

Daily Note – 26th March 2018

IGC World Grain Production Forecasts

The International Grains Council (IGC) has released its latest forecast for world grain production in 2017/18. Global production is expected to decrease by 2.2% compared to the previous year's figure to 2,092 million tons.

World Grain Production Forecast 2017/18

Million Tons	2016/17 Estimate	2017/18 Forecast	Change %
Production	2,140	2,092	-2.2
Trade	352	362	+2.8
Consumption	2,082	2,109	+1.3
Stocks	623	606	-2.7

Within this result, production for all key crops, with the exception of wheat, is forecast to decline in 2017/18; maize production is expected to see the greatest decrease (-3.9%), followed by the soybean crop (-2.6%) and rice (-0.2%). In contrast, the production forecast for the wheat crop reflects a 0.5% increase from the previous year.

IGC has also revealed its projections for the 2018/19 season, with grain production anticipated to experience a further reduction of around 0.2%. This decrease can be primarily attributed to an reduction in wheat crop being anticipated (-2.2%). The decline is however expected to be largely offset by an increase in production of soybean, rice and maize, up by 3.8%, 1.2% and 0.7% respectively.

Syngenta Acquires Brazilian AgTech Company Strider

Syngenta has announced that it has entered into an agreement to acquire the Brazilian AgTech company Strider for an undisclosed fee. The company provides technological solutions for growers, including monitoring of machinery and inputs, pest control and satellite imaging of the crops. Syngenta notes that with this acquisition it plans to reinforce its position in Latin American digital agriculture market and bring greater value to its customers.

Completion of the transaction is subject to clearance by the relevant merger-control authorities.

Isagro Submits for Fluindapyr Approval in Brazil

Isagro has announced that two mixtures containing its proprietary fungicidal active ingredient fluindapyr have been submitted for approval to Brazilian authorities for use on soybeans and other row crops. The active ingredient is reported to show efficiency against Asian soybean rust when used in certain premix formulations.

One mixture, containing the proprietary molecule tetraconazole, will be directly commercialized by Isagro, while the product, containing prothioconazole, will be distributed on an exclusive basis by Arysta LifeScience (see AgreWorld 5th January 2018).