

## Z I M B A B W E

Economic classification:	Middle Income economy	
Oil exporter or importer (net):	Importer	
Annual per capita income:	US\$416	1984
Annual per capita GNP	US\$277	1984
Average annual growth	0.7%	1960-80
Annual inflation rate (current)	18.0%	1984
Volume of imports	1.1 billion US\$	1984
Of which food	2%	
Of which fuels	17%	
Principal foreign exchange		
earning export:	Tobacco, gold, minerals	
Debt service as % of GNP	5.5%	1984
Debt service as % of exports	25.0%	1984
Population	8.7 million	1984
Annual population growth	4.3%	1984
Annual Consumption:		
Flour	240,000 tonnes or 27.5 kg/capita	1984
Meat	80,000 tonnes or 9 kg/capita	1984
Vegetable Oil	62,000 tonnes or 7 kg/capita	1984

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

#### 1. Crop Situation and Outlook

Following successive droughts in 1984, Zimbabwe was compelled to import 268,985 tonnes of corn (maize), mainly yellow No.2 U.S. corn. The winter wheat crop, due to a shortage of water for irrigation, was under 100,000 tonnes or just over half the national requirement. Aid from countries such as the EEC, Spain and Australia went towards meeting the shortfall.

The situation in 1985, following good rains, resulted in most major dams being full and crops were up to expectations. Estimates for maize deliveries to the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) vary from 1.6-2 million tonnes. A commercial bank estimates deliveries to reach around 1.6 million tonnes with commercial farmers contributing 900,000 tonnes and communal farmers 700,000 tonnes. This represents an increase of about 150% over last year in deliveries by the communal farmers. It is expected that a high proportion of the communal crop will be retained in rural areas for local consumption. This indicates a total maize crop in excess of 2 million tonnes. Wheat production for 1984/85 is estimated at 212,000 tonnes or about 40,000 tonnes short of requirements. However, stocks are estimated to be about 14,000 tonnes. With 650 wheat and barley growers in Zimbabwe there are plans to increase the wheat area by another 50,000 hectares in the next five years costing US\$16 million. The local wheat yield is around 5 tonnes per hectare. The main problem regarding increased wheat production is the pre-planting price which growers regard as too low.