

OILCROPS

World oilseed production is forecast to rise to an all-time high in 2013/14, allowing output of meals and oils to expand at above-average rates. An important exception is palm oil, which may be subject to a significant slowdown in production growth.

With regard to domestic availabilities, most of the key producing/exporting countries are forecast to see significant year-on-year improvements, except the United States, where supply is constrained by low carry-in stocks.

Global consumption of both oils and meals is set to continue expanding, stimulated by higher supplies and driven by growing demand in developing countries in Asia. However, global meal consumption could grow less than anticipated, given unexpectedly firm international meal prices and improved global availability of maize. As for vegetable oils, additional demand from the biodiesel sector is expected to contribute to consumption growth.

As the world supply and demand situation improves, world stocks, especially of oilmeals, are expected to be replenished. However, this will not apply to soymeal inventories in the United States, which are projected to continue falling, dragging the country's stock-to-use ratio to an all-time low. As for oils/fats, the global stock-to-use ratio is estimated to recover only partially from last season's low level. The recent appreciation of vegetable oil prices and the continued firmness in meal values have to be seen against this background. Concerning trade, global transactions in oils/fats are expected to grow only moderately, while trade in meals/cakes is set to increase sharply.

With South America's record soybean crop finally entering the market and a likely slowdown in China's import demand, the global supply and demand situation for oilseed and meals should ease substantially in the coming months. By contrast, the outlook for vegetable oil markets remains mixed.

Contact:

Peter.Thoenes@fao.org

OILCROPS, OILS AND MEALS¹

Major Oilseed Exporters and Importers



PRICES²

Oilseed and oilmeal prices to soften in the second half of 2013/14; vegetable oil prices to remain firm

At the beginning of the 2013/14 season (October/September), global production prospects pointed towards a relaxation in prices for oilcrops and derived products. With oilseed and especially soybean output anticipated to grow markedly for a second consecutive year, the global supply situation was forecast to improve. In particular, oilmeal prices were expected to relax, given the possibility of a sizeable surplus of production over demand.

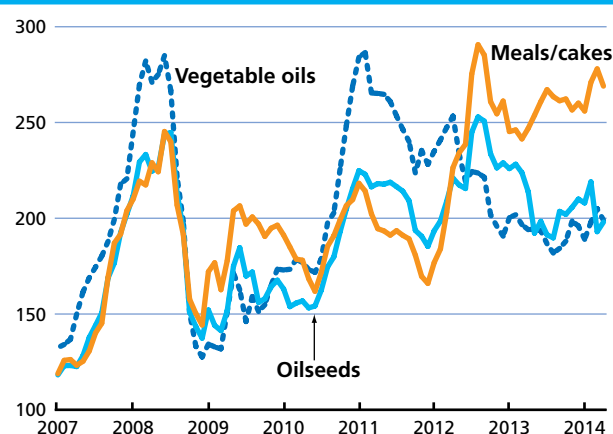
Contrary to such expectations, international prices for oilseeds and oilmeals started moving upward towards February 2014. The sudden rise was mainly driven by a progressive tightening in the United States' soybean balance caused by an exceptionally strong export pace:

¹ Almost the entire volume of oilcrops harvested worldwide is crushed to obtain oils and fats for human nutrition or industrial purposes, and to obtain cakes and meals which are used as feed ingredients. Therefore, rather than referring to oilseeds, the analysis of the market situation is mainly undertaken in terms of oils/fats and cakes/meals. Hence, production data for oils (cakes) derived from oilseeds refer to the oil (cake) equivalent of the production estimates for the relevant oilseeds, i.e. they do not reflect the outcome of actual oilseed crushing. Furthermore, the data on trade in and stocks of oils (cakes) refer to the sum of trade in and stocks of oils (cakes) plus the oil (cake) equivalent of oilseed trade and stocks.

² For details on prices and corresponding indices, see Statistical Tables section, table 24.

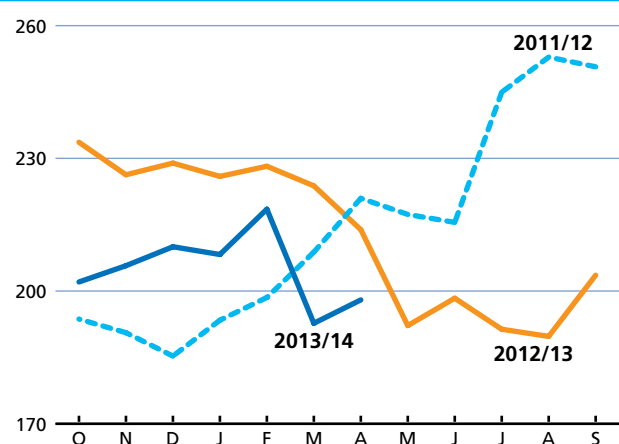
given limited (old-crop) availabilities in Brazil and Argentina, much of China's brisk import demand was met by the United States, causing a rapid dwindling in United States' stock positions. Furthermore, increasingly unfavourable weather conditions depressed new-crop soybean yields in South America. These developments, together with indications that global export availabilities of rape and sunflower seed could be less abundant than expected, heightened concerns over supplies. International prices

Figure 1. FAO monthly international price indices for oilseeds, vegetable oils and meals/cakes (2002-2004=100)



Note: With regard to the sudden drop in the price index for oilseeds in March 2014, please note the clarification provided in appendix table 24

Figure 2. FAO monthly price index for oilseeds (2002-2004=100)



Note: With regard to the sudden drop in the price index for oilseeds in March 2014, please note the clarification provided in appendix table 24

Figure 3. FAO monthly price index for vegetable oils (2002-2004=100)

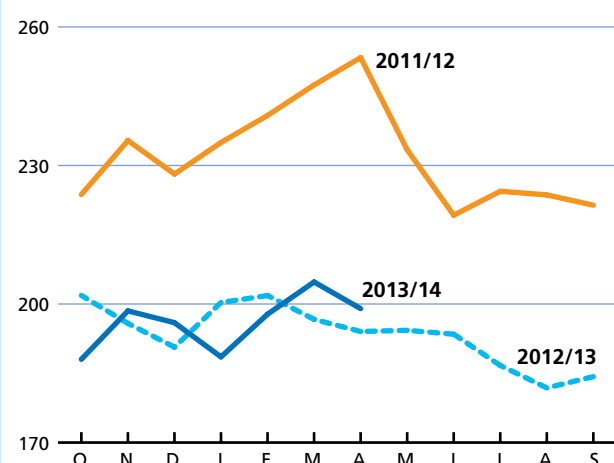


Figure 4. FAO monthly price index for oilmeals/cakes (2002-2004=100)

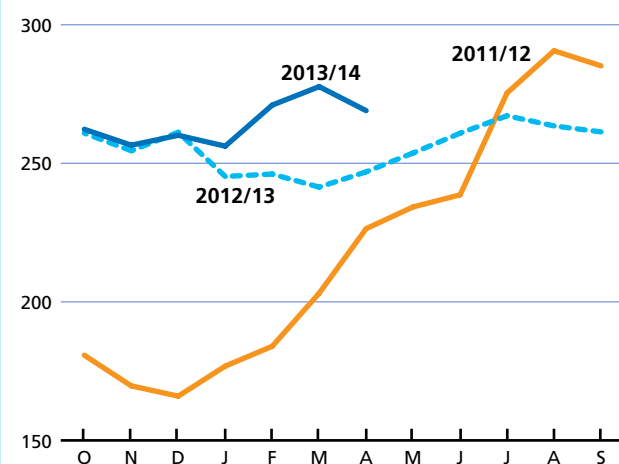
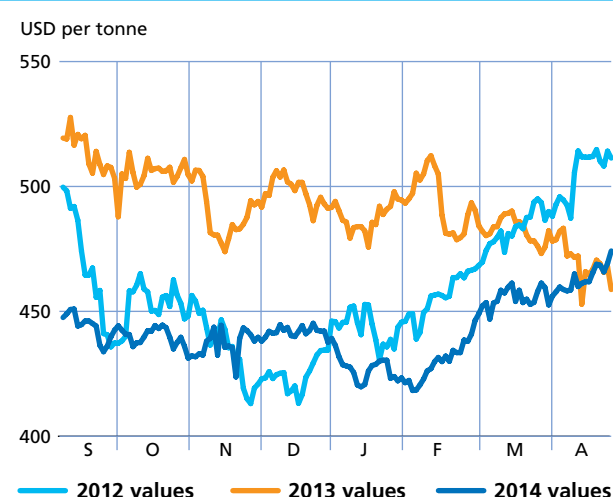


Figure 5. CBOT soybean futures for September



responded accordingly. By mid-April, CBOT soybean futures and spot prices of oilseed and meals (as reflected by FAO's price indices) had exceeded their corresponding values of one year earlier.

Vegetable oil prices also strengthened in recent months, largely driven by palm oil, the most widely traded oil. Hit by unfavourable weather conditions, palm oil production in Southeast Asia fared below expectations, while global import demand for palm oil (and other oils) gained pace, also because of a steady uptake from the biodiesel industry. The ensuing reduction in global palm oil inventories propelled palm oil prices to 18-month highs.

With South America's record soybean crop finally ready to enter the market and a likely slowdown in China's import demand, the global supply and demand situation for oilseed and meals is likely to improve substantially in the coming months, eventually allowing prices to soften. The possibility of a further expansion in world soybean production in 2014/15 would lend additional relief to prices. By contrast, prices of vegetable oils are unlikely to relax significantly, given the prospect of limited palm oil production growth in Malaysia and rising domestic consumption in Indonesia, which inevitably will reduce global export availabilities.

OILCROPS

Another record-breaking harvest expected in 2013/14

After the strong rebound of 2012/13, global oilcrop production is forecast to expand by another 6 percent, or 27 million tonnes, in 2013/14. Higher area and better yields will both contribute to the expansion. Growth will be led

by soybeans, the production of which is forecast rise by 5 percent compared to 2012/13. In the *Northern Hemisphere*, where the 2013/14 season crops were harvested in calendar 2013, aggregate soybean output has risen by about 5 million tonnes, under the lead of the United States, which remains the world's top producer. In the **United States**, soy plantings dropped slightly, but yields soared to record levels thanks to beneficial weather conditions, thus allowing production to recover from the last two season's poor levels. In **China**, production continued to shrink following additional cuts in area planted. **India's** production declined despite record plantings, as excessive monsoon rains slashed yields. In the Southern Hemisphere, notably *South America*, the soybean harvest is now in full swing. Thanks to a further expansion in area harvested, the region's total production should climb to a new record. During the growing season, production forecasts for the region went through several downward corrections, as crops suffered from poor weather, which pushed yields below potential. Still, **Brazil** and **Argentina** are both set to harvest record crops, with aggregated output up 8–9 million tonnes from last year. In **Paraguay** and **Uruguay**, however, prolonged spells of dry weather may lead to a slight drop in production.

Significant improvements are also expected for rapeseed and sunflowerseed. Global rapeseed production is estimated to expand by an above-average 11 percent, following near-ideal weather conditions in several key producing countries, especially in **Canada**, the **United States**, **Ukraine** and the **Russian Federation**, but also in the **EU**, **India** and **China**. While higher plantings in some countries also contributed to the rise in production, the area harvested in Canada actually dropped compared

to the previous year. By contrast, **Australia** reported a reduction in both area and yields. Sunflowerseed is expected to see a steep recovery in global production (up 16 percent year-on-year), as countries hit by adverse weather conditions last season – notably **Ukraine**, the **Russian Federation** and the **EU** – benefitted from very good growing conditions this season, allowing production to rise to all-time highs, especially in the Black Sea region. By contrast, **Argentina** reported a third consecutive drop in sunflowerseed output on account of both lower plantings and adverse weather. World groundnut output is also expected to expand, owing to a strong rebound in **India** and additional production gains in **China**, which should offset a drop in the **United States**. Further growth is also expected in palmkernel, reflecting continued expansion in mature oil palm area in *Southeast Asia*, particularly in **Indonesia**.

By contrast, cottonseed and copra production are both set to fall by 3–4 percent this season. For cottonseed, a higher outturn in **India** will not be sufficient to compensate for marked declines in the **United States** and **China**. As for copra, this year's global output is set to fall as a result of Typhoon Haiyan, which inflicted serious damage on coconut palms in the **Philippines**.

OILS AND FATS³

Growth in global oils/fats supplies to rebound

Current crop forecasts for 2013/14 should translate into a 6-percent increase in global oils/fats production after two seasons of below-average growth. The expected rise is mostly driven by the good outturn of several high oil-yielding crops (rapeseed, sunflowerseed and groundnut), in addition to the all-time record in soybeans. Production of palm and palmkernel oil, which together account for about one-third of global oil supplies, is also anticipated to expand, although this year's growth rate could fall behind that of recent years. In **Malaysia**, where prolonged dry weather has stressed oil palms, possibly affecting their productivity in the forthcoming months, production is tentatively forecast to rise by some 300 000 tonnes, or 2 percent, compared to over 4 percent on average during the last three years. By contrast, in **Indonesia**, production looks set to rise by at least 2 million tonnes, or 7 percent, primarily on further growth in mature palm oil area.

Global oils/fats supplies (comprising 2013/14 production and 2012/13 ending stocks) are forecast to increase by

Table 1. World production of major oilcrops

	2011/12	2012/13 <i>estim.</i>	2013/14 <i>f'cast</i>	Change 2013/14 over 2012/13
	<i>million tonnes</i>			<i>%</i>
Soybeans	240.0	267.2	281.3	+5.3
Rapeseed	61.7	64.3	71.5	11.3
Cottonseed	47.6	45.6	44.1	-3.3
Groundnuts (unshelled)	37.1	38.1	39.4	3.6
Sunflower seed	39.0	35.6	41.3	15.9
Palm kernels	13.3	13.9	14.5	4.6
Copra	6.0	5.9	5.6	-4.5
Total	444.8	470.6	497.9	5.8

Note: The split years bring together northern hemisphere annual crops harvested in the latter part of the first year shown, with southern hemisphere annual crops harvested in the early part of the second year shown. For tree crops, which are produced throughout the year, calendar year production for the second year shown is used.

³ This section refers to oils from all origins, which – in addition to products derived from the oil crops discussed under the section on oilseeds – include palm oil, marine oils as well as animal fats.

5 percent year-on-year – about double the rate achieved last season. Thanks to record crops, domestic availability of oils/fats is expected to improve strongly in several major producing countries, notably **Canada, Ukraine** and the **Russian Federation**, but also in **Argentina, Brazil, China**, the **EU, India** and **Indonesia**. By contrast, domestic supplies may shrink in **Malaysia** and the **Philippines**. In the **United States**, due to extremely low opening stocks, total supplies are estimated to increase by merely 2 percent, recovering only partially from the exceptional drop of the last two seasons.

Biodiesel industry to contribute to growth in global oils/fats consumption

After last season's poor growth, a rebound in global oils/fats consumption is forecast for 2013/14. Relatively low prices, continued economic growth in several countries in *Asia* and rising use of oils/fats as biodiesel feedstock are expected to stimulate demand. Total consumption is currently estimated to expand by nearly 9 million tonnes, or 5 percent.

With regard to individual oils/fats, palm oil should contribute less than usual to total expansion in utilization, mirroring the modest growth in supplies, which has led to a lower than usual price discount of palm oil relative to other vegetable oils. Conversely, soy, rape and sunflowerseed oil are expected to play a more important role in this year's consumption rise.

Country-wise, developing nations in *Asia* are again set to drive global consumption growth, in particular, **China**, **India** and **Indonesia**. While in **China**, oils/fats consumption growth could slow down compared to past years, in **Indonesia**, it is forecast to surge by 2.3 million tonnes, as more palm oil is absorbed by the country's biodiesel industry following the introduction of ambitious mandatory consumption targets. Demand in **Malaysia** is also likely to strengthen, following a nationwide implementation of higher biodiesel blending rates starting in July 2014. In the **EU**, the world's second largest consumer after **China**, a rebound in oils/fats consumption seems likely, underpinned by higher demand from biofuel producers, as overseas biodiesel purchases remain constrained by anti-dumping duties. By contrast, in the **United States**, continued tightness in domestic soybean supplies and a possible stagnation in demand from the biodiesel sector are expected to limit year-on-year growth in oils/fats consumption to 1 percent. Demand from the United States biodiesel producers will depend on the final decision on this year's mandatory blending volumes and on whether or not the blender's tax credit is going to be renewed. In **Argentina**, biodiesel production – and thus demand for soyoil as fuel feedstock – could shrink for the second

consecutive year as the country's biodiesel exports continue to be hindered by the EU's import restrictions. The impact of the recently raised domestic blending mandates on Argentina's consumption might also be limited because, at the prevailing government-set prices, production of biodiesel for the domestic market is said to be unprofitable. Similarly, in **Brazil**, demand from the biodiesel sector is not expected to expand significantly this season, given that the government again postponed the shift to higher mandatory blending rates.

Table 2. World oilcrops and product market at a glance¹

	2011/12	2012/13 estim.	2013/14 f'cast	Change: 2013/14 over 2012/13
	million tonnes			%
TOTAL OILCROPS				
Production	455.9	481.9	509.4	5.7
OILS AND FATS ²				
Production	184.6	189.4	201.1	6.2
Supply ³	216.0	221.6	232.7	5.0
Utilization ⁴	184.1	189.4	198.0	4.6
Trade ⁵	98.2	102.3	105.4	3.1
Global stock-to-use ratio (%)	17.5	16.7	17.3	
Major exporters stock-to-disappearance ratio (%) ⁶	10.3	9.0	9.6	
MEALS AND CAKES ⁷				
Production	111.3	119.6	126.9	6.1
Supply ³	132.4	137.2	145.0	5.7
Utilization ⁴	116.4	117.8	121.9	3.4
Trade ⁵	72.9	73.3	79.8	8.8
Global stock-to-use ratio (%)	15.2	15.4	18.0	
Major exporters stock-to-disappearance ratio (%) ⁸	5.9	7.9	9.6	
FAO PRICE INDICES (Oct/Sept) (2002-2004=100)	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 Oct-Apr	Change: Oct-Apr 2013/14 over Oct-Apr 2012/13 %
Oilseeds	214	213	205	-9.2
Oilmeals/cakes	219	255	265	5.5
Vegetable oils	232	193	196	-0.6

¹ Refer to footnote 1 on page 31 for overall definitions and methodology.

² Includes oils and fats of vegetable, animal and marine origin.

³ Production plus opening stocks.

⁴ Residual of the balance.

⁵ Trade data refer to exports based on a common October/September marketing season.

⁶ Major exporters include Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Malaysia, Ukraine and the United States.

⁷ All meal figures are expressed in protein equivalent; meals include all meals and cakes derived from oilcrops as well as meals of marine and animal origin.

⁸ Major exporters include Argentina, Brazil, Canada, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Paraguay, Ukraine and the United States.

Figure 6. Global production and utilization of oils/fats

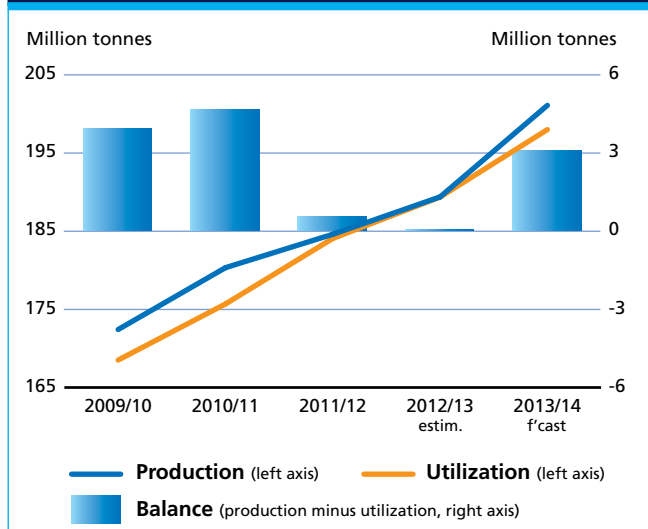
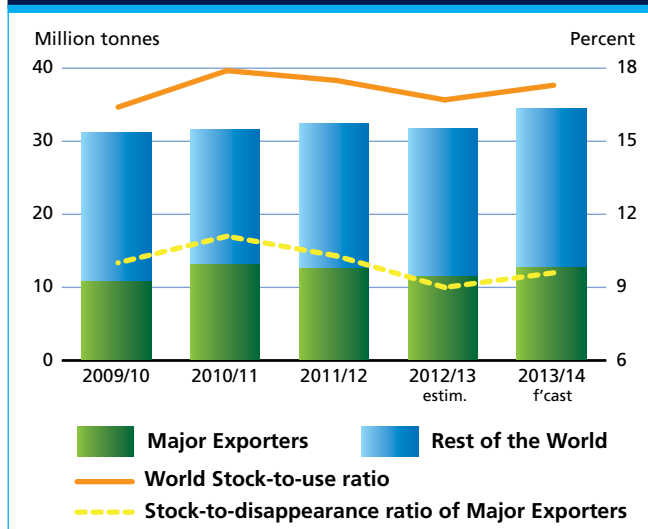


Figure 7. World stocks and ratios of oils/fats (including the oil contained in seeds stored)



Stock-to-use ratio to recover in 2013/14

Based on the above supply and demand forecasts, global 2013/14 closing stocks (which comprise oils/fats inventories plus the oil contained in stored oilseeds) are forecast to grow by about 9 percent – making up for last season's decrease. Larger global inventories of soybean, rape and sunflowerseed (and their respective oils) should more than offset a likely reduction in palm oil stocks. Rapeseed oil inventories are expected to swell to an all-time high, with **Canada** and **China** recording the strongest rises. In Canada, the pile-up is related to bottlenecks in the country's rail transportation, which have seriously hampered export flows. Regarding soy, the projected rise in global inventories concerns principally **China**, **Argentina** and **Brazil**. In the **United States**, where efforts have

concentrated on meeting exports demand, inventories should remain close to last season's depressed level. In the case of palm oil, the anticipated shortfall in production is likely to result in a drawdown in stocks in **Indonesia** and **Malaysia**.

Despite the projected sizeable increase in global inventories, the world stock-to-use ratio for oils/fats may recover only partially from the low level recorded last season. An even more modest recovery is expected in the stock-to-disappearance ratio of the major exporting countries⁴, which helps explain why international prices for oils/fats trended upward in recent months.

Trade in oils/fats to expand moderately

Expansion in global oils/fats trade (including the oil contained in traded oilseeds) should be limited to 3 percent this season. Sluggish consumption growth in a number of key importing countries and the possibility of firming international oil and oilseed prices foreshadow a slow expansion in trade. Falling import requirements in the **EU** and slower expansion of imports by **China** and **India** – the world's three leading importers – are mostly behind the anticipated deceleration in world trade. In all three destinations, abundant domestic supplies are foreseen to weaken import demand.

With respect to exports, large availabilities of soy, sunflower and rapeseed oil should make up for a reduction in global shipments of coconut, palmkernel

⁴ Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Malaysia, Ukraine and the United States.

Figure 8. Oil/fat imports by region or major country (including the oil contained in seed imports)

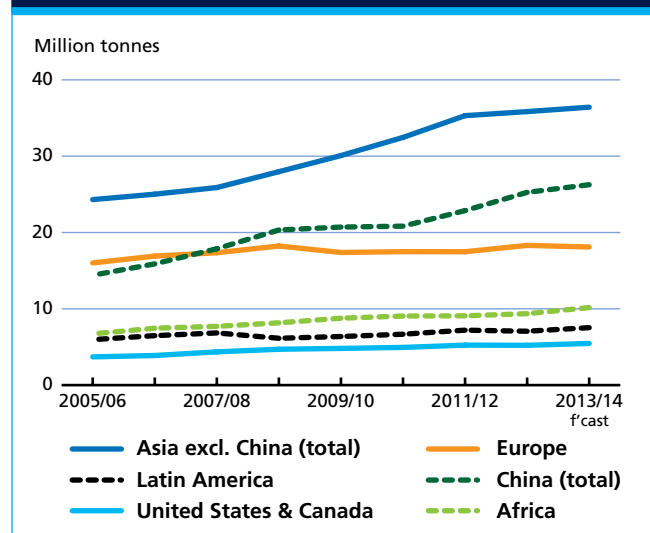
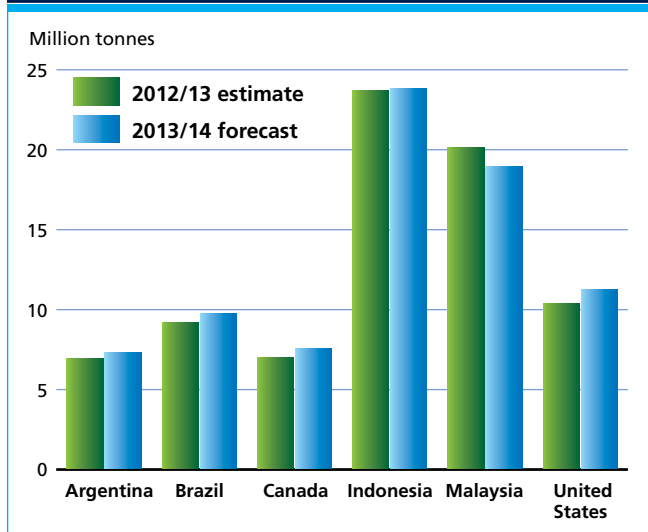


Figure 9. Oil/fat exports by major exporters (including the oil contained in seed exports)



and, especially, palm oil – the world's most traded oil. The drop in palm oil exports is extraordinary, considering that, typically, palm oil accounts for at least half of the expansion in global trade (5-year average). The reversal comes from this year's unprecedented decline in shipments from **Indonesia** and, in particular, **Malaysia**. Combined, the two countries are forecast to reduce their exports by 1.4 million tonnes, or 4 percent, amid poor production growth and higher domestic consumption of palm oil-based biodiesel. Furthermore, the appreciation of international palm oil prices relative to competing oils is bound to depress import demand for palm oil. Global shipments of soy and sunflower oil are projected to rise by 2.6 million and 1.9 million tonnes, respectively. As to soyoil, the second most traded vegetable oil, higher shipments are expected, in particular from the **United States**, but also **Brazil** and **Argentina**. The boost in United States' exports (15 percent) is particularly noteworthy when compared to the only modest improvement in domestic supplies (4 percent). In Argentina, higher shipments are partly linked to weak demand from the local biodiesel industry. For sunflower oil, **Ukraine** and the **Russian Federation** will be responsible for the expected world increases. Thanks to its more competitive price, the share of sunfloweroil in total vegetable oil trade is estimated to climb to 8 percent. As for rapeseed oil, global trade is seen expanding by no more than 0.5 million tonnes despite this season's conspicuous rise in production, mainly reflecting the above mentioned transportation difficulties faced by **Canada**, the world's top rapeseed supplier. With regard to coconut oil, the anticipated drop in global exports is entirely due to the **Philippines'** reduced copra harvest.

MEALS AND CAKES⁵

Global meal supplies to expand in 2013/14

If the current crop forecasts materialize, global meal/cakes production could expand by at least 6 percent, rising for the second consecutive year and setting a new record. Production growth will again be driven by soy: mirroring record harvests, incremental soymeal output is estimated at 5 million tonnes (expressed in protein equivalent). Sizeable increases are also projected for rape and sunflower meal.

Also global oilmeal supplies (which comprise 2013/14 production and 2012/13 carry-out stocks) are forecast to climb to a new record, exceeding last year's level by almost 6 percent. The world three leading meal producers, **Argentina**, **Brazil** and the **United States**, would account for a large part of total expansion. In the United States, domestic availability is anticipated to recover from recent drops, though it will still fall short of past record levels. Sizeable expansions are also likely in **Canada**, the **EU**, the **Russian Federation** and **Ukraine**. All these improvements would primarily result from good harvests although, in Argentina and Brazil, higher carry-in stocks are also playing a role. By contrast, in **China**, domestic supplies could diminish significantly compared to last year, mainly because of a sizeable reduction in carry-in stocks.

Growth in meal consumption to accelerate

Following subdued growth of less than 2 percent in the last two seasons, world meal consumption is forecast to expand by 3–4 percent in 2013/14. Current forecasts are based on growing demand by the livestock sector that will arise from further economic growth in a number of countries and on the likely softening in international meal prices. At the same time, however, ample global maize availabilities are expected to dampen growth in global meal demand.

Mirroring this season's supply forecasts, consumption growth will be led by soymeal, followed by rape and sunflower meal. *Developing countries* should contribute strongly to total growth, with countries in *Asia* playing a dominant role. In **China**, consumption is projected to expand by about 4–5 percent, less than in recent years, reflecting a relatively weak projected expansion in domestic pig and, especially, poultry production. Among *developed countries*, aggregate consumption may recover only in part from the sizeable fall recorded last season. Especially in the **EU** and the **United States**, consumption levels are expected to remain well below their respective historic

⁵ This section refers to meals from all origins. In addition to products derived from the oil crops discussed under the section on oilseeds, this also includes fish meal and meals of animal origin.

Figure 10. Global production and utilization of meals/cakes (in protein equivalent)

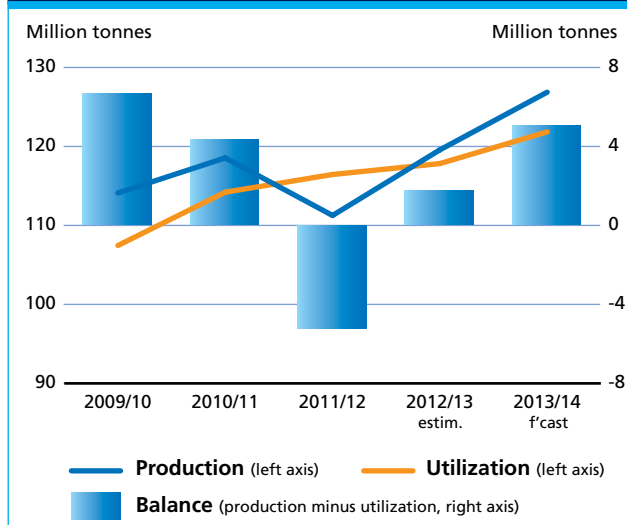


Figure 11. World stocks and ratios of meals/cakes (in protein equivalent and including the meal contained in seeds stored)



peaks. Given record high export commitments, a further fall in the United States domestic consumption seems likely.

Strong recovery in meal inventories possible

Global meal production is forecast to surpass consumption by 5 million tonnes (in protein equivalents), or 4 percent, as opposed to only 1 percent last season. Such production surplus would facilitate a pronounced replenishment of inventories, with global meal stocks (including the meal contained in stored oilseeds) increasing by a whopping 21 percent. The build-up in inventories is to be attributed partly to the large availability of maize, which competes with oilmeals in the international market. The stock build-

up will be concentrated in selected exporting countries, especially **Argentina** and **Brazil**, but also **Canada** and the **Russian Federation**. In Argentina, the surge in stocks is partly related to the farmers' tendencies to store a significant portion of their crop on-farm as a hedge against rising inflation and currency instability. Conversely, in the **United States**, the world's second most important supplier of meals, inventories could shrink despite improved domestic production, given the country's record export commitments.

Based on the current estimates, both the global stock-to-use ratio and the major exporters stock-to-disappearance ratio would improve significantly in 2013/14. In fact, the global stock-to-use ratio is to rise to a 3-year high, which should provide scope for international meal prices to soften. However, prices will likely begin relaxing only after the South American soybean crops become available in the market, i.e. from April/May onward. Until then, the United States' tight supply situation is likely to keep prices under upward pressure.

Global meal trade expected to resume growth

After last season's dismal growth, world trade in meals/cakes – including the meal contained in traded oilseeds – is projected to rise to an all-time high in 2013/14, exceeding last season's level by about 9 percent.

Similar to past years, much of the expansion in world imports of meals will originate in China and other developing countries in *Asia*. After last season's exceptional slowdown, **China's** imports are estimated to rise by a stunning 16 percent, underpinned by a further expansion

Figure 12. Meals/cake imports by region or major country (in protein equivalent and including the meal contained in seed imports)

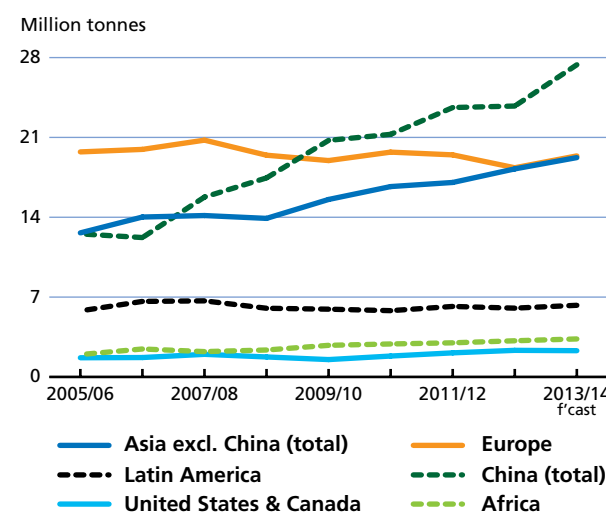
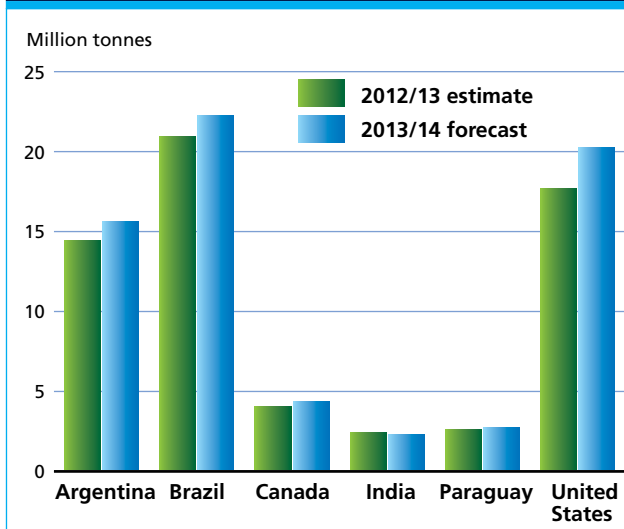


Figure 13. Meal/cake exports by major exporters (in protein equivalent and including the meal contained in seed exports)



in local crushing capacity. With soybean imports tentatively estimated at a record 69 million tonnes (the equivalent of 54 million tonnes of soymeal), China remains the world's top meal buyer. In the rest of *Asia*, aggregate imports are seen expanding by 5–6 percent. **EU** meal imports could resume growth after two successive years of decline, although ample supplies of attractively priced feed grains are likely to dampen the increase in import demand for oilmeals.

Export growth will be concentrated in the United States and *South America* and primarily concern soybean meal. In the **United States**, where shipments have advanced at a record pace, total exports could exceed last season's level by 5.8 million tonnes (including the meal contained in oilseed sales). In order to meet internal demand, the United States may even have to resort to importing an unprecedented level of 1.7–1.8 million tonnes of soybeans. Exports by **Argentina** and **Brazil** are projected to expand by about 2.9 million tonnes each. In **Brazil**, record shipments – made possible by improved port logistics – may confirm the country as the leading supplier in global trade, whereas, in **Argentina**, exports could fall short of past records, given farmers' slower than usual release of soybeans into the market. In **Paraguay**, an only modest expansion in shipments is expected due to recent downward adjustments in harvest estimates. Global exports of sunflower meal are set to climb to a new record, boosted by increased availabilities in **Ukraine** and the **Russian Federation**. By contrast, global shipments of rapeseed meal should expand less than originally forecast because of the logistical difficulties encountered in **Canada** and because of **Australia's** poor crop outturn.

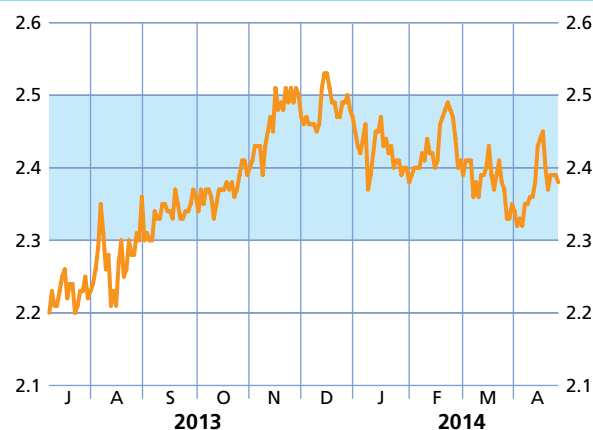
2014/15 PRODUCTION OUTLOOK

With the 2013/14 season still on-going, it is too early to draw world supply and demand projections for 2014/15. The only preliminary, incomplete information that can be provided concerns planting intentions in the *Northern Hemisphere*, where preparations for the next campaign are about to start.

In general, relatively firm oilseed prices should underpin plantings of crops for collection in 2014/15. In particular, continued tightness in the United States' soybean balance is likely to stimulate global soybean sowings. First estimates for the **United States** point to a further expansion in soybean cultivation, mostly at the expense of maize. With the soybean/maize price ratio (CBOT September contract) ranging between 2.3 and 2.5 since the end of last year, farmers expect better returns from soybeans than maize. A tentative 6.5 percent increase in area planted, together with on-trend yield levels, would lift the United States' soybean production to almost 97 million tonnes, 8 percent above the current season's estimate. Elsewhere, a recovery in production seems likely in **India**, assuming normal weather conditions, whereas **China's** gradual production decline is expected to continue. Later this year, a further increase in plantings appears probable in *South America*, although rising expenses for plant protection could lower the rate of expansion below last year's. Overall, another sizeable increase in global soybean output of about 5 percent could be achieved.

With regard to rapeseed, a contraction in production appears inevitable in both **Canada** and **India**, unless last year's optimal weather conditions recur. In **Australia**, the latest reported planting and yield estimates point to

Figure 14. Soybean/maize price ratio (CBOT September 2014 futures contract)



From a historical perspective, in the USA, whenever the ratio enters the 2.3–2.5 range, the general bias favours soybean over maize, resulting in a shift of planted area from maize to soybeans.

a further slide in rapeseed production. Global production may still turn out close to this season's record level, thanks to above-average plantings and mostly favourable weather conditions prevailing in the **EU**, **China** and *Eastern Europe*. For sunflowerseed, production could increase again this year, with a further expansion in plantings boosting production in **Ukraine** and the **Russian Federation**, provided weather conditions remain favourable and barring further escalation in the ongoing geopolitical conflicts. Also in the **United States** and **Argentina**, prospective yield recoveries could lead to higher production. By contrast in

the **EU**, production may fall. The global production outlook for palm oil remains uncertain, given the possible prolonged effects of unfavourable weather conditions earlier this year on the performance of palm trees in *Southeast Asia*. The possibility of an El Niño weather event developing during the second half of this year creates additional uncertainty.

Together, the above forecasts point to a further, albeit more moderate, rise in total production of oilseeds and oilcrop products in 2014/15, which could pave the way for an increasingly comfortable supply and demand situation – including in the **United States**.

OILCROPS: MAJOR POLICY DEVELOPMENTS: OCTOBER 2013 - APRIL 2014 *

COUNTRY	PRODUCT	DATE	POLICY CATEGORY/INSTRUMENT	DESCRIPTION
Argentina	Soybeans	Feb-14	Stock release	Reached agreement with private sector to release soybeans into the market, to address domestic supply shortage.
	Biodiesel	Mar-14	Trade policy	Requested the World Trade Organization's Dispute Settlement Body to establish a panel addressing the EU anti-dumping measures for Argentinian biodiesel.
Australia	All vegetable oils	Mar-14	Bilateral trade agreement	Signed trade agreement with Japan, including import tariff elimination for Australian rapeseed oil entering Japan.
Brazil	All oilseeds	Oct-13	Public storage	Expanded storage capacity of Brazil's state-run food supply company (CONAB) in an effort to allow better domestic supply control, thus preventing local price hikes.
	Grains/oilseeds	Nov-13	Pest control	Declared state of emergency due to latest outbreak of caterpillar <i>helioverpa armigera</i> in four central states, entailing temporary permission to permit import of a powerful pesticide.
	Soybeans	Feb-14	Environmental policy	Announced that the 8-year old moratorium on trading of illegally grown soybeans will be replaced by a new set of stringent control measures at the end of 2014.
	Soybeans	Feb-14	Sector development	Granted concession for operation of a core transport route so as to enhance the shipment of grains/oilseeds.
	Soybeans	Feb-14	Agricultural production	Supported the promotion of non-GM soybeans in Mato Grosso so as to provide farmers with an alternative to only growing GMO material.
	Rapeseed	Oct-13	Bilateral trade agreement	Obtained elimination of EU import tariffs on Canadian rapeseed oil under bilateral Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).
Canada	Soybeans	Dec-13	Export promotion	Granted federal funding for the promotion of food-grade soybean exports.
	Grains/oilseeds	Feb-14	Sector development	Took action to solve logistical bottlenecks faced by producers moving grains/oilseeds to port locations.
	Soybeans, rapeseed	Mar-14	Bilateral trade agreement	Obtained preferential access for exports of Canadian agricultural products to the Republic of Korea – including soybeans and rapeseed – under newly signed bilateral free trade agreement.
	Flaxseed	Mar-14	Market regulation	Allowed food processors to use health claims linking the use of flaxseed to lower levels of cholesterol in human diets.
	Soybeans	Oct-13	State procurement	Suspended public sales in preparation of state procurement operations from the new harvest.
	Rapeseed	Oct-13	Import restrictions	Relaxed restrictions on importation of rapeseed from Russia.
China	Rapeseed oil	Nov-13	State reserves	Detected imported produce in the state's temporary rapeseed oil reserves, which was denounced as fraud.
	Soybeans	Nov-13	Import policy	Barred imported soybeans from entering Northeast China and Inner Mongolia with view to shield local production.
	Soybeans	Nov-13	State reserves	Released state reserves with a view to ease supply tightness, thus checking the rise in domestic oil/meal prices.
	Soybeans	Nov-13	State reserves	Continued procurement of soybeans to constitute state reserves for future market interventions and to support domestic farm gate prices.
	Soybeans	Dec-13	Import policy	Signed bilateral protocol that allows soybeans from Ukraine to enter China.
	Soybeans	Jan 14	State procurement/reserves	Decided to abandon the public procurement and stockpiling scheme for soybeans in 2014, replacing it with direct subsidies to farmers.
	Rapeseed	Feb-14	Agricultural policy	Decided to increase agricultural subsidies for grains, including rapeseed, in a bid to improve food security and encourage farmers not to abandon their farms.

COUNTRY	PRODUCT	DATE	POLICY CATEGORY/INSTRUMENT	DESCRIPTION
China	Grains/Oilseeds	Feb-14	Agricultural policy	Directed state-owned grain firms to invest in overseas mergers and acquisitions so as to set up a global supply chain for grains/oilseeds.
	Biodiesel	Feb-14	Renewable energy policy	Approved commercial use of bio-aviation fuel with a view to diversify fuel consumption and reduce carbon emissions.
	All	Mar-14	Production support	Issued new guidelines to improve access of farmers and small companies to adequate credit lines.
	Rapeseed oil	Mar-14	State reserves	Ordered release of rapeseed oil from state reserves in order to make room for procurement from new harvest.
	Rapeseed	Mar-14	Import restrictions	Allowed imports of Canadian rapeseed meal to resume, following the new registration protocol in place since early 2013.
European Union	Rapeseed oil	Oct-13	Bilateral trade agreement	Agreed to the elimination of EU import tariffs on Canadian rapeseed oil, under bilateral Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).
	Palm oil and derived products	Jan-14	Import policy	Ended preferential import duties for Indonesian palm oil, palm oil-based oleo-chemicals and biofuels under the revised General System of Preferences (GSP).
	Olive oil	Feb-14	Disease prevention	Banned the movement of specific plants out of an Italian region to help prevent the spread of a disease affecting olive trees.
	Olive oil	Feb-14	Product labelling	Announced the introduction – in December 2014 – of new labelling rules aimed at making product information easier to read and understand.
	Sunflower oil	Apr-14	Import policy	Approved proposal to remove, as of 23 April, import tariffs on several Ukrainian agricultural commodities – including crude and refined sunflower oil – anticipating on-going negotiations of a comprehensive EU-Ukraine free trade agreement.
	Rapeseed	Oct-13	Support price	Raised official procurement price for the rabi rapeseed crop.
	Olive oil	Oct-13	Market regulation	Regulated the domestic olive oil market to standardize products, so as to prevent impurities, adulteration and other health-related problems.
India	Groundnut	Nov-13	Public procurement	Prepared for resumption of state procurement following a bumper crop.
	All edible oils	Jan-14	Import duty	Raised import duty on refined vegetable oils, widening the duty differential between crude and refined oil, so as to protect the domestic refining industry.
	Vegetable oil derivatives	Feb-14	Trade policy	Initiated investigation on increased imports of saturated fatty alcohols addressing claims that such imports were harming the domestic refining industry.
	All edible oils	Feb-14	Consumer policy	Extended a deadline for ending the sale of edible oils in loose form so as not to harm poor consumers.
	All oilseeds	Mar-14	Emergency relief	Announced measures to support farmers affected by heavy rains in the states of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.
Indonesia	Soybeans	Nov-13	State purchases	Continued state purchases with a view to stabilize domestic prices of soy food products.
	Soybeans	Jan-14	Production support	Raised government-set farm gate price for soybeans to stimulate domestic production.
	Palm oil	Oct-13 to Apr-14	Export policy	Left in place the sliding export tax regime used to prevent hikes in consumer prices (via regulation of domestic supplies) and to stimulate growth in downstream palm oil processing.
Islamic Republic of Iran	All edible oils	Jan-14	Food subsidy	Started public distribution of food packages, including vegetable oil.
Japan	All vegetable oils	Mar-14	Bilateral trade agreement	Signed trade agreement with Australia, including import tariff elimination for Australian rapeseed oil entering Japan.
Republic of Korea	Soybeans	Oct-13	State reserves	Set up public stocks of wheat and soybeans.
	Soybean and rapeseed	Mar-14	Bilateral trade agreement	Granted preferential access to agricultural imports from Canada – including soybeans and rapeseed, under newly signed bilateral free trade agreement.

COUNTRY	PRODUCT	DATE	POLICY CATEGORY/INSTRUMENT	DESCRIPTION
Malaysia	Biodiesel	Feb-14	Renewable energy policy	Announced nationwide mandatory blending of diesel transportation fuel with 5% palm oil-based biodiesel from July 2014.
	Palm oil	Oct-13 to Apr-14	Export policy	Periodically adjusted export taxes in line with the newly introduced sliding tax regime, aiming at the protection of domestic growers and refiners.
	Palm oil	Apr-14	Bilateral trade agreement	Obtained preferential access for exports of Malaysian palm oil to Turkey, under newly signed comprehensive free trade agreement with Turkey.
Mexico	All edible oils	Dec-13	Import duties	Suspended final stage of elimination of import duties on vegetable oils which had been scheduled for March 2014.
Pakistan	Sunflower seed	Feb-14	Production support	Decided to promote local sunflower seed cultivation in a bid to help reduce the country's deficiency in edible oil supplies.
Philippines	Coconut	Feb-14	Production support	Allocated funds for the rehabilitation of the domestic coconut industry hit by typhoon Yolanda in November 2013.
Russian Federation	Soybeans	Jan-14	GMO cultivation	Allowed cultivation of GM soybean throughout the Russian Federation from July 2014.
Turkey	Palm oil	Apr-14	Bilateral trade agreement	Granted preferential access to imports of palm oil from Malaysia, under newly signed comprehensive free trade agreement with Malaysia.
United States	Biodiesel	Mar-14	Renewable energy policy	Announced new funding for commercial enterprises in support of advanced biofuel production; directed to research, investment and infrastructure projects, payments concern mainly producers of oil/fat-based biodiesel.
	Soybean, groundnut and sunflowerseed	Apr-14	Export promotion	Made available new funding to help selected commodity organizations expand commercial exports.

* A collection of major oilcrop/oil/meal policy developments starting in January 2011 is available at: <http://www.fao.org/economic/est-commodities/commodity-policy-archive/en/?group=Oilseeds,%20Oils%20and%20meals>

APPENDIX TABLE 10: TOTAL OILCROPS STATISTICS
(million tonnes)

	Production ¹			Imports			Exports		
	09/10-11/12 average	2012/13 estim.	2013/14 f'cast	09/10-11/12 average	2012/13 estim.	2013/14 f'cast	09/10-11/12 average	2012/13 estim.	2013/14 f'cast
ASIA	130.4	135.0	136.5	79.5	86.7	97.9	2.5	2.2	2.7
China	59.4	60.5	59.3	59.1	66.6	76.9	1.1	1.0	0.9
of which Taiwan Prov.	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.4	2.3	2.3	-	-	-
India	36.6	37.9	39.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.9
Indonesia	9.4	10.2	10.9	2.0	2.0	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Iran, Islamic Republic of	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	-	-	-
Japan	0.3	0.3	0.3	5.7	5.7	5.7	-	-	-
Korea, Republic of	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.6	1.6	1.5	-	-	-
Malaysia	4.7	5.0	5.1	0.7	0.7	0.7	-	-	0.1
Pakistan	5.2	5.3	5.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	0.1	-	-
Thailand	0.7	0.8	0.8	2.0	1.9	2.0	-	-	-
Turkey	2.4	2.7	3.2	2.4	2.0	2.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
AFRICA	17.1	17.1	17.3	3.2	3.3	3.4	0.9	0.8	0.8
Nigeria	4.8	5.0	4.9	-	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.1
CENTRAL AMERICA	1.4	1.6	1.6	6.2	5.9	6.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
Mexico	0.9	1.1	1.2	5.5	5.4	5.8	-	-	-
SOUTH AMERICA	137.9	154.3	162.2	1.3	1.6	1.7	49.2	59.4	63.7
Argentina	51.8	53.9	57.6	0.1	0.3	0.1	10.4	8.4	10.5
Brazil	73.7	84.6	89.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	31.7	42.1	45.1
Paraguay	7.0	8.5	8.1	-	-	-	4.7	5.2	4.5
NORTH AMERICA	116.5	114.1	122.6	2.0	2.3	3.2	52.0	48.1	56.6
Canada	18.8	20.4	24.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	11.3	11.5	12.7
United States of America	97.7	93.7	97.9	1.3	1.8	2.7	40.8	36.6	43.9
EUROPE	52.8	53.8	63.7	19.0	19.6	20.8	4.2	4.5	6.2
European Union	29.8	28.2	32.0	17.4	18.3	18.6	0.9	0.8	1.2
Russian Federation	9.4	10.9	13.1	1.1	0.9	1.7	0.3	0.3	0.4
Ukraine	11.6	12.5	16.2	-	-	-	2.6	3.0	4.1
OCEANIA	4.3	6.0	5.4	0.1	-	-	2.3	4.3	3.6
Australia	3.9	5.6	5.0	-	-	-	2.2	4.2	3.5
WORLD	460.3	481.9	509.4	111.2	119.4	133.5	111.2	119.4	133.7
Developing countries	281.4	302.6	311.7	83.5	91.0	102.7	52.6	62.4	67.1
Developed countries	178.9	179.3	197.7	27.7	28.4	30.8	58.6	57.0	66.6
LIFDCs	123.8	127.3	127.1	60.0	67.2	78.0	3.1	2.9	3.1
LDCs	11.0	10.9	10.9	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5

¹ The split years bring together northern hemisphere annual crops harvested in the latter part of the first year shown, with southern hemisphere annual crops harvested in the early part of the second year shown; for tree crops which are produced throughout the year, calendar year production for the second year shown is used.

APPENDIX TABLE 11: TOTAL OILS AND FATS STATISTICS ¹ (million tonnes)

	Imports			Exports			Utilization		
	09/10-11/12 average	2012/13 estim.	2013/14 f'cast	09/10-11/12 average	2012/13 estim.	2013/14 f'cast	09/10-11/12 average	2012/13 estim.	2013/14 f'cast
ASIA	38.4	43.7	43.1	43.3	48.9	47.5	87.5	98.6	104.7
Bangladesh	1.4	1.6	1.6	-	-	-	1.7	1.8	1.9
China	10.5	12.6	11.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	32.1	36.5	38.0
of which Taiwan Prov.	0.4	0.4	0.4	-	-	-	0.8	0.8	0.8
India	9.4	10.8	11.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	18.9	20.5	21.3
Indonesia	0.1	0.1	0.1	19.9	23.6	23.7	7.4	9.5	11.8
Iran	1.4	2.1	1.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.7	2.2	2.2
Japan	1.2	1.3	1.3	-	-	-	3.1	3.1	3.2
Korea, Republic of	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	-	-	1.3	1.4	1.4
Malaysia	2.5	1.6	1.3	18.6	20.0	18.8	3.8	4.1	4.4
Pakistan	2.3	2.5	2.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.0	4.2	4.3
Philippines	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.6
Singapore	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.7	0.7
Turkey	1.3	1.7	1.8	0.4	0.7	0.7	2.4	2.7	2.7
AFRICA	8.3	8.7	9.5	1.7	1.8	1.7	13.9	14.4	15.1
Algeria	0.6	0.5	0.7	-	-	-	0.7	0.7	0.8
Egypt	1.9	1.8	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.3	2.0	1.9	2.1
Nigeria	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.7	2.8	2.9
South Africa	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
CENTRAL AMERICA	2.4	2.4	2.6	0.7	0.9	1.0	4.7	4.9	5.0
Mexico	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.1	3.3	3.3
SOUTH AMERICA	2.6	2.9	3.1	8.8	8.3	8.4	14.3	15.9	16.4
Argentina	0.1	0.1	-	5.5	5.1	5.1	2.8	3.6	3.8
Brazil	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.9	1.6	1.6	7.5	8.0	8.0
NORTH AMERICA	4.5	4.8	4.9	6.8	6.7	6.5	18.2	19.2	19.3
Canada	0.6	0.7	0.5	3.1	3.1	3.3	1.1	1.3	1.2
United States of America	3.9	4.1	4.4	3.8	3.6	3.2	17.1	17.8	18.0
EUROPE	13.1	13.7	13.3	6.9	8.5	10.3	36.5	35.3	36.3
European Union	10.7	11.2	10.5	2.5	3.3	3.4	30.2	28.9	29.7
Russian Federation	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.5	2.4	4.0	4.1	4.2
Ukraine	0.4	0.4	0.5	3.0	3.3	4.1	1.0	1.1	1.1
OCEANIA	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.1	1.1	1.2
Australia	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
WORLD	69.9	77.0	77.2	70.0	77.0	77.3	176.1	189.4	198.0
Developing countries	49.3	55.2	55.7	55.0	60.5	59.2	115.1	128.3	135.6
Developed countries	20.6	21.8	21.5	15.0	16.5	18.0	61.0	61.1	62.4
LIFDCs	30.1	34.8	34.7	4.2	4.6	4.4	69.6	76.7	79.8
LDCs	5.0	5.4	5.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	8.0	8.5	8.8

¹ Includes oils and fats of vegetable, marine and animal origin.

APPENDIX TABLE 12: TOTAL MEALS AND CAKES STATISTICS ¹ (million tonnes)

	Imports			Exports			Utilization		
	09/10-11/12	2012/13	2013/14	09/10-11/12	2012/13	2013/14	09/10-11/12	2012/13	2013/14
	average	estim.	f'cast	average	estim.	f'cast	average	estim.	f'cast
ASIA	29.5	32.6	34.6	14.4	16.1	15.9	124.0	137.0	142.7
China	3.5	2.6	2.8	1.4	2.0	2.1	66.9	75.6	78.4
of which Taiwan Prov.	0.4	0.5	0.5	-	-	-	2.3	2.4	2.4
India	0.2	0.2	0.2	5.1	5.3	4.9	12.0	12.0	12.7
Indonesia	3.2	3.7	4.1	3.1	3.8	4.0	4.6	5.4	5.9
Japan	2.8	2.3	2.5	-	-	-	6.9	6.3	6.5
Korea, Republic of	3.4	3.8	3.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.6	4.9	4.9
Malaysia	1.1	1.4	1.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	1.9	2.0	2.1
Pakistan	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	3.2	3.5	3.4
Philippines	1.8	2.1	2.1	0.5	0.8	0.5	2.3	2.4	2.5
Saudi Arabia	0.5	0.8	0.8	-	-	-	0.6	0.8	0.9
Thailand	3.0	3.6	3.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	5.1	5.7	5.7
Turkey	1.3	1.8	2.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	3.6	4.2	4.6
Viet Nam	3.3	3.8	4.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.7	4.8	5.1
AFRICA	4.3	4.8	5.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	10.7	11.4	11.9
Egypt	0.9	1.0	1.1	-	-	-	2.3	2.6	2.6
South Africa	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.9	2.2	2.2
CENTRAL AMERICA	3.4	3.3	3.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	8.1	8.3	8.5
Mexico	1.8	1.6	1.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	6.0	6.2	6.3
SOUTH AMERICA	4.8	4.9	5.1	44.6	43.0	45.6	22.9	23.4	24.4
Argentina	-	-	-	26.9	25.5	26.5	2.3	2.8	3.4
Bolivia	-	-	-	1.3	1.5	1.5	0.2	0.1	0.1
Brazil	0.2	-	-	13.8	13.3	13.7	14.3	14.0	14.1
Chile	1.0	1.2	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.4	1.4	1.6
Paraguay	-	-	-	0.9	1.6	2.4	0.5	0.3	0.3
Peru	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.3	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1
Venezuela	1.3	1.3	1.3	-	-	-	1.4	1.4	1.4
NORTH AMERICA	3.6	4.6	4.6	13.1	14.8	15.1	34.3	33.8	33.6
Canada	1.2	1.1	1.0	3.6	4.2	4.5	2.2	2.2	2.1
United States of America	2.4	3.6	3.5	9.5	10.6	10.6	32.1	31.6	31.5
EUROPE	31.5	29.0	30.4	6.0	6.7	8.0	61.8	60.4	62.7
European Union	29.1	26.4	27.8	1.3	1.3	1.2	54.7	52.5	54.5
Russian Federation	0.6	0.7	0.5	1.3	1.8	2.4	4.0	4.4	4.7
Ukraine	0.1	-	-	2.9	3.1	4.0	0.8	0.9	0.8
OCEANIA	2.3	2.6	2.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.9	3.3	3.2
Australia	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.3	1.4	1.4
WORLD	79.4	82.0	85.9	79.5	81.9	86.0	264.8	277.6	287.0
Developing countries	37.6	41.5	44.0	59.9	60.1	62.4	155.1	169.6	176.8
Developed countries	41.8	40.5	41.9	19.6	21.8	23.6	109.7	108.0	110.2
LIFDCs	8.6	8.4	9.0	8.3	9.3	8.8	91.1	100.4	104.5
LDCs	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	3.7	3.7	3.8

¹ Expressed in product weight; includes meals and cakes derived from oilcrops as well as fish meal and other meals from animal origin.

APPENDIX TABLE 24: SELECTED INTERNATIONAL PRICES FOR OILCROP PRODUCTS

Period	Soybeans ²	Soybean oil ³	Palm oil ⁴	Soybean cake ⁵	Rapeseed meal ⁶	Oilseeds	Vegetable oils	Oilcakes/ meals
Annual (Oct/Sept) (USD per tonne) ¹ (2002-2004=100)		
2004/05	275	545	419	212	130	104	103	101
2005/06	259	572	451	202	130	100	107	96
2006/07	335	772	684	264	184	129	150	128
2007/08	549	1325	1050	445	296	216	246	214
2008/09	422	826	627	385	196	157	146	179
2009/10	429	924	806	388	220	162	177	183
2010/11	549	1308	1147	418	279	214	259	200
2011/12	562	1235	1051	461	295	214	232	219
2012/13	563	1099	835	539	345	213	193	255
Monthly								
2012 - October	617	1183	844	555	359	234	202	261
2012 - November	595	1148	816	539	378	226	196	255
2012 - December	603	1153	772	553	396	229	191	261
2013 - January	591	1192	838	512	367	226	200	245
2013 - February	597	1164	862	513	381	228	202	246
2013 - March	588	1117	853	503	367	224	197	241
2013 - April	559	1099	841	521	300	214	194	247
2013 - May	498	1077	849	527	404	192	194	254
2013 - June	523	1036	858	551	321	198	193	261
2013 - July	514	997	838	568	304	191	187	267
2013 - August	514	995	824	564	277	190	182	263
2013 - September	554	1028	823	557	291	204	184	261
2013 - October	544	989	866	555	318	202	188	262
2013 - November	556	992	921	541	316	206	199	257
2013 - December	568	979	907	548	336	210	196	260
2014 - January	566	935	871	539	337	208	189	256
2014 - February	594	991	911	571	361	219	198	271
2014 - March	501	1 01	959	582	396	193	205	278
2014 - April	516	1 005	911	563	375	198	199	269

¹ Spot prices for nearest forward shipment

² Soybeans: US, No.2 yellow, c.i.f. Rotterdam.

³ Soybean oil: Dutch, fob ex-mill.

⁴ Palm oil: Crude, c.i.f. Northwest Europe.

⁵ Soybean cake: Pellets, 44/45 percent, Argentina, c.i.f. Rotterdam.

⁶ Rapeseed meal: 34 percent, Hamburg, f.o.b. ex-mill.

Notes:

- The sudden drop in the FAO price index for oilseeds in March 2014 is due to a structural break in the underlying price series for soybeans (US no.2 yellow, c.i.f. Rotterdam), the component with the highest weight. A look at alternative reference prices for soybeans reveals that, during March and April 2014, international soybean values have actually appreciated further rather than falling. For a detailed explanation of the anomalous trend in the soybean reference price, please refer to issue no. 58 of the Oilcrops Monthly Price and Policy Update (MPPU), which can be downloaded through the following link.
http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/est/COMM_MARKETS_MONITORING/Oilcrops/Documents/MPPU_April_14.pdf
- The indices are based on the international prices of five selected seeds, ten selected oils and five selected cakes and meals.

Sources: FAO and Oil World.