

Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Honduras

June-August 2010

Key Messages

- Prices of rice and maize have shown a stable trend in recent months, while red beans prices increased due to loss in production caused by heavy rains.
- Landslides and floods that followed tropical storm Agatha caused widespread damage.
- Food security was negatively affected by floods, however agencies estimate a moderate hunger problem in the long term.
- The government is assisting the population to recover from the damages caused by floods also through the distribution of inputs.

Background

In Honduras total population was 7.241 million with an annual growth rate of 1%. Undernourished population was estimated at 12%.

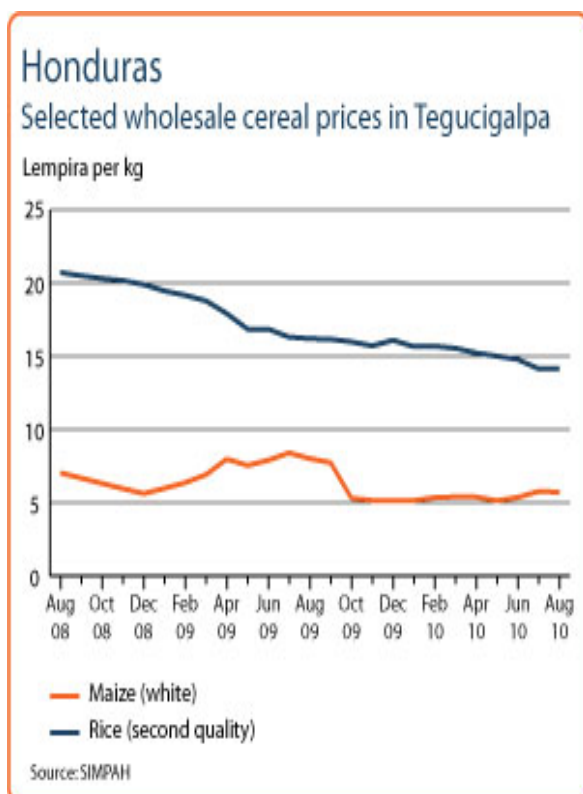
Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population (millions) - 2008 (WB)	7.319
Population growth rate - 2008 (WB)	1%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP - 2008 (WB)	3830
Population below 1\$ PPP per day - 2006 (MDGI)	18%
Rural population - 2008 (WB)	52%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP) - 2008 (WB)	13%

Food Consumption	
Undernourished Population - 2005/2007 (FAO)	12%
Cereal share in total dietary energy consumption - 2007 (FAO)	44%
Meat share in total dietary energy consumption - 2007 (FAO)	6%

Health Indicators	
Pop. with sustainable access to improved sanitation - 2008 (WHO)	71%
Life expectancy at birth (years) both sexes - 2008 (WHO)	70
Pop. with access to improved drinking water sources - 2008 (WHO)	86%
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged >= 15 years - 2007 (WHO)	0%

Prices

Maize (white) prices in Tegucigalpa have been generally stable in the last months ranging between 5.35 Lempira/Kg in June and 5.75 in July and August. Similarly, rice prices in the capital city remained stable in the last months at 14.13 Lempiras/kg in July/August. On the other hand, red bean prices have continued to increase since May reaching 22.42 Lempiras/Kg in August. The increase in prices of legumes and vegetable in recent months was mainly due to the heavy rains which resulted in reduced production of these commodities. In Tegucigalpa maize prices quoted 304.53 USD/T in August, one and half times (75% higher) the international market prices of Maize US No2 Yellow USA Gulf which stood at 174.11 USD/T.



Source: [GIEWS Country Briefs](#)

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

The tropical storm Agatha severely hit Honduras during May 2010. Heavy rainfall caused landslides and flooding and forced people to evacuate their homes. The most affected departments were Valle, Choluteca, Francisco Morazán, Lempira and Intibucá and Comayagua in western and central regions, with Tegucigalpa also being seriously hit. Heavy damage to infrastructure and agriculture are reported with more than 30,000 hectares of crops affected and huge losses of livestock. According to official Government reports, tropical storm Agatha caused an estimated USD 18 million in losses to the agriculture sector, including a loss of USD 11.4 million in maize and beans.

Refugees and IDPs	2007	2008	2009
Total in the country	43	24	20
Total outside the country	1909	2059	2166

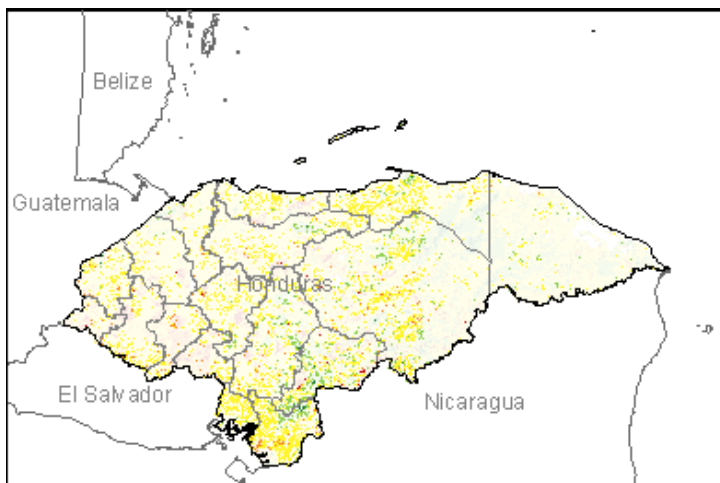
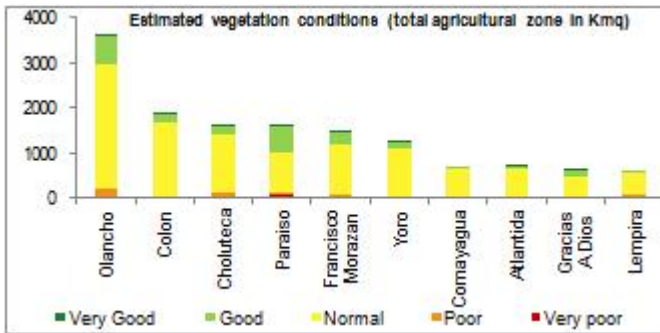
Source: [UNHCR](#) Statistical Online Population Database, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 22/09/2010.

Disaster Type (last year)	Date	Location	Alert
Earthquake	2010-02-21	Islas de la Bahía	1/3
Earthquake	2010-02-11	Olancho Province	1/3
Earthquake	2010-02-11	Yoro Province	1/3

Source: [Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System](#) - 3 = 1000 or more people killed or 800000 or more people displaced. 2 = 100 or more people killed or 80000 or more displaced.

Vegetation Condition

Normal vegetation conditions are observed in the majority of the country. The general indicator of vegetation condition provided below is the relative difference between the NDVI for August 2010 and the average of the last 10 years, calculated on the agricultural zones derived from the GLOBCOVER land cover database (2005).



Source: JRC MARS – FoodSec

Food Security Situation Assessment

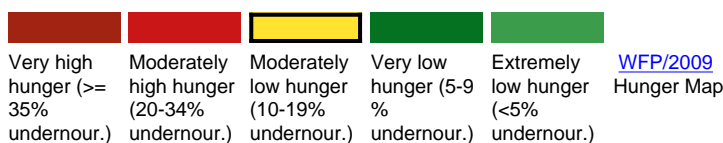
Food security has negatively been affected by heavy rains especially in western and central regions. WFP reports moderately low hunger and IFPRI agrees on a moderate problem of hunger. Honduras is not covered in GIEWS countries requiring emergency external assistance.

CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESMENT



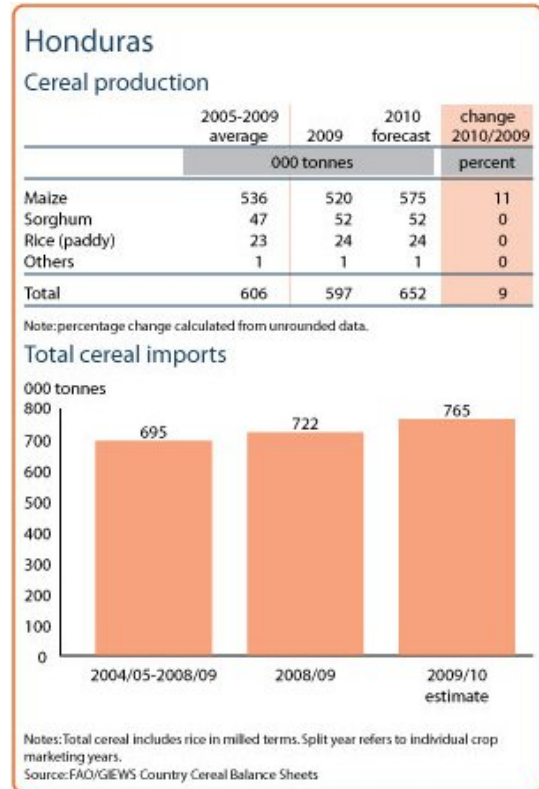
Anomalies of potential concern have been identified and will be evaluated...[more](#) **FEWSNET**

SCALE OF HUNGER



Food Balance Sheet

During the maize season crops were damaged by the tropical storm Agatha. In response, producers received fertilizers and seeds to re-plant approximately 1,800 hectares of maize and beans. The 2010 maize production is forecasted at 575,000 tonnes compared to 2009 output of 520,000. Imports of maize are expected to increase by 10% from 2008/09 to 380,000 tonnes.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

The Gvmt supported producers affected by the storm through the Bono de Solidaridad Productiva (BSP) with seed and fertilizer distribution. The Gvmt's Secretaria de Agricultura y Ganadería also agreed with maize producers and the flour industry on a set price to purchase white maize for human consumption and plans to increase national food reserves.

Consumer and market oriented measures	Increase national food stocks.
Producer oriented measures	White maize set price.
Trade policy measures	n.a.
Safety net (increased or introduced)	Inputs distribution.

Different sources

Current events to watch (Click to see the full report)

No News Found

For more information, contact: Information-for-action@fao.org
Website: www.foodsec.org

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