

CANADA - HONDURAS TRADE

Canada's two-way trade with Honduras has been greatly affected by the recent contraction of the Honduran economy.

Although modest in volume, Honduras has held the advantage in the trade balance between our countries since the mid-1980's. Honduran imports totalled \$27.9 million in 1988, up slightly from previous years. Canada's exports to Honduras were \$19.6 million in 1988, which also surpassed the totals of previous years.

The Honduran economy is agriculturally based and, consequently, its exports to Canada are comprised primarily of bananas, coffee, wood, shrimp, lobster and sugar.

Canadian exports include corrugated container board and newsprint, canned fish, milk powder, asbestos fibre and dried peas and beans.

Honduras' wealth of natural resources, including Central America's largest forest reserves, hydroelectric potential and minerals, represent opportunities for Canadian suppliers of forest machinery, mining equipment, agro-chemicals and fertilizers.

The record of the Canada-Honduras bilateral trade relationship is one of modest expansion. The development of the Honduran economy, particularly the realization of its resource potential, will result in expanded trade opportunities in the future.