

Production Forecast Dips, Lower Acreage Estimated



ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

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The 2011/12 U.S. rice production forecast was lowered 12.5 million cwt to 187.0 million cwt, down 23 percent from a year earlier and the smallest since 1998/99. This month's downward revision is based on a lower area estimate.

By class, the long-grain production estimate was lowered 10.5 million cwt to 123.5 million, down 33 percent from a year earlier and the smallest since 1996/97. At 1.865 million acres, long-grain plantings are 14 percent below the intended plantings reported in March and 34 percent below a year earlier. These are the smallest long-grain plantings since 1987/88.

Combined medium- and short-grain production is estimated at 63.5 million cwt, a decline of 2.0 million cwt from the June forecast, but 6 percent larger than a year earlier.

Current area estimates are below estimates reported in March in all States except California and Texas.

On an annual basis, plantings declined in all southern States. In Arkansas, plantings for 2011/12 are reported at 1.171 million acres, almost 35 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1989/90.

U.S. Total 2011/12 Rice Supply Forecast Lowered by 17.5 million Cwt

The total U.S. rice supply forecast for 2011/12 was lowered more than 6 percent this month to 256.6 million cwt, 14 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2008/09. Long-grain total supplies are forecast at 179.3 million cwt, down 15.5 million from last month's forecast and 19 percent below a year earlier. Combined medium- and short-grain total supplies are forecast at 75.9 million cwt, down 2 million cwt from the previous forecast, but still 2 percent larger than a year earlier.

Beginning stocks of all-rice are forecast at 50.6 million cwt, down 6.0 million cwt from last month, but 39 percent larger than a year earlier. Beginning stocks are the largest since 1987/88. The 2011/12 long-grain carryin is forecast at 39.3 million cwt, down 6.0 million from last month, but 71 percent larger than a year earlier. The medium/short-grain carryin is forecast at 9.9 million cwt, unchanged from last month, but 18 percent below a year earlier.

Total U.S. rice imports for 2011/12 are forecast at 19.0 million cwt, up 1.0 million cwt from last month's forecast and almost 9 percent above the previous year's forecast.

Despite the projected increase, U.S. imports are still well below the 2007/08 record of 23.9 million cwt.

Medium/short-grain imports remain projected at 2.5 million cwt, unchanged from last year.

year-earlier record. Exports account for all of the downward revision in total use.

Total domestic and residual use of all-rice is projected at 127.0 million cwt for 2011/12, up 1.0 million cwt from last month, but almost 5 percent smaller than the year earlier record.

Total exports of U.S. rice in 2011/12 are projected at 100.0 million cwt, down 6.0 million cwt from last month's forecast and 12 percent below 2010/11. This month's downward revision was based on much tighter U.S. supplies and a higher price difference over competitors.

By type, U.S. rough-rice exports are projected at 36.0 million cwt, down 3.0 million cwt from the previous forecast and 5 percent below the year-earlier revised forecast.

By class, U.S. long-grain exports are projected at 66.0 million cwt, down 6.0 million from last month's forecast and 15 percent below the revised year-earlier estimate.

U.S. 2011/12 Ending Stocks Are Projected To Decline 42 Percent to 29.6 Million Cwt

U.S. ending stocks of all-rice in 2011/12 are projected at 29.6 million cwt, down 12.5 million cwt from last month's forecast and almost 42 percent below a year earlier.

By class, the 2011/12 U.S. long-grain carryout is projected at 17.4 million cwt, down 10.5 million cwt from last month and 56 percent below a year earlier. The long-grain stocks-to-use ratio is calculated at 10.7 percent, down from 21.6 percent in 2010/11 and the lowest since 2003/04.

The medium/short-grain carryout is projected at 10.9 million cwt, down 2.0 million cwt from the previous forecast, but up 10 percent from a year earlier.

June 1, 2011 Rice Stocks Were Up 26 Percent from a Year Earlier

Based on information reported in USDA's June Rice Stocks, total stocks of rice on June 1, 2011, are calculated at 80.1 million cwt (combined rough- and milled-rice stocks on a rough-rice basis), 16.4 million cwt above a year earlier and the highest June 1 stocks since USDA first began reporting June 1 stocks in 2007/08. By class, long-grain accounted for all of the increase.

By State, stocks on June 1 were higher than a year earlier in all reported States except California.

U.S. 2010/11 Total Domestic and Residual Use Forecast Raised;

Ending Stocks Forecast Lowered

This month, USDA revised its forecasts for 2010/11 U.S. total use and ending stocks. The total domestic and residual use forecast was raised 6.0 million cwt to a record 133.0 million cwt, 7 percent larger than a year earlier.

Total exports in 2010/11 remain forecast at 113.5 million cwt. However, long-grain exports were raised 1.0 million cwt to 78.0 million cwt, and combined medium- and short-grain exports were lowered 1.0 million to 35.5 million cwt.

U.S. Season-Average Price Forecasts for 2011/12

Raised for Both Classes of Rice

The 2011/12 season-average farm price (SAFP) for U.S. long-grain rice is projected at