

## SPAIN

Sowing has already made a start in some areas, and the advent of warm spring conditions has raised hopes that a good part of the crop can be in the ground by mid-April, and operations complete by the end of the month. Should these hopes be realised, and favourable conditions persist through the growing season, a start to the harvest might be feasible by the middle of September.

Current conditions in the main producing areas in Sevilla province are clear. Daytime temperatures are in the mid-20s Celsius, but by the middle of next week readings are expected to have risen to 30° or above.

Latest forecasts place the likely planted area at around 65,000 hectares, from which a lint outturn of around 65,000 tonnes might be anticipated. Demand from customary international trade buyers has been in evidence in recent weeks, and ginners are thought already to have committed roughly one third of prospective output. Recent business has been arranged at prices equivalent to around 425 points "on" December futures, basis Middling 1-3/32" FCA gin.