

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

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10000/109/902
(VOL. III)

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(VOL. III)

MONTHLY REPORTS, FOOD SUB - COM.
FEB. - NOV. 1946

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

281.
Enc. to Bureau -
Enc. Please see folios 281-288 for info.
S. McCall 12/12/1972
W. J. H. H.

4853

Ex Com. 278. 280.
~~680.~~ Folios 279 is a survey of stocks of
imported foodstuffs in Ports and Consorzio
Warehouses. Folio 272 para "A" refers as
does m. 276

J. m. c. m. 14/8. H.S. 14/8

MS 16/8

Ex Com. 282.
~~680.~~ Monthly Report for August Food & Agriculture
Branch is at folios 281-286. Passages
of interest have been marked.

J. m. c. m. 9/9. H.S. 9/9.

262.

L.H. to Comm

Johs 256-261 is agriculture food branch
monthly report for May. Passages of interest
have been marked. This is a good report
I give a clear picture of the situation.

D. W. C. M. 11/6 N.S. 12/16

263.

V. good. Dr C. 1/16

264.

L.H. Comm

Johs 263-268 is Food & Agriculture Branch
Monthly report for June. Passages of
interest have been marked.

D. W. C. M. 9/7 N.S. 9/17

178 [2.7]

265.

L.H. Food and Agriculture Sp. monthly
Report for July is at 270-274. The
situation is good (for a change). Passages
of interest have been marked.
D. W. C. M. 8/8. N.S. 10/8

266.

4853

I should like to see the full info - A

n. 272.

Dr [12/8.

269.

In Comm.
Sub.

Also 263, 268 is Food & Agriculture Branch
Monthly Report for June. Passages of
interest have been marked.

G.M.C.M. 9/7 H.S. 9/7

278/12/7

225.

Food and Agriculture Bk. monthly
Report for July is at 270-274. The
situation is good (for a change). Passages
of interest have been marked.

G.M.C.M. 8/8 H.S. 10/8

276.

I should like to see the full ref. - A 4858

277.

278/12/8.

Director,
Food & Agric. Branch.

Please see m. 276. Page 2 of your
Monthly Report for July refers. (Para
marked "A" on folio 272.)

18/8

G.M.C.M. 9/25
for Executive Commission

CSC

224

Para 10 BAFHA with fore 14 of Dec ref
with covering letter A (off) — see file 8255/EC

Para 14 875 BAFHA with covering letter B
see file 4526/EC

175/243

225

Sim. Ref your above minute — letters
submitted for signature. P 6/3. 775/8/3

238

La Com.
CSTO. herewith follows 206-237 for info.
JST. H. 24/3. 775/8/3

MS/54

246

Alec.
CSTO. Passed to you for info. are
f. 239-245. H. 15/4 15/4.

4855

175

254

La Com.

175/2413

225

Sir. Ref your above minute - letters
submitted for signature. P 6/3. 175/2413

238

to Com-
C.S.O. herewith folios 226-237 for info.
28/3. 175/2413

175/2413

246

A/c.c.
C.S.O. Passed to you for wife: are
of. 239-245.
175/2413 175/2413
4855

175/2413

to Com-

254

C.S.O. Agriculture & Food S/C Monthly Report
Folios 247-253. Expenses of interest have
been marked.

D.G. 175/2413. 14/5. 175/2413

175/2413

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

ECONOMIC DIVISION

Food, Agriculture & AMG Supply Sub-Division

MONTHLY REPORT

November 1946

SUMMARY1. WHEAT.

Wheat stocks continue to decline and as of December 1st are sufficient to support a 56 day ration. The forecast of world wheat stocks indicates a critical situation during the months ahead. The Italian Government is aware of this fact and means to conserve the present stock pile. Rationing of rice and pasta in all public restaurants becomes law 6 December. The decree provides for surrender of ration coupons for bread pasta and rice and the limitation of all meals to no more than three courses. No pastries are to be served. Each menu must provide a fixed price three course meals. It is believed that these regulations will have no appreciable effect on present procedures due to the inability of the Italian Government to enforce the provisions of the decree.

It is the opinion of this sub-division that a curtailment of the ration will be necessary in the near future.

2. CROPS.

The planting of fall and winter cereals is nearing completion in all sections of Italy. Excessive rains causing inundations in many provinces have retarded this work and in many provinces have washed out the plantings. Where plantings were accomplished early the rains have aided the germination of the plants. It is estimated that the total acreage sown will be slightly less than last year.

Outlook for all crops following the present plantings is generally good. In Central Italy storms have greatly damaged large number of olive trees but in spite of this the crop will be much greater than previously estimated. 4852

There is great resistance to the amassing of olive oil due to dissatisfaction with the fixed price and a hope based on reports in the press that only a partial embargo will be required.

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Rains have favored the seedings of pastures lands in Northern and Southern Italy and acreage will be greater than last year. On the other hand dry forages, feeding concentrates, and bran continue to be very scarce.

EC Dist

1- EC

1- P.R.O.

1- Food Rep

1- Review Rep

1- Working

PA 17

12

12

12

9/16/57

288A
- 2 -
Livestock diseases continue, not in very serious proportions, throughout nearly all provinces.

Shortage of work animals is reported from 25 provinces. Supply of farm machinery has improved somewhat. Shortage of POL products is becoming greater at the moment but an improvement is expected.

3. AGRI SUPPLY.

Requisitions for the first half of 1947 have been approved and supplies for the first quarter authorized to be called forward.

Paul F. Graves
PAUL F. GRAVES
Lt. Col. Inf.
Director.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 794

ECONOMIC DIVISION

Food; Agriculture & ANS Supply Sub-Division

MONTHLY REPORT

October 1946

SUMMARY

1. WHEAT.

The wheat stocks have declined during the month and will continue. Present indications are that January 1st will find the stock pile depleted to only one month supply. There was an increase of about 4% in acreage sown to wheat over the previous year. Better seasonal conditions increased the wheat crop about 50%. However, this is still about 15% below the prewar average and only about 67% of the normal requirements. It has been impossible for UNRRA imports to pick up this discrepancy. The allotment of wheat to Italy for UNRRA import during the last quarter of 1946 totaled 750,000 tons. Of this amount it is expected that only 120,000 tons will arrive in 1946. Of this about 50% will be minor cereals so the wheat equivalent will not exceed 100,000 tons. The balance of the allocation will arrive during the first half of 1947. Recent information indicates that an additional allotment of 120,000 tons of flour has been made to Italy for the last quarter of 1946. There is no indication, however, that this will arrive before early 1947.

2. CROPS.

Recent rains have improved soil conditions. Seeding of wheat and rye is underway in almost all northern Italy, part of central Italy and in some provinces of southern Italy. In some areas grain fields are being planted with other crops. There is difficulty in exchanging spoiled seeds and some seed grain has been used for food. The shortage of fertilizers and resistance to the amassing policy has induced farmers to substitute more easily cultivated crops for cereals.

Indigenous food products will exceed greatly the ~~of 1945~~ 1945. Products of all kind show great increase in quantities produced. Quantity of sugar beets produced will be about 400% of last year. An exception to the general increase is fruit, which will fall slightly below the 1945 yield.

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3. AMG SUPPLY

A meeting was held with AMG Officials in Trieste at which many of the supply problems of Udine and Venezia Giulia were discussed. Requisitions for AMG supplies to cover requirements of the first half of 1947 were consolidated and forwarded to AFHQ.

Paul F. Graves
PAUL F. GRAVES
Lt. Col. Inf.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 794

FOOD & AGRICULTURE BRANCH

SEP 7 1946

Food and Agriculture

Monthly Report - August 1946.

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5 September 1946

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- 1-Mil. Att. Am. Env.
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See 17-207

Seen by cc. 10/9/46

(5/24/46)

C.A. 10/9/46
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FOOD SECTIONFood Situation.

1. Italian Government Territory

The wheat situation continued to improve during August but at much slower rate than during July, since threshing had been completed in all but the northern most provinces. Stocks on hand increased 125,000 tons during the month or sufficient to support the present bread and pasta rations for an additional 10 days.

Stock on hand at 1 August (metric tons)

Indigenous wheat	1,279,223	
Imported wheat	48,847	
Working stock	253,326	1,581,396
Arrived 1-30 August	50,839	
Amassed	380,079	430,918
		<u>2,012,314</u>

Less:

Consumption from 1 to 31 Aug.
(calculated on basis of 12,500
tons daily)

387,500

Balance

1,624,814

Signalled to arrive up to 3 Sept.

23,891

Requirements covered for 131 days.

1,648,705

Major rations changes.

Three important changes in respect to rationed food items were made during August:

- (a) Prefects were granted the authority to reduce the milling ratio from 91 to 85 per cent if at the same time the ration was decreased from 250 to 235 grams.
- (b) The sugar ration was increased from 100

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- (b) The sugar ration was increased from 100 to 300 grams. This change was made because of the prospect of a sufficiently large production of domestic sugar to supply 300 grams per capite per month for the coming year.
- (c) Authority was granted by the High Commission of Food to certain firms to purchase freely olive oil in olive producing provinces in the hope that hoarded oil would be made available to consumers.

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However, the plan was cancelled after 10 days because of the numerous complaints received from producers who had complied with the amassing regulations and from consumers who claimed that the black market price of oil was mounting rapidly because of purchases made by the s/m firms.

Minor rations changes.

Among the actions taken by the High Commission of Food to provide more and better food for certain needy classes of consumers are the following:

- (a) The release of 200 tons of sugar for the manufacturer of 2000 tons of infant-food for artificially fed babies.
- (b) The authorization of special allotment of powdered milk, dried vegetables, conserved meat, dried soup and powdered eggs for summer colonies (camps for children).
- (c) New ration scales for TB patients in hospitals.
- (d) The allocation to pasta manufacturers of a quota of special pasta ration for children.
- (e) Substantial improvement in the ration scales authorized for crews of merchant ships.

General Food Conditions, remained good during the month under review. Good rains over most of the country during the latter part of the month should prolong the production of summer vegetables which have been abundant and of a good quality. Fruits, especially peaches, pears, plums and grapes have also been plentiful, but prices are high relatively to purchasing ability of average consumers.

2. AMG Territory.

Wheat and flour: the wheat supply in Udine at the close of August was the best since the establishment of Military Government in that Province. Stocks on hand at that date were over 38,000 tons of ⁴⁸⁵⁰ sufficient to support the bread ration until 7 March and the pasta ration through December.

The situation in Venezia Giulia while not

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The situation in Venezia Giulia while not so favorable is covered for bread until 3 October. 2000 tons of flour have been borrowed from Udine for the manufacture of pasta for September. The loan will be repaid with imported flour from SS Niki, expected to arrive about 14 September.

Other Food Stuffs: the supply of imported foodstuffs except sugar is ample for present needs; with large surpluses in the case of several items. Expected receipts of imported sugar are not sufficient to permit the increase of the monthly sugar ration to

300 grams, which recently has been authorized for the rest of Italy. Steps are being taken to secure an allotment of domestic sugar equivalent to the estimated production which will be secured from beets to be harvested in AMG territory this autumn.

AGRICULTURE SECTION

Weather Conditions.

The weather during August was exceptionally favorable for agricultural production except in local areas where strong winds and heavy rains did much damage to orchards, and vineyards. Several provinces reported severe damage to grapes and sugar beets from hail. The rain fall was very timely, especially in the central and southern provinces; where moisture was badly needed by pasture and vegetable.

Crop Conditions.

A revised estimate of all important field crops, fruits and vegetables issued by UNRRA under date of 7 August showed noticeable increases in the estimated production of nearly every item. Wheat production estimated initially at 5,600,000 tons, later raised to 5,975,000 tons, has now been increased to 6,089,000 tons. Similar increases have been made for other crops as is indicated in the following table:

Crop	Original Estimated	Production Latest
Wheat	5,600,000	6,089,000
Potatoes	2,400,000	3,063,000
Tomatoes	917,500	970,800
Horse Beans	230,000	289,500
Dried Beans	110,000	266,500
Chick Peas	32,000	43,000

Granai del Popolo.

The amassing of wheat during August, although much less than in July, must be considered very satisfactory in view of the fact that relatively little threshing remained to be done on 1 August. This relatively large deliveries are expected to continue for at least another month in indicated by the raising of the amassing goal by 198,000 tons on 26 August.

The condition of the Ammasso on 31 August was presented to be as follows:

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Period	Collections	Accumulated Total	Percent of present goal (2,577,652 tons)
June	384,000 in tons	384,000 in tons	14.9
1-31 July	1,248,607	1,632,607	63.3
1-31 Aug.	380,079	2,012,686	78.1

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Agriculture Supplies.

The first shipment of veterinarian supplies against requisition VG/Su/a/3/46 were received during August and were distributed to Provincial Veterinarians in Venezia Giulia and Udine. These supplies comprised basic and laboratory veterinary units and immunizing biologicals, notably antianthrax serum.

Spare parts for Caterpillar tractors requisitioned more than a year ago (Reg. QM 214 RA 202) were delivered in August. Arrangements have been made with the Ministries of Industry and Commerce, Agriculture and Foreign Trade for the Italian Agency of the Caterpillar Tractors Company to distribute these spare parts through its provincial agencies.

Other agricultural imports received during August, which had been ordered by the Allied Commission were as follows:

Material	Requisition	Amount
Ammonium Nitrate	CLAC-232-YT-136	2,200 tons
Sodium Nitrate	CLAC-217-YT-115	8,800 "
Calcium Cyanide	CLAC-217-YT-110	218 "
Copper Sulfate	IM-RA-141	44 "
Plows	IM-RA-211	50 "

It is believed that all moved requisitions for agricultural supplies have been filled with the exception of fertilizers. It appears that approx 7000 tons of sodium nitrate against requisitions 217-YT-115 are still to arrive.

Venezia Giulia and Udine.

The amassing campaign in both Venezia Giulia and Udine has been very successful. The goal initially set for deliveries in Venezia Giulia was so quickly realized that it was soon advanced to more than double the original figure. It too has now been surpassed by a comfortable margin.

Deliveries in Udine too have been very satisfactory. On 28 August 25,700 tons of wheat had been amassed which was over 80 per cent of the goal established for that province.

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Sodium Nitrate	CLAC-217-YI-115	8,800 "
Calcium Cyanide	CLAC-217-YI-140	218 "
Copper Sulfate	IM-RA-141	44 "
Plows	IM-RA-2	50 "

It is believed that all approved requisitions for agricultural supplies have been filled with the exception of fertilizers. It appears that approximately 7000 tons of sodium nitrate against requisitions 217-YI-115 are still to arrive.

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Due to the lack of rain during late July and the first 3 weeks of August the estimated corn (maize) production of Udine has been lowered from 150,000 tons to 100,000 tons. Good rains during the last week of August however may result in the latter figure being exceeded.

The sale of captured enemy horses on loan to farmers of Udine and Venezia Giulia was carried on in both areas during August. All horses have been inspected by a committee and the purchase price fixed on the basis of their present value. Some difficulties are being encountered in Udine in tracing the location of many of the animals.

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In one commune farmers claim that early 40 per cent of the trees have died or were transferred outside the Province before August 1945 when an order forbidding the transfer of horses held on loan was issued. Each case is being carefully investigated by the Committee.

Sixteen horses declared surplus by the British Station at Palmarova were distributed to Udine farmers during August.

Allotments of 300 tons of nitrogenous fertilizers to Venezia Giulia and 1350 tons to Udine were made by the Ministry of Agriculture during August, with the promise of more later should it be required for fall seedings. Also 90 tons of basic slag (phosphorus) was allotted to Udine during the month.

An allotment of trees for reforestation was made to Venezia Giulia by the Director of the Forestry Corps during August. While not as large as requested, it will serve to get the project started, while a search is being made for additional stocks. The scarcity of replanting emphasizes the necessity of establishing additional nurseries in areas where reforestation is to be carried on.

POWELL, R. SNAPP.
Lt. Colonel, F.A.
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POSCOE, R. SNAPP.
Lt. Colonel, F.A.
Director, Food & Agriculture Branch.

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IMPORTED FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION
Venezia Giulia

	Meat & fish	Meat & veg.	Milk evap.	Milk powd.	Oils & fats	Soup dehy.	Veg. dry
Stocks on hand in SEPRAL warehouses 10 July	52.82	141.28	53.67	455.29	527.84	106.54	535.18
En route S.S. Vadso			132.18	85.82	171.89		71.80
Total available supplies	52.82	141.28	185.85	541.11	699.73	106.54	606.98
Issues by 10 day periods							
1-10 July	=	3.638	5.289	2.264	16.759	=	134.355
21-30 June	=	.361	14.719	6.146	70.014	=	1.988
11-20 June	=	1.736	14.216	7.158	25.910	.133	2.818
1-10 June	.291	1.428	4.569	1.115	34.343	=	11.617
21-31 May	.411	2.371	15.826	8.847	68.413	=	.685
11-20 May	.521	5.672	16.490	8.697	84.108	=	17.170
1-10 May	1.012	1.413	7.639	4.984	7.729	=	70.603
20-30 April	1.172	3.701	=	5.132	1.692	=	127.236
10-20 April	2.026	3.388	.810	12.108	35.703	6.122	39.100
1-10 April	7.625	2.651	26.925	20.162	.120	12.777	42.299
21-31 March	2.426	.174	3.806	5.538	33.372	2.328	6.591
11-20 March	3.010	.145	7.286	3.329	=	.067	51.426
1-10 March	1.357	.745	1.213	2.741	=	2.146	16.207
Total issues 130 dys	20.14	27.45	118.88	86.22	388.16	23.60	52.09
Days present sup ly will last at rate of issues of past 4 Months	340dys 11.2 mo	540dys 1.5yrs	203dys 6.5mo	793dys 2.2yrs	234dys 8 mo.	585dys 1.6 yrs	150dys 5 mo.
Supplies set up for shipment			EN ROUTE VADSO	none	EN ROUTE VADSO	none	48
July	54		132		135	40	42
August	54		122		135	40	42
September	54		122		135	40	42
October	54		122			40	42
November	54					40	42
December							42

IMPORTED FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION

Venezia Giulia

Meat & fish	Meat & veg.	Milk evap.	Milk powd.	Oils & fats	Soup dehy.	Veg. dry	Sugar	Eggs dried
52.82	141.28	53.67	455.29	527.84	106.54	535.18	224.92	63.28
		122.18	85.82	171.89		71.80	127.68	31.78
52.82	141.28	185.85	541.11	699.73	106.54	606.98	352.60	95.06
"	3.638	5.289	2.264	16.759	"	134.355	72.133	"
"	.361	14.719	6.146	70.014	"	1.988	7.328	"
"	1.736	14.216	7.158	25.910	.133	2.818	103.539	"
.291	1.428	4.569	1.115	34.343	"	11.617	14.242	"
.411	2.371	15.826	8.847	68.413	"	.685	30.069	"
.521	5.872	16.490	8.697	84.108	"	17.170	43.495	"
1.012	1.413	7.639	4.964	7.729	"	70.603	16.379	.007
1.172	3.701	"	5.132	1.692	"	127.236	.987	"
2.026	3.388	.810	12.108	35.703	6.122	39.100	.729	"
7.625	2.651	26.925	20.162	.120	12.777	42.299	12.601	"
2.426	.174	3.806	5.538	33.372	2.328	6.591	.984	"
3.010	.145	7.286	3.329	"	.067	51.426	1.084	"
1.357	.745	1.213	2.741	"	2.146	16.207	3.705	"
20.14	27.45	118.88	85.22	368.16	23.60	52.09	307.30	.007
the 340dys 11.2 mo	540dys 1.5yrs	203dys 6.5mo	793dys 2.2yrs	234dys 8 mo.	585dys 1.6 yrs	150dys 5 mo.	150dys 5mo.	4800Yrs.
	EN ROUTE VADSO	none	EN ROUTE VADSO	none	48	87	EN ROUTE VADSO	
54	122		135	40	42	126	22	
54	122		135	40	42		22	
54	122		135	40	42		22	
54	122			40	42		22	
					42			

IMPORTED FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION

Udine

	Meat & fish	Meat & veg.	Milk evap.	Milk Powd.	Oils & fats	Soup dehy.	Veg. dry
Stocks on hand in Consorzi warehouses 10 July	101.17	109.97	48.66	685.69	948.00	212.28	197.95
En route S.S. Vadso				275.93	62.37		35.40
Total immediately available	101.17	109.97	48.66	961.62	1008.37	212.28	233.35
Issues by ten days period							
1-20 July	13.92	20.16	6.37	12.12	43.79	12.73	23.96
20-30 June	1.58	14.14	.97	19.84	5.90	1.87	9.72
11-20 June	4.06	4.24	3.20	11.63	34.13	8.55	16.77
1-10 June				not available			
21-31 May	.62	6.32	.35	"	1.36	.33	34.24
11-20 May	11.98	8.16	5.22	1.03	38.42	8.74	31.90
1-10 May	2.62	2.17	.08	.25	14.54	2.28	5.36
21-30 April	.35	.26	.25	.06	.35	.45	1.76
11-20 April	5.90	4.96	1.05	.92	59.38	9.98	29.84
1-10 April	6.00	5.84	.15	.63	2.50	8.15	9.15
21-31 March	.27	.09	.39	.03	.03	1.08	.36
11-20 March	.15	.13	3.60	.40	.37	9.83	3.97
1-10 March	13.73	9.60	4.53	"	1.52	1.76	4.23
Total issues 120 dys	61.18	76.07	26.16	46.91	202.29	66.35	171.26
Days present supply will last at rate of issues of last 4 months	196dys 6.5 mo.	164dys 5.5 mo.	223dys 7.8 mo.	2450dys 6.7 yrs.	586dys 19.5mo.	384dys 13 mo.	163dys 5.5 mo.
Quantities for ship							
July	25						
August	25		none	none	46	16	
September	25				108	22	133
October	25				108	22	133
November	25				108	22	133
December						22	133

A. Note should be made of the fact that dried eggs were issued in any appreciable quantity o period 11-20 May.

IMPORTED FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION

Udine

Dining									
Meat & fish	Meat & veg.	Milk evap.	Milk Powd.	Oils & fats	Soup dehy.	Veg. dry	Sugar	Eggs dried	
101.17	109.97	48.66	685.69	943.00	212.28	197.95	168.28	47.66	
			275.33	62.37		35.40	115.35		
101.17	109.97	48.66	961.62	1008.37	212.28	233.35	283.63	47.66	
13.92	20.16	6.37	12.12	43.79	13.73	23.96	112.37	.933	
1.58	14.14	.97	19.84	5.90	1.87	9.72	6.23	1.69	
4.06	4.24	3.20	11.63	34.13	8.35	16.77	130.047	.33	
			not available						
.62	6.32	.35	=	1.36	1.33	34.24	24.02	=	
11.98	8.16	5.22	1.03	38.42	8.74	31.90	90.78	43.93	
2.62	2.17	.08	.25	14.54	2.28	5.36	157.06	=	
.35	.26	.25	.06	.35	.15	1.76	.18	=	
5.90	4.96	1.03	.92	59.38	9.98	29.84	.95	.01	
6.00	5.84	.15	.63	2.50	8.15	9.15	.36	.11	
.27	.09	.39	.03	.03	1.08	.36	.45	.005	
.15	.13	3.80	.40	.37	9.33	3.97	65.06	=	
13.73	9.60	4.53	=	1.52	1.76	4.23	19.58	=	
61.18	76.07	26.16	46.91	202.29	6635	171.26	607.51	47.015 ^a	
of months	198dys 6.5 mo.	164dys 5.5 mo.	223dys 7.8 mo.	2450dys 6.7 yrs.	586dys 19.5mo.	384dys 13mo.	163dys 5.5 mo.	56dys 2 mo.	120dys 4 mo.
25		none	none	46	16				
25				108	22	133	203	none	
25				108	22	133			
25				108	22	133			
25					22	133			
					22	133			

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AFO 794
FOOD & AGRICULTURE BR NCH

Food and Agriculture

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FOOD SECTIONFood Situation.1. Italian Government Territory.

The wheat situation, throughout July was unusually favorable, inasmuch as stocks on hand were considerably above immediate requirements on 1 July and receipts from local sources and from imports during the month were much greater than consumption. As a result the month ended with stocks on hand of almost a million and a half tons of wheat or sufficient to support present bread and pasta ration for 120 days:

Stocks on hand 1 July (Metric tons)	
Indigenous wheat	368,720
Imported "	42,770
Working stocks	98,147
	509,637
Arrived 1-31 July	205,521
Amassed 1 -31 July	1,173,335
Total	<u>1,378,856</u>
Consumption 1-31 July	
calculated at 12,500 tons daily	<u>387,500</u>
Balance on hand	<u>1,500,993</u>

Requirements covered for 120 days.

Ration changes: due to the improvement in the wheat situation, the Italian Government restored the pasta ratio to 2000 grams per month on 1 July and increased the bread ration to 250 on 10 July. The latter increase apparently was made by the Government somewhat reluctantly after the prefects of some provinces in response to local pressure, had authorized increases without awaiting for approval from Rome.

Repayments of Food Loans. Much progress was made during July by the Italian Government in repaying food loans to British S & I on the account of midshift meals. All loans other than flour have been repaid to include 30 June. ~~Amount~~ of meat, sugar, lard, dried vegetables and dried soup were made to the British Army to supply Displaced Persons Camps which are supervised by AC, through 31 October 1946.

Investigations are being made to determine the status of food loans made to Venezia Giulia and Udine by the Italian Government.

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Total

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Disposal of Surplus Stocks. Assistance was rendered during the month to various British Military Units in the disposal of sundry surplus food items to the Italian Government.

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2. AMG Territory.

Wheat and Flour: the arrival of 2 wheat and one flour ships during July has put both Udine and Venezia Giulia in a relatively good position in respect to these commodities. Also much locally produced wheat has been collected in Udine through the Ammasso. As a result the supplies of wheat in Udine on 31 July were sufficient to support present bread and pasta ration until 20 January 1947. The corresponding date for Venezia Giulia, 27 September, while not so distant as that of Udine, because of a much smaller local production, is very satisfactory for the time being.

Other Food Items. A survey of stocks of imported food stuffs in port and Consorzio warehouses made by the Food and Agricultural Officer in July disclosed large surpluses of most items far in excess of likely needs on the basis of issues made during the last four months. Instructions have been sent to both regions to submit plans for the distribution and utilization of these surpluses and to request the cancellation of a substantial part of future imports, unless the need for further shipments is fully justified.

AGRICULTURAL SECTION

Weather Conditions.

Good weather for harvesting and threshing prevailed during July in all parts of Italy except the extreme Northern Provinces, where local rains interfered to some extent with these operations. Seasonally dry weather is being experienced throughout central and southern Italy, which approaches drought conditions in so far as the production of green vegetable and forage is concerned. However, the situation is so much better than a year ago that no serious complaints have been made.

Crop Conditions.

The threshing of wheat is not yet finished in those regions where the grain is threshed from the stack; consequent-

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Crop Conditions.

The threshing of wheat is not yet finished in those regions where the grain is threshed from the stack; consequently final figures on production are not available. However, reports received on yields are very satisfactory, exceeding in nearly all cases originally estimates. The estimated total production of wheat now stands at 5,976,220 tons and will almost surely be revised to something over 6,000,000 tons after all figures are in.

Frequent rains in the corn (maize) producing regions of the North have favored this crop, which now gives promise of a heavy yield.

Most of the hemp is cut in the southern provinces and the lifting of sugar beets has been begun there.

Granai del Popolo.

The amassing of the 1946 crop of wheat, which got away to a good start in June, was continued with vigor in nearly all provinces during July. Only in the South were the deliveries disappointing. Control measures have never been popular in Southern Italy and the disappointment felt there over the defeat of the Monarchy in the recent elections has not resulted in a strong desire to cooperate with the new republican government in amassing grain that theoretically may be used in feeding the liberals who live in the North.

Wheat Amassed to 29 July 1946

Cooper- ments	Estimated Product.	Amassing Goal	% of Prod. to be am.	Collec. to 29 July coll.	% of goal
7 Northern	2,763,900	1,387,412	50.0	852,182	61.4
5 Central	1,628,400	572,684	35.2	441,739	77.1
4 Southern	866,820	217,734	25.1	89,080	40.9
2 Insular	717,100	208,722	27.7	32,494	15.5
Total	5,976,220	2,386,552	39.9	1,415,495	59.3

The estimated production and collection of all cereals has been tentatively announced as follows:

Crop Production	Collections	Milling Ratio
Wheat 5,976,000	2,386,000	Bread 91% Pasta 80%
Rye 115,000	29,000	71%
Barley 240,000	not amassed	
Oats 462,000	500,000	Bread 83% Polenta 73%
Maire 2,399,000		
Rough rice 479,000	360,000	65%
Total 9,671,000	3,275,000	48.4%

Agricultural Supplies.

No agricultural supplies against RA and YB or YT requisitions were received during July. However four ships carrying such supplies are now en route and are expected to arrive early

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Total 9,671,000	3,275,000	4844

Agricultural Supplies.

No agricultural supplies against RA and YB or YT requisitions were received during July. However four ships carrying such supplies are now en route and are expected to arrive early in August.

Surplus Horses.

No horses were released by the Allied Military Units during July for distribution to Italian farmers.

Venezia Giulia and Udine.

Good progress has been made in both Udine and Venezia Giulia in amassing the new crop of wheat. Although the goal for Venezia Giulia has been raised to more than double the original estimate, nearly 90 per cent of the new target had been collected. Udine had collected 20,800 metric tons during the same period, or approximately 70 per cent of the estimated goal.

An extensive plan of reforestation for the coming fall and winter has been prepared by the Agricultural Officer of Venezia Giulia. It is expected that some 4,000,000 trees will be used. The Ministry of Agriculture has promised his full cooperation and is now surveying all governmental nurseries to ascertain how many trees suitable for transplanting will be available.

Personnel Changes.

One civilian employee, who has been engaged principally in preparing the Food & Agriculture Files for the Archives, was released on 31 July, inasmuch as this task has been completed.

ROSCOE B. SMITH

Lt. Col. F.A.

Director Food & Agriculture Branch

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Lt. Col. F.A.

Director Food & Agriculture Branch

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 794

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE BRANCH

Food and Agriculture

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FOOD SECTIONFood Situation

The wheat situation, which appeared to be very critical at the beginning of June, improved rapidly early in the month because of unexpected progress made in gathering and delivering the new harvest. Whereas the estimate of 1 June was for collections of only 15,000 tons of new wheat during the month, actual deliveries had reached 80,000 tons by 20 June and 384,000 by 30 June. Although temporary bread famine was reported in a few localities early in the month, all quickly met by the prompt transfer of flour from provinces where it could be spared.

foreign
Arrivals of foreign wheat were the lowest in June of any month since 1945 and would have resulted in acute shortage of flour had new harvest not been available to overcome the threatened crisis. Total imports for the month were 130,000 tons in comparison with 154,000 tons in May, 177,000 in April and 296,000 tons in March 1946.

The predicted reduction of the bread ration proved to be unnecessary, as the availability of the new harvest relieved the threatened shortage. However, the suspension of the pasta ration was extended through June in order to conserve flour stocks as much as possible.

Wheat stocks on hand, including working stocks, changed during the month as follows:

Estimated on hand 1 June	94,000
Arrivals to 30 June	130,000
Amassings to 30 June	
Old wheat	20,600
New wheat	384,000
Total availability	<u>404,600</u>
Estimated Consumption	<u>628,600</u>
Estimated stocks 1 July	<u>225,000</u>
	403,600

Other Food Items:

Sugar, fats and dried vegetables were in short supply during the month and non-essable shipments of these items are expected for the near future. Shipments of sugar promised for July and August will be considerably delayed, hence the ration of 100 grams of sugar and 180 grams of fats will be continued into July.

Fruits and vegetables are plentiful in nearly all provinces and relatively cheap in relation to other food items. Milk and meat though somewhat more abundant than last spring are still short of

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Total availability	<u>404,600</u>
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Estimated stocks 1 July	225,000
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Fruits and vegetables are plentiful in nearly all provinces and relatively cheap in relation to other food items. Milk and meat though somewhat more abundant than last spring are still short of demand, consequently have experienced little change in prices.

Repayments of Loans:

A considerable amount of effort was made during June by the Food and Agriculture Branch to assist the Italian Government to plan for the repayment of food advanced by the Allied Forces for Displaced Persons and for Midshift Meals of Civilians employed by Allied Military Units. Not only was a satisfactory plan of repayment payment worked out, but much progress was made during June in making substantial repayment. On June 30, all such loans though 31 May had been repaid except 3270 tons of flour, which will be repaid in agreed amounts through July and August.

Food Advances or Displaced Persons.

Beginning with 1 July, S & T will insist upon the Italian Government's furnishing certain food items required for DP's in advance of the month during which they will be used. In accordance with this plan the Italian Government released to S & T, from stocks in the Consorzio at Naples:

150 tons	preserved meats
156 "	dried vegetables
50 "	sugar
96 "	evaporated milk
30	lard.

With the exception of meat and lard these quantities will discharge the debts owed for May and June and will cover the requirements for July. Here after one month's supply of these items will be released to S & T each 30 days to cover the requirements the following month. In this way it is hoped to avoid the accumulation of food debts on the part of the Italian Government.

Venezia Giulia and Udine.

1. At the present date (5 July) no report summarizing the food situation during June has been received from Udine Province.

2. Low wheat stocks at the beginning of the month and a marked delay in expected arrivals of foreign wheat, prompted the making of arrangements for the loan of flour from British S & T Stocks to Udine and Venezia Giulia after 10 June and 24 June respectively. However, the unexpected availability of new wheat before these dates made the borrowing of only 200 tons of flour necessary by Venezia Giulia while Udine borrowed none at all.

3. The only ships arriving in A.M.G. territory during the month were the S.S. William Barry and the S.S. George W. Campbell both of which carried miscellaneous foodstuffs consisting of powdered soup dried milk, dehydrated vegetables, preserved meats, margarine and lard.

4. The arrivals of the S.S. Mc. Lennon at Trieste about 30 June with 8005.2 tons of flour for Venezia Giulia and the Alfred Moore at Venice early in July with 8075 tons of wheat for Udine assures adequate bread and pasta rations in the A.M.G. areas for a considerable period, since wheat from the local harvest is available.

5. A study made during June of the receipts, issues and stocks of imported food items disclosed that both Venezia Giulia and Udine

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5. A study made during June of the receipts, issues and stocks of imported food items disclosed that both Venezia Giulia and Udine had much larger stocks of a number of items than are justified by present needs. Moreover, relatively large additional amounts of these items have been called up for loading for arrival in August September and October. The attention of the food officers has been called to this situation and their recommendations requested as to the advisability of cancelling future shipments.

Changes in Personnel.

The transfer of Lt. Col. V.R.A. Cowper to G.H.Q. on 4th June and the redeployment of Major K. J. Curran to the United States on 9 June has left only one officer in the Food & Agriculture Branch also four Italian civilian employees were

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 released during the month. As a result of these changes in personnel the scope of work of the Branch has been greatly curtailed and only the most urgent items have received attention

AGRICULTURAL SECTION

Agricultural Production.

Weather Conditions.

Good weather condition for harvesting and threshing prevailed in all parts of Italy throughout the month of June. As a result nearly all of the excellent crops of cereals has been harvested and threshing is well under way. Scattered showers have been of great benefit to vegetables, pastures and maize where they have fallen but for the most part these crops are used of more moisture. Heavy hail has caused some damage noticeably in provinces of Verona and Torin especially to corn and sugar beet.

Crop Conditions.

That yields are with few exceptions notably higher than were predicted before the beginning of harvest. The estimate was 10 June was 5,900,000 tons or 187,000 tons more than that forecasted on 1 May. Yields of other cereals are proving to be good, notably oats which is estimated at double the crop harvests in 1945. Of the cereals only rice showed an unsatisfactory condition on 30 June. Heavy rains and low temperatures require resowing and replanting in some of the principal rice growing areas. However, there is still time for this crop to make at least an average yield.

Potatoes.

The production of potatoes is now expected to reach approximately 3,000,000 tons, in comparison with less than 1,500,000 in 1945.

Fruit and Vegetables.

Damage to fruit trees in some provinces has been caused by strong winds. In general, however, fruit is reasonably plentiful and of good quality.

Vegetables are suffering from lack of moisture in Southern and central Italy, but rains in the Po valley have sustained production there. The acreage planted to tomatoes is unusually large and the estimated tonnage is nearly double that 1945.

Agricultural Supplies.

a. The only supplies received during June against RA, VB and VT requisitions were nitrogen fertilizers, plow tractors, 4836 plow spare parts, 8,500 tons of Sodium Nitrate were received against requisition 217 VT. 100 plows and 40 boxes of spares for tractors and plows totally about 44 tons were received during June against requisition RA 201 and 202.

b. Overcharging for AC Supplies. That the Italian government is attempting to prevent speculation in and overcharging for

Crop Conditions.

Wheat yields are with few exceptions notably higher than were predicted before the beginning of harvest. The estimate as of 10 June was 5,900,000 tons or 187,000 tons more than that forecasted on 1 May. Yields of other cereals are proving to be good, notably oats which is estimated at double the crop harvested in 1945. Of the cereals only rice showed an unsatisfactory condition on 30 June. Heavy rains and low temperatures require reseedling and replanting in some of the principal rice growing areas. However, there is still time for this crop to make at least an average yield.

Potatoes.

The production of potatoes is now expected to reach approximately 3,000,000 tons, in comparison with less than 1,500,000 in 1945.

Fruit and Vegetables.

Damage to fruit trees in some provinces has been caused by strong winds. In general, however, fruit is reasonably plentiful and of good quality.

Vegetables are suffering from lack of moisture in Southern and central Italy, but rains in the Po valley have sustained production there. The acreage planted to tomatoes is unusually large and the estimated tonnage is nearly double that 1945.

Agricultural Supplies.

a. The only supplies received during June against RA, VB and VT requisitions were nitrogen fertilizers, plows tractors ⁸³⁸ and plow spare parts. 2,500 tons of Sodium Nitrate were received against requisition 217 VT. 100 plows and 40 boxes of spares for tractors and plows totally about 44 tons were received during June against requisition RA 201 and 202.

b. Overcharging for AC Supplies. That the Italian government is attempting to prevent speculation in and overcharging for supplies imported by AC is indicated by the dismissal of the Director of the Commercial Service of the Consorzio Agrario of Modena for selling imported fertilizers out of the province and at prices higher than those authorized. A warning has been published that similar action will be taken against other Consorzio officials who fail to comply with approved plans of distribution.

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Summary for 1947.

The Ministry of Agriculture has issued instructions for the selection and accumulating of seed supplies for the crop year 1946-47. Field inspections will be made to determine the purity of variety, freedom from obnoxious weeds, quality and other important factors. The basic price of seed wheat that meets the Governmental requirements has been fixed at 20% above the price paid by the Amasso.

7. Surplus Horses and Mules.

Thirty seven horses and mules declared surplus by the C.O. of the British Veterinary Hospitals No. 1 Passo Corese, were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture for distribution to farmers and 138 horses were transferred to the Agricultural Inspector Udine Province in June by the C.O. of the British Remount Station No. 1 at Palzanova.

8. Tractor Demonstration.

A demonstration of the 3 types of tractors and the 2 makes of plow imported by the Allied Commission was held near Bologna on 23 June 1946. A large number of farmers and land owners were in attendance and expressed general satisfaction with the performance of the tractors. Little interest was shown in the plows, probably for the reason that in Italy tractors are desired by most farmers for plowing much deeper than can be done with the American plow.

Granai del popolo.

The amassing of the 1945 production of cereals may be considered as closed with the official reports issued on 17 June, which were as follows:

	Announced Goal	(000 tons) Deliveries received	% of Goal received
Regular Program	1,557	1,033	66.3
Emergency Program			
Wheat, Corn, Barley and Rye	58.5	39.9	58.2
Rice	none	41.3	-

The amassing of 1946 wheat has gotten away to a goal start. June amassings, predicted as not more than 75,000 tons actually reached 384,000 or over one third the total deliveries received in the 1945 harvest. This response on the part of the farmers was due the substantial bonus paid for June deliveries and for the prompt action taken by the Government in announcing the amassing plan in detail before the harvest was begun. The wide publicity given to the Government intentions to compliance by checking acreages, and yields and production on harvesting deliveries.

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Primary Hospitals No. 1 Paseo Coreso, were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture for distribution to farmers and 138 horses were transferred to the Agricultural Inspector Udine Province in June by the C.O. of the British Remount Station No. 1 at Palmanova.

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A demonstration of the 3 types of tractors and the 2 makes of plow imported by the Allied Commission was held near Bologna on 23 June 1946. A large number of farmers and land owners were in attendance and expressed general satisfaction with the performance of the tractors. Little interest was shown in the plows, probably for the reason that in Italy tractors are desired by most farmers for plowing much deeper than can be done with the American plow.

Grain del popolo

The amassing of the 1945 production of cereals may be considered as closed with the official reports issued on 17 June, which were as follows:

	Announced Goal	(000 tons) Deliveries received	% of Goal received
Regular Program	1,557	1,033	66.3
Emergency Program			
Wheat, Corn, Barley and Rye	68.5	39.9	58.2
Rice	none	41.8	-

The amassing of 1946 wheat has gotten away to a goal start. June amassings, predicted as not more than 75,000 tons actually reached 384,000 or over one third the total deliveries received for the 1945 harvest. This response on the part of the farmers was due the substantial bonus paid for June deliveries and for the prompt action taken by the Government in announcing the amassing plan in detail before the harvest was begun. The wide publicity given to the Government intentions to compliance by checking acreages, and yields and prosecuting evaders has no doubt had a good effect on hastening deliveries.

Venezia Giulia and Udine

a. Venezia Giulia: no report on the agricultural conditions in Venezia Giulia had been received on 3 July.

b. Udine:

(1) The emergency amassing of cereals in Udine was disappointing only 20% of the target being reached.

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(2) The threshing of wheat is under way and yields are proving to be considerably higher than early estimates. Measures have been taken to insure the delivery of cereals to the Ammanso.

(3) The present condition of both corn and potatoes is good and prospects for good yields are very bright.

Ammanso

Roscoe R. Snapp

Lt. Col. P.A.

Director FOOD & AGRICULTURE BRANCH.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Personnel File

Roscoe E. Snapp
Lt. Col. F.A.
Director FOOD & AGRICULTURE FRANCH.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE BRANCH

JUN 1 1946

MONTHLY REPORT.
May 1946

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1- To RepSUPPLY DIVISION - ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY.

1. The cereal situation deteriorated further in May. Total stocks, including working stocks as well as stocks in port warehouses, as of 1st of May were 140,000 tons or about 15 days supply. By the 31st of May it was estimated that stocks would amount to only about 50,000 tons or about 6 days supply. Actual inventories for the end of May are not yet available, but it is believed that they will be higher than the above estimate because the distribution of the full pasta ration was not made in May.

2. The reduction in the cereal stocks arose from the fact that arrivals from abroad - 154,000 tons - plus ammassing were far below the consumption of the country. Because arrivals during the first half of June are expected to be poor and because the new harvest will not become an important source of grain until the latter end of June, an extremely grave situation is expected to arise in the middle of June. With the 2nd of June elections passed, it is quite likely that ration cuts will receive serious consideration by the Government.

3. Although no official cut was made in the rations, the Italian Government decided to postpone the May pasta issue of 500 grammes. However a number of cities, including Rome, issued the pasta ration in defiance of the Government's policy.

4. In instituting the emergency ammassing programme which was designed to meet the serious cereal situation, the Italian Government reduced the goal from 150,000 tons recommended by UNRRA to 68,560 tons. However, to the 31st of May only 33,685 tons of cereals (excluding rice) or 49.1 % of the goal had been ammassed under the emergency programme.

5. The emergency ammassing decree was so written as to require delivery of cereals by 31st of May. However, it may be that receipts will continue into June.

6. There are a number of reasons for the failure to reach the goal set in the emergency ammassing programme. Although the decree required

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producers to surrender only 6% of their annual retentions of 2 and 1.5 qts, the decree came late in the crop year and the 6% reduction in retention amounted to perhaps 25 or 30% of the retention remaining unconsumed. Moreover, the reduction in the retentions (equivalent to a cut in the producer's ration) came at a time when agricultural life is strenuous and the workers are hungry.

7. Another reason for the failure of the emergency amassing measure was the fact that although it almost tripled the official price paid for grain, it still left the official price about 1/3 of the black market price. The local enforcement of the decree was perhaps handicapped as well by the fact that the Central Government decree was not published until the 25 of May, the provinces having instituted the emergency measure in provincial decrees based on telegraphic instructions from the Ministry of Agriculture.

8. It has been reported previously that the country had large stocks of powdered milk, dehydrated soup and dried eggs. The Italian Government has recommended to UNRRA the use of 6,000 tons of powdered milk by mixing it with flour for bread-making at the rate of 4-5%. The proposal was still under study by UNRRA at the end of May. The Italian Government likewise intends to make a special distribution of 500 gals dehydrated soup per capita in Piedmont, Lombardia and Veneto Compartments. To encourage the movement of dried eggs the Government has reduced the price at the warehouse from 524 Lire to 400 Lire per Kg.

9. There is a great shortage of dried vegetables in Italy, practically all stocks having been exhausted in May. Due to such shortage the May ration requirements of dried vegetables were not met in all cases. The Italian Army as well as other groups apparently will have to find substitutes for dried vegetables in the ration during the next few months.

10. Although the Italian cereal situation became more and more serious in May, it was not reflected in black or free market prices. From the end of April to the end of May there was a rising tendency in the price of bread and pasta, but the increase was not great and a reduction actually occurred in the price of pasta in Rome. In other foods, reduction in prices were just as common as increase. The absence of greater reflections in prices of the serious cereal situation is probably explained by the fact that in May large quantities of locally produced foods, particularly potatoes came on the market. The table, page 3, shows prices for a number of important commodities in Rome, Palermo and Milan.

11. Arrangements have been successfully concluded with the Italian Government for the payment in kind to the British Army of outstanding debts as of 31st March (except flour) incurred through Midshift and Displaced Persons issues. The grain shortage has prevented the Ita-

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lien Government from repaying the flour debt at the present moment.

<u>COMMODITIES</u>	<u>Rome</u>		<u>Palermo</u>		<u>Naples</u>	
	Last week April	Last week May	Last week April	Last week May	Last week April	Last week May
Bread, ordinary	110	140	110	120	80	80
Pasta, ordinary	190	155	120	170	130	150
Olive Oil	450	430	330	330	600	608
Sugar	1000	1150	750	1000	1200	1200
Lard	450	450	650	600	480	445
Potatoes	56	40	55	45	45	35/55
Beans	160	150	180	170	140	160
Beef	500	500	=	=	400	385

VENEZIA GIULIA AND UDRINE

1. There are sufficient cereals in Venezia Giulia and Udine to last until the middle of June. A shipment of 8,000 tons of flour has been promised to arrive 15 June and will carry the above area for an additional month.

2. Because of the world cereal shortage, the pasta ration in Venezia Giulia was reduced to 500 grs monthly, putting it on the same basis as Udine and Italian Government territory. To maintain the usual differential in Pola, necessitated by its economic isolation, we have recommended to AMG 13 Corps that the Pola ration be reduced from the former 2,500 grs to 1,000 grs.

3. The reduction in Venezia Giulia pasta ration was effective in May.

4. In May Venezia Giulia distributed all of its rations, although the 500 grs of pasta distribution was not completed until June. Sugar was distributed at 200 grs instead of the reduced basis of 100 grs adopted in the rest of Italy.

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5. Udine distributed the following rations in May:

Bread	200	grs	daily	
Lard	100	"	for the month	8837
Oil	100	"	" " "	
Sugar	100	"	" " "	
Butter	100	"	" " "	to children 0-3 years.

In addition, Udine distributed all supplementary rations and rations to Special Classes. A free issue of 500 grs of sugar, donated by Ireland, was also distributed to children 0-18 years in Udine City.

6. Only one boat (S/S Meshknot) arrived in May for Venezia Giulia and Udine. Its cargo was as follows:

Sugar	328	tons
Meat, canned	15	"
Fats	144	"
Soup, deh.	35	"

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AGRICULTURAL SECTION

Agricultural Production

1. Weather conditions:

The rains which broke the long drought during the last few days of April, continued throughout the month of May, benefiting greatly cereals, pastures and gardens but interfering somewhat with the harvest of the first cutting of hay. Only at Foggia do recent reports indicate that it is still "seriously dry". On the other hand "excessive moisture" which has caused some damage to crops and has interfered seriously with field work, is reported from the Piedmont. On the whole, both rainfall and temperatures have been unusually favorable for May, a month which in Italy is frequently too hot and dry.

2. Crop Outlook:

Stimulated by abundant moisture and favorable temperatures, the conditions of practically all agricultural crop registered notable gains during May. As a result recent estimates of the 1946 harvest made by the Istituto Centrale di Statistica, are with few exceptions, larger than the original forecasts made in January. The new figures for the more important crops are given in the accompanying table:

CROP ESTIMATES 1946

Crop	1945 Harvest (000 tons)	1946 Production (000 tons)		
		Estimate 1 Jan. 46	Estimate 1 May 46	Expected Inc. over 1945:
Wheat	4206	5600	6000	41%
Rye	75	118	1000	119%
Barley	124	200		
Oats	254	510		
Corn	1416	2200	2000	41%
Rice	415	500	600	45%
Potatoes	1526	2400	2300	51%
Sugar Beets	316	3600	3000	849%
Tomatoes	536	917	1200	122%
Beans	162	340	400	147%
Olive Oil	96	170	200	108%
				4831

3 GRASSHOPPERS

Reports of new infestations of grasshoppers were received almost daily during May. Although most of the new outbreaks have involved relatively small areas of pasture and hay lands, they were very properly regarded by local authorities as the threat of devastating hordes that would cause serious damage to agricultural crops; hence many requests have been received by the Ministry of Agriculture for material and equipment with which to combat the menace. Up to 27 May, infestations have been reported as follows:

Grasshoppers infestation to 27 May:

Sardinia	238 of the 281 communes
Sicily	3 of the 9 provinces
Calabria	3 of the 3 provinces
Lucania	2 of the 2 provinces
Puglia	5 of the 5 provinces
Campania	2 of the 4 provinces
Lazio	4 of the 5 provinces
Veneto	1 of the 8 provinces

In Sardinia the infestation is reported to be the most serious encountered in 80 years. Fortunately much of the wheat is too mature to be completely destroyed although the destruction of its leaves will reduce the yield to approximately 70% of that which was expected a month ago. A valiant effort is being made in areas where the infestations are most severe to save the crop, but the shortage of poisons and bran bait makes effective control virtually impossible. The frequent rains have been of inestimable help in mitigating the damage since moisture favors both growth of parasites on the hoppers and the growth of grass and weeds which the insects prefer to most agricultural crops.

4. Other factors unfavorable to crops:

Passing mention should be made of hail damage experienced in scattered areas of the Po Valley during the first half of May; also of the prevalence of a fungus (fusarium) on much of the wheat of the Campidano plains in Sardinia. Lastly aphids have caused some damage to fava fields in Southern Italy. However all of these un-

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vavorable factors, including the grasshoppers, are not to be compared in importance to the severe drought which blasted crop prospects a year ago.

5. Vegetable crops:

New potatoes are now available throughout the country at prices but little more than half those prevailing at planting time. Both yields and quality are very satisfactory. Tomatoes are being harvested in Sicily and are now available in Rome but at prices too high for general use. The season for fava, peas and artichokes was considerably extended by the cool moist weather but is now practically ended. Green beans are now in large supply and of exceptionally good quality.

6. Cereal Harvest:

The wheat harvest of Sicily will be approximately 15 days later than usual this year, because of the late planting brought about by insufficient moisture last fall. Consequently; the new harvest will start in Campania and Puglia where cutting is expected to be in full swing by 10 June. Reports from AC Liaison Officers indicate that harvest operations will be started in practically all provinces by 15 June; hence, new wheat should be available everywhere early in July.

7. Agricultural Supplies:

The 90 farm tractors and 97 additional boxes of spare parts remaining in Requisition RA-201 were unloaded in Genoa about 1 May. These tractors and the 664 machines received in February have finally been delivered to farmers, after a delay of nearly three months, during which the Italian Officials were deciding what agencies and at what prices machines should be sold. Instructions manuals for their care and operation have been translated by the Consorzio Agrario and are now being printed from UNRRA funds.

The following supplies against RA-YB and YT requisitions were received during May, according to reports made by UNRRA, under whose supervision all AC supplies have been received and distributed since 10 March 1946:

Item	Requisition	Received in May	Balance to arrive
Ammonia Nitrate	YT-232-Item 136	2958 tons	4400
Nitrate of Soda	YT-217- " 115	17750 "	24000

Item	Requisition	Received in May	Balance to arrive
Copper sulfate	RA-141	50 tons	Not known
Tractors	RA-201	90 each	none
Tractors parts	RA-201	54 boxes	Not known
" "	RA-202	38 "	" "
Zinc Phosphide	RA-199	3.5 tons	none

8. Domestic Supplies:

The manufacturers of domestically produced fertilizers are staging a rapid recovery and give promises of being able to attain from 50 to 70 per cent of their pre-war production during the year beginning 1 July 1946. It is estimated that the fertilizers available for the year 1946-47 will be approximately four times larger than for the year 1945-46.

	Est. Production July 46-July 47	Amt. used in 1938	Ratio of Expected Production to amount used in 1938
Super-phosphate	850,000 tons	1,495,000 tons	57%
Nitrates	530,000*	670,000	79%

*Including 50,000 tons on importation program.

During the period 1 Jan - 30 April 1946 allotments totaling 96,000 tons of superphosphate and 40,500 tons of nitrogen fertilizers of Italian manufacture were made by the Ministry of Agriculture, plus 35,000 tons of nitrates imported by AG during the same period. That the supplies of fertilizers are catching-up with the demand is indicated by reports from 21 provinces that sufficient superphosphate is now available and from 13 that the supply of nitrates is adequate for the current needs.

May allotments of fertilizers imported against Yt requisitions included 1000 tons of Sodium Nitrate and 400 tons of Ammonia Nitrate to Udine province. No allotment was made to Venezia Giulia, as supplies already on hand were equal to current demand.

9. Livestock Health:

Foot-and-mouth disease is widely diffused throughout the

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- Country, being reported during May in all regions except Venezia Giulia, Marche, Calabria and Sardinia. Fortunately it is a mild form and can be held to sporadic outbreaks by vaccination. Sheep scab (rognà) was reported from 14 provinces during the month, hog cholera from 19 and swine erysipelas from 16. None of the outbreaks are regarded as alarming and are expected to be checked by proper methods of control. The arrival of some 800 liters of hog cholera serum from the United States on the UNRRA program will be of great help in combating that disease.

10. Surplus Horses and Mules:

The distribution of horses declared surplus by Military Units was confined principally to the British Remount Station at Palmanna, which transferred 261 horses to farmers of Udine and Venezia Giulia since the April report was compiled. Four horses unsuitable for work were transferred by the British Vet. Hospital at Passo Coraso to the Stazione Sperimentale Zooprofilattica di Roma to be used for the production of serum.

Granai del Popolo

The emergency amassing decree directing the delivery of not less than 6 per cent of all authorized with-holdings of cereals brought in 33,685 tons of grain (excluding rice) during May or 49 per cent of the established goal. Emergency deliveries of rice which were begun a month earlier than wheat were 13,790 tons in May or 34,720 tons for the 2 months period. Since it was nearly the middle of May before the emergency amassing of cereals (other than rice) was officially announced, it has been decided to advance the closing date of the campaign to 10 June.

May Collections of Cereals (1000 metric tons)

	Regular collection			Emergency collection
	Feb. 28 Mar. 23	Mar. 23 Apr. 23	Apr. 23 May. 20	May 1-31
Wheat	4	5	5	34
Rye	.2	.1	.1	
Barley				
Corn	2	1	2	14a
Rice	13	13a	18a	

a. In addition 20,930 tons of rice were collected during the month of April under the emergency program.

Assessing Program for 1946-47.

The Italian Authorities after many discussions during which many proposals were considered have finally agreed upon an assessing plan for the 1946-47 harvest. Briefly it is as follows:

- a. The same retentions are authorized for producers as prevailed in 1945-46.
- b. Prices paid for delivered grain will vary in the different regions as follows:

	Soft wheat per quintal	Hard wheat per quintal
Northern Region	2250 lire	2600 lire
Central Region	2350 "	2700 "
Southern Region and Sicily and Sardinia	2500 "	2850 "

- c. Premiums will be paid for early deliveries as follows:

a. 1-10 June deliveries	600 lire per quintal
b. 11-20 " "	500 " " " "
c. 21-30 " "	400 " " " "
d. 1-10 July "	300 " " " "

These prices which are approximately 2 and half times those paid for amassed wheat in 1945 coupled with a harvest estimated at 40 per cent larger should assure deliveries very much greater than those of a year ago.

Forestry

An inspection was made during May of forestry equipment imported in 1944 and still in warehouses in the Naples area. It was found that the principal items on hand were axes, cross-cut saws, files for sharpening saws and web belting. Although distribution has been much slower than was anticipated, it is the opinion of the Consorzio Nazionale Approvvigionamento Industrie del Legno, that they will be absorbed by the timber industry at a reasonable date. Storage and method of accounting appear to be satisfactory.

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Fisheries

A request was received in late May from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs soliciting the aid of the Allied Commission in obtaining a permit for the motor boats of Bari registry to fish in Egyptian waters. The request has been referred to the British Embassy.

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MONTHLY REPORT

Food and Agriculture Branch.

Summary May 1946

1. Total cereal stocks in Italy decreased from 15 days supply on hand at the beginning of May to only 6 days supply on 31 May. This decrease was the result of small arrivals from abroad which were only 154,000 tons in May compared with 177,000 tons during April and 296,000 tons during March.

2. The emergency ammassing, from which 68,560 tons of cereals were expected, totalled on 31 May only 33,685 tons or 48 per cent of the goal.

3. Despite the grim cereal situation, no cuts have been made by the Italian Government in the official ration except to postpone the issuance of the May pasta ration.

4. That there are still undisclosed stocks of hoarded cereals in the country is indicated by the fact that the marked reduction in warehouse stocks has had little effect upon the black market price of bread.

5. Crop condition favored by frequent rains and cool temperatures improved greatly during the month of May, and expected yields are with few exceptions considerably higher than those predicted a few months ago.

6. While cool weather has favored the filling of grain, it has delayed its ripening by from 10 to 15 days. Consequently the amount of new wheat which will be available for milling in June will be much less than expected.

7. Grasshoppers, hail and plant diseases, especially fusarium of wheat, have caused serious damage to crop in several local areas but the total damage is small in comparison with the benefit resulting from favorable weather conditions.

8. Fertilizers both domestic and imported are in much supply than even a few weeks ago. It now appears that Italian production of fertilizers during the next 12 months will be from 60 to 70 per cent of pre-war consumption.

9. Plans and prices for amassing the wheat of 1946 harvest have been announced. Prices, including substantial bonuses for early deliveries, are approximately 3 times those prevailing in 1945.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

FOOD & AGRICULTURE BRANCH

MONTHLY REPORT - APRIL 1946

MAY 13 1946

SUPPLY DIVISION.

Italian Territory

1. In spite of many hardships the cereal ration was maintained in April at 200 grams bread daily and 500 grams pasta per month with rice substituted for pasta in much of the North. Grain arrivals in April amounted to 176,994 tons or about 85,000 tons below the monthly maintenance requirements. Because of insufficient arrivals and small amassing of local grain, Italian wheat stocks have been reduced far below the danger level. As of May 1 only 3 days supply remained in the port warehouses. In addition, there was roughly 10 or 12 days supply held in the distributing system in mills, pasta factories etc. These figures are estimates as official inventories have not yet been reported.

2. The Italian Government has not reconciled itself to reducing further the bread and pasta ration. It plans to make an all-out campaign to increase local amassing sufficiently to enable a reduction to be permanently avoided. Under the Governments' plan cereal producers, who were permitted to retain their future rations out of production, will be required to surrender a portion of their rations, thereby causing them to make sacrifices in the same way that the non-producers sacrificed when the pasta ration was reduced from 2000 to 500 grams per month about the first of the year. A bonus of 1400 Lire per quintal for soft grain and 1600 Lire per quintal for hard grain in addition to the former price of 900 Lire and 1000 Lire respectively will be paid for the grain turned in. Producers will be permitted to turn in larger amounts than those required for which they also will be paid the bonus. Bonuses will also be paid for barley, rye, maize and rice. The purpose of the bonuses is, of course, to bring the amassing price more in line with black market prices.

3. The sugar situation is better than at the end of March, 1700 tons of imported sugar being expected in April and May. Sufficient sugar arrived in April to permit a distribution of 100 grams per person to normal consumers and it is expected that this ration will be repeated in May.

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2. The Italian Government has not reconciled itself to reducing further the bread and pasta ration. It plans to make an all-out campaign to increase local amassing sufficiently to enable a reduction to be permanently avoided. Under the Government's plan cereal producers, who were permitted to retain their future rations out of production, will be required to surrender a portion of their rations, thereby causing them to make sacrifices in the same way that the non-producers sacrificed when the pasta ration was reduced from 2000 to 500 grams per month about the first of the year. A bonus of 1400 Lire per quintal for soft grain and 1600 Lire per quintal for hard grain in addition to the former price of 900 Lire and 1000 Lire respectively will be paid for the grain turned in. Producers will be permitted to turn in larger amounts than those required for which they also will be paid the bonus. Bonuses will also be paid for barley, rye, maize and rice. The purpose of the bonuses is, of course, to bring the amassing price more in line with black market prices.

3. The sugar situation is better than at the end of March, 1700 tons of imported sugar being expected in April and May. Sufficient sugar arrived in April to permit a distribution of 100 grams per person to normal consumers and it is expected that this ration will be repeated in May.

4. Central and Southern Italy have sufficient olive oil to permit the distribution of the ration through June and Northern Italy is securing its fats from locally produced butter and lard. The fat supply situation in the North is precarious but the High Commissioner for Food hopes to be able to give it sufficient lard and refined oils to assure the distribution until the end of June. The stocks of meat and fish in Italy will meet the rations through and a special distribution of 300 grams of fish per person in cities over 30,000 population will be made in April/May. The stocks of dried vegetables

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Getables are very low and it is not expected that May commitments will be fully met.

5. Large quantities of soup and milk are on hand in the various discharge, national and provincial warehouses throughout the country. Means for utilizing the large stocks of milk are being discussed by UNRRA and the Italian Government. No decision as to the use of the soup has been made as yet because it will provide a useful substitute for pasta in the event that the pasta ration must be further reduced.

6. On 9 April we gave the Italian Government a statement of future commitments for feeding Displaced Persons and at the same time handed over to them all AC blocked food in the discharge port warehouses except dried vegetables and soup. The quantity handed over amounted to about 11,500 tons. On 1 May the dried vegetables and soup amounting to about 6000 tons were released to the Italian Government with the provision that the Government must first set aside estimated debts to the American and British Armies for mid-shift meals and refugees and give us assurances that they will be able to meet future commitments for the above purposes as they occur.

7. Efforts were made to have the Italian Government settle in kind existing debts to the British Army for food supplies advanced for mid-shift meals for civilian workers for the Armed Forces and it is expected that settlement will be made early in May. A similar effort will be made to settle the debts to the American Army as soon as a statement of the debts is received.

Venezia Giulia and Udine.

8. Food import requirements for July through December 1946 were prepared and submitted to A F H Q. The requirements for Venezia-Giulia are somewhat higher than for the first 6 months of the year, largely because of plans to distribute greater quantities of food to school children and through public messes. The requirements for Udine, on the other hand, are lower because of the expected availability of local produced cereals, milk, etc.

9. A loan from UNRRA of 4000 tons of grain was arranged in April to assist Venezia-Giulia and Udine until arrival of two grain ships. About 3080 tons of flour was actually drawn by Venezia-Giulia and nothing by Udine. The loan to Venezia-Giulia was repaid with wheat out of the S/S McQuig.

10. As of 1 May wheat and flour stocks in Venezia-Giulia and Udine were sufficient to provide pasta for May and June (Venezia-Giulia 2000 grams per month and Udine 500 grams per month) and

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10. As of 1 May wheat and flour stocks in Venezia-Giulia and Udine were sufficient to provide pasta for May and June (Venezia-Giulia 2000 grams per month and Udine 500 grams per month) and to meet requirements for bread until about 4 June in Venezia-Giulia and about 7 June in Udine.

11. Venezia-Giulia distributed the full 2000 grams of pasta for April although distribution of the second kilo was not actually made until May. In Udine 500 grams of pasta was distributed and the distribution of the sugar ration was late being completed in May.

12. Cargoes on military requisition for AMG Venezia-Giulia and AMG Udine arriving in April are shown in the attached table.

AGRICULTURAL SECTIONAgricultural Production -1. Weather Conditions:

The first three weeks of April were very dry over practically all of Italy with almost no rains. However, during the last week light to heavy rains fell in nearly all regions except Udine and Venezia Giulia, which were still very dry when the month ended. Temperatures have been relatively cool for the month of April, but no occurrence of frost was reported.

2. Crop Outlook:

Due largely to the cool weather, most crop survived the March and April drought in good condition and made excellent use of the rains which fell on 26-29 April. These rains were very timely and were of inestimable benefit to all crops. Wheat is now headed in most regions and gives promise of a higher total production than the most optimistic forecasters predicted 2 months ago. Potatoes, which were slow in sprouting during the drought, should improve rapidly under the stimulus of the recent rains. Oats and other forage crops have made good growth and are being used in large amounts for silage for cattle. A second cutting of these crops will soon be possible except in areas that are still dry. Corn is up in all regions south of the Po Valley and the stands appear to be at least "average". Vegetables, especially the spring varieties, were seriously retarded by the lack of moisture and many of the April plantings germinated poorly with resulting poor stands. The yield of artichokes has been disappointing from the standpoint of both number and size of "buds". Fava has withstood the drought well and the green beans have been on the markets of Southern and Insular Italy since the first of April.

3. Grasshoppers:

The plague of grasshoppers experienced in several localities of Southern and Insular Italy last fall is likely to be repeated in even worse degree this year. Field inspections show that the insects are hatching in great number and are beginning to take ⁴⁸² on planted crops. Although plans were already made early this spring to combat these insects, it now appears that all control measures will be wholly inadequate to achieve effective results. Only frequent rains during the month of May will prevent serious crop damage in heavily infested areas. So far reports of serious infestations have been received only from Salerno Province and Sardinia.

Agricultural Supplies:

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Agricultural Supplies:

a) Imported Supplies:

The following agricultural supplies were received during the month of April:

(1) Fertilizers:

1. Ammonia Nitrate (Req. 232-YT-136)
April 15, Naples, 2754 tons
2. Sodium Nitrate (Req. 217-YT-115)
April 20, Naples, 9140 tons
April 23, Genoa, 8750 tons

(2) Farm Machinery: A large shipment of farm machinery comprising plows, mowers and binders arrived at Naples, 25 April. The exact num-

ber and type of machines will not be known until the ship completes unloading, which will be about 5 May.

Approved requisitions call for:

53 deep tillage plows	{	YB Requisition
230 ordinary plows	{	

603 movers	)	YT Requisition
390 grain binders	(	

(3) Seeds:

A shipment of approximately 200 tons of flax seed purchased by UNRRA in the UK was received at Naples 17 April. Distribution was approximately as follows:

TO LODI	28 %
TO BRESCIA	30 %
TO PADOVA	42 %

Although the shipment was received after the normal planting season, the acute shortage of domestic seed should result in the planting of a considerable part of the imported seed this year.

b. DOMESTIC SUPPLIES:

The promise of the Ministry of Agriculture to furnish us with a list of the agricultural supplies (fertilizers and insecticides) allotted during April has not yet been received (3 May). Consequently no report on the distribution of such materials can be made.

C. DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES:

Reports made by fieldmen of UNRRA disclose that many of the agricultural supplies imported under category A and under VT and YB requisitions have not yet reached the Italian Farmers. Foremost in the list are 684 tractors received in February and which on 30 April were still in the warehouses of the ~~Com~~⁴⁸²⁸ ~~Ministers~~ ^{Arrari}, awaiting a decision by the Combined Council of Ministers on the plan of distribution. Meanwhile much of the heavy field work for which these tractors were imported has been done with horses and cattle. Likewise a large percentage of the forestry and fishery supplies imported in 1944 and early 1945 are still in warehouses in Naples.

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The high prices fixed by the Government for both imported and domestic fertilizers have greatly curtailed their use. Inspections made of warehouses during April disclosed that in some provinces fertilizers imported in January and February were still on hand.

5. LIVESTOCK HEALTH:

Twenty five new cases of foot and mouth disease occurred in Udine province during April, bringing the total number to 46 for the present Calendar Year. Provincial Veterinarians have made the complaint that the vaccine obtained from the governmental laboratory at Padova has not been effective. Arrangements will be made to ship a small amount from Rome laboratory to check the potency of the Padovana material.

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249 6. STALLING HORSES AND MULES

57 horses declared surplus by the British Army Remount Station at Fasso Corese in April were transferred to the Italian Government and 274 horses declared surplus by the British Veterinary Hospital at Palmanova were placed on loan with Italian Farmore in Udine and Venezia Cinalia.

Plans were initiated in both AMG areas during April to dispose of all military animals now on loan, preferably to the farmers who have been caring for them. The final disposition of captured animals has already been effected in Italian territory.

GRANAI DEL POPOLO.

Cereal collections during April were the smallest of any month since last harvest and totaled less than the equivalent of one small shipment of grain. On the basis of official figures 672,000 metric tons, or more than a third of the total estimated deliveries are still outstanding. Since there appears little likelihood that any important percentage of this grain will be delivered, the Government recently has announced a plan designed to encourage producers to part with a percentage of their authorized retentions. Under this new decree producers are required to deliver not less than 6 per cent of their authorized retentions for which they will receive a substantial bonus in addition to the established price. However, since the new prices, including the bonus, are less than half the prices on the free market, it is doubtful that they will be effective in obtaining large deliveries of grain.

Prices offered for grain delivered to the Ammasso from authorized with holdings:

Grain	Present base price	Bonus for deliveries from authorized with holdings:	Total price per quintal:
Wheat soft	900	1400	2300 Lire
" hard	1000	1600	2600 "
Barley	700	1050	1750 822
Rye	900	1250	2150 "
Corn	650	900	1550 "
Rice	700	1000	1700 "

APRIL COLLECTIONS OF CEREALS (1000 metric tons).

Estimated avail-	Collections	% of avail-
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Cereal collections during April were the smallest of any month since last harvest and totaled less than the equivalent of 228 small shipment of grain. On the basis of official figures 592,000 metric tons, or more than a third of the total estimated deliveries are still outstanding. Since there appears little likelihood that any important percentage of this grain will be delivered, the Government recently has announced a plan designed to encourage producers to part with a percentage of their authorized rations. Under this new decree producers are required to deliver not less than 6 per cent of their authorized rations for which they will receive a substantial bonus in addition to the established price. However, since the new prices, including the bonus, are less than half the prices on the free market, it is doubtful that they will be effective in obtaining large deliveries of grain.

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APRIL COLLECTIONS OF CEREALS (1000 metric tons).

Total Production	Estimated available for non producers:	Collections to 23 March:	Collections to 23 April:	# of available grain received:
Wheat 4207	1557	1010	1015	65
Rye } Barley }	20	14	14	70
Corn 1500	100	75	76	76
Rice 430	310	198	211	68
Olive Oil 96	35	26	28	80

FORESTRY

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Chestnut Blight: Inspections made recently of Italian Forests disclose that the chestnut blight now exists in three widely separated areas, viz, Udine, Liguria and Aquila. Preliminary scouting in these areas indicated that the disease is more wide spread than was originally believed. The Forestry Corps is attempting to discover a species of chestnut which is resistant to blight in the hope of establishing new plantings before all of the present trees are infested. Results achieved in the United States in developing blight resistant species give hope that similar success may be attained in Italy.

Reforestation: The replanting of those areas of timber which have been denuded by heavy cuttings required successively by the Italian, German and Allied Armies constitutes the major task now facing the Forestry Corps. A start has been made notably in Venezia Giulia and in Tuscany, but the areas which can be replanted this year are but a small fraction of the total in need of reforestation. Obviously plantings must be confined to a relatively short season, if a high survival is to be achieved. Plantings have been seriously curtailed this spring because of the lack of soil moisture.

Overgrazing: Much damage has been done to the forests of Central Italy during the past few months by overgrazing. Because of the scarcity of forage resulting from the severe drought of last summer and fall, migrant shepherds have in many cases violated the regulations of the Forestry Corps, designed to prevent the destruction of young trees and other vegetative cover. Damage to protective covers has been especially high in the Avezzano region, where the weather until very recently has been unusually dry.

FISHERIES:

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1. The Italian trawler "Ariaga" after an absence of two month returned on 26 April with 50 tons of refrigerated fish caught off the banks of West Africa. The small catch was attributed to the economical type of vessel employed and to the fact that the fuel used consisted of equal parts of foreign and Sardinian-Suleis coal. The entire catch was sold to the Azienda Servizi Annunari for 70 Lire per kilo ⁴⁸²².
2. Large quantities of fish were caught during the month of April, which have resulted in a noticeably lowering of retail prices, which now range from 100 to 300 per kilo.
3. The position of fishing material and equipment is very much improved. As a result of the large imports of American cotton the price of cotton

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3. The position of fishing material and equipment is very much improved. As a result of the large imports of American cotton the price of cotton twines for nets has declined from 8-10,000 Lire in 1945 to 700-1600 at present.
4. POL supplies allotted to fishing industry are considerably less than those needed for the operation of boats for a full month. An attempt is being made to have the allotment increased.

V.R.A. COMPTON

Lt.-Colonel

Director FOOD & AGRICULTURE BRANCH

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/RND No. 785017

COMMODITY	S/S ESK- DALEGATE:	S/S MOSLEY	S/S OLIVER LOVING.	S/S JAM. Mc QUIGG	S/S CALEB STRONG
WHEAT	-	-	8.000	8.464	-
SUGAR	567.5	-	-	-	-
MILK, POWD.	-	582.7	-	-	15.7
SOUP	-	-	-	-	81.4
DRIED VEGET.	-	514.4	-	-	75.7
MEAT/FISH	-	173.6	-	-	45.2
LARD	-	544.8	-	-	247.7

4823

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

COMMODITY	S/S ESK- DALEGATE:	S/S MOSLEY	S/S OLIVER LOVING.	S/S JAM. Mc QUIGG	S/S CALEB STRONG	TOTAL:
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AR	567.5	-	-	-	-	567.5
K, POWD.	-	582.7	-	-	15.7	598.4
P	-	-	-	-	81.4	81.4
ED VEGET.	-	514.4	-	-	75.7	590.1
T/FISH	-	173.8	-	-	45.2	219.0
D	-	544.8	-	-	247.7	792.5

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

FOOD & AGRICULTURE BRANCH

MONTHLY REPORT - MARCH 1946

Food Division

1. Field trip - In the early part of the month a field trip was undertaken by the Director and Chief Supply Officer to Venezia Giulia, Udine and Venice. In Venezia Giulia all provinces including Pola were visited and discussions took place both with the Regional Food Officer and the Provincial Food Officers in the Region. Milling, warehousing and transport matters were discussed and many problems that had arisen were ironed out. It was quite clear from personal observation on the ground that the increased ration scale in force in Pola is amply justified. Unemployment is unfortunately very high and even with the increased ration it is feared that many people cannot afford to buy their full rations.

2. The question of a representative of this Branch in Venezia to handle the breakdown and dispatch of cargoes as between Venezia Giulia and Udine was examined on the spot and arrangements were made with Lt. Evans of the Transportation Sub-Commission to continue this work until his transfer to UNRRA when his place will be taken by another Transportation Officer. This arrangement was subsequently confirmed with Transportation Sub-Commission of this HQ.

3. The cereal ration in Italian Government territory in March was maintained at 200 grams bread daily and 500 grams of pasta monthly, with a distribution of rice substituted for pasta in much of the North.

4. The grain arrivals in March amounted to about 296,000 tons which was somewhat over the monthly consumption. As a result, the stock in the warehouses rose from 119,000 tons on 1 March to an estimated 160,000 tons 1 April. However present indications are that April and May arrivals will be below the consumption level, with the result that a cut in the rations is being seriously considered.

5. Only 150 grams of sugar was distributed to normal consumers in March. At the present moment it does not appear likely that even this reduced sugar ration will be maintained in the future. Sufficient

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5. Only 150 grams of sugar was distributed to normal consumers in March. At the present moment it does not appear likely that even this reduced sugar ration will be maintained in the future. Sufficient oils and fats are on hand to meet ration requirements through May. Present stocks of dried vegetables are equal to April needs and part of those of May. Supplies of preserved meat and fish will take care of requirements through June. Difficulty is still being experienced in getting people to use dehydrated soup, powdered milk and dehydrated eggs.

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3. The cereal ration in Italian Government territory in March was maintained at 200 grams bread daily and 500 grams of pasta monthly, with a distribution of rice substituted for pasta in much of the North.

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Two ships arrived at Venice/Trieste in March with supplies imported on the Military maintenance program. These ships and the cargoes were as follows on page 2:

ES DIST. 15 Apr
1- EL
6- GR
1- Rel at an Entry
1- Found Rep.

S/C A.P. HILL arrived in Venice 14 of March

Powdered Milk	327 tons
Soup dehydrated	" 95
Vegetables dehydrated ..	" 211
Meat preserved	" 232
Lard	" 778
Fish, canned	" 347
	<u>1990 tons</u>

S/S ANDREW FURUSETH arrived in Trieste 26 March

Wheat	6089 tons
Flour	2075 tons

6. The only other ship that has arrived on the Military program is the S/S JOHN HENRY, which carried a cargo of 8000 tons of wheat and arrived in the latter part of February. As a result the Military program for HQ AMB 13 Corps territory is about 2 months in the arrears. No progress has been made in building up a reserve of rationed supplies and we have been forced to continue the policy of supporting 13 Corps territory by borrowing from territory handed over to the Italian Government. In March 2000 tons was borrowed from UNRRA to tide over the period before the arrival of the S/S A. FURUSETH and was repaid from that ship. Another loan of 4000 tons of wheat from UNRRA has been negotiated to maintain the above area until 2 ships arrive in the latter part of April.

7. Full rations were met in Venezia-Giulia and Udine in March with the following exceptions:

Venezia-Giulia

Pasta	1000 grams distributed instead of 2000 grams
Rats	loss then full ration of 180 grams was distributed

Udine

Pasta	500 grams distributed instead of 2000 grams
Sugar	" " 200 "

8. The assumption of responsibility by UNRRA for ~~supplying~~ food to Italy has raised certain problems because of restrictions on the use of UNRRA supplies. For example UNRRA supplies may not be used to supply Midshift meals to civilian workers of the Armed Forces and the supplies required for this purpose will have to come from indigenous

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Fats	less than full ration of 180 grams was distributed

Udine

Pasta	500 grams distributed instead of 2000 grams
Sugar	100 grams " " 200

8. The assumption of responsibility by UNRRA for supplying food to Italy has raised certain problems because of restrictions on the use of UNRRA supplies. For example UNRRA supplies may not be used to supply Midshift meals to civilian workers of the Armed Forces and the supplies required for this purpose will have to come from indigenous or other non-UNRRA sources. The necessity of being ready to meet certain commitments from non-UNRRA sources was pointed out to the Italian Government and as an aid an analysis of outstanding and probable future commitments for Midshift meals was prepared. A similar analysis of commitments for Displaced Persons is under preparation.

9. Progress was made in securing settlement of some of the debts in kind of the Italian Government. Agreements were negotiated with the office of the High Commissioner for Food under which the Italian Government would repay the debts to the British Army for loans advanced for feeding the Italian Army, by maintaining the Ital. Airforce and Navy for April and May. Debts to the same organization for advances of flour for DPs and over half of the debts for advances of flour for Midshift meals of civilian workers of the Armed Forces were met

from the cargo of the S/S Laura Keane referred to in our previous monthly report. About 1200 tons of 1800 tons of flour owed the American Army was likewise repaid.

AGRICULTURE DIVISION

1. Weather conditions: March rains which have been moderate to abundant in all regions except Central Italy, have brought about a noticeable improvement in crop conditions and have created a spirit of optimism among both farmers and governmental officials whose futures depend largely upon the size of the coming harvest. In Southern Italy there have been 14 mm. of rain at Taranto, 32 mm. at Lecce, 51 at Catanzaro and 52 at Agrigento. Conditions in the field are good and cotton and other seedings are being made.

Rainfall in the North was abundant in all provinces and approached flood quantities in Piemonte. Nevertheless farm work has progressed at normal rate and the seeding of the spring grain is well under way.

Only in Central Italy have weather conditions been such as to cause anxiety in regard as to 1946 harvest. Light rains that fell there during the first 10 days of March have been of much benefit but their effect can be but temporary for there is a total lack of sub-soil moisture to fortify crop against the high temperatures which can be expected in May and June.

2. Estimated Crop Acreages: No revision on the 1946 crop acreages were made by the Istituto Centrale di Statistica during March. Consequently those given in the February report are the latest available.

3. Official Monthly Crop Reports are not released by the Ministry of Agriculture until the middle of the following month. However, the recent rains will without question result in a much more favorable report made on the crop situation at the last of March.

CROP CONDITION 28 FEBR. 1946

(Estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture)

Percentage of Provinces reporting:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	
Wheat	2	66	31	1	481%
Rye	-	61	38	1	
Barley	2	64	34	-	

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Percentage of Provinces reporting:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	
Wheat	2	56	31	1	481*
Rye	-	61	38	1	
Barley	2	64	34	-	
Oats	-	58	42	-	
Horse Beans ...	-	70	29	1	

The following brief notes on crop conditions have been taken from the report rendered by UNRRA field men on inspections made during the last week of March:

Winter Wheat: The greater part is in excellent condition. In some provinces signs of nitrogen deficiency are becoming apparent.

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Cereal cereals: The sowing of spring wheat, oats and barley is progressing in all northern provinces.

Legume forages: In general the growth of these crops is more advanced than is usual at this time of the year.

Potatoes: Early plantings have been completed and second plantings are being made in many provinces.

Tomatoes: Are being planted in Southern and Insular Italy.

Flax: Sowings were completed in the Southern Provinces where in some cases plants are up and show excellent conditions. Plantings still being made in Central and Northern Italy.

Hemp: Plantings are practically completed.

Sugar beets: Ground is being prepared for early April planting.

Cabbage and Cauliflower: Harvest well advanced in all provinces and is practically over in May. Harvest has been especially good in both quantity and quality.

Artichokes: Harvest underway in all Italy except in the North. The quality is good and the yield higher than last year.

Fruits and vines: Almond, plum, peaches and other fruit trees are in full bloom. Much spraying of orchards and vines was done during the month. Prospects for a good fruit crop are excellent.

Field work: Field work is being slowed down to some extent by a shortage of draft animals. In some instances farmers are combining their available animals in order to perform those tasks requiring much power.

4. Use of Fertilizers: The shortage of fertilizers is at present the most unfavorable factor bearing on the size and quality of the coming harvest. Whereas up to 1940 Italy used well over 1,000,000 metric tons of superphosphate annually, there will be less than 10% of this amount available for the benefit of crops harvested in 1946. Similarly over 500.00 tons of nitrogen fertilizers were used annually in comparison with an estimated 100.000 tons in 1946, but only if both domestic manufacturers and importing agencies meet assigned goals, which does not seem likely in the face of the threatened coal shortage.

Among the numerous measures taken by the Minister of Agriculture in March to secure the prompt use of all available fertilizers were (1) the repeal of a decree limiting the distribution of fertilizers to 5 Agricultural Supply Agencies and (2) giving fertilizers a higher priority for available rail transportation.

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While the prices of fertilizers to farmers seem very high compared with the landed cost of imported materials no complaints of consequence have been registered, as current prices of farm products are correspondingly high. (The landed cost of ammonium nitrate as determined by the Treasury is 1490 lire per quintal and the price to farmers has been fixed at 2400 lire plus 4% tax.)

5. Agricultural Supplies: Only moderate quantities of agricultural supplies were received from abroad compared with the tonnages received in February and with loadings in March for April delivery. However, the release and distribution of domestic items, especially fertilizers, were much larger than during the previous month.

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Agricultural Supplies released in March

Item	Imports Received		Domestic Supplies Released	Total available for Distribution
	YT	UNRRA Other		
Fertilizers (tons)				
Nitrogenous	7891	none	16490	24,311
Superphosphate	none	none	34000	34,000
Rock phosphate	-	35000	none	(a)
Seeds				
Potatoes (tons)	none	12567	no data	no data
Sugar beets	none	601lbs	no data	no data
Spray materials				
Blister Copper	3000	-	no data	(a)
Veterinary Supplies				
Crystal Violet	none	5 kg.	none	5 kg.

(a) Basic materials which will be available for distribution only after processing.

The seed potato program for 1946, which comprised the importation of 30700 tons of potatoes from the United Kingdom and Holland, was completed with the arrival of 2400 tons of potatoes about 20 March. Likewise the last shipment of ammonia nitrate on requisition 217 YT item 184 was received on 9 March. However, there yet remains some 10,000 tons of ammonia nitrate to come in on requisition 232-YT-item 136, besides 24,000 tons included in the UNREA program.

The 3000 tons of blister copper received in March was the last of 20,000 tons imported under the YT program for the manufacture of copper sulphate for orchard sprays. It now appears that there may be an excess of this spray material especially if the importation of 10,000 tons of blue vitrol, planned by UNREA, materializes. Several other spray materials are still scarce and attempts to locate them abroad are not meeting with much success.

6. Livestock Production: presents a much more favorable picture than for many months, due principally to the generous supply of green forage resulting from the recent rains. March milk production has shown a noticeable increase over February and the production in April should be still higher. Meat supplies, on the other hand, are scarcer than in February, since fewer farmers find it necessary to

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7. Livestock Health: An epidemic of sheep-pox has occurred near Taranto and an outbreak of foot and mouth disease has been reported in Venezia Giulia. Appropriate action has been taken in both instances to treat the affected herds and to prevent the spread of the infection.

A shipment of crystal violet, required in the preparation of hog-cholera vaccine, was received from the United States during March and has been distributed to the various governmental supervised laboratories making animal biologicals.

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8. Surplus Horses and Mules. Two hundred fifty eight horses and mules declared surplus by the British Army in Italy were transferred to the Italian Government during March for distribution to farmers in needy areas; 36 horses declared surplus by the Allied Forces in Austria were received by AMG in Venezia Giulia for distribution to farmers in that area.

9. GRANAIO DEL POPOLO.

Cereal collections during March were insignificantly small compared with estimated amassable quantities not yet delivered and even more so compared with the urgent need for bread grains. The latest available figures are as follows:

March Collection of Cereals (1000 metric tons)

	Total Production	Estimated available for non producers	Collec- tions to Febr. 28	Collec- tions to March 23	% of available grain received
Wheat	4204	1557	1006	1010	65
Oat (Barley)	203	20	14	14	70
Corn	1500	100	73	75	75
Rice	430	310	185	198+	64
Olive Oil	36	35	22	26	74
+ To March 31					

In order to encourage and hasten the collection of rice, 100,000 tons of nitrogenous fertilizers have been allotted to the Rice Growers Association for sale to rice producers at the rate of 20 kilos of fertilizers for each quintal of rough rice delivered to the emmassing agency in excess of the amount required by law.

10. FISHERIES.

The Fishing Industry is now well supplied ~~481~~ nets and other necessary equipment and should make substantial contribution to food supply during the coming summer.

However the recent refusal of British Military Authorities to permit fishing off the coast of Tripoli will greatly reduce the catch of tuna which was expected to be very large.

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A complaint has been received from Jugoslavia that Italian fishermen have been fishing nearer the shores of that country than international agreements permit. The matter has been referred to the Chief Legal Advisor for investigation and according to his ruling, an appropriate reply will be made.

11. FORESTRY:

Numerous complaints have been received during March, particularly from Udine province, against the cutting of timber for Military Units in areas where present timber resources are facing depletion. The matter was referred to AFHQ, which stated that present operations must continue until the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry proposed a practical plan for transferring cutting to other areas.

Plans to reforest areas in the province of Trieste have been completed and some 2000 men are now engaged in transplanting 700,000 young trees obtained from Italian Government nurseries. It is estimated that there are approximately 2000 hectares in the vicinity of Trieste alone on which the forests have been completely destroyed and on which both extensive tree-planting and dam-building must be done immediately to prevent erosion. Obviously only a beginning can be made this year, but it is hoped that the work done during the coming summer may serve as a model for more extensive projects undertaken in the future by the local authorities.

V. R. A. COWPER
Lt.-Colonel
Director,
Food + Agriculture Branch

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4003 of Executive Committee 237

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AFD 394

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SUB COMMISSION

Food and Agriculture

Monthly Report - February 1946

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MONTHLY REPORT - FEBRUARY 1946FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSIONPART IFood DivisionFOOD SUPPLY - Italian Government Territory.

1. National and Provincial Stocks. During the month stocks assigned to the Italian Government were moved to the various provinces to meet current requirements, this movement showing slight improvement over January; Naples area, however, was still short of flour.

2. Provincial Maintenance.

(a) The recent efforts by AC, which is trained from the Italian Government assurance that Septals would in future distribute imported foodstuffs for special classes only on existing ration scales, still await practical demonstration.

(b) The bread ration for February was 200 grams per day plus 500 grams per month (pasta in the South, and rice in the North), except Venezia Giulia which received additional 2000 grams pasta.

3. Cereal Position. The following tables show arrival figures for the current month (in terms of wheat in long tons):

- (a) FEA Programme: 14 ships totalling 87,835 tons. Distribution was as follows:
To the North - 41,735 tons. To the South - 46,103 tons
- (b) UNRRA Programme: 10 ships totalling 77,852 tons. Distribution was as follows:
To the North: 24,945 tons. To the South: 52,907 tons
- (c) Stock as at 28 February 1946 was as follows:

Estimated stock on hand, including imported and indigenous cereals (in terms of wheat in long tons): 115,245 t.

4. At Appendix A is the stock position of imported foodstuffs, other than wheat and flour, as at 1 February 1946.

5. (a) The following arrivals were recorded for imported foodstuffs, other than wheat and flour, during February: **4812**

(b) FEA Programme:

Wheat

5,223 tons

2. Provisional Maintenance

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5. (a) The following arrivals were recorded for imported foodstuffs, other than wheat and flour, during February: **4812**

(b) FEA Programme:

Meat	6,223 tons
Dried Veg.	362 "
Soup	630 "
Evapor. Milk	1,000 "
Skimmed Milk	2,000 "

++ Includes 14,182 tons for repayment to Allied Armed Forces and to UNRRA Welfare Programme. NOT included in UNRRA Summary

(e) UNHRA Programme:

Salted Fish 2,638 tons

(a) UNHRA Welfare Programme

Meat	4 tons
Cera Soup	4 tons
Fish	545 tons
Evaporated Milk	684 tons
Skimmed Milk	457 tons

In addition, 863 tons of flour was imported on account of the UNHRA Welfare-Programme.

6. Rice.

Actual stocks on hand 15,000 tons at 28 February 1946, made up of 10,000 tons "rough" 5,000 tons "polished". The necessity of Italy's making the maximum effort in production from indigenous resources cannot be overemphasized in view of the world position at the present time, and this question should have the Italian Government's closest consideration.

7. Imported Fats and Oils: This matter still gives cause for grave concern, and no imports were recorded during the month, which meant the hoped-for issue of the January oil/fat ration during this month did not materialize.

8. Maintenance of Italian Armed Forces. The maintenance of the Italian Army is the responsibility of the Italian Government, and efforts are being made to bring both Italian Navy and Italian Air Force under the same "bundling" though at present no definite date can be assumed as to when the Italian Government will be in a position to carry this additional responsibility.

9. Loans to other theatres. Of the outstanding loans, a further repayment was made as follows:

1 ship LAURA KILNE - 8,332 tons
to S & T (GRASC 14) Supply Units.

FOOD SUPPLY - ANG TERRITORY

10. Venezia Giulia and Udine. The first military requisition ship arrived in Venice on 18 February, and her cargo of approximately 8,000 tons of wheat was distributed as follows:

2,530 tons to Venezia Giulia
4,530 tons to Udine.

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FOOD SUPPLY - AMG TERRITORY

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RATIONING.

Increase of Supplementary ration.

11. The supplementary sugar ration for I.B. patients at home has been increased from 300 grams to 800 grams, giving a overall entitlement of 1000 grams per month.

This covers all Italy.

LOCAL RESOURCES.

12. Food for the Italian Army. The Food + Agric. S/C has again given assistance to the Italian Army in order to overcome con-

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serious difficulty which interferes with regular supply. A meeting has been held with the attendance of representatives of the High Commissioner for Food, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food & Agriculture Subcommission where the High Commissioner for Food was asked to take immediate action for the implementation of commitments made towards the Italian Army.

13. Wine. As the decree issued some time ago for a partial control of wine has proved unworkable, the High Commissioner for Food has now decided to repeal it and has directed that wine should be handled on a complete free trade basis.

14. Cheese and Dairy Products. A decree has been issued by the High Commissioner for Food setting forth a new policy where by the control over most of dairy products is lifted.

15. Fresh fruit and Vegetables. Assistance has again been given to the Purchasing Services in order to facilitate the direct relations with Italian Authorities and suppliers.

TRANSPORTATION.

16. Bids submitted by Food Agriculture S/C.

No bids for transportation were submitted in February.

17. Rome bread reserve.

The Rome grain reserve stood at 6 days bread supply on 28 Feb.

18. Salt movement by rail.

(a) the movement of salt by rail from Marthorita di Savain is shown at appendix A.1, for the four week period 28 January to 24 February. The salt train ran 22 times in this four week period with destinations in Central and in Southern Italy as well as in Northern Italy.

(b) Because of the successful operation of the salt train the movement of salt by road by private firms (reported in November) has almost been eliminated. The elimination of this movement is a good sign because long distance road haulage was uneconomic and could only exist when coarse supplies resulted in high prices.

19. Availability of rail cars.

Rail cars in the Naples area continued in short supply and during the month the Naples warehouses received slightly over one third of the cars requested.

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WATER SHIPMENTS.

20. Salt shipments.

Reports received on the movement of salt by sea show the following tonnages:

Port of destination.	Tons
GENOVA	4560
VENICE	1050
CIVITA' VECCHIA	3850
CASERTA	2050
Tot.	11610

21. Wine and Fruit Movements.

About 2400 tons of wine and 700 of citrus fruit were shipped coastwise. Further shipments were made by seagoing but figures are not to hand.

POOL PROCESSING.

22. Yeast. The production of yeast in Italy reached the normal level and therefore the requirement of the Allied Forces are regularly filled. Only as far as Home is concerned difficulties have arisen during the month regarding the delivery, particularly to the S. & T.Br., but these difficulties have been overcome through the intervention of the L.G. Moreover, request has been made to obtain a better supply of Electric Energy for the Yeast Factories in Rome.

23. Jam. The production of jam, manufactured with sugar allocated by the L.G. (5500 tons in all) is not considerable on account of the various difficulties raised by Italian Officials and by the Firms concerned. While in Southern Italy the withdrawal of sugar (tons 4,000) by the Factories was initiated this month, in Northern Italy the Italian Government has advanced a specific request in order to alter the program actually in operation. In Northern Italy, in order to obtain a greater quantity of product, it was agreed to produce, with the 4500 allocated, a special jam at 20% sugar: but the Italian Government now considers it necessary to revise the previous measures and allow the use of 40% in lieu of 20% sugar with a view to reducing the price of the jam to be manufactured. The fact that the price of jam will, on the originally agreed basis, be too high is due to the continual delay and ill-will in carrying out the production plan, and to the obvious refusal of some manufacturing Firms to abide by agreement. There was, therefore, no other choice than to accept the proposal of the Italian Government. However, considering the bad situation of the present sugar stock, it is suggested in order to conserve stocks as long as possible, to cancel such sugar allocations under the Northern jam-making program which have not been withdrawn by Firms concerned and allow only those which are already withdrawn the sugar to manufacture jam with the increased sugar content. Because of the modification of the actual plan, the jam production - until the next sugar harvest - is reduced for Northern Italy to 10,000 tons plus 8,000 tons in South Italy.

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24. Cheese and other milk products. The Italian Government has abolished the control in North Italy on production and distribution of milk products, excepting butter and milk for direct alimentary use, that continues to be blocked and distributed in rations. This measure up to now has not brought any considerable increase in the price of milk destined for industrial use but has put in private trade considerable quantities of cheese, among which the most important is the "parm" (Parmesan cheese) with a stock of 23,000 tons of which 19,000 tons was the production of 1945. As a result of this measure a drop of more than 25% on the price of cheese resulted particularly in South Italy. Upon request of the U.S. Embassy, a plan has been proposed regarding the following Pool Processing Plan in Italy:

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a) cheese, (b) butter, (c) condensed milk and powdered milk, (d) baby food. Details include the number in operation during 1942, 1945 estimates, 1946 capacity and production for the same period. A report has been requested and prepared on general problems concerning industry and materials (machinery and fuel e.t.c.) needs.

Requests for the derequisition of Food Processing Plants have been examined.

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PART II

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

1. Northern Italy - The weather was dry with rising temperature caused the melting of snow. However there is still quite a lot of snow in the Province of Cuneo.

2. Central Italy - The weather was dry with light rain in the Provinces of Apulia, Florence, Imbria, Pistoia, Pesaro and Ancona. In the other Provinces of Central Italy, especially in those of Grosseto, Rome and Perugia some crops are showing the effects of drought.

3. Southern Italy - Weather conditions varied with some rain in the Provinces of Chieti, Teramo, Itri, Brindisi and Corridonia and scattered snowfall in the mountainous areas of the Provinces of Avellino, Salerno, Potenza and heavy snow in Matera. Temperatures were rather low with scattered frost.

4. Insular Italy - Weather conditions were variable in the islands with some rain and changeable temperatures. Crops in certain sections of the Provinces of Messina and Palermo show signs of drought.

5. Reports indicate general conditions of the growing crops as good and promising in all Italy, with the exception of only a few provinces reporting conditions as fair. There are signs of continued drought in the greater part of the Provinces of Central, Southern and Insular Italy, which give rise to worries, especially in regard to forage crops. General rains would improve crop conditions.

6. Preparatory work of the land for spring planting has been somewhat arrested by rain and snow in limited areas, but in general favorable weather conditions have permitted the farmers to do more than the usual amount of field work.

7. All provinces are urgently asking for their allocations of nitrogen and phosphates, which will fall short of needs as only a fraction of requirements are covered. Failure to insure sufficient rock phosphate from North Africa will cause a sharp reduction in crop yields and total food production in Italy.

8. A number of new orchards and vineyards have been planted. The weather in certain provinces of Southern and Insular Italy

4803

2. Central Italy - The weather was dry with light rain in the Provinces of Apulia, Abruzzo, Pescara, Frosinone, Teramo and Rieti. In the other Provinces of Central Italy, especially in those of Grosseto, Rome and Perugia some crops are showing the effects of drought.

3. Southern Italy - Weather conditions varied with some rain in the Provinces of Chieti, Teramo, Itri, Brindisi and Corridonia and scattered snowfall in the mountainous areas of the Provinces of Avellino, Salerno, Potenza and heavy snow in Matera. Temperatures were rather low with scattered frost.

4. Insular Italy - Weather conditions were variable in the islands with some rain and changeable temperatures. Crops in certain sections of the Provinces of Messina and Palermo show signs of drought.

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6. Preparatory work of the land for spring planting has been somewhat arrested by rain and snow in limited areas, but in general favorable weather conditions have permitted the farmers to do no more than the usual amount of field work.

7. All provinces are urgently asking for their allocations of nitrates and phosphates, which will fall short of needs as only a fraction of requirements are covered. Failure to import sufficient rock phosphate from North Africa will again cause a reduction in crop yields and total food production in Italy.

8. A number of new orchards and vineyards have been planted. The almond trees in certain provinces of Southern and Insular Italy are in bloom.

9. Vines and orchards were sprayed with insecticides where spray materials were available. Present requests indicate that expected supplies of spray materials will fall short of the needs.

10. According to reports received to date the following areas have been down to fall/winter cereals and large beans:

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Autumn-Winter Sown Cereals & Horse Fodder	Area in Hectares 1945	Percent- Increase in 1946
Wheat	4,357,612	4
Rye	94,347	3
Barley	236,090	0.3
Oats	437,293	0.6
Horse Beans	377,935	14

+ Percent Reduction

It should be noted however, that while there is a considerable increase in the horse bean acreage compared to that of last year, it is still considerably under the one normally planted. This reduction in the acreage sown to horse beans is due principally to the lack of superphosphates, without which this crop is relatively unprofitable.

11. Field work carried out on the distribution of imported agricultural supplies. During the month of February field work was carried out by members of the agriculture group to facilitate the distribution of imported agricultural supplies. Members of the agriculture group went to the parts where supplies were being discharged to facilitate the Government. These were especially useful in securing means of transport so that the supplies might be removed readily from the port area to the provinces and work areas where the supplies will be used.

Field checks made in a few provinces showed that seed potatoes imported in early February are already planted. It was also revealed that the price of local seed has been reduced in certain areas because of the price of imported seed, which was 32,5 lire per kilogram to the farmer.

GRANAI DEL POPOLO.

12. The wheat collections up to 28 February 1946 (data taken in order to have uniform reporting from all provinces) amounted to 1,005,526 metric tons, of which 531,797 metric tons were collected in Northern Italy and 413,729 metric tons in Central Italy and Insular Italy. The collections are especially slow since the target of the Ministry of Agriculture is about to be attained, it is not expected that there will be much more grain coming in to the Granai del Popolo in the next month.

13. Rye and Barley increased through 28 February 1946 total 139,977 metric tons and 10,917 metric tons respectively.

It should be noted however, that while there is a considerable increase in the horse bean acreage compared to that of last year, it is still considerably under the one normally planted. This reduction in the acreage seems to have been in the principal to the lack of superphosphates, without which this crop is relatively unprofitable.

11. Field work carried out on the distribution of imported agricultural supplies. During the month of February field work was carried out by members of the agriculture group to facilitate the distribution of imported agriculture supplies. Members of the agriculture group went to the ports where supplies were being discharged to facilitate the movement. These men were especially useful in securing means of transportation so that the supplies might be removed readily from the port area to the provinces and workmen where the supplies will be used.

Field checks made in a few provinces showed that good potato seed imported in early February are already planted. It was also revealed that the price of local seed has been reduced in certain areas because of the price of imported seed, which was 32,5 lire per kilogram to the farmer.

GRANAI DEL POPOLO.

12. The wheat collections up to 28 February 1946 (last taken in order to have uniform reporting from all provinces) amounted to 1,005,526 metric tons, of which 591,797 metric tons were collected in Northern Italy and 413,729 metric tons in Central and Southern Italy. The collections are especially slow as the target of the Ministry of Agriculture is about to be attained, it is not expected that there will be much more coming in to the Granai del Popolo in the next month.

13. Rye and Barley collected through 28 February 1946 total 139,977 metric tons, which is the equivalent of 10,917 metric tons of wheat. Corn collected through 15 February 1946 totals 73118 metric tons, which is the equivalent of 66,537 metric tons of wheat.

14. Quantities of rough rice collected through 28 February 1946 amount to 184,716 metric tons or 144,073 metric tons in wheat equivalent. The investigation, which was to have been carried out by the Italian officials of the Ministry of Alimentation and the Ministry of Agriculture, as regards to the rice situation and concerning the method to be adopted to increase the delivery of rough rice, has been postponed. This will take place in the first

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days of March 1946. As the situation stands at present, useless measures are taken to stop the "flight" of rice, the collections of rough rice will become more and more difficult.

OLEARI DEL POPOLO

15. The Olive Oil collected up to 28 February 1946 amounts to 21,813 metric tons.

AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES.

16. Arrivals of agricultural supplies progressed satisfactorily during February. Failure to receive advance notice on the date and place of arrival of incoming vessels and the scarcity of railway cars have made it impossible to move supplies promptly into those areas where they are to be used.

Imported supplies

17. Seed Potatoes: During February 12327 tons of seed potatoes were received from abroad which leaves only about 6000 tons for future arrivals. The Italian Government refused to accept the recommendation made by AC that foreign seed potatoes should be distributed free of charge to needy farmers and that the other farmers pay only landed costs (12,50 Lire per kilogram) plus handling charges. Instead all potatoes have been sold for 32.50 Lire per kilogram or approximately 80 percent of the prevailing price of domestic grown seed.

18. Farm Machinery: During February 481 crates of tractors, ploughs and spare parts were received all of which were against Requisition RA 201. Summary of arrivals to Feb 28 is as follows:

Tractors	667
Ploughs	137
Spare parts (boxes)	540

19. Fertilizers: 15,260 tons of Chilean Nitrate (NaNO_3) were received during February, approximately 40% of which are unloaded at Naples and the balance at Genoa. The inability to secure rail cars at the former port has prevented moving the fertilizer into the interior where it is badly needed. This difficulty is a matter of the utmost urgency, as the bulk of the fertilizer is still to arrive and it must be moved promptly if it is to be of benefit to cereal crops.

The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a plan of distribution for fertilizers which provides for the sharing of fertilizer by 5 different organizations, each of which is to receive a fixed percentage of the total tonnage handled. In addition a stated percentage is reserved for distribution by small cooper-

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18. Farm Machinery: During February 481 crates of tractors, ploughs and spare parts were received all of which were against Requisition RA 201. Summary of arrivals to Feb 28 is as follows:

Tractors	667
Ploughs	197
Spare parts (boxes)	640

19. Fertilizers: 15,260 tons of Chilean Nitrate (Na NO₃) were received during February, approximately 40% of which was unloaded at Naples and the balance at Catania. The inability to secure rail cars at the former port has prevented moving the fertilizer into the interior where it is badly needed. This difficulty is a matter of the utmost urgency, as the bulk of the fertilizer is still to arrive and it must be moved promptly if it is to be of benefit to cereal crops.

The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a plan of distribution for fertilizers which provides for the sharing **4803** of 4803 tons by 5 different organizations, each of which is to receive a fixed percentage of the total tonnage handled. In addition a stated percentage is reserved for distribution by small cooperatives, farmer associations, institutions etc. The plan appears unnecessarily cumbersome and expensive and will almost certainly delay equitable distribution and prompt delivery.

20. Insecticides: 219 tons of spray materials, principally oil emulsion were received at Venice during February and have been distributed principally in Veneto and Emilia. These materials were against requisition Ciac. 217 Jt item 103. 17070 tons of Blister Copper for the manufacture of Copper Sulfate have arrived in Italy to 28 Feb. and an additional 1500 tons are reported as having been shipped. This amount of blister copper plus stocks

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left over from last year and the quantity salvaged from shell casings and copper scraps should be adequate to produce the minimum requirements estimated for 1946. However spray materials manufactured from copper stock now in process of manufacture may not be applied in terms to be fully effective. The price of copper sulfate (crystals) has been fixed at 50.000 Lire per ton at producing plants.

21. Sulphur: Raw and refined sulphur has been unblocked. However checking is not easy in the present conditions. Production is handicapped due to lack of sufficient power and to shortage of shipping space both rail and ocean. The commodity has been moving quite satisfactorily after arrival on the Italian mainland, but has been slow coming from Sicily.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce had previously allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture 30,000 tons of refined sulphur for agricultural purposes, against 40,000 tons normal consumption, which would appear in 1946 to meet minimum requirements, if made available to the farmers timely.

22. POL for Agriculture: 1946 requirements for POL products have been indicated to PETROL Section in 171,000 tons of fuels and 8,000 tons of lubricants for agricultural purposes proper, excluding land reclamation, Commercial and fisheries.

23. The Feed Situation: No improvement in the Feed Situation can be reported for the month of February. Harvested conditions have grown noticeably worse and supplies even of hay and straw are dangerously low in some areas. Green forage, which normally is abundant by 1 March in Central and Southern Italy, has been seriously retarded by the extremely dry weather. If rain comes within the next few weeks the Feed Situation will rapidly improve, but if the drought continues another month or six weeks the condition of the Livestock industry will become precarious except in those regions where irrigation water was available.

24. Animal Health and Disease: Except for local outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in several widely dispersed provinces, no serious animal epidemics were reported during the month. The sporadic cases of dourina reported last month are now believed to be under control. Italian Governmental officials are fully aware of the seriousness of this disease and have taken all possible measures to prevent its spread. Work cattle appear to have come through the winter in very thin condition. Consequently, they lack the

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25. Surplus Horses and Mules: One hundred twelve horses and 140 mules declared surplus by the British Army were transferred to the Italian Government during February. The majority of these animals were distributed to farmers in the war ravaged areas of Avezzano, Aquila and Campobasso provinces.

26. Fishing nets: Through textile Office of Industry S/C, an allocation of 300 tons of raw cotton (100 tons of Egyptian and 200 tons of American cotton) was obtained by the Fisheries Division for the manufacture of cotton twine for fishing nets. Aforesaid cotton has been allotted by the Ministry of Industry to special

spinning mills of North Italy and it is hoped that in about two months, 250 tons of cotton twine will be available for Italian fishermen.

In consequence of this fact, Washington cabled to Textile Office AC asking if Italian spinning mills could spin proper cotton for nets for China, Yugoslavia, Greece and Norway. The reply was affirmative and a stock of raw cotton had been allotted for this purpose. Mr. Broadbent has been sent by the British Government to assist in completing arrangements concerning this matter.

27. PCL: To the activity of the Fisheries Division the Ministry of Industry assigned a larger allocation of PCL for the Italian motor-trawlers' use. The allocation was doubled and therefore ships are now able to fish 12 days per month.

28. Trout Eggs: Owing to the splendid result of the first shipment from the USA of a lot of trout eggs, dealings are underway to obtain from the Italian Government the authorization to purchase a second lot of the same kind of eggs. As stated in the January report not a single egg out of the 70,000 eggs imported was deteriorated.

29. National Meeting of Fisheries: During the month of March the first National Meeting of Fisheries will be held in Rome. Owing to the importance of the occurrence the Ministry of Agriculture (Ufficio Centrale della Pesca) has requested the Fisheries Division to obtain from the U.S. films, photos, illustrations e.t.c. of fishing in the United States, Canada e.t.c. The American Consul informed USIS of this request and as a result, many photos have arrived already, while publications and films are underway.

30. Ocean Fishing: The Atlantic trawler "Aringa" started on 25 Feb. to go to fish on the banks of Rio De Oro (West Africa Coast). Presumably she will be back in Italy towards the end of March with a load of about 700 quintals of refrigerated fish.

F O R E S T R Y

4802

1.) Fuelwood - Preliminary reports indicate that February production of fuelwood was about 20% greater than the production goal. Unless something unforeseen develops, fuelwood for the

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F O R E S T R Y

4802

- 1.) Fuelwood - Preliminary reports indicate that February production of fuelwood was about 20% greater than the production goal. Unless something unforeseen develops, fuelwood for the few remaining weeks of winter is assured.
- 2.) Reforestation - Regional plans for the 1946 reforestation program have been completed and planting will commence in March. The principal difficulties which are anticipated are poor nursery stock, a shortage of transportation and the lack of financing. Areas scheduled for planting by type of program as follows:

AREAS TO BE REFORESTED IN 1946

REGION	MOUNTAINS BASINS	COMMUNAL FORESTS	STATE LANDS	PRIVATE LANDS	TOTAL
	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha
Northern	2015	1115	353	285	3768
Central	830	346	135	94	1405
Southern	605	460	30	46	1143
Insular	1050	135	158	200	1538
Total ...	4500	2056	671	627	7854

3.) Nurseries and Seed - Six forest nurseries in Southern Italy were inspected during the month and plans were discussed for reorganization of the nursery program in Calabria. Since the scarcity of forest seeds is the limiting factor in reestablishing nurseries, purchase of forest seed in the United States have been requested.

4.) Timber resources - An increasing number of complaints have been received about the cutting of forests by Military Units. One of the most controversial areas was inspected and the cutting practices were found to be satisfactory for the amount of timber being cut. It must be realized though that the heavy cutting of Italian timber will have a long effect on the rural economy because the depletion of timber resources lessens employment and industrial activity. Also the use of timber for military needs reduces the amount available for reconstruction and rehabilitation.

V.E.A. COWPER
Lt. Col.
DIRECTOR

Total ... 4500

135

133

1300

1528

9034

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V.R.A. COMPTON
Lt. Col.
DIRECTOR

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APPENDIX "A" - STOCK POSITION OF IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS AND OTHER THAN WHEAT & FLOUR AS AT

COMMODITY	NORTH ITALY (Encl. E-1, 1a)		SOUTH ITALY		GRAND TOTAL		Month on ex R.S. ly 1
	Fed Whses	Prov Whses	Stock In Fed. Whse assigned Ital. Govt.	Stock In Fed. Whse blocked for AC.	Stocks In Fed Whses	Stocks In Prov Whses	
SOUP	4,061	2,452	1,122	533	12,543	20,231	3.
MILK POWD. (1)	4,767	2,679	2,239	1,710	12,300	23,695	8.
MEAT (2)	374	1,135	944	63	4,382	6,898	1.
EGGS POWDER	2	1,284	771	1	757	2,815 (4)	
VEG DRIED	4,647	3,098	2,512	1,266	6,324	18,347	5.
SUGAR	3,696	842	5,997	2,981	4,156	17,572	10.
FATS (3)	984	165	332	176	327	2,074	8.
COFFEE	55		177	102	123	467	
SOAP	1,082	306	597	1,015	160	3,160	

(1) Incl. Evaporated Milk in terms of Powder

(2) Incl. fish

(3) Incl. veg. oil in terms of olive oil

(4) Special allocation for Jen

POSITION OF IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS AND OTHER THAN WHEAT & FLOUR AS AT 1 FEB 1946 (All in metric tons)

ITALY (Encl. E-1, 1a)	SOUTH ITALY		GROSS MONTHLY MAINT		No. of days	Will last to	
Prov Whse	Stock in Fed. Whse assigned Ital. Govt.	Stock in Fed. Whse blocked for AC.	TOOL	on existing R.S. all Italy less V.G.			
2,452	1,122	533	12,543	20,231	3,814	163	13 July
2,679	2,239	1,710	12,300	23,895	8,543	83	24 April
1,135	944	63	4,382	6,898	1,369	151	1 July
1,284	771	1	757	2,815 ⁽⁴⁾	—	—	—
3,098	2,512	1,766	6,324	18,347	3,946	92	3 May
842	5,997	2,881	4,156	17,572	10,456	50	22 March
185	332	176	397	2,074	8,173	7	7 Feb
—	177	102	123	467	—	—	—
306	597	1,015	160	3,160	—	—	—

Milk in terms of Powder

in terms of olive oil

ion for Gen

MONTHLY REPORT - FEBRUARY 1946

APPENDIX n. 1-

SALT MOVEMENT BY RAIL

<u>WEEK</u>	Piemonte	Lombardia	Venezia	Trieste	Toscana	Lazio	Campania	Emilia
28 Jan. - 2 Feb.	490	903	892	61				480
4 Feb. - 10 Feb.			429	52	552	472	148	
11 Feb. - 17 Feb.			873	64		942	475	
18 Feb. - 24 Feb.			431	40	485	495	903	
	<u>490</u>	<u>903</u>	<u>2625</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>1037</u>	<u>1909</u>	<u>1526</u>	<u>480</u>

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FEBRUARY 1946

SALT MOVEMENT BY RAIL

4793

Piemonte	Lombardia	Venezia	Trieste	Toscana	Lazio	Campania	Emilia	Abruzzi	Marche	Total Tonnage
							480			2825
490	903	892	61							1653
		429	52	552	472	148				
		873	64		942	475		461		2815
		431	40	485	495	903			468	2842
<u>490</u>	<u>903</u>	<u>2625</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>1037</u>	<u>1909</u>	<u>1526</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>461</u>	<u>488</u>	<u>10136</u>

WHEAT AVAILABLE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1946

Compartments	Collected at latest report m. tons	Average date of reports	Estimated Available for non- producers* m. tons	Percent available collected
Piemonte	68,711	28/2	117,000	59
Liguria	197	28/2	6,000	3
Lombardia	151,497	28/2	188,000	81
Venezia T.	66	28/2	3,000	2
Veneto	158,254	28/2	200,000	79
Venezia G.	1,235	28/2	1,000	123
Emilia	211,837	28/2	250,000	85
Northern Italy	591,797		765,000	77
Toscana	97,643	28/2	137,000	71
Marche	120,490	28/2	138,000	87
Umbria	99,365	28/2	76,000	78
Lazio	28,437	28/2	99,000	48
Abruzzi	27,885	28/2	65,000	43
Campania	7,608	28/2	30,000	25
Puglia	23,025	28/2	70,000	33
Lucania	9,181	28/2	29,000	32
Calabria	7,737	28/2	31,000	25
Sicilia	23,691	28/2	141,000	17
Sardegna	8,667	28/2	16,000	54
Central, Southern & Insular Italy	413,729		792,000	52
ALL ITALY	1,005,526		1,557,000	65

* Revised figures based on actual retentions calculated on 15 December 1945.

WHEAT AND BULGUR REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1946

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Collected at latest report m. tons	Average date of reports	Estimated Available for non- producers* m. tons	Percent of availability collected
68,711	28/2	117,000	59
197	28/2	6,000	3
151,497	28/2	188,000	81
66	28/2	3,000	2
158,254	28/2	200,000	79
1,235	28/2	1,000	123
211,837	28/2	250,000	85
591,797		765,000	77
97,643	28/2	137,000	71
120,490	28/2	138,000	87
99,365	28/2	76,000	78
28,437	28/2	99,000	48
27,885	28/2	65,000	43
7,608	28/2	30,000	25
23,025	28/2	70,000	33
9,181	28/2	29,000	32
7,737	28/2	31,000	25
23,691	28/2	141,000	17
8,667	28/2	16,000	54
413,729		792,000	52
1,005,526		1,557,000	65

* based on actual retentions calculated on 15 December 1945.

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