



**SOUTH AFRICA**

**Irrigated crop calendar**

**2008**

Irrigated crops	Area 1000 ha	Crop area as percentage of the full control equipped and actually irrigated area by month											
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Wheat*	217					15	15	15	15	15	15	15	
Maize	231	17	17	17	17								17
Other summer cereals	10	1	1	1	1								1
Other winter cereals	13						1	1	1	1	1		
Vegetables*	136	10	10	10	10								10
Fruits*	238	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Bananas*	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Citrus*	67	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Sunflower	8	1	1	1								1	1
Other oil crops	20	1	1	1								1	1
Potatoes and other tubers*	49	3	3	3	3								3
Pulses*	143	10	10	10	10								10
Sugarcane*	90	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Fodder temporary	83					6	6	6	6	6			
Tobacco*	33	2	2	2	2								2
Cotton*	75	5	5	5	5						5	5	5
Tea*	2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Coffee*	3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other permanent crops*	234	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
<b>Harvested irrigated crop area [AHI<sub>full</sub>]</b>	<b>1 665</b>												
<b>Area equipped for full control irrigation actually irrigated [AAI<sub>full</sub>]</b>	<b>1 399</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Cropping intensity (%) = 100 x [AHI<sub>full</sub>]/[AAI<sub>full</sub>]</b>	<b>119</b>	refers to the year 2010; in 2012 it is 1 670.  * refers to the year 2000											
<b>Area equipped for full control irrigation [AEI<sub>full</sub>]</b>	<b>1 538</b>												
<b>% of full control equipped actually irrigated = 100 x [AAI<sub>full</sub>]/[AEI<sub>full</sub>]</b>	<b>91</b>												
<b>Total area equipped for irrigation [AEI<sub>tot</sub>]</b>	<b>1 538</b>												



## Narrative South Africa

$AEI_{tot}$  and  $AEI_{full}$  are equal to 1 670 000 ha in 2012 (FAO, 2016). In 2010,  $AEI_{tot}$  and  $AEI_{full}$  are equal to 1 538 000 ha (FAO, 2016) and in 2008  $AAI_{full}$  is 1 399 221 ha (WRC, 2011). A partial  $AHI_{full}$  for commercial irrigation in 2008 is 543 616 ha (DAFF, 2007).  $AHI_{full}$  has thus been completed with 2000 data (FAO, 2016) and is estimated to be equal to 1 665 135 ha in 2007, which gives a cropping intensity of 119 percent. The main irrigated crops are temporary cereals (28 percent, mainly wheat and maize) and fruits (19 percent, including bananas, citrus and grapes) but the range of irrigated crops is wide: pulses, sugarcane, cotton, potatoes, tobacco, groundnuts, sunflower among them. Temporary crops are mostly cropped and irrigated in summer from December to April, except for wheat and temporary fodder which are cultivated in winter from May to September or November.

## References

**DAFF.** 2007. *Census of Commercial Agriculture 2007*. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

**FAO.** 2016. *AQUASTAT*, FAO's global information system on water and agriculture. <http://www.fao.org/nr/aquastat>

**WRC.** 2011. *Smallholder Irrigation Schemes in South Africa: A Review of Knowledge Generated by the Water Research Commission*. Presented by Van Averbek W, Denison J, Mkeni P. Water Research Commission.