



United States
Department
of Agriculture

FAU-105

Sept. 14, 2005



Electronic Outlook Report from the Economic Research Service

www.ers.usda.gov

U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

Nora Brooks, coordinator

U.S. Agricultural Trade Surplus Returns in July

Websites

[U.S. Trade Data](#)
[FAQ & Summary Data](#)
[Articles on U.S. Trade](#)

The next release is
October 14, 2005

Approved by the World
Agricultural Outlook
Board.

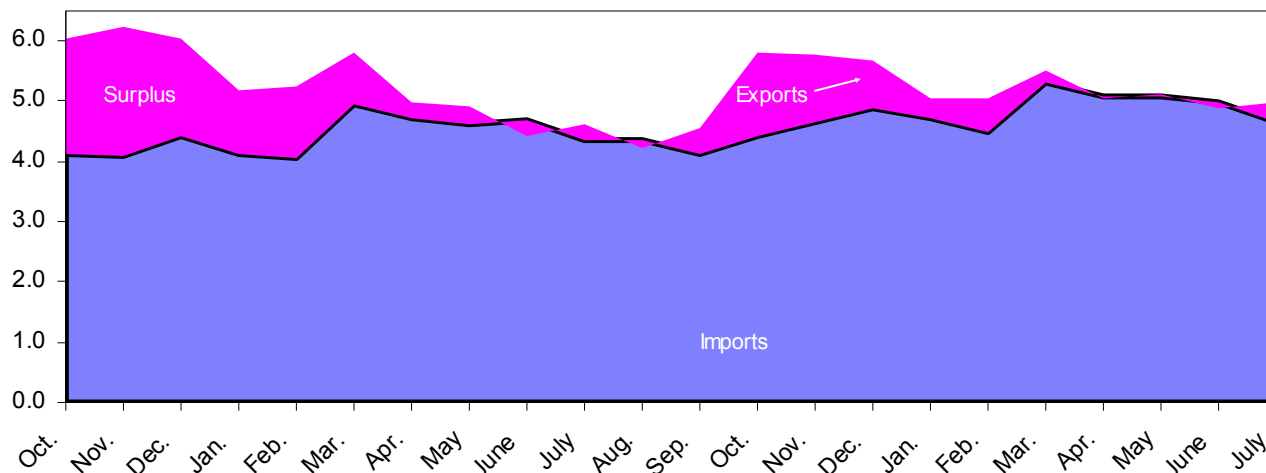
U.S. agricultural trade posted a surplus of \$342 million in July. The value of agricultural exports rose about \$100 million from June to July, while the value of agricultural imports fell by over \$300 million. For the fiscal year-to-date, the surplus is running about half the fiscal 2004 level. For the first 9 months of fiscal 2005, U.S. agricultural exports are down 1 percent from the same period in 2004; imports are up 9 percent.

Heavy shipments of cotton in July boosted the value of cotton exports by 73 percent over June. So far this fiscal year, the volume of cotton shipped to Thailand, Taiwan, and South Korea has more than doubled, although China remains the top importer of U.S. cotton. Exports of live animals also rose 64 percent from June to July and some 22 percent so far this fiscal year. Year-to-date imports of dairy products, coffee, fruits, juices, and nuts are ahead of the fiscal 2004 pace; their monthly imports have slowed.

Figure 1

Monthly U.S. agricultural trade, fiscal years 2004 and 2005

Billion dollars



Sources: Economic Research Service, USDA and Census Bureau, U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

Table 1--U.S. agricultural trade, year-to-date and current months

Item	June	July	Change	Oct.-July		Change
	2005	2005	July>June	2004	2005	'05>'04
	--Million dollars--		Percent	--Million dollars--		Percent
Agricultural exports	4,885	4,984	2	53,544	52,954	-1
Imports (c.i.f.)	5,309	4,957	-7	47,407	51,781	9
Imports (customs value)	4,978	4,642	-7	44,183	48,233	9
Trade balance						
Exports minus c.i.f. imports	-424	27	-106	6,138	1,173	-81
Exports minus customs-valued imports	-94	342	-464	9,362	4,721	-50
Exports by major commodity group						
Live animals	19	31	64	395	483	22
Red meats & products	380	352	-7	3,135	3,456	10
Poultry meats & products	240	263	9	1,997	2,358	18
Dairy products	131	132	1	1,041	1,461	40
Hides & skins	159	146	-8	1,496	1,444	-4
Animal fats & other products	79	73	-8	743	697	-6
Wheat	272	390	43	4,143	3,443	-17
Rice	109	100	-9	1,060	1,054	-1
Corn	425	399	-6	5,070	3,963	-22
Other feed grains	37	46	24	534	488	-9
Other grain products	237	229	-3	1,976	2,110	7
Animal feeds & oil meal	332	324	-2	3,346	3,357	0
Soybeans	266	161	-40	7,058	6,579	-7
Other oilseeds	81	70	-13	777	838	8
Vegetable oils	127	119	-6	1,305	1,425	9
Fruits, nuts, & products	526	495	-6	4,346	4,920	13
Vegetables & products	504	454	-10	4,406	4,705	7
Juice, wine, & beverages	186	190	2	1,737	1,789	3
Cotton & linters	355	614	73	4,288	3,440	-20
Tobacco, unmanufactured	46	31	-33	893	884	-1
Sugar & tropical products	180	170	-5	1,558	1,717	10
Other	193	195	1	2,240	2,344	5
Total exports	4,885	4,984	2	53,544	52,954	-1
Imports (customs value) by major commodity group						
Live animals	93	93	0	1,145	1,226	7
Red meats & products	549	484	-12	4,603	4,803	4
Poultry meats & products	32	29	-11	301	290	-4
Dairy products	213	209	-2	1,928	2,201	14
Other animal products	78	72	-8	658	731	11
Grains, feeds, & oil meal	389	370	-5	3,711	3,784	2
Fruits, juices, & nuts	718	580	-19	5,806	6,791	17
Vegetables & preparations	581	518	-11	5,897	6,454	9
Oilseeds	34	32	-4	299	324	9
Vegetable oils	245	210	-14	1,814	1,943	7
Wine	314	311	-1	2,772	3,038	10
Malt beverages	297	266	-10	2,333	2,436	4
Coffee	300	264	-12	1,811	2,384	32
Cocoa	197	191	-3	2,155	2,211	3
Rubber, natural	129	107	-17	1,115	1,233	11
Sugar, cane & beet	44	80	82	465	512	10
Sugar products	144	125	-13	1,272	1,298	2
Tobacco, unmanufactured	24	143	489	663	555	-16
Other	597	559	-6	5,435	6,019	11
Total imports	4,978	4,642	-7	44,183	48,233	9

Preliminary data.

Sources: Economic Research Service, USDA and Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 2--Top 10 U.S. export markets for wheat, corn, soybeans, and cotton,
October-July 2004 and 2005 and July 2005

Commodity	Oct.-July 2004	Oct.-July 2005	July 2005
	Metric tons		
Wheat			
Japan	2,553,302	2,418,434	316,834
Mexico	2,348,404	2,351,574	254,472
Nigeria	1,827,439	2,235,439	364,117
Philippines	938,067	1,384,748	109,456
Egypt	2,786,817	1,145,018	178,500
South Korea	1,240,903	1,026,848	110,230
European Union-25 1/	1,034,790	923,425	126,752
China (Taiwan)	856,661	845,947	87,913
China (Mainland)	1,614,725	717,299	97,811
Venezuela	461,070	711,038	75,171
World	25,096,162	21,391,453	2,450,280
Corn			
Japan	12,690,864	12,805,321	1,041,793
Mexico	5,042,656	5,059,165	303,987
China (Taiwan)	3,985,454	3,617,445	302,781
Egypt	2,548,362	3,107,075	612,185
Canada	1,425,608	1,865,278	127,481
Colombia	1,515,150	1,745,465	203,212
South Korea	2,971,939	1,493,426	264,957
Syria	625,358	1,115,110	200,163
Dominican Republic	764,672	824,967	75,025
Algeria	1,014,685	792,868	59,712
World	40,655,124	38,106,959	3,656,299
Soybeans			
China (Mainland)	8,127,772	10,907,772	21
European Union-25 1/	2,899,800	4,460,896	92
Mexico	2,768,332	2,958,526	241,123
Japan	3,039,037	2,628,027	156,182
China (Taiwan)	1,188,560	1,537,432	38,872
Indonesia	1,003,822	965,446	4,203
South Korea	1,017,317	648,708	26,249
Thailand	378,483	550,988	15
Turkey	254,322	453,159	0
Canada	505,145	308,288	6,199
World	22,908,909	27,901,205	544,700
Cotton			
China (Mainland)	1,057,905	876,432	276,099
Turkey	282,800	413,975	69,856
Mexico	312,990	308,461	65,526
Indonesia	171,306	230,674	26,855
Thailand	103,360	176,235	13,464
China (Taiwan)	76,979	145,398	21,675
South Korea	87,052	133,069	10,203
Pakistan	124,942	132,720	3,765
Japan	52,180	59,365	4,834
Canada	55,031	54,584	7,234
World	2,780,262	2,952,452	548,793

1/ European Union-25 includes the former EU-15 plus 10 new countries which acceded in May 2004.

Sources: Economic Research Service, USDA and Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Contacts and Links

Contact Information

Nora Brooks

202-694-5211

nbrooks@ers.usda.gov

Alberto Jerardo

202-694-5266

ajerardo@ers.usda.gov

Subscription Information

Subscribe to ERS' e-mail notification service at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/updates/> to receive timely notification of newsletter availability. Printed copies can be purchased from the USDA Order Desk by calling 1-800-999-6779.

Data

Monthly and year-to-date U.S. agricultural trade (FATUS and HTS) data are on USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service web site <http://www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade/>. Click on FATUS imports or FATUS exports.

Summary FATUS data tables and frequently asked questions and answers are at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/fatus>.

Related Websites

Articles and general information about U.S. agricultural trade are at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/agtrade>.

Information on specific agricultural commodities, exchange rates, macroeconomics, WTO, and trade-related topics are in other ERS briefing rooms at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/>.

The Foreign Agriculture Service of USDA provides additional information on U.S. agricultural trade policy (<http://www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade.asp>), import programs (<http://www.fas.usda.gov/importprograms.asp>), and exporter services (http://www.fas.usda.gov/agx/exporter_assistance.asp).

U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC), <http://dataweb.usitc.gov/>, is the source for U.S. HTS trade data by Customs District and month. USITC also provides information on U.S. tariffs and the U.S. HTS import classifications.

Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, <http://www.census.gov/ftp/pub/foreign-trade/www/>, provides a description of and guide to total U.S. trade, as well as the U.S. HTS export classifications (Schedule B), and much other information about U.S. trade data.

Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, <http://www.ustr.gov/>, provides information on U.S. trade negotiations and enforcement issues.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, <http://www.fao.org/>, provides global agricultural trade by country.

World Trade Organization, <http://www.wto.org/>, provides information on international trade and regulations.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.