



# SA lyk goed op indeks van voedselsekerheid

**Direktoraat korporatiewe skakeling (Januarie 2015)**  
AGRI SA

Die DuPont-verslag toon dat Suid-Afrika die Afrikaland met die hoogste vlak van voedselsekerheid is. In dié maatskappy se 2014 globale voedselsekerheidsindeks vergelyk Suid-Afrika se 61.1 punte goed met die van sy BRICS-vennote. Indië staan op 48.3 punte, China op 62.2, Rusland op 62.7 en die voedselreus Brasilië op 68.1. Die meeste Afrikalande behaal tussen 30 en 40 punte op die indeks. Ontwikkelde nywerheidslande gee die toon aan met meer as 80 punte.

Plaaslike landbou is ook 'n suksesvolle mededinger in uitvoermarkte. In 2013 is R72,5 miljard se landbouprodukte uitgevoer wat R15,2 miljard meer is as landbou-invoer. Met gunstige produksie-omstandighede en die swakker Rand kan hierdie vermoë en prestasie in 2014 en 2015 verder verbeter. Besproeiingsboerdery, wat 25% tot die waarde van landbouproduksie bydra, het ook goeie vooruitsigte. Damme is landswyd gemiddeld 80% vol en in van die groter stelsels is die situasie selfs nog gunstiger.

Verbruikers kan uitsien na 'n verlansaming en selfs afname in voedselprysinflasie. In November 2014 was voedselprysinflasie nog 6,5%, maar die produsenteprysindex vir landbou, bosbou en visserye was 2,3%. Laasgenoemde behoort binne enkele maande 'n dalende invloed op voedselprysinflasie te hê. Een van die bydraende faktore tot hierdie tendens is die laer brandstofprys. Uitgawes aan brandstof beloop 14% van landbou se intermediaire uitgawes en volgens aanduidings kan onlangse en verdere prysverlagings hierdie koste-komponent verklein. Die res van die voedselwaardeketting het egter ook 'n bydrae te lewer om die koste-voordeel aan verbruikers deur te gee.

Voortgesette beleggings is seker die beste waarborg vir volgehoue voedselsekerheid en volhoubare mededingende produksie. Terwyl daar uitdagings is wat die bedryf moet oorkom om sy mededingendheid te handhaaf en terselfdertyd groter bydraes tot transformasie en die maatskaplike opheffing van werkers en hulle gesinne te lewer, is daar vertroue in die bedryf se toekoms. Dit blyk onder meer uit die toename van 8,4% in die waarde van beleggings in landbou die afgelope jaar, gerugsteun deur 'n toename van 10,1% in die waarde van grond en verbeterings en 9,9% in dié van masjinerie, implemente en voertuie. Dit is 'n positiewe tendens waarop voortgebou moet word om Suid-Afrika nog 'n beter land vir al sy mense te maak. ♦

## SA ranks favourably on food security index

**Directorate corporate liaison (January 2015)**  
AGRI SA

The DuPont report shows that South Africa is the African country with the highest level of food security. According to this company's 2014 global food security index, South Africa stands at 61.1 points which compares well with that of its BRICS partners. India stands at 48.3 points, China at 62.2, Russia at 62.7 and the food giant Brazil at 68.1. Most African countries score between 30 and 40 points on this index. Developed countries lead the way with more than 80 points.

The South African agricultural sector is also a successful competitor in export markets. In 2013 exports amounted to R72,5 billion, which is R15,2 billion more than agricultural imports. Should favourable production conditions prevail, and considering the weaker Rand, the sector can improve on this performance in 2014 and 2015. Irrigation agriculture, which contributes 25% to the value of agricultural production, also has good prospects. Nationwide dams are on average 80% full, and in the larger systems, the situation is even more favourable.

Consumers can look forward to a slowdown or even decline in food price inflation. In November 2014 food price inflation was still 6,5%, but the producer price index for agriculture, forestry and fisheries was 2,3%. The latter should within a few months have a diminishing effect on food price inflation. One of the factors contributing to this trend is the decline in the price of fuel. Expenditure on fuel amounts to 14% of agriculture's expenditure on intermediary goods and services. Indications are that the recent and expected further fuel price cuts will reduce this cost element. The rest of the food value chain should, however, also pass on cost-savings to the benefit of consumers.

Continued investment is probably the best guarantee for continued food security and sustainable competitive production. While there are challenges that the industry must overcome to maintain its competitiveness and at the same time contribute to the industries' transformation and the social upliftment of workers and their families, there is confidence in the future of the industry. The 8,4% increase in the value of investment in agriculture in the past year is indicative of such confidence, backed by a 10,1% increase in the value of land and fixed improvements and 9,9% in that of machinery, implements and vehicles. This a positive trend which should be built upon to make South Africa an even better country to all its people. ♦