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Mexico

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Mexico Announces Increased Target Prices for Key Staple Crops

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation Grain and Feed

Oilseeds and Products

Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

On May 31, 2018, Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Foodstuffs (SAGARPA) announced in the Mexican Federal Register (Diario Oficial) the new target prices used to determine support payments under the Income Target Program for producers of corn, wheat (durum and soft wheat for bread production), sorghum, soybeans, safflower, canola, cotton, rice, and sunflower for the 2017/18 fall/winter and 2018 spring/summer planting seasons.

General Information:

Introduction: This report summarizes the new target prices used to determine support payments for selected agricultural products published in Mexico's *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register) on May 31, 2008.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcements and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulations in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Title of the Announcement:

Agreement that modifies, for the second time, the similar agreement announcing the Operational Rules of the Marketing Support Program of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Foodstuffs for 2018, published on December 30, 2017.

Type of Regulation: Operational

Important Dates:

1. Publication Date: May 31, 2018 **2. Effective Date:** May 31, 2018

Eligible Commodities: Corn, Wheat, Sorghum, Soybeans, Safflower, Canola, Cotton, Rice, and Sunflower.

General Summary

On May 31, 2018, Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Foodstuffs (SAGARPA) announced in the Mexican Federal Register (*Diario Oficial*) the new target prices used in determining support payments for corn, wheat (durum and soft wheat for bread production), sorghum, soybeans, safflower, canola, cotton, rice, and sunflower for the 2017/18 fall/winter and 2018 spring/summer planting seasons. These supports are part of the Target Income Program.

The objective of Target Income Program is to assist producers in increasing their production and their economic profitability through the delivery of support payments, which supplement producers' incomes and offset the costs of energy inputs. In addition, the program seeks to strengthen producers' participation in markets and to give them certainty during the commercialization processes (see 2009 GAIN Report MX9001).

The Target Income Program provides payments to cover the difference between the market price of the eligible commodities and the government-established "target income." The maximum amounts that

SAGARPA would pay are defined as the difference between the market price and the "target income" of the eligible products. The market price is defined by SAGARPA's Marketing Services and Agricultural Market Development Agency (ASERCA) based on prices offered by buyers during the harvest season, agreed-upon prices in the Forward Contract Program (see 2018 GAIN Report MX8010), international prices, and regional market conditions. The Target Income Program does not cover the production of the listed commodities for self-consumption or experimental purposes, production at academic or governmental institutions, nor multiple crops in the same field.

It should be noted that many producer groups have complained that the previous target prices were clearly insufficient to offset the increase of inputs costs since the last year, while the international prices of grains and oilseeds have been bearish in the same period.

Following are the new target prices for each crop included in the Target Income Program starting from the fall/winter 2017/18 crop cycle, compared to the previously-established prices.

Table 1. Mexico: Target Income Prices by Commodity				
Crop	Previous "Target Income" (Pesos/Ton)	"Target Income" for 2017/18 fall/winter to 2018 spring/summer (Pesos/Ton)	% Change	
Corn	3,300	3,960	20	
Hard Wheat	4,400	5,010	14	
Durum Wheat	3,750	4,556	22	
Sorghum	2,970	3564	20	
Safflower	6,600	8,400	27	
Canola	6,600	8,400	27	
Cotton	21,460	25,750	20	
Rice	3,650	4,380	20	
Soybean	6,600	8,400	27	

Exchange Rate (June 1^{st} , 2018) \$1.00 = 19.87 MX pesos

For More Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com.mx or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

Report Number	Title of Report	Date Submitted
MX8024	Lower Wheat and Rice Crops, Average Sorghum Trade Expected	5/30/2018
MX8015	Mexico Announces New corn and Sorghum Support Programs	4/10/2018
MX8010	Slight Changes in Production as Grain Imports Continue Upward Trend	3/7/218
MX8002	Corn, rice, and Sorghum Estimates Increased Slightly	1/18/2018
MX7031	Slight Bump in corn Production, Smaller Wheat Harvest	9/14/2017
MX7024	Mexico Expects Strong Corn Crop Due to Favorable Weather	6/15/2017

MX7007	Average Production Expected as Consumption Growth Slows	3/14/2017
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