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World Agricultural Production

Iran Wheat: Drought Reduces Crop

Total wheat production in Iran in 2008/09 is estimated at 10.0 million tons, down 2.0 million or 17 percent from last month and down 33 percent from last year. Harvested area is estimated at 5.9 million hectares, down 15 percent from last year, while yield is expected to decline by 21 percent to 1.71 tons per hectare. Wheat yields were affected by a serious drought and high temperatures during the 2008/09 growing season. Winter grain growing conditions over much of Iran were significantly worse than last year owing to prolonged late season drought. Most of Iran's wheat growing regions had inadequate planting rains, with rainfall averaging 50 percent of normal during the important September through November period. Late rainfall did arrive in

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