Africa Agriculture Watch
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AAgWa Crop Production Forecasts Brief Series

Botswana – Maize

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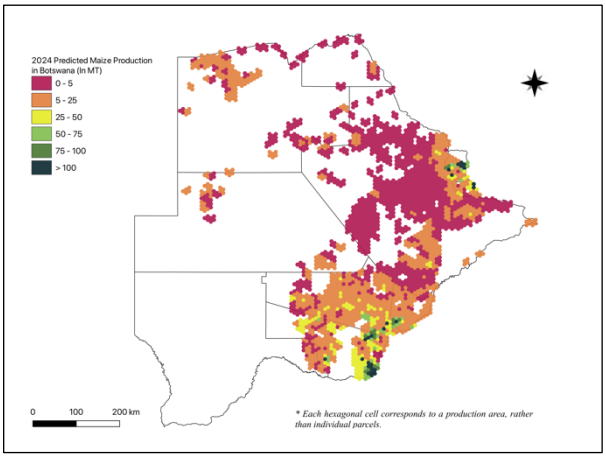
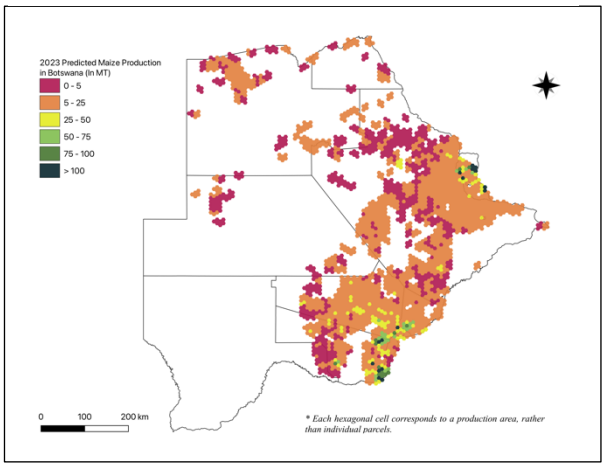
The crop production forecast brief series by AKADEMIYA2063's Africa Agriculture Watch (AAgWa) aims to provide more accurate and timely data on harvest and yields for nine major crops across nearly 50 African countries. The timeliness, wide availability, and easy access to this type of data will allow stakeholders across the value chain to better plan and execute policy and business actions more efficiently. The data published in the briefs are generated through the Africa Crop Production (AfCP) model, an Artificial Intelligence (AI-based) model applied to remotely sensed geo-biophysical data to produce estimates at pixel as well as administrative levels as early as the beginning of every growing season. In Brief 119, we provide forecasts on maize production in Botswana.

Figure 1. *Botswana 2024 Maize production forecast.*



Data source: Africa Agriculture Watch (www.aagwa.org).

Figure 2*. Botswana 2023 Maize production forecast.*



Data source: Africa Agriculture Watch (www.aagwa.org).

In 2024, maize production in Botswana is projected to reach 16,190 metric tons (MT), which corresponds to a 3% increase over 2023 production levels. However, the highest maize production levels are expected in sub-districts such as Kweneng South (Kweneng), Tutume (Central), Kweneng North (Kweneng), Serowe (Central), and Ngwaketse North (Southern) with production levels estimated at 2,795 MT, 1,402 MT, 1,315 MT, 1,214 MT, and 1,202 MT respectively. In comparison, lower production values are observed in areas such as Gaborone (Gaborone), Tuli (Central), Palapye (Central), Chobe, and Tshabong (Kgalagadi) with production of, respectively, 59 MT, 62 MT, 95 MT, 123 MT, and 173 MT.

Moreover, the most significant maize production increases in 2024 are expected to occur in the Southern districts such as in Barolong (Southern), Ngwaketse South, and Ngwaketse Central, with differences of respectively, 261 MT, 138 MT, and 122 MT, respectively. These correspond to changes of, respectively, 29%, 19%, and 28%.

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Annex – 2024 Botswana Maize Production Forecast at District Level

Districts	Sub-districts	2024 Production (MT)	2023 Production (MT)	Difference (MT)	Change (%)
Central	Bobonong	452	649	-197	-30%
Central	Lethlakane	416	454	-37	-8%
Central	Machaneng	203	170	32	19%
Central	Mahalapye	588	541	48	9%
Central	Palapye	95	82	12	15%
Central	Serowe	1214	1432	-218	-15%
Central	Tuli	62	41	21	52%
Central	Tutume	1402	1320	82	6%
Chobe	Chobe	123	107	16	15%
Gaborone	Gaborone	59	57	3	5%
Ghanzi	Ghanzi	223	155	68	44%
Kgalagadi	Tshabong	173	85	88	103%
Kgatleng	Kgatleng	1071	1053	18	2%
Kweneng	Kweneng North	1315	1316	-2	0%
Kweneng	Kweneng South	2795	2783	12	0%
North-East	Masungu	1124	1172	-48	-4%
North-West	Ngamiland East	198	199	-1	0%
North-West	Ngamiland West	540	591	-51	-9%
South-East	South East	367	387	-20	-5%
Southern	Barolong	1162	901	261	29%
Southern	Ngwaketse Central	560	438	122	28%
Southern	Ngwaketse North	1202	1132	71	6%
Southern	Ngwaketse South	843	705	138	19%
Total		**16190**	**15771**	**419**	**3%**

MT (Metric tons): *1 MT is equivalent to 1,000 kilograms.*
Change: *refers to the relative difference and is calculated as (2024 prod – 2023 prod) divided by 2023 prod.*

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