

MALAWI

Economic classification: Low Income economy			
Oil exporter or importer (net): Importer			
Annual per capita income:	US\$230		year 1982
Annual per capita GNP	US\$200		year 1982
Average annual growth 1960-80	3.2%		
Annual inflation rate 1970-80	9.4		
Annual inflation rate (current)	18.3%		
Volume of imports	0.214 billion US\$		year 1982
Of which food	6.0%		year 1982
Of which fuels	17.0%		year 1982
Principal foreign exchange earning export: Agriculture, mainly tobacco			
Debt service as % of GNP	8.5%		year 1983
Debt service as % of exports	22.2%		year 1983
Population	6.05 million		year 1980
Annual population growth	2.9%		years 1966-1977
Annual Consumption:			
Flour	27,600 tonnes or	4.6 kg/capita	year 1983
Meat	45,375 tonnes or	7.5 kg/capita	year 1983
Vegetable Oil	4,542 tonnes or	.08kg/capita	year 1983

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Crop Situation and Outlook

Malawi has a predominant agricultural economy. Ninety percent of the population reside in rural areas engaged in subsistence farming while 90 percent of all exports are agricultural products. Tobacco, tea and sugar exports alone realized US\$133.3 million and US\$154.9 million in 1981 and 1982 out of total exports of US\$171.7 million and US\$177.7 million respectively.

The difficulty in obtaining statistical information on Malawi food products is that a great percentage of the crops grown are consumed by individual producers. Most production does not enter the cash economy unless it is surplus production which is sold to the parastatal marketing agency ADMARC. The volume of ADMARC's purchases is therefore a reliable measurement of the success or failure of the maize crop, relative to domestic consumption requirements. In 1982 maize prices increased by 67% which accounted for a sharp increase in production and sales to the government agency.

Information available on domestic crops as follows:

<u>Wheat</u>	<u>Tonnes</u>
Domestic production	3,000
Imports	25,000 (mainly from South Africa)

If proposed irrigated wheat projects materialize domestic wheat production may reach 20,000 tonnes per annum by 1990.