Perspectives for the BRAZILIAN Crop year 2026/27

CORN

The 2026/27 Brazilian corn crop is expected to expand further, with total planted area projected at 23.7 million hectares (+4.9%). Despite a 2.0% decline in average productivity, to 6,244 kg/ha, production is expected to reach 148.0 million tons (+2.8%), following the strong performance of the previous season. Domestic consumption is projected to grow by 6.7%, reaching 104.8 million tons, chiefly driven by the continued expansion of corn ethanol production and strong demand for animal feed. Exports are also expected to increase, reaching 46.0 million tons (+4.8%), supported by ample supply and Brazil’s competitiveness in international markets. As demand expands faster than production, ending stocks are projected to decline by 7.2%, to 14.5 million tons, while remaining at levels sufficient to ensure domestic supply. El Niño-related weather risks and their potential effects on the soybean planting calendar and the second-crop corn window remain key factors for the 2026/27 outlook.

COTTON

Brazilian cotton production is expected to remain on an upward path in the 2026/27 season, supported by the expansion of cultivated area and the sector’s strong competitiveness. Planted area is projected to grow by 3.7%, reaching 2.09 million hectares. Despite a 3.2% decline in average lint productivity, to 1,986 kg/ha, production is expected to reach 4.16 million tons (+0.3%). Domestic consumption is projected to decline slightly to 735 thousand tons (-0.7%), amid moderate demand from the textile industry and competition from imported products. Lint exports are expected to remain at a high level, reaching 3.41 million tons, broadly stable compared with 2025/26. Consequently, ending stocks are projected at 2.73 million tons, also broadly stable. External demand remains the main source of support for the sector, while exchange rates, global consumption, weather conditions and competition with soybeans and corn will continue to influence prices and profitability.

RICE

The outlook for Brazil’s 2026/27 rice crop points to a further adjustment in supply, following the lower profitability observed during the previous season. Planted area is projected to increase 0.9%, to 1.53 million hectares, while average yield is expected to fall by 3.7%, to 7,032 kg/ha. As a result, production is projected at 10.76 million tons, down 2.9% from 2025/26. Consumption is expected to remain stable at 10.8 million tons, while imports also remain stable at 1.3 million tons. Exports are projected at 1.66 million tons, a 14.8% reduction from the previous season. Consequently, ending stocks are expected to fall by 22.5%, to approximately 1.40 million tons, reducing the domestic surplus and supporting firmer prices. The outlook remains sensitive to El Niño-related weather risks, particularly in the South region of the country, while elevated production costs and tight margins remain key factors for the sector.

SOYBEANS

The 2026/27 Brazilian soybean crop is expected to register moderate growth, with planted area projected to increase by 1.4%, reaching 49.3 million hectares, the slowest expansion rate in the last 20 years. Average yield is expected to decline slightly by 0.8%, to 3,683 kg/ha, while production is projected at 181.6 million tons (+0.7%). Soybean exports are expected to increase by 1.5%, reaching 118.0 million tons, supported chiefly by continued strong Chinese demand. Domestic processing is projected to grow by 2.5%, to 63.7 million tons, driven by higher demand for soybean oil for biodiesel production. As exports and domestic processing expand faster than production, ending stocks are expected to decline significantly by 32.1%, to 6.2 million tons. This tighter supply-demand balance is expected to increase the market's sensitivity to weather risks and changes in international demand.

BEANS

The 2026/27 Brazilian bean crop is expected to remain broadly stable, with planted area projected at 2.55 million hectares (+0.2%). Average yield is expected to decline by 0.9%, to 1,151 kg/ha, resulting in production of 2.93 million tons, down 0.7% from the previous season. Domestic consumption is projected to decline slightly by 1.1%, to 2.65 million tons, continuing the gradual downward trend observed in recent years. Imports are expected to increase to 67.1 thousand tons, while exports are projected to decline by 32.6%, to 310.5 thousand tons. Consequently, ending stocks are expected to recover to 135.5 thousand tons (+38.1%), although remaining low relative to domestic consumption. The outlook remains sensitive to weather conditions, particularly El Niño-related risks, while relatively low inventories may continue to contribute to price volatility.

BEEF

Brazilian beef production is expected to decline more noticeably in 2027 as the cattle cycle shifts toward female retention and herd rebuilding. The cattle herd is projected to decrease by 4.1%, to 216.9 million head, while beef production falls by 3.6%, to 11.4 million tons carcass equivalent. Exports are expected to remain strong, increasing by 2.2% to 4.83 million tons, supported by international demand and access to diversified markets. With lower production and continued export growth, domestic availability is projected to decline by 7.4%, to 6.64 million tons, while per capita availability falls by 7.9%, to 31.9 kg per year. Tighter cattle supply and rising replacement-animal prices are expected to support cattle prices, while reduced beef availability may further encourage substitution toward poultry and pork. Chinese safeguard measures and the need for greater market diversification remain key factors for the 2027 outlook.

CHICKEN

Brazilian chicken meat production is expected to continue expanding in 2027, although at a more moderate pace, reaching 16.7 million tons (+2.4%). Exports are projected to remain at a high level, increasing by 0.8% to 5.80 million tons, supported by Brazil’s competitiveness and the diversification of export destinations. Domestic availability is expected to rise by 3.2%, to 10.90 million tons, while per capita availability increases by 2.7%, reaching 52.4 kg per year. Domestic demand is expected to remain supported by chicken’s price competitiveness, particularly as beef becomes more expensive. Feed costs, exchange-rate movements and animal health conditions remain the main risks for the sector, while stronger biosecurity, sanitary regionalization and market diversification will be key to reducing trade volatility.

PORK

Brazilian pork production is expected to continue expanding in 2027, although at a more moderate pace, reaching 6.15 million tons (+3.7%). Exports are projected to grow by 4.2%, to 1.65 million tons, supported by the diversification of Asian markets and continued external demand. Domestic availability is expected to increase by 3.6%, reaching 4.52 million tons, while per capita availability rises by 3.0%, to 21.7 kg per year. Pork is expected to remain competitive in the domestic market, particularly as higher beef prices encourage substitution between proteins. However, the continued expansion of supply may keep pressure on producer margins, adjusting in production growth and stronger domestic and external demand important for market rebalancing. Feed costs, exchange-rate movements and the potential effects of El Niño on corn and soybean meal prices remain key risks for the 2027 outlook.

Perspectives for the BRAZILIAN

Crop year 2026/27

GRAINS SUPPLY AND DEMAND BALANCE

Conab

Brazil – 2025/26 and 2026/27 Crops

Estimated area, yield and production of grains

PRODUCT	AREA (In thousand ha)			YIELD (In kg/ha)			PRODUCTION (In thousand t)		
	2025/26 Crop	2026/27 Crop	VAR. %	2025/26 Crop	2026/27 Crop	VAR. %	2025/26 Crop	2026/27 Crop	VAR. %
	(a)	(b)	(b/a)	(c)	(d)	(d/c)	(e)	(f)	(f/e)
ALGODÃO - CAROÇO [1]	2.018,4	2.092,6	3,7	2.910	2.817	(3,2)	5.874,2	5.894,5	0,3
ALGODÃO - PLUMA	2.018,4	2.092,6	3,7	2.053	1.986	(3,2)	4.143,8	4.156,7	0,3
ARROZ	1.516,7	1.529,8	0,9	7.303	7.032	(3,7)	11.076,2	10.756,8	(2,9)
FEIJÃO TOTAL	2.540,4	2.546,2	0,2	1.161	1.151	(0,9)	2.950,0	2.930,8	(0,7)
FEIJÃO 1ª SAFRA	793,0	808,4	1,9	1.228	1.192	(3,0)	973,9	963,5	(1,1)
FEIJÃO 2ª SAFRA	1.372,1	1.346,0	(1,9)	955	939	(1,6)	1.309,9	1.263,7	(3,5)
FEIJÃO 3ª SAFRA	375,3	391,8	4,4	1.775	1.796	1,2	666,2	703,6	5,6
MILHO TOTAL	22.600,5	23.702,4	4,9	6.372	6.244	(2,0)	144.009,6	147.998,7	2,8
Milho 1ª Safra	4.100,7	4.540,5	10,7	7.191	7.071	(1,7)	29.487,8	32.105,1	8,9
Milho 2ª Safra	17.824,9	18.484,0	3,7	6.291	6.126	(2,6)	112.130,8	113.234,7	1,0
Milho 3ª Safra	674,9	677,9	0,4	3.543	3.922	10,7	2.390,9	2.658,9	11,2
SOJA	48.608,6	49.312,1	1,4	3.711	3.683	(0,8)	180.406,6	181.639,7	0,7
OUTROS	6.165,9	6.165,9	-	2.822	2.822	-	17.400,9	17.400,9	-
BRASIL [2]	**83.450,5**	**85.349,0**	**2,3**	**4.335**	**4.296**	**(0,9)**	**361.717,5**	**366.621,4**	**1,4**

Source: Conab.
Note: Estimate as of September/2026.