
Exports of table potatoes have been increasing; in the 1984 crop year, 198 950 tonnes were exported. Imports are significant due to seasonal factors. The United States accounts for over half the exports and all imports of table potatoes. Exports of seed potatoes are around 110 000 tonnes; roughly one quarter go to the United States.

The major potato growing areas of P.E.I., New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario are competitive in the fresh (table and seed) market with the United States. They will benefit from reduced tariffs and harmonized technical barriers. Growers in Western Canada, especially in British Columbia, may be disadvantaged. The U.S. Pacific Northwest is a major growing area with low population, and efforts to export to British Columbia have led to frequent surtax requests from that province and successful applications for antidumping duties. British Columbia accounts for about three per cent of domestic potato production.

Potato processors in Eastern Canada are competitive with U.S. processors and will benefit from freer trade.

Tomatoes

Imports of fresh tomatoes in 1985 were valued at \$89 million, practically all for the fresh market and 90 per cent from the United States. Even in the peak production period, Canada is only about 40 per cent self-sufficient. While fresh market tomatoes are imported year-round from areas like Florida, Arizona and California, removal of the seasonal tariff will be a concern to Ontario and Quebec producers because of the somewhat earlier growing seasons of nearby states like Michigan and Ohio. British Columbia producers also could be negatively affected by imports from the U.S. Pacific Northwest. The tariff "snapback" provision should facilitate producer adjustment during the transitional period to free trade.