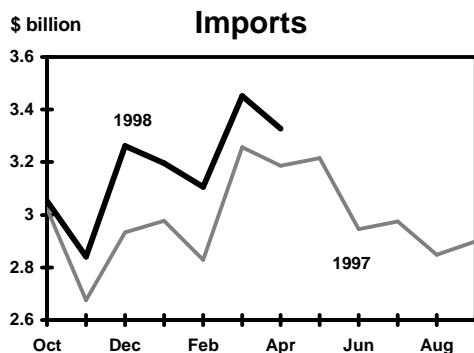
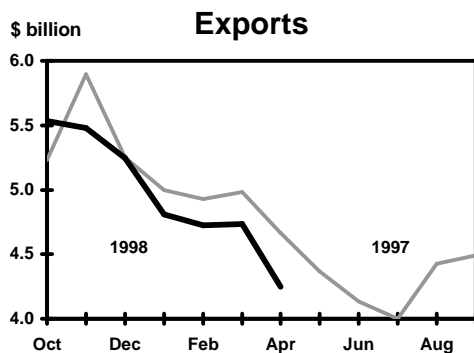
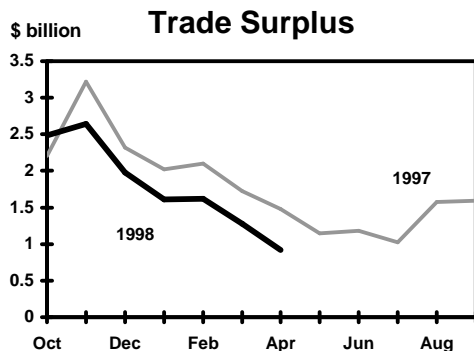


# U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

Economic Research Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

June 23, 1998



**Summary**--October 1997-April 1998 U.S. agricultural exports reached \$34.8 billion, just 3 percent less than the first 7 months of 1997. But April exports of \$4.2 billion dropped 9 percent compared with April 1997 and 10 percent compared with March 1998. In contrast, April 1998 imports equalled \$3.3 billion, 4 percent above April 1997, but 4 percent below March 1998. At \$22.2 billion, cumulative 1998 imports rose 6 percent from 1997. The export surplus for fiscal 1998 to date is \$12.5 billion, down 17 percent from 1997.

**Exports**--Cumulative bulk exports declined 12 percent in value to \$14.1 billion and 8 percent in quantity to 64 million tons. Most of the drop is in *corn* exports, particularly corn exports to Asia. At \$2.6 billion and 21.6 million tons through April 1998, corn shipments are below the \$4.2 billion and 30.9 million tons recorded as of April 1997. Exports of wheat and rice rose in 1998, while exports of soybeans and cotton showed some increase in quantity, but fell in value.

Cumulative U.S. *wheat* exports for 1998 are \$2.3 billion and 14.7 million tons, gains of 3.5 percent and 18 percent, respectively, over 1997. April wheat exports continued relatively small as old stocks diminished and marketing of the new harvest had not yet begun; but April exports showed little change from March in either quantity or value.

*Soybean* exports in the first 7 months of 1998 equalled \$5.2 billion and 19.6 million tons. Value dropped about 5 percent from fiscal 1997, but quantity rose 2 percent. April exports fell well below March 1998 and April 1997. As marketing of the record large South American harvest began, competition rose and prices slipped.

Steadily declining *cotton* prices are responsible for the drop in cumulative U.S. cotton export value, to \$1.7 billion in 1998. This 3-percent decline in cotton export value occurred even though the quantity is up about 3 percent to 1.1 million tons. April cotton exports declined sharply from March--to 145,000 tons compared with 193,000 tons--suggesting an increase in foreign export competition, which had been

expected after large harvests in Central Asia and Africa.

*High-value product (HVP)* exports continue rising. October-April HVP exports equalled \$20.7 billion, up 3 percent over 1997. Vegetable oil exports, up 41 percent to \$1.4 billion in the year-to-date, led the growth in HVP trade. But at \$2.7 billion, up 9 percent, meats (excluding poultry meat) also show strength. And unusually large gains in export of non-fat dry milk pulled up gains in dairy product exports.

**Imports**--Cocoa, coffee, wine, malt beverages, and vegetables are all responsible for continued strong growth in import value in 1998. However, last year's leading growth market--coffee--is slowing this year. Although through April coffee import value rose 21 percent to \$2.3 billion, pulled up by high prices, the volume of coffee imports dropped to 699,000 tons, compared with last year's 735,000 tons. Vegetables continue to be the largest import at \$2.7 billion, up 17 percent. Wine rose to \$1.1 billion, up 20 percent. And with 29 percent growth to date, cocoa imports also reached \$1.1 billion through April. Malt beverages are \$842,000, up 15 percent. (Carol Whitton 202-694-5287)

**Growth of U.S. agricultural imports from Asia significant for only a few traditional products**--With the devaluation of many Asian currencies, 1998 Asian exports to the United States became less expensive. This would normally lead to increases in U.S. imports from Asia, but, so far, few U.S. agricultural imports have gained. The strongest gains in the U.S. import market so far in 1998 include commodities for which Asia traditionally is the dominant supplier--coconut oil, palm kernel oil, other vegetable oils, and rubber. Generally, these imports show year-to-year growth in the range of 15-30 percent.

U. S. imports from Asia of a few non-agricultural but related products, such as farm machinery and fertilizers, also have strong growth in 1998. However, these products account for only tiny shares of the total U.S. imports.

Next Update: July 23, 1998

Table 1--U.S. agricultural exports: Quantity and value by commodity

Quantity and unit	October-April				April			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98
Total agricultural exports (NA)	--	--	35,952,376	34,776,883	--	--	4,663,242	4,249,279
Animals & animal prods (NA)	--	--	6,469,391	6,686,956	--	--	954,902	952,834
Animals live - ex poultry (NA)	--	--	315,032	394,978	--	--	36,839	45,761
Cattle & calves - live (NO)	139	171	87,531	110,738	21	21	13,706	14,314
Horses, mules, burros-live (NO)	25	40	175,369	208,388	3	4	10,348	25,177
Swine - live (NO)	31	59	5,512	11,946	8	10	1,856	1,446
Sheep, live (NO)	473	988	19,751	41,576	157	49	6,443	2,243
Other live animals (NA)	--	--	26,870	22,330	--	--	4,485	2,582
Meats & meat prods (MT)	1,014	1,213	2,463,876	2,683,731	158	175	393,048	399,241
Beef & veal (MT)	349	404	1,306,743	1,413,287	57	58	202,900	199,776
Beef & veal - fr or froz (MT)	341	394	1,273,019	1,374,464	56	56	197,496	194,036
Beef - prep or pres (MT)	8	10	33,724	38,823	1	2	5,405	5,739
Horsemeat-fr, chill, froz (MT)	9	7	30,156	22,819	1	1	3,722	3,113
Lamb, mutton or goat-fr, ch, frz(MT)	2	2	3,984	4,534	0	0	580	656
Pork (MT)	162	230	536,265	644,677	31	41	105,681	115,862
Pork - fr or froz (MT)	141	204	476,596	574,824	28	38	97,385	106,882
Pork - prep or pres (MT)	21	26	59,668	69,853	3	3	8,296	8,980
Variety meats, edible offals (MT)	260	303	378,543	385,152	34	40	49,867	52,793
Other meats - fr or prep (MT)	233	267	208,186	213,261	34	34	30,298	27,043
Poultry & poultry prods (NA)	--	--	1,698,570	1,602,481	--	--	206,305	217,364
Poultry - live (NA)	--	--	61,388	70,427	--	--	8,426	9,216
Baby chicks (NO)	26,792	27,464	54,460	59,805	3,500	3,326	7,358	7,940
Other live poultry (NA)	--	--	6,928	10,622	--	--	1,068	1,276
Poultry meats (MT)	1,436	1,565	1,489,976	1,379,552	178	215	179,126	186,874
Chickens - fr or froz (MT)	1,244	1,380	1,198,664	1,093,346	149	193	139,013	153,247
Turkeys - fr or froz (MT)	120	119	153,306	134,891	21	14	23,693	14,983
Other poultry - fr or froz (MT)	3	4	5,189	6,279	0	1	638	967
Poultry meats - prep or pres(MT)	69	62	132,816	145,036	7	8	15,783	17,677
Feathers & downs, crude (MT)	2	2	15,077	13,469	0	0	2,577	2,885
Eggs (NA)	--	--	132,130	139,033	--	--	16,176	18,388
Dairy prods (NA)	--	--	453,168	572,902	--	--	81,244	82,472
Evap & condensed milk (MT)	5	6	3,490	5,358	1	1	439	2,130
Nonfat drv milk (MT)	14	59	24,230	101,525	2	7	3,617	13,098
Butter & anhyd milkfat (MT)	6	6	10,269	11,488	3	0	5,577	885
Cheese (MT)	20	23	65,706	74,239	3	3	9,650	9,195
Whey, fluid or dried (NA)	--	--	78,641	67,726	--	--	10,117	9,299
Other dairy prods (NA)	--	--	270,832	312,566	--	--	51,844	47,865
Fats, oils, & greases (MT)	605	738	320,303	369,810	118	125	62,139	57,462
Lard (MT)	41	43	23,325	22,470	5	8	2,611	3,596
Tallow - inedible (MT)	413	512	207,302	249,851	89	94	45,792	42,429
Other animal fats & oils (MT)	151	182	89,676	97,489	25	22	13,737	11,437
Hides & skins, incl furs (NA)	--	--	1,002,862	844,568	--	--	143,246	118,398
Bovine hides - whole (NO)	11,981	11,127	721,945	589,892	1,612	1,615	100,155	79,853
Other cattle hides - pieces (NA)	--	--	93,175	61,548	--	--	12,755	9,137
Calf skins, whole (PC)	1,341	1,304	27,458	25,353	272	178	5,869	3,026
Horse hides, whole (PC)	90	78	2,677	2,089	10	4	226	124
Sheep and lamb skins (PC)	1,375	1,356	14,743	15,178	254	160	3,225	2,419
Other hides & skins, ex furs (NA)	--	--	36,096	46,251	--	--	4,606	6,973
Furskins (NA)	--	--	106,770	104,258	--	--	16,410	16,867
Mink pelts (NO)	2,251	1,885	56,337	50,067	375	189	7,975	5,389
Other furskins (NA)	--	--	50,432	54,190	--	--	8,434	11,478
Wool & mohair (MT)	2	1	8,472	7,065	0	0	1,448	1,142
Sausage casings (MT)	7	9	31,181	36,402	1	1	4,958	5,734
Bull semen (NA)	--	--	38,414	40,758	--	--	6,948	5,619
Misc animal prods - other (NA)	--	--	137,513	134,261	--	--	18,727	19,641
Grains & feeds (MT)	58,113	51,497	10,189,612	8,594,850	7,595	6,424	1,337,190	1,065,418
Wheat, unmilled (MT)	12,530	14,716	2,201,882	2,277,913	1,828	1,759	316,841	262,283
Wheat flour (MT)	285	276	80,799	73,092	25	25	7,714	7,300
Bulqur wheat (MT)	3	2	815	388	0	0	28	51
Other wheat prods (MT)	34	44	31,689	42,843	5	5	4,425	5,039
Rice-paddy, milled, parb. (MT)	1,735	2,058	660,452	732,391	236	295	83,974	92,499
Feed grains & prods (MT)	35,375	26,646	4,884,596	3,262,876	4,266	3,142	578,093	381,160
Feed grains (MT)	34,978	26,305	4,751,517	3,151,458	4,200	3,090	557,159	364,842
Barley (MT)	353	776	62,122	106,888	29	28	4,481	5,691
Corn (MT)	30,945	21,639	4,220,419	2,595,283	3,629	2,684	484,091	315,831
Grain sorghums (MT)	3,665	3,868	466,856	446,613	542	376	68,442	43,019
Oats (MT)	15	20	2,007	2,557	1	2	112	301
Rye (MT)	1	1	113	116	0	0	33	0
Feed grain prods (MT)	397	341	133,078	111,419	66	52	20,934	16,318
Popcorn (MT)	65	61	50,684	42,131	9	8	8,467	5,623
Blended food prods (MT)	172	143	51,150	38,652	13	26	3,665	6,588
Other grain prods (MT)	537	557	618,035	647,186	74	80	93,150	96,174
Feeds & fodders, ex oilcake (MT)	7,377	6,996	1,609,510	1,477,378	1,139	1,084	240,834	208,701
Corn by-products (MT)	3,472	3,352	527,829	433,073	564	511	82,425	58,071
Alfalfa meal & cubes (MT)	165	155	28,516	26,546	19	27	3,642	4,062
Beet pulp (MT)	425	347	56,107	42,133	74	52	10,881	7,024
Citrus pulp pellets (MT)	594	444	56,946	27,344	71	112	6,933	7,327
Other feeds & fodders (MT)	2,721	2,699	940,113	948,281	409	382	136,953	132,217
Fruits & prep, ex juice (MT)	1,884	1,852	1,464,845	1,440,426	281	278	196,216	203,614
Fruits - fr (MT)	1,635	1,568	1,080,760	1,032,934	246	234	145,699	145,664
Fruits - fr - citrus (MT)	896	851	502,867	469,463	163	154	86,410	86,058
Grapefruit - fresh (MT)	406	338	202,420	162,327	68	47	32,604	22,185
Lemons & limes - fresh (MT)	80	80	72,509	59,462	10	12	6,752	6,946
Oranges & tangerines - fresh (MT)	408	432	226,189	246,658	85	95	47,013	56,805
Other citrus - fresh (MT)	2	1	1,749	1,016	0	0	40	122

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	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98
Fruits - fr - noncitrus (MT)	739	717	577,893	563,472	83	81	59,289	59,605
Apples - fresh (MT)	456	364	276,112	223,639	54	51	29,713	29,466
Berries - fresh (MT)	33	25	51,585	48,700	10	8	12,023	13,216
Cherries - fresh (MT)	4	5	3,915	4,862	1	1	763	635
Grapes - fresh (MT)	84	126	125,048	159,186	1	2	1,333	1,979
Melons - fresh (MT)	41	42	21,360	21,210	8	6	3,620	3,264
Peaches - fresh (MT)	3	5	3,248	4,035	0	0	197	22
Pears - fresh (MT)	87	121	52,974	65,038	6	9	3,301	5,415
Plums - fresh (MT)	3	3	2,951	3,605	0	0	182	211
Other noncitrus - fresh (MT)	29	26	40,701	33,197	5	4	8,157	5,395
Fruits - dried (MT)	120	130	225,228	230,193	14	18	26,780	30,912
Raisins - dried (MT)	69	69	120,058	117,155	8	9	14,111	15,866
Prunes - dried (MT)	40	43	81,269	80,341	5	6	9,530	10,475
Other dried fruits (MT)	11	19	23,902	32,697	1	3	3,138	4,571
Fruits - canned ex juice (MT)	73	85	77,802	84,600	11	14	11,707	12,415
Fruits - froz ex juice (MT)	19	20	26,380	29,545	4	5	4,695	6,548
Other fruits - prep or pres (MT)	37	49	54,674	63,153	6	7	7,334	8,074
Fruit juices incl froz (HL)	5,555	5,401	370,253	346,393	831	806	58,890	53,480
Apple juice (HL)	336	249	39,171	29,113	43	33	5,185	4,724
Grape juice (HL)	489	472	37,392	35,560	83	74	7,443	6,342
Grapefruit juice (HL)	422	377	30,969	26,450	78	57	5,407	4,462
Orange juice (HL)	2,901	2,558	169,880	148,215	380	356	24,566	21,311
Other fruit juices (HL)	1,407	1,746	92,841	107,055	246	286	16,290	16,641
Wine (HL)	1,019	1,364	188,766	260,383	176	266	30,826	50,420
Nuts & prep (MT)	341	369	960,479	909,048	36	39	83,618	91,989
Almonds (shelled basis) (MT)	113	122	550,371	459,616	9	13	46,122	48,431
Filberts (MT)	10	17	17,912	31,732	0	1	772	1,370
Peanuts, shelled or prep (MT)	122	130	122,154	128,943	21	18	20,380	16,820
Pistachios (MT)	12	25	54,165	103,932	1	3	4,163	11,021
Walnuts, shelled/unshelled (MT)	65	51	157,539	118,912	2	3	4,994	7,371
Pecans, shelled or unshelled (MT)	6	7	24,087	30,510	1	1	2,571	3,168
Other nuts, shelled or prep (MT)	14	18	34,250	35,403	3	2	4,615	3,809
Vegetables & prep (NA)	-	-	2,393,225	2,490,672	-	-	351,745	375,674
Vegetables - fresh (MT)	971	997	582,180	646,015	174	168	99,780	114,239
Asparagus - fresh (MT)	11	11	35,933	34,183	4	4	12,336	12,237
Broccoli - fresh (MT)	79	80	54,804	57,756	15	13	9,805	8,611
Carrots - fresh (MT)	51	63	26,505	33,369	14	16	6,030	7,279
Cabbage - fresh (MT)	25	28	10,838	14,557	5	7	1,880	3,306
Celery - fresh (MT)	73	78	29,365	32,385	11	14	3,453	5,930
Cauliflower - fresh (MT)	55	49	36,204	35,751	8	6	5,387	5,284
Corn, sweet - fresh (MT)	23	13	9,555	6,983	16	4	4,680	2,350
Cucumbers - fresh (MT)	18	13	9,397	7,634	3	2	1,324	1,339
Garlic - fresh (MT)	5	4	7,451	6,138	0	0	778	482
Lettuce - fresh (MT)	187	195	93,242	115,850	29	32	14,485	21,871
Mushrooms - fresh (MT)	4	4	16,330	15,574	0	0	533	587
Onions and shallots - fresh (MT)	124	131	41,562	48,635	9	13	4,039	6,470
Peppers - fresh (MT)	37	33	30,670	34,983	6	4	4,504	5,552
Potatoes - fresh (MT)	99	102	27,154	34,560	25	23	6,457	8,409
Tomatoes - fresh (MT)	74	74	65,072	68,312	14	10	11,600	8,713
Other fresh vegetables (MT)	104	117	88,098	99,347	15	19	12,487	15,819
Vegetables - froz (MT)	335	364	268,834	279,530	46	57	37,058	43,387
Corn, sweet, frozen (MT)	36	48	31,754	38,384	5	8	4,770	6,316
Potatoes - frozen (MT)	240	249	175,291	176,722	32	36	23,604	25,600
Other frozen vegetables (MT)	59	67	61,789	64,423	9	12	8,684	11,472
Vegetables - canned (MT)	263	265	215,362	210,151	43	40	34,759	33,055
Pulses (MT)	274	359	155,532	185,955	23	47	13,007	25,385
Dried beans (MT)	201	262	122,024	149,678	15	36	9,646	21,566
Dried peas (MT)	41	69	16,505	23,332	5	10	2,043	3,392
Dried lentils (MT)	32	28	17,004	12,946	2	1	1,318	427
Hops, incl hop ext (MT)	8	7	68,028	61,402	1	1	6,764	5,830
Other veg - prep or pres (NA)	-	-	1,103,290	1,107,619	-	-	160,378	153,778
Oilseeds & prods (MT)	26,027	28,661	8,231,331	8,588,700	2,428	2,144	885,455	651,107
Oilcake & meal (MT)	4,887	6,489	1,315,857	1,561,402	615	835	178,114	169,663
Bran, hulls, leaum. veg. (MT)	325	188	35,759	16,181	41	32	4,380	2,725
Corn oilcake & meal (MT)	64	30	8,736	3,411	11	1	1,479	54
Soybean meal (MT)	4,377	6,156	1,251,665	1,524,011	551	784	169,981	164,338
Other oilcake & meal (MT)	121	115	19,697	17,800	12	18	2,274	2,546
Oilseeds (MT)	19,655	20,203	5,942,616	5,653,467	1,637	1,082	586,245	307,454
Rapeseed (MT)	67	87	21,940	23,479	3	14	1,013	4,445
Safflower seeds (MT)	30	21	18,565	8,777	1	5	1,616	1,870
Soybeans (MT)	19,226	19,631	5,467,885	5,222,997	1,584	987	506,407	250,630
Sunflowerseeds (MT)	63	82	50,585	58,636	8	9	6,315	6,742
Peanuts, incl oilstock (MT)	33	28	28,432	25,208	4	2	3,263	1,901
Other oilseeds (MT)	143	271	47,272	79,429	21	52	6,187	12,837
Protein substances (MT)	93	84	307,937	234,942	15	12	61,444	29,030
Vegetable oils (MT)	1,486	1,968	972,857	1,373,831	176	227	121,096	173,990
Soybean oil (MT)	660	970	362,842	603,705	38	87	22,064	57,564
Cottonseed oil (MT)	64	57	39,607	35,911	10	10	6,046	6,937
Sunflower oil (MT)	180	279	97,052	174,299	41	26	21,486	17,354
Corn oil (MT)	246	293	156,737	205,733	38	53	25,090	39,566
Peanut oil (MT)	2	4	2,118	4,488	0	0	281	192
Rapeseed oil (MT)	74	88	40,988	55,572	6	11	3,194	6,784
Safflower oil (MT)	19	19	23,741	23,536	3	5	4,032	5,370
Other veg oils & waxes (MT)	242	258	249,772	270,587	40	36	38,905	40,223
Tobacco - unmfq (MT)	160	142	1,025,196	955,209	20	30	132,620	199,138

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Tobacco - light air-cured (MT)	38	30	277,413	233,418	7	10	57,955	73,177
Tobacco - flue cured (MT)	84	78	604,023	547,450	8	15	57,432	101,638
Other tobacco - unmfg (MT)	38	34	143,759	174,341	5	5	17,233	24,323
Cotton, ex linters (MT)	1,024	1,050	1,798,903	1,735,886	155	146	264,699	232,380
Cotton linters (MT)	49	34	16,182	14,495	12	5	3,586	1,615
Essential oils (MT)	27	26	378,940	301,710	4	5	48,445	48,728
Seeds - field & garden (MT)	855	593	653,148	626,269	120	88	63,205	59,769
Sugar & tropical prods (NA)	--	--	838,326	851,230	--	--	113,156	119,671
Sugar & related prods (NA)	--	--	351,558	357,318	--	--	53,581	58,270
Sugar - cane or beet (MT)	87	79	39,230	30,886	7	16	3,632	5,859
Related sugar prods (NA)	--	--	312,327	326,432	--	--	49,949	52,410
Coffee (MT)	24	23	115,945	130,079	4	3	16,791	15,239
Cocoa (MT)	22	20	46,410	44,379	3	2	5,833	5,287
Chocolate & prep (MT)	64	64	215,392	208,877	7	9	21,931	25,638
Tea & mate (MT)	11	12	53,018	50,699	1	2	6,675	6,368
Spices (MT)	15	16	33,718	39,371	2	2	4,371	5,819
Rubber - crude natural (MT)	10	11	21,382	19,470	2	2	3,868	2,843
Fibers ex cotton (MT)	1	1	903	1,036	0	0	106	207
Other misc veg prods (MT)	34	38	291,174	290,611	6	5	37,209	37,458
Nursery & greenhouse prods (NA)	--	--	169,510	199,386	--	--	28,140	31,646
Beverages ex juices (NA)	--	--	513,095	484,659	--	--	73,338	74,339
Selected non-ag exports (NA)	--	--	9,633,867	9,418,605	--	--	1,296,691	1,398,680
Fertilizers (MT)	12	12	1,772,464	1,614,778	2	1	242,008	259,995
Nitrogen (MT)	6	7	1,760,231	1,605,146	1	0	240,623	258,728
Phosphate (MT)	6	5	12,233	9,632	1	1	1,385	1,267
Fish & shellfish (MT)	624	536	1,640,195	1,358,066	85	65	190,992	146,694
Fish - fr or prep (MT)	368	328	827,327	714,266	54	41	107,084	81,172
Shellfish (MT)	127	68	531,255	432,712	16	7	54,816	40,690
Other fish prods (MT)	129	140	281,613	211,088	15	17	29,092	24,832
Ag chemicals (MT)	185	186	995,306	1,132,322	32	38	178,679	225,919
Fungicides (MT)	18	21	98,181	125,087	3	4	17,657	20,363
Herbicides (MT)	93	92	485,971	563,531	19	21	112,059	137,170
Insecticides (MT)	40	36	227,835	238,521	6	7	32,359	39,574
Other pesticides (MT)	34	37	183,318	205,184	4	6	16,604	28,812
Farm machinery (NA)	--	--	2,310,535	2,392,916	--	--	359,357	378,776
Tractors & self-prop mach (NO)	33	35	1,045,118	1,040,285	6	6	157,267	167,739
Other ag machinerv & parts (NA)	--	--	1,265,416	1,352,632	--	--	202,090	211,037
Tobacco - mfg (NA)	--	--	2,915,367	2,920,522	--	--	325,654	387,296

Tables contain preliminary data. NA = Not available. Zeros in quantity columns indicate none or less than 500 units.

Table 2- Leading markets in fiscal 1997 and 1998 and April 1998

	metric tons				metric tons		
	Oct-Apr 1997	Oct-Apr 1998	Apr 1998		Oct-Apr 1997	Oct-Apr 1998	Apr 1998
<b>Wheat</b>				<b>Corn</b>			
Egypt	601,815	2,409,840	99,550	Japan	9,394,827	8,436,875	1,036,852
Japan	1,746,540	2,006,680	379,262	Taiwan	3,604,692	2,391,036	92,065
Pakistan	1,402,705	1,301,750	0	Mexico	1,817,433	2,371,112	600,997
South Korea	817,537	837,453	109,207	South Korea	4,485,962	1,620,092	365,352
Philippines	1,103,024	730,190	133,562	Egypt	1,463,273	949,186	0
Mexico	810,892	678,780	116,677	Canada	594,046	777,894	103,769
Taiwan	560,193	560,338	117,357	Colombia	822,666	641,526	27,244
European Union	431,234	534,255	76,851	Saudi Arabia	603,122	573,229	53,309
Iraq	15,933	517,941	57,427	Algeria	494,599	500,103	47,060
Israel	374,349	410,085	0	Venezuela	493,362	399,402	6,999
World	12,529,792	14,715,631	1,758,509	World	30,944,874	21,639,452	2,684,008
<b>Soybeans</b>				<b>Cotton</b>			
European Union	7,084,876	6,917,359	169,442	Mexico	87,148	160,728	25,801
Japan	2,598,779	2,537,597	369,606	China	270,243	134,896	8,178
Mexico	1,683,631	1,901,968	167,303	South Korea	89,090	105,819	18,337
Taiwan	1,603,638	1,480,353	14,049	Japan	103,213	98,845	10,478
China	1,401,335	1,382,419	18,700	Turkey	41,361	83,676	11,893
South Korea	1,000,436	798,849	59,582	Indonesia	99,078	71,850	10,711
Brazil	190,698	638,038	0	Taiwan	44,270	59,663	8,584
Argentina	0	511,617	0	European Un	38,452	50,451	7,383
Indonesia	494,842	502,857	0	Thailand	33,472	38,590	5,223
Thailand	383,716	375,709	39,177	Canada	31,805	35,680	5,901
World	19,225,761	19,631,259	987,219	World	1,023,573	1,050,331	145,672

Table 3--U.S. agricultural imports: Quantity and value by commodity

Quantity and unit	October-April				April			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98
Total agricultural imports (NA)	--	--	20,910,859	22,243,095	--	--	3,188,225	3,327,742
Noncompetitive ag imports (NA)	--	--	5,132,544	5,723,309	--	--	838,051	786,100
Bananas & plantains (MT)	2,257	2,440	696,386	690,129	348	363	116,674	105,510
Coffee, incl prods (MT)	735	699	1,935,562	2,333,939	112	100	356,965	318,804
Cocoa & prods (MT)	479	557	847,503	1,090,020	71	71	121,898	129,507
Tea (MT)	79	81	116,207	144,341	13	16	18,802	27,899
Spices (MT)	92	87	225,076	261,560	13	12	33,165	36,857
Rubber & allied gums - crude (MT)	651	640	821,773	608,490	90	83	111,415	80,764
Silk - raw (MT)	0	0	2,887	330	0	0	326	38
Wool, unmfq - carpet (MT)	8	7	23,006	18,682	1	1	3,115	2,907
Fibers, excl cotton (MT)	61	59	28,036	26,908	9	9	3,783	4,104
Essential oils (NA)	--	--	202,978	224,209	--	--	33,479	31,451
Drugs - crude natural (MT)	37	48	233,130	324,700	3	6	38,429	48,258
Competitive ag imports (NA)	--	--	15,778,315	16,519,786	--	--	2,350,174	2,541,642
Animals & prods (NA)	--	--	3,733,633	3,960,166	--	--	573,599	563,535
Animals-live, ex poultry (NO)	3,022	3,752	897,994	1,031,720	443	526	146,215	150,208
Cattle and calves (NO)	1,202	1,372	611,469	703,113	206	206	110,527	111,454
Horses, mules, burros (NO)	14	30	93,469	118,270	2	13	11,007	14,542
Swine (NO)	1,748	2,290	174,015	190,333	231	303	22,228	21,098
Sheep, live (NO)	36	42	4,954	5,429	3	4	394	439
Other live animals (NO)	22	18	14,087	14,575	2	1	2,058	2,675
Meats & prods, ex poultry (MT)	634	681	1,441,336	1,539,597	104	101	237,325	219,807
Beef & veal (MT)	424	468	825,851	973,188	73	70	147,439	143,792
Beef & veal - fr or froz (MT)	387	433	713,365	859,029	68	65	131,707	127,325
Beef & veal - prep or pres (MT)	36	35	112,485	114,160	5	5	15,731	16,467
Pork (MT)	155	154	457,873	403,920	22	21	63,911	52,057
Pork - fr or froz (MT)	112	115	291,826	263,493	15	16	39,811	34,805
Pork - prep or pres (MT)	43	39	166,047	140,427	7	5	24,100	17,253
Mutton goat & lamb-fr/friz (MT)	23	28	85,063	97,803	4	5	15,132	15,517
Horsemeat - fr or froz (MT)	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Variety meats - fr or froz (MT)	23	24	41,750	35,914	4	4	6,335	4,869
Other meats - fr or froz (MT)	2	1	13,212	11,510	0	0	1,830	1,104
Other meats & prods (MT)	7	6	17,587	17,255	1	1	2,679	2,468
Poultry and prods (NA)	--	--	105,638	120,143	--	--	13,569	15,890
Poultry - live (NA)	--	--	11,429	11,925	--	--	1,903	1,741
Poultry meat (MT)	4	5	12,065	15,931	0	1	1,286	2,394
Eggs (NA)	--	--	12,232	9,514	--	--	1,759	1,028
Feathers & down - crude (MT)	12	14	69,912	82,773	2	2	8,620	10,727
Dairy products (NA)	--	--	758,266	735,718	--	--	95,065	103,009
Milk & cream, fr or dried (MT)	75	68	13,522	19,020	4	7	1,360	2,138
Butter & butterfat mixtures (MT)	4	6	6,966	11,846	2	2	3,237	3,322
Cheese (MT)	91	86	357,139	331,219	9	12	37,043	43,861
Casein & mixtures (MT)	59	59	264,777	247,209	8	8	35,755	34,834
Other dairy prods (NA)	--	--	115,861	126,424	--	--	17,670	18,855
Fats, oils, & greases (MT)	42	46	32,293	35,204	6	7	4,486	4,991
Hides & skins (NA)	--	--	142,357	125,068	--	--	21,363	16,821
Sheep & lamb skins (MT)	2	2	7,021	5,107	0	0	1,485	687
Other hides & skins (NA)	--	--	74,431	64,548	--	--	11,852	9,725
Furskins (NA)	--	--	60,905	55,413	--	--	8,026	6,408
Wool - unmfq, apparel grades (MT)	17	25	61,454	93,367	3	3	10,256	12,161
Sausage casings (MT)	8	8	39,649	44,223	1	1	6,596	6,148
Bull semen (NA)	--	--	6,197	6,002	--	--	732	1,485
Misc animal prods (NA)	--	--	248,450	229,123	--	--	37,993	33,016
Non-animal products (NA)	--	--	12,044,682	12,559,620	--	--	1,776,575	1,978,107
Grains & feeds (MT)	5,035	4,595	1,715,068	1,736,484	660	589	230,156	230,820
Wheat, ex seed (MT)	1,346	1,193	219,563	195,605	173	147	26,529	23,481
Corn, unmilled (MT)	134	55	18,720	8,372	19	10	2,458	1,320
Oats, unmilled (MT)	1,254	1,049	166,048	124,481	158	99	20,350	10,491
Barley, unmilled (MT)	461	447	71,726	64,500	61	65	8,933	9,071
Rice (MT)	213	187	118,363	120,497	22	28	15,989	17,968
Biscuits & wafers (MT)	156	178	358,364	408,379	20	24	41,729	49,111
Pasta & noodles (MT)	157	183	151,153	169,018	22	29	21,421	27,359
Other grains & preps (NA)	--	--	326,646	340,110	--	--	49,755	49,915
Feeds & fodders, ex oilcake (MT)	851	814	284,486	305,522	115	113	42,992	42,105
Fruits & preps (MT)	1,942	2,048	1,295,371	1,317,448	433	437	226,609	230,770
Fruits - fr or froz (MT)	1,586	1,681	936,827	947,471	376	387	170,773	182,767
Apples, fresh (MT)	84	77	38,478	34,596	20	24	11,969	14,324
Avocados (MT)	21	22	18,890	24,984	0	0	276	197
Berries, excl strawberries (MT)	38	34	52,254	44,233	3	2	6,400	4,916
Citrus, fresh (MT)	132	149	63,847	72,525	17	14	4,561	4,322
Grapes, fresh (MT)	274	313	288,907	293,197	29	42	29,849	30,873
Kiwi fruit, fresh (MT)	19	13	13,744	10,180	10	9	6,296	5,778
Mangoes (MT)	62	49	52,070	41,133	34	27	25,182	19,560
Melons (MT)	649	691	193,255	199,049	217	214	59,886	60,054
Peaches (MT)	41	34	32,599	26,346	0	0	67	208
Pears (MT)	57	48	38,219	34,855	11	11	5,867	7,020
Pineapples, fresh or frozen (MT)	93	149	43,785	50,639	16	23	7,828	6,378
Plums (MT)	23	19	20,883	17,657	1	1	870	698
Strawberries, fresh or froz (MT)	33	32	39,614	61,628	7	11	5,592	23,942
Other fruits, fresh or froz (MT)	59	52	40,282	36,448	10	7	6,130	4,495
Fruits - prep or pres (MT)	356	368	358,544	369,977	57	50	55,836	48,003
Pineapples - canned or prep (MT)	158	159	109,777	117,198	25	19	17,592	12,831
Other fruits - prep or pres (MT)	198	209	248,767	252,779	32	31	38,244	35,173
Fruit juices (HL)	18,240	15,603	564,975	404,369	2,504	2,017	84,498	52,092

Table 3—U.S. agricultural imports: Quantity and value by commodity

Quantity and unit	October-April				April			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98
Apple juice (HL)	6,598	5,287	227,764	135,867	1,143	723	36,866	17,332
Grape juice (HL)	882	900	34,930	39,118	160	97	6,671	4,302
Grapefruit juice (HL)	6	4	254	261	1	1	39	60
Lemon juice (HL)	144	213	4,105	3,960	9	52	233	781
Lime juice (HL)	62	79	1,454	1,460	11	12	171	258
Orange juice (HL)	7,664	6,823	170,132	126,009	661	812	14,656	17,452
Pineapple juice (HL)	1,850	1,516	53,755	47,042	240	217	7,722	6,233
Other fruit juice (HL)	1,034	781	72,580	50,651	278	103	18,140	5,676
Nuts & preps (MT)	124	143	319,341	385,199	16	24	39,871	45,692
Brazil nuts (MT)	4	6	10,353	15,358	1	2	1,850	2,914
Cashew nuts (MT)	35	40	162,543	182,277	4	4	19,546	18,231
Chestnuts (MT)	4	4	10,080	10,977	0	0	44	68
Coconut meat (MT)	40	44	41,559	36,814	5	5	5,351	4,053
Filberts (MT)	3	3	11,153	13,892	0	0	1,001	445
Macademia nuts (MT)	1	2	9,420	17,190	0	0	585	378
Pecans (MT)	18	20	30,176	52,027	0	1	2,033	4,307
Pistachio nuts (MT)	0	0	1,589	1,009	0	0	352	70
Other nuts (MT)	19	23	42,467	55,654	5	11	9,109	15,225
Vegetables & preps (NA)	—	—	2,335,013	2,731,455	—	—	320,729	429,515
Vegetables - fr or froz (MT)	2,328	2,689	1,404,994	1,752,396	339	468	193,532	288,231
Tomatoes (MT)	533	572	432,025	488,542	67	109	57,644	94,830
Asparagus, fresh or frozen (MT)	27	35	48,918	70,664	1	2	1,309	3,557
Beans, fresh or frozen (MT)	23	22	27,780	24,695	2	3	2,136	3,397
Cabbage (MT)	19	34	3,538	8,741	1	2	200	547
Carrots, fresh or frozen (MT)	66	71	16,007	18,938	6	3	1,478	1,233
Cauliflower & broccoli, fr/fz (MT)	149	154	88,601	91,602	21	14	11,856	8,638
Celery, fresh (MT)	22	35	5,698	8,493	3	8	663	1,897
Cucumbers (MT)	256	271	77,783	122,361	30	38	9,698	21,123
Eggplant (MT)	26	34	17,841	25,735	3	5	2,644	4,113
Endive, fresh (MT)	1	2	2,457	3,728	0	1	372	1,204
Garlic (MT)	8	12	9,988	15,166	3	4	2,763	4,179
Lettuce (MT)	10	14	5,457	9,530	1	3	360	1,570
Okra, fresh or frozen (MT)	8	8	4,564	5,172	1	1	728	1,005
Onions (MT)	207	198	94,151	117,482	44	47	16,724	24,294
Peas, incl chickpeas (MT)	25	25	23,845	30,676	4	3	3,087	3,310
Peppers (MT)	200	218	180,402	225,779	24	33	26,630	29,483
Potatoes, fresh or frozen (MT)	414	621	143,639	216,375	83	135	25,459	41,578
Radishes, fresh (MT)	12	14	5,331	10,420	1	2	393	1,446
Squash (MT)	126	140	80,611	94,616	16	19	8,780	14,248
Other vees - fr or froz (MT)	198	208	136,357	163,682	30	36	20,608	26,580
Vegetables-prep/pres (NA)	—	—	930,019	979,059	—	—	127,197	141,284
Bamboo shoots, preserved (MT)	18	18	16,337	13,541	2	2	1,712	1,191
Bean cake, miso (MT)	7	4	14,834	11,703	1	1	2,150	1,312
Cucumbers, preserved (MT)	25	27	12,952	13,179	2	3	1,410	1,603
Garlic, dried (MT)	5	6	2,236	2,654	1	1	303	278
Olives - prep or pres (MT)	42	50	103,922	108,254	6	7	14,404	15,275
Mushrooms, canned (MT)	40	43	69,174	69,253	6	4	9,765	6,646
Mushrooms, dried (MT)	1	1	11,398	11,904	0	0	2,264	1,936
Onions, preserved (MT)	1	1	1,526	2,231	0	0	246	333
Hops, incl extract (MT)	5	4	32,156	21,221	0	0	451	2,344
Artichokes - prep (MT)	13	14	21,478	23,556	2	4	2,781	6,968
Asparagus - prep (MT)	0	0	977	898	0	0	74	85
Tomatoes, incl paste & sauce (MT)	65	61	59,223	49,329	13	9	11,434	7,686
Waterchestnuts (MT)	18	19	15,311	12,065	4	3	3,037	1,548
Beans & peas, dried (MT)	43	39	25,921	23,267	6	4	3,483	2,632
Mustard (MT)	8	8	10,558	9,359	1	1	1,733	1,268
Peppers & pimentos, prep (MT)	9	10	11,004	12,342	1	2	1,210	1,966
Soy sauce (MT)	22	23	22,244	23,644	4	3	3,669	2,980
Starches, excl wheat & corn (MT)	86	94	54,789	62,688	11	14	7,445	8,762
Soups & sauces (MT)	56	72	117,344	136,283	8	9	15,212	16,977
Vinegar (HL)	208	250	20,195	21,532	32	43	2,797	3,170
Yeasts (MT)	31	30	36,562	33,306	4	5	4,900	4,865
Other vegetables-prep/pres (NA)	—	—	269,879	316,850	—	—	36,715	51,459
Sugar & related prods (NA)	—	—	975,363	840,803	—	—	129,231	141,916
Sugar - cane & beet (MT)	1,439	950	502,030	331,030	149	188	59,290	64,785
Molasses (HL)	5,794	6,775	52,482	51,853	908	1,279	7,060	9,288
Confectionery prods (MT)	123	138	276,058	324,736	18	21	38,395	47,335
Other sugar & related prods (MT)	172	240	144,792	133,184	30	43	24,486	20,508
Spices (MT)	17	17	28,291	27,414	3	3	6,104	4,529
Tobacco - unmfq (MT)	205	146	716,830	545,652	22	19	78,494	67,510
Tobacco - filler (MT)	173	127	677,402	512,992	19	17	74,159	64,146
Tobacco - scrap (MT)	30	18	22,052	8,222	3	3	1,361	1,057
Other tobacco (MT)	2	1	17,376	24,438	0	0	2,975	2,306
Beverages, ex fruit juices (HL)	12,238	13,721	1,758,907	2,058,993	2,198	2,158	281,361	312,878
Wine (HL)	2,346	2,613	927,764	1,110,557	385	388	134,411	157,131
Malt beverages (HL)	8,155	9,333	735,199	842,470	1,446	1,510	127,764	136,397
Other beverages (HL)	1,737	1,775	95,943	105,967	367	259	19,186	19,350
Oilseeds & prods (MT)	2,103	2,626	1,323,599	1,336,399	285	373	204,339	207,567
Oilseeds & oilnuts (MT)	495	641	209,273	230,705	72	111	47,676	48,311
Flaxseed (MT)	139	148	39,753	41,265	10	13	2,984	3,876
Mustard seeds (MT)	42	38	17,079	14,403	4	5	1,898	2,181
Rapeseed (MT)	190	242	63,830	77,014	9	20	3,264	6,423
Sesameseed (MT)	23	26	26,853	27,274	3	4	3,550	4,426
Soybeans (MT)	32	82	10,870	22,827	3	22	1,200	6,100

Table 3—U.S. agricultural imports: Quantity and value by commodity

Quantity and unit	October-April				April			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97	1997/98
Sunflower seeds (MT)	9	22	3,132	6,535	1	3	401	969
Other oilseeds & oilnuts (MT)	60	81	47,756	41,388	41	44	34,378	24,336
Oils & waxes-vegetable (MT)	1,081	1,217	1,015,791	988,439	141	164	142,461	145,514
Castor oil (MT)	18	27	12,783	20,436	10	10	6,687	7,487
Coconut oil (MT)	317	439	234,982	228,318	31	48	25,431	28,648
Cottonseed oil (MT)	0	0	45	56	0	0	4	4
Olive oil (MT)	74	90	254,712	210,234	15	13	40,928	27,279
Palm oil (MT)	98	80	42,734	34,774	14	7	5,932	3,547
Palm kernel oil (MT)	119	93	89,939	62,825	9	12	7,305	8,516
Peanut oil (MT)	1	2	1,801	2,340	0	0	195	155
Rapeseed oil (MT)	290	296	181,638	195,192	38	44	23,165	30,887
Soybean oil (MT)	12	16	8,140	10,710	2	1	1,108	862
Sesame oil (MT)	4	4	11,960	11,757	1	0	1,907	852
Other vegetable oils (MT)	147	168	177,056	211,797	23	28	29,801	37,276
Oilcake & meal (MT)	527	768	98,535	117,255	72	98	14,203	13,743
Cotton, excl linters (MT)	11	0	16,272	374	0	0	102	64
Cotton linters (MT)	9	6	9,832	7,036	1	1	982	966
Seeds - field & garden (MT)	160	189	240,406	293,871	56	80	66,613	104,427
Cut flowers (NA)	-	-	358,486	427,333	-	-	55,820	75,850
Nursery stock, bulbs, etc. (NA)	-	-	226,984	257,533	-	-	26,837	42,167
Other vegetable prods (MT)	1,132	56	159,945	189,257	9	11	24,831	31,345
Selected non-ag imports (NA)	-	-	8,252,989	9,447,403	-	-	1,239,606	1,427,595
Fertilizers (MT)	13,674	15,688	1,521,614	1,499,212	2,271	2,536	229,301	245,267
Potassium (MT)	5,458	6,475	356,691	484,227	1,129	981	75,633	78,397
Nitrogen (MT)	4,978	5,083	910,060	695,501	694	886	113,084	118,835
Phosphate (MT)	3,223	4,125	252,523	317,475	448	666	40,157	47,298
Fish (MT)	857	913	4,031,973	4,692,590	119	137	533,736	622,658
Fish fresh or prep (MT)	564	585	1,761,972	1,907,630	79	91	260,769	284,981
Shellfish (MT)	256	298	2,227,237	2,739,481	33	37	263,482	329,954
Fish prods, other (MT)	37	29	42,764	45,478	8	9	9,484	7,722
Ag chemicals (MT)	72	81	720,162	781,494	14	14	141,650	140,848
Fungicides (MT)	21	21	79,028	89,685	5	3	19,785	16,261
Herbicides (MT)	19	17	260,534	239,932	3	3	48,197	45,457
Insecticides (MT)	7	12	120,862	171,490	2	3	24,927	42,402
Other pesticides (MT)	24	31	259,738	280,386	4	5	48,742	36,729
Farm machinery (NA)	-	-	1,775,330	2,187,078	-	-	299,377	377,888
Tractors & self-prop mach (NO)	2,067	2,792	924,657	1,217,111	380	522	153,082	223,098
Other ag mach & parts (NA)	-	-	850,673	969,967	-	-	146,294	154,790
Tobacco - mfg (NA)	-	-	203,909	287,029	-	-	35,543	40,935

Tables contain preliminary data. NA = Not available. Zeros in quantity columns indicate none or less than 500 units.

Table 4—U.S. agricultural trade summary (\$ million)

Item	Feb	Mar	Apr	YTD	% chng 1997/98
Agricultural exports	4,727	4,733	4,249	34,777	-3
Imports (c.i.f.)	3,363	3,748	3,609	23,991	6
Imports (Customs value)	3,107	3,453	3,328	22,243	6
Trade Balance:					
Exports less c.i.f. imports	1,364	985	641	10,786	-19
Exports less Customs valued imports	1,620	1,280	922	12,534	-17

Preliminary data.

Table 6—U.S. Agricultural and Related Non-agricultural Imports From Asia Showing Gains in 1998

Country	Import	Units	Oct-Apr 1997	Oct-Apr 1998	Actual Increase '98-'97	Share of total U.S. imports Oct-Apr 1998
THAILAND	Tractors & self-prop machinery	NO	612,986	801,253	188,267	28.7%
	Other fruits--prepared or preserved	MT	35,307	47,112	11,805	22.5%
	Starches, excluding wheat & corn	MT	19,122	24,676	5,554	26.3%
INDONESIA	Pineapple juice	HL	161,733	176,503	14,771	11.6%
	Coconut oil	MT	41919	51034	9115	11.6%
	Tractors & self-prop machinery	NO	72,569	79,203	6,634	2.8%
	Phosphate	MT	2,896	9,189	6,293	0.2%
	Cocoa & products	MT	67,698	73,463	5,765	13.2%
MALAYSIA	Rubber & Allied Gums--crude	MT	74,142	88,002	13,860	13.8%
	Other Vegetable Oils	MT	57,487	67,898	10,411	40.4%
	Palm Kernel Oil	MT	70,843	77,168	6,325	82.6%
	Fertilizers	MT	46,031	52,109	6,078	0.3%
PHILIPPINES	Coconut Oil	MT	266,067	379,195	113,128	86.3%
SOUTH KOREA	Fertilizers	MT	18	11,645	11,627	0.1%
JAPAN	Phosphate	MT	60177.6	114279	54102	2.8%
	Nitrogen	MT	1,753	9,413	7,660	0.2%

Preliminary data.

Table 5—U.S. agricultural exports (\$ million)

Commodity group	Feb	Mar	Apr	YTD	% chng
Total	4,727	4,733	4,249	34,777	-3
Live animals	52	39	55	465	24
Meat & poultry	529	582	586	4,063	3
Dairy prod & eggs	104	115	101	712	22
Animal fats	45	64	57	370	15
Hides & skins	116	151	118	845	-16
Wheat	283	268	262	2,278	3
Rice	143	120	92	732	11
Corn	369	394	316	2,595	-39
Other feed grains	111	82	49	556	5
Animal feeds	440	459	378	3,039	4
Soybeans	682	401	251	5,223	-4
Vegetable oils	208	186	174	1,374	41
Fruits & nuts	303	371	349	2,696	-4
Vegetables	327	369	376	2,491	4
Cotton & linters	282	309	234	1,750	-4
Tobacco, unmf.	111	158	199	955	-7
Seeds & nursery	133	115	91	826	0

Preliminary data.

Table 7—U.S. agricultural imports, customs value (\$ mil.)

Commodity group	Feb	Mar	Apr	YTD	% chng
Total	3,107	3,453	3,328	22,243	6
Live animals	134	151	152	1,044	15
Meat & poultry	217	241	222	1,556	7
Dairy prod & eggs	91	101	104	745	-3
Grains & feeds	235	262	245	1,854	2
Fruits & nuts	401	489	434	2,797	-3
Vegetables	407	483	430	2,731	17
Vegetable oils	128	148	146	988	-3
Wine	108	165	157	1,111	20
Malt beverages	111	134	136	842	15
Coffee	406	376	319	2,334	21
Cocoa	191	165	130	1,090	29
Rubber, natural	68	95	81	608	-26
Cane & beet sugar	58	31	65	331	-34
Tobacco, unmf.	81	52	68	546	-24
Seeds & flowers	140	139	222	979	19

Preliminary data.