

III. OILSEEDS

1. Trade Policy

Import Tariffs:

- Oilseeds: Tariff item 12.01 - duty free
- Crude oil: Tariff item 15.07 - olive oil 20%
- soyabean oil 35%
- sunflower oil 35%
- Oilseed meal: Tariff item 23.04 - 6.1%
- Refined oil: Tariff item 15.07 - olive oil 20%
- soyabean oil 40%
- sunflower oil 40%

Non-tariff import barriers: Due to excessive domestic oil production capacity imports of oil (crude/refined) and meals are discouraged as non-essential. EEC limits have been imposed on Portuguese vegetable oil production and imports of raw materials for the crushing industry.

Import/export structure: Since October 1984, imports of oilseeds have been placed in the hands of the crushing industry. Access to foreign exchange was provided on request although importers are now being encouraged to obtain foreign finance credits or terms rather than making immediate payment.

Additional factors: Until 1984, USA CCC credits applied to oilseeds, (essentially soyabeans and sunflower seed). As a result, the Portuguese crushing industry was heavily oriented to crushing these products. Since the 1984 liberalization of imports, crushers have begun to diversify their raw materials and sources of supply in order to minimize costs.