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Report Highlights:

In marketing year (MY) 2024/2025, Colombia's corn production is projected to remain at 1.5 million metric tons (MMT), 6 percent lower year-on-year. This stagnation is attributed to declining domestic corn prices, which have discouraged farmers from expanding corn cultivation. Milled rice production is increased to 1.98 MMT, as favorable weather conditions and a slow price recovery supported moderate rice cultivation gains. Corn imports are expected to increase, driven by higher demand from the animal feed sector and moderate economic growth. The United States has vastly increased its market share in Colombia, benefiting from higher duties imposed on Mercosur countries under the Andean Price Band System. Since 2023, U.S. corn enjoys duty-free entry into Colombia under the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement. Colombia's rice and wheat imports are also projected to grow in MY 2024/2025, in line with higher consumption levels.

Commodities:

Corn

Table 1. Corn: Production, Supply, and Distribution

Corn	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2022		Oct 2023		Oct 2024	
Colombia	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	380	380	390	390	370	370
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	398	398	340	340	418	388
Production (1000 MT)	1500	1500	1600	1600	1500	1500
MY Imports (1000 MT)	6343	6343	6400	6600	6600	6700
TY Imports (1000 MT)	6343	6343	6400	6600	6600	6700
Total Supply (1000 MT)	8241	8241	8340	8540	8518	8588
MY Exports (1000 MT)	1	1	2	2	1	1
TY Exports (1000 MT)	1	1	2	2	1	1
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	6400	6400	6400	6600	6600	6650
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	1500	1500	1520	1550	1530	1560
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	7900	7900	7920	8150	8130	8210
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	340	340	418	388	387	377
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	8241	8241	8340	8540	8518	8588
Yield (MT/HA)	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1

Data source: FAS historical data series. Post estimates for MY 2024/2025.

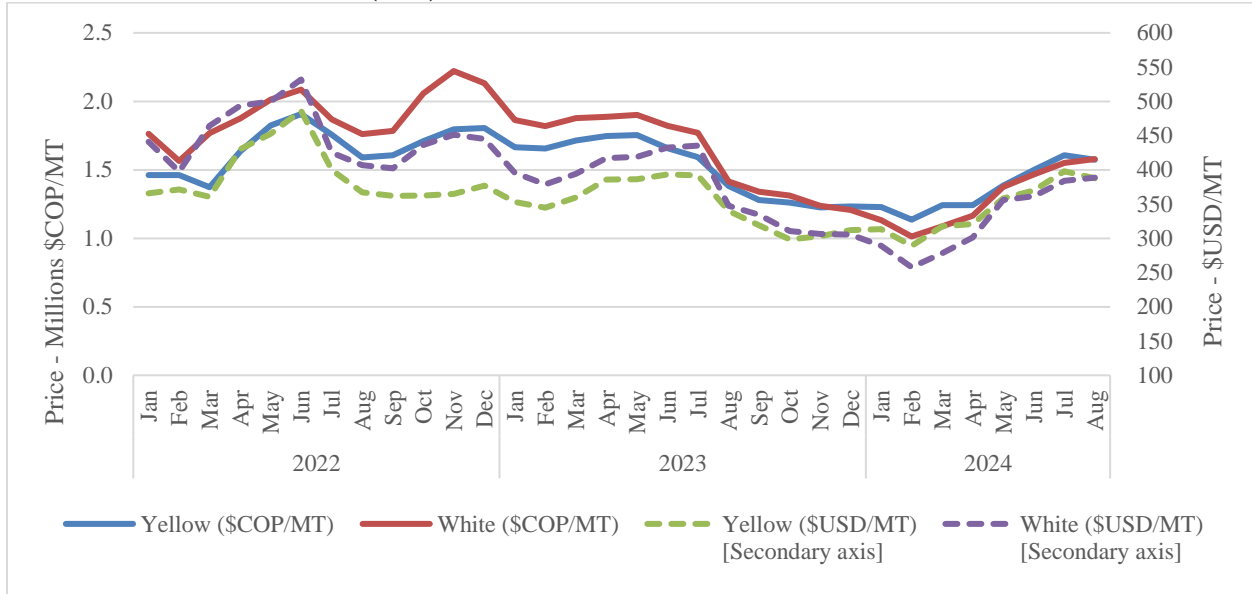
Production

FAS Bogota (Post) expects no changes for MY 2024/2025 (October-September) Colombian corn production at 1.5 million metric tons (MMT) on an estimated harvested area of 370,000 hectares (ha). According to the Colombian Association of Cereal and Legume Producers (FENALCE),¹ area planted via modern corn production methods² declined 24 percent in the first half of 2024. This reduction was driven by falling domestic corn prices, which discouraged farmers from increasing corn acreage. The decline in domestic prices that began in the second half of 2023, aligned with a global downward trend in corn prices (Figure 1). However, since July 2024, domestic corn prices slightly recovered, primarily due to the depreciation of the Colombian peso (COP) against the U.S. dollar. Should corn prices remain stable or further increase, Post estimates no further changes in corn planted area.

¹ See: "[Significant decrease in corn and soybean planting areas in the country](#)," Contexto Ganadero, August 2024.

² Modern production is largely found on medium to large industrial farms where farmers employ hybrid seeds and improve agricultural practices. The average yield is estimated at 5.8 metric tons per hectare (MT/ha).

Figure 1. Colombia: Domestic Average Monthly Corn Prices Paid to Producers 2022-2024 Millions COP/Metric Ton (MT) and USD/MT

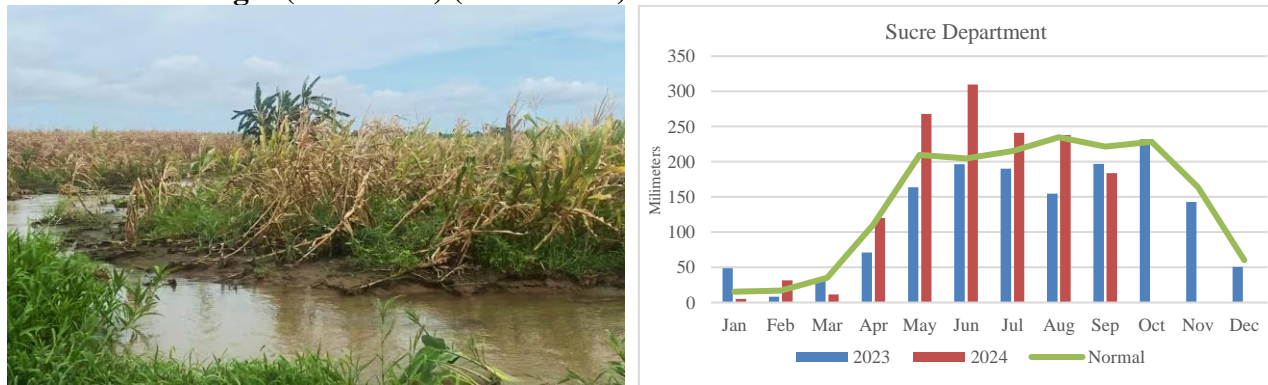


Data source: National corn producer prices report (FENALCE).

Note: U.S. dollar prices (USD) calculated using monthly average exchange rate from Banco de la República de Colombia.

Post’s marketing year 2023/2024 corn production estimate remains unchanged. Weather conditions have been generally favorable across the main corn-producing regions, except for certain areas along the northern coast (See Attachment). In Sucre department, for instance, excessive rainfall led to flooding and overflows of major rivers. It is estimated that approximately 1,200 ha of corn were damaged (Figure 2)³.

Figure 2. Sucre Department: Flooded Corn Field, Monthly Average Precipitation Against Historical Averages (2023-2024) (millimeters)



Data sources: From left: Floods in San Jorge affected 1,200 hectares of corn, El Heraldo, published August 8, 2024.

Right: USDA Global Agricultural and Disaster Assessment System (GADAS) Climate Hazards center InfraRed Precipitation with Station (CHIRPS) Monthly Precipitation. Precipitation data is provided as the average value found across a one-month period against historical averages.

³ Significant flooding occurred in the San Jorge River, a major drainage basin that flows into the Cauca River in Sucre department.

Colombia produces both yellow and white corn and are grown interchangeably by farmers depending on market conditions, as both varieties have similar growing requirements. In calendar year (CY) 2023, yellow corn accounted for 63 percent of total production, with white corn made up the remaining 37 percent. Colombia's corn cultivation consists of both modern and traditional production methods.

Modern production, primarily found on medium to large industrial farms, represented 82 percent of total corn output in 2023, despite occupying only 60 percent of the total planted area. These operations utilize hybrid, and often genetically engineered (GE) seed and incorporate prevailing agricultural practices, with yields averaging 5.8 MT/hectare. In contrast, traditional corn varieties⁴ are mostly grown by smallholder producers for local or household consumption, and average around 1.9 MT/hectare. Colombia's corn production is spread across 17 identified growing departments but 70 percent of the total output is concentrated in six regions: Córdoba and Sucre (northern coast); Tolima, Huila, and Valle (central region); and Meta (eastern plains). Meta is the largest corn producing department, accounting for 24 percent of total corn production.

In CY 2023, Colombia planted 142,710 ha of GE-corn,⁵ a 20 percent increase year-on-year, the second highest rate in history after record 2021 figures (143,000 ha). Colombian departments Meta, Tolima, Cordoba, Valle del Cauca, and Cesar have the highest GE-corn adoption per area planted.

Consumption

For MY 2024/2025, Post revises the corn consumption estimate slightly upward to 8.2 MMT, continuing an upward trend observed in the previous marketing year. This growth is primarily driven by increased demand from the animal feed sector. Post also adjusts the MY 2023/2024 corn consumption estimate upward 2.9 percent to 8.15 MMT, owing to market demand realities. The growth in poultry and pork production has been stronger than expected for 2024, which has led to higher corn demand for animal feed. These sectors have experienced low production costs due to favorable international corn prices and have further supported the expansion of animal protein production.

Feed demand dictates the volume of corn imports, as Colombia's livestock sector supplies the majority of animal proteins for consumers. According to National Business Association of Colombia (ANDI), Colombia's poultry industry continues as the primary corn consumer, accounting for 65 percent of total feed corn imports. Typically, poultry feed formulation is composed by 60 percent corn, 15 percent soybeans, 15 percent soybean meal, and the remaining 10 percent in micronutrients. Animal feed represents 75 percent of poultry production costs for producers.

Colombia's cattle and swine sectors consume around 25 percent of total corn supplies, and the remaining 10 percent is utilized for the aquaculture and pet food industries. Feed formulation for pork ranges between 50-70 percent corn in the ration, which varies based on animal's diet and

⁴ Varieties typically include open pollinated cultivars with distinct traits and are often self-selected by growers.

⁵ See: USDA GAIN, Colombia: Agricultural Biotechnology 2024 Annual Report [CO2024-0021](#).

the type of production (e.g., finishing, lactation), in addition to current corn and soybean meal prices. Feed typically accounts for approximately 73-75 percent of total pork production costs.⁶

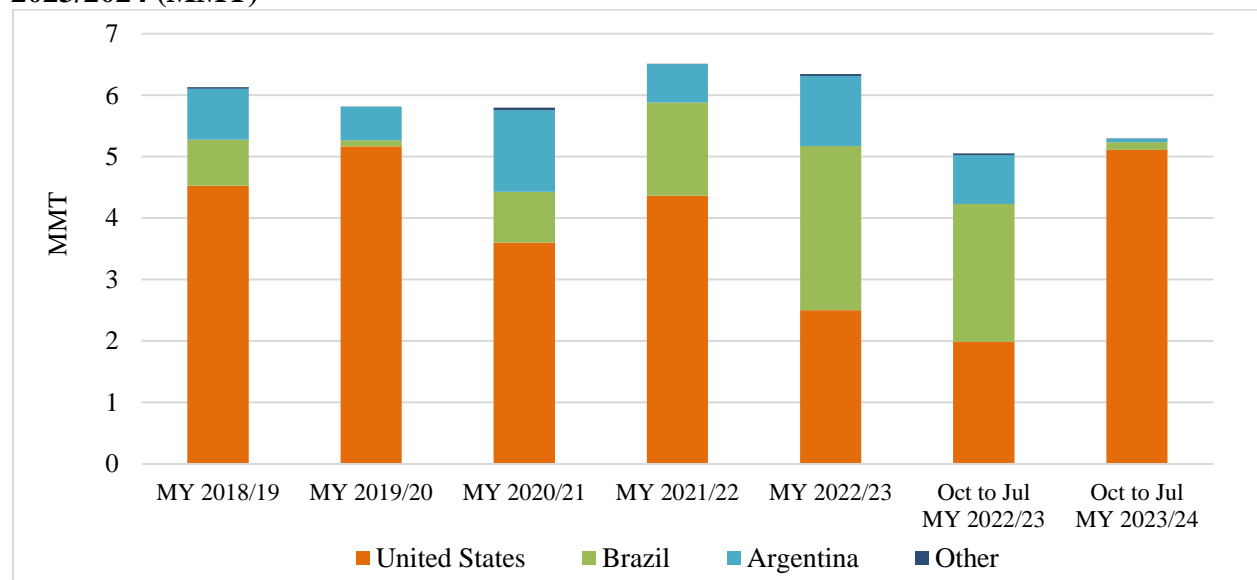
Approximately 95 percent of corn imports are destined for animal feed, with the remaining 5 percent for human consumption. Domestic corn production is mostly utilized in the food processing sector. In MY 2024/2025, food and industrial (FSI) corn consumption is forecast to increase slightly to 1.56 MMT, corresponding to positive economic trends in Colombia. For MY 2023/2024, FSI corn consumption is revised upward 2 percent from the official estimate to 1.55 MMT, driven by lower domestic corn prices, which stimulated increased consumption in both the food and industrial sectors.

Trade

Post revises MY 2024/2025 corn imports up 1.5 percent higher to 6.7 MMT to reflect increasing demand from the animal feed sector (poultry, pork) and to compensate for the anticipated decrease in domestic production. The volume of U.S. corn exports is expected to remain at over 90 percent market share should Colombia continue to apply Mercosur duties on competing origins.⁷ Since 2023, Colombia imports U.S. corn at zero duty through the Colombia U.S. Trade Promotion Agreement (CTPA).

Marketing year 2023/2024, corn imports to Colombia are revised 3.1 percent higher to 6.6 MMT, reflecting increased consumption. From October 2023 to July 2024, U.S. corn exports to Colombia already surpassed 5.1 MMT, accounting for 96.4 percent of total imports (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Colombia: Corn Imports by Country-of-Origin Mys 2018/2019 thru MY 2023/2024 (MMT)



Data source: Trade Data Monitor.

⁶ Source: Colombia Pork Producers Association (Porkcolombia).

⁷ Colombia typically applies duties on corn from Mercosur countries when there are downward international corn prices.

Stocks

Marketing year 2024/2025 ending stocks are forecast at 377,000 MT, 2.8 percent lower than the previous year revised estimate. This figure supplies approximately two weeks of operations. Colombian corn buyers usually maintain limited inventories given their high import frequency, as there is no tariff on U.S. corn, and Mercosur duties change every two weeks. There are no established Colombian government policies for grain inventories.

Policy

Colombian President Gustavo Petro has emphasized the goal of achieving agricultural self-sufficiency in Colombia, with a particular focus on reducing the country's dependence on corn imports. Despite this public commitment, no specific program targeting corn production has been launched to date. The agriculture ministry's current efforts are primarily directed toward agricultural reform, including formulating land distribution policies.

As a member of the Andean Community of Nations (CAN), Colombia utilizes the Andean Price Band System (APBS) that serves as a price stabilization tool for a special group of agricultural products considered sensitive in CAN economies, including corn (Table 2).⁸ The U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement excludes the APBS mechanism for U.S. imports and instead incorporates a tariff rate quota (TRQ) mechanism with out-of-quota duties. Duties on U.S. yellow and white corn were phased-out in 2023.

Table 2. CAN Floor and Ceiling Prices for Corn (CIF)⁹

April 2024 to March 2025 (USD/MT)		
	Floor Price	Ceiling Price
Yellow Corn	\$283	\$343
White Corn	\$282	\$365

Data source: Resolution 2367/2023, CAN.

Since April 2023, in response to declines in international prices, Mercosur tariffs on both yellow and white corn imports have been applied. Reference prices and effective duties on yellow and white corn from Mercosur countries are updated every two weeks (Table 3).

⁸ The APBS price stabilization takes place when the international reference price falls below a set floor, and a tariff is increased. The base tariff is reduced when the reference price exceeds the set ceiling. Floor and ceiling prices are adjusted annually, according to a mathematical calculation, and in accordance with information sources and reference markets established in CAN Decision 371.

⁹ The CAN reference price is the biweekly average of daily, weekly, or monthly quotations observed in the referential markets (FOB Gulf based on the Chicago Board of Trade first position for corn). The reference price must be expressed in terms of CIF. Depending on biweekly CIF reference price behavior, effective corn duties under the APBS for each period will be established.

Table 3. APBS Reference Price and Effective Duties on Mercosur Origin Yellow and White Corn (USD/MT)

	Yellow Corn (HS Code 10059011)		White Corn (HS Code 10059012)	
	Reference Price	Tariff %	Reference Price	Tariff %
April 1-15	\$209	41	\$275	3
April 16-30	\$214	37	\$276	3
May 1-15	\$213	38	\$277	2
May 16-31	\$214	37	\$274	3
June 1-15	\$218	34	\$263	8
June 16-30	\$220	33	\$260	10
July 1-15	\$221	32	\$261	9
July 16-31	\$213	38	\$256	12
August 1-15	\$203	45	\$256	12
August 16-31	\$207	42	\$256	12
September 1-15	\$204	45	\$256	12
September 16-30	\$203	45	\$256	12
October 1-15	\$216	36	\$256	12
October 16-31	\$227	28	\$256	12

Data Source: Andean Community of Nations, Resolutions of Reference Prices under the APBS.

Commodities:

Rice

Table 4. Rice: Production, Supply and Distribution

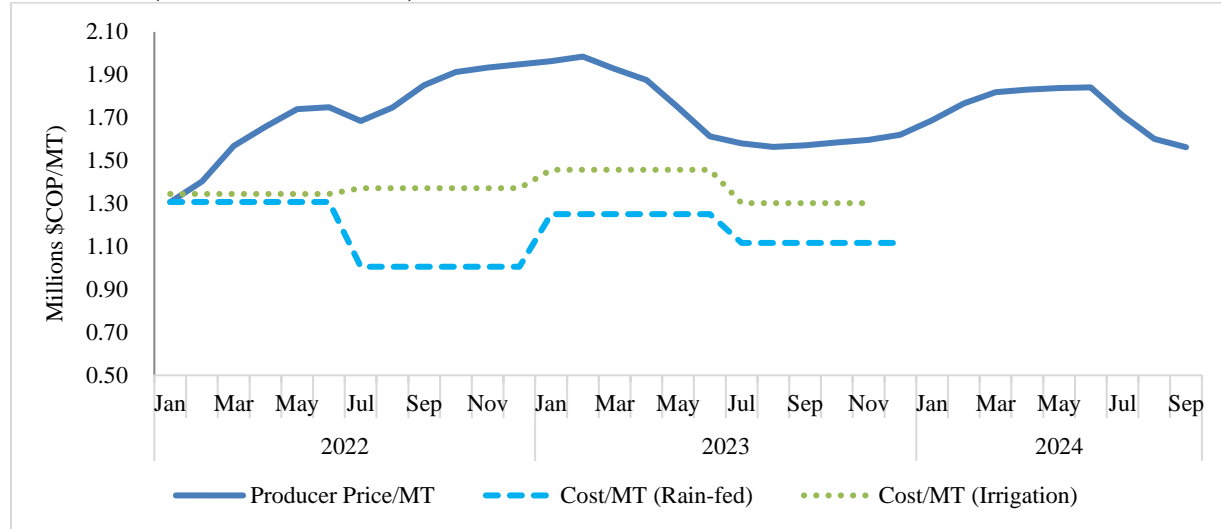
Rice, Milled	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
Market Year Begins	Apr 2022		Apr 2023		Apr 2024	
Colombia	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	509	509	570	580	570	580
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	265	265	161	161	122	232
Milled Production (1000 MT)	1718	1718	1930	1980	1930	1980
Rough Production (1000 MT)	2526	2526	2838	2912	2838	2912
Milling Rate (.9999) (1000 MT)	6800	6800	6800	6800	6800	6800
MY Imports (1000 MT)	243	243	81	81	180	150
TY Imports (1000 MT)	124	124	180	160	180	150
Total Supply (1000 MT)	2226	2226	2172	2222	2232	2362
MY Exports (1000 MT)	65	65	50	40	55	40
TY Exports (1000 MT)	65	65	50	40	55	40
Consumption and Residual	2000	2000	2000	1950	2000	20800
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	161	161	122	232	177	242
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	2226	2226	2172	2222	2232	2362
Yield (Rough) (MT/HA)	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

Data source: FAS historical data series. Post estimates for MY 2024/2025.

Production

Post has revised MY 2024/2025 (April-March) Colombian milled rice production upward from the official figure to 1.98 MMT milled rice equivalent (MRE). This slight increase is attributed to higher cultivated area than previously estimated in Casanare department (eastern plains), which recorded elevated production between June and September 2024, driven by favorable weather conditions (see Attachment). Area harvested remains unchanged from the revised previous MY figure owing to a modest recovery in domestic rice prices. In the second half of 2024, producer average rice prices are 6 percent higher year-on-year, continuing to be profitable enough to cover production costs (Figure 4). Despite price fluctuations, a favorable margin persists between the local average price and production costs, primarily due to the decline in domestic fertilizer and other input costs, with significant reductions into 2023.

Figure 4. Domestic Rice Prices Paid to Growers Against Production Costs - Irrigation vs. Rainfed¹⁰ (COP Millions/MT)



Data source: Colombian Rice Growers Federation (Fedearroz).

In MY 2023/2024, Colombia milled rice production is revised 2.6 percent higher to 1.98 MMT as weather conditions improved near the harvest period. Despite price fluctuations, a favorable margin persists between the local average price and production costs, primarily due to the decline in domestic fertilizer and other input costs, with significant reductions into 2023. In the first half of 2024, there is an upward trajectory in rice prices, which supported increasing production.

Colombia produces rice year-round, with 35 percent of production occurring in the first half of the year and 65 percent in the second half. Two key regions—the Llanos and Central areas (Casanare, Meta, Tolima, and Huila Departments), account for over 70 percent of total production. The Llanos relies on rain-fed cultivation, produces about 40 percent of the country’s rice with average yields of 4.0 MT/ha, while the Central region, with its fully irrigated fields, contributes 30 percent share, and yields of 6.5 MT/hectare. The national average yield is 5.0 MT/hectare.

Consumption

In MY 2024/2025, Post anticipates milled rice consumption to increase 6.7 percent from the previous year revised estimate to 2.08 MMT following sustained economic activity and increasing per capita consumption.

In Post’s revised MY 2023/2024 figure; milled rice consumption experienced a 2.5 percent decrease from the official estimate (1.95 MMT MRE). This decline is attributed to reduced Colombian household spending more, driven by rising food prices, elevated inflation rates, and a more pronounced economic slowdown in 2023 than initially projected.¹¹

Rice is a key staple food in Colombia, with greater per capita consumption than in most South American countries. A recent survey by the National Department of Statistics (DANE) estimates

¹⁰ No data available for 2024 production costs.

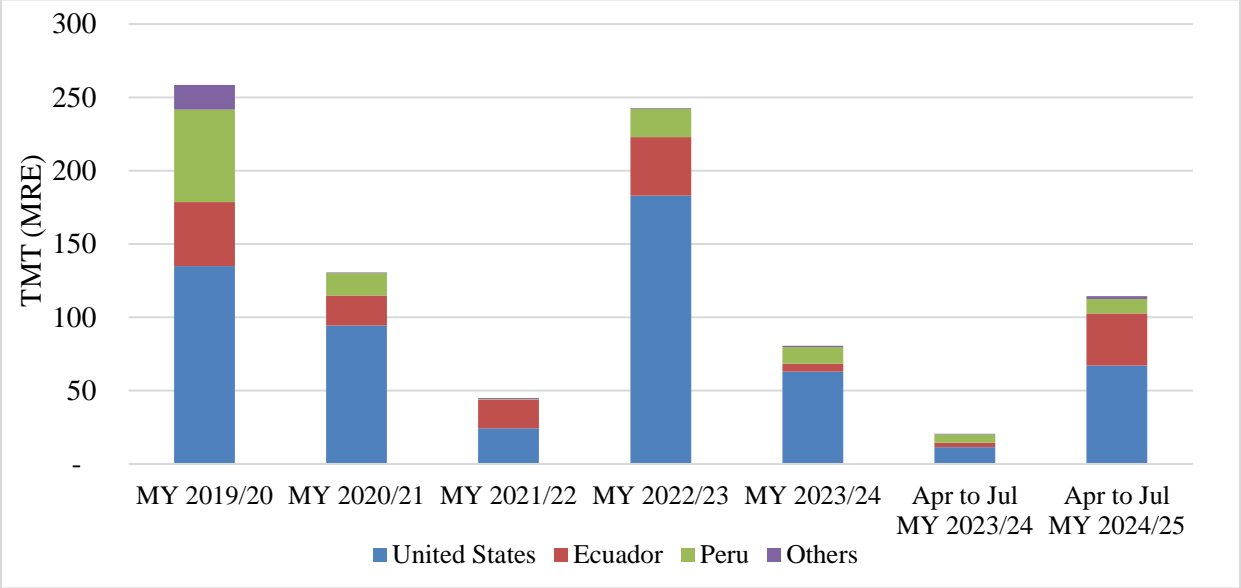
¹¹ Colombia’s economy grew modestly in 2023 at just 0.6 percent, while its inflation rate was 9.3 percent.

that, over the course of 2024, per capita rice consumption has risen to 46 kilograms, with 98 percent of Colombian households consuming the grain. Rice is mostly sold in smaller mom-and-pop stores, or “tiendas” (92 percent), followed by supermarkets (4.3 percent) and wholesale and produce markets (3.3 percent).

Trade

Post has revised MY 2024/2025 Colombia rice imports lower to 150,000 MT milled rice equivalent. Sufficient domestic supplies have reduced the need for imports (Figure 5). As a result, no significant sales are expected in the last quarter of 2024 into early 2025. For MY 2023/2024, rice imports are revised lower to 81,000 MT MRE given the recovery in local rice production that has discouraged imports. In addition, high U.S.-origin rice prices and reduced supplies from Andean community suppliers have supported increased consumption of domestic rice supplies.

Figure 5. Rice Imports by Country of Origin and Percent Share (MY, Thousand Metric Tons [TMT] MRE)

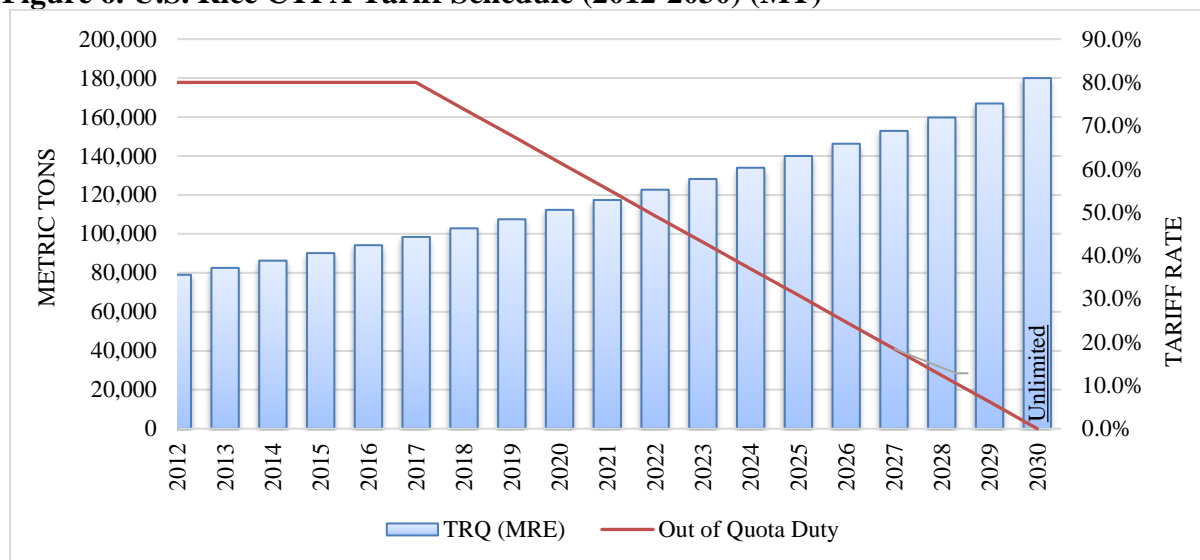


Data source: Trade Data Monitor.

The calendar year 2024 U.S. rice CTPA TRQ is 133,975 MT, with the out-of-quota duty at 36.9 percent. These duties will phase out by 2030 (Figure 6).¹² The first two Colombia Rice Export Quota (COL-RICE) TRQ 2024 auction under the CTPA were fully subscribed at 93,819 MT MRE in January and an additional 19,475 MT MRE in June. The third auction that occurred October 3, 2024, was not fully subscribed. From the available quantity (20,681 MT), just 293 MT were allocated (1.4 percent of total). According to industry contacts, there is sufficient rice in the local market from the main harvest with prices comparable to U.S.-origin rice. In addition, Post sources indicate that millers have critiqued U.S. rice quality, and now prefer locally produced and CAN origin rice due to improved quality characteristics.

¹² Applies to Colombia HS codes: 10061090, 10062000, 10063000, and 10064000.

Figure 6. U.S. Rice CTPA Tariff Schedule (2012-2030) (MT)



Data Source: U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, Appendix 1.

Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia (CAN members) are assessed a zero-tariff duty. In 2023, Colombia eliminated restrictions on milled rice imports from Ecuador, as with Peru in 2022. CAN-origin rice is only allowed to enter Colombia between January 1-June 30 and from November 15-December 31 each calendar year.¹³ Ecuador and Peru-origin rice are imported overland into Colombia to mostly supply the southwestern region market.

Colombia is not a major rice exporter as Colombian rice cannot compete on price with neighboring countries. However, there are milled rice trade flows into Venezuela via the common border, driven by the Venezuelan food shortages. For MY 2023/2024, rice exports to Venezuela are revised down to 40,000 MT MRE as Venezuelan importers shifted to more competitive suppliers¹⁴ while Colombian production prioritized to supply the domestic demand. For MY 2024/2025, Colombian rice exports to Venezuela are forecast to remain unchanged.

Stocks

Market year 2024/2025 ending stocks are estimated higher at 242,000 MT which will support industry operations to cover more than one month of consumption. The Colombian government does not maintain policies for maintaining grain stocks. However, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR) had offered financial storage incentives for producers (primarily for rice) and millers to hold certain inventories, on an ad hoc basis, to regulate market prices. However, the MADR did not offer the program in 2024. Given uncertainty on storage incentive programs, storing rice in bags is a growing alternative among both rice producers and the industry to hold their inventories in a cheaper, more practical manner than conventional silos.

¹³ These import periods were established to protect Colombian producers during Colombia’s harvest season, much like the COL-RICE auction schedule under the CTPA.

¹⁴ See USDA GAIN: [Grain and Feed Update Venezuela Report](#), published October 2024.

Policy

The National Rice Fund, managed by Fedearroz, funds most policies and programs for the rice sector in Colombia. It operates through a checkoff program that collects 0.5 percent of the sale price from producers for each kilogram of green paddy rice, with the discount applied by rice mills at purchase. Most rice growers are also members of Fedearroz who benefit from its educational programs, technical training, and sales support. Additionally, Fedearroz offers technical assistance through extension services and the [AMTEC](#) program (Massive Technological Adoption, in Spanish), which helps farmers adopt crop management technologies to boost productivity and reduce costs with minimal environmental impact.

On August 29, 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Fedearroz, and Induarroz (rice millers association) signed an agreement to strengthen competitiveness of Colombia's rice sector. Through the agreement, Colombian rice sector will use COL-RICE¹⁵ funds with government support to invest in drying and storage facilities, activities which Fedearroz have previously conducted with these resources.

Commodities:

Wheat

Table 5. Wheat: Production, Supply and Distribution

Wheat	2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
Market Year Begins	Jul 2022		Jul 2023		Jul 2024	
Colombia	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	5	3	3	3	3	3
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	385	385	342	335	233	296
Production (1000 MT)	13	6	6	6	6	6
MY Imports (1000 MT)	2036	2036	1973	1973	2100	2000
TY Imports (1000 MT)	2036	2036	1973	1973	2100	2000
Total Supply (1000 MT)	2434	2481	2321	2314	2339	2302
MY Exports (1000 MT)	22	22	18	18	25	20
TY Exports (1000 MT)	22	22	18	18	25	20
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	120	120	120	80	125	80
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	1950	1950	1950	1920	1900	1950
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	2070	2070	2070	2000	2025	2030
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	342	335	233	296	289	252
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	2434	2481	2321	2314	2339	2302
Yield (MT/HA)	2.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

Data Source: FAS historical data series. Post estimates for MY 2024/2025.

¹⁵ Colombia Rice Export Quota, Inc. (COLRICE) was formed in 2012 by the rice industries of Colombia and the United States to administer the rice TRQ established through the CTPA.

Production

In MY 2024/2025 (July-June), Post anticipates no changes to Colombia wheat production which remains flat year-on-year at 6,000 MT on an estimated harvested area of 2,000 hectares. Historically, wheat is not a profitable crop in Colombia due to low yields and unsuitable climatic conditions. Most wheat farms are less than four acres, with production areas concentrated between 2,800 and 3,200 meters above sea level in the Nariño and Boyacá departments. Domestic wheat production is already established to supply regional markets destined for wet milling and preparation of traditional Colombian dishes.

Consumption

For MY 2024/2025, Colombia's wheat consumption is forecast at 2.03 MMT wheat grain equivalent (WGE), a 1.5 percent increase year-on-year from Post's revised MY 2023/2024 estimate. Post anticipates reduced wheat demand from the animal feed sector, which is highly price-sensitive and is opting for cheaper, alternative grains like corn, soybeans, and distillers' dried grains (DDGS) for feed formulations. However, FSI wheat consumption in the current MY is expected to gradually recover and support increased year-on-year consumption, which aligns with Colombia's projected 1.5 percent economic growth in 2024.

The Colombian milling industry fully depends on wheat imports. Post's wheat consumption estimates for MY 2023/2024 are revised to 2.0 MMT, reflecting market realities and a 2 percent year-on-year drop in FSI wheat consumption due to reduced bread consumption.¹⁶ The feed wheat consumption estimate is also lowered as the animal feed industry has preferred corn, and other feed ingredients due to price.

There are 40 wheat milling facilities in the country that produce on average 1.5 MMT of wheat flour. Colombia's milling factor is estimated between 77-79 percent. Of the total wheat consumption, the bread industry consumes approximately 70 percent. Approximately 13 percent of wheat is used to produce cookies and crackers, 11 percent for pasta, 4 percent for household baking, and less than 5 percent as animal feed. The animal feed industry only imports significant wheat volumes when prices are competitive enough for feed formulation. Per capita wheat consumption in Colombia is estimated at 37 kilograms.

Colombia imports high, medium, and low-protein content wheat. High protein content (more than 13.5 percent) is the most widely used product, primarily supplied by Canada, and represents 50-70 percent of wheat flour production. Low protein wheat (less than 10 percent content) is typically U.S.-origin to supply industry demand for cookie and confectionary production.

Trade

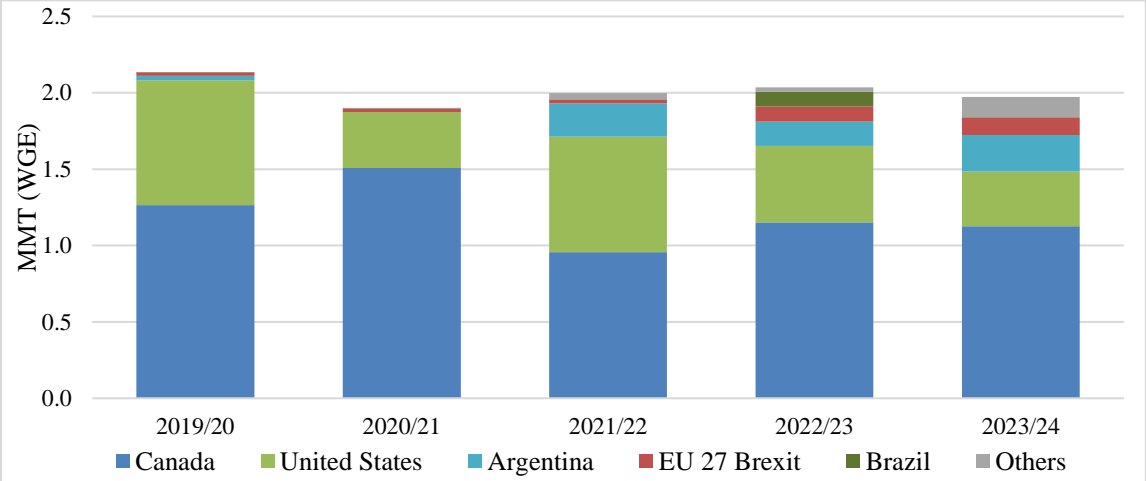
Post revises MY 2024/2025 wheat imports 4.8 percent lower from the official figure but remain 1.4 percent from MY 2023/2024 figure at 2 MMT wheat grain equivalent. This revision reflects MY 2023/2024 import contraction from MY 2022/2023. Nevertheless, local wheat consumption is projected to marginally increase in the current MY, should the national economy improve. The Colombian wheat milling industry is entirely supplied through imports.

¹⁶ According to ANDI (Wheat Millers Chamber - Fedemol), falling bread consumption is a result of high food inflation, slow economic growth, and product substitution.

Colombia’s MY 2023/2024 total wheat import figure remains unchanged at 1.97 MMT, a 3.1 percent decrease year-on-year. New “healthy food” taxes on select food products containing wheat, along with COP depreciation and slow economic growth have limited increase imports. Canada and the United States continue to be the main wheat suppliers. Colombia occasionally imports wheat from Mercosur countries, and more recently from the European Union (Figure 7). In MY 2023/2024, Colombia imported 32,000 MT of wheat grain from non-traditional supplier Uruguay.

There are approximately 60 wheat importers in Colombia. Given its strong milling industry, 99 percent of Colombia’s wheat imports is raw wheat intended for processing, with the remaining 1 percent comprised of pastas and other finished wheat products. Colombia primarily imports Canadian-origin Red Spring and Prairie Spring Red wheat due to price competitiveness and high protein content that supports the wheat flour industry. U.S. wheat varieties exported to Colombia in 2023 and 2024 have included Soft Red Winter, accounting for more than 80 percent of total U.S. wheat exports to Colombia, followed by Hard Red Winter, and Hard Red Spring exports.

Figure 7. Colombia: Wheat Imports by Country of Origin (MY, MMT, WGE)



Data Source: Trade Data Monitor.

Post revises MY 2024/2025 wheat exports downward to 20,000 MT but remain 11 percent higher year-on-year. Venezuela is typically the primary destination for Colombian wheat products, followed by Curaçao. Colombia exports wheat flour, which represents 80 percent of total wheat product exports, and pasta accounting for 17.5 percent.

Stocks

Ending stocks in MY 2024/2025 are estimated at 252,000 MT WGE, which accounts for nearly seven weeks of operations. Marketing year 2023/2024 ending stocks are revised up to 296,000 MT WGE to reflect market realities and the drop in FSI consumption. The feed and wheat milling industries maintain limited carry-over inventories of grains, but most mills have capacity to store products for up to two-months of operations.

Policy

There are no government programs supporting wheat cultivation.

Colombia has 18 trade agreements in force, most of which have zero percent duties for wheat, including Canada and the United States, its main suppliers. Mercosur wheat is not subject to the APBS mechanism as the Colombian government temporarily established zero duties on wheat imports for two years, starting in July 2022.¹⁷ This measure was taken to alleviate the impact of increasing international prices on Colombia's high food inflation since wheat milling industry relies entirely on wheat imports. In August 2024, Colombia's Ministry of Trade issued [Decree 1092 \(2024\)](#) that removes the APBS mechanism for wheat grain for an additional next two years through 2026, meaning wheat from all origins will enter Colombia duty free.

The Petro Administration has actively committed to expanding the implementation of nutrition policies in Colombia, including passing "healthy taxes" on ultra-processed foods. In December 2022, Law 2277 was issued by the Colombian Congress, establishing new taxes on sugar drinks and processed foods high in sodium, sugars (added), and fats. The law came into force in November 2023 with an initial rate of 10 percent and annual 20 percent increases through January 2025. This regulation applies to cookies and pastry products that exceed government established nutritional thresholds, while bread is excluded.

According to Decree 1944 (1996), all wheat flour sold in Colombia is required to be fortified with vitamins B1 and B2, niacin, folic acid, and iron. In 2022, Colombia's Ministry of Health conducted a review of this enrichment requirement. The review also considers derived processed products that utilize wheat flour as a primary ingredient, as well as corn flour. There are no recent updates regarding potential amendments or modifications to the Ministry of Health's wheat flour fortification regulation.

Attachments: [Attachment - GADAS Colombia Corn and Rice Production Monthly Precipitation.pdf](#)

¹⁷ Decree 1174 of July 11, 2022, notes "By which the Customs Tariff for the importation of wheat is partially modified and the application of the Andean Price Band System for wheat is suspended."