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Report Highlights:

At nearly 313.5 MMT, the total MY2019/20 EU28 grain crop is around 2 MMT higher than the previous forecast, with higher wheat, corn and barley production partially offset by a lower mixed grain production. Higher than previously forecast food, seed and industrial use is largely offset by a reduction in forecast feed use, but it is still significantly up year-on-year. While the overall situation means a relatively buoyant outlook for EU28 grain supplies in the coming months, planting conditions for the MY2020/21 are currently somewhat mixed.

General Information:

Unless stated otherwise, data in this report is based on the views of Foreign Agricultural Service analysts in the EU-28 and is not official USDA data.

This report would not have been possible without the valuable expert contributions from the following Foreign Service analysts:

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HA = Hectares

MT = Metric Tonne

MY = Marketing Year. Post and USDA official data both follow the EU-28 local marketing year of July to June except for corn which follows an October to September calendar

TY = July to June for wheat and October to September for coarse grains

Executive Summary

Total Grains Market Begin Year European Union	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Jul 2017		Jul 2018		Jul 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	55134	55077	54797	54751	55879	55926
Beginning Stocks	25833	25833	30237	29883	23200	24271
Production	303249	302916	284777	285320	311550	313325
MY Imports	25225	25225	31760	31760	27505	27005
TY Imports	25147	25147	31927	31927	27505	27255
TY Imp. from U.S.	2484	631	773	631	0	0
Total Supply	354307	353974	346774	346963	362255	365051
MY Exports	31300	31300	31804	31804	36930	37352
TY Exports	31211	31211	32512	32512	36930	37002
Feed and Residual	178850	178612	178600	176600	182600	181650
FSI Consumption	113920	114179	113170	113838	114070	115947
Total Consumption	292770	292791	291770	290438	296670	297597
Ending Stocks	30237	29833	23200	24721	28655	30102
Total Distribution	354307	353974	346774	346963	362255	365051
Yield	5.50	5.50	5.20	5.21	5.58	5.60
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)						

At nearly 313.5 MMT, the total MY2019/20 EU28 grain crop is raised nearly 2 MMT on the previous forecast. Combined with higher carry in stocks from MY2018/19, this sees the grain supply forecast raised, despite a slightly lower grain import number. The main factor in the latter's decline is a reduction in Spanish imports of sorghum due to plentiful supplies of other grains, specifically corn from Brazil and Ukraine as well as from intra-EU sources. The export forecast is little changed and the slight reduction in forecast feed use, but still significantly up year-on-year, is more than offset by higher forecast food, seed and industrial usage. Consequently, overall stocks are still forecast to increase around 5.5 MMT through MY2019/20.

Latest country specific updates for MY2019/20

Baltic Countries

In MY2019/20 Estonia harvested a record grain crop. Wheat production increased by 80 percent in comparison with the record low of the previous harvest. Also, in Latvia and Lithuania soft wheat output also reached near record levels. Despite the sizeable harvest results, grain quality and output were regionally diverse. Soft wheat export potential from the Baltics to non-EU countries will increase significantly in MY 2019/20.

Bulgaria MY2019/20

Bulgaria harvested a larger than expected wheat crop due to favorable spring weather with sufficient rainfall. Corn production also expanded due to a larger area both planted and harvested. Still, the average corn yields fell below the earlier forecast due to dry and hot weather in the second half of July and August. Due to reduced swine inventories as a result of the challenging epizootic situation (African

Swine Fever outbreak in the summer of 2019), feed use is likely to decrease and result in more grain availability for export. As of mid-November, wheat exports are significantly up year-on-year due to favorable demand in the Black Sea region.

Czech Republic and Slovakia

MY2019/20 has been characterized by better than expected wheat and barley crops, but the opposite for corn due to the summer drought and increased rodent damage.

France

Despite the heatwave that hit France in June and July 2019, both the barley and soft wheat crops achieved almost record yields with excellent quality due to good conditions throughout the growing season. However, the corn was affected by the drought that lasted until late September, which lowered both acreage (through a transfer from corn grain to corn silage) and yield. Heavy rains then hampered the corn harvest, especially in the northern half of France where, as of mid-November, a sizeable part of the crop (close to 20 percent) is still unharvested. French wheat exports were very active, with much higher volumes being exported to West and North Africa (notably Morocco), Egypt and China, benefiting from a lower Euro and good price competitiveness.

Germany

Grain yields suffered from high temperatures and windy weather in late June which resulted in early maturation. As a result, production was lower than previously forecast, especially for wheat. The availability of cheap corn from Ukraine means wheat feed wheat use, while up year-on-year, is forecast below previous expectations.

Italy

The rice harvest commenced at the end of September. Some delays were incurred by a period of wet weather at the end of October and beginning of November but it is now nearing completion and the outlook is positive.

Netherlands

MY2018/2019 saw a record volume of corn imported by the Netherlands. MY2019/20 corn imports are forecast to remain high, based on an abundance of corn in Brazil and Ukraine. Also, imports from EU member states are forecast to remain steady due to the good EU harvest. Overall the feed uptake of corn will increase at the expense of wheat.

Nordics

In the Nordics, both the wheat and barley crops significantly increased in MY2019/20, mainly a recovery from the low crops in MY2018/19. As a result, feed use of wheat and barley is forecast to increase in the Nordics during MY2019/2020.

Spain

The area planted to corn in MY2018/19 increased for the first time since MY2014/15. However, low precipitation saw overall grain production fall despite an increase for corn. The poor grain crop but steady demand will increase the country's grain deficiency to record import volumes in MY2019/20. Total grain imports for MY2019/20 are anticipated to be close to the historical high achieved in MY2017/18 when over 17 MMT of grains were imported. Large grain imports, mainly corn, will be necessary to offset the reduced domestic crop. While most wheat and barley is imported from other EU countries, Ukraine has consolidated its position as Spain's main corn supplier, followed by Brazil and other EU origins. Corn from the United States is no longer price competitive following the imposition of retaliatory import duties by the EU. The feed industry is Spain's primary grain consumer. Feed production continues to grow, driven by the increasing demand from Spain's export-oriented livestock sector. Sorghum imports in MY2019/20 have been discontinued due to the increased availability of imported corn.

Poland

In MY2019/20 Poland produced 8 percent more grains than in the crisis in MY2018/19. Production of all grains, except corn, increased. Due to the summer drought, the quality of the grain varies greatly, depending on the region of origin. The reduced corn harvest may see stronger demand for other feed grains.

Portugal

Total grain production in Portugal has been declining since 2013, driven by lower corn plantings, themselves falling due to lower margins compared to alternative crops, and to a lesser extent diversification established by the EU's greening measure. Corn is Portugal's most important grain crop, accounting for 75 percent of the country's total grain production. The decline of domestic grain production, together with increased demand, has eroded Portugal's grain self-sufficiency rate, which is currently estimated to be just over 15 percent (in the case of corn 25 percent).

United Kingdom

MY2019/20 saw both the wheat and barley crops considerably exceed previous expectations, the hot dry summer weather and intermittent showers proving to be positive despite some concerns at the time. Brexit has led to export uncertainty and disrupted sales. With consumption in line with previous forecasts, except industrial use of wheat which is now forecast to rise, the main consequence of the increased production is currently forecast to be increased ending stocks of both grains. These will weigh on the MY2020/21 balances.

Latest country specific planting highlights for MY2020/21

Baltic Countries

Planting conditions have been very favorable for grains thus far. Warm weather and sufficient soil moisture meant a good start for plantings. The grain area remains in line with MY2019/20.

Belgium

Planting conditions for the 2020 crop have been excellent thus far, with 80 percent of planting completed.

Bulgaria

A dry and warm fall has made the planting challenging and reduced prospects for average yields. However, the winter grains are reported to be developing relatively well due to rainfall in mid-November.

Croatia

The fall weather was surprisingly sunny and warm. Nevertheless, due to sufficient rain, soil moisture was good for sowing, and plants are reported to have established well.

France

Planting conditions are less than favorable, with an excess of rainfall in many regions delaying barley and soft wheat planting (but at the same time replenishing groundwater supplies). The soft wheat area is expected to increase again from MY2019/2020 at the expense of rapeseed, as is the barley area albeit to a lesser extent. However, should the bad weather extend to the beginning of winter, farmers may opt for planting spring crops instead of winter wheat if it's not likely to be in the ground sufficiently ahead of any frost.

Germany

Planting conditions varied substantially by region. In the South, it was rather dry during planting and emergence which was good for field access but posed some challenges for the young plants. In much of the rest of the country planting was occasionally interrupted by rains but proceeded well. In the North (Schleswig-Holstein, Lower-Saxony, Mecklenburg Western-Pomerania), rains during October delayed the corn harvest and the subsequent planting of winter grains for 2020. Some of those fields may go unplanted until the spring and then will be planted with summer grains.

Hungary

Hungary saw dry and warm conditions initially affect sowing in September and October, making it difficult to prepare a good seedbed for winter crops. However, abundant rains from the end of October improved soil moisture levels, assisting seed germination. Temperatures remain above the seasonal norm and the weather wet, providing ideal conditions for plant development to unify the unevenly

emerged crops. It is also promising that moisture levels in the middle and lower soil layers are above the needed minimum level for the season.

Italy

The outlook for wheat and corn remains positive, despite a wet period at the beginning of November.

Poland

In September and October 2019, air temperatures significantly exceeded the seasonal average. Soil moisture is very beneficial for new crops. Together, this created excellent conditions for crop development. However, the very warm weather has increased producer concerns regarding rodents and the threat of fall fungal infections has also increased.

Spain & Portugal

Dry fall conditions initially delayed winter grain plantings in Spain and Portugal. Timely rains in mid-November mean winter crops are now established and the outlook is positive. However, reservoirs in Spain are at around 40 percent capacity, well below average. The wheat area is currently expected to grow at the expense of barley. While still too early to predict, as plantings will depend on the amount of water in storage in the spring, prices currently favor corn plantings instead of other irrigated crops.

United Kingdom

The UK continues to experience a very wet fall, which has delayed planting and led to localized flooding. Winter planting is less than 50 percent complete at a time when more than 80 per cent would normally be completed. While some of this backlog will be filled should the weather improve, current expectations are for increased plantings of spring crops, mainly barley rather than wheat, and reduced average yields.

Appendices

Wheat Market Begin Year European Union	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Jul 2017		Jul 2018		Jul 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	26160	26139	25581	25650	26080	26060
Beginning Stocks	10719	10719	13885	14034	10000	10840
Production	151125	150935	136863	137150	153000	154000
MY Imports	5824	5833	5762	5762	5500	5500
TY Imports	5824	5833	5762	5762	5500	5500
TY Imp. from U.S.	578	631	773	750	0	0
Total Supply	167668	167487	156510	156946	168500	170340
MY Exports	23383	23353	23310	23306	29000	28000
TY Exports	23383	23353	23310	23306	29000	28000
Feed and Residual	58000	58500	52000	52000	56000	57500
FSI Consumption	72400	71600	71200	70800	71500	72200
Total Consumption	130400	130100	123200	122800	127500	129700
Ending Stocks	13885	14034	10000	10840	12000	12640
Total Distribution	167668	167487	156510	156946	168500	170340
Yield	5.7769	5.7743	5.3502	5.347	5.8666	5.9094

(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)

Barley Market Begin Year European Union	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Jul 2017		Jul 2018		Jul 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	12095	12071	12307	12250	12410	12400
Beginning Stocks	5421	5421	4627	4879	4166	4380
Production	58654	58607	55898	56000	61800	63000
MY Imports	451	450	127	127	500	250
TY Imports	231	231	450	450	500	250
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	64526	64478	60652	61006	66466	67630
MY Exports	5899	5899	4886	4876	5600	6000
TY Exports	5857	5857	5600	5877	5600	6000
Feed and Residual	39000	38500	36500	36500	39700	39500
FSI Consumption	15000	15200	15100	15250	15200	15400
Total Consumption	54000	53700	51600	51750	54900	54900
Ending Stocks	4627	4879	4166	4380	5966	6730
Total Distribution	64526	64478	60652	61006	66466	67630
Yield	4.8494	4.8552	4.542	4.5714	4.9799	5.0806

(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)

Corn Market Begin Year European Union	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Oct 2017		Oct 2018		Oct 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	8258	8250	8270	8240	8594	8700
Beginning Stocks	7597	7597	9835	8149	7552	7729
Production	62022	61982	64217	64400	64560	65200
MY Imports	18465	18469	24800	25209	21000	21000
TY Imports	18465	18469	24800	25209	21000	21000
TY Imp. from U.S.	1906	1906	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	88084	88048	98852	97758	93112	93929
MY Exports	1749	1749	3300	3629	2000	3500
TY Exports	1749	1749	3300	3629	2000	3500
Feed and Residual	57000	58000	68000	65500	62000	61500
FSI Consumption	19500	20150	20000	20900	20500	21300
Total Consumption	76500	78150	88000	86400	82500	82800
Ending Stocks	9835	8149	7552	7729	8612	7629
Total Distribution	88084	88048	98852	97758	93112	93929
Yield	7.5105	7.513	7.7651	7.8155	7.5122	7.4943
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)						

Sorghum Market Begin Year European Union	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Jul 2017		Jul 2018		Jul 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	124	125	135	136	157	156
Beginning Stocks	24	24	132	71	101	45
Production	660	660	737	745	820	825
MY Imports	420	420	759	759	400	150
TY Imports	486	486	675	675	400	150
TY Imp. from U.S.	144	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	1104	1104	1628	1575	1321	1020
MY Exports	2	2	7	7	5	2
TY Exports	2	2	7	7	5	0
Feed and Residual	950	1012	1500	1500	1200	950
FSI Consumption	20	19	20	23	20	22
Total Consumption	970	1031	1520	1523	1220	972
Ending Stocks	132	71	101	45	96	46
Total Distribution	1104	1104	1628	1575	1321	1020
Yield	5.3226	5.28	5.4593	5.4779	5.2229	5.2885
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)						

Oats Market Begin Year	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Jul 2017		Jul 2018		Jul 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
European Union						
Area Harvested	2666	2667	2712	2700	2552	2550
Beginning Stocks	637	637	613	707	386	600
Production	8058	8062	7715	7700	7920	7950
MY Imports	4	4	14	14	5	5
TY Imports	4	4	15	15	5	5
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	8699	8703	8342	8421	8311	8555
MY Exports	186	186	106	106	125	200
TY Exports	128	128	115	115	125	200
Feed and Residual	6100	6000	6000	5900	5900	5950
FSI Consumption	1800	1810	1850	1815	1850	1825
Total Consumption	7900	7810	7850	7715	7750	7775
Ending Stocks	613	707	386	600	436	580
Total Distribution	8699	8703	8342	8421	8311	8555
Yield	3.0225	3.0229	2.8448	2.8519	3.1034	3.1176
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)						

Rye Market Begin Year	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Jul 2017		Jul 2018		Jul 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
European Union						
Area Harvested	1931	1925	1920	1915	2070	2060
Beginning Stocks	989	989	674	1139	482	767
Production	7405	7370	6205	6175	7950	7750
MY Imports	61	60	298	298	100	100
TY Imports	137	137	225	225	100	100
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	8455	8419	7177	7612	8532	8617
MY Exports	81	80	195	195	200	150
TY Exports	92	92	180	180	200	200
Feed and Residual	4000	3600	3000	3200	3900	4000
FSI Consumption	3700	3600	3500	3450	3500	3500
Total Consumption	7700	7200	6500	6650	7400	7500
Ending Stocks	674	1139	482	767	932	967
Total Distribution	8455	8419	7177	7612	8532	8617
Yield	3.8348	3.8286	3.2318	3.2245	3.8406	3.7621
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)						

Mixed Grain Market Begin Year European Union	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Jul 2017		Jul 2018		Jul 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	3900	3900	3872	3860	4016	4000
Beginning Stocks	446	446	471	946	513	496
Production	15325	15300	13142	13150	15500	14600
MY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	15771	15746	13613	14096	16013	15096
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed and Residual	13800	13000	11600	12000	13900	12750
FSI Consumption	1500	1800	1500	1600	1500	1700
Total Consumption	15300	14800	13100	13600	15400	14450
Ending Stocks	471	946	513	496	613	646
Total Distribution	15771	15746	13613	14096	16013	15096
Yield	3.9295	3.9231	3.3941	3.4067	3.8596	3.65
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)						

Rice, Milled Market Begin Year European Union	2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020	
	Sep 2017		Sep 2018		Sep 2019	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	431	432	414	417	420	420
Beginning Stocks	1192	1192	1181	1204	1127	1196
Milled Production	2007	2029	1941	1944	2008	1961
Rough Production	2892	2964	2797	2839	2893	2870
Milling Rate (.9999)	6940	6845	6940	6847	6940	6833
MY Imports	2006	2007	2100	2148	2050	2100
TY Imports	1922	1922	2100	2148	2050	2100
TY Imp. from U.S.	53	43	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	5205	5228	5222	5296	5185	5257
MY Exports	349	349	320	300	300	300
TY Exports	308	308	300	300	300	300
Consumption and Residual	3675	3675	3775	3800	3800	3850
Ending Stocks	1181	1204	1127	1196	1085	1107
Total Distribution	5205	5228	5222	5296	5185	5257
Yield (Rough)	6.71	6.8611	6.756	6.8082	6.8881	6.8333
(1000 HA) ,(1000 MT) ,(MT/HA)						

Attachments:

No Attachments.