

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Grain and Feed Update

**Country:** Lithuania

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**Report Category:** Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the Economy, National Plan, Policy and Program Announcements, Agriculture in the News, Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

Total Lithuania's wheat, rye, mixed grains, triticale, barley, corn, and oat production in marketing year (MY) 2021/22 is forecast at 6.1 million metric tons (MMT), a 6.4-percent decrease from MY 2020/21. After a record-breaking harvest in MY 2020/21, Post anticipates a return to more average production levels for all grain varieties. Cold spring temperatures have slowed winter plant development. In MY 2020/21, Lithuania became one of the EU's top soft wheat exporters. During first nine months of MY 2020/21, wheat exports reached 3.5 MMT, 19 percent above the previous year. High international grain prices motivated Lithuanian farmers to increase area of wheat plantings in MY 2021/22.

## **Grain Production and Area**

### **MY 2021/22**

Post forecasts Lithuania's total wheat, rye, mixed grains, triticale, barley, corn, and oat production in MY 2021/22 at 6.1 MMT, a 6.4-percent decrease from MY 2020/21. The projected decline in grain production is due to the lower yields expected after the record-high production in MY 2020/21. Post forecasts MY 2021/22 yields to be more consistent with the six-year average. The total grains area planted is almost in line with last year, although rising wheat and rye prices and export opportunities motivated Lithuanian farmers to increase area of these grain varieties, at the cost of reducing the area of mixed grains, oats, and corn. Lithuania's total spring and winter grains area planted reached 1.3 million hectares (HA), a 0.4 percent decrease from MY 2020/21. Mixed grains accounted for the largest area decline.

Warm and sunny weather, along with favorable precipitation, during the 2020 fall provided good conditions for winter grain planting. Winter conditions were generally mild. Soil moisture remained at adequate levels. There were no winterkills, despite sudden cold snaps in February 2021. Low temperatures in this month contributed to lowering the threat of early-spring pests for winter grains. March and April 2021 were notable for below-average for this time of year, especially at night. Cold spells hit Lithuania especially in the beginning of April. Although the chilly conditions slowed plant development, winter grains also benefited from favorable levels of rainfall during this time. In May, Lithuania noted rain surplus. From May 10, above-average temperatures, combined with moist soil, accelerated development of both winter and spring grains. Final yields this MY still hinge on late spring, and early summer weather conditions, including precipitation levels.

### **MY 2020/21**

MY 2020/21 grain production exceeded MY 2019/20 by 25.3 percent, which opened a great window of new export opportunities for Lithuanian farmers. The total grain area harvested increased by 1.2 percent over MY 2019/20. Higher yields boosted by very favorable weather conditions, resulted in record production levels at 6.5 MMT.

Lithuanian grain industry has not been severely affected by COVID-19, despite some initial border delays and logistical turbulence after March 2020, when many EU Member States closed national borders. Farmers in 2020 also experienced difficulties due to grain collection point closures, and due to social distancing requirements.

**Table 1: Area by Grain Variety, (000) HA**

<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>MY 2019/20</b>	<b>MY 2020/21</b>	<b>MY 2021/22(f)</b>	<b>Change year to year 2021/20 (%)</b>	<b>Change year to year 2022/21 (%)</b>
Wheat	896	892	900	-0.4	0.9
Barley	175	165	165	-5.7	0.0
Rye	41	37	38	-9.8	2.7
Mixed grains	111	122	110	9.9	-9.8
Oats	86	101	100	17.4	-1.0
Corn	13	21	20	61.5	-4.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,338</b>	<b>1,333</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office, FAS

**Table 2: Production by Grain Variety, (000) MT**

<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>MY 2019/20</b>	<b>MY 2020/21</b>	<b>MY 2021/22(f)</b>	<b>Change year to year 2021/20 (%)</b>	<b>Change year to year 2022/21 (%)</b>
Wheat	3,844	4,809	4,600	25.1	-4.3
Barley	588	706	620	20.1	-12.2
Rye	108	111	100	2.8	-10.0
Mixed grains	361	453	370	25.5	-18.3
Oats	178	264	250	48.3	-5.3
Corn	98	143	130	45.9	-9.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,177</b>	<b>6,486</b>	<b>6,070</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>-6.4</b>

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office, FAS

## **Trade**

Lithuania became one of the EU's top wheat exporters in MY 2020/21, with wheat accounting for 85 percent of total grain exports. During the first nine months of MY 2020/21 (July-March), total Lithuanian grain exports reached 4.2 MMT, a 28-percent increase over the same period in MY 2019/20. Lithuania has been particularly competitive in North Africa this year, grabbing markets usually dominated by Western European countries or Romania. In MY 2020/21, the main export destinations were Nigeria, Algeria, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan, accounting for over 60 percent of Lithuanian export shipments. Post anticipates that in MY 2020/21, shipments to Algeria will displace some of the Lithuania's shipments to Saudi Arabia. Due to the bumper crops across the Baltic region, the three Baltic States will compete for global market share with leading EU exporters, including France and Romania.

Total Lithuanian grain exports in MY 2019/20, including corn, reached 3.9 MMT, up from MY 2018/19's record low of 2.8 MMT. Grain quality was inconsistent and based on the region. Especially in spring 2020, Lithuania took advantage of the strong international post-COVID demand, particularly for wheat, as many importing countries sought to bolster domestic grain stocks.

Lithuanian grain imports decreased by 40 percent in nine months (July-March) of MY 2020/21 over MY 2019/20. During nine months of MY 2020/21, Lithuania imported 268,000 MT of grains, mostly corn, from other EU countries and from Russia and Ukraine.

**Table 3: Lithuania, Grain Exports, (000) MT**

MY begins July	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 9 months July-March	MY 2020/21 9 months July-March
Wheat	2,735	2,199	3,149	2,669	3,499
Barley	111	283	262	251	325
Rye	23	41	30	21	47
Triticale	64	22	103	100	165
Oats	46	59	61	47	58
Corn*	66	209	257	137	59
Total	3,045	2,813	3,862	3,225	4,153

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

\*MY begins October

**Table 4: Lithuania, Grain Imports, (000) MT**

MY begins July	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 9 months July-March	MY 2020/21 9 months July-March
Wheat	83	130	256	197	90
Barley	47	57	51	35	33
Rye	8	15	8	7	10
Triticale	3	4	1	1	3
Oats	5	12	9	7	4
Corn*	89	398	329	214	128
Total	235	616	654	454	268

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

\*MY begins October

## **Crop Specific**

### **Wheat**

Post forecasts MY 2021/22 Lithuanian wheat production at 4.6 MMT, down from the previous MY's 4.8 MMT. Following lackluster harvest in MY 2020/21, Post anticipates yields closer to long-term average. The area planted for wheat increased by 8,000 HA, as farmers expect another year of high prices, and export opportunities.

Lithuania is a net exporter of soft wheat. In MY 2021/22, Post forecasts wheat exports slightly lower than last year, due to more limited grain availability. In MY 2020/21, high global prices strongly motivated Lithuanian exporters, especially for non-EU markets. During the first nine months of MY 2020/21 (July-March), Lithuania exported almost 3.5 MMT of wheat, a 31-percent increase over the

same time from previous year. Nigeria, Algeria, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan are the main market destinations for Lithuanian wheat. In previous years China and Saudi Arabia were the primary buyers, although Post notes a current shift toward Nigeria, and Algeria, markets dominated by wheat shipments from France so far.

**Table 5: Lithuania, Wheat Trade, (000) MT**

Wheat	MY Begins in July					
	MY 2016/17	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 9 months	MY 2020/21 9 months
Imports	118	83	130	256	197	90
Exports	2,828	2,735	2,199	3,149	2,669	3,499

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

### Barley

In MY 2021/22, Post forecasts total barley area planted, mostly spring barley, at the same level as in the previous year. Despite chilly spring planting conditions in April 2021, spring rains improved soil moisture and boosted plant development in May. Warmer than usual temperatures in May, combined with soil water content surpluses, significantly accelerated the vegetation of plants. Barley grain production is projected at 620,000 MT, a 12.2-percent decline from the previous year. Post expects domestic feed barley consumption to diminish slightly from MY 2020/21 due to lower grain availability.

**Table 6: Lithuania, Barley Trade, (000) MT**

Barley	MY Begins in July					
	MY 2016/17	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 9 months	MY 2020/21 9 months
Imports	39	47	57	51	35	33
Exports	178	111	283	262	251	325

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

### Corn

Lithuania's climate is not warm enough for corn cultivation, making Lithuania a net importer of corn. Corn is mainly imported for poultry, from neighboring countries.

**Table 7: Lithuania, Corn Trade, (000) MT**

Corn	MY Begins in October					
	MY 2016/17	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 6 months	MY 2020/21 6 months
Imports	71	89	398	329	214	128
Exports	76	66	209	257	137	59

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

## Rye

Post forecasts Lithuanian MY 2021/22 rye production at 100,000 MT, a 10-percent decrease from last year. The rye area increased by 2.7 percent. In MY 2020/21, rye production increased by 2.8 percent over the previous year, despite much smaller planted area, due to much higher yields that year.

Lithuanian farmers have been reluctant to plant rye due to ongoing African swine fever outbreaks.

**Table 8: Lithuania, Rye Trade, (000) MT**

	MY Begins in July					
	MY 2016/17	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 9 months	MY 2020/21 9 months
Imports	20	8	15	8	7	10
Exports	19	23	41	30	21	47

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

## Mixed Grains

Mixed grains include triticale, and the threshed, dry seeds of wheat, barley, corn, oats, rye, grown and harvested on the same field. Triticale is planted mostly as a winter grain, although to a lesser extent, it can also be a spring grain. Most mixed grains are planted in spring. Post forecasts lower planted area of mixed grains in MY 2021/20 than in the previous year, which combined with also lower yields should diminish the mixed grains output by 18 percent. For MY 2021/22 mixed grains production is forecast at 370,000 MT. In Lithuania, most mixed grains are used for on-farm feed. In MY 2021/22 feed use is forecast to diminish along with lower availability.

**Table 9: Lithuania, Triticale Trade, (000) MT**

	MY Begins in July					
	MY 2016/17	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 9 months	MY 2020/21 9 months
Imports	4	3	4	1	1	3
Exports	87	64	22	103	100	165

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

## Oats

Post forecast Lithuania's MY 2021/22 oat area at only one percent lower than last year. Yields are projected closer to the long-term average, after MY 2020/21 record yields. Post forecasts oats production at 250,000 MT. In MY 2020/21, weather conditions were very favorable for oat producers. Oat production reached record level of 264,000 MT. Oat exports in MY 2020/21 show that the farmers took advantage of this year's abundant crop, exporting almost 45 percent of total export volume to Germany.

**Table 10: Lithuania, Oats Trade, (000) MT**

	MY Begins in July					
	MY 2016/17	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20	MY 2019/20 9 months	MY 2020/21 9 months
Imports	5	5	12	9	7	4
Exports	36	46	59	61	47	58

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

**Appendix:****Table 11: Lithuania, Wheat Imports by Country, (000) MT**

Partner	MY Begins July			Market Share (%)			(000) MT, Change 2019/18
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2017	2018	2019	
World	83	130	256	100	100	100	126
Sweden	1	1	126	1.6	0.4	49.4	126
Poland	29	23	43	34.9	17.9	16.8	20
Latvia	36	59	41	43.6	45.5	16.1	-18
Denmark	0	3	17	0.1	2.5	6.8	14
Russia	3	23	7	3.7	17.7	2.9	-16
Italy	5	5	6	6.2	3.5	2.4	2

Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

**Table 12: Lithuania, Wheat Exports by Country, (000) MT**

Partner	MY Begins July			Market Share (%)			(000) MT, Change 2019/18
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2017	2018	2019	
World	2,735	2,199	3,149	100	100	100	949
China	0	0	596	0	0	18.9	596
Saudi Arabia	642	778	389	23.5	35.4	12.4	-389
Latvia	460	239	374	16.8	10.9	11.9	135
Nigeria	238	0	365	8.7	0	11.6	365
Turkey	318	242	276	11.6	11.0	8.8	34
South Africa	213	213	226	7.8	9.7	7.2	14
Spain	295	114	197	10.8	5.2	6.3	84
Israel	0	66	156	0	3	5.0	90
Sudan	0	135	138	0	6.2	4.4	2

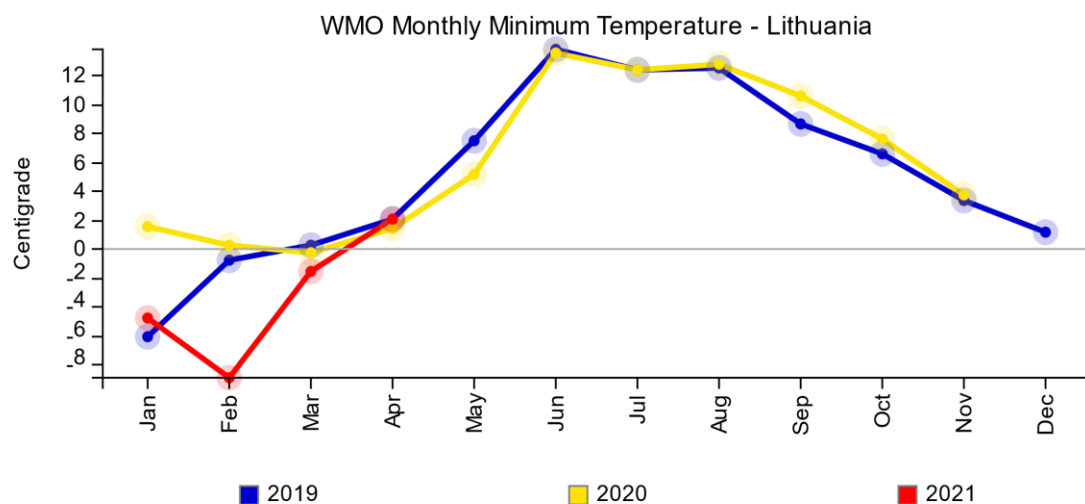
Source: Lithuania Statistical Office

**Table 13: Lithuania, Wheat Exports by Country, During Nine Months of MY, (000) MT**

Partner	MY, 9 months			Market Share (%)			%Δ 2020/ 19
	July, 2018/ March 2019	July, 2019 / March 2020	July, 2020/ March 2021	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21	
World	1,422	2,669	3,499	100	100	100	31.1
Nigeria	0	281	933	0.0	10.5	26.7	231.7
Latvia	214	362	497	15.1	13.6	14.2	37.3
Algeria	0	0	455	0.0	0.0	13.0	0.0
South Africa	160	225	265	11.3	8.4	7.6	17.7
Saudi Arabia	397	389	253	27.9	14.6	7.2	-34.9
Sudan	66	68	209	4.7	2.6	6.0	207.3
Turkey	242	224	191	17.1	8.4	5.5	-14.5
Spain	92	197	179	6.4	7.4	5.1	-9.5
Egypt	0	0	130	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0
Kenya	0	48	39	0.0	1.8	1.1	-19.5

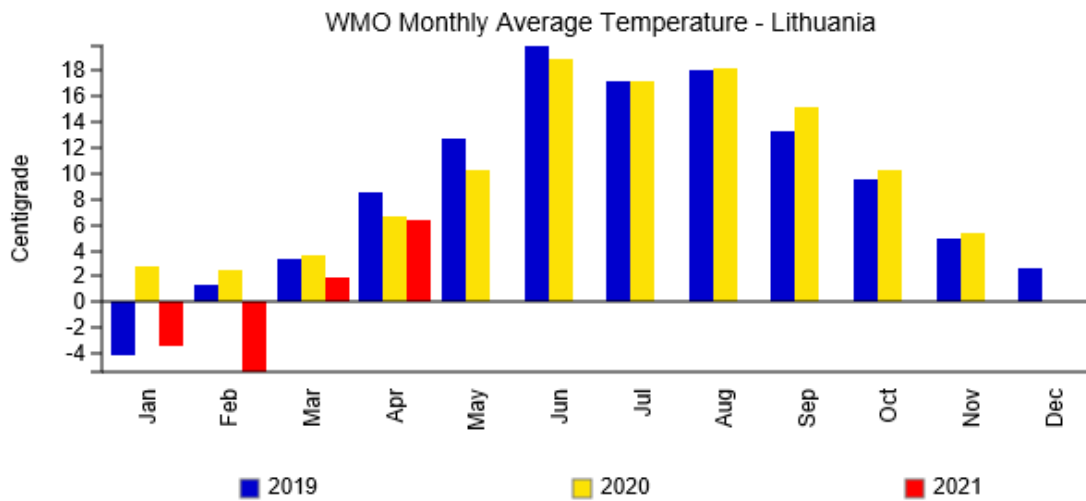
Source: Lithuanian Statistical Office

**Chart 1: Lithuania, WMO Minimum Temperature in Years 2019-21**



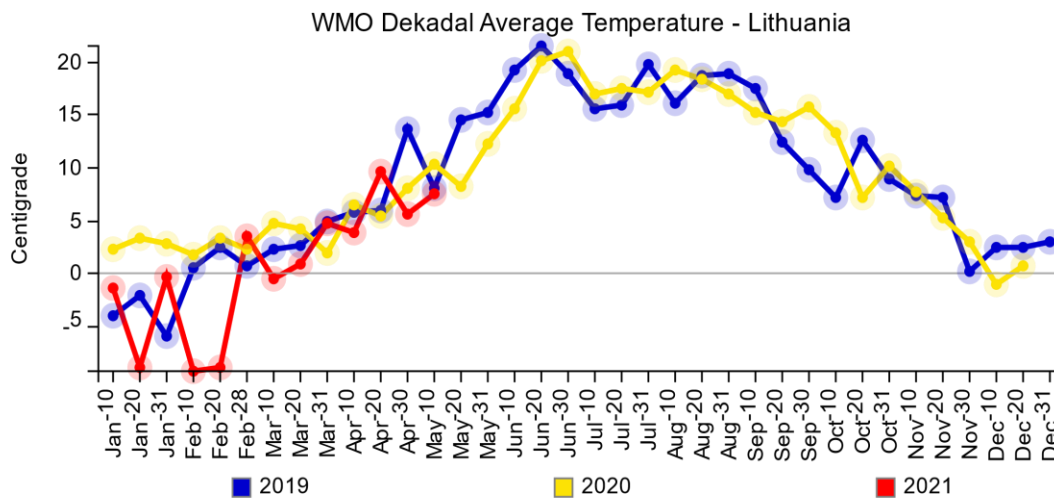


**Chart 2: Lithuania, WMO Monthly Average Temperature in Years 2019-21**



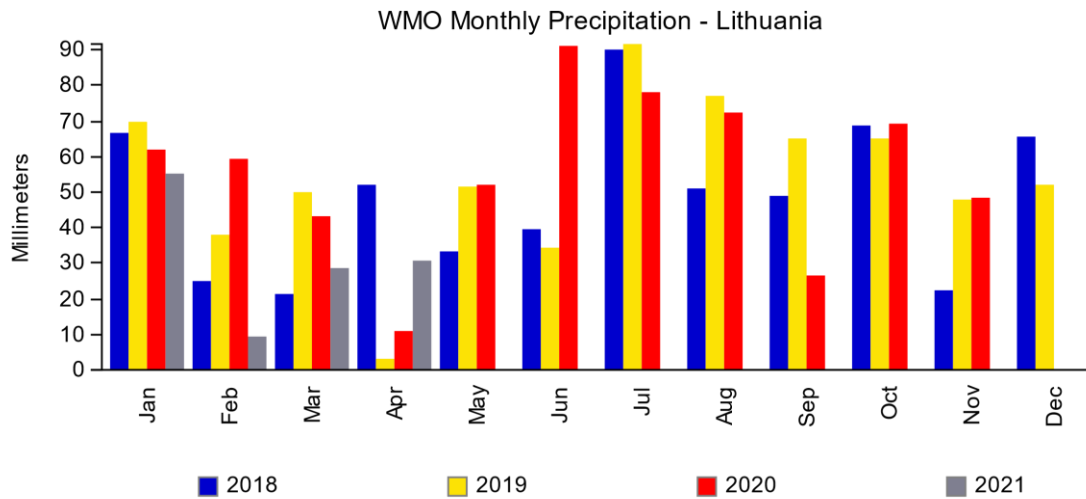
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International Production Assessment Division

**Chart 3: Lithuania, WMO Dekadal Average Temperature in Years 2019-21**



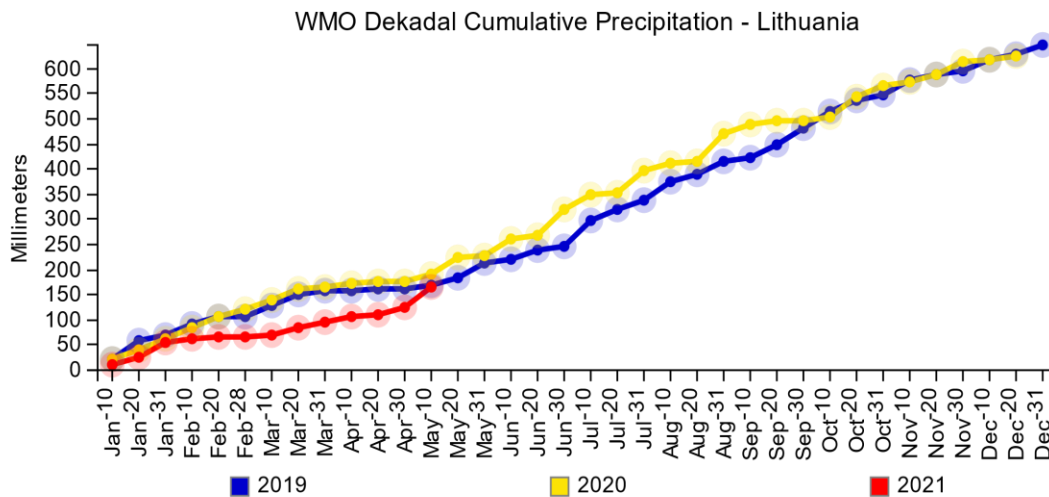
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International Production Assessment Division

**Chart 4: Lithuania, WMO Precipitation in Years 2018-21**



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**Chart 5: Lithuania, WMO Cumulative Precipitation in Years 2019-21**



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**Attachments:**

No Attachments.