

ON LAND AND FOOD...

Is it possible that increased agri-food export opportunities could be an incentive to expand Canada's agricultural land base at the expense of marginal lands and wetlands?

-- This is not expected to occur.

-- Mexico's agri-food exports to Canada are already largely duty-free, and a major proportion of this trade is complementary to Canadian production.

-- Although Canadian exports of such commodities as grains, oilseeds and red meats to Mexico are expected to increase under a NAFTA, their volume is likely to remain modest in comparison to total Canadian production.

-- Canada and Mexico have both recognized the importance of wildlife and wildlife habitat in a series of international agreements, including the Convention on International Trade in Wildlife Species and the Convention on Wetlands and Wildlife Habitat. These agreements provide ongoing forums in which to address these issues.