CSI DAILY NEWS

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Russia’s Soybean Flour Exports Surge 2.7-Fold in 2025

Russia significantly increased exports of soybean flour in 2025, with shipments reaching nearly 8.5 thousand tons valued at $4 million, according to expert estimates. This represents a 2.7-fold increase in volume and a 2.3-fold rise in value compared with 2024, when exports totaled 3.2 thousand tons worth about $1.8 million.

China remained the largest importer, purchasing over 6 thousand tons valued at $2.7 million. Belarus ranked second, importing around 2.2 thousand tons worth $1.3 million. Smaller volumes were also supplied to Serbia, Armenia, and Kazakhstan.

Both the physical volume and the value of Russia’s soybean flour exports reached the highest levels on record. The previous peak was recorded in 2014, when shipments amounted to around 5 thousand tons valued at $3.7 million.

If you want, I can also make shorter headline styles for Telegram or Instagram posts (they usually perform better for agri-market news).[3]

Wheat and Sunflower Oil Lead Russian Agricultural Exports to Turkey

Exports of agricultural products from Russia to Turkey increased in 2025, with total shipments exceeding 12 million tons and reaching a value of $3.8 billion, according to expert estimates. This represents a 9% increase in value compared with 2024.

Wheat remained the largest export category by revenue, generating around $1.2 billion, followed by sunflower oil with more than $1.1 billion. Other key products included bran ($322 million), legumes ($296 million), and pomace and meal ($178 million).

Rice played a notable role in the growth of exports. The value of Russian rice shipments to Turkey rose sharply from $16,000 in 2024 to $8.8 million in 2025, mainly consisting of husked rice.

Several other agricultural commodities also recorded strong growth. Flaxseed exports increased 14-fold, while molasses shipments rose 2.9 times and barley exports expanded 2.7 times compared with the previous year.

Despite the increase, the record value of Russian agricultural exports to Turkey remains 2022, when deliveries exceeded $5 billion.[6]

Strong Demand Lifts Russian Wheat Exports and Prices

Competition between Russian and Kazakh flax producers may intensify as both countries significantly increase production and exports.

According to the Mundus Agri portal, Kazakhstan’s flaxseed exports remain strong. Preliminary data from the Kazakh Customs Service show that the country exported 118,100 tons of flaxseed in January 2026, down 34% from December, when shipments peaked at 179,300 tons.

During the first five months of the 2025/26 season (September–January), Kazakhstan exported around 638,100 tons of flaxseed. This is 138% higher than the same period a year earlier and already 22% above the total exports of the entire 2024/25 season, which amounted to 524,000 tons.

Kazakhstan has also sharply increased oilseed production. The 2025 harvest reached a record 4.95 million tons, compared with 3.33 million tons in 2024 and 2.18 million tons in 2023. Flaxseed output also hit a historic high of 1.35 million tons, with yields averaging 10 centners per hectare. The harvested area expanded 54% in 2025 to 1.35 million hectares. In comparison, the 2024 harvest totaled 760,000 tons with yields of 8.7 centners per hectare.

Russia also reported strong results, harvesting 1.9 million tons of flaxseed in 2025, 43% more than in 2024, with export potential estimated at around 1.5 million tons. With production volumes in both countries now comparable, competition for key markets—particularly China—is expected to intensify.

The situation is further complicated by trade policy changes. From 2026, the European Union plans to increase import duties on Russian flax to 50%, up from 20% previously, effectively closing this market for Russian exporters. Last season, Russia shipped about 200,000 tons of flax to the EU.

As a result, China is likely to remain the main destination for Russian flax, where competition with Kazakh suppliers is expected to grow. Kazakhstan may also benefit from Russia's 10% export duty on flax, which places Russian exporters at a disadvantage.

Domestic prices in Russia have already come under pressure, falling by 18.2% by the end of last year. However, a significant rise in domestic consumption is unlikely due to limited processing capacity, raising concerns that oversupply could build up if export demand fails to absorb growing production.[6]

Sunflower Yields in Russia Decline for Second Consecutive Year

Sunflower yields in Russia have declined for the second consecutive year, reaching 16.6 centners per hectare in 2025, according to official statistics from Rosstat. The figure is lower than 17.6 c/ha recorded in 2024 and below the record level of 18.4 c/ha achieved in 2023.

Other oilseed crops showed mixed performance during the year. Soybean yields rose to 20.1 c/ha in 2025, marking the highest level since 2020.

Rapeseed productivity also partially recovered. After reaching a record 20.3 c/ha in 2023, yields declined to 17.5 c/ha in 2024, but rebounded to 19.2 c/ha in 2025.

A significant improvement was observed in oilseed flax, where average yields—traditionally in the range of 8–9 c/ha—increased sharply to 11.2 c/ha in 2025.

Experts note that the decline in sunflower yields and fluctuations across other crops are linked not only to adverse weather conditions in recent years, but also to deteriorating production economics in the sector.[5]

Russian Insurers Warn of Flood Risks for Winter Crops in Central and Volga Regions

Agricultural insurers in Russia have identified several regions where winter crops may face an increased risk of flooding due to heavy snow cover.

According to Korney Bizhdov, head of the National Union of Agricultural Insurers, the main risks are concentrated in the Central and Volga Federal Districts, the publication Agroexpert reports.

As of March 6, snow depth in the Central Federal District reached 60–80 cm in the Kaluga, Tula, and Oryol regions. In the Vladimir region and neighboring districts of the Ivanovo and Ryazan regions, snow cover measured 50–60 cm. In the Nizhny Novgorod region, snow depth reached around 70 cm.

Even higher levels were recorded in the Upper Volga regions, including the Chuvash Republic, Mari El Republic, Udmurt Republic, and the Kirov region, where snow cover has reached a record 90 cm.

In total, approximately 2.7 million hectares of winter crops are insured across the two districts, making them particularly sensitive to potential flooding during the spring thaw. [4]

Imported Sunflower and Corn Seeds Remain Significantly Pricier in Russia

Imported sunflower and corn seeds remain significantly more expensive than domestically produced varieties in Russia, according to estimates by analysts at Ruseed.

The average price of Russian sunflower seeds is about 16,800 rubles per sowing unit, while foreign-bred seeds cost around 28,900 rubles, making them approximately 72% more expensive. Prices for imported sunflower hybrids continued to rise by 2%, following a 16% increase during the 2024–2025 season. Meanwhile, domestic sunflower seeds have remained relatively stable in the range of 15,000–18,000 rubles per sowing unit.

A similar trend is observed in the corn seed market. The average price of imported corn seeds stands at 14,581 rubles, which is 7% lower than in the previous season. In comparison, Russian corn seeds cost around 5,750 rubles, roughly 10% less than a year earlier, making imported seeds about 2.5 times more expensive.

Over the longer term, the price gap has widened. Between the 2022–2023 and 2025–2026 seasons, the cost of domestic corn seeds declined by 13%, while imported seeds became 18% more expensive.[4]

Commodity Auctions: Results For 11.03.2026

Purchase

OOO Trading House Sodruzhestvo

Soybean 37, incl. VAT | 29,750 ₽/t | 100 t

OOO Zakazchik No. 1

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,300 ₽/t | 600 t

OOO Zakazchik No. 1

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,445 ₽/t | 620 t

OOO OZK Trading

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,450 ₽/t | 300 tons

OOO "OZK Trading"

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%, excluding VAT | 16,365 ₽/t | 1,200 tons [7]

Kazakhstan Expands Durum Wheat Shipments to Europe in 2025/26

Kazakhstan has significantly increased its exports of durum wheat to the European Union during the first half of the 2025/26 marketing year (July–December), rising to second place among the EU's main suppliers, according to data from the European Commission cited by APK-Inform.

During the six-month period, Kazakhstan shipped about 270,000 tons of durum wheat to the EU. This is 3.8 times more than in the same period of the previous marketing year, when exports totaled 71,500 tons and Kazakhstan ranked fourth among EU suppliers.

Italy accounted for the largest share of purchases, importing 236,000 tons of Kazakh durum wheat. Other destinations included Portugal (about 13,000 tons), Latvia (10,200 tons), Spain (8,400 tons), and Belgium (1,900 tons).

According to the European Commission, Canada remained the largest supplier of durum wheat to the EU during the first half of the season, exporting 765,700 tons.

Analysts note that the European durum wheat market offers strong growth potential for Kazakh producers, as rising shipments indicate expanding demand for Kazakh grain in the region.[2]

France Cuts Soft Wheat Export Forecast Again as Stocks Rise

France's agricultural agency FranceAgriMer has reduced its forecast for soft wheat exports outside the EU for the fourth consecutive month in the 2025/26 marketing year, while increasing expectations for end-of-season stocks.

In its latest supply and demand outlook, the agency lowered the projection for non-EU soft wheat exports to 7.10 million tonnes, compared with 7.20 million tonnes forecast in February. Despite the downgrade, exports would still be nearly twice last season's level and remain above the five-year average.

France, the EU's largest wheat producer, is facing intensified competition on global markets. Strong supplies from other exporters—including a record wheat harvest in Argentina—have put pressure on French shipments.

At the same time, intra-EU exports were slightly revised upward to 7.57 million tonnes, compared with 7.56 million tonnes previously projected and 6.81 million tonnes in the 2024/25 season. The increase partially offsets weaker demand from markets outside the bloc.

With export prospects weakening and the crop estimate revised higher, FranceAgriMer raised its forecast for end-of-season soft wheat stocks to 3.39 million tonnes, up from 3.05 million tonnes in the previous report. This would be 37% higher than last season and close to the highest level since 2009/10, when stocks reached 3.43 million tonnes.

The agency also slightly increased projections for other grains. Barley stocks are now expected to reach 1.38 million tonnes, while maize stocks are forecast at 2.33 million tonnes, supported by a crop estimate 6.4% higher than last season. [1]

Syria Expands Wheat and Barley Planting in Current Season

Syria has expanded the cultivation of wheat and barley in the current agricultural season, with the total planted area for the two crops exceeding 2.8 million hectares across irrigated and rain-fed lands, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. If weather conditions remain favorable, total grain production could reach about 2.3 million tonnes.

The government initially planned to sow around 1.4 million hectares of wheat, including approximately 640,000 hectares of irrigated fields and 830,000 hectares of rain-fed land. In practice, farmers planted about 1.2 million hectares, representing 86% of the target.

For barley, the planned sowing area was also around 1.4 million hectares, while actual plantings reached about 1 million hectares, mainly in rain-fed regions.

Officials noted that implementation rates have improved compared with the previous season, when planting plans were fulfilled by 76% for wheat and 70% for barley. The stronger performance this year was supported by improved rainfall in many regions, as well as expanded rain-fed cultivation and better crop management practices.

The government is also supporting farmers through input programs, including the provision of seeds and fertilizers. This season, authorities introduced an interest-free loan program supplying farmers with wheat seeds along with nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers.

In addition, Syria's 2026–2030 agricultural strategy aims to strengthen food production by promoting drought-resistant crop varieties and climate-adapted farming practices.[1]

Cargill Suspends Brazilian Soybean Exports to China Over New Inspection Rules

Cargill has temporarily suspended soybean exports from Brazil to China after new inspection procedures introduced by Brazilian authorities complicated the certification process for shipments.

According to Paulo Sousa, head of the company's Latin American operations, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Brazil introduced stricter sanitary inspections for soybeans destined for China at the request of the Chinese government. The new procedures include additional testing for pests and weeds.

Sousa said the new approach differs from the standard sampling-based inspection system typically used in grain trade. The ministry has begun conducting its own type of analysis, which in some cases results in different findings and delays in issuing the sanitary certificates required for export.

Without these certificates, vessels carrying soybeans cannot depart for their destination, forcing Cargill to halt shipments.

The company has also temporarily stopped purchasing soybeans from farmers in Brazil, as exports to China—the primary market—are currently not possible under the new system.

China remains the largest buyer of Brazilian soybeans, accounting for roughly 80% of the country's exports. Brazil is the world's leading producer and exporter of soybeans.

The new inspection regime began early last week, and discussions between industry participants and authorities are ongoing. Meanwhile, Brazil's grain exporters association, ANEC, warned that companies are concerned about adapting to the new procedures during the peak soybean export season.[1]

Jordan Buys 50,000 Tons of Feed Barley in International Tender

Jordan purchased around 50,000 tons of feed barley in an international tender held on March 11, according to European traders.

The cargo was reportedly awarded to CHS Inc. at an estimated price of $261.25 per ton C&F, with shipment scheduled for the first half of July.

Several major global trading companies participated in the tender. Market estimates indicate that Cargill offered about $273.95 per ton, while Louis Dreyfus Company bid $273 per ton and Bunge around $266 per ton. Other offers reportedly included $272.27 per ton from Buildcom, $272.90 per ton from Ameropa, and about $264.64 per ton from Olam International, all on the same delivery terms.

Traders also expect Jordan to launch another tender soon for the purchase of around 120,000 tons of feed barley. The new tender is likely to request shipments in 50,000–60,000 ton consignments, with delivery planned for July and August.[1]

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