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Report Highlights:

Marketing year (MY) 2020/21 (August to July) area for Mali, Burkina Faso, and Senegal is forecast to increase three percent to 1.37 million hectares (HA) compared to the previous year on the expectation of strong fixed farm gate prices, low input prices, and greater access to credit. MY 2020/21 total cotton production for all three countries is projected to increase 4.5 percent from the previous year to 2.34 million bales assuming good weather and low pest pressure. MY 2020/21 total exports are estimated at 2.30 million bales on expectations of strong international demand.

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Executive Summary:

Marketing year (MY) 2020/21 (August to July) area for Senegal, Burkina Faso and Mali is forecast at 1.37 million hectares (HA), a three percent increase from the previous year on the expectation that strong fixed farm gate prices, low input prices, and greater access to credit. To date, there have been no reports that COVID-19 will affect the availability of inputs or farmer decisions to work in the field; however, contacts from Burkina Faso noted that if movements are restricted this could prevent farmers from planting and managing the cotton crop. It is unclear if the security situation will continue to affect farmer decisions to plant cotton in Burkina Faso. MY 2020/21 total cotton production for all three countries is projected to increase 4.5 percent from the previous year to 2.3 million bales assuming good weather and low pest pressure. MY 2020/21 total exports are projected to rise 5 percent to 2.30 million bales on expectations of strong international demand. Official MY 2020/21 fixed farmgate prices and subsidized fertilizer prices have not yet been announced for all three countries.

MY 2019/20 area for Senegal, Burkina Faso and Mali is estimated at 1.33 million HA, down 4.3 percent from the previous year due to late rains, reduced access to inputs, and heightened insecurity in Burkina Faso. MY 2019/20 production for all three countries is estimated at 2.24 million bales, 5.6 percent higher than the previous year due to good weather and low pest pressure that resulted in stronger yields. MY 2019/20 total exports are estimated at 2.19 million bales, down by 24 percent on lower exportable supplies.

Mali

Production

MY 2020/21 (August to July) cotton area is forecast up one percent to 740,000 HA on expectations of continued strong farm gate prices that may affect planting decisions. According to contacts, security challenges in northern, central and eastern Mali have had no impact on Mali's cotton sector, which is primarily in the southwestern part of the country. To date, there have been no reports that COVID-19 will affect the availability of inputs or farmer decisions to work in the field. MY 2020/21 production is projected to increase by 1.5 percent to 1.36 million bales assuming good weather.

For MY 2019/20, area and production levels are estimated at 735,000 HA and 1.34 million bales based on updated official government data. According to contacts, good rainfall and favorable temperatures resulted in stronger than expected yields despite reports of weed and pest issues. Please see the [December 2019 update](#) for more information.

According to government contacts, 40 percent of the rural population grows cotton, which represents approximately 30 percent of total export earnings. Although cotton is an important cash crop for the economy, almost all cotton farms use animal traction and garden seeders. Only about one percent use modern farm equipment such as tractors. Please see the [December 2019 update](#) for more information on the cotton sector.

Consumption and Value-Added Cotton

Consumption for MY 2020/21 is forecast at 25,000 bales, unchanged from last year. About two percent of cotton fiber is processed into yarn, artisanal fabrics, bags, and mops by three major companies: COMATEX, BATEX-CI, and Sikotex. Cotton seeds are processed into oil and cakes for human and animal consumption.

Photo 1 and 2. Mali: Malian Artisanal Cotton Spinning and Weaving



Source: <https://lomassa.com/pages/malian-cotton>

Trade

Exports for MY 2020/21 are forecast at 1.33 million bales, up 1.5 percent from the previous year on expectations of higher exportable supplies and strong international demand. Exports for MY 2019/20 are estimated at 1.31 million bales on strong exportable supplies. Most of the cotton is sold in Asia, especially to Bangladesh. For more information on trade, please see the [December 2019 update](#).

Stocks

Stocks for MY 2020/21 are projected at 6,000 bales, unchanged from last year. According to sources, no stocks remain in country by the end of the marketing year.

Policy

The Government of Mali is drafting a policy initiative called the Strategic Development Program for the Cotton Sector (PDS-FC) for 2020-2025. The goal of the initiative is to produce over one million MT of seed cotton per year by 2025.

Senegal

Production

For MY 2020/21, area is forecast at 20,000 HA, 25 percent higher on expectations of strong fixed farm gate prices that may affect farmer planting decisions, particularly in the Kolda region which represents 60 percent of Senegal's cotton production. Contacts stated that the Kolda region reportedly has unexploited area that could result in further increases if farmers believe there are sufficient profit margins. To date, there have been no reports that COVID-19 will affect the availability of inputs or farmer decisions to work in the field. MY 2020/21 production is projected at 36,000 bales, a 24 percent increase assuming good weather and low pest pressure.

Area and production for MY 2019/20 are estimated at 16,000 HA and 29,000 bales based on official government data. Due to late rains, some farmers abandoned fields and switched to other crops. However, good weather and low pest pressure resulted in strong yields. For more information, please see the [December 2019 update](#).

Cotton is planted from mid-May to July and harvested from October to December. It is completely rain-fed. Cotton is primarily grown in the regions of Kolda and Tambacounda. For more information on cotton production in Senegal, please see the [September 2019 update](#).

Consumption and Value-Added Cotton

Post forecasts MY 2020/21 consumption at zero bales. According to contacts, Senegal has one textile company, Nouvelle Société Textile Sénégalaise (NSTS); however, it is not currently operational.

Trade

MY 2020/21 cotton exports are projected at 36,000 bales, 24 percent higher than the previous year on expectations of strong international demand and higher exportable supplies. MY 2019/20 exports remain unchanged at 29,000 bales on lower exportable supplies. For the past four years, Bangladesh has purchased over two-thirds of Senegal's cotton exports.

Stocks

Stocks for 2020/21 are forecast at 3,000 bales, unchanged from last year. According to contacts, virtually no stocks are stored in country by the end of the marketing year.

Policy

According to contacts, in order to continue to try to encourage more farmers to grow cotton, it is likely that the Government of Senegal and SODEFITEX, Senegal's only ginning company, will continue to offer credit and fixed prices as incentives. For more information on Senegal's cotton policy, please see the [September 2019 update](#).

Burkina Faso

Production

MY 2020/21 area is projected at 610,000 HA, up five percent on expectations of a strong fixed farm gate price, low fertilizer prices, and continued and expanded access to credit. Sources believe more indebted farmers will likely be able to access credit for MY 2020/21 (please see the Policy section), which may influence increased acreage. However, it is unclear if the security situation will continue to affect farmer decisions to plant cotton. According to contacts, the government is closely coordinating with its armed forces and farmers in areas most affected by insecurity. To date, there have been no reports that COVID-19 will affect the availability of inputs or farmer decisions to work in the field; however, contacts noted that if movements are restricted this could prevent farmers from planting and managing the cotton crop. MY 2020/21 cotton production is projected to increase nine percent to 950 million bales assuming good weather and access to quality pesticide due to expected increased availability of credit.

MY 2019/20 area is estimated at 580,000 HA, down from the previous year by approximately ten percent due to reduced access to inputs, security challenges, and late rains. Farmers abandoned 16,000 HA of planted cotton fields due to insecurity (see [September 2019 update](#)). MY 2019/20 production is estimated at 875,000 bales, up by six percent due to good rainfall, increased fertilizer use, and effective new pesticides; however, yields were lower than expected given some areas experienced drought and excessive rainfall that damaged many cotton bolls. Please see the [December 2019 update](#) for more information.

Consumption and Value-Added Cotton

Consumption for MY 2020/21 is forecast at 25,000 bales, unchanged from last year.

Trade

Cotton exports for MY 2020/21 are forecast at 925,000 bales, up approximately nine percent from the previous year on expectations of higher exportable supplies and strong international demand. Exports for MY 2019/20 decreased 19 percent from the previous year to 850,000 bales on lower exportable supplies. Bangladesh purchases about half of all cotton exports from Burkina Faso. For information on trade, please see the [December 2019 update](#).

Stocks

MY 2019/20 stocks are projected to be unchanged at 10,000 bales, the same as the previous year. According to contacts, virtually no stocks remain in country.

Policy

Given the importance of cotton exports for Burkina Faso's economy, it is likely that the Government of Burkina Faso will continue to support price and input subsidies to encourage cotton production. Around 10,200 indebted cotton farmers were unable to access credit for inputs last year, which resulted in lower planted cotton area. Sources believe that most of these farmers, collectively representing around 36,000 HA, will likely have credit options for MY 2020/21. For more information, please see the [September 2019 update](#).

Burkina Faso has stopped the distribution of Bt cotton seeds since MY 2016/17. It is unclear if another biotechnology option will become available to farmers (please see the [Agricultural Biotechnology Annual](#) report for more information on Bt cotton in Burkina Faso, which is currently unavailable in country). Many farmers and cotton sector players support using genetically engineered cotton seed so that they can better address the cotton bollworm pest, which continues to affect yields.

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

(CFA francs)	Official 2017/18 Farm Gate Price	Official 2018/19 Farm Gate Price	Official 2019/20 Farm Gate Price	Official 2020/21 Farm Gate Price
Burkina Faso	245 (\$0.89)	250 (\$0.43)	265 (\$0.46)	TBD
Mali	250 (\$0.43)	255 (\$0.44)	275 (\$0.48)	TBD
Senegal	300 (\$0.52)	300 (\$0.52)	300 (\$0.52)	TBD

Source: Official government data; \$1= 575 CFA francs; CFA francs per KG

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

(CFA francs)	Official 2017/18 Input Prices	Official 2018/19 Input Prices	Official 2019/20 Input Prices	Official 2020/21 Input Prices
Burkina Faso	NPK: 15,000 (\$26.09) Urea: 15,000 (\$26.09)	NPK: 15,000 (\$26.09) Urea: 15,000 (\$26.09)	NPK: 14,000 (\$24.35) Urea: 14,000 (\$24.35)	NPK: TBD Urea: TBD
Mali	NPK: 11,000 (\$19.13) Urea: 11,000 (\$19.13)	NPK: 11,000 (\$19.13) Urea: 11,000 (\$19.13)	NPK: 11,000 (\$19.13) Urea: 11,000 (\$19.13)	NPK: TBD Urea: TBD
Senegal	NPK: 16,038 (\$27.89) Urea: 12,132 (\$21.10)	NPK: 14,675 (\$25.52) Urea: 13,000 (\$22.60)	NPK: 14,675 (\$25.52) Urea: 13,112 (\$22.80)	NPK: TBD Urea: TBD

Source: Official government data; \$1= 575 CFA francs; CFA francs per KG

Production, Supply and Distribution Data Statistics
(1,000 Hectares (HA), 1,000 bales, PERCENT, KG/HA)

Cotton	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
Market Begin Year	Aug 2018		Aug 2019		Aug 2020	
Mali	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area Harvested	725	725	735	735	0	740
Beginning Stocks	576	576	471	6	0	6
Production	1270	1270	1350	1340	0	1360
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imports from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	1846	1846	1821	1346	0	1366
Exports	1350	1815	1300	1315	0	1335
Use	25	25	25	25	0	25
Loss	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Cons.	25	25	25	25	0	25
Ending Stocks	471	6	496	6	0	6
Total Distribution	1846	1846	1821	1346	0	1366
Stock to Use %	34.25	0.33	37.43	0.40	0	0.40
Yield	381	381	400	397	0	400

Cotton	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
Market Begin Year	Aug 2018		Aug 2019		Aug 2020	
Senegal	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area Harvested	21	21	17	16	0	20
Beginning Stocks	3	3	5	3	0	3
Production	29	29	25	29	0	36
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imports from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	32	32	30	32	0	39
Exports	25	29	25	29	0	36
Use	2	0	0	0	0	0
Loss	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Cons.	2	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Stocks	5	3	5	3	0	3
Total Distribution	32	32	30	32	0	39
Stock to Use %	18.52	10.34	20	10.34	0	8.33
Yield	301	301	320	395	0	392

Cotton	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
Market Begin Year	Aug 2018		Aug 2019		Aug 2020	
Burkina	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area Harvested	630	645	575	580	0	610
Beginning Stocks	255	255	140	10	0	10
Production	850	825	1000	875	0	950
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imports from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	1105	1080	1140	885	0	960
Exports	940	1045	900	850	0	925
Use	25	25	25	25	0	25
Loss	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Cons.	25	25	25	25	0	25
Ending Stocks	140	10	215	10	0	10
Total Distribution	1105	1080	1140	885	0	960
Stock to Use %	14.51	0.90	23.24	1.10	0	1.10
Yield	294	278	379	328	0	339

Attachments:

No Attachments