

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Crop Situation Update

Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Post: Sarajevo

Report Category: Grain and Feed

Prepared By:

Approved By: Frederick Giles

Report Highlights:

The spring planting which started in early April in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is still ongoing. The weather and soil conditions are reportedly excellent. Farmers will plant 2019/2020 corn on approximately 175,500 hectares (ha) versus the 192,073 ha in 2018/2019. That is a nine percent decrease due to the increased seeds and plant protection costs. An expected corn production is approximately 965,000 metric tons (average yield 5.5 MT/ha). The 2019/2020 wheat will be harvested from a planted area of 71,326 ha and is expected to produce 285,300 MT similar to the 291,515 MT harvested from 72,677 ha in 2018/2019.

Corn

Corn planting, which is usually done in the first half of April, is still ongoing in areas with higher elevations. Most farmers are reporting that the weather and soil conditions for corn planting are excellent. MY2019/2020 corn will be planted on approximately 175,500 hectares (ha) versus the 192,073 ha in MY2018/2019. That is a nine percent decrease. Reportedly, due to the higher costs paid for seeds and plant protection this season farmers are switching to planting fodder crops instead. The planted corn area could translate into a production of 965,000 metric tons (MT) with an expected average of 5.5 metric ton/hectare (MT/ha).

Wheat

Winter wheat was sown on 71,326 ha. With an expected average yield of 4.0 MT/ha, a total production of approximately 285,300 MT is expected. The current wheat area is similar to the MY2018/2019 wheat crop when 291,515 MT was harvested from 72,677 ha with an average yield of 4.0 MT/ha.

Barley

Winter barley was sown on 21,567 ha and the expected production is 75,500 MT (an average of 3.5 MT/ha). The barley area slightly decreased from the 21,901 ha in MY2018/2019, when the production was 79,060 MT.

Oats

Winter oats was sown on 9,975 ha, and area decreased by two percent from 10,201 ha in MY2018/2019. That could translate into a production of approximately 29,925 MT (an average of 3.0 MT/ha). The MY2018/2019 production was 26,511 MT. Spring oats will be sown on approximately 4,017 ha with an expected production of 12,050 MT.

Rye

Winter rye area increased from 3,789 ha in MY2018/2019 to 4,092 ha in MY2019/2020 that is expected to produce 14,300 MT (an average of 3.5 MT/ha). The MY2018/2019 production was 11,409 MT.

Trade statistics

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) does not produce enough grains for its needs and is highly dependent on imports. The country's annual needs are approximately 550,000 MT of wheat and 1.2M MT of corn.

In 2018, BiH imported 329,357 MT of wheat valued at \$68 million (local currency Convertible Mark/KM 115.6 million) mainly from Hungary, Serbia, and Croatia. In the same year, BiH imported 227,077 MT of corn valued at \$48 million (KM 81 million). Approximately 85 percent of the imported corn came from Serbia.

In 2018, 29,895 MT of barley imports were valued at \$5.8 million (KM 9.9 million), while imports of oats were 3,947 MT valued at \$700,000 (KM 1.2 million), and rye imports of 1,036 MT were valued at \$215,000 (KM 365,000).

Regarding grain exports, in 2018 BiH exported 61,717 MT of wheat valued at \$11.6 million (KM 19.8 million) and 98 percent was destined to Croatia and Italy. In the same year, BiH exported 7,369 MT of corn valued at \$2.6 million (KM 4.4 million) and approximately 91 percent of exported corn went to Croatia.

In 2018, BiH exports of wheat flour decreased by 72 percent compared to 2017 and totaled 31,734 MT valued at \$9.6 million (KM 16.3 million). This decrease is due to implementation of the new free trade agreement with Turkey that limited the free import duty quota due to the complaints of its milling industry.

In the same year, imports of wheat flour were 79,359 MT valued at \$20.3 million (KM 32.6 million). The import decreased by 22 percent compared to flour imports in 2017. Locally produced wheat flour intended for Turkey likely ended up in the local market and misplaced imported flour.

Exports of other grains were insignificant.

Attachments:

No Attachments.