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Morocco

Grain and Feed

Revised Estimates for Wheat and Barley Production 2002

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Report Highlights:

Morocco's wheat and barley production turned out to be better than expected because of the exceptional rainfall recorded during the spring this year. Total wheat and barley production is comparable to last year. The abundant rainfall improved pasture and local feed supply significantly and is likely to result in lower imports of barley during the next few months. Wheat imports will likely be down during next few months as the local production is expected to displace imports.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Rabat [MO1], MO

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Executive Summary

Morocco's grain production (barley and wheat) at 4.9 MMT turned out to be higher than forecast by AgOffice earlier in spite of the relatively low planted area. Morocco received exceptionally good rainfall several times during the spring (starting April) which helped substantially the wheat and barley crop especially in the northern parts of the country. Some areas did experience significant drop in yields because of the lack of rainfall during February-March especially around Fes, Meknes, Marrakech, and in southern parts of the country. Wheat and barley plants are generally shorter this year and less dense suggesting lower yields but also lower straw supply.

The rainfall during the spring improved significantly pasture conditions and feed supply and is likely to result in lower barley import during the next few months. Imports of barley during the fall and winter will depend heavily on the rainfall as imported barley is largely used for feed. Wheat imports will be displaced during the next few months by the relatively large local wheat crop but imports should be more regular by November 2002.

Area Planted (1,000 hectares)

Harvest Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 May Estim.	Average 5 Years 97 - 01
Durum Wheat (1)	972	1,127	1,078	1,079	977	882	1,046
Soft Wheat (2)	1,521	1,960	1,614	1,823	1,724	1,745	1,728
Total Wheat (1)+(2)	2,493	3,087	2,692	2,902	2,701	2,626	2,775
Barley	1,996	2,426	2,070	2,251	2,126	2,002	2,174
Total Wheat&Barley	4,489	5,513	4,761	5,153	4,827	4,629	4,948

Production (1,000 MT)

Harvest Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 May Estim.	Average 5 Years 97 - 01
Durum Wheat (1)	882	1,544	800	427	1,039	976	938
Soft Wheat (2)	1,435	2,834	1,354	953	2,278	2,381	1,771
Total Wheat (1)+(2)	2,316	4,378	2,154	1,381	3,316	3,357	2,709
Barley	1,324	1,970	1,474	467	1,155	1,562	1,278
Total Wheat&Barley	3,641	6,348	3,628	1,848	4,472	4,918	3,987

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Note about PSD figures:

Consumption of wheat and barley were revised upward significantly to avoid ending up with very large and unreasonably high stocks. Barley consumption does fluctuate significantly from year to year, depending heavily on the pasture conditions. Wheat consumption fluctuates less widely from year to year but can be significantly higher in drought years compared to the corresponding drop in wheat production because many barley growers tend to substitute food barley with cheaper subsidized wheat flour.

PSD Table						
Country	Morocco					
Commodity	Wheat				(1000 HA)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/2000		07/2001		07/2002
Area Harvested	2902	2902	2701	2701	2700	2627
Beginning Stocks	2700	2700	1850	1281	2066	1247
Production	1381	1381	3316	3316	3000	3357
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Imports	3632	3300	2800	2800	3000	2500
Jul-Jun Imports	3632	3300	2800	2800	3000	2500
Jul-Jun Import U.S.	407	369	0	180	0	300
TOTAL SUPPLY	7713	7381	7966	7397	8066	7104
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Exports	98	0	100	0	100	0
Jul-Jun Exports	98	0	100	0	100	0
Feed Dom. Consumption	200	0	200	0	200	0
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	5765	6100	5800	6150	5900	6200
Ending Stocks	1850	1281	2066	1247	2066	904
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	7713	7381	7966	7397	8066	7104
PSD Table						
Country	Morocco					
Commodity	Barley				(1000 HA)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	2000	Preliminary	2001	Forecast	2002
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/2000		07/2001		07/2002
Area Harvested	2251	2251	2126	2126	1850	2002
Beginning Stocks	490	490	47	212	52	212
Production	467	467	1155	1155	1500	1562
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Imports	440	705	500	700	500	400
Oct-Sep Imports	506	693	500	700	500	400
Oct-Sep Import U.S.	40	52	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	1397	1662	1702	2067	2052	2174
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct-Sep Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed Dom. Consumption	1000	1100	1000	1400	1100	1300
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	1350	1450	1650	1855	1650	1900
Ending Stocks	47	212	52	212	402	274
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1397	1662	1702	2067	2052	2174

