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Global Agricultural Information Network

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South Africa - Republic of

Sugar Annual

The supply and demand of sugar in South Africa

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Report Highlights:

Post forecasts that the South African sugar cane crop will increase by three percent to 15.5 MMT in the 2017/18 MY, based on higher cane yields as the industry recovers from the previous season's drought. Post forecasts that the 2017/18 MY sugar production will increase by about ten percent to 1.7 MMT (1.76 MMTRV), based on the significant improvement in sugar cane quality, better factory recoveries and an increase in sugar cane delivered to the mills for crushing.

Commodities:

Sugar, Centrifugal

Sugar Cane for Centrifugal

Executive Summary

Post forecasts that the South African sugar cane crop will increase by three percent to 15.5 MMT in the 2017/18 MY, from about 15.1 MMT in the 2016/17 MY based on higher cane yields as the industry recovers from the previous season`s drought. Post forecasts that the 2017/18 MY sugar production will increase by about ten percent to 1.7 MMT (1.76 MMTRV), from 1.553 MMT (1.607 MMTRV) in the 2016/17 MY, based on the significant improvement in sugar cane quality, better factory recoveries and an increase in sugar cane delivered to the mills for crushing.

Post forecasts that South Africa`s sugar exports will increase significantly to 590,000 MTRV in the 2017/18 MY, from 250,000 MTRV in the 2016/17 MY due to the increase in sugar production, and the high sugar stocks available in the domestic market. Post significantly revised upwards the 2016/17 MY import estimate of sugar to 715,000 MTRV from 360,000 MTRV, based on higher than expected imports up to February 2017, due to opportunistic trade that occurred when the customs duty was not applicable as the average prices were above the Dollar Based Reference Price (DBRP) of US\$566/ ton in late 2016 and also as a result of the subsequent delays in implementing the customs duty when the average prices fell below the DBRP. Post forecasts that imports will increase by about one percent to 725,000 MTRV in the 2017/18 MY, due to the continuation of opportunistic trade based on the current DBRP which is deemed low and the global sugar prices that are expected to fluctuate and increase at the back of global sugar deficits influenced by India`s lower production forecasts. In addition, there are indications that the customs duties could be reduced from 63.63 c/kg to about 28.10c/kg, which would result in the increase in imports in the 2017/18 MY.

South Africa`s net sugar consumption is forecast to increase marginally by less than a percent to 1.961 MMTRV in the 2017/18 MY, from 1.96 MMTRV in the 2016/17 MY based on the increase in per capita consumption of sugar, which will be partially offset by the low economic growth forecast at just below one percent resulting in depressed demand of sugar products as consumers face financial pressure in an underperforming economy. Post forecasts that the ending stocks will decrease by twenty percent to 322,000 MTRV in the 2017/18 MY, from 402,000 MTRV in the 2016/17 MY based on the significant increase in exports as the industry returns to the usual export volumes.

Sources

South African Sugar Association	http://www.sasa.org.za
Illovo Sugar Company	http://www.illovo.co.za
Tongaat Hulett Sugar	http://www.hulett.co.za
Tsb	http://www.tsb.co.za
South African Cane growers	http://www.sacanegrowers.co.za
South African Revenue Services	www.sars.gov.za

MT – Metric tons

MMT – Million metric tons

MTRV - Metric tons raw value

MMTRV – Million metric tons raw value

MY – Marketing Year (April – March)

Sugar cane:

Production

Post forecast that the South African sugar cane crop will increase by three percent to 15.5 MMT in the 2017/18 MY, from about 15.1 MMT in the 2016/17 MY based on higher cane yields as the industry recovers from the previous season's drought. This increase will partially be offset by lower production in the irrigated areas of Mpumalanga that received below average summer rainfall. In addition, some growers restricted the use of inputs and did not replant their full hectareage due to the impact of the drought on their finances and the limited availability of seedcane. The 2015/16 MY sugar cane production remains unchanged at 14.9 MMT based on final industry data. **Table 1** below shows the sugar and sugar cane production statistics up to the 2017/18 MY.

Table 1: The production of sugar and sugar cane in South Africa

Marketing years	Area planted (HA)	Area harvested (HA)	Yield (MT/HA)	Cane crushed (MT)	Sugar production (Tel Quel MT*)	Cane/sugar ratio
2012/13	371,662	257,095	67.2	17,278,020	1,951,518	8.9
2013/14	378,922	265,939	70.3	20,032,969	2,352,878	8.5
2014/15	381,707	272,590	65.1	17,755,504	2,118,232	8.4
2015/16	370,335	258,497	57.5	14,861,401	1,627,395	9.1
2016/17 (Estimate)	360,000	260,000	57.0	15,074,610	1,552,739	9.3
2017/18 (Forecast)	370,000	265,000	58.5	15,500,000	1,700,000	9.1

*Tel Quell x 1.035 = Raw value, Refined x 1.07 = Raw value; Source: SA Canegrowers

Figure 1 below shows the main sugar cane production areas in South Africa. The Kwa-Zulu Natal Province is largely rain fed production (approximately 95 percent rain fed) with limited irrigated areas, while the Mpumalanga province is fully irrigated.

Figure 1: Map of sugar cane production areas

Source: South Africa Sugar Association

The South African sugar industry currently uses bagasse to generate electricity which is largely fed back to the sugar mills. There is currently no commercial production of biodiesel and fuel grade ethanol from sugar cane in South Africa. On August 23, 2012, the South African government published regulations regarding the mandatory blending ([Click here to download the regulation](#)), and on September 30, 2013, the Minister of Energy announced that the date for the mandatory blending of biofuels with petrol and diesel would be October 1, 2015 ([Click here to download the statement](#)). Post contacts have indicated that while there is a strong interest in biofuels, actual production is anticipated to only commence once government finalizes and passes the government position paper on biofuels. The position paper was published for public comments on January 15, 2014, and the deadline for public comments was February 10, 2014. The position paper can be found on the following link; ([Click here to download the position paper](#)). There is uncertainty as to when government will finalize this regulation as the pricing policy and the framework are still under review and do not currently offer attractive incentives to the sugar industry.

Table 2: PS&D for sugar cane

Sugar Cane for Centrifugal Market Begin Year	2015/2016		2016/2017		2017/2018	
	Apr 2015		Apr 2016		Apr 2017	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
South Africa						
Area Planted	340	370	330	360	0	370
Area Harvested	245	258	240	260	0	265
Production	14861	14861	14400	15075	0	15500
Total Supply	14861	14861	14400	15075	0	15500
Utilization for Sugar	14861	14861	14400	15075	0	15500
Utilizatn for Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Utilization	14861	14861	14400	15075	0	15500

(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT)

Source: South African Cane growers; South African Sugar Association and Post data

Sugar:

Production

Post forecasts that sugar production will increase by about ten percent to 1.7 MMT (1.76 MMTRV) in the 2017/18 MY, from 1.553 MMT (1.607 MMTRV) in the 2016/17 MY, based on the significant improvement in sugar cane quality, better factory recoveries and an increase in sugar cane delivered to the mills for crushing. The 2015/16 MY sugar production remains unchanged at 1.627 MMT (1.684 MMTRV), based on final industry data at the back of the lowest sugar cane production reported in the past two decades in South Africa due to the drought.

There are six sugar milling companies in South Africa, namely, Tongaat Hullet Sugar, Illovo Sugar, Tsb, Umfolozi Sugar Company, Gledhow Sugar Company and UCL Sugar Company. These six milling companies own a combined total of 14 sugar mills in the Kwa-Zulu Natal Province (12 Mills) and Mpumalanga Province (2 Mills).

Consumption

South Africa's net sugar consumption is forecast to increase marginally by less than a percent to 1.961 MMTRV in the 2017/18 MY, from 1.96 MMTRV in the 2016/17 MY based on the increase in per capita consumption of sugar. This will be partially offset by the low economic growth forecast at just below one percent resulting in depressed demand of sugar products as consumers face financial pressure in an underperforming economy. The 2015/16 MY consumption remains unchanged at 1.957 MMTRV based on final industry data. The South African Customs Union (SACU) is the primary market for the South African sugar industry. Sugar in South Africa is primarily used for direct human consumption and for industrial purposes e.g. as an ingredient to producing beverages and confectionary products. Some sugar mills produce minimal downstream products such as furfuryl, furfural and industrial alcohol.

Exports

Post forecasts that South Africa's sugar exports will increase significantly to 590,000 MTRV in the 2017/18 MY, from 250,000 MTRV in the 2016/17 MY due to the increase in sugar production, and the high available sugar stocks in the domestic market. Post revised downwards the 2016/17 MY exports to 250,000 MTRV based on the year to date exports up to February 2017 and post calculations for the month of March 2017, at the back of the low sugar production in the 2016/17 MY. The 2015/16 MY exports remain unchanged at 305,000 MTRV based on the final Global Trade Atlas (GTA) data. South Africa always exports its surplus sugar regardless of the low or high global prices because of the regulations that govern and stipulate that the price paid to sugar cane growers should be based on revenue obtained from the sugar sales in the local and export market for that specific season.

South Africa only exports surplus sugar once the domestic market and SACU market are adequately supplied. It is expected that the high imports in the 2017/18 MY and 2016/17 MY, will contribute to the high stocks in the local market, resulting in the increase in exports as the local market sales will be impacted by competition from imports. The South African Customs Union (non-sugar producing countries, namely, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho), United States, and countries in sub-Saharan Africa are currently the main export markets for South African raw sugar exports. South Africa's raw sugar exports are highly sensitive to drought conditions. The major market for South Africa's refined sugar

exports is sub-Saharan Africa. Exports of raw and refined sugar are shown in **Table 3** and **Table 4**, respectively.

Table 3: Export Trade Statistics – Raw Sugar

South Africa Export Statistics					
Commodity: Sugar Raw, Raw Sugar Codes					
Year Ending: March					
Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17*
World	T	527,785	408,343	157,806	124,204
Namibia	T	33,321	110,049	98,035	90,546
United States	T	0	46,410	23,087	0
Botswana	T	14,998	24,049	19,249	17,080
Lesotho	T	7,378	16,242	14,355	13,116
Mozambique	T	20,472	17,641	2,086	2,263
Swaziland	T	122	498	419	405
Israel	T	1,354	770	198	0
Angola	T	1,565	64	131	717
Zimbabwe	T	46,980	1,906	110	3
Other Countries NES	T	7,100	0	36	44
St. Helena	T	37	35	33	11
Yemen	T	10	4,283	15	0
Congo Dem. Rep.	T	4	165	13	11
Zambia	T	103	82	6	4
Indonesia	T	197,297	20,000	0	0
Japan	T	121,000	30,000	0	0
Australia	T	28,200	26,012	0	0
Romania	T	0	8,800	0	0
Malaysia	T	0	27,550	0	0
Uganda	T	2,500	1	0	0
Kenya	T	275	37	0	0
India	T	17,850	0	0	0
Rwanda	T	1,000	0	0	0
Bangladesh	T	0	73,650	0	0
New Zealand	T	26,200	0	0	0

*Data is only up to February 2017.

Source: Global Trade Atlas (GTA)

Table 4: Export Trade Statistics – Refined Sugar

South Africa Export Statistics	
Commodity: Refined Sugar (HS170199, 170191), HS170199, 170191	
Year Ending: March	

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17*
World	T	318,170	340,528	136,975	77,854
Mozambique	T	95,699	107,432	51,618	23,603
Botswana	T	16,520	37,837	23,013	32,898
Angola	T	42,235	41,330	12,757	5,039
Namibia	T	2,605	5,810	10,353	7,382
Zimbabwe	T	57,485	43,260	9,643	377
Madagascar	T	20,641	17,305	9,155	76
Lesotho	T	1,342	5,549	4,748	4,922
Comoros	T	3,406	4,092	3,438	904
Congo Dem. Rep.	T	4,041	5,912	2,335	44
Mayotte	T	2,234	2,386	2,165	1,622
Kenya	T	10,827	44,621	2,141	0
Ghana	T	4,821	6,155	2,120	7
Other Countries NES	T	0	301	1,533	194
Uganda	T	10,101	7,841	801	0
Israel	T	0	0	421	545
Singapore	T	0	0	150	0
United States	T	128	185	120	8
Senegal	T	120	475	100	0
China	T	0	0	74	0
Zambia	T	1,132	112	72	43
Malawi	T	14	67	40	18
St. Helena	T	31	11	39	21
Swaziland	T	21	102	39	36
Seychelles	T	234	977	26	29
Nigeria	T	2	2	20	0
Australia	T	2	5	9	0
Netherlands	T	7	78	8	24
United Arab Emirates	T	5	3	6	1
Ships & Aircraft Stores	T	1	5	5	7
Sweden	T	0	6	4	1
Tanzania	T	16,943	4,609	1	0
Gabon	T	0	500	1	0
Algeria	T	19	0	0	14
Spain	T	3,024	0	0	16

*Data is only up to February 2017.

Source: GTA

Imports

Post significantly revised upwards the 2016/17 MY import estimate of sugar to 715,000 MTRV from 360,000 MTRV, based on higher than expected imports up to February 2017, due to opportunistic trade

that occurred when the customs duty was not applicable as the average prices were above the Dollar Based Reference Price (DBRP) of US\$566/ ton in late 2016 and also as a result of the subsequent delays in implementing the customs duty when the average prices fell below the DBRP. Post forecasts that imports will increase by about one percent to 725,000 MTRV in the 2017/18 MY, due to the continuation of opportunistic trade based on the current DBRP which is deemed low and the global sugar prices that are expected to fluctuate and increase at the back of global sugar deficits influenced by India's lower production forecasts. In addition, there are indications that the customs duties could be reduced from 63.63 c/kg to about 28.10c/kg, which would also result in the increase in imports in the 2017/18 MY. The 2015/16 MY imports remain unchanged at 469,680 MTRV based on final GTA data. Imports from Swaziland accounted for 84 percent of the total South African sugar imports in the 2015/16 MY.

Table 5: Import Trade Statistics – Raw Sugar

South Africa Import Statistics					
Commodity: Sugar Raw, Raw Sugar Codes					
Year Ending: March					
Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17*
World	T	207,795	352,179	362,088	331,788
Swaziland	T	100,743	300,390	331,907	265,723
Argentina		0	0	0	20,000
Brazil	T	98,053	30,554	15,552	20,138
Zambia	T	0	8,798	9,991	926
Other Countries	T	416	850	1,044	4,459
Poland	T	0	0	1,000	0
Saudi Arabia	T	0	0	648	0
Thailand	T	5,658	7,906	627	1,587
Namibia	T	268	569	391	493
United Arab Emirates	T	0	0	336	1,200
United States	T	10	0	260	0
Germany	T	70	90	135	114
Lesotho	T	1	37	130	32
Mauritius	T	66	66	44	39
Netherlands	T	16	8	8	7
India	T	2,478	1,604	5	52
Hong Kong	T	0	1	3	3
China	T	2	0	3	2
Guatemala	T	0	1,250	0	1,749
Switzerland	T	0	0	15254	15,254

*Data is only up to February 2017.

* Source: GTA

Table 6: Import Trade Statistics – Refined Sugar

South Africa Import Statistics	
Commodity: Refined Sugar (HS170199, 170191), HS170199, 170191	
Year Ending: March	

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17*
World	T	365,399	143,690	100,553	313,492
Brazil	T	315,438	93,699	59,165	152,170
Swaziland	T	10,031	28,604	16,732	26,000
Ukraine		0	0	0	10,400
Malawi	T	0	8,290	8,210	4,677
Zambia	T	0	6,694	6,195	1,751
India	T	4,641	5,343	3,168	3,540
Thailand	T	3,980	459	2,510	5
Poland	T	0	0	2,200	1,470
United Arab Emirates	T	2,097	0	1,200	89,577
United Kingdom	T	135	88	429	473
Pakistan	T	125	130	270	0
Other Countries NES	T	0	2	135	4
Zimbabwe	T	0	1	118	0
Botswana	T	82	109	73	67
Germany	T	8	5	42	2,297
Lesotho	T	0	0	34	0
United States	T	5	12	20	813
Colombia	T	0	2	13	0
China	T	2	11	10	14
Belgium	T	44	16	10	11
Netherlands	T	135	185	3	1
Switzerland	T	271	1	1	0
Malaysia	T	0	1	1	4,650
France	T	1	4	1	10,135
Spain	T	130	0	0	0
Tanzania	T	750	0	0	0
Namibia	T	15	0	0	0
Czech Republic	T	0	0	0	335
Sweden	T	0	0	0	1,680
Guatemala	T	27,500	0	0	1,855
Mauritius	T	0	21	0	4
Singapore	T	0	0	0	270

*Data is only up to February 2017.

* Source: GTA

Stocks

Post forecasts that the ending stocks will decrease by twenty percent to 322,000 MTRV in the 2017/18 MY, from 402,000 MTRV in the 2016/17 MY, based on the significant increase in exports as the

industry returns to the usual export volumes. The 2016/17 MY ending stocks were revised upwards to 402,000 MTRV due to the higher than expected sugar imports, as well as the low exports during the season. The 2015/16 MY ending stocks remains unchanged at 304,000 MTRV based on final industry data.

Table 7: PS&D for sugar

Sugar, Centrifugal Market Begin Year	2015/2016		2016/2017		2017/2018	
	April 2015		April 2016		April 2017	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
South Africa						
Beginning Stocks	424	424	304	304	0	402
Beet Sugar Production	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cane Sugar Production	1684	1684	1665	1607	0	1760
Total Sugar Production	1684	1684	1665	1607	0	1760
Raw Imports	362	362	300	370	0	375
Refined Imp.(Raw Val)	108	108	60	345	0	350
Total Imports	470	470	360	715	0	725
Total Supply	2578	2578	2329	2626	0	2887
Raw Exports	158	158	150	150	0	350
Refined Exp.(Raw Val)	147	147	120	100	0	240
Total Exports	305	305	270	250	0	590
Human Dom. Consumption	1957	1957	1957	1960	0	1961
Other Disappearance	12	12	13	14	0	14
Total Use	1969	1969	1970	1974	0	1975
Ending Stocks	304	304	89	402	0	322
Total Distribution	2578	2578	2329	2626	0	2887

(1000 MT)

Trade policies:

Proposed sugar tax on sugar-sweetened beverages

On February 24, 2016, the South Africa Finance Minister announced during the Budget Speech that South Africa would be introducing a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages with effect from April 1, 2017. The purpose of the sugar tax was argued to be motivated by efforts from the Ministry of Health to reduce excessive sugar intake as it is linked with conditions such as obesity and diabetes. However, industry perceived such a tax to be a revenue generation initiative by the National Treasury.

On July 8, 2016, the South African National Treasury published the policy document recommending that a tax on sugar sweetened beverages based on sugar content be implemented, which would result in a tax of about R2.29 per liter. In addition, it was proposed that sweetened beverages that did not apply nutritional labelling would be liable to a relatively higher tax. [Click here to download the policy document.](#) The public comment period for this policy document closed on August 22, 2016. The proposed sugar tax and policy document were heavily criticized by the South Africa Beverages Association, Coca Cola and the sugar industry, who argued that it would be largely ineffective in addressing obesity and other related health issues, as well as potentially resulting in massive job losses.

Arising from the wide criticism and comments, on February 22, 2017, the South African National Treasury published the Draft Rates and Monetary Amounts and Amendment of Revenue Laws Bill for public comment and set the deadline for comments as March 31, 2017. The Bill can be downloaded on the following link, <http://www.treasury.gov.za/> . Pages 24 and 25 of the published Bill, details the revised plans

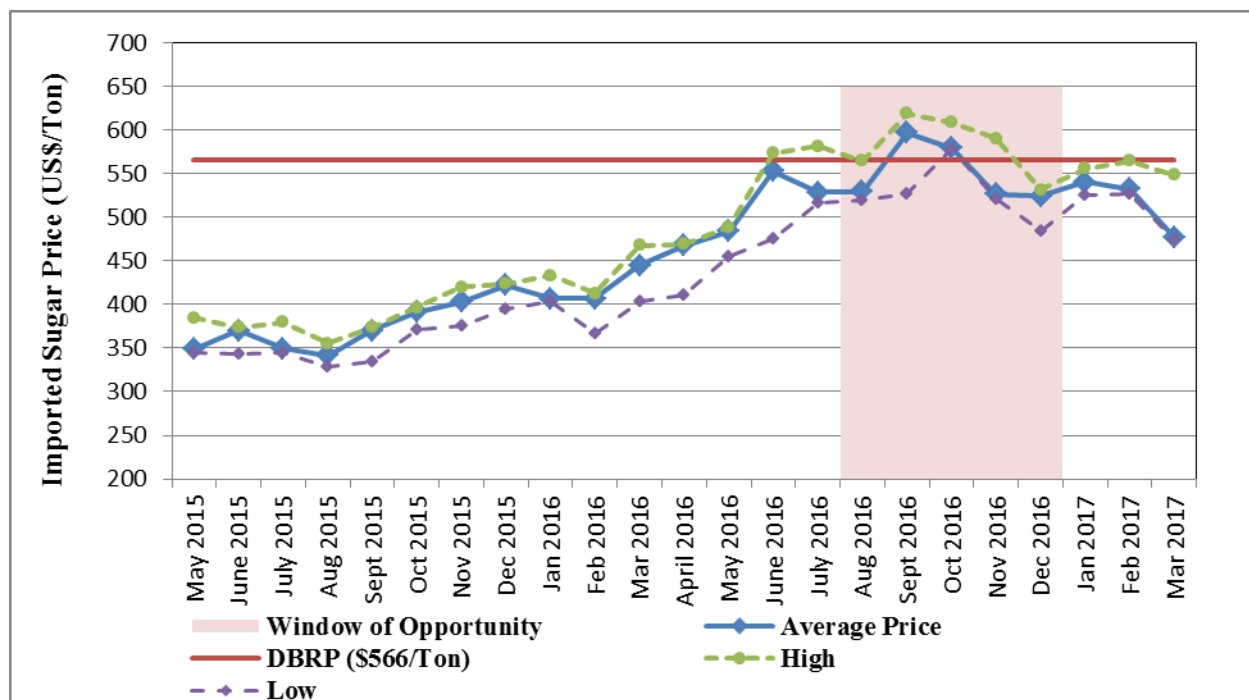
for a tax on sugary drinks, mainly the reduction of the sugar tax from 2.4c per 100ml to 2.1c per 100ml, and that the tax will now only apply for sweetened beverages above the 4g per 100ml threshold. Post also published a GAIN report on this bill and reported that United States beverage exports to South Africa that could be affected by the sugar tax amount to about \$5 Million. [Click here to download the GAIN report.](#)

Import restrictions using the domestic Dollar Based Reference Price

The domestic Dollar Based Reference Price (DBRP) mechanism is designed to ensure that, inclusive of the duty, the DBRP (currently US\$566 per ton), is the lowest price that an importer will pay for imported sugar. In the event that the 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 duties payable. South Africa applies a 20 day moving average of the import prices to determine if a duty is applicable or not. This is reviewed monthly, but once a determination is made, there are usually delays in implementing the applicable duties. This system is open to opportunistic behavior, in instances where the average import prices are above the DBRP and not subject to a duty. Importers and traders acquire sugar at below the DBRP and ship the sugar duty free when there is a window of opportunity as shown in **Figure 2** below. This explains the high sugar imports during the 2016/17 MY. This opportunistic trade is expected to continue in the 2017/18 MY, based on the current DBRP and the global sugar prices that are expected to fluctuate and increase at the back of global sugar deficits influenced by India's lower production forecasts. Post contacts indicated that the sugar industry is currently in the process of lodging another application for the DBRP to be increased from \$566/ ton, however, this process usually takes a long time to be finalized.

For background purposes, on April, 4, 2014, the South African Revenue Service implemented the International Trade Commission of South Africa's (ITAC) recommendation that the DBRP for sugar be increased from US\$358/ton to US\$566/ton. Details of the ITAC recommendation can be found on the following link, <http://www.itac.org.za/docs/Reportpercent20No.percent20463.PDF>. The ITAC recommendation was in response to an application lodged by SASA for the DBRP to increase from US\$358/ton to US\$764/ton, to protect the domestic sugar industry from duty free imports. The main justification provided by SASA for the increase was the important role of the sugar industry in socio-economic development in the rural areas, and that in order for the sugar industry to continue its contribution to governments' development objectives it required financial and economic stability through fair protection from the distorted sugar world market.

Figure 2: Import Prices and Window of Opportunity for imports into South Africa



Source

of Data: <https://www.investing.com/commodities/london-sugar-historical-data>

European Union sugar Quota

South Africa has an annual quota of 150,000 MT sugar to export duty free to the European Union under the SADC/EU Economic Partnership Agreement that was finalized in October 2016. South Africa expects to utilize about 75% of the quota in the 2017/18 MY based on the final sugar production and available stocks.

United States sugar Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) allocation

South Africa is a beneficiary of the United States Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) allocation, which allows it to export sugar duty free to the United States. South Africa fully utilized the allocated 24,220 MTRV quota for the 2016 FY. South Africa confirmed that it has the capacity to export the 24,220 MTRV that it has been allocated for the 2017 FY.

Customs Import duties

Table 8 below presents the sugar customs duty as of April 19, 2017. The rate of duty is 63.63 c/kg (US\$0.05/kg). Post contacts indicated that there are requests to reduce the duties from 63.63 c/kg to about 28.10c/kg, which could result in a further increase in imports if implemented.

Table 8: Customs duties

Heading / Subheading	C D	Article Description	Statistical Unit	Rate of Duty (c/kg)				
				General	EU	EFTA	SADC	MERCOSUR
17.01		Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form:						
1701.1		Raw sugar not containing added flavoring or coloring matter:						
1701.12	2	Beet sugar	Kg	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63
1701.13	9	Cane sugar	Kg	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63
1701.14	5	Other cane sugar	Kg	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63
1701.9		Other:						
1701.91	2	Containing added flavoring or coloring matter	Kg	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63
1701.99	3	Other	Kg	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63	63.63

Source: South African Revenue Service.

Amendments to regulation relating to food labelling and advertising

On May 29, 2014, South Africa proposed amendments to the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act (54/1972): Regulations relating to the Labelling and advertising of foods.

[Click here to download.](#) Post published a report on the proposed amendment,

[Click here to download the GAIN report](#) . The proposed regulation amendment has not been finalized, and post contacts indicate that the volume of comments received was a lot more than anticipated.

Review of the Sugar Act and Sugar Industry Agreement

South Africa is currently in the process of reviewing the Sugar Act ([Download the Act](#)) and the Sugar Industry Agreement ([Download the Agreement](#)). The process has been underway for at least thirteen years, and it is still uncertain as to when the Department of Trade and Industry will publish the proposed amendments for public comments. The purpose of the Sugar Act is currently to promulgate the incorporation of South African Sugar Association (SASA) and to state the responsibility of the SASA mainly in coordinating the drafting and implementation of regulations pertaining to the production, export marketing or exportation of sugar or sugar industry products.