

English Summary
Bulletin de Conjoncture
Bulletin d'analyse prospective des marchés agricoles. Octobre 2007.
Chutes brutales des prix des céréales improbables en ce début de campagne de
commercialisation 2007/08
http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/mali_fd_strtgy/bulletin_de_conjoncture_octobre_2007.pdf

Situation Report
Agricultural Outlook Bulletin
October 2007
Sharp Drops in Cereals Prices Improbable at the Beginning of the Marketing
Season

The 2007 – 2008 agricultural campaign was characterized by an important delay of rainfall. As a result, certain acreages on which cotton is traditionally cultivated were used for the cultivation of millet and sorghum. The production of rice is satisfactory. However, the area planted to maize is lower this year because of the limited access to fertilizers due to the reduction of cotton acreage (as farmers typically use some of their cotton fertilizer on maize). The availability and the growing demand for shea nuts and the emergence of water melons and shallots on the markets are alternate sources of incomes for producers and permit them to delay the sale of coarse grains until later in the season, when prices are higher. These alternate sources of income and the anticipated reconstitution of institutional grain stocks (for the National Security Stock and local cereal banks) in December would further limit the drops of prices at harvest time.