

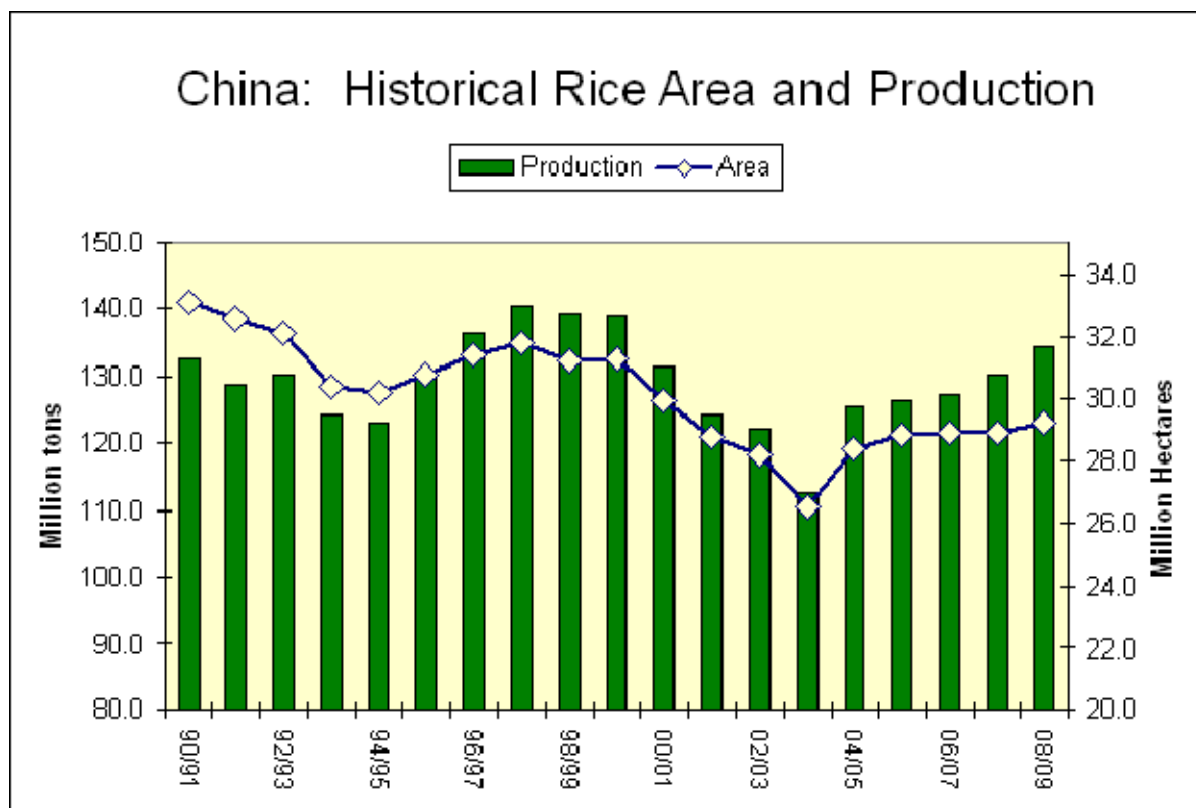


United States
Department of
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Foreign
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World Agricultural Production



Higher China Rice Area and Record Yield for 2008/09

China's 2008/09 milled rice production is estimated at 135.1 million tons (193.0 million tons paddy or rough basis), up 4.2 million from last month and up 4.9 million or 4 percent from last year. This is the largest crop since 1999/00. Area is estimated at 29.2 million hectares, up 1 percent from last year. The estimated yield of 6.61 tons per hectare (rough) is up 3 percent from last year's record yield. The revision from last month is based on provincial harvest data and reports from China's Ministry of Agriculture and other Chinese sources that indicate higher grain yield and production. In December, the Ministry of Agriculture stated that China's total grain production reached a record 528.5 million tons, up about 27 million tons from last year. Paddy rice historically accounts for 36 to 38 percent of China's total grain output

China produces three separate rice crops. Early rice and late rice (usually grown as a double crop) are grown in central and southern China and together account for about 36 percent of total

