

**Required Report:** Required - Public Distribution

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## **Report Name:** Oilseeds and Products Update

**Country:** Pakistan

**Post:** Islamabad

**Report Category:** Oilseeds and Products

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### **Report Highlights:**

Pakistan's soybean imports during MY 2018/19 reached 2 million tons, eight percent lower than last year. Reduced imports are due to sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues, regulatory uncertainty for genetically engineered products, and the devaluation of Pakistan's currency. Soybean imports during MY 2019/20 are forecast to rebound at 2.2 million tons in anticipation of improved economic conditions. Rapeseed imports are up ten percent from a year ago at 907,485 metric tons, while imports of soybean oil and palm oil are up 60 percent and four percent respectively. The imports offset the lower domestic cotton production. Pakistan remains one of the world's largest vegetable oil importers.

**Decline in Soybean Imports—Longer-Term Fundamentals Favor Growth:**

Soybeans imports continued in 2018/19, but fell eight percent from the same period last year. The reduction in soybean imports is mainly due to sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues, a lack of legal protections for imported genetically engineered (GE) soybeans, and the devaluation of Pakistan rupee, which fell by 40 percent.

The continued growth and modernization of Pakistan’s poultry and dairy sectors are generating new demand for high-protein feed ingredients, thereby, increasing the inclusion of soybean meal in animal feed rations.

Pakistan’s MY 2019/20 soybean imports are projected at 2.2 million tons.

**Table 1: Oilseed Import Statistics:**

(Figures in Metric Tons)

Product	MY 2015/16	MY 2016/17	MY 2017/18	MY 2018/19	MY 2019/20
Items	Actual Data	Actual Data	Actual Data	Actual Data	Projections
Rapeseed/Canola	1,100,000	1,180,000	820,920	907,485	750,000
Sunflower seed	50,000	102,000	40,900	0	50,000
Soybeans	1,132,000	1,600,000	2,179,042	1,996,705	2,200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,282,000</b>	<b>2,882,000</b>	<b>3,040,862</b>	<b>2,904,190</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>

Source: All Pakistan Solvent Extractor Association (APSEA) and FAS Islamabad

**Edible Oil Imports Higher than Expected:**

According to the Government of Pakistan, 2018/19 imports of soybean and palm oils are higher than expected and totaled more than 3 million tons. Imports of soybean oil increased by 60 percent and palm oil by four percent compared to a year ago. Significant increases in edible oil imports offset the lower domestic cotton production. Palm oil dominates the imported vegetable oil market and is commonly blended with other oils and sold as cooking oil. A significant amount of soft oil available from soybean and canola crushing will augment the overall availability of edible oil in the country. Well-to-do consumers are gradually shifting from palm based hydrogenated oils to oilseed-based soft oil, primarily due to its perceived health benefits. In general, FAS Islamabad forecasts sustained growth in demand for oilseed products.

**Table 2: Soybean Oil Import Statistics:**

(Figures in Metric Tons)

Months	MY 2013-14	My 2014-15	My 2015-16	My 2016-17	My 2017-18	My 2018-19
Oct	5,341	1,552	43,052	14,492	7,772	14,954
Nov	521	1,019	23,701	4,044	4,868	10,180
Dec	152	1,280	22,120	922	19,509	10,950
Jan	3,127	184	26,652	61	4,560	851
Feb	1,872	167	25,089	122	2,261	12,307
Mar	21,018	51	16,466	12,450	4,243	16,100
Apr	22,518	757	11,006	8,085	12,211	15,275
May	2,061	7,136	21,516	28,654	5,937	14,193
June	30,484	10,105	11,423	9,756	13,387	26,332
July	6,025	11,141	19,570	55,389	6,319	19,561
Aug	15,828	31,133	15,459	23,768	7,158	13,764
Sept	11,317	31,240	20,936	21,937	16,309	12,902
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,264</b>	<b>95,765</b>	<b>256,990</b>	<b>179,180</b>	<b>104,534</b>	<b>167,369</b>

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

**Table 3: Palm Oil Import Statistics:**

(Figures in Metric Tons)

Months	MY 2013-14	My 2014-15	My 2015-16	My 2016-17	My 2017-18	My 2018-19
Oct	192,258	213,467	283,740	204,972	257,530	230,673
Nov	208,051	212,248	212,491	224,912	244,538	278,579
Dec	152,900	214,094	187,913	242,219	249,638	252,662
Jan	210,709	162,916	211,624	237,227	244,565	302,127
Feb	169,017	188,103	237,795	226,052	200,684	251,453
Mar	165,341	196,993	365,734	255,491	295,288	280,738
Apr	186,156	173,743	214,633	217,555	269,672	270,838
May	157,618	211,668	257,672	261,326	232,553	302,717
June	213,093	278,197	199,104	219,032	223,513	255,740
July	152,358	160,019	150,726	244,671	252,725	129,625
Aug	198,131	256,208	204,712	259,004	225,275	280,413
Sept	226,022	258,250	187,092	217,422	274,410	261,734
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,231,654</b>	<b>2,525,906</b>	<b>2,713,236</b>	<b>2,890,063</b>	<b>2,970,391</b>	<b>3,097,299</b>

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

**Attachments:**

No Attachments