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Poland's 2013 Cereal Crop Projected Lower

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

Poland's total grains production is forecast down due to the late spring and heavy rains during the first half of June. The risk of fungal disease risk is growing as wet conditions persist.

General Information:

Area and production of grains

In 2013 total domestic cereal production (including corn) is forecasted at 27.4 million metric tons (MMT), or a 3.6 percent decrease compared to the previous year. The decrease is the result from smaller crops of corn, barley, mixed grains and oat.

In 2013, area sown is estimated at 7.8 million hectares (HA), or a 2.7 percent increase over 2012. In 2013, yields on all winter cereal varieties are expected to exceed that recorded the previous year.

Table 1: Area, yields, production of grains total in Poland

Poland		2012/13		2013/14*			
	Area (Thousand /HA)	Yield (MT/HA)	Total Production (MMT)	Area (Thousand /HA)	Yield (MT/HA)	Total Production (MMT)	
Wheat	2,077	4.14	8,608	2,200	4.20	9,200	
Rye	1,042	2.77	2,900	1,100	2.70	2,950	
Barley	1,161	3.60	4,200	1,020	3.20	3,270	
Mixed Grains	1,278	3.00	3,900	1,200	2.83	3,386	
Triticale	992	3.38	3,300	1,250	3.20	4,020	
Oat	514	2.86	1,500	540	2.50	1,300	
Corn	544	7.35	4,000	500	6.50	3,250	
Total	7,608	X	28,408	7,810	X	27,376	

Source: Main Statistical Office

Basic factors influencing the current 2013 cereal crop forecast for Poland are:

- Very good status of wintering of all winter cereals,
- Extraordinary late spring about 4-5 weeks late, according to the region, which resulted in delays in spring cereal sowings and late start of winter cereals vegetation,
- Favorable weather in early spring without spring frost, often occurring at this time of the year,
- Currant (first half of June 2013) unfavorable weather conditions strong rains and numerous flooding farmlands,
- Changes in cropping patterns in favor of corn.

^{*}FAS forecast

Table 2: Production of grains by variety, thousand Metric Tons

Poland	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14*	Change Projected 2012/13 - 2013/14* (%)
Wheat	9,275	9,790	9,408	9,339	8,608	9,200	7.0
Rye	3,449	3,713	2,852	2,601	2,888	2,950	1.7
Barley	3,619	3,984	3,397	3,326	4,180	3,270	(-22.1)
Mixed Grains	3,673	3,884	3,340	3,373	3,920	3,386	(-13.2)
Triticale	4,460	5,234	4,576	4,235	3,349	4,020	21.2
Oat	1,262	1,415	1,517	1,382	1,468	1,300	(-13.3)
Corn	1,844	1,707	1,994	2,392	3,996	3,250	(-18.7)
Total	27,582	29,727	27,084	26,647	28,408	27,376	(-3.9)

Source: Main Statistical Office

Heavy rains the first half of June which led to some lowland flooding has not had measureable impact on cereals production. Local damage in south-west Poland has been recorded but should not affect the country's final output. The risk of fungal diseases is, however, growing with the wet conditions and could become a threat to crop yields absent dry weather in the near future. Farmers report an inability to enter wet fields to apply plant protection measures to ward off molds, a threat specific to corn plantings. The coming weeks will be decisive for this year's spring crops if meteorological conditions remain as currently existing in Poland.

Total cereal production tendencies have been changing; to a great extend from adjustments in cropping patterns. In 2012, corn share of total crop production increased significantly – to 14.4 percent, up from the 2011 level of 9.3 percent. In 2013, acreage of corn proves to be lower than the last year but it is still exceeding the average of previous years. The extraordinary late spring has been the reason for this year's higher corn share in total grains crop planting. Corn and barley are the only cereals which can meet so late agri-technical requirements.

^{*} FAS estimate

Table 3: Import of grains by variety, thousand Metric Tons

Poland	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13*	Change Projected 2011/12 - 2012/13* (%)
Wheat	828	781	655	1,019	700	(-31)
Intra EU 27	759	754	647	967	690	
Extra EU	137	731	017	701	10	
27	69	28	8	52		
Rye	20	5	19	90	30	(-67)
Intra EU 27	20	5	19	52	26	
Extra EU 27	0	0	0	37	4	
Barley	200	141	218	231	160	(-31)
Intra EU 27	197	141	218	231	160	(82)
Extra EU					0	
27	8	5	5	5	8	+60
Oat	8	3	3	3	8	+60
Intra EU 27	8	5	5	5	8	
Extra EU 27	0	0	0	0	0	
Corn	888	324	325	456	170	(-63)
Intra EU 27	660	316	269	359	150	(33)
Extra EU 27	228	8	56	97	20	
Total	1,944	1,256	1,222	1,801	1,068	(-59.3)
Intra EU 27	1,644	1,221	1,158	1,614	1,034	(-64.1)
Extra EU 27	300	35	64	187	34	(-18.2)

Source: Main Statistical Office

In MY 2012/13 Poland's exports of basic grains increased by 157 percent, while imports decreased by almost 60 percent. The higher level of exports was possible as the good crops generated above average stocks. EU countries were the primary destinations as smaller crops of corn, rye, and wheat generated

^{*} FAS estimate

higher demand for Polish grains than witnessed a year ago.

In MY 2013/14 Poland's potential for grain exports is expected to diminish as smaller crops are forecasted. Domestic grain use is expected to show a decline mainly because of decreasing feed demand from a smaller animal sector. The cereals available for trade will diminish.

Table 4: Export of grains by variety, thousand Metric Tons

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Poland	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13*	Change Projected 2011/12 – 2012/13* (%)	
Wheat	1426	1240	848	701	1500	114	
Intra EU 27	811	662	751	642	1300		
Extra EU 27	615	578	97	59	200		
Rye	348	531	209	96	450	369	
Intra EU 27	348	505	176	96	450		
Extra EU 27	1	26	33	0	0		
Barley	31	90	173	128	370	189	
Intra EU 27	31	90	141	128	350		
Extra EU 27	0	0	32	0	20		
Oat	13	43	28	28	80	186	
Intra EU 27	13	40	26	28	80		
Extra EU 27	0	3	3	0	0		
Corn	182	205	118	509	1350	165	
Intra EU 27	182	200	118	504	1300		
Extra EU 27	0	5	0	5	50		
Total	2000	2109	1376	1462	3750	157	
Intra EU 27	1385	1497	1212	1398	3480	149	
Extra EU 27	615	612	164	64	270	322	

Source: Main Statistical Office

^{*} FAS estimate