

COARSE GRAINS

World production of coarse grains in 2022 is forecast to fall slightly (0.6 percent) from last year's record level. This is entirely attributed to a predicted drop in maize production, while outputs of all other major coarse grains, including barley and sorghum, are forecast to increase. Making up the bulk of the expected decline in maize production are a smaller harvest foreseen in the United States of America, the largest maize producer in the world, and a considerable decrease expected in Ukraine's output due to war-related disruptions.

Global total utilization of coarse grains in 2022/23 is set to decline marginally from the 2021/22 level, by just 0.1 percent, representing the first decrease in 10 years. At 1 498 million tonnes, utilization would fall 2.0 percent below the 10-year trend. A forecast contraction in the feed use of coarse grains, largely due to an anticipated reduction in Northern America, is expected to outweigh a predicted growth in food consumption, while the total industrial use component is projected to remain nearly unchanged from last season.

With production forecast to fall below utilization in 2022/23, global inventories of coarse grains are projected to decline by 1.1 percent below their opening levels. Among the major coarse grains, maize stocks are predicted to contract the most, with most of the foreseen drawdown concentrated in China (mainland) and the United States. World barley stocks are also forecast to decline below their opening levels. Consequently, the world stocks-to-use ratio of coarse grains would drop from its 2021/22 level, reaching the lowest level since 2012/13.

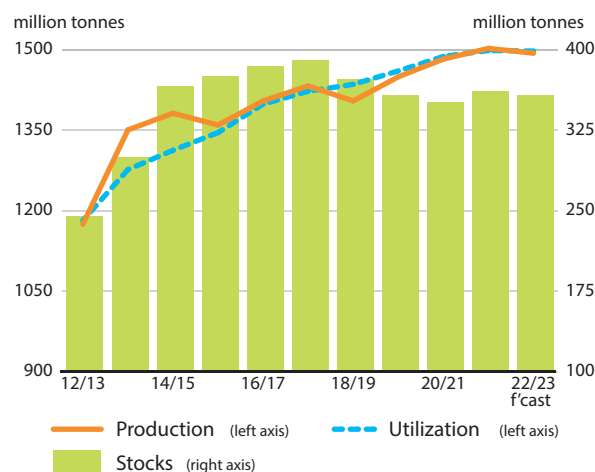
Global trade in coarse grains in 2022/23 (July/June) is forecast to decrease for a second consecutive season, down 3.7 percent from 2021/22 to 220 million tonnes. A steep fall in maize and barley exports from Ukraine, reflecting the impacts of the war, and lower exportable maize supplies in Argentina and the United States are predicted to underpin the lower trade prospects. On the import side, compared with 2021/22, weaker imports are forecast for maize, especially by Canada, China (mainland), Brazil and the European Union (EU), and for barley, almost solely for Asia.

In May, coarse grain prices remained higher for a third consecutive month than the previous record levels reached in 2012. Prospects for tighter markets in 2022/23, due to a predicted fall in global production, concentrated among major maize exporters, combined with uncertainty regarding Ukraine's export prospects, point to likely continued elevated prices.

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COARSE GRAIN PRODUCTION, UTILIZATION AND STOCKS



WORLD COARSE GRAIN MARKET AT A GLANCE

	2020/21	2021/22 <i>estim.</i>	2022/23 <i>f'cast</i>	Change: 2022/23 over 2021/22
	<i>million tonnes</i>			<i>%</i>
WORLD BALANCE				
Production	1 483.2	1 503.1	1 494.3	-0.6
Trade¹	238.6	230.1	220.0	-4.4
Total utilization	1 487.8	1 498.9	1 497.7	-0.1
Food	223.0	224.2	227.0	1.3
Feed	871.1	874.3	870.1	-0.5
Other uses	393.6	400.4	400.5	0.0
Ending stocks²	350.4	361.2	357.3	-1.1
SUPPLY AND DEMAND INDICATORS				
Per caput food consumption:				
World (kg/yr)	28.6	28.5	28.5	0.3
LIFDC (kg/yr)	63.3	62.4	62.7	0.5
World stocks-to-use ratio (%)	23.4	24.1	23.0	
Major exporters stocks-to-disappearance ratio ³ (%)	11.6	13.5	14.0	
FAO COARSE GRAIN PRICE INDEX (2014-2016=100)				
	2020	2021	2022 <i>Jan-May</i>	Change: Jan-May 2022 over Jan-May 2021 %
	102	145	177	22.4

¹ Trade refers to exports based on a common July/June marketing season.

² May not equal the difference between supply (defined as production plus opening stocks) and utilization due to differences in individual countries' marketing

³ Major exporters include Argentina, Australia, Canada, the European Union, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America.

⁴ Derived from International Grains Council (IGC) wheat index.