

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Bosnia and Herzegovina

Post: Sarajevo

Crop Situation Update

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

The spring planting which started in early April is still on-going. Corn will be planted on approximately 188,500 hectares (ha) versus the 191,720 ha in 2016, which is a two percent decrease.

This could translate into a yield of 1,040,000 metric tons (MT), slightly lower than 1,178,423 MT in 2016. The winter wheat area is decreased by eight percent. Thus, this year's wheat will be harvested from a planted area of 66,000 ha and is expected to yield 237,600 MT versus the 306,605 MT harvested from 71,394 ha in 2016.

General Information:

Wheat

Winter wheat was sown in the fall of 2016 on 66,000 hectares. With an average yield of 3.6 metric ton/hectare (MT/ha), a total yield of approximately 237,600 MT is expected. The wheat area is decreased by eight percent from last year, when 306,605 MT was harvested from 71,394 ha.

Corn

Corn planting, which is usually done in the first half of April, is still ongoing in areas with higher elevations. Farmers are reporting that the weather and soil conditions for corn planting are ideal. Corn will be planted on approximately 188,500 hectares versus the 191,720 ha in 2016, which is a two percent decrease. This could translate into a yield of 1,040,000 MT (an average of 5.5 MT/ha), versus 1,178,423 MT in 2016.

Oats, Barley and Rye

An estimated planted area for spring oats will be approximately 7,000 ha, down 28 percent from 9,743 ha in 2016, which could translate into a yield of approximately 18,200 MT (an average of 2.6 MT/ha).

Winter barley was sown on 20,000 ha and an expected yield is 54,000 MT (an average of 2.7 MT/ha). The barley area is significantly decreased (-22 percent) from 2016, when 77,249 MT was harvested from 25,631 ha.

Winter rye area decreased from 4,035 ha that yielded 13,279 MT in 2016 to 3,600 ha that is expected to yield 10,800 MT in 2017 (an average of 3 MT/ha).

The decrease in area for grains generally resulted from elevated prices of fuel and seeds, coupled with late payment of agricultural subsidies.

Trade

BiH does not produce enough grains for its needs and is highly dependent on imports. The country's annual needs are approximately 550,000 MT of wheat and 1,200,000 MT of corn. In 2016, BiH imported 398,756 MT of wheat valued at \$70 million (KM 124 million) mainly from Hungary, Serbia, and Croatia. In the same year, BiH imported 302,977 MT of corn valued at \$58.3 million (KM 103 million). Approximately 93 percent of the imported corn came from Serbia.

In 2016, the 35,769 MT of barley imports were valued at \$6 million (KM 10.6 million), while the oats imports of 4,247 MT were valued at \$805,336 (KM 1.4 million) and the rye imports of 1,161 MT were valued at \$217,345 (KM 384,700).

Regarding grain exports, in 2016 BiH exported 83,144 MT of wheat valued at \$18.2 million (KM 32.3 million) and 99 percent was destined to Turkey. In the same year, BiH exported 45,674 MT of corn valued at \$11 million (KM 19.5million). Similar to wheat, approximately 99 percent of the exported corn went to Turkey.

Exports of other grains were insignificant.