



SAAMA

SA AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY ASSOCIATION

South African Agricultural Machinery Association
Suid-Afrikaanse Landboumasjinerieassosiasie

P.O. Box/Posbus 1159
Edenvale
1610

South Africa/Suid-Afrika

Telephone/Telefoon (011) 453-7249
Telefax/Telefaks (011) 453-9710

- PRESS RELEASE -

08-12-2018

November 2018: TRACTOR and COMBINE HARVESTER SALES

Retail sales of agricultural equipment during **November 2018** were as follows:

	Month		Percentage change %	Year-to-date		Percentage change %
	November 2018	November 2017		November 2018	November 2017	
Tractors	428	589	-27.3	6 280	6 024	4.2
Combine Harvesters	9	11	-18.2	194	192	1.0

November tractor sales of 428 units were sharply down (27%) on the 589 units sold in November last year. On a year-to-date basis, tractor sales for the first eleven months of the year are now just 4% up on last year. October combine harvester sales of nine units were two units less than the eleven units sold in November last year. On a year-to-date basis combine harvester sales are now just 1% up on last year.

While the Crop Estimates Committee forecasts that plantings of the two major summer crops, maize and soya beans are likely to be significantly up on last year, some parts of the country, particularly in the west, have not yet had sufficient rains for farmers to be able to plant. Most industry commentators feel that the current level of tractor sales better reflects conditions in the industry. Up to November, sales had been quite buoyant, helped by a competitive market and well-priced stock. Many farmers had taken this opportunity to bring their equipment purchases forward. The current realities of the market are that finance is tight, input costs are high and there is also a measure of political uncertainty. Despite this, industry forecasts are that 2018 calendar year sales will be approximately 5% up on 2017 sales.

Greg Cadman
Chairman: South African Agricultural Machinery Association

Contact: Mr. Greg Cadman (084) 511-0647 or Dr. Jim Rankin (011) 453-7249