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REDSUN RAISIN REPORT #7 - 2026 September SOUTH AFRICAN RAISIN CROP

Highlights of this Report

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2. 2026 Progress
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1. 2027 Crop Forecast

Redsun is receiving a lot of enquiries on how the crop is progressing and what we think the crop will look like in 2027. It is still very early to predict the quantum of the new 2027 crop which is expected to arrive in February. In South Africa we usually wait until after the fruit has set and 10 October passes before we can start making projections for the new crop.

Early indications is that the trees are healthy even though we do have some signs of downy mildew, we believe that it is still early enough to treat and prevent any damage to the crop.

The Raisin SA Industry board predicted that the 2026 crop could reach up to 110,000mt which was then forecasted downward as rain fell during the season and farmers had hail damage. If this is to be used as basis and no damage happen during the rest of the year, we believe that it would be possible to achieve this volumes for the 2027 crop.

At this moment we believe that the make up of the new crop will be vastly different to the 2026 crop due to huge price fluctuations we are seeing in the different varieties that gets produced. Remember the same green grapes can be used to make 4 different varieties of raisins. At this early point in the season it is projected that more Goldens will be made for the 2027 season due to the premium which the Goldens are currently receiving in the market.

The lack of Golden product in the market will cause that factories will be under pressure to supply the market with Goldens as soon as they arrive at the factories which could even lead to premiums paid to farmers to receive early deliveries. This could even lead to delays in processing of Thompsons in the beginning of next year prior to Easter.

The biggest challenge will be to have sufficient Golden supply available for the full year that we don't run into the same problems that we experienced in 2026.

How the ongoing war between Iran and the USA will impact the pricing for Goldens in the market, we will have to wait and see.

2. Export Statistics and Market

South Africa have shipped 52,823mt until August 2026 compared to 49,523mt the previous year for the same period. The biggest market for South African product remained the EU with 48.7% of the total sales.

Export statistics out of South Africa until August 2026:

Nr	Countries	Sum of mass	% of Sales
1	Germany	10,603,463.00	20%
2	Netherlands	8,683,479.00	16%
3	United Kingdom	5,910,887.50	11%
4	South African Local	5,461,133.50	10%
5	Canada	4,670,357.39	9%
6	Algeria	3,189,210.00	6%
7	France	2,612,566.00	5%
8	United States	2,074,799.10	4%
9	Brazil	874,500.00	2%
10	Australia	684,400.00	1%

It is our opinion that with selling prices which have come under pressure in Europe, South Africa will start looking to markets elsewhere and we could see a decrease in exports to the EU from South Africa in the interim. Algeria, Brazil and Canada has already increased its market share compared to last year.

3. Goldens

The European Commission is moving to drastically lower the Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for sulphur dioxide (SO₂/sulphites) in dried fruits. For dried white grapes (golden raisins), the current proposal slashes the legal limit from 2,000 mg/kg down to 800 mg/kg

Lowering sulphur dioxide (SO₂) levels in raisins triggers a chain reaction of chemical, physical, biological, and economic impacts.

The primary impacts of lowering SO₂ levels are:

- Accelerated darkening of raisins
- Lowering or eliminating SO₂ shifts the flavour toward a deep, intensely sweet, and caramelized profile
- Drastic reduction of shelf life which could lead to refrigerated storage
- Vulnerability to infestations increase

4. Jumbo raisins

The floods in the Vredendal regions during winter has caused that more table grape farmers prepared their grapes for raisins production due to the extensive increase in cost for

producing table grapes. South Africa has already seen a decline in demand this year to Black Flame Type Jumbo raisins due to the bigger Chilean crop. The impact of the new crop together with the huge frost lost in grapes from Argentina will impact supply and will have to be investigated. The impact of these two markets will be closely monitored in the next month.

5. Shipping delays in Cape Town

Operational delays at the Port of Durban are impacting Cape Town Port operations, adding to frustrations felt by local exporters.

Durban Port currently has a vessel bottleneck due to problems at its Gateway Terminal, which is operating under severe capacity constraints following the appointment of an international private terminal operator.

Anchorage times reach up to 23 days in Durban, with carriers warning customers of delays around 20 days.

Please take this into account when preparing call off's, we will keep you posted on the developments as the Port's make progress.

6. SIAL Foods, Paris, France

Redsun will be attending the SIAL Foodshow in Paris from 17 – 21 October 2026. Contact us to make bookings prior to the food show.

7. Pictures of crop development



8. Redsuns on LinkedIn

We are officially on LinkedIn! 🚀 Follow the official **Redsun** page to stay informed like never before. Get the latest company updates, behind-the-scenes insights, and exciting news delivered straight to your feed.

For any further enquiries, please feel free to contact us:

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