CSI DAILY NEWS

06.02.2026

TMO Seeks 255,000 Tons of Barley as Domestic Supplies Tighten

Turkey is stepping up its reliance on imported grain as domestic supplies tighten, with the country's state grain authority, Toprak Mahsulleri Ofisi (TMO), announcing an international tender to purchase and import approximately 255,000 tons of barley for use in animal feed.

According to industry sources cited by Milling Middle East & Africa and European traders, the tender highlights Ankara's growing dependence on foreign supplies following a weak harvest last season. The move is aimed at stabilizing the domestic grain market and ensuring sufficient raw materials for Turkey's large livestock and poultry sectors.

The deadline for submitting price offers is February 11, with delivery scheduled between February 23 and March 23. Shipments will be made in parcels ranging from 5,000 to 25,000 tons. Traders noted that barley already imported into Turkey and stored in bonded warehouses is also eligible to be offered under the tender terms, potentially increasing competition and speeding up deliveries.

Under the conditions of the tender, cargoes may be delivered to a wide range of Turkish ports, including Iskenderun, Adana, Mersin, Izmir, Bandırma, Tekirdağ, Samsun, Trabzon, and Giresun. This broad geographic coverage is designed to attract offers from multiple origins and allow TMO to manage logistics efficiently across Turkey's main feed-consuming regions.

Market participants say the tender reflects ongoing supply tensions in Turkey's grain sector. A poor barley and broader grain harvest last year reduced domestic availability and pushed authorities to intervene more actively in the market to prevent sharp price increases and feed shortages.

Barley is a key component in rations for livestock and poultry, and reduced local production has raised concerns over feed costs and farm profitability. Higher input costs could, in turn, affect meat, dairy, and poultry prices for consumers.

According to the latest estimates from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS), Turkey's barley production in the 2025/26 marketing year is expected to fall sharply to around 5.1 million tons, down nearly 2 million tons from the previous season. This projected shortfall means domestic output will be insufficient to meet demand.

As a result, the USDA forecasts that Turkey's barley imports could rise to approximately 1.7 million tons to cover feed requirements, particularly for livestock farms. Analysts note that this creates opportunities for major exporting countries, including Russia, the EU, and other Black Sea suppliers, to expand shipments to the Turkish market.

With the tender now open, global grain traders are watching closely to see how aggressively TMO moves to secure supplies and how prices will develop in the coming weeks as Turkey seeks to balance domestic needs with international market conditions.[6]

Russian Agriculture Ministry Finalizes 2026 Grain Export Quota Distribution

The Russian Ministry of Agriculture has officially completed the allocation of the main portion of the grain export quota for 2026, approving export rights for a total of 20 million tons of grain. The quota has been distributed among 213 companies, giving them permission to ship Russian grain to foreign markets during the designated export period.

According to the Ministry's announcement, the largest share of the quota was awarded to "Grain Gates," which secured the right to export 3.59 million tons, significantly higher than its 2025 allocation of 2.3 million tons. The second-largest recipient is "Aston," with a quota of 2.04 million tons, more than double its previous year's volume of 991.2 thousand tons.

"OZK Trading" ranked third with 1.12 million tons, compared to 494.4 thousand tons in 2025. It was followed by "APK AST Company" with 778 thousand tons, and "Top Grain" with 656 thousand tons. Other major exporters include "Grain Service" (605 thousand tons), "Petrokhleb-Kuban" (598 thousand tons), and "Mostagro" (533 thousand tons). Completing the top ten are "Resource Agro Trading" with 447 thousand tons, and Private Farm Derevyanko V. I. with 352 thousand tons.

The quota will be valid from February 15 to June 30, 2026, and applies to key crops including wheat, barley, and corn. Export restrictions on rye remain at a zero level, meaning no quota limitations will be imposed on shipments of that grain.

In addition to the main allocation, the Ministry will also form a supplementary portion of the quota. This extra volume will consist of 10% of the total quota, as well as any amounts released due to exporters declining their allocations or reductions applied through official adjustment factors. This additional quota will be distributed at a later stage through a separate procedure.

Market participants say the distribution reflects both exporters' performance in previous seasons and the government's efforts to balance domestic supply with foreign demand. [4]

Commodity Auctions: Results For 05.02.2026

Purchase

OOO Zakazchik No. 1

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5% (excluding VAT) | 16,150 ₽/t | 600 t

OOO Zakazchik No. 1

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5% (excluding VAT) | 15,600 ₽/t | 620 t

OOO OZK Trading

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5% (excluding VAT) | 16,425 ₽/t | 600 t

OOO OZK Trading

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5% (excluding VAT) | 15,550 ₽/t | 300 tons

OOO Trading House Sodruzhestvo

Soybeans 39 (incl. VAT) | 31,250 ₽/t | 100 tons

OOO CHERKIZOVO-MASLA

Rapeseed (incl. VAT) | 36,300 ₽/t | 1,000 tons

V.I. Derevyanko Peasant Farm

Wheat, Class 4, 12.5% (excluding VAT) | 14,250 ₽/t | 2,010 tons[3]

Weaker Export Outlook Raises Inflation Risks for Russia in Early 2026

The Central Bank of Russia (CBR) has acknowledged that conditions for Russian exports have become more challenging in the first quarter of 2026, worsening compared with the second half of last year.

Speaking on RBK television, CBR Deputy Governor Alexei Zabotkin said that external factors are now posing stronger pro-inflationary risks to the Russian economy, largely due to the deteriorating environment for exports.

According to Zabotkin, the situation for Russian exporters in early 2026 is more difficult than it was in both the third and fourth quarters of 2025. This shift, he noted, has increased pressure on inflation dynamics, as weaker export performance affects revenues, currency flows, and overall economic stability.

“In 2026, the pro-inflationary risks from external conditions appear more pronounced,” Zabotkin said. “The situation for our exports continues to be difficult, and in the first quarter of this year it is probably worse than it was in the second half of last year. This is what has shifted the balance toward higher inflation risks.”

The comments suggest that the Central Bank is closely monitoring global market conditions and their impact on Russia’s trade outlook as it assesses future monetary policy decisions.[7]

High Water Levels and Ice Jams Threaten Wide Areas of Russia This Spring

Russia is preparing for a challenging spring flood season in 2026, with the Hydrometeorological Center warning that severe flooding is likely in at least 16 regions across the country.

According to the agency’s latest forecast, above-normal water levels are expected in a wide range of areas, including the Moscow, Tula, Oryol, Smolensk, Murmansk, and Kaluga regions. Flooding is also anticipated in the Ryazan and Vladimir regions, while a significant rise in water levels is forecast for Crimea and the Samara region.

In Siberia and the Far East, the situation is also expected to be tense. Above-average river levels are predicted in the Altai and Krasnoyarsk Krais, as well as in the Kemerovo, Novosibirsk, and Tomsk regions and in Kamchatka.

In its report, the Hydrometeorological Center said that as of the end of January 2026, Russia had experienced a typical winter pattern, with continued snow accumulation in river basins. However, analysts concluded that the spring flood of 2026 will be more complex than in 2025, especially in the Central, Siberian, and Far Eastern federal districts.

“An analysis of the prevailing hydrometeorological conditions shows that the spring flood of 2026 will be more difficult than last year,” the report said.

At the same time, Rosgidromet noted that in some regions, river levels are expected to be below normal. This applies to parts of Yakutia, the Krasnoyarsk Krai, and the Saratov, Rostov, Volgograd, Voronezh, and Lipetsk regions, as well as Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Crimea, and the Donetsk People’s Republic (DPR).

Forecasters also warned about the risk of ice jams forming during the spring thaw if weather conditions worsen. Such blockages can cause rivers to overflow, floodplains to be submerged, and low-lying settlements to be inundated, especially in areas not protected by hydraulic structures.

A preliminary assessment shows a high probability of ice jams on certain rivers in the Arkhangelsk, Magadan, and Amur regions, the Komi Republic, the Zabaykalsky and Khabarovsk Krais, and in Yakutia.

Authorities and emergency services are expected to step up monitoring and preparedness measures as the spring thaw approaches, with a focus on protecting населённые пункты (populated areas), infrastructure, and transport links from potential flood damage. [5]

Weather Disruptions and Active Tenders Support Barley and Corn Prices

Adverse weather conditions and persistent frosts continue to constrain grain supplies from farmers, pushing traders to pay premium prices for prompt deliveries of both barley and corn. Market participants say limited availability, combined with strong international demand, is keeping feed grain prices firm across key exporting regions.

Recent international tenders have confirmed that demand for feed barley remains consistently high, providing additional support to prices. Buyers in the Middle East and North Africa have stayed active in the market, competing for limited volumes.

In Ukraine, export prices at ports have risen to around UAH 10,800–11,000 per ton (approximately $220–222/t), with some traders offering even higher levels above UAH 11,000/t. The rally has been fueled partly by last week's stronger U.S. dollar exchange rate. At the same time, feed corn prices jumped by $5–6/t to $210–212/t, further underpinning barley values.

Despite the firm pricing, Ukraine's export pace remains slower than last season. In the 2025/26 marketing year as of February 1, the country shipped only 1.34 million tons of barley, down from 2.08 million tons during the same period a year earlier. As a result, analysts estimate Ukraine's remaining export potential at around 1.0–1.2 million tons.

Prices for malting barley have remained relatively stable at UAH 10,600–11,000/t delivered to mills. However, demand from processors is weak, as many facilities are operating below capacity due to electricity shortages and sluggish export demand for malt. Ukrainian malt producers are also facing stiff competition from European suppliers.

On the global stage, Algeria's state grain agency OAIC reinforced the strong demand outlook by purchasing about 200,000 tons of feed barley at an international tender held on February 3. The barley, sourced from Western Europe, is scheduled for delivery between March 1 and 15, 2026, at a price of around $267–268 per ton C&F.

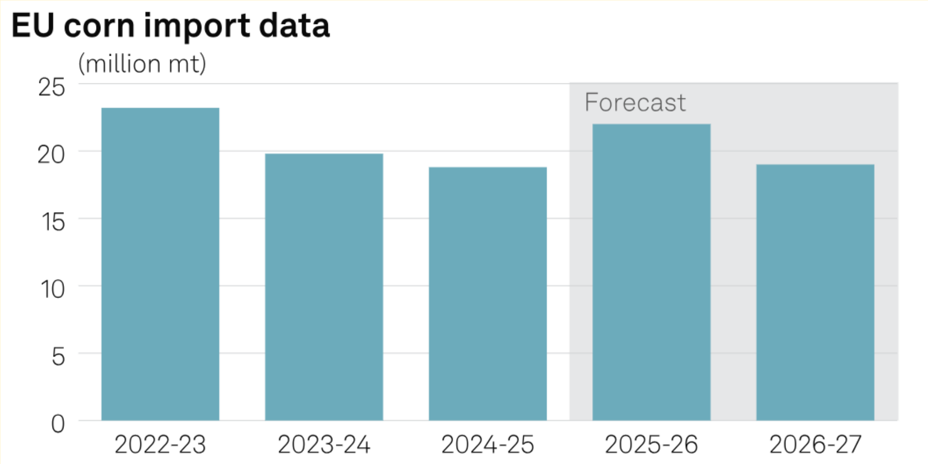
Market sources noted that Algeria's purchase price is broadly in line with recent tenders in the region. Turkey bought barley in January at around $265/t C&F, while Jordan paid about $273.5/t C&F. These comparable levels indicate that global demand for barley remains strong, with no signs of a downturn despite higher prices.

Traders say that as long as weather-related supply disruptions persist and key importers remain active, the barley market is likely to stay supported in the near term. [1]

Domestic Seed Share Grows Rapidly in Sugar Beet, Rapeseed and Sunflower

As the corn marketing year, which runs from September to August, moves forward, trade patterns in the European Union — the world's second-largest corn importer — are evolving amid a mix of geopolitical developments, shifting price dynamics, and changing demand conditions.

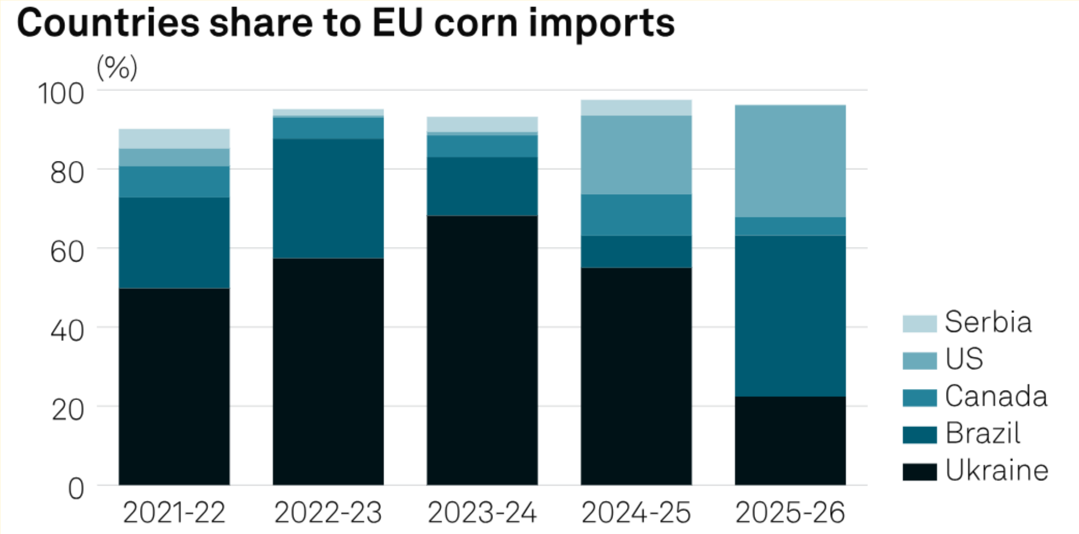
Data from S&P Global Market Intelligence's Global Trade Analytics Suite (GTAS) show that EU corn imports reached 18.79 million metric tons in the 2024/25 marketing year, down from 19.83 million tons in 2023/24. Looking ahead, GTAS forecasts that imports will rebound to around 21 million tons in the 2025/26 season, reflecting expectations of renewed demand and adjustments in sourcing strategies.



Ukraine has traditionally been the European Union's largest supplier of corn, followed by Brazil. However, in the EU's 2025/26 marketing year (July–June), a larger share of imports shifted toward Brazil, mainly due to logistical disruptions caused by the war in Ukraine, according to data from the European Commission.

On a five-year average basis, Ukraine has remained the dominant origin for EU corn imports, supplying around 9.7 million metric tons per year, or about 53.5% of total EU import volumes. Brazil's average share over the same period stood at 22.5%, followed by Canada, the United States, and Serbia.

The pattern changed significantly in MY 2025/26, when Brazil's share of EU corn imports rose to around 40%. The United States ranked second with 28.3%, while Ukraine's share fell to 22.4%, reflecting the impact of ongoing logistical and security challenges on Ukrainian exports.



Market participants say delays in receiving contracted shipments of Ukrainian corn are forcing European buyers to look for alternative suppliers, particularly Brazil and the United States.

Traders reported that ongoing logistical difficulties in Ukraine are disrupting delivery schedules. A Netherlands-based trader said the delays in fulfilling existing contracts had begun to affect procurement flows across the EU. Another market source added that the situation is encouraging buyers to “shift to other origins” to ensure timely supply.

In addition to logistics, market participants also pointed to uncertainty surrounding the EU-Mercosur trade framework as a factor influencing sourcing decisions. “With the trade deal, nothing can really be predicted,” one industry expert said, noting that trade policy uncertainty is adding another layer of complexity to import strategies.

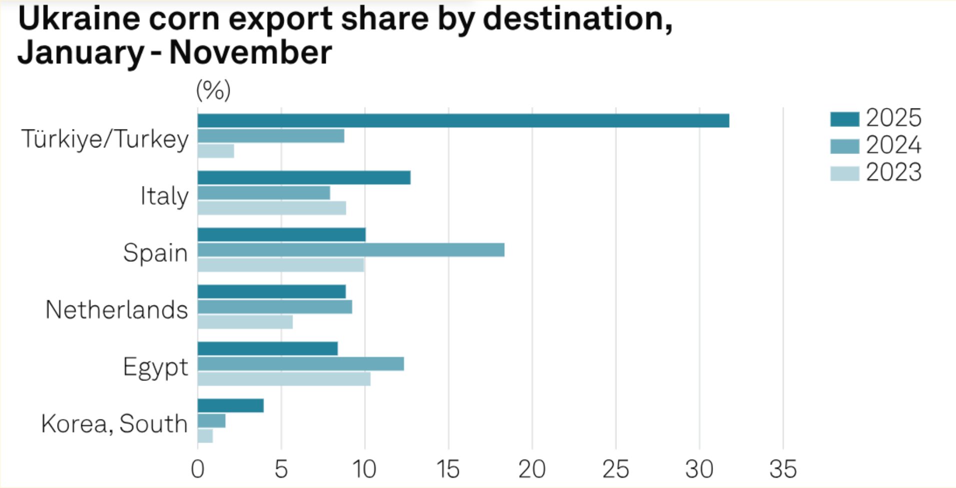
Within the European Union, Spain, the Netherlands and Italy remain the largest corn importers. According to European Commission data, Spain imported 7.2 million metric tons of corn in the 2024/25 marketing year (July–June), slightly down from 7.6 million tons in 2023/24.

The Netherlands increased its imports to 3.3 million tons, up from 2.6 million tons a year earlier, while Italy imported 2.8 million tons, compared with 2.1 million tons in the previous season.

The data suggest that while overall EU demand remains strong, sourcing patterns continue to evolve in response to supply disruptions, trade policy uncertainty and shifting price dynamics.

Trade data show a noticeable change in the destination pattern of Ukrainian corn exports. According to S&P Global Market Intelligence’s Global Trade Analytics Suite (GTAS), from January to September 2025, about 13% of Ukraine’s corn shipments were destined for Italy, while 10% went to Spain, down sharply from 19% in 2024.

The Netherlands accounted for around 9% of Ukraine's corn exports during the same period, reflecting a redistribution of Ukrainian supply across key EU markets as logistics and demand conditions continue to evolve. [1]



Kazakh Flaxseed Shipment Reaches Northwest China via New China–Central Asia Freight Routes

A shipment of 1,767 tons of flaxseed from Kazakhstan has arrived in Yinchuan, the capital of the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region in northwest China, highlighting the growing role of China–Central Asia freight routes in facilitating agricultural trade.

According to Xinhua, citing chinanews.com.cn, the cargo entered China via the Khorgos border checkpoint and was transported to the southern freight yard of the Yinchuan Railway Logistics Center. From there, it was delivered by road to the city's comprehensive bonded zone, where the flaxseed will be processed.

Local authorities said the agricultural raw material will be turned into high-quality vegetable oil destined for the domestic market. The products are expected to reach consumers ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday period, when demand for edible oils typically increases.

Ningxia is one of China's key regions for the processing and consumption of flaxseed, with a well-developed agribusiness sector specializing in oilseed crushing and food production.

Local business representatives said the launch of the China–Central Asia rail freight routes has significantly improved logistics efficiency. The new corridor has made cross-border deliveries faster and more cost-effective, helping ensure stable supplies of raw materials for regional processors and supporting the steady growth of agricultural trade between China and Central Asia.[2]

Canada Boosts Canola Crushing, Eyes Return to Chinese Market

Canada's canola processing sector continued to show strong momentum in late 2025, with commercial crushing volumes rising sharply in December. According to industry data, crushers processed 1.08 million tonnes of canola in December, up 6% month on month. This marked the second-highest monthly total on record, surpassed only by October 2024, when about 1.1 million tonnes were crushed.

From August through December 2025, total canola crushing reached a record 5.1 million tonnes, compared with 4.9 million tonnes over the same period a year earlier. The efficiency of processing also improved, with the average oil yield since the start of the season increasing to 42.3%, above the 42.1% recorded in the August–December 2024 period.

At the same time, market analysts say the shifting trade landscape could have wider implications for global oilseed and meal markets. In particular, Ukrainian rapeseed meal may face increased competition if Canada resumes large-scale shipments of canola meal to China.

Traders report that Chinese importers are already booking Canadian canola meal cargoes for April–June delivery, while Canadian industry associations have publicly discussed the possibility of restoring regular trade flows with China. If confirmed, this development could redirect demand away from other suppliers and reshape export opportunities in the global protein meal market.[1]

US Soybean Market Faces Uncertainty Despite Strong 2025 Crop

Missouri agricultural economists say the outlook for the 2026 US soybean market is balanced between opportunity and risk, with prices likely to be shaped by weather conditions, international trade policy, and expanding demand from the biofuels sector.

Chris Six, an agricultural economist in Missouri, described the 2026 soybean outlook as "neither pessimistic nor optimistic," noting that several external forces will influence market direction. The 2025 growing season closed with strong production results, as a recent US Department of Agriculture report showed Missouri's soybean output exceeded targets from both 2023 and 2024.

However, Ben Brown, an agricultural economist at the University of Missouri, cautioned that headline figures mask significant regional differences in yields. Some areas performed exceptionally well, while others suffered from weather stress, leading to uneven results across the state and inflated expectations among farmers.

Late-season drought conditions weighed heavily on crops in parts of Missouri. August 2025 was the second-driest on record since 1909, according to University of Missouri climatologist Zach Lisor. The dry spell reduced bean size and yields in affected regions. Brown said the experience underscored the importance of early planting, noting that growers who seeded in early to mid-April achieved better yields in 2025.

Beyond weather, Brown emphasized that global trade and politics are playing an increasingly important role in US soybean price formation. He pointed to sharp market reactions to policy signals, including an August social media post by President Donald Trump that triggered a roughly 40-cent per bushel jump in soybean prices.

Brown also cited recent tariff measures affecting trade with Brazil and India, noting that while such policies are outside farmers' control, they directly influence demand for US soybeans. He added that during a recent US government shutdown, Washington and Beijing reached an agreement allowing additional US soybean exports to China, though details remain limited.

According to official statements, US soybean production is expected to rise by about 12 million metric tons, or roughly 441 million bushels, by the end of 2025. The agreement reportedly includes a commitment to supply 25 million bushels annually for three years, totaling more than 900 million bushels, although US soybeans still face a 13% tariff in China—well above the 3% tariffs applied to Brazilian and Argentine soybeans.

Looking ahead, Brown said biofuels policy could provide a key source of demand growth for soybeans and other oilseeds. Proposed regulations supporting renewable fuels are expected to increase the use of soybean, canola and sunflower oil in energy markets, boosting long-term demand.

While some supportive factors are emerging, Brown does not anticipate a major expansion in US soybean acreage in 2026. "Profitability won't be terrible, but it won't be perfect either," he said, adding that the market is still waiting for final clarity on biofuels rules that could reshape price prospects for both soybeans and corn.[1]

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