

**Required Report:** Required - Public Distribution

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

**Country:** Venezuela

**Post:** Caracas

**Report Category:** Grain and Feed

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### **Report Highlights:**

FAS (Post) revises Venezuela corn and rice production higher for market year (MY) 2023/2024 due to improved access to higher-quality agricultural inputs and seeds, and favorable weather conditions. However, farmer access to necessary financing continues to be the primary constraint to expanding harvested area. Post estimates marginal increases in corn, rice, and wheat consumption in the current market year. However, Venezuela's economic slowdown constrains further growth in grain consumption. The United States remains the largest corn exporter to Venezuela in the current MY with a 40 percent market share and is the third largest wheat exporter. Increased price competitiveness may favor U.S. rice exports to Venezuela from late 2023 into 2024. Post revises its Venezuelan wheat import estimate to 1.35 million metric tons (MMT), as traders will favor imports of wheat grain over finished products.

**Commodity:**

Corn

**Table 1. Corn: Production, Supply and Distribution**

<b>Corn</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>		<b>2022/2023</b>		<b>2023/2024</b>	
<b>Marketing Year Begins</b>	<b>Oct 2021</b>		<b>Oct 2022</b>		<b>Oct 2023</b>	
<b>Venezuela</b>	<b>USDA Official</b>	<b>New Post</b>	<b>USDA Official</b>	<b>New Post</b>	<b>USDA Official</b>	<b>New Post</b>
<b>Area Harvested</b> (1000 HA)	200	200	250	250	285	347
<b>Beginning Stocks</b> (1000 MT)	67	67	77	77	77	77
<b>Production</b> (1000 MT)	810	810	1000	1000	1200	1366
<b>MY Imports</b> (1000 MT)	1100	1100	900	1000	800	659
<b>TY Imports</b> (1000 MT)	1100	1100	900	1000	800	659
<b>Total Supply</b> (1000 MT)	1977	1977	1977	2077	2077	2102
<b>MY Exports</b> (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TY Exports</b> (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Feed and Residual</b> (1000 MT)	900	900	900	900	900	950
<b>FSI Consumption</b> (1000 MT)	1000	1000	1000	1100	1100	1100
<b>Total Consumption</b> (1000 MT)	1900	1900	1900	2000	2000	2050
<b>Ending Stocks</b> (1000 MT)	77	77	77	77	77	52
<b>Total Distribution</b> (1000 MT)	1977	1977	1977	2077	2077	2102
<b>Yield</b> (MT/HA)	4.05	4.05	4	4	4.2105	3.9366

Data source: FAS historical data series. Post estimates for 2023/2024.

**Production**

Post forecasts Venezuela corn production at 1.3 MMT for MY (October-September) 2023/2024, a 37 percent growth year-on-year (Table 1). This estimate includes a 22 percent increase in planted area to 347,000 hectares (ha), 39 percent higher from MY 2022/2023. Improved access to inputs, improved agricultural practices, higher local prices that are close to international prices, and favorable weather are supporting production growth.

Corn is the largest crop by area planted in Venezuela, with an estimated 290,000 ha in calendar year (CY) 2023. Of this amount, about 190,000 ha are planted to white corn (65.5 percent), and 100,000 ha for yellow corn (34.5 percent). Industry sources estimate that corn production for MY 2023/24 will reach 1.2 MMT, comprising about 800,000 metric tons (MT) of white corn and 400,000 MT of yellow corn (Table 2).

In the current MY, white corn planted area is estimated to grow 16 percent to 220,000 ha and yellow corn by 20 percent to 120,000 hectares. The minimal increase in white corn planted area accounts for the smaller deficit in domestic inventories compared to market requirements, as the increased yellow corn planted area is attributed to the steady growth in Venezuela's poultry production.

**Table 2. Corn Production in Venezuela by MY (MT)**

MYs	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	% CHG <sup>1</sup>
<b>White Corn</b>	314,000	524,000	729,500	800,000	154.8
<b>Yellow Corn</b>	210,390	276,000	359,600	400,000	90.1
<b>Total Corn</b>	524,390	800,000	1,089,100	1,200,000	128.8

Data source: Venezuelan Agricultural Industry.

For the current harvest season (September to December 2023), the proposed benchmark prices by domestic industry are USD \$340/MT for white corn and \$290/MT for yellow corn (Table 3). Producers have objected to this price as being insufficient and below production costs, who are instead expecting \$400-450 per metric ton. According to local producer associations, the production costs of 1 MT of corn are estimated at \$380, based on a 5 MT/ha yield. Since 2019, local corn prices have been influenced by international prices and is equivalent to 80-90 percent of the alternate import value (CIF<sup>2</sup> price of corn at Venezuelan ports), depending on quality. The regime is expected to limit corn import permits until local industry buys the entire domestic crop.

**Table 3. Venezuela Average Domestic Corn Prices by Market Year (USD/MT)**

Type	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
<b>White Corn</b>	383	397	340
<b>Yellow Corn</b>	335	376	290

Data source: Venezuelan Agricultural Industry.

Although corn production has been growing steadily since 2020, the lack of consistent financing remains the major constraint for Venezuela farmers to increase yields. Some corn processing companies and input supply companies offer in-kind financing, amounting to essentially a barter operation (crop inputs for harvested corn). However, this form of backing often limits the farmer's ability to select the type or quality of inputs. In addition, producers continue to face challenges resulting from the economic collapse, such as fuel supply instability (especially diesel fuel), electrical service failures, deteriorating rural roads, declining public services, and high inflation.

## Consumption

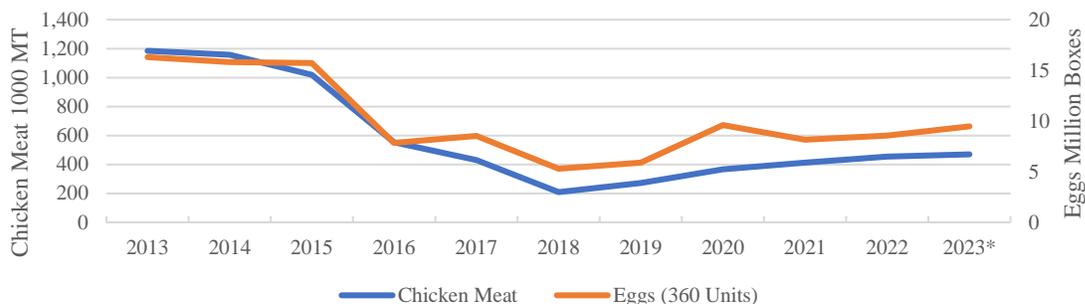
Post revises MY 2023/2024 corn consumption upward by 3 percent to 2.1 million metric tons. The current year estimate includes a 6 percent increase in feed consumption at 950,000 MT on account of the slight growth in poultry production, especially eggs (Figure 1). Food, seed and industrial (FSI) consumption remains unchanged at 1.1 million metric tons. Historically, corn flour consumption mostly remains stable year-to-year as it competes against other products including rice and wheat pasta.

Market year 2022/2023 corn consumption is revised higher at 2 MMT, a 5 percent increase. Feed consumption remains unchanged at 900,000 MT due to the economic slowdown during the first half of 2023. Accelerating inflation and the corresponding drop in purchasing power have caused a downturn in poultry meat production, but in-turn has boosted egg production, as eggs are the cheapest animal-sourced protein available.

<sup>1</sup> Percent change from MY 2023/2024 against MY 2020/2021.

<sup>2</sup> Cost, Insurance, and Freight value.

**Figure 1. Venezuela Chicken Meat and Egg Production, 2012–2022**



**Data Source:** Venezuelan Poultry Industry. \*Estimated

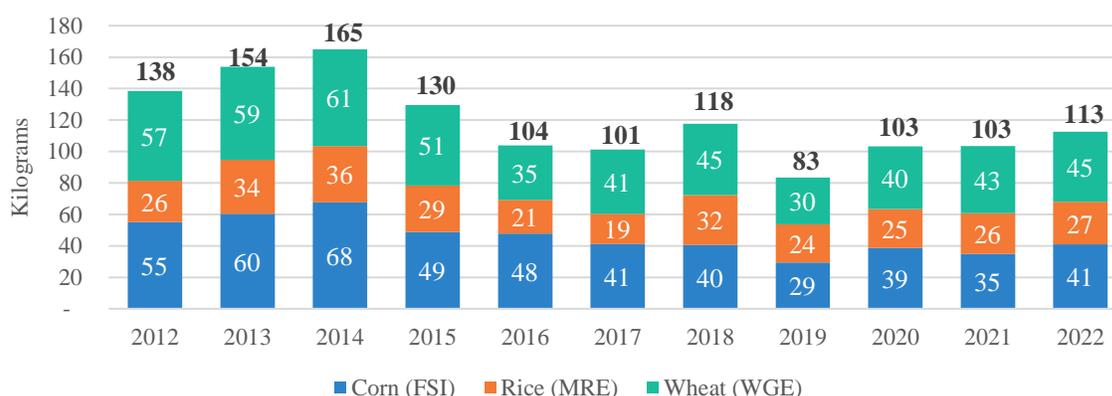
For CY 2022, Post estimates that Venezuela's poultry industry (both chicken meat and egg production) required 962,000 MT of yellow corn and 450,000 MT of soybean meal. Predicting a 3.4 percent and 11 percent growth in chicken meat and egg production, respectively, Post forecasts that the Venezuelan poultry industry in CY 2023 will utilize approximately 994,000 MT of yellow corn and 465,000 MT of soybean meal.

The milling industry's installed capacity for producing corn flour (precooked) for human consumption is about 100,000 MT per month. Presently, Venezuela produces about 70,000 MT of corn flour, consisting of 50,000 MT of white corn and 20,000 MT of yellow corn. Between 20,000-30,000 MT of corn flour (mostly yellow corn) are utilized each month for the government's CLAP food aid program.<sup>3</sup> According to industry sources, corn flour demand in CY 2023 has declined 10 percent year-on-year. In response to shrinking demand, from January-August 2023, the price of corn flour fell 14 percent and currently priced around \$1.00 per kilogram. For MY 2023/2024, demand is expected to remain stable, although with a potential for growth if public spending increases in response improved economic conditions.

In CY 2022, corn was the second most consumed cereal crop, with 41 kilograms (kg) per capita, a 36 percent share behind wheat at 45 kg per capita, accounting for 40 percent of total cereal consumption (Figure 2). Compared to corn flour, in August 2023, wheat pasta was 52 percent more expensive. Similarly, rice prices were 21 percent more expensive than corn (Table 4).

<sup>3</sup> Refers to the “Local Committees for Supply and Production,” the Maduro regime’s primary food aid program.

**Figure 2. Estimated Per Capita Consumption of Corn, Rice, and Wheat 2012-2022 (Kg)**



**Data source:** FAS historical data and estimates, and population data from International Monetary Fund. FSI: Food, Seed and Industrial. MRE: Milled Rice Equivalent. WGE: Wheat Grain Equivalent.

**Table 4. Venezuela Average Price of Corn Flour, Pasta, and Rice August 2023 (USD/kg)**

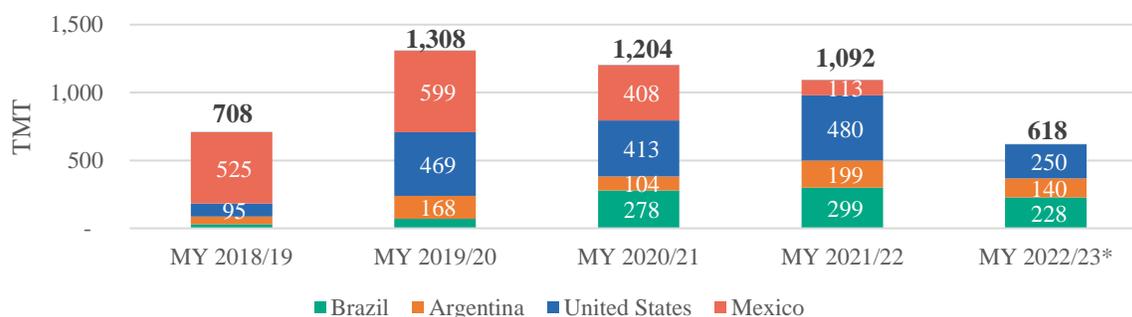
Product	Average Price/kg	Price Difference vs. 1 kg Corn Flour (%)	Price Equivalence 1 kg of Corn Flour by Volume of Pasta, Rice
Corn Flour	\$1.05	-	-
Pasta	\$1.60	52	1 kg Corn Flour: 0.66 kg Pasta
Rice	\$1.27	21	1 kg Corn Flour: 0.83 kg Rice

**Data Source:** Post industry sources.

## Trade

In the current MY, Post revises Venezuela corn imports lower to 659,000 MT, a 34 percent decline year-on-year. This estimate is based on higher domestic production, particularly white corn, in addition to steady food corn consumption and reduced demand for corn imports from the poultry industry. Venezuela imports of U.S. corn remain unchanged at 400,000 MT, and account for 61 percent of total imports by origin (Figure 3). In MY 2022/2023, yellow corn accounted for most imports and are particularly directed to the animal feed industry (Figure 4).<sup>4</sup>

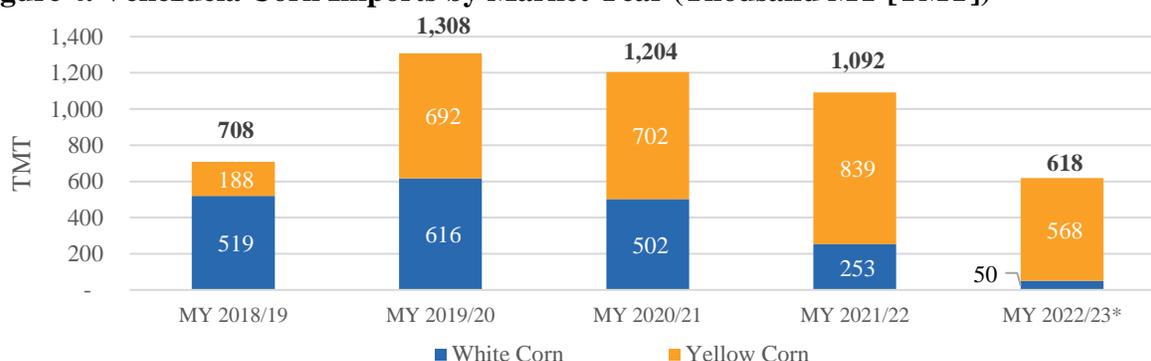
**Figure 3. Venezuela Corn Imports by Origin, Market Year (TMT)**



**Data Source:** Trade Data Monitor. \* Includes data through July 2023.

<sup>4</sup> However, the regime continues to include yellow corn flour in its CLAP food program, mainly for price considerations.

**Figure 4. Venezuela Corn Imports by Market Year (Thousand MT [TMT])**



**Data source:** Trade Data Monitor. \*Includes data through July 2023.

### Stocks

For MY 2023/2024 Post revises ending stocks lower by 32 percent to 52,000 MT, given lower imports and augmented consumption. There are no regime policies that regulate grain inventories in Venezuela.

### Policy

Importers pay tariffs and a value-added tax (VAT) for yellow corn, white corn, and corn flour (Table 5). To receive an import license, they must first purchase the domestic crop and import the deficit, if any, to supplement domestic demand.<sup>5</sup>

**Table 5: Tariffs and VAT for Yellow Corn, White Corn, and Corn Flour**

Description	HS Code	Ad Valorem (%)	VAT (%)	Custom Service (%)
Yellow Corn	1005.90.10.11	15	16	1
White Corn	1005.90.10.19	15	16	1
Corn Flour	1102.20.00.00	20	16	1

**Data source:** Extraordinary Official Gazette No. 6698.

<sup>5</sup> For additional information, see USDA GAIN: Venezuela 2023 Grain and Feed Annual [VE2023-0003](#).

**Commodity:**  
Rice

**Table 6. Rice: Production, Supply and Distribution**

<b>Rice, Milled</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>		<b>2022/2023</b>		<b>2023/2024</b>	
<b>Market Year Begins</b>	<b>Apr 2021</b>		<b>Apr 2022</b>		<b>Apr 2023</b>	
<b>Venezuela</b>	<b>USDA Official</b>	<b>New Post</b>	<b>USDA Official</b>	<b>New Post</b>	<b>USDA Official</b>	<b>New Post</b>
<b>Area Harvested</b> (1000 HA)	60	60	84	84	84	95
<b>Beginning Stocks</b> (1000 MT)	174	174	217	217	164	164
<b>Milled Production</b> (1000 MT)	163	163	257	257	231	322
<b>Rough Production</b> (1000 MT)	240	240	379	379	340	475
<b>Milling Rate (.9999)</b> (1000 MT)	6786	6786	6786	6786	6786	6786
<b>MY Imports</b> (1000 MT)	600	600	420	420	500	420
<b>TY Imports</b> (1000 MT)	450	450	475	475	575	525
<b>Total Supply</b> (1000 MT)	937	937	894	894	895	906
<b>MY Exports</b> (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TY Exports</b> (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Consumption and Residual</b> (1000 MT)	720	720	730	730	735	735
<b>Ending Stocks</b> (1000 MT)	217	217	164	164	160	171
<b>Total Distribution</b> (1000 MT)	937	937	894	894	895	906
<b>Yield (Rough)</b> (MT/HA)	4	4	4.5119	4.5119	4.0476	5

Data source: FAS historical data series. Post estimates for 2023/2024.

**Production**

Post estimates Venezuela MY 2023/2024 (April-March) rice production upward to 322,000 MT milled rice equivalent (MRE). This growth is based on a 13 percent increase in planted area to 95,000 ha, in addition to an improvement in yields at 5 MT per hectare. The increase in the planted area responds to higher prices for producers and moderate improvements in access to credit. At the same time, the improvement in yields corresponds to improved input availability and the introduction of locally developed disease-resistant rice varieties in larger landholdings. Post's production, yield, and planted area estimates for MY 2022/23 remain unchanged.

In the current 2023 harvest season (September-December), producer prices have increased 8 percent to \$430/MT, compared to the previous February-May harvest season (approximately \$399/MT). Producers have had slightly improved access to financing provided by the industry, which supported Venezuela in reaching its planting program targets, in addition to modest agricultural credit from private banks. Increased resources and higher international rice prices encouraged producers to plant more area and invest more in their farms. As a result, Venezuela rice production in the current year is estimated to have more than doubled since MY 2020/2021 (Table 7).

Rice is the second largest crop by area planted in Venezuela, with an estimated 84,000 ha in MY 2022/2023, and 109,000 Ha in the current MY (Table 8). Rice production is largely based in the states of Portuguesa, Guarico, Cojedes, and Barinas, located in the Venezuelan plains.

**Table 7. Venezuela Rough Rice Production CY 2020–2023 (MT)**

Calendar Year	2020	2021	2022	2023*	% CHG 2020-2023
<b>Rough Rice (MT)</b>	224,120	240,000	424,970	601,700	168%

Data source: Venezuelan Agricultural Industry. \*Estimated

**Table 8. Venezuela 2023 Rice Production (Planted Area in Ha, Production in MT)**

Season	Planted Area	Rough Rice	Milled Rice
<b>Summer Season October 2022 - May 2023</b>	52,400	288,200	160,000
<b>Winter Season April - November 2023</b>	57,000	313,500	174,000
<b>Total</b>	109,400	601,700	334,000

Data source: Venezuelan Agricultural Industry.

## Consumption

Post estimates a slight increase in Venezuelan rice consumption in the current MY to 735,000 MT (MRE), mostly unchanged from official estimates. The Venezuelan economy has slowed since the last quarter of 2022, with accelerated inflation again throughout 2023. The corresponding drop in purchasing power has declined rice consumption by more than 10 percent across all food categories. As a food staple, however, rice consumption has remained unchanged in both the current MY and MY 2022/23 due to competitive pricing.

Rice is currently the second most price-competitive cereal and is widely available, resulting in increased consumption at the expense of pasta.<sup>6</sup> In CY 2022, rice was the third most consumed cereal, with 27 kg per capita, a 24 percent share, after wheat, and corn (Figure 2). Although the low price of corn flour has affected its competitiveness, a seasonal recovery in consumption is expected in the last quarter of 2023 due to the upcoming holiday (Christmas) season. Compared to rice prices, in August 2023, pasta was 26 percent more expensive. Similarly, the price of corn flour was 17 percent less than rice, with an equivalence price by volume of 1 kg rice to 1.21 kg of corn flour (Table 9).

**Table 9. Venezuela August 2023 Average Prices of Rice, Pasta, and Corn Flour (USD/Kg)**

Product	Average Price/kg	Price Difference vs. 1 Kg Rice (%)	Equivalence Price of Rice in Volume of Pasta and Corn Flour
<b>Rice</b>	\$1.27	-	-
<b>Pasta</b>	\$1.60	26%	1 Kg Rice: 0.79 Kg Pasta
<b>Corn Flour</b>	\$1.05	(17)%	1 Kg Rice: 1.21 Kg Corn Flour

Data source: Post historical data series.

<sup>6</sup> Venezuela is among the largest consumers of pasta globally.

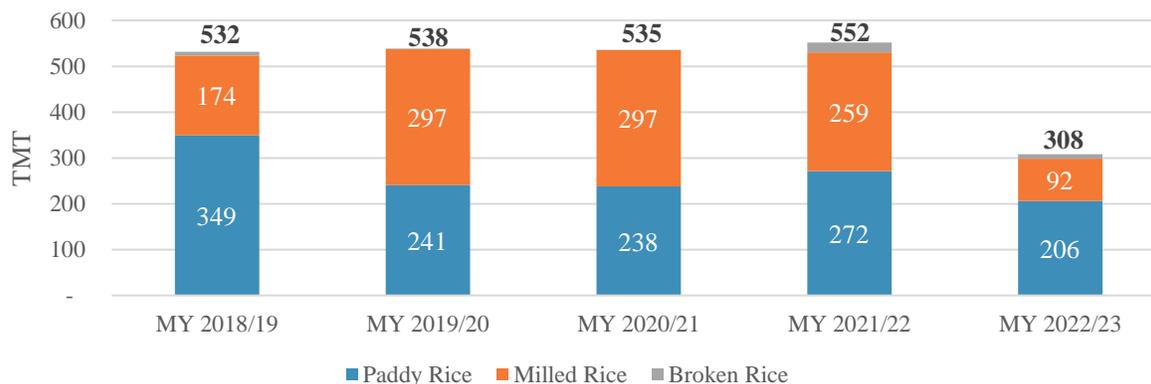
## Trade

Post estimates Venezuelan rice imports lower in the current MY to 420,000 MT on account of the growth of domestic production. Rice imports in MY 2022/2023 remain unchanged at 475,000 MT, aligned with official estimates.

Venezuela rice imports totaled 308,000 MT in MY 2022/2023, with paddy rice accounting for 67 percent (206,000 MT) of total imports, milled rice at 30 percent (92,000 MT), and broken rice 3 percent (10,000 MT) (Figure 5). Major suppliers of rice included Brazil (153,000 MT, 50 percent market share), Uruguay (84,000 MT, 27 percent), and Guyana (70,000 MT, 23 percent) (Figure 6). In 2022/2023, the United States lost its paddy rice market in Venezuela due to competitive pricing.

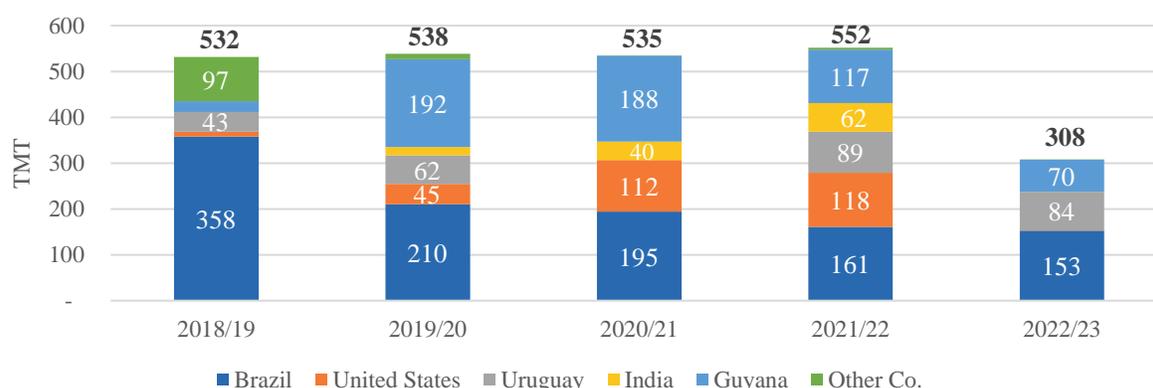
Rice imports from Brazil and Uruguay previously benefit from preferential trade agreements and full tariff exemptions. However, Post sources note that Venezuela will likely resume imports of U.S.-origin rice, due to recovering price competitiveness of U.S. rice and the decrease in exportable supplies from Brazil and Uruguay. Beginning in late 2023 until early 2024, Post sources indicate that local industry will likely import approximately 30,000 MT of U.S. rice per month. Currently, the private sector is responsible for all Venezuela rice imports.

**Figure 5. Venezuela Rice Imports by Type, April-March (TMT)**



**Data Source:** Trade Data Monitor.

**Figure 6. Venezuela Rice Imports by Country of Origin and MY, April-March (TMT)**



**Data Source:** Trade Data Monitor.

### Stocks

For MY 2023/24 Post revises its ending stocks estimate 7 percent higher to 171,000 MT due to the slight increase in domestic supply and steady consumption. There are no government policies regulating rice inventories in Venezuela.

### Policy

Importers pay tariffs and VAT for paddy rice and milled rice (Table 8). However, they may qualify for a total or partial exemption of tariffs and VAT if they meet certain conditions related to the availability of domestic production. Applications for exemption are reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the regime (Ministry of Economy).

**Table 10: Tariffs and VAT for Paddy Rice and Milled Rice**

Description	HS Code	Ad Valorem (%)	VAT (%)	Custom Service (%)
Paddy Rice	100610	20	16	1.0
Milled Rice	100630	20	16	1.0

Data source: Extraordinary Official Gazette No. 6698.

While Venezuela remains suspended from Mercosur, it retains a preferential trade agreement with Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay under the Economic Complementation Agreement No. 59 of ALADI (Latin American Association for Integration). Corn and rice originating from these aforementioned countries are subject to a 100 percent import tariff exemption.

**Commodity:**  
Wheat

**Table 11. Wheat: Production, Supply and Distribution**

Wheat	2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024	
Market Year Begins	July 2021		July 2022		July 2023	
Venezuela	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	231	231	316	316	312	312
Production (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imports (1000 MT)	1235	1235	1196	1196	1300	1350
TY Imports (1000 MT)	1235	1235	1196	1196	1300	1350
Total Supply (1000 MT)	1466	1466	1512	1512	1612	1662
MY Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	1150	1150	1200	1200	1250	1350
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	1150	1150	1200	1200	1250	1350
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	316	316	312	312	362	312
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	1466	1466	1512	1512	1612	1662
Yield (MT/HA)	0	0	0	0	0	0

Data source: FAS historical data series. Post estimates for 2023/2024.

### Production

There is no wheat production in Venezuela. The market is entirely dependent on imports.

### Consumption

Post revises its MY 2023/2024 wheat consumption estimate higher to 1.35 MMT wheat grain equivalent (WGE). This rise in consumption is based on an expansion of the milling industry in response to increased local demand. By the last quarter of 2023, the reactivation of three wheat mills and the establishment of new milling operations may potentially supplement an additional 216,000 MT per year of wheat grain.

Due to low consumer purchasing power that was exacerbated in 2023 by economic slowdown and inflation, most consumer food purchases are limited to grain staples including pasta, rice, and corn flour. Often based on income levels, consumers must decrease or eliminate completely animal protein consumption because of relatively high costs. The milling industry has reduced local pasta and wheat flour prices to compete with imported finished products and encourage demand. Competitive local prices for wheat products have resulted in increased demand for wheat grain from the milling industry.

Wheat consumption remains unchanged at 1.2 MMT (WGE) for MY 2022/2023. Despite the economic slowdown since the last quarter of 2022 and reduced consumption in the first months of 2023, wheat products maintain higher consumption levels than rice and corn flour.

At present, there are 18 wheat mills, 19 pasta industries, 17 cracker industries, and over 10,000 bakeries that comprise Venezuela’s wheat industry. The milling industry has a current installed capacity of 2.5 MMT per year but is currently operating at only 28 percent capacity (Table 11). Despite its low capability, the sector still manages to supply 68 percent of domestic consumption. To maintain reasonable inventory levels and meet market demand, the wheat industry requires approximately 1.56 MMT of wheat grain per year.

**Table 11. Venezuela Milling Industry Installed Capacity, MY 2022/2023 (MT)**

Wheat for Bread	Durum Wheat for Pasta	Mixed Wheat	Wheat for Crackers	Total
1,323,912	693,960	306,000	216,000	2,539,800

Data Source: Venezuela Milling Industry.

In MY 2022/23, total wheat flour consumption is estimated at 559,000 MT (WGE). Of this consumption, local production accounted for 58 percent at 324,220 MT (WGE) and imported wheat flour accounted for 42 percent at 234,780 metric tons (WGE). Turkey was the leading supplier of imported wheat flour, with a 90 percent market share.

In MY 2022/2023, total pasta consumption is estimated at 641,000 MT (WGE). Of this amount, local production accounted for 56 percent at 358,960 MT (WGE) and imported pasta at 282,040 metric tons (44 percent). Turkey was the leading supplier of imported pasta, with a 98 percent market share.

Wheat products are among the primary calorie sources in the Venezuelan diet and are mainly consumed in the form of pasta, bread, and crackers. In CY 2022, wheat was the most consumed cereal, with 45 kg (WGE) per capita (Figure 2). Against the price of pasta, in August 2023, rice was 39 percent cheaper, with 1 kg of pasta comparable to 1.63 kg of rice. Similarly, the price of corn flour was 25 percent cheaper than pasta, with an equivalency of 1 kg pasta against 1.63 kg of corn flour (Table 12).

**Table 12. Average Price of Pasta, Rice, and Corn Flour in Venezuela in August 2023 (USD/Kg)**

Product	Average Price/kg	Price Difference vs. 1 Kg Pasta (%)	Equivalence Price of Pasta in Volume of Rice and Corn Flour
Pasta	\$1.60	-	-
Rice	\$1.27	(21)%	1 Kg Pasta: 1.26 Kg Rice
Corn Flour	\$1.05	(34)%	1 Kg Pasta: 1.52 Kg Corn Flour

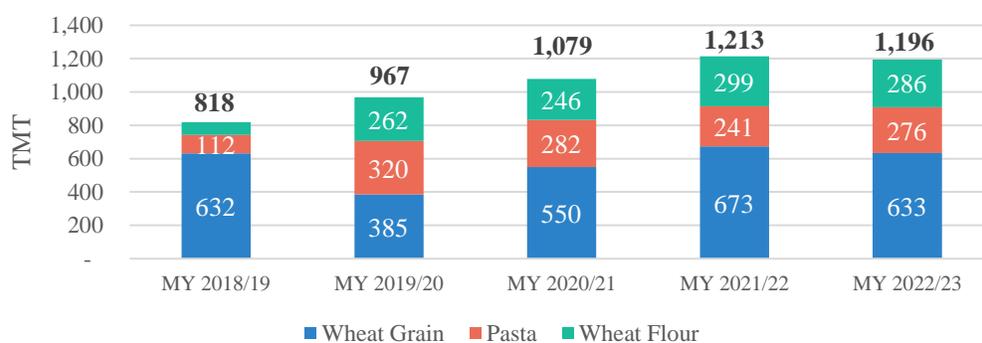
Data source: Post historical data series.

## Trade

Post revises its MY 2023/2024 wheat import estimate to 1.35 MMT, 13 percent higher year-on-year. This rise in imports is based on an expansion of the milling industry in response to increased demand.

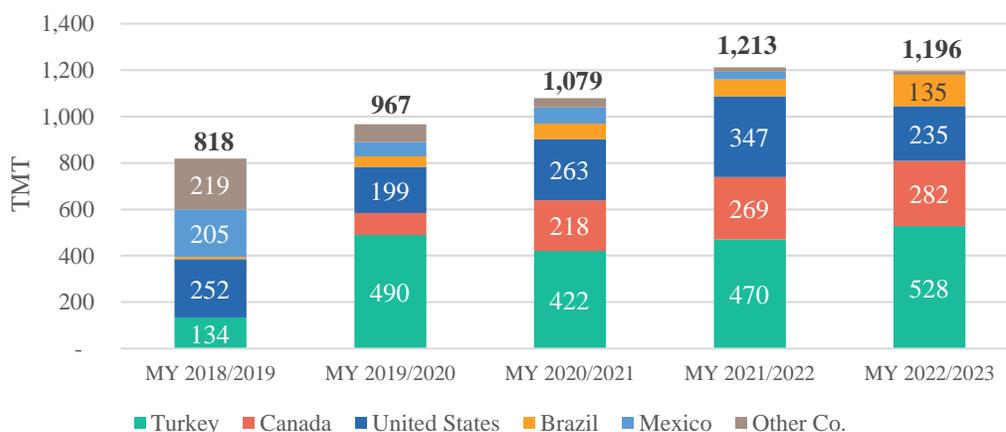
In MY 2022/2023, wheat and wheat product imports declined 1 percent to 1.19 MMT year-on-year. Venezuelan imports consisted of 53 percent wheat grain, 23 percent pasta, and 24 percent wheat flour (Figure 7). Major suppliers included Turkey (528,000 MT, 44 percent market share), Canada (282,000 MT, 24 percent), and the United States (235,000 MT, 20 percent) (Figure 8). Currently, locally produced wheat flour accounts for 60 percent of the total market against imports.

**Figure 7. Venezuela Wheat Imports by Type (TMT-WGE)**



**Data Source:** Trade Data Monitor.

**Figure 8. Venezuela Wheat Imports by Country of Origin (TMT-WGE)**

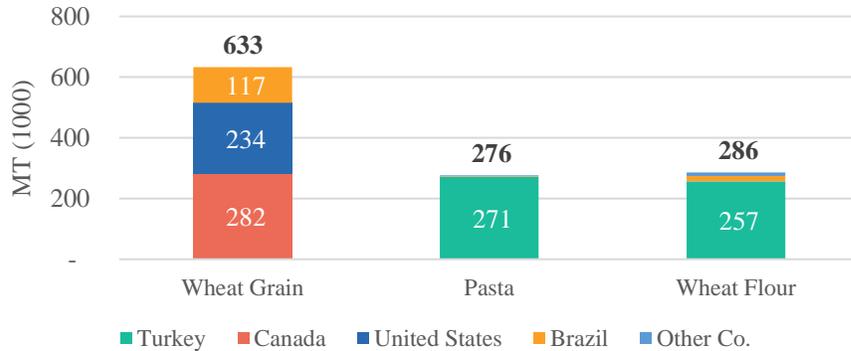


**Data Source:** Trade Data Monitor.

Wheat grain imports in MY 2022/2023 declined 6 percent year-on year to 633,000 metric tons. Leading suppliers included Canada (282,000 MT, 45 percent market share), the United States (234,000 MT, 37 percent), and Brazil (117,000 MT, 18 percent) (Figure 9). Pasta imports rose 14 percent in MY 2022/2023 to 276,000 MT, and wheat flour import declined 4 percent to 286,000 MT. According to Post sources, despite a drop in wheat grain imports last MY, the share of

wheat grain against finished products will likely increase through the remainder of MY 2023/2024.

**Figure 9. Venezuela MY 2022/23 Wheat Product Imports by Origin (TMT-WGE)**



**Data Source:** Trade Data Monitor.

Turkey is the primary supplier of finished wheat products to Venezuela last MY, representing 98 and 90 percent market share of pasta and wheat flour, respectively. This high share of Venezuelan pasta and wheat flour imports results from a 2018 bilateral trade agreement exempting tariffs on Turkish pasta and wheat flour imports.

### Stocks

Post revises MY 2023/2024 ending stocks lower to 312,000 MT, on account of higher domestic wheat consumption, in particular higher volumes of pasta products utilized in the CLAP food program. Pasta demand via CLAP is estimated at 16,000 MT/month, benefiting approximately 8 million people. There are no government policies regulating wheat inventories in Venezuela.

### Policy

From July 1, 2023, through December 30, 2023, importers are required to a 20 percent tariff and a 16 percent VAT for pasta and wheat flour (Table 13).

**Table 13: Tariffs and VAT for Wheat, Pasta, and Wheat Flour (July-December 2023)**

Description	HS Code	Ad Valorem %	VAT %	Custom Service (%)
Wheat Durum	100119	0.2	1.6	1
Wheat for Crackers	100199	0.2	1.6	1
Wheat for Bread	100199	0.2	1.6	1
Pasta	190219	20	16	1
Wheat Flour	110100	20	16	1

**Data source:** Official Gazette No. 6750.

### Attachments:

No Attachments