

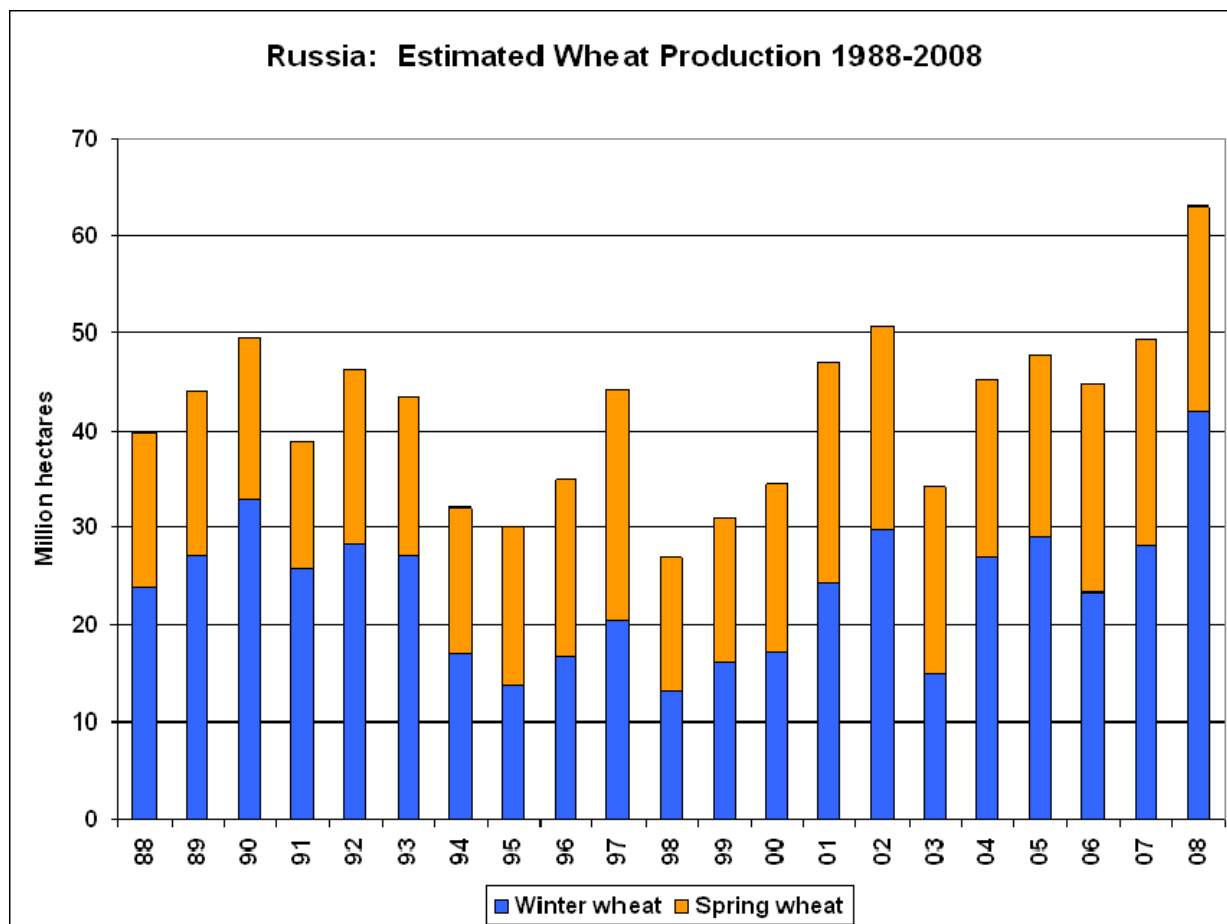


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World Agricultural Production



Russia Wheat: Record Estimated Production for 2008/09

The USDA estimates Russian wheat production for 2008/09 at 63.0 million tons, up 2.0 million or 3 percent from last month and up 13.6 million or 28 percent from last year. The month-to-month increase in estimated production is based on harvest progress reports from the State Statistical Committee indicating higher-than-expected wheat yields in Siberia. Total wheat area is estimated at 26.7 million hectares against 24.5 million last year. Outstanding yields in the Southern, Central, and Volga Districts (which account for virtually all of the country's winter wheat) compensated for localized drought-related yield losses of spring wheat in parts of the Siberian and Ural Districts. The estimated 2008/09 total-wheat yield of 2.36 tons per hectare exceeds the previous record (set in 1990) by 15 percent. The estimated 63.0-million-ton crop for 2008/09 also sets a new record for production. The previous record of 61.5 million tons was

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board

