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WORLD COCOA BEAN CROP EXPECIED TO BE BELOW 1984/85 RECORD LEVEL

SUMMARY

World cocoa bean production for the 1985/86 October-September marketing year is forecast at 1.85 million tons, nearly 3 percent below the record 1984/85 outturn, but still would be the second largest of record. Smaller crops are anticipated for the Ivory Coast, Brazil, Nigeria, and Ecuador, while increases are forecast for Ghana, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Cameroon production will likely approximate last years's harvest, but could be lower if pod rot damage proves to be extensive. Record crops were harvested during 1984/85 by the Ivory Coast, Brazil, Malaysia, Ecuador, and Indonesia, reflecting favorable growing conditions and new plantings.

Global cocoa bean grindings for 1986 are forecast at an alltime high of 1.76 million tons, reflecting abundant supplies and continued economic recovery in consuming nations. If estimates of supply and demand are realized, world stocks in 1986 will increase by 63,000 tons (after an adjustment of a l-percent weight loss for production data), following a 134,000-ton inventory buildup a year earlier. At current annual consumption rates, world carryover stocks at the close of the 1985/86 marketing year would approximate a 3.5 month's supply.

Cocoa bean prices (the average of the daily closing price of the nearest three active futures trading months on the New York market) during the first 9 months of 1985 averaged $\$ 2,155$ per ton, down from $\$ 2,342$ during calendar 1984, reflecting record world production levels and the prospects of another large harvest in 1985/86. Because of changes in currency exchange rates and fears of extensive pod rot damage in several major producing countries, prices in early October have firmed somewhat and then eased later in the month as preliminary crop estimates exerted a bearish influence on the market.

As a result of the failure of members to develop a new International cocoa Agreement (ICCA), the 1980 ICCA was extended through September 30, 1986. The Negotiating Conference is scheduled to resume in Geneva during February 1986 in efforts to conclude a new Agreement.

NOTE: All tons are metric. $(2,204.6 \mathrm{lbs}$.

| Region and country | : 1980/81 | 1981/82 | 1982/83 | 1983/84 | 1984/85 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { : Forecast } \\ & : 1985 / 86 \\ & : \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | : |  |  |  |  |  |
| North America: | : |  |  |  |  |  |
| Costa Rica. | : 5.0 | 5.4 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 4.5 | 5.0 |
| Cuba. | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Dominican Republic. | 33.0 | 42.7 | 43.3 | 42.0 | 41.3 | 42.5 |
| Grenada........... | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Guatemala. | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 2.6 | 1.9 | 2.0 |
| Haiti... | 2.5 | 2.5 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| Honduras | . 5 | . 5 | . 5 | . 5 | . 5 | . 5 |
| Jamaica. | 1.8 | 1.4 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Mexico.. | 29.8 | 41.3 | 33.7 | 35.8 | 38.5 | 40.0 |
| Nicaragua. | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 |
| Panama.... | . 8 | . 8 | . 8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Trinidad and Tobago. | 2.9 | 2.7 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Other 2/................ | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 |
| Total. | : 82.7 | 102.5 | 94.2 | 97.1 | 99.6 | 102.9 |
| South America: | : |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bolivia... | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Brazil.. | 351.0 | 315.0 | 339.0 | 308.0 | 415.0 | 395.0 |
| Colambia | 36.0 | 38.5 | 39.8 | 40.5 | 42.0 | 44.0 |
| Ecuador. | 85.0 | 87.5 | 55.0 | 55.0 | 100.0 | 90.0 |
| Peru. | 9.0 | 9.5 | 10.0 | 8.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 |
| Suriname. | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 |
| Venezuela | 14.3 | 14.8 | 14.8 | 12.2 | 13.0 | 14.5 |
|  | : |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total. | : 498.4 | 468.4 | 461.2 | 426.3 | 582.6 | 556.1 |
| Africa: | $:=$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Angola... | : $\quad .2$ | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 2 |
| Cameroon. | : 119.5 | 120.1 | 106.0 | 109.0 | 120.0 | 120.0 |
| Comoro Islands.. | : .1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 |
| Congo. ......... | : 2.0 | 2.3 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Equatorial Guinea. | : 8.0 | 8.0 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 8.0 | 9.0 |
| Gabon | : 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.5 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Ghana. | : 258.0 | 225.0 | 179.0 | 159.0 | 173.0 | 190.0 |
| Ivory Coast 3/ | 412.0 | 456.0 | 360.4 | 415.0 | 540.0 | 500.0 |
| Liberia....... | : 4.8 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 6.0 | 6.3 | 6.0 |
| Madagascar. | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Nigeria 4/.... | 160.0 | 183.0 | 160.0 | 123.0 | 155.0 | 115.0 |
| Sao Tome and Principe. | - 6.5 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| Sierra Leone. ........ | . 9.2 | 9.5 | 10.0 | 9.0 | 9.5 | 9.5 |
| Tanzania. | : 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Togo 3/... | 16.0 | 10.9 | 9.7 | 15.9 | 12.0 | 15.0 |
| Ugandā.... | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 2 | . 1 | . 1 |
| Zaire... | 5.7 | 4.4 | 4.7 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| Total. | . 1,007.8 | 1,036.1 | 856.6 | 861.2 | 1,040.7 | 981.4 |
| Asia and Oceania: | $:$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fiji Islands... | : 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 3 | . 2 | . 2 |
| India......... | : 2.0 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| Indonesia.... | : 13.1 | 17.3 | 19.6 | 23.9 | 30.0 | 35.0 |
| Malaysia | : 49.1 | 61.0 | 68.0 | 90.0 | 100.0 | 125.0 |
| Papua New Guinea. | . 27.0 | 28.5 | 28.5 | 28.2 | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Philippines....... | . 4.2 | 5.3 | 4.5 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| Solanon Islands. | . 3 | . 8 | . 9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| Sri Lanka........ | . 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Vanuatu........ | . $\quad 7$ | . 7 | 1.1 | . 9 | . 9 | . 9 |
| Western Samoa....... | . 1.0 | . 6 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Total | : 99.1 | 119.9 | 130.5 | 157.6 | 175.4 | 205.4 |
| Grand total.......... | : 1,688.0 | 1,726.9 | 1,542.5 | 1,542.2 | 1,898.3 | 1,845.8 |

I/ Estimates refer to an October-September crop year. 2/ Includes Daminica, St. Lucia, Guadeloupe, and Martinique. 3/ Includes same cocoa marketed from Ghana. 4/ Includes cocoa marketed through Benin.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service officers, results of office research and related information.

WORLD COCOA BEAN SUPPLY-DEMAND AND APPARENT STOCK CHANGE, 1949/50-1985/86


1/ FAS data. An adjustment of 1 percent for loss in weight is made to arrive at a net production figure. 2/ Gill \& Duffus data. Calendar year grind, refers to last year of crop year. FAS data for last 2 years. 3/ Average for October-September year. Beginning October 1977, all price data refer to the average of the daily closing price of the nearest 3 active futures trading months on the New York market.

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## MAJOR PRODUCERS

Ivory Coast production is not expected to reach the record outturn of 1984/85, as a result of less favorable growing conditions. New areas coming into bearing and young trees increasing in productivity, together with higher farm prices, are expected to negate some of the effects of the less favorable weather conditions this season. Producer prices have been increased to 400 CFAF per kilogram, up fram 375 CFAF and 350 CFAF during the previous 2 seasons, respectively. The 1985 midcrop was considered excellent in both quantity and bean size, and there could be some carryover of the midcrop into the new season in order to obtain higher prices.

Ghana's production is forecast to increase for the second consecutive year, following the disastrous 1983/84 harvest, which was the lowest in over a half century. Again, food crops appear in an abundance; and with the sharp increase in producer prices, farmers will likely continue to devote increasing attention to cocoa cultivation. Grower prices were increased in June 1985 to 56,600 cedis per ton from 30,000 cedis paid during the 1984/85 main crop season.

Despite the upturn in Ghana's economy, a principal restraint in the improvement of the cocoa industry has been the high cost and the inefficiency in operating the Cocoa Marketing Board, which controls the purchase and marketing of Ghanaian cocoa. The government is taking steps to correct this problem, but much needs to be done in this area. An improvement in the supply of spray materials and other inputs has also contributed to the prospects of higher production this season.

Nigerian production outlook for $1985 / 86$ is quite pessimistic, reflecting excessive rainfall and resulting high losses to pod rot. In addition, the economic crunch has resulted in severe shortages of spray materials, and most farms have gone untreated this season.

Cameroon production is forecast to approximate the 1984/85 harvest of 120,000 tons. However, reports of possible high losses from pod rot could result in a downward revision if the damage proves to be extensive. Producer prices have been increased to 420 CFAF per kilogram for grade 1 cocoa, compared with 410 CFAF paid during 1984/85.

Brazilian production is forecast to fall somewhat below the record 1984/85 crop as a result of prospects of a smaller Bahia main crop. A cool wet winter season has contributed to a higher than usual incidence of pod rot. Thus, the 1985/86 Bahia main crop is forecast at 2.8 million bags ( 168,000 tons), down from the record 1984/85 main crop of $3,244,087$ bags ( 194,645 tons). The 1986 Bahia temporao crop is forcast to approximate the 1985 outturn of $3,125,909$ bags ( 187,555 tons). Production in other states is estimated at about 600,000 bags ( 36,000 tons), up from 550,000 bags ( 33,000 tons) produced in 1984/85.

The government is promoting technical assistance to growers to improve yields rather than the expansion of new areas. High credit costs and inflation are discouraging farmers from making new plantings. A new cocoa processing plant
with a 6,000-ton annual capacity, is being developed at the port of Santos in the state of Sao Paulo for the production of sweetened cocoa powder principally for export to Far Eastern markets. This joint Brazilian-Japanese venture represents an investment capital of approximately \$l million.

Ecuador's production is forecast to be lower than the record 1984/85 harvest, reflecting less favorable growing conditions. Production in 1984/85 was an alltime high of 100,000 tons, nearly double the rain-damaged crops of the preceding 2 years. Drier than normal weather prevailed throughout much of the 1984/85 season, which helped to reduce losses from pod rot and resulted in improved quality of the beans.

Malaysian production is forecast at a record 125,000 tons, reflecting favorable weather and new plantings coming into production. Weather conditions of the past several years have not been generally good, thus, output has not reached early season forecast levels. Production in Sabah, which accounts for over one half of the crop, during the 1984/85 season was below that of a year earlier, but was offset by increased output in Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak. Growing conditions for the 1985/86 harvest have been favorable, and crop development is progressing quite satisfactorily. The current annual expansion rate has slowed to around 10,000 hectares, well below that of the late 1970's and early 1980's. However, over the next four years, it is estimated that an additional 30,000 hectares annually of new plantings will reach maturity, thus boosting Malaysia's production potential to record heights.

The Indonesian Government has recently released data indicating that cocoa production levels are much higher than previously thought. Output in 1985 was placed at a record 30,000 tons, and the government anticipates that the 1986 harvest will approximate 35,000 tons. Planted area for 1985 was put at 82,130 hectares, up from 67,127 hectares a year earlier and well above the 1980 area of 36,200 hectares. Indonesia's exports of cocoa beans in 1984 amounted to a record 24,299 tons, compared with 15,885 tons and 11,395 tons in 1983 and 1982, respectively.

## MAJOR IMPORTERS

U.S. imports of cocoa beans and products during January-August 1985 showed an aggregrate gain of $2 l$ percent over that of a year earlier. Cocoa bean imports were up sharply, reflecting increased shipments from the Ivory Coast, Ecuador, Ghana, and Nigeria. Imports of cocoa butter, chocolate liquor, and sweetened chocolate also were significantly higher.

COCOA BEAN GRINDINGS BY SPECIFIED COUNTRIES, BY QUARTERS, 1976-85
(Metric tons)


1) Incomplete data--grind excludes reporting by 1 major processor.

SOURCE: National statistics of the respective countries.
U.S. IMPORTS OF COCOA BEANS AND PRODUCTS, JANUARY-AUGUST 1984 AND 1985


SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce.

Third quarter U.S. grind was reported at 40,549 tons, about unchanged from the corresponding period a year ago. Cumulative 9-month 1985 grind was 117,038 tons, 6.3 percent down on the January-September 1984 grind.

Grindings in West Germany and the Netherlands again appear to be headed for record levels. Cumulative 9-month 1985 grind in West Gennany was up by 8.5 percent and increases were recorded by the Netherlands for the same period. U.K. grindings also showed good increases for the first 2 quarters of 1985, but were down by 5.2 percent in the third quarter. Cumulative 9-month J.K. grind was 8.5 percent greater than for the similar 1984 period.

## INIERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

At the July 1985 meeting of the 28th Session of the International Cocoa Council in London, it was agreed to extend the 1980 ICCA until September 30, 1986, and to retain the buffer stock contribution at 2 cents per pound. The Council approved the following provisional schedule of meetings for the 1985/86 cocoa year:

| December 2-5, 1985 | Executive Comittee and <br> subsidiary bodies/Working Group <br> on the Buffer Stock Rules |
| :--- | :--- |
| June 2-6, 1986 | Executive Committee/Finance <br> Committee |
| July 7-18, 1986 | Council, Executive Committee and <br> subsidiary bodies |

The Council also noted that the fourth part of the United Nations Cocoa Conference would be held from February 10 to 28, 1986 under UNCTAD auspices in Geneva, in efforts to conclude a new ICCA.

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SOURCE: Coffee, Sugar and Cocoa Exchange, Inc.
October 1985
NEW YORK COCOA BEAN FUTURES PRICES, 1965-85 1/

U.S. SPOT COCOA PRICES FOR SELECTED ORIGINS OF COCOA BERANS AND PRODUCTS, 1982/83-1984/85
(Dollars per metric ton)


SOURCE: The Cocoa lerchants Association. All prices nominal and are net ex-dock or ex-warehouse, TJ.S. eastern seahoard north of Hatteras, for merchandise physically available in interstate commerce, in truckload quantities, and in regular comercial quality.


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