

AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY & DEMAND ESTIMATES



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#69

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HIGHLIGHTS

Much uncertainty surrounds the early-season outlook for 1978 crops. Growing conditions, economic developments, and producers' response to USDA programs over the next few months will influence U.S. crop output and use.

Two supply-use alternatives are presented to underscore the uncertainty surrounding early-season crop prospects. The first alternative assumes relatively high production worldwide stemming from generally favorable crop conditions. Alternative II assumes relatively low worldwide production due to generally unfavorable planting, growing, and harvesting conditions. Based on historical variation and the judgment of the analysts, the chances are 2 out of 3 that the final outcomes would fall within these early season projections.

If crop conditions are generally favorable around the world, increases in output could result in supplies above projected usage for 1978/79 and a further buildup in stocks and downward pressure on prices. However, placement of grain under loan and in the reserve programs would help to maintain prices for the 1978/79 season around 1977/78 levels. Soybean prices, however, would probably average below high 1977/78 levels.

If weather patterns in the United States and other major areas of the world lead to smaller crops this season, output could tighten and fail to keep up with disappearance. This would mean a drop in carryover stocks and prices would run significantly higher than in 1977/78.

The U.S. April Planting Intentions report indicates that seedings for major crops may decline about 2 percent from 1977. Reduced acreage indicated for wheat, feed grains, and cotton would more than offset an indicated increase for soybeans. However, this year's grower intentions may not fully reflect recently announced program changes. Added incentives to participate in the feed grain and cotton land diversion program will likely increase producer participation. This could reduce land available for competitive crops, especially soybeans.

It is much too early to judge either planting or growing conditions around the world. However, weather developments up to mid-April have with few exceptions been generally favorable for fall-sown grains throughout most of the agricultural areas of the Northern Hemisphere. In the United States soil moisture is favorable for most areas. However, in the Corn Belt persistent wetness is delaying planting and in west Texas conditions have been near the drought stage.

April 1 stocks of wheat, feed grains, and soybeans were well above year-earlier levels as expected. However, heavy producer participation in the CCC loan program and the farmer-owned grain reserve reduced stocks freely available to the market.

LARGER FEED GRAIN STOCKS, SLOWER RISE IN 1977/78 FEEDING

Feed grain stocks on April 1 were up a fifth from a year earlier, somewhat more than expected as the expansion in feeding, especially corn, slowed during January-March. The moderation apparently was largely due to the smaller than expected hog inventory. Exports during October-March ran about 8 percent below a year ago. But strong foreign demand, as demonstrated by recent heavy movement and large outstanding sales, points to record corn exports of 1,750 million bushels in 1977/78.

Season-ending feed grain stocks are expected to total about 44 million metric tons, up about 14 million tons from last October 1. Of total stocks, about a third is expected to be in the producer-owned reserve by the end of 1977/78.

Farmers indicated plans as of April 1 to seed 122-1/2 million acres to feed grains, 5-1/2 million fewer than 1977. But these indications do not fully reflect possible acreage adjustment to grower participation in the new acreage diversion program for feed grains and cotton. Program signup continues until May 15.

Soil moisture conditions in the Corn Belt are generally adequate to surplus compared with the very dry subsoils of a year ago. However, plantings, particularly in the eastern Corn Belt, are lagging last year's early start because of wet fields.

With ideal weather in 1978, feed grain harvests could exceed last year's record 202 million metric tons. Feeding rates would likely increase in response to favorable livestock-feed prices. But with large crops abroad, exports would fall below the level of recent years and carryover stocks would build for the fourth consecutive year. Prices under these conditions would average near the loan rate.

But if crops here or abroad are struck by unfavorable weather, coarse grain output would be smaller. But larger exports, even with some tempering in domestic feed use, would result in higher feed grain prices. Under these conditions, carryover stocks would drop well below the levels estimated for 1978.

SOYBEANS: LARGER CRUSH AND EXPORTS EXPECTED

Soybean crushing and export estimates for 1977/78 have each been raised by 10 million bushels, reflecting strong domestic markets and an expanding world demand for soybeans and products. The shorter-than-expected Brazilian soybean crop expanded already strong foreign markets for U.S. soybeans.

Soybean producers on April 1 indicated plans to seed nearly 64 million acres to soybeans in 1978. These plans may be on the high side since farmers had little opportunity to consider new program initiatives for competitive feed grains and cotton or the higher loan rate of \$4.50 per bushel for soybeans. However, if corn plantings were delayed by continued wet weather in the Midwest and prices of soybeans continue high relative to corn, soybean acreage could increase at the expense of corn.

On balance, with the larger carryover stocks in prospect, projected output would suggest a total supply for 1978/79 ranging from 1.8 to 2.1 billion bushels, compared with 1.8 billion for 1977/78.

Soybean exports would be relatively high under both good and poor weather alternatives. The 1979 Brazilian crop will not be available until late in the U.S. marketing year.

IMPROVED WHEAT PRICE PICTURE INDICATED FOR 1978/79

Wheat stocks totaled 1.52 billion bushels on April 1, 10 percent above a year ago. But farmers held 42 percent of these stocks in the farmer-held reserve or under loan and in CCC inventory. Presently the producer-owned reserve totals 305 million bushels and by the end of the marketing year will account for nearly 30 percent of carryover stocks.

As the marketing year draws to a close, wheat prices are running more than a dollar a bushel above last summer's lows. This strength was due mainly to the strong foreign demand and heavy movement of wheat into the loan and farmer-held reserves.

Winter and indicated spring wheat plantings are down 12 percent in 1978 and harvested acreage could be shaded even more if the graze-out payments and strong cattle prices encourage wheat grazing in some areas. But with the prospective increase in carryover, the 1978/79 wheat supply will again be large.

Early indications point to another good export season, probably in excess of a billion bushels for the sixth time in the last 7 years. Since other major world suppliers of wheat are virtually booked until fall or early winter, the United States is the only major supplier until new crop foreign supplies come into the market. This situation largely explains the recent million-ton purchase from the United States by the People's Republic of China. Even under a relatively favorable output assumption, prices would likely average above the 1977/78 season.

LARGER U.S. RICE SUPPLY INDICATED IN 1978/79

Growers appear to be responding to strong market prices for rice by stepping up plantings for the 1978 crop. Although carryover stocks of rice will drop from the record level of last August 1, the larger crop in prospect would result in a larger supply for the 1978/79 marketing year. Strong foreign demand will probably hold U.S. exports at recent high levels, at least until new crop supplies are available late in 1978 or early 1979.

COTTON EXPORT DEMAND STRONG; SMALLER 1978 CROP

Mill use prospects are a little weaker than earlier estimates, while strong foreign markets took more U.S. cotton. Still, with production well in excess of needs, this summer's carryover may total nearly 5-1/2 million bales.

Many uncertainties cloud the cotton outlook for 1978/79. The recently announced voluntary land diversion program may further shade plantings from the April indications of 12.9 million acres.

Prospective yields are even more uncertain. If next season's yields are relatively favorable, U.S. production could total as high as 13 million bales. The larger supply could boost mill use to over 7 million bales. However, if foreign crops are also large, our exports would suffer. As a result, stocks would build up during the season.

U.S. cotton stocks would be worked down if unfavorable crop conditions prevailed. U.S. production could dip to around 11 million bales. But U.S. exports would benefit from reduced foreign supplies.

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COTTON: UPLAND AND EXTRA LONG STAPLE 1/

Commodity	: 1976/77	: 1977/78	: 1978/79	
		: Estimated	: Projected 2/	

			Alt. I	Alt. II
DOMESTIC MEASURE				
Million acres				
Area	:			
Planted	:	11.7	13.7	
Harvested	:	10.9	13.3	
Pounds				
Yield per harv. acre	:	465	525	
Million 480-lb. bales				
Beginning stocks	:3/	3.7	2.9	5.4
Production	:	10.6	14.4	13.0
Supply, total 4/	:	14.3	17.3	18.4
Mill use	:	6.7	6.7	7.3
Exports	:	4.8	5.5	4.8
Use, total	:	11.5	12.2	12.1
Dif. unactd.5/	:	0.1	0.2	0.2
Ending stocks	:3/	2.9	5.4	6.5
Avg. farm price 6/	:	64.1	52.0	8/
METRIC MEASURE 9/				
Million hectares				
Area	:			
Planted	:	4.7	5.5	
Harvested	:	4.4	5.4	
Metric tons				
Yield per harv. hectare	:	0.52	0.59	
Million metric tons				
Beginning stocks	:3/	0.8	0.6	1.1
Production	:	2.3	3.1	2.8
Supply, total 4/	:	3.1	3.8	4.0
Mill use	:	1.5	1.5	1.6
Exports	:	1.0	1.2	1.0
Use, total	:	2.5	2.7	2.6
Dif. unactd.5/	:			
Ending stocks	:3/	0.6	1.1	1.4
Avg. farm price 6/	:	1.41	1.15	8/

1/ Marketing year beginning Aug. 1. 2/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide. 3/ Based on Bureau of Census data. 4/ Includes imports. 5/ Difference between ending stocks based on Bureau of Census data and preceding season's supply less distribution. Estimated for 1977/78. Projected for 1978/79. 6/ Season average farm price, domestic measure, cents per pound; metric measure, dollars per kilogram. 7/ Average to January 1, 1978. 8/ USDA is prohibited from projecting cotton prices. 9/ Conversion factors: Hectare = 2.471 acres. Metric ton = 2204.6 pounds or 4.59 480-pound bales. Kilogram = 2.2046 pounds.

FEED GRAINS AND CORN (Domestic Measure) 1/

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*****
Commodity      : 1976/77 : 1977/78 : 1978/79
                :          : Estimated : Projected 2/
*****
                :          :          : Alt. I  Alt. II
FEED GRAINS:
Area           :          : Million acres
  Planted      : 128.7   : 128.1
  Harvested    : 106.3   : 107.0
Yield per harv. :          : Tons
  acre        : 2.01    : 2.07
                :          : Million short tons
Beginning stocks : 19.0    : 33.0   48.2   48.2
Production      : 213.2   : 222.0  232.2  188.5
Imports         : 0.4     : 0.3    0.3    0.3
  Supply, total : 232.6   : 255.3  280.7  237.0
Feed           : 124.1   : 129.7  144.0  127.2
Food, seed, &  :          :
  indust.      : 19.7    : 20.5   21.3   20.5
  Domestic, total : 143.8   : 150.2  165.3  147.7
Exports        : 55.8    : 56.9   49.4   59.1
  Use, total    : 199.6   : 207.1  214.7  206.8
Ending stocks  : 33.0    : 48.2   66.0   30.2
                :
CORN:
Area           :          : Million acres
  Planted      : 84.4    : 82.7
  Harvested    : 71.3    : 70.0
Yield per harv. :          : Bushels
  unit        : 87.9    : 90.8
                :          : Million bushels
Beginning stocks : 399     : 884   1,207  1,207
Production      : 6,266   : 6,357  6,700  5,500
Imports         : 3       : 1      1      1
  Supply, total : 6,668   : 7,242  7,908  6,708
Feed           : 3,587   : 3,750  4,125  3,725
Food, seed, &  :          :
  indust.      : 513     : 535   560   540
  Domestic, total : 4,100   : 4,285  4,685  4,265
Exports        : 1,684   : 1,750  1,500  1,800
  Use, total    : 5,784   : 6,035  6,185  6,065
Ending stocks  : 884     : 1,207  1,723  643
Avg. farm price 3/: 2.15    : 2.05  1.90-2.00  2.40-2.60
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1/ Marketing year beginning October 1 for corn and sorghum;
June 1 for barley and oats.

2/ Alternative I reflects relatively favorable production *conditions*
worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production *conditions*
worldwide.

3/ Season average farm price, dollars per bushel.

FEED GRAINS AND CORN (Metric Measure) 1/,2/

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*****
Commodity      : 1976/77 : 1977/78 : 1978/79
                :           : Estimated: Projected 3/
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FEED GRAINS:   :
Area           :           Million hectares
  Planted      :    52.1    51.8
  Harvested    :    43.0    43.3
Yield per harv. :           Metric tons
  hectare     :    4.50    4.65
                :           Million metric tons
Beginning stocks :    17.2    29.9    43.8    43.8
Production      :   193.4   201.5   210.7   171.0
Imports         :     0.4     0.3     0.3     0.3
  Supply, total :   211.0   231.7   254.8   215.1
Feed           :   112.6   117.7   130.6   115.4
Food, seed, & :
  indust.      :     17.9    18.6    19.4    18.6
  Domestic, total :   130.5   136.3   150.0   134.0
Exports        :     50.6    51.6    44.8    53.6
  Use, total   :   181.1   187.9   194.8   187.6
Ending stocks  :     29.9    43.8    60.0    27.4
                :
CORN:
Area           :           Million hectares
  Planted      :     34.2    33.5
  Harvested    :     28.9    28.3
Yield per harv. :           Metric tons
  hectare     :     5.51    5.71
                :           Million metric tons
Beginning stocks :     10.1    22.5    30.7    30.7
Production      :   159.2   161.5   170.2   139.7
Imports         :     0.1     4/      4/      4/
  Supply, total :   169.4   184.0   200.9   170.4
Feed           :     91.1    95.2   104.8   94.6
Food, seed, & :
  indust.      :     13.0    13.6    14.2    13.7
  Domestic, total :   104.1   108.8   119.0   108.3
Exports        :     42.8    44.5    38.1    45.7
  Use, total   :   146.9   153.3   157.1   154.0
Ending stocks  :     22.5    30.7    43.8    16.4
Avg. farm price 5/:     85     81    75-79  94-102
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1/ Marketing year beginning October 1 for corn and sorghum; June 1 for barley and oats.

2/ Conversion factors: Hectare = 2.471 acres; Metric ton = 2204.6 pounds (feed grains); 39.368 bushels (corn).

3/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide.

4/ Less than 500,000 bushels or 0.05 million metric tons.

5/ Season average farm price, dollars per metric ton.

SORGHUM, BARLEY, AND OATS (Domestic Measure) 1/

Commodity	1976/77	1977/78	1978/79	
			Estimated	Projected 2/

SORGHUM:			Alt. I	Alt. II
Yield per harv.		Bushels		
acre	48.9	56.2		
		Million bushels		
Beginning stocks	51	91	191	191
Production	720	791	790	600
Imports				
Supply, total	771	882	981	791
Feed	428	460	530	430
Food, seed, & indust.:	6	6	6	6
Domestic, total	434	466	536	436
Exports	246	225	210	250
Use, total	680	691	746	686
Ending stocks	91	191	235	105
Avg. farm price 4/:	2.03	1.75	1.80-1.90	2.20-2.40
BARLEY:		Bushels		
Yield per harv.		Bushels		
acre	44.9	43.8		
		Million bushels		
Beginning stocks	128	126	168	168
Production	372	416	470	370
Imports	11	10	10	10
Supply, total	511	552	648	548
Feed	161	160	190	140
Food, seed, & indust.:	158	164	170	160
Domestic, total	319	324	360	300
Exports	66	60	55	65
Use, total	385	384	415	365
Ending stocks	126	168	233	183
Avg. farm price 4/:	2.25	1.80	1.60-1.70	2.05-2.25
OATS:		Bushels		
Yield per harv.		Bushels		
acre	45.7	55.6		
		Million bushels		
Beginning stocks	205	165	314	314
Production	546	748	700	550
Imports	1	1	1	1
Supply, total	752	914	1,015	865
Feed	489	500	570	470
Food, seed, & indust.:	88	90	85	85
Domestic total	577	590	655	555
Exports	10	10	10	10
Use, total	587	600	665	565
Ending stocks	165	314	350	300
Avg. farm price 4/:	1.56	1.15	1.00-1.10	1.25-1.45

1/ Marketing year beginning October 1 for sorghum, June 1 for barley and oats. 2/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide. 3/ Less than 500,000 bushels or 0.05 million tons. 4/ Season average farm price, dollars per bushel.

SORGHUM, BARLEY, AND OATS (Metric Measure) 1/,2/

Commodity	: 1976/77	: 1977/78	: 1978/79	
	:	: Estimated	: Projected 3/	

			Alt. I	Alt. II
SORGHUM:				
Yield per harv.ha.:	3.10	3.52		
Beginning stocks :	1.3	2.3	4.8	4.8
Production :	18.3	20.1	20.1	15.3
Imports :				
Supply, total :	19.6	22.4	24.9	20.1
Feed :	10.9	11.7	13.5	11.0
Food,seed,&indust.:	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Domestic, total :	11.0	11.9	13.6	11.1
Exports :	6.3	5.7	5.3	6.3
Use, total :	17.3	17.6	18.9	17.4
Ending stocks :	2.3	4.8	6.0	2.7
Farm price (\$/MT) :	80	69	71-75	87-94
BARLEY				
Yield per harv.ha.:	2.38	2.37		
Beginning stocks :	2.8	2.7	3.6	3.6
Production :	8.1	9.1	10.3	8.1
Imports :	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Supply, total :	11.1	12.0	14.1	11.9
Feed :	3.5	3.5	4.1	3.0
Food,seed,&indust.:	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.5
Domestic, total :	7.0	7.1	7.8	6.5
Exports :	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.4
Use, total :	8.4	8.4	9.0	7.9
Ending stocks :	2.7	3.6	5.1	4.0
Avg. farm price 5/:	103	83	73-78	94-103
OATS:				
Yield per harv.ha.:	1.65	2.01		
Beginning stocks :	3.0	2.4	4.6	4.6
Production :	7.9	10.9	10.1	8.0
Imports :	4/	4/	4/	4/
Supply, total :	10.9	13.3	14.7	12.6
Feed :	7.1	7.3	8.3	6.8
Food,seed,&indust.:	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3
Domestic, total :	8.4	8.6	9.5	8.1
Exports :	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Use, total :	8.5	8.7	9.6	8.2
Ending stocks :	2.4	4.6	5.1	4.4
Avg. farm price 5/:	107	79	69-76	86-100

1/ Mktg. year beg. Oct. 1 for sorghum, June 1 for barley and oats. 2/ Conversions: Hectare = 2.471 acres; metric ton = 39.368 bu. (sorghum); 45.930 (barley); and 68.894 (oats). 3/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide. 4/ Less than 500,000 bu. or 0.05 mil. MT. 5/ Season average.

SOYBEANS AND PRODUCTS (Domestic Measure) 1/

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*****
Commodity      : 1976/77 : 1977/78 : 1978/79
                :          : Estimated : Projected 2/
*****
SOYBEANS:      :          : Alt. I   : Alt.II
Area           :          : Million acres
  Planted      : 50.2    : 59.1
  Harvested    : 49.4    : 57.9
Yield per harv. :          : Bushels
  acre         : 26.1    : 29.6
                :          : Million bushels
Beginning stocks : 245     : 103      : 200      : 200
Production      : 1,288   : 1,716   : 1,900    : 1,550
  Supply, total : 1,533   : 1,819   : 2,100    : 1,750
Crushings       : 790     : 910     : 960      : 900
Exports         : 564     : 635     : 675      : 625
Seed, feed, &  :          :
  residual      : 76      : 74       : 80       : 80
  Use, total    : 1,430   : 1,619   : 1,715    : 1,605
Ending stocks   : 103     : 200     : 385      : 145
Avg. farm price : 6.81    : 5.79    : 5.00-5.50 : 7.00-7.50
SOYBEAN OIL:   :          : Million pounds
Beginning stocks : 1,251   : 767     : 900      : 900
Production      : 8,578   : 9,983 3/ : 10,370   : 9,700
  Supply, total : 9,829   : 10,750 3/ : 11,270   : 10,600
Domestic        : 7,515   : 8,000   : 8,300    : 8,100
Exports         : 1,547   : 1,850   : 1,800    : 1,600
  Use, total    : 9,062   : 9,850   : 10,100   : 9,700
Ending stocks   : 767     : 900     : 1,170    : 900
Avg. price 4/   : 24      : 24      : 18-20    : 27-29
SOYBEAN MEAL:  :          : Thousand short tons
Beginning stocks : 355     : 228     : 410      : 410
Production      : 18,488  : 21,782 3/ : 22,800   : 21,375
  Supply, total : 18,843  : 22,010 3/ : 23,210   : 21,785
Domestic        : 14,056  : 16,500   : 17,200   : 16,200
Exports         : 4,559   : 5,100   : 5,500    : 5,200
  Use, total    : 18,615  : 21,600   : 22,700   : 21,400
Ending stocks   : 228     : 410     : 510      : 385
Avg. price 5/   : 199.80  : 165.00  : 145-155  : 190-200
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1/ Marketing year beginning September 1 for soybeans, October 1 for soybean oil and meal.

2/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide. 3/ Based on Oct.-Sept. year crush of 925 million bushels. 4/ Simple season average of crude soybean oil, Decatur, cents per pound. 5/ Simple season average of 44% protein, Decatur, dollars per ton.

SOYBEANS AND PRODUCTS (Metric Measure) 1/, 2/

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*****
Commodity      : 1976/77 : 1977/78 : 1978/79
                :          : Estimated : Projected 3/
*****
SOYBEANS:      :                               Alt. I  Alt. II
Area           :                               Million hectares
  Planted      :      20.3      23.9
  Harvested    :      20.0      23.4
Yield per harv. :                               Metric tons
  hectare      :      1.76      1.99
                :                               Million metric tons
Beginning stocks :      6.7      2.8      5.4      5.4
Production      :     35.1     46.7     51.7     42.2
  Supply, total :     41.7     49.5     57.2     47.6
Crushings       :     21.5     24.8     26.1     24.5
Exports         :     15.3     17.3     18.4     17.0
Seed, feed, &  :
  residual      :      2.1      2.0      2.2      2.2
  Use, total    :     38.9     44.1     46.7     43.7
Ending stocks   :      2.8      5.4     10.5      3.9
Avg. farm price :     250      213  184-202  257-275
SOYBEAN OIL:   :                               Thousand metric tons
Beginning stocks :     567      348      408      408
Production      :   3 891     4 528 4/ 4 704  4 400
  Supply, total :   4 458     4 876     5 112  4 808
Domestic        :   3 409     3 629     3 765  3 674
Exports         :     702      839      816      726
  Use, total    :   4 111     4 468     4 581  4 400
Ending stocks   :     348      408      531      408
Avg. price 5/   :     529      529  397-441  595-639
SOYBEAN MEAL:  :                               Thousand metric tons
Beginning stocks :     322      207      372      372
Production      :  16 772    19 760 4/20 684  19 391
  Supply, total :  17 094    19 967     21 056  19 763
Domestic        :  12 751    14 969     15 604  14 696
Exports         :   4 136     4 627     4 990     4 717
  Use, total    :  16 887    19 595     20 593  19 414
Ending stocks   :     207      372      463      349
Avg. price 6/   :     220      182  160-171  209-220
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1/ Marketing year beginning September 1 for soybeans, October 1 for soybean oil and meal. 2/ Conversion factor: Hectare = 2.471 acres; Metric ton = 2204.6 pounds or 36.7437 bushels. 3/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide. 4/ Based on October-September year crush of 25.2 million bushels. 5/ Simple season average of crude soybean oil, Decatur, dollars per metric ton. 6/ Simple season average of 44% protein, Decatur, dollars per metric ton.

WHEAT AND RICE (Domestic Measure) 1/

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*****
Commodity      : 1976/77 : 1977/78 : 1978/79
                :          : Estimated : Projected 2/
*****
WHEAT:
Area           :          :          : Alt. I   Alt. II
                :          : Million acres
  Planted      : 80.2    : 74.8
  Harvested    : 70.8    : 66.2
Yield per harv. :          : Bushels
  acre        : 30.3    : 30.6
                :          : Million bushels
Beginning stocks : 665     : 1,112   1,205   1,205
Production      : 2,142   : 2,026   1,920   1,610
Imports         : 3       : 2       2       2
  Supply, total : 2,810   : 3,140   3,127   2,817
Domestic
  Food          : 553     : 555     563     557
  Seed          : 88      : 80      73      77
  Feed          : 107     : 200     150     50
  Domestic, total : 748    : 835     786     684
Exports         : 950     : 1,100   1,000   1,300
  Use, total    : 1,698   : 1,935   1,786   1,984
Ending stocks   : 1,112   : 1,205   1,341   833
Avg. farm price 3/: 2.73    : 2.31   2.25-2.75 3.25-3.75
RICE (rough):
Area           :          :          : Million acres
  Allotment    : 1.80    : 1.80
  Planted      : 2.49    : 2.26
  Harvested    : 2.48    : 2.25
Yield per harv. :          : Pounds
  acre        : 4,663   : 4,412
                :          : Million cwt.
Beginning stocks : 36.9    : 40.5   27.9   27.9
Production      : 115.6   : 99.2   131.5  114.3
Imports         : .1      :
  Supply, total : 152.6   : 139.7  159.4  142.2
Domestic       : 42.7    : 43.8   43.1   47.1
Exports        : 65.6    : 68.0   61.2   70.4
  Use, total    : 108.3   : 111.8  104.3  117.5
Ending stocks   : 40.5    : 27.9   55.1   24.7
Dif. unactd.   : +3.8
Avg. farm price 3/: 7.02    : 9.43  6.25-6.75 9.00-10.00
*****

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1/ Marketing year beginning June 1 for wheat, August 1 for rice.

2/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide.

3/ Season average farm price for wheat, dollars per bushel; for rice, dollars per hundredweight.

WHEAT AND RICE (Metric Measure) 1/,2/

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*****
Commodity      : 1976/77 : 1977/78 : 1978/79
                :          : Estimated : Projected 3/
*****
                :          :          : Alt. I  Alt. II
WHEAT:
Area           :          : Million hectares
  Planted      : 32.5    : 30.3
  Harvested    : 28.7    : 26.8
Yield per harv. :          : Metric tons
  hectare     : 2.06    : 2.06
                :          : Million metric tons
Beginning stocks : 18.1    : 30.3    : 32.8    : 32.8
Production      : 58.3    : 55.1    : 52.3    : 43.8
Imports         : 0.1     : 0.1     : 0.1     : 0.1
Supply, total  : 76.5    : 85.5    : 85.1    : 76.7
Domestic
Food           : 15.1    : 15.1    : 15.3    : 15.2
Seed           : 2.4     : 2.2     : 2.0     : 2.1
Feed           : 2.9     : 5.4     : 4.1     : 1.4
  Domestic, total : 20.4    : 22.7    : 21.4    : 18.6
Exports        : 25.8    : 29.9    : 27.2    : 35.4
  Use, total    : 46.2    : 52.7    : 48.6    : 54.0
Ending stocks  : 30.3    : 32.8    : 36.5    : 22.7
Avg. farm price 4/: 100     : 85      : 83-101  : 119-138
RICE (rough):
Area           :          : Million hectares
  Allotment    : 0.73    : 0.73
  Planted      : 1.01    : 0.92
  Harvested    : 1.00    : 0.91
Yield per harv. :          : Metric tons
  hectare     : 5.23    : 4.95
                :          : Million metric tons
Beginning stocks : 1.67    : 1.83    : 1.26    : 1.26
Production      : 5.24    : 4.50    : 5.96    : 5.18
Imports         : .01     :
Supply, total  : 6.92    : 6.33    : 7.22    : 6.44
Domestic
Exports        : 1.94    : 1.99    : 1.95    : 2.13
  Use, total    : 2.98    : 3.08    : 2.77    : 3.19
Ending stocks  : 4.92    : 5.07    : 4.72    : 5.32
Dif. unactd.   : 1.83    : 1.26    : 2.50    : 1.12
  : +0.17
Avg. farm price 4/: 155     : 208     : 138-149 : 198-220
*****

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1/ Marketing year beginning June 1 for wheat, August 1 for rice. 2/ Conversion factor: Hectare = 2.471 acres; metric ton = 2204.6 pounds or 36.7437 bushels (wheat), 22.046 cwt. (rice. 3/ Alternative I reflects favorable production conditions worldwide; Alternative II assumes unfavorable production conditions worldwide. 4/ Season average farm price, dollars per metric ton.