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Report Highlights:

Mali, Burkina Faso, and Senegal area harvested for marketing year (MY) 2023/24 is forecast to remain the same as the previous year at 1.23 million hectares (MHA) based on good farm gate prices, governments' input subsidies, and farmers' debt cancellation by the Malian and Senegalese governments. MY 2023/24 production is projected to jump 34 percent to 2.08 million bales on improved pest management against jassid infestations and assuming average weather conditions. MY 2023/24 exports are forecast up 34 percent to 2.03 million bales on the expectation of greater supply and demand. MY 2023/24 stocks are forecast eight percent lower at 275,000 bales, year-over-year. MY 2022/23 area and production are estimated at 1.23 MHA and 1.55 million bales, respectively, representing an 8 percent and 37 percent drop from the previous year, due mainly to jassid infestations and insecurity in Burkina Faso that limited access to farms and prevented the distribution of inputs.

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Executive Summary:

Mali area and production levels for 2023/24 are estimated to climb 21 percent and 80 percent at 720,000 hectares (HA) and 1.35 million bales, respectively, compared to the previous year, despite some water deficiency, particularly in Sikasso (area of Bougouni) and Koutiala during the month of June. MY 2023/24 exports are expected to rebound 83 percent based on a higher available supply and demand. Bangladesh, the main buyer for Malian cotton, is anticipated to increase imports to replenish inventories. After a difficult season in MY 2022/23 due to jassid infestations, the Malian government paid back all farmers' loans with cotton companies for their inputs. The MY 2023/24 cotton farm gate price increased four percent from the previous year at 295 CFA (\$0.5) per KG, a record price in the Malian cotton sector.

In MY2023/24, Burkina Faso area and production levels are projected to drop 21 percent and 10 percent to 490,000 HA and 705,000 bales, respectively, due to increase insecurity that prevents fertilizer and urea distribution and limits access to farms. For this reason, the Société Cotonnière du Gourma (SOCOMA), which is the second largest cotton company in the country, may only plant about 5,000 HA, representing just eight percent of their initial target (60,000 HA). Out of those 5,000 HA, only 33 percent may receive fertilizer and urea.

MY 2023/24 area harvested in Senegal is projected at 18,000 HA, a 6 percent increase, while production is forecast to rise 27 percent to 33,000 bales based on good rainfall and available insecticides. The farm gate price remains the same as the previous year, despite farmers' plea for an increase. However, the debt that farmers incurred to purchase inputs due to the losses caused by jassid infestations in MY 2022/23 has been paid back by the Government of Senegal.

In MY 2022/23, almost all West African countries were infested by a new species of jassid, reducing yield and therefore decreasing cotton production. Researchers from the Regional Program for Integrated Cotton Production in Africa (PR PICA) that regroups eight countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Senegal, Chad, Togo) tested new insecticides and recommended the use of three efficient products: Gracia 10 EC, Jacobia 350 EC, and Flonicamide 500 WG. Mali, Senegal, and Burkina Faso are currently using at least one of those three recommended products in MY 2023/24. According to the PR-PICA, all insecticides are registered by Sahelian Pesticides Committee (CSP) or by National Pesticide Registration Committees.

Exports for Mali, Burkina Faso, and Senegal in MY 2023/24 are expected to rebound 38 percent compared to the previous year in expectation of greater supply and demand. MY 2022/23 exports have reduced compared to the previous year as traders slowed down the speed of cotton fiber embarkation due to timid demand from the millers.

Mali

Production

MY 2023/24 area is forecast to jump 21 percent to 720,000 HA compared to the previous year based on a good cotton farm gate price and timely delivery of fertilizers (NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium) and Urea) and pesticides, both of which motivated farmers to plant more. The Compagnie Malienne pour le Développement du Textile (CMDT), a state-owned Malian company that manages the cotton

sector in Mali is in charge for organizing the production and marketing of cotton throughout the country. In MY 2022/23, the high cost of fertilizers following the conflict in Ukraine and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) embargo on Mali provided distribution delays of a limited quantity of fertilizers. MY 2023/24 cotton farm gate price was fixed at 295 CFA (\$0.5) per KG, a record price in the Malian cotton sector and a four percent increase from the previous year.

In MY 2023/24, the Government of Mali (GOM) decided to pay 10 billion CFA (\$16.7 million) to the CMDT to cover input credits for farmers that lost their production due to the attack of the jassids and floods in MY 2022/23. In addition, GOM subsidized 129 percent of the fertilizer and urea prices for cotton and fixed prices at 14,000 CFA (\$23.34) per 50 Kg bag while the supplier's price is 32,000 CFA (\$53.34). These price incentives caused enthusiasm among producers and the number of farmers increased from 212,000 to 217,000 in MY 2023/24 compared to the previous year.

With area increases and pest mitigations, MY 2023/24 cotton production is expected to skyrocket 80 percent at 1.35 million bales compared to the previous year. At the beginning of the season, farmers were encouraged to plant by May 20 due to the weather forecast that announced a good rainy season above normal. However, at the end of June and beginning of July, there was some lack of rain, especially on the regions of Sikasso (in Bougouni zone) and Koutiala.

MY 2022/23 area and production are estimated at 596,000 hectares and 750,000 bales, respectively, dropping 17 percent and 48 percent from the prior year due mainly to jassid infestations and lack of fertilizers and urea.

Consumption and Value-Added Cotton

Post forecasts MY2023/24 consumption at 25,000 bales, unchanged from the previous year. The GOM signed an agreement with the Government of China to create a new cotton processing company named Societe Malienne de Fil (SOMAFIL). There will be two units built in Koutiala and Bamako for \$354 million. GOM does not expect the company to start operating within the next two years.

Trade

Exports in 2023/24 are forecast at 1.33 million bales, an 83 percent increase over the previous year on expectation of stronger demand.

MY 2022/23 exports plummeted 48 percent to 725,000 bales from the previous year due to low available supply and logistical issues. According to the CMDT, the demand from spinning mills decreased, especially in Asia. Traders usually buy the fiber from CMDT before the campaign starts but only pay after embarkation, which could have an impact on the company treasury if it takes too long to board the fiber. According to the CMDT, about 10 to 15 percent of the MY2022/23 cotton fiber is still at the ports waiting for boarding. The Port of Dakar is where 35 percent to 40 percent of the fiber is transported from, followed by the ports in Abidjan, San Pedro, Lomé, Nouakchott, and Conakry. In each port, CMDT rents warehouses from freight forwarders, private companies, or uses warehouses located in several ports dedicated only to Malian merchandise. Bangladesh is the top buyer of Malian cotton, accounting for 60 to 70 percent of the market share, followed by Pakistan, Vietnam, India, and Turkey.

Stocks

CMDT always carries a buffer stock representing 10 percent to 20 percent of the production. On this basis, MY2023/24 stocks are projected at 196,000 bales and at 201,000 bales for MY 2022/23.

Policy

GOM continues to make the cotton sector a priority by subsidizing fertilizers, urea, and cotton farm gate prices. GOM also paid off debts for farmers' loss due to jassid infestations and flooding in MY 2022/23.

Burkina Faso

Production

MY 2023/24 area harvested is forecast at 490,000 HA, a 21 percent drop compared to the previous year. Lower area is due to many factors: the late installation of the rainy season which delayed planting, the persistence of attacks and the control of certain roads by non-state armed group (NSAG)—particularly in the Societe Cotonniere du Gourma (SOCOMA) zone—which prevented the distribution of inputs, and price increases for fertilizers and urea. Private industry reported that SOCOMA will skip the next campaign because main production areas have become inaccessible. According to the private industry, only 5,000 HA (eight percent of the SOCOMA initial objective) has been planted. The other cotton companies Societe Burkinabe des Fibres Textiles (SOFITEX) and FASO COTON experienced losses of production areas also but to a lesser extent. The farm gate cotton price for MY 2023/24 has been fixed at 325 F CFA (\$0.54) per kg, an eight percent increase compared to the previous year, while fertilizers and urea prices increased 75 percent and 100 percent respectively from the previous year, which may contribute to demotivate farmers to plant more.

Likewise, MY 2023/24 production is projected to fall ten percent to 705,000 bales due to a lack of fertilizer and difficulty accessing farms to harvest. Fertilizers and urea prices may not be used adequately based on the high prices which could reduce yield (See table 2). The Government of Burkina Faso only subsidized fertilizers and urea prices at 10 billion CFA in MY 2023/24 compared to 72.6 billion the previous year. Farmers will use the three recommended products to fight jassid infestations in MY 2023/24.

MY 2022/23 area and production level are estimated at 618,000 HA and 780,000 bales representing 4 percent increase and 21 percent decrease, respectively, compared to last year. For more information, please visit the [previous](#) 2023 Cotton and Products Annual GAIN report.

Consumption and Value-Added Cotton

MY 2023/24 and MY 2022/23 remain forecast at 25,000 bales based on national processing capacity with the only cotton spinning company *La Filature du Sahel* (FILSAH).

Trade

Post forecasts Burkina Faso's cotton exports in 2023/24 at 700,000 bales, down five percent compared to the previous year based on lower available supply and insecurity that may impact logistics.

Estimated exports in MY 2022/23 fell 21 percent to 740,000 bales due to a drop in supply.

Stocks

Post forecasts 2023/24 stocks at 76,000 bales, down 21 percent compared to the previous year based on greater exports.

Stocks in MY 2022/23 are estimated at 96,000 bales, up 19 percent from the previous year due to the slow movement of logistics in certain routes.

Policy

The Government of Burkina Faso continues to support the cotton sector by increasing the subsidy of the farm gate in MY 2022/23. However, subsidies for fertilizers and urea remain low compared to the previous year.

Senegal

Production

Cotton area in 2023/24 is forecast up six percent to 18,000 HA from the previous year since the government of Senegal wiped out all farmers input debts following the loss of revenues due to the jassid infestations in MY 2022/23, which may motivate farmers to plant more.

MY 2023/24 production is forecast to rise 27 percent to 33,000 bales from the previous year assuming a favorable rainfall season and less pest infestations, especially since Senegal is using the three recommended products by West African cotton researchers to fight jassids. Farmers have planted on time but one month later when the seedlings emerged, there was a lack of rain especially in the region of Tambacounda. There were also some jassids that appeared at the beginning of the season, but the infestation was quickly mitigated by the new products.

MY 2022/23 area and production levels are estimated at 17,000 HA and 25,000 bales, a 6 and 38 percent drop, respectively, from the prior year, due mainly to jassid infestations.



Photo 1: Senegal - Cotton field suffering from the lack of rain in Tambacounda region - July 2023

Source: SODEFITEX



Photo2: Senegal - Cotton field in Saraya, Kedougou region - August 2023

Consumption and Value-Added Cotton

Senegal's local consumption is forecast at zero bales for 2023/24 and projected at zero bales for 2022/23 due to the lack of a cotton processing industry.

Trade

Cotton exports for 2023/24 are projected to increase 27 percent to 33,000 bales compared to the previous year based on available supply. MY 2022/23 exports are estimated to fall 38 percent at 25,000 bales due to a production decline caused by jassid infestations.

Stocks

Slow demand in Asia, principally Bangladesh and Pakistan, has slowed embarkation in MY 2022/23. The Senegalese cotton company Société de Développement et des Fibres Textiles (SODEFITEX) estimates stocks for 2023/24 and 2022/23 at 3,000 bales.

Policy

The Government of Senegal continues to support the cotton sector by subsidizing cotton farm gate prices. In MY 2023/24, the Government of Senegal canceled all debts contracted by farmers to buy inputs after they lost revenues due jassid infestations.

Table 1. West Africa: Fixed Farm Gate Prices for Grade One Cotton

(CFA francs)	Official 20/21 Farm Gate Price	Official 21/22 Farm Gate Price	Official 22/23 Farm Gate Price	Official 22/23 Farm Gate Price
Burkina Faso	240 (\$0.41)	270 (\$0.47)	300 (\$0.52)	325 (\$0.54)
Mali	250 (\$0.43)	280 (\$0.49)	285 (\$0.49)	295 (~\$0.50)
Senegal	300 (\$0.52)	300 (\$0.52)	300 (\$0.52)	300 (~\$0.50)

Source: Official government data from Mali, Senegal, and Burkina Faso; \$1= 575 CFA francs from 2020/21 to 2022/23 \$1=600 CFA francs for 2022/23 per KG

Table 2. West Africa: Pricing for NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium) and Urea

(CFA francs)	Official 2020/21 Input Prices	Official 2021/22 Input Prices	Official 2022/23 Input Prices	Official 2022/23 Input Prices
Burkina Faso	NPK: 14,000 (\$24.35) Urea: 14,000 (\$24.35)	NPK: 14,000 (\$24.35) Urea: 14,000 (\$24.35)	NPK: 16,000 (\$27.82) Urea: 16,000 (\$27.82)	NPK: 28,000 (\$46.66) Urea: 32,000 (\$53.33)
Mali	NPK: 11,000 (\$19.13) Urea: 11,000 (\$19.13)	NPK: 11,000 (\$19.13) Urea: 11,000 (\$19.13)	NPK: 12,500 (\$21.73) Urea: 12,500 (\$21.73)	NPK: 14,840 (\$24.73) Urea: 14,840 (\$24.73)
Senegal	NPK: 15,012 (\$26.11) Urea: 13,112 (\$22.80)	NPK: 15,012 (\$26.11) Urea: 13,112 (\$22.80)	NPK: 15,012 (\$26.11) Urea: 13,112 (\$22.80)	N/A

Source: Official government data from Mali, Senegal, and Burkina Faso; \$1= 575 CFA francs from 2020/21 to 2022/23 \$1=600 CFA francs for 2022/23; All prices for 50 KG Bag

Table 3. Burkina Faso-Cotton Production, Supply and Distribution Data Statistics

(1,000 Hectares (HA), 1,000 bales, PERCENT, KG/HA)

Cotton Market Year Begins	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
	Aug 2021		Aug 2022		Aug 2023	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Burkina						
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	595	595	618	618	610	490
Beginning Stocks 1000 480 lb. Bales	51	51	96	81	106	96
Production 1000 480 lb. Bales	960	990	775	780	925	705
Imports 1000 480 lb. Bales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply 1000 480 lb. Bales	1011	1041	871	861	1031	801
Exports 1000 480 lb. Bales	900	935	750	740	875	700
Domestic Use 1000 480 lb. Bales	15	25	15	25	15	25
Loss 1000 480 lb. Bales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Use and Loss 1000 480 lb. Bales	15	25	15	25	15	25
Ending Stocks 1000 480 lb. Bales	96	81	106	96	141	76
Total Distribution 1000 480 lb. Bales	1011	1041	871	861	1031	801
Stock to Use % (PERCENT)	10.49	8.44	13.86	12.55	15.84	10.48
Yield (KG/HA)	351	362	273	275	330	313

Table 4. Mali- Cotton Production, Supply and Distribution Data Statistics

(1,000 Hectares (HA), 1,000 bales, PERCENT, KG/HA)

Cotton Market Year Begins	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
	Aug 2021		Aug 2022		Aug 2023	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Mali						
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	720	720	596	596	700	720
Beginning Stocks 1000 480 lb. Bales	196	196	301	201	261	201
Production 1000 480 lb. Bales	1430	1430	735	750	1250	1350
Imports 1000 480 lb. Bales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply 1000 480 lb. Bales	1626	1626	1036	951	1511	1551
Exports 1000 480 lb. Bales	1300	1400	750	725	1150	1330
Domestic Use 1000 480 lb. Bales	25	25	25	25	25	25
Loss 1000 480 lb. Bales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Use and Loss 1000 480 lb. Bales	25	25	25	25	25	25
Ending Stocks 1000 480 lb. Bales	301	201	261	201	336	196
Total Distribution 1000 480 lb. Bales	1626	1626	1036	951	1511	1551
Stock to Use % (PERCENT)	22.72	14.11	33.68	26.8	28.6	14.46
Yield (KG/HA)	432	432	269	274	389	408

Table 5. Senegal-Cotton Production, Supply and Distribution Data Statistics

(1,000 Hectares (HA), 1,000 bales, PERCENT, KG/HA)

Cotton Market Year Begins Senegal	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
	Aug 2021		Aug 2022		Aug 2023	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	18	18	17	17	19	18
Beginning Stocks 1000 480 lb. Bales	3	3	2	3	7	3
Production 1000 480 lb. Bales	42	42	30	25	35	33
Imports 1000 480 lb. Bales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply 1000 480 lb. Bales	45	45	32	28	42	36
Exports 1000 480 lb. Bales	48	42	25	25	35	33
Domestic Use 1000 480 lb. Bales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loss 1000 480 lb. Bales	-5	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Use and Loss 1000 480 lb. Bales	-5	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Stocks 1000 480 lb. Bales	2	3	7	3	7	3
Total Distribution 1000 480 lb. Bales	45	45	32	28	42	36
Stock to Use % (PERCENT)	4.17	7.14	28	12	20	9.09
Yield (KG/HA)	508	508	384	320	401	399

Attachments:

No Attachments