

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Uzbekistan - Republic of

**Post:** Tashkent

### Wheat Production Update

**Report Categories:**

### Grain and Feed

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### Report Highlights:

Uzbekistan wheat production in MY 2010/11 is estimated at 6.5 million tons, nearly the same as the previous year's crop but slightly more than earlier forecasts. About half the crop is considered to be of milling quality. Both wheat and wheat flour from Kazakhstan enter Uzbekistan through official and unofficial channels. Wheat, wheat flour, and bread prices have all risen sharply in the past few months, presumably in keeping with rising world prices and because of the increasing pace of inflation.

## Production

Uzbekistan's MY10/11 wheat harvest was completed in July. The estimated planted area of 1.4 million ha equaled that of the previous year. Of this, irrigated land was approximately 1.14 million ha. According to preliminary official figures, MY10/11 wheat production totaled 6.55 million tons (MMT). State agencies reportedly procured more than 2.8 MMT of wheat. In spite of official reports of a bumper crop, some independent observers believe that production numbers are slightly overestimated. Reportedly, this year in some regions the crop was partly damaged by wheat rust and insects, including locust infestations in some areas bordering Tajikistan and Kazakhstan.

According to independent experts, only an estimated 55 to 60 percent of locally produced wheat is suitable for food use. The remainder is used for feed and other purposes. Many private bakers prefer using Kazakh wheat flour, which is imported both legally and illegally.

## Consumption

In MY2010/11, food wheat consumption is forecast at 6.2 MMT, a 1.6 percent increase from the USDA official consumption estimate for MY 2009/10. There are no official data on feed grain consumption in Uzbekistan, and experts' estimates vary from 1.2 to 1.25 MMT. Because of inflation and in keeping with rising world prices, local wheat flour prices increased continuously from the beginning of the year. In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010 the price of the highest grade of wheat flour was Uzbek Sums (UZS) 1000/kg; by September it reached UZS 1200-1250/kg, a 25 percent increase. Imported Kazakh wheat flour now retails at UZS 1600-1,800/kg, depending on grade, compared to 1300-1400/kg a few months ago. This has increased the demand for local wheat flour. Consequently, bread prices have risen as well almost by 14 per cent. As of the beginning of October 2010, the price of a standard loaf of bread weighing 600 gr, baked from the first grade flour (called a "grey loaf", very popular among low-income consumers) increased to 400 Uzbek Sums. The prices for other types of bread baked and sold by private bakeries have also increased 10 to 15 percent.

## Trade

There are no official statistics available on wheat trade. According to trade sources Uzbekistan's MY2010/11 wheat exports are estimated at 500,000 tons of lower grade wheat. The export destinations are reportedly Iran, Afghanistan and a few CIS countries. Uzbekistan's MY10/11 wheat imports are forecast at 1.3 MMT. Kazakhstan remains the main supplier of high quality wheat and wheat flour to Uzbekistan.

## Statistical Tables:

**Table 1. Wheat PSD**

Wheat	2008	2009	2010
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Uzbekistan	2008/2009			2009/2010			2010/2011			
	Market Year Begin: July 2008			Market Year Begin: July 2009			Market Year Begin: July 2010			
	Annual Data Displayed		New Post	Annual Data Displayed		New Post	Annual Data Displayed		New Post	
			Data			Data			Data	
Area Harvested	1360	1350	1330	1400	0	1400	1400	0	1400	(1000 HA)
Beginning Stocks	1392	914	1392	1514	0	742	1564	0	674	(1000 MT)
Production	6000	5100	5030	6200	0	6432	6500	0	6555	(1000 MT)
MY Imports	1372	1200	1220	1700	0	1300	1300	0	1300	(1000 MT)
TY Imports	1372	1200	1220	1700	0	1300	1300	0	1300	(1000 MT)
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Total Supply	8764	7214	7642	9414	0	8474	9364	0	8529	(1000 MT)
MY Exports	200	200	200	500	0	550	500	0	500	(1000 MT)
TY Exports	200	200	200	500	0	550	500	0	500	(1000 MT)
Feed Consumption	1250	1150	1200	1250	0	1250	1250	0	1250	(1000 MT)
FSI Consumption	5800	5000	5500	6100	0	6000	6200	0	6200	(1000 MT)
Total Consumption	7050	6150	6700	7350	0	7250	7450	0	7450	(1000 MT)
Ending Stocks	1514	864	742	1564	0	674	1414	0	579	(1000 MT)
Total Distribution	8764	7214	7642	9414	0	8474	9364	0	8529	(1000 MT)
Yield	4.	4.	3.782	4.	0	4.5943	5.		4.6821	(MT/HA)

**Table 2. Wheat (plus barley) area and production by regions in MY10/11\***

Regions	Plant area Thous.Ha	Harvest area Thous.Ha	Target Thous.tons	Actual Prod Thous.tons
Karakalpakstan	53,4	53,4	149,5	217,7
Andijan	81,3	81,3	457,2	502,8
Bukhara	65,6	65,6	252,6	374,1
Djizakh	180,1	164,6	461,6	551,5
Kashkadarya	211,4	207,3	627,1	918,2
Navoi	43,5	40,7	146,1	188,7
Namangan	79,4	79,4	383,2	394,6
Samarkand	156,0	156,0	531,5	618,8
Surkhandarya	102,2	102,2	412,9	499,0
Syrdarya	89,9	89,9	318,6	379,5
Tashkent	137,7	132,7	504,0	613,3
Fergana	112,4	112,4	499,3	584,9
Khorezm	33,6	33,6	137,7	154,1
Total Republic	1346,5	1319,1	4880,0	6000,0
Small Private Household farms	53,5	80,9	-	900,0
Grand Total	1400,0	1400,0	4880,0	6900,0

\*Note: The numbers in above table are combined with barley area and production which equals to about 5 % out of total production volume.

**Table 3. Local procurement prices for wheat and barley set up by the Ministry of Finance in MY10/11:**

<b>Grain type</b>	<b>Minimum Gluten content %</b>	<b>Price in Uzbek Sums per ton</b>
<b>Hard wheat</b>		
<b>1 grade</b>	28	388,860
<b>2 grade</b>	25	342,960
<b>3 grade</b>	22	312,010
<b>4 grade</b>	18	237,000
<b>Soft wheat</b>		
<b>1 grade</b>	32	323,750
<b>2 grade</b>	28	275,310
<b>3 grade</b>	23	237,000
<b>4 grade</b>	18	212,030
<b>5 grade hard/soft</b>	Not limited	196,040
<b>Barley</b>		
<b>Grades good for beer</b>		295,330
<b>1 grade</b>		232,170
<b>2 grade</b>		185,920

(Current exchange rate: UZS 1620.00 = USD 1.00)