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## **U.N. Food & Agriculture Organization Report On 1990 Grain Production; Notes On Mexican Output**

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On March 16 in Rome, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) released its monthly bulletin, which included a report on 1990 world grain output. Last year, grain harvests totaled a record 1.784 billion metric tons, a 4% increase over 1989. Current world grain stocks are estimated at 2.085 billion tons, compared to 2.019 billion MT for the 1989-90 harvest cycle. According to the FAO, for the first time since 1986-87, global cereals output has surpassed consumption. World-wide production at the end of the 1990-91 market year is expected to increase 8% or 25 million tons over the amount recorded at the opening of the market year. The 1991 Mexican wheat harvest forecast has been reduced from 4.4 million to 3.9 million MT. FAO estimates of secondary cereal grain output in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean for 1990 average 25.3 million MT, 26% above the 1989 total. Corn production is estimated at 14.8 million MT, up 35% from the previous year. Rice output in 1990 was close to 2 million MT, a 13% decline compared to 1989. The largest reductions took place in Mexico (30%), Costa Rica and Cuba, while less substantial declines were recorded in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador and the Dominican Republic. (Source: EFE, 03/16/91)

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