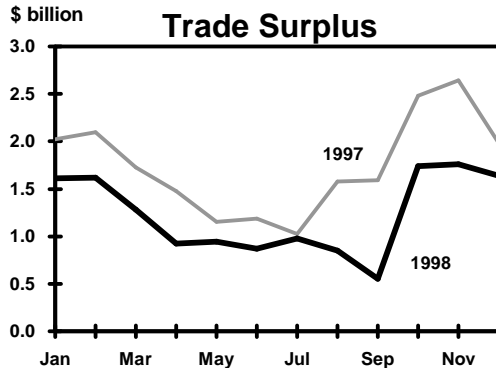


# U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

Economic Research Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

February 26, 1999



**Summary**--Calendar 1998 U.S. agricultural exports totaled \$51.8 billion, nearly 10 percent less than in 1997. But, at \$37.1 billion, imports rose 2 percent from 1997. The export surplus declined \$6.2 billion (30%) to \$14.8 billion. December 1998 exports declined 8 percent compared with December 1997; but rose from November by 3 percent. December 1998 imports increased from November by 10 percent, but were 2 percent below December 1997.

**Exports**--Bulk exports (wheat, rice, coarse grains, soybeans, cotton, and tobacco) were responsible for \$3.9 billion, or 72 percent, of the \$5.4 billion decline in total exports. Soybeans had the steepest drop in sales--\$2.5 billion in 1998--due to lower prices and abundant world supplies. The next largest drop was corn, by \$800 million, mostly the result of depressed prices. The value of wheat and cotton sales also fell, but volume rose slightly.

*Wheat* exports declined by \$400 million, or 10 percent from 1997. Lower demand from Asia--Pakistan, Japan, and the Philippines--accounted for much of the loss. However, sales to Mexico rose as the peso depreciated less than other currencies against the dollar.

As export competition rose and demand dipped, *corn* exports were down sharply in Europe and Asia during 1998. But because of more stable exchange rates and healthy economic growth, exports to Mexico were higher than in 1997. Sales to Japan dropped \$400 million (-23%) below 1997. Taiwan took \$314 million (-46%) less. Spain accounted for the steep drop in sales to Europe.

*Soybeans* accounted for 65 percent of the \$3.9 billion decline in bulk exports during 1998, as volume and prices both fell. All regions significantly decreased soybean purchases from the United States, reflecting strong export competition from South America and weak world demand.

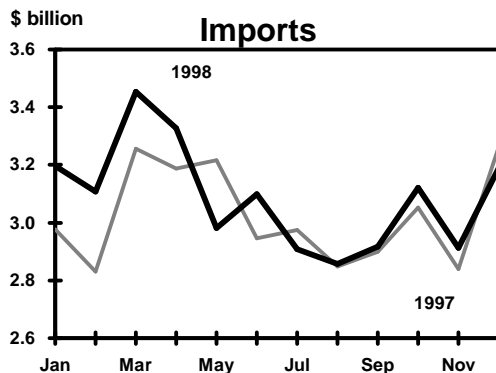
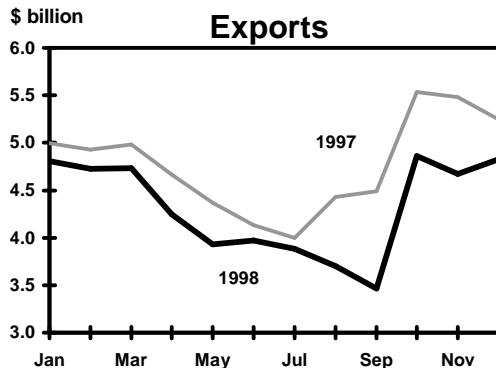
*Cotton* exports fell by \$137 million, a 5-percent decline in 1998. Shipments to China fell \$454 million as excess domestic supplies led to stricter enforcement of import controls. Sales to Mexico increased,

reflecting a doubling of monthly exports in November and December before Step 2 subsidies ended.

Exports of *high-value products* fell 4 percent in 1998, or \$1.5 billion, to \$33.1 billion. This decline was distributed among red and poultry meats, hides and skins, fruits, oilseed meals and nuts. The higher value of the dollar in the past 2 years, along with real income declines in Asia and elsewhere, lowered demand for high-value products severely. Exports of hides and skins to Japan, Korea, and Taiwan, in particular fell sharply.

**Imports**--The \$1.1 billion increase in U.S. agricultural imports was led by vegetables, imports of which rose 25 percent to \$4.4 billion. Vegetable import growth came largely from Mexico, Canada, and Europe. Strong import growth also occurred in vegetable oils (+20%), dairy (19%), wine (+15%), malt beverages (+17%), cocoa (+13%), meats (+7%), and fruits (+3%). These increases are principally attributed to the U.S. economy's exceptional growth in the past 2 years.

[Andy Jerardo, 202-694-5323]



**The top 10 U.S. export markets in calendar 1998**--Japan, European Union, Canada, Mexico, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, Egypt, and Russia--purchased 75 percent of agricultural sales. Many of these countries suffered recessions or downturns in 1998, including loss of purchasing power due to currency depreciations. Reduced demand from Asian countries accounted for the \$5.4 billion export decline. Japan purchased \$1.4 billion less in 1998, and shipments to Southeast Asia were \$900 million less. Sales to Europe were also \$1.4 billion lower. However, exports to Mexico, Canada, and Central America were up \$1.4 billion, with Mexico accounting for almost \$1 billion. The top three sources of imports--Canada, European Union, and Mexico--made up 54 percent of total U.S. imports in 1998.

Next Update: March 22, 1999

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

Quantity and unit	January-December				December			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
Total agricultural exports (NA)	0	0	57,245,188	51,829,123	0	0	5,243,346	4,826,866
Animals & animal prods (NA)	0	0	11,467,517	10,674,451	0	0	955,774	874,223
Animals live - ex poultry (NA)	0	0	565,583	563,605	0	0	86,927	85,846
Cattle & calves - live (NO)	282	285	176,708	162,835	27	37	19,196	18,420
Horses, mules, burros-live (NO)	58	68	270,671	316,714	6	11	56,375	60,240
Swine - live (NO)	55	229	11,651	23,414	4	53	998	3,883
Sheep, live (NO)	1,407	664	59,135	28,015	152	37	6,906	1,259
Other live animals (NA)	0	0	47,419	32,628	0	0	3,451	2,044
Meats & meat prods (MT)	1,924	2,041	4,596,763	4,371,479	175	170	363,646	351,388
Beef & veal (MT)	692	714	2,497,077	2,326,088	56	63	190,673	195,809
Beef & veal - fr or froz (MT)	676	696	2,433,361	2,251,311	55	61	185,523	188,254
Beef - prep or pres (MT)	15	18	63,716	74,777	1	2	5,151	7,555
Horsemeat-fr, chill, froz (MT)	13	12	41,597	38,030	1	1	3,184	3,032
Lamb, mutton or goat-fr, ch, frz (MT)	3	3	6,978	7,346	0	0	612	774
Pork (MT)	325	399	1,045,710	1,027,548	29	31	80,176	74,538
Pork - fr or froz (MT)	286	355	940,614	917,007	26	27	70,956	65,920
Pork - prep or pres (MT)	38	44	105,096	110,541	3	3	9,220	8,618
Variety meats, edible offals (MT)	469	495	646,484	661,578	44	41	55,982	55,060
Other meats - fr or prep (MT)	423	417	358,917	310,890	44	35	33,018	22,174
Poultry & poultry prods (NA)	0	0	2,779,030	2,530,136	0	0	227,734	187,109
Poultry - live (NA)	56,778	60,618	118,255	114,546	4,906	5,468	11,325	9,134
Baby chicks (NO)	47,100	50,506	101,987	98,573	4,098	4,768	9,544	8,023
Other live poultry (NA)	9,678	10,112	16,268	15,973	808	700	1,781	1,111
Poultry meats (MT)	2,585	2,537	2,423,115	2,175,622	222	224	196,732	158,923
Chickens - fr or froz (MT)	2,217	2,245	1,893,115	1,736,636	190	200	149,911	122,167
Turkeys - fr or froz (MT)	253	182	289,321	201,986	22	16	24,742	19,329
Other poultry - fr or froz (MT)	5	7	9,967	12,009	1	1	936	982
Poultry meats - prep or pres (MT)	111	103	230,713	224,992	9	7	21,143	16,445
Feathers & downs, crude (MT)	3	3	23,842	18,840	0	0	1,113	1,718
Eggs (NA)	0	0	213,818	221,128	0	0	18,564	17,333
Dairy prods (NA)	0	0	931,992	914,844	0	0	84,470	80,034
Evap & condensed milk (MT)	9	8	6,416	7,326	0	0	254	285
Nonfat dry milk (MT)	68	81	119,598	136,400	10	6	18,262	9,733
Butter & anhyd milkfat (MT)	11	5	20,935	10,800	0	0	508	232
Cheese (MT)	37	37	123,333	116,982	3	3	10,713	11,261
Whey, fluid or dried (NA)	0	0	124,464	119,728	0	0	8,755	10,088
Other dairy prods (NA)	0	0	537,246	523,606	0	0	45,979	48,436
Fats, oils, & greases (MT)	1,089	1,444	561,823	663,770	107	141	56,796	61,585
Lard (MT)	64	74	37,200	36,020	6	7	3,204	3,620
Tallow - inedible (MT)	764	1,041	370,232	464,027	71	96	37,795	40,489
Other animal fats & oils (MT)	261	328	154,391	163,723	30	38	15,796	17,476
Hides & skins, incl furs (NA)	0	0	1,650,775	1,259,397	0	0	100,581	75,706
Bovine hides - whole (NO)	20,113	18,888	1,186,892	917,556	1,232	1,276	71,893	59,737
Other cattle hides - pieces (NA)	0	0	150,445	75,420	0	0	6,413	4,070
Calf skins, whole (PC)	1,934	1,657	41,018	31,521	168	107	3,538	1,982
Horse hides, whole (PC)	155	99	4,028	2,532	8	9	157	235
Sheep and lamb skins (PC)	0	0	29,657	18,695	0	0	2,370	293
Other hides & skins, ex furs (NA)	12,175	11,290	68,837	67,195	947	717	5,614	4,356
Furskins (NA)	0	0	169,899	146,479	0	0	10,598	5,032
Mink pelts (NO)	3,763	2,782	97,244	78,044	220	117	4,242	3,490
Other furskins (NA)	0	0	72,654	68,435	0	0	6,356	1,542
Wool & mohair (MT)	3	2	16,530	12,600	0	0	2,162	2,099
Sausage casings (MT)	14	19	59,181	61,684	2	2	5,267	6,111
Bull semen (NA)	0	0	71,039	65,555	0	0	5,296	5,225
Misc animal prods - other (NA)	0	0	234,800	231,381	0	0	22,896	19,121
Grains & feeds (MT)	91,120	91,762	15,368,236	14,008,113	7,978	9,443	1,295,251	1,323,185
Wheat, unmilled (MT)	25,264	26,889	4,095,483	3,697,421	2,194	2,626	338,014	348,624
Wheat flour (MT)	508	569	138,058	127,298	62	128	16,694	24,204
Bulqur wheat (MT)	6	7	1,482	1,107	0	1	0	116
Other wheat prods (MT)	73	81	66,942	78,956	6	8	5,577	7,489
Rice-paddy, milled, parb. (MT)	2,508	3,722	931,784	1,207,702	243	255	90,093	86,309
Feed grains & prods (MT)	49,091	47,278	6,218,575	5,209,658	4,273	5,298	532,135	553,049
Feed grains (MT)	48,392	46,614	5,988,864	4,992,539	4,218	5,234	515,643	530,362
Barley (MT)	1,626	561	210,861	74,805	62	31	9,747	3,568
Corn (MT)	41,663	41,116	5,179,960	4,382,327	3,567	4,783	437,243	486,129
Grain sorghums (MT)	5,077	4,906	594,439	531,615	587	417	68,367	40,252
Oats (MT)	26	28	3,456	3,641	2	3	281	413
Rye (MT)	1	2	148	151	0	0	5	0
Feed grain prods (MT)	699	664	229,711	217,119	55	63	16,492	22,688
Popcorn (MT)	96	99	75,124	65,571	9	10	6,319	5,790
Blended food prods (MT)	299	325	90,376	89,479	9	27	2,013	7,925
Other grain prods (MT)	923	1,017	1,081,619	1,140,336	67	83	88,577	92,201
Feeds & fodders, ex oilcake (MT)	12,352	11,775	2,668,794	2,390,587	1,116	1,008	215,829	197,478
Corn by-products (MT)	6,050	5,724	845,560	648,191	526	431	67,720	44,455
Alfalfa meal & cubes (MT)	272	275	48,698	42,712	18	21	3,190	3,434
Beet pulp (MT)	604	555	82,240	68,931	47	51	4,808	5,879
Citrus pulp pellets (MT)	765	606	67,506	43,525	108	75	5,525	6,919
Other feeds & fodders (MT)	4,661	4,615	1,624,789	1,587,229	417	430	134,587	136,791
Fruits & prep, ex juice (MT)	3,336	3,077	2,788,756	2,543,385	258	248	206,598	195,530
Fruits - fr (MT)	2,875	2,571	2,099,648	1,837,603	218	204	149,712	132,731
Fruits - fr - citrus (MT)	1,245	1,153	710,600	644,949	94	80	51,625	44,007
Grapefruit - fresh (MT)	486	386	235,871	193,494	36	36	17,681	17,262
Lemons & limes - fresh (MT)	122	117	118,810	78,473	10	10	6,836	6,281
Oranges & tangerines - fresh (MT)	635	648	354,544	371,340	47	34	26,871	20,183

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	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
Other citrus - fresh (MT)	1	2	1,375	1,642	0	0	238	281
Fruits - fr - noncitrus (MT)	1,630	1,418	1,389,048	1,192,654	124	125	98,087	88,724
Apples - fresh (MT)	657	559	395,436	328,709	63	71	40,824	38,163
Berries - fresh (MT)	65	66	120,889	120,169	1	2	3,154	3,669
Cherries - fresh (MT)	40	38	141,365	114,367	1	0	696	405
Grapes - fresh (MT)	269	207	335,750	262,118	28	20	34,973	25,327
Melons - fresh (MT)	223	216	80,236	81,920	7	5	2,856	2,728
Peaches - fresh (MT)	105	80	93,617	75,497	1	0	674	251
Pears - fresh (MT)	144	145	80,260	85,880	20	22	10,768	12,670
Plums - fresh (MT)	72	54	61,753	53,470	0	0	221	312
Other noncitrus - fresh (MT)	55	53	79,742	70,523	3	4	3,921	5,199
Fruits - dried (MT)	206	223	385,796	385,398	18	20	32,476	35,709
Raisins - dried (MT)	112	118	199,804	194,580	10	10	16,791	17,468
Prunes - dried (MT)	70	71	139,191	134,105	6	7	10,564	13,065
Other dried fruits (MT)	25	34	46,800	56,712	2	4	5,121	5,177
Fruits - canned ex juice (MT)	132	152	141,346	144,595	12	15	12,047	12,792
Fruits - froz ex juice (MT)	50	54	63,873	73,369	2	4	3,090	6,283
Other fruits - prep or pres (MT)	73	78	98,093	102,419	7	6	9,274	8,015
Fruit juices incl froz (HL)	10,689	10,747	662,301	656,559	781	810	51,505	52,032
Apple juice (HL)	505	320	57,457	41,951	42	23	4,356	2,387
Grape juice (HL)	873	842	68,116	68,085	38	57	2,889	4,427
Grapefruit juice (HL)	817	653	55,832	44,250	61	30	4,319	2,369
Orange juice (HL)	5,677	5,616	301,615	299,463	375	372	23,181	23,380
Other fruit juices (HL)	2,818	3,316	179,281	202,810	264	329	16,760	19,470
Wine (HL)	2,063	2,543	389,105	510,159	160	157	30,881	33,030
Nuts & prep (MT)	561	528	1,445,928	1,360,162	49	45	127,831	122,682
Almonds (shelled basis) (MT)	188	197	818,288	759,509	17	19	68,101	74,629
Filberts (MT)	16	13	29,882	26,288	3	1	4,910	2,366
Peanuts, shelled or prep (MT)	230	187	229,972	191,754	18	15	17,707	15,299
Pistachios (MT)	26	29	113,429	120,277	4	3	18,036	9,587
Walnuts, shelled/unshelled (MT)	65	66	153,008	150,512	3	5	9,060	12,318
Pecans, shelled or unshelled (MT)	11	12	46,080	55,410	1	1	4,802	2,946
Other nuts, shelled or prep (MT)	24	25	55,268	56,412	3	2	5,215	5,538
Vegetables & prep (NA)	0	0	4,144,218	4,221,610	0	0	356,196	377,177
Vegetables - fresh (MT)	1,781	1,784	1,029,697	1,045,476	140	153	90,633	87,898
Asparagus - fresh (MT)	15	16	51,016	45,636	0	0	554	673
Broccoli - fresh (MT)	132	136	94,763	95,925	10	16	6,572	10,081
Carrots - fresh (MT)	104	116	51,087	59,869	7	8	4,002	4,227
Cabbage - fresh (MT)	43	45	17,278	20,941	3	3	1,591	1,347
Celery - fresh (MT)	117	123	50,964	45,674	12	13	5,754	3,790
Cauliflower - fresh (MT)	85	80	56,356	57,310	9	8	5,363	5,417
Corn, sweet - fresh (MT)	48	42	20,676	19,261	1	1	399	357
Cucumbers - fresh (MT)	33	23	15,605	12,939	2	2	1,117	1,186
Garlic - fresh (MT)	9	8	13,697	11,293	1	1	953	1,085
Lettuce - fresh (MT)	294	312	159,140	167,119	27	29	18,119	13,513
Mushrooms - fresh (MT)	7	5	23,325	11,297	1	1	1,454	1,140
Onions and shallots - fresh (MT)	207	225	68,167	84,915	17	21	6,028	7,905
Peppers - fresh (MT)	61	58	54,352	55,635	5	5	5,310	4,322
Potatoes - fresh (MT)	304	295	82,502	89,401	14	12	4,746	4,433
Tomatoes - fresh (MT)	155	130	131,098	120,521	13	14	13,728	12,914
Other fresh vegetables (MT)	167	170	139,671	147,740	19	19	14,943	15,507
Vegetables - froz (MT)	598	651	471,253	503,045	47	56	35,749	43,553
Corn, sweet, frozen (MT)	72	74	60,690	60,924	5	6	3,856	4,794
Potatoes - frozen (MT)	421	455	307,860	328,467	34	39	24,607	28,529
Other frozen vegetables (MT)	105	122	102,703	113,654	8	11	7,287	10,231
Vegetables - canned (MT)	467	441	373,259	357,277	35	37	28,948	30,311
Pulses (MT)	486	651	260,884	335,612	58	65	29,534	32,419
Dried beans (MT)	351	483	204,450	275,352	44	47	24,683	26,307
Dried peas (MT)	87	118	32,531	39,944	9	12	2,888	3,780
Dried lentils (MT)	49	50	23,903	20,315	5	6	1,964	2,332
Hops, incl hop ext (MT)	11	10	95,353	87,903	1	1	7,859	12,259
Other veg - prep or pres (NA)	0	0	1,913,772	1,892,297	0	0	163,472	170,737
Oilseeds & prods (MT)	36,665	32,778	12,057,428	9,462,058	4,693	3,654	1,420,874	986,675
Oilcake & meal (MT)	7,311	8,225	1,965,532	1,665,144	1,083	689	290,556	120,616
Bran, hulls, legum. veg. (MT)	553	391	55,259	30,920	21	35	1,641	2,843
Corn oilcake & meal (MT)	129	28	16,072	3,160	9	6	964	535
Soybean meal (MT)	6,441	7,638	1,864,836	1,604,190	1,038	627	285,839	114,664
Other oilcake & meal (MT)	187	168	29,366	26,873	15	20	2,112	2,574
Oilseeds (MT)	26,764	21,479	8,325,759	5,557,780	3,344	2,609	944,034	612,437
Rapeseed (MT)	91	240	25,680	60,171	9	14	2,377	3,653
Safflower seeds (MT)	49	38	32,340	12,313	0	0	96	81
Soybeans (MT)	26,023	20,276	7,379,475	4,835,369	3,279	2,501	890,632	551,652
Sunflowerseeds (MT)	123	214	94,222	109,401	28	54	14,585	17,844
Peanuts, incl oilstock (MT)	53	36	44,707	31,343	3	3	2,921	2,798
Other oilseeds (MT)	267	533	85,465	138,542	13	24	4,962	9,786
Protein substances (MT)	158	142	663,870	370,641	12	12	28,461	26,623
Vegetable oils (MT)	2,590	3,074	1,766,137	2,239,135	266	356	186,284	253,622
Soybean oil (MT)	1,016	1,427	587,253	907,879	91	171	56,783	106,933
Cottonseed oil (MT)	111	86	68,232	57,124	4	5	2,272	3,396
Sunflower oil (MT)	358	336	203,031	225,374	88	63	54,258	42,175
Corn oil (MT)	489	522	321,205	401,034	29	59	19,596	46,386
Peanut oil (MT)	9	4	9,372	4,548	2	0	1,888	235
Rapeseed oil (MT)	140	156	84,138	97,267	17	5	13,845	3,107
Safflower oil (MT)	36	44	44,475	51,003	1	8	1,419	6,370

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Other veg oils & waxes (MT)	432	498	448,431	494,906	35	45	36,222	45,020
Tobacco - unmfq (MT)	222	212	1,553,314	1,458,818	20	25	133,487	156,205
Tobacco - light air-cured (MT)	59	52	471,579	422,417	2	1	15,435	8,440
Tobacco - flue cured (MT)	117	111	835,475	777,224	15	20	101,684	131,844
Other tobacco - unmfq (MT)	45	49	246,260	259,177	3	4	16,368	15,921
Cotton, ex linters (MT)	1,568	1,624	2,682,061	2,545,298	169	224	284,916	328,731
Cotton linters (MT)	84	40	27,160	17,469	7	2	2,413	758
Essential oils (MT)	45	45	588,134	528,786	3	3	35,631	35,746
Seeds - field & garden (MT)	1,098	714	884,321	827,994	85	61	100,641	107,128
Sugar & tropical prods (NA)	0	0	1,460,958	1,448,208	0	0	111,497	118,452
Sugar & related prods (NA)	0	0	618,757	628,430	0	0	46,144	49,602
Sugar - cane or beet (MT)	125	144	53,780	53,247	8	14	4,006	5,183
Related sugar prods (NA)	0	0	564,977	575,183	0	0	42,138	44,420
Coffee (MT)	42	47	219,995	233,538	3	4	16,873	20,093
Cocoa (MT)	36	35	77,913	77,638	3	3	6,054	7,019
Chocolate & prep (MT)	108	104	355,889	312,127	9	8	27,820	22,702
Tea & mate (MT)	19	22	87,135	90,017	2	2	6,523	9,389
Spices (MT)	26	28	58,460	68,514	2	3	5,773	6,045
Rubber - crude natural (MT)	23	23	40,772	35,977	1	2	2,151	3,379
Fibers ex cotton (MT)	2	2	2,037	1,967	0	0	160	222
Other misc veg prods (MT)	0	0	494,043	417,198	0	0	42,896	37,695
Nursery & greenhouse prods (NA)	0	0	282,770	305,841	0	0	24,085	23,575
Beverages ex juices (NA)	0	0	948,939	843,013	0	0	62,868	54,040
Selected non-ag exports (NA)	0	0	16,723,526	16,170,263	0	0	1,294,458	1,266,547
Fertilizers (MT)	20	13	3,084,855	3,291,605	2	1	303,005	357,174
Nitrogen (MT)	11	5	3,066,878	3,275,864	1	0	301,172	356,372
Phosphate (MT)	9	8	17,977	15,741	1	0	1,833	802
Fish & shellfish (MT)	0	0	2,738,568	2,303,312	0	0	150,096	158,825
Fish - fr or prep (MT)	0	0	1,560,672	1,340,596	0	0	62,867	70,105
Shellfish (MT)	0	0	741,931	612,017	0	0	65,060	68,840
Other fish prods (MT)	250	242	435,965	350,699	15	18	22,169	19,880
Ag chemicals (MT)	307	331	1,783,182	1,910,530	23	23	133,258	146,997
Fungicides (MT)	30	38	185,659	214,923	3	3	17,761	17,362
Herbicides (MT)	151	170	862,378	944,640	8	11	46,753	48,624
Insecticides (MT)	63	65	405,360	449,887	5	6	32,275	52,789
Other pesticides (MT)	62	58	329,785	301,080	7	4	36,469	28,222
Farm machinery (NA)	0	0	4,160,528	3,837,855	0	0	351,866	294,090
Tractors & self-prop mach (NO)	65	58	1,950,267	1,702,216	5	4	162,703	118,930
Other ag machinery & parts (NA)	0	0	2,210,262	2,135,640	0	0	189,163	175,160
Tobacco - mfg (NA)	0	0	4,956,392	4,826,960	0	0	356,233	309,461

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

Table 2- Leading markets in calendar 1997 and 1998 and December 1998

	metric tons				metric tons		
	Jan-Dec 1997	Jan-Dec 1998	Dec 1998		Jan-Dec 1997	Jan-Dec 1998	Dec 1998
Wheat				Corn			
Egypt	3,503,604	4,253,408	538,329	Japan	15,451,572	13,990,796	1,465,336
Japan	3,194,443	3,125,048	351,571	Mexico	2,566,142	5,245,670	689,997
Mexico	1,067,057	1,591,036	115,964	Korea	3,444,348	4,393,020	527,180
Philippines	1,806,464	1,541,881	179,768	Taiwan	5,439,179	3,464,732	349,569
Korea	1,308,808	1,503,264	152,663	Egypt	2,166,841	1,917,308	147,403
Pakistan	2,687,729	1,290,123	99,390	Canada	1,033,199	1,166,713	0
EU	1,112,728	1,258,094	162,480	Colombia	1,257,375	1,148,214	141,019
Nigeria	630,428	1,030,230	69,271	Saudi Arabia	1,076,461	999,708	137,487
Taiwan	908,914	932,150	71,611	Venezuela	688,429	886,817	189,611
Israel	748,594	800,541	95,861	Algeria	918,433	860,323	135,921
World	25,264,253	26,889,090	2,625,906	World	41,662,510	41,116,410	4,783,110
Soybeans				Cotton			
EU	8,958,885	6,419,574	1,195,260	Mexico	218,005	402,298	63,482
Japan	3,701,554	3,442,563	370,577	Korea	126,966	165,086	13,560
Mexico	2,912,000	3,099,834	317,964	Japan	134,030	150,910	26,043
Netherlands	3,497,957	2,145,626	524,813	Turkey	102,078	117,779	0
Spain	1,666,989	1,497,152	145,572	Indonesia	118,036	94,432	13,291
Korea	1,248,795	1,279,784	113,500	Taiwan	66,876	87,103	18,662
China	1,574,548	1,238,523	0	Canada	54,119	77,097	16,893
Taiwan	2,269,575	1,149,925	199,742	China	341,052	77,014	0
Germany	1,327,220	935,741	215,203	Hong Kong	33,302	67,980	25,272
Indonesia	905,692	569,999	34,049	EU	58,881	60,441	4,833
World	26,022,851	20,275,536	2,501,107	World	1,567,989	1,623,863	223,622

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

Quantity and uni	January-December				December			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
Total agricultural imports (NA)	0	0	36,300,187	37,073,154	0	0	3,262,544	3,190,694
Noncompetitive ag imports (NA)	0	0	9,352,526	9,018,470	0	0	854,977	740,532
Bananas & plantains (MT)	3,998	4,152	1,220,487	1,201,665	334	289	95,566	80,364
Coffee, incl prods (MT)	1,180	1,206	3,885,737	3,430,895	103	118	346,766	278,431
Cocoa & prods (MT)	767	863	1,471,233	1,665,787	88	77	175,677	149,207
Tea (MT)	133	151	212,257	257,494	10	10	19,524	19,554
Spices (MT)	155	183	426,730	524,022	13	24	40,161	52,633
Rubber & allied gums - crude (MT)	1,068	1,200	1,229,479	976,803	90	114	85,121	79,660
Silk - raw (MT)	0	0	2,059	339	0	0	10	23
Wool, unmf - carpet (MT)	14	13	38,453	31,578	1	1	2,221	1,986
Fibers, excl cotton (MT)	103	103	45,561	43,924	8	7	3,955	3,229
Essential oils (NA)	0	0	348,811	356,900	0	0	34,523	27,832
Drugs - crude natural (MT)	80	68	471,719	529,063	8	8	51,453	47,613
Competitive ag imports (NA)	0	0	26,947,660	28,054,684	0	0	2,407,567	2,450,163
Animals & prods (NA)	0	0	6,514,000	6,956,175	0	0	585,779	602,910
Animals-live, ex poultry (NO)	0	0	1,594,120	1,656,484	0	0	135,382	106,370
Cattle and calves (NO)	2,046	2,034	1,124,313	1,144,215	168	167	76,509	72,843
Horses, mules, burros (NO)	26	44	134,483	205,542	3	2	23,919	18,180
Swine (NO)	3,180	4,123	305,588	273,005	361	372	32,348	11,827
Sheep, live (NO)	46	46	6,331	5,235	6	4	788	404
Other live animals (NO)	0	0	23,406	28,487	0	0	1,817	3,117
Meats & prods, ex poultry (MT)	0	0	2,629,918	2,814,628	0	0	220,650	246,570
Beef & veal (MT)	797	892	1,609,437	1,841,938	62	74	133,771	157,658
Beef & veal - fr or froz (MT)	733	823	1,408,142	1,607,834	56	67	114,570	133,203
Beef & veal - prep or pres (MT)	64	69	201,294	234,104	6	7	19,200	24,455
Pork (MT)	261	290	754,191	682,101	24	29	64,318	57,613
Pork - fr or froz (MT)	191	217	487,226	440,909	18	22	42,411	36,883
Pork - prep or pres (MT)	70	72	266,965	241,193	6	7	21,907	20,730
Mutton, goat & lamb (MT)	38	52	145,164	171,491	3	6	12,544	17,755
Mutton goat & lamb-fr/frz (MT)	0	9	0	46,253	0	3	0	11,580
Horsemeat - fr or froz (MT)	0	0	17	49	0	0	0	5
Variety meats - fr or froz (MT)	44	47	72,538	67,416	3	4	4,987	6,145
Other meats - fr or froz (MT)	3	3	18,523	20,728	0	1	2,280	3,821
Other meats & prods (MT)	12	10	30,049	30,906	1	1	2,751	3,573
Poultry and prods (NA)	0	0	195,140	199,748	0	0	19,007	17,571
Poultry - live (NA)	9,642	12,289	23,208	20,754	892	902	1,664	1,252
Poultry meat (MT)	7	9	22,012	27,832	1	1	2,436	2,843
Eggs (NA)	0	0	19,019	13,719	0	0	1,895	1,356
Feathers & down - crude (MT)	21	26	130,901	137,444	2	2	13,011	12,119
Dairy products (NA)	0	0	1,225,139	1,465,145	0	0	125,664	164,407
Milk & cream, fr or dried (MT)	0	0	24,551	35,001	0	0	3,685	3,640
Butter & butterfat mixtures (MT)	11	36	19,770	72,708	1	1	1,031	2,652
Cheese (MT)	141	168	548,441	634,918	18	24	67,985	87,530
Casein & mixtures (MT)	102	111	436,941	465,008	8	11	34,453	46,760
Other dairy prods (NA)	0	0	195,436	257,510	0	0	18,510	23,826
Fats, oils, & greases (MT)	80	73	59,607	55,224	7	3	5,703	3,446
Hides & skins (NA)	0	0	205,932	169,968	0	0	22,493	14,742
Sheep & lamb skins (MT)	3	2	10,715	7,171	0	0	560	317
Other hides & skins (NA)	0	0	116,986	101,409	0	0	9,389	8,023
Furskins (NA)	6,302	4,869	78,231	61,387	577	271	12,543	6,401
Wool - unmfq, apparel grades (MT)	30	27	115,680	95,177	4	2	16,757	5,041
Sausage casings (MT)	15	15	72,512	76,688	1	1	5,488	5,976
Bull semen (NA)	0	0	7,983	13,630	0	0	415	1,375
Misc animal prods (NA)	0	0	407,969	409,482	0	0	34,221	37,411
Grains & feeds (MT)	0	0	2,962,746	2,877,598	0	0	266,187	245,986
Wheat, ex seed (MT)	2,197	1,989	355,184	280,060	180	165	28,915	21,792
Corn, unmilled (MT)	247	225	30,820	25,294	7	38	1,180	3,852
Oats, unmilled (MT)	1,897	1,735	238,449	166,068	225	159	25,989	12,781
Barley, unmilled (MT)	861	720	124,945	91,748	91	62	13,492	7,758
Rice (MT)	312	296	200,510	187,664	29	35	19,444	19,760
Biscuits & wafers (MT)	287	328	665,118	751,413	24	27	55,553	62,138
Pasta & noodles (MT)	282	306	265,021	284,269	32	28	29,127	26,447
Other grains & preps (NA)	0	0	569,582	610,928	0	0	47,742	51,444
Feeds & fodders, ex oilcake (MT)	1,451	1,244	513,118	480,154	103	102	44,745	40,014
Fruits & preps (MT)	3,042	3,161	2,018,327	2,185,294	261	240	189,790	210,753
Fruits - fr or froz (MT)	2,392	2,559	1,369,492	1,589,862	209	184	135,254	154,849
Apples, fresh (MT)	159	142	79,509	76,558	6	5	2,504	2,799
Avocados (MT)	27	61	28,183	64,399	3	10	3,374	10,136
Berries, excl strawberries (MT)	61	64	85,075	104,042	2	3	3,376	5,633
Citrus, fresh (MT)	260	275	124,977	136,417	34	34	24,353	25,939
Grapes, fresh (MT)	360	406	371,643	438,435	37	25	48,536	47,068
Kiwi fruit, fresh (MT)	34	44	20,656	32,671	0	1	534	1,138
Mangoes (MT)	190	202	122,055	136,328	1	9	1,776	8,218
Melons (MT)	814	837	232,720	251,474	85	62	22,783	21,030
Peaches (MT)	41	35	31,726	29,019	6	7	5,656	7,908
Pears (MT)	79	68	50,446	47,132	0	1	869	1,073
Pineapples, fresh or frozen (MT)	207	256	88,412	86,509	23	12	9,458	6,797
Plums (MT)	23	20	21,332	18,036	2	2	2,490	2,848
Strawberries, fresh or froz (MT)	42	51	46,322	89,793	2	2	2,958	3,073
Other fruits, fresh or froz (MT)	95	97	66,436	79,048	7	11	6,588	11,186
Fruits - prep or pres (MT)	649	602	648,836	595,433	52	56	54,536	55,904
Pineapples - canned or prep (MT)	300	249	212,843	181,189	22	25	16,966	18,938
Other fruits - prep or pres (MT)	349	353	435,993	414,243	29	31	37,570	36,966
Fruit juices (HL)	27,806	26,979	828,537	666,350	2,849	2,669	68,910	64,419
Apple juice (HL)	10,488	10,076	320,691	202,077	1,065	1,109	27,637	17,719
Grape juice (HL)	2,399	1,186	96,087	57,060	143	159	6,263	7,845
Grapefruit juice (HL)	7	7	337	445	1	0	27	32

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

Quantity and uni	January-December				December			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
Lemon juice (HL)	353	462	9,079	8,433	22	24	482	353
Lime juice (HL)	158	146	2,671	4,325	4	5	113	301
Orange juice (HL)	9,626	11,324	189,478	243,431	1,274	1,066	20,217	25,711
Pineapple juice (HL)	2,880	2,328	84,900	70,603	231	182	6,763	5,691
Other fruit juice (HL)	1,896	1,450	125,295	79,977	110	124	7,407	6,768
Nuts & preps (MT)	212	238	598,088	629,925	23	27	66,611	72,600
Brazil nuts (MT)	11	10	26,779	20,862	1	1	1,688	1,475
Cashew nuts (MT)	69	69	318,203	318,535	7	5	33,632	25,848
Chestnuts (MT)	4	5	10,916	12,186	1	0	1,635	966
Coconut meat (MT)	71	78	68,884	65,110	7	7	6,277	5,038
Filberts (MT)	4	5	19,241	21,473	1	1	2,445	3,259
Macademia nuts (MT)	3	4	31,752	30,240	0	0	4,046	3,540
Pecans (MT)	18	30	46,904	84,351	4	10	8,435	23,785
Pistachio nuts (MT)	1	0	3,402	986	0	0	363	135
Other nuts (MT)	30	38	72,006	76,182	2	3	8,090	8,554
Vegetables & preps (NA)	0	0	3,706,619	4,374,694	0	0	380,986	425,640
Vegetables - fr or froz (MT)	3,355	3,833	2,105,775	2,632,028	338	341	233,116	251,566
Tomatoes (MT)	742	847	648,668	757,895	63	40	68,892	58,556
Asparagus, fresh or frozen (MT)	41	51	73,210	96,009	3	5	6,851	9,417
Beans, fresh or frozen (MT)	29	31	34,207	35,588	4	6	5,352	8,013
Cabbage (MT)	40	41	8,573	12,059	6	2	1,367	572
Carrots, fresh or frozen (MT)	105	84	25,530	23,391	13	9	3,383	2,370
Cauliflower & broccoli, fr/fz (MT)	241	228	139,291	143,536	27	26	15,478	17,053
Celery, fresh (MT)	31	48	8,717	12,000	3	5	857	1,027
Cucumbers (MT)	303	328	101,261	157,853	44	47	14,062	17,186
Eggplant (MT)	30	38	20,715	30,446	5	5	3,223	2,505
Endive, fresh (MT)	2	3	4,762	6,297	0	0	478	720
Garlic (MT)	17	33	20,387	40,728	0	2	617	3,205
Lettuce (MT)	31	25	14,802	13,883	2	2	1,525	1,073
Okra, fresh or frozen (MT)	31	24	13,160	11,241	0	1	362	456
Onions (MT)	262	271	129,088	152,926	18	25	14,043	14,174
Peas, incl chickpeas (MT)	38	38	36,462	44,378	4	3	4,732	3,654
Peppers (MT)	291	329	256,631	356,049	30	35	33,172	41,949
Potatoes, fresh or frozen (MT)	663	876	252,606	342,096	67	71	25,764	28,311
Radishes, fresh (MT)	13	17	6,872	13,175	2	2	1,551	2,053
Squash (MT)	141	167	85,625	111,823	18	21	8,964	12,136
Other vegs - fr or froz (MT)	305	352	225,207	270,655	27	34	22,444	27,136
Vegetables-prep/pres (NA)	0	0	1,600,844	1,742,666	0	0	147,870	174,075
Bamboo shoots, preserved (MT)	28	30	23,598	22,196	3	3	2,411	2,303
Bean cake, miso (MT)	9	7	23,577	15,510	1	1	2,142	1,420
Cucumbers, preserved (MT)	37	40	20,054	22,073	4	5	2,051	2,148
Garlic, dried (MT)	8	31	3,243	16,642	1	9	370	5,592
Olives - prep or pres (MT)	80	83	182,122	174,808	8	9	16,903	18,737
Mushrooms, canned (MT)	64	59	112,576	104,310	6	5	9,646	9,134
Mushrooms, dried (MT)	2	2	20,332	17,913	0	0	2,134	2,099
Onions, preserved (MT)	2	2	3,352	3,487	0	0	390	230
Hops, incl extract (MT)	5	5	32,388	31,509	1	1	4,876	6,252
Artichokes - prep (MT)	28	36	41,151	70,966	1	1	2,025	1,636
Asparagus - prep (MT)	1	1	1,792	2,117	0	0	193	144
Tomatoes, incl paste & sauce (MT)	107	123	92,273	109,090	11	19	8,956	17,617
Waterchestnuts (MT)	40	32	28,509	19,503	3	2	1,746	1,100
Beans & peas, dried (MT)	71	64	42,551	37,915	5	6	3,275	3,659
Mustard (MT)	15	15	17,807	17,606	1	1	1,128	1,061
Peppers & pimentos, prep (MT)	16	22	18,979	26,633	1	2	1,405	2,446
Soy sauce (MT)	38	40	39,195	40,281	4	5	4,004	4,703
Starches, excl wheat & corn (MT)	152	159	101,045	103,944	12	12	8,196	7,353
Soups & sauces (MT)	106	133	209,691	237,560	11	17	21,660	26,473
Vinegar (HL)	261	313	37,518	38,693	25	21	3,439	3,169
Yeasts (MT)	53	55	59,849	61,774	4	5	5,112	5,532
Other vegetables-prep/pres (NA)	0	0	489,240	568,135	0	0	45,806	51,268
Sugar & related prods (NA)	0	0	1,852,454	1,682,330	0	0	122,309	115,264
Sugar - cane & beet (MT)	2,975	2,047	983,940	760,424	166	134	53,236	40,268
Molasses (HL)	10,427	11,004	86,977	81,210	801	779	6,225	5,166
Confectionery prods (MT)	236	265	532,718	615,809	18	22	44,103	52,369
Other sugar & related prods (MT)	348	432	248,820	224,888	31	33	18,744	17,460
Spices (MT)	29	40	52,276	55,894	2	3	3,897	4,911
Tobacco - unmfq (MT)	294	224	1,089,430	770,864	26	17	104,220	73,950
Tobacco - filler (MT)	253	172	1,015,992	715,936	24	15	94,777	70,193
Tobacco - scrap (MT)	39	49	25,923	21,476	1	3	818	2,372
Other tobacco (MT)	3	2	47,514	33,452	0	0	8,624	1,386
Beverages, ex fruit juices (HL)	0	0	3,385,463	3,798,727	0	0	278,028	308,160
Wine (HL)	4,522	4,129	1,711,128	1,875,829	350	331	143,530	164,784
Malt beverages (HL)	16,681	19,180	1,494,788	1,712,416	1,324	1,459	121,832	129,840
Other beverages (HL)	0	0	179,547	210,482	0	0	12,665	13,535
Oilseeds & prods (MT)	3,963	4,199	2,242,127	2,210,602	423	368	202,219	185,262
Oilseeds & oilnuts (MT)	1,035	981	384,320	356,123	96	86	33,716	30,990
Flaxseed (MT)	224	171	64,262	49,050	20	6	5,520	1,651
Mustard seeds (MT)	59	55	24,622	20,430	3	3	1,363	1,307
Rapeseed (MT)	320	355	101,262	105,763	46	60	15,351	16,263
Sesameseed (MT)	43	47	44,403	52,464	4	6	4,091	6,843
Soybeans (MT)	259	149	78,143	42,621	14	2	3,478	484
Sunflower seeds (MT)	25	32	7,369	10,917	5	5	1,348	1,583
Other oilseeds & oilnuts (MT)	107	171	64,258	74,879	4	3	2,565	2,859
Oils & waxes-vegetable (MT)	1,880	1,949	1,669,507	1,680,120	217	167	150,703	140,035
Castor oil (MT)	41	48	30,639	36,709	3	5	2,505	4,602
Coconut oil (MT)	589	587	372,002	349,761	111	43	49,012	27,642
Cottonseed oil (MT)	0	12	110	7,540	0	0	16	0

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

Quantity and uni	January-December				December			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
Olive oil (MT)	163	165	431,647	346,624	12	15	28,676	29,556
Palm oil (MT)	135	116	58,869	56,411	12	16	5,763	8,184
Palm kernel oil (MT)	162	149	118,489	103,924	13	5	8,971	3,904
Peanut oil (MT)	7	30	6,476	28,056	0	5	101	3,852
Rapeseed oil (MT)	491	499	302,855	335,131	40	43	25,226	27,689
Soybean oil (MT)	28	29	17,666	19,797	3	2	2,171	1,449
Sesame oil (MT)	7	7	20,564	19,180	1	1	2,116	1,667
Other vegetable oils (MT)	258	305	310,189	376,988	22	33	26,145	31,490
Oilcake & meal (MT)	1,048	1,269	188,300	174,359	110	115	17,800	14,237
Cotton, excl linters (MT)	2	7	3,035	13,542	0	4	54	9,226
Cotton linters (MT)	15	8	16,756	4,083	1	1	1,458	311
Seeds - field & garden (MT)	224	271	371,348	424,826	13	19	31,006	29,918
Cut flowers (NA)	0	0	595,045	614,362	0	0	47,725	43,337
Nursery stock, bulbs, etc. (NA)	0	0	408,748	466,102	0	0	34,043	38,040
Other vegetable prods (MT)	0	0	302,661	358,268	0	0	24,345	29,817
Selected non-ag imports (NA)	0	0	14,820,521	15,495,510	0	0	1,374,600	1,277,724
Fertilizers (MT)	23,347	24,546	2,411,397	2,403,238	2,213	2,192	209,813	212,211
Potassium (MT)	9,127	9,277	613,300	769,853	937	823	69,603	70,459
Nitrogen (MT)	7,942	8,726	1,284,723	1,165,282	770	821	99,456	100,617
Phosphate (MT)	6,263	6,533	510,229	463,632	506	547	40,574	40,722
Fish (MT)	0	0	7,706,503	8,095,175	0	0	713,673	713,621
Fish fresh or prep (MT)	0	0	3,149,405	3,361,980	0	0	249,159	273,878
Shellfish (MT)	495	537	4,472,973	4,654,216	51	52	459,299	430,733
Fish prods, other (MT)	78	70	84,124	78,979	2	9	5,215	9,010
Aq chemicals (MT)	105	120	1,012,078	1,105,592	12	11	93,216	85,461
Fungicides (MT)	32	38	129,199	161,022	2	3	13,865	12,917
Herbicides (MT)	25	20	355,715	310,672	3	1	37,381	22,289
Insecticides (MT)	15	20	181,459	254,027	1	2	10,679	12,144
Other pesticides (MT)	34	41	345,705	379,870	6	5	31,290	38,111
Farm machinery (NA)	0	0	3,227,487	3,454,652	0	0	309,619	230,276
Tractors & self-prop mach (NO)	3,691	7,113	1,717,108	1,886,348	277	925	177,997	119,747
Other ag mach & parts (NA)	0	0	1,510,379	1,568,303	0	0	131,622	110,529
Tobacco - mfg (NA)	12	13	463,056	436,853	1	1	48,279	36,155

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

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

Item	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	%chnq	1997/98
Agricultural exports	4,859	4,671	4,827	51,829		-9
Imports (c.i.f.)	3,335	3,127	3,440	39,913		2
Imports (Customs value)	3,119	2,912	3,191	37,073		2
Trade Balance:						
Exports less c.i.f. imports	1,524	1,544	1,387	11,916		-34
Exports less Customs-valued imports	1,740	1,759	1,636	14,756		-30
Preliminary data						

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

Commodity group	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	%chnq
Total	4,859	4,671	4,827	51,829	-9
Live animals	99	94	95	678	-1
Meat & poultry	523	501	510	6,547	-7
Dairy prod & eggs	100	89	97	1,136	-1
Animal fats	54	48	62	664	18
Hides & skins	96	83	76	1,259	-24
Wheat	359	286	349	3,697	-10
Rice	149	16	86	1,208	30
Corn	378	415	486	4,382	-15
Other feed grains	32	46	44	610	-25
Animal feeds	327	314	318	4,056	-12
Soybeans	778	615	552	4,835	-34
Vegetable oils	179	186	254	2,239	27
Fruits & nuts	498	427	370	4,560	-7
Vegetables	379	375	377	4,222	2
Cotton & linters	92	260	329	2,563	-5
Tobacco, unmfq.	81	147	156	1,459	-6
Seeds & nursery	88	119	131	1,134	-3
Preliminary data					

Table 7--Top 10 U.S. agricultural export and import markets, calendar year 199

Exports	Imports
\$ billion	
Japan	9.1
European Union	7.9
Canada	7.0
Mexico	6.2
Korea	2.2
Taiwan	1.8
Hong Kong	1.5
China	1.3
Egypt	0.9
Russia	0.8
Canada	7.8
European Union	7.4
Mexico	4.7
Indonesia	1.4
Colombia	1.3
Brazil	1.2
Australia	1.1
New Zealand	1.0
Chile	0.8
Costa Rica	0.8
Preliminary data	

Table 6--U.S. agricultural imports, customs value (\$ mil)

Commodity group	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	%chnq
Total	3,119	2,912	3,191	37,073	2
Live animals	168	167	108	1,677	4
Meat & poultry	244	245	249	2,842	7
Dairy prod & eggs	147	138	166	1,479	19
Grains & feeds	27	21	31	294	-18
Fruits & nuts	193	199	254	3,014	3
Vegetables	167	200	252	4,375	18
Vegetable oils	1	0	5	37	20
Wine	150	123	130	1,712	15
Malt beverages	19	16	14	210	17
Coffee	226	219	278	3,431	-12
Cocoa	138	112	148	1,666	13
Rubber, natural	77	62	80	977	-21
Cane & beet sugar	5	5	5	81	-7
Tobacco, unmfq.	75	21	70	716	-30
Seeds & flowers	119	119	111	1,439	10
Preliminary data					