

**Economic Indicators**

	Quote at 12h00 previous day	Current quote	Change	% Change
Rand/Dollar	11.90	12.05	0.15	1.26
Euro/Dollar	1.2351	1.2258	-0.0093	-0.75
Gold	1328.8	1310.36	-18.44	-1.39
Platinum	985.6	973.4	-12.20	-1.24
Brent Crude	66.78	65.41	-1.37	-2.05
JSE Top 40	49855	50182	327.00	0.66
Dow Jones Indus Avg	24912	24893	-19.00	-0.08

The changes in the table above is from previous Safex close (12h00)

- The rand is weaker this morning and is currently trading around R12.05/\$ with the stronger dollar weighing on our currency. South African equities did post some gains yesterday and ended 0.66% higher yesterday.
- In the US the dollar posted some strong gains and is 0.75% stronger than the levels seen yesterday. US equities ended slightly lower with the Dow ending 0.08% lower yesterday and this morning the Dow futures are also 0.30% lower.
- Commodity prices are lower across the board with the stronger dollar adding some pressure. Gold and platinum prices are 1.39% and 1.24% lower than the levels seen yesterday. Crude oil prices are sharply lower with Brent crude 2.05% lower than the levels seen yesterday. Crude oil prices are lower after the US crude oil stocks report.

**US Dollar/South African Rand**



**Key data releases:**

- USDA February supply and demand estimates
- South African mining production
- South African manufacturing production
- US initial jobless claims
- ECB Economic bulletin

## International Market

	Quote at 12h00 previous day	Current quote	Change	% Change
CME Mar maize	364.75	364.75	0.00	0.00
CME Jul maize	379.5	380	0.50	0.13
CME Mar wheat	451.5	460.5	9.00	1.99
KCBT Mar wheat	473.75	480.5	6.75	1.42
KCBT May wheat	488.5	495	6.50	1.33
Matif Mar wheat (Euro/ton)	159	160.25	1.25	0.79
CME Mar soybeans	992.75	982.5	-10.25	-1.03
Mar CME maize R/ton	1709	1730	21.54	1.26
Jul CME maize R/ton	1778	1803	24.78	1.39
Mar CME wheat R/ton	1974	2039	64.73	3.28
Mar KCBT wheat R/ton	2071	2127	56.00	2.70
May KCBT wheat R/ton	2136	2192	55.70	2.61
Mar CME soybeans R/ton	4341	4350	9.33	0.22

The changes in the table above is from Safex close (12h00)

## Corn

- CME maize prices posted some gains in the daytime session yesterday with March maize trading to a 3-month high with the spillover gains from the higher US wheat prices and the export demand for US maize adding support. This morning the electronic maize prices are slightly lower.
- The weekly US export sales figures of maize to be released today are expected to range between 1.3 million and 1.9 million tons. US maize is very competitively priced in the global export market which is boosting exports.
- The weekly US ethanol production was reported at 1.06 million barrels/day which is slightly higher than the ethanol production reported last week.
- The USDA report will be released today. The average market expectation of the US 2017/18 maize ending stocks is seen at 2.468 billion bushels which is down from the 2.477 billion bushels reported in January.

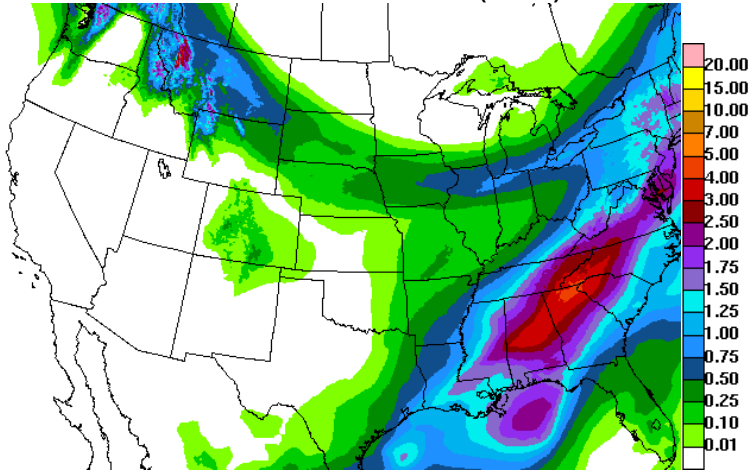
## Soybeans

- US soybean contracts traded lower in the daytime session yesterday with some position squaring that was seen ahead of the USDA supply and demand estimates due later today. This morning the electronic prices are mostly flat.
- The weekly US export sales figures of soybeans to be released today are expected to range between 400 000 and 800 000 tons.
- In the USDA report due later today the average market expectation of the US 2017/18 soybean ending stocks is seen at 486 million bushels which is up from the 470 million bushels seen in their January report.
- The USDA is also expected to raise their Brazilian soybean crop estimate and lower their Argentine soybean crop estimate.

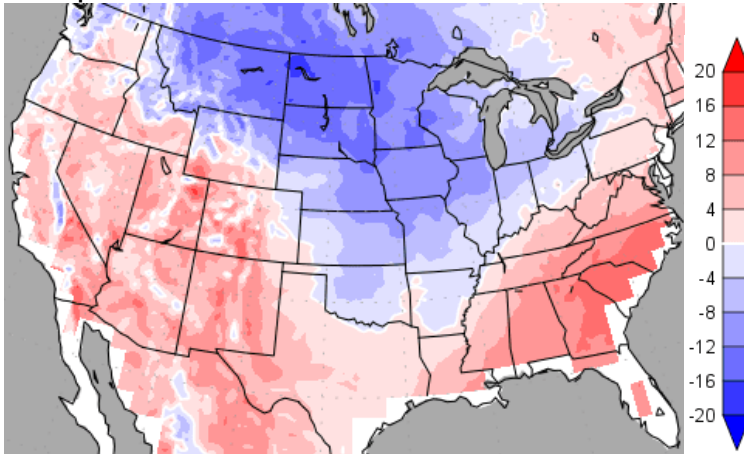
## Wheat

- US CME and KCBT wheat prices posted some strong gains in the daytime session with the dry weather conditions in the US winter wheat areas adding some support. Some technical buying was also seen. This morning the electronic wheat prices are mixed.
- The weekly US export sales figures of wheat to be released today are expected to range between 200 000 and 500 000 tons.
- In the USDA report due later today the average market expectation of the US 2017/18 wheat ending stocks is seen at 990 million bushels which is mostly unchanged from their January report.

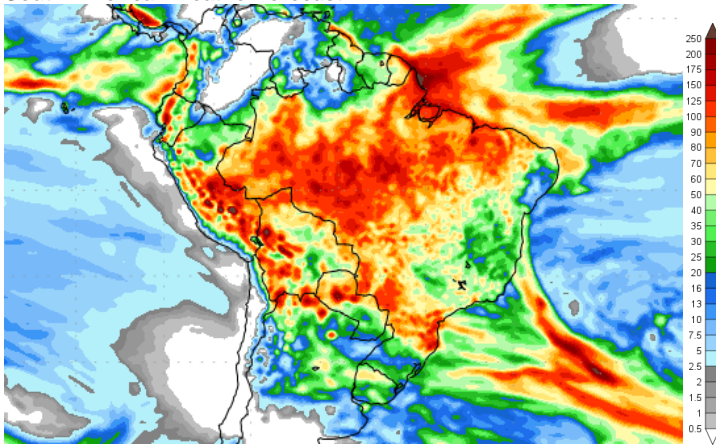
US cumulative rainfall forecast for week ahead (inches)



US temperature forecast for week ahead



South American weather forecast



Although everything has been done to ensure the accuracy of the report Unigrain (Pty) Ltd cannot be held responsible for any losses incurred as a result of the use of the information contained in the report

*"Together we make a difference"*

## South African Market – 07 February 2018

White Maize				
	MTM	Change	High	Low
Mar-18	1793.00	-6.00	1804.00	1784.00
May-18	1850.00	0.00	1853.00	1834.00
Jul-18	1899.00	-2.00	1908.00	1889.00
Yellow Maize				
Mar-18	1901.00	-7.00	1910.00	1891.20
May-18	1947.00	-3.00	1959.00	1947.00
Jul-18	1974.00	-7.00	1983.00	1965.00
Wheat				
Mar-18	3603.00	-53.00	3640.00	3590.00
May-18	3683.00	-47.00	3710.00	3668.00
Jul-18	3715.00	-53.00	3740.00	3709.00
Sunflower				
Mar-18	4677.00	26.00	4684.00	4630.00
May-18	4701.00	21.00	4705.00	4632.00
Soybeans				
Mar-18	4468.00	25.00	4477.00	4449.00
May-18	4544.00	27.00	4547.00	4505.00
CME Corn				
Mar-18	1716.00	6.00	1716.00	1704.00
Jul-18	1816.00	0.00	1819.00	1801.60

### Maize

South African maize prices started the day higher with the slightly higher parity prices adding some support at the start. March white maize opened the day at R1803 and traded to a high of R1804 before coming under some pressure. The fact that the rand gained some more ground during our session added some pressure. March white maize traded to a low of R1784 but the failure to break below the low seen in the previous trading session resulted in some late short covering. A break below the R1780 area could result in some renewed selling.

The weekly South African producer deliveries was reported at 13 450 tons including 9 269 tons of white maize and 4 181 tons of yellow maize.

This morning the US maize prices are higher than the levels seen at Safex close yesterday and adding to this the rand is also weaker which is supporting parity prices. The higher parity prices could be supportive for local maize today.

### Wheat

South African wheat contracts opened the day slightly lower with some more follow through selling that was seen after the opening with the stronger rand also adding some pressure. March wheat contracts opened the day at R3640 which was also the intraday high of the session with our market coming under some more pressure after that. The market traded to a low of R3590 and the market pulled off the lows ending the day slightly above R3600/ton.

The weekly South African producer deliveries of wheat was reported at 11 105 tons bringing the cumulative total to date at 1.368 million tons.

This morning the US wheat prices are sharply higher than the levels seen at Safex close yesterday and the rand is also weaker which is supporting parity prices. Our market sold off sharply yesterday but the weaker rand seen this morning could be supportive for local wheat in the session today.

## Oilseeds

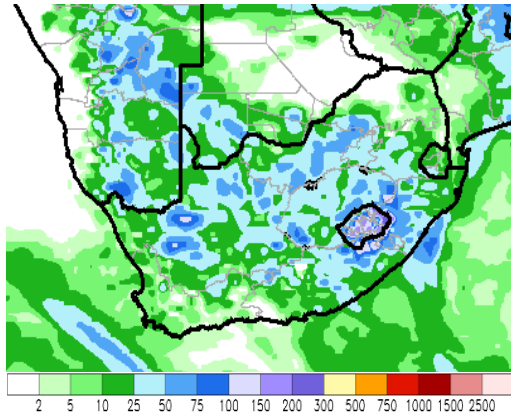
South African soybean contracts opened the day higher with the market trading on both sides of the opening levels after that. The market opened the day at R4460 and traded to a low of R4449 before some buying was seen. The market traded to an intraday high of R4477 and the market pulled off the highs ending the day around the opening levels.

South African sunflower seed contracts opened the day lower with some buying/short covering that was seen after the opening. March sunflower seed contracts opened the day at R4630 which was also the intraday low of the session with the market gaining some more ground after that. March sunflower seed contracts broke above the 40-day average trading to a high of R4684 and ending the day slightly off the session highs. The market is once again caught between the averages with the 40-day as support and the 100-day as resistance.

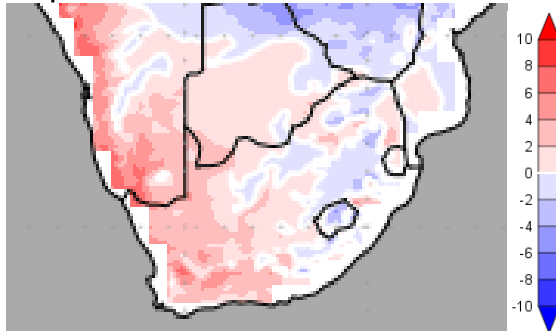
This morning the US soybean contracts are well below the levels seen at Safex close yesterday but the weaker rand is still supporting parity prices. The weaker rand and buying interest seen in our market yesterday could be supportive for local oilseeds in the session today.

## Weather conditions

### Rainfall forecast for week ahead



### Temperature forecast for week ahead



## Technical Graphs

- Safex March WM prices
- CME March corn prices



