



Keimoes-Upington N14, 2km, Keimoes, Northern Cape, South Africa
PO Box 767, Keimoes, 8860, South Africa
Tel: +27 (0)54 337 8660
Email: info@redsuns.co.za www.redsuns.co.za



REDSUN RAISIN REPORT #1 -2026 January

SOUTH AFRICAN RAISIN CROP

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The Development of the 2026 SA Raisin Crop

The South African raisin crop of 2026 is looking promising. We started the season with rain over the Orange River at a time the grapes were too small and had not yet developed sugars. Therefore, the rain (about 40mm in average for the region over 5 days) itself did not cause difficulties, however, the moisture, together with the temperature of 30-35°C caused an attack of downey mildew. Farmers reacted swiftly and the effect of the downey mildew was relatively small, before it was eradicated with the correct sprays onto the raisins.

The Olifants River (Western Cape) has had no rain but excellent heat build up. This region is expecting about 17,000mt of raisins to be produced. It is located 600km south west of the Orange River raisin producing region.

A lot of rain has fallen in other parts of South Africa, causing considerable damage to property and tragically, loss of life. This has been over Johannesburg and the eastern region of SA where the macadamias are produced. The result of this rain is the Orange River has been in flood for the past 5 weeks. This river carries water from all over SA to the Atlantic Ocean.

The flooded river has been well managed through the various reservoirs up river. There has been no reports of damage caused by the flooding River in the raisin producing region.

Since the rain in early December, the temperature has steadily progressed towards the height of summer which is 42-44°C. The rain is staying away. According to weather forecasts the rain will not be a problem for the next few weeks until 2nd half February. This is forecasted to be a “el niño” year with a higher than average rainfall. Therefore, “rain” is the topic of most of our discussions with farmers.

Early delivery of the 2026 raisin crop

The ideal weather conditions has resulted in the SA raisin crop developing faster than in an average year. According to Redsun's estimates, the crop is looking to be 106,000mt of farmer's stock raisins delivered to packers. There are differing opinions of the crop size eg Raisins SA has revised their crop estimate downwards from 106,000mt to 102,000mt. Crop estimates will always be challenging. The crop size for 2025 was 100,000mt, which was damaged considerably through rain at the end of the drying season.

To avoid the threat of the rain, it has been Redsun's advice to farmers to start harvesting and making raisins sooner in 2026. This will result in the need to get your farm labour in earlier, but the safety of your product will be more secure. We are hoping farmers will be delivering raisins during January instead of late in February.

The weather conditions have ensured a good development of the crop. This also applies to the Western Cape and Namibia. The same applies to the table grapes that are grown in the same regions. The crop is very good, so we are hoping to receive good quality and volume of jumbos and bolds. 85% of the raisins produced in South Africa are medium sized. 4% are currants from Western Cape and the balance are jumbos and bolds.

Pricing Expectations for the 2026 crop

Pricing is not yet finalised with the farmers. Farmers are free to deliver to any of the seven processors of raisins in South Africa. These processors each make offers to farmers based on variety and quality. Not all factories have given out their prices to farmers at 31 Dec 2025. These prices are relative to how the marketers see the prices in the international market.

The following Facts will affect the pricing in the opinion of Redsun;

1. There will be a carryover crop of about 15,000mt from 2025 crop. This is about 7,000mt more than usual. The reason is difficulties in processing some of the crop due to rain damage, and a slow down in off take by some European customers of contracted volumes. Some factories will start processing in January to complete the 2025 crop by the time the new crop arrives.
2. There are two new factories joining the market for farmer's stock during 2026. That means 9 factories fighting it out to secure the supply of good quality raisins from roughly 778 raisin farmers. The competition is hot.
3. One factory alone represents 40% of the volume in South Africa. They have not yet given farmers a price but they carry influence. The industry is waiting for that announcement. Few farmers have committed to sales volumes for any particular processor, until the prices are all on the table.

Redsun has given prices to farmers that are not far off the 2025 prices in USD terms. We do have the right to change these prices if we see things in the market that will give us reason to change. For example, the price of currants has increased. The demand of organic raisins has increased. The downey mildew has given supply organic raisins some concerns. Organic farmers do not have the "strong chemicals" available to combat downey mildew like the conventional raisin farmers.

We are happy to discuss prices with customers, and where we can even to commit to volumes with prices. This relates to our more established varieties such as Thompson medium, Golden medium, Flame medium and jumbos.

OR sultanas and SA sultanas will feature in the volumes, but the quality and volume is uncertain for us to make commitments now. Currants looks like it will be a very good crop of about 4,000mt. Here the price remains our concern. It is not yet settled.

Where are we with the 2025 crop

According to the statistics supplied by Raisins SA, South Africa has sold 71,154 mt of raisins during the 11 months to 30th November 2025. These are raisins actually packed and delivered. Not including raisins sold that must still be despatched. At the same time in 2024, South Africa had sold 78,684mt. So we are 7,529mt behind the volume in the previous year.

40,775mt of 2025 crop was sold to Europe. 8,407mt to the SA domestic market, 8,354mt to the UK and 8,243mt to North America (4,929mt of this was to Canada).

Shipping from South Africa

Shipping from Cape Town has caused us a lot of problems. Our apologies for this problem caused by the “Cape Doctor”. This is a natural phenomenon that is a strong consistent gale force wind blowing over Cape Peninsular. These winds exceed 80km and hour and therefore prevent the loading equipment from being able to work safely to load vessels docked at Cape Town port.



Flame Raisins ready for harvest - Vredendal



Currants before colour change



Redsun Dried Fruit and Nuts Factory at Keimoes 2025

The product was packed. The product was in Cape Town but the vessels could not be loaded. During November, there were only two sailings from Cape Town to Europe , one on 5th November and the other on 29th November. Total despatches in November was 4,579mt for South Africa. (October was 9,416mt). The Cape Doctor has nothing to do with Climate Change. It is been around forever as every Cape Town resident will tell you. Mechanically, labour wise, everything was in place. A great difference from previous years.

Redsun second processing line

The second processing line has been installed at Redsun. It is working very well. The two raisin processing lines work completely independently from each other. The existing line has a capacity of 15,000mt per year, and the new line installed has a capacity of 12,000mt per year. That gives Redsun a potential 27,000 mt processing capacity per year.

Redsun Planned capacity for 2026

Redsun plans to buy 25,000mt of raisins for the 2026 crop year from farmers. we are confident we will achieve the volume we are looking for. That will involve our team to work 24 hours per day over three shifts per day. Challenging but exciting.

Change of Bank Account

After 7 years of working with our current bankers, First National Bank, Redun has decided to change our bankers from the 2026 year. Our bankers have always given us excellent service, however, our Board has decided that it will be advantageous for the future growth of Redsun to work with our new bankers Nedbank.

Therefore, we want to apologise in advance for the inconvenience caused to you our customers, but we will be communicating with you regarding the change of bankers. This will only relate to the 2026 crop and future. 2025 remains with First National Bank as we have transacted for the past 7 years.

Please feel free to communicate with us regarding any further queries.

Peter Kuilman

peter@redsun.co.za

Mobile +27 (0)83 283 6744

Conrad Conradie

Conrad@redsun.co.za

Mobile +27 (0) 497 1051