

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** China Major Crop Planting Seeds Supply and Demand  
Forecast for 2024-2025 Released

**Country:** China - People's Republic of

**Post:** Beijing

**Report Category:** Agricultural Situation, Planting Seeds

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**Report Highlights:**

On October 30, 2024, the National Agriculture Technology Extension Service Center (NATESC) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) released its supply and demand forecast for major crop seeds (i.e., rice, corn, wheat, soybean, cotton, and rapeseed) for Marketing Year (MY) 2024/25 at the National Seed Information Exchange and Commodity Trading Fair. Although changes across different commodities exist, overall seed production remains higher than the five-year average due to good growing conditions in 2024. High beginning seed stocks and strong production suggest an oversupply of seed for many commodities in 2025.

## Summary

MARA released an annual seed production, supply, and demand estimate report for major crop variety planting seeds, including corn, rice, soybean, cotton, wheat, and rapeseed. The report provides an estimate for seed produced in 2024 and forecasts seed demand for MARA's MY 2024/25, which runs from October 2024 to September 2025. This GAIN report is an update to the [Planting Seeds Annual 2024](#) and provides a short summary of MARA's seed report, which can be accessed in the original Chinese here: [Information on China's Major Crop Seed Production Supply and Demand in 2024-2025](#). In general, the report estimates higher than normal seed production for MY 2024/25 which has resulted in an overproduction of seed. China's international trade of major crop seeds is relatively minor compared to production and utilization. In recent years, a small amount of corn seed has been imported while some rice seed, corn seed, cotton seed, and soybean seed were exported.

## Corn Seeds

MY 2024/25 corn seed production is estimated at 1.7 million metric tons (MMT). While this is a two percent decrease from MY 2023/24 due to smaller corn seed planted area, this is still 26 percent higher than the five-year average. MARA statistics show corn seed area decreased seven percent to 285,000 hectares (ha) from the ten-year high 309,000 ha in the previous MY. Average corn seed yield is estimated at 5,950 kg/ha, a record high for the past five years, thanks to favorable weather conditions. Xinjiang and Gansu Provinces are the top producers of corn seed, and together account for over 72 percent of total corn seed production.

China's total corn seed supply in MY 2024/25 is estimated at 2.24 MMT, including 540,000 MT of carry-in stocks. Corn seed demand in MY 2024/25 is forecast at 1.28 MMT, about five percent higher than the demand in MY 2023/24 because of wider adoption of higher planting density, which increases average seed use. MARA predicts that with the advancement of its yield improvement campaign to address food security concern, corn varieties that are resistant to environmental stress and tolerant of higher planting densities are becoming more accepted and demanded by the market. According to the different performance of high-temperature and heat-damaged varieties this year, the report predicts that varieties tolerant to heat and higher planting densities will receive more attention next year.

## Hybrid Rice Seeds

MY 2024/25 hybrid rice seed production is estimated at 310,000 MT, a ten percent decrease from the previous year due to a smaller planted area. However this is 12 percent higher than the five-year average. MARA statistics show hybrid rice seed area decreased 11 percent to 128,000 ha in MY2024/25 from a record 144,000 ha in MY 2023/24. The average hybrid rice seed yield is estimated at 2,410kg/ha, stable from previous year.

Total MY 2024/25 hybrid rice seed supply is estimated at 410,000 MT, including 100,000 MT of carry-in stocks. Total hybrid rice seed demand (domestic use and exports) in MY 2024/25 is forecast at 350,000 MT (including 30,000 MT for exports), a 30 percent increase from MY 2023/24. With the increased adoption of commercial seedling cultivation (farmers now purchase seedlings for planting rather than growing seedlings from seed on farm) and machine sowing technology, MARA estimates that seed use per acre has increased about 10 percent. MARA predicts that rice varieties with heat resistance, disease resistance, lodging resistance, good stress resistance, high yield and high quality will be more popular among growers next year. (Note: MARA's forecast demand of 350,000 MT is 33 percent higher than in recent years. Though per acre use of seed is rising, this demand estimate appears optimistic based on expected trends for hybrid rice planted area.)

### **Conventional Rice Seed**

MY 2024/25 conventional rice seed production is estimated at 1.38 MMT, a seven percent increase from the previous year. MARA statistics show conventional rice seed area increased nine percent to 176,000 ha in MY 2024/25. The average yield of conventional rice seed is estimated at 7,846 kg/ha, a three percent decrease from the previous year.

### **Soybean Seed**

MY 2024/25 soybean seed production is estimated at 1.12 MMT, a three percent decrease from previous year due to smaller soybean seed planted area. MARA statistics show soybean seed area decreased five percent to 406,000 ha. The average yield of soybean seed is 2,758 kg/ha, a two percent increase from the previous year.

MARA estimates commercial soybean seed demand in MY2024/25 at 580,000 MT, about a five percent decrease from last year. High-protein soybean varieties are popular in the market.

### **Cottonseed**

MY 2024/25 cottonseed production is estimated at 177,000 MT, about a ten percent increase from the previous year on higher yields. MARA statistics show MY2024/25 cotton seed area at 104,000 ha, flat from previous year, while average yield increased 11 percent to 1,698 kg/ha because of favorable weather conditions.

### **Wheat Seed**

MY 2024/25 spring wheat seed production is estimated at 241,000 MT, flat from previous year. Winter wheat seed production is estimated at 6.9 MMT, a 42 percent increase due to larger winter seed planted area and higher yields. MARA statistics show winter wheat seed area increased 32 percent to 963,000 ha in MY2024/25. The average winter wheat seed yield is estimated at 7,170kg/ha, a seven percent increase from the previous year. MARA estimates commercial winter wheat seed demand in MY2024/25 at 4.05 MMT, flat from previous year.

### **Rapeseed Seed**

MY 2024/25 spring rapeseed seed production is estimated at 13,996 MT, a 10 percent increase from the previous year on higher yields. Winter rapeseed seed production is estimated at 27,790 MT, a nine percent increase due to a larger winter rapeseed planted area. Total winter rapeseed seed supply in MY 2024/25 is estimated at 31,190 MT, including 3,400 MT of carry-in stocks. Winter rape seed demand in MY2024/25 is estimated at 26,050 MT. Varieties with high oil, high yield, low erucic acid, and low glucosinolates, as well as disease resistance, lodging resistance, and that are suitable for machine harvesting are popular in the market.

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.