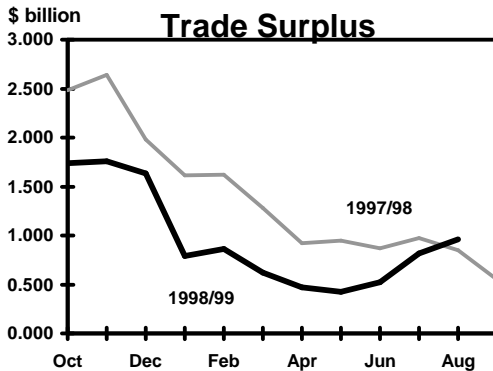


U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

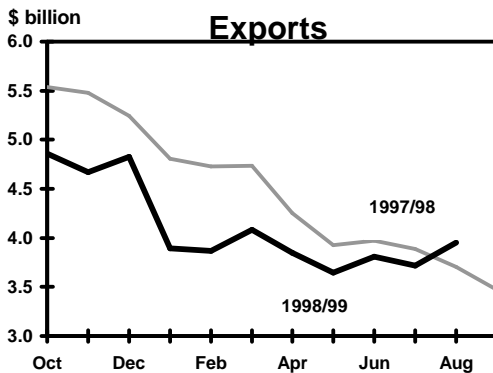
Economic Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

October 25, 1999



Summary-While U.S. agricultural exports increased \$231 million in August 1999 from July, the fiscal year-to-date value is still \$5.1 billion lower than in 1998. The August export value is the most since March 1999. Imports also increased \$91 million in August, bumping the fiscal year total up \$475 million over 1998. As a result, the U.S. agricultural trade surplus inched up in August, but remains \$5.6 billion below 1998's October-August total.

Exports-Bulk commodity exports in August rose \$45 million to almost \$4 billion, due mostly to export gains for soybeans. While the 11-month bulk value is still 13 percent lower than in 1998, the volume of bulk shipments is up 14 percent, a reflection of significantly lower export prices for bulk commodities in 1999, except for rice (see table 5). In cumulative value, only corn exports are ahead of last year.



Soybean shipments rose 50 percent in August from July 1999, up 501,000 metric tons, explained in part by reduced competition from Brazil. Nevertheless, the fiscal year value thus far is \$1.6 billion lower than in 1998. August shipments increased significantly to Mexico and Asia, primarily to China and South Korea. Over the fiscal year, shipments to world markets were lower, except to Central America, Russia, and Canada. While export prices for soybeans appear to have stopped falling, average export prices in 1999 are still 20 percent lower than last year.

Wheat exports in August were up \$5 million but lag fiscal 1998's cumulative value by more than \$100 million. Since volume shipments were down 110,000 metric tons in August, the gain in value is due to higher wheat prices. Export sales to the Middle East and to South Asia are both almost \$130 million lower in fiscal 1999 than in 1998. Low petroleum prices in the first half of 1999 are in part responsible for less demand from the Middle East. Volume shipments to Pakistan are significantly down in 1999 due to a bumper harvest there.



Cumulative exports of *corn* are up by more than \$600 million from 1998, but have fallen two months in a row. For fiscal 1999, lower corn export prices have been more than offset by a substantial increase in the volume shipped--36 percent higher thus far. Sales to Mexico, Latin America, South Korea, the Mid-

East, and Egypt account for much of the increased volume.

Cotton export value was down in August and cumulative sales of \$1.3 billion are about half their 1998 level. This will be the fourth consecutive year of falling U.S. export value for cotton. World cotton prices are at their lowest level since 1992. Volume shipments similarly lag 1998's shipments. Sales to Mexico, Latin America, the Mid-East, and Asia are considerably lower in 1999 than in 1998. Abundant world supplies of cotton have intensified competition for markets.

Despite a \$186-million gain in August, exports of *high-value products (HVP)* for the fiscal year are still behind 1998. Red meat and sugar led export gains in August. Japan's recovery has boosted demand for HVP. August gains for exports of animals and products (except poultry) more than offset lower sales of vegetables and fruits. U.S. export prices for HVP have also been lower this year than in 1998 except for fruits and nuts. Only vegetable exports are up in fiscal 1999 from 1998.

Imports-Fiscal-year gains in U.S. agricultural imports are attributed largely to higher demand for red meat, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, and beverages. Competitive imports have risen by \$1.5 billion, which is more than the \$1-billion decline in non-competitive imports (mostly tropical products) so far in 1999. Most competitive imports were from South America and the European Union, although most red meat came from Canada. [Andy Jerardo, 202-694-5323]

Agricultural prices stop falling-After reaching lows early in the summer, average world food export prices in August 1999 climbed back to last spring's level. While prices for agricultural raw materials and fertilizers remained weak, U.S. export prices for food recently inched up (see table 5). August prices for wheat, corn, soybeans, and cotton were higher than in the previous month. Rice and tobacco prices have also partially recovered from earlier lows. U.S. export prices for most high-value products gained late last summer. Renewed economic growth in Asia and Europe and a weaker dollar have begun to boost their demand for imports and stimulate prices.

Next Update: November 22, 1999

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

Quantity and unit	October-August				August			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Total agricultural exports (NA)	0	0	50,262,939	45,171,516	0	0	3,703,513	3,948,966
Animals & animal prods (NA)	0	0	10,291,497	9,129,496	0	0	858,460	862,359
Animals live - ex poultry (NA)	0	0	518,727	484,341	0	0	41,989	38,278
Cattle & calves - live (NO)	250	238	154,728	121,399	19	15	9,898	7,340
Horses, mules, burros-live (NO)	56	76	264,949	291,036	4	8	26,561	24,501
Swine - live (NO)	112	269	17,585	23,734	19	9	1,709	789
Sheep, live (NO)	1,099	413	46,987	16,286	28	19	1,223	721
Other live animals (NA)	0	0	34,478	31,885	0	0	2,597	4,926
Meats & meat prods (MT)	1,904	1,886	4,171,514	4,067,523	163	185	347,908	403,242
Beef & veal (MT)	648	699	2,197,601	2,287,410	61	67	186,416	230,289
Beef & veal - fr or froz (MT)	633	681	2,134,984	2,220,595	60	66	180,902	225,406
Beef - prep or pres (MT)	15	18	62,617	66,814	1	1	5,513	4,883
Horsemeat-fr, chill, froz (MT)	11	10	34,692	30,778	1	1	3,041	2,466
Lamb,mutton or goat-fr,ch,frz(MT)	2	3	6,129	7,381	0	0	403	449
Pork (MT)	365	352	993,769	892,580	32	34	80,332	88,157
Pork - fr or froz (MT)	324	317	886,825	804,875	28	30	71,185	79,262
Pork - prep or pres (MT)	41	35	106,944	87,705	4	4	9,148	8,894
Variety meats, edible offals (MT)	473	451	617,204	618,187	38	43	55,691	59,719
Other meats - fr or prep (MT)	405	372	322,119	231,188	30	40	22,026	22,162
Poultry & poultry prods (NA)	0	0	2,537,586	1,870,765	0	0	215,565	179,598
Poultry - live (NA)	52,848	52,485	108,171	102,666	4,196	4,157	7,571	8,026
Baby chicks (NO)	43,707	42,872	92,517	89,047	3,423	3,204	6,313	6,706
Other live poultry (NA)	9,141	9,614	15,654	13,619	772	954	1,258	1,320
Poultry meats (MT)	2,516	2,172	2,207,106	1,590,393	221	214	190,857	155,676
Chickens - fr or froz (MT)	2,222	1,958	1,760,933	1,259,552	198	195	156,948	125,517
Turkeys - fr or froz (MT)	187	140	209,512	149,731	15	13	17,486	14,012
Other poultry - fr or froz (MT)	6	6	10,478	9,689	1	0	1,077	376
Poultry meats-prep or pres(MT)	101	68	226,183	171,421	7	6	15,346	15,770
Feathers & downs, crude (MT)	3	3	18,073	13,225	0	1	867	1,406
Eggs (NA)	0	0	204,236	164,482	0	0	16,270	14,490
Dairy prods (NA)	0	0	845,728	820,104	0	0	63,089	73,113
Evap & condensed milk (MT)	8	4	7,536	3,359	1	0	1,292	118
Nonfat dry milk (MT)	79	86	135,762	120,520	6	14	9,534	18,197
Butter & anhyd milkfat (MT)	7	2	13,178	2,698	0	0	219	417
Cheese (MT)	34	34	112,523	113,268	3	3	9,187	11,406
Whey, fluid or dried (NA)	0	0	104,389	111,289	0	0	7,628	10,420
Other dairy prods (NA)	0	0	472,341	468,970	0	0	35,230	32,556
Fats, oils, & greases (MT)	1,241	1,308	600,044	527,020	142	99	62,753	37,281
Lard (MT)	67	70	33,525	33,546	6	8	2,568	3,753
Tallow - inedible (MT)	897	882	420,262	334,523	116	55	48,983	18,646
Other animal fats & oils (MT)	277	355	146,258	158,951	20	37	11,202	14,883
Hides & skins, incl furs (NA)	0	0	1,270,370	1,024,126	0	0	96,276	99,202
Bovine hides - whole (NO)	17,523	16,499	898,353	777,945	1,556	1,674	73,863	80,160
Other cattle hides - pieces (NA)	0	0	86,758	45,946	0	0	8,206	4,352
Calf skins, whole (PC)	1,785	1,377	35,183	26,872	36	111	817	1,801
Horse hides, whole (PC)	98	119	2,581	3,731	7	15	143	399
Sheep and lamb skins (PC)	0	0	23,827	7,262	0	0	1,676	928
Other hides & skins,ex furs(NA)	11,542	7,695	66,757	46,034	693	844	4,542	4,304
Furskins (NA)	0	0	156,911	116,337	0	0	7,029	7,259
Mink pelts (NO)	2,915	3,972	80,239	92,639	85	216	2,956	5,316
Other furskins (NA)	0	0	76,671	23,698	0	0	4,073	1,943
Wool & mohair (MT)	2	3	11,305	17,640	0	0	1,119	1,660
Sausage casings (MT)	15	19	56,161	61,960	2	2	4,946	5,588
Bull semen (NA)	0	0	62,696	56,093	0	0	5,568	4,892
Misc animal prods - other (NA)	0	0	217,364	199,923	0	0	19,246	19,502
Grains & feeds (MT)	79,975	95,281	12,933,385	13,093,407	7,853	9,329	1,118,512	1,196,222
Wheat, unmilled (MT)	23,335	26,331	3,458,321	3,345,252	2,630	2,898	334,542	354,955
Wheat flour (MT)	408	829	105,457	158,478	40	72	9,567	12,490
Bulqur wheat (MT)	3	15	531	2,577	0	2	19	216
Other wheat prods (MT)	72	78	70,810	75,675	8	9	6,848	7,555
Rice-paddy, milled, parb. (MT)	3,110	2,911	1,061,898	961,850	216	168	72,167	56,377
Feed grains & prods (MT)	40,940	52,857	4,835,497	5,301,420	3,838	5,195	397,688	489,236
Feed grains (MT)	40,390	52,227	4,655,655	5,105,985	3,781	5,132	378,557	470,095
Barley (MT)	952	530	130,201	64,837	95	88	12,087	9,789
Corn (MT)	34,517	47,048	3,965,576	4,597,540	3,484	4,679	345,770	427,971
Grain sorghums (MT)	4,890	4,625	555,866	440,573	198	363	20,267	32,127
Oats (MT)	29	23	3,856	2,937	3	2	424	191
Rye (MT)	2	1	157	98	0	0	9	17
Feed grain prods (MT)	550	630	179,842	195,434	57	63	19,131	19,141
Popcorn (MT)	92	88	63,284	55,541	8	8	4,873	5,081
Blended food prods (MT)	261	266	70,216	74,738	42	17	11,694	4,519
Other grain prods (MT)	907	958	1,025,554	1,032,489	102	93	96,912	95,727
Feeds & fodders, ex oilcake (MT)	10,845	10,948	2,241,817	2,085,388	970	867	184,203	170,067
Corn by-products (MT)	5,277	5,195	644,490	523,002	523	438	51,298	43,746
Alfalfa meal & cubes (MT)	242	252	39,898	36,705	24	28	3,681	3,532
Beet pulp (MT)	495	516	61,042	59,734	31	29	3,648	3,015
Citrus pulp pellets (MT)	662	586	43,231	49,664	2	2	393	306
Other feeds & fodders (MT)	4,169	4,399	1,453,156	1,416,284	389	370	125,183	119,467
Fruits & prep, ex juice (MT)	2,856	2,703	2,345,810	2,327,178	237	233	208,941	222,945
Fruits - fr (MT)	2,402	2,270	1,704,400	1,684,400	186	199	140,436	168,513
Fruits - fr - citrus (MT)	1,143	810	641,180	477,330	38	15	21,992	9,526
Grapefruit - fresh (MT)	384	423	187,918	218,389	6	2	3,563	1,353
Lemons & limes - fresh (MT)	113	113	83,170	77,519	6	6	4,103	3,922
Oranges & tangerines-fresh(MT)	645	272	368,886	179,502	26	7	14,278	4,240

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

Quantity and unit	October-August				August			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Other citrus - fresh (MT)	1	2	1,206	1,920	0	0	47	12
Fruits - fr - noncitrus (MT)	1,258	1,460	1,063,220	1,207,071	148	184	118,444	158,987
Apples - fresh (MT)	511	645	310,596	362,908	35	33	21,265	19,914
Berries - fresh (MT)	58	73	105,401	125,075	5	12	10,875	18,411
Cherries - fresh (MT)	37	41	113,294	153,569	1	1	2,248	4,540
Grapes - fresh (MT)	169	163	221,346	221,462	21	31	28,443	44,816
Melons - fresh (MT)	189	226	72,377	77,752	34	37	11,098	11,369
Peaches - fresh (MT)	63	79	59,615	75,597	22	29	17,914	26,062
Pears - fresh (MT)	146	132	80,273	77,799	9	13	5,403	6,820
Plums - fresh (MT)	38	47	36,959	44,849	17	23	15,621	21,410
Other noncitrus - fresh (MT)	48	55	63,358	68,060	5	5	5,576	5,644
Fruits - dried (MT)	203	185	354,934	354,101	20	13	34,630	27,823
Raisins - dried (MT)	110	95	182,444	179,492	11	7	18,926	13,826
Prunes - dried (MT)	64	63	121,114	123,831	6	4	10,703	9,076
Other dried fruits (MT)	30	27	51,376	50,778	3	2	5,002	4,921
Fruits - canned ex juice (MT)	130	138	129,986	133,976	11	9	12,304	9,773
Fruits - froz ex juice (MT)	46	41	59,602	60,581	13	5	12,571	7,109
Other fruits - prep or pres (MT)	76	69	96,890	94,121	7	7	9,000	9,728
Fruit juices incl froz (HL)	9,789	11,125	598,050	670,128	826	1,152	54,058	68,171
Apple juice (HL)	347	333	42,875	41,322	21	33	3,232	4,244
Grape juice (HL)	739	830	60,202	63,113	67	79	6,168	5,736
Grapefruit juice (HL)	621	824	43,218	48,459	66	90	4,163	4,024
Orange juice (HL)	5,091	4,926	269,099	275,891	390	502	23,355	25,988
Other fruit juices (HL)	2,991	4,213	182,656	241,342	283	448	17,140	28,179
Wine (HL)	2,280	2,279	442,330	455,939	219	276	43,706	52,848
Nuts & prep (MT)	519	474	1,317,535	1,160,104	40	35	120,835	82,126
Almonds (shelled basis) (MT)	187	175	710,378	627,165	21	14	83,096	45,653
Filberts (MT)	19	8	36,318	15,175	0	0	917	133
Peanuts, shelled or prep (MT)	184	168	187,857	172,453	12	14	13,312	13,931
Pistachios (MT)	33	25	137,437	93,462	2	2	7,973	5,776
Walnuts, shelled/unshelled (MT)	61	65	146,307	147,634	2	2	6,217	6,159
Pecans, shelled or unshelled (MT)	11	8	49,112	49,274	1	1	5,586	5,744
Other nuts, shelled or prep (MT)	23	25	50,127	54,941	1	2	3,734	4,729
Vegetables & prep (NA)	0	0	3,872,901	3,923,126	0	0	299,761	318,897
Vegetables - fresh (MT)	1,661	1,703	999,548	978,735	102	111	52,939	61,261
Asparagus - fresh (MT)	15	17	44,741	48,891	0	0	1,104	2,045
Broccoli - fresh (MT)	120	145	85,885	92,851	8	9	5,547	6,500
Carrots - fresh (MT)	108	115	55,428	63,222	5	5	2,791	3,114
Cabbage - fresh (MT)	41	40	20,104	15,567	1	2	578	682
Celery - fresh (MT)	116	118	46,408	40,042	5	7	1,803	2,601
Cauliflower - fresh (MT)	74	86	52,849	57,808	4	5	2,342	3,102
Corn, sweet - fresh (MT)	42	41	18,573	17,412	0	1	255	357
Cucumbers - fresh (MT)	22	23	12,300	12,497	0	1	141	413
Garlic - fresh (MT)	6	7	8,855	10,084	1	1	907	885
Lettuce - fresh (MT)	287	293	165,175	146,597	16	19	8,506	10,361
Mushrooms - fresh (MT)	5	6	17,182	14,108	0	0	245	818
Onions and shallots-fresh (MT)	198	191	75,215	68,316	20	16	6,679	5,096
Peppers - fresh (MT)	54	63	55,302	54,382	3	3	2,332	2,444
Potatoes - fresh (MT)	284	252	85,112	79,330	19	21	4,870	6,597
Tomatoes - fresh (MT)	124	137	115,059	118,345	11	12	7,451	9,008
Other fresh vegetables (MT)	163	167	141,361	139,285	8	8	7,391	7,237
Vegetables - froz (MT)	601	619	462,173	485,351	56	56	42,556	43,988
Corn, sweet, frozen (MT)	71	67	58,013	55,872	6	6	4,574	4,420
Potatoes - frozen (MT)	423	445	304,573	328,663	39	41	28,845	30,356
Other frozen vegetables (MT)	106	107	99,586	100,816	11	10	9,137	9,212
Vegetables - canned (MT)	405	363	325,743	306,531	32	29	26,482	24,211
Pulses (MT)	564	509	296,776	249,081	38	34	17,673	16,313
Dried beans (MT)	413	359	241,838	194,091	19	25	11,256	13,581
Dried peas (MT)	104	98	35,279	34,898	11	4	3,418	1,205
Dried lentils (MT)	46	52	19,659	20,092	8	4	2,999	1,527
Hops, incl hop ext (MT)	10	8	84,967	73,483	0	1	4,450	4,835
Other veg - prep or pres (NA)	0	0	1,703,695	1,829,946	0	0	155,661	168,289
Oilseeds & prods (MT)	34,705	30,838	10,544,364	7,885,487	1,337	2,122	449,918	671,335
Oilcake & meal (MT)	8,370	6,216	1,923,715	1,013,601	325	383	63,136	61,275
Bran, hulls, legum. veg. (MT)	316	436	26,307	33,228	29	34	1,744	2,906
Corn oilcake & meal (MT)	34	56	3,774	5,704	1	1	70	116
Soybean meal (MT)	7,875	5,522	1,870,679	946,006	293	338	60,665	56,692
Other oilcake & meal (MT)	146	202	22,954	28,663	3	10	658	1,561
Oilseeds (MT)	23,479	22,184	6,577,455	5,183,764	774	1,575	215,055	498,841
Rapeseed (MT)	121	185	33,326	44,714	9	9	2,241	2,331
Safflower seeds (MT)	32	35	13,095	11,016	0	5	34	2,258
Soybeans (MT)	22,636	21,055	5,947,854	4,372,063	723	1,503	171,091	284,585
Sunflowerseeds (MT)	133	201	90,429	105,946	8	15	6,383	7,154
Peanuts, incl oilstock (MT)	35	36	31,606	30,133	1	3	1,011	2,817
Other oilseeds (MT)	390	546	110,262	122,378	20	26	5,720	7,408
Protein substances (MT)	131	127	350,882	497,513	13	12	28,575	192,289
Vegetable oils (MT)	2,856	2,438	2,043,194	1,688,122	239	164	171,727	111,220
Soybean oil (MT)	1,346	988	850,050	566,505	143	41	88,363	20,218
Cottonseed oil (MT)	90	46	59,008	30,049	7	4	4,242	2,241
Sunflower oil (MT)	360	330	234,375	199,116	2	32	1,096	16,591
Corn oil (MT)	458	426	334,226	318,421	37	32	30,384	23,113
Peanut oil (MT)	5	4	5,657	4,264	0	0	349	269
Rapeseed oil (MT)	132	118	84,550	67,796	4	10	2,372	4,268
Safflower oil (MT)	34	39	41,010	39,097	3	1	3,779	954

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	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Other veg oils & waxes (MT)	431	486	434,318	462,874	43	44	41,142	43,565
Tobacco - unmfq (MT)	199	198	1,370,951	1,324,221	13	8	97,107	63,764
Tobacco - light air-cured (MT)	49	50	393,808	404,484	4	1	33,729	7,758
Tobacco - flue cured (MT)	103	101	734,794	694,003	6	4	43,212	28,390
Other tobacco - unmfq (MT)	47	47	242,348	225,734	3	3	20,166	27,616
Cotton, ex linters (MT)	1,491	852	2,420,153	1,264,779	88	55	136,199	73,875
Cotton linters (MT)	47	35	18,719	13,356	1	5	568	1,923
Essential oils (MT)	42	44	489,441	470,573	3	4	43,782	43,296
Seeds - field & garden (MT)	792	537	781,909	747,102	18	41	37,996	39,319
Sugar & tropical prods (NA)	0	0	1,325,071	1,313,848	0	0	116,993	127,010
Sugar & related prods (NA)	0	0	573,479	537,016	0	0	53,837	51,488
Sugar - cane or beet (MT)	112	144	44,077	51,341	7	11	3,065	3,933
Related sugar prods (NA)	0	0	529,402	485,675	0	0	50,772	47,555
Coffee (MT)	39	46	208,571	216,829	4	4	19,558	18,646
Cocoa (MT)	31	37	67,159	79,660	3	5	6,302	9,418
Chocolate & prep (MT)	98	90	303,770	271,966	8	10	22,319	29,822
Tea & mate (MT)	18	25	77,295	104,139	2	2	6,445	9,174
Spices (MT)	25	29	61,414	64,776	2	2	4,863	5,104
Rubber - crude natural (MT)	19	24	31,872	37,335	2	2	3,542	3,296
Fibers ex cotton (MT)	1	3	1,512	2,126	0	0	126	63
Other misc veg prods (MT)	0	0	413,519	378,305	0	0	27,510	30,617
Nursery & greenhouse prods (NA)	0	0	280,609	281,377	0	0	17,501	17,647
Beverages ex juices (NA)	0	0	816,697	733,090	0	0	71,667	76,612
Selected non-ag exports (NA)	0	0	15,145,701	13,640,186	0	0	1,373,085	1,225,515
Fertilizers (MT)	17	10	2,863,022	3,021,181	1	1	278,182	301,518
Nitrogen (MT)	9	5	2,846,684	3,010,858	0	1	277,090	300,788
Phosphate (MT)	8	5	16,338	10,322	1	0	1,092	729
Fish & shellfish (MT)	0	0	2,096,313	2,444,932	0	0	220,519	288,499
Fish - fr or prep (MT)	0	0	1,190,527	1,403,416	0	0	141,315	179,436
Shellfish (MT)	0	0	582,418	643,155	0	0	47,393	72,333
Other fish prods (MT)	230	211	323,369	398,361	22	29	31,811	36,730
Ag chemicals (MT)	305	295	1,801,542	1,628,224	29	24	150,692	148,678
Fungicides (MT)	32	34	196,075	176,394	4	2	22,344	14,277
Herbicides (MT)	155	136	901,604	766,618	15	13	66,229	70,714
Insecticides (MT)	59	65	393,456	422,448	5	5	37,920	33,083
Other pesticides (MT)	58	61	310,407	262,763	5	4	24,199	30,605
Farm machinery (NA)	0	0	3,711,405	2,851,648	0	0	277,515	204,582
Tractors & self-prop mach (NO)	55	41	1,666,558	1,100,984	3	2	116,770	66,248
Other ag machinery & parts (NA)	0	0	2,044,847	1,750,664	0	0	160,745	138,334
Tobacco - mfg (NA)	0	0	4,673,419	3,694,203	0	0	446,177	282,238

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

Table 2- Leading markets in fiscal 1998 and 1999 and August 1999

Wheat	metric tons			Corn	metric tons		
	Oct-Aug 1997/1998	Oct-Aug 1998/1999	Aug 1999		Oct-Aug 1997/1998	Oct-Aug 1998/1999	Aug 1999
Egypt	3,388,585	3,958,136	196,538	Japan	13,047,181	14,050,891	1,346,367
Japan	2,808,289	2,960,719	349,267	South Korea	3,296,722	6,254,565	611,522
South Korea	1,249,976	1,601,594	98,576	Mexico	3,886,775	4,901,122	349,020
Philippines	1,469,185	1,483,595	237,551	China (Taiwan)	3,356,746	4,191,337	378,584
Mexico	1,355,366	1,439,033	95,546	Egypt	1,591,689	2,799,558	306,776
European Union	1,009,675	1,222,841	127,453	Colombia	1,091,762	1,393,586	138,259
Russian Federation	56,780	1,100,802	336,000	Venezuela	602,562	1,239,667	111,911
Nigeria	812,822	1,095,317	121,036	Saudi Arabia	860,357	1,114,408	95,003
China (Taiwan)	886,276	825,529	69,849	Algeria	755,766	881,571	107,099
Israel	723,942	705,411	0	Canada	1,298,223	767,600	158,667
World	23,335,288	26,330,626	2,898,316	World	34,516,952	47,048,086	4,679,212
Soybeans	Oct-Aug 1997/1998	Oct-Aug 1998/1999	Aug 1999	Cotton	Oct-Aug 1997/1998	Oct-Aug 1998/1999	Aug 1999
European Union	7,669,917	5,731,147	51,268	Mexico	302,881	259,270	20,015
Japan	3,338,446	3,482,057	208,144	Japan	138,626	82,669	4,391
Mexico	2,896,560	3,016,708	313,117	South Korea	153,498	68,632	4,324
China (Taiwan)	1,555,243	1,887,494	136,066	Hong Kong	32,783	56,209	2,857
China (Mainland)	1,585,593	1,484,678	233,531	China (Taiwan)	75,113	55,918	3,599
South Korea	1,064,073	1,246,562	166,549	Canada	58,138	55,201	2,921
Indonesia	765,817	840,816	58,061	Indonesia	93,741	49,467	5,881
Thailand	453,304	651,505	57,749	European Union	62,372	33,393	1,237
Israel	382,795	496,218	54,237	Turkey	129,949	24,194	3,344
Malaysia	261,087	254,270	40,671	Guatemala	26,775	21,225	255
World	22,636,019	21,054,988	1,502,886	World	1,490,844	852,474	55,234

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

Quantity and unit	October-August				August			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Total agricultural imports (NA)	0	0	34,088,234	34,563,257	0	0	2,856,524	2,989,587
Noncompetitive ag imports (NA)	0	0	8,548,582	7,506,424	0	0	691,388	645,697
Bananas & plantains (MT)	3,845	4,032	1,111,578	1,114,956	382	402	114,696	106,785
Coffee, incl prods (MT)	1,068	1,199	3,372,671	2,779,097	93	107	231,683	225,839
Cocoa & prods (MT)	803	797	1,557,536	1,417,930	62	62	122,661	106,699
Tea (MT)	143	143	240,961	225,363	14	16	22,864	22,228
Spices (MT)	137	151	418,313	463,624	13	15	36,993	44,201
Rubber & allied gums-crude(MT)	1,036	1,056	934,849	684,876	103	115	82,827	68,759
Silk - raw (MT)	0	0	408	497	0	0	1	61
Wool, unmfq - carpet (MT)	12	12	30,746	24,521	1	1	2,835	2,205
Fibers, excl cotton (MT)	95	92	41,863	38,436	10	9	4,108	4,030
Essential oils (NA)	0	0	338,840	303,530	0	0	33,810	24,290
Drugs - crude natural (MT)	74	61	500,817	453,593	5	5	38,910	40,600
Competitive ag imports (NA)	0	0	25,539,652	27,056,833	0	0	2,165,137	2,343,890
Animals & prods (NA)	0	0	6,246,702	6,451,969	0	0	578,611	597,031
Animals-live, ex poultry (NO)	0	0	1,520,413	1,319,722	0	0	133,821	112,667
Cattle and calves (NO)	1,897	1,780	1,040,843	927,109	133	107	98,454	73,202
Horses, mules, burros (NO)	39	29	154,908	177,590	2	2	10,872	16,954
Swine (NO)	3,701	3,684	296,520	178,223	342	366	22,441	20,261
Sheep, live (NO)	49	47	6,076	4,493	3	3	267	278
Other live animals (NO)	0	0	22,066	32,307	0	0	1,786	1,972
Meats & prods, ex poultry (MT)	0	0	2,493,525	2,813,601	0	0	234,439	274,289
Beef & veal (MT)	787	863	1,617,596	1,859,053	75	84	153,339	189,071
Beef & veal - fr or froz (MT)	730	788	1,427,325	1,630,020	69	77	132,136	169,485
Beef & veal - prep or pres (MT)	57	75	190,271	229,032	6	7	21,204	19,586
Pork (MT)	245	308	627,396	658,190	25	29	60,784	64,041
Pork - fr or froz (MT)	183	237	409,550	437,941	19	23	39,694	45,247
Pork - prep or pres (MT)	62	71	217,846	220,249	6	6	21,091	18,794
Mutton, goat & lamb (MT)	43	47	148,002	168,722	3	3	11,257	10,645
Mutton goat & lamb-fr/frz (MT)	2	23	7,756	118,958	2	1	7,756	7,487
Horsemeat - fr or froz (MT)	0	0	30	25	0	0	7	5
Variety meats - fr or froz (MT)	40	48	58,628	73,364	4	5	6,232	8,417
Other meats - fr or froz (MT)	2	3	15,442	20,527	0	0	737	678
Other meats & prods (MT)	9	11	26,431	33,721	1	1	2,082	1,433
Poultry and prods (NA)	0	0	191,493	183,281	0	0	17,943	18,021
Poultry - live (NA)	10,836	10,176	19,749	17,199	1,016	799	2,000	1,572
Poultry meat (MT)	7	11	23,625	32,458	1	1	2,485	3,220
Eggs (NA)	0	0	13,964	17,538	0	0	1,092	2,046
Feathers & down - crude (MT)	24	23	134,155	116,086	2	2	12,365	11,184
Dairy products (NA)	0	0	1,248,396	1,438,907	0	0	130,289	132,498
Milk & cream, fr or dried (MT)	0	0	28,565	43,647	0	0	2,011	3,466
Butter & butterfat mixtures (MT)	25	29	48,358	57,349	6	4	10,786	6,368
Cheese (MT)	141	177	535,424	653,874	15	18	53,584	59,600
Casein & mixtures (MT)	101	98	422,040	380,488	10	10	43,464	34,608
Other dairy prods (NA)	0	0	214,009	303,549	0	0	20,444	28,455
Fats, oils, & greases (MT)	73	82	54,677	58,260	7	12	5,041	7,604
Hides & skins (NA)	0	0	173,471	137,087	0	0	9,399	8,922
Sheep & lamb skins (MT)	2	1	7,501	4,206	0	0	296	521
Other hides & skins (NA)	0	0	97,806	84,876	0	0	8,192	7,749
Furskins (NA)	4,768	5,126	68,163	48,005	128	433	911	652
Wool-unmfa, apparel grade(MT)	31	16	115,975	47,334	1	1	3,949	1,861
Sausage casings (MT)	14	13	71,830	66,170	1	1	6,940	5,000
Bull semen (NA)	0	0	10,019	17,602	0	0	1,232	2,886
Misc animal prods (NA)	0	0	366,902	370,005	0	0	35,561	33,282
Grains & feeds (MT)	0	0	2,655,347	2,677,315	0	0	239,009	260,448
Wheat, ex seed (MT)	1,872	2,226	287,367	278,261	183	223	20,357	26,485
Corn, unmilled (MT)	114	375	15,386	37,390	13	12	1,542	1,368
Oats, unmilled (MT)	1,573	1,355	173,688	117,306	228	149	19,938	12,229
Barley, unmilled (MT)	723	585	97,600	71,063	17	38	1,845	4,778
Rice (MT)	265	313	174,558	170,830	19	19	13,507	10,892
Biscuits & wafers (MT)	280	323	631,680	725,937	27	35	65,929	81,741
Pasta & noodles (MT)	287	268	264,382	258,110	29	23	25,220	22,029
Other grains & preps (NA)	0	0	542,401	590,054	0	0	53,574	53,597
Feeds & fodders, ex oilcake(MT)	1,236	1,093	468,284	428,365	82	106	37,097	47,330
Fruits & preps (MT)	3,048	3,385	2,029,467	2,584,934	158	170	123,947	143,504
Fruits - fr or froz (MT)	2,491	2,727	1,475,314	1,938,554	114	121	79,811	92,174
Apples, fresh (MT)	151	152	74,703	106,811	10	11	5,665	7,660
Avocados (MT)	29	52	31,413	55,880	5	2	5,182	2,636
Berries, excl strawberries (MT)	53	71	73,099	120,682	8	15	12,377	22,677
Citrus, fresh (MT)	257	324	129,027	200,234	35	28	24,234	18,505
Grapes, fresh (MT)	417	383	439,636	544,543	1	0	119	111
Kiwi fruit, fresh (MT)	37	43	26,492	37,895	6	2	5,001	2,372
Mangoes (MT)	190	217	126,067	142,601	18	20	11,422	12,222
Melons (MT)	862	875	252,683	280,624	0	0	163	318
Peaches (MT)	34	49	26,524	43,977	0	0	153	94
Pears (MT)	67	87	45,792	72,342	0	0	58	136
Pineapples, fresh/frozen (MT)	236	251	78,157	115,199	22	27	7,805	14,071
Plums (MT)	19	28	17,715	26,857	0	0	29	38
Strawberries, fresh or froz (MT)	50	82	87,001	99,465	1	1	738	991
Other fruits, fresh or froz (MT)	89	111	67,005	91,444	8	12	6,865	10,344
Fruits - prep or pres (MT)	557	658	554,153	646,380	45	49	44,136	51,329
Pineapples - can. or prep.(MT)	237	305	172,442	225,987	19	24	13,388	17,462
Other fruits - prep or pres (MT)	320	353	381,711	420,394	26	25	30,748	33,867
Fruit juices (HL)	24,755	29,039	624,447	709,373	2,026	2,843	51,521	63,067
Apple juice (HL)	9,352	10,582	214,076	194,949	758	807	15,051	15,579
Grape juice (HL)	1,225	1,377	54,624	63,571	56	180	2,829	6,616
Grapefruit juice (HL)	7	7	416	433	0	1	45	51

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

Quantity and unit	October-August				August			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Lemon juice (HL)	392	393	7,405	5,796	45	39	901	440
Lime juice (HL)	156	167	3,350	4,476	10	20	326	430
Orange juice (HL)	9,997	12,133	195,834	265,444	849	1,388	19,687	25,918
Pineapple juice (HL)	2,235	2,633	68,421	79,363	171	256	4,957	6,721
Other fruit juice (HL)	1,391	1,748	80,322	95,341	136	153	7,725	7,312
Nuts & preps (MT)	215	208	587,524	634,641	20	19	57,028	68,768
Brazil nuts (MT)	10	7	23,297	17,530	1	1	1,607	2,105
Cashew nuts (MT)	68	62	309,594	341,980	8	7	38,631	46,011
Chestnuts (MT)	4	5	11,178	11,549	0	0	118	125
Coconut meat (MT)	70	66	58,637	61,191	8	6	6,669	6,692
Filberts (MT)	4	6	19,041	23,325	0	0	1,020	1,540
Macademia nuts (MT)	3	4	25,885	27,557	0	0	2,639	2,923
Pecans (MT)	23	28	66,964	83,143	1	1	2,937	3,527
Pistachio nuts (MT)	0	0	1,227	2,078	0	0	27	16
Other nuts (MT)	33	31	71,700	66,289	2	3	3,380	5,829
Vegetables & preps (NA)	0	0	3,971,833	4,218,154	0	0	266,285	290,898
Vegetables - fr or froz (MT)	3,583	3,490	2,419,057	2,418,755	185	211	132,336	148,780
Tomatoes (MT)	822	680	704,480	674,791	43	38	37,495	35,501
Asparagus, fresh or frozen(MT)	44	55	84,102	98,987	3	5	5,183	8,328
Beans, fresh or frozen (MT)	27	31	30,728	35,638	2	3	1,857	3,041
Cabbage (MT)	46	28	12,959	6,785	4	5	1,185	1,488
Carrots, fresh or frozen (MT)	90	83	24,677	26,038	6	7	2,010	2,073
Cauliflower & broccoli, fr/fz(MT)	212	237	129,016	154,862	17	17	11,546	10,977
Celery, fresh (MT)	43	41	10,933	9,583	1	1	208	387
Cucumbers (MT)	322	328	151,255	134,225	10	12	4,556	5,312
Eggplant (MT)	38	33	30,043	22,122	0	0	73	114
Endive, fresh (MT)	3	2	5,467	5,848	0	0	318	312
Garlic (MT)	29	45	34,585	49,552	2	1	2,446	1,360
Lettuce (MT)	23	22	13,706	11,169	3	3	1,414	1,576
Okra, fresh or frozen (MT)	23	22	10,874	11,351	1	2	400	622
Onions (MT)	251	235	149,695	130,404	9	11	5,058	6,914
Peas, incl chickpeas (MT)	36	38	42,860	43,974	3	2	3,332	1,943
Peppers (MT)	292	317	322,784	303,726	22	27	19,791	21,243
Potatoes, fresh or frozen (MT)	803	782	306,337	331,207	30	47	15,218	27,979
Radishes, fresh (MT)	16	15	11,806	12,156	0	1	271	596
Squash (MT)	155	150	103,876	99,845	2	2	906	928
Other vegs - fr or froz (MT)	305	346	238,874	256,493	26	26	19,071	18,087
Vegetables-prep/pres (NA)	0	0	1,552,777	1,799,399	0	0	133,949	142,118
Bamboo shoots, presvd.(MT)	26	25	20,256	17,973	4	2	2,857	1,288
Bean cake, miso (MT)	6	6	16,463	12,581	1	1	971	1,140
Cucumbers, preserved (MT)	37	47	19,997	26,222	3	3	1,931	2,126
Garlic, dried (MT)	11	45	4,424	30,231	2	1	676	618
Olives - prep or pres (MT)	78	82	165,251	181,709	7	7	15,227	16,105
Mushrooms, canned (MT)	59	45	99,090	91,599	3	4	5,254	8,709
Mushrooms, dried (MT)	2	2	17,524	17,515	0	0	949	1,340
Onions, preserved (MT)	2	2	3,610	3,453	0	0	252	285
Hops, incl extract (MT)	5	5	30,168	29,691	0	0	43	22
Artichokes - prep (MT)	35	33	65,194	71,915	3	4	6,370	9,734
Asparagus - prep (MT)	1	1	1,835	1,820	0	0	240	282
Tomatoes, in. paste/sauce(MT)	97	161	81,160	149,515	8	6	6,914	5,260
Waterchestnuts (MT)	32	33	19,516	21,373	3	2	1,995	1,380
Beans & peas, dried (MT)	58	65	34,824	38,307	4	5	2,639	3,014
Mustard (MT)	14	15	16,013	17,331	2	1	1,606	1,237
Peppers & pimentos, prep (MT)	18	22	21,487	28,081	2	2	2,058	3,061
Soy sauce (MT)	35	41	35,990	42,065	3	3	3,083	2,908
Starches, ex. wheat & corn (MT)	146	139	98,992	83,743	10	9	6,817	5,339
Soups & sauces (MT)	107	150	205,512	248,441	9	11	17,890	19,235
Vinegar (HL)	276	288	35,400	36,616	27	33	3,527	4,037
Yeasts (MT)	49	50	54,058	59,765	5	5	5,182	5,315
Oth. vegetables-prep/pres (NA)	0	0	506,011	589,450	0	0	47,467	49,684
Sugar & related prods (NA)	0	0	1,469,360	1,417,399	0	0	150,579	148,698
Sugar - cane & beet (MT)	1,841	1,525	636,934	533,732	168	143	71,303	56,174
Molasses (HL)	9,463	8,341	74,849	53,506	275	847	3,147	3,903
Confectionery prods (MT)	232	270	543,333	618,581	25	31	56,422	67,109
Oth. sugar & related prods (MT)	387	435	214,244	211,581	37	50	19,707	21,512
Spices (MT)	33	40	48,018	58,749	3	3	3,747	4,426
Tobacco - unmfq (MT)	218	197	756,967	674,693	23	18	76,450	54,548
Tobacco - filler (MT)	174	161	698,178	630,674	18	16	70,581	52,570
Tobacco - scrap (MT)	42	33	17,601	15,995	5	2	2,117	686
Other tobacco (MT)	2	3	41,188	28,024	0	0	3,751	1,293
Beverages, ex fruit juices (HL)	0	0	3,385,220	3,897,388	0	0	323,832	391,254
Wine (HL)	3,950	3,765	1,682,206	1,939,470	314	360	146,803	197,651
Malt beverages (HL)	16,943	19,159	1,517,922	1,721,503	1,753	1,829	155,979	164,449
Other beverages (HL)	0	0	185,091	236,415	0	0	21,050	29,154
Oilseeds & prods (MT)	3,934	3,617	2,042,271	1,877,908	265	324	155,382	161,905
Oilseeds & oilnuts (MT)	974	958	353,088	312,429	35	102	13,535	23,235
Flaxseed (MT)	210	165	60,453	39,399	6	11	1,729	2,441
Mustard seeds (MT)	56	46	20,769	16,089	4	3	1,327	1,029
Rapeseed (MT)	357	276	111,290	75,568	2	6	604	1,433
Sesameseed (MT)	42	41	45,437	48,224	3	3	3,135	4,031
Soybeans (MT)	135	82	38,596	21,380	12	7	3,029	1,206
Sunflower seeds (MT)	28	31	9,083	9,488	1	2	358	466
Other oilseeds & oilnuts (MT)	146	316	67,461	102,281	8	71	3,353	12,628
Oils & waxes-vegetable (MT)	1,796	1,618	1,516,337	1,431,008	139	150	129,082	128,800
Castor oil (MT)	44	33	32,621	27,546	8	0	5,723	15
Coconut oil (MT)	572	336	309,335	233,087	25	23	17,298	19,223
Cottonseed oil (MT)	0	17	56	10,670	0	0	0	4

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

Quantity and unit	October-August				August			
	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Olive oil (MT)	151	160	334,791	327,715	15	12	30,008	27,852
Palm oil (MT)	105	121	47,512	61,950	4	9	1,942	3,467
Palm kernel oil (MT)	145	152	98,586	110,202	13	27	9,397	19,072
Peanut oil (MT)	8	20	8,351	17,450	5	4	4,516	3,074
Rapeseed oil (MT)	467	456	312,251	271,540	41	41	26,817	20,494
Soybean oil (MT)	25	35	16,670	20,677	2	3	1,049	1,630
Sesame oil (MT)	7	7	18,338	19,630	0	1	1,216	1,894
Other vegetable oils (MT)	273	281	337,826	330,540	27	29	31,117	32,074
Oilcake & meal (MT)	1,164	1,041	172,846	134,471	92	72	12,766	9,871
Cotton, excl linters (MT)	3	104	3,283	138,846	0	8	0	8,623
Cotton linters (MT)	7	29	7,421	6,266	0	1	111	264
Seeds - field & garden (MT)	246	335	397,999	428,141	12	27	24,441	24,955
Cut flowers (NA)	0	0	592,944	538,748	0	0	29,696	37,933
Nursery stock, bulbs, etc. (NA)	0	0	401,934	447,882	0	0	56,489	62,101
Other vegetable prods (MT)	0	0	318,915	294,428	0	0	28,008	25,468
Selected non-ag imports (NA)	0	0	14,616,640	13,899,974	0	0	1,238,197	1,305,569
Fertilizers (MT)	22,818	21,591	2,229,009	2,106,178	1,811	1,821	179,200	187,807
Potassium (MT)	8,993	7,800	700,055	672,796	772	766	62,848	62,605
Nitrogen (MT)	7,627	8,373	1,066,210	1,026,175	542	643	82,843	87,824
Phosphate (MT)	6,189	5,408	459,155	400,875	496	411	33,232	36,816
Fish (MT)	0	0	7,545,551	7,671,355	0	0	724,870	817,754
Fish fresh or prep (MT)	0	0	3,053,393	3,340,418	0	0	291,203	317,378
Shellfish (MT)	491	515	4,422,239	4,262,649	48	59	429,798	496,457
Fish prods, other (MT)	59	52	69,918	68,288	3	2	3,869	3,919
Aq chemicals (MT)	116	116	1,056,102	953,771	6	7	45,134	43,109
Fungicides (MT)	34	39	143,348	197,474	3	2	7,269	6,918
Herbicides (MT)	22	18	311,432	258,294	1	1	10,244	11,465
Insecticides (MT)	19	21	250,261	190,522	1	1	13,944	7,738
Other pesticides (MT)	41	38	351,061	307,481	2	2	13,678	16,988
Farm machinery (NA)	0	0	3,341,905	2,825,825	0	0	250,735	219,480
Tractors & self-prop mach (NO)	5,093	7,974	1,830,282	1,397,089	558	733	128,269	89,869
Other ag mach & parts (NA)	0	0	1,511,622	1,428,736	0	0	122,466	129,611
Tobacco - mfg (NA)	13	13	444,074	342,845	1	2	38,258	37,419

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	July	August	Year to date	% Change
Exports	3,718	3,949	45,172	-10
Imports (c.i.f.)	3,113	3,206	37,246	11
Imports (customs value)	2,899	2,990	34,563	1
Trade Balance:				
Exports less c.i.f. imports	605	743	7,926	-52
Exports less customs-val. imports	819	959	10,608	-34
Exports by major commodity group (million \$)				
Live animals	32	46	587	-6
Meat & poultry	549	559	5,658	-11
Dairy prod & eggs	83	88	985	-6
Hides & skins	94	99	1,024	-19
Wheat	350	355	3,345	-3
Rice	66	56	962	-9
Corn	444	428	4,598	16
Other feed grains	41	42	508	-26
Animal feeds	243	231	3,099	-26
Soybeans	197	285	4,372	-26
Vegetable oils	110	111	1,688	-17
Fruits & nuts	378	373	4,157	-2
Vegetables	334	319	3,923	1
Cotton & linters	100	76	1,278	-48
Tobacco, unmfq.	63	64	1,324	-3
Seeds & nursery	57	57	1,028	-3
Imports customs value by major commodity group (million \$)				
Live animals	79	114	1,337	-13
Meat & poultry	278	278	2,846	13
Dairy prod. & eggs	143	135	1,456	15
Grains & feeds	244	270	2,812	-1
Fruits & nuts	404	382	5,044	16
Vegetables	313	291	4,218	6
Vegetable oils	138	129	1,431	-6
Wine	170	198	1,939	15
Malt beverages	196	164	1,722	13
Coffee	219	226	2,779	-18
Cocoa	115	107	1,418	-9
Rubber, natural	47	69	685	-27
Cane & beet sugar	36	56	534	-16
Tobacco, unmfq.	24	55	675	-11
Seeds & flowers	79	125	1,415	2

Table 5--Agricultural export prices

Item	1998	July 99	Aug 99
1995=100			
World food	87.5	68.4	73.5
Aq. raw mat.	75.9	78.9	76.1
Fertilizers	118.2	113.2	112.4
U.S. export prices			
Aq. foods	92.8	85.0	87.0
Wheat	71.3	58.2	63.0
Corn	82.3	67.7	70.0
Soybeans	94.7	70.6	77.4
Rice	114.6	122.7	122.7
Cotton	71.1	51.2	53.4
Tobacco	126.2	118.0	118.0
Meat, poultry	91.4	94.8	99.1
Hides, skins	84.1	80.2	84.2
Fats, oils	103.2	76.6	76.0
Animal feeds	83.2	72.1	74.9
Vegetables	104.5	96.7	99.5
Fruits, nuts	94.1	100.8	95.3

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, IMF International Financial Statistics