

Maize Seed - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2025 - 2030)

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Report description:

The Maize Seed Market size is estimated at 25.32 billion USD in 2025, and is expected to reach 33.19 billion USD by 2030, growing at a CAGR of 5.56% during the forecast period (2025-2030).

Hybrids dominate the global maize seed market due to increased adoption by farmers and the growing approvals of transgenic hybrids in major producing countries

- In 2022, hybrids held a significant share of 90.8% of the global maize seed market by value, which increased by 20.8% between 2017 and 2022. This is because the demand for hybrids is increasing in line with the growth in the availability of a variety of traits in maize.
- In 2022, open-pollinated varieties and hybrid derivatives accounted for only 9.2% of the global maize seed market by value. In North America, the United States dominated, accounting for 89.5% of the regional OPV seed market, followed by Mexico with a 6.8% market share.
- Non-transgenic hybrids accounted for 41.9% of the global maize seed market by value in 2022, which increased by 10.6% between 2017 and 2022. This is because of growing consumer demand for food products perceived as natural and free from genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Additionally, some countries have strict regulations regarding the use and labeling of GMOs. This has led to increased interest in non-transgenic seeds.
- Transgenic hybrids are estimated to grow, registering a CAGR of 6.6% during the forecast period. The increased yield potential and reduced input costs associated with transgenic crops can lead to an increase in the adoption of these traits. The herbicide-tolerant corn seed segment accounted for the majority of the transgenic corn seed market because weeds reduce crop production and affect growers' profits by 30-40%, owing to crop damage. ? In South America, the usage of hybrids is 100%. GM

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maize hybrids were fully approved by the major producing countries in the region and insect- and herbicide-resistant corn seeds are widely available across the region.

- The increasing availability of a variety of traits in hybrids and the growing adoption of hybrids by farmers are estimated to drive the segment during 2023-2030.

North America dominated the global maize seed market due to higher area under cultivation and higher adoption of transgenic hybrids

- In 2022, maize seeds represented a significant portion of the global grain and cereal seeds market, with a 65.0% share. The maize seed market is anticipated to grow by 26.5% during the forecast period, fueled by the rising adoption of high-yielding maize varieties, the crop's role as a primary food source, and escalating demand from the livestock industry.

- North America, led by the United States, held the largest share of the global maize seed market in 2022. The country alone accounted for 39.6% of the market's value, benefiting from its high corn productivity per acre, owing to the widespread adoption of hybrids and genetically modified (GM) corn.

- Asia-Pacific was the second-largest maize seed market. The major countries in the region are China and India, which together accounted for 26.2% of the global maize seed market in 2022. The acreage under corn cultivation in China was 42.4 million ha in 2017, which increased to 43.7 million ha in 2022. The increase in area and production was mainly driven by the increased yield due to the usage of improved cultivars in the country. This advancement in cultivar development has led to a surge in seed demand across the region.

- France emerged as the leader in Europe's maize seed market, capturing 3.6% of the global share. This share is steadily rising, driven by an expanding sowing area and a growing preference for commercial seeds.

- During the forecast period, the maize seed market's growth is expected to be propelled by the increasing availability of high-yielding varieties and private companies' focus on developing stress-tolerant and disease-resistant strains.

Global Maize Seed Market Trends

The Asia-Pacific dominates global maize cultivation due to favorable market prices and conducive geographical conditions

- Maize is the most versatile cereal crop known for its adaptability, diverse types, and wide-ranging use. It is the second most cultivated crop globally, mainly in tropical, sand subtropical, and temperate climates. Its global cultivation encompasses various types, including field corn, sweet corn, popcorn, and baby corn. In 2022, maize production crossed 1.21 billion metric ton, spread across 208.9 million hectares in over 170 countries, with an average yield of 5.87 metric ton. Driven by a growing global population and rising incomes, the demand for maize for human consumption and livestock feed has surged. This surge has prompted farmers to expand their maize cultivation areas, resulting in a 5.5% increase in acreage between 2017 and 2022.

- Asia-Pacific dominates global corn production, accounting for 32.4% of the global maize cultivation area in 2022. This marked a 0.9% increase from 2017 to 2022. Corn has the highest acreage in the region, with the region's expansion of maize cultivation area fueled by favorable market prices and the promise of profitability.

- In 2022, North America accounted for the second-largest maize cultivation acreage, with a dedicated 45.6 million hectares. This represented a 3.3% increase over the historic period. The surge in access to global markets and the demand for corn from international buyers were key drivers behind this expansion. Between 2017 and 2022, Europe witnessed a notable rise in maize cultivation area, from 18.1 million to 21.1 million hectares. This uptick was particularly pronounced in the spring of 2021, buoyed by favorable weather conditions in major maize-producing nations and a price rise.

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- Therefore, favorable climatic conditions and market prices are estimated to drive the expansion of maize cultivation globally.

Drought tolerance, disease resistance, and wider adaptability are the major traits being purchased by farmers for meeting the global corn production demand

- The United States, Mexico, and China are key global players in corn production. This crop holds significant value for growers, given its high profitability and the demand for specific traits. Growers seek traits like weed control, enhanced grain quality, early maturity, lodging tolerance, disease resistance (e.g., leaf curl, early rots), and wider adaptability to diverse agro-climatic conditions. Notably, companies like Bayer AG, KWS SAAT SE & KGaA, and Syngenta are offering traits that combat early rots and leaf diseases and boost productivity. These traits are in high demand as no other sprays or alternatives effectively tackle these diseases. Additionally, traits like color, height, and grain count per cob are favored by growers in the Asia-Pacific.

- Growers also prioritize traits like insect resistance and adaptability to safeguard against prevalent pests like moths (e.g., cutworms, armyworms, and borers) and beetles (e.g., grubs and weevils). They also value traits that enable off-season growth and adaptability to diverse soil conditions. Notable product brands like Winfield and Deklab offer corn varieties with these traits. In Europe, there is a rising demand for lodging-resistant varieties, as they can withstand adverse weather conditions and minimize crop losses. Corteva Agriscience's offerings, such as P7179 and P7326, are known for their enhanced standability in strong winds.?

- Challenges like water scarcity due to climatic conditions, pests, and diseases impacting corn growth are expected to drive the introduction of new seed varieties and fuel market growth in the coming years.

Maize Seed Industry Overview

The Maize Seed Market is fairly consolidated, with the top five companies occupying 67.61%. The major players in this market are Advanta Seeds - UPL, Bayer AG, Corteva Agriscience, KWS SAAT SE & Co. KGaA and Syngenta Group (sorted alphabetically).

Additional Benefits:

- The market estimate (ME) sheet in Excel format
- 3 months of analyst support

Table of Contents:

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & KEY FINDINGS

2 REPORT OFFERS

3 INTRODUCTION

3.1 Study Assumptions & Market Definition

3.2 Scope of the Study?

3.3 Research Methodology

4 KEY INDUSTRY TRENDS

4.1 Area Under Cultivation

4.2 Most Popular Traits

4.3 Breeding Techniques

4.4 Regulatory Framework

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4.5 Value Chain & Distribution Channel Analysis

5 MARKET SEGMENTATION (includes market size in Value in USD, Forecasts up to 2030 and analysis of growth prospects)

5.1 Breeding Technology

5.1.1 Hybrids

5.1.1.1 Non-Transgenic Hybrids

5.1.1.2 Transgenic Hybrids

5.1.1.2.1 Herbicide Tolerant Hybrids

5.1.1.2.2 Insect Resistant Hybrids

5.1.1.2.3 Other Traits

5.1.2 Open Pollinated Varieties & Hybrid Derivatives

5.2 Region

5.2.1 Africa

5.2.1.1 By Breeding Technology

5.2.1.2 By Country

5.2.1.2.1 Egypt

5.2.1.2.2 Ethiopia

5.2.1.2.3 Ghana

5.2.1.2.4 Kenya

5.2.1.2.5 Nigeria

5.2.1.2.6 South Africa

5.2.1.2.7 Tanzania

5.2.1.2.8 Rest of Africa

5.2.2 Asia-Pacific

5.2.2.1 By Breeding Technology

5.2.2.2 By Country

5.2.2.2.1 Australia

5.2.2.2.2 Bangladesh

5.2.2.2.3 China

5.2.2.2.4 India

5.2.2.2.5 Indonesia

5.2.2.2.6 Japan

5.2.2.2.7 Myanmar

5.2.2.2.8 Pakistan

5.2.2.2.9 Philippines

5.2.2.2.10 Thailand

5.2.2.2.11 Vietnam

5.2.2.2.12 Rest of Asia-Pacific

5.2.3 Europe

5.2.3.1 By Breeding Technology

5.2.3.2 By Country

5.2.3.2.1 France

5.2.3.2.2 Germany

5.2.3.2.3 Italy

5.2.3.2.4 Netherlands

5.2.3.2.5 Poland

5.2.3.2.6 Romania

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- 5.2.3.2.7 Russia
- 5.2.3.2.8 Spain
- 5.2.3.2.9 Turkey
- 5.2.3.2.10 Ukraine
- 5.2.3.2.11 United Kingdom
- 5.2.3.2.12 Rest of Europe
- 5.2.4 Middle East
 - 5.2.4.1 By Breeding Technology
 - 5.2.4.2 By Country
 - 5.2.4.2.1 Iran
 - 5.2.4.2.2 Saudi Arabia
 - 5.2.4.2.3 Rest of Middle East
- 5.2.5 North America
 - 5.2.5.1 By Breeding Technology
 - 5.2.5.2 By Country
 - 5.2.5.2.1 Canada
 - 5.2.5.2.2 Mexico
 - 5.2.5.2.3 United States
 - 5.2.5.2.4 Rest of North America
- 5.2.6 South America
 - 5.2.6.1 By Breeding Technology
 - 5.2.6.2 By Country
 - 5.2.6.2.1 Argentina
 - 5.2.6.2.2 Brazil
 - 5.2.6.2.3 Rest of South America

6 COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

- 6.1 Key Strategic Moves
- 6.2 Market Share Analysis
- 6.3 Company Landscape
- 6.4 Company Profiles
 - 6.4.1 Advanta Seeds - UPL
 - 6.4.2 Bayer AG
 - 6.4.3 Charoen Pokphand Group (CP Group)
 - 6.4.4 Corteva Agriscience
 - 6.4.5 Groupe Limagrain
 - 6.4.6 Hefei Fengle Seed Industry Co. Ltd
 - 6.4.7 Kaveri Seeds
 - 6.4.8 KWS SAAT SE & Co. KGaA
 - 6.4.9 Syngenta Group
 - 6.4.10 Yuan Longping High-Tech Agriculture Co. Ltd

7 KEY STRATEGIC QUESTIONS FOR SEEDS CEOS

8 APPENDIX

- 8.1 Global Overview
 - 8.1.1 Overview

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- 8.1.2 Porter's Five Forces Framework
- 8.1.3 Global Value Chain Analysis
- 8.1.4 Global Market Size and DROs
- 8.2 Sources & References
- 8.3 List of Tables & Figures
- 8.4 Primary Insights
- 8.5 Data Pack
- 8.6 Glossary of Terms

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