



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.14/62
30 September 1960

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Third Session
Provisional Agenda Item 5 (ii)

REVIEW OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL
SITUATION IN AFRICA

Prepared by the Food and Agriculture
Organisation for the Third Session of the
Economic Commission for Africa

The rate of increase of agricultural production, and especially food production, in Africa appears to have slowed down in the last few years. For 1959/60, the latest season for which data are available, provisional estimates indicate that there was a slight fall in production from the level of the previous year. On a per caput basis, food production appears to have fallen below the prewar level for the last three years. The production statistics for basic food crops and livestock products in Africa are subject to a considerable margin of error, however, so that these data can be regarded as no more than approximate indications of the trends that have probably occurred.

The statistics of international trade are generally more reliable. The volume of the region's agricultural exports has increased rapidly throughout the postwar period, and there was a particularly sharp rise in the calendar year 1959. Because of lower prices, however, total earnings from agricultural exports have grown much more slowly. In 1959, prices, especially for cocoa, coffee and cotton, fell steeply, so that export earnings were reduced in spite of the big rise in the volume of shipments. Imports of agricultural products, although still small, are increasing rapidly.

The African continent is so large and diverse that, in addition to the

shortcomings in the statistics, such overall magnitudes can give only a very rough picture of the food and agricultural situation as it affects individual countries. They do, however, serve to draw attention to the main problems and issues of general importance. The remainder of this paper reviews in more detail the principal recent developments in agricultural production and trade and in food supplies and levels of nutrition, together with some account of longer-term trends. An Annex Table sets out details of the production of the more important crops in the continent as a whole in the chief producing countries for which statistics are available.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Agricultural production in Africa increased rapidly until 1956/57, but in more recent years there appears to have been some slackening in the pace of expansion except for non-food products. In 1957/58 agricultural production is estimated to have fallen by about 2 percent (Table 1), chiefly because of poor grain harvests as a result of drought in the countries of north-west Africa. Output recovered sharply in 1958/59 to a record level, though the increase in food production was smaller than that in agricultural production as a whole. Preliminary estimates indicate that there was again a slight decline in food

Table 1. Indices of the Volume of Agricultural Production in Relation to Population Growth in Africa

	Prewar Average Average 1948/49- 1952/53	Average 1953/54	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58	1958/59	1959/60 (Preliminary)
..... Indices, 1952/53 - 1956/57 average = 100								
TOTAL PRODUCTION								
All agricultural products	73	89	98	100	102	106	105	109
Food products	74	89	98	100	102	106	104	106
Non-food products	68	87	92	97	104	108	111	124
Grains	70	86	99	102	101	106	98	101
Livestock products	80	93	98	97	102	106	107	108
POPULATION	75	92	98	100	102	104	106	109
PER CAPUT PRODUCTION								
All agricultural products	98	96	100	100	100	102	98	100
Food products	99	97	101	100	100	102	97	97

1/ Coffee, tea, tobacco, inedible oilseeds, animal and vegetable fibres, and rubber.

2/ These indices are based on price-weighted aggregates, and therefore differ from the totals of grain production shown in the Annex Table.

3/ Food products only.

production and in total agricultural production in 1959/60, but non-food production continued to increase.

Declines in production were rather widespread in 1959/60, both north and south of the Sahara, and cocoa, coffee and rice were almost the only products to show a large rise (about 10 percent) over the previous year. Small increases in wheat production in Algeria and the Union of South Africa were more than offset by lower crops in Morocco and Tunisia. Maize production was reduced in the Union of South Africa and the Egyptian Region of the U.A.R., but rice production recovered sharply in the Egyptian Region. Mauritius and Reunion had large sugar harvests, but production was lower in the Union of South Africa. Groundnut production declined in Nigeria and Senegal. Cotton production rose only slightly. On the other hand, both Ghana and Nigeria had record crops of cocoa, and coffee production increased in most of the major producing countries. The small output of livestock products appears to have remained approximately unchanged from the level of the previous year, though for this sector the statistics are particularly unreliable.

Prospects for 1960/61 production are still uncertain. The countries of north-west Africa have had better rains than in 1959, and wheat and barley crops are expected to show some increase over the low production of 1959/60. Sudan expects a record crop of millet and sorghum. In the Egyptian Region of the U.A.R. the acreage planted to cotton is estimated to have increased slightly, but rice production is likely to be a little smaller than in 1959/60. The severe cyclone damage in Mauritius and Reunion at the beginning of 1950 will sharply reduce their 1960/61 sugar crops.

Production in Relation to Population

From 1948-52 to 1959/60 the population of Africa is estimated to have been increasing at an average annual rate of 2.2 percent. Total agricultural production appears to have increased at approximately the same rate, but there has been a lag in food production, for which the rate of increase is estimated as only

1.9 percent per year.

Per caput food production fell sharply in 1957/58 and again in 1959/60 and is now estimated at about 5 percent less than before the war. While the fall in total food production is probably only temporary, and the upward trend is likely to be resumed in 1960/61, the deterioration in per caput food production for the past three seasons must rise to some concern. Per caput food production has fallen by about 8 percent since reaching a peak in 1956/57, and it is bound to take some years to make up this leeway, especially because of the accelerating rate of population growth.

Per caput production figures are, of course, only an indicator of the progress of consumption in relation to population growth. As they take no account of changes in the level of imports and exports, they can give no reliable indication of trends in food consumption.

Pattern of Production

As noted above, food production has tended to increase more slowly than agricultural production as a whole. Compared with the average for 1948-52, food production had risen by less than 20 percent by 1959/60, as against an increase of almost 50 percent in non-food production. Non-food products (mainly coffee, tea, tobacco, linseed, castor seed, cotton, sisal, wool and rubber) are produced primarily for export, so that production for export appears to have increased much more rapidly than production for domestic consumption. There has probably been little change in the overall composition of agricultural output, however, for non-food products account for only about 15 percent of the total.^{1/} Partly also, the slower increase of local food crops may be more apparent than real, as the export crops are generally much better documented.

The tendency for a more rapid increase in export production is confirmed by a comparison of the trends for basic food crops (grains and starchy roots) and all other crops. Since 1948/49 the production of basic food crops is estimated to have increased at an average rate of only about 1.5 percent per year, which is considerably slower than the growth of population and of agricultural production as a whole. In many areas these crops are grown in mixed plots, which makes their estimation particularly difficult, and crops such as cassava present additional statistical problems, as they can be left unharvested for more ^{1/} On the basis of the price-weighted aggregates of the FAO production index.

than one season. Even allowing for the faults in the statistics, however, it seems clear that there has been a considerable lag in the production of basic food crops.

The production of other crops has increased much faster, at a rate estimated at nearly 4 percent per year from 1948/49 to 1959/60. This group includes, in addition to the non-food crops listed earlier, mainly sugar, pulses, edible oilseeds, fruit, vegetables and cocoa.

From the few indications that are available, it seems that the expansion of livestock production has been slower than that of crops and also slower than the growth of population, though it has exceeded the very slow increase in basic grains and roots. It is estimated that the 1959/60 output of livestock products was only about 15 percent more than the 1948-52 average, and that the average annual increase since 1948/49 has been about 1.7 percent.

There are a number of other aspects of the pattern of agricultural production that are of particular interest, but the statistics are inadequate to indicate the trends that are occurring. A most important aspect is the transition from subsistence to commercial agriculture. The tendency for export crops to increase faster than those for domestic consumption is itself an indication of this movement. It would be useful, however, to have data on changes in the proportion of production for domestic consumption that is marketed, as a measure of the expansion of food supplies for the growing urban populations. The only statistical evidence of the pace of the overall transition to commercial agriculture is for the Congo, where total indigenous crop production and sales are estimated to have increased at about the same rate until 1954, but since then sales have risen much more rapidly. In 1959 the index of quantities sold stood at 186 (1947-49 = 100), as compared with 139 for the index of crop production.

Many countries in Africa are also attempting to increase the diversity of their agricultural production, both in order to lessen their dependence on a narrow range of exports and to improve the nutritional quality of diets. While it is not possible to obtain details of the progress of this movement, the above analysis suggests that there may have been some slight increase in the diversity of production for domestic consumption, as the output of livestock products appears to have increased slightly faster than the basic food crops

that dominate the diet in most areas. It must be repeated, however, that the statistics are inadequate for any very firm conclusions to be drawn, while in any case livestock production seems to have lagged behind the growth of population. In many parts of Africa livestock numbers are relatively larger, but sales of livestock products are limited by social attitudes to cattle as well as by lack of access to markets. Increased sales of livestock products would themselves help to ease the overstocking of pasture that is prevalent in many areas.

Trends in Crop Areas and Yields

The statistical data do not enable a detailed analysis of trends in crop areas and yields in Africa. Such data as are available, however, indicate that, as in the other less-developed regions, the postwar expansion of production has come very largely from the enlargement of the crop area rather than from higher yields per hectare, though there have been small increases in the low level of yields for most of the major crops for which information is available. Yield data are generally not available for the main perennial export crops, however, such as cocoa, coffee, tea, sisal and rubber, for which there appear to have been substantial increases in yields in some countries.

Grain yields are highly variable in north-west Africa and in the drier areas bordering the Sahara. According to the FAO indices of agricultural production, drought caused total agricultural production to drop in Algeria by about 10 percent in both 1955/56 and 1957/58, in Morocco by 15 percent in 1957/58, and in Tunisia by 21 percent in 1955/56 and 13 percent in 1957/58. The sharp falls in these countries in 1957/58 were the main factor in the decline in the production of the continent as a whole. In the Union of South Africa, the expansion of the wheat area in the summer rainfall zone, which has brought self-sufficiency in several recent years, appears to have added greatly to the annual variability of the crop.

Main Crops

Grains account for about a quarter of Africa's crop production. Rice has increased more rapidly than any other grain, and in 1959/60 production was double the prewar level. Production has more than doubled in the Egyptian Region of the U.A.R., the main producer, though the acreage varies sharply with the amount of

water available for irrigation. Madagascar's rice output is now regularly above one million tons, and there have also been sharp increases in parts of West Africa and in the Congo. Maize production appears now to be about two thirds more than the prewar level, though most of the increase was during the war and the earlier postwar years. Much of the more recent increase has been in the Union of South Africa. Here and in a number of other countries in Central and East Africa there has been a succession of record crops of maize in several recent years, which have sometimes given rise to export surpluses that have been difficult to dispose of. Wheat production has increased fairly rapidly in the countries of north-west Africa, the Egyptian Region of the U.A.R. and the Union of South Africa, though with sharp fluctuations from year to year. Barley production has fluctuated even more sharply, and the low crop of 1957/58 was even less than the prewar average. Statistics of millets, sorghums, the starchy root crops (cassava, sweet potatoes, yams and cocoyams) and plantains, which are the remaining basic food crops, are too unreliable for analysis. It seems, however, that on the whole their production has increased relatively slowly.

Pulse crops are an important source of protein in some areas, and their recorded production has generally increased in recent years. Sugar is an important crop in Mauritius, Mozambique, Reunion and the Union of South Africa, in each of which production has increased very rapidly. Sugar production has also expanded sharply in the Egyptian Region of the U.A.R. where it is used mainly for domestic consumption. Citrus fruit is exported by the countries of north-west Africa and the Union of South Africa, and there is also a large output for domestic consumption in the Egyptian Region of the U.A.R. The expansion of output has been particularly striking in Morocco, where the production of oranges was insignificant before the war but now, at nearly half a million tons, is the largest in Africa. Banana production increased very rapidly in the earlier postwar years, but the expansion has now slowed down considerably. Wine production has fluctuated sharply from year to year, especially in Algeria and Morocco, and in several recent years the regional total has been less than before the war.

Groundnuts are the major oilseed produced in Africa. Production has increased fairly rapidly in Nigeria and in more recent years in Senegal, the two principal producing countries, but the most spectacular increase has been in the Union of South Africa, under the influence of high guaranteed prices.

The output of oil palm products, however, appears to have risen rather slowly. Olive oil production is subject to a two-year cycle of fluctuations, but the trend in the North African producing countries shows a sharp increase.

Coffee, which is a major export of many countries in Africa, has increased more rapidly than any other main crop, though the fastest increases of all have been for rubber and tea, of which production is smaller. 1959/60 coffee production was more than double the 1948-52 average and between four and five times the prewar level. Cocoa production, on the other hand, has tended to stagnate until recently, and has sometimes been below prewar levels, though there have been sharp increases in some of the smaller producing countries. In each of the last two seasons, however, there have been substantial increases in both Ghana and Nigeria, partly as a result of improved disease control measures, and it appears that a new rising trend may finally have begun. The small output of tea has grown very rapidly, as has that of tobacco, which has doubled in Southern Rhodesia since 1948-52.

Cotton production is about 50 percent above the prewar level, though in the Egyptian Region of the U.A.R., the main producer, there have been some variations in production depending on Government acreage allotments. Sisal production has more than doubled since the war, with especially large expansions in Angola and Tanganyika. The production of rubber in Liberia, Nigeria and the Congo was negligible before the war, but partly under the influence of wartime shortages has since increased extremely rapidly.

AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Agricultural Exports.

Agricultural products account for the great bulk of the export trade of most countries in Africa. The main exceptions are the Congo, the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, and the Union of South Africa, where there has been substantial mineral development.

The volume of Africa's agricultural exports has expanded very rapidly (Table 2). In 1959 the increase over the previous year was as much as 7 percent and took the volume of exports to

Table 2 Indices of Agricultural Trade in Africa

	Prewar average	Average 1948-52	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959 (Preliminary)
..... Indices, 1952-53 average = 100									
<u>VOLUME OF GROSS EXPORTS</u>									
All agricultural products	82	93	105	111	119	124	126	128	137
Grains	113	129	100	152	181	184	172	213	106
Vegetable oils and oilseeds (edible)	89	90	106	121	112	128	125	141	142
Beverages and tobacco	73	92	103	109	124	131	140	128	144
Agricultural raw materials	87	93	106	100	105	106	101	107	130
<u>AVERAGE PRICES (UNIT VALUE) OF EXPORTS</u>									
All agricultural products	31	99	95	102	93	90	92	92	83
Grains	39	85	98	82	77	70	67	63	67
Vegetable oils and oilseeds (edible)	26	97	97	93	87	93	95	84	86
Beverages and tobacco	27	91	99	122	103	89	91	110	90
Agricultural raw materials	31	111	88	90	88	90	95	79	74
<u>TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS</u>									
All agricultural products	25	92	99	113	110	111	116	118	114
Grains	44	109	99	124	140	129	116	134	71
Vegetable oils and oilseeds (edible)	23	87	103	113	98	119	118	119	122
Beverages and tobacco	20	84	102	133	127	116	127	141	130
Agricultural raw materials	27	103	94	90	92	95	96	85	96
<u>VOLUME OF GROSS IMPORTS</u>									
All agricultural products	62	88	99	96	104	121	129	127	143
Grains	60	92	93	64	77	117	134	131	195
<u>VOLUME OF NET EXPORTS</u>									
All agricultural products	89	95	106	116	124	125	125	129	134
Food products	122	106	114	167	161	151	136	174	104

Average export prices more than trebled between 1934-38 and 1948-52, but since then have fluctuated about a declining trend. In 1958, as a result of the recession in economic activity in the industrialized countries of the world, as well as the heavy pressure of supplies, export prices fell sharply for most products, and especially for cotton and other raw materials of agricultural

origin. Cocoa prices rose steeply, however, so that average export unit values for the total agricultural exports of Africa were maintained in 1958 at the same level as in 1957. In 1959, on the other hand, cocoa prices joined the general downward movement, and average export unit values for Africa's agricultural exports dropped by almost 9 percent. As a result total agricultural export earnings fell by over 3 percent, in spite of the large rise in the volume of shipments.

Agricultural export earnings are now some five times the rather depressed prewar level, and have increased by about a quarter since 1948-52. These data and those in Table 2 are in current prices. Much of the gain in export earnings has, however, been wiped out by the general rise in prices. If the figures in Table 2 are deflated by the UN index of average export prices for manufactured goods in world trade, as a rough indicator of changes in "real" values, it appears that the rise of about 70 percent in the volume of exports since the prewar period has brought the total "real" value to more than twice the prewar level. In comparison with 1948-52, however, the volume of exports was nearly 50 percent larger in 1959, as against an increase of only 15 percent in their "real" value.

The beverages and tobacco group (coffee, cocoa, tea, wine and tobacco) is the most important in the agricultural export trade of Africa, and accounted for about 40 percent of the total value of its agricultural exports in 1955-59. Coffee has been the main contributor to the rapid rise in the volume of exports of this group. Coffee prices rose very sharply until 1954, but in 1955 they fell by more than a quarter; from 1955 to 1958 the fluctuated about a declining trend and in 1959 dropped by about one fifth. In line with the trend of production, the volume of cocoa exports has increased very little and has fluctuated sharply from year to year. In 1958 cocoa shipments were even less than before the war, though they recovered in 1959 and the recent renewed expansion of production should bring a sharp rise in export volumes, once consumption in the importing countries reacts to the present lower prices. As a result of the limited supply (Africa provides about 70 percent of world exports), cocoa prices rose steeply until 1954. A sharp decline followed; there was some recovery in 1958, but a renewed fall in 1959 and the beginning of 1960. The small volume of exports of tea and tobacco has risen rapidly, but wine exports have tended

to stagnate at about 20 percent above the prewar level.

Agricultural raw materials are the second most important commodity group, and represent nearly 30 percent of the total value of agricultural exports. The volume of cotton exports has increased steadily, and with a very sharp expansion in 1959 was more than a third higher than in 1948-52. Exports of sisal and rubber have grown even more rapidly. The Union of South Africa is the world's fourth largest exporter of wool; exports had been declining for some years until 1959, when they recovered sharply. Prices for all these products were severely affected in 1957 and 1958 by the recession in economic activity in the industrialized countries, but most of them showed some signs of recovery in late 1959 and early 1960. It should be noted that the data for agricultural raw materials in Table 2 do not include hides and skins, which are a major export in many parts of Africa but for which statistics are very inadequate.

Vegetable oils and oilseeds are the next most important group, accounting for almost 20 percent of the total value of agricultural exports. Exports of groundnuts and oil have increased rapidly, and in some countries, especially Senegal and Soudan, an increasingly large proportion of the total is exported in the form of oil. The volume of palm oil exports has increased much more slowly, however, and those of palm kernels are only a little more than before the war. As indicated earlier, the production of oil palm products appears to have increased relatively slowly, while especially for palm kernels, higher domestic demand has also affected the level of exports. Average export prices for the oils and oilseeds group as a whole rose rapidly after the war, but have slowly declined over the past decade. With the reduction of exports from the Far East, Africa now accounts for about 40 percent of world exports of edible oils and oilseeds, as compared with about 35 percent before the war.

Grains and fruit, the principal remaining commodity groups, play a relatively small part in the agricultural exports of Africa as a whole, but are of considerable importance in several individual countries. Wheat and barley exports from the countries north of the Sahara have fluctuated very widely, and the region's 1959 exports of wheat were only one third of the record level of 1955. Madagascar's rice exports reached nearly 60,000 tons in 1958, but were halved in 1959. Grain prices have been declining since about 1953, with the heavy supplies on world markets. The volume of exports of oranges from North Africa

and the Union of South Africa has risen at a spectacular rate. Banana exports, especially from Cameroon, have also increased rapidly, though in 1958 and 1959 shipments declined sharply from the record 1957 level.

Agricultural Imports and the Net Trade Position

Africa is a substantial net exporter of agricultural products, and its gross imports amount to less than 30 percent (by value) of its gross exports of these commodities. The volume of imports has increased slightly faster than exports, but because imports are so much smaller net exports have fairly closely followed the trend of gross exports. Net exports of foodstuffs, however, have fluctuated sharply. In 1959 the volume of gross imports of agricultural products rose by as much as 12 percent, and the greatly expanded imports and reduced exports of grain caused a fall of well over a third in net exports of foodstuffs.

Only for wheat and flour, and tea, do the region's gross imports substantially exceed its gross exports, though the net imports of condensed and evaporated milk are also beginning to assume important proportions. Smaller net imports include potatoes, some vegetable oils, prepared and canned meat, butter and cheese. Gross and net imports of most of these commodities have grown rapidly. Gross imports of wheat and flour in 1959 were more than nine times as high as before the war. This, and also the substantial increases in imports of potatoes, prepared and canned meat, and dairy products, is to some extent an indication of changes in diets that are occurring with urbanization and rising incomes. The largest importer of wheat and wheat flour is the Egyptian Region of the United Arab Republic, but its imports have fluctuated sharply from year to year, varying from a million tons in 1951 to less than 100,000 tons in 1954 and 1955. There were no imports of wheat and wheat flour into the Union of South Africa in 1957 and 1958, as a result of two successive record harvests, but they rose again to 370,000 tons in 1959. The increases in imports of potatoes, canned meat and dairy products are spread over most of the continent, though imports of prepared meat go mostly to Ghana. Imports of tea, especially to Morocco and the Union of South Africa, have grown rapidly; those of the Egyptian Region of the United Arab Republic have remained fairly stable in the

last few years.

Of the products for which exports generally exceed gross imports, there is regularly a substantial gross import only of sugar and rice. Gross imports of sugar have risen to about two and a half times the prewar volume. This very rapid increase also reflects urbanization and rising incomes and is spread over most of the continent except for the few areas where there is substantial local production (and also exports). Morocco accounts for about one third of the total sugar imports. For rice Africa is a large net exporter in some years and a large net importer in others. On the gross export side, there are large fluctuations in the exports of the Egyptian Region of the United Arab Republic, which fell from 386,000 tons in 1958 to only 40,000 tons in 1959. With the worldwide shortage of rice after the war, gross imports fell to less than a third of their average prewar level, but in 1955 and 1956 with the improvement in supplies they recovered sharply to approximately the same as before the war. Since then there have been rather sharp annual fluctuations. The main importers of rice are some parts of the former French West Africa, Mauritius, Reunion, the Union of South Africa, and Zanzibar. There was also a fairly large gross import of maize into some countries in the earlier postwar years, in some of which Africa as a whole was actually a net importer. This position had mainly been determined by harvests in the Union of South Africa and sharply fluctuating imports into the Egyptian Region of the United Arab Republic. Following very large crops in the Union of South Africa from 1952/53 onwards, Africa's net exports have recovered and in some years have been double the prewar level. In parts of East and Central Africa maize imports and exports fluctuated rather sharply from year to year.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND NUTRITION

As noted earlier, the statistical information on which to base an assessment of the level of food consumption in Africa is far from satisfactory. In other regions the Food Balance Sheet method enables the estimation of national per caput food supplies on the basis of statistics of production, trade and distribution. Such information is available for very few countries of Africa, however, and knowledge of consumption levels is based mainly on the dietary

surveys that have been carried out in some countries. These surveys are not always sufficiently comprehensive and their geographical coverage is still far from enough, but they provide useful information about the pattern of consumption.

Millet and sorghums are the staple food in all the drier areas bordering the Sahara and Kalahari deserts. Maize assumes greater importance where the rainfall is a little higher, and is the staple food in wide areas, especially in East, Central and Southern Africa. Wheat and barley are the main food crops in the countries north of the Sahara, and rice in a few limited areas, particularly in Madagascar and parts of West Africa. In the forest zone, especially of West and Central Africa, these grain crops tend to be mainly replaced by the starchy root crops (cassava, sweet potatoes, yams and cocoyams) and plantains.

Dietary surveys indicate that a very large proportion of total calorie intakes comes from these predominantly starchy crops. They also suggest that calorie intakes generally more or less coincide with estimated requirements, except in those areas where there are sharp seasonal fluctuations giving rise to the well-known "hungry season" before the harvest. This occurs mainly in the drier areas immediately south of the Sahara desert, but little exact information is available on its frequency or severity. In addition to low and fluctuating rainfall it is associated with inadequate storage and sometimes, in the neighbourhood of large centres of population, with excessive sales of food in relation to farm needs. In the North African countries harvests also fluctuate sharply from year to year, but while the diets of at least some sections of the population must be affected, there are also large affecting fluctuations in the level of imports and exports of grains.

It is also evident from the dietary surveys, as well as from clinical information, that the quality of the diet is far from satisfactory in almost all parts of the region. Intakes of protein, especially animal protein, and of the necessary vitamins and minerals are very low. The quality as well as the quantity of the diet appears to suffer during the "hungry season".

Information on the trends in food consumption levels is even more scanty. The production indices discussed earlier indicate that since 1956/57 per caput food production has fallen by 8 percent, and in 1959/60 was back to about 5

percent below the low prewar level. The production especially of basic food crops appears to have lagged behind the growth of population. Although these data take no account of changes in imports and exports, trends in actual food consumption levels, however, have probably not been very different from those in per caput production.

These are only rough indications, but they are all that exist. The trends that they suggest are all the more serious in that a reduction in supplies tends to be unevenly distributed over the different socio-economic groups and even within the family. The diets of women and young children are particularly inadequate, partly because of various food taboos, and their insufficient intakes of animal protein lead to deficiency diseases such as kwashiorkor in children aged from one to four.

ANNEX TABLE

Production of Major Crops, Africa Continent and
Principal Producing Countries ^{1/}

	Prewar Average	Average 1948-52	1953/54	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58	1958/59	1959/60 (Preliminary)
..... thousand metric tons									
<u>Wheat</u>	3,860	4,300	5,340	6,060	5,410	5,910	5,240	5,400	5,200
Egypt	1,184	1,113	1,547	1,729	1,451	1,547	1,467	1,412	1,443
Algeria	952	996	1,101	1,392	1,306	1,536	1,359	1,129	1,105
Morocco	648	787	1,182	1,342	1,030	1,114	744	1,281	956
Union of South Africa	427	558	526	600	830	830	788	657	720
Tunisia	385	452	580	624	395	477	499	539	517
<u>Barley</u>	2,880	3,380	3,790	3,960	2,980	3,870	2,420	3,430	2,700
Morocco	1,186	1,481	2,010	2,342	1,493	1,844	796	1,590	1,119
Algeria	704	808	723	935	693	1,023	616	780	642
Tunisia	167	218	180	170	81	156	185	282	239
Egypt	225	123	103	116	127	129	131	135	142
<u>Maize</u>	6,200	8,400	10,200	10,200	10,500	10,900	10,200	11,000	10,300
Union of South Africa	1,995	2,453	3,539	3,397	3,391	3,926	3,343	3,659	3,671
Egypt	1,616	1,378	1,853	1,568	1,714	1,652	1,498	1,758	1,397
Rice (paddy)	2,200	3,450	3,300	3,800	4,100	4,300	4,700	4,000	4,400
Egypt	609	971	652	1,118	1,309	1,573	1,709	1,082	1,535
Madagascar	613	829	1,025	991	1,025	955	1,120	1,100	1,040
Serra Leone	187	260	2/ 222	224	220	220	228	236	226 *
Congo (former Belgin)	60	152	177	179	198	185	179	173	180 *
<u>Total Grains</u>	25,230	30,760	35,570	35,920	35,230	37,010	34,130	35,530	34,180
<u>Sugar (raw Value)</u>	1,100	1,560	1,870	2,050	2,240	2,270	2,455	2,555	2,615
Union of South Africa	409	555	658	658	752	770	871	1,016	853 *
Mauritius	278	443	512	499	533	573	562	526	580
Egypt	146	196	271	319	312	299	306 *	329 *	320 *
Reunion	81	116	171	175	177	193	208	165	200
Mozambique	72	86	90	90	124	139	164	153	165
<u>Wine</u>	2,140	1,720	2,270	2,510	2,070	2,490	2,160	2,050	2,530
Algeria	1,788	1,350	1,829	1,925	1,440	1,862	1,529	1,383	1,858
Union of South Africa	133	228	255	288	322	283	286 *	285*	285
Morocco	54	64	119	191	191 *	225	177	210	275
Tunisia	165	74	66	105	112 *	130	160	195	190*

Prewar Average
average 1948-52 1953/54 1954/55 1955/56 1956/57 1957/58 1958/59 1959/60
(preliminary)

.....thousand metric tons.....

<u>Oranges</u>	530	990	1,220	1,240	1,360	1,370	1,450	1,400	1,540
Morocco	29 *	170	178	206	243	281	348	385	476*
<u>Union of South Africa</u>	132	199	228	270	274	289	338	291 *	305*
Algeria	91	239	327	324	341	372	337	340	302
Egypt	184	263	324	295	327	282	267	303	300
<u>Bananas</u>	300	350	460	470	550	550	600	600	600*
Somalia	...	36	60	55	73	65	60	83	...
Egypt	...	39	38	37	50	48	44	48	...
Congo (former Belgian)	...	16	39	26	38	45	49	42	48
Ethiopia	...	23	22	21	24	25	28	28	...
<u>Olive Oil</u>	70	90	140	120	60	170	90	200	110
Tunisia	45	53	93	61	25	101	50	135	37
Algeria	12	18	24	27	16	23	17	17	30
Morocco	10	13	16	27	14	37	7 *	25	18 *
<u>Palm Kernels</u>	690	740	810	830	780	860	800	870	850
Nigeria 4/	...	373	441	469	430	470	420	468	440
Congo (former Belgian) 5/	128	117	119	118	120	140	146	144	140*
Sierra Leone 6/	...	74	70	69	59	59	54	56	59
<u>Palm Oil</u>	620	820	870	920	890	960	920	960	950
Nigeria 7/	...	348	420	450	420	460	409	457	433
Congo (former Belgian) 5/	...	202	180	196	197	221	234	225	...
<u>Groundnuts (in shell)</u>	1,900	2,420	3,040	2,800	3,240	3,440	4,090	3,700	3,530
Nigeria	550*	684*	870*	790*	1,000*	770*	1,300*	1,050*	900
Senegal 8/	491	420	551	390	539	712	808	675	...
<u>Union of South Africa</u>	14	105	202	196	223	182	142	194	173
Sudan	6	20	38	44	65	146	129	138	139
<u>Copra</u>	100	100	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
Mozambique 9/	36	46	46	44	48	52	59	54	38
<u>Coffee</u>	140	290	340	380	490	510	540	590	630
Ivory Coast 8/	...	58	49	85	98	117	104	158	...
Uganda	...	35	35	34	75	62	79	71	109
Angola	17	55	45	69	85	81*	77	88	95
Congo (former Belgian)	17	21	23	28	29	39	43	54	55
Madagascar	24	31	45	44	55	57	56	53	48
Ethiopia	20*	34	40	46	54	52	57	48*	48
Cameroon	2	9	10	11	14	19	23	27	30

Prewar Average
average 1948-52 1953/54 1954/55 1955/56 1956/57 1957/58 1958/59 1959/60
(Preliminary)

.....thousand metric tons

Kenya	18	10	12	13	24	19	21	24	24
Tanganyika	15	14	15	20	19	23	21	23	25
<u>Cocca</u>	490	500	470	490	530	580	467	570	630
Ghana	280	253	214	224	241	269	210	260	315
Nigeria	94	109	100	91	116	137	90	142	150
Cameroon	25	49	54	56	58	60	65	60	63
Ivory Coast 8/	...	53	57	73	71	73	46	56	...
<u>Tea</u>	9	19	20	27	30	34	34	40	44
Nyasaland	4	7	6	8	8	9	8	11	11
Kenya	4	6	6	8	9	10	10	11	13
<u>Tobacco</u>	70	140	160	150	170	160	180	200	200
Southern Rhodesia	11	44	55	56	75	62	67	82	96
<u>Cotton (lint)</u>	600	690	670	700	690	730	760	870	890
Egypt	400	396	318	348	335	325	405	446	457
Uganda	59	66	73	54	65	69	69	73	65*
Congo (former Belgian)	31	46	45	48	49	52	46	48	60*
Mozambique	6	29*	33	28	21	35	39*	43*	38*
Nigeria 10/	10	14*	26	34	28	25	42*	30*	38*
Tanganyika	10	10	9	18	22	24	31	31	37*
Sudan	56	74	91	89	95	128	49	128	122*
<u>Sisal</u>	160	230	280	290	300	310	330	350	360
Tanganyika	90	137	172	181	179	189	188	200	104
Angola	6	21	31	31*	41*	37*	46*	53*	52*
Kenya	30	38	39	35	39	40	42	47	49
Mozambique	22	19	22	25	27*	29	31*	33	28*
<u>Rubber</u>	10	60	80	90	100	120	120	130	140
Liberia	2	31	35	38	39	39	39	43	43
Nigeria	2	14	22	21	31	39	40	42	53
Congo (former Belgian)	1	10	18	23	26	33	34	35	40

1/ Production statistics are not available for all of the major producing countries. In particular few data are so far available for the individual countries of the former French Equatorial and French West Africa.

- 2/ Four-year average.
- 3/ Including also millets and sorghums, oats and rice (milled equivalent).
- 4/ Purchases for export.
- 5/ Plantation production and production from fruits delivered by African growers.
- 6/ Exports.
- 7/ FAO estimates.
- 8/ Marketed output.
- 9/ Exports of copra and coconut oil in copra equivalent.
- 10/ Purchases by Marketing Board.

.... Data unavailable.

* unofficial data.
