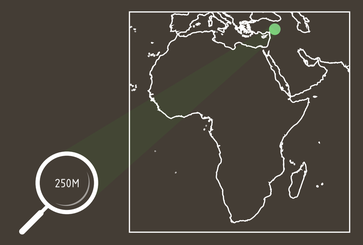
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FAO WaPOR CONTINENTAL LEVEL MAPS (250M)

# MONITORING CHANGES IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ALEPPO, SYRIA




## 2010

These maps show the difference in the biomass production (natural vegetation and crop yield) in a key cereal producing area of northern Syria in 2010 and in 2016. Remote sensing can help assess the agricultural production in areas where direct observation is made difficult by conflicts or natural disasters.

## 2016

Comparison between the 2010 and 2016 maps illustrates a decrease in agricultural production in some areas. This may be due to climatic factors such as drought, as well as social factors including internal displacement. By calculating the total production by country, or by any admnistrative area, estimates can be made on the food shortage that people are going to face at the end of the growing season.

Legend

- 0
- 1500 kg/ha
- 3000 kg/ha
- 4500 kg/ha
- 6000 kg/ha
- 7500 kg/ha
- 9000 kg/ha
- 12000 kg/ha
- > 18000 kg/ha

This photo represents the green areas of the map such as the dark green area in the centre of the map, which identifies an irrigation area that used to feed the city of Aleppo. These are areas where agricultural productivity or in general biomass production is high. Utilizing biomass production data in conjunction with other WaPOR data, farmers and government agencies can make informed decisions regarding agriculture during the course of the growing season.

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In the 2016 map, many areas previously highly productive are now shown to be lighter in colour. Preparing farmers for drought and disasters, and targeting intervention to increase both the productivity and the sustainability of agriculture are paramount to achieving food security.

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Through its data, tools and methodologies, FAO is strengthening capacity development of Syrian experts to support the recovery of the food and agriculture sectors in the country. This picture was taken in 2018 during an FAO training on natural resources assessment for Syrian experts.

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CA5232EN/1/07.19
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