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NOTES ON THE STATISTICAL MATERIAL RELATING TO SUPPLIES
AND UTILIZATION OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The following paper has been received from the United Kingdom delegation in connexion with item (ii) of document TN.64/Ce/W/1.

The attached table gives detailed information on the United Kingdom's supplies and utilization of wheat, wheat flour and coarse grains during each of the last fifteen years and shows, for purposes of comparison, the average figures for the years 1936/7 to 1938/9 inclusive. The following paragraphs draw attention to some of the significant trends and developments:

(a) Wheat production

The area sown to wheat during the past fifteen years has been relatively stable within a range of 800,000 to 1,000,000 hectares but production increased by about 40 per cent. The main factor in this increase has been the big improvements in yields due to better strains of wheat, increased use of fertilizers and other technological advances. In the past three years yields have averaged over 4 metric tons per hectare compared with 2.7 tons in the three years 1950/51 to 1952/53 and a pre-war average of 2.23 tons. The area under wheat for the 1964 harvest was in fact lower than it was ten or fifteen years earlier.

(b) Barley production

In contrast to wheat, the area under barley has steadily increased and by 1964/65 was nearly three times as high as in 1950/51. But some 1.1 million hectares of the increase of 1.3 million hectares is accounted for by the replacement of oats and mixed corn by barley. Yields of barley increased by about 50 per cent and total production of barley rose by well over 5 million metric tons.

(c) Total production

Between 1950/51 and 1964/65 total production of cereals rose by nearly 5 million metric tons whereas the increase in the area under cereals was no more than 80,000 hectares.

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(d) Imports of cereals

Imports of cereals which rose during the first half of the period and later declined, were still nearly 2 million metric tons higher in 1964/65 than in 1950/51. Wheat imports, which included a relatively high proportion of hard wheat for use in the production of bread flour, have shown no pronounced trend, fluctuating around 4 million tons. Barley imports, however, have fallen sharply since 1960/61 reflecting the steep increase in home production. Imports of maize have also tended to decline in recent years with the increased use of barley for animal feeding but in 1964/65 were still about 2 million tons higher than in 1950/51.

(e) Total utilization of cereals

The use of cereals for human food has remained relatively steady around 7 3/4 million metric tons per annum but the United Kingdom's expanding livestock industry has brought about a notable increase in the use of cereals for animal feedingstuffs which has almost doubled in the last fifteen years.

Support for cereals production in the United Kingdom

(a) The framework for the United Kingdom's post-war agricultural policy was set by the passing of the Agriculture Act 1947. This Act introduced Government guaranteed prices for the main agricultural products and was designed to maintain a stable and efficient agricultural industry. Financial support for domestic cereals producers (see (b) below) stems from this Act as amended by the Agriculture Act 1957. These Acts make provision for the economic conditions of the industry to be reviewed each year in consultation with representatives of the industry; and following this review the Government determine guaranteed prices for individual commodities for the coming crop year.

(b) Guaranteed prices

With the ending of post-war controls for cereals in 1953, a system of deficiency payments for home-produced wheat, barley, oats, rye and mixed corn was introduced in the 1954/55 crop year to fulfil the prices guaranteed under the Agriculture Act. The guaranteed price for wheat was at its highest level of \$84.74 per metric ton in that year and since then prices have been reduced to the present figure of \$70.05 per metric ton for the 1965 harvest, a reduction of about 17 per cent, ignoring the effects of the standard quantity and target price indicator arrangements introduced at the 1964 Annual Review. In recent years the guaranteed price for barley, which reached its highest level of \$79.92 per metric ton in 1957/58, has also been reduced to \$69.82 per metric ton for the 1965 harvest, a fall of about 13 per cent, again ignoring the effects of the standard quantity and target price indicator price arrangements.

SUPPLIES AND UTILIZATION OF/APPROVISIONNEMENT ET UTILISATION

Wheat, Wheat Flour (as wheat) and Coarse Grains/Blé, farine de blé (sous forme de blé) et céréales secondaires

United Kingdom/Royaume-Uni

July-June Years (a)/Années: juillet-juin a)

	1936/37-1938/39 Average (a)/Moyenne a)	1950/51	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58	1958/59	1959/60	1960/61	1961/62	1962/63	1963/64	1964/65
	AREA ('000 Hectares)/SUPERFICIE (milliers d'hectares)															
Wheat/Blé	751	1,003	862	822	897	994	788	928	855	894	781	851	739	913	780	893
Barley/Orge	376	720	772	923	901	835	929	940	1,061	1,115	1,237	1,365	1,549	1,614	1,907	2,036
Oats/Avoine	972	1,256	1,156	1,166	1,149	1,047	1,042	1,037	949	896	819	797	700	613	522	455
Rye/Seigle	7	29	22	23	28	18	8	11	10	9	6	7	8	7	9	9
Mixed corn/Farrago	39	338	337	338	325	243	187	162	136	113	94	82	59	50	40	32
TOTAL	2,145	3,346	3,149	3,272	3,300	3,137	2,954	3,085	3,011	3,027	2,937	3,102	3,055	3,197	3,258	3,425
	YIELDS (Metric tons per Hectare)/RENDEMENTS (tonnes métriques à l'hectare)															
Wheat/Blé	2.23	2.64	2.73	2.85	3.02	2.84	3.35	3.12	3.19	3.08	3.62	3.66	3.74	4.35	3.90	4.14
Barley/Orge	2.07	2.42	2.55	2.57	2.84	2.73	3.21	3.03	2.83	2.89	3.30	3.16	3.26	3.64	3.52	3.69
Oats/Avoine	2.03	2.18	2.30	2.42	2.49	2.37	2.64	2.44	2.30	2.42	2.71	2.62	2.64	2.90	2.80	2.96
Rye/Seigle	1.57	2.02	2.18	2.24	2.44	2.22	2.51	2.42	2.42	2.29	2.32	2.51	2.38	2.51	2.62	2.99
Mixed corn/Farrago	1.99	2.15	2.43	2.49	2.64	2.32	2.77	2.44	2.43	2.47	2.81	2.72	2.91	3.12	2.99	3.17
	PRODUCTION ('000 metric tons)/PRODUCTION (milliers de tonnes métriques)															
Wheat/Blé	1,677	2,648	2,353	2,344	2,707	2,828	2,641	2,891	2,726	2,754	2,830	3,113	2,614	3,974	3,046	3,697
Barley/Orge	777	1,738	1,970	2,371	2,561	2,280	2,983	2,845	3,004	3,221	4,080	4,309	5,054	5,865	6,705	7,523
Oats/Avoine	1,971	2,735	2,658	2,816	2,866	2,479	2,752	2,526	2,179	2,172	2,222	2,091	1,851	1,775	1,461	1,346
Rye/Seigle	10	58	48	51	67	40	19	25	24	21	13	18	18	17	22	25
Mixed corn/Farrago	77	726	817	843	859	564	518	414	330	279	263	223	172	156	120	103
TOTAL	4,512	7,905	7,846	8,425	9,060	8,191	8,913	8,701	8,263	8,447	9,408	9,754	9,709	11,787	11,354	12,694
	IMPORTS ('000 metric tons)/IMPORTATIONS (milliers de tonnes métriques)															
Wheat/Blé	5,112	3,431	4,381	3,905	3,364	4,651	4,765	4,505	4,633	4,730	3,952	4,171	4,118	3,784	4,159	3,827
Flour (as wheat)/ Farine (sous forme de blé)	610	762	586	775	551	490	488	491	479	570	515	533	565	464	449	359
Barley/Orge	903	775	1,189	1,185	1,275	1,119	663	1,075	1,305	1,141	828	965	539	297	426	278
Oats/Avoine	119	73	147	80	83	39	33	21	133	185	25	48	43	54	21	23
Rye/Seigle	6	1	2	1	1	3	4	8	3	8	9	9	6	5	6	4
Maize/Maïs	3,286	1,142	1,332	886	1,436	1,510	1,521	1,516	1,953	2,815	3,135	3,093	4,001	3,892	3,486	3,194
Sorghums/Sorghos	(b)	(b)	129	61	28	192	476	192	191	640	564	358	558	400	264	392
TOTAL	10,036	6,184	7,766	6,893	6,738	8,004	7,950	7,808	8,697	10,089	9,028	9,177	9,830	8,896	8,811	8,077
	TOTAL GROSS SUPPLIES (home production plus imports) ('000 metric tons)/APPROVISIONNEMENT TOTAL BRUT (Production nationale plus importations)(milliers de tonnes métriques)															
Wheat/Blé	6,789	6,079	6,734	6,249	6,071	7,479	7,406	7,396	7,359	7,484	6,782	7,284	6,732	7,758	7,205	7,524
Flour (as wheat)/ Farine (sous forme de blé)	610	762	586	775	551	490	488	491	479	570	515	533	565	464	449	359
Barley/Orge	1,680	2,513	3,159	3,556	3,836	3,399	3,646	3,920	4,309	4,362	4,908	5,274	5,593	6,162	7,131	7,801
Oats/Avoine	2,090	2,808	2,805	2,896	2,949	2,518	2,785	2,547	2,312	2,357	2,247	2,139	1,894	1,829	1,482	1,369
Rye/Seigle	16	59	50	52	68	43	23	33	27	29	22	27	24	22	26	29
Mixed corn/Farrago	77	726	817	843	859	564	518	414	330	279	263	223	172	156	120	103
Maize/Maïs	3,286	1,142	1,332	886	1,436	1,510	1,521	1,516	1,953	2,815	3,135	3,093	4,001	3,892	3,486	3,194
Sorghums/Sorghos	(b)	(b)	129	61	28	192	476	192	191	640	564	358	558	400	264	392
TOTAL	14,548	14,089	15,612	15,318	15,798	16,195	16,863	16,509	16,960	18,536	18,436	18,931	19,539	20,683	20,165	20,771
	UTILIZATION ('000 metric tons)/UTILISATION (milliers de tonnes métriques)															
Human food (c)/Alimentation humaine c)	7,594	7,848	7,729	7,468	7,309	7,344	7,458	7,515	7,600	7,614	7,580	7,886	7,734	7,769	7,926	7,965
Animal feed/Alimentation des animaux	6,482	6,207	6,594	7,323	7,986	8,457	8,385	8,399	8,728	9,899	9,765	9,826	10,749	11,491	11,369	11,917
Other uses/Autres usages	484	767	780	791	719	660	631	665	660	641	688	729	757	799	820	876
Exports/exportations	7	1	...	116	88	154	269	59	54	158	435	151	352	341	91	114
Stock change/plus + or minus -)/Variation des stocks (plus + ou moins -)	- 19	- 734	+ 509	- 380	- 304	- 420	+ 60	- 129	- 82	+ 224	- 30	+ 339	- 53	+ 283	- 41	- 101
TOTAL	14,548	14,089	15,612	15,318	15,798	16,195	16,863	16,509	16,960	18,536	18,436	18,931	19,539	20,683	20,165	20,771

NOTES: (a) Calendar years for imports in 1934/38/a) Années civiles pour les importations de la période 1934/38.

(b) Not separately distinguished in this period./b) Ne faisait pas l'objet de statistiques séparées au cours de cette période.

(c) Includes imported flour as wheat. (Extraction rate 72 per cent - 1934/38 70 per cent.)/c) Y compris la farine (sous forme de blé). (Taux d'extraction: 72 pour cent - 1934/38 70 pour cent.)