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Report Highlights:

Wheat imports in marketing year (MY) 2026/2027 are expected at 5.6 million metric tons (MMT), a five percent decrease from the prior MY. U.S. wheat's share of imports into Nigeria is expected to decline due to lower priced wheat from other origins. Corn production is expected to decrease by five percent to 11.1 MMT in MY 2026/27, driven by higher input costs, rising insecurity, and lower domestic corn prices. Rice production is projected to decline by six percent to 8.8 MMT, while consumption is projected to increase by about six percent to 9.1 MMT. To meet increasing rice consumption, imports are estimated to increase eleven percent to 3.1 MMT. Nigeria's 2026 Fiscal Policy Measures and Tariff Amendments reduced import adjustment taxes on wheat and rice, which may ease costs for processors and millers over time.

Market Overview

According to the [National Bureau of Statistics](#), Nigeria's headline inflation eased to 15.39% year-on-year in August 2026, down from 23.14% in August 2025. Food inflation also eased, falling to 19.57% in August 2026 from 25.30% in August 2025. However, despite improvements in headline and food inflation, lower wage growth and rising transport and energy costs are expected to affect consumer purchasing power. Fuel prices in Nigeria rose sharply year-on-year, climbing from approximately 870 naira per liter in September 2025 to about 1,400 naira per liter in September 2026 an increase of roughly 61%, placing additional strain on household budgets already affected by stagnant wage growth. This divergence between improving macroeconomic indicators and stressed consumer purchasing power is expected to influence grain demand in MY 2026/27.

Wheat and rice both face production declines driven by increased rural insecurity in producing areas, higher input costs, and reduced farmer incentives. These factors are expected to lower production below prior FAS-Lagos forecasts. Global shipping disruptions and elevated freight rates may further increase costs for Nigerian grain importers. [Nigeria's 2026 Fiscal Policy Measures and Tariff Amendments](#) lowered import adjustment taxes on selected agricultural products, including wheat and rice, potentially offering millers and consumers some relief. However, it may take time for these duty reductions to be reflected in the prices paid by millers, processors, and consumers.

WHEAT

Table 1. Wheat Production, Supply and Distribution

Wheat Market Year Begins	2024/2025		2025/2026		2026/2027	
	Jul 2024		Jul 2025		Jul 2026	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Nigeria						
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	110	110	115	115	120	110
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	445	445	517	517	281	281
Production (1000 MT)	125	125	130	130	140	120
MY Imports (1000 MT)	6227	6227	5934	5934	6200	5600
TY Imports (1000 MT)	6227	6227	5934	5934	6200	5600
Total Supply (1000 MT)	6797	6797	6581	6581	6621	6001
MY Exports (1000 MT)	380	380	400	400	400	350
TY Exports (1000 MT)	380	380	400	400	400	350
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	5900	5900	5900	5900	5850	5400
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	5900	5900	5900	5900	5850	5400
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	517	517	281	281	371	251
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	6797	6797	6581	6581	6621	6001

Yield (MT/HA)	1.1364	1.1364	1.1304	1.1304	1.1667	1.0909
(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						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Production

FAS-Lagos projects that wheat production in MY 2026/27 will decrease by approximately eight percent to 120,000 metric tons (MT), compared to MY 2025/26 projection of 130,000 MT. This adjustment reflects an expected decline in planted area, driven by increased input costs and rising insecurity in wheat-producing regions.

Wheat production in Nigeria relies heavily on the northern states, particularly the Lake Chad region, Jigawa, and Kano, as well as other parts of the Northwest. Contacts report that ongoing insecurity is affecting the Northeast and Northwest regions more than in previous years, and that some farmers could not access their irrigated fields due to insecurity during the last planting season. Contacts expect farmers to face similar or worsening security conditions in wheat-producing regions during the upcoming planting season, which begins in November.

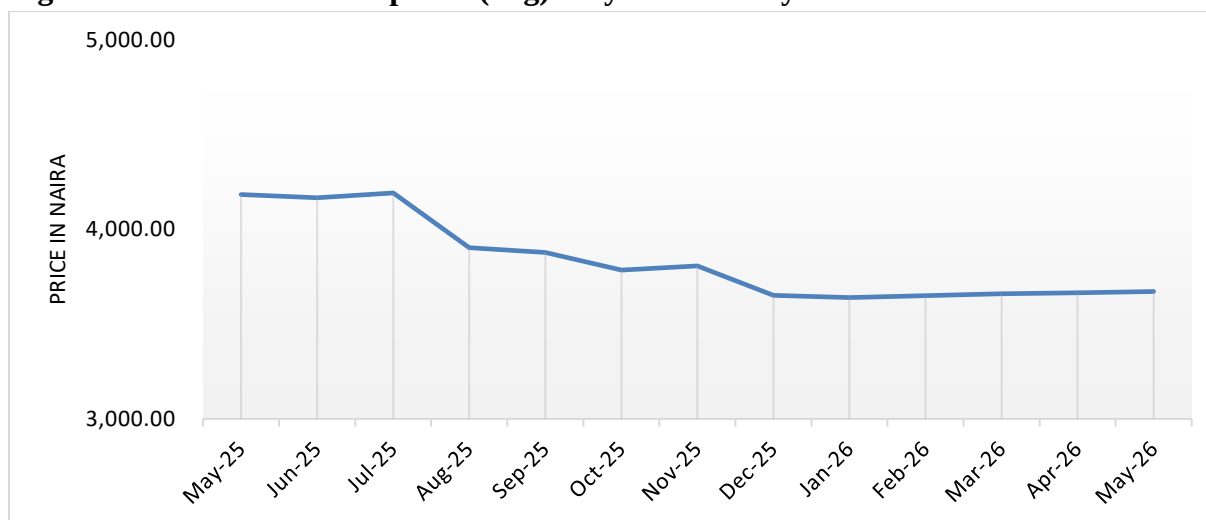
Nigeria's national elections are scheduled for 2027. Historically, insecurity has increased in the run-up to national elections, and government support, such as subsidized or no-cost fertilizer and seeds, may be diverted toward political allies rather than genuine producers. Combined with higher input costs, this expected reduction in government support reaching producers during the election season, may contribute to lower overall production.

Consumption

FAS-Lagos projects that wheat consumption in MY 2026/27 will decrease by approximately eight percent to 5.4 MMT, compared to MY 2025/26 projection of 5.9 MMT. This decline reflects both an expected decrease in imports and lower consumer purchasing power. Despite foreign exchange stability, wages and real incomes have not kept pace with the rise in fuel and transportation costs, leaving consumers with less purchasing power than in the previous MY.

In Nigeria, flour costs account for an estimated 70% of total baking production costs. Bakers report that wheat flour prices have declined by about 12 percent from May 2025 to May 2026 (Figure 1). Despite lower flour costs, to maintain the critical sub-1,000 Naira price point for lower-income consumers, local bakeries are reportedly reducing loaf sizes or altering recipes rather than raising prices. This practice started when other production costs increased, particularly energy and logistics.

Figure 1. Local wheat flour prices (2kg) May 2025 to May 2026



Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

Despite lower purchasing power, consumption patterns in Nigeria continue to favor wheat-based foods. The fast pace of urban life in cities like Lagos, Abuja, and Port Harcourt favors instant noodles and spaghetti over ball foods or "swallows" (such as *eba* or pounded yam), given the time and fuel constraints associated with preparing traditional dishes. Additionally, Nigeria's youth are increasingly favoring fast-casual wheat pastries, meat pies, shawarma wraps, and Western-style confectionery items over traditional grains.

POLICY

On April 1, 2026, [Nigeria announced the 2026 Fiscal Policy Measures and Tariff Amendments](#), which eliminate, or gradually phase down to zero, nearly all import adjustment taxes on agricultural imports. Extra duties on wheat imports from all destinations have been reduced from 15% to 0%.

TRADE

Imports

FAS-Lagos estimates MY 2026/27 wheat imports at 5.6 MMT, a decrease of about five percent compared to MY 2025/26 projection of 5.9 MMT. This decline is attributed to the expected higher price of imports. [Russia is Nigeria's second-largest wheat supplier](#) after the European Union. Contacts report that shipping bottlenecks and higher logistics costs are affecting Black Sea wheat shipments from Russia and Ukraine to West Africa, and that transit times are expected to lengthen as exporters reroute vessels a process that also requires additional fuel.

Contacts expect Nigeria to import less U.S. wheat this MY, as U.S. hard red winter (HRW) prices are higher than comparable supplies from Baltic and Black Sea origins. Despite higher prices, millers reportedly plan to still import HRW to blend with other origins to improve overall quality. Contacts noted that bakers increasingly prefer wheat flour with strong water absorption, which allows them to

produce greater quantities from each 50 kg bag. This favors U.S. HRW wheat, which generally has higher protein content than comparable products from other origins. Local millers specifically seek high-protein wheat with exceptional water absorption and gluten strength to withstand the demands of high-speed pasta extruders.

Exports

Wheat exports in MY 2026/27 are forecast at 350,000 MT, a decrease of about 13 percent compared to MY 2025/26 estimate of 400,000 MT. This decline is attributed to expected decreases in both wheat production and imports. Contacts report that approximately 80 percent of wheat exports are in flour form rather than grain, reflecting Nigeria's limited domestic wheat production and the limited milling capacity in neighboring countries, which drives demand for processed flour over raw grain.

The [Dawanau International Grain Market](#), on the outskirts of Kano city, Kano State, is a major hub for transborder and regional grain trade in northern Nigeria. It serves as the central collection and distribution point connecting Nigerian producers with buyers, merchants, and commercial trucks from neighboring Sahelian and West African countries, including Niger, Chad, Cameroon, Mali, and Benin. Informal trade across Nigeria's northern and western borders continues to shape export flows. Nigeria also supplies wheat seeds to Sahelian countries for cultivation.

Stocks

FAS-Lagos estimates MY 2026/27 ending stocks at 251,000 MT, an 11 percent decrease compared to MY 2025/26 projection of 281,000 MT. Lower anticipated imports are expected to drive the decrease in ending stocks.

CORN

Table 2. Corn Production, Supply and Distribution

Corn	2024/2025		2025/2026		2026/2027	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2024		Oct 2025		Oct 2026	
Nigeria	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	5063	5063	5200	5200	5200	5100
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	564	564	331	331	331	331
Production (1000 MT)	11217	11217	11700	11700	11500	11100
MY Imports (1000 MT)	425	425	150	150	500	900
TY Imports (1000 MT)	425	425	150	150	500	900
Total Supply (1000 MT)	12206	12206	12181	12181	12331	12331
MY Exports (1000 MT)	75	75	50	50	50	50
TY Exports (1000 MT)	75	75	50	50	50	50
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	4800	4800	4800	4800	4900	5200

FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	7000	7000	7000	7000	7100	6900
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	11800	11800	11800	11800	12000	12100
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	331	331	331	331	281	181
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	12206	12206	12181	12181	12331	12331
Yield (MT/HA)	2.2155	2.2155	2.25	2.25	2.2115	2.1765

(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 Corn begins in October for all countries. TY 2026/2027 = October 2026 - September 2027

OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: [PSD Online Advanced Query](#)

Production

FAS-Lagos forecasts MY 2026/27 corn production at 11.1 MMT (Table 2), a five percent decrease compared to MY 2025/26 estimates of 11.7 MMT. This year-over-year decline reflects an estimated reduction in harvested area, higher input costs, rising insecurity in some producing regions, and lower domestic corn prices.

Higher operational expenses, combined with volatile or depressed farmgate prices, leave producers unable to cover costs, forcing many to scale back planting area or abandon corn cultivation. [Corn planting in Nigeria occurs in two seasons](#) and is predominantly rainfall dependent. According to contacts, wet season corn farming, the predominant planting season, has declined this MY despite an early onset of rain, due to higher operational costs. Post also anticipates a decrease in the dry season corn harvest (September 2026–April 2027, which falls within MY 2026/27) due to the estimated reduction in planted area.

According to poultry producer contacts, the government has sold some corn reserve stocks to trade associations, although the quantity is not known. As of August, the most recent reserve sale was approximately \$251/MT, when the market price was about \$261/MT. According to farmer association contacts, ongoing insecurity in key grain-producing states (Niger, Kaduna, and Benue) and parts of the Northwest continues to displace farming communities.

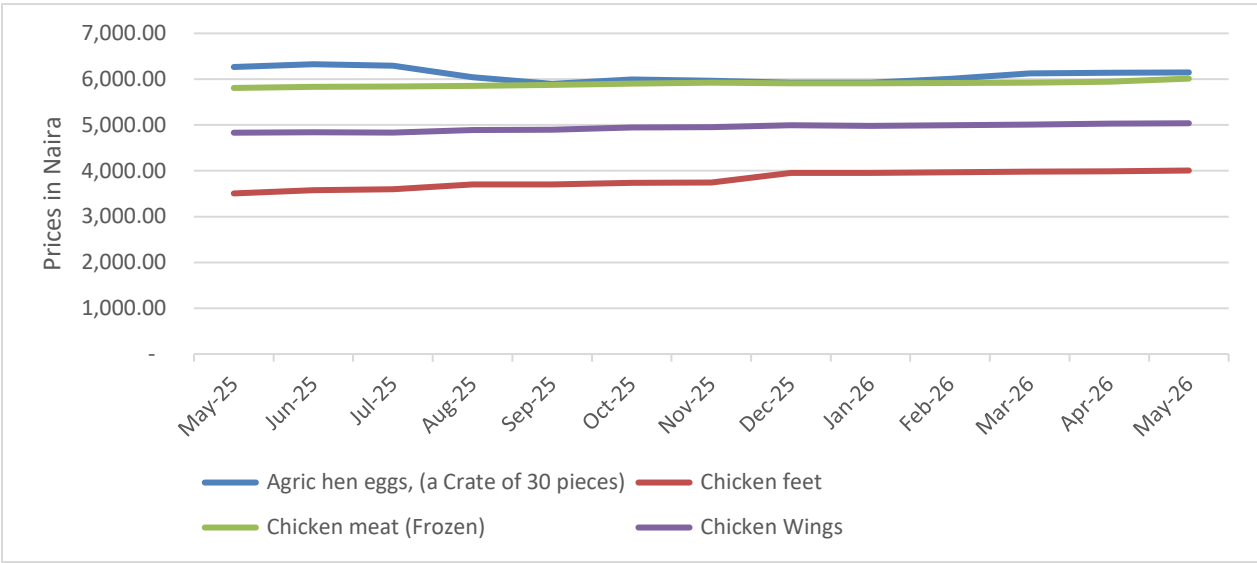
Consumption

FAS-Lagos estimates MY 2026/27 corn consumption at 12.1 MMT, a three percent increase compared to MY 2025/26 projection of 11.8 MMT. This is attributed to lower domestic corn prices.

Post foresees a decline in MY 2026/27 food, seed, and industrial (FSI) consumption to 6.9 MMT, reflecting reduced domestic production, which is discouraging seed use. Feed demand, however, is

projected upward to 5.2 MMT, driven by the opening of new commercial poultry farms and increased livestock sector consumption. Feed and residual corn use is expected to be the primary driver of growth within the consumption mix, fueled by expanding demand from poultry, aquaculture, and livestock producers who are steadily scaling up operations. The availability of corn has spurred the emergence of new poultry farms, while poultry meat and egg prices have remained stable over the past year (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Prices of Poultry Products between May 2025 to May 2026



Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

TRADE

Imports

Post forecasts MY 2026/27 corn imports at 900,000 MT, a 500 percent increase compared to MY 2025/26 projection 150,000 MT. This is attributed to the expected decrease in corn production, increase in consumption, and a likely government interest in importing corn to curb food inflation. Land border imports of corn into Nigeria occur, but remain comparatively small.

Exports

FAS-Lagos forecasts MY 2026/27 corn exports at 50,000 MT, unchanged from MY 2025/26 projection. While corn is on the Nigeria Customs Service's export prohibition list, informal trade persists in northern states.

Stocks

FAS-Lagos estimates MY 2026/27 corn ending stocks at 181,000 MT, a decline of about 45 percent compared to the prior year's estimate. The decrease is attributed to the expected decline in production.

RICE

Table 3. Rice Production, Supply and Distribution

Rice, Milled	2024/2025		2025/2026		2026/2027	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2024		Oct 2025		Oct 2026	
Nigeria	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	4573	4573	4500	4500	4000	4200
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	1412	1412	2164	2164	2268	2268
Milled Production (1000 MT)	5752	5752	5904	5904	5670	5570
Rough Production (1000 MT)	9130	9130	9371	9371	9000	8841
Milling Rate (.9999) (1000 MT)	6300	6300	6300	6300	6300	6300
MY Imports (1000 MT)	3300	3300	2800	2800	2900	3100
TY Imports (1000 MT)	2775	2775	2900	2900	2900	3100
Total Supply (1000 MT)	10464	10464	10868	10868	10838	10938
MY Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
TY Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consumption and Residual (1000 MT)	8300	8300	8600	8600	8800	9100
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	2164	2164	2268	2268	2038	1838
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	10464	10464	10868	10868	10838	10938
Yield (Rough) (MT/HA)	1.9965	1.9965	2.0824	2.0824	2.25	2.105
(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						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Production

FAS-Lagos estimates MY 2026/27 rice production at 8.8 MMT, a six percent decrease compared to the MY 2025/26 estimate of 9.3 MMT. This anticipated decline is attributed to an expected decrease in planted areas, insecurity in some producing regions, and elevated input costs. Post attributes the decrease in planted areas to rice producers lowering production in response to lower domestic rice prices.

Lower rice prices continue to discourage farmers from expanding production, even amid expected increases in rice consumption. Profitable rice farming requires maintaining low production costs, but farmers face numerous input cost pressures. Agrochemicals such as fertilizer and herbicides remain costlier compared to prior MYs, and insecurity continues to restrict producer access to fields. Producers also report that weather and climate negatively affected production in the current MY, with inconsistent rainfall delaying planting, which normally begins in early June and runs until mid-July. Farmers cultivating large expanses of land were forced to relocate to swampy areas due to financial constraints, while the higher cost of fuel has made irrigating upland rice increasingly expensive.

Additionally, transporting produce from farms to mills has proven challenging due to poor road networks and higher fuel costs. One contact also mentioned that tax collectors impose additional costs on paddy rice, further undermining the competitiveness of domestic rice against imported alternatives. Of the 150 processing mills documented by the Rice Processors Association of Nigeria, more than 90 are no longer operational.

Consumption

FAS-Lagos forecasts MY 2026/27 rice consumption at 9.1 MMT, a six percent increase compared to the MY 2025/26 estimate of 8.6 MMT. This anticipated increase is attributed to an expected price decline in informally imported parboiled rice. Rice is considered an essential food in Nigeria, and even during periods of high inflation and an elevated cost of living, household consumption remains relatively resilient. The [price of rice has continued to decline](#) even amid rising food price inflation.

Nigeria grows and consumes several varieties of local rice across different regions, each often prized for specialized purposes. Generally, local rice varieties tend to be short- to medium-grained, quickly absorb water upon cooking, and can be made into a paste for local dishes — qualities not possessed to the same degree by imported rice. In the northern regions, varieties such as galaware (African wild rice) are used to prepare dishes like tuwo and waina/masa.

In the Southwest region, Ofada rice is named for Ofada, Ogun State, where it was first cultivated (Figure 3). It is known for its strong aroma and tendency to swell during cooking. According to contacts, Ofada rice has shifted in recent years from an inferior variety to a premium product commanding prices consistently above imported rice. It is now served at upscale events and restaurants. Producers have responded to the renewed consumption interest by improving packaging, even though processing remains largely manual. Ofada rice is also marketed for its nutritional value, as it is unpolished.

Figure 3. Ofada Rice



Source: FAS Lagos

Despite regional preferences for local varieties, most consumers still favor imported rice, citing higher quality defined as greater swelling capacity, better taste, and preferred grain shape as well as cleanliness. Imported rice tends to be polished, unbroken, and free of stones and debris.

POLICY

On April 1, 2026, [Nigeria announced the 2026 Fiscal Policy Measures and Tariff Amendments](#). IATs on several rice categories have been eliminated or reduced, including husked brown rice (1006.20.00.00), reduced from 20% to 0%, and broken rice (1006.40.00.00), reduced from 50% to 20%. Bulk milled rice in shipments weighing over 5 kilograms (1006.30.10.00) and other rice in packaging weighing less than 5 kilograms (1006.30.90.00) both had their IATs reduced from 50% to 37.5%. The remaining IATs on these products will be reduced by 10 percentage points of the base rate each year and fully eliminated after 10 years.

TRADE

Imports

Post estimates MY 2026/27 rice imports at 3.1 MMT, an 11 percent increase compared to the MY 2025/26 estimate of 2.8 MMT. This increase is attributed to the continuous inflow of rice through neighboring countries. Imports may be further encouraged by the anticipated increase in rice consumption and the decline in domestic rice production.

[On August 14, 2024, Nigeria's Customs Service publicly](#) released implementation guidelines that temporarily waived all import (and associated levy) taxes for rice, sorghum, millet, corn, wheat, and

beans until December 31, 2024. As a result, India and Thailand exported rice to Nigeria through official channels throughout 2024 and 2025.

Stocks

FAS-Lagos estimates MY 2026/27 rice ending stocks at 1.83 MMT, an 18 percent decrease compared to the MY 2025/26 estimate of 2.2 MMT. This decrease is attributed to the expected decline in local production and the expected increase in consumption.

SORGHUM

Table 4. Sorghum Production, Supply and Distribution

Sorghum	2024/2025		2025/2026		2026/2027	
Market Year Begins	Oct 2024		Oct 2025		Oct 2026	
Nigeria	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Harvested (1000 HA)	5246	5246	5320	5320	5700	5800
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	121	121	105	105	140	140
Production (1000 MT)	6417	6417	6500	6500	7000	6900
MY Imports (1000 MT)	17	17	10	10	15	15
TY Imports (1000 MT)	17	17	10	10	15	15
Total Supply (1000 MT)	6555	6555	6615	6615	7155	7055
MY Exports (1000 MT)	50	50	50	50	50	50
TY Exports (1000 MT)	50	50	50	50	50	50
Feed and Residual (1000 MT)	100	100	125	125	200	200
FSI Consumption (1000 MT)	6300	6300	6300	6300	6700	6600
Total Consumption (1000 MT)	6400	6400	6425	6425	6900	6800
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	105	105	140	140	205	205
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	6555	6555	6615	6615	7155	7055
Yield (MT/HA)	1.2232	1.2232	1.2218	1.2218	1.2281	1.1897
(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 Sorghum begins in October for all countries. TY 2026/2027 =						
October 2026 - September 2027						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Production

FAS-Lagos forecasts MY 2026/27 sorghum production at 6.9 MMT, about six percent increase compared to MY 2025/26 estimates of 6.5 MMT. This reflects expanded planted area, driven by growing demand for sorghum as an industrial raw material in the domestic brewing and milling industries. The crop's tolerance to adverse weather and relatively low production costs also supports this trend.

Consumption

Post estimates MY 2026/27 total sorghum consumption at 6.6 MMT, about six percent increase compared to MY 2025/26 estimates of 6.3 MMT. Growth in consumption stems from increasing sorghum's use as a corn substitute in animal feed, as well as its use by beverage, cereal, and confectionery manufacturers.

Contacts report that commercial breweries (which substitute imported malted barley with local sorghum grits) and animal feed manufacturers (which use sorghum as a corn alternative) together consume roughly 20% of the national harvest. Major processors, such as Northern Nigeria Flour Mill, partner directly with local farming associations to secure high-quality grain for consumer goods.

TRADE**Exports**

Post estimates MY 2026/27 exports at 50,000 MT, unchanged from to MY 2025/26 estimates. The increase is attributed to the expected increase in the production of sorghum.

Attachments:

No Attachments