



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

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Romania

Grain and Feed

Grain and Feed Update (October)

1999

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Report Highlights:

Romania's 1999 grain and feed crops are currently estimated by AgOffice Bucharest as following:

- wheat 4.8 MMT;
- barley 1.015 MMT;
- corn 9.5 MMT.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No

Unscheduled Report
Bucharest[RO1], RO

Weather conditions in October were in general warm and dry throughout major corn producing regions which aided harvesting.

According to various sources, corn harvesting is virtually completed. AgOffice Bucharest continues to estimate this year's corn production at 9.5 MMT, which is in line with estimates of the grain trade.

Recently, official data on this year's barley crop was released. According to official data, barley harvested area was 400,000 hectares, of which 240,000 hectares was fall-planted and 160,000 hectares was spring-planted. The total barley crop was preliminary estimated at 1.015 MMT. Above data is below previous AgOffice estimates and is due to inefficient Romanian data collection system.

Of particular concern is the reduced planted area with winter wheat and barley. According to official data, as of this date, wheat was planted on about 1.0 million hectares while barley on about 200,000 hectares. Any additional area which will be planted after this date will be exposed to winterkill or will produce reduced yields. This situation is due to financial difficulties of grain producers and the depressed domestic market. If this will be confirmed, Romania might be forced to import wheat next year, a rare situation for this country.

Romanian Grain and Feed Estimates						
Crop	Harvested Area (1,000 HA)			Production (1,000 MT)		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
Wheat	2,350	1,970	1,600	7,186	5,200	4,800
Barley	617	550	400	1,889	1,240	1,015
Corn	3,030	3,000	3,000	12,680	8,000	9,500