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## Argentina

## Grain and Feed

## Update

## 2006

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**Report Highlights:**

Updated production and trade information for wheat, corn, and rice

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Includes PSD Changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Quarterly Report  
Buenos Aires [AR1]  
[AR]

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## Rice

Production in the 2005/06-rice crop year finished with rough rice production of 1.14 MMT. On a national level, the average yield was 7.054 MT/HAS, with several provinces attaining higher yields.

Of the five provinces that produce rice, harvested area and production were divided as follows:

Province	Harvested Area (HAS)	Production	Average Yield
Entre Rios	67,110	514,849	7.672
Corrientes	75,063	503,372	7.269
Santa Fe	14,890	93,562	6.099
Chaco	2,650	18,950	5.695
Formosa	2,980	16,970	7.151
<b>Total</b>	<b>162,693</b>	<b>1,147,703</b>	<b>7.054</b>

## National Average Yields

Year	Yield (MT/HAS)
1990	3.671
1991	4.029
1992	5.292
1993	4.356
1994	4.299
1995	5.022
1996	5.062
1997	5.370
1998 **	4.863
1999	5.733
2000	5.346
2001	5.749
2002	5.719
2003	5.400
2004	6.266
2005	6.300
2006	7.054

Source: SAGPYA, Sparks America del Sur, Fundacion Proarroz

\*\* El Niño caused major losses in 1998

Average yields began to climb after 1995 due to a Mercosur initiative to replace long-wide and narrow (e.g. Blue Belle) varieties for higher yielding 'tropical' varieties like Paso 144 and Taim, which are more accepted in the Brazilian market. During the past three years (2004 – 2006), average yields over 6 MT/HAS are due to the disappearance of small, inefficient farmers who switched to soybean production, a reduction in area of low productivity, and an increase in higher yielding varieties such as Supremo 13, Taim, and Puitá in Corrientes and new INTA and PROARROZ varieties in Entre Rios.

Planted varieties vary according to province. Entre Rios is known for planting Paso 144, RP2, and Camba varieties. Camba was the most recently approved new variety; it has been on the market for about two years. This variety yields better than others, and its milling quality is superior (lower incidences of 'panza blanca', directly translated as 'white belly').

In Corrientes, varieties are slightly different. The most common are Supremo 13 and Taim, followed by IRGA 417 and Puitá INTA CL, a new variety that controls 'red' rice due to its resistance to imidazolinonas herbicides.

## Corn

The corn harvest is 98 percent completed as of July 27, 2006. There still remains a small area in northern Santa Fe where producers are waiting for grain moisture levels to fall. Overall, total area harvested for grain is reported at 2.42 MHAS. Approximately 740,000 HAS was harvested for forage. Lack of precipitation at the end of December affected yields in northern Buenos Aires, south-central Cordoba, and southern Santa Fe. Final production estimates are around 14.5 MMT.

Post has increased its MY2006/07 estimate to reflect the above information.

## Wheat

As of July 27, 2006, wheat planted area totaled 4.588 MHAS, according to the SAGPyA. There still remains area to be planted in the provinces of Buenos Aires and La Pampa. In the southern Buenos Aires areas of Tres Arroyos and Pigue, many producers are waiting for the optimal planting dates for medium and short cycle varieties, which fall during the first fifteen days of August, to determine, based on precipitation, whether or not they will plant. In Tres Arroyos, there remains 251,210 HAS, or 26 percent of total area, to be planted. In Pigue, over 30 percent, or 134,000 HAS, has yet to be planted.

In La Pampa, the areas of General Pico and Santa Rosa have suffered from dryness throughout most of the planting season. With only 10 – 15 days left until the end of planting, it is unlikely planted area will reach previous estimates of 98,900 HAS in General Pico and 190,050 HAS in Santa Rosa. Currently, planted area in General Pico is 11,870 HAS, or 12 percent of forecasted area. Santa Rosa is slightly more advanced with 21 percent, or 39,900 HAS planted.

Post has reduced MY2006/07 harvested area, in light of the above information, to 5.35 MHAS. Total production is forecast at 13.6 MMT, based on historical yields.

According to SAGPyA, MY2005/06 ended with total planted area of 5.21 MHAS and production of 12.5 MMT.

NOSIS, a private data source, reports wheat exports (wheat and wheat products) from December 1, 2005 through July 31, 2006 total 6.86 MMT (6.359 MMT wheat and .504 MMT product). Exports during the same period last year totaled 10.14 MMT (9.738 MMT wheat and .405 MMT wheat products), or 86 percent of total marketing year exports of 11.8 MMT.

## PSD Table

Country Commodity	Argentina		Corn		(1000 HA)(1000 MT)		UOM
	2004	Revised	2005	Estimate	2006	Forecast	
Market Year Begin	USDA Official [	Estimate[	USDA Official [	Estimate[	USDA Official [	Estimate[New]	
	03/2005			03/2006		03/2007	MM/YYYY
Area Harvested	2780	2700	2300	2420	2500	2300	(1000 HA)
Beginning Stocks	220	220	956	523	856	623	(1000 MT)
Production	20500	20500	14000	14500	17500	15500	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Imports	10	10	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Oct-Sep Imports	10	10	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Oct-Sep Import U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	20730	20730	14956	15023	18356	16123	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Exports	14574	15007	8500	8500	11500	9500	(1000 MT)
Oct-Sep Exports	13752	13752	10000	9000	11000	9500	(1000 MT)
Feed Dom. Consumption	3500	3500	3900	3900	4300	4200	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Dom. Consumptic	5200	5200	5600	5900	6100	6100	(1000 MT)
Ending Stocks	956	523	856	623	756	523	(1000 MT)
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	20730	20730	14956	15023	18356	16123	(1000 MT)

## PSD Table

Country Commodity	Argentina		Wheat		(1000 HA)(1000 MT)		UOM
	2004	Revised	2005	Estimate	2006	Forecast	
Market Year Begin	USDA Official [	Estimate[	USDA Official [	Estimate[	USDA Official [	Estimate[New]	
	12/2004			12/2005		12/2006	MM/YYYY
Area Harvested	6100	6100	4900	4900	5600	5350	(1000 HA)
Beginning Stocks	1395	1395	553	553	463	463	(1000 MT)
Production	16000	16000	12500	12500	14300	13600	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Imports	2	2	10	10	5	0	(1000 MT)
Jul-Jun Imports	2	2	10	10	5	0	(1000 MT)
Jul-Jun Import U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	17397	17397	13063	13063	14768	14063	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Exports	11834	11834	7500	7500	9500	8800	(1000 MT)
Jul-Jun Exports	13502	13502	7500	7500	9500	8800	(1000 MT)
Feed Dom. Consumption	80	80	80	80	80	80	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Dom. Consumptic	5010	5010	5100	5100	5000	5000	(1000 MT)
Ending Stocks	553	553	463	463	268	263	(1000 MT)
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	17397	17397	13063	13063	14768	14063	(1000 MT)