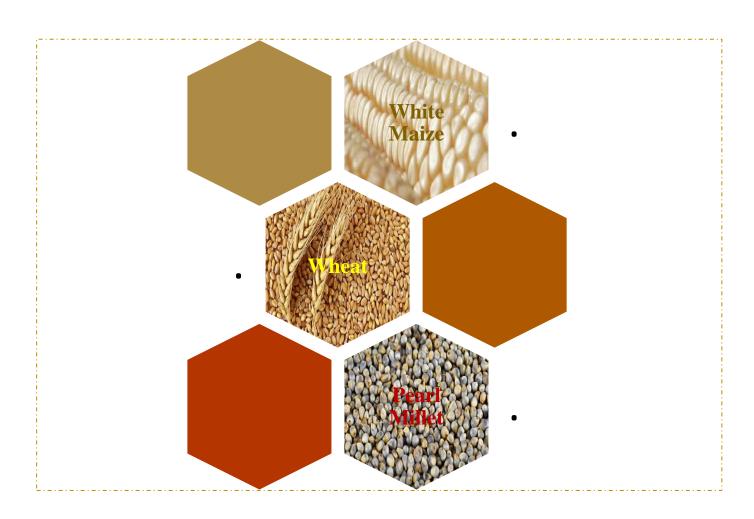


# AGRONOMY AND HORTICULTURE MARKET DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

# GRAIN TRADE STATISTICS REPORT 01 APRIL 2019 TO 31 MARCH 2020



### 1. INTRODUCTION

Namibia currently produces three staple grain crops only and these are: white maize, wheat and pearl millet. These grain crops are currently gazetted controlled agronomic crops, in line with Agronomic Industry act (AIA) 20 of 1992, implemented by the Namibian Agronomic Board.

Despite the marketing mechanisms put in place facilitate marketing and production staple grain crops, Namibia remains a net import of grain (white maize, wheat and pearl millet) and white maize is annually imported from South Africa, while wheat is mainly imported from Russian Federation and South Africa. Pearl millet is exclusively imported from India.

Therefore, this report gives an overview of the volumes or tonnage of white maize, wheat and pearl millet grains imported and purchased locally during the period 01 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

#### 2. MONTHLY GRAIN TRADE STATISTICS

According to figure 1 below, it is clear that importation of all the grains were higher than local purchases throughout the reporting period, due to drought that mainly affected white maize and pearl millet grain production. The low local wheat grain supplied to millers was mainly due to the reduction in hectares planted as a result of water shortage and lack of finances for production, in some cases. Figure 1 also shows that white maize imports and local purchases was higher than that of wheat and pearl millet for the entire period.

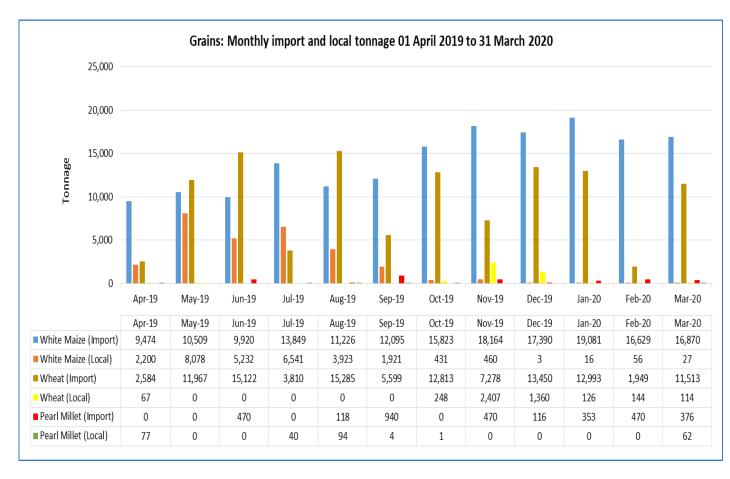


Figure 1, monthly grain imports and local purchases for the period 01 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

#### 3. AGGREGATED GRAIN TRADE STATISTICS

Figure 2 below indicates a total of 199,918 tons of white maize grain was sourced by millers and silos, of which 86% (171,031 tons) was imported and 14% (28,887 tons) was locally purchased. In terms of wheat, a total of 118,829 tons was sourced by millers, comprising of 96% (114,363 tons) imports and 4% (4,466 tons) local purchases. Furthermore, the total tonnage of pearl millet sourced by millers stood at 3,590 tons during the reporting period, with 91% (3,313 tons) imports and 9% (278 tons) local purchases.

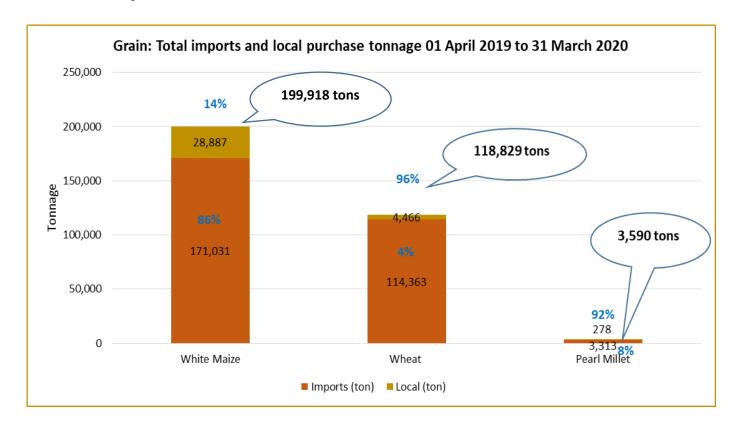


Figure 2, total imports and local purchases of grain for the period 01 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

## 4. CONCLUSION

It is clear from the report that white maize and pearl millet producers were severely affected by drought in 2019 and this led to very low supply of these commodities to millers and silos. The production of wheat was also affected by water shortage in some production areas, though lack of finances for production was also a challenge for some producers.

Therefore, as a result of low local supply of white maize, wheat and pearl millet grain, importation of these commodities was high throughout the reporting period in order to satisfy the domestic demand.

>>>>>>>>>>>>