



GIEWS Country Brief Mongolia

Reference Date: 22-September-2023

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above-average wheat production officially forecast in 2023
- Cereal import requirements in 2023/24 estimated below average
- Prices of wheat flour at record levels in July 2023

Above-average wheat production officially forecast in 2023

Harvesting of the 2023 wheat crop, mostly irrigated, is expected to finalize by end-September and production is officially forecast at an above-average level of 472 000 tonnes. The bumper output is attributed to the large area sown, driven by record high domestic prices at planting time and robust local demand. In the Central Region, where about 80 percent of wheat is grown, yields are forecast at average to above-average levels due to favourable weather conditions and ample supply of irrigation water. In the minor cereal producing provinces of Uvs, Khovd and Bayan-Ölgii in Western Region, poor rainfall between June and August affected crops at flowering and grain-filling stages, and yields are expected at a below-average level.

The 2023 output of other crops, including potatoes, oats and buckwheat, is forecast at average to above-average levels, reflecting high levels of plantings supported by strong local demand and above-average yields due to favourable weather conditions.

Cereal import requirements in 2023/24 estimated below average

Cereal import requirements in the 2023/24 marketing year (October/September), mostly wheat, are forecast at a below-average level of 156 000 tonnes, reflecting the expected bumper domestic production. For the 2023 calendar year, import requirements of rice, which is not produced domestically, are estimated at a near-average level of 50 000 tonnes.

Prices of wheat flour at record levels in July 2023

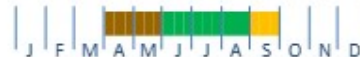
Prices of wheat flour, a key staple food, have steadily increased since July 2022 and they were at record levels in August 2023, ranging between 45 and 65 percent higher than their year-earlier levels. The high level of prices mostly reflects the elevated production and transport costs as well as the significant

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Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)

Wheat* and barley



Lean period

Sowing

Growing

Harvesting

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Cereal Production

	2018-2022	2022	2023	change
	average		forecast	2023/2022
000 tonnes				
Wheat	443	394	472	19.9
Oats	12	11	13	18.2
Barley	4	4	4	0.0
Others	1	1	1	0.0
Total	460	410	490	19.6

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

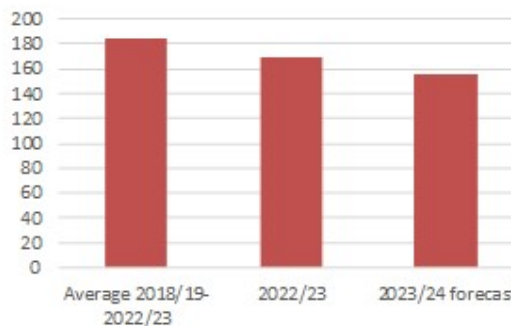
depreciation of the national currency, which made imports more expensive. During 2022, the tugrik depreciated steadily against the US dollar, losing 20 percent of its value, and it has remained relatively stable at low levels in 2023.

Prices of beef and mutton meat, other important staple foods, declined seasonally in July and August 2023 as a result of improved market availability linked to increased livestock sales ahead of the winter. However, prices remained well above their values a year earlier as seasonal increases between January and June 2023 were compounded by the elevated costs of feed. Strong demand from China (mainland), the country's main meat importer, also supported prices.

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Cereals Imports

000 tonnes

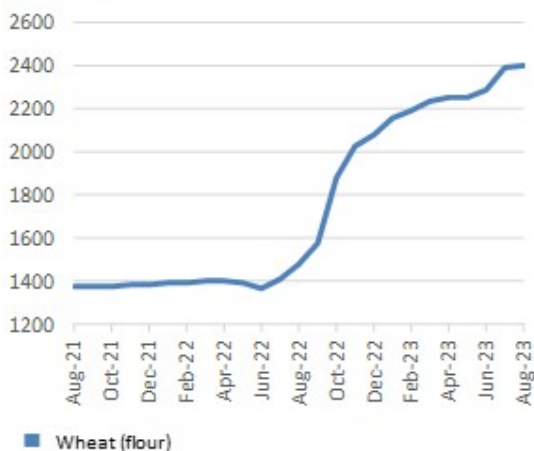


Notes: Includes rice in milled terms. Split years refer to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

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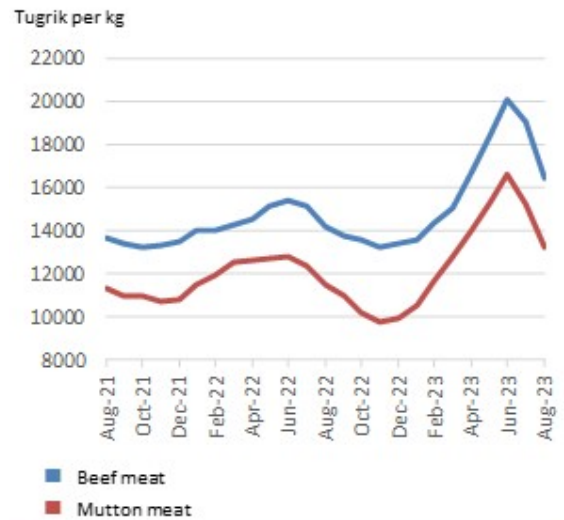
Wheat flour prices in Ulaanbaatar

Tugrik per kg



Mongolia

Selected retail meat prices in Ulaanbaatar



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This brief was prepared using the following data/tools:

FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet (CCBS) <https://www.fao.org/giews/data-tools/en/>.

FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Tool <https://fpma.fao.org/>.

FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation for Crop Monitoring <https://www.fao.org/giews/earthobservation/>.

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) <https://www.ipcinfo.org/>.