

Reference Date: 20-March-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Dry spell affects crop conditions in coastal regions, but average rains received in central provinces
- Import requirements, mainly wheat and rice, estimated at a higher level in 2011/12 marketing year (April/March), as a result of the smaller cereal harvest gathered in 2011

Dry spell impacts coastal regions

Since the turn of 2012, inadequate rains in coastal areas resulted in a protracted dry spell that negatively impacted on crop performance. In Bocoio municipality, central Benguela province, an estimated 55 000 hectares of maize and beans (representing about 17 percent of the total area planted for the province for these crops) were lost due to the dry spell. This could affect localised supplies and result in reduced household supplies for the next marketing year. However, in the large maize producing provinces of Cuanza Sul, Huambo and Bie, rains have been generally satisfactory, with remotely sensed data indicating average to above average vegetation conditions. Torrential rains were recorded in parts of the southern provinces of Cunene and Kuando Kubango, increasing the risk of flooding.

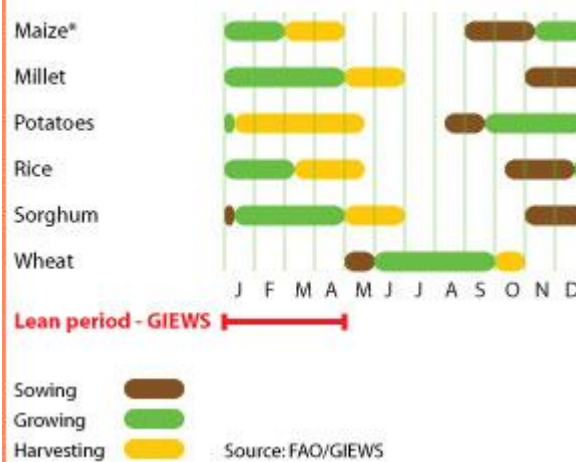
A drop in the 2011 cereal harvest was recorded

The 2011 cereal (mainly maize), harvested between March and June 2011 is estimated at 692 000 tonnes, representing a drop of about 50 percent relative to the bumper harvest achieved in 2010. Heavy rains from December 2010 through March 2011 led to flooding and consequently localised crop losses in southern provinces, particularly in areas bordering Namibia. At this level, domestic production is estimated to cover approximately 32 percent of total national requirements, compared to an average of 51 percent for the preceding five marketing years (2006/07-2010/11).

Cereal import requirements higher for 2011/12

Consequently, cereal import requirements for the current 2011/12 marketing year (April/March) are estimated at about 881 000 tonnes, up on the previous year's 808 000 tonnes. Wheat and rice constitute the bulk of the imports. The good stock levels from the favourable harvest in 2010 are also expected to help off-set some of the production short-fall.

Angola Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

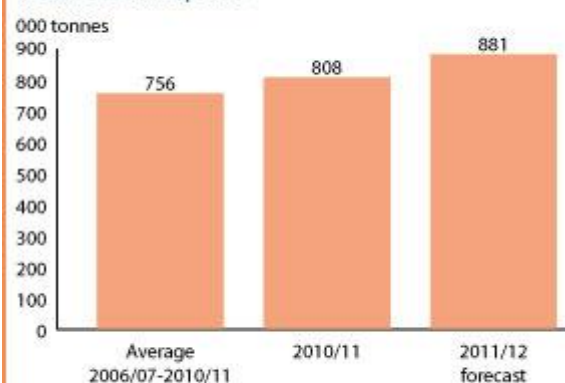


Angola Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 forecast	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes		percent	
Maize	838	1 321	591	-55
Millet	83	69	55	-20
Sorghum	28	15	30	100
Others	15	19	16	-16
Total	964	1 424	692	-51

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Angola Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets