

AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY & DEMAND ESTIMATES



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#39

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HIGHLIGHTS

With a 1976 winter wheat crop second only to last year's and a larger spring wheat crop expected, total wheat supplies in 1976/77 should be the largest since the early 1960's. For feed grains, the export projections for 1975/76 have been raised from our last report as a result of additional sales to the USSR. Otherwise, feed grain estimates are largely unchanged.

1976/77 Projected Wheat Supplies Largest Since Heavy Levels of Early 1960's

Rains on the Plains broke a winter-long drought, resulting in a much improved outlook for the winter wheat harvest this summer. As of May 1, the crop was estimated at 1,459 million bushels, 12 percent below last year's record, but the second largest ever. When combined with the projected spring wheat crop, based on April planting intentions, a total crop of 1,950 to 2,100 million bushels is in sight. With a larger carryover, projected supplies of 2.6 billion bushels would be the largest since the early 1960's.

Small adjustments have been made in the 1975/76 usage estimates. Mill grind has been exceptionally heavy, prompting an upward revision in food usage. Seed requirements are also somewhat larger than earlier expected. Combined domestic use and exports in 1975/76 will fall short of last summer's crop, resulting in an increase in wheat stocks this year by about 200 million bushels from last year's small 327 million bushels.

Recent Sales Raise Feed Grain Export Estimate

Except for changes in 1975/76 feed grain exports, estimated supply and utilization for 1975/76 and projections for 1976/77 are unchanged from the April report.

The estimate of 1975/76 corn exports has been raised 50 million bushels to a total of 1,600 million because of recent purchases by the USSR and continued heavy shipments to other countries. This raises the estimate of total use of corn in 1975/76 to 5,715 million bushels and reduces the estimated carryover to 412 million. This, and a 5-million-bushel reduction in estimated 1975/76 oat exports, account for the changes in 1975/76 total feed grain estimates.

No changes in 1976/77 feed grain projections have been made from the April report except to reflect the small changes in beginning stocks of corn and oats as a result of the new 1975/76 export estimates.

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 * Note to Users
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* Early season projections for 1976/77 are highly tentative. There are no
 * reliable techniques of anticipating what combinations of weather and/or disease
 * might prevail during the growing season. For instance, poor growing conditions,
 * like those in 1974, or widespread disease, like the 1970 corn blight, could
 * result in a crop that would fall outside the ranges shown. Similar uncertainties
 * in other countries could result in wide unexpected variations in the strength
 * of foreign demand for U.S. crops.
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* The above uncertainties need to be understood by users of these data. The
 * ranges in projected output and use for 1976/77 attempt to show the most probable
 * range around the projected values, based largely on relationships in the past
 * decade.
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WHEAT

Commodity	Marketing year 1/					
	Domestic Measure 2/ 3/			Metric Measure 2/ 3/		
	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77
	:Preliminary:Projected			:Preliminary:Projected		
<u>WHI</u>						
Ar.	<u>Million acres</u>			<u>Million hectares</u>		
Set aside	--	--	--	--	--	--
Planted	71.4	75.1	78.4	28.9	30.4	31.7
Harvested	65.6	69.7	68.0	26.5	28.2	27.5
Yield per harvested unit	<u>Bushels per acre</u>			<u>Quintals per hectare</u>		
	27.4	30.6	29.8 +1.0	18.4	20.6	20.0 +0.7
	<u>Million bushels</u>			<u>Million metric tons</u>		
Beginning stocks	247	327	543	6.7	8.9	14.8
Production	1,796	2,134	2,025 +75	48.9	58.1	55.1 +2.0
Imports	2	2	2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Supply total	2,045	2,463	2,570 +75	55.7	67.0	69.9 +2.0
Domestic	679	720	760 +25	18.5	19.6	20.7 +0.7
Exports	1,039	1,200	1,050 +100	28.3	32.7	28.6 +2.7
Disappearance, total	1,718	1,920	1,810 +85	46.8	52.3	49.3 +2.3
Ending stocks	327	543	760 +125	8.9	14.8	20.7 +3.4
	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:
*Less than .1	:	:	:	:	:	:

1/ Marketing year beginning July 1.

2/ Conversions between measures may not exactly convert or add due to rounding.

3/ Conversion factor: Hectare = 2.471 acres

Metric Ton = 2204.6 pounds or 36.7437 bushels

Quintal = 220.46 pounds or 3.674 bushels

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FEED GRAINS AND CORN

Commodity	Marketing year 1/					
	Domestic Measure			Metric Measure 2/ 3/		
	1974/75:	1975/76	1976/77	1974/75 :	1975/76 :	1976/77
	:Preliminary: Projected :			:Preliminary: Projected		
FEED GRAINS:						
Area	Million acres			Million hectares		
Set aside	--	--	--	--	--	--
Planted	122.4	123.1	126.6	49.5	49.8	51.2
Harvested	100.6	104.8	107.0	40.7	42.4	43.3
Yield per harvested unit	Tons per acre			Quintals per hectare		
	1.64	1.93	2.05	+13:	36.9	43.3 45.9 +2.6
	Million short tons			Million metric tons		
Beginning stocks	22.2	15.8	18.1	:	20.1	14.4 16.5
Production	165.3	202.4	219.3	+12:	150.0	183.6 198.9 +10.
Imports	0.5	0.5	0.3	:	0.5	0.5 0.2
Supply, total	188.0	218.7	237.7	+12:	170.6	198.5 215.6 +10.
Feed	115.0	129.4	143.6	+7:	104.3	117.4 130.3 +6.4
Food, seed and industrial uses	18.0	18.4	19.1	:	16.3	16.7 17.3
Domestic, total	133.0	147.8	162.7	+7:	120.6	134.1 147.6 +6.4
Exports	39.2	52.8	41.9	+5:	35.6	47.9 38.0 +4.5
Use, total	172.2	200.6	204.6	+10:	156.2	182.0 185.6 +9.1
Ending stocks	15.8	18.1	33.2	+10:	14.4	16.5 30.1 +9.1
CORN:						
Area	Million acres			Million hectares		
Set aside	--	--	--	--	--	--
Planted	77.8	77.9	82.7	:	31.5	31.5 33.5
Harvested	65.4	66.9	71.7	:	26.5	27.1 29.0
Yield per harvested unit	Bushels per acre			Quintals per hectare		
	71.4	86.2	89.0	+5:	44.7	54.1 55.9 +3.1
	Million bushels			Million metric tons		
Beginning stocks	483	359	412	:	12.3	9.2 10.6
Production	4,664	5,767	6,381	+350:	118.5	146.5 162.1 +8.9
Imports	2	1	1	:	0.1	4/ 4/
Supply, total	5,149	6,127	6,794	+350:	130.9	155.7 172.7 +8.9
Feed	3,187	3,650	4,115	+200:	81.0	92.7 104.5 +5.1
Food, seed and industrial uses	454	465	485	:	11.5	11.8 12.3
Domestic, total	3,641	4,115	4,600	+200:	92.5	104.5 116.8 +5.1
Exports	1,149	1,600	1,250	+150:	29.2	40.6 31.8 +3.8
Use, total	4,790	5,715	5,850	+300:	121.7	145.1 148.6 +7.6
Ending stocks	359	412	944	+300:	9.2	10.6 24.1 +7.6

- 1/ Marketing year beginning October 1 for corn and sorghum, July 1 for barley and oats.
 2/ Conversions between measures may not convert or add due to rounding.
 3/ Conversion factors: Hectare = 2.471 acres
 Metric ton = 2204.6 lbs. (feed grains); 39.368 bushels (corn).
 Quintal = 220.46 lbs.

4/ Less than 0.1

Prepared by the Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee for Feed Grains: Orville I. Verboe, Chairman, ASCS; James J. Naive, ERS; Donald J. Novotny, FAS.