

K E N Y A

Economic classification:	Low Income economy	
Oil exporter or importer (net):	Importer	
Annual per capita income:	US\$394	1987
Annual per capita GNP	US\$336	1987
Average annual growth	4.8%	1985-87
Annual inflation rate	11%	1977-87
Annual inflation rate (current)	7.1%	1988
Volume of imports	1.739 billion US\$	1987
Of which food	6.8%	1987
Of which fuels	19.7%	1987
Principal foreign exchange earning export:	Coffee	
Debt service as % of exports	40%	1987
Population	22.6 million	1988
Annual population growth	3.8%	1988

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Crop Situation and Outlook

Maize

After a record harvest in the 1986/87 period, production decreased during 1987/88. The combined effect of late and unevenly distributed rains, followed by below normal rains led to a drop in maize production from 2,700,000 tonnes to 2,160,000 tonnes. The outlook for 1988/89 looks favourable and already the estimated production estimates have reached 2,864,930 tonnes. Seeded acreage is increasing substantially and approximately 484,980 hectares has been put under maize, although exact figures are difficult to gauge due to the amount of smallholder activity in this subsector.

Wheat

In 1987, wheat production is estimated to have declined from 258,000 tonnes produced in 1986 to about 234,000 tonnes in 1987. This decrease in production is due to inadequate and erratic rainfall in 1987. In addition, it appears that wheat growing activity lost its competitiveness in some areas to other products such as barley owing to delayed and irregular payments to producing, (a familiar problem in this region). The shortfall in production was however compensated by additional wheat imports. Wheat acreage has increased marginally over the last few years and is now approximately 149,700 hectares.

Oilseeds

Increase in acreage of oil crops is difficult to estimate as it is mainly grown by smallholders.