

Reference Date: 22-January-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Increasing number of food insecure people following devastating earthquake
- Local production to be supported by provision of inputs and seeds

Rising number of food insecure people after devastating earthquake

A worsening of the food security situation has been reported in the urban areas following the disruption of food chain mechanisms and market infrastructure, the loss of income generating sources and also the lack of liquidity and bank facilities, especially in Port-au-Prince, Carrefour, Leogane, Delmas and Jacmel.

The destruction of roads, bridges and stock houses is hampering the supply of food to the markets, therefore, food prices are increasing. However, it is not clear to what extent the population, including the high income households, still has access to markets.

Thousands of people are leaving the Capital city towards rural areas, where there is improved food availability and higher security levels.

In fact, cereal production in 2009 was generally good, due to a milder hurricane season, with satisfactory production levels for the first maize and rice season.

As an immediate response, an FAO/WFP jointly approved Emergency Operation (EMOP) will support 2 million people requiring food aid with assistance for an initial period of six months.

The country relies on imports to satisfy its food needs importing approximately 60 percent of the national consumption requirements.

Assistance will be needed to support national agricultural production

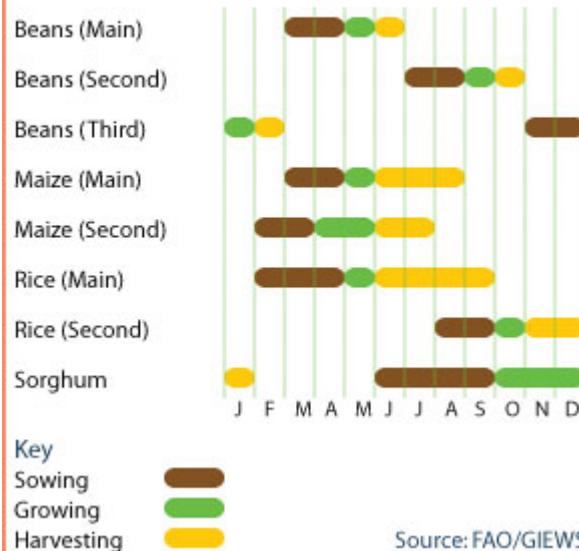
Damages to the agricultural infrastructure have not yet been assessed due to the urgency of focusing the overall response on rescuing human lives. The next planting season for maize and rice begins in March in the lowlands, while planting in cooler and wetter highlands will start as early as February. The average planted area with cereals is 459 000 hectares of which almost 60 percent is dedicated to maize and approximately 10 percent to rice paddy.

Prices of local and imported staple food

As of the end of 2009 and the first days of 2010, in the markets of Port-au-Prince and Jacmel, prices of mainly consumed staple food (local and imported rice and maize) were showing a relatively stable or even a downward trend.

Following the earthquake of 12 January 2010, prices have significantly increased although the magnitude of this rise has not yet been estimated in the different areas of the country. However, due to the great number of people who lost their purchasing power, current food

Crop calendar Haiti



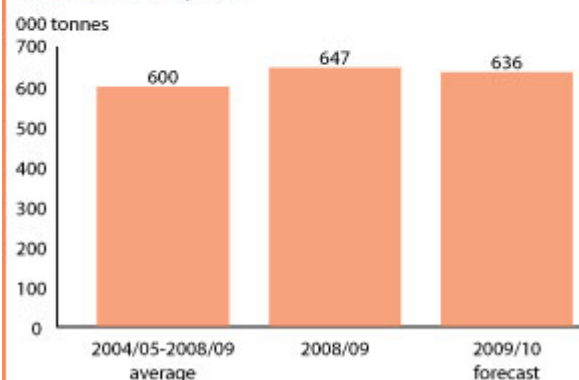
Haiti

Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 forecast	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Maize	205	200	230	15
Sorghum	88	88	100	14
Rice (in milled terms)	62	53	60	13
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	354	341	390	14

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

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

prices might be the result of very few transaction movements.

