



GIEWS Country Brief The Republic of Guinea

Reference Date: 29-May-2024

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Planting of 2024 cereal crops ongoing
- Cereal production in 2023 estimated at above-average level
- Prices of key food staples near year-earlier levels
- About 1 million people projected to be acutely food insecure during the 2024 lean season

Planting of 2024 cereal crops ongoing

Planting operations of the 2024 coarse grains (maize, millet and sorghum) and rice crop, to be harvested between October and January, are ongoing. The latest weather forecast by the Forum on Seasonal Forecasts of Agro-hydro-climatic Characteristics of the Rainy Season for Sudanian and Sahelian Zones of West Africa (PRESASS) points to average to above-average cumulative rainfall amounts between June and August, which are expected to support germination and early development of crops.

Cereal production in 2023 estimated at above-average level

Aggregate cereal production in 2023 is estimated at nearly 5.5 million tonnes, about 10 percent above the previous year's level and about 30 percent above the average of the previous five years, reflecting a generally favourable rainfall distribution.

Prices of key food staples near year-earlier levels

Retail prices of both local and imported rice, the most consumed cereal in the country, were stable between December 2023 and March 2024, when they were near their year-earlier values in monitored markets. Similarly, retail prices of other important food products, including cassava, groundnuts and palm oil, were stable during the same period and were generally close to their levels of a year earlier.

On 30 January 2024, the government and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCl) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the aim to improve the supply of local markets and enhance households' food access. The MoU, effective immediately for a three month-period, included the establishment of price ceilings for basic food commodities, including wheat flour and imported rice.

Guinea

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Lean period



Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Guinea

Cereal Production

	2018-2022 average	2022	2023 estimate	change 2023/2022
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	2 614	3 158	3 535	11.9
Maize	731	870	982	12.9
Cereals NES	467	523	568	8.7
Others	363	374	380	1.7
Total	4 176	4 925	5 465	11.0

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

About 1 million people projected to be acutely food insecure during the 2024 lean season

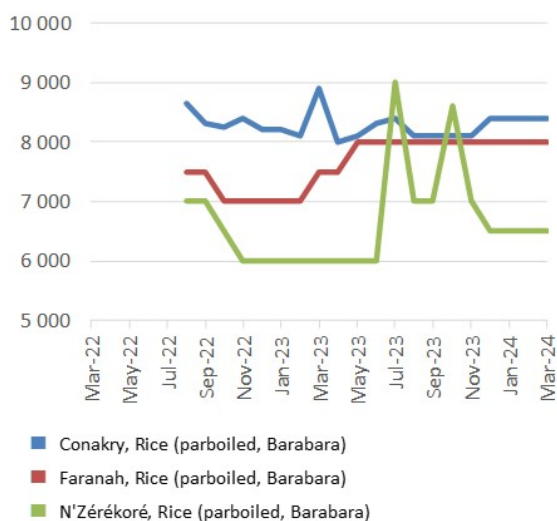
According to the latest *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH) analyses, nearly 1.03 million people (7 percent of the analyzed population) are projected to face acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 [Crisis]) during the upcoming lean season, between June and August 2024. This shows a substantial increase in the number of acutely food insecure people compared to the same period in 2023, when nearly 710 000 people (6 percent of the analyzed population) were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. However, the projected deterioration may be partly due to the expanded geographical coverage of the CH analysis for 2024.

The explosion at the Kaloum oil depot in December 2023, which destroyed the country's main oil storage facility, has resulted in prolonged power cuts in the capital, severely constraining economic activities. However, this event was not accounted for in the CH analysis for Conakry Region, which was conducted prior to the explosion, unlike the CH analyses for the country's other regions.

Guinea

Retail prices of rice - local

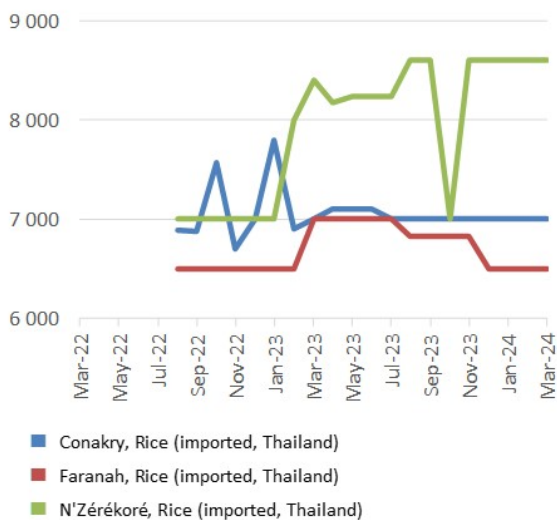
Guinean franc per kg



Guinea

Retail prices of rice - imported

Guinean franc per kg



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This brief was prepared using the following data/tools:

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

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

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

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



GIEWS Country Brief

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Cereal production in 2023 estimated at above-average level

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Prices of key food staples near year-earlier levels

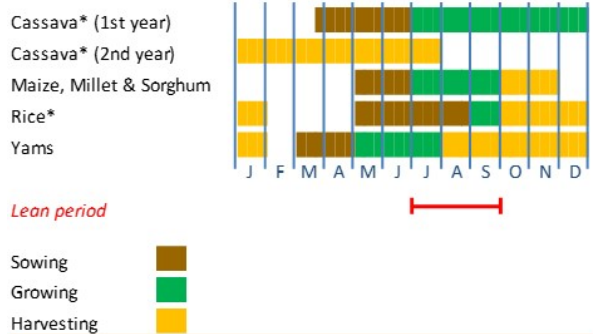
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Guinea

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Guinea

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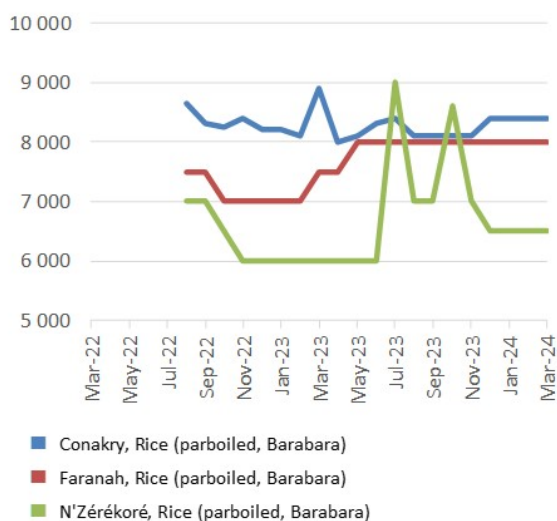
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Guinea

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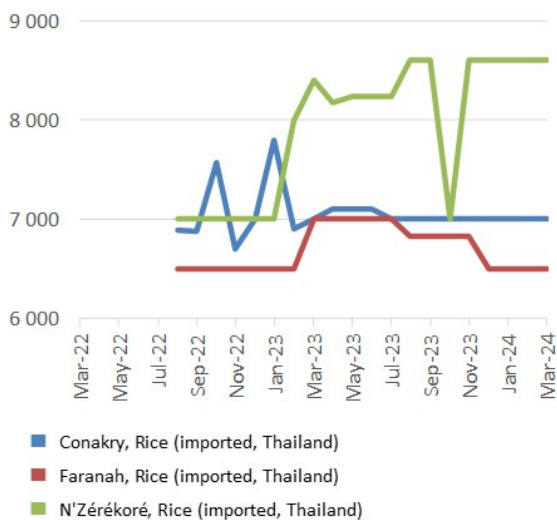
Guinean franc per kg



Guinea

Retail prices of rice - imported

Guinean franc per kg



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GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 01-February-2023

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Production of cereals in 2022 expected slightly above average
- Above-average imports of rice estimated in 2022
- About 650 000 people estimated to be acute food insecure in 2022

Production of cereals in 2022 expected slightly above average

Harvesting of the 2022 paddy rice crop, the main cereal grown in the country, is underway and is expected to be completed by the end of January. Harvesting of coarse grains (maize, millet and sorghum) was completed in November 2022. Overall favourable weather conditions enhanced planting operations and supported crop development, while the provision of subsidized agricultural inputs by the government, including seeds and fertilizers, boosted yields. Localized crop losses occurred across the country due to dry spells and floods.

According to official estimates, aggregate cereal production in 2022 is forecast at about 4.1 million tonnes, near the previous year's level and about 4 percent above the five-year average.

Above-average imports of rice estimated in 2022

The country relies on imports to meet its domestic cereal requirements. In the 2022 calendar year, imports of rice are estimated at about 850 000 tonnes, 17 percent above the five-year average, underpinned by strong domestic and export demand. Wheat imports in 2022 are estimated at 355 000 tonnes, about 9 percent below the previous year's average level. The reduced imported quantities of wheat are mostly associated to high international prices and the interruption of shipments of wheat from the Black Sea region.

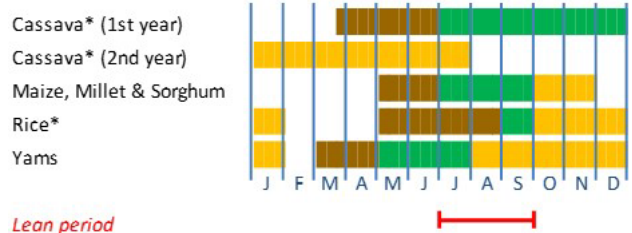
About 650 000 people estimated to be acute food insecure in 2022

According to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" (CH) analysis, nearly 650 000 people were estimated to face acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) between October and December 2022, primarily due to high food prices, which severely constrained food access of the most vulnerable households.

Guinea

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Lean period

Sowing
Growing
Harvesting

Guinea

Cereal Production

	2017-2021 average	2021	2022 forecast	change 2022/2021
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	2 387	2 475	2 523	1.9
Maize	814	798	815	2.1
Cereals NES	484	484	488	0.8
Others	275	281	284	1.1
Total	3 961	4 038	4 110	1.8

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Weather shocks and forced migration are other factors that had a negative impact on livelihoods and food security conditions. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), as of mid-December 2022, floods affected about 48 000 people in eastern and western areas of the country. Furthermore, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as of December 2022, about 2 500 people sought shelter in the country as refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Sierra Leone.

Levels of acute food insecurity are expected to increase in 2023. Food prices are likely to remain at high levels, supported by the unfolding effects of the war in Ukraine on international trade. In the June to August 2023 lean season period, over 920 000 people are projected to face acute food insecurity, including about 2 500 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency).

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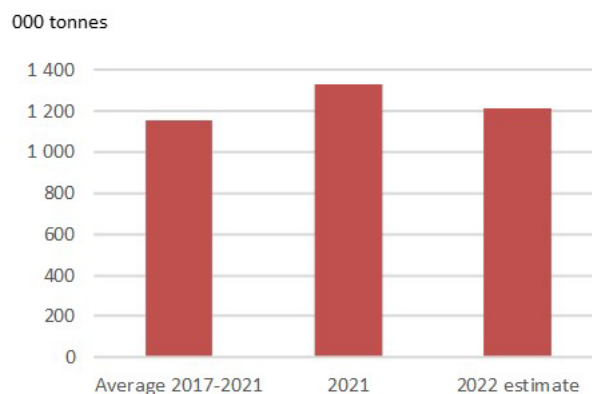
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Guinea

Cereals Imports



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



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 16-March-2021

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Planting of 2021 cereal crops ongoing under favourable weather conditions
- Cereal production in 2020 estimated at above-average level
- Cereal import requirements in 2020/21 estimated at slightly below-average level
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Planting of 2021 cereal crops ongoing under favourable weather conditions

Planting of the 2021 cereal crops (including rice, maize and sorghum) started recently in the southern part of the country and the harvests are expected to start in October 2021. Early seasonal rainfall in March enhanced soil moisture content for planting activities and crop development. In most areas, crops are at sprouting and seedling stages, and weeding activities are regularly underway. In northern areas, seasonal dry weather conditions are still prevailing and planting operations for millet and sorghum, to be harvested from October, are expected to begin in May-June with the onset of seasonal rains.

The recent favourable weather conditions have also improved vegetation conditions in the main grazing areas of the country, with a positive impact on livestock body conditions. The animal health situation is generally good and stable, with just some localized outbreaks of seasonal diseases, including Trypanosomiasis and Contagious Bovine Peripneumonia.

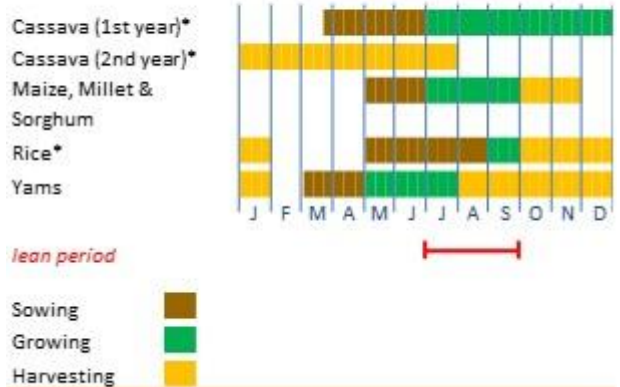
Cereal production in 2020 estimated at above-average level

The 2020 aggregate production is estimated at 4.7 million tonnes, about 20 percent above the five-year average. It includes 2.9 million tonnes of paddy rice (over 26 percent above average) and 948 000 tonnes of maize (18 percent above average). The output mainly reflects good weather conditions and an adequate supply of inputs by the Government (with support of international partner organizations) that resulted in higher yields. The restrictions and economic effects associated with the COVID-19 pandemic did not cause major disruptions to cropping activities.

Guinea

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea

Cereal Production

	2015-2019 average	2019	2020 estimate	change 2020/2019
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	2 297	2 648	2 916	10.1
Maize	797	871	948	8.8
Cereals NES	497	534	566	6.0
Others	272	285	276	-3.2
Total	3 862	4 338	4 706	8.5

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Cereal import requirements in 2020/21 estimated at slightly below-average level

On average, cereal imports cover about one-fifth of the national consumption needs, mostly rice and wheat. In the 2020/21 marketing year (November/October), cereal import requirements are estimated at 830 000 tonnes, slightly below the average as a result of an above-average cereal production in 2020.

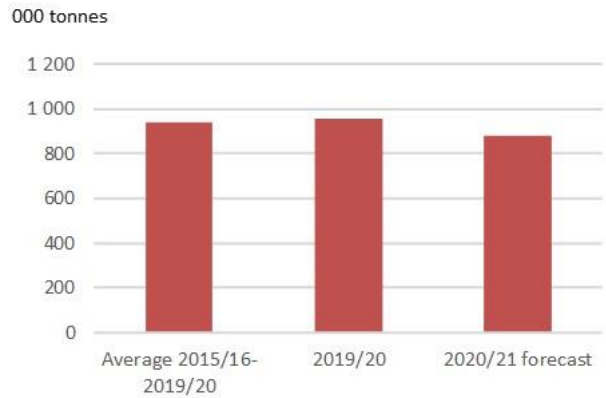
Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Despite the overall favourable food security conditions, the most vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2020 "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis (latest available), the aggregate number of severely food insecure people (CH Phase 3: "Crisis" and above) was estimated at 267 000 during the lean season between June and August 2020. It is very likely that the food security situation would have worsened and the number of food insecure population increased with the impact of COVID-19, as the initial numbers were formulated in March 2020, prior to the full effects of the containment measures and its impacts on the local economy.

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Guinea

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.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 23-April-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Timely start of 2020 cropping season
- Above-average production harvested in 2019
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Timely start of 2020 cropping season

Following a timely onset of seasonal rains in March, planting operations for rice, maize and sorghum crops are ongoing in the southern part of the country and the harvests are expected to start in October 2020. Since the start of the season, adequate rainfall amounts supported soil moisture content for crop development. In most areas, crops are at sprouting, seedling and tillering stages, and weeding activities are regularly underway. In northern areas, seasonal dry weather conditions are still prevailing and planting operations for millet and sorghum, to be harvested from October, are expected to begin in May-June with the onset of the rains.

Favourable rains have also contributed to the recovery of pasture conditions. Forage availability is overall satisfactory in the main grazing areas of the country, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions and enhance their market value. The animal health situation is generally good and stable, with just some localized outbreaks of seasonal diseases, including Trypanosomiasis and Contagious Bovine Peripneumonia.

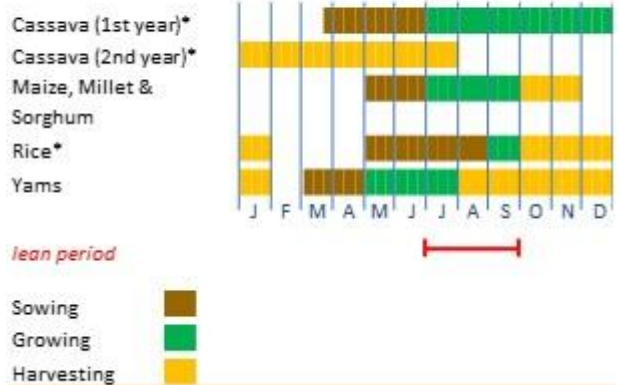
Above-average production harvested in 2019

Harvesting activities of the 2019 rainfed and irrigated crops was completed by end-January. Favourable rainfall across the country, coupled with an adequate supply of seeds, fertilizers, tractors, capacity building and management services delivered by the Government with the support by international partners' organizations (FAO), benefited the 2019 national cereal production. The National Support Programme for Actors in Agricultural Sectors (PNAFA), through the establishment of school fields, provided about 17 500 tonnes of seeds, 52 tonnes of fertilizers, 6 tonnes of dolomite and 1 450 litres of pesticides. In addition, the Agricultural Productivity Programme in West Africa (PPAAO/WAAPP) has set up a digital platform called E-Voucher or electronic coupon, for the distribution to producers of 12 tonnes of NPK, 18 800 litres of herbicides, about 147 000 tonnes of rice, nearly 120 000 tonnes of maize and 23 500 tonnes of soybean seeds.

Guinea

Crop Calendar

(*major foodcrop)



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea

Cereal Production

	2014-2018 average	2018	2019 estimate	change 2019/2018
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	2 146	2 340	2 599	11.1
Maize	765	819	871	6.5
Cereals NES	485	509	530	4.3
Others	267	275	273	-1.0
Total	3 663	3 942	4 273	8.4

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

The aggregate cereal output in 2019 is estimated at 4.2 million tonnes, about 17 percent above the five-year average. The 2019 harvest includes 2.5 million tonnes of paddy rice (over 20 percent above average) and 871 000 tonnes of maize (14 percent above average).

Despite the 2019 above-average production, import requirements for the 2019/20 marketing year (November/October) are forecast at a slightly above-average level of 850 000 tonnes as local traders are aiming to replenish their stocks.

Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Despite overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2020 "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, the aggregate number of severely food insecure people (CH Phase 3: "Crisis" and above) is estimated at about 113 000, below the 146 000 people estimated in March 2019. If appropriate measures and responses are not implemented, this number is projected to increase to 267 000 people during the next lean season between June and August 2020, still below the 288 000 food insecure people that were estimated for the same period in 2019.

COVID-19 and measures adopted by the Government

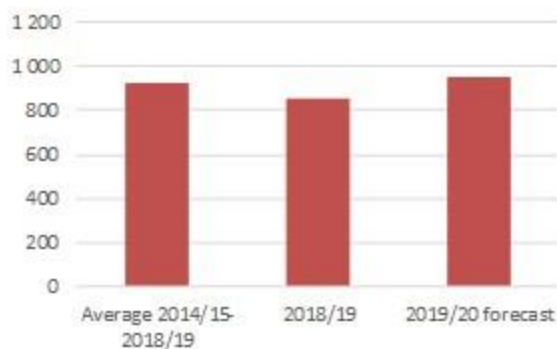
In view of the evolving COVID-19 situation, the Government has decreed a total country lockdown and a curfew, starting from 2 April 2020. The Government has also taken some sanitary, social and economic measures, including the wearing of a community mask or bib which is now mandatory for all citizens. Official restrictions on population movements, combined with heightened levels of fear, have led many people to stay at their homes. Although these measures have not affected access to food, further restrictions on population movements could hamper access to land and have a negative impact on 2020 agricultural production.

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Guinea

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.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 18-September-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Normal progress of 2019 cropping season
- Slightly above-average cereal production expected in 2019
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Normal progress of 2019 cropping season due to favourable moisture conditions

Planting operations of the 2019 rice and coarse grain crops (maize, millet and sorghum), to be harvested from October, started on time in February-March in the southern part of the country and were completed across the country in June. Favourable moisture conditions are benefiting crop development and weeding activities are underway in most cropping areas.

Pasture supply and quality are currently favourable, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions and enhance their market value. The animal health situation is generally satisfactory, with no major disease outbreaks.

Slightly above-average harvest expected in 2019

The harvest of the main 2019 season cereal crops is expected to start from October across the country. The aggregate cereal output in 2019 is forecast at an average of 3.7 million tonnes reflecting favourable rainfall coupled with the Government's support in terms of seeds, fertilizers, tractors, capacity building and management.

Cereal import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at an above-average 1.3 million tonnes as traders aim to replenishing their stocks.

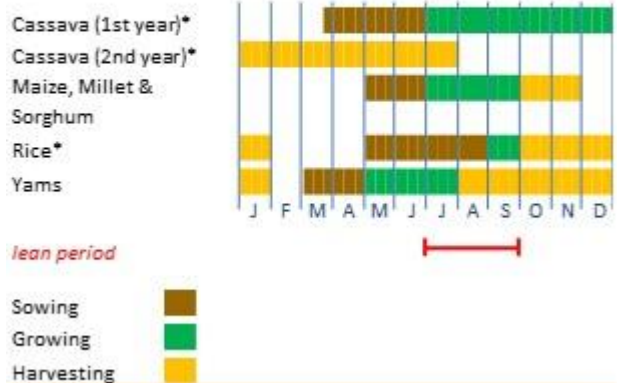
Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Despite overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2019 "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 288 000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from June to August 2019, with a significant increase from 21 000 food insecure people in June-August 2018. The food security situation has deteriorated in recent years, mainly due to the expansion of the mining sector to the detriment of subsistence agriculture. Most displaced small-scale farmers lack the technical

Guinea

Crop Calendar

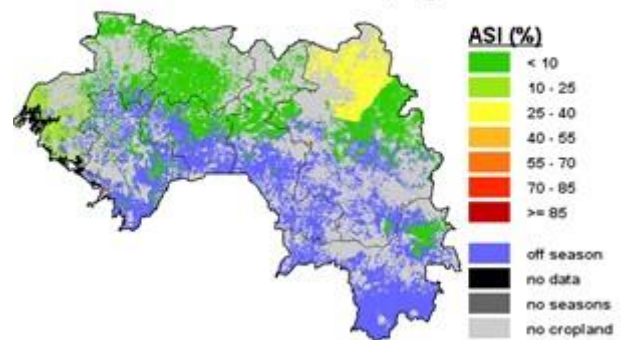
(*major foodcrop)



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

From start of season 1 to dekad 2, August 2019



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

skills to be employed into the mining sector and the reduced own production of food has resulted in an increase of market dependency. The expansion of the mining sector is also affecting pastoral livelihoods through the reduction of grazing areas and constraints on transhumance movements. In addition, outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and other recurrent epizootics continue to affect livestock (especially cattle) in most pastoral areas.

Guinea

Cereal Production

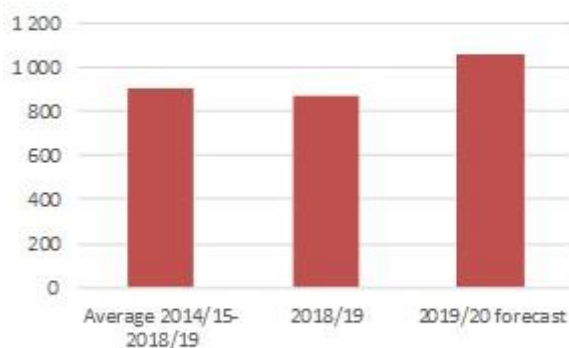
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Rice (paddy)	2 146	2 340	2 194	-6.2
Maize	765	819	776	-5.2
Cereals NES	485	509	485	-4.6
Others	267	275	263	-4.5
Total	3 663	3 942	3 718	-5.7

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

Guinea

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.

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GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 20-May-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Normal progress of 2019 cropping season
- Above-average cereal production gathered in 2018
- Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Normal progress of 2019 cropping season due to favourable moisture conditions

Following a timely onset of the seasonal rains in March, planting operations for rice, maize, millet and sorghum crops are ongoing and the harvests are expected to start in October 2019. Cumulative rainfall amounts since the start of the season are providing adequate soil moisture for crop development. Favourable rains are also contributing to the recovery of pasture conditions across the country. Weeding activities are underway in most cropping areas.

Above-average harvest gathered in 2018

Government and partner support to farmers in terms of seeds, fertilizers, tractors, capacity building and management, coupled with favourable rainfall in 2018, benefitted crop development in most parts of the country. Despite some localized flooding and Fall Armyworm outbreaks, the 2018 cereal production is estimated at 3.9 million tonnes, about 4 percent higher than the previous year and 12 percent above the five-year average. Paddy production, which accounts for the bulk of the cereal production, is estimated at 2.3 million tonnes, about 7 percent above the previous year.

Pasture supply and quality are currently improving, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions. The animal health situation is generally satisfactory.

Following an above-average harvest, import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at 830 000 tonnes, slightly below the last five-year average.

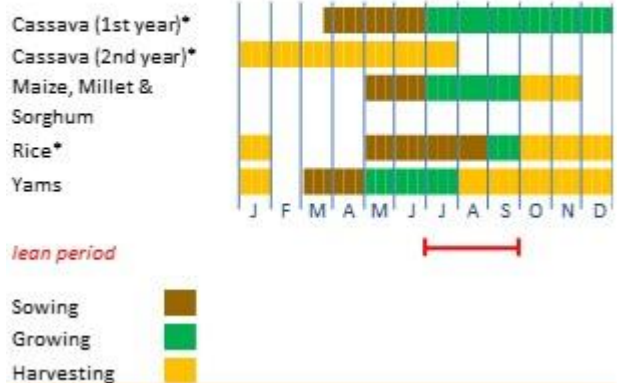
Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation

According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), the economic growth is forecast to remain strong at about 6.4 percent in 2019, up from 6 percent recorded in 2018, mainly due to sustained public investments in infrastructures, high foreign direct

Guinea

Crop Calendar

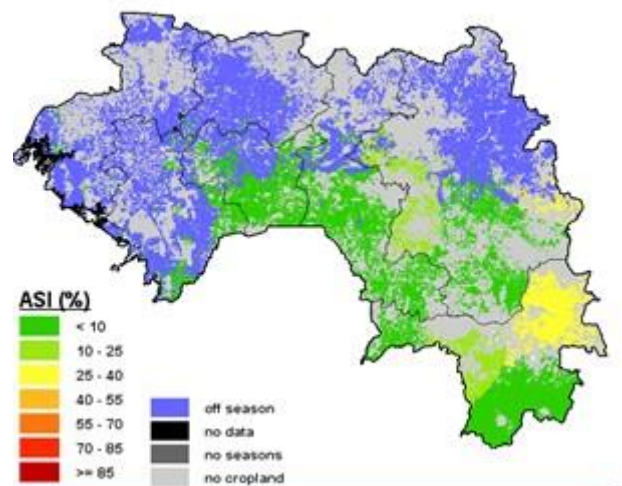
(*major foodcrop)



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

from start of season 1 to dekad 2, April 2019



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

investments in the mining sector (bauxite and gold) and above-average agricultural production. In 2019, the year on year food price inflation is forecast at 10.2 percent, slightly up compared to the previous year. This is explained by the increase of a 25 percent in fuel prices in the last quarter of 2018, which has raised transportation costs.

Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Despite the overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2019 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 146 000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2019, with a significant increase from 5 000 food insecure people in March-May 2018. The current caseload is expected to increase to 288 000 during the June to August 2019 period, if no mitigation actions are taken. The strong pressure exerted by the mining companies on the agricultural production and pastoral areas explains the significant deterioration of the food security situation compared to last year. This has resulted in a reduction of transhumance corridors. In addition, the effects of foot-and-mouth disease and recurrent epizootics continue to affect livestock life (especially cattle) in livestock areas.

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Guinea

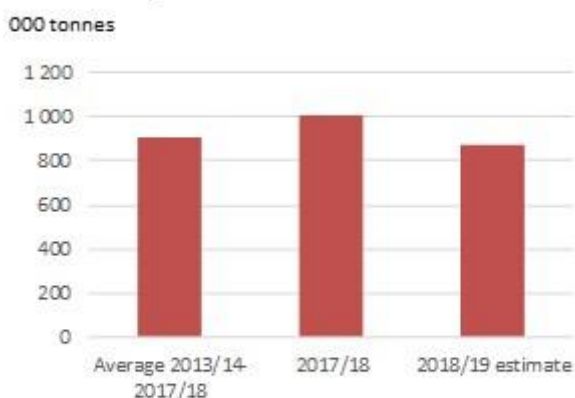
Cereal Production

	2013-2017 average	2017	2018 estimate	change 2018/2017
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	2 061	2 198	2 340	6.5
Maize	736	817	819	0.1
Cereals NES	473	488	509	4.1
Others	263	271	275	1.5
Total	3 533	3 775	3 942	4.4

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

Guinea

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.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 13-March-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above-average cereal production gathered in 2018
- Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Above-average harvest gathered in 2018

Government and partner support to producers in terms of seeds, fertilizers, tractors, capacity building and management as well as favourable rainfall in 2018 benefitted crop development in most parts of the country. Harvesting of maize, millet, sorghum and rice crops was completed in November 2018, while harvesting of irrigated cassava will continue until end-July 2019. Some localized flooding and Fall Armyworm outbreaks were recorded with about 11 200 hectares of maize and 8 300 households affected. However, 2018's national cereal production is estimated at 3.9 million tonnes, about 5 percent higher than the previous season's output and 12 percent above the five-year average. Paddy production, which accounts for the bulk of the cereal production, is estimated at 2.4 million tonnes, about 10 percent above the previous year.

Pasture supply and quality are currently favourable, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions. The animal health situation is generally satisfactory. However, the incidence of seasonal diseases, including the foot-and-mouth disease in northwestern parts, the sheep and goat plague and rage were observed with the latter presenting an upsurge during this year.

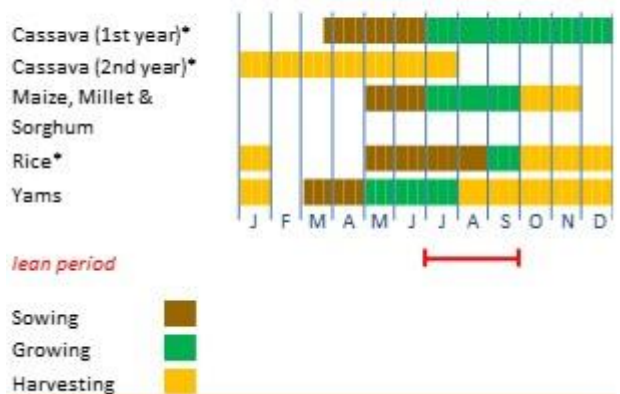
Following an above-average harvest, import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at 860 000 tonnes, slightly below the last five-year average.

Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation

According to the Economic Intelligence Unit, the economic growth is forecast to remain strong at about 6.4 percent in 2019, up from 6 percent recorded in 2018, mainly due to public investment in infrastructure, high foreign direct investment inflows into the mining sector (bauxite and gold) and agricultural production. In 2019, the year-on-year food price inflation is forecast at 10.2 percent, slightly up compared to the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the impact of the 25 percent increase in fuel prices in the last quarter of 2018 on food production and transportation costs.

Guinea

Crop Calendar (*major foodcrop)



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Guinea

Cereal Production

	2013-2017 average	2017	2018 estimate	change 2018/2017
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	2 061	2 198	2 418	10.0
Maize	736	817	756	-7.5
Cereals NES	473	488	473	-3.1
Others	247	240	279	16.3
Total	3 517	3 743	3 926	4.9

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

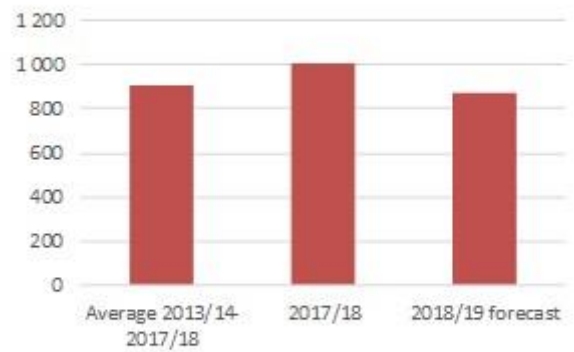
Despite the overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the November 2018 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 90 000 people were estimated to be in need of food assistance from October to December 2018, with a significant increase from 5 000 food insecure people in March-May 2018. This number is expected to increase to 117 000 during the June to August 2019, if no mitigation actions are taken. Furthermore, according to the Global Analysis of Vulnerability, Food Security and Nutrition (AGVSAN), in December 2018, 22 percent of the household in Guinea are in a situation of food insecurity with about 41 percent located in N’Zérékoré Region.

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Guinea

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.



GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 02-August-2018

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- **Planting of 2018 cereal crops started on time under favourable weather conditions**
- **Above-average cereal production gathered in 2017**
- **Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people**

Timely start of cereal planting in the country

Planting operations of the 2018 rice and coarse grains crops (maize, millet and sorghum), to be harvested from October, started on time in February-March in the southern part of the country and continued in the northern cropping areas where they are almost complete. Favourable moisture conditions are benefiting crop development in most cropping areas.

Pasture supply and quality are currently favourable, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions and enhance their market value. The animal health situation is also relatively satisfactory. No major disease outbreaks have been recorded yet.

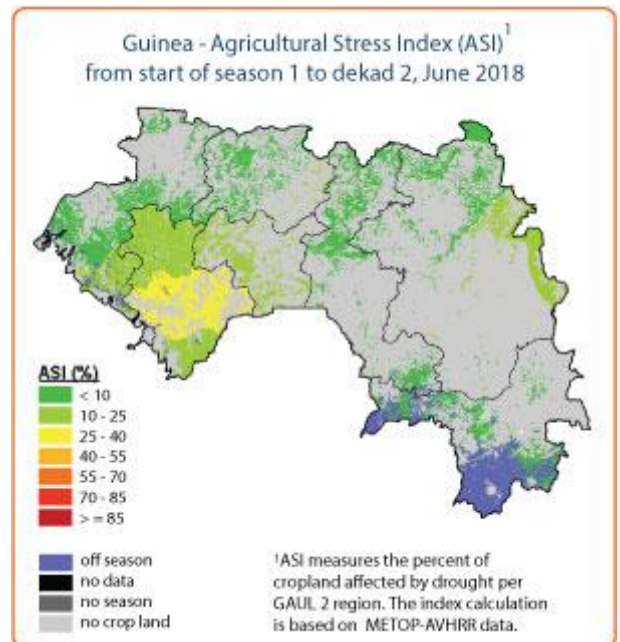
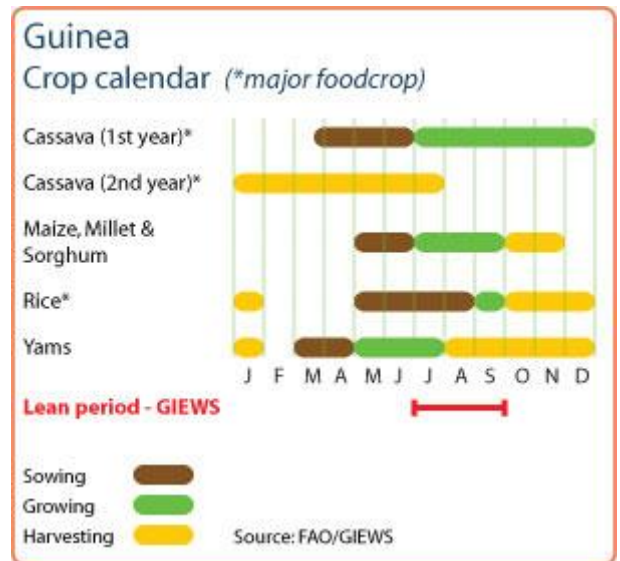
Average harvest gathered in 2017 due to good weather conditions

The 2017 agricultural season was characterized by near-average rainfall. Despite some localized weather shocks such as prolonged dry spells or floods and some Fall Armyworm outbreaks, the national cereal production was estimated at 3.7 million tonnes, about 2 percent higher than the previous season's output and 10 percent above the five-year average. Paddy production, which accounts for the bulk of the cereal production, is estimated at 2.2 million tonnes, similar to the previous year.

On average, about 700 000 tonnes of cereals (mostly rice and wheat) are imported every year, corresponding to about 20 percent of the domestic cereal consumption requirements. Following an above-average harvest, import requirements in 2018 are expected to decrease.

Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

There has been a significant recovery of marketing activities (movement restrictions and limited trade flows) since the Ebola outbreak impacted the local economy in June-August 2014. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), the economy



grew at about 8.1 percent in 2017, driven mostly by agriculture. Although it is expected to slow down at 6.4 percent in 2018, the growth will remain sustained due to public investment in infrastructure and mining, in particular bauxite and gold. In 2018, the food price inflation year-on-year is forecast at 9.5 percent, up from the 8.9 percent reported in 2017, due to higher global oil and food prices. This will continue to erode the purchasing power of the most vulnerable households.

Despite the overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2018 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 5 000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2018, with a significant decrease from 110 000 food insecure people in March-May 2017 due to the increase in the efforts by the Government and its partners to improve agricultural production. This number is expected to increase to 21 000 people during the June to August period, if no mitigation actions are taken.

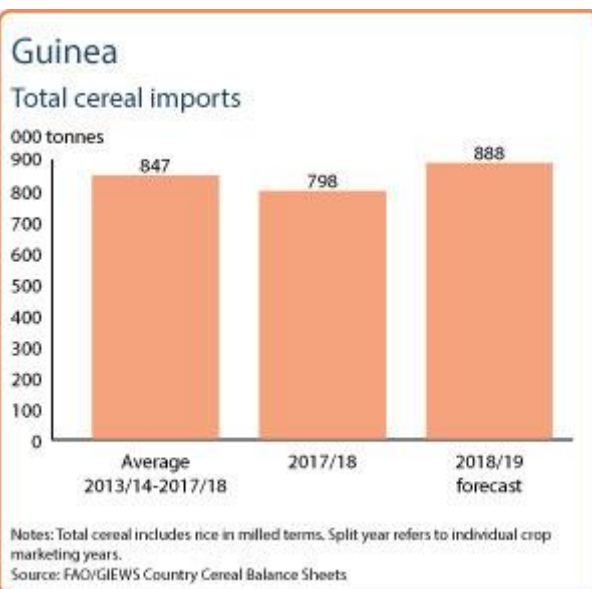
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Guinea

Cereal production

	2012-2016 average	2016	2017 estimate	change 2017/2016
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 991	2 174	2 198	1
Maize	701	766	817	7
Cereals nes	461	478	488	2
Others	249	235	240	2
Total	3 403	3 652	3 743	2

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





GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 12-February-2018

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- An above-average cereal harvest gathered in 2017 due to favourable weather conditions
- About 34 000 people estimated to be food insecure

Favourable rains in 2017 resulted in above-average cereal production

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November 2017, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was just concluded in January. Most cropping areas benefited from the timely and favourable rains during the growing period. Some areas, particularly in the east part of the country, such as Kankan and Mali regions, experienced rainfall deficits towards the end of the season compared to the average. These deficits, however, did not compromise crops' performance.

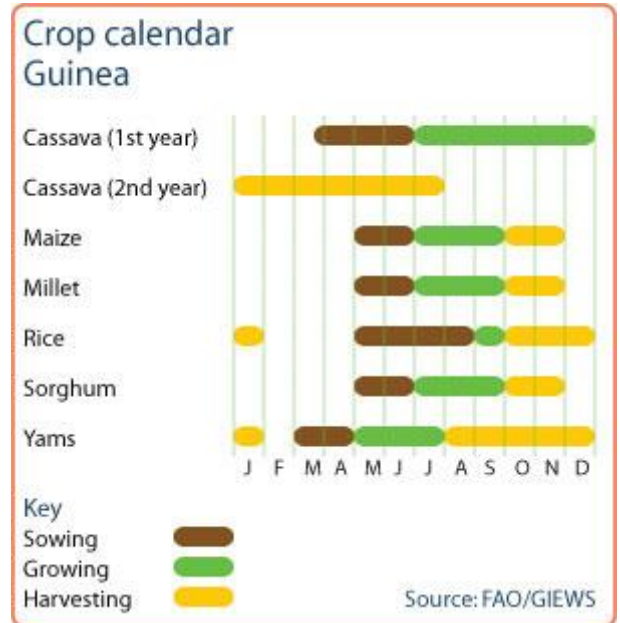
According to preliminary estimates, despite some Fall Armyworm outbreaks, the aggregate cereal production in 2017 is estimated at about 3.9 million tonnes, 6 percent above the previous year's output and 14 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production is estimated at 2.3 million tonnes, an 8 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

Owing to favourable rains, pasture supply and quality are currently favourable. However, with the progress of dry season, which lasts from February to May, coupled with bush fires, pasture supply is expected to deteriorate, particularly in the Middle and Upper Guinea regions.

On average, about 700 000 tonnes of cereals (mostly rice and wheat) are imported every year, corresponding to about 20 percent of the domestic cereal consumption requirements. Following an above-average harvest, the import requirement is estimated to decrease.

Small pockets of food insecurity prevail

The local economy continues to be negatively affected by the lingering effects of the Ebola virus outbreak of 2014. The economy grew at about 6 percent in 2016 and 2017, driven mostly by agriculture. While services and manufacturing sectors continue to stagnate. Food price inflation remains in the double-digit territory, ranging from 12 to 14 percent in 2017, eroding the



**Guinea
Cereal production**

	2012-2016 average	2016	2017 estimate	change 2017/2016
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 991	2 174	2 348	8
Maize	692	766	817	7
Cereals nes	452	445	452	2
Others	252	251	252	0
Total	3 387	3 635	3 869	6

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

purchasing power of the most vulnerable.

Small pockets of food insecurity prevail due to localized production shortfalls. According to the last analysis of the “Cadre Harmonisé” (Harmonized Framework) conducted in November 2017, around 34 000 people were estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above between October and December 2017, down from about 286 000 people during the same period in the previous year.

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GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 23-March-2017

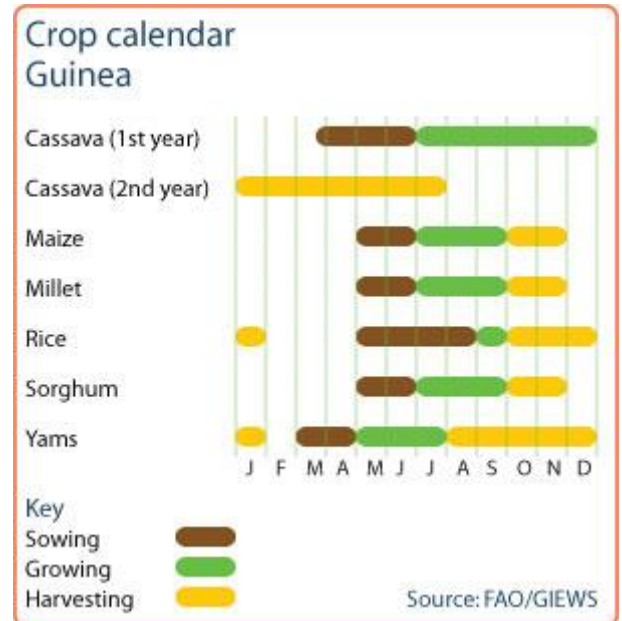
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- An above-average cereal harvest was gathered in 2016
- Cereal import requirements in 2017 forecast to decline compared to 2016 levels
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 51 000

Favourable rains in 2016 resulted in above-average cereal harvest

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was concluded in January 2017. Most cropping areas benefited from favourable rains during most of the growing period. An above-average crop was harvested for the second consecutive year after the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak severely affected agricultural production in several areas in 2014. According to preliminary estimates, the aggregate cereal production in 2016 was estimated at about 3.6 million tonnes, 3 percent above the previous year's output and 14 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.174 million tonnes, a 6 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N'zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N'zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when the crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.



Guinea Cereal production

	2011-2015 average	2015	2016 estimate	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 956	2 047	2 174	6
Maize	661	727	766	5
Cereals nes	445	500	445	-11
Others	251	255	251	-2
Total	3 313	3 529	3 636	3

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

Cereal import requirements in 2017 estimated lower than the previous year's levels

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2017 are estimated at about 788 000 tonnes, 17 percent below the previous year's level reflecting the increase in domestic supplies. Rice import requirements account for about 500 000 tonnes of the total.

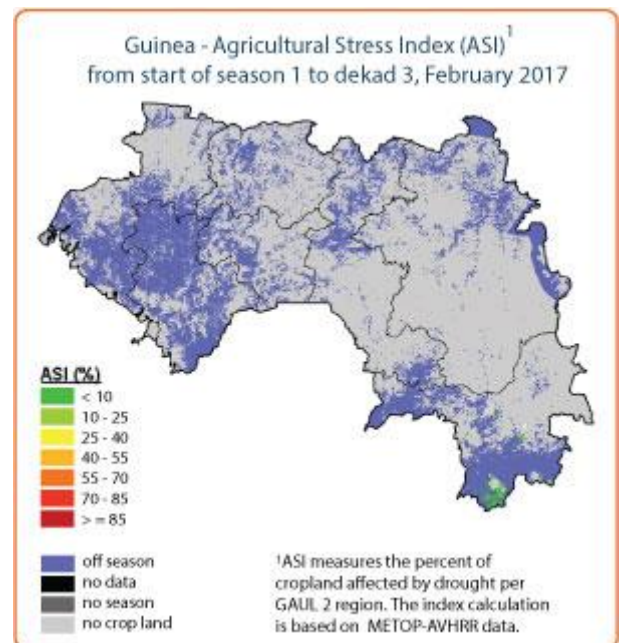
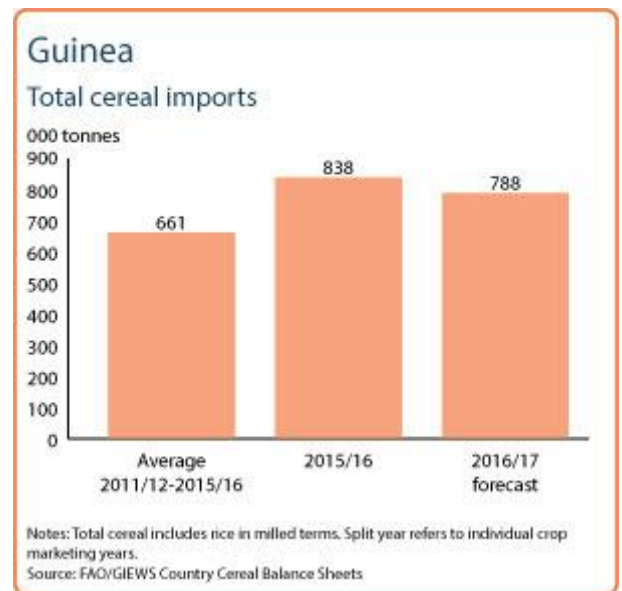
In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Borders have re-opened, which led to a significant increase in trade flows.

Food security situation expected to remain stable in 2017

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD outbreak has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), Guinea's real GDP contracted by 0.4 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.1 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP growth in 2016 is estimated at 4.8 percent. Agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea, has improved the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 51 000 people, located mostly in N'zérékore and Kindia, were estimated to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above, between October and December 2016. The number of food insecure people is forecast to increase to over 125 000 between June and August 2017. The Government and its partners have provided assistance with agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in the Ebola-affected areas for the 2016/17 agricultural season.

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GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 16-November-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above-average 2016 cereal harvest expected
- Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in 2015
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 84 085

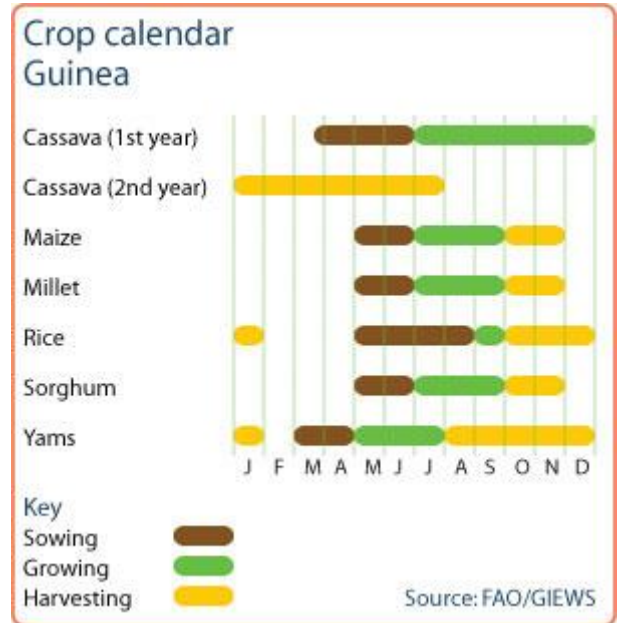
Overall prospects favourable for 2016 cereal production

Harvesting of coarse grains is almost completed, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, will continue until January 2017.

Data obtained from satellite images shows that crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions during most of the growing period. An above-average crop is expected for the second consecutive year after the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak severely affected agricultural production in several areas in 2014.

Cereal production recovered in 2015 following the previous year's Ebola-affected crop. The aggregate cereal production in 2015 was estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, 7 percent above the previous year's output and 11 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N'zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N'zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.



**Guinea
Cereal production**

	2010-2014 average	2015	2016 forecast	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 870	2 047	2 060	1
Maize	632	727	766	5
Cereals nes	422	500	445	-11
Others	256	255	251	-2
Total	3 180	3 529	3 522	0

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

Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in previous year

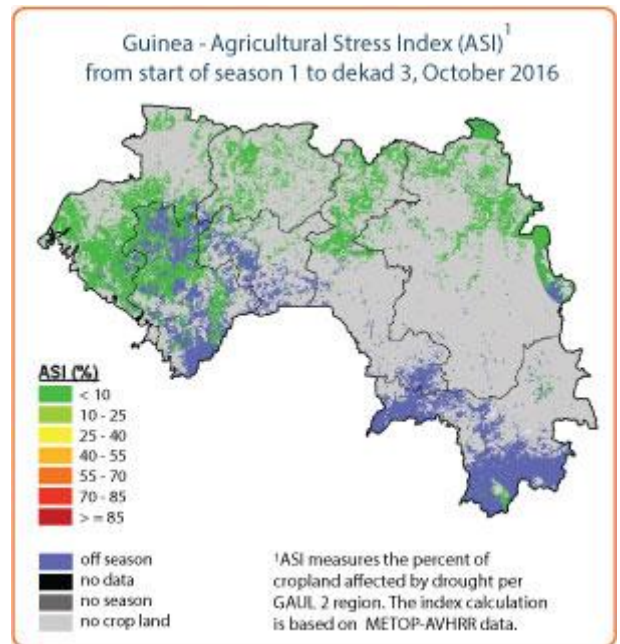
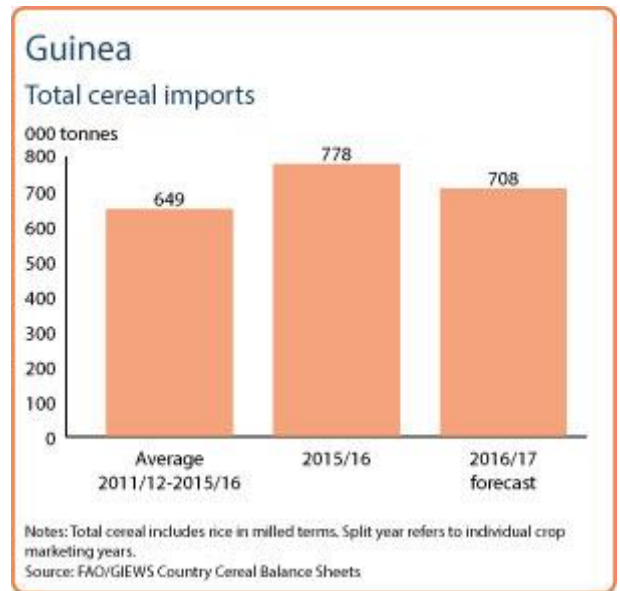
Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 688 000 tonnes, similar to the previous year's level. Rice import requirements account for about 430 000 tonnes of the total.

In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Borders have re-opened, which led to a significant increase in trade flows.

Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD outbreak has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), Guinea's real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. Despite the recent new cases, agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea, has improved the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 84 085 people, located mostly in N'zérékore and Kindia, were projected to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above, between June and August. The Government and its partners have provided assistance with agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in the Ebola-affected areas for the 2016/17 agricultural season.





GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 16-August-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

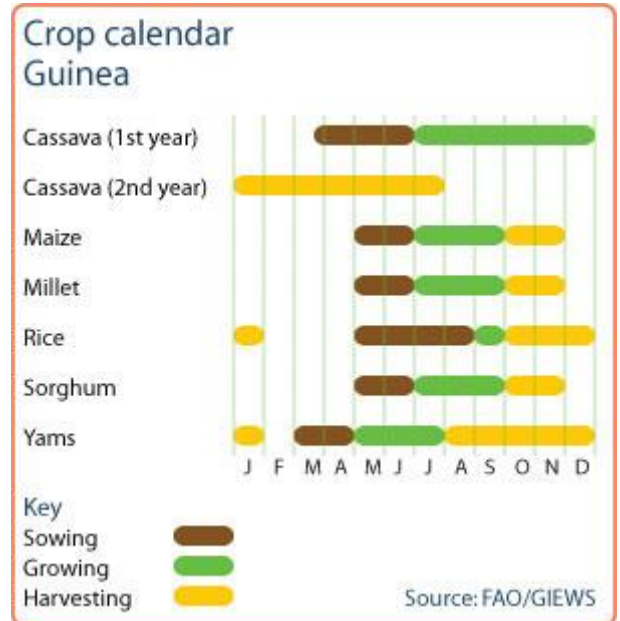
- Harvest prospects generally favourable
- Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in 2015
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 90 700

Overall prospects favourable for 2016 cereal production

Planting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in June, while planting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. Data obtained from satellite images shows that the growing crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most of the regions during the sowing season and the vegetation period from April to the third dekad of July. Harvesting of rice and coarse grains will begin in October.

Cereal production recovered in 2015 following the previous year's Ebola-affected crop. The aggregate cereal production in 2015 was estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, 7 percent above the previous year's output and 11 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N'zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N'zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.



**Guinea
Cereal production**

	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 estimate	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 870	1 970	2 047	4
Maize	632	652	727	12
Cereals nes	422	437	500	14
Others	256	247	255	3
Total	3 180	3 306	3 529	7

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

Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in previous year

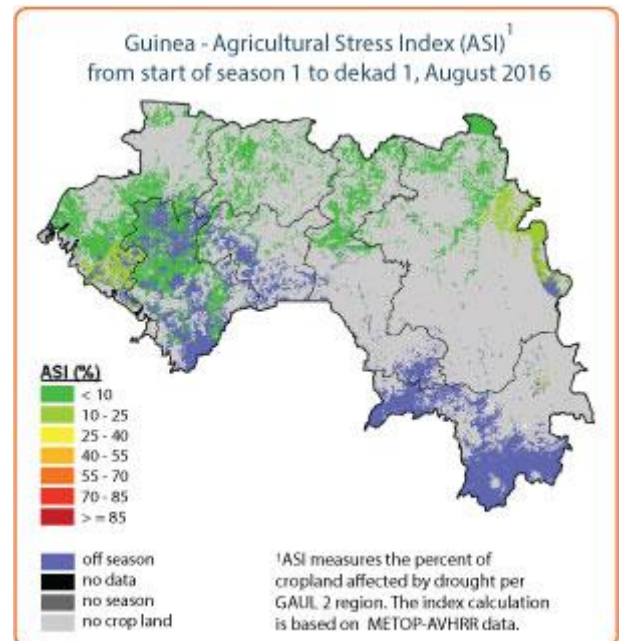
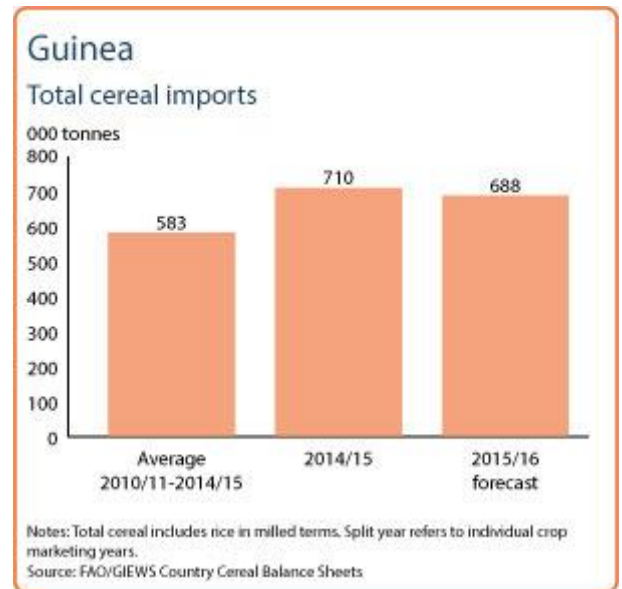
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In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Borders have re-opened, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. Reflecting strong demand for agricultural products during the fasting month of Ramadan in June, prices of local and imported rice have risen in recent months. However, they will likely fall to normal levels due to the arrival of the new harvest.

Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD outbreak has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea's real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. Despite the recent new cases, agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea is expected to improve the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 148 400 people, located mostly in N'zérékore and Kindia, were projected to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above and in need of urgent assistance. The Government and its partners are providing assistance in agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in the Ebola-affected areas for the 2016/17 agricultural season.





GIEWS Country Brief Guinea

Reference Date: 28-June-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Harvest prospects generally favourable
- Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in 2015
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 90 700

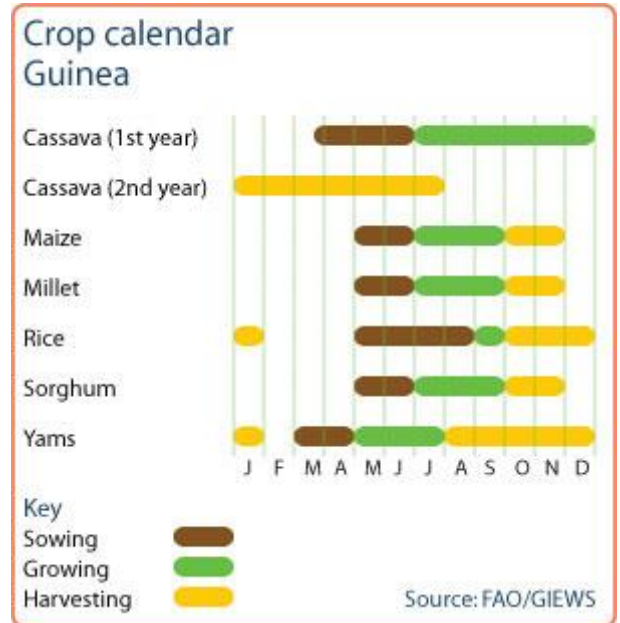
Early prospects favourable for 2016 cereal production

Land preparation and planting of the 2016 rice and coarse grains crops are underway countrywide, following the start of the raining season in May. Data obtained from satellite images indicates generally adequate climatic conditions in most regions with average to above-average rainfall estimated from April to the second dekad of June. However, a delay in the start of the cropping season was reported in some areas.

Seven newly-confirmed cases of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) were reported between mid-March and early April. According to the World Health Organization, the last case tested negative for Ebola virus for the second time on 19 April and Guinea declared an end to Ebola virus transmission on 1 June. The resurgence of Ebola is unlikely to have any major impact on the 2016 agricultural season.

Cereal production recovered in 2015 following the previous year's Ebola-affected crop. The aggregate cereal production in 2015 was estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, 7 percent above the previous year's output and 11 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as



**Guinea
Cereal production**

	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 estimate	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 870	1 970	2 047	4
Maize	632	652	727	12
Cereals nes	422	437	500	14
Others	256	247	255	3
Total	3 180	3 306	3 529	7

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

-8.5 percent in N'zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N'zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.

Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in previous year

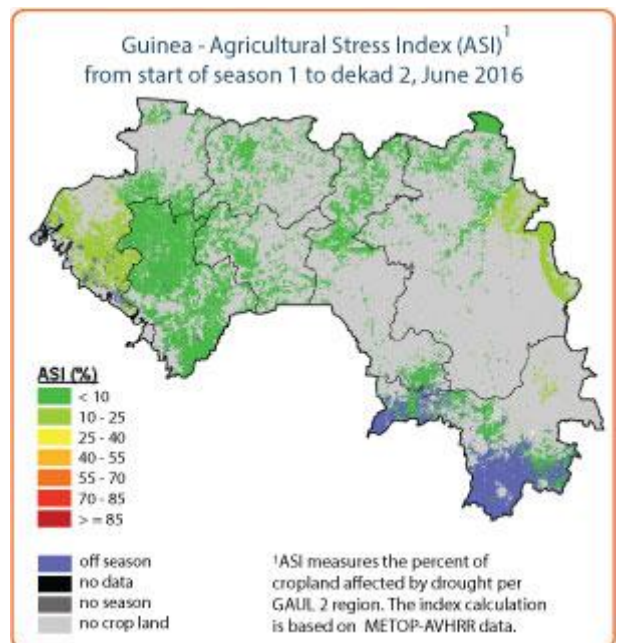
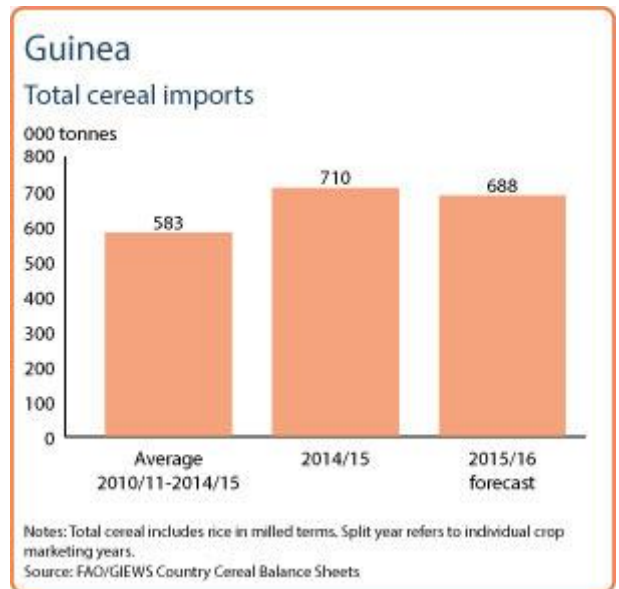
Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 688 000 tonnes, similar to the previous year's level. Rice import requirements account for about 430 000 tonnes of the total.

In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. These neighbouring countries sincere-opened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. However, following the Resurgence of EVD, the Liberian border has since been closed which is likely to disrupt cross-border trade. Prices of local and imported rice have been mostly stable in recent months and will likely remain stable due to the availability of agricultural products and well-supplied markets.

Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea's real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. Despite the recent new cases, agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea is expected to improve the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 148 400 people, located mostly in N'zérékore and Kindia, were projected to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above and in need of urgent assistance. The Government and its partners are providing assistance in agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in Ebola-affected areas for the 2016-2017 agricultural season.



Reference Date: 10-March-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Preliminary estimates for 2015 harvest point to above-average cereal production
- Cereal import requirements estimated to fall in 2016 compared to last year's level
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 40 501

Favourable rains in 2015 resulted in above-average cereal harvest

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was concluded in January 2016. Most cropping areas benefited from favourable rains. Precipitation was particularly abundant in several areas, including Forécariah, Boke, Koundara, Dinguiraye and Mamou. However, rainfall deficits were recorded in pockets of the eastern part of Upper Guinea and the South Forest regions.

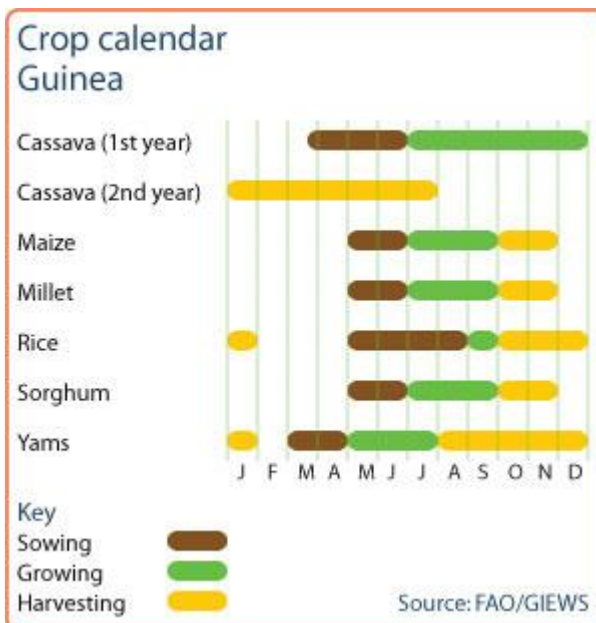
The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), which significantly affected farming activities in 2014, has been largely controlled. The country was declared free of Ebola transmission in December 2015. As a result, the aggregate cereal production in 2015, estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, is 7 percent above the previous year's output and 11 percent above-average. Of this total, paddy rice production is estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before, and accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N'zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N'zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.

Cereal import requirements estimated to decline in 2016

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 613 000 tonnes, 7 percent below the previous year's level.

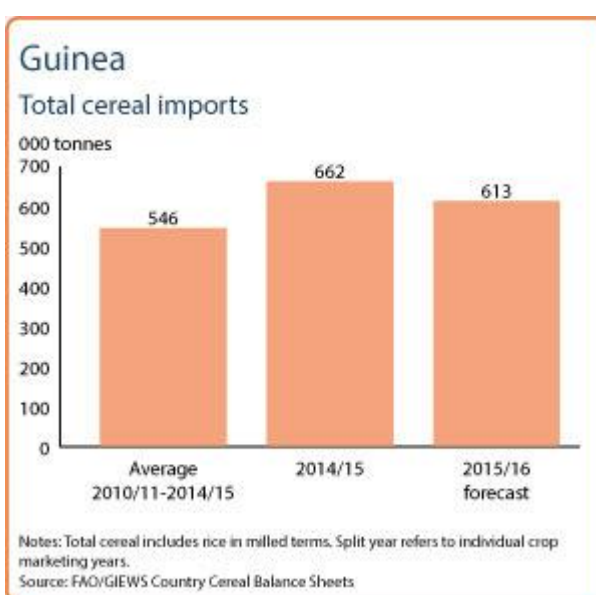
The commercial imports of rice are forecast to fall by 9 percent, while wheat imports are anticipated to remain at the level of recent years.



Guinea Cereal production

	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 forecast	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (paddy)	1 870	1 970	2 047	4
Maize	632	652	727	12
Cereals nes	422	437	500	14
Others	256	247	255	3
Total	3 180	3 306	3 529	7

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



All neighbouring countries have re-opened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. However, prices of local and imported rice have been mostly stable in recent months and will likely remain stable due to the availability of agricultural products and well-supplied markets.

Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea's real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly and grew by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. The return of agricultural manual labour after the control of the outbreak; the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of the borders with Guinea are expected to improve the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 40 500 people, located mostly in Nzerekore and Kindia, are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above and are in need of urgent assistance. The Government and its partners are providing assistance in agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in Ebola-affected areas for the 2016-2017 agricultural season.

Reference Date: 28-January-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Preliminary estimates for 2015 harvest point to above-average cereal production
- Cereal import requirements are estimated to fall in 2016 compared to last year's level
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 40 501

Favourable rains in 2015 resulted in above-average cereal harvest

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. Most cropping areas benefited from favourable rains. Precipitation was particularly abundant in several areas, including Forécariah, Boke, Koundara, Dinguiraye and Mamou. However, rainfall deficits were recorded in pockets of the eastern part of Upper Guinea and the South Forest regions.

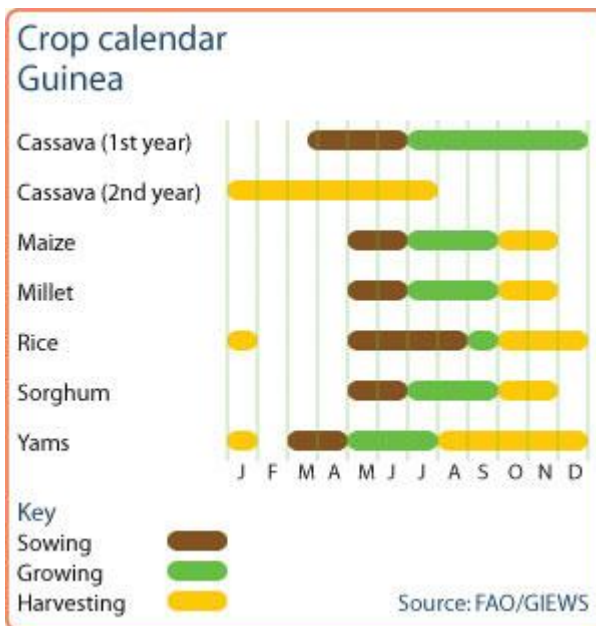
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In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting have been disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masks the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production is estimated as high as -8.5 percent in N'zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N'zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.

Cereal import requirements are estimated to decline in 2016

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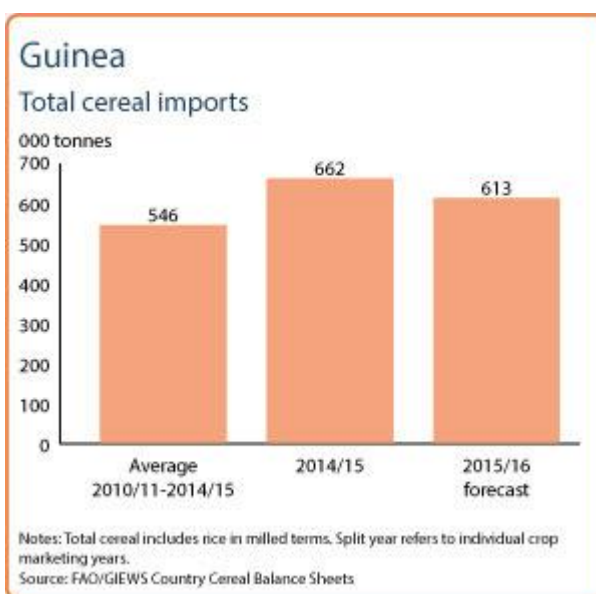
The commercial imports of rice are forecast to fall by 9 percent, while wheat imports are anticipated to remain at the level of recent years.



Guinea Cereal production

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Others	256	247	255	3
Total	3 180	3 306	3 529	7

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



All neighbouring countries have reopened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. However, prices of local and imported rice remained mostly stable in recent months.

Food security and economy severely affected by EVD outbreak

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sector, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea's real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014, and recovered only slightly and grew by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely in control, real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 40 500 people, located mostly in Nzerekore and Kindia, are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above and are in need of urgent assistance.

Reference Date: 07-August-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Early prospects for 2015 cereal production are favourable
- After several years of steady growth, rice production is estimated to have dropped by 4 percent in 2014 due to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak
- Cereal import requirements in 2015 are, therefore, estimated to increase slightly compared to last year's level
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 393 000 between June and August

Overall crop prospects are favourable

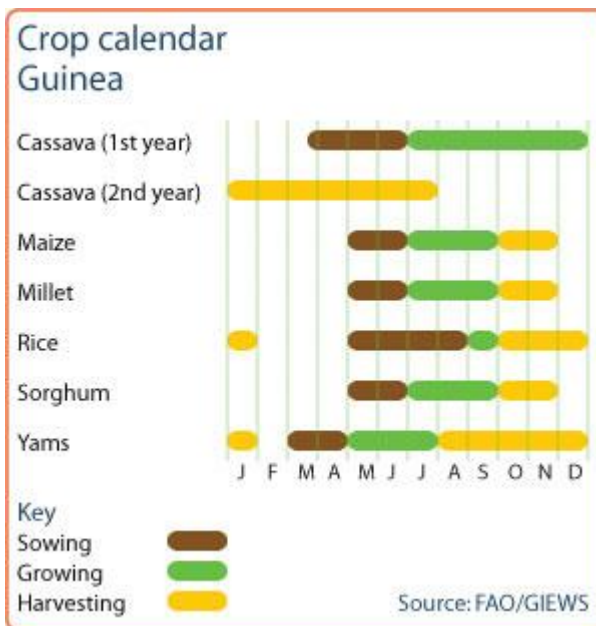
Planting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in June, while planting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. Data obtained from satellite images shows that the crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most of the regions during the sowing season and the vegetation period. Moreover, the EVD, which significantly affected farming activities last year, has been largely controlled. There was only one confirmed case of EVD reported in the week of 2 August 2015. Harvesting of rice and coarse grains will begin in October.

Last year, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors in 2014. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting have been disrupted mostly through labour shortages. The aggregate food crop production in 2014 was estimated at 3.04 million tonnes (including cassava in cereal equivalent and rice in milled terms), 3 percent lower than the record harvest of 2013. Of this total, milled rice production was estimated at 1.315 million tonnes, 4 percent lower than the year before and accounts for the bulk of the cereal production. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masks the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, impact on rice production is estimated as high as -8.5 percent in N'zérékore.

Cereal import requirements are estimated to increase in 2015

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2015 are estimated at 444 000 tonnes, slightly up from last year. Rice import requirements account for about 320 000 tonnes of the total. The commercial imports of rice (at 300 000 tonnes) and wheat (at 100 000 tonnes) are anticipated to remain at the level of 2013. The uncovered gap is estimated at about 44 000 tonnes for which additional resources and international assistance is required. The significant impact of Ebola on export earnings is expected to have compromised the country's ability to import more.

All neighbouring countries have reopened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. Last year, the border



Guinea Cereal production

	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 forecast	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 870	1 970	2 000	2
Maize	632	652	680	4
Cereals nes	422	437	424	-3
Others	256	247	240	-3
Total	3 180	3 306	3 344	1

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

closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau had negatively impacted on cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Prices of local and imported rice remained mostly stable in recent months.

Food security severely affected by the EVD outbreak

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sector, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit estimates, 2014 GDP growth fell drastically to 1.1 percent from 4.5 percent expected before the Ebola crisis. National output is forecast to contract by 1.5 percent in 2015, with serious impacts on livelihoods, income and access to food. Overall, according to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 393 000 people are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance across the country. Boke, Faranah, Kankan, Kindia, Labe and Nzerekore are most affected by the effects of EVD. More than half of all food insecure people are in Labe and Nzerekore.

Reference Date: 28-January-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- After several years of steady growth, rice production is estimated to have dropped by 4 percent in 2014 due to Ebola Virus Disease outbreak
- Cereal import requirements in 2015 are, therefore, estimated to increase slightly compared to last year's level
- Prices of imported rice, which normally covers about 25 percent of country's consumption requirements, remained stable and around their levels a year earlier
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 970 000 as of December 2014, projected to increase to 1.2 million by March 2015

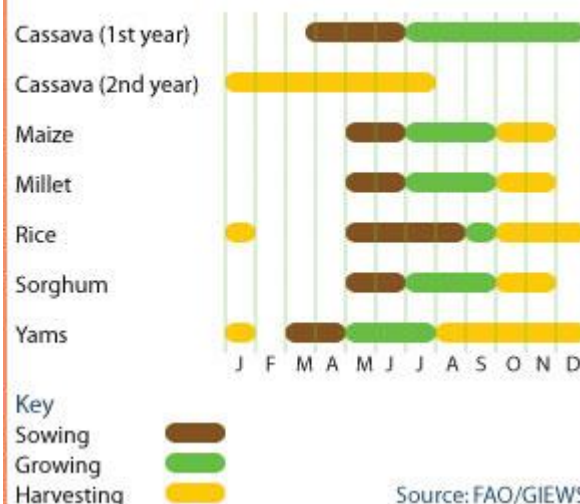
Ebola Virus Disease outbreak caused agricultural production to fall in affected areas

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors in 2014. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting have been disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Based on the GIEWS Disease Impact on Agriculture – Simulation (DIAS) Model and the findings of Rapid Assessments carried out in the country, the aggregate food crop production in 2014 is estimated at 3.04 million tonnes (including cassava in cereal equivalent and rice in milled terms), which is 3 percent lower than the record harvest of 2013. Of this total, milled rice production is estimated at 1.315 million tonnes, 4 percent lower than the year before and accounts for the bulk of the cereal production. Total coarse grains (maize, sorghum, millets and other small grains) and cassava, in cereal equivalent, are estimated to have declined by 3 percent and 1 percent, respectively. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masks the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, impact on rice production is estimated as high as -8.5 percent in N'zérékore.

Cereal import requirements are estimated to increase in 2015

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2015 are estimated at 444 000 tonnes, slightly up from last year. Rice import requirements account for about 320 000 tonnes of the total. The commercial imports of rice (at 300 000 tonnes) and wheat (at 100 000 tonnes) are anticipated to remain at the level of 2013. The uncovered gap is estimated at about 44 000 tonnes for which additional resources and international assistance is required. The significant impact of Ebola on export earnings is expected to have compromised the country's ability to import more.

Crop calendar Guinea



Guinea

Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 estimate	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1,776	2,053	1,971	-4
Maize	615	672	652	-3
Cereals nes	404	451	437	-3
Others	259	255	247	-3
Total	3,053	3,431	3,307	-4

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

The border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau have led to a decline of trade volumes of agricultural commodities between Guinea and neighbouring countries. Prices of local rice fell in several markets in recent months with increased supplies from the new harvest and were below their levels of a year earlier. Similarly, prices of imported rice, which normally covers about 25 percent of the country's consumption requirements, remained stable and around their levels of a year earlier.

Food security severely affected by the EVD outbreak

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sector, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the World Bank's revised estimates, 2014 GDP growth fell drastically to 0.5 percent from 4.5 percent expected before the Ebola crisis, with serious impact on livelihoods, income and access to food. According to remote surveys undertaken by WFP, Ebola appears to be a shock to an already precarious situation of chronic food insecurity, particularly in the severely EVD-affected Forest Guinea. Wage rates and terms of trade are lower in this region compared to the rest of the country. About 970 000 people, are estimated to be severely food insecure as of December 2014. The impact of EVD accounts for 230 000 people. The number of food insecure is projected to increase to 1.2 million by March 2015, 470 000 of which are attributed to EVD. Almost 90 percent of the Ebola-driven food-insecure live in rural areas. Among income groups, petty traders and unskilled labourers have the highest share of food insecure people.

Reference Date: 10-February-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate cereal production in 2013 forecast to increase on previous year
- Access to food improved in recent years reflecting lower inflation
- Large number of people exposed to chronic food insecurity

A good 2013 cereal output forecast

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country have just been completed. Most cropping areas benefited from beneficial rains and remote sensing analysis indicates that cumulative rainfall estimates were 10 to 50 percent above average during the cropping period (April-September) in most areas of the country. As a result, a joint FAO/WFP/CILSS/ FEWSNET/Government crop assessment mission that visited the country in September 2013 put the aggregate 2013 cereal production at 3.4 million tonnes, about 6 percent up on 2012.

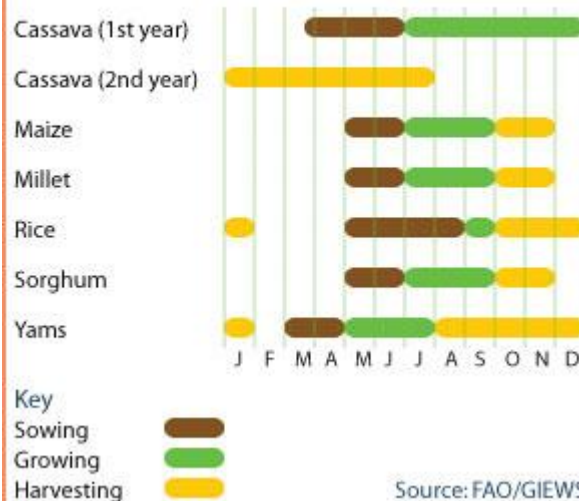
Access to food has improved in recent years reflecting lower inflation

Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, inflation peaked at 34 percent in 2006, seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations (prices of rice, the staple food for Guineans, more than doubled between 2006 and 2007). In the following years rates of inflation were high and volatile. Subsequently, the Guinean Franc became relatively stable from early 2012, pushing inflation down from 21 percent in 2011 to 15.2 percent in 2012 and to 12.7 percent in 2013.

A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to a joint WFP/Government survey of food security and vulnerability conducted in 2012, out of a total population of 6.7 million, 220 000 individuals were estimated to suffer from severe food insecurity, while 1.8 million were estimated to be moderately food insecure. The areas most affected by food insecurity are the regions located in the west (Boké, Kindia, Conakry) and in the South (N'Zérékoré).

Crop calendar Guinea



Guinea

Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 forecast	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1,630	1,919	2,053	7
Maize	610	641	672	5
Cereals nes	362	429	451	5
Others	241	251	255	2
Total	2,842	3,240	3,431	6

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

Reference Date: 28-November-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate cereal production in 2013 forecast to increase on last year
- Access to food improved in recent years reflecting lower inflation
- Large number of people exposed to chronic food insecurity

A good 2013 cereal output forecast

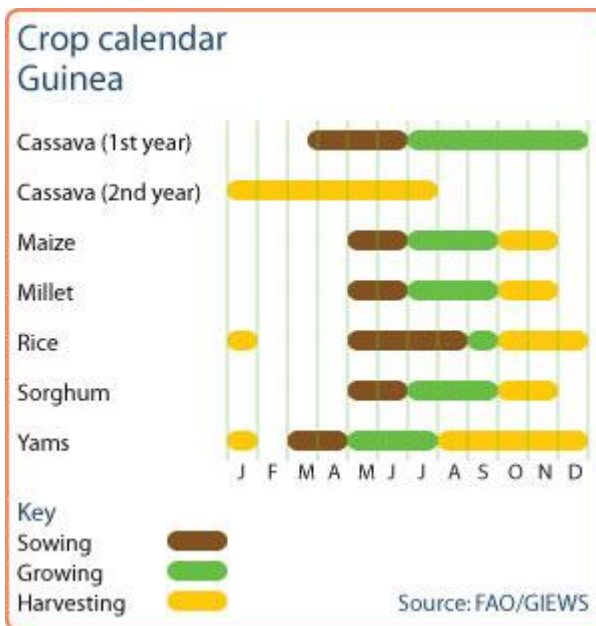
Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum has just been completed, while harvesting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are currently underway. Most cropping areas benefited from beneficial rains and remote sensing analysis indicates that cumulative rainfall estimates were 10 to 50 percent above average during the cropping period (April-September) in most areas of the country. As a result, a recently concluded joint FAO/WFP/CILSS/FEWSNET/Government crop assessment mission put the aggregate 2013 cereal production at 3.4 million tonnes, about 6 percent up on 2012

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Others	241	251	255	2
Total	2,842	3,240	3,431	6

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

Reference Date: 05-August-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- The 2013 cropping season progressing well
- Aggregate cereal production in 2012 is estimated to have increased by 10 percent compared to 2011
- Access to food improved due to lower prices mainly following a significant recovery of the Guinean Franc

The 2013 cropping season is progressing well

Following above average cumulative rains, the first maize, millet and sorghum crops are growing satisfactorily, while they are at emerging/tillering stage in the centre. Sorghum is still being planted in the north. Planting of rice is completed, except for swamp and low-lying areas in the south.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2012

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed last January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2012 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 10 percent to 3.2 million tonnes compared to 2011.

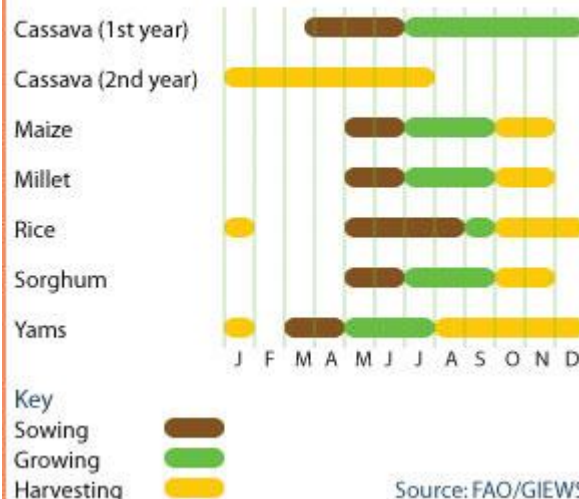
Access to food has improved reflecting lower food prices and inflation

Access to food has improved in recent months, driven mostly by lower prices of imported commodities. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans- more than doubled between 2006 and 2007, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Since then, rice prices have generally followed an upward trend through 2011. However, the Guinean Franc became relatively stable from early 2012 on, pushing inflation down from 21 percent in 2011 to 14 percent in 2012. Consumer price inflation is forecast to drop further to 11.5 percent in 2013 driven by a continuing recovery of the Guinean franc and more stable rice prices.

A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP's latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N'Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.

Crop calendar Guinea



Guinea

Cereal production

	2007-2011 average	2011	2012 estimate	change 2012/2011
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1,526	1,670	1,919	15
Maize	590	611	641	5
Cereals nes	324	409	429	5
Others	222	247	251	2
Total	2,661	2,937	3,240	10

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

Reference Date: 04-June-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate cereal production in 2012 is estimated to have increased by 10 percent compared to 2011
- Access to food improved due to lower prices mainly following a significant recovery of the Guinean Franc

The 2013 cropping season has started

Land preparation and planting of the 2013 rice and coarse grains crops are underway countrywide, following the start of the raining season in May.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2012

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed last January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2012 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 10 percent to 3.2 million tonnes compared to 2011.

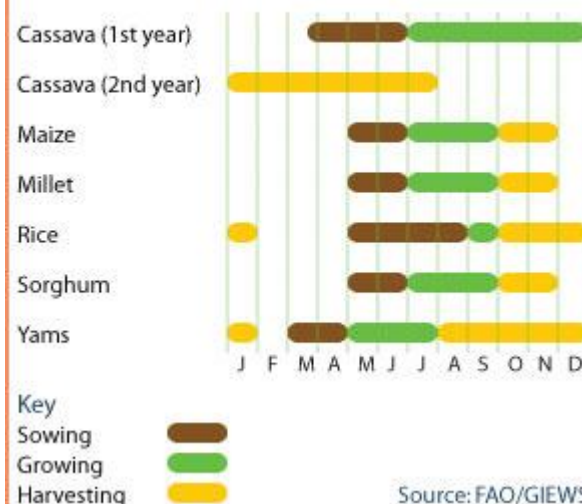
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Crop calendar Guinea



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Others	222	247	251	2
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Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
 Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Reference Date: 27-March-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate cereal production in 2011 is estimated to have increased by 16 percent compared to 2010
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices mainly following the rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2011

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed in January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2011 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 16 percent to 3.3 million tonnes compared to 2010.

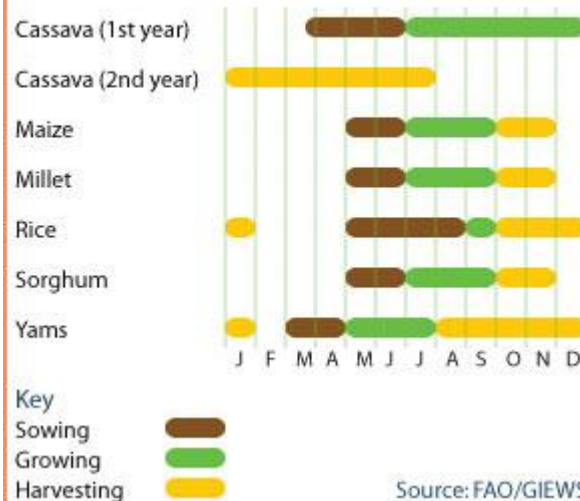
Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans- more than doubled between 2006 and 2007. Since then, rice prices have generally been following an upward trend, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Consumer price inflation is estimated to have reached 20 percent in 2010 and 16 percent in 2011, up from 9 percent in 2009, driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and continuing rise in rice prices.

A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP's latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N'Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.

Crop calendar Guinea



Guinea

Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 estimate	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1 460	1 604	1 664	4
Maize	577	584	757	30
Cereals nes	288	384	429	12
Others	202	279	451	62
Total	2 527	2 851	3 301	16

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

Reference Date: 24-January-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate cereal production in 2011 is estimated to have increased by 16 percent compared to 2010
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices mainly following the rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2011

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, is nearly complete. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2011 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 16 percent to 3.3 million tonnes compared to 2010.

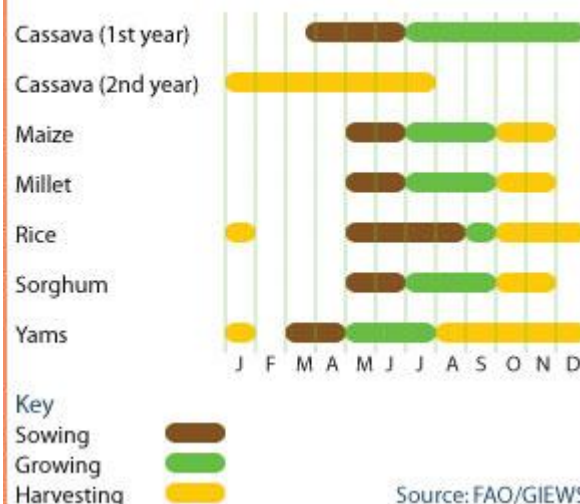
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Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

GIEWS Country Brief

Guinea



Reference Date: 23-May-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Land preparation of the 2011 cropping season has started following first rains in May
- Last year's aggregate cereal production is estimated to have increased by 7 percent compared to 2009
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices mainly following the rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc

Seasonably dry conditions prevail in most parts of the country

Limited rains in May were registered in the extreme south where land preparation for planting of rice and coarse grains has started. However, seasonably dry conditions still prevail in most parts of the country.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2010

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed last January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2010 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 7 percent to 2.85 million tonnes compared to 2009.

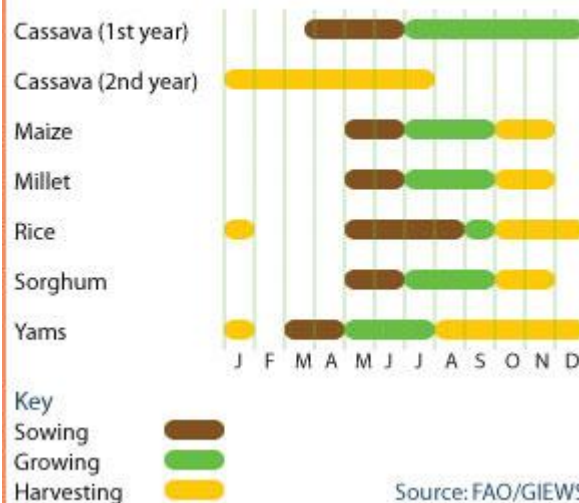
Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007. Since then, rice prices have generally been following an upward trend, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Consumer price inflation is estimated to have reached 15 percent in 2010, up from 9 percent in 2009, driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and continuing rise in rice prices.

A substantial section of the population are exposed to chronic food insecurity

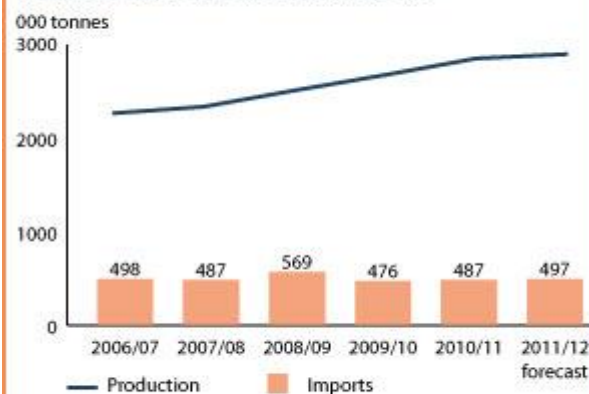
Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP's latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N'Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.

Crop calendar Guinea



Guinea

Total cereal production and imports



Reference Date: 1-February-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate 2010 cereal production is estimated to have increased by 7 percent compared to 2009.
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2010

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, is nearly complete, while harvesting of maize and millet was completed in November. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2010 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 7 percent to 2.85 million tonnes compared to 2009.

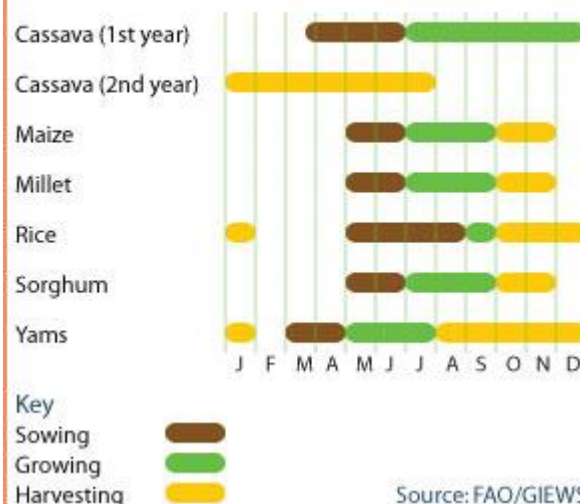
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Crop calendar Guinea



Guinea

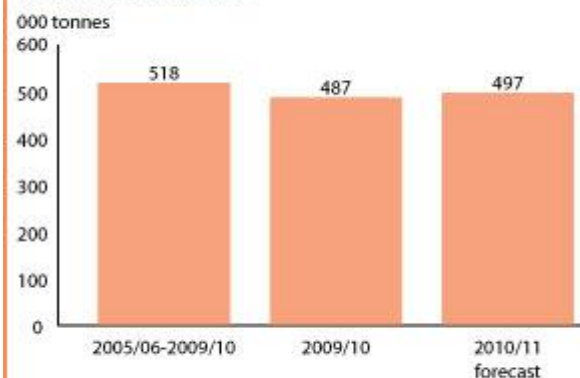
Cereal production

	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 estimate	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1379	1499	1604	7
Maize	561	566	584	3
Cereals nes	255	345	384	11
Others	174	265	279	5
Total	2369	2675	2852	7

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

Guinea

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

Reference Date: 16-April-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate 2009 cereal production is estimated to have increased by 6 percent compared to 2008.
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2009

Land preparation is underway for planting of the 2010 rice and coarse grains crops, which normally starts in May. Last year, crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2009 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 6 percent to 2.67 million tonnes compared to 2008.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

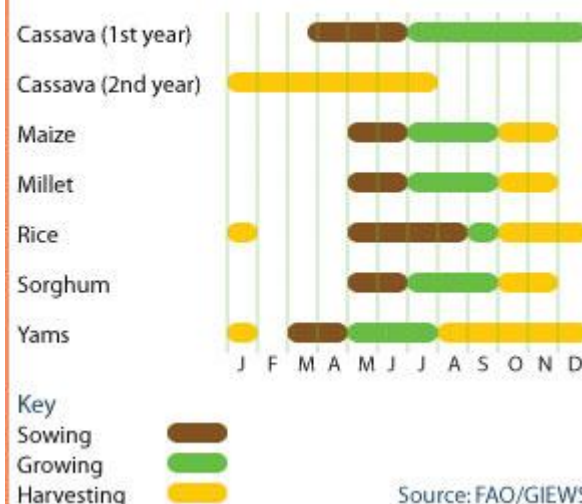
In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans- more than doubled between 2006 and 2007 fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Since then, good harvests both in Guinea and in neighbouring countries, together with a substantial fall in inflation, helped to improve food access. However, inflation which was estimated to have fallen from 22.9 percent in 2007 to 9 percent in 2009 is forecast to rebound in 2010 driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and new rise in rice prices.

Over 400 000 tonnes of rice were imported in 2009, following a temporary suspension of import tariffs on rice introduced by the Government last year.

A substantial section of the population are exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP's latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N'Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.

Crop calendar Guinea



Guinea

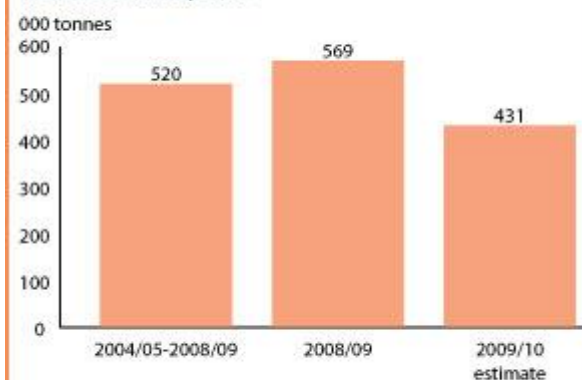
Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 estimate	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	1321	1466	1499	2
Maize	540	648	566	-13
Cereals nes	228	243	345	42
Others	148	162	265	64
Total	2237	2519	2675	6

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

Guinea

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

Reference Date: 29-January-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate 2009 cereal production is forecast to increase by 5 percent compared to 2008.
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc.

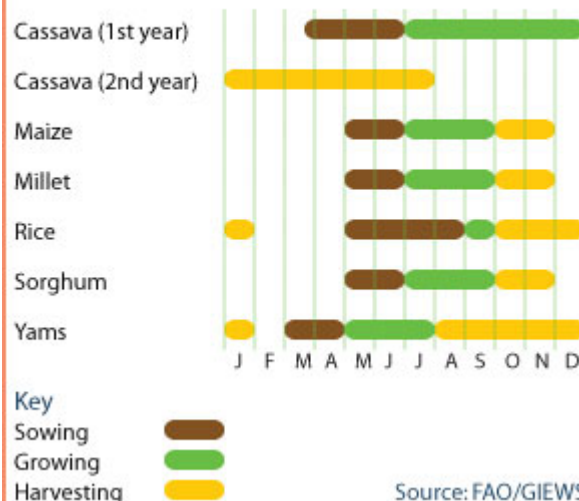
Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2009

Harvesting of rice, by far the most important crop, is nearly complete. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country at planting and during growth. Aggregate 2009 cereal production is forecast to increase by about 6 percent to 2.67 million tonnes compared to 2008.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high inflation and high prices. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007 fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Since then, good harvests both in Guinea and throughout the whole of the subregion, together with a substantial fall in inflation, helped to improve food access. However, inflation which was estimated to have fallen from 22.9 percent in 2007 to 9 percent in 2009 is forecast to rebound in 2010 driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and new rise in rice price

Crop calendar Guinea



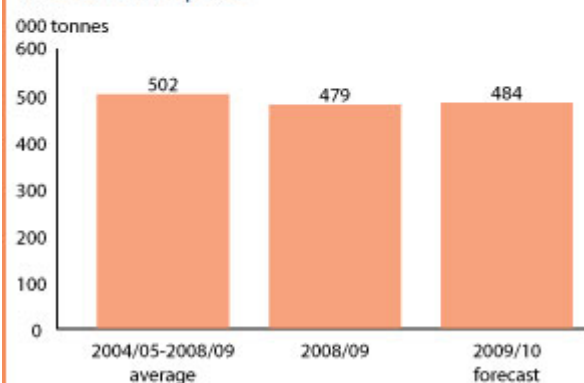
Guinea

Cereal production

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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

Reference Date: 24-September-2009

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Overall favourable crop prospects for 2009
- Access to food improved, following a decline in inflation thanks to more conservative monetary policy

Satellite images indicate favourable harvest prospects

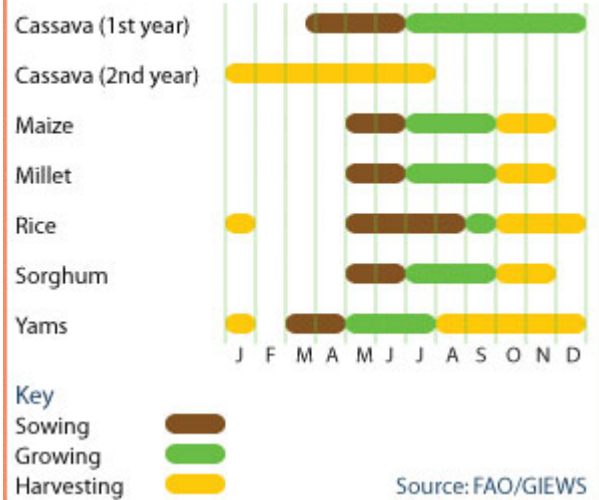
The harvesting of rice, which is by far the most important crop, should begin at the end of September. Data obtained from satellite images shows that the crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most of the regions during the sowing season and the vegetation period.

Lower inflation thanks to improved monetary policy and food access

The good harvests both in Guinea and throughout the whole of the subregion in 2008, together with a substantial fall in inflation, helped to improve food access. Inflation was estimated to have fallen from 34.7 percent and 22.9 percent in 2006 and 2007, respectively, as a result of the steep devaluation of the Guinean franc, to 15 percent in 2008, and is expected to fall further in 2009 due to improved monetary policy and lower fuel and food prices.

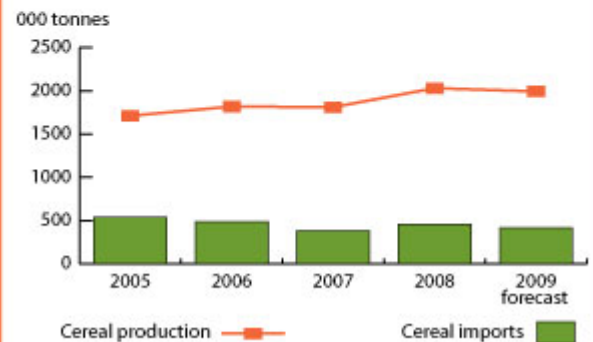
Now that peace has returned to Sierra Leone and the situation in Liberia has improved, the numbers of refugees have declined, but there are still about 20 000 in Guinea and dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Crop calendar Guinea



Cereal production and imports Guinea

Cereal production	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 forecast	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes		percent	
Rice (milled)	881	978	941	-3.8%
Maize	540	648	648	0%
Cereals NES	228	243	243	0%
Other	145	162	162	0%
Total Cereals	1797	2031	1994	-1.8%



Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets