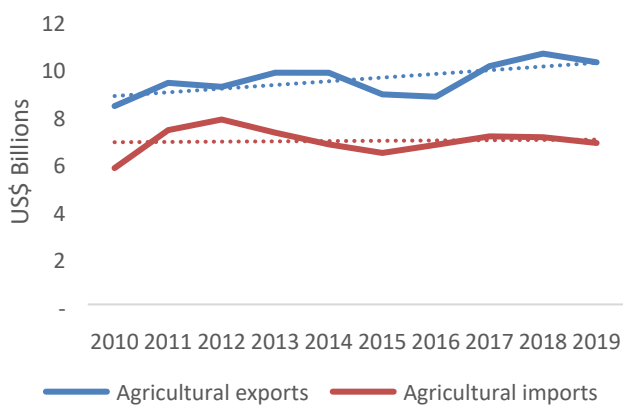
Per Capita Consumption of Major Commodities



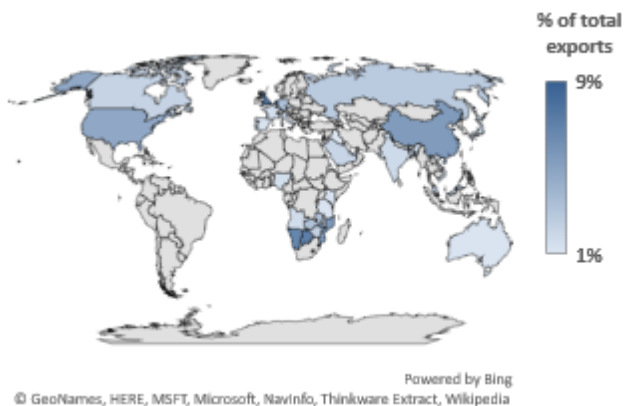
Agricultural Trade

(US\$ billions)	2017	2018	2019*
Agricultural exports	\$10.0	\$10.6	\$10.2
% of total SA exports	11.2%	11.2%	11.3%
Agricultural imports	\$7.1	\$7.0	\$6.8
% of total SA imports	8.5%	7.5%	7.6%

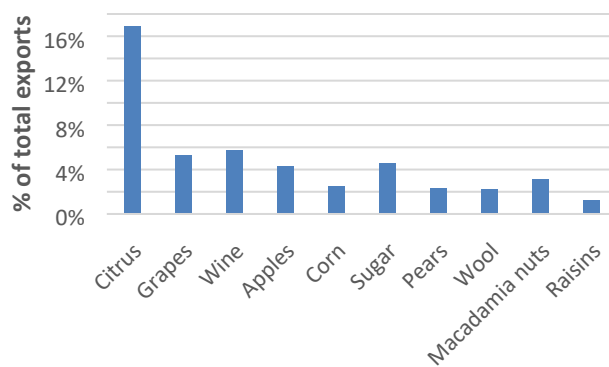
Trends in South Africa's Agricultural Trade:



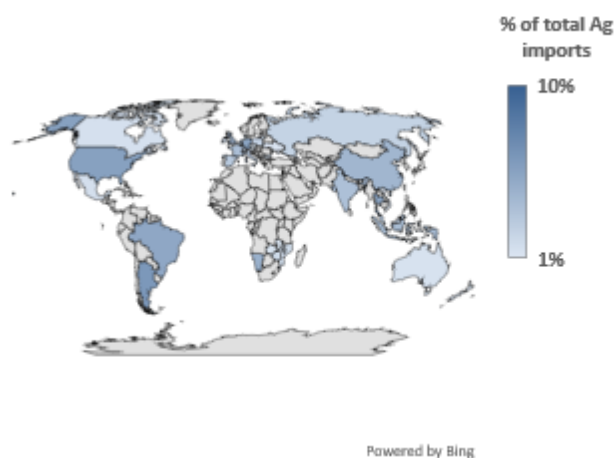
Major Export Destinations (2019):



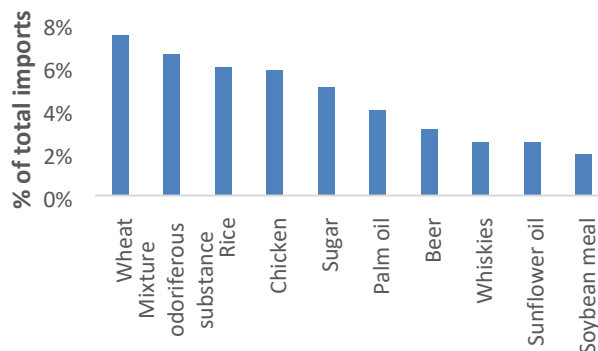
Major Agricultural Products Exported (2019):



Major Agricultural Import Countries (2019):



Major Agricultural Products Imported (2019):

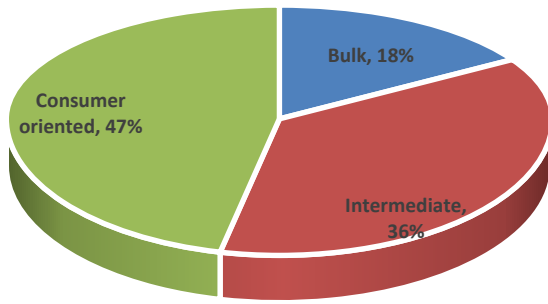


US – SA Agricultural Trade

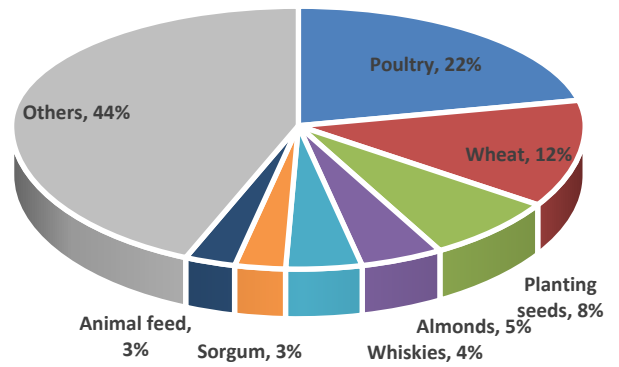
(US\$ millions)	2017	2018	2019*
US ag exports to SA	\$364	\$317	\$385
% of total exports from US	6.6%	5.7%	6.6%
US ag imports from SA	\$326	\$362	\$372
% of total imports from SA	4.8%	5.6%	6.1%

*Estimates

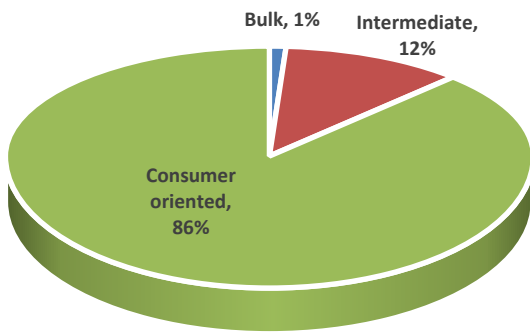
Categories of Ag Products exported by the US to SA:



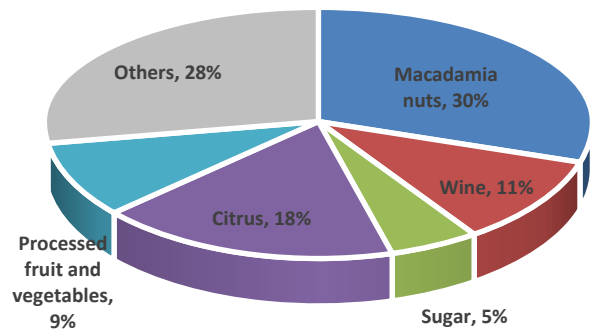
Major Ag Products exported by the US to SA:



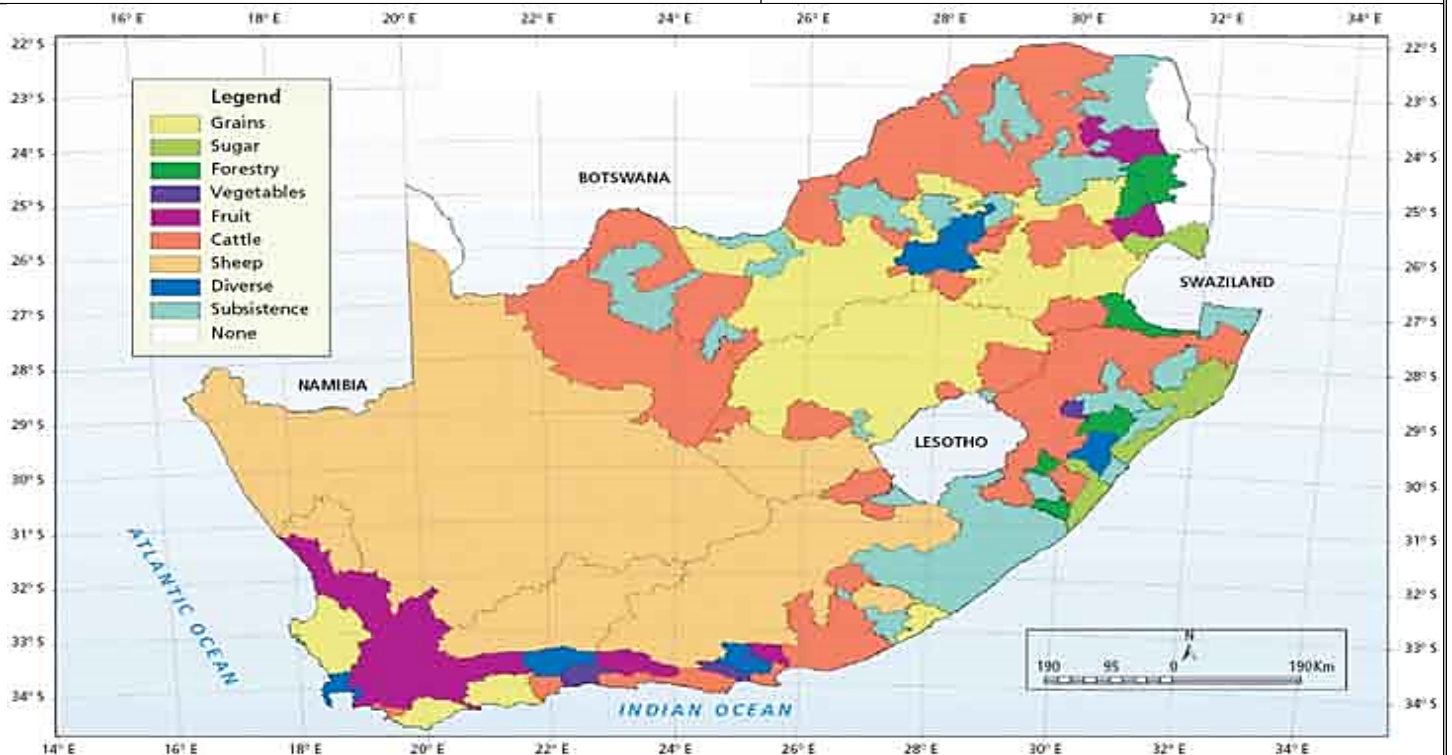
Categories of Ag Products exported by SA to the US:



Major Ag Products exported by SA to the US:



Agricultural Production Areas in South Africa:



Sources: SA Department of Agriculture, IMF, StatsSA, Reserve Bank, USDA, Trade Data Monitor, LLC

Attachments:

No Attachments.