

**Required Report:** Required - Public Distribution

**Date:** July 03, 2024

**Report Number:** CH2024-0075

## **Report Name:** Grain and Feed Update

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

**Post:** Beijing

**Report Category:** Grain and Feed

**Prepared By:** FAS China Staff

**Approved By:** Eric Mullis

### **Report Highlights:**

Higher feed demand from broiler, aquaculture, and ruminants will push total feed use slightly higher in MY2024/25 with greater corn inclusion into feed rations than previous years. MY2024/25 corn production is forecast larger than MY2023/24 with larger yields. In addition, MY2024/25 production of both sorghum and barley production is adjusted up as farmers look for crops that have better earning potential than corn and soybeans right now. MY2024/25 wheat production is forecast higher, while rice production is forecast lower due to crop damage from heavy rains.

## FEED OVERVIEW

China's MY2024/25 total feed and residual use is forecast to increase slightly from MY2023/24 on anticipated higher feed demand from broiler, aquaculture, and ruminants, despite declining hog feed demand (see Table 1). The proportion of corn mixed into feed is forecast to rise and will replace wheat and old stock rice. Total forecast feed demand for MY2024/25 is 285.5 million metric tons (MMT).

**Table 1. China: Grain Feed and Residual Demand Estimates and Forecast<sup>1</sup>**

| (Unit: MMT)                                   | MY2022/23 | MY2023/24 | MY2024/25 | Change |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| <b>Corn</b>                                   | 220       | 223       | 235       | 12     |
| <b>Sorghum</b>                                | 4.8       | 7.5       | 7.5       | 0      |
| <b>Barley</b>                                 | 6.8       | 10        | 9         | -1     |
| <b>Wheat</b>                                  | 33        | 37        | 32        | -5     |
| <b>Old Stock Rice<br/>(milled equivalent)</b> | 20        | 7         | 2         | -5     |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | 284.6     | 284.5     | 285.5     | 1      |

Note: The totals listed in the table represent the unprocessed amount of major feed grains used in feed production.

Source: FAS China analysis

Industry experts at the China Agricultural Outlook Conference estimated that total feed consumption for 2024 would decrease by 0.1 percent year-on-year to 319 MMT. The figures in Table 2 differ from Table 1 as they are on a calendar year rather than a marketing year basis and include oilseed meal but excluding residual demand.

**Table 2. China: Industrial Feed Consumption**

|                              | 2023    | 2024 est. | % change<br>from 2023 | 2025 est. | % change<br>from 2024 | 2028 F  |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------|
| <b>Swine</b>                 | 148,560 | 146,410   | -1.4%                 | 145,400   | -0.7%                 | 143,170 |
| <b>Broiler</b>               | 94,570  | 95,010    | 0.5%                  | 95,670    | 0.7%                  | 99,460  |
| <b>Layer</b>                 | 32,580  | 32,730    | 0.5%                  | 33,200    | 1.4%                  | 33,930  |
| <b>Aquaculture</b>           | 23,390  | 24,170    | 3.3%                  | 25,520    | 5.6%                  | 27,330  |
| <b>Ruminants</b>             | 16,590  | 17,040    | 2.7%                  | 17,590    | 3.2%                  | 19,130  |
| <b>Total<br/>Consumption</b> | 319,560 | 319,390   | -0.1%                 | 321,530   | 0.5%                  | 327,450 |

Source: 2024 China Agricultural Outlook Conference; in 1,000 MT; in a calendar year

Note: The final column is for calendar year 2028 and not a typographical error.

<sup>1</sup> China's commodity marketing year for corn, sorghum, and barley is October 1-September 30, and July 1-June30 for wheat and rice.

## FEED GRAINS

### Corn

Post adjusted MY2024/25 corn **production** down by 1 MMT to 295 MMT from its April report due to concerns over drought. However, Post’s forecast is still 3 MMT higher than USDA’s June forecast, due to improved yields despite a slightly smaller planting area.

The PRC State Council in April issued an action plan initiating a national campaign to boost China’s grain production capacity by 50 MMT by 2030. The PRC has not published the action plan, but an official of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) told media that corn and soybeans would be major contributors to the grain output increase, as well as tubers and coarse grains. The plan will focus on improving yields in existing major planting areas while also looking at potential new areas. The NDRC official characterized China’s grain supply and demand as a "tight balance" in the long term due to China’s limited natural resources. In addition, Chinese consumers are eating more meat leading to higher demand for feed grains, which could widen the current supply and demand gap in the future. The PRC has said it will rely on technology, using land and seed as two key factors, and promoting good quality land, machinery, and techniques to increase grain production. Due to China’s limited natural resources, the PRC cannot bring new land into production but, instead, must focus on improving the land that is already in production. The *Economic Daily* said, “the country will put most efforts on increasing corn yield; applying every way to excavate [sic] potentials for soybean output; improve rice and wheat quality; and develop potatoes, coarse grains, and pulses varieties based on local situations and market needs.”

MARA's nationwide spring planting survey indicated that more than 90 percent of corn planting was completed by the end of May. In the four Northeast provinces (i.e., Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning, and Inner Mongolia), planting concluded in mid-May. In the first four months of 2024, industry estimates average profits of Northeast farmers were RMB 324/mu (\$675/hectare (Ha)), down by 35 percent year-on-year, depressing farmers’ desire to plant corn. The current severe drought in the North China Plain (NCP) region, Henan, and parts of Shandong, Hebei, and Anhui is preventing farmers from planting corn after wheat harvest.

**Table 3. China: Northeast Corn Planting Area Estimates**

| Province       | MY2024/25                    | Percentage Change |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Heilongjiang   | 77 million mu<br>(5.1 Mha)   | -2.6              |
| Inner Mongolia | 52 million mu<br>(3.5 Mha)   | -0.6              |
| Jilin          | 59 million mu<br>(3.9 Mha)   | -0.3              |
| Liaoning       | 38 million mu<br>(2.5 Mha)   | -0.3              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | 226 million mu<br>(15.1 Mha) | -3.7              |

Source: Industry Source

Note: million hectares (Mha)

Land rental, fertilizer, seeds, pesticides, machinery, water, and power costs are the main input costs for Northeast corn production, with land rental being the largest cost. Despite an estimated 7 percent reduction in total input costs year-on-year, mainly from significantly reduced land rental costs, farmers are still seeing smaller profits in MY2024/25 due to the suppressed corn prices.

**Table 4. China: Northeast Land Rental Cost Estimates**

| Province          | MY2023/24   | MY2024/25   | Percentage Change |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Heilongjiang      | 850 (1,768) | 750 (1,560) | -12               |
| Jilin             | 850 (1,768) | 730 (1,518) | -14               |
| Liaoning          | 790 (1,643) | 770 (1,601) | -3                |
| Inner Mongolia    | 860 (1,789) | 820 (1,706) | -5                |
| Northeast Average | 840 (1,747) | 765 (1,591) | -9                |

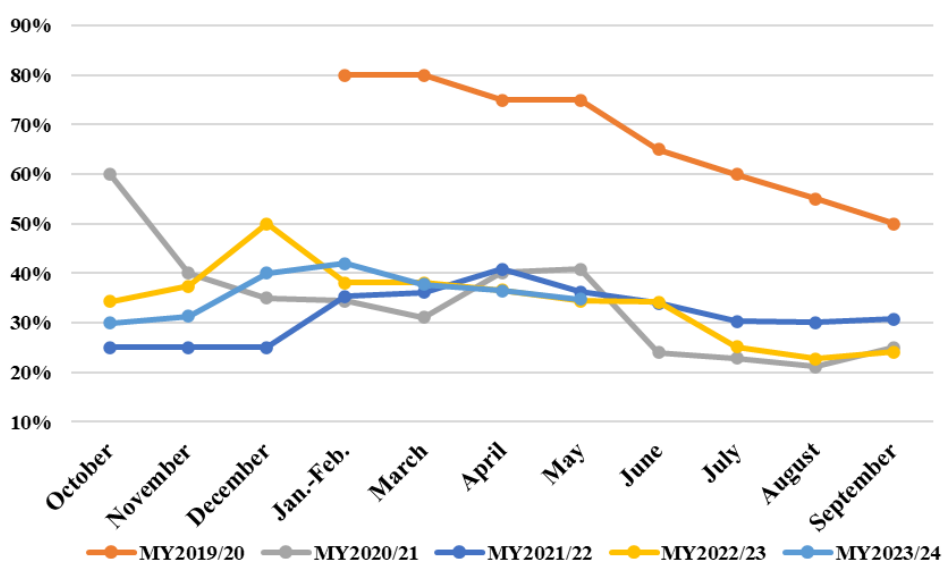
Note: Unit in RMB/mu and (\$/Ha)

Source: Industry Source

Nationwide corn **consumption** in MY2024/25 is forecast at 318 MMT, up 5 MMT from USDA’s June estimates. Feed producers are increasing their use of corn in compound feed as corn prices remain low. Corn consumption in feed is forecast to increase significantly in MY2024/25. Corn prices have slumped to a three-year record low in the first few months of 2024, encouraging feed producers to use more corn. In addition, old stock rice supplies should be depleted by the end of 2024, which feed producers substituted for large amounts of corn in feed over the last three years.

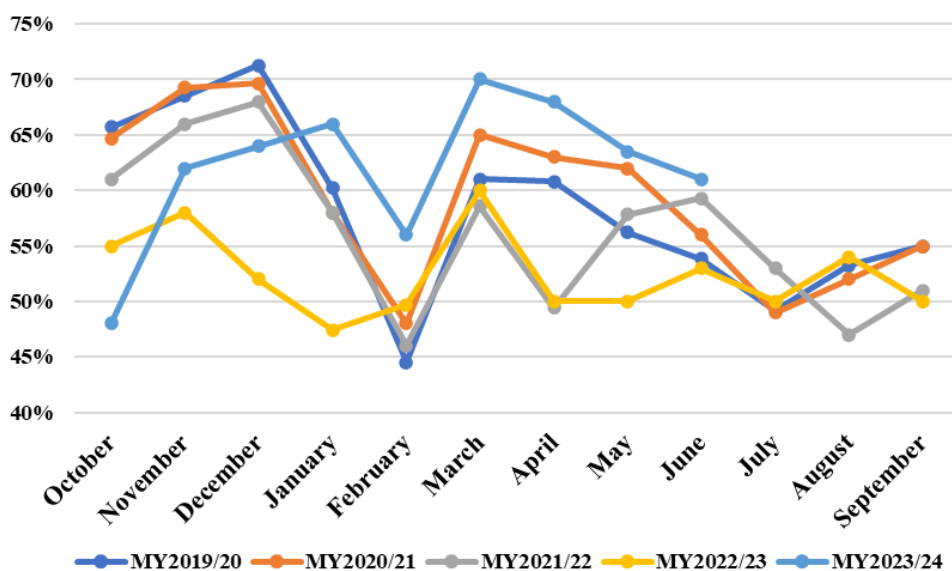
Lower corn prices will also encourage the use of more corn in the processing sector than in previous years. Operational profits in the first half of 2024 rebounded to 64 percent from 52 percent same for the same period last year. Industry sources expect the corn processing industry will improve profitability as well in MY2024/25 benefiting from lower corn prices.

**Chart 1. China: Percentage of Corn used in Compound Feed**



Source: Industry Sources

**Chart 2. China: National Average Corn Starch Operation Rates**



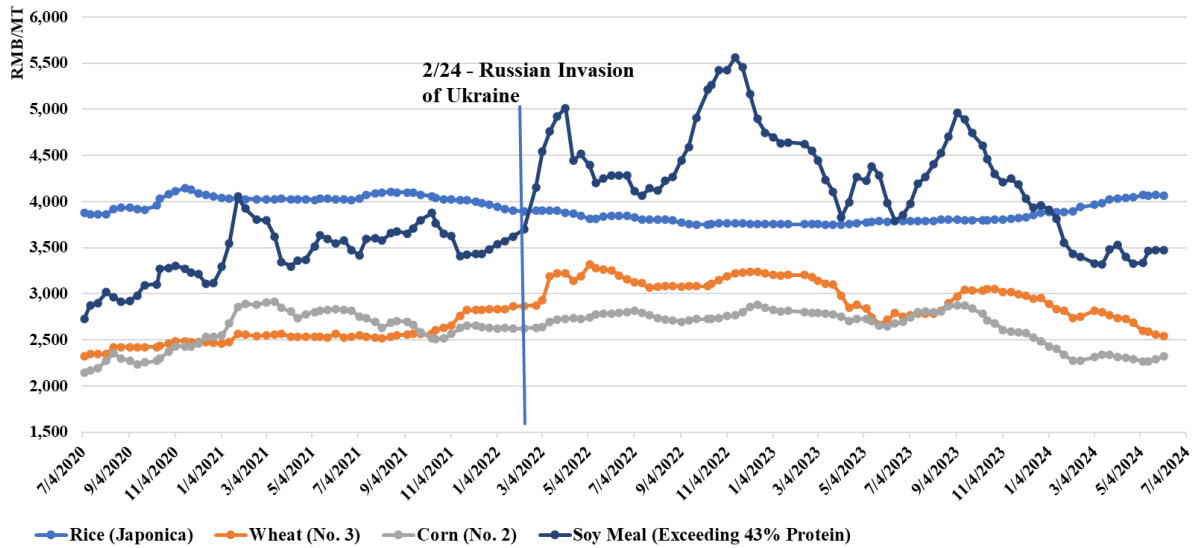
Source: Industry Sources

Nationwide corn prices have remained low during the first half of 2024. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) data shows corn prices in June 2024 averaged \$322 (RMB 2,320)/MT nationwide, down 13 percent from \$372 (RMB 2,680)/MT in June 2023 and returning to 2020 prices. In mid-June, prices in Northeast ports remained around \$331 (RMB 2,380)/MT. Prices in the NCP stayed around \$333 (RMB 2,400)/MT, while prices in Southern ports were \$351 (RMB 2,530)/MT.

Post forecasts MY2024/25 corn **imports** at 20 MMT, 3 MMT lower than USDA’s June estimate, as abundant domestic production and a prevalence of imported substitutes, especially barley, continues to suppress corn import demand.

There are rumors that PRC officials asked some traders to limit or restrict importing corn into bonded areas in order to reduce domestic supplies and support corn prices before spring planting. Importing corn through bonded areas helps traders avoid high tariffs once the tariff rate quota (TRQ) has been filled. Traders pay a 1 percent tariff rate instead of the usual 65 percent outside TRQ rate. According to the rumors, local governments stopped approving new corn processing facilities, restricted the number of total processing facilities in bonded areas, and required total corn imports not to exceed last’s year’s imports. Industry reported that Chinese buyers broke about 300,000 MT of Ukrainian contracts for April/May shipment shortly after the rumors started to spread. Industry contacts also anticipate imported grains to China will decline in the second quarter of 2024. A source in Ukraine familiar with the matter summarized the situation saying that Chinese consumption was falling, while warehouses are full. The source elaborated saying that the reluctance to import did not just apply to Ukrainian grain. At the same time, Sinograin announced a new round of corn procurement to increase reserves. However, corn prices will remain low as a large amount of imported corn and feed quality wheat have already entered the market.

**Chart 3. China: National Average Grain Prices 2020-2023**



Source: NBS

As of June 15, PRC buyers hold contracts for 2.7 MMT of U.S.-origin corn (excluding unknown destinations) for delivery in MY2023/24, down by 64 percent year-on-year. Imported corn volumes for the first five months of 2024 were 10 MMT, down 0.5 percent year-on-year. Of the 10 MMT, 1.2 MMT is from the United States, 5.8 MMT is from Brazil, and another 3 MMT is from Ukraine. FAS China estimates that some imported corn will go directly into reserves.

On April 21, a ship of close to 5,000 MT of Russian corn arrived at Shandong’s Weifang port. It marks Weifang’s first bulk grain import, signaling new development of the Belt and Road Initiative. Russian corn has historically entered through Jiangsu. Local farmers reacted negatively to the arrival of Russian corn, as local corn sales are already stagnant, prices are low, and feed demand is weak.

**Table 5. China: Corn Production, Supply, and Distribution**

| Corn<br>Market Year Begins   | 2022/2023        |             | 2023/2024        |             | 2024/2025        |             |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
|                              | Oct 2022         |             | Oct 2023         |             | Oct 2024         |             |
| China                        | USDA<br>Official | New<br>Post | USDA<br>Official | New<br>Post | USDA<br>Official | New<br>Post |
| Area Harvested (1000 HA)     | 43070            | 43070       | 44218            | 44218       | 44700            | 44200       |
| Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)   | 209137           | 209137      | 206040           | 204028      | 210862           | 210850      |
| Production (1000 MT)         | 277200           | 277200      | 288842           | 288842      | 292000           | 295000      |
| MY Imports (1000 MT)         | 18711            | 18711       | 23000            | 23000       | 23000            | 20000       |
| TY Imports (1000 MT)         | 18711            | 18711       | 23000            | 23000       | 23000            | 20000       |
| TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)  | 7539             | 7539        | 0                | 0           | 0                | 0           |
| Total Supply (1000 MT)       | 505048           | 505048      | 517882           | 515870      | 525862           | 525850      |
| MY Exports (1000 MT)         | 8                | 20          | 20               | 20          | 20               | 20          |
| TY Exports (1000 MT)         | 8                | 20          | 20               | 20          | 20               | 20          |
| Feed and Residual (1000 MT)  | 218000           | 220000      | 225000           | 223000      | 231000           | 235000      |
| FSI Consumption (1000 MT)    | 81000            | 81000       | 82000            | 82000       | 82000            | 83000       |
| Total Consumption (1000 MT)  | 299000           | 301000      | 307000           | 305000      | 313000           | 318000      |
| Ending Stocks (1000 MT)      | 206040           | 204028      | 210862           | 210850      | 212842           | 207830      |
| Total Distribution (1000 MT) | 505048           | 505048      | 517882           | 515870      | 525862           | 525850      |
| Yield (MT/HA)                | 6.436            | 6.436       | 6.5322           | 6.5322      | 6.5324           | 6.6742      |

(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 2024/2025 = October 2024 - September 2025

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

## Sorghum and Barley

Post adjusted up the forecast for MY2024/25 sorghum and barley **production** as farmers are turning to commodities other than corn and soybeans to improve their income. Farmers sentiment is that they were not getting good returns from corn and soybeans in MY2023/24.

MY2024/25 **sorghum imports** are forecast to remain stable due to strong competition from alternative grains (see Table 6 for prices of alternative grains). Feed mills normally purchase the most cost-efficient options. In June 2024, South American corn and U.S. corn were the most price competitive feed inputs, followed by imported barley and local corn. As of early June 2024, China held 5 MMT of U.S. sorghum contracts for MY2023/24, 230 percent higher than the same time in MY2022/23 but still 19 percent less than MY2021/22. Industry contacts estimate more imported U.S. sorghum is used for liquor production than feed. Imported sorghum mostly enters via South China's Fujian and Guangdong provinces.

Industry contacts report that more than 80 percent of domestic produced sorghum is used for liquor production, while 10 percent is used for food and seeds and another 5 percent is used as feed. For imported sorghum, however, 80 percent is used as feed. Of the remaining 20 percent, 80 percent is used for liquor production, while 20 percent is used for vinegar production.

Post forecasts China’s MY2023/24 **barley production** at 2.4 MMT. The China Barley and Highland Barley Industry Association, however, has barley production around 3 MMT (excluding highland barley), among which 1.4 MMT is for malting/brewery use and 1.6 MMT is feed quality barley. China’s National Grain and Oils Information Center (CNGOIC) believes 60 percent of China’s barley supply, including imports, is used as feed, 30 percent is for industrial use, 9 percent is used for food, and 1 percent is used for seeds.

MY2024/25 **barley imports** are projected to remain high following the record imports of MY2023/24. China has been importing more than 1 MMT of barley each month for the past eight months. Close to 12 MMT of barley already entered China for MY2023/24. Australian barley accounts for close to half of the import amount, followed by France and Argentina. Australian barley enjoys zero tariffs as stated in the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement signed in 2015. Imported barley mostly enters via South China’s Fujian and Guangdong provinces.

Commercial **stocks** for both sorghum and barley remain high in major Chinese import ports (see Table 7).

**Table 6. China: Imported Coarse Grain and Substitute Prices at Major Ports**

| <b>Grain</b>  | <b>RMB Price</b> | <b>U.S. Dollar Price</b> |
|---|------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Local Corn</b>   | 2,500            | 347                      |
| <b>Imported U.S. Corn (August Delivery)</b>                               | 2,150            | 299                      |
| <b>Imported Brazilian Corn</b>  | 2,050            | 285                      |
| <b>Imported U.S. Sorghum (June Delivery)</b>                              | 2,700            | 375                      |
| <b>Imported Australian Sorghum (July Delivery)</b>                        | 2,425            | 337                      |
| <b>Imported Argentine Sorghum (July Delivery)</b>                         | 2,077            | 288                      |
| <b>Imported feed quality Argentine Barley (August Delivery)</b>           | 2,260            | 314                      |
| <b>Imported feed quality French Barley (August Delivery)</b>              | 2,410            | 335                      |
| <b>Local Wheat</b>  | 2,680            | 372                      |
| <b>Imported U.S. Wheat Soft Red Winter (July Delivery) (within quota)</b> | 2,580            | 358                      |
| <b>Imported U.S. DDGS (without AD/CVD)</b>                                | 2,140            | 297                      |
| <b>Local DDGS</b>   | 2,560            | 356                      |

Unit: RMB/MT, exchange Rate as of late June 2024 U.S. \$1= RMB 7.2

Source: Industry sources



**Table 7. China: Sorghum and Barley Stocks at Chinese Major Ports in Early June**

| Ports        | Sorghum Stocks in MT | Barley Stocks in MT |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Jiangsu      | 150,000              | 400,000             |
| Guangdong    | 414,000              | 872,000             |
| Tianjin      | 120,000              | 55,000              |
| Qingdao      | 2,000                | 10,000              |
| Others       | 10,000               | 30,000              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>696,000</b>       | <b>1,370,000</b>    |

Source: Industry sources

**Table 8. China: Sorghum Production, Supply, and Distribution**

| Sorghum<br>Market Year Begins | 2022/2023        |             | 2023/2024        |             | 2024/2025        |          |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|----------|
|                               | Oct 2022         |             | Oct 2023         |             | Oct 2024         |          |
| China                         | USDA<br>Official | New<br>Post | USDA<br>Official | New<br>Post | USDA<br>Official | New Post |
| Area Harvested (1000 HA)      | 675              | 675         | 630              | 630         | 630              | 650      |
| Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)    | 332              | 332         | 387              | 387         | 382              | 382      |
| Production (1000 MT)          | 3094             | 3094        | 3000             | 3000        | 3000             | 3200     |
| MY Imports (1000 MT)          | 4863             | 4863        | 7500             | 7500        | 8000             | 7500     |
| TY Imports (1000 MT)          | 4863             | 4863        | 7500             | 7500        | 8000             | 7500     |
| TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)   | 2436             | 2436        | 0                | 0           | 0                | 0        |
| Total Supply (1000 MT)        | 8289             | 8289        | 10887            | 10887       | 11382            | 11082    |
| MY Exports (1000 MT)          | 2                | 2           | 5                | 5           | 5                | 0        |
| TY Exports (1000 MT)          | 2                | 2           | 5                | 5           | 5                | 0        |
| Feed and Residual (1000 MT)   | 4800             | 4800        | 7500             | 7500        | 8000             | 7500     |
| FSI Consumption (1000 MT)     | 3100             | 3100        | 3000             | 3000        | 3000             | 3100     |
| Total Consumption (1000 MT)   | 7900             | 7900        | 10500            | 10500       | 11000            | 10600    |
| Ending Stocks (1000 MT)       | 387              | 387         | 382              | 382         | 377              | 482      |
| Total Distribution (1000 MT)  | 8289             | 8289        | 10887            | 10887       | 11382            | 11082    |
| Yield (MT/HA)                 | 4.5837           | 4.5837      | 4.7619           | 4.7619      | 4.7619           | 4.9231   |

(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 2024/2025 = October 2024 - September 2025

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

**Table 9. China: Barley Production, Supply, and Distribution**

| Barley<br>Market Year Begins | 2022/2023        |          | 2023/2024        |          | 2024/2025        |          |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
|                              | Oct 2022         |          | Oct 2023         |          | Oct 2024         |          |
| China                        | USDA<br>Official | New Post | USDA<br>Official | New Post | USDA<br>Official | New Post |
| Area Harvested (1000 HA)     | 560              | 560      | 500              | 500      | 500              | 560      |
| Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)   | 426              | 426      | 200              | 200      | 900              | 2800     |
| Production (1000 MT)         | 2192             | 2192     | 2000             | 2000     | 2000             | 2400     |
| MY Imports (1000 MT)         | 8582             | 8582     | 12300            | 15000    | 10200            | 10000    |
| TY Imports (1000 MT)         | 8582             | 8582     | 12300            | 15000    | 10200            | 10000    |
| TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)  | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        |
| Total Supply (1000 MT)       | 11200            | 11200    | 14500            | 17200    | 13100            | 15200    |
| MY Exports (1000 MT)         | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        |
| TY Exports (1000 MT)         | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        |
| Feed and Residual (1000 MT)  | 6800             | 6800     | 9300             | 10000    | 8200             | 9000     |
| FSI Consumption (1000 MT)    | 4200             | 4200     | 4300             | 4400     | 4200             | 4300     |
| Total Consumption (1000 MT)  | 11000            | 11000    | 13600            | 14400    | 12400            | 13300    |
| Ending Stocks (1000 MT)      | 200              | 200      | 900              | 2800     | 700              | 1900     |
| Total Distribution (1000 MT) | 11200            | 11200    | 14500            | 17200    | 13100            | 15200    |
| Yield (MT/HA)                | 3.9143           | 3.9143   | 4                | 4        | 4                | 4.2857   |

(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 Barley begins in October for all countries. TY 2024/2025 = October 2024 - September 2025

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

## MAJOR FOOD GRAINS

### Wheat

Wheat **production** for MY 2024/25 is forecast slightly higher than MY2023/24 on improved yields. In May, MARA issued its first ever biosafety certificate approval for gene-edited wheat resistant to powdery mildew. Developed by a local developer, the gene-edited wheat has yet to receive varietal registration or a seed operating license, required steps prior to commercial cultivation. Although approval is significant in that it follows a recent spate of approvals for locally developed genetically engineered (GE) corn and soybean events and varieties that have increased yields by approximately 8 percent during pilot trials, Post does not expect the new gene-edited wheat to be widely adopted in China or to impact overall yields.

New crop wheat entered harvest season in early June in most of the producing regions. As weather is generally more favorable than last year, the harvest pace is faster. Hubei and regions south of the Yangtze River have already finished harvest. Hubei experienced windstorms before harvest that resulted in massive lodging, and the area yield is 20-30 percent lower than MY2023/24 but remains about

average. Most wheat from Hubei received only a 3rd class rating with high broken kernels. Jiangsu and Anhui reported slightly lower wheat production than MY2023/24 but with good quality. Henan province, China’s top wheat-producing province, which produces one-quarter of all PRC wheat, reported higher output and yield than last year. Most wheat received above a 2nd class rating. Shandong and Hebei started harvest in early June, this region expects wheat output lower than MY2022/23 but higher than MY2023/24 with quality better than normal. According to MARA’s market survey, the wheat harvest concluded nationwide in late June, and both production and quality are reported higher than MY2023/24 and comparable to MY2022/23.

Industry reported input costs for planting wheat in major producing provinces are similar to last year levels. Input cost in Shandong is around RMB 1,150/mu (\$2,396/Ha) including land rental at RMB 600/mu (\$1,250/Ha), seed at RMB 60/mu (\$125/Ha), pesticide at RMB 100/mu (\$208/Ha), irrigation at RMB 70/mu (\$146/Ha), at fertilizer RMB 200/mu (\$417/Ha), and machinery and labor at RMB 120/mu (\$250/Ha).

**Table 10. China: Industry Wheat Market Survey in East China in Late May**

| Provinces | Land Rental/mu | Total Cost/mu     |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------|
| Anhui     | RMB 500 (\$69) | RMB 900 (\$125)   |
| Jiangsu   | -              | RMB 650 (\$90)    |
| Shandong  | RMB 600 (\$83) | RMB 1,150 (\$160) |
| Hubei     | -              | RMB 600 (\$83)    |

Source: Industry sources

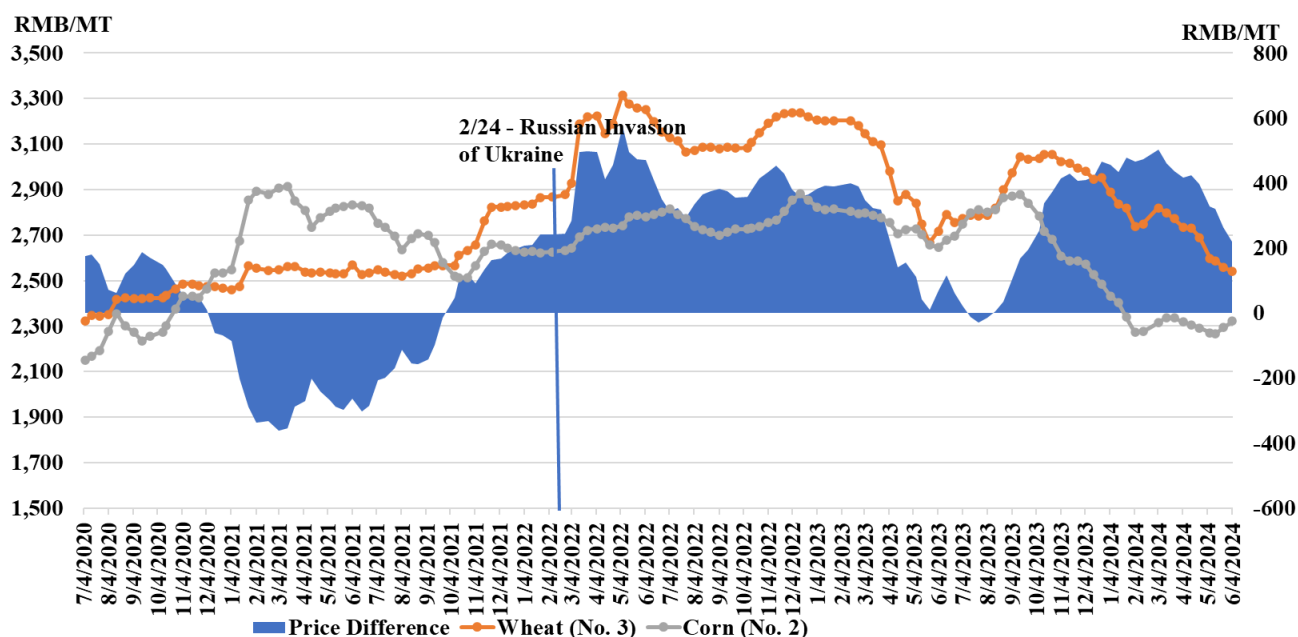
Post forecasts MY2024/25 **feed use** at 32 MMT, 1 MMT lower than USDA’s June forecasts. Although wheat output and quality are almost identical to MY2022/23, low corn prices will greatly reduce wheat substitution of corn in feed.

Prior to 2020, the Minimum Support Program (MSP) normally procured 20-40 MMT wheat annually during harvest season and auctioned MSP wheat during non-harvest season. However, the MSP has not been utilized since 2020 as wheat prices have stayed above the floor price. As corn prices have remained low, wheat will not be price competitive with corn in feed rations for much of MY2024/25.

In MY2022/23, farmers/traders were cautious to sell, expecting prices to continue rising, while in MY2024/25, farmers are encouraged to sell with prices predicted to remain low or even decline. June 2024 new crop wheat is entering the market at around \$353 (RMB 2,540)/MT, more than a 20 percent drop from June 2023. Wheat is roughly \$31 (RMB 220)/MT more expensive than corn, \$21 (RMB 150)/MT more than same time last year. To curb prices from further declining, PRC’s State Reserve Sinograin issued a notice on June 5 announcing the reserve will increase the amount of 2024 wheat it will procure. Sinograin offered around \$347 (RMB 2,500)/MT, which has started to stabilize market prices.

Post forecasts MY2024/25 wheat **consumption for food use** to be slightly higher than last year. NBS published catering revenue for the first four months of 2024 showed a 9.3 percent increase but is still below market expectation. Flour mills, therefore, are still conservative on stocking wheat.

**Chart 4. China: Corn and Wheat Average Price Difference 2020-2024**



Source: National Bureau of Statistics

MY2024/25 wheat **imports** are forecast slightly lower than MY2023/24, which is expected to hit a record high. China’s calendar year wheat imports have exceeded the TRQ for three years in a row.

In the first five months of 2024, 36 percent of China’s wheat imports were from Australia, 23 percent of the imports were from Canada, and another 24 percent were from France. China’s imports of Russian wheat jumped by 819 percent in the first five months of 2024, although the total amount was still small.

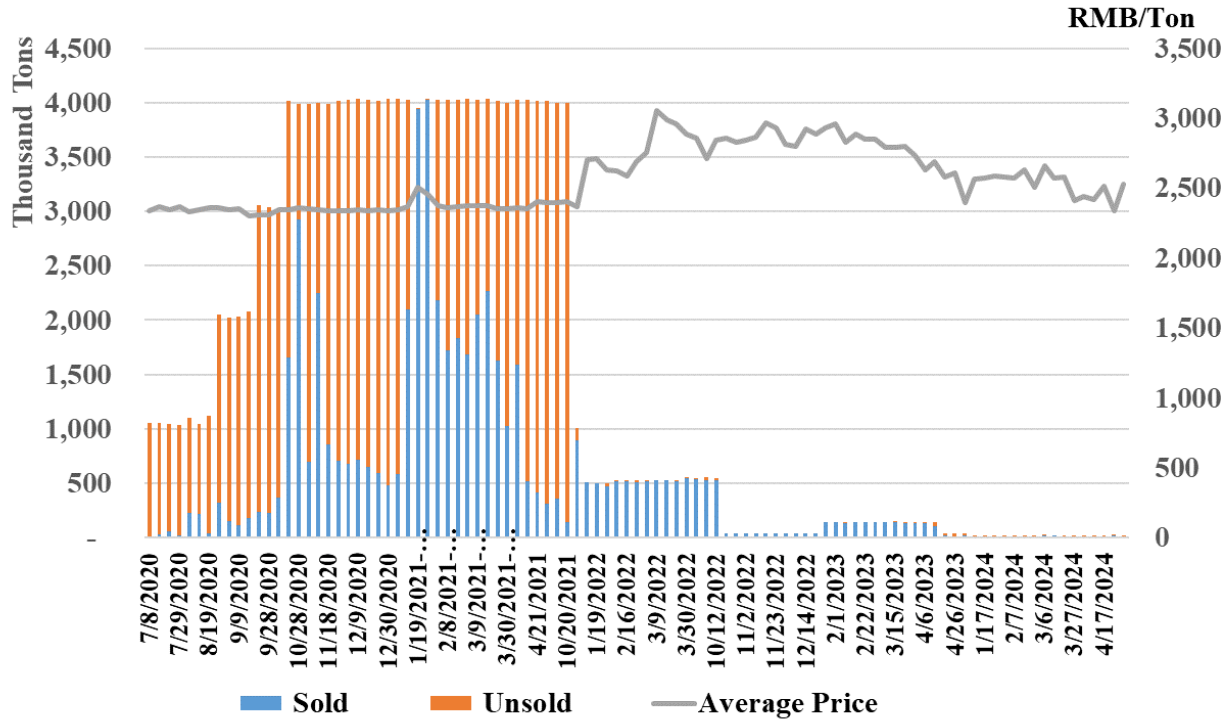
In early June 2024, French wheat FOB was around \$271/MT, Argentine FOB was around \$300/MT, U.S. Gulf Soft Red Winter (SRW) was around \$250/MT, and U.S. Hard Red Winter (HRW) was around \$260/MT. Most of the imported wheat is destined for flour production, and only a small percentage goes to feed mills. June quotes for July-October delivery of U.S. SRW prices are \$14 (RMB 100)/MT cheaper than domestic wheat, while U.S. HRW prices are about same price as local wheat in coastal areas. Both are popular varieties in China for flour mills to blend into high-end products or for bakery.

On June 1, the PRC’s first Food Security Law aimed at achieving “basic self-sufficiency in cereal grains and absolute self-sufficiency in staple grains for food use” came into effect. The PRC will have a national food security strategy "that puts China first" by importing moderately and using advances in science and technology to boost domestic production. Post projects MY2024/25 imports will decline from MY2023/24 but will remain high as China’s temporary wheat reserve is projected to stay low after continuous destocking and no wheat MSP procurement over the past three years. Sources report that authorities are eager to replenish storage levels as grain security remains a top priority.

MY2024/25 **ending stocks** are forecast at 133.1 MMT. Industry believes China’s MSP wheat reserves are depleting quickly but that overall government reserves are sufficient. In late April, PRC authorities suspended MY2023/24 wheat auctions. The MSP was not used in the past three years and is not

expected to be used this year. MY2023/24 saw only 186,023 MT of MSP wheat sold, 90 percent lower than MY2022/23.

**Chart 5. China: Wheat Auctions for MY2023/24**



Source: China Grain Trade Center

**Table 11. China: Wheat Production, Supply, and Distribution**

| Wheat<br>Market Year Begins  | 2022/2023        |          | 2023/2024        |          | 2024/2025        |          |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
|                              | Jul 2022         |          | Jul 2023         |          | Jul 2024         |          |
| China                        | USDA<br>Official | New Post | USDA<br>Official | New Post | USDA<br>Official | New Post |
| Area Harvested (1000 HA)     | 23519            | 23519    | 23627            | 23627    | 23700            | 23700    |
| Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)   | 136759           | 136759   | 138818           | 138818   | 133408           | 135008   |
| Production (1000 MT)         | 137723           | 137723   | 136590           | 136590   | 140000           | 138000   |
| MY Imports (1000 MT)         | 13282            | 13282    | 13000            | 14500    | 11000            | 11000    |
| TY Imports (1000 MT)         | 13282            | 13282    | 13000            | 14500    | 11000            | 11000    |
| TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)  | 1480             | 1480     | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        |
| Total Supply (1000 MT)       | 287764           | 287764   | 288408           | 289908   | 284408           | 284008   |
| MY Exports (1000 MT)         | 946              | 946      | 1000             | 900      | 900              | 900      |
| TY Exports (1000 MT)         | 946              | 946      | 1000             | 900      | 900              | 900      |
| Feed and Residual (1000 MT)  | 33000            | 33000    | 37000            | 37000    | 33000            | 32000    |
| FSI Consumption (1000 MT)    | 115000           | 115000   | 117000           | 117000   | 118000           | 118000   |
| Total Consumption (1000 MT)  | 148000           | 148000   | 154000           | 154000   | 151000           | 150000   |
| Ending Stocks (1000 MT)      | 138818           | 138818   | 133408           | 135008   | 132508           | 133108   |
| Total Distribution (1000 MT) | 287764           | 287764   | 288408           | 289908   | 284408           | 284008   |
| Yield (MT/HA)                | 5.8558           | 5.8558   | 5.7811           | 5.7811   | 5.9072           | 5.8228   |

(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 2024/2025 = July 2024 - June 2025

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

## RICE

MY2024/25 rough rice **production** is forecast at 207 MMT, 1.5 MMT lower than USDA’s June estimates. Guangdong’s early rice was badly damaged by floods in mid-April, when province-wide spring planting had just finished. Severe rainstorms right after the end of planting caused floods and destroyed early rice seedlings. Some counties reported a seedling damage rate of 60 percent. Farmers had to replant rice or shift to planting vegetables or fruit.

In early June, new crop rice in Northeast enjoyed normal weather, favorable for transplanting. East China rice crops were tillering and jointing, while South China’s rice crops were jointing and booting. Since mid-June, however, North and Northeast Guangxi, South Hunan, and parts of Jiangxi, Fujian, and Guangdong suffered rainstorms and floods. These provinces are all major rice producing areas. This year’s floods are worse than last year, but there are no detailed or specific reports of how these rainstorms and flood have impacted rice production. FAS China anticipates that early rice production and mid-rice planting will be affected. Initial reports of agricultural acreage damaged by rainstorms and flooding include 32,400 hectares in Fujian, 41,466 hectares in Jiangxi, 1,300 hectares in Guangdong’s

Meizhou, and 1,311 hectares in Guangxi. Early rice only accounts for a little more than 10 percent of China’s total rice output.

**Image 1. China: Soaked Rice Crops and Flood in Fujian**



**Image 2. China: Soaked Agricultural Crops in Jiangxi:**



MY2024/25 rice **consumption** is forecast at 140 MMT, 5 MMT lower than USDA’s June estimates on weaker feed demand. Government led auctions drive China’s rice supply and demand. From 2011 to 2022, the PRC procured about 237 MMT paddy rice (see Table 13) via MSP. From 2016 to 2023, the PRC sold around 55 MMT paddy rice via MSP auctions. After auctioning around another 70 MMT of old stock rice for feed use from 2020 to 2023, industry sources believe current rice stocks are “at reasonable levels.” There will be very little domestic rice available for feed use in the future. Rice consumption for feed depends on old stock rice auctions and imported broken rice. The old stock rice auctions in 2023 only sold about 10 MMT rice (milled equivalent). With corn prices decreasing since September 2023, old stock rice lost its price competitiveness to corn. Industry estimates that there are still at least 4 MMT out of the 10 MMT old stock rice that were sold in September 2023 left in the reserve storage. The PRC didn’t have any old stock rice auctions in the first half of 2024 but has allowed

previous old stock rice auction buyers to delay checking out their already purchased old stock rice from reserves.

MY2024/25 rice **imports** are forecast even lower than MY2023/24, on high international rice prices, lower consumption, and less feed demand for broken rice. In the first five months of 2024, China imported 640,945 MT of rice, down by 61 percent year-on-year. Broken rice accounts for 41 percent of total rice imports, mainly from Burma.

**Table 12. China: Prices of Imported Rice in Mid-June**

| <b>Region</b>                | <b>Landed Price after Tax/MT</b> | <b>Price Difference</b>  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Thailand 100% Class B</b> | RMB 5,360 (\$744)                | RMB 520 (\$72) more expensive than Japonica Wholesale price in Guangdong |
| <b>Vietnam 5% broken</b>     | RMB 4,664 (\$648)                | RMB 176 (\$24) less expensive than Japonica Wholesale price in Guangdong |

Source: Industry sources

China's MSP reserve auctions normally happen between April and September. There have been no state reserve auctions in 2024 at the writing of this report. Heilongjiang's Jiamusi region was the only area that held an MSP procurement in 2023.

**Table 13. China: Rice Procured through MSP 2011-2022**

| <b>MSP Year</b> | <b>Early Rice</b> | <b>Mid-late Indica</b> | <b>Japonica</b> |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>2011</b>     | -                 | -                      | 2,870,000       |
| <b>2012</b>     | -                 | 80,000                 | 4,040,000       |
| <b>2013</b>     | 5,670,000         | 13,370,000             | 13,570,000      |
| <b>2014</b>     | 4,190,000         | 9,680,000              | 18,390,000      |
| <b>2015</b>     | 3,020,000         | 10,190,000             | 20,140,000      |
| <b>2016</b>     | 2,570,000         | 7,520,000              | 20,990,000      |
| <b>2017</b>     | 1,230,000         | 5,650,000              | 21,830,000      |
| <b>2018</b>     | -                 | 7,850,000              | 13,880,000      |
| <b>2019</b>     | -                 | 7,750,000              | 16,220,000      |
| <b>2020</b>     | -                 | -                      | 4,890,000       |
| <b>2021</b>     | -                 | 1,760,000              | 7,410,000       |
| <b>2022</b>     | -                 | 1,650,000              | 10,230,000      |
| <b>Total</b>    | 16,680,000        | 65,500,000             | 154,460,000     |

Source: Industry sources; numbers are in paddy; unit is MTs



**Table 14. China: Rice Production, Supply, and Distribution**

| Rice, Milled<br>Market Year Begins<br><br>China | 2022/2023        |             | 2023/2024        |          | 2024/2025        |          |
|---|------------------|-------------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
|   | Jul 2022         |             | Jul 2023         |          | Jul 2024         |          |
|   | USDA<br>Official | New<br>Post | USDA<br>Official | New Post | USDA<br>Official | New Post |
| Area Harvested (1000 HA)                        | 29450            | 29450       | 28949            | 28949    | 29000            | 29000    |
| Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)                      | 113000           | 113000      | 106600           | 106600   | 103000           | 106120   |
| Milled Production (1000 MT)                     | 145946           | 145946      | 144620           | 144620   | 146000           | 145000   |
| Rough Production (1000 MT)                      | 208494           | 208494      | 206600           | 206600   | 208571           | 207143   |
| Milling Rate (.9999) (1000 MT)                  | 7000             | 7000        | 7000             | 7000     | 7000             | 7000     |
| MY Imports (1000 MT)                            | 4384             | 4384        | 1600             | 1600     | 1500             | 1500     |
| TY Imports (1000 MT)                            | 2597             | 2700        | 1700             | 1700     | 1500             | 1500     |
| TY Imp. from U.S. (1000 MT)                     | 0                | 0           | 0                | 0        | 0                | 0        |
| Total Supply (1000 MT)                          | 263330           | 263330      | 252820           | 252820   | 250500           | 252620   |
| MY Exports (1000 MT)                            | 1736             | 1736        | 1600             | 1700     | 1500             | 1500     |
| TY Exports (1000 MT)                            | 1602             | 1600        | 1500             | 1500     | 1500             | 1500     |
| Consumption and Residual (1000 MT)              | 154994           | 154994      | 148220           | 145000   | 145000           | 140000   |
| Ending Stocks (1000 MT)                         | 106600           | 106600      | 103000           | 106120   | 104000           | 111120   |
| Total Distribution (1000 MT)                    | 263330           | 263330      | 252820           | 252820   | 250500           | 252620   |
| Yield (Rough) (MT/HA)                           | 7.0796           | 7.0796      | 7.1367           | 7.1367   | 7.1921           | 7.1429   |

(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 2024/2025 = January 2025 - December 2025

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

**Attachments:**

No Attachments