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UkrAgroConsult

Black Sea Grain market report

Weekly

April 24 – May 1, 2023

#18

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ukraine domestic prices are under pressure due to logistics problems and new harvest approaching**
- **Grains prices decreased due to competition among exporters**
- **Wheat 130% imports tax will be inforce in Turkey from May 1 but will not affect most of Ukrainian wheat imports**
- **Argentina will harvest 16 M mt less corn than last year**

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GRAIN MARKET REVIEW

Grain Prices, FOB, USD/Mt

	Origin	Basis	Quality	May 1	April 24
Wheat	Ukraine	CPT Odesa	2nd class (12.5%)	185-190 May/Jun	190-200 Apr/May
		CPT Odesa	3rd class (11.5%)	185-190 May/Jun	190-200 Apr/May
		CPT Odesa	Feed	180-185 May/Jun	185-195 Apr/May
		CPT Reni	2nd class (12.5%)	190-195 May/Jun	200-205 Apr/May
		CPT Reni	3rd class (11.5%)	188-193 May/Jun	197-203 Apr/May
		CPT Reni	Feed	180-185 May/Jun	185-195 Apr/May
		DAP Western border	2nd class (12.5%)	200-210 May/Jun	205-215 Apr/May
	russia	Novorossiysk	Milling (12.5%)	270-275 May/Jun	275 Apr/May
		Rostov, Azov	Milling (12.5%)	245-250 May/Jun	250-255 Apr/May
		Novorossiysk	Milling (11.5%)	265-270 May/Jun	270-275 Apr/May
		Rostov, Azov	Milling (11.5%)	240-250 May/Jun	245-255 Apr/May
		Novorossiysk	Feed	240-245 May/Jun	245-250 Apr/May
	EU Black Sea	Constanta, Varna, Burgas	Milling (12%)	250-255 May	270-275 Apr
		Constanta, Varna, Burgas	Feed	240-245 May	260-265 Apr
	Kazakhstan	DAP Saryagash	3rd class	250-260 May	250-260 May
	France	Rouen	Milling	269 May	273 May
	USA	Gulf	SRW	270 May	279 May
		Gulf	HRW	365 May	373 May
	Argentina	Up River	Milling (12%)	330 May	335 May
Barley	Ukraine	CPT Odesa	Feed	180-190 May/Jun	180-190 Apr/May
		CPT Reni	Feed	175-185 May/Jun	180-190 Apr/May
	russia	Novorossiysk	Feed	235-245 May/Jun	240-250 Apr/May
		Azov	Feed	210-220 May/Jun	225-230 Apr/May
	EU Black Sea	Constanta, Varna, Burgas	Feed	230-235 May	243-246 Apr
	France	Rouen	Feed	246 May	260 May
	Argentina	Up River	Feed	-	-
	Australia	FOB Australia	Feed	250 May	265 May
Corn	Ukraine	CPT Odesa	Feed	180-190 May/Jun	185-195 Apr/May
		CPT Reni	Feed	190-195 May/Jun	200-205 Apr/May
		DAP Western border	Feed	200-205 May/Jun	205-210 Apr/May
	russia	Novorossiysk	Feed	245-255 May/Jun	245-255 Apr/May
		Rostov, Azov	Feed	225-230 May/Jun	225-230 Apr/May
	EU Black Sea	Constanta, Varna, Burgas	Feed	238-243 May	275-280 Apr
	USA	Gulf	Feed	279 May	290 May
	Brazil	FOB Brazil	Feed	237 Jul	256 Jun
	Argentina	Up River	Feed	258 May	265 May

Seller prices are indicated for the major ports of Odesa, Yuzhny, Chornomorsk. Traders' margin is not included, indicated prices exclude VAT. Prices of actual deals are as a rule lower than seller price

Grain exports from Ukrainian seaports, KMT

		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR 1 - 28 SAILED	JUL - APR 28 SAILED	TO BE SHIPPED	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
Wheat	22/23	191	529	1318	1396	1007	1154	927	942	903	802	9169	84				9253
	21/22	1131	4221	4228	3378	2214	1228	1105	1143	21	4.9	18673		5	18	63	18754
Barley	22/23	10	87	172	227	268	79	124	147	142	78	1333	0				1333
	21/22	1218	1790	1005	704	410	315	177	158	6	1.3	5793		16	0	4	5812

		SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR 1 - 28 SAILED	SEP - APR 28 SAILED	TO BE SHIPPED	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	TOTAL
Corn	22/23	1625	1861	1266	2311	1619	2010	2373	1516	14582	121						14703
	21/22	1523	1414	4172	4541	4692	4165	7	47.0	20560		54	197	457	837	269	22327

From February 25 to July 27, 2022, shipments were made only from the small Ukrainian ports of Izmail, Kilia, Reni due to russia's invasion of Ukraine

Grain exports from russian seaports, KMT

		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR 1 - 27 sailed	JUL - APR 27	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL-JUN
Wheat	22/23	1769	3056	3391	3975	4119	3763	3698	2641	4105	3476	33994				33994
	21/22	2058	4588	4008	2559	2166	2613	1456	1898	1760	1852	24958	2104	1158	1034	27402
Barley	22/23	232	736	488	528	490	255	157	192	224	262	3563				3563
	21/22	457	442	469	383	278	273	89	112	116	68	2687	68	131	183	3001

		SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR 1 - 27 sailed	SEP - APR 27	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP - AUG
Corn	22/23	18	62	182	388	556	508	836	571	3121						3121
	21/22	60	259	344	332	286	315	288	360	2244	413	412	323	139	55	3225

Ukraine market

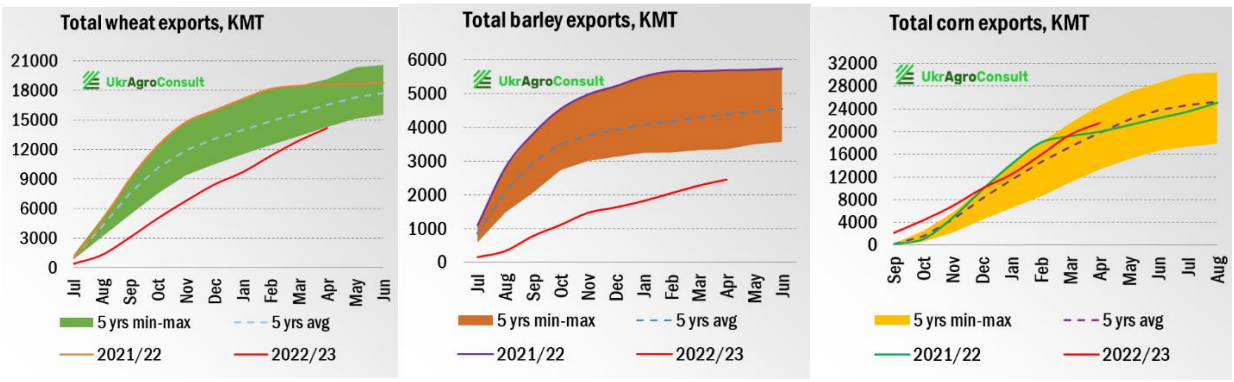
- The problem of grain exports remains the most acute. The russian side continues to block the normal operation of the grain corridor, restricting and, on some days, even stopping the transit of ships both inbound and outbound. Land routes are also constrained from Poland, Hungary and other neighboring countries. Vehicle queues at the borders remain long due to the need to form convoys. Exports by rail were also hampered last week due to the lack of a transit procedure, the algorithm for which was only introduced at the end of the week. In fact, only the Danube ports are working smoothly now, but there are also long queues for offloading.

- The European Commission imposes a ban on imports of wheat, corn, rapeseed, sunflower and sunflower oil from Ukraine. In addition, EUR 100 M will be allocated to support farmers in five neighboring countries - Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Hungary. In return, Poland and other countries will have to abandon their unilateral blocking of food imports from Ukraine. The possibility of Ukrainian grain transit is upheld.

- Domestic prices continue to decline due to limited demand from traders looking for ways to continue uninterrupted exports.

- Logistical problems and falling prices again raise doubts in the market about the fulfillment of spring sowing forecasts, especially for late grains.

- For July 2022 - April 28, 2023 (for corn September 1, 2022 – April 28, 2023) grain exports:
  - Wheat – 14,2 M mt;
  - Barley – 2,5 M mt;
  - Corn – 21,5 M mt;



- The spring crops sowing is behind last year's pace due to rainy weather and funding deficit. As of April 27, 1368 K ha were sown in Ukraine (2071 K ha in 2022), incl.:
  - Wheat – 206.1 K ha;
  - Barley – 639.0 K ha;
  - Peas – 121.2 K ha;
  - Oats – 112.2 K ha;
  - Corn – 252.7 K ha.

- The peas planted areas exceeded the expectations, as farms are expanding the crops list for rotation with oilseeds. Wheat and oats areas are gradually approaching the target, while sowing of buckwheat, millet, and other late grains is just beginning.

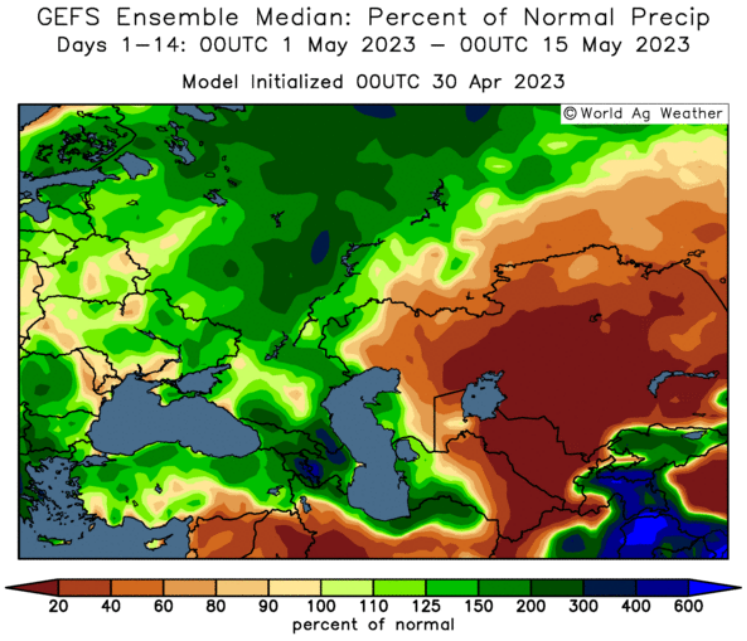
- Among the early spring crops, barley sowing rates are the worst, with only 61% of the intentions planted. Farms have already switched to late crops and the risk of barley under-sowing is increasing. However, high moisture and gradual increase in heat are beneficial for barley already sown.

- Ukraine could have lost 9.6% of its cattle population compared to April 2022. War losses in the private households are particularly high. However, compared with the beginning of March 2023, there is a slight increase in the number of cattle and cows in the industrial sector.

- Starting May 1, 2023, Turkey plans to reintroduce 130% import tax for all grain suppliers. The tax will apply to wheat, barley, corn, rye, oats, and sorghum. Turkey is one of the largest Ukrainian wheat buyers, but the tax increase will not affect the biggest share of Ukraine exports to this country, as Ukrainian wheat is imported to Turkey for flour production and flour exports. For wheat with its local processing, the tax remains zero.

russia market

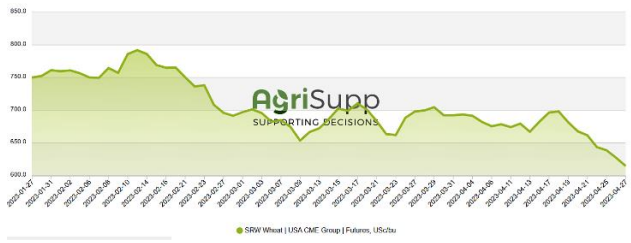
- Last week russian 12.5% milling wheat was offered at 270 USD/t (below recommended level of 275 USD/t), new crop prices are in the range of 255-265 USD/t
- purchasing prices of wheat in ports closed the week with a loss of 250 RUB amid lower export prices
- prices in the domestic market continued to decrease amid high stocks and approach of a new harvest in the most parts of russia (-50-175 RUB in a week depending on the region)
- starting from May 4 the export tax rates for major grains will be as follows:
  - wheat: 5573.2 RUB/t (previously 5678.9 RUB/t)
  - barley: 2195.4 RUB/t (2496.0 RUB/t)
  - corn: 3000.0 RUB/t (3215.8 RUB/t)
- according to port reports, since 1st of July till the 28th of April 2023 grain exports had totaled 41.8 M t (+34.5% Y-o-Y), including:
  - wheat: 34.0 M t (+36.2%)
  - barley: 3.56 M t (+32.6%)
  - corn: 3.33 M t (+37.7%)
- russian Ministry of Economy has prepared a draft resolution allowing exporting companies to refuse part of the quotas for export of grain, and redistribute them among other companies
- Turkish Foreign Minister: Turkey is working on the issue of mediation of Turkish banks in making payments for russian grain and fertilizers within the framework of the "grain deal"
- currently russian line-up contains vessels with the total of 2.02 M t of grain, including 1.92 M t of wheat
- in the next 2 weeks productive rains are expected in the Center and in the South, but the southern Siberia and Ural will experience a lack of precipitation.



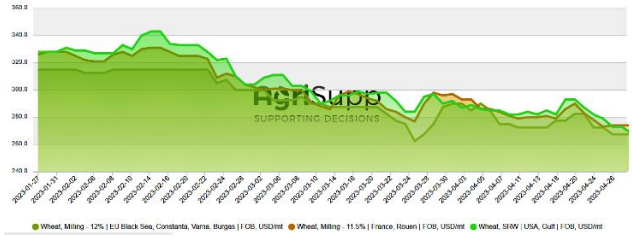
Global markets

Wheat

Wheat SRW, USA CME Group, Futures



Milling Wheat: the EU, France, the USA (FOB)



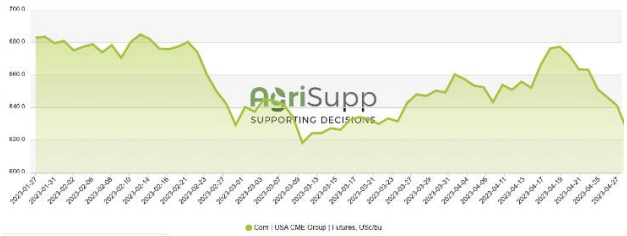
- CBOT: For April 20 -27, wheat futures decreased by 7.1% to minimum level due to growing supply from the biggest wheat exporters.
- American wheat sales amounted to 155.7 K mt (-40% from last week); also 2023/24MY wheat sales totaled 202.1 K mt (46.1 K mt w/w);
- Sowing of spring wheat in the U.S. is completed on 5% of the area (12% a year ago);
- The share of winter wheat crops in the U.S. in good to excellent condition decreased to 26% compared to 27% last week and y/y;
- USDA's Ag Attachè forecasts the wheat harvest in Australia in 2023/24 to decrease to 29 M mt after the area estimate was cut by 200 K ha and the yield estimate was down by 24.6%. As a result, the export estimate was reduced by 7 M mt to 23 M mt. Last season of 2021/22, the harvest and export estimates were 39 M mt and 28.5 M mt, respectively.
- Wheat acreage in Canada is growing for the third year in a row. According to StatsCan, this year the wheat area is estimated at 26.98 M acres (+1.58 M acres compared to last year). The spring wheat area will be the highest since 2001.
- As of April 23, wheat exports from the EU amounted to 25.02 M mt (22.81 M mt last year).
- High volatility amid active hostilities in Ukraine.

Barley

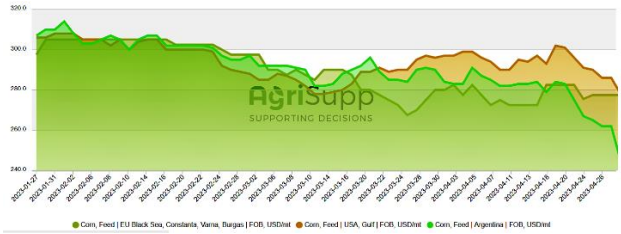
- Global barley prices have declined, along with other grain crops. In particular, European traders point out the possibility of a decrease in demand from Turkey, with barley harvested locally and 130% import tax imposed since May 1;
- U.S. barley sowing was completed on 10% of the area (23% a year ago);
- High volatility amid the fighting in Ukraine.

Corn

Corn, USA CME Group, Futures



Corn: EU , Black Sea ,USA, Gulf, Brazil (FOB)



- For April 20 - 27, CBOT May corn futures decreased by 5.8% mainly due to export news - China again refused 233 K mt of US corn;
- U.S. corn sales totaled 400 K mt (+28%w/w);
- U.S. corn exports for April 20 - 27 amounted to 1076 K mt (-17%w/w). In total, 38.45 M mt of corn has already been sold, or about 82% of the season forecast;
- Corn planting in the US is ahead of last season. Already sown 14% of the area (7% a year ago). In most US regions of corn growing cool weather continues, and forecasts of warming shifted to May;
- The European Commission has lowered the EU corn harvest estimate by half a million tons, but this estimate is still much higher than last year, when the region suffered from drought. Currently, the harvest is projected at 64.4 M mt (52 M mt last year).
- Soil moisture content in Argentina remains at a historic low, and temperatures are above normal. No significant precipitation is expected in Argentina in the next 2 weeks, and in Brazil the weather is slightly drier than normal;
- Brazil has completed sowing the second corn crop. The sowing plan is fully implemented;
- BAGE: the share of crops in normal and good condition in Argentina increased by 1.9% to 47.9 over the last week (77% last year);
- BAGE: as of April 26, corn harvesting in Argentina was completed on 17.5% of the area, with the yield at 4.3 t/ha. The harvest forecast is 36 M mt, which is significantly less than last year's 52 M mt.
- According to France AgriMer, 44% of the planned corn area has been planted in France, compared to 20% a week ago. Despite the high weekly pace, the gap between the annual and last year's average (56%) remains;
- As of April 23, corn imports to the EU amounted to 22.65 M mt (13.15 M mt last year). The European Commission raised the estimate of imports for the whole season to 24 M mt;
- High volatility amid the fighting in Ukraine.

The Week April 22-29 : UkrAgroConsult Breaking News

New unknowns, new challenges for Ukraine exports - what's next?

It is hardly possible to find a hotter topic than agricultural export from Ukraine, and not only in Ukraine. UkrAgroConsult constantly monitors the exports decisions – so please see our vision of the situation and what might be the short- and long terms consequences of these decisions.

The "grain corridor" problems (which is discussed every day), another problem has been added – ne latest regulations of export/transit by land to the EU. Neighboring countries tried not only to ban imports, but even transit through their territory. This ideas were initiated by neighboring countries farmers, who realized their own large grains stocks are combined with flows of Ukrainian grain and oilseeds.

The main reason of the local grains and oilseeds stocks is an attempt to make bigger money. Buying up cheap Ukrainian grain, farmers of the neighboring European countries intended to sale their stocks after prices to rise. Anyway, they neglected the global market fundamental factors, where the downward trend in prices prevailed. The unsuccessful attempt to use that way Ukrainian grain forced the neighbors to take drastic measures. Even the compensation promised by the European Commission did not help to calm the neighbors down.

For almost two weeks, Ukrainian market was in a situation where the "grain corridor" was almost at a standstill and Ukrainian officials "strongly recommend" to suspend grain deliveries towards the western border. The situation reached its climax when rumors began to spread not only about the ban on imports and transit of wheat, corn, rapeseed and sunflower, but also about the ban on veg oils and meals, dairy products, honey and nuts.

Isn't this an attempt to change the rules and laws of the EU?

It looks very much like the neighbors have decided to get rid of a very powerful competitor (Ukraine) in one fell swoop, not only of grains but also of food, and at the same time to get compensation, which is likely to increase repeatedly. Now the compensation offer amounted to €100 M (the first package of €56 M was agreed in March).

We will see how this challenge will be transformed in the future and how the European Commission will react to it very soon.

Exports/transit restrictions and other measures: (information is constantly updated and supplemented)

Country	Transit	Imports	Additional security measures
Poland	Positive	Ban from April 15, 2023	GPS beacons; Vehicle grouping by the destination crossing on Poland western border which is time consuming with additional costs
Czech Republic	Positive	Positive	Enhanced quality control of agricultural products
Slovakia	Positive	Ban from April 17, 2023	Ban on local Ukraine grain processing and on sales of goods produced from the grain in the local market
Bulgaria	Positive	Ban from April 24, 2023 until June 30 2023	

Romania	Positive	Positive	Sealing Traffic monitoring
Hungary	Positive	Ban from April 18 2023 until July 01, 2023	Strengthening transit controls

UkrAgroConsult view is bans on either imports only or both imports and transit will not bring anything good to either Ukraine or European farmers.

For Ukraine the bans will be of the following aftereffects:

- unusually high ending grain stocks, especially corn stocks,

- falling domestic prices,

- logistics costs increases,

- possible reduction of sown areas for 2023 harvest.

For the EU:

- growing risks of rising prices meaning rising inflation (by the way, it is precisely because of the flow of cheap Ukrainian goods that inflation in the EU has somewhat slowed down);

- weaker European position in the competition with Ukrainian grains after the Ukrainian grain prices will go down.

Quick Solution Options

Negotiations on import and transit regulations are still ongoing, both within EU and between Ukraine and EU countries. Input data is changing rapidly, and this certainly does not bring confidence to market operators and negatively affects exports.

We do not rule out a revision of the list of goods prohibited for import, and some commodities may be excluded from the list.

The chain reaction may continue with other countries, for ex. Moldova is also discussing an import ban. Who is next?

The import ban will definitely affect the 2023 spring sowings. However, UkrAgroConsult does not expect a significant downward revision of the planted areas, as the areas were reduced before. Most likely, the crop structure might be revised in favor of those crops that are not on the list of banned ones.

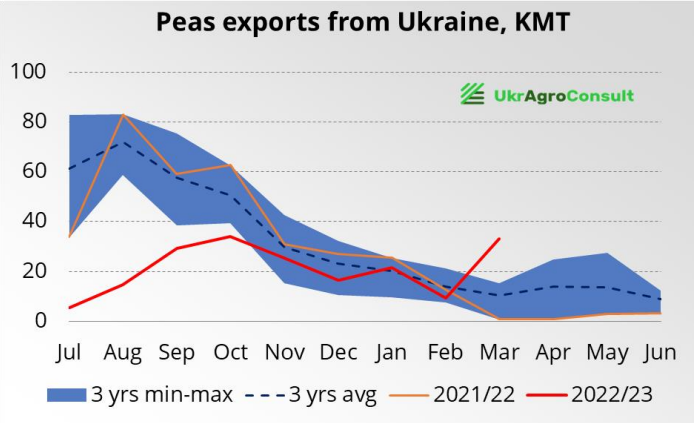
Ukrainian companies will continue to adapt to new challenges, incl. product quality, which will make Ukrainian producers much more competitive in the long run.

Julia Garkavenko
Oilseed market expert
UkrAgroConsult

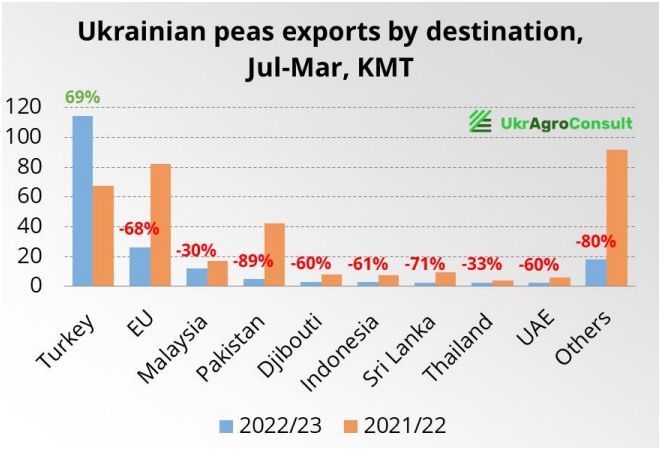
TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Ukrainian pea market: current issues and prospects

In July-March 2022/23 Ukrainian pea exports reached 189 KMT (-44% y/y). The decrease in Ukrainian pea exports explained by the limited throughput capacity of the grain corridor and competition with other grain commodities.



Turkey is the only country that imports Ukrainian peas in bulk and in large batches. Thus, 13 KMT of peas in January and 22.8 KMT in March left Pivdenniy port to this country. Growing imports allowed Turkey to take the first place among importers of peas from Ukraine with the share of 61%. All other buyers significantly reduced purchases of Ukrainian peas because of logistical problems and geopolitical risks.



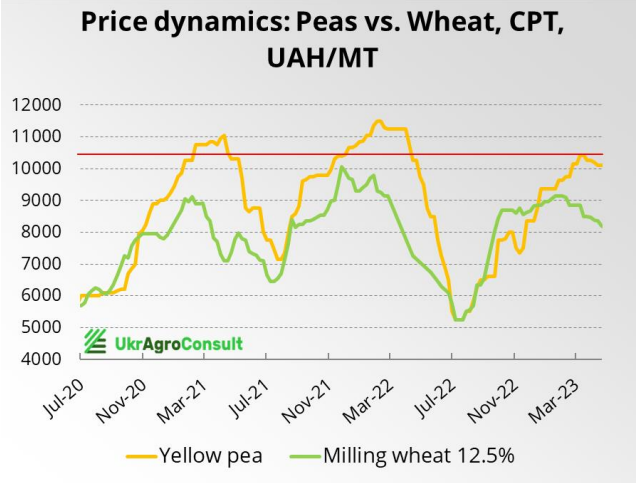
UkrAgroConsult left unchanged its forecast of pea exports in 2022/23 - 220 KMT, which means 30 KMT left for exports in April-June. Given the stable demand from Turkey, the forecast is rather attainable. Anyway, gradually decreasing stocks might be the limiting factor in May and June (by end of the season), causing difficulties to accumulate large shipments.

In April, there was a meeting between representatives of the competent authority of China, the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), Ukrainian Ministry of Agriculture, the State Food and Consumer Service and the Ukrainian Embassy in China. After the meeting the GACC intends to issue the protocol to be approved by the Ukrainian side in the near

future. Unfortunately, there are no specific dates in the protocol, but the Ukrainian side stresses continuing negotiations with Chinese authorities, and promises the opening of the Chinese pea export market in the near future.

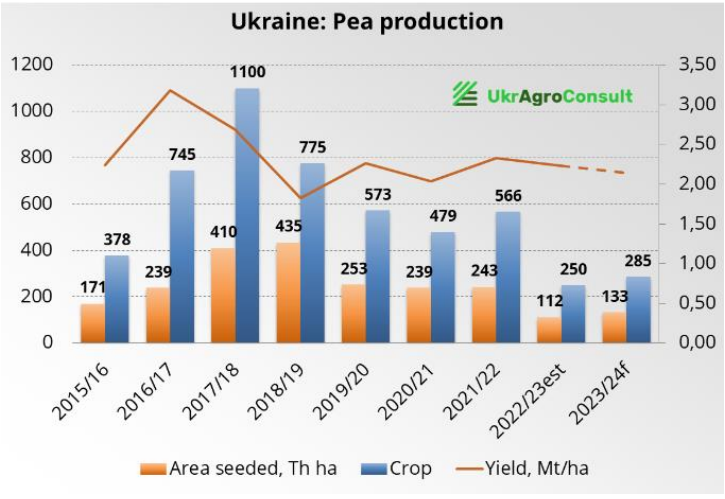
As of April 27 peas were seeded at 121.2 th ha (101% of the planned 120.3 th ha). UkrAgroConsult is more optimistic about the exports of Ukrainian peas, estimating 2023/24 pea area in the range of 130-135 th ha. Peas, being an early crop, allow farmers to earn money at the very beginning of the season (June) and finance seeding and harvesting of later spring crops. Currently, farmers prefer crops, which are less expensive in cultivation.

Apart from that, after the recent import bans in neighboring EU countries, some Ukrainian farmers may reduce the area of banned crops in favor of allowed crops (including peas).



Moreover, farmers might be motivated be the pea price. In March 2023 the price was almost in line with the pre-war level for this period. Despite the price was 10% lower than in the last two seasons for March, peas are traditionally more expensive than other crops at the end of the season (April-June) - not only feed crops, but also food grain. Those farmers who manage to hold on to their stocks will be able to get more money from selling peas.

Considering the 5-year average yield (2.14 t/ha), in 2023 pea production could reach 285 KMT (+14% y/y).



So far, UkrAgroConsult keeps the yield forecast unchanged. It is still difficult to assess the impact of the current cool and wet weather. In the first week of May in the western part of the country, the temperature will be several degrees below the norm, however, at the same time, lower intensity of rains should benefit the crop condition.

Maryna Marynych
Grain market analyst
UkrAgroConsult

LOGISTICS

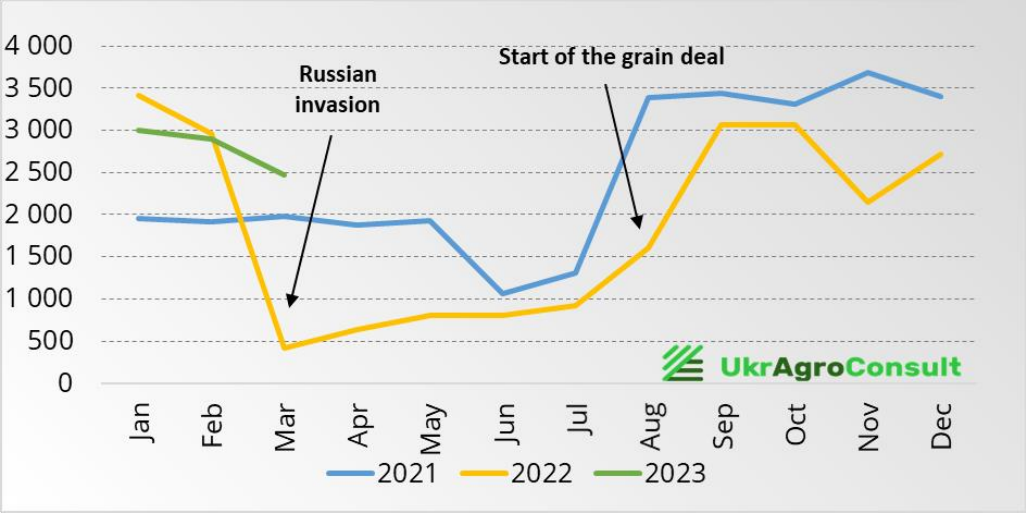
Ukraine. In search of alternative export routes: railways

russian inspectors in Istanbul continue to hamper the activities of the grain corridor by delaying the inspection of ships. On May 18, completely stop by russia the grain agreement is not excluded.

Ukrainian companies and officials are increasingly talking about alternatives to the shipments thru the grain corridor. One of the alternative export options is railroad, which has not actually stopped since the beginning of the war.

Grain exports by rail dropped to a minimum of 416 K mt in March 2022, but since then the agri exports by rail have been growing steadily. The main growth in grain shipments by rail was after the grain agreement was signed, which stimulated rail shipments to the seaports of Big Odessa. In January 2023, 3 M mt of grains were delivered by rail for export, which is in line with pre-war levels.

Agri Commodities transportation by Rail. K mt*



**incl. Transportation to the Big Odessa ports and to western border of Ukraine*

Source: UkrAgroConsult estimations basing on Ukrainian Railway Administration Ukrzaliznytsia

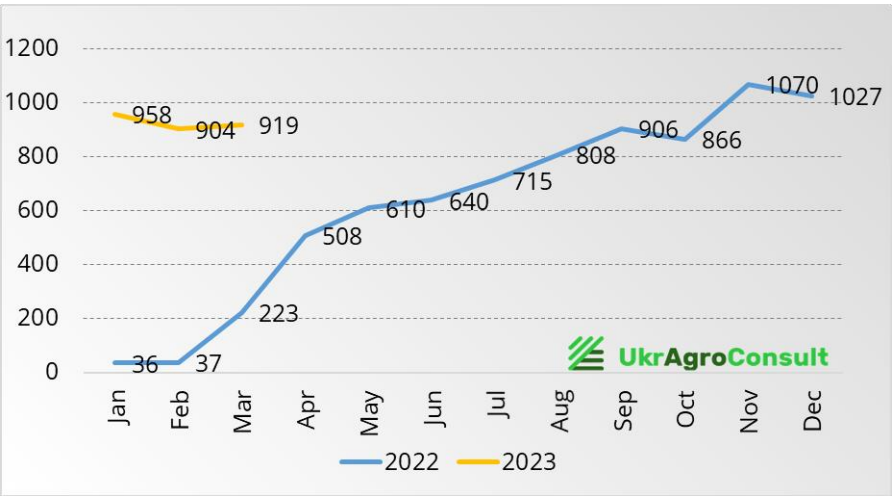
It is clear that the focus should be on rail transport to the western border crossings when considering alternatives to the grain corridor.

Before the war, monthly rail shipments were at the level of 36-37 K mt, by the end of 2022 they increased to 1.1 M mt. In Q1 of 2023, the shipments slightly decreased to an average of 927 tK mt, which is explained by a

slowdown in exports and an increase in sea shipments through the small Danube river ports. In April 2023, agricultural products export by rail through the western borders estimated at 600-650 K mt, which is partly due to the temporary ban on imports/transit through neighboring countries.

In 2022, long queues of hoppers were at the western border crossings, the hoppers could be delayed at the border for 30 days or more. Because of this, Ukrzaliznytsia had to prohibit sending new grain hoppers to some border crossings. As of the end of April, the waiting time decreased, with the longest queue of about 15 days being at the Dyakovo-Halmeu border crossing.

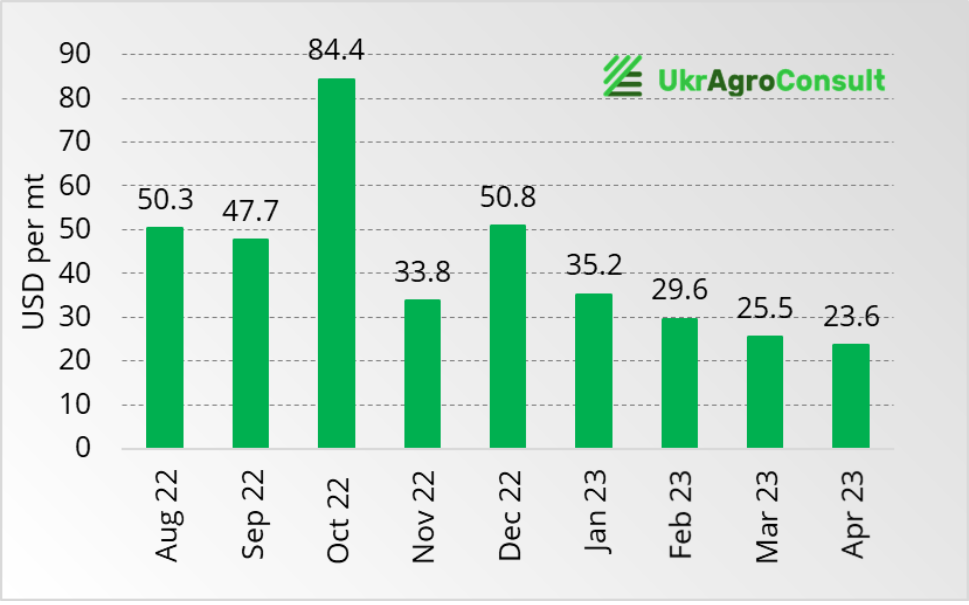
Grains transportation by railway thru the western crossings, K mt



Source: UkrAgroConsult estimations basing on Ukrainian Railway Administration Ukrzaliznytsia

The railway tariff for grain transportation by hoppers of Ukrzaliznytsia to seaports has halved over the past 7-8 months. The costs of rail logistics to western border crossings have dropped to USD 38.5/mt by April 2023. It is worth noting that Ukrzaliznytsia's tariffs are considered by owners of rail hoppers/wagons as indicative.

Railway tariffs for grain transportation to the sea ports, distance of 655 km*



*Carriage payments in USD. USD per ton for carload transportation in Ukrzaliznytsia cars

Source: UkrAgroConsult based on Ukrzaliznytsia data

UkrAgroConsult estimates monthly exports of agricultural products through the western border crossings could maximize to 1.5 M mt if the grain corridor is shut down. Most likely, for May-June (the last months of the 2022/23 season), this will be enough to meet the exporters' demand for grain deliveries. However, the costs of export logistics by land will start to rise again.

Maxym Kharchenko
Freight market analyst
UkrAgroConsult

FIELDWORK & CROP CONDITION

Ukraine

Crop condition:

- In the third decade of April, moderately warm, cloudy, rainy weather was observed;

- Only the last few days have been sunny;

- Weather conditions in April in most regions were not favorable for fieldwork on soil cultivation for sowing early spring grain crops;

- At times, due to rains and significant overwetting of the soil, the operation of agricultural machinery was impossible;

- In this connection, the sowing of early spring crops was delayed;

- Conditions for the growth and development of winter and early spring crops were favorable, plants increased in growth, phase changes in development took place;

- The moderate temperature regime contributed to the rooting of winter crops of the late sowing period.

Moisture supply:

- The amount of precipitation in the majority of the territory, namely in some areas of the southern and central regions, exceeded the decade norm by 3-5 times;

- The amount of precipitation for the previous two decades of April (except for the northeastern and extreme western regions) reached and exceeded the monthly norm in some places by 2-3.5 times;

- Precipitation of varying amounts and intensity was recorded for 1-10 days throughout the territory;

- As of April 20, in the Lviv, Volyn, Rivne, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Zhytomyr, and Sumy regions, their regional average amount per decade was close to the norm (13-19 mm), in the Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, Chernihiv, and Kherson regions, a decade-long amount was 136-183% of the norm (19-35 mm);

- In the rest of the territory, 29-48 mm of precipitation (223-348% of the norm) fell during the decade;

- The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in the Odesa region – 415% of the decade norm (54 mm), the lowest – In Transcarpathia – 50% of the decade norm (10 mm);

- In many areas of the southern, in some areas of the central (with the exception of Vinnytsia) and Kyiv regions, the daily maximum precipitation reached 20-31 mm (1.4-2.3 decade norms).

Weather forecast for May 1-7:

- Precipitation of 2-15 mm is forecast for most of the territory;

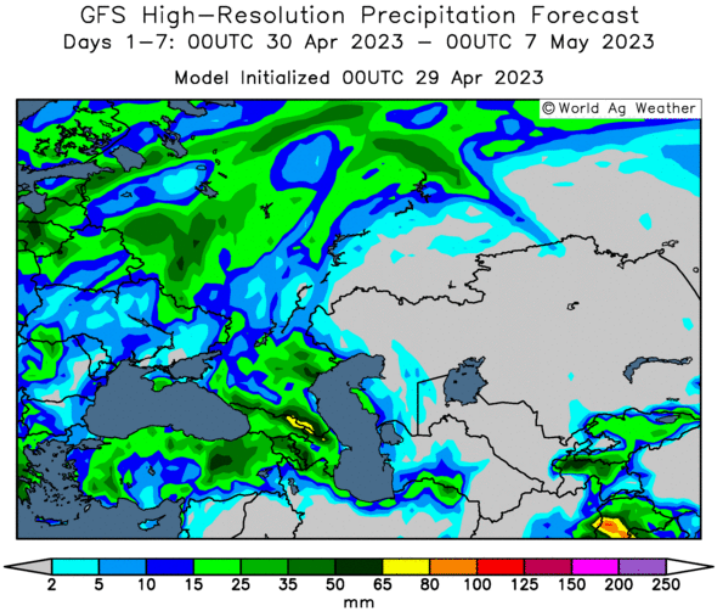
- In the northern and western regions - 2-25 mm.

Crop growth stages

Crop	Growth stage
Winter grains	Stalking
Spring grains	Germination, seedlings

Ukraine. Planting progress, April 27, 2023

Crop	Planned area, Th ha	Planted, Th ha		%
		2023	2022	
Spring grains and pulses	5456.9	1368.0	2070.9	25.0
Spring wheat	285.4	206.1	175.8	72.0
Spring barley	1040.8	639.0	838.5	61.0
Peas	120.3	121.2	116.3	101.0
Oats	147.2	112.2	144.4	76.0
Millet	60.1	4.5	10.8	8.0
Buckwheat	115.4	0.33	2.6	0.0
Corn	3618.1	252.7	774.8	7.0



Bulgaria

Crop condition:

- Vegetation processes of agricultural crops will occur at a moderate pace with average day and night temperatures near and below the climatic norm of late April – early May;

- Unstable weather and frequent rains will prevent pre-sowing tillage and sowing of late spring crops;

- At the beginning of the week, frosts are possible in the highlands, which may damage crops.

Moisture supply:

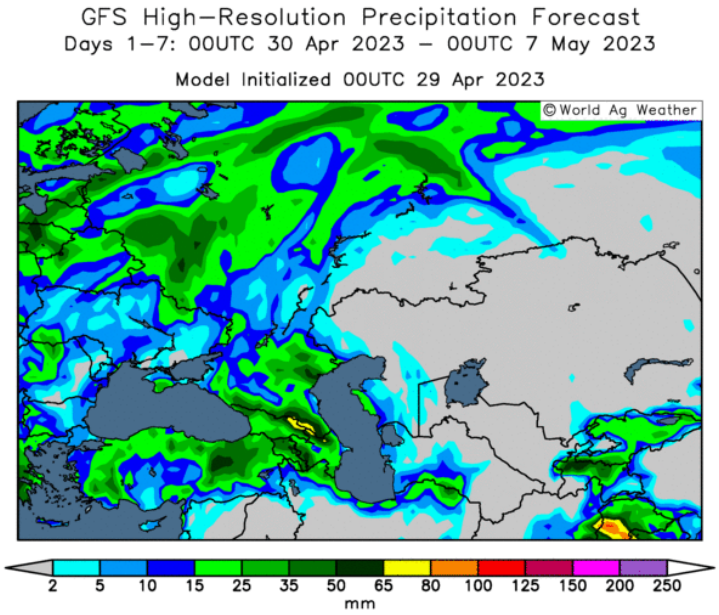
- Precipitation in the second half of April maintained a good level of soil moisture in a 50-centimeter layer.

Weather forecast for May 1-7:

- Unstable weather is forecast.

Crop growth stages

Crop	Growth stage
Winter grains	Tillering, flowering, stem formation, heading
Corn	Germination, leaf formation



Kazakhstan

Crop condition:

- In the Zhetysus and Almaty regions, sowing of spring wheat continues;

- The condition of the plants is good. In the Almaty, Zhambyl and Turkestan regions, the condition of spring barley is excellent and good;

- In the West Kazakhstan, Abai and East Kazakhstan regions, soil preparation for sowing spring crops has begun;

- In the southern half, against the background of positive temperatures and precipitation, the vegetation of winter wheat continues;

- In the Almaty, Zhambyl, Zhetysus and Turkestan regions, the condition of winter wheat is excellent and good;

- In the South, farmers started sowing heat-loving crops (corn for grain, rice, sugar beet), the condition of the plants is good.

Moisture supply:

- Precipitation somewhat reduced the pace of spring fieldwork in Zhetysus and Almaty regions.

Weather forecast for May 1-7:

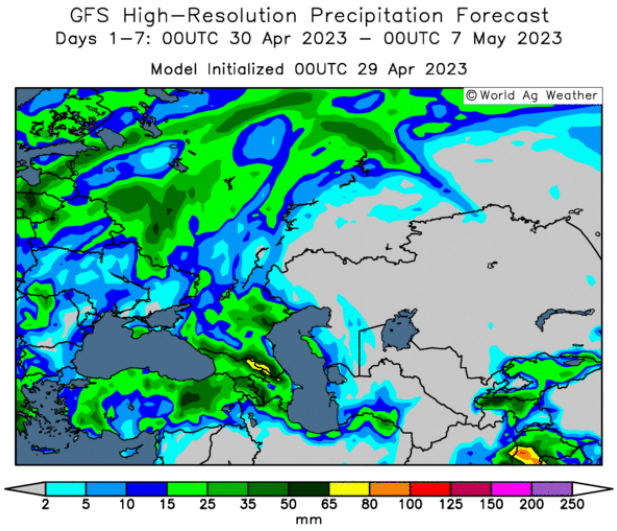
- Precipitation of 2-10 mm is forecast in the western regions;

- In the southern regions – 2-25 mm;

- There is no precipitation in the rest of the territory.

Crop growth stages

Crop	Growth stage
Winter grains	Seedlings, 3rd leaf, tillering
Spring grains	Germination, seedlings, nodal roots formation, tillering
Corn	Germination, seedlings



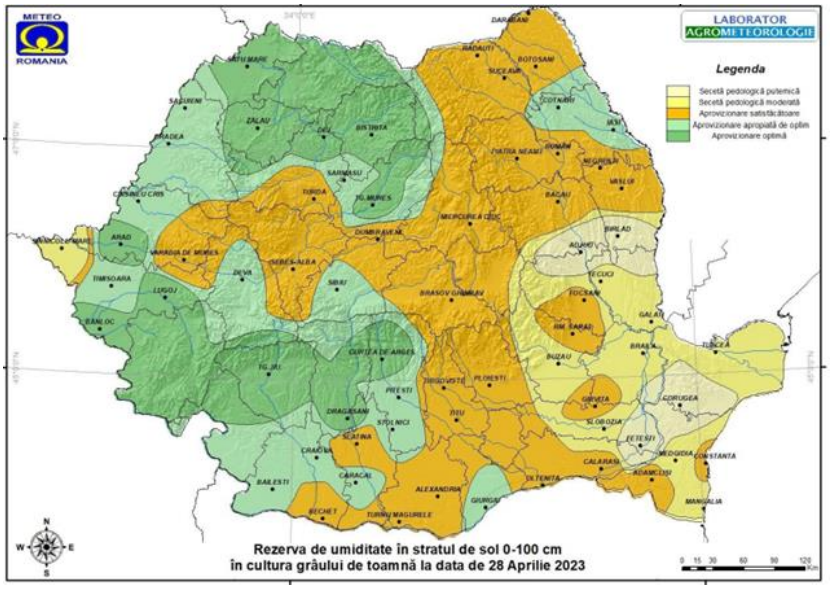
Romania

Weather conditions. Air temperatures (+8..+16°C) were close to multiyear norms. In the south and west temperatures reached +21°C.

Moisture reserves. Over the past week intensive rains (25-35 mm) fell in the north and south-west. Other regions received no more than 15 mm over the week. Lower intensity of rains helped to resume seeding works in some regions and allowed the upper soil layer to dry out gradually.

Currently, moisture stocks (0-100 cm soil layer) are satisfactory and close to optimal in the majority of agricultural regions of Romania. Dry areas in the east and near the Danube Delta (grey color on the map) are getting smaller, thanks to heavy rains in the last two weeks.

Romania. Soil moisture reserves (0-100 cm) as of April 28, 2023



Crop growth stages

Crop	Growth stage
Winter barley, winter wheat	Booting-ear emergence
Corn, sunseed	Growth

Weather forecast for May 1-8. Temperatures will be close to multiyear norms (+8..+18°C). Upper soil layer (5 cm) will warm up to +9..+17°C, which favors the development of winter and spring crops.

Precipitations of the various intensity (2 – locally to 35 mm) expected all over Romania. Significant amounts should fall in the west and south-west. Lower intensity of rains will help to boost the seeding works on the back of favorable crop development conditions.

EXPORT STATISTICS

Grain exports from Ukraine, russia and Kazakhstan, KMT

UKRAINE		JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
WHEAT	**2022/23**	**376**	**883**	**1789**	**1959**	**1774**	**1645**	**1325**	**1610**	**1672**				**13035**
	2021/22	961	3652	4364	3436	2375	1174	1613	909	307	125	44	143	19101
BARLEY	**2022/23**	**151**	**182**	**445**	**332**	**361**	**159**	**192**	**232**	**227**				**2280**
	2021/22	1097	1708	1007	736	435	244	279	148	5	25	11	36	5730
CORN	**2022/23**	**1176**	**1544**	**2152**	**2211**	**2526**	**3068**	**2695**	**3338**	**3817**				**19807**
	2021/22	962	302	165	895	3792	4897	5247	3287	1076	693	1084	1212	23612
TOTAL GRAIN	**2022/23**	**1723**	**2644**	**4450**	**4572**	**4739**	**4921**	**4273**	**5244**	**5789**				**38355**
	2021/22	3087	5780	5666	5175	6697	6416	7191	4391	1393	845	1142	1403	49186
RUSSIA		**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEPT**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**TOTAL**
WHEAT	**2022/23**	**1683**	**2694**	**3671**	**3722**	**3786**	**3282**	**4583**	**2878**					**26300**
	2021/22	1882	5221	4063	2833	3192	3058	1448	1115	1197	1819	1015	1074	27918
BARLEY	**2022/23**	**112**	**812**	**443**	**433**	**501**	**172**	**206**	**271**					**2950**
	2021/22	505	564	553	292	410	437	98	80	152	83	96	169	3439
CORN	**2022/23**	**262**	**82**	**35**	**71**	**215**	**982**	**757**	**538**					**2942**
	2021/22	134	67	79	252	351	412	282	298	108	325	381	361	3049
TOTAL GRAIN	**2022/23**	**2217**	**3771**	**4427**	**4453**	**4700**	**4667**	**5765**	**3884**					**33884**
	2021/22	2626	6102	5034	3745	4184	4172	2098	1804	1654	2468	1737	1652	37275
KAZAKHSTAN		**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEPT**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**TOTAL**
WHEAT	**2022/23**	**169**	**234**	**454**	**831**	**734**	**779**	**631**	**638**					**4469**
	2021/22	407	390	428	548	553	637	598	665	757	482	295	313	6073
BARLEY	**2022/23**	**36**	**59**	**122**	**103**	**142**	**117**	**86**	**74**					**740**
	2021/22	24	19	31	19	37	31	29	35	68	64	24	45	425
FLOUR	**2022/23**	**69**	**144**	**195**	**241**	**223**	**189**	**137**	**151**					**1348**
	2021/22	86	88	108	144	169	165	118	159	179	156	136	99	1608
TOTAL GRAIN*	**2022/23**	**319**	**528**	**875**	**1309**	**1233**	**1205**	**981**	**1016**					**7467**
	2021/22	565	542	633	797	864	940	816	949	1104	795	532	525	9062
TOTAL GRAIN Ukr-Rus-Kaz	**2022/23**	**4260**	**6943**	**9752**	**10334**	**10672**	**10793**	**11020**	**10144**	**5789**				**79706**
	2021/22	6278	12424	11332	9716	11745	11528	10105	7145	4151	4109	3411	3580	95524

** Ukraine: export means goods that passed customs clearance*

***russia: data for February 2022 – January 2023 excluding exports to the EAEU countries*

**** Kazakhstan: including flour in grain equivalent*

S&D BALANCES

UKRAINE - MMT	2023/24		2022/23	
Wheat	**March**	**April**	**March**	**April**
Opening stocks	***0.84***	***0.74***	***2.73***	***2.73***
Area seeded, Th ha	4300	4450	6730	6730
Area harvested, Th ha	4288	4420	4700	4970
Yield, Mt/ha	3.75	3.85	4.02	3.92
Production	***16.1***	***17.0***	***18.9***	***19.5***
Imports	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.003
SUPPLY	**16.9**	**17.7**	**21.6**	**22.2**
Food Industry	3.2	3.45	3.5	3.4
Feed Usage	2.15	2.2	2.1	2.05
Seeds	0.85	0.90	1.3	1.3
Exports	***9.7***	***10.0***	***13.5***	***14.5***
Losses	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
DEMAND	**16.2**	**16.9**	**20.8**	**21.5**
Ending stocks	***0.74***	***0.89***	***0.84***	***0.74***
Barley	**March**	**April**	**March**	**April**
Opening stocks	***0.35***	***0.40***	***0.28***	***0.28***
Area seeded, Th ha	1275	1360	2005	2005
Area harvested, Th ha	1270	1350	1590	1650
Yield, Mt/ha	3.21	3.26	3.37	3.33
Production	***4.07***	***4.40***	***5.35***	***5.50***
Imports	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002
SUPPLY	**4.4**	**4.8**	**5.6**	**5.8**
Food Industry	0.33	0.33	0.35	0.35
Feed Usage	2.25	2.2	2.15	2.15
Seeds	0.21	0.23	0.30	0.30
Exports	***1.20***	***1.60***	***2.40***	***2.50***
Losses	0.08	0.08	0.085	0.085
DEMAND	**4.07**	**4.44**	**5.28**	**5.38**
Ending stocks	***0.35***	***0.36***	***0.35***	***0.40***
Corn	**March**	**April**	**March**	**April**
Opening stocks	***4.01***	***4.06***	***10.23***	***10.23***
Area seeded, Th ha	3500	3500	4555	4555
Area harvested, Th ha	3452	3452	4220	4220
Yield, Mt/ha	6.2	6.2	6.28	6.28
Production	***21.40***	***21.40***	***26.50***	***26.50***
Imports	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
SUPPLY	**25.44**	**25.49**	**36.76**	**36.76**
Food Industry	0.30	0.30	0.32	0.32
Feed Usage	4.85	4.90	4.75	4.80
Seeds	0.15	0.15	0.18	0.18
Exports	***19.00***	***19.00***	***26.50***	***26.50***
Losses	0.50	0.40	1.00	0.90
DEMAND	**24.80**	**24.75**	**32.75**	**32.70**
Ending stocks	***0.65***	***0.75***	***4.01***	***4.06***
Total grain	**March**	**April**	**March**	**April**
Opening stocks	***5.75***	***5.75***	***13.91***	***13.91***
Area seeded, Th ha	9759	9934	13946	13946
Area harvested, Th ha	9683	9836	11136	11466
Yield, Mt/ha	4.45	4.49	4.68	4.62
Production	***43.09***	***44.18***	***52.17***	***52.92***
Imports	0.164	0.164	0.17	0.17
SUPPLY	**49.00**	**50.09**	**66.24**	**66.99**
Food Industry	4.45	4.70	4.83	4.73
Feed Usage	9.67	9.72	9.47	9.47
Seeds	1.33	1.40	1.89	1.84
Exports	***30.35***	***31.07***	***42.81***	***43.92***
Losses	0.89	0.79	1.50	1.30
DEMAND	**46.70**	**47.69**	**60.50**	**61.25**
Ending stocks	***2.30***	***2.40***	***5.75***	***5.75***

ROMANIA - MMT	2023/24		2022/23	
Wheat	**Apr-23**	**May-23**	**Apr-23**	**May-23**
Opening stocks	***0.52***	***0.92***	***0.17***	***0.17***
Area seeded, Th ha	2105	2102	2188	2188
Yield, Mt/ha	4.60	4.66	4.18	4.18
Production	***9.68***	***9.79***	***9.15***	***9.15***
Imports	0.60	0.50	0.80	1.20
SUPPLY	**10.80**	**11.21**	**10.12**	**10.52**
Food Industry	2.70	2.70	2.70	2.70
Feed Usage	0.80	0.80	0.90	0.90
Seeds	0.38	0.38	0.40	0.40
Exports	***6.60***	***6.90***	***5.50***	***5.50***
Losses	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
DEMAND	**10.58**	**10.88**	**9.60**	**9.60**
Ending stocks	***0.22***	***0.33***	***0.52***	***0.92***
Barley	**Apr-23**	**May-23**	**Apr-23**	**May-23**
Opening stocks	***0.49***	***0.52***	***0.13***	***0.13***
Area seeded, Th ha	460	479	473	473
Yield, Mt/ha	4.26	4.24	4.21	4.21
Production	***1.95***	***2.03***	***1.99***	***1.99***
Imports	0.20	0.15	0.27	0.30
SUPPLY	**2.64**	**2.70**	**2.39**	**2.42**
Food Industry	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Feed Usage	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
Seeds	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16
Exports	***1.65***	***1.75***	***1.30***	***1.30***
Losses	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
DEMAND	**2.25**	**2.35**	**1.91**	**1.91**
Ending stocks	***0.39***	***0.35***	***0.49***	***0.52***
Corn	**Apr-23**	**May-23**	**Apr-23**	**May-23**
Opening stocks	***0.19***	***0.19***	***0.14***	***0.14***
Area seeded, Th ha	2450	2384	2484	2484
Yield, Mt/ha	4.60	5.49	3.00	3.00
Production	***11.27***	***13.09***	***7.45***	***7.45***
Imports	1.00	0.70	1.75	1.75
SUPPLY	**12.46**	**13.98**	**9.34**	**9.34**
Food Industry	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
Feed Usage	5.50	5.50	5.40	5.40
Industrial Usage	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
Seeds	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.12
Exports	***5.70***	***6.90***	***2.60***	***2.60***
Losses	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09
DEMAND	***12.35***	***13.55***	***9.16***	***9.16***
Ending stocks	***0.11***	***0.43***	***0.19***	***0.19***
Grain (W+B+C)	**Apr-23**	**May-23**	**Apr-23**	**May-23**
Opening stocks	***1.19***	***1.62***	***0.45***	***0.45***
Area seeded, Th ha	5015	4965	5145	5145
Yield, Mt/ha	4.49	4.80	3.80	3.80
Production	***22.90***	***24.91***	***18.58***	***18.58***
Imports	1.80	1.35	2.82	3.25
SUPPLY	**25.89**	**27.88**	**21.85**	**22.28**
Food Industry	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60
Feed Usage	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.60
Seeds	0.64	0.64	0.68	0.68
Exports	***13.95***	***15.55***	***9.40***	***9.40***
Losses	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24
DEMAND	**25.18**	**26.78**	**20.66**	**20.66**
Ending stocks	***0.71***	***1.10***	***1.19***	***1.62***

RUSSIA - MMT	2023/24	2022/23	
Wheat	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***27.63***	***14.69***	***14.69***
Area seeded, Th ha	28600	29500	29514
Area harvested, Th ha	28300	28800	29363
Yield, Mt/ha	2.92	3.45	3.55
Production	***82.6***	***99.4***	***104.2***
Imports	110.87	0.4	119.33
SUPPLY	**114.5**	**114.5**	**114.5**
Food Industry	20	20	20
Feed Usage	20.2	20	20.2
Seeds	7.30	7.50	7.50
Exports	***45.00***	***41.00***	***42.00***
Losses	2.00	2.00	2.00
DEMAND	**94.5**	**90.5**	**91.7**
Ending stocks	***16.17***	***23.95***	***27.63***
Barley	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***4.43***	***1.37***	***1.37***
Area seeded, Th ha	7900	8000	7975
Area harvested, Th ha	7850	7750	7930
Yield, Mt/ha	2.44	2.8	2.95
Production	***19.2***	***21.7***	***23.4***
Imports	0.04	0.04	0.04
SUPPLY	**23.6**	**23.1**	**24.8**
Food Industry	1.6	1.6	1.6
Feed Usage	11.8	11.8	11.8
Seeds	1.40	1.40	1.40
Exports	***6.50***	***6.30***	***5.50***
Losses	0.07	0.07	0.07
DEMAND	**21.4**	**21.2**	**20.4**
Ending stocks	***2.25***	***1.94***	***4.43***
Corn	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***1.68***	***1.00***	***1.00***
Area seeded, Th ha	2700	2840	2852
Area harvested, Th ha	2650	2700	2642
Yield, Mt/ha	5.37	5.7	6
Production	***14.2***	***15.4***	***15.9***
Imports	0.03	0.03	0.03
SUPPLY	**15.94**	**16.42**	**16.88**
Food Industry	1.5	1.5	1.5
Feed Usage	8.8	9	8.8
Seeds	0.50	0.50	0.50
Exports	***4.00***	***4.00***	***4.20***
Losses	0.20	0.20	0.20
DEMAND	**15**	**15.2**	**15.2**
Ending stocks	***0.94***	***1.22***	***1.68***
Total grain	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***35.90***	***17.70***	***17.70***
Area seeded, Th ha	46150	47500	47514
Yield, Mt/ha	2.69	3.22	3.36
Production	***127.90***	***149.20***	***157.70***
Imports	0.5	0.5	0.5
SUPPLY	**164.3**	**167.4**	**175.9**
Food Industry	26.5	26.5	26.5
Feed Usage	44.8	44.8	44.8
Seeds	12.7	13	13
Exports	***57.00***	***53.00***	***53.40***
Losses	2.3	2.3	2.3
DEMAND	**143.3**	**139.6**	**140**
Ending stocks	***21.00***	***27.80***	***35.90***

** incl. Customs Union*

BULGARIA - MMT	2023/24	2022/23	
Wheat	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***1.38***	***0.06***	***0.06***
Area seeded, Th ha	1209	1208	1208
Yield, Mt/ha	5.01	5.26	5.26
Production	***6.05***	***6.35***	***6.35***
Imports	0.05	0.05	0.05
SUPPLY	**7.48**	**6.46**	**6.46**
Food Industry	0.83	0.80	0.80
Feed Usage	0.50	0.52	0.52
Seeds	0.26	0.26	0.26
Exports	***5.65***	***4.80***	***3.50***
DEMAND	**7.24**	**6.38**	**5.08**
Ending stocks	***0.24***	***0.08***	***1.38***
Barley	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***0.21***	***0.06***	***0.06***
Area seeded, Th ha	115	124	124
Yield, Mt/ha	4.74	5.00	5.00
Production	***0.55***	***0.62***	***0.62***
Imports	0.01	0.01	0.01
SUPPLY	**0.76**	**0.69**	**0.69**
Food Industry	0.08	0.07	0.07
Feed Usage	0.15	0.18	0.18
Seeds	0.03	0.03	0.03
Exports	***0.45***	***0.35***	***0.20***
DEMAND	**0.70**	**0.63**	**0.48**
Ending stocks	***0.06***	***0.06***	***0.21***
Corn	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***0.67***	***0.84***	***0.84***
Area seeded, Th ha	525	525	525
Yield, Mt/ha	6.15	4.80	4.80
Production	***3.23***	***2.52***	***2.52***
Imports	0.03	0.03	0.03
SUPPLY	**3.92**	**3.38**	**3.38**
Food Industry	0.57	0.60	0.60
Feed Usage	0.75	0.90	0.90
Seeds	0.02	0.02	0.02
Exports	***2.35***	***1.50***	***1.20***
DEMAND	**3.68**	**3.02**	**2.72**
Ending stocks	***0.24***	***0.04***	***0.67***
Grain (W+B+C)	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	***2.26***	***0.96***	***0.96***
Area seeded, Th ha	1849	1857	1857
Yield, Mt/ha	5.31	5.11	5.11
Production	***9.83***	***9.49***	***9.49***
Imports	0.08	0.08	0.08
SUPPLY	**12.16**	**10.53**	**10.53**
Food Industry	1.47	1.47	1.47
Feed Usage	1.40	1.60	1.60
Seeds	0.30	0.30	0.30
Exports	***8.45***	***6.65***	***4.90***
DEMAND	**11.62**	**10.02**	**8.27**
Ending stocks	***0.54***	***0.51***	***2.26***

KAZAKHSTAN - MMT	2023/24	2022/23	
Total grain	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	2.77	1.26	1.26
Area seeded, mil ha	16.20	16.00	16.11
Yield, Mt/ha	1.26	1.48	1.36
Production	**20.10**	**22.20**	**22.00**
Imports	1.50	2.10	2.10
SUPPLY	24.80	25.60	25.40
Food Industry	3.95	3.67	3.67
Feed Usage	5.77	5.60	5.60
Seeds	2.30	2.30	2.30
Exports total (Incl. flour)	**10.96**	**10.46**	**10.61**
grain	7.75	7.25	7.40
flour	2.25	2.25	2.25
Losses	0.40	0.40	0.40
DEMAND	23.38	22.46	22.61
Ending stocks	1.39	3.09	2.77
Wheat	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	2.86	0.92	0.92
Area seeded, mil ha	12.69	12.60	12.89
Yield, Mt/ha	12.60	1.33	1.28
Production	**14.50**	**16.50**	**16.40**
Imports	1.00	1.50	2.00
SUPPLY	18.40	18.93	19.30
Food Industry	2.85	2.70	2.70
Feed Usage	2.50	2.30	2.30
Seeds	1.70	1.70	1.70
Exports total (Incl. flour)	**9.96**	**9.46**	**9.46**
grain	6.75	6.25	6.25
flour	2.25	2.25	2.25
Losses	0.30	0.30	0.30
DEMAND	17.31	16.46	16.46
Ending stocks	1.04	2.46	2.86
Barley	**March**	**February**	**March**
Beginning stocks	0.28	0.34	0.34
Area seeded, mil ha	2.39	2.35	2.19
Yield, Mt/ha	1.34	1.47	1.51
Production	**3.10**	**3.40**	**3.30**
Imports	0.10	0.10	0.10
SUPPLY	3.53	3.82	3.73
Food Industry	0.20	0.20	0.20
Feed Usage	2.00	2.10	2.10
Seeds	0.33	0.30	0.30
Exports	**0.70**	**0.80**	**0.85**
DEMAND	3.23	3.40	3.45
Ending stocks	0.30	0.42	0.28

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Office 22, Obolonskiy Ave 26, 04205, Kyiv, Ukraine

Office 5, Levko Lukianenko (Tymoshenko) st 29 V, 04205, Kyiv, Ukraine

Mon-Fri: from 9:00 to 18:00

For emails:
uac-info@ukragroconsult.org

For media inquiries:
press@ukragroconsult.org

+380 (99) 220 72 42
+380 (44) 364 55 85
+380 (44) 364 61 18

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