

Japan's demand for imports is expected to continue. A new key growth market appears to be Mexico. Mexico's economy is growing rapidly with increasing consumer incomes leading to increasing consumer demand throughout the country. In 1991, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was a large import market (454 000 metric tonnes) with most of the product coming from Eastern Europe. However, the economic difficulties of the region have severely affected its near-term purchasing power, so it is largely dependent on credit. On the other hand, local producers will likely only supply 70% of the processors meat requirements in Russia in 1993.

Of particular note is the growing U.S. presence in international trade, particularly to Japan, the Pacific Rim and Mexico. Also noteworthy is the rising production (and consumption) within China as well as exports which may dominate the Southeast Asian markets and Eastern Russia for low priced pork meat. The Polish and Eastern European exports have dropped considerably, as well.

LEADING EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS OF PORK *(1992)

<u>EXPORTS</u>	<u>METRIC TONNES</u>	<u>IMPORTS</u>	<u>METRIC TONNES</u>
EC	493 000	Japan	690 000
Taiwan	300 000	CIS	316 000
Canada**	275 000	US	293 000
U.S.A.	185 000	Hong Kong	202 000
China	150 000	EEC	90 000
Baltic Countries	116 000	Mexico	50 000
Hungary	110 000	Poland	40 000

Source: U.S.D.A, World Livestock Situation

* Provisional

** Source: Canada Pork Exports, Agriculture Canada, Statistics Canada

CANADIAN PERSPECTIVES

Canadian pork is a premium quality product having acquired an excellent reputation in the areas of leanness and wholesomeness. The total value of Canadian exports of pork products, not including live hogs, in 1992 was \$665 million which were exported to 58 countries.