

AGRI-FOOD TRADE STATISTICAL FACTSHEET

European Union - South Africa

Notes to the reader

The data used in this factsheet were provided by ISDB and extracted from the **COMEXT-EUROSTAT** database unless otherwise indicated, in statistical regime All.

"EU" refers to the European Union at 27 members (after the withdrawal of the UK) for all years indicated.

"Agri-food products" refers to the WTO definition of agricultural products and includes the chapters 1-24 (excluding fish and fish products) of the Harmonised System, and a number of headings in chapters 29, 33, 35, 38, 41, 43 and 50-53. The aggregate of EU Agri-food trade does not contain tariff codes CN 3302.10.40 and CN 3302.10.90 (some odoriferous substances which are regarded as industrial products).

The details of the **product categories** referred to in this factsheet are available on: [Agri-food trade presentation \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/agri-food/trade-presentation)

More trade statistics including main economic indicators, GDP by sector, trade in goods and trade in commercial services are provided by the EU Commission Directorate-General for Trade on their website: https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/data-and-analysis/markets/trade-data/trade-countryregion/trade-value_en

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Table of Contents	pg
1. Selection of indicators	
- Agricultural indicators	2
- Trade indicators	2
- Ranking of EU main Agri-food trade partners and South Africa	2
2. Structure of EU Agri-food trade with South Africa, 2013 - 2023	3
3. EU Agri-food EXPORTS to South Africa by product category	
- Top EU Agri-food exports in 2023	4
- Evolution of 15 top EU Agri-food exports, 2019 - 2023	4
- Evolution of EU Agri-food exports, 2019 - 2023	5
4. EU Agri-food IMPORTS from South Africa by product category	
- Top EU Agri-food imports in 2023	6
- Evolution of 15 top EU Agri-food imports, 2019 - 2023	6
- Evolution of EU Agri-food imports, 2019 - 2023	7
5. EU Agri-food trade with South Africa by HS chapters	
- Evolution of EU Agri-food exports, 2019 - 2023	8
- Evolution of EU Agri-food imports, 2019 - 2023	8

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EU Agri-Food trade with: South Africa

1. Selection of indicators

Agricultural indicators

	Unit	Period	World	Partner
1 Agriculture, value added	(% of GDP)	2021	4.3	2.4
2 Employment in agriculture	(% of total employment)	2019	26.7	5.3
3 Arable land	(ha)	2018	n.a.	12 000 000
4 Crop production index	(2004 2006 = 100)	2014	0.2	108.9
5 Livestock production index	(2004 2006 = 100)	2014	0.2	98.2
6 Food production index	(2004 2006 = 100)	2014	0.2	103.3
7 Rural population	(% of total population)	2021	43.4	32.2

Source: World Bank

Trade indicators

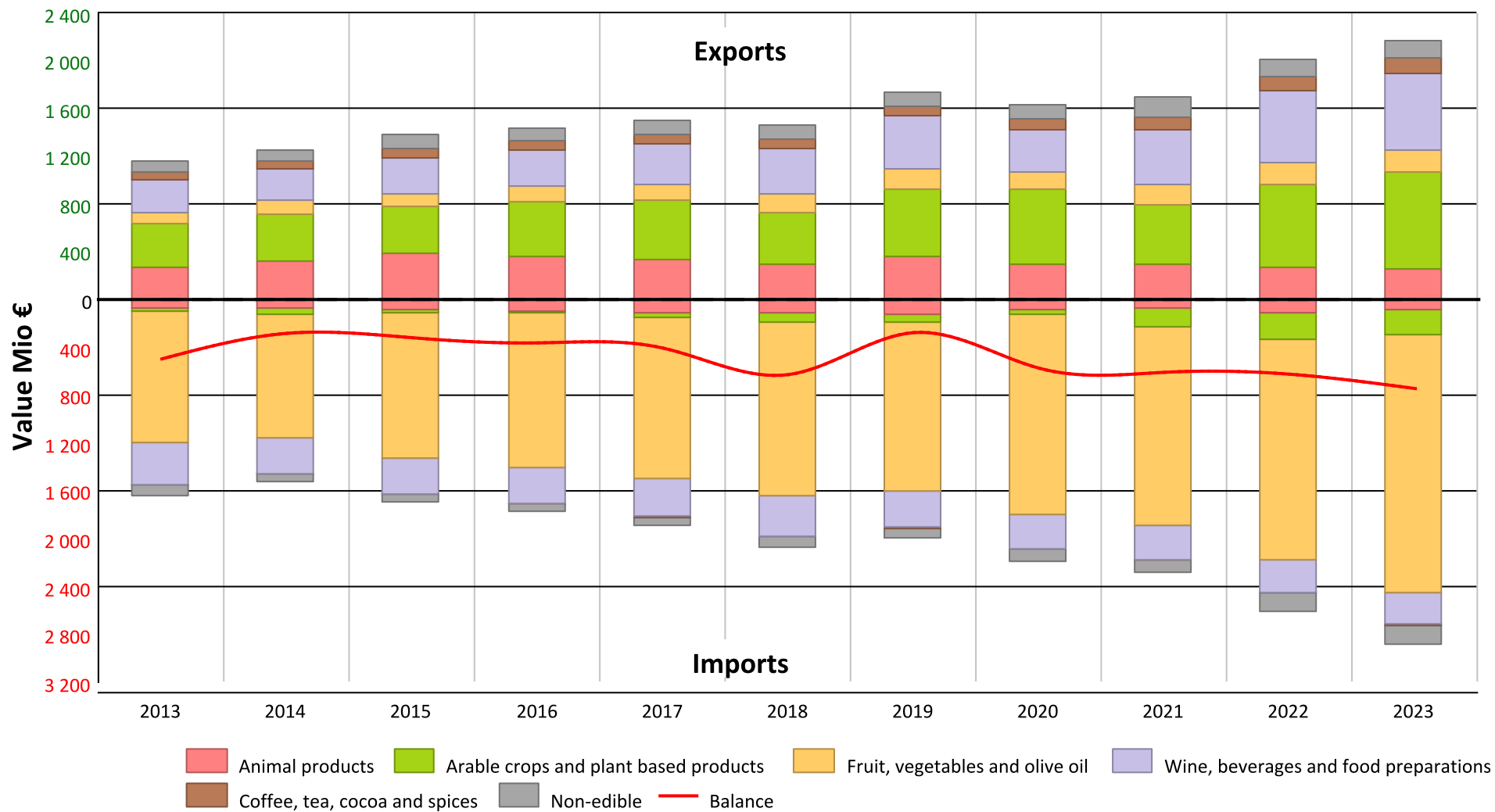
	Unit	Exports	Imports	Balance
EU27 Agri-food trade with South Africa				
Agri-food trade value	Mio €	2 153	2 891	-738
- as share of EU27 total Agri-food trade	(%)	0.9	1.8	
- as share of EU27 total trade with South Africa	(%)	8.3	12.4	
% change 2022 - 2023		7.6	10.4	
Annual rate of change from 2013 - 2023	(%)	6.4	5.8	
EU27 total trade with South Africa				
Total trade value	Mio €	25 936	23 270	2 666
- as share of EU27 total trade	(%)	1.0	0.9	
EU27 world trade				
Total trade value	Mio €	2 556 755	2 518 822	37 933
Total Agri-food trade	Mio €	228 747	158 603	70 143
- as share of EU27 total trade	(%)	9.0	6.3	184.9

Ranking of EU main Agri-food trade partners and South Africa

Top Destinations: 2023				Top Origins: 2023			
		Value Mio €	% Share Extra-EU			Value Mio €	% Share Extra-EU
1	United Kingdom	51 266	22.6	1	Brazil	17 229	10.9
2	USA	27 180	12.0	2	United Kingdom	15 454	9.8
3	China	14 588	6.4	3	Ukraine	11 830	7.5
4	Switzerland	11 528	5.1	4	USA	11 744	7.4
5	Japan	7 876	3.5	5	China	8 334	5.3
6	Russia	6 809	3.0	6	Türkiye	6 621	4.2
7	Norway	5 975	2.6	7	Indonesia	5 484	3.5
8	Türkiye	4 850	2.1	8	Switzerland	4 852	3.1
9	Saudi Arabia	4 628	2.0	9	Argentina	4 648	2.9
10	South Korea	4 538	2.0	10	Ivory Coast	4 040	2.5
11	Canada	4 466	2.0	11	India	3 297	2.1
12	Morocco	3 789	1.7	12	Vietnam	3 210	2.0
13	Australia	3 770	1.7	13	Morocco	3 177	2.0
14	Ukraine	3 458	1.5	14	Peru	3 094	2.0
15	United Arab Emirates	3 337	1.5	15	Malaysia	2 933	1.9
16	Algeria	2 799	1.2	16	South Africa	2 891	1.8
17	Israel	2 775	1.2	17	Canada	2 852	1.8
18	Brazil	2 574	1.1	18	Australia	2 547	1.6
19	Serbia	2 405	1.1	19	Colombia	2 283	1.4
20	Singapore	2 385	1.1	20	Ecuador	2 110	1.3
	Rest of the World	55 391	23.9		Rest of the World	39 856	24.6
22	South Africa	2 153	1.0				

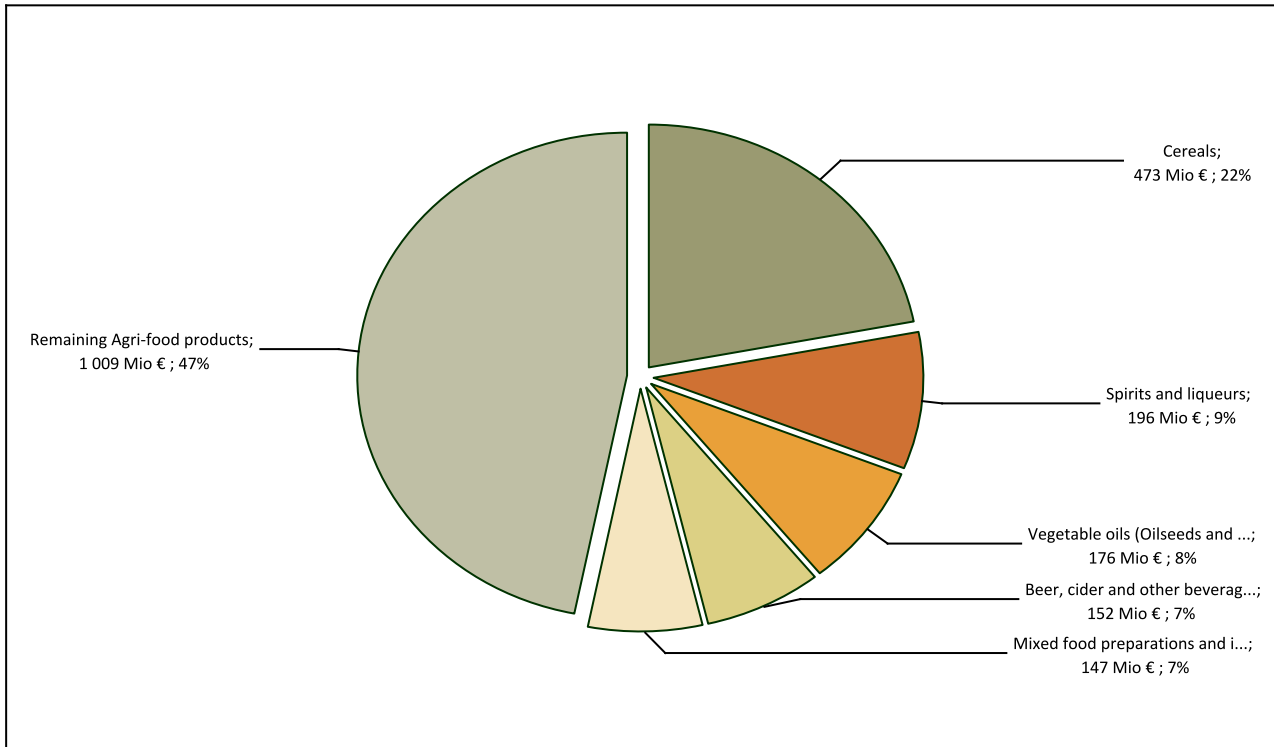
EU Agri-Food trade with: South Africa

2. Structure of EU Agri-food trade with South Africa, 2013 - 2023



3. EU Agri-food EXPORTS to South Africa by product category

Top EU Agri-food exports to South Africa in 2023



Evolution of 15 top EU Agri-food exports to South Africa, 2019 - 2023

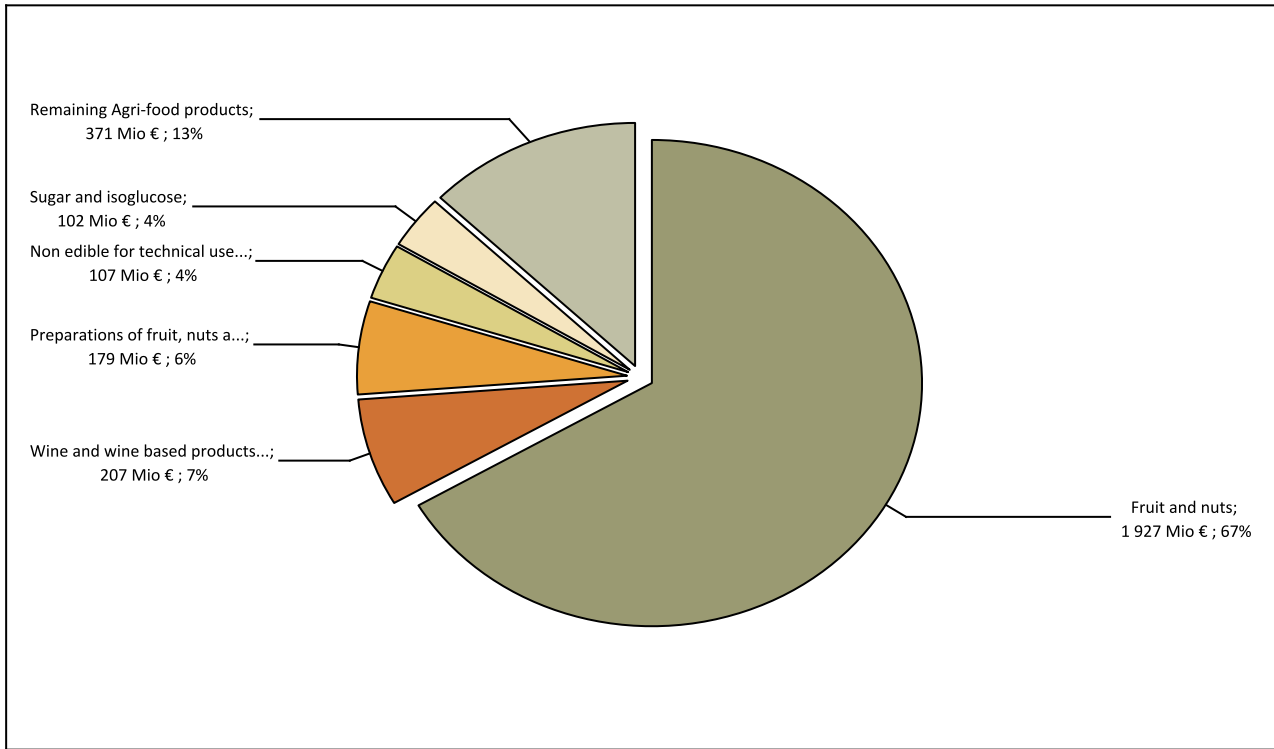
		Exports						
		Value Mio €					%	
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Share in all Agri 2023	Change 2022-2023
	Agri-food	1 733	1 620	1 691	2 001	2 153	100.0	7.6
1	Cereals	276	296	227	291	473	22.0	62.5
2	Spirits and liqueurs	96	70	136	199	196	9.1	-1.5
3	Vegetable oils (Oilseeds and Palm)	165	202	139	234	176	8.2	-24.8
4	Beer, cider and other beverages	118	72	80	116	152	7.1	31.0
5	Mixed food preparations and ingredients	111	112	132	155	147	6.8	-5.2
6	Dairy products	130	117	137	157	139	6.5	-11.5
7	Cereal preparations and milling products	113	116	121	147	138	6.4	-6.1
8	Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	81	86	100	117	130	6.0	11.1
9	Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	80	65	80	98	118	5.5	20.4
10	Pet food and forage crops	74	75	92	92	91	4.2	-1.1
11	Confectionery and chocolate	75	73	76	83	87	4.0	4.8
12	Other animal products	51	44	47	51	54	2.5	5.9
13	Wine and wine based products	44	24	39	52	52	2.4	0.0
14	Vegetables	43	46	42	44	39	1.8	-11.4
15	Pigmeat	50	41	42	34	34	1.6	0.0
	Remaining Agri-food products	225	183	199	130	129	6.0	-0.8

Evolution of EU Agri-food exports to South Africa, 2019 - 2023

	Exports						
	Value Mio €					%	
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Share in all Agri 2023	Change 2022-2023
Agri-food	1 733	1 620	1 691	2 001	2 153	100.0	7.6
Animal products	356	290	284	261	255	11.8	-2.4
Beef and veal	5	7	12	10	3	0.1	-72.1
Pigmeat	50	41	42	34	34	1.6	0.4
Poultry and eggs	120	81	46	10	26	1.2	172.3
Sheep and goat	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	-51.6
Dairy products	130	117	137	157	139	6.4	-11.9
Other animal products	51	44	47	51	54	2.5	6.2
Arable crops and plant based products	566	624	504	689	802	37.3	16.4
Cereals	276	296	227	291	473	22.0	62.3
Cereal preparations and milling products	113	116	121	147	138	6.4	-6.1
Oilseeds and protein crops	3	3	8	6	6	0.3	0.7
Vegetable oils (Oilseeds and Palm)	165	202	139	234	176	8.2	-24.8
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	7	6	8	9	8	0.4	-13.6
Sugar and isoglucose	2	1	1	1	1	0.1	-13.1
Fruit, vegetables and olive oil	165	149	162	183	192	8.9	4.8
Vegetables	43	46	42	44	39	1.8	-12.2
Fruit and nuts	25	22	23	19	18	0.8	-2.7
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	80	65	80	98	118	5.5	20.7
Olives and olive oil	18	16	17	23	17	0.8	-24.0
Wine, beverages and food preparations	444	351	464	606	634	29.4	4.6
Wine and wine based products	44	24	39	52	52	2.4	-1.1
Spirits and liqueurs	96	70	136	199	196	9.1	-1.7
Beer, cider and other beverages	118	72	80	116	152	7.0	30.7
Confectionery and chocolate	75	73	76	83	87	4.1	5.4
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	111	112	132	155	147	6.8	-5.1
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	81	86	100	117	130	6.0	10.8
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	81	86	100	117	130	6.0	10.8
Non-edible	120	121	177	144	140	6.5	-2.7
Pet food and forage crops	74	75	92	92	91	4.2	-1.5
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	9	12	25	9	12	0.6	37.7
Horticulture	7	7	8	10	9	0.4	-5.2
Non edible for technical use	25	24	48	33	27	1.3	-16.7
Unspecified	5	5	4	1	1	0.0	1.8

4. EU Agri-food IMPORTS from South Africa by product category

Top EU Agri-food imports from South Africa in 2023



Evolution of 15 top EU Agri-food imports from South Africa, 2019 - 2023

		Imports						
		Value Mio €					%	
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Share in all Agri 2023	Change 2022-2023
	Agri-food	2 002	2 189	2 293	2 619	2 891	100.0	10.4
1	Fruit and nuts	1 273	1 529	1 525	1 673	1 927	66.7	15.2
2	Wine and wine based products	243	235	231	228	207	7.2	-9.2
3	Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	106	108	102	126	179	6.2	42.1
4	Non edible for technical use	45	56	52	95	107	3.7	12.6
5	Sugar and isoglucose	44	29	61	83	102	3.5	22.9
6	Other animal products	128	85	75	112	85	2.9	-24.1
7	Cereals	14	9	68	91	75	2.6	-17.6
8	Vegetables	35	31	44	47	51	1.8	8.5
9	Horticulture	34	33	46	53	48	1.7	-9.4
10	Oilseeds and protein crops	1	1	16	24	34	1.2	41.7
11	Mixed food preparations and ingredients	36	25	27	28	25	0.9	-10.7
12	Spirits and liqueurs	19	19	17	17	15	0.5	-11.8
13	Beer, cider and other beverages	2	3	5	4	14	0.5	250.0
14	Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	6	3	5	7	5	0.2	-28.6
15	Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	6	7	6	4	5	0.2	25.0
	Remaining Agri-food products	9	16	11	26	13	0.4	-50.0

Evolution of EU Agri-food imports from South Africa, 2019 - 2023

	Imports						
	Value Mio €					%	
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Share in all Agri 2023	Change 2022-2023
Agri-food	2 002	2 189	2 293	2 619	2 891	100.0	10.4
Animal products	129	86	76	114	86	3.0	-24.5
Beef and veal	1	1	1	1	0	0.0	-68.0
Pigmeat	0	0	0	1	0	0.0	-99.9
Poultry and eggs	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	140.9
Sheep and goat							
Dairy products	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	-58.6
Other animal products	128	85	75	112	85	2.9	-24.1
Arable crops and plant based products	64	46	152	219	219	7.6	0.1
Cereals	14	9	68	91	75	2.6	-17.1
Cereal preparations and milling products	1	1	2	4	3	0.1	-12.9
Oilseeds and protein crops	1	1	16	24	34	1.2	45.4
Vegetable oils (Oilseeds and Palm)	0	0	0	12	0	0.0	-99.1
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	4	5	5	5	5	0.2	-6.1
Sugar and isoglucose	44	29	61	83	102	3.5	21.6
Fruit, vegetables and olive oil	1 414	1 668	1 672	1 847	2 156	74.6	16.7
Vegetables	35	31	44	47	51	1.7	6.4
Fruit and nuts	1 273	1 529	1 525	1 673	1 927	66.6	15.1
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	106	108	102	126	179	6.2	41.1
Olives and olive oil	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	64.4
Wine, beverages and food preparations	302	288	281	278	262	9.1	-5.7
Wine and wine based products	243	235	231	228	207	7.1	-9.4
Spirits and liqueurs	19	19	17	17	15	0.5	-14.2
Beer, cider and other beverages	2	3	5	4	14	0.5	262.3
Confectionery and chocolate	1	6	1	1	1	0.0	19.2
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	36	25	27	28	25	0.9	-8.4
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	6	7	6	4	5	0.2	7.4
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	6	7	6	4	5	0.2	7.4
Non-edible	87	95	105	157	164	5.7	4.4
Pet food and forage crops	2	2	2	3	3	0.1	0.5
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	6	3	5	7	5	0.2	-17.5
Horticulture	34	33	46	53	48	1.7	-9.1
Non edible for technical use	45	56	52	95	107	3.7	13.6
Unspecified							

5. EU Agri-food trade with South Africa by HS chapters

Evolution of EU Agri-food exports to South Africa, 2019 - 2023

		Exports						
		Value Mio €					%	
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Share in all Agri 2023	Change 2022-2023
	Agri-food	1 733	1 620	1 691	2 001	2 153	100.0	7.6
01	Live Animals	6	5	3	3	5	0.2	68.7
02	Meat and edible meat offal	169	124	95	51	56	2.6	10.5
04	Dairy produce	115	103	112	126	111	5.2	-11.7
05	Products of animal origin	20	12	13	11	15	0.7	42.3
06	Live trees and other plants	6	6	7	9	9	0.4	-6.0
07	Edible vegetables, roots & tubers	22	20	18	17	13	0.6	-24.8
08	Edible fruits & nuts	24	21	22	18	18	0.8	-3.1
09	Coffee, tea, mate & spices	17	15	18	25	22	1.0	-11.7
10	Cereals	244	269	191	219	378	17.5	72.5
11	Products of the milling industry	46	43	57	92	115	5.3	24.2
12	Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	31	36	38	41	42	1.9	0.4
13	Lacs, gums, resins & other veg. saps	12	13	15	26	15	0.7	-41.9
14	Vegetable products n.e.s.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	-34.3
15	Animal or vegetable fats & oils	188	223	167	271	202	9.4	-25.6
16	Preparations of meat	5	4	3	2	2	0.1	8.8
17	Sugars & sugar confectionery	21	18	21	26	25	1.2	-4.9
18	Cocoa & cocoa preparations	77	78	84	85	89	4.1	5.6
19	Preps. of cereals, flour, starch, etc.	85	89	90	111	101	4.7	-8.8
20	Preps. of vegetables, fruits, nuts & plants	83	67	82	100	121	5.6	20.1
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	152	155	179	203	220	10.2	8.0
22	Beverages, spirits & vinegar	259	167	256	368	400	18.6	8.6
23	Residues and waste from food industry	84	87	111	105	107	5.0	2.3
24	Tobacco & tobacco products	9	12	25	9	13	0.6	39.4
	Other WTO products outside chapters 1-24	56	53	82	81	76	3.5	-6.6

Evolution of Agri-food imports from South Africa, 2019 - 2023

		Imports						
		Value Mio €					%	
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Share in all Agri 2023	Change 2022-2023
	Agri-food	2 002	2 189	2 293	2 619	2 891	100.0	10.4
01	Live Animals	0	1	1	1	1	0.1	24.1
02	Meat and edible meat offal	3	3	4	1	1	0.0	-23.4
04	Dairy produce	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	-82.1
05	Products of animal origin	2	1	1	1	1	0.0	15.5
06	Live trees and other plants	33	32	44	51	47	1.6	-8.8
07	Edible vegetables, roots & tubers	19	17	29	32	29	1.0	-8.5
08	Edible fruits & nuts	1 269	1 527	1 519	1 669	1 921	66.4	15.1
09	Coffee, tea, mate & spices	6	6	6	4	4	0.1	1.4
10	Cereals	14	9	68	91	75	2.6	-17.2
11	Products of the milling industry	0	0	0	1	1	0.0	26.7
12	Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	50	39	60	67	87	3.0	29.1
13	Lacs, gums, resins & other veg. saps	4	3	4	4	3	0.1	-25.6
14	Vegetable products n.e.s.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	-71.6
15	Animal or vegetable fats & oils	14	16	5	49	31	1.1	-36.5
16	Preparations of meat	3	4	4	5	4	0.1	-21.4
17	Sugars & sugar confectionery	45	34	62	84	102	3.5	21.8
18	Cocoa & cocoa preparations	1	1	1	1	1	0.0	-0.1
19	Preps. of cereals, flour, starch, etc.	1	1	2	3	3	0.1	-11.3
20	Preps. of vegetables, fruits, nuts & plants	106	108	102	126	179	6.2	41.1
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	7	6	8	9	8	0.3	-7.9
22	Beverages, spirits & vinegar	273	274	277	275	270	9.3	-2.0
23	Residues and waste from food industry	2	2	2	2	2	0.1	-3.5
24	Tobacco & tobacco products	6	3	5	7	5	0.2	-17.5
	Other WTO products outside chapters 1-24	146	100	90	136	116	4.0	-14.2