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Argentina

Grain and Feed

Grain & Feed Monthly Exports

2001

Approved by:

David Mergen

U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

David Mergen

Report Highlights:

Post is increasing the estimate of corn exports for the 2000/2001 marketing year to 11.3 million tons (an increase of 600,000 tons over current USDA estimate) based on Argentine Government estimates of export commitments. Weather conditions in January were generally favorable for the development of corn, grain sorghum and rice. The wheat harvest in all regions was complete as of January 26.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Buenos Aires [AR1], AR

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Wheat Production

The wheat harvest is now complete for the 2000 crop. Post proposes no changes in current production estimate of 16.5 million tons, which is just above the preliminary Argentine Government estimate of 16 million tons. The higher Post estimate is based on reports of excellent yields in key producing areas of Buenos Aires Province. Post also continues to estimate production for the 1999 wheat crop at 15.5 million tons. This estimate is slightly above the Argentine Government estimate of 15.3 million tons based on a review of export and stock figures for the December 1999 to November 2000 marketing year.

Wheat Exports

Brazil is the largest export market for Argentine wheat, with Iran also making large purchases this marketing year.

Table 1: Wheat Export Sales Commitments for 2000/2001 Marketing Year
(In thousands of tons as of Jan. 26 for marketing years 1999/00 and 2000/01)

	2000/2001	1999/00
Algeria**	500	100
Bolivia	50	100
Brazil	2,150	2,500
Egypt	150	150
UAE	80	150
Irak	350	200
Iran	1,700	120
Jordan	175	150
Kenya	100	180
Lybia	150	50
Morocco	100	125
Nigeria	70	50
Perú	100	250
South Africa	50	90
Tunisia	25	100
Turkey	50	100
Others	200	1,035
Total	6,000	5,450

** Optional Origin.

Source: Commercial Estimates

Argentine Agriculture Secretariat, Directorate for Agricultural Markets

Corn

Post is increasing its production forecast for the 2001 corn crop (harvested March 2001) slightly to 15 million tons, which is the preliminary Argentine Government forecast. While crop area has fallen by approximately 11 percent, crop conditions have been generally good during the growing season. Adequate soil moisture was reported in most major producing areas as of January 26, with only Cordoba showing a trend towards dryness.

We are increasing our estimate of exports for the 2000/2001 marketing year (which began March 2000) to 11.3 million tons based on Argentine Government estimates of export commitments as of Jan. 26, 2001 (see table below). Government estimates of stocks (2.44 million tons as of Dec. 1, 2000) and exports thus far in the marketing year (9.66 million tons in March to November 2000) indicate that sufficient corn supplies are available to meet the projected export level.

Table 2: Export Sales Commitments for Argentine Corn
(In thousands of tons as of Jan. 26 for both years)

Country	2000/2001	1999/2000
Brazil	1,600	850
Korea	60	300
Chile	1,325	300
Iran	250	120
Japan	300	750
Jordan	525	220
Lebanon	60	
Lybia	400	
Peru	650	360
Egypt	1,200	600
Spain	1,500	1,400
Portugal	370	200
Syria	190	50
South Africa	70	130
Others	2,800	2,580
Total	11,300	7,860

Source: Commercial Estimates, Directorate of Agricultural Markets,
Argentine Secretariat of Agriculture

Grain Sorghum

Weather has generally been favorable in grain sorghum producing areas, with soil moisture reported to be generally adequate. The Argentine Secretariat of Agriculture reports that 85 percent of expected area was planted as of December 29 and 99 percent was planted as of January 26. Post proposes no changes in PSD estimates beyond those contained in last month's update.

Rice

Post has no proposed changes for USDA rice PSD.

PSD Table: Corn

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Corn				(1000 HA)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		03/1999		03/2000		03/2001
Area Harvested	2605	2605	3100	3100	2800	2700
Beginning Stocks	1540	1540	710	710	410	400
Production	13500	13500	16700	16700	15000	15000
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Imports	2	2	16	0	15	0
Oct-Sep Imports	2	1	16	0	15	0
Oct-Sep Import U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	15042	15042	17426	17410	15425	15400
TOTAL Mkt. Yr. Exports	7882	7882	10700	11300	8500	8800
Oct-Sep Exports	7848	7849	8859	8859	10000	10500
Feed Dom. Consumption	4850	4850	4600	4000	4700	4500
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	6450	6450	6316	5710	6500	6200
Ending Stocks	710	710	410	400	425	400
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	15042	15042	17426	17410	15425	15400