

Crop Situation and Outlook cont'd

Rice: Rice production in 1983-84 increased to 3.5 million tonnes compared to 3.4 (revised) million tonnes in the previous year. The area planted to the rice crop also increased slightly to 2 million hectares compared with 1.98 million hectares during 1982-83, due primarily to good weather conditions throughout the maturity period. The Rice Export Corporation of Pakistan procured 1.1 million tonnes of rice from the 1983-84 crop for export shipments. From the current procurement and carryover stocks from the previous year the Rice Export Corporation is reported to have already exported 1.15 million tonnes valued at about US\$400 million. Rice was exported to Saudi Arabia, Iran, Kuwait, Cameroon, Ivory Coast and Cuba.

Coarse Grain: Corn is the principal coarse grain followed by sorghum, millet and barley. The aggregate production during 1982-83 has been estimated at 1.4 million tonnes from 1.83 million hectares. The 1983-84 coarse grains total production is forecast to remain virtually stable. Corn production of 1 million tonnes in 1983-84 was a record harvest.

Oilseeds: Pakistan continues to be deficient in production of oilseeds. The aggregate production of principal oilseeds (cottonseeds, rapeseed, mustard, peanut and sesame) during 1983-84 is estimated at around 1.4 million tonnes from a total of 2.82 million hectares. The production suffered due to heavy rains, flooding and insect pest damage. The domestic edible oil production is estimated at 209,000 tonnes against a consumption requirement of 900,000 tonnes. Consequently, Pakistan will be importing close to 700,000 tonnes of edible oil (soyabean oil and palm oil) during 1984-85.

2. Foreign Exchange Situation

No food imports except edible oil are being planned for 1984-85. Edible oil imports of approximately \$200 million are expected to be financed under consortium aid, US PL480 program and CCC credit while palm oil will continue to be purchased from Malaysia against cash foreign exchange. Pakistan has been and will continue to receive bilateral and multilateral financing for most of its development projects including agricultural inputs where possible.

3. Fertilizer Situation

Pakistan is now a surplus producer of nitrogen (urea) fertilizer and exported in the first half of 1984 a limited quantity of urea fertilizer. The following is the country's fertilizer balance sheet:

	<u>Domestic Production</u>		<u>Imports</u>		<u>Consumption</u>	
	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
	thousands of nutrient tonnes					
Nitrogen	700.1	999.4	88.8	133.3	832.7	952.3
Phosphate	66.9	73.6	28.4	249.3	225.6	265.3
Potash	-	-	15.5	21.4	21.8	25.7