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# Grains and Oilseeds Outlook

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GRAINS AND OILSEEDS OUTLOOK FOR 2015<sup>1</sup>

Prepared by Members of the  
Wheat, Feed Grains, Rice, and Oilseeds Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Introduction**

This paper provides USDA's projections of 2015/16 supply and demand for wheat, corn, rice, and soybeans and products. Projections presented in this paper include implications of the January 12<sup>th</sup> *Winter Wheat Seedings* report and assume normal weather conditions for spring planting and summer crop development this year. These projections will be updated in the May 12<sup>th</sup> *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)* report. The May WASDE will incorporate farmers' 2015 planting intentions as reported in the March 31<sup>st</sup> *Prospective Plantings* report and survey-based forecasts for winter wheat production, as well as global, country-by-country supply and demand projections.

**Summary**

The early 2015/16 outlook for grains and oilseeds reflects lower prospects for prices and producer returns with large domestic and world supplies of wheat, corn, and soybeans. With lower returns, plantings of wheat, corn, soybeans, and rice are all projected to decline; however, the reduction for soybeans is limited as producers look for lower cost cropping alternatives, particularly to cotton and corn. Wheat production is projected to rise slightly on increased yields and lower abandonment. This, along with higher carryin stocks, raises expected supplies from 2014/15. Larger supplies are only partially offset by higher use, and ending stocks rise to the highest level in 5 years. Corn plantings are projected to decline for a third straight year with further reductions in the outlook for prices and producer returns. A return to trend yield from last year's record high also reduces expected production, but a larger carryin results in supplies being down only slightly from the 2014/15 record. Higher 2015/16 exports and feed and residual use more than offset a small decline in use for ethanol trimming projected ending stocks. Soybean planted area is projected to decline slightly from last year's record on lower expected prices and producer returns. A return to trend yields also reduces production prospects; however, soybean supplies are projected to increase to record levels in 2015/16 on a sharp increase in beginning stocks. Despite gains in domestic use and exports, soybean ending stocks are projected to rise to the highest level in 9 years. Rice planted acreage and production for 2015 is projected to change little from last year. However, in the southern states, long-grain area is expected to decline while medium- and short-grain area will expand. Medium- and short-grain area in California is likely to stay nearly unchanged from last year due to the expected continuation of the drought. Total use is projected slightly higher as rice exports more than offset reduced domestic and residual use. All-rice ending stocks are projected to reach the highest level in 5 years with most of the increase coming from long grain. The all-rice price is projected lower with weaker long-grain prices partly offset by continued strong medium and short-grain prices. Prices for wheat, corn, and soybeans are all expected to fall in 2015/16 under continued pressure from large global supplies following the past 2 years of record world production.

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<sup>1</sup>This paper incorporates contributions by analysts from the World Agricultural Outlook Board, the Economic Research Service, the Farm Service Agency, and the Foreign Agricultural Service.

## **Planted Acreage Outlook for 2015** (Table 1)

The 2015 outlook for U.S. plantings of wheat, corn, and soybeans is driven by reduced prospects for producer returns as large global supplies of all three crops keep downward pressure on prices. Expected returns for wheat, corn, and soybeans have all fallen dramatically over the past 3 years as prices have receded from record levels. The combined planted area for wheat, corn, and soybeans is projected at 228.0 million acres, down 3.1 million from last year with the largest decline for corn. Wheat area is also projected lower as the sharp drop in winter wheat seedings more than offsets an expected increase in spring wheat plantings with higher Durum acreage. Soybean plantings are projected slightly lower on the year with lower cotton area and a more favorable returns outlook relative to corn for producers in the lower-yielding areas of the Plains and western Corn Belt.

Wheat planted area for 2015 is projected down 1.3 million acres to 55.5 million. Winter wheat seeded area in the January 12, 2015, *Winter Wheat Seedings* report was 40.5 million acres, down 1.9 million acres from last year mostly resulting from drops in Hard Red Winter (HRW) and Soft Red Winter (SRW). HRW and SRW were each estimated down 1.0 million acres at 29.5 million and 7.5 million, respectively. Winter White (WW) seedings were raised 0.1 million acres to 3.5 million. Spring wheat (including Durum) plantings are expected to increase 4 percent with high expected returns for Durum.

Corn plantings for 2015 are projected at 89.0 million acres, down 1.6 million from the 2014 final estimate, and 2.7 million below last year's early-season estimate from the March *Prospective Plantings* report. Heavy spring rains in the western Corn Belt and rising soybean prices limited corn planted area from intentions last year. The 8.3-million-acre decline from 2012's 78-year high reflects a continued erosion in expected returns over the past 3 years. New-crop prices are down again this year under pressure from large U.S. and global supplies. New-crop futures during the first half of February averaged \$4.15 per bushel, down \$0.43 from early February last year, and \$1.57 from 2 years ago. Bids for 2015 fall delivery at Central Illinois elevators for the first half of February averaged \$3.78 per bushel, down \$0.47 per bushel from last year, and \$1.65 below early February 2013. These lower prices reduce expected market returns and crop insurance revenue coverage levels for corn again in 2015.

Soybean plantings for 2015 are projected at 83.5 million acres, slightly below last year but 2.0 million above last year's record intentions in the March *Prospective Plantings* report. In early March 2014, new-crop futures were approaching \$12.00 per bushel and bids for fall delivery were averaging near \$11.50 per bushel. Market conditions continued to shift in favor of soybeans throughout the 2014 planting season. With new-crop futures prices and bids for fall delivery exceeding \$12.00 per bushel and delivery prices reaching 2.8 times that of corn during May last year, producers planted a record 83.7 million acres of soybeans. Despite 2015-crop bids that are currently 15 percent below year-earlier levels, soybeans remain a favorable alternative to higher cost crops like cotton and corn for many producers, especially those in lower-yielding corn areas.

Total 2015 rice planted acreage is projected almost unchanged from last year at 2.90 million acres. Long grain plantings are expected to only modestly decline to 2.13 million despite a reduced 2015/16 price outlook. Reduced expected returns for most competing crops and significantly lower energy costs contribute to keeping the long grain acreage decline minimal. Medium and short grain plantings in 2015 are expected to see a small increase to 766,000 acres. California acreage is expected to be again constrained by the continuation of the multi-year drought but will be offset by increased plantings in the south, with a large expected price premium for medium grain over long grain. California produces the majority of the U.S. medium and short grain rice.

## **Wheat Supply, Demand, and Price Outlook for 2015/16** (Table 2)

**Wheat Supplies:** Wheat production is expected to increase 5 percent to 2,125 million bushels despite lower planted area. The year-over-year production increase stems from a higher yield and harvested-to-planted ratio. Last year's harvested-to-planted ratio was below average due to drought and spring freezes in the Southern and Central Plains. Although drought remains a concern, particularly in the Southern Plains, an improved weather situation is expected to lead to a more normal harvested-to-planted ratio. Harvested area for 2015 is projected at 47.0 million acres, up 0.6 million acres from the previous year. The 2015 all-wheat yield is projected at 45.2 bushels per acre, up from 43.7 bushels per acre a year earlier.

Drought remains a concern in the Great Plains but crop conditions have improved significantly from this time last year. Weighted by seeded area, the HRW states of Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas have 45 percent of their crop rated good to excellent compared to 32 percent last year at this time. Conditions have deteriorated slightly for the 2015 crop during recent weeks. A month ago, these same HRW states had an average of 49 percent of their crop rated good or excellent. Dry conditions, limited snow cover, and frigid temperatures are behind the worsening situation. The SRW wheat conditions are down from what they have been in the past few years. As an indication for SRW, 49 percent of the Illinois winter wheat crop is rated as good or excellent, compared to 56 percent a year ago and 67 percent the year before that.

Production is expected to increase in 2015 for HRW wheat, WW wheat, and Durum, which will be partly offset by reductions in output for SRW wheat and other spring. HRW wheat seedings are down 3 percent, but improved weather conditions are expected to reduce abandonment and increase yields this year. Acreage for spring wheat other than Durum is expected to decrease and a return to more normal yields will further reduce production. High returns are expected to lead to a sharp increase in Durum area; however, this will be partly offset by a return to trend yields.

The larger crop and higher beginning stocks are partly offset by a small decrease in projected imports. Total supplies for 2015/16 are raised 7 percent to 2,967 million bushels.

**Wheat Domestic Use:** Domestic wheat use for 2015/16 is expected to increase 45 million bushels year to year, mostly because of higher feed and residual use. Wheat feed and residual use for 2015/16 is projected at 190 million bushels, up 40 million bushels from the 2014/15 projection. Feed and residual use is up year to year, in part, because of a 191-million-bushel increase in supplies. Wheat feeding typically occurs during the summer quarter. The 2015 June-August quarter wheat-to-corn price relationship is expected to be more favorable for wheat feeding than last summer.

Food use of wheat is expected to increase 7 million bushels from 2014/15 with a growing population. Per capita consumption is assumed constant year to year and continued high flour extraction rates are expected. Projected seed use is down slightly with smaller planted area expected for the 2016 crop.

**Wheat Exports:** U.S. wheat exports in 2015/16 are projected to rise 75 million bushels from 2014/15 to 975 million. Although U.S. exports are projected higher, competition from other wheat exporters will continue to limit gains in the share of world trade going to U.S. wheat. World wheat production in 2015/16 is expected to fall shy of last year's record. The European Union is expected to have another bumper crop, albeit lower than last year's record. Russia's production is also expected lower, as adverse weather conditions at planting time are expected to reduce winter wheat area. Tight global durum

supplies and high prices are anticipated to encourage additional planting, particularly in Canada. Excellent growing conditions in several major importing countries, such as Algeria, Iran, Morocco, and Turkey, are likely to push up their wheat output, limiting global wheat trade in 2015/16. Aggregate major exporting country ending stocks (Australia, Argentina, Canada, European Union, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine and the United States) are expected to climb for the fourth straight year.

Wheat Ending Stocks and Farm Prices: U.S. wheat ending stocks for 2015/16 are projected to increase 10 percent from a year earlier to 763 million bushels. These would be the highest stocks since 2010/11. The stocks-to-use ratio, at 34.6 percent, is up from the projected 2014/15 level of 33.2 percent and above the 5-year-average of 31.4 percent. The 2015/16 season-average farm price is projected at \$5.10 per bushel, down \$0.90 from the midpoint of the range projected for 2014/15. Wheat prices are expected to remain under substantial pressure from large world supplies of wheat and corn.

### **Corn Supply, Demand, and Price Outlook for 2015/16** (Table 3)

Corn Supplies: Corn production in 2015 is projected down 4 percent from the record 2014 crop, but at 13,595 million bushels, production would still be the third highest ever. Corn supplies for 2015/16 are projected down only slightly from the current year record because of a 48-percent increase in carryin resulting from the 2014 record crop. Production is expected to fall in 2015 with lower area and a return to trend yields. The national average corn yield is projected at 166.8 bushel per acre, 4.2 bushels lower than the 2014 record with an assumed return to more normal growing season weather. Last year's yields benefitted from cool temperatures during summer pollination and grain fill, although July rainfall remained below normal across the Corn Belt. The trend yield projection is based on a model that accounts for planting progress and summer precipitation and temperatures. (See Westcott and Jewison, *Weather Effects on Expected Corn and Soybean Yields*, USDA, Economic Research Service, July 2013, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fds-feed-outlook/fds-13g-01.aspx>.)

Corn Use: Total corn use for 2015/16 is projected at a record 13,760 million bushels, up slightly from the 13,645 million expected in 2014/15. Increases in exports and feed and residual use are expected to more than offset a reduction in use for ethanol production.

Corn Feed and Residual Use: Corn feed and residual use for 2015/16 is projected at 5,275 million bushels, up 25 million bushels from the 2014/15 forecast. Lower expected feeding of other feed grains, especially sorghum, and a year-to-year decline in dried distillers' grains production contribute to higher forecast corn feed and residual use. In addition, expansion in livestock inventories and increased meat production support feeding demand. Corn supplies, roughly the same as a year earlier, also support a similar level of residual disappearance.

Corn Food, Seed, and Industrial Use: Food, seed, and industrial (FSI) use of corn in 2015/16 is projected at 6,635 million bushels, 10 million below the record-high forecast for the current marketing year. Corn for non-fuel use—starch, high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), glucose and dextrose, beverage and manufacturing, and cereals—is projected higher, partially offsetting a 25-million-bushel decline in corn use for ethanol. Continuing economic recovery, as evidenced by rising housing starts and stronger labor market indicators, as well as lower forecast corn prices and population growth, support demand for corn for industrial uses.

Corn Used in Ethanol Production: Corn used for ethanol production is projected at 5,225 million bushels for 2015/16, down 25 million from the forecast for 2014/15. Declines in gasoline prices have increased expected gasoline use during the current corn marketing year; however, Energy Information Administration projections suggest a slight reduction in domestic gasoline consumption for the 2015/16 corn marketing year reflecting continued increases in vehicle efficiency and rising gasoline prices. Ethanol blending rates continue to be effectively limited to 10 percent because of constraints in distribution and use of higher blends.

Corn Exports: U.S. corn exports for 2015/16 are projected up 100 million bushels to 1,850 million. World corn production is expected to decline in 2015/16; however, global import demand is expected to grow. The United States will face competition early in the season from Ukraine (new-crop 2015/16) and Brazil (2014/15 second-crop), although Brazil's second-crop corn production is expected to be smaller. Argentina is expected to remain a major competitor. For other corn exporters, relatively low prices and stiff competition are likely to limit the incentives to export. China's imports are expected to rise in 2015/16 although stocks are ample. Corn imports by the European Union and Mexico are also expected to expand, continuing a strong purchase pace that began a couple years ago.

Corn Ending Stocks and Farm Prices: U.S. corn ending stocks for 2015/16 are projected at 1,687 million bushels, down 8 percent from the 9-year high forecast for 2014/15. Larger beginning stocks for 2015/16 are more than offset by lower production and higher use. The stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 12.3 percent, down from 13.4 percent in 2014/15. The season-average farm price is projected at \$3.50 per bushel, down \$0.15 from the midpoint of the projected range for 2014/15. Despite the tighter balance sheet, available bids for harvest-time delivery are well below last year at this time as large global grain and oilseed supplies pressure new-crop prices and limit forward contracting opportunities.

### **Rice Supply, Demand, and Price Outlook for 2015/16** (Tables 4 & 5)

Rice Supplies: The 2015/16 outlook is for increasingly burdensome rice supplies as carryin stocks are at their highest level in three years while production declines only marginally from 2014. Total 2015 rice planted acreage is projected almost unchanged from last year at 2.90 million acres. Long grain plantings are expected to only modestly decline to 2.13 million acres despite a reduced 2015/16 price outlook. Lower expected returns for most competing crops and significantly reduced energy costs help to keep the long grain acreage reduction only minimal. Medium and short grain plantings are also expected to see little change in 2015, increasing to 766,000 acres. California acreage is expected to be again constrained by the continuation of the multi-year drought but will be offset by increased plantings in the south. A large expected price premium for medium grain over long grain should encourage greater-than-usual seedings of medium grain in the southern states. California produces the majority of the U.S. medium and short grain rice.

Assuming a normal harvested-to-planted acreage ratio, total harvested rice acreage is projected at 2.88 million acres, with 2.12 million acres of long-grain and 0.76 million acres of medium- and short-grain. For all rice, average field yields are forecast to be almost unchanged from 2014 at 7,569 pounds per acre, assuming normal weather and planting dates. Based largely on long-term trend yields by class, average field yields are forecast virtually unchanged in 2015 for long-grain rice at 7,409 pounds per acre but decreasing 52 pounds to 8,016 pounds per acre for medium- and short-grain rice. Similar to 2014, a larger share of medium- and short-grain rice produced in the southern states will reduce the average yield for this class since this region achieves lower yields than California. Total 2015 rice production is projected to decrease by 1 percent to 218.0 million cwt. Long grain accounts for all of the production

decrease with the crop size projected at 157.0, down 3 percent from 2014. Medium- and short-grain rice production is projected to partially offset the decline in long grain by increasing to 61.0 million cwt, up 4 percent from 2014.

All-rice total supplies for 2015/16 are projected to increase by 6 percent to 283.1 million cwt with most of this gain resulting from a 32-percent increase of projected carryin. Most of the supply increase occurs in long-grain rice, where supplies are projected to increase 7 percent to 204.8 million cwt as larger projected beginning stocks and imports more than offset lower production. Medium- and short-grain supplies are projected to be less than 1 percent higher in 2015/16 at 76.0 million cwt with a larger crop offsetting a smaller carryin and steady imports. Total rice imports in 2015/16 are projected at 23.2 million cwt, up 1 percent from last year. Long-grain imports are forecast at 19.7 million cwt, with aromatic varieties from Thailand, India, and Pakistan accounting for most U.S. long-grain rice imports.

Rice Domestic Use: All-rice total domestic and residual usage for 2015/16 is projected 2 percent lower at 129.0 million cwt. A smaller total crop size is expected to result in a reduced residual component. Long-grain domestic and residual use is projected to be unchanged at 99.0 million cwt. In contrast, medium- and short-grain domestic and residual use is projected to decrease 6 percent to 30.0 million cwt due to a relatively smaller increase in supplies compared to long grain.

Rice Exports: All-rice exports for 2015/16 are projected at 106.0 million cwt, up 3 percent from a year earlier. The increase is mainly due to greater exportable supplies of long-grain rice and improved price competitiveness in the Western Hemisphere compared to Asian suppliers, who have gained share in some Western Hemisphere milled rice markets in 2014/15. Long-grain exports are projected at 73.0 million cwt, up 3 percent. Medium- and short-grain rice exports are projected at 33.0 million cwt, up 3 percent from 2014/15, with Australia and Egyptian exportable supplies expected to remain constrained because of drought and export policy, respectively.

Ending Stocks and Prices: Total all-rice ending stocks are projected at 48.1 million cwt, up 15 percent from 2014/15 on increased supplies, primarily due to a higher carryin. Long-grain ending stocks, rise by 17 percent to 32.8 million cwt. The season-average farm price for long-grain rice is projected at \$11.00 per cwt, compared to the 2014/15 midpoint of \$12.20. Medium- and short-grain ending stocks increase 13 percent to 13.0 million cwt. The season-average farm price for medium- and short-grain rice is projected at \$18.10 per cwt, down 20 cents from the 2014/15 midpoint of \$18.30 per cwt. The 2015/16 all rice price is projected at \$13.10 per cwt, down 90 cents from the midpoint of 2014/15.

### **Soybean Supply, Demand, and Price Outlook for 2015/16** (Tables 6, 7 & 8)

Soybean Supplies: Soybean supplies for 2015/16 are projected at 4,205 million bushels, up 3 percent from 2014/15 with sharply higher beginning stocks more than offsetting lower production prospects. Soybean production for 2015 is projected at 3,800 million bushels, 4 percent below last year mainly due to lower yields. The national average soybean yield is projected at 46.0 bushels per acre, down 1.8 bushels from last year's record which benefitted from good rainfall and relatively mild temperatures, especially in August. The trend projection is based on a weather-adjusted yield model that accounts for temperature and rainfall during the growing season. (See Westcott and Jewison, *Weather Effects on Expected Corn and Soybean Yields*, USDA, Economic Research Service, July 2013.) Despite slightly lower harvested area and lower yields, the projected 2015 harvest would be the second largest, exceeded only by last year's record.

Soybean Domestic Use: Soybean domestic use is projected up 2 percent in 2015/16 to 1,955 million bushels. Crush is projected expanding by 45 million bushels to 1,840 million due to a moderate increase for domestic soybean meal demand. Expansion of meat production is projected to boost domestic soybean meal feeding by 3 percent to 31.4 million short tons. Soybean meal consumption will also increase due to lower prices associated with increased global supplies of soybeans and soybean meal. Soybean meal prices for 2015/16 are projected at \$325 per short ton compared to the midpoint of the forecast range for 2014/15 at \$370.

Domestic use of soybean oil is projected to edge up 1 percent for 2015/16 to nearly 18.6 billion pounds on modest consumption gains for both food and biodiesel. A marginal increase is projected for the use of soybean oil in U.S. biodiesel production to 4.8 billion pounds from 4.7 billion in 2014/15. Despite lower prices for soybean oil, its use for biodiesel would be curbed by the lack of a blending credit and competition from cheaper alternative feedstocks.

With a higher crush and recovery in the oil extraction rate for 2015/16, soybean oil ending stocks are projected to increase 44 percent to 2.17 billion pounds. Ample global supplies of vegetable oil also add pressure to the 2015/16 price outlook for soybean oil, which is projected to average 30 cents per pound. Despite lower prices, soybean oil's share of the total processing value for soybeans is projected to strengthen as soybean meal prices decline by a larger percentage.

Soybean Exports: U.S. soybean exports are expected to reach 1.82 billion bushels in 2015/16, a modest increase over 2014/15 considering rising supplies and lower prices. However, limited growth in global trade and record 2015 South American production will add to the competitive pressures facing U.S. exporters in the coming year. Global soybean trade will continue to be driven by China which accounts for nearly two-thirds of world trade. After increasing 11 percent annually for the past 10 years, China's soybean import growth is expected to slow in 2015/16. In other markets where import growth has been limited, modest gains are expected in response to lower prices. U.S. exporters of soybeans will also face significant competition as a stronger dollar and record South American supplies appear likely at the start of the 2015/16 U.S. marketing year.

Global soybean meal trade is forecast to edge higher in 2015/16 as lower prices spur additional demand. However, growing competition from Argentina and strong domestic demand are likely to scale back U.S. exports to 12.5 million short tons, down 2 percent from this year's projected record volume. With lower prices, Argentine producers will likely increase sales to maintain cash flow, which will contribute to growth in competitor soybean meal exports. Lower exports of Indian soybean meal will provide additional opportunities in Southeast Asia for all other exporters, including the United States.

U.S. soybean oil exports are projected to reach 2.2 billion pounds in 2015/16, 7 percent higher than the 2014/15 forecast. Larger supplies from a growing U.S. crush and lower prices will increase export prospects. However, expanding production of soybean oil in Argentina, combined with limited growth potential for Argentine biodiesel exports will sustain the competitive pressure on U.S. sales.

Soybean Ending Stocks and Farm Prices: U.S. soybean stocks for 2015/16 are projected at 430 million bushels, the highest since 2006/07 and 12 percent above the level forecast for 2014/15. Despite a 2-percent increase in total soybean disappearance, the ending stocks-to-use ratio of 11.2 percent would be a 9-year high. With increased soybean supplies, higher ending stocks, and lower corn prices, the season-average farm price for soybeans is projected at \$9.00 per bushel, down from the \$10.20 mid-point of the 2014/15 projected range.

**Table 1. Wheat, Corn, and Soybean Planted Acreage, 2008-2015**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 1/
	- Million Acres -							
Wheat	63.6	59.0	52.6	54.3	55.3	56.2	56.8	55.5
Corn	86.0	86.4	88.2	91.9	97.3	95.4	90.6	89.0
Soybeans	75.7	77.5	77.4	75.0	77.2	76.8	83.7	83.5
Total	225.3	222.9	218.2	221.2	229.8	228.4	231.1	228.0

1/ Projection

Source: 2008-2014, USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Table 2. Wheat Supply, Demand, and Price, 2012/13-2015/16**

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 1/	2015/16 2/
Area planted (mil. ac.)	55.3	56.2	56.8	55.5
Area harvested	48.8	45.3	46.4	47.0
Yield (bu./ac.)	46.2	47.1	43.7	45.2
Production (mil. bu.)	2,252	2,135	2,026	2,125
Beginning stocks	743	718	590	692
Imports	123	169	160	150
Supply	3,118	3,021	2,776	2,967
Feed & residual	370	226	150	190
Food, seed & industrial	1,018	1,029	1,034	1,039
Total domestic use	1,388	1,255	1,184	1,229
Exports	1,012	1,176	900	975
Total use	2,400	2,431	2,084	2,204
Ending stocks	718	590	692	763
Stocks/use (percent)	29.9	24.3	33.2	34.6
Season-avg. farm price (\$/bu.)	7.77	6.87	6.00	5.10

1/ Acreage, yield, production, and beginning stocks are estimates from the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Imports, use, ending stocks, and season-average farm price are projections from the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, February 10, 2015. The season-average price is the midpoint of the projected range from the same report.

2/ Projections based on analysis by USDA's Wheat Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Table 3. Corn Supply, Demand, and Price, 2012/13-2015/16**

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 1/	2015/16 2/
Area planted (mil. ac.)	97.3	95.4	90.6	89.0
Area harvested	87.4	87.5	83.1	81.5
Yield (bu./ac.)	123.1	158.1	171.0	166.8
Production (mil. bu.)	10,755	13,829	14,216	13,595
Beginning stocks	989	821	1,232	1,827
Imports	160	36	25	25
Supply	11,904	14,686	15,472	15,447
Feed & residual	4,315	5,036	5,250	5,275
Ethanol 3/	4,641	5,134	5,250	5,225
Food, seed & other industrial	1,397	1,367	1,395	1,410
Total food, seed & industrial	6,038	6,501	6,645	6,635
Total domestic use	10,353	11,537	11,895	11,910
Exports	730	1,917	1,750	1,850
Total use	11,083	13,454	13,645	13,760
Ending stocks	821	1,232	1,827	1,687
Stocks/use (percent)	7.4	9.2	13.4	12.3
Season-avg. farm price (\$/bu.)	6.89	4.46	3.65	3.50

1/ Acreage, yield, production, and beginning stocks are estimates from the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Imports, use, ending stocks, and season-average farm price are projections from the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, February 10, 2015. The season-average price is the midpoint of the projected range from the same report.

2/ Projections based on analysis by USDA's Feed Grains Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee.

3/ Corn used to produce ethanol and by-products including, distillers' grains, corn gluten feed, corn gluten meal, and corn oil.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Table 4. Rice Supply, Demand, and Price, 2012/13-2015/16**

All Rice	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 1/	2015/16 2/
Area planted (mil. ac.)	2.70	2.49	2.94	2.90
Area harvested	2.68	2.47	2.92	2.88
Yield (pounds/ac.)	7,463	7,694	7,572	7,569
Production (mil. cwt)	199.9	190.0	221.0	218.0
Beginning stocks	41.1	36.4	31.8	41.9
Imports	21.1	23.1	23.0	23.2
Supply	262.1	249.5	275.9	283.1
Total domestic & residual use	119.0	124.9	131.0	129.0
Exports	106.6	92.7	103.0	106.0
Total use	225.7	217.6	234.0	235.0
Ending stocks	36.4	31.8	41.9	48.1
Stocks/use (percent)	16.1	14.6	17.9	20.5
Season avg. farm price (\$/cwt.)	15.10	16.30	14.00	13.10

1/ Acreage, yield, production, and beginning stocks are estimates from the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Imports, use, ending stocks, and season-average farm price are projections from the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, February 10, 2015. The season-average farm price is the midpoint of the projected price range from the same report. 2/ Projections based on the analysis by USDA's Rice Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Table 5. Rice-by Class Supply, Demand, and Price, 2012/13-2015/16**

Rice-by-class	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 /1	2015/16 /2
<b><u>Long-grain</u></b>				
Area planted (mil. ac.)	1.99	1.78	2.21	2.13
Area harvested	1.98	1.77	2.19	2.12
Yield (pounds/ac)	7,291	7,464	7,408	7,409
Production (mil. cwt)	144.3	131.9	162.4	157.0
Beginning stocks	24.3	21.9	16.2	28.1
Imports	18.7	19.6	19.5	19.7
Supply	187.3	173.3	198.1	204.8
Total domestic & residual use	89.6	95.3	99.0	99.0
Exports	75.8	61.8	71.0	73.0
Total use	165.4	157.1	170.0	172.0
Ending stocks	21.9	16.2	28.1	32.8
Stocks/use (percent)	13.2	10.3	16.5	19.1
Season avg. farm price (\$/cwt.)	14.50	15.40	12.20	11.00
<b><u>Medium- and short-grain</u></b>				
Area planted (mil. ac)	0.71	0.71	0.73	0.77
Area harvested	0.70	0.70	0.73	0.76
Yield (pounds/ac)	7,951	8,270	8,068	8,016
Production (mil. cwt)	55.7	58.1	58.7	61.0
Beginning stocks	14.7	12.2	13.3	11.5
Imports	2.3	3.5	3.5	3.5
Supply	72.5	73.8	75.5	76.0
Total domestic & residual use	29.4	29.6	32.0	30.0
Exports	30.8	30.9	32.0	33.0
Total use	60.3	60.5	64.0	63.0
Ending stocks	12.2	13.3	11.5	13.0
Stocks/use (percent)	20.3	22.0	17.9	20.6
Season avg. farm price (\$/cwt)	17.40	19.20	18.30	18.10
California	18.40	20.70	20.00	20.00
Other States	14.70	15.70	15.10	15.00

1/ Acreage, yield, production, and beginning stocks are estimates from the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Imports, use, ending stocks, and season-average farm price are projections from the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, February 10, 2015. The season-average farm price is the midpoint of the projected price range from the same report. 2/ Projections based on analysis by USDA's Rice Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Table 6. Soybean Supply, Demand, and Price, 2012/13-2015/16**

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 1/	2015/16 2/
Area planted (mil. ac.)	77.2	76.8	83.7	83.5
Area harvested	76.1	76.3	83.1	82.6
Yield (bu./ac.)	40.0	44.0	47.8	46.0
Production (mil. bu.)	3,042	3,358	3,969	3,800
Beginning stocks	169	141	92	385
Imports	41	72	25	20
Supply	3,252	3,570	4,086	4,205
Crush	1,689	1,734	1,795	1,840
Seed	89	97	92	92
Residual	16	0	24	24
Total domestic use	1,794	1,832	1,911	1,955
Exports	1,317	1,647	1,790	1,820
Total use	3,111	3,478	3,701	3,775
Ending stocks	141	92	385	430
Stocks/use (percent)	4.5	2.6	10.4	11.4
Season-avg. farm price (\$/bu.)	14.40	13.00	10.20	9.00

1/ Acreage, yield, production, and beginning stocks are estimates from the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Imports, crush, exports, ending stocks, and season-average farm price are projections from the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* report, February 10, 2015. The season-average price is the midpoint of the projected range from the same report. 2/ Projections based on analysis by the USDA's Oilseeds Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Table 7. Soybean Meal Supply, Demand, and Price, 2012/13-2015/16**

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 1/	2015/16 2/
Production (thou. short tons)	39,875	40,685	43,100	43,735
Beginning stocks	300	275	250	300
Imports	245	336	250	165
Supply	40,420	41,296	43,600	44,200
Domestic Use	28,969	29,496	30,500	31,400
Exports	11,176	11,550	12,800	12,500
Total use	40,145	41,046	43,300	43,900
Ending stocks	275	250	300	300
Avg. price (\$/short ton) 3/	468.11	489.94	370.00	325.00

1/ Beginning stocks, production, imports, use, ending stocks, and average price are projections from the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, February 10, 2015. Price is the midpoint of the projected range from the same report.

2/ Projections based on analysis by the USDA's Oilseeds Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee.

3/ The average price is for 48-percent protein meal at Decatur, Illinois.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Table 8. Soybean Oil Supply, Demand, and Price, 2012/13-2015/16**

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 1/	2015/16 2/
Production (mil. lbs.)	19,820	20,130	20,580	21,270
Beginning stocks	2,540	1,705	1,165	1,505
Imports	196	165	160	170
Supply	22,555	22,000	21,905	22,945
Domestic Use	18,687	18,958	18,350	18,575
Biodiesel 3/	4,689	4,950	4,700	4,800
Food, Feed, Other Industrial	13,998	14,008	13,650	13,775
Exports	2,164	1,877	2,050	2,200
Total use	20,850	20,835	20,400	20,775
Ending stocks	1,705	1,165	1,505	2,170
Avg. price (cents/lb.) 4/	47.1	38.2	32.0	30.0

1/ Beginning stocks, production, imports, use, ending stocks, and average price are projections from the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*, February 10, 2015. Price is the midpoint of the projected range from the same report.

2/ Projections based on analysis by the USDA's Oilseeds Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee.

3/ Reflects only biodiesel made from methyl ester as reported by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

4/ The average price is for crude soybean oil at Decatur, Illinois.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.