

Agricultural Machinery

The offer for agricultural machinery in the country is constituted by external suppliers and national manufacturers.

Imports totalled a considerable dimension in 1993, where transactions amounted to CIF value of US\$ 1.76 million in the case of Harvesting-Threshing Machines imported from Brazil, USA, Germany, Denmark, and the United Kingdom.

Similarly, during 1992, the national manufacturing of agricultural machinery reached a global sum of US\$ 33.2 million.

It is important to stress that within all the equipment imported, those of greatest relevance within the overall total are no doubt tractors of which imports are mainly from the United Kingdom, Brazil and Germany.

Undoubtedly, Fruitgrowing has had relevant importance in tractor imports as well as in the type of machinery that is offered today in the market. In international markets there is no marked trend relating to the manufacturing of equipment that is more adapted to the irregular topographical characteristics of the country which in practice determines, work in reduced surface pasture lands, by means of machinery rather small in size (and cost) than those used in the US, Canada and Brazil.

In this way both the incorporation of technological progress derived from imported equipment of state of the art technology, and the development of new manufacturing in the country that can be efficiently used in the area of crops and topography inherent in the country, will determine a field adequate for the technological contribution upon investment of foreign companies related with agricultural equipment.

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