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Report Highlights:

Hot and dry conditions in the autumn and winter of 2024 led to a drop in the production of South African sugar cane. This is expected to translate into a slight decrease in sugar production and exports. Domestic consumption of sugar in MY 2024/25 is revised downwards on further increases in the notional price implemented in September 2024. On August 8, 2024, the South African Revenue Service adjusted the custom duty on sugar from R1,096.60/MT to R2,348.90/MT due to a continued drop in global sugar prices. Despite a drop in sugar production, Post expects that South Africa will fully utilize its allocated U.S. tariff rate quota in MY 2024/25.

Report Notes

The marketing year (MY) for sugar cane is April-March, while the sugar marketing year is considered May-April. For the purposes of this report, refined cane sugar has been converted to raw value basis using a factor of 1.07. The exchange rate used in this report (as of September 19, 2024) is 17.47 South African Rand (ZAR) to one U.S. dollar (USD).

Sugar Cane:

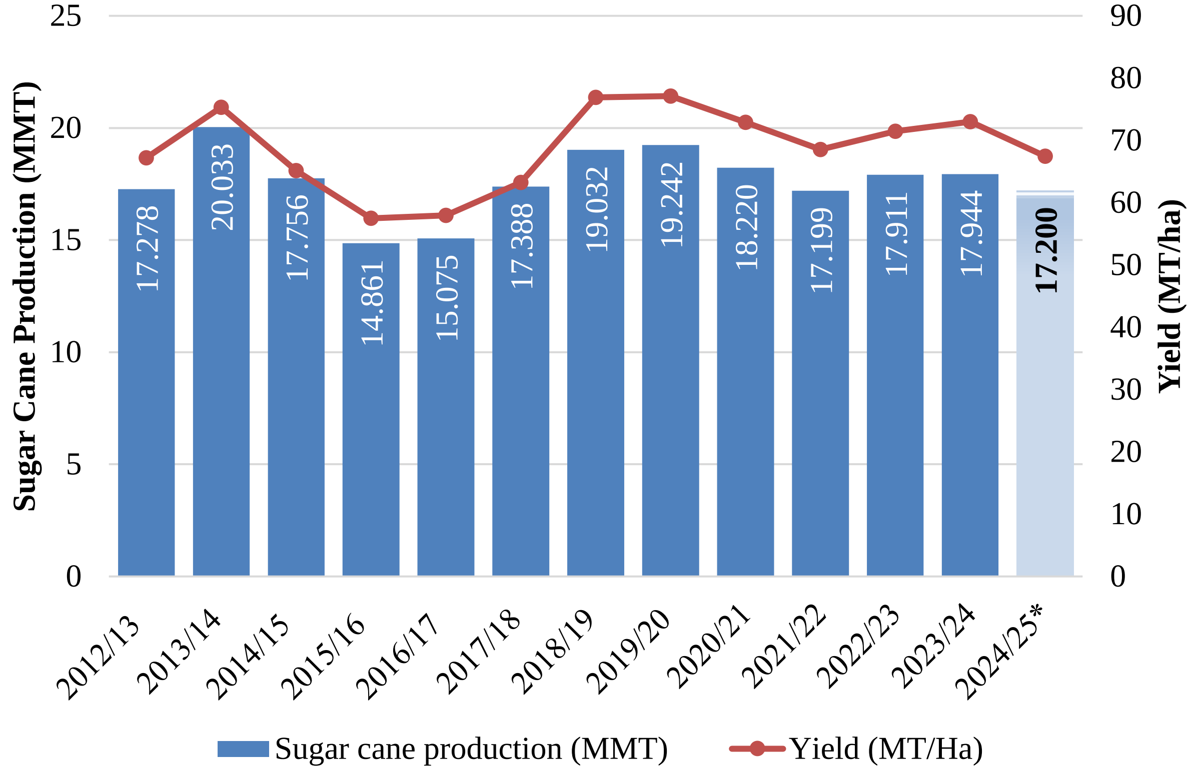
Production

Post lowers area under cane production to 346,000 hectares in MY 2024/25 to track with updated industry data showing reductions starting in MY 2023/24. The lack of growth in planted area is due to high input costs, as well as expected demand reduction tied to the looming increase of South Africa's sugar tax ("health promotion levy") in 2025. Electricity tariffs are proposed to increase by 40 percent, which will affect about a third of sugar cane area under irrigation and may further discourage area expansion. Post contacts reported that some growers have diversified their production area and planted macadamia trees. Area harvested in MY 2024/25 is expected to improve on harvested carry-over cane from MY 2023/24. Post revised area planted in MY 2023/24 slightly downwards to 348,125 ha on updated industry figures. Area harvested in MY 2023/24 dropped by two percent as growers carried over harvestable cane on limited milling capacity.

Post revised MY 2024/25 sugar cane production downwards to 17.2 million metric tons (MMT), decreasing by four percent compared to MY 2023/24. Growers experienced adverse weather effects which led to yield loss. Some growing regions received above average rainfall in November and December 2023, and the cane did not receive sufficient heat required during its growth stage. Rainfed cane regions, which makes up about two thirds of total area under cane production in South Africa, experienced yield losses due to very hot and dry conditions in February through to July 2024. Growing regions with irrigated cane had sufficient water supply for the season and electricity supply was more consistent in comparison to MY 2023/24. However, there was insufficient heat units in irrigated regions from February through to April 2024, resulting in almost a flat growth from MY 2023/24. Despite a drop in production, Post contacts expect an improvement in the cane quality compared to MY 2024/25. Unlike the preceding two marketing years, Post contacts expect that there will be minimal carry-over cane in MY 2024/25 due to yield losses from the hot and dry conditions.

Sugar production in MY 2023/24 remained unchanged from the previous season at 17.9 MMT (see **Figure 1**). Irrigated cane was affected by erratic electricity supply, known as loadshedding, which impacted irrigation scheduling and thereby yields. Growth in production was further limited by weather events such as tornados and floods in some production regions.

Figure 1: South African Sugar Cane Production



Sources: *FAS Pretoria using South African Canegrowers Association (SACGA) data*
**Post Forecast*

The price paid to sugar cane growers by millers known as the Recoverable Value (RV) price, is a function of the following factors: gross sugar production, local sugar notional prices, industry costs and special levy, sugar-to-RV ratio, export sugar prices, and the exchange rate. As a result, growers always aim to supply sugar cane that achieves the highest amount of sugar content that the mill can recover. As shown in **Table 1,** a provisional RV price for MY 2024/25 published in September 2024 was R7,404.69/MT, unchanged from the final MY 2023/24 RV price.

Table 1: Sugar Cane Prices Paid to Growers

MY	Price (Rands/ Recoverable Value Ton)	Percent Change
2020/21	5,030.39	19%
2021/22	5,334.37	6%
2022/23	5,435.07	2%
2023/24	7,429.76	37%
2024/25*	7,404.69	0%

Sources: *SACGA* **Provisional RV price as of September 2024*

Table 2: Production, Supply, and Distribution (PSD) for Sugar Cane

Sugar Cane for Centrifugal	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
Market Year Begins	Apr 2022		Apr 2023		Apr 2024	
South Africa	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted (1000 HA)	351	351	353	348	353	346
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	251	251	251	246	254	255
Production (1000 MT)	17911	17911	17944	17944	18300	17200
Total Supply (1000 MT)	17911	17911	17944	17944	18300	17200
Utilization for Sugar (1000 MT)	17911	17911	17944	17944	18300	17200
Utilizatn for Alcohol (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Utilization (1000 MT)	17911	17911	17944	17944	18300	17200
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT)						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

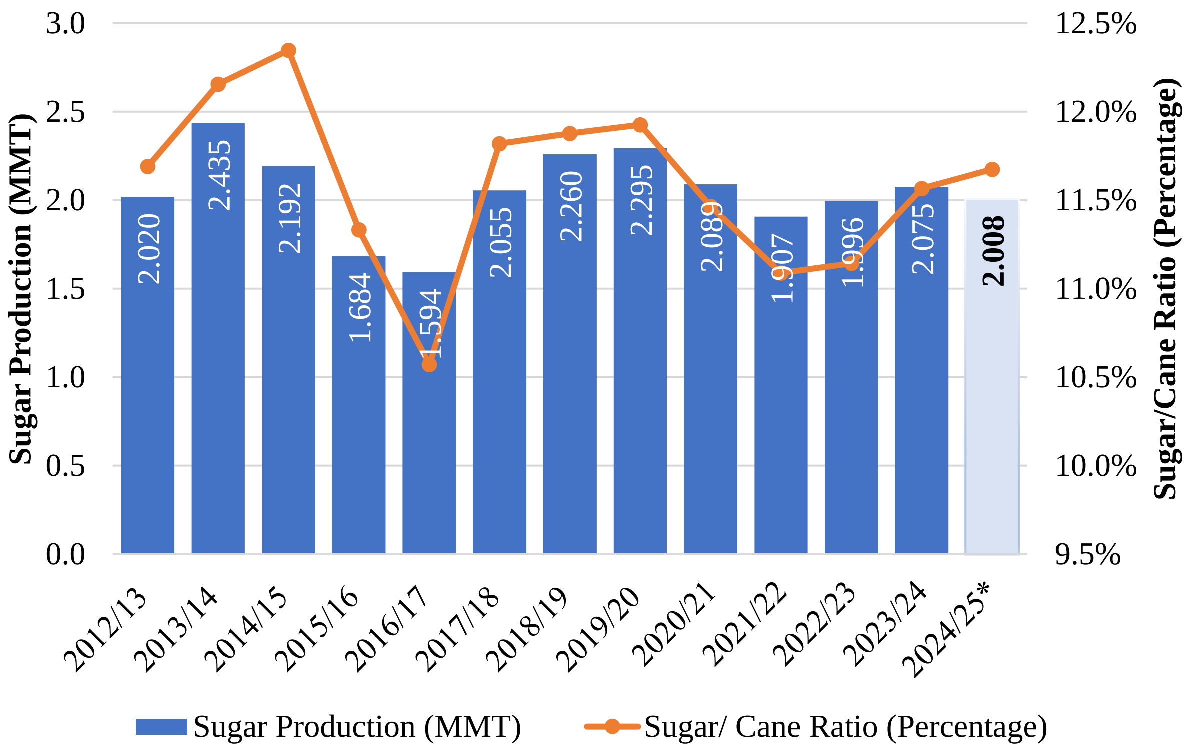
Sugar:

Production

Post revised its previous sugar production forecast for MY 2024/25 downwards by three percent from MY 2023/24 to 2.008 MMT based on a drop in cane production. The crushing season usually ends around December each year; however, some mills are expected to close as early as October due to sugar cane yield losses. Despite a drop in cane deliveries, Post contacts expect a slight improvement in milling recoveries on improved cane quality, increased mill maintenance and reduction in mill down time. Post maintains sugar production for MY 2023/24 at 2.075 MMT. Sugar production in MY 2023/24 increased by 4 percent over the previous season based on timely cane deliveries and improved milling efficiency.

Figure 2 shows sugar production volumes since MY 2012/13 and growth shows that sugar production recovered from the drought conditions seen in MY 2015/16 and MY 2017/18 and is now hovering around the volumes seen a decade ago. However, sugar production has yet to reach the peak production level of 2.9 million MT recorded in the MY 2002/03. The sugar recovery rate refers to the number of kilograms (kg) of sugar obtained from a metric ton of sugar cane, expressed as a percentage. The percentage of sugar produced from each ton of sugar cane is forecast to improve slightly to 11.7 percent in MY 2024/25, as shown in **Figure 2.**

Figure 2: Sugar Production



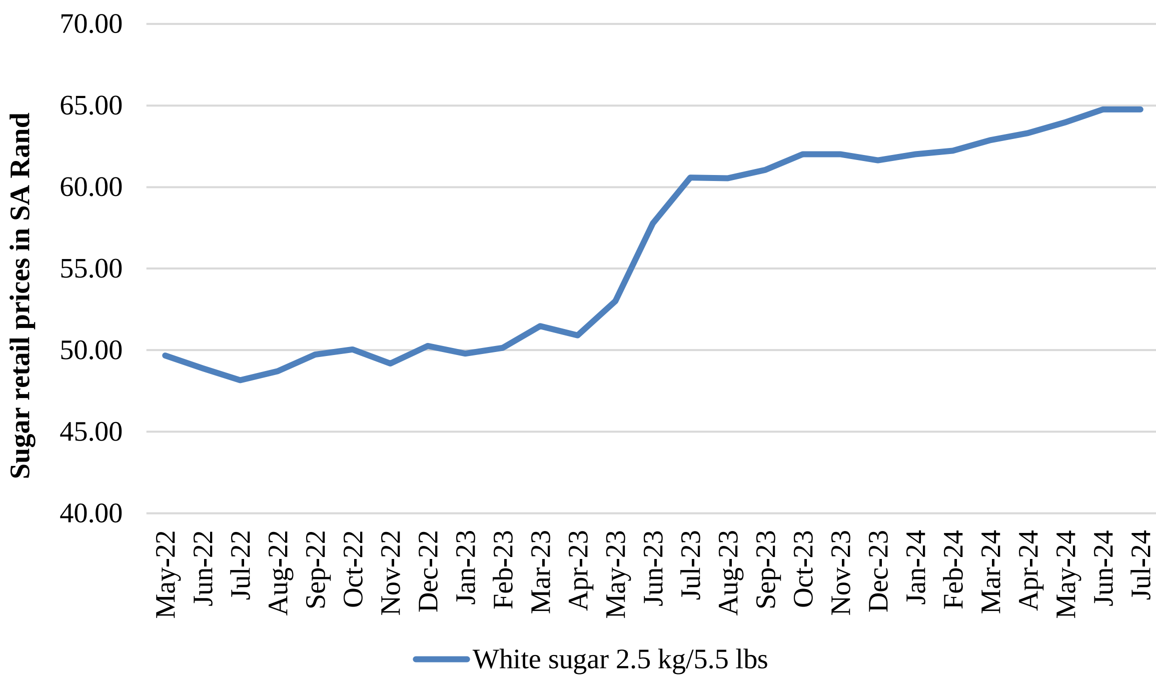
Sources: *FAS Pretoria using South African Sugar Association (SASA) data*
** Post Forecast*

Consumption

Post revised its sugar consumption forecast downwards by six percent to 1.550 MMT in MY 2024/25 on increases in the price of sugar in the domestic market. The sugar industry had not increased notional prices by more than the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from 2020 until June 2023 due to an agreement during the first phase of implementation of Sugar Industry Master Plan (see policy section, pg. 13-14 for more details). However, over that period, growers saw the cost of production grow significantly. The sugar industry concluded phase 1 of the master plan last year, which triggered increases in notional prices of refined sugar (+14.15 percent) and brown sugar (+13.40 percent) in June 2023. To keep up with the growing cost of production, on March 6, 2024, the price was again raised, this time by 5.2 percent for both refined and brown sugar. The latest price increases of 2.5 percent for refined and brown sugar were implemented on September 11, 2024.

It is expected that these price hikes will have a slight effect on the consumption of sugar in MY 2024/25. **Figure 3** shows retail price trends for white sugar in since MY 2022/23. By May 2024, the retail price of 2.5 kg bags of white sugar increased by 25 percent as a result of changes in the notional prices.

Figure 3: Average Retail Prices of White Sugar in South Africa



Source: *FAS Pretoria chart using Statistics South Africa data*

In MY 2023/24, sugar consumption is estimated to have decreased by six percent from MY 2022/23 based on domestic inflationary pressure (for more information, see Post's GAIN report: Food Inflation Surged to a 14-Year High in South Africa). In MY 2022/23, industry was able to boost demand by securing commitments from local food and beverage manufacturers to use domestic sugar.

Sugar in South Africa is primarily used for direct human consumption and as an ingredient for the production of beverages and confectionary products. Food processing demand for sugar accounts for 49 percent of total domestic sugar sales, while direct home consumption accounts for the other 51 percent. The per capita consumption of sugar in South Africa is about 38 kg per year, which is higher than most countries in the Southern Africa region, most of which are below 30 kg per capita. However, South African consumption is still much lower than the United States, which has a per capita consumption of between 68 to 70 kg per year. The retail price of brown and white sugar in South Africa ranges from $1.10 to $1.90 per kg and is affordable for the majority of the population. Refined sugar packets in South Africa retail shops range from 2-4 gram sachets, and 250 grams to 25-kilogram bags. Below are some of the refined sugars typically sold in retail shops.

Photo source: *Makro and Checkers website*

Sugar consumption in South Africa has been affected by decreased demand from the beverage sector following the introduction of a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages in April 2018, as well as an increase in the tax in 2019. Information on the impact of the sugar tax is available in Post's March 2019 GAIN report: South African Sugar Industry Crushed by Not So Sweet Tax. South African cane farmers and millers were relieved when the Minister of Finance announced in February 2023 a delay of the next increase in the sugar tax by at least two fiscal years. Industry holds the view that there is no evidence that a sugar tax has led to a decrease in obesity rates. Rather, they claim the tax has led to a loss of revenue and jobs for the sector (See the policy section of this report for additional information).

Post expects continued growth in the use of other sweeteners based on the pace of ongoing investments by local producers—including sugar cane growers and milling companies—in the sweetener sector in response to consumer health trends. This follows the trend by the beverage sector to reformulate their drinks with less sugar and switch to no- or low-calorie alternative sweeteners to either avoid or minimize the impact of the sugar tax. This trend is expected to stabilize in the coming years, with many food manufacturers having already reduced their use of sugar and increased the use of sweeteners such as aspartame, stevia leaf extract, sucralose, and acesulfame potassium. However, South Africa's sugar sector remains concerned that new front-of-package food labelling regulations could cause a further shift away from sugar as a sweetener in consumer-oriented food and beverage products (see Post's GAIN report for more details: South Africa Issues New Draft Regulation on Food Labelling). See the policy section (p. 15) of this report for additional information.

Trade

Exports

Post revised MY 2024/25 total sugar exports down 40,000 tons to 770,000 MT based on the expected drop in sugar production and industry's efforts to adequately supply the local market. Domestic prices of raw sugar tend to be higher than export prices and South Africa exports surplus sugar once the domestic market and the South African Customs Union (SACU) markets are adequately supplied. SACU members include Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia.

Post revised MY 2023/24 sugar exports upwards to 869,989 MT based on updated trade data. Exports grew by 20 percent compared to MY 2022/23 due to high global prices of sugar and a beneficial exchange rate. Drier than usual weather conditions in other sugar-producing countries led to elevated global sugar prices, which also supported South African sugar exports in MY 2023/24. In MY 2023/24, South Korea was the largest market for South African raw sugar (20 percent), followed by the United Kingdom (13 percent) and Malaysia (12 percent).

South Africa is also a beneficiary of a U.S. sugar tariff-rate quota (TRQ). The TRQ has remained relatively constant over the last several years. On July 25, 2024, the office of the U.S. Trade Representative announced a quota allocation of 24,744 MT for South African sugar for fiscal year (FY) 2025 (October 1, 2024–September 30, 2025) – **see Table 3**.

Table 3: U.S. Tariff-Rate Quota Allocations for South African Raw Cane Sugar, Refined and Specialty Sugar, and Sugar-Containing Products. (Values in Metric Tons)

	FY 2023 **Oct 1, 2022 - Sept 30, 2023**	**FY 2024** **Oct 1, 2023 - Sept 30, 2024**	**FY 2025** **Oct 1, 2024 - Sept 30, 2025**
Initial allocation	24,744	24,744	24,744
Additional allocation	12,147	12,650	-
Total	**36,891**	**37,394**	**24,744**

Source: *USTR*

The United States is a premium market for South African sugar, and South Africa utilizes its full quota allocation each year. The sugar industry marketing year runs from April to March, while the TRQ year runs from October to September, which can result in the TRQ for two different FYs being recorded in one MY. The United States represents six percent of South Africa's total raw sugar exports in MY 2023/24.

Table 4: South Africa's Raw Sugar Exports

Commodity: 170111/170112/170113/170114 May - April			
Partner country	**MY2022/23 (MT)**	**MY 2023/24 (MT)**	**% change**
World	**514,137**	**607,032**	**18%**
South Korea	0	119,531	
United Kingdom	64,421	78,151	21%
Malaysia	77,030	74,000	-4%
Spain	90,000	60,000	-33%
Singapore	0	47,510	
United States	29,794	36,051	21%
Indonesia	0	34,000	
Mozambique	3,186	32,789	929%
Bulgaria	33,000	27,000	-18%
Lesotho	15,132	16,284	8%
Zimbabwe	2,970	15,319	416%
Namibia	13,957	15,162	9%
Madagascar	8,980	15,018	67%
Others	*175,669*	*36,216*	*-79%*

Source: *FAS Pretoria using Trade Data Monitor (TDM), LLC. data*

The United Kingdom (40 percent), Namibia (31 percent), and Botswana (14 percent) were the leading export markets for South African refined sugar in MY 2023/24. South Africa does not export refined sugar to the United States. The sugar quota allocations in the United States are based on a first-come, first-served basis and are usually utilized by South American countries including Mexico, Brazil, and Colombia. Please note, refined sugar exports are converted to raw sugar values in Post's PSD table using a factor of 1.07.

Table 5: Refined Sugar Exports

Commodity: HS170191, 170199 Marketing year: May – April			
Partner country	**MY 2022/23 (RV)**	**MY 2023/24 (RV)**	**% change**
World	**208,419**	**262,956**	**26%**
United Kingdom	62,610	105,569	69%
Namibia	84,791	80,394	-5%
Botswana	13,656	38,106	179%
Zimbabwe	2,639	22,776	763%
Others	*44,724*	*16,109*	*-64%*

Source: *FAS Pretoria using TDM, LLC. data*

Imports

Post adjusted MY 2024/25 total sugar imports slightly upwards to 350,000 MT because South Africa lowered its import tariff on sugar from R1,409.10/MT to R1,093.60/MT on July 17, 2024, which may have attracted additional imports from outside the Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU); see Post report: South Africa: South Africa Revises Sugar Import Duties. As global sugar prices continued to decrease, however, this tariff was readjusted upwards to R2,348.90/MT on August 8, 2024, and Post expects that this tariff level will limit further imports from outside SACU. MY 2024/25 imports are forecast to be three percent lower compared to MY 2023/24 based on applied import tariffs and prioritization of South African-produced sugar by local food and beverage manufacturers. Post also increased preliminary MY 2023/24 sugar imports slightly to 360,904 MT following updated trade data, although this amount is still eight percent lower compared to MY 2022/23.

Raw sugar imports from Eswatini accounted for 97 percent of total South African raw sugar imports because Eswatini is part of SACU and thus not subject to import duties. Refined sugar imports in MY 2023/24 came mainly from Eswatini (55 percent), Brazil (30 percent) and India (7 percent).

Table 6: South Africa's Raw Sugar Imports

Commodity: 170111/170112/170113/170114

May - April

Partner country	MY2022/23 (MT)	MY 2023/24 (MT)	% change
World	**305,841**	**320,016**	**5%**
Eswatini	296,025	311,919	5%
Egypt	0	3,024	
Brazil	58	1,798	3000%
Thailand	0	1,504	
India	948	1,086	15%
Others	*8,808*	*685*	*-92%*

Source: *FAS Pretoria using TDM, LLC. data*

Table 7: Refined Sugar Imports

Commodity: HS170191, 170199 Marketing year: May – April			
Partner country	**MY 2022/23 (RV)**	**MY 2023/24 (RV)**	**% change**
World	**84,961**	**40,890**	**-52%**
Eswatini	23,786	22,317	-6%
Brazil	3,127	12,131	288%
Others	*58,047*	*6,443*	*-89%*

Source: *FAS Pretoria using TDM, LLC. data*

Stocks

Post forecasts South Africa's ending sugar stocks will increase to 31,000 MT in MY 2024/25, from 11,000 MT in MY 2023/24, based on a decrease in exports and domestic sales. Virtually all sugar produced in each marketing year is sold at the end of the season for the industry to share the revenue between growers and millers, per the agreed division of proceeds formulas (more information in policy section of this report). Large volumes of closing stocks also pose a cost to the industry, as growers and millers must pay for storage.

Table 8: Production, Supply, and Distribution (PSD) for Sugar

Sugar, Centrifugal	**2022/2023**		**2023/2024**		**2024/2025**	
Market Year Begins	**May 2022**		**May 2023**		**May 2024**	
South Africa	**USDA Official**	**New Post**	**USDA Official**	**New Post**	**USDA Official**	**New Post**
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	207	207	104	104	11	11
Beet Sugar Production (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cane Sugar Production (1000 MT)	1996	1996	2075	2075	2111	2008
Total Sugar Production (1000 MT)	1996	1996	2075	2075	2111	2008
Raw Imports (1000 MT)	306	306	300	320	290	300
Refined Imp.(Raw Val) (1000 MT)	85	85	50	41	45	50
Total Imports (1000 MT)	391	391	350	361	335	350
Total Supply (1000 MT)	2594	2594	2529	2540	2457	2369
Raw Exports (1000 MT)	514	514	550	607	560	520
Refined Exp.(Raw Val) (1000 MT)	208	208	250	263	250	250
Total Exports (1000 MT)	722	722	800	870	810	770
Human Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	1750	1750	1700	1641	1620	1550
Other Disappearance (1000 MT)	18	18	18	18	18	18
Total Use (1000 MT)	1768	1768	1718	1659	1638	1568
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	104	104	11	11	9	31
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	2594	2594	2529	2540	2457	2369
(1000 MT)						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Trade Policy and Regulations:

Sugar Marketing and Sales

The South African sugar industry operates according to the terms set out in the Sugar Act 1978, the Sugar Industry Agreement (2000), and the Constitution of the South African Sugar Association. The South African Sugar Association (SASA) is by law the only organization permitted to export raw sugar produced in South Africa. Sugar milling companies are only permitted to export refined sugar. South Africa always exports its surplus raw sugar, regardless of the global prices and sometimes at a loss because domestic sugar regulations stipulate that the price paid to sugar cane growers should be based on revenue obtained from the sugar sales in the local and export markets for that specific season. The South African sugar industry provides a rebate to domestic manufactures to promote the sale and use of locally produced sugar.

SASA sets the sugar notional price and manages the division of industry proceeds from the sale of sugar and molasses. The split between growers and millers is 64 percent to 36 percent, respectively. Producers are paid according to the recoverable value (RV) content delivered to the mills, whereas millers are compensated according to their share of sugar production.

U.S. Sugar Tariff-Rate Quota (TRQ) Allocation

South Africa is a beneficiary of the U.S. sugar TRQ, which allows the country to export sugar duty-free to the United States. The United States is considered a premium market for South African raw sugar exports due to the higher purchase prices. South Africa's TRQ allocation has remained relatively constant over the last several years, and the country always utilizes its full allocation and any additional reallocations each year.

EU and UK Sugar Quotas and Policies

South Africa was granted an annual duty-free sugar quota of 150,000 MT for export to the EU under the SADC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, which was finalized in October 2016. Since the UK left the EU in 2020, South Africa has also received an annual duty-free quota of 71,000 MT under the Economic Partnership Agreement between the UK, SACU, and Mozambique (SACUM-UK EPA).

Import Restrictions Based on the Dollar-Based Reference Price

South Africa applies the dollar-based reference price (DBRP) mechanism to ensure that, inclusive of the duty, the DBRP (currently $680 per ton) is the lowest price that an importer will pay for imported sugar. If import prices are lower than the DBRP, an import duty is applicable, while an import price higher than the DBRP would result in no import duty owed. The DBRP was increased from $566 to $680 per ton in August 2018 to restrict increased imports from Brazil and the United Arab Emirates, and because the DBRP of $566 per ton was below the cost of sugar production in South Africa.
On August 16, 2024, the custom duty on sugar was adjusted upwards to R2,348.90/MT due to the downward trend in global sugar prices. The prevailing sugar price at $588.40/ton triggered

the adjustment on May 27, 2024. There is often a lag between the time a tariff change is triggered and when it goes into effect through publication in the government gazette, hence it was adjusted in August 2024 (see Post report: South Africa: South Africa Revises Sugar Import Duties).

Table 9: South Africa sugar import tariff changes

Date of trigger	No.5 20 day weighted Average Price (US $/Ton)	R/US$	Tariff (R/MT)	Date Implemented
2021-09-29	494.66	15.11	2,994.60	2022-06-06
2022-04-18	550.73	14.70	1,952.80	2022-08-19
2023-05-09	695.52	18.31	0	2023-08-04
2024-01-09	608.34	18.71	1,409.10	2024-03-15
2024-04-01	624.33	18.89	1,093.60	2024-07-19
2024-05-27	558.40	18.42	2,348.90	2024-08-08

Source: *SARS and ITAC*

Tax on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages

The South African government created a sugar tax (dubbed a "health promotion levy") in 2017 with an objective to cut obesity levels. The levy is currently 2.1 cent per gram of sugar content that exceeds 4 grams per 100 ml, or about 10 percent of the price of sugary drinks. In 2020, the government announced an increase in the levy, however implementation was postponed to April 2023 to allow for engagement with the sugar industry. On February 2023, the Minister of Finance announced that increases to the sugar tax would be postponed for another two fiscal years, citing the impact of flooding and social unrest on the sugar industry. The South African Canegrowers Association, which represents farmers, has urged the Ministry of Finance to share the data used to justify the introduction of the levy and proof that the tax has reduced obesity levels. Other analysts state it is still too early to produce this kind of data and it would take generations to see any changes in society. Additional information on the impact of the sugar tax is available in Post's March 2019 GAIN report: South African Sugar Industry Crushed by Not So Sweet Tax.

South African Sugar Industry Master Plan to 2030

On November 17, 2020, the South African Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC); the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), along with industry stakeholders, signed off on the South African Sugar Industry Master Plan to 2030. The objective of the master plan is to ensure the long-term sustainability and profitability of the sugar sector in South Africa. The creation of industry master plans has become a common measure to support various sectors in South Africa. For example, the poultry industry also has a master plan. In general, master plans provide a comprehensive set of actions designed to achieve common policy objectives. The plans also provide guidance on policies, support, strategies, and actions required to achieve specified targets. The South African Sugar Industry Master Plan's vision for 2030 is "a diversified and globally competitive, sustainable and transformed sugar cane-based value chain that actively contributes to South Africa's economic and social development, creating prosperity for stakeholders in the sugar cane value chain, the wider bio-economy, society, and the environment."

The master plan follows a phased approach to planning and implementation. For the three-year Phase 1 stage, which ended in March 2023, the aim was to increase domestic use of sugar to at least 300,000 MT by having local manufacturers prioritize South African sugar instead of imports to make their products. Industry sources shared that domestic consumption had increased by at least 280,000 MT, just shy of the target but widely considered a success. The master plan also aimed to provide pricing certainty to retailers and consumers by containing producer prices at or below consumer inflation in an effort to restore sales. However, in June 2023, after the end of Phase 1 of the master plan, the sugar industry triggered an increase in the sugar notional price (14 percent for refined sugar and 13 percent for brown sugar) in an effort to keep up with the growing cost of production in recent years. A further increase of 5.2 percent was instituted on March 6, 2024 and 2.5 percent on September 11, 2024. Sugar industry players are currently discussing the terms of the second phase of the master plan, but no implementation date has been announced.

Electricity Co-Generation

The South African sugar industry currently uses bagasse to generate electricity for milling operations. None of the electricity generated from the sugar mills is supplied to the national electric grid due to the absence of appropriate incentives and policies by the government or the state-owned electric company (Eskom). However, unprecedented levels of load shedding (rolling backouts) have caused electrical generation to come to the forefront of national policy discussion (see Post's GAIN report for more details: Load shedding and the Economic Strain on the Food Supply Chain). Although Post is unaware of any specific plans to integrate sugar mills into the national grid at this time, the national crisis could lead to consideration of options that were previously on the backburner. The industry's ability to generate its own electricity has allowed millers to avoid the escalation of generator and fuel costs and shutdowns of operations experienced by others in the South African agricultural sector.

Ethanol Production

There is currently no commercial production of fuel-grade ethanol from sugar cane in South Africa. However, some sugar mills produce beverage-grade ethanol and industrial alcohols as by-products or back-end products from molasses. The production of ethanol and other products is expected to change when the master plan is implemented effectively. There have been discussions of piloting ethanol production at a vacant refinery in KwaZulu-Natal, however no concrete plans have emerged.

Draft Regulations on Front-of-Package Labelling

The South African Ministry of Health has published draft regulations on labelling and advertising of foods. The draft regulation proposes that pre-packed foodstuffs will bear mandatory front-of-pack labelling when containing added sugar in excess of 10 grams per 100 grams in solids or 5 grams per 100 ml in liquids (see Post's GAIN report for more details: South Africa Issues New Draft Regulation on Food Labelling). Industry and affected parties were given until July 21, 2023, to submit comments or representation to the South African Director General of Health. The sugar sector submitted comments, as did some individual companies in the industry. Post is monitoring updates on this proposed regulation.

Report Sources:
South African Canegrowers Association - www.sacanegrowers.co.za
South African Sugar Association - www.sasa.org.za

Attachments:

No Attachments