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## Russian Federation

**Post:** Moscow

### Grain and Feed August Update

**Report Categories:**

Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

Severe drought in European Russia has affected grain and other crops; decreasing the production forecast to 78 million metric tons (MMT), 20 percent less than the last year crop. The grain export forecast is 15 MMT, 6 MMT less than the MY 2009. The carry-over stocks might decrease from 16 MMT in the beginning of MY 2010 to less than 6 MMT by the end of the year.

## Production:

FAS Moscow forecasts the grain crop to be 78 million metric tons (MMT). This is a 20 percent decrease from last year's crop; due to a continued severe drought in most of the European Russia. Wheat production is forecast at 50 MMT, a 19 percent decrease from last year; barley is forecast to decrease 33 percent from last year down to 12 MMT. Rye and oat production is forecast lower compared to last year's crop by 26 and 20 percent respectively, to 3.2 MMT and 4.3 MMT respectively. Meanwhile, corn and millet production is expected to be higher than last year by 14 percent and 50 percent respectively due to a significant increase in the area sown to these crops in 2010, compared with 2009. The rice production is forecast to increase by 10 percent to 1.0 MMT (rough equivalent) due to improving technologies and yields in Krasnodar kray. However, increased production in these three crops will not compensate for the major grain crop losses. Production for other grains and legumes is forecast to drop by 12 percent to 2.3 MMT.

The Russian Ministry of Agriculture has not yet updated its previous grain forecast of "85 MMT or below." Most independent experts are skeptical about Russia's grain crop; their estimates vary from 70 MMT to 80 MMT with the possibility of further decreasing the crop forecast due to unprecedentedly hot and dry weather spanning the majority of Russian provinces.

Table 1. OAA, FAS, Moscow forecasts PSD grain total for MY 2010 (August update)

	Wheat	Barley	Corn	Rye	Oats	Millet	Rice	Other	TOTAL GRAIN
Area Harvested	26,500	7,500	1,400	1,800	3,000	400	180	2,300	43,080
Beginning Stocks	12,829	2,162	167	302	376	0	49	0	15,885
Production	50,000	12,000	4,500	3,200	4,300	400	650	2,300	77,700
MY Imports	200	100	200	50	0	0	140	0	690
TY Imports	200	100	200	50	0	0	140	0	690
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Total Supply	63,029	14,262	4,867	3,552	4,676	400	839	2,300	93,925
MY Exports	14,000	800	100	0	5	0	130	0	15,035
TY Exports	14,000	800	100	0	5	0	130	0	15,035
Feed Consumption	22,000	8,100	4,000	380	2,800	200	0	800	38,280
FSI Consumption	23,000	4,600	600	2,900	1,600	200	650	1,500	35,050
Total Consumption	45,000	12,700	4,600	3,280	4,400	400	650	2,300	73,330
Ending Stocks	4,029	762	167	272	271	0	59	0	5,560
Total Distribution	63,029	14,262	4,867	3,552	4,676	400	839	2,300	93,925
Yield	1.89	1.60	3.21	1.78	1.43	1.00	5.56	1.00	1.80

\*Total grain production includes rough rice production that is estimated at approximately 1.0 MMT, compared with 650,000 metric tons in milled equivalent in the Rice column.

Source: OAA, FAS, Moscow PSD forecasts for each grain crop, MY 2010

## Harvest Update

According to the Russian Ministry of Agriculture, as of July 22, 2010, farmers have harvested 25.3 MMT (bunker weight) of grain, including 19 MMT of wheat and 2.7 MMT of barley. To date 9.5 million hectares (22 percent of the total forecast harvested area) have been harvested; with an average yield of 2.65 MT/ha. The harvest started almost two weeks earlier this year and the reported crop is 2.4 MMT higher than the crop harvested on the same date last year. While the harvest moves to the North and East of European Russia, yields decrease dramatically; it is expected that the reported crop yield will continue to decrease as the harvest continues.

The federal district harvest progress report:

- farmers in the Southern Federal District harvested 14.1 MMT of grain from 4.2 million hectares (61 percent of forecast harvested area), with an average yield of 3.32 MT/ha, slightly higher than last year on the same date. Positive results are due to high yields in Krasnodar kray, which has almost completed their grain harvest with a reported 7.3 MMT. The grain crop in Krasnodar kray (without corn) is forecast at 8.0 MMT, or similar to the last year;
- farmers in the North-Caucasian Federal Districts, newly separated from the Southern Federal District, harvested 6.2 MMT from 1.8 million hectares (68.7 percent of forecast harvested area). Stavropol kray accounts for most of the harvested grain – 5.5 MMT;
- farmers in the Volga Valley Federal District harvested 1.8 MMT from 1.9 million hectares ( 14.4 percent of forecast area). The average yield was 0.94 MT/ha (1.32 MT/ha on the same date in 2009), and continues decreasing with the progressing harvest;
- farmers in the Central Federal District harvested 3.2 MMT from 1.6 million hectares (22.5 percent of forecast harvested area). The average yield, as of July 22, 2010, was 2.04 MT/ha (3.05 MT /ha on the same date in 2009).
- there is no information on grain harvest progress in Ural and Siberia federal districts, as farmers there have not begun harvesting grain.

## Drought Effect

The Russian Ministry of Agriculture has reported that the drought will adversely affect this year's grain crop in the Volga Valley Federal District and in some provinces in the Central, Ural and Southern Federal Districts. As of July 22, a drought-related 'state of emergency' was announced in 23 Russian provinces. Grain damage was one of the factors that caused the emergency declaration. The total area of agricultural crops destroyed by the drought was estimated at 10 million hectares on July 22, 2010. Table 2 (below) shows which provinces are affected by drought; damage to agricultural crops

varies by provinces from 10 to 40 percent. The Ministry of Agriculture is conducting a thorough analysis of the damage by provinces, in order to determine support funds; at the time of this report the estimates were not available.

Table 2. List of Provinces that Declared Drought-Related State of Emergency, Average Grain Production and Grain Sown Area in 2005-2009

	Grain Planted Area Average 2005-2009 1,000 Hectares	Grain Crop Average 2005-2009 1,000 Metric Tons
Russia, TOTAL	45,173	88,757
<b>Central Federal District, total</b>	<b>7,134</b>	<b>17,395</b>
Voronezh oblast	1,268	2,944
Tambov oblast	882	2,074
Ryazan oblast	476	1,181
Belgorod oblast	761	2,242
<b>Southern Federal District, total</b>	<b>8,860</b>	<b>28,508</b>
Volgograd oblast	2,072	3,637
Kalmykiya Republic	230	342
Astrakhan oblast	26	40
<b>Volga Valley Federal District, total</b>	<b>13,699</b>	<b>22,602</b>
Bashkortostan Republic	1,691	3,660
Saratov oblast	2,538	3,379
Orenburg oblast	2,760	2,632
Tatarstan Republic	1,620	4,640
Samara oblast	1,187	1,341
Penza oblast	753	1,185
Mordovia Republic	423	1,019
Nizhegorodskaya oblast	580	1,191
Udmurtiya Republic	438	599
Chuvashiya Republic	229	458
Ulyanovsk oblast	524	883
Mariy El Republic	178	233
Kirovskaya oblast	419	608
<b>Ural Federal District, total</b>	<b>3,495</b>	<b>5,273</b>
Chelyabinsk oblast	1,342	1,747
Kurgan oblast	1,066	1,514
<b>Siberia Federal District, total</b>	<b>10,143</b>	<b>14,178</b>
Zabaikal'skiy kray	195	225

Source: Russian State Statistical Service

The drought affected provinces produced 38 MMT of grain (on average) in 2005-2009 accounting for 36 percent of the Russian grain production. During the same period of time, this area comprised

approximately 41 percent of the Russian grain sown in 2005-2009; this calculates to be 21.7 million hectares (on average). The area's most affected by the drought are in the Volga Valley Federal District; provinces that declared a state of emergency produced 97 percent (on average) of the district's grain during 2005-2009. In the Central Federal District, a state of emergency was announced in provinces that produces 49 percent of the grain crop. According to the Russian Agricultural Minister, Yelena Skrynnik, agricultural crops were destroyed due to drought in 32 percent of the sown area in these 23 provinces <sup>[i]</sup>.

On July 8, 2010 the Ministry of Agriculture opened a drought-related "hot line" where specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture will consult producers on how to get state support, estimate damage and claim emergency relief. All questions should be addressed either to [zasuha@gov.mcx.ru](mailto:zasuha@gov.mcx.ru), or by telephone: (495) 607-85-75. An update on the drought situation can be found on the MinAg's site: [www.mcx.ru](http://www.mcx.ru) in the Emergency Situations section.

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<sup>[i]</sup> For more information see Ag. Minister's interview to "Ekho Moskv": <http://www.mcx.ru/news/news/show/4009..htm>

## **Trade:**

OAA, FAS Moscow decreased the export forecast for MY 2010 to 15.0 MMT, including 14.0 MMT of wheat, 0.8 MMT of barley, and 0.2 MMT of corn and rice. In MY 2009 grain exports exceeded 21.0 MMT. Despite increasing domestic grain prices and a smaller crop yield, exports might continue if world market prices remain attractive, and there are no administrative limitations on exports. Traditionally the Southern Federal District has exported the majority of the grain, which has developed their logistics and access to sea ports. Currently, the grain crop in most Southern Federal provinces remains in good condition. However, it is unlikely that in the 2010 MY the Government will adopt any export subsidy resolution discusses in June 2010. On July 5, 2010 Agricultural Minister Skrynnik, repeated (at the Experts' Council meeting for the President of the Russian Federation) that export subsidies should be used to regulate domestic grain markets [i], and that Russia needs to maintain its world grain market share. However, Government may correct its MY 2010 grain export policy based on the crop production update [ii].

In MY 2009 Russian grain exports continued at high levels through June 2010. In July 2009 – June 2010 Russia exported 18.2 MMT of wheat and 2.8 MT of barley. In October 2009 – June 2010 corn exports from Russia reached 370,000 MT. In one month (June 2010) Russia exported approximately 1.3 MMT of wheat, 250,000 MT of barley, and 45,000 of corn. These exports might have been

stimulated by trader expectations for grain price increases in the domestic market.

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<sup>[i]</sup> Agronews, July 6, 2010

<sup>[iii]</sup> From interview to “Ekho Moskvyy”

## **Stocks:**

Official data from the Russian Ministry of Agriculture on grain stocks remains the same as was reported in the beginning of May, 2010; despite the on-going domestic grain consumption and grain exports in May and June, 2010. OAA, FAS, Moscow estimates grain carry-over stocks at the beginning of MY 2010 (July 1, 2010) at 16 MMT. These stocks include the government intervention stocks of 9.5 MMT. In MY 2010 the Government plans to draw down these intervention stocks in efforts to support farmers and millers in the drought-affected provinces with shortages of feeds and milling grain. Thus, if grain exports continue and reach 15 MMT in MY 2010, the end-of year grain stocks might decrease to 5.6 MMT with the majority coming from intervention.

## **Policy:**

On July 12, 2010 the Russian Prime Minister, Vladimir Putin, discussed problems related to the agriculture drought at the Presidium of the Government: (for information see: <http://premier.gov.ru/events/news/11352/>); here Putin received Yelena Skrynnik’s confirmation that the lower production will only affect Russia’s “exports potential.” Although the drought is linked with grain crop damage, decreased fodder crop production (hay, silage, etc.) coupled with the heat, might have a bigger effect on the Russian livestock industry than the grain industry. Thus, in the middle of July the government outlined the following measures to support agricultural producers (especially livestock producers) in the drought-affected provinces:

- Direct subsidies to drought damaged provinces
- Selling of milling and fodder quality grain from intervention stocks to livestock producers and feed and flour millers
- fuel price control for farmers.

For all these purposes, the Government increased MinAg’s budget for 2010 by 3.4 billion rubles (\$113 million) [i] .

At the present time, the Ministry of Agriculture is developing a scheme to support farmers in the drought-affected provinces, considering first of all support for dairy and livestock farmers and feed

producers. One of the measures already announced was to begin the grain sales intervention on August 4, 2010. However, the beginning of these interventions was postponed by the Agricultural Minister until more accurate loss information can be attained from the provinces. Given tight federal budget, drought-damaged provinces will not likely receive significant federal funds. Some provincial authorities have already found additional funds in their budget earmarked for farmers' support. According to the mass media (RBCDaily, July 13, 2010) authorities in the drought-affected provinces have allocated 5 billion rubles (\$165 million) for emergency support. For comparison, total farmer support (federal and provincial) last year in provinces that suffered from drought (loan-repayment extension and subsidized interest rates for suffered farmers) was 6.8 billion rubles (\$225 million).

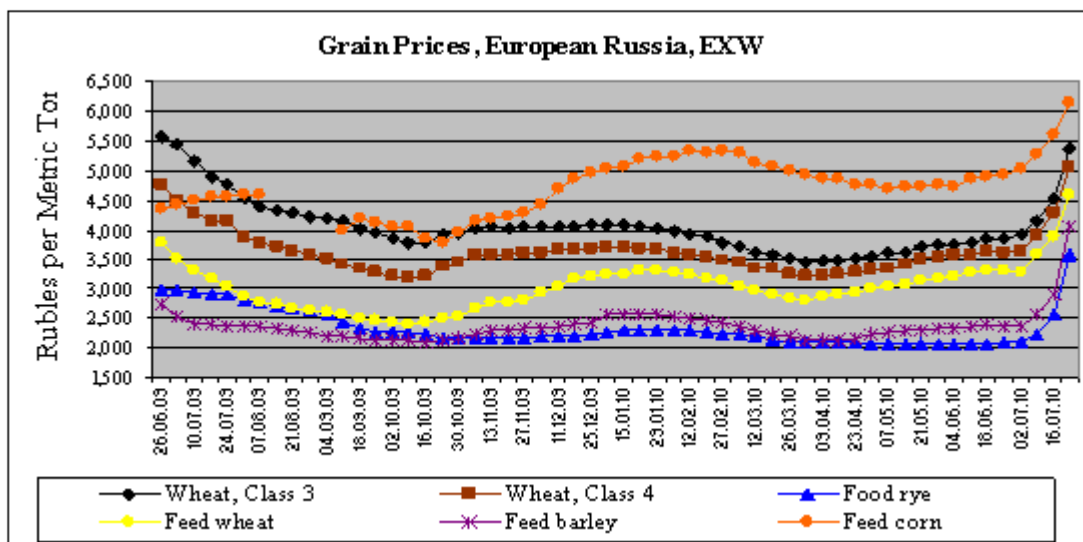
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<sup>[i]</sup> For more information see Federal Law No185-FZ "On Amendments to the Federal Law "On Federal Budget 2010 and Planned Period 2011 and 2012" signed by the President on July 23, 2010.

## **Marketing:**

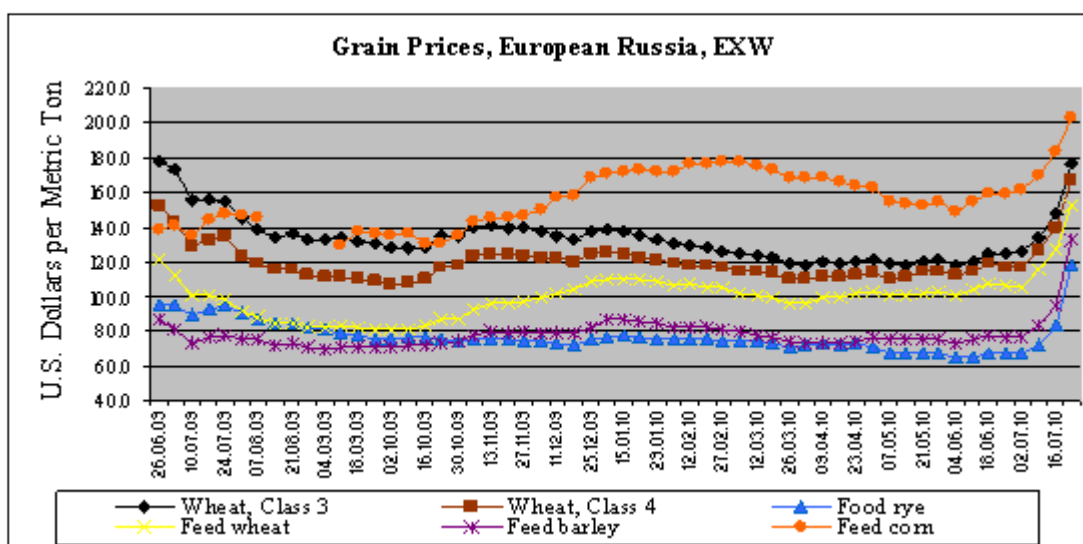
Drought caused a dramatic increase in the domestic grain prices (see Graphs 1 and 2). Thus, according to analytical group ProZerno, in European Russia the Class 3 milling wheat price increased from 3,900 rubles ( (\$126) per metric ton on July 2, to 5,350 rubles (\$177) on July 23. The price for Class 4 milling wheat increased in the same period from 3,910 rubles ((\$127) to 5,050 rubles (\$167). Fodder wheat prices increased from 3,570 rubles (\$116) to 4,600 rubles (\$152), and the price for fodder barley jumped from 2,565 rubles (\$83) per metric ton to 4,040 rubles (\$133) per metric ton. It is difficult to separate the speculations for drought disaster grain and fodder crops from the real grain supply shortage. This, predicting future trends in domestic grain prices is challenging. However, the prices still have not yet approached and are not likely to approach the MY 2008 maximums (Graph 3).

Graph 1. Grain prices in European Russia, MY 2009 and July 2010, Rubles per Metric Ton



Source: ProZerno

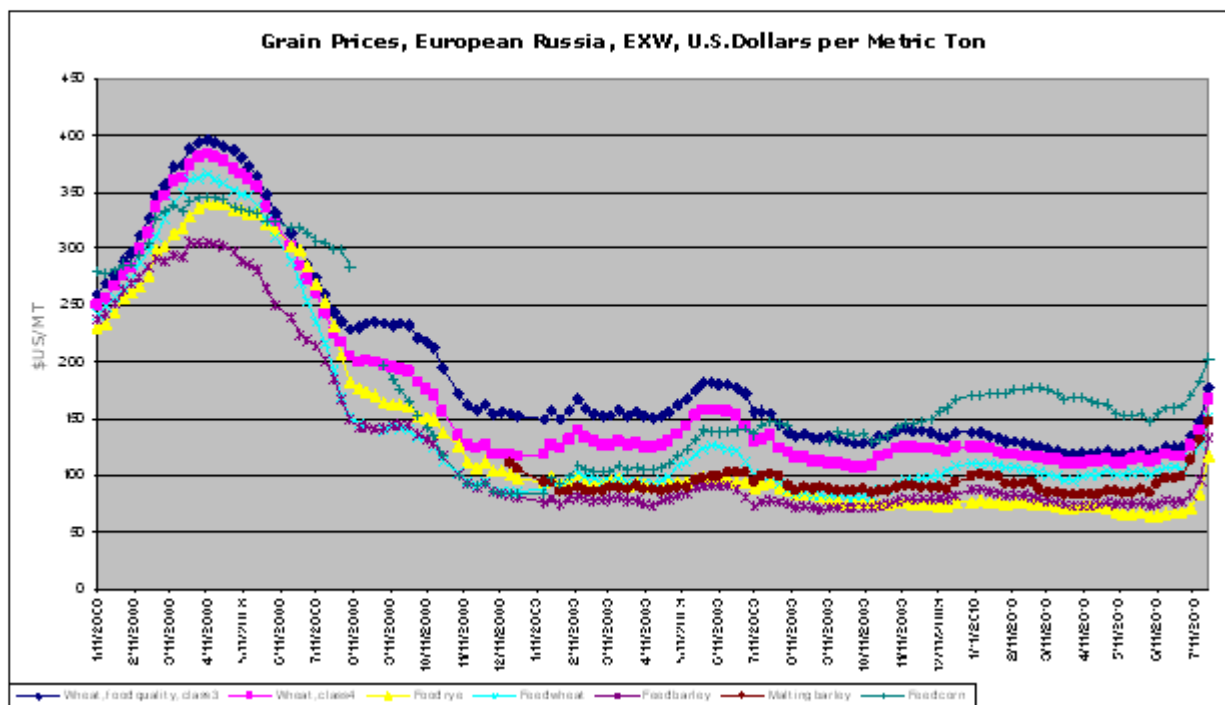
Graph 2. Grain Prices in European Russia, MY 2009 and July 2010, U.S. Dollars per Metric Ton



Source: ProZerno

Graph 3. Grain Prices in European Russia from January 2008 through July 2010, U.S. Dollars per MT





Source: ProZerno

## Production, Supply and Demand Data Statistics :

### Wheat

PSD, Wheat, 1,000 Metric Tons, Area in 1,000 Hectares

Wheat Russia	2008/2009			2009/2010			2010/2011		
	Market Year Begin: Jul 2008			Market Year Begin: Jul 2009			Market Year Begin: Jul 2010		
	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post
Area Harvested	26,650	26,650	26,650	28,700	28,700	28,700	26,800	26,500	26,500
Beginning Stocks	3,869	1,819	1,819	10,479	10,479	10,479	12,829	12,829	12,829
Production	63,700	63,700	63,700	61,700	61,700	61,700	53,000	57,500	50,000
MY Imports	203	203	203	150	150	150	150	100	200
TY Imports	203	203	203	150	150	150	150	100	200
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	67,772	65,722	65,722	72,329	72,329	72,329	65,979	70,429	63,029
MY Exports	18,393	18,393	18,393	17,500	17,500	18,200	15,000	18,000	14,000
TY Exports	18,393	18,393	18,393	17,500	17,500	18,200	15,000	18,000	14,000
Feed and Residual	16,200	14,773	14,773	19,000	19,000	18,300	24,000	20,000	22,000
FSI Consumption	22,700	22,077	22,077	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,200	23,500	23,000

Total Consumption	38,900	36,850	36,850	42,000	42,000	41,300	47,200	43,500	45,000
Ending Stocks	10,479	10,479	10,479	12,829	12,829	12,829	3,779	8,929	4,029
Total Distribution	67,772	65,722	65,722	72,329	72,329	72,329	65,979	70,429	63,029
Yield	2.	2.	2.39	2.	2.	2.15	2.	2.	1.89

## Barley

PSD, Barley, 1,000 Metric Tons, Area in 1,000 Hectares

Barley Russia	2008/2009			2009/2010			2010/2011		
	Market Year Begin: Jul 2008			Market Year Begin: Jul 2009			Market Year Begin: Jul 2010		
	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post
Area Harvested	9,600	9,600	9,600	9,050	7,750	7,750	7,500	7,700	7,500
Beginning Stocks	1,025	1,025	1,025	3,637	3,637	3,637	1,987	2,162	2,162
Production	23,100	23,100	23,100	17,900	17,875	17,875	13,000	15,800	12,000
MY Imports	56	56	56	50	50	50	50	50	100
TY Imports	39	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	100
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	24,181	24,181	24,181	21,587	21,562	21,562	15,037	18,012	14,262
MY Exports	3,444	3,444	3,444	2,600	2,300	2,800	1,000	1,800	800
TY Exports	3,598	3,598	3,598	2,100	2,300	2,800	1,000	1,800	800
Feed and Residual	12,300	12,300	12,300	12,300	12,400	12,100	9,000	10,500	8,100
FSI Consumption	4,800	4,800	4,800	4,700	4,700	4,500	4,300	4,800	4,600
Total Consumption	17,100	17,100	17,100	17,000	17,100	16,600	13,300	15,300	12,700
Ending Stocks	3,637	3,637	3,637	1,987	2,162	2,162	737	912	762
Total Distribution	24,181	24,181	24,181	21,587	21,562	21,562	15,037	18,012	14,262
Yield	2.	2.	2.41	2.	2.	2.3065	2.	2.	1.6

## Corn

PSD, Corn, 1,000 Metric Tons, Area in 1,000 Hectares

Corn Russia	2008/2009			2009/2010			2010/2011		
	Market Year Begin: Oct 2008			Market Year Begin: Oct 2009			Market Year Begin: Oct 2010		
	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post
Area Harvested	1,650	1,750	1,750	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,350	1,450	1,400
Beginning Stocks	167	167	167	287	287	287	187	167	167
Production	6,600	6,645	6,645	3,950	3,950	3,950	5,000	5,500	4,500
MY Imports	51	51	51	150	130	130	100	150	200
TY Imports	51	51	51	150	130	130	100	150	200
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	6,818	6,863	6,863	4,387	4,367	4,367	5,287	5,817	4,867
MY Exports	1,331	1,330	1,330	400	300	400	200	300	100



TY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	5,983	5,984	5,984	5,981	5,981	5,981	5,376	5,376	4,676
MY Exports	2	0	0	5	5	5	5	5	5
TY Exports	2	0	0	5	5	5	5	5	5
Feed and Residual	3,800	3,803	3,803	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,500	3,500	2,800
FSI Consumption	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600
Total Consumption	5,400	5,403	5,403	5,600	5,600	5,600	5,100	5,100	4,400
Ending Stocks	581	581	581	376	376	376	271	271	271
Total Distribution	5,983	5,984	5,984	5,981	5,981	5,981	5,376	5,376	4,676
Yield	2.	2.	1.71	2.	2.	1.8	1.	2.	1.43

## Millet

PSD, Millet, 1,000 Metric Tons, Area in 1,000 Hectares

Millet Russia	2008/2009			2009/2010			2010/2011		
	Market Year Begin: Jul 2008			Market Year Begin: Jul 2009			Market Year Begin: Jul 2010		
	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post
Area Harvested	500	500	500	250	250	250	500	400	400
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	700	710	710	265	265	265	500	450	400
MY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	700	710	710	265	265	265	500	450	400
MY Exports	0	20	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Exports	0	20	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed and Residual	400	400	400	90	90	90	300	250	200
FSI Consumption	300	290	290	175	175	175	200	200	200
Total Consumption	700	690	690	265	265	265	500	450	400
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Distribution	700	710	710	265	265	265	500	450	400
Yield	1.	1.	1.42	1.	1.	1.06	1.	1.	1.

## Rice

PSD, Rice, 1,000 Metric Tons, Area in 1,000 Hectares

Rice, Milled Russia	2008/2009			2009/2010			2010/2011		
	Market Year Begin: Jan 2009			Market Year Begin: Jan 2010			Market Year Begin: Jan 2011		
	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post	USDA Official	Old Post	New Post
Area Harvested	164	160	160	182	175	175	190	180	180

Beginning Stocks	69	69	69	49	49	49	49	49	49
Milled Production	480	480	480	590	590	590	630	605	650
Rough Production	738	738	738	908	908	908	969	931	1,000
Milling Rate (.9999)	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500
MY Imports	230	230	230	150	170	170	140	150	140
TY Imports	230	230	230	150	170	170	140	150	140
TY Imp. from U.S.	0	2	2	0	3	3	0	5	5
Total Supply	779	779	779	789	809	809	819	804	839
MY Exports	90	90	90	100	120	120	110	120	130
TY Exports	90	90	90	100	120	120	110	120	130
Consumption and Residual	640	640	640	640	640	640	640	640	650
Ending Stocks	49	49	49	49	49	49	69	44	59
Total Distribution	779	779	779	789	809	809	819	804	839
Yield (Rough)	4.	5.	4.61	5.	5.	5.19	5.	5.	5.56