

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: March 26, 2025

Report Number: TU2025-0012

Report Name: Turkiye Announces New Crop Production Model

Country: Turkiye

Post: Ankara

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Grain and Feed, Livestock and Products, Oilseeds and Products

Prepared By: FAS-Turkiye

Approved By: Michael Francom

Report Highlights:

In November 2024, the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MinAF) unveiled details of its Agricultural Production Plan (Plan), which aims to optimize and make Turkish agriculture more sustainable. The Plan prioritizes the production of grain, livestock, and aquaculture and has an implementation start date of 2025. This new approach to production is expected to change the mix of agricultural products being produced in Türkiye in the years to come. However, it's too early to assess the direction and magnitude of any potential shift in production.

Turkish Agricultural Ministry Announces Agricultural Production Plan

In November 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MinAF) announced details of its [Agricultural Production Plan \(Plan\)](#) which aims to optimize the country's agricultural production, strengthen national food security, and promote sustainable agricultural practices amid a changing climate. The Ministry claims that the Plan, which primarily focuses on row crops, livestock, and aquaculture, will transform the nation's agricultural sector.

The Plan will be implemented starting in 2025 with the enactment of new regulations and policies, a tiered farm payment system, data-driven planning, and enforcement mechanisms that are designed to manage agricultural production in hundreds of agricultural basins across the country.¹ As part of the larger Plan, production plans for each basin were developed with the input of farmers, private sector, academia and other relevant stakeholders, while also considering basin-specific weather conditions, water availability, and soil quality as well as national consumption requirements. These individualized basin plans identify the specific crops that are to be produced in each basin.

Public reaction to the new Plan has been mixed. According to press reports and industry contacts, some farmers are confused about how this latest production model, especially support payments, will be implemented. Some farmers are worried that support payments will continue to fall short. Nonetheless, the Plan is expected to influence farmers' production decisions in the coming two to three years. That said, it's too early to assess the direction and magnitude of a potential shift in production patterns since the Plan is so new.

Two of the main implementing legislative measures to enact the Plan are the Presidential decisions on [livestock support \(2024-26\)](#) and [plant production support \(2025-27\)](#). For more details on the livestock support, please refer to [GAIN Report Livestock Roadmap Overview \(2024-28\)](#).

The Plan Prioritizes 13 Strategic Row Crops

Under the larger Plan, MinAF prioritized 13 strategic row crops, as well as forage and some other high-value crops to be grown in designated basins. These strategic row crops are wheat, barley, corn, chickpea, dry bean, lentil, sunflower, cotton, soybean, safflower, rapeseed, potato, and onion. To make way for the wider production of these commodities, the Plan prohibits the establishment of new orchards on lands with a slope of less than six percent.

Crop rotation will be required in each basin at different frequencies depending on water availability and the type of crops being planted. In basins where water restrictions are in place, farmers will be required to use drip irrigation systems and will not be allowed to plant a second crop corn. Based on Post's analysis, the restriction on second crop corn is expected to have a very minor impact, affecting only one percent of Türkiye's annual corn production.

Farmers who fail to comply (e.g. planting of ineligible crops) with the Plan will be subject to penalties. After the first non-compliance, MinAF will send the farmer a warning letter. If the farmer fails to comply within a 12-month period, MinAF will halt support payments for up to five years. If the farmer remains non-compliant for more than 24-months after receiving the initial warning letter, they will also be subject to a fine of one to five percent of their annual gross income.

New Approach to Agricultural Support Payments for Row Crops

Under MinAF's former agricultural support program, registered farmers received a production payment for producing certain crops. Farmers also received payments to offset some of the costs for diesel, fertilizer, and

¹ A basin refers to a district which is the smallest administrative area in Türkiye.

certified seed. In recent years, farmers have complained that payments were insufficient to cover rising input costs, especially for diesel and fertilizer.

According to the new Plan, the government plans to cover a fixed percentage of the cost farmers' pay for diesel and fertilizer. The percentage covered will depend on the crop, where its grown, and whether water restrictions are in place. To be eligible for any payment, farmers must be enrolled in the Farmer Registration System (CKS).

Registered farmers will be eligible for three kinds of support payments: a basic payment, a planned production payment, and a development payment.

1. The *basic support payment* will be made to all registered farmers growing specific commodities (table 1). The payment is intended to cover up to 50 percent of farmers' diesel costs and 25 percent of their fertilizer costs.
2. The *planned production payment* will be made to farmers who are growing the strategic row crop and forage crops (table 2) in designated basins. The payment is intended to cover up to 100 percent of farmers' diesel costs and 50 percent of their fertilizer costs.

Farmers who are growing row crops (table 3) in basins with groundwater restrictions, the government will cover the entire cost of diesel and fertilizer.

3. The *product development payment* will be made to farmers who use certified seeds/seedlings, produce organic products, or use good agricultural practices.

The basic and planned support payments are calculated by multiplying the area under production with the variable support coefficient with a base value of 244 Turkish Lira (TL) per decare (\$67/hectare). The coefficient varies by crop and the cost of production and will be updated at the beginning of each year.

For example, a farmer growing 10 hectares of cotton in Adana-Ceyhan would be eligible for both payments totaling about 124,000 TL (~\$3300), as shown in the calculation below.

Total payment of 123,525 TL = (244 TL x 10 hectares) x (basic support coefficient of 2.25) x (planned support coefficient of 2.25)

Categories	Products	Support Coefficient
1st	Safflower, Lentil, Corn (grain), Chickpea, Potato, Onion (dry), First group forage crops, Other products*	1.0
2nd	Barley, Wheat, Rye, Triticale, Oat, Second group forage crops	1.3
3rd	Sunflower (oil), Hazelnut, Rapeseed (canola), Bean (dry), Soybean, Tea	1.5
4th	Rice, Cotton (seed)	2.25

*Any agricultural crop including trees, vegetables, etc.

Categories	Products	Support Coefficient
1st	Safflower, Lentil, Corn (grain), Chickpea, Potato, Onion (dry), First group forage crops	1.0

2nd	Barley, Wheat, Second group forage crops	1.3
3rd	Sunflower (oil), Rapeseed (canola), Bean (dry), Soybean	1.5
4th	Cotton (seed)	2.25

Table 3: Underground Water Restriction Support Categories, Products and Support Coefficients		
Categories	Products	Support Coefficient
1st	Safflower, Lentil, Chickpea, Feed Pea	0.8
2nd	Barley, Wheat	1.4
3rd	Sunflower (oil), Rapeseed (canola), Bean (dry), Soybean	1.2

Other Actions to Implement the Agricultural Production Plan

In addition to support payments, MinAF will undertake other steps to facilitate the plan’s implementation. The Ministry will work to make bank loans and credit more accessible and provide training to farmers, lease land that sits idle for more than two years and conduct an agricultural census in 2025 to better inform MinAF policy and farmers’ decision making.

Attachments:

No Attachments.