

# AGRONOMY AND HORTICULTURE MARKET DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

AGRONOMY MARKET DEVELOPMENT SUBDIVISION

## WHEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST REPORT

HARVESTING/MARKETING SEASON: 2021/2022



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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Wheat scientifically known as *Triticum aestivum* is a cereal grain crop cultivated during winter and it is only produced under irrigation. Wheat is planted from May to July and harvested and marketed from October to January each year. It is currently produced in four (5) production areas i.e. Kavango, North Central, Karstland, Central/East, and South. The biggest volume of the wheat grain is produced in Kavango and Hardap areas and delivered to the milling facilities in Windhoek.

The marketing of locally produced wheat grain is managed through the Wheat Marketing Mechanisms/ Agreement signed by organised producers and millers. The marketing of wheat grains officially starts from the 1<sup>st</sup> of November to the 31 January. There is no close or open border period for wheat but allocations are made to millers to ensure the locally produced grain are marketed.

According to 2020/2021 financial year's production and trade statistics, the total domestic demand for wheat grain in Namibia currently stands at 137,340 tons per annum, translating into an average domestic demand of 11,445 tons per month. Out of the total domestic demand recorded during the 2020/2021 financial year, 11,498 (8%) tons were locally produced and 125,838 (92%) tons were imported from other countries.

During the upcoming wheat grain marketing season, a total of **19,817 tons** of wheat is expected to be harvested from 2,842 ha in four (5) production areas (South, Central, Karstland, North Central, and Kavango) and this includes harvest from the 2019 season.

Therefore, this report presents the estimated wheat production volumes expected to be harvested and marketed during the period October 2021 to January 2022.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

Data collection was based on the subjective yield estimation method, which involves estimation of crop yield based on the expert's (producers) experience. The data collection process involved the distribution of crop estimates data collection forms to the producers via email, and once the forms have been completed by the producers, they were sent back to the NAB through emails.

Producers who did not respond via email were contacted and provided information telephonically. The data collected were entered and analysed in Microsoft Excel, and data analysis involved both graphical and tabulation analysis.

## **3. EXPECTED PRODUCTION FORECAST**

This section covers the demand analysis, tonnage expected, hectares planted, expected average yield per hectare, and the number of producers registered.

## 3.1 Wheat tonnage forecasted per production area per month

Figure 1 below shows that the bulk of the wheat is expected from Kavango in October 2021, and then from November to December the biggest volume of wheat is expected from the Hardap area. Figure 2 below shows that the South expects to harvest the biggest tonnage of 11,876 tons (60%), followed by Kavango 4,340 tons (22%), and the lowest is North Central 450 tons (2%). Figure 3 indicated that the biggest volume of wheat will be harvested and marketed from November to December 2021. No wheat production is expected from the Zambezi production zone.







Figure 2 Wheat: Total tonnage expected per production zone. Figure 3: Monthly total tonnage

## 3.2 Expected availability of wheat per month per producer

According to the information presented in table 1, there are only twenty-three (23) producers who expect to harvest and market wheat during this marketing season, and the majority of them are situated in the Central and South areas.

**Table 1** shows the list of producers who are expecting to harvest wheat during the 2021/2022 harvesting season.

	Table 1: Expected availability of wheat per producer per month - 2021/2022 marketing season									
	Farm/Business name		Contact person	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22			
Zambe	zi area									
No pro	duction in Zambezi area									
Kavan	go area		1							
1	Shitemo Irrigation Scheme	Janie-lee Nels	0811628864/061 300487	The second						
2	Vhvungu vungu Irrigation Scheme	Floris Smith	0811274998	Sec.						
3	Mashare Irrigation Scheme	Lourens Le Grange	0811279170	Salar -	and the second s					
North	Central area									
1	Etunda Irrigation	Sacchi Thobias	0811453138	-	-					
Centra	al area									
3	Oryx Raunch CC	Jaco Schlechter	0812624089/062 549108		-					
4	Kehoro South	Gerald	0814176096							
5	Evare	L. Hinze	0813517289	-						
6	Wagnou	Johan	0813201013/062568249		-					
7	Springvale 337	Elize Niekerk	0811287900							
8	Rika	Rudolf Steyn	0812966517	Sec.						
9	Tokat	Nico Steenkamp	062568207							
10	Okaperuperu	Gerhard	0811454966		THE R.					
Karstl	and area									
11	RI Nosib	H. Hellweg	0813551286		Sec.					
12	Farm Nehlen	Erni van Biljon	0816572651		1					
13	Gauss + Elefantenberg	Hartmud or Jenny Freyer	0813820783/0813374333		Ser.					
South	(Hardap) area									
14	La Gratitude	Johan Kirsten	0812609512		100					
15	Cadix	CJ Molendorff	0817804156	The second						
16	Rau Boerder	Kobus Rall	0811297797/063 242585							
17	Hardap Kooperasie	Pieter van Blommnsteyn	0816815950			1				
18	Goab Pforte	W. Diemer	0812482888	-						
19	Visser Boerdery	Nico Visser	0811270648			1				
20	Hertbeestloop	Octavia Bailey	0812942143		-					
21	Bastion	Dean Schoeman	0811240827							



#### 3.3 Hectares planted per production area

Figure 4 below shows that a total of 2,842 ha was planted between May to July 2021, of which 500 ha (18%) is in Kavango, 1 854 ha (65%) in the South, 302 ha (11%) in Central, 96 ha (3%) in Karst and 90 ha (3%) production zones. The hectares planted in 2021 increased by 774 ha (27%) when compared to hectares planted in 2020.



Figure 4: Total hectares of wheat planted during the 2021 season per production area.



## 3.4 Expected yield per hectare from each production area

Figure 5 below shows that the highest average yield of 7 tons per hectare expected is from the Central production area. The lowest average yield per hectare of 5 tons is expected from the North Central area. However, the national average yield per hectare is expected to be around 6 tons.



Figure 5: Expected average yield per ha (tons\ha).



#### 3.5 Expected supply versus average domestic demand

Figure 6 below shows that the total tonnage expected during this season is 19,117 tons, while the average domestic demand stands at 11,445 tons per month. Figure 6 also shows that when compared to last year, local production of wheat is expected to increase by 7,619 tons during 2021, which represents an increase of 40%. The increase in tonnage expected when compared to 2020 is attributed to the increase in hectares planted during 2021.







## 3.6 Tonnage expected in 2021 versus tonnage marketed in 2020

Figures 7 shows that in comparison to last year, the tonnage is expected to increase in three (3) production areas (Kavango, Central, and South), while no wheat was planted in North Central last year. However, there will be a reduction in tonnage expected in Karstland in comparison to last year.



Figure 7: Expected total tonnage expected in 2021 versus tonnage marketed in 2020

## 4. CONCLUSION

The expected production data presented in this report indicates that there will be an increase in wheat production of 19,817 tons, the highest to have ever recorded in Namibia, although the volumes are still low in comparison to the annual domestic wheat demand.

The expected wheat production volumes will only cover about 14% of the total domestic demand (137,336 tons). The expected wheat tonnage will be easily absorbed by local millers without any close border period. Therefore, approximately 86% (118,219.00 tons) of the wheat grain is expected to be imported by millers during this financial year to meet the annual domestic demand.

The increase in the expected tonnage of wheat is attributed to the increase in the number of hectares planted this year. Moreover, good rainfall received this year may have availed more water for irrigation especially in the South production area, whereby the source is the Hardap dam.

THE END\_