



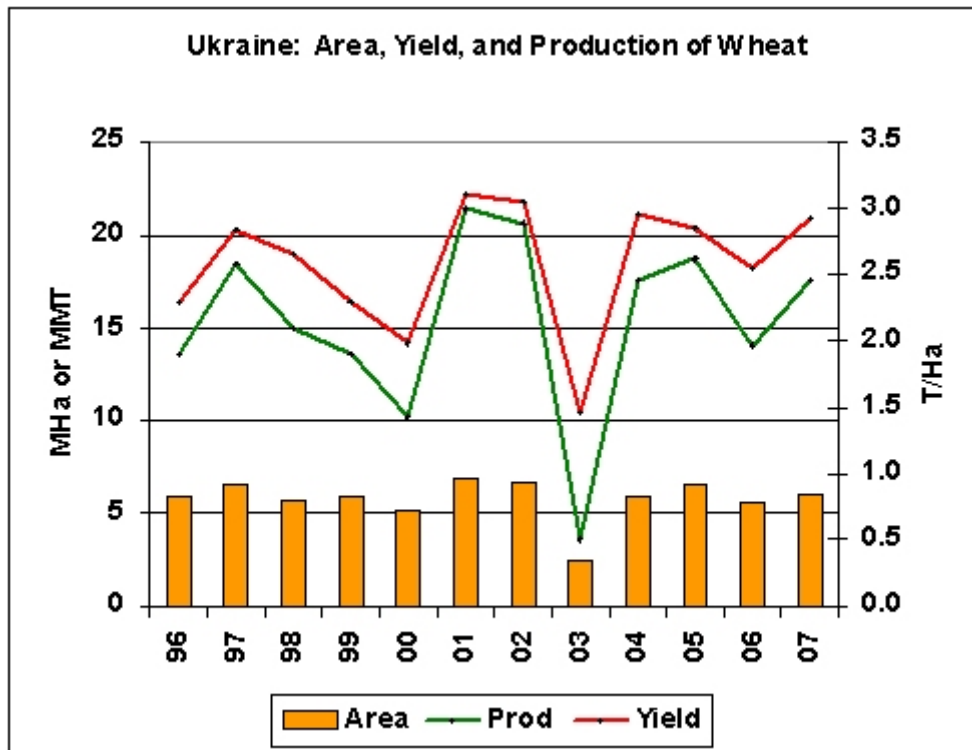
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World Agricultural Production

Ukraine Wheat Condition Favorable with Higher Area



The USDA estimates production of Ukraine wheat for 2007/08 at 17.5 million tons (against 14.0 million last year), from harvested area of 6.0 (5.5) million hectares. Winter wheat accounts for about 95 percent of total wheat output. Yield is estimated at 2.92 tons per hectare, 15 percent above last year and 13 percent above the 5-year average. Personnel from the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service conducted crop-assessment travel in the main wheat-production region of Ukraine during mid-April. Conditions for winter wheat were observed to be very good. Although farmers expressed concern about declining soil moisture, crops were showing no signs of moisture stress in mid-April and have received light rainfall since that time in most areas. The team saw little evidence of either poor fall emergence or frost damage. Because of favorable fall moisture conditions and mild winter weather, winterkill (which includes losses due to both fall dryness and winter frost) is estimated to be below average.

