

CASSAVA - Grown in the tropical and temperate highlands of Colombia, it is a staple that partially replaces potatoes. Production in 1988 amounted to 1.2 million tons from a total planted area of 151,000 hectares. Production for 1989 was forecast to be three percent higher. Cassava chip production reached 30,000 tons, of which 1,000 tons went to Venezuela.

PLANTAINS - Grown in the tropical and temperate highlands of Colombia. The total area planted reached 365,000 hectares in 1988, with a production of 2.3 million tons. For 1989, 385,000 hectares were expected to produce 2.5 million tons.

APPLES - Although domestic production amounts to 20,000 tons, imports in 1988 reached 17,000 tons, up three percent from 1987. Chile supplies 50 percent, the U.S. 25 percent and smaller quantities come from Canada, Argentina and France.

PULSES - Although some lentils and peas are produced domestically, Colombia is an important market for imported pulses. The general preference is for whole green peas used for canning, some soups and typical dishes while lentils are preferred in main dishes and soups.

■ During 1988, a total of 30,000 tons of peas were imported, 22,348 tons coming from the U.S. and 7,662 tons from Canada. Lentil imports during 1988 reached 24,400 tons, 10,000 less than 1987, all from Canada in both years. Chickpeas, consumed to a lesser extent, were imported also at a level of 1,500 tons from the U.S. For 1989, pea imports of 32,000 tons were expected, again from Canada and the U.S. Lentil imports of 32,000 tons were also forecast, all from Canada. Chickpeas were to be imported by IDEMA (500 tons) and by the private sector (1,000 tons).

BEANS - Produced in the highlands and high plateaus of Colombia, it is a staple of the local diet. Total production in 1988 reached 96,000 tons from a planted area of 128,000 hectares, six percent higher than 1987. For 1989, production was expected to decrease due to excessive rains in late 1988.

■ To meet total demand, imports of 7,000 tons were made in 1988, IDEMA purchasing 3,135 tons from the U.S. and the private sector 3,865 tons from Ecuador. For 1989, the same amount was expected from abroad, purchased again by IDEMA and the private sector. The support price to producers is CDN \$1,489 per ton.