

Brazil Soybean Estimate Unchanged at 178.0 Million Tons

The 2025/26 Brazil soybean estimate was left unchanged this week at 178.0 million tons with a neutral bias.

Brazil Corn Estimate Lowered 1.0 mt to 132.0 Million

The 2025/26 Brazil corn estimate was lowered 1.0 million tons this week to 132.0 million with a neutral to lower bias.

Middle East Conflict Could Impact 2026/27 Crop Selection in Brazil

A study by the Mato Grosso Institute of Agricultural Economics (Imea) looked at the strong increase in price of urea and phosphate fertilizers due to the bottleneck in the Strait of Hormuz and how it might impact the 2026/27 crops in Mato Grosso. While the study focused on Mato Grosso, the conclusions could probably be applied to the Brazilian agricultural sector in general.

According to Imea, the fertilizer crisis hits the market at a sensitive time for Brazilian supply. Nitrogen fertilizer imports, which are used for corn production, usually gain strength from March with higher volumes in the third and fourth quarters. Phosphate imports, which are mainly used for soybean production, also start in March and peak during the second and third quarters.

Urea prices have increased approximately 30% to 35% since the start of the conflict in Iran, but according to Imea, farmers in the state have only purchased approximately 6% of their urea needs for the 2026/27 growing season, well below the historical average for this period, leaving them exposed to price swings.

For soybeans the concern is focused on phosphate fertilizers. Last year, Brazil imported 40% of this type of input from Egypt and Israel. In Mato Grosso, the dependence is even greater: the two countries accounted together for 58.9% of the state's purchases of phosphates.

The price increases are hitting Brazilian farmers at the beginning of the buying cycle, and it could impact their crop selection for 2026/27. The first impact may be that farmers in southern Brazil choose to reduce their first corn crop acreage in favor of more soybeans and shift some of the first corn crop to safrinha instead. The purchasing of nitrogen fertilizer for safrinha corn

production occurs later in the year and fertilizer prices might decline by then. Nearly all the first corn crop production is consumed by the livestock industry in southern Brazil. Nearly all of Brazil's corn exports come from the safrinha production.

Argentina Soybeans Estimate Unchanged at 47.0 Million Tons

The 2025/26 Argentina soybean estimate was left unchanged this week at 47.0 million tons with a neutral bias.

Argentina Corn Estimate Unchanged at 53.0 Million Tons

The 2025/26 Argentina corn estimate was left unchanged this week at 53.0 million tons with a neutral bias.

2025/26 South American Soybean Production						
<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Estimate</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u> Million metric tons	<u>2025/26</u>		<u>2024/25</u>
				<u>USDA</u>	<u>Conab</u>	<u>USDA</u>
Brazil	178.0	181.0	173.0	180.0	177.8	171.5
Argentina	47.0	49.0	43.0	48.0		51.1
Paraguay	11.5	12.0	11.0	11.5		10.2
Bolivia	4.0	4.5	3.5	3.9		3.7
Uruguay	<u>3.5</u>	<u>4.0</u>	<u>3.0</u>	<u>3.1</u>		<u>4.2</u>
Total	244.0	250.0	232.5	246.5		240.7

2025/26 South American Corn Production						
<u>Country</u>	<u>Current Estimate</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u> Million metric tons	<u>2025/26</u>		<u>2024/25</u>
				<u>USDA</u>	<u>Conab</u>	<u>USDA</u>
Brazil	132.0	135.0	128.0	132.0	138.2	136.0
Argentina	53.0	56.0	50.0	52.0		50.0
Paraguay	5.3	6.0	5.0	5.2		5.6
Bolivia	1.4	1.8	1.1	1.1		1.1
Uruguay	<u>1.8</u>	<u>2.1</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>1.8</u>		<u>1.9</u>
Total	193.5	200.9	185.6	192.1		194.6