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## **Report Name:** Grain and Feed Update

**Country:** Kazakhstan - Republic of

**Post:** Astana(Nur-Sultan)

**Report Category:** Grain and Feed

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### **Report Highlights:**

FAS-Astana estimates Kazakhstan's wheat production reached 16.4 million metric tons (MMT) in marketing year (MY) 2022/2023, which is the largest production volume since MY 2017/2018. In addition to wheat, barley production also recovered due to favorable weather and precipitation conditions in northern grain producing regions. FAS-Astana forecasts no significant change to wheat and barley planted area for MY 2023/2024. Due to higher production and strong demand, barley, wheat, and wheat flour exports in MY 2022/2023 recovered market share lost in MY 2021/2022 when lower production reduced exports.

## General Information

MY 2022/2023 government estimates

On January 31, 2023, the Bureau of National Statistics published the final report of area planted, area harvested, production, and yields for main crops. The Bureau reported no significant changes to area harvested for wheat and barley in MY 2022/2023 compared to MY 2021/2022 (Table 1). Area harvested for oilseeds increased 15 percent in MY 2022/2023 as producers reported continued favorable domestic prices and export opportunities (Table 1).

**Table 1. Main Crops Area Planted and Harvested**

Crop	Area planted, ha		Area harvested, ha	
	MY22/23	MY22/23 to MY21/22, %	MY22/23	MY22/23 to MY21/22, %
WHEAT winter and spring	12,889,830	99.7	12,810,561	100.7
CORN	189,270	100.0	188,444	99.9
BARLEY winter and spring	2,187,296	98.4	2,175,664	100.8
RYE winter and spring	34,827	75.4	34,268	78.1
OAT	198,716	95.5	197,872	98
SORGHUM	19,903	183.3	17,452	192.7
RICE	87,953	90.8	87,858	90.9
OILSEEDS	3,461,802	111	3,364,632	114.9
COTTON	126,258	114.8	126,258	114.8

Source: [Kazakhstan's Statistical Service Final Report, Jan 31, 2023](#)

The Bureau reported wheat production at 16.4 MMT in MY 2022/2023, a 39 percent increase from the prior year due to improved weather and precipitation conditions. Similarly, barley production was reported at 3.3 MMT in MY 2022/2023, also a 39 percent increase from last MY (Table 2).

**Table 2. Main Crops Production**

Crop	Production, tons		Yield, ton/ha	
	MY22/23	MY22/23 to MY21/22, %	MY22/23	MY22/23 to MY21/22, %
WHEAT winter and spring	16,404,491	138.9	1.28	137.6
CORN	1,098,041	97.2	5.83	97.3
BARLEY winter and spring	3,287,240	138.9	1.51	137.3
RYE winter and spring	59,782	133	1.74	191.2
OAT	229,079	76	1.16	128.9
SORGHUM	18,575	109	1.06	100
RICE	431,391	90	4.91	94.2
OILSEEDS	3,051,295	95	0.91	109.6
COTTON	361,819	124.6	2.87	108.7

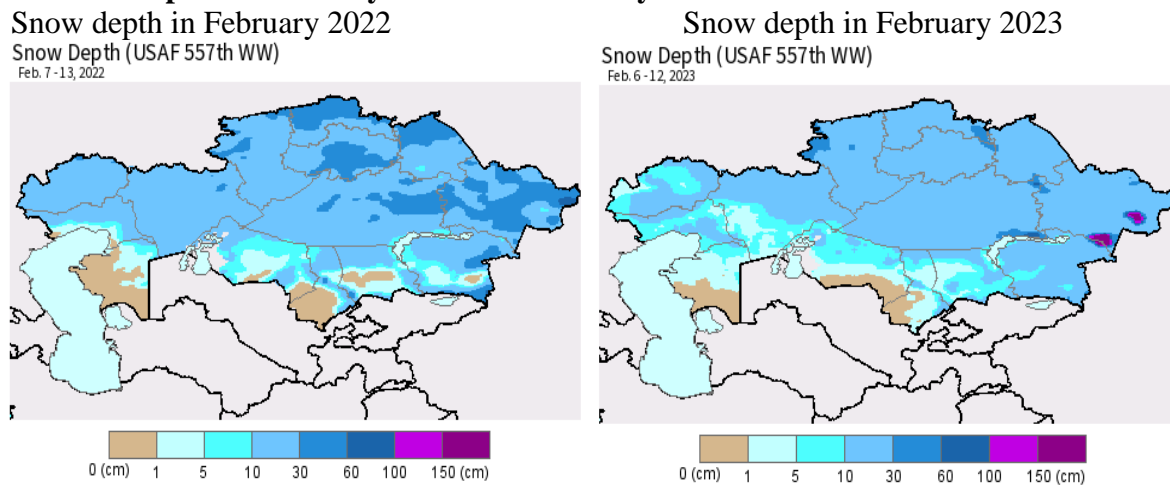
Source: [Kazakhstan's Statistical Service Final Report, Jan 31, 2023](#)

### MY 2023/2024 planting outlook

On February 7, 2023, [the Ministry of Agriculture announced](#) the country's planting outlook for MY 2023/2024. The total planting area for all crops was expected to be 23 million hectares, with no increase from MY 2022/2023. The Ministry anticipated some planting intention increases for feeding crops and sugar beets.

According to the [agricultural news outlet El Dala](#), "the weather in Kazakhstan continues to set records." Producers in Kazakhstan's three major grain producing regions of North Kazakhstan, Kostanay, and Akmola are monitoring snow levels on fields as they plan planting decisions for MY 2023/2024. Grain producers in the Akmola region noted that strong winds at 30 m/sec (67 mph) had removed snow from fields that are critical to maintaining soil moisture for the spring planting season. Producer contacts reported to FAS-Astana that snow levels in December were very low. According to USDA FAS Crop Explorer data, snow depth in the three northern grain producing regions were less in February 2023 than February 2022 (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Snow Depth in February 2022 and February 2023**



Source: [USDA FAS Crop Explorer](#)

## WHEAT Production

FAS-Astana estimates wheat production in MY 2022/2023 at 16.4 million metric tons (Table 1), a 39 percent increase from the previous MY, and a 2.4 MMT increase from USDA's official estimate of 14.0 MMT. FAS-Astana has increased this estimate based on government reporting, data showing improved precipitation and weather conditions, and a consensus among wheat producer contacts reporting higher harvests and improved yields consistent with government reports. Wheat yields in MY 2022/23 are estimated at 1.27 tons per hectare, a 38 percent increase from the previous MY.

## Consumption and Stocks

FAS-Astana estimates wheat consumption for MY2022/2023 at 4.8 MMT, on par with USDA's official number (Table 1).

## Trade

### *Grain imports from Russia*

Grain market analysts reported to FAS-Astana that Russian wheat exports to Kazakhstan were registered at approximately 1.6 MMT during July-December 2022, however they estimated that actual exports reached 2.0 MMT, due to underreported weights of Russian grain imports into Kazakhstan. To address this recurring issue, [the Tax Authority introduced](#) a requirement that all grain imports from Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) countries to Kazakhstan must be accompanied by a fully detailed invoice.

### *Agricultural trade discussions with China*

The [Ministry of Agriculture met with Chinese representatives](#) to discuss agricultural market access issues. Chinese trade representatives suggested the possibility of receiving a Kazakhstani trade delegation, given that China has lifted most COVID-19 travel restrictions. In response to the perceived re-opening of the China market for Kazakhstani agricultural products, grain traders are more optimistic that grain exports to China could increase further, however they noted grain container shipments to China are still relatively expensive.

### *Rail shipments*

Wheat and wheat flour exporters reported a prolonged shortage of rail cars for grain shipments within Central Asia. In previous years, seasonal rail cars shortages were reported to last up to three months, however this year shortages persisted into February, six months after the harvest season. [Kazakhstan's railway authorities have acknowledged](#) the shortages and pointed to the removal of trains by railway administrations in Russia, Uzbekistan, and China. [According to the largest flour miller in Kostanay](#), flour exports from the mill in February were expected to be only 30 percent of planned volume due to rail car shortages.

### *Government wheat pricing*

The government's [Food Contracting Corporation \(FCC\) announced](#) procurement prices for domestic wheat, barley, oats, and buckwheat. Wheat was priced at \$152 per MT with Value Added Tax (VAT) as part of the spring prepayment. The company's budget for the current season procurement was reported to be \$43 million.

### *Exports to traditional markets recovered*

Kazakhstan exported 3.7 MMT of wheat and wheat flour in MY 2022/2023 (September-December), a 31 percent increase from the same period last MY. Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan remained the top three buyers of Kazakhstani wheat and wheat flour. Wheat exports to Uzbekistan were reported to be 1.5 MMT, an increase of 36 percent (Appendix 1) compared to the same period the prior MY. Afghanistan was the second largest importer at 1.0 MMT, an increase of 82 percent compared to the same period the prior MY. Tajikistan imported 519,000 MT, an increase of nearly 27 percent.

Based on the increase in wheat production and strong demand from traditional export markets, FAS-Astana estimates wheat and wheat flour exports for MY2022/2023 to be 9.5 MMT, (Table 1), which is a seven percent increase from the previous MY and 0.5 MMT higher than USDA's official estimate.

**Table 1. Wheat Production, Supply, and Distribution, February 2023 Estimate**

Wheat Market Year Begins	2020/2021		2021/2022		2022/2023	
	Sep 2020		Sep 2021		Sep 2022	
Kazakhstan	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	12057	12057	12719	12719	12750	12890
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	663	663	1475	1475	1491	1489
Production (1000 MT)	14256	14256	11814	11814	14000	16404
MY Imports (1000 MT)	1000	1000	2500	2500	1500	1600
TY Imports (1000 MT)	1000	1000	2500	2500	1500	1600
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT)	15919	15919	15789	15789	16991	19493
MY Exports (1000 MT)	8194	8194	8098	8200	9000	9500
TY Exports (1000 MT)	8128	8128	8455	8455	9000	9500
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	1450	1450	1350	1300	1500	1600
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	4800	4800	4850	4800	4850	4850
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	6250	6250	6200	6100	6350	6450
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	1475	1475	1491	1489	1641	3543
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	15919	15919	15789	15789	16991	19493
Yield (MT/HA)	1.1824	1.1824	0.9288	0.9288	1.098	1.2726

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

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column

TY = Trade Year, which for Wheat begins in July for all countries. TY 2022/2023 = July 2022 - June 2023

**BARLEY****Production**

FAS-Astana expects no significant change to planting area for barley in MY 2022/2023 compared to the prior MY. FAS-Astana estimates barley production in MY 2022/2023 to be 3.3 MMT, an increase of 30 percent from MY 2021/2022 and 587,000 MT higher from USDA's official estimate (Table 2). Similar to the increase in wheat production, FAS-Astana bases this forecast on official government reporting, data showing improved precipitation and weather conditions, and a consensus among wheat producer contacts reporting higher harvests and improved yields consistent with government reports.

**Consumption and Stocks**

Barley consumption, which is mainly used for animal feed, is estimated at 2.2 MMT in MY 2022/2023, 100,000 MT higher from USDA's official estimate.

## Trade

In MY 2022/2023, FAS-Astana estimates barley exports to be 0.9 MMT, a doubling from last year's export volume, and 200,000 MT higher from the USDA's official estimate (Table 2). This estimated increase is due to higher production, and trader expectations that they will regain market share to Iran, Uzbekistan, and China.

Kazakhstan exported 580,000 MT of barley in MY 2022/2023 (year-over-year, July-December), a 258 percent increase from the same period last MY due to higher production (Appendix 2). Since the beginning of 2022/2023 MY (July-December), Iran was the top importer of barley at 275,000 MT, a nearly six-fold increase from the same period last MY. This increase is attributable to strong demand for animal feed and favorable pricing of Kazakhstani barley for Iranian buyers. China became the second largest importer of barley at 157,000 MT, a nearly nine-fold increase from last year as Chinese importers searched for competitively priced animal feed.

**Table 2. Barley Production, Supply, and Distribution, February 2023**

Barley Market Year Begins	2020/2021		2021/2022		2022/2023	
	Jul 2020		Jul 2021		Jul 2022	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
<b>Kazakhstan</b>						
<b>Area Harvested</b> (1000 HA)	2729	2729	2157	2181	2150	2187
<b>Beginning Stocks</b> (1000 MT)	505	505	612	612	307	307
<b>Production</b> (1000 MT)	3659	3659	2367	2367	2700	3287
<b>MY Imports</b> (1000 MT)	83	83	55	55	90	95
<b>TY Imports</b> (1000 MT)	82	82	82	55	80	95
<b>TY Imp. from U.S.</b> (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Supply</b> (1000 MT)	4247	4247	3034	3034	3097	3689
<b>MY Exports</b> (1000 MT)	1085	1085	427	427	700	900
<b>TY Exports</b> (1000 MT)	1028	1028	571	450	700	900
<b>Feed and Residual</b> (1000 MT)	2200	2200	2000	2000	1800	1900
<b>FSI Consumption</b> (1000 MT)	350	350	300	300	300	300
<b>Total Consumption</b> (1000 MT)	2550	2550	2300	2300	2100	2200
<b>Ending Stocks</b> (1000 MT)	612	612	307	307	297	589
<b>Total Distribution</b> (1000 MT)	4247	4247	3034	3034	3097	3689
<b>Yield</b> (MT/HA)	1.3408	1.3408	1.0974	1.0853	1.2558	1.503

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

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column

TY = Trade Year, which for Barley begins in October for all countries. TY 2022/2023 = October 2022 - September 2023

**Appendix 1: Kazakhstan Wheat and Wheat Flour Exports 2020-2022 (MT)**

Partner Country	Unit	Year Ending (UOM1: T)			Year to Date		
		2020	2021	2022	09/21-12/21	09/22-12/22	%Δ
_World	T	6,391,867	7,579,636	7,456,980	2,805,394	3,682,164	31.25
Uzbekistan	T	2,724,795	3,446,909	3,008,210	1,154,104	1,576,566	36.61
Afghanistan	T	1,387,144	1,738,342	1,592,014	557,178	1,015,390	82.24
Tajikistan	T	1,103,345	1,133,786	949,329	407,436	519,139	27.42
Iran	T	2,302	414,218	638,029	166,518	111,985	-32.75
Turkmenistan	T	147,463	70,524	474,443	223,248	137,436	-38.44
Italy	T	129,972	108,037	303,552	141,769	73,698	-48.02
Azerbaijan	T	17,553	34,675	192,430	65,694	165,456	151.86
Turkey	T	57,844	53,346	111,372	20,335	9,221	-54.65
Russia	T	363,566	140,350	89,131	33,357	17,618	-47.18
China	T	288,614	319,164	28,600	14,495	26,695	84.17
Kyrgyzstan	T	150,168	67,736	18,409	8,583	9,112	6.16
Poland	T	3,517	1,172	13,279	2,643	3,672	38.93
Latvia	T	1,190	8,395	7,051	1,551	11,136	617.99
United Kingdom	T	0	17,300	7,000	4,000	0	-100
Tunisia	T	0	4,393	5,200	0	0	0
Georgia	T	4,118	3,115	4,955	369	390	5.69
Malta	T	0	0	4,877	0	0	0
Norway	T	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,660	-11.33
Switzerland	T	1,458	1,364	2,611	534	0	-100
Finland	T	1,551	0	1,540	0	0	0
Mongolia	T	1,943	1,214	507	99	159	60.61
Belarus	T	294	726	443	133	107	-19.55
Moldova	T	1,052	680	357	272	8	-97.06
Israel	T	0	0	136	0	22	0
Germany	T	0	220	119	0	6	0
Armenia	T	140	122	89	32	101	215.63
Ukraine	T	14	0	89	0	4	0
Chad	T	0	0	84	0	0	0

Source: Trade Data Monitor, LLC

**Appendix 2: Kazakhstan Barley Exports 2020-2022 (MT)**

Partner Country	Unit	Year Ending (UOM1: T)			Year to Date		
		2020	2021	2022	07/21-12/21	07/22-12/22	%Δ
_World	T	1,365,572	1,085,109	426,638	162,077	580,373	258.08
Iran	T	1,147,686	708,286	193,581	44,785	275,234	514.57
Uzbekistan	T	43,023	60,086	100,465	71,103	86,393	21.5
China	T	78,185	237,519	84,183	15,882	156,927	888.08
Tajikistan	T	13,195	27,557	39,539	24,219	50,704	109.36
Afghanistan	T	4,044	4,049	4,544	2,740	6,833	149.38
Kyrgyzstan	T	6	0	2,124	2,124	0	-100
United Kingdom	T	4,550	2,470	979	0	0	0
Turkmenistan	T	547	650	804	804	0	-100
Turkey	T	2,840	396	418	418	154	-63.16
Netherlands	T	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poland	T	0	0	0	0	0	0
Russia	T	37,214	6,039	0	0	348	0
Syria	T	0	242	0	0	0	0
United Arab Emirates	T	19,400	30,366	0	0	0	0
Azerbaijan	T	5,373	2,374	0	0	0	0
Belarus	T	6,950	0	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	T	1,400	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	T	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iraq	T	1,159	0	0	0	3,780	0
Israel	T	0	5,074	0	0	0	0

Source: Trade Data Monitor, LLC

**Attachments:**

No Attachments