CSI DAILY NEWS

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Russia Keeps Grain Export Duties at Zero for Early May

Export duties on wheat, corn, and barley from Russia will remain at zero for the period April 29 to May 5, according to the Ministry of Agriculture of Russia.

The duty levels are calculated based on updated indicative prices. Wheat is set at $234.7/mt (up from $234.4), barley at $224/mt (from $223.8), while corn declined to $217.5/mt (from $220.8).

Russia introduced a flexible export duty system in 2021 under its grain "damper" mechanism. The duty is set at 70% of the difference between the indicative price and a fixed base price, with calculations based on export contracts registered on the Moscow Exchange. [3]

Sunflower Meal Duty Drops to Zero as Russia Adjusts Pricing Formula

Export duties on sunflower products from Russia will be sharply reduced in May, according to the Ministry of Agriculture of Russia.

The duty on sunflower oil will fall more than threefold to 4,650 rubles per tonne, down from 16,222.4 rubles in April. At the same time, the export duty on sunflower meal will be set at zero, compared with 749.6 rubles per tonne previously.

The oil duty is calculated based on an indicative price of $1,291.8 per tonne, slightly higher than April's $1,270.9.

Under Russia's pricing formula, export duties are determined as 70% of the difference between indicative and base prices. The base values were recently raised to 90,750 rubles per tonne for sunflower oil and 17,463 rubles for sunflower meal.

The adjustment in base prices has effectively lowered duty rates, improving export economics for Russian processors and potentially boosting shipments.[3]

Russia Vegetable Oil Exports Rise 19% in Q1 2026

Exports of vegetable oils from Russia increased by 19% year on year in the first quarter of 2026, reaching 2 million tons, according to analysts at Oleoscope.

Growth was also recorded in related segments. Oilseed exports rose by 29% to 933,000 tons, while shipments of vegetable meal climbed 20% to 1.29 million tons.

In contrast, exports of processed products showed weaker performance. Margarine shipments declined by 22% to 40,000 tons, and mayonnaise exports edged down by 0.5% to 33,000 tons compared with the same period last year.

The data highlights continued strength in bulk commodity exports, while value-added segments remain under pressure.[3]

Russia Agri-Export Revenue to Belarus Jumps 20% in Early 2026

Revenue from agricultural exports from Russia to Belarus rose by 20% year on year in January–February, reaching nearly $670 million, according to preliminary data from Agroexport, cited by Interfax. Export volumes exceeded 575,000 tons over the period.

Sunflower oil remained the top revenue-generating product, with exports valued at over $98 million, up 16% from a year earlier. Pet food ranked second at nearly $37 million, showing a 1.7-fold increase.

Other key categories included rapeseed, which generated more than $33 million in export revenue (down 8% year on year), and soybeans, which saw a sharp rise to around $28 million—more than tripling compared to the same period last year. [7]

Russia Grain Exports Seen at Over 52 Million Tons

The International Grains Council (IGC) has revised its outlook for the global grain market in the 2025/26 season, raising forecasts for production and trade while slightly lowering consumption expectations.

Global grain output is now projected at 2.474 billion tons, up 4 million tons from the previous estimate. The upward revision is largely driven by improved corn production prospects in Argentina.

Grain consumption is forecast at 2.422 billion tons, reflecting a modest downward adjustment. At the same time, global trade is expected to expand to 451 million tons, an increase of 27 million tons compared with the previous season.

Exports from Russia are projected at 52.3 million tons, including 45.8 million tons of wheat.

Stronger supply combined with slightly lower consumption is expected to boost global grain stocks, which are forecast to reach 638 million tons by the end of the season.

In Russia, end-of-season stocks are estimated at 17.9 million tons, up from 13.1 million tons a year earlier, reflecting improved availability in the domestic market. [5]

Commodity Auctions: Results For 27.04.2026

Purchase

OOO Trading House Sodruzhestvo

Soybeans 40, incl. VAT | 36,500 ₽/t | 500 t

OOO Trading House Sodruzhestvo

Soybeans 37, incl. VAT | 34,000 ₽/t | 1,200 t

OOO Zakazchik No. 1

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,295 ₽/t | 620 t

OOO OZK Trading

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,850 ₽/t | 75 tons

OOO "OZK Trading"

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,100 ₽/t | 90 tons

OOO "Zakazchik No. 1"

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,350 ₽/t | 600 tons [6]

Russia Expands Wheat Market Share in South Korea

Wheat exports from Russia to South Korea have increased significantly in the 2025/26 marketing year, driven primarily by a growing market share rather than an expansion in overall demand.

From the start of the season through April 20, shipments totaled around 210,000 tons, up 14% year on year. This marks the highest level since the 2017/18 season, when exports reached approximately 340,000 tons, well above the five-year average of about 100,000 tons.

According to the Foreign Agricultural Service in Seoul, South Korea's total wheat imports are expected to remain broadly stable at 4.5 million tons this season, indicating that Russia's gains are largely due to an increasing share in the import structure.

Customs data show that Russia's share of South Korea's wheat imports has risen steadily—from 1.5% in 2023/24 to 4.3% in 2024/25, reaching 6.2% so far in the current season. Analysts at Agroexport note that this growth reflects Russia's strong position in the feed wheat segment.

Traditional suppliers such as Australia and Canada continue to dominate the milling wheat segment, while the United States remains the leading exporter overall, holding roughly 50% of the market and supplying both milling and feed wheat.

Looking ahead, imports by South Korea are expected to decline slightly to 4.4 million tons next season. This suggests that further growth in Russian exports will depend largely on continued expansion of its market share rather than overall market growth.[4]

Ukraine Sunflower Seed Prices Rise on Strong Oil Market

Sunflower seed prices in Ukraine continued to rise last week, supported by stronger gains in sunflower oil prices at export ports, according to APK-Inform.

Procurement prices for sunflower seeds were mostly quoted at UAH 31,300–32,500 per ton CPT for a base oil content of 48%, while minimum bid levels were reported at UAH 30,800–31,000 per ton CPT.

Despite the upward price trend, supply from farmers remained limited, as producers held back sales in anticipation of further market gains.

Meanwhile, domestic offer prices for sunflower oil under FCA terms increased over the week to $1,335–1,350 per ton, with occasional trades reported as high as $1,360 per ton. [2]

Kazakhstan Wheat Prices Rise Despite Export Challenges

The food wheat market in Kazakhstan has been shaped by a combination of policy changes, currency movements, logistical constraints, and farmer selling strategies since the start of 2026, according to APK-Inform.

In January, limited farmer sales and ongoing logistics issues supported prices for third-class wheat at 90,000–95,000 tenge per ton EXW.

In February, the market came under pressure from changes in tax policy, including an increase in VAT and adjustments to the refund mechanism for traders. These changes reduced export margins and effectively paused new deal-making, as market participants shifted to a wait-and-see approach and focused on fulfilling previously signed contracts. Despite this, prices continued to rise, reaching 92,000–98,000 tenge per ton EXW by the end of the month.

During March and April, an additional factor emerged as the tenge strengthened against major currencies, further weighing on export competitiveness and making some deals economically unviable. As a result, prices stabilized at 95,000–100,000 tenge per ton EXW. [2]

France, Germany Lead Expansion in EU Rapeseed Area

Rapeseed acreage in the European Union is expected to expand in 2026, supported by strong price signals during the autumn 2025 planting season, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

FAS estimates total rapeseed area at 6.3 million hectares, up 2.7% from the previous year. Despite the increase in planted area, production is forecast at 20.4 million tons—slightly below last year's 20.5 million tons—reflecting expectations of average yields.

Production remains concentrated in key member states, with France, Germany, Poland, and Romania accounting for roughly three-quarters of total output.

The Union for the Promotion of Oilseed and Grain Cultivation also anticipates an increase in oilseed acreage across these major producing countries, reinforcing the upward trend in planting.[1]

India Wheat Output Seen Stable Despite Weather Challenges

Wheat production in India for the 2025/26 marketing year is expected to remain broadly stable despite localized weather-related losses, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, which described the season as "mixed but resilient."

Industry estimates place total output at around 110–111 million tons, slightly above last season's 109.6 million tons but below the government's initial projection of over 120 million tons. Final production is expected to fall within a range of 110 to 120 million tons.

The total wheat area reached 33.4 million hectares this season, with no major pest or disease outbreaks reported. Early sowing helped mitigate the impact of heat stress during the grain-filling stage, supporting overall crop performance.

However, farmers faced challenges from unusually high temperatures in February, along with untimely rains and hailstorms during the maturity phase. These conditions affected yields and grain quality in some regions, although the overall impact remained limited.

Procurement data also points to steady output. In Madhya Pradesh, the procurement target has been raised to 10 million tons due to higher expected production. Meanwhile, Maharashtra is projected to produce around 2.29 million tons, with stable arrivals from key regions confirming the sector's resilience. [1]

Canada Strengthens Global Wheat Position Through Market Development

Canada is strengthening its position in the global wheat market through active market development and science-based export support, according to a report released by Cereals Canada on April 22.

Canadian wheat is exported to more than 80 countries annually, with shipments in the 2025/26 marketing year expected to exceed 28 million tons. Key destinations include China, Indonesia, Japan, the United States, and Peru.

Canada remains the world's leading exporter of durum wheat and oats and is on track to rank as the third-largest wheat exporter globally, reinforcing its role in supporting global food security.

Export growth is supported not only by production volumes but also by proactive market engagement. In 2025, Cereals Canada expanded its international outreach through trade missions, technical exchanges, webinars, and targeted buyer support programs.

Particular emphasis has been placed on developing markets in Central America, Southeast Asia, and the Indo-Pacific, where demand for premium wheat classes such as Canada Western Red Spring and Canada Western Amber Durum continues to grow.

According to Cereals Canada, diversification of export markets remains critical for long-term resilience. The combination of scientific expertise, technical support, and close relationships with global buyers is helping Canada maintain its competitiveness in the international grain trade.[1]

South Africa Set for Record Maize Harvest in 2025

South Africa is set for a record maize harvest in 2025, as the National Crop Estimation Committee raised its production forecast to 16.8 million tons, up from 16.5 million tons previously and 2% higher year on year.

Harvesting of the new crop is currently underway and is expected to be completed by June. The outlook includes 9.1 million tons of white maize and 7.8 million tons of yellow maize, with average yields estimated at 62.0 centners per hectare.

Meanwhile, wheat planting is scheduled to begin in May. The CEC projects a decline in wheat area to 486,400 hectares, down 6% from the previous year. [1]

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