



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Foreign  
Agricultural  
Service

Circular Series  
WAP 02-07  
February 2007

# World Agricultural Production



## **Lack of January Rainfall Raises Concerns in South Africa's Corn Belt**

South Africa's 2006/07 corn production is forecast at 9.5 million tons, down 0.5 million tons from last month but up 2.6 million or 37 percent from last year. Area is estimated at 3.1 million hectares, down 0.1 million hectares from last month but up 1.1 million or 53 percent from last year. The large area increase is attributed to high international and local prices, and farmers planting corn again after reducing area last year due to low prices. The estimated yield of 3.06 MT/Ha is slightly below the 5-year average yield of 3.10 MT/Ha due to below-average January rainfall in the west where nearly 50 percent of the crop is grown.

**Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board**













































