

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 Economic Fact Sheet has been updated to include calendar year 2020. Bilateral agricultural trade between the United States and South Africa is expected to decrease by seven percent to US\$700 million in 2020, after a record level of US\$753 were reached in 2019. Major agricultural products traded between the two countries include, poultry, citrus, tree nuts, wheat, feed and fodder, planting seeds, processed fruit and wine.



South Africa

Agricultural Economic Fact Sheet

Foreign Agricultural Service
United States Embassy in South Africa
(Updated December 2020)

General

- ❖ Covering 1.2-million square kilometers of land, South Africa is the **24th-largest country** in the world and **one-eighth the size of the United States**.
- ❖ 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, vegetables, cattle, dairy, pigs, sheep, broilers, ostriches and eggs.
- ❖ The agricultural sector consists of about **40,000 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 **primary 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 African continent** and among the **top ten largest producer** of Genetically Engineered (GE) crops in the world with 3.0 million hectares.

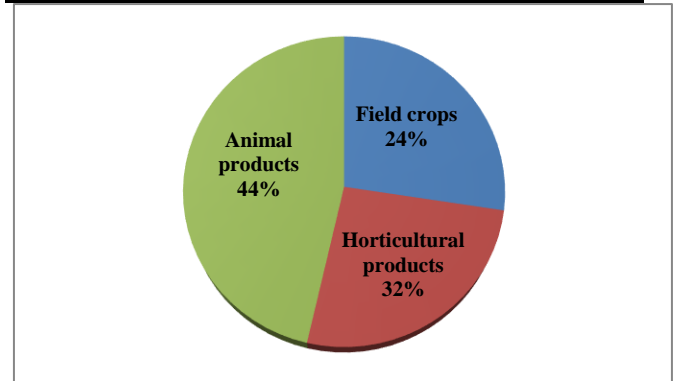
<u>Economic Facts</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020*</u>
Population (millions)	58	59	60
GDP current values (billions)	\$368	\$351	\$283
GDP/capita	\$6,354	\$5,978	\$4,736
Real GDP growth	0.8%	0.2%	-8.0%
Ag % of GDP	2.4%	2.1%	2.5%
CPI inflation	4.6%	4.1%	3.3%
Food inflation	3.3%	3.7%	4.2%
Per capita expenditure on food	\$776	\$810	\$833
Unemployment rate	27.1%	28.7%	30.8%
Ag employment ('000)	915	880	825
% of total employment	5.5%	5.3%	5.5%
Average exchange rate (R/\$)	R13.25	R14.42	R16.70
Prime overdraft rate	10.0%	10.0%	7.0%

*Estimates

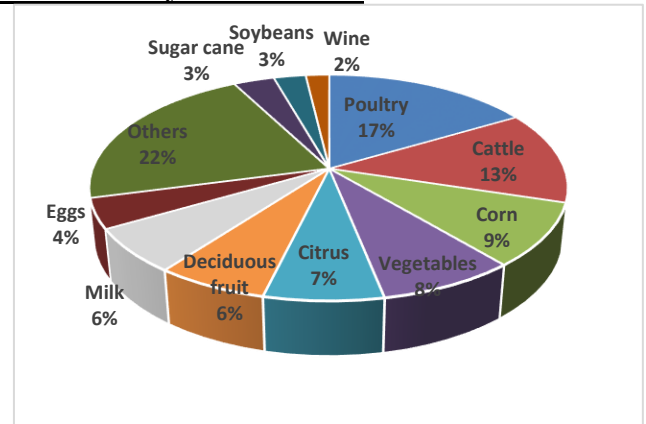
Agricultural Economic Facts

(US\$ billions)	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020*</u>
Gross value of Ag production	\$16.6	\$17.1	\$19.2
Value of capital assets	\$29.5	\$30.7	\$31.7
Farming debt	\$10.1	\$10.8	\$10.8
Gross income from field crops	\$3.2	\$3.5	\$4.0
Gross income from horticulture	\$4.9	\$5.1	\$6.0
Gross income from animals	\$8.6	\$8.1	\$8.4
Net income of producers	\$6.0	\$5.4	\$6.9
Expenditure on inputs	\$8.7	\$9.3	\$9.9
Consumer expenditure on food	\$45.0	\$47.8	\$50.0

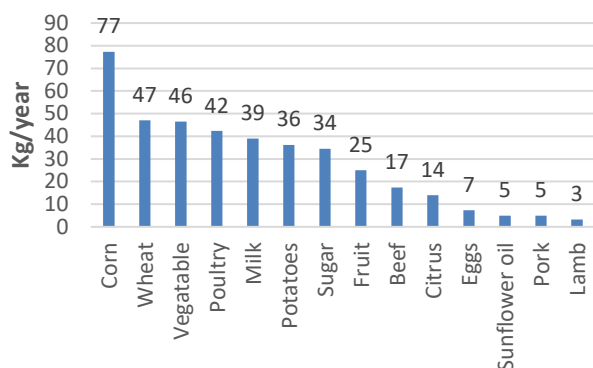
Sector Distribution of SA Agricultural Production:



Gross Value by Commodities:



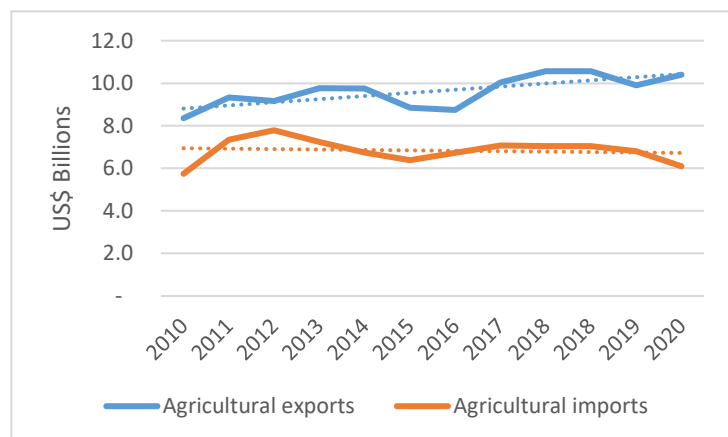
Per Capita Consumption of Major Commodities



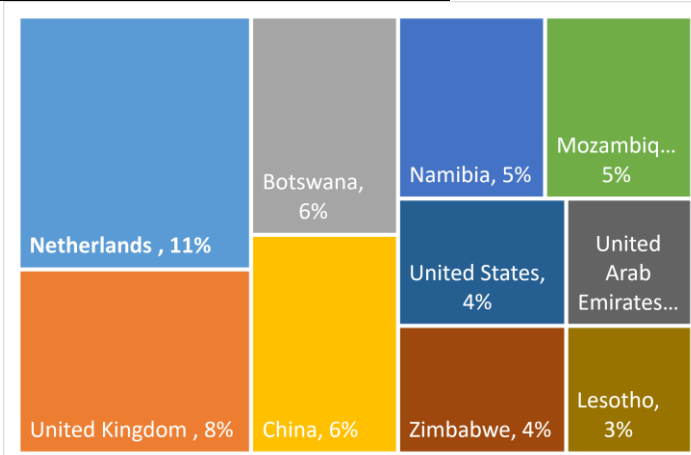
Agricultural Trade

(US\$ billions)	2018	2019	2020*
Agricultural exports	\$10.6	\$9.9	\$10.4
% of total SA exports	11.2%	11.0%	13.1%
Agricultural imports	\$7.0	\$6.8	\$6.1
% of total SA imports	7.5%	7.7%	9.3%

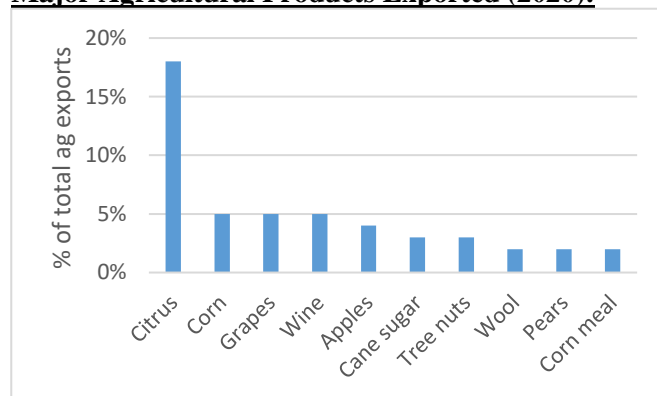
Trends in South Africa's Agricultural Trade:



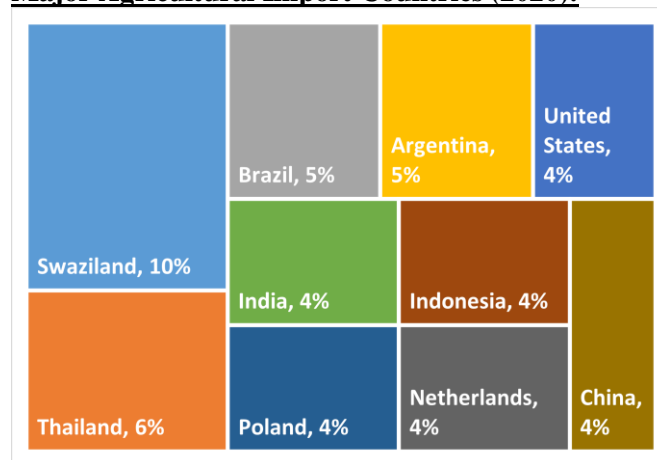
Major Export Destinations (2020):



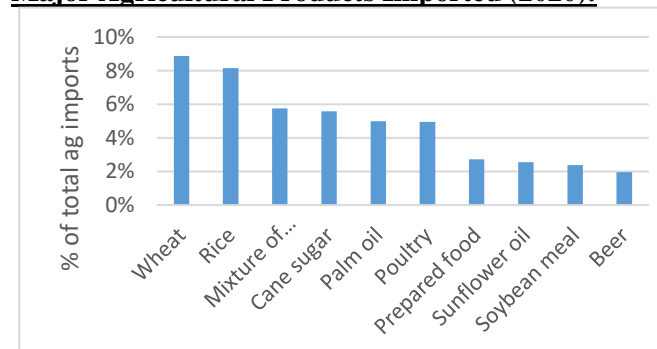
Major Agricultural Products Exported (2020):



Major Agricultural Import Countries (2020):



Major Agricultural Products Imported (2020):

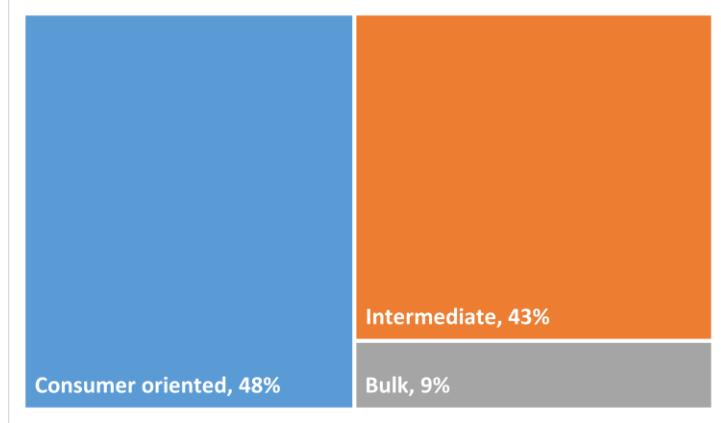


US – SA Agricultural Trade

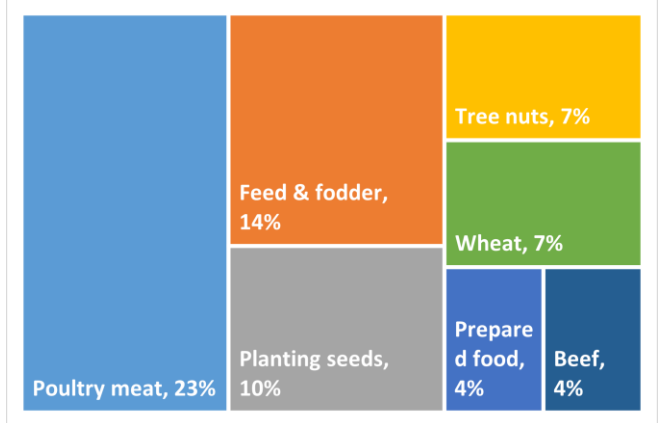
(US\$ millions)	2018	2019	2020*
US ag exports to SA	\$317	\$362	\$320
% of total exports from US	5.7%	6.2%	7.5%
US ag imports from SA	\$363	\$391	\$375
% of total imports from SA	5.6%	6.3%	6.0%

*Estimates

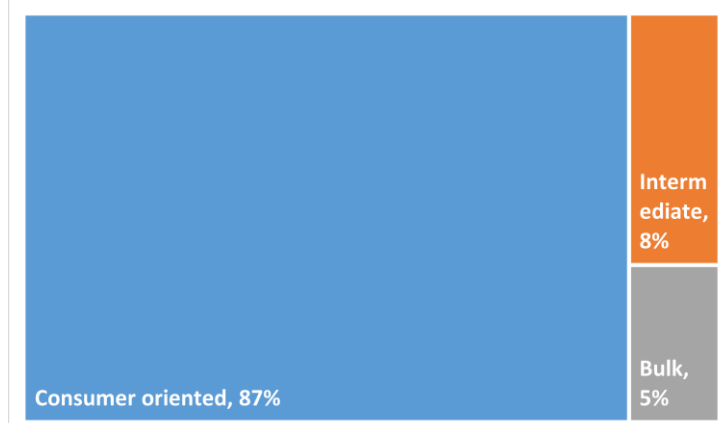
Categories of Ag Products exported by the US to SA:



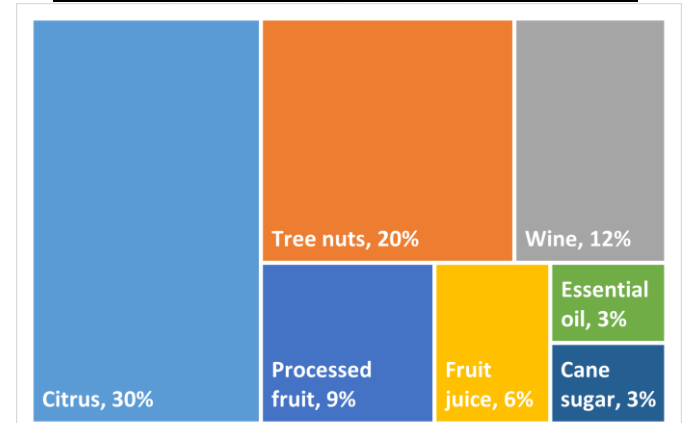
Major Ag Products exported by the US to SA:



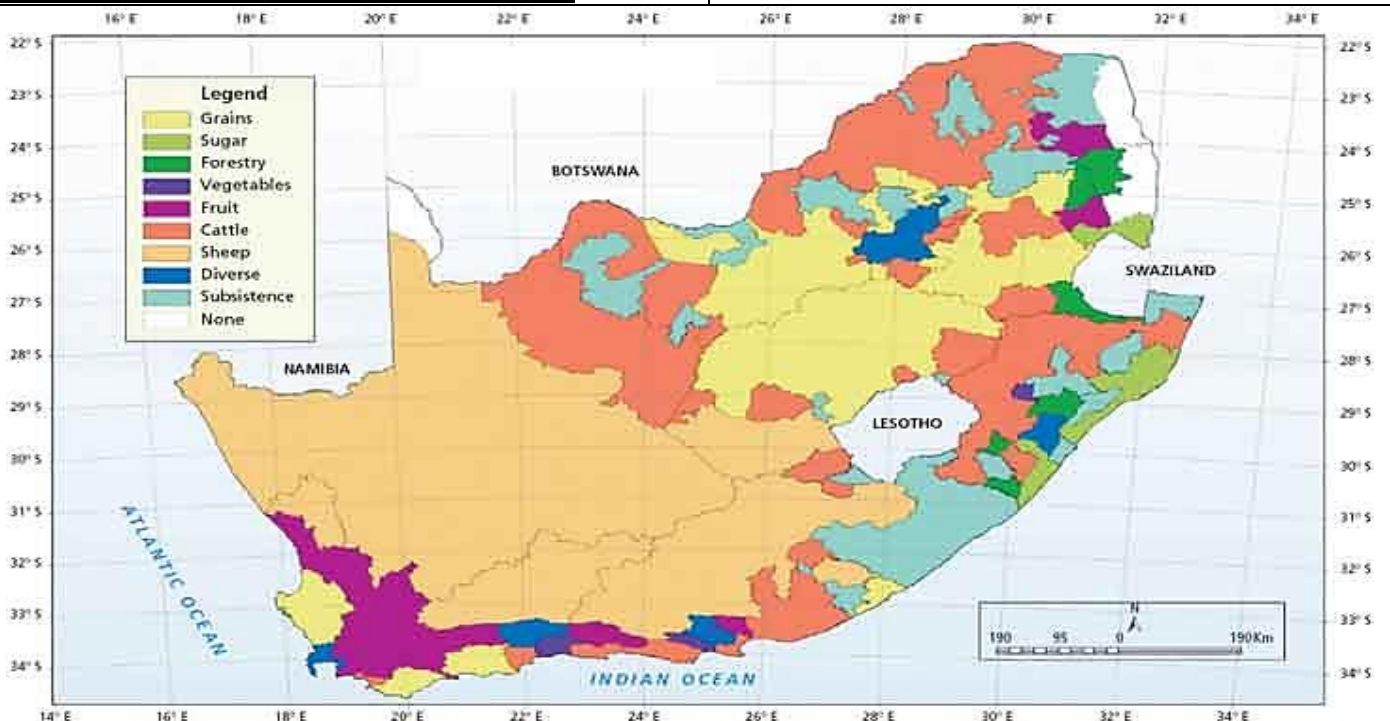
Categories of Ag Products exported by SA to the US:



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.