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Feed Outlook: July 2025

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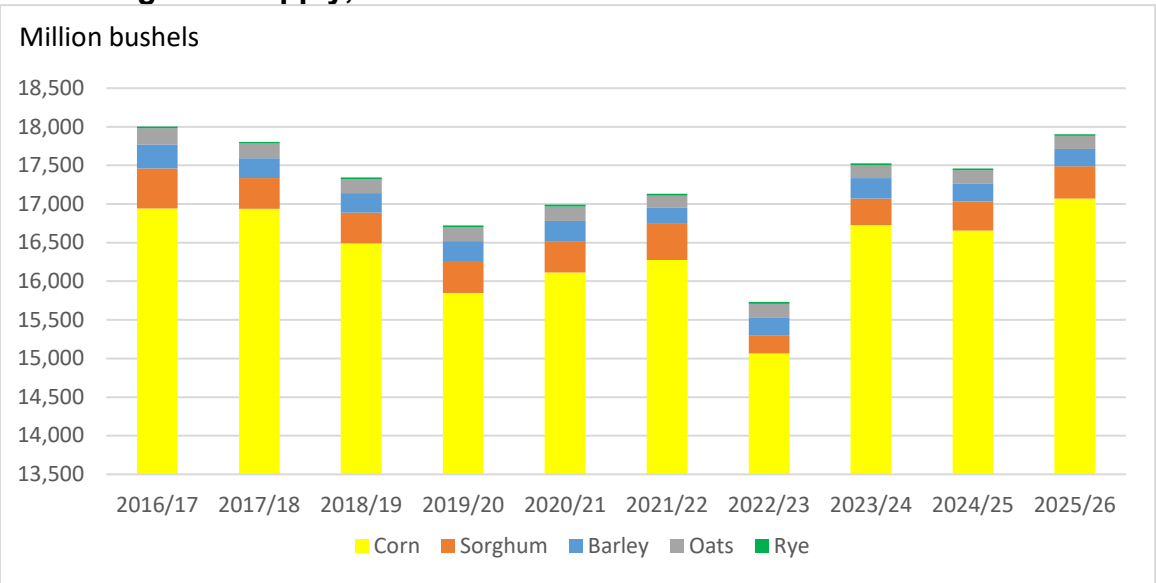
In this report:

New Crop U.S. Feed Grains Supply Trimmed Following Key Reports

At the end of June, USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service released the annual *Acreage* report and the quarterly *Grain Stocks* report. New data shape expectations for a net decrease for new crop feed grains production, relative to the prior projections that were informed by the March-released *Prospective Plantings* report. Corn area harvested was lowered 626,000 acres to 86.8 million acres and supports a 115-million-bushel reduction in corn production. Sorghum harvested area was trimmed by 365,000 acres, resulting in a 25-million-bushel production cut. On the basis of stocks as of June 1, 2025, corn ending stocks for 2024/25 and carryin for 2025/26 are reduced by 25 million bushels. On net, new crop corn supply is cut 140 million bushels month to month. In combination with changes for other grains, the 2025/26 U.S. feed grains supply is lowered 3.8 million metric tons to 451.8 million, the highest since 2016/17.

Figure 1
U.S feed grains supply, 2016/17–2025/26



Note: 2024/25 and 2025/26 values represent estimated and projected values, respectively.
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Economic Research Service using data from USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board.

Domestic Outlook

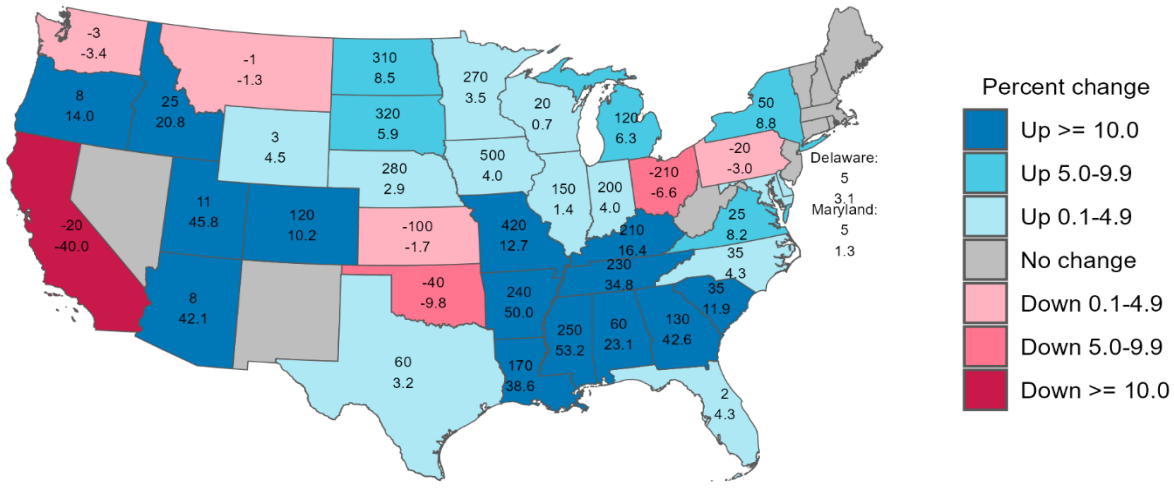
New Crop Corn Supply Is Trimmed, Balance Sheet Tightens

This month, 2025/26 U.S. corn production is projected at 15.705 billion bushels, a 115 million-bushel decrease from the June *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* (*WASDE*) forecast. This decrease is based on revised planted and harvested acreage expectations as reported in the June 30 release of the annual USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) *Acreage* report. Across all U.S. States surveyed, corn harvested area is reduced 626,000 acres as compared to the prior forecast. While area is lower as compared to the prior forecast—which was informed by the March-released USDA, NASS *Prospective Plantings* report—harvested area is up 3.878 million acres year to year.

All but seven States are projected to harvest more corn acres in 2025/26, as compared to 2024/25 estimates (figure 2). The largest gains are anticipated for leading corn-producing States including Illinois (+150,000 acres), Iowa (+500,000 acres), Nebraska (+280,000 acres), and Minnesota (+270,000 acres). For States reporting fewer new crop harvested acres, the collective decline totals just 394,000 acres and is more than offset by gains elsewhere. On the whole, U.S. farmers are forecast to harvest 86.774 million acres of corn, the most acres since 2013/14, when 87.461 million acres were harvested. Area left to be planted at the time of NASS' acreage survey is estimated at 3.629 million acres, slightly higher than the 3.356 million acres reported in 2024.

Figure 2

2024/25–2025/26 projected change in harvested corn acreage, thousands of acres and percent



Note: Based on estimated harvested acres for 2024/25 and projected harvested acres for 2025/26.
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

NASS will provide the first survey-based corn yield projections for the 2025/26 marketing year in the August edition of the *Crop Production* report. Weekly *Crop Progress* and *Conditions* reports paint a picture of a generally healthy crop that is developing in line with normal pacing. For the week ending July 6, 2025, NASS reported that 74 percent of the 2025/26 corn crop was in good-to-excellent condition, up slightly from the prior week and 6 points ahead of the same week in 2024/25. Just 5 percent of the crop was rated very poor to poor. States where corn conditions notably lagged behind the national average included Indiana (on dryness, above average temperatures to start July) and Texas (heavy precipitation in several areas, including south-central Texas). Across the major corn-growing regions, a generally favorable weather pattern is expected to support sufficient soil moisture through much of July and through the bulk of the critical silking or “tassel development” stage. As of the week ending July 6, 18 percent of the 2025/26 corn crop had reached the “silking” stage. Abundant moisture at this time generally aids development and supports yields; each silk creates a single kernel of corn, once pollinated. The more silks formed and pollinated, the more kernels of corn per cob and potentially, the greater the yield per harvested acre.

Additional NASS data from the *Grain Stocks* report provides insights into carry-in for the new marketing year. Disappearance from the third quarter of 2024/25 was lower than forecast, resulting in a 75-million-bushel decrease in feed and residual use. This reduction in old crop domestic use was more than offset by a 100-million-bushel increase in exports. On net, corn ending stocks for 2024/25 were cut by 25 million bushels, resulting in a smaller carry-in to the 2025/26 marketing year, contributing to a 140-million-bushel reduction in 2025/26 supply (as compared to the June forecast). New crop feed and residual is lowered 50 million bushels on reduced supplies and ending stocks are cut by 90 million bushels to slightly above 1.660 billion.

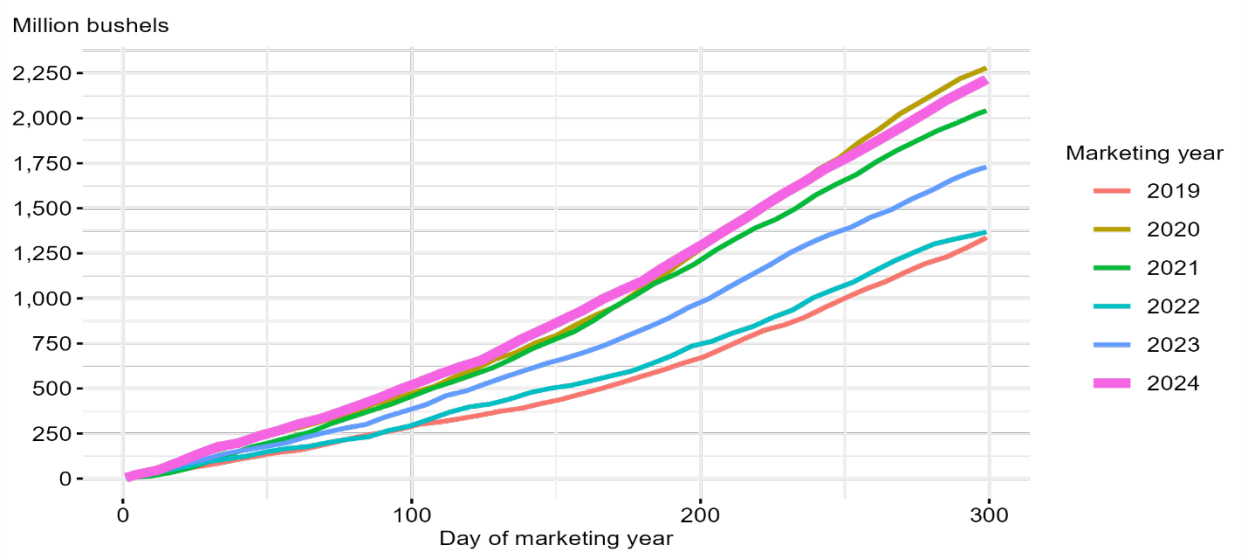
Reported NASS corn prices to date drive the decline in the 2024/25 season-average farm price (SAFP), lowered 5 cents this month to $4.30 per bushel. The season-average farm price for the 2025/26 marketing year is unchanged and remains at $4.20 per bushel. Futures prices remain elevated over cash prices and reflect a weather premium. Corn prices at export ports have trended slightly higher in recent weeks as demand remained strong.

Surging Pace of Sales Lifts 2024/25 Corn Exports

U.S. corn export sales have continued at a blistering pace and support a 100-million-bushel month-to-month increase for the 2024/25 marketing year, raising the forecast to a record-high 2,750 million bushels. If realized, 2024/25 corn exports will exceed the 2023/24 estimate by nearly 500 million bushels (22 percent). Through 300 days of the marketing year, exports sales

are nearly on pace to match the previously record-setting level realized for the 2020/21 marketing year. Commitments—outstanding sales and shipments—as of July 3rd totaled 2.731 billion bushels.

Figure 3:
Corn sales data support expectations for elevated 2024/25 corn exports



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service calculations based on USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service export sales data using the Export Sales Query Tool.

Elevated exports are supported by sizable year-to-year growth in shipments of U.S. corn to South Korea (+2.6 million metric tons), Mexico (+2.6 million tons), Japan (+2.1 million metric tons), and Spain (+1.8 million metric tons), among numerous smaller gains from a variety of countries—many located in South America and the European Union (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census data through May 2025). Notably, U.S. corn exports have surged without significant demand from China. In 2020/21, shipments to China accounted for nearly 31 percent of U.S. corn exports, whereas so far in 2024/25 shipments (based on Census Bureau data) to China are trace and comprise less than 1 percent (about 33,000 metric tons) of total exports (through May 2025). Exports to Canada are also down (about 53 percent) based on Census Bureau data through May 2025 and compared to the same time a year prior.

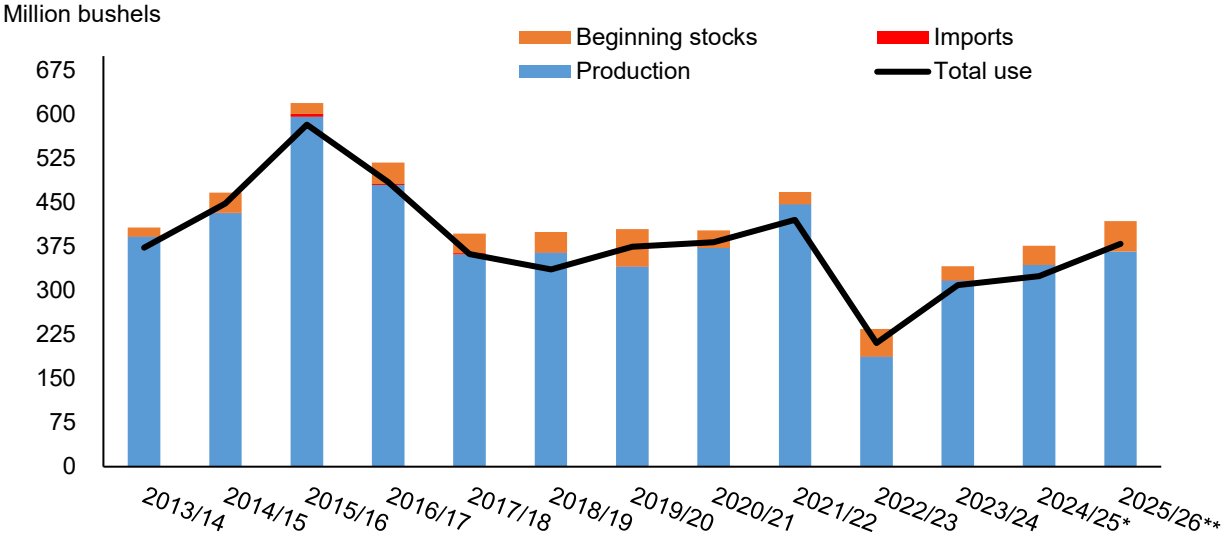
This month, updates to trade data for all feed grains and other commodities were made based on the "13th-month changes" report by the Census Bureau. Mostly minor updates were made to back-year imports and exports. For corn, U.S. exports for 2022/23 and 2023/24 were trimmed. For 2023/24 the reduction totaled about 37 million bushels and was largely attributable to a downward revision in U.S. corn exports to Mexico.

Sorghum Supplies Are Trimmed on Lower 2025/26 Production

Based on survey data reported in the NASS *Acreage* report, area harvested for sorghum is reduced 365,000 acres from the prior forecast. Just six States are included in NASS's survey of sorghum area, down from 14 surveyed from 2018 and earlier. Only Colorado and Oklahoma are expected to harvest more sorghum area in 2025. Leading sorghum (or milo)-producing State—Kansas—is projected to harvest 150,000 fewer acres in the new marketing year. Lower farm prices and returns compared to other crops--including corn, cotton, and oil crops—contributed to reduced sorghum plantings in Kansas and Texas.

NASS reports sorghum stocks totaled just under 100 million bushels on June 1, 2025, double the stocks held on and off farms on June 1 a year prior (figure 4). Tepid third-quarter disappearance indicates sluggish demand in the export market. The 2024/25 sorghum export estimate is unchanged this month at 100 million bushels and compares to exports of 234 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year. Exports for the 2023/24 marketing year were lowered a little more than 5 million bushels this month on 13th-month trade data updates.

Figure 4
U.S. sorghum supply and use



Note: Asterisk (*) denotes estimate, (**) denotes forecast.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates.*

Barley Trade and Stocks Data Underpin Back-Year Balance Sheet Updates

Following the incorporation of 13th-month trade data from the Census Bureau and revised grain stocks figures from NASS, the 2023/24 barley balance sheet is updated to reflect slightly larger imports and feed and residual estimates while the 2024/25 balance sheet shows slight decreases in both categories. Based on June 1 stocks, feed and residual use for 2024/25 is reduced by about 2 million bushels to just shy of 38 million. Based on final marketing year data published by the Census Bureau, barley exports are cut by 395,000 bushels resulting in a net 2.467 million bushel increase to old crop ending stocks. Reduced tightness in the balance sheet is reflected in a 14-cent-per-bushel decline in the final barley season-average farm price (SAFP) of $6.31. The all-barley price is comprised of weighted prices for malt and feed barley. For 2024/25 the malt barley price is estimated at $6.72 per bushel, down from $7.75 per bushel realized for the 2023/24 marketing year. Lower malt barley prices are reflective of both declining commodity prices, in general, and reduced demand for malted barley for use in beer production—which is trending lower. The SAFP for feed barley is $3.75 per bushel, down from $5.06 per bushel in 2023/24.

On July 11th, NASS released its first survey-based estimate of 2025/26 barley. Both planted and harvested area figures were revised upward in the *Acreage* report. Based on data published in the USDA, NASS *Crop Production* report, yields were cut 0.3 bushels per acre to 77.1 bushels. On net, new crop barley production is lifted by 787,000 bushels from the June estimate. Larger beginning stocks and elevated production contribute to a 3.254 million bushel increase for the 2025/26 barley supply. With no adjustments made to use categories this month, ending stocks absorb the supply change, rising to 76.288 million bushels. Market fundamentals continue to inhibit the upward movement for the all barley price which remains at $5.30 per bushel, including lower marketing year prices for other feed grains..

Oats Supply Is Lifted on Significant Production, Import Hikes

Based on NASS survey data reported in this month's *Crop Production* report, the 2025/26 oats yield is raised nearly 7 bushels per acre to 75.5 bushels and compares to the 76.5 bushels per acre farmers realized for the 2024/25 marketing year. In combination with an increase in harvested area, new crop oats production is raised 14.23 million bushels to 62.23 million. Final oats (and barley) production estimates will be released at the end of September in NASS' *Small Grains Annual* report. Beginning stocks are elevated by about 1.4 million bushels. U.S. imports

of oats from Canada were robust through the balance of the 2024/25 marketing year. Oats imports in March exceeded 194,000 metric tons, well above the 5-year average with strong sales continuing through the first 5 months of the calendar year. On net, trade data from the Census Bureau shows that oats imports in 2025 have so far exceed the 2024 pace from January-May by about 30,000 metric tons. Into the new marketing year, larger supplies of oats from Canada are anticipated and serve to lift expectations for 2025/26 oats imports by the United States.

On increased availability, 2025/26 oats feed and residual use is raised 15 million bushels. However, further expansion in oats domestic use is inhibited by expectations for large new crop supplies of competing feed grains—namely corn and sorghum. Carryout for the 2025/26 marketing year is raised 6.623 million bushels to about a little over 32 million bushels. The oats season-average farm price remains at $3.10 per bushel and reflects directional movements in grains prices year to year and the relative lack of tightness of the oats balance sheet. The new crop oats stocks-to-use ratio is 24 percent and compares to the 21 percent associated with the 2024/25 crop.

Machine Readable Files Are Available for Feed Grains Yearbook and Outlook Data

Following the July 15, 2025 release of the Excel-based Feed Grains Yearbook Tables and Outlook Tables, USDA's Economic Research Service will publish these data products in machine-readable (csv) formats, available for download where the Excel version are located.

International Outlook

Global Coarse Grains Production for 2024/25 Is Trimmed, Despite Gains for Brazil

This month, estimates for 2024/25 global coarse grains production are lowered to 1,505.86 billion metric tons (mt) and compare to the 1,507.2 million harvested for the 2023/24 marketing year. A number of changes contribute to the shift, most notably for corn grown in ***Mexico***—lowered 200,000 metric tons, month to month, to 23.1 million metric tons (down 10 percent from the 5-year average). A persistent drought in Sinaloa (where up to 70 percent of Mexico's winter corn crop is grown) has reduced water available for irrigation, resulting in reduced yields. Official data from Mexico's Ministry of Agriculture (SIAP) reveal expectations for winter corn yields to fall

below 5 mt/hectare, which compares to normal yields of between 6 and 7 mt/hectare. Please see this month's USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service's *World Agricultural Production* circular for more information.

In contrast to the lower forecast for ***Mexico's*** 2024/25 corn crop, ***Brazil*** is expected to see its second-largest area harvested for corn (22.3 million hectares) and second-largest yield (5.92 mt/ha) for the (local) 2024/25 marketing year. In turn, production is also estimated at its second-highest level, 132 million metric tons, up 2 percent from the June forecast and up 11 percent from the prior year—largely on the robustness of the second-crop, "*safrinha"* crop. The *safrinha* crop represents a little less than ¾ of Brazil's annual corn production. While elevated, Brazil's projected corn production is not record-high but, if realized, would trail only the 2022/23 estimate when 137 million metric tons were harvested in Brazil.

Expectations for a large harvest for 2024/25 represent a continuation of the long-term trend of increasing corn production in ***Brazil***. Production for 2024/25 is projected to be more than 50 percent higher (and 45 million mt) than the corn harvest a decade earlier and associated with the 2014/15 marketing year. The burgeoning domestic ethanol industry has supported growth in corn production. Between 2014–23 corn use for ethanol in Brazil grew from 0.107 million mt to 13.3 million mt (Hayashi, 2024). According to UNICA (Brazilian Sugarcane and Bioenergy Industry Association), Brazil's ethanol production is growing over time and increasingly, ethanol is being produced using corn feedstocks (as opposed to sugar). In a June-released report, UNICA indicated that corn ethanol production represented about 23 percent of total ethanol production, up from less than 5 percent just 5 years earlier (2019/20 marketing year).

Elevated production in ***Brazil*** boosts supply and lifts both domestic consumption (for 2025/26) and ending stocks (for 2024/25 and 2025/26). Brazil's ethanol mandate supports expanded ethanol production—and by extension the domestic use of corn—following an increase from a 27-percent blend rate (volume of ethanol blended with gasoline divided by total ethanol plus gasoline volume) to a 30-percent blend rate that is scheduled to take effect on August 1, 2025.

New Crop Coarse Grains Production Reflects Early Season Weather Influences

For the new crop, 2025/26 trade year, coarse grains production is boosted for ***Canada*** and ***Mexico*** (raised 500,000 metric tons and 300,000 metric tons, respectively), contributing to a net increase in *foreign production*. After accounting for other changes in global coarse grains,

including a near 3-million-metric-ton decline in projected U.S. corn production (2025/26), the estimate for global coarse grains production is trimmed slightly to 1,547.08 million metric tons (mt) this month, down from 1,550.70 million estimated in June.

Contributing to the decline in global coarse grains production is a net 1.15-million-metric-ton reduction in global barley production for 2025/26. New crop harvests for the ***European Union*** (-200,000 metric tons), ***United Kingdom*** (-175,000), ***Ukraine*** (-200,000), ***Russia*** (-300,000), and ***Turkey*** (-550,000) are all lowered this month as compared to June forecasts. For the European Union and United Kingdom, Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI's) results over the last several weeks have indicated worsening conditions for the 2025/26 spring-planted barley crop. ***France***, in particular, has been beset by dryness as well as weather data reporting issues that inhibit deeper analysis of soil moisture (via NDVIs) and plant development conditions. For ***Ukraine***, the weather has been dry and cool. Spring planting for barley in Ukraine is complete—though estimated to be a week or more behind the normal pace. Harvest for winter barley is underway. However, yields are reported to be lower compared to earlier expectations.

In ***Turkey***, barley production is projected to be down 13 percent year over year and down more than 8 percent month to month. After tariffs were reduced, Turkey began to import increasing volumes of barley, starting in 2022/23 and continuing through 2024/25. This action combines with limited growth in domestic demand to create sizable exportable supplies. Turkey's barley exports for 2024/25 exceeded a 25-year high to reach more than 1.1 million metric tons. Substantial stocks of barley are estimated to remain in Turkey, where domestic use—largely for animal feed with limited use for malting—is not growing commensurate with supplies. In an effort to reduce stocks and downward price pressure, the Government of Turkey has encouraged barley exports, mainly to trade partners in the Middle East–including Iran, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia. Lower domestic prices have reduced incentives for 20205/26 barley cultivation in Turkey. Please see the July 2025USDA, FAS' monthly *Grain: World Markets and Trade* report for additional details.

Projections for oats and sorghum production are minimally changed this month and anchor largely on adjustments made to the U.S. balance sheet, following updates to production-related data by USDA, NASS. Global sorghum production is lowered 635,000 metric tons, solely on an adjustment to U.S. production. Australia—the major competitor for U.S. sorghum in global markets owning to similarly low tannin-levels—has not begun to plant the 2025/26 sorghum crop. Soil moisture levels are reported to be mixed with reports of dryness in Southwestern Australia, while precipitation in the north is above average and favorable for planting. New data

from Statistics Canada inform updated forecasts for production, based on the June 27 release of planting data and yield expectations. Collectively, Canada's oats production for 2025/26 is raised 200,000 metric tons to 3.54 million (a 5.4 percent year-to-year increase).

On the basis of combined influences of production and utilization expectations, trade adjustments—mostly minor—are made for a number of countries. Notably, for the 2025/26 trade year, China is expected to reduce imports of sorghum by 600,000 metric tons, largely on tightness in the U.S. sorghum balance sheet. Symmetrically, U.S. exports of sorghum for the 2025/26 trade year are lowered 600,000. Corn imports for Canada and Mexico—typically strong trade partners with the United States–are both projected 200,000 metric tons lower compared to prior projections. For the 2024/25 marketing year, U.S. exports of corn to Canada (through May, 2025) were nearly 50 percent lower than the same period a year prior. The outlook for Canada's production of 2025/26 corn is elevated month to month on official data, however, corn production is forecast to decline by about 2 percent from the prior marketing year.

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