

NETHERLANDS

Economic classification:	Developed/Industrial economy	
Oil exporter or importer (net):	Importer	
Annual per capita income:	US\$8,666	year 1983
Annual per capita GNP	US\$11,470	year 1980
Average annual growth 1960-80	3.2 %	
Annual inflation rate 1970-80	8.4 %	
Annual inflation rate (current)	2.8 %	
Volume of imports	76.9 billion US\$	year 1980
Of which food	15.0 %	year 1979
Of which fuels	20.0 %	year 1979
Principal foreign exchange earning export:	Natural Gas, Agriculture	
Population	14.3 million	year 1981
Annual population growth	0.5 %	years 1980-2000
Annual Consumption:		
Flour	54 kg/capita	year 1981
Meat	62 kg/capita	year 1981

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Crop Situation and Outlook

<u>Acreage (hectares)</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Winter wheat	112,800	141,700
Summer wheat	18,100	6,500
Winter barley	6,600	10,200
Summer barley	37,100	27,200
Other	29,800	20,300
TOTAL GRAINS	204,400	205,900

In 1983 there was an increase of 1,500 hectares seeded to grains over 1982. This trend will continue with Groningen and Zeeland provinces accounting for most of the increases.

2. Foreign Exchange Situation

With strengthening of the dollar (both US and Canadian) the Netherlands grain import requirements will reflect the general trend of reductions in usage of North American feedstuffs. The Netherlands currency is tied within the European Monetary System to other EEC currencies and thus French and West German currencies are presently much more attractive than Canadian dollars.

3. Fertilizer Situation

The agrifoods industry is an extensive user of all types of fertilizers.