



GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 14-March-2025

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- **Aggregate 2024 paddy production estimated at near-average level**
- **Reintroduction of import tariffs encourages plantings of 2025 minor paddy crop season**
- **Cereal import requirements forecast about 10 percent above average in 2024/25 marketing year**
- **Retail prices of rice and black beans lower year-on-year in January 2025**

Aggregate 2024 paddy production estimated at average level

Harvesting of the minor paddy crop of 2024 finalized at the end of January 2025. Rising year-on-year rice prices at planting times encouraged farmers' sowing intentions and planted area exceeded the previous five-year average. Torrential rains in November 2024 saturated soils and generated floodings in central and northern key producing provinces. According to official sources, crop losses were limited and the production of the minor paddy crop is estimated to remain above average, as harvesting operations were already at an advanced stage when precipitations hit the country.

Aggregate 2024 paddy production is estimated at an average level as the increase in plantings was offset by low yields due to unfavourable weather conditions. Dryness in the first quarter of 2024 hampered regular main season crop development, curbing crop yields, while heavy rainfall at the beginning of May generated severe crop losses.

Maize production in 2024 is estimated at an above-average level of 88 000 tonnes, due to an increase in planted area, reflecting growing demand of yellow maize for feed use by the expanding domestic poultry sector. Large plantings more than offset crop losses generated by floodings in November 2024.

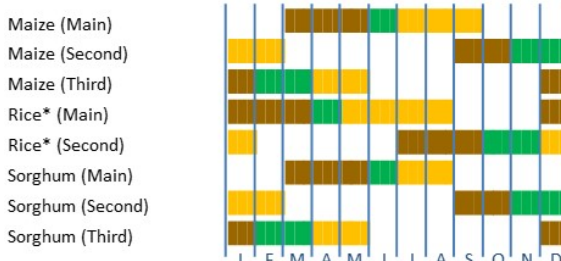
Reintroduction of import tariffs encourages plantings of 2025 minor paddy crop season

Planting operations of the 2025 main season paddy crop, accounting for more than half of the total annual production, started in December and are about to be concluded in March. Plantings are reported to be about 30 percent above the average as retail prices at planting time were about 25 percent higher than one year before. Although dry weather conditions in January 2025 negatively affected soil moisture levels in the main cropping regions, weather forecasts point to above-average

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2019-2023 average	2023	2024 estimate	change 2024/2023
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	946	926	945	2.1
Maize	60	83	88	6.3
Sorghum	0	0	0	0.0
Total	1 006	1 009	1 033	2.4

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

rainfall until next April, likely providing conducive conditions for crop's early development stages. As a result, production of the 2025 main paddy season is forecast at an above-average level.

Cereal import requirements forecast about 10 percent above-average in 2024/25 marketing year

Cereal import requirements for the 2024/25 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at 2.3 million tonnes, about 10 percent above the previous five-year average. The high level of import requirements is due to strong domestic demand for wheat for food and maize for feed. By contrast, rice imports are forecast well below the average in 2025, as a result of the [introduction of import quotas with new tariff rates in accordance with Decree 693-24, issued in December 2024](#). Ahead of the full opening of the market to United States of America's exports in January 2025, in compliance with the *Dominican Republic - Central America Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA)*, the government introduced tariffs and quotas to protect the domestic rice sector.

Retail prices of rice and black beans lower year-on-year in January 2025

Retail prices of yellow maize declined last February, due to improved market availabilities from the ongoing minor season harvest and were lower year-on-year in line with the ample supply from large import volumes in 2024. After remaining stable from February to August 2024, prices of black beans declined for the last five months consecutive, reflecting the ample supply from 2024 harvest, combined with the 20 percent year-on-year increase in import volumes, primarily from the United States of America, the main exporting partner. After increasing in December 2024 and January 2025, retail prices of rice started declining in February, reflecting improved supplies from the main season harvest. In January, rice prices were about 12 percent above their previous year's level, reflecting the limited supply from the low 2023 outturn.

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This brief was prepared using the following data/tools:

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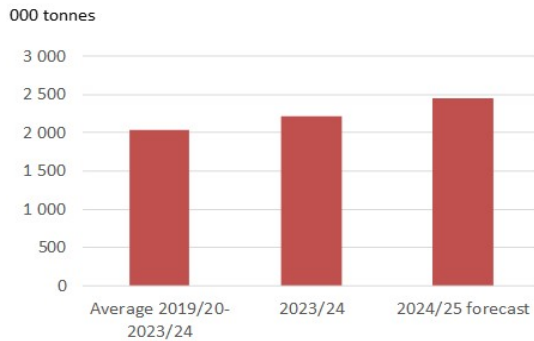
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Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) <https://www.ipcinfo.org/>.

Dominican Republic

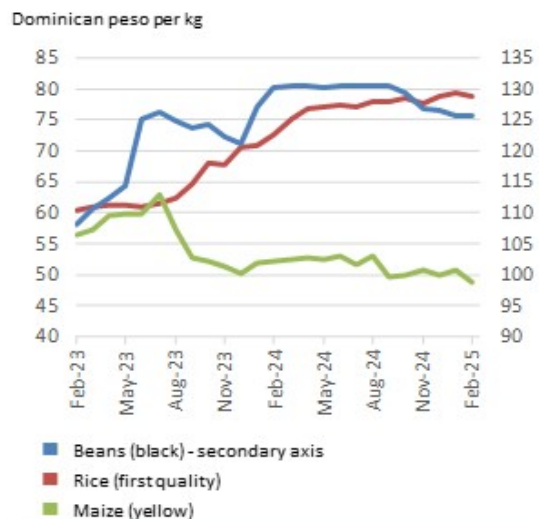
Cereals Imports



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

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo





GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 02-August-2024

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Output of the main paddy crop estimated above average in 2024
- Above-average expectations for minor paddy crop currently planted
- Rising import requirements for cereals in 2024/25
- Prices of rice higher year-on-year as of June 2024
- About 1 million people estimated to face acute food insecurity between May 2024 and August 2024

Output of the main paddy crop estimated above average in 2024

Harvesting of the 2024 ongoing main season paddy crop, which accounts for more than half of the annual production, started in April and is expected to end in September. Production of the season is estimated at above-average levels, due to an expansion of the area sown, instigated by the year-on-year high price levels. The increase in plantings has been supported by availability of subsidized loans by the Banco de Reserva. In addition, favorable rainfall in key producing northern regions in the April-July 2024 period have provided conducive conditions for crops to be harvested in August and September.

Maize is produced all around the year and output for 2024 is expected to be above-average, mainly reflecting an increase in plantings driven by growing demand of yellow maize from the domestic feed industry.

Above-average expectations for minor paddy crop currently planted

Planting of the minor paddy crop of 2024 started in June and is expected to end in September. Due to rising year-on-year prices, the sown area is expected to exceed previous five-year average. Favourable weather conditions from the beginning of the planting period in June and the continued availability of subsidies to fertilizers and seeds are expected to have a positive impact on production. From August to November 2024, above-average rainfall amounts are forecast. Although abundant rainfall amounts are generally favourable for crop development, there is risk that they could foster pest infestations.

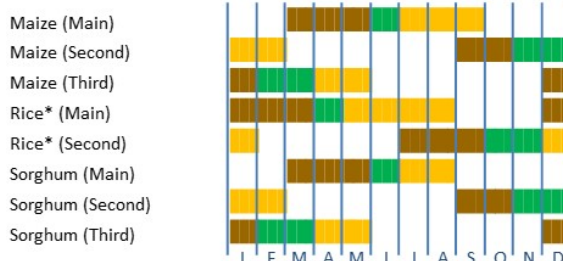
Rising import requirements for cereals in 2024/25

Cereal imports requirements for the 2024/25 marketing year

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2019-2023 average	2023	2024 estimate	change 2024/2023
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	942	922	995	7.9
Maize	60	83	85	2.8
Total	1 002	1 005	1 080	7.5

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

July/June) are forecast at a slightly above average level. The rising requirement is driven by growing demand for maize from the feeding sector and for wheat for food consumption, in line with the growing population of the country.

Prices of rice higher year-on-year as of June 2024

Retail rice prices started to rise in the second half of 2023 due to the combined effect of low domestic production and rising international prices. Prices have continued to increase during the first half of 2024. As of June 2024, prices of all qualities of rice were about 25 per cent above the previous year level, despite the improved supply from the main season harvest and higher-than-average import volumes. Prices of yellow maize have been stable in the first half of 2024 and, as of June 2024, they were 10 percent lower year-on-year due to decreasing international prices and high import levels in 2023/24. For the first six months of 2024, prices of black beans showed a stable trend and, as of June 2024, they were slightly higher year-on-year.

About 1 million people estimated to face acute food insecurity between May 2024 and August 2024

According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, the number of people facing acute food insecurity is estimated at 1 million between May 2024 and August 2024, corresponding to about 9 per cent of the analysed population, down from 1.1 million between December 2023 and April 2024 and from 1.2 million in the previous year (between March 2023 and June 2023). The slight improvement reflects the increase in the 2024 cereal production as well as the increase in employment rates and households' purchasing power.

Food inflation rates levels have been declining in the past ten months, from 8.7 percent in September 2023 to 4.2 percent in June 2024, thus reinforcing purchasing power of the vulnerable households and easing their access to food.

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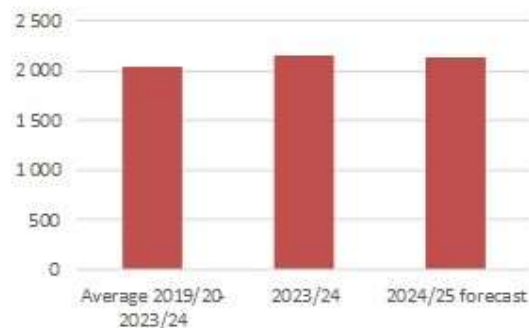
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Dominican Republic

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes

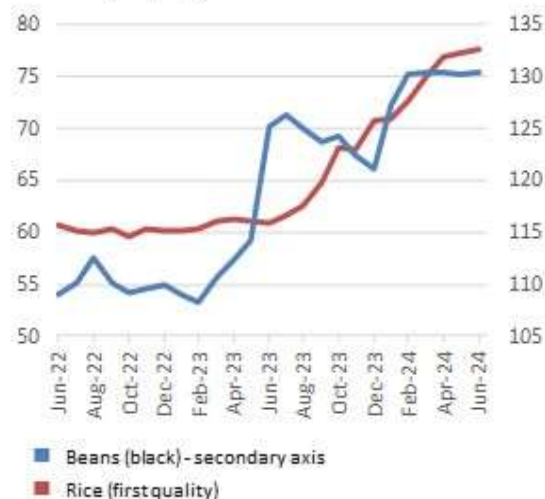


Notes: Includes rice in milled terms. Split years refer to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican peso per kg





GIEWS Country Brief

The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 05-February-2024

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Paddy output in 2023 estimated to be near average
- Planting of 2024 main paddy crop ongoing under overall favourable conditions
- Slightly above-average cereal import requirements forecast in 2023/24 marketing year
- Prices of staple rice and black beans higher year-on-year in January 2024
- About 1.1 million people estimated to face acute food insecurity between December 2023 and April 2024

Paddy output in 2023 estimated to be near average

Harvesting of the 2023 second season paddy crop was completed in December 2023 and the 2023 paddy production is estimated at an average level of 1.1 million tonnes, slightly lower than the bumper production attained in 2022. Excellent yields of the first season crop, harvested in the first half of the year, offset a slight contraction of area sown with the second season crop. The above-average yields in the first half of 2023 were mainly due to increased access to fertilizers and diesel, as both inputs have been subsidized by the government with a total budget of DOP [5 150 million](#) (equivalent to about USD 88 million) in 2023. Torrential rains in mid-November 2023 displaced 37 000 people and affected about 7 400 houses, especially in the provinces of Duarte, Santo Domingo and Barahona. [Official estimates](#) about damages in the agricultural sector amount to USD 460 million, including 4 000 hectares of cropping area flooded and 1 500 km of greenhouses affected.

Maize output in 2023 is estimated at an above-average level of 80 000 tonnes due to an increase in area sown, on account of strong demand by the domestic feed sector, amid rising poultry production. The decision of the main national beer factory to purchase domestically produced maize also supported acreage expansion.

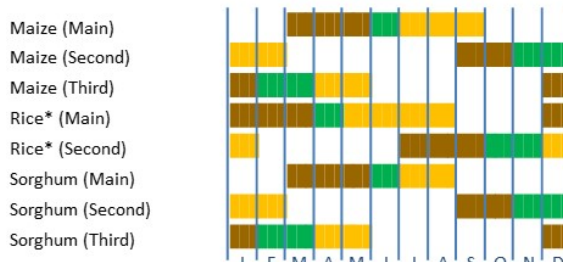
Planting of 2024 main paddy crop ongoing under overall favourable conditions

Planting operations of the 2024 main season paddy crop is ongoing under overall favourable conditions. In southwestern areas, where soil moisture is saturated, operations are progressing at a slow pace. Planted area is expected to increase, supported by high levels of domestic rice prices. The weather

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2018-2022 average	2022	2023 estimate	change 2023/2022
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 072	1 149	1 100	-4.3
Maize	53	64	80	25.6
Sorghum	0	0	0	-3.4
Total	1 126	1 213	1 180	-2.7

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

forecast points to average rainfall amounts between February and April 2024, with positive effects for crop emergence and vegetative development.

Slightly above-average cereal import requirements forecast in 2023/24 marketing year

Cereal import requirements in the 2023/24 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at a slightly above-average level of 2.1 million tonnes. The anticipated requirements reflect strong demand of yellow maize to be processed by the domestic feed industry and of wheat for human consumption.

Prices of staple rice and black beans higher year-on-year in January 2024

Retail prices of rice have been generally on the rise since July 2023 and, as of January 2024, they were more than 18 percent higher year-on-year. The sustained increase reflects below-average sowings and the decline of the 2023 minor season output compared to a year ago. After weakening during the second half of 2023, prices of black beans and yellow maize rose in January 2024. Despite a larger year-on-year production of black beans in 2023, prices remained up from a year earlier, partially due to strong demand, reduced imports in 2023 and higher year-on-year international prices. In addition, the national currency that had been stable during the second half of 2023 weakened in the first month of 2024, contributing generally to the price increases.

About 1.1 million people estimated to face acute food insecurity between December 2023 and April 2024

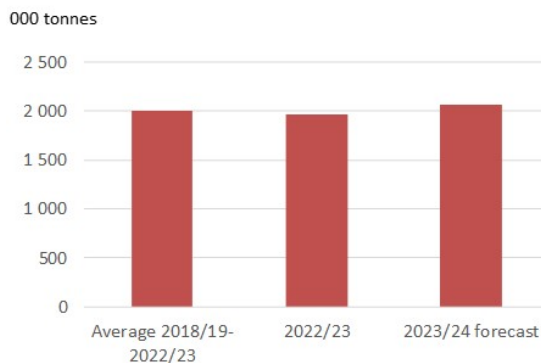
According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, the number of people facing acute food insecurity is estimated at [1.1 million](#) between December 2023 and April 2024, corresponding to 10 percent of the analysed population of 10.7 million, down from [1.55 million](#) between October 2022 and February 2023. The year-on-year decline reflects an expected increase in the minimum wage and lower unemployment, and favourable weather conditions during the first months of 2024.

The food insecurity situation that affects more than 1 million people is mainly driven by the high food prices, with the annual inflation rate of food recording 6.1 percent in December 2023, albeit down from 11.2 percent a year earlier. This is expected to diminish the purchasing power of the most vulnerable households and constrain their access to food. The closure of the border with Haiti since last September, although partially reopened, raises concerns over livelihoods of those who rely on commercial activities with the neighbouring country, as trade operations and the number of migrants are expected to reduce.

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Dominican Republic

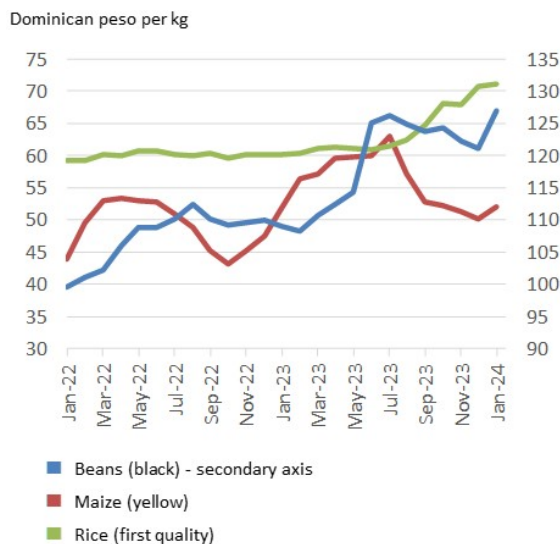
Cereals Imports



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

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo



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GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 18-January-2023

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Paddy output in 2022 estimated at above-average level
- Cereal import requirements in 2022/23 marketing year forecast at slightly above-average levels
- Prices of maize and beans higher year-on-year in December 2022
- About 1.55 million people estimated to face acute food insecurity between October 2022 and February 2023

Paddy output in 2022 estimated at above-average level

Harvesting of the 2022 second season paddy crop was completed in December and the 2022 paddy production is estimated at a slightly above-average level of 1.1 million tonnes. Excellent yields of the first season crop more than offset a contraction of area sown with the second season crop, caused by below-average rainfall amounts at planting time. Above-average yields are mainly due to widespread use of fertilizers and increased agricultural investments by farmers. Prices of fertilizers have been fixed since September 2021 through the government's subsidy programme that amounted to DOP [5 150 million](#) (equivalent to about USD 92 million) in 2022. Similarly, the government has [fixed prices of gasoline and diesel](#) since March 2022. According to the Bank of Agriculture, loans granted to the rice production industry increased [by 40 percent](#) year-on-year in the first nine months of 2022.

To boost rice production in 2023, the government [will continue subsidizing](#) fertilizers and certified paddy seeds, with a total budget of DOP 1 600 million (equivalent to USD 28 million).

The 2022 maize output is estimated at an above-average level of 60 000 tonnes due to an increased use of improved seed varieties and provision of technical assistance by governmental institutions. The decision of the main national beer factory to purchase domestically produced maize has also instigated an increase in plantings.

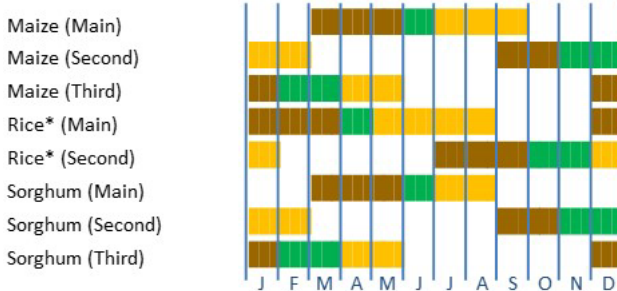
Cereal import requirements in 2022/23 marketing year forecast at slightly above-average levels

Cereal import requirements in the 2022/23 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at 2.1 million tonnes, slightly above the

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2017-2021 average	2021	2022 estimate	change 2022/2021
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 041	1 106	1 090	-1.4
Maize	50	57	60	6.2
Total	1 091	1 162	1 150	-1.1

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

five-year average. The anticipated requirements are due to the strong demand of wheat for human consumption, reflecting the increasing population and of yellow maize to be processed by the domestic feed industry.

Prices of maize and beans higher year-on-year in December 2022

Despite some declines between July and November 2022, retail prices of yellow maize in December were 30 percent higher than one year before. The high level of prices reflects the upsurge in the first quarter of 2022, which followed sharp increases in international prices. The elevated costs of feed (maize) kept prices of chicken higher year-on-year in December 2022. Prices of black beans have been stable in the second half of 2022 and were 6 percent up from a year earlier in December owing to high costs of production and transportation. Rice prices were steady throughout 2022 as markets were adequately supplied by the bumper production obtained in 2021 and 2022. Prices of most food commodities were generally high in 2022, with the annual food inflation rate at 9.8 percent in November 2022.

About 1.55 million people estimated to face acute food insecurity between October 2022 and February 2023

According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, carried out for the first time in the country, the number of people facing acute food insecurity is estimated at [1.55 million](#) between October 2022 and February 2023. This corresponds to 15 percent of the analyzed population of 10.6 million people. The food insecurity situation is mainly attributed to the high level of food prices, which has diminished the purchasing power of the most vulnerable households and constrained their access to food. Other key drivers of food insecurity include persistent effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on those who rely on informal economic activities and the impact of Category 1 Hurricane Fiona, which hit the eastern region in mid-September 2022. The hurricane damaged nearly 9 000 houses and resulted in [43 540 displaced people](#), severely affecting their livelihoods. In order to help recovery in agricultural production, the Bank of Agriculture disbursed direct subsidies of DOP 1 000 (USD 18) per affected land (0.06 hectares) and provided interest-free loans to small and medium-sized producers, with a total budget of about DOP [5 500 million](#) (USD 100 million). Regarding cereal production, the impact was not significant as crops are not grown in the affected eastern areas.

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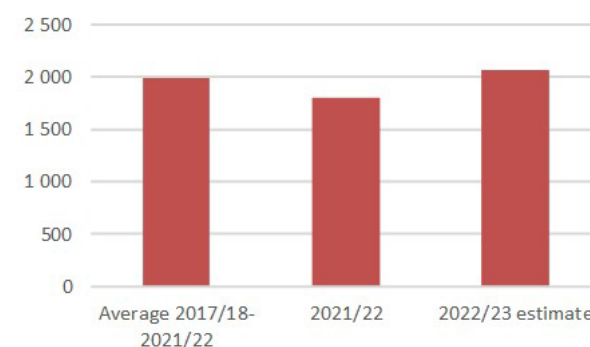
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Dominican Republic

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes

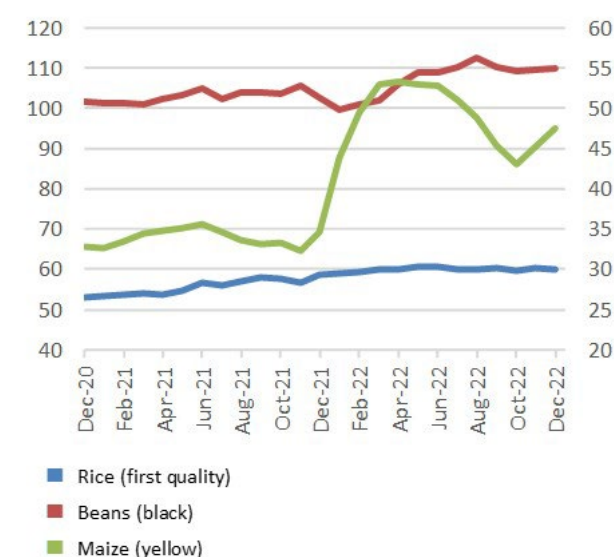


Notes: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican peso per kg





GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 18-January-2023

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

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- Cereal import requirements in 2022/23 marketing year forecast at slightly above-average levels
- Prices of maize and beans higher year-on-year in December 2022
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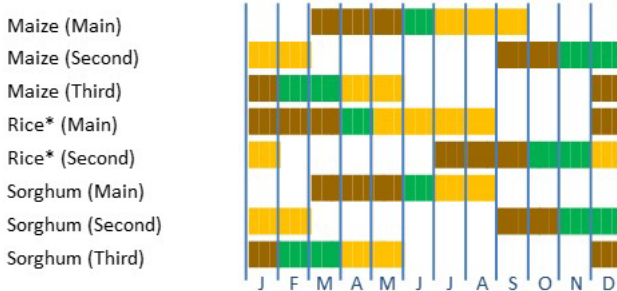
Cereal import requirements in 2022/23 marketing year forecast at slightly above-average levels

Cereal import requirements in the 2022/23 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at 2.1 million tonnes, slightly above the

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

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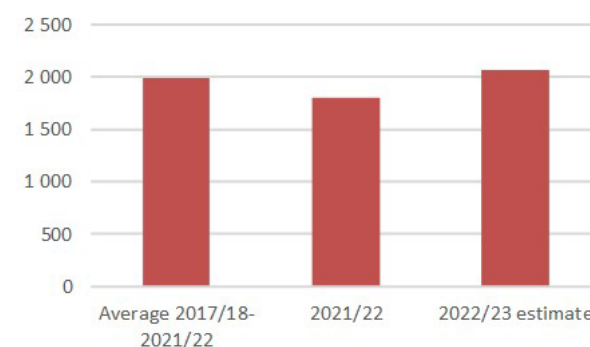
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Dominican Republic

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes

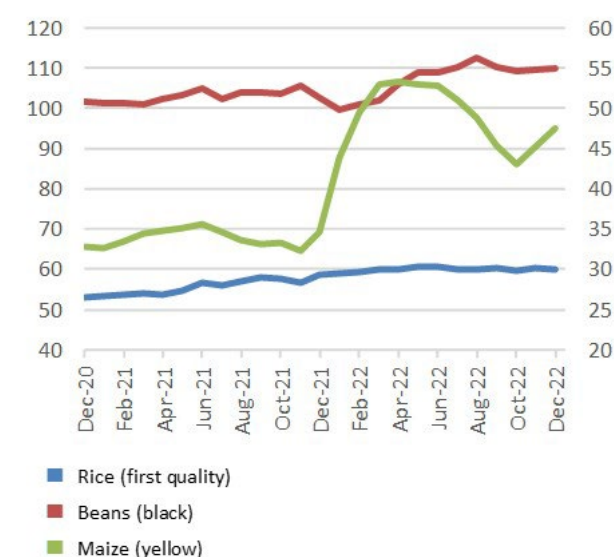


Notes: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican peso per kg





GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 30-September-2022

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Paddy output in 2022 forecast at near-average level
- Cereal import requirements in 2022/23 marketing year forecast at slightly above-average levels
- Prices of staple food higher than year earlier level in August 2022

Paddy output in 2022 forecast at near-average level

Harvesting of the 2022 second season paddy crop, which accounts for about half of the annual production, is ongoing. Planted area, predominantly irrigated, is officially estimated at a below-average level, due to soil moisture deficits at planting time, between May and July. Dryness also affected crop conditions in the key producing northwestern and central regions (red areas in NDVI Anomaly map). Crop conditions are near average in other key producing northeastern areas. Tropical storm Fiona, of Category 1, made landfall in the eastern region on 19 September 2022 and brought torrential rains and strong winds. While assessments of its impact on agricultural production are ongoing, it may not reduce paddy production at the national level, as the eastern region is a minor rice producer.

Production of the 2022 first season paddy crop, harvested in the second quarter of the year, is officially estimated at 600 000 tonnes, more than 15 percent higher than the five-year average due to excellent yields. Overall, the aggregate 2022 paddy output is preliminarily forecast at an average level.

Cereal import requirements in 2022/23 marketing year forecast at slightly above-average levels

Cereal import requirements in the 2022/23 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at 2.1 million tonnes, slightly above the five-year average. Despite the high international cereal prices, the anticipated requirements are due to the strong demand for wheat for human consumption, reflecting the increasing population, and for yellow maize by the domestic feed industry.

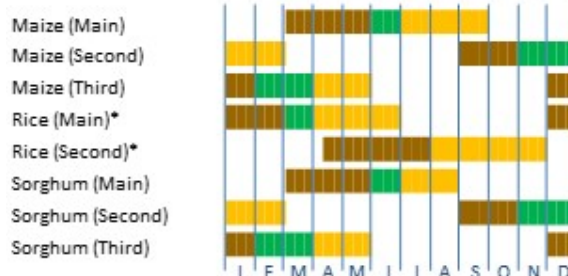
Prices of staple food higher than year earlier level in August 2022

Retail prices of rice have been generally stable during the first eight months of the year as markets are adequately supplied by

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)

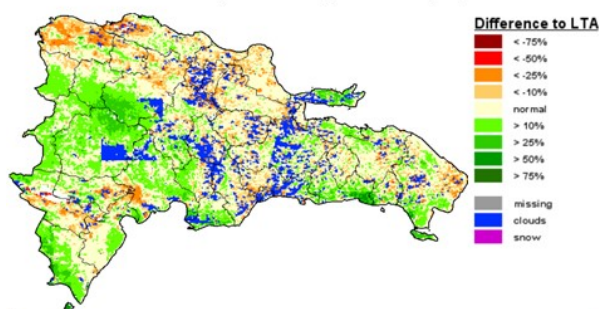


Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Dominican Republic - NDVI anomaly

Relative difference to Long Term Average - Dekad 2, September 2022



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

the above-average production in 2021 and the first half of 2022. As of August 2022, prices were about 5 percent above their levels a year earlier on account of elevated production and transportation costs. Prices of black beans were also slightly higher year on year in August. Regarding yellow maize, which the country heavily depends on imports to satisfy its consumption requirements, domestic prices declined in July and August, reflecting recent weakening of international prices. However, prices in August were still 45 percent above their year-earlier values, after increasing sharply during the first quarter of 2022 supported by the upsurge in international prices. Prices of food items were generally high, with the annual food inflation rate at 12.3 percent in July 2022.

In order to contain the price increases, the government [eliminated](#) the import tariffs on 67 staple food items in April 2022 for a period of six months. The items with zero tariff include, meat (beef, pork and chicken), maize and wheat flour, beans, vegetable oil, pasta and powdered milk. In addition, the government has [subsidized](#) prices of gasoline and diesel by approximately USD 1.5/gallon in 2022 as well as [imports](#) of maize, wheat and soybeans with a total budget of DOP 3 000 million (about USD 56 million). A series of measures are also adopted to boost rice production, including the increase of zero interest on [agricultural credits](#) by the Agricultural Bank for DOP 10 500 million (about USD 200 million) and the provision of direct subsidies to producers for the [purchase of certified seeds](#) (DOP 500, about USD 9.3/producer) and for [sales of 120-kg bag of rice](#) (DOP 100, about USD 1.9).

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

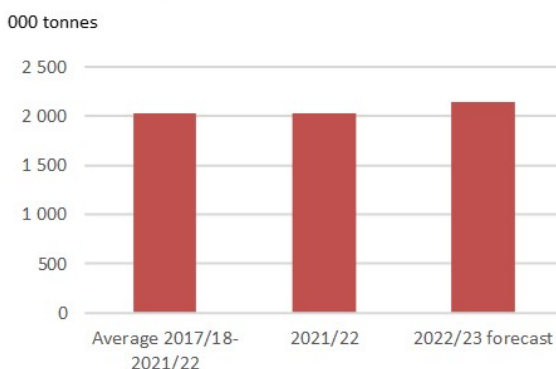
	2017-2021 average	2021	2022 forecast	change 2022/2021
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 041	1 106	1 040	-5.9
Maize	49	53	51	-3.8
Total	1 091	1 159	1 091	-5.9

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Dominican Republic

Cereals Imports

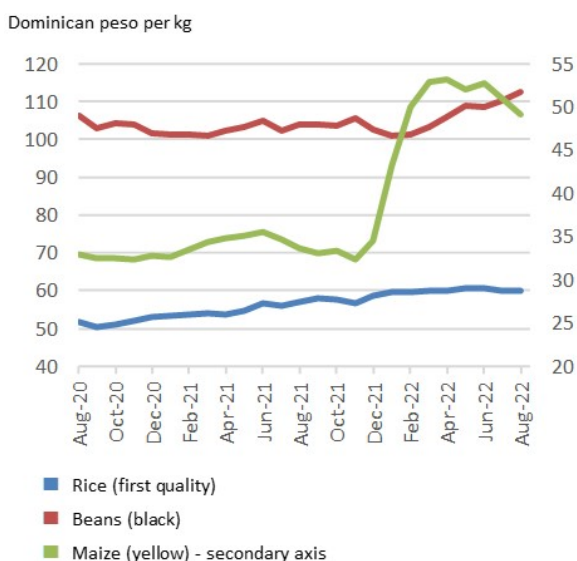


Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo



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Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.



GIEWS Country Brief

The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 08-October-2021

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Paddy output in 2021 expected above five-year average
- Cereal imports in 2021/22 marketing year forecast at high levels
- Prices of rice and red beans higher than year earlier

Paddy output in 2021 expected above five-year average

Harvesting of the 2021 second season paddy crop, which accounts for about half of the annual production, is ongoing. Planted area, predominantly irrigated, is officially estimated to be 20 percent above the previous five-year average, instigated by high rice prices at planting time. According to satellite-based imagery, crop conditions were overall favourable as of mid-September except in northeastern producing areas, where below-average rainfall amounts since May have negatively affected vegetation conditions (NDVI Anomaly map).

Production of the 2021 first season paddy crop, harvested in the second quarter of the year, is officially estimated at 550 000 tonnes, about 10 percent higher than the average due to large sowings. Overall, the aggregate 2021 paddy output is expected at an above-average level.

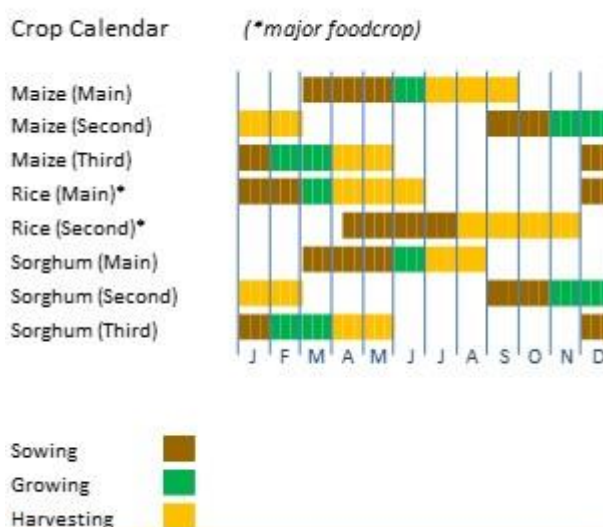
Cereal import requirements in 2021/22 marketing year forecast at high levels

Cereal import requirements in the 2021/22 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at an above-average level of 2.1 million tonnes due to high demand for yellow maize by the feed industry. The anticipated requirements are similar to the import volumes in the last two years, mainly reflecting large carryover stocks.

Prices of rice and red beans higher than year earlier

Retail prices of rice have generally increased since May 2021 and were 10 percent higher year on year in August 2021 on account of elevated production costs. By contrast, prices of yellow maize declined in July and August and were similar to their year-earlier levels, as larger year-on-year imports in the April to July 2021 period offset the high international prices of maize. While prices of black beans have been overall stable due to adequate imports, prices of red beans were about 15 percent

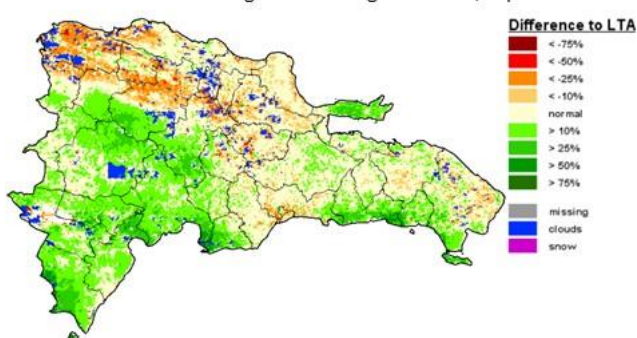
Dominican Republic



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Dominican Republic - NDVI anomaly

Relative difference to Long Term Average - Dekad 2, September 2021



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

higher year on year in August, after the sharp increases that occurred at the end of 2020.

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2016-2020 average	2020	2021 forecast	change 2021/2020
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 022	1 036	1 100	6.2
Maize	47	49	49	0.4
Total	1 070	1 085	1 149	5.9

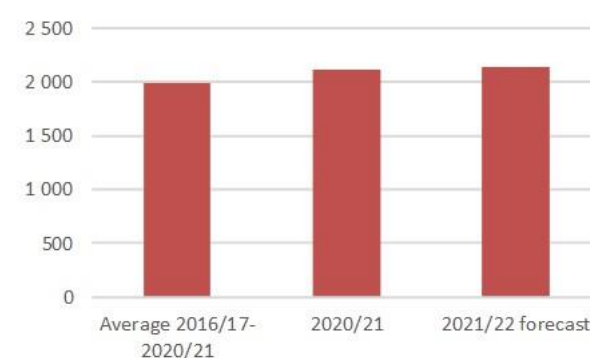
Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Dominican Republic

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes



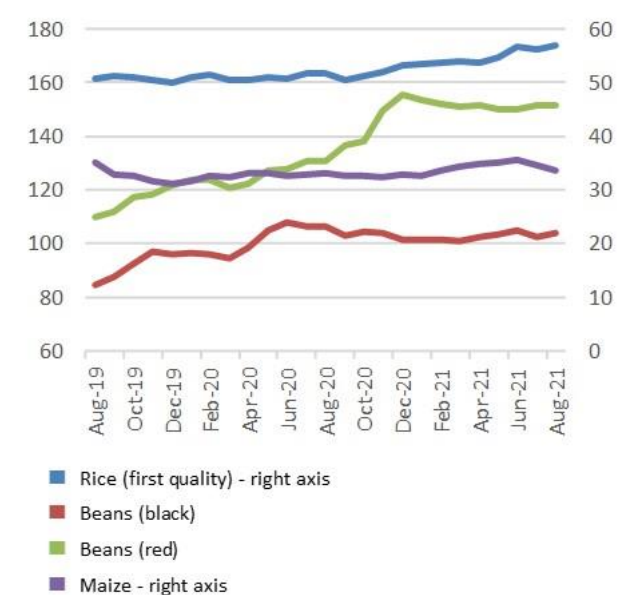
Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per kg



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Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.



GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 06-May-2021

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Harvesting of 2021 main season paddy crop ongoing
- Production of paddy crops in 2020 estimated close to average
- Cereal imports in 2020/21 marketing year anticipated at high levels
- Prices of staple food higher year on year

Harvesting of 2021 main season paddy crop ongoing

Harvesting of the 2021 main season paddy crop, which accounts for about half of the annual production, is ongoing. Production of the main season is forecast at an above-average level due to large plantings, instigated by the year-on-year high price levels. According to satellite-based imagery, vegetation conditions were favourable across most crop lands, as of mid-April 2021 (see NDVI Anomaly map). The weather forecast points to a high likelihood of average precipitation amounts in the key producing northern region in the May-July period, providing conducive conditions for planting of the second season paddy crop.

Production of paddy crops in 2020 estimated close to average

Paddy output has been increasing since 2015, reflecting large plantings and high yields. However, the 2020 production declined compared to the previous year as some areas were affected by soil moisture deficits during the June-August period. The 2020 paddy production is estimated at an average level of 1 million tonnes.

Cereal import requirements in 2020/21 marketing year anticipated at high levels

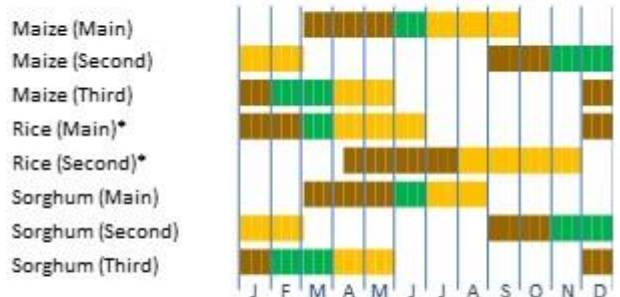
Cereal import requirements in the 2020/21 marketing year (July/June) are anticipated at an above-average level of 2.2 million tonnes. Cereal imports have been on a steady rise during the past ten years, mainly reflecting the increasing demand for yellow maize by the feed industry. The poultry sector, the major destination of imported maize, continues to grow in order to meet the sustained domestic demand.

Prices of staple food higher year on year

Retail prices of black and red beans declined in the first quarter of 2021 due to improved market availabilities by the ongoing

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar (*major foodcrop)

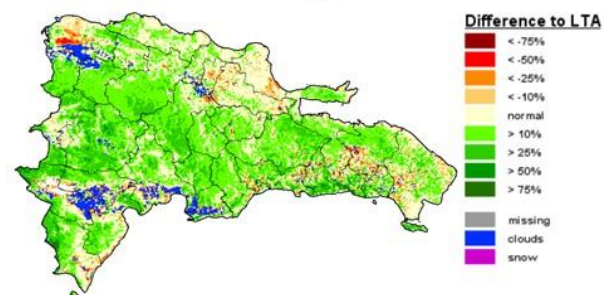


Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Dominican Republic - NDVI anomaly

from start of season 1 to dekad 2, April 2021



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

main harvests. However, prices of both types of beans were higher year on year due to reduced outputs in 2020 following dry weather conditions. By contrast, prices of rice strengthened seasonally in the first three months of 2021 and were about 7 percent above the level of a year earlier, mainly reflecting the year-on-year low production obtained in 2020. Prices of maize, mostly imported, were also higher than in March 2020, reflecting elevated international prices of the grain.

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2016-2020 average	2020	2021 forecast	change 2021/2020
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 022	1 036	1 130	9.1
Maize	43	48	50	4.2
Sorghum	1	0	0	0.0
Total	1 066	1 084	1 180	8.9

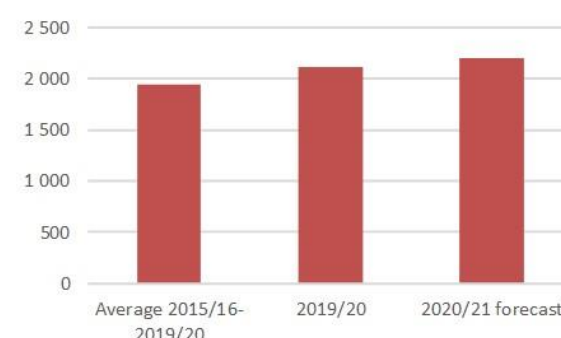
Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Dominican Republic

Cereals Imports

000 tonnes



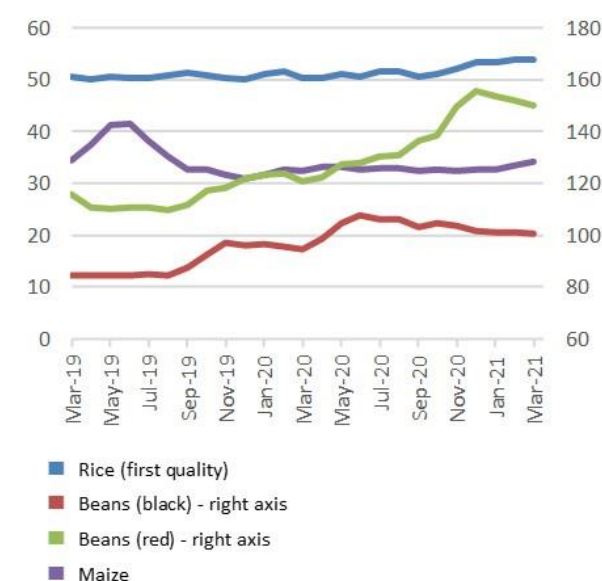
Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per kg



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Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.



GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 16-October-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Production of rice in 2020 forecast at average level
- Cereal imports in 2020/21 marketing year forecast at high levels
- Prices of red and black beans higher year on year

Production of rice in 2020 forecast at average level

The harvest of the paddy crop is ongoing throughout the year. Paddy output, which has been increasing since 2015 due to large plantings and high yields, is forecast at a near-average level in 2020. This mainly reflects an average level of planted area, which has been reduced for the first time in five years due to soil moisture deficits that lowered the planted area in the June-August period. Weather forecasts indicate slightly above-average rainfall amounts in the October-December period, which is expected to favour crop development and boost yields.

Cereal import requirements in 2020/21 marketing year forecast at high levels

Cereal import requirements in the 2020/21 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at well above-average levels of 2.2 million tonnes. Cereal imports have been on a steady rise during the past ten years, mainly reflecting the increasing demand for yellow maize by the feed industry. The poultry sector, which is the major destination of imported maize, continues to grow in order to meet the sustained demand by the increasing population.

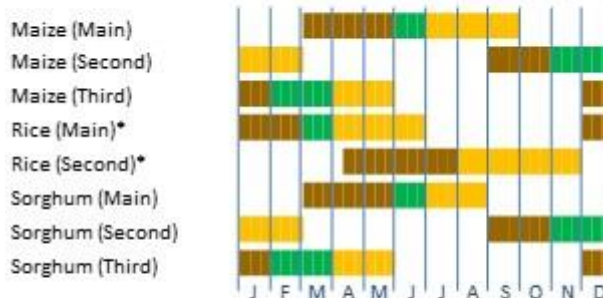
Prices of red and black beans higher year on year

Retail prices of black beans weakened for the third consecutive month in September, reflecting improved market availabilities supported by increased imports. By contrast, prices of red beans, on the rise since April, continued to increase in September. Prices of both types of beans were more than 15 percent higher year on year due to reduced outputs gathered in the April-August period following dry weather conditions. The upsurge in domestic demand with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic also exerted additional pressure on prices.

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

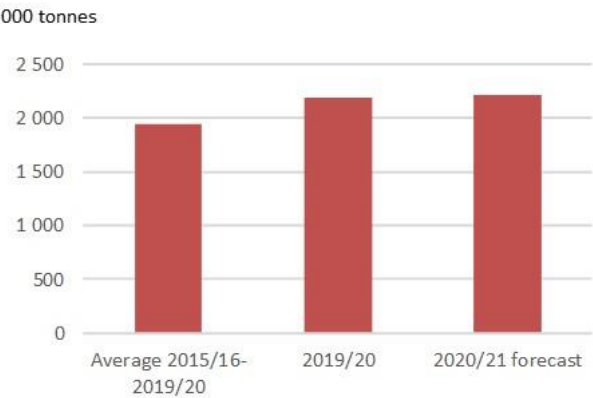
	2015-2019 average	2019	2020 forecast	change 2020/2019
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	996	1 081	1 025	-5.1
Maize	44	51	48	2.0
Sorghum	1	0	1	150.0
Total	1 042	1 132	1 078	-4.8

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

After moderate increases in the previous months, prices of rice declined in September, as production prospects for the remaining cropping season improved compared to the dryness-affected previous months.

Dominican Republic

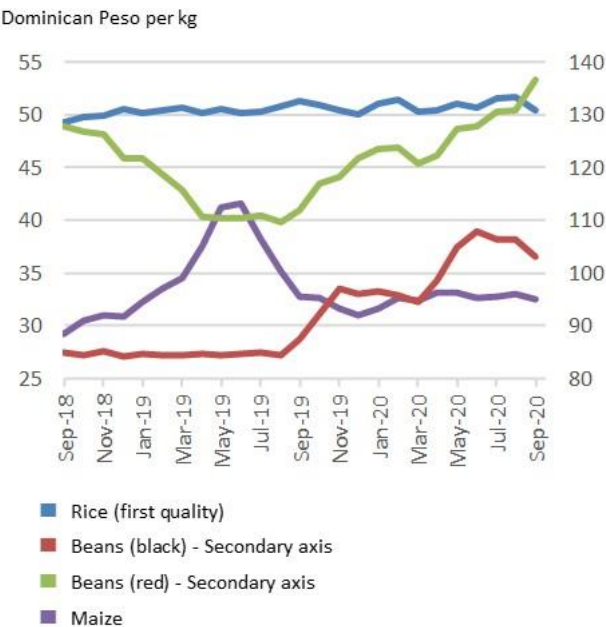
Cereals Imports



Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo



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Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.



GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 19-May-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Rice production in 2020 expected to remain at above-average level
- Paddy output in 2019 estimated above average due to larger sowings
- Cereal imports in 2019/20 marketing year forecast at high levels
- Prices of beans increased in April due to strong domestic demand

Rice production in 2020 expected to remain at above-average level

The harvest of the first 2020 rice crop, which accounts for half of the national production, is ongoing under favourable dry weather conditions. Production is expected to remain at an above-average level due to enlarged plantings, instigated by high prices. Planting of the second season crop is ongoing and, despite some concerns due to reduced rainfall amounts since April, irrigation water availability in the main reservoirs is officially estimated to be adequate.

Paddy output in 2019 estimated above average due to larger sowings

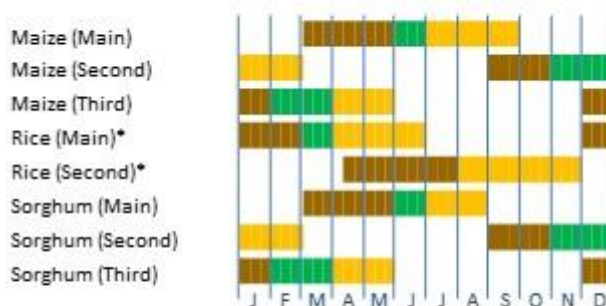
Paddy production continued the increasing trend in 2019 for the fifth consecutive year and the 2019 output is officially estimated at 1.07 million tonnes, 12 percent higher than the previous five-year average. The high production mainly reflects an above-average area sown, supported by the high level of prices since mid-2018. According to the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources, despite the reduced rainfall amounts during the last quarter of the year, the quantity of water in the major reservoirs in 2019 was adequate to guarantee the supply of irrigation water.

Cereal imports in 2019/20 marketing year forecast at high levels

Cereal imports in the 2019/20 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at 2.1 million tonnes, more than 15 percent higher than the last five-year average. Imports of yellow maize, which account for about 70 percent of all cereal imports, are forecast at 1.55 million tonnes due to high demand by the feed sector. The poultry sector, which is the major destination of imported maize, continues to grow in order to meet the sustained demand by the increasing population, the tourism sector and the public school meal programmes.

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar (*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2015-2019 average	2019	2020 forecast	change 2020/2019
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	996	1 077	1 081	0.4
Maize	44	51	52	2.0
Sorghum	1	0	1	150.0
Total	1 042	1 128	1 133	0.4

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Prices of beans increased in April due to higher domestic demand

Prices of black and red beans have been stable in the first quarter of 2020 as concerns over the impact on production of the reduced rainfall in late 2019 dissipated. Despite the above-average output harvested in the first quarter of 2020, prices increased in April, reflecting higher demand amid the COVID-19 pandemic, and were more than 10 percent higher year on year. By contrast, prices of rice were stable in April after some increases in the previous months and were similar to the year-earlier levels, due to adequate domestic supplies.

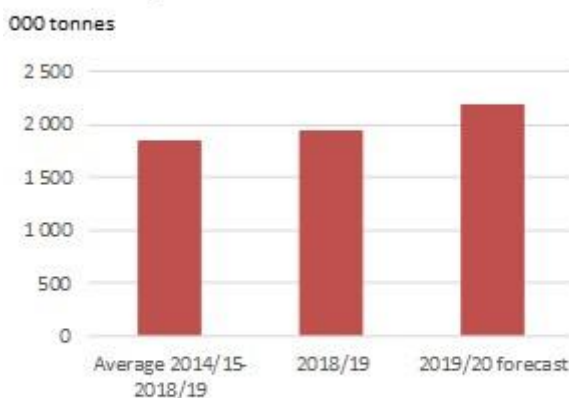
COVID-19 and measures adopted by the Government

Amid the COVID-19 outbreak, the Government issued a Decree to implement the restriction of movements until 17 May 2020. The Agricultural Bank [extended its payment deadlines](#) of the loans that were due between 18 March and 18 May 2020, in order to provide tax relief to agricultural producers. The Government is also increasing its social spending by [distributing food kits](#) to vulnerable children in the absence of school meals and [expanding the number of beneficiaries](#) of the cash transfer programme “Comer es Primero (Eating comes first)”.

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Dominican Republic

Cereals Imports

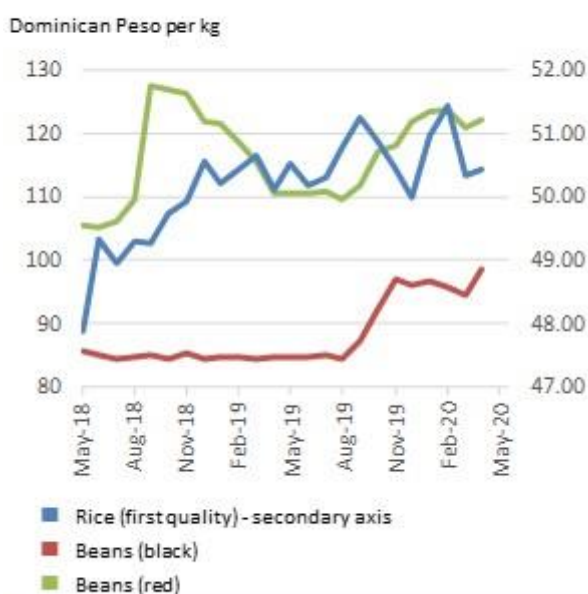


Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo



Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.



GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 25-November-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Rice production in 2019 expected at above-average level
- Cereal import requirements in 2019/20 marketing year anticipated at high level
- In September, prices of maize and beans lower than one year before

Rice production in 2019 expected at above-average level

Harvesting of the second 2019 rice crop is ongoing and production is expected at an above-average level mainly due to enlarged plantings, instigated by high prices, as well as high yields due to beneficial rains in September. Outputs gathered in the January-September 2019 period, mostly grown under irrigation, are officially estimated 642 000 tonnes, about 15 percent higher than the five-year average. As a result, aggregate rice production in 2019 is anticipated at 1.12 million tonnes, about 17 percent above the five-year average.

Maize is produced throughout the year and 2019 production is forecast at an above-average 51 000 tonnes, mainly reflecting an increase in plantings, following the sharp increase in prices in the first half of 2019.

Cereal imports in 2019/20 marketing year anticipated at high level

Cereal imports in the 2019/20 marketing year (July/June) are anticipated at 2 million tonnes, about 10 percent higher than the five-year average. Imports of yellow maize, which account for about 70 percent of all cereal imports, are forecast at 1.45 million tonnes due to high demand by the feed sector.

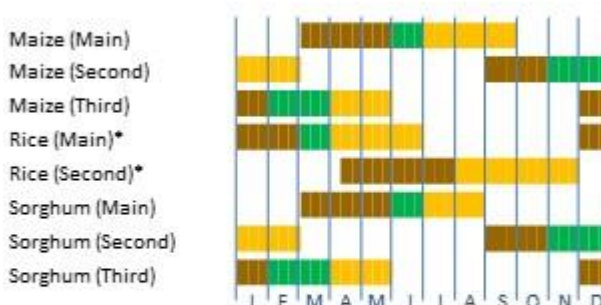
Prices of maize and beans lower year on year in September

Prices of maize decreased since June 2019, reflecting improved supplies from the main season harvest and, in September, they were slightly lower than a year earlier due to the increase in imports. Prices of red beans strengthened seasonally since August and were well below their year-earlier levels, due to carryover stocks from 2018 and good harvests this year.

Dominican Republic

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

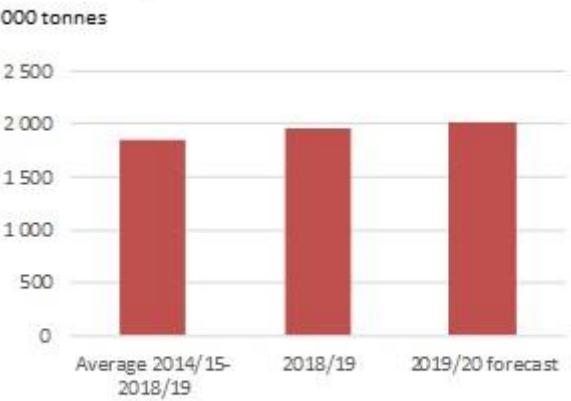
	2014-2018 average	2018	2019 estimate	change 2019/2018
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	960	1 060	1 120	5.6
Maize	41	49	51	4.8
Sorghum	1	1	0	-49.8
Total	1 003	1 110	1 171	5.5

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

In most retail markets, despite the above-average domestic production, prices of rice rose since June 2019, mainly due to high production costs, and were at all-time highs in September.

Dominican Republic

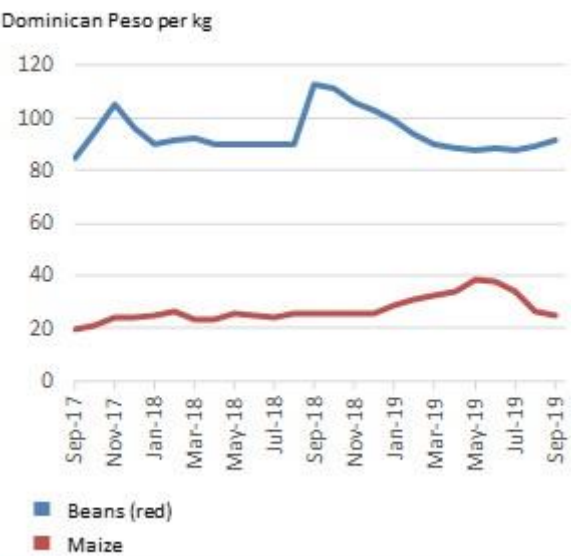
Cereals Imports



Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Dominican Republic

Wholesale prices in Santo Domingo

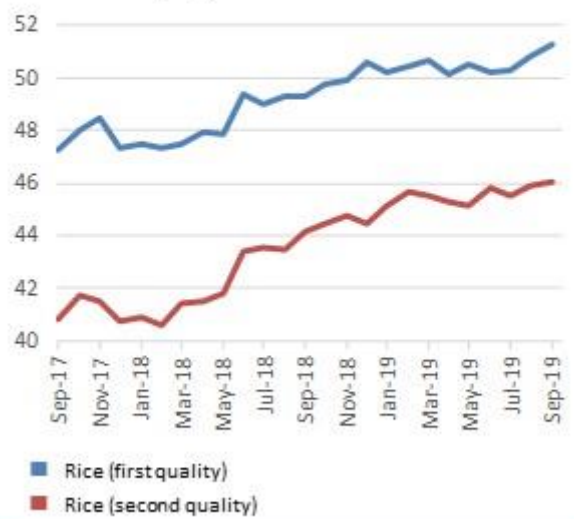


Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per kg



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Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.



GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 31-May-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production in 2019 forecast at near-average level
- Cereal imports in 2018/19 marketing year anticipated at very high level
- Prices of rice were higher year on year in April due to higher production costs

Cereal production in 2019 forecast at slightly above-average level

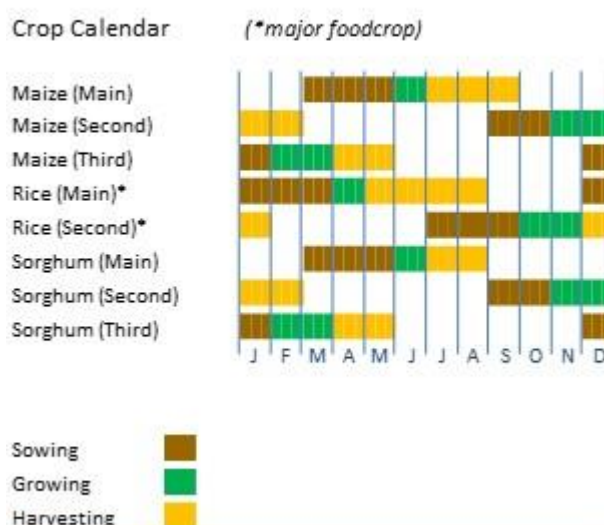
Harvesting of the main 2019 rice crop is underway under dry weather conditions in the main producing northwestern and northeastern regions. FAO's preliminary forecasts on paddy production point to slightly above-average level, reflecting large plantings in the current season, similar to the last year's high level, instigated by high prices of the crop. Despite the similar planted area, the 2019 forecast production points to decline by 7 percent from the last year's record output, mainly reflecting limited rainfalls in early 2019 that are contributing to accumulated moisture deficits and lower water level in reservoirs in the key producing regions.

Maize is produced all around the year and production for the 2018/19 marketing year (July/June) is expected at above-average 47 000 tonnes, mainly reflecting a slight increase in plantings and good yields. Plantings of maize for 2019/20 are expected to remain high on account of well above year-earlier prices. However, uncertainties on the 2019 production remain, on account of increasing input costs and lower maize prices of the major exporters such as the United States of America and Brazil.

Cereal imports in 2018/19 marketing year anticipated at very high level

Cereal imports in the 2018/19 marketing year (July/June) are anticipated at above-average 1.9 million tonnes, raised from the last year's already high level. Yellow maize imports, which account for 70 percent of all cereal imports, are expected at 1.4 million tonnes, mainly as a result of high demand from the feed sector.

Dominican Republic



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Dominican Republic

Cereal Production

	2013-2017 average	2017	2018 estimate	change 2018/2017
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	929	994	1 060	6.6
Maize	40	45	47	4.4
Sorghum	2	1	2	36.4
Total	971	1 040	1 109	6.6

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

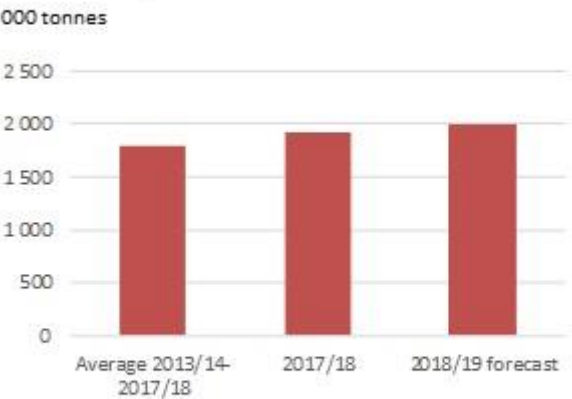
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Prices of rice and maize were higher year-on-year in April

Prices of rice weakened in April with the start of the harvest. Prices, however, remained somewhat higher than a year earlier mainly due to higher fuel prices and increased production costs. Prices of maize were well-above values a year earlier despite increased imports during the first quarter of 2019. By contrast, wholesale prices of red and black beans were below year-earlier levels, due to the good 2018 outputs.

Dominican Republic

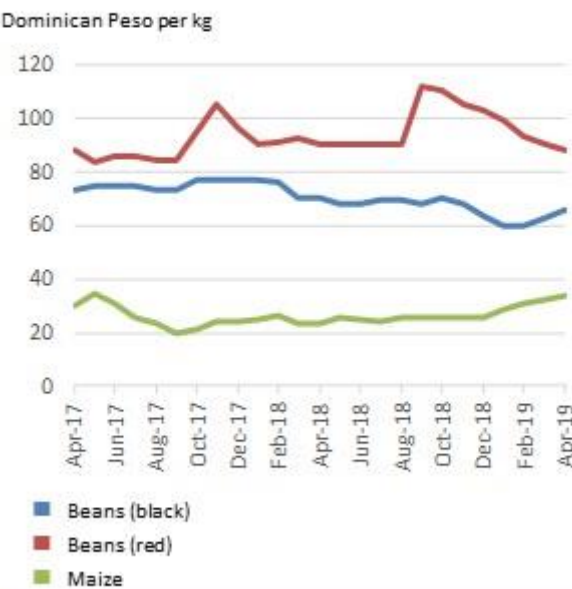
Cereals Imports



Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Dominican Republic

Wholesale prices in Santo Domingo

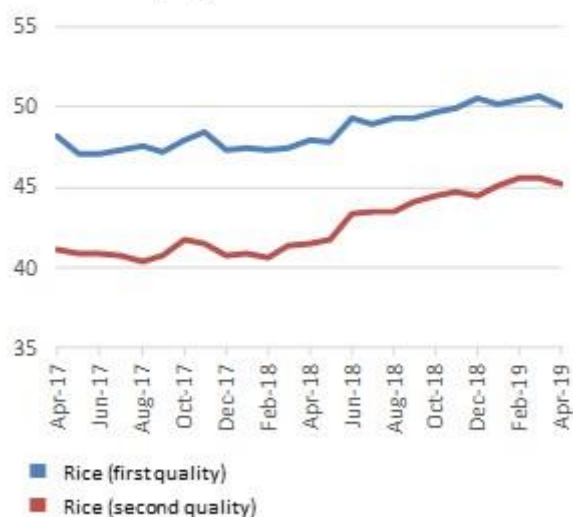


Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.

Dominican Republic

Retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per kg



Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.

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GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 19-December-2017

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production in 2017 estimated at above average level
- Cereal imports in 2017/18 marketing year forecast to increase
- Prices of rice and maize were stable in November, prices of beans increased

Cereal production in 2017 estimated at above average level

Cereal production for 2017 is estimated by FAO at 996 000 tonnes, marginally above last year's level and significantly above the country's five-year average. The increase reflects a good rice output. Despite significant flooding caused by hurricanes Irma and Maria, between September and October, rice production is estimated at 953 000 tonnes above last year's level and 6 percent above the five-year average. The high rice output is due to the good main first season rice crop, harvested in August before the storms. Continued Government assistance in the form of provision of high yielding varieties and fertilizers also contributed to the increase in production. Maize output is estimated virtually unchanged from 2016 at 41 000 tonnes and about average. Due to uncertainty about this year's weather, after two years of continuous droughts, farmers marginally reduced the planted area.

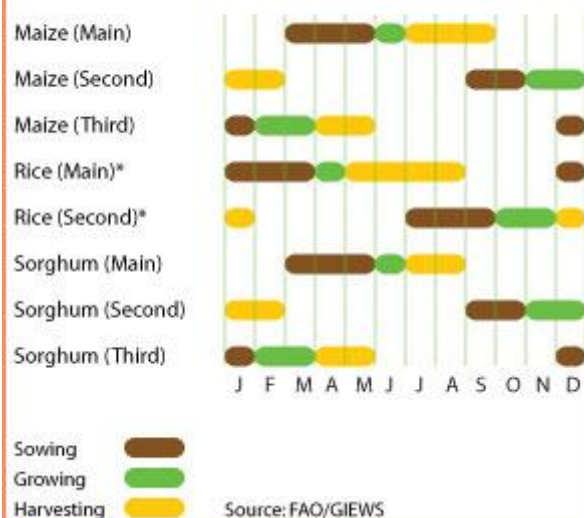
Cereal imports in 2017/18 marketing year forecast to increase

Cereal imports in the 2017/18 marketing year (July/June) are forecast to increase from last year and reach close to 1.7 million tonnes. Maize imports, which account for almost 70 percent of all cereal imports, are expected to increase by 1 percent to 1.1 million tonnes, mainly as a result of high demand from the feed sector.

Prices of rice and maize stable in November, prices of beans increased

Prices of rice in November were unchanged and about 2 percent above year-earlier levels reflecting seasonal trends. Prices of maize were also stable in November and less than 3 percent above year-earlier levels pressured by seasonal factors and high demand from the feed sector. Prices of red and black beans

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

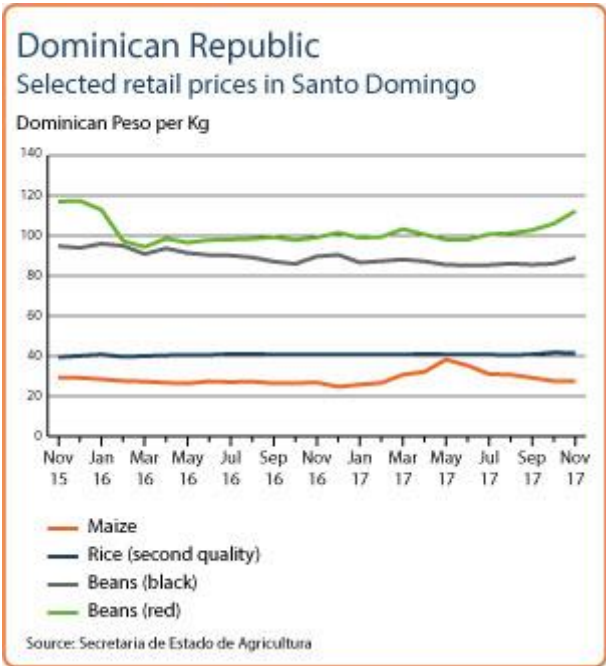
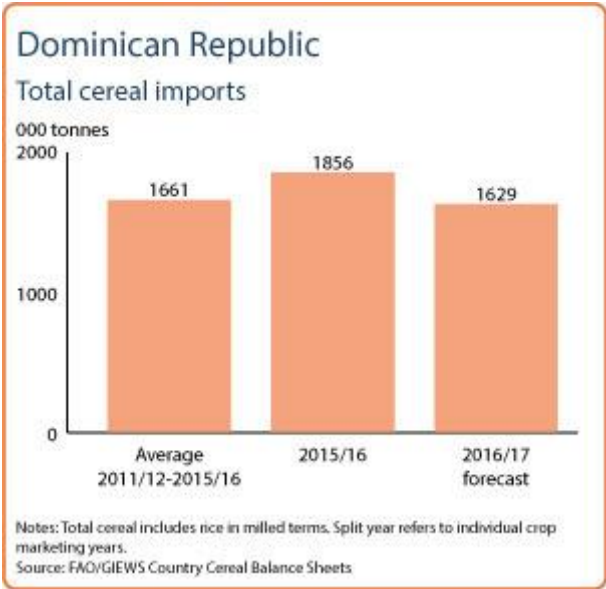


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2012-2016 average	2016	2017 forecast	change 2017/2016
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	896	941	953	1
Maize	40	42	41	-2
Sorghum	2	1	2	100
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	938	984	996	1

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

increased in November and were above year-earlier levels, as seasonal trends strengthened by a reduction in 2017 output of beans.



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GIEWS Country Brief

The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 08-May-2017

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production in 2017 forecast to remain high
- Cereal imports in 2016/17 marketing year forecast to decline
- Prices of rice and maize pressured by seasonal trends in March
- Excessive rainfall levels affected 18 provinces in late April

Cereal production in 2017 forecast to remain high

Planting of the main 2017 first season rice crop concluded in March, while planting of the main 2017 maize crop is underway and will be completed in May. Although official planting data is not yet available, preliminary reports point to a normal start to the season with some localized dryness. Production of the 2017 cereal crops is expected to remain close to last year's high level as continued Government support to the agricultural sector, particularly for rice, and favourable prices are anticipated to support sowings. Some uncertainty exists, however, due to excessive rainfall levels towards the end of April which may reduce crop yields, particularly for maize.

Cereal imports in 2016/17 marketing year forecast to decline

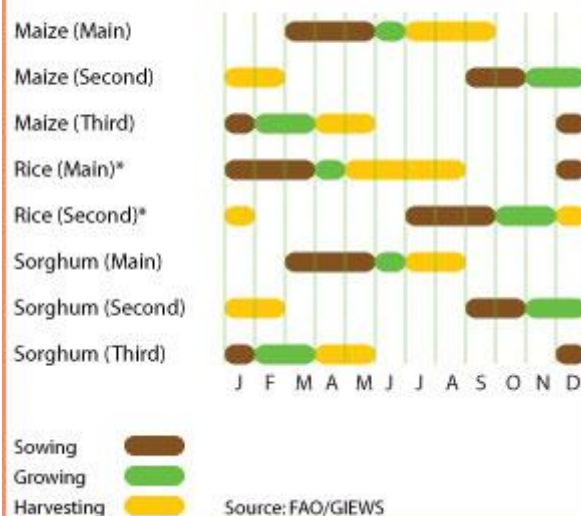
Cereal imports in the 2016/17 marketing year (July/June) are forecast to decline from last year's high level and reach 1.7 million tonnes. Maize imports, which account for almost 70 percent of all cereal imports, are expected to decrease by some 9 percent reflecting this year's recovery in output and high stock levels. However, maize imports will remain above their five-year average.

Prices of rice and maize pressured by seasonal trends in March

Rice prices in March were relatively stable from the previous month and moderately above last year's level in anticipation of the harvest in May of the first season crop. Maize prices strongly increased from a month ago and a year earlier as seasonal trends continue to pressure prices.

Dominican Republic

Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)



Dominican Republic

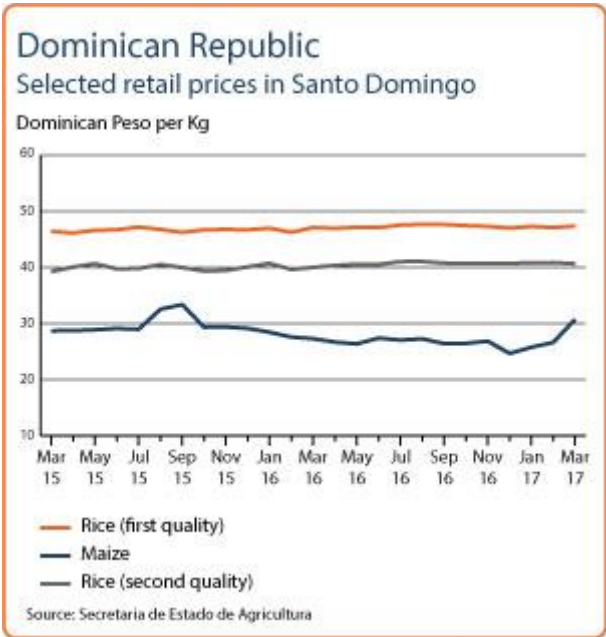
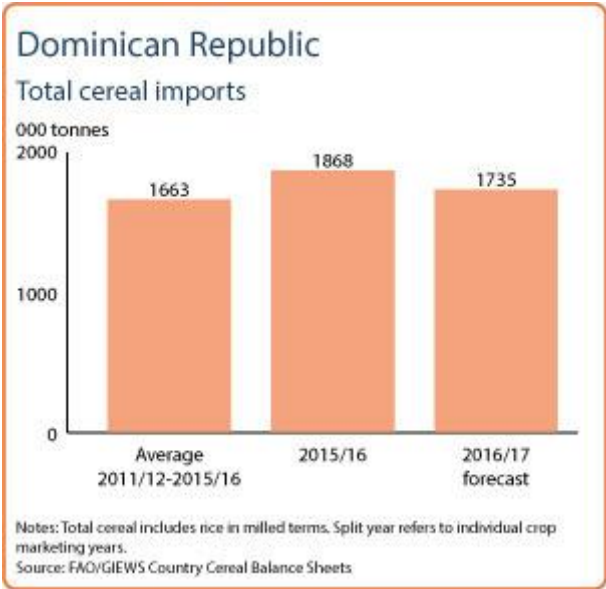
Cereal production

	2012-2016 average	2016	2017 forecast	change 2017/2016
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	896	941	940	0
Maize	40	42	42	0
Sorghum	2	1	2	100
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	938	984	984	0

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Excessive rainfall levels affected 18 provinces in late April

According to [official reports](#), 18 of the country's 32 provinces received excess rainfall levels during the last week of April, resulting in localized floods. Particularly affected were the northeast, southeast, north and central provinces of the country. Some 2 000 homes were affected and over 10 000 people were temporarily displaced. The Government's response included the deployment of emergency teams as well as the prepositioning of 94 000 dry rations to meet the needs of the people in the ten most affected areas.



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GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 25-November-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production in 2016 forecast at bumper level
- Cereal imports in 2016/17 marketing year forecast to decline
- Prices of rice and maize remained stable in October

Cereal production in 2016 forecast at bumper level

Cereal production for 2016 is anticipated to increase by 2 percent from last year's high level and reach 962 000 tonnes. Official reports point to no significant damage to cereal crops and minor damages to horticultural and fruit crops as a result of the excessive rainfall caused by the passing of Hurricane Matthew on 2 October in neighbouring Haiti. The increase in cereal output mainly reflects an above average 2016 rice production, which is the main cereal produced locally, and is expected to reach a bumper level of 920 000 tonnes (paddy equivalent). Increased levels of irrigation, made possible by improved irrigation infrastructure and more widespread use of higher yielding varieties, are expected to increase yields. Maize output is forecast to recover from last year's drought-reduced level reflecting the recovery in precipitation and the Government's provision of subsidized inputs such as seeds of higher yielding varieties. Preliminary reports point to a good first season maize harvest and average planting levels for the second season, both of which concluded in October. Early forecasts point to a maize output of 40 000 tonnes in 2016, the highest level since 2013.

Cereal imports in 2016/17 marketing year forecast to decline

Cereal imports in the 2016/17 marketing year are forecast to decline sharply from last year's high level and reach 1.7 million tonnes. Maize imports, which account for almost 70 percent of all cereal imports, are expected to decrease by some 12 percent reflecting this year's recovery in output and high stock levels. By contrast, rice imports are forecast to increase reflecting high local demand.

Prices of rice and maize remained stable in October

Rice prices in October were relatively unchanged from the previous month but were moderately above last year's level,

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

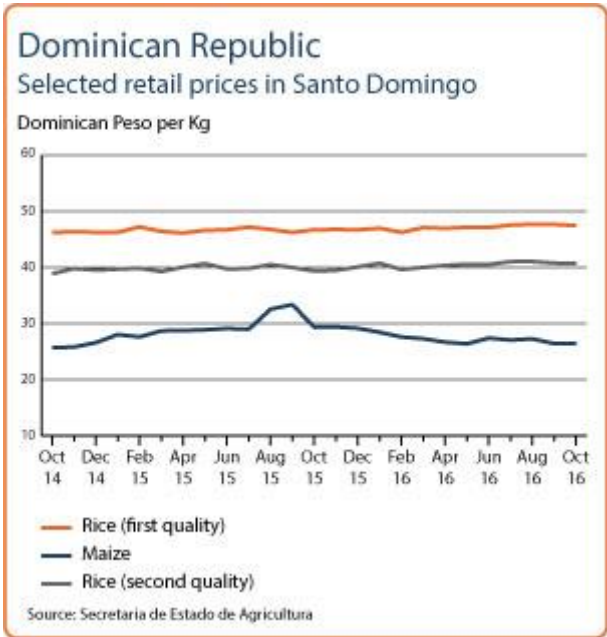
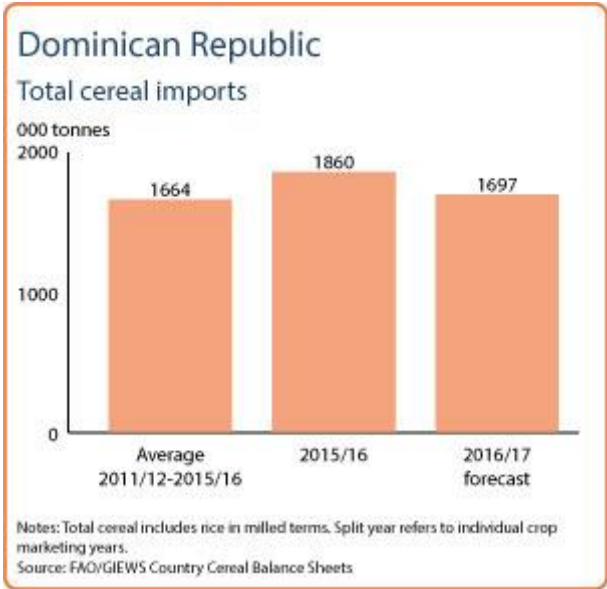


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2011-2015 average	2015	2016 estimate	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	894	906	920	2
Maize	38	34	40	18
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	934	942	962	2

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

reflecting seasonal trends as less product from the main harvest, concluded in September, enters the market. Retail maize prices in October were also unchanged and well below year-earlier levels reflecting adequate supplies, as product from the recent harvest supplied local markets.





GIEWS Country Brief The Dominican Republic

Reference Date: 23-August-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production in 2016 forecast at bumper level
- Cereal imports in 2016/17 marketing year forecast to decline
- Prices of rice and maize remained stable in July

Cereal production in 2016 forecast at bumper level

The harvest of the main cereal season is well advanced. According to latest remote sensing data, the season developed normally, with a recovery in precipitation from last year's reduced levels, following the dissipation of the El Niño phenomena in June. Rice output, which accounts for 96 percent of cereal production, is expected to increase 2 percent from last year's already high level and reach 920 000 tonnes. Increased levels of irrigation, made possible by improved irrigation infrastructure and more widespread use of higher yielding varieties are expected to increase yields. Maize output is forecast to recover from last year's drought-reduced level reflecting the recovery in precipitation and Government provision of subsidized inputs such as seeds of higher yielding varieties. Unlike rice, maize cultivation is rainfed and was severely impacted by the El Niño phenomena in 2015. Early forecasts point to an output of 40 000 tonnes in 2016, the highest level since 2013.

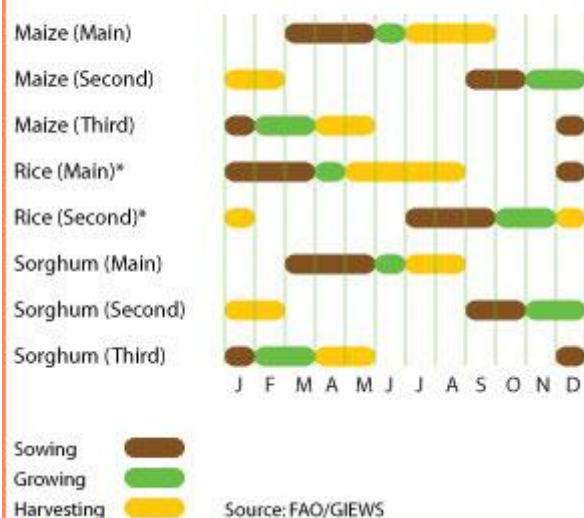
Cereal imports in 2016/17 marketing year forecast to decline

Cereal imports in the 2016/17 marketing year are forecast to decline sharply from last year's high level and reach 1.7 million tonnes. Maize imports, which account for almost 70 percent of all cereal imports, are expected to decrease by some 12 percent reflecting this year's recovery in output and high stock levels. By contrast, rice imports are forecast to increase reflecting high local demand.

Prices of rice and maize remained stable in July

Rice prices in July were relatively unchanged from the previous month and from the same month last year, prices have remained relatively stable over the last few weeks as the product from the recent harvest began to enter the market.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

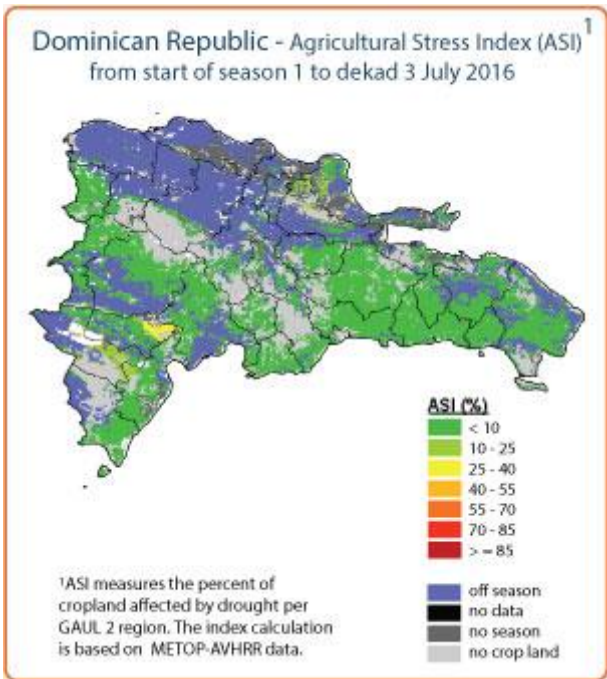
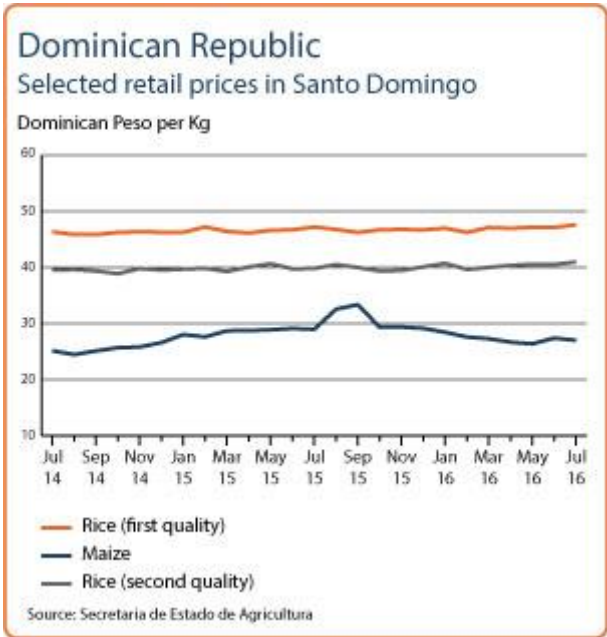
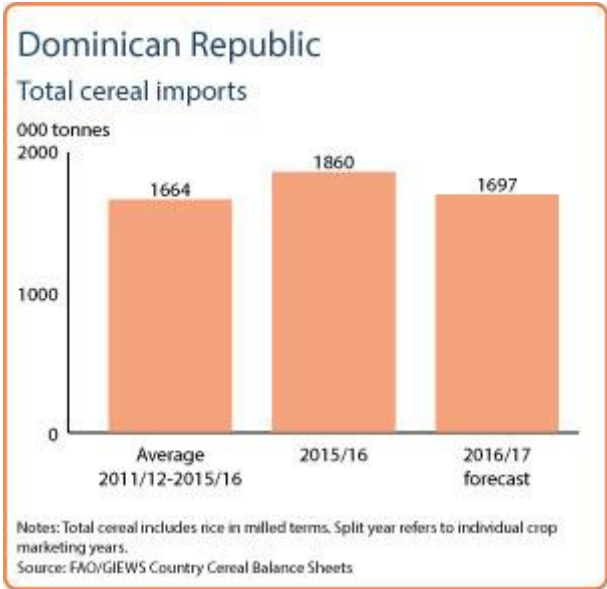


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2011-2015 average	2015	2016 forecast	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	894	906	920	2
Maize	38	34	40	18
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	934	942	962	2

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Retail maize prices in July were unchanged and well below year-earlier levels reflecting adequate supplies, mainly from imports in the market.



Reference Date: 30-December-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production limited by drought again in 2015
- Cereal imports in 2015/16 marketing year forecast at last year's high level
- Prices for major food staples were unchanged in December: bean prices remain at near record levels

Cereal production limited by drought again in 2015

Cereal production in 2015 is expected to remain virtually unchanged from last year's drought-reduced level at 933 000 tonnes. For a second consecutive year the El Niño phenomenon has caused prolonged dry weather during the cropping season limiting the production potential of the country. Rice production is estimated tentatively at 900 000 tonnes (paddy equivalent), mainly reflecting the good harvest of the main first season. Despite the severe and prolonged drought conditions since May, main rice producing areas could rely on adequate water reserves for irrigation, which benefitted crops. By contrast, the 2015 maize production was more affected by the reduced precipitation, with preliminary estimates pointing to a production of 31 000 tonnes or 14 percent below last year's drought reduced output and well below the average. Production of red and black beans, major food staples, was also lowered by the drought conditions. While no official estimates for production are yet available, FAO preliminary estimates that the area planted in 2015, for both red and black beans contracted by at least 16 percent as a result of dry weather.

Cereal imports in 2015/16 marketing year forecast at last year's high level

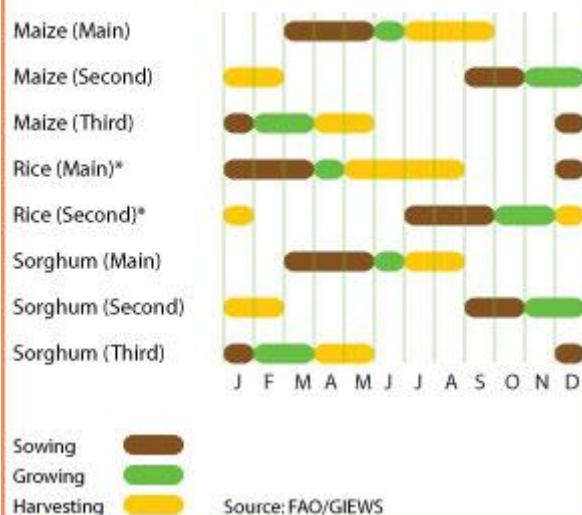
Reflecting a second consecutive year of drought-reduced outputs, imports of cereals in the 2015/16 marketing year (July/June) are forecast to remain above the country's five-year average and relatively unchanged from the 2014/15 high level. Cereal imports consist mainly of maize and wheat. Imports of maize are expected to increase almost 7 percent to 1.2 million tonnes, in line with this year's lower output, while wheat imports are forecast to remain relative stable at above 500 million tonnes.

Prices for major food staples were unchanged in December: bean prices remain at near record levels

Retail maize retail prices in December remained relative unchanged from the previous month but 9 percent higher than December last year reflecting the 2015 reduced output. Retail prices of rice by contrast remained unchanged in November and close to the levels of the same month last year.

Retail prices of red and black beans were also relatively unchanged in December but both types remained some 40 percent above their levels a year earlier due to supply shortages, following a decline in

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

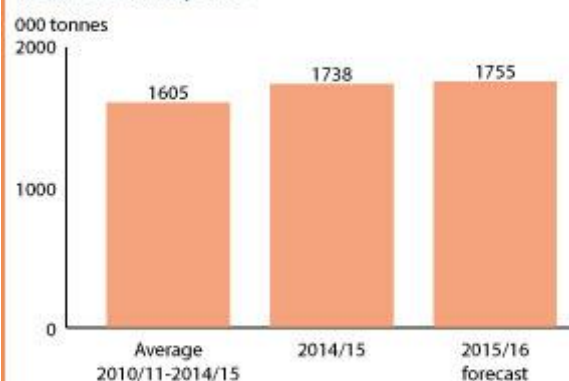


Dominican Republic Cereal production

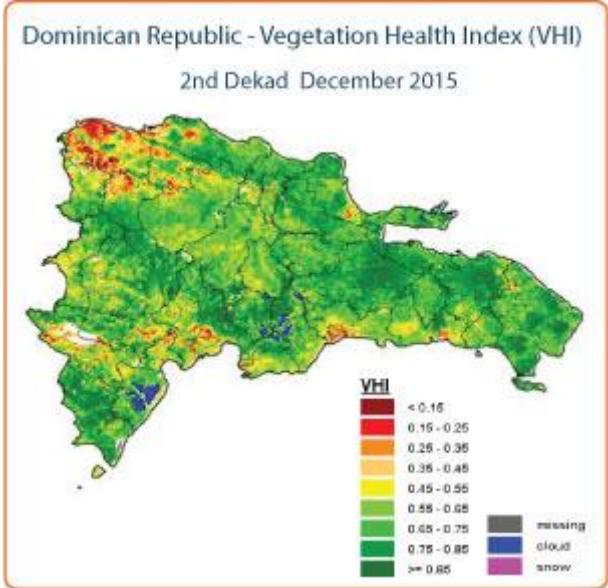
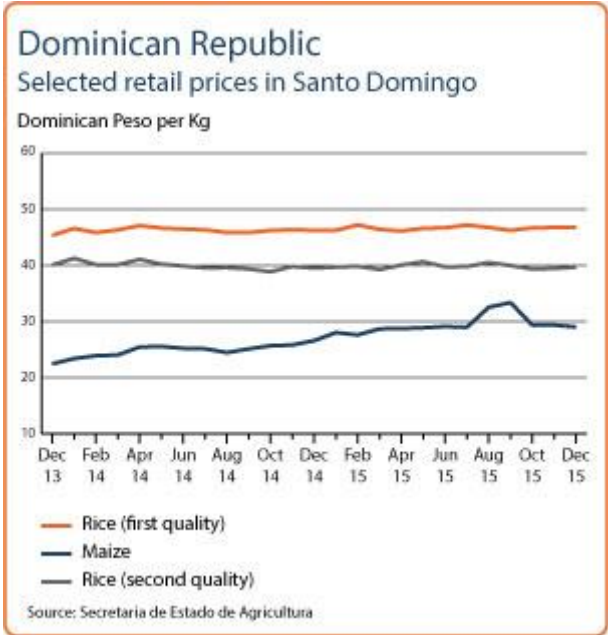
	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 forecast	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	905	899	900	0
Maize	38	36	31	-14
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	946	937	933	0

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



production and insufficient import volumes. Imports of beans are being regulated by the Government in order to prevent a fall in producer prices.



Reference Date: 16-September-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- The aggregate 2014 rice production forecast similar to last year's average level
- Cereal imports in the 2014/15 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels
- Rice and maize prices declined in August

The aggregate 2014 rice production forecast similar to last year's average level

Harvest of the 2014 main season rice crop, which accounts for 70 percent of total production, was concluded in August. Aggregate rice output is forecast at 830 000 tonnes (paddy), slightly above the 2013 production and around the five-year average. This mainly reflects a projected increase in yields as area planted is expected to remain relatively unchanged from 2013.

Cereal imports in the 2014/15 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels

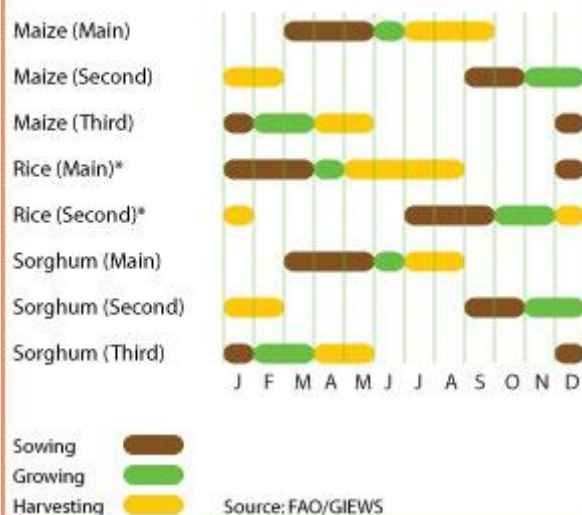
Imports of cereals in the 2014/15 marketing year (July/June) are tentatively forecast at 1.6 million tonnes, close to the previous year's average level, mainly reflecting sustained maize imports in order to satisfy strong demand for feed consumption. Imports of sorghum for feed, which have grown in the last three years since it is a cheaper alternative to maize, are also expected to remain firm.

Rice and maize prices declined in August

Reflecting the entry of new products from the recent good main season harvests, rice prices declined and remain unchanged from their level a year-earlier.

Maize prices declined almost 3 percent in August, mainly reflecting adequate levels of imports and the entry of product from the recently concluded harvest.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

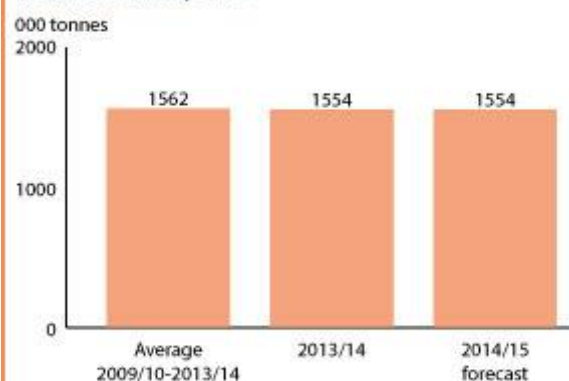


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 forecast	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	829	824	824	0
Maize	38	46	46	0
Sorghum	2	4	4	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	870	874	874	0

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

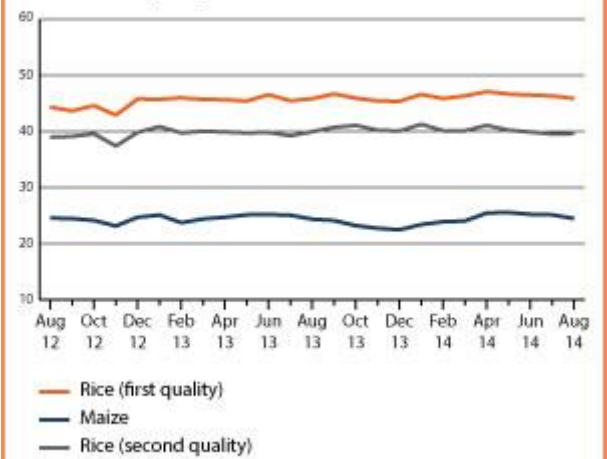
Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per Kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

GIEWS Country Brief

Dominican Republic



Reference Date: 07-August-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- The aggregate 2014 rice production forecast similar to last year's average level
- Cereal imports in the 2014/15 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels
- Rice prices remained unchanged in July

The aggregate 2014 rice production forecast similar to last year's average level

Harvest of the 2014 main season rice crop, which accounts for 70 percent of total production, will be concluded by the end of August. Aggregate rice output is forecast at 830 000 tonnes (paddy), slightly above the 2013 production and around the five-year average. This mainly reflects a projected increase in yields as area planted is expected to remain relatively unchanged from 2013.

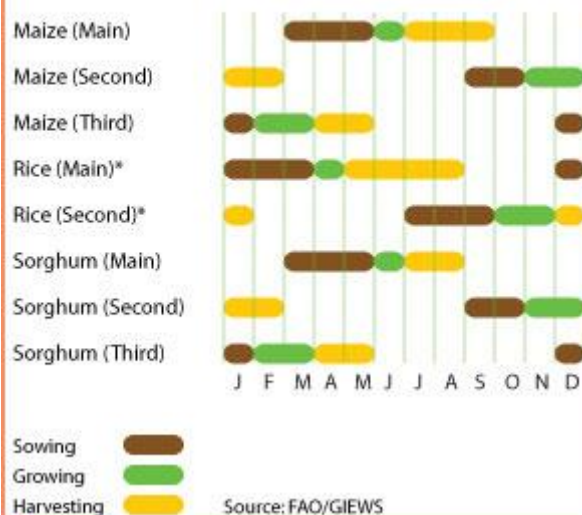
Cereal imports in 2014/15 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels

Imports of cereals in the 2014/15 marketing year (July/June) are tentatively forecast at 1.6 million tonnes, close to the previous year's average level, mainly reflecting sustained maize imports in order to satisfy strong demand for feed consumption. Imports of sorghum for feed, which have grown in the last three years since it is a cheaper alternative to maize, are also expected to remain firm.

Rice prices remained unchanged in July

Rice prices remained overall unchanged in July and close to their year-earlier level, reflecting adequate supplies in the market from the ongoing main season harvest.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

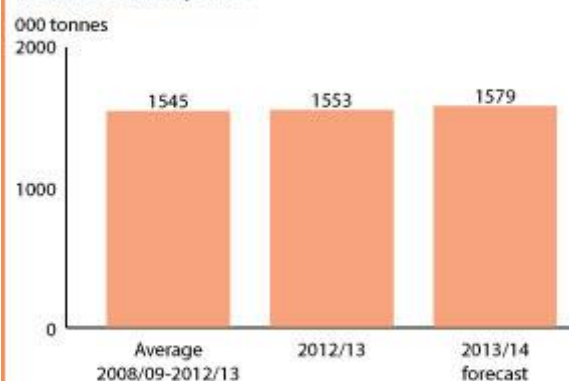


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 estimate	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	829	756	820	8
Maize	35	36	40	11
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	866	794	862	9

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

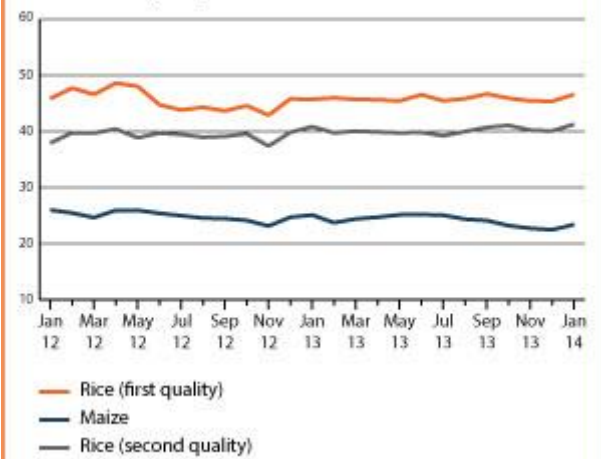
Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per Kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

GIEWS Country Brief

Dominican Republic



Reference Date: 19-February-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- The 2013 rice crop recovered from the 2012 lows
- Cereal imports in 2013/14 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels
- Rice prices increased in January

The 2013 rice crop recovered from the 2012 lows

Harvest of the second rice season is virtually concluded. Just as with the harvest of the main season—which finished in August and accounts for 70 percent of production—estimates for the harvest point to an increase from last year due to favourable weather conditions during the development of crop. Aggregate rice output is estimated 8 percent higher than the hurricane-reduced 2012 production, at 820 000 tonnes (paddy), marginally lower than the five-year average. This mainly reflects an increase in yields as area stayed relatively unchanged from 2012.

Cereal imports in 2013/14 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels

Imports of cereals in the 2013/14 marketing year (July/June) are tentatively forecast at average levels of around 1 million tonnes, marginally up from the previous year, mainly reflecting sustained maize imports in order to satisfy strong demand for feed consumption. Imports of sorghum for feed, which have grown in the last two years since it is a cheaper alternative to maize, are also expected to remain firm.

Rice prices increased in January

Reflecting low supplies in the market, as the 2013 main rice production was not sufficient to overcome the shortfall in stocks due to the reduced 2012 crop, rice prices moderately increased for a second month in January and were slightly above their year earlier levels.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

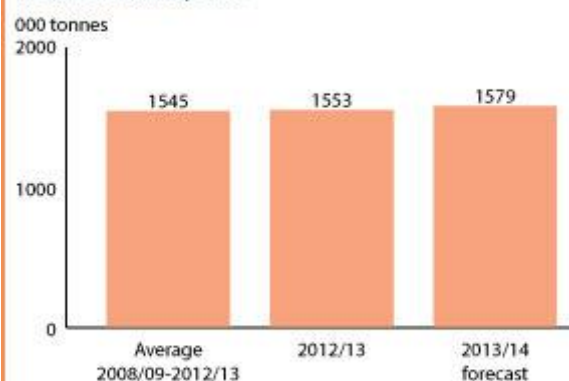


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 estimate	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	829	756	820	8
Maize	35	36	40	11
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	866	794	862	9

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

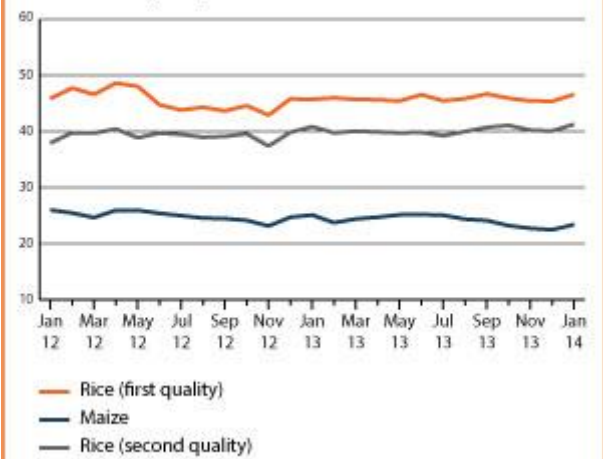
Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per Kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

Reference Date: 21-October-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- 2013 rice production forecast to remain high
- Cereal imports in 2013/14 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels
- Rice prices slightly increase in September

2013 rice production estimated to remain high

Harvesting of the 2013 main season rice crop, which accounts for 70 percent of the aggregate production was completed in late August. Favourable weather conditions during the season benefited crop development and resulted in higher yields than in the previous year. Planting of the 2013 second season rice crop has just been completed and assuming normal precipitation in the remainder of the season, the aggregate 2013 rice output is expected to reach 860 000 tonnes (570 000 tonnes, milled basis), 11 percent above last year's reduced level.

Cereal imports in 2013/14 marketing year (July/June) forecast at average levels

Imports of cereals in the 2013/14 marketing year (July/June) are tentatively forecast at average levels of around 1 million tonnes, marginally up from the previous year, mainly reflecting sustained maize imports in order to satisfy local demand for feed consumption. Imports of sorghum for feed, which have grown in the last two years since it is a cheaper alternative to maize, are also expected to remain firm.

Rice prices slightly increased in September

In September, retail prices of rice, the main food product in the national diet, seasonally strengthened compared to the previous month and were 7 percent higher than in September 2012. This mainly reflects an increase of 5 percent from last year of the minimum producer price set up by the Government. By contrast, maize prices in September were relatively unchanged at the same low levels of last year, following the 2013 adequate levels of imports.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

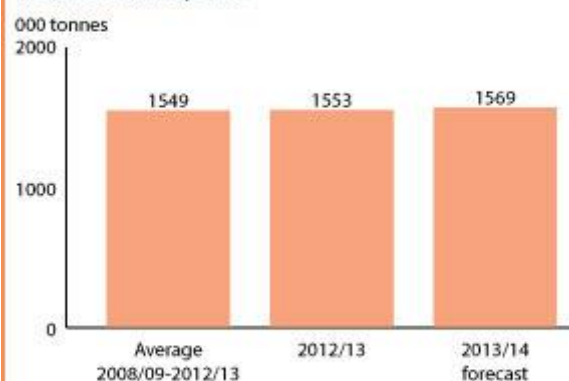


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 forecast	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	830	773	860	11
Maize	35	36	38	6
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	867	811	900	11

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

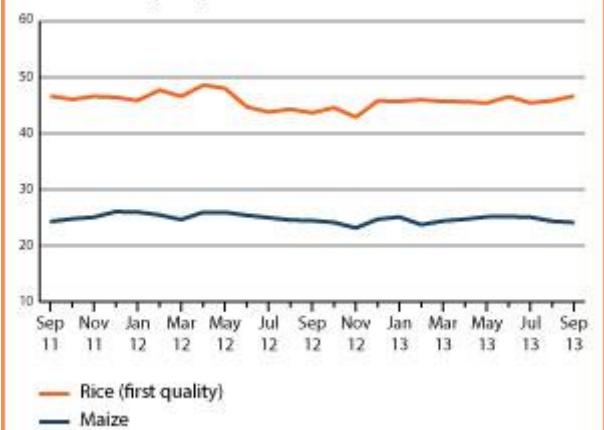
Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per Kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

Reference Date: 06-August-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- 2013 rice production forecast to increase
- Cereal imports in 2012/13 (July/June) remained at average levels
- Rice and maize prices stable and low

2013 rice production forecast to increase

Harvesting of the 2013 main season rice crop, which accounts for 70 percent of the aggregate production is well underway and due to be completed by the end of August. In May, heavy rains were recorded throughout the country, thus concluding the dry season which generally runs from December to April. Despite localized light floods in marginalized lowland areas close to rivers and streams, rainfall conditions during the season benefited food crops, favouring vegetative development. Higher yields than last year's same season are anticipated. Planting of the 2013 second season rice crop is ongoing. Assuming normal precipitation in the remainder of the season, the aggregate 2013 rice output is forecast to recover from last year's poor harvest reaching 860 000 tonnes (570 000 tonnes, milled basis).

Cereal imports in 2012/13 (July/June) remained at average levels

The country is self-sufficient in rice but imports large amounts of maize for animal feed as well as wheat, which is not produced domestically. More recently, the country has also started importing sorghum for feed, which is a cheaper alternative to maize. Imports of cereals in the 2012/13 marketing year (July/June) were estimated at about average levels of 1.5 million tonnes.

Rice and maize prices stable and low

In June, retail prices of rice, the main food product in the national diet, remained relatively unchanged at the same low levels of last year, reflecting the favourable prospects for this year's main harvest. Similarly maize prices in June also remained stable at last year's low levels, following the 2013 adequate levels of imports.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

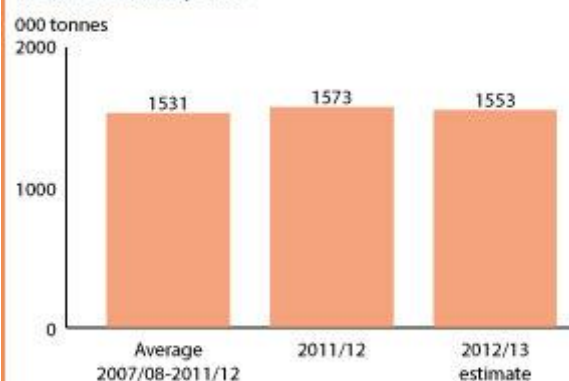


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 forecast	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	830	773	860	11
Maize	35	36	38	6
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	867	811	900	11

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

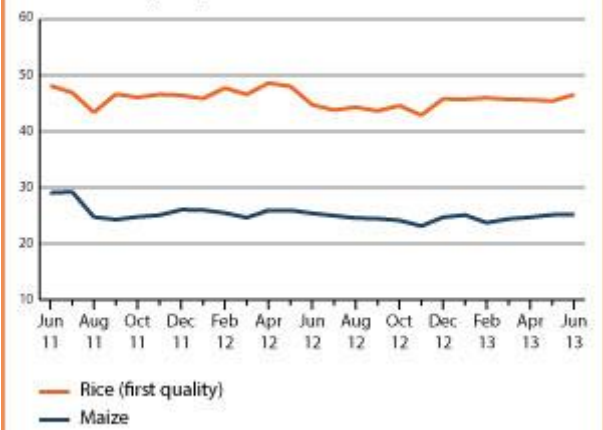
Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per Kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

Reference Date: 17-August-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Favourable prospects for the 2012 rice crop
- Rice prices declining

Favourable prospects for the 2012 rice crop

Harvesting of the 2012 main season rice crop, which represents about 70 percent of the aggregate production, is near completion in the main producing areas of the north-east and north-west. This season's output is anticipated to increase from last year's levels, mainly as a result of favourable weather conditions during the growing period, despite of heavy rains in late April and early May which caused crop damages at local level. Planting of the 2012 second season rice crop is underway. Assuming normal growing during the season, the aggregate rice production (first and second crops) for 2012 is estimated at around 850 000 tonnes, 3 percent above average. Production this year was sustained by the Government's introduction of higher paddy support prices and by the implementation of the "*pignoración nacional*" program. The program, which includes rice, beans, garlic and milk, aims to store the pledged products and release them as and when the market allows, avoiding saturation and low prices. The program has encouraged producers to make large investments in the agricultural areas.

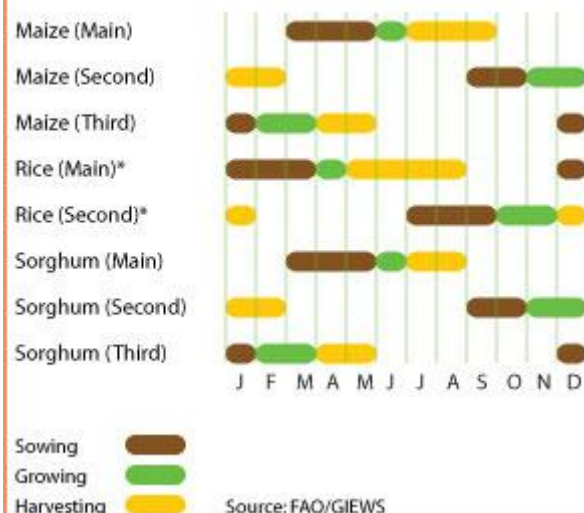
Cereal imports in 2012/13 (July/June) remain high

The country is self-sufficient in rice but imports large amounts of maize for animal feed, as well as wheat, which is not produced domestically. Imports of cereals are expected to remain at about 1.6 million tonnes in the 2012/13 marketing year (July/June) to satisfy sustained fodder demand.

Rice prices declining

Prices of rice, the main food product in the national diet, have decreased by 6 percent in the past three months following the arrival into the markets of the new harvest. In July, rice prices were 7 percent below their levels of a year earlier. Prices of maize remained relatively firm in the past months and in July were 15 percent down from the levels of a year earlier.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

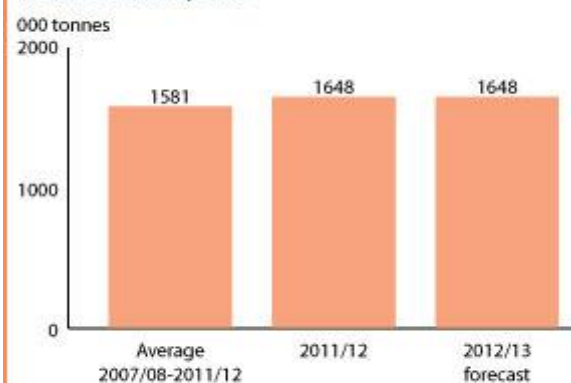


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2007-2011 average	2011	2012 forecast	change 2012/2011
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	825	835	850	2
Maize	33	38	38	0
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	860	875	890	2

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

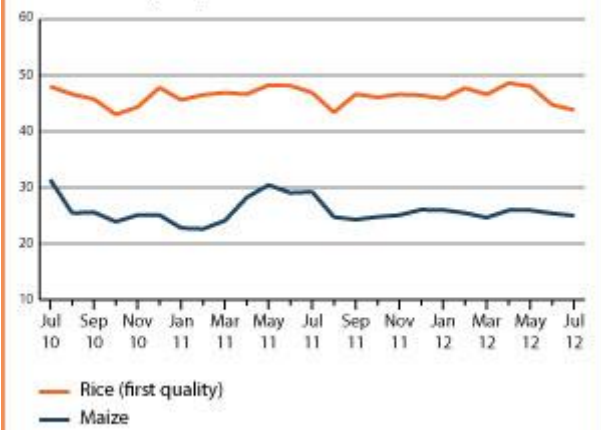
Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per Kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

Reference Date: 27-February-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- 2011 rice production at record levels
- Rice prices stable

Adequate rainfall for the 2012 rice planting

Planting of the 2012 main season rice crop is ongoing in the main producing areas of the north-east and north-west. Rains in December and January were beneficial to the development of agricultural activities.

2011 rice production at record levels

Harvesting of the 2011 second season rice crop has just ended. Rice production (first and second crops) for 2011 is estimated at a record 900 000 tonnes. This reflects the good harvest obtained in the main season (December/August) which accounts for about 70 percent of annual production. Weather conditions were favourable and there were no crop diseases, while the Government provided productive assistance by distributing enhanced seeds and implementing the National Rice Pledging Programme. This mechanism, which includes rice, beans, garlic and milk, aims to store the pledged products and release them as and when the market allows, avoiding saturation and depressed prices. The programme has encouraged producers to make large investments in the agricultural areas with a consequent increase in production.

Cereal imports in 2011/12 (July/June) remain stable

The country is self-sufficient in rice but imports large amounts of maize for animal feed, as well as wheat, which is not produced domestically. Imports of these cereals are expected to remain at about 1.6 million tonnes in the 2011/12 marketing year (July/June), owing to a sustained increase in demand.

Rice prices stable

The price of rice, the main food product in the national diet, has remained relatively stable since September 2011. In December, rice prices were 8 percent below their levels of a year earlier. The price of maize, which is only produced in very small quantities, rose by 7 percent in the last three months of 2011, reflecting the general trend on export markets. In December, maize prices were 4 percent above the levels of a year earlier. A preliminary report presented by the Government shows that the national economy grew by 4 percent in 2011, with inflation at 7.6 percent, its highest level since 2007. This mainly reflected higher international oil prices, which fed through to transport, fuel, electricity, and basic food prices.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

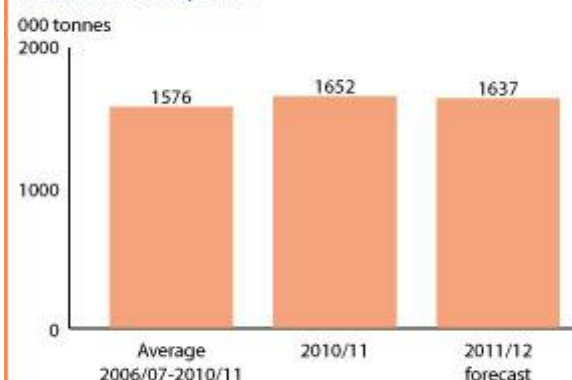


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 estimate	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	791	870	900	3
Maize	32	37	38	3
Sorghum	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	825	909	940	3

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

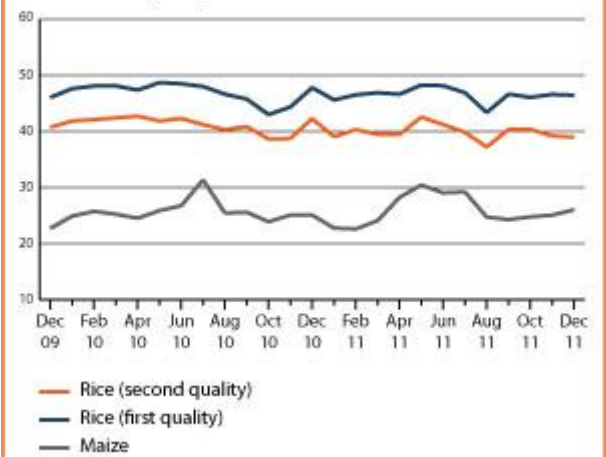
Dominican Republic Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per Kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

GIEWS Country Brief

Dominican Republic



Reference Date: 27-May-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Below-average rainfall may affect production of rice and other crops of the 2011 first season
- Price of rice stable

Uncertain prospects for the 2011 first season rice crop

Harvesting of the 2011 main season rice crop has begun. Sowing of 2011 second season crops is delayed due to dry weather in March and April. Almost all of the rice crops are irrigated, but below-average rainfall during the agricultural season may have affected the availability of water and lowered yields. Above-average rainfall during the second half of May alleviated the water stress situation of other food crops, mainly banana and vegetable crops, but may have arrived too late to prevent a reduction in production.

Slight increase in 2010/11 (July/June) cereals imports

The country is self-sufficient with regard to rice but it imports substantial amounts of maize for animal feed and wheat which is not produced domestically.

It is forecast that imports of these cereals in the 2010/11 (July/June) marketing year will increase by almost 4 percent, to a level of around 1.6 million tonnes, due to the sustained increase in demand.

Prices of rice stable but bean prices increase

Prices of rice, the main food product in the national diet, have remained stable since the start of 2011 after the favourable harvest in December last year. In April, prices of second quality rice were 8 percent lower than those of April 2010. Prices of maize, which is produced in very limited amounts, and of beans, have increased in recent months, reflecting the general trend in export markets as the country imports substantial amounts of both crops. In April, prices of maize and beans in the capital, Santo Domingo, were respectively 11 and 15 percent higher than those of last year.

Crop calendar Dominican Republic



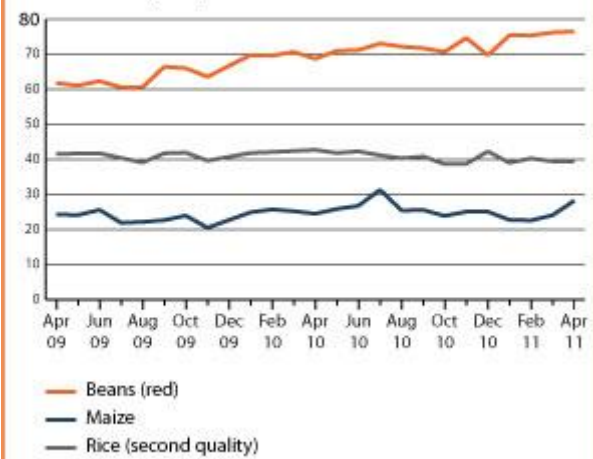
Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 forecast	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	746	847	900	6
Maize	39	40	40	0
Sorghum	5	4	4	0
Total	790	891	944	6

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per kg



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura

Reference Date: 3-November-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Record 2010 rice harvest
- Price down in October on the Santo Domingo market

Higher rice output in 2010

There are good prospects for the 2010 secondary rice harvest which will be gathered beginning in December. Since the start of the season in July this year, weather conditions have been very good throughout the country. Adequate rainfall and the absence of any tropical storms and flooding have benefited the development of the main rice crop, maize and other food crops such as plantains and vegetables. The main 2010 rice season crop, which was harvested up to August this year, also benefited from abundant and evenly distributed rainfall and by an increase in the acreages under rice.

Aggregate rice production in 2010 (the main and secondary season harvests) have been provisionally estimated at an unprecedented level of 900 000 tonnes, approximately 6 percent above the previous year's figure. Maize production is expected to remain unchanged at 40 000 tonnes.

Cereals imports in 2010/11 will rise slightly

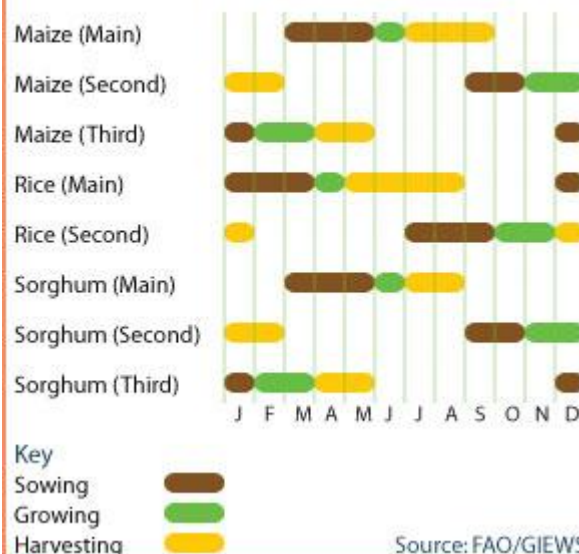
In the 2010/11 (July/June) commercial season imports of wheat and maize (for the animal feed industries), which are not grown in the country, are expected to continue increasing in tandem with population growth. It is forecast that approximately 380 000 tonnes of wheat and 1.1 million tonnes of maize will be imported.

Lower rice prices in October

First and second quality rice prices on the Santo Domingo market fell by 6 percent and 5 percent below September's. This price reduction was due to the good prospects for the rice harvest which will begin in December.

Bean prices, which had begun to rise in November last year, have stabilised in recent months, falling marginally in October. But at DP 32.51/pound red bean prices in October were 11 percent above last year's.

Crop calendar Dominican Republic



Dominican Republic Cereal production

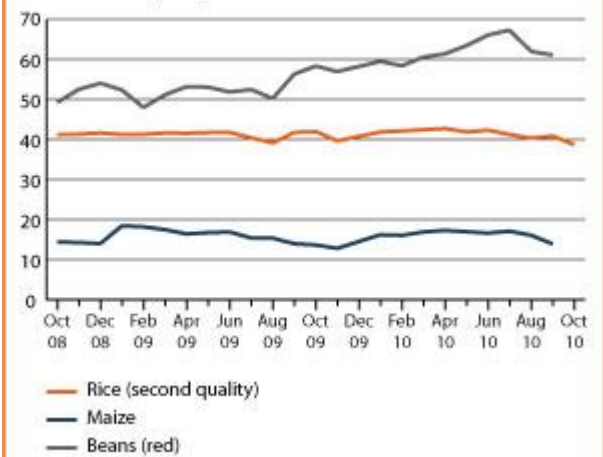
	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 forecast	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	746	847	900	6
Maize	39	40	40	0
Sorghum	5	4	4	0
Total	790	891	944	6

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic

Selected retail food prices in Santo Domingo

Dominican Peso per kg



Source: Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura

GIEWS Country Brief

Dominican Republic



Reference Date: 17-June-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Favourable rains in May increase soil moisture and assist the development of main season crops
- Prices of staples remain stable

In May, abundant rains favoured vegetative main season crops

Following a prolonged dry spell over the most important agricultural areas, good rainfall in May brought much needed relief. Precipitation was abundant in the Regional Norte and in the Regional Este while the rest of the country saw moderate but still beneficial rainfall. Recent torrential rains, however, caused flooding and resulted in localized damage to agriculture in the North-western province of Dajabón.

Favourable prospect for crop production in 2010

Planting of the 2010 main maize and sorghum crops is complete while harvesting of the main rice crop is well advanced. Abundant and well distributed rains have helped crop growth. Rice area is estimated to have increased by approximately 6 percent and production is expected to reflect this increase.

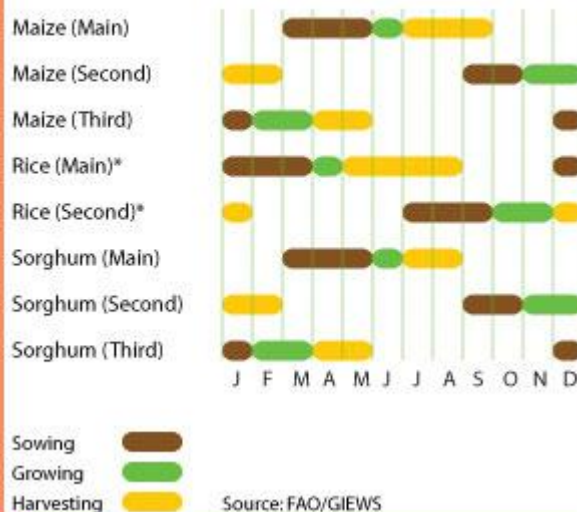
According to a Central Bank's latest report, in the first quarter of 2010 agriculture was placed again among the country's main three sectors of the economy. Agricultural production contributed 9.6 percent to economic growth in 2010.

Prices of rice and maize remain stable

In Santo Domingo, second quality rice prices showed only a slightly increasing trend since the last quarter of 2009 due to the good harvest last year. However, at this level prices were still 26 percent above the levels of the same period of 2008. Price of maize declined in November 2009 following the good main season maize harvest. However, in May 2010 prices rose again by about 26 percent compared to November 2009.

The price of red beans remains high and steadily increasing since the beginning of 2010. In May 2010 the price of red beans was 6 percent higher than at the same period of 2008.

Dominican Republic Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

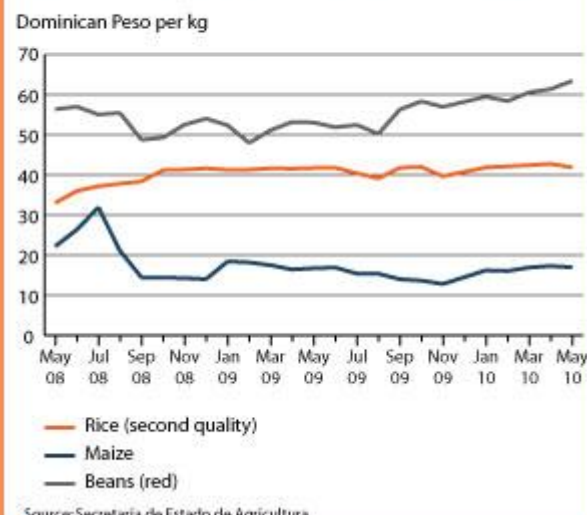


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 forecast	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	746	847	900	6
Maize	39	40	40	0
Sorghum	5	4	4	0
Total	790	891	944	6

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected retail food prices in Santo Domingo



Reference Date: 23-March-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Planting of 2010 rice cropping season is underway
- Record production for 2009 rice harvest
- Prices of staples remain generally steady

Planting of 2010 main rice cropping season is underway

Land preparation and sowing activities are underway for the main 2010 rice cropping season. Despite the generally dry conditions that prevailed over all the most important farming areas, preliminary planting intentions point to an increase by 10 percent in sowed area compared to 2009 also on account of the expanded food demand of Haitian population, devastated by the quake of January.

Increased rice production in 2009

Total rice production in 2009 (harvests of both secondary and main cropping season) is provisionally estimated in 847 000 tonnes, showing an increase of approximately 9 percent compared to the already good result obtained the previous year (778 000 tonnes) mainly due to favourable weather. In addition, governmental support measures such as the Programa Nacional de Pignoración, which promotes rice stocking in controlled warehouses to avoid market saturation and the Proyecto de Apoyo a la Transición y a la Competitividad Agroalimentaria (PATCA), which provides technology transfer and training to 21 000 beneficiaries, contributed to higher yields and an expansion of the food production.

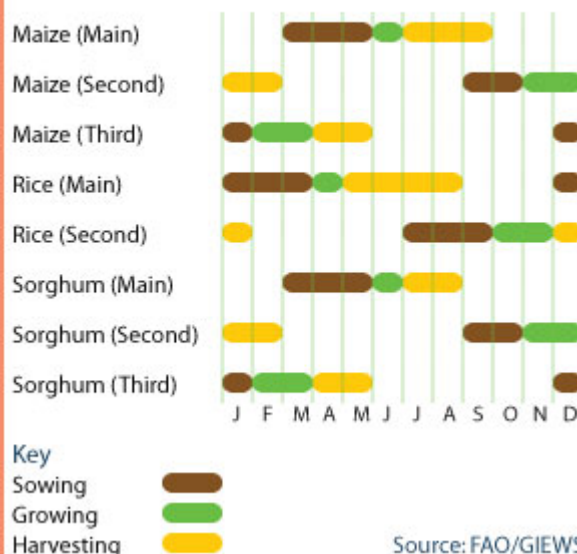
Prices of rice and maize remain favourably stable

Prices of major staples have maintained a steady trend reflecting the good performance of the agricultural sector in the last year. Quotations of rice superior (of a lower quality compared to rice selecto) showed a stable trend in the last year with a minimum price increase (2 percent). Similarly, the price of maize, mainly used in the feed industry, has not showed major fluctuations guaranteeing access to the poultry meat, among the most important sources of animal proteins for the Dominicans. However, price of red beans remains high with an increase by 11 percent compared to the level of two years ago.

The import requirements for cereals in 2009/10 forecast to slightly increase

In the marketing year 2009/10 (July/June) imports of wheat and maize (mainly yellow maize for the feed industry) are forecast at approximately 370 000 tonnes and 1 million tonnes respectively, similar volumes as the levels of previous year, although there is an increase in the total cereal requirements.

Crop calendar Dominican Republic

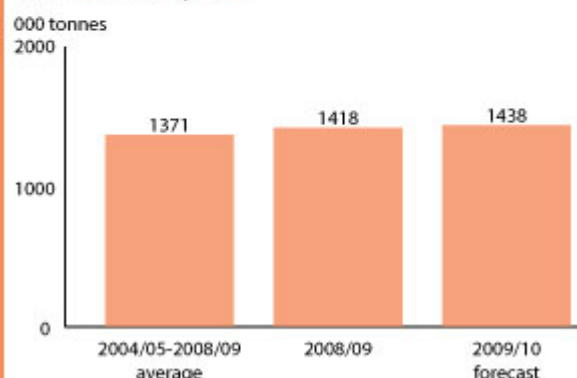


Dominican Republic Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 forecast	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	692	778	847	9
Maize	39	40	40	0
Sorghum	5	5	4	-20
Total	735	823	891	8

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

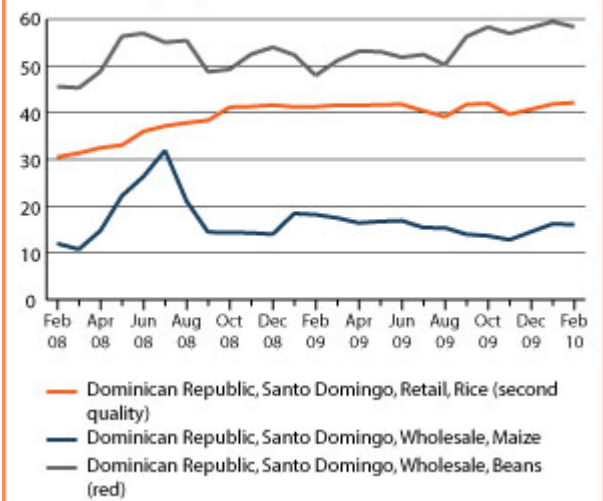
Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Dominican Republic Selected food prices

Dominican Peso per kg



GIEWS Country Brief

Dominican Republic



Reference Date: 30-September-2009

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Good weather conditions maintain right soil humidity for next season rice planting
- Prices for rice show a stable trend

Adequate soil humidity for rice sowing

According to National Meteorological Office data there is sufficient soil humidity to support the crops currently being sown.

Despite being at the height of the cyclone season and notwithstanding the effects of Hurricane Bill in the north-east of the country, no damage has been reported to agriculture due to excessive rainfall.

In September, tropical waves continued to batter the Dominican Republic bringing very heavy rainfall.

A 15 percent fall in rice production according to preliminary estimates

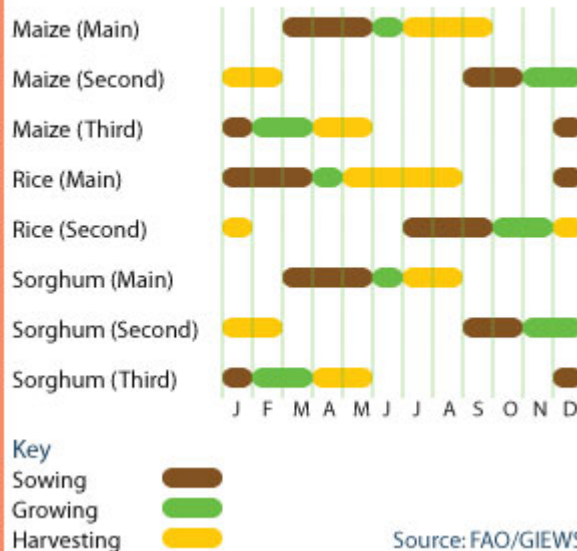
In the central part of the country the harvesting of rice sown between February and April has now begun.

The 275 000 tonne production forecast at the beginning of the season must now be revised downwards by 15 percent to 233 000 tonnes.

Conversely, the first stage of the spring harvest (July-September) is now being sown in the north and north-east of the country, to be harvested beginning in April next year.

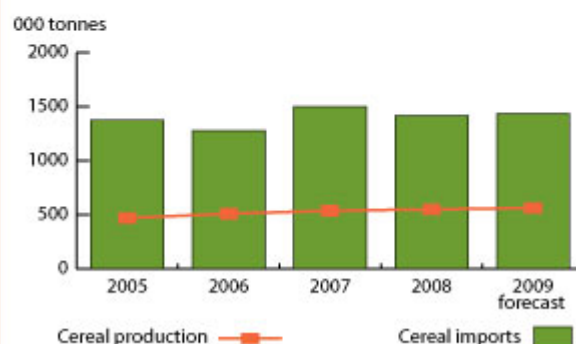
This stage is expected to produce 324 000 tonnes.

Crop calendar Dominican Republic



Cereal production and imports Dominican Republic

Cereal production	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 forecast	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (milled)	455	506	520	2.8%
Maize	39	40	40	0%
Sorghum	5	5	4	-20%
Total Cereals	499	551	564	2.4%



Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

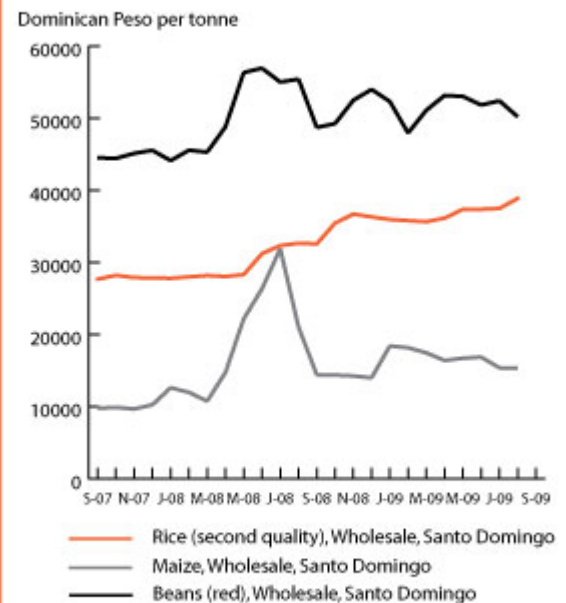
Rice prices remain stable

The average retail price of rice remains comparatively stable on the domestic markets because of last season's good harvests.

However, prices are still some 30 percent above the all-time high recorded before the mid-2008 crisis.

Conversely, bean prices (both red and black), which are a major source of protein for the people, remain stable.

Dominican Republic Selected food prices



Source: Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura