



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

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## **Argentina**

### **Oilseeds and Products**

#### **January 2000 Oilseeds and Products Update**

**1999**

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**Report Highlights:**

**Recent rainfall has improved the outlook for Argentine soybean production, and was especially beneficial for second crop beans. If the expected increase in planted area is confirmed, production should be in the neighborhood of last year's record output.**

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Includes PSD changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Buenos Aires [AR1], AR

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## Executive Summary

Country wide, about 86 percent of the expected total soybean plantings have been realized, and the precipitation that has covered most of the growing regions has boosted the prospects for completion. Regarding planting percentages by specific crop, about 88 percent of the first crop and about 85 percent of the second crop were finished as of late December 1999.

Some 667,000 hectares of first crop remain to be planted, and more than 50 percent of this amount lies in the northern parts of Argentina, primarily the provinces of Chaco, Salta, Santiago del Estero and Tucuman which have been dry and in which planting progress has been slower than in the previous year. In those provinces, planted area is expected to increase year to year, as soybeans and other crops offer the farmer better returns over competing crops such as cotton.

Regarding second crop beans, the areas that remain are spread across the main soybean regions of Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Santa Fe provinces. Using the most recent figures, about 29 percent of the harvest is expected to be second crop beans, primarily following wheat. In the current year, nearly all provinces will increase plantings if estimates are realized.

Due to the better conditions that now exist, especially because of improved soil moisture for second crop beans, post increases its production estimate to 19.0 mmt and planted area to 8.2 million hectares.

New export sales of soybeans have been slow, with only 2,600 metric tons being sold in the most recent week. However, total exports for the current local marketing year are stronger to date than in 1998/99, and now total nearly 3.4 million metric tons. Purchases by the crushing industry, at 14.5 mmt, are greater than at the same date in the previous year by about 600,000 metric tons.

**Table 1. Soybean Supply and Demand**

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Oilseed, Soybean				(1000 HA)	(1000 MT)
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		04/1998		04/1999		04/2000
Area Planted	7000	7176	7300	8009	7300	8200
Area Harvested	6954	6954	7500	7740	7800	7950
Beginning Stocks	393	393	570	570	310	310
Production	19500	19500	19900	19900	18500	19000
MY Imports	1250	1250	500	500	500	500
MY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL SUPPLY</b>	<b>21143</b>	<b>21143</b>	<b>20970</b>	<b>20970</b>	<b>19310</b>	<b>19810</b>
MY Exports	3231	3231	3300	3300	2800	2800
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crush Dom. Consumption	16782	16782	16800	16800	15700	16200
Food Use Dom. Consump.	10	10	10	10	10	10
Feed,Seed,Waste Dm.Cn.	550	550	550	550	550	550
<b>TOTAL Dom. Consumption</b>	<b>17342</b>	<b>17342</b>	<b>17360</b>	<b>17360</b>	<b>16260</b>	<b>16760</b>
Ending Stocks	570	570	310	310	250	250
<b>TOTAL DISTRIBUTION</b>	<b>21143</b>	<b>21143</b>	<b>20970</b>	<b>20970</b>	<b>19310</b>	<b>19810</b>
Calendar Year Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	725	0	3194	0	3000
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0