
Research Report on Wheat and It's Processed Products Industry in China



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Chapter 1 Wheat Production in China

Currently, over 45% of the Chinese residents take wheat as the main ration, whereas wheat accounts for over 80% in the ration in wheat producing regions north to Qinling Mountain and Huaihe River, and over 90% for the rural areas.

At present, grain growers in the country are mostly middle aged and old people between 45-60 years old who are not capable to be migrant workers. They are weak in the society and the change of wheat price decides the change of their income level.

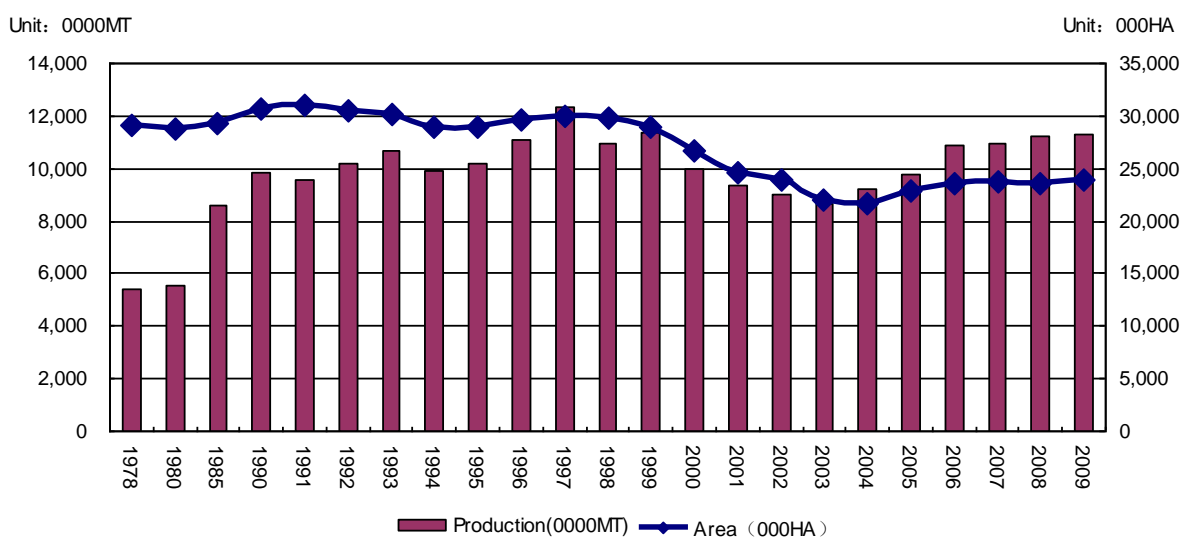
1 Status of Wheat in Grain Crops

1.1 Status of Wheat Production in Grain

Wheat production rose gradually from 58 million tons in 1978 to over 100 million tons. 1997 saw a historical record of 120 million tons and there was a slide for 5 consecutive years afterwards till 86.48 million tons in 2003. There was continual bumper harvest for six consecutive years from 2004-2009 and the production hit 113 million tons in 2009.

The wheat growing status in 2010 has not been positive, there were draughts in the Southwest and it is hard to see another growth of harvest in 2010.

Fig 1.1 Wheat Production and Acreage from 1978-2009



From the perspective of production, wheat is the third largest grain crop. Wheat production made up 25.18% in the total of the three types of cereals (rice, wheat and corn) from 1978-2008, whereas it fell to 24.45% in 2009.

Fig 1.2 Structure of Production of the Three Cereals, 2009

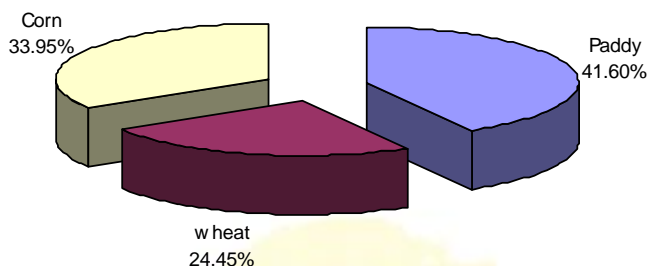
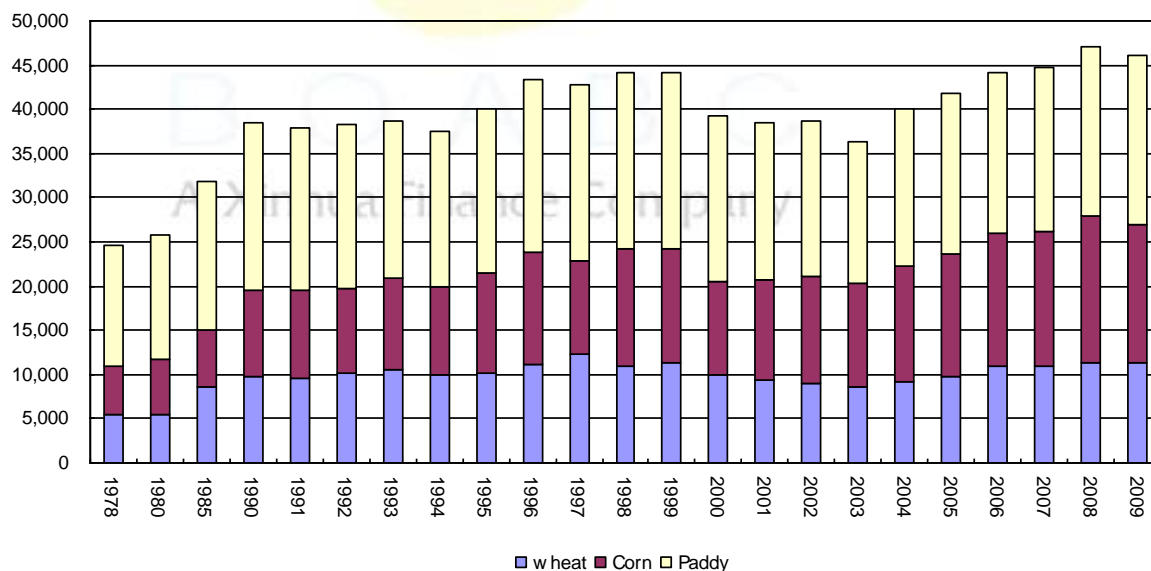


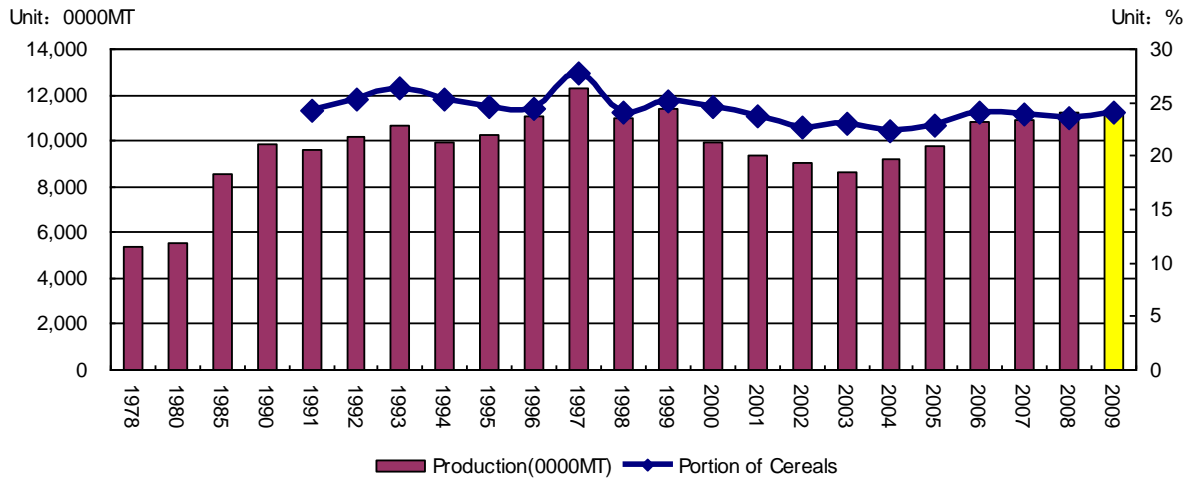
Fig 1.3 Comparison of Production of the Three Cereals from 1991-2009

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Wheat is the only grain crop growing in winter in the Yellow River-Huaihe River-Haihe River grain producing region - the largest grain production region in China. Wheat acreage plays a decisive role in raising land utilization rate and in guaranteeing food security.

Fig 1.4 Wheat Production and Proportion in the Three Cereals from 1991-2009



The average of multiple years reflects wheat acreage accounts for 33.85% of the total of the three types of cereals, larger than the production proportion. Wheat acreage is larger than corn and is the 2nd largest grain crop. Wheat acreage in the total of the three cereals fell to 28.28% in 2009.

Wheat acreage is large and the growing cycle is long, but wheat yield is lower than corn or rice. There is great significance to further raise the wheat yield in ensuring food security.

Fig 1.5 Structure of Acreage of the Three Cereals, 2009

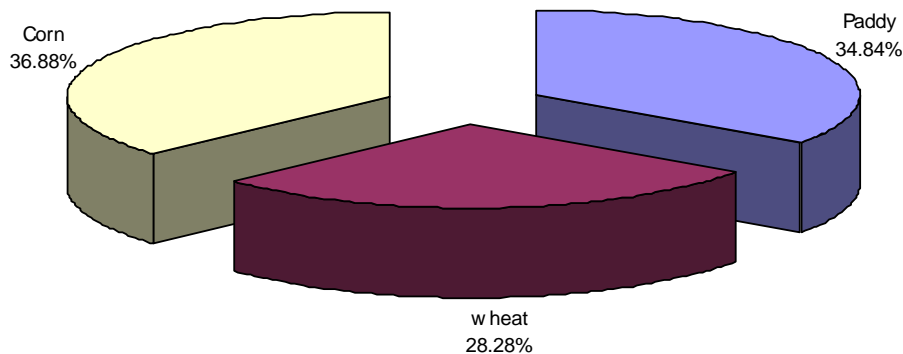


Fig 1.6 Wheat Acreage and Proportion in Cereals

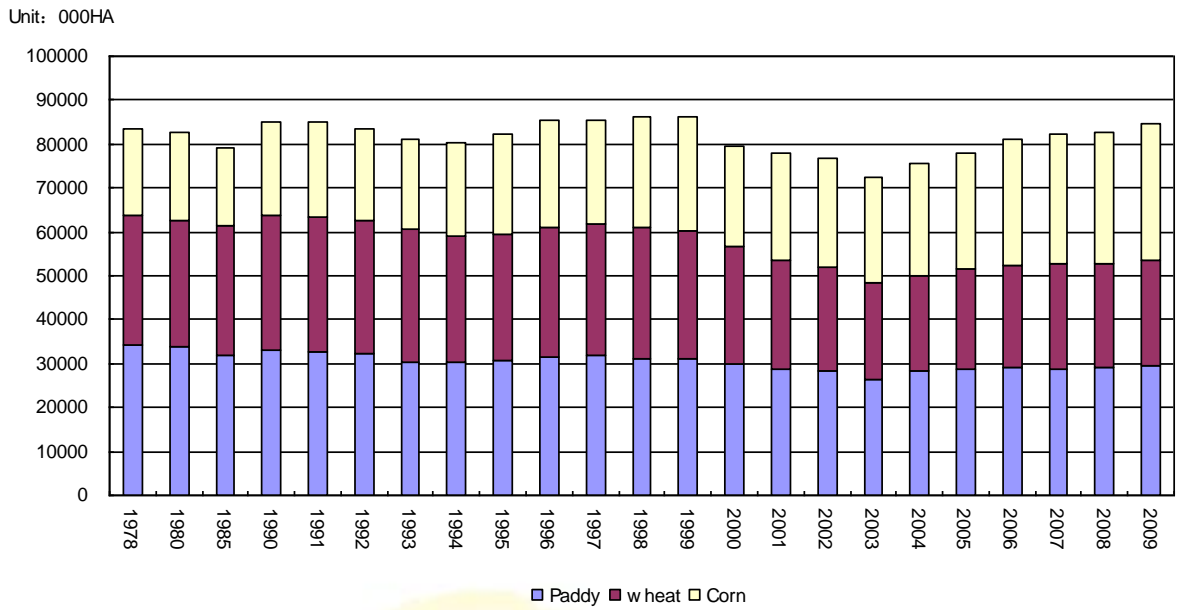


Fig 1.7 Comparison of Acreage of the Three Cereals from 1978-2006

