



Voluntary Report - public distribution

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GAIN Report #HR9019

Croatia

Grain and Feed

Croatia Facing Corn Imports 1999

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Report Highlights:

Croatia faces significant corn imports in 1999 and even larger imports in 2000.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Vienna [AU1], HR

Currently, Croatia is faced with an estimated 100,000-130,000 MT corn shortage till the 1999 harvest. As a result prices are up as high as 1.20 HRK/kg compared to average 0.55 in 1998, and 0.70-0.80 in April 1999.

This shortage results from the fact that due to low market prices in Autumn 1998 much of the corn was left on the fields, to increased pig fattening, as well as large exports of 170,000 MT just prior to the 1998 harvest and an additional 75,000 MT exported during the September 1998-March 1999 period.

It is estimated that the 1999 sowing season represents a circa 25-30% decrease in the planted area. This coupled with expected lower yields means that in 2000 Croatia will likely be forced to import significant quantities of corn.

PSD Table						
Country	Croatia					
Commodity	Corn				(1000 HA)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1997		01/1998		01/1999
Area Harvested	0	371	0	370	0	210
Beginning Stocks	0	80	0	457	0	275
Production	0	2183	0	1770	0	1300
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Imports	0	3	0	1	0	130
Oct-Sep Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct-Sep Import U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	0	2266	0	2228	0	1705
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Exports	0	14	0	171	0	0
Oct-Sep Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed Dom. Consumption	0	1600	0	1600	0	1500
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	0	1795	0	1782	0	1705
Ending Stocks	0	457	0	275	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	0	2266	0	2228	0	1705

Exchange rate: HRK 7.36 = \$1.00