



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture  
  
Foreign  
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Service

# Commodity Intelligence Report

April 16, 2019

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## Guyana Rice: Yield Expectations Increase with Improved Varieties

Despite soil fertility issues during the first rice crop (Figure 1) and paddy bug concerns in some regions during the second crop, yield for the 2018/19 season is estimated at 5.81 tons per hectare. This is a 3 percent improvement over last year's yield of 5.63 tons per hectare.

Guyana farmers reaped 965,000 tons of paddy rice, resulting in 627,000 tons of milled rice, from an area of 166,000 hectares (Figure 2). Guyana's 2018/19 rice production is only slightly below last year, less than 1 percent, but from an area that was 3 percent less than the previous season.

Recently released rice varieties have contributed to improved yields, boosting productivity throughout the country. The best rice areas (Figure 3) continue to be Regions 5 and 6 which produce about 60 percent of Guyana's rice each year. Although Region 4 has less area, it has some of the best overall production due to high yields; some fields were harvested with over 7 tons per hectare this season.

The first rice crop (Figure 4) was excellent despite soil fertility issues, but the second rice crop had impacts from the rice paddy bug *Leptocorisa acuta* (Thunberg). An ongoing campaign on paddy bug prevention and control is being provided to farmers to help limit this intrusive and damaging insect in rice fields.

The quality of Guyana rice has also improved through the retooling of equipment to improve the efficiency of processing. Guyana's millers have worked to provide a cleaner finished product. Efforts are continuing to improve the milling process with programs emphasizing efficiency and quality.

Finally, improvements to irrigation and water retention continue to be upgraded in Guyana to help maintain water supplies and prevent future problems during heavy rainfall events.

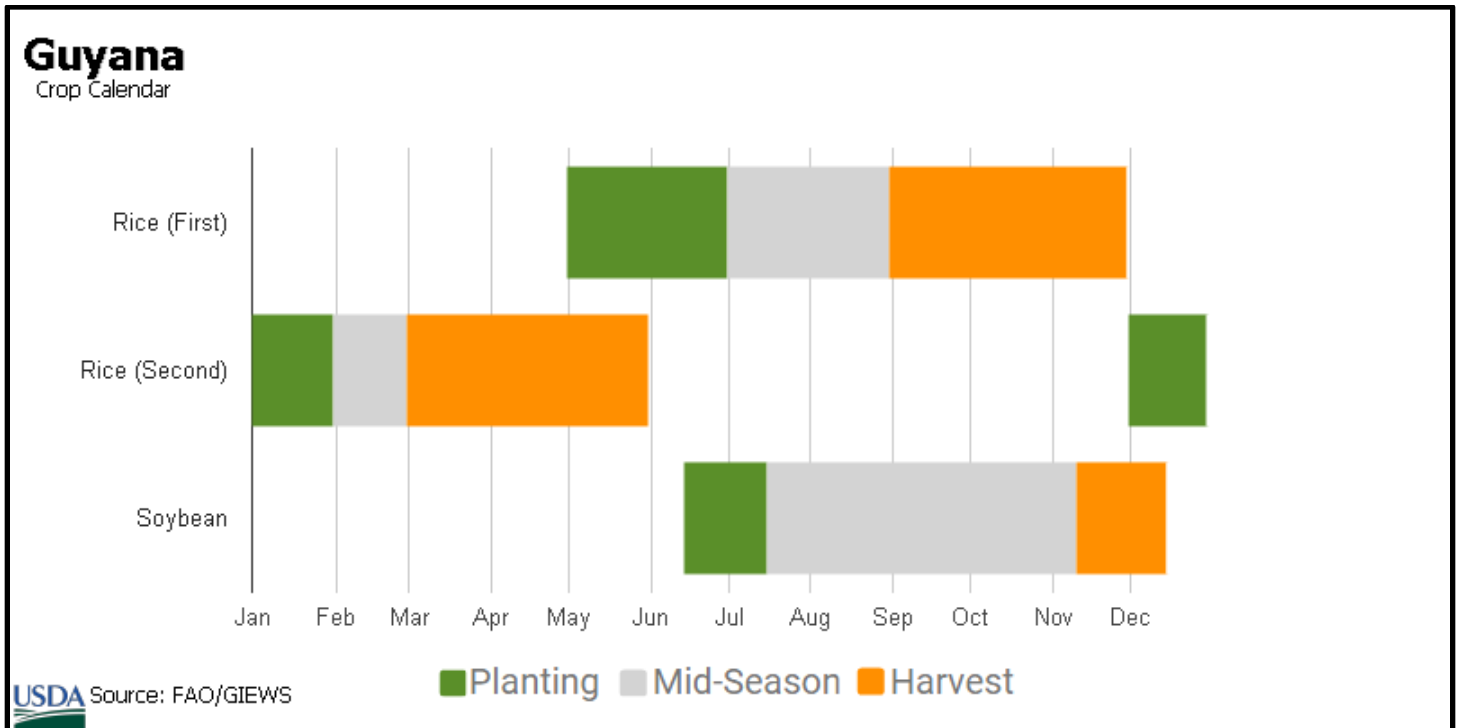


Figure 1: Crop commodity calendar for Guyana including timing of first and second crop rice planting and harvesting.

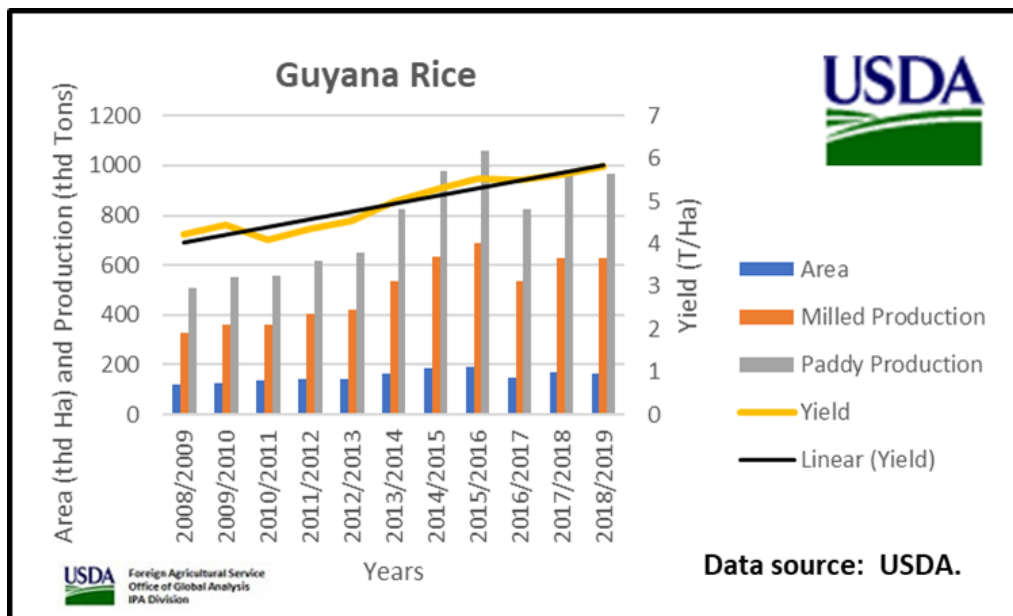


Figure 2: Area, production and yield of Guyana rice over the past 11 years.

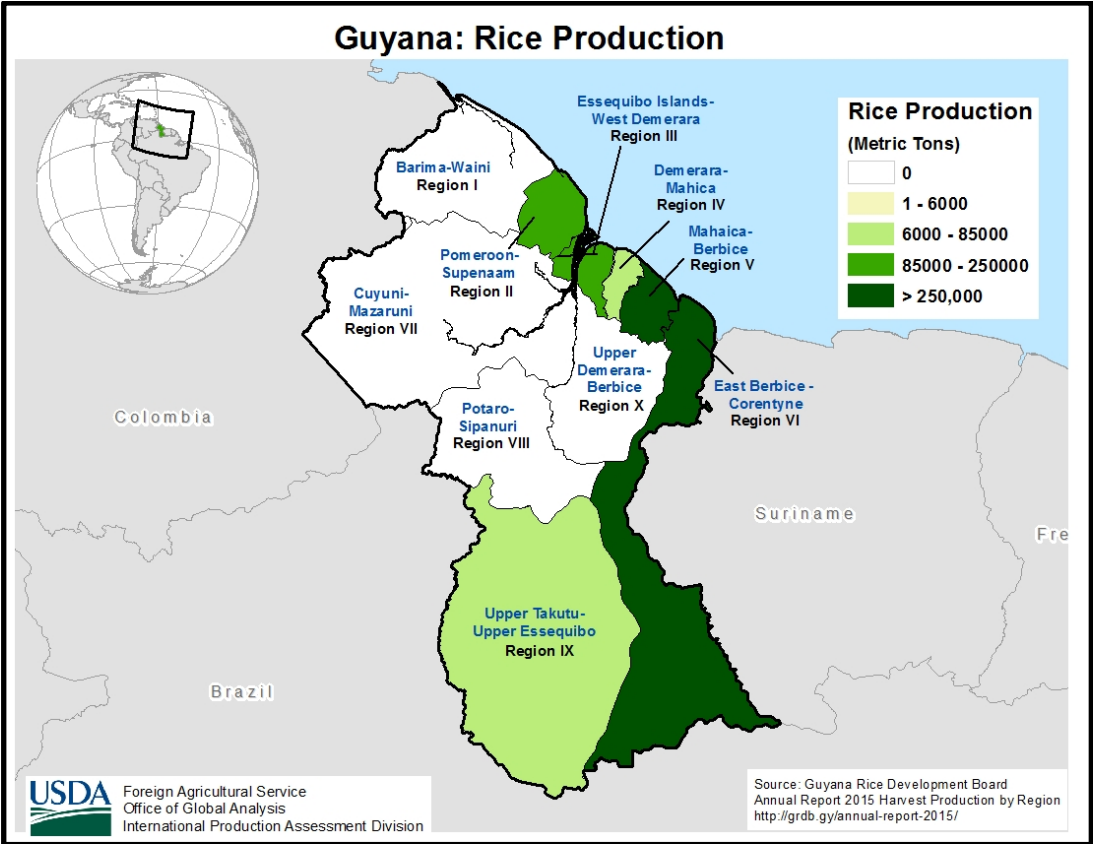


Figure 3: Rice production regions in Guyana.

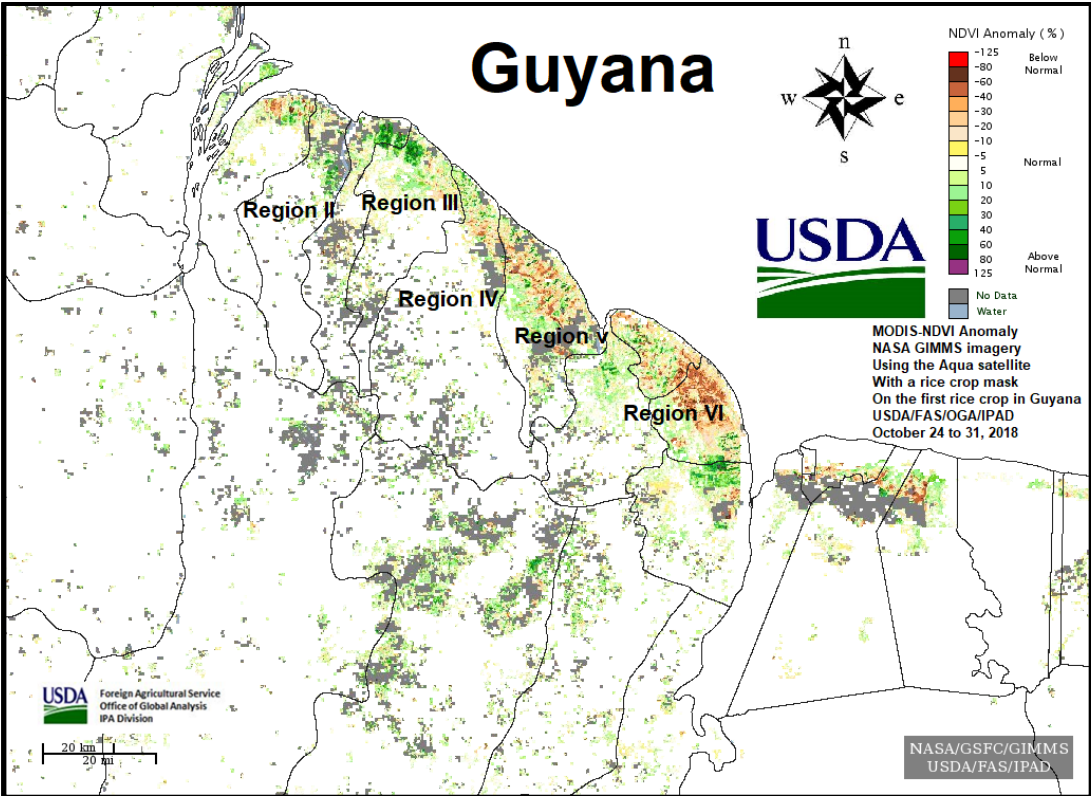
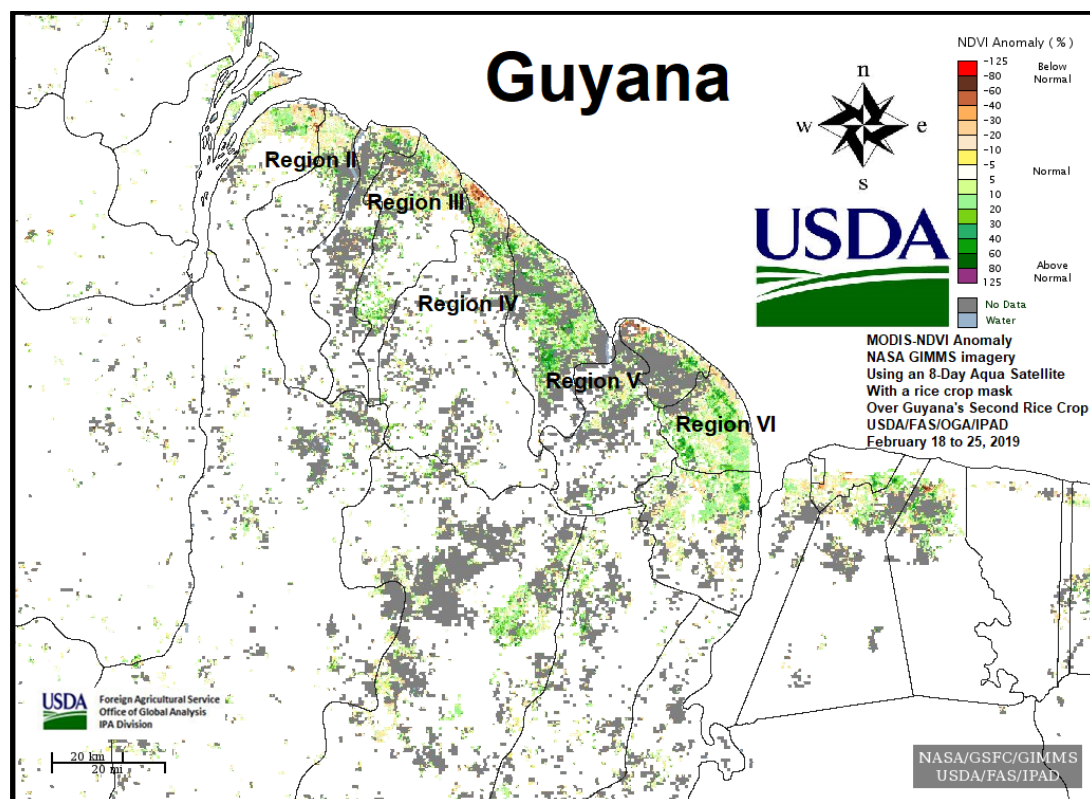


Figure 4: First crop rice for Guyana 2018/19 season with good crop conditions toward the end of October 2018.



**Figure 5:** Second crop rice for Guyana 2018/19 season with good crop conditions toward the end of February 2019.

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Current area and production estimates for grains and other agricultural commodities are available on IPAD's Agricultural Production page:  
[Crop Explorer https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/](https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/) or

Production, Supply and Distribution Database (PSD Online):  
<http://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/psdHome.aspx>

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