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IN THIS ISSUE > OPEN UP TO NORTH AFRICA >

## Turkey's agri-food market a horn of plenty

Over the past few years, Turkey has transformed itself into a dynamic, modern economy. Reforms that began in the 1970s, and reinvigorated after 1999, have propelled Turkey's economy from a rural to a modern, industrial one. It now ranks as the 21st-largest economy in the world, with a gross domestic product (GDP) of approximately \$345 billion.

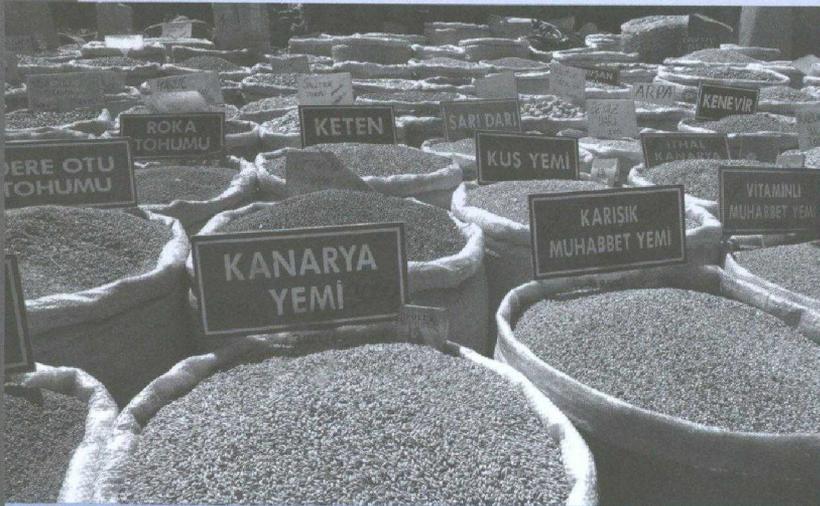
With Turkey now in negotiations to join the European Union, the outlook for the future is even brighter. With GDP rising faster than the rate of population growth, GDP per capita is expected to reach \$6,300 by 2009, a level that permits consumers to exercise more choice and increase spending on foods of higher value and quality.

Demographic trends contribute to a positive outlook as well. Turkey has a population of some 73 million, with an annual growth rate of 1.48%. Half of its population is under 25 and 18% of the country's total population is between the ages of 15 and 24. The urban population, which was estimated at 34.4 million in 1990, is expected to reach 57.9 million in 2005, making up 79.5% of the total population.

### Growing agri-food market

Turkey has a large agri-food market; in 2004, imports were valued at \$5.4 billion and exports at \$3.9 billion. The country

see page 3 - Turkey's agri-food market



Seeds for sale at Istanbul's Grand Bazaar, Turkey's largest covered market

## Arizona hot for Canadian business

During his recent visit to Arizona, Canada's National Science Advisor Dr. Arthur Carty, declared Canada ready to do business in the 'Grand Canyon State.' The purpose of his first trip to Tucson was to explore opportunities for research collaboration and innovation commercialization between Canada's research centres and the University of Arizona, the leading research institution in the State.

The visit was also an ideal occasion to promote Canada as a leading knowledge-creating society focussing on its research

capabilities and to build on the six-year relationship in optics and photonics research between the University of Arizona and Ottawa's Carleton University.

The University of Arizona is a world leader in optics, astronomy, lunar and planetary research and is one of the nation's leading centres of research in biomedical science

see page 5 - Arizona hot for Canadian business



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