

CHINA AGRICULTURE OUTLOOK REPORT (2022-2031)

The quality, efficiency & competitiveness of Chinese agriculture is set to improve significantly

by Professor Wu Wenbin, Henan university of technology, China

The 2022 China Agricultural Outlook Conference was recently held in Beijing. Ma Youxiang, vice minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, pointed out at the meeting that China's grain output has exceeded 1.3 trillion catties for seven consecutive years and its grain inventory remains abundant.

According to the Report on China's Agricultural Outlook (2022-2031) released at the conference, the effective supply of grain and other important agricultural products will be guaranteed, the quality, efficiency and competitiveness of China's agriculture will be significantly improved, basic self-sufficiency in grain and absolute grain security will be fully ensured, and the self-sufficiency rate of grain will be raised to about 88 percent in the next decade.

A promising time ahead

Tang Ke, director of the Market and information Technology Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, pointed out at the release of the report that after analysis, on the supply and demand situation, in the next decade, benefit from agricultural policies will continue.

China's grain planting area is expected to be stable at more than 1.75 billion mu, whilst rations area is stable in more than 800 million mu. With the implementation of the seed industry revitalisation campaign, grain varieties are expected

to be upgraded and facilities will be strengthened.

About 1.2 billion mu of high-standard cropland will be built, and 280 million mu of existing high-standard cropland will be upgraded. The yield per unit area of corn and soybean increased by 18.3% and 34.1% respectively.

The agricultural production structure and regional distribution were significantly improved, the supply capacity of high-quality green agricultural products was significantly increased, and the output of high-quality japonica rice and special-purpose wheat with strong and weak gluten increased steadily.


According to the report, China's grain output will continue to increase gradually in the next decade. At the same time, food consumption pattern and consumption structure will continue to change.

Consumption of grain decreased, and consumption of meat, eggs, milk, fruits and vegetables increased. In addition, with the support of the soybean oil production capacity improvement project and other policies support, by 2031, the sown area of soybeans will reach 20 million mu, and domestic soybeans can maintain basic self-sufficiency in edible soybeans.

Rice

In the next 10 years, the overall production of rice will maintain a stable situation, the sown area will decrease slightly, and the





yield per unit area will gradually increase, and the yield of rice will be more than 210 million tons. With the continuous upgrading of food consumption, rice consumption has shown a steady and slightly downward trend, and the overall consumption will remain at about 210 million tons.

Ration consumption continued to decline, but accounted for more than 69% of rice consumption, feeding consumption will first decrease and then increase with the development of animal husbandry and feed cost price changes. The relationship between rice supply and demand is generally relaxed, and rice import is mainly to meet the demand of variety adjustment.

Wheat

In the next 10 years, the regional layout and quality structure of wheat production will continue to be optimized, the yield per unit area will continue to improve, and the yield will increase steadily. With the gradual increase of corn yield, the ratio of wheat to corn prices will remain in a reasonable range, and the consumption of wheat feed will fall to the perennial level.

However, there is still a large space for the growth of industrial consumption, and the overall consumption of wheat will decrease

first and then increase. China will still import part of special wheat for variety adjustment, but with the continuous improvement of domestic high-quality wheat production level, the import demand of high-quality special wheat will decrease.

Corn

In the next 10 years, the sown area of corn will decrease first and then increase; with the continuous optimisation of maize planting mode, the promotion and application of breeding technology and field management technology, the yield per unit area has been steadily improved, with an estimated annual growth rate of 1.7%.

Yield growth is mainly due to the contribution of yield per unit area, which is expected to reach 323.93 million tonnes in 2031, with an average annual growth rate of 2.0%. As corn feed consumption continued to grow but the growth rate slowed down and industrial consumer demand remained strong, corn consumption maintained rigid growth.

The relationship between corn supply and demand will gradually change from tight to basically balanced pattern, and the import volume will stabilise after decreasing, and it is estimated that the import volume will decrease to 7.57 million tons in 2031.