

TABLE 3: MAJOR SOURCES OF MALAYSIAN FOOD AND BEVERAGE IMPORTS AND MARKET SHARE 1987 AND 1988

	1987		1988	
	Value (M\$ '000 CIF)	Market Share (%)	Value (M\$ '000 CIF)	Market Share (%)
Australia	471219	21.64	597002	21.95
Thailand	317638	14.59	330033	12.13
New Zealand	181448	8.33	117736	4.33
China	180962	8.31	224486	8.25
US	147592	6.78	184125	6.77
India	123752	5.68	150314	5.53
Canada	5521	0.25	14210	0.52
Others	748913	34.40	1101837	40.51
TOTAL	2177045	100	2719743	100

Source: As for Table 1.
Percentages may not add due to rounding.

It can be noted from this Table that overall food and beverage imports have risen quite strongly between 1987 and 1988 and growth was recorded at 24.9 per cent. Strong growth looks likely to continue for 1989 and on an annualized basis growth of food and beverage imports for the first half of 1989 has exceeded 13 per cent. These growth rates reflect the increasing prosperity of Malaysia where the real annual growth rate of the gross domestic product has been 5.2 per cent in 1989 and 8.6 per cent in 1988. The Ministry of Finance forecasts a growth rate of 7.6 per cent for 1989 and 6.5 per cent for 1990.³

1.4. Main Items within Canadian Imports

Within the relatively small value of Malaysian imports of food and beverages from Canada, two items stand out. These are powdered milk and fresh apples. Between them, these two items have made up over 50 per cent of Canadian import value in each year since 1986.

However, as can be seen from Table 4, the import performance of each of these items taken separately has been very uneven, with strong growth in one year being followed by equally strong decline the next. This is reflected in an equally erratic performance for Malaysian food and beverage imports from Canada taken as a whole.

3. Economic Report 1989/90, Ministry of Finance, October 1989.