



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.08

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 8/23/2006

GAIN Report Number: UZ6006

Uzbekistan, Republic of

Cotton and Products

Cotton Production Update

2006

Approved by:

Cynthia Iglesias, Agricultural Attache
U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

Nizam Yuldashbaev, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Uzbekistan's MY 06/07 official seed cotton production and planted area were set at 3.6 million metric tons (MMT) and 1.39 million hectares. Lint production and export figures have been adjusted and revised.

Includes PSD Changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Quarterly Report
Ankara [TU1]
[UZ]

PRODUCTION

There are no changes in Uzbekistan's MY 2005/06 planted area and seed cotton production which accordingly remain at 1.39 MHA and 3.75 MMT (4.24 % more than the state production target) with lint production at 1.2 MMT.

Near normal winter precipitation has enhanced surface and groundwater supplies for cotton production. However, cool and cloudy weather in the higher elevations slowed the melting process delaying the availability of water for irrigation in some areas during the vegetative stage. Therefore, according to regional water experts and press reporting, 2006 looks to be a somewhat low water year for Central Asia. Still, the majority of experts believe that an above normal level of sunny days in summer positively affected the vegetation process and overall the crop looks promising.

The Uzbek Government announced that in MY 2006/07 the planted area would be 1.39 MHA. The state production target for seed cotton remains at 3.6 MMT (1.17 MMT of lint). Based on preliminary observations, Post forecasts MY 06/07 lint production at 1.15 MMT. The out year production forecast will depend much on the weather situation during the harvest months of September and October. There are no official data on this year's replanted area, but reportedly it is very low. As of late August, in some districts of Surkhandarya region and in Fergana Valley the farmers have already started harvesting cotton. But the mass cotton harvesting campaign is expected to start in the first week of September.

Table 1. Cotton Production, Supply and Demand

Uzbekistan, Republic of Cotton							
	2004	Revised	2005	Estimate	2006	Forecast	UOM
	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate New]	
Market Year Begin		08.2004		08.2005		08.2006	MM/YYYY
Area Planted	1391000	1391000	1391000	1391000	1391000	1391000	(HECTARE S)
Area Harvested	1419000	1391000	1432000	1391000	1391000	1391000	(HECTARE S)
Beginning Stocks	200962	134110	282609	188110	258110	258110	(MT)
Production	1132178	1114000	1241041	1200000	1170000	1150000	(MT)
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)
MY Imports from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	1333140	1248110	1523650	1388110	1428110	1408110	(MT)
Exports	860020	810000	1045087	880000	850000	950000	(MT)
USE Dom. Consumption	190511	250000	174181	250000	250000	250000	(MT)
Loss Dom. Consumption	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	190511	250000	174181	250000	250000	250000	(MT)
Ending Stocks	282609	188110	304382	258110	328110	208110	(MT)
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1333140	1248110	1523650	1388110	1428110	1408110	(MT)

TRADE

There are no noticeable changes in the trade pattern of cotton. The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investments and Trade (MFERIT) still handles centralized cotton exports through its trading companies. Based on production forecast MY 06/07 lint exports are forecast at 950,000 MT, which is 100,000 MT higher than the previous forecast. The export increase is attributed to the fact that the annual target for increasing domestic consumption did not yet reach the projected levels, and plus there are still increasing demand for Uzbek cotton in export markets.