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Report Highlights:

Marketing year (MY) 2020/21 (October to September), total area and rice production levels for Senegal, Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Mali are forecast to increase 2.6 percent and 3.0 percent to 3.3 million hectares (HA) and 4.9 million metric tons (MMT) on expectations of strong prices, financing, and continued input subsidies that may encourage farmers to increase area and good weather. MY 2020/21 total imports are estimated to increase 12.9 percent to approximately 2.8 MMT based on population growth and expectation of competitive international prices. MY 2019/20 total area and production levels are estimated at 3.2 million HA and 4.8 MMT, up 5.4 and 4.2 percent from the previous year primarily due to strong prices that reportedly caused area increases in Guinea as well as good weather in Senegal. MY 2019/20 total imports are estimated to decrease by 5.7 percent to 2.5 MMT on expectations of higher international prices.

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I. **Executive Summary**

This annual report primarily focuses on providing an overview of Senegal; it includes an abridged analysis for Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Mali.

Marketing year (MY) 2020/21 (October to September), total area and rice production levels for Senegal, Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Mali are forecast to increase 2.6 percent and 3.0 percent to 3.3 million hectares (HA) and 4.9 million metric tons (MMT) on expectations of strong prices, financing, and continued input subsidies that may encourage farmers to increase area and good weather. MY 2020/21 total imports are estimated to increase 12.9 percent to approximately 2.8 MMT based on population growth and expectation of competitive international prices. MY 2019/20 total area and production levels are estimated at 3.2 million HA and 4.8 MMT, up 5.4 and 4.2 percent from the previous year primarily due to strong prices that reportedly caused area increases in Guinea as well as good weather in Senegal. MY 2019/20 total imports are estimated to decrease by 5.7 percent to 2.5 MMT on expectations of higher international prices.

For Senegal, MY 2020/21 area and production levels are projected to increase 1.7 percent and 1.3 percent to 305,000 HA and 789,000 MT on expectations of strong prices, seed subsidies, and good weather. MY 2020/21 imports are projected at 1.25 MMT, up by 13.6 percent on more competitive international prices. In MY 2019/20 area and production levels are estimated to increase 1.7 and 2.2 percent to 300,000 HA and 779,000 MT on strong prices and continued subsidies that reportedly may have influenced farmers to increase area in the Casamance and good weather. Yields in the Casamance were reported to be stronger than last year due to excellent rainfall. Post estimates MY 2019/20 rice imports at 1.1 MMT, unchanged from last year on expectations of higher international prices.

II. **Senegal**

Production

MY 2020/21 (October to September) area and rice production levels are projected to rise approximately 1.7 percent and 1.3 percent to 305,000 HA and 789,000 MT assuming strong farm gate prices, good weather conditions, and low pest pressure. During the rainy season (June/July-Nov/Dec), Casamance farmers (located in southern Senegal) may decide to maintain or increase area if the government provides subsidized seeds (see policy section) since rice in this region is mostly grown for subsistence purposes. Area expansion in the Senegal River Valley (SRV) in northern Senegal is more limited given that most irrigated area is cultivated.

MY 2019/20 area is estimated at 300,000 HA, up 1.7 percent from the previous year on continued subsidies that reportedly influenced farmers to increase area in the Casamance, as well as strong prices in the SRV. SRV dry season (Feb/March-May/June) area is projected to remain high assuming strong

prices and available financing (see policy section). For the SRV rainy season (June/July-Nov/Dec), although some sources believed area decreased due to less available financing or poor weather, overall area reportedly was around the same as last year. Many farmers skip the rainy season because they are unable to harvest the previous crop in time or due to a lack of financing. MY 2019/20 rice production is estimated at 779,000 MT on expectations of good weather and low pest pressure. Yields in the Casamance were reported to be stronger than last year due to excellent rainfall. Rain arrived late in the SRV during the rainy season, but this reportedly did not affect yields since many farmers used irrigation. In the SRV, rice is irrigated for the dry and rainy season; however, in the Casamance, rice is mainly rain-fed.

Regarding input prices, for MY 2019/20 seed prices in the SRV were 300 CFA francs (\$.51) per kg, unchanged from last year. For the SRV and the Casamance, subsidized fertilizer prices increased 19 percent compared to last year. For urea and diammonium phosphate, prices increased to 9,520 CFA francs (\$16.41) and 10,520 CFA francs (\$18.14) per 50 kg.

Regarding rice prices, for MY 2019/20 the government fixed the domestic paddy rice price at 130 CFA francs (\$.22) per kg. Milled rice prices varied between 225 to 330 CFA francs (\$.39 to \$.57) per kg, depending on a variety of factors such as percentage broken and transportation costs. Please see the 2018 [annual](#) report for more detailed information on Senegal's rice production.

In the SRV, the government managed bank called "*La Banque Agricole*" provides loans to farmer unions (an annual interest rate of 7.5 percent) which farmers pay back in kind with paddy rice. Loans are used to purchase seeds, fertilizer, equipment, or irrigation services. Crop insurance is mandatory for irrigated rice and costs 10,000 CFA francs (\$17.24) per HA. About 50 percent of rice farmers in the SRV received loans from *La Banque Agricole*, while the rest used their own funding or relied on private banks or rice mills for loans. If loans or other financing cannot be acquired, farmers in the SRV generally do not grow rice.

In the Casamance, *La Banque Agricole* and the General Delegation to the Rapid Entrepreneurship of Women and Youth (DER), which focuses on improving opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship for women and youth, are expected to support 2,906 HA for seed and rice production by providing approximately \$1 million of loans.

Consumption

MY 2020/21 and 2019/20 consumption levels are estimated at 1.85 and 1.78 million metric tons (MMT) based on population growth, although MY 2019/20 consumption is expected to grow less robustly due to expectations of higher international prices (please see the Trade section). Some consumers may shift to other less expensive domestic grains such as millet, sorghum, and corn, or increase bread consumption if international wheat prices remain competitive (Senegal imports all of its wheat).

According to the Agency for Market Regulation, imported rice is purchased by consumers in almost every region. Domestic rice from the SRV is distributed to many regions and cities located in northern and central Senegal. Rice cultivated in the Casamance is mainly only consumed in southern Senegal, and not distributed to other regions.

Senegalese consumers prefer broken rice. Imported broken rice is usually less expensive than domestically grown rice, especially for the regional market surrounding Dakar. According to contacts, Indian broken rice is most prevalent in the market. Fragrant whole grain rice is considered a luxury and reserved for special occasions or certain local dishes. It is mainly sold to upper-level income consumers who live in Dakar, Thies, and Kaolack.

According to official sources, Senegal's average per capita rice consumption is estimated at 110 kg per year. After rice, other consumed cereals are wheat (or bread), millet, and corn. Imported and domestic rice prices are generally higher than other locally grown cereals such as millet, sorghum, and corn; however, these grains are seasonal and may be more available in certain regions.

Trade

MY 2020/21 imports are estimated at 1.25 MMT, up by approximately 13.7 percent on expectations of more competitive international prices. MY 2019/20 rice imports are estimated at 1.1 MMT, unchanged from the previous year due to expectations of higher international prices caused by delays, export quotas, or lower exportable supplies from major exporters in Asia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This may cause shifts in consumer consumption (please see Consumption section). India is the largest export supplier of rice to Senegal followed by Thailand, Brazil, Burma, and China.

MY 2020/21 exports are raised to 180,000 MT assuming competitive international rice prices and the removal of Senegal's ban on exporting rice purchased from the domestic market. For MY 2019/20, exports are lowered by 39 percent to 110,000 MT primarily due to a new policy banning the exportation of imported and domestic rice sold in Senegal's domestic market (Please see the policy section). Higher international rice prices may also cause consumers in neighboring country markets to switch to other relatively less expensive local grains (e.g., Mali, Guinea-Bissau, and Mauritania).

In MY 2019/20 importers are anticipating prices to increase or remain elevated for imported rice due to shifts in the international rice market caused by major exporters in Asia. According to contacts, they are unable to place any orders for Indian rice until July/August due to the lockdown, which reportedly has caused delays at Indian ports and rice mills. It is unclear how long the lockdown will continue to slow rice exports from India even though the country has ample stocks and had a good harvest.

Other Asian suppliers of rice to Senegal are Burma, Vietnam, Thailand, and China. The Government of Burma decreased its export quota to 100,000 MT per month until the end of September 2020 to avoid domestic rice shortages, and Vietnam instituted an export quota for rice from late March through the end of May. Thailand had a poor harvest, which may affect export supplies or prices. Despite China's lower export volumes during January and February, the rice exports were large again in March and it continues to export to the West African market.

Stocks

MY 2020/21 and MY 2019/20 stocks are forecast at 187,000 and 178,000 MT. The government does not hold stocks.

Policy

Since 2017, Senegal has prohibited the importation of 100 percent whole grain (zero percent broken) aromatic and non-aromatic rice to prevent competition with domestic rice. Official contacts noted that this import ban is still in effect.

Since January 1, 2015, Economic Community of West African States member countries implemented a common external tariff (CET) which is set at a specific rate for each imported product category. For milled rice, the CET is set at 12.5 percent (this duty is calculated by adding a customs duty of ten percent, statistical fees of one percent, and a solidarity community levy of 1.5 percent).

The new Plan Senegal Emergent, a document that articulates Senegal's policy objectives for the next five years, has an objective to increase domestic rice production in order to lower rice imports. According to official contacts, the GOS continues to subsidize inputs in the Casamance in order to try to influence farmers to grow more rice and pursue the government's goal of self-sufficiency. Government extension services have also reportedly increased the amount of tractors and hired agronomists (at least for the MY 2019/2020 season) to help improve production in the Casamance.

In responding to COVID-19, Senegal instituted a curfew from 8 pm to 6 am and prohibited the movement of citizens between regions within the country. To date, these restrictions have not had any reported effects in stopping farmers from entering the fields. Commercial shipments in Senegal can move at any time and are not restricted by curfew, including transporting cargo to neighboring countries. The maritime port is open, but according to contacts has less port officials which could create delays.

On April 22, 2020, because of the coronavirus pandemic, the Government of Senegal banned the export of certain food items including imported rice that are sold in Senegal's domestic market. The duration of this ban is unknown. The new policy requires regional importers based in neighboring countries to purchase imported rice directly from international suppliers instead of Senegalese importers and wholesalers. Imported rice purchased in this manner can be unloaded at the Port of Dakar and transit Senegal if destined for another market. However, given more upfront capital likely will be required from regional traders, it is unclear how many of these importers will have the capacity or financial means to serve the regional market.

III. **Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Mali**

Guinea

Production

Marketing year (MY) 2020/21 area is forecast at 1.9 million HA, up by 2.7 percent on expectations of strong prices that may influence planting decisions, and area expansion in the Upper Guinea and Forest Guinea regions (see policy section). MY 2020/21 rice production is projected at 1.73 million MMT on expectations of good weather. MY 2019/20 area is forecast at 1.85 million HA, an eight percent increase due to reports of commercial farms increasing area in the Upper Guinea and Maritime Guinea regions as well as small area increases by family farms in almost every region due to strong prices. MY 2019/20 rice production is forecast at 1.68 MMT, up nine percent on good weather.

Most rice is grown for subsistence purposes; farmers apply very little or no fertilizer (approximately only 20 to 30 percent of total area may receive fertilizer) and many do not have access to modern farm equipment (or cannot afford to pay rental costs). However, large, commercial farms in Upper Guinea and Maritime Guinea use modern farm equipment and inputs, and can access unexploited area to increase acreage. For more information on Guinea rice production, please see [this 2019 annual update](#).

Consumption

MY 2020/21 and 2019/20 consumption are estimated at 2.2 and 2.1 MMT based on population growth and a preference for rice over other cereals. Demand is expected to grow less robustly in MY 2019/20 due to expectations of higher international price prices. Guinean prefer parboiled and whole grain (zero percent broken) rice, which are the primary staples for rural and urban areas. Imported rice is primarily consumed only in major urban area. The average per capita rice consumption is estimated at 120 kg per year.

Trade

MY 2020/21 imports are projected at 600,000 MT on population growth and more competitive international rice prices. MY 2019/20 imports are estimated to fall by approximately 23 percent to 500,000 MT on expectations of strong domestic production that will increase local supplies and higher international rice prices.

MY 2020/21 and MY 2019/20 exports are estimated at 100,000 MT, which encompasses mostly domestic rice that is exported to neighboring countries such as Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

Stocks

MY 2020/21 and MY 2019/20 stocks are estimated at 192,000 and 162,000 MT. The government does not hold stocks.

Policy

According to official contacts, around the beginning of 2019, the Government of Guinea offered additional discounts or incentives to traders who import bagged or bulk rice (quantities of over 20,000 MT) delivered in vessel cargo holds. This measure was reportedly taken to encourage the private sector to build its rice stocks, which the government hoped would better support food security. The measure did not prohibit the importation of bagged rice in containers but made that mode of shipment less competitive compared to large vessels. However, the COVID-19 pandemic recently caused the government to suspend this policy in order to ensure sufficient rice supplies in the market for all types of shipments.

Since January 1, 2015, Economic Community of West African States member countries implemented a common external tariff (CET) which is set at a specific rate for different product categories. However, Guinea does not follow the CET and applies a custom duty of 2.75 percent for imported milled rice.

For rice production, the Government reportedly instituted a new policy focusing on increasing rice production in the Upper Guinea, Forest Guinea, Mid-Guinea regions. It is unclear what policy incentives that the government will institute to encourage farmers to dedicate more area to rice.

Guinea has instituted a curfew from 9 pm to 5 am in response to COVID-19. Commercial shipments cannot move during the curfew, but the border is open for transit to neighboring countries. Sources reported delays in offloading cargo at the Port of Guinea due to less personnel.

Burkina Faso

Production

MY 2020/21 area is projected at 180,000 HA, a six percent increase from the previous year on expectations of strong prices and continued access to financing for purchasing inputs. However, it is unclear if security challenges will affect the ability of farmers to access the fields, which could result in lower area. MY 2020/21 rice production is estimated to increase by six percent to 260,000 MT on expectations of good weather.

MY 2019/20 area is estimated up by approximately six percent to 170,000 HA based on official government data. Official contacts believe that more farmers will have access to credit than in previous years, which they think caused area to increase. This financing was not previously available since many farmers were in debt because of a poor cotton crop and could not receive a line of credit. MY 2019/20 production is estimated at 245,000 MT on expectations of good weather and strong yields. The current curfew, which is in response to COVID-19, may impact the distribution of harvested rice (please see policy section).

Consumption

MY 2020/21 and MY 2019/20 rice consumption is estimated at 860,000 and 830,000 MT on population growth. MY 2019/20 consumption is expected to grow less robustly due to expectations of higher international rice prices, which may cause consumers to purchase other less expensive grains. The average per capita rice consumption is estimated at 36 kg per year.

Trade

MY 2020/21 rice imports are forecast at 600,000 MT on population growth and expectations of competitive international prices. MY 2019/20 rice imports are estimated at 580,000 MT, unchanged from last year on expectations of higher international rice prices (please see the Senegal trade section) that may lower demand. In MY 2018/19, India (52 percent) and Thailand (27 percent) were the main rice suppliers to Burkina Faso.

Stocks

MY 2020/21 and MY 2019/20 stocks levels are estimated at 32,000 MT. There are no government held stocks.

Policy

On January 28, 2020, the Government of Burkina Faso (GOBF) unveiled the new [National Rice Development Strategy](#) (SNDR II-(2021/2030) which aims to increase rice production and profits for the private sector. For MY 2020/21, the GOBF hopes to produce one million tons of rice through incentives such as increasing the availability of modern farm equipment through improved financing.

Since January 1, 2015, Economic Community of West African States member countries implemented a common external tariff (CET) which is set at a specific rate for different product categories. Post understands that the GOBF follows the CET, and institutes the rate of 12.5 percent for imported milled rice.

For COVID-19, the GOBF has imposed a curfew from 7 pm to 5 am, and it is unclear if this curfew affects the commercial transportation of food and merchandise. Contacts believe that if the GOBF restricts movement of persons between regions, this could affect farm production, especially in terms of moving supplies or labor. The land border is open for the transportation of commercial goods, but not people.

Mali

Production

MY 2020/21 area is forecast to increase by two percent to 930,000 HA on expectations of strong prices that may influence planting decisions. It is unclear if the security situation could negatively impact area. MY 2020/21 rice production is estimated at 2.15 MMT assuming good weather and low pest pressure. MY 2019/20 area is estimated at 910,000 HA, up by one percent on strong prices that may influence farmers to raise area in lieu of planting other crops or pursuing off-farm employment. The government has imposed curfews that prohibit movement restrictions due to COVID-19 which may affect the ability of farmers to receive inputs on a timely basis or transport the harvest. Likewise, if the security situation does not improve, this could negatively impact area. MY 2019/20 production is estimated to increase by one percent to 2.08 MMT on good weather.

Consumption

For MY 2020/21 and MY 2019/20, Post estimates rice consumption to increase to 2.5 and 2.4 MMT on population growth.

Trade

Post projects MY 2020/21 imports at 350,000 MT on expectations that international rice prices will be more competitive after the COVID-19 pandemic subsides. MY 2019/20 imports are estimated at 300,000 MT, unchanged on expectations of higher international prices that may affect purchase patterns.

Stocks

MY 2020/21 and MY 2019/20 stocks levels are estimated at 264,000 MT. There are no government held stocks.

Policy

According to the media and official contacts, at the beginning of April 2020, the Government of Mali (GOM) instituted a price ceiling for rice, sugar, oil and bread. Broken rice prices were set at 350 CFA francs per kg; however, if international rice prices rise, it is unclear how this fixed price can be maintained. There are no tax exemptions for imported rice at the present time.

Since January 1, 2015, Economic Community of West African States member countries implemented a common external tariff (CET) which is set at a specific rate for different product categories. Post understands that the GOM follows the CET, and institutes the rate of 12.5 percent for imported milled rice.

In responding to COVID-19, the GOM has imposed a curfew from 9 pm to 5 am that currently restricts the movement of commercial trucks. There are also limited hours of operation for businesses. Delays in commercial trucks movements could hamper the distribution of inputs to farmers, as well as transporting rice throughout the country. The land border is open for the transportation of commercial goods, but not people.

IV. **Production, Supply, and Distribution Statistics in 1,000 HA, 1,000 MT, and MT/HA**

Rice, Milled Market Begin Year Senegal	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
	Oct 2018		Oct 2019		Oct 2020	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	300	295	300	300	0	305
Beginning Stocks	237	237	243	189	0	178
Milled Production	816	762	816	779	0	789
Rough Production	1200	1121	1200	1146	0	1160
Milling Rate (.9999)	6800	6800	6800	6800	0	6800
MY Imports	1100	1100	950	1100	0	1250
TY Imports	1000	1000	950	1145	0	1250
TY Imp. from U.S.	1	1	0	1	0	1
Total Supply	2153	2099	2009	2068	0	2217
MY Exports	10	180	10	110	0	180
TY Exports	10	180	10	110	0	180
Consumption and Residual	1900	1730	1850	1780	0	1850
Ending Stocks	243	189	149	178	0	187
Total Distribution	2153	2099	2009	2068	0	2217
Yield (Rough)	4	3.8	4	3.82	0	3.8033

Rice, Milled Market Begin Year Guinea	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
	Oct 2018		Oct 2019		Oct 2020	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	1710	1710	1710	1850	0	1900
Beginning Stocks	138	138	182	182	0	162
Milled Production	1544	1544	1544	1680	0	1730
Rough Production	2339	2339	2339	2545	0	2621
Milling Rate (.9999)	6600	6600	6600	6600	0	6600
MY Imports	650	650	650	500	0	600
TY Imports	510	500	650	480	0	580
TY Imp. from U.S.	22	22	0	20	0	20
Total Supply	2332	2332	2376	2362	0	2492
MY Exports	100	100	100	100	0	100
TY Exports	100	100	100	100	0	100
Consumption and Residual	2050	2050	2100	2100	0	2200
Ending Stocks	182	182	176	162	0	192
Total Distribution	2332	2332	2376	2362	0	2492
Yield (Rough)	1.3678	1.3678	1.3678	1.3757	0	1.3795

Rice, Milled Market Begin Year Burkina	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
	Oct 2018		Oct 2019		Oct 2020	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	160	160	160	170	0	180
Beginning Stocks	39	39	37	37	0	32
Milled Production	228	228	234	245	0	260
Rough Production	351	351	360	377	0	400
Milling Rate (.9999)	6500	6500	6500	6500	0	6500
MY Imports	580	580	620	580	0	600
TY Imports	600	600	620	650	0	600
TY Imp. from U.S.	1	0	0	1	0	1
Total Supply	847	847	891	862	0	892
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consumption and Residual	810	810	850	830	0	860
Ending Stocks	37	37	41	32	0	32
Total Distribution	847	847	891	862	0	892
Yield (Rough)	2.1938	2.1938	2.25	2.2176	0	2.2222

Rice, Milled Market Begin Year Mali	2018/2019		2019/2020		2020/2021	
	Oct 2018		Oct 2019		Oct 2020	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested	900	900	900	910	0	930
Beginning Stocks	125	125	284	284	0	264
Milled Production	2059	2059	1950	2080	0	2150
Rough Production	3168	3168	3000	3200	0	3308
Milling Rate (.9999)	6500	6500	6500	6500	0	6500
MY Imports	300	300	325	300	0	350
TY Imports	300	300	325	300	0	350
TY Imp. from U.S.	1	1	0	1	0	1
Total Supply	2484	2484	2559	2664	0	2764
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consumption and Residual	2200	2200	2300	2400	0	2500
Ending Stocks	284	284	259	264	0	264
Total Distribution	2484	2484	2559	2664	0	2764
Yield (Rough)	3.52	3.52	3.3333	3.5165	0	3.557

Attachments:

No Attachments