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## **Background Paper Series**



**Background Paper 2010:1**

# **South African trade in 2008, focusing on agriculture, forestry and fisheries**

*Eisenburg  
February 2010*

# PROVIDE

# PROJECT

The Provincial Decision-making Enabling Project

## Overview

The Provincial Decision-Making Enabling (PROVIDE) Project aims to facilitate policy design by supplying policymakers with provincial and national level quantitative policy information. The project entails the development of a series of databases (in the format of Social Accounting Matrices) for use in Computable General Equilibrium models.

The National and Provincial Departments of Agriculture are the stakeholders and funders of the PROVIDE Project. The research team is located at Elsenburg in the Western Cape.

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# South African trade in 2008, focusing on agriculture, forestry and fisheries<sup>1</sup>

## Abstract

*This paper aims to identify trade trends for primary products from the South African agricultural, forestry and fisheries sector for 2008. Annual trade data was received from the South African Revenue Service (SARS). The postal code information were used to identify from which province exports were sent or for which province the imports were destined. The postal code provided is that of the exporter or importer, and thus does not necessarily reflect the final destination in South Africa of imports or the origin (province) of our exports. Traded goods are classified using the Harmonised System (HS) that is used internationally. Results indicate that in South Africa, the value of total imports are more than total exports, but in the agricultural sector of South Africa exports still dominate, i.e. South Africa is still a net exporter of agricultural products. The main importing countries for South Africa include Germany and China while the main exporting countries are United Kingdom followed by the United States of America. The top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for South Africa revealed that seed corn is imported most whilst citrus fruit is exported most. Provincial reviews also took a closer look at each province's agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector. Nominal values are reported.*

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## 1. Introduction

The rapid reintegration of South Africa into the global economy after 1994 resulted in rising imports and exports as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The South African economy became more open and outward orientated, due to the reintegration as well as global trade liberalisation (Flatters and Stern, 2007). Agriculture in South Africa has also evolved into a global competitive market, with South Africa being in the top five exporters of grapefruit, avocados, plums, tangerines, pears, table grapes and ostrich products. It also is a basis for intra-Africa trade due to the developed agricultural sector compared to other agricultural sectors in Africa (Daya, Ranoto and Letsoalo, 2006).

The South African agricultural sector can be divided into two divisions namely, the well-developed commercial farming sector and the subsistence-based production of households in rural areas. The most restrictive aspect in agriculture is the availability of water. Rainfall is scattered across South Africa and thus distribution is uneven. Agriculture uses almost 50% of water in South Africa, mainly for irrigated land (South Africa Info, 2009). Between 2007 and 2008, agricultural exports increased by 51% whereas agricultural imports increased by 31% (Verster and Steenkamp, 2009). This is not due to sizeable increases in volume, but rather increased prices on certain products such as fruits and nuts. From 2007 to 2008, the value of fruits and nuts exports from South Africa increased by 26.7% whilst there was only a 3.7% increase in the volume of exports in fruits and nuts.

This paper aims to identify trade trends for the South African and provincial agricultural, forestry and fisheries sector for 2008, focusing on primary products and not processed products. The study was partly motivated by media statements in 2007 claiming that South Africa became a net importer of agricultural and food products, and therefore aims to confirm whether or not this is true for the provinces as well. The paper is organised as follows. Section 2 gives a brief description of the data whilst Section 3 provides an explanation on the categorisation used in the paper. Section 4 presents the total and top five imports and exports for South Africa and the nine provinces of South Africa, as well as for the national and provincial agricultural sectors. The top five import and export countries for all products are also reported on national and provincial level. Section 5 focuses on the top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports of South Africa and looks at the share of each province to the total import and export. Section 6 is the provincial reviews, where each province is looked at in terms of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector. The top five imports and exports are given as well as the top five import and export countries. Section 7 will give concluding remarks.

## 2. Description of trade data

The South African Revenue Service (SARS) captures trade data on a monthly basis. This data is separated in two files namely one file for imports and another for exports. Each row of data includes a postal code. The South Africa Post Office list of postal codes (Post Office, 2004) was used to identify from which province exports were sent or for which province the imports were destined by mapping each postal code to provinces. **The postal code provided is that of the importer or exporter, and thus does not reflect the final destination in South Africa of imports or the original (province) for exports, i.e. no information is available about the producer or final user in South Africa.** In some instances it is clear that the province is exporting products which it does not produce in sufficient quantities to match the exports. In such cases the province based exporters could be acting as agents for producers in other provinces, or traders could buy the goods and export it for their own account. Although the data does not allow for a distinction, it is an important one, because it would determine whether the foreign earnings will remain in the province or whether it will go to the province of the producer.

Traded goods are classified using the Harmonised System (HS) that is used internationally. The datasets are received in unlimited ASCII format with the postal code (4 digits), country of origin or destination (2 digits), HS code (9 digits), quantity imported or exported (15 digits), and custom's value (15 digits) in the fixed width file. Layouts can change slightly for different years, so researchers need to be careful when extracting the data for consistency. Data from SARS were extracted and aggregated using GAMS software. For more information on the method and statistical programme used to extract the data for analysis, see Provide Technical Paper 2004:2 (PROVIDE, 2004).

## 3. Categorisation of data

In order to get valuable and realistic results the data need to be categorised. Classifying both the postal codes as well as the HS codes into groups makes analysis easier. Postal codes were aggregated into the nine provinces and for South Africa as a whole. HS codes were aggregated according to the 23 SARS sections (SARS, 2009b). Table 1 gives a breakdown of the 23 sections and their respective descriptions.



**Table 1: Classification of HS codes into 23 sections according to SARS**

Section	Chapter (HS 2-digit)	Description
I	1 to 5	Live animals, animal products.
II	6 to 14	Vegetable products.
III	15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes.
IV	16 to 24	Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits, and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes.
V	25 to 27	Mineral products.
VI	28 to 38	Products of the chemicals or allied industries.
VII	39 to 40	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.
VIII	41 to 43	Raw hides and skins, leather, fur skins and articles thereof; saddler and harness, travel articles, handbags and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silkworm-gut).
IX	44 to 46	Wood and articles of wood, wood charcoal, cork and articles of cork, manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting material, basket ware and wickerwork.
X	47 to 49	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; waste and scrap of paper or of paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof.
XI	50 to 63	Textiles and textile articles.
XII	64 to 67	Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking-sticks, seat-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof; prepared feathers and articles made therewith, artificial flowers, articles of human hair.
XIII	68 to 70	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials, ceramic products, glass and glassware.
XIV	71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewelry, coins.
XV	72 to 83	Base metals and articles of base metal.
XVI	84 to 85	Machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment; parts thereof, sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles.
XVII	86 to 89	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.
XVIII	90 to 92	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus, clocks and watches, musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof.
XX	94 to 96	Miscellaneous manufactured articles.
XXI	97	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques.
XXII	-	Other unclassified goods.
XXIII	98	Special classification provisions: Original Equipment Components

**Source: SARS (2009b)**

The 23 section aggregation mentioned above was used in the first half of the analysis discussed in Sections 4. For analysis on only agricultural products in Section 5 and 6, agricultural products were defined according to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)

codes (CSS, 1993). The HS codes are first mapped to the SIC codes. Although the SIC codes pertain to industries and HS codes classify commodities, the commodity accounts follow the SIC codes based on the assumption of principal product production by each industry classified according to SIC. The agricultural categories according to the SIC includes<sup>2</sup>: growing of crops/horticulture; farming with animals; growing of crops and farming with animals; animal husbandry; hunting, trapping and game propagation; production of organic fertilizer; forestry; logging; ocean and coastal fishing; and fish hatcheries and farms. With reference to the 23 SARS chapters above, the entire first chapter relates to agricultural products, but agricultural products are also found in parts of the second, third, fourth, eighth and ninth chapters. Detailed agricultural analysis is done on a 4-digit level, as seen in these sections.

#### **4. Comparing trade in South Africa and the nine provinces**

The total value of imports and exports for South Africa and the respective provinces are given in Table 2. The total value for the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors is also given with a detailed breakdown within the sector. The table indicates that the Gauteng province is the largest importer/exporter of goods in South Africa totalling 58% and 65% respectively. The second biggest importer is the Western Cape (21.4%) and the second largest exporter is KwaZulu-Natal (11%). The biggest agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector in terms of imports (exports) is Gauteng (Western Cape) with a 39.6% (43%) contribution. The largest importer and exporter in the fishery sector is the Western Cape (68.7% and 70% contribution). Eastern Cape is the biggest importer in terms of value in the forestry sector whilst KwaZulu-Natal exports the most in the forestry sector.

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<sup>2</sup> The SIC codes for agriculture include: 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1150, 1160, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320.

**Table 2: Total value of imports and exports per province (R'000)**

	<u>South Africa</u>		<u>Gauteng</u>		<u>Mpumalanga</u>		<u>Limpopo</u>		<u>North West</u>	
	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>
Total	813 292 675	811 730 426	472 658 715	525 431 887	10 361 373	51 503 304	15 564 144	14 797 636	1 590 360	945 124
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries	16 401 649	31 809 889	6 503 214	8 779 677	142 589	996 681	27 142	712 422	70 504	84 521
Agriculture	14 465 796	27 832 024	5 918 552	8 287 120	138 122	985 138	26 550	709 884	70 284	84 521
Forestry	1 621 812	2 353 527	503 552	451 371	4 176	10 400	592	2 537	197	
Fisheries	314 040	1 624 338	81 111	41 186	292	1 142			23	
	<u>KwaZulu-Natal</u>		<u>Eastern Cape</u>		<u>Western Cape</u>		<u>Northern Cape</u>		<u>Free State</u>	
	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>
Total	90 608 175	89 555 184	44 057 070	46 598 682	174 303 844	78 148 891	778 988	1 036 909	2 769 027	1 341 041
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries	5 519 910	4 707 879	858 849	2 357 807	3 218 360	13 717 716	7 614	426 998	40 915	18 578
Agriculture	5 097 362	2 898 313	265 570	1 907 384	2 927 516	12 518 415	6 682	422 823	15 154	16 825
Forestry	410 505	1 804 098	589 459	13 718	75 025	63 639			25 761	1 752
Fisheries	12 044	5 468	3 820	436 705	215 819	1 135 661	931	4 175		

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

Table 3 and Table 4 provide a list of top five products (according to the 23 sections) for each province together with the list for South Africa for imports and exports respectively. Table 3 gives the top five imports. With regard to imports, machinery and appliances features in the top five for all the provinces, while vehicles, aircraft and vessels feature everywhere except the Free State and the Western Cape. According to the 23 section description in Table 1 machinery and appliances also includes electrical equipment, sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, etc. 66% of mineral products are imported by the Western Cape whereas Gauteng imports 26% of mineral products.

In Table 4 the list of exports are provided and it shows that goods in Section 14, HS chapter 71 are the biggest export (almost double of the second highest export) in terms of value. The full description of the category indicates that it includes the following: "Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewelry, coins." Included in this category are diamonds, gold and platinum, which account for 81% of exports in this category. Of these exports, 93% are exported from the Gauteng province, totalling R189 billion. Base metals and articles of base metal, and mineral products are ranked second and third largest export in South Africa, the majority of which is exported from Gauteng. The single largest export product in the base metal category is ferro-chromium (26% of base metal exports), while the largest export of mineral products is bituminous coal (26% of mineral product exports) and the value of exports of both these were about R36 billion in 2008.

In terms of agricultural and food products that feature in the top 5 exports, it can be seen that vegetable products reach the top 5 for Mpumalanga, North West, Western Cape and Northern Cape. The category "prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits, and vinegar, tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes" reaches the top 5 for Limpopo and the Western Cape. In the case of the Western Cape this category captures the wine exports.

**Table 3: Top five imports per province (See full descriptions of 23 sections in Table 1)**

<u>South Africa</u>		<u>Gauteng</u>		<u>Mpumalanga</u>		<u>Limpopo</u>		<u>North West</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>
Machinery and appliances etc.	186 954 623	Machinery and appliances etc.	152 790 287	Mineral products	4 461 753	Base metals etc.	9 880 301	Chemical products etc.	1 031 990
Mineral products	180 076 165	Natural or cultured pearls etc.	58 313 043	Machinery and appliances etc.	2 709 385	Mineral products	5 241 126	Machinery and appliances etc.	265 223
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	75 233 842	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	52 950 685	Chemical products etc.	797 252	Chemical products etc.	137 933	Vegetable products	66 325
Chemical products etc.	66 065 333	Mineral products	47 323 578	Base metals etc.	621 283	Machinery and appliances etc.	113 116	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	56 269
Natural or cultured pearls etc.	59 110 371	Chemical products etc.	39 846 354	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	481 154	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	57 241	Base metals etc.	53 990
<u>KwaZulu-Natal</u>		<u>Eastern Cape</u>		<u>Western Cape</u>		<u>Northern Cape</u>		<u>Free State</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>R'000</u>
Machinery and appliances etc.	13 827 508	Unclassified	20 595 870	Mineral products	118 757 270	Base metals etc.	507 643	Chemical products etc.	1 852 260
Chemical products etc.	13 204 296	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	8 076 025	Machinery and appliances etc.	12 734 106	Natural or cultured pearls etc.	79 202	Machinery and appliances etc.	345 159
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	12 045 019	Machinery and appliances etc.	4 025 817	Prepared foodstuff etc.	7 017 250	Machinery and appliances etc.	76 982	Plastics and articles etc.	238 718
Unclassified	11 631 185	Chemical products etc.	2 603 916	Chemical products etc.	6 343 367	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	54 895	Textiles etc.	76 919
Base metals etc.	5 336 208	Plastics and articles etc.	2 059 302	Textiles etc.	5 262 517	Miscellaneous	14 300	Optical, photographic etc.	49 314

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

**Table 4: Top five exports per province (See full descriptions of 23 sections in Table 1)**

<b>South Africa</b>		<b>Gauteng</b>		<b>Mpumalanga</b>		<b>Limpopo</b>		<b>North West</b>	
<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Natural or cultured pearls etc.	203 524 288	Natural or cultured pearls etc.	189 547 740	Base metals etc.	20 814 103	Base metals etc.	9 906 409	Machinery and appliances etc.	222 425
Base metals etc.	138 034 369	Mineral products etc.	99 858 731	Natural or cultured pearls etc.	11 466 303	Mineral products	2 398 121	Mineral products	220 290
Mineral products	136 778 315	Base metals etc.	77 182 435	Chemical products etc.	9 021 129	Chemical products etc.	1 215 928	Chemical products etc.	182 228
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	85 204 921	Machinery and appliances etc.	45 198 543	Mineral products	7 223 470	Vegetable products	717 320	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	110 310
Machinery and appliances etc.	74 983 182	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	38 762 784	Vegetable products etc.	826 410	Prepared foodstuff etc.	236 293	Vegetable products	82 904
<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>		<b>Eastern Cape</b>		<b>Western Cape</b>		<b>Northern Cape</b>		<b>Free State</b>	
<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Base metals etc.	24 069 449	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	24 483 369	Chemical products etc.	15 462 522	Natural or cultured pearls etc.	496 754	Plastics and articles etc.	782 923
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	19 297 628	Machinery and appliances etc.	15 088 645	Mineral products	14 079 289	Vegetable products	422 020	Chemical products etc.	210 197
Mineral products	12 973 328	Textiles etc.	2 137 636	Vegetable products	12 366 104	Live animals and animal products etc.	43 937	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels etc.	169 636
Pulp of wood etc.	9 590 060	Plastics and articles etc.	1 011 810	Prepared foodstuff etc.	10 659 586	Plastics and articles etc.	18 496	Machinery and appliances etc.	54 699
Machinery and appliances etc.	6 450 739	Live animals and animal products etc.	622 042	Machinery and appliances etc.	7 109 335	Machinery and appliances etc.	17 461	Textiles etc.	43 699

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

In Table 5 Germany and China are the two countries wherefrom South Africa imports the most goods in terms of value (10.29% and 10.28% of total imports respectively). They only differ by R100 million, whereas the next country for imports is that of the United States of America trailing with R23 billion. Again Gauteng tops the list of provinces with the most imports, especially from the two countries mentioned. The Western Cape imports the highest value of goods from Saudi Arabia, 57.9% of total imports come from Saudi Arabia.

In Table 6 United Kingdom is the main destination for exports out of South Africa followed by the United States of America (10.33% and 8.8% of total exports respectively). The top five export countries amount to 41.57% of total value of exports. Again Gauteng dominates with regard to value of exports contributing 79.6% and 63.4% of total value of exports to the United Kingdom and the United States respectively.

**Table 5: Top five import countries per province – total trade**

<b>South Africa</b>		<b>Gauteng</b>		<b>Mpumalanga</b>		<b>Limpopo</b>		<b>North West</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Germany	83 709 032	China	56 545 953	Canada	2 152 011	Zambia	9 185 731	Saudi Arabia	438 120
China	83 641 176	Germany	49 052 486	Germany	978 461	Congo	5 423 434	China	277 339
United States	60 260 210	United States	45 193 292	Zambia	733 475	Zimbabwe	472 159	Russian Federation	170 902
Saudi Arabia	45 956 240	United Kingdom	34 054 043	United Arab Emirates	728 999	China	130 706	Germany	166 655
United Kingdom	43 898 175	Japan	22 857 017	Togo	638 971	Netherlands	60 503	United States	79 431
<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>		<b>Eastern Cape</b>		<b>Western Cape</b>		<b>Northern Cape</b>		<b>Free State</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Japan	15 974 793	Germany	20 543 232	Saudi Arabia	26 587 312	Austria	480 801	Saudi Arabia	1 119 328
China	11 656 874	United States	2 703 315	Angola	19 911 744	Italy	84 505	Germany	403 613
Germany	6 919 082	Brazil	2 557 404	Iran	19 347 219	Belgium	36 443	China	229 387
United States	5 110 184	Japan	1 817 847	China	12 892 483	China	33 811	United Kingdom	163 957
Australia	5 067 065	Spain	1 620 187	Yemen	10 620 297	Spain	26 744	United States	144 868

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)



**Table 6: Top five export countries per province – total trade**

<u>South Africa</u>		<u>Gauteng</u>		<u>Mpumalanga</u>		<u>Limpopo</u>		<u>North West</u>	
<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>
United Kingdom	83 835 334	United Kingdom	66 739 060	Switzerland	7 824 038	China	3 558 981	Zambia	268 922
United States	71 466 901	United States	45 313 478	Japan	7 702 272	Saudi Arabia	2 147 373	Zimbabwe	108 877
Japan	67 778 978	Japan	45 155 545	India	6 645 600	Belgium	1 284 986	United States	75 985
Germany	57 840 137	Germany	40 347 148	United States	4 287 166	Italy	992 696	Somalia	62 800
India	56 479 324	India	35 946 099	United Kingdom	3 973 582	Korea	896 623	Congo	53 242
<u>KwaZulu-Natal</u>		<u>Eastern Cape</u>		<u>Western Cape</u>		<u>Northern Cape</u>		<u>Free State</u>	
<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>R'000</u>
Japan	7 562 044	United States	10 784 376	India	9 262 765	United States	188 019	Zambia	137 251
China	6 854 978	Germany	7 188 630	Netherlands	7 024 346	Belgium	142 628	United States	132 605
United States	5 973 121	Japan	5 689 674	United Kingdom	6 671 698	Netherlands	112 504	Zimbabwe	106 962
United Kingdom	4 807 063	Australia	4 755 296	Country Unknown	4 037 631	United Arab Emirates	108 720	Australia	85 816
India	3 552 659	Spain	3 830 096	Germany	4 023 004	Israel	91 099	Malawi	73 129

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

## 5. Agricultural trade in South Africa and the province's contribution

This section explores trade data for the South African agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector when doing analysis on a 4-digit HS-level (see Appendix A for classification of categories). The top five imports and exports in the South African agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector when doing analysis on a 4-digit HS-level are: for imports, rice, durum wheat and seed of wheat, tobacco, natural rubber, and cotton, and for exports citrus fruit, seed corn, fresh grapes, apples and pears, and tobacco. Taking a closer look at these products, Table 7 and Table 8 examine each product and the contribution of the provinces to the total import/export for South Africa.

Table 7 provides the top five imports and it is seen that most of the rice is imported by the Gauteng province (59.3%) whilst most of the durum wheat are imported by KwaZulu-Natal (52.3%). Tobacco is also mainly imported by KwaZulu-Natal whilst the Eastern Cape imports the most natural rubber. Gauteng imports the most cotton. North West and the Northern Cape do not import any of the top five imports (on a 4-digit level) of South Africa whereas Limpopo and Free State only imports two of the five products.

**Table 7: Top five imports per province for agricultural, forestry and fisheries products (Rand)**

<b>Top 5 imports</b>	<b>South Africa</b>	<b>Gauteng</b>	<b>Mpumalanga</b>	<b>Limpopo</b>	<b>North West</b>
Rice	3 797 808 596	2 250 443 963			
Durum wheat and seed of wheat	3 190 398 038	540 920 161			
Tobacco	2 462 966 908	325 696 598	105 618	2 971 956	
Natural Rubber	1 338 240 299	347 368 241	3 750 133		
Cotton whether or not ginned	1 154 706 248	645 788 632	8 596 920	1 898 968	
	<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>	<b>Eastern Cape</b>	<b>Western Cape</b>	<b>Northern Cape</b>	<b>Free State</b>
Rice	760 249 989	19 162 584	767 881 846		70 214
Durum wheat and seed of wheat	1 668 862 603		980 615 228		46
Tobacco	1 424 316 036	122 309 407	587 567 293		
Natural Rubber	383 534 984	582 396 567	21 190 374		
Cotton whether or not ginned	446 120 651	32 361 843	19 939 234		

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

The top five exports for South Africa are shown in Table 8. The majority of citrus fruit as well as fresh grapes exports are exported from the Western Cape (77% and 86.3%). Production and income statistics indicate that the main production area for citrus is Limpopo, followed by Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga and the Western Cape. Citrus is thus a good example of provincial exports that do not reflect provincial production. The majority of seed corn exports

are exported from the Gauteng province (72.4%) and Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal dominate the tobacco export market. The Free State does not export any of the top five export products (on a 4-digit level) of South Africa whereas North West only exports seed corn (1.6% of total exports).

**Table 8: Top five exports per province for agricultural, forestry and fisheries products (Rand)**

<b>Top 5 exports</b>	<b>South Africa</b>	<b>Gauteng</b>	<b>Mpumalanga</b>	<b>Limpopo</b>	<b>North West</b>
Citrus fruit	5 807 739 986	113 366 554	413 369 317	316 914 045	
Seed corn (maize)	4 022 448 729	2 912 638 806	454 542		62 942 065
Grapes fresh	3 023 440 675	43 979 037	15 111 306		
Apples and pears	2 902 425 473	116 458 645	3 033	317 840	
Tobacco	2 700 700 552	1 234 714 434	31 919 214	819 142	
	<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>	<b>Eastern Cape</b>	<b>Western Cape</b>	<b>Northern Cape</b>	<b>Free State</b>
Citrus fruit	55 979 863	409 029 325	4 470 962 272	28 118 610	
Seed corn (maize)	725 587 670		311 375 676	9 449 970	
Grapes fresh	9 577 602	32 733 626	2 608 147 327	313 891 777	
Apples and pears	25 175 765	67 565 332	2 687 902 338	5 002 520	
Tobacco	1 394 085 288	340 266	38 822 208		

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

Table 9 shows the top five import countries for South Africa and the nine provinces for agricultural, forestry and fisheries products in 2008. Thailand is the country from which South Africa imports the highest value of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products, representing 19.26% of South African agricultural, forestry and fisheries imports.

Table 10 shows that South Africa exports the largest value to the Netherlands, representing 15.60% of total South African agricultural, forestry and fisheries exports. Argentina is second with regard to imports and Japan for exports. The top five import countries represent 55.42% of South African agricultural, forestry and fisheries imports, while the top five export countries represent 44.08% of agricultural, forestry and fisheries exports.

**Table 9: Top five import countries per province for agricultural, forestry and fisheries products**

<b>South Africa</b>		<b>Gauteng</b>		<b>Mpumalanga</b>		<b>Limpopo</b>		<b>North West</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Thailand	3 140 376	Thailand	2 191 013	Mozambique	34 505	Malawi	11 957	China	56 817
Argentina	2 069 162	Argentina	741 657	China	12 986	Israel	6 620	Canada	7 943
Zimbabwe	1 407 824	Zimbabwe	548 710	Zimbabwe	12 826	Zimbabwe	3 254	Germany	3 800
United States	1 230 909	United States	521 605	India	10 016	Zambia	2 363	Netherlands	784
Malawi	1 185 297	Indonesia	352 578	United States	8 475	Netherlands	1 067	Zimbabwe	245
Other	7 368 080	Other	2 147 652	Other	63 781	Other	1 881	Other	915
<b>Total</b>	<b>16 401 649</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>6 503 214</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>142 589</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>27 142</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>70 504</b>
<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>		<b>Eastern Cape</b>		<b>Western Cape</b>		<b>Northern Cape</b>		<b>Free State</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Malawi	911 994	Indonesia	336 117	Argentina	615 155	Argentina	3 264	India	25 834
Argentina	702 673	Malaysia	124 882	Thailand	480 027	United States	1 158	New Zealand	6 316
Zimbabwe	547 965	Cote D'Ivoire	58 258	United States	270 547	Egypt	1 028	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2 649
India	475 643	Liberia	42 876	Zimbabwe	270 045	Chile	908	Peru	1 245
Thailand	458 596	United States	30 692	Brazil	225 234	Spain	881	United Kingdom	1 215
Other	2 423 039	Other	266 023	Other	1 357 353	Other	375	Other	3 656
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 519 910</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>858 849</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3 218 360</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>7 614</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>40 915</b>

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

**Table 10: Top five export countries per province for agricultural, forestry and fisheries products**

<b>South Africa</b>		<b>Gauteng</b>		<b>Mpumalanga</b>		<b>Limpopo</b>		<b>North West</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Netherlands	4 962 063	Zimbabwe	1 802 920	Netherlands	346 393	Netherlands	320 456	Somalia	62 800
Japan	2 787 310	Netherlands	1 425 350	United Kingdom	74 088	United Kingdom	71 255	Netherlands	12 126
United Kingdom	2 776 586	Zambia	924 912	Japan	72 454	United States	55 154	Australia	3 521
Zimbabwe	2 264 219	Japan	476 515	Mozambique	49 199	Spain	39 374	Japan	1 537
China	1 232 927	Mozambique	417 964	Hong Kong	43 793	France	35 283	Thailand	1 408
Other	17 786 784	Other	3 732 015	Other	410 754	Other	190 900	Other	3 129
<b>Total</b>	<b>31 809 889</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8 779 677</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>996 681</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>712 422</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>84 521</b>
<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>		<b>Eastern Cape</b>		<b>Western Cape</b>		<b>Northern Cape</b>		<b>Free State</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>R'000</b>
Japan	1 689 266	China	576 350	Netherlands	2 566 817	Netherlands	108 817	Germany	4 863
China	322 905	Italy	243 014	United Kingdom	2 249 388	United Kingdom	67 304	United Kingdom	2 344
Belgium	311 014	Spain	229 148	Russian Federation	799 333	Canada	42 231	Australia	1 820
Kenya	253 821	Czech republic	223 382	Hong Kong	631 039	Algeria	33 166	Hong Kong	1 517
Zimbabwe	215 577	India	163 573	Germany	586 906	United States	25 155	Slovenia	1 167
Other	1 915 297	Other	922 341	Other	6 884 233	Other	150 325	Other	6 867
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 707 879</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 357 807</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13 717 716</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>426 998</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>18 578</b>

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

## 6. Provincial Reviews

The top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for all nine provinces are discussed in the next section. The top five import and export countries are also shown for each province for the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector.

### 6.1. Gauteng

In Table 11 the top five imports and exports for the Gauteng agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector are shown. As can be seen, rice is the biggest import in terms of value for the Gauteng province, whilst seed corn (maize) is the biggest export. The second largest import is that of cotton, but that is only worth 28.7% of the total value of the largest import (rice). The second largest export in terms of value for 2008 was live plants, shrubs and cuttings.

**Table 11: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for Gauteng**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Rice	2 250 443 963	Seed corn (maize)	2 912 638 806
Cotton whether or not ginned	645 788 632	Live plants, shrubs and cuttings	1 242 007 142
Durum wheat & seed of wheat	540 920 161	Tobacco	1 234 714 434
Barley, for malting purposes	367 879 175	Durum wheat & seed of wheat	806 938 340
Natural Rubber	347 368 241	Cotton whether or not ginned	520 877 597
Other	2 350 813 991	Other	2 062 500 331
Total	6 503 214 163	Total	8 779 676 650

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

The top five import and export countries for goods from/to Gauteng is displayed in Table 12. Thailand is the biggest country wherefrom Gauteng is importing goods (33.69% of total agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports are from Thailand) whereas Zimbabwe receives 20.54% of the Gauteng exports. The top five countries wherefrom Gauteng is importing account for 66.98% of total agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports for the province and 57.49% of exports go towards the top five export countries.

**Table 12: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for Gauteng**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
Thailand	2 191 013 239	33.69%	Zimbabwe	1 802 920 412	20.54%
Argentina	741 656 980	11.40%	Netherlands	1 425 350 063	16.23%
Zimbabwe	548 709 950	8.44%	Zambia	924 911 505	10.53%
United States	521 604 948	8.02%	Japan	476 515 200	5.43%
Indonesia	352 577 511	5.42%	Mozambique	417 963 986	4.76%
Other	2 147 651 535	33.02%	Other	3 732 015 484	42.51%
Total	6 503 214 163	100%	Total	8 779 676 650	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

## 6.2. Mpumalanga

In Mpumalanga, bananas are the top agriculture, forestry and fisheries import followed by coconuts, Brazil nuts and cashew nuts. The top export for Mpumalanga is citrus fruit followed by other nuts.

**Table 13: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for Mpumalanga**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Bananas	23 480 148	Citrus fruit	413 369 317
Coconuts, Brazil nuts, Cashew nuts	20 531 854	Other nuts	163 246 987
Other nuts	18 634 639	Raw skins of other animals n.e.c. (fresh or preserved but not further prepared)	80 866 865
Live plants, shrubs and cuttings	11 390 046	Live plants, shrubs and cuttings	71 653 994
Other oil seeds	11 142 548	Dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, mangoes, guavas, mangos	45 921 373
Other	57 409 634	Other	221 622 477
Total	142 588 869	Total	996 681 013

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

The top import and export country (see Table 14) is Mozambique and the Netherlands respectively. Mozambique accounts for 24.2% of total agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports whereas the Netherlands accounts for 34.75% of exports. The top five import countries and top five export countries accounts for 55.27% and 58.79% of total agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports/exports.

**Table 14: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for Mpumalanga**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
Mozambique	34 505 234	24.20%	Netherlands	346 392 679	34.75%
China	12 986 247	9.11%	United Kingdom	74 088 158	7.43%
Zimbabwe	12 825 746	8.99%	Japan	72 453 670	7.27%
India	10 015 715	7.02%	Mozambique	49 199 297	4.94%
United States	8 475 017	5.94%	Hong Kong	43 793 404	4.39%
Other	63 780 910	44.73%	Other	410 753 805	41.21%
Total	142 588 869	100%	Total	996 681 013	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

### 6.3. Limpopo

Table 15 indicates the top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for Limpopo. Other nuts clearly dominate the import market whereas citrus fruit dominates the export market. Second in line for imports is sugar beet seeds and other beet seeds and for exports it is dates, figs etc.

**Table 15: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for Limpopo**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Other nuts	10 588 663	Citrus fruit	316 914 045
Sugar beet seeds other beet seed	7 792 197	Dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, mangoes, guavas, mangos	189 914 957
Tobacco	2 971 956	Other nuts	133 939 758
Cotton whether or not ginned	1 898 968	Berries	32 577 940
Peanuts (ground-nuts)	1 482 805	Live plants, shrubs and cuttings	19 090 901
Other	2 407 586	Other	19 984 121
Total	27 142 175	Total	712 421 722

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

Table 16 shows that 44.05% of agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports for Limpopo comes from Malawi, followed by 24.39% imported from Israel. The top five countries wherefrom Limpopo imports goods accounts for 93.07% of total agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports. On the export side, 44.98% are exported to the Netherlands and 10% to the United Kingdom. The top five export countries represent 73.2% of total agriculture, forestry and fisheries export.



**Table 16: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for Limpopo**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
Malawi	11 956 562	44.05%	Netherlands	320 456 359	44.98%
Israel	6 620 484	24.39%	United Kingdom	71 254 823	10.00%
Zimbabwe	3 254 184	11.99%	United States	55 153 601	7.74%
Zambia	2 363 032	8.71%	Spain	39 374 298	5.53%
Netherlands	1 067 196	3.93%	France	35 283 067	4.95%
Other	1880 717	6.93%	Other	190 899 574	26.80%
Total	27 142 175	100%	Total	712 421 722	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

#### 6.4. North West

Dried leguminous vegetables tops the list of agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports for the North West followed by live horses, asses, mules and hinnies. The top export for the North West province is seed corn (maize) and as can be seen in Table 17 seed corn dominates the market (74.5% of agriculture, forestry and fisheries exports is seed corn). Cut flowers follow as the second largest export for the North West province in terms of value in 2008.

**Table 17: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for the North West**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Dried leguminous vegetables	64 719 701	Seed corn (maize)	62 942 065
Horses, asses, mules and hinnies live	3 799 771	Cut Flowers	17 877 312
Live plants Shrubs and cuttings	673 586	Sheep and goats live	1 891 065
Live plants Bulbs	514 841	Raw skins of other animals n.e.c. (fresh or preserved but not further prepared)	1 594 254
Dates, figs, pineapples, avocado, mangoes, guavas, mangos	225 448	Rice	184 767
Other	570 226	Other	31 228
Total	70 503 573	Total	84 520 691

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

China dispatches 80.59% of the North West agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports whilst Somalia receives 74.3% of the exports. Table 18 clearly indicates that these two countries dominate the import and export market where at the same time the top five import and export countries accounts for 98.7% and 96.3% of the market respectively.

**Table 18: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for the North West**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
China	56 816 945	80.59%	Somalia	62 799 818	74.30%
Canada	7 942 756	11.27%	Netherlands	12 126 106	14.35%
Germany	3 799 771	5.39%	Australia	3 521 483	4.17%
Netherlands	784 121	1.11%	Japan	1 536 691	1.82%
Zimbabwe	244 500	0.35%	Thailand	1 408 026	1.67%
Other	915 480	1.30%	Other	3 128 567	3.70%
Total	70 503 573	100%	Total	84 520 691	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

### 6.5. KwaZulu-Natal

The two main imports for the KwaZulu-Natal agriculture, forestry and fisheries import market are durum wheat and tobacco (Table 19). These two products clearly take a lead (30.2% and 25.8% of the market respectively). Fuel wood and tobacco dominates the export market with a 36% and 29.6% in the market each. The high prevalence of tobacco might be attributed to the production of cigarettes in Heidelberg, Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal as the closes port for distribution.

**Table 19: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for KwaZulu-Natal**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Durum wheat & seed of wheat	1 668 862 603	Fuel wood	1 693 403 694
Tobacco	1 424 316 036	Tobacco	1 394 085 288
Rice	760 249 989	Seed corn (maize)	725 587 670
Cotton whether or not ginned	446 120 651	Cotton whether or not ginned	224 489 544
Natural Rubber	383 534 984	Dried leguminous vegetables	99 477 205
Other	836 826 210	Other	570 835 478
Total	5 519 910 473	Total	4 707 878 879

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

Table 20 indicates that 16.52% of imports arrive from Malawi and 12.73% from Argentina. This can be linked to the large tobacco imports due to the fact that most tobacco is received from African countries and/or South America. Japan receives 35.88% of the KwaZulu-Natal agriculture, forestry and fisheries exports and the top five export countries accounts for 59.32 % share of the exports.

**Table 20: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for KwaZulu-Natal**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
Malawi	911 993 570	16.52%	Japan	1 689 265 645	35.88%
Argentina	702 673 032	12.73%	China	322 904 848	6.86%
Zimbabwe	547 965 243	9.93%	Belgium	311 013 520	6.61%
India	475 642 940	8.62%	Kenya	253 820 544	5.39%
Thailand	458 596 256	8.31%	Zimbabwe	215 576 960	4.58%
Other	2 423 039 432	43.90%	Other	1 915 297 362	40.68%
Total	5 519 910 473	100%	Total	4 707 878 879	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

### 6.6. Eastern Cape

In the Eastern Cape, natural rubber is the biggest import in terms of value followed by tobacco. The respective share for these two products is 67.8% and 14.2% each. Shorn wool is the highest value export accounting for 51.7% of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries total export. Citrus fruit and other aquatic invertebrates follow shorn wool in terms of value in export.

**Table 21: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for the Eastern Cape**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Natural Rubber	582 396 567	Shorn wool	1 219 381 886
Tobacco	122 309 407	Citrus fruit	409 029 325
Fine animal hair	43 912 561	Other aquatic invertebrates	407 060 025
Cotton whether or not ginned	32 361 843	Apples and pears	67 565 332
Rice	19 162 584	Fine animal hair	51 135 368
Other	58 705 599	Other	203 635 398
Total	858 848 561	Total	2 357 807 334

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

Table 22 indicates that Indonesia is the country wherefrom the Eastern Cape imports the most goods with reference to value. Malaysia is second with regard to value in imports. China receives 24.44% of agriculture, forestry and fisheries goods out of the Eastern Cape followed by Italy (10.31%). The top five import countries accounts for 69.03 % in the market and 60.88% is the share for the top five export countries.

**Table 22: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for the Eastern Cape**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
Indonesia	336 116 832	39.14%	China	576 350 238	24.44%
Malaysia	124 882 196	14.54%	Italy	243 013 502	10.31%
Cote D'Ivoire	58 257 566	6.78%	Spain	229 147 836	9.72%
Liberia	42 876 368	4.99%	Czech republic	223 381 691	9.47%
United States	30 692 483	3.57%	India	163 573 069	6.94%
Other	266 023 116	30.97%	Other	922 340 998	39.12%
Total	858 848 561	100%	Total	2 357 807 334	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

### 6.7. Western Cape

Durum wheat and seed of wheat is imported the most in the Western agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector followed by rice (30.5% and 23.9% each). The top export is citrus fruit accounting for 32.6% of exports. Apples and pears (19.6%) and fresh grapes (19%) follow in the exports of the Western Cape.

**Table 23: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for the Western Cape**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Durum wheat & seed of wheat	980 615 228	Citrus fruit	4 470 962 272
Rice	767 881 846	Apples and pears	2 687 902 338
Tobacco	587 567 293	Grapes fresh	2 608 147 327
Other aquatic invertebrates	190 937 049	Other fruit	491 004 411
Sugar beet seeds other beet seed	105 669 630	Other aquatic invertebrates	477 179 876
Other	585 689 340	Other	2 982 519 378
Total	3 218 360 386	Total	13 717 715 602

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

Table 24 shows that Argentina receives 19.11% of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries goods of the Western Cape followed by Thailand with a 14.92%. 85% of the agricultural imports from Zimbabwe are tobacco. The Netherlands receive 18.71% of goods of the Western Cape agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector followed by the United Kingdom with a share of 16.4%. Western Cape accounts for 91% of agricultural exports to the Russian Federation. Agricultural exports to the Russian Federation from the Western Cape are mainly fruit (99.97%); where fruit exports comprise mainly oranges (44%), pears and quinces (15%), fresh grapes (12%), apples (10%), other citrus (10%) and grapefruit (9%). China is sixth on the list of top importing countries for the Western Cape, but only 49<sup>th</sup> on list of 159 export destinations of the Western Cape (not shown in the table).

**Table 24: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for the Western Cape**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
Argentina	615 154 545	19.11%	Netherlands	2 566 817 238	18.71%
Thailand	480 027 075	14.92%	United Kingdom	2 249 387 854	16.40%
United States	270 546 989	8.41%	Russian Federation	799 332 573	5.83%
Zimbabwe	270 044 819	8.39%	Hong Kong	631 039 053	4.60%
Brazil	225 234 057	7.00%	Germany	586 905 561	4.28%
Other	1 357 352 901	42.18%	Other	6 884 233 323	50.18%
Total	3 218 360 386	100%	Total	13 717 715 602	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

### 6.8. Northern Cape

Table 25 indicates that seed corn is the biggest import of the Northern Cape agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector with a 57.5% in the import market. Onions and garlic is the second largest import accounting for 25.1% in the import market of the Northern Cape agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector. Fresh grapes are exported most from the Northern Cape resulting in a 73.5% in the Northern Cape agriculture, forestry and fisheries export market.

**Table 25: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for the Northern Cape**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Seed corn (maize)	4 376 318	Grapes fresh	313 891 777
Onions and garlic	1 908 280	Other nuts	31 532 568
Other aquatic invertebrates	931 292	Citrus fruit	28 118 610
Grapes fresh	293 149	Peanuts (ground-nuts)	22 124 917
Sugar beet seeds other beet seed	45 139	Seed corn (maize)	9 449 970
Other	59 378	Other	21 879 960
Total	7 613 556	Total	426 997 802

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

In Table 26 it is indicated that the most agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports originate from Argentina and second most from the United States of America. The Netherlands are the top export destination for products from the Northern Cape followed by the United Kingdom. Only 4.93% of imported goods come from other countries than the top five and 35.21% goes to countries other than the top five export countries.

**Table 26: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for the Northern Cape**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
Argentina	3 263 800	42.87%	Netherlands	108 817 296	25.48%
United States	1 158 096	15.21%	United Kingdom	67 303 988	15.76%
Egypt	1 027 737	13.50%	Canada	42 230 758	9.89%
Chile	907 889	11.92%	Algeria	33 166 181	7.77%
Spain	880 543	11.57%	United States	25 154 988	5.89%
Other	375 491	4.93%	Other	150 324 591	35.21%
Total	7 613 556	100%	Total	426 997 802	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

### 6.9. Free State

According to Table 27 cotton linters are by far the biggest import for the Free State agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector with a share of 57%. Second highest import is that of shorn wool (24.2%). Plants and parts of plants are the biggest export with 28.3% followed by raw skins of other animals not classified with 13.5%.

**Table 27: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for the Free State**

<u>Top five imports</u>		<u>Top five exports</u>	
<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rand</u>
Cotton linters	23 328 100	Plants and parts of plants used primarily in perfumery in pharmacy or for insecticidal fungicidal or similar purposes	5 263 668
Shorn wool	9 886 357	Raw skins of other animals n.e.c. (fresh or preserved but not further prepared)	2 509 195
Vegetable saps and extracts	2 432 772	Other vegetables	2 056 061
Other vegetables	2 052 331	Other products	1 968 925
Other products	1 879 299	Natural Rubber	1 270 941
Other	1 335 757	Other	5 508 825
Total	7 613 556	Total	426 997 802

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

The top origin for imported goods for the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector of the Free State is that of India (63.14%) and the top destination for goods is Germany (26.18%) (Table 28). This is followed by New Zealand (15.44%) and the United Kingdom (12.62%) respectively. The top five import countries comprise 91.07% of the imports and the top five export countries 63.04% of the exports.

**Table 28: Top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries import and export countries for the Free State**

<u>Import countries</u>			<u>Export countries</u>		
<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rand</u>	<u>Share</u>
India	25 834 141	63.14%	Germany	4 863 240	26.18%
New Zealand	6 315 874	15.44%	United Kingdom	2 344 049	12.62%
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2 649 293	6.48%	Australia	1 819 945	9.80%
Peru	1 244 764	3.04%	Hong Kong	1 516 513	8.16%
United Kingdom	1 214 884	2.97%	Slovenia	1 166 667	6.28%
Other	3 655 660	8.93%	Other	6 867 201	36.96%
Total	7 613 556	100%	Total	426 997 802	100%

Source: Own calculations from SARS data (2008)

## 7. Conclusion

The reintegration of the South African economy into the world economy brought along major changes and as result of these changes imports and exports started increasing. Agriculture in South Africa also evolved into a global competitive market and a leader in agricultural trade for Africa. Between 2007 and 2008, agricultural imports and exports increased significantly but this was due to increases in prices on certain products such as cereals, fruits and nuts and not due to increases in volumes.

This paper aimed to report trade in South Africa and its nine provinces, focusing on the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector. Resulting from the paper is that in South Africa total value of imports are more than the total value of exports, but in the agricultural sector of South Africa exports still dominate. Only the Free State agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector exports less than what it imports. The largest contributor to agriculture, forestry and fisheries exports is the Western Cape whilst Gauteng imports the most agriculture, forestry and fisheries goods in terms of value.

The main importing countries for South Africa include Germany (10.29%) and China (10.28%), while the main exporting countries are the United Kingdom (10.33%) followed by the United States of America (8.8%). When considering only agricultural, forestry and fisheries products, the main importing countries for South Africa include Thailand (19.15%) followed by Argentina (12.62%), while the main exporting countries are the Netherlands (15.6%) followed by Japan (8.76%).

The top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports for South Africa revealed that rice is imported most, mostly due to the Gauteng import of rice (59.3%). Citrus fruit is exported the most, mainly from the Western Cape (77%) although it is recognised that it is not mainly produced in the Western Cape. Provincial reviews focused on each province

separately looking at the top five agriculture, forestry and fisheries imports and exports. Import and export countries were also identified for each provincial sector.

According to the classification of agricultural products used in this paper and taking the value of traded agricultural products in 2008, South Africa is still a net exporter of agricultural products.



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## 9. Appendix A

Table 29: Agricultural, forestry and fisheries products groups

Six main groups	2-digit level	4-digit level
1. Live animals	Live animals	Horses asses mules and hinnies live (HS0101) Bovine cattle live (HS0102) Swine live (HS0103) Sheep and goats live (HS0104) Poultry live (HS0105) Other live animals (HS0106)
2. Other animals and animal products	Live animals	Snails, other than sea snails, whether in shell or not, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, salted or in brine (HS0307)
	Eggs and other products from animals	Eggs (HS0407) Natural honey (HS0409) Edible products of animal origin (HS0410) Other products (HS0511)
	Hides and skins	Raw skins of other animals n.e.c. (fresh or preserved but not further prepared) (HS4103)
	Raw furskins	Raw furskins of fur-bearing lambs (HS4301)
	Beeswax	Wax (HS1521)
	Wool and other fibres (partly)	Shorn wool (HS5101) Fine animal hair (HS5102)
	Silkworm cocoons	Silkworm cocoons suitable for reeling (HS5001)
3. Field crops	Coffee, tea and spices	Coffee, not roasted (HS0901) Mate (HS0903) Pepper (HS0904) Vanilla beans (HS0905) Cinnamon (HS0906) Cloves (HS0907) Nutmeg, Cardomom (HS0908) Seeds of spices (HS0909) Ginger, safron, tumeric etc. (HS0910) Other spices (HS0924)
	Grains	Durum wheat&seed of wheat (HS1001) Rye (HS1002) Barley, for malting purposes (HS1003) Oats (HS1004) Seed corn (maize) (HS1005) Rice (HS1006) Grain sorghum (HS1007) Buckwheat, Millet, Canary seed (HS1008)
	Oil seeds	Soybeans, whether or not broken (HS1201) Peanuts (ground-nuts) (HS1202)

Six main groups	2-digit level	4-digit level
		Flaxseed (linseed) (HS1204) Colza seeds (HS1205) Sunflower seeds (HS1206) Other oil seeds (HS1207) Sugar beet seeds other beet seed (HS1209) Sugar beet (HS1212) Cereal straw and husks (HS1213) Lucerne (alfalfa) meal and pellets (HS1214)
	Cocoa Beans	Cocoa Beans (HS1801)
	Tobacco	Tabacco (HS2401)
	Cotton	Cotton whether or not ginned (HS5201)
	Flax, jute, hemp and other fibres	Flaxes (HS5301) Hemp and other (HS5302) Jute and other textile (HS5303)
	Wool and other fibres (partly)	Other fibres (HS5305)
4. Horticulture	Plants	Live plants Bulbs (HS0601) Live plants Shrubs and cuttings (HS0602) Cut Flowers (HS0603) Foliage, branches and other parts of plant (HS0604) Other raw vegetable materials (HS1210) Plants and parts of plants used primarily in perfumery in pharmacy or for insecticidal fungicidal or similar purposes (HS1211)
	Vegetables	Potatoes (HS0701) Tomatoes (HS0702) Onions and garlic (HS0703) Cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage (HS0704) Lettuce (HS0705) Carrots and Radish (HS0706) Cucumber (HS0707) Peas and beans (HS0708) Other vegetables (HS0709) Dried leguminous vegetables (HS0713) Edible roots and tubers (HS0714)
	Nuts and fruits	Coconuts, Brazil nuts, Cashew nuts (HS0801) Other nuts (HS0802) Bananas (HS0803) Dates fig pineapples avocados mangoes guavas mango (HS0804) Citrus fruitd (HS0805) Grapes fresh (HS0806) Melons (HS0807) Apples and pears (HS0808)

Six main groups	2-digit level	4-digit level
		Other fruit (HS0809) Berries (HS0810) Dried fruit (HS0813)
5. Forestry	Vegetable saps	Plant gum (HS1301)
	Fuel wood and logs	Fuel wood (HS4401) Logs (HS4403) Other wood in the rough (HS4404)
	Natural cork and other wood products	Natural cork and other (HS4501)
	Vegetable material	Vegetable saps and extracts (HS1302) Vegetable saps used for plaiting (HS1401) Cotton linters (HS1404)
	Rubber	Natural Rubber (HS4001)
6. Fish	Live fish	Live fish (HS0301)
	Other fish	Fresh fish (HS0302) Crustaceans (HS0306) Other aquatic invertebrates (HS0307) Coral and similar products of shells (HS0508) Seaweeds and other algae (HS1212)

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