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THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

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Review of 1973 and Outlook for 1974

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ABSTRACT

Western Hemisphere agricultural production recovered in 1973 from adverse conditions of a year earlier. Agricultural trade continued up to record values due to advancing world prices, increased exports, and larger imports needed to fill deficits from 1972 food production in many Latin American countries. U.S. agricultural exports to Hemisphere countries increased from the 1972 record of \$1.7 billion to \$2.7 billion in 1973; but the outlook is for some decline in 1974.

Key Words: Agricultural production, agricultural trade, Western Hemisphere, Canada, Mexico, Caribbean, Central America, South America.

FOREWORD

This annual review of the Agricultural Situation in the Western Hemisphere supplements the 1973 World Agricultural Situation, WAS-4. Other regional reviews are being published for Western Europe, the USSR, Communist Asia, Africa and West Asia, and the Far East and Oceania.

This report omits the agricultural situation of the United States. Western Hemisphere, as used in the report, refers to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean Islands including Cuba, Central America, and South America. Gross national product is abbreviated to GNP. Unless otherwise specified, all years are calendar years. Because of recent revisions, data in the report may sometimes differ from those used in the World Agricultural Situation, and occasionally from the Indices of Agricultural Production, ERS-Foreign 264. Howard L. Hall directed and coordinated preparation of the report. Country statements were prepared by Frank D. Barlow, Linda A. Bernstein, John E. Link, Edmond Missiaen, Samuel O. Ruff, and Omero Sabatini.

U.S. agricultural attaches in the Western Hemisphere countries provided commodity estimates and much of the background information used through their annual situation and commodity reports.

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SUMMARY

Agricultural output of the Western Hemisphere returned to near-record levels in 1973 and agricultural trade rose sharply because of higher world prices, larger exports, and from the need for imports to fill large food deficits in many Latin American countries. Changes in trade were reflected in U.S. agricultural imports from the region, which increased from a 1972 value of \$2.9 billion to \$3.5 billion in 1973, and a rise in U.S. agricultural exports from \$1.7 billion to \$2.7 billion.

Canada's economic growth was almost 7 percent in 1973 compared with 5.8 percent in 1972. Real GNP growth, estimated for 22 Latin American countries, trended up advancing from a 1972 average of nearly 7 percent to more than 7.5 percent. Growth exceeded the previous year's high rates in Brazil and Mexico and advanced sharply in Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Venezuela, but was lower in Jamaica, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay, and Chile.

Hemisphere foreign exchange reserves for December 1973 were up more than 25 percent from the 1972 record of \$16 billion, due to sharp build-ups in Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, and most Central American countries. Chile continued a sharp draw-down on reserves. Reserves fell off slightly in Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Guyana.

Advancing import costs added to inflation in most countries. Rates more than doubled in Canada, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, throughout the Caribbean, and in most Central American countries. The cost-of-living rises continued with rates ranging from more than 50 percent in Argentina and Uruguay and to nearly 600 percent in Chile.

The improved Hemisphere agricultural situation reflected a general recovery in grains, oilseeds, and other food crops which offset a sharp drop in coffee and limited expansion in output of livestock products. Canada's farm output increased moderately in 1973 from the reduced 1972 level. Improved growing conditions also resulted in a significant recovery of agriculture in Latin America; the region's total farm output exceeded previous records, contributing to a 4 percent rise in the per capita index of food production.

Western Hemisphere wheat production recovered in 1973, rising to 28 million tons, the highest volume since 1969.¹ Canadian production was up more than 2.5 million tons although still below peaks of earlier years. Recovery in Mexico and Brazil was largely offset by smaller harvests in Argentina, Chile, and some other South American countries. Hemisphere wheat exports increased moderately in 1973 because of larger supplies available from Argentina's November 1972 harvest. Due to lower 1972 production and rebuilding of low stocks in other Latin American countries, imports for 1973 exceeded the 1972 record of 7.5 million tons by more than 30 percent.

The Hemisphere's production of feedgrains rose to peak levels in 1973 as Latin American harvests of corn and sorghum recovered and rose to a record volume near 45 million tons, up 45 percent from 1972. Recovery permitted Argentina to increase exports from its April-May crops with a further rise anticipated in 1974. Hemisphere imports of feedgrains rose sharply above the 1972 record to fill deficits from reduced crops harvested in late 1972, particularly in Mexico and Central America. Due to larger 1973 harvests in those countries, Latin American imports may drop sharply in 1974.

Canada's rapeseed production continued to decline in 1973. Latin America's output of cottonseed, peanuts, and sunflower was near the previous year. Soybeans trended up sharply in Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina, and Hemisphere production was estimated up 32 percent to 6.2 million tons. Brazilian production of 4.8 million tons provided a larger surplus of seed and meal for export. However, larger imports of oilseeds and oilseed products were needed to meet requirements for fats and oilmeals in other Latin American countries.

There was little change in the Hemisphere output of livestock products in 1973. A slight decline in beef was largely offset by a rise in pork and milk production. Meat and cattle exports were below 1972 because of higher consumption in Argentina and restrictions imposed to maintain domestic supplies

¹All tons in this report are metric.

particularly in Brazil and Mexico. Growing demand contributed to sharp price rises for meat and dairy products in most Hemisphere countries. It also continued to encourage growth in broiler production to supplement limited supplies of other meat in Latin America.

Latin America coffee production fell sharply to an estimated 2.4 million tons in 1973 because of 1972 frost damage in Brazil. Coffee exports expanded slightly to 2.2 million tons as many countries drew down on stocks. Cotton production and exports were near 1972 levels with increases in Central America largely offset by reductions in Mexico, Brazil, and other important producing countries. Recent advances in world prices are expected to stimulate a rise in the region's cotton production and exports during 1974.

Latin America's sugar production and exports expanded sharply in 1973. Output of 23 million tons was well above previous records. The Cuban harvest recovered and production in Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, and Central America continued to rise. Banana production and exports in Central America and Ecuador also maintained a rising trend in response to favorable prices.

Larger Hemisphere exports of sugar, bananas, grains, and soybeans were supplemented by higher prices for most exports in 1973. Agricultural imports were also up sharply from the 1972 record as countries increased purchases of grains, fats and oils, and animal products in face of advancing prices. These changes were reflected in U.S. trade with

Hemisphere countries, which rose to an alltime high during 1973.

U.S. agricultural imports from Canada increased nearly 50 percent to \$527 million in 1973. Imports from Latin America were up 20 percent to \$3 billion with major gains for Mexico, Central America, Colombia, and Brazil, despite some fall-off in imports of cattle. The increase in U.S. imports from Latin America mainly represented larger values for sugar, coffee, bananas, and winter vegetables.

U.S. agricultural exports to Canada were up in value by 23 percent to \$1.03 billion in 1973. However, the major gain was in Latin America where exports nearly doubled to \$1.7 billion due to the sharp expansion in wheat, feedgrains, oilseeds, and oilseed products. Mexico maintained its position as the largest U.S. market in Latin America, as sales doubled to reach \$362 million. Grain accounted for sharp increases in trade with Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Central America, and Peru. Venezuela and the Caribbean continued to provide a diversified and growing U.S. market for grains, feeds, and processed agricultural products.

The value of U.S. agricultural exports to the Western Hemisphere is expected to decline in 1974, the magnitude depending somewhat on price trends. Wheat exports may be near the 1973 level due to a continuing rise in demand and a reduction in quantities available from Argentina. However, record feedgrain and oilseed crops, harvested in late 1973 reduced Mexican and Central American needs for U.S. imports. (Howard L. Hall)

CANADA

Situation in 1973

By and large the Canadian economy and its agricultural sector continued to prosper in 1973, with incomes in agriculture rising substantially faster than incomes in other sectors of the economy.

Inflation gained momentum during 1973, and the economic upswing which began about 3 years ago came to a virtual halt in the third quarter, mainly as a result of labor disputes and transportation strikes. However, economic activity picked up in later months and by year's end, in addition to an upsurge in farm incomes, Canada could also point to a real rate of growth in the gross national product (GNP) higher than in 1972, an increase in the foreign trade surplus, and a modest drop in the rate of unemployment from an average 6.3 percent in 1972 to 5.6 percent in 1973.

The 1973 GNP is estimated at about C\$117 billion, up nearly 7 percent in real terms compared with less than 6 percent in 1972. Personal expenditures for goods and services contributed strongly to the buoyancy of the economy and to the accompanying rise in employment.

A steep climb in farm operating costs and depreciation charges (19 percent) was easily offset by an even faster advance in farm prices. Although the index of farm production rose by only 5 percent—with output of the livestock sector being below the 1972 level—the realized net farm income increased 39 percent at current prices, reaching nearly C\$3 billion. Total net farm income, which includes the value of changes in inventories, was up a staggering 80 percent—to about C\$3.37 billion. By comparison, the GNP deflator increased by 6 percent and the consumer price index by less than 8 percent. Food prices advanced 14.6 percent.

Total 1973 exports reached a new high of C\$25.2 billion, resulting in a trade surplus of C\$1.87 billion—C\$478 million more than in 1972. Gains in the value of exports of wheat and rapeseed made an important contribution to the overall export growth. Farm exports were estimated to be in excess of C\$2.7 billion, compared with C\$2.1 billion in 1972.

Wheat strengthened its dominant position in relation to other crops in 1973 (see appendix tables). Farmers reacted to strong world demand and high prices by

expanding the area in wheat from 21.4 million acres in 1972 to 24.8 million acres in 1973. Production jumped from 14.5 million tons to 17.1 million tons.²

There was no large-scale diversion of land from feedgrain and oilseeds to wheat. Partly because of lower yields, barley production—at 10.3 million tons—was nearly 1 million tons less than a year earlier, but 57 percent higher than the previous 10-year average. Rapeseed pretty much held its own. The area in oats and flaxseed actually increased, due in part to the strengthening of prices for the two crops.

In spite of the 18 percent increase in wheat production in 1973, Canada began the current 1973/74 (August-July) marketing year with supplies lower than at the start of 1972/73. In 1972/73 exports of wheat were a record 15.7 million metric tons, or 1.2 million tons more than output. High exports contributed to the reduction of stocks during 1972/73 from 15.9 million metric tons to less than 10 million tons. Exports of wheat during the current 1973/74 year are not officially expected to exceed 13.6 million tons (500 million bushels).

Internal transportation difficulties, together with external transportation problems connected with the world energy crisis, have been hindering movement of grain to export points and from there to final destinations. Strained transportation facilities are widely regarded as one of the major hinderances to the smooth marketing of Canadian farm products, but by and large in the past Canada has succeeded in surmounting the obstacles created by the transportation system and most likely will do so again.

Part of the decline in export sales of wheat has been attributed by some to the Canadian Wheat Board's decision to virtually hold back sales of wheat during some months this past winter, in order to obtain higher prices later in the marketing year. Apparently, the high asking price for Canadian wheat caused some of Canada's potential customers to look for alternate sources of supply.

Thus far in the current marketing year, both wheat exports and farmers' deliveries to the Wheat Board have lagged considerably behind last year's, but both may pick up. Unless they do, Canada will find it impossible to reach the export level of 13.6 million tons.

²The 1973 situation and 1974 outlook for Canadian agriculture and virtually every farm product are reviewed and analyzed in depth in two publications of the Economics Branch of Canada's Department of Agriculture: *Situation/Outlook 74* (262 pp.); and *Proceedings 1974* (126 pp.). These papers were prepared in connection with the Canadian Agricultural Outlook Conference held in Ottawa in January 1974. See also: "Canada's Farm Analysts Predict Strong Demand—With Few If's—by Eugene T. Olson, U.S. Agricultural Attache, Ottawa, in *Foreign Agriculture*, March 4, 1974.

Some wheat sales have been made to the United States. At the end of March, verified exports amounted to about 3 million bushels of soft white spring wheat. Total quantities exported to the United States during the remainder of this crop year are almost certain to be a rather small percentage of total Canadian wheat exports.

Feedgrain production totaled 20.5 million tons in 1973, down from 21.0 million tons a year earlier. With stocks also down at the start of the year, domestic feedgrain supplies will be about 1.5 million tons lower during the current marketing year. It is anticipated that with some further reduction in stocks, barley exports could reach 3.3 million tons by the end of July 1974, down somewhat from 1972/73.

Although feedgrain supplies are down, amounts fed to livestock this year are expected to be higher than 1973. This will be made possible partly by a further reduction in stocks and partly through imports of corn from the United States. Some observers anticipate that imports of corn from the United States will about double this year and total as much as 1.6 million tons. The anticipated increase in the amount of feedgrain fed to livestock reflects increases in prices for high-protein feeds and in livestock numbers.

Supplies of rapeseed, flaxseed, and sunflowerseed were below 1972/73 levels, but soybean production was up 6 percent in 1973. Rapeseed stocks were down to 456,000 tons on July 31, 1973. With production at 1.2 million tons, exports in the current crop year are not likely to exceed 950,000 tons, compared with 1.2 million tons a year earlier. Output of flaxseed increased from 448,000 to 493,000 tons, but 1973/74 supplies of 692,000 tons are 19 percent below the amount available last year.

Soybean meal and oil production declined in 1972/73 and a slight decline may occur again this year. Soybean imports, which come almost exclusively from the United States, are also expected to decline somewhat during the current crop year.

In 1973 the beef cattle sector was characterized by decreased slaughter, higher prices, and market fluctuations and disruptions. As shown in the appendix tables, production of beef was down somewhat. Imports and exports of cattle were up sharply.

Canadian cattle prices closely follow those in the United States, within ranges determined by transportation costs, duties, and rates of exchange. While prices of Canadian feeder cattle were quite high in 1973, they were below U.S. levels, and an increase in Canadian exports resulted. Feeder cattle sales to the United States rose from about 52,000 head in 1972 to more than 128,000 in 1973. These exports may be in part responsible for the high level of Canadian imports of fed cattle from the United States. Live imports of U.S. slaughter cattle totaled

208,539 head in 1973, compared with 64,003 head in 1972. The heaviest export movement of feeder cattle occurred in the first part of 1973, while imports of fed cattle were heaviest in the second half.

Beef imports declined to an estimated 200 million pounds in 1973, from 214 million pounds a year earlier. Purchases from the United States were up, while imports from Oceania decreased. Beef exports were also down—by 6 percent to an estimated 87 million pounds. As in previous years, the major portion of exports went to the United States.

Canada is traditionally a net exporter of pork. A drop in domestic slaughter of hogs from 10.6 million in 1972 to 10.2 million in 1973 and higher exports to Japan made it necessary to increase imports of pork from the United States in 1973 in order to maintain adequate domestic supplies. The trade surplus dropped from more than 70 million pounds in 1972 to about 60 million pounds in 1973.

Milk production was down in 1973 as a result of declines in the number of dairy cows and yields per cows. Sales of fluid milk and cream for fresh consumption increased but milk available for dairy factory products declined sharply. Output of creamery butter, cheddar cheese, evaporated whole milk, and nonfat dry milk declined. Exports of ceddar cheese declined, but foreign sales of nonfat dry milk increased sharply. Butter imports rose substantially.

Production changes were relatively minor in the poultry and egg sector, but prices were markedly higher. Domestic disappearance of poultry meat increased by about 2 percent. Production and domestic disappearance of eggs were down.

Outlook for 1974

The general outlook for 1974 is for greater growth of farm production and income, but a slowdown in the rate of increase of the overall economy. Inflation is not expected to abate significantly, but prospects are fairly good that food prices may rise at a slower pace than in 1973, largely because of the anticipated increase in farm production.

The Economic Council of Canada, in its Tenth Annual Review, issued in 1973, had anticipated that through 1976 the annual rate of growth of agricultural output would be 3.5 percent, or somewhat higher than in 1968-72. The Council has now revised its estimate of agricultural growth to 5.6 percent per year, partly because it believes that world demand for food and feed will continue strong in the years immediately ahead, thus enabling Canadian farmers to expand their output profitably.

The energy crisis is expected to have only a relatively minor impact on Canadian agriculture. Some dislocation of supplies may occur, especially in the east, but in general fuel, electricity, and fertilizer are in abundant supply in the Prairies, Canada's principal farm region.

Prices of these and other inputs will go up. Nevertheless, the Government anticipates that this year's rise in farm operating expenses and depreciation charges will be considerably lower than in 1973, largely because the cost of commercially purchased feed—which in 1973 rose by 58 percent—may weaken. In any case the cost of feed is not expected to increase as much as it did last year. Statistics Canada forecasts that in 1974 net farm income will reach a new alltime high of C\$4.6 billion, for an increase of 54 percent.

Most Canadian experts are also generally confident that the country's overall economy will not experience severe disruption as a result of the energy crisis. There is, however, some concern over the possibility that a deterioration of economic conditions in the United States and the rest of the world will slow down the real rate of growth of the Canadian economy in 1974, resulting in lower exports and consumer expenditures, and probably in a higher unemployment rate.

Before the start of the energy crisis, real economic growth for 1974 had been forecast at about 5 to 5.5 percent. Because of the crisis most economists have trimmed their estimates of real growth for 1974. Some believe that it will not exceed 3.5 percent, but the Economic Council of Canada forecasts a 5 percent increase.

At the January 1974 Agricultural Outlook Conference, Canada Agriculture—the new name by which the Federal Department of Agriculture is generally known—provided the following forecast of crop acreage in the Prairies for 1974 together with estimates of the area that ideally should be planted to each crop on the basis of anticipated market demand:

Item	1973 planted area	1974 Forecasts	
		Probable	Indicated by market expectations
	<i>Million acres</i>	<i>Million acres</i>	<i>Million acres</i>
Fallow	25.5	21.5	18.0
Wheat	24.2	28.0	28.0
Oats	5.3	5.0	5.0
Barley	11.35	11.5	13.0
Rye	0.6	0.6	0.6
Mixed grains	0.9	0.9	0.9
Flaxseed	1.45	2.0	2.0
Rapeseed	3.15	3-3.25	4.5-5.0
Tame hay and pasture	12.15	13.0	13.5
Miscellaneous crops ..	1.0	1.0	1.0
Total	86.2	86.5	86.5

The 1974 forecast of planted area in the east was as follows, in thousands of acres, with the 1973 planted area in parentheses: wheat, 490 (445); barley, 465 (438); oats, 1,375 (1,328); rye, 50 (50); mixed grains,

1,075 (1,089); corn, 1,350 (1,270); soybeans, 475 (470); total, 5,280 (5,090).

Canadian Government economists believe that the forecast increase of about 4 million acres in wheat would be in keeping with expected export demand, domestic requirements, and the current relatively low stocks. Some concern has been expressed that because the price of wheat is good, farmers will not heed the Government's advice to maintain the area in barley and rapeseed at least at the 1973 level, while at the same time expanding the area in wheat. This would be accomplished mainly by taking area out of fallow, rather than diverting the cropland from feedgrains and oilseeds to wheat.

Farmers have been advised to watch the report on planting intentions.³ If that report should indicate plantings of about 30 million acres in wheat, then farmers should seriously consider planting more barley. Canadian farmers have again been reminded by their Government that, while taking advantage of the strong wheat market, they should also gear up to remain in the feedgrain and oilseed markets.

Canadian Government economists stress that over time producers who decide to continue with barley production can expect to benefit from consistent growth in the world market for feedgrains, as it appears likely that the world demand for livestock will bring about a more favorable price for barley in relation to wheat. In the long run, Canadian production and exports of feedgrains are expected to expand.

Prices of Canadian rapeseed may be somewhat lower in 1974/75, because of increasing world supplies of oilseeds. Unless Canadian production of rapeseed rebounds, Canada will not be able to maintain exports at the level of the past 3 or 4 years.

In the livestock sector, total cattle and calf slaughter could increase to 4 million head in 1974, which would be 2.5 percent above 1973. The increase in slaughter numbers should result from an anticipated increase in the slaughter of beef cows and heifers which in recent years have been retained on the farm to build herds. A corresponding increase in beef production should take place.

Per capita consumption of beef could be maintained at 1973 levels, or could be increased if consumers begin to accept high prices. Per capita consumption of beef began to decline in 1973 because of rising prices. As the price of pork rose along with that of beef, consumers did not switch from beef to pork.

Lower pork output is forecast in the first half of 1974; during these 6 months slaughter may average 3 to 5 percent below the first half of 1973. In the second half of 1974 hog slaughter will be determined by the

size of the 1974 spring pig crop, which is likely to be below that of 1973.

Milk production may increase 3 percent, to about 17.4 billion pounds. If total milk production reaches that level, butter production is likely to exceed the 1973 output by approximately 10 million pounds. Although per capita and total consumption of butter are forecast to continue downward, imports may again be necessary in spite of the anticipated increase in production. If imports of butter are needed, they are likely to be considerably below those of 1973.

Marketings of broilers are expected to be about 1 to 3 percent greater than in 1973. From the estimated number of layers on farms at the start of 1974 (26.5 million) it would appear that marketings of eggs will be in excess of domestic disappearance. Steps are being taken to bring supplies in line with effective demand.

Agricultural Policies

The uncertainty and unpredictability of market conditions which have characterized the agricultural sector in the past several months and are expected to continue for a while longer appear to have strengthened Canada's determination to step up its efforts toward the achievement of the basic long-term aim of its agricultural policy: price and income stabilization without carrying stabilization to the point where it would become impossible to react to changing world market conditions. According to the Federal Minister of Agriculture, the need for stability in agriculture "is greater today than at any time in recent history."

Achievement of order and stability in the livestock and grain sectors—through the assurance of reasonable returns to feedgrain growers and equitable basic prices of feedgrain to livestock producers in all regions of the country—is one of the pivotal objectives of the Government's agricultural policy. In August 1973 the Government announced a new two-part feedgrain program: a temporary program for this marketing year only and a permanent one which is expected to be formulated in consultation with all interested parties and is to become effective beginning in the 1974/75 marketing year.

The main features of the program for this year are (1) a feedgrain purchase and storage program under which an agency of the Federal Government purchases any amount of feedgrains offered for sale at pre-announced prices which are above the Wheat Board's initial payment, but below the anticipated total price paid by the Wheat Board; (2) the Wheat Board's basing of prices for feedgrain sold by it to Canadian buyers in the east and British Columbia on going off-Board prices within the Prairies (since the Federal Government stands ready to purchase any

³Released by Agriculture Canada on April 5, not available when report was written.

quantities offered by the Prairie farmers, the price paid by the government acts as a floor, below which the off-Board price cannot fall); and (3) removal of boundary restrictions among the three Prairie provinces, thus allowing feedgrain to move freely within that region.

The main Government proposals for the long-term feedgrain policy are (1) retention by the Wheat Board of control over all movements of grain out of the Prairies and over export grain (2) additional cash advances to producers, a permanent grain bank, and producer price guarantees above the Wheat Board's initial payment (3) permanent elimination of boundary restrictions within the Prairies (4) modification of feed freight assistance to ensure equity between rates on meat or animals and grains and (5) opening up the Prairie grain market to eastern buyers, all of whom will be licensed and supervised by the Canadian Livestock Feed Board.

Opponents of the new feedgrain program maintain that the new system, by reducing the role of the Wheat Board over grain marketing, will actually weaken the orderly marketing process. Western livestock producers also appear to fear that they may be put at a disadvantage in relation to eastern producers.

In the egg and poultry sector the goal of achieving stability of incomes is being sought through supply-management programs administered by the newly established Canadian Egg Marketing Agency and the Canadian Turkey Marketing Agency. The former began operations last June. The latter held its first meeting in January 1974. A national broiler marketing agency may be established in 1974.

Measures taken by the Government during 1973 to

slow down the increase in food prices include the granting of a subsidy on fluid milk, which resulted in a 5 cent per quart reduction in the retail price; and setting a ceiling on the price paid to producers for wheat used for food domestically. The ceilings were set at C\$5.00 per bushel for bread wheat and C\$7.00 for durum. However, while setting maximum prices for these wheats, the Government also agreed to guarantee for 7 years a minimum farm price of C\$3.25 per bushel for wheat used as food in Canada.

Also to help combat high prices in February 1973 the government announced the suspension for 1 year of certain duties on numerous products including a wide range of agricultural commodities. The duty on some commodities was reimposed before the year was over. For other commodities the tariff cut has been extended to June 1974. In the case of cattle and beef, the duty which had been suspended in February 1973 was reintroduced in September; an additional surtax on imports of beef and cattle was introduced in November. The surtax has since been removed, but apparently there is still some concern among Canadian cattle producers over the level of cattle imports from the United States. On March 15, the government announced a temporary subsidy of 7¢ per pound on slaughtered cattle, to assist Canadian cattle men through a period in which U.S. prices are lower than Canadian prices. The government granted this subsidy instead of raising import duties in order to prevent a further increase in the consumer price of beef.

Temporary export restriction imposed in the second half of 1973 on numerous products including all oilseeds, oilseed cake and meal, as well as beef and pork have also been removed. (Omero Sabatini)

MEXICO

The Mexican economy continued a strong rise in 1973. Real GNP growth was almost 8.5 percent compared with 7.5 percent in 1972 and 3.8 percent in 1971. Increased consumer spending and public investment stimulated manufacturing and construction and recovery of agriculture contributed to increased exports. However, a late-year economic slowdown associated with Government efforts to reduce inflation indicates a possible decline in the real growth rate during 1974.

Growing import demand, particularly for capital goods, increased Mexico's trade deficit to a record \$1.3 billion during January-October 1973, and significantly reduced foreign exchange reserves near midyear. Later improvement in trade and tourism and inflows of capital contributed to a recovery and year-end reserves were estimated \$150 to \$200 million above 1972. However, growing demand and rising import costs increased pressure upon domestic prices and the wholesale price index moved upward at a

monthly rate of 1.6 percent, double the 1972 rise. Concern with inflation led the Government to initiate fiscal and monetary policies aimed at reducing the upward pressure upon prices late in the year.

Agricultural output recovered, rising to a level 6 percent above 1972 and 3 percent above the 1971 record as heavy midyear rains broke the severe drought and filled most irrigation reservoirs. Major gains were in yields of late harvested grains, oilseeds, and other food crops which raised total crop production above trends of recent years. Livestock output increased 3.8 percent maintaining the rising trend, estimated near 3.5 percent annually from 1968 to 1972.

Higher support prices encouraged an expansion in the area planted to 1973 grain crops to peak levels near 10.5 million hectares. Increased area and yields accounted for a recovery in wheat which increased 18 percent to 2 million tons, only 9 percent below the 1969 high. With sharp recovery in area and yields,

corn production equaled the alltime record of 9.2 million tons. Sorghum production was near a record for recent years despite a serious harvest loss from tropical rains in the northeastern state of Tamaulipas. Area and yields of rice and oats were higher in 1973. The bean harvest recovered to a normal level due to improved moisture.

Soybean production increased sharply again, as high prices stimulated its expansion as a double crop with wheat in irrigated areas of Sonora and Sinaloa. Production of 510,000 tons exceeded the 1972 record by more than one-third. The sesameseed crop remained near last year's level. However, cottonseed production fell sharply and safflowerseed continued to decline in face of competition from other crops. Total oilseeds continued a downtrend with 1973 production about 4 percent below the 1972 level of 1.6 million tons.

Following a recovery in 1972 area, cotton plantings declined in 1973 due to a shift to wheat-soybeans in the irrigated areas of the North Pacific states. Production of 345,000 tons represented declines of 12 percent from 1972 and over 30 percent from peak levels of the early 1960's.

The harvested area for sugarcane increased for the second year in response to advancing prices. Higher yields also helped expand sugar production to a record high near 2.8 million tons, raw basis. However, the harvested area for tomatoes and some other winter vegetable crops declined and a smaller coffee crop was harvested in 1973.

Cattle numbers on January 1 were 2 percent above 1972. Rising domestic prices and reduced cattle export quotas encouraged a 6 percent rise in 1973 slaughter, with a 9 percent increase in beef production as a higher percentage of the slaughter cattle came off improved pastures in the Gulf area. Pork and poultry production, however, declined as producers rebuilt numbers reduced by unusually heavy 1972 slaughter. Estimated milk production was slightly above the trend for recent years.

Mexico's agricultural exports continued to increase in 1973, rising 21 percent above 1972 due to very favorable prices and to increased volume of some commodities. Agricultural imports were estimated to be 35 percent above the previous year's record due to continuing shortages of important products, particularly grains and oilseeds. Changes were reflected in trade with the United States, which takes three-fourths of Mexico's agricultural exports and supplies 80 percent of its imports of farm products. U.S. agricultural imports from Mexico rose from a 1972 record of \$590 million to \$742 million in 1973, and U.S. farm exports to Mexico doubled the 1972 high, rising to \$362 million.

Shipments of cotton, Mexico's principal agricultural export, declined in 1973 with lower volume largely offset by higher prices. Japan and

Europe were important markets. Exports are expected to continue at reduced levels in 1974, with some anticipated rise in production offset by higher mill consumption for domestic use and export.

Important trade gains were in traditional exports moving to U.S. markets. U.S. imports of coffee were up 45 percent to 103,000 tons (\$128 million) as Mexico took advantage of high prices and suspension of International Coffee Agreement quotas to draw down stocks. U.S. imports of sugar from Mexico were down slightly to 569,000 tons valued at about \$109 million.

U.S. imports of Mexico's horticultural products jumped in value during 1973. Tomatoes continued as the main product, valued at about \$115 million. Frozen strawberries were up 31 percent to 48,000 tons, reflecting expansion in plantings in response to favorable U.S. prices. Other important commodities included citrus, peppers, cucumbers, and melons.

U.S. imports of cattle and meat were affected by growing Mexican demand for livestock products and changes in policies aimed at eliminating live cattle exports by 1977 with a general shift to beef exports. Lower Mexican quotas reduced feeder cattle imports from 916,000 head in 1972 to 669,000 in 1973. In line with current policy, cattle were at heavier weights. Imports of beef were down to 30,000 tons, significantly below 1972. Part of the decline was offset by increased purchases of beef by U.S. residents in border areas.

Mexican imports of grain increased sharply in 1973 with the United States the principal supplier. Due to poor corn harvest in late 1972, 1.1 million tons were imported including 836,000 tons, valued at \$80 million, from the United States and the remainder from Africa. Wheat imports reflected the upward trend in consumption totaling 704,000 tons, all from the United States. Mexico also purchased 186,000 tons of U.S. sorghum grain to meet shortages in commercial feed requirements.

U.S. exports of soybeans increased 354 percent to 81,000 tons and were supplemented by significant quantities of both soybeans and cottonseed oils and oilseed meals. Oilseeds and vegetable oils were also imported from Canada, the Philippines, and Malaysia. U.S. exports of tallow to Mexico rose sharply to 23,000 tons, valued at \$6 million. Lard exports increased 58 percent to 19,000 tons in 1973. Mexico continued a deficit in milk production and imported more than 50,000 tons of powdered milk, mainly from Canada, Ireland, and New Zealand, U.S. exports of breeding cattle more than doubled rising to 26,000 head.

Due to higher costs and difficulties of obtaining large 1973 imports, Mexico is increasing efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in production. Agricultural credit extended by Government banks increased 54 percent to \$894 million in 1973 and further increases are anticipated in 1974. Support prices for the major

grains, oilseeds, and beans to be harvested in 1974 were increased from 20 to 57 percent over the previous year's level, including (per bushel): corn, \$1.91 to \$2.44; wheat, \$1.99 to \$2.61; and soybeans, \$3.49 to \$5.89.

These programs are part of Mexico's policy of giving priority to assuring adequate supplies of basic food products. This policy led the Government to expand imports of grains and oilseeds and to limit exports of cattle and meat in 1973.

Irrigation water supplies in most regions are favorable and the area planted to crops is expected to be up in 1974. The fertilizer situation is somewhat uncertain but, though supplies may be tight, no serious shortages are anticipated. If normal weather prevails, agricultural imports should be lower with exports continuing near the 1973 levels.

Increased consumption is expected to absorb a further rise in wheat production, maintaining 1974 imports near the current volumes. Due to the large harvest in late 1973, corn imports will fall off sharply to 500,000 tons or less. In contrast, the 1973 shortfall in oilseeds will tend to keep imports of oilseeds and oilseed products near the 1973 rate. Only limited changes are anticipated for other grains and livestock products.

Mill consumption will utilize some expected increase in cotton in 1974 with a slight rise anticipated for sugar sales. Lower 1973 production and stocks may reduce coffee exports in 1974 but sales of tobacco will be higher and fruits and vegetables should continue to rise. Cattle and beef exports quotas for October-September 1973/74 are below those of a year earlier. (John E. Link)

CARIBBEAN

Cuba⁴

Sugar output in 1972/73 increased over the preceding, exceptionally low year. Long-range plans for mechanizing and expanding sugar production continue. Agreements for further development assistance from the USSR and other socialist countries were signed in 1973. Cattle numbers stagnated, but tobacco and rice production increased.

Sugar: Thirty-five to forty percent of Cuba's agricultural land is planted to cane, and the bulk of the country's foreign exchange earnings comes from the export of sugar. In the past few years, a program to upgrade canelands and mechanize harvesting has been underway. The sugarcane harvest begins in November and continues through May or June, with the bulk of sugar production occurring after the first of the year. Sugar output from the 1972/73 harvest recovered to 5.3 million tons, raw value, slightly below average levels. Sugar output in 1973/74 is estimated to reach at least 5.5 million tons. The total area under cane at the end of 1973 was around 1.7 million hectares.

Under plans to upgrade and improve production, Cuba has enunciated the following policies: plant cane in flat areas closer to mills conducive to mechanized harvesting; renew the planted stock in Oriente Province—Cuba's most important cane area—by 1976; increase sugar production by raising the extraction rate of sugar from cane rather than by major net increases in area; annually renew at least 200,000 to 300,000 hectares; establish a permanent

labor force of 50,000 cane cutters, in place of the hundreds of thousands of mass mobilized workers from other industries who participated in earlier harvests; and harvest 80 percent of the cane mechanically by 1980.

In 1972/73, only 11.2 percent of the area was mechanically harvested by 420 cane combines. Intermediate goals call for 19 percent to be mechanically harvested in 1973/74 with 750 combines, 28 percent in 1974/75, and 37 percent in 1975/76. Cuba plans to add 300 additional cane combines each year of this decade. The Soviet Union manufactured 200 of the combines utilized in 1973/74, and has contributed massive assistance in this field. Plans for moving the manufacture of combines to Cuba are underway and a plant with an annual capacity of 600 units is slated to deliver its first combines in 1977.

On the basis of replanting figures for 1972 and 1973, totaling nearly 800,000 hectares, it appears that Cuba has renewed about half of its total caneland in 2 years. Plantings in 1973 reportedly were the largest in Cuba's history. It this much cane area has recently been renewed with younger and presumably better varieties of cane, and if the fields are being moved to flatter areas which could be mechanically harvested, then Cuba may be in a better potential position to reach her goal of producing 7.5 to 8 million tons of sugar toward the end of the decade.

In 1973, Cuba exported an estimated 1.6 million tons of sugar to the USSR—providing about 60 percent of the total Soviet sugar imports. The second largest destination was Japan, which took nearly a million tons. Total sugar exports for the year probably reached slightly over 4.5 million tons. In 1972, following the poor 1971/72 crop, Cuban sugar exports were the lowest in 10 years—dropping to 4.1 million tons.

⁴A situation report for Cuba last appeared in ERS-Foreign 314, *the Agricultural Situation in Communist Areas, Review of 1970 and Outlook for 1972*. Supplementary articles appeared in *Foreign Agriculture*, 11/23/70, 10/18/71, and 3/26/73.

In January 1973, Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba announced details of new economic aid agreements with the Soviet Union for the seventies. In addition to provisions for financing Cuba's trade deficit and capital development, the agreement specified a new higher price of 11 cents per pound to be paid for Cuban sugar by the Soviets.

The Cuban-Soviet agreement in 1973 was followed by agreements with other East European countries for additional development credits. Presumably, most East European countries will also pay 11 cents per pound for Cuban sugar.

Cattle: Cuban sources reported that between 1960 and 1967, cattle numbers increased from 5 million to 7.2 million head. After 1967, numbers stagnated and then declined to 5.3 million head in 1972, reportedly due to growing consumption levels and to widespread drought in 1971 and 1972. At the beginning of 1973, beef rations were cut in an effort to reduce slaughter and rebuild herds. It was hoped that cattle numbers would show a modest increase in 1973, and greater increases in future years. A national livestock census was conducted in August 1973, but no results have been made available yet. Investments continue to be made in disease eradication, pasturage, artificial insemination, breeding centers, and imports of replacement breeding stock. Though total numbers have fallen, the proportion of dairy cows has increased since 1966. Collection of fresh milk was slated to rise from 228,000 tons in 1971 to a planned 390,000 tons in 1973.

Tobacco: After a disastrous year in 1971, Cuban tobacco production recovered in 1972. Area in 1973 was reportedly 64,400 hectares—the largest in the last 9 years. The 1973 crop is reportedly 20 percent burley and flue-cured and 80 percent black tobacco. Output reportedly increased 3 percent over 1972, when production was estimated at 45,000 tons. Tobacco is grown throughout the country, but the bulk is planted in the westernmost and middle provinces. Most is grown on privately owned land, with seed, fertilizer, and machinery provided by the state.

Tobacco exports are an important source of foreign exchange for Cuba. Unfortunately, data are scattered. In January-September 1973, Canada imported \$1,351,000 of Cuban tobacco products, including 1.5 million cigars. In 1972, the Soviet Union imported 10.7 million cigars. In the first quarter of 1973, Spain imported 7.7 million pounds of Cuban leaf tobacco.

Rice: Cuban rice production fell to very low levels during 1964-68 but appears to have recovered and surpassed previous levels. Production in 1973 is estimated at 260,000 tons with imports, largely from the People's Republic of China, estimated at 200,000 to 250,000 tons, milled basis. Cuba traditionally has been one of the highest rice-consuming areas in the

West. In 1954, annual per capita consumption was said to have been 52 kilograms. Consumption dropped during the 1960's, and rice is presently rationed. However, production and import estimates imply that rice consumption may have been restored to 1950's levels. Substantial investments are being made in rice fields and drying facilities. (Linda A. Bernstein)

Dominican Republic

Rapid economic growth continued for the fifth successive year in 1973 at about 7 percent, the same as in 1972. Per capita GNP in constant 1971 prices rose from \$379 to an estimated \$393. The estimated cost-of-living rise was 15 percent, compared with 8.5 percent in 1972. Money supply increased by 23 percent, contributing to expansion in both the public and private sectors and to general inflationary pressures. Rising import and domestic prices led to the imposition of restraints upon exports of meat and several other commodities.

Total exports reached a record level of \$448 million in 1973, 29 percent higher than 1972. Total imports were estimated at \$391 million, resulting in a positive trade balance of \$57 million in 1973 compared with \$10 million in 1972. Contributing factors were increased sugar, beef, coffee, and cocoa shipments at higher prices plus the significant increase in ferronickel exports.

Overall agricultural production rose to an index of 135 (1961-65=100) from 133 in 1972 and 128 in 1971. Per capita food production fell slightly as continuing drought limited production of many basic crops. Gains were mainly in export crops and livestock products. Fear of confiscation under the agrarian reform laws passed last year were blamed for the 10 percent decline in rice production. The 20 percent decline in corn production was the result of a significant shift to tobacco. Drought was the major cause of the 20 percent drop in peanut production. The shortfall in these basic food and feed crops increased dependence on imports.

The 1973 sugar production was near the 1.14 million tons for 1972. Larger coffee and cocoa production in 1973 coincided with significant advances in world prices, contributing to increased rural incomes in these producing regions. Tobacco production increased significantly; acreage expanded 50 percent but drought held production expansion to 24 percent.

Recent increases in beef production of 2 to 4 percent annually continued in 1973. Some reported feeding of beef animals appeared to be related to the attractive export prices. To maintain domestic supply, the Government imposed periodic bans upon exports which rose by 6 percent in 1973. Also, an export tax

was levied on beef to raise funds to subsidize other food imports.

Poultry meat production in 1973 rose by 9 percent to 27,000 tons. Prices increased from \$0.24 per pound to \$0.49 to offset rising feed prices. Though feed prices have continued to rise in 1974, poultry is still the cheapest source of meat. It makes economic sense to expand broiler production based on imported feeds for domestic consumption in order to substitute larger quantities of lower cost poultry for higher priced beef which moves into the export market.

Coffee and cacao production trended upward. Government and private efforts to rehabilitate these two traditional crops, underway for several years, are beginning to show some favorable results but progress has been slow. Recent high world prices for coffee and cacao are expected to stimulate further rehabilitation efforts.

Increased export availabilities of sugar, coffee, cacao, and beef were accompanied by rising world prices throughout 1973, resulting in record export earnings for agriculture. Consequently, the declines in production of rice, corn, and peanuts at a time of rising domestic demand for these products were offset by record imports of food and feed grains, oilseeds, and vegetable oils.

It is estimated that the value of Dominican agricultural exports rose to \$352 million compared with \$288 million in 1972—an increase of 22 percent. Those agricultural products, most of which were destined for the United States, accounted for 79 percent of the nation's total exports. Their commodity composition was as follows: sugar, \$183 million; sugar byproducts, \$19 million; coffee, \$41 million; tobacco, \$25 million; cacao, \$18 million; and beef and veal, \$10 million.

The United States was by far the principal supplier of Dominican agricultural imports. U.S. agricultural exports to the Dominican Republic amounted to \$63.4 million in 1973 compared with \$45.8 million in 1972. Principal bulk commodity imports were grains—wheat, corn, and rice—which amounted to over \$30 million, over 2 times the 1972 level. Vegetable oils, oilseeds, and animal feeds were other important imports totaling over \$12 million. In addition, U.S. exports included fruit and vegetable products valued in excess of \$6 million in 1973 and a wide range of grocery and specialty items.

With expanding economic activity and an expected significant growth in tourism, agricultural imports are expected to grow. Imports of basic food items such as wheat and rice are expected to increase. Increased imports of feedgrains and oilseed proteins will be required to maintain growth in beef, dairy, pork, and poultry production. Even though the country's food processing industry is expanding, there will be continuing import demand for temperate zone frozen and processed food products.

The Price Stabilization Institute's (INESPRE) price support and stabilization policies continued with emphasis on regulating prices at all levels of the marketing system. The Institute, in 1973, was given charge of regulating the imports and flows of all major bulk agricultural imports including grains, oilseeds, and vegetable oils. It has continued to construct both dry and refrigerated storage facilities in different areas of the country.

In addition to INESPRE's role in providing subsidies to producers, the agency was provided funds in 1973 to subsidize the prices of imported food products such as rice, milk, codfish, wheat, flour, sardines, and herring. Part of these funds were generated by export taxes levied on beef and sugar exports in 1973. The basic objective is to offset the increased cost of imported items and to keep prices down for the large number of poor people in the country.

The Dominican Center for the Promotion of Exports (CEDOPEX) is in charge of offices which were opened in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the World Trade Center in New York in 1973. CEDOPEX publishes the only detailed data on Dominican exports. The center has begun negotiations with the Caribbean Common Market with the hope of establishing some form of economic association. It also hopes to establish closer trade relations with Venezuela.

The Inter-American and World Bank loans for the development of irrigation systems in the Yaque del Norte region amounted to some \$32 million. Progress on the irrigation projects is under way. (Frank D. Barlow)

Haiti

The Haitian economy in 1972 and 1973 continued its recovery from the late 1960's. Gross national product in real terms, estimated at \$381 million or \$86 per person in 1972, continued to grow at an estimated annual rate of 5 to 6 percent into 1973 despite a lack of significant growth in agriculture. Continued expansion of assembly-type industries, encouraged by liberal tax incentives, increased activity in construction, and a rapid rise in tourism, were the brightest areas in both 1972 and 1973. Agriculture was adversely affected by weather in the first half of 1973, but the index of aggregate agricultural production was 97 (1961-65=100, up two points from 1972).

Merchandise exports declined by 9 percent in 1972 primarily because of a drop in coffee and cacao exports and the closing of the Sedren copper mine in 1971. Increased domestic consumption of coffee and sugar in the absence of increases in production reduced quantities for export to the United States in 1973. Higher prices, however, probably resulted in

higher export earnings of these two commodities. Increased exports of manufactured and semimanufactured goods to the United States continued to improve foreign exchange earnings in 1973.

Merchandise imports rose from \$65 million in 1971 to \$70 million in 1972. Estimates indicate they continued to rise in 1973, resulting in a slightly larger deficit trade balance than the \$26 million in 1972. Increased receipts from tourism and capital transfers were expected to offset most of this deficit.

U.S. agricultural exports to Haiti rose more than 50 percent, from \$9.8 million in 1972 to \$15.5 million. Principal products were vegetable oils, rice, wheat, tallow, tobacco, and many consumer items including some processed vegetables and fruits.

The international lending agencies have committed funds for road construction and improvement, and port development. USAID responded to the Government's requests for technical assistance by locating a mission in Port-au-Prince in 1973. With agriculture accounting for 49 percent of total GNP, high levels of unemployment, persistent shortages of basic foods, and chronic long-term weaknesses in agriculture, USAID has been placing initial emphasis on agricultural and nutritional problem areas. In view of the lack of reliable information and relevant experience in agricultural potentials and problems, a series of planning and feasibility studies on various agricultural subsectors began in 1973. With increased activity of the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, USAID, and the Organization of American States in Haitian economic development, a need for donor coordination of economic and technical assistance to Haiti has been recognized. It will probably be a year or more before sectorial development strategies are formulated and even longer before large external aid commitments and flows of economic and technical assistance will begin to have a significant impact on the Haitian economy. (Frank D. Barlow)

Jamaica

Economic activity in 1973 failed to continue the modest uptrend that began in 1972. Declines in agricultural production, tourism, and construction generally were responsible for the poor 1972 performance. Agricultural production was down from 1972 index of 90 (1961-65=100) to 85; per capita food production was down from an index of 78 to 72. Expansion in the manufacturing, mining, and service industries was disappointing in 1973. The decline in sugar exports reduced export earnings and aggravated the balance of payments position.

The continued increase in consumer prices resulting from shortfalls in food production, and greater dependence on imports of foods and basic commodities aggravated the domestic situation.

Shortages of rice, cooking oil, red beans, and even sugar at year's end gave rise to considerable unrest among consumers. Consequently the government found it necessary to relax its announced policy of restricting consumer imports including food products to meet minimum requirements.

Jamaica's agricultural imports from the United States rose over 50 percent from \$41 million (F.O.B. - U.S.) in 1972 to \$63 million in 1973. Principal imports were: wheat and wheat products, \$10.2 million; corn, \$11.0 million; other animal feeds, including protein cake and meal, \$11.2 million; rice, \$4.5 million; meat and poultry products, \$7.6 million; and other grocery items, \$3.2 million.

The energy crisis is expected to create further problems in 1974. Not only are higher fuel, transportation, and fertilizer costs expected to increase the requirements for scarce foreign exchange, but they will increase production costs at a time when the country is trying to hold living costs down. (Frank D. Barlow)

Trinidad and Tobago

Economic activity in Trinidad and Tobago showed little progress in 1973 with improvement only for tourism and petroleum. Continued high unemployment of about 12 percent was aggravated by rising prices, declining foreign exchange reserves, and a general scarcity of raw materials. The 1972 real GNP rise was estimated to have been about 5.5 percent compared with 2.5 percent in 1971 and 2.0 percent in 1970. Rising activity in petroleum and tourism offset the decline in agriculture, permitting a possible rise in GNP to about 6.0 percent in 1973.

As the year ended, however, the country found itself in an extremely favorable position as a producer of crude oil and natural gas, a refiner of petroleum, and reexporter of imported oil. It is currently estimated that 1974 oil revenues in excess of TT\$400 million be more than double the 1973 figures. As a consequence, the Government has planned a budget for 1974 which provides for substantial subsidies to insulate the country from rising prices of imported products. The 1974 budget permits selected tax relief and the expansion of much needed social and economic programs.

Agriculture provides 22 percent of total employment but its contribution to GNP is only 7 percent. In contrast, the petroleum sector provides only 3 percent of employment and about 25 percent of GNP.

The performance of agriculture in 1973 continued the downward trend since 1968 in traditional export crops—sugar, coffee, cocoa, and citrus. Growth in livestock, dairy, and poultry also slowed in 1973. Work in agriculture is considered unattractive and strikes by the sugarcane workers appear to be an

annual occurrence. Progress in mechanization of sugarcane production and harvesting has been slow because of the Government's objective of increasing general employment opportunities.

In 1973, sugar production of 187,000 tons dropped 18 percent from the 1972 level of 228,000 tons. Drought, unauthorized cane fires, and labor problems were responsible for this decline. Coffee production declined 25 percent from the previous year. Deliveries of grapefruit and oranges to the processing plant were the lowest on record. It appears that the final figures for copra and tobacco production was also lower.

It is estimated that pork production also declined in 1973. The rapid expansion in poultry production underway for several years was checked in 1973. Reluctance of the Government to raise ceiling prices on poultry meat and eggs in the face of rapidly rising feed costs caused a reduction in the use of existing capacity at midyear by as much as 50 percent. Deliveries to the processing plant indicate a decline of 25 percent in milk production.

Detailed trade statistics for 1973 are not yet available. Nevertheless, major crop exports have been trending downward since 1971. In contrast, agricultural imports have been showing increases. U.S. export statistics show continuing increases in Trinidad's imports of corn, soybean meal, tobacco, and tallow. U.S. rice was imported in 1973 due to inadequate supplies in Guyana. Wheat imports from the United States showed a sharp rise. It appears that with an overall increase in U.S. exports to Trinidad in 1973 of 60 percent over 1972, the United States improved its share of the Trinidad market despite rising prices. In most of the bulk and consumer food

products, the United States remained competitive as a supplier.

Because of its importance as a producer and refiner of oil and gas, the energy crisis has provided Trinidad with new optimism. After many years of visible trade deficits, the current outlook promises huge surpluses. The Government has announced plans for stimulating agricultural development on a large scale in order to achieve greater self-sufficiency in food production. Rising food prices have given emphasis to these plans. The chances for any real breakthrough are not bright in view of past experiences in other programs to expand agricultural production. Perennial drought problems still must be faced. The negative attitude most Trinidadians have for work in agriculture should be viewed in relation to the marginal characteristics of available arable land for the production of many crops. No doubt low productivity, low wages, and past failures contribute to the low esteem attached to agricultural work.

Trinidad is expected to make rapid progress in expanding its national petrochemical industry—possibly in the form of joint ventures now being discussed with Middle East and Nigerian petroleum exporters. Plans are advanced for the national exploitation of the country's rich gas reserves. Foremost in this area is the construction of new facilities for the production of anhydrous ammonia and other nitrogen fertilizers—most of which will be available for export.

As Trinidad is a member of the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM), the greatly improved financial strength of the country will thrust it into a dominant political and economic leadership role in the Caribbean. (Frank D. Barlow)

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Present indications are that the Costa Rican economy expanded in 1973, but that inflation continued to cut into current earnings, bringing down the real growth rate to nearly 4 percent. Private sector activity picked up as confidence in the Common Market was restored. Industrial credit was expanded in 1973 and investment appears to have been plentiful. Public sector spending continued to be strong. Agricultural exports were on the rise with excellent world market conditions for coffee, meat, and sugar. The demand for bananas remained reasonably firm.

Agricultural production in 1973 was about 7 percent above 1972 as output of most export commodities reached new records. Production levels for bananas and coffee were at an alltime high in 1973. Cocoa production was up nearly 40 percent as producers reacted to higher prices. The 1972 drought

was still being felt as sugar production declined slightly. Increases in rice and potato production more than offset declines in corn and beans. For 1973, cattle slaughter was about 13 percent above 1972, but meat production was only up 4 percent as lighter animals were marketed and producers were retaining cattle in late 1973 in expectation of improved prices in 1974. Increasing feed cost and the inability to increase retail prices resulted in a milk production decline.

Spurred on by increased export values of bananas, coffee, beef, and sugar, total exports in 1973 were estimated to be near \$332 million. Imports were \$410 million, resulting in a trade deficit between \$70 million and \$80 million, versus \$92 million in 1972.

In 1973, U.S. agricultural imports from Costa Rica increased slightly from \$118 million in 1972 to \$122 million in 1973. Banana imports were \$43.8 million, off 20 percent from 1972. Beef and coffee imports were down 5 and 3 percent, but their values were up nearly

20 percent, to \$33.5 and \$21.7 million, respectively. U.S. agricultural exports to Costa Rica in 1973 jumped 81 percent to \$20.3 million. Wheat exports were up to \$8.7 million due to increases in price and volume. Corn and animal feed exports were up sharply to \$3.7 million and \$1.7 million. This year should see a slight decline in U.S. exports to Costa Rica and a slight increase in U.S. imports from Costa Rica. (John E. Link)

El Salvador

In 1973, the Salvadoran economy continued a moderate advance with real GNP growth estimated near the 1972 rate of 4.8 percent. Agricultural production recovered to near record level. The economy was stimulated by exports, mainly coffee and cotton. Total exports for the first half of 1973 were \$212 million, 50 percent over the same 1972 period. These growth factors were partly offset by higher costs of imports which reduced foreign exchange reserves and increased pressure on money supplies. This contributed to a 6 percent rise in prices compared with 2.6 percent the previous year. A recovery in investment and a continuing bright export outlook are expected to maintain economic growth near current levels during 1974.

Agriculture recovered in 1973 with total output up nearly 5 percent to a level only 7 percent below the 1971 record. Output was slightly above the trend for 1964-72, but below the 1968-72 trend. Weather continued to limit yields of early 1973 harvests including coffee and cotton, but unusually favorable growing conditions resulted in a sharp rise in the important food crops harvested later in the year. Although output of livestock products advanced only 2 percent, total food output was an alltime high, 19 percent above 1972.

An increase in harvested corn area of 2 percent and an 82 percent rise in yields resulted in a 435,000-ton crop, which exceeded the 1971 record by 17 percent. Sorghum production recovered and rose to near-record levels, despite a 7 percent decline in area. Bean production was at an alltime high. In contrast, rice continued to decline due to unfavorable growing conditions and lower producer prices resulting from Government restrictions on exports.

Sugar production was up slightly, although yields are still considered a little below normal. Cotton production in 1973 rose 13 percent above the 70,000 tons produced cost in 1972 as high prices encouraged expansion in area. The 1973 coffee harvest declined for the second year due to weather which affected blossom and cherry formation.

Attractive prices associated with Government authorization for a second packing plant to export beef resulted in a further rise in cattle slaughter in 1973. This trend was moderated, somewhat, by a ban on exports for several weeks. Improved pasture

conditions resulted in a 2 percent rise in milk production during the year.

U.S. imports from El Salvador jumped from \$38.3 million in 1972 to \$101.5 million in 1973 in response to higher prices. Imports of coffee were up sharply as El Salvador drew heavily upon stocks. The quantity of coffee imported rose from 24,000 tons in 1972 to 63,000 tons in 1973 as the value rocketed to \$82.5 million. Sugar imports were \$8.7 million, up 10 percent from 1972. While the quantity of sugar imported was down because of a drawdown of stocks in late 1972, El Salvador met all of its U.S. commitments and continued shipments to Russia. Imports of beef from El Salvador were 4,200 tons, up 453 tons from 1972 and valued at \$7.6 million.

As a result of the poor 1972 crop and high world prices, U.S. exports to El Salvador increased from \$9.0 million in 1972 to \$24.4 million in 1973. Leading the list of exports in 1973 was wheat at \$9.0 million. Animal feeds and corn were both up sharply, to \$2.3 million and \$7.7 million respectively, because of the El Salvador's disastrous grain crop in 1972. Exports of tallow were down sharply as the Government restricted its use in edible products.

In 1974, El Salvador's exports will again be a dominant factor in the economy. Cotton exports should be higher and at higher prices than last year. Coffee exports will be lower because of the small crop and drawdown of stocks in 1973. Sugar availability should be higher with increased shipments to the United States and the world market. With two packing plants operating in 1974, beef exports should be around 900 tons more than in 1973. The good corn crop of last fall should place El Salvador in a position to export this year. Wheat imports may be slightly lower this year and beans and rice are expected to be imported. (John E. Ling)

Guatemala

The Guatemalan economy continued its expansion throughout 1973. Real GNP growth was estimated at near 6 percent, about the same as in 1972. Private sector consumption increased faster than in 1972 and the private and public sectors both increased investments sharply in 1973. The export sector boomed due to, soaring world prices for coffee, cotton, sugar, and beef. These factors were dampened somewhat by higher prices for imports and increasing internal prices.

Agricultural production was up 8 percent from 1972. Basic food crops were the leader with a 12 percent increase over last year. Coffee production was higher as producers reacted to higher prices by increasing fertilization and pruning. Cotton production increased for the third year to a record 103,000 tons. Sugar production was also at a record high of 270,000 tons, while bananas increased to 434,000 tons. Corn and bean production were both up sharply from 1972,

but were lower than had been hoped for. Wheat and rice production remained at last year's levels.

Boosted by high world prices, Guatemalan exports for 1973 are estimated at \$472 million. This increase in exports was reflected in U.S. imports of agricultural products from Guatemala. In 1973 these imports jumped nearly 54 percent to \$151 million. Coffee imports nearly doubled, as Guatemala drew down stocks. Meat imports increased to \$28.9 million, due to a slight increase in quantity and a sharp increase in price. Banana imports increased 11 percent to \$18.8 million, while sugar imports were \$8.4 million, down 13 percent from 1972.

Guatemalan imports were estimated at near \$330 million for 1973. U.S. agricultural exports to Guatemala increased from \$17.5 million in 1972 to \$23.5 million in 1973. Wheat exports were up to \$6.5 million as volume dropped and prices increased sharply. As a result of the 1972 drought, corn and animal feed exports rose to \$5.6 and \$2.5 million. U.S. tallow exports were up 31 percent to near \$2.2 million. Guatemala's agricultural picture for 1974 appears brighter indicating some drop off in imports. (John E. Link)

Honduras

Preliminary estimates indicate that Honduras will have a GNP growth rate of about 4.5 percent in 1973, up from 3.9 percent in 1972. Manufacturing and construction were again the leading growth sectors. Agriculture, representing about 35 percent of the GNP, recovered from last year's low production levels. Exports also boosted the economy as sales of bananas and coffee increased 25 percent over 1971. These factors were dampened by higher costs for imports and rising domestic prices. Imports were higher with a trade balanced deficit of near \$17 million for 1973.

Agricultural production recovered in 1973 with output about 6 percent above 1972. Basic food crops were the big gainers, leading to a 10 percent increase in total food output. Corn production increased nearly 16 percent above 1972, but was still slightly below production levels of 1968-71. Sorghum and bean production returned to normal levels. Banana production was up, but still slightly below the record 1971 crop. Cotton production was 6,000 tons as higher prices encouraged a comeback. Drought conditions late in 1972 resulted in a coffee crop of 43,000 tons, down 16 percent from the record of 1972. Sugar production was also lower in 1973 due to the drought. Production of livestock and livestock products was up slightly.

U.S. agricultural imports from Honduras were up 31 percent to \$120 million in 1973. Coffee imports about doubled to \$18.0 million and meat imports were up slightly to \$69.7 million but sugar imports were down sharply. U.S. agricultural exports to Honduras

were \$11 million, up from \$9.4 million in 1972. The largest increases were in wheat and animal feeds. Wheat exports were \$4.4 million in 1973 and animal feeds increased from \$0.6 million to \$1.1 million. (John E. Link)

Nicaragua

The Nicaraguan economy made a remarkable comeback in 1973 after the serious drought and the earthquake of 1972. Preliminary estimates indicate an increase in real GNP of 3.2 percent, with per capita GNP increasing from \$380 in 1972 to \$392 in 1973. The main thrust for this growth came from a sharp jump in agricultural exports principally cotton, coffee, and meat. The start of the rebuilding of Managua and all of its ramifications contributed significantly to the comeback. The economy was also stimulated by the record production of agricultural products in 1973. These growth factors were offset somewhat by the higher costs of imports which contributed to the worst inflation in recent times.

Agricultural production experienced a sharp recovery in 1973, increasing nearly 7 percent above the record of 1971 and 14 percent over 1972. Crop production was the big gainer, jumping 20 percent over last year. Livestock remained about the same. Advancing prices for cotton encouraged many producers to expand area and increase the use of inputs, which resulted in a sharp rise in production to 125,000 tons. Sugar production declined 13 percent to 142,000 tons as yields and the extraction rate fell. Coffee production recovered to 39,000 tons, as yields improved.

Increased prices for grains encouraged producers to expand area by 10 percent to 371,000 hectares. Corn and bean production were up 53 and 35 percent while rice increased about 12 percent. Beef and veal production declined slightly as lighter cattle were slaughtered. However, milk production increased due to better pastures.

Nicaragua's trade in cotton for January-October 1973 was \$6.14 million, slightly ahead of 1972. The increase in Nicaragua's total exports is reflected in U.S. agricultural imports from that country, which increased from \$60.8 million in 1972 to \$86.0 million in 1973. Meat imports were down slightly, but higher prices increased value to \$47.7 million. Sugar imports were 59,000 tons worth \$10.2 million, up about 11 percent from 1972. Bananas doubled to \$10.6 million. Coffee imports of \$11.0 million reflected increases in price and volume.

U.S. agricultural exports to Nicaragua amounted to \$16.9 in 1973, up from \$8.0 million in 1972. The main export was wheat, which amounted to \$4.9 million. Other grain exports, principally corn and sorghum, were up sharply from 1972 to \$2.7 million in 1973. Tallow and vegetable oil exports to Nicaragua were also much higher.

Government revenues and expenditures were at record levels in 1973 and are expected to spur the economy during 1974 with a good year for manufacturing and commerce and a continued boom in construction. With good weather and an average supply of inputs, Nicaraguan agriculture should be at typical levels for basic grains and above normal for most export crops. (John E. Link)

Panama

Preliminary indications are that Panama experienced another year of good economic growth during 1973. GNP is estimated to have increased by 8.0 percent compared to 7.5 in 1972. Banking, commerce, tourism, and construction continue to be the leading sectors. Price increases, reflecting both trends in world commodity markets and the rapid expansion of domestic demand, amounted to 7 percent during the period October 1972 to September 1973.

Agriculture recovered from drought and output increased nearly 6 percent over 1972. Sugar production still showed the effects of the drought, but was up slightly. Cocoa production remained the same as in 1972. Coffee production, responding to higher

prices, rose nearly 20 percent. Some flooding and disease problems held banana production near the 1972 level. Rice production was up sharply to 165,000 tons, slightly less than the record crop of 1969. Corn production, up nearly 30 percent above 1972, was still below the normal production levels of the 1960's. Cattle numbers increased slightly while meat production remained constant. Rising feed prices and fixed retail prices combined to hold dairy production at the 1972 level.

U.S. agricultural imports from Panama were \$24.7 million, down 4 percent from 1972. The main reason for this was a decline of over 50 percent in 1973 meat imports and a reduction of 25 percent in bananas. Meat imports were \$1.4 million and bananas amounted to \$11.7 million. These declines were offset, somewhat, by increased imports of sugar and coffee. Sugar imports were \$8.7 million, up 40 percent, while coffee imports were up 65 percent to \$0.5 million.

In contrast, U.S. exports to Panama were \$30.4 million, an increase of 21 percent over 1972. A 14 percent decline in wheat exports was not enough to offset the sharp increase in price, as value increased to \$6.1 million, up 68 percent from 1972. Corn and soybean oil exports were both up sharply to \$2.6 million and \$1.7 million respectively. Tobacco exports also increased to \$1.4 million. (John E. Link)

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Argentina's real GNP grew about 5 percent in 1973, compared with 3.6 percent in 1972. Moderate growth is expected to continue through 1974. Consumer prices increased by 44 percent, but nearly all of the increase occurred before prices were frozen in June. The freeze, still in effect during the early months of 1974, was part of a "Social Pact" which also limited wage increases. It has been very effective in controlling prices, but has led to shortages of many items such as poultry and vegetable oil.

Total agricultural production increased 7.7 percent in 1973, due mainly to the recovery in corn and sorghum production which suffered from drought in 1972. Increases in peanuts, cotton, pork, sugarcane, and soybeans also contributed to the improved agricultural performance but production of deciduous fruit, wheat, tung nuts, beef, and poultry meat declined in 1973. Current information indicates that agricultural output may increase as much as 8 or 9 percent in 1974.

Agricultural exports increased by \$1 billion in 1973 to an estimated \$2.7 billion. A 78 percent increase in the volume of grain shipments at higher prices accounted for a \$600 million increase in export receipts. The export value of meat, wool, oilseed products, and sugar was also up. Continuing high

agricultural exports are likely in 1974 because of large exportable supplies of coarse grains, oilseed products, sugar, fruit, and other products. (Wheat and beef exports may decline, however.)

U.S. agricultural imports from Argentina totaled \$129 million in 1973, up 8 percent from 1972. Processed meat imports of \$72 million were followed in importance by sugar, wool, cheese, and casein. U.S. agricultural exports to Argentina rose to \$96 million in 1973, up from only \$7 million in 1972, because of a 470,000-ton wheat purchase by Argentina⁵ to meet domestic consumption requirements late in 1973. Less important imports from the United States included seeds, breeding cattle, and eggs for hatching.

Argentine livestock production increased by less than 1 percent in 1973, despite a 23 percent increase in pork production. Beef production, which accounts for nearly two-thirds of total livestock output, was down 2 percent to 2,152,000 tons due to the expansion of the country's cattle herd, which has continued since 1971. June 1973 cattle numbers were estimated at 54.8 million, up 4.7 percent from 1972. However, cattle

⁵ Most, but not all of this wheat was actually shipped to Argentina. Some went to Uruguay and Chile to meet Argentine export commitments to those countries.

marketings increased markedly in November 1973 and are expected to continue strong through 1974. Beef production this year is expected to surpass the 1973 level by at least 10 percent. Beef exports fell 21 percent in 1973 to 556,000 tons (carcass weight equivalent) but, because of higher prices, total receipts increased. Despite the prospect of increased availabilities, 1974 exports may be down because of rising beef production and increased import levies in the EC (European Community), Argentina's principal market.

Poultry meat production was down about 10 percent in 1973. Producers were caught in a squeeze between fixed prices for poultry meat and rising input costs. Milk production remained near 1972's high level. The wool clip, 156,000 tons (greasy basis), remained low despite the decline in sheep and lambs slaughtered over the past 2 years. Wool production averaged 186,000 tons during 1961-70. Wool exports in 1973/74 (October-September) are forecast at 140,000 tons, up from 117,500 tons in 1972/73. The increase is due to a drawdown of stocks and lower domestic consumption.

Total crop production in Argentina advanced about 12 percent in 1973. Grain production — 55 percent of crop value — increased 3.8 million tons to a total 21.4 million tons, and the harvest in 1974 should be at least as large. Almost the entire advance in grain production was due to the good corn and sorghum crops — 9 million and 4.2 million tons, respectively. Three-quarters of 1973 corn exports of 4.3 million tons went to traditional customers in Southern Europe — Italy, Spain, and Portugal. New markets were established in the Soviet Union, People's Republic of China, North Korea, and Cuba. Principal markets for sorghum exports of 2.2 million tons were Japan, India, the EC, other Western Europe, and South America.

Argentina's 1972 wheat crop (harvested Nov. 1972-Jan. 1973) was originally estimated at 8.1 million tons, but as the marketing year progressed, it became evident that the actual size of the crop was somewhat lower — nearer 6.9 million tons. It thus became necessary to import U.S. wheat. Wheat exports in 1973 reached 2.9 million tons. The 1973 crop of 6 million tons leaves about 1.5 million tons available for export in 1974; about one-third will be durum, destined mainly for Italy, and most of the rest will go to neighboring South American countries.

The Government of Argentina nationalized the grain trade in late 1973, making the National Grain Board the exclusive buyer and marketing agent for wheat, corn, and sorghum. With maximum purchase prices set by decree, this policy permits the Government to move more of the country's grain exports through bilateral agreements, such as those traditionally made with neighboring countries, and the 3-year agreements recently concluded with the

People's Republic of China and North Korea. The Chinese agreement calls for up to 1 million tons of corn and wheat per year, and the North Korean agreement specifies the shipment annually of 500,000 tons of corn and 300,000 to 500,000 tons of wheat. Shipment of wheat during the first year of these agreements (1974) will be limited to token amounts.

Argentine production of flaxseed and tung nuts declined in 1973, but output of the principal edible oilseeds — sunflowerseed, peanuts, cottonseed, and soybeans — was up 43 percent as production recovered from the poor 1972 crop year. Oilseed production in 1974 is likely to increase by 15 to 20 percent as flax and tung recover and soybeans continue their development as a major Argentine crop. Sunflowerseed and peanut production will decline somewhat. The value of oilseed product exports (export of unprocessed oilseeds is forbidden) increased more than 150 percent in 1973, because of increased volumes and higher prices. Approximately 255,000 tons of vegetable oils (about two-thirds edible) and 520,000 tons of oilseed cake and meal were exported in 1973. Exports in 1974 are forecast to increase somewhat.

Sugarcane production reached 14.7 million tons in 1973, up 14 percent from 1972. Increased production was mainly for export. Exports for the year beginning June 1, 1973, were estimated at 580,000 metric tons (raw sugar basis), up from 170,000 tons the previous year. Sugarcane production in 1974 is expected to remain near the 1973 level.

Grape production, mostly for wine, was near the 1972 level of 2.6 million tons. Deciduous fruit production declined 58 percent to 413,000 tons in 1973, due to spring frosts and hail. Production in 1974 may recover to 1.1 million tons, allowing exports of 300,000 tons. Citrus fruit production increased by 12 percent to nearly 1.5 million tons in 1973, and 1974 output is likely to increase a further 10 percent.

Favorable prices and good harvest weather conspired to bring cotton lint production up to 125,000 tons in 1973 — a jump of 44 percent over 1972. Planted area for the 1974 crop was increased again but heavy rains and flooding in several northern areas has put total outturn in question. Potato output was up 15 percent in 1973, but at 1.5 million tons, was still more than 300,000 tons below average 1961-70 production. Planted area for the 1974 crop is down 6 percent. (Edmond Missiaen)

Bolivia

The pace of economic activity in Bolivia increased again during 1973, supported by a continuing trend to diversification through development of petroleum, natural gas, and agriculture. Real GNP grew at a rate near 7 percent compared with 6 percent in 1972 and 4.8 percent in 1971. High world prices boosted

mineral exports above the 1972 value of \$174 million. Petroleum production and exports responded to rising world prices and competition continued for further exploration rights. The natural gas pipeline to Argentina operated for the first full year, and an agreement in principle was concluded for construction of a pipeline for delivery of 240 million cubic feet of gas per day to Brazil.

Higher exports offset rising import costs, contributing to a moderate rise in foreign exchange reserves during 1973. The brighter economic situation, however, was clouded by a rise in consumer prices, estimated at 20 percent or more during 1973, up sharply from a 6 percent increase in 1972. This trend was associated with higher costs and some difficulty in obtaining needed imports after the peso was devalued in late 1972. The devaluation was followed by a 30 percent rise in wages during 1973. The inflationary pressure was increased as the Government doubled official prices on six food products in January 1974.

Agricultural production moved up sharply in 1973 to a record high exceeding 1972 output by more than 10 percent. Food production resumed a moderate uptrend as basic crops grown in the highly populated Altiplano or highland region recovered from adverse 1972 weather. The potato harvest was up 10 percent to a near-record 675,000 tons. Production of other food crops, including wheat, barley, and cassava, were also near previous highs.

Important gains in export production were related to agricultural development in the eastern lowland areas, particularly cotton and sugarcane. Favorable weather and high prices resulted in a sharp increase in cotton plantings and production doubled, reaching 36,000 tons in 1973. Sugar production was up 50 percent to 184,000 tons, reflecting increased planting of cane in recent years. Due to Government programs to restrict rice exports, production declined from the 1972 record of 76,000 tons.

Bolivia's agricultural exports remained small but continued to move up sharply from the 1971 value of \$7 million. Export earnings from cotton were estimated to be near \$18 million in 1973 and earnings from sugar were up near \$10 million, reflecting larger volumes and higher prices. Exports of slaughter cattle and beef, valued at almost \$8 million in 1972, were lower in 1973.

Agricultural imports were estimated to be down somewhat from previous levels, reflecting problems in obtaining wheat, the major commodity, due to reduced availabilities in Argentina. The trade included nearly 25,000 tons of U.S. wheat from a P.L. 480 agreement for 100,000 tons. U.S. agricultural exports to Bolivia for 1973 fell sharply from the 1972 level of \$7.7 million but a large increase is anticipated this year.

The 1974 outlook is for a continuing expansion of agriculture, particularly in the eastern lowlands.

High world prices are expected to stimulate larger plantings of cotton. The completion of a second sugar mill will increase sugar production and export. Bolivia has imported soybeans for planting in that area and is intensifying efforts to expand production of wheat and other basic crops in the highland region. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Brazil

Brazil's growth of 11.4 percent in GNP in 1973, completed a 5-year trend of rapid growth with a cumulative rise near 63 percent. Exports valued at \$6.1 billion exceeded the \$5.9 billion in imports to give a favorable balance of trade. The accelerated inflow of foreign capital helped raise year-end foreign exchange reserves from \$4.2 billion in 1972 to \$6.6 billion in 1973. Inflation was held near the 1972 rate of 15.4 percent.

Strong growth in industrial production continued. The different sectors were up by the following percentages: steel, 20; automotive products, 14; cement, 15; farm machinery, 36; electric power, 13; International bank loans supplemented heavy domestic investment in transportation, power, and agribusiness. In infrastructure, completion of a 6-year program of 24,000 miles of paved road had greater economic impact than the advance of the transamazon highway to Humaita (300 miles from Peru). Progress in the \$553 million export corridors program provided facilities for the large shipments of soybeans from Rio Grande do Sul through the ports of Paranagua and Rio Grande. Brazil had new fertilizer plants under construction to increase production of nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers, which will reduce imports that exceeded 50 percent of requirements for each in 1973.

The value of exports soared 56 percent from \$3.9 billion to \$6.1 billion. Manufactures continued to increase in importance with values up to \$1.7 billion. They included advances in many processed agricultural commodities particularly soluble coffee, beef, castor oil, cocoa butter, and orange concentrate. Agriculture provided the four largest earners, in millions of dollars: coffee, \$1.340; soybeans and products, \$917; sugar, \$550; and cotton, \$210.

The petroleum energy crisis is expected to restrict the rapid growth of the economy because Brazil produces only 23 percent of its needs; the increased price of petroleum may add up to \$2 billion to import costs. The Government began to subsidize gasoline prices in January 1974 and has standby plans for rationing, under which farmers and the food industry will have priority. It is pushing off-shore drilling and exploration to increase domestic sources. Brazil at present expects only slight reduction in oil for agriculture and industry and will push exports to pay for the additional imports.

High prices, favorable policies, and improved growing conditions maintained a high level in agricultural production and trade during 1973. Total output increased to a record, up 3.8 percent, maintaining the rising trend in progress since the mid-1960's. Strong gains in grains, oilseeds, and other important food crops raised crop production by nearly 6 percent despite reductions in other crops including coffee and cotton. Per capita food output rose 5 percent above the 1970 high despite limited expansion in output of livestock products. Agriculture continued to provide most of Brazil's growing food and fiber needs and contributed strongly to the sharp rise in export earnings.

Prices were at record levels for coffee, sugar, cotton, cocoa, soybeans, beef, castorbeans, and sisal. The average price in cents per pound for Brazil's four traditional exports in the later part of the year were: cotton, 63; cocoa, 67; cotton, 64; and sugar, 10 to 12. Farmers responded to the high price incentives with increased use of credit, farm machinery, fertilizer, and land. They used 2 million tons of fertilizer and spent \$170 million to purchase 43,560 units of farm machinery. Excellent weather prevailed in nearly all areas, including the northeast. Brazil put a premium on exports by reducing sales taxes and income taxes on foreign earnings, and by making rapid adjustments in the exchange rate of the cruzeiro.

Wheat production recovered from the rain-ruined 680,000 ton low of 1972 to reach 1.85 million tons, not far below the record 1971 crop of 2,011,000 tons. A slight decrease in area and the diversion of marginal wheat land to soybeans continued in the southern growing areas. The food supply agency SUNAB set 1973 consumption at 3.55 million tons and authorized imports of 3.1 million tons to meet the shortfall of the 1972 crop. The United States supplied 1,536,000 tons, Argentina 993,000, and Canada 400,000. Argentina was unable to deliver the final 150,000 tons of her commitment of 1,100,000 tons before the end of the year. SUNAB has authorized a 17 percent increase in consumption to 4.2 million tons in 1974.

Corn production was up 8 percent to 14 million tons in 1973 because the expected diversion of corn land to soybeans did not take place. Brazil banned exports of corn after shipments of 34,000 tons in the face of strong domestic demand. The boom in poultry increased feed demand and the Government raised the real 1974 support price 52 percent. Corn acreage for 1974 is up 10 to 15 percent. Paddy rice production was up 11 percent to 7,900,000 tons. Brazil prohibited all exports in 1973 because stocks were only 62,000 tons. The Rice Institute is testing the yields of new varieties.

The bean harvest increased 8 percent to 2.6 million tons but a bean shortage persisted in 1973. Brazil reduced the ad valorem tariff on beans from 55 percent to zero and imported \$8 million in beans and

peas from the United States. The northeast harvest, which came in August, relieved the shortage. Increases in production were less than 2 percent for each of the tubers, potatoes and manioc. Potato prices were high.

The Parana frost of 1972 that reduced the 1973 green coffee harvest 40 percent to 870,000 tons also boosted prices. Brazil, therefore, had to draw down from stocks to fill export orders of 1,080,000 tons (both green and soluble equivalent) which earned \$1,340 million, well above the 1953 record of \$1,090 million.

The threat of rust is a danger to the coffee sector because the treatment is expensive. Brazil therefore raised the price the growers to CR\$250 per bag to cover treatment costs and to provide additional incentive. She also reduced the contribution quota (export tax) by 32 percent. For her long-term goal of increasing productive capacity from 22 to 30 million bags by 1978, she allocated CR\$1.3 billion (U.S. \$215 million) to finance planting of 245 million trees, the second phase of the tree program.

In response to rising world demand and price, Brazil's Sugar and Alcohol Institute (IAA) authorized an increase of 15 percent in sugar production to 6.9 million tons from sugarcane production of 92 million tons. The estimated increase in exports was 14 percent to about 3 million tons and a value of \$553 million. The IAA invested \$183 million to modernize and consolidate sugar mills so as to increase capacity from 7 to 9 million tons by 1977. Brazil sold about 290,000 tons to China during the year and 300,000 to the Soviet Union by May 1.

Calendar year 1973 cotton production was down 3 percent from 1972. Farmers decreased area because they had been disappointed with production results in 1972. Growing conditions were excellent in 1973 and yields were unusually high. Cotton continued some shift from low to high yielding areas, particularly in the south. Exports in 1973 were down to 275,000 tons, compared with 284,178 tons in 1972 but due to high prices earnings rose to \$210 million. Brazil has shifted emphasis from cotton fiber to cotton textile exports. Cotton markets were in the Far East: Japan, Taiwan, China, and Hong Kong. However, Brazil suspended exports at the beginning of November.

Calendar Year 1973 cocoa production of 197,000 tons is the sum of a lean midcrop and a record main crop which is still being harvested. Drought at the end of 1972 spoiled the flowering of the midcrop, but growing conditions were being ideal for the main 1973 harvest. The average price per pound of Bahia cocoa on the New York market in 1973 was 61 cents, double that of 1972.

The growth of oilseed production, especially soybeans, was the major change in Brazil's agriculture in 1973. High prices, heavy investment in crushing facilities, and the export corridors program

avored growth. Land prices were up 40 percent in areas where farmers converted pastures to soybean cropland. Production was up 30 percent from 3.7 to 4.8 million tons, almost 11 percent of U.S. production (42.6 million). Brazil expects the momentum of the soybean boom to continue in 1974 with production forecast near 6.5 million tons.

The value of exports of soybeans and soybean products at \$917 million was second only to coffee. The Government placed a premium on exports of meal by removing the tax on meal but not on beans. Total volume of exports of soybeans and meal equivalent was 4 million tons, consisting of 1.85 million tons of beans and 1.59 million tons of meal (2.15 million in bean equivalent). Brazil protected the domestic supply by reserving a quota of 1 ton for every 3 tons exported.

Rapid revival of castorbeans followed climbing castor oil prices which were at \$800 a ton in Sao Paulo during the last quarter of 1973. This reversed the decline of castorbeans which is a labor-intensive crop in a period of rising labor costs. Production in 1973 was up 51 percent to 400,000 tons. The value of castor oil exports was \$122 million and total volume was 160,000 tons.

Cottonseed production, estimated at 1,440,000 tons, corresponds to the size of the cotton harvest which was only slightly below that of 1972. Peanut production dropped 27 percent to 650,000 tons. Producer prices for peanuts did not keep pace with those of competitive crops such as cotton and soybeans. Exports of peanuts, peanut oil, and peanut meal were 70,000, 65,000 and 144,000 tons, respectively.

Citrus fruit production was off 8 percent because heavy rains in November 1972 reduced flowering. The drop in orange production in Sao Paulo state was 8 percent to 56 million boxes, 34 million of which went into manufacture of orange juice concentrates. Estimated exports were 85,000 tons of concentrates. Production of tobacco dropped 9 percent to 174,000 tons because of financial and weather problems. The forecast for 1974 is 227,500 tons.

Beef prices were so volatile in 1973 that they had serious effects on the cost of living. Brazil developed a quota system on beef exports so that domestic needs would not be overlooked in the drive for exports. In 1973, the total domestic quota was 85,000 tons: The price of beef had such a direct impact on inflation that Brazil put a tax of \$200 a ton on exports and reduced the domestic ICM tax from 16.5 to 6 percent.

These measures had no effect on exports in 1973, which equaled those of 1972, nor on the prices of beef and cattle which soared at every level. Investment demand for cattle went up as ranchers made use of Government finance to expand holdings, especially in frontier states. The carcass price of cattle reached 72 cents a pound in November. Retail prices were up

100 percent for some cuts of beef including rump and sirloin steak.

Brazil decided in October that she needed to build up her herds by cutting slaughter and decreed a 50 percent cut in beef exports in 1974, 1975, and 1976, setting the annual quota for fresh, chilled, and frozen beef at 80,000 tons.

Beef slaughter for 1973 was practically identical to that of 1972 at 2,000,000 tons and exports were 185,000 tons. Pork slaughter was up 8.5 percent to 700,000 tons. Poultry production was the most important development with meat production equal to 57 percent of pork. Broiler production of 285 million birds (401,000 tons), was up 36 percent over 1972 production of 210 million birds (294,000 tons). Estimated feed requirements were 2.4 million tons. Milk production was up 5 percent and the Government granted a price increase in October 1973. Wool production increased 5 percent.

U.S. agricultural exports to Brazil increased fourfold to \$271 million in 1973, the largest since 1955. Wheat accounted for 79 percent of the U.S. export value (\$214 million): volume was 1.5 million tons. Other categories that showed big rises were: fresh apples and pears, \$3,987,000, beans and peas, \$8,500,000, animal hides, \$1,991,000, seeds, \$4,376,000.

The value of U.S. agricultural imports from Brazil at \$711 million was over two and a half times that of exports. Just three commodities account for 80 percent of this figure—coffee, sugar, and cocoa. The value of coffee imports, \$414 million, alone exceeded the total value of U.S. exports. Those of sugar and molasses were \$111 million. Cocoa and cocoa products had a value of \$54 million. Beef and corned beef came to \$40 million. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Chile

In 1973 Chile was beset by shortages, strikes, and a violent change of government. Real GNP declined by an estimated 5.7 percent. Consumer prices increased by more than 500 percent and the trade deficit exceeded \$400 million for the second year in a row. The military government, which took power in September 1973, is attempting to reverse the country's economic decline through a return to a more market-oriented economy. Most prices were freed from controls, thus causing massive increases, but goods are now available and the black market has virtually disappeared. The higher prices were not matched by comparable wage increases—part of a deliberate policy to bring supply and demand into equilibrium. Many expropriated enterprises, excluding the large copper mines, are being returned to the private sector. The overall outlook is for a gradual improvement through 1974, but the Chilean economic situation remains poor.

Agricultural production fell for the second straight year in 1973. Last year's decline of 10.5 percent brought total output to a level 20 percent below 1971 and 7 percent below the 1961-70 average. Crop production was down 16 percent in 1973. A drop of 19 percent in the harvested area of 14 major crops was partially offset by some improvement from the very low yield levels of 1972. Output of livestock products fell 4 percent, continuing a downtrend in progress since 1971.

Wheat, Chile's most important crop, was down 17 percent to 747,000 tons, 470,000 below the 1961-70 average. A 14 percent increase in corn production—to 294,000 tons—was the result of a special effort to stimulate production for use by the poultry industry. The production of all other crops declined—rapeseed, 49 percent; potatoes, 15 percent; dry beans, 22 percent; and sugar-beets, 14 percent. Lower livestock production resulted from slaughter controls imposed as part of an effort to rebuild the cattle herd, and of some decline in milk and poultry output. Estimates of beef production indicate a 12 percent decline from 1972's 74,000 tons.

The continuing poor performance of agriculture in 1973 was due to a number of factors. Official agricultural prices lagged far behind the rate of inflation. The rapid implementation of the agrarian reform left the beneficiaries without adequate management advice and caused a general uncertainty which adversely affected management decisions. Other factors included a shortage of credit for the private sector and problems involving the distribution of inputs.

Agricultural output in 1974 is planned to increase by 8 or 9 percent. The most important advances are expected for potatoes, up to 800,000 tons; pork, up 20 percent; milk, up 10 percent; beef, up 9 percent; corn, up to 340,000 tons; beans, up to 75,000 tons; and sugarbeets, up to 1 million tons. Wheat production, which is expected to increase to 770,000 tons, will remain well below the level of the past decade, and production of the principal oilseeds—rapeseed and sunflower—will be down a further 20 percent.

The Government has instituted several new policies aimed at reviving the agricultural sector. Most of these will not begin to affect production before the 1975 crop year, because most planting decisions for this year's crop were made before the policies were implemented. Chief among the new policies are higher prices for producers. Even the prices of those staple commodities not freed from controls—bread, flour, sugar, vegetable oil, milk, and some beef cuts—were allowed to rise by 300 to 1,000 percent. In addition, foreign exchange rates were adjusted to make exports more remunerative, and agricultural imports more expensive. Most important of the changes made in the agrarian reform policy are the granting of individual titles to reform

beneficiaries, a guarantee of a 40-hectare minimum "reserve" (land that cannot be expropriated) to landlords, and the return to former owners of land that was expropriated illegally. So far, titles granted to reform beneficiaries in irrigated areas have been for plots ranging from 6 to 14 hectares.

Agricultural imports reached approximately \$600 million in 1973, up from \$450 million in 1972 and \$340 million in 1971. Wheat imports, one-half of which came from the United States, totaled 928,000 tons. Feedgrains imports came to 333,000 tons, one-third from the United States. Other commodities imported on a large scale were sugar, meat, dairy products, and vegetable oil. Agricultural imports in 1974 are forecast to surpass \$700 million and will include about 1 million tons of wheat, 500,000 tons of feed grains, 235,000 tons of sugar (raw value), 55,000 tons of rice, and 55,000 tons of edible vegetable oil.

U.S. agricultural exports to Chile rose to \$110 million in 1973, up from \$28 million in 1972. Wheat and wheat flour accounted for 78 percent of this total, followed in importance by corn, cattle hides, sorghum, tobacco, and live poultry. U.S. agricultural imports from Chile amounted to only \$5.2 million, down \$1 million from 1972. The principal commodities imported were grapes, other fruits and vegetables, horses, and wine. (Edmond Missiaen)

Colombia

Colombia achieved record economic growth in 1973, overcoming 24 percent inflation for the year and a decline in the growth of agricultural production. Real GNP growth of 7.5 percent was the highest in a decade and compared with 7.1 percent in 1972. Industry grew about 9.5 percent and construction was up by 24 percent. Net foreign reserves increased sharply from \$345 to \$516 million as a result of increased export earnings and foreign borrowing.

Inflation was serious and the cost of living rose 24 percent compared with 14 for 1972. Inflation forces at year end gave little hope that the rate would be reduced in 1974. Food prices increased by 31 percent in 1973 in response to domestic production shortages, higher costs of food imports, and increased domestic demand.

Population growth continued at about 3.2 percent with urban population growth estimated on the 6-8 percent range. Unemployment declined to about 8 percent, but if adjusted for underemployment and disguised employment the figure probably exceeded 20 percent.

Growth in agricultural production in 1973 was below the 1972 rate of 7 percent because of severe drought during the first half of the year and shortages of fertilizers and seeds in some areas. Increased acreage and yields resulted in a sizable

increase in sorghum production. Coffee production in 1973 increased by 10 percent as good weather prevailed in the higher elevation coffee zones and more plantings of higher yielding caturra came into production. Weather also contributed to a 14 percent increase in tobacco production. Soybeans and sugar, which are irrigated, registered increases of 8 and 7 percent, respectively.

Corn and cotton were hard hit by the drought which coincided almost exactly with their growing cycle, but year-end totals for both crops exceeded the previous year's production. The 3 percent decline in rice production was due to reduced plantings in dryland areas.

Although good data for the livestock sector are unavailable, it appeared that the overall rate of growth was probably below the 3 percent level estimated for 1972. Cattle numbers increased by 2.2 percent in 1973 but slaughter was down by 5 percent. The poultry industry registered impressive growth in response to increased consumer demand, which was stimulated by favorable relationships of poultry to beef prices. Poultry numbers were up by one-fourth. Dairy production increased but pork production declined because of high feed prices.

High world prices for coffee and other basic commodities helped increase Colombia's exports by an estimated 44 percent to about \$1.2 billion. Nontraditional exports increased and accounted for 49 percent of the 1973 total. Colombian import registrations also were up sharply by 41 percent to \$1.3 million, leaving a net visible trade deficit near \$100 million. This deficit was offset by foreign borrowing. Import registration data indicate that the U.S. share of the Colombian market rose to about 40 percent from 38 percent in 1972, but was still below the 45 percent level in 1971.

Coffee exports in 1973 rose by 3 percent in volume and 19 percent in value. The minor or nontraditional agricultural exports continued to rise—tobacco by 37 percent, hides and skins by 20 percent, bananas by 10 percent, and beef by 6 percent. Flower exports of \$6 to \$8 million, primarily to the United States, more than doubled the 1972 figure. Exports of fresh vegetables and dry beans also rose. Cotton exports were down by 14 percent. Sugar exports were down 30 percent as the Government prohibited all except U.S. quota commitments.

Colombia's total agricultural imports in 1973 more than doubled the 1972 figure. Imports from the United States were \$118 million as compared with \$51 million in 1972. Much, though not all, of the increased value of imports was due to higher world commodity prices. The volume of wheat and tallow imports was below a year earlier but values were up by 73 and 33 percent respectively. Barley imports were greater on both quantity and value bases. Because of the drought and rapidly rising demand for

livestock products, substantial quantities of U.S. corn, sorghum, and soybeans and soybean oil were imported.

The Colombian Government in 1973 continued an agricultural policy designed to promote self-sufficiency in basic food crops. Support prices of all of the major grains, oilseeds, and pulses were increased from 10 to 150 percent in an effort to expand production. Credit was also increased by an average of over 60 percent for the principal crops.

A major part of the Government's anti-inflation campaign in 1973 was aimed at holding down food prices. This was carried out by the food agency (IDEMA) through extensive food subsidy and distribution programs. Subsidies absorbed the difference between the rising cost of imported foodstuffs and the lower and controlled internal selling prices. These subsidies cost the Government an estimated \$50 million during 1973 due to large imports required to offset domestic production shortfalls and the record levels attained by international commodity prices and freight rates. IDEMA also expanded its marketing activities, buying directly from producers for sale through its retail outlets in an effort to lower prices and prevent hoarding and speculation. Despite this activity, food prices rose 31 percent in 1973.

Exporters of agricultural products (excluding coffee) continued to receive tax payment certificates (CAT) equivalent to a 13 percent export subsidy during 1973. Due to rising world prices, the system has been modified substantially for 1974. Effective January 1, the export subsidy was reduced to 1 percent for logs, hides and skins, dairy products, and tropical wildlife and products. For other agricultural products, including live cattle, meat, cotton, oilseed cakes, sugar, and rice, the subsidy will be flexible, based on the relationship between domestic and world prices. The amount of the subsidy will be negotiated in agreements between domestic producers and IDEMA.

Late in 1973 the Government took action to consolidate the myriad of regulations and decrees governing exports in a single regime consisting of a prohibited export list, a prior license list, and a free list. While most agricultural products have been placed on the prohibited list in an effort to prevent the export of products which are in short supply, preliminary indications are that Colombian agricultural exports to the United States will not be significantly affected.

The world energy crisis is expected to have only limited effect on Colombia. Exports of crude oil are expected to ease in 1974 because of declining petroleum production and increasing consumption. Imports of gasoline and crude oil will be minor, at least through 1976. Low domestic crude prices have provided little incentive for the state-owned oil

company to enter into enlarged exploration contracts. No serious shortages in fertilizer are expected as national fertilizer capacity has been increased in recent years. There are indications that a worldwide shortage of petrochemicals may make imports difficult as well as more expensive for domestic industries. (Frank D. Barlow)

Ecuador

Real GNP growth in Ecuador for 1973 was the highest in Latin America—11.5 percent. The value of petroleum exports was up 77 percent as the Trans-Andean pipeline delivered crude oil to the export terminal for the first full year and the rise in oil prices brought windfall profits. The Government assigned to the National Development Fund all oil revenues in excess of \$7.30 per barrel; the official export price was \$13.70 in January 1974. The cost of living climbed 12.4 percent because of increases in import prices and the rise in petroleum revenues. Ecuador therefore set up a strenuous program to combat inflationary pressures. The import trade responded to the new affluence with a 57 percent rise in imports to \$516 million. Exports of \$532.5 million left a favorable balance of \$16.5 million. Foreign exchange reserves climbed to \$251 million. Ecuador expects oil revenues of \$900 million in 1974. The President has emphasized growth in agriculture as a “categorical imperative” for 1974.

The agricultural sector, which provides 85 percent of food requirements, showed practically no growth in 1973. The Government adopted two major measures for agriculture but neither was implemented to any extent in 1973 because of reorganization of the Ministry of Agriculture. (1) a price incentive program and an agrarian reform law. The law is designed to put more land into cultivation, but farmers actually delayed expansion of any kind and adopted a “wait and see” attitude.

Agricultural production suffered severely from bad weather in 1973. Excessive rainfall and flooding caused crop losses in the coastal provinces. Drought and frost did considerable damage in the Sierra. Although bananas were unaffected, food crops generally did poorly, and Ecuador had to increase imports.

Banana production again exceeded 3 million tons. Nearly all bananas of any quality were exported because of high world demand. The total area of 171,000 hectares includes 70,000 hectares of the high yielding Cavendish variety. Sugar production was down a trifle to 245,000 tons. Ecuador met the U.S. assigned quota of 85,000 tons, but the increase in domestic consumption will make this difficult in 1974.

Excessive rains reduced Ecuador's 1972/73 cocoa

harvest to 47,000 tons but a harvest of 55,000 is forecast for 1973/74. Excessively heavy rainfall also delayed the 1972/73 coffee crop, but the eventual harvest exceeded that of the previous year at 73,000 tons. Castorbean production did not change from the 1972 harvest of 20,000 tons. Production of pyrethrum, the natural insecticide, was down but mushroom production was up.

Basic food crop production fell sharply in 1973. Wheat production dropped from 50,000 to 43,000 tons. Excessively heavy rains inundated rainy season rice and total production was down 16 percent to 152,000 tons. Feed grain production was down 15 percent to 280,000 tons. A 10 percent drop in the corn crop to 215,000 tons and diversion to 10,000 tons to Colombia made it necessary to import 15,000 tons. Rains reduced the barley harvest from 90,000 to 65,000 tons. Frost damage in the highlands reduced potatoes 15 percent to 400,000 tons. An increase of 3,500 tons in palm oil production helped increase total vegetable oil production to 16,500 tons.

Beef slaughter was up 4 percent to 52,000 tons. The reported slaughter rate was 13 percent for a cattle population of 2.58 million. Slaughter houses pressed for authority to export to Peru and Europe because of higher prices abroad, but the Government limited exports to about 400 tons each. It authorized the export of 20,000 veal calves to Europe in 1974. Milk production, which would normally have been up 5 percent, was up only 3 percent to 239,000 tons because of diversion to processed products, cheese and butter, whose prices are not controlled like milk prices. Hog slaughter was up 5 percent to yield 25,530 tons of pork and 13,740 tons of lard.

The petroleum bonanza enabled Ecuador to become a cash basis importer. She dismantled import barriers and reduced duties to 2 percent on cattle, wheat, and farm machinery and to 5 percent on fertilizer. Exports of petroleum to the United States were valued at \$44 million through October 1973. The value of U.S. farm exports to Ecuador was up 46 percent to \$30.7 million. That of wheat exports was up 53 percent to \$15,462,000 although volume was down to 106,000 tons. In September, Ecuador purchased 110,000 tons of U.S. wheat at \$255 a ton for delivery through early 1974. She then put a subsidy of \$96.76 per ton on it to cushion the domestic market from the price increase. U.S. soybean oil exports to Ecuador were up 4 percent to \$4,728,000. Exports to corn and smoking tobacco also had values above \$1 million.

The value of Ecuador's farm exports to the United States was up 9 percent to \$90 million. Four tropical commodities accounted for 90 percent of this value in million of dollars; bananas, 32; coffee, 24; sugar and molasses, 17; cocoa and products, 11. Three minor commodities were raw abaca, mushrooms, and cut flowers. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Guyana

Guyana, with a large area of undeveloped land in relation to its three-quarters of a million people, has experienced a declining rate of per capita income growth since the late 1960's. The economy is plagued by persistent unemployment probably exceeding 20 percent, a deteriorating balance of payments position, and declining private investment.

Real growth in GNP has barely kept up with population growth over the past decade. Per capita agricultural production declined from the early 1960's to an index of about 90 (1961-65=100) near the end of the 1960's. Since then it has deteriorated further to an index of 72 in 1972 and 60 in 1973.

Guyana's three major export commodities—bauxite, sugar, and rice, accounting for over 80 percent of the country's exports—suffered a further setback in 1973 from the poor performances in 1972. Production of sugar and rice was down about 17 and 16 percent respectively. Alumina and bauxite production also was expected to be down by 8 to 10 percent from 1972.

With import demand continuing strong, the export shortfall contributed to an estimated \$25-\$30 million balance of payments deficit during the year. The Government's 5-year plan 1972-76 anticipated large trade deficits in 1973-75, but they were expected to result from imports of capital goods projected in the plan and not from an export shortfall accompanied by large consumer import expenditures. Lower export earnings forced the Government to further restrict the importation of consumer as well as capital goods late in the year. This affected trade not only with the United Kingdom (the country's principal supplier) and the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM) but with the United States, which supplied about 30 percent of all agricultural imports in 1972.

Principal imports from the United States, valued at \$6.6 million in 1972, were wheat, animal feeds, tobacco, eggs, and fresh vegetables. Despite an austerity program and an extensive prohibited import list of consumer items, the value of U.S. exports to Guyana in 1973 rose to \$10.8 million because of higher prices and, for some items, larger quantities.

Guyana imports many consumer goods including processed and prepared foods from Jamaica and Trinidad, which in turn depend upon Guyana as a major supplier of rice. Guyana's two successive poor rice crops created serious rice procurement problems for Jamaica, Trinidad, and the Eastern Caribbean in 1973. The series of negotiated upward export prices were a shock to traditional purchasers of Guyana's rice. In most cases the Caribbean importers had to obtain emergency supplies from the United States at record high world prices. As a consequence, Trinidad announced plans for the revival of domestic rice production to increase self sufficiency.

Despite perennial efforts of Guyana to increase the production of sugar and rice, little progress has been made. Beef production has been discouraged by cattle rustling and high slaughter of female and young stock. A large-scale dairy development program is underway in which 50 farms of 30 acres each are being established.

The new emphasis of the USAID program is being shifted from capital projects in rice to dairy, livestock, and food crops. Current plans involve a series of agricultural sector and feasibility studies under contract with U.S. research firms.

Government policies favoring state-controlled industry have adversely affected direct foreign investment in Guyana. Since the nationalization of Canadian aluminum interests in 1971 practically no new foreign investments have been made. Other disincentives to private foreign investment are the relatively small domestic market, slow economic growth, and the uncertainties surrounding possible joint ventures between domestic private firms and foreign investors. In addition, price controls on domestic consumer goods discourage expansion of certain industries. The country's commitment to public rather than private responsibility for economic expansion makes Guyana less attractive than other countries throughout the Caribbean for foreign investors to establish manufacturing and business facilities within CARICOM to serve a growing regional market. (Frank D. Barlow)

Paraguay

Paraguay's GNP increased about 5.5 percent in 1973, up slightly from the previous year. Agricultural growth lagged behind with an estimated 1 percent increase. A 7 percent rise in crop production was partly offset by reduced output of livestock products. Corn production was up to 250,000 tons as output recovered from a poor crop the previous year. Cotton, sugarcane, and soybean production also registered substantial increases, part of an upward trend that has been continuing for 2 or 3 years. Wheat production of 20,000 tons was only slightly improved from the poor 1972 crop. Production of cassava (manioc), the most important food crop in Paraguay, was apparently down somewhat in 1973, largely because of competition from other crops, particularly soybeans.

Beef output was down to 96,000 tons, 13 percent below 1972. The decline in cattle slaughter is attributed to the establishment in September 1973 of a maximum liveweight price 35 percent below the previously existing free market price, and to an increase in unregistered movement of live cattle to Brazil. The price ceiling was imposed to protect domestic consumers from sharply rising prices of beef, an important staple in the Paraguayan diet.

Overall agricultural production should show some

improvement in 1974. Soybean production, forecast at 150,000 tons, will continue a climb that started from a base of 14,000 tons in 1968. Corn, tobacco, cotton, and wheat are also expected to increase. New investments in sugarcane production make a rising production trend likely over the next several years.

Agricultural exports were about \$100 million in 1973, up 43 percent over 1972. The advance was due principally to higher prices, but significant increases in the export volumes of soybeans and soybean products, and cotton were of importance. Beef exports were down 13 percent to 40,000 tons (carcass weight equivalent). In recent years a growing proportion of Paraguayan beef exports have been frozen or chilled instead of the traditional canned product. U.S. agricultural imports from Paraguay were \$18.7 million in 1973, up 45 percent from 1972. Processed beef products accounted for over two-thirds of this total. U.S. agricultural exports to Paraguay were \$922,000 in 1973. (Edmond Missiaen)

Peru

Peru's economy grew at a rate near 5.3 percent, down from 5.8 and 6.9 percent in the 2 previous years, due partly to the decline in fishmeal production. The manufacturing sector was up 11 percent, mineral production continued to rise in response to favorable prices, and agriculture showed improvement over recent years. Peru's usually favorable foreign trade balance was reduced to a minimum by the drop in fishmeal exports and by higher prices, particularly for agricultural imports. Despite Government controls and subsidies for motor fuels and several imported food commodities, the consumer price index increased about 14 percent in 1973, double the rise in 1972.

The outlook for 1974, appeared generally favorable due, partly, to some anticipated recovery in anchovy and fishmeal production. Exchange reserves at the end of 1973 were up considerably owing to the continued good showing of minerals, new investments in mining and petroleum, debt refinancing, and some drawdown on foreign loans. New investments in petroleum included a pipeline across the Andes to new oilfields to be completed in 1976.

Peru continued some progress in agrarian reform although the program met growing opposition from small and medium landholders. By the end of 1973, the cumulative total of expropriations was 5.8 million hectares. About 4.3 million had been adjudicated, largely to worker-managed enterprises with total families admitted to cooperatives or receiving individual land parcels numbering 175,000. The effect of reforms upon sugar production is considered limited but farmers appear uncertain about expanding cotton and even with higher prices, cattle producers continue to reduce their herds.

The Government continued to maintain tight controls upon agricultural production and imports to improve use of land and assure adequate food supplies. Development plans will place growing emphasis upon higher yields and increased acreages for wheat, feedgrains, and oilseeds through expansion of intercropping and use of fallow lands. Peru is also proceeding with a number of irrigation projects which, by 1975, could increase the irrigated area by 386,000 hectares, an increase of about one-third.

Agricultural conditions were generally favorable in 1973 and production recovered, rising 3 percent to near the peak levels of 1970 and 1971. Heavy rains which fell early in the year damaged some coastal crops, including rice, but filled irrigation reservoirs and improved pastures and yields of food crops in the northern highlands. Gains were mainly in crops, with output of livestock below the 1972 levels. However, production continued to lag contributing to rising requirements, particularly for food imports.

Production of grains other than rice increased in 1973. Wheat continued to rise with production up 6 percent to 149,000 tons. Small gains based upon improved yields were reported for corn and barley. Rice production declined but large stocks permitted exports of about 55,000 tons. Wheat imports dropped from the high 1972 level to 768,000 tons in 1973 but purchases of corn and sorghum grain were expanded to a total near 235,000 tons to meet growing feed requirements. Wheat imports in 1974 are forecast near 1973 with some further rise anticipated for feedgrains.

Cotton production was up nearly 4 percent above the reduced 1972 crop but still 40 percent below peaks of the early 1960's. Exports were down slightly in volume but up significantly in value in 1973. Unusually high 1973 prices encouraged larger plantings which may increase production and exports by more than 15 percent this year.

Peru's 1973 sugarcane harvest was a record, up 3 percent. However, the sucrose content was lower because of unusually wet weather and sugar output was near the 1972 outturn of 921,000 tons. Peru met its basic U.S. sugar quota with about 30,000 tons moving to other markets. Production is estimated to be near 940,000 tons in 1974.

The deficit in fats and oils continued to increase, partly because of the sharp 1972 and 1973 drops in anchovy fishing. Production of fish oil fell to 42,000 tons and cottonseed oil remained near 25,000 tons. With reduced domestic supplies, Peru imported 74,000 tons of soybean oil and equivalent in soybeans. The import target for 1974 is 65,000 tons but if anchovy is delayed, requirements could equal or exceed 75,000 tons.

Peru's estimated red meat production was down slightly in 1973 to 173,000 tons, with reductions in beef and mutton partly offset by gains in pork. Meat

supplies were supplemented by poultry which continued some expansion increasing to 64,000 tons in 1973. The 15-day-per-month ban on beef sales continued under a program to limit imports and promote consumption of other meats and fish. Milk production trended down with production estimated about 600,000 tons in 1973. Peru currently imports more than one-third of its dairy requirements, mainly as butter oil and dry milk from New Zealand and other sources. Much of the current Government planning has been directed to building production of livestock, meat, and milk.

Peru's agricultural imports were up 43 percent in 1973, to \$238 million, compared with exports which increased 22 percent to \$246 million. The United States increased its share of the Peruvian market as exports expanded from \$72 million in 1972 to \$122 million in 1973, a rise of nearly 70 percent. In contrast, U.S. agricultural imports from Peru dropped slightly to a value of \$111 million.

The United States supplied 575,000 tons of 1973 wheat imports. Most of Peru's 236,000 tons of feedgrain imports were from the United States along with 20,000 tons of soybeans, all financed under special commodity credit programs. Argentina and other neighboring countries were major sources of cattle imports which fell sharply in 1973. New Zealand continued as the major supplier of dairy products.

Changes in agricultural exports was related to higher prices for sugar, cotton, coffee, and alpaca wool. Fishmeal exports fell from 1.5 million tons valued at \$258 million in 1972 to 351,000 tons and \$125 million in 1973. Sugar exports dropped to 407,000 tons with values near the 1962 level of \$76 million. Cotton exports were up 43 percent to \$67 million on a slightly lower volume. Higher prices accounted mainly for a 28 percent increase in coffee exports. Wool and rice also increased in importance in total export earnings. (Samuel O. Ruff)

Uruguay

Uruguay's economy remained stagnant through 1973. Government plans to push economic growth in 1974 with the help of domestic economic reforms and an expansion of trade have been hurt by the sharp increases in the cost of oil imports. Agricultural output grew about 1.0 percent in 1973, thanks to the recovery of several crops from the drought conditions of 1972. The level of agricultural production, however, remained well below the 1961-70 average.

Livestock, accounting for two-thirds of total agricultural output, declined 8 percent in 1973. Beef production fell 13 percent to 253,000 tons as cattlemen increased their herds in anticipation of higher prices. Despite sharp declines in sheep and lamb slaughter for 2 years running—a response to high wool prices—wool production remained low in 1973.

Crop production increased 26 percent in 1973. Corn production was up 62 percent to 228,000 tons and sorghum was up threefold to 225,000 tons. Wheat production, although up 10 percent from the low 1972 crop, reached only one-half the 1961-70 average. Poor weather at planting time and low producer prices contributed to the poor wheat crops in both 1972 and 1973, and also released land for summer harvested crops, especially sorghum. Sorghum is expected to continue its rapid increase in 1974, but corn production may drop somewhat. The announcement of higher prices has renewed producer interest in wheat and may lead to a production recovery in 1974.

Total oilseed production was up 15 percent in 1973, primarily because of increased sunflower production, but flaxseed output fell for the fourth straight year. Uruguayan farmers have begun to plant soybeans, but their production, estimated at 10,000 tons in 1974, remains relatively unimportant.

Total agricultural exports rose to over \$270 million in 1973, up from \$190 million in 1972. Increased prices were the major cause of this expansion, but higher export volumes also contributed. Beef exports were estimated at 120,000 tons (carcass weight equivalent), about the same as 1972 despite the 37,000-ton decline in output. The maintenance of beef exports is attributed to more effective controls over cattle marketing, which slowed illegal exports of live cattle in Brazil, and enabled a stricter enforcement of last year's beef "veda," a period from August 15 to November 15 when domestic consumption was banned. Wool exports were up 21 percent to 62,000 tons, but cattle hide exports fell approximately 25 percent to 9,000 tons. Rice exports, reflecting the good crop, were up 44 percent to 65,000 tons. Beginning this year, Uruguay should benefit from planned Argentine-Uruguayan cooperation in the marketing of traditional export products.

Total agricultural imports were around \$60 million in 1973. Wheat imports were 136,000 tons (the actual figure may have been higher because of unregistered imports), of which 44,000 tons were purchased by Argentina from the United States to fulfill an export commitment to Uruguay. Import needs were minimized by blending sorghum with wheat flour at a 1-to-4 ratio. Other major import items were sugar, cotton, potatoes, seeds, and coffee.

U.S. agricultural exports to Uruguay, other than the Argentine wheat purchases diverted there, totaled \$2.6 million in 1973, down from \$14.8 million the previous year. Principal items were corn, tobacco, soybeans (mostly for seed), and dry beans. U.S. agricultural imports from Uruguay were \$1.2 million in 1973, up \$100,000 from 1972. (Edmond Missiaen)

Venezuela

Increased petroleum production (5 percent over 1972) and the sharp rise in prices accounted for nearly

half of Venezuela's growth in gross national product in 1973. Significantly, the non-petroleum sectors of the economy continued growing at the relatively high annual rate of about 10 percent in 1973—compared with 8 percent in 1972. Estimated unemployment was approximately 6 percent, among the lowest rates in Latin America. Improvement in the terms of trade resulted in a marked expansion of over 12 percent in real national income. It is estimated that overall real growth of GNP (1968 prices) will exceed 9 percent compared with the upwardly revised figures of 5.5 percent for 1972 and 4.3 percent for 1971.

The country registered its largest trade surplus in 3 years as the total value of exports led by petroleum advanced 38 percent over 1972. Foreign exchange reserves are estimated to have exceeded \$2.4 billion at year's end, about 40 percent above the \$1.7 billion recorded in December 1972.

The booming economy, together with rising costs of imports and shortfalls in planned production of several basic agricultural crops resulting from droughts and floods, contributed to rising domestic consumer prices of 12 percent compared with moderate increases of about 3 percent annually for 1971 and 1972. Year-end indications are that it will be difficult and costly to the Government to continue to moderate consumer price rises in 1974.

If petroleum production is maintained at the 1973 level it is estimated that the value of petroleum exports may range from \$8 billion to \$10 billion in 1974, as compared with about \$2 billion in 1973. Increased petroleum earnings will result in a significant increase in Government revenue, probably beyond the country's immediate capacity to absorb it efficiently. Severe inflationary pressures exist and greater imports will be needed to partially offset them.

Prices of imported consumer items increased under Venezuela's new tariff system. This did not materially interfere with protected Venezuelan producers, however, as both domestic wholesale and retail prices generally rose during the year. It is estimated that prices for domestically produced agricultural products rose 9.4 percent in 1973.

Agriculture is more important than indicated by its mere 6.5 percent of real GNP. It supplies about 90 percent of domestic requirements of food and fiber and provides employment for about one-fifth of the country's labor force. Adverse weather in 1972 and again in 1973 limited increases in 1973 production of most crops, and reduced production of livestock products. Livestock production, which has been increasing at about 5 percent annually over the past 5 years, failed to reach the previous year's level for the first time in many years.

Despite the general performance of agriculture in 1973, the production of two crops—rice and sesame—rose substantially from the extremely poor

crops of 1972. Sesame production rose by 25 percent and the rice production of 272,000 tons set a new record, rising 65 percent over 1972. Other crops showed only nominal gains. The livestock industries were plagued with drought conditions, shortages of feed, and regulated prices, all of which discouraged expansion to meet soaring demands for meat and milk products.

Traditionally, Venezuela has been a net importer of agricultural products at a ratio of 5 or 6 to 1. The United States ranked as the number one supplier of agricultural products, providing over 40 percent of agricultural imports in 1972. In 1973, imports from the United States were estimated at about \$160 million, \$23 million above 1972. Major imports from the United States were bulk items—wheat, feedgrains, vegetable oils, and oil cake and meal or soybeans. Other important imports, though of less magnitude, were fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, animal and animal products, poultry products, and fats, oils, and greases. Venezuelan agricultural exports to the United States amounted to about \$30 million in 1973, the same as in 1972. Principal items were coffee, cocoa products, sugar, plantains, and bananas. The 1973 shortfall in sugar production prevented Venezuela from meeting its U.S. sugar quota.

The Government's programs to encourage agricultural production include price supports, subsidies, public investment in irrigation, roads, housing, and electrification, agrarian reform, and agricultural credit. Despite these efforts, overall growth of agriculture has lagged behind expectations for a number of years. Although considerable progress has been made in import substitution of such items as milk, poultry products, pork, rice, and sugar, there is much room for increased efficiency, further progress in import substitution, and increasing exports of sugar, coffee, and cacao.

The world energy crisis and the fourfold increase in petroleum prices during 1973 favorably affected the country's external and internal financial position. Revenues and expenditures were estimated to have exceeded 1972 levels by more than 27 and 21 percent respectively. Venezuela's favorable geographic location, good port facilities, strong currency, budgetary surpluses, protected market, low taxes in the nonpetroleum sectors, good labor relations, and one of the most stable price levels in the world contribute to extremely optimistic potentials for rapid economic growth.

Rich natural resources in addition to petroleum are natural gas, high quality iron ore, aluminum, other minerals, plentiful water, and electricity. Maturing plans for the development and expansion of manufacturing and petrochemical industries make it attractive to foreign investors, particularly joint ventures between foreign and national firms. The

country is a member of the Andean Pact. As such, its adherence to the Andean foreign investment code, which clearly sets forth the rules of the game for foreign investors in a regionally protected market, should stimulate foreign economic and technical participation in both foreign and national firms.

The implementation of a new ad valorem tariff system in 1973 to supplant the old system of quotas, licenses, and other quantitative restrictions should encourage greater efficiency in agriculture and manufacturing and a higher level of trade. This, together with other incentives to expand trade, should stimulate the competitiveness of Venezuelan producers.

Although the Government is expected to continue to try to get agriculture moving, it appears that nonagricultural opportunities have a great comparative advantage vis-a-vis agricultural enterprises. Agricultural growth will be hampered by urban-oriented policies to keep the prices of food low. This inevitably involves the continuation of farm subsidies, food subsidies, price controls, and other

regulations that hamper the development of a viable agriculture. As a result, the imports of basic food products are expected to grow in relation to domestic agricultural output.

As a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Venezuela is expected to use its petroleum policy as a tool for the promotion of its overall economic development program. With more than a fourfold increase in Government revenues, the Government is expected to play a major role in directing the expansion of the country's petrochemical mining and manufacturing industries. All of these industries are expected to be exported oriented. The potentials for growth in the mining, petroleum, and manufacturing sectors are so great in relation to the availability of technically trained manpower that there will probably be a great need for joint ventures with foreign firms. As industrial expansion proceeds, the Government can be expected to coordinate its petroleum development and trade policies to assure preferential access of its products in the world markets. (Frank D. Barlow)

APPENDIX TABLES

Table 1.--Western Hemisphere: Population, gross national product, and gold and foreign exchange holdings, by country, 1972-73 ^{1/}

Country	Population			Gross national product			Gold and foreign exchange holdings ^{2/}		
	1972	1973	Change	1971	1972	1973	1972	1973	Change
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Mil. dol.	Percent	Percent	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Percent
Canada	21,850	22,130	1.3	92,411	5.8	7.0	6,050	5,768	- 4.7
Mexico	54,040	55,910	3.5	35,660	7.5	8.5	1,164	^{5/} 1,014	- 2.9
Barbados	239	239	--	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cuba	8,778	8,900	1.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Dominican Republic	4,520	4,670	3.3	1,601	7.0	7.0	59	88	49.2
Haiti	4,730	4,830	2.1	462	5.5	6.0	18	17	- 5.6
Jamaica	1,930	1,980	2.6	1,343	3.0	1.0	160	128	-20.0
Trinidad and Tobago	1,027	1,035	.8	858	5.1	5.5	58	49	-15.5
Other Caribbean	1,711	1,743	1.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Caribbean	22,935	23,397	2.0	4,264	5.2	4.7	295	282	- 4.4
Costa Rica	1,840	1,890	2.7	1,029	4.5	4.0	39	42	7.7
El Salvador	3,750	3,880	3.5	1,069	4.8	5.0	82	62	-24.4
Guatemala	5,658	5,810	2.7	1,985	6.1	6.0	135	212	57.0
Honduras	2,890	2,990	3.5	734	3.9	4.5	35	42	20.0
Nicaragua	1,970	2,030	3.0	899	5.1	3.2	80	^{6/} 110	37.5
Panama	1,520	1,570	3.3	1,126	7.5	8.0	942	^{7/} 1,212	28.7
Other Central America	128	132	3.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Central America	17,756	18,302	3.1	6,842	5.5	5.3	1,314	1,680	27.9
Argentina	24,840	25,190	1.4	27,150	3.6	5.0	465	^{8/} 1,229	164.3
Bolivia	4,990	5,020	.6	1,083	6.0	7.0	60	72	20.0
Brazil	100,160	103,000	2.8	43,006	10.4	11.4	4,183	^{7/} 6,505	55.5
Chile	9,660	9,830	1.8	7,540	1.5	-5.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Colombia	23,370	24,120	3.2	6,860	7.1	7.5	325	534	64.3
Ecuador	6,510	6,740	3.5	1,673	9.8	11.5	143	241	68.5
Guyana	755	773	2.4	265	.8	-2.0	37	14	-62.2
Paraguay	2,380	2,440	2.5	652	5.3	5.5	31	57	83.9
Peru	14,460	14,920	3.2	5,501	5.8	5.3	460	^{5/} 556	20.9
Uruguay	2,960	3,000	1.4	2,694	1.3	--	198	^{6/} 219	10.6
Venezuela	11,500	11,880	3.3	11,170	5.5	9.0	1,732	2,418	39.6
Other South America	463	477	3.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
South America	202,048	207,390	2.6	108,594	6.8	7.5	7,634	^{9/} 11,845	55.2
Latin America	296,779	304,999	2.8	155,360	6.8	7.6	10,407	^{9/} 14,821	42.4
Western Hemisphere	318,629	327,129	2.7	247,771	6.4	7.4	16,457	^{9/} 20,589	25.1

^{1/} Regional totals include only those countries for which data are shown, ending December unless otherwise shown.

^{2/} Total of gold, foreign exchange holdings, and reserve position in the international Monetary Fund.

^{3/} Value at current market prices converted to U.S. dollars, using the average end-of-quarter free or principal import rates of exchange.

^{4/} Estimates of real growth.

^{5/} Position at the end of October.

^{6/} Position at the end of November.

^{7/} Position at the end of June.

^{8/} Position at the end of September.

^{9/} Excludes Chile.

Sources: International Monetary Fund, U.S. Agency for International Development; other U.S. Government agencies.

Table 2.--Western Hemisphere: Indices of total and per capita agricultural and food production by countries and regions, 1971-73 ^{1/}

(1961-65 = 100)

Country	Total						Per capita					
	Agricultural			Food			Agricultural			Food		
	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973
Canada	129	120	125	130	122	125	113	104	107	114	106	107
Mexico	135	131	138	146	140	151	103	97	99	112	103	108
Dominican Republic	128	133	135	133	136	137	101	102	100	105	104	102
Haiti	92	95	97	99	102	102	80	81	81	86	87	86
Jamaica	89	90	85	87	89	84	79	79	73	77	78	72
Trinidad & Tobago	91	99	84	92	98	84	82	89	75	83	88	75
Caribbean	112	117	116	115	118	117	95	97	94	98	98	95
Costa Rica	169	177	190	186	199	212	131	134	140	145	150	156
El Salvador	133	118	124	143	131	156	101	87	89	109	97	112
Guatemala	140	144	155	157	153	168	110	110	116	124	117	125
Honduras	144	138	146	145	133	146	110	102	104	111	98	104
Nicaragua	135	126	144	145	134	145	108	99	109	116	105	110
Panama	132	128	136	133	129	137	104	98	101	104	99	101
Central America	142	139	150	153	148	162	111	105	110	119	112	119
Argentina	110	104	112	114	108	117	97	91	97	101	94	101
Bolivia	115	114	126	113	110	116	95	92	99	94	89	91
Brazil	129	133	138	138	141	153	103	104	104	111	110	116
Chile	123	109	98	126	111	100	106	92	81	108	94	83
Colombia	121	130	136	129	134	138	94	97	99	100	100	100
Ecuador	136	136	140	136	139	140	103	99	99	103	101	99
Guyana	105	90	77	105	90	76	86	72	60	86	72	60
Paraguay	100	104	105	100	100	99	82	83	82	82	80	77
Peru	106	102	105	119	113	118	83	77	77	93	86	87
Uruguay	90	85	86	96	91	94	82	76	76	87	81	83
Venezuela	141	146	150	143	147	150	109	109	109	111	110	109
South America	121	122	127	127	126	134	98	96	98	103	99	103
Latin America ^{2/}	125	124	130	131	130	138	100	97	98	105	101	105
Latin America ^{3/}	125	125	131	132	130	138	100	97	99	106	101	104

^{1/} Revised data for 1971 and 1972; preliminary for 1973.

^{2/} Production for 22 countries shown.

^{3/} Excludes Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Source: Economic Research Service, Indices of Agricultural Production for the Western Hemisphere, ERS-For. 264, Revised April 1974.

Table 3--Western Hemisphere: Fertilizer consumption in nutrient equivalent, average 1961-65, annual 1970-71

Country	N			P ₂ O ₅			K ₂ O			Total		
	1961-65	1970	1971	1961-65	1970	1971	1961-65	1970	1971	1961-65	1970	1971
	1,000 tons											
Canada	152	292	336	252	326	340	119	184	190	523	802	866
Cuba	64	159	100	60	92	65	45	145	100	169	396	265
Mexico	199	438	519	53	129	144	8	26	30	278	593	693
Barbados	4	2	3	1/	1	1	3	2	3	7	5	7
Dominican Republic	8	16	26	1	9	12	2	13	15	11	38	53
Jamaica	8	9	10	2	3	3	6	10	10	16	22	23
Trinidad & Tobaco	3	6	9	1	1	1	3	3	3	7	10	13
Other Caribbean	5	8	8	4	7	7	12	19	17	21	34	32
Caribbean	28	41	56	8	21	24	26	47	48	62	109	128
British Honduras	1/	2	1	1/	1	2	1/	1/	5	1/	3	8
Costa Rica	14	37	48	7	6	22	5	6	9	26	49	79
El Salvador	21	45	63	7	12	13	7	8	8	35	65	84
Guatemala	9	29	27	5	12	15	2	6	6	16	47	48
Honduras	7	15	12	1/	2	2	1/	8	8	7	25	22
Nicaragua	8	16	17	2	7	9	1	3	4	11	26	30
Panama	9	15	15	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	15	15
Central America	68	159	183	21	40	63	15	31	40	104	230	286
Argentina	16	41	45	5	39	40	3	7	10	24	87	95
Bolivia	1/	1	1	1/	1	1	1/	1/	1/	1/	2	2
Brazil	58	279	277	86	377	447	80	306	351	224	962	1,075
Chile	32	44	50	59	99	104	12	15	17	103	158	171
Colombia	40	64	88	48	61	62	34	52	57	122	177	207
Ecuador	6	18	20	5	10	10	4	6	5	15	34	35
Guyana	5	7	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	9	11	11
Paraguay	1/	2	1	1	3	2	1/	3	1	1	8	4
Peru	64	66	81	23	13	15	7	5	4	94	84	100
Surinam	1	2	3	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1	2	3
Uruguay	8	13	18	19	31	39	4	6	6	31	50	63
Venezuela	13	25	33	6	28	25	6	29	28	25	82	86
South America	243	562	624	254	664	747	152	431	481	649	1,657	1,852
Latin America	602	1,359	1,482	396	946	1,043	246	680	699	1,262	2,985	3,224

1/ 500 tons or less.

Source: Food and Agriculture Organization, Production Yearbook of Agriculture.

Table 4.--Area and production of selected agricultural products by principal Western Hemisphere countries or regions, annual 1971-73 ^{1/}

Commodity by country	Area ^{2/}			Production		
	1971	1972	1973 ^{3/}	1971	1972	1973 ^{3/}
	1,000 hectares			1,000 tons		
Wheat:						
Canada	7,854	8,640	10,021	14,412	14,514	17,112
Mexico	700	680	720	1,900	1,700	2,000
Central America	44	46	48	39	45	45
Argentina	4,295	4,965	3,850	5,680	6,900	6,000
Brazil	2,269	1,500	1,820	2,011	680	1,850
Chile	727	701	534	1,368	900	747
Uruguay	340	185	204	302	186	204
Other South America	388	368	343	352	344	319
Total Latin America	8,763	8,445	7,519	11,652	10,755	11,165
Rice, rough:						
Mexico	169	165	170	438	420	408
Cuba	180	180	190	190	225	260
Other Caribbean	149	148	148	253	246	223
Panama	96	105	107	138	127	165
Other Central America	119	113	141	299	236	275
Brazil	4,821	5,040	5,220	6,593	7,100	7,900
Colombia	241	265	257	852	980	950
Guyana	113	80	80	188	148	125
Peru	147	131	110	591	552	448
Uruguay	31	31	34	122	128	137
Other South America	396	355	375	929	955	1,020
Total Latin America	6,462	6,613	6,832	10,593	11,117	11,911
Corn:						
Canada	571	537	520	2,946	2,528	2,767
Mexico	8,000	7,500	8,000	9,100	8,100	9,200
Caribbean	278	279	282	257	261	252
Guatemala	868	832	870	747	666	760
Honduras	300	290	300	351	290	336
Other Central America	595	539	555	733	486	759
Argentina	4,066	3,147	3,565	9,930	5,860	9,000
Brazil	10,550	10,539	13,000	14,130	12,900	14,000
Chile	77	84	86	258	258	294
Colombia	750	600	640	750	600	700
Peru	401	350	314	699	589	600
Venezuela	588	564	575	714	506	559
Other South America	820	825	899	919	877	983
Total Latin America	27,293	25,549	29,086	38,588	31,393	37,443
Grain sorghum:						
Mexico	850	850	850	2,200	1,885	2,200
Caribbean	17	17	17	21	21	21
Central America	280	265	279	301	273	293
Argentina	2,235	1,419	2,131	4,660	2,360	4,200
Colombia	91	105	165	200	260	425
Uruguay	54	42	113	72	57	225
Other South America	112	112	199	127	129	394
Total Latin America	3,639	2,810	3,754	7,581	4,985	7,758
Beans dry:						
Canada	46	54	45	79	88	78
Mexico	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,100	940	1,100
Caribbean	109	109	109	93	96	98
Central America	317	273	307	224	162	224
Brazil	3,936	3,000	3,600	2,688	2,350	2,400
Chile	70	80	68	72	83	65
Peru	61	59	40	48	47	32
Venezuela	124	97	95	55	36	30
Other South America	277	275	300	189	186	218
Total Latin America	6,894	5,893	6,519	4,469	3,900	4,167
Sweetpotatoes and yams:						
Mexico	13	12	12	127	130	130
Caribbean	108	110	110	674	681	696
Central America	4	4	4	15	15	16
Argentina	42	35	43	454	328	474
Brazil	183	183	183	2,135	2,140	2,150
Paraguay	14	12	11	138	72	65
Peru	14	14	14	168	170	175
Other South America	46	57	58	386	425	428
Total Latin America	424	427	435	4,097	3,961	4,134

Continued--

Table 4.--Continued

Commodity by country	Area 2/			Production		
	1971	1972	1973 3/	1971	1972	1973 3/
	1,000 hectares			1,000 tons		
Potatoes:						
Canada	110	99	106	2,224	1,991	2,123
Mexico	40	39	40	443	461	450
Caribbean	19	19	19	123	128	131
Central America	12	12	13	56	57	60
Argentina	179	147	118	2,005	1,340	1,535
Bolivia	97	95	95	698	614	675
Brazil	208	202	206	1,580	1,720	1,750
Chile	80	81	75	836	730	624
Colombia	95	92	85	950	978	918
Peru	320	300	310	1,968	1,750	1,900
Other South America	80	75	76	669	691	644
Total Latin America	1,130	1,062	1,037	9,328	8,469	8,687
Cotton:						
Mexico	460	500	431	373	390	345
Caribbean	5	5	5	3	3	3
Guatemala	70	89	104	82	95	103
Nicaragua	107	148	162	103	106	130
Other Central America	74	92	107	71	75	86
Argentina	367	361	445	84	87	125
Brazil	2,350	2,480	2,355	595	682	660
Colombia	221	269	260	112	136	154
Peru	136	137	138	77	75	78
Other South America	149	196	239	35	57	86
Total Latin America	3,939	4,277	4,246	1,535	1,706	1,770
Peanuts:						
Mexico	60	30	40	70	25	45
Caribbean	99	99	99	94	100	101
Argentina	310	294	370	388	252	440
Brazil	726	560	500	945	893	650
Other South America	63	61	57	61	60	60
Total Latin America	1,258	1,044	1,066	1,558	1,330	1,296
Soybeans:						
Canada	149	164	190	280	375	397
Mexico	135	240	306	250	375	510
Argentina	36	68	157	59	78	272
Brazil	1,716	2,192	2,946	2,077	3,666	4,800
Colombia	61	58	63	115	122	132
Other South America	56	83	99	76	104	135
Total Latin America	2,004	2,641	3,571	2,577	4,345	5,849
Tobacco:						
Canada	44	42	49	102	85	124
Mexico	31	34	35	58	56	58
Cuba	42	57	64	27	45	46
Other Caribbean	28	28	39	29	34	36
Central America	7	7	8	11	11	13
Argentina	65	68	74	62	74	74
Brazil	193	189	193	196	191	174
Colombia	23	25	28	44	42	48
Other South America	34	37	41	43	47	52
Total Latin America	423	445	482	470	500	501

1/ Time reference is calendar year to include crops harvested mainly in year shown. Latin American totals include available data for the 23 Latin American countries, including Cuba.

2/ Seeded area for Canada; harvested area for other countries insofar as possible.

3/ Preliminary

Sources: Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Food and Agricultural Organization, Production Yearbook of Agriculture.

Table 5.--Western Hemisphere: Production of selected agricultural products by principal countries or regions, 1971-73 1/

Commodity by country	Production			Commodity by country	Production		
	1971	1972	1973 2/		1971	1972	1973 2/
	1,000 tons				1,000 tons		
Cassava (yuca):				Cocoa beans:			
Caribbean	569	580	590	Mexico	30	29	29
Central America	128	129	130	Dominican Republic	42	28	39
Brazil	30,229	31,000	31,500	Other Caribbean	13	13	12
Colombia	1,100	1,300	1,350	Central America	9	7	9
Paraguay	1,198	1,208	1,100	Brazil	165	159	220
Other South America	1,334	1,282	1,222	Ecuador	58	43	55
Total Latin America	34,558	35,499	35,892	Venezuela	19	17	19
				Other South America	22	24	25
Sugar, centrifugal, (raw value):				Total Latin America	358	320	408
Canada	149	145	113	Wool, shorn:			
				Canada	2	2	2
Mexico	2,476	2,520	2,770				
Cuba	5,924	4,388	5,250	Mexico	4	4	4
Dominican Republic	1,098	1,139	1,143	Argentina	162	154	156
Other Caribbean	1,019	921	865	Brazil	34	37	39
Central America	893	982	1,001	Uruguay	62	59	55
Argentina	991	1,295	1,660	Other South America	31	29	30
Brazil	5,388	6,268	6,900	Total Latin America	293	283	284
Colombia	790	821	880				
Peru	903	921	915	Beef and veal:			
Venezuela	517	483	478	Canada	875	898	890
Other South America	999	997	943				
Total Latin America	20,998	20,735	22,805	Mexico	610	592	643
				Cuba	184	186	150
Cottonseed:				Other Caribbean	58	63	65
Mexico	692	735	640	Central America	274	293	295
Caribbean	6	6	5	Argentina	2,001	2,198	2,152
Central America	380	431	527	Brazil	1,825	2,020	2,000
Brazil	1,200	1,480	1,440	Colombia	462	425	406
Colombia	194	225	255	Uruguay	270	290	253
Peru	122	110	125	Other South America	615	590	545
Other South America	213	253	378	Total Latin America	6,299	6,657	6,502
Total Latin America	2,807	3,240	3,370				
				Pork:			
Bananas:				Canada	685	632	612
Mexico	1,219	1,280	1,340				
Caribbean	1,298	1,363	1,382	Mexico	348	395	389
Costa Rica	1,500	1,635	1,800	Caribbean	68	72	73
Honduras	1,537	1,408	1,520	Central America	53	52	52
Panama	680	680	700	Argentina	248	244	300
Other Central America	656	685	707	Brazil	587	645	700
Brazil	10,100	10,900	11,000	Other South America	290	309	321
Ecuador 3/	3,000	3,100	3,200	Total Latin America	1,594	1,717	1,835
Other South America	2,588	2,735	2,814				
Total Latin America	22,578	23,786	24,463	Milk:			
				Canada	7,924	8,033	7,652
Coffee:							
Mexico	204	222	204	Mexico	5,711	5,864	6,232
Cuba	28	26	30	Cuba	228	343	390
Other Caribbean	73	83	85	Other Caribbean	356	370	385
Central America	452	431	418	Central America	1,160	1,172	1,199
Brazil	1,416	1,440	870	Argentina	4,831	5,349	5,400
Colombia	432	516	570	Brazil	7,416	7,519	7,800
Other South America	194	203	209	Chile	1,116	1,107	1,030
Total Latin America	2,799	2,921	2,386	Colombia	2,340	2,460	2,600
				Other South America	2,895	3,148	3,121
				Total Latin America	26,053	27,332	28,157

1/ Crops harvested mainly in year shown, cocoa bean and coffee harvests begin in years shown.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Exportable type only.

Sources: Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Food and Agricultural Organization, Production Yearbook of Agriculture.

Table 6.--Western Hemisphere: Agricultural exports and imports by principal countries, 1968-71

Country	Exports <u>1/</u>				Imports <u>1/</u>			
	1968	1969	1970	1971	1968	1969	1970	1971
	----- Million dollars -----							
Canada	1,304.8	1,145.0	1,691.9	1,982.5	1,004.0	1,151.4	1,228.1	1,296.5
Mexico <u>2/</u>	668.9	765.4	694.0	699.4	126.1	138.3	238.6	247.9
Barbados	19.5	16.5	18.5	19.8	20.7	22.5	26.4	30.5
Cuba <u>3/</u>	377.0	368.0	653.0	474.0	192.0	177.0	205.0	225.0
Dominican Republic	144.3	160.1	186.3	205.3	32.7	26.3	32.4	35.6
Haiti	26.4	22.3	24.2	24.9	10.7	11.5	15.8	13.5
Jamaica	76.2	69.3	69.7	69.7	68.7	70.9	82.9	90.4
Trinidad & Tobago	38.3	39.2	37.4	38.8	46.0	56.6	58.2	62.7
Caribbean <u>4/</u>	681.7	675.4	989.1	832.5	370.8	364.8	420.7	457.7
Costa Rica	135.5	152.0	182.4	169.3	27.0	25.5	34.8	43.0
El Salvador	134.2	128.3	153.9	145.4	37.4	33.3	29.7	31.0
Guatemala	164.4	186.3	200.9	198.5	29.1	24.3	31.5	31.3
Honduras	134.8	121.7	121.8	142.1	22.0	21.3	24.6	18.6
Nicaragua	129.2	120.8	131.6	140.6	21.0	17.3	18.9	21.6
Panama	62.6	70.8	72.1	66.4	21.1	21.4	23.6	35.1
Central America <u>4/</u>	760.7	779.9	862.7	862.3	157.6	143.1	163.1	180.6
Argentina	1,177.9	1,373.4	1,502.5	1,465.5	86.4	135.4	120.1	120.1
Bolivia	5.7	5.7	7.5	12.1	30.1	27.8	30.7	29.4
Brazil	1,477.7	1,758.4	1,945.7	1,921.7	333.3	299.8	292.9	318.4
Chile	51.3	50.8	56.7	77.1	161.4	187.7	173.6	245.4
Colombia	429.9	449.7	570.6	519.0	57.9	61.1	65.5	75.7
Ecuador	183.3	171.8	193.8	189.0	21.4	20.0	19.9	26.1
Guyana	45.5	55.2	48.6	58.1	18.8	19.7	20.0	15.5
Paraguay	30.4	30.5	40.3	42.0	8.9	11.3	11.5	12.2
Peru	399.1	366.0	465.2	436.2	138.3	133.4	115.7	130.2
Uruguay	158.7	180.8	210.4	194.7	27.9	27.8	24.4	21.1
Venezuela	32.5	30.1	43.2	33.4	173.8	173.3	171.8	179.6
South America <u>4/</u>	3,992.0	4,472.4	5,084.5	4,948.8	1,058.2	1,097.3	1,046.1	1,173.7
Latin America <u>4/</u>	6,103.3	6,693.1	7,630.3	7,343.0	1,712.7	1,743.5	1,868.5	2,059.9
Western Hemisphere <u>4/</u>	7,408.1	7,838.1	9,322.2	9,325.5	2,716.7	2,894.9	3,096.6	3,356.4

1/ Exports and Imports include SITC categories for food, beverages (less distilled) and agricultural raw materials, excluding fish and manufactured tobacco.

2/ Data differs from FAO due to re-evaluation of certain exports, mainly cattle and cotton.

3/ Estimates by Economic Research Service.

4/ For countries shown.

Sources: Food and Agriculture Organization, Trade Yearbooks, and Country Trade books.

Table 7.--Western Hemisphere: Exports and imports of selected agricultural commodities, 1971-73

Exports	1971	1972	1973	Imports	1971	1972	1973
		1/	1/			1/	1/
- - - - - 1,000 tons - - - - -				- - - - - 1,000 tons - - - - -			
<u>Wheat (including flour in wheat equivalent):</u>				<u>Wheat (including flour in wheat equivalent):</u>			
Canada	13,616	14,463	13,106	Mexico	400	607	740
Mexico	86	12	--	Cuba	882	986	1,200
Central America	2	2	--	Dominican Republic	98	110	87
Argentina	986	1,814	3,095	Jamaica	170	184	190
Uruguay	101	--	--	Trinidad & Tobago	92	80	80
Other South America	18	16	6	Other Caribbean	195	205	215
Total Latin America	1,193	1,844	3,101	Central America	355	365	351
				Bolivia	174	180	185
				Brazil	1,739	1,804	3,100
				Chile	422	768	928
				Colombia	446	392	413
				Peru	696	770	768
				Venezuela	596	727	531
				Other South America	228	372	769
				Total Latin America	6,493	7,550	9,557
<u>Rice, milled:</u>				<u>Rice, milled:</u>			
Mexico	--	16	17	Canada	67	63	58
Central America	11	13	41	Mexico	1	1	60
Argentina	82	8	30	Cuba	284	250	250
Brazil	149	1	35	Jamaica	36	37	35
Guyana	69	71	60	Trinidad & Tobago	34	30	32
Peru	--	--	55	Other Caribbean	44	62	78
Uruguay	74	45	65	Central America	44	22	8
Other South America	37	35	48	Chile	50	55	63
Total Latin America	422	189	351	Other South America	7	43	1
				Total Latin America	500	500	527
<u>Corn:</u>				<u>Corn:</u>			
Canada	9	21	--	Canada	199	417	718
Mexico	277	424	--	Mexico	17	198	1,100
El Salvador	41	25	--	Cuba	172	50	130
Other Central America	19	13	--	Jamaica	70	110	113
Argentina	6,128	3,039	4,300	Trinidad & Tobago	43	66	79
Brazil	1,280	172	34	Other Caribbean	47	81	114
Other South America	18	16	3	Central America	49	63	245
Total Latin America	7,763	3,689	4,337	Chile	271	358	161
				Peru	1/	111	210
				Venezuela	105	150	150
				Other South America	8	66	116
				Total Latin America	782	1,253	2,418
<u>Sugar, raw basis:</u>				<u>Sugar, raw basis:</u>			
Canada	12	18	65	Canada	925	919	864
Mexico	546	585	569	Caribbean	22	31	48
Cuba	5,511	4,140	4,500	Central America	2	2	17
Barbados	119	130	100	Chile	144	217	233
Dominican Republic	1,011	1,136	1,038	Uruguay	31	40	40
Jamaica	303	299	264	Other South America	3	43	23
Trinidad & Tobago	177	192	141	Total Latin America	202	333	361
Other Caribbean	210	211	164				
Central America	413	422	584				
Brazil	1,261	2,534	2,900				
Colombia	161	176	123				
Guyana	342	305	225				
Peru	432	435	407				
Other South America	246	407	539				
Total Latin America	10,732	10,972	11,554				
<u>Coffee, green or roasted:</u>				<u>Coffee, green or roasted:</u>			
Mexico	97	100	144	Canada	87	82	73
Cuba	2	2	2	Caribbean	28	26	30
Other Caribbean	26	27	25	Argentina	34	38	36
El Salvador	98	104	108	Other South America	16	16	13
Guatemala	100	111	123	Total Latin America	78	80	79
Other Central America	122	153	162				
Brazil	1,034	1,050	1,080				
Colombia	393	392	408				
Other South America	114	127	137				
Total Latin America	1,986	2,066	2,189				

Continued.--

Table 7--Continued

Exports	1971	1972	1973	Imports	1971	1972	1973
		<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>			<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
	-1,000 tons-				-1,000 tons-		
<u>Bananas, plantains,</u>				<u>Bananas, plantains,</u>			
<u>fresh:</u>				<u>fresh:</u>			
Mexico	10	15	15	Canada	207	207	204
Jamaica	115	120	125	Caribbean	6	6	6
Other Caribbean	394	435	444	Nicaragua	12	--	--
Costa Rica	928	1,078	1,200	Argentina	135	145	140
Honduras	1,063	1,027	1,100	Chile	78	50	55
Panama	623	659	550	Uruguay	24	20	20
Other Central America	182	302	372	Total Latin America	255	221	221
Brazil	176	114	150				
Colombia	229	211	232				
Ecuador	1,351	1,370	1,280				
Other South America	58	60	57				
Total Latin America	5,129	5,391	5,525				
<u>Cocoa beans:</u>				<u>Cocoa beans:</u>			
Mexico	4	15	11	Canada	17	21	15
Dominican Republic	23	38	24	Argentina	8	8	8
Other Caribbean	11	14	12	Colombia	15	8	13
Central America	4	8	4	Other South America	4	5	5
Brazil	119	102	110	Total Latin America	27	21	26
Ecuador	51	45	29				
Other South America	12	12	12				
Total Latin America	224	234	202				
<u>Beef and veal:</u>				<u>Beef and veal:</u>			
Canada	52	42	39	Canada	80	109	95
Mexico	35	59	26	Caribbean	19	21	23
Caribbean	4	10	12	Central America	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Costa Rica	26	33	34	Chile	42	38	25
Nicaragua	39	40	34	Peru	8	10	12
Other Central America	38	43	56	Other South America	6	2	6
Argentina	457	703	556	Total Latin America	75	71	66
Brazil	123	192	185				
Paraguay	38	46	40				
Uruguay	91	118	120				
Other South America	21	38	35				
Total Latin America	872	1,282	1,098				
<u>Cotton, raw:</u>				<u>Cotton, raw:</u>			
Mexico	166	204	200	Canada	81	77	72
Guatemala	48	74	86	Caribbean	17	19	19
Nicaragua	78	115	100	Central America	2	2	1
Other Central America	50	60	72	Argentina	18	29	8
Brazil	227	284	275	Chile	28	36	22
Peru	52	50	51	Uruguay	5	5	6
Other South America	47	77	104	Other South America	11	10	12
Total Latin America	668	864	888	Total Latin America	81	101	68
<u>Tobacco, unmanufactured:</u>				<u>Tobacco, unmanufactured:</u>			
Canada	23	24	26	Canada	2	2	4
Mexico	11	15	15	Caribbean	3	4	4
Cuba	14	14	14	Central America	2	2	2
Dominican Republic	26	27	29	Chile	1	1	5
Central America	3	4	4	Uruguay	4	3	4
Brazil	61	64	64	Other South America	3	--	2
Colombia	16	14	20	Total Latin America	13	10	17
Paraguay	16	21	19				
Other South America	19	18	12				
Total Latin America	166	177	177				

1/ Preliminary.2/ Less than 500 tons.3/ Carcass weight basis; excludes fats and offals.

Sources: Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Food and Agriculture Organization, Trade Yearbooks.

Table 8--U.S. sugar import quotas, 1969-74

Country	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>2/</u>
	<u>1,000 tons</u>					
Mexico	594	592	561	555	573	631
Dominican Republic	629	615	595	627	684	714
Haiti	16	24	21	30	14	35
Jamaica	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Trinidad & Tobago	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Caribbean	645	639	616	657	698	749
Costa Rica	68	68	65	87	91	77
El Salvador	42	42	40	42	47	48
Guatemala	58	57	54	74	63	66
Honduras	7	7	7	16	--	13
Nicaragua	65	68	65	63	69	72
Panama	40	36	41	42	48	72
Central America	280	278	272	324	318	348
Argentina	71	71	67	75	78	85
Bolivia	7	7	7	6	7	7
Brazil	581	579	549	541	576	616
Colombia	62	61	58	67	69	76
Ecuador	85	84	80	80	85	91
Guyana	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Paraguay	--	--	--	6	7	7
Peru	272	414	438	387	387	408
Venezuela	29	29	28	60	29	58
South America	1,107	1,245	1,227	1,222	1,238	1,348
British Honduras	15	14	14	33	41	38
British Caribbean	215	206	198	228	36	56
French Caribbean	65	62	60	--	--	--
Other	295	282	272	261	77	94
Total Western Hemisphere . . .	2,921	3,036	2,948	3,019	2,904	3,170
Total world (Foreign)	4,417	4,708	4,879	4,830	4,916	5,507
Hemisphere as percentage of world total	66	64	60	62	59	58

1/ Total quotas and prorations.

2/ Initial quota and prorations through January 11, 1974.

3/ These countries share in quotas listed for the British Caribbean.

Table 9.--U.S. agricultural trade with Western Hemisphere countries and dependencies by value, 1969-73

Country	U.S. exports					U.S. imports				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 1/	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 1/
	Million dollars					Million dollars				
Canada 2/	526.7	574.7	608.2	842.8	1,034.5	247.6	322.8	313.9	353.4	527.0
Mexico	91.3	155.5	128.3	181.4	362.0	443.0	513.5	500.3	589.9	742.2
Bahamas	28.0	27.5	27.8	28.3	37.2	2.2	2.4	1.9	.6	.8
Barbados	3.3	4.0	3.9	5.0	6.5	1.4	2.2	.8	.3	1.7
Bermuda	7.3	8.0	8.6	10.0	12.4	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Dominican Republic	24.8	31.7	41.1	45.8	63.4	148.2	166.1	155.4	196.7	238.8
French West Indies	1.7	1.7	2.8	2.8	3.2	7.5	8.7	7.5	.4	.3
Haiti	6.3	8.3	9.0	9.8	15.5	11.3	12.5	16.4	18.2	18.1
Jamaica	29.5	35.0	39.1	41.3	63.1	13.3	13.1	15.0	11.2	4.4
Leeward & Windward Islands	4.5	5.3	5.7	6.1	8.3	.7	1.4	.5	.8	.8
Netherlands Antilles	11.2	12.9	14.7	17.1	22.5	3/	.1	3/	.1	3/
Trinidad & Tobago	13.3	14.9	16.8	20.6	33.6	12.2	8.8	8.7	8.8	5.3
Caribbean	130.0	149.3	169.6	186.8	265.9	4/197.1	215.5	206.5	237.1	270.4
British Honduras	2.3	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.7	4.2	3.3	6.4	6.3	7.5
Costa Rica	7.0	9.8	11.6	11.2	20.3	94.8	107.6	100.0	118.4	121.5
El Salvador	9.6	11.5	11.3	9.0	24.4	34.4	41.1	42.6	38.3	101.5
Guatemala	10.4	14.9	16.7	17.5	23.5	70.3	80.2	87.9	98.3	151.1
Honduras	5.5	8.1	9.6	9.4	11.0	73.9	82.8	103.3	91.9	120.0
Nicaragua	5.5	5.8	7.6	8.0	16.9	42.6	49.8	56.1	60.8	86.0
Panama	15.6	20.1	32.1	25.0	30.4	46.2	45.1	34.9	25.7	24.7
Central America	56.0	73.0	91.9	82.7	129.1	366.4	409.9	431.4	439.7	612.4
Argentina	11.9	5.0	10.7	6.9	95.6	106.5	117.9	111.9	119.7	129.4
Bolivia	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.7	5.3	2.3	2.5	3.2	3.8	3.6
Brazil	68.6	68.5	90.0	68.2	271.2	499.1	535.8	582.2	659.7	710.7
Chile	26.0	32.0	22.5	28.4	110.0	7.2	8.3	6.1	6.2	5.2
Colombia	31.0	38.5	56.2	50.8	118.2	146.9	198.8	183.1	207.7	290.2
Ecuador	11.1	13.5	18.5	21.0	30.7	64.3	94.8	71.8	82.5	90.0
French Guiana . . . . .	.2	.2	.1	.2	.2	3/	3/	3/	3/	.2
Guyana	4.8	4.0	4.5	6.6	10.8	13.5	15.0	16.4	13.8	7.4
Paraguay	3.1	2.7	4.1	1.4	.9	9.3	10.3	10.0	12.9	18.7
Peru	14.9	33.1	54.2	72.0	121.6	67.1	94.8	85.5	114.9	110.5
Surinam	4.1	5.3	5.0	5.6	8.7	.3	.3	.3	.4	.1
Uruguay	2.5	2.2	2.0	14.8	2.6	8.9	9.4	4.1	1.1	1.2
Venezuela	90.9	98.1	108.6	137.1	159.7	22.1	27.2	23.3	29.9	30.2
South America	276.8	310.5	384.0	420.8	935.5	947.5	1,115.3	1,097.8	1,252.6	1,397.8
Total Latin America	554.1	688.3	773.8	871.7	1,692.5	1,954.0	2,254.2	2,236.0	2,519.4	3,022.7
Total W. Hemisphere	1,080.8	1,263.0	1,382.0	1,714.5	2,727.0	2,198.0	2,577.0	2,549.9	2,872.7	3,549.7
Total world	5,752.8	7,258.6	7,694.9	9,400.7	17,676.8	4,957.9	5,769.6	5,823.4	6,466.9	8,382.7
Hemisphere as percentage of World total	19	17	18	18	15	44	45	44	44	42

Note: Columns may not always add to totals, which were taken from original source, due to rounding.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Excludes export transshipments, mostly grains and oilseeds to Western Europe.

3/ Less than \$50,000.

4/ Includes \$300,000 for Cuba.

Source: Bureau of the Census and Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 10.--U.S. agricultural exports by SITC categories to Canada, Mexico, and Western Hemisphere regions, 1969-1973

Country	Live animals	Meat and preparations	Dairy products and eggs	Cereals and preparations	Fruits, vegetables, and preparations	Sugar, sugar prep., and honey	Cocoa, tea, and spices	Animal feed	Miscellaneous food preparations
Million dollars									
Canada ^{1/}									
1969.	10.0	40.4	8.4	60.7	220.9	3.3	14.6	35.6	9.8
1970.	25.2	25.2	8.6	56.8	223.9	3.2	14.0	37.4	11.1
1971.	25.1	31.7	11.4	34.0	251.4	4.2	19.4	33.7	11.1
1972.	32.2	55.9	11.3	138.4	297.3	6.3	27.1	37.5	15.5
1973.	98.7	79.2	11.6	89.9	354.3	8.1	37.9	58.8	17.3
Mexico									
1969.	9.5	4.8	7.5	7.5	10.7	.6	.7	3.9	9.1
1970.	7.7	5.7	8.1	38.6	13.5	.4	.7	4.9	11.5
1971.	10.3	4.5	10.3	18.8	10.9	1.3	.6	17.6	7.7
1972.	11.7	4.2	21.0	72.8	8.7	1.2	.9	9.8	7.9
1973.	20.2	8.6	8.6	166.6	11.7	1.6	1.2	13.3	13.3
Caribbean									
1969.	1.8	26.1	8.7	35.1	14.3	.9	1.9	12.1	9.3
1970.	2.2	27.5	10.0	39.1	13.7	1.4	2.2	14.9	8.8
1971.	1.8	29.0	11.7	46.4	14.0	2.4	2.5	16.3	10.1
1972.	2.6	32.3	10.9	50.2	16.5	2.4	2.5	19.2	11.3
1973.	2.2	43.5	7.2	98.7	23.9	2.3	2.6	30.8	13.3
Central America									
1969.	2.0	2.1	5.0	21.8	5.6	.7	.7	2.3	5.6
1970.	2.6	2.7	5.7	26.8	7.7	.8	.8	2.5	5.8
1971.	3.7	2.6	6.8	34.9	6.2	.9	1.0	5.1	6.2
1972.	5.1	2.8	6.3	32.7	6.9	1.3	1.0	6.1	5.7
1973.	4.7	2.9	2.3	72.4	9.5	1.7	1.3	9.1	8.2
Andes Region									
1969.	5.3	.6	13.7	88.6	15.2	1.9	.7	1.4	12.9
1970.	3.2	.8	16.2	108.1	19.5	1.6	.4	2.5	12.9
1971.	3.4	3.0	19.9	122.0	17.1	.7	.3	3.6	14.4
1972.	3.1	1.0	10.4	183.9	17.5	.4	.2	5.6	21.3
1973.	4.4	2.6	1.2	392.2	20.7	.5	.5	3.4	10.0
Other South America									
1969.	1.7	1.1	6.1	66.6	5.8	.5	.1	1.8	3.4
1970.	1.5	1.4	15.1	47.5	7.9	.4	.1	1.8	2.3
1971.	1.8	1.0	13.0	66.0	7.0	.2	.2	2.5	2.2
1972.	2.3	.9	7.6	58.6	9.6	.5	.8	3.3	2.3
1973.	3.1	.9	2.9	326.5	22.8	.8	.4	4.1	2.9
Latin America									
1969.	20.3	34.7	41.0	219.6	51.6	4.6	4.1	21.5	40.3
1970.	17.2	38.1	55.1	260.1	62.3	4.6	4.2	26.6	41.3
1971.	21.0	40.1	61.7	288.1	55.2	5.5	4.6	45.1	40.6
1972.	24.9	41.2	56.2	398.1	59.3	5.9	5.4	44.0	48.5
1973.	34.7	58.6	22.2	1,056.6	88.6	7.0	6.0	60.7	47.7
Western Hemisphere									
1969.	30.3	75.1	49.4	280.3	272.5	7.9	18.7	57.1	50.1
1970.	42.4	63.3	63.7	316.9	286.2	7.8	18.2	64.0	52.4
1971.	46.1	71.8	73.1	322.1	306.6	9.7	24.0	78.8	51.7
1972.	57.0	97.1	67.5	536.5	356.5	12.2	32.5	81.5	64.0
1973.	133.4	137.8	33.8	1,146.5	442.9	15.1	43.9	119.5	65.0

Note: Columns may not always add to totals which were taken from original source due to rounding.

^{1/} Excludes transshipments.

^{2/} Less than \$50,000.

Source: Bureau of the Census and Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 10.--U.S. agricultural exports by SITC categories to Canada, Mexico, and Western Hemisphere regions, 1969-1973

Country	Unmanuf. tobacco	Hides, skins, and furskins undressed	Oilseed, oilnuts, and oilkernels	Natural rubber	Natural fibers	Crude animal and vegetable material	Animal and vegetable fats and oils	Other	Total
Million dollars									
Canada <u>1/</u>									
1969.	2.6	12.9	49.8	1.7	16.8	13.7	12.8	12.7	526.7
1970.	2.5	13.9	73.5	1.5	28.5	17.7	20.1	11.6	574.7
1971.	3.2	19.3	65.4	1.4	46.4	17.8	23.5	9.2	608.2
1972.	3.1	28.9	96.5	1.7	42.3	19.1	18.9	10.8	842.8
1973.	5.4	37.2	109.1	2.1	62.1	27.3	21.8	13.7	1,034.5
Mexico									
1969.	--	15.7	3.6	.1	.6	7.0	6.6	3.4	91.3
1970.	--	17.8	17.1	.1	.7	7.8	16.3	4.3	155.2
1971.	--	18.6	10.1	--	.6	9.4	4.2	3.4	128.3
1972.	<u>1/</u>	25.1	3.6	.1	.6	9.0	1.5	3.2	181.4
1973.	<u>1/</u>	36.2	34.6	.1	1.0	13.8	26.9	4.2	362.0
Caribbean									
1969.	2.6	<u>2/</u>	.1	.1	.5	2.0	12.4	2.1	130.0
1970.	3.4	<u>2/</u>	.8	.1	.3	2.5	16.5	2.3	145.7
1971.	9.0	<u>2/</u>	.8	--	1.0	3.3	19.4	1.9	169.6
1972.	9.1	.2	1.4	.1	.7	2.0	22.5	2.8	186.8
1973.	7.2	.2	2.5	.1	1.2	2.8	23.3	4.0	265.9
Central America									
1969. . . . .	.7	.1	.6	.1	.3	1.0	5.5	1.9	56.0
1970. . . . .	.9	.1	1.0	.2	.5	1.1	10.9	2.3	72.4
1971.	1.6	.1	5.4	.1	.7	1.1	13.7	1.8	91.9
1972.	1.6	<u>1/</u>	1.3	.1	.8	1.2	7.9	1.8	82.7
1973.	1.7	<u>1/</u>	.4	.1	.5	1.4	10.9	2.0	129.1
Andes Region									
1969.	3.0	.4	4.6	.6	.2	3.5	25.7	3.2	181.5
1970.	3.0	.5	8.6	1.1	1.1	5.6	31.9	4.5	221.5
1971.	5.9	.7	13.3	1.5	1.3	4.5	52.5	3.3	267.5
1972.	3.6	5.7	17.4	1.0	<u>1/</u>	6.4	35.9	3.3	317.0
1973.	4.8	7.4	26.2	.7	4.0	8.7	54.5	3.8	545.4
Other South America									
1969.	1.6	<u>2/</u>	.1	.3	<u>2/</u>	2.8	2.2	1.1	95.2
1970.	1.7	<u>2/</u>	.1	.3	.1	3.4	2.7	1.4	87.7
1971.	1.6	.3	.1	.7	3.0	4.3	10.5	1.8	116.3
1972.	1.4	.3	--	.7	.2	5.0	8.5	1.6	103.8
1973.	3.0	2.3	.2	.4	.2	6.1	10.8	1.9	390.1
Latin America									
1969.	7.9	16.2	9.0	1.2	1.6	16.3	52.4	11.9	554.1
1970.	9.0	18.4	27.6	1.8	2.7	20.4	78.3	14.8	682.5
1971.	18.1	19.7	29.7	2.3	6.6	22.6	100.3	12.3	773.6
1972.	15.7	31.3	23.7	2.0	2.4	23.6	76.3	13.1	871.7
1973.	16.7	46.0	64.3	1.3	6.9	32.8	126.4	15.9	1,692.5
Western Hemisphere									
1969.	10.5	29.1	58.8	2.9	18.4	30.0	65.2	24.6	1,080.8
1970.	11.5	32.3	101.1	3.3	31.2	38.1	98.4	26.4	1,263.0
1971.	21.3	39.1	95.1	3.7	53.0	40.4	123.8	21.5	1,382.0
1972.	18.8	60.3	120.2	3.7	44.7	42.7	95.2	23.9	1,714.5
1973.	22.1	83.3	173.4	3.4	69.0	60.1	148.2	29.6	2,727.0

Table 11.--U.S. agricultural imports by SITC categories from Canada, Mexico, and Western Hemisphere regions, 1969-73

Country	Live animals	Meat and preparations	Dairy products and eggs	Cereals and preparations	Fruits, vegetables, and preparations	Sugar, sugar prep., and honey	Coffee, cocoa, tea, and spices	Animal feed	Miscellaneous food preparations
:----- Million dollars -----									
Canada									
1969.	41.2	51.8	2.7	30.6	31.5	6.5	9.5	15.9	0.4
1970.	59.3	77.0	6.4	37.7	30.3	7.2	11.9	20.9	1.6
1971.	52.0	75.5	3.4	36.5	31.2	7.6	15.3	25.2	1.0
1972.	66.3	76.0	4.2	53.3	32.2	9.2	19.6	34.5	.9
1973.	114.2	102.0	40.7	60.6	47.1	9.0	25.6	44.3	1.5
Mexico									
1969.	66.0	35.6	--	.7	144.7	99.5	64.9	1.4	--
1970.	78.3	42.3	1/	1/	187.2	100.0	75.2	.6	--
1971.	72.7	44.7	.7	.6	177.6	97.1	72.9	--	--
1972.	106.8	50.4	--	1.1	194.3	120.9	79.0	.7	.6
1973.	103.4	52.7	--	1.8	253.1	144.4	141.9	1.8	.8
Caribbean									
1969.	1/	4.9	--	--	5.7	132.6	42.0	.1	.1
1970.	1/	4.2	--	--	6.9	137.3	52.4	.5	.1
1971.	1/	4.2	1/	--	8.0	138.5	41.9	.5	.1
1972. . . . .	.1	8.4	1/	.2	12.2	145.2	58.3	.6	.2
1973.	1/	12.8	.1	.5	13.0	151.5	77.0	.8	.1
Central America									
1969.	--	55.5	--	--	152.8	38.4	109.2	--	--
1970.	--	69.8	--	--	152.1	45.3	129.7	--	--
1971.	--	83.2	--	.3	152.7	55.2	124.6	--	--
1972.	1/	106.8	.1	.2	157.1	58.0	104.3	--	1/
1973. . . . .	.2	143.9	.1	1/	161.1	70.4	221.4	--	1/
Andes Region									
1969.	1.6	--	--	.2	39.6	65.8	187.1	--	.3
1970.	2.1	--	--	--	49.2	86.0	273.6	--	.3
1971. . . . .	.8	--	--	1/	43.6	86.3	230.0	--	.4
1972. . . . .	.6	.7	--	.7	46.6	118.9	260.2	.1	.7
1973.	1.3	.2	1/	.6	49.5	112.9	341.9	.1	.8
Other South America									
1969.	2.7	87.1	2.8	1.1	15.3	112.2	342.3	--	.7
1970.	3.2	95.6	1.4	2.1	17.2	121.0	372.1	--	.7
1971.	1.3	125.6	2.2	4.1	22.5	116.9	395.4	--	.5
1972.	2.6	105.4	4.5	1.4	35.5	131.0	459.6	1.6	.8
1973.	3.6	125.8	4.2	3.0	32.3	134.5	477.0	.4	1.0
Latin America									
1969.	70.3	183.1	2.8	2.0	358.1	448.5	745.4	1.5	1.1
1970.	83.7	211.9	1.4	2.1	412.6	489.6	903.1	1.1	1.1
1971.	74.8	257.7	2.9	5.1	404.4	494.0	864.8	.5	1.0
1972.	110.1	271.7	4.6	3.6	445.7	574.0	961.4	3.0	2.3
1973.	108.5	335.4	4.6	5.9	509.0	613.7	1,259.2	3.1	2.7
Western Hemisphere									
1969.	111.5	234.9	5.5	32.6	389.6	455.0	754.9	17.4	1.5
1970.	143.0	288.9	7.8	39.8	442.9	496.8	915.0	22.0	2.7
1971.	126.8	333.2	6.3	41.5	435.6	501.6	880.1	25.7	2.0
1972.	176.4	347.7	8.8	56.9	478.6	583.2	981.0	37.5	3.2
1973.	222.7	437.4	45.3	66.5	556.1	622.7	1,284.8	47.4	4.2

Note: Columns may not always add to totals which were taken from original source due to rounding.

1/ Less than \$50,000.

2/ Includes \$300,000 for Cuba.

Sources: Bureau of the Census and Foreign Agricultural Service.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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