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Report Highlights:

FAS Accra (Post) forecasts Ghana's market year (MY) 2026/2027 (July-June) wheat imports at about 1.12 million metric tons (MMT), marginally up 1 percent from the preceding year's estimate of 1 MMT. Imports benefit from a relatively stable exchange rate and the John Dramani Mahama-led administration's business-friendly budget statements and economic policy. Ghana currently does not produce wheat, but the country is upbeat about domestic wheat production in the near future; field trials are yielding 4.7 MT/hectare. Post foresees Ghanaian production numbers for corn (maize) and rice (milled) dipping in MY 2026/2027 in response to prevailing produce price crashes. While Post expects MY 2026/2027 (October-September) rice imports to remain unchanged near 1 MMT; MY 2026/2027 (July-June) corn imports are expected to slide significantly by over 50 percent compared to the preceding year's estimate.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Heralding a new development with Ghana agricultural production and development, FAS Accra (Post) sources inform that Ghana, traditionally a non-producer of wheat, is researching the feasibility of growing wheat in sufficient volume to lessen its reliance on foreign imports. Research is focused on targeting the commercialization of early-generation seeds in 2028. Field trials (*Wheat Pride 999*) in the Volta region report yields of 4.7 metric tons (MT)/hectare; surpassing the global average wheat yield of ~3.5 MT/hectare. Ghana, traditionally a non-wheat producer, has imported wheat for flour milling for decades. Currently, all wheat on the Ghanaian market is imported from overseas sources.

Post forecasts Ghana’s marketing year (MY) 2026/2027 (July-June) total wheat consumption at 998,000 MT, up 1 percent over the preceding year’s estimate of 986,000 MT. Bakeries and other wheat flour products manufacturers and retailers, expect sustained increase in wheat consumption based on anticipated improving economic conditions and population growth. Post forecasts MY 2026/2027 Ghana wheat imports at 1.12 million metric tons (MMT), up 1 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 1.1 MMT. Ghana’s importers seek to benefit from implemented value-added tax (VAT) reforms, a relatively stable exchange rate, abolished import charges introduced under the preceding Nana Akufo-Addo administration (National Patriotic Party), and John Dramani Mahama (National Democratic Congress) government’s business-friendly budget statements and economic policy to buildup stocks.

FAS Accra forecasts Ghana’s MY 2026/2027 (July-June) corn (maize) production at 3 million metric tons (MMT), down by 14 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 3.5 MMT. The decrease is due to reduced area cultivated and harvested. Facing a drop in corn prices, resulting from excess supply, Ghanaian corn farmers may to scale back corn plantings in favor of more lucrative alternative crops.

FAS Accra forecasts Ghana’s MY 2026/2027 domestic rice (milled) rice production at 800,000 MT, down 8 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate 970,000 MT. Post attributes the decrease based on rice farmers’ reaction to prevailing low domestic rice prices; which is making rice cultivation less profitable. Though the Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet) is forecasting normal-to-above normal rainfall for most parts of Ghana, farmer apathy in rice cultivation will result in a significant decline in area cultivated; resulting in a drop in input investment (e.g., certified improved seeds and fertilizers).

Rice is the second most important cereal crop in Ghana after corn. It is a major staple food. FAS Accra forecasts Ghana’s MY 2026/2027 rice consumption slightly higher at 1.90 MMT, up 3 percent from Post’s MY 2025/2026 estimate of 1.85 MMT. Per capita rice consumption is 53 kilograms per annum.

COMMODITY

WHEAT

Table 1: Ghana, Wheat, Production-Supply-Distribution (PSD)

Wheat	2024/2025		2025/2026		2026/2027	
Market Year Begins	Jul 2024		Jul 2025		Jul 2026	
Ghana	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	191	191	259	216	0	320
Production (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imports (1000 MT)	1043	1000	1000	1100	0	1115
TY Imports (1000 MT)	1043	1000	1000	1100	0	1115
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT)	1234	1191	1259	1316	0	1435
MY Exports (1000 MT)	10	10	20	10	0	12
TY Exports (1000 MT)	10	10	20	10	0	12
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	15	15	15	16	0	18
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	950	950	975	970	0	980
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	965	965	990	986	0	998
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	259	216	249	320	0	425
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	1234	1191	1259	1316	0	1435
Yield (MT/HA)	0	0	0	0	0	0

(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA).

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column.

TY = Trade Year, which for Wheat begins in July for all countries. TY 2026/2027 = July 2026-June 2027.

PRODUCTION

FAS Accra (Post) sources inform that Ghana, traditionally a non-producer of wheat, is experimenting with the feasibility of growing wheat in commercially sufficient volume to lessen its reliance on foreign imports. Research is focused on targeting the commercialization of early-generation seeds in 2028. Reportedly, some field trials underway (with *Wheat Pride 999*) in Ghana's Volta region are obtaining yields of 4.7 metric tons (MT)/hectare (i.e. in Ghana's savannah and forest zones); surpassing the global average wheat yield of ~3.5 MT/hectare. Ghana, traditionally a non-wheat producer, has imported wheat for flour milling for decades. Currently, all wheat on the Ghanaian market is imported from overseas sources.

CONSUMPTION

FAS Accra forecasts Ghana's marketing year (MY) 2026/2027 (July-June) total wheat consumption at 998,000 MT, marginally up 1 percent over the preceding year's estimate of 986,000 MT. Bakeries and other wheat flour products manufacturers and retailers, expect sustained increase in wheat consumption

based on anticipated improving economic conditions and population growth.¹ Ghanaian consumers, especially with those residing in urban areas, favor wheat flour. Bread remains a household staple food, consumed as a breakfast item and as a snack later in the afternoon and evenings.

In 2025, inflation in Ghana remained high, but is easing in the first quarter (Q1) 2026 (January, February, March), falling to its lowest level in decades. The latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) data released by the Ghana Statistical Service, reports inflation declining from 3.8 percent in January 2026 to 3.3 percent in February 2026; nosediving from February 2025's figure of 23.1 percent. Post discerns food inflation dipping significantly to a record low of 2.4 percent in February 2026. Previously in January 2023, Ghana's food inflation rose to an all-time high of 61 percent; averaging 25.8 percent in the 2023-2026 period. Post estimates that with this easing of inflation, food consumption will increase.

In Bread We Trust, However, Biscuits and Pasta are Cooking: Bread remains the major wheat flour product on the Ghanaian market. Nevertheless, there is a sustained uptick in biscuits, pasta, and pastries consumption. Also, of late there has been a proliferation of instant noodle vending spots and pizza shops. Ghanaian urban dwellers, especially lower-income consumers, favor bread for breakfast as their preferred choice. At breakfast, bread is eaten alongside porridges (made from corn, rice, wheat, millet, or corn/millet-soy blend); being washed down with a cocoa/chocolate drink or tea. Normal consumption patterns are expected to continue through MY 2026/2027, in line with Ghana's sustained economic recovery. Overall, wheat consumption is expected to continue increasing in line with population growth and urbanization.²

Ghanaian consumers have developed a taste for hard wheat flour. Nonetheless, Post of late is seeing appreciable growth in the use of soft wheat flour here in Ghana. Currently, 70 percent of wheat flour is used to make bread, while the remaining 30 percent goes into the manufacture of cakes and other pastries. Ghanaian consumers prefer high-quality hard wheat flour, the type that produces the desired high-top fluffy loaf bread. Ghana's MY 2025/2026 per capita wheat consumption is estimated at about 27 kilograms (kg) per year.

Wheat Marketing: Ghanaian millers produce hard flour for breads and soft flour for pastries. The addition of pastry flour to their product mix is in response to the growth in domestic demand for pastries. This is directly related to the expansion in the number and capacity of Ghana's biscuit factories, as well as the entry of many new domestic pastry producers. Ghana counts with four major wheat-millers; with total installed capacity of 2,200 MT per day. Post industry sources inform that these are operating at 60 percent capacity due to the market size and the recent influx of imported wheat flour.

Wheat Type Blending: Blending hard wheat with soft wheat at varying percentages is gaining popularity with millers, but care is taken not to cause significant changes in the acceptable flour quality that could otherwise be rejected by Ghanaian bread bakers. There is increasing demand for soft wheat

¹ Ghana (slightly smaller than the State of Oregon) sits on West Africa's Atlantic coast bordering Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, and Burkina Faso; its youthful population (56 percent is under 25 years-of-age) of 34.6 million (Central Intelligence Agency, 2024 estimate) is growing at 2.15 percent, with urbanization at over 59 percent.

² The annual rate of urbanization in Ghana is evidencing a 3.06 percent annual rate of change (2020-2025). There is, however, a marked downward trend in the 2000-2005 rates of urban growth (i.e., four percent) and the total population growth (i.e., 2.5 percent) being projected through 2025-2030 (i.e., slowing then to 2.75 percent and just under two percent respectively) (Central Intelligence Agency, 2024).

flour by biscuit factories and pastry makers. The less popular soft wheat flour is primarily used to produce cakes and pastries. Ghanaian bakeries prefer flour produced from hard wheat to achieve the desired soft fluffy bread. In Ghana, it is mandatory for all wheat flour products to be fortified with micronutrients (i.e., Vitamin A, B₁, B₂, B₆, niacin, folic acid, iron, and zinc).

Wheat Flour Packaging and Distribution: Wheat flour is packaged in 50 kg, 25 kg, 10 kg, 5 kg, and 2 kg bags with brand names labeled on the bags. The millers count with varying distribution methods: 1) by contract, where the wheat is milled to order by a trader, wholesaler, or baker; 2) by direct sales to traders at factory premises; or 3) through wholesale outlets. The price of flour is determined by its cost of production and flour type (i.e., hard wheat and soft wheat mixtures); resulting in no uniform pricing.

Wheat Price Movements, Wheat Flour and Products Prices in Ghana: Regardless of recent upward adjustments of global wheat price since Q3 2025 (July, August, September), local wheat flour prices in MY 2025/2026 stabilized at an average of Ghanaian cedis (GHA) 700.00 (\$64.81)/50 kg bag, a decrease of about 7 percent compared to the preceding year's average price of GHA 750.00 (\$48.00).³ However, the price of 1 kg bread, remains unchanged at GHA 5.00 (\$2.31).

TRADE

Exports: FAS Accra forecasts Ghana's MY 2026/2027 wheat exports/re-exports at 12,000 MT, up 20 percent compared to the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 10,000 MT. The increased in exports is in response to growing demand from the neighboring countries. Exports mainly head by haulage trucks up into the Sahel's Burkina Faso and Niger, as well as up and down Coastal West Africa's roadways to Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, and Benin.

Imports: FAS Accra forecasts MY 2026/2027 Ghana wheat imports at 1.12 million metric tons (MMT), marginally up 1 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 1.1 MMT. Ghana's importers seek to benefit from implemented value-added tax (VAT) reforms, a relatively stable exchange rate, some now abolished import charges introduced under the preceding Nana Akufo-Addo administration (New Patriotic Party – NPP), and the John Dramani Mahama (National Democratic Congress – NDC) government's business-friendly budget statements and economic policy to build up stocks (see, [GAIN-GHANA | GH 2026-0002 | Ghana Tax Reforms of 2026 – Impact on U.S.-origin Food and Agricultural Products Imports and Ghanaian Consumer Prices](#)).⁴

A cornerstone of the Ghanaian government's 2025-2026 agricultural agenda is the expansion of the Ghana Wheat Initiative; which is a collaboration between the Council for Scientific and Industrial

³ MY 2024/2025 calculated average exchange rate: GHA 15.60.00 to \$1.00. Current average exchange rate in March 2026: GHA 10.80 to \$1.00.

⁴ In 2025, the Mahama government proposed a value-added tax (VAT) reform that include: 1) abolishing the COVID-19 Levy; 2) reversing the decoupling of GETFund Levy and NHI Levy from the VAT; and 3) Reducing the effective VAT rate for households and businesses. See, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, "GAIN-GHANA | GH2026-0002 | Ghana Tax Reforms of 2026 - Impact on US-origin Food and Agricultural Products Imports and Ghanaian Consumer Prices, located at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20Tax%20Reforms%20of%202026%20-%20Impact%20on%20US-origin%20Food%20and%20Agricultural%20Products%20Imports%20and%20Ghanaian%20Consumer%20Prices_Accra_Ghana_GH2026-0002.

Research (CSIR) and private partners. The Mahama administration is focusing on private sector-led growth. The Ghanaian government is offering investors incentives to engage in large-scale wheat farming; the ultimate objective of which is to reduce the country’s reliance on foreign food imports. For the 2026 farming season, Ghana’s government is also shifting from subsidized fertilizers to completely free distribution to boost productivity across all grain sectors.

Ghana’s top 10-suppliers of wheat include: 1) Turkey; 2) Canada; 3) Poland; 4) Germany; 5) Lithuania; 6) Romania; 7) Latvia; 8) France; 9) Nigeria; 10) and Côte d’Ivoire. Turkey is now edging out Canada as the dominant supplier in calendar year (CY) 2025 (January-December), with 39 percent of the Ghanaian market share, against Canada’s share of about 38 percent of the total imports. Supplies from Turkey comprise of pre-bagged wheat flour and pasta (i.e., uncooked, not stuffed or otherwise prepared, not containing eggs). Hard wheat classes comprise about 70 percent of Ghana’s imports, and the remaining 30 percent is soft wheat.

Table 2: Ghana, Top 10-Suppliers of Wheat, Calendar Years (CY) 2021-2025, (MT)

Country	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Turkey	232,182	167,907	214,045	318,127	424,625
Canada	449,652	275,383	331,131	395,830	412,922
Poland		15,068	55,227	67,712	85,103
Germany	3,487	19,506	21,869	4,163	55,959
Lithuania	52,000		26,100	65,309	35,000
Romania				12,000	31,942
Latvia	20,000	56,022	4,743	31,350	29,000
France	39,060	50,042	61,111	53	8,057
Nigeria	1,711	313	142	630	5,233
Cote d'Ivoire	7,228	7,973	3,808	6,158	2,264
Others	261,045	105,095	12,977	26,243	3,273
Total	1,066,365	697,309	731,153	927,575	1,093,378

Note: For duty rates see, Appendix I – ECOWAS Tariff Table, HS Chapter 10, Wheat, Corn, and Rice.

Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC, 2025; FAS Accra office research.

Table 3: Ghana, Wheat Tariff Table

Heading	T.S.N.	Commodity Description	Standard Unit of Quantity	RATES					
				IMPORT					Export Duty
				Import Duty	VAT		Import Excise		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
10.01		Wheat and meslin.							
		-Durum wheat:							
	1001.11.00.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%				0%
	1001.19.00.00	-Other	kg	5%	15%				0%
		-Other							
	1001.91.00.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%				0%
	1001.99.00.00	-Other	kg	5%	15%				0%

Source: ECOWAS CET; FAS Accra office research.

Recognizing that Ghana does not produce commercially sufficient quantities of wheat to meet the food security needs of the population, the 2026 Budget introduced a number of business-friendly reforms to lower import costs. For example, commencing January 1, 2026, the government eliminated several layered taxes that had previously inflated import costs, as well as the 1% COVID-19 Health Recovery Levy. The Ghanaian government also has engaged in the process of value-added tax (VAT) consolidation. Whereby, the National Health Insurance Levy (NHIL) and GETFund have been consolidated into the standard VAT base. This effectively reduces “tax compounding,” and is expected to lower the landed cost for wheat importers, millers, and bakeries.

FAS Accra does not identify the presence of applicable Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs), nor preferential agreements. In addition to the import duty, there are other levies and charges/fees applied:

- Value-Added Tax (VAT): 15 percent
- National Health Insurance Levy (NHIL) 2.5 percent
- Ghana Education Trust Fund (GET) Fund 2.5 percent
- Examination Fee 1.0 percent
- African Union Levy 0.20 percent
- ECOWAS Levy 0.50 percent
- Processing fee 1.0 percent

FAS Accra understands that while these policies aim for long-term “wheat self-sufficiency,” the immediate impact in 2026, appears to remain focused on import cost reduction to protect Ghanaian consumers from the high price of wheat-based staples, such as, bread and pastries.

STOCKS

FAS Accra foresees Ghana’s MY 2026/2027 wheat ending stocks rising to 425,000 MT, up 33 percent from the MY 2022/2023 estimate of 320,000 MT. Post attributes the increase in ending stocks to increased beginning stocks and higher imports as millers continue to take advantage of the prevailing favorable exchange rate (an appreciated local currency against the major trading currencies) to build up stocks in anticipation of sustained consumption demand based on a positive economic outlook.

COMMODITY

CORN (MAIZE)

Table 4: Ghana, Corn, Production-Supply-Distribution (PSD)

Corn	2024/2025		2025/2026		2026/2027	
Market Year Begins	Jul 2024		Jul 2025		Jul 2026	
Ghana	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	1070	1070	1250	1250	0	1050
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	781	781	321	990	0	1105
Production (1000 MT)	2615	3294	3300	3500	0	3000
MY Imports (1000 MT)	175	271	200	65	0	30
TY Imports (1000 MT)	231	304	200	70	0	50
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT)	3571	4346	3821	4555	0	4135
MY Exports (1000 MT)	0	6	0	0	0	0
TY Exports (1000 MT)	0	6	0	0	0	0
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	450	500	500	550	0	565
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	2800	2850	2900	2900	0	2950
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	3250	3350	3400	3450	0	3515
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	321	990	421	1105	0	620
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	3571	4346	3821	4555	0	4135
Yield (MT/HA)	2.4439	3.0785	2.64	2.8	0	2.8571

(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA)

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column.

TY = Trade Year, for Corn begins in October for all countries. TY 2026/2027 = October 2026-September 2027.

PRODUCTION

FAS Accra forecasts Ghana's MY 2026/2027 (July-June) corn (maize) production at 3 million metric tons (MMT), down by 14 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 3.5 MMT. The decrease is attributable to reduced area cultivated and harvested. Facing a drop in corn prices, resulting from excess supply, Ghanaian corn farmers are anticipated to scale back on corn plantings in favor of more economically rewarding alternative crops. Corn, nonetheless, remains Ghana's most important grain crop; counting with a large production volume for both human and animal feed consumption. By some estimates, corn accounts for one-quarter of Ghanaians calories consumed.

The Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet) forecasts that the 2026 rainy season (March – July/August) will see above-normal rainfall in the April-June period along the country's east coast and adjoining inland areas. Flooding is a concern, potentially adversely impacting farm crops in the area. At the same time, the GMet also foresees the possibility of a higher incidence of intermittent dry spells in the March-April period; which would affect crop growth, strain water resources, reduce reservoir inflows, and create early-season water stress for crops in affected production zones.

With Ghanaian crop production mainly being rainfall-dependent, a forecast of above normal rainfall, though considered as positive outlook by many crop farmers, is a concern to corn farmers in the country's low-lying and flood-prone areas. Yields are expected to be impacted negatively.

Area Harvested: FAS Accra, forecasts MY 2026/2027 area harvested at 1.05 million hectares, a 16 percent reduction compared to the MY 2025/2026 preceding year’s estimate of 1.25 million hectares.

Corn Cultivation: Corn is cultivated in all of Ghana administrative regions. The top five production regions are: 1) Ashanti; 2) Eastern; 3) Bono; 4) Central; and 5) Bono East regions. Corn is planted once a year in the north of the country. Sowing occurs in June with the harvest taking place from August to October. Farmers in the southern part of the country usually crop corn twice per year, planting in the March/April timeframe and harvesting in August/September during the major growing season. Minor season planting operations are usually done in August/September, with the harvesting in December/January.

Map 1: Ghana Administrative Regions



Source: Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations.⁵

CONSUMPTION

Corn, Food-Seed-Industrial (FSI) Consumption: FAS Accra forecasts Ghana’s MY 2026/2027 corn FSI consumption at 2.95 MMT, up about almost 2 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 2.9

⁵ See, the Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations. The regions of Ghana constitute the first level of sub national government administration within the Republic of Ghana. There are currently sixteen regions, further divided for administrative purposes into 216 local districts. <https://www.ghanamissionun.org/map-regions-in-ghana/>.

MMT. Corn is the most important cereal cultivated in Ghana and remains the main staple food.⁶ Per capita consumption of corn in 2025, ranged 82 to 85 kg per annum. Human corn consumption is increasingly competing with the Ghanaian poultry sector's own growing demand for feed corn. Estimates from industry analysts suggest that human consumption constitutes now around 85 percent of the domestic corn production and livestock accounts for the remaining 15 percent. Consumption demand for corn is expected to follow the normal pattern in line with population growth.

Corn, Feed and Residual: FAS Accra forecasts Ghana's MY 2026/2027 feed and residual demand at 565,000 MT, marginally up nearly 3 percent compared to the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 550,000 MT. This increase is attributed to higher feed demand. Livestock farmers are invigorated by the new Ghanaian government's announced commitment to pursue a livestock development policy with special focus on poultry production, somewhat like the previous administration's poultry revitalization initiative.

Corn Marketing: Corn is mostly sold in large quantities in designated aggregators' markets all over the country and on the open market. Of late, there is a new development of corn now being listed as one of the commodities of trade on the [Ghana Commodities Exchange](#) (GCX) platform.⁷

Corn Packaging, Distribution, and Pricing: Packaging for corn for sale is in units of 100 kg, 50 kg, and 25 kg bags. Sales at the farm gate and wholesale level are done in 100 kg and 50 kg bags while retail level sales are done in the 25 kg bags or smaller non-standardized units. The price of corn is very volatile of late, and currently (March 2026) a 50 kg bag of domestically produced corn sells for GHA 180.00 (\$16.67).⁸ This same quantity of corn previously sold for GHA 350 (\$22.58) in March 2025, a slide of about 49 percent in price.⁹ Imported corn, which used to sell at a lower price than the domestically produced corn in 2025, is no longer competitive owing to the significant dip in the domestically produced corn prices.

As of March 2026, a 50 kg bag of imported corn averages GHA 270 (\$25.00), a 14 percent dip in price in the local currency but nowhere close to the domestically produced corn's price slide. In U.S. dollar terms, the current (March 2026) imported corn price is up compared to the earlier March 2025, price of GHA 315 (\$20.32). Industry sources expect further price dips for domestic corn; occurring prior to the onset of the lean season (May-August) in Northern Ghana's corn belt.

⁶ Per capita consumption of other starchy food staples like cassava and cocoyam far outstrips that for corn, but the consumption of these two are mostly limited to southern Ghana.

⁷ The Ghana Commodity Exchange is a private company limited by shares, structured as a Public Private Partnership, with the Ghanaian government currently the sole shareholder. The aim of the exchange is to establish linkages between agricultural and commodity producers and buyers, to secure competitive prices for their products, assuring the market quantity and quality as well as timely settlement of their trade. See, Ghana Commodity Exchange, located at: https://gcx.com.gh/who_we_are/#:~:text=GCX%20is%20a%20market%20%2F%20platform,products%20traded%20on%20the%20platform.

⁸ Calculated average exchange rate in March 2026: GHA10.80 to \$1.00.

⁹ Calculated average exchange rate in March 2025: GHA 15.50 to \$1.00.

TRADE

Exports: Ghanaian exports of corn (mainly to neighboring countries) are ban. Exports are set to zero in MY 2026/2027, unchanged from the MY 2025/2026 estimate. The earlier 2022 policy banning the exports of grains, including corn, remains in force (see, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2022-0008 | Ghana Extends Restriction on Grain Exports](#)).¹⁰

To ensure continued stabilization of domestic prices following the earlier 2024 drought, the Mahama administration maintained the continuation of corn export restrictions through MY 2025/2026. The policy is kept in place to forestall further spikes after corn prices hit GHA 380 per 50 kg bag in early 2025. The ban on the export of grains, such as corn and rice, as well as soybeans is intended to ensure national food security. Reportedly, this is contributing to a corn (maize) glut, as farmers are finding difficulties in selling surplus harvest amounts locally given the inflow of lower cost imports.

Imports: MY 2026/2027 corn imports are forecast to plummet to 30,000 MT, representing a slide of about 54 percent compared to the MY 2025/2026 estimate. This is due to the uncompetitive imported corn prices being set by the Ghanaian market. Corn prices back in February 2025, reached a high of GHA 380 (\$24.52) per 50 kg bag, influencing the incoming Mahama administration’s decision to then continue with the previous pause on corn import restriction.¹¹ Increased corn supply, resulting from increased imports, is responsible for the currently observed downward price movement. Post assumes that this will help avert corn price hikes, that normally occur with the onset of the lean season (April-July) in Southern Ghana and in Northern Ghana (May-August).

Table 5: Ghana, Top 10-Suppliers of Corn, Calendar Year (CY) 2021-2025, (MT)

Country	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Argentina	73,142	32,927	955	92,920	141,253
Cote d'Ivoire	165	19	286	135	21,450
Ukraine	18	0	0	0	14,960
South Africa	1,3639	1,405	5,217	2,288	2,998
Brazil	3	208	323	55,740	2,140
India	0	20	261	430	879
Thailand	78	37	35	146	209
France	0	0	0	100	99
Zambia	0	0	0	0	35
United States	55	120	260	8	6
Others	196	2	5	475	1
Total	87,296	34,738	7,342	152,242	184,030

Note: For duty rates see, Appendix I – ECOWAS Tariff Table, HS Chapter 10, Wheat, Corn, and Rice.

Source: Trade Data Monitor (TDM); FAS Accra office research.

¹⁰ See, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2022-0008 | Ghana Extends Restriction on Grain Exports,” located at:

https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20EXTENDS%20RESTRICTION%20ON%20GRAIN%20EXPORTS_Accra_Ghana_GH2022-0008. The Ghanaian government had earlier extended its temporary restriction of corn and soybean exports from an initial three-month duration to a six-month duration, corresponding to the end of September 2022. In addition to extending the export restriction period, rice has been included as a third commodity. This export restriction remains in place now through March 2026, so far.

¹¹ Calculated average exchange rate in February 2025: GHA15.50 to \$1.00.

In 2025 and 2026, the Ghanaian government implemented policy changes impacting corn cultivation in the country. These are the result of the new administrative strategy put in place under President John Darmani Mahama. The changes focus on a combination of import liberalization, local seed sovereignty, and improved mechanization.

The Ghanaian government regulates corn imports; corn import permits are required. Following the extended dry spells that hit the country in 2024, the previous Ghanaian government contemplated facilitating the import of over 300,000 MT of corn as a precautionary measure against an anticipated supply deficit. Eventually, that administration resorted to incentives, such as tax exemptions to encourage the private sector to import corn to augment the domestic supply. This decision significantly impacted corn imports; and accounts for FAS Accra’s earlier estimation of Ghana’s MY 2024/2025 corn imports, representing a 19-fold increase over the preceding year’s estimate. Major suppliers of corn to Ghana are Argentina, Brazil, and South Africa; and to a lesser extent, Serbia, India, Thailand, Côte d’Ivoire, France, the United States, and Zimbabwe.

Table 6: Ghana, Corn Tariff Table

Heading	T.S.N.	Commodity Description	Standard Unit of Quantity	RATES						
				IMPORT					Export Duty	
				Import Duty	VAT		Import Excise			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	
10.05		Corn.								
	1005.10.00.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%					0%
	1005.90.00.00	-Other	kg	20%	15%					0%

Source: ECOWAS CET; FAS Accra office research.

FAS Accra does not identify the presence of applicable Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs), nor preferential agreements. In addition to the import duty, there are other levies and charges/fees applied:

- Value-Added Tax (VAT): 15 percent
- National Health Insurance Levy (NHIL) 2.5 percent
- Ghana Education Trust Fund (GET) Fund 2.5 percent
- Examination Fee 1.0 percent
- African Union Levy 0.20 percent
- ECOWAS Levy 0.50 percent
- Processing fee 1.0 percent

STOCKS

Ghana’s MY 2026/2027 corn ending stocks are reduced to 620,000 MT, down 44 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate of 1.105 MMT. Post anticipates stocks being depleted to meet the growing consumption demand in the face of reduced supply from both domestic production and imports.

At the same time, Ghana’s Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) announced the move to full seed sovereignty starting in 2026; whereby the Ministry will only supply locally sourced seeds to Ghanaian

farmers. The goal being to whittle down the annual \$3 billion food import bill and leverage Ghana's national research institutions for climate resilient seed development.

Replacing previous flagship initiatives, the Feed Ghana Programme (2025-2028) has been launched as the primary framework for agricultural transformation. President Mahama announced the establishment of 50 Farmer Service Centers nationwide, with the first 11 coming online in 2026. These centers are intended to be a resource for farmers; providing access to tractors, harvesters, and ploughs to support year-round cultivation.

COMMODITY

RICE (MILLED)

Table 6: Ghana, Rice, Production-Supply-Distribution (PSD)

Rice, Milled	2024/2025		2025/2026		2026/2027	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2024		Oct 2025		Oct 2026	
Ghana	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	350	350	360	360	0	300
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	379	379	463	417	0	487
Milled Production (1000 MT)	759	759	900	970	0	800
Rough Production (1000 MT)	1100	1100	1304	1406	0	1159
Milling Rate (.9999) (1000 MT)	6900	6900	6900	6900	0	6900
MY Imports (1000 MT)	1125	1080	925	950	0	950
TY Imports (1000 MT)	1085	1095	925	950	0	950
TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT)	2263	2218	2288	2337	0	2237
MY Exports (1000 MT)	0	1	0	0	0	0
TY Exports (1000 MT)	0	3	0	0	0	0
Consumption and Residual (1000 MT)	1800	1800	1850	1850	0	1900
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	463	417	438	487	0	337
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	2263	2218	2288	2337	0	2237
Yield (Rough) (MT/HA)	3.1429	3.1429	3.6222	3.9056	0	3.8633

(1000 HA), (1000 MT), (MT/HA).

MY = Marketing Year, begins with the month listed at the top of each column.

TY = Trade Year, which for Rice, Milled begins in January for all countries. TY 2026/2027 = January 2027-December 2027.

PRODUCTION

FAS Accra forecasts Ghana's MY 2026/2027 domestic rice (milled) rice production at 800,000 MT, down 8 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate 970,000 MT. Post attributes the decrease based on rice farmers' reaction to prevailing low domestic rice prices; which is making rice cultivation less profitable. Though the Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet) is forecasting normal-to-above normal rainfall for most parts of Ghana, farmer apathy in rice cultivation will result in a significant decline in area cultivated; resulting in a drop in input investment (e.g., certified improved seeds and fertilizers).

Ban on Grain Exports - Key to Domestic Rice Price Crash: Concerns of possible food shortages and inflation in 2024, caused the Nana Akufo-Addo government to impose a grains export ban; it has carried over into the current day Mahama administration. Post sources inform that this policy is depriving rice farmers of an otherwise ready market for their paddy rice. Foreign aggregators from the neighboring Sahel countries of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger are no longer permitted to source paddy rice from Ghana; resulting in excess supply for the domestic Ghanaian market to absorb. This development is contributing to the current rice market price crash. Post sources comment that some major rice farmers are mulling over the idea of folding up operations.

Rice is grown throughout all regions of Ghana. However, the top five production areas are the Northern, Volta, Upper East, Oti, and Ashanti regions. In most cases, rice is grown once per year, but in rare

instances where irrigation is available, producers may plant two crops per year. The primary planting seasons commence in April/May for the southern part of the country and May to July for the northern part. September/October is the harvest time in Southern Ghana and October to December for North Ghana. In the Northern and Upper East regions, rice producers sow in July/August and harvest in October/November.

Area Harvested: FAS Accra forecasts MY 2026/2027 rice area harvested at 300,000 hectares, down nearly 17 percent from the MY 2025/2026 estimate. The current MY 2025/2026 season's crashed rough paddy rice prices will be disincentive to both existing and prospective rice farmers.

CONSUMPTION

Rice is the second most important cereal crop in Ghana after corn. It has become a major staple food. FAS Accra forecasts Ghana's MY 2026/2027 rice consumption slightly higher at 1.90 MMT, up nearly 3 percent from Post's MY 2025/2026 estimate of 1.85 MMT. Ghana's per capita rice consumption in MY 2025/2026 is estimated at about 53 kg.¹² With the Ghanaian population already surpassing 34.6 million, and growing at 2.15 percent (Central Intelligence Agency, 2024 estimate), rice consumption is expected to increase. All other things remaining equal, FAS Accra expects Ghanaian rice consumption to rise in response to the significant drop in prices. Additionally, the Ghanaian government's recent abolition of some taxes and levies that impacted imports cost, and consequently rice prices, has made imported rice more affordable.

Rice is the main component of the diet in most Ghanaian homes. Post anticipates rice consumption to increase with the prospects for sustained economic stability in the coming months. Increasing urbanization, a large and growing expatriate community, a growing entrepreneurial middle-class, sustained economic recovery, as well as a resurging hospitality industry will contribute to an increase in rice consumption.

Urban consumers represent 59 percent of Ghana's population and account for about 80 percent of total imported rice consumption. Ghanaian urban consumers prefer imported rice due to its perceived higher quality. There is increasing demand for high quality rice and consumer preferences are moving towards fragrant and long-grain white rice. A lesser proportion of domestically produced rice, that is processed to meet the quality standard of imported rice, is earning the increased patronage of urban dwellers.

Rice Marketing: Although U.S. long grain rice had previously been preferred by Ghanaians due to its high quality and better taste, it has lost market share to lower cost Asian sourced rice. Asian-origin rice is perceived to have bettered its quality and is more affordable than higher priced U.S.-origin rice. As such, fragrant long-grain, white rice from Asia (mainly from Vietnam) has gradually displaced U.S. rice in consumer preference. Overall, rice imports from Vietnam, China, Thailand, India, and Pakistan have risen considerably to fulfill Ghana's increasing demand.

Effort will be required through various promotional activities for U.S.-origin rice to regain lost market share. Imported rice provides greater variety at more affordable prices than domestically produced

¹² For 2021, FAOSTAT indicates Ghana's rice consumption per capita reached 52.1 kilograms. This is 18 percent less than in the previous year. See, FAOSTAT, located at: <https://www.helgilibrary.com/indicators/rice-consumption-per-capita/ghana/>.

varieties. The local rice (parboiled, white, and brown) is perceived to have higher nutritional qualities but is less preferred by most consumers due to perceived poor quality. Nonetheless, the Ghanaian government has created demand for the envisioned increase in domestic rice production by linking it to the home-grown National School Feeding program through the guaranteed purchases by the reinvigorated [National Food Buffer Stock Company](#) (NAFCO).¹³

Rice Packaging and Distribution: In Ghana, both imported and domestic rice are sold in the same market (i.e., open air and supermarkets) in the urban centers, but supply of domestically produced rice can be irregular. About 70 percent of rice sold through retail outlets in Ghana is imported.

Importers prefer to buy rice in bulk and re-bag locally into 50 kg, 25 kg, 22.5 kg, and 5 kg bags to accommodate consumer preferences and to maximize their profits. Rice importers sell to wholesalers, retailers, and directly to consumers. The imported rice sold in 5 kg bags is often preferred by customers because of portability but faced with price-sensitive consumers, retailers are resorting to bag rice in 4.5 kg, 4.2 kg, and 4.0 kg bags lately. Several smaller private companies, however, actively import packaged rice in 1 kg and 2 kg bags of various types, brands, and qualities.

Rice Pricing: Currently (March 2026), the retail price of a 25 kg bag of Thai fragrant rice averages GHA 655.00 (\$60.65), down from GHA 690.00 (\$44.52) a year ago; Vietnamese rice of the same weight averages GHA 325.00 (\$30.09), also down from GHA 490.00 (\$31.61) a year ago; and domestically produced fragrant long-grain rice averages GHA 425.00 (\$39.35) per 25 kg bag, a dip from GHA 535 (\$34.52) in the preceding year.¹⁴

TRADE

Exports: FAS Accra forecasts that rice exports for MY 2026/2027 will not be significant due to the government's stricter enforcement of an existing ban on cereal and some grain exports. It is expected that the domestic market will eventually offer competitive prices for local production. Rice exports, which usually occur in the form of rough paddy rice to neighboring countries (i.e., Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo) is set to zero in MY 2025/2026.

Imports: FAS Accra forecasts Ghana's MY 2026/2027 rice imports at 950,000 MT, unchanged from Post's preceding year's estimate. While declining global rice prices, combined with the Mahama administration's elimination of taxes and levies (e.g., the COVID-19 Recovery Levy) that impact landed costs might encourage imports; importers are signaling that they aim to manage their inventories to prevent further price reductions owing to excess supply.¹⁵ Rice imports are largely driven by the increase in population and urbanization, as well as rapid growth of the hotel, restaurants, and catering service industry. Different grades of rice are imported ranging from the fragrant Thai and Vietnamese

¹³ Ghana's National Food Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO), located at: <https://nafco.gov.gh/>. Detailed information regarding its mandate, background, and its role as a sub-vented organization under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) can also be found on the official MoFA directorate page, located at: <https://mofa.gov.gh/site/directorates/sub-vented-organization-soes/national-food-buffer-stock-company>.

¹⁴ Calculated average exchange rate in March 2026: GH¢10.80 to \$1.00 versus calculated average exchange rate in March 2025: GH¢15.50 to \$1.00.

¹⁵ See, Table 8 for Ghana's rice tariff; follow the link located at: <https://www.ghanaports.gov.gh/media/news-details/483/AWZX9749/GPHA.-GSA-resolve-to-reduce-cost-of-doing-business-at-the-Ports>.

rice to U.S.-origin long grain rice, even to lower cost 70 percent broken rice from other sources. The market share for U.S.-origin rice has plummeted in the face of increased Asian competition, as well as a result of the rice pricing referential utilized to grade U.S.-origin consignments in terms of broken percentages.

Table 7: Ghana, Top 10-Suppliers of Rice, CY 2021-2025, (MT)

Country	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Vietnam	379,612	363,354	531,258	396,114	665,864
China	69,820	35,000	40,500	36,500	70,500
Thailand	88,984	32,405	37,942	57,458	50,625
India	138,304	81,666	121,429	122,307	32,137
Pakistan	22,615	13,909	14,885	16,732	9,081
Cambodia	1,512	73	456	343	996
UK	0	3	2	95	394
United States	6,302	125	261	293	297
Cote d'Ivoire	16,525	18,870	7,693	72	110
Germany	58	46	47	50	79
Others	1,019	253	672	232	245
Total	724,751	545,704	755,145	630,196	830,328

Note: For duty rates see, Appendix I – ECOWAS Tariff Table, HS Chapter 10, Wheat, Corn, and Rice.

Source: Trade Data Monitor (TDM); FAS Accra office research.

Traders view the United States as a reliable supplier of premium quality rice, but turn to Asian rice, mainly Vietnamese and Thai jasmine rice, whose quality image has improved. These are actively promoted on radio, television, and billboards. Fragrant rice is the preferred rice of those shopping in the “quality” segment of the market; chosen for its special taste. High-end restaurants and eateries rely heavily on fragrant rice to deliver quality and taste to their customers. Ghana’s main rice suppliers today include Vietnam, China, Thailand, India, and Pakistan.

Table 8: Ghana, Rice Tariff Table

Heading	T.S.N.	Commodity Description	Standard Unit of Quantity	RATES					
				IMPORT					Export Duty
				Import Duty	VAT		Import Excise		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
10.06		Rice.							
		-Rice in the husk (paddy or rough):							
	1006.10.10.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%				0%
	1006.10.90.00	-Other	kg	5%	15%				0%
	1006.20.00.00	-Husked (brown) rice -Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed:	kg	20%	15%				0%
	1006.30.10.00	-In packings of more than 5 kg or in bulk	kg	20%	15%				0%
	1006.30.90.00	-In packings of 5 kg or less	kg	20%	15%				0%
	1006.40.00.00	-Broken rice	kg	20%	15%				0%

Source: ECOWAS CET; FAS Accra office research.

FAS Accra, for rice imports, is not identifying applicable Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs), nor preferential agreements. In addition to import duty, there are other levies and charges/fees, which include the following:

- Value-Added Tax (VAT) 15 percent
- National Health Insurance Levy (NHIL) 2.5 percent
- Ghana Education Trust Fund (GET) Fund 2.5 percent
- Examination Fee 1.0 percent
- African Union Levy 0.20 percent
- ECOWAS Levy 0.50 percent
- Processing fee 1.0 percent

STOCKS

FAS Accra foresees Ghana's MY 2025/2026 rice ending stocks at 381,000 MT, up 36 percent compared to Post's MY 2024/2025 estimate; mainly due to expected increases in domestic supply and imports.

Appendix I – ECOWAS Tariff Table, HS Chapter 10, Wheat, Corn, and Rice

Tariff Table for Wheat, Corn, and Rice
{ Culled from **Chapter 10** of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET)¹}

Cereals

Notes.

1. (A) The products specified in the headings of this Chapter are to be classified in those headings only if grains are present, whether or not in the ear or on the stalk.
- (B) The Chapter does not cover grains which have been hulled or otherwise worked. However, rice, husked, milled, polished, glazed, parboiled, or broken remains classified in heading 10.06.
2. Headings 10.05 does not cover sweet corn (Chapter 7).

Subheading Note.

1. The term “durum wheat” means wheat of the *Triticum durum* species and the hybrids derived from the inter-specific crossing of *Triticum durum*, which have the same number (28) of as that species.

Heading	T.S.N.	Commodity Description	Standard Unit of Quantity	RATES						
				IMPORT					Export Duty	
				Import Duty	VAT		Import Excise			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	
10.01		Wheat and meslin.								
		-Durum wheat:								
	1001.11.00.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%					0%
	1001.19.00.00	-Other	kg	5%	15%					0%
		-Other								
	1001.91.00.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%					0%
	1001.99.00.00	-Other	kg	5%	15%					0%
10.05		Corn.								
	1005.10.00.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%					0%
	1005.90.00.00	-Other	kg	20%	15%					0%
10.06		Rice.								
		-Rice in the husk (paddy or rough):								
	1006.10.10.00	-Seed	kg	5%	0%					0%
	1006.10.90.00	-Other	kg	5%	15%					0%
	1006.20.00.00	-Husked (brown) rice	kg	20%	15%					0%
		-Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed:								
	1006.30.10.00	-In packings of more than 5 kg or in bulk	kg	20%	15%					0%
	1006.30.90.00	-In packings of 5 kg or less	kg	20%	15%					0%
	1006.40.00.00	-Broken rice	kg	20%	15%					0%

¹The ECOWAS Tariff and Statistics Nomenclature is a common customs nomenclature based on the harmonized system of description and coding of goods (HS) adopted by the Community. It is a 10-digit Tariff and Statistical Nomenclature defining the list of goods making up the Tariff and Statistics Nomenclature categories of the CET. The tariff is applicable to all non-member states of the ECOWAS.

Appendix II – The ECOWAS CET – 5-Tariff Band Structure

The ECOWAS tariff nomenclature has been migrated from 2007 to the 2012 version (HS 2012) introduced by the World Customs Organization (WCO). On 25th October 2013, ECOWAS Member States adopted the ECOWAS Common External Tariff with the 5-tariff band structure below:

Categories	Percentage of Duties	Goods Description
0	0%	Essential social goods.
1	5%	Goods of primary necessity, raw goods, and Capital Goods.
2	10%	Intermediate goods and inputs
3	20%	Final Consumption goods or finished goods
4	35%	Specific Goods for Economic Development

Ghana began full implementation of the ECOWAS CET in 2016. Follow this link; [ECOWAS Common External Tariff \(CET\) – ECOWAS Trade Information System\(ECOTIS\)](#) for more information on the ECOWAS CET.¹⁶

Attachments:

No Attachments

¹⁶ See, ECOWAS Trade Information System (ECOTIS), “ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET),” located at: https://ecotis.ecowas.int/?page_id=24111.