Data Notes

Data Sources

Most U.S. commodity supply and use information is obtained from USDA reports issued by the Economic Research Service, the World Agricultural Outlook Board, the Farm Service Agency, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service. This information is supplemented with information from a number of other public and private sources, including the Energy Information Administration, state governments, and trade groups. The international models use the USDA PSD database as the primary source of supply and utilization data. This is then supplemented with the FAO database and other specialized data sources when needed. For example, major sources for the Brazil module include the Brazilian Institute for Geography and Statistics (IBGE); National Company of Food Supply (CONAB); Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa); Ministry of Development, Industry and Trade (MDIC); Sugarcane Industry Association (UNICA); National Agency of Petroleum, Natural Gas, and Biofuels (ANP); and the Center for Advanced Studies and Applied Economics (CEPEA).

Macroeconomic variables are from the International Financial Statistics database, which is extended using IHS Global Insight projections. Population data and projections are from the U.S. Bureau of the Census International Database. Policies relating to domestic support, border protection, and export subsidies are from the World Trade Organization database. Costs and prices are from various sources, including government as well as industry publications.

U.S. Marketing Year Definitions for Specified Commodities

Barley: June 1 to May 31.
Corn for Grain: September 1 to August 31.
Cotton: August 1 to July 31.
Oats: June 1 to May 31.
Peanuts: August 1 to July 31.
Rice: August 1 to July 31.
Sorghum for Grain: September 1 to August 31.
Soybeans: September 1 to August 31.
Sugar: October 1 to September 30.
Sunflower: September 1 to August 31.
Wheat: June 1 to May 31.

Livestock, dairy complex and international ethanol: years are calendar years.

Government outlays are on a fiscal-year basis (Oct. 1—Sept. 30, with the second year being the one used as an identifier—for example, FY 2007 = Oct. 1, 2006–Sept. 30, 2007).

Farm income data are on a calendar-year basis.

International Marketing Year Definitions for Specified Commodities

Grains, rice, oilseeds, and cotton: USDA-FAS PS&D data are used, which are in local marketing years. Local marketing years differ by country and by commodity. The first year listed is the beginning year of a country’s local marketing year for that commodity (for example, 1990/91 represents local marketing year starting in 1990 and ending in 1991), except in the case of southern hemisphere countries, which use the second year to denote the beginning of the local marketing year.

Sugar: the year listed is the last year of the countries’ local marketing year (for example, 1990 represents 1989/90).

Livestock and dairy complex: years are calendar years.