

**Namibia Statistics Agency**

**Agriculture and fishing indicators**

**Statistical Bulletin – Second Quarter 2023**



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**In a coordinated manner we produce and disseminate relevant, quality and timely statistics that are fit-for-purpose in accordance with international standards and best practice**

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**Service focus**

**Transparency**

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## PREFACE

The Quarterly Agriculture Statistical Bulletin presents an overview of the agriculture and fishing indicators for Namibia. The objective of the bulletin is to illustrate the short-term performance of the sectors by looking at the production of crops, fish landings, international merchandise trade patterns, and auction price development on a quarterly basis. The statistical bulletin will assist users, analysts and researchers in their planning and decision-making process as well as carrying out in depth-analysis of the sector. This publication outlines the second quarter results covering the period of April 2023 to June 2023.

Namibia controlled agronomy production recorded during the second quarter of 2023 was 21 953 tons, lower when compared to 55 036 tons registered in the corresponding quarter of 2022. Maize maintained the highest volumes of 21 648 tons (a share of 98.6 %) as was the case in the second quarter of 2022.

Fish products during the review quarter attracted export earnings of N\$4.1 billion, an increase when compared to N\$3.2 billion recorded during the second quarter of 2022. The import bill for fish products during the period under review however stood at N\$173.3 million, a reduction when compared to the parallel quarter of 2022.

Lastly, let me express my appreciation to all data providers without whose contributions this bulletin would not have been possible. I would like to urge our readers and users of this bulletin to send to us any comments that may enhance statistical production and contribute to the improvement of this publication at [info@nsa.org.na](mailto:info@nsa.org.na)



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**Windhoek, September 2023**

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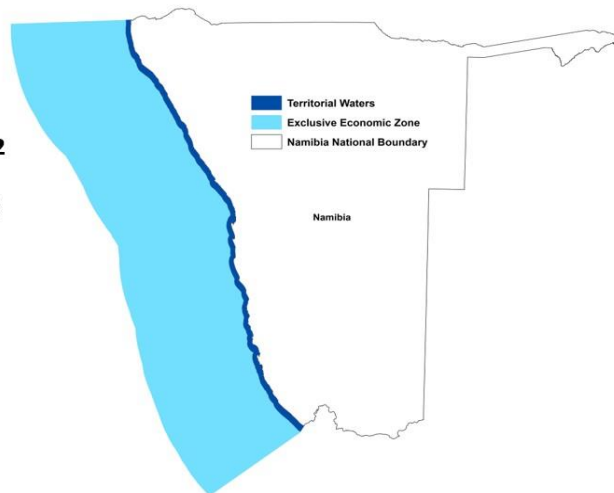
# 1. INTRODUCTION

Namibia's landscape consists generally of five geographical areas, each with characteristic abiotic conditions and vegetation with some variation within and overlaps between the Central Plateau, the Namib Desert, the Great Escarpment, the Bushveld, and the Kalahari Desert. The country has an area of 824,292 km<sup>2</sup> (318,261 sq mi). The population of 2.6 million inhabitants is estimated for 2023 in the population projection report of the NSA.

Figure 1: Geographic and political boundaries of Namibia

## Namibia: What is in there?

- Namibia Total Area Size (**Landmass +Sea**) **1,337,307 Sqkm**
- Namibia land mass estimated (**824,292 Sqkm**)
- Sea surface area is estimated (**513,015 Sqkm**)
- **Territorial waters** (23,541 Sqkm)
- **Exclusive Economic Zone** (489,474 Sqkm)
- 14 Regions
- 121 Constituencies
- 57 Local Authorities



The agriculture, fishing and forestry sector is crucial to Namibia's socio-economic development. The sector is important in terms of alleviating poverty, creating employment and improving food security. In 2022, real value added for 'Agriculture, fishing and forestry' recorded a growth of 2.6 percent in relation to a growth of 1.3 percent noted in the previous year. Livestock farming and 'Fishing and fish processing on board' were the main drivers in the sector with improved growth rates of 1.2 percent and 2.3 percent during 2022 compared to a negative growth of 3.6 percent and a positive growth of 1.9 percent registered in the preceding year, respectively<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Annual National Accounts of 2022

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide main indicators for crops, livestock and fishing. Data used in this agricultural statistics bulletin is based on secondary and administrative data. Results in this publication are presented in tables and graphs with growth rates, values, and numbers of different estimates.

## 2. AGRONOMY INDICATORS

This section covers agronomy products that are controlled i.e., white maize, millet, and wheat. Total agronomy production declined by 60.1 percent from 55 036 tons recorded in the second quarter of 2022 to 21 953 tons registered in the second quarter of 2023. The decrease was reflected in all crops (white maize, wheat, and millet) recording declines of 60.4 percent, 54.5 percent, and 11.9 percent, respectively.

Table 1: Agronomy production in tons by type

Period	Total	White Maize	Millet	Wheat	
2022	Q2	55 036	54 679	335	22
	Q3	35 614	33 587	1 914	113
	Q4	34 001	9 315	602	24 084
2023	Q1	2 095	1 293	301	501
	Q2	21 953	21 648	295	10

Source: Namibia Agronomic Board (NAB)

Similar to the distribution of the second quarter of 2022, white maize dominated the production of controlled grains (21 648 tons), followed by millet (295 tons). Wheat recorded the lowest production of 10 tons (Table 1).

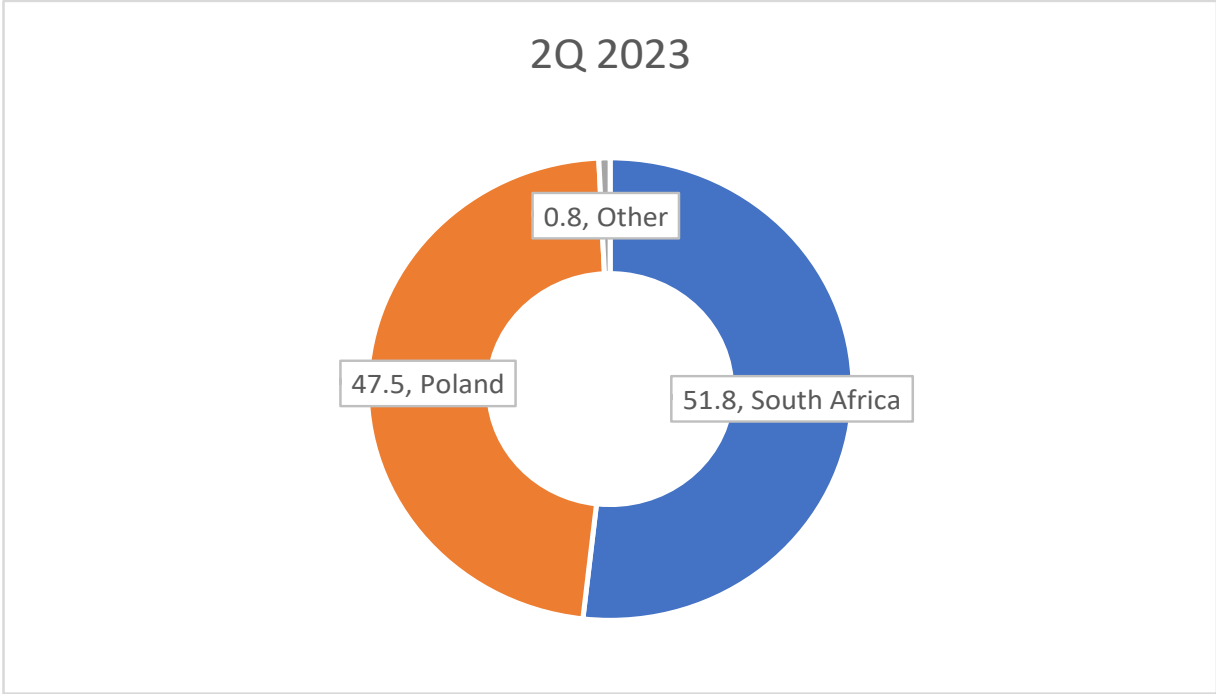
The total export of agronomy products for the second quarter of 2023 was valued at N\$15.6 thousand compared to N\$119.3 thousand that was recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2022. The export earnings recorded for the quarter under review were solely from white maize.

Furthermore, the import bill for the second quarter of 2023 amounted to N\$299.2 million from N\$471.3 million registered in the corresponding quarter of 2022. During the quarter under review, import bill of cereal grains was dominated by wheat (N\$171.9 million), followed by maize (N\$121.2 million), and rice (N\$3.3 million).



Import for cereal grains were mainly sourced from South Africa (N\$155.0 million) and Poland (N\$142.0 million), representing shares of 51.8 percent and 47.5 percent, respectively.

Figure 2: Percentage share of import of agronomy products by trading partner



### 3.HORTICULTURAL INDICATORS

#### 3.1 LOCAL PURCHASE OF DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED FRESH PRODUCE

Specially controlled fresh produce includes all fruits and vegetables that are regulated by the Namibia Agronomic Board (NAB) through import restrictions and market share promotion schemes. Under the border control, NAB ensures that no imports of fresh produce are allowed when there is sufficient domestic supply.

Likewise, the market share promotion compels buyers to source some percentage of their demand from the local market before they are given import permits. These government efforts are designed to secure markets for local producers. The top five locally marketed fresh produce is presented in (Table 2).

Table 2: Locally purchased domestic fresh produce (specially controlled) in tons

Period	Total	Potatoes	Onions	Tomatoes	Butternuts	Cabbage	Carrots	Other	
<b>2022</b>	Q2	5 501	1 603	1 140	671	514	462	447	664
	Q3	8 438	3 217	1 704	733	465	428	1,158	733
	Q4	5 446	2 425	1 095	6	154	320	757	689
<b>2023</b>	Q1	4 095	1 652	491	150	513	243	500	546
	Q2	4 730	1 318	1 216	467	446	357	353	572

Source: Namibia Agronomic Board (NAB)

During the second quarter of 2023, the locally purchased controlled fresh produce stood at 4 377 tons down from 5 055 tons that was registered in the parallel quarter of 2022. Potatoes dominated the local purchase recording 1 318 tons, followed by Onions in second position with purchases amounting to 1 216 tons. Tomatoes, butternuts and cabbage for the quarter under review featured among the top five locally purchased domestic produce recording 467 tons, 446 tons, and 357 tons, respectively.

### 3.2 TRADE OF SELECTED HORTICULTURAL PRODUCT

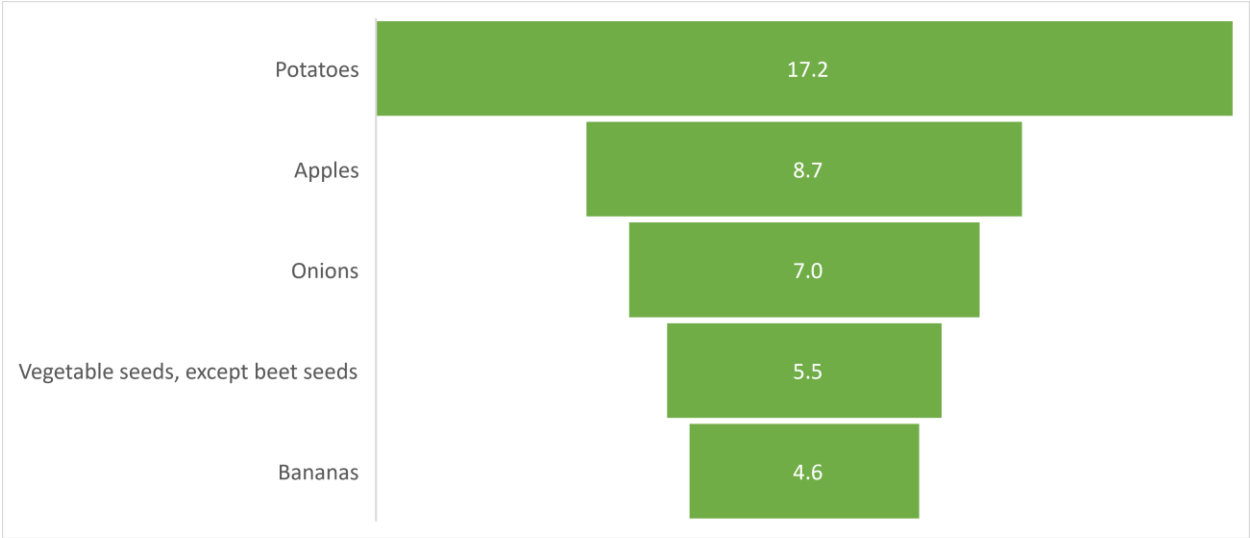
During the second quarter of 2023, dates were the main export earnings of horticultural products at N\$25.8 million, followed by tomatoes and vegetable seeds reporting N\$3.3 million and N\$1.4 million, respectively.

Figure 3: Export of selected horticultural products in million N\$ for the second quarter of 2023



In terms of imports, potatoes dominated the horticultural products, claiming a bill of N\$17.2 million during the second quarter of 2023. Apples and onions followed in second and third positions registering import bills of N\$8.7 million and N\$7.0 million, respectively.

Figure 4: Top 5 Imported horticultural products in million N\$ for the second quarter of 2023



#### 4. LIVESTOCK AUCTION

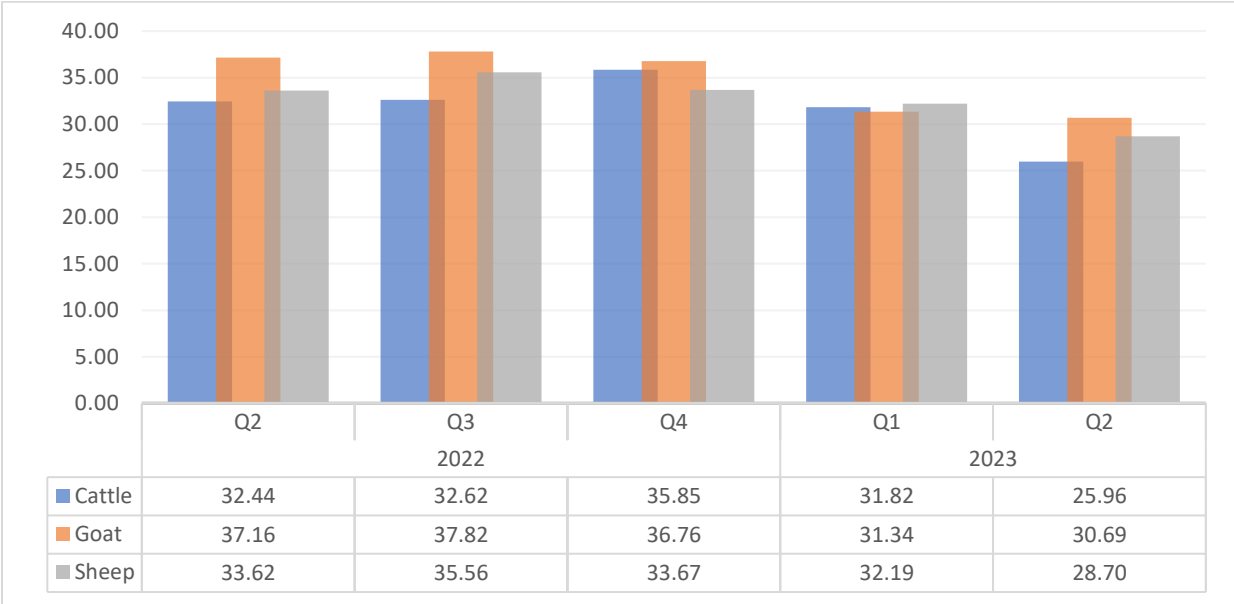
The total number of animals auctioned increased by 2.3 percent amounting to 79 113, when compared to 77 338 animals auctioned in the corresponding quarter of 2022. Goats and cattle recorded a growth of 18.4 percent (18 933 heads of animals) and 6.1 percent (50 794 heads animals), respectively. The number of sheep auctioned on the other hand declined from 13 482 sheep noted in the second quarter of 2022 to 9 386 sheep registered during the quarter under review.

Table 3: Number of livestock auctioned by type

Period	Total animals auction	Cattle	Goats	Sheep
2022	Q2	47 864	15 992	13 482
	Q3	49 302	20 445	10 584
	Q4	46 778	20 640	9 218
2023	Q1	46 494	15 898	11 897
	Q2	50 794	18 933	9 386

In terms of livestock auction, prices across all types of livestock recorded declines during the quarter under review when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022. Cattle posted the highest decline of 20.0 percent (N\$25.96), followed by 17.4 percent (N\$30.69) and 14.6 percent (N\$28.70) reductions that were registered for goats and sheep, respectively (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Average weighted auction prices by type of livestock in N\$ per KG



## 5. FISHING INDICATORS

Total landings of quota species for the second quarter of 2023 declined by 24.7 percent, recording 81 469 metric tons compared to 108 179 metric tons that was recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2022.

All fish species recorded declines in landings during the period under review, except for Monk that recorded an increase in landings of 14.5 percent. Horse mackerel registered the highest landings of 44 548 metric tons, followed by 33 816 metric tons of Hake landings and Monk in third place recording 1 825 metric tons (Table 4).

Table 4: Landings of fish quota species by type in metric tons

Period		Total fish quota	Horse Mackerel	Hake	Monk	Crab	Tuna	Cape Rock Lobster
<b>2022</b>	Q2	108 179	59 575	44 184	1 594	959	1 850	17
	Q3	81 847	34 622	42 134	1 976	523	2 592	-
	Q4	63 873	43 480	16 517	1 456	1 456	950	14
<b>2023</b>	Q1	94 854	47 765	42 783	2 288	1 159	815	44
	Q2	81 469	44 548	33 816	1 825	829	447	4

Source: Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

Note: Preliminary data

During quarter under review, N\$4.1 billion worth of fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates was exported compared to N\$3.2 billion that was recorded in the second quarter of 2022. Products were mainly destined to Spain accounting for a share of 36.6 percent (mainly frozen fillet of hake), followed by Democratic Republic of Congo with a share of 15.4 percent in second place (mainly frozen mackerel) and Zambia with a of share 14.3 percent in the third position (mainly horse mackerel).

In terms of imports, the value for fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates amounted to N\$173.3 million during the second quarter of 2023 compared to N\$274.1 million

that was recorded in the second quarter of 2022 (Table 5). Products of fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates during the quarter under review were mainly imported from Falkland Islands accounting for 65.8 percent (mainly frozen cuttle fish and squid), South Africa with 20.2 percent (mainly Hake) and Spain with 4.5 percent (mainly Sardines).

Table 5: Trade flows and trade balance in million N\$

Period		Export	Import	Trade balance
2022	Q2	3 212	274	2 937
	Q3	2 817	440	2 377
	Q4	2 635	400	2 234
2023	Q1	4 001	168	3 833
	Q2	4 146	173	3 973

A surplus for products of fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates amounting to N\$4.0 billion was recorded during the period under review, an improvement when compared to N\$2.9 billion recorded in the parallel quarter of 2022.