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Report Name: Cap on Ukrainian Wheat Exports

Country: Ukraine

Post: Kyiv

Report Category: Agriculture in the News, Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

Ukraine introduced export restrictions for wheat at 20.2 million metric tons (MMT) until the end of marketing year (MY)2019/20.

On March 30, 2020, the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Agriculture of Ukraine (MEDTA) and representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) representing interests of the Ukrainian business community signed the Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) setting a 20.2 MMT cap on Ukrainian wheat exports until the end of marketing year (MY)2019/20. The Addendum does not distinguish between milling and feed wheat.

The original MoU was signed on October 3, 2019, between MEDTA and representatives of local NGOs. (Signing of an MoU every fall is a standard procedure.) It did not explicitly set targeted export volumes, but reserved the right to set future export volumes, in the form of a signed Annex to the original MoU, should it become necessary.

The Signature of the Addendum to the MoU might be considered as a move to address public concerns about food security amidst the COVID-19 outbreak in Ukraine. According to an advance copy of the Addendum obtained by FAS Kyiv, the document was jointly signed by representatives of grain traders, farmers, millers and the wider business community, which could be an indication of a compromise reached between the main players in the market.

Shortly before the Addendum was signed, MEDTA announced (<u>in Ukrainian</u>) that state-owned companies would sell around 160 thousand MT of milling wheat in the domestic market in order to stabilize Ukrainian flour prices.

FAS Kyiv estimates Ukrainian wheat exports at the level of 19.6 MMT for MY2019/20, which is below the threshold suggested by the Addendum.

Attachments:

No Attachments.